



## The Saint Francis Herald

# At the Game

## Indians move to bi-district play

By Betty Jean Winston  
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Snow and cold weather caused fumbles, interceptions and penalties by both the Rawlins County Buffaloes and the St. Francis Indians the first 40 minutes of the game Thursday night. The snow and cold weather was still apparent the final 8 minutes of the game, but during this time the Indians made their best drive for the District 15 championship.

Their effort was a success, as they defeated the Buffaloes 18-6 and went into post-season play as the district champions.

"Matt (Raile, quarterback) and I talked about using the clock on the final Indian drive of the game," Coach Nathan Smith said. "We wanted the offense to have 3 yards and a cloud of dust (on the downs) as we marched down the field."

By earning the championship Thursday night, St. Francis met the District 16 second place team, Decatur Community/Oberlin, on Tuesday night. This game took place in St. Francis after the press deadline for the sport's pages. An overview will be printed next week.

"We expected Decatur Community to be one of the best passing teams we have seen this year and we expected them to throw a lot of passes if the weather was good," Coach Smith said. "They have good players in the skill positions."

The winner of the Tuesday night game moved into regionals on Saturday night and will travel to either Meade or Sublette, whichever team won their Tuesday night contest. Meade was the winner of District 13 and Sublette was the second place team in District 14.

After the district first and second place winners had been announced following Thursday night's competition, the 2-1A bracket had been reduced to 32 teams. Following Tuesday night's games, 16 teams remained in competition for the state title. Saturday's competition will narrow the field down to the eight teams which will move into sectional play. Four teams play in substate action and the two remaining winning teams vie for the state championship. Smith Center will be attempting to defend their state title.

The teams in the upper part of the bracket are from eastern Kansas while the lower part of the bracket includes teams from the west. Western teams competing on Tuesday included Smith Center vs Plainville; Minneapolis vs Sterling; Meade vs Sublette; St. Francis vs Decatur Community; Ellis vs Washington County; Brookville/Eli Saline vs Bennington; Elkhardt vs LaCrosse and Oakley vs Rawlins County.

### St. Francis 18, Rawlins County 6

"The weather was blizzard-like at times," Coach Smith said, concerning the Thursday night game.



**INDIAN COACH NATHAN SMITH leads the Indians onto the field in a recent football contest. Among those pictured are Grady Brunk, 63, Drew Zweygardt, 5 (before his injury), Trent Raile, 36) and Matt Raile 14. The sunglasses were not needed on Thursday night in Atwood when the snow was falling throughout the game.**

Herald staff photo by Lezlie McCormick

The Buffaloes won the toss and chose to receive the ball to begin the game. The choice did not turn into a successful series though, as the Indians held them to three-and-out.

With the weather being like it was, the Indians made no attempt to return the punt but took the ball in their own territory following a Rawlins County penalty. Saintry made a first down on the initial play of the series and a touchdown on the second play. Trent Raile, who has led the rushing yardage for Saintry throughout the season, broke loose with the help of his blockers, for a 61-yard scoring run. Although the conversion attempt failed, the Indians held a 6-0 advantage.

The Saintry offense was back on the field in just moments as the Buffaloes had a turnover, with the fumble being recovered by the Indians. On this occasion a fourth-down attempt failed and it was a short series.

In the next Rawlins County offensive action, they again were three-and-out with the fourth-down punt going for short yardage.

The Indians nearly lost the ball in their next series, but M.

Raile recovered it before a Buffalo could capture it. The Indians moved down to within reach of the goal, on the 5-yard line and then coughed the ball up to the Buffaloes.

Only the one touchdown took place in the first period.

One of the big plays, when the second quarter began, was an interception of a Buffalo pass by Terrence Lamb. The Indian series involved a penalty which pushed them back followed by a fumble, which Rawlins County recovered.

The Buffaloes punted on fourth down. The ball went into the end zone, so the Indian drive began on the 20-yard line. A penalty slowed down their momentum, but Rawlins County was called for pass interference on an Indian pass attempt and Saintry was awarded a first down.

At this point, St. Francis had a series of penalties and lost a couple of yards on a fumble, which they recovered, so all of a sudden, the call was third down and 32-yards for a first down. Saintry fumbled the ball on their next play with Rawlins County recovering. The Buffs took advantage of the situation and ended up with

a touchdown on a rushing play. A bad snap on a kicking attempt resulted in no conversion points.

The score now stood at 6-6 and it remained this way when the half-time buzzer sounded.

"We played all right but we stopped ourselves at times," Coach Smith said.

"Rawlins County did a good job of penetrating up front. Their defense played well and got into our gaps. The Buffaloes fought hard and hit hard."

The second half opened with St. Francis receiving the kickoff and began moving the ball but the offense fell into a fourth-down punt situation. There was a poor snap and Raile was on the ball on the St. Francis 38-yard line, which was where the Buffs took over.

Rawlins County made two first downs on fourth-down attempts and continued moving the ball until they were within 10 yards of the goal post. A St. Francis penalty helped convert one of the first downs.

The Buffaloes came close but failed to make the end zone as the Indian defense held. Rawlins County made a decision to try a 22-yard field goal on fourth

down. It failed and St. Francis took over the ball but fumbled it again before the quarter ended so the period ended with Rawlins County having the ball.

The game was getting very exciting. The closer the clock came to the final buzzer and the harder the snow fell, the more fans from both teams were anxiously awaiting a successful touchdown drive.

The Indians again came up with a big play to open the final frame. The Buffaloes attempted another pass on a third-and 17 play and there was M. Raile with the ball.

Taking advantage of opportunities is a big part of the game and this interception was the beginning of the second Indian touchdown. On the third play from scrimmage, T. Raile again broke loose and raced 77 yards for the go-ahead score. The conversion attempts was no good again which left the game wide open. A six-point lead is great but not enough to breathe easy.

Next it was Rawlins County's turn to try for the win but they were held on a three-and-out series.

It was at this point St. Francis put in to effect their game plan of

a long, slow drive which used the clock to their advantage.

Slowly but surely the quarterback and the running backs put the plan in motion. Cody Sherlock was carrying the ball a lot and adding yard-by-yard. A lot of great importance, the running backs were holding on to the ball and the whole team was avoiding penalties.

There were 55 seconds on the clock when the ball arrived at the end zone from a drive which began on the St. Francis 37-yard line. They had gone 63 yards in 14 plays.

Alex Long stopped the Buffalo runner, who was making a nice return on the kickoff. This was also an important play.

The game ended with first an incomplete Buff pass and then another St. Francis interception. It was M. Raile who had the ball again.

This made the third Indian interception, two by Raile and the one by Lamb.

The 18-6 victory not only made the Indians the District 15 champions but returned the Yoke Bowl Award to St. Francis for another year.

As the snow was forcing road closings, the Kansas Department of Transportation led the Indian bus, the Yoke Bowl Award and the Indian fans to St. Francis behind a snow plow.

Offensively for St. Francis, four Indians had rushing attempts for a total of 331 yards. T. Raile was again over 200 yards, this time he had 244 yards and he scored three touchdowns. Sherlock had 53 yards on 16 carries, a number of them when the Indians were using the clock to their advantage during their final drive. Also carrying the ball was Lamb, who had eight carries for 24 yards and M. Raile who collected 10 yards on two carries.

M. Raile was 1-of-2 passing for 18 yards with Garrett Figgins being the receiver.

The following players earned defensive points: Lamb, five solo tackles, three assists, a forced fumble, an interception, 21 points; Sherlock, six solos, four assists, 16 points; M. Raile, one solo, two assists, two interceptions, 14 points; T. Raile, two solos, six assists, one recovered fumble, 14 points; Adam Guthmiller, four solos, four assists, 12 points; Darris Keller, three solos, three assists, 9 points; Brooks Hobrock, two solos, four assists, 8 points; Alex Long, three solos, one assist, 7 points; Nathan Lamb, one solo, one assist, 3 points; Cody Killingsworth, one solo, one assist, one tackle behind the 30-yard line, 6 points; Thomas Douthit, one tackle behind the 30-yard line, 3 points; Grady Brunk, one solo, 2 points; Jeff Meyer, two assists, 2 points; Figgins, one assist, 1 point.

## Junior high boys busy preparing for first basketball game today

By Betty Jean Winston  
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The basketball season has begun, at least for the junior high boys. They began practice following the football season and play their first games today (Thursday).

The season opener will be on the in Oberlin against the Decatur Community teams. Starting time is 4:30 .

The young Indians play each of the other Northwest Kansas League teams between now and Dec. 14 when the league tournaments begin.

David Morrow will be handling junior high boys coaching duties. Coach Morrow has replaced Coach Kent Kechter. David Butler, who began working with the athletes last year, will again be the assistant.

"We are combining the seventh and eighth grade players this year," Coach Morrow said.

"A change was made in the league rules several years ago allowing for schools to combine the grades since

the smaller league schools were having difficulty fielding both a seventh and eighth grade team.

"The players are blended together in practice now, and we all practice in the same gym. Not having to walk to the grade school every day and practice in that facility is an important benefit of using the A and B system."

Coach Morrow said the guys are working very hard so far.

Contests in St. Francis include Oakley on Nov. 12 then Rawlins County, Colby and Grant Junior High from Goodland

The complete roster is listed below:

- Eighth grade: Jacob Baxter, Jacob Butler, Gaten Cooper, Erik Hart, Lane Hoffman, Logan Lampe, Wyatt Landenberger, Tyler Lee, Derek Queen, Mason Schiltz.

- Seventh grade: Tristan Archer, Shakotah Blanka, Cade Bracelin, Nick Easter, Tanner Gilliland, Jona-

than Hoard, Matt Howell, Riley Shay, Ian Schmid, Kyler Zweygardt.

Managers: Scott Warren, Lennie Olivares

### Schedule

Thursday, Nov. 5: Decatur Community/Oberlin, there, 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov.10: Quinter, there, 4 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 12: Oakley, here, 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 19: Rawlins County/Atwood, here, 4:30 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 23: Hoxie, there, 4 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 30: Colby, here, 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 8: Goodland, here, 4:30 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 14: Northwest Kansas League A- and B-team Tournament, first round. To be announced.

Thursday, Dec. 17: Northwest Kansas League Tournament, A team at Hoxie, B-team at Oberlin.

## Runner qualifies for 6A state meet

The Blue Valley West boys cross country team placed sixth at the 6A state meet at Rim Rock Farm in Lawrence on Oct. 31.

Miles Legere, a junior, was a member of the seven-person varsity team running for the Jaguars. The team earned a trip to state by finishing third at regionals.

The week before regionals, the team earned a first-place finish in the Eastern Kansas League meet.

Miles, a three-time state qualifier and varsity letterman, is the son of Shawn and Leigh



Legere

Legere of Overland Park, and the grandson of Scotty and Libby Legere of Hays and Betty Jean Winston.

## — Bowling News —

### Monday Night Mixed 10-26

Team standings: Earl's Gals 12-4, ABC-Z 9-7, Gutter Heads 7-9, Neitzel Insurance 4-12

High game (scratch): Kale Zimbelman 192, Eddie Zuege 189, Janice Krien 160, Earl Hankins 157, Tammy Zimbelman 156, Amelia Zuege 155; (handicap): A Zuege 218, Bill Wilger 217, Dorothy Hankins 216, Vicki Cox 211, E. Zuege 206, E. Hankins 200

High series (scratch): K. Zimbelman 547, E. Zuege 510, T. Zimbelman 446, E. Hankins 421, Krien 418, A. Zuege 401; (handicap): D. Hankins 607, Wilger 596, A. Zuege 590, Nick Chavez 572, Krien 553

### Wednesday Night Mens 10-26

Team standings: Cheyenne Bowl 21-7, Haigler Two 16-12, Bonny Solutions 15.5-12.5, Krien Steel 15-13, Wright and Wrong 14-14, Haigler One 13.5-14.5, Idalia JV 13-15

High game (scratch): Bill Carpenter 215, Spencer Schlepp 206, Kale Zimbelman 195

High series (scratch): Carpenter 577, Zimbelman 555, Bob Lippert 547