

At the Game

Lady Indians play well during tournament

By Betty Jean Winston
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St. Francis, Rawlins County and Cheylin were in the same pool at the Sagebrush Classic Basketball Tournament which was played the week of Dec. 6 in Brewster. St. Francis played Rawlins County on Monday night and fell to the Lady Buffs in an exciting game. The final score was 68-64.

Tuesday night, the Sainty Ladies came back and again scored well but this time they earned a 70-57 win over Cheylin.

On Saturday night the winner of Pool A played the winner of Pool B while the second place teams played each other for third and fourth place and the third place teams from each pool played for fifth and sixth place.

Teams in the other pool included Brewster/Triplains, Stratton and Christian Family Educators.

St. Francis, as the second place winner in their pool, played Triplains/Brewster, the second place team in the other pool. The Lady Indians ended the tournament in third place when they defeated the Lady Bulldogs 49-39.

"The tournament came at a great time for us," Coach Susan Dinkel said. "We got some confidence and ended up taking third place."

Following the final tournament game the team has a 2-2 record.

Two Lady Indians received honors during the tournament. Katlin Figgins was selected for the All-Tournament team and Christina Hilt won the three-point contest.

The team held their home opener on Tuesday night against Rawlins County (results next week). The final game before the Christmas break will be held on Friday with the Lady Red Devils from Decatur Community High School. The game begins at 6:30 p.m.

Vs Rawlins County

The first game of the week had St. Francis playing Rawlins County with the Sainty Ladies losing 68-64.

After hitting the basket well in the first half, the St. Francis Ladies

had a scoring lull during the third quarter and lost the lead they had built up by half time. The half time score was St. Francis 38, Rawlins County 31. With the Lady Buffs hitting 22 points compared to 7 for St. Francis, Rawlins County led 53-46 after three. Sainty staged a comeback in the final period but fell a little short losing 68-64.

"We played very well," Coach Dinkel said. "We had a great night of shooting. Unfortunately, we were unable to stop their post player, Chavatal, who we allowed to score 41 points on us."

"When we see them on Tuesday, we'll hopefully be more aggressive on her so that doesn't happen again," Coach Dinkel said. "It was a great night of shooting though, so hopefully that continues!"

Three players ended in double figures with five additional Lady Indians also scoring. Leading the way was Kaitlin Figgins with 15 points with five field goals and five free throws. Jodie Hilt and Sarah Trembly each added 12 points. Hilt's were on three two pointers, one three pointer and three free throws while Trembly also had three two pointers, one trey and three free throws. Each of these Ladies were 70 percent from the free-throw line.

Defensively Figgins led in rebounds with nine, Trembly led in steals with four and J. Hilt collected two assists.

St. Francis and Rawlins County met again on Tuesday night (Dec. 14) in St. Francis for the Lady Indians home opener.

S 13 25 07 19 64
R 13 18 22 15 68

Scoring: Figgins 15, J. Hilt 12, Trembly 12, Shayla Hilt 9, Mikaela Grace 8, Jalyne McCauley 4, Jenna Hilt 2, Aly Marin 2.

Rebounding: Figgins 9, J. Hilt 5, Marin 5, Trembly 4, McCauley 3, Hill 2, Grace 1, Clarice Neitzel 1.

Vs Cheylin

The Lady Indians collected a 70-57 victory over Cheylin for their first win of the season on Tuesday night.

"If I could describe this game by one word, it would have to be 'Caliente!'" Coach Dinkel said. "We came out of the locker room at the beginning of the game and just couldn't miss. It was so much fun! We had two buzzer beaters in the first half, and I'm not really sure when the last time it was that St. Francis girls scored 51 points in the first half. I can tell you this much, it was before my time! But, it was a lot of fun. We just played very well that first half, looking for the best shot, and we played great defense."

J. Hilt scored 13 points against Cheylin with Figgins adding 12 and Trembly 11.

The team hit 43 percent from the field and 53 percent from the free-throw line. Trembly was 4-of-4 from the line for the best percentage (100).

Defensively, the team had 33 rebounds compared to 29 for the Lady Cougars. Figgins had five to lead Sainty. McCauley accounted for a block while S. Hilt had four steals and Trembly five assists.

"By working hard, I truly believe that good things are happening to us," Coach Dinkel said. "I hope it continues!"

S 25 26 12 07 70
C 12 17 10 18 57

Scoring: J. Hilt 13, Figgins 12, Trembly 11, McCauley 9, S. Hilt 7, C. Hilt 7, Grace 4, Hill 3, Neitzel 2, Marin 2.

Vs Brewster/Triplains

Sainty scored their second win in a row on Saturday when they earned third place by defeating Brewster/Triplains 49-39.

"Well, as hot as we have been, this afternoon was just the opposite!," Coach Dinkel said. "We continued to work hard defensively, and finally got warmed up enough to get some good shots."

After scoring a low 4 points in the first quarter the Ladies came back and scored in double figures in the second through fourth quarters. By half time they had overcome the Brewster/Triplains advantage and took control of the game. The Lady



LADIES SCRIMMAGE during the open house held at the beginning of the season. Pictured are Bailey Merklin, left, and Jenna Hill.

Bulldogs did stage a good fourth quarter but Sainty had enough of a lead to maintain their advantage.

"I was pleased with the girls effort in the second quarter, when we scored 18 points," Coach Dinkel said.

Nine players added to the total of 49 points with Trembly adding 15 points on four two-pointers, one trey and being 4-of-4 from the free-throw line.

Offensively the team had eight

assists with Trembly having three.

"I am disappointed with our rebounding," Coach Dinkel said.

"We have got to do a better job of blocking out our opponents and exploding up for the ball. We should be getting at least 10 more per game than what we have been getting. It's just something we're going to have to work on."

McCauley led the rebounding against the Lady Bulldogs with five. She also had the only block of

the game. The team had a total of 23 boards.

Trembly led the steals with six of the total of 18.

S 04 18 13 14 49
T 06 07 05 21 39

Scoring: Trembly 15, Figgins 9, J. Hilt 7, C. Hilt 7, Hill 3, Grace 2, Neitzel 2, S. Hilt 2, Marin 2.

Rebounding: McCauley 5, Figgins 4, J. Hilt 3, S. Hilt 3, Grace 2, Trembly 2, C. Hilt 2, Hill 1, Marin 1.

Sainty basketball team places fifth at Brewster



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The St. Francis Indians attended the Sagebrush Classic basketball tournament in Brewster the week of Dec. 6. The boys were placed in a pool with Stratton, Colo., and Cheylin while the other pool was composed of Rawlins County/Atwood, Brewster/Triplains and Christian Family Educators.

The Indians were defeated by Stratton on Monday night by the score of 75-57 and on Tuesday night by Cheylin 51-41.

This placed them third in their pool which meant that on Saturday they played Christian Family Educators, the third place team in the other pool, for fifth or sixth place.

Sainty outscored Christian Family Educators by 21 points, 58-37, giving St. Francis a fifth place finish.

"Overall I thought our guys played well in this tournament," Coach Jeff Beims said. "We had some really good opponents to start the season. We were in the game in both of our losses against better-than-average teams. I am still optimistic about this group, but the schedule doesn't get any easier."

Garrett Figgins received All-Tournament and also participated in the free-throw contest but did not win. Isaac Schiltz competed in the three-point contest but was not the winner.

Following the Saturday night game the Indians had a 1-3 record for the season.

The team played Rawlins County on Tuesday night for their home opener (results next week). The final game before the Christmas break will be held on Friday in St. Francis with the Red Devils from Decatur Community High School with the varsity girls game following the varsity boys game.

An overview of the tournament games follows.

Vs Stratton

The first game of the tournament resulted in a 75-57 loss to Stratton. The game was played Monday night.

Stratton outscored the Indians by a few points in each quarter although Sainty tied the score at one point in the second quarter.

Four players scored in double figures with Garrett Figgins having 16, Isaac Schiltz 13, Jonathan Butler 11 and Brett Lampe 9. The majority of the points were from shots within the two-point range. Only two of 16 attempts were hit from outside the arc.

"Although we lost again I feel pretty good about the progress we're making," Coach Beims said. "Our biggest issues seem to be our physical condition and depth. We got in a little foul trouble because we didn't move our feet. We didn't move our feet because we were tired. We allowed some easy baskets on the defensive end, because we didn't get over to help quick enough. We had a lot of turnovers as a result of not meeting passes, or not moving without the ball. All these things can be attributed to not being in 'basketball shape' quite yet. The good news is there is a remedy for that and we will get there."

Defensively Figgins had a total of 11 rebounds with nine of them defensive boards. Schiltz accounted for three of the seven steals by the Indians.

"On a better note, I thought Garrett (Figgins) and Brett (Lampe) had the best games of their respective careers to date. If we can continue to get that kind of production out of our seniors, things will begin to go our way."

Scoring: Figgins 16, Schiltz 13, Butler 11, Lampe 9, Dylan Peter 3, Dillion Straub 2, Matt Tygart 2.

Rebounding: Figgins 11, Peter 5, Butler 4, Schiltz 4, Tygart 3, Lampe 2, Straub 1, Zach Zweygardt 1, Martin Hnizdil 1.

Vs Cheylin

The Indians and the Cheylin Cougars battled for the win on Tuesday night with Cheylin earning the 51-41 victory.

The first half was so close that

the score was tied at 9 after the first period and 20 at half time. Cheylin picked up some extra points in the third quarter, Sainty kept battling back until the very end but just could not take the victory.

"Once again I thought our guys played pretty well Tuesday," Coach Beims said. "Cheylin has got a very good, well-rounded ball club, and I think we gave them about all they wanted."

"In the first half I thought we did a pretty good job of controlling them defensively, although we tend to like to get out and run a little, we slowed the tempo some and it didn't seem to hurt us too bad."

"The third quarter though seemed to be our downfall. We struggled to hit shots, but our biggest problem is that we didn't focus on rebounding like we normally try to do. They got several offensive rebounds and 'putbacks' that ultimately put the game out of reach."

For St. Francis I. Schiltz had 13 points, hitting 5-of-7 two pointers. Butler had 50 percent from the field from 3-of-6 two points and 1-of-4 treys.

Adrian Garcia had 18 points for the Cougars and Chris Walden 12.

Cheylin dominated the rebounding having 39.
S 09 11 11 10 41
C 09 11 19 12 51

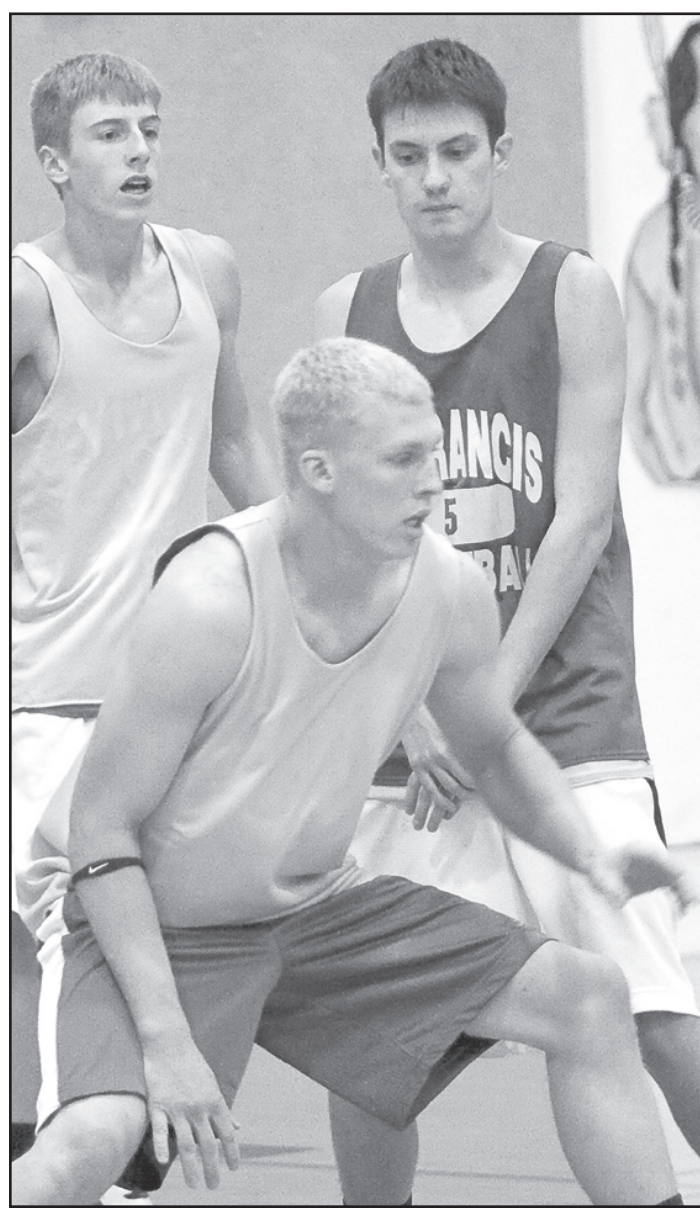
Scoring: I. Schiltz 13, Figgins 10, Butler 9, Peter 6, Tygart 1.

Rebounding: Figgins 10, Peter 3, I. Schiltz 2, Butler 1, Lampe 1, Tygart 1.

Vs Christian Family Educators
Sainty put a game in the win column when they defeated Christian Family Educators on Saturday night in the contest for fifth place at the Sagebrush Tournament. The final score was 58-37.

St. Francis took the lead in the first quarter and maintained it throughout the game.

Leading the scoring for Sainty was I. Schiltz with 19 points and Figgins with 12. Schiltz was 7-of-9 from two point range, had one



GARRETT FIGGINS, in a recent practice, was waiting for the ball while keeping Isaac Schiltz, back left, and Zack Zweygardt guarded.

Herald photo by Kristi Guthmiller

three pointer and was 2-of-2 from the line. Figgins received all of his points from six two-point baskets.

Defensively Peter stepped up with rebounding this game and collected 12. Eight of them were offensive boards and four defensive.

Other stats show Butler with a block, Schiltz with four of the 19 steals and Lampe with five of the 17 assists.

No players collected five fouls although the team totaled 16 infractions.

"Oddly, I thought this was our worst effort overall in the three games we played in the tournament, yet it was the only game we won," Coach Beims said. "We came out sort of flat, but got an early lead. We

thought we could then just set the cruise control and coast to an easy victory. Christian Family Educators played us hard. Had they had some numbers they would have been a tough team to beat. They were scrappy and worked hard on both ends of the floor, forcing us to wake up and play ball. The final score would suggest an easy victory. This was anything but."

S 10 11 14 23 58
C 06 04 15 12 37

Scoring: I. Schiltz 19, Figgins 12, Lampe 9, Peter 8, Keegan Sherlock 4, Butler 2, M. Schiltz 2, Tygart 2.

Rebounding: Peter 12, Figgins 4, Tygart 4, Butler 3, Lampe 3, I. Schiltz 2, Hnizdil 2, Sherlock 1.

Young teams defeated

St. Francis junior high basketball teams were defeated by Decatur Community on Thursday, Dec. 2, at Oberlin. The A-team had a low scoring first half but came within four points in the end for a final of Decatur Community 39, St. Francis 35. The B-team lost 39 to 21 and the C-team was also defeated.

A-team

The finals score in this game was Decatur 39, St. Francis 35.

"We had a very slow first half," Coach David Morrow said. "Oberlin was on fire and couldn't miss, but we simply were not ready to play basketball in the first half."

"In the second half, we played much better as a team. Our defense was more intense, and we were able to find the basket offensively. Quite simply, we woke up and played a great second half. In fact, we made up a lot of ground on the Red Devils, but the slow start sealed our fate."

"Cade Bracelin had a great night of shooting, making four three-point shots and three regular field goals. Garrett Brunk was 100 percent from the free-throw line."

S 06 04 16 09 35
D 18 08 07 06 39

Scoring: Cade Bracelin 20, Garrett Brunk 8, Kyler Zweygardt 5.

B-team

"Over the last few games, this team has fallen into the habit of not giving their best effort when they come onto the floor," Coach Morrow said. "Even though we've won some of these games, our effort hasn't been very good."

"We finally paid the price for that against the Red Devils. In the second quarter, they outscored us by 15, in the fourth, by 10."

S 06 02 11 02 21
D 06 17 04 12 39

Scoring: Jakob Church 8; Shakotah Blanka 5, Clay Cassaw 4; Lane Hobrock 2; Carl Fabre 2.

C-team

"Jude Faulkender was the star of this game," Coach Morrow said. "He hit three shots in quick succession. We appeared to be heading toward a win, but Oberlin got hot from the field and we couldn't keep up. I'm impressed with the improvement I've seen from the guys on this squad. They have worked hard all year."