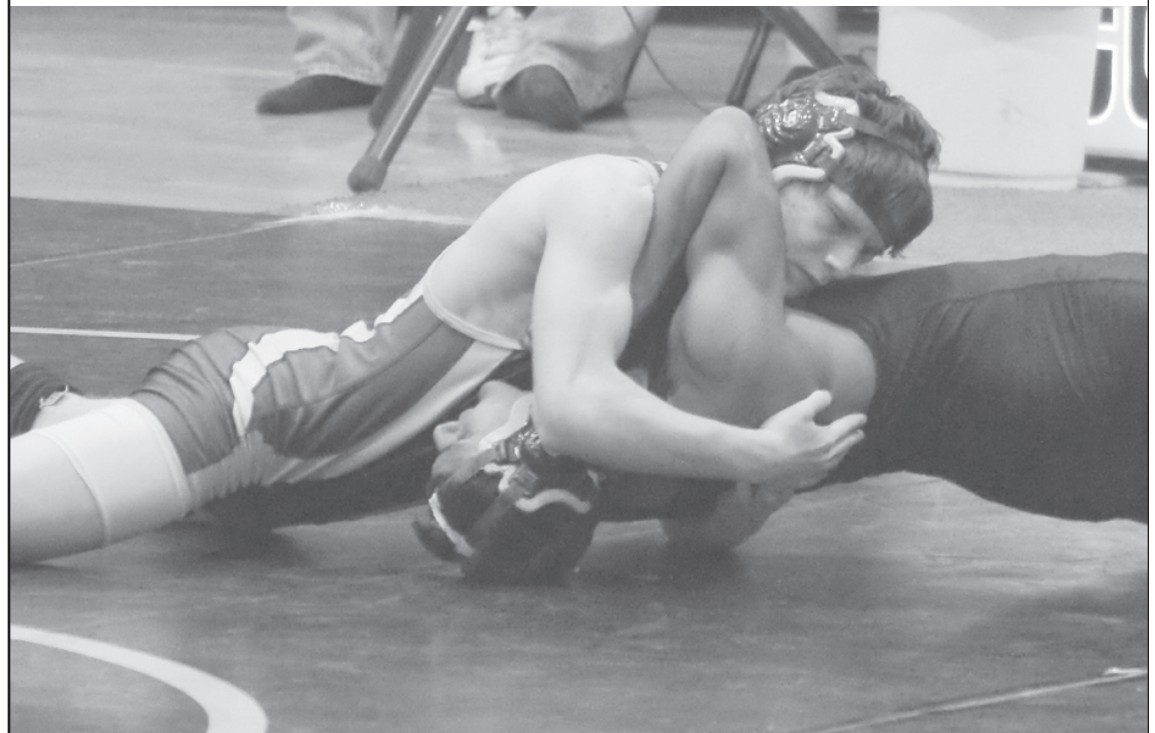


At the Game



ALL THREE WRESTLERS PICTURED represented St. Francis well at regional over the weekend. Casey Keller, left, 112 pounds, waits for the referee whistle; above, Dylan Wolaver, has his opponent in a pinning position as does Logan Lampe, below.

Herald staff photos by Kristi Guthmiller

Two wrestlers head to state on Friday

By Betty Jean Winston
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Adam Guthmiller and Lane Hoffman are headed to the 3-2-1A State Wrestling tournament in Hays on Friday with action continuing on into Saturday.

They earned the right to travel to state by placing in the top four in their weight class at Goodland last weekend. Hoffman came in first at 103 pounds and Guthmiller, first at 215.

Hoffman travels to the state tournament with a 29-5 record and will be in the number one match, facing Brady Lowell of Belleville/Republic County. Lowell, who is a sophomore, has a 33-6 record.

Guthmiller, with his 33-2 record, will not wrestle until the 101st match on Friday. He will

meet Riley Callahan of Silver Lake. Callahan, a junior, has a 23-16 record.

"We have one more week of the season with two special wrestles," Coach Nathan Smith said. "At this point of the season everyone left is good so Lane and Adam have to be ready every time they step out onto the mat."

Each year St. Francis has many fans to make the trip to Hays to support the Indians and this year they will again have the opportunity to cheer on wrestlers who are working to come home as state champions.

Note that Smoky Hills television is scheduled to provide live coverage of the Kansas State High School Activities Association's 3-2-1A Wrestling State Champi-

onships on Friday and Saturday.

Friday
Session I: First round, 10 a.m. Second round, championship quarterfinals, 2 p.m. Session II: First-round consolation, 4 p.m. Championship semifinals, Immediately following the conclusion of the first round consolation but not earlier than 4:30 p.m.

Saturday
Session III: Consolation cross bracketing, 9 a.m.; Consolation quarterfinals, 10:45 a.m.; Consolation semifinals, 12:15 p.m. Fifth place, 2 p.m. Consolation finals, 3 p.m.

Session IV: Parade of Champions, 40 minutes after consolation finals; Championship finals, 45 minutes after consolation finals



Wrestlers tie for seventh at regionals

By Betty Jean Winston
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Two St. Francis wrestlers will be going to the 3-2-1A state tournament at Hays this Friday and Saturday. Senior Adam Guthmiller will return to state as he placed first at 215 pounds at the Goodland 3-2-1A Regional tournament on Saturday and freshman Lane Hoffman will be attending state as he placed first at 103 pounds. Guthmiller did not place at state last year but gained valuable experience.

Norton was the winner of the 3-2-1A Regional wrestling tournament on Friday and Saturday. The Blue Jays collected 187 points. St. Francis tied for seventh with Cimmaron with 71 points.

Placing second at Goodland was Hoxie with 175.5 points. Scott City was third with 134 points and Goodland fourth with 133 points.

Also participating for St. Francis at regionals were 112: Casey Keller; 125: Michael Leibbrandt; 130: Logan Lampe; 135: David Leibbrandt 140: Tyler Raby; 145: Derek Queen; 152: Dylan Wolaver; 189: Zach Gienger.

A number of St. Francis team points were earned by wrestlers who won matches even though they did not qualify for state.

"We wrestled well on the backside," Coach Nathan Smith said. "Our young kids really came along this year and have expressed interest in continuing to get better during the offseason. I think the program's future looks bright with the quality young men we have in it now and will be joining us next year."

Team standings

Norton 187, Hoxie 175.5, Scott City 134, Goodland 133, Plainville 95, Decatur Community/Oberlin 93.5, Cimmaron 71, St. Francis 71, Ellis 61, Lakin 54, Oakley Thomas More Prep-Marian 49, Leoti 47, Elkhart 40.5, Hill City 31, Rawlins County/Atwood 30.5,

South Gray 18, Holcomb 17.5, Trego 15.5, Meade 12, Stockton 11.5, Sublette 6.5, Quinter 5, Cheylin 0.

Top regional placers

First through fourth place: 103: Hoffman, St. Francis; Amos, Holcomb; Solko, Rawlins County; Addington, Norton; 112: Mulligan, Scott City; Risewick, Norton; Dreher, Decatur Community; Axelson, Plainville; 119: Schumacher, Thomas More Prep-Marian; Kough, Scott City; Avelar, Goodland; Jones, Hoxie; 125: Ochs, Hoxie; Kennedy, Lakin; Juemann, Decatur Community; Werner, Plainville; 130: Bainter, Norton; Miller, Goodland; Younger, Ellis; Salinas, Leoti; 135: Terrell, Norton; Davis, Lakin; Holub, Thomas More Prep-Marian; Brown, Decatur Community; 140: Broeckelman, Norton; Yergey, Hoxie; Hunsicker, Ellis; Kropp, Scott City; 145: Snyder, Hoxie; Paul, Scott City; Deeds, Goodland; Green, Rawlins County; 152: Bainter, Hoxie; Albers, Oakley; Croft, South Gray; Gilliland, Plainville; 160: Keiswetter, Norton; Hanna, Hill City; Molina, Elkhart; Barrett, Cimmaron; 171: Shirk, Norton; Salmans, Hoxie; Thyfault, Plainville; Berggren, Oakley; 189: Herl, Goodland; Malin, Plainville; Washington, Hoxie; Larue, Decatur Community; 215: Guthmiller, St. Francis; Hayes, Scott City; Oharah, Goodland; Fortin, Decatur Community; 285: White, Cimmaron; Salmans, Hoxie; McEachern, Scott City; Chards, Plainville.

Individual stats

Coach Smith has given several comments concerning matches during regionals which are included with each wrestlers stats.

103: Hoffman won by a fall over Matthew Helm, Decatur Community; won by a 17-5 major decision over Bryce Fairleigh, Scott City; won by opponent's disqualification. Placed first.

"Lane is wrestling really good right now. He's controlling matches and doing a lot of good things."

112: Keller lost by a fall to Dayton Dreher, Decatur Community; won by a fall over Gage Pfeifer, Hill City; won by a 12-4 major decision over Andy Davis, Sublette; lost by a 7-1 decision to Trevor Axelson, Plainville.

"Casey wrestled his tail off on Saturday to put himself in a position to qualify. We came up one match shy losing a close match to a returning state placer."

125: M. Leibbrandt won by default over Vap, Rawlins County; lost by a 10-1 major decision to Brent Juemann, Decatur Community; won by a 4-0 decision over Miles Pearson, Scott City; won by a 4-3 decision over Zach Mader, Quinter; lost by a fall to Cole Werner, Plainville.

"Mikey is another kid that battled through the back door and almost got there. He ran into a returning state finalist on the back side."

130: Lampe lost by a fall to Tristan Houser, Plainville; lost by a 5-3 decision to Chris Anderson, Decatur Community.

"Logan was in a tough weight class. He was wrestling tough at the end of the season but things just didn't fall our way at 130."

135: D. Leibbrandt lost by a fall to Donovan Schamberger, Hoxie; lost by a fall to Austin Lopez, Ellis.

"Dave opened up with a quality kid from Hoxie and then ran into a kid that the week early had defeated the regional champion at this weight."

140: Tyler Raby lost by a fall to Riley Hunsicker, Ellis; lost by a fall to Bryer Porter, Leoti.

"Tyler was kind of in the same boat as David running into what looks like a state placer in the first round. Then having to wrestle an older more experienced kid on the

backside.

145: Derek Queen lost by a fall to Eli Bozarth, Norton; lost by a fall to Gus Nickelson, Hill City.

"Derek has really progressed though out the season but he was wrestling more experienced kids."

152: Dylan Wolaver won by a fall over Jacob Rios, Scott City; lost by a 10-0 major decision to Dylan Bainter, Hoxie; won by an 8-6 decision over Werth, Thomas More Prep-Marian; lost by a 9-0 major decision to Harrison Gilliland, Plainville.

"Dylan was wrestling his best these last few weeks and I thought he had a good tournament at a tough weight. He scored us some valuable team point."

189: Zach Gienger lost by an 11-1 major decision to Laine Herl, Goodland; won by a fall over Zach Norris, Meade; won by a 12-7 decision over Marcus Irsik, Elkhart; won by a 4-2 decision over Dayton Crist, Holcomb. lost by a 4-2 decision to Jacob Larue, Decatur Community.

"I thought Zach would have a chance at qualifying and he did. We were about a week away (regaining our strength from our broken wrist) from beating the kids we lost to. Zach is another young man that wrestled his tail off on Saturday to put himself in position to qualify for state."

215: Guthmiller won by a fall over Logan Mattheyer, Ellis; won by a fall over Channing Fortin, Decatur Community; won by a 9-8 decision over Luke Hayes, Scott City.

"Adam, I thought was as dominate as I've seen him all year. He has a goal and by the way he wrestled Friday and Saturday he's put himself where he needs to be to attain it. I thought we dominated the number one kid at 215 having him on his back for a lot of the first period."

Team has good meet on Thursday

By Betty Jean Winston
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The St. Francis junior high wrestlers added a meet with Hoxie, Trego Community, Oakley and Rawlins County after the school calendar was completed for the 2010-11 year. The event took place in Atwood on Thursday, Feb. 17.

The final meet on the schedule was the league tournament with Hoxie, Rawlins County, Decatur Community, Oakley and Hoxie held on Tuesday with results next week.

"We really had a pretty good night, actually, and won matches against opponents we had lost to earlier in the year," Bruce Swihart, assistant coach, said.

Sub totals for the Indians Thursday included takedowns, 23; near falls, 30; reversals 4; escapes 12; falls, 11; wins, 17, losses 22.

"I feel like I'm a little more on track now and my confidence is growing and just in time for the league tournament," said Garrett Brunk, seventh grader. "We'll have to see what happens Tuesday (at league tourney)."

Individual results from Rawlins County:

Phillip White lost by a fall to Leibbrandt, Rawlins County; lost by a fall to Rains, Oakley; lost by a fall to Parsons, Oakley.

Clay Cassaw lost by a fall to Leibbrandt, Rawlins County; lost by an 11-3 decision to Rowh, Hoxie; lost by a fall to Zimmerman, Oakley.

Riley Shay lost by a fall to Rowh, Hoxie; won by a 12-3 decision over Goff, Trego; lost by a fall over Parsons, Oakley.

Travis Rogers lost by a fall to Murphy, Oakley; won by a 7-6

decision over Zimmerman, Oakley.

Garrett Brunk won by a 5-0 decision over Febrizius, Trego; won by a fall over Stewart, Oakley; won by a fall to Stoll, Oakley.

Lane Hobrock won by a fall over Henn, Hoxie; won by a fall over Zahn, Trego; won by a fall over Waugh, Oakley.

Jesse Pacheco lost by a fall to Reuber, Rawlins County; won by a fall over Hill, Trego; won by a fall over Shirley, Oakley.

Austin Patton lost by a fall to Reuber, Rawlins County; lost by a fall to Merida, Rawlins County; lost by a fall to Shirley, Oakley.

Tanner Gilliland lost by a fall to Hill, Trego; won by a fall over Shirley, Oakley.

Blake Meyer lost by a fall to Merida, Rawlins County; lost by a fall to Portschy, Rawlins County; lost by a fall to Reuber, Rawlins County.

Cade Bracelin won by a 7-2 decision over Portschy, Rawlins County; lost by a 7-0 decision to Grassman, Oakley; won by a fall over Jirak, Oakley.

Jude Faulkender won by a 6-0 decision over Henry, Rawlins County; lost by a fall to Sattler, Rawlins County; lost by a fall to Portschy, Rawlins County; lost by an 11-5 decision to Engel, Oakley.

John Hoard won by a fall over Waggener, Hoxie; lost by a fall to Schippers, Hoxie.

Shakotah Blanka won by a fall over Waggener, Hoxie; lost by a fall to Schippers, Hoxie.

Exhibition matches
Jesse Jenkins lost by a 15-8 decision to Zimmerman, Oakley; lost by a 15-13 decision to Leibbrandt, Rawlins County.