

# At the Game

## Lady Indians struggle to pace the Lady Bulldogs

By Kent Kechter

The Lady Indians had four players score eight or more points, but could not quite keep pace with the Lady Bulldogs from Quinter. Playing on their home court, the Lady Bulldogs jumped out to a quick 0-6 lead one minute and 10 seconds into the contest, and never relinquished the lead.

A nice pass from Justice Wiley, setting up a Kyla Bandel basket at 5:32, got the Lady Indians on the scoreboard. An offensive rebound basket by Valerie Wurm closed the gap to 4-6, but that was as close as the Lady Indians would get.

After the lead extended to 4-10, Justice Wiley drained a trey with 18 seconds left in the first period to trim the lead to three. Quinter answered with a basket at the buzzer. The Lady Indians trailed 7-12 after one quarter of play.

St. Francis trailed 7-14 before Clarice Neitzel nailed a three-ball. By 6:14, the Lady Indians trailed 10-20 due to several turnovers and rebounding that allowed second chance baskets to the Lady Bulldogs. A basket by Kyla Bandel, and trey by Clarice Neitzel, trimmed the deficit to five (15-20). Then, the Lady Indians committed several consecutive turnovers.

By halftime, Quinter had scored enough to lead 17-26, but the Lady Indians were fortunate the deficit was not larger, as Quinter did not score on numerous possessions allowed by the Lady Indians' poor ball handling and rebounding.

The Lady Bulldogs opened the third period with a 9-point run. St. Francis fell behind 17-35 before Valerie Wurm connected on two free throws at 4:46. Bandel drained three treys, Laura Brunk added a basket, and Justice Wiley sank a three-ball to trim the lead to 33-44 by the end of the third period.

A basket by Clarice Neitzel moved the score to 36-48 at the 5:35 mark of the fourth quarter. At 2:40, Laura Brunk scored on an offensive rebound to make the score 40-51 with 3:40 left. A nice pass from Valerie Wurm led to a basket by Aubrey Mills (42-55). Justice Wiley and Clarice Neitzel

(trey) each scored to get the Lady Indians within 10 points (47-57), but the Lady Indians could not overcome some of their early errors and lost the contest 49-59. Quinter moved their season record to 7-8 with the victory. The Lady Indians fell to 2-14.

The Lady Indians received a good balance in scoring from Clarice Neitzel (14), Kyla Bandel (13), Laura Brunk (8), and Justice Wiley (8). The Lady Indians were 3 of 6 from the free-throw line.

Quinter was led by Brooke Flax with 20 points. Jaci Crist scored 19. Missy Reed added 13 and Kylie Werth 11. All four are seniors. (Quinter only has six



CLARICE NEITZEL plays tough defense against the Bulldogs.

Herald photos by Kent Kechter

underclassmen on their roster.) The Lady Bulldogs were 10 of 19 from the line.

Quinter also won the junior varsity game. The score of the two-quarter contest was 8-13. The Lady Indians led 6-4 after one period of play. Players scoring in the contest were: Aby Fernandez, 2; Journey Lee, 2; and Kylie Sherlock, 4.

Junior varsity coach David Morrow released the following comments on the game. "Against Quinter, we did almost everything we needed to do to win the game," said David Morrow, junior varsity coach. "We pressured the ball handlers and created turnovers, stifled

the Bulldog offense, and created many scoring opportunities with our offense. The only area we had a hard time in was scoring points. We didn't shoot well at all and missed some very easy scoring opportunities. In fact, we didn't score a field goal in the second quarter. The frustrations aside, we are showing improvement. The girls are finding better shot opportunities, and we're moving a lot better on offense. If we were able to shoot better, we'd have several more wins by this time."

The Lady Indians will travel to Tribune on Friday, Feb. 15, to play the Lady Jackrabbits.



MASON SCHILTZ defends the basket on the road against a scrappy Quinter team.

## St. Francis varsity Indians beat tough Quinter team

By Kent Kechter

The St. Francis Indians left Quinter with two more wins. The varsity boys defeated Quinter 71-56. With the win, the Indians' varsity record moved to 8-10. Quinter fell to 5-10. The junior varsity boys won 67-43.

Mason Schiltz opened the varsity game with an offensive rebound basket. Quinter answered with a trey. The action was back-and-forth throughout the remainder of the first period.

The Indians sandwiched a Bulldog basket between two more Schiltz baskets, the second being a trey, to give St. Francis a 7-5 lead. At 4:31, Wyatt Landenberger stole the ball from a Bulldog player and took it for a lay-in basket. The Indians were back in front 9-7. Dylan Peter gave the Indians a 12-7 lead after an "old-fashioned" three-point play. Quinter tied the score at 1:44, and took a one-point lead on a "plus-one" free throw (12-13).

The Bulldogs went up 12-15 before Schiltz moved the Indians within one, 14-15, at the 1:18 mark. A trey from the right corner, by Dylan Peter with 37 seconds left in the first quarter, gave the Indians a 17-15 lead. Peter drained another trey, resulting from a nice pass by Wyatt Landenberger, to give the Indians a 20-15 advantage after one period of play.

St. Francis committed turnovers on the first two possessions of the second quarter, and the Bulldogs tied the contest at 20-all at 7:03. At 5:23, Quinter regained the lead, but Cade Bracelin nailed a three-ball from the left corner 15 seconds later to give the Indians a 23-22 advantage.

Kyler Zwegardt ignited an Indian run with an offensive rebound basket at 3:31 and followed with another post move bucket (plus one) to put the Indians up 30-23. A steal and basket by Wyatt Landenberger, at 2:40, gave the Indians a 9-point lead.

At 1:30, Jacob Baxter scored on a follow shot.

The Indians had out-scored the Bulldogs 16-1 in approximately three and a half minutes. Brett Crist knocked down a trey for Quinter, their first basket in approximately five minutes, to get the Bulldogs within 10 points. The period closed with

the Indians leading 38-26 after Keegan Sherlock scored from the right wing in the closing seconds of the first half.

The Indian lead grew to 15 points, 41-26, before Quinter scored again. The Indians used good offensive movement and crisp passing to earn good shots in the second half.

Kyler Zwegardt scored to advance the scoreboard to 43-29 as a result of efficient ball movement. A nice pass from Steven Nelson to Dylan Peter resulted in another Indian basket (45-29), and the margin grew to 16 points.

Cade Bracelin scored a fast-break bucket off a good pass from Wyatt Landenberger on the next Indian possession. Even after consecutive turnovers late in the period, the Indians led 49-36 after three periods.

The final period was almost evenly played by both teams. St. Francis scored early on baskets by Bracelin (assist Steve Nelson) and Schiltz, but then committed consecutive turnovers.

Quinter responded by cutting the lead to 53-42. A trey by Steven Nelson and a basket by Cade Bracelin (assist Nelson) again put the Indians in front by 16 points (58-42).

A Quinter trey, at 2:37, moved the Bulldogs within 11 (62-51), but Wyatt Landenberger answered with a driving lay-up. On the next Indian possession, Bracelin was called for an offensive foul.

St. Francis fouled Quinter on their next possession, and Bulldogs made one free throw to move the score to 64-54 with 1:54 left in the contest.

Quinter cranked up the defensive pressure in the final moments, but St. Francis earned two run-out baskets, one each by Landenberger and Peter.

After an intentional foul call against the Bulldogs, Cade Bracelin sank two free throws to make the score 70-56. On the ensuing possession, Quinter fouled Mason Schiltz, who made one more free throw to finalize the score at 71-56. The Indians had played well and earned another Northwest Kansas League victory.

The Indians had excellent scoring balance with all five starters netting 8 points or more. Mason Schiltz scored 18 points.



Cade Bracelin and Dylan Peter each added 13. Kyler Zwegardt, with 10, and Wyatt Landenberger, with 8, rounded out the Indian starter's scoring.

The Indians shot well from the line, converting 12 of 14 free throws. The Indians shot a blazing 64 percent from the field and had 16 turnovers.

Dylan Peter grabbed 8 rebounds, Steven Nelson had 4 assists, and Mason Schiltz earned 4 steals.

Quinter was led in scoring by junior Colton Corwin with 18 points. Sophomore Brett Crist scored 17, and sophomore Tyler Waggoner added 8. The Bulldogs were 9 of 15 from the free throw line.

### Junior varsity

In junior varsity action, the Indians jumped out to an 18-19 first quarter lead and were up 36-21 at halftime. The third period score stood at 56-33. The Indians cruised to a 67-43 win.

The Indians will travel to Tribune on Friday to compete with the Jackrabbits in Northwest Kansas League action.

## Junior high wrestlers win more than half their matches

The junior high wrestling team competed in Norton on Thursday, Feb. 7. Five teams were involved in the competition including: Ellis, Norton, Smith Center, Stockton, and St. Francis. The junior high athletes competed well and won more than half of the matches they were involved in.

The junior high wrestling team had a very busy week, said Dylan Loyd, coach. Though we had to travel quite a ways it was good to be able to compete against some different competition from what we have seen already this season. We had a winning record Thursday, which I always figure means that we "won" the dual. Our guys really wrestled well, some suffered some tough losses to some tough kids, but each one of them battled tough and I was very proud of their efforts.

Individual results:

Matt Leibbrandt (1-0)- won by fall over Wilson, Smith Center.

Coy Cassaw (1-0)- won by a decision over Wilson, Smith Center.

Jake Faulkender (0-3)- lost by a fall to Krier, Stockton; lost by a fall to Kroeger, Ellis; lost by a fall to Patterson, Norton.

Kenny Leibbrandt (2-1)- won by a fall over Ifland, Smith Center; lost by a fall to Johnson,

Norton; won by a technical fall over Hudson, Ellis.

Connor McBride (0-1)- lost by a fall to Labarge, Ellis.

Quinton Cravens (2-0)- won by a fall over Labarge, Ellis; won by a major decision 10-2 over Bittel, Ellis.

Luke Lampe (2-1)- lost by a 4-2 decision to Chisham, Norton; won by a fall over Graf, Stockton; won by a fall over Bittel, Ellis.

Dalton Straub (1-1)- lost by fall to Hill, St. Francis; won by a fall over Gore, Stockton.

Joel Hill (2-0)- won by a fall over Straub, St. Francis; won by a fall over Brown, Norton.

JR Landenberger (1-1)- won by a fall over Brown, Norton; lost by a fall to Gore, Stockton.

Jeremiah Neitzel (1-1)- won by a 7-0 decision over Wagner, Smith Center; lost by a 8-2 decision to Kuhn, Smith Center.

Martin Beikman (1-1)- lost by a fall to Auker, Norton; won by a fall over Gosselin, Norton.

Kenny Adams (0-2)- lost by a fall to Gosselin, Norton; lost by a fall to Auker, Norton.

Trayton Doyle (2-1)- lost by a fall to Green, Norton; won by a fall over Dietz, Smith Center; won by a fall over Vacura, Norton.

## Regional wrestling is Friday, Saturday