

At the Game

Indians basketball team competes in tournament

By Douglas Sloper
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The St. Francis Indians took part in the Northwest Kansas League Tournament. Their opponents were the Atwood Buffaloes, Leoti Indians and Quinter Bulldogs. The Indians played well and took on Quinter in the consolation finals. They finished sixth overall in the tournament.

Indians vs. Atwood

The Indians and the Buffaloes got off to a very slow start. Cold shooting and turnovers plagued both teams. Atwood had a slight lead at the end of a low scoring quarter, 11-7.

The scoring began to pick up in the second quarter, as both teams got into a rhythm. The Buffaloes began to pull away and the Indians trailed at half, 29-20.

Both teams played an even game in the third quarter, and the Indians could not make up any ground. Atwood held a nine point lead, 48-39 at the end of the quarter.

As in the third quarter, the Indians could not make any dent in the Buffalo's lead. Both teams continue the even play. St. Francis dropped the contest 76-65.

Indians scoring: Mason Schiltz, 25 points; Cade Bracelin, 16 points; Taylor Rogers, 6 points; Wyatt Landenberger, 6 points; Jacob Baxter, 6 points; Quinter Cravens, 4 points; Lenny Olivares, 2 points.

"We match up pretty well against a good Atwood team, and liked our chances going in. Our loss was disappointing," said Coach Jeff Beims. "We just simply didn't play up to our standards against them. We had some good looks at the basket that weren't falling for us, and our defense wasn't what we expect. That falls on me."

"We tried to get a little too fancy with our defensive rotations, and got out of position as a result. We need more practice at

those kind of things before I just throw the boys "to the wolves." The good news is we get another shot at Atwood next week in our regular season match up, so stay tuned."

Indians vs. Leoti

St. Francis and Leoti got off to a slow start, in a low scoring first quarter, as both teams spent most of the quarter trying to get into an offensive rhythm. St. Francis held a one point lead, 11-10.

In the second quarter, both offenses began to gel, with Leoti out scoring St. Francis, 14 to 10, and took a 24-21 into the half.

Both teams continued to play even basketball in the third quarter, as the score went back and forth. St. Francis trailed by one point, 32-31 at the end of the quarter.

In an exciting fourth quarter, both teams continued to battle and didn't give an inch. St. Francis finally was able to pull out the game 42-41.

Coach Beims was happy with the results. "Leoti has played us 4 times in the last two years, and we have won three of them, by a total of 4 points. They beat us once by 4, making that the largest margin of victory over the past 2 years. They are always tight games, and our meeting in the league tournament was no different."

"Once again, I thought the difference was our defense. We held a guy for Leoti that scores better than 20 points a game to one point. I just love it when we play like that. We just need to get more consistent."

Indians scoring: Wyatt Landenberger, 13 points, Mason Schiltz, 10 points; Cade Bracelin, 8 points; Taylor Rogers, 4 points; Quinter Cravens, 4 points; Jacob Baxter, 3 points.

Indians vs. Quinter

The Indians next went up against the Quinter Bulldogs for the consolation championship.

The game started off in a low

scoring fashion, as both teams missed shots and had several miscues. The Indians held a 9-6 lead at the end of the first quarter.

St. Francis went on a shooting cold streak in the second period, and the Bulldogs battled back to take a four point lead into the half, 24-20.

Battling back in the third quarter, the Indians offense and defense began to click, and St. Francis took a 30-29 lead midway through the period. The Indians then suffered another cold shooting streak, and were outscored by the Bulldogs 14 to 0. Quinter pulled away to a 43-30 lead as the quarter ended.

The Indians played hard, but could get no closer in the fourth quarter, and were defeated by the Bulldogs, 51-41.

Indians scoring: Cade Bracelin, 14 points; Mason Schiltz, 13 points; Wyatt Landenberger, 5 points; Jacob Baxter, 4 points; Jeremiah Neitzel, 2 points; Lenny Olivares, 2 points; Taylor Rogers, 1 point.

Coach Jeff Beims was disappointed with the way the team played, "I spent most of Saturday wondering where our team went. We came out flat and uninspired, and got beat by a pretty good Quinter team. These tournaments are a grind on everybody, but good teams find a way to keep their focus, and maintain a level of excitement and intensity. We didn't do that. We missed a lot of easy shots, and turned the ball over too much."

The object of our game is to score more points than the other guy, and when you don't score when you have the opportunity, and you give the other guy several extra opportunities they are probably gonna win. This game was a case-in-point."

The Indians next opponent will be the Atwood Buffaloes on Tuesday, Jan. 28 in Atwood beginning at 6:30 p.m.



CARL FABRE takes a jump shot during the game.

Herald staff photo by Douglas Sloper

Lady Indians basketball finish tournament play

By Douglas Sloper
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After defeating the Tribune Jackrabbits, the Lady Indians went up against the state ranked Hoxie Indians in the Northwest Kansas League Tournament. Their next opponent was the Oberlin Red Devils, and they finished up against the Atwood Buffaloes. The Lady Indians played hard, but could not win another game. The Lady Indians finished in seventh place overall in the tournament.

Lady Indians

Hoxie came out stronger and more aggressively, using a full court press from the beginning, which took St. Francis completely out of their game plan. The Lady Indians were never in this game from the start. Hoxie led 26-1 at the end of the first quarter.

Hoxie continued to pour it on in the second quarter and the Lady Indians had no answer. St. Francis trailed 44-9 at the half.

Things did not get any better for the Lady Indians in the third quarter. They were held scoreless, and Hoxie continue to dominate 61-9.

With a continuous clock running in the fourth quarter, St. Francis could only manage to score 4 points in the quarter and the Lady Indians were defeated 65-13.

Lady Indians vs. Oberlin

The Lady Indians lost in the next round of the tournament to the Oberlin Red Devils, 37-26.

Lady Indians scoring: Justice Wiley, 8 points; Kyla Bandel, 7 points; Valerie Wurm 3 points; Kayla Reed, 2 points; Emily Elfers, 2 points; Kylie Sherlock, 2 points; Journey Lee, 2 points.

"We played pretty well throughout this game. Unfortunately, our shots just wouldn't fall, which is what has been plaguing us throughout this season," said Coach Susan Dinkel. "We played

pretty aggressive defense, and had a lot of fouls called on us, which made us stop playing our style of game and play theirs."

Lady Indians vs. Atwood

The Lady Indians played a close first quarter against the Buffaloes. Defense was the name of the game in the low scoring first quarter. St. Francis held a slim 11-9 lead at the end of the quarter.

The second quarter saw the scoring open up for both teams. The Lady Indians stayed close, and as the half ended, the Buffaloes held the lead in a close contest, 27-25.

St. Francis came out in the third quarter and could not get anything going on offense or defense. St. Francis could only score four points in the entire quarter. The Lady Indians also got into foul trouble, and the Buffaloes took full advantage of the this to build up a 44-27 lead midway through the quarter, and led 52-29 at the end of the quarter.

As Atwood's lead increased in the fourth quarter, a continuous clock was run and the Lady Indians dropped the game 60-37.

Lady Indians scoring: Kyla Bandel, 14 points; Justice Wiley, 8 points; Emily Elfers, 4 points; Journey Lee, 4 points; Valerie Wurm 4 points; Kylie Sherlock, 2 points; Kayla Reed 1 point.

"We played a great first half of basketball. Then, we came out after halftime and were sluggish. We just couldn't seem to get things going on defense or offense," said Coach Susan Dinkel. "It is so frustrating when you have to play passive because you get into foul trouble. Needless to say, we are just going to have to work a little harder to get into better shape."

The Lady Indians next opponent will be the Atwood Buffaloes in Atwood on Jan. 28 beginning at 6:30 p.m.



JOURNEY LEE shoots the basketball at the tournament.

Herald staff photo by Douglas Sloper

Senior Night
Thursday, Jan. 30, 6:30 p.m., when the
wrestlers meet Hoxie at home.
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10 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 1, in Ellis.

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