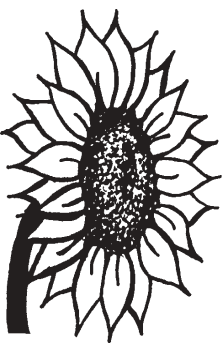


The Saint Francis Herald

At the Game



Three Indians place

By Betty Jean Winston

Five St. Francis wrestlers qualified for State by placing in the top four at the Regional Tournament held in Norton on Feb. 20 and 21 and three of these wrestlers come home from the 3-2-1A State Tournament in Hays on Saturday with medals.

Trevor Richard, 103 pounds, advanced to the finals and was pinned by Burton of Eureka, thus placing second.

At 125 pounds, Dylan Loyd finished in third place by defeating Baker of Hoxie 7-3 for third/fourth place.

The other St. Francis wrestler to place was Derek Ross at 171 pounds. He also placed third for the Indians by defeating Shipley of Hoxie 9-2 in his final match.

These three wrestlers also placed for St. Francis last year at State with Richard moving up to second from last year's fifth place finish at 103 pounds.

Loyd wrestled at 112 pounds last year and finished second while Ross wrestled at 160 pounds and placed third.

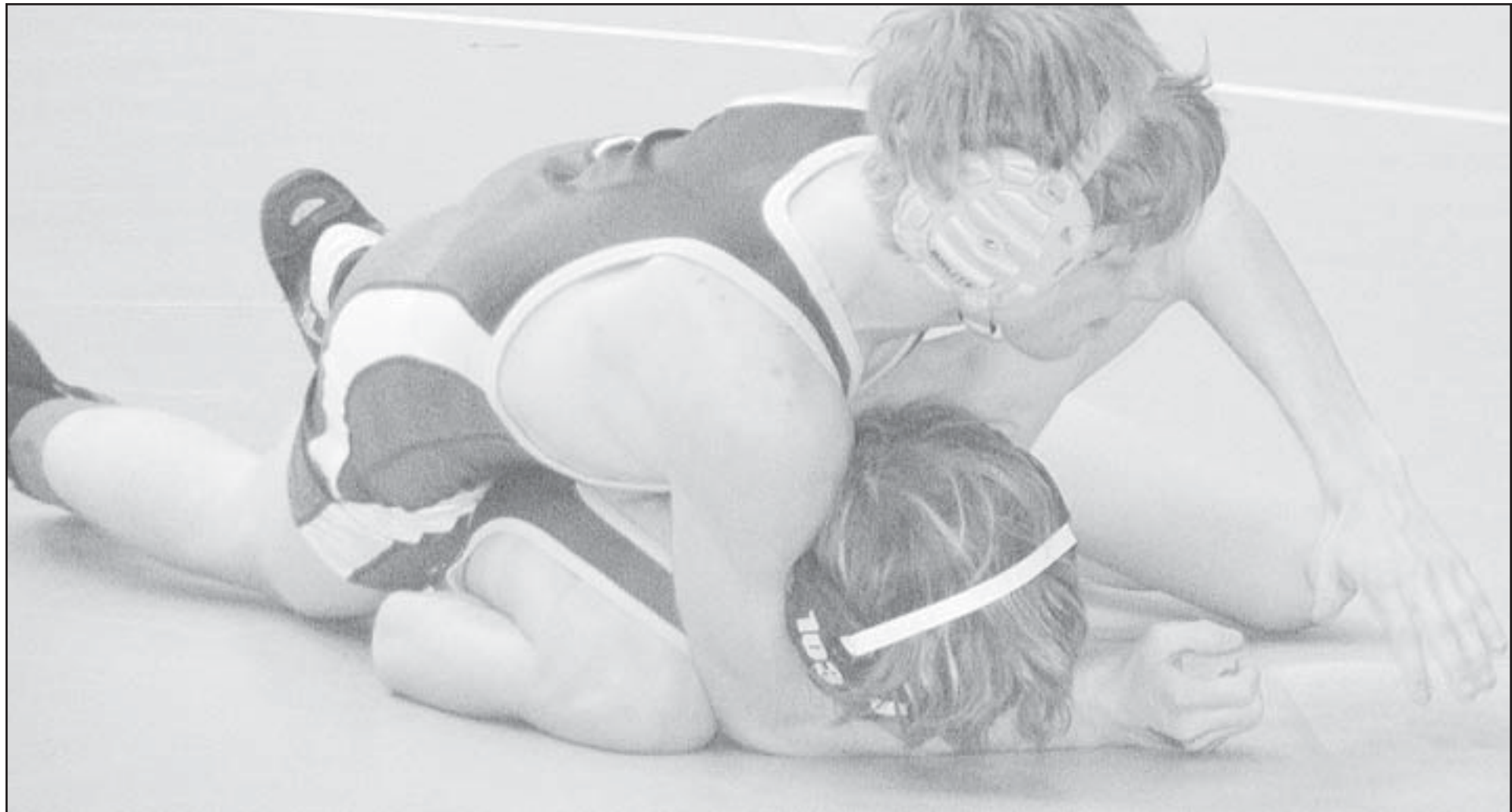
Loyd and Richard are sophomores while Ross is a junior.

Also attending State from St. Francis were Jordan Gienger at 130 pounds and Seth Swihart at 275 pounds.

"The kids wrestled well," Coach Larry Gabel said. "They competed well and each wrestler won at least two matches."

"Everyone that went to state will be returning next year along with three others that went to State last year (Gabe Gienger, Gabe Smull and Gabe Walz).

St. Francis finished the tough



TREVOR RICHARD, 103 pounds, had a great state tournament, taking second place. He ended the season with a 17 win/5 loss record for the year. Other placers were Dylan Loyd and Derek Ross.

Photo courtesy of Doug Ross

tournament in fifth place with 69 points. Norton and Hoxie fought for first place with Norton prevailing with 175.5 points followed by Hoxie with 172.5. Hoxie was hoping to repeat as champions. Additional team placings and tournament champions are listed below.

"Trevor (Richard) had a real good tournament," Coach Gabel said. "He completely dominated his weight until the final match. There was just one point difference in the third period and he made one mistake. He had an outstanding tournament and outstanding year."

"Dylan (Loyd) had a real good tournament. Sometime things just don't go as you think they should. He finished 4-1 and grew a lot. He

has improved a lot this year, getting bigger and better."

"Jordan (Gienger) did an outstanding job as a freshman. He was bracketed with two tough kids right away. He gained valuable experience and he is one of the best freshmen in the state. He went 2-2 for the tourney."

"Derek (Ross) had a real good tournament. He had a tough quarterfinal match against a state champion. He rebounded back to dominate his field, ending up 5-1."

"Seth (Swihart) had a tough bracket and he had 23-20 into a tough first round. He won two and just lost out before the placing round."

Team standings

(Top 20): Norton 175.5, Hoxie

172.5, Oberlin 76, Oakley 75, St. Francis 69, Atchison County 61.5, Silver Lake 61.5, Smith Center 59, Atwood 50, Beloit 46, Hoisington 45, Sabetha 43, Sedgwick 42, West Elk 41, Ellsworth 38, Thomas More Prep/Marian 38, Eureka 36, Herington 36, Lyons 34, Rock Creek 32.5

Champions

103: Burtin, Eureka; 112: Madden, Norton; 119: Farber, Hoxie; 125: Younkin, Oakley; 130: Annon, Norton; 135: Tyler, West Elk; 140: Gilliland, Hoxie; 145: J. Schippers, Hoxie; 152: M. Schippers, Hoxie; 160: Foster, Sedgwick; 171: Pursel, Atchison County; 189: Dennis, Oakley; 215: Horinek, Atwood; 275: Sprigg, Norton.

Team stats

Sainty wrestlers listed first followed by their opponents: takedowns 23-20; escapes 9-13; reversals 11-03; near falls 17-02; wins 16-7; major decisions 2-0; technical falls 1-0; falls 7-5.

Individual stats

103: Richard won by a fall over Oskaloosa; won by a 17-1 technical fall over Mosley, Wichita Independent; won by a 12-2 major decision over Mann, Norton; lost by a fall to Burton, Eureka;

125: Loyd won by a fall over Daerr, Garden Plain; won by an 8-3 decision over Monnington, Herrington; lost by a 5-4 decision to Weatherbee, Thomas More Prep/Marion; won by an 11-3 decision over Warta, Ellsworth; won by a 7-

3 decision over Baker, Hoxie;

130: Gienger won by a 9-3 decision over Wessel, Chase Falls; lost by a fall to Orozco, Ellsworth; won by a 9-4 decision over Bechtel, Eureka; lost by a fall to Garvin, Baxter Springs;

171: Ross won by a fall over Schneider, Hoisington; lost by a 5-3 decision to Pursel, Effingham; won by a fall over Simon, Quinter; won by a fall over Homeier, Russell, won by a fall over Pfannenstiel, Norton; won by a 9-2 decision over Shipley, Hoxie

275: Swihart won by a fall to Eberwein, Alma-Wabaunsee; won by a fall over Nelson, Sedgwick; won by a 4-1 overtime decision over Busker, Russell; lost by a fall to Bletscher, Sabetha.

League results released

By Betty Jean Winston

Junior high wrestlers gathered in Oberlin Tuesday, Feb., 24 to decide which mat men would end the season as Northwest Kansas League champions. Teams came from Atwood, Colby, Goodland, Hoxie, Oakley, Oberlin, Quinter and St. Francis.

Five St. Francis youth placed in the top four in their weight class with Justin Sherlock and Gavin Smull placing second, Ted Crabtree and David Guthmiller placing third and Keaton Frewen coming in fourth.

"Mike (assistant coach Mike Frewen) and I want to congratulate the five kids that placed in the tournament," Coach Steve Jenkins said. "In addition to that, though, there were others that came within a match of placing. They fought hard and I was proud of them."

This was the final outing of the season for the wrestling team as the athletes move into training for the track and field season.

Team totals

Sainty wrestlers listed first followed by their opponents: wins: 13-



PLACERS STUDY STAT SHEET — Five St. Francis wrestlers placed in the Northwest Kansas League Tournament held Feb. 24 in Oberlin. Indians doing well are (l to r) Keaton Frewen, Gavin Smull, Justin Sherlock, Ted Crabtree and David Guthmiller. Herald photo by Karen Krien

22; pins: 8-18 takedowns: 21-21; near falls: two: 5-8; near falls: three: 18-30; reversals: 11-20; escapes 1-1.

Individual results

100: Trent Kinen lost by a fall to Urban, Oberlin; won by a fall over Simon, Quinter; lost by a fall to Juennemann, Oberlin;

120: Scott Ford lost by a fall to Ziegler, Quinter; lost by a fall to Juennemann, Oberlin;

115: Crabtree won by an 11-5 decision over Pettay, Oakley; lost by a fall to Olsen, Colby; won by a fall over Johnson, Hoxie; won by a 2-1 decision over Taylor, Goodland;

120: Jesse Pacheco lost by a technical fall over Kriss, Colby; won by a fall over Rose, Hoxie; lost by a fall to Klinge, Goodland;

125: J. Sherlock won by a technical fall over Gaede, Hoxie; won by a fall over Landenberg, Colby; lost by a fall to Stephens, Goodland

130: Smull won by a fall over Simonsson, Oberlin; won by a fall over Deeds, Goodland; lost by a fall to Baalman, Hoxie;

135: Jacob Riedel lost by a fall to Younkin, Oakley; lost by a 12-0 major decision to Wittman, Quinter;

145: Sam Sowers lost by a fall to Ratcliffe, Hoxie; lost by a fall to Taylor, Colby;

150: Talon Jones won by a fall over Rietchek, Quinter; lost by a 10-2 major decision to Best, Hoxie; lost to Miller, Colby;

160: Frewen lost by a fall to Martinez, Goodland; won by a 5-2 decision over Long, Oberlin; lost by a fall to Martinez, Goodland;

165: Guthmiller lost by a fall to Hawkins, Goodland; won by a 4-0 decision over Pope, Hoxie;

275: Trevor Hilt lost by a fall to Schilling, Goodland; won by a fall over Kriss, Colby; lost by a fall to Bird, Hoxie;

85: Josh Carpenter lost by a fall to Klinge, Goodland; lost by a fall to Richards, Oberlin.

Basketball team finishes '04 season

By Betty Jean Winston

A two-day Northwest Kansas League Tournament ended the season for the St. Francis eighth grade girls basketball team. They met Colby in the first round on Monday and were defeated 47-13. Thursday saw the team met both Oakley and Oberlin and found themselves on the short end of the score each time. Oakley won 37-14 and Oberlin 46-29.

Playing their last junior high contest on Thursday were Cassie Dankenbring, Sara Miller, Teri Walters, Jenice Hartman, Holly Keller, Heather Hnizdel, Kattie Ford, Katie Marin and Dara Loyd. Several, if not all, of these girls will move into the high school basketball program next year.

"We ended the season with no wins," Coach David Morrow said. "On the other hand, many of the eighth teams in the league are pretty good, and most of our games would have been difficult to win."

"On the other hand, the kids recognize that basketball is a difficult sport in which to compete if time is not spent in the off-season improving skills."

"I have no doubt that these players, if they continue to work to improve, will turn out to be good high school players."

Colby 47, St. Francis 13

"The first round of the tournament proved to be pretty tough for us," Coach Morrow said. "Colby is a good, experienced team and we could not match up with them. The game was not, however, a wasted effort."

"We found out that we can play hard and have some success on defense. We also found out that we've become better at breaking the press and bringing they ball up the court."

"Katie Marin, Dara Loyd and Holly Keller were our scorers."

"At our next round in Colby, hopefully, we'll bring our best game and surprise someone."

Oakley 37, St. Francis 14

"Before the game started we knew

that we could compete with Oakley," Coach Morrow said. "After the game started, we found ourselves in the familiar place of having to fight from behind."

"Our biggest difficulty was trying to attack their defense and be productive with our offense. For the most part we were unproductive in those efforts."

"There were highlights in the game, but they were few. Kattie Ford had a good game on offense and Katie Marin was able to come up with quite a few steals on defense."

"Everything else about the game was disappointing to both the players and me."

SF 04 06 02 02 14
O 12 10 11 04 37

Scoring: Ford 6, Loyd 4, Keller 2, Hnizdel 2

Oberlin 46, St. Francis 29

"Though the score doesn't show it, this was the best game I've seen these kids play in two years," Coach Morrow said. "We fought hard, played with a little confidence, and, for the first time, took shots from beyond the three-point line."

"For many of the players, this was a career night. Cassie Dankenbring, most notably, scored five points, one of which was a three-point basket. Heather Hnizdel, who played extensively in the second half for Holly Keller (She fouled out), scored four points which included a 2-for-2 effort from the foul line."

"At one point in the fourth quarter, this was a three-point ball game," Coach Morrow said. "However, Oberlin was having a good night in their shooting from the field and were able to put the game away with a 23-point fourth quarter. We were disappointed to lose such a close game, but were relieved to have played so well after such a poor showing against Oakley."

SF 06 07 04 12 29
O 08 08 07 23 46

Scoring: Marin 7, Keller 6, Ford 5, Dankenbring 5, Hnizdel 4, Loyd 2.

Tournament canceled; weekend placings told

The St. Francis Kids Wrestling Club tournament that was scheduled for Saturday, March 6, has been canceled due to lack of entries. Wrestlers still wishing to compete this weekend can head to either Scott City, Wray, or Burlington.

In weekend action, Trevor Reed from St. Francis and Derek and Casey Vandike from Bird City competed at Imperial on Saturday, Feb. 28. Trevor placed second in the fifth/sixth grade,

100 pound bracket. Derek earned a second place medal in the kindergarten/35 pound group, and Casey participated at 52 pounds in the first/second grade bracket.

Yuma, Colo., also hosted a tournament on Saturday that was attended by approximately 360 wrestlers. Thomas Douthit, wrestling in the eight-and-under, 67 pound bracket, placed first. David Stephens placed third in the 12-and-under, 100 pound bracket.

College Sports

Fort Hays State University Basketball Michael Wolters

The Fort Hays State University Tiger basketball team completed the regular season on Saturday and played Mesa State in the opening round of the Rocky Mountain Athletic Tournament on Wednesday. The semi-finals will be played

Saturday with the finals on Sunday. Tournament results will be published in the Herald next week.

The week of Feb. 23 saw the Tigers defeated by Metropolitan State 97-82 Thursday and prevail over Chadron State 83-66 on Saturday.

The Tigers took a 17-10, 11-8 record into the conference tournament,