

# At the Game

## Champs earn four wins at Sterling

By Betty Jean Winston

The January wrestling tournament season began with another championship for the Indian wrestlers. On Saturday, Sterling was the site of the first after-Christmas tournament win. This is a continuation to the two tournament championships the Indians won at Brush and Wray in December.

St. Francis, Weld County, Colo., Merino, Colo., North Platte, Neb., and Northridge (Loveland), Colo., met at Sterling for dual competition with the Indians defeating all four opponents to take first place.

Wrestlers who came home undefeated Saturday include Trevor Richard, Dylan Loyd, Gabe Smull, Derek Ross, Brennon Wilger and Gabe Walz.

"Overall at Sterling, some kids had a good day and some didn't," Coach Larry Gabel said.

"In the championship match against Northridge, who I believe had not lost a dual this year, they began the match with the 119 pounds weight. At the end when Trevor Richard wrestled at 112 pounds, St. Francis had only a six-point advantage. Trevor had a really tough state placer, but he completely dominated him and earned a pin."

The days events went as follows: **St. Francis 56, Weld Central 18**

"Weld County had a fairly young team and we wrestled really well," Coach Gabel said.

Sainty had 11 wins and came in first in all the major categories listed below.

### Team totals

Sainty wrestlers listed first followed by their opponents: takedowns 18-3; escapes 3-9; reversals 4-1; near falls 15-3; wins 11-3; major decisions 1-0; technical falls 3-0; falls 4-2.

### Individual results

103: Josh Carpenter won by forfeit; 112: Richard won by forfeit; 119: St. Francis forfeited to Castro; 125: Loyd won by a 17-2 technical fall over Andrei; 130: Gavin Smull won by a 13-2 major decision over Stiner; 135: Devin Rohweder lost by a fall to Longhurst; 140: Jordan Gienger won by a fall over Gustafson; 145: Matt Brown won by a technical fall over Meikle; 152: Gabe Gienger won by a fall over Wolauer; 160: Gabe Smull won by a fall over Nelson; 171: Ross won by a 20-3 technical fall over Foss; 189: Josh Walters lost by a fall to McMahill; 215: Wilger won by a 5-4 decision over McQueny; 275: Walz won by a fall over Smith.

### St. Francis 55, Merino 16

"Merino is a top-ranked school in 2A in Colorado," Coach Gabel said. "We wrestled very competitive, very well."

In this match the Indians scored a 10-4 record.

### Team totals

Sainty wrestlers listed first followed by their opponents: takedowns 20-7; escapes 4-14; reversals 8-6; near falls 9-3; wins 10-



IT'S A PIN!! Brady Frewen had his opponent on his back in a recent dual. Brady wrestles 119 for the Sainty Indians.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

4; major decisions 0-1; technical falls 1-0; falls 5-0.

### Individual results

103: Carpenter lost by a 12-2 major decision to Trout; 112: Richard won by a fall over Smith; 119: no match; 125: Loyd won by a 17-2 technical fall over Brown; 130: Gavin Smull won by a fall over Smith; 135: Rohweder won by an 8-3 decision over Barber; 140: J. Gienger won by a fall over Casey Ward; 145: Brown lost by a 5-1 decision to Brunkhardt; 152: G. Gienger won by forfeit; 160: Gabe Smull won by a fall over Michels; 171: Ross won by a fall over Schmidt; 189: Walters lost by a 10-4 decision to Amen; 215: Wilger won by a 6-2 decision over Kauffman; 275: Walz won by forfeit.

### St. Francis 45, North Platte 25

"North Platte is a good sized school," Coach Gabel said. "We did

really well in this match. Jordan Gienger's 11-9 win was one of the most exciting matches of the day."

Sainty was 9-5 in wins in this dual.

### Team totals

Sainty wrestlers listed first followed by their opponents: takedowns 16-10; escapes 3-8; reversals 8-7; near falls 7-4; wins 9-5; major decisions 1-1; technical falls 1-0; falls 5-2.

### Individual results

103: Carpenter lost by a fall to Perry; 112: Richard won by a fall over Hartman; 119: Forfeit to Cox; 125: Loyd won by an 18-2 technical fall to Zurcher; 130: Gavin Smull lost by an 11-4 decision to Rayburn; 135: Rohweder lost by an 11-2 major decision to Pettit; 140: J. Gienger won by an 11-9 decision over Geiser; 145: Brown won by a 14-5 major decision over Dawson; 152: G. Gienger lost by a fall to

Correll; 160: Gabe Smull won by a 2-0 decision over Deutschmar; 171: Ross won by a fall over Miller; 189: Walters won by a fall over Neunuy; 215: Wilger won by a fall over Marquez; 275: Walz won by a fall over Robarchek.

### St. Francis 42, Northridge 30

The final match of this championship round was a win for the Indians and they ended this final dual of the day with eight wins and six losses.

### Team totals

Sainty wrestlers listed first followed by their opponents: takedowns 8-8; escapes 1-2; reversals 6-4; near falls 14-7; wins 8-6; major decisions 1-1; technical falls 1-1; falls 5-2.

### Individual results

103: Carpenter lost by a fall to Ramirez; 112: Richard won by a fall over Melendez; 119: Forfeit to Huggans; 125: Loyd won by a fall over Garcia; 130: Gavin Smull won by a 9-3 decision over Gonzales; 135: Rohweder lost by a 16-1 technical fall to Hering; 140: J. Gienger won by a 10-4 decision to Mijares; 145: Brown lost by an 11-0 major decision to Salazar; 152: G. Gienger won by a 16-0 technical fall

over Huggans; 160: Gabe Smull won by a 14-0 major decision over McCoy; 171: Ross won by a fall over Geoff Wall; 189: Walters lost by a fall to Hill; 215: Wilger won by a fall over Green; 275: Walz won by a fall over Santeramo.

### Coach's awards

Best junior varsity performance: Earl, undefeated at Sterling Invitational; best freshman performance: Carpenter, pinned Halbleib; best sophomore performance: J. Gienger, defeated Younkin 10-5; fastest fall, G. Gienger vs Wolauer, 30 seconds; coach's award, Brown; most outstanding performance, Richard, Loyd, Gabe Smull, Ross, Walz, undefeated week of Jan. 15; key match award, Richard, pinned Melendez on Northridge; practice wrestler, J. Gienger; most exciting match: J. Gienger vs Geiser of North Platte; most takedowns: Loyd 18.

### Wrestler of the Week

The St. Francis wrestling coaching staff has selected Josh Carpenter as Wrestler of the Week. He pinned his Oakley opponent to get things started out right for the Indians in their 43-29 victory over the Oakley Plainsman.

## Junior High Basketball

By Betty Jean Winston

Colby was the first opponent of the season for the junior high girls' basketball teams. They played in St. Francis on Thursday night with the seventh grade girls having their first junior high experience on the floor and the eighth grade girls continuing to improve from last year.

### Eighth grade

The final score in the eighth grade game was Colby 42, St. Francis 34.

"We were fairly evenly matched against Colby on Thursday," Coach David Morrow said. "For the first game of the year and for not having more than a handful of practices, I was pleased."

"This group of eighth graders has been working on getting better at the game of basketball. Nearly one half of this group played in a basketball league during the summer (Sam Crabtree was their coach) and their work is certainly paying dividends. One of the most impressive things to note about this year's team is that to a person, they have improved their basic skills."

"During the game Colby's press was forcing us to try to play too fast and out of control. We didn't count all the turnovers, but a conservative estimate might place that number

close to 30 and we lost a lot of scoring opportunities because of that. Man-to-man defense is a little new to us so we had trouble keeping track of our defensive responsibilities. All that being said, we played hard from start to finish and proved that we'll be able to compete in the league this year."

"Sidnee Crabtree had a career night, scoring 22 points. Six other players contributed 12 points collectively."

"Our next contest will be against Hoxie, another team that will pose a stiff challenge to us."

### Seventh grade

The seven seventh grade girls collect four points in a 48-4 loss. The limited number of players is going to be a continuing challenge for St. Francis as there will be little opportunity for a breather from the action on the floor or a chance to watch and learn from the players participating.

"We played a good Colby squad that knew what to do with the basketball," Coach Ted Busse said. "We played hard as far as effort and we will work to improve."

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Brittany Henderson 2, Brooklyn Hnizdil 2.

## Wrestling

By Betty Jean Winston

The junior high wrestling season opened with a double dual on Thursday in Oberlin. Opponents were Oberlin and Goodland.

St. Francis won 11-of-23 against Goodland and 2-of-8 against Oberlin.

"Not bad for our first outing of the season," Coach Steve Jenkins said. "I would have liked us to be more aggressive but we will work on that."

"We are young and bumped up against some pretty tough competition. All in all, it was a good day."

Wrestlers coming home Thursday having won all of their matches were Trent Kinen, Trent Raile, Tyler Larson, Scott Ford, Sam Sowers and Freddy Pacheco.

### Team totals vs Oberlin

Team statistics with St. Francis listed first followed by their opponents: record: 2-6; pins: 1-5; takedowns: 2-6; near fall-2: 4-0; near fall-3: 6-10; reversals: 3-5; escapes: 1-1.

### Individual results

116: David Stephens lost by a fall to Fortin; 122: Matt Raile lost by a fall to Urban; 130: Jesse Pacheco lost by a 6-0 decision to Juenemann; 138: Scott Ford won by a 14-2 decision over Simonson; 162: Sam Sowers won by a fall over Alstrom; 92: Terrence Lamb lost by a fall to

Anderson, lost by a fall to Vane; 98: Darris Keller lost by a fall to Jordan.

### Team totals vs Goodland

Team statistics with St. Francis listed first followed by their opponents: record: 11-12; pins: 6-11; takedowns: 20-15; near fall-2: 6-1; near fall-3: 14-16; reversals: 9-13; escapes: 6-7.

110: Brady Brunk lost by a fall to Gray; 110: Alex Long lost by a fall to Roeder, lost by a fall to Gray; 110: Drew Zweggardt lost by a fall to Roeder; 116: Trent Kinen won by a technical fall over Geist; 116: Stephens lost by a fall to Ruiz; 122: M. Raile lost by a fall to Gunther; 122: Trent Raile won by a technical fall over Diaz; 130: Tyler Larson won by a 6-1 decision over Lamb, won by a fall over Brenner; 130: Pacheco lost by a fall over Smith; 138: Ford won by a fall over Taylor; 138: Benjamin Neitzel lost by a fall to Martinez, lost by a fall to Redlin; 146: Tyler Miller won by a fall over Nelson, lost by a fall to Taylor; 162: Sowers won by a fall over Lohr; 170: Trevor Hilt lost by a 13-6 decision over Martinez, won by a fall over Johnson; 275: Shawn Warren lost by a fall to Schilling, won by a fall over Alanis; 80: Freddy Pacheco won by a 14-12 decision over McDonald; won by an 18-5 major decision over Sheldon.



WRESTLER Alex Thomas was the champion in the tournament.

## Wrestler fulfills goal

Alex Thomas fulfilled a major goal on Jan. 14 and 15 as he captured the championship of the 50th annual Cliff Keen Tulsa Nationals wrestling tournament. Generally known as the "toughest tournament in the world," and billed as the "Real National Championships," this year's tournament featured over 3,000 wrestlers from 40 states.

On his way to the championship, Alex had two pins and defeated Alex Burkle of Iowa 8-5 in an exciting match. Burkle's record was 30-0 coming into the match.

The legendary Danny Hodge

was the presenter at the awards ceremony, and Alex is shown receiving his trophy from him. Mr. Hodge was an undefeated three-time National Collegian Athletic Association champion at the University of Oklahoma, an Olympic medalist, and a teammate of Dick Delgado. Many will remember Mr. Delgado, a two-time National Collegian Athletic Association champ and Olympic placer, who was wrestling coach at Atwood Community High School in the 1960s. Dan Thomas, Alex's father, wrestled under him.

## Junior Varsity

St. Francis and Oakley met in junior varsity girls basketball on Friday evening with Oakley scoring a 66-21 victory.

Nine players compiled the 21 St. Francis points with McKenzie Grace leading the way with five.

"Right now, we have a plethora of passive girls," Coach Susan Dinkel said "We are going to have to get more aggressive if we are to compete at any level of high school basketball."

"We took quite a few shots; we just didn't make many the first half.

When you get off to that slow of a start, it's awful hard to win when you are playing catch-up.

"I hope that we figure out soon that we have to be ready to go when the tip goes up. We can't wait until half-time to decide to play basketball, which is what we have been doing."

Scoring: M. Grace 5, Brittany Lucas 4, Talisa Voorhies 2, Jade DeGood 2, Danielle Flemming 2, Katora Sherlock 2, Kattie Ford 2, Alecia Zimbleman 1, Samantha Marin 1.

## Indians outscore Oakley in dual

By Betty Jean Winston

St. Francis added another dual in the win column on Friday night when the Indian varsity defeated Oakley 43-29 in a Northwest Kansas League match in St. Francis.

"Oakley has a good team and there definitely were some good matches and some good competition," Coach Larry Gabel said.

The Indians won five matches by falls. Josh Carpenter, Dylan Loyd, Gabe Gienger, Gabe Smull and Derek Ross accomplished this feat. Trevor Richard won by a major decision and Jordan Gienger won by a decision. Gabe Walz received a forfeit at 275 pounds.

Next on the agenda is the Prairie Classic in Hays on Friday and Saturday.

"There will be 18 teams represented in Hays," Coach Gabel said. "It should be fun and exciting as we will be meeting some of the best competition in the state of Kansas."

"We will be taking three undefeated wrestlers with 20-0 records (Richard, Loyd and Ross). We also have Smull at 19-2, Walz at 17-3, J. Gienger at 16-4, Brennon Wilger at 16-5 and G. Gienger at 14-3. Plus we have some other quality kids.

## Junior Varsity

By Betty Jean Winston

Four St. Francis junior varsity wrestlers were involved in matches at Oakley on Friday and one wrestler competed in two junior varsity matches at the Sterling junior varsity tournament held Saturday in Sterling, Colo.

The Indian wrestlers won 4-of-5 matches at Oakley with three of them coming by falls and the other by a major decision.

Tal Earl pinned both of his opponents at Sterling.

### vs Oakley

Team statistics with St. Francis listed first followed by their opponents: record: 4-1; pins: 3-1; takedowns: 9-2; near fall-2: 3-0; near fall-3: 7-1; reversals: 1-2; es-

cap: 1-4.

### Individual stats

140: Darren Laffond won by a fall over Kahle; 140: Justin Sherlock won by a fall over Sharpe; 12: Russell Rogers won by a 10-2 major decision over Kruse; Zack Mills lost by a fall to Rumbach, won by a fall over an unnamed wrestler.

### Sterling Invitational

Team statistics with St. Francis listed first followed by their opponents: record: 2-0; pins: 2-0; takedowns: 2-0; near fall-2: 1-0; near fall-3: 3-0; reversals: 0-0; escapes: 0-0.

### Individual stats

Earl won by a fall over Santoramo, Northridge; won by a fall over Santoramo, Northridge.