

Cowboys wrestlers lose to St. Francis Indians

The St. Francis High School wrestling team may have finished second to Goodland at the Northwest Kansas League tournament 10 days ago, but it was the Indians who came out on top when the teams met for a dual on Friday.

St. Francis won nine of 14 matches, including the final three, to defeat the Cowboys 36-27.

"I was not very pleased with the way we wrestled," said coach Randy Bahe. "There were six matches decided by three points or less, and we didn't win any of them.

The meet started well for Goodland when senior Chad Normandin pinned Josh Carpenter at 1 minute into the first period of their 103-pound match.

In a strategic move by St. Francis coach Larry Gabel, the Indians forfeited the match at 112-pounds to sophomore Brett Bahe, giving Goodland a 12-0 lead.

Gabel chose to have Trevor Richard, who lost to Bahe in the championship match at the league tour-



Goodland sophomore Josiah Goodley (on top) pinned Russell Rogers of St. Francis with 24 seconds left in their match at 160 pounds on Friday. The six points Goodley earned for the Cowboys tied the team score at 24 with four matches to go, but the home team pulled ahead in the higher weights.

Photo by Dennis Saint/The Goodland Star-News

nament, move up to 119 pounds, where he pinned Goodland sophomore Kerek Mason 33 seconds into

the third period to make the team score 12-6.

The Indians tied the score at 12

when Dylan Loyd pinned freshman Jake Kling in the first period of their match at 125 pounds.

St. Francis took a three-point lead when Gavin Smull won a 6-3 decision over freshman Aaron Deeds at 130 pounds.

Senior Dexter Deeds regained the lead for the Cowboys, 18-15, when he pinned Devin Rohweder with 24 seconds left in the second period of their 135-pound match.

The teams were tied 18-all after Jordan Gienger won a 4-3 decision over sophomore Brett Schields at 140 pounds.

The Indians retook the lead 21-18 when, at 145 pounds, Matt Brown defeated senior Blake Saint, also by a 4-3 decision.

St. Francis increased its lead to 24-18 when Gabe Gienger won a 4-2 decision over junior Brandon Hatfield at 152 pounds.

Sophomore Josiah Goodley made the score 24-all when he pinned Russell Rogers with 24 seconds left in their match at 160.

Sophomore Jon Cook won an 8-2 decision over Josh Walters at 171 pounds to give the Cowboys a three-

point lead.

The score was tied at 27 all, though, when Derek Ross of St. Francis won a 4-2 decision over senior Brandon Cowan at 189 pounds.

In rematch at 215 pounds, Brennon Wilger won a 7-4 decision over junior Mark Starr to give St. Francis a 30-27 lead with one match left. Wilger won an overtime decision over Starr in the title match at the league tournament.

In the heavyweight match, Gabe Walz, who won the league title, pinned Goodland freshman Robert Doxon in the first period to make the final score 36-27.

"I failed to get the guys motivated to put out for the team," Coach Bahe said Monday, "and I intend to work on that this week."

The Cowboys will be home Friday for their final dual of the season against the Plainsmen of Oakley. The action starts at 5:30 p.m. in Max Jones Fieldhouse.

The regional tournament will be Feb. 18-19 at Colby High School.

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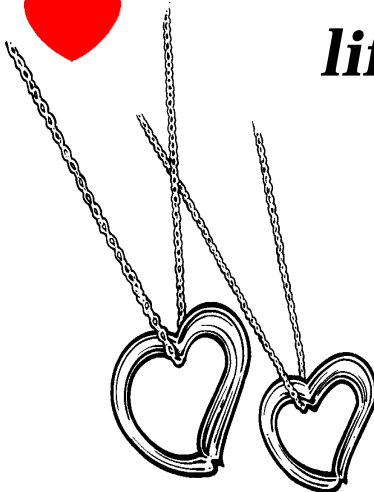
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