



JOEL GILLILAND hit the ball off the tee at a recent practice.
Herald staff photo by Douglas Sloper

C-team wins first game of the summer season

The St. Francis C Team took on Atwood at home in their first game of the season, on May 30. The team played an excellent game, beating Atwood 9-3. The game was called in the bottom of the fourth inning, when the six run rule was imposed.

In the top of the first inning Atwood led off and were held to no runs by a good St. Francis defense. In the bottom of the first, Garrett Crow, Adam Krien and Shadryon Blanka all walked to load the bases. Brady Dinkel came up to bat and hit a double to bring in three runs, and St. Francis led 3-0 at the end of the inning.

In the top of the second inning, Atwood came back, scoring

three runs to tie the game. St. Francis answered in the bottom of the second when Garrett Crow hit a double, and Shadryon Blanka walked. Brady Dinkel then tripled to bring in two more runs. St. Francis was now back on top, 5-3.

Dinkel was pitching, and held Atwood in check in the top of the third, striking out the first two batters, walking the third batter and striking out the next batter to end Atwood's inning.

Colton Neitzel walked to start off the bottom of the third. Ben Busse made the first out, while Preston Witzel and Gabe Crow both walked to load the bases. Next up, Garrett Crow singled, which brought in Neitzel for run

number 6. With the bases still loaded, Adam Krien walked to bring in Witzel for run number 7. Blanka made the second out. Dinkel walked to bring in Gabe Crow for run number 8. As the inning ended, St. Francis was now up 8-3.

In the top of the fourth, Atwood's first batter reached on a single. Brady Dinkel struck out the next three batters to end Atwood chances.

In the bottom of the fourth, Colton Neitzel got on base with a single, Ben Busse hit a pop fly for out number one. Preston Witzel walked and Gabe Crow hit a single to bring in Neitzel for run number 9. The game was called at this point.

Sainty sputters in loss

St. Francis had many chances on June 2 throughout the C Team game against Wauneta, but were unable to capitalize on their scoring opportunities. Brady Dinkel pitched another good game, the offense looked good, but they could not push enough runs across.

St. Francis began the first inning with a walk by Garrett Crow, Adam Krien struck out for the first out. Shadryon Blanka hit a single and Brady Dinkel walked, loading the bases. Jesse Baxter came up to bat and struck out as did Colton Neitzel to end the inning. "We just couldn't get our bats going this inning and left bases loaded," said Coach Shawn Blanka.

Wauneta's first batter hit a pop fly, which was caught by Blanka for the first out. Their second batter hit a single and that was followed by a walk. The next batter hit a single and with in

an exciting play at home the St. Francis defense threw the ball home for a tag out for Wauneta's second out. The next batter struck out to end the inning with one run scored.

In the second inning, several St. Francis batters walked and got on base, but again no runs scored. Wauneta extended their lead to 4-0, scoring three runs in the second inning.

In the third inning, Dinkel and Baxter both singled. With two men on, Neitzel struck out and Busse walked to load the bases. Preston Witzel hit a pop fly for out number two, and Isaiah Lee struck out to end the inning.

Wauneta led off with a single that resulted in the one run scored that inning. Dinkel then bore down and struck out the last three batters.

In the fourth inning, St. Francis continued to struggle to get their bats going, and again came away

scoreless. Dinkel pitched a great fourth inning, striking out the first two batters and the third out was a force caught by Blanka.

In the fifth, with St. Francis down 5-0, Dinkel got on base with a single and advanced to second on a fielders choice when Baxter was put out at first, Colton Neitzel then hit a single. With runners on first and third, Ben Busse hit a double that brought in two runs. St. Francis cut the lead to 5-2. Unfortunately, with the next two batters struck out to end the game, with Wauneta taking the contest 5-2.

"The entire game we were flat offensively to get combinations going to score runs," said Coach Blanka. "The team is coming together, but we still have a lot of work to do."

There is a second game played to get in the other players that are on the team so everyone gets to play and gain experience.

Rec 4 U

By **Penny Gienger**
St. Francis Rec Director



The St. Francis C-Team's season has begun. The team has many fine athletes and is looking for another winning season.

The C-team roster is: Brady Dinkel, Isaiah Lee, Garrett Crow, Shadryon Blanka, Jesse Baxter, Adam Krien, Colton Neitzel, Seth Grice, Tyler Synder, Gabe Crow, Preston Witzel, Ben Busse, Kayden Lee, Isaac Hathaway, Caleb Todd, James Crow, Michael Crow and Shelby Crow.

The schedule for this season:

Friday, May 30: St. Francis vs Atwood.
Monday, June 2: St. Francis vs Wauneta at Wauneta.
Friday, June 6: Bye.
Monday, June 9: St. Francis vs Cheylin at McDonald.
Friday, June 13: St. Francis vs. Benkelman (Home).
Monday, June 16: St. Francis vs Atwood at Atwood.
Friday, June 20: St. Francis vs. Wauneta (Home).
Monday, June 23: Bye
Friday, June 27: St. Francis vs

Cheylin (Home).
Monday, June 30: St. Francis vs. Benkelman at Benkelman.

Tournament play will be on July 1 and 2 in Wauneta.
The All-Star game will be played on July 7 in McDonald
Please come out and support the team!



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