

Paw Print Chapters 7&8

Repeat performance – Carroll stumbles at line

By Rex Overholser
Contributing sportswriter

The Lady Cougars played host to the West Central Lady Trojans in the early game of the Carroll Classic on Saturday morning. This was pretty much a repeat performance of the game against Pioneer as the Cougars went into the den in the first half with frigid free throw shooting and then tried to claw their way back from a 22-point deficit. They hustled and played an intense game in the first 5 minutes of the third quarter and the last 5 minutes of the 4th quarter, knocking the West Central lead down to under 12 points, but the end result was the same. Krystal

Brazel (20 pts.) led the Cougars with tremendous 3-point shooting and Ashley Miller (6) played one of her best overall games for the year. The end result was 6 of 24 free throw shooting which left the Cougars tagged with another loss to go to 1 of 6 for the year. Hilee Hendryx led the Cougars with 9 rebounds and solid floor play. Carroll vs. Lowell

Coach Patti McCormack made a return trip to her former employer's gym to bring her talented 4-A Lowell team into the second game of the Carroll Classic. Lowell maybe the best team the Cougars play all year - a team full of talent and future state championship aspirations in the large school divi-

sion. Lowell left the gym with 10 wins and 1 loss. They were much bigger and more physical than the Lady Cougars.

This game was a moral victory for the Cougar Ladies as they clawed and played an intense defensive game. Sarah Brown played a tremendous defensive game holding Lowell's leading scorer, Julie Swisher (20 points per game) to only three shots the entire game. Brown has been establishing her role as a key defender for the Cougars. Courtney Hall also gave a stellar effort as she played hard in the middle against a physical Rachel Thiel, who also was held to only 6 points. The Cougars tried to hold

down the other offensive weapon, Ashley Cosentino, to no avail as she controlled the first half with a 17-point effort.

The Lady Cougars came out tired on the offensive side, scoring only 7 points in the first half as Krystal Brazel struggled with her 3-point shooting. The second half showed a tremendous effort for the Cougars as they clawed back to a 12-point deficit early in the fourth quarter. Carroll outscored Lowell by 15 points early in the fourth quarter, but succumbed to the visitors 55-30.

Carroll Coach Clay Hanna was pleased the Cougars played a talented team with energy and gave a solid effort. It would be great to

see the Lady Cougars come out in the first half with intensity so that they would not have to dig their way out of the early deficits. With the exception of the first half of the Delphi game, the Lady Cougars have played solid basketball in the second half of each game but it takes so much energy to come back that it leaves them showing hustle, but with losses.

The coach's Christmas list will be filled with the girls' abilities to hit free throws, stay healthy, and develop some more offensive weapons. They have proved they can play with heart and hustle on defense.

The Cougars face North White at home Thursday night at 6.



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Oracles lose squeaker to Cass

By Todd Swank
Contributing sportswriter

Ask any coach what the keys to winning a game are and most of them will say defense, rebounding and free throws. Against Lewis Cass the girls took care of the first two, but their inability to hit free throws cost them a victory.

The Oracle Ladies hit on 13 of 23 (56%) while their opponent hit 21 of 29 (72%). Worse was that the game went into overtime and the Oracles could only sink two of six attempts. All this added up to a 61-57 Cass win.

Delphi fell behind early, 6-2, but managed to climb back into the lead, 12-11. Cass finished the first period with two baskets and a 15-12 advantage. Ten of those points came from the shooting of Kaila

Jones. Delphi pulled to within one at 15-14 before Cass scored 12 of the next 14 points to take a 27-16 edge. Delphi cut the lead to eight, but trailed at the half, 32-21.

Erika Hawn hit a three to start the second half rally for Delphi. With 2:08 to play Hawn hit another three pointer and the Oracles were back in the game, 37-33. Consecutive baskets by Brianna Strauffer and Jones tied it at 37. After a basket and a free throw by Cass, Hawn sank a bucket to end the third. The big lead that Cass had at half was down to one, 40-39.

Delphi took the lead with 3:22 to play on a basket by Stauffer, 43-42. It took Cass only 12 seconds to get the lead back. Both teams were trading baskets and the lead.

Hawn hit a shot with 4.0 seconds left to tie it at 53 and send the game into overtime.

With Cass leading by two Delphi had a chance to tie the game but missed two free throws. A short time later Delphi had another chance with two free throws, but could only hit one. Despite their missed free throws the Oracles took a brief lead, 56-55, with 1:50 remaining. The lead lasted six seconds as Cass hit two free throws to regain the advantage. Cass hit four more free throws while the Oracles only get one of three to go to end the game.

For Delphi, Jones scored 14 points, Cree 12, Hawn 11, Stauffer 11, Schultz 4, Beach 3 and Strasser 2.

Cass won the JV game.

Oracles take second in tourney

By Todd Swank
Contributing sportswriter

The White County Tourney was hosted by Delphi this year and the Oracles made it to the championship game by defeating Frontier, 52-47, before losing to Tri-County, 66-41.

In the opener Delphi beat Frontier for the second time in nine days. A rebound and putback by Stauffer started the Oracles scoring and they would build a 9-5 lead before ending the quarter one point ahead, 12-11. Frontier scored two baskets to lead 15-12, when Leah Cree hit a three to tie it. Frontier then scored the game's next ten points for a 25-15 advantage. Cree made a bucket to stop the Falcon run and a short time later hit a three pointer to make the score 26-20. The Falcons held a 28-22 edge at the half.

It took five minutes for the Oracles to regain the lead, 33-31,

on a basket and free throw by Stauffer. The Oracles expanded the lead to, 40-33, before settling for a five point advantage, 42-37 at the end of three periods.

Jones hit a trey and Delphi was leading for good, 46-44, with less than four minutes remaining. Delphi's defense allowed Frontier to score one point in the last 3:28 to preserve the win, 52-47.

Stauffer led Delphi with 17. Also scoring were Cree with 10, Jones 8, Beach and Strasser 6 each, Hawn 4 and Schultz 1.

In the championship game the Oracles took a 2-0 lead, but the Cavaliers fought back to lead after one quarter, 10-5. Tri-County would steadily pull away until their lead was at 14, 21-7. Delphi finally woke up and scored seven in a row before the Cavaliers hit a three pointer to end the half and a 24-14 lead.

Baskets by Katie Beach and

Leah Cree cut the lead to six, 24-18, to start the second half. This is when the wheels fell off for the Lady Oracles. The Cavaliers scored 26 points in seven minutes while the Oracles could manage just ten. It didn't matter what kind of defense Delphi played, Tri-County had an answer for it. Going into the fourth quarter the Cavaliers' lead was 50-28.

The Oracles played hard in the final period despite knowing the outcome of the game was already decided.

Stauffer scored 13 to lead Delphi with help from Cree with 11, Hawn 6, Jones 5, Beach, Schultz and Strasser, each had 2.

Cree and Stauffer made the all-tournament team for Delphi along with Beth Distell of North White, Courtney Wesner of Frontier and Kayla Saucedo, Ashley Altman, Arica Kyburz and Stephanie Dewitt of Tri-County.

Batted Down



Rossville's Mark Phebus blocks a shot by Carroll's Craig Redding during Rossville's 67-42 victory. Comet photo

Rossville's zone defense causes problems for Cougars

By Greg Hoffman
Contributing sportswriter

For the second straight game, Carroll varsity has struggled on the offensive end. Their host Friday night, Rossville, employed a zone defense and ran away with a 67-42 victory.

This was the Cougars' second loss in a row. They dropped their record to 3-2 on the year and are 0-1 in the Hoosier Heartland Conference.

Will Abdon had Carroll's first

seven points. The lead changed four times and the score was knotted three times before Rossville pulled out to a 11-9 advantage after the first eight minutes. A trey by Abdon gave Carroll its final lead of the night at 12-11. With the score tied at 18 all, Rossville went on a 10-1 run to lead 28-19 at intermission.

The Hornets increased their lead to 31-19 early in the third, but to the Cougars credit they fought back with an 11-4 run to close to within 5 at 35-30. The Hornets quickly pushed their

lead back out to 9 with the hosts leading 41-32 as the quarter ended.

A trey by Nate Peters pulled Carroll to within 7 at 45-38, however from here the Cougars completely fell apart. They could not get the ball inside and had to rely on their outside shot. The result was a 20-2 run by Rossville which put the Cougars away. In the final eight minutes, RHS outscored Carroll 26-10.

The Cougars shot a miserable 5 of 23 (.217) from behind the arch and

Continued next page



On Top

Delphi heavyweight Wes Everett pins his opponent clinching first place for Delphi at the Twin Lakes invitational. Photo provided by Bill Stauffer

DCHS repeats as Twin Lakes Wrestling Invitational champ

Delphi wrestling team successfully defended its first place title Saturday at the 16-team Twin Lakes Invitational. They edged out second place Peru by 13 points. The Oracles won the invitational last year.

The Oracles had one lone champion in freshman Wes Everett at 275 pounds. Everett

pinned all of his opponents and was not seeded in the tournament. Placing second for the Oracles was Gabe Kane. Aaron Foster suffered his first loss of the season and Donovan Alderman had a great day coming from sixth seed to place second. Tyler Cooper was the only Oracle to place third. Michael

Atwood placed fifth. Placing sixth were Cody Hayden, Shane Evans, Coy Pennington and Scott Allen. Not placing but winning matches were Bobby Floyd, Mike Capitanio and Kurtis Hammond.

The Oracles will return to the mat Thursday night at Frankfort.

By Chris Parker
Staff writer

Delphi's suspended high school basketball coach resigned Dec. 19 citing personal reasons, Delphi Superintendent John Williams said Tuesday.

Brian McCammon had been suspended with pay from his positions as both a teacher and head boys basketball coach since Nov. 7.

McCammon compiled a 41-23 record during his three years as head coach.

"In this particular situation, no one wins," Williams said.

The school corporation has refused to discuss the circumstances surrounding McCammon's suspension and subsequent resignation, but Williams said hiring in general is not a perfect science.

"There are some things you just don't know until you hire a person and see them in action," he said.

Kevin Stuckmeyer, a Grace College graduate, was hired at Monday's Delphi school board meeting to fill McCammon's teaching

position. Stuckmeyer will begin teaching the second semester.

Rossville teacher Jeff Brooke had already assumed McCammon's coaching duties mid-November on an interim basis. The Oracles have a 1-4 record on the season.

McCammon did not return Comet phone calls Tuesday.

The school board accepted McCammon's resignation at its Monday night meeting.

Comet staff writer Debbie Lowe contributed to this article.

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