

Carroll FFA in state Top 10

Comet staff report

Carroll FFA Chapter brought home numerous awards and honors from the Indiana State FFA Convention at Purdue University in June.

The chapter had 45 members competing at the state level contests.

Carroll FFA was rated a Gold Emblem Chapter. This puts it in the Top 10 FFA chapters in the state out of over 200 chapters in Indiana.

The ranking is based on three areas: Chapter Development, Student Development, and Community Development. The chapter now advances on for a national ranking.

Many of the Carroll FFA members participated in various leadership Career Development Events. The chapter entered in 14 different areas and placed in the top 4 in 10 of these areas.

The chapter also placed first in six areas of the State Agriscience Fair, and had six placings in proficiency areas. First place winners in the Agriscience Fair will advance to the National Competition.

Carroll member Desiray Simmons, daughter of Jeff and Michelle Simmons, was elected to the Indiana FFA State Officer Team. She was elected as the Northern Region Vice-President. She will now spend the year living at the officers' house in Trafalgar, serving the members of the Indiana FFA.

The chapter had three members receive the State FFA Degree at the convention. This is the highest degree the State of Indiana can bestow upon an FFA member. The



Carroll FFA award winners

Carroll FFA had 45 members competing in various contests at the recent FFA State Convention. Some of those who brought home awards are pictured above: Front row, l-r - Zach Harness, Aaron Spesard, Malena Zook, Kara Overholser, Morgan Yoder, Walon Peters. Back Row - Blake Mills, Scott Guckien, Travis Martin, Kevin Knaus, Josh Hayden. See story for other award winners. Photo provided

degree is based on the student's Supervised Agricultural Experience program, leadership activities and scholarship.

Those receiving the degrees were: Scott Guckien, son of Tom and Debra Guckien; Nicole Spesard, daughter of Lance and Debra Spesard; and Josh Hayden, son of Phillip and Beth Hayden.

Kara Overholser was elected the District V Secretary at the convention. She will now spend the year working with the other officers in District V insuring that all activities run smoothly. She will help with the FFA Barn at the State Fair and attend Premier Leadership Training Camp at Trafalgar.

Advisors of the Carroll FFA Chapter are Steve and Melissa Keown. Leadership awards

Chapter members bringing home first place were: Desiray Simmons and Nicole Spesard in the Horticulture Demonstration, Kara Overholser and Courtney Rinehart in the Food Science Demonstration, and Emily Fritz and Molly Craig in the Discovery Demonstration.

Second place finishes were: Kelly Moffitt in Job Interview,

Brian Griffin in Male Ambassador, Jill Griffin in Discovery Speaking, and Sarah Griffin in Freshman Extemporaneous Speaking.

Third place finishes went to Travis Martin in Creed Speaking and Brian Griffin in Extemporaneous Public Speaking.

Fourth place went to the Agriculture Issues team of Kara Overholser, Morgan Yoder, Lydia Hedde, Walon Peters, Kierstyn Harper, Kaitlin Kennedy and Katie Pearson.

Others competing in leadership contests were the Quiz Bowl Team of Kevin Knaus, Lucia Zook, Megan Garrison and Megan Ayres; Ag Communications Team of Brian Griffin, Courtney Rinehart, Kevin Knaus and Kierstyn Harper; Female Ambassador - Desiray Simmons; and Freshman Public Speaking - Chandler Keown.

Agriscience Fair

The chapter placed first in six areas of the State Agriscience Fair. Those taking home first place and advancing to National Competition were: Chandler Keown and Kevin Knaus in Agriculture Engineering; Kiara Buchanan and Emily Fritz in Zoology; Malena Zook and Travis Martin in Botany; Jill Griffin in Zoology; Jonathan Bush and Aaron Spesard in Food Science, Microbiology, and Biochemistry; and Jared Collins in Food Science, Microbiology, and Biochemistry.

Others competing in the Agriscience Fair were: Susanna Taylor, Megan Garrison and Megan Ayres, and Sabrina Sisson and Samantha Pickens in the area of Food Science, Microbiology, and Biochemistry; Lucia Zook and

Sarah Griffin, and Blake Mills and Zack Harness in Zoology; Lorelei Seip and Hannah Brewster, and Victoria Henderson and Chami Ayres in Botany.

Proficiency areas

The chapter also had members competing in various proficiency areas. Placing second was Craig Redding in Diversified Crop Production and Jordan Scott in Grain Production. Third Place was Kara Overholser in Home and Community Development and Tyler Budreau in Turfgrass Management. Fourth place went to Jordan Scott in Swine Production and Nate Peters in Natural Resources and Environmental Management.



Carroll board discusses plans, policies, personnel

By Jennifer Archibald
Staff writer

The two corporation principals reported on their school improvement plans at the June 20 Carroll School Board meeting.

Schools are mandated by Public Law 221 to submit an annual plan to the state.

Junior-Senior High School Principal Charles Huckstep said his school has a three-year plan, with focus on Writing Across the Curriculum. He said teachers started professional development in writing this past school year and will continue this coming year.

Next, Huckstep said students will learn writing rubrics, according to the "6 + 1" program, followed by ISTEP rubrics. In 2007, he said more student writing and assessing will be done online, and by 2008, the school hopes to develop its own writing rubric.

Principal Carolyn O'Connell said the elementary school's plan has three goals - improvement in math, language arts, and writing.

She said 15 elementary teachers will attend a "Simple 6" writing workshop on Aug. 9 at Hillcrest Elementary School.

"We will implement this program next year with staff and

across all grade levels," she said. "We want our students to be able to express themselves in writing."

The board approved Jr.-Sr. high school textbook rental fees following a presentation by Huckstep.

New courses

He mentioned new courses including forensic science, 3-D art, jewelry, advanced life science courses, and pre-engineering classes. A computer class will again be offered to seventh graders as a nine-week course. Huckstep said he is anticipating that there will be free workbooks for French, Spanish, business and accounting.

He added that most book rental increases are due to new book adoptions. He said the average student will pay just a little more in fees than last year.

School policies

Superintendent John Sayers said parents and students should take a look at school policies posted on the corporation website, www.carroll.k12.in.us. They are currently under consideration. Some are new, some are existing policies with proposed revisions.

He listed the posted policies as follows: Wellness Policy, Entrance Requirements, Student Use of Medications, Immunizations, Student Use of Motor Vehicles,

Graduation Requirements, Raffles & Fundraising Games, Student Fundraising, Sponsorship Policy, Advertising Policy.

The policies can also be reviewed in the Administration Office.

Decisions on the policies will be made at the next board meeting, July 5.

The board approved a new copier for the elementary school at a cost of \$12,995, to be paid from the Capital Projects Fund.

Personnel

Donald Pettit, a 2005 graduate of the University of Evansville, will be the new band director.

Other personnel approved include: Erin Garrison, volunteer girls' golf coach; Dave Mann, Tom Hall, and Andy Zinn, volunteer assistant football coaches; Danna Bonfiglio and Stacey Brazel, Jump Start English teachers; Scot Collins, volunteer Outdoor Club sponsor; and Anita Schaeffer and Pamela Miller, food service employees.

Resignations were accepted from Nathan Sheets, high school chemistry teacher, and Robert Smith, custodian.

A 12-month contract was signed for Steve Keown, vocational agriculture teacher.

The corporation will advertise for a new position, a reading teacher for the elementary school. Sayers said the position will be paid from Title I and Title II grants, and will be approved on a year-to-year basis.

Athletic director Scott Ayres announced that Spring Team GPA Awards went to the girls' tennis team, first place with a GPA of 3.374; and to the girls' track team, second place, with a GPA of 3.266.

Ayres reported that certified weight room supervisors are needed. He said there is a one day training for any coaches who are interested.

Proposed changes under consideration for the Athletic Handbook

include recognition of letters earned by athletes moving into the Carroll corporation; and adding girls' golf and cheerleading to the handbook. Ayres said currently a student has to have two Carroll letters and be a sophomore to earn a letter jacket. He said, under the proposal, at least one of those letters would have to be earned at Carroll.

Ayres added that a transfer student's previously earned awards would count only toward a letter jacket.

Sayers reported on the progress of summer outdoor work: Footing poured for new concession stand; tennis courts re-paved and will be re-painted; new light poles on site.

The 4-H Tractor Club was given permission to use the junior-senior high school parking lot July 8 for a driving course.

This was the last board meeting for board members Susan Budreau and Edward Johnson. Sayers presented them each with a gift. Budreau has served four years, and Johnson, 12 years.

Budreau publicly thanked the Flora Police Department for traffic assistance before and after school. Board president Sam Zook added his appreciation for officers' patrolling the school grounds.

The next board meeting will be July 5 at 8 p.m. in the Administration Building.

Delphi, Camden & Burlington to host tournament opening rounds

By John Dunn
Contributing sportswriter

Paul Goyer Field in Delphi, along with Camden and Burlington have been selected as host sites for the opening round district-level of the 38th annual Town & Country Youth Baseball State Tournament scheduled to begin on Thursday.

Nine area teams in the tournament's Junior Division (10-year-olds-&-under), including the two-time defending state champions from Delphi, will compete at Paul Goyer Field for the opportunity to advance to the Marion Semi-State, which starts July 13.

Delphi and Burlington will play the tourney opener on Thursday at 6 p.m., followed by Rossville and Kokomo UCT at 8.

Friday night games will feature Camden vs. Galveston at 6 p.m.,

and Attica vs. Walton at 8.

The double-elimination tournament will continue Saturday morning at 9 a.m. with Michigantown playing the Delphi-Burlington winner, and then second round and loser's bracket games continuing throughout the day.

Major Division teams (12-&-under) will also open on Thursday at Camden with Greentown playing Burlington at 6 p.m., and Rossville taking on one of two Camden teams at 8.

Delphi's majors will open with Attica Friday night at 8 p.m., while the other Camden team will play the Greentown-Burlington winner Saturday at 9 a.m.

Burlington is also hosting a Minor Division (8-&-under) round with four Thursday night games including Mulberry vs. Michigantown and Attica vs.

Rossville at 6 p.m., followed by Burlington vs. Frankfort and Northwem vs. Kokomo UCT at 8.

Delphi, Camden and Flora's Minor Division teams will travel to Walton for their opening rounds, with Flora taking on Monticello Thursday at 8 p.m., and Delphi and Camden squaring off Friday at 8 p.m.

Tournament play continues throughout the weekend at all sites, with the district championship rounds slated for Monday night at 6 p.m., with the if-necessary-game at 8.

Major Division team's advancing from the Camden site will play at the Marion Semi-State, while Galveston will host the Minor Semi-State for teams from the Burlington and Walton sites.

Delphi Pony beats Camden, loses to Frankfort

Delphi Auto Express Pony Baseball team beat Camden 7-2 in the first round of the Hoosier Heartland League Tourney. Winning pitcher Dustin Saylor gave up 2 hits, walked 2 and struck out 6 in 5 innings.

Kris Bender picked up the save with 3 walks and 4 strikeouts. Adam Cunningham had 2 hits, 2 RBIs and 2 runs, Tanner Cripe had

a double, a single, 1 RBI and a run, Braden Atwood had a hit, an RBI and a run.

For Camden, Jason Stewart gave up 4 hits and 5 runs with 4 walks and 5 strikeouts. Tyler Willis gave up 4 hits, 2 runs with a walk and a strikeout. Dayton Rumell and Matt Brown each had a hit while Trevor Perry and Stewart each scored. Caleb Bieghler had an RBI.

In the second game, Delphi lost to Frankfort Blue 2-0. Neil Snoeberger gave 2 hits, 1 run with 4 walks and 8 strikeouts in 5 innings. Tanner Cripe gave up a hit and a run. Cripe, Snoeberger and Saylor all had a hit.

Frankfort Blue won the Tourney with a 13-0 win over Carroll Blue. The Express season record was 14-5



County champs

The Delphi 10-&-under baseball team won the county tournament played recently at Burlington, defeating Rossville 18-0 in the championship game. Delphi outscored its opposition by a combined score of 72-4 during its four tourney games. Teams from Flora, Camden and Burlington also participated. Team members include (l-r): Kneeling - Mason Lane, Elliott Atkinson, Jason Sterrett, Brent Hawn, Kolby Myer and Jarek Perry. 2nd row - Cody Lewis, Mathew Randle, Hayes Cronk, Ostin Clark and Coy Cronk. Back - Coach Jeff Johnson, Coach David Hawn, Head Coach Nick Cronk and Coach Steve Myer. Not pictured are teammates Garrett Johnson and Peyton Wagner. Photo provided.



League and tourney champs

Burlington Minors baseball team won the league tourney held June 20 in Michigantown with a perfect 4-0 record. They were also league champs with a 14-2 record. Team members pictured are (l-r): Front - Zack Slusser, Logan Jackson, Gavin Cook, David Renner, Patrick Lewis, Jacob Stout. Middle - Ty Gray, Justin Robertson, Seth Eldridge, Cameron Conn, Jared Miller, Derik Caldwell. Back - Coaches Greg Caldwell, Matt Jackson, and Mike Eldridge. Not pictured is Taylor Perkins. Photo provided