

Cougar harriers win South Adams Invitational

The sixth ranked Carroll boys and third ranked girls (small division coaches' poll) cross country teams both won the team championship at the South Adams Invitational on Saturday. This invitational has been dubbed "Little State" by its creators. The race, only open to 1A and 2A schools, featured 14 schools.

In the girls' race, Courtney Rinehart finished tenth, leading a pack of Cougars across the finish line. The top five runners all finished between 17:00 and 17:54, placing all five in the top 23. That performance proved to be too strong for the #1 ranked team, Southern Wells, as the Cougars roared to victory.

Also placing for Carroll were: Ashley Bordner 14th, Kaitlin Kennedy 18th, Hope Hayden 21st, Lauren Wilkinson 23rd, Abby Reinke 39th, Emily Schneckloth 47th, Amber Hughes 54th and Megan Ayres 57th. There were 90 runners in this race.

Carroll girls are now 124-16 on the season.

The boys' race proved to be

just as exciting as the girls. Led by Kyle Wallace's sixth place finish, the boys from Carroll squeaked out a victory over a strong field led by South Adams, who finished runner-up. The male Cougars also packed it together as the top five placed between sixth and 32nd.

The rest of the Carroll boys finished strong, led by Tyler Macy 13th, Sam Scharer 22nd, Weston Rinehart 23rd, Brad Benson 32nd, Clinton Miller 36th, Sean Smith 42nd, Andrew Miller 46th, Seth Larimore 55th, Nick Jones 61st, Mitchell Cottrell 88th and Jared Collins 96th.

Jason Hazel also runs for the Cougars but was sick and did not attend the race. There were 98 runners in the boys' race.

The boys are now 116-23

The Cougars now prepare for the Hoosier Heartland Conference meet. It will be run Thursday at Clinton Prairie High School. The boys will race at 5 p.m., followed by the girls at 5:30. The Sectional will be at Rensselaer next Tuesday, starting with the boys at 5 p.m. (CDT) followed at 5:30 (CDT) by the girls.



Carroll's number 1 boys runner, Kyle Wallace, ran to a sixth place finish at the South Adams Cross Country Invitational. The senior led his team to first place. Jerry D. Reinke photo



Carroll senior Courtney Rinehart finished in tenth position at the South Adams Cross Country Invitational held Saturday. She was her team's first finisher in the race that Carroll girls won. Jerry D. Reinke photo



Aggressive play

Oracle Cory Smith, left, is seen breaking up a pass as the rain worsens in Friday night's football game against Rensselaer. The Oracles went on to defeat the Bombers 14-6. Bill Stauffer photo

Oracles pull out big win against Bombers

By Todd Swank
Contributing sportswriter

The Delphi Oracles ended their 20-game losing streak in conference play Friday by beating the visiting Rensselaer Bombers 14-6. The win was the team's first in the Hoosier Conference since they beat West Lafayette in 2003.

Delphi forced Rensselaer to punt on their first drive. A high snap from center resulted in a very short kick and Michael Myers picked the ball up at the Rensselaer 40 and returned it to the 34 before being tackled. Delphi had great field position for its opening possession. Two running plays and a short completion and the Oracles still had a fourth and ten at the 34. An

incomplete pass resulted in the first turnover of the game.

Delphi then took possession, after forcing another punt, at the 20 on their own end of the field. Josh Penn, in his first game back since injuring himself in the season opener, started the drive with two runs to set up a third and two. Joe Little completed a pass to Cory Smith for a first down.

A stingy Rensselaer defense stopped the Oracle advance to make the Delphi punting team come on the field. The punt went right through the hands of the Bomber receiver at the 24 and rolled free until Cory Smith recovered at the 11-yard line. Two plays later Little hit Michael Myers with an eight-yard TD pass to give Delphi a 7-0 lead late in the first quarter.

Rensselaer got its first down of the game on a Delphi penalty when the Bombers had to punt and the Oracles were called for roughing the kicker. That play kept the drive alive for Rensselaer that eventually reached the Delphi 33. Myers of Delphi picked off a fourth down pass by the Bombers at the 30 and returned it to the Bomber 6-yard line. A block in the back penalty on Delphi brought the ball all the way back to the Oracle 38.

The Oracles couldn't take advantage of the turnover and punted the ball. While the Delphi offense failed to move the ball, the defense did their job and prevented the Rensselaer team from scoring in the first half by causing two turnovers on downs. The first half ended 7-0 with the Oracles leading.

Delphi had the ball to open the second half and was forced to

punt. A high snap gave the ball to the Bombers at the 5-yard line. On fourth and goal from the two the Bombers scored a TD. A bad snap on the extra point preserved a 7-6 lead for Delphi. The Oracles made it to midfield on their next drive before punting.

Both of these teams have trouble moving the ball on offense in good weather. A steady rain in the third quarter prevented either team from mounting any kind of a drive for the remainder of the period.

After the rain stopped, Delphi sealed the game. They opened the final period by mounting a 12-play, 62-yard drive that resulted in a Penn TD and a 14-6 lead. The drive ate up six minutes. Only one pass was thrown during the drive and it was a completion.

After a Rensselaer kick the Oracles ran out the clock to end the game.

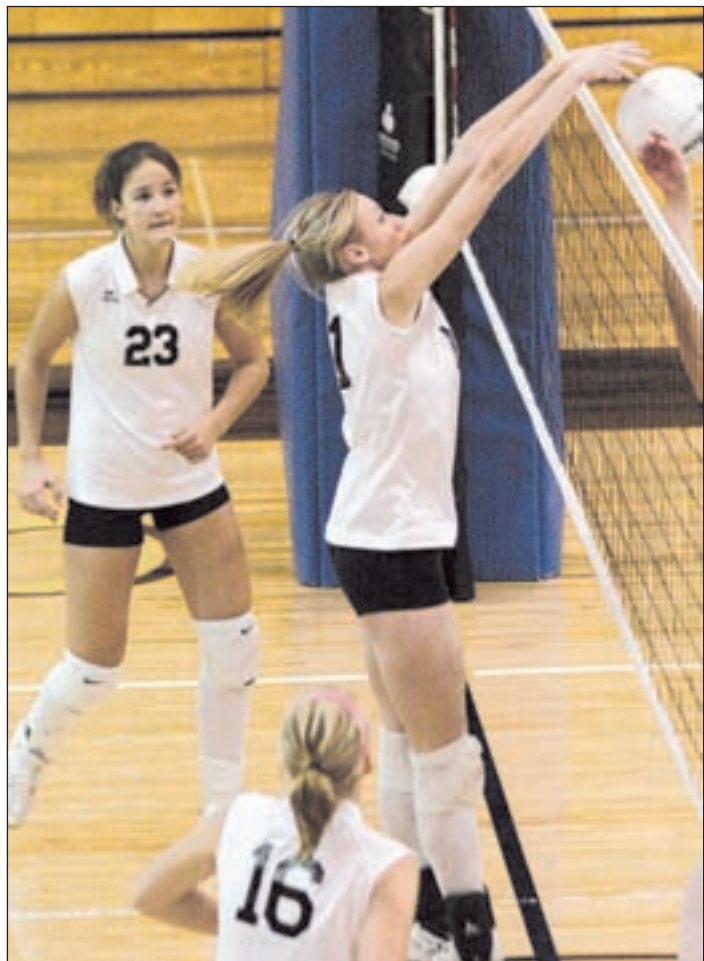
Leading rushers for Delphi were Penn with 58 yards and a TD, Little, Kory Banes and Cory Smith each had 10 for the Oracles. Little also completed 9 of 20 passes for 93 yards and one TD with two interceptions. Myers caught four passes and Cory Smith two. Kory Banes, Kyle Stonebraker and Matt Lewis each had one.

With this win Delphi is 2-5 for the year and 1-3 in conference play. The Oracles can make it two in a row when they travel to winless Benton Central Friday for a 7 p.m. kick-off.

There was an error in last week's game story. It was incorrectly reported that Tanner Cripe of Delphi was ejected from the game when it was actually Sheridan's Nick Zachary.



Oracle volleyball



Hannah Strasser is pictured returning serve in recent Delphi varsity volleyball action. Also seen are teammates Brittany Nelson (No. 23) and Haley Richardson (No. 16). Bill Stauffer photo

Central Bulldogs run over Cougars

By Mike Hoffman
Contributing sportswriter

In a Hoosier Heartland Conference football game at Carroll Jr.-Sr. High School, the visiting Clinton Central Bulldogs spoiled homecoming for the Cougars. They claimed a 54-8 victory.

Every time the Bulldogs got their hands on the football it seemed like they scored. They are a very good team that keeps coming at you until they wear your defense out.

Their offense is a fine tuned fighting machine, too. Their running backs are seasoned players, who are hard to bring down.

The top Dogs just keep doing their thing night in and night out. Senior Cory Lamb and junior Chase Simmons combined for 380 yards rushing for the Bulldogs (5-2). Simmons rushed for 169 yards and two first half touchdowns, as Cody Lamb finished with 211 yards rushing on 32 carries and 1 touchdown. Tim Edmonds caught three passes for 103 yards and 35-yard touchdown reception. Mitchell Crenshaw went 3-for-3 with one interception for 103 yards.

In a game entirely dominated by the Bulldogs, they put 28 points on the board in the first half and 26 points in the second half.

Riley Eller's perfect pass to Primmer Zook was good for a 39-

yard touchdown. Brandon Walters two-point conversion pass from Deric Finley gave the Cougars (1-6) an 8-0 lead in the first quarter. The Cougars would never find the end zone the rest of the evening. The rain showers came, but didn't last long.

The Bulldogs did not let up in the second half. They put in the "B" team and that string took over like the Bulldog "A" team did. Dunn scored on a 5-yard TD run in the third quarter. Leighty scored on a 70-yard interception return, and Lamb scored a two-point conversion.

Adam Moore scored on 2-yard run in the fourth quarter and Taylor had a 65-yard TD run to round out scoring for the Dogs.

The Dogs had 26 first downs to just 6 for the Cougars. Clinton Central had 522 yards rushing and 103 passing for 625 total yards to just 169 for the Cougars. The Cougars had four interceptions and two fumbles on the evening.

For the defense the Cougars were led by sophomore Finley who had 15 tackles and 1 pass deflection. Ben Bennington, a sophomore, had 14 tackles, as Walters had 9 tackles and 1 interception. Ty Sullivan had 11 tackles, and Eller, 10 tackles. Eller was also 6-13-112 yard passing and four interceptions and 1 TD pass.

Clinton Central will stick in the

mind of these sophomores and freshman. When next year comes around and the Cougars face the Bulldogs again these young men will have their claws sharpened.

The Cougars must now prepare for an away game against the 4-3 Frontier Falcons. That's a place

where it's hard to win. There's been a lot of strange calls in the past over there. The Cougars will have to stop their big guns Curtis Brackett, Dustin Sterrett and Jeff Brummett. Stop them and the rest of the Falcons and the Cougars can come home with the victory.



Homecoming royalty

Carroll's 2006 football Homecoming queen and king were crowned during half-time of the Carroll-Clinton Central football game Friday night. Queen is Courtney Rinehart, daughter of Bret and Michelle Rinehart and king is Brandon Walters, son of Scott and Lori Walters. Carroll Publications photo