

# Lady Oracles claim county title

By Rex Overholser  
Contributing sportswriter

When reading the different articles in the Comet for the past 2 weeks, Delphi's Lady Oracles appeared to have trouble finding smaller teams. They got their wish on Wednesday night before Thanksgiving. The Oracles racked up a team win against a smaller and less physical Carroll Cougar team. Final score was 34-25.

Delphi left the cold Memorial Gym with a 2-3 record as they outshot and outmanned the smaller Cougars who fell to 1-2. This game was the opposite of last year's great offensive battle with sharp-shooting and a lot of action.

This annual battle between the rivals was a case of who could finally win the fourth quarter. Carroll trailed 21-16 at the end of the third quarter. A couple of key shots by Hanna Strasser (5) and Emily Kayser (4) late in the third and early in the fourth helped propel the Oracles to a 6-point lead. Ice cold shooting by the Cougars sealed their fate.

Delphi was paced by Brianne Stauffer's 9 points and Erika Hawn's 7 points to lead a balanced attack of seven scorers all adding to their team game.

Carroll was led by Ashley Miller with 10 points and 5 rebounds. The rest of the team was able to muster 15 points between them with Hanna

Peden and Sarah Brown contributing 4 points apiece.

The Lady Cougars' fate was helped by not hitting any free throws and shooting only 12 of 50 shots for a bleak 24%. Delphi hit 13 of 38 for 34%.

The Oracles outrebounded the Cougars by 15 as they were much more physical in the middle.

The Lady Cougars JV team managed to win its second game of the season with an 18-15 margin over Delphi. Molly Craig scored 8 and Luci Zook added 6. Delphi was led by Danielle Burge with 6 points.

The Lady Cougars sought their first Hoosier Heartland win against Clinton Prairie at home last night (too late for press time).



## County rivalry

Carroll's #12 Sarah Brown shoots over the out-stretched arms of Delphi's #22 Amanda Schultz. The Lady Oracles went on to defeat the Cougars 34-25. Lady Oracle Ericka Hawn and Lady Cougar Hanna Peden are seen in the background. Bill Stauffer photo

## Offense sputters in opener

# Oracles lose to Titans, 52-33

By Michael Denton  
Contributing sportswriter

First year Delphi Community High School Coach Brian Tonsoni was proud of his squad's defensive intensity in the season opener against the visiting Taylor Titans (1-0). But a terribly slow start on the Oracle (0-1) offensive end allowed Taylor to gain a 25-8 halftime lead, en route to a 52-33 Titan win.

Led by senior Kyle Dillon and junior Tyler Gotshall, the visitors jumped out to a 15-3 first quarter advantage. The Oracles' 3 points all came via 1 of 2 foul shooting from Kyle Bender, Michael Myers and Dustin Oliver. Those three, along with fellow starters Matt Lewis and Andrew Cebulla, are all juniors.

In the second quarter, Delphi tried to get back into the game on the strength of a scrappy man-to-man

defense. Myers finally hit the first Oracle field goal of the season... a trey... at the 4:25 mark to make it 15-6. But four Oracle turnovers, all of which the Titans took advantage, led to the 25-8 score at the break.

The two teams played virtually even the second half. Oliver got untracked and showed a nice shooting touch that resulted in a team leading 15 points on 5 of 8 shooting, including both of his attempts from beyond the arc.

But Dillon's 19 points (8 of 12 from the field) and Gotshall's presence in the middle (10 points, 8 rebounds, 4 blocked shots) were too much for the Oracles to overcome.

"Inexperience reared its head," Coach Tonsoni remarked after the game. "We are a young team with no seniors on the team. It will take some time, but the offense will get going."

"I am proud of the defensive intensity," he continued. "Numerous

times on the floor (scrapping for loose balls) and drawing 2 offensive fouls are examples of how they played extra hard. We met our goal of keeping the opponent to 54 points or less. So as we continue to play defense like that, our offense will come around and we will be competitive."

Myers joined Oliver in double figures with 11. Bender's 5 and Kyle Stonebraker's 2 off the bench rounded out the Oracle scoring.

Delphi hosts the Tipton Blue Devils on Friday and the Frontier Falcons on Saturday. JV starts both evenings with a 6:30 tip Friday and 6 on Saturday.

## Oracle JV also lose

Coach Rob Roth's JV Oracles (0-1) opened the evening with a 49-26 loss to the Titans. Quinton Pearson and A. J. Beckett led the way for Delphi with 8 and 7 points respectively.

# Cougars fall in season opener

By Greg Hoffman  
Contributing sportswriter

Carroll graduated nine players from last year's 12-10 ball club and the only returning player to log any minutes and gather experience was sophomore Riley Eller. Eller was the fourth leading scorer on last year's squad.

Carroll's inexperience came to the surface several times as the Cougars had their ups and downs and lapses on the offensive and defensive ends against visiting Tri-County. The visitors won Carroll's home opener 55-48.

Tri-County opened up a 5-0 lead and was up 8-2 when Carroll went on a 7 to 0 run. A trey by Jacob Craig gave the

Cougars the lead at 9-8 with 3:37 left in the quarter. The Cougars were up 15-12 after one.

The Cougars used a 7-2 run to open the second stanza and went up 22-14. Tri-County fought back to close out the half down 22-19. The Cavaliers continued their run in to start the third quarter, outscoring Carroll 9 to 0 to take the lead at 28-22. By the end of three, they were still up, 39-32. When the smoke cleared, Carroll had been outscored 20 to 10 in that quarter, committing six fouls and turning over the ball eight times.

To the Cougars' credit, they did not quit. They came back and tied the game at 43 all with 3:28 left in the game. But they could not sustain their momen-

tum and Tri-County quickly regained their lead at 47-43. The Cavs used 8 of 10 free throw shooting to hold the lead for the win.

Eller led the Cougars with 16 points. Adam Tussinger had 14 and Craig and Jason Hazel split 12. Craig had 9 rebounds and Hazel handed out 6 assists. As a team, Carroll shot the ball well, going 17 of 33 for .515 from the field, while Tri-County was 17 of 42, .405. The Cougars had 19 turnovers and gave up 10 offensive rebounds to Tri-County, while garnering only one for themselves.

The Cougars will be tested Dec. 2 through Jan. 13 with 11 games on their schedule, including 10 on the road. Next up for the Cougars is a trip to North

White. Carroll holds the edge at 20-3.

## JV win easily

Carroll's Junior Varsity jumped out to a 5-0 lead early against the Cavaliers and easily cruised to a 41-17 win.

The Cougars led 9 to 2 after one, however Tri-County closed to within three several times in the second quarter, but the Cougars were able to keep them at bay. By half-time the Cougars were up 17-10. They put the visitors away in the third quarter, outscoring them 17-3 for a 34-13 lead.

Brad Benson led the way for Carroll with a game high 12 points. Primmer Zook had 8 and Adam Spesard added 6.



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Carroll 2006-07 squad:  
Seniors - 6'0" Nick Flora, 6'0" Cory Mahan, and 6'2" Clinton Miller.  
Juniors - 5'7" Justin Brown, 5'11" Jason Hazel, 5'11" Kevin Ives, 6'2" Jacob Craig, and 6'2" Adam Tussinger.  
Sophomores - 6'1" Riley Eller and 6'4" Carson Spesard

# Five Carroll FFA teams qualify for state contest

## Comet staff report

Carroll FFA Chapter competed in forestry and entomology area contests on Nov. 15 in Cass County. Five teams qualified for the state contest on Dec. 9.

Three Carroll forestry teams participated in the senior division, and two qualified for the state contest. Malena Zook, Travis Martin, Chandler Keown, and Lucia Zook were members of the second place team. Malena Zook was the second highest individual, Travis Martin was the fourth highest individual, and Chandler Keown was the sixth highest individual.

Megan Ayres, Primmer Zook, and Jared Collins were members of the sixth place team. Other participants were Megan Garrison, Hope Hayden, and Andrew Miller.

Two junior high teams participated in the junior division.

Chad Griffin, Josh Hazel, Susanna Taylor, and Aaron Spesard were members of the second place team and qualified for the state contest. Susanna Taylor was the second highest individual and Aaron Spesard was the fourth highest individual.

Phillisha Varney, Tiffany Jones, and Taylor Miller were members of the fourth place team.

Two Carroll entomology teams participated in the contest. Both teams qualified for the state contest. Emily Fritz, Hannah Brewster, and Lorelei Seip were members of the second place team. Lydia Hedde, Morgan Yoder, and Kierstyn Harper were members of the third place team.

Alisha Turmpaugh was an individual in the junior division, and was the highest placing individual.



## FFA forestry/senior division

Carroll FFA members who competed in the senior division of the area forestry judging contest are pictured above, l-r - Chandler Keown, Megan Ayres, Travis Martin, Megan Garrison, Malena Zook, Primmer Zook, Lucia Zook, Andrew Miller, Jared Collins, Hope Hayden. Photo provided



## FFA forestry/junior division

Members of the Carroll FFA who participated in the junior division of the area forestry judging contest are shown above, l-r - Phillisha Varney, Taylor Miller, Tiffany Jones, Aaron Spesard, Josh Hazel, Susanna Taylor. Photo provided



## FFA entomology judging

Carroll FFA members who competed in the area judging contest in entomology are pictured above, l-r: Front - Alisha Turmpaugh and Lorelei Seip. Back - Hannah Brewster, Emily Fritz, Lydia Hedde, Morgan Yoder, Kierstyn Harper. Photo provided