

Quicker Hornets top Cougars

By Greg Hoffman
Contributing sportswriter

The Cougars lost their first Hoosier Heartland Conference game of the season to host Rossville Friday night, 72-63. The Hornets improved to 2-3, 2-0, while Carroll dropped to 1-3, 0-1.

Rossville's quickness and Carroll's poor defense enabled the host Hornets to take a 17-4 advantage early in the first

quarter. The Cougars regrouped and a trey by Jason Hazel started a 9-0 run to pull Carroll to within 4 at 17-13 at the first stop. Along with Hazel's 3 points, Adam Spesard added 4 points and Carson Spesard another 2 in the run.

The Cougars fell behind by 8 points, 21-13, before Adam Tussinger and Brad Benson pulled them back to within 4 at 21-17. From here, the Hornets starting picking Carroll's defense apart and went on another run, this time 12-0. By intermission, the Hornets led 40-23.

Rossville went inside in the second quarter and as a result shot 8 of 10 or 80% from the field while Carroll was only 5 of 14 or 36% with 9 turnovers.

To Carroll's credit, after falling behind by 20 points, 54-34 late in the third period, the Cougars did not quit. They got their inside game going and pulled themselves back to within 7 points at 70-63. The Hornets outscored the Cougars 14-13 in the third quarter, but the Cougars poured in 27 points to Rossville's 18 in the final period.

Both teams shot lights out as Carroll was 29 of 56 for 52% from the field and Rossville was 26 of 44 for 59%. The Hornets outscored the Cougars 12 points from the foul line with the hosts sinking 15 of 24

shots and the visitors only 3 of 4.

Carroll put three players in double figures. A. Spesard led all scorers with 16 points. Jacob Craig had 15 points, Tussinger added 13, and C. Spesard rounded out Carroll's scoring with 8. Rossville was led by Jordan Delk's 15 points. Aaron Martin and Kendall Sadler split 28 points and Travis Perkins had 10.

The Cougars out-rebounded the Hornets 27 to 19. Tussinger and A. Spesard had 7 each and C. Spesard 6. Kevin Ives and Hazel dished out 5 assists each and Benson grabbed 5 steals.

Next up for Carroll will be a home contest against Western (2-3). The Panthers hold a 27-19 edge in the series.

JV edges Hornets

Carroll's Junior Varsity held on Friday night for its third win of the season, beating the Hornets 40-33. The young Cougars found themselves in the same situation they were in last Saturday night against Cass. Up 6 points, 29-23 early in the fourth quarter, the Cougars used an 8-0 run this time to take a 14 point lead, 37-23, with 3:57 left on the clock. The hosts would never get any closer than 6 points the rest of the way.

Jordan Brumbaugh led all scorers with 11 points and Drew Yoder had 8 each and Primmer Zook added 7.



Takes it in for 2

The Cougars score on a #22 Jacob Craig first half breakaway at Rossville Friday night. Hornet players #30 Aaron Martin, #20 Travis Perkins and #21 Kendall Sadler provide defense for the host team. The Hoosier Heartland Conference game was won by RHS, 72-63. Bill Stauffer photo

DCHS boys set swim record

The DCHS boys 200 freestyle relay team of Matt Keen, Jared Kelley, Kyle Price and Andrew Burton set a school record against South Newton. Their winning time was 1:36.41. The team defeated Northwestern 98-84.

Kyle Price and Andrew Burton were quadruple winners, while Andy Flora and Alex Price were triple winners. Double winners included Jeremy Sterrett, Jared

Kelley and Alex Price.

The boys' team lost by eight points to Western, despite winning seven events. Price and Burton each had 4 wins, Sterrett was a triple winner and Keen and Kelley picked up 2 firsts.

The girls' team lost to both Northwestern and Western. Against Northwestern the 200 medley relay team of Mara Burton, Arielle Brosman, Grace Currie and Kayleigh

Morgan won along with Brosman in the 100 breaststroke.

The girls defeated South Newton, winning 11 of 12 events. Jordan Hudelson and Monica Hutsell were triple winners while Morgan Borden, Burton, Morgan, Brosman and Jenny Maxwell were double winners. Brianna Walters, Chelsey Marcotte, Abbey Mose, Nichole Randle and Payton Windell each picked up a win.

Carroll girls let two games slip past them

By Jim McCarter
Contributing sportswriter

Carroll girls' basketball team lost a pair of heartbreakers at home, dropping to 5-5 at the midway point of the 2007-08 season. Victory was within their reach in both games, but the Lady Cougars were unable to finish strong.

West Lafayette erased a 6-point fourth-quarter deficit to defeat Carroll 43-37 Thursday night. Saturday morning, the Lady Cougars fell 43-40 to the University Trailblazers in the first game of the 2007 Carroll Classic.

A second game was scheduled for the Lady Cougars Saturday afternoon, but the Lowell Red Devils decided not to make the 90-mile trip due to the winter storm warning. That game has been tentatively rescheduled for Dec. 29.

In Thursday's game versus West Lafayette, the Lady Cougars hit their first two shots to take a 4-0 lead, then shot 2 for 18 the rest of the first half. Carroll did not hit a field goal in the second quarter. Fortunately, the Lady Cougars were able to find the net on 7 of 9 free-throw attempts to keep the game close, and trailed just 23-19 at halftime.

"We struggled offensively all night long," Carroll coach Mike McCroskey said. "We haven't even been executing our offense well in practice. We need more ball reversal to make it harder for teams to defend us."

The third quarter saw a complete turnaround. Carroll dominated the stanza, outscoring the Red Devils 12-2 to take a 31-25 lead into the fourth quarter. The Lady Cougars' third-quarter defense held West Lafayette to 1-of-6 shooting from the field and forced 10 turnovers.

"In the second half I thought we played our 2-3 defense as well as we have all year," McCroskey said. "We just had a couple of breakdowns that led to layups."

Morgan Yoder, Quinci Eller and Jaime McCarter each had three steals for Carroll.

Carroll's 6-point lead didn't last long. West Lafayette scored two quick baskets to trim the lead to 31-29 with 7:22 to go. The Lady Cougars managed to score just one point in

the first 4:47 of the fourth quarter, allowing the Red Devils to take a 35-32 advantage. Carroll went to the free-throw line three times in the fourth quarter, hitting just 3 of 6 attempts.

Krystal Brazel hit a 3-pointer from the top of the key with 1:27 left to cut West Lafayette's lead to 38-37, but the Lady Cougars didn't score the rest of the way, missing three shots in the final 1:12.

"When it comes to crunch time we don't use our heads very well," McCroskey said. "The effort was there, but we missed free throws down the stretch, and just didn't stay with our fundamentals with the game on the line."

Brazel led Carroll with 9 points and 5 rebounds. Eller added 7 and Morgan Yoder scored 6.

Vs. West Lafayette JV

Carroll's junior varsity lost a close two-quarter game to the Red Devils, 17-14. The game was tied 9-9 after the first quarter then West Lafayette pulled away for the victory. Sisters Jessica and Carly Yoder led Carroll's attack, each scoring 5 points, and Kayla Tussinger added 4.

Carroll Classic

The Lady Cougars faced University, a small private school in Carmel, in Saturday morning's opening game. The Class A #8 Trailblazers improved their record to 7-2 with a hard-fought 43-40 victory that wasn't decided until the

Two Oracle wrestlers remain undefeated

Delphi wrestling team competed in the 16-team invitational at Twin Lakes, finishing in third place behind Peru and the champions, South Bend Riley.

The Oracles had two individual champions at 119 lbs., Donovan Alderman, and 160, Braden Atwood. Both these young men won last year at the invitational also, and both are now 21-0 for the season.

Placing fourth were: 103 lbs. Randy McIlrath, 215 Travis Yoakum and 285 Wesley Everett. Placing fifth were 112 Bob Floyd, and 189 Brandon Delaney. Sixth place finishers were 130 Adam Cunningham, 135 Nathan McTigue and 152

final three seconds.

"Our games are starting to look like a broken record," McCroskey said. "We missed five shots from three feet in the first three minutes. We are so close to being a really good basketball team, yet we're so far away."

Another strong defensive effort and 3-point baskets by McCarter and Brooke Yoder allowed the Lady Cougars to stay close, 11-10, at the first stop. Carroll hit just 4 of 14 field-goal attempts in the first quarter.

Back-to-back 3-pointers by the Trailblazers' Aly Hughes and Bria Sneed gave University its biggest lead of the first half, 20-15, with 4:03 left. A pair of free throws by Eller and two more 3-point bombs by McCarter got the Lady Cougars back within one at halftime, 24-23.

The second half was close all the way, but Carroll only managed to take the lead once, 27-26, when Sarah Griffin grabbed an offensive rebound and put the ball in the basket with 3:43 left in the third quarter. Carroll trailed 32-30 after three.

Another three pointer by Sneed and a lay up by Maggie Dooley gave University a 41-35 lead with 3:22 to go, but the Lady Cougars battled back. With 3:00 left Abby Reinke turned one of her game-high 11 rebounds into an easy basket, **Continued page 3B**

Hayden Peterson. Finishing seventh were 125 Aaron Back and 171 Shane Evans.

The team defeated the West Lafayette Red Devils 62-9. Oracle winners were 189 Delaney, 215 Yoakum, 285 Everett, 103 McIlrath, 112 Bob Floyd, 119 Alderman, 125 Back, 130 Cunningham, 145 Tyler Cooper, 152 Peterson, 160 Braden Atwood, and 171 Shane Evans.

The Oracles also won three of four JV matches: 103 Blake Price, 152 Roy Anderson and 160 Derek Bradshaw.

The Oracles will travel to North Montgomery for the Christmas duals on Dec. 27-28.

Oracles win first over Tri-County

By John J. Dunn
Contributing sportswriter

For only the second time this season, the Delphi boys' basketball team got to experience the luxury of what it is like to play a game while holding a lead.

But unlike the loss to Benton Central last weekend, this time Delphi was able to hold on and close out the game with an impressive 53-39 victory over Tri-County, coming to town as the State's Class 1A #15-ranked team.

The Oracles led by as many as 13 points at 37-24 early in the 4th quarter, but the Cava-

Black-out Night

Delphi Community High School basketball fans are encouraged to show their school spirit by wearing as much black as possible for Black-out Night when the team hosts Pioneer Friday at 6 p.m. The team will be wearing dark jerseys for the game.

Jessica Berger of the high school said a different theme is chosen for each home game to unify the crowd.

"We hope fans help create a sea of black in the stands," she said. "Put on your black shirt and come support the team."

liers (2-3) would rally back to cut the lead to within six at 41-35 with two minutes remaining.

But Delphi would hit 12-of-16 free throws down the

stretch, including 10 of its last 12, as foul shooting became the difference-maker to pull-away with a 14-point margin of victory.

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Oracle ladies are invitational runners-up

By Todd Swank
Contributing sportswriter

Delphi's girls lost to Cass (48-39) as a tuneup for the White County Invitational tournament. They advanced to the championship game with a 36-29 victory over Frontier before losing to Tri-County 33-8.

Against Cass, the Oracles held a brief lead at 3-2 on an Amanda Schultz three, but Cass came right back with a basket and didn't look back. The Lady Kings of Cass went ahead 9-3 near the end of the first period before Whitney Arion and Emily Kayser each hit long shots to bring Delphi within three at 12-9 at the end of one.

The second period could have been named the Kayla Yates story. She was the only Oracle to score, getting six points on three baskets. The halftime score was 26-15.

The Kings came out of the locker room and took less than thirty seconds to hit a three to set the tone for the second half. Kristina Barnard scored seven points in the third for the Oracles to keep the Kings within sight. At the end of three the Kings led 41-27. Delphi continued to play hard in the final period with Arion scoring eight and Barnard getting four. The final score of 48-39 gave the Kings an 8-2 record. The Oracle loss put them at 3-7.

The JV score was Cass 20, Delphi 13.

White County Tourney

The tournament was played at North White High School and in the first game of the night Delphi took on a Frontier Falcon team that had beaten the Oracles nine days earlier. This game turned out to be just as competitive and exciting as the last one.

Four players scored two points each for the Oracles to give them a 8-6 lead at the end of one period. A three point shot gave the Falcons a 9-8 lead to open the second quarter. Arion hit a three of her own followed by baskets by Amanda Schultz and Hannah Strasser. After 16 minutes of play neither team had an advantage. The halftime score was tied at 15 all.

The Oracles had a chance in the third to put some distance between the teams. Delphi, leading 18-17, on consecutive possessions had three opportunities at easy layups but missed each one to allow Frontier to stay close. Instead of having a six-point lead going into the final period, the score was tied at 20-20.

Delphi took the lead, 25-23, for good on a basket and free throw by Erika Hawn. Hawn, Arion and Strasser hit six of seven free throws down the stretch to help the Oracles pull away in the final period on

their way to a 36-29 victory.

Championship Game

Tri-County brought an 8-2 record into the championship game and it didn't take long for the Oracles to find out how the Cavaliers got that record. Halfway through the first quarter, Arion scored the first points for the Oracles. That basket and a free throw by Arion in the second period were the only points for Delphi in the half. Despite Tri-County playing great defense and Delphi not hitting open shots, the Oracles played some pretty good defense of their own and only trailed 11-3.

The Lady Oracles were still in the game to open the third but the Oracle's inability to solve the Cavaliers' defense and some defensive breakdowns of their own, the game was soon out of reach. A three by Hawn and a pair of free throws by Schultz were the only scoring in the second half for Delphi.

Early in the fourth there was a perfect example of how things went for the Oracles. Hawn, who is hitting 78% of her free throws, had two free throws when she was fouled on a shot. The lid on the basket was so tight that she missed both. Delphi's inability to score led to a 33-8 final score.

The bright spot for the Oracles was Arion and Hawn were named to the all tourney team.