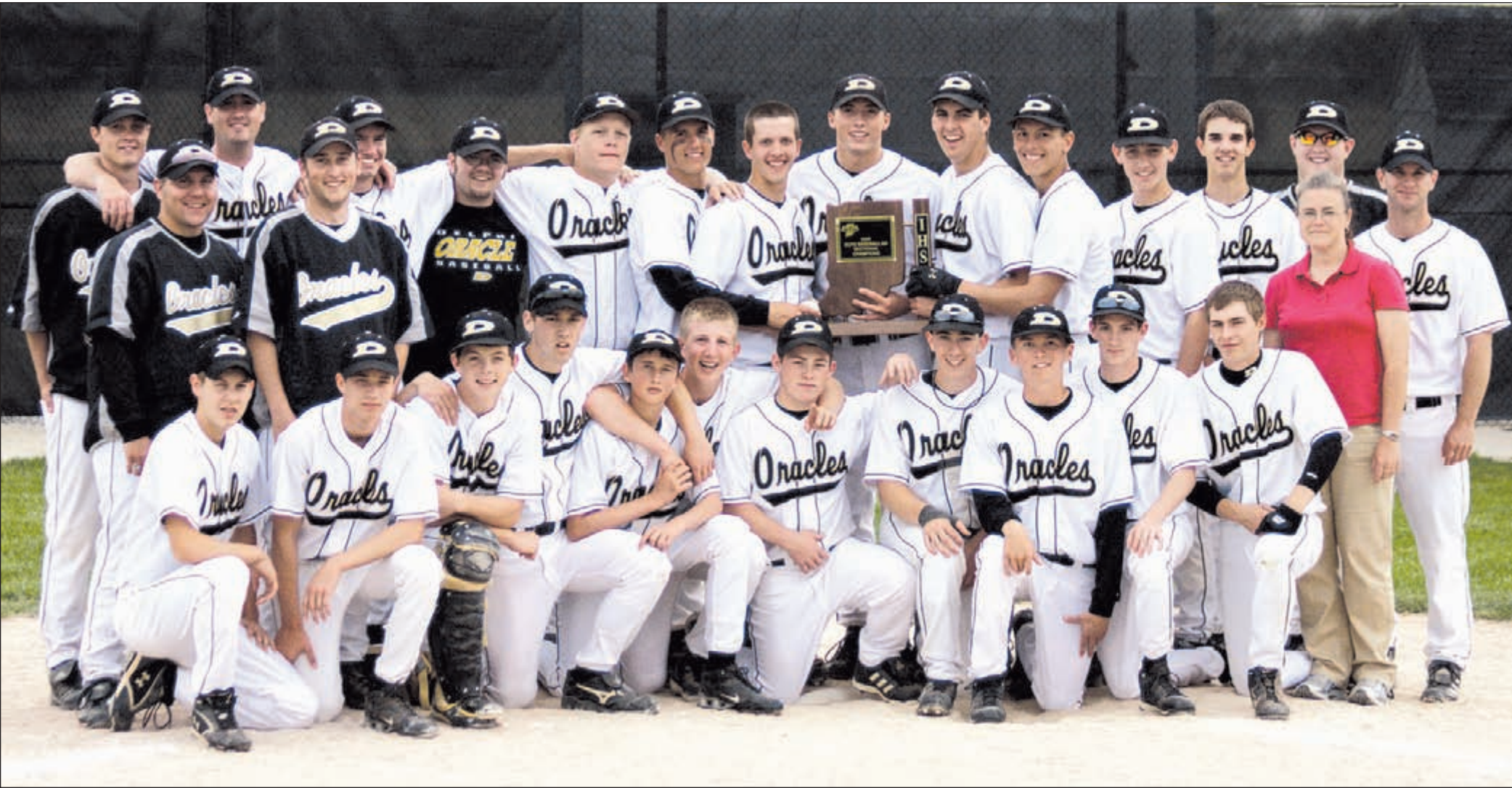


Sectional champs



The Delphi baseball team won the Class 2A Sectional played last week at Carroll, defeating the host team 10-0 in six innings in the championship game. Team members include (l-r): Front, kneeling – Tyler Willis, Dustin Salyer, Shane Hyman, Cameron Ivey, Caleb Bieghler, A.J. Beckett, Dayton Rumell, Neil Snoeberger, Tyler Smith, Jason Stewart and Andrew Flora. Middle, standing – Asst. Coach Jeff Shuler, Asst. Coach Brody

Brooks, Student Manager Stewart McVay, Travis Yoakum, Michael Myers, Dustin Oliver, Kyle Bender, Andrew Cebulla, Kory Baner, Austin Hawn, Tanner Cripe, Athletic Trainer Lisa Wilder and Asst. Coach Kyle Robertson. Back row – Asst. Coach Mike Lowrey, Head Coach Pat Lowrey, Paul Zink and Asst. Coach Ryan Finn. Photo by Bill Stauffer.

Oracles capture first ever sectional championship

By Kevin Bender
Contributing sportswriter

Delphi's Oracles won the IHSAA Sectional 39 championship on Thursday with a 10-0 triumph in 6 innings over cross-county rival Carroll before a huge throng of Oracle faithful. The victory marks the first baseball sectional title for the Delphi program.

After stranding 2 runners in the first the Oracles got on the board in the 2nd inning. With 1 out, AJ Beckett laced a single to center and after advancing on a passed ball, scored on Tanner Cripe's base hit to center. Andrew Flora and Austin Hawn walked to load the bases for Mike Myers. With the runners going, Myers drove the ball to left, clearing the bases, and providing the Oracles with an early 4-0 lead.

The Oracles tacked on sin-

gle tallies in the 3rd and 4th as Andrew Cebulla led off the 3rd with a walk, stole 2nd, and scored on Neil Snoeberger's single to right. Hawn led off the 4th with a double down the right field line and scored on Kory Baner's single to left.

The lead became 8-0 in the 5th when Snoeberger led off with another single and Cripe followed with a sweet bunt single down the 3rd base line. Flora advanced both runners with a sacrifice and with 2 outs, Myers again delivered, driving home both runners with a single to left.

In the 6th, Dustin Oliver walked and Beckett reached on an error. After both runners advanced on a ground out, Cripe bounced a ball down the 3rd base line and the throw across the diamond was wild, allowing both runners to score and granting the Oracles

the win via the 10-run rule.

Myers was 3 for 4 for the game and drove in 5 of Delphi's runs. Cripe was also 3 for 4 with 1 RBI.

Kyle Bender was masterful on the mound, allowing but 1 hit, a slow infield squibber by Carson Spesard in the 4th. A walk in the 5th and a hit batter in the 6th were the only other Cougar batters to reach. Bender struck out 8 over 6 innings of work and raised his record on the season to 10-2.

The Oracles (22-8) were hosts to conference foe Tipton (13-10) at Oracle Field on Tuesday in one game Regional play (too late for press time). The two teams split their season series, with Tipton winning 4-3 at Tipton and Delphi prevailing 10-2 at Oracle Field. The teams finished in a 2nd place tie in Hoosier Conference play behind champion West

Lafayette. The winner will advance to the 2A Northern Semi-State at Covaleski Stadium in South Bend on Saturday.

Vs. Fountain Central

Last Tuesday evening found the Oracles matched up against Fountain Central in the semi-final round of IHSAA Sectional 39. The Oracles survived to advance with a 3-2 victory over the Mustangs.

Fountain Central came in with a 9-17 record on the year. They strung together 3 hits for a run in the first and the early 1-0 lead. As the game progressed, the huge crowd of Oracle fans became restless but in the 4th, Oliver led off with an infield single, and after a pair of fly ball outs, scored on Cripe's single to right to tie the game at 1-1.

Delphi was able to plate 2 more runs in the 5th when,

with 2 out, Baner walked and Cebulla drove him home with a double to center. Cebulla then scored when the Mustang 3rd baseman was unable to throw out Oliver after his hot bouncer down the 3rd base line.

The Oracles carried their 3-1 lead into the 7th and quickly retired the initial 2 batters. After a walk and an infield single, both runners advanced to 2nd and 3rd on a wild throw to 1st. A balk was called, scoring a run and advancing the game-tying runner to 3rd, but Cebulla struck out the Mustang batter and Delphi prevailed.

Cebulla, who came on in relief of Beckett in the 4th, struck out 6 over 3 2/3 innings and recorded the win, raising his record to 6-3 for the season.

The victory earned the Oracles a slot in the champi-

onship game against Carroll. The Cougars had shut out Seeger 3-0 earlier in the evening behind a strong, 11-strikeout pitching performance by Riley Eller.



Lady Oracles drop close one in Regional

By John Dunn
Contributing sportswriter

The end of a season never comes easily, no matter how successful it has been, especially when there are lingering feelings of what could have been.

The Lady Oracles left the field Saturday afternoon with a whole lot to be proud of and with nothing to hang their heads about after a successful season came to an end at the hands of Madison-Grant at the Class 2A Eastern (Greentown) Regional by a final score of 2-0.

Madison-Grant (25-3) took a page from the Lady Oracles' season-long routine for success by scoring what turned out to be the only runs it would need in the 1st inning on a 2-out, 2-run homer over the right field fence.

It has been the other way around all season for Delphi (23-9), who lost in the regional opener for the third time in the last five years.

In fact, the Oracles scored at least a run in the 1st inning in 21 games this season and scored two runs or more in

their first at-bat 16 times, while averaging over nine runs and almost 12 hits per contest.

Delphi started the game in usual fashion with its first two batters reaching base safely after a lead-off single to right from Whitney Arion and Kayla Yates was hit by a pitch. This time could not advance them.

"We had a great year, and I'm proud of every one of my girls' efforts," third-year Or-

acle coach Randy German said. "Madison-Grant is a great team and if not for the home run in the first inning, we might still be playing at 0-0 in the bottom of the seventh."

Despite a strong effort from Argyll pitcher Sara Webster (19-2), who held the Lady Oracles to a season low - tying four hits and shut them out for the first time this year, Delphi would not go home quietly as it had a couple of

late rallies to keep it interesting.

In the top of the 5th, Kristina Barnard led off with a single to right field and one out later, advanced to 3rd base on a Brittany Tyner double to right-center.

But Delphi could not execute on two separate bunt plays, popping out to the catcher both times before its leading-hitter, Arion, flew out to deep right field to end the threat.

In the 6th inning, Yates led-off with a single, but was called out on the bases after making contact with the second baseman on Carli Rouhier's sharp groundball that possibly would have put two on with none out.

"We just couldn't get anything going offensively today," German said. "We left five runners on base when almost all season long we have come up with a clutch hit of some kind when we

needed it, but we have a good nucleus coming back and have a lot to be excited about for next year".

Delphi's Brittney Atwood (17-8) was equally as impressive on the mound, allowing only three Argyll hits and striking out four to take the hard-luck loss.

Lewis Cass (19-11) won the regional championship Saturday night, defeating Madison-Grant 2-1 in 8 innings.

Delphi Parks offers variety of programs for summer

By Debbie Lowe
Staff writer

The Delphi Parks and Summer Recreational Program kicked off the summer with a bevy of programs to suit every taste and desire. According to parks superintendent Dick Farrer, the programs were designed to be attractive to a wide range of interests for youth.

"We wanted to engage as many participants as we could," Farrer told the *Comet*

Friday. "We took some time to develop the schedule of events to have something that would appeal to just about everyone."

And if that weren't enough, the parks department wants input from *Comet* readers about what programs they would most like to see. A survey to solicit opinions can be found on page 6A of this paper. Readers are asked to complete the survey and return it to the city building in order to help the parks board more fully understand what the community wants and expects of the summer recreational program.

This year's programs, at Riley Park, include:

Tennis Camp June 9-13

For kindergarten to third grade from 9 to 10 a.m. and from 10 to 11 for fourth through seventh-graders. Students will learn the rules of the game, techniques and strategies. All levels welcome. Bring racquets if possible. Balls are provided.

Golf Camp June 2-6

Join High School golf coach Bob Tyner on the Carroll County Country Club driving range from 9 to 10 a.m. for third through fifth-graders and 10 to 11 for sixth through eighth. Learn stance, swing and how to improve the game. Bring clubs if possible.

Junior Golf League

Middle School students can join Rob Roth and Bob Tyner every Monday beginning June 2 through Aug. 11 at the Carroll Country Club from 4 to 6:30 p.m. No charge for a Junior Club member or a member of the Country Club. There is a fee for non-members. This is for both boys and girls. All levels welcome and bring clubs. Balls are provided.

Gymnastics Camp June 2-6

Beginning gymnastic skills, held at Delphi Elementary from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. for five to nine-year-old youth and 2:30 to 3:30 for 10-year-olds and older.

Conservation Camp June 26

Join Conservation officer Rhonda Hicks from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Deer Creek for a day of fishing and many more fun experiences in the water. Bring a sack lunch and drink.

Watercolor Workshop June 19

Spend the morning with Sherri Cripe learning the basics of watercolor painting from 9 to 10 for students kindergarten through grade three and from 10 to noon for students in third through seventh grades.

Bubble Art (June 18)

Join Sherri Cripe at Riley Park from 10 to 11 a.m. to learn about the art of bubbles.

Wear swimsuits and prepare to get messy. Frisbee Dog June 24

Riley Park at 6 p.m. Watch a trained dog catch Frisbees and learn how to teach your dog to retrieve. Free gifts will be given to children in attendance.

Bicycle Rodeo June 14

Join us at Riley Park to

learn bicycle safety from 9 to 11 a.m. Trade in an old bicycle helmet and register to win a free bicycle.

Tropicanoe Cove June 20 and June 27

Take the trolley to Lafayette's water park. Bring sunscreen, towels, entrance fee and money for snacks. For third through seventh-graders unless accompanied by an adult.

Canoeing w/ Mayor Strasser June 17

Spend an afternoon with the mayor canoeing down the Tippecanoe River. This trip is for fifth-grade through seventh. Additional information will be sent following registration.

"We really want the community to come out and take advantage of our programs this summer," Farrer concluded. "We are going to have a whole lot of fun and do some learning too!"

All questions should be directed to Farrer at the parks department, 201 S. Union St., Delphi, by telephone at (765) 564-5127 or E-mail at park@cityofdelphi.org.

Camden Youth Day/Parade is Saturday

Comet staff report

The annual Jackson Township Parade and Youth Day will be held Saturday in Camden.

This year's parade theme is "Celebrating an All-Star Community." The parade is set to

begin at 10 a.m. with line-up starting at 8:30.

The parade will be followed by a day filled with activities, including boys' baseball and girls' softball games, children's games, a bake sale, raffle, and more.