

First-time in school's history



'09 DCHS wrestling team

Oracle wrestlers have earned their first ever chance to win a state team wrestling title after claiming the Peru Regional title last week. Team members pictured are (l-r): Floor - Tanner Lynde and Nathan McTigue. 2nd Row - Raul Flores, Bob Floyd, Braden Atwood, Cody Alderman, Randy McIlrath. 3rd Row - Steven Back, Austin Jones, Spencer Conner, Dayton Rummell, Cesar Cervantes, Cory Smith, Ted Lynde. Standing - Roy

Anderson, Joe Fassnacht, Thomas Lynch, Jesse Hefner, Aaron Back, Daniel Clawson, Brandon Delaney, Travis Yoakum, David Furness, Wes Everett, Casey Penn, Landon Garrison, Jarrod McCormick, Blake Price, Nick Taylor, Kyle Lashley, Brad Roth, Ken Myer, Jeff Delaney, Mike Atwood.

Photo by Portraits by Lori photo

Oracle wrestling team is bound for state

Delphi's wrestling team not only advanced nine individuals to the semi-state, it advanced itself as a team to the state tournament for the first time in school history.

Delphi's "Bakers Dozen" wrestled in the Logansport Individual Tournament on Saturday with nine wrestlers headed to the Merrillville Semi-State this weekend. Delphi's champs

were: 112 lbs. Bob Floyd, 130 Nathan McTigue, 140 Tanner Lynde, 171 Braden Atwood, and 285 Wes Everett. All five wrestled and won all three of their matches to become Regional champs. Making it to the finals with one defeat were 145 Aaron Back and 215 Travis Yoakum for runner-up honors. Placing third for the Oracles was 189 Daniel Clawson and

fourth, by a single point, was 119 Stephen Back.

All nine of these Oracle wrestlers will compete in the semi-state. To advance to the state meet, they will have to win two matches each.

At 103 Austin Jones, 125 Cody Alderman, 152 Dayton Rummell, and 160 Brandon Delaney all wrestled well but fell short of winning their first

match.

But as a team the Oracles claimed the Peru Regional championship. The Oracles wrestled West Central in round one, winning handily 57-15. In the championship round the Oracles defeated the host Peru Tigers 46-24 to earn a state place finish. Delphi and seven other teams will vie for the state title on Feb. 28 at Center Grove

High School.

In round one, Aaron Back started the Oracles off with a 6-0 decision. Rummell followed with a 10-1 major decision. Delaney followed with yet another decision, 8-2, making the team score 10-0. The Oracles racked up four straight pins by Atwood, Clawson, Yoakum and Everett, upping Delphi's score to 34-0. Raul Flores stepped in

for Jones at 103 to wrestle a sectional champion and did well until he got caught in a scramble. The Oracles came back with three straight pins from McIlrath, Floyd and Stephen Back, making the score 46-9. McTigue had a tech fall. Cory Smith lost a heart breaker at 135, beating his opponent the whole match

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Fights for 2

Carroll's Riley Eller shoots over good defense by Delphi Friday night. The Cougars held off the host Oracles for the 58-48 win. Bill Stauffer photo

Cougars hold off Oracles

By John J. Dunn
Contributing sportswriter

Carroll jumped out to a 14-2 lead in the first 4:37 and held off a couple of serious comeback attempts in Friday night's 58-48 victory at Delphi.

It was the Cougars' third straight win and sixth victory in the last seven contests against Delphi since the 2003-04 season. The Oracles only win during that span came in last year's thrilling 67-65 game at Flora.

Carroll (13-2) also defeated Delphi 62-48 in this season's first match up played Nov. 26 at Carroll.

The Cougars, ranked #9 in the latest Class 2A poll, never trailed in the contest after Riley Eller's three-pointer to start the contest sparked the initial rally. Carroll used its height advantage with 6'6" Carson Spesard and 6'7" Adam Spesard to punish the Oracles inside to score 8 of the next 11 points along with a Noah Allen trey.

It would be an uphill battle for Delphi for the rest of the night, but the Oracles would

continue to fight hard and pulled within three points on two occasions to keep the game's outcome in question down to the final minute.

Eller closed out the first quarter with a pair of buckets as Delphi's Paul Zink scored six straight and Austin Hawn converted an old-fashioned three-point play to pull the Oracles to within 18-11 before Drew Yoder nailed a three-pointer with just 5 seconds remaining to give the Cougars a 21-11 lead at the end of the quarter.

Two free throws from Eller to open the second period put the lead back at 23-11 before Delphi's Kris Bender sparked a 9-0 run with three baskets surrounding a Hawn three-pointer to pull the Oracles back to within three points for the first time with 2:52 left in the half. But Carroll had an answer for every rally, scoring the next eight straight on consecutive baskets from Allen and back-to-back and ones from the Spesard cousins.

Delphi's Tanner Cripe closed the half with a basket and two foul shots to keep it close at 31-24.

After Allen opened the second half with a free throw, Eller and C. Spesard traded baskets with Cripe and Hawn before what could have been a major turning point of the game midway through the third quarter. Carroll's valuable Eller went down with an apparent knee injury after a strong drive to the Cougar basket. Eller was looked over for several tense moments before finally being helped to the bench. He later



DCHS royalty

Delphi's Basketball Homecoming king and queen were crowned Friday night during half-time of the Delphi-Carroll game. Seniors Wes Everett and Hannah Strasser were chosen king and queen. Bill Stauffer photo

walked on his own to the locker room, but was lost for the remainder of the contest. He did return to action Saturday night during Carroll's win at Clinton Prairie.

Dustin Salyer's basket pulled the Oracles to within six at 36-30, but again the Cougars responded inside with consecutive lay-ups from the Spesards to bump the margin back to ten with 2:48 left in the period. Two free throws from Bender and a jumper from Hawn surrounded a Primmer Zook trey to close the period at 43-34.

Delphi made one more 6-0 run in the first two minutes of the final period with buckets

from Cripe, Zink and Bender to pull back to within three for the final time at 43-40. Kyle Geheb connected on a three-point dagger from the right wing with 5:45 remaining to thwart the rally and foil the upset bid.

A. Spesard and Zink traded baskets before consecutive hoops from Yoder and C. Spesard pushed the lead back to double-digits at 52-42 with 2:35 left in the game.

Another Hawn three-pointer and a free throw from Jordan Wagner got the Oracles back to within six with 1:08 to play, but Yoder and the Spesards converted 6-of-8 free throws in the final minute to seal the victory.

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Carroll
County
Comet

Delphi, Indiana
February 11, 2009

Delphi Basketball Legends game a success

By John J. Dunn
Contributing sportswriter

Prior to the games against Rensselaer Saturday night, the Oracle Athletic Department and the Delphi Rotary Club had a chance to "turn-back-the-clock," hosting the 1st annual "Basketball Legends of Delphi" alumni game at the Delphi Community High School Gym.

Twenty-six former players from as far back as the Class of 1976 (Randy Kesling) participated, with some appearing and performing as if they just stepped off of the court yesterday, while others appeared to be away from the game for a

bit. None-the-less, a good time was had by all and all came away from the event without injury.

Several other former players, perhaps wisely, chose to watch from the stands and interact with their classmates afterwards.

The DCHS Class of 1989 was the biggest supporter of the extravaganza with six former players returning for the contest including Rockney Alting, Chad Houston, Tim Snoeberger, Kurt Fisher, Dan Wood and Matt Skiles, while 1988 graduate Tracy Richter came the farthest from his home near Columbus, Ohio.

1978 Sectional-winning,

now retired basketball coach Jim Lichtenberger came back from his northern Indiana home to see some of his former players including Donnie Dickinson ('78), Mark Hoffman, Kevin Hathaway and Rodger Replogle ('79), Kevin Cripe ('80) and Brian Fogarasi ('81), while the 1996 Sectional-winning team was represented by both David Wood and Kyle Cross.

Members from some of the strong Mike Jones-coached teams from the early '80s also participated including former Purdue player Tim Fisher and fellow classmates Dave Murray and Joel Wagner from the Class of '83, along with the still

crafty point guard Jon Zink from the Class of '84.

Other participants were Paul Dunbar from the Class of '86, Scott Roth from '88 and Kyle Wagner and Ted Yerkes from '92.

Jane (Spitznagle) Replogle ('79) and Christina (Randolph) Arion ('86) were the only female competitors.

In the end, the team from the odd-graduating years simply had too much size, depth and abilities remaining and dominated the contest in the second half, prevailing 111-73.

Alting led all scorers with 24 points, while Snoeberger added 13, Hoffman 10 and Delphi mailman Hathaway delivered

13 for the winning team, while Yerkes threw in 18, along with 12 apiece from both David Wood and Kyle Wagner to lead the even-year team.

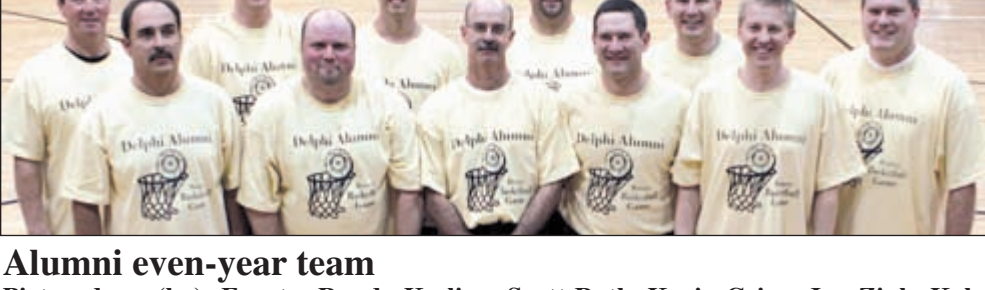
Kyle Wagner won the three-point shooting contest, scoring 23 (of 30 possible points) in the finals to defeat David Wood, who had 18, after both had scored 22 in the first round to advance from the ten competitors.

The local event was organized by Rotarian Jeff Quirk, who had seen a similar function become successful in the Covington community. The game was open to all Delphi basketball alumni who graduated in 1998 and earlier.

Quirk was able to gather a few other Rotarians for assistance and with the support of DCHS Athletic Department, led by Athletic Director Dan Dawson, it became a reality.

Following the afternoon festivities, a dinner catered by Parrett's Meat Processing Hog Roasting & Catering was held in the DCHS Commons area for all participants and was open to the general public.

The goal is for the fun-filled event to become an annual tradition to promote community involvement and to raise money for both the Athletic Department, and the Rotary Club for scholarships for Delphi graduates.



Alumni even-year team

Pictured are (l-r): Front - Randy Kesling, Scott Roth, Kevin Cripe, Jon Zink, Kyle Cross. Back - Donnie Dickinson, David Wood, Ted Yerkes, Paul Dunbar, Tracy Richter, Kyle Wagner. Bill Stauffer photo



Alumni odd-year team

Pictured are (l-r): Front - Jane Spitznagle Replogle, Brian Fogarasi, Chad Houston, Matt Skiles, Tim Fisher, Rodger Replogle. Back - Joel Wagner, Mark Hoffman, Tim Snoeberger, Dan Wood, Kevin Hathaway, Dave Murray, Rockney Alting, Kurt Fisher. Bill Stauffer photo