



### Carroll wins Sectional

For the second year in a row, Carroll Girls Basketball team has won the Sectional championship. Team members pictured are (l-r): Front – Abby Reinke. Middle – Sarah Griffin, Alisha Hedrick, Amber Hughes, Lucy Zook, Jess Yoder, Carly Yoder, Kate Hickner.

Back – Coach Mike McCroskey, Manager Jessica McCain, Quinci Eller, Jill Griffin, Assistant Coach Jack Malson, Manager Susanna Taylor, and Manager Maria Lewis. Bill Stauffer photo

# Eller, Reinke, Yoder carry Lady Cougars to Valentine's Day Sectional title

By Patrick Hickner  
Contributing sportswriter

Saturday evening at Delphi the Carroll Lady Cougars won their second consecutive and 9th overall, girls basketball sectional championship. Their championship victory, 52-36, was over a stubborn and inspired Clinton Central team.

En route to the title game, Carroll defeated Delphi 44-35 and then Fountain Central 60-42 in the second semi-final game. Clinton Central defeated Seeger in the first semi-final game 49-45, to advance to the championship game.

The Lady Cougars move onto the Cass Regional this Saturday against Fort Wayne Bishop Luers in the second game set for 12 noon.

#### Second semi-final game

Friday evening, Fountain Central won the opening tip and the second quarter, but that was all. Carroll used

their tenacious press and defense to separate from FC early. Carroll built an 11-point first quarter lead, 18-7. Four minutes into the game the Cougars led 13-2. Fountain Central struggled to keep up the rest of the way. A 13-5 scoring advantage in the second quarter by FC narrowed the Carroll lead to 23-20 at half.

The third and fourth quarters belonged to Carroll, outscoring FC 37-22 in the two quarters combined. Four Cougars scored in double figures for the first time this season. Eller had 19, Yoder added 15, Reinke, 11 and Amber Hughes chipped in 10, including a long 3-pointer to end the third quarter and give the momentum to the Cougars.

#### Championship game

Clinton Central entered the championship game with 5 players over 5'11" and some aggressive guards. From the

beginning, their plan was to slow Quinci Eller by not leaving her alone.

Carroll built a first quarter lead at 18-14 by making open 3-point shots, rebounding and causing turnovers with their press. The Lady Cougars extended their lead in the second period with the same formula that has worked all season. They press and cause turnovers and then drive to the basket and make layups or kick the ball out for open three-pointers. Carroll led 30-23 at the halfway point.

Great team effort in this game made the difference for the Cougars. Everyone contributed in some way. Alisha Hedrick rebounded and handed out an assist, Lucy Zook had two steals, made a three-pointer in the second quarter and scored 5 points for the game. Amber Hughes rebounded, added a steal and four points. Sarah Griffin had 7 rebounds, 2 points and a

steal. Carly Yoder rebounded and played great post defense. Kate Hickner and Jill Griffin cleaned up the final 2 minutes by causing turnovers and rebounding.

The second half was all Cougars. The Cougars outscored the Bulldogs 22-13 in the second half and posted a 52-36 victory. The trio of Quinci Eller, Abby Reinke and Jess Yoder put the finishing touch on this game by

playing keep-away from the Bulldogs. Eller and Reinke lead the Cougars with 14 points each. Eller also picked-up 6 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals and Reinke had 8 rebounds, 3 assists and 2 steals. J. Yoder added 11 points, four rebounds and 2 assists.

*Support these ladies in their quest for a Regional championship!*

### Cass Regional Sat., Feb. 21

**Game 1 – Wabash (20-3) vs. Oak Hill (24-1).** 10 a.m.  
**Game 2 – Carroll (16-7) vs. Fort Wayne Bishop Luers (16-6).** 12 noon  
**Championship – Winner of Game 1 vs. Winner of Game 2.** 8 p.m.  
**Admission: \$6 per session; \$9 both sessions.**

## Carroll bests Delphi in first round

By Todd Swank  
Contributing sportswriter

Quincy Eller's back-to-back threes early in the fourth quarter helped erase a slim Oracle lead and propelled the Cougars to the second round of the Delphi girls basketball sectional. A big final period by Carroll led to a 44-35 win, eliminating Delphi from the tournament for the second year in a row.

Eller was injured on a layup with 6:51 left in the first quarter to put Carroll up 7-0. Because of Eller's sore ankle, Alisha Hedrick came in to make the free throw for her. The score was already 8-0 and it looked like a blowout

was on the horizon. The full court press employed by Carroll was bothering Delphi. With Eller out of the game the Oracles began to figure out the Carroll press. Danni Burge and Whitney Arion each scored a basket for Delphi but the lead was expanded to nine points at 13-4 thanks to five points from Abby Reinke. By the end of the first quarter Delphi had pulled to within six points at 15-9.

Hannah Strasser and Jordyn Jargstorf with buckets and Burge with a free throw scored five points to open the second. With the score 15-14 the rout was over and a heated battle for county supremacy was on. Eller, who

was still limping, re-entered the game and promptly hit a trey to give the Cougars a little breathing room. Lucy Zook hit Carroll's final points of the half a few seconds later to up the lead to six at 20-14. When Arion sank a long one from beyond the arc the Oracles were behind by a single point, 20-19, with two minutes to go. Carroll somehow held onto the lead until half-time. The Oracles had two chances to take the lead into the locker room, but both times they missed easy layups.

In the second half Carroll maintained the lead until Strasser hit a shot on an out-  
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# Oracles have 5 wrestlers state bound



Floyd

McIntire

Lynde

Atwood

Everett

quest to a state title. He also has verbally committed to the Purdue University and Coach Scott Hinkle to continue his wrestling in

college. Five members of the Delphi Varsity Wrestling Team will be competing this weekend in the individual state tournament in Indianapolis. They are senior Bobby Floyd, junior Nathan McIntire at 130, freshman Tanner Lynde at 140, junior Braden Atwood at 171, and senior Wes Everett at 285.

Thirteen of 14 wrestlers from the Oracle team competed in the Logansport Regional, the highest number ever competing at that level for a Delphi team. Nine of those wrestlers advanced to semi-state competition, again the highest number ever competing at that level for DCHS. Floyd in round one pinned his opponent in 1:01. In round two, he won by decision 10-7. He lost to the runner-up 0-8 in round three. In the consolation round he won with a pin in 3:29 for third place. His record is 19-4.

McTigue wrestled well in rounds one and two, pinning his first opponent and then winning by an 11-6 decision. He ran into a couple of buzzsaws the next two rounds, losing to a three-time state

### State Finals Conesco Fieldhouse Indianapolis

**Friday, 6 p.m.**  
**Saturday (Quarterfinals at 9:30 a.m. with semifinals to follow; Consolations at 5 p.m.; Finals at 7:30 p.m.)**  
**Admission: \$8 per session or \$20 both days.**

champion by fall and a state placer from last year by a fall. He finished fourth and his record is 30-7.

Lynde won his first match by decision, 9-2. In the second round he defeated his opponent 10-7. In the semi-finals he wrestled a three-time state placer and defeated him 5-3 with a powerful take-down in overtime. In the championship match he faced last year's state champ and lost a 3-6 decision. He placed second, running his season record to 39-7.

Atwood was Delphi's lone champion. He won three of his matches by pins and one in the semi finals by a score of 9-5. He was the only wrestler to have a pin in the finals matches. He has kept his undefeated season on his

college.

Everett pinned his first three opponents and his opponent were both undefeated on the season. Everett lost a close match by a 4-5 decision for runner-up honors. His season record is 44-1.

Freshman Stephen Back ran into the eventual 119 runner-up in the first round. His record is 24-13. Sophomore Aaron Back lost a heart-breaker, getting caught in a scramble. His record is 28-9. Senior Daniel Clawson was down 5-0 after the first period and tilted his opponent for 6 points in period two then gave up a takedown in the third to fall just short. His record is 27-14. Travis Yoakum, a senior, lost his first round match by decision 2-14. His record is 27-7.

The Delphi Five will wrestle this weekend at Conesco Fieldhouse, starting at 6 p.m. The rest of the Delphi squad will be competing in the Team State the following weekend in Greenwood at Center Grove High School. This is the first team to advance to a state tournament for Delphi.

## Oracles defeat Twin Lakes in conference finale

By John J. Dunn  
Contributing sportswriter

The goal of any team is to play its best at the end of a season, peeking in time to enter post-season tournament play to make a run into the sport's marquis event.

Is that what is happening to the Delphi basketball team? The Oracles won their second game in-a-row for the first time this season over traditionally-tough Hoosier Conference-rival Twin Lakes 71-69.

In a closely-played game last Wednesday that resembled last year's game at Twin Lakes, this one was more a game of trading baskets surmounting a few short spurts by both teams. Each team enjoyed a game-high lead of seven or more only once apiece.

The Oracles posted a couple of season-highs in the contest, both in assists (21) and field goal shooting inside of the arc (.700 percent on 21-of-30) after having several games this season where they clanked a lot of iron with their shots, rarely finding the ball falling through the net. Ball movement toward getting teammates open looks

and easy baskets were as equally hard to find.

Delphi may have resolved those difficult areas in the past couple of weeks, now making more of the same shots. The Oracles shot a season second-best .625 percent (25-of-40) overall and an impressive .400 percent (4-of-10) from three-point range.

It marked the Oracles first victory over Twin Lakes since the 2001-02 season, breaking a string of six straight defeats for their third win in the last 14 games against the Indians since the 1995-96 season.

Twin Lakes (2-15 overall, 0-4 in conference) has now lost 8 straight and 10-of-its-last-11 games. The Oracles scored first on Gary Hulsey's old-fashioned three-point play and held onto the lead until 2:04 left in the second quarter.

Despite Kris Bender's seven-point first quarter to keep it close, Delphi (4-13, 2-4) converted only 3-of-7 free throws in the opening period and trailed 15-13 at the first break.

After Bender opened the second period with a free throw and a basket surrounding a Drake Danford hoop to

pull to with 17-16, the Indians had their first 6-0 mini-spurt to extend the lead to their game-high of seven points at 23-16 to force an Oracle timeout with 4:26 remaining.

Delphi responded off the timeout with a 7-0 spurt of its own on a bucket from Dustin Salyer, a three-pointer by Austin Hawn and a hoop from Tanner Cripe to tie it for the first time since the opening tip at 23.

**See Oracles defeat page 3B**



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