



Sectional winner

Carroll's Sectional-winning boys' basketball team is pictured (l-r): Front - Cheerleaders Cayla Macaluso, ball boy Jarin Bush, Ali Fewell, Lauren Bosley, and Hayleigh Forgey. Middle - ball boys Trey Filbrun and Collin Hodson. Row 3 - Coach John Filbrun, Coach Tom Allen, Chad Griffin, Jarvis Simmons, Drew Yoder, Noah Allen, Coach

Julie Bush, Riley Eller, Mitch Whitham, Primmer Zook, Tim Ruby, Chandler Keown, and John Bush. Back - Coach Jeff Hodson, Ethan Glascock, Riley Johnson, Kyle Geheb, Carson Spesard, Adam Spesard, Brad Benson, Seth Johnson, and Aaron Spesard. aBill Stauffer photo

Carroll repeats as sectional champ

Road to title not an easy one

By Greg Hoffman
Contributing sportswriter

The Carroll Cougars (19-4) successfully defended their Class 2A Sectional 37 title by defeating Seeger (13-9) 56-53. The score was almost identical to last year's win over Seeger, 56-54.

The Spesard cousins, Adam and Carson, led the way for Carroll. Carson had a double-double with 16 points and 11 rebounds, while Adam had 15 points. Adam was also Kiss County 103.1's MVP of the sectional and player of the game. Kyle Geheb was also in double figures with 12 points for the second straight night and was 3 of 5 (60%) from behind the arc.

The Cougars continued their hot shooting from the night before. They were 5 of 8 (63%) on threes and 19 of 35 (54%) overall. From the foul line, Carroll shot a poor 13 of 24 (54%), while defensively the Cougars held Seeger to 5 of 25 (20%) and 19 of 53 (36%) overall. The Patriots were 10 of 12 (83%) from the line.

Seeger came out of the gates quick. Nathan Pruitt had 11 of his 16 points for the night in the first quarter, helping the Patriots to their biggest lead of

the night, 7 points, 16-9 after one.

A. Spesard's free throw and a three-pointer by Geheb pulled Carroll to within three points at 16-13. Pruitt scored Seeger's only basket in the quarter, giving them an 18-13 lead. From there it was all Carroll the rest of the half. The Cougars went on a 13-0 run to go up 26-18 at half-time.

Carroll outscored Seeger 17-2 in the quarter. C. Spesard had 12 of his 16 points in the half. Geheb's three pointer with five minutes left in the half gave Carroll the lead for good at 20-18. Carroll continued its run in the third as A. Spesard had 5 points and Noah Allen 2 points with three minutes gone in the third. When the smoke cleared, Carroll had outscored Seeger 20-0 for a 33-18 lead. The two teams played even the rest of the quarter with Carroll up 42-28 after three.

Back-to-back three pointers by A. Spesard and Primmer Zook gave Carroll its biggest lead of the game at 18 points, 48-30, with 6:30 minutes left. Seeger picked up its defensive pressure forcing the Cougars to turn over the ball six times in the next two minutes. Carroll's lead dropped to single digits, 48-39. The Cougars

turned the ball over three more times and with 17.2 seconds left, Alexander Hutson was fouled while shooting a three. He made all three free throws and Seeger had closed the gap to three points, 54-51. Geheb hit one of two free throws, giving Carroll a 55-51 lead with 14 seconds left. Hutson's lay-up with 1.7 seconds pulled the Patriots to within 2 at 55-53. Geheb was fouled with .2 seconds left. He hit the first and missed the second and Seeger could not get a shot off in time. Hutson scored 12 of his game high 17 points in the final stanza.

Carroll won its way into the championship game with wins over country rival Delphi (7-14) 59-40 Friday night in the semi-final round and a 60-48 overtime win over Fountain Central (5-16) in the opening game.

Vs. Fountain Central

Fountain Central packed its zone defense the entire game to stop Carroll's big men, Adam and Carson Spesard's inside game, and force Carroll to beat them from the outside. It almost worked. Carroll was 4 of 16 (25%) from three-point range, 19 of 47 (36%) overall and 7 of 11 (64%) from the line.

There were two ties and 4 lead changes in the first quarter before the two teams were tied at 14 all after one. In the second quarter there were two more ties and two lead changes

before the Mustangs took the lead at 23-22. They held a five-point, 28-23, lead at half-time.

Fountain Central was still up by five with 4:33 left in the third quarter when A. Spesard scored four points and Brad Benson two to reclaim the lead at 35-34. The Mustangs regained the lead, but 3 points each by the Spesard cousins gave Carroll the lead at 41-38 after three periods. The Cougars opened up a 5 point lead at 45-40, but the Mustangs fought back to tie the game at 48 on a three-pointer at the end of regulation.

Carroll took over in overtime. A three-pointer by Geheb got things started as the Cougars outscored Fountain Central 12-0 in the extra period.

A. Spesard led all scorers with 24 points, tying his career high. C. Spesard added a double-double with 11 points and 14 rebounds and Benson added 7 points and 9 rebounds.

Vs. Delphi

Friday night was the third meeting this season between Carroll and Delphi. The Cougars claimed the first two meetings, 62-48 and 58-48.

Delphi tried the same strategy as Fountain Central, but this time it did not work. Red hot Geheb hit back-to-back three-pointers to push Carroll out to an 11-2 advantage early. The Oracles closed to within 7 at 13-6, but Zook and Geheb hit back-to-back threes again to push Carroll's lead back out to 13. The Oracles trailed by 7, 19-12, after one. Carroll was 5

of 6 from behind the arc with Geheb hitting 4 of 5 and Zook 1 of 1. The Cougars were 7 of 10 overall with Geheb getting 12 of his 13 game points in the first quarter.

The Oracles would get no closer the rest of the way as Carroll outscored their rival 17-6 in the second quarter to double the Oracles up on the scoreboard, 36-18. The Cougars were 2 of 3 (67%) on threes and 7 of 9 (78%) overall in the quarter. Tim Ruby led the way with 7 points off the bench. The Cougars were 14 of 19 (74%) overall and 7 of 9 (78%) on threes in the half while the Oracles were 3 of 9 (33%) on threes and 7 of 19 (37%) overall.

Carroll put Delphi away early in the third quarter when they came out of the locker room with a 12-0 run to go up by 30 points, 48-18. The Cougars coasted the rest of the way for the win. Carroll's shooting did not drop off in the third quarter as they went inside for their points.

Carroll was 7 of 9 (78%) from the three-point line, 24 of 36 (67%) overall, and 4 of 9 (44%) from the line, while Delphi was 4 of 19 (19%) on threes, 14 of 45 (31%) overall, and 8 of 17 (47%) from the line.

Carroll's 19 wins sets a new school record for the most wins in a season. The old mark was 18 and was set by the 1991-92 team.

It appears that Clinton Central is the team's home away from home. The Cougars are 5-0 at Central after winning the Holiday Tourney and the Sectional.

Next up for the Cougars will be the Tipton Regional. Carroll will face North Miami (18-5) in the first game that starts at 10 a.m. on Saturday. The last time the two schools played each other was Feb. 5, 1965.



*Carroll
County
Comet*

Delphi, Indiana
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KICK Team seeks names for student service award

Comet staff report

Nominations are being sought for the Flora Community Club KICK Team's second annual Kickin-It-Up Community Service Award.

It is given to a student in grades 7 to 12 in the Carroll Consolidated school district for outstanding citizenship and community service. The person can be a student at

Carroll Jr.-Sr. High School or can be home schooled.

The award will be presented at the Flora Community Club annual banquet in April, and the student will be recognized again on Awards Night at the school in May.

Deadline for nominations is April 6. Names and reasons for the nomination should be sent to KICK Team, P. O. Box 195, Flora, IN 46929.

Carroll fans - get your tickets

Regional ticket sales are underway at Carroll Jr.-Sr. High School. Tickets are available at the bookstore for \$9 for a session pass.

"We expect the tournament to be sold out," said Carroll athletic director Shaun Rose. "We recommend that Carroll fans get your tickets by today (Wednesday)."

Ticket sales will be open to the general public on Thursday.

Miss Carroll County call-out

The Miss Carroll County 2009 Contest call-out meeting will be March 31 at 7 p.m. at the Camden Library, on Main Street.

All girls age 16-21 who are interested in competing in the pageant should attend.

At this meeting, girls will receive pageant rules and an activity calendar for the summer meetings, and will take

part in a question and answer session with the reigning Miss Carroll County, Kayleigh Morgan.

Any girl who wants to participate but cannot attend the call-out meeting, or anyone who has additional questions can contact Deb Foreman, pageant chairman, at 574-686-2674, or email, missdebfore@yahoo.com.

Carroll, Delphi plays are this weekend



Carroll play this weekend

Carroll High School Drama Club will present its spring play, "You Can't Take It With You," on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Times for the performances will be 7 p.m. March 13 and 14, and 2 p.m. March 15. Tickets are available at the school or from cast members, or may be purchased at the door. Pictured l-r are: Top row - Evan Dinger, Molly Jewell, Jared Collins, Hunter Snapp, Jake Walker, Harley Davis, Jordan Hendershot, Tyler Macy, Matt Shanks, Corey Kult. Seated - Lauren Wilkinson, Kaitlin Kennedy, Elise Walker, Ben Mandley, Tasha Brower, Shelby Spray. On the floor is Sam Parker, technical director. Noel Pinkard is the play director. Photo provided



'Bye, Bye, Birdie' comes to Little Theatre

Delphi Community High School's production of the classic musical "Bye, Bye, Birdie" will be March 13 and 14 at 7 p.m. and March 15 at 2 p.m. in the Little Theatre. Cast members shown are (left to right): Seated - Jordan Hudelson, Grace Mears. Standing - Brett Rogers, Erika Matricia, Elizabeth Rowen, Paul Marvell and Andrew Martin. Tickets are \$5 and may be purchased at the door or by calling the school at (765) 564-3481. Photo provided