

Delphi trio prepares for Colt World Series

By John Dunn
Contributing sportswriter

Three members of Delphi's baseball team have earned spots on the Hoosier North roster for the 2009 Colt World Series, which opens Wednesday night at Loeb Stadium in Lafayette and runs through Aug. 12.

Juniors Shane Hyman and Austin Hawn and sophomore Karson Bender made it through the tryouts in June to become part of the 18-player team comprised of nine area high schools including Lafayette Jeff, McCutcheon, West Lafayette, Logansport, Benton Central, Crawfordsville, North Montgomery and Frontier.

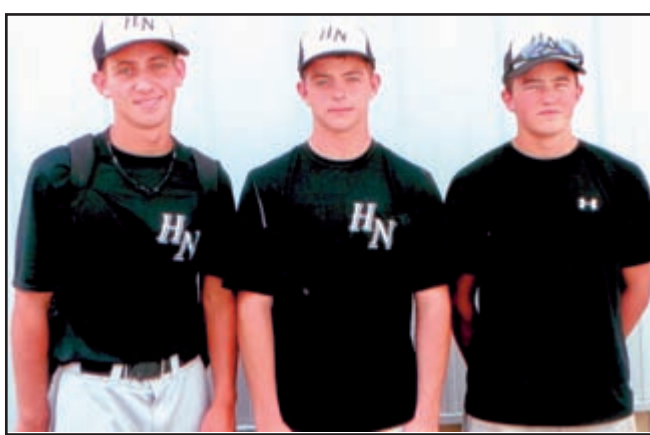
For the second consecutive year, players from the Oracle program benefited from a decision a few years ago to broaden Pony baseball's exposure in the Lafayette area to include several area schools that also participate in the summer Colt baseball program, instead of just the Lafayette schools.

That decision, along with the IHSAA-mandated ruling

that no more than five players from any one high school team can play on the same Colt World Series roster, opened the door to area players that previously were not afforded an opportunity to participate.

"With the World Series held locally, Pony Baseball really wanted to see growth in the area," said Tim Clark, executive director for Pony Baseball and former Purdue football place kicker. "And we are still looking for other schools to join us so that more area kids have the opportunity to play."

Since the roster was finalized, Hoosier North has played in several tournaments and exhibition games in preparation for the Colt World Series. Hoosier North



Chosen for Colt World Series
Delphi juniors Austin Hawn and Shane Hyman, along with sophomore Karson Bender, made the Hoosier North baseball team roster for the upcoming Colt World Series. The series begins tonight, Wednesday, at Loeb Stadium in Lafayette. Photo provided

had to earn its berth into the Colt League's annual signature tournament as the "Area Host" team by qualifying in the Harry Bradway Classic that featured teams from around north central Indiana.

The current Colt World Series field is comprised of ten teams of 15- and 16-year-olds who play under the PONY Baseball, Inc. blanket.

In addition to the two local teams, the tournament will

feature international teams from Mexico, Puerto Rico, Germany and The Philippines, along with teams from the United States representing Tampa, Fla., Santa Clara, Calif., Greensboro, N.C. and Joliet, Ill.

The tournament will start with an Olympic-style format,

where the ten teams will be divided into two divisions of five and will be assured of at least four games by playing each of the other teams in their own pool once.

Division assignments are based on order of finish in the previous year's World Series play, and the first and second place finishers in each division then advance to the semi-finals on Tuesday in what then becomes a single-

elimination tournament of the final four teams. The winners of the games from the top two finishers in each pool advance to the Gold Medal Championship finale scheduled for next Wednesday night.

Although the tournament officially starts on Wednesday with games scheduled at 2:30, 5 and 7:30 p.m., Hoosier North is not scheduled to take the field until Thursday at 7:30 p.m. against Santa Clara, Calif.

The Area Host team will then continue pool play competition on Friday at 5 p.m. vs. Joliet, Ill., on Saturday at 5 p.m. vs. The Philippines, and on Monday at 7:30 p.m. vs. Greensboro, N.C.



*Carroll
County
Comet*

Delphi, Indiana

August 5, 2009

Former Delphi resident in karaoke nationals

Comet staff report

Valarie Britton Shinbur of Lafayette, formerly of Delphi, will compete in a national karaoke contest through Karaoke World Championships USA (KW-CUSA).

She qualified for the national competition by advancing through the local, state and regional levels.

The nationals will be held at King's Island in Cincinnati, Ohio, this weekend. Shinbur is one of 40 contestants who have made it this far in the competition.

Winners of the national contest will advance to the world championships in Finland Sept. 11 and 12.

KWCUSA is the only organization in the United States affiliated with the Karaoke World Championships organization. Its champions exclusively represent the United States in the only international karaoke competition.

In 2007, the first year that KWCUSA competed, it had two top 10 international winners, including silver.

All levels of the competition are open to amateur singers only, ages 18 and older. There are men's and women's categories.

Judges are professionals in the music business. Judging is based on voice quality, rhythm and tempo, vocal expression, stage presence, and entertainment value.

At the world championships, one man and one woman will earn the title of "World Champion of Karaoke 2009."

Venues for the various levels of competition include bar/restaurants, colleges and universities, malls, fairs, and others.

Shinbur is a frequent winner of the weekly karaoke contests at Cox's Pub in Lafayette. This year's local and state levels of the KW-CUSA competition were both held at the Lafayette pub.

Shinbur is the daughter of Mark and Tracy Houchin of Delphi and Ted and Annette Britton of Battle Ground. She attended Delphi Community High School through her junior year, and then graduated from high school in Houston, Texas, in 2001.

She would like to become a professional singer.



COURTNEY E. JENNINGS of Greenwood earned her Bachelor's Degree from the School of Science of Tourism, Conventions and Event Management at IUPUI in Indianapolis. She is employed at Outback Steakhouse. She is the daughter of Brad Jennings of Monticello and the granddaughter of Gene and Patsy Jennings formerly of Delphi.

BREANNA N. JENNINGS of Greenwood, a 2009 Twin Lakes High School graduate, was a Lilly Foundation Community Scholar. She will attend DePauw University in Greencastle this fall. Jennings was a member of the TLHS swim team all four years of high school, winning many honors in sectional, regional and state events. Her relay team broke a school record her senior year. She is the daughter of Brad Jennings of Monticello and the granddaughter of Gene and Patsy Jennings, formerly of Delphi.

CHRISTOPHER D. CLEM of Cutler earned an Associate in General Education degree from Illinois Central College, East Peoria, during spring commencement in May.

Ivy Tech Community College's Kokomo Region has released its dean's list for the spring 2009 semester. Students from this area earning academic recognition include: ERICKA S. WALKER, Bringhurst; SHAWN KNAPP, Burlington; TAMARA A. GIBBS and AUTUM M. SALS-BURY, both of Camden; WILLIAM BENNETT, Cutler; CHARLENE Y. MYERS, Delphi; LORA L. CHAPMAN, MARY C. FISHER, LARESSA K. ROBERSON and ROGER V. WEST, all of Flora; and JAMES E. FLEGER, Rossville.

Charity motorcycle ride seeks donations



Comet staff report

An annual charity motorcycle ride, sponsored by Flora Lions Club, will leave Flora for Iowa on Friday. Riders will return on Sunday.

A dozen riders, including three club members, will participate. They are seeking sponsorship donations that will be donated to Riley Children's Hospital and a neo natal care unit in Lafayette.

All participants cover their own expenses for the trip, make a donation, and seek sponsorship donations.

Anyone interested in donating to this cause should contact Lions Club members Tom Kressley, Paul Redmon, or Joe Redmon. Donations can also be sent and made payable to: Flora Lions Club Charity Ride, P.O. Box 46, Flora, IN 46929.

Motorcycle ride benefits Food Pantry

The 1st Annual Charity Benefit Ride was held July 26 with 34 motorcyclists participating. Organized by Matt Peters and Mike Isley, the ride began at noon, leaving from the Delphi United Methodist Church and traveling to West Lafayette and Crawfordsville and ending at Canal Park in Delphi for a 113-mile ride. A BBQ meal, donated by The Stone House, was served at the park. Carroll County Food Pantry is the beneficiary of the \$652 raised from the ride. Photo provided.

Students report bullying is a problem

By Bill Stanczykiewicz

The new school year raises an old problem, but an emerging statewide initiative hopes to deliver a timeless solution.

While bullying might seem like old news to adults, the situation is far more urgent to kids. Seventy percent of students between the ages of 12 and 15 describe bullying as a "big problem" at school. Along with fearing the bully, students also are afraid to report bullying behavior. One national survey discovered that 61 percent of students who were bullied did not report the incident to school staff because they believed little or no action would be taken, and they feared that doing so would only worsen the situation.

Approximately one-third of students between grades 6 and 10 have been involved in bullying - either as the bully, as the target of bullying or both. Bullies strike when they see an imbalance of power or strength, leading to taunting, intimidation, physical violence and social exclusion. Males are more likely to be hit, slapped or pushed, and fe-

males are more likely to have rumors or sexual comments made about them.

Research also has found that children are more likely to be involved in bullying in schools where there is a lack of adult supervision during breaks, where teachers and students are indifferent to or accept bullying behavior, and where rules against bullying are not consistently enforced.

Interestingly, one national study found that students in smaller classes are bullied more often because bullies have fewer targets to choose from.

Since 2005, Indiana law has required schools to prohibit bullying on and off school grounds, at school activities, while traveling to or from school and while using school property or equipment. Clarian Health, with hospitals and medical centers in nearly two dozen Indiana communities, is beginning a statewide effort to help schools meet these requirements.

"We conducted a survey of school systems in Indiana and how they perceive bullying in their schools," explained Sarah Ketterer, program coor-

inator for the Clarian Bullying Prevention Program. "We found that very few schools (that responded to the survey) have a comprehensive program that can get more parents and more adults involved (to prevent bullying), and that's what we're trying to do."

School-wide campaigns to end bullying often are more effective than having individual teachers or counselors work with individual students. The most successful strategies involve changing the school climate by consistently raising awareness about bullying, increasing adult supervision of students and by setting and enforcing clear rules against bullying. Everyone associated with a school needs to be involved including teachers, principals, students and parents as well as custodians, cafeteria workers and bus drivers.

This all-encompassing approach is the ultimate goal of the Clarian initiative, which wants bullying to receive the same high level of importance as other health and safety programs. "There is programming in schools on fitness and

nutrition," Ketterer said. "We want to get to that same level where the awareness of bullying is very high so that bullying can be prevented."

Failing to do so can have lifelong consequences. Bullied children have poorer physical and mental health than their peers - not only as children, but also as they grow into adulthood. Academic work and school attendance suffer when a child has been bullied. In addition, children who are bullied are likely to have lower self-esteem and higher rates of depression, loneliness, anxiety and suicidal thoughts than other children.

Negative outcomes also afflict bullies. Bullying often is a marker for more serious violent behaviors including illegally carrying a weapon, frequent fighting and fighting related injury. One national study found that 60 percent of boys who were bullies in middle school had at least one criminal conviction by the age of 24.

"There is a great need for bullying prevention," Ketterer notes. "Bullying has always been around, but research is

linking those who are bullied and those who bully to being involved in crime and having other issues later in life. That's why we need to prevent it now."

Adults can easily think of bullying as just "kids being kids," or as an old problem that cannot be solved. The bullies hope we continue thinking that way.

Bill Stanczykiewicz is President & CEO of the Indiana Youth Institute. He can be reached at iyi@iyi.org.

Call-outs

Indiana Magic

Tryouts of the Indiana Magic 12U softball will be held at Mar Len Park on S. 18th St., Lafayette, on Aug. 8 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and Aug. 9 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Girls who were born in 1997 and 1998 are eligible to try out.

For more information, contact Frank Knox, (765) 448-4131; Jerry Lewellen, (765) 762-3952; Jason Tucker, (765) 412-1418; or Doug Atkisson, (765) 434-1021.

Burlington Community

With the beginning of the new school year, Burlington Community Library will host a special Stranger-Danger program for children on Tuesday at 6 p.m.

Burlington Town Marshal Jill Hammond and Deputy Marshal Kevin Hammond will present the importance of staying safe around strangers. Handouts for parents and coloring pages will be given at the presentation. The event is open to the public.

Library

Flora-Monroe Twp.

The second session of the Beginning Scrapbook series is Tuesday, Aug. 11, at 7 p.m. It is not too late to join the class and learn how to organize and display your precious family photographs. Scrapbooks also make wonderful personalized gifts for birthdays and Christmas. Stefanie Hawkins is the instructor for the series that continues on Tuesday evenings in August.

Parents and guardians of Carroll Consolidated School Corporation students who live in their served library townships can help their kids to succeed by purchasing a student library card. Proof of enrollment in the school district will be required (textbook rental receipt for elementary school, proof of identification for Jr./Sr. High School.) Parents will need to sign for the student's card. For more information ask at the circulation desk.

Art students who participated in this summer's classes are asked to pick up

their projects at the main desk. Call the library if you have any questions, 967-3912.

The new selection for the library's book discussion group is "The Lady and the Unicorn" by Tracy Chevalier. The group will meet Aug. 19 in the Flora Senior Center. Extra copies of the novel are available for checkout. New members are always welcome.

It's time for the kids to go back to school. Preschool can be a little scary, but kids will see it's fun to see old friends and meet new friends while they learn. "Back to School" is the theme for our first storytime of the fall. Storytime is Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m.

Delphi

Four hundred twenty-eight children and teens read a total of 5,375 hours during the Summer Reading Program, "Be Creative at Your Library." Incentive prizes were earned by the partic-

ipants who documented time spent reading. Sponsors for 2009 were Dick Krieg Motors, Inc.; Bradshaw Insurance Co.; Dairy Queen; McDonald's; Norman Eyecare, Ltd.; David P. Krause, DDS; Mole Control; Ruch State Farm Insurance; Indiana Beach; and the Friends of the Delphi Public Library.

The Coffee Beat will feature Steve Hill Aug. 15 at 7 p.m. Hill plays classic rock from the 60s and 70s, Beatles interspersed with his original songs. Coffee is free, desserts are available for a nominal fee.

Red Brick Theatre will present a one-act comedy during Old Settlers, Aug. 6, 7 and 8 at 4 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. in the Opera House Gallery. Cast members include Jimmy Reed, Grace Currie, Sara Brosman, Chris Mayfield, Andrew Martin, Kendall Baker, Kayla Haley and Eric Reese. There is no admission fee but donations will be accepted. Proceeds go to Delphi

Preservation Society and the library theater program.

Friends of the Delphi Public Library's annual fall book preview sale for Friend's members will be Aug. 7 from 3 to 6 p.m. in the Gerber Globe Valve Room. Membership applications will be available at the door. The public sale will be Aug. 8 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside, weather permitting.