

Eight Oracle wrestlers advance to regional

Atwood, Lynde and Delaney are champions

The Delphi Oracle wrestling team competed last weekend in the Lafayette Jeff Sectional. The Oracles had won the sectional the past two years but did not have enough points to overcome a powerful Harrison squad. The Oracles finished in third place behind Harrison and McCutcheon.

Delphi had three champions for the day. Braden Atwood won his fourth straight sectional title. He pinned all three of his opponents in the first round. Tanner Lynde won his second straight title at 152. And Brandon Delaney won his first sectional title at 171.

Placing in second for the Oracles were Nathan McTigue at 130 and Dayton Rumell at 160. Third place finishers were Chris Brown at 112 and Roy Anderson at 215. Ken Myers at 285 finished in fourth place.

These eight wrestlers have won the rights to wrestle in next week's regional tournament at Logansport.

The Oracles also had a fifth place finish in Blake Price. Placing sixth for the Delphi team were 103 Adam Marvel, 119 Austin Jones, 135 Kaleb Salyer, and 145 Spenser Conner. Cody Miller wrestled up at 140 and won a match yet did not place.

Gamel qualifies for wrestling regional

By Rex Overholser
Contributing sportswriter

Carroll wrestlers competed in the 10-team Lafayette Jeff Sectional. The sectional is a multi mat dual with lots of fast paced action. About 700 interested parents and friends were at Jeff to root their teams and favorite wrestlers on.

An end to their wrestling season came for all the Cougars except for freshman Nick Gamel (135), who was the sole Cougar regional qualifier. Gamel raised his season record to 22-14 as he won his first and third matches to claim 4th place and the right to represent the Cougars at Logansport this Saturday.

The team found out just how tough the Lafayette sectional is with Harrison, McCutcheon, Delphi, Jeff, and Benton Central all heading up the sectional in team points. The Cougars were not realistically expecting to get into the top five as the challenge was to gain experience and learn how to compete against the bigger schools. The CHS team building process continued with a respectable showing from all the Cougars.

The Cougars liked their fifth place spot as they had 4 competitors all claim wins in their final matches.

Senior Jared Collins (160) finished his Cougar career

winning by pinning his competitor from Benton Central. Kameron Casto (171) executed a final round takedown of his competitor from Attica. Dakota Underwood (103) finished a good season by outpointing his foe from Delphi and Trey Overholser (112) scored a come-from-behind take down and near fall with 20 seconds left to oust his Jeff opponent and represent CHS on the fifth place podium.

Collins finished his Cougar season at 28-8 to lead the Cougars. Casto finished at 18-13. Underwood and Overholser finished the year at 26-12.

Cougars finishing in sixth place were Tallis Bowers (125), Anthony Pickett (135), Montana Gangwer (152) and Dalton Marvin (215).

The Cougars finished seventh as a team but with only Collins moving on to the graduation ranks, the future looks bright for the young Cougars. The team has a lot of promising lettermen returning to give the Cougars a solid nucleus to build upon.

Vs. Caston

Carroll wrestlers scored a team win last Tuesday night at Caston in a weather make up match to finish 21-10 for the season. Gangwer had the only pin for Carroll as the Cougars won 48-33 due to weight class forfeits.

Record setters



Carroll swimmers recently set new records at the annual Hoosier Heartland Conference meet. The 400-free relay team (left to right, front - Isiah Stevens and Cory Ritter; back - Brock Richardson and Matt Clark) set a new school and conference mark at 3:37.97. The previous record dates to 1997 and was set by Sam Hamby, Chad Nelson, Nate Kilty and Ryan Allen. Richardson also set new individual conference records in the 200 freestyle, 1:53.69, and the 100 butterfly, 57.21. Richardson's time in the 100 butterfly betters his conference record-setting time from 2009. Clark, Stevens and Richardson are seniors and Ritter is a junior. As a team the Cougars placed second at the meet behind Central Catholic. Photo provided

Delphi's Arion chooses Louisville for softball

By John J. Dunn
Contributing sportswriter

Delphi junior Whitney Arion's future became clearer with her verbal commitment to play softball at the University of Louisville.

Arion chose the Louisville Cardinals over a number of Division I schools that made offers for her softball prowess, including Purdue.

Louisville offered a full-ride athletic scholarship to Arion, who primarily plays shortstop, third base and centerfield, with plans to join the Cardinal program as a freshman for the 2012 season.

Although NCAA rules prohibit softball recruits from signing official letters this early in the year, schools prefer to have their potential signees verbally commit early so they know who they can count on to join their program and are in a better position to evaluate and fill their other needs.

Arion's softball resume is an impressive one, including earning the *Lafayette Journal & Courier* Class 1A & 2A "Player-of-the-year" award last spring following her sophomore season at Delphi.

She has been a major contributor on two straight sectional-winning teams at Delphi, leading the team in batting both seasons, including a Lafayette-area leading .558 batting average as a freshman.

Arion first started attracting college attention as a key member on a successful summer softball travel team, the

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Arion

Delphi swimmers prepare for sectional

The Delphi Community High School girls swim team lost their last two meets of the year, while the boys team split those meets.

The girls lost to Logansport 79 to 104 and to Lewis Cass 85 to 100 for a season record of 6-6. The 200 free relay team of Jordan Hudelson, Grace Currie, Monica Hutsell and Emily Layman picked up the only first place against Logansport. Against Cass first place finishes went to the 200 medley relay team of Annie Mose, Hudelson, Brianna Walters and Layman, Mose in the 500 free, and the 400 free relay team of Layman, Walters, Hudelson and Mose.

The girls sectional preliminaries are Thursday at Jeff, starting at 5:30 p.m. with the finals Saturday at 1.

The boys lost to Logans-

port by 1, 92 to 93, but rebounded to beat Cass by 1, 93 to 92. The Cass meet came down to the final event, the 400 free relay. Delphi needed to place 1st and 3rd to pull out the win. The 400 relay team of Jared Kelley, Austin Goodman, Brent Kremer and Andrew Burton beat Cass's A relay by 1.3 seconds as Delphi's B 400 free relay of Andrew Martin, Grant Price, Kendall Baker and Jeremy Dommnich placed 3rd with a season's best time of 3:52.95 to seal the win. Burton picked up 4 first places, Kremer had 3 blues, Kelley 2 firsts and Kevin Kauffman won diving. Against Logan, Burton was a 4 time winner, Kremer had 3 firsts, Kelley and Goodman each had 2 while Kauffman again won diving.

Northwestern pulls out buzzer-beater win over Cougars

By Greg Hoffman
Contributing sportswriter

The Cougars lost a heartbreaker at the buzzer Friday night at home on a put-back basket by visiting Northwestern (8-5). Final score was 56-55.

The two teams fought back-and-forth all night with seven ties and 18 lead changes. Carroll's biggest lead was 8 points while Northwestern's was 5.

Noah Allen's free throw gave Carroll the initial lead in the first quarter. Five lead changes and two ties later Northwestern held a 15-13 advantage after one. Carroll fell behind by four early in the second quarter, 19-15. The Cougars went on a 10 to 5 run and reclaimed the lead at 25-24 as Allen had 8 points and Tim Ruby 7 in the run. But by half-time the Tigers had regained their lead were up by one, 26-25. In the second quarter Allen had 10 points on 4 of 4 shooting from the field - 2 threes and two twos. He had 15 of his team high 19 points in the first half.

The Cougars came out of the locker room ready to play. Then went on a 9 to 0 spurt for their biggest lead of the night, 34-26. That lead was short-lived as the visitors started a 14 to 1 run and took their biggest lead of the night at 40-35. A Drew Yoder lay-in made the score 40-37 after three periods.

Three points would be the biggest lead either team would have the rest of the way. A trey by Ruby tied the game at 40 all. The fight was on for the rest of the quarter. Three ties and six lead changes followed. With Northwestern up 55-54, an Eric Miller lay-up gave the Cougars a one-point advantage with 28 seconds remaining, setting up Northwestern's big man, Jared Treadway, for the win.

The Cougars had their

chance to put this game in the win column, but turnovers and free throws came up and bit them. Carroll had 20 turnovers and missed several key free throws, hitting 11 of 20 (55%) from the line.

"We have to be more consistent in our play and take care of the ball better and hit free throws to preserve leads when we have them," said Cougar Coach Jeff Hodson.

Mid-Indiana Conference teams' big men have dominated Carroll on the inside all year and tonight was no different. Northwestern's 6'6" Treadway did that to the tune of 24 points on 10 of 13 shooting from the field. Carroll's big men could only muster 9 points.

Allen's 19 points came on 6 of 12 shooting from the field and 5 of 6 from the line. Ruby had 12 points off the bench on 4 of 5 shooting from the field and 3 of 4 from behind the arch. Yoder added 8 points off the bench.

For the most part this season Carroll has gotten quality play from its bench. Friday night was no exception as Carroll's bench out scored Northwestern 25-7 and out rebounded them 15 to 1 as Seth Johnson pulled down 8 boards.

Carroll gets back into Hoosier Heartland Conference play this week with games at Clinton Central (1-11); at home Friday night against Delphi (7-5); and Saturday at home against conference foe Clinton Prairie (4-11). **JV loses, too**

Carroll JV (7-6) dropped its third straight game Friday after losing to visiting Northwestern 48-29.

The young Cougars fell behind 7-2 after the first quarter. They came back with a 10 to 3 run in the second quarter to tie the game at 12 and led 17-16 at intermission. The second half was all Northwestern. The visitors outscored their hosts 32 to 12 in the half for the win.

Jarrid Robertson led Carroll with 8 points. Blake Seward had 6 points and Brady Wiles added 5.

Oracles respond with two wins

Cripe's last-second heroics dooms Red Devils

By John J. Dunn
Contributing sportswriter

Tanner Cripe's game-winning, driving layup with three seconds to play sealed Delphi's hard-fought 46-44 Hoosier Conference win over West Lafayette Friday night at home. The game opened the weekend that also saw the Oracles win at South Newton 61-40 on Saturday.

In avenging last year's 57-17 loss to the Red Devils (7-7, 4-2 in conference), the Oracles needed a fast start and got just that as Austin Hawn scored Delphi's first 11 points, leading to an 11-5 lead in the first 4 1/2 minutes before West Side shifted to the familiar face-guarding gimmick defense in an attempt to slow him down.

But just like almost every other time teams have tried this strategy over the past two

seasons, it backfired as it again opened up offensive opportunities for Oracle teammates. A WL defender was no longer playing any type of help-side defense or switching because of the sole focus on Hawn.

And Delphi again used its other weapons to respond, using baskets from Dustin Salyer and Kris Bender to hold onto a 15-12 lead at the 1st period end. The Oracles went on an 8-0 run to start the 2nd quarter with a bucket and a free throw from Bender and a three-pointer and a hoop from Cole Murray to open a 23-12 lead at the 4:41 mark.

Hawn and Cripe added baskets to help hold onto a 27-20 halftime lead, but another 3rd quarter offensive drought that saw only a Cripe trey in the first 6 1/2 minutes led to a 10-3 WL run to tie the score at 30 before two foul shots from Cripe with 1:35 remaining preceded the Red Devils' first lead of the game at 33-32 at quarter end.

A 4th period that saw the teams trade baskets with four lead changes, opened with two freebies from Bender to put the Oracles back on top at 34-33 and included key hoops from Hawn for a 37-35 lead with 5:04 to play and Jordan Wagner for a 41-40 lead with 3:41 left. Delphi also connected on 6-of-8 from the free-throw line, with Cripe hitting 1-of-2 with :50 seconds remaining to tie the score at 44 and set-up the final heroics.

"Tanner stepped up when we could not get into the designed set," Oracle head coach Brian Tonsoni said. "A big-time play by a senior captain."

"Austin got us off to a great

start and we played with confidence after that," he added. "Our offense was efficient all night but West Lafayette played outstanding defense."

For only the third time this season, Delphi (2-2 in conference) shot at least .500 percent (16-of-32) from the field, snapping a five-game losing streak to West Side, dating back to the 2003-04 season.

"Our defensive effort was excellent and kept us in the game," Tonsoni said. "And we had a nice effort on their leading scorer George Zhang, holding him to eight points under his average."

Hawn led all scorers with 15 points, followed by Cripe with 10, Bender 9, Wagner and Murray 5 apiece, and Salyer 2. Cripe also dished out a team-high 4 assists, while Matt Brown added a game-high 4 steals.

Vs. South Newton

Coming off of a big conference win against a talented opponent, the Oracles started

a bit slowly Saturday night, their first of five straight away games, trailing 12-10 at the end of the 1st quarter. They then outscored the Rebels 21-7 during the 2nd period, including a 9-0 run in the final 1:45 of the half to take a 31-19 lead into half-time.

South Newton (5-12) struck first in the 2nd half to cut the lead to 10, but would get no closer the rest of the way. Delphi extended its lead to 42-24 by the end of the 3rd period, before cruising to the 21-point final margin.

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Food for popcorn

Support the Food Pantries at Delphi and Flora with donations Friday night at the Delphi vs. Carroll boys basketball game.

Oracle and Cougar fans who bring six non-perishable food items to the game will receive a free box of popcorn.

JV tip-off is 6:30 p.m. with the varsity game following.

2nd Annual Basketball Legends of Delphi scheduled Feb. 20

By John J. Dunn
Contributing sportswriter

The 2nd annual alumni "Basketball Legends of Delphi" extravaganza will be held Feb. 20 at 2 p.m. at the Delphi Community High School Gym for all Delphi alumni (men and women) who graduated in 1999 and earlier.

The event will again feature a basketball game with the odd number graduating years versus the even number years and a 3-point shooting contest that will be held prior to the Delphi boys' basketball

home contest against Pioneer, which has a 6 p.m. JV tip-off.

Last year's event drew over 25 participants and many fans including a couple of alumni cheerleaders, with 1976 graduate Randy Kesling earning the distinction as the oldest participant, while the odd year team defeated the even year team in the game.

Following the afternoon festivities, food will be available in the school commons area.

The event is jointly coordinated between the Delphi Athletic Department and the Delphi Rotary Club and is

being held as a fun, community involvement event to raise money for both the Athletic Department, and the Rotary Club for scholarships for Delphi graduates.

Fans and participants are asked to bring any old pictures, yearbooks, scrapbooks and any other memorabilia to help relive the 'Good Ol' Days.'

Cheerleaders and coaches from the past are invited as well.

Doors will open at 1 p.m. for warm-up and camaraderie and all families, friends, fans

and the general public are invited to attend.

Admission to the event will be \$5 for adults and \$2 for students and will also include admission into both the varsity and JV boys basketball game afterwards.

For more information, contact Delphi Rotarians Jeff Quirk at quirkj@verizon.net or (765) 714-9119, Brad Farrer at bradley.farrer@regions.com or (765) 564-3612, Kyle Cross at (765) 564-6233, or John Dunn at dunn.investments@verizon.net or (765) 564-6200.

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