

# Trojans keep streak alive

## CG girls rally for 12th straight win

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### INDIANAPOLIS

The Center Grove girls basketball team got one step closer to a conference title with a 70-55 win Saturday against Ben Davis.

The Giants (9-8) jumped out to an 11-0 lead early, but strong second-half performances by seniors Jenny Gray and Molly Lauck helped the Trojans (14-2) put away their Metropolitan Interscholastic Conference foe and pick up their 12th straight victory.

Class 4A No. 6 Center Grove was plagued by turnovers and missed opportunities early on, leading to the early deficit. But by the end of the first quarter, the Trojans had cut the lead to five and, with 1:10 left in the first half, took their first lead at 27-26.

"They came out real physical in the first half, so in the second half I just took it to the basket to try and draw fouls and score some more," Gray said.

Center Grove took control in the second half, outscoring the Giants by 15 points after being tied at 29-all to end the first half. Gray scored 12 of her 14 points after intermission.

Lauck led all scorers with 17 points, and Gray added 11 rebounds.

Trojans coach Joe Lentz credited his team's perseverance for the win.

"The way we finished, hitting free throws and rebounding strong is a mark of character, that's what good teams do," Lentz said. "This is a big confidence booster and another step down the road to winning the MIC."

Along with extending their winning streak, the Trojans kept their record unblemished in the MIC. Center Grove has won the conference title twice, once in 1997 and again in 2001, when they split the title with the eventual state-champion Giants.

"It feels pretty good to be ranked sixth; it's the best rank we have had since I have been playing for Center Grove," Lauck said. "This win is big, especially for the MIC; winning it is our goal."

Center Grove has four games left on the schedule, three of them conference matchups. The Trojans travel to Carmel on Jan. 31, a game that likely will decide the MIC title.

The Trojans next home game will be 7:30 p.m. Tuesday against county rival Greenwood.

# TENNIS

MELBOURNE, Australia

## Another major, another early exit for Roddick

Andy Roddick thought he'd get it right at the Australian Open.

Stung by a first-round exit at the U.S. Open in August, Roddick skipped the Masters Cup in November to give himself extra weeks to peak for the season's first major.



RODDICK

What he did not figure on, while running miles and pumping iron, was a guy like Marcos Baghdatis stepping into serves and smacking returns past him with mesmerizing regularity.

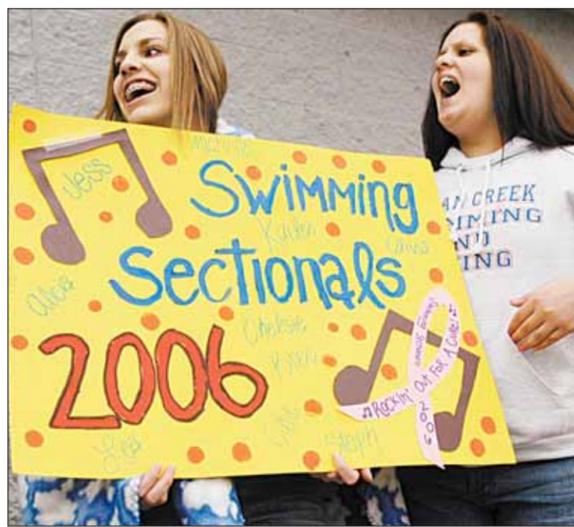
Baghdatis, a live-wire former junior world champion from Cyprus, hit 63 winners in a 6-4, 1-6, 6-3, 6-4 fourth-round win Sunday, advancing to a Grand Slam quarterfinal for the first time, where No. 7 Ivan Ljubicic awaits.

When one return winner zipped by him in the final set, Roddick turned to the crowd and asked: "What can I do?"

"It's disappointing when you feel like you've put in the work and there are no unanswered questions in my eyes as far as preparation," he said. "You're kind of left searching a bit — that's an uneasy feeling."

"I don't know if it's easy just to shrug off."

Roddick's loss left fourth-seeded David Nalbandian as the highest-ranked man in the bottom half of the draw and a likely opponent for top-seeded Roger Federer in the final.



STAFF PHOTO BY SCOTT ROBERSON/sroberson@thejournal.net

The Indian Creek girls swimming team is trying to raise \$1,000 for breast cancer awareness. From left, Michele Waldkoetter, 14, and Lea Davenport, 15, collect money outside the Wal-Mart in Franklin on Sunday.

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selling pink ribbons to raise awareness and support for finding a cure for breast cancer.

All donations will go toward breast cancer awareness and will be given to one of the Indianapolis chapters. Their goal is to raise at least \$1,000.

Harlow, 41, has taught math at Whiteland for the past 18 years. And she's known Carter for most of that time.

Carter and Harlow's 15-year-old daughter, Kailee, have been friends since swimming together when they were little.

Harlow also has helped tutor Carter and helped other Indian Creek girls swimmers with their math homework.

And they've been there to support Harlow through her tough times.

Harlow has had two types of breast cancer, one in each breast during the past nine years. In 1996, she developed ductal carcinoma in her left duct. Doctors performed a mastectomy, and the cancer was removed.

But in November 1999, cancer struck again. This time, she developed breast cancer on her right side. The cancer had spread to her shoulder blades, backbone and hips.

She is deeply touched by Carter's efforts.

"When (Carter) first told me, it brought tears to my eyes," said Harlow, who also has an 11-year-old son, Jarrett. "I tried to convince them they didn't have to raise money, that if you just make people aware, that's probably good enough. But they wanted to."

"I'm very, very touched that they're going to the lengths that they are going to, to do all these cool things."

Carter, 18, generated the idea after talking with her mom, Debbie. She wanted the fundraiser to be meaningful and beneficial. So, she combined the girls swim team's love of music with her love for Harlow.

"I wanted to have a good fundraiser but one that also pumped us up for sectionals," said Carter, who helped design "Rockin' for a Cure" T-shirts for swim team members to wear.

Swimmers already have started raising awareness at school and around the community. They collected donations and sold ribbons at Friday night's home boys basketball game and Sunday afternoon at Wal-Mart store in Franklin.

During their lunch periods, they've distributed fliers and made posters to hang up in the hallways and in Trafalgar businesses. And they will be selling pink ribbons for 50 cents in the cafeteria during the high school's lunch periods throughout the week.

Harlow thinks it is a great experience for the kids. "It's neat to see the kids pull together and do something for a cause," she said. "I know they really thought long and hard about this, and I think this is touching a lot of them, as well as myself. It will be a good experience for them. It will teach them a lot about life."

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