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SPORTS

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SECTION B

Cubs win 11th straight title

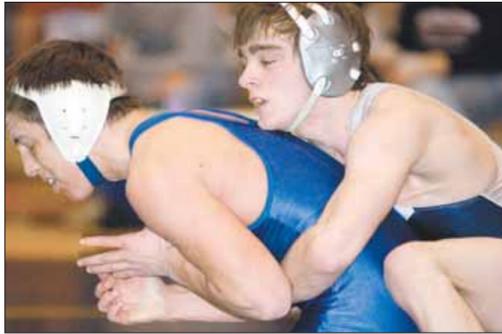
Franklin, Center Grove advance in team tourney

By KEN SEVERSON
DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

MOORESVILLE
During Saturday's IHSAA wrestling sectional, Franklin coach Bob Hasseman's voice could be heard throughout the crowd as he shouted instructions to his grapplers.
After the tournament, Hasseman

could barely speak because of a hoarse voice, but the outcome of the afternoon made it worthwhile.
Franklin crowned six individual champions and claimed its 11th straight sectional championship, earning the right to move on to the team tournament Wednesday at Avon High School, along with

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STAFF PHOTO BY MATT OOLEY/mooley@thejournalnet.com
Whiteland's Anthony Meister, right, tries to take down Franklin senior Danny Cooper during their sectional match Saturday.

'This is a team sport, and I wanted to show the guys I'm behind them'

By KEN SEVERSON
DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

MOORESVILLE
Justin Cooper was on the mat Saturday at the Mooresville Sectional, but not as a competitor. Cooper, Whiteland's unbeaten state-ranked senior at 189 pounds, was barred from participating in the sectional championship

after being ejected for head-butting an opponent in the Mid-State Conference Tournament on Jan. 15.
But on Saturday, Cooper was on the mat next to coach Dave Thompson, shouting encouragement and offering tips to his teammates.
"It's disappointing not getting the chance to wrestle and go to state, but this is a

(SEE TEAM, PAGE B4)



Whiteland senior Justin Cooper cheered on his team at Saturday's wrestling sectional despite not being allowed to compete.

Gophers deal IU season's worst loss

Unranked Minnesota snaps six-game skid with 61-42 victory

The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS
After watching Zach Puchtel give an intense effort in practice, Minnesota coach Dan Monson informed the seldom-used center that he would start against Indiana's dominant big man, Marco Killingsworth.
"I was shocked," Puchtel said. "I thought it was a dream at first."
Puchtel rewarded his coach for his decision, providing a spark in Minnesota's 61-42 victory against the 13th-ranked Hoosiers on Sunday. Vincent Grier had 17 points and 10 rebounds for the Gophers (10-8, 1-6 Big Ten), who snapped a six-game losing streak and handed Indiana its worst defeat of the season.

Looking to energize his struggling team, Monson started Puchtel, who had played only 38 minutes this season, and freshman guard Jamal Abu-Shamala in place of usual starters Spencer Tollackson and Moe Hargrow.

Puchtel finished with six points and played solid defense against Killingsworth. Abu-Shamala had seven points.

"You can't just keep marching out the same way when you're 0-6," Monson said.

"When we were in practice on (Friday), no one played harder than Zach Puchtel. I wanted to show our guys that's what we needed."

It was Minnesota's 12th starting lineup of the year, and it resulted was an uncharacteristically strong first half for the Gophers, who've been plagued by

(SEE LOSS, PAGE B5)

Sticking to safety

Trainers rely on tape to keep athletes healthy



STAFF PHOTO BY SCOTT ROBERSON/sroberson@thejournalnet.com
Center Grove High School athletic trainer Dave Buchholz tapes the ankle of gymnast Sara Schmidt at the school last week.

Cheap item helps prevent injury and stem swelling

By JOHN GROTH
DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER
jgroth@thejournalnet.com

When Dave Buchholz heads into the Center Grove High School athletic training storage room, he's typically looking for one item.

It's one of the sports world's most commonly used, cheapest and worn objects.

But for the Trojans' trainer, athletic tape also could be considered the most undervalued.

"You can use athletic tape to eliminate

pain, to help decrease swelling and to support an injured joint," Buchholz said. "It's probably the most versatile item."

Athletic tape is a vital tool in today's training rooms. It costs about \$1 per roll and is worth every penny, local athletic trainers said.

With a couple of strips of athletic tape, Franklin College head athletic trainer Chris Shaff can prevent injuries from getting worse. And it only takes a couple of minutes.

(SEE SAFETY, PAGE B4)



STAFF PHOTO BY MATT OOLEY/mooley@thejournalnet.com

Center Grove's Todd Price has his shot blocked by Lawrence North's Greg Oden during their game Saturday at Lawrence North.

Trojans keep it close

Top-ranked Wildcats pull away from CG late

By KIRK STELSEL
DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

INDIANAPOLIS
In Center Grove's boys basketball game Saturday night at Class 4A No. 1 Lawrence North, all eyes were on **WILDCATS 76**
Greg Oden, the 7-foot **TROJANS 55** senior who is heralded as the No. 1 high school player in the nation.

But Center Grove proved early that it shouldn't be overlooked in the Metropolitan Interscholastic Conference.

Lawrence North (16-0) is accustomed to building early leads and cruising to easy victories on the shoulders of Oden and fellow Ohio State recruit Mike Conley.

But the Trojans, who led part of the first quarter and trailed only 14-12 at the end of the period, made the two-time defending state champion MIC rival work for everything before succumbing 76-55.

"People are going to realize that Center Grove is not going to be pushed around," Center Grove coach Cliff Hawkins said. "We are no-back-down kind of people."

(SEE TROJANS, PAGE B3)

...THANK YOU!

Carolynn Hobson and Lincoln Bank would like to thank everyone who attended our US31 Grand Opening Celebration and all of those who helped make it such a success. Carolynn looks forward to helping you *live. play. prosper.* in the upcoming year.

Carolynn Hobson
US31 Branch Manager

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