

# Trojans win 18th straight sectional

By GREG DODDRIDGE

DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

After just missing a victory in the 50-yard freestyle, Lindsey Gasiorowski could have given up on the rest of the meet.

Instead, the Center Grove High School freshman edged Franklin junior Katie Lamb by 0.05 seconds to take first in the 100 freestyle in the girls swimming sectional at Indian Creek on Saturday.

Gasiorowski helped the No. 3-ranked Trojans score 359 points and win their 18th straight sectional title.

Center Grove also won six other events, outdistancing runner-up Perry Meridian, which had 249 points. Franklin finished third with 240 points, followed by Whiteland in fourth with 169, Indian Creek in fifth with 138 and Greenwood in sixth with 65.

Trojans coach Jim Todd talked to Gasiorowski after her loss in the 50 freestyle to try to keep her on track for the 100 freestyle. And Todd also got help from senior Holly Reed.

"Reed got in the freshman's ear to keep her focused, and (Reed) was racing (Gasiorowski)," Todd said.

Center Grove's big day was anchored by junior Michelle McKeehan and senior Melody White, who each won two individual titles. McKeehan took first in the 200 individual medley and 100 breaststroke, events she has won at each of the past two state finals. White won the 200 and 500 freestyle races.

The Trojans also won the 200 and 400 freestyle relays and advanced sophomores Anna Wimmenauer and Marina Farmer to the diving regional.

"The kids really did a nice job and worked hard," Todd said. "They were really able to show it today. It was a total team effort."

This year's team is turning out



STAFF PHOTO BY CHRIS WILLIAMS

Center Grove senior Melody White competes in the 200-yard freestyle final during the girls swimming sectional at Indian Creek High School on Saturday.

to be a special one.

"I've had some really good teams, but not from Thursday to Saturday," Todd said. "We qualified every swimmer Thursday night (in the preliminaries)."

Todd said he has had that happen before, but it is rare.

"You usually have one disappointing swim," he said.

With a mix of youth and veterans, this year's team is having a lot of fun, White said.

"Part of the credit has to go to the freshmen," she said. "We have a lot of fun with them and the rest of the team. Part of the fun in swimming is going fast, and we did that (Saturday)."

Todd knows his team is having fun when his swimmers finish a race.

"When they get to the end of swimming, they are smiling when they see the clock," he said.

Franklin also had a good day. The Grizzly Cubs' 200 medley relay team of senior Erin Warrenburg, Lamb and freshmen Claire Wilson and Sarah Dannemiller took first place.

First-year Franklin coach Brett Findley, who was named sectional coach of the year, was pleased to see his team's hard work pay off.

"We didn't know about the medley relay all year," Findley said. "It's a pleasant surprise. They stayed focused, and we couldn't ask for better."

Franklin sophomore Natalie Grissom advanced to the diving regional. And Dannemiller took first in the 50 freestyle by edging Gasiorowski.

"At the beginning of the year, Dannemiller asked me, 'Can freshmen go to state?'" Findley said. "I said, 'Yes, you can.' After her race, I said, 'I told you so.' She is ecstatic. It's very exciting."

Indian Creek sophomore Catie Reese also is excited to be going to state after winning the 100 backstroke. She rebounded after placing second in the 100 butterfly earlier in the meet.

"I was pretty disappointed on the fly, but I had to shake it off," said Reese, who had a tumor removed from her hip in the fall.

## IF YOU GO

**What:** IHSAA Girls Swimming and Diving State Finals

**Where:** Indiana University Natatorium on the campus of IUPUI, 901 W. New York St. in Indianapolis

**When:** Preliminaries in the swimming events will start at 6 p.m. Friday. Diving preliminaries and semifinals will be at 9 a.m. Saturday. Consolation heats and finals in all events will start at 1 p.m. Saturday

**Admission:** \$8 per session or \$12 for both days

**Johnson County participants**

**200 medley relay:** Franklin (Erin Warrenburg, Claire Wilson, Katie Lamb and Sarah Dannemiller)

**200 freestyle:** Melody White, Center Grove

**200 individual medley:** Michelle McKeehan, Center Grove

**50 freestyle:** Dannemiller, Franklin

**100 freestyle:** Lindsey Gasiorowski, Center Grove

**500 freestyle:** White, Center Grove; Katie Loscar, Center Grove

**200 freestyle relay:** Center Grove (Gasiorowski, White, Holly Reed and McKeehan)

**100 backstroke:** Catie Reese, Indian Creek

**100 breaststroke:** McKeehan, Center Grove

**400 freestyle relay:** Center Grove (White, Loscar, Morgan Davis and McKeehan)

"I could hear my team and family cheering. And I didn't want to disappoint my head coach again."

In the 1-meter diving event, Whiteland senior Monica Dodson won with a score of 393.40. She placed third in the state in diving two years ago but missed the high school postseason last year recovering from a back injury and training for the national team.

"I dove fairly consistently today," Dodson said. "There were a couple of dives that I could do better."

## Boys team happy to support girls in swimming sectional

The girls swimming sectional is an awesome meet to be at.

Not only do I get to see the Indian Creek girls team swim exceptionally well, I get to talk to and see many good friends from other schools swim. Swimming has brought me to know many people.

On Thursday, the sectional preliminaries started out well. Many of the girls swam season-best times, and most made it back to the finals Saturday.

They knew they were not done swimming fast, and the boys team wanted to support them. Friday night was our big night to show our support for the girls we have trained with all year.

It started with a trip to Wal-Mart. From there, we went to each house and did some "decorating."

The team just hoped that the girls would realize that we were there for them and hoped that they would swim fast Saturday.

That is what happened. Alicia Carter had two good swims, and Catie Reese had the swim of her life in the 100 backstroke. Ashley Lough swam past her goal time, and when it was all said and done, Indian Creek had a state qualifier.

I would like to say congratulations to the whole team for a great season, but I would like to give a special call out to Catie Reese.

Her season is not over, and I wish her good luck at the state championship meet.

I see Reese's advancing to state as a great accomplishment. Being a swimmer at Indian



Brad Vest

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Creek, I realize how difficult it is to get that chance.

Swimming is not a class sport, so we do not receive that advantage like other sports such as football and basketball do.

There are also no regionals or semistate in swimming, so it takes a perfect swim at the right time to advance to the state meet.

I would also like to say congratulations to all the other sectional champions. I wish you all luck at the state championship.

Knowing the past of Indian Creek, I know that rookie coach Brett Findley of Franklin had been a competitor for the swim club at Indian Creek. Seeing him coach his team to some amazing swims was cool. Congratulations coach Findley.

Now it is time to cheer Reese on at state and prepare for our own sectional meet.

It is a good part of the season, starting to taper and doing less yardage. The team had an awesome weekend and is super excited for the final two weeks.

Brad Vest is a senior on the Indian Creek High School boys swimming team. His Winter Sports Diary entries appear each week in the Daily Journal.

# CG wrestlers bounce back to perform well in regional

By KEN SEVERSON

DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

## MOORESVILLE

Center Grove wrestling coach Cale Hoover made a positive out of a negative earlier this week.

Hoover, whose Trojans were knocked out of the team wrestling tournament Wednesday by Avon, made sure his team had fun before the next practice.

"Our kids were devastated by that, and it was our job to fix it," Hoover said. "We played dodgeball and matball prior to practicing. That's when I saw the smiles and thought we could do well (Saturday)."

The play worked as Center Grove crowned three regional champions and will send seven wrestlers to Saturday's Evansville Semistate.

Winning for the Trojans: freshman Matt Milton (103 pounds), senior Blake Harvey (130) and sophomore Jerod Crump (135).

"This makes up for (losing to Avon)," Hoover said.

They weren't the only Johnson County wrestlers to be successful. Whiteland had two senior champions and four overall advance to the semistate, led by 119-pound Matt Fields, who, along with Travis Thomas (215), successfully defended his regional title.

Thomas was the heavyweight regional champ last season but dropped down a class so sophomore Jordan Sharp could wrestle at heavyweight. Thomas' gesture paid for Whiteland as Sharp also advanced to the semistate.

"Dropping weight doesn't make winning any easier, but it does make it great winning another

## IF YOU GO

**What:** IHSAA wrestling semistate

**Where:** Roberts Stadium in Evansville

**When:** Saturday; times TBA

**Admission:** \$6 for the final session; \$8 for all sessions

**Johnson County participants**

**Center Grove:** Matt Milton (103 pounds), Patrick Hersman (119), Matt Adams (125), Blake Harvey (130), Jerod Crump (135), Tony Zubia (145) and Shelby Mappes (160)

**Whiteland:** Matt Fields (119), Anthony Meister (130), Travis Thomas (215) and Jordan Sharp (Hvt.)

**Franklin:** Jae VanHorn (125), Brad Fox (189) and Calvin Johnson (215)

**Indian Creek:** Justin Cave (171) and Evan Lattimore (Hvt.)

weight division," Thomas said. "Even better is having Matt (Fields) win and getting two more teammates to advance. It makes for some good support."

Joining Thomas, Fields and Sharp was senior Anthony Meister (130), who took third. Fields improved to 34-1 with his championships.

"My matchups worked pretty well for me," said Fields, who was sixth in the state at 119 last year. "I'd like to make it to state a third time and move up a few more positions."

For Center Grove, freshman Patrick Hersman (third at 119), sophomore Matt Adams (third at 125), senior Tony Zubia (second at 145) and sophomore Shelby Mappes (second at 160) also will make the trip to the semistate.

Franklin, which didn't have an individual champion, advanced

three wrestlers: juniors Jae VanHorn (second at 125) and Brad Fox (second at 189) and senior Calvin Johnson (third at 215).

Indian Creek rounds out the Johnson County semistate contingent with junior Justin Cave (second at 171) and senior Evan Lattimore (second at heavyweight).

Harvey, who avenged a loss to Meister in the sectionals, won his first regional title but said he was happier for his teammates' fortunes than for himself.

"Honestly, I'm really excited for my team," Harvey said. "I'm really happy for Matt and Jerod, and to get everyone else to come along with me is great."

Milton had the easiest path to the championship of anyone. He recorded two pins and beat Plainfield's Dalton Boyer 9-0 in the final.

"I've dreamed of making it to state ever since I started wrestling," Milton said. "But it will be nice to go with my teammates."

Crump's win might have been the biggest surprise of the meet. He had lost to Martinsville sophomore Jordan Krulik twice this year, including a 7-1 loss at the sectional. This time, Crump stayed with Krulik, countering his every move before taking a 4-3 win.

"I haven't done too well against him before, but I knew what I needed to do against him to win," Crump said. "Am I surprised? Yes and no, but I do know that I had my best day so far. This win was awesome."

Hoover said there's still work to do but likes his group's chances of advancing to the state finals.

"Anything can happen," Hoover said.

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## Center Grove Soccer Club 2007 Spring Recreational League Registration

How to register: [www.centergrovesoccer.org](http://www.centergrovesoccer.org)

Deadline: March 24th

Age Groups:

4yrs through 16yrs (by Jan. 1st of this year)

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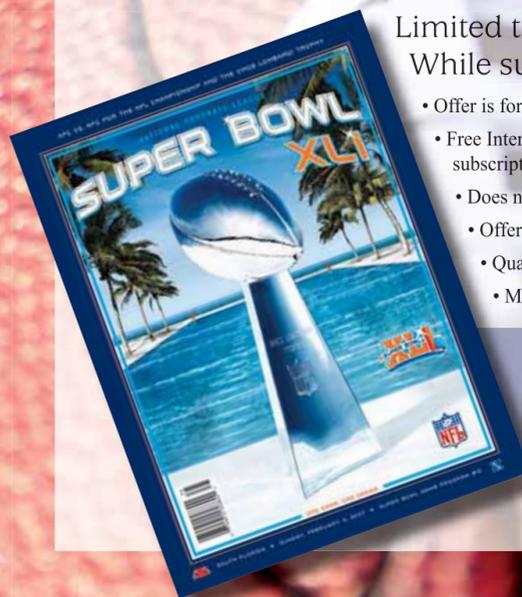
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