

## BOYS SECTIONALS AT A GLANCE

## Schedules

**Class 4A**  
At Franklin  
Today  
7 p.m. — Franklin (10-10) vs. Decatur Central (8-14)  
Wednesday  
6 p.m. — Center Grove (17-3) vs. Greenwood (3-17)  
7:30 p.m. — Perry Meridian (11-10) vs. Franklin Central (20-2)  
Friday  
6 p.m. — Southport (9-11) vs. Franklin/Decatur Central winner  
7:30 p.m. — Center Grove/Greenwood winner vs. Perry Meridian/Franklin Central winner  
Saturday  
7:30 p.m. — Championship

**Class 3A**  
At Whiteland  
Today  
6 p.m. — Beech Grove (14-5) vs. Chataud (15-6)  
7:30 p.m. — Washington (6-13) vs. Howe (10-8)  
Friday  
6 p.m. — Beech Grove/Chataud winner vs. Washington/Howe winner  
7:30 p.m. — Whiteland (7-14) vs. Roncalli (19-1)  
Saturday  
7:30 p.m. — Championship

**Class 2A**  
At Triton Central  
Today  
7 p.m. — Triton Central (5-14) vs. Heritage Christian (7-12)  
Wednesday  
6 p.m. — Park Tudor (10-11) vs. Speedway (5-14)  
7:30 p.m. — Indian Creek (11-10) vs. Scecina (4-15)  
Friday  
6 p.m. — Guerin Catholic (8-12) vs. Triton Central/Heritage Christian winner  
7:30 p.m. — Park Tudor/Speedway winner vs. Indian Creek/Scecina winner  
Saturday  
7:30 p.m. — Championship

**Class A**  
At Edinburgh  
Today  
7 p.m. — Morton Memorial (11-8) vs. Edinburgh (5-15)  
Wednesday  
6 p.m. — Morristown (11-9) vs. Greenwood Christian Academy (4-11)  
7:30 p.m. — Hauser (18-2) vs. Southwestern (Shelby) (7-11)  
Friday  
6 p.m. — Waldron (10-10) vs. Morton Memorial/Edinburgh winner  
7:30 p.m. — Morristown/Greenwood Christian Academy winner vs. Hauser/Southwestern winner  
Saturday  
7:30 p.m. — Championship

Class 4A  
At Franklin

Franklin Grizzly Cubs (10-10) vs. Decatur Central Hawks (8-14)  
7 tonight

About the Grizzly Cubs  
Coach: Dave Clark, in his 14th season at Franklin

Conference: Mid-State  
Home record: 7-2  
Road: 2-7

Neutral site: 1-1  
Conference: 5-1

Streak: One win  
Vs. sectional teams: 2-5

Sagarin rankings: 104th of 398 teams overall; 49th in strength of schedule

Of note: The Grizzly Cubs are the defending sectional champions. Franklin has won six sectional titles since 1994. The Grizzly Cubs have won four of their past five games. Franklin scored 64.0 points a game and allowed 64.3.

## About the Hawks

Decatur Central went 2-7 in its final nine regular-season games. The Hawks were 0-6 against teams in the Franklin Sectional. The Hawks are ranked 194th overall in the Sagarin rankings.



Center Grove Trojans (17-3) vs. Greenwood Woodmen (3-17)  
6 p.m. Wednesday

## About the Trojans

Coach: Cliff Hawkins, in his second season at Center Grove

Conference: Metropolitan Inter-scholastic  
Home record: 10-0  
Road: 5-3

Neutral site: 2-0  
Conference: 5-1

Streak: One loss  
Vs. sectional teams: 6-1

Sagarin rankings: Ninth of 398 teams overall; 23rd in strength of schedule

Of note: The Trojans put together a 12-game winning streak this season. Center Grove is looking for its first sectional title since 1994. The Trojans won 75-33 against sectional opponent Greenwood at home Dec. 22. Center Grove is averaging 65.8 points a game while allowing 54.3.

## About the Woodmen

Coach: Bruce Hensley, in his 18th season at Greenwood

Conference: Mid-State  
Home record: 2-7  
Road: 1-9

Neutral site: 0-1  
Conference: 1-5

Streak: Eight losses  
Vs. sectional teams: 1-4

Sagarin rankings: 292nd of 398 teams overall; 102nd in strength of schedule

Of note: Two of Greenwood's three wins were against Class A (Edinburgh) and Class 2A (Speedway) opponents. The Woodmen have not won a sectional game since 2003. Their most recent sectional championship was in 2002. Greenwood is scoring 49.5 points a game while allowing 63.4.

Class 3A  
At Whiteland

Whiteland Warriors (7-14) vs. Roncalli Rebels (19-1)  
7:30 p.m. Friday

About the Warriors  
Coach: Marty Johnson, in his first season at Whiteland

Conference: Mid-State  
Home record: 3-6  
Road: 2-7

Neutral site: 2-1  
Conference: 1-5

Streak: Three losses  
Vs. sectional teams: 0-2

Sagarin rankings: 186th of 398 teams overall; 113th in strength of schedule

Of note: Visiting Whiteland fell to sectional opponent Roncalli 55-33 on Dec. 8. The Warriors are looking for their first sectional championship since 2002. Whiteland is 1-6 in its past seven games. Four of the Warriors' wins came against Class 2A and Class A competition. Whiteland is averaging 48.9 points a game while allowing 50.7.

## About the Rebels

Coach: Michael Wantz, in his fifth season at Roncalli

Conference: Independent  
Home record: 8-0  
Road: 10-0

Neutral site: 1-1  
Streak: 10 wins

Vs. sectional teams: 5-0  
Sagarin rankings: 16th of 398 teams overall; 104th in strength of schedule

## Teams

Of note: The Rebels have an average winning margin of 18.1 points a game this season (62.3 points a game; 44.2 points a game allowed). Roncalli's only loss this season was 45-38 to Perry Meridian in the Marion County Tournament. The Rebels beat Perry Meridian 59-44 at home Feb. 17. Roncalli is the two-time defending sectional champion.

Class 2A  
At Triton Central

Indian Creek Braves (11-10) vs. Scecina Crusaders (4-15)  
7:30 p.m. Wednesday

About the Braves  
Coach: Rex Wilson, in his third season at Indian Creek

Conference: Mid-Hoosier  
Home record: 4-5  
Road: 7-3

Neutral site: 0-2  
Conference: 6-2

Streak: Three wins  
Vs. sectional teams: 1-3

Sagarin rankings: 238th of 398 teams overall; 256th in strength of schedule

Of note: Indian Creek has played up in class eight times this season, going 3-5 against Class 3A and Class 4A opponents. The Braves have won five of their past six games. Indian Creek's most recent sectional title was in 2000. The Braves are averaging 57.3 points a game while allowing 57.4.

## About the Crusaders

Scecina started the season 0-14. Of their four wins, three came against

Class A opponents (Indiana Deaf, Covenant Christian and International). Scecina has gone 0-3 against teams in the sectional. The Crusaders average 48.3 points a game while allowing 59.6. Scecina is 343rd overall in the Sagarin rankings.

Class A  
At Edinburgh

Morton Memorial Tigers (11-8) vs. Edinburgh Lancers (5-15)  
7 tonight

About the Lancers  
Coach: Curt Chase, in his first season at Edinburgh

Conference: Mid-Hoosier  
Home record: 3-8  
Road: 2-7

Neutral site: 0-0  
Conference: 1-7

Streak: One win  
Vs. sectional teams: 1-6

Sagarin rankings: 370th of 398 teams overall; 356th in strength of schedule

Of note: The visiting Lancers beat sectional foe Morton Memorial 70-62 on Dec. 12. Edinburgh has won four sectional games since 1994. The Lancers' most recent sectional championship was in 1973. Edinburgh is averaging 49.2 points a game while allowing 60.8.

## About the Tigers

Morton Memorial has won three of its past four games. The Tigers have gone 1-2 against teams in the sectional. The win was a 68-49 decision against visiting Greenwood Christian Academy on

Feb. 20. Morton Memorial has won just one sectional game since 1994. The Tigers are averaging 66.5 points a game while allowing 58.9. Morton Memorial is 385th overall in the Sagarin rankings.



Morristown Yellow Jackets (11-9) vs. Greenwood Christian Academy Cougars (4-11)  
6 p.m. Wednesday

About the Cougars  
Coach: Jamie Satre, in his first year at Greenwood Christian Academy

Conference: Independent  
Home record: 2-3  
Road: 2-6

Neutral: 0-2  
Streak: Three losses

Vs. sectional teams: 0-1  
Sagarin rankings: 396th of 398 teams overall; 398th in strength of schedule

Of note: The Cougars are playing in their first IHSAA sectional. Greenwood Christian went 1-3 against IHSAA member schools this season. The Cougars are averaging 48.8 points a game and are allowing 62.5. Greenwood Christian started the season with five straight losses.

## About the Yellow Jackets

Morristown is 8-2 in its past 10 games. The Yellow Jackets have gone 4-2 against teams in the sectional. Morristown seeks its first sectional championship since 2002. The Yellow Jackets are averaging 59.8 points a game while allowing 55.6. Morristown is ranked 237th overall in the Sagarin rankings.

## • Daniels

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1)

played six seasons for the Pacers and finished with career per game averages of 16 points and 19.4 rebounds.

His most memorable game occurred March 18, 1969, when he had 37 points and 26 rebounds — in the second half — against the New York Nets.

He finished with 56 points and 31 rebounds in a performance indicative of why he's one of only four former Pacers players to have his jersey (No. 34) retired. Reggie Miller, Roger Brown and George McGinnis are the others. Brown and McGinnis were Daniels' teammates.

"I was fortunate enough to play with some very, very good people," said Daniels, who finished his career with the NBA's New York Nets in 1977 but has always remained a Pacer at heart.

Thirty years after his playing days ended, he still regards the ABA Pacers as the best in pro basketball at the time. And he makes no apology to the NBA for his opinion.

"Was it a long time ago? Yes. Does it seem like a long time ago? No, because I was fortunate enough to participate in the early Pacers," Daniels said. "I think we've been overlooked a little bit. We were the class of the league. We were the class of both leagues.

"Everybody wanted to play for us. We won three championships. ... We didn't

make as much money (as today's players), but we had a hell of a lot of fun."

Echoing a sentiment often voiced by former teammates, Daniels attributes the Pacers' ABA success to a rare camaraderie the organization and others still strive for.

Players were close on and off the court, the product of former coach Bobby "Slick" Leonard's influence.

Leonard not only insisted players become friends, he often joined in the off-court revelry.

"Those types of things are put in motion by the guys you have in charge, and Slick was that type of guy," Daniels said. "After every game, you had to go to a bar and spend a half-hour or 45 minutes together. That was every game. It was something that he installed, and all of a sudden it became a part of the Indiana Pacers.

"We spent time with one another, and that's how we became closer. And in order to play for the Indiana Pacers, you had to understand the rules, that this is a team and this is a family, and if one person was hurt, you hurt everybody. So he set the tone for us."

Although recent events don't always reflect it, the Pacers' mission has never changed with regard to the roster. The goal is not only to find talented players, but talented players who mesh and forge a championship bond.

Indiana had that sort of chemistry during the ABA years and throughout most of the 1990s and early 2000s.

Daniels is confident the Pacers are on the cusp of having it again.

"These younger guys are getting it now," he said. "They're finally trying to get that feel. Jermaine (O'Neal) has been above everyone's expectations.

"He's matured into a leader. He's maturing into a leader and a guy who holds everybody responsible."

When Daniels isn't scouring the country for future talent, he spends time on his horse farm in Sheridan with his wife, CeCe.

Daniels grew up in urban Detroit but always had an interest in horses. His interest blossomed into passion when he played basketball at the University of New Mexico, when he vowed to own a horse if he could ever afford to.

"I've kind of taken that to another level. I have 15," said Daniels, who raises and trains the animals on his farm. "I love them. I absolutely love them. They're athletes who don't require a contract. They give you everything they have.

"All you have to do is take care of them."

But basketball and the Pacers are Daniels' first true loves with regard to vocation. He holds each in equally high regard and vows the team will again contend for a championship, sooner rather than later.

"I identify with the Pacers in a family way," Daniels said. "It's part of who I am, being associated with the team that long, and I'm very passionate about the Indiana Pacers.

"We'll get this thing back to where it was when I played. I know it's crazy, but it can be done."

## THE DANIELS FILE

Name: Mel Daniels

Occupation: Director of player personnel, Indiana Pacers

Age: 62

Hometown: Detroit

College: New Mexico (1964-67)

Pro career: Was the No. 1 draft pick of the NBA's Cincinnati Royals in 1967; was also drafted by the ABA's Minnesota Muskies, whom he signed with; played his rookie season with Minnesota and was the league's first Rookie of the Year; was traded to the Pacers for their second season in 1968-69 and played with the team through the 1973-74 season; was a member of all three of the Pacers' ABA championship teams; was a seven-time ABA All-Star and was MVP of the 1971 All-Star Game; was the ABA's MVP in 1969 and 1971; is the ABA's all-time leader in total rebounds (9,494) and rebounding average (15.1 a game); averaged 19.4 points and 16 rebounds during six ABA seasons in Indiana; finished his career in 1976-77 following a brief stint with the NBA's New York Nets

Post-playing career: Served as an assistant men's basketball coach at Indiana State University from 1978-82; was a member of the Sycamores' 1978-79 33-1 NCAA championship runner-up team; joined the Pacers' front office in 1986; is one of only four former Pacers players to have his jersey (No. 34) retired; in 1999, he was named one of the 50 greatest players to have played basketball in Indiana.

Personal: Lives with his wife, CeCe, in Sheridan at the couple's Circle M Ranch, where he trains horses; he lists his favorite horses as At Ease, Keep, Eddie's Webb and Sauce.

## • Martin

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1)

since Sept. 22, 2002, and has forced him to examine if he's really ready to get out of the racecar.

When he climbed from behind the wheel Sunday, he was adamant that he will not be behind the wheel next month at Bristol. That hadn't changed Monday, but Martin was a lot less convincing.

"I can, as of right now, say I am fine with things," Martin said. "I can't say how I will feel after Atlanta (March 18). I know I don't want to run for the championship this year."

A four-time championship runner-up, Martin is considered the greatest driver never to win a title. He accepted long ago that he'll never hoist the Cup and refuses to spend the end of his career fruitlessly chasing one.

"I am at peace with the hardware part, the trophy part, I didn't earn one, and now I don't want to chase one," he said. "I want to move on to the next chapter."

That's how he was able to leave Roush Racing after 19 seasons and an intensely close relationship with owner Jack Roush. It led him to Ginn, a reborn team under new ownership that was willing to give Martin all the flexibility in the world to get him inside the shop.

## • Pressure

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1)

boosted by the late-season run.

"We're on a roll. We feel like we can play with anybody. We feel like we could win it," Moss said. "We have to defend our title. But regular season is over now; it's a new season. It's time to really play now."

Franklin lost to Decatur Central in the third game of the season, and the Cubs have a 2-5 record against sectional opponents.

Second chances and renewed acquaintances will be common this week.

Edinburgh opens sectional play against Morton Memorial, a team the Lancers beat by eight points this season. But Edinburgh's victory against Morton Memorial is its only win against a sectional opponent in seven tries this season.

The team to beat in Edinburgh's sectional is defending Class A state champion Hauser.

Edinburgh (5-15) has played second-ranked Hauser (18-2) twice this season and lost by 43 and 41 points.

But Chase isn't concerning himself with the defending state champs. He's focused on beating Morton Memorial, a team Edinburgh led by 25 points before hanging on for an eight-point victory.

"Anything can happen on any given night, and in our sectional, there are some teams we feel we can compete with and beat,"

Chase said. "If you get to the championship game, anything can happen."

Indian Creek hasn't won a sectional title since 2000, but at 11-10 the Braves are the only team in the Class 2A Triton Central Sectional with a winning record.

The Braves have won five of their past six games. While Wilson said the team's recent play has raised confidence levels and provided momentum, he's still wary to call his team the favorite.

"We lost to Guerin Catholic, Triton Central and Heritage Christian," he said. "Even though we might have the best record going in, we lost to three of the four sectional opponents we played."

Tuesday's sectional opener at Edinburgh will be the first for Chase, who expects to be nervous before tip-off. He also has a roster full of state tournament novices.

His message: Relax.

"It's still a 32-minute game," he said. "Usually everybody is OK after the ball goes up; but until that time, there will be a lot of nerves on both sides. But you've played 20 games already and just do what you've been doing all year."

## Got news?

Tell us about it.

Call 736-2712

with news tips.

Our funeral home and cemetery are together so your family can be together.



FOREST LAWN  
MEMORY GARDENS & FUNERAL HOME

1977 S. State Road 135 • Greenwood  
(317) 535-9003

©2001 Adfinity

Funeral Home and Cemetery ... Together.