

Geri Che

B.J. Bowman of Central trains for the upcoming sectional.

## Divers learning quickly for Tigers

**W**hat started as a fleeting interest for Jeremiah Fuller and Chris Lane has brought greater success to Yorktown's swimming and diving program this season.

Fuller and Lane, both juniors, are participating in their first year on Yorktown's diving team. In fact, both are diving competitively for the first time.

"It's been remarkable," Yorktown Coach Pam Swander said. "They've never dove before this season, but they have done a great job and their interest in the sport is increasing every meet. They've come a long way this year."

Each diver decided to join the team for different reasons, according to Swander.

Lane, whose main sport is gymnastics, discovered that the components and fundamentals involved in diving would benefit his skills as a gymnast.

"His first interest is gymnastics," Swander said. "But he thought diving could help him out and improve his skills in that sport."

Fuller, on the other hand, decided to come out for the team on a recommendation from a teacher.

Fuller was enrolled in Yorktown's aquatics foundation class last year.

After doing a little diving in the class, he was told by the teacher he should consider diving competitively and trying out for Yorktown's team.

The aquatics foundation course is a prerequisite to Yorktown's life-saving class. The course involves participating in many different water activities and sports.

"I guess he showed some talent in that class," Swander said. "He impressed the teacher and he recommended for Jeremiah to come out for the diving team."

Despite being in their first year of diving competition, Swander said both athletes are setting high goals and taking the sport seriously.

### BOYS SWIMMING



Ruh Weir



Griffey Fillman

"They're already talking about breaking the school record and working on their diving this summer," said Swander. "That is really encouraging because we've never really had divers score key points here. They really help us in meets because they can score points where we used to not have any."

"They get frustrated when they don't do well," she added. "But what they have to remember is that this is their first year."

Swander said the diving tandem has been a key in Yorktown attaining an 8-2 dual meet mark this season.

Lane and Fuller have concentrated on staying competitive with other area divers.

Fuller was 13th and Lane 15th in Saturday's Central diving invitational. Central's Ryan Fillman, a freshman, was the top local finisher in the event with a 422.40, good for second place overall.

Fillman, Lane and Fuller will all meet up again Tuesday as

# 18 local swimmers qualify for state meet

Four local schools will send 18 athletes to this weekend's IHSAA state finals swim meet in the UPIU natatorium.

The list includes three multiple qualifiers — Delta's Shawn Brooks, Central's B.J. Bowman and Jay County's Chuck Aker — and a record-setting freshman diver.

Brooks placed first in the 50- and 100-yard freestyles and led Delta to its fourth straight sectional title at Jay County. Brooks also swam for the winning 400 freestyle relay.

Bowman set school, pool and sectional records when he captured the 50 freestyle in 21.72 seconds at the Richmond Sectional. Bowman also placed first in the 100 butterfly and swam on the winning 200 freestyle relay.

Central finished behind sectional champion and Anderson Highland.

Aker won in the 200 and 400 freestyles for the second consecutive year. He also will swim for Jay County's 200 medley relay at the state meet.

Delta's Tony Weir also qualified after a first-place finish in the 100 backstroke.

Freshman Ryan Fillmann topped his Central diving record with 430.85 points and qualified for state after finishing second at the Richmond Sectional meet.

Mike Dudley gave New Castle a winner when he captured the 100 breaststroke.

Paul Lewman of Delta finished first in diving at Jay County and advanced to the state meet.

Central 200 freestyle relay members Luke Crawley, Dan Griffey and Josh Jones will join Bowman at the state meet.

Two Delta relays will compete at state, with Tim Baty, Nathan Jackson, Jason Kirby and Casey Maumaw joining Brooks and Kirby on those teams.

RICHMOND SECTIONAL

Team scores — Richmond 269, Anderson Highland 203, Muncie Central 186, Anderson 182, Yorktown 173, Connersville 107, New Castle 102, Anderson Madison Heights 56, Hogartown 42, Muncie Southside 22, Centerville 22, Muncie Sports 5.

Local place-winners 200 medley relay — 3. Yorktown (Matt Seider, Mike Lindsay, Jeff Melander, Chris Taylor), 1:46.00; 4. New Castle (Ross Shaver, Adam Cloc, Mark Dudley, Michael Dudley), 1:47.22; 5. Muncie Central (Kelly Hatt, Luke Crawley, Michael Finger, Drew Toivonen), 1:48.38; 9. Muncie South (Adam Anderson, Tim Knopp, Donnie McCoy, Josh Thomas), 1:53.07.

200 freestyle — 6. Brent Schneider (Y), 1:51.40; 9. John Gibson (Y), 1:57.01; 10. Kerry Hatt (MC), 1:57.61. 200 individual medley — 3. Matt Seider (Y), 2:09.00; 4. Daniel Griffey (MC), 2:13.23; 5. Michael Dudley (MC), 2:15.06; 10. Doug Branscome (Y), 2:15.57; 11. Matt Nickelson (MB), 2:15.90; Mike Lindsay (Y), disqualified.

50 freestyle — 1. Brad Bowman (MC), 21.72 (pool record); 6. Mike Pellissier (Y), 22.82; 8. Josh Jones (MC), 23.29; 10. Chris Taylor (Y), 23.61; 12. Adam Cloc (MC), 24.22.

Diving — 2. Ryan Fillman (MC), 430.85; 7. Chris Lane (Y), 304.40; 8. Jason Nolley (MC), 300.15; 9. Michael Marum (MC), 296.20; 10. Adam Bertram (MC), 288.40.

100 butterfly — 1. Brad Bowman (MC) 52.52; 6. Chris Taylor (Y), 58.47; 8. Mike Lindsay (Y), 1:01.29; 9. Andrew Payne (MC), 1:01.34; 11. William Atkinson (NC), 1:02.12; 12. Ryan Morrell (Y), 1:02.30.

100 freestyle — 5. Mike Pellissier (Y), 50.65; 7. Brent Schneider (Y), 49.97; 9. Josh Jones (MC), 51.91; 11. Luke Crawley (MC), 52.35.

500 freestyle — 6. Cliff Rector (MC), 5:18.95; 8. Kerry Hatt (MC), 5:23.25; 9. John Gibson (Y), 5:24.58; 10. Gordon Heck (MC), 5:25.29.

200 freestyle relay — 1. Muncie Central (Brad Bowman, Luke Crawley, Josh Jones, Daniel Griffey), 1:30.87; 4. Yorktown (Matt Seider, Brent Schneider, Chris Taylor, Mike Pellissier), 1:32.55; 10. Muncie South (Adam Anderson, Tim Knopp, James Brown, Josh Thomas), 1:41.52; 11. New Castle (W. Atkinson, Karim Gros, Cliff Rector, David Rains), 1:44.32.

100 backstroke — 3. Jeff Melander (Y), 59.95; 4. Kelly Hatt (MC), 1:00.52; 9. Adam Cloc (MC), 1:02.22; 10. Andrew Dugan (MC), 1:02.67; 11. Mark Dudley (MC), 1:02.85; 12. Cory Martin (MC), 1:03.92; Donnie McCoy (MS), disqualified.

100 breaststroke — 1. Mike Dudley (MC), 1:02.65; 3. Matt Seider (Y), 1:05.01; 4. Karim Gros (MC), 1:06.89; 10. Matt Nickelson (MB), 1:07.96; 12. Ryan Robertson (MC), 1:08.84.

400 freestyle relay — 3. Muncie Central (Bowman, Crawley, Jones, Toivonen), 3:25.36; 5. Yorktown (Gibson, Lindsay, Schneider, Pellissier), 3:26.06; 7. New Castle (Rains, Cloc, Dudley, Shaver), 3:38.99; 9. Muncie South (McCoy, Brown, Randy Conotzer, Shannon Martin), 3:51.10.

## JAY COUNTY SECTIONAL

Team scores — Delta 324, Jay County 205, Belmont 182, Norwell 160, Oak Hill 138, Bluffton 99, Marion 82, Adams Central 57, Huntington North 51, South Adams 45, Blackford 23.

Local place-winners 200 medley relay — 1. Jay County (Chuck Aker, Scott Aker, Robert Drago, Brian Weaver), 1:45.37; 2. Delta (Nate Milligan, Jason Morris, John Schofer, Tony Weir), 1:46.34.

200 freestyle — 1. Shawn Brooks (D), 1:50.55; 2. Brad Smith (J), 1:51; 6. Andy Wallace (D), 2:02.60; 7. Casey Mumaw (D), 1:55.96; 8. Greg Fisher (J), 1:59.57.

200 IM — 3. Jason Kirby (D), 2:12.45; 6. Brian Weaver (J), 2:16.28; 8. Jeremy Damm (D), 2:17.63; 10. Jason Morris (D), 2:17.84.

50 freestyle — 1. Chuck Aker (J), 22.66; 2. Nathan Jackson (D), 22.78; 9. Scott Miller (J), 24.40; 11. Scott Aker (J), 24.94. 50 freestyle — 1. C. Aker (J), 22.66; 3. Jackson (D), 23.20; 9. Scott Miller (J), 24.40; 5. Aker (J), 24.94.

Diving — 2. Paul Lewman (D), 374.15; 5. Eric Baty (D), 299.55; 12. Jason Peterson (J), 250.35.

100 butterfly — 2. Weaver (J), 57.76; 3. Tony Weir (D), 57.96; 5. John Schofer (D), 1:01.65; 6. Zac Rowles (J), 1:04.23; 8. Doug Fitzgerald (D), 1:05.16.

100 freestyle — 1. C. Aker (J), 50.01; 3. Jackson (D), 51.51; 6. Tim Baty (D), 53.03; 7. Jason Kirby (D), 52.29; 11. Greg Fisher (J), 53.82; 12. Miller (J), 54.31.

500 freestyle — 2. Brad Smith (J), 5:09.14; 3. Casey Mumaw (D), 5:12.12; 4. Andy Wallace (D), 5:28.66; 7. Brian Ruh (D), 5:28.73.

200 freestyle relay — 1. Delta (Tim Baty, Nathan Jackson, Jason Kirby, Tony Weir), 1:33.10; 2. Jay County (Chuck Aker, Scott Miller, Brad Smith, Greg Fisher), 1:33.23.

100 backstroke — 1. Brooks (D), 57.66; 4. Morris (D), 1:00.78; 6. S. Aker (J), 1:02.07; 10. Scott Jacobs (D), 1:03.17; 12. David Bremer (J), 1:06.12.

100 breaststroke — 1. Tony Weir (D), 1:04.49; Robert Drago (J), 1:06.02; 4. Nate Hillman (D), 1:07.12; 8. John Schofer (D), 1:10.71.

400 freestyle relay — 1. Delta (Shawn Brooks, Nathan Jackson, Jason Kirby, Casey Mumaw), 3:28.03; 3. Jay County (David Bremer, Greg Fisher, Scott Miller, Brad Smith), 3:35.06.

## SWIM

Continued from page 16

Yorktown and Central clash in a dual meet.

This is the final week of regular-season meets for teams as swim sectionals begin Feb. 17.

Swander said Lane and Fuller's development will continue this summer when both plan to dive with the "Wingers Springers" club team.

The Wingers, coached by Central diving Coach Tonya Wingfield and her husband John Wingfield, who is Ball State's coach, compete during the summer.

A 119-56 pounding of Anderson Madison Heights last week brought plenty of fun and improved times to Delta. But a meet with Kokomo this Tuesday is taking a different tone for the Eagles. "That meet will probably just be a good experience for us," Coach Tom Devine said. "Kokomo is a really good team and is probably out of our reach. They are certainly a top program." The Kokomo meet is Senior Night for the Eagles, as they will honor their two senior veterans, Jason Kirby and Jason Morris. However, Kirby might not swim in the meet because of a case of strep throat. Kirby did not swim last week and Devine said he hopes the senior can return by Thursday's meet with Huntington North. Delta (10-1) won its own invitational Saturday, beating out Yorktown, Jay County and Pendleton Heights. Devine said swimmers Brian Ruh, Tony Weir, Andy Wallace and Morris turned in excellent performances at the invite. "All these guys took time drops and swam well," Devine said. "It was a really good day for us overall." Devine said he was also pleased with the Eagles' divers, Paul Lewman and Eric Baty, in this weekend's Central Invitational. Lewman and

Baty finished sixth and 14th, respectively.

Central's Ryan Fillman put another feather in his cap Saturday, this time breaking a school record in the 11-dive Central Invitational. Fillman, a freshman, scored a 422.40 in the eight-team diving tournament, breaking the old school record in that event of 409.5 by Mike Shelton in 1989. Fillman finished second overall in the competition to Richmond's Josh Davis, who notched a 431.70. Central (8-1) lost its first meet of the season last week to North Central Conference power Richmond. The Bearcats rebounded with a 134-51 victory over Marion Thursday. "We swam really well," Coach Bob Chico said. "We used a lot of younger swimmers, gave our older guys a break. And the younger kids responded very well, especially in the distance events." He singled out the efforts of B.J. Bowman, Dan Griffey and Gordon Heck. Central swims against Yorktown Tuesday. Before the meet, a ceremony will honor the Bearcats' eight senior members.

Southside Coach John Phillips is hoping he sees some personal improvements from his swimmers as the regular season concludes this week. "I've challenged them to beat their best times this week," Phillips said. "We just want to improve ourselves at this point." Phillips said senior Donnie McCoy is still shooting for the school record in the 100 backstroke. In a loss to Hamilton Southeastern last week, McCoy recorded a 101.3 in the event, just off the six-year-old record of 101.0. "He promised me he would break the record this week and I'm trying everything I can to help him do it," Phillips said. The Rebels swim against Noblesville and New Castle this week. Phillips also singled out the efforts of senior Jeremy Coulter, a diver and breaststroker, who is still improving after joining the team in midseason.

# Bowman earns spot in national swimming event

## Fillman places second in diving

INDIANAPOLIS — B.J. Bowman capped his high school swimming career with a strong state meet that qualified him for national competition next month.

The Muncie Central senior placed second in the 50 freestyle at the IHSAA state swimming and diving meet Saturday at the IU Natatorium.

Bowman swam the event in 21.28 seconds to break his own school record for the third time this season. Winner Ben Christofel of Wawasee was timed in :20.94.

Bowman's time qualified him for the National Junior Olympics meet in Ann Arbor, Mich., in late March. He will compete with about 80 other swimmers in that event.

"It all came together for him at the right time," Central Coach Bob Chico said of Bowman's state-meet performance.

Swimming in the consolation finals in the 100 butterfly, Bowman turned in a time of :52.12 that was better than the time of four swimmers in the finals.

The time also was the second best in Central school history, trailing only the :52.02 of record-holder Walker Marsh.

Bowman teamed with freshman Luke Crawley and juniors Josh Jones and Dan Griffey for a 12th-place finish in the 200 freestyle relay.

Central's Ryan Fillman completed an outstanding freshman season with a second-place finish in 1-meter diving. He totalled 436.40 points to 446.05 for champion Joe Rice of Chesterton.

"[Fillman] was very consistent except for one dive near the beginning of the competition," Chico said. "At that level, that's what you have to be."

Central finished 15th in the team race with 53 points. It wasn't the Bearcats' best state-meet finish, but it was satisfying to Chico.



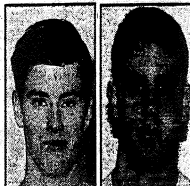
Bowman

Fillman



Crawley

Jones



Griffey

Lewman

"It's our highest finish with the fewest number of people," he said. "We were very much focused on the meet and very much prepared for it."

Delta junior Paul Lewman finished 21st in diving. In the second cutdown, he finished 1.15 points short of advancing to the next round.

Carmel won its fifth consecutive state championship by scoring 288 points. The Greyhounds' 150-point triumph over runner-up Wawasee broke the state record for largest margin of victory.

Carmel's Jason Lancaster broke the national high school record in winning the 200 individual medley in 1:46.9. He also competed on the Greyhounds' 200 and 400 relay teams that broke state record times, and his winning time of :49.39 in the 100 butterfly tied the state record.

Andy Krider of Wawasee won the Herman F. Keller mental attitude award.

# Bowman, Fillman lead Central in state swimming, diving meet

By CHUCK LANDIS

Evening Press sports writer

Two Central participants may have the best hopes of high finishes at this weekend's IHSAA swimming and diving meet in Indianapolis.

Record-setters B.J. Bowman in the 50-yard freestyle and 100 butterfly and Ryan Fillman in diving will spearhead what Central hopes is another top 20 team finish at the meet.

Swim preliminaries begin at 6:30 this evening in the IUPUI natatorium. On Saturday, Diving prelims begin at 9 a.m. with the semifinals at 1 p.m.

The swim and diving finals and consolations begin at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$6 for both sessions and \$5 for each individual session.

The local area advanced 17 competitors to the state meet and 15 will see action this evening.

Bowman swam a school-record in the 50 freestyle record of 21.72 seconds at last Saturday's Richmond Sectional meet. The time also set pool and meet records.

Fillman, only a freshman, has eclipsed both the six-dive (289.45) and 11-dive (430.85) records this



Bowman

Fillman

season. He established the latter mark at the sectional.

"B.J. is seeded fifth in the 50 [freestyle] and fourth in the butterfly and Ryan we just don't know," Central Coach Bob Chico said this morning. "With diving it is hard to say . . . kind of like the [Olympic] figure skating that is going on now."

"But both have good opportunities and both are feeling good right now."

Central's 200 freestyle relay team of Bowman, Luke Crawley, Dan Griffey and Josh Jones has the 13th seeding. "We will really have to hustle [to place] in that one," Chico said.

Last year Central placed 23rd and ended a string of six consecutive years with top 20 finishes.

The best finish since Chico became coach was eighth place several years ago.

"We would have to absolutely swim our best, but if everyone does, we have a chance to be in the top 20," Chico said.

Other schools competing:

■ DELTA: Shawn Brooks qualified in two individual events, the 200 freestyle and 100 backstroke, and also competes on the 400 freestyle relay. Brooks' best seeding is 27th in the freestyle.

Other members of the 400 relay are Nathan Jackson, Jason Kirby and Casey Maunaw. Delta's 200 freestyle relay also qualified and team members are Jackson, Kirby, Tony Weir and Tim Baty.

Weir also competes in the 100 breaststroke and Paul Lewman competes in diving.

■ JAY COUNTY: Chuck Aker competes in the 50 and 100 freestyles and is a member of the 200 medley relay. Other relay members are Scott Aker, Robert Dragoo and Brian Weaver.

■ NEW CASTLE: Michael Dudley competes in the 100 breaststroke and is seeded 22nd.