

'Cats plan to be in sectional hunt

Last spring, Central captured the school's first Richmond Sectional boys swimming and diving championship.

If the Bearcats are going to repeat as champions, they will have to perform above the pre-meet seedings.

"On the basis of seedings, we're third," Central Coach Bob Chico said. "Anderson is first and Richmond is second, with Anderson

BOYS SWIMMING

Highland fourth."

The sectional begins at 5:30 p.m. Thursday in Richmond's pool.

Other teams in the 11-school field will be Yorktown, Southside, Anderson Madison Heights, Centerville, Connersville, Hagerstown and New Castle.

Richmond won the North Central Conference meet this spring

by one-half point over Central. Anderson finished fourth in that meet.

"We'll have to do well across the board (to win the sectional title)," Chico said. "That's how we did it last year - good depth. We're a little bit lighter this year, but everybody swims their best, we have a good shot at it."

Central is seeded No. 1 in the 200 medley relay at 1:43.28 with

See SWIM / Page 18

Continued from page 15
Gordon Heck, Adam Cairns, Anthony Ellison and Mike Pinger.

Heck also is the top seed in the 200 individual medley in 2:07.76. Luke Crawley is seeded No. 1 in the 50 freestyle in :22.54.

There are no seedings in diving, but Central's Ryan Fillmann, the defending state champion, is the sectional favorite.

Teammate Casey Staton also could finish among the top four divers and advance to the new diving regional, which will be 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at Kokomo. The top eight divers from the regional advance on to the state meet.

In other events, the first-place finisher moves on to the state meet, along with others who meet a state standard.

No. 2 seeds for Central include Crawley in the 100 free (50.14); Heck in the 100 backstroke (56.18); Cairns in the 100 breaststroke (1:05.21); and the 200 free relay team (1:32.62).

"We're not sure yet who's going to be on that team, but it's probably Crawley, Pinger, Nick Rundell and Geoff Kallen," Chico said.

State's top divers still can't catch Fillmann

Ryan Fillmann took another step this past weekend on his path toward another state diving championship.

The Central junior placed first in the elite North Central High School Diving Invitational in

BOYS SWIMMING

Indianapolis. "I think North Central invited 27 divers, and 23 of the top divers in the state showed up," Central Coach Bob Chico said.

Chico said the meet included the prime challengers for the IHSAA state championship, a title won by Fillmann last year.

Fillmann amassed an 11-dive total of 447.50 points in the invitational.

That score is seven points less than his North Central Conference-record performance last month, and it's also a little short of his personal-best total of 463.70.

Central sophomore Casey Staton took 13th place in the invitational with a score of 287.25.

Fillmann and Staton combined to earn first place in the team competition. Two Valparaiso divers combined for second place, and two Pike divers took third.

Also last week, Fillmann broke his own dual-meet diving record at Central with a 326.50 score.

The major event on the horizon for local swimming teams is the sectional, which will be Thursday and Saturday of next week. Central, Southside and Yorktown are among



Kurt Hostetter
Ryan Fillmann rehearses a move prior to diving in a recent meet.

the teams in the Richmond Sectional, while Delta and Jay County are in the Jay County Sectional. There could be a shakeup in the sectional sites next year. Six more schools in Indiana are adding swim teams, and the tournament series is being realigned.

Central finished its dual-meet season with a 7-2 record and placed second in the North Central Conference meet. The Bearcats feature a young corps of versatile swimmers. For the past five years, Coach Bob Chico has inducted his swimmers into his Million Dollar Club if they swim every possible event in competition sometime during the season. This year, all 20 swimmers on the roster will qualify for the club - a 100 percent sweep for the first time. The Million Dollar Club members are ranked in order of their aggregate time for all of the events. The leader is junior Gordon Heck at 16 minutes, 48 seconds. Sophomore Nick Rundell is second at 17:06, and junior Luke Crawley is third at 17:15.

Delta hosts Huntington North in the last regular-season meet on Thursday evening. It will be Senior Night for the Eagles. Andy Wallace, Casey Mumaw, Marc Geelhoed, Jeremy Dann and David Harkness will be honored. Delta beat Blackford and Madison Heights easily last week, then lost on Saturday against Kokomo.

See SWIM / Page 19



Kurt Hostetter

Gordon Heck of Central performs the backstroke leg of the 200 individual medley.

Relay success keeps 'Cats in title contention

By ERICH WILLIAMS
Evening Press sports writer

RICHMOND, Ind. — Muncie Central boys swimming Coach Bob Chico said his Bearcats thrive under adverse conditions.

If that is the case, Central should be in pretty

good shape when the Richmond Sectional finals take place at 2 p.m. Saturday in Tiano Pool.

Richmond and Central each advanced 14 swimmers to the finals and eight qualified for the consolation rounds after preliminary round action Thursday night.

Anderson will be represented by 13 swimmers in the finals and eight in the consolations.

When the three teams met at the North Central Conference meet earlier this season, Richmond edged Central by one-half point and Anderson was not far behind in fourth place.

"Anderson and Richmond have to be ahead of us," Chico said. "It will be difficult to overcome them, but not impossible. We

thrive on that adversity."

One other local team, Yorktown, will have finalists in five events and five swimmers in consolation competition.

With four first-place and four second-place finishes, Central is in the position to repeat as sectional champion. But the Bearcats also could wind up as low as third.

Central dominated the relay events by taking first in the 200-yard medley and 200-yard freestyle and grabbing second in the 400-yard freestyle.

"Our relays did really well tonight," Chico said. Junior Luke Crawley and sophomore Adam Cairns added to Central's success with first-place

finishes in the 50-yard freestyle and 100-yard breaststroke, respectively.

Junior Gordon Heck and sophomore Nick Rundell contributed to all of Central's runner-up spots.

"Gordon did an excellent job for us tonight," Chico said. "Nick also had a great night by swimming some of his best times."

Both swimmers were members of the second-place 400-yard freestyle relay group. Rundell had a personal best time by taking second in the 100-yard butterfly.

Heck obtained No. 2 positions in the 100-yard backstroke and 200-yard individual medley.

The Bearcats received four

fourth-place slots, one fifth-place and one sixth-place positions. Four of Central's eight consolation swimmers are ranked either seventh or eighth.

"Overall, I was pretty pleased with our results," Chico said.

Despite finishing one spot out of the consolation

Continued from page 21

round in four different events, the same could be said for Yorktown.

"Realistically, we placed as well as we could expect for our seventh-place finish in the 400-yard freestyle relay," Yorktown Coach Pam Swander said. "If they gave an award for 13th place, we would win sectional."

In the 100-yard butterfly, sophomore Ryan Jaromin snatched sixth for Yorktown.

Yorktown's 200-yard medley relay squad landed in sixth place.

Junior Todd Rowlett turned in the Tiger's top performance with a fourth-place finish in the 500-yard freestyle. He also was sixth in the 200-yard freestyle.

"I know Todd will race hard again on Saturday," Swander said. "I was pretty pleased with our times. We swam real well."

Matt Arbogast will be Southside's lone representative Saturday as the sophomore received 12th place for his 100-yard breaststroke time.

RICHMOND SECTIONAL

200 medley relay — 1. Muncie Central, 1:45:31; 2. Richmond, 1:46:04; 3. Anderson Highland, 1:47:08; 4. Connersville, 1:48:04; 5. Yorktown, 1:49:06; 6. Anderson, 1:52:74.

200 freestyle — 1. John Retrum (Anderson), 1:48:98; 2. John Hubbard (New Castle), 1:52:24; 3. Andy O'Maley (Richmond), 1:52:62; 4. Brian Jacot (Richmond), 1:53:11; 5. Nick Rundell (Muncie Central), 1:53:30; 6. Todd Rowlett (Yorktown), 1:53:71.

200 individual medley — 1. Matt Tracy (Anderson), 2:06:42; 2. Gordon Heck (Muncie Central), 2:08:73; 3. Whitney (Richmond), 2:10:76; 4. John Bowles (Muncie Central), 2:13:10; 5. Josh Pyzik (Anderson Highland), 2:13:70; 6. Andy Barick (Anderson Highland), 2:14:25.

50 freestyle — 1. Luke Crawley (Muncie Central), 23:00; 2. David Rains (New Castle), 23:01; 3. John Haven (Anderson), 23:33; 4. Mike Pfuger (Muncie Central), 23:51; 5. Matt Sabine (Richmond), 23:58; 6. Josh Alfrey (Anderson), 23:54.

100 butterfly — 1. M. Williams (Richmond), 55:81; 2. Nick Rundell (Muncie Central), 57:17; 3. Jim Lindzy (Anderson Highland), 57:63; 4. Andy O'Maley (Richmond), 57:81; 5. K. Conley (Richmond), 58:00; 6. Ryan Jaromin (Yorktown), 59:42.

100 freestyle — 1. David Rahn (New Castle), 50:06; 2. John Haven (Anderson), 50:47; 3. Matt Sabine (Richmond), 50:83; 4. Luke Crawley (Muncie Central), 51:11; 5. Josh Hubbard (New Castle), 51:40; 6. Josh Alfrey (Anderson), 51:53.

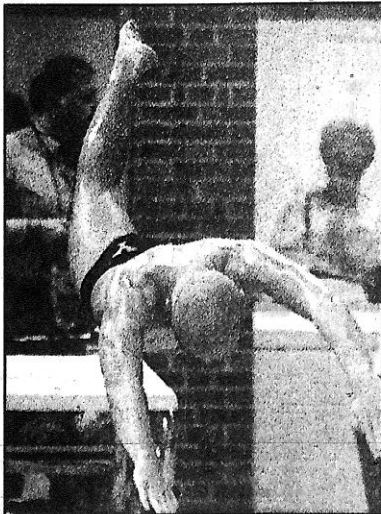
500 freestyle — 1. John Retrum (Anderson), 3:53:88; 2. Brian Jacot (Richmond), 5:04:50; 3. Brent Norris (Anderson Highland), 5:11:18; 4. Todd Rowlett (Yorktown), 5:12:38; 5. Matt King (Anderson), 5:14:80; 6. J. Kemmerling (Richmond), 5:24:25.

200 freestyle relay — 1. Muncie Central, 1:53:73; 2. Anderson, 1:54:00; 3. Richmond, 1:56:28; 4. Hagerstown, 1:58:52; 5. Connersville, 1:57:88; 6. Yorktown, 1:59:01.

100 back — 1. Jim Lindzy (Anderson Highland), 55:51; 2. Gordon Heck (Muncie Central), 55:91; 3. M. Williams (Richmond), 57:32; 4. Nick Maze (Centerville), 57:78; 5. Jeff Melander (Yorktown), 1:00:54; 6. Jared Smith 1:01:48.

100 breaststroke — 1. Adam Cairns (Muncie Central), 1:40:58; 2. Josh Pyzik (Anderson Highland), 1:46:74; 3. Matt Tracy (Muncie Central), 1:46:77; 4. Cory Martin (Muncie Central), 1:47:75; 5. Andy Barick (Anderson Highland), 1:47:84; 6. C. Risinger (Richmond), 1:58:06.

400 freestyle relay — 1. Richmond, 3:20:58; 2. Muncie Central, 3:30:70; 3. Anderson, 3:30:88; 4. Anderson Highland, 3:37:04; 5. Hagerstown, 3:41:41; 6. New Castle, 3:41:55.



Kurt Hostetter

Yorktown's Ryan Jaromin explodes from the block for the start of the 50 freestyle.

Central swimmers finish s

By MELISSA COOK

Star sports reporter

RICHMOND, Ind. — Muncie Central held a 3½-point lead going into the final event of the IHSAA boys' swimming and diving sectional at Richmond Saturday, but the four Bearcat relay swimmers couldn't keep up with Anderson.

It all came down to a swim off between Anderson, Richmond and Muncie Central. A difference of 3.21 seconds in the 400-yard freestyle relay — Anderson winning and Muncie Central finishing third — decided the overall winners of the sectional.

"I thought it would go down to the last relay, and it did," Central coach Bob Chico said.

Anderson and Muncie Central had swimmers advance in six and three events, respectively. Richmond qualified one swimmer for the state meet.

Muncie Central will send four swimmers — Gordon Heck, Adam Cairns, Mike Pinger, Richard Ellison in the 200 medley relay, and Heck in the backstroke — to the state and divers Ryan Fillmann and Casey Stanton to the regional.

"It will be good to get some competition before state," said Fillmann, the defending state champion. "There's no one at state I haven't beat yet, so I'm pretty optimistic going into it."

The diving regional will be held Tuesday at Kokomo, with the state meet at the IUPUI Natatorium on Friday and Saturday.

RICHMOND SECTIONAL Team scores

Anderson 252, Muncie Central 247.50, Richmond 236.50, Anderson Highland 178, Yorktown 121, New Castle 92.50, Connersville 91, Hagerstown 71, Anderson Madison Heights 48.50, Centerville 34, Muncie South 17.

Top 6 individuals

200 medley relay — 1. Muncie Central (Gordon Heck, Adam Cairns, Mike Pinger, Richard Ellison), 1:42.61; 2. Anderson Highland, 1:43.17; 3. Richmond, 1:44.09; 4. Connersville, 1:45.60; 5. Yorktown (Ryan Liddy, Jeff Melander, Ryan Jaromin, Tanner Thompson), 1:48.50; 6. Anderson, 1:50.45.

200 freestyle — 1. John Retrum (A), 1:46.47; 2. Todd Rowlett (Y), 1:50.94; 3. Andy O'Maley (R), 1:51.87; 4. Brian Jacot (R), 1:52.15; 5. John Hubbard (NC), 1:52.39; 6. Nick Rundell (MC), 1:52.65.

Swimming sectionals

200 IM — 1. Josh Pyzik (AH), 2:04.62; 2. Heck (MC), 2:04.91; 3. Matt Tracy (A), 2:06.84; 4. Jason Whitney (R), 2:11.55; 5. John Bowles (MC), 2:13.02; 6. Andy Barrick (AH), 2:13.13.

50 freestyle — 1. John Haven (A), 22.89; 2. David Rains (NC), 23.02; 3. Luke Crawley (MC), 23.02; 4. Josh Alfrey (A), 23.06; 5. Pinger (MC), 23.14; 6. Matt Sabine (R), 23.67.

Diving — 1. Ryan Fillman (MC), 445.15; 2. Ryan Roy (AMH), 370.55; 3. Casey Stanton (MC), 334.40; 4. Brian Winchester (NC), 333.60; 5. Wilbur Lewis (AMH), 311.50; 6. Ben Gale (AH), 302.25.

100 butterfly — 1. Matt Williams (R), 53.43; 2. Jim Lindsey (AH), 55.81; 3. O'Maley (R), 56.53; 4. Rundell (MC), 56.67; 5. Jaromin (Y), 57.83; 6. Rodney Conley (R), 58.50.

100 freestyle — 1. Haven (A), 49.38; 2. Rains (NC), 50.02; 3. Alfrey (A), 50.18; 4. Hubbard (NC), 51.29; 5. Sabine (R), 51.52; 6. Crawley (MC), 51.64.

500 freestyle — 1. Retrum (A), 4:50.00; 2. Jacot (R), 5:01.43; 3. Rowlett (Y), 5:04.21; 4. Brent Norris (AH), 5:09.45; 5. Matt King (A), 5:19.50; 6. Josh Kemmerling (R), 5:23.74.

200 freestyle relay — 1. Anderson, 1:30.93; 2. Muncie Central (Rundell, Crawley, Pinger, Geoff Kallen), 1:32.56; 3. Richmond, 1:35.44; 4. Connersville, 1:35.91; 5. Hagerstown, 1:36.45; 6. Yorktown (Rowlett, Thompson, David Hostetter, Liddy), 1:37.50.

100 backstroke — 1. Lindsey (AH), 54.70; 2. Heck (MC), 54.98; 3. Williams (R), 55.10; 4. Nick Maze (C), 56.79; 5. Melander (Y), 58.56; 6. Jared Smith (A), 1:01.63.

100 breaststroke — 1. Pyzik (AH), 1:01.54; 2. Cairns (MC), 1:03.97; 3. Tracy (A), 1:04.01; 4. Barrick (AH), 1:06.21; 5. Clay Risinger (R), 1:08.38; 6. Cory Martin (MC), 1:08.52.

400 freestyle relay — 1. Anderson, 3:20.58; 2. Richmond, 3:24.15; 3. Muncie Central (Rundell, Crawley, Heck, Kallen), 3:24.19; 4. Anderson Highland, 3:29.06; 5. Hagerstown, 3:39.08; 6. New Castle (Brian Aitchison, Carter Strong, Rains, Hubbard), 3:40.37.

Delta finishes 2nd

PORTLAND, Ind. — Norwell edged Delta by one point to win the Jay County boys' swimming

Boys' swimming

Central boys advance

RICHMOND, Ind. — Muncie Central swimmers qualified for the boys' sectional finals in 13 events with their performances in Thursday's first round.

The final round is Saturday. Diving also begins Saturday.

Central's Nick Rundell finished second in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of :57.17 and fifth in the 200 freestyle with a time of 1:53.39.

"Nick had an excellent night," Central coach Bob Chico said. "He had the best times in everything he swam tonight."

Yorktown will send swimmers to six finals. Coach Pam Swander said her team did well for as young as the swimmers are.

"Realistically we're as good as we can be," Swander said.

200 medley — 1. Muncie Cen. 1:45.31; 2. Rich. 1:46.04; 3. A. Highland 1:47.08; 4. Conn. 1:49.04; 5. York. 1:49.66; 6. Anderson 1:52.74.

200 free — 1. John Retrum (A), 1:48.98; 2. John Hubbard (NC), 1:52.24; 3. Andy O'Maley (R), 1:52.62; 4. Brian Jacot (R), 1:53.11; 5. Nick Rundell (MC), 1:53.39; 6. Todd Rowlett (Y), 1:53.71.

200 IM — 1. Matt Tracy (A), 2:09.42; 2. Gordon Heck (MC), 2:09.74; 3. J. Whitney (R), 2:10.76; 4. John Bowles (MC), 2:13.10; 5. Josh Pyzik (AH), 2:13.70; 6. Andy Barrick (AH), 2:14.25.

50 free — 1. Luke Crawley (MC), 23.00; 2. David Rains (NC), 23.01; 3. John Haven (A), 23.33; 4. Mike Pinger (MC), 23.51; 5. Matt Sabine (R), 23.58; 6. Josh Alfrey (A), 23.64.

100 fly — 1. M. Williams (R), 55.81; 2. Nick Rundell (MC), 57.17; 3. Jim Lindsey (AH), 57.63; 4. Andy O'Maley (R), 57.81; 5. R. Conley (R), 58.60; 6. Ryan Jaromin (Y), 58.82.

100 free — 1. David Rains (NC), 50.06; 2. John Haven (A), 50.47; 3. Matt Sabine (R), 50.83; 4. Luke Crawley (MC), 51.11; 5. Josh Hubbard (NC), 51.40; 6. Josh Alfrey (A), 51.53.

500 free — 1. John Retrum (A), 4:53.88; 2. Brian Jacot (R), 5:04.59; 3. Brent Norris (AH), 5:11.18; 4. Todd Rowlett (Y), 5:12.38; 5. Matt King (A), 5:14.86; 6. J. Kemmerling (R), 5:24.25.

200 free — 1. MC, 1:33.73; 2. A, 1:34.95; 3. R, 1:36.28; 4. HAG, 1:36.52; 5. CONN, 1:37.88; 6. YORK, 1:38.01.

100 back — 1. Jim Lindsey (AH), 55.51; 2. Gordon Heck (MC), 56.91; 3. M. Williams (R), 57.32; 4. Nick Maze (C), 57.78; 5. J. Melander (Y), 1:00.54; 6. Jared Smith 1:01.48.

100 breast — 1. Adam Cairns (MC), 1:06.58; 2. Josh Pyzik (AH), 1:06.74; 3. Matt Tracy (MC), 1:06.77; 4. Cory Martin (MC), 1:07.75; 5. Andy Barrick (AH), 1:07.84; 6. C. Risinger (R), 1:08.09.

400 free — 1. RICH, 3:29.58; 2. MC, 3:30.70; 3. AND, 3:30.98; 4. AH, 3:37.04; 5. HAG, 3:41.41; 6. NC, 3:41.65.





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Star photo / KURT HOSTETLER
Nick Rundell of Muncie Central competes in the 200-yard freestyle Thursday in the first round of the Richmond sectional. Rundell placed fifth with a time of 1:53.39

Central, Delta place second in sectionals

By **CHUCK LANDIS**
Evening Press sports writer

Central and Delta each surpassed expectations to earn close runner-up finishes Saturday in IHSAA sectional swim meets.

At Richmond, Central lost out to No. 20 Anderson in a bid for its second consecutive team championship. The Indians scored 252 points and the Bearcats 247.5.

"I think we did a very good job and we lost to a very good opponent," Central Coach Bob Chico said.

Delta's five-year hold over the Jay County Sectional ended, but not without a fight. Favored Norwell managed a narrow 231-230 victory over the Eagles for the title.

"We were looking to fight for second to fourth place," Delta Coach Tom Devine said. "I don't think anyone predicted us to win - which we didn't - but we gave it a heck of a run."

The local area will send four individuals and four relay teams to this weekend's state meet at the Natatorium in Indianapolis.

In addition, divers Ryan Fillmann and Casey Stator of Central and Jason Peterson of Jay County advanced to regional competition Tuesday in Kokomo.

Fillmann, the defending state diving champion, easily won the Richmond Sectional competition with 445.15 points. Stator was third with 334.40, while Peterson was fourth at Jay County with 338.40.

Individual qualifiers for the state meet are:

■ Delta's Casey Mumaw, first in the 200 freestyle (1:50.58) and 500 freestyle (5:02.97) and a member of the 400 freestyle relay team.

■ Delta's Andy Wallace, first in the 100 freestyle (50.13 seconds) and a member of the 400 freestyle relay.

■ Central's Gordon Heck, second in the 200 individual medley at Richmond. His 2:04.91 clocking was under the state qualifying standard. Heck finished three-tenths seconds behind winner Josh Pyzik of Anderson Highland.

■ Jay's Brian Weaver, first in the 50 freestyle (22.82) and a member of the 200 medley and freestyle relay teams.

Besides Fillmann, Central's other first-place finish came from the 200 medley relay (1:42.61) that also consisted of Adam Cairns, Michael Pinger and Anthony Ellison.

Delta's 400 freestyle relay won at Jay County (3:26.76) with Jeremy Dann and Justin Grider joining Mumaw and Wallace on the team.

Jay County had two winning relay teams: the 200 medley and 200 freestyle. Weaver, Joe Wright and Greg Fisher were on both teams. Jeremy Klingel completed the medley relay and Brian Miller the freestyle relay.

Yorktown and Southside did not have any qualifiers for the state meet. The Tigers' Todd Rowett was second in the 200 freestyle and third in the 500 freestyle.



Mumaw

Wallace

RICHMOND SECTIONAL

Team scores: Anderson 252, Muncie Central 247.50, Richmond 238.50, Anderson Highland 178, Yorktown 121, New Castle 82.50, Connersville 81, Hagerstown 71, Anderson Madison Heights 48.50, Centerville 34, Muncie Southside 17.

Individual results
200 medley relay - 1. Muncie Central (Gordon Heck, Adam Cairns, Michael Pinger, Anthony Ellison), 1:42.61; 2. Anderson Highland, 1:43.17; 3. Richmond, 1:44.08; 4. Connersville, 1:46.60; 5. Yorktown (Ryan Liddy, Jeff Melander, Ryan Jaromin, Tanner Thompson), 1:48.66; 6. Anderson, 1:50.45.

500 freestyle - 1. John Norum (A), 1:48.47; 2. Todd Rowlett (V), 1:51.04; 3. Andy O'Malley (R), 1:51.87; 4. Brian Jacek (N), 1:52.15; 5. John Hubbard (NC), 1:52.39; 6. Nick Randsell (MC), 1:52.05.

200 IM - 1. Josh Pyzik (AH), 2:04.02; 2. Heck (MC), 2:04.91; 3. Matt Tracy (A), 2:06.84; 4. Jason Whitney (R), 2:11.55; 5. John Bowles (MC), 2:13.02; 6. Andy Barrick (AH), 2:13.13.

50 freestyle - 1. John Haven (A), 22.82; 2. David Ruess (NC), 23.02; 3. Luke Crowley (MC), 23.02; 4. Josh Alfrey (A), 23.06; 5. Pinger (MC), 23.14; 6. Matt Sabbe (H), 23.87.

Diving - 1. Ryan Fillmann (NC), 445.15; 2. Ryan Roy (AMH), 370.55; 3. Casey Stator (MC), 334.40; 4. Brian Winchester (NC), 333.05; 5. Wilbur Lewis (AMH), 311.50; 6. Ben Gutz (AH), 302.25.

100 butterfly - 1. Matt Williams (R), 53.43; 2. Jim Lindy (AH), 55.81; 3. O'Malley (R), 56.53; 4. Randsell (MC), 56.67; 5. Jaemin (V), 57.55; 6. Rodney Conroy (R), 58.50.

100 freestyle - 1. Haven (A), 49.38; 2. Ruess (NC), 50.02; 3. Alfrey (A), 50.18; 4. Hubbard (NC), 51.28; 5. Sabbe (R), 51.52; 6. Crowley (MC), 51.64.

500 freestyle - 1. Norum (A), 1:48.47; 2. Rowlett (V), 1:51.04; 3. O'Malley (R), 1:51.87; 4. Jacek (N), 1:52.15; 5. Pyzik (AH), 1:52.39; 6. Randsell (MC), 1:52.05.

200 freestyle relay - 1. Anderson, 1:30.93; 2. Muncie Central (Randsell, Crowley, Pinger, Geoff Kallen), 1:32.56; 3. Richmond, 1:35.44; 4. Connersville, 1:36.91; 5. Hagerstown, 1:39.45; 6. Yorktown (Rowlett, Thompson, David Howester, Liddy), 1:37.60.

100 backstroke - 1. Lindsey (AH), 54.70; 2. Heck (MC), 54.98; 3. Williams (R), 55.10; 4. Nick Mear (C), 55.78; 5. Melander (V), 56.50; 6. Jared Smith (A), 1:01.63.

100 breaststroke - 1. Peter (AH), 1:01.54; 2. Cairns (MC), 1:02.06; 3. Tracy (A), 1:04.01; 4. Barrick (AH), 1:06.21; 5. Clay Bainger (R), 1:08.38; 6. Cory Martin (NC), 1:08.52.

400 freestyle relay - 1. Anderson, 3:20.58; 2. Richmond, 3:24.10; 3. Muncie Central (Randsell, Crowley, Heck, Kallen), 3:24.19; 4. Anderson Highland, 3:29.06; 5. Hagerstown, 3:39.08; 6. New Castle (Brian Aitchison, Carter Strong, Batta, Hubbard), 3:40.25.

JAY COUNTY SECTIONAL

Team scores: Norwell 231, Delta 230, Jay County 204, Bellmont 188, Marion 125, Adams Central 123, Oak Hill 85, Stratton 68, Huntington North 60, Blackford 36, South Adams 36.

Individual results
200 medley relay - 1. Jay County (Jeremy Klingel, Joe Wright, Brian Weaver, Greg Fisher) 1:45.67; 2. Norwell, 1:46.63; 3. Bellmont, 1:48.52; 4. Adams Central, 1:50.81; 5. Marion, 1:50.43; 6. Delta, 1:51.17.

500 freestyle - 1. Casey Mumaw (D), 1:50.58; 2. Shannon Merriman (Bel), 1:52.72; 3. Aric Gerke (N), 1:57.21; 4. Chris Steer (N), 1:57.38; 5. Marc Goodhood (D), 1:58.74; 6. Justin Grider (D), 1:59.60.

200 IM - 1. Clint Troel (N), 2:07.92; 2. Travis Beaver (N), 2:09.20; 3. Willie Tucker (M), 2:10.31; 4. Jeremy Dann (D), 2:14.81; 5. Steve Tchichebenko (SA), 2:15.81; 6. Aaron Krizme (D), 2:17.27.

50 freestyle - 1. Brian Weaver (JC), 22.82; 2. Andy Wallace (D), 22.89; 3. Vance Verone (Bel), 23.22; 4. Kurt Moser (AC), 23.48; 5. Brian Bauer (JC), 23.74; 6. Jared Michaelis (AC), 24.23.

Diving - 1. Aaron Rich (Bel), 309.45; 2. Eric Brock (HN), 309.85; 3. Darrin Harvey (Bel), 305.25; 4. Jason Peterson (JC), 328.40; 5. Daniel Geiger (N), 324.00; 6. Jeremy Taylor (M), 321.85.

100 butterfly - 1. Troel (N), 54.58; 2. Weaver (JC), 55.87; 3. Stator (N), 56.06; 4. Jake Yeasle (M), 56.72; 5. Craig Grudler (JC), 59.32; 6. Paul Willson (D), 1:00.47.

500 freestyle - 1. Wallace (D), 5:02.97; 2. Verone (Bel), 5:06.3; 3. Greg Fisher (JC), 5:11.76; 4. Moser (AC), 5:21.75; 5. Miller (C), 5:30.82; 6. James Clark (D), 5:31.91.

200 freestyle relay - 1. Mumaw (D), 5:02.97; 2. Gerke (N), 5:13.88; 3. Dann (D), 5:15.05; 4. Nick Burger (Bel), 5:30.04; 5. Joe Ebensole (HN), 5:42.28; 6. Merriman (Bel), 5:49.12.

200 freestyle relay - 1. Jay County (Miller, Joe Wright, Fisher, Weaver), 1:32.20; 2. Delta (Clark, Aaron Krizme, Mumaw, Wallace), 1:33.25; 3. Adams Central, 1:36.90; 4. Bellmont, 1:38.48; 5. Oak Hill, 1:38.48; 6. Huntington North, 1:40.58.

100 backstroke - 1. Beaver (N), 58.02; 2. Merriman (Bel), 58.49; 3. Tyson Pritts (N), 1:01.20; 4. Jared Michaelis (AC), 1:02.38; 5. Dustin Barton (HN), 1:02.50; 6. Richie Hall (M), 1:03.21.

400 freestyle relay - 1. Robert Drago (Bel), 1:54.20; 2. Tucker (M), 1:58.85; 3. Bryan Schwartz (Bel), 1:57.52; 4. Fisher (H), 1:58.06; 5. Andrew Smith (N), 1:58.15; 6. Krizme (D), 1:58.50.

100 breaststroke - 1. Delta (Wallace, Dann, Grider, Mumaw), 3:26.76; 2. Norwell, 3:28.72; 3. Marion, 3:37.25; 4. Bellmont, 3:43.85; 5. Adams Central, 3:44.53; 6. Jay County (Miller, Lance Passon, Travis Brown, Eric Johnston), 3:45.88.

Sampras thrashes Agassi in finals

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Andre Agassi missed the bottom line, which put Pete Sampras on the top one.

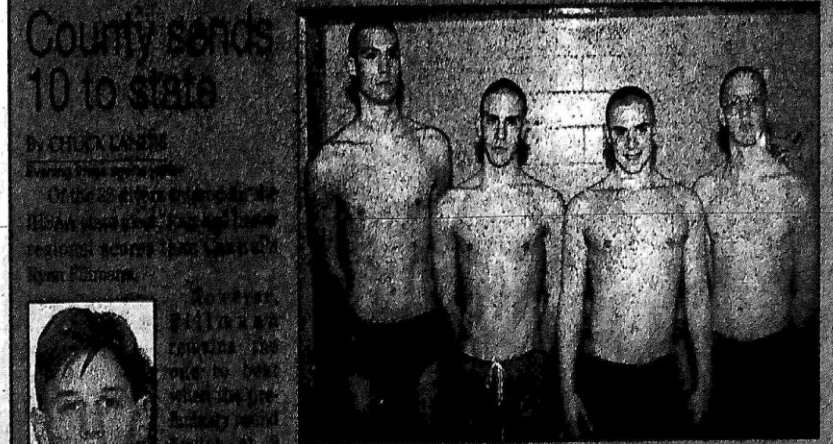
"I care less about the rivalry than I do about just beating him — that's the bottom line," Agassi said after being shelled by Sampras 6-2, 6-3 Sunday in the final of the Sybase Open.

As a result, Sampras moves to No. 1 in the new-worled rankings, with Thomas Muster of Austria No. 2 and Agassi No. 3.



Kurt Howester

Central and Delta swimmers and Justin Grider, Deer, from left: Jeremy



Kyle Evans

Central's state meet qualifiers: from left: Michael Pinger, Adam Cairns, Anthony Ellison and Gordon Heck.

Fillmann also placed second.

Indiana's...
Being...
defining...
He favors...
Fillmann also placed second.

two years ago as a freshman. So...
his 417.75 total at this week's...
Kokomo Regional, his lowest...
score in more than two years...
Doesn't really concern Central

Coach Bob Chico...
"He has seen most of these...
divers either in competition or at...
See SWIM / Page 10

SWIM

Continued from page 9

state," Chico said. "We're aware of what he must do to score well down there.

"I think he'll do OK. Whatever happens, we know he'll give it his best shot. He sure is competitive."

The local area sends four individuals and relay teams to the 59th championships beginning Friday evening. The swimming and diving finals are 1:30 p.m. Saturday.

Central's other representatives are its 200-yard medley relay team and Gordon Heck in the 100 backstroke. Relay members are Heck, Adam Cairns, Anthony Ellison and Michael Pinger.

Ellison is the only relay member without previous state meet experience.

Delta will send its 400 freestyle relay team, Casey Mumaw in the 200 and 500 freestyles, and Andy Wallace in the 100 freestyle. Mumaw and Wallace will participate in the relay, along with Jeremy Dann and Justin Grider.

Jay County advanced 200 medley and 200 freestyle relay teams and Brian Weaver in the 50 freestyle.

Weaver, Joe Wright and Greg Fisher swim in both relays. Jeremy Klingel completes the medley team and Brian Miller the freestyle relay.

Looking at Fillmann's main rivals, sophomore Elliot Massuda of Valparaiso had the highest regional diving score with 464.70

points.

Also bettering Fillmann were sophomore Aaron Kirkpatrick of Pendleton Heights (424.40); senior Rusty Swickheimer of Franklin Central (421.70); and sophomore Dylan Nichols of Pike (418.30).

While Fillmann seeks a state title, the local swimmers try to meet personal goals.

Heck, seeded 16th, wants the Central school record in the 100 backstroke. Walker Marsh holds it with a 54.19-second swim in the 1989 state meet and Heck's lowest performance has been a :54.98.

Central's medley relay is seeded 25th and Chico figures a two-second drop from their 1:43.17 last week could earn them a spot in the finals.

Wallace is closing on Delta's school record of :48.4 in the 100 freestyle. He clocked :50.13 in winning last Saturday's Jay County sectional meet.

Delta Coach Tom Devine said Wallace actually was under the record during his relay split at sectionals.

Mumaw has qualified in the freestyle races the past two years and wants to drop his time under two and five minutes in the races.

"He has a chance to have some good time drops there, and hopefully squeak into the scoring," Devine said.

Delta's 400 relay was timed at 3:26.76 at sectional, and the team wants to eclipse the school record of 3:20.00.



Central High School diver Ryan Fillmann does some stretching before a recent practice at the Bearcat pool. In photo below, Fillmann practices a dive in preparation for Saturday's state meet in Indianapolis.

■ A preview of the state meet is on Page 20.

Star photos / LAURA J. CUMMINGS

Getting things done

Central diver does what he has to do to be the best

By LAURA J. CUMMINGS

Star staff reporter

Ryan Fillmann will prove on Saturday he is still No. 1 in the state when it comes to high school diving.

At least he thinks so, and so does one of his top competitors.

"He'll probably win again," Pendleton Heights diver Aaron Kirkpatrick said of Fillmann. "When he has good competition, he doesn't miss a dive."

A junior at Central High School, Fillmann started diving when he was 12 years old. Before that he had wanted to be a gymnast, but two broken bones later, he redirected his ambition.

"I broke my arm twice in gymnastics and had a lot of injuries, so my parents said I

should try diving," Fillmann said.

His injuries turned out to be a great example of how things can work out for the best. Fillmann's diving career highlights include winning first place at the North Central Conference, sectional and regional competitions this year.

He also broke a North Central Conference record set in 1970 and Delta High School's pool record this season. And he has broken every diving record at Central.

In 1993, Fillmann won the state Junior Olympics competition and placed in the top 20 at the national level.

That kind of success comes only with talent and practice.

See DIVER on Page 6A



Diver

Continued from Page 1A

"You don't meet too many people like him," said Dennis Sunderman, an athletic trainer at Central. "He knows what he has to do to be the best. A lot of times that means practicing two times a day."

At night, Fillmann often visualizes his dives and watches videos of professional divers. That mental preparation is crucial for diving in crowded natatoriums.

As he stands on the board and prepares to dive, Fillmann blocks out all distractions.

"I just think about my dive and what I'm going to do, and I usually do it," he said.

Fillmann is mentally tough outside of diving, as well.

"He's a pretty hard worker," said Tanner Snell, who has been Fillmann's friend since seventh grade. "He usually gets things done that need to be done."

At school, Fillmann catches onto concepts effortlessly, said his journalism teacher, Terry Nelson.

"He is quick-witted," Nelson said. "He's fun to be around. He's very, very sharp. He learns quickly, but yet he doesn't appear to be overly scholarly or overly serious about anything he does."

When he's not diving, Fillmann enjoys just hanging out with his friends, playing billiards or going to basketball games. After the season is over, he stays active outdoors with cycling, hiking and baseball.

"When we hang out, we don't get into big conversations about [diving]," said Ryan Tolle, who has been Fillmann's friend for 14 years.

Lately, Fillmann hasn't had much time to hang out with his friends.

"When I'm not diving, I'm usually too tired to do anything," he said.

He has been working on a cou-

ple new dives, but they won't be in his program Saturday. His prepared dives will range in difficulty from 2.4 to 3.0, with 3.0 being the highest degree of difficulty.

"I really don't need to add any new dives to be competitive," he said.

Fillmann should have some competition Saturday at the Indiana University Natatorium in Indianapolis, where he will compete against 31 of the state's top divers.

Kirkpatrick, of Pendleton Heights, scored 424.4 at the Crawfordsville Regional; Fillmann won the Kokomo Regional with 417.75; his lowest score in more than 2 years. Three other divers also scored higher than Fillmann at regionals.

But Fillmann is not worried. Last year, he was ranked seventh going into the state competition, where he took first place.

"I had a good meet at regionals, but the judging was real low," he said.

Fillmann has competed against — and beaten — all of the other regional winners in previous competitions.

"I'm happy some divers have higher scores than me," Fillmann said. "It kind of gives them confidence."

Confidence is not something Fillmann lacks.

"If you don't know Ryan, he appears to be self-contained or conceited," Nelson said. "But when you get to know him, he's sure of himself because he's a tremendous diver."

His swimming coach, Bob Chico, calls Fillmann's attitude optimistic.

"He approaches it from an optimistic point of view that he can perform just about any dive in the program," Chico said.

One thing you can bet on is when the pressure is high, Fillmann will perform his best.

"I've never beaten him before," Kirkpatrick said. "I've come close, but he's always pulled it off."

Central's Heck, relay advance to consolations

Central junior Gordon Heck reached the consolation finals of the 100-yard backstroke and the 200-yard medley relay with teammates Michael Pinger, Anthony Ellison and Adam Cairns at Friday night's IHSAA swim meet in Indianapolis.

Heck placed 15th in the backstroke preliminaries with a lifetime best time of 54.94 seconds.

The medley relay also placed 15th in qualifications, although the Bearcats won their heat in 1:40.49. They were in the slow first heat, however.

Consolations will be this afternoon in the Natatorium.

Diving preliminaries were to start at 9 a.m. today, with Central junior Ryan Fillmann competing. Fillmann is the defending state champion.

No other local swimmers or divers advanced to today's competition.

■ Delta senior Andy Wallace swam :49.75 in the 100 freestyle to better his sectional time by almost one-half season, but he placed 30th.

In the 400 freestyle relay, Wallace, Jeremy Dann, Justin Grider and Marc Geelhoed placed 31st in 3:28.14.

Mumaw finished 29th in the 200 freestyle in 1:51.07 and 29th in the 500 freestyle in 5:04.26.

■ Jay County's Brian Weaver took 31st in the 50 freestyle in :22.78.

The Patriots also placed 30th in the 200 freestyle relay in 1:33.16 and 28th in the 200 medley relay in 1:45.11.

Fillmann second in finals

By RON SEIBEL

Star sports reporter

INDIANAPOLIS — All it takes is one dive to ruin state championship dreams.

Muncie Central's Ryan Fillmann had one of those fateful dives. And it probably cost him his second consecutive state title.

Pike's Dylan Nichols won the state diving title with a 434.05 score. Despite that one bad dive, Fillmann had a lot to say as to who would be the champion.



FILLMANN

Fillmann, the defending champion, hit

his seventh dive short at the state diving meet Saturday, landing him a score of 25.0.

That low score, combined with a 48.0 performance on the next dive by longtime leader Rusty Swickheimer of Franklin Central, appeared to knock Fillmann out of the 1996 state championship race.

But, by virtue of a 51-point dive by Fillmann in the 10th round, the Bearcat junior climbed back into the hunt, only to be caught from behind by the next-to-last diver.

"He put pressure on the other two [leaders]," Central diving coach Tanya Wingfield said.

See DIVING on Page 4C

Fillmann's dives

INDIANAPOLIS — The dives and scores of Muncie Central's Ryan Fillmann:

1. Forward pike; 41.40.
 2. Forward 2½ somersault, pike; 50.70.
 3. Forward 1½ somersault, double twist; 37.70.
 4. Back pike; 33.30.
 5. Back 1½ somersault, pike; 36.00.
- Preliminary score:** 199.10.
Preliminary place: 3rd, 4.85 pts. behind Dylan Nichols, Pike.
6. Reverse pike; 36.00.
 7. Reverse 1½ somersault, pike; 25.0.
 8. Forward 1½ somersault, twist; 36.9.

- Semifinal score:** 297.0.
Semifinal place: 3rd, 24.2 pts. behind Rusty Swickheimer, Franklin Central.
9. Inward pike; 39.7.
 10. Inward 1½ somersault, pike; 51.6.
 11. Reverse 2½ somersault, tuck; 39.00.
- Final score:** 426.30. **Place:** 2nd, 7.75 points behind Nichols.

Diving

Continued from Page 1C

"It came down to whoever had the best dive in the last round."

Going into the seventh round, Fillmann was in third place, although he trailed then-first-place diver Nichols by only 4.85 points and Swickheimer by a mere four-tenths of a point.

Then trouble hit for Fillmann. His seventh dive, a reverse 1½ somersault in the pike position, ran into problems. The dive was well short, with Fillmann barely avoiding the board.

Fillmann lost 13.4 points on Nichols and 12.8 points on Swickheimer in the seventh round, giving Fillmann a major gap to overcome.

That gap became almost insurmountable in the eighth round, as Swickheimer nailed a dive that gave him 48 more points. Meanwhile, Fillmann scored 36.9 points in the eighth on a forward 1½ somersault twist, putting the Bearcat junior even farther behind.

But turnaround is fair play in the diving world.

In the 10th round, Fillmann nailed an inward 1½-pike, posting a score of 51.60 on the dive. That put him within earshot of Swickheimer and ahead of Nichols for the final dive.

"That was the same dive that won it last year," Wingfield said. "We set up his dives so he would always be in position to catch up."

Then Swickheimer opened the door for Fillmann with a 21.3-point dive that fell short of completion.

Fillmann then attempted one of

"All we really needed was one more point from all the judges. Two of Ryan's last three dives were excellent. They put him back in contention."

Bob Chico
Central coach

the most difficult dives in high school competition: a reverse 2½ tuck with a 3.0 degree of difficulty. He had a chance to blow the meet wide open, but a poor takeoff held Fillmann to a 39-point score. It was good enough to pass Swickheimer, but all Nichols needed to win was a 39.9.

Nichols nailed his last dive, giving him a score of 47.5 and the state title.

"All we really needed was one more point from all the judges," Central head coach Bob Chico said. "Two of Ryan's last three dives were excellent. They put him back in contention."

In other swimming events, the Bearcat 200-yard medley relay team of Gordon Heck, Adam Cairns, Anthony Ellison and Mike Pinger placed 15th overall with a time of 1:41.01 in the consolation final.

Heck also competed in the consolation finals of the 100-yard backstroke, where he placed 15th overall with a time of :54.44 seconds. He improved his time by half a second over his preliminary showing.

Results

Table of points-Carmel 224, Bloomington South 166, Goshen 166, South-Bend Riley 107, Columbus North 99, West Lafayette 93, Mt. Vernon 92, Portage 80, Lafayette Jeff 74, Valparaiso 73.5, Crawfordsville 71, Munster 68, Anderson 67, Hamilton Southeastern 61; Floyd Central 53, Fort Wayne Concordia 54,

Homestead 53, North Central 46, East Central 46, Lake Central 43, Fort Wayne Northrop 40, Highland 39, Ben Davis 33, Bedford North Lawrence 32, Rensselaer Central 32, South Bend St. Joseph 26, Anderson Highland 24, Muncie Central 23, Pike 20, Chatterton 20, Lebanon 19, Penn 18, Franklin Central 16, Lafayette Harrison 16, Vincennes Lincoln 15.5, Pendleton Heights 15, Westfield-Washington 13, Bremen 13, Center Grove 13, Kokomo 12, Tippecanoe Valley 11, Hanover Central 11, Bloomington North 11, Terre Haute South 11, Plainfield 10, Greenwood 9, Richmond 8, Elkhart Central 7, Plymouth 6, Concord 6, Benton Central 5.5, Greenfield Central 5.5, Castle 5, Wawasee 5, Seymour 4, Twin Lakes 4, Mount Vernon (Fortville) 3, East Noble 2, Avon 1, Lawrence Central 1.

200 medley relay-1, Goshen 1:35.85, 2, Carmel 1:37.89, 3, Columbus North 1:38.68.

200 freestyle-1, Nick Arzner (Crawfordsville) 1:39.67, 2, John Retrum (Anderson) 1:40.17, 3, Andy Bigler (Goshen) 1:41.13.

200 individual medley-1, Jason Fox (Goshen) 1:50.45, 2, William Bernhardt (South Bend Riley) 1:54.71, 3, Grandon Spence (Rensselaer) 1:54.90.

50 freestyle-1, Justin Hoggart (Homestead) 21.18, 2, Brent McDonald (Floyd Central) 21.23, 3, Brian Moon (Carmel) 21.25.

diving-1, Dylan Nichols (Pike) 434.05, 2, Ryan Fillmann (Muncie Central) 426.30, 3, Rusty Swickheimer (Franklin Central) 421.30.

100 butterfly-1, Brent McDonald (Floyd Central) 49.71, 2, Nick Arzner (Crawfordsville) 50.19, 3, Brian Moon (Carmel) 50.39.

100 freestyle-1, Dan Barnes (West Lafayette) 46.12, 2, Brian Glaser (Lafayette Jeff) 46.20, 3, Andy Bigler (Goshen) 46.50.

300 freestyle-1, John Retrum (Anderson) 4:32.66, 2, Brian Snyder (Bloomington South) 4:36.36, 3, Tim Holey (Carmel) 4:38.19.

200 free relay-1, Carmel 1:26.57, 2, Bloomington South 1:26.69, 3, Portage 1:27.94.

100 backstroke-1, Jon Karr (Columbus North) 51.07, Matt Schultz (Bedford North Lawrence) 51.27, 3, Corey Miller (Goshen).

100 breaststroke-1, Devin Heeca (East Central) 56.84, 2, Jason Fox (Goshen) 57.01, 3, Grandon Spence (Rensselaer) 58.37.

400 free relay-1, Bloomington South 3:07.37, 2, Goshen 3:08.06, 3, Carmel 3:13.10.

Mental Attitude Award-Jason Fox, Goshen. Coach of the Year-Mark Schellen, Goshen.