

# Central and Delta combine to advance 30 in swim sectional

By MATT PERRY  
The Star Press

PORTLAND — Muncie Central got some redemption in Thursday night's Jay County sectional swimming preliminaries, but Delta qualified more swimmers than the No. 12 Bearcats for Saturday afternoon's final.

Central, stripped of a sectional record in the 200 medley relay a year ago, set another one Thursday with a time of 1:41.72.

The team, which consisted of Ryan Bowman, Adam Cairns, Jeremy Johns and Nick Rundell, sliced one-tenth of a second off the record previously owned by Anderson Highland.

"That was especially pleasing," Central coach Bob Chico said. "We were deprived of it last season with sort of a silly rule infraction, so it was nice to get it back."

The defending sectional champion Bearcats qualified 14 for the finals and nine for the consolation events.

"We lost a few places, we picked up a few places," Chico said. "Overall, we're pleased."

Delta, 9-3 in dual meets, had

the most finals qualifiers — 16. The Eagles put six into the consolation round.

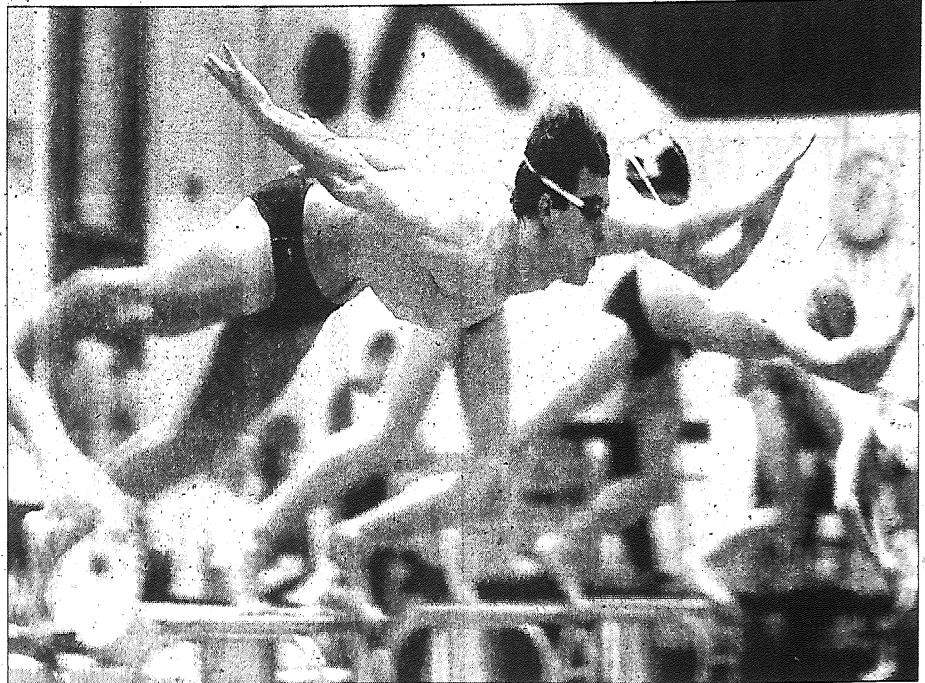
"We're very pleased," Delta coach Tim Brannock said. "My impression is that we look pretty good at this point. It's what we were looking for — we swam as well as we could have. I think we improved our times in every race."

Central finished first in seven of the 11 events. Leading the way for the Cats were Bowman, who collected firsts in the 50-yard freestyle and 500 freestyle, and Rundell, first in the 200 individual medley and 100 butterfly. Cairns was first in the 100 breaststroke.

Yorktown qualified 14 for the finals and seven for the consolation round, with its two top finishes coming from Ryan Liddy in the 50 freestyle and 100 freestyle.

Jay County will be in the finals with its 400 freestyle relay and has seven in the consolation. Blackford qualified four for the consolation, and Muncie Southside qualified three.

Diving preliminaries will start at 9 a.m. Saturday, and finals in all events will begin at 2 p.m. at Jay County.



Kurt Hostetter / The Star Press

**FLYING START:** Central's Nick Rundell leaps off the starting block in the 200 individual medley at the Jay County boys' swimming sectional Thursday. Rundell won his heat to qualify for Saturday's finals.

**Jay County sectional:**

Preliminary results from Thursday's events:  
200 medley relay — 1. Muncie Central, 1:41.72; 2. Norwell; 3. Delta; 4. Yorktown; 5. Bluffton; 6. South Adams.  
200 freestyle — 1. Ryan Bowman (MC), 1:49.28; 2. Andrew Picok (N); 3. Tony Merriman (B); 4. David Hostetter (Y); 5. James Clark (S); 6. Justin Gaylor (D).  
200 IM — 1. Nicholas Rundell (MC),

2:06.26; 2. Zachary Biberstine (N); 3. Aaron Krimme (D); 4. Blake Troxell (N); 5. Robert Seburn (D); 6. Justin Gaylor (D).  
50 free — 1. Ryan Liddy (Y), 23.14; 2. Nathan Stogdill (N); 3. Mark Owen (B); 4. Adam Cairns (MC); 5. Ben Penrod (D); 6. Ryan Jaromin (Y).  
100 butterfly — 1. Nicholas Rundell (MC), 55.17; 2. Andy Clevenger (Y); 3. Matt Lindsey (Y); 4. Jeremy Johns (MC); 5. Andy Broyles (Y); 6. Justin Gaylor (D).

100 free — 1. Ryan Liddy (Y), 50.46; 2. Christopher Stier (N); 3. Tony Merriman (B); 4. James Clark (D); 5. Ryan Jaromin (Y); 6. Ben Penrod (D).  
500 free — 1. Ryan Bowman (MC), 4:57.23; 2. Nick Woodworth (B); 3. Andrew Picok (N); 4. Barron Gillon (MC); 5. Ryan VonGunten (N); 6. Brian Scherrer (MC).  
200 free relay — 1. Delta, 1:34.50; 2. Norwell; 3. South Adams; 4. Yorktown; 5. Muncie Central; 6. Belmont.

100 back — 1. Zachary Biberstine (N), 57.87; 2. Jeremy Johns (MC); 3. Robert Seburn (D); 4. Christopher Stier (N); 5. Matt Lindsey (Y); 6. Andy Broyles (D).  
100 breast — 1. Adam Cairns (MC), 1:02.75; 2. Aaron Krimme (D); 3. Blake Troxell (N); 4. Bryan Schwartz (B); 5. Kevin Tucker (MC); 6. Tyler Moser (SA).  
400 free relay — 1. Muncie Central, 3:29.02; 2. Delta; 3. Jay County; 4. South Adams; 5. Yorktown; 6. Belmont.

## ▼ ATHLETE OF WEEK

Male



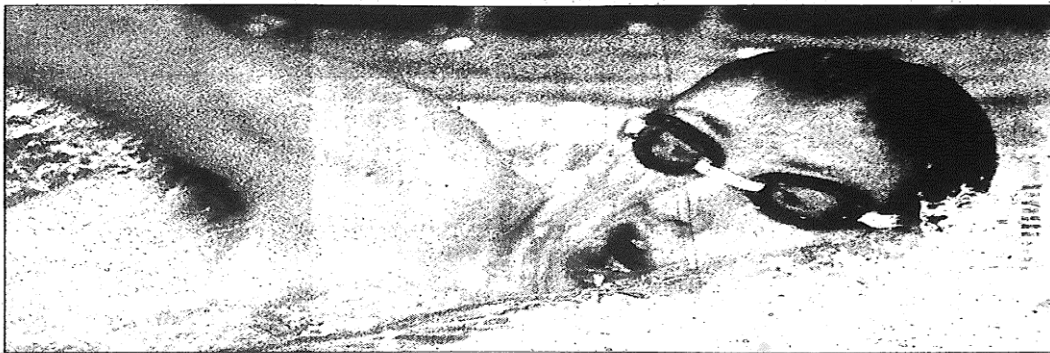
**Name:**  
Nick Rundell

**School:**  
Muncie Central

**Sport:**  
Swimming

**Accomplishments:**

Rundell qualified for this weekend's IHSAA state-swim meet in the 100-yard butterfly, 200 individual medley and 400 freestyle relay.



Elaine Huff/The Star Press

**FREE STYLIN':** Muncie Central freshman Ryan Bowman pulls through the 500 freestyle Saturday in the Jay County sectional. Bowman won the 500 in 4:53.83. He also won the 200 freestyle.

## Central swimmers repeat as sectional champs

By **MATT PERRY**  
For The Star Press

PORTLAND — Muncie Central used eight first-place finishes, including a sectional record in the 200-yard medley relay, to hold off Delta and win its third boys' swimming sectional in 4 years Saturday at Jay County.

Central, ranked No. 12, got past second-place Delta, 288-263, Yorktown, with 212 points, finished fourth behind third-place sectional newcomer Norwell.

The Bearcats' medley relay team of Jeremy Johns, Adam Cairns, Nick Rundell and Ryan Bowman broke the record it set Thursday in the preliminaries with a time of 1:40.47. That beat the old record by more than a second.

The sectional title is the second in a row for the Cats.

"Our seniors have won two North Central conference championships and three sectionals," Central coach Bob Chico said, "so they leave with a pretty good record. Our seniors did a super job."

Delta coach Tim Brannock was named sectional coach of the year in honor of his team's performance.

Individuals qualifying for state from Central were Bowman in the 500 freestyle and 200 freestyle; Rundell in the 100 butterfly and 200 individual medley; and Cairns in the 100 breaststroke.

Additionally, the 400 freestyle relay of Rundell, Cairns, Bowman and Chris Taylor will join the 200 medley relay at the state competition.

Yorktown will send Ryan Liddy to state in the 100 freestyle and 50 freestyle.

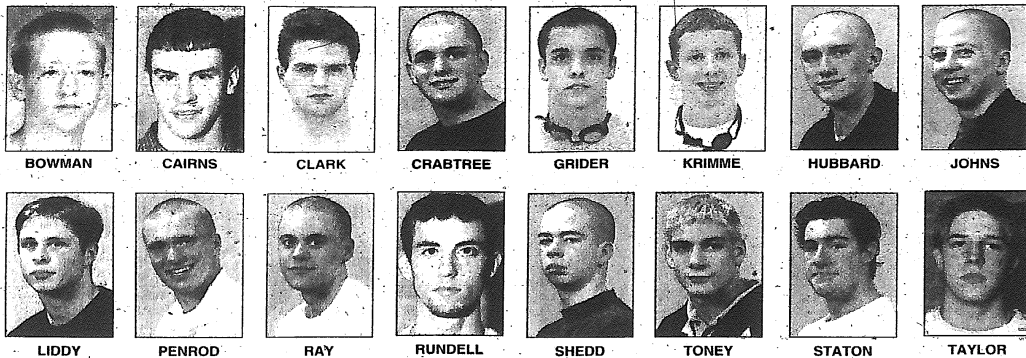
Delta's lone state qualifier was the 200 freestyle relay team of Ben Penrod, Justin Grider, Aaron Krimme and James Clark.

Central advanced two divers, No. 1 Casey Staton and No. 4 Jesse Sebastian, to regional competition at Oak Hill next Saturday. Delta's Mark Toney, the No. 2 finisher, and Yorktown's Brock Triplett, the No. 3 diver, moved on to the regional as well.

Jay County finished seventh.

### Jay County sectional

- 200 medley relay — 1. Muncie Central (Jeremy Johns, Adam Cairns, Nick Rundell, Ryan Bowman), 1:40.47; 2. Norwell; 3. Delta; 4. Yorktown; 5. Bluffton; 6. South Adams.
- 200 freestyle — 1. Bowman (MC), 1:46.51; 2. James Clark (D); 3. Andrew Picek (N); 4. David Hostetter (Y); 5. Justin Grider (D); 6. Tony Merriman (Bell).
- 200 IM — 1. Rundell (MC), 2:01.55; 2. Zack Biberstone (N); 3. Aaron Krimme (D); 4. Blake Troxer (N); 5. Robert Sebura (D); 6. Justin Gaylor (D).
- 50 free — 1. Ryan Liddy (Y), 22.74; 2. Nathan Stogdill (N); 3. Ben Penrod (D); 4. Ryan Jaromin (Y); 5. Cairns (MC); 6. Mark Owen (B).
- 100 butterfly — 1. Rundell (MC), 54.01; 2. Andy Clovenger (Y); 3. Johns (MC); 4. Justin Gaylor (D); 5. Andy Broyles (D); 6. Matt Lindsey (Y).
- 100 free — 1. Liddy (Y), 50.63; 2. Clark (D); 3. Chris Stier (N); 4. Jaromin (Y); 5. Penrod (D); 6. Merriman (Bell).
- 500 free — 1. Bowman (MC), 4:53.83; 2. Nick Woodworth (Bell); 3. Andrew Picek (N); 4. Barron Gilton (MC); 5. Brian Scherrer (MC); 6. Ryan Vongunten (N).
- 200 free relay — 1. Delta (Penrod, Grider, Krimme, Clark), 1:33.60; 2. Norwell; 3. Yorktown; 4. South Adams; 5. Muncie Central; 6. Belmont.
- 100 back — 1. Biberstone (N), 56.28; 2. Johns (MC); 3. Sebura (D); 4. Broyles (D); 5. Lindsey (Y); 6. Stier (N).
- 100 breast — 1. Cairns (MC), 1:09.33; 2. Krimme (D); 3. Troxel (N); 4. Bryan Schwartz (B); 5. Tyler Moser (SA); 6. Kevin Tucker (MC).
- 400 free relay — 1. Muncie Central (Rundell, Chris Taylor, Cairns, Bowman), 3:24.51; 2. Delta; 3. South Adams; 4. Jay County; 5. Belmont; 6. Yorktown.



## Local swimmers hope to 'shave' times

By **NIMISH AMIN**  
The Star Press

MUNCIE — The Indiana University Natatorium in Indianapolis is considered one of the fastest swimming pools in the world.

Swimmers from Muncie Central, Delta, New Castle and Yorktown are hoping the fast lanes of the natatorium help them when the boys' high school state swimming preliminaries begin tonight.

In the 200-yard medley relay, Muncie Central will swim in heat three. Central's team of Jeremy Johns, Adam Cairns, Nick Rundell and Ryan Bowman is seeded 14th. New Castle's 200 medley team includes Aaron Ray, Gregory Shedd, John Hubbard and Jared Crabtree. The Trojans are

### State swim meet

**When:** swim preliminaries — 6 p.m. today; diving prelims — 9 a.m. Saturday; finals — 1 p.m. Saturday

**Where:** — Indiana University Natatorium, Indianapolis

**Who:** Qualifiers from regional competition

seeded 31st.

Bowman will also compete in the 200 freestyle. New Castle's Hubbard, along with Central's Rundell, will participate in the 200 individual medley.

Central's team of Rundell, Christopher Taylor, Cairns and Bowman will swim in the 400 freestyle relay.

"Our relay teams are feeling

good, if we drop some time, we could make it to the finals on Saturday," Central coach Bob Chico said. "Three of our swimmers haven't shaved [their bodies] all season and will be going through a total shave today. They've all been quicker than their sectional times indicate."

So, how much quicker will the swimmers be after their shaves? "Sometimes you can knock off two to two-and-a-half percent of your overall time after shaving," Chico said. "The pool swims quick, which will give us opportunities."

Rundell is also in the 100 butterfly competition, and Bowman qualified for the 500 freestyle. Cairns will swim in the 100 breaststroke preliminary.

Rounding out Central's contingent is Casey Staton, who qualified for Saturday's diving finals with a first-place finish in the Oak Hill regional.

Yorktown's only representative at the state meet will be Ryan Liddy, who will swim in the 50 and 100 freestyle.

Delta's 200 freestyle relay team of Ben Penrod, Justin Grider, Aaron Krimme and James Clark also qualified. Teammate Mark Toney will compete in Saturday's diving finals.

"The way the building is, with all the noise coming down to the swimmers in the water, it makes for a really fast swimming pool," Muncie Central swimmer Rundell said. "Some of us have been down there before, it's just awesome."

# Record-breaking 'Cats advance to state finals

**SWIMMING:** Central athletes will compete in eight events today.

By NIMISH AMIN  
The Star Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Muncie Central boys' swimming coach Bob Chico could scarcely have asked for a better performance from his swimmers.

The Bearcats shattered four school records at the state swimming preliminaries at the Indiana University Natatorium on Friday.

In the 200-yard freestyle relay, Central's team of Ryan Bowman, Adam Cairns, Jeremy Johns and Nick Rundell finished in a school record 1:38.51.

Bowman set another Central record (1:43.05) in the 200 freestyle. According to Chico, Bowman's time was good enough to qualify for the U.S. Junior National Championships next month in Long Island, N.Y.

Bowman also qualified for the state finals in the 500 freestyle in 4:44.30.

Rundell eclipsed a school record in the 200 individual medley in 1:58.46.

Rundell, who will probably swim at Iowa State next season, was one of several Central swimmers who shaved their bodies last night.

The Bearcats said the shaving helped them achieve their record-breaking times. Rundell also qualified for the 100 butterfly finals with a ninth-place time of 52.52.

Cairns qualified in the 100

## Boys' swim state ECI qualifiers

All from Muncie Central.  
200 medley relay — 6. Ryan Bowman, Adam Cairns, Jeremy Johns, Nick Rundell, 1:38.51; 200 freestyle — 7. Bowman, 1:43.05; 200 IM — 10. Rundell, 1:58.46; 100 butterfly — 9. Rundell, 52.52; 500 freestyle — 8. Bowman, 4:44.30; 100 breast — 9. Cairns, 59.79; 400 freestyle relay — 13. Bowman, Cairns, Chris Taylor, Rundell, 3:17.31.

**Other ECI participants**  
New Castle: Aaron Ray, Gregory Shedd, John Hubbard (200 IM), Jared Crabtree  
Yorktown: Ryan Liddy (50 and 100 freestyle)  
Delta 200 free relay: Ben Penrod, Justin Grider, Aaron Kimmie and James Clark

breaststroke with an eighth-place finish in a school-record 59.79.

**"It still has not hit me yet. To go under 1 minute was my goal coming into this event."**

Adam Cairns  
Central swimmer

"It still has not hit me yet," Cairns said. "To go under 1 minute was my goal coming into this event. After shaving last night, it feels 100 percent different in the water now than it did in sectionals."

Central qualified in 13th position (3:17.31) in the 400 freestyle relay.

Competition will continue today at the Natatorium with the diving preliminaries at 9 a.m. Central's Casey Staton and Delta's Mark Toney will participate.

Swimming and diving finals will begin at 1 p.m.

Will the Bearcats' success Friday put extra pressure on them today?

"No, none whatsoever," Chico said. "We will go home tonight and sleep in our own beds and come back Saturday."

No other local swimmers qualified for the finals.

# Central finishes 10th in state swim finals

By NIMISH AMIN  
The Star Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Muncie Central swimmers made the most of their opportunities at the swimming and diving state finals Saturday in the Indiana University Natatorium.

The Bearcats finished 10th with 82 points, 165 points behind first-place Columbus North.

Senior Adam Cairns overcame stomach sickness to finish fifth in the 100-yard breaststroke. His time of 59.38 eclipsed his school record of 59.79, set the night before in the preliminaries.

Cairns's time, according to Central coach Bob Chico, was fast enough to qualify for the U.S. Junior National Championships next month in Long Island, N.Y.

"I was sick all night, but it was just mind over matter. I knew I could do it," Cairns said. "It was my last meet in high school, and I just wanted to do well."

Central freshman Ryan Bowman was fourth in the 500 freestyle. Bowman's time of 4:42.88 was better than his effort the previous day, when he swam a school record 4:44.30.

"I finished a lot better than I thought I would," Bowman said. "I just found it in me during the race."

Cairns and Bowman weren't the only ones to find it in them. Central's 200 medley relay team, consisting of Cairns, Bowman and seniors Jeremy Johns and Nick Rundell, placed sixth in a school-record 1:38.51.

Bowman, despite being off his school-record pace of 1:43.05, finished eighth in the 200 freestyle event in 1:44.72.

Rundell was a piece of the Central record-breaking machine, as well. In the 200 individual medley, his time of 1:58.06 set a Bearcat record and was good for 10th.

In the 100 butterfly, Rundell finished in 13th place in 52.88. In Friday's preliminaries, Rundell swam the event in 52.52.

What slowed him down? "I tried to stretch it out and pace myself," Rundell said. "I should have taken it harder."

Central diver Casey Staton, also in his final high school competition, finished with 334.45 points and placed 16th. Delta's Mark Toney, in the same event, finished 32nd.

"I'm so happy for these kids who have worked so hard. It's been a good day for us," Chico said. "We qualified two swimmers for the U.S. Junior National Championships. It's great. It's exhilarating."

Homestead's Justin Hoggatt became the first swimmer in 40 years to win three consecutive state final 50 freestyle races.



**RYAN BOWMAN:** Freshman finished fourth in the 500 freestyle.



**ADAM CAIRNS:** Senior was fifth in the breaststroke.