

Boys swimming sectional finals today

THE STAR PRESS

Central appears to be on the verge of a boys swimming sectional repeat. The Bearcats will have seven top-seeds in today's Jay County Sectional, which Central won last season for the program's first title in 10 years. The swimming consolation and championship heats begin at 1 p.m.

Three of the seven Central

No. 1 seeds come in the relay events that are worth twice the number of points as individual events. Bearcat senior Devon Hill also qualified first in two events in Thursday's prelims, the 50 and 100 freestyles.

Yorktown has two relays and one individual top seed in the Fishers' Sectional that also resumes at 1 p.m. today.

Dan Farrell earned the top ranking in the 50 freestyle.

Central boys win sectional swimming title

THE STAR PRESS

Central boys swimming coach Steve Spradlin said that his Bearcats surpassed his expectations at the 2008 Jay County Sectional.

The Bearcats proved to be even better a year later. Central turned in another dominant performance for a lopsided victory on Saturday at the Jay County Sectional.

The Bearcats won the sectional by 127 points over second-place Jay County, topping their margin of victory from last season by three.

Senior Devon Hill and sophomore Daniel Proctor propelled the Bearcats to the win. Central won eight of the 12 events, with Hill and Proctor playing a role in six of the victories.

Hill won the 50- (21.38

seconds) and 100-yard freestyles (48.11) and he anchored the winning 200 medley (1:38.68) and 200 freestyle (1:28.75) relays.

Proctor swam with Hill on the two relays, and he won the 200 individual medley (1:58.88) and 100 breaststroke (1:00.54).

Sophomores John Dowdle and Timmy Miller accounted for the Bearcats' other individual winners. Dowdle won the 500 freestyle (4:54.7), and Miller won the 100 backstroke (54.13). The sophomores contributed to one other victory, swimming on the winning 400 freestyle relay (3:24.65).

The second-place Patriots won one event and finished second in three others. Senior Sam Miller won the lone event for Jay County. He won

"It was true swimming in the sense that it was any team's to win this year. Overall, I was more focused on how many kids we got down to state, so when you look at it in that sense every event we thought we would make it in we did. Overall, it was an outstanding meet for the team."

Brad Grieshop, Yorktown coach

the 200 freestyle (1:48.26). Miller finished second in the 100 butterfly, losing by nearly two seconds to South Adams senior Justin Klopp, and he anchored the second-place 200 freestyle relay (1:34.53). Junior Aaron Hudson rounded out the second-place Jay County contingent in the 100 breaststroke (1:01.35).

Fishers Sectional

Yorktown finished third

overall behind champion Hamilton Southeastern and host Fishers on Saturday. The Tigers advanced a minimum of seven swimmers to the state finals.

"It was true swimming in the sense that it was any team's to win this year," Yorktown coach Brad Grieshop said. "Overall, I was more focused on how many kids we got down to state, so when you look at it in that sense every event

we thought we would make it in we did. Overall, it was an outstanding meet for the team."

Dan Farrell accounted for the lone Yorktown champion. Farrell won the 50 freestyle (21.07).

Six other Tigers secured state finals berths by equaling or bettering the state standard time.

All three Yorktown relays qualified — Alex Keller, Farrell, Adam Voss and Shay Daberko in the 3,200 medley (1:36.4); Dave Tobin, Austin Dunn, Michael Heavilon and Daverko in the 200 freestyle (1:29.15); and Keller, Voss, Tobin and Farrell in the 400 free (3:12.23).

Daberko, Keller and Voss each qualified in a third event — Daberko in the 50 free (21.83), Keller in the 100 back (54.38) and Voss

in the 200 free (1:42.07). Keller and Voss set school records in their respective events, and their 400 free relay set a school record.

"Overall, they did really well," Grieshop said. "The kids raced above and beyond what anyone expected. They definitely shocked that sectional with their speed."

Sectional winners automatically qualify for the state finals as well as anyone equaling or bettering the state standard time in their respective event in consolation or championship finals at sectional. The next-fastest number of contestants to bring the total participants to 32 for each event also advance.

The state finals prelims start at 6 p.m. Friday in Indianapolis at the Indiana University Natatorium.

Boys swimming Jay County Sectional

Central 322, Jay County 195, Bluffton 194, South Adams 172, Delta 124, Norwell 120, Belmont 116, Adams Central 69, Blackford 37, Southside 28

At Portland

Top ECI finishers

200 medley relay — 1. Central (Haller, Proctor, Parmelee, Hill) 1:38.68, 3. Jay County (Fennig, Hudson, VanSkyock, Lucas); 200 free — 1. Miller (JC) 1:48.26, 2. Dowdle (C), 3. Purtlebaugh (C), 6. Morris (D); 200 IM — 1. Proctor (C) 1:58.88, 2. Parmelee (C), 3. Haller (C), 5. Fennig (JC), 6. Zimmerman (D); 50 free — 1. Hill (C) 21.38, 3. Wright (D), 4. Rowe (C); Diving — 3. Christman (D), 5. Parker (C); 100 butterfly — 2. Miller (JC), 3. Parmelee (C), 4. Hudson (J); 100 free — 1. Hill (C) 48.11, 2. Wright (D), 5. Rowe (C); 500 free — 1. Dowdle (C) 4:54.7, 3. Purtlebaugh (C); 200 free relay — 1. Central (Proctor, Rowe, Parmelee, Hill) 1:28.75, 2. Jay County (Milligan, Lucas, VanSkyock, Miller); 100 backstroke — 1. Miller (C) 54.13, 2. Haller (C), 5. Fennig (JC); 100 breaststroke — 1. Proctor (C)

SWIM

Continued from 1B

Yorktown's Dan Farrell turned in the second fastest time in the state when he won the Fishers Sectional title last week in a time of 21.07 — just four one-hundredths behind top-seed Drew Hill of Vincennes Lincoln. With the top eight times separated by just three tenths of a second, no room for error will be left in today's prelims that begin at 6 p.m. at the IUPUI Natatorium in Indianapolis.

Two lanes next to Farrell in the third heat will be his longtime rival (and friend) Devon Hill of Central. The Bearcat posted the 11th-best entry time of 21.38 when he won the Jay County sectional. The championship and consolation heats begin at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Farrell can't remember beating Devon Hill head-to-head, and since both are seniors, this may be his last shot. Hill placed 14th in the consolation heat at state last season with a time of 22.29 while Farrell didn't make it out of prelims and finished 29th in 22.74. The top-seed Drew Hill was 24th last season.

Winning the ultimate sprint requires perfection in the three core elements of the race: Start, turn, finish.

In turning in that 21.07 in sectionals, Yorktown coach Brad Grieshop said Farrell performed close to flawlessly in all three.

"Off the start, he had a good half-a-body-length lead already at the breakout," the first-year coach said. "At the turn, he came off ahead of everybody and that's what made the difference."

Farrell said he'll be racing more than just Hill and the other 30 swimmers entered in prelims.

He'll be trying to chase down the school record which also happens to be the state mark set by former Tiger Eric Mattingly in 2004. He'll have to shave more than six-tenths of a second off his time to better Mattingly's time of 20.40.

That might not sound like much until you realize how valuable each one-hundredth counts in the 50.

The difference of two laps between the 50 and 100 freestyles is huge, said Devon Hill who is the 25th seed in the longer event in prelims.

"In the 100, there is a little room for error," said Hill. The Star Press boys swimmer of the year last season. "You don't need the best start or the greatest walls and you can still make up time. But in that 50, it's pretty much anybody's race as long as it's their day."

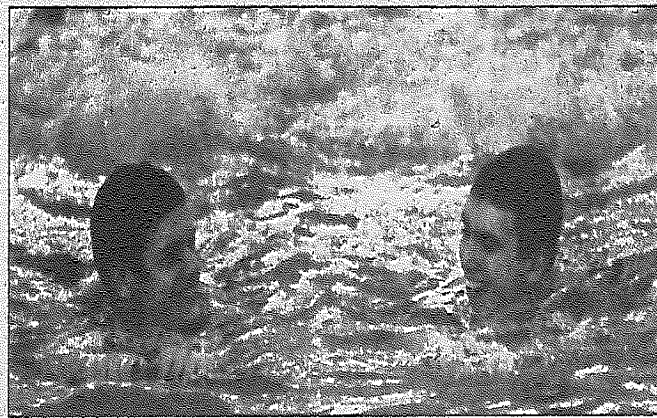
Hill sees room for improvement in all of his times at state since he did not taper his workouts for sectionals.

Both Hill and Farrell will play big parts in relays today as the Bearcats and Tigers qualified three relays apiece. Yorktown has two six seeds, the 200 medley of Alex Keller, Farrell, Adam Voss and Shay Daberko and 400 freestyle relay of Keller, Voss, David Tobin and Farrell. Yorktown has a 20-seed in the 200 free relay.

Central's best shot comes in the 200 medley (Zachary Haller, Daniel Proctor, Mitch Parmerlee and Hill) with the 13th-best entry time. Their 200 free relay is 17th and the 400 free relay is 32nd.

Yorktown's Voss is the only other local athlete with entry times inside the top 16. The sophomore is the No. 9 seed in both the 100 butterfly and 200 freestyle.

Contact sports writer Michael Casagrande at 213-5807.



KURT HOSTETLER / THE STAR PRESS

YORKTOWN'S DAN FARRELL (left) and Adam Voss both participate in multiple events today at the boys state swimming and diving tournament.

Tiger, Bearcat two laps from glory

By MICHAEL CASAGRANDE
mcasagrande@muncie.gannett.com

It will take just a little more than 20 seconds to complete one of the state's most exciting athletic moments. That includes basketball.

Just two laps — down and up — will determine Indiana's fastest swimmer

Saturday afternoon in the boys swimming and diving state championship meet in Indianapolis.

Qualifying for the championship final of the 50-yard freestyle will be hard enough, but two locals have a shot of landing in the top eight.

► See SWIM, 4B

Boys state swimming and diving

When: Today, Saturday.

Where: IUPUI Natatorium, Indianapolis.

Admission: \$8 per session or \$12 both days.

Prelims: Today, 6 p.m. (swimming only); Saturday 9 a.m. (diving prelims and semifinals).

Finals and Consolations: Saturday, 1 p.m. (both swimming and diving)

Advancement: The top eight in each swimming event move into the championship heat with the next eight advance to the consolation heat.

Central sprinter makes state finals

THE STAR PRESS

The third heat of the 50 freestyle state prelims had mixed results for the two locals swimmers.

Boys state swimming-diving

I When: Today

I Where: IUPUI Natatorium, Indianapolis

I Admission: \$8

I Prelims: Today, 9 a.m. (diving prelims and semifinals)

I Finals and Consolations:

Today, 1 p.m. (both swimming and diving)

I Advancing to championship heat: Central, 200-medley relay (sixth); Devon Hill, Central 50 free (seventh)

Central's Devon Hill advanced into today's championship final while second-seeded Dan Farrell slipped to second-alternate for the consolation heat. Hill had the seventh-best time overall with a 21:20 coming out of lane six of the third heat.

Two lanes away, Farrell added .72 to his seed time to finish in 21.79 and place 18th overall.

The consolation and championship heats begin at 1 p.m. today at

the IUPUI Natatorium in Indianapolis.

Farrell had the No. 2 seed-time entering Friday's prelims thanks to a 21.07 swim that won the Fishers Sectional last week. Hill had an entry time of 21.38 that was 11th-best.

Hill also made it back for today's competition in the 100 freestyle consolation with a 46.86, good for 11th in prelims.

In the first event of Friday's swimming, Central's 200-medley relay of Timmy Miller, Daniel Proctor, Mitch Parmerlee and Hill dropped more than two seconds off its seed time to qualify sixth for today's finals. It clocked a 1:36.20 while No. 1 Chesterton swam a 1:33.34.

Central's Hill fourth in state 50 freestyle

Bearcats finish 12th in team standings.

THE STAR PRESS

Walking to the blocks, Devon Hill could hear the roar of the crowd over Nelly's "Here Comes the Boom" playing on his iPod.

The Central senior did his best to block out the distractions in the last few minutes

before swimming the 50-yard freestyle in Saturday's state swim meet in Indianapolis.

He stepped to the block as the seventh-seed in the 50 freestyle state championship final and left the pool 21.26 seconds later with a fourth-place swim.

Hill's swim combined with five other Bearcat entries who advanced to the championship or consolation heat gave Central a 12th-place team fin-



ish. Chesterton won its second straight title with 222, while the only other local school Yorktown scored 38 points to come in 16th.

After reaching the wall in the 50, Hill wasn't sure where he stood.

"I don't really do too much

thinking when I swim that race," said Hill, who added a ninth-place swim in the 100 free later in the meet. "I just kind of go out and sprint."

His Saturday time of 21.06 in the 50 was identical to the one he swam in Friday's prelim that broke a 25-year-old school record. It was one of three Bearcat records set over the weekend.

► See SWIMMING, 28

SWIMMING

Continued from 1B

The 200-medley relay of Timmy Miller, Daniel Proctor, Mitch Parmerlee and Hill finished sixth in a time of 1:36.41 to break the old mark set in 1998. Coming into prelims, the

relay was seeded 13th.

Proctor broke another record set 11 years ago in Friday's 200 individual medley prelim where he placed 21st with his 1:57.54. The sophomore was 14th in Saturday's 100 breast-stroke consolation with a 59.52.

The other Central relay

(200 freestyle) finished 15th.

Yorktown's Adam Voss swam in a pair of consolations. The sophomore improved two places in the 100 butterfly to finish 10th in 51.90. In the 200 freestyle, his time of 1:43.98 bumped him up one position into 12th.

Voss was also a member of two relays that competed in consolation heats. His 400 freestyle relay team along with David Tobin, Alex Keller and Dan Farrell finished ninth and the 200 medley team of Keller, Farrell, Voss and Shay Daberko was 13th.