



# Hamilton County Reporter



Photo by Kent Graham/Correspondent

Just like Erin Wood and the Millers, the competition will be intense at the North Central girls basketball sectional. Four of the seven teams in the sectional have winning records, including defending champion Westfield (14-3). Noblesville and Fishers are both 15-3 and North Central is 10-7.

Any breaks in Class 4A, Sectional 8?

# Millers, Tigers get good draw

**By DON JELLISON**  
**Reporter Editor**

Looking for the “luck of the draw” in the wide-open Class 4 Sectional 9 at North Central is like looking for a “needle in a haystack.”

But, this morning Fishers and Noblesville might be smelling a little of that hay.

\*Fishers, in the opening game, has drawn the team with the poorest record in this seven-team tourney, Zionsville (6-13 and 0-4 against teams in this sectional).

Fishers (15-3) back on Dec. 21, unloaded on Zionsville, 64-32.

\*Noblesville has drawn the bye. The Lady Millers will play the winner of the Fishers-Zionsville game. Noblesville owns a 58-42 win over Zionsville and a 48-46 victory over Fishers.

So, who is the favorite entering the tournament?

Noblesville (15-3) has the best record entering the final week of the season. The lone knock on Noblesville is that two of the Millers’ three losses have been to Westfield, 58-41, and Hamilton Southeastern, 54-44,

but both losses coming during the first half of the season. Since the Dec. 13 loss to Southeastern, Noblesville has won eight of nine games, losing only to Anderson by six points. Noblesville will take a seven-game win streak into a Thursday game at No. 1 ranked Lawrence North and then will close the season at home on Friday in a girls/boys double-header with Hoosier Crossroads Conference foe Harrison.

Fishers, down the home stretch, has been as hot as Noblesville. The Lady Tigers have won three straight and have lost only to Noblesville in the two-pointer in their last 12 games. But, Fishers, like Noblesville, has lost twice to teams in this sectional ...to Noblesville and to Hamilton Southeastern, 37-27.

Defending champion and 15<sup>th</sup> state ranked Westfield (14-3) arguably is the sectional favorite, although the Lady Shamrocks have drawn a tough route. They will open against a very good, host North Central (10-7) team. The winner of that game will get the winner of the Carmel-Southeastern game.

Westfield was rolling along with 11 consecutive victories before falling in a row to Fishers, New Castle and Brownsburg. The Shamrocks appear to have recovered, beating Western Boone, Hamilton Heights and McCutcheon in their last three games.

North Central will be no cupcake for Westfield. The Lady Panthers have done well while playing in the tough MIC Conference this season. Against sectional foes, NC has defeated Carmel 58-46 and Southeastern 46-43 and lost early season to Fishers, 55-49. North Central and Westfield did not meet during the regular season.

Southeastern (9-9) and Carmel (8-10) did meet, and Carmel won that game, 48-40.

Southeastern had won three straight before now having lost three straight. The Lady Royals should get healthy this week, playing Lafayette Jeff and Avon, opponents which combined have won just two games.

Carmel, which like North Central plays in the MIC, is 8-10 on the year with games remaining with Avon and Center Grove.



## Final IBCA one-class coaches poll

Rank, School	Pts, Record	12 Lake Central	186 17-2	Canterbury, Fort Wayne Concordia
1 Lawrence North	440 19-1	13 Logansport	141 16-2	Lutheran, Franklin County, Garrett,
2 Bedford N. Lawrence	418 18-1	13 Princeton Comm.	141 20-0	Hammond Bishop Noll, Lebanon,
3 Columbus North	390 18-2	15 Bloomington South	128 14-4	Madison Consolidated, Merrillville,
4 Homestead	361 17-1	16 Oregon-Davis	111 14-2	Mishawaka, <b>Noblesville</b> , North
5 Evansville Mater Dei	346 18-1	<b>17 Westfield</b>	<b>76 14-3</b>	Decatur, Northridge, NorthWood,
6 Penn	312 16-1	18 Franklin Central	68 13-4	Oak Hill, Pendleton Heights,
7 Heritage Christian	308 20-1	19 Pike	56 14-8	Rushville Consolidated,
8 LaPorte	273 17-1	20 Anderson	34 15-3	Southwestern (Shelbyville),
9 Roncalli	235 16-4	Other Schools Receiving Votes		Western.
10 Center Grove	216 14-3	Attica, East Central, <b>Fishers</b> , Fort		
11 Mooresville	194 16-2	Wayne Bishop Luers, Fort Wayne		

FIRE AT THE MEADOWS - SEE SPECIAL COVERAGE PAGE 4



# Heights, Guerin go different paths

By DON JELLISON  
Reporter Editor

Hamilton County neighbors Hamilton Heights and Guerin Catholic, both playing in the Class 3A tourney, can not meet until the state championship game. Guerin will take the southern route and Heights the northern route.

But, first it will be tough taking routes to get out of their respective sectionals. Hamilton Heights will play in Sectional 24 at Blackford (Hartford City) and Guerin will play at the nearby Brebeuf Sectional.

In a six-team tourney, Hamilton Heights got one of the two byes.

It’s a sectional where the Lady Huskies will be the “strangers.” Hamilton Heights so far hasn’t played any of the other sectional teams, but this week will end the regular season playing at Yorktown. At 10-6, Yorktown has the second-best record in this sectional, behind Muncie Central.

Hamilton Heights will play the winner of the Delta-Muncie South game. Neither of those teams has winning records. Delta is 5-10 and Muncie South is 3-11.

Delta has defeated Muncie South, 51-37, this season.

The tourney favorite, arguably, is Muncie Central. The Lady Bearcats are 13-4 overall and 3-0 against sectional foes.

Muncie Central will begin against Blackford, the bracket opposite of where Heights will play. Central has defeated Blackford, 49-36, and Muncie also has beaten Delta 60-35 and Muncie South 82-25.

It has been a tough season so far for Hamilton Heights, following the Lady Huskies march to the state championship game last year, losing to a Mt. Vernon team which this season is playing Class 4A.

Currently, Heights is 6-10. With only three games remaining the Lady Huskies can not take a winning record into the sectional. But, they started what could be a strong finish this past week by unloading on Peru, 86-61.

During the final week of the regular season, Heights will play at Maconaquah and at Yorktown and will host Taylor.

Guerin Catholic (12-9), a red-hot team with three straight wins and five wins in the last six games, has drawn Indianapolis Marshall in the first game of the five-team Brebeuf Sectional. The Golden Eagles defeated Marshall, 50-38, last weekend. Three games ago Guerin beat Brebeuf 45-37 and Guerin also has defeated Herron, 48-21.

Big problem for Guerin may be Chatard. The Lady Trojans are 15-4 on the year and handled Guerin with ease, 76-43, when the two teams met back on Jan.10. Charard will open the sectional against Brebeuf, a team Chatard has defeated, 63-54, on Jan. 31.



Photo by Brian Reddick/RDK PhotoGraphic

Hamilton Heights freshman Taylor Boyd will get her first opportunity to compete in a sectional on Feb. 4. The defending champion Huskies play the Delta-Muncie Southside winner in the semi-finals.

Sectional 24 - At Blackford			Sectional 26 - At Brebeuf Jesuit		
First round	Semi-finals	Championship	First round	Semi-finals	Championship
Heights				Guerin Catholic	
BYE	Heights			Feb. 14, 6 p.m.	
Delta	Feb. 14, 6 p.m.		Indpls. Marshall		
Feb. 11, 6 p.m.					Feb. 15, 7 p.m.
Muncie Southside		Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m.			
Yorktown			Herron		
BYE	Yorktown		Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m.		
Blackford	Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m.		Brebeuf Jesuit		
Feb. 11, 7:30 p.m.			Feb. 11, 6 p.m.		
Muncie Central			Bishop Chatard		





Photo by Brian Reddick/RDK PhotoGraphic

Sheridan’s Payton Fleener has been a big part of the Blackhawks’ winning season. Sheridan is 13-6 for the season, and plays the winner of Tipton and Eastern in the Elwood sectional semi-finals.

*Tipton, Deaf School sectional favorites...*

# Sheridan, University face tough roads

**By DON JELLISON  
Reporter Editor**

Sheridan has enjoyed a very strong regular season. But, for the Lady Blackhawks to win the Class 2A sectional at Elwood, the season will have to get even better. Tipton, as Sheridan already has learned, is very, very tough.

Same goes for University at the Class 1A sectional to be played at Bethesda Christian where it will take an upset to nail favored Deaf School.

Sheridan’s shot at Tipton will come, and it will come early. The Lady Blackhawks

have drawn a first-round bye and will face the winner of Game 1 between Tipton and Eastern. That likely will be Tipton. The Blue Devils are 10-4 and 5-0 against the sectional field. Eastern is 5-12 overall and 1-4 against other teams in this sectional.

Sheridan has a 13-6 record. Another good team in the field is Elwood at 13-5.

Tipton has beaten Elwood 81-69 and just recently defeated Sheridan 67-54.

Sheridan has been hot down the homestretch, winning three of its last four games and losing only to Hoosier Heartland

champion Clinton Prairie, 48-36, during this period of time.

The Lady Blackhawks will close their season with two games this week, facing a 7-12 Frankfort team and a 1-15 Rossville team.

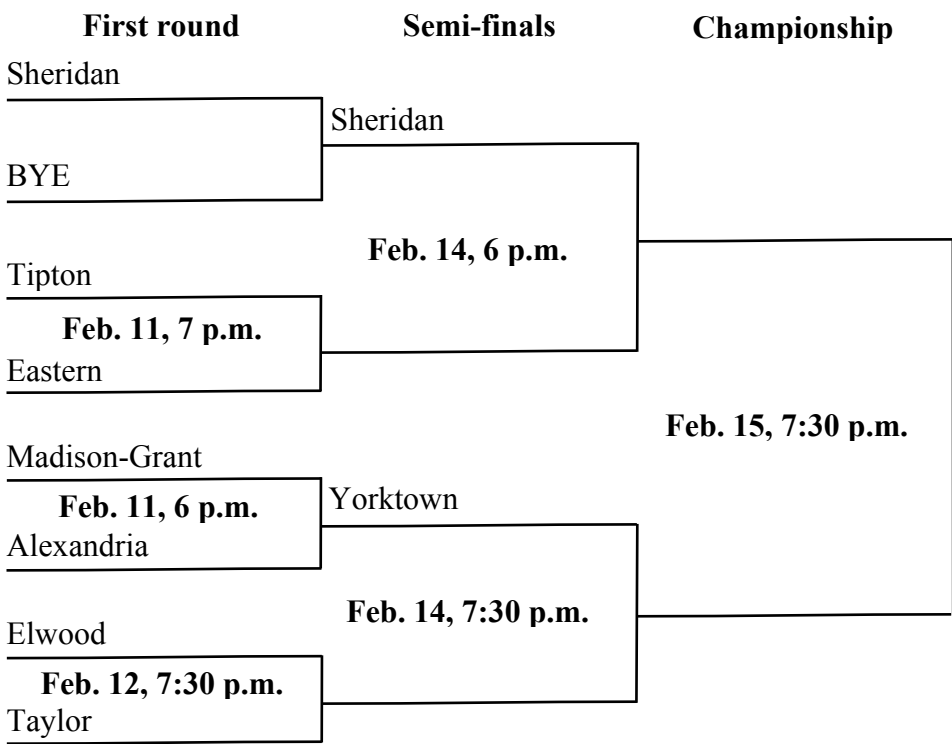
University, as always, has played a very tough schedule for a 1A team. The Lady Trailblazers are 4-10 and still have three games remaining, playing Faith Christian and playing 2A teams Elwood and Indianapolis Washington. All three games will be at home.

Two of University’s four wins have come in a 2-2 split with teams playing in this sectional. The Trailblazers have lost to Bethesda Christian 31-27 and to Indiana Deaf 63-31.

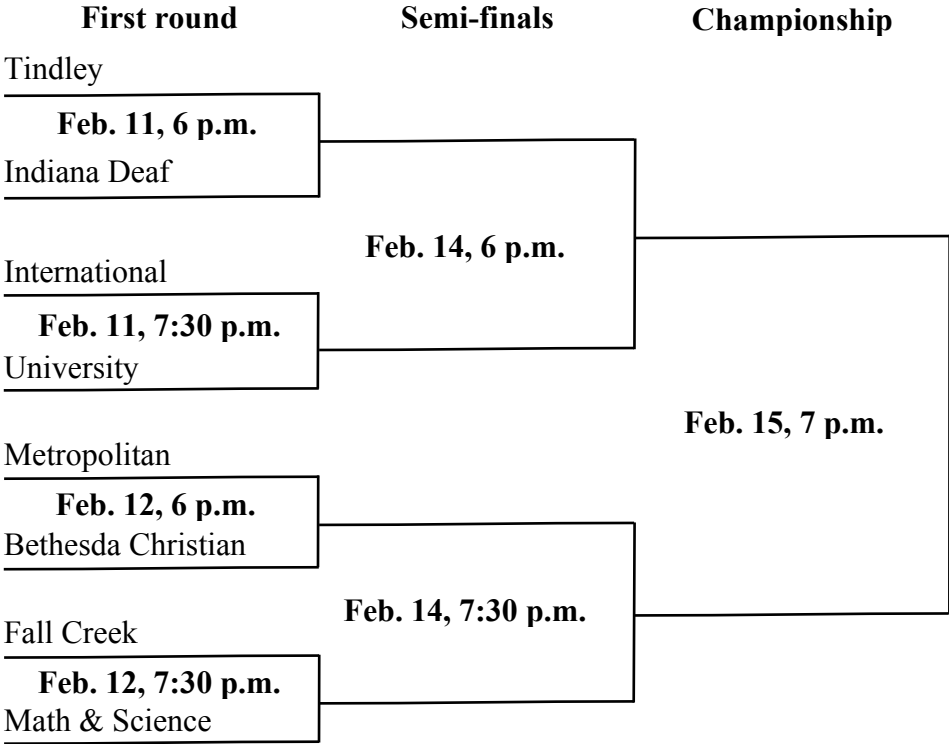
University and first-round sectional foe International met back on Dec. 10, with University pulling out a 24-22 win. University also has defeated Metropolitan, 42-33.

The winner of the University-International game will play the winner of the Tindley-Indiana Deaf game.

## Sectional 39 - At Elwood



## Sectional 58 - At Bethesda Christian





# NFD responds to fire at The Meadows

At 5:18 p.m. Sunday, the Noblesville Fire Department responded to a residence fire located at 10558 Sienna Drive.

Upon fire suppression crews arrival at 5:23 p.m., they noted a full engulfed garage fire with an adjacent home located to the north on fire as well. Fire suppression crews simultaneously fought the garage fire, as well as performed and interior attack on the adjacent home. The entire event was marked under control at 5:49 p.m.

The only occupant home in the house of fire origin was Stacy Birden. Stacy states she was sitting on the couch in the living room when she heard a pop sound coming from the garage. Stacy stated she went to investigate the sound and discovered a working fire. Stacy and her dog exited through the front door to safety.

The adjacent home that was damaged was owned by James and Katie Dillinger. The home has approximately \$40,000 dollars damage. Mr. and Mrs. Dillinger were not injured during the event.

The fire has originated in the garage of Rick & Stacy Birden home. The cause of the fire is still under investigation. The fire has cause approximately \$150,000.00 dollars damage. There are no injuries or deaths to report.



Photo by Brian Reddick/RDK Photography

The Noblesville Fire Department responded to a fire at Sienna Drive in The Meadows Sunday afternoon. The NFD was able to have it under control a half-hour later, but not before it caused \$150,000 in damage. The fire also damaged an adjacent home, causing \$40,000 worth of damage.



Photo courtesy Noblesville Fire Department

The house fire on Sienna Drive Sunday fully engulfed the structure, but there were no injuries.



Photo by Brian Reddick/RDK Photography

Firefighters had to deal with the cold and recent snowfall while battling the fire that took place on Sienna Drive Sunday.

# Hunt elected to Meals on Wheels of Hamilton County

A volunteer driver for eight years, Jonathan Hunt has been elected to the board of directors of Meals on Wheels of Hamilton County. His three-year term began in January.

“Jonathan is a fine addition to the 12-person board,” said Jesse Pohlman, board president. “He brings enthusiasm for service and an impressive record of community volunteerism, leadership and financial knowledge that will help Meals on Wheels continue to meet the growing



Hunt

need of providing hot, nutritious meals throughout Hamilton County.”

Hunt has worked for First Merchants Bank since 2007, currently serving as assistant Vice President in Fishers. He is a graduate of the Hamilton County Leadership Academy and has spearheaded several fundraising projects for Promising Futures. He also served as Assistant Governor for Rotary International District 6560 and President of Noblesville Midday Rotary.

This is Hunt’s second term on the Meals on Wheels board. He first term, from 2007-11, included serving more than a year as treasurer.

“I was proud to be part of the Meals on Wheels organization in my first term and am excited to be in a leadership

role with the organization again,” he said. “There is something very special about handing a hot meal to someone on a cold day. As one of more than 400 volunteer drivers, I know that sometimes I’m the only person the recipient will see that day.”

“By delivering meals to people who are homebound or can’t prepare food for themselves, Meals on Wheels plays a critical role in helping residents retain their independence and remain in their homes,” Hunt continued. “The demand is great in Hamilton County and grows daily.”

For more information about volunteering for, supporting or benefiting from Meals on Wheels, visit [www.mealsonwheelshc.org](http://www.mealsonwheelshc.org) or call (317) 776-7159.