



Mustang Hoops Update



FOUNTAIN CENTRAL BASKETBALL NEWSLETTER #18

MARCH 21, 2014



2014 REGIONAL:

The Mustangs finished the season 15-8 with a 10-point loss to Tipton in the regional. A really bad 2nd quarter doomed us. We got behind and then let up on our defense and allowed them to pull away. We got behind by as many as 26 early in the third quarter before starting to come back. Clayton Corey (12 pts) really hurt the Blue Devils going to the basket before he fouled out. Ethan Woodrow (25 pts) and Koby Pierce (16 pts) hit some 3s to pull us as close as 9 points in the 4th. We did not have enough time to fight all the back.

The Wapahani/Lewis Cass game after ours was as intense as I have seen a high school game in some time. It was great that so many of our players wanted to stay and watch all of it, even with a long bus trip in front of us. In the championship game, Tipton actually led Lewis Cass by 4 heading into the 4th quarter before eventually falling to the Kings.

Next season looks bright for the Mustangs. We return 5 of our top 6 players, and several young players are poised to make great improvements in the off-season. We expect to have more depth next season, which will hopefully lead to an improved defense as well as a more efficient offense.

Playing in the regional was a great experience for us, and we are very thankful to the athletic department and the school for taking care of us. It was our second time in three years to play in a regional. I felt like we did a better job in our mental approach this time than we did two years ago, but I'd really like to see us win it next year. We have the tools coming back to make a deep post-season run, but we have to put in the time in the off-season to make it happen.



WRC PLAYERS MAKING THEIR MARK:

Former Rockville stars Lane and RJ Mahurin helped lead Indiana Wesleyan to the NAIA DII National Championship this week. Congrats to the former Rox!



NOAH Shooting Clinic:

NOAH will be demonstrating their shooting aid at FCHS on Thursday, April 17th, at 6 pm. The machine helps track the arc of your shot and gives advice on how to improve shooting. Our players will get to try the machine for free that night.

2014 -- REGIONAL CHAMPIONS:

4A:

- @ **SOUTHPORT:** INDY TECH (25-2)
- @ **SEYMOUR:** BLOOMINGTON N (16-8)
- @ **MICHIGAN CITY:** LAKE CENTRAL (21-3)
- @ **MARION:** HOMESTEAD (20-7)



3A:

- @ **GREENCASTLE:** GUERIN CATHOLIC (22-3)
- @ **WASHINGTON:** GREENSBURG (26-1)
- @ **KANKAKEE VALLEY:** BOWMAN ACADEMY (21-4)
- @ **BLACKFORD:** FW DWENGER (17-8)



2A:

- @ **CONNERSVILLE:** PARK TUDOR (22-4)
- @ **SOUTHRIDGE:** CLARKSVILLE (23-2)
- @ **NORTH JUDSON:** WESTVIEW (22-4)
- @ **LAPEL:** LEWIS CASS (22-2)



1A:

- @ **MARTINSVILLE:** CLAY CITY (20-6)
- @ **LOGOOTE:** BARR-REEVE (25-1)
- @ **TRITON:** MC MARQUETTE (18-6)
- @ **FRANKFORT:** LIBERTY CHRISTIAN



MARCH MADNESS!

This time of year is a basketball fan's paradise as there are college basketball games on TV all day Thursday – Sunday. There are also semi-state matchups around the state. It's unfortunate that no colleges from the state of Indiana made it to the tournament this year, but we can always cheer for the Badgers and the many players from our state playing on other teams.



2014 – WRC – ALL CONFERENCE TEAM:

ETHAN WOODROW	FOUNTAIN CENTRAL
JORDAN AHRENS	COVINGTON
CHANDLER SPRING	COVINGTON
BRYCE COOPER	ATTICA
BRAYDEN WOODARD	NORTH VERMILLION
KEIONTRE WILKEY	ROCKVILLE
BORDEN KENNEDY	SEEGER
JACOB EARL	NORTH VERMILLION
TRAVIS COLEMAN	COVINGTON
KOBY PIERCE	FOUNTAIN CENTRAL
BRADY SHERIDAN	ATTICA
LANCE HOPKINS	ROCKVILLE

WRC – All Conference Honorable Mention:

Kenny Little – Attica	Gage Hegg – Covington
Brannan wright – Covington	Clayton Corey – Fountain Central
Cody Wright – N. Vermillion	Hunter Falls – Riverton Parke
Tanner Edge – Riverton Parke	Kyle Paddock – Rockville
Josh Orahod – Seeger	Terron Wade – Seeger
Jacob Budd – Turkey Run	

All Bi-County Team:

FOUNTAIN CENTRAL –

Ethan Woodrow, Koby Pierce, Clayton Corey

COVINGTON –

Jordan Ahrens, Chandler Spring, Travis Coleman

ATTICA –

Bryce Cooper, Brady Sheridan, Kenny Little

SEEGER –

Borden Kennedy

OFF-SEASON:

The Mustangs will take some time off and enjoy the spring. We have several players who participate in spring sports and we are looking forward to seeing our players compete in track and baseball this spring.

Those who are not playing spring sports are encouraged to work in the weight room and to come to open gyms in the spring to work on their game and improve for next season.

June is a big month for basketball. We will be working out regularly, though the times have not been finalized yet. We plan to play Wednesday evenings in the Lafayette Area Basketball League again this June. This is open to incoming 9th-12th graders who are interested in basketball.

We will also participate in several one-day shootouts in June. Information will be provided soon with specific details and cost. We will provide many JV and varsity playing opportunities this summer.

We also will likely schedule some playing opportunities for incoming 6th-8th graders this summer, though we have not finalized plans for this yet.

2014-15 SEASON:

At the defensive end, senior Kiowa Simonton will be very difficult to replace. Hopefully, our younger players will see the great example he set as a role player and decide to find additional ways to contribute. We return 5 of our 6 top players in all statistical categories.

We are counting on some guards like Tyler Starkey, Ben Payton, Casey Walls, Dallas Otero, Thad Crain, Andrew Golia, Ricky Ortiz, and Mikey Brown to elevate their play over the summer and provide us with some additional outside shooting. We are hoping to develop some additional depth for next season, and the off-season is the most important time for players to develop their games.

In Doug Wallace, Ethan Woodrow, Clayton Corey, Ladd Warner, and Koby Pierce, we return a very solid core unit. However, their work in the off-season to expand their games will be the key to next season. We have a chance to repeat as sectional champs if those guys improve their games and help push some of the younger players to put in the time needed this spring, summer, and fall.

We also have some incoming freshmen that we are very excited about. It will be interesting to see which players work hard and earn themselves some playing time for next season. In the meantime, we are looking forward to enjoying the spring and fall sports seasons before we start working toward another great season.

In our conference, Covington will again be the team to beat, while Seeger, North Vermillion, Attica, and Rockville all appear to have a chance to be much-improved next season. On the All-Conference team, only two players are seniors, so expect our conference to have some exciting games next season. In our sectional, we should again be one of the favorites, while Clinton Central returns some talented young players. Seeger will also be improved. I would also expect to see an improved Southmont team after all the experience their young players got this season.

The Mustangs have played in five straight sectional championship games, winning two titles in the last three years. Adding the first ever regional title to that would be a nice way for our current juniors to close out their careers! There is a lot of work to be done between now and next November.

