

# TOM TOM SPORTS

Gymnastics- Pg. 20

Indoor Soccer- Pg. 21

Wrestling- Pg. 22



## Dance team rocks Elk Grove

By Tim Racette

The Antioch girls have danced their way to the top, qualifying for Super Sectionals at their second competition, and scoring only 0.9 away from qualifying for state.

Placing first in kick and first in hip-hop at the Elk Grove competition and first in AAA Kick and second in AAA Hip-Hop at Rich-Central, Coach Carissa Parker feels confident in the girls as they continue to perfect and add difficulty to their routines.

"I think the first competition has helped us a lot," said Alyssa Johnson, junior, and team co-captain.

"We were a little nervous going into it, but [we] ended up doing great, which in the end gave us confidence and let us know that we can achieve whatever we put our minds too."

Re-choreographing their hip-hop routine before the Elk Grove competition, Johnson felt the team has been doing a good job on cleaning the routines up as a whole.

"We've really come together so far this year, competition season is always the time where we get past our differences and our different dance backgrounds to really come together and dance as a team instead of individuals," said Chelsea Carr, ACHS junior and team co-captain. "The first competition was a reality check that we have a lot of potential to do great this year."

There is only one new freshman on the team this year and that is Cassia Gass.

"It is rare for a freshman to be

on the [varsity] team," said Carissa Parker, coach. "In order to make it as a freshman you have to be highly talented and at a level that is beyond your peers."

Gass is a former student of Palombi middle school and has taken dance classes at the Dance Academy of Antioch since she was five.

"It's really cool [to have made the team]," said Gass. "I have so much fun and I really like it. Even though it's a lot of hard work, it's so worth it."

The first experience at high school level has helped Gass as well as the rest of the team improve on their kick, and hip-hop skills and really know where they stand against other girls of the same age. After the competitions the girls have been adding harder transitions and break-dancing moves to keep moving their performance to the next level.

"Cassia has been a great asset to the team," said Parker. "She is always on task, her ability to learn

routines is exceptional, and she has diverse talents in different types of dance.

In addition to the teams kick and hip hop routines, they will be adding just one more. Social Studies teacher, and retired dance coach, Joy Edge will be choreographing a prop routine to the song "Taking care of business."

"I think that we have potential to be good in the prop category," said Johnson "it's different, it is not something that we do very often, I think that the team will be able to have a lot of fun with it."

After taking a two week break for the holidays, the girls will return to practice when school resumes. They will take their places on the competition floor again, at Warren on Jan. 16.

## Boy's basketball deals with struggles

By Joey Alvarez

Since the Winter sports season began the Antioch Community High School boy's basketball team has lost three players from their varsity roster.

Brian Sternberg, Nick Markovich, and Tom Moore all quit the team just a few weeks into the season. This shortens the already small team roster, and also leaves only three remaining seniors on the team, Martin Pazanin, Randel Williams, and Chad Ori.

"I would rather have 12 people on my team that want to be there, than have a few more players who don't want to put forth the dedication, and effort that it takes to be on the team," said Coach Tom Duffy.

Whether or not the team will be successful for the rest of the season greatly depends on the player's continuity. "I don't think that it will greatly effect our team chemistry that the other players quit. We all have one main goal, and that's to win," said Mike Donovan, ACHS junior.

For the Sequoits, rebounding well and playing team basketball are the two components that seem to be a consistent formula for winning games. "We just need to keep playing team basketball, and stick to playing our kind of game."

During the game against Warren Township High School, the Sequoits were unable to keep the blue devils from stealing the ball. As a result, the Sequoits gave up many second chance points.

"Offensive rebounding, and second chance points kept us out of the game. We all know that Warren is a good team, and we weren't to demoralized by the loss. But we also know

that we could've played better," said Duffy.

The Sequoits played their first game with their shortened 12-man roster against Wauconda this past Saturday. Unlike in their previous game the team had no problems getting their offense going in the first quarter. Alex McKenzie, ACHS junior made three 3-point shots in the first quarter alone. The team also managed to make seven of their 11 field goal attempts in the quarter.

The Sequoits next game is on Friday December 17 against Stevenson. "We just have to remember to box out and keep hitting the boards hard. If we can do that then I think we have a chance," said Duffy.

The next two teams the Sequoits will be playing against are undefeated. If ever there were a time to come together and play as a team, it's now.



Photo by Joey Alvarez and Tiffany Chilcote  
DRIVING DOWN THE COURT: ACHS sophomore Sean Hertz, is a starter this year.



## -Sequoits- at a Glance

### Girls Volleyball



Photo by Brittney Rosenzweig

By Chip Leffelman

After winning their Regional game, the Antioch Community High School Girls Volleyball Team is still winning awards for their accomplishments on and off the court.

The Outstanding Sportsmanship Award was awarded to the team from the Zebra Association, an association that represents Northern Illinois Referees.

Coach Bob Schenk said, "I was very pleasantly surprised to get this award. The association that awards it represents a very influential group of referees who officiate not only our conference, but also most of the conferences in Northern Illinois."

The team received the honors specifically for their positive attitudes, gift giving, and fair play.

ACHS Senior Jeanna Wirth said, "We always gave the other team gifts before the games...Stickers, little American flags on 9/11, and sometimes little stuffed volleyballs."

Besides the giving of gifts at the games, overall, the team had a good attitude.

"We were always really enthusiastic, we would cheer positively whether we were winning or losing. And at the end of the games we would always congratulate the other team," said ACHS senior Kelsie Hartl.