

TOM TOM SPORTS

Girls basketball prepares for Regionals See page 11



Sequoit



Sports Briefs

Preseason Softball

With the start to the new softball season approaching, the lady Sequoits have started to prepare by attending open gyms every Wednesday after school. According to varsity coach Mary Easton, the girls have been working on throwing, batting with the machine, and getting a feel for the bat. The varsity team took second place in the conference championship and lost out in the first round of the regional championship last year, but Easton expects that the team will go even further this season.



Easton

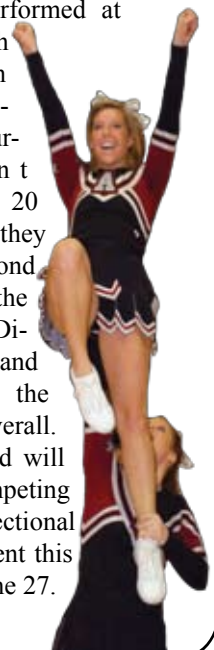
Preseason Baseball

In order to prepare for the upcoming Spring season, the baseball team have been conditioning three times a week. Conditioning for the team includes practicing hitting, throwing and lifting weights. The team looks to beat strong competitors of the past such as Stevenson, Lakes and Grant high schools.

"The most important part of being a great baseball player is the preseason commitment," stated junior and three year varsity member Logan Kent.

Cheerleading

The varsity cheerleading squad performed at the North Suburban Conference Tournament on Jan. 20 where they took second place in the Prairie Division and third in the NSC overall. The squad will be competing at the Sectional Tournament this Sunday the 27.



With an eye on state...

Wiatr, Gerstner look to lead team to tourney

By Kelsey Lannert

The varsity wrestling team continues to improve as they move closer to the state tournament.

According to head coach Wilbur Borrero, the team has suffered from injuries and athletes quitting which has left the boys struggling to pick up the slack.

"We have a young team and we lose matches that we shouldn't. We are better than our record shows," said senior Bobby Wiatr.

Junior Tom Gerstner agrees that the team could be doing better.

Both Wiatr and Gerstner have won over 30 matches each. Borrero says this is one of the team positives along with other winning wrestlers such as Robbie Lindstrom, Kevin Knutson and Andy Kloster.

This past weekend the News Sun released the top ranked wrestlers in the North Suburban Conference. Four Antioch wrestlers were included.

They were 135 lb Lindstrom in 6th place, 145 lb Wiatr in 2nd place, 160 lb Gerstner in 2nd place, and heavyweight Kloster in 5th place.

Wrestling

With the conference meet right around the corner, a number of the boys hope to see themselves qualify for the state tournament.

According to Borrero no Antioch Wrestler has qualified for state since 2003.

Wrestlers have to compete and place in the top three during Regionals in the NSC in order to advance.

The boys competed against Lakes Community High School last Friday and came away with a 33-31 victory.

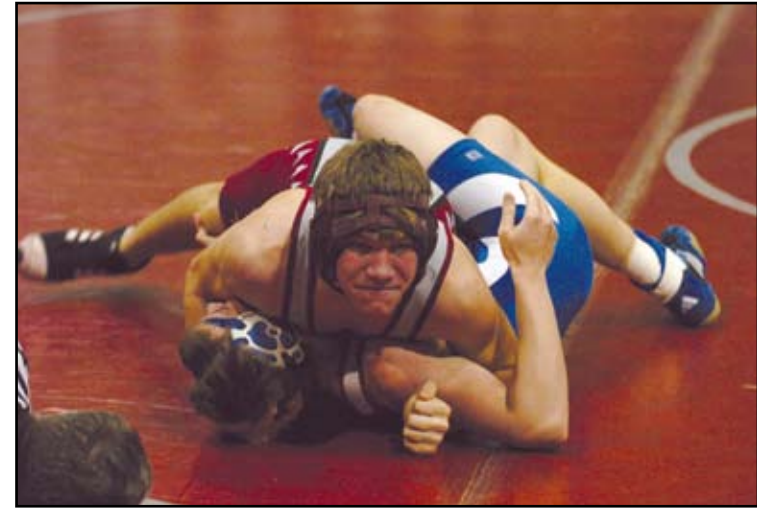
"It is always nice to beat our cross-town rival," stated Borrero.

The team then competed against Grayslake Central on Saturday and were tied at 31 but lost meet on criteria.

Antioch will be hosting the conference tournament on Jan. 26.



Junior Tom Gerstner, who wrestles in the 160 pound weight class, attempts to turn against Lakes High School opponent, Sam Timmis. Gerstner won 16-7.



Photos by Kelsey Lannert

Sophomore Dylan McCurry wrestles against opponent Andrew Rehm from Lakes High School. McCurry competes in the 171 weight class. McCurry won on a pin.

Dancers vie for state bid Sequoits redouble efforts to capture elusive 80 percent score in area competition

By Jake Anderson

The Antioch Community High School Dance Team finds itself in the critical pressure point of the season.

According to head coach Kelly Taylor, the team is literally just a few tenths of a point away from qualifying for the state competition. To qualify for the Team Dance Illinois state competition, a team must receive a score of 80 or higher on a 100 point scale. The Sequoits were closest to qualifying when they performed their kick routine on Jan. 6 at the Lake Zurich competition. The dancers received a score of 79.7 leaving them just 0.3 from qualifying for state.

The Sequoit dancers just may serve as the most successful team in the last two decades. The dancers have not missed a beat as they have qualified for state competition 20 years consecutively according to Taylor.

This years team is dealing with youth and inexperience as it features seven underclassmen, six juniors and just three seniors. This is a little out of the norm for the dancing Sequoits as they

have been for the most part senior dominated in years past.

"I don't think the lack of the seniors hurts us as much as people would think. Since we have so many underclassmen and only three seniors the underclassmen really look up to us [seniors] for guidance," said team captain and senior Megan Cole.

So far the Sequoits have excelled in the kick category as they have placed first in all three competitions so far this season.

"So far this year we have finished competitions well in the kick category. Our hip-hop performance needs some improvement but that's why we participate in early competition. After our performances we receive an audio tape of our routine filled with commentary and constructive criticism," said Taylor.

The Sequoits still have two competitions to hit that score of 80 to keep the state competition streak in tact.

"I have confidence that we will make the state competition. We have been so close in our last two competitions, and we have

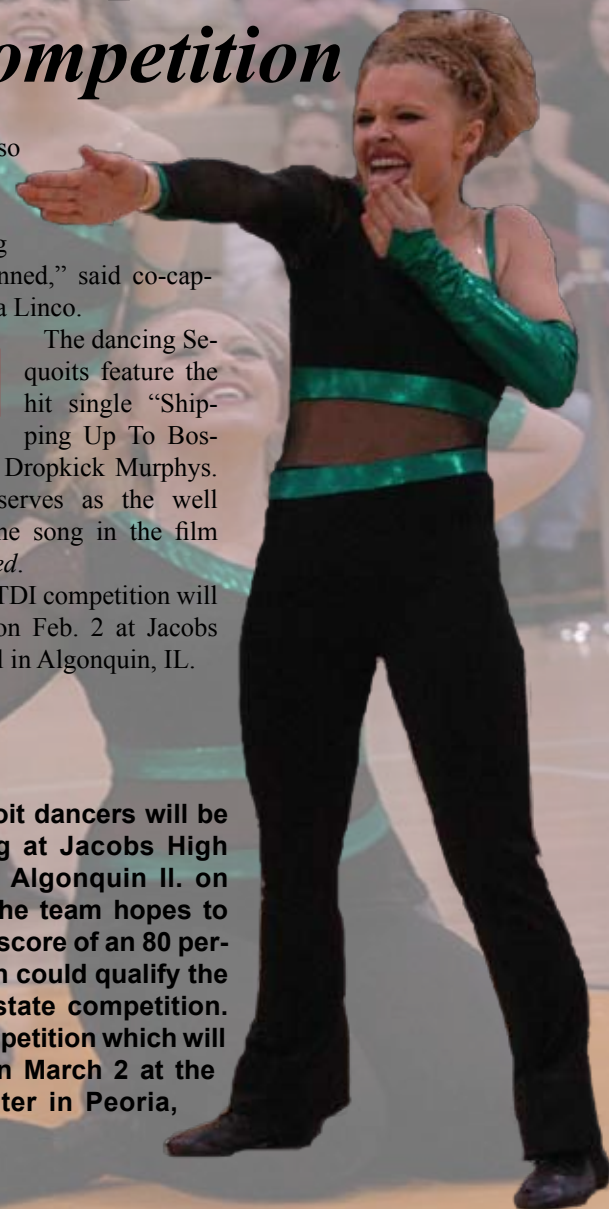
two more so we should qualify if everything goes as planned," said co-captain Miranda Linco.

The dancing Sequoits feature the hit single "Shipping Up To Boston" by the Dropkick Murphys. The song serves as the well known theme song in the film *The Departed*.

The next TDI competition will take place on Feb. 2 at Jacobs High School in Algonquin, IL.

Dance

The Sequoit dancers will be competing at Jacobs High School in Algonquin IL. on Feb. 2. The team hopes to achieve a score of an 80 percent which could qualify the team for state competition. State Competition which will be held on March 2 at the Civic Center in Peoria, IL.



Photos by Jake Anderson