

SPORTS

TROY DAILY NEWS • WWW.TROYDAILYNEWS.COM



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TODAY'S TIPS

• **BASEBALL:** 1570 WPTW will be broadcasting from these area baseball games: today at 4:45 p.m., Covington at Bethel; Friday at 4:45 p.m., Bellefontaine at Troy; Saturday at 10:45 a.m., Marion Local at Ft. Loramie doubleheader; Monday at 7:30 p.m., Troy vs. Greenville.

• **TENNIS:** The Troy Tennis Association is now forming spring and summer leagues for the 2010 season. All levels are welcome for men's and women's singles, doubles and mixed doubles. For information, call Max Brown at (937) 689-1938, or for more information about the Troy Tennis Association, go to troytennis.net. The membership drive will run through April.

• **RUNNING:** The Orange Crush Distance Camp will be June 26-29 at YMCA Camp Willson in Bellefontaine. The cost of the camp for residents is \$270 and \$200 for commuters. Call about team discounts if you have five or more registrations from the same team. For more information and a printable registration form, visit www.summer-runningcamps.com. For any other questions, call or e-mail Greg Zumberger at (937) 726-9465 or gzumberg@heidelberg.edu.

• **COACHING SEARCH:** Troy Christian High School is looking for a head varsity girls basketball coach. Interested parties should send a resume and cover letter to athletic director Mike Coots or contact him at mcoots@troychristian-schools.org.

SPORTS CALENDAR

TODAY
Baseball
 Tippecanoe at Ben Logan (5 p.m.)
 Preble Shawnee at Milton-Union (5 p.m.)
 Miami East at Ansonia (5 p.m.)
 Covington at Bethel (5 p.m.)
 Xenia Christian at Troy Christian (5 p.m.)
Softball
 Troy at Fairborn (5 p.m.)
 Tippecanoe at Ben Logan (5 p.m.)
 Preble Shawnee at Milton-Union (5 p.m.)
 Miami East at Ansonia (5 p.m.)
 Tri-County North at Newton (5 p.m.)
 Covington at Bethel (5 p.m.)
 Lehman at Minster (5 p.m.)
Tennis
 Tippecanoe at Spr. Shawnee (4:30 p.m.)
 Waynesville at Milton-Union (4:30 p.m.)
 Beavercreek at Piqua (4:30 p.m.)
 Elida at Lehman (4:30 p.m.)

FRIDAY
Baseball
 Bellefontaine at Troy (5 p.m.)
 Versailles at Milton-Union (5 p.m.)
 Bethel at Miami East (5 p.m.)
 Newton at Troy Christian (5 p.m.)
 Xenia at Piqua (5 p.m.)
 Franklin Monroe at Bradford (5 p.m.)
Softball
 Bellefontaine at Troy (5 p.m.)
 Tippecanoe at Newton (at Kyle Park) (6 p.m.)
 Butler at Milton-Union (at Kyle Park) (6 p.m.)
 Covington at Clerimont (at Kyle Park) (6 p.m.)
 Piqua at Ft. Loramie (at Kyle Park) (8 p.m.)
 Bethel at Miami East (5 p.m.)
 Troy Christian at Sidney Christian (5 p.m.)
 Franklin Monroe at Bradford (5 p.m.)
 Coldwater at Lehman (5 p.m.)
Tennis
 Northmont at Troy (4:30 p.m.)
 Milton-Union at Sidney (4:30 p.m.)
Track
 Tippecanoe, Piqua at Troy Invitational (4:30 p.m.)
 Milton-Union, Newton, Bethel, Covington, Bradford at Miami East Invitational (4:30 p.m.)

WHAT'S INSIDE

Local SportsB2
 Major League BaseballB2
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Reds beat Astros, improve to 5-0

Brandon Phillips and Paul Janish had three hits apiece Wednesday night, and the Cincinnati Reds overcame a four-run deficit and remained the NL's only unbeaten team with a 12-4 victory over the winless Houston Astros. See Page B2.

Baseball

Troy beats Sidney in dramatic fashion, 12-10

Staff Reports

MIAMI COUNTY

SIDNEY — This time, Dylan Cascaden got to be the hero with the bases loaded in Troy's final at-bat.

With the Trojans down 10-9 to Sidney, Cascaden — who was 3 for 3 with five RBIs — hit a two-out, bases-loaded triple, plating all three runs and giving Troy (4-2, 2-0 Greater Western Ohio Conference North Division) a thrilling 12-10 victory Wednesday.

"It was pretty exciting again,"

Troy coach Ty Welker said. "We had the bases loaded with none out, but a strikeout and a fielder's choice at home made it two outs. Then Dylan — the No. 7 hitter — hit a clutch triple. It was spectacular.

"He came to play today. It's nice to see a young guy do something like that in that situation."

Troy got behind 3-0 early but fought back to take a 5-3 lead —

before giving up six in the third to go down 9-5. Still, the Trojans never quit.

"We never got our heads down," Welker said. "We felt like we could hit their pitching. Even down 9-5, we never played like we were behind."

Nathan Helke, who also got the win in relief on the mound, was 3 for 4 with two doubles and five RBIs, while Nick Antonides — Tuesday's seventh-inning hero — was 4 for 5 with two doubles. Devin Blakely also was 3 for 4

with a double.

Troy hosts Bellefontaine Friday.

Troy014 103 3 — 12 17 3
 Sidney306 010 0 — 10 11 1

Burchfield, Rose (3), Helke (6) and Swigard, Hufmann, Yinger (6), Lauth (6) and Gray. WP — Helke. LP — Lauth. 2B — Blakely (T), Antonides 2 (T), Helke 2 (T), Hufmann (S). 3B — Cascaden (T).
Records: Troy 4-2, 2-0, Sidney 4-3, 0-2.

Tippecanoe 12, Tecumseh 1 (5) NEW CARLISLE — The Red Devils found their swing again

■ See **BASEBALL** on B2

Tennis



Troy's Raja Gupta hits a forehand to his opponent at first singles during a match against Stebbins Wednesday at Troy High School.

STAFF PHOTOS/ANTHONY WEBER

Softball

Trojans fall, 4-3

Staff Reports

SIDNEY — Troy lost a tough one to Sidney in extra innings Wednesday, 4-3, for its first loss in Greater Western Ohio Conference North Division play.

"This was a tough loss, especially after the way we beat this team yesterday," Troy coach Scott Herman said. "I felt we hit the ball well today. We had some loud outs — we hit line drives — but things just didn't go our way today."

Mackenzie Dankworth went 2 for 4, while Haley Gwin was 2 for 4 with an RBI and Brooke Evans went 2 for 4, as well. Shelby Schultz had a double.

Amber Smith went the distance for the Trojans on the mound in a losing effort.

"This just goes to show us that we need to be mentally prepared when we go on the road, especially when we play a conference opponent" Herman said. "We can't drop these games (in league). I hope we learned our lesson today."

MIAMI COUNTY

Troy (3-2, 1-1 GWOC North) will look to bounce back at Fairborn today.

Troy 101 000 01 — 3 9 2
 Sidney 000 110 02 — 4 9 1
 Smith and Lehman. Walker and Raterman. WP — Walker. LP — Smith. 2B — Schultz (T). HR — Ratermann (S).
Records: Troy 3-2, 1-1.

Newton 5, National Trail 4 NEW PARIS — Newton may have held on for a 5-4 victory Wednesday at National Trail to stay unbeaten, but that wasn't much consolation to coach Kirk Kadel after his team committed seven errors.

"This was probably one of the worst games we've played in a long time, giving up seven errors like that," he said. "We definitely weren't focused. We scored two in the first and acted like the game was over. We seemed out of it tonight."

Marina Snipes hit a two-run triple in the top of the sixth that proved to be the key hit in the game. Lacey Jackson was 4 for 4, Ashley Robinson was 3 for 4 and Andee Welbaum was 2 for 4 — but Newton only scored five times on 16 hits.

Kirsten Burden got the win, striking out eight, walking two, giving up four hits and no earned

■ See **SOFTBALL** on B2

Back in action

Gupta returns to court, Trojans sweep Indians

BY JOSH BROWN

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TROY — Raja Gupta wasn't worried about it being his first match this season.

He was more concerned with the elements.

"It was really windy out, and wind is the great equalizer," Troy's first singles player said. "It meant I couldn't stick to my game, so I tried coming to the net and finishing off points earlier."

MIAMI COUNTY

Gupta, Ashlin Stoltz and Alex Cretsos made short work of their opponents at the three singles spots Wednesday against Stebbins, and the Trojans' two doubles teams had little trouble, as well, finishing off a 5-0 sweep.

Gupta beat Erick Lovett 6-0, 6-0 in his first action this season, back after a strained rotator cuff.

"I'm just trying to hit second serves right now," the Troy senior said. "I don't want to tear it,

■ See **TENNIS** on B2



Troy's Ashlin Stoltz serves as coach Mark Goldner looks on Wednesday at Troy High School.

Golf

Woods changing his swing — again

BY JOEL WALKER

Sports Writer

TDN AT THE MASTERS

AUGUSTA — Okay, who is Sean Foley?

A couple of hints. He doesn't play for UConn. He's not a race car driver. But he does have something to do with golf.

How about Tiger Woods' teacher? Bingo.

The four-time Masters champion, who is looking for his fifth green jacket when play begins today, is revamping his swing (again) under Foley's watchful eye.

Woods changes teachers almost on a whim. Jack Nicklaus, on the other hand, has never had more than one, the

low-key Jack Grout.

Nicklaus, at the club to attend the annual champions dinner and join good friend Arnold Palmer to hit a ceremonial tee shot to open the 75th Masters has some strong opinions about today's group of teachers — and players.

Foley is at least No. 3 in the number of teachers Woods has used, changing his swing each time

"I'm kind of funny about that method," said Nicklaus. "It's not just Tiger, but a lot of the guys today.

"Jack Grout was my teacher, and he came to the Masters every year. But never once did Jack Grout ever step a foot on that practice tee. Today's teachers are with the players on almost every step."

Nicklaus used Grout to teach him how to manage and be responsible for his own game, his own actions on the golf course so when he had problems he could correct them himself on the practice tee or during the round.

"I really think guys would be better players if they didn't run back all the time and go ahead and try to figure out their own problems. Today the guys are with a strength coach; they go with a nutritionist; they go with

a workout guy; they have five or six guys travelling with them. I couldn't afford that," he added with a laugh.

Nicklaus fielded several questions during his session with the media before the champions dinner. And, of course, they wanted to know how he feels about Woods' personal troubles and his chances of matching Nicklaus' record of 18 major professional victories.

"I feel bad for him, for his family," Nicklaus said. "I feel bad that he got himself in that position. I think we're taught to have forgiveness, and I wish him well. I hope he gets his game back,

■ See **MASTERS** on B2