

Romine's football crew celebrates new look

By Lenny Sementi

Coach Andy Romine's Tuscola football team celebrated in more ways than one this past Friday evening. The Warriors came out on the right side of the scoreboard and what a scoreboard and celebration it was as Romine's crew christened facility upgrades to Memorial field in a 49-30 shootout victory over a good Carlyle squad. The new massive video board in the west end zone stood tall and the new lights surrounding the field shined bright and flashed each all seven times the Warriors reached the end zone.

Add a new press box and home bleachers as well as larger sections of bleachers for the black pack, the band and the visiting fans and you had an atmosphere that most 1A-2A programs would be envious. And an overall environment that was electric all night long. "Our players are very lucky to have facilities like this and they know it," stated Romine. "They came out strong and took over a close game in the second half."

The visitors were the first to put numbers up on the new

video board scoring on the 3rd play from scrimmage on a 51-yards scamper and followed that up with a 2-point conversion to take an early 8-0 advantage. Tuscola responded with a few chunk plays of their own on the ensuing drive and Dylan Graves punched one from 4-yards and Keller Beachy's drove the point after through the uprights pulling the Warriors to within one of the visitors 8-7. Graves went in again a few minutes later on another 4-yard run and Beachy converted again putting the Warriors in front 14-8.

Then it was Carlyle's turn pulling it even at 14's with a run off the right side. The shootout continued only this time it was Parker James who punched the black and golds ticket on a 9-yard run as time expired in a combined 35-point first frame putting the Warriors in front 21-14 heading to the 2nd.

The two squads traded possessions before both found the promise land again right before halftime. Carlyle scored force moving in front by one before the Warriors turned the light show with a 3rd Graves touchdown this time on a 15-



WARRIOR JORDAN QUINN (7) looks for a teammate to pass to during the Sept. 1 game against Carlyle Parker James (15) holds off a Carlyle player. Tuscola won 49-30. Photo by Dominik Stallings.

yard jaunt Tuscola in front 28-22 going into the break.

Quarterback Jordan Quinn fueled the Warrior fire in the 3rd quarter diving one in from a yard out before finding fellow senior Austin Cummings on a

40-yard scoring strike giving Tuscola some breathing room. Both teams. Carlyle answered again with a score of their own but Quinn quickly closed the door scoring on a 12-yard run to solidify the victory 49-30.

The Warriors ran for 276 yards on 37-carries with Cummings leading the way. The speedy back gained 111-yards on just 9-attempts. He also grabbed a pair of balls out of air for 59-yards. Graves was

next up with 83-yards on the ground on 13-carries, then came Quinn who toted it 9 times for 54-yards. He also connected on 4-passes for 109-yards and a touchdown. James hauled in 1-pass for 37-yards and Brady Cain converted a big first down on a screenplay for 24-yards late in the contest. Thomason capped off the ground game posting 19-yards on 4-carries to the stat line.

Cummings was the big gun on the defensive side of the ball accounting for 10-tackles. Thomason, Graves and Nate Hudson joined in the fun donating 7-tackles each to the cause as did Draven Warner. Inside linebackers Caden Russo and Cain got in a few shots securing 5-stops apiece.

Romine again commented about the upgrades and the atmosphere they created following the game as well as the teams play. "What a great game. The whole thing was awesome our guys fed off the crowd and environment. Offense was good from the start and defense grew up as the game moved along."

Warrior spikers gaining momentum



WARRIOR CARLY OCHS (21) sets up the ball for her teammates during the Aug. 30 game against Villa Grove. Tuscola lost 1-2. Photo by Dominik Stallings.



TUSCOLA STUDENTS cheer loudly during the Aug. 29 volleyball game against Villa Grove. Photo by Dominik Stallings.

By Lenny Sementi

Tuscola's volleyball team has had a rough start to the season experiencing some growing pains but this past week they got better every time they tool the floor capping off a 5-match week at the Salt Fork Round Robin. Coach Emily Griswell's squad is starting to gel up front utilizing outside hitters Zoey Thomason and Sydney Moss to fuel their offense.

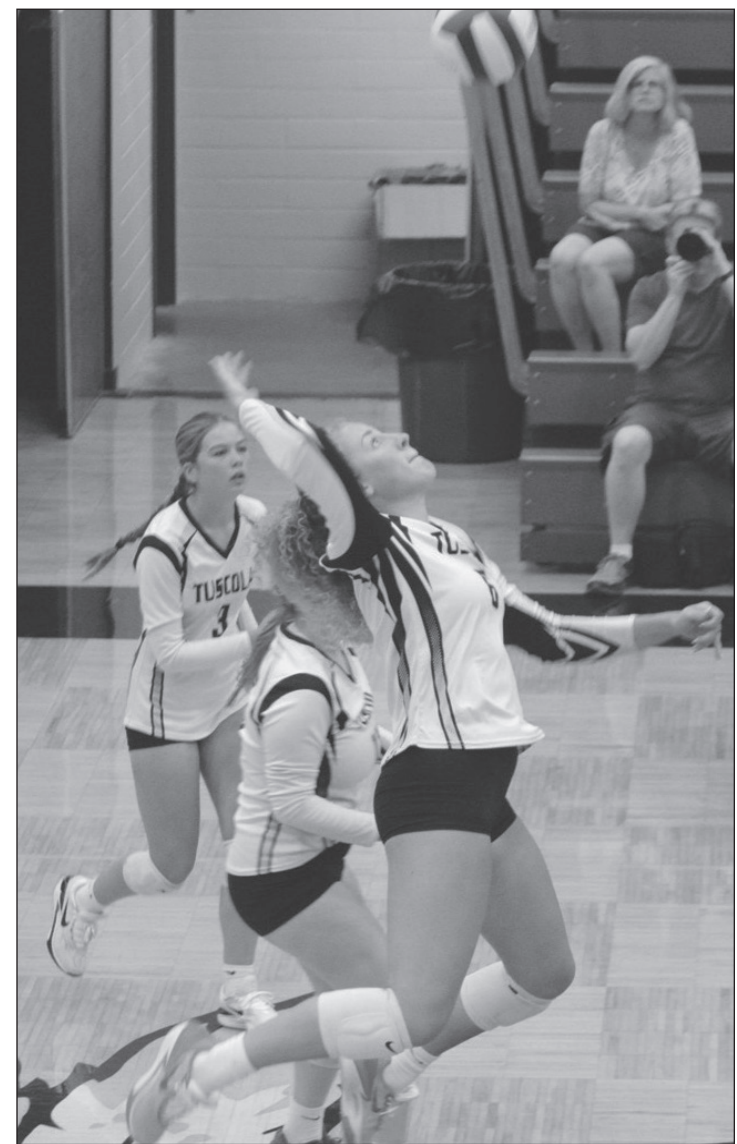
The Lady Warriors broke into the win column in their 2nd match of the day Saturday downing Ridgeview in straight sets 25-23, 25-13. Moss banged out 8-kills in the front row while delivering 7-service points, including 3-aces. Thomason was next up with 6-kills, then came Emily Czer-

wonka with 3. Ava Rauguth and Czerwonka fed the front row delivering 11 and 6-assists respectively. Addisyn Pettry was big in the backcourt diving her way to 8-digs. Reese Davis also was strong on defense adding 5-digs to the totals.

Tuscola opened the day with a two game loss to Arthur Christian and ended it with a back and forth three game shootout with the Salt Fork. Tuscola took game one against the hosts and twice had match point in game two before falling to the Storm 25-20, 26-28, 12-15. Defense ruled the court in the finale as Czerwonka and Davis both tallied 16-digs apiece. Pettry joined in adding 7-digs to her season stat sheet while Carly Ochs and Brady Stahler each donated 6-saves to the cause. Seven players in all recorded at least one kill with the offense starting to share the ball.

"Our day started off slow, but they got better as the day progressed," commented the coach. "It was a very hot day and the girls worked really hard, they just couldn't pull off a win that last match. I'm proud of the way they have worked together this season so far, and I'm looking forward to seeing where the rest of the season takes them."

The Warriors dropped a pair of mid week non-conference skirmishes to Villa Grove and a very good Unity team. Moss led all in the 3-game battle verse VG accounting for 8-kills and 4-blocks. Natalie Hastings



SYDNEY MOSS (6) hops up to deliver a spike during the Aug. 30 game against Villa Grove. Tuscola lost 1-2. Photo by Dominik Stallings.

had 3-blocks at the net and 6-digs on defense. Czerwonka fed the offense from her setter position and was also strong at the service line recording 4-aces but it was her defense that set her apart. Four players

wearing the black and gold hit the double-digit plateau in the save column and Czerwonka was at top of the list notching 20-digs. Next up was Davis with 14, then Thomason with 14 and Pettry with 11.

Cross country delivers results at EIU

By Lenny Sementi

The states top ranked 1A cross country team proved there is strength in numbers this past Saturday on the Panther Trail at Eastern Illinois University winning the Charleston Invite. The boys in black and gold cruised to

a win literally as they ran in a pack capturing the team title by 27-points over a 16-team field that included a lot of 2A and 3A squads.

The Warriors ran shoulder to shoulder the entire way securing the 7th thru the 11th spots to take home the

hardware. Xander Neamtu crossed the line first, then Will Foltz, followed by Josiah Hortin, Jackson Barrett and Blake McLeese all of which finished within a second of each other. Neamtu entered the chute in 16:25.70 and McLeese capped it off at 16:26.02. Junior David

Hornaday shined as the first alternate posting an 18:07 in the first race of his career ending up in 37th overall. Boyd Brewer served as the second alternate.

On the girls side Kate Foltz was not to be outdone. The super soph and returning

all-stater went hard for the first mile and never looked back winning the entire event delivering a 17:47 leading the Lady Warriors to a 9th place finish in the 16-team Invite hosted by Charleston High School. The second scorer was freshman Bell Dueker with a

23:52. Celeste Robello occupied the 3rd scoring slot while Bailey Ritter and Makaylea Sexon fell into the 4th and 5th scoring spots. Junior Anne Brazzell toured the course as the alternate.

Tuscola golf keeps on swinging away

By Lenny Sementi

Addison Ring and the Lady Warrior golfers had a week off due to the heat Mother nature delivered but that did slow them down they picked right back up where they left off firing away at the local competition. They opened the week on Monday August 28th with a win at a home quadrangular, then got some revenge at Monticello on Wednesday before closing with a 2nd place effort

at home falling only to a very good Mt. Zion squad at Ironhorse Golf Club on Thursday.

"It was a busy week for us with three matches, but the girls handled it well." Stated the coach. "I'm really proud of how the girls are playing. Some of them are starting to hit their stride and it's been fun watching their games come together. Addyson has been my number one since the first week, and she has started to piece it all together.

Each match she is getting better and better. She has been a great role model and player for the younger girls to look up to. I've been pleasantly surprised by Lanie Yantis the past couple weeks as well. As a sophomore she came in as a new player and she has really started to get after it. I believe Yantis will be a player to watch towards the end of the season and as she finishes out her high school career."

Ring was Medalist on Monday in the win over ALAH/Arcola, Oakwood and Fisher carding a 53. Zoey Thomason was shot off her occupying the 2nd spot. Addisyn Pettry was the 3rd scorer for coach Laney Banta and Isabelle Sturts was the 4th while Lainey Yantis and Christy Kerner were the alternates.

Thomson and Ring both went low at Monticello with a 47 and 48 respectively as

the Warriors avenged a loss from earlier in the season. Pettry was the three with a 55 while Sturts was the four and Yantis the first alternate. Tuscola was a near miss playing without Thomason on Thursday in quad with Mt. Zion, Altamont and marshal. Ring again collected medalist honors with a 51. Sturts was the next scorer, followed by Yantis and Jocelyn Ford.

"As we're entering the second half of the season I'm

looking forward to seeing how they choose to progress from here" Banta commented. "With Conference and Regional's around the corner, it's important for the girls to get into the right mindset and trust their game. I believe they have the ability to bring home some wins, as a team and as individuals, I just need them to start believing in that achievement too."