

2020 BOYS BASKETBALL SECTIONAL PREVIEW

South Ripley Raiders

Seniors

Dakota Day, Sam Evans, Aaron Greiwe,
Connor McCarty, Cory Ralston, and Eric Vickers

Juniors

Bryce Franklin, Jaden Peetz,
and Cody Samples

Sophomores

Zach Gentile, Blake Volz, and Nick Schwarte

Coaches

Tyler Theising, Brad Samples, and Kyle Jolly

Managers

Raylynn Burger, Cody Franklin,
Calysta Hartman, and Paige Scott



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE BATH FOR LIFETOUGH

Bracket breakdown

The Raiders face the toughest draw in Class 2A Sectional 44. On top of landing in the only opening round game, South Ripley has to overcome the formidable South Decatur Cougars to advance.

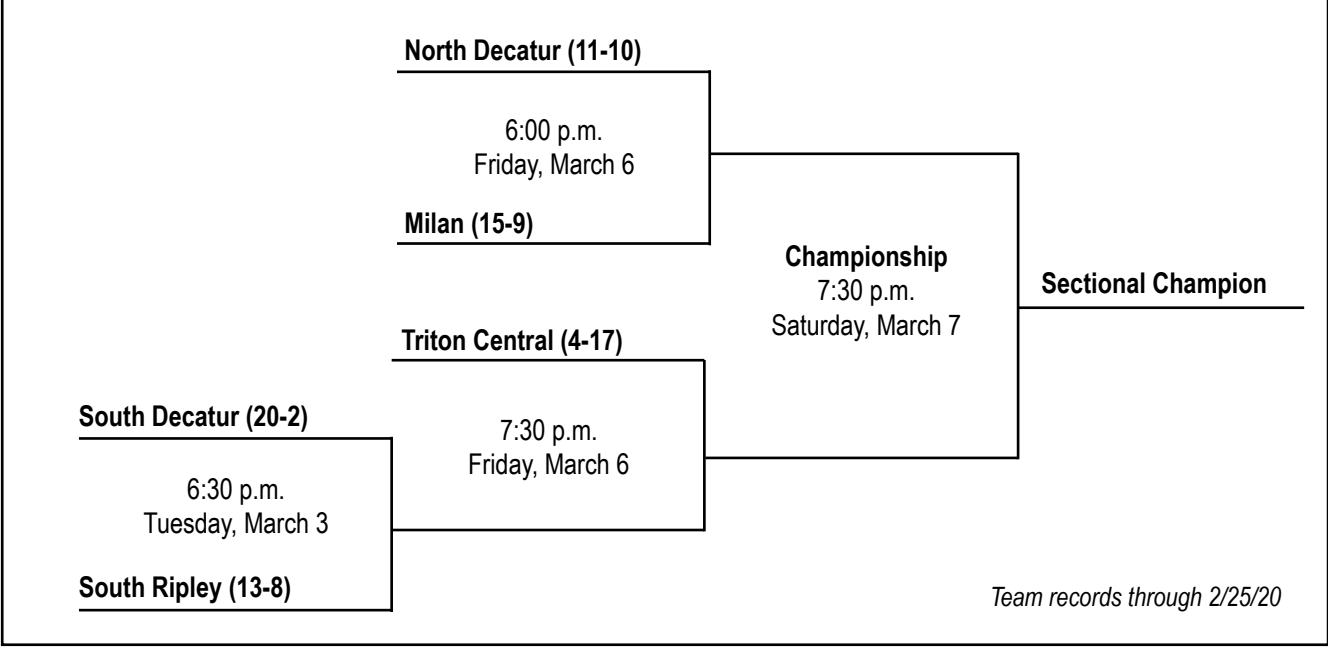
The Cougars are not unbeatable, but they are the sectional favorites and certainly have high hopes for a tourney run that entails going far past their opening game. In their only matchup this season, on December 21, the Raiders forced the Cougars into overtime in Versailles, although South Decatur prevailed 76-75.

Should South Ripley cage the Cougars, they should also be able to put a leash on the Triton Central Tigers who have struggled this year with only four wins. Then, they'll look for either their second win over North Decatur (W 53-51 on Dec. 7) or redemption over Milan (L 64-61 on Jan. 24).

If the Raiders can move the ball well and get multiple players penetrating to the hoop, they'll be a tough team to stop despite their long tourney road.

Tournament history: According to John Harrell's records, the South Ripley Raiders have claimed nine sectional championships since winning their first in 1970. Four of those titles have come in the class era and their most recent win was in 2017. South Ripley has won two regional championships, one in 1970 and also in 1981. Head coach Tyler Theising, in just his second year leading the team, is hoping for his first sectional championship. Prior to consolidation, Versailles won six sectionals, including four in a row from 1957-60. Holton won three sectionals, advancing in 1929, 1962, and 1964. Cross Plains earned one sectional title in 1942. New Marion earned one sectional title in 1961.

Class 2A Sectional 44 at North Decatur



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Seniors

Brandon Baber, Jonathon Deal, Landon Ledford, and Justin Ohlmansiek

Juniors

Christian Comer, Luke Comer, TJ Menchhofer, Cameron Gehl, Damon Hughes, and Will Neal

Sophomores

Wyatt Day and Caleb Simon

Coaches

Jack Day, Blake Sutton, and Riley Thomas

Managers

Kaylee Benham, Scout Gray, Koldo Templado, Ema Thackery, and Emma Tunny



JARED ROGERS PHOTO

Bracket breakdown

Morristown is the statistical favorite in Class A Sectional 60 according to Jeff Sagarin’s ratings, followed by Oldenburg and then Jac-Cen-Del.

The Eagles defeated their first round opponents Southwestern (Shelbyville) on February 11 by a score of 79-71. Should they win again, they’ll likely look for redemption over Oldenburg. The Twisters bested JCD in their only matchup of the year 63-61 at the end of January.

If the Eagles take flight and land in the sectional final, they’ll likely meet the Morristown Yellow Jackets for the first time this year.

The Yellow Jackets average 64.2 points per game and have two players with more than 300 points apiece on the season. JCD also averages 64 points per game and feature multiple scoring threats, so the sectional championship is certainly not out of reach if the team can come together, take care of the ball, and play aggressive.

Class A Sectional 60 at Southwestern (Shelbyville)



Team records through 2/25/20

Tournament history: According to John Harrell’s records, the Jac-Cen-Del Eagles have claimed 13 sectional championships, with their first coming in 1965. Six of those sectional victories have come during the class era, the most recent in 2015. Jac-Cen-Del has also won four regionals, one semi-state, and one state championship in 2009. Head coach Jack Day, in his first year leading the Eagles, is hoping for his first sectional championship with the team. Prior to consolidation, Osgood claimed one sectional championship in 1939 and Napoleon won twice in a row from 1947-48.

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Milan Indians



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Matt Schmitt, and Carter Wade

Juniors

Carsyn Ascherman, Josh Clark, Evan Miller,
Adam Norman, Chandler Reatherford, Ethan
Schwipps, Bo Wade, and Peyton Wert

Coaches

Randy Combs, Luke Williams, Ethan Voss,
Travis Butte, Andy Finnegan, and Joel Norman

Managers

Maggie Schmidt and Bryan Rohrig



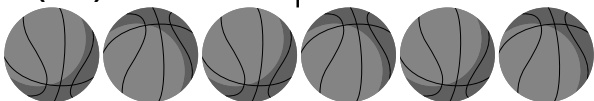
SUBMITTED PHOTO

Tournament history: According to John Harrell's records, the Milan Indians have claimed 14 sectional championships since first winning the tournament in 1932. Three of those sectional victories have come during the class era, the most recent in 2003. Milan has also earned five regional titles (the most recent in 2001), two semi-state titles, and one state championship. Head coach Randy Combs has won three sectionals and two regionals at the helm of the Indians.

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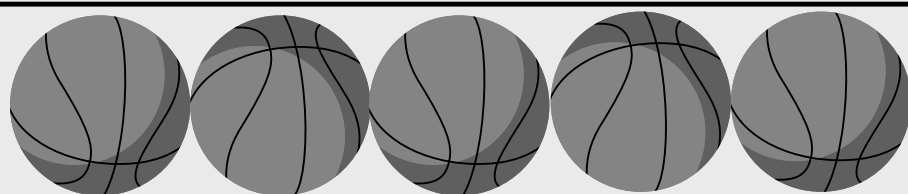
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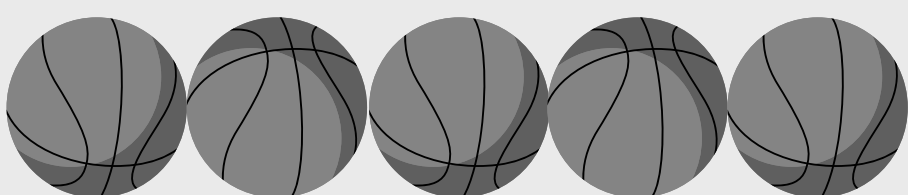


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Batesville Bulldogs



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Charlie Dice, Jacob Deutsch, and Colt Meyer

Juniors

Austin Cornn, Lleyton Ratcliffe, RJ Powell, Calvin Sherwood, Alex Siefert, and Sam Voegele

Sophomores

Cole Werner, Eli Pierson, and Thomas Raver

Coaches

Aaron Garrett, Andy Allen, Jay Gerkin, Scott Henderson, and Blaine Gellert

Managers

Braiden Foster, Lincoln Garrett, Winston Garrett, and Cole Siebert



JARED ROGERS PHOTO

Bracket breakdown

Greensburg is the heavy favorite in Class 3A sectional 29. Along with a stellar record the Pirates have the shortest road to the regional due to drawing the first round bye. However, Connersville is rated as the second strongest team in the group, and those two squads will likely meet in the semifinal, leaving the door at least slightly open for a final game upset by one of the lower four teams, including Batesville.

The Bulldogs have defeated their first round opponent in their only matchup this season, 55-40 at Franklin County on January 24. Should they win again, Batesville has also defeated semifinal options Rushville and South Dearborn. They beat the Lions 58-54 on February 13 and the Knights 58-39 on Feb. 6.

There's no doubt the Bulldogs can shoot, but they'll need to play aggressive on defense and near the hoop on offense in order to make a tourney run.

Class 3A Sectional 29 at Connersville



Tournament history: According to John Harrell's records, the Batesville Bulldogs have claimed 31 sectional championships since winning their first in 1927. Eight of those sectional victories have come in the class era, including three in a row in Class 2A from 2000-2002, and five in Class 3A, including three in a row from 2006-2008. They are defending sectional champions, having won the title in 2019 over Greensburg 69-56 in last year's final. The Bulldogs have also won 10 regional titles, the first coming in 1934 and the latest in 2011, and two semi-state titles, one in 1943 and one in 2001. Head coach Aaron Garrett has won two sectionals and one regional in his 12 years leading the team.

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