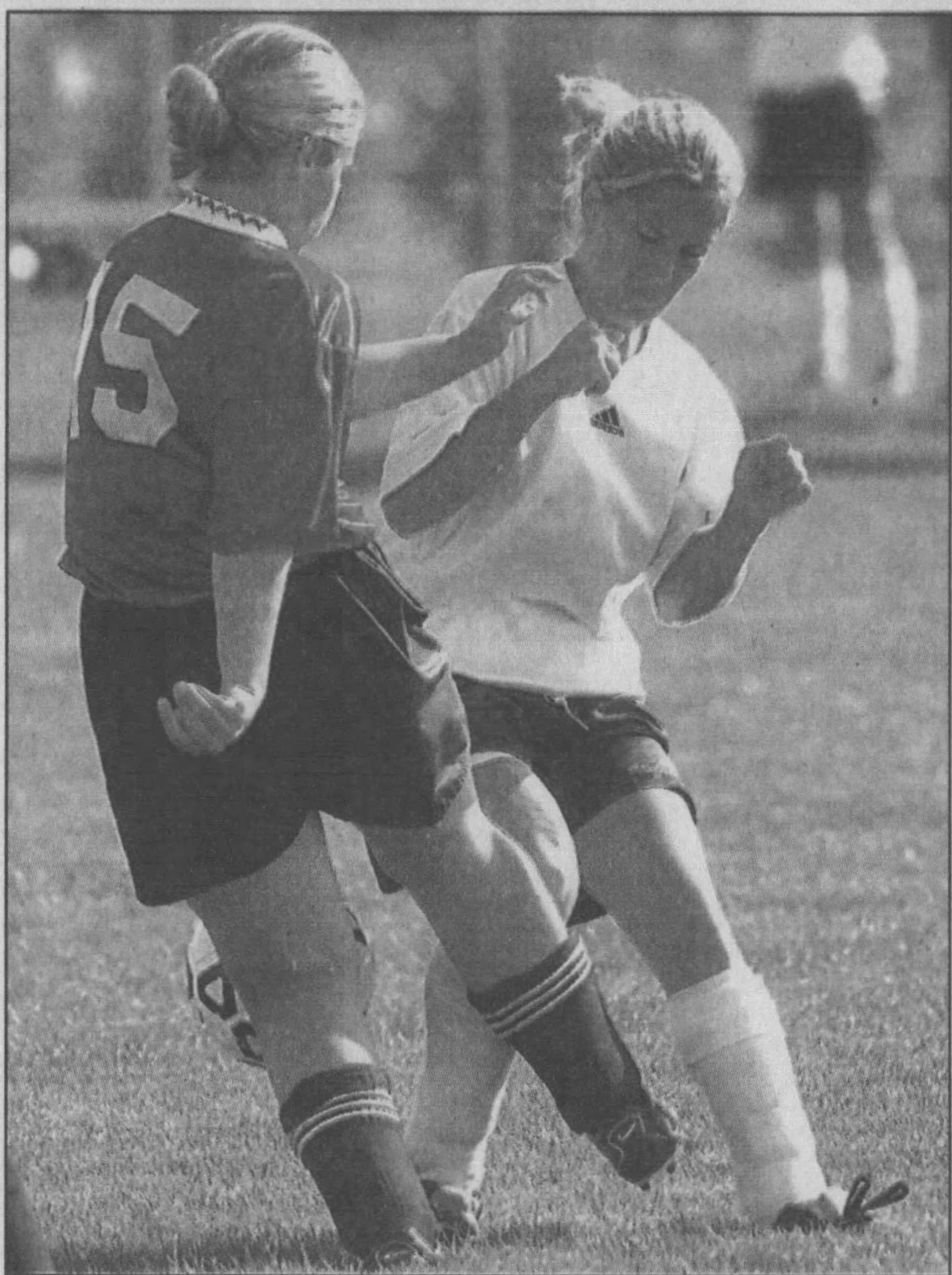




News-Messenger photos/Ben French

NICKI STRAIGHT, right, of Fremont Ross battles Genoa's Sarah Howard for a loose ball during Monday's 13-1 Ross victory at Alumni Field.

Little Giants spank Genoa

Powerful Findlay up next for Ross

By **TIMOTHY R. WOLFRUM**
Sports editor

The Fremont Ross girls soccer team prepared for its toughest match of the year with what may turn out to be its easiest Monday at Alumni Field.

Five different Little Giants scored two goals apiece as Ross demolished Genoa 13-1.

Brittini Werling, Alison Clark, Tiffany Howard, Rachael Daugherty and Natalie Durnwald each netted a pair of goals.

Clark added four assists, Nicki Straight three.

The diminutive Comets (1-1) are in their final season as a club team before beginning varsity play next season. They have four eighth-graders on the roster.

Genoa did not give Ross the kind of test it wanted in preparation for perennial Great Lakes League champion Findlay, which visits Alumni Field on Wednesday.

The Little Giants (1-1) scored the first nine goals and outshot Genoa 48-1 for the match. Ross goalkeeper Christina Szymanowski touched the ball once in the first half before leaving the game to rest a sore ankle.

"I told them in the second half to spread it out. I want-



SHANNON HICKEY of Ross smiles after missing a close-in shot during Monday's victory over Genoa.

ed to see so many passes before a shot to try to get something out of this," Ross coach Scott McVeigh said.

"I don't know if it's good or bad to play this game tonight and having Findlay coming in Wednesday. I would rather have had somebody a lot more competitive."

The rout was on from the third minute, when Werling won a loose ball with a header and slammed in a low shot from the right side of the goal.

The Comets' lone goal came early in the second half, when Jamie Rhoades

sailed a shot over Ross goalkeeper Shannon Hickey's head. Sarah Albright got the assist.

Genoa's other bright spot was the play of goalkeeper Amber Krum, who replaced Rhoades late in the first half after Rhoades suffered a hand injury. Krum made several nice stops and finished with 12 saves.

"We're going to be young for a couple years," Genoa coach Kevin Rhoades said. "But we've been together for a while, so they're a pretty tight group."

"Hopefully in two more years, we'll be where they're at."

Ross also got goals from Hickey, Marissa Rodriguez and Abby Werling.

Megan Theller, Rodriguez, Angela Hoelzle, Melanie Elias added assists.

The Little Giants were coming off a 5-0 loss to Sylvania Southview in Saturday's opener. The Cougars scored four goals in the final 10 minutes to blow open a close match.

Wednesday's GLL match with Findlay will begin at about 7 p.m. at Alumni Field. The Trojans handed the Little Giants their only two league losses last season.

Findlay socks it to Ross

Giants boys turn tables on Trojans

News-Messenger reports

The Fremont Ross girls soccer team held off the Findlay flood for as long as it could Wednesday at Alumni Field.

But once the Trojans broke through, the goals came in waves.

Lydia Mikenis punched a low liner past Ross goalkeeper Christina Szymanowski in the 21st minute, paving the way for a 9-0 Findlay victory in Great Lakes League play.

Mikenis and teammate Kate Ebert each recorded three goals as the defending GLL champs proved their supremacy again.

"They could have scored 15 goals," Ross coach Scott McVeigh said. "I was real disappointed in the way our girls played. They (the Trojans) controlled every aspect of the game.

"We played with them for a while, but defensively we let down and got out of position."

Findlay, which led 4-0 at halftime, out-shot Ross 28-4. Szymanowski made 15 saves.

The Little Giants got a scare early in the first half when top defender Angela Hoelzle left the match with an injured right ankle. But Hoelzle later returned and finished the game.

Ross (1-2, 0-1 GLL) returns to action on Sept. 8 when it hosts Defiance.

GIRLS SOCCER

Ross 4, Whitmer 0

TOLEDO — Britini Werling scored three goals as the Little Giants claimed their first Great Lakes League victory.

Tiffany Howard added the other Ross goal, and Nicki Straight and Alison Clark added an assist apiece.

Clark goal lifts Giants

Bergman, Woodmore golfers set scoring records

News-Messenger report

Alison Clark scored the only goal of the match with 16 minutes to play Wednesday as the Fremont Ross girls soccer team earned a 1-0 Great Lakes League victory over Oregon Clay at Kelsey-Hayes Field.

Clark beat the Clay goalkeeper from 12 yards out with a shot to the upper right corner of the goal.

"She had many opportunities to score, and she finally got one to go," Ross coach Scott McVeigh said.

The Little Giants (3-3, 2-1 GLL) outshot the Eagles 17-6 on the way to a victory that solidifies Ross's hold on second place in the league.

"I thought we'd battle them for second this year," McVeigh said of the Eagles. "They're usually pretty equal to us."

Fall Roundup

Ross goalkeeper Christina Szymanowski recorded six saves. Defensive standout Angela Hoelzle led the team with eight intercepts.

"Angela Hoelzle played a heckuva game," McVeigh said. "She took away a lot of scoring opportunities."

Ross will host Ontario at 1 p.m. Saturday.

VOLLEYBALL

Terra takes out Sinclair

The Thunder dropped the first game but rebounded for a 24-30, 30-25, 30-20, 30-12 victory Wednesday over Sinclair Community College.

Lakota product Jamie Ray led the

attack with 17 kills and two blocks. Gibsonburg's Wendy Mathia added 12 kills and four blocks.

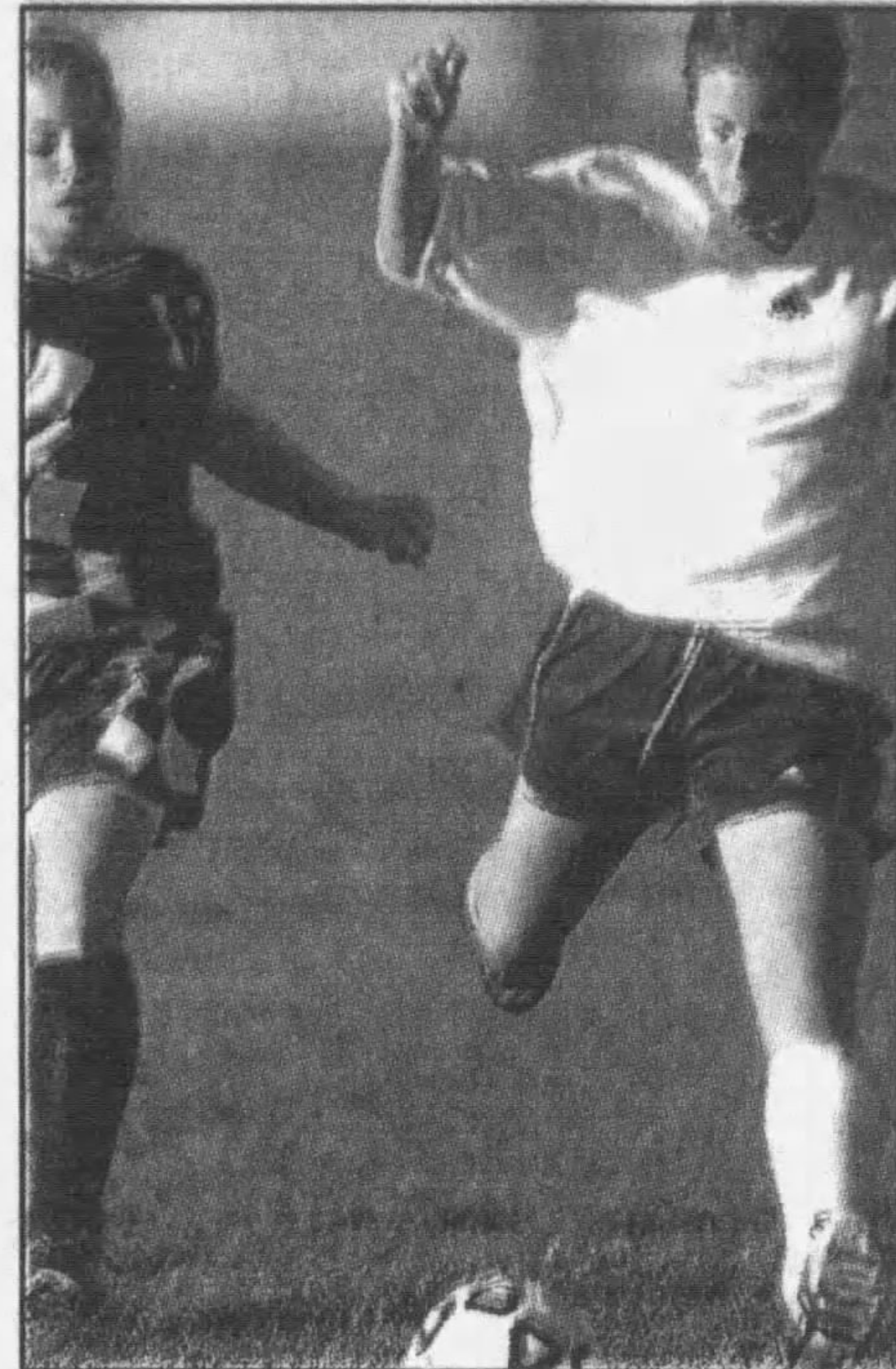
Tracy Laird and Courtney Miller shared the setting duties. Laird had 19 assists, Miller 18. Heather Kerlin contributed eight digs and 10 service points.

Terra improved to 7-4, 1-1 in the Ohio Community College Athletic Conference. The Thunder travel to Clark State on Friday.

GOLF

Woodmore sets records in quad victory

CURTICE — Scott Bergman led Woodmore to a win in a quad-match against Suburban Lakes League rivals Genoa and Elmwood and Fremont



ALISON CLARK, right, of Fremont Ross prepares for a pass during Wednesday's 1-0 victory over Oregon Clay. Clark scored the lone goal of the match with 16 minutes to play.

See **GOLDEN BEARS**, B3

News-Messenger/Ben French

have come on Saturdays this season. This past weekend, the Streaks dropped a 15-4, 11-15, 16-14 decision to Fostoria and a 15-10, 15-6 decision to New Riegel at the New Riegel Invitational.

Alisha Bork scored 15 points with three aces in the tournament. Britt Price had five kills and six stuff blocks. Tiffany Binsack added 20 assists and 10 digs.

St. Joe (5-6) is at Hopewell-Loudon on Tuesday.

Old Fort third at Lima Bath

LIMA — Liz Goodman pounded out 35 kills to lead the Stockaders to third place in a competitive Lima Bath Invitational.

Old Fort defeated Copley 15-13, 5-15, 15-3; fell to Northwood 15-13, 15-12; and took out Coldwater 16-14, 13-15, 15-5 in the third-place match.

Breena McCool added 30 kills and nine service points for Old Fort (7-3). Ashleigh Fry had 16 kills and 24 points. Brittany Molyet dished out 98 assists, and Whitney Magers had 18 kills and 16 points.

The Stockaders host Mohawk on Tuesday.

GIRLS SOCCER

Ontario 3, Ross 2

Ontario got the jump on the Little Giants by scoring the first

three goals then held on for a non-league victory at Kelsey-Hayes Field.

The Lady Warriors scored two goals in the first four minutes.

"We controlled the game for the final 30 minutes," Ross coach Scott McVeigh said. "It was just those first few minutes."

Alison Clark and Britini Werling notched the two goals for Ross. Clark's goal came late in the first half, Werling's midway through the second.

Ontario outshot Ross 21-10. Ross goalkeeper Christina Szymanowski recorded 17 saves. Defender Angela Hoelzle added six intercepts.

The Little Giants (3-4) are at Sandusky today.

GOLF

Zimmerman medals at NWOCSA

Mike Zimmerman shot a tournament-low, 1-under-par 70 to lead St. Joe to third place Saturday at the Northwest Ohio Catholic Schools Association tournament at the Fremont Country Club.

Mansfield St. Peter won with a score of 313. St. Mary Central Catholic came in second at 323, and St. Joe was third at 329.

Vince Golamb added an 82 for St. Joe. Dan Licursi pitched in with an 83, and Robbie LeJeune had a 94.

GIRLS SOCCER

Ross 10, Sandusky 0

SANDUSKY — Britini Werling scored five goals as the Little Giants eased their way to a Great Lakes League triumph at Venice Heights Elementary School.

Ross outshot the Blue Streaks 31-9 to improve to 4-4, 3-1 in the GLL.

Tiffany Howard added a pair of assists, and Melanie Elias had a goal and an assist for the Little Giants. Angela Hoelzle, Megan Theller, Rachael Daugherty and Alison Clark had goals. Marissa Rodriguez, Keri Bibler and Christina Szymanowski had assists.

Ross is at Toledo Central Catholic today.

Fall Roundup

Lakota splits pair

KANSAS — The Raiders downed Van Buren but fell to Fostoria in a tri-meet Saturday.

Sue Brickner led the way with seven points and three aces as Lakota earned a 15-2, 15-9 victory over Van Buren. Jamie Dennis and Kelly Gosche pitched in with six points apiece. Gosche had five aces.

Fostoria defeated the Raiders 15-10, 15-6. Dennis led Lakota with six points.

Lakota is at Elmwood on Tuesday.

Bettsville 15-15, Vanlue 4-13

BETTSVILLE — Angie Bingle's 11 points and three aces led the Bobcats a non-league victory.

Jessica Vallejo added eight points, four assists and three digs. Laura Sisco had a pair of kills.

GIRLS SOCCER

Ross 7, Lima Cen. Cath. 0

Shannon Hickey poured in two goals and had an assist as the Little Giants got back to .500 with a non-league victory Saturday at Kelsey-Hayes Field.

Britini Werling contributed two

goals for Ross (5-5). Tiffany Howard, Abby Werling and Natalie Durnwald had the other goals.

Alison Clark dished out two assists, and Rachael Daugherty added another. Christina Szymanowski and Hickey had four and three saves, respectively. Angela Hoelzle added five takeaways.

Ross outshot the Thunderbirds 19-7.

The Little Giants travel to Findlay today.

CROSS COUNTRY

St. Joe boys take invite

OREGON — The Crimson Streaks keep winning invitationals even though their top runner is on the shelf with a knee injury.

On Saturday, the St. Joe boys won the 19-team Cardinal Stritch Invitational behind Dan Chudzinski and Brad Harman, who finished third and fourth, respectively. The Crimson Streaks scored 104 points, 33 fewer than second-place Erie Mason.

St. Joe won the Old Fort Invitational on Tuesday. Top runner Jeremy Velliquette, a junior, has been out since the Tiffin Carnival on Sept. 8, when he injured a knee while warming up. Velliquette collided with youngsters who were

SOCCER

Findlay 8, Ross 0

FINDLAY — The Trojans completed a two-game sweep of the Little Giants in the Great Lakes League.

Findlay outshot Ross 24-7.

The Little Giants (5-6, 3-2 GLL) hosts Napoleon on Thursday.

Old Fort 8, Woodward 0

TOLEDO — Greg Woodall's first career goal, a header off a crossing pass from Ken Reese, had Old Fort coach Nick Dimacchia marveling after Thursday's victory.

"It was one of the nicest goals I've ever seen," Dimacchia said.

Nick Kerlin scored three goals, Lucas Stearns two for the Stockaders (4-3). Brandon Kistler contributed a goal and two assists, while Greg Burks had a goal and an assist.

Old Fort is at Upper Sandusky on Saturday.

GIRLS SOCCER

Ross 1, Napoleon 1

The Wildcats scored a freak goal with seven minutes remaining to tie the Little Giants at Kelsey-Hayes Field.

Shannon Hickey's goal on a pass from Marissa Rodriguez

gave Ross the lead late in the first half. It almost held up.

But a Napoleon shot glanced off a Ross defender and past goalkeeper Christina Szymanowski to tie the game. The Little Giants are 5-6-1.

The Little Giants outshot Napoleon 23-8. But their play disappointed head coach Scott McVeigh.

"It looked like it was our first scrimmage of the year," he said.

Ross hosts Whitmer on Monday.

GIRLS TENNIS

St. Peter 3, St. Joe 2

MANSFIELD — Rachel Sponseller and the St. Joe doubles team of Maggie O'Brien and Sarah Pietrykowski earned the lone victories for the Crimson Streaks.

Sponseller, playing at No. 3 sin-

Clark leads Ross resurgence

Gibsonburg volleyball team rebounds to beat Northwood

News-Messenger reports

Alison Clark's two goals and two assists led the Fremont Ross girls soccer team to a 6-0 Great Lakes League victory over Toledo Whitmer on Monday at Kelsey-Hayes Field.

Britini Werling also scored a pair of goals as the Little Giants (6-6-1, 4-2 GLL) recovered from a poor performance that resulted in a 1-1 tie Thursday against Napoleon.

"Thursday, I think we played the worst game of the year," Ross coach Scott McVeigh said. "We watched film before the



CLARK

game, as a matter of fact, and the girls knew they didn't play well. I think they were definitely more focused today."

Werling and Marissa Rodriguez scored goals to hand the



RODRIGUEZ

Little Giants a 2-0 lead at half-time Monday. Ross put the match away with a three-goal flurry in the opening 13 minutes of the second half.

Tiffany Howard notched a goal, and Rachael Daugherty, Shannon Hickey and Nicki Straight had assists. Christina Szymanowski saved three shots, and Angela Hoelzle contributed seven takeaways.

The Little Giants can clinch second place in the league race with victory Wednesday at Clay. Findlay stands firmly in first place.

Ross received its sectional tournament bracket Sunday. The Little Giants will face Mansfield Madison (3-4-2) at 7 p.m. Oct. 15 at Lexington. A victory would send Ross up against Ashland (9-1-1), the tournament's top seed.

VOLLEYBALL

G'burg 5-15-15, Northwood 15-12-2

GIBSONBURG — The Golden Bears fell behind early but fought back behind Mallory Fleming's 15 kills to beat Northwood in a non-league match.

Little Giants blank Eagles

Ross tennis gets ready for tourney

News-Messenger reports

OREGON — Shannon Hickey and Britini Werling scored two goals apiece as the Fremont Ross girls soccer team sewed up second place in the Great Lakes League with a 6-0 victory over Oregon Clay.



HICKEY

Hickey added an assist for the Little Giants (7-6-1, 5-2 GLL). Ross trails Findlay by two games in the league race with one match to play.

Marissa Rodriguez and Tiffany Howard scored the other goals for Ross. Alison Clark had two assists. Nicki Straight, Rachael Daugherty and Angela Hoelzle had an assist apiece.

Goalkeeper Christina Szymanowski recorded four saves.

Ross hosts Norwalk on Saturday and wraps up the GLL season Monday at home against Sandusky.

GIRLS TENNIS

Ross 5, Perrysburg 0

The Little Giants spent their final regular season match get-

ting into postseason alignment Wednesday.

The result was a sweep of Perrysburg at the Rodger Young Park courts.

Juniors Erica Wolfe and Meghan Michaels teamed up at doubles for the first time and defeated Perrysburg opponents Jenny Langevin and Mackenzie Hoops 6-3, 6-0. The Ross No. 2 doubles team of Kelli Goetz and Stephanie Clarke won a 6-1, 6-3 decision over Jessica Marvin and Sara Walker.

In singles, Mekenna Smith, Erika Parker and Devon Michaels earned straight-set triumphs. Smith downed Lauren Spoerl 6-1, 6-3; Parker took down Alyssa Biederman 6-1, 6-3; and Devon Michaels outhit Dee Pandhi 6-3, 6-1.

"It was nice to have the final home match be so successful," Ross coach Lisa Wolfe said. "I will miss my five seniors. They are hard workers. They stuck it out with four of them playing jv. I'm happy they hung with it."

Ross, which finished the regular season with a 13-4 record, will hold a light practice today in preparation for Friday's Division I sectional at Sandusky High School.

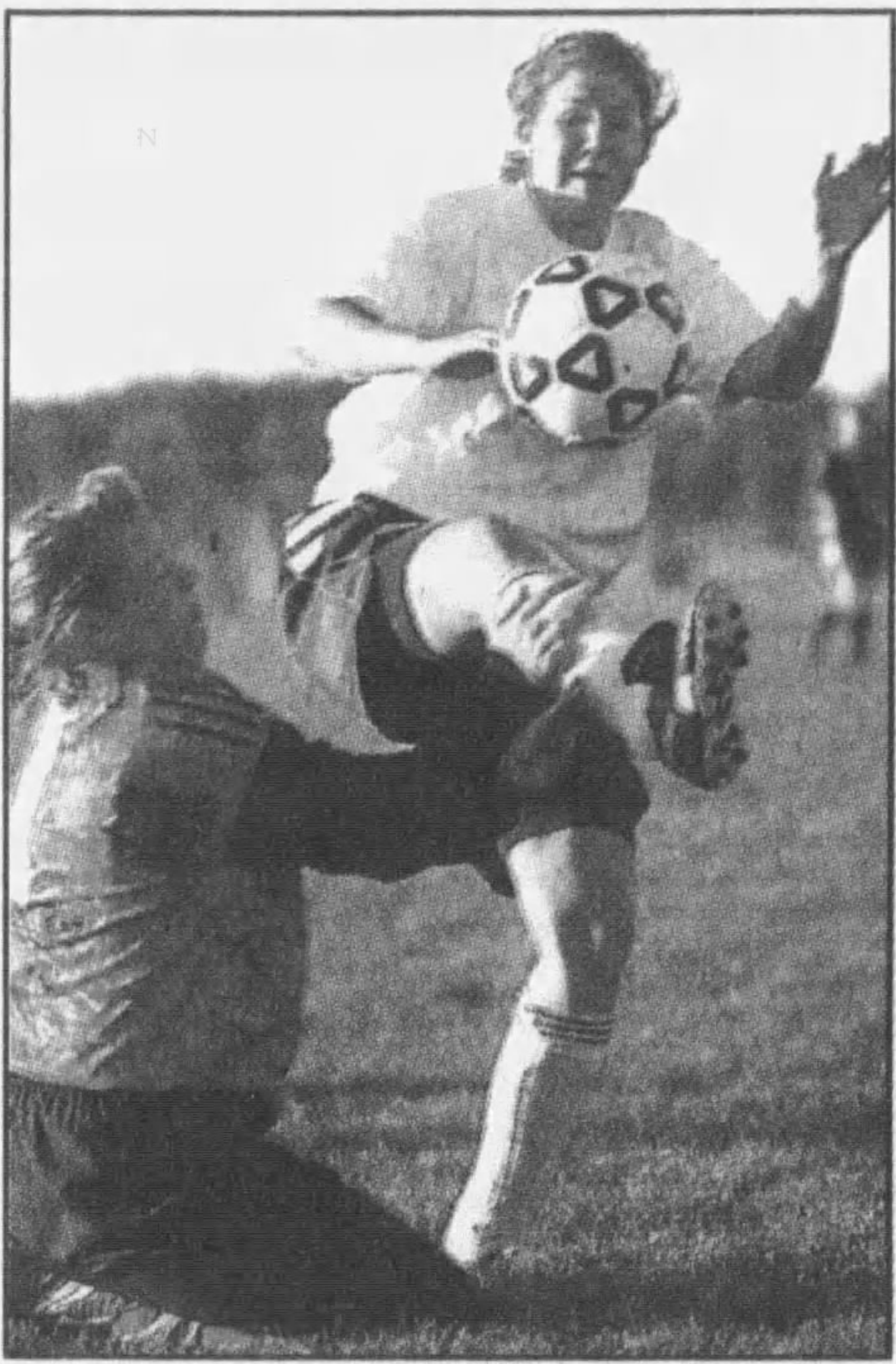
News-Messenger reports

Marissa Rodriguez scored the game-winner off a feed from Britini Werling with seven minutes remaining Saturday as the Fremont Ross girls soccer team came back for a 3-2 victory over Norwalk.

Ross (8-6-1) trailed 2-0 at half-time but started fast in the second half when Shannon Hickey scored a goal in the first 25 seconds. Alison Clark notched the other Little Giant goal.

Nicki Straight had an assist, and goalkeeper Christina Szymanowski had eight saves. Angela Hoelzle added six takeaways.

The Little Giants wrap up the regular season by hosting Sandusky today.



News-Messenger/Ben French

CHRISTINA SZYMANOWSKI, right, of Fremont Ross kicks the ball as the Sandusky goalkeeper closes in during Monday's match at Kelsey-Hayes Field. The Little Giants won 3-0.

Ross girls rip Streaks, end up 2nd

Tennis players wrap up Division I sectional play

News-Messenger reports

The Fremont Ross girls soccer team wrapped up its regular season with a 3-0 victory over Sandusky on Monday at Kelsey-Hayes Field.

But the Little Giants didn't get what they wanted most, a goal for senior goalkeeper Christina Szymanowski.

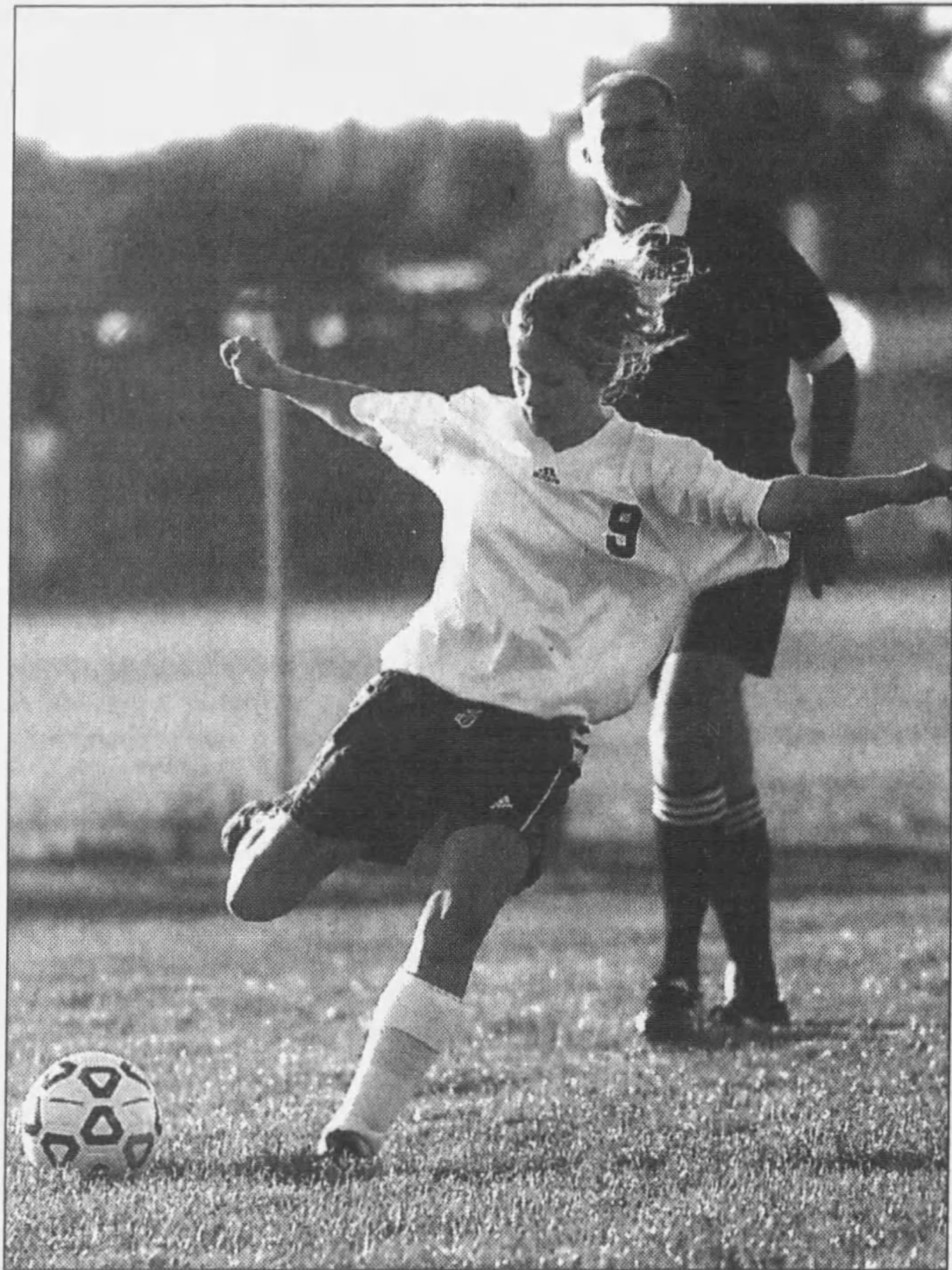
"We could have had six or seven goals, but we spent the second half trying to get Christina a goal. She came close, but it didn't happen," Ross coach Scott McVeigh said.

Ross scored all of its goals in the first half. Britini Werling started the scoring by nailing a corner kick 12 minutes into the match. Werling also assisted on the third goal, a score by Tiffany Howard. Shannon Hickey notched the other goal on an assist from Megan Theller.

Ross finished the regular season 9-6-1 and 6-2 in the Great Lakes League. The Little Giants finished second behind Findlay in the GLL race for the second year in a row.

"Toward the end of the season, we came on strong and played as well as we've played all year," McVeigh said. "We definitely could have had a better record, but we've had some good moments."

The Little Giants will meet Mansfield Madison in the sectional tournament opener at 7 p.m. Monday in Lexington.



News-Messenger/Ben French

ALISON CLARK of Fremont Ross prepares for a boot during Monday's 3-0 Great Lakes League victory over Sandusky at Kelsey-Hayes Field.