

GIRLS SOCCER

Schricket scores game-winner

Keliegh Schrickel scored on a penalty kick and Suzanne Chudzinski scored off an assist from Kass Steinberger as Fremont Ross stopped Sandusky 2-1 in the GBC.

"We played a hard, physical game on both sides of the ball," Little Giant coach Ron Huss said. "Everything came together. I'm proud of everybody's play."

Reegan Koppelman made 17 saves for the Little Giants.

"We got awesome play from our keeper," Huss said. "She kept us in the game so we could win."

Harrison blasts four goals in Giants' GBC win

Keeper Reegan Koppelman gets her first shutout

By MATTHEW HORN
Sports Writer

Briana Harrison had been working with coaches and teammates to increase the velocity and accuracy on her shots.

And Tuesday certainly represented a powerful demonstration, as Harrison scored four goals and assisted on another in a 7-0 shutout victory of Marion Harding.

Harrison opened the scoring when she collected the rebound off Suzanne Chudzenski's shot and found the back of the net.

Janelle Head assisted on the goal.

Harrison took a pass from Caley Miller and carried up the left side before lofting a shot across the goal and over the goalie for the Little Giants' third goal.

"She won her 50/50 balls," Chudzenski said. "She was on the ball and she followed through on her shots. Bri was on tonight. She used a power kick we taught her last night. She put all her shots right where she wanted."

Ross coach Ron Huss said Miller has come a long way this season. Huss also credited Samantha Durnwald, Eve McElfresh, Carmen Rodriguez and Tori Brooks with strong play at fullback spots.

"They're the last line of defense

and they play in harmony," Huss said. "They have the ability to set up the offense back there."

She recorded the fifth goal off an assist from Ashley Long on a corner kick and split two defenders and banked a shot off the post for the sixth tally. Cass Steinberger and Brooks assisted on the sixth goal.

"Ashley Long has been one heck of a stopper," Huss said. "She's a great all-around athlete. She provides support and transitions between offense and defense a lot. She gets better every game."

Harrison said teamwork and defense have been the keys to Ross's season.

"We worked really well as a

team (Tuesday)," she said.

Kyleigh Schrickel sent Chudzenski an excellent crossing pass for the second goal. Chudzenski had no defender between herself and the goal.

Harrison snuck a pass to Chudzenski alone in the box and Chudzenski directed a shot inside the post with the outside of her foot.

Brooks capped the scoring from the left side with a wonderful shot just under the bar and barely over the goalie's outstretched arms.

Reegan Koppelman, in her first year playing soccer, recorded eight saves in her first shutout.

"Reegan has been a blessing," Huss said. "She has very little soccer experience but she's athleti-

cally inclined. She plays first base and catcher in softball and you can see those skills. She's not afraid to mix it up and go after it."

Prior to Tuesday, Huss said his team had struggled to finish offensive opportunities with goals.

"We've had trouble finishing but tonight they were able to finish (with goals)," he said. "(Tuesday) was the best game I've seen Bri play. Hopefully she can build on it."

"We had a well-balanced attack. Several of the girls said, 'We finally put it together.'"

Ross had only one league loss and is in position to take second place in the conference. Findlay hasn't lost and Sandusky has two setbacks.

Ross's Chudzenski dangerous up front

Sophomore has 19 goals this year — including six in one game

By MATTHEW HORN
Sports Writer

The first time Fremont Ross forward Suzanne Chudzenski scored a goal at the varsity level she added four more in the same contest against Napoleon, setting a Little Giant record as a freshman.

In fact, the sophomore is so dangerous up front with her speed, distribution, possession skills and knowledge of spacing and positioning, that finding the back of the net or assisting a teammate in doing so seems almost inevitable each game.

"Her foot skills are excellent and she has an excellent sense of the field," said Little Giant coach Ron Huss. "She knows where to be and when. She can set up plays and get to the ball quickly. She can outrun the defense's back line. She gets set and has the green light to shoot. She's learning not to always force it but finesse sometimes."

Chudzenski forced five saves, hit the crossbar twice and sent a shot just wide of the post in the first half of a 7-1 Greater Buckeye Conference victory over Marion Harding last week. She managed to score two goals in the half and was removed from the contest for good after sending a shot just wide early in the second half.

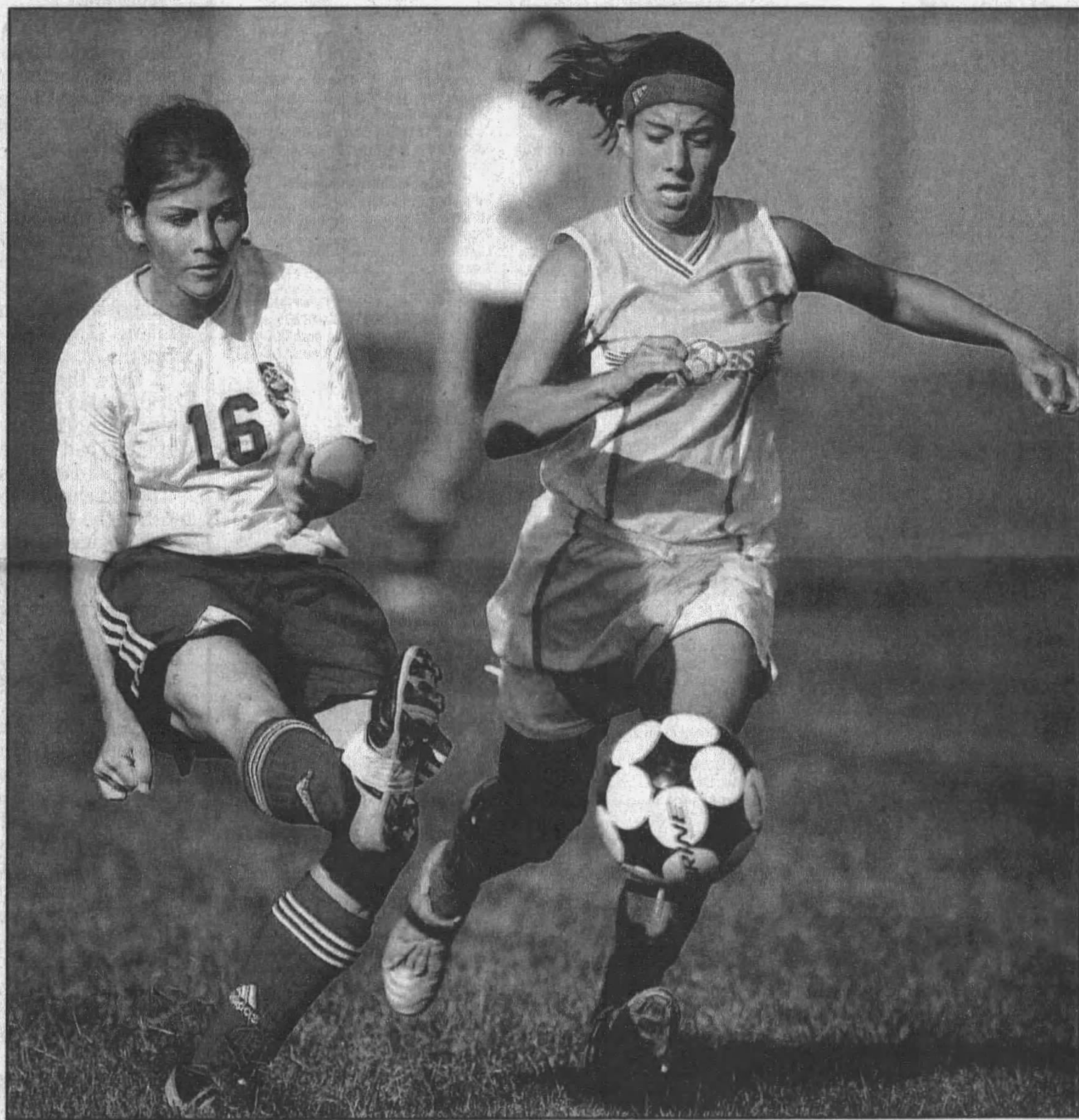
Chudzenski, who can shoot with either foot, also broke her own mark with six goals in the first half against Edison earlier this season.

"That was one of my goals — beating the five goals from last year," Chudzenski said. "Everybody else was happy, too, because my parents bought the team a Dairy Queen ice-cream cake. I wasn't as happy as I was with the five because that was my first time scoring. Edison is a developing team."

Chudzenski said she also wanted to exceed last season's 12 goals. She already has 19.

"I've beat both goals so I'm pretty happy," she said.

Chudzenski said she does not feel pressure from her



News-Messenger/Diane Cebula

FREMONT ROSS'S SUZANNE Chudzenski moves the ball down field against Oregon Clay last week.

teammates to tally goals. But Huss said she puts enough pressure on herself.

"I'm pressured to do it because I'm always up there," Chudzenski said. "I feel like I want to please my teammates. We didn't think we'd do as well as we have after losing so many seniors."

Huss said Chudzenski is so intense that she sometimes allows herself to get frustrated.

"She has so much heart to play and such a strong drive to be the best she can be but there are times when you have to adjust to adversity," Huss said. "She's always up to the challenge but sometimes she's too hard on herself. She's doing a much better job."

The Little Giants are firmly in the race for second place in the GBC. Find-

lay has no losses and Sandusky has suffered two setbacks.

"Suzanne is a very good player, and I've been working with her to put less pressure on herself," Huss said. "That's been a goal and by the end of the season she'll manage that. She's an excellent player and I don't see any reason she can't play in college if she pursues that."

Which she is. "I'd love to go to college to play," she said.

Huss said an ominous threat like Chudzenski instills confidence in the entire group.

"She gives teammates a level of confidence and encourages them to play at their best level," Huss said. "There has to be balance. One player can be a weapon but the team has

more success when she shares. I emphasize team play."

Chudzenski spent six years honing her craft with the Fremont Emeralds boys team before high school. Her aunt Kay Simonton, who helped organize the team, got Chudzenski into soccer when she was 4 years old.

"It's just a fun sport," Chudzenski said. "I wasn't that good when I was little. I was small."

But the Little Giants collectively understand what they have at their disposal now in Chudzenski. In fact, a keen awareness of that scenario allowed for Chudzenski's incredible single-game performances the last two years.

"She was Charlie Hustle against Edison," Huss said. "She was a person on a mis-

sion and caught fire. That was a remarkable night. The wings set her up nicely. She got feeds over the defense and just took off. The girls on the team recognize her skill and with a team concept they fed the advantage. They aren't selfish.

"If there's a break in the dam they see the leak and go for the weak spot."

Not that it takes a weak spot for Chudzenski to thrive.

"She was first-team GBC as a freshman and I don't see any reason she won't get that again," Huss said. "What I like is that she's very coachable. She's a coach's player and she plays with heart. That's a very important element in sports and life. She's always willing to put forth the best effort no matter what."

High School Girls

Ross 2, Margaretta 1

**Scoring
Second half**

M — Kaitlin Day goal.

R — (Kaylay Keegan tripping)

Suzanne Chudzinski penalty kick.

R — Chudzinski goal (Briana Harrison assist).

Saves: Reegan Koppelman 18 saves.

Record: Ross 6-8-1 (2-1-1 GBC).

Sectionals: Monday at Mansfield.