

2010 DIVISION I STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

STATE-BOUND



Jonathon Bird | News-Messenger

Fremont Ross Athletic Director Art Bucci addresses state-bound swimmers during a pep rally Wednesday at the school natatorium. The swimming portion of the state swimming and diving meet continues through Saturday. Representing the Little Giants as district champions are Dexter Foss (100 free), Sammi Miller (50 free), Taylor Waggoner (100 butterfly) and the girls 200 free relay team (Miller, Waggoner, Courtney Gabel, Christy Meggitt).

STATE SWIMMING

Waggoner leads Ross swimmers into final

News-Messenger reports

CANTON — Fremont Ross junior Taylor Waggoner finished 13th in the 100-meter butterfly with a time of 58.47 at Friday's preliminary round of the Division I state swim meet in Canton.

Waggoner, who qualified for the meet by finishing 20th in the final state district standings, shaved more than a quarter of a second off her qualifying time. She was also part of the district championship 200 free relay team with Courtney Gabel, Sammi Miller and Christy Meggitt that finished the prelims in the 18th spot (1:40.76).

Gabel, Miller, Waggoner and Laura Duncan then were 15th after day one in the 200 medley relay with a mark of 1:50.79, while Miller (district champion) was 23rd in the 50 free (25.20).

The Fremont Ross boys swim team got a pair of top 10 finishes from senior Dexter Foos as he led a group of four Little Giants competing in Friday's preliminary round of the Division I state swim meet.

Foos, the district champion in the 100 freestyle, swam a time of 21.44 to take the eighth spot in the 50 free prelims and a mark of 46.67 for sixth in the 100 free.

Junior Alex Hoffman was 18th in the 100 butterfly (52.69) and he, along with Foos, Luke Wilhelm and Keith Wasserman took 17th in the 200 free (1:28.85) and 16th in the 400 free (3:16.84).

State Swimming

Girls Results

OHSAA DIVISION I SWIMMING & DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS, PRELIMS

■ **Site:** CT Branin Natatorium; Canton, Ohio.

■ **200 medley relay:** 1, Fulcher, Wagner, Vanfossen, Comer (Upper Arlington) 1:46.04; 15, Waggoner, Duncan, Gabel, Miller (Fremont Ross) 1:50.79.

■ **50 free:** 1, Gracie Finnegan (Columbus Bishop Watterson) :23.45; 23, Sammi Miller (Fremont Ross) :25.20.

■ **100 butterfly:** 1, Maddie Martin (Pickerington Central) :55.33; 13, Taylor Waggoner (Fremont Ross) :58.49.

■ **200 free relay:** 1, Rabold, Rielly, Schuttinger, Finnegan (Columbus Bishop Watterson) 1:35.51; 18, Gabel, Meggitt, Miller, Waggoner (Fremont Ross) 1:40.76.

Boys Results

OHSAA DIVISION I SWIMMING & DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS, PRELIMS

■ **Site:** CT Branin Natatorium; Canton, Ohio.

■ **50 free:** 1, Gus Bailey (Grove City) :21.16; 8, Dexter Foos (Fremont Ross) :21.44.

■ **100 butterfly:** 1, Nick Schuttinger (Westerville Central) :49.48; 18, Alex Hoffman (Fremont Ross) :52.69.

■ **100 free:** 1, Jacob Schuster (Dublin Scioto) :45.75; 6, Dexter Foos (Fremont Ross) :46.67.

■ **200 free relay:** 1, Ventosa, Brubach, Tedrow, Vretas (North Canton Hoover) 1:25.58; 17, Hoffman, Foos, Wasserman, Wilhelm (Fremont Ross) 1:28.85.

■ **400 free relay:** 1, Williams, M. Disalle, Miller, D. Disalle (Toledo St. Francis De Sales) 3:07.68; 16, Hoffman, Wilhelm, Wasserman, Foos (Fremont Ross) 3:16.84.

Foos gets fifth place in 50 free

News-Messenger reports

CANTON — Dexter Foos capped his Fremont Ross swim career in fashion Saturday, earning a fifth-place finish in the 50-meter freestyle at the Division I state swim meet in Canton.

Foos touched the wall in a personal-best time of 21.26, finishing 12 one-hundredths of a second behind state champion Brandon Williams of Loveland (21.14).

Individually, the Little Giant senior also took eighth in the 100 free, swimming a time of 46.78. He then teamed with Alex Hoffman, Luke Wilhelm and Keith Wasserman for a 13th-place run in the 400 free relay (3:15.90).

On the opposite side of the ledger, junior Taylor Waggoner

earned 12th for the Little Giants in their only individual event. She swam a time of 58.64 in the 100 butterfly.

Waggoner, Laura Duncan, Courtney Gabel and Sammi Miller added an 11th-place in the 200 medley relay.

DIVISION II SWIMMING

CANTON — Margaretta junior Sydney Craig topped her preliminary time of 54.40, swimming a new school record time of 54.27 Saturday in the 100-meter freestyle at the Division II state swim meet.

That mark placed the Polar Bear swimmer 15th overall. She also earned a 12th-place run in the 50 free with a mark of 24.87.

In the same meet, Oak Harbor received a pair of top 15 finishes from two of its relays.

The group of Marlee

Carpenter, Brielle Hanthorn, Jenna Diekman and Olivia Porter took 12th in the 200 free relay (1:41.89), while also placing 13th in the 400 free relay (3:44.51).

WRESTLING

Division I

ASHLAND — After being an alternate a year ago, Fremont Ross junior Tylor Trautwein is heading to the state wrestling meet — only this time as a participant.

Trautwein placed third in the 189-pound weight class at Saturday's Division I district meet at Ashland. The two-time defending Greater Buckeye Conference champion's record currently stands at 40-2.

"It's always nice to have someone represent your pro-

gram," Ross coach Mike Mezinger said. "Tylor (Trautwein) goes out and knows what he wants and just goes after it. He's a very confident young man and he's looking really good right now."

Trautwein's win in the third-place match gives him 102 for his career. The former junior-high state champion in Division I, is 47 victories below all-time wins leader Yohe Rojas, who has 149.

Division II

MARION — Oak Harbor senior Drew Stone is relieved he'll return to the state wrestling tournament.

Stone (125 pounds) beat Parma Padua Franciscan's

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State Swimming

Girls Results

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION I SWIMMING & DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS

■ Finals

■ **Site:** CT Branin Natatorim; Canton, Ohio.

■ **100 butterfly:** 1, Maddie Martin
(Pickerington Central) :54.85; 12; Taylor
Waggoner (Fremont Ross) :58.64.

■ **200 medley relay:** 1, Fulcher, Wagner,
Vanfossen, Comer (Upper Arlington)
1:46.23; 11; Waggoner, Duncan, Gabel,
Miller (Fremont Ross) 1:50.44.

Boys Results

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION I SWIMMING & DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS

■ Finals

■ **Site:** CT Branin Natatorim; Canton, Ohio.

■ **50 free:** 1, Brandon Williams (Loveland)
:21.14; 5. Dexter Foos (Fremont Ross)
:21.26.

■ **100 free:** 1, John Spangler (Upper
Arlington) :45.66; 8, Dexter Foos (Fremont
Ross) :46.78.

■ **400 free relay:** 1, Williams, Disalle,
Miller, D. Disalle (Toledo St. Francis De
Sales) 3:06.09; 13, Hoffman, Wilhelm,
Wasserman, Foos (Fremont Ross) 3:15.90.

Foos places 5th in 50 freestyle

BY KEVIN SHIELDS
Sports writer

FREMONT — Five years ago, Dexter Foos wasn't even swimming. Now he's one of the top-five swimmers in the state at one of his events.

Foos, who swam a personal-best-time of 21.26 seconds Saturday, finished 12 100ths of a second shy of first in the 50 freestyle, leading Fremont Ross with a fifth-place finish at the Division I state swim meet in Canton.

"It's indescribable," Foos said. "I never thought I'd come that far in five years.

"I was watching the tape afterwards and it actually looked like I hit first — it was anybody's race."

According to Ross coach Phil Moran, Foos had only been training and swimming four months a year since starting in the eighth grade.

"To do what he did is pretty amazing," Moran said of his senior. "He really is a great athlete with a lot of talent."

The Little Giants qualified nine total swimmers to the meet, with five coming on the girls side and four on the boys.

Joining Foos for the boys were teammates Alex Hoffman, Luke Wilhelm and Keith Wasserman. Hoffman, a junior, qualified in the 100 butterfly and was part of the Little Giants 200 and 400 free relays. He is another swimmer that started in eighth grade and had a really good season. Wilhelm and Wasserman were also a bit green when it came to experience.

"Alex was tremendous all year," Moran said. "Luke and Keith had never same for USA Swimming and Luke never did the summer program, so it really was an amazing relay group we had.

"In the past, my relays have had a lot of experience and swam year-round and this group had almost none. It says something about those kids' abilities."

Though the 200 free relay failed to make the top 16, the 400 free relay group took 13th, swimming a personal-best time of 3:15.90 in the final.



Kathy Williams | News-Messenger correspondent

The Fremont Ross state qualifiers in swimming: front, junior Taylor Waggoner, senior Courtney Gabel and sophomore Sammi Miller; middle, junior Christy Meggitt and freshman Laura Duncan; back, junior Alex Hoffman, senior Dexter Foos, junior Luke Wilhelm and sophomore Keith Wasserman. Foos had the best finish for the Little Giants, placing 5th in the 50 freestyle in a time of 21.26 seconds.

Hoffman, making his second state appearance, was the Greater Buckeye Conference champion in the 100 butterfly and swam a 52.69 in Friday's preliminary round, missing Saturday's finals by two spots.

"It gained a little time," Hoffman said. "But I was pretty happy with it."

Hoffman swam the opening leg of the 400 relay with Foos closing.

Wilhelm, a member of the two relays that also won the GBC this season, was making his first appearance in Canton. He finished second leg of the 400 relay with split times of 24.01 and 27.30.

"It was really fast down there," said the junior. "It was

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Waggoner leads Ross girls, finishing 12th in 100 butterfly

BY KEVIN SHIELDS
Sports writer

Much like the guys, there was a nice contingent of girls who made it to the Division I state meet for the Little Giants to cap a great season.

Leading the pack of five Ross swimmers was junior Taylor Waggoner. She placed 12th in the 100 butterfly, swimming a mark of 58.64.

"I was happy with it," Waggoner said. "Last year I was

10th, so I went down a little bit, but I came in 13th and ended up 12th so I was pleased."

It was the third time Waggoner made it to Canton. She was a district champion in the 100 butterfly, swimming 58.75 to earn the automatic spot.

Of Waggoner's memories of the state meet, though, it was her part as the anchor of

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an amazing experience.”

This winter was Wilhelm's first as a full-time member of the relays after making brief appearances as a sophomore. Wasserman was another first-timer to the state meet and says he knew the Ross relays could do something special after getting on the podium first at the GBC championships.

“That's really where it hit for me that we could go pretty far this season,” he said. “It was a really good feeling getting up on that podium as league champion.”

Wasserman was third leg of the 400 free relay, swimming marks of 23.60 and 26.94. It was a squad that one of the privileged few to make it to state.

“We were one of three teams in Northwest Ohio to get their relays to state,” Moran said. “I was kind of amazed we got out of the district meet when you looked at our qualifying times.”

The other boys teams to qualify relays were Findlay and Toledo St. Francis de Sales.

“It was a tremendous meet by the boys,” Moran said. “We had some guys who had never been there get there and get a lot of great meet experience. We'll be back to the drawing board again next year. There isn't as much talent on the boys side as the girls, but the nice thing is they just seem to pop out of the woodwork for us.”

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ROSS GIRLS FROM 7

the 200 medley relay that sticks out above the rest. The group made up of her, senior Courtney Gabel, freshman Laura Duncan and sophomore Sammi Miller posted a 1:50.44 to beat out five teams that qualified in front of them.

“The 200 medley relay is really what stuck out to me,” Waggoner said. “Going in 16th and coming out 11th meant that we'd beaten a lot of the teams in front of us.”

The 200 medley relay finished second at the district meet, with a time of 1:50.53. But it was nerve-racking when it came to qualifying.

“We thought they'd probably be a top 10 qualifier, but they were 15th,” Moran said. “Then one second later was the 24th qualifier — it was just a really fast meet to get in.”

Duncan, a freshman, had her best leg time of the season in the event at the district meet.

“I just knew we'd be fast enough,” Duncan said. “We were going so fast and I had my best time of the year.”

Aside from Waggoner's individual event, she also earned another automatic ticket to Canton as part of the 200 free relay team of Gabel, junior Christy Meggitt, Sammi Miller and herself.

A time of 1:39.97 earned the squad the district crown.

Meggitt, who had a split time

of 25.32 at the district meet to help the group qualify, remembers the feeling of the squad making it and knowing she was going to state for a third time.

“It was pretty exciting winning districts again because it was the third-year in-a-row for the 200 free relay,” Meggitt said. “It's also a great experience to go down there and see where you stack up.”

Miller, the anchor of the 200 medley relay and one of the middle-leggers for the 200 free relay, also made it to state. She won the district championship in the 50 free with a time of 24.69.

“I was really nervous, but I still have a few years to swim,” Miller said. “It was definitely a learning experience for the future.”

Gabel was second in the 50 free and third in the 100 free, just missing the cut as an individual qualifier.

“I was four 100ths away from making it,” Gabel said. “But overall, I was happy how my year went and how the team did. We worked hard and it turned out well.”

Like the boys, the girls will also start preparing for next season, but with a little better crop to choose from.

“We have a whole lot of talent coming up on the girls side,” Moran said. “Every year is a puzzle.”

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