

1956 Class A District Tournament

St. Joseph Vs Sylvania, Ross Vs Clay Scheduled In Rossford District "A" Tourney

Little Giants Set For Friday Encounter; Streaks Play Saturday

Fremont's two basketball entrants in the Rossford district playoffs, Ross high and the Crimson Streaks of St. Joseph's have drawn Clay and Sylvania respectively and will go into initial action this weekend.

Coach Al Ziemke's Little Giants, winner of three out of 17 games this season (not counting the Alumni victory) are slated to meet Clay (14-4) this Friday at 7:15 p. m. on the Rossford floor.

Coach Bob Smith's St. Joseph's team, winner of the Sandusky Bay Conference, and holder of a 14-4 record over the campaign, see initial action Saturday night at 7:15 p. m. against Sylvania, 12-4.

Prospects of Ross and St. Joseph's meeting in later rounds of the elimination appear improbable unless some distinct upsets are registered along the line, and the local teams are figured into the later pairings for the victorious competitors. However, this question will be answered after the weekend, when advanced brackets are established.

In the drawings, held Saturday at Rossford under direction of Edgar Wagner, tourney chairman, Ross has come up with the stronger of the two opponents, considering the win loss records.

In Great Northern Conference play, Clay took the first place trophy with 11 wins and one lone reversal, Sylvania, (which also has a "Burnham" name sometimes associated with it in accounts), was third with an eight win, four loss loop season. Last year, Coach Lew Whitman's quintet took the GNC flag.

Thus the Eagles of Clay have the upper hand in the win-loss records carried into the opening round of play, that is.

The week ahead will be one of final sharpening up for Smith's Crimson Streaks and the Little Giants of Coach Ziemke.

Both Fremont schools most definitely have their assignments carved out for them in the first step in the long trail that ultimately leads the pace-setters to the state championships in Class A and B competition.

Although Ross has tasted Class A district play in the past, this is the first Class A tourney action for the Crimson Streaks.

Other district games, pitting teams that have met Ross and St. Joseph's this season in and out of their leagues, are carried here:

AT LIMA

Feb. 24—Lima Shawnee (5-10) vs. Findlay (14-4), 7:30; Delphos St. John (12-6) vs. Lima (6-10), 9:00.

Feb. 25—Kenton (11-5) vs. Wapakoneta (5-9), 7:30; St. Marys (15-0) vs. Celina (6-4), 9:00.

March 2—Semifinals, 7:30 and 9:00.

March 3—Finals, 8:00.

AT SANDUSKY

Feb. 24—Sandusky (5-11) vs. Bellevue (4-10), 6:30; Norwalk (7-9) vs. Willard (4-12), 8:00; Sandusky St. Mary (11-4) vs. Tiffin Columbian (11-4), 9:30.

Feb. 25—Tiffin Calvert (1-10) vs. Port Clinton (10-4), 7:00; Vermilion (13-3) vs. Sandusky-Bellevue winner, 8:30.

March 2—Semifinals 7:00 and 8:30.

March 3—Finals, 8:30.

AT ROSSFORD

Feb. 24 (AT CLAY)—Genoa (7-9) vs. Holland (0-14), 8 p. m.

Feb. 24—Fremont, Ross (3-14) vs. Clay (14-4), 7:15; Whitmer (6-11) vs. Maumee (7-9), 9:00.

Feb. 25—Sylvania (12-4) vs. Fremont St. Joseph (14-4), 7:15; Fostoria (8-8) vs. Genoa-Holland winner, 9:00.

March 2—Semifinals, 7:15, 9:00.

March 3—Finals, 8:15.

AT MARION

Feb. 24 (AT MANSFIELD)—Ashland (12-4) vs. Upper Sandusky (3-14), 7:00; Marion Harding (8-8) vs. Bucyrus (7-9), 8:30.

Feb. 24—Shelby (16-1) vs. Mansfield (10-8), 7:00; Galion (11-5) vs. Mansfield Madison (3-10), 9:00.

March 2—Semifinals, Mansfield winners at 7. Marion winners at 8:30.

March 3—Finals, 8.

CLASS B

Ottawa County at Port Clinton

Feb. 24—Oak Harbor vs. Lakeside, 8:30.

Feb. 25—Elmore vs. Lakeside-Oak Harbor winner, 8:45.

March 2—Semifinals, 7. Marion winners at 8:30.

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Ross Goes To Rossford For Tonight's Cage Game

St. Joseph's Team Goes Into Action Saturday; Tough Opponents Slated

Ross high school opens the Fremont Class A high school district playoffs tonight at Rossford, when the Little Giants of Coach Al Ziemke meet Clay in a 7:15 p.m. on the Rossford High school floor.

The game is the 11th-lifter in the long trail which will carry the best squads into the state championship playoffs in Cleveland.

St. Joseph's high school waits until tomorrow night to see Rossford action, marking an introduction to Class "A" competition in the district elimination event. Opponent for Coach Bob Smith's team is Sylvania-Burnham; game-time has also been posted at 7:15 p.m.

These are the opening steps for the local squads. Neither has an easy time slated. Ross with a 3-14 showing this season, meets a 14-4 team in Clay.

St. Joseph's won 14 and lost four and will be facing a crew which has a 12-4 slate of games, marking the Crimson Streaks a two game winner advantage.

In the Great Northern Conference, Clay took the championship with a 11 win, one loss standing. Sylvania didn't fare as well, getting third place with an eight win, four loss league record.

That's the ticket for the weekend at Rossford. Outcome of the games in the single elimination events will determine whether the local schools return for the second step of the playoffs to the district championship and the subsequent step up the ladder as a result.

Coach Ziemke said late Thursday that Al Price is nursing a pulled back muscle and Ken Adams had a touch of the flu, sidelining both players during the week's practice drills. Gail Brauchla turned up with a chipped tooth, causing some discomforts along the line.

However, Brauchla is expected to be in action, while it's doubtful whether Price or Adams will be suited up at Rossford, Ziemke observed.

16 The Fremont News-Messenger
Friday, February 24, 1956

'Stay Home', Hank Tells His Holdouts On Indian Squad

CLEVELAND (AP)—General Manager Hank Greenberg says he doesn't want any players not under contract around when the Cleveland Indians open spring training at Tucson Monday.

He said Thursday that holdouts around the ball park or hotel "simply create a disturbing influence."

"Naturally, I can't prevent anyone from coming to Tucson," Greenberg said, "but I wish the unsigned players would stay at home and negotiate their contracts with me by telephone."

Five players had not come to terms today. They are pitcher Early Wynn, infielders Bob Avila and Vic Wertz and outfielders Jim Busby and Gene Woodling. They are reported dissatisfied with the salaries offered.

First baseman Joe Altobelli returned his signed contract to the Indians Thursday, the 39th player to come to terms. He batted .200 in 42 games with the Indians after being called up from Indianapolis last season.

New Izaak Walton Clubhouse Slated

Members of the Izaak Walton League are planning a new clubhouse about a mile northwest of their present location in Booktown. Because the new by-pass highway will cut through the present area, the local chapter purchased a new plot of land consisting of 46 acres.

Present plans call for meetings to be held in the Eagles Lodge hall in Fremont during the construction period. Meetings are scheduled the second and fourth Thursdays of each month.

Ben Collins, secretary, urges all members to be present at

Little Giants Press, But Drop Out Of Contention In Rossford Tourney

ROSSFORD, O.—Straining to get at the ball with just nine seconds remaining Friday night on the Rossford high floor, the Little Giants of Ross high school saw time run out on them as they went down to a 49-47 Class A tournament defeat to Clay high in the opening session of action for Coach Al Ziemke's crew. The Purple and White rounded out the season last night, reaching the end of the tourney trail as the result of a reversal in the first start.

Despite the reversal of the score, Ross' Gail Brauchla established a new individual scoring mark for the Little Giants when he poured in a total of 14 points last night to give him 388 points in 19 times including the opening Alumni game.

Brauchla, who arrived at Ross in September as a senior transfer from Angola, Ind., exceeded the mark of Larry Miller, who in the 1954-55 season, scored 385 points in 20 games, which included two tournament tilts in addition to the traditional alumni opener.

Brauchla's average over the season was 20.4 per game.

Better Defense

Coach Ziemke stated that the Little Giants presented a better than average defense last night but was stymied with a brand of offense that was off standard.

Fremont started out with a four point lead at the end of the first quarter as the board showed a 12-8 advantage. The same lead remained at half with Ross on the heavy end of a 26-22 score.

Clay's big offensive thrust in the third period was the clincher as Ross scored but eight points to 21 for the Great Northern Conference team. A turnaround in the fourth period for Ross brought the Little Giants 13 markers to six for Clay.

Jim Routson, 6'7" who paved the way to Clay's win with his 22 high point total in the first three periods was completely snuffed out of the scoring picture in the last period, as Ross allowed no field goals in the eight minutes from the Clay forces. All six pointers were from the charity line.

Stopped By Sherman

Tom Sherman was pointed out by Ziemke as the player who stopped Routson scoring efforts as the Little Giant, who worked into most of the games in the season as a substitute, turned on a windup performance that made the Rossford fans sit up and take notice of something other than the tight score.

Fred Middleton, who started in a forward slot with Brauchla on the pivot, came out of the game in the third period on the five foul ruling and had been held to four points at that point.

Although the score is the prime factor of any ball game, the Little Giants showed a style which outplayed the Clay five.

Ross led for the last time with the score at 32-31 when Lane Becker zeroed in a pair of free throws, but Clay took over again and didn't relinquish the lead. Becker was right behind Brauchla in the scoring column with 13 buttons in the baskets.

10 Point Clay Lead

Shortly after the opening of the final period, the Clay team went into a lead of 44-34, and from that point the Little Giants continued to whittle it down, but not to the size that the home fans would have wanted in the first game of tournament play.

Coming along in the final game at Rossford, Maumee took the toll of Whitmer in a 47-44 game with Maumee going out in front in the final period after the score had been knotted at 34-34 as the

first three periods of play were completed.

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Genoa had no trouble in the game played in the tournament at Clay high school as the winners ground out a big 75-56 win over Holland high.

CLAY (49) G F FM P T
Lasko 6 4 2 1 16
Marlow 0 1 1 0 1
Niederhauser 1 2 0 2 4
Routson 8 6 2 3 22
Baumgatner 2 0 1 0 4
Warner 1 0 1 3 2

18 13 7 11 49
ROSS (47) G F FM P T
Middleton 2 0 0 5 4
Brauchla 7 0 1 2 14
Beckler 4 5 2 2 10
Becker 4 5 2 2 13
Glover 1 0 1 0 2
Walters 1 0 0 0 2
Lee 1 0 1 2 3

20 7 8 14 47

Score by quarters:

Clay 8 14 21 6-19

Ross 12 14 8 13-17

Officials: Sacher and Vogelsang.

—:-

Maumee (47) G F T
Bamford 5 4 14 Torok 5 6 10
Bajley 1 0 2 Herring 2 2 6
France 5 3 10 Brink 2 2 6
Frye 4 4 8 Malik 4 8
Holden 1 2 4 Koch'd'l'r 4 0 8
Tattersall 1 0 2

Totals 18 12 47 Totals 19 6 44

Score by quarters:

Maumee 5 12 16 13-47

Whitmer 16 4 14 10-44

—:-

Whitmer (44) G F T

18 12 47

Score by quarters:

Whitmer 16 4 14 10-44

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Vic Wertz Signs Pact With Cleveland Club

CLEVELAND AP—Vic Wertz, who may be the answer to the Cleveland Indians' troublesome first base problem, signed his contract Friday, the 40th member of the Tribe to come to terms.

The 31-year-old left-handed slugger, who overcame an attack of polio late last season, said he was "in excellent shape" and that it was "going to be good to get back into action again."

After signing he left for York, Pa., to visit a sister who is ill there. He said he would report as soon as possible to the Indians' spring training camp at Tucson which opens Monday.

Wertz batted .253 in 74 games last season, alternating at first base and in the outfield. He drove in 55 runs and hit 14 homers.

BODDIE WINS

DAYTON, Ohio AP—George Boddie, 159½, of Dayton, decided Curtis Coles, 161, Pittsburgh, in the feature of a four-bout fight program last night at the Dayton Gym Club.

SCHWAB'S

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