

High hopes for area teams

FREMONT ROSS

Coach: Lisa Wolfe

Last year: 5-7 (1-4 Greater Buckeye Conference)

Key Departures: Jacob Garlock, Ricky Ramirez, Jason Rexroth

Key Returners: Malcolm Leake, Jordan Martin, Tim Cheek, David Gipe, Michael Pickerel, Curtis Hinsch, Erik Paulson.

Key Newcomers: Marcus Hernandez, Rob Hart, Andrew Wright, Michael Hall, Logan Apling, Cody Curry, David Garza

Outlook: Wolfe is encouraged by the last week of practice in good weather, and hopes the scrimmages against Bowling Green and Oak Harbor — both successful programs — served as a wake-up call for some of the players. The Little Giants, led by Leake at first singles, look to be competitive in the GBC. Wolfe noted that most of the top players they saw in the league have graduated. “I’m definitely looking for a better record than last year.” She has high hopes as well for Leake, who was the Little Giants’ lone player to advance to districts. “He’s played in a lot of tournaments and he’s gotten better and better,” she said of the sophomore.

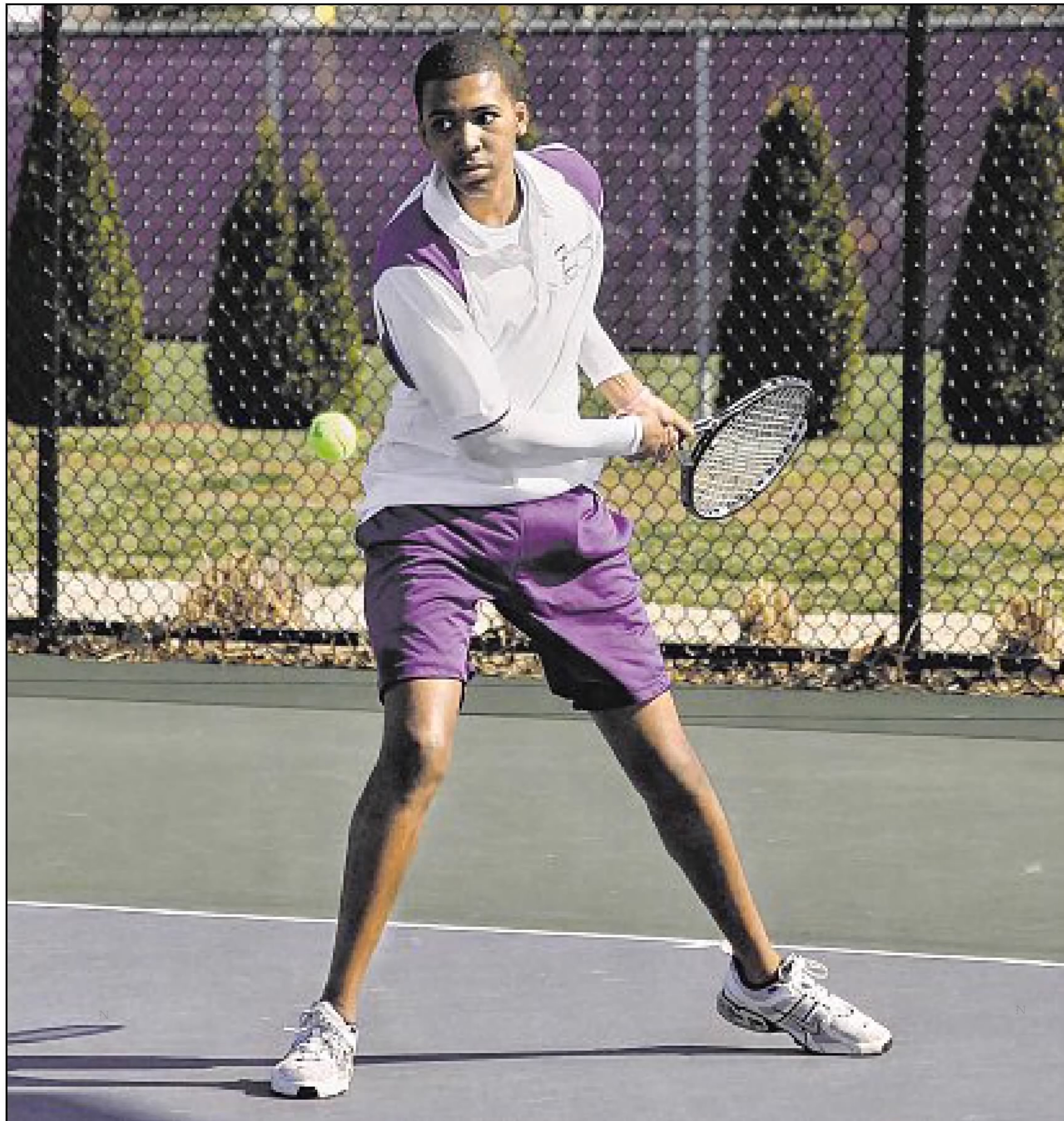
SJCC

Coach: Scott Knisely

Key Departures: Chris Wobser, Matt Barbour, Tyler Cleveland, Derek Dickman

Key Returners: Paul Wendt, Sam Hossler, Paul Bloom, Matt Wickline

Key Newcomers: Grant Cleveland,



Jonathon Bird | News-Messenger
Fremont Ross' Malcolm Leake plays a ball during last season's match against St. Joseph Central Catholic.

Leake, Paulson win in singles play

FREMONT — Malcolm Leake and Erik Paulson both earned wins in singles play, but Fremont Ross dropped a 3-2 decision to Napoleon Tuesday in Greater Buckeye Conference play.

Leake defeated the Wildcats' Justin Braun 7-5, 7-6 (7) in No. 1 singles, while Paulson was a 6-3, 6-4 winner over Derrick Panning on the No. 3 court.

Napoleon won the match by taking both matches in doubles play. Jason Wenner and Alex Altman defeated the Little Giants' No. 1 team of Rob Hart and Tim Cheek 6-0, 6-0. Cody Curry and Jordan Martin lost in No. 2 doubles to the Wildcats' duo of Chris Pierce and Dalton Collins 7-6 (2), 2-6, 2-6.

In the JV match, Napoleon was a 7-2 winner. Winning matches in JV play were Marcus Hernandez, Curtis Hinsch and Logan Apling.

Tennis

Little Giants dominate Tornadoes

FREMONT — The Fremont Ross boys tennis squad swept the doubles portion and earned a key win on the No. 3 singles court in a 4-1 win over Tiffin Columbian Wednesday.

“We changed the lineup up,” Ross coach Lisa Wolfe said. “We lost to Tiffin Columbian last year and so we tweaked our spots a little bit, and it worked for us.”

Malcolm Leake took care of business for Ross (1-1) on the No. 1 singles court, winning 6-2, 6-4. But it was Rob Hart’s win in No. 3 singles that put Ross over the top, thanks to a sweep on the doubles’ courts. Hart defeated Columbian’s Logan Smith 6-2, 6-7, 6-0.

It was the No. 1 doubles team^N for Ross of Michael Pickerel and Erik Paulson and the No. 2 team of Cody Curry and Tim Cheek, though, that made it so the Little Giants needed just a single victory on the single courts.

Pickerel and Paulson won 1-6, 7-4 (4), 7-5, and Curry and Cheek won 4-6, 7-5, 7-5.

Ross winners in the JV match included Andrew Wright and David Garza.

Tennis

Little Giants blanked by Bobcats

FREMONT — Malcolm Leake won the first set of his match in No. 1 singles, but the Fremont Ross tennis team dropped a 5-0 non-conference decision to Bowling Green Thursday.

Leake loss to the Bobcats' Davood Dadfar 6-3, 4-6, 4-6, as

he was the lone Little Giant to win a set.

Tim Cheek fell in No. 2 singles to Bowling Green's Mitchel Bills, while Curtis Hinsch fell on the No. 3 court to Chris Hardaway.

Michael Pickerel and Erik Paulson won four games in their first set with Justin Makely and Alden Carney for Ross (1-2), but were defeated 4-6, 1-6 in No.1 doubles. Rob Hart and Cody Curry lost to Andrew Walterback and Nathan Mougamian in No. 2 doubles action.

Winning JV matches for the Little Giants were Andrew Wright and Logan Apling.

Ross downed by Findlay

FINDLAY — Michael Pickerel and Erik Paulson were the lone Fremont Ross tennis players to win a set Tuesday as the Little Giants were swept 5-0 by Findlay in Greater Buckeye Conference action.

Pickerel and Paulson, Ross' No. 1 doubles team, won the second set tie-breaker they had on the Trojans team of Joey Armand and Hayden Gephart.

The Little Giants (1-3, 0-2) won just six other games.

TENNIS

Toledo Central Catholic 3, Fremont Ross 2

Fremont Ross dropped to 1-4 with a 3-2 loss to Toledo Central Catholic in the Ohio Tennis Coaches Tournament on Friday.

Malcolm Leake beat Chris Barrou 6-1, 6-0 in first singles, and the first doubles team of Michael Pickerel and Erik Paulson beat Nick Schetter and Michael Dennis 4-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Tennis

Fliers down Ross with doubles

CLYDE — A key doubles sweep helped Clyde top Fremont Ross 3-2 Monday in non-league tennis action.

The Fliers (4-1) No.1 doubles team of Blaine MacFarland and Adam Turner were 7-5, 6-4 winners against the Little Giants (1-5) duo of Michael Pickrel and Erik Paulson.

On the No. 2 court, Brandon Carte and Andrew Collins completed the twin doubles wins with a 6-7, 6-2, 6-3 victory over Ross' David Gipe and Cody Curry.

They were two deciding victories, because Ross No. 1 singles player, Malcolm Leake, took care of Clyde's Zack Downing (6-3, 6-0) and Rob Hart won at No. 3 singles over David Roach (6-2, 6-4).

Clyde's third point came at No. 2 singles where Jordan Brown defeated the Little Giants' Jordan Martin 6-0, 6-0.

Junior varsity winners for the Fliers were Nick Hill, Derek Yeager, Josh Marty, Isaac Prunty and Daniel Wyss. Logan Apling won the lone JV match for Ross.

Tennis

ROSS 4, SJCC 1

FREMONT — In the battle for town supremacy in tennis, the Fremont Ross tennis team earned a sweep in singles and split the doubles to top St. Joseph Central Catholic by a count of 4-1.

Malcolm Leake (No. 1 singles), Erik Paulson (No. 2 singles) and Rob Hart (No. 3 singles) were all winners in the singles for the Little Giants, who are now 3-5.

Ross also earned a win No. 1 doubles from the team of Michael Pickerel and David Gipe.

SJCC's lone win came from Nick Wickline and Scott Lampson, who were 6-4, 6-3 winners in No. 2 doubles.

ROSS DOUBLES TOURNAMENT

FREMONT — The Fremont Ross tennis team collected two wins Saturday, placing fifth in its doubles tennis tournament.

The Little Giants' Malcolm Leake and David Gipe defeated Toledo Central Catholic's Spencer Toral and Michael Dennis 8-1 to place fifth. Jordan Martin and Tim Cheek defeated Central's Nick Schettem and Daryl Layson 6-3, 6-1 en route to taking fourth.

Tennis

N

ROSS 3, WHITMER 2

FREMONT — Malcolm Leake earned 6-0, 6-0 wins in No. 1 singles for Fremont Ross Monday, which downed Toledo Whitmer 3-2 in non-conference play.

In No. 1 doubles, the Little Giants' duo of Michael Pickerel and Erik Paulson dropped a first set tiebreaker 6-7 (5), before bouncing back to lose a single game in a win over the Panthers' Josh Edge and Brandon Ritter.

Tim Cheek and David Gipe also won for Ross (4-5) in straight sets (6-3, 6-2) as the Little Giants swept both doubles matches.

ROSS 3, SANDUSKY 2

Malcolm Leake (No. 1 singles) and Erik Paulson (No. 2 singles) each won in straight sets as Ross toppled Sandusky in the GBC.

Michael Pickerel and David Gipe (No. 1 doubles) won in three sets for the Little Giants (5-5, 2-2). Leake dropped only one game.

HURON 4, FREMONT ROSS 1

■ **Site:** Fremont Ross High School.

■ **No. 1 singles:** Malcolm Leake (Ross) def. John Dusza 6-0, 6-0.

■ **No. 2 singles:** Patrick Moore (Huron) def. Erik Paulson 6-1, 6-0.

■ **No. 3 singles:** Matthew Wray (Huron) def. Jordan Martin 6-0, 6-0.

■ **No. 1 doubles:** Ben Meyers/Max Gimperling (Huron) def. Michael Pickerel/David Gipe 6-1, 6-0.

■ **No. 2 doubles:** Tyler Crawford/Zach Dusza (Huron) def. Rob Hart/Cody Curry 6-2, 6-1.

■ **JV:** Ross winners — Tim Cheek, Curtis Hinsch, Logan Apling, Michael Hall, David Garza, Marcus Hernandez.

■ **Records:** Ross 5-6.

■ **Next:** Ross at PC Doubles Tournament, today.

Tennis

FREMONT ROSS 32

Malcolm Leake and Erik Paulson were runners-up at No. 1 doubles as Fremont Ross finished the Port Clinton Doubles Tournament in fifth place.

Tennis

ROSS 4, MARION HARDING 1

Malcolm Leake lost his first set 7-5, before rebounding for a pair of 6-0 wins at No. 1 singles and Fremont Ross topped Marion Harding 4-1 in the GBC.

Also winning at singles for the Little Giants (6-6, 3-2) was Rob Hart (No. 3). Michael Pickerel and David Gipe won in straight sets in No. 1 doubles, Jordan Martin and Tim Cheek won in three sets at No. 2.

TOLEDO ST. FRANCIS DE SALES 3, ROSS 2

Malcolm Leake was a 6-2, 6-0 winner in No. 1 singles for Ross and Michael Pickerel and Erik Paulson won in straight sets (7-5, 6-4) for the Little Giants (6-7) who fell to Toledo St. Francis De Sales in a non-league match.

Tennis

ROSS 4, ST. JOSEPH CENTRAL CATHOLIC 1

Malcolm Leake (No. 1 singles), Jordan Martin (No. 3 singles), Michael Pickerel and Erik Paulson (No. 1 doubles), and Cody Curry and Rob Hart (No. 2 doubles) each won in straight sets as Ross beat SJCC in a non-conference matchup.

Curry and Hart lost only one game for the Little Giants (7-7).

Paul Wendt won in two sets at No. 2 singles for the Crimson Streaks.

Tennis

ASHLAND 3, ROSS 2

Malcolm Leake (No. 1 singles) and the doubles team of Michael Pickerel and Erik Paulson won in straight sets for Ross, which was a 3-2 winner over Ashland in a non-league match.

OREGON CLAY 4, ROSS 1

Malcolm Leake won 6-2, 6-1 at No. 1 singles, but Ross dropped a non-league match to Clay Thursday.

The Little Giants (7-9) nearly got another point at No. 1 doubles, but after coming from behind with a 7-5 win in the second set, the Ross team of Michael Pickerel and Erik Paulson fell 11-9 in the third set tiebreaker.

Ross will next take part in the Greater Buckeye Conference championships Saturday at Sandusky High School.

Tennis

OAK HARBOR 3, FREMONT ROSS 2

Kevin Young (No. 2 singles) and Brandon Wasserman (No. 3) each won in straight sets without dropping a game as Oak Harbor topped Ross.

Young's match took 26 minutes while Wasserman's took 34.

Nick Johnson and Eli Boldt won in three sets at No. 1 doubles for the Rockets (10-6).

"They battled, came back and turned it around, and pulled out a big win for us," Oak Harbor coach Rick LaFountain said. "They're learning how to put some people away."

Malcolm Leake beat Greg LaFountain in straight sets at No. 1 singles while Jordan Martin and Rob Hart won at No. 2 singles for the Little Giants (7-10).

Tennis

First Team: Malcolm Leake.

Honorable Mention: Michael Pickerel,
David Gipe, Tim Cheek, Jordan Martin.

Boys Tennis Awards

2010 Fremont Ross

MVPMalcolm Leake.
LeadershipCody Curry, Marcus Hernandez.
Giant Effort.....David Gipe, Tim Cheek.
Little Giant.....Rob Hart, Erik Paulson.
Ace Award.....Malcolm Leake.
Team AwardJordan Martin.
Coaches Award.....Cody Curry.
JV Most Improved.....Marcus Hernandez.
Varsity Most Improved...Michael Pickerel.
JV Best Court Record.....Logan Apling.
Varsity Best Court RecordMalcolm Leake.
Division I All-District Honorable Mention:
Malcolm Leake.