

BOYS TENNIS

Ross 4, Tiffin Columbian 1

Junior Marc Brough made a smashing debut as the Little Giants' top singles player when he eased by Swedish exchange student Borris Scheiwiller 6-1, 6-1.

Brough was on Ross's second doubles team last season but moved up thanks to the graduation of the Little Giants' singles players.

Paul Eckert and David Albrechta of Ross also won singles matches. Eckert defeated Kenny Shank 6-2, 7-5,

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and Albrechta upended Pete Grangaard 6-3, 6-3.

"All the singles players did really well," Ross coach Rick LaFountain said. "We survived the elements."

The first Ross doubles team of Brian Kaltenbach and Kunaki Hirobayoshi defeated Jim Picciutot and Donny Thompson 3-6, 7-5, 6-1. The lone victory for the Tornados came by the second doubles team of Eric Goshe and Sam Moyer, who beat Ross's Brian Gibbs and Anthony Weiker 6-3, 6-3.

Ross is at Bowling Green today.

TENNIS

Ross 3, Bowling Green 2

BOWLING GREEN — The Little Giants swept each of the singles matches on their way to a second victory in as many days.

Marc Brough, Paul Eckert and David Albrechta won for Ross (2-0). Brough beat Ryan Grimm 6-0, 6-1; Eckert defeated Mark Mellon 7-5, 6-3; and Albrechta took down Adam Gearhart 6-2, 6-4.

The Bobcats won both doubles matches.

The Little Giants are at Huron on Friday.

Tennis

High School Boys

Huron 3, Ross 2

Singles

1 — Tom Bulea (H) def. Marc Brough 6-0, 6-3.

2 — Paul Eckert (R) def. Phil Conley 2-6, 6-1, 7-6, 7-5.

3 — David Albrechta (R) def. Max Frey 7-5, 6-3.

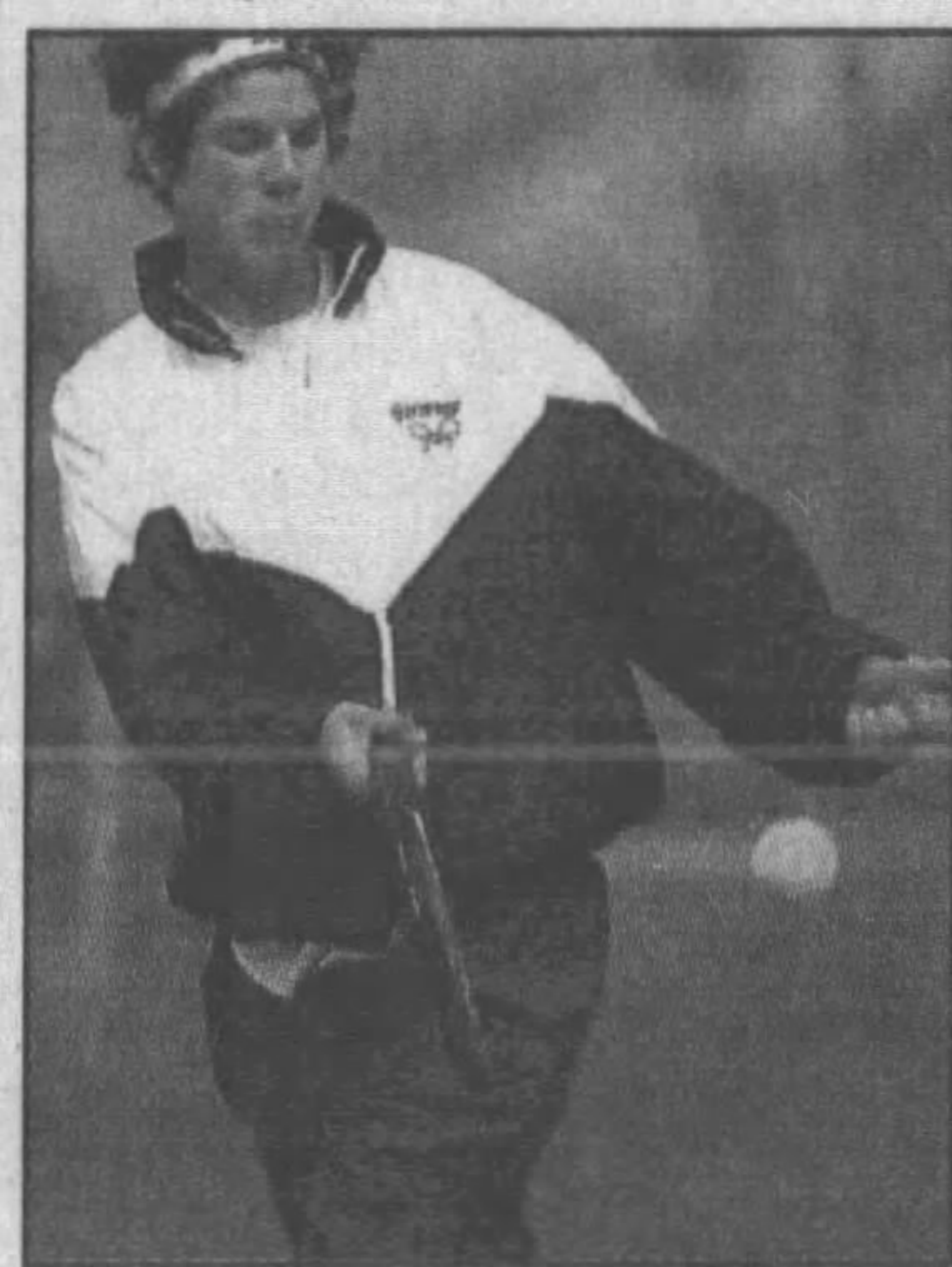
Doubles

1 — Craig Bulea/Jeff Gockstetter (H) def. Brian Kaltenbach/Adam Swope 6-0, 6-0.

2 — Doni Bulea/Tom Eichelberger (H) def. Brian Gibbs/Justin Orofino 6-0, 6-1.

Records: Ross 2-1, Huron 2-1.

JV winner: Chris Orofino



News-Messenger/Ben French

PAUL ECKERT of Ross returns a forehand to Southview's Dan Ayala during Tuesday's Great Lakes League match at Rodger Young Park. Eckert won the match 6-1, 6-2 and Ross beat the Saints 5-0.

Ross rolls in GLL opener

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross rolled in its Great Lakes League opener, blanking Lorain Southview 5-0.

Marc Brough beat Carlos Sarano 6-0, 6-2 at first singles; Paul Eckert defeated Dan Ayala 6-1, 6-2 at second singles; and David Albrechta defeated Charles Wyatt 6-4, 6-2.

In doubles action, Brian Kaltenbach and Adam Swope beat Joe Spohn and Sven Wolf 6-0, 6-0 and Brian Gibbs and Justin Orofino toppled Joe Miksa and Josh Bailey 6-4, 6-4.

"It was pretty cold and windy out, but all of our kids played well," Ross coach Rick LaFountain said. "It's a nice win coming off the loss to Huron on Friday."

Ross is at Norwalk today.

Area roundup

Clyde 3, St. Joe 2

CLYDE — Clyde posted its first win of the year with a thrilling win over backyard rival St. Joseph Central Catholic.

For the Fliers (1-1), Matt Cuthbertson beat J.P. Maurie at first singles, Ed Cleveland defeated Jon Verock 6-3, 6-1 at second singles and Sam Waugaman and Justice Foreman beat Justin Carmack and Jim Ryan 7-6, 6-2.

For SJCC (0-2), Jeff Young beat Kyle Hackenburg 6-0, 6-3 at third singles and Drew Wetzel and Nick Wobser knocked off Dave Paul and Bobby Jones 6-1, 6-2.

St. Joe hosts Oak Harbor and Clyde is at Bellevue today.

BASEBALL

Clyde 8, Sandusky 7

CLYDE — Clyde scored twice in the bottom of the sixth inning to defeat Sandusky in a wild non conference game.

Sandusky scored six unearned runs in the top of the sixth to grab a 7-6 lead.

But Clyde rallied and improved to 4-2.

Justin Weidle was 3-for-4 with three RBI and Pat Burkin was 2-for-3 with two RBI for the Fliers. Sam Waugaman pitched 1½ innings in relief for the win. Starter Eric Kruse gave up just three hits and no earned runs over 5½ innings for Clyde.

Sandusky fell to 3-2.

See CLYDE, B3

Norwalk slams Ross in boys tennis action

News-Messenger reports

NORWALK — Fremont Ross boys tennis coach Rick Lafountain was disappointed in the play of his doubles teams during a 5-0 non-league defeat to Norwalk.

Ross (3-2) moved its top players to doubles in the hopes of pulling out a team victory, but the Truckers (5-0) ended up with all the triumphs.

"Luckily in high school tennis the worst we can lose is 5-0. The score was pretty indicative of how we played," Lafountain said.

Dan Tyson of Norwalk defeated Brian Gibbs of Ross 6-0, 6-1 in first singles; the Truckers' Michael Carlisle upended Justin Orofino 6-1, 6-0 in second singles; and Steve Rehnburg knocked off Adam Sope 6-0, 6-2.

In doubles, Doug Dials and Troy Pittenger beat Ross's Marc Brough and Paul Eckert 5-7, 6-4, 6-4 and Wes Sellers and Ryan Houghtuen took out David Albrechta and Brian Kaltenbach 1-6, 6-2, 6-2.

Ross is at Fostoria on Friday.

TENNIS

Ross 5, Fostoria 0

FOSTORIA — Ross improved to 2-0 in the Great Lakes League with a easy triumph.

Mark Brough beat Gaert Hanson 6-3, 6-0; Paul Eckert knocked off Drew Russell 6-2, 6-1 and David Albrechta topped Wes Smith 6-1, 6-1 in singles action.

In doubles, Brian Kaltenbach and Adam Swope handled Kyle Kings and Jake Flinders 6-1, 6-1 and Brian Gibbs and Justin Orofino beat Nathan Damron and Brian Kingery 6-4, 6-3 for the Little Giants.

Ross is 4-2 overall.

Area boys tennis previews

FREMONT ROSS

Coach: Rick LaFountain, 15th year.

Key losses: Pete Scranton, Mike Zimmer, Buck Young, Austin Miller, Mike Moxley.

Top returnees: Juniors — Marc Brough, Paul Eckert.

Key newcomers: Senior — Brian Kaltenbach, Kaniaki Hirabayashi; Sophomore — Justin Orofino; Freshman — David Albrechta, Anthony Weiker and Brian Gibbs.

Outlook: The Little Giants must contend with the loss of Scranton, a three-time Great Lakes League Player of the Year. Four others are also gone from a team that advanced all seven players to the district tournament last season. Brough, who was 26-4 last season at No. 2 doubles, will take over at first singles. Eckert, who earned a 26-5 record at No. 1 doubles last year, will be the No. 2 singles man.

Coach's quote: "We have a very young team. Back are tri-captains Marc Brough and Paul Eckert. It (moving to singles) will be a giant step for both players. They both have all the tools to make the step up to those positions. We should be competitive in all of our matches. It is tough to replace the class of 2000. They accomplished a lot in Ross tennis."

Ross tennis falls to Anthony Wayne

News-Messenger reports

WHITEHOUSE — Brian Kaltenbach was the lone victor as Fremont Ross dropped a 4-1 boys tennis decision to Anthony Wayne on Saturday.

Kaltenbach defeated Kevin Fuller 2-6, 7-5, 6-4 at No. 3 singles.

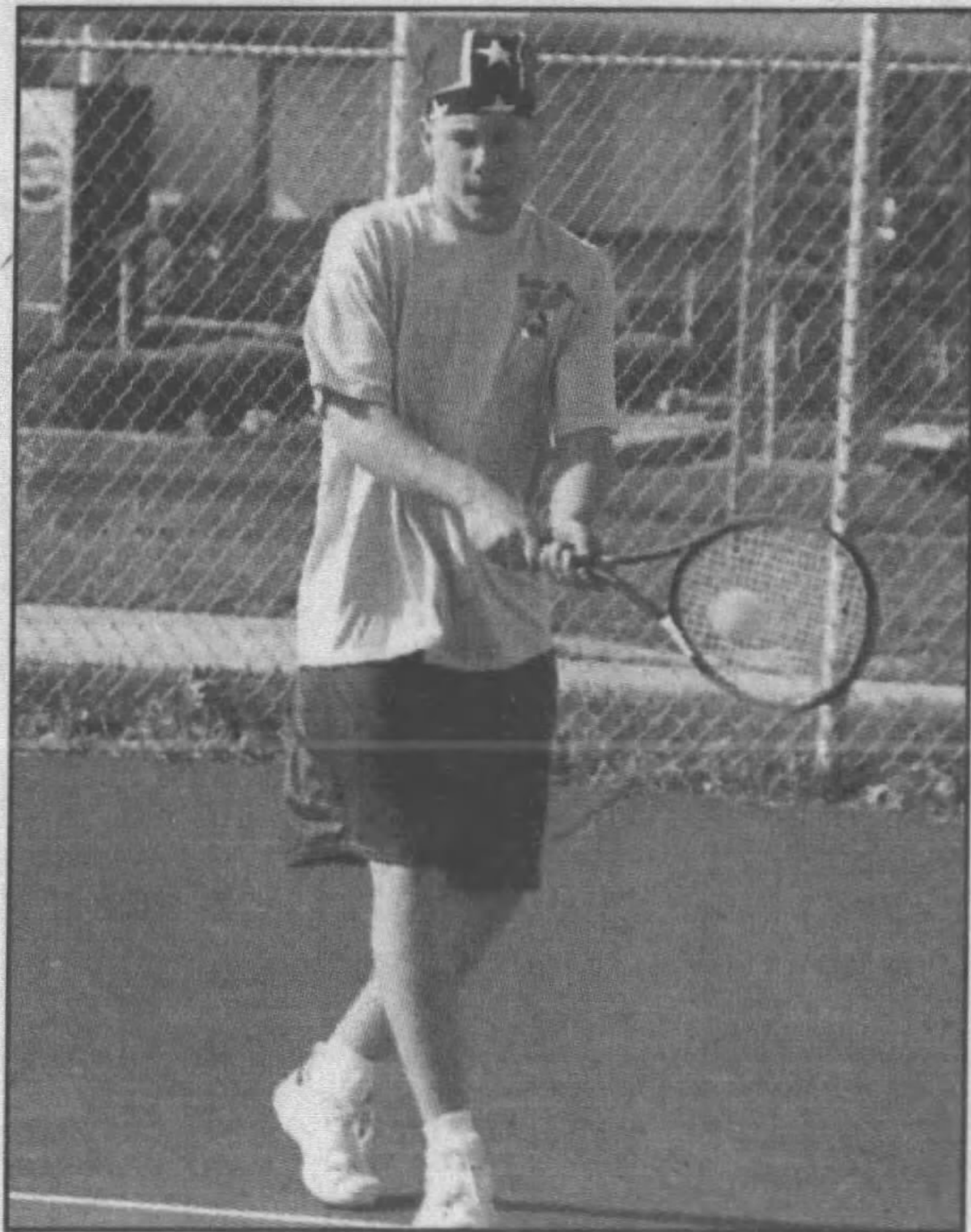
Ross's top singles player, Marc Brough, fell 7-5, 6-4 to Brian Wimmer of Anthony Wayne. The Generals' Nate Martin downed David Albrechta of Ross 6-4, 2-6, 6-4.

In doubles, Anthony Wayne's Nick Seipel and Jeff Jakeway

beat Adam Swope and Brian Gibbs 6-0, 6-1. Jeff Rezabek and John Eberly took care of Little Giants Justin Orofino and Anthony Weiker 6-1, 6-4.

Anthony Wayne is 6-1.

Ross (4-3) will host Clyde today.



News-Messenger/Scott Black

ROSS SINGLES PLAYER Marc Brough executes a backhand during Monday's match against Clyde at Rodger Young Park. The Little Giants claimed a 5-0 triumph.

TENNIS

Elida 3, Ross 2

Marc Brough and Paul Eckert picked up the Giants' victories.

Brough beat Jim Bob Harder 4-6, 6-3, 6-2. Eckert took care of Jeff Perrin 6-4, 7-6 (7-3).

Ross is at Ottawa Hills on Wednesday.

Tennis

High School

Ottawa Hills 5, Ross 0

Singles

Chase Ormond (O) def. Mark Brough
6-0, 6-1

Aaron Saferin (O) def. Paul Eckert 5-7,
6-2, 6-2

Brian Buckey (O) def. David Albrechta
6-4, 6-0

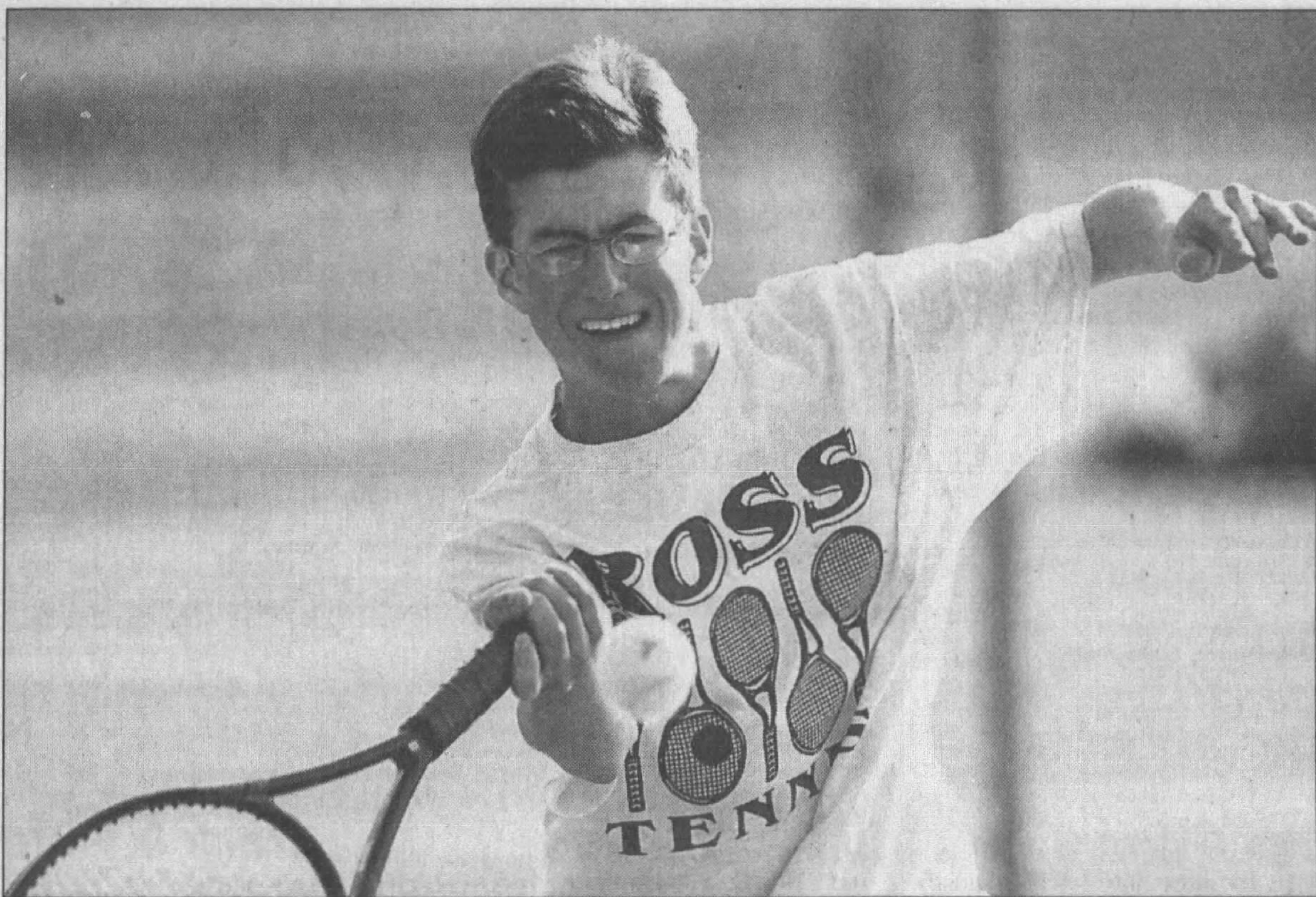
Doubles

sunny Gupta/Sonjay Dasani (O) def.
Brian Kaultenbach/Brian Gibbs 6-4, 6-0

Peter Drumheller/Arthur Zeph def.
Justin Orofino/Chris Orofino 0-6, 6-0, 6-0

Records: Ross 5-5, Ottawa Hills 3-2.

Ross slams Streaks



News-Messenger/Ben French

JUSTIN OROFINO of Fremont Ross returns a shot during a doubles match Thursday at Rodger Young Park. Orofino and Brian Gibbs won their match as the Little Giants swept Sandusky 5-0.

Ross tennis stays perfect in league play

News-Messenger reports

The Fremont Ross boys tennis team slammed Sandusky in straight sets Thursday at Rodger Young Park.

The Blue Streaks managed only four games out of three singles matches. Ross's Marc Brough beat Bill Murray 6-0, 6-4; Paul Eckert downed David Prout 6-0, 6-0; and David Albrechta defeated Ray Seiler 6-0, 6-0.

In doubles, Brian Kaltenbach and Chris Orofino of Ross downed David Crabtree and Brandon Beverick of Sandusky 6-3, 6-2. And the Little Giants second doubles team of Brian Gibbs and Justin Orofino defeated Nick Werner and Kurt Maschari 6-3, 7-5.

"I was really proud of the doubles teams today," Ross coach Rick Lafountain said. "They stepped right up to the net and put their games away."

The Little Giants are 6-5, 3-0 in the Great Lakes League. Sandusky falls to 2-8, 2-4 in the league.

Ross hosts the Fremont Tournament at 9 a.m. Saturday.

BASEBALL

Lorain Catholic 16, St. Joe 1

LORAIN — The Crimson Streaks suffered through a 12-run Lorain Catholic third inning on the way to a resounding defeat.

"Lorain Catholic is a nice hitting team," St. Joe coach Rick Barbour said. "But that bad inning should have been just two runs. We had an error that trapped us in the inning."

Zack Sanchez took the defeat for St. Joe (2-8). Lorain Catholic improved to 4-5.

The Streaks host Norwalk St. Paul for a twin bill on Saturday.

Oak Harbor 4, Huron 1

OAK HARBOR — Jordan Diekman went the distance and allowed only three hits as the Rockets improved to 3-0 in the Sandusky Bay Conference.

Diekman surrendered no



News-Messenger/John Walz

WOODMORE'S ADAM EGERT, second from left, crosses the finish line first in the 100-meter dash Thursday at Port Clinton. Port Clinton's Kevn May finished second, Buddy Perkins of Woodmore (left) third and Jeremy Donnell (right) fourth. See story, B2.

earned runs while striking out six and walking three.

Austin Fogle went 1-for-3 and knocked in two runs for Oak Harbor (7-2). Jason Tank added a hit and an RBI.

Matt Maloney recorded two of Huron's three hits. The Tigers are 6-3, 2-1 in the SBC.

Oak Harbor is home for St. Mary Central Catholic today.

SOFTBALL

Clyde 16, Perkins 0

SANDUSKY — The Fliers took out their frustrations a day after a nine-inning loss to Oak Harbor by banging out 13 hits and winning in six innings.

Rachel Dick fired a three-hit shutout, striking out six and walking one.

See WILDCATS, B2

Little Giants tennis clubs Whitmer, 4-1

News-Messenger reports

TOLEDO — The Fremont Ross boys tennis team tuned up for Thursday's showdown with unbeaten Findlay by trouncing Whitmer 4-1 Tuesday.

The Panthers got their only victory at No. 1 singles when Casey Black defeated Ross's Marc Brough 6-3, 6-0.

But Little Giants Paul Eckert and David Albrechta picked up singles victories over Tyler Waite and Brian Smith. Eckert beat Waite 6-1, 6-1, and Albrechta took care of Smith 6-1, 6-0.

In doubles action, Brian Kaltenbach and Adam Swope of Ross downed Mark Neville and Cal Lykins 6-1, 6-2. Little Giants Brian Gibbs and Justin Orofino beat Chris Smith and Chad Dubendorfer 6-2, 6-1.

Ross (7-6, 4-0 GLL) travels to Findlay on Thursday.

TENNIS

Findlay 5, Ross 0

FINDLAY — The Trojans took over first place in the Great Lakes League by handing the Little Giants their second league loss in five years.

"We got beat by a better team," Ross coach Rick Lafountain said. "We need to really start drilling the basics and work hard to win the GLL Tournament."

Findlay's Nick Casalbore defeated Marc Brough 6-2, 6-2 in first singles. Ian Sparkman downed Paul Eckert 6-4, 6-2 in second singles; and Matt Culver beat David Albrechta 7-6 (7-3), 6-2 in third singles.

In doubles, Ben Hannah and Doug Johnson defeated Brian Kaltenbach and Adam Swope 6-2, 6-4. Neil Acharga and Adam Schingler beat Justin and Chris Orofino 6-0, 6-0.

Ross is at the Port Clinton Doubles Tournament today.

Tennis

High School Boys

Port Clinton Doubles Invite

Napoleon.....	79
Port Clinton	77
St. Mary's	70
Fremont Ross.....	50
Edison	42
Tiffin Calvert	21
Bellevue	12
St. Joe	9

First Doubles

First Place: Napoleon d. St. Marys 10-6.

Third Place: Port Clinton (Bryan War-gaNick McLean) d. Ross (Marc BroughPaul Eckert) 6-5 (7-2).

Fifth Place: Edison d. Bellevue (Josh ZimmermanMike Braddock) 6-2.

Seventh Place: Calvert d. St. Joe (Drew WetzelsNick Wobster) 6-4.

Giants slam Eagles

Continued From B1

Erin Deal went 2-for-3 for Woodmore, which hosts Eastwood today.

BOYS TENNIS

Ross 3, Clay 2

OREGON — The Little Giants swept the singles matches to claim a GLL match.

The key may have been David Albrechta's 6-4, 7-5 victory over Morton Kastengren at third singles.

"David had some troubles and slowed himself down and got his

game under control," Ross coach Rick Lafountain said. "It was the pivotal match since we were sure 1 and 2 singles would win."

At first singles, Marc Brough of Ross defeated Jake Brown 6-2, 6-3. Paul Eckert of Ross downed Dean Witty 6-0, 6-0 at second singles.

Clay's doubles teams won both matches. Mike Taylor and Chris Schabel took out Ross's Brian Kaltenbach and Adam Swope 6-3, 6-2. And Clay's Adam Abou-Arab and Brian Volgelbacher beat Brian Gibbs and Justin Orofino 6-4, 6-4.

Ross (8-7, 5-1 GLL) hosts Lorain Admiral King on Thursday.

Tennis

High School

Ross 3, Lorain Admiral King 2 **Singles**

Ryan McCartney (L) def. Marc Brough
6-4, 6-0

Paul Eckert (R) def. Nate Smucker 6-
1, 6-0

David Albrechta (R) def. John Ashton
6-2, 6-3

Doubles

Brian Kaltenbach/Adam Swope (R) def.
Ben Gradisek/Dan Mitoff 4-6, 7-6, 7-5, 6-
1

Yuri Gruscky/Mark Michalski (L) def. Bri-
an Gibbs/Justin Orofino 6-1, 3-6, 6-2

Records: Ross 9-7 (6-1 GLL), Lorain
14-3 (5-2 GLL).

a victory over Margareta on Friday to clinch a tie for the conference title. Clyde is 10-2 in SBC play with two games remaining.

Damschroeder struck out seven and walked none in picking up her ninth victory. She also scored the first run of a three-run fifth inning when she walked, advanced to third on sacrifice bunts by Carly Wittman and Shannon Rice and came home on a Monique Perez bunt single. Stacey Diefenthaler later knocked in two runs with a single.

Perez finished 2-for-2 with a run and an RBI.

The Rockets are home for Margareta on Friday.

TENNIS

Ross 3, Toledo Cen. Cath. 2

TOLEDO — The Little Giants improved to 10-7 by sweeping the singles matches in a non-league match at Laurel Hills.

Marc Brough of Ross defeated Josh Misthall 7-5, 6-1; Paul Eckert downed Joe Maloney 6-0, 6-1; and David Albrechta beat Pat Best 6-1, 6-0.

In doubles, the Toledo Central Catholic team of John Amato and Brian Taylor took out Brian Kaltenbach and Adam Swope 6-4, 6-0; and Tim Binkowski and Eric Taylor disposed of Justin Orofino and Brian Gibbs 6-2, 6-2.

The Irish fell to 6-11.

Ross enters Division I sectional play at 9 a.m. Friday at Sandusky High School. Brough and Eckert are seeded No. 1 in doubles competition. Albrechta is the third seed in singles.

Sandusky 4, St. Joe 1

SANDUSKY — The top St. Joe doubles team of Drew Wetzel and Nick Wobser picked up the Crimson Streaks' only victory by beating David Crabtree and Nick Werner 6-2, 6-1.

The Blue Streaks swept the singles matches. Sandusky's Bill Murey downed Jeff Young 6-2, 6-0; David Prout defeated John Verock 3-6, 6-4, 6-0; and Ray Seiler beat J.T. Mauric 7-5, 7-5.

At second doubles, Brandon Beverick and Kurt Maschari defeated Justin Carmack and Jim Ryan 6-3, 3-6, 6-1.

Tennis

	Record	Points
Findlay	7-0	35
Ross.....	6-1	30
Admiral King.....	5-2	23.5
Southview	3-4	19.5
Clay.....	4-3	17.5
Whitmer	1-6	8
Sandusky	1-6	5
Fostoria.....	1-6	2

First Team

First Singles: Nick Casalbore, Findlay

Second Singles: Ian Sparkman, Findlay

Third Singles: Matt Culver, Findlay

First Doubles: Ben Hannah-Doug Johnson, Findlay

Second Doubles: Neil Acharya-Adam Shingler, Findlay

Second Team

First Singles: Ryan McCartney, Lorain Admiral King

Second Singles: Paul Eckert, Ross

Third Singles: David Albrechta, Ross

First Doubles: Matt Taylor-Craig Schabel, Clay

Second Doubles: Brad Vogelbacher-Ali Abou-Arab, Clay.