

Ross wrestling team has strong nucleus but lacks depth

By BOB MARKER
Staff writer

Line the Fremont wrestlers up and Coach Al Voggenthaler likes what he sees. Look over their shoulders toward the second line and the view changes.

"We have good first-line talent," the veteran of 18 wrestling seasons at Ross said, "but if we have any amount of injuries, we are going to be in trouble in some weight classes."

But before the first whistle, a strong nucleus of returning lettermen and a couple of standout freshmen have Voggenthaler optimistic.

From the lightweights, junior letterman Ryan Riedmaier is a 112-pounder but one

of the freshmen, David Alejandro, may force him to drop to 103, Voggenthaler said.

Two-year junior letterman Daniel Costillo will wrestle at 125 and Brian Palomo, co-captain and a three-year letterman is at 130. Senior Phil Missig is at 140 and Dan Lopez, who won three letters at St. Joseph Central Catholic before transferring to Ross for his senior year, is at 145. Lopez was fifth in the state at 135 in Class A last season.

Another two-year junior letterman, Charles Chapman, is at 152 and senior letterman Terry Carter will be at 160 when he recovers from a knee injury suffered the second week of practice.

Rob LeMay, a senior, is at 171 if he makes the weight. Brian Moreno, also a two-year junior letterman, is at 189 and the heavyweight is junior Chad Green, who lettered last season at Gibsonburg High School.

"We have two freshmen who should be in the lineup," Voggenthaler said. "Both should do very well and not just fill a spot; they have a very high skill level and should compete very well."

Along with Alejandro is classmate John Lugar who will likely be the 119-pounder.

"Riedmaier and Alejandro are very close in the wrestle-offs," Voggenthaler said. "Riedmaier could come down a weight fairly easily because he is not too

far from it right now."

David Boda is another possibility at 103, his natural weight, the Ross coach said. "After a good meal, he weighs 104, maybe."

The 103 and 112 pound divisions are fairly strong Voggenthaler said but from there, it drops off.

"We only have one real heavyweight and that's Chad Green; we just don't have a lot of experience behind the front-liners even though we still have 36 wrestlers after three weeks of practice," he said.

There are 12 freshmen, six sophomores,

See ROSS, B-3

Ross

Continued From B-1

10 juniors and eight seniors on the Ross roster.

"It is a good group of ninth-graders and some of them will backup but they basically lack experience," Voggenthaler said.

"We have a solid nucleus, but we do have some weak weight classes (135 and 140) where we won't be knocking the socks off too many people and until we get Carter back, we are not too strong at 160."

Looking at the schedule, Ross will not compete in the 36-team Medina tournament in mid-December, opting for the 24-team Alliance Tournament Feb. 2-3.

Lakewood St. Edward and Cleveland St. Joseph are two other teams in that tournament.

The Buckeye Central Conference Tournament is Feb. 17 in Lancaster. Ross won the BCC crown two years ago in the dual-meet format but finished second behind Findlay last year.

On Jan. 6, Ross makes its first home appearance in the eight-team Mal Mackey Invitational. Area teams Clyde and Lakota along with Sylvania Northview and Southview, Vermilion, Lorain Senior and Toledo Waite comprise that field.

This evening at 6 p.m., Ross will host Rossford in a preseason preview. The Little Giants open the regular season at 6 p.m. Wednesday at Maumee High School.

Carter, Lopez lead Ross into Rogers Invitational

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross is one of 16 teams vying for the title in the Rogers Invitational Wrestling Tournament Friday and Saturday at Toledo Rogers High School.

The Little Giants finished second in 1988.

Defending 160-pound champion Terry Carter, the only returning tournament champ, and Dan Lopez were seeded first to lead a

group of 10 Little Giants seeded in the top six. Lopez, a Division III state tournament qualifier while wrestling for Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic last season, will wrestle at 145.

Other Ross seeded wrestlers include David Boda, second at 103; third seeds Daniel Costilla (125), Brian Palomo (130) and Chad Green (heavyweight);

See ROGERS, B-3

Rogers

Continued From B-1

Ryan Riedmaier (112), John Lugar (119) and Charles Chapman (152), fourth seeds; and Brian Moreno (189), sixth.

"The heavyweight division is loaded," Ross Coach Al Voggenthaler said. "There area lot of big heavyweight including our's at 271."

Based on seeded wrestlers, Voggenthaler say Galoway Westland is the pre-tournament favorite with 12 seeded wrestlers.

"The talent is spread out," Voggenthaler said, "but Alliance is always strong.

"As for us, I think we have a shot at finishing near the top."

The Ross coach called the tournament "... an early season test."

"It gives us something to guage our season by, at least against Northwest Ohio teams," Voggenthaler said. "Plus there are enough teams outside of Northwest Ohio to make it interesting."

Wrestling begins at 4 p.m., Friday with two rounds. Wrestling Saturday begins at 11 a.m. with the finals at 7 p.m. Adult tickets are \$2 and students \$1 for each session.

Other teams in the tournament include Anthony Wayne, Toledo schools Bowsher, DeVilbiss, Macomber, Scott and host Rogers, Dayton Meadowdale, Port Clinton, Springfield Local, Amherst Steele, Tiffin Columbian, Wauseon and Wapakoneta.

Carter boosts Ross

Little Giants win 13-team invitational

By BOB MARKER
Staff writer

TOLEDO — Fremont Ross, behind Terry Carter's second tournament title, won the 18th Rogers Invitational Wrestling Tournament Saturday.

The Little Giants racked up 200 points in the 13-team, two-day tournament, finishing 12 points ahead of host Rogers High School.

Ross was second in the tournament last year, the third time the Little Giants had finished in the runner-up slot.

"I think I have been in every-one of those slots," Ross Coach Al Voggethaler said while looking at the leaders board.

Saturday, he could look over his shoulder and see all the rest for the first time.

"It was just a super effort," Ross Coach Al Voggethaler said. "Everyone of the kids won at least one match."

Springfield Local was third with 151½, Anthony Wayne was fourth with 141 and Amherst Steele with 108½ rounded out the top five.

Carter won the 160-pound division title and four other Little Giants were runners-up.

Carter, seeded first, breezed through his first two matches with falls. In the finals, the senior defeated Mark Akers of Tiffin Columbian 7-5.

Akers led Carter 5-4 in the final period before running into trouble. Carter rolled Akers onto his back and held him there for nearly a half-minute for three points and the win.

Dan Lopez, 145, John Lugar, 119, Scott Mezinger, 171, and Chad Green, heavyweight, finished second for Ross.

Lopez was beaten 10-0 in the finals by Bill Taylor of Rogers and Lugar, a freshman, was outpointed by top-seeded Cory Weaver of Anthony Wayne 17-4 in his title match.

Mezinger, who was not seeded, lost to Seth Gresser of Wauseon 12-6 and the second-seeded Green was nipped 10-8 by top-seeded Bill Frye of Rogers.

"Mezinger was a surprise," Voggethaler said, "and Lugar

Ross

Continued From B-1

did a very good job. The kid he lost to was a national age group finalist."

Dave Boda, 103, of Ross was third but won the tournament's Tom Kingsley Award for the most pins in the least amount of time. Boda had three in two minutes and 25 seconds. In the consolation finals — the match for third place — Boda pinned Mike Reynolds of Port Clinton in 57 seconds.

Other Little Giants who fin-

ished in the top six were Ryan Riedmaier, 112, fifth; Daniel Costilla, 125, sixth; Brian Palomo, 130, fifth; Phil Missig, 140, fifth; and Charles Chapman, 152, fourth.

One bad note for Ross, Costilla will be out for at least a month according to Voggenthaler, after dislocating his left elbow in the semifinals, forcing him to default in his last two matches.

**1/2 off
GARY**

Rogers Tournament

TEAM STANDINGS

1-Ross 200, 2-Rogers 188, 3-Springfield Local 151½, 4-Anthony Wayne 141, 5-Amherst Steele 108½, 6-Tiffin Columbian 103, 7-Wauseon 100½, 8-Wapakoneta 98, 9-Toledo DeVilbiss 88½, 10-Port Clinton 72, 11-Toledo Bowsher 71½, 12-Toledo Scott 59, 13-Toledo Macomber 23.

ROSS CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

119-Cory Weaver (AW) d. John Lugar 17-4.
145-Bill Taylor (Rog) d. Dan Lopez 10-0.
160-Terry Carter d. Mark Akers (TC) 7-5.
171-Seth Gresser (Wau) d. Scott Mezinger 12-6.
275-Bill Frye (Rog) d. Chad Green 10-8.

CONSOLATION FINALS

(For third place)

103-Dave Boda p. Mike Reynolds (PC) 0-57.
152-Nate Weber (Wau) d. Charles Chapman 2-1.

(For fifth place)

112-Ryan Riedmaier t.f. Jon Hampshire (TC) 17-2.
125-Shawn Dunleavy (AW) d. Daniel Costilla by default.
130-Brian Palomo d. Erik Sell (Wap) 5-3.
140-Phil Missig d. Bill Murry (Wau) 6-2.

Little Giants seek 5th straight Mackey title

17th annual tournament unpredictable

By **BOB MARKER**
Staff writer

Al Voggenthaler could not escape it.

"I don't want to give myself the kiss of death," the Ross wrestling coach said.

Voggenthaler wanted to, but couldn't deny the obvious: his team is favored to win its fifth consecutive Mal Mackey Wrestling Tournament title Saturday at Fremont Ross High School.

"I would have to say we are one of the favorites," Voggenthaler said grudgingly.

Ross will host Clyde, Lakota, Lorain Senior, Sylvania Northview and Southview, Toledo

Waite and Vermilion in the 17th Mackey tournament.

"I look for strong competition from the local schools," Voggenthaler said about Lakota and Clyde.

Lakota won the Fremont St. Joe Invitational last month while Clyde was second.

"It is hard for me to gauge them because we do not wrestle any of the same teams," Voggenthaler said.

Ross also brings impressive credentials into the tournament.

The Little Giants are 3-0 in dual meets and won the 13-team Rogers Invitational in mid-December.

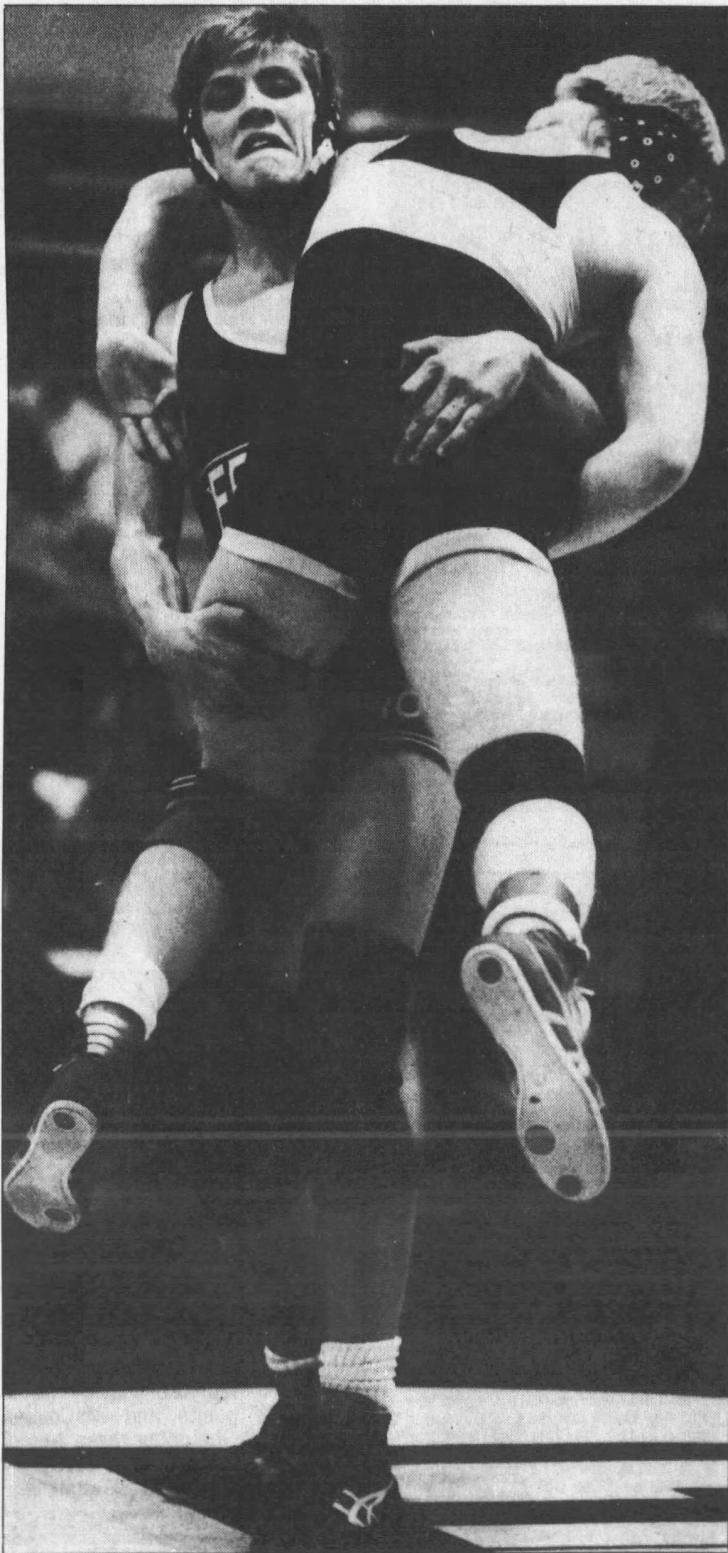
"It's been very pleasing to me," Voggenthaler said. "To see the balance that we have shown all the way through the lineup.

"We won the Rogers tournament with just one champion but we had 11 of 13 wrestlers place."

Voggenthaler agreed that formula wins tournaments.

"This year's tournament may not be as strong as in past years," Voggenthaler said about the Mackey tourney, "but there is enough talent in each weight class it makes it unpredictable."

Wrestling begins at 11 a.m. and the finals in the championship and consolation rounds begin at 7 p.m.



NewsMessenger/Scott Lightfoot

PHIL MISSIG of Fremont Ross prepares to take Lakota's **Jonah Rowell** to the mat during their 140-pound championship match Saturday in the Mal Mackey Wrestling Tournament at Ross High School. Missig defeated Rowell 5-2.

Lakota 2-0 in Fremont Raiders win Mackey title

By **BOB MARKER**
Staff writer

Lakota won its second high school wrestling tournament in Fremont this season, winning the 17th Mal Mackey Tournament Saturday at Ross High School.

The Raiders rolled up 172 points to dethrone defending champion Ross. Clyde was second with 157 and the Little Giants third at 150½.

Toledo Waite was fourth with 90½. Sylvania Southview, Vermilion, Lorain and Northview comprised the second division.

Clyde was also the runner-up when the Raiders won the St. Joe Invitational in December.

"We felt we had a shot at the top," Lakota Coach Bob Young said, "and we knew that it would be Fremont and Clyde that we really had to work hard against."

Lakota led Clyde 147½-141 going into the finals. After three weight divisions in the finals, Clyde crept ahead 150-147½ before Eric Lippert put the Raiders back on top for good with a win in the 125-pound finals.

"If there was a turning point," Young said, "everytime we wrestled Clyde head-to-head in the finals and beat them, that was a big turnaround."

Lakota wrestlers lost three times to Clyde in the championship or consolation finals. One of losses was at 112 where the Fliers' Bubba Taylor defeated Cody Roth 14-6. Taylor was named the tournament's outstanding wrestler by a vote of the eight coaches.

"Taylor is a man on a mission," Clyde Coach Doug Fields said. "His mission is to get to Cincinnati (site of the state tour-

See **MACKEY, B-3**

Mackey

Continued From B-1

namment) and win it all."

Fields' team did a bit better than he expected.

"We felt, realistically, top four with a chance for third," Fields said, "but we got some breaks and the kids went out and did what they had to.

"The breaks came down to the little things. This guy winning one match... I think everybody but one guy won a match today and that is what is needed. We placed 11 guys and that was

more than at St. Joe."

Lakota wrestlers won three championships and placed second in three others to go along with a pair of thirds and two fourths. In addition to Lippert's title, Ryan Tyson (130) and Chad Biddle (135) won championships.

Clyde, in addition to Taylor's crown, got individual titles from Brian Villalon (119) and Jay Eisenhower (189) to go with two seconds, two thirds and four fourth places.

"We knew Lakota and Clyde were tough," Ross Coach Al Voggenthaler said, "and they showed it. They came to wrestle in the early part and we were

not ready to wrestle.

"We lost some early matches. I felt like I was a tour guide at Three-Mile Island — it was just a big disaster for us."

One thing that brought smiles to Voggenthaler's face was Phil Missig's title at 140 pounds. It was the first championship for the senior.

"He did a super job," the Ross coach said. "I can't say enough positive things about him. He does not have a lot of God-given talent but he just works his rear end off."

Missig outpointed Jonah Rowell of Lakota 5-2 in the finals. Other Ross champions were Dan

Lopez (145), Terry Carter (160) and heavyweight Chad Green.

Carter trailed 7-2 after being slapped on his back by Waite's Josh Deer in the second period but came back to pin Deer in 3:49 of the same period.

Lopez dominated Shawn Chesser of Southview before pinning him in five minutes and Green pinned Matt Paxson of Lakota in the third period for his title.

Ross also had four thirds and a pair of fourth-place finishers.

One other special award went to Chris Cartwright of Vermilion for most falls (three) in the least amount of time (five minutes and 19 seconds).

Wrestling

High School

Mal Mackey Tournament

TEAM STANDINGS

Lakota	172	Southview	78
Clyde	157	Vermilion	46
Ross	113½	Lorain	35
Waite	90½	Northview	28

CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

103-Artie Brown (N) d. Chuck Beard (C) 5-2;
112-Bubba Taylor (C) d. Cody Roth (Lak) 14-6;
119-Brian Willalon (C) d. Jeremy Vasquez (W)
16-15; 125-Eric Lippert (Lak) d. Mike Carme-
ron (W) 10-9; 130-Ryan Tyson (Lak) d. Bob
Beverly (S) 13-4; 135-Chad Biddle (Lak) t.f.
Keith Taylor (C) 5:59 (18-1);

140-Phil Missig (R) d. Jonah Rowell (Lak) 5-
2; 145-Dan Lopez (R) p. Shawn Chessner (S)
5:00; 152-Chris Schilling (S) d. Cory Coutchure
(W) 6-3; 160-Terry Carter (R) p. Josh Deer (W)
3:49; 171-R.H. Workman (V) d. Toby Ball (C)
13-8; 189-Jay Eisenhower (C) d. Earl Sleek
(Lak) overtime 5-2 (10-10); 275-Chad Green (R)
p. Matt Paxson (Lak) 4:55.

CONSOLATION FINALS

103-Dave Boda (R) d. Phil LaFountain (W) 4-
3; 112-Chris Cartwright (V) p. Dave Alejandro
(R) 1:48; 119-John Lugar (R) p. Jeremy Cama-
rata (Lak) 2:58; 125-Jeremy Clickner (Lor) d.
Josh White (C) 16-6; 130-Brian Palomo (R) d.
Chad Laughlin (C) 9-5; 135-Tony Long (S) d.
Shane Rhoades (V) 7-3;

140-Nate Bath (V) d. Bill Cooper (N) 10-2;
145-Jason Conrad (Lak) p. Cliff Andres (C)
2:22; 152-Jeremy Coleman (Lak) p. Charles
Chapman (R) 2:20; 160-Ray Long (C) d. Tyler
Bleckinger (Lak) 6-4; 171-John Dekany (S) p.
Jeff Eff (W) 2:42; 189-Brian Moreno (R) d.
Scott Lopez (W) 11-0; 275-Dean DeWitt (Lor) p.
Casey McHugh (C) 4:34.

Carter helps Ross roll over Rogers

By TIM HARMON
Staff writer

Terry Carter's pin of Jeremy Rhoads at 160 pounds set the tone Saturday and Fremont Ross rolled to a 45-8 high school wrestling victory over Toledo Rogers.

"That was a good win for us," Ross Coach Al Voggenthaler said. "We got our confidence back after not wrestling so well last week (in the Mal Mackey Invitational)."

Carter and Rhoads opened the match because Carter was scheduled to visit Miami (Ohio) University Saturday as a potential Redskin football recruit.

After Carter pinned Rhoads in 51 seconds, Ross strung four decisions and Dave Alejandro's 6-6 draw with Josh Carr at 112 pounds together for a 21-2 lead.

"One of the keys was we got off to a good start," Voggenthaler said. "Carr has won the Rogers Tournament at least twice and tying him was like a win to us."

Dave Boda preceded Alejandro's draw with a 14-2 decision over Jeff Punteri and John Lugar, Jon Alejandro and Brian Palomo followed it with 12-7, 8-5 and 4-2 decisions, respectively.

Rogers got back in the match, 21-8, after decisions by Robert Hubbard and Chris Shiple at 135 and 140 pounds. Hubbard, while leading Rodney Pettiford 7-2, overcame a three-point near fall with a reversal and three back points of his own to win 12-6.

Ross 145-pounder Dan Lopez then avenged his only loss of the season with a 11-7 victory

over Bill Taylor, who defeated Lopez 10-0 in the 145-pound championship match at the Rogers Tournament Dec. 16.

The loss was the first of the season for Taylor, who typifies the Rams' style of wrestling, according to Voggenthaler.

"Rogers likes to try to work the edges of the mat," Voggenthaler said. "We worked all week on staying out of that and it paid off for us."

"Lopez's match was another bright spot and (heavyweight) Chad Green moved real well."

Green also avenged his only loss of the season, a 10-8 setback against Bill Frye at the Rogers Tournament, when Frye defaulted after the second period with an apparent pulled muscle in his left leg. Green was leading 6-3 at the time of the default.

In between the victories by Lopez and Green, Charles Chapman defeated Keith Drew 6-1 at 152 pounds, Scott Mezinger pinned Don Wing in 17 seconds at 171 and 189-pounder Brian Moreno pinned John Mcgee in 34 seconds.

"We stunk," Rogers Coach Ray Steely said.

"This was the worst dual match I've ever seen wrestled and I've been doing this 26 years."

Ross, 4-0, won the 13-team Rogers Tournament with 200 points when 11 of 13 of its wrestlers placed in the top four.

"That gave us an indication that we had real dual meet potential," Voggenthaler said.

Saturday's win proved it.

Wrestling

High School

Ross 45, Rogers 8

103: Dave Boda (FR) d. Jeff Punteri 14-2,
112: Dave Alejandro (FR) drew with Josh Carr
6-6, 119: John Lugar (FR) d. Jeff Reed 12-7,
125: Jon Alejandro (FR) d. Bryan Mysko 8-5,
130: Brian Palomo (FR) d. Paul Mudrow 4-2,
135: Robert Hubbard (TR) d. Rodney Pettiford
12-6, 140: Chris Shipple (TR) d. Phil Missig 11-4.

145: Dan Lopez (FR) d. Bill Taylor 11-7, 152:
Charles Chapman (FR) d. Keith Drew 6-1, 160:
Terry Carter (FR) p. Jeremy Rhoads :51, 171:
Scott Mezinger (FR) p. Don Wing :17, 189:
Brian Moreno (FR) p. John McGee :34, HWT:
Chad Green (FR) won by default over Bill
Frye.

Records: Rogers 5-3, Ross 4-0.

JV matches—112: Ryan Riedmaier (FR) p.
Israel Briceno 1:45, 125: Matt Poling (TR) d.
Matt Kanan 12-2, 130: Ryan Flores (FR) p.
Chris Burns 5:00, 135: Jon Hanny (FR) p. Steve
Periate 3:00, 145: Lamar Shepard (FR) d.
Andre Tucker 3-0, 152: Bill Pickard (FR) p. Jo-
seph Jarvis 3:20.

Little Giant wrestlers visit Perkins

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross will put its 4-0 dual meet record on the line tonight in a high school wrestling match at Sandusky Perkins.

The Pirates are rated by a poll of coaches as the 13th best Division II wrestling team in Ohio.

The Little Giants are fresh

from Saturday's victory over Toledo Rogers.

Ross has also defeated Maumee, Oregon Clay and Fostoria.

Terry Carter at 160 pounds, 145-pounder Dan Lopez and heavyweight Chad Green have been particularly strong of late for the Little Giants.

Green's pin beats Perkins

News-Messenger reports

SANDUSKY — Chad Green came through in the clutch for Fremont Ross.

Green pinned Perkins' heavy-weight Chad Johnson in 1:16 Thursday night, giving Ross a 31-26 dual meet wrestling victory over the Pirates.

The Little Giants, 5-0, trailed 16-0 and 20-3 before turning the match around.

Perkins won the first four matches and five of the first six, with Brian Palomo's 9-2 decision over Kenny Wright at 130 pounds the lone Ross win.

Phil Missig, Dan Lopez, Charles Chapman, Terry Carter and Scott Mezinger then reeled off five straight wins, sparked by Missig's pin at 140.

Ross led 25-20 at that point, but Matt Cadez of Perkins pinned Brian Moreno at 189 and the Pirates regained the lead.

Green then finished things off.

Wrestling

High School

Ross 31, Perkins 26

103: Jared Windisch (P) d. Dave Boda 12-4, 112: Brad Corso (P) d. Dave Alejandro 4-2, 119: Andy Wilcox (P) d. John Lugar 7-4, 125: Mike Puckrin (P) p. Jon Alejandro 4:38, 130: Brian Palomo (R) d. Kenny Wright 9-2, 135: Jeff Thom (P) d. Rodney Pettiford 17-5, 140: Phil Missig (R) p. Rick Schnell 5:40.

145: Dan Lopez (R) d. Eric Fresch 14-6, 152: Charles Chapman (R) d. Andy Tommas 3-2, 160: Terry Carter (R) d. Kevin Apling 15-2, 171: Scott Mezinger (R) d. Doug Tommas 19-4, 189: Matt Cadez (P) p. Brian Moreno, HWT: Chad Green (R) p. Chad Johnson 1:16.

Perkins JV 37, Ross 19

103: No match, 112: Ryan Riedmaier (R) p. Brian Miller 1:50, 119: Matt Kanan (R) p. Rod Swopes 3:30, 125: Bryon Bauthier (P) won by forfeit, 130: Max Cote (P) d. Ryan Flores 14-4, 135: Jon Haney (R) d. Jeff Perin 9-1, 140: Colby Camarata (R) d. Nick Muehling 6-4.

145: Mike Petersen (P) tech. fall over Lamar Shepard 20-2, 152: Chad King (P) d. Bill Pickard 18-9, 160: Randy Sleek (P) p. Rob Vargo 3:30, 171: Jeff Wightman (P) p. Fred Schnee 2:30, 189: Levi Boggs (P) p. Matt Hall :45, HWT: Pete Nixon (P) won by forfeit.

Ross wrestlers remain perfect

Findlay, Toledo CC latest victims

BY JOHN CUMMINGS
Staff correspondent

"Fatigue is a state of mind," is a sign posted in many wrestling team locker rooms.

Fremont Ross put that saying to the test Friday night, hosting a tri-match 24 hours after defeating Toledo Bowsher 40-21. The end result was the same, as the Little Giants ran their record to 8-0 with a 47-16 victory over Findlay and a 37-21 win over Toledo Central Catholic.

Toledo Central Catholic also defeated Findlay, 54-11.

"We thought of this (the last two days) as kind of a mini-tournament," Ross Coach Al Voggenthaler said. "We scheduled this to have an inside on tournament wrestling, because you have to respond at a tournament, so I didn't think it was going to hurt."

After easily disposing of Findlay in rounds one and two, Ross took to the task of finishing the night perfect against the Irish.

Ross finished round one (103-pounds through 135-pounds) down 12-10 to the Irish, after winning just two of the first six matches, and seeing another win slip into a draw.

David Alejandro posted a 12-0 victory in the TCC match to fin-

ish the night 2-0 at 112 pounds, and Brian Palomo (130) posted a 13-2 win for the only lightweight wins against the Irish.

David Boda had almost given Ross a 3-0 lead at 103 against Toledo, building a 4-1 lead late into the third period. However, the Irish's Andy Miller tilted Boda with 11 seconds left for three nearfall points to end the bout in a 4-4 draw.

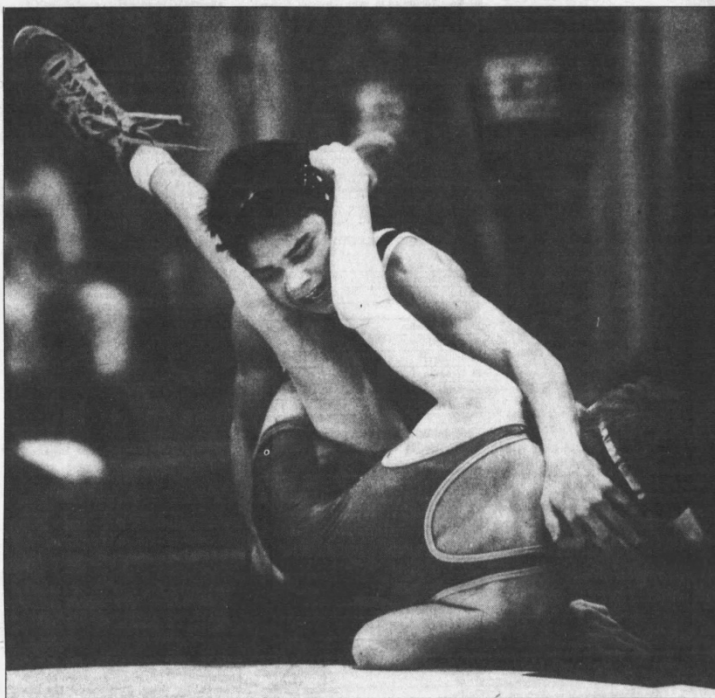
"I figured if we came out of the lower weights (against Toledo Central Catholic) with three wins we'd be alright," Voggenthaler said. "We got away with two wins and a draw. I think our lightweights responded pretty well."

Going into the last round (140-heavyweight) Voggenthaler shook things up. He moved Dan Lopez down to 140 from 145 to face the Irish's Mark Gerken.

Lopez built a 9-2 lead in the second period and had Gerken looking at the lights, compliments of a double arm bar, when Gerken's shoulder popped, forcing him to default with 20 seconds left in the period.

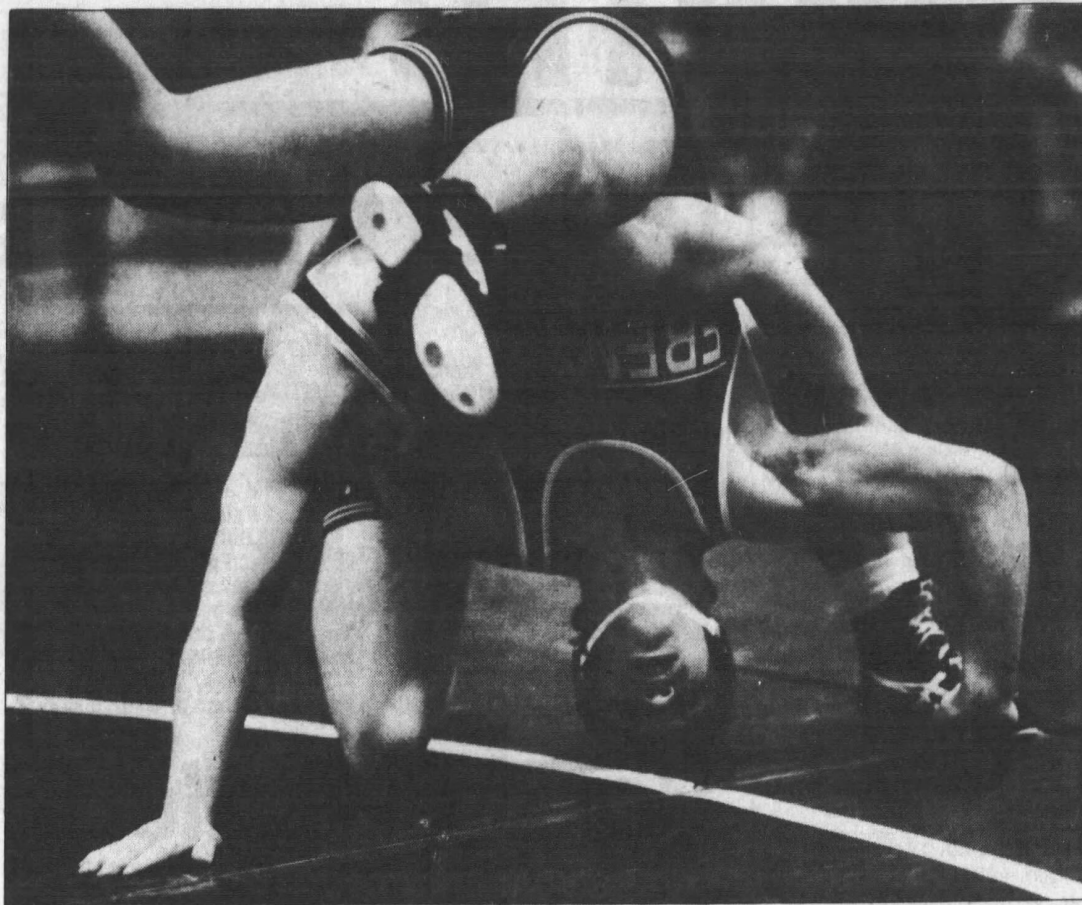
"They (Ross) kind of caught us there (moving Lopez)," To-

See ROSS, B-2



News-Messenger/Terry Reimer

DAVID BODA of Ross applies pressure to Toledo Central Catholic 103-pound opponent Andy Miller during Friday night's wrestling at Ross High School. Boda and Miller wrestled to a 4-4 draw.



News-Messenger/Terry Reimer

BILL PICKARD of Ross is put on his head by James Jolliff of Findlay during a 152-pound bout

Friday night at Ross High School. Jolliff out-pointed Pickard 14-10.

Ross

Continued From B-1

ledo Central Catholic Coach John Brown said after his team fell to 3-1 in dual action. "We had Gerken bumped up because he had been sick, and we had thought of them moving Lopez down, but decided against them doing that. But, it was a smart decision on their part."

With Lopez at 140, Phil Missig moved up to 145, and the senior responded with a fall in 3:24 over Paul Mayes.

"Dan (Lopez) was real close to 140 (pounds) so it made the decision easier," Voggenthaler said. "We figured Missig would be able to handle their kid, and he did so it paid off."

"That was the turning point,

we needed to come out ahead there."

Missig's pin boosted the Ross lead to 22-12, but the Irish came back winning by a fall at 152.

Toledo Central Catholic cut the lead to one, 22-21, when K.C. Ruddy (160) handed Terry Carter his first loss in a controversial match 10-7. Carter had reversed Ruddy, and turned him to his back when the official heard the buzzer from the other mat. Thinking that the buzzer was from their mat, the official blew the whistle, then awarded Carter two nearfall points.

"Terry just couldn't pull it out (after the inadvertant referee's error)," Voggenthaler said. "We figured on pulling out of danger with Carter."

The win by Ruddy gave the Irish momentary control of momentum.

"The match was finally going in our direction," Brown said.

"We then had to win at 189 to have a chance, but our kid at 189 is a sophomore, and he's having a tough year."

Ross swept the last three matches for the victory. Scott Mezinger of Ross defeated Kevin McGreevy 9-8 at 171 and Brian Moreno pinned Findlay's Tony Paprocki in 1:27 of the 189 match and Ross had the match sewn up.

Chad Green added icing to the win in the heavyweight match. Wrestling with nine stitches in his left hand, Green pinned Keary Sarabia in 5:20.

"We had thought of pulling him (Green)," Voggenthaler said, "but with the tournaments coming up he has to learn that it (his hand) is something he has to adjust to."

The Ross wrestlers return to action next weekend at the Alliance Tournament.

Wrestling

High School

Ross 37, Toledo CC 21

103: David Boda (R) and Andy Miller (TCC) wrestled to a 4-4 draw, 112: David Alejandro (R) d. Matt Pacholsk 12-0, 119: Greg Miller (TCC) d. John Lugar 12-6, 125: Paul Ledzianowski (TCC) d. Jon Alejandro 7-5, 130: Brian Palomo (R) d. Chris Sneider 13-2, 135: Joe Sanchez (TCC) d. Colby Camarata 12-2.

140: Dan Lopez (R) won by default over Mark Gerken, 145: Phil Missig (R) p. Paul Mayes 3:24, 152: Bill Lucius (TCC) p. Bill Pickard 3:17, 160: K.C. Ruddy (TCC) d. Terry Carter 10-7, 171: Scott Mezinger (R) d. Kevin McGreevy 9-8, Brian Moreno (R) p. Tony Paprocki 1:27, HWT: Chad Green (R) p. Keary Sarabia 4:25.

Ross 47, Findlay 16

103: David Boda (R) d. Ryan Spoon 13-3, 112: David Alejandro (R) won by forfeit 119: Shane Duncan (F) p. John Lugar 2:23, 125: Jon Alejandro (R) d. Jarrad Craig 9-5, 130: Brian Palomo (R) won by forfeit, 135: Thi Tran (F) d. Colby Camarata 10-2.

140: Steve Jolliff (F) d. Phil Missig 1-0, 145: Dan Lopez (R) d. Jason Fisher 12-4, 152: James Jolliff (F) d. Bill Pickard 14-10, 160: Terry Carter (R) p. Jayson Montgomery 3:38, 171: Scott Mezinger (R) won by forfeit, 189: Brian Moreno (R) won by forfeit, HWT: Chad Green (R) p. Mike Atchison 4:37.

Records: Ross 8-0.

Ross faces stern test at Alliance tournament

News-Messenger reports

The Fremont Ross High School wrestling team will get a taste of state tournament level competition this weekend.

The Little Giants will wrestle in the fourth annual Alliance wrestling tournament as part of a 26-team field that includes the top three Division I teams in the state.

"We need to compete at the state level and this is about as close as you can get," Ross Coach Al Voggenthaler said.

Lakewood St. Edward, Cleveland St. Joe and Stow Walsh Jesuit, rated numbers one through three in Ohio's big school division, are all entered in a field that includes numerous wrestlers who placed in state com-

"We need to compete at the state level and this is about as close as you can get."

— Al Voggenthaler

petition in 1989.

Maumee and Mansfield are other Northwest Ohio teams in the field which is composed mostly of Northeast Ohio schools. Ross is competing at Alliance for the first time.

The Little Giants, 8-0 in dual meet competition, are led into the tournament by

Dan Lopez, 14-1 at 140; Chad Green, 13-1 at heavyweight; Terry Carter, 12-2 at 160; Brian Palomo, 15-3 at 130; and Dave Boda 12-3-1 at 103.

Voggenthaler said the Giants entered the tournament "because of the stiff competition."

"We wrestled at Medina in the past and I think this is every bit as tough," he said. "Maybe even tougher than Medina."

Wrestling begins at 4 p.m. Friday and resumes at 11 a.m. Saturday with the finals at 7 p.m. Saturday.

Voggenthaler said the Alliance Tournament is a good test for Ross, which won the Toledo Rogers Tournament earlier this season.

The Buckeye Central Conference meet, a triple dual because Zanesville does not have a wrestling team, is scheduled for Feb. 17 at Lancaster.

"The week following the conference we start the sectional, district and state," Voggenthaler said. "We are trying to get in that frame of mind right now."

The Ross coach suggests that persons planning to attend this weekend's tournament follow the Ohio Turnpike to exit 13, go southeast on Ohio Route 14, turn south on Ohio Route 183 and follow 183 to Alliance.

He estimated that the trip takes more than 2½ hours.

Ross in hunt at Alliance

News-Messenger reports

ALLIANCE — Fremont Ross put itself in contention for the top spot in the 26-team Alliance Invitational Wrestling Tournament Friday.

Unofficial scoring has Ross either second or fourth after the first two rounds.

"The scored is a little fouled up and they were still working on it after the last matches," Ross assistant Coach Rick Boggs said. "One set of scores has us second and the other fourth."

The Little Giants are joined in the logjam at the top by Lakewood St. Edwards, Cleveland St. Joseph and Stow Walsh Jesuit, the top three teams in Ohio according to the Ohio High School Athletic Association Coaches Poll.

Ross has 10 of its 11 wrestlers left in the championship round going into today's quarterfinals.

David Boda, 103 pounds, David Alejandro (112), Jon Lugar (119), John Alejandro (125), Brian Palomo (130),

See HUNT, B-2

Hunt

Continued From B-1

Phil Missig (135), Dan Lopez (140), Terry Carter (160), Scott Mezenger (171) and Chad Green (HWT) are all in the championship round after finishing Friday night undefeated.

Brian Moreno, at 189, lost his first-round match, but came back to win his first round of consolations to remain in the tournament.

The quarterfinals begin at 11 this morning at Alliance High School. Finals are 7 p.m.

Green's title helps Ross finish fourth

News-Messenger reports

ALLIANCE — Fremont Ross finished fourth in the Alliance Tournament this weekend behind the top three Division I teams in Ohio.

The Little Giants tallied 136 points. Lakewood St. Edward won the tournament with 217 points followed by Stow Walsh Jesuit with 163 and Cleveland St. Joseph with 161 in the 26-team tournament.

St. Ed, St. Joe and Walsh Jesuit are rated as the top three teams, according to The Associated Press.

Chad Green capped the tournament for Ross, winning the heavy weight championship with a 49-second pin over St. Ed's Stephan Tierbienier.

Dan Lopez placed third for Ross at 140 pounds, Scott Meizinger was fourth at 171, Terry Carter fifth at 160 and Brian Palomo sixth at 130.

Wrestling

High School

Alliance Tournament

TEAM STANDINGS

St. Edward	217	Carrolton	61½
Walsh Jesuit	163	Bethel Tate	59
Cle. St. Joe	161	Akron N.	58
Fre. Ross	136	Carlisle	57½
Un'town Lake	119	Salem	48
Aus. Fitch	109	St. Thomas	46½
Minerva	96	Field	44
Triway	95	Massilon	37
Crestwood	86	Can. McKinley	36
Alliance	71	Mansfield Sr.	35
Col. DeSales	67½	Girard	34
Warren	63	J. Milton	25½
Maumee	62½	Kettering	25½

Ross championship matches

HWT: Chad Green (R) p. Stephan Tierbier (SE) :49.

Ross consolation matches

140: Dan Lopez (R) d. Mike Franklin (WJ) 9-4.

171: Brian Buck (M) d. Scott Mezinger (R) 3-2 (OT).

Ross beats Whitmer

By BOB MARKER
Staff writer

Dan Lopez set a team record as Ross dominated Whitmer 53-7 in a wrestling match match that was over before it started.

Whitmer brought only eight wrestlers to the Purple Pit Thursday night and the five forfeitures gave Ross a 30-0 lead before any Little Giant had broken a sweat.

The easy win was the ninth against no losses for the Little Giants.

"We wrestled a little flat," Ross Coach Al Voggenthaler said after the match struggled from beginning to end.

Lopez was the highlight of the night, establishing a Ross season takedown record before hanging on to defeat Whitmer's Chris Lutz 13-7 in the 140-pound match.

Lopez, who transferred from Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic this summer, entered the match with 94 takedowns, two short of Mike Mezinger's 1985 record. Mezinger, now a Ross coach, watched as Lopez scored on two takedowns in the first 18 seconds to tie his record.

Fifty-seven seconds later, Lopez scored his 97th takedown to grab a spot in the Ross record book. He finished with five takedowns and will have 99 when Ross visits Sandusky Wednesday.

Dave Alejandro, 112, had the only Ross pin, stopping Scott Kreps in 2:35.

Ross's Terry Carter scored a technical fall, defeating Whitmer 160-pounder Rob Firsdon 22-3.

Phil Missig, 145, came up with a 9-8 win over Whitmer's Jamie Vigh. Missig came off his back to wipe out an 8-2 deficit, scoring on a reversal with 90 seconds remaining in the match for the win.

Wrestling

High School

Ross 53, Whitmer 7

103: Dave Boda (R) won by forfeit, 112: Dave Alejandro (R) p. Scot Kreps 2:35, 119: John Lugar (R) won by forfeit, 125: Jon Alejandro (R) won by forfeit, 130: Brian Palomo (R) won by forfeit, 135: Colby Camarata (R) won by forfeit.

140: Dan Lopez (R) d. Chris Lutz 13-7, 145: Phil Missig (R) d. Jamie Vigh 9-8, 152: Brad Jankowski (W) d. Shane Durbin 10-6, 160: Terry Carter (R) tech. fall over Rob Firsdon 22-3, 171: Travis Wade (W) d. Scott Mezinger 18-9, 189: Brian Moreno (R) d. Jim Goethals 6-4, HWT: Chad Green (R) d. Jason Hable 9-4.

Records: Ross 9-0.

Junior varsity matches (Ross vs. Gibsonburg)—140: Jason Dick (G) p. Lamar Shepard 4:49, 145: Robert Costillo (G) d. Troy Ritzman 19-6, 171: Fred Schnee (R) p. George Flores 5:10.

Sandusky hands Ross first loss

News-Messenger reports

SANDUSKY — The first loss of the season for the Fremont Ross wrestling team came at the hands of Sandusky Wednesday night.

The Blue Streaks won 10 of 13 matches and beat the Little Giants 45-10.

Ryan Riedmaier (119), Dan Lopez (140) and Terry Carter (160) were the lone winners for Ross, 8-1.

Riedmaier scored a technical fall over Kurt Doller, Lopez defeated Jason Brown and Carter won by decision over Darren Dunn.

Sandusky won three matches by fall.

Wrestling

High School

Sandusky 45, Ross 10

103: Dan Jeter (S) d. Dave Boda 9-4, 112: Jason Darden (S) p. Dave Alejandro 3:48, 119: Ryan Riedmaier (R) tech. fall over Kurt Doller 15-0, 125: Todd Dickerson (S) p. Jon Alejandro 4:00, 130: Scott Lazarra (S) d. Brian Palomo 15-6, 135: Jamie Lazarra (S) d. Colby Camarata 14-0.

140: Dan Lopez (R) d. Jason Brown 10-6, 145: Steve Schmidt (S) d. Phil Missig 15-12, 152: Ozeal Hunter (S) d. Shane Durbin 19-5, 160: Terry Carter (R) d. Darren Dunn 7-1, 171: Fred Chaney (S) d. Scott Mezinger 5-0, 189: Shon Grant (S) p. Brian Moreno 1:40, HWT: Charles Pou (S) d. Chad Green 8-5.

Records: Ross 8-1.

Sandusky JV 23, Ross 17

119: Jason Dreschel (S) d. Mat Kanan 4-3, 135: Kemmes Keyes (S) p. Jon Hanny 5:49, 140: Lamar Shepard (R) drew with Ryan Matter 6-6, 145: Troy Ritzman (R) won by default over Brett Freehling, 152: Jeff Corso (S) p. Chuck Martin 5:09, 160: Bill Pickard (R) p. Pathan Williams 4:00, 171: Fred Schnee (R) p. Jon Kaufman 3:33, 189: Larry Collins (S) p. Mat Hull :20.

Blair, four others named 'most valuable' at Ross awards program

News-Messenger reports

Ohio high school state diving champion B.J. Blair led a quintet of Fremont Ross High School athletes voted "most valuable" by their teammates in winter sports.

The winners of the special awards announced at the Ross Winter Sports Awards Program in the high school cafeteria Tuesday night.

Other "most valuable" performers named were Kim Borys in girls basketball; Shane McConnell in boys basketball; Tracie Baker in girls swimming; and Dan Lopez in wrestling.

Blair, a senior, was a four-time state meet qualifier, finishing 17th as freshman, fifth as

a sophomore and third last year before winning the title earlier this month. He also received the "Coaches Award" from head coach Neal Wensinger.

Chase Baker was named most improved swimmer on the boys swim team. Blair and Baker took home captain trophies.

Tracie Baker, a freshman, led the girls swim team.

Molly Zinkand won the most improved swimmer award while Ronda Mahr received a captain

trophy. Ronelle Mahr won the Coaches Award.

Lopez, a fifth-place finisher in the Division I state meet at 140 pounds, also won the most take-downs award with a school record 165. The previous record was 96.

Heavyweight Chad Green won the most pins (19) trophy and Phil Missig was the winner of the Coaches Award. David Boda was the team's most improved wrestler in awards handed out by coach Al Vogenthaler.

Terry Carter and Brian Palomo were given captain trophies.

Borys also took home a girls basketball captain trophy along with Missy Smith.

Coach Sue Wolf presented

Vickie Castile, a junior, the most improved honor.

Other special awards went to Joy Eishen as the best percentage free throw shooter and Dian Schepflin for being the leading rebounder.

McConnell paced the boys honorees in awards handed out by coach Pat McGhee.

Justin Oxley and Todd Clark were presented with captain trophies while Clark took home the awards for the highest free throw percentage and most assists. Oxley won the best defensive player honor.

Jeff Green had the highest field goal percentage and Chris Wolfe took home the rebounding award.

Other special awards were presented by the Ross Athletic Boosters to Blair and Lopez for their state tournament accomplishments.

Members of the wrestling team who competed in the Buckeye Central Conference Tournament, were presented with championship plaques including conference champs Boda, Lopez, Carter, Scott Menzinger, Green and Brian Moreno.

Blair also won a four-year letter award. Three-year letter winners included Borys and Clark, wrestlers Palomo, Charles Chapman, Daniel Costilla and Moreno and swimmers Chase Baker, David Tallman and Sheila Poust.



BLAIR



McCONNELL



BORYS



BAKER



LOPEZ