

## 2010 Sectional Tournament

# Fremont Ross, Lakota spikers earn top seeds in volleyball tournament

News-Messenger reports

Pairings for the OHSAA sectional volleyball and soccer tournaments were released Sunday. Below is a breakdown of where the area teams will be heading and who they'll face.

## **VOLLEYBALL**

In Division I, Fremont Ross, under new head coach Lauren Blasko, received the top seed in the Mansfield Senior bracket and will face fellow Greater Buckeye Conference member Marion Harding on Oct. 19. Ross has had a turnaround season and a win over the Presidents would match them with another GBC-rival, Lima Senior, in a sectional championship game Oct. 23.

The Division II Norwalk bracket has three area teams, Oak Harbor, Bellevue and Clyde. In the first game Oct. 19, the Rockets will meet the Truckers, while the Lady Red will play the night cap against Willard. Clyde will meet Perkins in the lower bracket in an Oct. 20 match.

Earning a top-seed in Division III was Lakota (15-2). The Raiders will await the winner of a match between Elmwood (5-16) and Otsego (7-12).

In the Huron bracket, Gibsonburg will face Port Clinton in the first game Oct. 19. Woodmore gets Western Reserve in the night cap. A Golden Bear win would set up a match with top-seeded Huron, while a Wildcat win would slate them against No. 2 seed Margaretta.

Two area Midland Athletic League

squads will duke it out in the Division IV Hopewell-Loudon bracket when St. Joseph Central Catholic meets Old Fort on Oct. 19 at 6:15 p.m. In the same bracket, Bettsville will face Tiffin Calvert.

## **BOYS SOCCER**

It's been a week to remember for the Oak Harbor boys soccer team.

First, Phil Weirich broke the school's career goals record Wednesday. Then the Rockets wrapped up the Sandusky Bay Conference title. On Sunday, they earned the No. 1 seed in the sectional tournament.

The Rockets (13-2-0) earned the top-seed in the Division II sectionals at Lake, where they will meet Clyde (0-13-1) on Oct. 16.

In Division III, Woodmore is in a position it's never found itself. The Wildcats are the No. 2 seed in the Huron bracket and face St. Joseph Central Catholic Oct. 19, with the winner getting the host Tigers.

Old Fort will be another area team playing with the No. 2 seed. The Stockaders play Tiffin Calvert Wednesday for a sectional title.

In Division I, Fremont Ross, also a No. 2 seed, will play for a sectional crown when it faces Mansfield Senior on Oct. 20 in Lexington.

## **GIRLS SOCCER**

Oak Harbor (11-2-2) found little resistance this fall as it cruised to another double-digit win total.

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# Ross keeps it together to beat Marion Harding

BY MATT MILLS

News-Messenger correspondent

MANSFIELD — Fremont Ross's Riley Minich hasn't seen much playing time for the Little Giants as a freshman.

But on Tuesday in the Division I sectionals at Mansfield Senior, the Little Giant's first-year player not only played, but was a big key as Ross won 25-13, 22-25, 25-16, 25-20 over Marion Harding.

"Riley had a really good game," Ross's Melanie Edris said. "She stepped and played well all around."

The Little Giants and Presidents had a back-and-forth duel going until Ross went up 13-8 and scored 12 of the game's final 17 points.

But Harding rebounded and wasn't intimidated at all by the Little Giants' efforts. The Presidents forced a Ross timeout as they led 14-12. Minich then brought the Little Giants back, as she served five straight points to tie the match at 19 all.

However, it wasn't enough as the Presidents rallied to even the match at a game apiece.

"We came out and beat them pretty badly in the first set," Little Giants coach Lauren Blasko said. "Then after that, we sat back and thought we could win without really trying."

"But after the second set, we overcame some slumps, kept playing and got the job done."

Ross grabbed a 15-11 edge at the mid-way point of the third game, before tallying 10 of the final 15 points. Harding started off with a 2-0 lead in game four, until Ross scored eight points in a row with Christy Meggitt serving to jump out to a commanding 8-2 lead.

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