

Little Giants win first soccer match; Rockets and Stockaders fall

News-Messenger reports

TOLEDO — Brian Thompson scored an unassisted goal late in the second half to provide Fremont Ross with its second goal in a 2-1 win against Toledo Whitmer.

The victory was the Little Giants' first of the year.

Michael Simonton scored Ross's first goal, 35 minutes into

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the game, with an assist from Craig Copley to take a 1-0 lead. Thompson's goal came 35 minutes later and pushed the lead to 2-0.

Whitmer, outshot 29-6 by Ross, scored its only goal 74 minutes into play.

Michael Hickey had four saves for Ross (1-1), which got 12 intercepts from Nik Wearsch, 10 from Andy Smith and nine more from Matt Holbrook.

Ross hosts Oregon Clay at 5 p.m. Thursday.

In other action:

Huron 3, Oak Harbor 0

OAK HARBOR — Huron out-

shot Oak Harbor 33-16 Tuesday en route to a 3-0 Sandusky Bay Conference soccer victory over the Rockets.

Oak Harbor keeper Cory Barrett recorded 30 saves, but it wasn't enough to keep the Rockets from falling to 2-3 on the season. Huron is 3-1.

"We just couldn't get anything

going," Oak Harbor coach Lou Montano said. "We had some runs going, it was just a very bad game. It just didn't go together for us tonight."

Oak Harbor and Huron tied 1-1 in the junior varsity match. Marc Kremer scored for the Rockets, 0-1-2.

Oak Harbor travels to Old Fort

on Thursday.

Bucyrus 3, Old Fort 2

BUCYRUS — Bucyrus scored on a penalty kick in the game's final minute to hand Old Fort its second loss in as many matches.

The Stockaders, who started the season 4-0, dropped to 4-2 despite goals from Jason Halbisen and Jared Stearns.

Giants face stiff schedule

FREMONT ROSS LITTLE GIANTS

Coach: Jeff Pendry

Roster: Seniors: F Amy Smith, D Andy Smith, D Nik Wearsch, F Brian Thomson, M Matt Holbrook, M Mike Simonton, G Michael Hickey, M Kyle Fisher, M-F Craig Copley, F Marcus Wymamoto; Juniors: Marshall Amor, D Matt Bartson, D Adam Pfotenhauer, Sophomore: D Pete Scranton.

Outlook: Pendry's team gets a reprieve from its toughest schedule today when the Little Giants play Oregon Clay at Ross High School. "If things go well, we should be able to control play," Pendry said. After that's it's back into the fire, with Ross traveling to St. Francis Saturday to play the state's No. 6 team. Ross lost to defending state champion North Olmstead earlier this season. "This is by far the toughest schedule they have ever played," Pendry said. "Earn a little bit more respect from other teams in Northwest Ohio." The Little Giants won 10 games last year but did not get one of the four seeds for the district tournament. In Great Lakes League play, Findlay will again be the favorite after besting the Little Giants for first place in 1996. Ross is aggressive, but the team needs to be more consistent with finishing off goals. Graduated is leading scorer Scott White, but 1996's No. 2 man, Brian Thomson is back. Thomson was all GLL last season and goalie Michael Hickey has been on that squad for two years now.

Schedule

Today.....	Oregon Clay
Saturday.....	at St. Francis
Monday.....	Tiffin Columbian
Tuesday.....	at Sandusky
Sept. 18.....	at Bedford
Sept. 20.....	Defiance
Sept. 23.....	Findlay
Sept. 25.....	Whitmer
Sept. 30.....	at Oregon Clay
Oct. 2.....	Sandusky
Oct. 7.....	Bedford
Oct. 9.....	at Findlay
Oct. 11.....	at Norwalk

Ross defense shuts out Clay

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross defensemen Nik Wearsch and Andy Smith helped limit Oregon Clay to two shots on goal and Brian Thomson scored twice as the Little Giants won their second match of the season.

Ross converted on six of 32 shots, with additional scores coming from Amy Smith, Michael Simonton, Nik Wearsch and Marshall Amor. Wearsch and Matt Holbrook added assists.

Andy Smith and Wearsch made 14 and 13 intercepts, respectively, helping goalkeeper Michael Hickey record his first shutout this season despite not making any saves.

Ross (2-1, 2-0 Great Lakes League) plays the state's sixth-ranked team, Toledo St. Francis, Saturday.

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goal at the 7:30 mark of the first half gave the Rockets a 1-0 advantage, but the Stockaders came back to tie it five minutes into the second half on Brian Kistler's goal.

"We had some nice breakaway runs on them and that's what got (Old Fort) so frustrated toward the end," Oak Harbor coach Lou Montano said. "Robbie had so many breakaways on them and they just cut him down. That's how we got awarded that penalty kick."

The Rockets (3-3) had 34 shots on goal to the Stockaders' 15. Oak Harbor keeper Cory Barrett had 14 saves.

Old Fort fell to 4-3.

"It was a very good match, to

Ross routs Columbian

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross's soccer team won 13-1 Monday against Tiffin Columbian.

The Little Giants, playing the first game in their new field at the high school, lead 4-1 at the half and added plenty in the second stanza to clinch the non-league win.

Marshall Amor scored Ross's first goal, only to see it equaled by the Tornadoes five minutes later. Michael Hickey scored on a 25-yard free kick to regain the lead for the Little Giants, who added goals from Brian Thomson

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and Amor before the end of the first half.

Second half scorers included Matt Holbrook, Amor, Hickey, Thomson, Craig Copley and Nik Wearsch. Assists came from Andy Smith, Amy Smith, Wearsch, Hickey, Copley and Holbrook.

Andy Smith led the Little Giants' defense with 15 intercepts.

Ross travels to Sandusky today.

Sandusky shuts out Fremont Ross

News-Messenger reports

SANDUSKY — Michael Hickey made eight saves and Andy Smith 15 intercepts, but Fremont Ross could not score in a 2-0 loss to Sandusky.

The Blue Streaks scored on a 15-yard shot 25 minutes into the game, then added the second score on a penalty kick 11 minutes later.

Ross plays at Bedford Thursday.

In other action:

Toledo Christian 3, Old Fort 1

TOLEDO — Old Fort lost its fourth consecutive game without senior goalie Jeff Meeker, who is

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out with stitches in his right knee.

The Stockaders have used sweeper John Weslow in the goalie spot.

Tuesday, Toledo Christian took advantage and scored two second half goals for a 3-1 win. Old Fort had tied the game in the first half on an unassisted Jason Halbisen goal.

"They keep playing well," first-year coach Nick Dimacchia said.

The Stockaders are 4-4 entering Saturday's game at Bowling

Green. Dimacchia is an education student at Bowling Green State University hopes for support from friends.

Oak Harbor 7, St. Mary's 0

OAK HARBOR — Scott Chasteen scored twice as the Rockets outshot winless St. Mary's by a whopping 37-2.

Oak Harbor (4-3-1) also got goals from Rob Walker, Steve Byrne, Marc Kremer, Mike Degrisky and Antony Sharples. Zach Gutilla had an assist and keeper Corey Barrett stopped both St. Mary's shots on goal.

The Rockets host Sandusky Perkins on Thursday (5 p.m.).

Hickey backstops Ross soccer victory

BEDFORD, Mich. — **Craig Copley, Mike Simonton** and **Amy Smith** scored goals in support of **Michael Hickey's** 15-save performance as Fremont Ross downed Bedford, 3-1, in a Great Lakes League soccer game Thursday.

Ross improved to 4-3, 3-1 GLL, despite being outshot 17-9.

Andy Smith spearheaded the Little Giants' defense, making 25 intercepts, while **Matt Bartson** had 17 and **Pete Scranton** 15.

Ross soccer team shuts out Defiance

Fremont Ross prepared for Tuesday's showdown with Findlay by beating Defiance 1-0 Saturday at VarsityKelsey-Hayes Field.

The Little Giants, playing in front of a Parents Day crowd, won 1-0 despite being outshot 15-12.

Brian Thomson scored on a **Michael Simonton** assist for the only goal of the game.

Goalkeeper **Michael Hickey** made 12 saves and **Andy Smith** made 18 interceptions. **Pete Scranton** and **Kyle Fisher** had 10 interceptions each and **Matt Bartson** had nine. ^N

Ross plays Findlay at 5 p.m. Tuesday in a matchup of the Great Lakes League's top two teams from a year ago. The Trojans won the GLL in 1997.

Findlay edges Ross in GLL soccer match

Travis Hammer's goal in the 13th minute of the first half lifted Findlay to a 1-0 Great Lakes League soccer victory over Fremont Ross (5-4, 3-2 GLL) Tuesday at Varsity Kelsey-Hayes Field.

The ninth-ranked Trojans outshot Ross, 22-5, forcing Ross goalie **Michael Hickey** to make 16 saves.

Andy Smith and **Kyle Fisher**^N each had 16 interceptions for Ross.

At Varsity Kelsey-Hayes Field, **Michael Hickey** made eight saves and **Matt Holbrook, Nik Wearsch** and **Michael Simonton** each scored goals as the Little Giants (6-4, 4-2 GLL) blanked Whitmer 3-0 in a Great Lakes League game.

Wearsch also had an assist, as did **Marshall Amor** and **Andy Smith**. **Smith** led the defense with 10 interceptions.

Ross outshot Whitmer, 15-11.

Ross 5, Clay 2

OREGON — Nik Wearsch recorded a hat trick and Brennan Willis scored his first varsity career goal as the Little Giants improved to 7-54, 5-2 Great Lakes League with a road victory.

Matt Holbrook also scored for Ross, which outshot Clay, 19-3.

Ross avenges soccer loss with 2-1 victory

Revenge was sweet — and identical — for the Fremont Ross soccer team Thursday.

Earlier in the season, the Little Giants were 2-1 victims against Sandusky. On Thursday at Varsity Kelsey-Hayes Field, Ross downed the Streaks, 2-1, in Great Lakes League action.

After surrendering the first goal to Sandusky, Ross responded when **Nik Wearsch** set up **Marshall Amor** for a goal three minutes into the second half.

In the 67th minute, Amor assisted on Wearsch's game-winning goal.

Ross outshot Sandusky, 15-2, and was led defensively by **Andy Smith's** 15 intercepts.

Ross seniors lead 5-0 win

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross's senior class made its final home game count Tuesday, accounting for 80 percent of the scoring in the Little Giants 5-0 win against Bedford.

Ross improved to 9-4 (7-2 GLL) entering Thursday's game at Findlay.

Amy Smith scored two minutes into the game off a pass from Kyle Fisher to give Ross a 1-0 lead. Marshall Amor scored Ross's second goal 10 minutes later off an assist from Nik Wearsch.

Ross limited Bedford to just six first half shots in the Great Lakes League matchup and the score remained 2-0 until the second half.

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Wearsch converted an Amor assist for a 3-0 lead, and Matt Holbrook assisted Mike Simonton and Craig Copley as Ross finished its scoring.

Michael Hickey made nine saves for his fifth shutout of the season. Andy Smith had 15 intercepts and Kyle Fisher and Adam Pfothenhauer had 10 intercepts apiece.

Ross outshot Bedford 13-12.

Seniors playing in their last game were Andy and Amy Smith, Fisher, Simonton, Wearsch, Holbrook, Copley, Marcus Yammamoto and Hickey.

■ Area high school award winners:

St. Joe Volleyball

MVP: Holly Wagner, Dawn Wilbur

Most Improved: Jenny Gabel

100 percent Serving: Holly Wagner

Defense Award: Julie Kupka

Ross Boys Cross Country

MVP: Jon Framstad

Most Improved: John Peterson

Coaches Award: Jake Smith, Eric Gabel

Ross Girls Cross Country

Captain: Kristyn Warner, Alison Kelly

JV Captain: Molly O'Connor

Most Valuable: Alison Kelly

Most Improved: Kathryn Oberst

Coaches Award: Jami Toeppe, Dawn McElfresh

Ross Tennis

Leadership Awards: Courtney Labenne, Andrea Andrews

Most Valuable: Andrea Andrews

Varsity Most Improved: Ainsley Watkins

Coaches Award: Stefanie Lagrou

JV Best Season Record: Sarah Rhodes, Nicole Wolfe

Ross Soccer

Captain: Andy Smith, Mike Hickey, Nik Wearsch

Outstanding Offensive Player: Nik Wearsch

Outstanding Defensive Player: Andy Smith

Little Giant Award: Amy Smith

Versatility Award: Mike Hickey

Gibsonburg Cheerleading

Most Spirited: Melody Maynard, Stefanie Vallance

Most Improved: Ashley Renfro

Gibsonburg Golf

Most Improved: Matt Castillo

Top Freshman: Terrence Friar

Team Medalist: Nick Kaemming

Low Average: Nick Kaemming

HM All-District: Nick Kaemming, Kevin Kir-

wen

Gibsonburg Cross Country

Most Valuable Runner: Corey English

Coaches Award: Mario Picciuto

Dedication Award: Andy Hise

All-District 1st Team: Corey English

Most Valuable Runner: Sarah Hilt

Most Improved: Carrie Damschroder

Coach's Award: Katie Fisher

All District H.M.: Sarah Hilt

Gibsonburg Volleyball

Offensive Player of the Year: Krista Reiter

Defensive Player of the Year: Megan Was-

sil

JV Offensive Player of the Year: Jenny MacDonald

JV Defensive Player of the Year: Anna Davis

Spirit Award: Sarah Mason

JV Spirit Award: Emily Walter

All District H.M.: Krista Reiter, Heather Hill

Old Fort Golf

MVP: Kyle Ryman

MIP: Erik Lynch

Old Fort Volleyball

MVP: Randi Whitman

MIP: Jennice Egbert, Rachael Mc Calla

Old Fort Soccer

MVP: Jeff Meeker

MIP: Steve Burks

Old Fort Boys Cross Country

MVP: Dan Haugh, Jeremy Riehm

MIP: William Pfeiffer

Margaretta Golf

3rd Year Varsity Award: Dustin Howard

Margaretta Girls Cross Country

4th Year Varsity Award: Claire Miller

Margaretta Boys Cross Country

Soph. MVP: Kevin Clapp

Margaretta Volleyball

4th Year Varsity Award: Rachael Hamilton

GLL soccer

GLL Player of the year: Michael Hickey, Fremont Ross, GLL Coach of the year: Albert Laux, Findlay.

FIRST TEAM

Nick Patterson, Findlay, Sr., Nik Wearsch, Fremont Ross, Sr., Brian Danyl, Clay, Sr., Mark Laux, Findlay, Sr., Erik Maly, Whitmer, Sr., Justin Kirkwood, Bedford, Jr., Andy Francis, Bedford, Jr., Jof Cindric, Findlay, Sr., Andy Smith, Fremont Ross, Sr., Kurt Dotson, Findlay, Sr., GOALIE—Michael Hickey, Fremont Ross, Sr.,

SECOND TEAM

Marshall Amor, Fremont ross, Jr., Christopher Dulaney, Findlay, Soph., J. R. Runion, Findlay, Jr., Chris Barriger, Whitmer, Sr., Bill Werner, Sandusky, Sr., Josh Herr, Bedford, Sr., Mike Siminton, Fremont Ross, Sr., Brad Wasil, Bedford, Sr., Cory Gelting, Findlay, Sr., Jason Zess, Sandusky, Sr., GOALIE—Tim Wood, Findlay, Jr.,

HONORABLE MENTION—BEDFORD—Aaron Flynn, Scott McKibben, Zach Turley, Jon Quirk, CLAY—Jason Ciski, Mike Glass, Jay Harrington, Pat Shields, FINDLAY—Levi Gephart, Chad Graham, Danny Graham, Travis Hammer, FREMONT—Kyle Fisher, Matt Holbrook, Amy Smith, SANDUSKY—Ryan Parschauer, Mike Poeschl, Gabe Preston, Jesse Preston, WHITMER—Nick Miller, Derek Ochoa, Eugene Royzman, Eric Wilczynski.