

1990 Sectional Meet...



MEMBERS of the Fremont Ross boys swim team are left to right, front row: David Tallman, Jeremy Sprenger, B.J. Blair, Joe Pemberton and Kent Huffman; second row: Matt McCabe, David Zinkand, Kevin Wagner, Jay Hull and Chris Schaaf; third row: Troy Geller, Aaron King, Ryan Jackson and Rick Moyer; back row: diving coach Bob Lozano, head coach Neal Wensinger and coach Ron Julian.



MEMBERS of the Fremont Ross girls swim team are left to right, front row: Sheila Poust, Ronda Mahr, Molly Zinkand, Jennifer Maire and Monica Schnee; second row: Annalisa Arndt, Erin Appleby, Shannon Vaffis, Tracie Baker and Angel Richey; back row: diving coach Bob Lozano, Angie Sprenger, head coach Neal Wensinger, Ronelle Mahr and coach Ron Julian.

Ross set for sectional swimming, diving

News-Messenger reports

OAK HARBOR — Fremont Ross is one of 12 swim teams that will compete in the sectional swimming and diving meet at Oak Harbor High School Friday and Saturday.

Diving competition is scheduled for Friday with the finals slated for 5 p.m. Swimming begins at 11 a.m. Saturday.

Swimmers from Sandusky Perkins, Sandusky, Oak Harbor, Fostoria, Perrysburg and Tiffin Calvert will compete for spots in the district meet at Bowling Green Feb. 24.

A scattering of swimmers from Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic, Lakota, Fostoria St. Wendelin, and Maumee will also compete at the sectional.

Senior Jennie Moyer will rep-

resent St. Joe, while senior David Houtz, juniors, Matt Houtz and Chet Balderson and sophomores Fathom Houtz and Leefa Holman will compete for Lakota.

The top three swimmers in each event will qualify for district competition as well as the next 20 best times from four sectional tournaments.

Napolean, Sylvania Northview and Ashland will also host sectional meets this weekend.

"The best kids swim their best events," Ross Coach Neal Wensinger said. "We should be taking a nice group of kids to the district meet."

Wensinger said both Ross medley relay teams are poised to advance to the district.

The boys squad is comprised of junior Chase Baker, sopho-

more Kent Huffman, freshman Chris Schaaf and junior Dave Tallman, while junior Sheila Poust and freshmen Angie Sprenger, Ronelle Mahr and Tracie Baker make up the girls team.

Junior Joe Pemberton, who qualified for the district in the 50-meter freestyle last year, has a shot in the 200-meter individual medley Saturday, Wensinger said.

Baker should advance in the 200 and 500 freestyle swims as he did last year, Wensinger said. Freshman Kevin Wagner in the 100 freestyle and Schaaf in the breaststroke are also district candidates.

Poust will seek to repeat as a district qualifier in the 500 freestyle, and Mahr in the butterfly,

Tracie Baker in the 200 and 500 freestyle events and freshman Shannon Vaffis in the 50 and 100 freestyle are also likely candidates at Bowling Green, according to Wensinger.

"You just never know what will happen in the other 20 spots," Wensinger said. "We have some other kids who will have an outside shot."

"The times have come down drastically. There isn't anyone who hasn't improved now that tapering (cutting practice time) has begun. They haven't been doing quite so many yards each night."

Ross diver B.J. Blair is expected to win the diving competition Friday, and Wensinger said sophomore Johnny Popoca's chances are also very good.

B.J. Blair dominates sectional

News-Messenger reports

OAK HARBOR — B.J. Blair was three points away from the state record while winning a sectional diving title Friday in the sectional diving meet at the Oak Harbor natatorium.

Blair, a Fremont Ross senior aiming for his fourth appearance in the state meet, piled up 545 points on 11 dives. The total was nearly 200 points better than runner-up Jamie Vacaro of Sandusky Perkins who had 353.65.

Third was another Perkins diver, Christian Pimsner with 342.95.

Fred DeNeau of Oak Harbor was fourth while Ed Zilles and Lee Mooney of Port Clinton were fifth and seventh, respectively. All have shots at earning at-large district berths.

The state record for 11 dives is 548. The record can only be set in the state diving tournament.

"B.J. had no problems," Ross diving Coach Bob Lozano said. "He put in some new dives with a few more twists that raises the degree of difficulty. Right now, B.J. is on a hot streak."

The win set Blair up for a third consecutive district diving title. The district is next weekend at Bowling Green State University.

Ross sophomore John Popoca was sixth in the sectional meet with 227.30. Popoca, Lozano said, has a shot at an at-large berth in the district meet.

"I think his chances are very good," Lozano said.

In addition to the top three di-



News-Messenger/Scott Lightfoot

See BLAIR, B-3 B.J. BLAIR of Fremont Ross concentrates on a dive Friday at the sectional diving meet.

Area swimmers qualify for district

News-Messenger reports

OAK HARBOR — Sandusky Perkins' boys and girls captured sectional team titles in the Section III Swimming Championships at Oak Harbor Natatorium Saturday.

Perkins amassed 276 points in the girls team standings followed by Oak Harbor (176½), Fostoria (133½), Fremont Ross (126) and Port Clinton (109).

The Pirates won the boys competition with 260 points, 15 better than Oak Harbor.

The main objective of the sectional meet, though, is for individual swimmers to qualify for the District Swimming and Diving Championships at Bowling Green State University Feb. 23-24.

The top three swimmers in each event qualified for district as well as the next 20 best times of all swimmers from sectional meets at Oak Harbor, Napolean, Sylvania Northview and Ashland.

Individual sectional champions included Oak Harbor's Betsy Verb in the girls 200 and 500 free-style swims, Lakota's Fathom Houtz in the girls 50 and 100 free-style events, Lakota's Matt Houtz in the boys 200 individual medley, Oak Harbor's Mark Weber in the boys 50 and 100

freestyle, Port Clinton's David Bodie in the boys 100 butterfly and Port Clinton's Brian Quayle in the boys 100 breaststroke.

Quayle and Bodie also qualified for district in the 200 free-style.

Other district qualifiers included: Tracie Baker (200 free and 500 free), Chase Baker (200 free and 500 free), Chris Schaaf (200 IM and breaststroke), Kevin Wagner (220 IM and 100 free), Ronelle Mahr (50 free and butterfly), Dave Tallman (butterfly), Shannon Vaffis (10 free), Angie Sprenger (100 free) and Kent Huffman (backstroke) of Ross;

Kevin Witt (200 free and butterfly), Joe Tack (200 IM and butterfly), Bob Verb (200 IM and 500 free), David Heintz (200 IM and backstroke), Nathan Stockman (200 IM and breaststroke), Dan Wendt (50 free), Heather Kohli (butterfly and breaststroke), Teresa Buehler (500 free), Ane Schultz (500 free), Bryon Peters (500 free), Sarah Henn (backstroke), Clark Oakley (backstroke) and Shawn Pointer (breaststroke) of Oak Harbor;

Boys and girls medley and freestyle relay teams from Ross, Oak Harbor and Port Clinton also qualified for the district swimming and diving meet.

Blair

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vers in each of four sectionals, the next 20 best scores also qualify for the district meet.

In the girls diving, Jennifer Herl of Port Clinton was second and teammate Melisa Fahey was third. Herl had 330 points for her 11 dives and Fahey 298 despite a failed dive. Amy Spitler of Perkins won with 366 points.

The 2-3 finishes earned the Port Clinton divers berths in the district diving next weekend at Bowling Green State University.

The sectional swimming meet begins at 11 a.m. today.