

1991 Buckeye Central Conference...



THE ROSS BOYS swim team is comprised of, front row, left to right: Chris Schaaf, David Zinkand, Troy Geller, Matt McCabe, Geoff Streeter; Second row: James Sebetto, Jay Hull, Allyn Spanfellner, Joe Pemberton, Ryan Vogel, John Abdo; Back row: diving coach Bob Lozano, Aaron King, John Popocca, Kent Huffman,

Ryan Wing, Kevin Wagner, Craig Eppley, Lee Huffman, David Tallman and head coach Tom Thomson. Missing from the photo is Chase Baker as well as assistant coaches Gil Root, Chris Black, Portia Thomas and Brian Koenig.

Ross chasing Findlay in BCC swim meet

By **BOB MARKER**
Staff writer

Fremont Ross will compete in its final Buckeye Central Conference Swim Meet Saturday at Denison University Natatorium in Granville.

As in the previous four, Findlay's boys and girls will be the teams to beat and no team has accomplished that task in the short BCC history.

For Ross, it will be the final chance at the Trojans before the Aqua Giants switch to the Great Lakes League next fall.

"We have consistently finished second to Findlay," Ross coach Tom Thomson said.

Ross, however slipped last year, finishing fourth in both the boys and girls scoring.

According to Thomson, the southern three teams of the BCC — Lancaster, Zanesville and Newark — usually have had a few good individuals, but little depth in the past conference league meets, leaving nearly a two-team meet between Findlay and Ross.

"We should be strong in both boys and girls freestyle relays (200 and 400)," Thompson said, "and in the freestyle events."

Chase Baker, Allyn Spanfellner, Joe Pemberton and Chris Schaaf lead the Ross freestylers while the quartet of Tracie Baker, Sarah Moore, Ronelle Mahr and Angie Sprenger anchor the girls freestylers.

"Our butterfly people (David

Tallman and Mahr) will do well," Thomson said, "and we will take the points we can get in the other events."

The meet falls during "taper time" for Ross, and Thomson has had his team swimming more yardage in practice the last two weeks.

"The kids have consistently been swimming the times we started out with — they have not been much quicker or much slower," he said, "but Monday we begin our 'taper' and that usually means faster times."

"Taper" means cutting back on the yardage so the body can recover, Thomson said.

The "taper" is in preparation for the sectional meets the following weekend.

The diving warmups begin at 11 a.m. Saturday with the diving competition at noon. Swim warmups follow the diving with the competition beginning at 2 p.m.

John Brown of host Newark estimates the meet will finish at approximately 4:30 p.m. with the awards at 5 p.m.

Directions to the Denison Natatorium supplied by the BCC:

Take State Route 53 south to U.S. 23 south to Delaware; Take 37 east out of Delaware to the Route 661 intersection. Go north on 661. Denison is located on the north edge of Granville on 661. The fieldhouse/natatorium is located next to the football stadium.



THE AQUA GIANTS girls swim team is comprised of, front row, left to right: Tracy Smith, Sarah Moore, Heather Mears, Molly Zinkand, Shannon Vaffis, Leslie Hasselbach; Back row: head coach

Tom Thomson, Wiebke Hartmann, Angel Ritchey, Brandy Cooley, Tracie Baker, Angie Sprenger, Ronelle Mahr and diving coach Bob Lozano. Missing from the photo is Sheila Poust.

Ross girls, boys second at BCC swim meet

News-Messenger reports

GRANVILLE — Findlay won, but the showing turned in by Fremont Ross gave goose bumps to its coach Saturday at the Buckeye Central Conference Swimming and Diving Meet.

Ross was runner-up to the Trojans in both the boys and girls meets as expected, but how the Aqua Giants did it was what amazed coach Tom Thomson.

"The big surprise," Thomson said, "is how well we finished overall; we knew we would finish second, but not as close we did."

Findlay won the boys meet with 190 points with Ross at 170. Lancaster was next with 121 and Newark finished on the bottom.

Findlay had 184 points while Ross had 151. Newark was next with 136 and Lancaster was fourth.

Zanesville does not have a boys or girls swim team.

"We thought Findlay would score more points," Thomson said, "but if we did not win the events, we usually scored as well as Findlay with other finishes."



BAKER



THOMSON

"I had goose bumps in some events," he continued, "because for the most part, everyone swam better than they had all season, and really, they are tired right now because we have not started our taper."

Ross did not have divers in the boys meet, putting them in a hole before the meets started.

"That's no excuse," Thomson said, "because I can remember us doing that when we had B.J. Blair and Chad Root."

While the Aqua Giants brought home runner-up honors, Thomson was named the conference girls coach of the year, but he scoffed at it being a personal award.

"The coach award is actually

a team award; I would not have won it if the team had not worked so hard," he said.

Rock Snow of Findlay won the boys coach of the year honor.

Tracie Baker set a meet and school record in the 500-yard freestyle to lead the Ross girls. Baker won the event in five minutes, 32.09 seconds, breaking the Ross record of 5:32.7 set by Heather Winning in 1981.

Baker also swam on Ross's winning 200 free relay along with Sarah Moore, Angie Sprenger and Ronelle Mahr. The squad finished in 1:48.3, a meet record because it is the first time the event has been swam in the meet. The same squad also finished second in the 400 freestyle relay. Baker was third in the 200 free.

Ross diver Leslie Hasselbach won the fifth consecutive diving championship for Ross.

The Ross girls finished second in the medley and freestyle relays. Brandi Cooley, Sheila

Poust, Heather Mears and Shannon Vaffis comprised that team.

Other runner-up finishes went to Moore in the 200 and 100 freestyles, the latter in a season-best 57.01 seconds; Mahr in the 50 free and 100 butterfly; and Mears in the 100 breaststroke.

The Aqua Giants boys did not take any firsts but had six runners-up finishes.

The medley, 200 and 400 freestyle relay teams all took second.

The medley team of Kent Huffman, Lee Huffman, Dave Tallman and Chase Baker finished in 1:53.15. Joe Pemberton, Kevin Wagner, Chris Schaaf and Allyn Spanfellner made up the 200 team which posted a 1:35.51 and the quartet of Schaaf, Wagner, Baker and Spanfellner finished the 400 in 3:31.23.

Other second-place finishes for Ross included Spanfellner in the 200 free, Dave Tallman in the 100 butterfly and Baker in the 500 freestyle.

Lowest Prices in Years!

High School Girls

BCC Meet

Fremont Ross finishes in Saturday's Buckeye Central Conference Swimming and Diving Meet. The finishes were inadvertently omitted from The News-Messenger Monday.

Team standings: 1-Findlay 184, 2-Ross 151, 3-Newark 136, 4-Lancaster.

Ross finishes

Medley relay: 2nd (Brandi Cooley, Sheila Poust, Heather Mears, Shannon Vaffis) 2:04.31.

200 free: Sarah Moore, 2nd, 2:04.21; Tracie Baker, 3rd, 2:05.22.

200 individual medley: Mears, 4th, 2:34.94.

50 free: Ronelle Mahr, 2nd, 27.43; Vaffis, 5th, 28.49.

Diving: Leslie Hasselbach, 1st.

100 butterfly: Mahr, 2nd, 1:05.84.

100 free: Moore, 2nd, 57.01; Angie Sprenger, 6th, 1:01.43.

500 free: Baker, 1st, 5:32.09 (Meet and Ross school record. Old school record was 5:32.7 held by Heather Winning in 1981.)

200 free relay: 1st (Moore, Sprenger, Mahr, Baker), 1:48.3 (Meet record, new event).

100 backstroke: Cooley, 3rd, 1:21.83.

100 breaststroke: Mears, 2nd, 1:20.24.

400 free relay: 2nd (Moore, Sprenger, Mahr, Baker), 4:00.63.

High School Boys

BCC Meet

Team standings: 1-Findlay 190, 2-Ross 170, 3-Lancaster 121, 4-Newark.

Ross finishes

Medley relay: 2nd (Kent Huffman, Lee Huffman, Dave Tallman, Chase Baker), 1:53.15.

200 free: Allyn Spanfellner, 2nd, 1:54.2; Baker, 4th, 2:00.06.

200 individual medley: David Zinkand, 4th, 2:31.79; L. Huffman, 5th, 2:33.42.

50 free: Tallman, 6th, 24.26.

100 butterfly: Tallman, 2nd, 59.06.

100 free: Kevin Wagner, 4th, 53.14; Chris Schaaf, 5th, 53.49.

500 free: Baker, 2nd, 5:21.65; Spanfellner, 3rd, 5:21.75.

200 free relay: 2nd (Joe Pemberton, Wagner, Schaaf, Spanfellner) 1:35.51.

100 backstroke: K. Huffman, 3rd, 1:05.51; Zinkand, 4th, 1:08.89.

100 breaststroke: L. Huffman, 4th, 1:13.26; Troy Geller, 5th, 1:16.21.

400 free relay: 2nd (Schaaf, Wagner, Baker, Spanfellner) 3:31.23; 4th (Craig Eppley, Pemberton, Ryan Wing, K. Huffman), 3:54.84.