

2004 Greater Buckeye Conference...

GBC TOURNAMENT

Not up to par

Giants stumble at GBC, but still finish in second

By MATTHEW HORN
Sports Writer

HURON — Do the dizzle. As in get it done — or do the deed.

That has been the collective rallying cry prior to matches for the Fremont Ross golf team.

And with few exceptions, the group has done just that this season.

The Little Giants, after all, established course records of 140 for nine

holes at Sandusky and Napoleon this year and captured the 18-hole Genoa Invitational with a 294 on Saturday.

Ross, however, was not up to par for the Greater Buckeye Conference Tournament at Sawmill Creek as the group fired a collective 329 for second place on Tuesday.

"Today was not our best day," Ross coach Mark Miesle said. "With the competition among ourselves, we hoped someone would step up. Right now, that's not happening."

Findlay, which the Little Giants had defeated twice previously, carded a 303 on Tuesday.

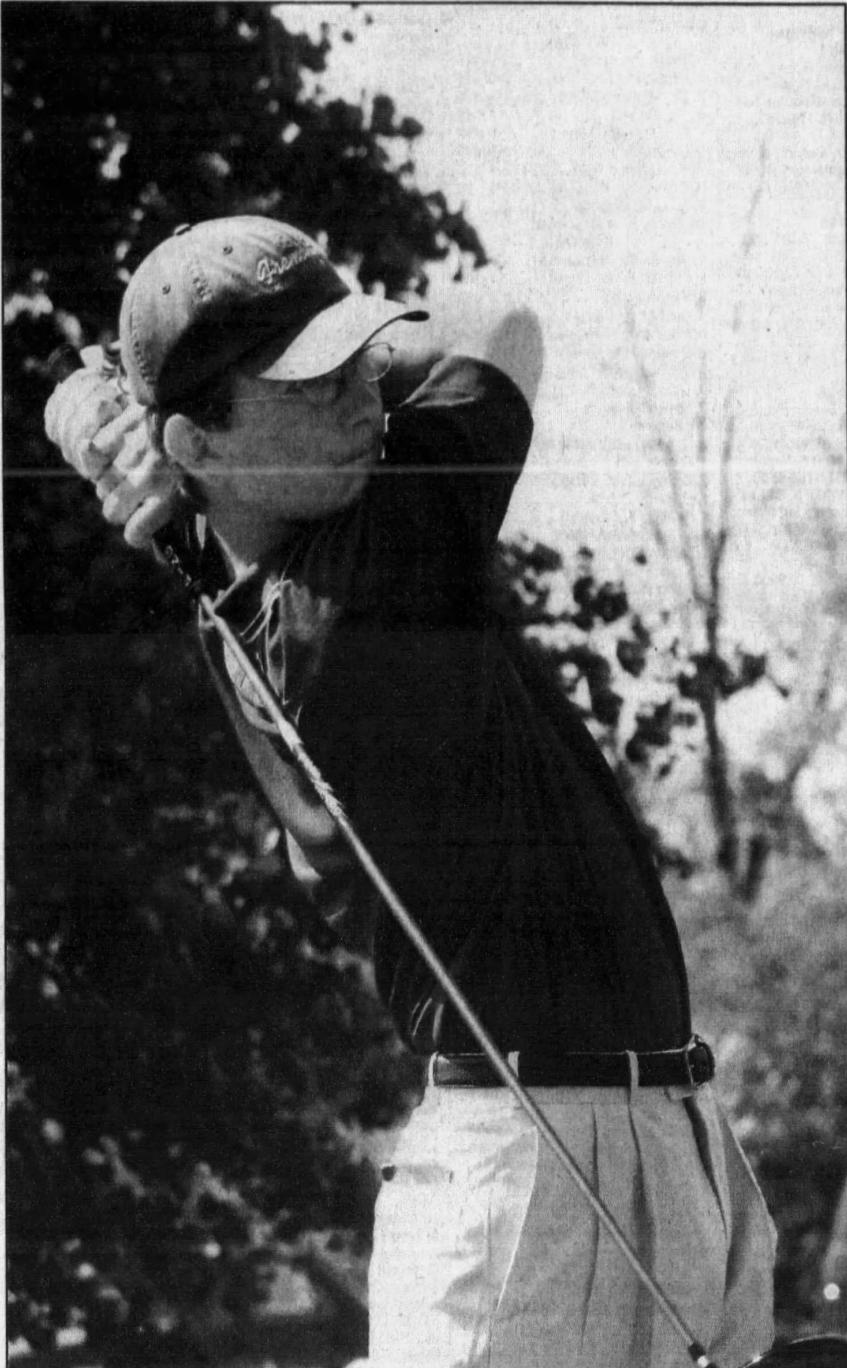
Steven Drake (74) and Trevor Ballinger (74) shared GBC Player of the Year honors. Three Trojans fired better rounds than the lowest Ross score and one matched it, and all six players made first- or second-team all-league.

Andrew Aseltine (79) and Grant Hilty (79), a first-year varsity player, were recognized first-team all-GBC and Spencer Schabel (83) made the second-team for the Little Giants.

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More prep

■ Andy Biggert leads the Oak Harbor boys golf team. **Page B3**



News-Messenger/Jennifer Young-Bower

FREMONT ROSS'S Andrew Aseltine shot a 79 to earn first-team all-league honors at the Greater Buckeye Conference tournament at Sawmill Creek in Huron on Tuesday. Ross finished second as a team.

Little Giants have sub-par outing at GBC tournament

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"I know I left some shots out there, but you'll have rounds like that," Aseltine said.

While losing a conference meet as the favorite is certainly discouraging, the Giants can point to two things to buoy their spirits for sectional play next week.

They finished the Willard Invitational in fourth place before rebounding to win the Fremont Invitational three days later earlier in the season, and the team had not played in a windy tour-

nament environment prior to encountering one at Sawmill Creek.

"We haven't played in conditions like this," Aseltine said. "I don't think we were completely prepared to play in the wind. With that, we have to find a way to play better in the wind. The next two events will be windy."

"We know what we did wrong, and we'll have to use that to our advantage," he continued. "We'll practice in it this week and do as much as we can regardless of the weather. We'll find a way to minimize our mistakes. If you keep doing the same things over

and over, you aren't doing much to get better."

Miesle said familiarity with a course is a major factor for some golfers, and Tuesday marked the Little Giants' only trip to Sawmill Creek. Many of the Ross players also hit high off the tee, which can lend itself to havoc on a windy day.

Ross had hoped to take its first conference tournament since the mid 1970s.

"It's disappointing," Miesle said. "We really believed we were the best team coming in. It didn't turn out that way. We were

looking forward to winning.

"This won't discourage the guys for long," Miesle continued. "With their personality as a whole, they have the ability to put things behind them. I do think they can bounce back."

Ross's next chance to do that dizzle will be at sectionals on Oct. 8 at Westbrook Country Club in Mansfield. The team's goal of advancing to state is still attainable.

"We are prepared," Hilty said. "We've had tough competition. We just have to put it on the course."

Golf

High School Boys GBC Tournament

Team standings

1. Findlay	303
2. Ross	329
3. Sandusky	342
4. Napoleon	357
5. Marion Harding	417
6. Lima Senior	476

First-team

Steven Drake (F) 74, Trevor Ballinger (F) 74, Davin Fahl (F) 76, Shawn Bahnsen (S) 78, Eric Haywood (F) 79, Andrew Aseltine (R) 79, Grant Hilty (79)

Second-team

Travis Ballinger (F) 80, Dominick Fravsto (S) 83, Tyler Mock (N) 83, Spencer Schabel (R) 83, Anthony Alessi (F) 84.

For Ross — Aseltine 79, Hilty 79, Schabel 83, Kevin Vassar 88, Scott King 88, Austin Young 99.