



Soccer

Findlay scores late goal to beat Ross

News-Messenger reports

FINDLAY — Findlay scored on a penalty kick in the 79th minute and beat Fremont Ross 1-0 in a Great Lakes League soccer game on Tuesday.

Rob Straight made five saves for the Little Giants (0-1, 0-1). Kyle Myers and Craig Hickey each had 12 intercepts and Zach White had 10 for Ross.

The Little Giants will travel to North Olmsted to take on the defending state champions on Saturday.

In junior varsity action, Ross beat Findlay for the first time in five years, posting a 3-0 victory in its season opener. Dan Tin, Michael Lozano and Derek Sprouse scored for the Little Giants. Doug Steinberger had an assist.

BOYS SOCCER

North Olmsted 7, Ross 1

NORTH OLMSTED — The Fremont Ross boys soccer team suffered its second loss in as many games Saturday as the North Olmsted Eagles defeated the Little Giants 7-1.

North Olmsted outshot the Little Giants 18-2. Mike Salas scored Fremont's only goal. Adam Swope got the assist.

Defensively, goalkeeper Rob Straight had 11 saves. Craig Hickey had 15 intercepts, Kyle Myers had 13 intercepts, and Brian McCoed 9 intercepts. Ross falls to 0-2, 0-1 GLL.

Ross will play its first home game at 5 p.m. Wednesday against Toledo St. Francis.

BOYS SOCCER

St Francis 1, Fremont Ross 0

TOLEDO — St. Francis scored the only goal in the 25th minute of the first half as the Knights handed the Little Giants their third defeat, 1-0, Wednesday night at Verity Kelsey Hayes Field.

Fremont (0-3) managed only three shots on goal to nine for St. Francis. Ross goalkeeper Rob Straight had four saves. Defenders Craig Hickey had 10 intercepts and Kyle Myers recorded seven intercepts.

Ross boys soccer picks up first win

The Fremont Ross boys soccer team won its first game of the season Thursday with a 4-1 victory over Clay at Alumni Field.

Mike Salas scored two goals, Matt Salas had one goal and Derek Dalton added the other for Ross (1-3, 1-1 in the Great Lakes League).

Assists on the goals were given to Jared Stull, Rob Straight, Dalton, and Tim Holman. Ross had 33 shots on goal to three for Clay.

Defensively, goalkeeper Rob Straight recorded two saves. Craig Mickey and Kyle Myers both had eight intercepts.

Fremont travels to Tiffin Columbian on Monday for a game against the Tornadoes.

BOYS SOCCER

Ross 5, Tiffin Columbian 0

TIFFIN — Mike Salas scored a goal and had two assists to lead Ross past Columbian.

Other scorers were Derek Dalton, Kyle Daugherty, Dan Tin and Adam Swope. Brian Kaltenbach, Tim Holman and Jared Stall were credited for the remaining assists.

Defensively, the Little Giants were led by Craig Hickey, who had 13 intercepts, and Kyle Myers, who contributed 10 intercepts. Zach White and Brian McCord had five intercepts apiece.

Fremont outshot Tiffin 12-5 and goalkeeper Rob Straight had 3 saves. Ross is now 2-3, 0-1 in the GLL. The Giants travel Tuesday to Lorain Southview.

Giants boot Saints

Salas, Stull score twice as Ross rolls

News-Messenger reports

The Ross boys soccer team improved its Great Lakes League record to 2-1 with a 6-2 victory over Lorain Southview on Wednesday.

Mike Salas led the team with two goals and an assist. Jared Stull also had two goals, Derek Dalton added a goal and an assist and Craig Hickey scored on a penalty kick. Kyle Daugherty, Adam Swope and Dan Tin had assists for the Little Giants.

Defensively, the Little Giants limited Southview to three shots. Kyle Myers had 15 intercepts, Craig Hickey

added 14 intercepts, and Brian McCord and Zack White had eight intercepts apiece.

Ross will play at 5 p.m. Thursday at Lorain Admiral King.

GOLF

Gibsonburg 176, Seneca East 182

The Bears got their second win of the season with a victory over Seneca East Wednesday at Sycamore Hills.

Craig Mintz and Ricky Hausman led their team with a pair of 43s. AJ Sleek followed closely with a 44 and Brian Wasil shot a 46.

BOYS SOCCER

Fremont 4, Lorain Admiral King 2

The Fremont Ross boys soccer team won its fourth straight game by defeating Lorain Admiral King 4-2 on Thursday.

The four Ross goals were scored by Adam Swope, Dan Tin, Brian Kaltenbach and Jared Stull. Assists were credited to Derek Dalton, Kyle Myers and Adam Swope.

Defensively, Ross (4-3, 3-1) was led by sweeper Craig Hickey, who recorded 17 intercepts, and Kyle Myers who had 15 intercepts. Brian McCord and Zach White had 8 intercepts apiece. Fremont outshot Lorain 18-4.

BOYS SOCCER

Ross 9, Sandusky 1

SANDUSKY — Ross limited the Blue Streaks to one shot on goal, a penalty kick that accounted for Sandusky's only tally, in a Great Lakes League victory Tuesday.

Adam Swope and Doug Steinberger scored two goals apiece for the Little Giants (5-4, 4-1 GLL). Matt Salas, Mike Salas, Derek Dalton, Brian Kaltenbach and Dan Tin also recorded goals. Kaltenbach had two assists, while Kyle Daugherty and Kyle Myers added one apiece.

Defensively, Brian McCord had eight intercepts, and Craig Hickey and Mike Salas had seven apiece.

Ross dropped a 1-0 decision to Napoleon on Monday.

The Giants are home for Findlay at 5 p.m. Thursday.

Giants knock off Findlay

Salas leads Ross into GLL penthouse

By MICHAEL PIDANICK
Staff writer

There's sort of an unwritten rule for most Fremont Ross athletes that says if a team comes to town wearing jerseys that say Findlay, beat it.

The Trojans brought their second-tier soccer team to Alumni Field on Thursday, and the Little Giants devoured them in a 3-0 Great Lakes League win that was not as close as the score indicated.

"This is great," senior defender Zach White said. "I've been waiting to beat these guys since I was a freshman. We've always kind of idolized this team because they were always the cream of the crop. To finally beat them is kind of surreal."

Senior Mike Salas scored twice and senior Derek Dalton netted another for the Little Giants, who improved to 6-4 overall and 5-1 in the GLL and took a half-game lead on Findlay (5-2-1, 5-1-1) atop the league.

"This is the most important game of the year for us; this is the GLL title right here," Salas said. "I think this shows we're a lot better team than people think we are."

On Aug. 29, Ross dominated Findlay but couldn't score and dropped a 1-0 decision. But on Thursday, Ross outshot Findlay 18-0 and controlled the ball for

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virtually the entire game.

"The bottom line is it's Findlay and that's how these (Ross) guys look at it," Ross coach Jeff Pendry said. "It's been a dream of every group of seniors to beat them, and this group did it."

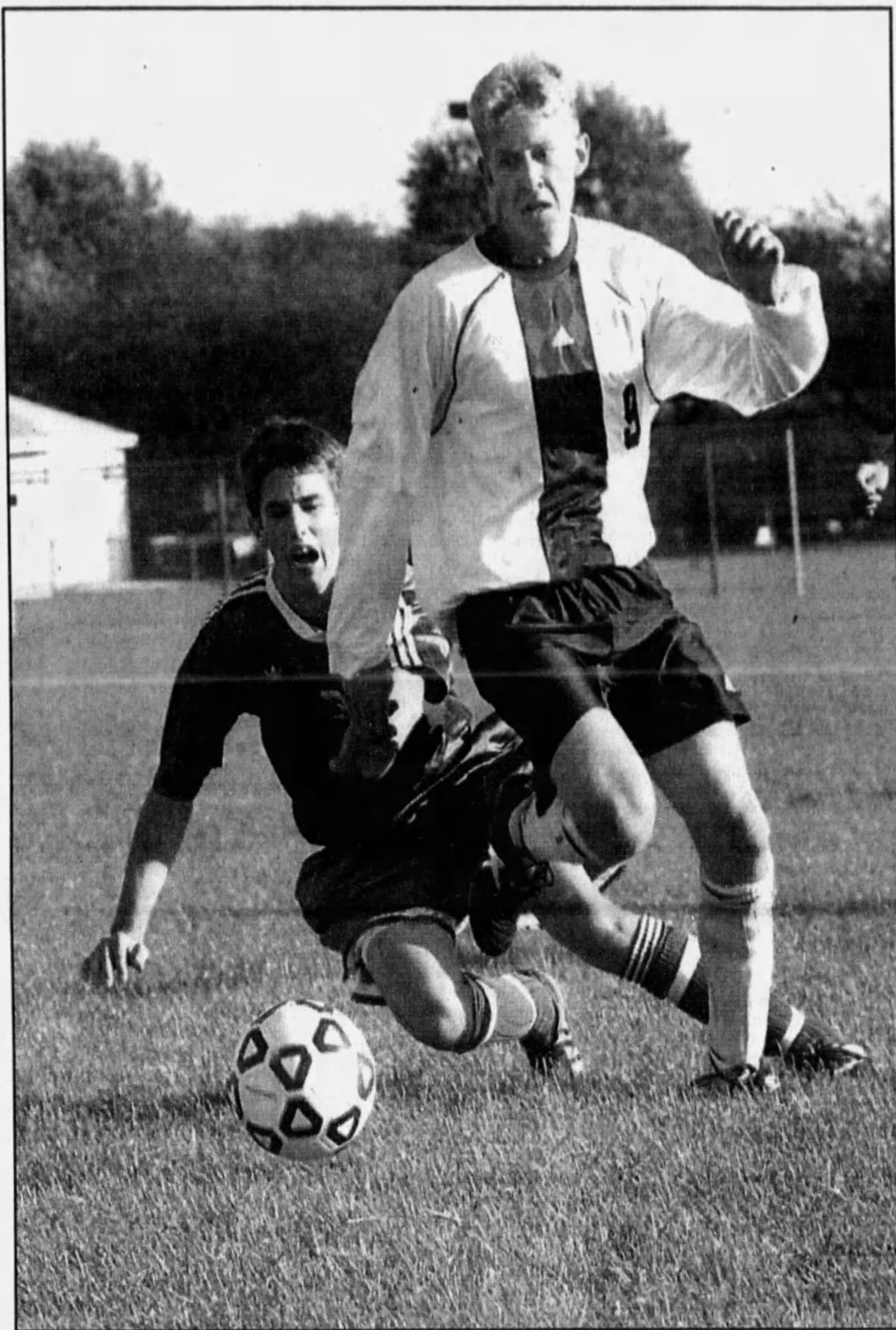
"It is their second group, and it's clear that they're the second group because we dominated both games. I think a lot of our guys would probably like the opportunity to play the upper team, to see what would happen."

Last season, the Trojans outscored GLL foes 98-2 and easily won the league. To increase competition this season, the Trojans elected to split their varsity program into two teams. The top team plays some state powers from Cleveland, Cincinnati, Dayton and Columbus, while the second-level team, which is essentially the junior varsity team, takes on league competition.

"We wanted to toughen our schedule up for our true varsity team," said Bill Geaman, coach of Findlay's second-tier team. "That way they may a little more tournament-ready."

"I'm very pleased with this (second-tier) group."

See GIANTS, B2



DEREK DALTON of Ross dribbles past a Findlay defender during Thursday's 3-0 Little Giant victory at Alumni Field. Dalton scored a goal.

News-Messenger photos/Ben French

Giants proud of Findlay victory

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This is good for them; games are a lot harder than they would be if we were playing the jayvee teams in the league."

For the first 50 minutes, the Little Giants left themselves in position to let another one slip away. Although they dominated play, the Little Giants failed to capitalize on their numerous opportunities until Salas headed home a pass from Brian McCord with 25:37 left in the game.

"That was a gorgeous pass," Salas said. "I just jumped and wished it would go in the goal."

The goal was much-needed, according to Pendry, who said a cheap goal by the Trojans could have caused a momentum shift.

"That goal definitely gave us some ease," the coach said. "When you're controlling a team, the longer you go without scoring, the more they're in the game, which usually brings down the whole mentality of our team. We definitely needed something like that, because it caused our guys to relax."

Dalton put the Little Giants in control of the scoreboard nine minutes later, when he scored of an assist from Jeff Schwochow. Salas iced it with 9:26 left, taking a pass from Jarred Stull and drilling it home with his left foot.

The Ross and Findlay junior varsity teams battled to a 1-1 draw. Mike Lozano scored for the Little Giants (5-2-1, 4-0-1).

BOYS SOCCER

Ross 4, Southview 1

The Little Giants won their seventh consecutive GLL match Saturday at Alumni Field.

Jared Stull and Mike Salas each had a goal and an assist for Ross (8-4, 7-1 GLL). Kyle Daugherty and Aaron Swope scored the other two goals, while Derek Dalton added an assist.

Craig Hickey led the Ross defense with 18 interceptions. Kyle Myers added 13 interceptions, Brian McCord contributed 12 and Zach White had eight.

The Ross junior varsity team improved to 7-2-1 with a 4-1 victory.

The Little Giants host Lorain Admiral King at 5 p.m. Tuesday.

By TIMOTHY R. WOLFRUM
Sports editor

The Fremont Ross girls soccer team exploded for six goals in the second half to ease past Toledo Whitmer 7-0 Thursday in a Great Lakes League contest at Alumni Field.

Freshman Shannon Hickey led the way with two goals. Tiffany Howard and Allison Derr each contributed a goal and an assist. Nicki Straight, Britini Werling and Johanna Wearsch scored a goal apiece. Marissa Rodriguez added an assist.

"It was a total team effort," Ross coach Scott McVeigh said. "At halftime, it was 1-0, and the team really came together in the second half."

Ross is 11-3, 9-2 in the GLL.

The Little Giants won the junior varsity match 2-1.

Ross is at Norwalk on Saturday.

BOYS SOCCER

Ross 4, Whitmer 2

TOLEDO — Mike Salas broke the school record for

career assists by dishing out three as the Little Giants inched closer to a GLL crown.

Salas has 19 career assists, one more than Nik Wearsch, who graduated in 1998.

Adam Swope scored a hat trick for Ross (10-4, 9-1 GLL), which needs to win its final two league matches to clinch the school's first GLL crown. Derek Dalton added the other goal for the Little Giants. Kyle Daugherty had an assist.

Craig Hickey's 19 intercepts led the Ross defense. Kyle Myers had 14 intercepts and Salas and Zach White had 10 apiece. Goalkeeper Rob Straight had four saves.

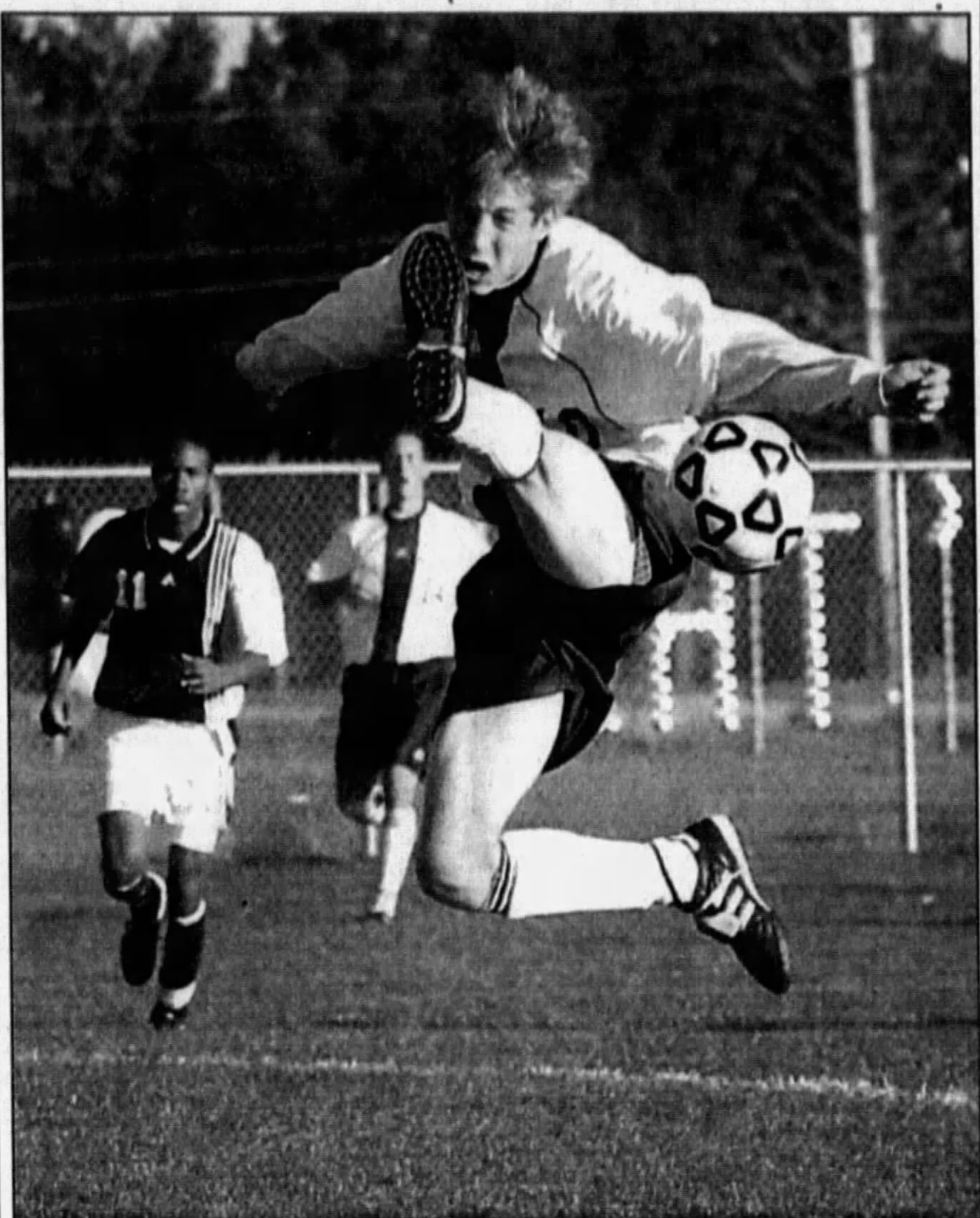
The Little Giants host Sandusky on Tuesday.

VOLLEYBALL

Calvert 15-15, St. Joe 6-7

TIFFIN — St. Joe fell to 12-8 overall and 3-5 in the Midland Athletic League with a loss on Thursday.

See CLYDE, B5



News-Messenger photos/Ben French

ADAM SWOPE of Fremont Ross swings and misses in front of the goal during Tuesday's victory over Sandusky at Alumni Field. Sandusky's Matt Harris (11) and Ross's Brian McCord (14) give chase.

A Pyrrhic pounding

Ross loses key player in GLL romp

By **TIMOTHY R. WOLFRUM**
Sports editor

It could have been the perfect Senior Night for the Fremont Ross boys soccer team Tuesday at Alumni Field.

But the 9-1 victory over Sandusky won't be remembered for the goals scored by five of the six seniors or for the career points record set by junior Adam Swope.

It might even be hard to recall that the nine goals were scored by nine different Little Giants.

That's because of what happened to the lone senior who didn't score a goal, forward Derek Dalton.

Dalton drew a red card — and with it an automatic disqualification for tonight's Great Lakes League finale at Whitmer and next Tuesday's tournament opener — when he got involved in a melee three minutes into the second half.

The ejection means the Little Giants (11-4, 10-1 GLL) will be without one of their key players as they try to clinch the school's first GLL crown. A victory over Whitmer would hand Ross the crown outright.

"The red card pretty much has us down," said se-



SANDUSKY'S KURT MASCHARI pulls down Ross player Brian Baacke during a fight between the two players in the second half Tuesday. Brian Kaltenebach (17) of Ross approaches the melee. Ross player Derek Dalton (not pictured) was handed a red card when he rushed in to assist Baacke.

nior midfielder Mike Salas, who scored a goal and had two assists. "We're missing a strong player now for tomorrow. That really hurt us, kind of screwed us over."

Dalton rushed in to break up a fight between Sandusky senior captain Kurt Maschari and Ross senior forward Brian Baacke. Maschari and Baacke traded elbows near the top of the box in front of the Ross goal, then Maschari pulled Baacke to the ground, flipping him pro-wrestling style.

Dalton charged in to assist Baacke, but it was unclear whether he threw a punch at Maschari or simply separated the two players.

Maschari was given a red card and ejected from the match as well. Baacke remained and later scored a goal.

"The Sandusky kid took down our guy," Ross coach Jeff Pendry said. "I think that's the foul the ref was

See ROSS, B3

Ross boys one win from GLL title

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calling. Derek pushed the one guy off of our guy. It didn't look to me like he hit the guy. ... The ref said they both threw punches. I didn't agree with that."

Otherwise, Ross enjoyed a rather restful tune-up for the Whitmer match by matching the 9-1 beating it laid on the Blue Streaks on Sept. 19 in Sandusky. The Little Giants led 5-0 at half-time and never looked back.

Seniors Salas, Baacke, Brian Kaltenbach, Kyle Myers and Zach White each scored a goal. Swope added a goal as did Craig Hickey, Jarred Stull and Kyle Daugherty.

Pendry pulled the starters with 15 minutes to play in the match.

"That was kinda nice," Pendry said of the goal sharing. "We could have kept things status quo and easily get more. It's nice that a lot of the seniors scored. I wish I could have said all the seniors scored. They probably would have."

Mateo Fusco scored Sandusky's only goal in the second minute of the second half.



News-Messenger/Ben French

MIKE SALAS of Ross shields Sandusky's Trey Hart from the ball.

Swope added an assist to bring his career total to 76 points, a combination of assists and goals. He broke Jason Strayer's five-year-old record. Swope needs one more goal to tie the career goals mark of 31 held by Strayer.

Also Tuesday, Salas and Stull tied Dalton for the single-season

assists record with nine.

Now Ross turns its attention to the GLL title, which would be the first one awarded to a team other than Findlay. For the first time this year, Findlay devoted its top team to a non-GLL schedule, leaving its B team to play the league matches. Ross has split with the Trojans, but they have two other ties.

The Little Giants defeated Whitmer 4-2 on Thursday. Ross and Whitmer meet at 7 p.m. today at Whitmer.

"It's something no Fremont team has ever done," Pendry said. "Granted, the situation might have been made a little bit easier with the second Findlay team. But, still, it's an accomplishment nobody has ever achieved except for Findlay."

Said Salas, "This is the first one we're going to win. We better win tomorrow. We have to win to win the GLL title."

Ross meets Toledo St. John's at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Division I sectional at Perrysburg. Sylvania Southview and Whitmer play at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Salas goal wins GLL

News-Messenger reports

TOLEDO — Mike Salas scored the match's only goal early in the second half as the Fremont Ross boys soccer team clinched the school's first Great Lakes League soccer title with a 1-0 victory over Whitmer on Wednesday.

In the 14th minute of the second half, Salas connected from 30 yards away on a direct free kick. The Little Giants held on from there, thwarting several scoring chances by the Panthers.

Ross finishes the regular season at 12-4 overall, 11-1 in the GLL. The Little Giants meet Toledo St. John's at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Division I sectional tournament at Perrysburg High School.

Craig Hickey led the staunch Ross defense with 15 intercepts Wednesday. Brian McCord and Kyle Myers had nine intercepts apiece, and Zach White contributed seven intercepts. Goalkeeper Rob Straight had three saves.

The Little Giants outshot Whitmer 9-5.

Ross was playing without senior forward Derek Dalton, who drew a red card while breaking up a fight Tuesday against Sandusky. Dalton will also miss Tuesday's sectional opener.

BOYS SOCCER

Standings

	League			All Games		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Fremont Ross	.11	1	0	12	5	0
Findlay	.7	2	3	11	5	0
Whitmer	.7	5	0	7	9	1
Southview	.6	5	1	6	7	5
Clay	.5	7	0	5	10	0
Admiral King	.3	7	2	5	9	2
Sandusky	.0	12	0	1	15	0

First Team All GLL

Phil Konczal	Clay	Sr.
Adam Swope	Ross	Jr.
Anthony Santana	Southview	Sr.
Cody Sonnett	Findlay	Soph.
Justin Hart	Whitmer	Sr.
Nathan Smicker	Admiral King	Sr.
Brett Crumley	Southview	Sr.
Kevin Kowalski	Whitmer	Sr.
Mike Salas	Ross	Sr.
Derek Dalton	Ross	Sr.

Goalie: Nick Hannah, Findlay, Soph.

GLL Player of the Year: Adam Swope, Ross.

GLL Coach of the Year: Jeff Pendry, Ross.

Second Team

Craig Hickey (Ross, Jr.), Brendon Reed (Findlay, Soph.), Omor Bozok (Findlay, Sr.), John Aston (Admiral King, Sr.), Nick Sullivan (Sandusky, Soph.), Mike Fry (Findlay, Soph.), Matthew Vincek (Admiral King, Fr.), Kyle Myers (Ross, Sr.), Jarred Stull (Ross, Jr.), Matt Dillon (Findlay, Soph.), Jay Harrington (Clay, Sr.)

Goalkeeper: Damien Aponte, Lorain Southview, Jr.

Honorable Mention

Admiral King: Jonathan Vincek (Sr.), Iain Wright (Sr.), Gareth Hannigan (Fr.).

Clay: Matt Katschke (Sr.), Rob Sutphin (Fr.), Josh Kneisley (Fr.).

Findlay: Matt Podach (Soph.), Stewart Arnett (Soph.), Kosuke Ishida (Soph.).

Ross: Zack White (Sr.), Robbie Straight (Soph.), Brian Kaltenbach (Sr.).

Sandusky: Dan Albert (Soph.), Matt Harris (Soph.).

Southview: Josh Fozzie (Soph.), John Cozart (Sr.).

Whitmer: Chad Bolles (Sr.), Garrett Harmon (Sr.), Nick Thielen (Sr.).

Boys Soccer

Offensive MVP: Adam Swope

Defensive MVP: Craig Hickey

Captain's: Mike Salas, Derek Dalton,

Kyle Myers

Little Giant Award: Kyle Myers

Girls Soccer