

Clyde defeats Ross, 3-2

News-Messenger reports

CLYDE — Brad Durdell's third-court singles victory over Jay Farrell was the pivotal match as Clyde defeated Fremont Ross 3-2 at Hendricks Park Wednesday.

Ross won both matches on the doubles courts, and the Fliers won the two matches on the No. 1 and No. 2 singles courts.

Durdell beat Farrell 7-5, 7-6. Two matches went three sets. Carsten Sudheimer lost a first-set tiebreaker, but he bounced back to defeated Bill Flower 6-7, 6-1, 6-3 on the first singles court.

Rob Hammer and Aaron Waggoner lost the first set to Ben Bennett and Matt Bailey, 1-6, but bounced back for 6-1, 7-5 wins.

Other winners were Clyde's Jeff Murphy at second singles and the Ross doubles team of Neil Sachs and Ryan Newman.

Tennis



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

BILL FLOWER of Fremont Ross stretches to get a shot at the net against Clyde's Carsten Sudheimer during their first-court singles match Thursday.

Ross 3, Norwalk 2

Singles

1-Bill Flower (R) d. Keith Brady 7-5, 6-1; 2-Andrew Humberger (R) d. Jeff Lauderdale 6-3, 5-7, 6-2; 3-Ryan Newman (R) d. Nathan Polek 6-2, 7-5.

Doubles

1-Tom Stewart and Brian Loneway (N) d. Neil Sachs and Jay Farrell 6-1, 5-7, 6-4; 2-Alan Furey and Benjamin Meagrow (N) d. Rob Hammer and Aaron Waggoner 6-1, 6-2.

Records: Ross 1-1, Norwalk 1-2

JV winners: Ian Steinert (R)

Tennis

Bowling Green 3, Ross 2

Singles

1-Bill Flower (R) d. Jeff Hyslop 7-5, 7-6 (7-5); 2-Andrew Humberger (BG) d. Zack Eastlund 1-6, 6-4, 6-4; 3-Matt Barth (BG) d. Ryan Newman 7-5, 6-3.

Doubles

1-Rumzi Araj and Jesse Hale (BG) d. Neil Sachs and Jay Farrell 6-4, 3-6, 6-4; 2-A. J. Smith and Ragesh Thuraiaratnam (BG) d. Rob Hammer and Aaron Waggoner 4-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Record: Bowling Green 4-0, Ross 1-2.

JV Match

Ian Steinert (R) d. Keith Jackson 6-1.

Tennis

Findlay 4, Ross 1

Singles

1-Mike Omlor (F) d. Bill Flower 7-6 (7-5), 6-7, 7-6(7-5); 2-Juan Pablo Romaro (F) d. Andrew Humberger 6-2, 6-0; 3-Ryan Newman (R) d. Jeff Kuhlman 6-4, 6-2.

Doubles

1-Andy Malacos and Nick Jacobson (F) d. Neal Sachs and Jay Farrell 6-2, 6-0; 2-Brett Miller and Zach Schwartz (F) Rob Hammer and Aaron Waggoner 6-2, 7-5.

Records: Ross 1-3, Findlay 1-0.

Tennis

Lexington 5, Ross 0

Singles

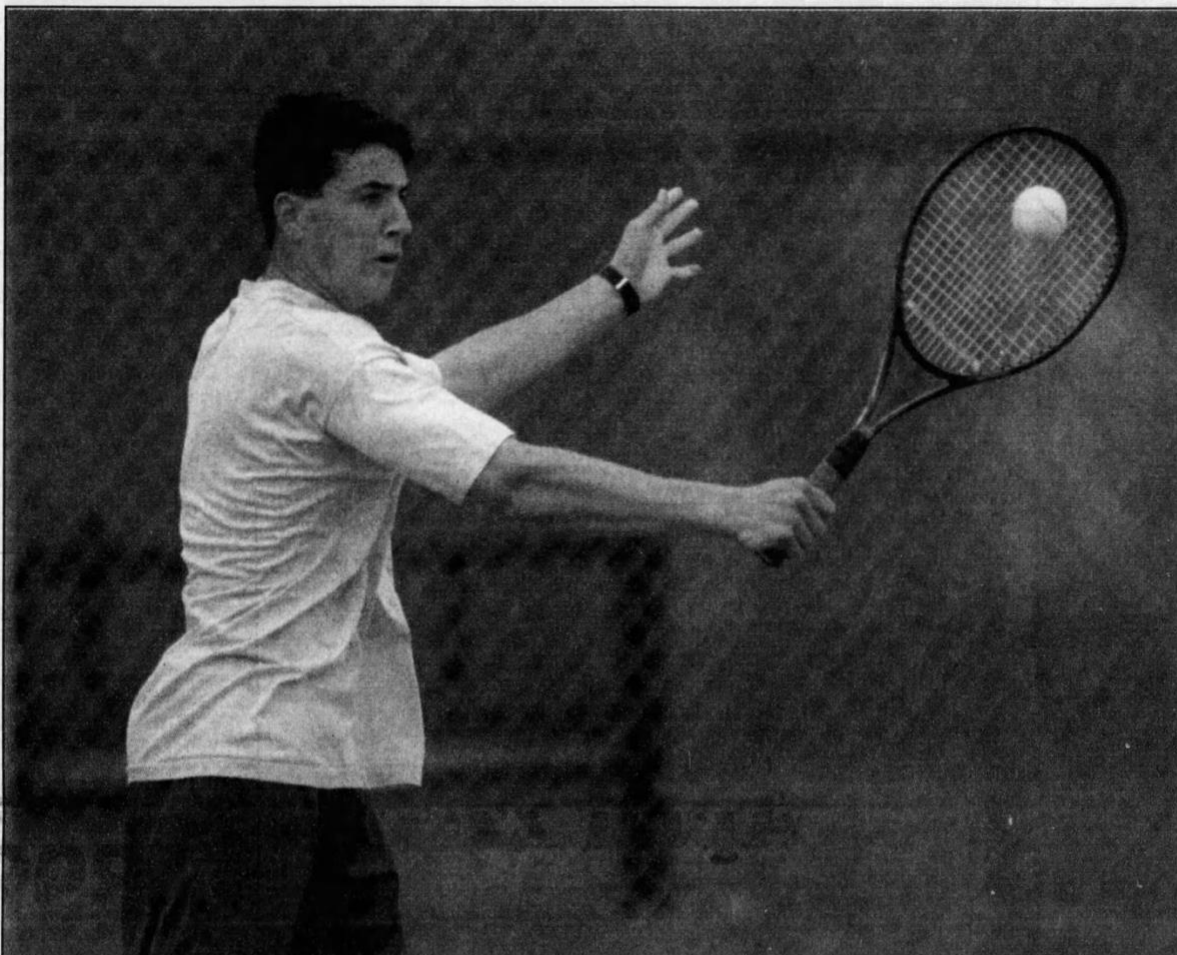
1-Ben Brown (L) d. Bill Flower, 6-0, 6-0; 2-Roger Ogg (L) d. Andy Humberger, 6-0, 6-1; 3-Matt Piper (L) d. Ryan Newman, 6-1, 6-2.

Doubles

1-Jamie Thomas and Alex Rouch (L) d. Neil Sachs and Jay Farrell 6-1, 6-1; 2-Pat Stein and A. Rouch (L) d. Rob Hammer and Ean Steinert, 6-2, 6-4.

Records: Ross 1-5, Lexington 5-1.

A tennis virtuoso



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

BILL FLOWER of Fremont Ross hits a backhand volley during the Little Giants' match with Perrysburg Friday at Roger Young Park.

Flower finds harmony with athletics, jazz

By **BRIAN SPIESS**
Sports editor

Fremont Ross's top tennis player has more training striking ivory keys than overhead smashes.

But despite having just two years tennis experience — compared to seven playing the piano — junior Bill Flower plays No. 1 singles for the Little Giants.

After losing 7-6, 6-2 Friday to

Perrysburg's Chris Jaquette in the Yellow Jackets' 4-1 non-league victory at Roger Young Park, Flower admitted he needed more focus.

"(Playing the piano develops) the concentration to keep focused in the game, which I

Two-sided story

Who: Ross junior Bill Flower

Plays: Tennis, piano

Favorites: Tennis player, Michael Chang; Musical piece to play, *In the Mood*

today at Terra Community College, where he chose to play "In the Mood" for the grand opening of a new building instead of

didn't do real well today," Flower said.

He'll get the chance to work on his concentration away from the court at 10:30 a.m.

competing at the Sandusky Invitational.

Both activities require practice, "as in everything," said Flower, who can't decide if he enjoys piano playing or tennis more.

He does know which is the most unnerving, however.

"Probably tennis, because I've played such a short time,"

See **FLOWER**, B3

Bedford Mules kick Ross to its seventh loss

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross managed a win at second doubles, but Bedford defeated the Little Giants 4-1 in a Great Lakes League match Wednesday.

Tennis

Rob Hammer and Aaron Waggoner combined for a 6-4, 2-6, 6-3 victory on the second doubles court.

Ross (1-7 and 0-3) lost the three singles matches in three sets.

In other matches:

St. Joe 4, St. Paul 1

St. Joe lost only eight games on the singles courts and won for the third time in six matches.

St. Joe's Nathan Ward and Kevin Wagner combined for a 6-4, 7-5 win at No. 2 doubles.

Clyde 5, Oak Harbor 0

Clyde lost one game on the singles courts, and the Fliers' first doubles team of Rick Mapus and Matt Bailey won in three sets.

Streaks edge Rockets

News-Messenger reports

Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic and Oak Harbor played to a tie until the final doubles match — won by the Crimson Streaks.

St. Joe's Nathan Ward and Kevin Wagner beat Andy Loth and Rob Hiss 2-6, 6-4, 7-5 in the second doubles match to give the Streaks a 3-2 win.

St. Joe is 4-3.

Ross 5, Napoleon 0

The Little Giants swept the final tune-up for Saturday's Fremont Ross Doubles Tournament.

Ross (2-7, 1-2) will host the eight-team event, which starts at 9 a.m. at Rodger Young Park.

Clyde 3, Huron 2

Clyde's Carsten Sudheimer beat Matt Wooster 3-6, 7-5, 6-2 to lead the Fliers to a 3-2 win in a Ohio High School Tennis Coaches Association tournament match.

Clyde is 6-1 (2-1).

Huron 3, Clyde 2

Huron's Wooster defeated Clyde's Sudheimer in the three sets in his team's Sandusky Bay Conference win.

Huron is 6-1 (3-0).

Ross 5, Napoleon 0

Singles

1-Bill Flower (R) d. Joel Hammon 3-6, 3-6; 2-Andrew Humberger (R) d. Brian Wentzel 6-3, 6-7 (5-7), 6-2; 3-Ryan Newman (R) d. Zach Hanna 6-0, 7-5.

Doubles

1-Neil Sachs and Jay Farrell (R) d. Kyle Norton and Javan Kline 6-0, 6-4; 2-Rob Hammer and Ian Steinert (R) d. Tim Burke and Scott Austermler 6-2, 6-1.

Records: Ross 2-7 (1-2), Napoleon 3 (2-1).

Ross Doubles Tournament

By winning more sets than Maumee, Fremont Ross won the tiebreaker and finished second to Bowling Green in the team standings.

Maumee Valley Country Day was fourth, Port Clinton placed fifth, Clyde finished sixth, Oak Harbor was seventh and Toledo Waite eighth.

Ross had two runner-up teams. Neil Sachs and Jay Farrell lost in the final third doubles match. Aaron Waggoner and Ian Steinert took second on the No. 4 doubles court.

Tennis team sweeps Whitmer

News-Messenger reports

The Fremont Ross tennis team battled poor conditions and swept Toledo Whitmer 5-0 Tuesday at Rodger Young Park.

Bill Flower won at No. 1 singles, beating Whitmer's Nate Parker 7-6 (7-2), 6-2. Andrew Humberger blanked his opponent, Chuck Marckel, at No. 2 singles.

Ross (3-7, 2-2) plays at Sylvania Northview Thursday.

Fremont Ross 5, Toledo Whitmer 0

Singles

- 1-Bill Flower (R) d. Nate Parker 7-6 (7-2), 6-2;
- 2-Andrew Humberger (R) d. Chuck Marckel 6-0, 6-0;
- 3-Ryan Newman (R) d. Todd O'Neil 6-2, 6-1.

Doubles

- 1-Neil Sachs and Jay Farrell (R) d. Brian Roberts and Derrick Downing 6-0, 6-4;
- 2-Rob Hammer and Ian Steinert (R) d. Pat Wishart and John Pearce 6-0, 6-4.

Tennis

Sylvania Northview 3, Ross 2

Singles

1-Craig Burkhardt (N) d. Bill Flower 5-7, 6-2, 6-0; 2-Will Arant (N) d. Andrew Humberger 4-6, 6-1, 6-0; 3-Ryan Newman (R) d. Brian Loh 6-4, 7-5.

Doubles

1-Jim Schuler and Curtis McKee (N) d. Neil Sachs and Jay Farrell 6-3, 6-1; 2-Rob Hammer and Ean Steinert (R) d. John Karokas and Robbie Fitzgerald 6-0, 6-2.

Records: Ross 3-7 (2-3). Northview (3-2).

Ross 4, Clay 1

The Little Giants lost just three games on the singles courts and improved their record to 4-7 and 3-3 in the Great Lakes League.

Bill Flower, Andrew Humberger and Ryan Newman won singles matches for Ross. Newman did not lose a game at third singles.

Rob Hammer and Ian Steinert were winners on the second doubles court.

Oregon Clay is 3-7 and 1-5.

GLL tennis tournament is today

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross is playing in the Great Lakes League tournament today after winning four of its last five dual matches, including Monday's 5-0 win over Fostoria at Rodger Young Park.

"We played a lot of tough matches early on. One, that made us better as a team. Two, we're in the easier part of our schedule," Ross coach Rick LaFountain said.

The Little Giants (5-7) carried a 4-3 dual record into the tournament today.

Tennis

Bill Flower and Andrew Humberger won singles matches in straight sets and Ryan Newman won by default.

Neil Sachs and Jay Farrell needed a second-set tiebreaker to win the first doubles match in straight sets. Rob Hammer and Ian Steinert lost just two games on the second doubles court.

The Redmen are 0-12.

In one other match:

Port Clinton 5, Oak Harbor 0

Port Clinton lost just two games on the singles courts, with both Derek Kellerman and Walker Roth winning 6-0, 6-0.

Little Giants fourth in the league

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross finished fourth in the Great Lakes League tournament Tuesday at Sylvania Northview.

Ryan Newman finished second in the third singles division, beating Napoleon's Zach Hanna and Northview's Brian Loh before losing to Bedford's Russ Strouse in the championship.

Ross' second doubles team of Ian Steinert and Rob Hammer placed third. They defeated Brian Roberts and Todd O'Neill of Whitmer and lost to Findlay's Brett Miller and Zach Schwartz to reach the consolation match. There they beat Napoleon's Tim Burke and Scott Oustermiller.

In the other three divisions, the Little Giants finished fourth: Bill Flower at first singles, Andrew Humberger at second singles and the first doubles team of Neil Sachs and Jay Farrell.

Findlay won the tournament, and can win the outright league title by winning the final GLL regular-season match Thursday against Northview. If Northview wins, Bedford will win first place.

The season is not finished for the Ross team, which hosts Tiffin Calvert today. They also have matches against Tiffin Columbian, Port Clinton and Maumee before the sectional tournament May 17.

In one other match:
Port Clinton 4, Clyde 1

The Redskins switched their lineup around and beat Clyde 4-1

Tuesday to inch closer to their fourth straight conference title.

Port Clinton coach Rod Gale moved No. 1 doubles player Jack Gibson to the third singles slot and teamed sophomore Brian Van Hoose at No. 2 doubles with Gibson's regular partner, Joe Reiter.

Both moves paid off for the 'Skins, 9-1 and 6-0 in the SBC.

Jack Gibson gave the Redskins a valuable point with a 6-4, 6-1 win over the Fliers' Brad Durdell. Reiter and Van Hoose easily won their match, 6-4, 6-2, against Ben Bennett and Jason Suter.

The Redskins' other points came from No. 2 singles player Walker Roth and Dave May and Jeff Names at No. 1 doubles.

Tennis

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Ross, Clyde win in prep tennis

Fremont Ross defeated Tiffin Calvert 3-2 in a non-league match played indoors at the Sandusky County YMCA Wednesday.

Bill Flower became the first player to win a set against Calvert foreign exchange student Mark Moussalli, according to Ross coach Rick LaFountain.

Moussalli defeated Flower 6-3, 5-7, 7-6 on the first singles court. He won the third-set tiebreaker 7-1.

Andrew Humberger accounted for the Ross point, defeating Frank Martiny 6-4, 6-0 on the second single court.

Calvert improved to 11-3, while Ross fell to 6-7.

Tennis

High School

Ross 3, Maumee 2

Singles

1-Bill Flower (R) d. Pete Jefferson 6-3, 6-2; 2-Andrew Humberger (R) d. Eric Polesovsky 3-6, 6-0, 6-1; 3-Ryan Newman (R) d. Tom Dussel 6-2, 6-3.

Doubles

1-Nick Davis and Ryan Carter (M) d. Neil Sachs and Jay Farrell 6-1, 6-2; 2-Jeff Barber and Nate Konrad (M) d. Rob Hammer and Ian Steinert.

Records: Ross 7-7, Maumee 8-5