

2004 District...

Giants have big day at districts

News-Messenger reports

Tim Burris and the 3,200-meter relay team highlighted a stellar Wednesday for Fremont Ross at the Division I district meet at Tiffin Columbian.

Burris finished second in the long jump finals with a personal-best leap of 21 feet, 3 inches to qualify for next week's regional meet.

The 3,200 relay of Jay Ohms, Nathan Bowen, Austin Young and David Guardiola finished third in 8 minutes, 16.1 seconds to qualify for regionals.

"That (relay) is pretty amazing," Ross coach Cathy Esposito said.

The Little Giants also did well in the preliminaries on Wednesday.

Five individuals and three relays qualified for Friday's finals. Two Ross girls qualified for the finals.

"I'm pumped going into the finals," Esposito said. "I've never had this many kids qualify for the finals."

Dewey (pole vault) was a runner-up and Bellevue's John Smith (pole vault) and Oak Harbor's Adam Ohlemacher (long jump) each finished third.

Ohlemacher had a personal-best effort of 20-9 on his final leap of the meet.

Postseason softball

Old Fort's run ends

Whitney Magers hit a two-run double in the bottom of the first but Tiffin Calvert ended Old Fort's season with an 8-2 victory in a Division IV district semifinal.

The Stockaders (11-13) remained even with Calvert through five innings before allowing six runs in the top of the sixth.

"We improved a lot throughout the season," Old Fort coach Trisha Fantucci said. "We definitely can compete with Calvert. We hit the ball really well."

The Stockaders struck out only four times as a group, five less than their average.

Only one of Calvert's sixth-inning runs

"Between Aleigh, Ashleigh and Whitney — all three were consistent and you were always confident they'd get on base."

Bellevue eliminated

Fostoria scored four runs in the first three innings in a 5-1 victory over Bellevue in a Division II district semifinal.

Kelli Nasonti took the loss for Bellevue, which finished the year 15-5.

The Lady Red will graduate Kelli Nasonti, Sammie Pensiero, Mandy Spears, Teila Hay and Ashley Rowland.

Regular-season baseball

Swaisgood too good

Cory Swaisgood fired a three-hitter to lead St. Joseph Central Catholic to a 3-1 victory over Sandusky St. Mary Central Catholic.

Swaisgood (2-1) struck out three and walked one as the Crimson Streaks improved to 17-6.

PHOTO BY JEFFREY D. BROWN FOR THE COLUMBIAN

Track & Field

High School Boys

Division I District Meet

Ross Results

Advanced to Regionals

3200 relay — (Jay Ohms, Nathan Bowen, Austin Young, David Guardiola)
8:16.1

Long jump — Tim Burris 21.3

Advances to Finals

100 — Charles Jones 11.00

110 hurdles — Adam Shearn 16.9,
Julis Salgado 17.2

400 — Elon Simms 50.5, Adam Wilhelm 51.3

800 — Tim Burris 2:03.5

200 — Adam Wilhelm 22.4, Charles Jones 23.4

400 relay — (Charles Jones, Keith Williams, Jordan Edwards, Tim Walls)
46.43

800 relay — (Charles Jones, Adam Wilhelm, Jordan Edwards, Elon Simms)
1:31.01

1600 relay — (Tim Burris, Adam Wilhelm, Jordan Edwards, Elon Simms)
3:24.2

High School Girls

Division I District Meet

Ross Results

Advances to Finals

300 hurdles — Allison Adams 49.36

800 — Ashley Fischer 2:29.9

DISTRICT TRACK AND FIELD

Giant victory

Wilhelm-led Ross claims boys crown

By MATTHEW HORN
Sports Writer

TIFFIN — Elon Simms knew it was going to be a grand day.

The junior called Fremont Ross coach Cathy Esposito on her cell phone at 11:30 a.m. on Friday and informed her he was feeling as though a record could fall at the Division I district meet at Tiffin Columbian.

No records were set, but the Little Giants qualified athletes for next week's regionals in nine events and captured the district team title.

Ross and Tiffin Columbian had appeared at the same meet three times this season prior to Friday. The Giants were 1-1-1 against Columbian before topping it by 14 points on Friday.

"This is probably the most excited I've been about a meet," Esposito said. "They get it. We're competing against the other teams, not each other. There's no question we beat Tiffin this time."

Simms, Adam Wilhelm, Tim Burris and Jordan Edwards qualified for regionals by winning the 1,600-meter relay. Wilhelm also won the 200, 400 and was on the third-place 800 relay.

Wilhelm said he is most confident about reaching state in the 1,600 relay and 400 but didn't rule it out for the other two events.

"The ultimate goal is to be on the podium at state," he said.

Wilhelm said the team's success felt better than his individual prowess.

"We're district champs," he said. "You go out and try to win your events for the team. You don't just try to win for yourself."

That cooperation is most evident on the 1,600 relay.

Simms and Wilhelm qualified for state in the 400 last year, but each said Edwards and Burris are irreplaceable.

"They are very important," Wilhelm said. "The further we get, the more we have to count

"This is probably the most excited I've been about a meet."

— Ross coach Cathy Esposito



News-Messenger/Doug Hise

FREMONT ROSS'S Adam Wilhelm wins a 200-meter dash semifinal at the Division I district meet on Friday at Tiffin Columbian. Wilhelm qualified for next week's regionals in four events and led the Little Giants to the team title.

on them to run strong legs. They're just as important as me and Elon. We wouldn't be where we are without them."

Added Simms: "We have four more chances to break the (school) record in the 1,600 relay. We're planning to go to state."

Burris won the high jump and was second in the long jump. He was one spot away from qualifying for regionals in the 800. His long jump of 21 feet, 3/4 inch es-

tablished a personal best by five inches and his high jump of 6-2 matched his best.

"I felt really good my first couple jumps (in the high jump)," he said. "I had less faults than everybody else."

Friday marked the first time Burris hadn't faulted at 6-0 this year.

"I didn't make it out of districts last year," he said. "That makes today more sweet. And I

didn't just qualify, I got first."

The Giants' 3,200 relay comprised of Austin Young, Nathan Bowen, David Guardiola and Jay Ohms finished third, and Ohms was also third in the 1,600.

Charles Jones, Edwards and Simms rounded out the 800 relay, and Simms was third in the 400. Ross's Derek Hill finished the 3,200 in second.

No Ross girls qualified for regionals.

Track & Field

High School Boys

Division I district meet

Team Scores

Ross	102
Tiffin Columbian	88
Wapakoneta	75
Mansfield	71
Lexington	65
Ashland	51.5
Sandusky	48
Defiance	43
Lima Senior	31
Celina	24
Marion Harding	23
Findlay	19.5
Mansfield Madison	10
Bowling Green	8

Winners and Ross results

3200 relay — 1. Lexington	8:11.01; 3.
Ross (Austin Young, Nathan Bowen, David Guardiola, Jay Ohms)	8:16.01
110 hurdles — 1. VanBuren (Mnsfld)	
14.06	
100 — 1. Jones (Mnsfld)	11.17; 7.
Charles Jones (Ross)	11.54
800 relay — 1. Mansfield	1:29.44; 3.
Ross (Jones, Jordan Edwards, Adam Wilhelm, Elon Simms)	1:30.81
1600 — 1. Jordanek (Lxngtn)	4:25.75;
3. Jay Ohms (Ross)	4:31.16; 6. Bowen (Ross)
4:41.99	
400 relay — 1. Mansfield	42.98; 5. Ross (Tamar Wells, Edwards, Keith Williams, Jones)
45.52	
400 — 1. Wilhelm (Ross)	49.59; 3. Simms (Ross)
50.77	
300 hurdles — 1. VanBuren (Mnsfld)	
39.33	
800 — 1. Sottoway (Find)	1:58.26; 5. Tim Burris (Ross)
2:01.13	
200 — 1. Wilhelm (Ross)	22.03; 6. Jones (Ross)
23.37	
3200 — 1. Ross (Edwards, Burris, Wilhelm, Simms)	3:24.98
Discus — 1. Steinke (Wap)	155-07; 5. Jorge Perez (Ross)
145-06; 7. Rob Durnwald (Ross)	144-05
High jump — 1. Burris (Ross)	6-02
Long jump — 1. Reinbolt (Colum)	21-05; 2. Burris (Ross)
21-00.75	
Shot put — Orta (def)	55-03.50
Pole vault — 1. Burnfield (Wap)	14-00.

High School Girls

Division I district meet

Team Scores

Lexington	87
Marion Harding	70
Ashland	66
Bowling Green	64
Celina	53
Lima Senior	49
Sandusky	48
Findlay	47
Wapakoneta	39
Defiance	36
Tiffin Columbian	27
Mansfield	26
Norwalk	22
Mansfield Madison	20
Ross	4

Winners and Ross Results

3200 relay — 1. Bowling Green	9:34.74
100 hurdles — 1. Cornell (Ash)	15.45
100 — 1. Williamson (LS)	12.69
800 relay — 1. Marion Harding	1:47.18
1600 — 1. Titus (BG)	5:15.40
400 relay — 1. Sandusky	50.90
400 — 1. May (Find)	58.19
300 hurdles — 1. Whitelock (Lex)	
47.64; 7. Allison Adams (Ross)	50.37
800 — 1. Powers (BG)	2:18.34
200 — 1. Phinisee (MH)	25.67
3200 — 1. Titus (BG)	11:21.55
1600 relay — 1. Lexington	4:04.62
Discus — 1. Wert (Lex)	134-03
High jump — 1. Wachauf (wap)	5-01
Long jump — 1. Gant (Sand)	16-08.5
Shot put — Wert (Lex)	37-07.75; 7.
Stephanie Kayser (Ross)	33-04.75
Pole vault — 1. Clark (MH)	9-03