

## 1972 Fremont Night Relays:

### *In Invitational Relays*

# Little Giant Harriers Seek Sixth Straight Championship

Ross' head track and field coach Ron Brant predicts a three-team race between his squad, Parma Padua and Findlay for the team championship in the 12th Fremont Night Invitational Relays at Harmon Stadium Friday.

Ross will be seeking its sixth consecutive championship. The three favorites will be joined by Port Clinton, Fostoria and Bowling Green.

"I don't know much about Parma except that they're supposed to have a fine team this year," Brant said. "Naturally Findlay has to be given consideration after the way they beat us in the dual meet (74-53) Tuesday."

The Little Giants already have one relay championship in their trophy case this spring. They headed an 11-team field at the first annual William Krause Relays in Tiffin last Saturday. In that event, Findlay was fourth, 16 points behind the Little Giants.

The defending champions will use the following lineup:

## Record Book

### Field Events

Shot Put — Findlay, 148-2, 1964.  
Discus — Port Clinton, 415-1½, 1967.  
High Jump — Port Clinton, 16-10, 1967.  
Long Jump — Fostoria, 60-3½, 1966.  
Pole Vault — Fremont, 34-6, 1971.

### Track Events

440 — Fremont, 45.0, 1971.  
Two Mile — Findlay, 8:19.9, 1971.  
Shuttle Hurdle — Clay, 55.2, 1962.  
Sprint Medley — Fremont, 1:35.8, 1968.  
Distance Medley — Findlay, 7:58.0, 1971.  
880 — Fremont, 1:33.7, 1963.  
Mile Relay — Fremont, 3:31.4, 1971.

### Field Events

Shot Put — Tom Liggins, Bob Koebel and Larry Johns.

Discus Throw — Andy Sale, Koebel and Liggins.

Pole Vault — Jeff Opelt, John Werling and Keith Pettiford.

High Jump — Chuck Celek, Kurt Michael and Tom Pitts.

Long Jump — Jim Heidelberg, Doug Kridler and either Tim Smith or Steve Celek.

### Track Events

440 — Heidelberg, Randy Robertson, Liggins and Rob Lytle.

Two Mile — Chris Widman, Mike Hunt, Jerry Dickman and Kirk Stout.

Shuttle Hurdles — Pitts, Jeff

Porczak, Terry Shearon and Ken Price.

Sprint Medley — Heidelberg, Liggins, Lytle and Pitts.

Distance Medley — Widman, Porczak, Tim Smith and Stout.

880 — Heidelberg, Robertson, Price and Lytle.

Mile — Pitts, Tim Smith, Jon Smith and Price.

"I believe we have to have a strong showing in the sprints and field events if we are to be in contention," Brant said. "Findlay and Bowling Green both have outstanding individuals to anchor their distance teams and will have to be the favorites in those events."

The win at Tiffin should help the Little Giants.

"I agreed to run in the Tiffin meet because I thought it would serve as a good warmup for our own relays," Brant said. "The kids now have the experience of running under the lights and making the exchanges in a different atmosphere than if we were running in the daytime."

New records were established last year in the five events. Fremont set marks in the pole vault, 440 and mile relay while Findlay erased old marks in the two mile and distance medley. Findlay was the second place finisher in 1971.

Oregon Clay, which has not

participated in the meet for several years, has the oldest record. A Clay foursome raced to an amazing 55.2 in the shuttle hurdles of the 1962 competition.

The meet is sponsored by American Legion Post 121. It presents the winning team trophy while the Ross Booster Association awards the runnerup trophy.

Event sponsors include Crown Rubber Company, Mosser Construction, Union Carbide, Pfisterer's Clothing, Fremont Gun & Athletic Supply, Burger Chef and Serwin's Restaurant.

The field event program will get underway at 5 p.m. The first running event is scheduled for two hours later.

## Upper Sandusky Receives Early Nod As Favorite For Clyde Relay Title

CLYDE — A powerful Upper Sandusky squad which finished second in a classy field at the William Krause Relays in Tiffin last Saturday has been cast as the favorite for the Clyde Relays Friday.

"Based on their showing in Tiffin I think Upper Sandusky would have to be the favorite," a veteran observer of Clyde track meets said early this week. "They beat out a lot of excellent schools and had excellent times and distances."

Clyde head coach Steve Frontz

also leans to Tiffin, but won't leave out Woodmore, the defending champion.

"I think those two schools have to be considered as favorites," Frontz said. "Upper Sandusky has a couple of tremendous individual performers just like Woodmore."

"But Woodmore has something else — depth. That's what wins meets of this nature."

Woodmore, Upper Sandusky and Clyde will be joined by Norwalk, Margaretta and Oak Harbor to complete the six team

performance of his squad throughout most of the season. When the year began, Clyde was one of the favorites to win the coveted Sandusky Bay Conference championship, but the Fliers have not lived up to their pre-season billing and are 3-4 in dual meets.

"If we are fired up Friday, it would be a pleasant surprise," Frontz said. "We haven't been that way yet this season."

But the relays have brought out the best in the Fliers in previous years. Last year they entered

Rams will bring Paul Treadway, a state Class AA pole vaulter last spring, and Steve Schertzer, a sophomore high jumper who has gone 6-6½ already this year, to the meet. The Rams also have a talented 880 relay squad which finished second at Tiffin.

## Meet Marks

### Past Champions

1968 — Norwalk.  
1969 — Norwalk.  
1970 — Clyde.  
1971 — Woodmore.

# Little Giant Harriers Swim To Relay Crown



JEFF OPELT, Ross pole vaulter, helped the Little Giants set a new meet record in that event at the 12th Fremont Night Invitational Relays Friday. Opelt, John Werling and Keith Pettiford combined to clear 34-9. The old mark of 34-6 was set by a Ross trio in 1971. (News-Messenger Photo)



**HAIR STYLING FOR MEN**  
MOD AND CONVENTIONAL  
RAZOR CUTTING

By MARK CARLSON  
News-Messenger Sports Editor

"Are you swimming the breast stroke or the back stroke?" Nobody thought that question was out of place because fins and goggles were more appropriate attire than track cleats and a sweat shirt for competitors in the 12th Fremont Night Invitational Relays Friday.

A downpour which began shortly before the running program started turned Harmon Stadium into a quagmire before the meet was completed but didn't prevent Ross from securing its sixth consecutive title.

The Little Giants registered six first places and didn't finish lower than fourth in any of the 17 events in floating to the title with 55 points.

Findlay, which submerged Ross 74-53 in a dual meet under sunny conditions Tuesday, was second with 35 followed by Bowling Green (33), Parma Padua (31), Port Clinton (24) and Fostoria (14).

"We figured our sprint medley teams would have to do a good job for us and they did come through," Little Giant head coach Ron Brant said. "All of the sprinters — Jim Heidelberg, Randy Robertson, Tom Liggins, Bob Lytle, Tom Pitts, Tim Smith, Jon Smith and Ken Price — did what we expected of them."

Of the six Little Giant first place finishes, four came in the running division. Ross grabbed off the first place medals in the 440, shuttle hurdles, sprint medley and mile relay. The other firsts came in the shot put and pole vault.

Thanks to a 12-9 leap from Jeff Opelt and showings of 11-4 and 19-4 from John Werling and Keith Pettiford, the Giants rewrote the pole vault record for the second straight year. Their combined height was 34-9 to break the old mark of 34-6.

The new standard was set after the running portion of the meet had been completed. Opelt cleared 12-9 on his third and final try after knocking the bar down during his first two attempts. All three leaps took place while the rain was coming down heavily.

"If one individual performer had to be singled out it would be Opelt," Brant said. "He gave a very courageous effort. He's only a sophomore but showed the poise of a senior under the adverse conditions."

The winning margin in the shot put, which was completed before the downpour struck, was slightly better than three feet. Liggins, Larry Johns and Bob Koebel combined for a total distance of 149 1/4, while second place Port Clinton totaled 139-4 1/4.

Heidelberg, Robertson, Liggins and Lytle cracked the tape first in the 440, only two tenths of a second in front of Padua. Ross had a 46.0 clocking, a full second off the meet record.

Pitts, Jeff Poraczk, Terry Shearon and Price formed the winning shuttle hurdle quartet. The winning margin was better than a full minute, :59.1 compared to Fostoria's 1:00.4.

Immediately after the shuttle hurdles Ross came back to take the sprint medley with Heidelberg, Liggins, Lytle and Pitts passing the baton. Again, the margin of victory was slight, 1:42.3 to 1:42.35.

Ross closed the meet with another close shave in the mile relay. Pitts, Tim Smith, Jon Smith and Price combined for a 3:41.9 while Findlay ran a 3:41.2 for second.

The Little Giants, who are now idle until the Marion Night Relays Friday, also came up with seconds in the long jump and 880 relay. There were thirds in the discus, high jump and two mile and the fourth in the distance medley.

"This shows we have good balance and depth," Brant said as he started to review the final tally sheet. "We put it together tonight under very adverse weather conditions."

Brant was also pleased with the way his club fought back after the loss to Findlay, the first dual meet defeat in nine straight efforts for the Giants.

"I think this performance — the ability to come back — showed the mark of a true champion," Brant said. "The kids really wanted this one. They knew that we were a much better team than we showed Tuesday."

"I guess you could call this 'sweet revenge.' The loss to Findlay might have acted as a blessing in disguise. It got the kids fired up. They wanted to win bad."

"It's always nice when we're able to beat a Buckeye Conference school and doubling pleasing when it's Findlay. We've built up quite a rivalry with them in track over the last few years."

Findlay, which also finished second last year, picked off firsts in the high jump, distance medley and 880. The Trojan

first in the 880 was somewhat of a surprise to the Ross coaches.

"That was one event we figured we could win," Brant said. Bowling Green took the discus and long jump competition while the two mile went to Parma Padua.

Port Clinton's highest finish came in the shot put where it placed second.

Overall sponsor for the Relays was Fremont American Legion Post 121. It donated the winning team trophy. The runnerup trophy was given by the Ross High Booster Association.

Individual events were sponsored by various companies in Fremont. These firms included Crown Rubber, Mosser Construction, Union Carbide, Pfisterer's Clothing, Fremont Gun and Athletic Supply, Burger Chef, and Serwin's Restaurant.



FREMONT MAYOR GEORGE DEMMEL presented Ken Price, co-captain of the Ross track team, with the championship trophy after the Little Giants breezed to their sixth consecutive title in the 12th Annual Fremont

Invitational Night Relays Friday. Ross compiled 55 points compared to 35 for second place Findlay. (News-Messenger Photo)

# Relay Results

## Fremont . . .

### Team Scores

Parma 31	Ross 55
P. Clinton 24	Findlay 35
Fostoria 14	B. Green 33

### Field Events

**SHOT PUT** — 1. Ross (Johns, Koebel and Liggins), 143- $\frac{1}{4}$ ; 2. Port Clinton, 139- $\frac{3}{4}$ ; 3. Bowling Green, 131- $\frac{1}{4}$ ; 4. Fostoria, 130-1; 5. Parma, 129-7.

**DISCUS** — 1. Bowling Green (Hainen, Otley and Murray), 393- $\frac{5}{8}$ ; 2. Parma, 372- $\frac{7}{8}$ ; 3. Ross, 369- $\frac{1}{2}$ ; 4. Findlay, 366-7; 5. Port Clinton, 361- $\frac{3}{4}$ .

**POLE VAULT** — 1. Ross (Opelt, Werling and Pettiford), 34-9 (new record, breaks old mark of 34-6 set by Ross, 1971); 2. Parma, 34-0; 3. Findlay, 33-6; 4. Fostoria, 31-6; 5. Port Clinton, 21-6.

**HIGH JUMP** — 1. Findlay (Paul, Kinney and Ede), 16-8; 2. Bowling Green, 16-4; 3. Ross, 16-2; 4. Port Clinton, 16-0; 5. Parma, 15-8.

**LONG JUMP** — 1. Bowling Green (Hainen, Carr and Baker), 58-9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; 2. Ross, 58-1 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; 3. Port Clinton, 57-2; 4. Fostoria, 55-9; 5. Findlay, 55-7.

### Track Events

**440** — Ross (Heidelberg, Robertson, Liggins and Lytle), 46.0; 2. Padua, 46.2; 3. Fostoria, 46.25; 4. Port Clinton, 46.7; 5. Findlay, 47.1.

**TWO MILE** — 1. Padua (Delaney, Banyasz, Koscianski and Miller), 8:29.3; 2. Bowling Green, 8:33.4; 3. Ross, 8:35.5; 4. Findlay, 8:35.7; 5. Fostoria, 9:05.1.

**SHUTTLE HURDLES** — 1. Ross (Pitts, Porsczak, Shearon and Price), 59.1; 2. Fostoria, 60.4; 3. Port Clinton, 60.8; 4. Findlay, 62.5; 5. Bowling Green, 63.6.

**SPRINT MEDLEY** — 1. Ross (Heidelberg, Liggins, Lytle and Pitts), 1:42.3; 2. Padua, 1:42.35; 3. Port Clinton, 1:43.2; 4. Findlay, 1:43.4; 5. Bowling Green, 1:45.4.

**DISTANCE MEDLEY** — 1. Findlay (Mauer, Wittenmyer, Durbin and Hochstetler), 8:12.2; 2. Bowling Green, 8:13.9; 3. Padua, 8:28.9; 4. Ross, 8:48.3; 5. Port Clinton, 9:01.2.

**880 RELAY** — 1. Findlay (Paul, Wells, Hippensteel and Wonderly), 1:37; 2. Ross, 1:39.1; 3. Padua, 1:39.8; 4. Bowling Green, 1:39.6; 5. Port Clinton, 1:41.0.

**MILE RELAY** — 1. Ross (Pitts, T. Smith, J. Smith and Price), 3:41.0; 2. Findlay, 3:41.2; 3. Port Clinton, 3:48.7; 4. Bowling Green, 3:51.9; 5. Padua, 3:56.1.