

1980 Season Review...



Front Row: Brian Wensinger, John Kosis, Ty Heslet, Steve Rodd, Burke Mitchell, Tad Winning, John Albrechta, Brian O'Farrell. Row 2: Dave Hetrick, Jim Ferguson, Randy Randolph, Johanna Hawk, Jill Isaac, Jan Smith, Sandy Process. Row 3: Dan Might, (mgr.) Brian Overmyer, Brian Beck, Jim Avalos, Mike Mowry, Dave Sanna, John Isaac, Mary Beth Frampton. Row 4: Coach Art Bucci, Mike Waggoner, Ty Mitchell, Ed Weiler, Greg Bobay, Diving Coach Bob Lozano.

What Do You Mean, It's Green?

The junior high pool helped get Art Bucci's varsity swim team season off to a slow start. After over a month's delay in completion of the pool, the team's first two home swim meets were rescheduled for the junior high. Both events were being cancelled due to discoloration of the pool water. Training finally got under way and the swimmers were ready to compete.

Many illnesses hit the squad during the dual meet season, but they finished with a winning 6-4-0 record. In February and March, the end of the season, shaved heads became a common sight as the swimmers "shaved down" for districts and state. This tradition shows the dedication of this year's team. Mr. Bucci and the swimmers both agree that the good times and their second place at Buckeye Invitational helped make the season well worth their efforts.



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We	U. Arlington	They
4th	33	
50	33	
92	80	
38	45	
83	69	
30	56	
96	53	
42	76	
4th	38	
2nd		
61	Marganetta	22

Mike Mowry takes a deep breath as he swims for the finish line.



Jim Avalos throws Lesley Shanahan into the pool during a traditional post-victory celebration at a home meet.



Brian Beck stretches out his dive on the breaststroke leg of Ross' state ranked medley relays.



Front Row: Kim Widman, Jackie Fenythe, Dee Widman. Row 2: Dee Faunce, Lori Havens, Wendy Robins, Gwen Minich, Holly Glassford, Jackie Clary, Patti Lehto. Row 3: Lesley Shanahan, Lori Esker, Kathy Rodriguez, Stacey Carter, Joy Cheshire, Shelley Smith.

John Isaac splashed his way to a second place finish in the 500 freestyle in the meet against Sandusky.



Ed Weiler strains to straighten out his backward flip before entering the water against Sandusky.



MEMBERS of the Ross swim team at the right. Kneeling, left to right: Mark Schuster, Jim Avalos, Rory Keys, Greg Bobay, Dave Sanna, Eric Weisinger; standing: Tim Heslet, Jim Scott, Linda Hawk, Mike Mowery, Jan Talbot, Ty Mitchell, manager Dale Jennings, Dave Lenz, standing on the board, back to front: Ron Kelley, Brian Beck, John Isaac, Dennis Eickert, coach Art Bucci, Scott Pitts; seated on the board, left to right: Brian Overmyer, Troy Halbisen and Mike Waggoner. Not in photo is manager Jay Wilmett.

Grid coaches ordered to pay former player \$100,000

AKRON, Ohio (AP) — A Summit County Common Pleas Court has ordered Terry Ross, football coach at Cuyahoga Falls High

School, and former assistant coach Ralph Esposito to pay \$100,000 to a former player who broke his neck in football practice.

ROSSFORD — The Oak Harbor Rockets whipped Rossford in its first wrestling match of the year 51-14 Thursday night.

The Rockets won nine of 13 matches, including five by pins to gain the victory. Winning by pins were for Oak Harbor were Brian Behn, Ken Sayre, Doug Blay, Ernie Goodsite and Jim Bryant.

Rossford won only three matches, one by a pin. The pin was recorded by Kevin Wellman.

MATCERS

98-Scott Sevenish (R) d. Rob Huston (OH) 5-1; 105-Brian Behn (OH) 1-0; 112-John Schuster (R) 1-0; 115-Tom Davis (R) 1-0; 120-Gary Bowman (OH) 1-0; 125-Ken Lenz (R) 1-0; 130-Brian Beck (R) 1-0; 135-Mike Mowery (R) 1-0; 140-Greg Fix (R) 4-5; 132-Dan Blay (OH) d. Steve Edulski (R) 1-0; 135-Ernie Goodsite (OH) p. Marty Coughran (R) 1-0; 137-Ben Heslet (R) 1-0; 142-Mark Mowery (OH) 1-0; 150-Chris Heslet (R) 1-0; 155-Chris Heslet (R) 1-0; 160-Mike Munn (R) 1-0; 167-Jim Bryant (OH) p. Brad May (R) 1-0; 175-Gen Wellman (R) 1-0; 178-Chris Heslet (OH) 1-0; 185-Kerry Mackay (OH) 1-0; 190-Brian Beck (R) 1-0; 195-Chris Heslet (OH) 1-0; 200-Jerry Heslet (OH) 1-0. JV match: Oak Harbor 15, Rossford 9.

DIVING

Ross and Esposito also were ordered Tuesday to pay damages of \$10,000 to the parents of Brian Rexroad, who was injured during his first day of preseason practice in 1972.

The suit was filed in July 1973 by Rexroad's parents, Donald and Barbara Rexroad. It charged that improper supervision of a tackling machine, the Hooker Tack-L-Matic, led to the injury.

Ross recently concluded his 13th season as the school's coach. Esposito still teaches at the high school, but no longer is a member of the coaching staff.

A jury in Judge Frank Bayer's court deliberated for six hours before finding Ross and Esposito negligent and made the

or arms. Rexroad busted it with his head, causing what doctors found to be a compression fracture of the fifth cervical vertebra.

Rexroad was a 6-foot-3, 190-pound, 15-year-old sophomore at the time of the incident. He spent 39 days in traction at Akron City Hospital, underwent spinal fusion, and had to wear a neck brace for seven months. A loss in mobility in his neck caused doctors to advise him to avoid football and to basketball.

Bayer said the deciding factor in the verdict was whether the coaches disregarded Ohio High School Athletic Association guidelines that prevent physical contact during four required days of conditioning in the preseason practices.

Rexroad, now a 22-year-old factory worker in Fayetteville, N.C.

In the testimony, the coaches said Rexroad tried to emulate some seniors who were not following instructions.

Roderick said, "This whole case is based on whether or not Brian got the proper instruction on how to use the machine. Coach Esposito gave instructions, but they weren't followed in Brian's case."

Bayer said the deciding

Fremont swimmers win 2nd meet

The Fremont 7th-8th grade Junior High swim team got its second victory of the season Thursday with a 49-34 win over Sandusky Perkins.

The relay team of Koenig, Lowther, Amy Hiltz and Tammy Rawson took the 100-yard Medley Relay in 1:01.47 while Rawson, Overmyer, Black and Jane Walter teamed up to win the 200-yard Freestyle Relay in 2:02.82.

Relay in 1:01.47 while

Rawson, Overmyer, Black and Jane Walter teamed

up to win the 200-yard

Freestyle Relay in 2:02.82.

For fans attending Saturday's meet, the northeast door of the junior high should be used. The main entrance is closed because of construction. The meet begins at 2:30 p.m.

Ross tankers open Saturday

Coach Art Bucci will send his "biggest" team up against one of the biggest names in high school swimming Saturday when Upper Arlington invades the Fremont Junior High swimming pool to take on the Little Giants.

Bucci's team is big in numbers and it has the Ross coach shooting for and talking about big goals this season.

"This is the biggest team (25 swimmers) that I have had since I have been here," Bucci confirmed. "There are a lot of underclassmen and that is good."

The Ross coach, now in his fifth year at calling the shots, has nine lettermen back and seven of them are juniors. The Little Giants have only three seniors.

"The only day we have depth is with these lettermen," Bucci pointed out. "but we have versatility."

"Some of the sophomores," he continued, "are experienced. They have swam in the junior high program and for the YMCA."

"It will also be the first year that we can fill each lane in a six-lane pool," Bucci smiled. "Before this, we had to always know as the 'dirty dozen' or the 'dirty dozen minus one'."

He was referring to the number of swimmers out in previous years. That was before the junior high program started to bear fruit.

A pair of school record holders, both juniors, are counted on for big seasons. Dave Sanna and Mike Mowery hold the school marks in the backstroke and the 200 and 200 freestyle, respectively.

Both are strong swimmers this season.

Other strong contenders Bucci pointed out will be Tim Heslet in the 50 and 100 freestyle sprints; Mark Schuster in the 200 and 500 freestyles; Brian Beck in the individual medley and breaststroke; and Dennis Eickert in the breaststroke.

Against those three, Bucci countered, he feels that his charges can hold their own.

Diving is also a strong point for Ross with letterman Ed Weller proving the expertise. "Ed is a dual meet record-holder before this year," Bucci volunteered, "but this year I feel we can shoot for a 10-3 mark. The only teams that I feel can beat us are Findlay, Upper Arlington and Perkins."

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Sports
news



A FREMONT Ross freestyler grabs a breath of air while churning toward home during a race Saturday in the Fremont Junior High School

natatorium. The Little Giants lost to Upper Arlington 51-32 in the season opener. (N-M photo by George Lundskow)

Bucci happy despite loss

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

Ross lost to state power Upper Arlington 51-32 Saturday in a high school swim meet but Ross Coach Art Bucci had a smile wrapped around his face despite the loss.

"It was a good meet," he proclaimed, moments after the final ripple had subsided in the Ross Junior High School natatorium.

"We know where we are now," Bucci said. "We know we have a lot of work to do but some of the times we had are really great for this time of the season."

Mike Mowry led the Little Giants splashes with a pair of first places including a new team record in the 200-freestyle. The Ross junior broke his own mark of 1:52.1 set in 1978, chipping two-tenths of a second off that mark with a 1:51.9. He was a four-second winner over Upper Arlington's Kevin Anderson in the race.

Mowry also finished first in the 100-yard freestyle sprint with a 51.2 clocking.

As a team, the Little Giants chalked up four firsts.

John Isaac sprinted the 50-yard free in 24 seconds flat while Dave Sanna backed his way to a 1:00.4 in the 100-yard backstroke.

In the final event of the day, the 400-yard freestyle, Ross and Upper Arlington hooked up in the closest event. The Golden Bears took the top spot in 3:36.07 with Ross second at 3:37.3. The distance was actually a quarter of a body length with a couple of bad turns costing Ross.

"Yeah, there were a couple of bad turns," Bucci confirmed. "I thought we could have won it if we had not had them."

The Ross coach, however, pointed out that it was the first meet for the Little Giants, and, some strong performances were turned in by his team. He pointed as times compared to last season's marks.

"Tim Heslet in the 100 free, Isaac in the 50, Sanna's backstroke, and Ron Kelley and Greg Bobay were all within a tenth of a second of their times in those distances last year," the Ross coach said.

The Little Giants will be in Upper Arlington Saturday to compete in the Upper Arlington Invitational Meet.

Following are the results of the meet:

EVENTS

200-medley relay: Upper Arlington (Steve Neri, Steve Key, Phil Martin, Pat Scalor) 1:50.4; Ross 1:53.4; Upper Arlington 1:58.0;

200-freestyle: Mike Mowry (R) 1:51.9; Kevin Anderson (UA) 1:55.03; Jeff Costokos (UA) 1:57.6;

200-individual medley: Eric Hyre (UA) 2:17.19; Brian Beck (R) 2:32.9; Rick Toomey (UA) 2:37.0;

50-freestyle: John Isaac (R) 24.0; Tim Heslet (R) 24.62; That Toothman (UA) 24.67;

Diving: Mark Allaire (UA) 143.15; Scott Diesinger (UA) 126.5; Mike Waggoner (R) 118.3;

100-butterfly: Gary Anderson (UA) 1:00.29; Jeff Mortiz (UA) 1:04.4; Jim Avalos (R) 1:12.6;

100-freestyle: Mowry (R) 51.2; Phil Martin (UA) 52.01; Neri (UA) 52.8;

500-freestyle: Mike Van Vooris (UA) 5:25.02; Isaac (R) 5:35.0; Jeff Warmotts (UA) 5:43.8;

100-backstroke: Dave Sanna (R) 1:00.4; Hyre (UA) 1:05.34; Ned Sturges (UA) 1:19.9;

100-breaststroke: Chris Partyka (UA) 1:11.24; Beck (R) 1:12.1; Fred Miller (UA) 1:12.6;

400-freestyle relay: Upper Arlington (Randy Hyre, That Toothman, Steve Key, Chary Aldag) 3:36.07; Ross 3:37.3; Upper Arlington 3:47.7.

'DQs' haunt Little Giant swimmers

UPPER ARLINGTON — Ross suffered a case of the "DQs" Saturday during the Upper Arlington Relays.

"DQs", the swimming world's abbreviation for disqualifications, hit the Little Giants four times.

"Even with those DQs," Ross swim boss Art Bucci said, "our times were super. We had many time improvements over last week and some of our swimmers had their personal bests."

Upper Arlington won the meet with 98 points. Second went to Worthington at 76 with Glenoak third with 44, Westerville North fourth with 40 and Ross fifth with 36 points.

The best finishes for the Little Giants were thirds in diving, the 500 crescendo relay and the 400-yard freestyle relay.

Ed Weiler and Troy Halbison teamed up for the third place in diving. Weiler had a personal best of 152.10 points while Halbison also had a personal best of 135.60.

Scott Pitts, Dennis Eickert, Mark Schuster and John Isaac made up the crescendo relay team. The 500-yard event involved freestyle sprints of 50, 100, 150 and 200 yards. The team recorded a time of 5:02.439.

Dave Sanna, Isaac, Mike Mowry and Tim Heslet were on the freestyle relay team, finishing the distance in 3:34.375.

The Little Giants also had fourths in the 400-yard backstroke and breaststroke relays.

Greg Bobay, Brian Overmyer, Jon Talbot and Ty Mitchell made up the backstroke team. The squad finished in 5:01.729. Brian Beck, Dennis Eickert, Jan Smith and Dave Lenz were the breaststrokers, recording a 5:02.864 for the distance.

There were 19 Little Giant swimmers recording personal best times in the meet according to Bucci.

Tuesday, the Little Giants will host Port Clinton. The meet begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Ross Junior High School natatorium.

PC coach steamed

Ross dunks Redskins

By TOM STOREY

News-Messenger Sports Writer

Port Clinton's 55-27 loss to Ross Tuesday night didn't make Redskin coach Gus Seeger feel any better.

Seeger, disturbed with the swimming facility at the Fremont Junior High, asked for a forfeit of the diving points to his club, citing unsafe conditions at the pool.

Seeger claimed that the ceiling was too low and was a hazard. The Ohio High School Athletic Association suggests that the distance from the water to the ceiling be 16 to 20 feet. At the pool in the junior high, it is 12 feet.

Meet official Dan Lease, a Fremonton who has been officiating swim meets for 25 years, did not agree with Seeger and did not forfeit the points to Port Clinton. His reasons were that he had overseen meets in the pool before and no one had gotten hurt and that state champion divers had dove off that board.

"It's a shame," Seeger said. "There's people in Port Clinton who have better pools than this. What really bugs me is that we could have swam at our facility. It's not being used tonight. We tried to get it switched, but they (Ross) didn't want to."

"It's not that we didn't want to swim up there," Ross swim coach Art Bucci said. "These things are set up a year in advance. We had officials and transportation is a problem. We had other activities going on tonight."

"That's a cop out," Seeger said, when told of Bucci's statement. "We're not that far. They could go in cars. It's not like driving to Upper Arlington."

"We'll never swim here again as long as I'm coach. My three divers mean more to me than seven points."

Seeger let his divers take a few practice dives and let them decide if they wanted to dive or not. The three divers all agreed not to participate in the diving event.

Earlier in the week, Seeger wrote a letter to the Ross athletic director and to Bucci, stating that he would ask for a forfeit of the diving points. Also in the letter he listed other problems with the pool which included pool conditions and too shallow at the shallow end.

"I've got 6-5 (six feet, five inches) swimmers who are going to have to do flip turns down there," Seeger said. The depth of the shallow end is 35 inches. OHSAA recommends that the depth be at least three and a half feet.

"They have an unbelievable psychological advantage here," Seeger said.

Advantage or not, the Ross swimmers crushed the Redskins 55-27 to gain their first dual meet victory of the season.

"I'm pleased with the meet," Bucci said. "Our times are getting better but we still need to do a lot of work."

Ross took seven firsts and eight second place finishes to trim the Redskins.

Mike Mowery and Dave Sanna grabbed two first place finishes apiece to pace the Little Giant swimmers. Mowery was the winner of the 50 and 500-yard freestyle events in 23.2 and 5:17.9, respectively.

Sanna took the 200-yard individual medley in 2:22.9 and the 100-yard backstroke in 54.0.

Other firsts were recorded by the 200-yard medley team of Sanna, Mowery, Tim Heslet and Brian Beck in 1:49.2, Ed Weiler in the diving competition and Dennis Eickert in the 100-yard breaststroke in 1:16.7.

Kevin Kelley led the Redskins, getting two of Port Clinton's four first place finishes.

Kelley won the 200 and 100-yard freestyle events in 1:57.5 and 53.8, respectively. Doug Blackburn took the 100-yard butterfly in 1:09.0 and the relay team of Blackburn, Kelley, Jack Bredbeck and Dave Bradshaw won the 400-yard free relay.

Purple shades White

The Purple needed a first place finish in the final event of the day, the 400-yard relay, to nip the White 42-41 in the annual Ross intersquad swim meet Saturday at the Fremont Junior High.

"It was a good meet, I'm pleased," swimming coach Art Bucci said. "We had a lot of close events.

"We've got some young kids coming up. The feeder system of the YMCA and junior high program is working out well."

When Bucci first came to Fremont, there was no junior high program. Now there are 20 freshmen out, 10 more than last year, he pointed out.

Bucci said that Ty Heslet, who had a 1:02.9 in the 100-yard freestyle, and Steve Rodd, who had a fourth place finish in the 50-yard freestyle, were the outstanding frosh swimmers.

Other good performances were turned in by Rory Keys, Tom Talbot, Ed Weiler, Eric Weissinger and Dave Lenz, Bucci said.

'Cats crush Ross swimmers

NAPOLEON — The Napoleon Wildcat swimmers soundly defeated the Ross Little Giants 102-70 in a swim meet here Saturday afternoon.

The Wildcats humiliated Ross by taking nine of 11 first-place finishes.

"Bad turning and a lack of mental preparation on the swimmers' parts gave Napoleon every close race," Art Bucci, Ross coach said. "It has been a long time since I have seen such a poor team performance.

"This meet was supposed to be a close meet and we should have come up victorious," Bucci said, "not beaten by 30 points."

Mike Mowry's two first-place finishes and Mike Waggoner's diving performance were the bright spots for Ross in what was a dark afternoon.

Mowry broke his own school record in the 200-yard freestyle with a 1:51.57 for one first and also took the 100-yard freestyle in 51.75.

Waggoner had his best performance

on the board, totaling 170.5 points which gave him a berth in the districts.

Rory Keys, Brian Overmyer and Jim Avalos turned in their best times of the season, Bucci said.

Ross will host Sandusky Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Fremont Junior High.

"I hope we can do a lot better swimming and more thinking about swimming than in the past," Bucci said.

Dave Sanna grabbed two second-place finishes for Ross, one in the 200-yard individual medley in 2:14.09 and the other in 100-yard backstroke in 1:01.69.

The 200-medley team of Greg Bobay, Jan Smith, Jim Avalos and Ron Kelley took a second in 1:59.12 and the 400-yard relay team of Mowry, Sanna, John Isaac and Tim Heslet also grabbed a second-place finish in 3:49.91.

Other seconds were recorded by Isaac in the 50 and 500-yard freestyle events in 24.37 and 5:24.25, respectively, Ed Weiler in the diving competition with 175.8 points and Brian Beck in the 100-yard breaststroke in 1:10.98.



ED WEILER of Ross glides through the air and toward the water during the diving competition Tuesday night at Fremont Junior High School. Weiler won the event with 195.30 points. (N-M photo by Scott Maynard)

Ross a point off in winning

Ross swim Coach Art Bucci has not perfected his crystal ball act . . . but he's not far off.

"I had it figured 45-38," Bucci offered in his post-meet reflections Tuesday. "As it was, I was only one point off."

The Little Giants made their coach a near-mystic with a 44-39 win over Sandusky's Blue Streaks splashers in the Fremont Junior High School pool.

The Ross effort was punctuated by several key performances. The top most was a standout performance by diver Ed Weiler.

Weiler, who had scored 174 points, his best until Tuesday, last weekend, tallied more than 195 points in his six dives to easily win his event.

"Weiler was superb," Bucci said, "and Halbisen's (Troy) score was his best despite that one dive."

Halbisen had 139.55 points after starting off with an "incomplete" dive. He was third, losing by .45 points to his Sandusky rival.

The Blue Streaks had one more first, six, than Ross but the Little Giants depth paved the way to the win.

John Stauffer of the Blue Streaks set a new pool backstroke record, going the distance in 57.69 seconds. That time broke the mark of Paul Gilbert, also from Sandusky, of 58.4 set in 1970.

Stauffer also won the 200-individual medley. Doug Boissonault picked up a pair of firsts for Sandusky, winning the 200 freestyle and the 100-yard butterfly.

In the "fly", Ross's Jim Avalos chopped three seconds off his best time with a second place in 1:06.2.

Sandusky's medley relay and Steve Cremeen in the 50 freestyle racked up the other first places. Cremeen handed Mike Mowry of Ross his first loss of the season in the short sprint, touching out the Ross swimmer 23.23 to 23.4 seconds.

Mowry came back to nip Cremeen in the 100 freestyle, 51.6 to 51.71.

Other firsts taken by Ross went to John Isaac in the 500 freestyle and Brian Beck won the breaststroke. Isaac recorded a 5:25.31 for the distance while Beck finished the 100 yards in 1:10.56.

The other Little Giants first place was in the 400 freestyle relay. Tim Heslet, Isaac, Dave Sanna and Mowry posted a 3:36.21 in taking that event.

Little Giants' depth sinks Polar Bears

CASTALIA — Ross showed its depth and in the process fought off the flu bug while defeating Margaretta 103-66 in a high school swim meet Saturday at Margaretta High School.

"This showed me that our depth is going to really help us in future meets," Ross swim boss Art Bucci said after the meet. "We also had some time improvements and I'm pleased to see that."

Mike Mowery, John Isaac and Dave Sanna, the meat of the Ross lineup, lost their race with the flu bug but the slack was picked up by the remainder of the Bucci bunch. Another Little Giant splasher, Tim Heslet swam but

was feeling the effects of the same bug.

Brian Beck paced the Little Giants with three of his team's seven first place finishes. Beck took the individual medley, the breaststroke and swam a leg of the medley relay.

Ty Mitchel, Jim Avalos and Scott Pitts teamed up with Beck on the medley relay. Mitchell won his first varsity race, the backstroke in 1:08.6.

Heslet took the 50-yard freestyle sprint in 25.9 and Mark Schuster recorded a 5:58.7 in winning the 500-yard freestyle.

Ed Weiler won the diving event with a total of 189.70 for Ross's other first place.

"Ron Kelly had his personal bests in the 200

and 500 yard freestyles," Bucci said as he clicked off his team's time improvements.

Brian Overmyer, 200-freestyle, Dave Lenz, 50-freestyle and breaststroke, and Mitchell and Greg Bobay in the backstroke rounded out the members of the Ross squad who chopped time off previous bests.

The Little Giants will travel to Perkins Tuesday for a 4:30 p.m. meet and will be at Ayersville Friday for a 5 p.m. meet.

Saturday, the Little Giants will host powerful Findlay. The Trojans had a 33-straight dual meet winning streak snapped recently by Toledo St. Francis. The swimming will begin at 1:30 p.m.

Flu bug bites Ross swimmers

PERKINS — The flu bug that's being passed around Fremont took its toll on the Little Giant swimmers Tuesday night in a meet with the Perkins Pirates.

Ross, with four of its top swimmers sick and one just back, got crushed by Perkins 122-49. They won only one event.

"We's hurtin for certain," Art Bucci, Ross coach said after the meet. "With all the kids out there's not much we can do. The flu has taken its toll on our team."

"I'm hoping we can get healthy and come back."

At home in bed are Mike Mowery, John Isaac, Dave Sanna and Randy Penrod. Mowery is running a 102 temperature and has lost 16 pounds, Bucci said.

The other three have lost between seven and 10 pounds, Bucci said.

Tim Heslet, still weakened by the flu, swam in only the relay team.

The one event the Little Giants won was the 100-yard breaststroke. Brian Beck who Bucci said had a good day in the pool, won that event with a time of 1:10.2. He also had his best swim in the 200-yard individual medley, a second place finish in 2:23.95.

The only other bright spot for Ross was the diving competition. Ed Weiler took first with 204.95, his best score so far this season and Troy Halbisen had a personal best with a 161.55 score.

"Weiler had a super day diving," Bucci said. "All things considered, the kids swam decent. There were no super, super swims."

The Little Giant tankers recorded four second place finishes.

Beck had a second in the 200-yard individual medley while Jim Avalos took second in the 100-yard butterfly in 1:02.54.

The other runnerups were by Ty Mitchell in the 100-yard backstroke in 1:10.56 and the relay team of Brian Overmyer, Scott Pitts, Ron Kelley and Heslet in the 400-yard free relay in 3:59.39.

The swim team will be back in action Friday when they travel to Ayersville for a 5 p.m. meet.

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Tankers swamp Ayersville 95-69

AYERSVILLE — Fremont Ross warmed up for a confrontation against Findlay today with a 95-69 victory over Ayersville Friday in a high school dual swim meet.

The Little Giants will host the powerful Trojans today at 1 p.m. in a meet at the Fremont Junior High School natatorium.

"We are still bothered by the flu," Ross Coach Art Bucci said as he echoed a familiar comment concerning his team.

He pointed out the third place finishes of Mike Mowery in the 200-freestyle and John Isaac in the individual medley. Both finishes were 10-15 seconds slower than the normal times for the swimmers in the events.

Dave Sanna and Tim Heslet led the Little Giants win with a pair of first place apiece. Sanna took the individual medley, one of two events that Ayersville did not enter a swimmer, in 2:19.534. Sanna also won the backstroke in 1:01.943.

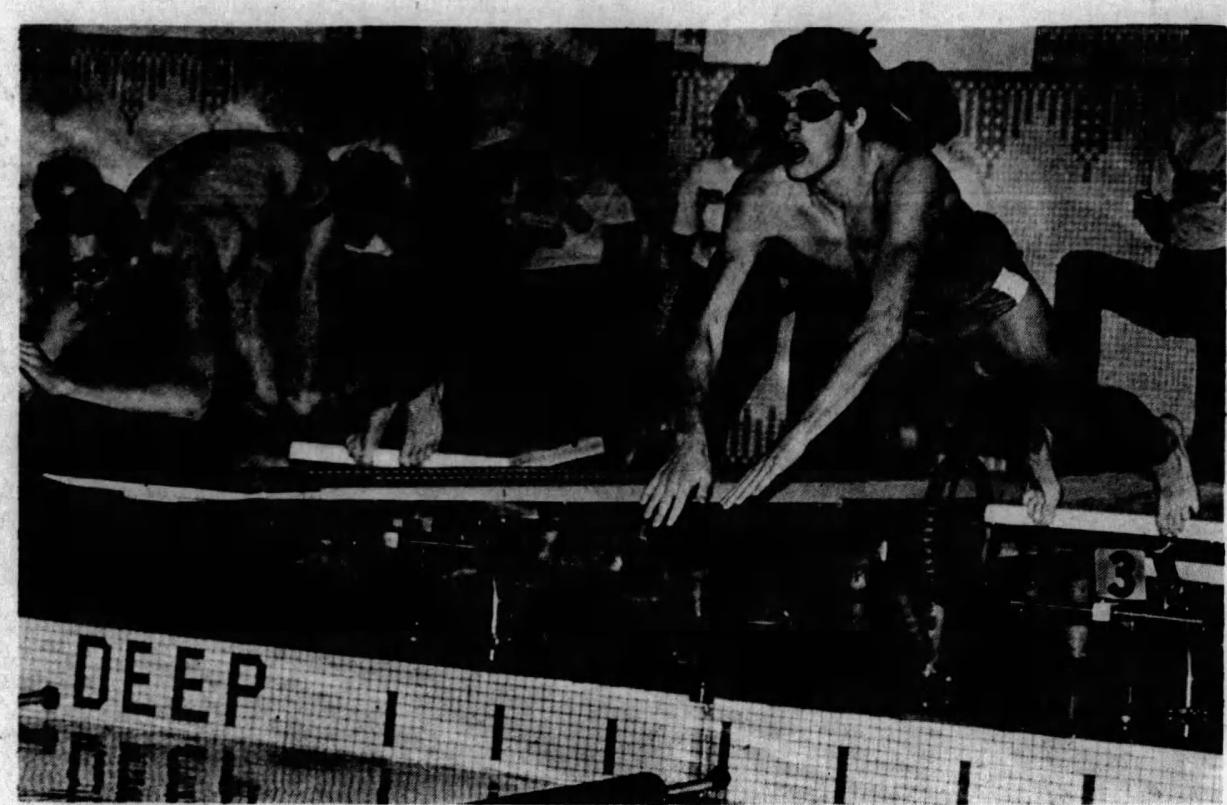
Heslet won both of the freestyle sprints, the 50 and 100, in 24.509 and 54.142, respectively.

Mowery came back to capture the butterfly in 1:03.632 with other Ross first places going to Ed Wieler in diving and Brian Beck in the breaststroke in individual events. Wieler defeated Ross teammates Troy Halbisen and Mike Waggoner in the other event that Ayersville did not have a contestant.

Beck splashed out the 100-yards in 1:11.0 for the breaststroke victory.

The Little Giants also won the medley relay in 2:03.473. Ty Mitchell, Jan Smith, Jim Avalos and Scott Pitts made up the team.

Beck also took a second in IM with another Ross second going to Avalos in the butterfly.



MIKE MOWRY of Ross, at the right, takes off on his way to a first place finish in the 100-yard freestyle event in Saturday's swim meet between

the Little Giants and Findlay. Ross lost 53-30. (N-M photo by George Lundskow)

Ross swimmers fall to Findlay

The Ross High swimmers were defeated by Findlay Saturday afternoon 53-30 at the junior high, but Little Giant coach Art Bucci couldn't complain.

"Findlay is ranked number 7 in the state and they have many fine swimmers," he said. "They have won 37 out of 38 dual meets, losing only to St. Francis DeSales High School.

"It was a good meet for us," he continued. "The flu, I hope, has subsided and we had some good swims from some of our sick people returning."

Bucci noted that Dave Sanna, Mark Schuster and Scott Pitts had their best performances for the year.

Sanna, one of the flu victims just returning, took first in the 100-yard backstroke in 59.7. Schuster's best time of 5:52.47 was good for second in the 500-yard freestyle and Pitts' 58.3 in the 400-yard free relay was his best.

Mike Mowry won the 100-yard freestyle in 52.3, which isn't bad considering he's just back from a bout with the flu in which he lost 16 pounds, Bucci said.

The Little Giant mentor was particularly pleased with his divers who took the top three positions in that department.

Ed Weiler, who Bucci calls Mr. Consistency, topped the field with 205.65 points, his highest score this season. Troy Halbisen and Mike Waggoner took second and third with 156.55 and 156.15, respectively.

"All of our divers performed well," Bucci observed. Besides Schuster's finish in the 500-yard freestyle, the Little Giants recorded four other second place finishes.

Tim Heslet was runnerup in the 50-yard freestyle in 24.71 and Brian Beck grabbed second in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:11.0.

The 200-yard Medley Relay team of Sanna, Beck, Mowry and Heslet was second in 1:51.07 and the 400-yard Free Relay team of Pitts' Ron Kelley, Dave Lenz and Brian Overmyer took second with a time of 4:02.7.

Ross travels to Sandusky on Tuesday to tackle the Blue Streaks in a 6:30 p.m. meet.

Ross depth sinks Streaks

SANDUSKY — Fremont Ross won only five of 11 events but the Little Giants' depth was enough to tack a 101-71 loss on the Sandusky Blue Streaks swim team.

"We are just now getting our strength back," Ross Coach Art Bucci pointed out while referring to the battle his team has had with the flu.

"It's coming back just in time for us to start getting ready for the district meet."

Mike Mowery continued to lead the Ross swimmers with a pair of individual firsts and swimming the anchor leg on the winning freestyle relay team.

Mowery, a junior, won the 200-yard freestyle in 1:57.61 and the 100-freestyle sprint in 52.22 seconds. The freestyle relay team with Tim Heslet, John Isaac, Dave Sanna and Mowery went the distance in 3:43.46.

Ross's medley relay team of Greg Bobay, Brian Beck, Jim Avalos and Scott Pitts won that race in 2:00.53. Beck also won the 100-yard breaststroke in 1:10.46.

Sanna was second in the backstroke with a 59.08, one-tenth of a second off his own Ross school record. Sanna also finished second in the individual medley.

Heslet was second in the 50 and 100-yard freestyles with Avalos taking a second in the butterfly. Isaac was second in the 500-yard freestyle.

Ed Weiler was second in diving, losing the top spot when a judge called him for a "balk."

"He went up to dive when a kid came into the pool and slammed a door," Bucci explained. "I told him to get back off the board and repeat the dive. He did and

got straight sixes on it but when he was through, the judge said he was calling the balk and that takes two points off each score."

"The result was that it cost him 23 points and he lost by 21," Bucci pointed out. "When I asked the judge about the distraction (slammed door), he told he did not think it was a distraction."

Despite the balk call on Weiler, Ross's other two divers, Mike Waggoner and Troy Halbisen, turned in their best performances with 165.50 and 173.45 points, respectively. Weiler had 182.35.

Ross will entertain Sylvania Southview Saturday at the Fremont Junior High School. The meet will begin at 1 p.m.

DePaul wins . . . in the usual way

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"We played our usual game," said DePaul Coach Ray Meyer. "We get up on somebody and then die."

And still win...and win...and win.

The nation's only unbeaten major college basketball team made it 16 in a row Tuesday night but, like most games for the Blue Demons since they became No. 1 last week, it wasn't easy.

Southview sneaks past Ross swimmers

Sylvania Southview slipped into Fremont Saturday and sneaked off with a 44-39 victory over the Ross swim team.

The loss was a surprise to Coach Art Bucci. On a sheet he had figured out before the meet began, his chart had shown, almost promised, a 43-40 victory for the Little Giants.

That was if all went well. It didn't. Ross's fortunes began to go bad on Friday and were compounded Saturday.

Bucci, although not going into details, had to suspend Tim Heslet for the meet because of disciplinary problems. Heslet is one of the Little Giants' top freestyle sprinters.

"That and we had some bad swims," Bucci pointed out hurt Ross Saturday.

The Little Giants grabbed four first places

while Southview's small crew took the other seven.

Ty Mitchell, Brian Beck, Jim Avalos and Scott Pitts teamed up to win the medley relay for Ross in 1:59.4.

Ed Weiler won the diving with 176.55 points. The Little Giants swept this event with Mike Waggoner taking second and Troy Halbisen finishing third.

Mike Mowry won the 100-yard freestyle in 51.3 while Dave Sanna backed his way into first in the backstroke in 1:00.4.

**COME
ON IN**
TO
HOUSEHOLD FINANCE,
WHERE PEOPLE
USE OUR MONEY
TO GET THE MOST

Taking seconds for the Little Giants were Mowry in the 200-freestyle, Sanna in the individual medley, Beck in the 50-freestyle and breaststroke and the freestyle relay team of Mowry, Pitts, Sanna and Isaac.

Tom Roll of Southview set a new Fremont Junior

High School natatorium record in the 200-freestyle. He splashed the distance in 1:50.02.

Taking thirds for the Little Giants were Isaac in the 200-freestyle, Pitts in the 50 and 500-yard freestyles and Dennis Eickert in the breaststroke.



Long wait is over, Ross swimmers 3rd

MANSFIELD — It's been at least 10 long years but the Fremont Ross swim team once again has a sparkle in its collective eyes.

The Little Giants tankers took third in the Malabar Swimming and Diving Relay Saturday and that is a high altitude finish that Ross has rarely enjoyed in many years.

"I think it has been 10 years since the swimming team has brought back a trophy," Coach Art Bucci said. "Everyone who swam for us brought home an award."

"Our swims were good even though we are starting our 'taper' for the district meet."

Ross qualified a team for the finals in six of the seven relay events, missing only the 400-yard freestyle relay in the 10-team meet.

Host Malabar won the meet trophy with 86 points. Second was Sandusky Perkins with 68 with Ross earning 36 for the third slot. Wooster was fourth with Port Clinton fifth, Galion sixth, Colonel Crawford seventh, Ontario eighth, Ashland ninth and Newark 10th.

The best finish for the Little Giants was a second in the medley relay. Dave Sanna, Mike Mowry, Brian Beck and John Isaac carved out a 1:50.770 to finish less than a tick of the clock behind the Malabar team. Malabar won with a 1:50.732.

The finish in the medley relay vaulted Ross past Wooster into the trophy winning position.

The Little Giants recorded a trio of fourths. The diving team of Ed Weiler and Mike Waggoner tallied 287.65 points. Malabar was first with Perkins second and Port Clinton with a threesome of Dee Branum, Dee Phillabaum and Tod Carter, taking third.

Sanna, Mowry and Tim Heslet combined for a fourth in the 300-yard individual medley. The team compiled a 3:08.585 in the finals after finishing three seconds quicker than that in the preliminaries. Malabar, Wooster and Perkins finished ahead of the Little Giants.

Ross was also fourth in the 200-yard butterfly-breaststroke relay. Randy Penrod, Jim Avalos, Dennis Eickert and Beck had a 2:01.745 in the finals to finish behind Malabar, Galion and Colonel Crawford.

Ross was fifth in the 850-yard crescendo relay and also was fifth in the 200-yard backstroke relay. Scott Pitts, Ron Kelly, Heslet and Isaac were on the crescendo while Ty Mitchell, Brian Overmyer, Greg Bobay and Mark Schuster made up the backstroke relay.

"I'm proud of my team," Bucci proclaimed. "They had to hang tough with the trials (preliminaries) and finals. They are a tough and determined group."

Grinning at a close loss

SYLVANIA — It's tough to smile at a loss, but when you can laugh, that's another matter, but Fremont Ross swim Coach Art Bucci could afford his chuckles in defeat.

Northview stopped the Little Giants 90-81 in a dual meet Tuesday in the sparkling home of the Wildcats.

"We swam extremely well for having sprinting and tapering down in practice," the veteran Ross coach smiled. "The kids are tired and sore right now."

The sprinting and tapering down procedure is used by coaches to prepare a team for district competition. Combined with strategic rests, the procedure usually has swimmers at their strongest point for big meets.

"Everyone likes to win," Bucci continued, "but with these times we had, the loss still looks good."

The Ross coach ticked off some time conversions from meters to yards to strengthen his position. In all, the Little Giants had 15

times that converted into season bests.

Swam in a 25-meter pool, the Little Giants had four firsts in the 11 events. Mike Mowry again led Ross with a pair of firsts, taking the 200-meter freestyle in 2:04.45 and the 100-meter freestyle sprint in 56.93. The time for the longer race converted down to around 1:49.

Ed Weiler recorded 202.40 points to win the diving while the medley relay team of Dave Sanna, Brian Beck, Randy Penrod and Tim Heslet won that event in 2:03.6.

Finishing second for the Little Giants were Sanna in the individual medley (2:35.57) and backstroke (1:05.74); Heslet in the 50-meter freestyle (4:43.40) and the freestyle relay team of Mowry, Scott Pitts, Ron Kelly and Isaac (4:10.4).

Taking thirds were the medley relay team of Ty Mitchell, Dennis Eickert, Jim Avalos and Pitts (2:11.4); Pitts in the 50-freestyle (28.07), Mike Waggoner in diving (155.45); Penrod in the 100-meter butterfly (1:10.82); Heslet in the 100-freestyle (1:00.0); and Eickert in the breaststroke.

Practically all of Ross's second and third place finishers had their top swims of the season. Avalos, Mitchell, Penrod and Greg Bobay also turned in their best performances while finishing either fourth or fifth in other events.



defeat Garza 9-7. (N-M photos by George Lundskow)

Tankers capture 10 of 11 events

Flu claimed Ross swim Coach Art Bucci but the Little Giants tankers plagued Colonel Crawford Tuesday in a meet in the Fremont Junior High School natatorium.

Ross dominated their visitors, taking 10 of the 11 events for a 61-22 triumph.

Mike Mowry, Dave Sanna and John Isaac shared honors for Ross, taking part in three first place finishes apiece.

Bucci did not witness his team's first place assault, having being knocked out of the meet and his coaching duties by the flu bug.

Mowry, Sanna, Isaac and Dennis Eickert combined to win the medley relay in 1:49.16 with Mowery taking the top spot in the 200-yard freestyle (2:01.7) and the 100-yard freestyle sprint (52.54).

Sanna won the backstroke in 1:00.4 and swam a leg of the freestyle relay winners with Isaac, Randy Penrod and Tim Heslet. The foursome combined for a 3:41.74 clocking.

Isaac added his third first place finish in the 500-yard freestyle, winning in 5:23.9.

Penrod won the medley relay in 2:19.30 with Heslet capturing the 50-yard freestyle in 24.46.

Mike Waggoner won the diving with 167.20 points as Ross finished one-two. Troy Halbisen was second for the Little Giants.

Eickert won the breaststroke in 1:11.74 for the other Ross first.

Ross swimmers set 3 records

Ross warmed up for the district swim meet 10 days away with two pool and one school record performances in an easy win over Margaretta Tuesday night.

The Little Giants won

eight events for a 58-24 victory.

"It was the best meet I have ever coached since I have been in Fremont," Coach Art Bucci said. "There were great times and this really primed us up for the district meet."

Dave Sanna cracked his school record and Sandusky swimmer John Stauffer's pool record in the backstroke. Sanna carved out a 57.5 seconds time for the 100 yards, knocking 1.4 seconds off his school record and two-

tenths of a second off Stauffer's mark.

The medley relay team of Sanna, Brian Beck, Mike Mowery and John Isaac set a new mark in that event. The foursome had a 1:46.13 for a new pool record, eclipsing the four-

year old mark held by the Ross team of Hal Hawk, Kevin Casey, Terry Nitschke and Brett McKittrick. The old mark was 1:46.6.

Sanna's backstroke time put him in second spot for the best time in that event in northwest Ohio.

Mowery missed by an eyelash of tying the Ross school record in the 100-yard freestyle. He touched in 50.5.

The freestyle relay team of Mowery, Randy Penrod, Isaac and Tim Heslet was a second and a half off the school mark while winning that race in 3:32.2.

Scott Pitts was a surprise winner in the 50-yard freestyle for the Little Giants, recording a 24.16 seconds to shade teammate Heslet by four-hundredths of a second.

Other Ross firsts included Mike Waggoner in diving with 158.55 points, Isaac in the 500-yard free, 5:17.7 and Jan Smith, winning her first varsity race, in the breaststroke with a 1:15.4.

Ross seconds went to the medley relay team of Greg Bobay, Smith, Johanna Hawk and Ron Kelley; Mark Schuster in the 200 and 500 free; Penrod in the 200 IM; Heslet in the 100 free; Dave Lenz in the breaststroke and the freestyle relay team of Beck, Ty Mitchell, Pitts and Bobay.

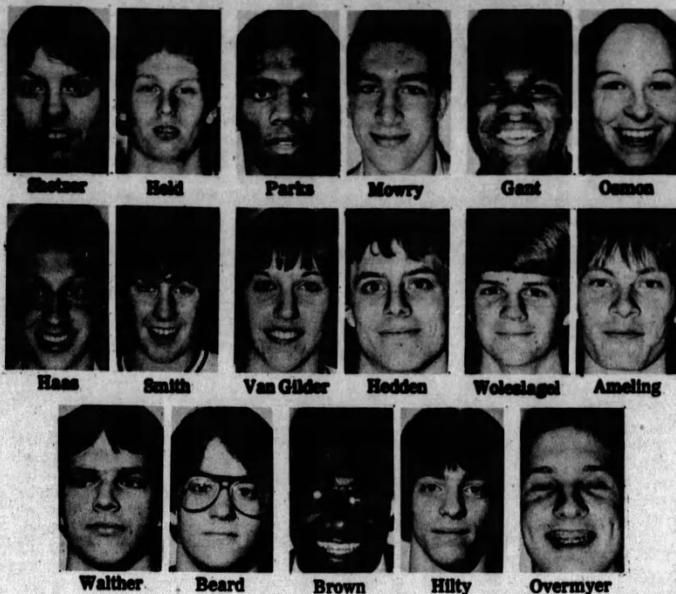


CLOSE. Mike Mowery strains up out of the water to get a glimpse of his time in the 100-yard freestyle during the Margaretta-Ross swim meet at the Fremont Junior High School natatorium. His look

turned sour seconds later when he found out he missed Ross's school mark by one-tenth of a second.



Shetzer, Held, Park, Mowry are Ross MVPs



Twenty-one Ross High School athletes received special awards Tuesday evening during the Ross Winter Sports Awards Night.

There was also a total of 60 "letters" handed out. Members of the boys and girls basketball, wrestling and swimming teams were honored during the program. The Ross junior was named the team's most valuable and shared the coaches award with Ed Weiler.

Judy Shetzer and Mike Held were named the most valuable players for the girls and boys roundball teams, respectively. Shetzer led her team to a school record 11 victories this season while being named to the All-Buckeye Conference team.

The 5-1 senior also was presented with a captain's trophy, along with Margaret Van Gilder by Coach Sue Wolf, and took home the trophy for the top foul shooter, a division that she also led the BC in with 78 percent.

Other girl's winners included Tammy Haas for most improved and Laurie Smith won the rebounding trophy. Joan Osmom was named the outstanding sophomore.

Held and Gregg Hedden won two awards each for Coach Biz Paeth's boys team with Held, Tom Wolesslagel and Jerry Ameling receiving captain's trophies. Hedden won the foul shooting and shared the "Mr. Defense" award with Wolesslagel.

In addition to his most valuable award, Held won the rebounding trophy. During the season, the 6-3 senior was named to the All-Buckeye Conference first team, second team Associated Press (AP) Northwest Ohio and was honorable mention in the AP All-Ohio voting.

The outstanding sophomore for the boys was Tony Gant. Gant led the junior varsity team in scoring and rebounding.

Andre Parks walked off with his second MVP award, dubbed the Mal Mackey Award, for the wrestling team. He also received the team trophy for the most season takedowns from Coach Al Voggenthaler and received a captain's trophy along with Tim Walther.

Parks finished sixth in the state last year and fourth this past season.

Corey Beard, a sophomore, won the Chuck Binkley Award as the team's most improved and the trophy for the most pins went to senior Greg Brown. Craig Hiltz won the coaches award.



Mike Mowry headed the trophy winners for Coach Art Bucci's swim team. The Ross junior was named the team's most valuable and shared the coaches award with Ed Weiler.

Mowry qualified for the state meet in the 100 and 200-yard freestyles and was on the Ross medley relay that also qualified for the state meet.

Weiler came back from a cracked seventh vertebra suffered during a summer accident to lead the Ross diving congregation.

The team's most improved swimmer is sophomore Brian Overmyer while captain's trophies went to Tim Heslet and Mark Schuster.

Dale Jennings, the team's manager for three years, was awarded the Tom White Scholarship.

Following are the names of the letter winners for the winner sports:

BASKETBALL

Girls: Judy Shetzer, Kelly Shoemaker, Margaret Van Gilder, Diane Borys, Cindy Gilson, Tammy Haas, Della Hall, Amy Lindstrom, Rhea Paulson, Lisa Pfeiffer, Laurie Smith and Sue Jess, manager.

Boys: Jerry Ameling, Rob Bollenbacher, Rudy Bure, Gary Harms, Gregg Hedden, Mike Held, Tim Wolesslagel, Mike Elcher, Tim Niles, manager and Ted Orndorf, trainer.

WRESTLING

Greg Brown, Tony Burel, Craig Hiltz, Jeff Hull, Mitch Johnson, Gilbert Palacios, Andre Parks, Ed Salcedo, Tim Walther, Jim Lipstraw, Wayne Orndorf, Doug Smith, Tom Smith, Mark Walther, Corey Beard, Tony Gardner, John Havener, Keith Zimmerman, manager and Dana Szymanski, trainer.

SWIMMING

Tim Heslet, Mark Schuster, Jamie Avals, Brian Beck, Greg Bobay, Dennis Elcker, Johanna Hawk, John Isaac, Ty Mitchell, Mike Mowry, Scott Pitts, Dave Sanna, Mike Waggoner, Ed Weiler, Ron Kelley, Brian Overmyer, Janice Smith, Randy Penrod and Dale Jennings, manager.

Bailey named top star of Class A All-Ohio

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Dexter Bailey, a 6-foot-4 star for Cincinnati Summit Country Day, reigns today as The Associated Press' Player of the Year in state Class A high school boys basketball.

Bailey's versatility has led the private school to 49 victories in 51 games over the last two seasons. His ability has attracted the nation's major college scouts despite the smallness of Summit Country Day.

The second team All-Ohio in 1979 averaged 21.1 points during the regular season, leading the Silver Knights to Ohio's No. 4 ranking and into the state semifinals for the second straight time.

Bailey edged two-time first team all-star, Tom Pollock, of state poll champion Mogadore, for the No. 1 player honors. Pollock, a 5-11 senior, averaged 19 points for the Wildcats, leading them to an unbeaten regular season.

Pollock also was all-state in football as an end and was named Ohio's Class A Lineman of the Year.

Fran Guilbault of St. Henry is the Class A State Coach of the Year.

Guilbault kept St. Henry a statewide power despite the loss of three starters from last year's state championship team.

St. Henry won 19 of 20 regular season games this time for its veteran coach of 19 years. Guilbault has compiled a 289-111 record, despite a 13-45 mark in first three seasons.

Track battle takes back seat to FISA-FOCA off track rift

By MIKE HARRIS
AP Motorsports Writer

The sleek, powerful Formula One cars will be roaring through the streets of Long Beach, Calif., this

race, disliked by many competitors because it is located in an out-of-the-way area in central New York. A long list of complaints about facilities, Vegas event — scheduled to be run on a tiny course confined to the parking lot at Caesar's Palace Hotel — will be cancelled. The Formula One people were

Take

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Bucci named Ohio coach of the year

Art Bucci, Ross High School swim coach, was named the Ohio High School "Coach of the Year" Friday.

Bucci, 31, was selected by a vote of the 170 high school swim coaches in the state.

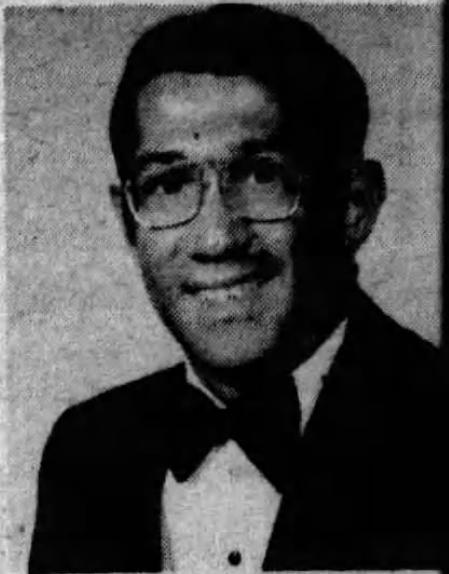
In five years as the Little Giants' leader, Bucci has steadily turned the Ross program around to where it is recognized as one of the growing programs in the state.

Five years ago, Bucci's team had only 12 swimmers.

"That was my dirty dozen," he joked Friday after learning about his selection as the top state coach. "The next year, it was the dirty dozen minus one."

From that point, though, Bucci has turned out top notch performers and this season, had his best turnout, 27.

Twice named the northwestern district coach of the year, this



BUCCI

year and in 1975-76, Bucci called the state award a goal realized.

"As a coach," he said, "it's a great honor. It's a goal in coaching that I set for myself. It's a great feeling to accomplish something like this at an early age."

This past season, Bucci guided his team to a 7-6 dual meet record and took four swimmers to the state meet . . . a medley relay team and two others who qualified for individual events.

