

1972 Sectional Tournament

10 Fremont News-Messenger Saturday, May 13, 1972

Ross Golfers Gain Final District Berth

By MARK CARLSON

New-Messenger Sports Editor

Charlie Baker only wanted a chance. His Ross golf squad got it and now they're making plans for next week's Class AAA District Tournament after a thrilling sudden death playoff with arch-rival Sandusky at sunny Fremont Country Club Friday.

But, for a long time Friday, it didn't look like the Little Giants were going to receive their third consecutive ticket to district play.

Ross was stunned Thursday when it learned that Jim Decker, who has played in the No. 1 position throughout most of the spring, had sustained a hairline fracture of his small finger and would be lost to the squad for the sectional meet.

That was the only news which was circulating in the mid-70s, Baker realized the Giants were in for some trouble.

"With Decker we would have been going for the championship," Baker said later, "but without him I know that we were just shooting for a spot in the district."

Ross didn't get the championship. The trophy went to Amanda with a score of 325, while the second-championship trophy and Fort Clinton with a 325 was second.

That left only one spot open in the Fremont delegation going to the district. And, when all the scores were tabulated, Ross and Sandusky each had 331, which necessitated the heart-stopping playoff.

"I just wanted the chance," Baker repeated. "Even if it was second, I wanted to be in the playoff for the third spot."

"In a way, I was glad to be playing Sandusky. If we would have lost, I knew we would be losing to a good team. But the kids on both clubs are also very good friends so that made it rough emotionally."

The playoff format included all four players from each team.

The number one and two players from each club went in one

Defeat Sandusky In Sudden Death

foursome and were followed by the three and four players. The teams were told that the total score of all four players on the first extra hole would determine the winner.

Bob Moll, the Purple Streak, was in the first two slots for Ross while Jeff Mansella and Jim Kimer played for Sandusky. In the third and fourth spots for Ross were Scott Young and Rob Hall, while the Boisneault brothers, Scott and Bruce, played those positions for the Blue Streaks.

Mark Young, the Ross star, was on the 465-yard first hole at the Country Club while Mansella picked up a fine birdie four and Kimer took a bogey six after putting his second shot in the creek which runs through the fairway in front of the green.

In the second group, Hall came up with a five and Young a six while both Ross and Sandusky had a one. Bruce and the Ross foursome had 21 and Sandusky 22 which gave the Purple and White the district berth.

Because of the tension which went with the playoff, all eight golfers were visibly nervous. Moll almost put Ross in a deep hole when he hit a wedge shot a yard past the hole on the ball, which had neither backspin or power, managed to bounce over the creek and Moll was saved from a penalty stroke.

"The pressure was really on those fellows, especially the third and fourth players who didn't have any idea what the players in the first foursome had done," Baker said.

"I really thought we were through when Moll muffed that shot. I sure can't figure out how the ball got over the creek. I was sure it was going in the water."

Pressure was a frequent word in Baker's vocabulary as he reviewed the play of his "Kiddie Corps" — Ross used three separate words to describe it.

"If the injury to Jim would have happened three days earlier we might have been able to adjust mentally, but everything came so quickly we didn't have time to get our thoughts straightened out," Baker said.

"The pressure was really on Hall and Baumann. They knew that in order to get the district berths they had to shoot below 80. And, Hall knew that he would have to be close."

"Young had to have the most pressure. I can't even imagine what I would have been like if I would have been thrown into that type of situation. He had played varsity only one other time in his year and he had never been to the Fremont Country Club just once. Yet he knew he had to give it a good shot."

Moll and Baumann each carded 77 while Hall had an 84 and Young after opening with a 48 cut three strokes off that in his final nine and totaled 83.

"Give Young a lot of credit," Baker continued. "He started with that 48 and came back up. But he kept fighting and improved. He got through the pressure a lot better than most people would have in those conditions."

Moll acted as the team leader while Decker was cheering from the sidelines.

"Moll kept the kids together and tried to keep them as loose as possible," Decker said. "That's a lot on his part because he really does a lot to think about."

Decker was injured while playing basketball in gym class Thursday. His status for the district meet (which will be

played at Glengary Country Club in Toledo) will not be known until sometime next week.

"I'm sure the kids will do well. They can win without Jim and that plays to our strength," Baker said. "But I also know they were very worried after we won the playoff. They realize now another 301 won't get them to the state. The scores must go down if we're going to get to Columbus."

Ashtabula (322)

Dave Carter, 40-37-77; Kevin Strahl, 40-38-78; Jeff Leonard, 39-41-80;

Laurel Ferguson, 41-43-87;

Port Clinton (321)

Mark Ferguson, 40-37-75; Bob Gardner, 41-38-79; John Gish, 40-39-81; Mark

Slaboch, 41-40-86;

Ross (321)

Bob Moll, 38-39-77; Buck Baumann, 39-38-77; Rob Hall, 42-43-84; Scott

Young, 45-49-85;

Sandusky (321)

Jeff Mansella, 39-39-78; Jim Kimer, 39-42-81; Scott Boisneault, 41-40-81;

Bruce Boisneault, 45-45-81;

Bowling Green (321)

Dave Simon, 39-41-80; Jim Ricketts, 40-40-82; Steve Wyatt, 38-47-85; Roger

Schmidt, 44-44-86;

Columbus (342)

Rod Husted, 41-41-82; Dennis Raud, 42-43-85; Tom Mowery, 43-43-87; Brett

Brown, 40-40-86;

Massillon (345)

Terry Gibson, 40-41-81; Tom Fremerek, 42-43-86; Jim Brebnerman, 41-

48-49; George Gibson, 40-40-86;

Bethel (345)

Dan Wright, 41-42-82; Jay Ball, 42-42-87; Craig Soede, 47-45-92; Tim Soule,

47-46-93;

Tulsa (380)

Tom Kneely, 46-44-90; Steve Moller, 46-46-90; Doug Richardson, 50-48-96;

Tom McElfresh, 46-46-96;

Central Catholic (348)

Robert Nichols Jr., 47-45-90; Mark Young, 47-46-96; Stephen Meyer, 34-

48-49; James McNeury, 40-40-86;

Oregon Clay (390)

Tom Wright, 46-44-90; Don Haler, 42-45-97; Jim Hunt, 53-47-100; Kevin

Dugan, 53-48-101;

Tulsa Woodward (421)

Bob Zasada, 46-49-90; Gary Stuhsiek, 32-54-106; Gregg Hoffman, 33-

55-108; Dave Petekich, 53-58-111