

2009 Season Review

Fostoria over Fremont Ross 25-22, 25-21, 25-19

FOSTORIA — A lack of offensive execution led to the downfall of Fremont Ross, which was swept by Fostoria on Monday.

Christy Woleslagel led the Little Giants with seven kills and three blocks while McKenzie Schneider contributed five kills. Cassie Leasure had 19 set assists and Gabby Domiray topped Ross with 15 digs. Jordyn Gallagher served 13 points, including four aces.

“We have to execute a lot harder, if we expect to score more points,” Ross coach Randi Whitman said.

The Little Giants (0-1 overall) host Marion Harding on Thursday in a Greater Buckeye Conference match.

Ross volleyball team gives coach first win at Little Giant helm

News-Messenger reports

FREMONT — Randi Whitman won her first match as Fremont Ross's varsity volleyball coach after the Little Giants beat Marion 25-14, 25-17, 25-22 at the Purple Pit on Thursday.

Christy Woleslagel had nine kills and three blocks, McKenzie Schneider added seven kills and five digs, Cassie Leasure produced 25 assists, three kills and two aces for Ross (1-1 overall, 1-0 Greater Buckeye Conference).

Bettsville in three games in a non-conference match Thursday.

Christine Longer five aces, three kills, a block, five digs and 10 points; Cassandra Warren had four aces and 10 points; Meggie Oglesbee five kills, three aces and six points and Katie Stecher 10 points and an ace.

No stats were submitted for Bettsville.

Margaretta beat Oak

and five digs; Abby Zurvalec scored seven points and a pair of kills; Kristen Platzke generated seven points and four assists and Taylor Reau posted six points and five digs.

No stats were available for Margaretta.

Huron beat Clyde
25-22, 25-20, 25-19

HURON — After having its conference

kills and 20 digs; Rachael Smetzler had 8 kills, 13 digs and 4 points; Alesha Dickman turned in 6 kills and 4 points; Bridgette Setzler set up 26 assists and Lindi Humbert 16 digs and 13 serve receives for the Fliers (2-1 overall, 1-1 SBC).

Lakota 25-8, 25-9, 25-23
over Toledo Christian

VOLLEYBALL

Findlay downs Ross, 25-15, 25-12, 25-11

FREMONT — Greater Buckeye Conference powerhouse Findlay swept Fremont Ross in a league match at the Purple Pit on Saturday.

McKenzie Schneider had five kills and three digs for the Little Giants. Gabby Domiray added 10 digs and three aces for the Little Giants.

Note: See Tuesday's edition of The News-Messenger for more weekend volleyball results.

Ross can't manage to put away Sandusky

BY JEFF ARENZ
Sports writer

FREMONT — When the match was on the line, the Fremont Ross volleyball team failed to put it away.

The Little Giants gained control by winning the first two games, but lost a Greater Buckeye Conference contest to Sandusky, which rallied to claim the final three games during a 21-25, 12-25, 25-15, 25-16, 19-17 decision Tuesday night at the Purple Pit.

"We have talked about having an opponent down and that a varsity-level team has the ability to come back at any point," Ross coach Randi Whitman said. "Our girls are taking responsibility for it, and I take responsibility for it, too. All of us agreed it was our lack of intensity and energy that was the difference."

The Blue Streaks took advantage of Ross's intensity level in Game 3, when Sandusky took a 10-1 lead. Tierra Hunter capped the set by scoring seven of the final eight points after the Little Giants rebounded to deficits of 12-11 and 17-14.

Hunter had a match-high 19 points while teammate Capreece Irby added 15 more.

"We got mentally tough and decided we wanted to win," Sandusky coach Stephanie Hotz said. "Against a really good Fremont (Ross) team, my girls accepted the challenge and we came out on top."

But it was Cara Croom (13 kills, nine digs) and Irby (11 kills, 10 blocks) who kickstarted Sandusky's attack. They combined to make 16 kills over the final three games as the Blue Streaks improved to 1-6 overall and 1-2 versus the GBC.

"One of the things that Cara and Capreece were doing that you don't notice on the stat sheet is they were passing the serve-receive really consistently," Hotz said. "When we can get that ball control inside-out, that's what helped us the third, fourth and fifth games."

Tied at two games apiece, Ross led 8-5 in Game 5 after Kassi Leasure served consecutive aces. But the Blue Streaks fought back and tied the final set at 12 on a Irby kill. After a Little Giants' hitting error gave Sandusky a 13-12 lead, both teams battled to a 17-all tie with neither squad having the ability to end the match.

Christy Meggitt and McKenzie Schneider each had a team-high eight kills for Ross. But as Meggitt's hitting attempt late in Game 5 went long, the Blue Streaks forged an 18-17 edge. Croom served the final point, which was awarded to Sandusky on a Ross hitting error.

Waggoner added five blocks while Schneider led Ross with 15 digs and Meggitt set up 19 assists. Carly Young contributed 10 digs and a block for Ross (1-4 overall, 1-3 GBC).

The Little Giants began the match with great energy.

During Game 2, Ross played at a near-flawless level.

The Little Giants committed only five unforced errors while Waggoner consecutively served 11 of her team-high 17 points, including three aces, as Ross built a 14-3 lead. The Little Giants increased their lead to 16 points (23-7) on an ace from Jordyn Gallagher before taking a 2-0 edge in games.

"At times, we played very well where it almost looked like we were at the top of our game," Whitman said. "For being early in the season, I was pleased we were at that level. But there were a couple times when we fell inconsistent and I think that's what did us in."

Ross rallied from a 15-10 deficit in Game 1 to score 15 of the final 21 points as it earned an early 1-0 advantage.

Volleyball

Fremont Ross wins 1 of 3 at invitational

TOLEDO — The Fremont Ross Little Giants lost two of three matches during the Toledo Central Catholic Invitational on Saturday.

Ross defeated Cardinal Stritch 25-21, 25-16 before falling to Eastwood (26-24, 21-25, 16-25) and to Perrysburg (25-21, 21-25, 12-25).

Perkins turns back Fremont Ross

FREMONT — Sandusky Perkins defeated a scrappy Fremont Ross volleyball squad 25-20, 17-25, 26-24, 25-13 during a non-conference match Monday night.

“I’m really proud of the effort our girls are giving, especially when opposing coaches like (Perkins’) Beth Sage tells me she has seen a dramatic improvement

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in them,” Ross coach Randi Whitman said.

Carly Young had 13 kills and five digs for the Little Giants (3-7 overall). Taylor Waggoner added four blocks, three kills and three digs. Gabby Domiray chipped in 20 digs.

Ross returns to the court today in a Greater Buckeye Conference match at Lima Senior.

Ross splits tri-match

MAUMEE — Fremont Ross split a tri-match, beating Oak Harbor but falling to the host Panthers.

Christy Meggitt had 10 kills and 9 assists, Carly Young had 10 kills and Kassie Leasure had 18 assists for the Little Giants (4-9).

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS ■ ROUNDUP

Volleyball

Fremont Ross sweeps Marion Harding

News Messenger reports

MARION — Carly Young, Christy Meggitt and Jordyn Gallagher propelled Fremont Ross to a 25-21, 25-22, 25-16 sweep of Greater Buckeye Conference rival Marion Harding on Tuesday.

Young hammered down 10 kills and added four digs for the Little Giants (5-10 overall, 2-4 GBC). Meggitt had seven kills, nine digs and served eight aces while Gallagher recorded seven digs and served two aces.

Eagles overcome Little Giants in four games

BY JEFF ARENZ
Sports writer

FREMONT — The Fremont Ross Little Giants hung around, but the Oregon Clay Eagles proved to be too much during a nonconference volleyball match Thursday at the Purple Pit.

Clay (12-3 overall) captured a 25-23, 19-25, 25-19, 25-13 victory against Ross (5-11) during a contest that the Little Giants controlled at times during the first three games.

“We played intense in those first three games, were very consistent and very aggressive,” Ross coach Randi Whitman said. “In that last game, we lost a little bit of mental focus. We need to keep our mental focus because that prevents our opponents from going on long scoring runs.”

Oregon Clay coach Tracy Donnelly agreed.

“They really outplayed us in the

first two games,” Donnelly said. “In the third game, we used their game plan back on them (to earn a win). And then (in Game 4), I think their players started to question themselves, their confidence and they started to lose focus.”

Trailing 2-1 in games, the Little Giants allowed the Eagles to go on a 10-2 run to start Game 4. It was the beginning of the end for Ross, which gave a valiant effort in attempting to upset Clay.

Christy Meggitt had 19 digs, nine kills and eight points for Ross, which received nine digs, seven kills, five points and an ace from McKenzie Schneider and five kills, four blocks and a dig from Christy Wolesslagel.

But the Eagles countered with Megan Agoston, who posted a match-high 12 kills, served 10 points with one ace and added a block, and Lexi Laberdee, who turned in nine kills, eight points

with three aces and a block.

Ross took a 10-6 lead in Game 1 after Wolesslagel had consecutive blocks. The Little Giants maintained an edge until Marci Herr’s kill tied the first game at 13 and the teams battled to a 21-all deadlock.

Kills from Schneider and Christy Meggitt handed Ross a 23-21 edge. But the Little Giants saw Game 1 slip away after a serve went long, they were called for a double-hit and Clay’s Kristen Kayser served both of her aces in the match.

In Game 2, Ross led by as many as eight points (19-11) as its front row came to life. Three consecutive kills from Taylor Waggoner put the Little Giants up 14-10 before Kassi Leasure served the first of her two aces. Ross kept its momentum after Meggitt hammered down two more kills while Clay went on a short-lived rally to close the second game.

“Our girls are finally starting to realize that volleyball has a mental game besides having a power game,” Whitman said. “We get up on boxes and work on hitting zones. I had hitters hitting against six blockers in the front row, telling them to get the ball around them. I think the girls are doing a better job of using their eyes and playing that mental game.”

Leading 7-3 in Game 3, Ross had all of the momentum on its side. But Agoston and Lexterbee went to work, combining for nine Clay points on eight kills and a block as the Eagles rallied for a 19-14 lead. After Ross got within three points (22-19), Laberdee delivered back-to-back kills before a Little Giants’ passing error put Clay ahead 2-1 in games.

“I think the biggest difference was that Fremont Ross got away

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“The hardest shots that Clay gave us, I thought, we dug up very well.”

WHITMAN

Fremont Ross volleyball coach

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what was working for them,” Donnelly said. “They were scoring points on tipping and rolling before we decided to use their game plan against them. We picked up on that and, when Fremont Ross started to lose momentum, anything could happen.”

Whitman said the Ross defense needs to be more effective.

“We have struggled with reading where the hit is coming from and defending against a roll or a tip shot,” Whitman said. “Defensively, we’re in the proper position when our opponents are hitting the ball. The hardest shots that Clay gave us, I thought, we dug up very well. But then they came back with that little slap shot, and we’re not there.”

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VOLLEYBALL

OREGON CLAY.....25-19-25-25

FREMONT ROSS.....23-25-19-13

■ **Site:** Fremont Ross High School.

■ **Oregon Clay:** Megan Agoston 12 kills, 1 block, 10 points, 1 ace; Lexi Laberdee 9 kills, 1 block, 8 points, 3 aces; Alexis Morrison 1 kill, 1 block; Alex Roberts 6 points, 1 ace; Kristen Kayser 1 kill, 9 points, 2 aces; Kim Crawford 1 block, 10 points, 2 aces; Tory Harper 2 kills, 2 blocks; Torrie Reichert 2 kills, 2 blocks; Kayleigh Staerker 2 kills, 2 blocks; Marci Herr 1 kill, 5 points, 1 ace; Cassie Laberdee 1 point.

■ **Fremont Ross:** Christy Woleslagel 5 kills, 4 blocks, 1 dig; Taylor Waggoner 3 kills, 2 blocks, 2 digs; Carly Young 14 digs, 5 kills, 5 points, 2 aces, 1 block; Anissa Guardiola 1 block; McKenzie Schneider 9 digs, 7 kills, 5 points, 1 ace; Christy Meggitt 19 digs, 9 kills, 8 points; Alex Ferguson 10 points, 5 digs, 2 kills, 1 block, 1 ace; Alexis Schneider 2 kills; Jordyn Gallagher 15 digs, 3 kills, 2 points, 1 ace; Gabby Domiray 14 digs, 5 points; Kassi Leasure 8 digs, 7 points, 2 aces.

■ **JV:** Oregon Clay def. Fremont Ross 25-20, 25-11.

■ **Records:** Fremont Ross 5-11; Oregon Clay 12-3

VOLLEYBALL ■ FREMONT ROSS BEATS SANDUSKY 16-25, 25-18, 25-20, 25-13

Ross finishes strong against Streaks

BY JEFF ARENZ
Sports writer

SANDUSKY — Fremont Ross closed out a Greater Buckeye Conference volleyball match with authority 16-25, 25-18, 25-20, 25-13 on Tuesday at rival Sandusky.

Little Giants coach Randi Whitman was excited to see her squad do something it has struggled to do all season.

"We've pushed the girls all season long, trying to get them to understand that it's all about finishing (matches)," Whitman said. "At the start of the second game, I challenged them to score points because we had a slow start in the first game. It was about us scoring points because Sandusky doesn't give a lot of points away. We had to go out there and earn it."

McKenzie Schneider hammered down eight kills and recorded 11 digs for Ross, which

improved to 6-13 overall and 3-6 in the GBC. Christy Meggitt added six kills and 17 digs while Alexis Schneider chipped in four kills and Alex Ferguson contributed six digs and four kills.

"We were really excited because we haven't had a big win like this in a long time," McKenzie Schneider said. "We came together as a team and played as hard as we could."

The Blue Streaks (4-13, 2-8) took a commanding 20-9 lead in Game 1 after winning the battle

of energy right from the start. Cara Croom, who topped Sandusky with match highs in kills (12) and digs (26), produced four kills in the first game.

"It took us a while to get warmed up in Game 1," McKenzie Schneider said. "We knew that we had to close them out because of they would come back and beat us."

The Little Giants answered Whitman's challenge in Game 2.

Kassi Leasure, who broke a 10-all tie by sandwiching a pair of

"We were really excited because we haven't had a big win like this in a long time. We came together as a team and played as hard as we could."

MCKENZIE SCHNEIDER

Fremont Ross volleyball player

aces around a Blue Streaks' hitting error, began a 6-point Ross scoring run. Ferguson and Taylor Waggoner added aces as the Little Giants served four of their eight aces during the second game.

Sandusky provided 11 unforced errors in Game 2 to aid the Ross attack.

"Our girls lost their mental focus and never got it back," Sandusky coach Stephanie Hotz said. "We gave them too many points on errors."

After Meggitt gave the Little Giants a 16-11 lead with an ace in Game 3, the Blue Streaks rallied for a 20-18 edge behind kills by Capreece Irby and Jakira Spearman.

But Whitman asked for a timeout to settle down the Little Giants, who responded effectively in the form of McKenzie Schnei-

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Volleyball

Lima Senior stops Fremont Ross

FREMONT — Carly Young produced 10 kills and 10 digs as Fremont Ross lost a Greater Buckeye Conference match to Lima Senior 14-25, 25-18, 25-18, 25-23 on Thursday at the Purple Pit.

Jordyn Gallagher had 32 digs for the Little Giants (6-14 overall, 3-7 GBC). McKenzie Schneider added six kills for Ross.

Prep Sports

Awards

FREMONT ROSS

Volleyball

■ **Certificate:** Megan Joseph, Kaylee Amor, Brooke Baumann, Danielle Minier, Jennifer Kiser, Melanie Edris, Mckenzie Gallagher, Molly Mosser, Carly Schwartz.

■ **First Year Award:** Kassi Leasure, Anissa Guardiola.

■ **Second Year Award:** Gabriella Domiray, Alexis Schneider, Kayleigh Walther, Alex Ferguson, McKenzie Schneider.

■ **Third Year Award:** Jorydan Gallagher, Christy Woleslagel, Carly Young, Christy Meggitt, Taylor Waggoner.

■ **GBC All Academic:** Jorydan Gallagher, Christy Woleslagel, Carly Young, Gabriella Domiray, Alexis Schneider.

■ **Honorable Mention GBC:** Carly Young, Mckenzie Schneider.

■ **Second Team GBC:** Christy Meggitt.

■ **Second Team District 6:** Carly Young.

■ **First Team District 6:** Christy Meggitt.

■ **Defensive Player of the Year:** Christy Meggitt.

■ **Offensive Player of the Year:** Carly Young.

■ **Coach's Award:** Alex Ferguson.