

Ross Hall of Fame inductee. 1992

Jack Carroll

Jack Carroll won 10 letters in four sports in his Fremont Ross High School athletic career that spanned from 1938 through 1941.

He earned All-Ohio honorable mention recognition in basketball.

Carroll lettered three times in both basketball and track and field and added two letters each in football and golf.

In track, Carroll was a versatile performer, winning all events in various meets.

He was All-Buckeye League in both basketball and football. In the 1940-41 season, Carroll scored 246 points in the regular season and was a unanimous all-league selection.

From Fremont Ross, Carroll went on to play basketball at Dartmouth, where he lettered for the Ivy League champions in 1943.

After Dartmouth, Carroll attended the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. He lettered three years in basketball and served as the midshipmen captain in 1946.

For good measure, Carroll played lacrosse for two years, lettering one time.

While serving in the Navy, he competed in the 1948 Olympic trials. The Navy team reached the quarterfinals before being eliminated.

Carroll spent two tours of duty with the Navy from 1942-49 and 1951-53.

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Tony Gant

Tony Gant was a multi-talented athlete while attending Fremont Ross.

A 1982 graduate, Gant was a two-year letterman in both football and basketball and a three-year letterman in track.

Gant, a quarterback and defensive back, reaped several honors while performing on the gridiron for the Little Giants. In 1981, he won the Governor's Trophy as the top high school player in Ohio and was named the Veterans of Foreign Wars Ohio Athlete of the Year.

Along with these honors, Gant was the Buckeye Conference and Northwest Ohio District back of the year while earning first team All-Ohio on both the Associated Press and United Press International teams. He was also named to several prep All-America teams.

In track, Gant was the Buckeye Conference long jump champion in 1980 and 1981 and placed third in the state with a school-record 23 feet, 1/2-inch effort in 1981.

Gant led the Ross basketball team in rebounding two years and, in 1981, also led the Little Giants in scoring.

Gant proved that he could balance athletics and academics well. He was a member of the National Honor Society and won the National Merit Scholar Award.

He went on to play defensive back for the University of Michigan, where he made the Big Ten All-Academic team.

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John Level

John Level and the number “70” are linked in the athletic history of Fremont Ross High School.

In a 1957 game against the Toledo powerhouse Scott, Level, from his fullback position, uncorked a mind-boggling pass.

Witnesses – and official statistics verify it – to that throw say it covered 70 yards in the air when it nestled into the arms of teammate Charlie Houdeshell. Oddly, the play did not result in a touchdown but did help produce a 13-13 deadlock and preserve the Little Giants’ 30-game unbeaten streak.

Level won two letters in football, basketball, and baseball from 1956-58. In the 1956-57 season, Level set a season scoring record for Ross. In 1958, he pitched in the state baseball tournament.

In football, Level was an All-Buckeye Conference selection in 1956 and 1957. He was a second-team All-Ohio selection in 1957, a year after earning all-state honorable mention.

Also in 1957, Level was named to the National High School All-American team.

Indiana University basketball coach Bobby Knight, who became acquainted with Level while they attended Ohio State University, described Level in a 1991 speech at the Front Row Theater in Cleveland as “...one of the best athletes I have ever known.”

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J.W, Miller

J.W. Miller is one of the greatest athletes to have competed under the Fremont High School banner.

His 15 letters won from 1927-1930 attest to that claim, one that is unmatched in purple and white athletic history.

Miller earned letters in football, basketball, baseball, and track.

In 1928 and 1930, Miller was a member of the Fremont Ross basketball team that reached the state tournament. Miller earned all-Ohio honors while playing on the 1928 team.

As a sophomore guard, Miller was described as one of the best at his position in the state. He proved that a season later.

Newspaper football accounts in Miller’s day labeled him as the “Townsend Tourist” who was able to “absorb knowledge like a sponge does H-2-O.”

In his three years of varsity football, Ross finished with 22 wins in 29 games.

After leaving Ross, Miller earned 10 collegiate athletic letters at Western Michigan University. He won three letters in football, basketball, and baseball, and added another letter in track and field.

He is a member of the Western Michigan University Hall of Fame.

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1973 Ross Golf Team

Golf put Fremont Ross on the map in 1973.

Known as a football power, Fremont won its state championship on the powerful links game of Bob Moll, Buck Baumann, Rob Hall and Jim Decker.

Decker gave Ross a clean sweep of the top honors, bringing home the overall medalist honor, shooting a 150 for the two rounds at the state tournament. Baumann was runner-up in the state with 152. Moll shot 164, and Hall added a 168.

Coached by Charlie Baker, the Little Giants won the Buckeye Conference Tournament and later in the '73 season, added championships in the sectional and district tournaments before taking aim at the state tournament in Columbus.

The state crown topped off a 16-0 dual match record.

At the state tourney, Baumann shot a 74 and Decker a 75 as Ross trailed Upper Arlington 314-318 after the first round of the tourney on the Ohio State University Scarlet Course.

The second day, Decker shot 75 and Baumann 78 as the Little Giants posted a 316 and beat Upper Arlington 634-638.

Dick Sherman, Ross athletic director, called the team's accomplishment: "The greatest day in Ross High School spring sports history."