

2001 Great Lakes League...

Ross track teams host league today

Lytle healthy; girls favored

By **TIMOTHY R. WOLFRUM**
Sports editor

The Fremont Ross girls track and field team hopes to be a rude host today, giving its Great Lakes League opponents the same treatment they've received all year.

The Little Giants have beaten every GLL team and enter today's Great Lakes League meet at Ross High School unblemished against league foes.

"They're clearly undefeated, and they haven't been challenged a lot," Ross coach Cathy Esposito said. "I told them the other day, 'You guys have put yourselves in a position to be chased.'"

But the Ross girls, who finished third at last year's GLL meet, aren't the only Little Giants with high hopes heading into today's event, which begins with preliminaries at 10 a.m. at the Ross



track. Finals begin at 1 p.m.

The boys team boasts a healthy Kelly Lytle, the senior sprinter who is the reigning GLL Most Outstanding Performer after winning the 100- and 200-meter dashes last season.

"Our focus is for both of them to win," Esposito said. "It seems like the practices this week have been much more intense with just the athletes who are competing in the league meet. We've been able to get a lot of work done that we couldn't get done with a lot of people there."

League meets dominate the weekend for all 11 area track and field teams.

St. Joseph Central Catholic, Old Fort and Bettsville will compete in the Midland Athletic League meet, which begins at 10 a.m. today in Fostoria. The Crimson Streaks won the girls title last season, and Old Fort's David Myers is the defending 110 hurdles champion.

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Giants have sights set on crowns

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Clyde, Oak Harbor and Margareta are at the Sandusky Bay Conference meet at 10 a.m. today in Port Clinton High School. Jackie Baumgartner of Oak Harbor is defending her 1,600 run crown.

Gibsonburg, Woodmore and Lakota compete in the Suburban Lakes League Championships at 9 a.m. today at Otsego High School. The Woodmore girls will be defending their team title, and Mered-

ith Magsig and Catie Lavigne are after repeat individual crowns. Magsig won the 800 and 1,600 runs, and Lavigne took the high jump last season. Lakota's Nick Smith won the 800 run and returns.

Bellevue will compete in the NOL meet at Bucyrus.

As for the Little Giants girls, their toughest competitors will likely be defending GLL champion Oregon Clay and Whitmer.

The Eagles are strong in the jumping events, and the Panthers are a well-rounded team.

But Ross has beaten both teams this season. The Little Giants boast senior sprinter Fallon Bailey and several strong relay teams. Throwers Jen Hillier and Jamie Smith have fared well against GLL competition this year, too.

Sandusky and Whitmer will provide the competition for the Ross boys. The Blue Streaks, who are stacked with good sprinters, demolished the field at last week's Fremont Invitational. Whitmer also beat the Little Giants this season.

Bailey marks up GLL book

Senior sets records; Ross boys, girls third

By TIMOTHY R. WOLFRUM
Sports editor

Fallon Bailey won three of the four events she entered and had a hand in a pair of meet records at Saturday's Great Lakes League Championships track and field meet.

But Bailey, Fremont Ross's top sprinter, thought she should have had another victory and another record.

Bailey came from behind in the 200-meter dash and finished in a dead heat with rival Tamala Perryman of Sandusky in identical, record-setting times of 24.9 seconds.

After she crossed the line, Perryman sprawled on the track and had to be helped to her feet. Track officials awarded the victory and the meet record to Perryman.

"I believe that I did," Bailey said when asked if she thought she had won the race. "She beat me off the curve, but I got her the last hundred. But it came down to an official's decision, and they picked her. The next time, I better beat her outright."

But the 200 disappointment hardly dampened the day for Bailey, who was named the Most Outstanding Athlete in the girls meet.

She won the 100 dash in a meet-record time of 12 seconds flat and ran the anchor legs of the winning 400 and 1,600 relay teams. The Ross 400 relay team of Taneshia McKinstry, Keia Irons, Adrienne Robertson and Bailey set a meet record in 49.9 seconds.

Although favored to win,

the Ross girls finished third in the team race with 105 points. Toledo Whitmer won with 126 points, and Findlay managed 106.

"I'm disappointed we didn't win with all the hard work we accomplished," said Ross coach Cathy Esposito, who was voted girls coach of the year by her peers. "But sometimes when you don't win the GLL, you go to state."

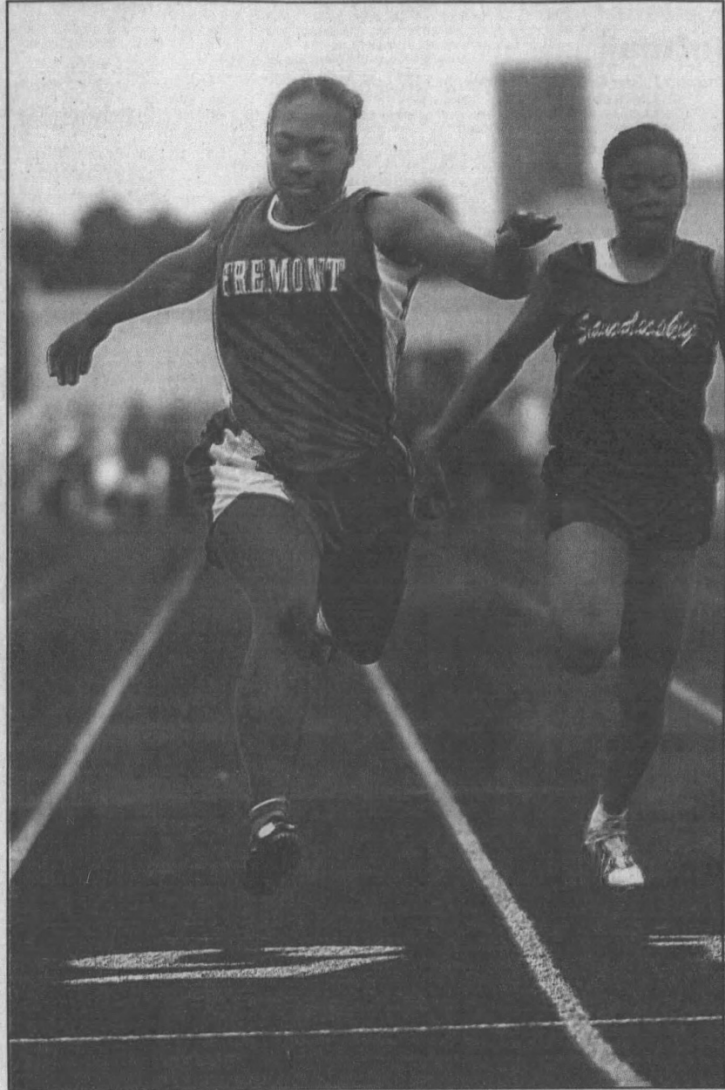
In the boys meet, Sandusky's Durond Clark broke the 200 dash record and tied the 100 dash record to lead the Blue Streaks to their first GLL championship. Sandusky scored 144 points, Whitmer was second with 122 points and Ross came in third with 69 points.

Clark, a senior who was the Most Outstanding Athlete of the boys meet, had an easier time of it when Fremont Ross senior sprinter Kelly Lytle pulled out with an injury. Lytle, the top athlete at last year's league meet, aggravated a sore adductor muscle in a preliminary race and scratched for the finals.

Ross was also missing junior distance runner Jeremy Framstad, who tried to compete in the 1,600 run but had to stop because of an injury.

"We could have fared better with them, obviously," Esposito said of Lytle and Framstad. "But the kids still stepped it up and got third."

Allen Lutes turned in the Little Giants' lone boys victory by winning the long



News-Messenger/Ben French

FALLON BAILEY, left, of Fremont Ross takes the final step toward a 100-meter title during Saturday's Great Lakes League meet at Ross High School. Sandusky's Tamala Perryman, right, finished second.

See GIANTS, B2

Giants look toward postseason

Continued From B1

jump with an effort of 21 feet, three inches. He also finished fourth in the 110-meter hurdles in 15.2 seconds.

"I was very impressed with him today," Esposito said of Lutes. "He jumped a 21-3 and he did a terrific job in the hurdles. That's the best I've seen him do in the hurdles. He's an athlete."

The Ross girls team received

20 points from senior throwers Jen Hillier and Jamie Smith, who won the shot put and discus, respectively.

It was the first GLL title for each competitor.

"We've been throwing together since the seventh grade," Hillier said. "She's always been a little better at discus. We were like, 'You'll get discus, and I'll get shot. It'll be great.' We finally did that this year."

Smith fired a career-best 125-9

in the discus. Her previous best was a 121-11. But she had a 125-5 heading into her final throw Saturday and decided to go all out.

"A couple of people were like, 'OK, you've got it, so give it you're all.' I just kept improving. It wasn't an accidental thing," she said. "I've been working on my form a whole lot. I had a day to relax yesterday. I was ready to do it today."

Hillier won with a toss of 34-8.5.

High School Boys

Great Lakes League

Team Results

Sandusky	144
Whitmer	122
Ross	69
Findlay	67
Clay	45
Fostoria	33
Admiral King	12
Southview	4

Individual Results

110 hurdles: 1- Nate Matthews (Sandusky) 14.70, 2- Steve Henderson (Admiral King) 15.00, 3- Marcus Marshall (Sandusky) 15.10.

100 dash: 1- Durond Clark (Sandusky) 10.60*, 2- Mike McGuiness (Sandusky) 10.70, 3- Tony Jiminez (Whitmer) 11.10.

3,200 relay: 1- Whitmer 8:18.87, 2- Sandusky 8:24.26, 3- Findlay 8:37.80.

1,600 run: 1- Brian Roberts (Findlay) 4:28.60, 2- Eric Speers (Sandusky) 4:36.30, 3- Kevin Kaighin (Clay) 4:41.20.

400 relay: 1- Sandusky 42.30*, 2- Whitmer 43.20, 3- Ross 44.90.

400 dash: 1- Marcus Marshall (Sandusky) 50.30, 2- Ryan Sprout (Findlay) 50.60, 3- Vernon Huston (Sandusky) 51.00.

300 hurdles: 1- Nate Matthews (Sandusky) 40.20, 2- Steve Swartz (Clay) 40.80, 3- Chris Wulf (Whitmer) 41.90.

800 run: 1- Eric Speers (Sandusky) 1:59.20, 2- Adam Bernal (Findlay) 2:01.00, 3- Ta'Reio Morgan (Whitmer) 2:03.30.

200 dash: 1- Durond Clark (Sandusky) 21.60*, 2- B. Guendelsberger (Sandusky) 22.00*, 3- Chris Watkins (Whitmer) 22.01*.

3,200 run: 1- Brian Roberts (Findlay) 10:15.70, 2- Ryan Higgs (Findlay) 10:20.30, 3- David Espinoza (Whitmer) 1:23.40.

1,600 relay: 1- Sandusky 3:23.60, 2- Whitmer 3:24.10, 3- Findlay 3:31.90.

High jump: 1- Matt Warner (Clay) 6-2, 2- Bo Hudson (Ross) 6-2, 3- Eric Draeger (Clay) 6-0, 4- Allen Lutes (Ross) 6-0, 5- Marcus Todd (Southview) 6-0, 6- Ta'reio Morgan (Whitmer) 5-10.

Long Jump: 1- Allen Lutes (Ross) 21-3.50, 2- Edwin Hood (Whitmer) 21-0, 3- B. Guendelsberger (Sandusky) 19-9.

Shot Put: 1- Matt Calhoun (Whitmer) 49-3, 2- Tony Schue (Whitmer) 49-0, 3- Joe Kaiser (Ross) 45-11.5, 4- Aaron Cox (Sandusky) 44-8.5, 5- Robert Crawford (Ross) 44-2, 6- Ray Zelenak (Fostoria) 43-3.5.

Discus Throw: 1- Tony Schue (Whitmer) 156-1, 2- Chris Kayser (Ross) 136-0, 3- Curtis Echelberry (Fostoria) 135-5.

Pole Vault: 1- Lee Vitte (Fostoria) 13-0, 2- Richy Teeters (Ross) 11-6, 3- Nate Rush (Findlay) 11-6.

* — Meet Record

TrackField

High School Girls

Great Lakes League

Team Scores

Whitmer	126
Findlay	106
Ross	105
Clay	71
Sandusky	62
Southview	16
Fostoria	5
Admiral King	5

Individual results

100 hurdles: 1- Sarah Knapp (Whitmer) 15.50, 2- Julie Hunter (Whitmer) 16.90, 3- Jill Sullivan (Sandusky) 17.20.

100 dash: 1- Fallon Bailey (Ross) 12.00*, 2- Tamala Perryman (Sandusky) 12.20, 3- Jennifer Collins (Whitmer) 12.30.

3,200 relay: 1- Clay 10:16.72, 2- Findlay 10:22.61, 3- Whitmer 10:35.60.

800 relay: 1- Whitmer 1:47.90, 2- Ross 1:48.90, 3- Findlay 1:51.70.

1,600 run: 1- Betsy Marlow (Whitmer) 5:28.50, 2- Stacy Hall (Ross) 5:33.20, 3- Falon Jaeger (Whitmer) 5:39.70.

400 relay: 1- Ross 49.40*, 2- Whitmer 51.70, 3- Sandusky 52.10.

400 dash: 1- Amanda Wittenmeyer (Findlay) 1:02.00, 2- Tanisha McKinstry (Ross) 1:02.10, 3- Christina Jackson (Southview) 1:02.30.

300 hurdles: 1- Julie Hunter (Whitmer) 47.20*, 2- Katy Wasserman (Clay) 48.60, 3- Sarah Knapp (Whitmer) 49.20.

800 run: 1- Katie Turnow (Findlay) 2:25.40, 2- Falon Jaeger (Whitmer) 2:26.20, 3- Rachel Moore (Clay) 2:27.20.

200 dash: 1- Tamala Perryman (Sandusky) 24.70*, 2- Fallon Bailey (Ross) 24.70*, 3- Jennifer Collins (Whitmer) 26.40.

3,200 run: 1- Jenn Spieldenner (Findlay) 11:54.40, 2- Betsy Marlow (Whitmer) 12:01.60, 3- Megan Fogg (Sandusky) 12:08.50.

1,600 relay: 1- Ross 4:10.20, 2- Findlay 4:12.20, 3- Whitmer 4:28.80.

High jump: 1- Ariel Koch (Findlay) 5-0, 2- Jacqueline Myers (Findlay) 4-10, 2- Amy Katona (Clay) 4-10.

Long Jump: 1- Tamela Perryman (Sandusky) 16-7.5, 2- Kate Ather (Clay) 16-0, 3- Kristen Crawford (Clay) 14-10.

Shot Put: 1- Jen Hiller (Ross) 34-8.5, 2- Lisa Naman (Findlay) 34-5.25, 3- Meg Nalley (Ross) 33-6.5.

Discus: 1- Jamie Smith (Ross) 125-6, 2- Kristen Essinger (Findlay) 117-7, 3- Megan Vaillant (Whitmer) 106-04.

* — Meet Record