

### ***3 Ross swimmers advance***

**NAPOLEON**—Three Fremont Ross swimmers qualified for the Northwest Ohio District Swim Meet Saturday at Bowling Green State University after competing in the pre-district meet Saturday at Napoleon High School.

The meet was for swimmers who had not previously qualified for the district meet.

Tracy Turner will be competing in the 50-yard freestyle after recording a 24.1 seconds effort. Tom McDonald qualified for the 100-yard backstroke with a clocking of 1:03.3 and Teresa Gloer made the qualifying time for the girls 100-yard backstroke with a 1:15.8 to complete the Ross trio gaining admittance to this Saturday's meet.

The district meet will begin at 5:15 p.m. in Cooper Pool in the BGSU Student Rec Center.

## Sports

# Black, Lowther set high goals

By BOB MARKER  
N-M Sports Editor

Chris Black and Mark Lowther have a common denominator: both have been all wet for most of their lives.

Black has been wetter longer.

"I've been swimming competitively for 12 years," the Ross High School senior said.

"Eleven," Lowther answered to the same question.

Both Ross swim team members began swimming at the Sandusky County YMCA and both have been competing more or less year around. The duo serves as co-captains for Coach

Art Bucci's Aqua Giants.

"They are the most versatile swimmers I have coached," Bucci said. "They can swim any stroke and when I ask them to swim out of their normal events, they do so without any questions. A lot of kids won't do that; they may but not give it their full effort. Black and Lowther go all out whichever event they are swimming."

Black and Lowther form the nucleus of the squad competing in the Northwest Ohio District Swim Meet in Cooper Pool in the Bowling Green State University



CHRIS BLACK

Rec Center. Swimming begins at 5:15 p.m., both days.

Even though they have been swimming all those long years, both claim they are not tired of the sport. At times, though, they admittedly waver in their enthusiasm.

"Sometimes, when we are swimming 12,000 yards a day, I wonder why," Black grinned.

In the last two summers, Black has gone south to Cincinnati to swim on the Rolling Hills Country Club team. Before that, in addition to the Ross team and the Sandusky County YMCA, he has swum on the Greater Toledo Aquatic Club team.



MARK LOWTHER

Black will be competing in the medley relay, individual medley (IM) and the 100-meter freestyle in the district meet. "I want to qualify in the state for all three," he said.

Currently, Black is ranked fifth in the state in the IM and is one of the top swimmers in the 100 free. He has other goals this summer, including reaching the Olympic trials in Indianapolis.

He knows he faces a big battle in meeting qualifying times for the trials. "I have to get down to a 2:09 in the IM (200 meters) to get invited," Black explained. He swam a little above 2:13 in the

event earlier this season which was lower than the national high school record.

Lowther has the same immediate goals as Black...reaching the state swim meet, but he admits that swimming 12 months a year is not for him.

"You have to have a break somewhere in there," he said.

A backstroke and breaststroke specialist, Lowther was 23rd in the state in the backstroke, admitting that the low finish was a result of "not thinking about what I was doing."

"My goal is to break 56 seconds," Lowther said about the backstroke. "When I was a sophomore, I had a 1:00.5 and last year a 58.1. If I keep up those time drops, I will be at 55.5. I think I am capable of it in the districts."

"Getting to the state meet is a personal goal," he said, "but winning the district meet is a team goal. I want to help win the team title because Coach Bucci deserves it; he's the best coach in our district."

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## Winning gets Ross first

# Black in 3 state events

BOWLING GREEN—Fremont Ross got a record and a first in the school's history during the Northwest Ohio District Swim Meet.

A district record was established Friday when Ross co-captain Chris Black recorded a one minute, 56.91 seconds in winning the 200 individual medley. The first was a Ross girl, Heather Winning in the backstroke, qualifying for the state meet this weekend at Brantin Natatorium in Canton.

Toledo St. Francis won the boys team title with 172 points. Napoleon was second at 166 with Findlay third at 142, Sylvania Southview fourth with 98, Ross fifth at 95 and Sylvania Northview rounding out the top six with 82. Ross did not have enough girls competing to score in the girls team race.

Black will also be going to the state meet in the

100 freestyle, finishing second in 48.1.

In addition to Black and Winning, Ross will send Mark Lowther in the backstroke and the medley relay team of Black, Brian Mowry, Lowther and Andy Scott to the state meet.

"Black went out in the first half of the medley and got it," Ross Coach Art Buccì pointed out, "and in the second half, he just hung in there."

Black, who earlier this year was one of two swimmers to break a national high school record in the 200-meter IM, shattered the previous district of 1:57.13 set by John Stauffer of Sandusky.

In the 100 freestyle, Black lost a shot at successfully defending his title won as a junior when he had a bad turn on the third leg of the race. "It seemed like someone moved the wall on him," Buccì was able to laugh.

Winning clicked off a 1:03.3 to finish in the runnerup slot in the girls 100 backstroke. "This is a big boost to our program," Buccì said, "especially since we could have a girls team next year."

Winning, a junior, is the first girl Aqua Giant to make the state show in the nine years that girls have been swimming for Ross. The time Winning posted was below the district record. She also finished seventh in the 50 freestyle in 25.91.

The boys medley team recorded a 1:42.21, a half second off the Ross school record, in Friday's finals. That time put them 16th in the state, good enough for a berth in the state meet.

Lowther, 23rd in the state meet in the backstroke as a junior, was runnerup in the district backstroke Saturday. His 58.06 clocking ranks him 23rd quickest for the state this season. He was eighth in the butterfly.

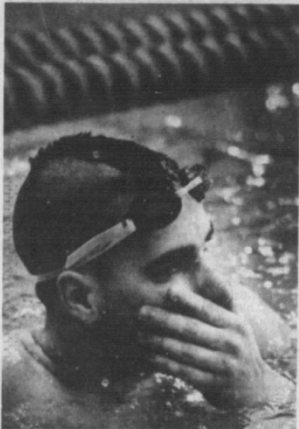
"We thought Mark could go a 56-plus," Buccì said, "and I still think he can in the state meet."

In other boys events Saturday, the Ross freestyle relay of Mowry, Scott, Bill Taylor and Tracy Turner finished ninth in 3:31.2.

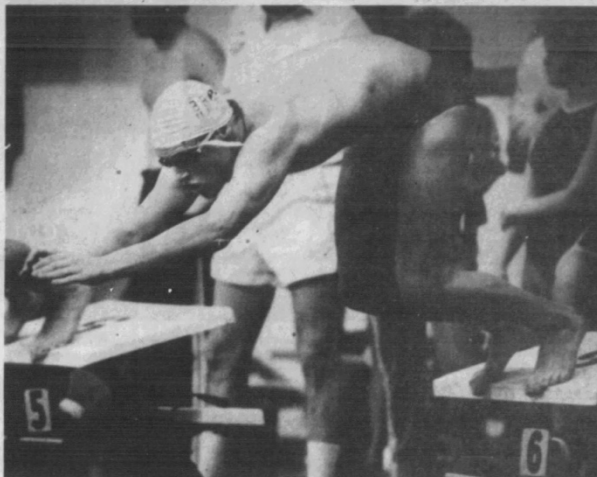
The Ross girls medley of Kelli Sabiers, Lori Smith, Winning and Teresa Gloer was seventh in 2:02.2. Sabiers and Smith posted 27.89 and 26.91, respectively, in the 50 free but did not place.

Sabiers was 10th in the backstroke in 1:09.1 while Gloer's 1:13.9 in the same event did not place.

In diving, Troy Overmyer was seven with 336 points on 11 dives for Ross. Jon LaGrou was forced to miss the district diving because of an injury suffered Thursday during practice.—BOB MARKER



BRIAN MOWRY looks up at the clock for his time in the 100 freestyle. The Ross sophomore swam a 51.7 but did not place in the event.



CHRIS BLACK of Ross leaves the starting blocks at the beginning of the 100 freestyle event Saturday. Northwest Ohio District Meet at Cooper Natatorium on the Bowling Green State University campus. Black recorded a 48.6 for runnerup honors in the

(N-M photo by Bill Kennedy)

## Streaks third in A meet

By STEVE GOBLE

N-M Staff Writer

St. Joe Coach Gary Logsdon sat in a small room behind the auditorium Saturday while the upper-weight wrestlers from other schools tossed each other about in the Class A District Finals.

There was nothing else he could do.

"I'm not used to this," he said. After the pre-

Woodmore will send seven Wildcats to Bellevue. Scott Hathaway at 155, Jeff Geisler at 167 and Dave Kepus at 185 all emerged as champions. Todd Miller at 126 and Jeff Collum at 175 finished second while Bill Melcher finished third at 105 and Bob

Damschroder was fourth among the heavyweights.

Gibsonburg finished sixth as a team with 66 points and will take four men to the regionals. Heavyweight Angelo Jaso took second, as did Doug Reed at 112. Rod Burdette finished third at 126.

At 185, Bear Tom Goetz defaulted in the consolation rounds to finish fourth after spraining an ankle in the semifinal match against Woodmore's Kepus. Gibsonburg Coach Steve Funk said Goetz probably would be able to wrestle at the regionals.