

North Olmsted tops Ross 5-1

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross opened its season with a 6-1 loss Saturday to North Olmsted.

Adam Swope scored the lone goal for the Little Giants in the final minute of the first half.

The Little Giants were outshot 21-4 in the contest. Mark Thom-

son made seven saves in goal.

Rich Mahon scored two goals for North Olmsted (2-1). Mark Trapp, Chris Gnandt, Nate Rusnak and Chris Valponi.

The Little Giants open Great Lakes League play Tuesday against Toledo Whitmer.

North Olmsted won the junior varsity contest 2-1. Brian Baacke scored for Ross (0-1).

SOCCER

Shively goal ties Whitmer

Little Giants looking for complete effort

By **MICHAEL PIDANICK**
Staff writer

Fremont Ross coach Jeff Pendry was pleased with parts of the Little Giants' 1-1 tie with Toledo Whitmer Tuesday at Alumni Field.

Now he's looking for a full game.

"We have a young team and they are progressing faster than I expected," Pendry said. "But mentally, we have to stay focused for a full 90 minutes."

Junior Dustin Shively scored the Little Giants' lone goal midway through the first quarter, as he headed in a pass from freshman Adam Swope.

"I just made a cross pass and he did a nice job of heading it in," Swope said.

Shively's goal came about 12 minutes after Eugene Royzman tallied for the Panthers.

The Panthers controlled much of the early play, but the Little Giants settled down and created several opportunities just prior to its goal.

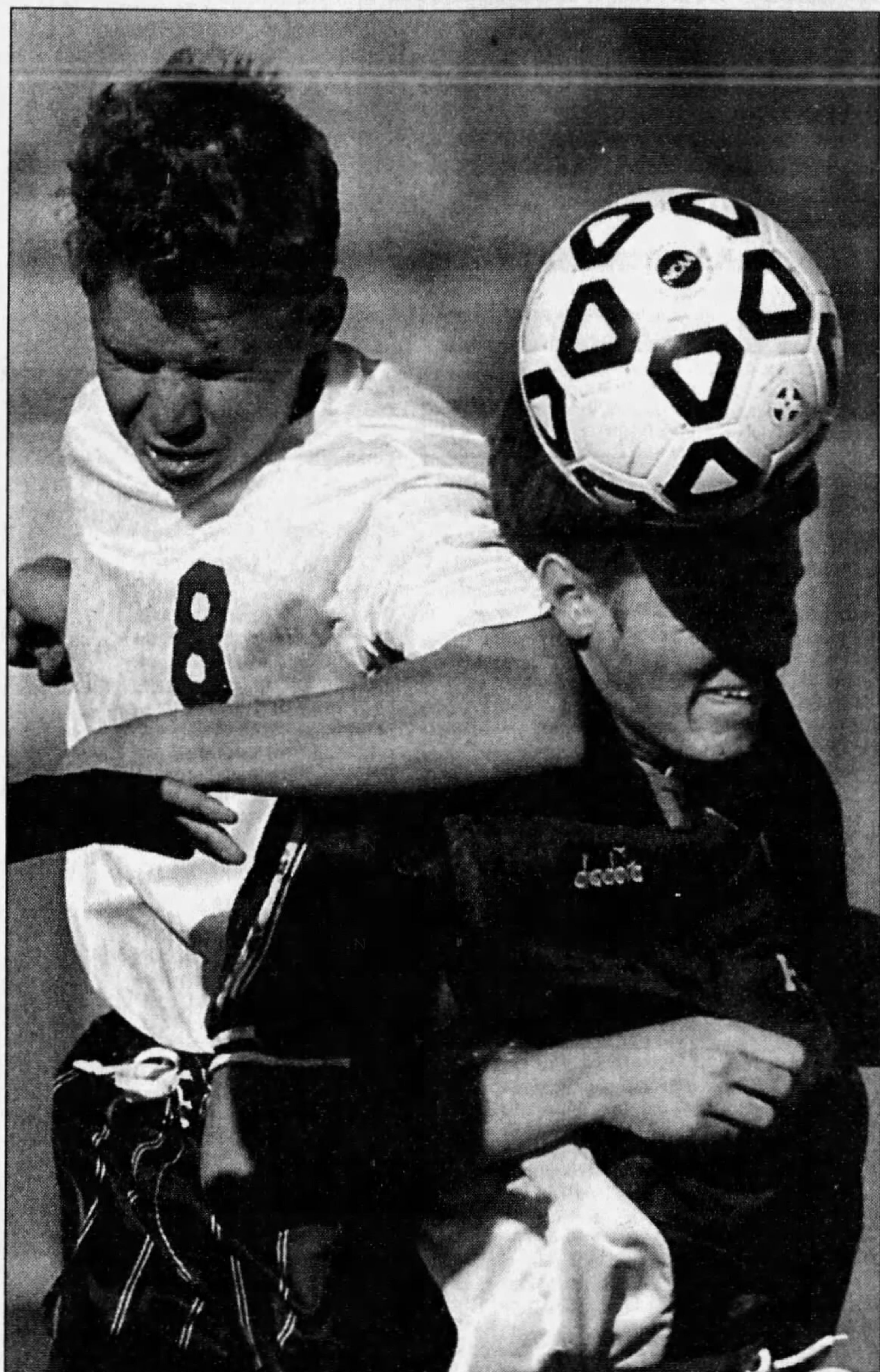
"We've been doing that," said Whitmer coach Kevin Lanning. "We jump out, and then we get a little relaxed."

"Fremont played a nice game. They worked hard."

Both teams had several nice chances in the second half. Brent McCormack had two nice opportunities early in the period, but Ross goalkeeper Marc Thomson stopped him both times.

Thomson later made key saves on Nick Loudenslager and Matt Norton to help preserve the tie.

"Marc has really impressed us," Pendry said. "At the beginning, we hadn't even considered



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

DUSTIN SHIVELY, left, heads the ball pas a Whitmer defender for the Little Giants' lone goal.

him as a goalie. But he showed us some things."

The Little Giants also put on some pressure. Swope set up Derek Dalton, but the Panthers' Garrett Harmon made a big save.

Several minutes later, Swope raced behind the defense, but missed wide left.

"We played pretty well," Swope said. "But we need to execute more of our chances."

In other action Tuesday:

Oak Harbor 2, Port Clinton 0

Scott Chasteen scored the go-ahead goal for the Rockets, which out-shot Port Clinton 20-2.

"We were pretty much dominating," said Oak Harbor coach Lou Montano.

Margaretta 1, Carey 1

Terry Welsch scored for Margaretta to lift the Polar Bears to a 1-1 tie at Carey.

Goalkeeper Josh Troike made 12 saves for Margaretta.

"We played pretty well, but we didn't capitalize late in the game," said Polar Bears coach Tom Ackermen.

Bowsher 7, Old Fort 0

Fabio Cardoso scored six goals to lead Toledo Bowsher to a 7-0 rout of Old Fort.

SOCCER PREVIEWS

Little Giants look to maintain league status

Fremont Ross

Coach: Jeff Pendry

1997: 11-7, lost in district semi-finals, 2nd in GLL

Key losses: Michael Hickey, Nik Wearsch, Andy Smith, Mike Simonton, Matt Holbrook, Amy Smith, Craig Copley, Kyle Fisher.

Top players: John McCord, Sr. Marshall Amor, Sr. C/MF, Adam Swope, Fr., F, Marc Thomson, Jr., G

Toughest GLL competition: Findlay, Bedford

Coach Pendry's outlook: "Our goal for is to maintain where we were last year. We have Findlay in our (Great Lakes) League and they are a perennial powerhouse and to dethrone them would be impressive. I would be happy to finish right behind them."

Oak Harbor

Coach: Lou Montano

Top players: Chris Rygalski, Sr., D; Justin Montano, Sr., D; Keith Simpkins, Jr., D; Lalit Chopra, Sr. D,

Coach Montano's outlook: "I



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

ADAM SWOPE of Fremont Ross battles Toledo Whitmer's Kevin Tornai in Tuesday's 1-1 tie.

Soccer

High School

Ross 4, Oregon Clay 0

Adam Swope, Derek Dalton scored all 4 goals

Ross ties Columbian

Margaretta knots PC 2-2

News-Messenger reports

John McCord scored the lone goal for Fremont Ross, as the Little Giants posted a 1-1 tie with Tiffin Columbian.

Aaron Post scored for Columbian.

The Little Giants were helped by solid defensive play by Pete Scranton, Adam Wagner, Craig Hickey, Adam Pfotenhauer and McCord.

Ross is 1-2-2

Ross — Mike Garlock scored three goals as the Little Giants won the junior varsity match, 3-0, to improve to 2-2.

SOCCER

Ross soccer team rolls 9-0

News-Messenger reports

Dusty Shively and Derek Dalton each scored two goals and added an assist to lead the Little Giants to a 9-0 win over Sandusky.

Brett Spicer and Dan Wise also scored twice, and Adam Swope had the other Little Giant goal. Marshall Amor dished out three assists for Ross (2-2-2 overall, 2-0-1 in the GLL).

Bedford^N 4, Ross 0

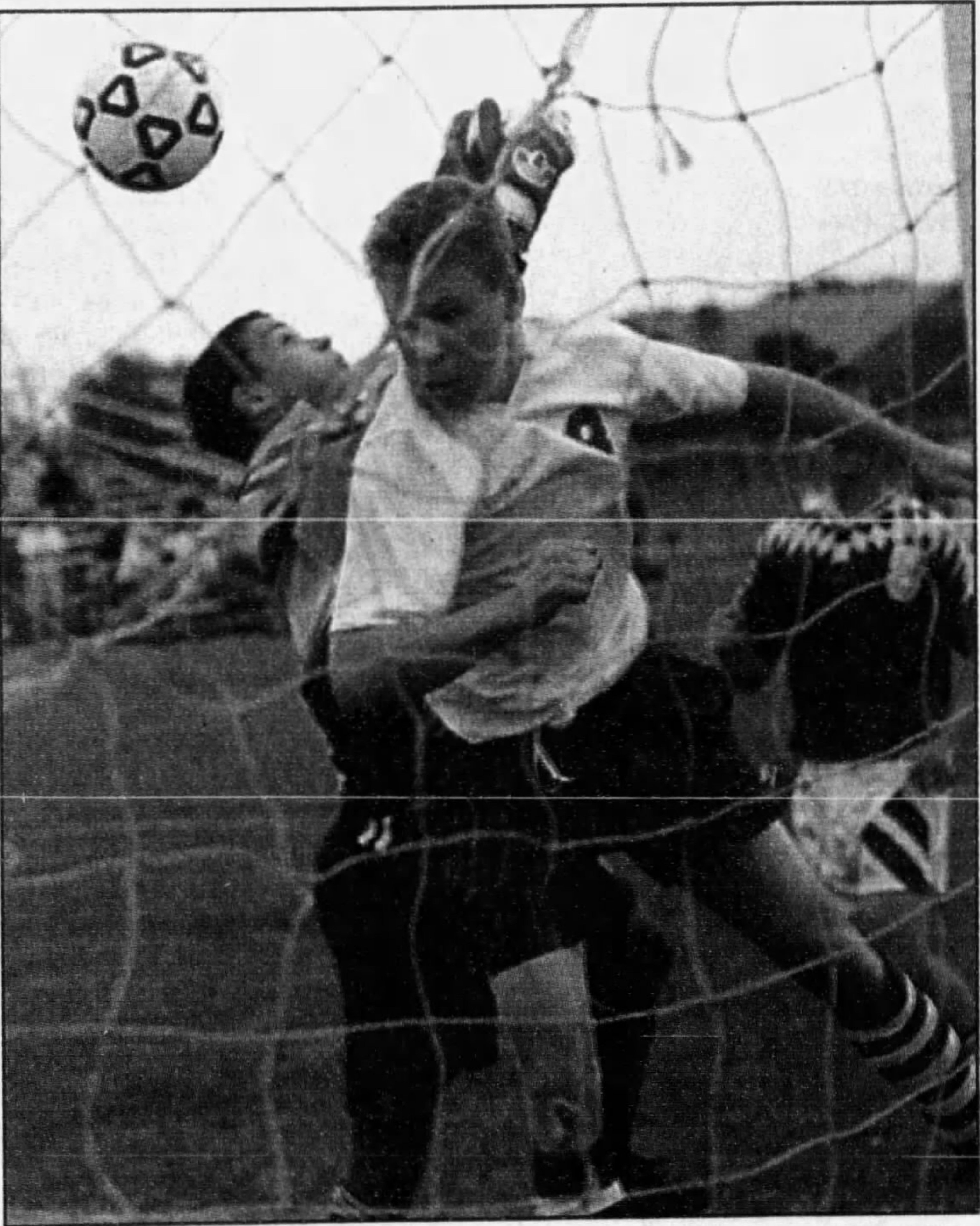
Mark Thomson's 18 saves were not enough to save Ross, which fell to Bedford (Mich.) 4-0.

John McCord and Adam Wagner each had 20 intercepts, Craig Hickey had 15 and Adam Pfotenhauer had 12 for the Little Giants, which fell to 2-3-1.

Findlay 9, Ross 0

FINDLAY — The Little Giants were out-shot 35-5 in losing the Great Lakes League match. Ross falls to 2-4-1 overall.

Old Findlay 9, Ross 0



News-Messenger/Frank Beier

DUSTIN SHIVELY charges the Clay goalkeeper.

Ross defense blanks Clay

Thomson faces just four shots in win

By MICHAEL PIDANICK
Staff writer

Fremont Ross goalkeeper Marc Thomson wasn't very busy Tuesday. His defense did most of the work in front of him.

Thomson only faced four shots stopping them all as the Little Giants earned a 3-0 win over Oregon Clay at Alumni Field.

"The defense played real and limited their shots," Thomson said "They worked real hard, so you have to give them some credit. They made my job easy."

John McCord, Adam Swope and Marshall Amor scored for the Little Giants, who improved to 3-6-2, and 3-3-1 in the Great Lakes League.

"It's nice to get a win in the GLL," said Ross coach Jeff Pendry. "It'll help boost our confidence We're coming off some

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tough losses to some tough opponents."

The Little Giants scored twice in a 5:10 span midway through the first half to take control of the game.

John McCord opened the scoring, taking a nice pass from Dustin Shively to put it past goalkeeper Jamison Rowley.

"I made a run, they gave me the ball and everything worked like it was supposed to," McCord said. "We worked it well together and everything worked out right."

Adam Swope made it 2-0, as he swept in from the left side and kicked it to the right of Rowley.

The Eagles were unable to put any pressure on throughout most of the game. The majority of the action took place in Clay territory.

The Little Giants caught a break eight minutes into the second half. Amor took a long shot and it trickled off Rowley into the net.

"The guys are coming along and they're picking up more things."

— Jeff Pendry
Ross soccer coach

"I didn't expect that to go in," Amor said. "I just shot it as hard as I could and it went in."

Despite the three goals, Rowley was solid in defeat. He made 14 saves, including penalty kick stops on Amor and McCord.

Eagles coach Jim Szigeti was pleased with his team's effort.

"We played good, they just outplayed us," said Szigeti.

Pendry was pleased with his team's play, but said there is still room for improvement.

"Our ball movement was a lot better," he said. "I think the guys would have generated more opportunities and converted more if they executed with every opportunity."

"We're still young. The guys are coming along and they're picking up more things."

Little Giants roll over Sandusky

News-Messenger reports

SANDUSKY — Derek Dalton, Adam Swope and Dustin Shively scored goals as Fremont rolled over Sandusky 3-0 in a Great Lakes League match.

The Little Giants improve to 4-6-2 on the year with the win.

Mike Salas assisted

Swope's goal, while Adam Wagner contributed 14 interceptions. Craig Hickey had 11 interceptions, and Adam Pfotenhauer had 8 for Ross.

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Amor gets lone goal in loss

News-Messenger reports

Marshall Amor's goal in the 34th minute of the second half was the lone goal for Fremont Ross as the Little Giants fell to Bedford 7-1 in a Great Lakes League match Tuesday.

Mike Salas assisted on Amor's goal.

Adam Wagner and Craig Hickey each had 12 interceptions for Ross, which falls to 4-7-2 overall, 4-4-1 GLL. The Little Giants were out-shot 12-2 by the Kicking Mules.

SOCCER

Ross hosts league-leading Findlay Thursday at 5 p.m.

Findlay blanks Ross 3-0

Little Giants play tough against GLL's best

By **MICHAEL PIDANICK**
Staff writer

For 70 minutes Thursday, Fremont Ross played right with the Great Lakes League's best team.

The problem is, the game is 80 minutes long.

Findlay dominated the first 10 minutes of the second half, scoring twice in a nine-minute span, and went on to beat the Little Giants 3-0 at Alumni Field.

"For 70 of the 80 minutes we were definitely in the game," said Ross coach Jeff Pendry. "I told the guys after the game the reason why we stayed in the game is because we were relaxed and kept our composure."

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Findlay controlled the play if the first half, but couldn't beat Ross goalkeeper Dan Wise.

Second half goals by junior Adam Sonnett, junior Travis Hammer and sophomore Mike Larocco gave the Trojans the offense they needed to improve to 10-4 overall and 9-1 in the GLL.

"Certainly I didn't like the fact that we were 0-0 at halftime," said Findlay coach Albert Laux. "We got beat to the ball a little bit, and we had to step up the pace and concentrate on the first touch and the passing."

"In the second half, we made better connections on our passing and made them run a little more to chase the ball, and that gave us more options to break through the defense."

Pendry put Wise in goal and moved Mark Thomson to forward.

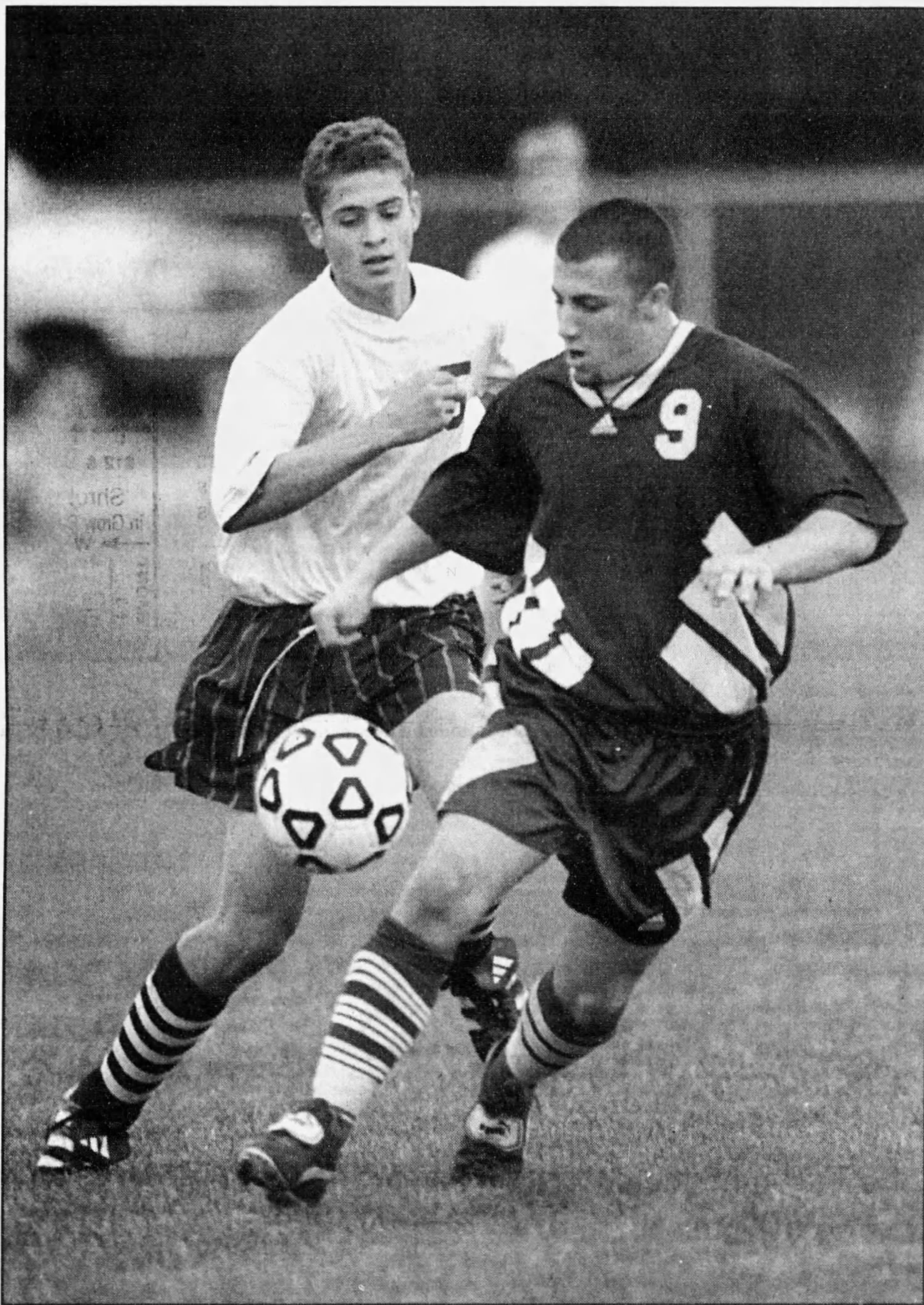
"It was just a personnel change to spark the team, just to give the team a little bit of a spark," Pendry said.

Wise made 11 saves, including several of the difficult variety. His best save came midway through the second half. With Findlay up 2-0, Chris Ploszaj broke free, but Wise dove to his left to rob him.

"Dan did a real nice job and at the same time, Mark was able to generate some things on offense," Pendry said.

The Little Giants' best chance came with 19 minutes left the first half, as Adam Swope dished it to Brett Spicer, who blasted a shot that sailed just wide of the right goalpost.

"Our offense is generating some stuff but we can't execute every time," Pendry said. "But they're getting better."



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

MIKE SALAS (5) of Ross defends against Findlay's Travis Hammer in first-half action.

The Little Giants host Norwalk Saturday on Parents/Senior Day. The junior varsity game is at 1 p.m. and the varsity game is at 3 p.m.

Ross will open sectional play at 5 p.m. Oct. 22 against Bowling Green at Perrysburg. If they win that game they would face the winner of the Toledo Central Catholic/Northview contest.

"I'm hoping these guys can put it together for the first game and possibly even the second game like we did last year," Pendry said. "I'd like to think we can win a sectional."

Oak Harbor 2, Huron 2

OAK HARBOR — Steve Byrne scored two goals, including the game-tying tally midway through the second half, as Oak Harbor earned a 2-2 tie with Huron in its final Sandusky Bay Conference match.

Byrne scored in the first half on a penalty kick and in the second half after a nice pass from Chris Chase.

The Rockets improved to 9-4-1 and 6-3-1 in the SBC. Huron is 8-0-3 overall and 4-0-3 in the SBC.