

'76 Ross Little Giants

Ross: Buckeye Conference runnerup in 1975



Front row (left to right): Brian Burkett, Jim Zimmerman, Mark Gysan, Tim Guzman, Vic Simms, Dennis Filliator, Jim Smith, Terry Bates, Dan DeLeon, Rick Kuzman, Kent Damschroder, Tony Ruiz, Aaron Sewell; second row: Ray Reyna, Jim Albright, Tim Simms, Sam Davis, Scott Kellogg, Mark Celek, Mike Wright, Ray Long, Warren Stout, Todd Elmers, Randy Baughman, Ken Wightman, John Pena, Jeff Brown; third row: Paul Adams, Roger Debelly, John Zimmerman, Steve Curliss, Tom Keating, Russ Stoner, Steve Coleman, Chris Myers, Dan Joachim, Bob Phillips, Karl Elliot, Karl Schabel, Clarence Parks, Mike Havener, Phil Junis, manager; fourth row: student trainers Fred Merrill and Paul Schmidt, Tony Roach, Steve Barr, Ken Nord, Scott Whitcomb, Jeff Shanahan, Mike Cozette, Doug Szymanowski, Mark Stull, Ralph Davidson, Tom Good, Doug Schwartz, Doug Stull, Myron Swaisgood,

Galen Rhodes, Jeff Long; fifth row: student trainer Marty Warchola, Tim Montgomery, Dave Magee, Andy Keller, Fred Vance, Tim Butcher, Brian Szakovits, Dan Sachs, Fred Thorbahn, Chuck Binkley, Dave Campbell, Joe Leite, Mark Foos, Paul Miller, Scott Martin, Kevin Schwallie, Scott Carnack; sixth row: Manager Dan Glebel, Mike Albright, Bill Swartzlander, Troy Amor, Deno Sewell, Dan Berger, Bill Darling, John Almager, Tom Brudzinski, John Armentrout, Tim Oberst, Jim Orians, Randy Lanning, Doug Szymanowski, Dave Stover, Mike Overfield, Gary Keaton; seventh row: Head Coach Pete Moore, equipment manager Joe Lotycz, assistant coaches Wayne Siefke, Tim Pettorini, Ed Platzer, trainer Glen Foster, Assistant coaches "Red" Nugent, Dick Coleman, Rex Radelof, and Joe Siesel.

18 The News-Messenger, Fremont, O., Thursday, Sept. 9, 1976

Little Giants battle Wolverines in first game of '76

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

The opening game: a blind encounter or two teams groping in the night?

"You could say blind," Ross Coach Pete Moore said as he leaned back in his chair Tuesday evening. "but we have an idea of what they run."

An idea and 400 feet of film barely one-half of a game, the first scrimmage of the preseason is what Moore and his staff had to prepare the Little Giants football team for the opening game with Cleveland Lincoln West Friday evening at Harmon Stadium.

The game will be the first for Moore as the head coach at Ross after serving two years as the defensive coordinator under Tom Hollman.

The question of the first game "sightlessness" came up a little unexpectedly but then no coach likes to admit his team will not have an idea of what they will face, especially in a football game.

"There is not enough to see in a scrimmage game film to really evaluate a team," Moore said. "You just don't do that much in a scrimmage. We could have been looking at kids who will not even be playing tomorrow night."

"What we expect them to do is run from the 'power-

I' and use a '50' defense basically," the new Little Giants leader pointed out but then added, "Of course they could have put in a whole new offense or defense since that first scrimmage."

Moore does know the basic individual makeup of the Wolverines; they are big.

"They definitely are," Moore countered. "The offensive line will outweigh us but I think we are quicker. Their big men are not really very quick."

One of the big men to watch for Lincoln West is senior fullback Eric Hopper, a robust 6-1 and 215 pounds. He started against Ross two years ago.

The Wolverines are expected to throw the ball and could use a tandem of quarterbacks: Ron Workman and Rich Jolley. Moore says one is left-handed and other right-handed.

The biggest man that Lincoln West will put on the field is 6-4, 250-pound Jim Wotowicz, also a starter against the Little Giants two years ago as a sophomore.

Even though there are disadvantages going into the first game, Moore has relished the final week of practice in preparation for the opening clash.

"At least now we have a specific team to get prepared for," he smiled. "During the two and one-

half weeks of practice (preseason) you have to prepare for everything but this week we could prepare for a definite offense and a definite defense."

"Because of that, we have been having good practices this week."

The starting lineup for Ross offensively will have Randy Baughman at quarterback, Rick Kusmer at fullback, Terry Bates at tailback, and Mike "Woody" Wright at wingback. All are seniors.

At center will be Jim Zimmerman with the guards Tony Ruiz and either Mark Gysan or Dave Campbell. Gysan, an All-Buckeye Conference performer last season, has been on the Ross injured list this past week and could miss the entire game.

The tackles will be Jim Smith and Brian Burkett while the tight end is Kent Damschroder. The split end will be Karl Elliot.

Defensively, Ray Long and Dennis Filliator will be at the ends with Smith and Tim Guzman at the tackles. Ruiz and Gysan (if he plays) or Campbell or Doug Stull will be at the inside linebacker posts.

Wright and Clarence Parks are the outside linebackers with Dan DeLeon and Bates at halfback and Jeff Brown at safety.

There is an abundance of possible two-way per-

formers, more than the Ross coaching staff like or want.

"All we can do is hope that we stay healthy," Moore shrugged. "Really, we have to stay healthy and get a lot of experience quick."

Step one, chapter one, of the "Learn Quick Ross Manual" begins at 8 p.m. Friday night.

Ross season reserved tickets

Season reserved football tickets are still available for Ross football games, Ross assistant athletic director Gary Nossaman announced.

The tickets are in the first row of the west stands. To get the reserved tickets for the six Ross home games, call the athletic office at 332-6462.

Reserved single tickets for Friday's opening game with Cleveland Lincoln West will be on sale at Tremper's till 5 p.m., Friday. General admission and student tickets will be on sale up till game time, also at Tremper's. All general admission tickets at the gates at Harmon Stadium will be \$2.

The gates will open at 6:30 p.m.

New look at Ross for Rex Radeloff

(Cont. from page 8)

Departing via the graduation route is two-time All-Buckeye Conference quarterback Pat Belch, center John Hutchings, power-driving fullback Mike McGilton, wide receiver Brad Bischoff, and tackles Jerry Ruland, Frank Von Maluski, and Drew Clayton.

Quarterback is the biggest question mark for Ross. Last year's backup to Belch, Randy Baughman is back but is virtually untested.

"My thoughts right now," Moore said during the August practices, is to let Randy know that he is the quarterback and that the others are his backups. I've got all the confidence in the world that he can do the job."

Ross is fairly deep at the

running back slots. Rick Kuzmer, when he is not on defense will be the fullback with Clarence Parks, junior, 175, Steve Barr, junior, 170, and John Pena backing up. At the tailback, Terry Bates, who rushed for 676 yards a season ago is the first in line, with speedy (4.5 in the 40) Jeff Brown spelling him.

Brown is probably one of the more versatile players on the Little Giants. In addition to running at tailback, he could play the wingback or split end for Ross as Moore and Radeloff utilize his speed.

When Brown is elsewhere, Aaron Sewell will back up Bates.

At flanker, Mike "Woody" Wright, who caught three passes last season, figures to start, with Todd Elmers and Tony Roach backing up in addition to Brown.

At split end, Karl Elliot and Dan DeLeon, both seniors are vying for the starting spot with Ken Wightman and Doug Szymanowski seeing possible spot duty. Letterman Kent Damschroder should start at tight end. The 185-pound senior caught a couple of passes last season. Steve Coleman, senior, Dan Sachs, junior, and Mike Havenor, junior, are also fighting for the spot. The tackles are defensive specialist Jim Smith, 250, who will be given a shot at the offensive job and Ray Reyna. The tackle slots are the most unsettled however.

Also aiming at a starting spot, are Jim Albright, senior, seniors Biran Burkett, Mark Celek, and Chuck Binkley.

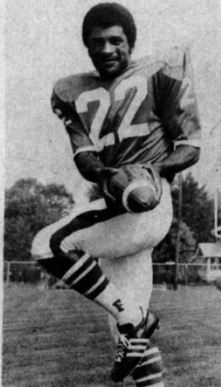
The guard spots are pretty well set and the general consensus is these positions

are the strongest along the Ross front line. Mark Gysan, first team All-BC and all-district and Tony Ruiz will start. Both are seniors with Gysan tipping the scales at 190 and Ruiz, 200. Ray Long is backing up and the senior will see considerable action if Gysan and Ruiz play the inside linebacker spots on defense.

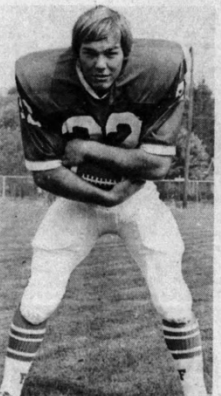
Jim Zimmerman, senior, 190 and Tim Guzman, senior, 200, are gunning for the center spot along with junior Scott Whitcomb, 175, and senior Warren Stout, 170.



Mark Gysan: Ross All-BC offensive guard in 1975



TERRY BATES, co-captain and Ross's leading ball carrier in 1975, returns to his tailback spfhhis season. As a junior, the speedy Bates gained 676 net yards and scored five touchdowns.



RICK KUSMER started frequently at fullback for Ross a year ago but this year figures to be the primary starter at that position. He gained 338 yards in 1975 and scored three TDs.

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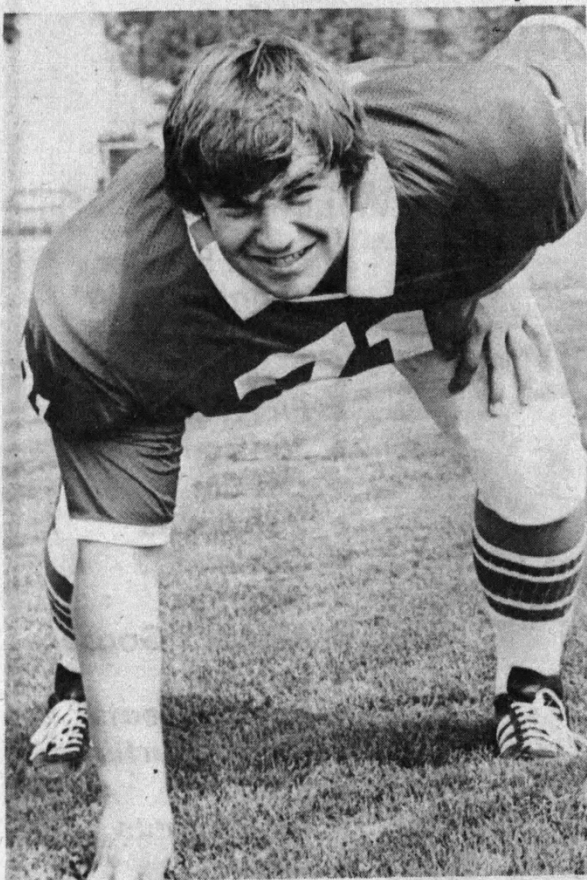
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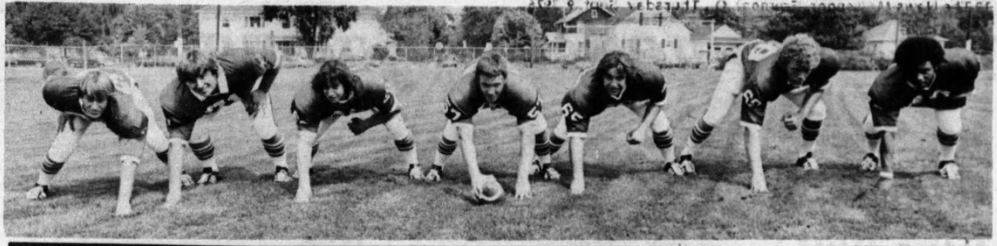


*Pete
Moore:
Ross's
new
head
coach*



JIM SMITH, Ross's all-state candidate ate defensive tackle will be called on to also play some offensive tackle. The senior stands 6-1 and tips the scales at 250 pounds.

THIS IS ONE possible offensive line for the Ross Little Giants this season. From left to right are tight end Kent Damschroder, tackle Jim Smith, guard Mark Gysan, center Jim Zimmerman, guard Tony Ruiz, tackle Brian Burkett, and split end Earl Elliott. All of them are seniors.



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Big challenge facing Ross 'D'

Joe Siesel returns to Ross fold

Ross Head football Coach Pete Moore silently has issued a challenge to Joe Siesel, the new defensive coordinator for the talented Ross Little Giants football team.

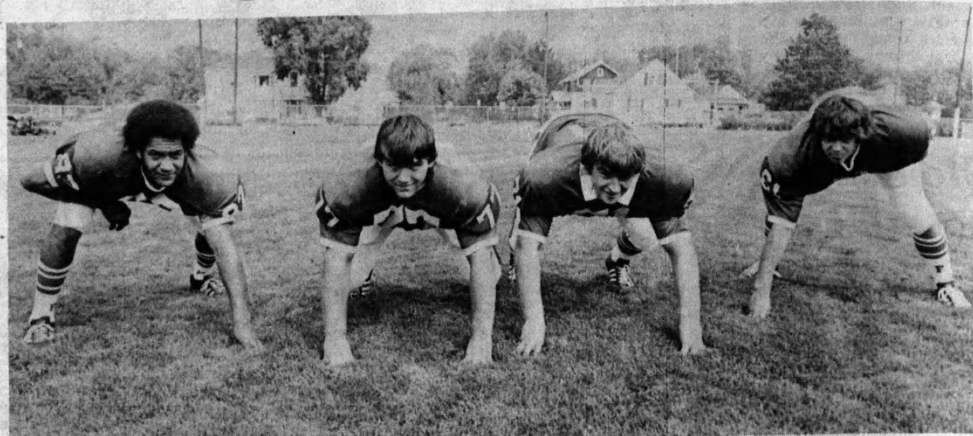
"The defense will be as strong as it has been in the past," Moore, entering his first year as the head coach after serving two years under Tom Hollman, declared. "We'll be right in there — we'll be as competitive as any of our past defensive teams have been."

Moore, who served as defensive co-ordinator under Hollman before stepping up this season, watched his defenders roll up seven shutouts in '74 while allowing only 33 points. Last season, the Little Giants gave up only 63 points and posted four whitewashes.

For Siesel, who will be called on to provide the main push for the Ross "D" this season, the challenge is there to duplicate or come close if not better that two-year record.

Siesel, a standout for Bowling Green State University and a linebacker who made the New York Giants for a season before injuries cut short his career, is no stranger to Ross's even defense. Despite handling responsibilities for former Coach Chuck Shuff both here and as Massillon Washington where the standard defense was a "50" in various forms, the sandy-haired coach

(Cont. on page 16)



ONE OF THE FRONT FOURS Ross could employ this season is shown above. Left to right are Vic Simms, Tim Guzman, Jim Smith, and Ray Long. All are seniors with

Guzman at 200, and Smith at 250, the larger of the four. Simms and Smith are the only lettermen, however.

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Phil Steinle



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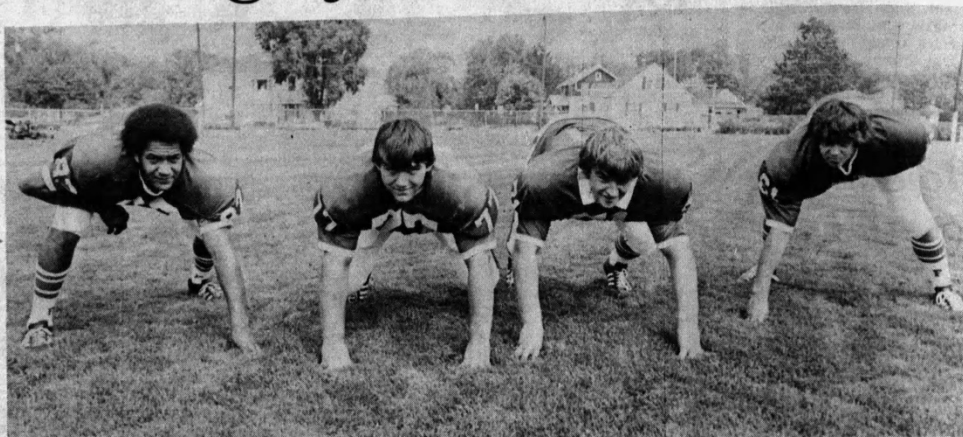
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Phil Steinle



Siesel and Ross defense face a big challenge

(Cont. from page 14)

worked with the even defense for five years at Wadsworth High School.

"The basic principals of this defense," Siesel said while comparing Ross's defensive setup with Wadsworth, "are basically the same. There are a few different responsibilities with this one though and we do more things with this defense."

Siesel pointed out that he likes the even alignment. "You can do a lot of adjusting up front that will cause blocking problems. It really causes the offensive team to do things differently — they have to keep making changes."

While the linebackers are an integral part of the even defense, Siesel says that you cannot stress any one particular area.

Ross, despite having only two defensive starters returning from last year's 6-3-1 club, do have people back who saw some action.

Chief returnees are Jim Smith and Dan DeLeon, both started all 10 games last season. Smith, the 250-pound senior all-state candidate, will be on the receiving end of many double team blocks this season. Last year he was a member of the second team All-Buckeye Conference defensive team.

DeLeon was a defensive halfback who performed steadily for Ross even though he carries only 145 pounds on his slender six-foot frame.

Vic Simms, a 6-2, 185-pound senior, started infrequently last season at a defensive end and Rick Kuzmer, senior, 185, drew a few starts at linebacker and are the only two other Little Giants who have experience for Ross.

Fighting for spots on the line with Smith and Simms will be Tim Guzman, a senior 200-pounder, who has shed 80 pounds since last season, and sophomore Troy Amor, 6-1, 245, at the tackle slot. At the

defensive end opposite Simms, Ray Long, a senior, 190, and junior Karl Schabel, 6-2, 215, are vying for the starting job. Steve Coleman, senior, 170, will back up Simms.

Mark Gysan and Tony Ruiz, the top offensive

guards, may see two-way duty at the inside linebacker slots. Spelling them could be Jim Albright and Doug Stull. Gysan and Ruiz tip the scales at nearly 190 while Stull goes at 180 and Albright at about 185.

On the outside at

linebackers, Andre Parks, junior, 175, and Kuzmer are running in the front line. Russ Stoner, Mike Havenor, Tony Roach and Myron Swaisgood could also see action.

At defensive halfback, DeLeon will start with the other spot being contested by

Todd Elmers, senior, 170, and Mike Wright, if he does not start at split end on offense. Jeff Brown, a junior, is also a halfback possibility but will see more action on offense.

At safety, Mike Cozette, a speedy, 170-pound junior, will draw the assignment.

JUPITER

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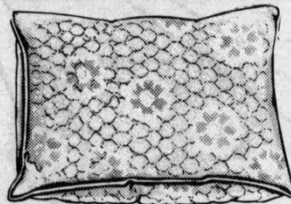
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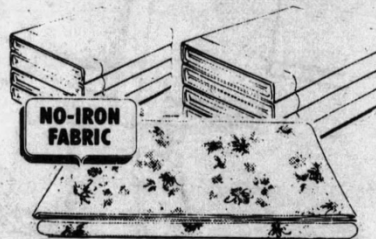


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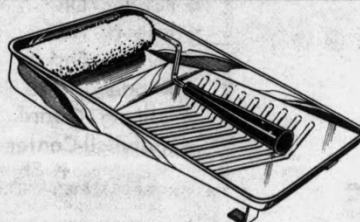
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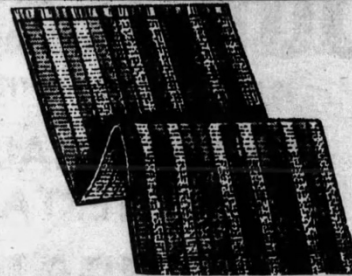


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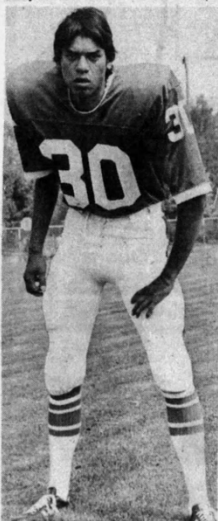


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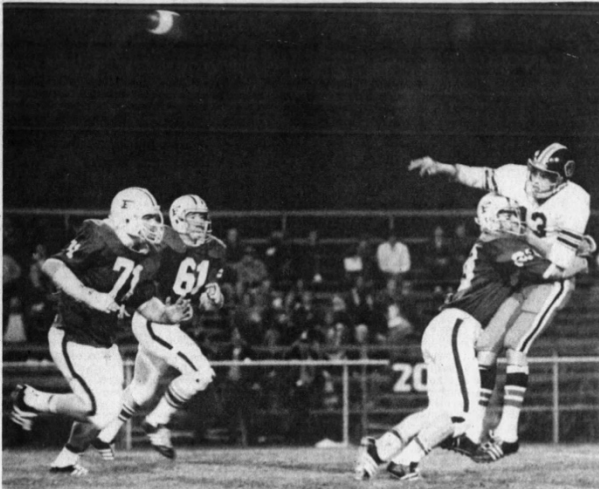
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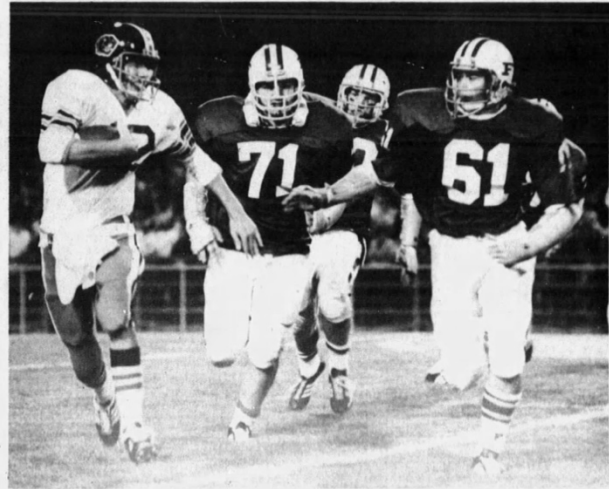


DAN DELEON



THAT'S HOW IT WAS for Cleveland Lincoln West quarterbacks in Ross's 54-0 opening football game win Friday at Harmon Stadium. An unidentified Little

Giant smashes into John Kazenoski while Ross's Jim Smith (71) and Ray Long (61) close in for the finishing touches.



LINCOLN WEST'S SECOND quarterback, Ron Workman, is being pursued by a host of Little Giants in early second period action. Ray Long (61) and Jim

Smith (71) get set to make the stop while Dan DeLeon (just behind Smith) tries to catch up to the action. (News-Messenger photos by Bruce Crippen)

Three plays and it was over

Offense hot, defense too, in Ross romp

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

It took Ross just three plays to set Cleveland Lincoln West up for a game of "long ball" Friday at Harmon Stadium.

Tim Guzman, a 200-pound plus Ross defensive tackle, fell on Wolverine quarterback Ron Workman's fumble at the Lincoln West 37 and the Little Giants were on the way to a lopsided 54-0 skinning of the Wolverines in the opening football game of the season.

After Guzman had surrounded the fumble, Terry Bates climaxed a 37-yard Ross drive with an eight-yard ramble into the end zone for the first of eight Little Giants' touchdowns during the night. There were only two scoring runs shorter than Bates' the rest of the game as the Little Giants' "long hitters" teed off at will.

Rick Kusner rambled 44 yards and Bates cracked back on a 39-yard scoring jaunt as Ross forged into a 22-0 lead after the first quarter.

A seven-yard Jeff Brown scramble put the Little Giants up on top 28-0 at the half but forced Pete Moore, Ross's new head coach into some adjusting at the intermission to put a little life into the Little Giants.

"Things seemed to get a little dull in the second quarter," Moore rasped in his after game voice. "We made some adjustments to get fired up."

The fire that was ignited exploded in the flying feet

of Brown on the opening kickoff of the second half. Behind a wall of Little Giants, Brown sprinted straight up the middle of the field with his 4.5 (40-yards) speed for a 89-yard scoring jaunt and sent Ross followers to the brain banks trying to remember when a Ross player had returned a kickoff for a TD.

"Yeah, we do have some speed," the Ross coach chuckled, "but we also had some good downfield blocking. That's what we want to do this year — stay with our blocking longer."

If there was a back breaker (the first quarter came close), Brown's kickoff return was it. After that, Ross could have named the score if Moore had wanted to keep his first and second string in the game. Instead, he went to the bench more often than a statistician would like.

Ten Little Giants carried during the game as Ross rolled up 393 yards on the ground and another 33 in the air on Randy Baughman's two for two passing.

"I thought the passing game looked good — what there was of it," Moore chuckled. "Of course we did not have to throw."

Seemingly buried among the 54 points was a bitter pill for Moore to swallow: the Little Giants were penalized a dozen times, mostly for offensive holding, for 125 yards, the highest total in a single game in well over four years.

"We just made a lot of mental mistakes," he said somewhat glumly. "If we had been playing a good team tonight, we would have been in trouble."

But the only people in trouble were the Wolverines.

The big rushing game overshadowed a stingy defense by the Little Giants — only 56 total yards — and only four yards rushing by Lincoln West. Ross's front four of Jim Smith, Guzman, Dennis Pillater, and Ray Long, along with the linebacking foursome of Ruiz, Mark Gysan, Mike Wright, and Clarence Parks, had themselves a picnic in the Wolverine backfield.

Then, again, any defensive player that Ross had in the game had a picnic at Lincoln West's expense.

Gysan and Ruiz were devastating from their offensive guard slots. Both opened huge holes for the running backs as Ross used its trapping game to a tee.

"I like to run those traps," Ruiz, who also intercepted a pass that had been tipped by Smith,

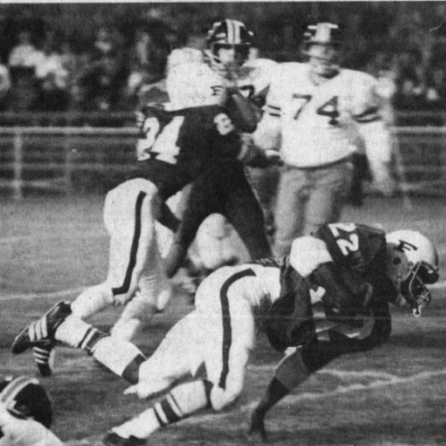
smiled. "I only hope that winning like this will not give us big heads."

"We can't afford that because we got a tougher one next week," he finished while referring to Columbus Marion-Franklin.

After Brown's second half opening ramble, Bates roared across from 11-yards out for his third touchdown and Parks went up the middle from the 18 for the seventh Ross TD of the night. John Pena capped off the TD explosion with a one-yard plunge in the final two minutes of the game.

Brown had a 55-yard punt return for a touchdown called back because of a clip, also in the third quarter.

Bates picked up 118 yards on nine carries and Kusner added 108 on just seven carries. The Ross fullback had 100 of his yards in the first half. Sam Davis picked up 71 yards on just seven totes in the final 12 minutes for Ross.



TOUCHDOWN! Terry Bates cracks over for the first touchdown of the season for the Little Giants in the 54-0 win over Lincoln West. It was the first of three TDs for the Ross senior.

Ross stats

Score by quarters	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0
Lincoln West	0	0	0	0
Ross	22	6	20	6-54

Statistics	LW	R
FIRST DOWNS	6	19
Running	3	12
Passing	3	0
By Penalty	1	1
PASSES ATTEMPTED	21	1
Completed	4	2
Intercepted	1	0
NET YARDS GAINED	56	426
Running	4	393
Passing	52	33
FUMBLE	2	5
Ball Lost	1	3
PENALTIES	2	12
Yards Penalized	15	125
PUNTS	1	0
Average	26.8	0

(No times—check out working)
Ross: Terry Bates, eight-yard run (Bates run), first quarter;
Ross: Rick Kusner, 44-yard run (run failed), first quarter;
Ross: Bates, 19-yard run (Kusner run), first quarter;
Ross: Jeff Brown, seven-yard run (kick failed), second quarter;
Ross: Brown, 89-yard kickoff return (run failed), third quarter;
Ross: Bates, 11-yard run (Mike Wright pass from Randy Baughman), third quarter;
Ross: Clarence Parks, 19-yard run (pass failed), third quarter;
Ross: John Pena, one-yard run (kick was blocked), fourth quarter.



ROSS QUARTERBACK Randy Baughman is on his way to the turf after picking up short yardage on an

option play in the second quarter. Eric Hooper (21) of Lincoln West helped make the stop on the Ross senior.

Twins club slumping KC 18-3

New look in Red Devils

By **BOB MARKER**
N-M Sports Editor

The day after Ross's 40-0 conquest of Toledo Rogers in the opener of the 1975 football season, the Little Giants coaching staff turned their thoughts toward Columbus Marion-Franklin.

Ross Head Coach Pete Moore remembered that meeting.

"We thought they (Marion-Franklin) were slow and non-aggressive after watching their films," Moore said and then added, "but this year, we realize that they have some talent down there."

A year ago, Marion-Franklin battled high flying Ross to a scoreless tie.

This Friday's confrontation with the Red Devils has one thing in common with a year ago: Ross is coming off a lopsided win in its opener, a 54-0 romp over Cleveland Lincoln West.

One thing that is not common with the '75 buildup for Marion-Franklin is the absence of a film exchange by the teams.

"We are going strictly on our scouts' words," Ross offensive coordinator Rex Radeloff pointed out after Wednesday's practice.

Bill Giffin, coach of Marion-Franklin, did not want to swap films because he contended that

films of scrimmages (both coaching staffs would have to look at preseason scrimmage films) did not tell that much about a team.

One thing Ross cannot afford, film or no film, is go into the game resting on the laurels of the opening game win.

"I don't think it (the game) will be a letdown like it was a year ago," Moore conjectured. "We are not looking forward to anyone — we are taking them strictly one game at a time — we are in no hurry."

The Ross coach was thinking of last year when, in addition to the big opening win which spawned some laxness, the Little Giants were to face Cincinnati Elder in the third game. This season, Cincinnati LaSalle awaits Ross in game three, and LaSalle is supposed to be a powerhouse.

Defensively, the Red Devils will show a new look to Ross.

"Last season they ran out of a '4-4,'" Radeloff pointed out. "This year they have switched to a '50'."

What problem will that defense present Ross.

"They are extremely quick," the Ross offensive play caller said. "They are small on the line and they will stunt with the linebackers."

"One thing good about going against the defense," Radeloff pointed out, "is that we will be facing the same type of defense for the second week in a row."

Darnell DeBerry, 6-3, 195, senior, at linebacker is rated as the Red Devils best defensive player according to Radeloff. "He is the most aggressive — he penetrates and goes after the football."

Nose man Dwight Steward, 6-0, 170, is probably the quickest defensive player for the Red Devils Radeloff said.

The defensive front five for the Red Devils averages only 173 pounds while Ross's offensive line will go at an average 206 pounds.

Offensively, Marion Franklin has predominantly run a "veer" oriented offense and the kingpin of that attack is pint-sized (5-7, 150) quarterback Jim Chestnut.

"Their only touchdown against Newark (a 21-6 loss last Friday) was on a 42-yard run by the quarterback," Ross defensive coordinator Joe Siesel said. "They also had four other runs over 20 yards — two by the quarterback and one by each of the running backs."

The Red Devils run out of a split backfield but last year showed an eye formation which included the "stacked-I" (all four backs

lined up in a straight line behind the center.

"The veer is the only offense that they have run this year," Siesel confirmed, "but we went over what they ran against us last year and we are getting ready for that, too."

Siesel left no doubt about what his defensive team has to do against Marion-Franklin.

"We have to get to the quarterback — if we don't — then we are in trouble. He is their best."

Siesel also pointed out that the Red Devils offensive line is the direct opposite of the defensive line. "It's big," he said simply.

The Red Devils line, offensively, will average 204 while Ross's front four averages 203.

Oakland

By **FRED ROTHENBERG**
AP Sports Writer

The Oakland A's are running wild and the Kansas City Royals are running scared, which makes for an exciting division race in the American League West.

The Royals are the front runners, sitting on the pace since May 18, but Oakland is closing fast. The A's, Western Division champions the past five years,

Ross ground machine staggers Devils



CLARENCE PARKS of Ross is not doing a balancing act with the football but he has just crashed into Marion.

Franklin quarterback Jim Chestnut, forcing him to pitch the ball to a runner who is not in the picture.

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

Ross took the straight and narrow road to its second victory of the young season, polishing off Columbus Marion-Franklin 14-0.

Running mainly from tackle to tackle, the Little Giants ground out 249 yards on the ground and used only two runners to accomplish the task. Rick Kusner rambled for 129 yards and both Ross touchdowns on 28 carries and Terry Bates racked up 134 yards and added the extra points after Kusner's first TD.

The only other player to carry the ball was quarterback Randy Baughman who slipped on a pass play for a four-yard loss.

Kusner scored on a seven-yard burst up the middle off the tail of center Jim Zimmerman with 19 seconds to play in the first stanza to put Ross up on top. Seemingly stopped at the four, Kusner ducked his head and bowled over Eric Roddy of Marion-Franklin and pranced into the end zone.

Bates rounded right end and carried four Red Devils defenders into the corner of the paydirt zone for the 8-0 Ross lead.

The first six-point came on an eight-play, 40-yard drive that was set up by a 17-yard punt return by Ross's Aaron Sewell.

Kusner gave Ross the insurance TD with 5:34 to go in the third period. His five-yard run over right guard on a trap play, climaxed a 13-yard drive. Ross defense tackle Jim Smith had set up the TD when he recovered a Jim Chestnut fumble.

Kusner rambled for five, Bates for three, and then Kusner the final five for the TD and Ross had the cushion it needed.

Ross Coach Pete Moore had mixed feelings about his second triumph as the Little Giants leader. "I'm not satisfied with what I saw," he said.

"Some of the execution on offense was poor. We had some guys miss some assignments — they did not stay with their blocks long enough," Moore pointed out.

Defensively, Ross gave up only 108 yards but even that effort had its drawbacks.

"We should have been more aggressive," Ross defense coordinator Joe Siesel explained. "Basically, we

probably shut off most of the things they wanted to do but they did throw in a couple of pass patterns that we had not seen."

Prior to the game, both Moore and Siesel said that one of the key things for Ross, defensively, was getting to Chestnut, the Red Devils quarterback.

The Little Giants, however, found out that Chestnut was a hard nut to crack but the Ross "D" controlled the side dishes so well that it forced the 5-7, 150-pounder to abandon his option game to a great extent. His biggest run of the night was a 17-yard scamper early in the second quarter.

"We did not get to the quarterback enough," Moore said. "We wanted to get to him often enough to force them to go to their other quarterback."

Clarence Parks, Ross outside linebacker, was a thorn in Chestnut's side the whole game. Playing one of the better defensive games for Ross, Parks was in on at least four tackles that resulted in losses for the Red Devils.

Other than Parks, the Little Giants got good defensive effort from linebacker Dave Campbell and end Ray Long along with mainstays, tackles Smith and Tim Guzman and inside linebackers Tony Ruiz and Mark Gysan.

Bates and Kusner both pointed out the blocking on the inside as the key to their second straight games of 100-yard plus rushing. "Smith and Brian Burkett (tackles), Zimmerman (center), and Ruiz and Gysan (guards) were really hitting them," Bates said.

Moore, however, felt that his team could have scored at least three times more. "We lost the chance twice on fumbles (Bates dropped the pigskin at the Marion-Franklin 28 and lost it again inside Red Devils' territory later in the game) and a mental mistake cost us another one."

The Ross coach referred to an ineligible receiver downfield on a half-back option pass from Bates to Mike "Woody" Wright in the second period. The play covered 27 yards but was called back on the penalty, wiping out Ross's chances to hit paydirt twice in the first half.

In summing up his feeling, Moore was very pointed. "Well, it's a win anyway." And so it was, and a very straight win at that.

News-Messenger

Sports news

Ground power!

Score by quarters
Columbus M-F 9-0-0
Ross 8-0-0-14

Statistics	M-F	R
FIRST DOWNS	6	17
Running	3	15
Passing	2	0
By penalty	1	2
PASSES ATTEMPTED	11	4
Completed	4	0
Had intercepted	1	0
NET YARDS GAINED	108	249
Running	77	249
Passing	31	0
FUMBLES	21	2
Ball lost	9	2
PENALTIES	6	4
Yards penalized	40	31
PUNTS	4	2
Average	33.3	41.0

Scoring
Ross: Rick Kusner, seven-yard run (Terry Bates run), 19, first quarter
Ross: Kusner, five-yard run (run failed), 5:34, third quarter

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The pickin's are aood

'Coogan's Bluff' repeat for surging Pittsburgh?

NEW YORK (AP) — Danny Murtaugh kicked off his shoes, picked up a spare rib and threw out a rhetorical line.

"Say," he asked a roomful of reporters with pencils poised, "when did their move on the Brooklyn Dodgers, anyway?"

Everyone mindful of ancient baseball lore knew that the Pittsburgh Pirates' manager was referring to the famous "Miracle of Coogan's Bluff" in 1951 when the Giants wiped out a 13½-game lead by the Dodgers in the final six weeks of the season in the most memorable collapse in history.

And everyone mindful of current events in baseball knows that the Pirates are close to pulling off their own miracle.

With Friday night's 4-1 victory over the New York Mets, the Pirates pulled

within three games of the failing Philadelphia Phillies in the National League East race. Just a month ago, the Phillies led the Pirates by 15½ games.

A repeat of history? "I'm rooting for it," said the benevolent Murtaugh. "I've always thought that there were three main facets of baseball — pitching, hitting and fielding. About a month ago, we started putting them together."

"But we still have pressure on us every game. We have to do a lot of winning and the Phillies can still lose a few more games."

The confidence seems to be in Pittsburgh's favor now, according to ace reliever Dave Giusti.

"It's the confidence factor," said Giusti, who saved Friday night's game for Doc Medich with spotless relief relief in the eighth and ninth innings.

"That's something that

sets this club ahead. I've been with other teams that just don't have this club's confidence. We just won't let ourselves get down."

Team leader Willie Stargell laid the Pittsburgh's surge to other intangible factors — "pride and dignity."

"There's an awful lot of pride on this team," said Stargell. "You can feel it. We don't throw it around the clubhouse, but you can see that we have pride. We win like men, we lose like men and we don't fear anybody. We respect everybody, and we put ourselves above no one."

But we don't take a back seat to anyone, either."

While the intangibles continued to give the Pirates a lift in the suddenly torrid East race, they would be nowhere without timely hitting and pitching.

Medich allowed only three singles in the first seven innings, then ran

into trouble in the eighth, yielding a run on Felix Millan's RBI single. Giusti came at this point, with two men on and one out, and shut off the rally.

A run-scoring single by Bill Robinson in the second inning gave the Pirates a 1-0 lead. They scored their eventual winning runs on Frank Taveras's two-run single in the fifth.

"This has been a great team effort," said Stargell. "If I had it my way, and the money to do it, I'd give everybody on this team an extra \$10,000 apiece, win or lose."

LaSalle coach laments about defensive lapse

By BOB MARKER
N-M Sports Editor

For a game and a half, Joe Clark felt that his Cincinnati LaSalle football team had adjusted pretty well to his pro style "4-3" defense.

Then came the second half of last Friday's nightmare against Cincinnati Oak Hills.

"We looked pretty good in the first game (a 27-6 win over Cincinnati Western Hills) and we played well in the first half against Oak Hills," Clark, who is in his first year at LaSalle after spending 17 seasons at Cincinnati Indian Hills, said during a Tuesday morning phone conversation.

"We were up 20-7 but then we had a lapse in the defense in the second half."

And what a lapse. Before the Lancers escaped from the madcap second half, Oak Hills had scored 27 points to seven for LaSalle and Clark was happy to settle for the tie. Friday night, the Lancers and their not-so-new

head coach invade the friendly home of the Fremont Ross Little Giants in the first meeting in the history of the two teams.

Clark and LaSalle are no strangers to winning. During his 17 years as the leader of Indian Hills, his teams chalked up 135 wins against only 50 losses. LaSalle, on the other hand, suffered through what Clark described as a "disappointing" year with a 5-4-1 record a year ago. But down through the years, the Lancers have held their own in the powerful Greater Cincinnati League (GCL).

In the GCL, LaSalle goes up against teams like Moeller, the defending state AAA champ, Elder, conqueror of Ross a year ago, and St. Xavier.

Given a moment, Clark can tell you what pleases him most about his first edition of the Lancers. "I'll be real honest and say I don't really know the strong points of our team," he began, "but we are able to score — four touchdowns in each game — I'd

be more than pleased if we can do that all the time."

The primary spark in the Lancers' offense is 6-3, 205-pound quarterback Mike McGeorge.

"He's played very good for us," Clark confirmed, "he has fit in well with my offense. He started the first two games last season but lost his job and did not letter."

Ross scouts pointed out that the tall Lancer quarterback has thrown 14-15 passes in both games this season and the Little Giants' defense could see more than that number Friday.

Clark says he feels that Ross is bigger than his team, a fact that probably could be argued, but going by the weight charts, the Lancers will put an offensive line up against Ross that averages a little over 200 pounds. Ross's defensive line will go about 208 for the front four. Defensively, the Lancers are nearly the same

size as Ross's offensive line, both averaging around 203 pounds.

Clark has implemented a "wing-T" attack with two tight ends along with the "4-3" defense and the newness of the two has been an early season problem for him.

"We are kind of struggling around," he said while talking about the new looks. "Last year we graduated 28 lettermen and had only eight returning so we really are inexperienced."

How does he expect his team and Ross to fare Friday? He came back with a standard coach's comment.

"I'm hoping it will be a very good game — if we improve — it will be a good game; as a matter of fact, it could turn into a very good game." That it could and probably will be. Game time is 8 p.m. Friday with the gates to Harmon Stadium opening at 6:30 p.m. Tickets, reserved and student, are on sale at Tremper's in downtown Fremont. All tickets at the gate are \$2.

Ross and LaSalle battle to 20-20 tie



MIKE COZETTE OF ROSS GETS SET TO PITCH ON THE OPTION PLAY DURING THE FOURTH QUARTER

Pete Moore: 'best team did not win'

"The best team did not win tonight," a tired Pete Moore, coach of the Ross Little Giants, muttered as he sat down at his desk beneath the Harmon Stadium stands Friday.

He left little doubt that he felt Ross was the better team after suffering through a 20-20 deadlock with Cincinnati LaSalle. "We gave them the tie," he said.

The only thing that did bring a little grin from Moore was the effort put out by his team. "They never gave up," he said. "They tried to win it right up to the last second — they are not pleased with that tie."

Continuing, Moore said quietly, "You saw how happy they were with the tie. We don't play for a tie — we play for keeps."

Getting the tie did not make LaSalle coach Joe Clark noticeably unhappy but it did leave him open to second guessing himself.

After LaSalle's first TD, Clark lined up to go for the two points but a penalty pushed his team back five yards where he settled for a kick from Dan Masur. On the second TD, Clark's team went for the two points and the lead but a play failed and finally, after the

third TD, he left no doubt, he went for the tying extra point kick.

"You have to take the gamble," Clark said in a somewhat noisy LaSalle dressing room.

"We have a fine kicker and now I am second guessing myself for not letting him kick all three, but you have to do things like that."

Clark said he felt Ross played well in the first half but his team played a good defensive game the second half to shut off Ross's bread and butter plays — the traps and the off tackle plays.

"I think even when 22 (Terry Bates of Ross) got loose, we had shots at him. I don't know whether he (Bates) is that good or if we just missed that many tackles."

"I thought our backs ran extremely well," Moore said. "They gave tremendous second effort."

Moore said that he felt his team made as many mistakes in this game as it did in the first game of the season.

"They are mental errors," he said. "Our offensive line is executing blocks right but they are not holding them long enough."

On the second half LaSalle defense, Moore

offered, "The inside linebacker was stepping up into the hole and filling it and they put on a hard rush from the outside — still our sweep was there."

Ross switched quarterbacks at the end of the third stanza after one of Randy Baughman's passes had been intercepted and returned for the tying tally. Mike Cozette came in to run the offensive machine.

"We needed the change," Ross offensive coordinator Rex Radeloff said. "We had to give him a look."

Ross's offensive line of Jim Smith and Brian Burkett at the tackles, Tony Ruiz and Mark Gysan at the guards, and Jim Zimmerman at center, along with Kent Damschroder at tight end managed to open up enough holes for 310 rushing yards for Ross.

Defensively, the front four of Smith, Tim Guzman, Denny Filiator and Ray Long cut off the ground attack with only 97 yards. Gysan and Ruiz at inside linebackers also had a hand in that effort.

"LaSalle is a good ball club," Moore admitted, "but it's just a shame that the best club did not win tonight."

Three TDs, 240 yards for Bates

By BOB MARKER

N-M Sports Editor
Trying to dig a basement under a house boat may have accomplished more for Ross Friday at Harmon Stadium.

Even "Kissing your sister" may have accomplished more and would surely have been a nicer experience than swallowing the bitter pill the Ross gridiron contingent had to force past its lips.

Cincinnati LaSalle received three "gifts" in the form of three touchdowns and came within an eye lash of handing Ross its first defeat of the football season. Instead, the Little Giants and Lancers had to embrace in the "it's like kissing your sister — nothing's accomplished" hug and settle for 20-20 stalemate.

The deadlock offset a devastating night of running for the Little Giants' Terry Bates. The Ross co-captain gained an unofficial 240 yards on 31 carries, scored all of Ross's points, returned a punt 22 yards, and caught a pass for 23 more.

Bates stepped in from the opening play as the night's chosen workhorse. The Little Giants, overcame a poor return on the opening kickoff and drove 87 yards in 11 plays, the last 17 coming on Bates' slant off left tackle behind the blocks of Brian Burkett and Mark Gysan. Bates carried nine of the plays for 85 yards. He also added the extra points on a run.

Ross gave LaSalle gift number one on its next series. A bad pitch from Baughman to Bates ended up in the hands of the Lancers' Tim Galvin at the Little Giant 17.

Seven plays later, Mike McGeorge hit Joe Schwewe at the goal line on a fourth and goal at the four for the TD. The first of two Dan Masur's kicks cut Ross's lead to 8-7.

"We just had a mixup in our secondary on the coverage," is how Ross defensive coordinator Joe Siesel put it. The Little Giants had another mixup and it resulted in gift number two later in the third period.

Ross had jumped back up 14-7 in the second quarter as Bates took an outlet pass from Baughman at his own 30, cut across field leaving five LaSalle tacklers sprawled on the turf, and scored his second TD. It was officially a 25-yard play but covered at least 40. A run fell short for the extra points.

LaSalle took the second half kickoff and drove 69 yards in eight plays for the TD. Terry Kennedy's 35-yard ramble on a counter over right tackle on the first play of the half kroyed the drive. Still, the

Lancers had to click on a fourth and eight (gift two) play from the Ross 15 for the score. Jeff Hoeiker was on the receiving end of this McGeorge scoring bomb.

On the point after try, McGeorge's pass bounced off the shoulder pads of Bill Kummer and Ross still had the lead at 14-13 with 8:16 to play in the third stanza.

It took Ross just 39 seconds to widen the margin to seven again.

Once again it was Bates. Seemingly stopped by Galvin in the Ross backfield, play seemed to stop momentarily — the only player moving was Bates who broke Galvin's tackle and raced straight up field 72 yards for the TD. A pass fell short of its mark on the PAT attempt.

The Lancers got a break that helped set up gift number three from Ross. Forced to punt from the LaSalle 34 on the series following Bates' third TD, Masur watched as the snap sailed over his head, but he was able to track it down at the five and get off a punt through three charging Ross linemen. The ball finally came to rest at the Ross 40.

Mental errors reared their ugly heads on the Ross series. An illegal motion penalty and a holding penalty made it first and 20 at the Ross 22. Bates ran for three and Baughman hit fullback Rick Kummer for three but then came the third gift.

Baughman rolled left, lofted a pass toward the sidelines for a Ross receiver only to have Kevin Birkhofer grab the ball and tightrope his way 38 yards for the TD. Masur's kick tied the game at 20.

A bad snap forcing Ross punter Dan DeLeon to run gave LaSalle the ball at the Ross 29 at the start of the final quarter. That drive ended when Masur's shot at a 43-yard field goal was partially blocked.

Two series later, DeLeon intercepted the first of his two passes at the Ross 19. With Bates carrying the ball, Ross moved to the LaSalle 43 but a two-yard loss and a penalty set them back to the 49 where on a fourth and 16, Kummer came up five yards short of the first down on a draw play.

The game ended on another DeLeon interception at the Ross 45 but he was forced out at the LaSalle 35 while time had expired on the play.

Ross had 310 yards on the ground and 44 through the air while LaSalle had 97 on the ground and 49 in the airways.

Kummer had 57 yards on nine carries while Kennedy's 69 on nine carries was the best for the Lancers.

Ross is now 2-1 and LaSalle 1-2.



TERRY BATES rushed for 240 yards and scored

Tough odds for Pirates

By BERT ROSENTHAL

AP Sports Writer
"I'd have to say the odds are long," said Pittsburgh Manager Danny Murtaugh, referring to the Pirates' chances of winning the National League East pennant.

The Pirates' odds of overtaking first-place Philadelphia grew longer Friday night when both teams split doubleheaders, leaving the Phillies six games ahead of Pittsburgh. But Philadelphia now has 10 games remaining and Pittsburgh has just eight left.

Three more Philadelphia victories or Pittsburgh losses will give the Phillies their third pennant and earn them the right to meet West Division champion Cincinnati for the NL championship.

The Pirates' string shortened Friday

victory since Aug. 9 and Earl Williams' run-scoring double in the sixth inning snapped a 2-2 deadlock.

Padres 6, Braves 4
Randy Jones, the National League's winningest pitcher, gained his 22nd victory, with help from relief ace Butch Metzger, for San Diego.

Mets 4, Cubs 3
Pinch hitter Billy Baldwin's ninth-inning homer, his first of the season, carried the Mets to victory. Ed Kranepool also homered for New York and drove in two runs.

Chicago's Bill Madlock, the National League's leading batter, did not play. He suffered a mild contusion of the back of the skull when accosted by two men in his hotel shortly after the Cubs arrived in New York. He also was robbed of

Standings

By The Associated Press

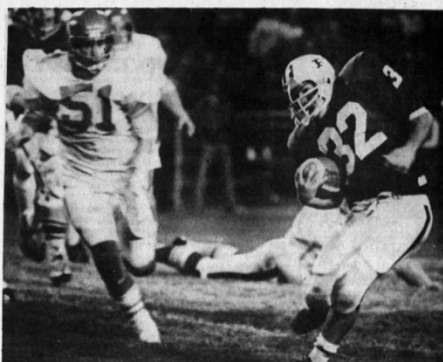
AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	82	61	.564	—
Baltimore	80	68	.538	7
Cleveland	78	74	.513	14
Boston	77	78	.497	18
Detroit	69	84	.450	25 1/2
Milwaukee	62	92	.400	32 1/2

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Kan City	69	73	.486	—
Oakland	63	71	.469	6
Minnesota	60	75	.443	9 1/2
California	51	84	.380	18 1/2
Texas	49	85	.363	19 1/2
Chicago	44	91	.328	25 1/2

Friday's Games
New York 5-6, Detroit 3-0
Baltimore 3, Boston 0
Cleveland 2, Milwaukee 0
Kansas City 2, Texas 1, 14 in-
nings

Saturday's Games
Chicago 4, Oakland 2
California 1, Ryan 15-17, at



Unbeaten AK is first BC opponent for Ross

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

A year ago Friday night, the Lorain Admiral King Admirals sailed into Harmon Stadium in an attempt to scuttle the Ross Little Giants. The Admirals had a spotless 3-0 mark and were facing a Ross team that had struggled to a 1-1-1 mark.

Forty-eight minutes of football later, the Admirals stumbled off the green sea of grass gasping for the last bit of wind that they had left in their sails . . . Ross had waltzed to an easy 44-0 win.

After the game, several Ross coaches echoed a common thought: Admiral King's offense was just about as poor as they had seen.

Not so this year, however, Ross Coach Pete Moore said when asked about that thought.

"They are a better offensive ball club than they have been in two years," he declared and then repeated, "they have their best offensive attack since I have been here (two years)."

That improved Admiral offense will challenge Ross Friday at Harmon Stadium in the lidlifter of the Buckeye Conference season for both schools. Ross, ambushed last Friday by their own mistakes, will take a 2-0-1 record into the Admiral King game after the 20-20 deadlock with Cincinnati LaSalle.

Moore and the Ross staff are especially impressed with Craig Wilson and Anthony Calhoun. Wilson, a 5-8, 145-pound junior, is the leading ballcarrier for the Admirals this season with 306 yards on 55 carries. He works out of a halfback position in the Admiral's wing-T offense.

Calhoun is the wingback and has carried the ball 36 times this season, mainly on counter plays and on sweeps. On the AK sweep, Calhoun will usually go in motion and take a pitch from quarterback Brian Michael.

Michael is the only senior in the Admirals backfield. Fullback Dough Kaya is a 5-8, 175-pound junior, and Calhoun is a sophomore.

Michael is a fair passer, hitting on 12 of 31 for 180 yards.

Wilson is fifth in the conference in preseason rushing totals while Calhoun, who has run for three touchdowns, is 13th with 204 yards.

For Ross, Admiral King's offense will look just about like Cincinnati LaSalle with the exception that King will split an end.

"They are doing the same things offensively that they have done since I have been at Ross," Moore explained, "only they are executing much better this season."

The Admirals rank fifth in the conference in total offense with 829 yards while Ross is second behind Findlay with 1,042. Defensively, the Admirals rank seventh, allowing 294 yards rushing and 395 through the airways. Ross is first in defense with a total of only 323 yards allowed.

Moore rejects any thinking that the tie with LaSalle last Friday may have an adverse reaction on the Little Giants.

"It's not weighing the kids down," he declared. "We looked at the films and the kids realize that they were playing against a good team. It's just that we have to eliminate the mistakes."

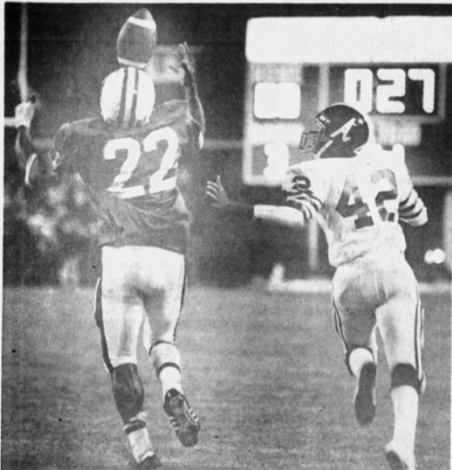
"This week they realize that the first three games are behind them and that this is the important game . . . It's the first step toward the primary goal that we set for ourselves this season and that was winning the Buckeye Conference championship. Our second goal was to go undefeated."

ROSS NOTES—Terry Bates, with his 240-yard night against LaSalle, has a commanding lead in the BC rushing race with 488 yards on 72 carries. Rick Kusmer is fifth with 303 yards according to BC stats.

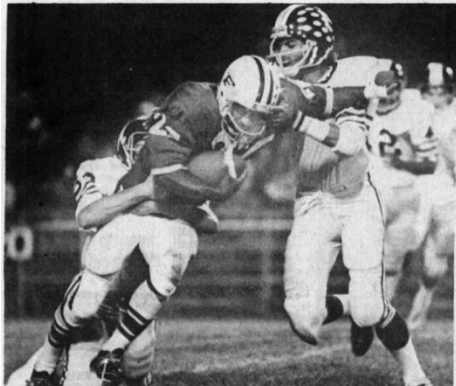
Moore and offensive coordinator Rex Radeloff will not make a decision on the starting quarterback for Ross until after today's practice. It could be either senior Randy Baughman, the starter in the first three games, junior Mike Cozette who took over for Baughman in the third quarter last Friday, or sophomore Tom Brudzinski.

Ross explosion scuttles Admirals 28-0

Parks, Bates lead BC win



TERRY BATES (22) of Ross does a juggling act as he breaks up a pass in second quarter action against Admiral King Friday. Ron Metcalf (42) of King was the intended receiver. Bates was unable to control the ball.



TWO TO GET THE JOB DONE ... Bates is stopped by two Admirals defenders. **Dethroned A's blame Finlay**

By BOB MARKER
N-M Sports Editor
Clarence Parks struck the match that lit the fuse to a Ross powder keg and the explosion blew Lorain Admiral King out of Harmon Stadium Friday night in the Buckeye Conference opener for both teams.

Parks intercepted a Brian Michael pass in the left flat at the Ross 39 and raced 61 yards for a touchdown on the first play of the second quarter to set in motion a 28-0 Ross win. That run got the fuse burning but the explosion in the form of Terry Bates did not take place until the second half.

Bates, the BC's leading rusher, was held to 42 yards in the first half but rambled for TD runs of 73, 31, and two yards in the final 24 minutes of play. He ended the night with 189 yards on 17 carries, the fourth straight time that he has been over 100 yards rushing this season. He had 133 yards on four carries in the third quarter.

Parks, a junior cornerback, went untouched to pay dirt with the interception. He got a "screen" block from 250-pound tackle Jim Smith at the AK 10, cut back and pranced into pay dirt.

That TD run was the spark, according to Ross Coach Pete Moore that fired up Ross, even though the fuse did not reach the Little Giants' powder keg until the final half.

"I don't know what it did to them (Admiral King)," Moore said when asked if that interception turned the game around, "but I know it got us going."

Other than the Parks interception, the game was a defensive battle in the first half.

"I think in the first half," Ross offensive coordinator Rex Radeloff pointed out, "both teams were testing each other."

"We were not adjusting to their defense in the first half, but at half time we made a couple of key adjustments such as putting in some motion and running the sweep into it."

Ross took over the ball in the third period after an

period. Bates' two-yard run over left tackle off another block by Kusmer put the icing on the cake. The final TD had been set up by Mike Wright when he blocked a punt by the Admirals' Larry Reardon at the AK 20. Smith picked up the ball and got to the 15 before being tackled.

"I sure would have liked to get to the end zone," the Ross gentle giant said. "It would have been the first touchdown I ever scored."

Wright, meanwhile, said that Reardon never got the ball off. "He tried to," he said, "but he never did."

While Ross was exploding offensively in the second half, Ross's defense had been swabbing the decks with Admiral runners all evening long.

Led by Gysan and Tony Ruiz at the inside linebacker spots, Parks

and Wright at the corners, and Denny Filliator, Smith, Tim Guzman, Ray Long, and Victor Simms on the line, the Little Giants' "D" surrendered only 106 total yards, 58 coming through the air.

When asked if he felt that this was Ross's best defensive effort, defensive coordinator Joe Slesel confirmed that he felt it was.

"I really think so," he said. "We worked hard all week to get ready for their outside game. We knew they would try to go outside on us but the kids did a hell of a job in stopping that game."

Craig Wilson, the Admirals' tailback had entered the game as the fourth leading ground gainer in the Buckeye Conference with 306 yards.

He limped out of Harmon Stadium with only 16 yards on 11 carries. He had no yardage on six carries in the first half.

The deepest penetration the Admirals had into Ross territory was to the Little Giants 42 on the first possession of the game.

Ross's secondary also took away the long pass from the Admirals. Bates and Don DeLeon had interceptions to go along with Parks' game breaker.

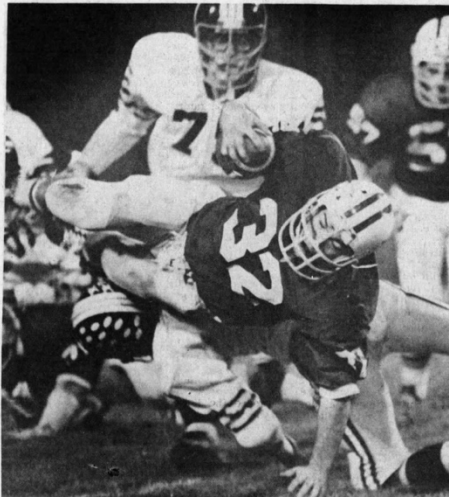
Moore provided something for opponents to think about in the future: a kicking game. Chris Myers, a little heard from senior, was four for four on conversion kicks for the night. On one other occasion, Bates attempted a field goal from the 25 (35-yard attempt) but a first snap from center to holder Tom Brudzinski threw his

timing off and the kick was short. The new offensive weapon also caused a few laughs on the field after the first TD. It was not funny at the time but Moore had to laugh about it after the game.

"We worked hard on the kicking game all week," the Ross head coach began, "but when I held up one finger after the first touchdown, the kids were shocked. They were giving it the old 'yeah, we're number one' bit before we got it straight."

It took a timeout to get the message across, however. The win upped Ross's record to 3-0-1 and 1-0-1 in the Buckeye Conference.

The loss was the first of the season for Admiral King after three straight wins.



RICK KUSMER lunges for a few of his 52-yard rushing Friday against Admiral King in the Buckeye Conference opener won by Ross 28-0. (News-Messenger photos by Bruce Crippen)

Third win!

Score by quarter

Admiral King 0 0 0 0-0
Ross 6 7 14 27-6

Statistics

	AK	BC
FIRST DOWNS	3	10
Rushing	2	9
Passing	1	1
By penalty	0	0
PASSES ATTEMPTED	14	14
Completed	3	9
Had intercepted	3	0
NET YARDS GAINED	106	286
Rushing	48	224
Passing	58	17
FUMBLES	3	0
Ball lost	1	0
PENALTIES	4	5
Yards penalized	53	70
PUNTS	8	0
Average	31.9	25.5

Scoring

Ross: Clarence Parks, 61-yard pass interception (Chris Myers kick), 11-42, second quarter.
Ross: Terry Bates, 73-yard run (Myers kick) 15-16, third quarter.
Ross: Bates, 31-yard run (Myers kick), 4-17, third quarter.
Ross: Bates, two-yard run (Myers kick) 3-53, fourth quarter.

Standings

By The Associated Press

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.
x-Phila	99	81	.559
Pitts	89	79	.529
New York	86	74	.538
Chicago	73	87	.456
St. Louis	72	87	.453
Montreal	55	105	.344

	W	L	Pct.
x-Cinci	101	59	.631
Los Ang	92	68	.575
Houston	79	82	.491

Ross, St. Joe gridiron stats

Ross Little Giants

RUSHING					
Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Lgst.	TDs
Terry Bates	89	671	7.5	73	8
Rick Kusmer	62	345	5.6	44	3
Sam Davis	9	69	7.7	14	0
Jeff Brown	4	37	9.3	14	1
Clarence Parks	5	33	6.6	18	1
Aaron Sewell	4	26	6.5	13	0
Steve Barr	3	7	2.3	4	0
John Pena	2	6	3.0	5	1
Mike Wright	1	3	3.0	3	0
Mike Cozette	2	-4	-	1	0
Dan DeLeon	1	-4	-	-	0
Randy Baughman	8	-8	-	9	0
Tom Brudzinski	1	-6	-	-	0
Totals	191	1175	6.2	-	14

PASSING						
Player	Att.	Compl.	Yds.	Int.	Pct.	Lgst. TDs
Baughman	17	6	91	1	35.3	23 1
Bates	2	0	0	0	-	0
Cozette	2	1	3	0	50.0	3 0
Totals	21	7	94	1	33.3	- 1

RECEIVING					
Player	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lgst.	TDs
Kusmer	4	38	9.5	18	0
Bates	1	23	23.0	23	1
Karl Elliott	1	20	20.0	20	0
Barr	1	13	13.0	13	0

PUNTING					
Player	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lgst.	Blk.
DeLeon	9	356	39.6	50	0

PUNT RETURNS					
Player	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lgst.	TDs
Sewell	4	16	4.0	17	0
Brown	2	18	9.0	14	0
Bates	2	12	6.0	8	0

INTERCEPTIONS					
Player	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lgst.	TDs
DeLeon	3	34	11.3	20	0
Parks	1	61	61.0	61	1
Tony Ruiz	1	8	8.0	8	0
Bates	1	0	-	-	0

KICKOFF RETURNS					
Player	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lgst.	TDs
Bates	3	47	15.7	22	0
Parks	2	47	23.5	31	0
Brown	1	89	89.0	89	1
Davis	1	8	8.0	8	0

SCORING			
PAT			
Player	TDs	1-2	Ttl.
Bates	9	0	3 60
Kusmer	3	0	1 20
Brown	2	0	0 12
Parks	2	0	0 12
Pena	1	0	0 6
Chris Myers	0	4	0 4
Wright	0	0	1 2
Totals	17	4	5 116

SCORE BY QUARTERS				
	1	2	3	4-Total
Ross	38	19	46	13-116
Opponents	7	0	13	0-20

TEAM STATS			
	Ross	Opp.	
FIRST DOWNS	62	26	
By rushing	56	11	
By passing	3	13	
By penalty	3	2	
NET YARDS	1269	416	
Rushing	1175	226	
Passing	94	190	
NET YARDS PER GAME	317.3	102.5	

NO. OF PLAYS	212	175
AVG. PER PLAY	6.0	2.4
FUMBLES	10	7
Lost	6	3
PENALTIES	29	20
Yards	269	154
AVG. POINTS PER GAME	29.0	5.0

St. Joe Crimson Streaks

Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Lgst.	TD's
Randy Darr	72	376	5.2	42	3
Gene Snyder	39	155	4.0	29	2
Tom Lindenberg	10	74	7.4	38	1
Steve Miles	7	32	4.6	15	0
Steve Minnich	17	-7	-	6	1
Jeff Gottron	1	8	8.0	8	0
Andy Pert	2	5	2.5	3	0
Jeff Swint	1	2	2.0	2	0
Dan Hoffman	1	3	3.0	3	0
Totals	150	648	4.3	-	7

PASSING						
Player	Att.	Comp.	Int.	Yds.	Pct.	Lgst. TD
Minnich	66	23	6	376	34.8	66 4

RECEIVING					
Player	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lgst.	TD
Jeff Miller	9	189	21.0	66	2
Miles	6	85	14.2	26	0
Kevin Stang	4	47	11.8	23	1
Jim Wasserman	2	24	12.0	16	0
Lindenberg	1	25	25.0	25	1
Darr	1	6	6.0	6	0

INTERCEPTIONS					
Player	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lgst.	TD
Tim Paradiso	1	15	15.0	15	0
Swint	1	6	6.0	6	0
Greg Drown	1	0	-	0	0
Tim Widman	1	0	-	0	0
Gottron	1	0	-	0	0

PUNTING					
Player	No.	Blk.	Yds.	Lgst.	Avg.
Tim May	15	0	495	42	33.0

SCORING			
PAT			
Player	TDs	1-2	Ttl.
Darr	3	0	2 22
Miller	2	0	0 12
Lindenberg	2	0	0 12
Snyder	2	0	0 12
Stang	1	0	1 8
Minnich	1	0	0 6
Swint	1	0	0 6
Mike Jay	0	6	0 6
Gottron	0	0	1 2
Totals	12	6	4 86

SCORE BY QUARTERS				
	1	2	3	4-Total
St. Joe	21	29	8	28-86
Opponents	13	0	12	21-46

TEAM STATS			
	St. Joe	Opp.	
FIRST DOWNS	47	48	
By rushing	29	33	
By passing	14	10	
By penalty	4	5	
NET YARDS	1024	840	
Rushing	648	533	
Passing	376	307	
AVG. NET YDS. PER GAME	256	210	
NO. of PLAYS	216	224	
AVG. PER PLAY	4.7	3.8	
FUMBLES	6	12	
Lost	5	7	
PENALTIES	21	19	
Yards	184	151	
AVG. PTS. PER GAME	21.5	11.5	



BC honors

Terry Bates of Fremont Ross was named as the Buckeye Conference's "back of the week" for his efforts against Mansfield in Ross's 36-14 win. Bates ran the ball 41 times for 245 yards, scored two touchdowns, and was credited with four unassisted tackles from his defensive halfback spot. Bates has 913 yards in just five games this season. The "lineman of the week" for the conference is Luther Henson of Sandusky.

'New look' Elyria Friday

In the past few years seeing a football flying through the air at Elyria was like catching a glimpse of a streaker at the North Pole. It just did not happen, especially if the football had to be thrown by an Elyria quarterback.

But passage of time breeds changes and Pioneer Coach Bill Barton has put an old (new to Elyria) wrinkle into the Elyria offense: the forward pass.

The Pioneers have become so good at the passing game this season that quarterback Brian Balser occupies the seventh spot in the Buckeye Conference standings. That does not seem like much but it has been years since an Elyria signal caller has ranked anywhere but last in the

passing stats. In fact, two years ago, Elyria had no one ranked at all in the final figures.

Balser has been turning faces this season with that once seemingly forbidden passing game and it has been an integral part of the Pioneers 5-0 start. He has thrown 39 times and completed 14 for 289 yards and one TD. That does not seem like much but last season, the whole Elyria team threw only 50 times and had 10 completions for only 150 yards.

"They are a good ball club," Ross Coach Pete Moore said even though it is a foregone conclusion. "They have a good quarterback and he can throw the ball. I think they have thrown the ball around 10 times a game this season."

Actually, the Pioneers have thrown 45 times and the possibility that the ball will be flying through the air this Friday against Ross is multiplied.

Added to the rediscovered passing game, Elyria has a little added incentive. The Pioneers have not beaten

Ross since 1971 (15-7) and it has been two years since the Pioneers have crossed Ross's goal line.

Last year, Ross downed the Pioneers 6-0 and the previous three years, the Little Giants have come out on top 14-0, 12-7, and 18-0.

The game puts the top two defensive teams in the BC with Ross giving up an average of 126 yards and Elyria 131. Elyria, however, has the best defense against the running game, a facet that Ross ranks on top of in the conference. The Pioneers have given up only 342 yards on the ground, a rate of a little over 68 per game.

Ross has been the best against the pass with only a yield of 42 a game.

Offensively, Ross is second with a 344 yards a game, which includes 324 on the ground. Elyria ranks fourth with a 307 average, 246 on the ground.

"They are tough against the run," Moore confirmed, "just like last year."

While preparing the Little Giants this week, Moore stressed that his

team was working on the passing, a portion of the game that Ross has not had to rely on this season. The Ross staff has been looking at all three quarterbacks, Randy Baughman, Mike Cozette, and Tom Brudzinski, and who will start had not been determined as of Wednesday.

Is Ross going to have to pass to get past the Pioneers?

"Possibly," Moore hedged. "They are going to have to respect it (passing game). If they bring everyone up on the line, we are going to throw the football."

ROSS NOTES — Terry Bates of Ross is far and away the best rusher in the BC with a net of 913 yards on 129 carries.

Schram is first in scoring with 84 while Bates is second with 72. Rick Kusmer, Ross's fullback, is fourth in rushing with 484 yards on 89 carries.

Dan DeLeon ranks third in punting with a 38.4 average and is tied for first with Admiral King's Dave Cook in pass interceptions with three.

FOGGERY
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MAN'S
IVERSARY

Mistakes give Elyria 14-12 win over Ross

By BOB MARKER
ELYRIA — It was the Hubert Oliver Show and it drew rave notices from the partial crowd that attended the clash between the two unbeaten Buckeye Conference football foes here Friday.
For Ross, the "H.O. Show" was one that they would rather have missed.
"I said earlier in the week," a saddened Pete Moore, Ross's coach, said quietly, "that the team that made the fewer mistakes would win the game."
He hit the nail right on the head: Ross made two miscues and Elyria one and that was the game — a 14-12 win for the now 6-0 Pioneers and loss number one for the 4-1-1 Little Giants.
Oliver scooped up a Terry Bates fumble at the Ross 47 and cruised non-stop to paydirt with 2:46 to play in the initial quarter to shock Ross. The 5-10, 180-pound senior,

who plays the game from sideline to sideline, stepped in front of a Tom Brudzinski's pass three minutes into the second quarter and raced untouched 37 yards for Elyria's second TD.
After the first six-pointer, Pioneer quarterback Brian Baleser lobbed a pass over the Ross defense to, you guessed it, Hubert Oliver, for the extra points which turned out to be the margin of victory for Elyria. It was the first time in four years that Coach Bill Barton's team had come out on top of the mid-season clash with Ross.
"He's (Hubert Oliver) a super football player," a happy Barton yelled in the locker room after the game. "He just played a super game."
Enough said about Hubie — he did most of the talking himself on the field from his middle linebacker spot as he continually

stuck his nose into Ross's plays.
Brudzinski, just a sophomore and making his first varsity start replacing the injured Randy Baughman, was not criticized on the interception, instead, Moore disclosed that his receivers has run the wrong pass patterns... even lined up on the wrong side of the field.
"He showed a lot of poise out there tonight," Moore praised the sophomore. "He called an automatic on the long drive in the second half that went for 8-10 yards."
Ross took advantage of Elyria's mistake, a 13-yard punt off the toe of Hymie Glass. The ball went out at the Elyria 16 after the Ross defense had pushed the Pioneers back to the three.
Five plays, plus a face mask penalty on Elyria, Ross scored with 1:28 to play in the first half. Rick Kusmer got a block from

center Jim Zimmerman and guard Mark Gysan to cover the final yard over the right side. On the point after, Chris Myers' boot sailed wide to the left, his first miss after eight straight successes this season.
In the first half, Elyria's defense, led by Oliver, had throttled the Little Giant's ground game, giving up just 34 yards on the ground. Bates, who entered the game as the leading rusher in the BC with 922 yards, had just 21.
"We played just about as good as a team could play," Barton said about his team's first half defensive exploits. "In the second half I don't know if we got tired but Ross had a heck of a drive, one that beat us alone in yardage."
Barton was singling out Ross's 80-yard, 19-play drive with second half kickoff. During the drive, Ross converted on one fourth and one and four third down situations.

Bates' 22-yard run to the Elyria 20 was the key to the long march. He covered the final four yards through a hole in the left side of the line that was opened by tackle Brian Burkett and guard Tony Ruiz. The march used up 8:59 of the clock.
Elyria roared back with a drive of its own to the Ross seven before a delay of game and Dan DeLeon's interception in the end zone quelled the drive.
Ross started another march and made it to the Elyria 35 where it bogged down. On a fourth and three, Bates slipped in the backfield to give the ball to Elyria.
"The play was there," Moore said as he echoed the same feeling about the missed extra point after the second Ross TD. On that play, Brudzinski pitched to Bates circling left end but the ball bounded off the senior tailback's shoulder pads to stop Ross's bid for a tie.

Ross had the ball one final time after the drive to the Elyria 35. A Glass punt gave the Little Giants possession at the Ross 11.
A pass interference penalty and a 13-yard strike from Brudzinski to Bates brought the ball out to the 39, but two pass completions and a last ditch Bates to DeLeon halfback pass was battled down by Oliver at the Pioneer 35 and that was the game.
Ross came close to scoring one other time, that on the second series of plays in the first quarter. Brudzinski hurled a pass from the Ross 21 to DeLeon who was open behind the Elyria secondary but the Ross senior dropped the ball at the Pioneer 40.
Bates led all ball carriers with 96 yards. Jerry Oliver, cousin of Hubert, led Elyria with a 71. Rick Kusmer had 53 for the Little Giants who outgained the Pioneers 164-145.

Clyde and West draw 8-8

By JERRY ROSEN
News-Messenger Staff Writer
CLYDE — The Elyria West Wolverines tried to jam the ball down the throats of the Clyde Filers here Friday night.
The Filer defense took occasional bites, but in all but one case, at the critical times it refused to swallow.
The defensive show earned the Filers an 8-8 non-league football tie with West as Clyde celebrated its homecoming before a sparse crowd.
Although the game turned into a defensive struggle for the Filers, the offense capitalized early on a poor Wolverine punt into a haunted house tale-type wind.
Mark Rosenberger had pinned the Wolverines deep in their own end with a wind-aided 47-yard punt and when Elyria couldn't move Wolverine punter Rick Turner booted one out — but not far enough.
The wind held it to 18 yards and gave Clyde the ball on the Elyria 43. A 24-yard blast by Matt Redfern gave Clyde a first and 10 on the 11 and, on a fourth and one, Paul Colavincenzo kept the drive alive picking up the first down at the one. On the next play, the seventh of

It was like that all night, until that 79-yard West march for a score.
Head Coach Bill Hewitt replaced Tarney with Jim Smola at quarterback midway through the drive and Smola made the change look good. With a fourth and two on his own 39, Smola faked Jones into the line, kept the ball and rolled around right end with a good wall for 14 yards. That would have given Elyria a first down on the Clyde 47, but the officials ruled Smola had been tackled by the face mask and added another 15 yards to his run.
Starting now from the Clyde 32, Jones went off left tackle for 11; Smola rolled out for another 17 to the Clyde 4; Jones broke a tackle in the backfield and skidded to the three; and Smola faked the dive, rolled left, broke a tackle and scored with 8:35 left. Jones took a pitch on a power sweep left for the tie.
Clyde had one final chance with time running out when, with Elyria driving on the Clyde 35, Smola hit Jones in the back of the helmet with a pitch and Clyde's Kris Larkins fell on it.
The Filers started poorly, but a 10-yard reverse by Dave Roth gave them a fourth and two on their 48. A



Ross stats		Scores by quarters	
Ross	Elyria	1	2
0	0	6	0-12
Statistics		3	4
0	0	0	0-14
FIRST DOWNS			
Rushing	12	8	
Passing	11	8	
Penalty	1	0	
PASSES ATTEMPTED			
Completed	4	0	
Intercepted	4	0	
NET YARDS GAINED			
Rushing	146	145	
Passing	16	0	
FUMBLES	2	1	
Ball lost	1	0	
PENALTIES			
Yards penalized	3	8	
PUNTS	3	4	
Average	42.0	27.0	
Scoring			
Elyria: Hubert Oliver, 47-yard fumble recovery (Oliver pass from Brian Baleser), 2:46, first quarter			
Elyria: H. Oliver, 27-yard return of pass interception (pass failed), 9:06, second quarter			
Ross: Rick Kusmer, one-yard run (kick failed), 1:28, second quarter			
Ross: Terry Bates, four-yard run (run failed), 3:01, third quarter			

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Ross's Smith almost said 'no' to football

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor
Jim Smith nearly kissed football goodbye before it had a chance to embrace him. When the pigskin sport did get its grip on him, he was hooked.
"I almost did not come out my sophomore year," the bashful 240-pound Ross Little Giants tackle said sheepishly.
"Coach Hollman (Tom, now at Ohio Northern after spending two years at Ross) called me at home during the summer before my sophomore year and wanted to talk to me — I wasn't home then but when I found out he called, I decided to give football a try."
He's never regretted the decision.
"Today he is touted not only as a possible All-Buckeye Conference defensive tackle (he was second team as a defensive tackle a year ago), but All-State selections have not been put out of his reach."
"Before the season started, I set my goals to be All-State but now I'll just settle for All-Buckeye Conference."
There is a reason for Smith lowering his goals. This season he has been playing both defensive and offensive tackle. This is the first season since his sophomore year when he started every

game on defense, that the Little Giants senior has had to worry about the offense.
Admittedly, he has not had a really great year or a truly outstanding single game. He knows it and his tackle coach, Dick Coleman will concur.
"He's had to worry only about defense his first two years," Coleman pointed out. "This year he has not had a good of games as in past seasons but I think that is because he is playing both ways."
"I figured after last season that I would have to play on offense," "Smitty (his nickname) said.
"I did not like it at first but at times now, I like offense better than defense."
Coleman rates Smith as one of the better tackles that Ross has produced the past few seasons. Taking into account the names of Mike Biehler and Chuck Miller, both outstanding tackles in recent years at Ross, and the complement shows the type of player the Ross senior is.
"Last year, when he and Mike Clark were at defensive tackles," recalled Coleman, "I thought Ross had the best tackles in the conference. They were not spectacular but they were solid and steady."
What the future holds for Smith is unknown

right now but football has to be figured in it. "It's the way I get into college," he says.
And big colleges are looking at Smith including the University of Michigan and Ohio State.
He only smiles when asked which one he prefers but added that the college that gives him the "best ride" will probably be his choice, big or small.
Smith will be with his teammates when the Little Giants travel to Lorain Friday for its fourth conference encounter. The Little Giants are coming off a heart breaking 14-12 loss to state ranked Elyria and the Steelmen are not an easy team to rebound against.
Once ranked 10th in the state (AP) after four opening game wins, the Steelmen have slipped to a 4-2 record after losses to Sandusky and Findlay, the latter 14-0.
Paced by quarterback Steve Popovich, Lorain is the third ranking team offensively in the conference with a 309 yard average. Defensively, the Steelmen are sixth, giving up 227 per contest.
Popovich is a one-man show. He has thrown 52 times this season, completed 22 for 430 yards and five touchdowns. He ranks 13th in the conference in rushing with 289 yards on 46 carries, a 6.2 average.

The leading rusher for Lorain is Rosie Jewells with 334 yards on 70 carries. Fullback Bob Tillman, a 220-pounder, has 265 yards on 57 carries, a 4.3 average.
ROSS NOTES — Terry Bates went over the 1,000-yard barrier with 96 yards last Friday against Elyria. He now has 1,000 yards on 158 carries. That puts him at the top of the BC and reportedly, at the top in the state for Class AAA schools.
Ross Coach Pete Moore has hedged on naming a starting quarterback in the Elyria game. Last week, T.J. (that's how the family prefers it) Brudzinski, started in place of injured Randy Baughman and ran the team very well.
"I don't know yet," Moore said Wednesday night. "All three (Brudzinski, Baughman, and Mike Cozzette) have been working there this week and I may not know until Thursday."
Moore reports that the only player out of this week's game is defensive safety Todd Elmers. He re-injured a knee during the early action against Elyria. Starting in his place will probably be Aaron Sewell who will go at defensive halfback while Dan DeLeon will move over from halfback to the safety spot.



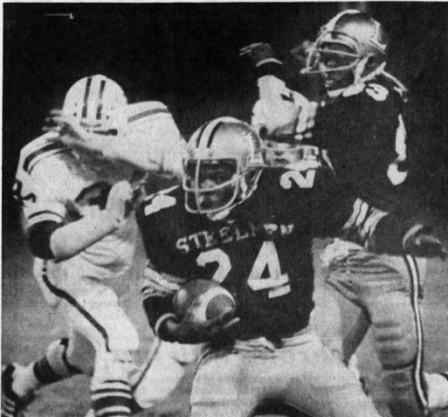
JIM SMITH
Lorain directions
Take route six north to route two (Jackie Mayer Highway). Take route two/six from Huron to route 611 in Lorain.
Follow 611 to Oberlin Avenue, turn right and the Lorain Stadium is approximately two blocks.

Ross saved by Cozette in 14-13 squeaker

Little Giants turn sour in 2nd half



TERRY BATES, (23) OF ROSS CUTS OUTSIDE FOR GAIN AGAINST LORAIN. Frank Komar, (30) of Lorain set to hit Bates while Ross guard Mark Gysan seems to be eating some grass.



BRAD WILLIAMS, (22) of Lorain starts his cut downfield Friday night against Ross. Steve Henderson, also of Lorain is right behind Ross's Clarence Parks is moving up to cut off the play.

Just by one!

Scores by quarters			
Ross	7	0	7
Lorain	0	7	0-13
Statistics			
	R	L	
FIRST DOWNS	14	5	
Rushing	13	7	
Passing	1	1	
PASSES ATTEMPTED	5	12	
Completed	2	5	
Had intercepted	0	0	
NET YARDS GAINED	297	134	
Rushing	245	109	
Passing	52	25	
FUMBLE	5	1	
Ball lost	2	0	
PENALTIES	2	1	
Yards penalized	10	5	
PUNTS	4	7	
Average	38.5	33.0	

Scoring
 Ross: Terry Bates, 23-yard run (Chris Myers kick), :58, first quarter
 Ross: Bates, 44-yard pass from T.J. Brudzinski (Myers kick) 3:09, third quarter
 Lorain: Kevin Huff, nine-yard pass from Steve Popovich (Bob Muzio kick) 1:27, third quarter
 Lorain: Frank Komar, three-yard run (pass failed), 4:17, fourth quarter

Sports news

Hirt breaks putter; Fliers trail by 29

COLUMBUS — With Tim Hirt struggling across the greens with a deft and a and three putted number nine from about four feet Friday's action was delayed two hours because

By BOB MARKER
 News-Messenger Sports Editor

LORAIN — "The only good thing that came out of this was that we won," Ross football Coach Pete Moore said grimly. "Other than that, we stunk."

The Little Giants nearly rolled over, not quite, but nearly, and played dead in the last 16 minutes against Lorain but thanks to a clutch defensive play by little used Mike Cozette, Ross escaped from George Daniel Stadium with a 14-13 Buckeye Conference win.

One thing Moore added to the small list of "good things" attributed to his team was the first half.

"The last two weeks we have played poorly in the first half but have come back to play well in the second half," he pointed out. "Tonight we had that good first half that we wanted but fell down in the second half."

"We have not put 48 minutes of good football together in the last three weeks."

Cozette, a 5-11, 175-pound junior, who has seen spot duty at quarterback and defensive safety this season, saved Ross from disaster and otherwise helped Ross's defense save a little face during the final quarter.

Lorain's Frank Komar used a double team block to tackle Steve Bailey and big (245) tight end Kevin Huff on Ross's defensive tackle Jim Smith to plunge three yards for the second Lorain touchdown at the 4:17 mark of the final period. With the score 14-13, Steelmen Coach Doug Thompson elected to go for two points and the win.

Steelmen quarterback Steve

Popovich rolled to the right on the extra point attempt and flipped a pass into the deep right corner of the end zone toward Carl Taylor. The Lorain split end had his hands on the ball but another hand, that of Cozette was also on the ball and the Ross defender flipped it away and Ross backed into the win.

Terry Bates gave Ross a 6-0 lead on a 23-yard romp around left end 38 seconds away from the end of the first period. Chris Myers' placement gave the Little Giants a 7-0 lead, the margin at the half.

Ross drove to the Lorain 16 midway through the second quarter but a T.J. Brudzinski fumble was swallowed up by Komar to kill the drive. The Little Giants drove to the Lorain 23 shortly before the half but on a fourth and eight, a draw play to fullback Rick Kusmer fell two yards short to stop the drive.

Lorain could do nothing against Ross's defense in the first half. The Little Giants, led by linemen Vic Simms, Smith, Troy Amor, and Ray Long, along with linebackers Tony Ruiz, Mark Gysan, Mike Wright, and Clarence Parks, stopped the Steelmen cold. That iron curtain gave up a minus-six yards in the first half.

Ross scored what could have been the backbreaker at the 5:03 mark of the third stanza. Brudzinski faded back, lobbed a short pass off to the right to Bates who picked up some good downfield blocks while racing 44 yards for the Ross six-pointer.

The only thing was, Ross forgot to tell Lorain that it was supposed to be the backbreaker.

Taking the kickoff, Lorain marched 64 yards in 10 plays for a

TD. Ross's iron curtain defense turned into a paper mache line in the drive.

Tailback Brad Williams slashed 13 and 11 yards and fullback Komar dashed 15 to key the drive. Popovich hit Huff from the nine for the TD. Bob Muzio's kick, after Lorain was set back five yards for too many players on the field, made it 14-7, Ross.

Ross drove to the Lorain 43 but Kusmer coughed up the ball and Komar again wrapped himself around the pigskin.

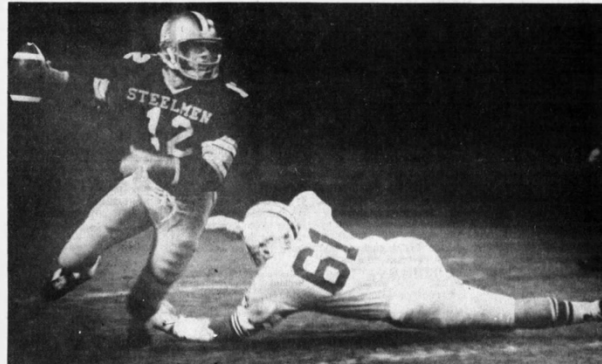
After an exchange of punts, Lorain was back in business on the Lorain 47 with 8:01 to play. It took 10 plays to cross the Ross goal line. Bob Tillman, a burly 220-pound fullback lumbered 21 yards to the Ross six on a second and 10 at the 27 for the big play. Komar ran the last three to set up Cozette's game saver.

"Mike Cozette has not played much for us," Moore confirmed, "but he did an exceptional job in knocking down that pass."

Continuing, Moore praised the Steelmen. "Coach Thompson did a heck of a job keeping his kids up his team played excellently tonight."

Repeating himself, Moore added, "This was a win but I am very disappointed in our performance in the second half. The offensive line did not execute properly, and, well, we were just not impressive out there tonight."

ROSS NOTES — Bates, unofficially, ran for 171 yards on 30 carries, raising his season rushing mark to 1,180 on 188 carries. Rick Kusmer had 63 yards on 16 carries. Williams ended up with 69 yards, 63 coming in the second half.



RAY LONG, (61) of Ross just misses the tackle of Lorain quarterback Steve Popovich during second period play. Popovich was hemmed in by the Ross defense all night and hit only five of 12 passes for 25

yards. He was held to a minus-eight yards rushing in Ross's 14-13 win. (News-Messenger photos by Bruce Crippen)

2nd award for Bates

Terry Bates of Fremont Ross was named as the Buckeye Conference's "back of the week" for the second time this season based on his performance last Friday against Lorain.

Bates was officially credited with 170 yards on 30 carries and one touchdown while playing the entire ball game on offense and defense. He caught two passes for 52 yards and one TD. On defense, the Ross senior had eight tackles and one knocked down pass.

The "lineman of the week" was Jim Scarbury of Mansfield Senior. The 175-pound senior linebacker led his team to a 19-7 upset over Findlay Saturday with 10 solo tackles and 16 assists. He had one interception, recovered a fumble, and was credited with one quarterback "sack".



TERRY BATES

Former TU coach dies

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP)—Gerald L. (Jerry) Bush of Lincoln, former University of Nebraska basketball coach, died Wednesday night after suffering an apparent heart attack.

The Nebraska basketball

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

Terry Bates is quietly proving that he is one of the best runners to play for Ross High School's gridiron Little Giants. And the feeling it is generating for the Ross co-captain is one that typifies this year's Little Giants: pride.

Before Bates walks onto the turf at Harmon Stadium Friday night to challenge Marion Harding's defense, he will be in sight of Rob Lytle's best single season mark of 1,253 yards set in 1972. He has 1,180, a figure that ranks him at the top in the state for Class AAA runners and second in the state at all classifications.

"That makes me feel proud," the soft speaking senior said Wednesday after practice. "It makes me feel that I have accomplished something this season."

While needing just 73 yards to pass Lytle, he is still 418 yards shy of Jim Tiller's all-time Ross single season mark of 1,598 yards set in 1956.

"I didn't expect to have this much success," Bates, who likes to paint and wants to major in art in college, admitted about his first seven games this season. "I didn't expect this much yardage or the number of points (90) that I have."

The 5-10, 170-pound senior, could have a tendency to be a little "big-headed" but that is not the case. "I'd rather have zero yardage if it meant that we would win. I just want to help win the Buckeye Conference championship — that's my only goal."

Running back Coach Red Nugent of Ross paid Bates the highest compliment and at the same time put the Little Giants' tailback in some select company.

"He is the best back that I have coached when it comes to using his blockers," the veteran of 28 years of football coaching said. "Rob Lytle and Tim Smith were faster but Bates is better at this stage at using the blockers and that makes up for the speed."

Bates agrees with his coach about the blockers. "My biggest improvement is that I have learned to use my blockers and to look for the hole — to run to daylight. Then I feel that I have been accelerating better off the blocks."

The Ross co-captain, a responsibility that Nugent feels has helped his

protege's confidence, has had his high and low points this season.

"When I fumbled in the Elyria game and they returned it for a touchdown," he said was his biggest disappointment

this season. "When I gained over 200 yards (240 and 242) and the two touchdown passes that I caught I think have been the best parts of the season for me."

Bates does not forget that most of a runner's success on the football field goes hand in hand with his blockers. Nugent puts it, "He has a hell of a set of blockers in front of him."

"I think the line respects me and I know I respect them," Bates pointed out.

"I think they are proud when I get over 100 yards in a game — when one of them thinks they missed a block when I carry the ball, they come back to the huddle and apologize to me."

Fullback Rick Kusmer has done his share to take some pressure off Bates. The stalky 180-pounder has rolled up nearly 600 yards this season and even though most teams key on Bates, they cannot forget about Kusmer.

Nugent points out several other reasons. "He is in great physical condition," he says, "he has better speed this season and he has matured plus he is intelligent and is easy to coach. This year, he is running with more power — when he gets right down to the end, he will fight for that extra yard."

That fight for yardage, on both

Bates's and Kusmer's part Friday will be a key to the Little Giants' quest to stay in the thick of the Buckeye Conference title race.

Last season, Ross was on the lucky side with 13-0 win over the Prexies and in Friday's game, a facet of the Ross defense will be tested that up till now, has not had much pressure put on it.

"I don't think our secondary has been tested this year," Ross offensive coordinator and defensive secondary coach Rex Radeloff said. "We do have one advantage — we have Brownie (Jeff Brown) back at safety."

Brown broke his hand on the second play of the second game of the season and has missed every game since that. He will be playing with a protective cast.

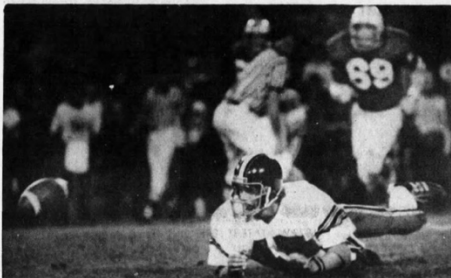
Marion quarterback Dave Freese is the conference's leading passer with five TD tosses on 44 completions in 115 aerials. His tosses have generated 606 yards this season.

Kevin Berry of Marion with 23 catches leads the BC in that department. Running backs Kevin Russell and Todd Cramer are sixth and 10th in the BC rushing stats, respectively. Russell is averaging 6.4 yards per carry while Cramer has a 6.8 per carry average. It will be Ross's homecoming game.

'Ups' overshadow 'downs' in Ross romp



RICK KUSMER (32) OF ROSS FOLLOWS TEAMMATE MIKE WRIGHT'S BLOCK



IT WENT THATAWAY

Marion's Kevin Berry watches the ball sail past

Ohio rivals battle for lead

CINCINNATI (AP) — For the first time in four years, the pro football "Battle of Ohio" offers a bigger prize than pride.

The division-leading Cincinnati Bengals need a victory over the Cleveland's rebuilt Browns in Sunday's National Football League duel or the team could find itself in a four-way race. The Browns, buoyed by a three-game winning streak, have a chance to move into a first place tie. Cincinnati leads the AFC Central Division with a 5-2 record, while the Browns share second with Houston at 4-3.

It's the biggest game between the two rivals since December of 1972, when they battled for a wild card berth into the NFL playoffs. The Browns won it with a 27-24 victory on their way to a 10-4 season, but the Bengals have dominated the series since, winning five of the last six games.

Sunday's Halloween Day showdown at Riverfront Stadium pits Cincinnati's stingy defense against a recharged

The Browns have shed the nightmare of 1975's 3-11 record by rebounding under former Green Bay Packer line great Forrest Gregg.

A downtrodden club a year ago, Cleveland has made vast improvement. The Browns rank third in the AFC in defense and fifth in offense, according to this week's NFL statistical report.

"We feel we have our act together," said Browns' wide receiver Reggie Rucker. "The week of the Pittsburgh game, we made a commitment. We promised to start hitting, being aggressive, attacking, letting the other team make the mistakes."

Since then, they have outmuscled Pittsburgh, Atlanta and San Diego for their longest winning streak in three years.

He's convinced Sunday's collision will be something to remember.

"If I wasn't playing in this game, I'd have to have a ticket and be there," said Rucker.

Cincinnati won the first meeting a

News-Messenger

Sports news

A cruise

Score by quarters
Marion Harding 0 0 0 0
Ross 9 20 7 7-43

Statistics
FIRST DOWNS 5 18
Rushing 1 17
Passing 2 0
By penalty 2 1
PASSES ATTEMPTED 29 6
Completed 11 1
Had intercepted 1 0
NET YARDS GAINED 61 437
Rushing 22 428
Passing 39 11
FUMBLES 6 2
Ball lost 5 2
PENALTIES 3 11
Yards penalized 25 135
PUNTS 7 7
Average 25.7 37.6

Scoring
Ross: Terry Bates, five-yard run (Chris Myers kick), 9:10, first quarter

Ross: Aaron Sewell safety, 8:15, first quarter

Ross: Rick Kusmer, three-yard run (Myers kick), 8:38, second quarter

Ross: Kusmer, five-yard run (Myers kick), 3:37, second quarter

Ross: Bates, 28-yard run (kick failed), 3:16, second quarter

Ross: Bates, 77-yard run (Myers kick), 10:16, third quarter

Ross: Mike Havener, 95-yard interception run (Myers kick), 1:41, fourth quarter

Defense gives up minus 22 rushing

By BILL STEWART

N-M Sports Writer

The Ross High School Little Giants had their "ups and downs" Friday night according to head football coach Pete Moore, but it was all down from the beginning for Marion Harding.

Ross broke the game open with three second quarter touchdowns to walloping the Presidents 43-0 to take over possession of second place in the Buckeye Conference with a 4-1 record and 6-1-1 over all. Marion drops to 2-6 and 0-5 in the BC.

"We were up and down during the whole game," stated Moore, who admitted the Presidents were one of the weaker opponents Ross has faced this season.

Some of the "ups" were a 22-yard rushing performance from Terry Bates, including three touchdowns, and a defensive effort which held the Presidents to minus-22 yards in rushing and forced five Marion fumbles, plus a 95-yard return of a pass interception by Mike Havener late in the fourth quarter.

Among the "downs" were 155 yards in penalties assessed against Ross, which was the only thing that prevented the scoring from going higher.

The 223 yards by Bates gives him 1,403 for the season and moves him into third place on the all-time Ross list for season rushing. He is within 195 of the record set by Jim Tiller in 1956.

Ross took advantage of a Marion fumble on the opening kickoff and drove 24 yards in five plays with Bates scoring around left end from the five.

The Little Giants, after stopping Marion on the next series, got a blocked punt by Aaron Sewell, which rolled out of the end zone for a safety with over eight minutes left in the first quarter.

"We had a couple of good hits," said Moore. "They had bad field position early and it just broke their backs," he commented about the Presidents. "They were just flat after that."

A holding and illegal procedure penalty prevented Ross from scoring again in the first period, but the Little Giants got moving again in the second period as they drove 54 yards in eight plays with Rick Kusmer scoring from the three.

Ross scored on the next series on a four-minute six-yard drive that took 10 plays, with Kusmer again scoring from the five.

Marion fumbled the next kickoff and Bates scored on the next play on a 28-yard sweep around right end with the extra point making it 29-0 at the half. It was Sewell again who figured in the scoring as he

recovered the fumble on the kickoff.

Bates scored on the third play from scrimmage in the third quarter when he swept around left end and cut back inside on a beautiful 77-yard run to make it 36-0, with more than 10 minutes left in the third quarter.

"They were shooting their front side linebacker at our strength where we usually run," Moore explained, stating that Bates made the long run when he ran away from the blitz.

The coach said the sweeps and the option game seemed to be working well for the Giants, but also praised Kusmer, who had 95 of his 99 yards in the first half.

He played little in the second half.

But it was the defense, which Moore was particularly proud of Friday night.

"We had extensive pressure on him (quarterbacks Dave Freese and Dave Wink, who replaced Freese in the second half) all night," the Ross coach commented. "We anticipated them throwing 20 or 30 times."

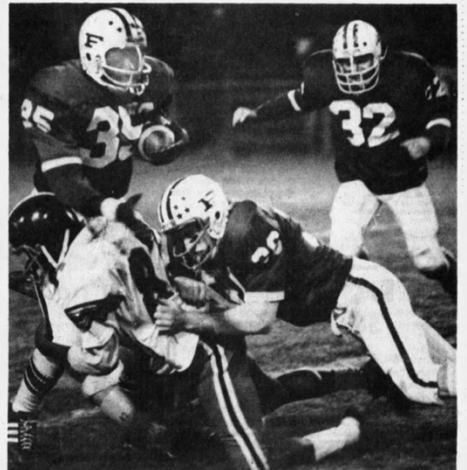
The Presidents failed to get a first down or complete a pass in the first half and didn't get a first down until just over one minute left in the third quarter.

Moore said Ross was definitely aiming for a shutout, but the Giants almost lost it when

quarterback Mark Cosette fumbled at the Ross 21 late in the game, but Havener saved the shutout and added to the score when he picked off a pass in the right flat and ran it 95 yards, probably the longest interception run in the school's history.

Ross had some drives stalled in the second half, mostly by penalties. The Giants drove to the Marion nine late in the third quarter, but three 15-yard penalties for holding, pushing and an illegal man downfield stalled the drive. Myers then missed on a 41-yard field goal attempt.

"We went completely flat there in the third quarter," said Moore, who began to insert second team members.



SAM DAVIS (35) OF ROSS GETS AN ASSIST AND GENTLE PUSH ON THE BACK OF A MARION DEFENDER FROM TEAMMATE STEVE BARR. KUSMER (32) FOLLOWS THE PLAY. (News-Messenger photos by Bruce Crippen)

Pro results

NBA

Friday's Games
Indiana 90, New York Nets 89
Phoenix 90, Chicago 82
Kansas City 130, San Antonio 102

New Orleans 111, Washington 91
Los Angeles 118, Atlanta 101
Seattle 106, Detroit 103

Saturday's Games
New Orleans at New York
Knicks
Cleveland at Buffalo
Philadelphia

Boston at San Antonio
Chicago at Milwaukee
Kansas City at Indiana
Washington at Houston

Phoenix at Denver
Atlanta at Golden State
Detroit at Portland

Sunday's Games
New Orleans at Cleveland
Detroit at Los Angeles
Atlanta at Seattle

NHL

Friday's Game
Washington 5, Colorado 1

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Ross dominates Buckeye Conference stats

The Buckeye Conference statistics released this week continue to show the Ross High School Little Giant football team leading the way in team offense and defense.

Ross had 2,438 net yards rushing and 184 passing to lead the conference with 2,622, in all games played. Findlay is second with 2,525 and Elyria third with 2,217.

Defensively, Ross has allowed 955 total yards, more than 400 less than Elyria, which is second with 1,363. Findlay ranks third with 1,586.

In five conference games, Ross is first offensively with 1,575 yards while Findlay is second with 1,439 and Mansfield third with 1,426.

Ross is first defensively in conference games with allowing only 632 total net

yards. Elyria is second with 774 and Findlay third with 1,073.

Terry Bates of Ross leads the conference in scoring and rushing by wide margins going into the ninth game. Bates has scored 17 touchdowns and six two-point conversions for 108 points, well ahead of Andy Schramm of Findlay, who is second with 84. Rick Kusmer of Ross is fifth in the conference scoring race with 56 points.

Bates has 1,412 yards rushing in 212 carries to lead Cliff Belmar of Mansfield, who is second with 932 yards in 123 carries. Belmar has a 7.6 yard average per carry to lead in that category, while Bates has a 6.7 average. Kusmer ranks fifth in rushing with 698 yards in 141 carries for 5.0 average.

Dan DeLeon of Ross leads the conference in punting with a 39.0 yard average. Jeff Brown is third in punt returns with an 11.3 average per return. The leader is Steve Popovich of Lorain at 36.6.

Brown is first in kickoff returns with 44.5 yard average. Steve Reichenbach of Findlay leads the conference in passing with 747 net yards, while Kevin Berry of Marion, is the leading receiver with 294 net yards. Hubert Oliver of Elyria and John Burns of Marion lead in pass interceptions with four.

The conference co-backs of the week are quarterback Glen Redding of Sandusky and tailback Jerry Oliver of Elyria. Redding ran for 147 yards in 15 carries, which included a 72-yard touchdown run to lead Sandusky past Mansfield. He scored three touchdowns and one conversion and passed for another conversion to figure in 22 of the 30 points Sandusky scored. He also played at safety.

Oliver rushed for 185 yards in 26 carries for 7.1 average to lead Elyria past Findlay 15-6. He scored on a 30-yard touchdown run and in the fourth quarter ran 34 yards to set up the other score.

The lineman of the week is defensive end and tight end Mike Blake of Sandusky. Blake recovered two fumbles and caused another in the Sandusky victory.

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WHEN YOUR ROOF'S LEAKING, BUT

Trojans always ready for Ross

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

"All we have to do is tell our kids we are playing Fremont," the voice at the other end of the phone line chuckled, "and then get them to the field!"

The voice belonged to Bill Jones, the Findlay Trojans portly head football coach. The implication was easy to figure out — it does not take much work for the Findlay coaching staff to get the Trojans ready during the week of the annual clash with the Fremont Ross Little Giants.

"The kids are going to be enthusiastic for this game no matter what is riding on it."

The Trojans, before the last two Fridays, would have had a good deal riding on the Friday Buckeye Conference game but now Jones just wants to win this Friday and the next. The Trojans, riding a 16-game regular season winning streak, were felled first by Mansfield and then just last Friday by unbeaten Elyria.

Prior to the Mansfield game, Findlay had been rated number two in the state and held a substantial lead in the region's computer ratings, the device used to determine state semi-finalists in the playoffs. The Ross game was supposed to be, just as last year's 22-13 Trojan win, the "clincher" for the computer title by the Trojans.

"Now," Jones said, "what we are working on right now is winning the last two games so that we can finish 8-2. That's a pretty respectable record."

Before this season, Jones and a couple of his players, in accordance with a football magazine put out about the Findlay football, had a visit from a self-proclaimed witch from the hills of Kentucky. The so-called lady with the broom background called herself Madame Nadia and her specialty was telling fortunes

by use of the Tarot, the fortune telling cards of the ancients.

When all the soothsaying and the card reading was completed, the basic feeling was Findlay would pound out another 10-0 season and end up in the state playoffs. But Jones' faith in that preseason "witching" has been shaken.

"I don't even know what you are talking about," he managed to laugh.

Helping to gun down Madame Nadia's cards have been two key injuries. All-State running back Andy Schramm took a hard shot on the knee in the early action at Mansfield and missed more than half of that game and all of the Elyria contest. Massive 270-pound tackle Al LaForest was injured in practice and missed the Elyria game and the effects showed in the Trojan's play.

"Everyone will be back for this week," Jones said but then talked not about injuries causing his team to falter but rather of poor offensive blocking by his line.

"We are actually more than a little disappointed in our offensive blocking efficiency," Jones admitted. "We feel that we have just not done the job and it is probably our biggest area of disappointment. Andy (Schramm) has gained 800 yards and much of it has been on second effort. A lot of times he is hit in the backfield and he still gained yardage."

Just as last season when the Trojans had All-State quarterback Dave Wilson, Jones has another top notch signal caller. Junior Steve Reichenbach is the conference's leading passer with 48 of 81 for 747 yards and five touchdowns. He is extremely accurate and at one time this season he was 25 of 33. According to Jones, "all but one of the incompletions were dropped so he could have almost been perfect."

Jones said the Reichenbach and Wilson were just about the same and that Reichen-

bach, who throws lefthanded, did not add a different look to the Trojan offense. "The way I feel, whether they are lefthanded or right, the only thing that counts is if he gets the ball to the receiver."

Reichenbach has proved he can do that.

The Trojans' leader went on to express the view that he felt Ross's defense had not been tested through the airways this season. "We definitely are going to try to throw," he said.

Jones said that for Findlay to hold down Ross's running attack, his team must get outstanding games from defensive tackles Bob Pickens (6-4, 195) and Tim Dillon (6-3, 220).

"Due to the nature of Fremont's offense and some of the things Fremont does, the tackles can really help us out with outstanding games."

Jones hedges at the "good run, no pass" tag on Ross.

"Well, that's true," he said, "you can't say anything other than that."

Can Findlay play strictly for the run?

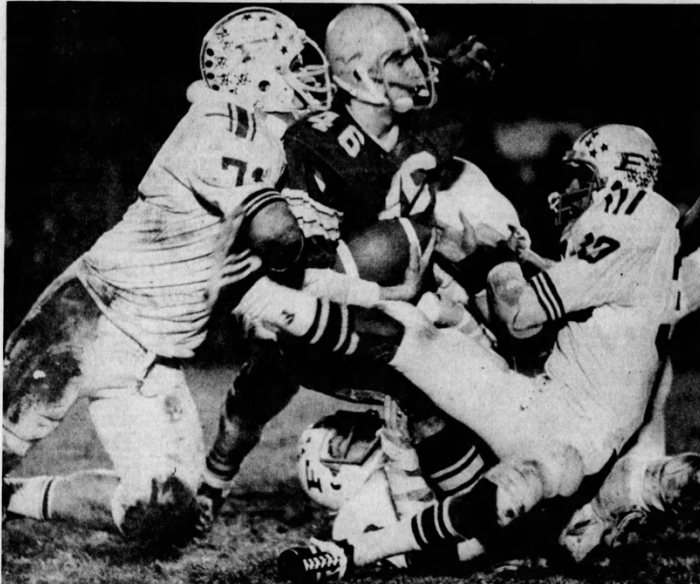
"No. You still have to play the pass," Jones pointed out. "I don't care if Fremont is ground oriented, if you come up after them and give up an easy score through the air — why they might as well be the best passing team in the nation."

"I think they have not passed just because of the fact that they have had so much success with running the football this year with Terry Bates. Of course, they would be foolish to do anything else but run."

Jones discounts the supposition that his team will key strictly on Bates. "Well, Kusmer (Rick, Ross fullback) is a good runner also, but if we are going to win the ball game, we have to stop Bates. So, naturally, our major goal defensively is to get him stopped."

And to tell that defense that they are playing Fremont and just point them to the field.

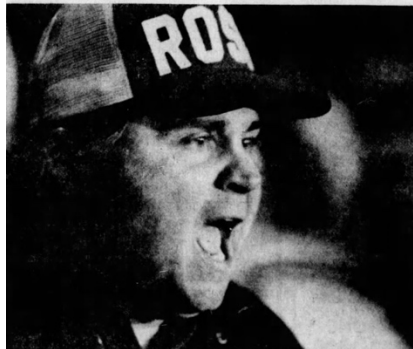
It's a draw! Fremont Ross 7, Findlay 7



THE TROJAN STOPS HERE. Defensive tackle Jim Smith (71) of Ross and defensive back Dan DeLeon (3) stop Findlay's Findlay, Schramm, lauded as an all-state player, was held to 14 yards on 17 carries.



WHACK! Ray Long (61) of Ross puts his shoulder solidly into the mid-section of Findlay quarterback Steve Reichenbach. The Trojan signal caller was thrown for 44 yards in losses by Ross's defense.



PETE MOORE, ROSS'S HEAD COACH, YELLS INSTRUCTIONS

News-Messenger

Sports

Bob Marker, editor

Mutual feelings among coaches

FINDLAY — There was a mutual agreement between Pete Moore and Bill Jones, head coaches of the Ross and Findlay football teams, respectively: the defense that both teams played bordered on the edge of greatness.

Findlay's offense did not score on Ross's Buckeye Conference leading defensive team and the TD surrendered by the Trojans was on an offensive fumble. Still, a 7-7 tie, really, just a tie, is at the half way point in feelings for coaches.

"It's not a loss but I'm not satisfied with it either," Jones said pointedly.

All Moore would do was purse his lips while hinting at the old sports saying that "a tie is like kissing your sister — nothing is gained."

Moore, whose Ross team is now 6-1-2 praised his defense that threw Findlay for a minus-four yards in the contest, but was disappointed in his offense.

"Let's face it," he said, "we do not have anyone who can throw the football. Tonight we had to come up with the big play and we could not."

Ross completed only one of six with two passes being intercepted. The only pass completed was by tailback Terry Bates on an option play.

Jones, however, did not take anything away from his defense.

"The defense played great," he said and backed up his statement by saying that he did get a great game from his defensive tackles, Bob Pickens and Tim Dillon, an item that he mentioned had to take place.

About his offense and the tremendous rush put on quarterback Steve Reichenbach by the Ross defenders, Jones said that his quarterback has been getting pressure like that all season.

"No one has been able to run on Ross," he added, "they had a good effort."

When asked about not trying to pass more, Jones countered with, "Ross had so much pressure on us — and they had good coverage."

Joe Siesel, Ross defensive coordinator, was a little in awe of the defense he directs.

"I never seen them so intense," he said. "When I would go onto the field into the huddle, you could just feel it in the air. There was not a sound, they were listening to every word I said."

"It's the best job defensively that I have seen."

Moore was asked about going for one point and the tie after the Ross touchdown scored by Rick Kusmer with a little over four and one-half minutes left to play in the third quarter.

"Joe (Siesel) asked me if I wanted to go for two," Moore began. "I told him 'no,' because I felt confident that we could come back and score again. We still had the fourth quarter but if we had scored later, I would have gone for the win... no, definitely was not playing just for a tie. I just felt we could score again."

Moore praised his team's defensive passing rush, pointing out that it has shown marked improvement over the last two games.

Still, there was a feeling among both coaching staffs and Jones expressed it best for both himself and Ross.

"You can think of a lot of moves you could have made," he said about the tie, "and there are so many opportunities to second guess yourself, just so many."

Little Giants tied for Buckeye lead

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor
FINDLAY — It was just like eating a honey coated dill pickle — it's food but it's not too pleasant for the taste buds. That's the kind of taste that Ross Coach Pete Moore and Findlay head man Bill Jones experienced Friday night here at Donnell Stadium in a key Buckeye Conference football clash. The Little Giants and Trojans battled to a 7-7 tie which shattered Findlay's hopes at a repeat appearance in the state playoffs and also killed the Trojans' hopes at their second conference title.

Ross, entering the game, had a shot at getting into the state playoffs with wins over Findlay and next week against Sandusky while also pursuing the BC crown. The Little Giants did get a break that eased them into a tie in the conference race when Elyria slipped below Mansfield 36-30. Both Ross and Elyria are now 4-1-1 in the conference.

Ross is 6-1-2 overall while Findlay is now 6-2-1.

Bob Pickens scooped up a fumble by Ross quarterback Kandy Baughman at the Little Giants seven and stumbled into the end zone with no time showing on the clock in the first quarter to put Findlay up 7-0. That was the score at the half. Defensive end Scott Dufford had knocked the ball from Baughman's grasp as he was fading to pass.

Ross's TD came at the 4:33 mark in the third period, again as the result of a fumble. Gysan fell on Schramm's second fumble of the second half at the Findlay 26 to set up the score. The Little Giants needed six plays to score with the final four churned off by Kusmer on a run that was purely second effort. The key play in the drive was a 12-yard quick hitter up the middle off the "stick-1" by Wright. Chris Myer's placement tied the game.

The tie dulled a superlative defensive effort by Ross. The Little Giants defense gave up a minus-four yards total for the game, 12 of the negative yardage on the ground. Findlay managed just two completions for 38 yards.

Ross's defensive front line of tackles Jim Smith and Troy Amor, ends Dennis Fillaler, linebackers Mark Gysan and Tony Ruiz on the inside and Clarence Parks along with Mike "Woody" Wright and Tim Sims on the outside, hemmed in, sealed off, cut down, and literally

buried any rushing offense the Trojans could muster.

Andy Schramm, a first team All-BC running back for Findlay a year ago, was held to 14 yards on 17 carries which included a minus-three in the second half. Quarterback Steve Reichenbach, the conference's leading passer, was slammed for 44 yards in losses and completed only two of seven passes for 28 yards as the Ross secondary of Dan DeLeon, Terry Bates and Jeff Brown threw a blanket over the Findlay receivers.

As well as Ross handled the Findlay offense, an interception by Ruiz at the Ross 10 with 20 seconds left to play saved the Little Giants. Findlay had taken over at the Ross 20 when Dave Elderbrock intercepted his second pass of the game and returned it 12 yards. On the next play, Parks batted a Reichenbach pass down the middle into the air where it bounced off Bates' hands before Ruiz cradled it.

While Ross's defense was playing to perfection, Findlay's was not rolling over and playing dead.

Keyed to stop the running of Bates and at the same time contain fullback Kusmer, the Trojans gave up only 144 yards, 128 on the ground and 79 by Bates on 31 carries. The Ross tailback had entered the game at the top of the big schools in the state with 1,412 yards.

Findlay stopped Ross at their own 19 in the first half and at the 32 in the second before Kusmer's blast to pay dirt.

The Trojans were in Ross's territory twice in the second half. Once at the Ross 40 on a fumble by Bates and the second on the second Elderbrock theft.

Schramm, while he was being stopped carrying the ball, used his toe to keep Ross buried deep in its own territory in the second half. The 6-2, 225-pound senior, punted out-of-bounds at the Ross four midway in the final period and forced Bates to make a fair catch at the Ross 15 on a punt later in the quarter.

Findlay was held to only four first downs, two via the penalty route and two more through the air. The interception by Ruiz was only the third off the season for Findlay quarterbacks.

Bates completed Ross's only pass off a halfback option, hitting Wright for 16 yards to midfield with less than two minutes to play in the game. On the next play, Elderbrock stepped in front of a Baughman pass to kill the drive.



DAN DELEON (30) of Ross reaches up to grab Findlay's Steve Lamb. Ross's Clarence Parks (34) and Dennis Fillaler (80) helped throw

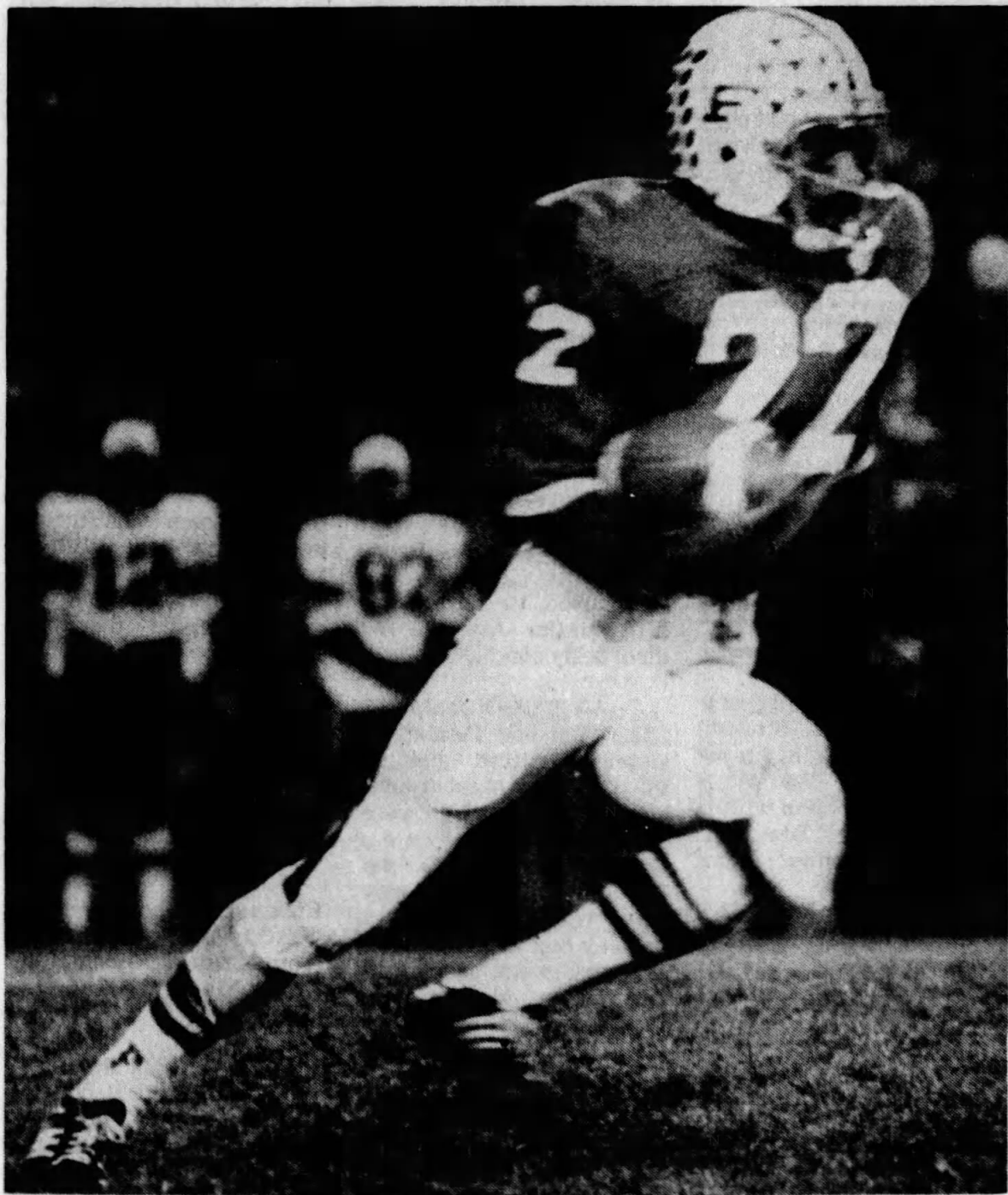
Lamb for a four-yard loss on the play. (News-Messenger photos by Bruce Crippen)

A draw!

SCORE BY QUARTERS			
Ross	0	0	7
Findlay	7	0	0
STATISTICS			
	R	F	
FIRST DOWNS	9	4	
Running	7	0	
Passing	1	2	
By penalty	1	2	
PASSES ATTEMPTED	6	7	
Completed	1	2	
Had intercepted	2	1	
NET YARDS GAINED	144	32	
Running	128	32	
Passing	16	0	
FUMBLES	3	3	
Lost	2	3	
PENALTIES	2	2	
Yards penalized	20	20	
PUNTS	5	8	
Average	32.8	8.8	

SCORING
Findlay: Bob Pickens, seven-yard fumble recovery; Joe Snow kick, 0:00, first period.
Ross: Kandy Baughman, four-yard run; Chris Myers kick, 4:33, third quarter.

FINDLAY COACH Bill Jones watches the action intently during early game action Friday night at Donnell Stadium.



Bates sets record

Terry Bates set a new Ross High School single season rushing mark Friday night at Harmon Field. The senior tailback ran for 136 yards to up his single season mark to 1,628 yards, beating the 20-year-old mark of 1,598 yards set in 1956 by Jim Tiller. Ross

won the game from Sandusky 24-3 and coupled with Lorain's 13-8 win over Elyria, captured the Buckeye Conference football title. Story appears on sports page. (News-Messenger photo by Bruce Crippen)

Ross gets help, wins Buckeye grid title



LITTLE GIANTS QUARTERBACK RANDY BAUGHMAN SET TO PITCH ON OPTION

Little Giants reach season goals

By BILL STEWART
News-Messenger Sports Writer

Ross coach Pete Moore said there were two main goals his team set when they started practice last August.

Those goals were reached Friday night in a 24-3 victory over Sandusky at Harmon Stadium.

"Number one we wanted to be Buckeye Conference champions," the first year shower-drenched coach said. "That is always our team goal. And number two we wanted a season that we could all remember."

With a little help from some friends at Lorain, Ross was able to claim an outright Buckeye championship. Lorain upset Elyria 13-8 to drop the Pioneers into a second place tie with Findlay at 4-2, while Ross finishes the BC at 5-1 for its fourth Buckeye championship in five years.

It wasn't expected to be that way and Moore admitted that he didn't really think it would happen.

"Everyone looked at us on paper in August and we were a lot of new kids," he said. He added that Elyria had 17 starters back from last year's team and Mansfield had almost as many. The team the Giants played Friday night — Sandusky, also had its share of talent returning.

"We had two defensive and four offensive players coming back," Moore said. "But the kids accepted the challenge and with the great Fremont Ross tradition they didn't want to let the community down. They have worked extremely hard."

Certainly the second goal of a season to remember was also realized. If for no other reason, having a running back in Terry Bates set a new season rushing record would help the season be remembered. Holding the defending Buckeye Conference champions at Findlay last week to a total net yardage of minus four would add another highlight to remember.

The Ross defense, which has been the key to the team's success all season, came through again Friday night, especially when it had to.

"We play with the philosophy that we'll bend a little bit and never break," said Moore.

The Blue Streaks threatened Friday night, especially in the second quarter when they were forced to settle for a 25-yard field goal after having a first and goal at the five.

"That was a key stand," said defensive coordinator Joe Siesel, who said he was a little surprised when Sandusky opted for a field goal on a fourth and goal at the three. (A field goal was made from the 10, but a motion penalty forced the Streaks to kick again from the 15).

"Terms haven't moved on us all year," said Siesel. "I would have thought when they got that close they would have gone for it. I was glad to see him kick it, but I hated to see him make it," the defensive coach laughed.

Coaches from both teams thought an adjustment made by Ross switching defensive tackle Jim Smith directly over Sandusky tackle Luther Henson helped

stopped the Streaks in the second half. Sandusky was hurting Ross around the left side of the line in the second quarter.

"When they started bringing Jim Smith in (over Henson), he really pinned us," said Sandusky coach Jim Colwell. Was Smith the best lineman his team has faced?

"I would say he did the most damage," said Colwell, who feels it is a tossup between Smith and Henson as the top linemen in the conference.

Colwell said a clipping penalty early in the third quarter which nullified a 10-yard to the Sandusky 40 cost his team dearly.

"We would have had good field position," the coach lamented.

Siesel praised the Sandusky offense. "They give you so much to look at," he said. "They have a real varied offense, so much different than other Sandusky teams in the past."

He and Moore both said their biggest disappointment was that Ross was unable to defend a look in pass which Sandusky used a couple of times, once on a key third down play to Lynn Moore. A pair of interceptions by Jeff Brown and Terry Bates did stop Sandusky threats in the second half.

Colwell said the Ross offensive line was probably as tough as the Streaks have faced all season.

"When you have a line that does as good a job as they do, you're tough," he commented. The Little Giants double teamed Sandusky middle guard Tony Jones, whom Moore called the most talented ball player for the Streaks with Henson.

"Last year he (Jones) did the job on them," Colwell said. "That Gysan and Ruiz did a job on him and it showed. They just beat him to death."

Colwell felt the Streaks could key on Rick Kusmer and Terry Bates at the same time.

"Our keys were to look for everywhere Kusmer went and that's where Bates would be," Colwell said.

The Little Giants hurt the Streaks early in the game with a pair of pass completions from Randy Baughman to Kent Damschroder.

"Their secondary adjustment left us open for the pass," said Ross offensive coordinator Rex Radeloff. "It's always been there and tonight we completed them. I thought Randy played his best game of the year."

"The tenth game and we finally came around with some key passes," said Moore. "They were playing run all the way and it was there. Randy did a good job."

Radeloff said the Little Giants for the most part were running away from Henson.

"We were running left to their right," Radeloff explained. "Their left end (Mike Blake) was tough to control. But we were hurting their right end."

Radeloff praised the running of Kusmer, who finished with 109 yards.

"He did a real good job," the coach stated. "And when he goes good it makes it better for Terry."

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

Ross got a little help from a friend, a record-breaking performance from Terry Bates, and a bone crunching offensive blocking show to defeat arch rival Sandusky 24-3 and at the same time, win the Buckeye Conference football title.

Bates rambled for 136 yards on 33 carries to up his single season rushing mark to 1,628 yards to beat the 20-year old Ross record of 1,598 set by Jim Tiller. Tiller was on hand to see his record fall.

But it was Lorain quarterback Steve Popovich who Ross players and coaches tabbed "hero number one". Popovich, an all purpose back, scored both Lorain touchdowns in the Steelmen's 13-8 upset over Elyria, a team that had to lose to enable Ross to win its fourth conference title in the last five years.

Popovich returned a punt 99 yards in the first quarter to put Lorain up 7-0 and climaxed a 55-yard drive off the second half kickoff with a four-yard scoring drive for the winning TD. In between, Elyria's Jerry Oliver had scored on a nine-yard run.

Fullback Rick Kusmer galloped 32 yards for Ross's opening six-point, just a minute and 29 seconds into the game. The Ross senior picked up blocks from guard Mark Gysan and tackle Jim Smith at the line before outracing the Blue Streak secondary.

Jeff Brown had returned the opening kickoff 57 yards to the Blue

Streaks 37. It took four plays for Ross to score with Kusmer, who gained 109 yards on 19 carries in the game, picked up 35 of the yards.

Five minutes later, Ross place kicker Chris Myers split the uprights from 30 yds-out for a 10-0 Ross lead. It was the first Ross field goal since 1966 when the Little Giants lost to Sandusky 13-3.

Ross's offense, which racked up 286 yards, 260 on the ground and a surprising 35 in the air, was keyed by the offensive line, especially the middle.

Center Jim Zimmerman and guards Tony Ruiz and Gysan along with Ray Long turned in the performance that Ross head Coach Pete Moore said they would have to this week. The main job was double teaming Sandusky middle guard Tony Jones, a lightning quick 170-pounder who murdered Ross in last season's 7-6 loss.

That double teaming and good blocking from Smith and Brian Burket, Ross's left tackle, and tight end Kent Damschroder the Little Giants opened up on the ground in the second half.

Bates skirted in from 11 yards, capping a 60-yard drive in the third quarter. Bates picked up 43 yards in the drive that gave Ross breathing room at 17-3.

The Little Giants got their final TD on a 30-yard smash up the middle by Sam Davis who had replaced Bates when the latter was shaken up. It was the only time that Dave touched the ball in the game.

The Davis success play, according to Ross offensive coordinator Rex Radeloff, was called by quarterback Randy Baughman.

"I wanted to pass on the play because we had fourth and two," Radeloff said, "but Randy saw something and ran the play. This game was Randy's best game of the season."

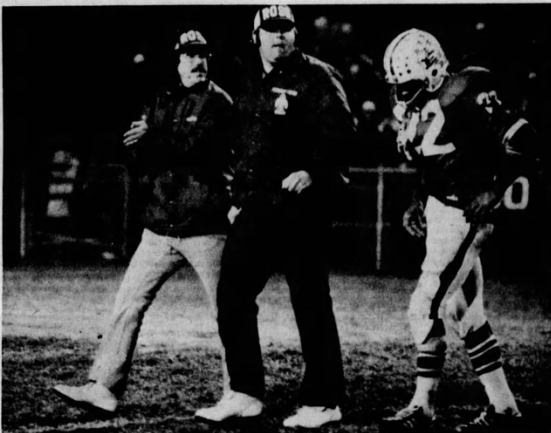
Baughman, who hit two passes in the first half, the only two thrown all night for the Little Giants, chuckled when asked about the passes. The passes came on the drive to the field goal and picked up big first downs after penalties had pushed Ross back.

"I told the guys in the huddle that they were going to have to quit getting these penalties," he laughed, "I already had my passing quota for the night."

Sandusky's only score was on a 25-yard field goal by Devin Watson, a minute and one-half from the end of the first half.

The deepest penetration for the Sandusky after that was to the Ross 22 but Bates stepped in front of a Paul Biddle pass at the 19 and returned it to the Ross 40. Earlier in the game, Brown had intercepted a pass at the Ross 36 to kill another Blue Streak drive.

Sandusky managed 170 yards total offense, 127 on the ground but hit only three of 14 passes for 43 yards. The leading rusher for Sandusky was sophomore Kelvin Lindsey with 40 yards on six carries.



TERRY BATES (22) LEAVES THE FIELD IN FOURTH QUARTER

Ross Trainer Glen Foster, left, Coach Pete Moore, center, walk with Ross senior (N-M photos by Bruce Crippen)

News
Messenger

Sports
Bob Marker, editor

Broken record okay with Jim Tiller

Records are made to be broken... it's been said over and over many times and Jim Tiller said it again last night amid the yells and happy laughs that enveloped the Ross High School football locker room at Harmon Stadium.

Tiller, a four-year Ross varsity performer from 1953 through 1956, had just witnessed the demise of his 20-year-old Ross single season rushing mark of 1,598 yards. The Plymouth, Mich. resident smiled as he complimented the new record holder, Terry Bates.

Final game

Following is a list of Ross senior football players appearing in their final game:

Randy Baughman, Tom Keating, Mike Wright, Todd Elmera, Aaron Sewell, Tim Simms, Sam Davis, Rick Kusmer, Jim Zimmerman, Warren Stout, Tony Ruiz, Mark Gysan, Ray Long, Chris Myers, Jim Smith, Tim Gussman, Brian Burket, Mark Celek, Scott Kellogg, Kent Damschroder, Steve Coleman, Dennis Fillister, Dan Joachim, Karl Elliott, Co-Captains Terry Bates and Dan DeLorenzo.

Student trainers Marty Warcola and Lorrie Smith.

"Like I said before, records are made to be broken," he said, "and I will be the first to congratulate him for doing it."

It's great to see an athlete of his caliber excel in football," Tiller continued, "but I think he realizes someone will come along who will break his record."

Bates rambled for 136 yards in the 24-3 Buckeye Conference clinching win over Sandusky to raise his year's rushing mark to 1,628 yards but the smiles that encased his face were not for his record.

"Sure, it's a great personal mark for me," the Ross co-captain explained, "but winning the Buckeye Conference championship was what I wanted most."

"I wanted to help get the team's goals first — we had set winning the Buckeye as our first goal," he said. "Of course it is a great feeling to break a record set by such a great man as Jim Tiller."

Tiller, although quietly happy to see many of his fans and friends in Fremont, would have liked to see a few more.

"My record was a team record, just like Terry's is tonight. The linemen and everyone else has to do

their work for any back to perform well," he pointed out. "I just wish that all of those guys who helped me could have come back with me tonight to be with me to watch this game."

"Yes, it is a team record," Bates agreed, "the linemen got the blocks and I just followed behind."

Bates got a standing ovation when he was taken from the field after being shaken up in the fourth period. How did he feel

about that? "I heard the crowd," he admitted, "and it was a great feeling. I really cannot explain it — it was just a beautiful feeling."

Tiller was having feelings of his own during the game.

"This brought back old times for me," he said as a shy smile spread across his face. "It was kind of hard not to charge out onto that field — I wanted to get out there and help him break it!"



JIM TILLER
Former Ross great

A closing win

Score by quarters
Sandusky 0 0 0 0-0
Ross 20 0 7 7-24

Statistics

First downs 14 8

Rushing 12 6

Passing 2 2

Penalty 0 0

Passes attempted 2 14

Completed 2 3

Not intercepted 0 2

Net yards gained 126 90

Rushing 98 127

Passing 28 63

Fumbles 1 0

Ball lost 1 0

Penalties 7 2

Yards penalized 50 55

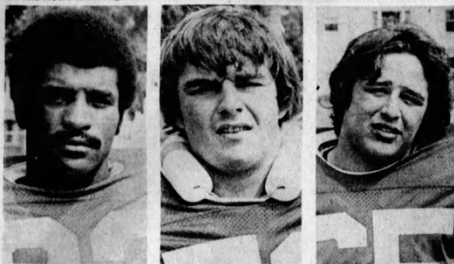
Points 24 0

Average 26.5 31.5

Scoring
Ross: Rick Kusmer, 32-yard run (Chris Myers kick) 10-31, first quarter
Ross: Myers, 30-yard field goal, 9-41, first quarter
Sandusky: Devin Watson, 25-yard field goal, 1-26, second quarter
Ross: Terry Bates, 136-yard run (Myers kick), 5-25, third quarter
Ross: Sam Davis, 30-yard run (Myers kick), 5-35, fourth quarter



KENT DAMSCHRODER of Ross hauls down a Randy Baughman pass for 25 yards and two important first downs in the Ross win.



BATES

SMITH

RUIZ

Bates, Scott top area selections

Terry Bates of Fremont Ross and Jeff Scott of Port Clinton were named "backs of the year" for Northwestern Ohio in a vote by Associated Press (AP) sportswriters.

Bates, who set a new single season rushing mark for Fremont Ross this season, shared Class AAA honors with Mansfield Senior's Cliff Belmer. The Ross senior rushed for 1,628 yards on 273 carries this season to lead the big school backs in the state of Ohio as well as the rugged Buckeye Conference.

The yardage racked up by Bates beat the 20-year-old Ross record of 1,598 yards set by Jim Tiller.

Belmer rambled for 1,156 yards during his senior season which was second to Bates in the Buckeye.

Ross was well represented on the Class AAA first teams, placing two players on the first team offense and four on the first string defense. Along with Bates on offense, guard Mark Gysan was tabbed for honors for the

second straight year. Last year, the 5-10, 195-pound senior, was on the second offensive team.

Defensively, Ross was led by linebacker Tony Ruiz and 245-pound tackle Jim Smith, both seniors. Ray Long, a 6-0, 200-pounder, gained honors at defensive end while Dan DeLeon, the lightest player (150 pounds) on the first team, was named to the defensive back field.

On the second team, Ed Nascenti of Bellevue was voted second team honors at quarterback.

The lineman of the year for Class AAA is Steve Bert of unbeaten Napoleon. The co-coaches of the year are Dave Pierce of Mansfield and Charles Buckenmeyer of Napoleon.

Scott led Port Clinton both offensively and defensively to gain Class AA back of the year honors. Just a junior, the 5-9, 170-pounder, was named to the first team defensive secondary but gained considerable notice as a running back.



GYSAN

LONG

DELEON

During the season, Scott intercepted 12 passes to raise his two-year total to 19. Offensively, he rushed for 1,193 yards on 213 carries, a 5.6 mark. He scored 16 TDs while on his way to 102 points.

Also gaining first team status for the Redskins were Dennis Dodge at defensive end and Greg Laird at linebacker. Dodge is a 6-5, 250-pound senior while Laird is a senior, 175-pounder.

Gary Mathews of Genoa is the first team Class AA quarterback. The six-foot senior led Genoa to a 9-1 season and a share of the Suburban Lakes League title. Defensively, the Cornets were represented on the first unit by defensive back Alfredo Losoya, who, like Scott, gained over 1,000 yards on offense but also stood out defensively.

Kevin Scott of Ontario was voted the lineman of the year honor for Class AA. Tony Munaf, coach of the unbeaten

Huron Tigers, a state semifinalist, was named coach of the year.

In Class A, Fremont St. Joe placed two players on first teams. Steve Fisher, 6-0, 185, gained the honor at a defensive end spot while teammate Mike Jay received a berth on the first team defense at tackle. Jay is a 6-0, 225-pounder.

Wide receiver Jeff Miller of St. Joe was a second team selection while Tim Widman was tabbed for a linebacker position for the Crimson Streaks. Gibsonburg's Chuck Sander gained second team honors at offensive guard while Matt Kohler and Steve Rusher were voted to the second team defense at end and defensive back, respectively.

Dave Affolter of St. Wendelin and Dave Myers of Carey, the back of the year for Class A in Ohio a year ago, shared back of the year honors. The lineman of the year is Bruce Fields of Bluffton while the coach of the year honors is shared by Gene Peluso of St. Wendelin and Jim Stauffer of Bluffton.

AP All-District

Class AAA

First team offense
SPLIT END: Bob Calverne, Toledo Central Catholic, senior, 5-11, 190; **TIGHT END:** Steve Berts, Napoleon, senior, 6-2, 250; **TACKLES:** Luther Henson, Sandusky, senior, 6-2, 225, and Carey Kowalski, St. Francis, senior, 6-2, 220;
GUARDS: Mark Gysan, Fremont Ross, senior, 5-10, 195, and Allen Tamm, Mansfield, senior, 5-11, 180;
CENTER: James Brown, Toledo Liberty, senior, 5-6, 130;
QUARTERBACK: Bob Manjes, Toledo Central Catholic, junior, 6-1, 195;
RUNNING BACKS: Terry Bates, Fremont Ross, senior, 5-11, 175, Cliff Belmer, Mansfield, senior, 6-2, 200, and Andy Schramm, Findlay, senior, 6-2, 215.

First team defense
ENDS: Mike Blake, Sandusky, senior, 6-2, 185, and Jeff Windle, Lima Senior, senior, 6-1, 200; **TACKLES:** Chris Ahrens, Toledo St. John's, senior, 6-2, 225, and Brent Karchner, Napoleon, senior, 6-2, 230; **MIDDLE GUARD:** Scott Blasing, Mansfield, senior, 5-11, 210;
LINEBACKERS: Tony Ruiz, Fremont Ross, senior, 5-11, 200, Brandon Moynihan, senior, 6-2, 200, and Jim Scarbury, Mansfield, 6-0, 180;
DEFENSIVE BACKS: Dan DeLeon, Fremont Ross, senior, 6-1, 150, Mike Kennedy, St. Francis, senior, 6-1, 180, and Chris Dearborn, Bowling Green, senior, 5-11, 175.

Second team offense
SPLIT END: Harold Gibson, Mansfield, senior, 5-11, 185; **TIGHT END:** Tom Parroti, St. John's, senior, 6-3, 190; **TACKLES:** Rusty Radcliff, Madison, senior, 6-2, 225, and Brent Karchner, Napoleon, senior, 6-2, 230; **GUARDS:** Scott Paul, Bowling Green, senior, 5-11, 175, and Mike Hoy, Mansfield, junior, 6-1, 210; **CENTER:** Phil Frost, Sandusky, senior, 5-11, 185; **QUARTERBACK:** Ed Nascenti, Bellevue, senior, 6-0, 175; **RUNNING BACKS:** Jeff Walters, Sandusky, senior, 6-0, 210, Ron Lingstetter, Lima Senior, senior, 6-1, 175, and Tom Weaver, Napoleon, junior, 5-11, 180.

Second team defense
ENDS: Mike Blake, Sandusky, senior, 6-2, 185, and Jeff Windle, Lima Senior, senior, 6-1, 200; **TACKLES:** Chris Ahrens, Toledo St. John's, senior, 6-2, 225, and Brent Karchner, Napoleon, senior, 6-2, 230; **MIDDLE GUARD:** Scott Paul, Bowling Green, senior, 5-11, 175; **LINEBACKERS:** Jim Schryver, Wapakoneta, senior, 5-10, 170, Mark Krause, Sandusky, senior, 5-4, 175, and B.J. Kestey, Toledo St. John's, 5-4, 160; **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** Dan DeLeon, Fremont Ross, senior, 6-1, 150, and John Haynes, Anthony Wayne, senior, 6-1, 175.

CO-BOSS OF THE YEAR: Bates, Ross, and Belmer, Mansfield
LINEMAN OF THE YEAR: Bert, Napoleon
CO-COACHES OF THE YEAR: Charles Buckenmeyer, Napoleon, and Dave Pierce, Mansfield

AREA SPECIAL MENTION
 Kent Damschroder, Rick Kummer, and Jim Zimmerman, Fremont Ross.

Class AA

First team offense
SPLIT END: Al Lauenbach, Ottawa-Glandorf, senior, 5-10, 180; **TIGHT END:** Kevin Scott, Ontario, senior, 5-9, 185; **TACKLES:** Jim Blomfield, Van Wert, junior, 6-2, 215, and Brad Fisher, Findlay, junior, 6-4, 225;
GUARDS: Pat Cahill, Huron, senior, 6-0, 200, and Tim Conley, Willard, senior, 6-1, 220;
CENTER: Jeff Malcolm, Norwalk, senior, 6-1, 180;
QUARTERBACK: Gary Mathews, Genoa, senior, 6-1, 175;
RUNNING BACKS: Van Wert, senior, 6-0, 200, Ron Bert, Marysville, senior, 5-11, 175, and Corey Hamilton, Colonel Pershing, senior, 5-4, 160.



GYSAN

BATES

RUIZ

Agent sweepstakes: Gullett to Yankees; Matthews to Atlanta

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Yankees and the Atlanta Braves, who took home the prizes in past free-agent sweepstakes, are still playing the game.

The Yankees signed Catfish Hunter, the first free agent in modern times, on New Year's Eve, 1974. On Thursday, they became the first team with matching free-agent pitchers, adding left-handed Don Gullett to the right-handed Hunter.

When Hunter's auction was held, he was the only player eligible. The law of supply and demand escalated his value to a five-year package worth \$15 million. With 24 free agents available this time, money isn't being thrown around as readily. Gullett signed a six-year contract worth in the neighborhood of \$2 million.

That's a little more than Gary Matthews got for moving south to Atlanta to join the 1975 free-agent, pitcher Andy Messersmith. Matthews, a strong offensive and defensive outfielder, will receive \$1.75 million over five years to play with the Braves.

That's not a bad pay raise considering the fact that Matthews made \$46,000 with San Francisco in 1975, asked for \$65,000

in 1976 but was only offered \$60,000 by the Giants.

Ted Turner, the energetic owner of the Braves, personally made his pitch for Messersmith last spring and took the same tack with Matthews. His interest was so intense that Turner was charged with tampering and forced to pay a \$10,000 fine.

Matthews, 26, turned down a higher offer of more than \$2 million from the Montreal Expos. Higher income taxes in Canada and the cold weather were factors in that decision.

Matthews, a lifetime .285 hitter with the Giants, said Thursday at the press conference announcing his signing that he was happy "to get out of the cold on the West Coast."

He's also staying in the National League, which was what he wanted. But he's going from one loser, the Giants, to another. The Braves finished last in the NL West last season.

Gullett is changing leagues, moving from the biggest winner in baseball, the Cincinnati Reds, to the American League champion Yankees.

"I'm coming to a winning baseball team," said Gullett.

Smith is top lineman

Ross lands six on All-BC teams

Jim Smith was named the Buckeye Conference's "lineman of the year" Wednesday in a vote by the eight conference coaches.

Smith's selection led a squad of six Little Giants to make either first team offense or defense. In addition to Smith's honor, Ross Coach Pete Moore shared the "coach of the year" honors with Mansfield's Dave Pierce.

Terry Bates, Ross's record setting rubber and leader in that department in the conference, was passed over for "back of the year" honors in favor of Cliff Belmer of Mansfield. Belmer drew the vote of five conference coaches despite being out-gained by nearly 500 yards by Bates.

Bates, however, was named to the first team offense at a running back spot along with Belmer and Andy Schramm of Findlay.

Mark Gysan was tabbed as an offensive guard on the first team on both offense and defense at a tackle slot. The 6-0, 248-pound senior, joined

end Ray Long, linebacker Tony Ruiz, and defensive back Dan DeLeon on the first defensive team.

In addition to gaining a first team defensive berth, DeLeon won the conference's "painter of the year" award. Bob Muzio of Lorain, also on the first team defensive unit, was tabbed as the "kicker of the year."

Moore, in his first year as head coach at Ross after two years as an assistant, guided the Little Giants to a 7-3 mark overall and a 5-1-1 mark to win the Buckeye Conference title. The Little Giants had been picked to finish no higher than fifth in the BC in a preseason coaches' poll.

Pierce led the Tygers to a 7-3 mark, the team's best record in nearly a decade.

Champion Ross had to take a back seat to Mansfield and Sandusky when it came to spots on the top two teams on both offense and defense. The Little Giants had six players filling seven positions while Mansfield and Sandusky players commanded eight positions apiece. Oddly enough, Ross did not place a single player on either second team.



DELEON

MOORE

LONG

Bo: 'I don't care who's favored'

UM favored to end jinx

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Michigan's fourth-ranked Wolverines are a

Year's Day assignment against the Pacific-8 Conference victor,

pected to go to major bowls. The loser probably will receive an Orange or

JIM SMITH
...lineman of the year

All-BC

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE
TIGHT ENDS: Lynn Moore, Sandusky, 6-2, 185, 12; **SPLIT ENDS:** Harold Gibson, Mansfield, 6-0, 180, 12, and Kevin Berry, Marion, 5-4, 190, 12;
TACKLES: Jim Smith, Ross, 6-0, 248, 12, and Luther Henson, Sandusky, 6-2, 220, 12;
GUARDS: Mark Gysan, Ross, 5-10, 190, 12, and Greg Ballah, Admiral King, 6-4, 210, 12;
CENTER: Mark Ross, Lorain, 6-3, 180, 12;
QUARTERBACK: Steve Popovich, Lorain, 6-1, 170, 12;
RUNNING BACKS: Terry Bates, Ross, 5-11, 175, 12, Cliff Belmer, Mansfield, 6-2, 200, 12, and Andy Schramm, Findlay, 6-2, 215, 12.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE
ENDS: Ray Long, Ross, 6-0, 180, 12, and Billy Williams, Elyria, 6-4, 215, 12;
TACKLES: Jim Smith, Ross, 6-0, 248, 12, and George Cook, Elyria, 5-10, 180, 12;
LINEBACKERS: Tony Ruiz, Ross, 5-11, 200, 12, Jim Scarbury, Mansfield, 6-0, 180, 12, Chris Cramer, Marion, 6-4, 212, 12, and Robert Oliver, Elyria, 5-10, 190, 12;
DEFENSIVE BACKS: Dan DeLeon, Ross, 6-0, 150, 12, Bob Muzio, Lorain, 5-10, 165, 12, and Dan Martinez, Findlay, 5-4, 170, 12.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE
TIGHT END: Jeff Kestey, Findlay, 6-0, 180, 12; **TACKLES:** Mike Hoy, Mansfield, 6-2, 210, 12, and Fred Logan, Lorain, 6-4, 200, 12;
GUARDS: Alan Tamm, Sandusky, 5-4, 160, 12, and Gary Reed, Marion, 5-11, 210, 12; **CENTER:** Line Kelly, Mansfield, 5-10, 165, 12; **QUARTERBACK:** Steve Reichenbach, Findlay, 5-11, 170, 11;
RUNNING BACKS: Jerry Elyria, Elyria, 5-10, 170, 12, and Jeff Walters, Sandusky, 6-0, 212, 12, and John Colmer, Elyria, 6-1, 210.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE
ENDS: Bryan Garcia, Admiral King, 6-2, 215, 12, and Mike Blake, Sandusky, 6-2, 185, 12; **TACKLES:** Todd Blasing, Mansfield, 5-11, 200, 12, and Luther Henson, Sandusky, 6-2, 220, 12; **LINEBACKERS:** Tony Jones, Sandusky, 5-4, 160, 12, Mark Minich, Lorain, 5-10, 185, 12, Mark Krause, Sandusky, 5-4, 175, 12, and Dave Elderbrook, Findlay, 5-10, 170; **DEFENSIVE BACKS:** Fred Harper, Mansfield, 6-0, 180, Paul Biddle, Sandusky, 6-4, 197, 12, and John Burns, Marion, 5-4, 145, 12.

ROSS HONORABLE MENTION
 Dennis Fillister, Clarence Parks, Jeff Brown, Kent Damschroder, Mike Wright, Brian Burkett, Jim Zimmerman, and Rick Kummer.

CO-COACHES OF THE YEAR: Pete Moore, Ross, and Dave Pierce, Mansfield.
BACK OF THE YEAR: Belmer, Mansfield.
LINEMAN OF THE YEAR: Smith, Ross.

Bates and Smith: Earn all-state honors

Terry Bates and Jim Smith, Ross High School football stars, have been named to the Associated Press' 1976 All-Ohio high school football team announced today.

Bates, a 5-11, 175-pound senior, made the first team as a running back. Bates set a Ross rushing record this past season by gaining 1,629 yards and scored 18 touchdowns in leading the Little Giants to the Buckeye Conference championship.

Smith, a 6-1 248-pound senior and three-year letter winner made the first team as a defensive tackle.

Bates and Smith, in addition to winning all-state honors, made the first team all-district team and the first team all-Buckeye Conference team.

Behind Smith and Bates, Ross's Mark Gysan, Ray Long, Tony Ruiz and Dan DeLeon were recognized on the all-state team by earning honorable mention. Gysan and Ruiz starred on Ross as the offensive guards and inside linebackers, DeLeon as a defensive back and punter, and Long as a defensive end.

The all-state selections were made with the recommendations of a statewide panel of sports writers and broadcasters.

Heading the team was Cincinnati Moeller quarter-

back Tim Koegel, who was voted the back of the year. Koegel, a three-year starter for the state champions, completed 106 of 180 passes in 12 games.

Moeller's Jim Brown, a 270-pound offensive tackle, was named lineman of the year. Bill Ricco, who led Walsh Jesuit to 10 straight victories and nine of them shutouts, was given coach of the year honors.

The first team offensive squad includes ends Steve Berts of Napoleon and Jeremiah Gunn of Groveport, tackles Brown of Moeller and Greg Ballish of Lorain Admiral King, center Bill Stewe of Kettering Alter, Koegel at quarterback, and running backs Bates, Doug Donley of Cambridge and Dorron Hunter of Cincinnati Princeton.

The first team defensive squad includes ends Ben Needham of Groveport and Fred Motley of Dayton Meadowdale, tackles Smith of Ross and Mike Trgovac of Austintown Fitch, middle guard Terry Bach of Centerville, linebackers Todd Bell of Middletown, Mark Reichard of Lakewood St. Edward, Dave Medich of Steubenville and Brendan Moynihan of Toledo St. John's, and deep backs Paul Thompson of Dayton Roth, Ray Ellis of Canton, McKinley and Norm Burrows of Portsmouth.

Lead Ross awards recipients

Terry Bates walked off with four awards to highlight the Ross football awards program Tuesday evening.

Bates was among 93 players, managers, and trainers receiving awards from the team's coaching staff.

The Ross team, in being recognized as the Buckeye Conference champion for the fourth time in the past five seasons, was also presented with the Toledo Blade's trophy symbolic of being voted as Northwestern Ohio's top Class AAA team as selected by that paper's sports staff. John Bergener, a member of the Blade sports staff, presented the trophy to Ross Coach Pete Moore.

Bates was named as the Little

Giants' "most valuable player" as well as the team's best offensive back. He also received a captain's trophy along with co-captain Dan DeLeon.

Bergener also presented Bates with a plaque from the Blade which named him as the paper's area "player of the year."

Tony Ruiz and Mark Gysan, Ross's starting offensive guards and inside linebackers, were named as the team's best offensive linemen. Jim Smith, a 6-1, 248-pound senior, and a three-year letter winner, was named by the coaching staff as the best defensive lineman.

The best defensive back award went to DeLeon who led the team in

interceptions with four, a total that gave him a tie for the top spot in the conference.

The outstanding sophomore award went to Fred Vance.

Rick Kusner and Gysan were presented with the "Giant Club" awards. The award is new this year and goes to the players who put the most work into the football physical program in regards to weight training and running.

There were 36 letter winners which included 26 seniors, four juniors, and two sophomores. Smith and Kusner were the only triple letter winners while Bates, Kent Damschroder, DeLeon, Karl Elliott, Gysan, Ruiz, Mike Wright, and Ray Long received their second letters.

Meet cancelled

The Ross "Purple-White" swim meet scheduled for Thursday has been canceled for this season.

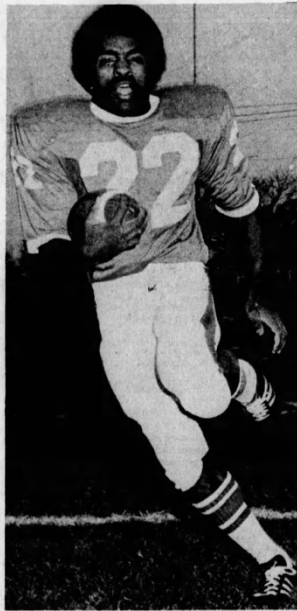
The Little Giants tankers will see action on Saturday when they host a triangular meet at Tiffin's Memorial Pool. Friday and state power Upper Arlington will be challenging Ross.

The pool in Tiffin located on Summit Street. To get to the pool, take 33 south to Tiffin to Market Street; turn right, proceed to the college library, turn right at the light on Greenfield. When you have passed the National Machinery Co., turn right on Summit—the pool is located in a new building on the right.

The meet will begin at 2 p.m.



SPECIAL AWARD winner for the Ross football team are shown above. Front row (left to right): Jim Smith, Terry Bates, and Dan DeLeon; back row: Fred Vance, Mark Gysan, and Tony Ruiz.



TERRY BATES

Clyde falls 38-36

SYCAMORE — The Clyde Filers, plagued by a subpar shooting night in their season opener, dropped a 38-36 decision to host Mohawk here Tuesday.

With the host Warriors up 37-36, the Filers had the ball and were trying to work for the last shot with six seconds to go in the game, but Mohawk intercepted an inbound pass and Filers never got a shot off.

Clyde only shot 14 of 50 from the field for 28 per cent, while the Warriors didn't fare much better with 17 of 47 for 36 per cent.

Steve Wilken paced Clyde in scoring and rebounds. He hit for 10 points and grabbed eight rebounds. Shawn Jacoby led Mohawk scoring with 19 points and the Warriors outrebounded the Filers 38-30.

Clyde had a 10-6 lead at the end of the first quarter and led 17-15 at the half, before the hosts took the lead 27-36 at the end of three quarters.

Clyde will try to rebound from the loss when it hosts Woodmore Saturday night.

SCORE BY QUARTERS		10	7	9	10-36
Clyde					6
Mohawk					9
SCORING					
CLYDE: Noffs 2-0-4, Meade 1-0-2, Hurt 2-1-3, Roth 1-0-2, Magers 0-0-2, Aldrich 2-0-4, Wilken 2-0-15, Newton 2-1-3, Kerline 1-0-2, Totals 14-4-36					
MOHAWK: Beech 2-0-4, Tuley 2-0-4, Rettig 0-1-1, Jacoby 9-5-19, Ring 4-0-4, Connor 1-0-2, Totals 17-4-38					
Season records: Clyde 9-1 JV game: Clyde 44, Mohawk 30					

Buffalo game played before 994

By ALEX SACHARE
AP Sports Writer

Suppose they held a basketball game and nobody came...?

It almost happened in Buffalo Tuesday night, but 994 hardy souls braved 10-degree temperature and clambered through two feet of snow to get to Memorial Auditorium.

scored 12 points in a row and were on top the rest of the way. Bruce Seals led a Seattle comeback, scoring 10 of his 20 points in the fourth quarter before fouling out, then rookie Bob Wilkerson converted an offensive rebound, putting the Sonics within 116-114 with 12 seconds left.

But McAdoo iced it with his three

News-Messenger

Sports
news



JIM SMITH

Cavaliers beat Denver

RICHFIELD, Ohio (AP) — Cleveland Cavaliers Coach Bill Fitch says he has a problem few others in his profession have had to worry about—keeping his starters happy while the reserves steal the spotlight.

Tuesday night, it was the Cavaliers' "Bench Bunch" that again took the attention away from the starting five as Cleveland knocked off Denver 99-93 in a meeting of the two winningest teams of the young National Basketball Association season.

Bobby Smith, Clarence Walker, Jim Chones and Dick Snyder all began the evening watching the game along with 18,031 spectators at the Richfield Coliseum, but played key roles before it was over.

Smith scored 14 points on seven-of-nine shooting in the second period to help bring Cleveland back from a 10-point deficit; Walker was a whirlwind of action as he primed the Cavs' running game in the second and third periods; Chones tossed in 17 points, and Snyder played strong defense against Denver star David Thompson, who still led his team with 19 points.

"I don't know how many times we've given the game ball this year to guys on the bench," Fitch said after his team's fourth straight victory and 15th in 20 games this season. "Pretty soon guys'll be moaning because the starters aren't getting any of the glory. We're gonna be the only team in the country where nobody wants to start."

The Cavaliers finally pulled away from the Nuggets with an 11-2 spurt midway through the final period as Chones hit a three-point play and Smith and Campy Russell each added a pair of baskets.

"The big thing was coming back in the second quarter when they could have blown us out," Fitch added. "Denver is a darn fine basketball team. But we haven't played anything but good basketball teams in so long, I'm not ready to call an intrasquad game."

Denver Coach Larry Brown was crestfallen by his club's fifth loss in 38 games.

"They (the Cavs) are a good club, they have a good coach and a lot of people that can help," Brown added. "Bingo Smith came off the bench and got them back in the ballgame and Fitch Walker speeded up the tempo."

"The big thing was, though, we came down with the ball a lot and gave it away too many times without doing anything," Brown explained.

The Nuggets, who play four more road games in the next five nights, will be at Philadelphia tonight, while the Cavaliers—winners of all 12 games at home this season—begin an extended trip of their own with a game tonight at Kansas City.

PACERS 103, SUNS 97

Wilt Jones and Dave Robisch combined for 25 points in the fourth quarter as the Pacers erased a nine-point deficit and beat Phoenix.

WARRIORS 125, BULLS 120

Chicago went down to its 12th straight defeat, a team record, as Phil Smith scored 33 points and

McAdoo headed for New York

NEW YORK (AP) — Bob McAdoo, the National Basketball Association scoring champion for each of the past three seasons, was expected to become a member of the New York Knicks today in a \$6 million deal.

The Associated Press has learned that the scoring star of the Buffalo Braves would come to the Knicks for \$2.5 million in cash and forward John Gianelli. The Knicks are giving McAdoo a five-year contract for \$500,000 per year and will pick up the \$1 million in deferred payments that Buffalo owes him, starting in 1980.

In acquiring the 6-foot-10 McAdoo, the Knicks, in the end, outbid the Seattle SuperSonics, who had offered the Braves forward Leonard Gray, 7-2 center Tom Burleson and \$2.0 million.

"Actually, the whole thing hinged on working out a deal with McAdoo," said a

Seattle source close to the negotiations. "It was a tough deal. And as far as I know, McAdoo has not chosen Seattle. We have been unable to make a deal with him."

He said that New York, Seattle and Buffalo actually had been in the running to sign the high-scoring center-forward.

"But I understand," he added, "that McAdoo said if he had a choice, it would be New York."

"We thought we had a deal all worked out with John Y. Brown (the Braves' co-owner), but then Paul Snyder (the other co-owner) stepped in," the source explained.

Knicks officials held two meetings Monday with attorneys for Snyder, who earlier in the day had announced he was entertaining bids for McAdoo.

The Knicks originally offered \$3 million for

the 25-year-old McAdoo, but the Braves also wanted a player, so Gianelli was included.

"We met with their lawyer, he called Snyder, then we had another meeting," a Knicks spokesman said Monday night. "He said Snyder wanted to sleep on it, but would have an answer for us by 10 a.m. Tuesday."

McAdoo is in the final year of a five-year contract which Snyder said calls for \$200,000 per year plus \$200,000 in deferred payments. Snyder said McAdoo had recently accepted a new pact calling for \$500,000 per year, but that it had been rejected by the player's agent, New York attorney William Madden. The rejection reportedly involved the deferred payments.

"If this franchise is to survive, we can't pay any player over \$500,000," Snyder said. "I told McAdoo yesterday that if we can't sign him today, we're going to trade him."



ROSS'S JIM SMITH
... Another all-state selection

News-Messenger Sports news

Season tickets for Ross games

Season tickets for Ross boys and girls basketball home games went on sale today at Tremper's.

Tickets for the 10 home games on the boys schedule are \$15 for adults, a savings of \$5 if tickets were bought on a single game basis, and \$9 for students, a savings of \$3.50.

For the girls, season tickets are \$12 for adults for eight home games and \$7 for students. Also on sale at Tremper's, are single tickets for Friday's home opener against Marion Harding.

Sports in Brief

By The Associated Press

BASEBALL
LOS ANGELES — Baseball Commissioner Bowie Kuhn informed the Atlanta Braves he was withholding final approval of their signing of free agent outfielder Gary Matthews pending a hearing into tampering charges.

TENNIS
HOUSTON — Wojtek Fibak of Poland defeated Spain's Manuel Orantes 7-5, 7-4, 7-5 in the Grand Prix Masters' singles tournament.

BOXING
NEW YORK — Duane Bobick signed a contract to fight Ken Norton instead of Muhammad Ali in February at Madison Square Garden.

Dorsett wins
TD club awards
CLEVELAND (AP) — Heisman Trophy winner

Second All-Ohio team for Smith

Jim Smith, Ross's 250-pound offensive and defensive tackle for the Buckeye Conference football champions, was named to the United Press International (UPI) All-Ohio High School Football Team.

Smith was selected for the first team defense at tackle. The Buckeye Conference lineman of the year was joined on that team by Elria's Hurbert Oliver at linebacker.

The UPI selection followed on the heels of a first team defensive berth on the Associated Press All-Ohio team for Smith making him the first Ross player since Bob Brudzinski and Rob Lytle in 1973 to make both wire service teams on the first units.

Other Buckeye Conference players

making the first teams included Andy Schramm of Findlay and Cliff Belmer of Mansfield Senior as running backs on the first offensive team and tackle Luther Henson of Sandusky at offensive tackle.

Terry Bates, Ross's record setting tailback, and offensive guard and linebacker Mark Gysan were given special mention to the team.

Cincinnati Moeller dominated the special awards columns on the UPI team. Quarterback Tim Koegel and tackle Jim Brown were named as the back of the year and lineman of the year, respectively. Moeller Coach Gerry Faust, who guided his team to its second consecutive Class AAA state title, was named as the coach of the year.

Moore picked to coach in 'Star' game

Pete Moore, coach of the Ross High School Little Giants football team, will be one of the four coaches for the North team in the annual Ohio High School Football Coaches Association's North-South All-Star game next summer.

Moore, 30, guided the Little Giants to a 7-1-2 mark and the Buckeye Conference championship in his first year as head coach at Ross. Prior to this year, Moore, had spent two seasons as an assistant coach at Ross, three years as an assistant at Greenville High School, and two years as the head coach at Berea, Ky.

The head coach for the North squad will be Bill Ricco of unbeaten Walsh Jesuit while, in addition to Moore, the assistants will be Dave Pierce of Mansfield Senior, and Morris Tipton

from Orrville.

"I was notified at noon Monday," Moore said about learning of his appointment. "It should be a good experience for me working with all that talent."

"As far as my coaching assignment, I will probably handle the offensive line."

Calling his selection a surprise, Moore said that the North staff will meet soon to select the roster for the team.

Moore is the second Ross coach in the last three years who will have coached in the annual summer classic. Tom Hollman, who handled the head job at Ross for two seasons before departing for Ohio Northern University, coached in the classic in 1975.



PETE MOORE of Ross and Dave Pierce of Mansfield Senior will give the Buckeye Conference strong representation in the annual North-South game.

Victory not all that pleasing for Gregg

BEREA, Ohio (AP) — Much like a well-known coach he once played for, Forrest Gregg's disposition is not good when his Cleveland Browns play poorly—not even after a victory.

soft and menacing as he noted, "We have another football game to play and I promise you we're going to improve, especially on offense."

Gregg was upset despite a 13-10 victory over the Houston Oilers Sunday

three lost fumbles and a pair of Houston interceptions.

"I'd have to say I'm happy we won the football game, but I'm not impressed with the way we won it," said the man who was an all-star offensive

successful Vince Lombardi at Green Bay. "We had five turnovers for the second week in a row, and a blocked punt."

"I cannot accept that," he added. "I cannot condone that kind of football and I don't believe this