

1969 District meet...

Diving Competition Today

District Swimming Meet Opens At Bowling Green

Dan Linder takes to the board at Bowling Green University pool this afternoon in the first bid by Fremont Ross swim team to gain a berth in the Ohio high school swimming championships. Linder, senior diver and team co-captain, will be the first to enter district swimming competition. The district meet opens with diving this afternoon, followed by swimming events Saturday, starting at 1 p.m.

Qualifying for the state meet next weekend in Columbus will be the top four divers and

the first three places in all other two in the individual medley, Bill Murtaugh, Toledo St. Francis, who also is number six at-large qualifiers will be selected from throughout the state based on times.

Despite the fine 10-1 regular season record, the Little Giants are dark horses at best. Coach Jack Balsizer explains, "For the first time in several years our district has many of the top swimmers in Ohio." The district features the state's number one breaststroker, Jeff Horvath of Mansfield Malabar; number two backstroker, Paul Gilbert, Sandusky; num-

ber two in the individual medley; Steve McKenna, Lima, 50-yard freestyle; Steve Epp, Lima, 100-yard butterfly.

Also ranked in the top 10 according to fastest times recorded this year are: Doug Browning, Marion, and Jim McCain, Lima, individual medley; Steve McKenna, Lima, 50-yard freestyle; Steve Epp, Lima, 100-yard butterfly.

Promising to be even more dominant than these top individuals are the distance free-

stylers of Toledo St. Francis,

plus that school's two strong

relay teams. With these

strengths St. Francis rules as

favorite to win the district

team championship for the fourth

consecutive year. Lima Senior,

the only team to defeat Ross,

is rated as second favorite.

Team points are awarded in a 14-10-8-6-4-2 basis for relays and 7-5-4-3-2-1 in individual events.

Balsizer indicates Fremont will be "hard-pressed to qualify many people for state in spite of our fine 10-1 dual meet record, which the boys built on team depth and strength, not on the performance of one or two outstanding people."

The coach looks to best chances in diving, 100-yard butterfly, 100-yard breaststroke and relays. The strong contenders in these events are Dan Linder, who has beaten only once in dual meet diving; Mike Aten, currently ranked third in the district in the 100-yard butterfly with a school record time of :57.7; and Pat Ten, school record holder in the 100-yard breast stroke.

Balsizer sees hopes with both of Ross' best relay combinations. He added, "We hope that some of the other boys can swim their best and possibly be selected at-large."

The St. Francis domination of 200 and 400-yard freestyles will prompt most schools to pull people from these events and switch them to other fields. Balsizer anticipates this will produce some "real exciting surprises." He said Ross feels it has the versatility to do this with some of its boys.

Brant To Head Ross Thinclads

The man who has engineered the rebirth of cross country at Ross high school has been named the new head track coach at that school. He will replace Rod Lash, who resigned the school system recently to become Fremont city safety-service director.

The comeback of cross country closely paralleled the rebirth of track fostered by Lash. The two sports have shown radical improvement in the last three years under these two men. Brant, who has been in the Fremont School system seven years, has served as an assistant track coach all those seasons. The first two years he worked in the junior high program. He then handled the varsity sprinters for three years and the past three years has been in charge of the distance men.

The appointment of Brant was announced Thursday by Duane Wamsley, Ross high school principal. Wamsley also revealed a policy change in the creation of one position to head track and cross country. Brant will be the first coach to handle both sports in recent years. The principal said this policy should lead to better coordination of the two running programs.

The new head coach is a graduate of Somerset, Pa., high



RON BRANT
Track Coach

equipment distribution Monday and practice no later than Wednesday. The track team has been working on conditioning drills since January.

Brant indicated that Norman Bray will continue as an assistant handling weight men. Bray will be in charge in Brant's absence, if doctor's permission to resume activity is delayed. Other varsity assistants will be Norv Skinner, pole vault; Steve Frontz, sprinters. All but Frontz are holdovers from Lash's staff. Frontz, a new member to the Ross teaching staff this year,

Linder Is Second In District Diving

BOWLING GREEN—Fremont Ross captain Dan Linder is state meet bound after a second place finish Friday afternoon in the Northwest district swimming meet at Bowling Green University. The swimming members of the Little Giants entry are in the splash today in a bid for next week's state meet.

Linder suffered his second loss of the season to Sandusky's Steve Capucini. The district results were the reverse of an earlier challenge between Capucini and Linder in the Buckeye Conference meet. In that meet Linder was champion and Capucini second. Friday at district Capucini came out on top, finishing ahead of Linder.

In dual meet competition this season the two divers split—Linder winning the first time and Capucini winning the second at Fremont as Linder missed his next-to-last dive.

Top four divers in Friday's competition qualified for the state meet. Capucini led the diving with 284 points and Linder had 267. Finishing third was Don Clymer, Lima Shawnee, with 257 points and fourth was Chris Hennison, Toledo St. Francis, 256.

Three other Ross divers finished in the top 20. Felix Robles was 19th, Chuck Vandergrift 14th and sophomore Steve Nile 13th.

Class A Action

Qualify Four For State Meet

Ross Places Sixth In Field Of District Swimming Meet

BOWLING GREEN — Four Little Giants qualified for the state championship swimming meet as Ross finished sixth in the district competition Saturday at Bowling Green State University. Disqualification of the 400-yard freestyle team deprived Ross of a surprising fourth place finish and the placing of another four-man team in the state meet.

The relay team finished third in this event but was disqualified when one swimmer left

the starting stand too soon. The first three places in all swimming events qualified for state. An additional six swimmers were given state tickets with at-large bids based on times.

Qualifying for the state meet from Ross were Dan Linder, second in diving; Mike Aten, second in butterfly; Pat Aten, 2. Toledo Whitmer, $\frac{1}{2}$ breaststroke, and Scott Keller, individual medley, both at-large selections.

Toledo St. Francis was an overwhelming winner in winning

its fourth consecutive district championship. Final team standings were: St. Francis, 76; Lima Senior, 36; Sandusky, 35; Findlay, 30; Lima Shawnee, 28; Fremont Ross, 20½; Mansfield Malabar, 20; Marion Harding, 12; Mansfield Senior, 12; Port Clinton, 7; Ashland, 5; Margaretta, 4.

Many of the Little Giants posted their best times of the season. Coach Jack Balsizer was pleased in stating: "With most of the sophomores and

juniors showing time improvements and finally swimming with confidence and poise in championship competition, we hopefully should be able to improve not only our dual meet strength but equally important our championship performances in the future."

Keller bettered his 200-yard individual medley time by three seconds and placed fifth in the district. He was picked as an at-large state qualifier. He also anchored the freestyle relay with what Balsizer called "an outstanding 100-yard time in an effort to overtake Findlay and qualify the relay for state." The effort would have been successful if not for the disqualification.

Pat Aten tied his school record of 1:07.6 in the 100-yard breaststroke for fifth place, but was picked at large.

Mike Aten missed winning the 100-yard butterfly by about an inch. He was timed in :57.8, just one-tenth of a second off his school record.

Linder on Friday placed second in diving for the state qualification.

Although not qualifying for state, Mike Frey drew Coach Balsizer's fire. Balsizer related Frey "exploded for his career best 50-yard freestyle swim 24.8 to tie for sixth place." Frey also swam a 50-yard butterfly on the medley relay prior to his freestyle race.

DISTRICT SUMMARY

200 MEDLEY RELAY—Sandusky, 1:44.1; Mansfield Malabar, 1:47.6; Findlay, 1:48.5; Fremont Ross, 1:52.4; Margaretta, 1:53.1; Port Clinton, 1:53.6.

200 FREESTYLE—T. Blatt, St. Francis, 1:52.2; D. Murtaugh, St. Francis, 1:55.9; P. Johnson, St. Francis, 1:56.3; C. Ulman, St. Francis, 1:57.5; B. Jennings, Lima Senior, 1:57.6; F. Freeland, Lima Senior, 1:58.5.

50 FREESTYLE—J. Stevens, Findlay, 23.6; E. Szemanski, St. Francis, 23.6; M. Patterson, Ashland, 24.1; C. Bookwalter, Mansfield Senior, 24.3; T. M. Frey, Fremont Ross, and G. Moyer, Toledo Whitmer, 24.8.

100 BUTTERFLY—B. Murtaugh, St. Francis, 2:02.2; J. McCann, Lima Senior, 2:10.0; J. Pease, St. Francis, 2:10.6; Marion Harding, 2:10.9; Scott Keller, Fremont Ross, 2:14.1; D. Conley, St. Francis, 2:17.2.

100 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY—B. Murtaugh, St. Francis, 2:02.2; J. McCann, Lima Senior, 2:10.0; J. Pease, St. Francis, 2:10.6; Marion Harding, 2:10.9; Scott Keller, Fremont Ross, 2:14.1; D. Conley, St. Francis, 2:17.2.

100 BACKSTROKE—S. McKenna, Lima Senior, 50.0; J. Rige, Lima Shawnee, 51.0; D. Reitsma, Findlay, 52.6; P. Skirball, Sandusky, 54.8; L. Barrelli, Findlay, 54.7; D. Alexander, Lima Senior, 55.8.

100 BREASTSTROKE—P. Gilbert, Sandusky, 1:01.6; D. Imler, Marion Harding, 1:01.6; J. Kohlbeck, St. Francis, 1:01.5; J. Imler, Mansfield Senior, 1:01.6; S. Stockdale, Lima Shawnee, 1:03.1; M. Patterson, Ashland, 1:03.2.

400 FREESTYLE—B. Murtaugh, St. Francis, 1:05.8; P. Johnson, St. Francis, 1:07.2; C. Ulman, St. Francis, 1:11.2; J. Townsend, Lima Shawnee, 1:20.6; F. Johnson, St. Francis, 5:23.8; J. Grammis, Lima Shawnee, 5:26.5.

100 MIRRORS—W. Coyle, Sandusky, 1:07.7; P. Aten, Fremont Ross, 1:07.6; B. Wittenmeyer, Findlay, 1:08.3.

400 FREESTYLE RELAY—Lima Senior, 3:27.2; St. Francis, 3:30.2; Findlay, 3:37.0; Lima Shawnee, 3:37.6; Mansfield Senior, 3:45.0; Mansfield Malabar, 3:45.5.

Fremont Ross finished third but was disqualified.

State Wrestling Tournament

Milkovich Steals Show

COLUMBUS — In the land of the giants there was a standing ovation for one of the Little People Saturday night. The fans in Ohio State's St. John arena have been known to rise to their feet to salute an athlete three previous times. These standing ovations were for a trio of Ohio State basketball stars, all tall in stature — Jerry Lucas, 6-9; Gary Bradds, 6-9, and John Havlicek, 6-5.

In one of the most dramatic moments in St. John history, nearly 10,000 wrestling fans gave the ultimate tribute to 5-7, 127-pound midget of the sports world, Tom Milkovich. The muscular little fellow dropped to his knees, tears streaming down his face, head bowed in embarrassment. The words of Ohio High School Athletic Association Commissioner Paul Landis had triggered the tribute.

Before presenting Milkovich his medal as 127-pound state champion, Landis entreated the announcement that the Maple Heights wrestler had won his third consecutive state championship. In consecutive years he has won in three different weights — 103, 112 and 127. Unknown to the championship tournament fans, he won that final championship with torn cartilages in a knee which will require surgery.

The ovation quieted and Landis noted that Milkovich was unbeaten in his high school career. The 9,000-plus people again rose to their feet and stayed there until Milkovich left the spotlight.

It was the climax to a Milkovich and Maple Heights tour-

nament. The Maple Heights team, which is coached by the 127-pound wrestler's father, Mike Milkovich, won an unprecedented fourth consecutive state championship. Maple's 78 points more than tripled the score of its nearest rival, Bedford finished second with 29 points.

Maple Heights placed all seven of its state meet qualifiers in either the championship or consolation brackets. Three Maple wrestlers won state titles — Milkovich; Lon Hicks, 120, and Conrad Calender, 133.

While it was a high point for Maple Heights it was a low one for the wrestlers who qualified from the Fremont Sectional. Fre-

mont St. Joseph's Bill Beier did not get a second chance as Maple Heights' Mike Shott, who beat Beier in the first round, lost in the semifinals. Ed Fiber got a second chance and lost in the consolations to Cuyahoga Falls' Jack McClellan.

Fiber lost three matches in tournaments after winning 24 without a loss during the season. His conquerors finished second, third and fourth in the state meet.

Chuck DeLuca of Bellevue never got a second chance after losing in the preliminaries. Mark Belknap, Port Clinton sophomore, advanced through the consolation round to a fifth place finish.



WIN NUMBER ONE—Holding his trophy and check, golfer Tom Shaw is all smiles after winning the Doral Open Golf Tournament today at Miami, Fla. Shaw, of Golf, Ill. Shaw shot a 12-under-par 276 in winning his first PGA tournament.

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