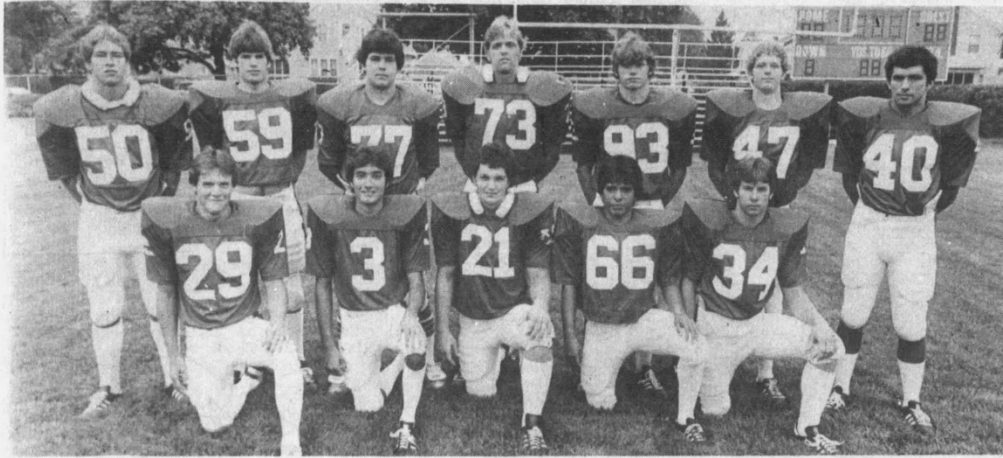


Lettermen



Ross

Little Giants lettermen are; front row, left to right: Craig Trick, Doug Gallagher, Dave Elcher, Andy Esquivel, Ron Thrun; back row: Mike Wendt, Micah Schumacher, Tom Schaffer, Jeff Ruggiero, Doug Zink, Jeff Bates and Steve Ebert.

4 The News-Messenger, Fremont, O., Thursday, Sept. 2, 1982

Passing stock up for Little Giants offense

Something that is not generally featured in a Pete Moore-operated offense, the passing

game, will likely get more air time in 1982. With the wipeout of his entire starting back-

field from a year ago, Moore had admitted that his Ross Little Giants will throw the ball more than normal.

Ross offensive coordinator Rex Radeloff even went so far as to say that the Little Giants will put it up "somewhere around 20 times a game."

Just because Ross lost

Tony Gant, Eric Bates and Bo Johnson to graduation is not the only reason the Little Giants will be passing more, however.

Another factor is the coaching staff's decision was the return of split end Doug Gallagher and wingback Craig Trick.

Radeloff said,

"Gallagher is a very good receiver with good hands. He has average quickness, but he reads the secondary well, goes to the open area and catches the ball."

"Trick is another good receiver with good hands, and he's an above-average blocker, too."

Moore added, "We are expecting a great year out of those two."

(Continued on Page 5)

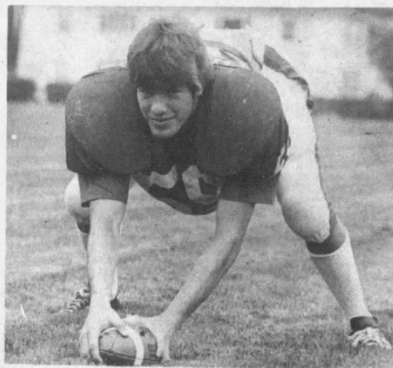
The Preview

The Pigskin Preview consists of stories and features involving the 11 area high school football teams.

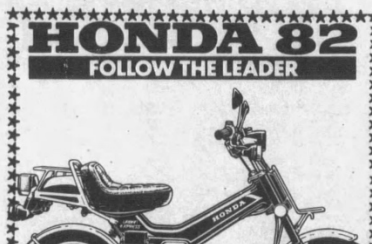
The stories were written by Sports Editor Bob Marker and Sports Writer Rob Boukissen. Photos were taken by News-Messenger photographer Bill Kennedy



STEVE EBERT is expected to be the starting fullback for Ross. He is a senior, 5-11, 190.



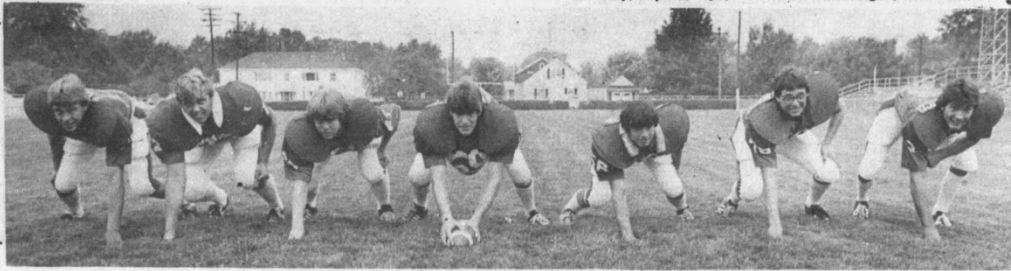
MICAH SCHUMACHER, 6-1, 185, give the Little Giants experience at center.



GO! TEAM! GO!

Whether they have a winning season or not, they are all winners in our book and we wish them the best of everything!

A ROSS OFFENSIVE front is, (right photo) left to right, Jeff Tome, Jeff Ruggiero, Gary Hibbs, Micah Schumacher, Kevin Shaffer, Ron Kovalski and Doug Gallagher.



Passing game promised for Ross

(Continued from page 4)

While Moore and Radeloff are confident in their receivers' qualities, they're not so sure on who will be throwing the ball to them.

The race for the quarterback slot is a tight one between three individuals — seniors Brian Borden and Greg Weaver and junior Kevin Wilhelm.

Borden is the lone one of the three with any varsity QB experience. His claim to fame came in last season's Marion

game when he fumbled the ball on his first snap after replacing an injured Gant.

Weaver held the ball on PATs and Wilhelm is said to have a very good arm.

"It's close," said Moore, "but I would like to go with one gun. You have to put one guy on the field to take charge."

In addition to passing more this year, the Little Giants have switched to a split back-type setup in the backfield.

Radeloff explained, "We are doing this so the running backs can hit the hole quicker and so we can use them as receivers more. It will get them out into their patterns quicker."

Vying for one running back slot are seniors Steve Ebert and Scott Hinkle. Ebert lettered last year, but that was at the wingback position.

The other RB slot is a four-way race between senior Jock Hicks and Rick Heidelberg and juniors Jeff Gentry and Mike Palomo. Palomo is the only one of the four with any experience, his coming on the JV team last year.

"How the backfield progresses will tell how the season goes," said Radeloff. "That could be the key to our success this season."

Anchoring the line at center for Ross will be 6-1, 185-pound senior letterman Micah Schumacher.

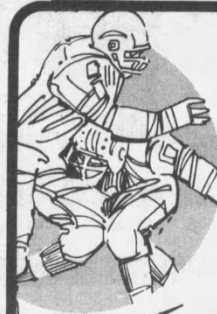
The guard posts consist of a three-way battle between seniors Gary Hibbs (5-10, 175) and Kevin Shaffer (5-5, 150) and junior Adam Calabrese (5-10, 205).

None have varsity experience.

Six-four, 240-pound senior Jeff Ruggiero returns to man one tackle slot while the other is a fight between seniors Bill Dowling (6-2, 220) and Ron Kovalski (6-3, 200).

At tight end, junior Jim Hufford (6-1, 170) appears to have the edge over senior Jeff Tome (6-2, 180) and junior Dan Brudzinski (6-4, 185).

"The key people are the lettermen," said Radeloff.



Good Luck To The "Streaks & Giants"

We do Commercial, Industrial, & Residential Work.

- Wiring & Rewiring
- Appliance Hookups

ACKERMAN ELECTRIC

2875 S. River Road, Fremont Phone 332-2203



SENIOR WIDE RECEIVER Craig Trick is expected to be one of the top receivers for Ross.

OUR BEST TO ALL OF YOUR FAVORITE TEAMS

Stop in before, during, after, or in between the games. Enjoy fine friends, good cheer, great food...

ALL HERE AT THE "GOOD SPORTS CENTER"

BEST WISHES

- ROSS • BROWNS • MIAMI DOLPHINS • SNO11
- ST. JOE • OHIO STATE • NY0IH0IW • DENVER
- AND ALL OF YOUR FAVORITES!

CHUCK'S TAVERN

Sports

Bob Marker, editor

Palomo pulls Ross past Columbian

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

Mike Palomo scored with less than a minute to play and then calmly added the extra points as Ross won an error plagued 8-7 opening high school football game at Harmon Stadium Friday.

"That was a pretty neat game," Ross Coach Pete Moore chuckled, "but if we had been on the other end of the stick, it would not have been."

Columbian, an underdog going into the contest and loser to Ross eight times in a row over the years, took charge of the game five minutes into the first period. The Tornados marched from their 33 to the Ross 21 before the Little Giants took over on downs.

Two plays later, Ross's offense, plagued all game by errors, coughed up the ball when quarterback Brian Borden pitched badly to Palomo and 230-pound Randy Meyer of Columbian recovered at the Ross 13.

On the first play, Gary, alias "Dino" in Tiffin, Hall ran around right end for the touchdown. Mark Hoar booted the extra point for a 7-0 Tornado lead at the 3:03 mark of the initial quarter.

Hoar had been the Tornados' starting quarterback until Monday of this week when it was discovered that he had a cracked collarbone.

"That hurt when we lost him," Columbian Coach Tom Greer said quietly in the Tornado locker room.

Ross's defense kept the Little Giants in the ball game after that. The Little Giants offense, despite Borden hitting

his first six passes and finishing with 11 of 19 for 115 yards, kept hurting itself.

Eight penalties, all on the offense, for a minus-85 yards, three lost fumbles and an interception kept Ross outside of Columbian 20 for most of the night.

The Little Giants penetrated to the Columbian 16 after a Stacy Swaisgood interception put the Little Giants into business at the Tornado 31 early in the third period. But the drive stalled and Tom Schaffer missed a 33-yard field goal attempt.

Another Ross drive stalled on the Columbian 21 later in the third period as three straight Borden passes fell incomplete. Mark Green's interception of a Borden pass killed another Ross drive at the Columbian 28 with seven minutes remaining to be played.

Columbian failed to move the ball and Doug Gallagher's 14-yard return of a punt to the Columbian 48 set up the game winning drive.

Beginning with 4:49 to play, Borden picked up two first downs on sneaks. The Ross quarterback hit tight end Jim Hufford for nine yards on a third and two at the 28 to give Ross a first down at the 19.

Ross had one more error in its offense after that play. Palomo slashed to the 12 but an illegal procedure penalty set the ball back to the 24. Fullback Steve Ebert cut off left guard behind guard Adam Calabrese and tackle Bill Dowling to the 10.

Borden's one-yard sneak picked up the

first down and Palomo took it from there.

The 5-6, 150-pound junior slashed to the four on the first play and with 51 seconds remaining, cut through the middle for the touchdown. On the try for the two extra points, Palomo took a pitch from Borden on the option and waltzed in untouched around left end.

"We were going to go for the two points on the option when we were going this way," Moore said as he pointed toward the north goal. "We had made up our minds to go for the two."

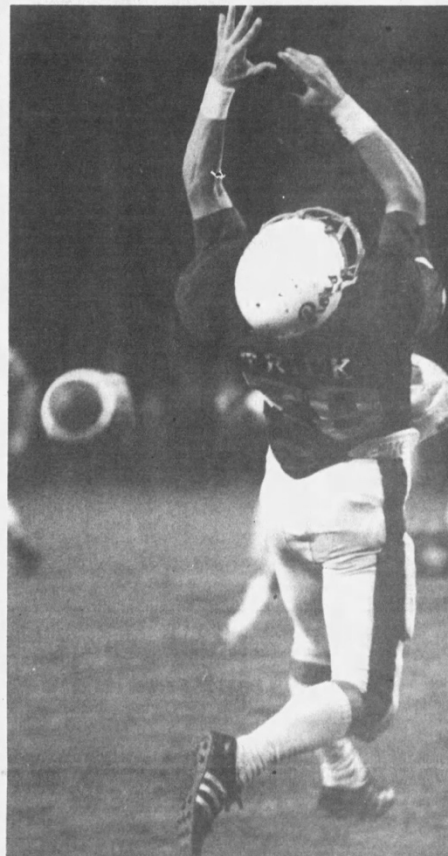
Palomo ended up with an even 100 yards on 26 carries. Ebert added 37 on six. Hall had 97 yards on 24 carries for Columbian.

"I figured at the end that we might wear them down," Moore said after the game. "They had several guys going both ways but Tom (Greer) had those kids ready to play... they're going to win some ball games."

Ross's defense, led by linebacker Dave Elcher who had eight tackles for losses, gave up a total of 115 yards.

Columbian's defense, benefitting from a blitzing attack which accounted for 26 yards in losses on Borden and a blocked punt that knocked another 19 off the Ross total, gave up just 88 on the ground but 233 total yards.

On the last kickoff, Chris Ward of Columbian scooped up Schaffer's ground hugging kick at the 24 and nearly broke it before going down at the Columbian 45. Four straight passes failed to connect and Ross had the narrow win.



(N-M photos by Bill Kennedy)

CRAIG TRICK went up in the air but not high enough to get this Brian Borden pass. Trick was shaken up momentarily on the play.



MIKE PALOMO of Ross leaves a defender on the ground as he picks up yardage in the first half.

Palomo scored Ross's only touchdown.

Tribe trio baffles Jays

CLEVELAND (AP) — Watching teammate Neal Heaton make his first major league appearance brought memories to Bud Anderson.

"I know how he felt because I pitched in my first major league game a couple months ago," Anderson said after combining with Heaton and Tom Brennan to pitch the Cleveland Indians to a 3-2 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays Friday night.

"It's just a matter of overcoming that first-game feeling and concentrating on throwing strikes," Anderson said.

Anderson, 22, yielded one run on four hits over the first five innings before Heaton — brought up from Class AAA Charleston on Wednesday — blanked Toronto until surrendering a run with two outs in the ninth.

Brennan got the final out for his second save.

"The phone rang in the bullpen. They said I'd be in the next inning, so I just thought, 'Wow.' I've dreamed of this all my life," Heaton said.

Veterans Toby Harrah and Andre Thornton slugged consecutive first-inning homers for the Indians to help pin the loss on Jim Clancy, 11-13.

Pastore blanks New York 1-0

NEW YORK (AP) — Frank Pastore was working on a shutout when he made a mistake to the first batter in the ninth inning. Enter Brad "Mongoose Animal" Lesley.

Lesley, a rookie reliever who joined the Reds on July 31, got the last three outs, two by strikeouts, to preserve the Reds' 1-0 victory Friday night over the New York Mets. Cincinnati's only run scored in the fourth inning on a

Tampa Bay blanks Falcons as defense yields 92 yards

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Quarterbacks Doug Williams and Jerry Golsteyn tossed one touchdown pass apiece and the Tampa Bay defense limited Atlanta to 92 total yards as the Buccaneers demolished the Falcons 34-0 in the teams' National Football League preseason finale Friday night.

Williams hit 13 of 20 passes for 150 yards in the first half, as the Bucs

The Falcons, who managed to cross midfield only once, finished the game with 39 yards passing and 53 yards rushing. Atlanta quarterbacks were sacked four times for 32 yards in losses.

Golsteyn, the former New York Giant starter who played last season in a semi-pro league, relieved Williams at the start of the third quarter and completed 9 of 16 passes

Ross 8 Columbian 7

Score by quarters

Columbian	7	0	0	0—7
Ross	0	0	0	8—8

Scoring

Columbian: Gary Hall, 13-yard run (Mark Hoar kick), 3:03, first quarter.

Ross: Mike Palomo, four-yard run (Palomo run), 0:51, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

	C	R
First Downs (Total)	5	14
Rushes/Yds.	38/107	45/88
Passing Yds.	8	115
Passes/ Comp./Int.	4/1/1	19/11/1
Punts/Avg.	4/28.0	2/31.0
Fmb./Lost	5/2	3/3
Pen./Yds.	1/15	8/85

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Ross: Mike Palomo 26/100, Steve Ebert 6/37; Columbian: Gary Hall 24/97.

Passing: Ross: Brian Borden 19/11/1—115.

Receiving: Ross: Doug Gallagher 6/64.

Sports

Bob Marker, editor

Clay hangs on to edge Little Giants

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor
OREGON — The beginning keyed the end for Clay as Ross was involved in a one-point decision for the second consecutive Friday but this time it was the Little Giants coming up short, 14-13.

"That opening turnover was the key to the whole game," Ross Coach Pete Moore said. "They got the turnover and then marched right in to score."

Ross tailback Mike Palomo, after picking up a dozen yards on the first play of the game, fumbled and Clay's Todd Lincoln fell on it at the Little Giants 35. Twelve plays later, quarterback Larry Hiser wiggled in over right guard to give Clay a 6-0 lead after Bruce Johnson's extra point kick attempt was wide.

"That put the pressure on us," Moore pointed out, "but we came back. Still it started things for them."

The Little Giants came back to take the lead 7-6 on a six-play, 43-yard march late in the first period. Ron

Thrun's 11-yard punt return to the Clay 43 set up the drive.

Fullback Steve Ebert, who finished with 91 yards on 10 carries, ran for eight and 13 yards in the drive to get the ball to the 21. After a 15-yard holding penalty, Ross quarterback Brian Borden lofted a pass 36 yards to Doug Gallagher for the TD. Tom Schaffer's kick gave Ross a 7-6 lead which stood up till the half.

Clay took the lead for good late in the third period. Ross punter Gene Simmons got off a 22-yard punt to the Little Giants 46. It took Clay six plays to score.

Phil Rivanos churned out runs of 16, 11, 11 and one yards to key the drive. Rivanos ended up with a game high 108 yards on 24 carries. On a third and goal at the seven, Clay tight end Jeff Utter got behind the secondary and Hiser lofted a pass into his arms for the TD.

Clay took a timeout after the six-point but an illegal procedure penalty moved the Eagles back five

yards. The play, a pass from Hiser to Utter had been complete.

The reprieve only prolonged the outcome as again Utter got behind Ross's secondary on the point-after-touchdown play for two-points and a 14-7 Clay lead.

Ross came back to score a minute and one-half into the final quarter. Ebert's 30-yard run capped an eight-play, 85-yard Little Giants drive. Tailback Rick Heidelberg had runs of nine, 2, 2 and 15 yards in the drive.

"That was good to see," Moore said about Heidelberg's performance. "At least now we know we have a little depth at tailback."

Heidelberg had taken over for Palomo when the latter was shaken up in a third period play.

Heidelberg finished with 57 yards on 11 carries.

After Ebert had scored, Ross called time to set up a play for two points. It was the same situation as against Tiffin Columbian a week earlier when the Little Giants had scored on the run

for an 8-7 win over the Tornadoes.

This time, Ross's attempt was foiled when Borden, on a belly option, slipped as a huge hole opened up in the Clay line.

Ross's final attempt at pulling out the game came on a 28-yard field goal attempt by Schaffer with 3:18 to play. The Little Giants had moved from the 50 to the nine on the running of Ebert and Heidelberg but Schaffer's kick was wide to the left.

Clay ran out the clock after that. Hiser picked up a key first down on a third and seven at the Eagles 33 by boot-legging around left end for eight yards and a first down at the 41.

Attempting to sort out the positive things about the game, Moore pointed out the play of the offensive line.

"I thought that the kids were really firing out of there, getting off the ball quick," he said. "I thought that we outplayed them. The way I look at it; we played good ball."



STEVE EBERT

... 10 carries for 91 yards

Football

Oregon Clay 14 Ross 13

Score by quarters

Ross	7	0	0	6—13
Clay	6	0	8	0—14

Scoring

Clay: Larry Hiser, 1-yard run (kick failed), 6:37, first quarter.

Ross: Doug Gallagher, 36-yard pass from Brian Borden (Tom Schaffer kick), 1:01, first quarter.

Clay: Jeff Utter, 7-yard pass from Hiser (Hiser pass to Utter), 1:53, third quarter.

Ross: Steve Ebert, 30-yard run (run failed), 10:37, fourth quarter.

Team stats

	R	C
First Downs	14	12
Rushes/Yds.	41/205	34/144
Passing Yds.	52	41
Passes/Comp./		
Int.	5/2/1	16/4/1
Punts/Avg.	3/32.0	6/33.7
Fumbles/Lost	3/2	0/0
Penalties/Yds.	4/36	4/26

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Ross, Steve Ebert 10/91, Mike Palomo 17/63, Rick Heidelberg 11/57; Clay, Phil Grivanos 24/108.

Passing: Ross, Brian Borden 5/2/1, 52 yards; Clay, Hiser 16/4/1, 41 yards.

Receiving: Ross, Doug Gallagher 1/36, Craig Trick 1/16; Clay, Jeff Utter, 2/16.

Sports

Bob Marker, editor

Central outplays Little Giants 21-0

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

TOLEDO — Ron Wesolowski rushed for 123 yards and Toledo Central Catholic scored three times in the second half to defeat Ross 21-0 in the Glass Bowl Friday night.

It was the first time that the Little Giants had been shutout since Elyria blanked Ross 3-0 in the sixth game of the 1979 season. The Fighting Irish defense also held Ross to its lowest rushing total, 44, since that same game when the Pioneers gave up 25 rushing yards to Ross.

"They physically outplayed us," Ross Coach Pete Moore said as a fine rain, which began at the half, fell. "We made too many mental mistakes in that second half."

"We did not control the line of scrimmage," Ross

offensive coordinator Rex Radeloff added, "and when you don't do that, you don't win ball games."

Central took the second half kickoff, drove 80 yards, mostly off the passing of John Keller, to score. The Fighting Irish used 15 plays to reach the end zone. Keller accounted for 62 of the yards including the final four to tight end John Reifsnider.

After the initial TD, Central resorted to a ball control offense.

"I think we looked up at the clock," Moore pointed out, "and with nine minutes left to play, we had run only seven plays in the second half."

Immediately after the Central touchdown, Ross moved to the Irish 19 on two big plays: a 32-yard run off the option by quarterback Brian Borden and a 15-yard burst by fullback Steve Ebert to the 19. The drive stalled and Tom Schaffer's 36-yard field goal

attempt was just wide to the left.

That was as close as the Little Giants came to scoring.

Central took the ball at the 20 and with Wesolowski doing the bulk of the damage, moved 80 yards in 14 plays. Wesolowski, who had 26 carries for the yardage, went up the middle for the final 16 yards. A Keller to Randy Hafner pass on the conversion gave Central a 14-0 lead with 8:33 to play.

The roof and the rain fell on the Little Giants after that.

Just 51 seconds after the second Central TD, Tom Pakulski scooped up a Borden fumble and rambled 35 yards for the clinching six-pointer. Keller's kick gave Central an insurmountable 21-0 lead with 7:42 to play.

"Central was quicker than what we anticipated,"

Radeloff admitted, "and they handled us up front."

Mike Fuelling added 70 more yards on 15 carries to the Central total. The Irish outgained the Little Giants 335 to 110 in total offense.

Keller was 14 of 22 for 161 yards. He used seven receivers to complete his passes. He was intercepted once by Ross's Gene Simmons at the Little Giants 12 to kill a second quarter drive.

The Irish picked off two passes and recovered two of Ross's four fumbles.

Doug Gallagher, Little Giants split end, had four catches for 54 yards. Ebert was the leading rusher with 33 yards on six carries.

Ross will return to Harmon Stadium Friday, hosting Admiral King, a 38-13 winner over Brunswick Friday, in the Buckeye Conference opener.

Central 21

Ross 0

Score by quarters

Ross	0	0	0	0	0
Central	0	0	6	15	21

Scoring

* Central: John Reifsnider, four-yard pass from John Keller (kick failed), 6:17, third quarter.

Central: Ron Wesolowski, 16-yard run (Keller pass to Randy Hafner), 8:33, fourth quarter.

Central: Tom Pukalski, 35-yard fumble return (Keller kick), 7:42, fourth quarter.

Team stats

	R	C
First Downs	6	21
Rushes/Yards	24/44	44/174
Passing Yards	66	161
Passes/Comp./		
Int.	12/5/2	23/14/1
Punts/Avg.	3/43.3	2/37.5
Fumbles/Lost	4/2	2/2
Penalties/Yards	2/10	5/45

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Central, Wesolowski 26/123, Mike Fueling 15/70; Ross, Steve Ebert 6/33.

Passing: Central, Keller 22/14/1, 161 yards; Ross, Brian Borden 11/5/1, 66 yards.

Receiving: Central, Reifsnider, 4/39; Tim Desnend 3/37; Ross, Doug Gallagher 4/54.

Speedy Admiral King invades Ross Friday

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

The football coach in the Funky Winkerbean comic strip may have had the answer to Fremont Ross's start at the beginning of the young football season.

"This is where I went wrong," the crew-cut, square-nosed master of gridiron strategy reasoned as he watched a game film, "I should have called tails."

"That's it," Ross coach Pete Moore said early this week a few minutes before he was to put his 1-2 Little Giants on the practice field.

Three times this season Ross has won the coin toss and elected to receive. The good fortune extended only through the first game when the Little Giants defeated Tiffin Columbian 8-7. The last two times out, it was the only good luck that Ross has experienced.

And the luck could be getting worse as preseason favorite Lorain Admiral King opens the Buckeye Conference race at Harmon Stadium Friday.

"Most of the coaches picked them to win the Buckeye," the Ross coach said as he tore his mind away from the bad memories of a 21-0 loss to Toledo Central Catholic in the Glass Bowl last Friday.

"Admiral King has a lot of people back from last year," Moore said. "They are not only fast in the backfield but the backs are hard runners."

The Admirals fell behind Ross 12-0 in the first quarter of last year's game but rallied to win 20-12, one of only two blemishes on the conference co-champ Ross's record.

"Dunlap (Jerry) is a heck of a runner and Nix (Derrick) reminds me of Tony Gant," Moore began as he talked about the Admirals.

The only negligible difference he sees between Nix and Gant, Ross's all-everything player from a year ago, is size. Nix is a 5-10 senior, three inches shorter than Gant.

"Nix makes things happen," Moore said. "He does that offensively and

defensively where he plays in the backfield."

Because of the Admirals' speed, Moore said that his team will have to keep the AK speed merchants from getting outside.

"And we are going to have to have better gang tackling," he said.

That was a facet that was missing from Ross's game against Toledo Central.

Admiral King is 2-1, defeating Parma Normandy 13-0 in the first game, losing to a good Avon Lake squad 13-6 and then running all over Brunswick 38-14 last Friday.

Dunlap backed up Moore's appraisal. He leads the conference in rushing after three non-conference clashes with 262 yards on only 31 carries. Nix has passed for 238 yards on a 16 of 36 passing performance.

"They also have a tight end that stands 6-3 and weighs 260," Moore grimaced. "That's not bad size for a tight end."

That little guy is Pat Call. He will also play defensive tackle.

"He's big," Moore repeated, "and he is a good blocker. They will run behind him a lot."

The AK game is the second of a tough four-game stretch for the Little Giants. Next week, Cleveland Benedictine, the Division III state champion of the past two seasons, will be in Fremont, and the week after, Ross will travel to Elyria.

In conference stats, Ross quarterback Brian Borden is fourth in passing with 233 yards on 15 of 36 and a TD pass. Wide receiver Doug Gallagher is second with 11 receptions and 159 yards for a 14.5.

Steve Ebert ranks third in rushing with a 6.9 average and Mike Palomo is 11th with a 3.8 effort per carry. Ron Thrun is third in punt returns with a 12.2 and Ross punter Gene Simmons is fourth with a 36.0 average.

In team stats, Ross is fourth offensively, averaging 192.3 yards per game but defensively, the Little Giants are sixth, allowing 319.2 yards a game.

Admirals hang on to edge Little Giants

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor

Admiral King held off a last ditch Ross bid after taking advantage of a pair of breaks to edge the Little Giants 14-12 in the Buckeye Conference football opener Friday at Harmon Stadium.

The Little Giants, trailing 14-12, drove to the Admirals 28 for a first down with less than three minutes to play only to have a fumble and a holding penalty move the ball back to the 48. A sack and two passes failed and the Admirals wrapped up the game.

The Admirals, 3-1, got a pair of touchdowns from Buckeye Conference leading rusher Jerry Dunlap to overcome an early 6-0 Ross lead.

Dunlap scored on runs of two and nine yards. The first midway through the second quarter and the second three minutes into the final period.

The first Admiral TD was set up on a 35-yard punt return by Derrick Nix to the Ross 37. Three plays netted the Admirals four yards before tragedy struck Ross and defensive back Ron Thrun.

Nix lofted a pass toward John Mincey on the third and six play at the Ross 33. Thrun had the angle on Mincey, went up for the interception but the ball bounced off his hands. Mincey, who had fallen on the play, reached back and got the carom to give the Admirals a first down at the Ross two. Dunlap scored on the next play.

Nix returned another Ross punt 32 yards to the King 42 to begin the winning TD drive. Nix ran for 10, 18 and six yard on option plays to get the ball to the 21 before Dunlap ran for six and the final nine to put Ross in the hole 14-6.

"Yeah," defensive coordinator Joe Siesel said, "he (Thrun) should have had the ball in the first

half but either way, if he does not touch it, it's a touchdown. It was just a bad break for him."

The Little Giant's, now 1-3, took the opening kickoff and marched 65 yards 13 plays. Getting good blocking from Adam Calabrese at left guard and left tackle Bill Dowling, Ross's running game was mixed in with the pin-point passing of quarterback Brian Borden.

Steve Ebert and Mike Palomo ran through huge holes opened up by the front line but it was a Borden to Craig Trick pass that covered the final 10 yards for the score.

Borden, who hit his first six passes of the game, passed to Doug Gallagher for 11 and five yards in the drive. Ebert had a 10-yard run and Palomo went for 11 to the nine before a five-yard penalty set Ross back two plays later to the 10.

The Trick TD was next but Tom Shaffer's kick was wide to the right and Ross had a 6-0 lead six minutes into the game.

"Our offensive line did a heck of a job tonight," Ross Coach Rex Radeloff said, "but then I made a bad call that hurt us."

Radeloff was shouldering the blame for Ross failing to convert on a fourth and two at the Admiral 33 eight minutes into the third period.

Ross had driven from the Little Giants 49 but faced a second and 17 at the Admiral 47 when a holding penalty set them back 15 yards. Palomo ran up the middle off a block by center Micah Schumacher to the 32.

"I thought we had a first down," Radeloff grimaced. "I would have never called that play."

Ebert was stopped short on the next play short of the first down.

The Little Giants, after running over the left side predominantly in the first half, switched to the right side to open up big holes in the second half. Right guard Matt Whitcomb, right tackle Jeff Ruggiero and tight end Jim Hufford drew praise from Radeloff.

Ebert finished the night with 95 yards on 17 carries and Palomo 76 on 13 carries. Nearly all of that yardage was within the tackles.

Ross's second TD covered 69 yards and took only three plays. Borden hit Trick in the open at the Admiral 35 and he went all the way to complete a 62-yard scoring play.

"They had been double covering Gallagher all

night," Radeloff explained the scoring play. "Gallagher went inside and the safety and halfback jumped on him; it was just like it was drawn. Trick went out and up and he was wide open."

On the conversion attempt, Admiral King made its own break as defensive back Dale Bajcer knocked the ball down in front of Trick who had broken open briefly.

Ross, after falling behind in the second period, took the kickoff and marched from its own 37 to the Admiral 10 where it was first and goal after a roughing the passer penalty. Ebert had picked up 15 yards and Palomo had ran for 16 on a second and 18 at the Ross 44.

On a fourth and two, Palomo got the first down on an option around left end. Borden hit Gallagher for 16 to the 20 and the ball was moved to the 10 when Borden was roughed.

On the first play, another option to the left, Palomo dropped Borden's plich and the Admirals John Aponte fell on the ball at the 14 to kill the Little Giants' threat.

"We played against a good ball club," Ross head Coach Pete Moore said. "The fumble hurt us and the fourth down play hurt; we would have gone right at it if we could do it over again."

"I thought the kids played well," Moore continued. "If we play like this the rest of the season, we are going to make things interesting."

Borden ended up with nine of 15 for 127 yards. Gallagher caught five passes for 43 yards. The Little Giants outgained the Admirals 292 to 168 in yardage and had a 15 to seven bulge in first downs.

Dunlap was held to 57 yards on 16 carries after entering the game with more than an eight-yard per carry average.

Ross will take a one-week retreat from conference play but will host two-time Division III state champ Cleveland Benedictine Friday.



AN ADMIRAL KING tackler gets his hand on the jersey of Ross fullback Steve Ebert. Ebert had 95

yards in the Buckeye Conference opener for both teams.

Rockets pull away from Bears 22-0

By DAN HOFFMAN

News-Messenger Sports Writer

OAK HARBOR — The Oak Harbor Rockets lost the services of a key performer during pre-game drills but still managed to defeat Gibsonburg 22-0 here Friday night.

Junior halfback Dan Weirich, who rushed for 233 yards last week, was forced to the sidelines in what Rocket head coach Gary Quisno termed a "freak accident."

"We were doing a defensive drill. I threw him the ball and as he stretched out to catch it, someone hit him. He

hurt his shoulder, but how bad he's hurt is unknown right now."

Weirich, was replaced by Tim Veler, who responded with 37 yards on 15 carries.

"He did a good job," Quisno said about Veler, and "Rickner (Scott) ran the ball real well."

Rickner finished the night with 95 yards in 17 attempts and two touchdowns, one of them an 80-yard kickoff return to start the second half.

The Rockets got off to a slow start thanks to 50 yards in penalties in the first half.

Three times Oak Harbor got within the Gibsonburg 20 only to be turned away by the yellow flags. One of those drives called back included a 23-yard TD run by Rickner.

"We made a lot of mistakes offensively," said Quisno, "and the penalties definitely hurt us in the first half."

The Rockets did get on the scoreboard late in the second quarter on an eight-yard pass from Larry Fizer to Dennis Schiets.

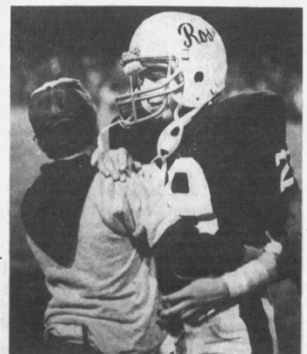
Fizer's run for the conversion gave Oak Harbor an 8-0 lead at halftime.

Oak Harbor exploded at the start of the third quarter when Rickner took back the kickoff to up the lead to 15-0.

"We were in it after the first half," said Gibsonburg head coach John Hoover, "but we had only 12 guys playing tonight and they just wore us down."

Oak Harbor held Gibsonburg to minus four yards rushing in the second half and just 19 for the game.

"The defense played well," said Quisno. "They forced a lot of turnovers and kept Gibsonburg in the hole all night."



CRAIG TRICK of Ross is congratulated by a Ross fan after he scored on a 62-yard pass play from Brian Borden. Trick scored both Little Giants' touchdowns.

Admiral King 14 Ross 12

Score by quarters

Admiral King	0	7	0	7—14
Ross	6	0	0	6—12

Scoring

Ross: Craig Trick, 10-yard pass from Brian Borden (kick failed), 6:37, first quarter.

Admiral King: Terry Dunlap, two-yard run (Pat Dunphy kick), 7:14, second quarter.

Admiral King: Dunlap, nine-yard run (Dunphy kick), 9:19, fourth quarter.

Ross: Trick, 62-yard pass from Borden (pass failed), 8:31, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

	AK	R
First Downs	7	15
Rushes/Yds	31/130	35/165
Passing Yds.	38	127
Passes/Comp.		
Int.	7/3/0	15/9/0
Punts/Avg.	6/36.7	2/41.0
Fmb./Lost	1/0	2/1
Pen./Yds.	6/48	6/69

Individual Statistics

Rushing: AK, Dunlap 16/57, Derrick Nip 8/41, Roye Moye 7/32; Ross, Mike Palomo 13/76, Steve Ebert 17/95.

Passing: Ross, Borden 14/9/127 yards.

Receiving: Ross, Doug Gallagher 5/43, Trick 2/72.

Season records: AK 3-1 (1-0), Ross 1-3 (0-1).

Two second half TDs sink Ross 14-7

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

Benedictine broke open a defensive struggle with two second half touchdowns to hand Ross a 14-7 defeat in high school football Friday night at Harmon Stadium.

"Field position and the kicking game; that's what wins ball games," Ross Coach Pete Moore said quietly after the game. "The blocked punt turned it around for them."

Ross held a 7-0 first half lead after taking advantage of a Benedictine miscue but Bengals linebacker Jim Mitchell blocked a Ron Thrun punt and recovered it at the Ross one three minutes into the second half.

It took one play and an unlucky Ross deflection to even the score. Bengals tailback Miles Jackson went in over left tackle and Mike Gurney hit the placement, sneaking it in over the lower left corner of the goal post. The ball had been hit by Ross linebackers Derek Isaman and Dave Eicher.

After an exchange, Ross was set back to its 25 and faced a first and 23. "Two plays netted nothing and on an attempted quick kick on third down, Thrun's punt rolled out of bounds at the Ross 46."

It took the Bengals, behind the hard running of tailback Steve O'Neill, eight plays to score. O'Neill, a junior, gained 74 yards on 16 carries, all in the second half.

During the go-ahead scoring drive, O'Neill ran for nine, four, lost one, two and the final four yards. Gurney's kick made it 14-7 with 11:30 to play.

The Little Giants reached the Benedictine 33 with eight minutes to play but quarterback Brian Borden slipped and fell at the 40 on a second and 10 to take the punch out of Ross.

The Little Giants had enjoyed field position in the first half and got a pair of breaks to set up its touchdown. Thrun had punted from midfield to

Vince Boddy who had returned it 84 yards for an apparent Benedictine TD. However, the Bengals were caught clipping on the play and had to put the ball in play at the Bengals seven.

On Benedictine's fourth play, fullback Tim Tereszuk fumbled and Little Giants defensive tackle Tom Schaffer recovered at the 28. Borden carried three times in the seven-play Ross drive. He carried for 13 yards to the eight on a third and five and ran two sneaks for three and one, the last one into the end zone off a block by right guard Matt Whitcomb. Sophomore Chris Simmons' first placement of the season made it 7-0 Ross at the 4:31 mark of the second period.

It was a defensive tug of war before the Ross TD. Ross held the Bengals to 57 yards in the first half, evenly split on the ground and through the air. The Little Giants managed 57 with 48 of that on the ground.

"We did not change anything at the half," Benedictine Coach Augie Bossu said. "We just decided what plays we had to make work."

When asked about O'Neill's role, the 29-year coach of the Bengals flashed a grin.

"Well, he's a hard runner," Bossu understated. "He has been playing defense because we needed help there. We have just begun to work him on offense. You know, each game you try to find a little more depth and he just happened to tell tonight."

"Other than that, Ross's defense was doing a hell of a job. It was a heck of a game."

The win ran Benedictine's record to 4-1 while Ross slipped to 1-4, its worst start since 1969 when the Little Giants were 1-3-1 after five games.

Next week, the Little Giants jump back into Buckeye Conference play at Elyria. The Pioneers were flattened 54-0 by Admiral King Friday.



ROSS QUARTERBACK BRIAN BORDEN (13) GETS AWAY FOR A 13-YARD GAIN

(N-M photo by Bill Kennedy)

Golden Bears win first game

By ROB BOUKISSEN

N-M Sports Writer

GIBSONBURG — The Gibsonburg Golden Bears scored two fourth-quarter touchdowns to register a come-from-behind 16-8 victory over the Woodmore Wildcats here Friday night.

The victory for the Bears was their first of the season and ended an eight-game losing streak. For Woodmore, the loss was its fourth in a row.

"I'm elated," said Gibsonburg Coach John Hoover. "Our kids, being 0-4, could have given up when they were down 8-0. But their pride wouldn't let them do it."

The Golden Bears fell behind 8-0 late in the second quarter when Jeff Perkins hit Scott Hathaway on a 20-yard halfback pass for a touchdown. Perkins ran it in on a fake kick for the extra points.

In the third quarter neither team got anything going until Gibsonburg's Mark Sneider picked off a Jeff Rospert pass late in the period.

It was the first of two interceptions for the Bears' safety/quarterback and it gave his team the ball at its own 42.

The Bears drove the ball down to the Woodmore three early in the fourth quarter when near-disaster struck — tailback Joel Davies fumbled the ball

and Woodmore's Bob Dunlap pounced on it.

But on the Wildcats' first play after the recovery, Perkins fumbled it back to the Bears, with James McLaughlin falling on it at the one.

Sneider took it in from there and added the tying extra points on a sweep around left end with 10:11 to go in the game.

"I think that touchdown and the extra points gave us the confidence we needed,"

said Hoover. "That was the turning point."

After a mishandled kick, the Wildcats took over at their own 11. They moved the ball to the 20 where they faced a fourth-and-one.

Woodmore Coach Tom Galbraith decided to go for it and he succeeded. But that decision soon came back to haunt him.

On the next series of plays, the Wildcats faced another fourth-down situation, this time at their own 31 with

nearly three yards to go for the first down.

There were 6:00 left to go in the game and Galbraith gambled again — and lost. Gibsonburg stopped Perkins one yard short of the first down.

The Bears took over and marched in five plays to the game-winning TD, a three-yard run by McLaughlin with 3:33 left. Sneider again added the extra points and then ended Woodmore's final threat with his second in-

terception to seal the win.

"It was my fault," said Galbraith later. "I made a bad call. We probably shouldn't have gone for it the second time because we had too far to go."

"But we needed something to happen at that point, and besides, I never play for the tie."

"You're either the hero or the goat in that situation. I guess I was the goat. But I'd do the same thing if I was in that situation again."

Woodmore dominated the battle of the statistics, outgaining Gibsonburg 207-115, but 135 yards in penalties "killed us," said Galbraith. Gibsonburg was penalized 62 yards. There were 20 flags thrown by the referees.

The Bears did manage to shut down the passing of Rospert, limiting him to three completions in 17 attempts while picking off four of his tosses. McLaughlin and Sam-Haithall had the other two interceptions.

Gibsonburg is now 1-1 in the Suburban Lakes League while Woodmore slipped to 0-2.



(N-M photo by Rob Boukissen)

WOODMORE'S BOB DUNLAP (in white, not facing the camera) gets set to pounce on a Joel Davies fumble at the Woodmore goal line early

in the fourth quarter of the two teams' game Friday night in Gibsonburg. Dan Gomez (3) runs to his teammate's aid.

'D' keys Fliers' victory

PORT CLINTON — Clyde's defense held Port Clinton scoreless and forced three turnovers which the Fliers' offense turned into quick touchdowns and a 20-0 victory Friday.

The Fliers won their fifth game without a loss by turning one fumble, one interception and a sack of the Redskins' punter into touchdowns. The remainder of the contest was a defensive battle between the 20 yard lines.

Clyde struck first with 1:17 left in the opening quarter on a four-yard run by Jesse Garcia. The try for the extra points failed when quarterback Jeff Cortell was knocked out of bounds on a keeper around the left side. The score came five plays after the Redskins fumbled a first-and-10 play on their own 18.

The score remained 6-0 at the half. That turned out to be the Fliers when Port Clinton punter Gary Shook dropped the snap and was tackled at the Redskins' 16.

Carries of seven and four yards by Garcia moved the ball to the one. Cortell scored with 5:31 left in the third quarter. Ron Brown kicked the extra point.

Clyde's defense struck again in the

third quarter when linebacker Todd Level intercepted his second pass of the game at the Clyde 46 and returned it 20 yards to the Port Clinton 34.

Two plays later, Cortell hit receiver Scott Keegan in the end zone only to have the touchdown called back on a holding penalty. Cortell hit Pat Alt with a pass on the right sideline for a gain of 10 before a face mask penalty on the Port Clinton defender gave the Fliers a first down on the Port Clinton 15. Cortell immediately spotted Keegan deep in the end zone, who made an over-the-shoulder catch for the touchdown. Brown kicked the extra point giving Clyde its winning margin with 1:12 left in the third quarter.

"We're just not crisp enough inside; too many penalties on the (offensive) line," said Clyde coach Butch Spaeth after the Fliers' second Sandusky Bay Conference win.

"We were more crisp in the second half. When we got some penalties called on us, we were able to come right back," he said.

Garcia was the game's leading rusher with 91 yards in 24 carries. The loss dropped Port Clinton to 1-4 overall and 0-2 in the SBC.

O's take 2 to close to within 1

BALTIMORE (AP) — The Baltimore Orioles clouted four home runs in support of the six-hit pitching of rookie Storm Davis and defeated

Milwaukee 7-1 in the second game for a sweep of Friday's twin-night doubleheader and pulled to within one game of the Brewers in

the American League East with two games remaining.

Baltimore, which has won eight of 11 against Milwaukee this season,

took the opener 8-3 as Rich Dauer and Jim Dwyer rapped out three hits apiece and Ken Singleton clubbed his first homer since Aug. 27.

Angels clinch tie

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — California's Geoff Zahn tossed a five-hitter and Fred Lynn homered, doubled and singled as the Angels clinched at least a tie for the American League West crown with a 4-0 victory over the Texas Rangers Friday night.

The triumph kept

Benedictine 14

Ross 7

Score by quarters

Benedictine	0	0	7	7-14
Ross	0	7	0	0-7

Scoring

Ross: Brian Borden, one-yard run (Chris Simmons kick), 4:31, second quarter.

Benedictine: Miles Jackson, one-yard run (Mike Gurney kick), 8:20, third quarter.

Benedictine: Steve O'Neill, four-yard run (Gurney kick), 11:39, fourth quarter.

Team stats

	B	R
First Downs	8	7
Rushes/Yds.	37/127	32/57
Passing Yards	27	41
Passes/Comp./		
Int.....	7/3/0	11/5/1
Punts/Avg.	3/38.7	7/29.4
Fumbles/Lost	2/2	1/0
Penalties/Yds.	4/22	4/49

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Benedictine: O'Neill 16/74, Jackson 17/35; Ross, Steve Ebert 11/23, Mike Palomo 8/20, Borden 10/13.

Passing: Benedictine: Pete Hrisko 7/3/0/27 yards; Ross, Borden 11/5/1, 41 yards.

Receiving: Benedictine: Ken Johnson 2/23; Ross, Craig Trick 3/31, Jeff Nossaman 2/10.

Records: Benedictine 4-1, Ross 1-4.

Ross youth ends losing streak

By ROB BOUKISSEN

News-Messenger Sports Writer

ELYRIA — The Ross youth movement arrived in Ely Stadium here Friday night, just in time to snap a four-game Little Giant losing streak.

Behind big plays involving juniors Kevin Wilhelm, Jerry Manahan, Jeff Nossaman and Mike Wolf and sophomore Derek Isaman, the Little Giants defeated the Elyria Pioneers 21-6.

"We needed this one," said Ross Coach Pete Moore. "If we would have dropped this one, I don't know what would have happened with the rest of the season."

Big Play No. 1 came late in the second quarter after a first half of lacklustre play (nine punts) by both teams.

It started with Ross' Ron Thrun punting the ball to Elyria's Tim Hill and ended with Wolf falling on Hill's fumble in the end zone for the game's first touchdown. Sophomore Chris Simmons' kick gave Ross a 7-0 halftime lead.

The Little Giants looked like a new team at the start of the second half, thanks in the large part to Wilhelm, whom Moore installed at the quarterback post in place of starter Brian Borden.

"We've been jibbering and jabbering about it for the last two weeks," said Moore of the QB switch. "He (Wilhelm) is right up there with Borden. We decided tonight was a good time to give him a shot."

Wilhelm wasted no time capitalizing on Moore's decision, taking the Little Giants 70 yards in 10 plays to paydirt on their opening drive of the third quarter.

Senior fullback Steve Ebert and junior tailback Mike Palomo did most of the damage in the drive, but it was Wilhelm hitting Nossaman on a perfect 23-yard strike for Big Play No. 2 and Ross' second TD. Simmons made it 14-0.

At that point, with 6:56 left in the third period, it appeared Ross had things in hand. But Elyria responded with a big play of its

own.

The Pioneers' Tom Smallwood took the ensuing kickoff at his own eight and scooted 92 yards to the end zone. The try for two points was no good, and Ross led 14-6.

It was a tenuous lead for the Little Giants, and it looked even more shaky midway through the fourth quarter as Elyria was moving the ball.

But Big Plays Nos. 3 and 4, which occurred back-to-back, stopped all that.

With a third-and-seven at the Ross 34, Elyria quarterback Jay Bender dropped back to pass but was sacked for a 10-yard loss by Manahan.

It forced the Pioneers into a punting situation, setting up the game's BIG, BIG PLAY.

Isaman broke through the Elyria line and blocked Bender's punt. Isaman scooped up the loose ball and scampered 36 yards to the Elyria six.

Four plays later, with 4:05 left in the game, Wilhelm sneaked in from the one to ice the game.

Moore was happy to see the breaks go his way.

"We needed those kind of plays to happen to get us going," said Moore. "But it's been that way the last three years for us; the defense gives the offense momentum."

Moore was asked whether or not Wilhelm's performance earned him next week's starting assignment.

"I don't know," he said. "We're gonna have to look at the films. He did do a real good job, though."

"But the key to the game was up front. The offensive and defensive lines did a better job in the second half."

The Ross defense held Elyria's running game to a net 42 yards in 33 attempts. The Little Giants sacked Bender six times for minus-44 yards and held him to five completions in 12 attempts for 74 yards.

Offensively, Ross gained 162 total yards, 135 of them on the ground. Ebert led the way with 62 yards in 14 carries.

Ross 21 Elyria 6

Score by quarters

Ross	0	7	7	7—21
Elyria	0	0	6	0—6

Scoring

Ross: Mike Wolf recovered fumble in end zone, (Chris Simmons kick), 1:29, second quarter.

Ross: Jeff Nossaman, 23-yard pass from Kevin Wilhelm, (Simmons kick), 6:56, third quarter.

Elyria: Tom Smallwood, 92-yard kickoff return, (run failed), 6:42, third quarter.

Ross: Wilhelm, one-yard run, (Simmons kick), 4:05, fourth quarter.

Team stats

	R	E
First Downs	8	9
Rushes/Yds.	38/135	33/42
Passing Yds.	27	74
Passes/Comp./		
Int.	7/2/1	12/5/1
Punts/Avg.	5/37.0	6/32.5
Fumbles/Lost	1/0	1/1
Penalties/Yds.	4/50	4/30

Individual statistics

Rushing: Ross: Steve Ebert 14/62, Rick Heidelberg 7/37, Mike Palomo 7/21.

Passing: Ross: Brian Borden 4/1/1 — 4 yds.; Wilhelm 3/1/0 — 23 yds.; Elyria: Jay Bender 12/5/1 — 74 yds.

Season records: Ross 2-4 (1-1), Elyria 3-3 (1-2).

Ross travels to Lorain Senior for encounter with Steelmen

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor

Ross, fresh from ending a four-game losing streak, will be in Lorain Friday to take on the Steelmen in game three of the Buckeye Conference football title chase.

The Little Giants, 2-4, defeated Elyria 21-6 last week in a game that featured youth and many new faces in the Ross lineups. Lorain, 3-3, lost to Findlay 35-20 and is searching for BC win number one after two losses. Ross is 1-1 in conference play and holds down fourth place in the standings.

"They (Lorain) look good on film," Ross Coach Pete Moore said before practice Wednesday. "We cannot believe, after looking at the films, and the stats, that they are where they are at (in the standings)."

Moore pointed out offensively that Lorain has only one player in the top 10 rushers for the conference. Normally, he said, the Steelmen would have two.

Defense, the Ross coach

pointed out, is where the Steelmen shine despite the free scoring loss to Findlay.

"I thought they contained Sandusky very well," Moore explained. "Sandusky had three long runs and recovered a fumble but other than that, they did a good job."

Sandusky won that game 19-6.

Moore pointed out that Lorain has always been a good defensive team. In the conference stats, the Steelmen are first overall in defense, allowing 173 yards a game, six fewer than Ross. In BC games only, Lorain's "D" is permitting 293 per contest while ranking fourth. Ross is first in the conference, giving up 141 yards a game.

Offensively, Lorain is last overall, rolling up 163 yards a game and averaging eight points per game. In the conference, the Steelmen rank sixth.

Tailback Randy Price is the leading rusher for Lorain, averaging 4.1 yards per carry on

446 yards in 110 carries. Quarterbacks Mike Repko and Chuck Muzio have split duties with the duo combining for 16 completions in 57 passes.

Ross pulled away from Elyria behind Kevin Wilhelm who took over for quarterback Brian Borden in the second half. Wilhelm, a junior, will probably draw the starting assignment Friday Moore said.

The game will be the 43rd in the series with Lorain holding a 22-19-1 edge. Ross has won the past two years.

In conference individual stats, Ross fullback Steve Ebert is seventh and tailback Mike Palomo eighth in rushing. Ebert has 331 yards on 65 carries (5.1) and Palomo 302 on 80 (3.8).

Borden is fourth in passing with 30 of 65 for 405 yards and 46 percent completions. Doug Gallagher, out for the season, still ranks fifth with 16 catches for 202 yards. Craig Trick is eighth with nine receptions for 156 yards.

Lorain Senior 'shocks' the Little Giants 17-13

By ROB BOUKISSEN
News-Messenger Sports Writer

LORAIN — The Ross Little Giants were put through shock treatment here Friday night, and the result was a dizzying 17-13 loss to the Lorain Steelmen.

On two separate occasions the Steelmen turned in the big plays to steal Ross's momentum out from under its nose.

The first big turn of events came at the very end of the first half.

The Little Giants had just turned in an impressive nine-play, 65-yard drive to go ahead 7-3. The touchdown came with 18 seconds left on a Kevin Wilhelm seven-yard run.

Ross' ensuing kickoff dribbled out-of-bounds, so the Steelmen took over at their own 40 with those 18 seconds still remaining.

It took just two plays, two long pass plays, for the Steelmen to strike. Quarterback Mike Repko hit end Randy Jarvis first with a 39-yard toss and then with a 21-yard pass as time ran out to put Lorain on top 10-7.

"That was a mental lapse on our part," Ross Coach Pete Moore said about the two plays. "That's all you can say about that."

The second shocker came late in the game.

Once again, the Little Giants had just run off another long march for a touchdown, this one going right into the teeth of a strong wind.

It was a nine-play, 62-yard drive capped by a Wilhelm two-yard quarterback sneak at the 7:43 mark of the fourth quarter. It put Ross up 13-10.

Lorain retaliated with a drive that put it all the way down to the Ross one with a first-and-goal situation.

But three plays netted the Steelmen minus-4 yards and the fourth, a fake field-goal try, failed.

So, the pumped-up Little Giants regained possession at their own five with 2:19 left.

Just one play later, however, the Ross momentum was deflated when fullback Steve Ebert coughed up the football and Lorain's Ron Beal recovered at the three.

After an illegal motion penalty moved the Steelmen back to the Ross eight, tailback Sam Hollins scampered untouched around left end for the killing blow with 1:37 left.

Sophomore Baron Roule, who in the first period kicked a 31-yard field goal for the game's first score, added the extra point for the final margin, as Ross failed to mount any serious last-minute threat.

A disappointed Moore said, "We gave it away. We've had that problem all year long."

"We had two good touchdown drives and they had two cheapies. Actually, their first one (the field goal) was a cheapie, too. It was set up by a fumble."

"But you can't expect to make mistakes like that and win ball games. You can't be a consistent winner by making those kinds of mistakes."

Outside of the mistakes, Moore said he "felt we played well enough to win. We let down at times, but other times we did an effective job."

Lorain outgained Ross 222-153, but Ross had one more first down (13-12). Wilhelm, starting his first varsity game at quarterback, was five-of-13 for 74 yards while his counterpart, Repko, went five-of-12 for 86 yards. Neither threw an interception.

"I was surprised at how they moved the ball against us," Moore said.

As for what this loss does to Ross' season, Moore commented, "It's gonna be tough to salvage now; there's no question about it. I hope we can be a spoiler now."

The Little Giants fell to 2-5 overall and 1-2 in the Buckeye Conference while Lorain moved to 4-3, 1-2.

Lorain 17

Ross 13

Score by quarters

Ross	0	7	0	6-13
Lorain Sr.	3	7	0	7-17

Scoring

Lorain: Baron Roule 31-yard field goal, 7:24, first quarter.

Ross: Kevin Wilhelm seven-yard run (Chris Simmons kick), :18, second quarter.

Lorain: Randy Jarvis 21-yard-pass from Mike Repko (Roule kick), :00, second quarter.

Ross: Wilhelm two-yard run (kick failed), 7:43, fourth quarter.

Lorain: Sam Hollins eight-yard run (Roule kick), 1:37, fourth quarter.

Team stats

	R	L
First Downs	13	12
Rushes/Yds	37/79	39/136
Passing Yds.	74	86
Passes/Comp./Int.	13/5/0	12/5/0
Punts/Avg.	4/36.5	4/26.2
Fumbles/Lost	2/2	2/0
Penalties/Yds.	3/30	8/60

Individual statistics

Rushing: Ross, Mike Palomo 16/38, Steve Ebert 10/37; Lorain, Pat Costello 7/36.

Passing: Ross, Wilhelm 13/5/0 -74 yds; Lorain, Repko 11/5/0 -86 yds.

Receiving: Ross, Hufford 2/30; Lorain, Jarvis 3/84.

Season records: Ross 2-5 (1-2); Lorain Sr. 4-3 (1-2).

Little Giants slip past Harding

By BOB MARKER
N-M Sports Editor
Kevin Wilhelm scored the winning touchdown but the Ross quarterback had help defensively before stepping into the limelight during Ross's 14-7 Buckeye Conference football victory over Marion Harding.

Wilhelm darted 10 yards over right tackle on an option with 2:27 to play to save the Little Giants on Homecoming night. The touchdown wiped out a 7-6 Harding lead which the Prexies had mustered eight minutes before.

"The key play in the game," Ross Coach Pete Moore said, "was when Coleman (Kent) zipped in and clipped the quarterback on the third down play."

Harding was leading at the time and Ross had been unable to move with the kickoff. A Gene Simmons punt gave the Prexies the ball at the Harding 29.

Prexie tailback Joe Wink, taking over for injured David Jones, was stopped for no gain. Quarterback Jamie Steven hit Todd Hecker for six to the 35 to set up Coleman's play. The 6-1, 170-pound junior defensive end, blitzed unmolested into the Prexie backfield and flipped Steven for a nine-yard loss.

That play did not show up immediately but it kept Harding from gaining any momentum. The Little Giants were unable to move

after a Prexie punt but a 46-yard punt by Simmons was killed at the Harding one by several Little Giants to set up the second defensive gem.

Harding picked up two yards on two plays. On the third play, tailback Bill Black attempted a quick kick from the end zone. Black hesitated when Ross defender Doug Zink had charged up the middle.

Black got the punt off but only to the Harding 13. Wilhelm scored on the second play.

The defensive gems highlighted a new defensive look that the Little Giants had installed for the pass-oriented Prexies. Steven had entered the game as the conference's leading passer but the Little Giants "4-3" alignment limited him to 10 completions in 25 attempts for 101 yards.

"We pretty much turned the guys loose up front," Ross defensive coordinator Joe Siesel said. "They kept the pressure on Steven. The Prexie signal caller was sacked five times for 26 yards in losses."

The Ross charge was led by defensive ends Chris Simmons, Coleman and alternating end Mac McGilton with tackles Rod Lanning, Zink and Mike Wolf.

"We took out one inside linebacker," Siesel explained, "and went to four deep backs.



KEVIN WILHELM (10) OF ROSS ROLLS AROUND RIGHT END FOR YARDAGE

(N-M photos by Bill Kennedy)

We had to do that to keep pressure on the ball."

Harding netted only 45 yards rushing.

"Defensively," Moore pointed out, "we felt that we caught them unaware with the '4-3'."

Harding's defense was nearly as confusing for Ross. The Little Giants had 106 rushing yards with tailback

Rick Heidelberg getting 81 on 17 carries. Wilhelm was five of 14 for 65 yards.

Ross took the lead shortly into the second quarter. Steven fumbled when he was sacked by Chris Simmons and Simmons recovered at the Harding 20 to set up the TD.

Wilhelm lobbed a 15-yard pass to Craig Trick

to the one on a third and six for the key play but it took a two-yard run by fullback Steve Ebert on a fourth and goal to get Ross on the scoreboard. Wilhelm had failed on two sneaks and an option to the left before Ebert scored. Chris Simmons' kick was off the left and Ross had a 6-0 lead at the 11:27 mark of the second

quarter.

Harding's TD was set up by a fumble. Tim Jones recovered Jeff Nossaman's fumble after he had caught a Wilhelm pass at the Ross 29.

It took Harding 10 plays to get to the end zone. King Mayse, normally a linebacker, scored on a fourth and goal at the two with

10:50 remaining. Scott Holliday, who had missed on 38 and 32-yard field goal attempts earlier, hit the extra point to put the Little Giants down by a point.

The win raised Ross to 3-5 and 2-2 in the BC while Harding is 0-8 and 0-5 in conference play.

The Little Giants will be at Findlay next Friday.

Football

Ross 14

Harding 7

Score by quarters

Harding	0	0	0	7	7
Ross	0	6	0	8	14

Scoring

Ross: Steve Ebert, two-yard run (kick failed), 11:27, second quarter.

Harding: King Mayse, two-yard run (Scott Holliday kick), 10:50, fourth quarter.

Ross: Kevin Wilhelm, 10-yard run (Wilhelm run), 2:27, fourth quarter.

Team stats

	H	R
First Downs	9	7

Rushes/Yds.	32/45	33/106
Passing Yds.	101	65
Passes/Comp./Int.	25/10/0	14/5/0
Punts/Avg.	5/32.6	8/36.0
Fumbles/Lost	2/2	4/2
Penalties	4/20	7/80

Individual statistics

Rushing: H, Marvin Jackson 14/52; Ross, Rick Heidelberg 17/81.

Passing: H, Jamie Steven 25/10/0, 101 yards; Ross, Wilhelm 14/5/0, 65 yards.

Receiving: H, Joe Wink 4/32, Dave Lehner 4/47; Ross, Craig Trich 2/35.

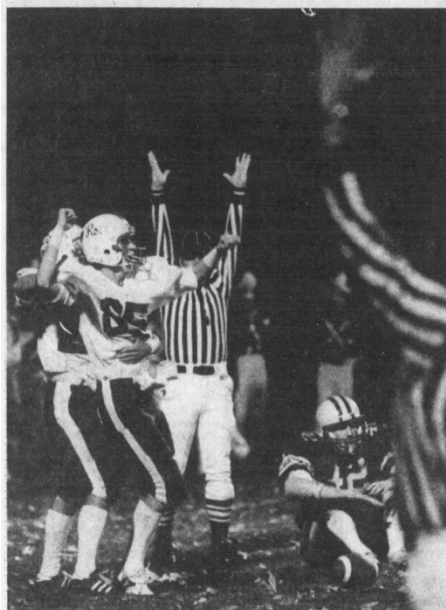
Season records: Ross 3-5 (2-2), Harding 0-8 (0-5).

Clyde 42

St. Mary's 0

Score by quarters

Porter's field goal nips Ross 17-14



TOUCHDOWN! Dan Brudzinski (85) of Ross celebrates as the officials signal a Little Giants TD.

Chris Fleck of Findlay refuses to take part in the merriment.

(N-M photos by Bill Kennedy)

By BOB MARKER
N-M Sports Editor
FINDLAY — Bruce Porter's 25-yard field goal with 2:28 left in the third period gave Findlay a 17-14 victory over Ross Friday to end the Little Giants' hopes of finishing at least at the .500 mark this season.

The loss dropped Pete Moore's team to 3-6 and insured Ross's first losing football season since 1969 when Chuck Shuff's team finished 2-7-1.

The Trojans, 7-2 and still in the thick of the Buckeye Conference race with a 4-1 mark, took advantage of three errors to outduel Ross.

The first Trojan touchdown was set up on a pass that went in and out of Little Giant's receiver Craig Trick and into Findlay defensive back Chris Fleck's hands. The 5-10 sophomore returned the carom 37 yards to the Ross one.

Fullback Mike Dillon, brother to tailback Pat Dillon who rambled for 125 yards on 23 carriers, scored on the next play. Bruce Porter's point after kick was deflected to the right but Findlay held a 6-0 lead late in the first period.

Ross tied the contest three minutes into the second quarter. Taking the Findlay kickoff at the 49 after Steve Ebert had returned it 18 yards, Ross drove 51 yards in 14 plays. Rick Heidelberg, on a fourth and goal at the Findlay two, scored for the Little Giants. Chris Simmons' kick was wide to the left and the game was deadlocked 6-6.

Mike Wolf intercepted a Porter pass at the Ross 25 to kill a Trojans drive and start Ross's second scoring march after Ross's kickoff. The Little Giants scored in

10 plays, the last 27 coming on a Kevin Wilhelm to Dan Brudzinski pass. Wilhelm's option off right tackle gave Ross a 14-6 lead with 1:16 left in the half.

Ross got a break with nine seconds left in the first half when Findlay receiver Steve Irish dropped Porter's pass at the Ross 10 while he was wide open.

The second half belonged to the Trojans.

Ross was unable to generate any offense after the kickoff. Findlay took over at the Trojans' 32 and needed 10 plays to score. A screen pass from Porter to Pat Dillon for 30 yards to the Ross 22 keyed the drive. Dillon broke three tackles on the play.

Dillon scored from eight yards out when he broke two Ross tackles. He also used the same play around right end for the two points to tie the game at 14-14 with 6:30 left in the third period.

Pat Dillon's 49-yard punt set up Porter's winning field goal.

Ross took over at the 11 but on the second play, Findlay's Chris Marlar stepped in front of a Wilhelm pass and returned it to the Little Giants 20. Facing a fourth and one at the 11, Porter split the uprights.

The second major error for the Little Giants was on the next kickoff. Heidelberg gathered in the ball at the Ross 11 and rambled up the middle to the Findlay 42 where he was hit and fumbled. Scott McIntosh of Findlay got the ball and Ross was never able to penetrate into Findlay territory again.

"No, it's not that bad," Moore said quietly as he sorted out his thoughts while gazing into the shallow

pond that guards the back of the Findlay grandstands.

"I'm not a good swimmer but I don't think I'm going to drown in a foot and a half of water," he managed to smile.

He could not drown his thoughts.

"We played them equal," Moore insisted, "but we had the major turnovers and then that first down we had was wiped out by the

penalty."

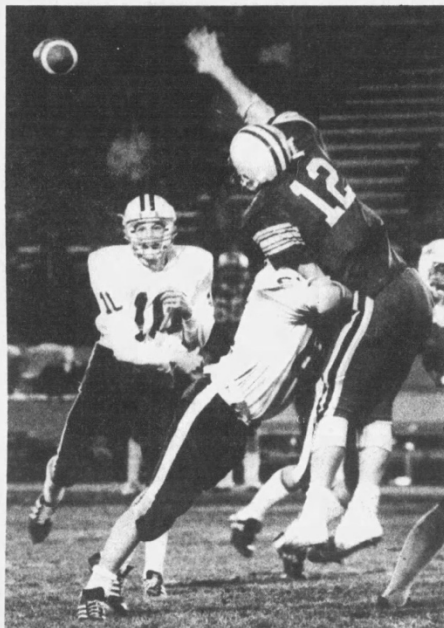
With 6:47 to play, Ross took over at the Little Giants 13 and clicked off a quick first down. Facing a third and seven at the 27, Wilhelm hit tight end Jim Hufford for an apparent first down at the 37 but a clipping penalty moved the ball back to the 22. Ross had to give up the ball two plays later when Wilhelm was stopped two yards short of a first

down at the 31.

"I did not think that field goal would be enough," Moore admitted.

"I thought our kids played very well," he continued. "We have not been embarrassed all year but we just cannot generate that win."

Ross will host unbeaten Sandusky Friday in the season finale. Findlay will be at Lorain to play Admiral King.



KEVIN WILHELM of Ross gets a good block from a teammate while getting off a pass. Mark Fry (12) of

Findlay cannot reach the Ross quarterback.

Pirates crush Clyde's hopes

By ROB BOUKISSEN
News-Messenger Sports Writer
SANDUSKY — Despite going unbeaten in their first eight games this season, the Clyde Fliers have had trouble gaining respect in the polls. Even the computer spit them out.

making another mistake. On their first play after the field goal, Corthell and Jesse Garcia misconnected on another hand-off and the Pirates recovered at the Clyde 35.

A swarming Clyde defense pushed Perkins back to the 46, but

Findlay 17

Ross 14

Score by quarters

Ross	0	14	0	0—14
Findlay	6	0	11	0—17

Scoring

Findlay: Mike Dillon, one-yard run (kick failed), 3:40, first quarter.

Ross: Rick Heidelberg, two-yard run (kick failed), 8:58, second quarter.

Ross: Dan Brudzinski, 27-yard pass from Kevin Wilhelm (Wilhelm run), 1:16, second quarter.

Findlay: Pat Dillon, eight-yard run (Dillon run), 6:32, third quarter.

Findlay: Bruce Porter, 28-yard field goal, 2:28, third quarter.

Team Stats

	R	F
First Downs	11	12
Rushes/Yds.	37/116	40/157
Passing Yds.	98	66
Pass./Comp./		
Int.	13/7/2	16/5/1
Punts/Avg.	3/29.3	4/37.8
Fumbles/Lost	3/2	0/0
Penalties/Yds.	2/20	4/30

Individual Statistics

Rushing: R. Heidelberg 22/66; F. P. Dillon 23/125.

Passing: Ross, Wilhelm 13/7/2, 98 yards; Findlay: Porter 16/5/1, 66 yards.

Receiving: Ross: Jeff Nossaman 2/28, Jim Hufford 2/21; Findlay: Brent Nighswander

Season records: Findlay 7-2 (4-1), Ross 3-6 (2-3).

Sandusky blanks Ross 22-0 in finale



KEVIN WILHELM, quarterback for Ross, is hit from behind while attempting to get off a pass in the third quarter Friday at Harmon Stadium.

Ulysses Kirksey (20) and Michael Jones (45) are the Sandusky players closing in on Wilhelm.

(N-M photo by Bill Kennedy)

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor
Sandusky clinched a 13th Buckeye Conference football championship and finished with its first unbeaten season since 1966 with a 22-0 win over Ross Friday at Harmon Stadium.

The shutout, the first by a Sandusky team against Ross since the 74-0 romp in 1966, gave the Blue Streaks a 10-0 record, 6-0 in the BC. Ross slipped to a closing 3-7, its first losing mark since 1969.

Richard Twine ran for 92 yards and Willie Clark and Tracy Steele added touchdowns as the Sandusky trio of backs did just enough to trip the Little Giants.

"Hey, they beat us," Ross Coach Pete Moore said in the quiet Little Giants locker room. "They had only one real drive and we just did not run that many plays."

The Little Giants were their own worst enemies in the early moments. Willie Clark of the Blue Streaks intercepted his sixth pass of the season on the fourth play of the game to put Sandusky in business at its 41.

The Ross giveaway was the first of a season high five. Sandusky was unable to move

on its first series and were stopped again after Ross's Gene Simmons' 16-yard punt went out at the Ross 46. But Milt Pitt backed Ross up with a punt to the Little Giants five.

Another short Ross punt put Sandusky back into scoring position at the Ross 39 but the Blue Streaks gave up the ball on downs at the 21. But on Ross's first play, tailback Mike Palomo never got the handoff from quarterback Kevin Wilhelm and Sandusky's Phillip Hardin recovered at the 17.

Alann Antel hit a 28-yard field goal four plays later to give Sandusky a 3-0 lead with 8:46 to go in the half.

Sandusky's drive that Moore alluded to covered 79 yards after Ross had punted the ball away. Clark went off right guard from 16 yards out on the 10th play and Sandusky led at the half 10-0.

Ross broke its own back with its first series of plays in the second half. Doug Zink recovered Sandusky quarterback Brett Ninke's fumble at the Blue Streaks 48.

A pass from Wilhelm to tight end Jim Hufford for 15 yards and three runs by Rick Heidelberg gave Ross a first down at the nine. On a second

goal at the 11 after Heidelberg had been stopped for a two-yard loss, Sandusky's David Turner intercepted Wilhelm's pass at the goal line and returned it to the 35.

"We had the opportunity to score but we didn't," Moore said. "If we had, it could have been different."

After Sandusky punted, Wilhelm fumbled while being sacked and Sandusky's Irvin Owens returned it to the Little Giants 21. Six plays later, Ninke hit Joe Young in the left corner of the end zone on a fake field goal.

It broke Ross completely. Sandusky iced the game one its next possession, moving 39 yards on four plays, the last 16 on Tracy Steele's run. There was 8:05 to play but Ross never threatened again.

Sandusky held Ross to 11 yards rushing in the first half and to 49 for the game. Wilhelm was four of 12 passing for 67 yards but was intercepted three times, twice by Turner.

Sandusky had 203 yards rushing and another 37 in the air. Clark finished with 51 yards on 10 carries and Steele, the transplanted offensive guard, had 31 on seven chances.

Owners threaten to break talks

NEW YORK (AP) — The National Football League strike talks teetered on the verge of

negotiations."

The union's bonus package maintains the total cost of the

in 1985-86.

Payments in the union's 1982 bonus proposal would go to all

Management Council's financial adviser, said if there is no 1982 season, each club will lose

Area statistics

Sandusky 22 Ross 0

Score by quarters

Sandusky	0	10	0	12-22
Ross	0	0	0	0-0

Scoring

Sandusky: Alan Antel, 28-yard field goal, 8:46, second quarter.

Sandusky: Willie Clark, 16-yard run (Antel kick), 2:10, second quarter.

Sandusky: Joe Young, eight-yard pass from Brett Winke (kick blocked), 11:55, fourth quarter.

Sandusky: Tracy Stelle, 16-yard run (run failed), 8:05, fourth quarter.

Team stats

	S	R
First Downs	12	7
Rushes/Yds.	39/203	30/49
Passing Yds.	45	67
Pas./Comp./Int.	8/4/0	12/4/3
Punts/Avg.	4/36.3	6/28.5
Fumbles/Lost	4/1	3/2
Penalties/Yds.	3/35	2/18

Individual statistics

Rushing: Sandusky: Rick Twine 17/92, Clark 10/51, Steele 7/31 Ross, Steve Ebert 9/41, Rick Heidelberg 7/16.

Passing: Sandusky: Brett Ninke 3/6/0, 37 yards; Ross, Kevin Wilhelm 12/4/3, 67 yards.

Receiving: Ross: Jeff Nossaman 2/22, Craig Trick 1/30.

Season records: Sandusky 10-0 (6-0), Ross 3-7 (2-4).

Sandusky: Joe Young eight-yard pass from Brett Ninke (kick blocked), 11:55, fourth quarter.



MIKE WENDT



RON THRUN

All-Buckeye picks

Unbeaten Buckeye Conference champion Sandusky and runnerup Admiral King dominated the All-Buckeye Conference football teams.

The teams, selected by the seven coaches, were announced today.

Sandusky players occupied 15 positions on either the first or second team offense or defense. Admiral King followed with 12 selections. Findlay had six, Ross five, Elyria three, Lorain and Marion Harding two apiece.

Ross placed two players on the first team defense, one on the second and two players on the second offensive unit. Linebacker Mike Wendt and defensive back Ron Thrun were Ross's first team selections while sophomore Chris Simmons was named to the second defensive unit as an end. Wendt and Thrun are seniors.

Guard Adam Calabrese, a junior, and senior center Micah Schumacher were the Little Giants on the second offensive unit.

Sandusky's selections were led by Buckeye Conference "lineman of the year" Tracy Steele. The Sandusky junior played offensive guard and defensive tackle and split time at fullback in the last two games of the season.

Sandusky Coach Jim Colwell was named the coach of the year after guiding the Blue Streaks to 10-0 regular season mark and into the state playoffs.

Jerry Dunlap of Admiral King, the BC's leading rusher with 1,260 yards on 134 carries for a 9.4 yards per carry average, was named the "back of the year." Dunlap scored 19 touchdowns for the Admirals while leading the conference in that

department.

In final conference statistics, Ross led in defense, allowing 196 yards per game in the conference and was second overall, permitting 192 yards game.

Individually, Ross quarterback Kevin Wilhelm was sixth in average per game scoring with 5.6. Steve Ebert was eighth in rushing with 429 yards on 93 carries. Mike Paloma was 10th with 339 yards on 100 carries. Rick Heidelberg finished 15th with 255 yards.

Quarterback Brian Borden was seventh and Wilhelm eighth in passing stats. Borden was 30 of 65 for 405 yards and Wilhelm 22 of 55 for 327 yards.

Doug Gallagher, despite playing only four games, was sixth in receptions with 16 for 202 yards. Craig Trick was eighth with 14 for 246 yards.

Heidelberg was third in kickoff returns, averaging 21 yards and Thrun was fifth in punt returns with a 6.7 yard average. In punting, Gene Simmons was third with a 34.4 and Thrun was sixth with a 30.3 average.

The conference teams are listed on the Scoreboard page 11.

8%



SPECIAL AWARD winners for the Ross football team were, left to right, bottom row, Greg Weaver, Ron Thrun, Micah Schumacher,

Kevin Wilhelm; standing: Bill Dowling, Mike Wendt, Steve Ebert, Craig Trick and Derek Isaman.

Wendt MVP

Mike Wendt was named the "most valuable player" for the Ross High School football team during an awards program Monday.

The 190-pound senior was also named the team's most valuable defensive lineman. He also took home a co-captain's trophy along with Craig Trick.

In other special awards presented by Coach Pete Moore, Micah Schumacher won the most valuable offensive lineman trophy. Steve Ebert was named the best offensive back and Ron Thrun was awarded the most valuable defensive back award.

The "most improved" senior trophy went to tackle Bill Dowling while the junior most improved honor was won by quarterback Kevin Wilhelm. Derek Isaman won the most valuable sophomore trophy.

Greg Weaver, a senior quarterback, was named the team's "True Grit" winner. Weaver will receive the "Y's" Men's Club honor next month.

Following are the letter winners:

First award: seniors Brian Borden, Roy Cantu, Dave Chambers, Bill Dowling, Terry Haubert, Rick Heidelberg, Mike Hepp, Gary Hibbs, Ron Kovalesski, Willie Martin, Rick Rawson, Kevin Shaffer, D.J. Szymanowski, Jeff Tome and Greg Weaver.

Juniors Dan Brudzinski, Adam Calabrese, Kent Coleman, Jason Fought, Jeff Gentry, Matt Hiser, Jim Hufford, Rod Lanning, Jerry Manahan, Jeff Nossaman, Terry O'Farrell, Mike Palomo, Gene Simmons, Paul Stout, Stacy Swaisgood, Matt Whitcomb, Kevin Wilhelm, Mike Wolf.

Sophomores Mike Bobay, Derek Isaman and Chris Simmons.

Second award: seniors Steve Ebert, Dave Eicher, Andy Esquivel, Doug Gallagher, Jeff Ruggiero, Tom Schaffer, Micah Schumacher, Ron Thrun, Craig Trick, Mike Wendt and Doug Zink.

Magic! Raiders baffle Chargers

LOS ANGELES (AP) — After nearly half of their first National Football League regular-season game in Los Angeles as the home team, it appeared the Raiders needed some magic to escape with a victory. That's exactly what they got.

Los Angeles Coach Tom Flores called it "Monday Night Magic."

The Raiders overcame a 24-0 deficit to defeat the San Diego Chargers 28-24 at the Los Angeles Coliseum, raising their record in nationally televised Monday night games over the years to 19-2-1.

"I don't know what it is about Monday night football," said Flores after his team raised its record to 3-0. "We're very proud of our Monday night record. Monday night football just brings out the best in us."

It didn't for most of the first half. The Chargers were in complete control until Ted Hendricks recovered a fumble by Chuck Muncie at the San Diego 17-yard line with less than two minutes to play in the first half.

That was the beginning of the end for the Chargers, who fell to 1-2 in the strike-interrupted season.

Before the strike, the Raiders had played both of their games on the road. A Superior Court jury ruled last May that the team had the right to move from Oakland to Los Angeles,

which it hurriedly did during the summer.

Following the fumble recovery by Hendricks, it took the Raiders five plays to get on the scoreboard for the first time. Quarterback Jim Plunkett fired a 1-yard scoring pass to tight end Todd Christensen on a fourth-and-goal play with 36 seconds remaining in the half.

Rookie tailback Marcus Allen of the Raiders, returning to the site of many of his greatest games while playing for the University of Southern California, scored twice in the third period on runs of 3 and 6 yards.

Then, following a missed 33-yard field goal by San Diego's Rolf Benirschke, the Raiders drove 80 yards in nine plays for the game-winning TD, which came on a 1-yard run by Frank Hawkins with 5:54 left to play in the game.

The Raiders won despite Fouts passing for more than 300 yards in a game for the 26th time in his 10-year NFL career, equaling the record of Johnny Unitas. Fouts finished with 25 completions in 42 attempts for 357 yards.

A crowd of 42,162, well below capacity of about 72,500, attended the game, which also was televised locally. There were 12,898 no-shows.

St. Wendelin game changed

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — The Newark Catholic-Fostoria St. Wendelin high school state football championship game in Division V Friday has been switched from a 1:30 p.m. kickoff to 7:30 p.m.

Commissioner Dick Armstrong of the Ohio High School Athletic Association said Monday both schools agreed to the time switch, mainly because of the distance St. Wendelin has to travel to play at the Groveport High School site.