

# Jim Flower second in district tennis

Jim Flower, Ross High sophomore, will move on to the Class AAA state tennis tournament as the runnerup in the Toledo District.

Flower, who was top seeded and who qualified for the state Friday by winning two matches in the district, lost in the finals to Eric Iskersky, St. John's freshman who was ranked in the top 14 in the under 14 age group last year.

Iskersky defeated Flower in the finals at the University of Toledo, 6-2, 6-3.

Ross coach Pete Michaels called the match a hard fought battle. He praised Iskersky for playing "flawlessly" in the match.

## *Netmen win again, top-seeded Flower draws district bye*

Wednesday was a busy day for Pete Michaels, head coach of the talented Ross High tennis team.

First he watched his charges register victory number 13—their first victory in which the opponent scored a point—and then he made the trip from Mansfield to Toledo for the district drawing.

In that drawing Jim Flower, who was first seeded in the tournament, drew a first round bye and seemed to earn a good shot at a state tournament berth.

Flower will play either Valentine of Ashland or Reynolds of Bowling Green in the quarterfinals. Three individuals will advance to the state tournament, so Flower has to win just two matches to take that last big step on the tournament trail.

In competition against Mansfield Senior's strong net team, the Giants started slowly, but then turned on the steam and won a 3-1 decision. The second doubles match was called because of the weather. The Ross pair of Roger Parker and Art Gilbert was leading after one set, 6-0.

The victory boosted the Giants' record to 13-1 for the season. The 3-1 score did end one very impressive streak by the Little

Giants. All of the first 12 victories by the Little Giants were shutouts.

The strong Mansfield crew gave the Giants quite a battle, leading in three of the matches after the first set. Jim Flower and the doubles team of Jack Hilly and Joe Albrechta trailed after the first set, but rallied to win.

"Jim's play in the last set was superb," Michaels said. Warga (Mansfield's Doug Warga) played exceptionally well in the first set, but Jim came back strong."

The match was the final dual match of the regular season for the Little Giants who are still waiting a decision on time, location and opponent for the conference championship match. Ross won the Western Division with a 6-0 record. Lorain Admiral King and Elyria are battling for honors in the Eastern Division and a playoff may be necessary.

### SUMMARY

**Singles**  
Jim Flower (R) decisioned Doug Warga (M), 3-6, 6-4, 6-1.

Tom Franczak (M) decisioned Jeff Wingo (R), 7-5, 6-1.

Larry Shilling (R) decisioned Duffy Carto (M), 6-0, 6-2.

**Doubles**  
Jack Hilly and Joe Albrechta (R) decisioned Scott Gilbert and George Matthews, 4-6, 6-1, 6-2.