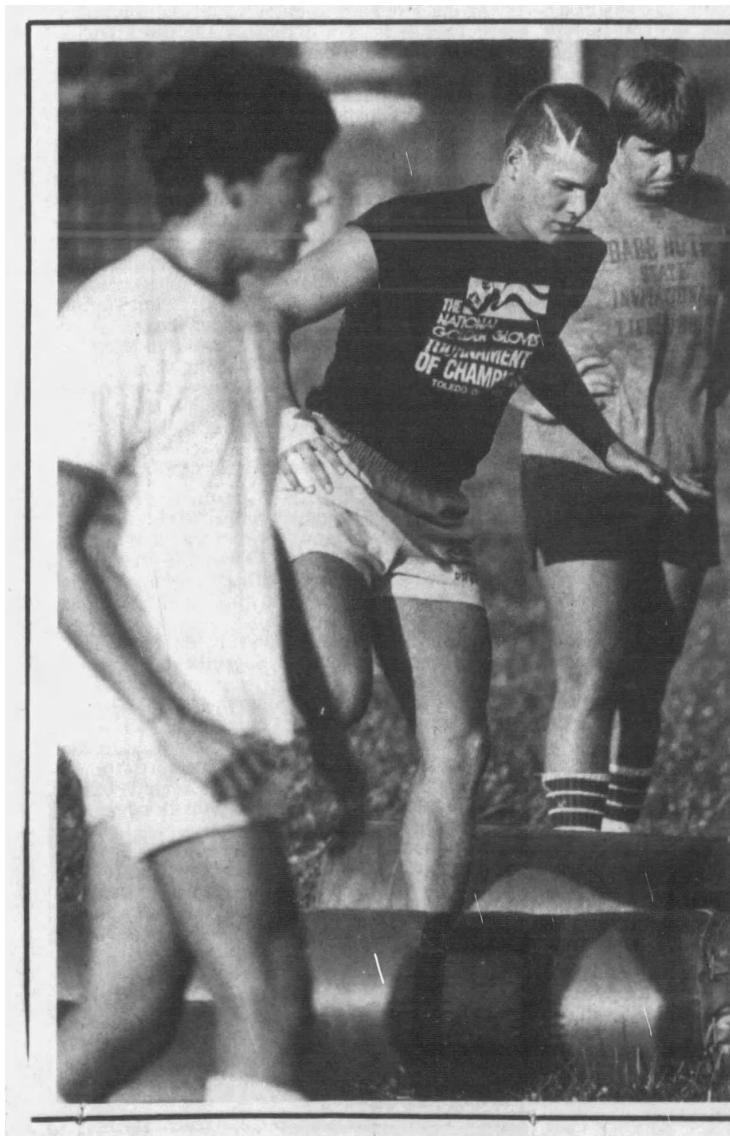


1983 Football Season

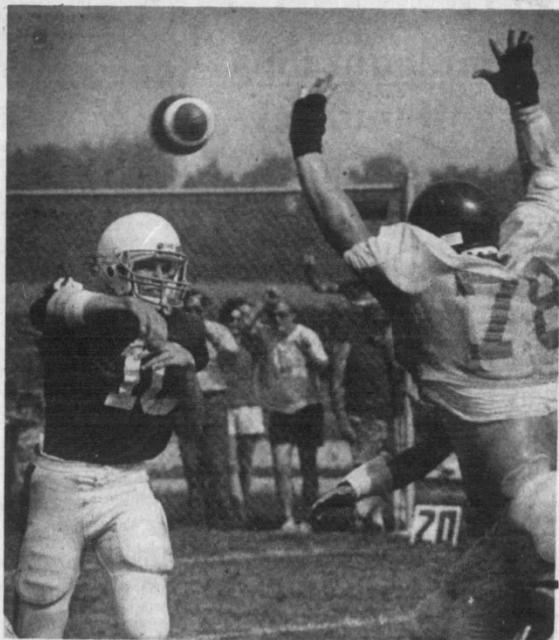


Shaping up

The Ross High School football team began its physical fitness sessions Tuesday in preparation for the first day of practice Wednesday, Aug. 10. At the left, Chuck Mamula, foreground, Derek Isaman, middle, and Mike Bobay go through agility drills during the Tuesday evening work-out conducted by Coach Pete Moore and his staff. At the bottom, Jerry Manahan turned sheik while using a towel to absorb the perspiration worked up during the 90-minute workout. More than 100 players took part in the drills which continue this evening and Thursday.

(N-M photos by Bill Kennedy)





(N-M photo by Bob Marker)

KEVIN WILHELM of Ross gets off a pass over the outstretched arms of a Whitmer lineman during Saturday's scrimmage at Ross.

urday's scrimmage at Ross. The Ross quarterback was successful on this attempt.

Preseason grid games

Saturday was the first day of three possible high school scrimmage football games. Several area teams took part in the preseason drills.

The best thing that came out of the Ross scrimmage against Whitmer Saturday were the films according to Coach Pete Moore.

"Yeah, the black and white film looks great; the cameraman did a nice job," he managed to chuckle as he talked Sunday about the Little Giants' first scrimmage football game.

Whitmer scored twice offensively and once defensively while Ross did not cross the Panthers' goal line.

"Well, we saw a lot of things we have to work on," the Ross coach said as he sorted out his thoughts. "Defensively, it was the worst pursuit that we have had since I have been here. The reactions were slow and we had a lot of missed tackles.

"Offensively, the passing game did not look bad a few times.

"But in scrimmages, we look at people, not plays," Moore said but added, "We did nothing spectacular. I think Whitmer was much more aggressive than we were."

Ross was hampered by several injuries but Moore refused to use that as an excuse. "We should have been able to play better despite that," he said.

At Sacred Heart, St. Joe and Springfield played to a 1-1 tie. Springfield's first-team offense scored on the Streaks' first defensive unit while St. Joe's second-teamers tallied on their Blue Devil counterparts.

The Streaks had trouble handling Springfield's veer offense, but Coach Tom Narducci was not worried.

Narducci said, "We really haven't prepared for anything like that yet. We've just been going over plays and working on our own stuff right up to this scrimmage."

Narducci was pleased with the performance of his club, especially that of the second team, which was led on a quick six-play touchdown drive by the running of juniors Steve Chamberlain, Jim Provenzale and Jamie Wolf. Provenzale scored the touchdown on a 10-yard run.

At Oak Harbor, the Rockets defeated Bowling Green 4-0 and did just about as well as Coach Gary

Quisno could have expected.

"We didn't look too bad," he insisted. "At this point of the season, I am pleased.

"We have a good battle going on at quarterback and both of them looked pretty good," Quisno continued. "We do have to develop some lineman but the ones we used looked okay."

At Clyde, Bellevue and the Fliers did not score in their scrimmage.

"We used three units," Bellevue Coach Terry Adams explained. "The offense moved decently but we tried to used two units to find some people.

"I think we did find some people who have more potential than we thought and we did find the areas we have to work on."

At Liberty Center, Genoa fell 3-0.

"We did some nice things with our passing game," first-year Coach Bob Baird pointed out. "The pass blocking looked okay but our running game was only fair.

"Defensively, it was disappointing but we were pleased with the defensive secondary."

At Wynford, Lakota also lost by a 3-0 margin with one of Wynford's touchdowns coming on a 105-yard interception return.

"It was like that all day," said first-year head coach Henry Burch. "We should've scored three or four times, but something would always stop us, like an interception or fumble or dropped pass."

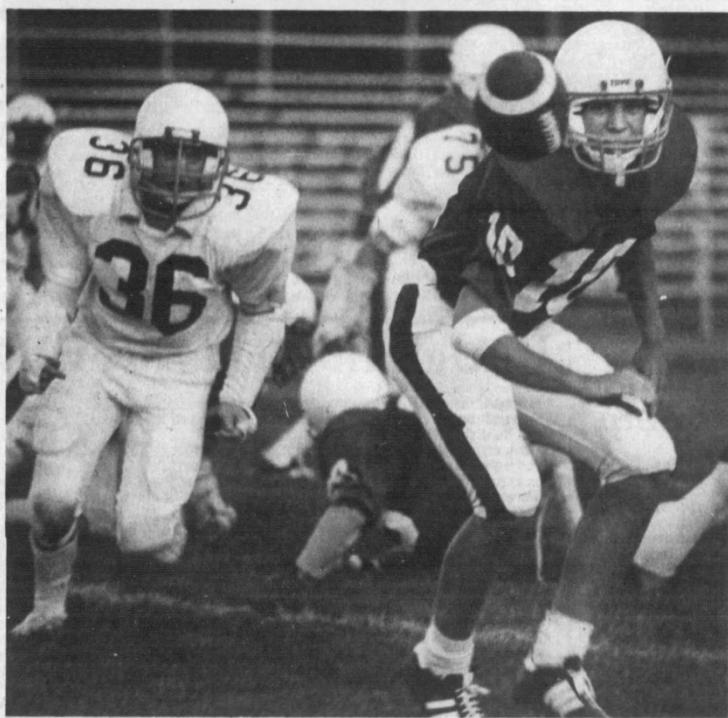
Burch said his offensive line also had a rough day with the bigger Royals.

"Our quarterbacks took a beating," he said. "The offensive line fell apart. That is something we have to work on. If we can get five guys up front to block, our passing attack will score."

At Margaretta, the Polar Bears dropped a 3-2 decision to Elyria Catholic.

"The biggest thing that came out of this scrimmage was the hitting," said Margaretta boss Dana Woodring. "It was a hard-hitting scrimmage. There was a lot of contact."

"Overall, we were pretty pleased. We got to look at everybody and saw that we might have to make some position changes." —Bob Marker and Rob Boukissen.



KEVIN WILHELM watches the football after he pitched back to Jeff Gentry on a Ross option play against Elida Tuesday at Harmon Stadium. (N-M photo by Bob Marker)

Ross better in 2nd outing

Coach Pete Moore saw a marked improvement in his Ross High School football team during the scrimmage against Elida at Harmon Stadium Tuesday evening.

"The hitting showed a little more intensity," Moore said as he compared the scrimmage with last Saturday's match-up against Whitmer.

In the Saturday scrimmage, Moore had said Whitmer was more aggressive than his Little Giants but against Elida, that changed.

Ross scored four times against Elida, one on a 35-yard pass from Kevin Wilhelm to Jim Hufford and a 30-yard run by Mike Palomo. The other scores came on short runs.

"By no means are we ready for a ball game," Moore insisted. "Although this scrimmage was much more intense, we still see areas that need a lot of improvement."

Against Whitmer, Moore said that the defensive pursuit had been the worst he has had at Ross. That changed Tuesday.

Joe Siesel, Ross's defensive coordinator, backed up Moore's views of the intensity shown by the Little Giants.

"After Saturday's scrimmage, you could not print what I said," Siesel said, "that's how improved this one was. The defense is starting to come around but it should have been here sooner. Maybe it's the cooler weather tonight or playing under the lights..."

"Whatever it was," Siesel continued, "it worked. We had some nice 'sticks' out there."

The Ross defense intercepted three passes—two by Derek Isaman and another by Mike Wolf.

Elida used a "run and shoot" offense.

"We spent one day getting ready for it," Moore pointed out. "You really don't prepare for a scrimmage but you want to show the kids what they may see. Really, we are preparing for Tiffin (Columbian, Ross's first opponent on Sept. 2)."

The Bulldogs had seven of 11 offensive starters back from last season's 9-1 team but only two returning defensive starters.

Ross's next scrimmage is Friday night in the Glass Bowl at Toledo against Macomber.

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baseball, beating the Dominican Republic 11-2; in men's softball, ending Canada's unbeaten record with a 6-1 victory; men's basketball, with a 111-97 victory over the Canadians; and in women's basketball, with a 100-82 decision over defending-champion Cuba.

For two hours Tuesday night, things stopped in this city of 3½ million as the championship in soccer was decided. The game was a thriller, with Uruguay winning 1-0, over Brazil for its first Pan Am gold medal.

But the drug news did not stop with the 11 weightlifters and the dozen American debtors.

The Chilean delegation announced that its top cyclist, Fernando Vera, had been suspended for a month because a test showed steroids in his system. Vera said he had used steroids two months ago to help repair an atrophied muscle.

The Pan Am Games organization brought forward the biggest crackdown on drug use in international sports history, using a top-of-the-line laboratory testing

system for steroids and other drugs that was developed in Cologne, West Germany.

When the first four weightlifters were caught Monday, team doctors and coaches met with America's track and field athletes.

"We knew about the situation, about testing," Mike Marlow, a triple jumper from Los Angeles, told ABC Radio as he prepared to leave Caracas early Tuesday with 12 teammates. "We knew that a strict test could find anything—caffeine, alcohol, anything."

Only one of the 13 who left, long jumper Randy Williams, whose wife had just had a baby, officially had an explanation.

F. Don Miller, executive director of the U.S. Olympic Committee, said the withdrawal from the games "should not be taken as an implication of guilt, or interpreted in any similar manner."

But William E. Simon, president of the USOC, said upon arriving in New York with the athletes that they had "chosen not to compete" after being told of the strict drug tests.

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"I don't really remember my last start. That was in 1975. I don't expect to get another one. I have no desire to. I enjoy getting somebody out in a crucial situation. I feel I can help the club in more situations as a reliever than as a starter," Bair said.

He treated the start just like a relief effort. He didn't start warming up until nine minutes before the game started, as opposed to the 20 minutes that starters nor

mally take.

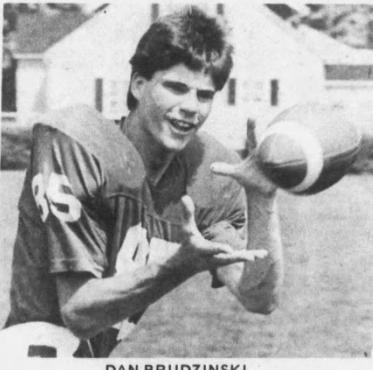
"Oh, I was enjoying myself. I was a little nervous this afternoon, thinking about starting. But I always got that way even in the bullpen, when it looked like I was about to come in," Bair added.

The Rangers threatened only twice. Larry Bittner and Bucky Dent singled with one out in the third, but Bair got Wayne Tolleson on a fielder's choice grounder and Buddy Bell on a fly to right. In the sixth, Tolleson singled and stole second but, with two out, Bair walked George Wright intentionally and retired Larry Parrish on another fly out.

Texas Manager Doug Rader was disappointed at his team's failure to get any runs home. "You can't win if you don't hit," Rader said.



CHRIS SIMMONS



DAN BRUDZINSKI

1982 was year to forget for Ross

The 1982 Ross football season is something that Coach Pete Moore would like to sweep under the rug.

The 3-7 record the Little Giants posted is the worst that a Moore coached team has had at Ross in seven seasons.

"You go through cycles," Moore admitted. "There is no question about that and as far as coaching, you just hope you are in the right place at the right time."

Ross has been the right place for Moore, 37, with a 44-23-3 record during his tenure as the boss. Prior to 1982, the worst seasons Moore had experienced at Ross were back-to-back 5-5 records in 1977 and 1978. Following that, the Little Giants lost five games before last year. In his first season, Moore's team was 7-1-2.

"Last year was baffling," he admitted. "We were in every ball game but we just did not get it together."

"We did not have a lot of onfield leadership and after evaluating it, there were not enough people on the field who really wanted it (to win)," he explained. "I don't want to say it was all the kid's fault; it was a combination of things."

"It could have been a lack of communications between the coaches and the players."

"To be successful, you have to stay healthy and work together and you have to enjoy it," Moore continued. "If you don't have those things when working with large numbers—it's like a large business—and if you can't have communications between coaches and players, you have trouble."

Moore felt that the Little Giants' defense was as strong as any part of the 1982 program. "We just did not have enough offense."

Ross surrendered an average of 14 points while scoring just a little over 10 per game last season.

"But last season was just like I told the kids: I don't want to say much about it," he said and then added, "last year was a learning lesson and I don't want to repeat it."

The Ross coach then looked toward this season.

"We did not have the large turnout (114 had signed up for the football team) but we have some quality kids," Moore began. "We have nearly 40 sophomores and it will take time to develop depth but some of those sophomores could help supply that depth as time goes by."

Moore came to Ross in 1974 as the defensive coordinator under Tom Holliman, now the assistant head coach at Ball State University. His defense that season, spearheaded by Harry and Larry Liggins, gave up just 33 points as Ross posted a 9-0-1 season. The following season, Ross was 6-3-1.

"Defense is my first love," Moore admitted, "but offense is a bigger challenge. In the past 15 years, teams have become defense conscious and as a result, it has been a bigger challenge to put points on the board; the teams on the top have good defenses."

Since taking over the head coaching position from Holliman after the 1975 season, Ross has averaged slightly over 19 points per game while allowing just under 10.

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Ross preseason football drills

Many football coaches feel that the pre-season practice sessions are the most important of the fall sport. Following is a composite of Ross's pre-season schedule along with comments from Coach Pete Moore:

—Week 1: The primary concern is conditioning but it is an extensive "teaching week."

"We try to put in our entire running package offensively during the week," Moore said. "and at least 50 per cent of the passing game. We don't expect either to be polished."

"Defensively, we try to play our '60' defense against adjustments and looks we feel we will face."

—Week 2: It's the first week of practice in pads. More of the passing game is added to the offense and the complete running game is installed. Defensively, work is on stunting and what it takes to accomplish them and secondary work.

"It's the week we find out who likes to hit and who does not like to hit," Moore described.

"We should have all running plays—not polished—and 75 per cent of the passing plays."

—Week 3: It's the start of polishing week and working on phases of the offense and defense that need work. Evaluations of scrimmage games are used to help sort out areas that need work.

—Week 4: "We begin our preparations for the opening game (Tiffin Columbian)," Moore said.

Other details about the pre-season drills are a three-a-day practices during the first four days, Aug. 10-13.

Ross will have played three scrimmage games against Whitmer, Elida and Macomber.



ROSS'S DEFENSIVE look up front will feature the following. In "down" stances, from left to right: Chris Simmons, Adam Calabrese, Rod Lan-

ning and James Cline. Back row, from left to right: Derek Isaman, Stacy Swaisgood, Craig Mosser and Paul Stout.

Little Giants depth chart

Ross's pre-season offensive and defensive depth charts:

DEFENSE

Ends: Chris Simmons, junior, 6-3, 210; Jerry Manahan, senior, 6-3, 200; Kent Coleman, senior, 6-0, 180.

Tackles: Rod Lanning, senior, 5-10, 180; Adam Calabrese, senior, 5-10, 200; Manahan.

Inside linebackers: Stacy Swaisgood, senior, 5-8, 150; Craig Mosser, junior, 6-1, 190.

Outside linebackers: Derek Isaman, junior, 6-3, 200; Paul

Stout, senior, 5-11, 180.

Secondary: Mike Wolf, senior, 6-0, 180; Gene Simmons, senior, 5-9, 170; Jim Hufford, senior, 6-1, 190; Kevin Wilhelm, senior, 6-0, 180; Jeff Gentry, senior, 6-0, 170.

OFFENSE

Quarterbacks: Kevin Wilhelm, senior, 6-0, 170; Rod Logan, senior, 5-8, 140.

Fullbacks: Mike Palomo, senior, 5-6, 160; Todd Beatty,

junior, 5-11, 185.

Tailbacks: Jeff Gentry, senior, 6-0, 170; Chris Simmons, junior, 6-3, 210.

Tight ends: Jerry Manahan, senior, 6-3, 200; Derek Isaman, junior, 6-3, 200; Kris Smith, junior, 6-3, 190.

Split ends: Dan Brudzinski, senior, 6-4, 190; Jeff Nossaman, senior, 6-2, 185.

Guards: Adam Calabrese, senior, 5-10, 200; Mark Nitschke, junior, 5-10, 165; Tom Batesole, senior, 6-0, 170.

Centers: Brad Pitts, senior, 6-0, 175; Scott Cross, junior, 5-9, 170.

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Depth big problem for Ross defense

Joe Siesel was smiling when he was asked for depth chart for his Ross High School Little Giants defensive team.

"Ah, I don't think you should call it that," he



DEREK ISAMAN is expected to play a key role for the Ross defense from his end position.

laughed, "it's more like a death chart."

Siesel was trying to laugh off a situation that the Ross coaching staff was expecting but was hoping to avoid.

"We do not have much depth yet," the Ross defensive coordinator pointed out. "We hope to develop some but right now we have quite a few kids going both ways. If one guy goes down (gets injured), it would be like losing two positions in some cases."

Siesel has guided the Little Giants for the past seven seasons. The "4-4" alignment of the Little Giants has yielded a modest 10 points per game in that span. Last season, it yielded slightly under 14 per contest but the Little Giants finished 3-7 for the year.

Head Coach Pete Moore said that the defense played well last season despite the record. This year, Siesel is faced with keeping the Ross defensive tradition rolling but the numbers he will be working with are limited.

"I don't know what what happens if we get a couple of kids hurt. Some of our depth is on the sidelines."

Siesel was referring to injured players Matt Hiser and Jason Fought, out for one or two games into the season.

The depth problem and the possible injury picture has had Siesel thinking about a possible change in the Little Giants defense.

"I have thought of it," he admitted. "We could offer a different look in order to cover up for if we get hit with injuries."

"A week ago (in August drills), I was ready to go with a '4-3,'" he said.

"We just cannot afford any injuries and it is very

seldom that you can play in this conference and not get some one hurt."

The last time Ross was forced to play with as many as four two-way starters was in 1976 when the Little Giants finished with a 7-1-2 record while claiming the Buckeye Conference championship. That year, Tony Ruiz, Mark Gysan, Jim Smith and Terry Bates went both ways.

The top returnees to the Little Giants defense are juniors Chris Simmons and Derek Isaman, both received Buckeye Conference mention last year. Both are possible two-way performers along with Jim Hufford, Adam Calabrese and Jerry Manahan. Isaman, however, is the backup to Manahan at tight end on the offense.

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Little Giants prepare for '83 home opener

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor

It took some searching but Rex Radeloff found a few flaws that needed working on this week.

Radeloff, the offensive coordinator for Coach Pete Moore's Ross Little Giants football team, admitted that the offensive attack in a 24-0 opening game win over Tiffin Columbian, was about as perfect as he could expect.

"It was one of those games," Radeloff explained, "where just about everything we tried went right. Of course there were a couple of fumbles and some blocking breakdowns at times, but that is to be expected."

Radeloff watched his team carve out 362 yards rushing and 411 total yards.

"As I said after the game, I thought the linemen did an excellent job picking up Columbian's stunts," Radeloff pointed out, "and the backs gave good second effort when they got hit."

What was he working on while preparing for Friday's home opener against Oregon Clay?

"We are working more on just handling the football," he offered, "and the timing between the quarterback and tailback on the pitches. And we want to get a little better blocking out of the backs."

Radeloff hinted that he would like to put the ball in the air more against Clay and that he felt that the pass blocking needed to be tuned.

"They were getting a little too much pressure on the quarterback last week," he said.

Radeloff said that the defense he expects Clay to use this week resembles

that of Buckeye Conference foe Elyria with one major difference.

"Clay uses a '4-3' but unlike Elyria which sits back and waits, they like to penetrate and cause havoc behind the line," Radeloff explained.

The Eagles lost their season opener to Toledo St. Francis (Ross's next opponent a week from Friday) 17-0.

Last year...

"Wait a minute, we don't talk about last year," Moore said quickly, "we are thinking only of how we can improve this week. What's ahead is what counts now."

But last year...Clay was 0-1 when Ross traveled to Oregon. When Ross left, the Eagles were 1-1, stopping Ross 14-13 in the first meeting of the two schools.

"We had all kinds of opportunities last year to win the game," is as much as Moore will say about the upset loss.

"And as far as St. Francis, we are only concerned with this week," Moore insisted.

Clay, the Ross head coach admitted, is hard to evaluate.

"We have eight millimeter film on them and that is like watching home movies," he explained. "They got beat 17-0 but they are still a good team going from what the scouts saw."

Moore pointed out that St. Francis is big, powerful football team.

"Clay will create some problems for us. We have to avoid the turnovers like Columbian had last week against us."

"Last year," Moore reluctantly pointed out, "we fumbled on the first play, they got it and they had a full head of steam after that."

Sports

Ross chews up Tornadoes 24-0

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor

TIFFIN—It was a nice beginning but... Ross's coaches could see some improvement despite the Little Giants domination of Columbian 24-0 in the football opener for both high school teams Friday.

The Little Giants amassed 411 total yards in offense while unleashing a quartet of running backs who chewed up 362 of that total on the ground.

Jeff Gentry, a senior who saw little action at the running slot last season, ran the Tornadoes' offense, racking up 187 yards on 30 carries. Gentry had 125 of those yards by halftime on 17 carries.

Mike "Mighty Mite" Palomo put Ross on the scoreboard 10 minutes into the first period, bolting straight up the middle from 31 yards out. Shawn McCarthy, Ross's lean 6-7 sophomore kicker, hit the first of his three consecutive conversions and the Little Giants were on a roll that Columbian could do little about.

Kevin Wilhelm tossed a nine-yard scoring strike to Jeff Nossaman in the right corner of the end zone seven minutes into the second quarter. The play capped off a 11-play, 62-yard drive that consumed four minutes.

Consume was the name of the game for the Little Giants. Ross controlled the ball nearly 31 of the 48 minutes while racking up 25 first downs.

Ross did not score in the third period but McCarthy split the uprights from 31 yards out at the 9:45 mark of the final period to put Ross up 24-0.

The final Ross tally came on a one-yard sneak by Wilhelm with a tick of the clock remaining in the game.

"For the first ball game, I believe it let us see that we have something to work with," head Coach Pete Moore said. "We brought kids down here and most of them played. We got to look at a lot of people."

Moore pointed out what he felt was the key to the game.

"The lines," he said, "just dominated the game."

Offensive coordinator Rex Radloff agreed with that.

"When you get that many yards and that many first downs, you know you have dominated things at the line of scrimmage," he pointed out. "Terence O'Farrell, Matt Whitcomb (tackles) Mark Nitschke, Adam Calabrese (guards) and Scott Cross played a heck of a game up front."

"They were picking up the stunts which we did not do all year," Radloff said, "and Coach Wetzel got them ready for that."

Radloff gave a verbal pat on the back to line coach Mike Wetzel.

Defensive coordinator Joe Siesel said he was pleased, overall, with the way the defense played but an opening second half drive in which the Tornadoes went from their own 18 to the Ross 15 before a penalty sidetracked them, disturbed him.

"For the first time out of the box, I was

pretty happy," Siesel said. "We were responding to the ball pretty good but not as good as I would have liked. The hitting was good but we still have a lot of things to work on."

Ditto for Radloff and Moore.

"I think we tired at the end," Moore said. "Of course that happened on both sides. That is when we got sloppy out there."

Radloff was happy with the running game, a sore spot in the 1983 offense. But he said he had a long way to go, he said. "At times, there were breakdowns."

In addition to Gentry's ground pounding, Palomo gained 77 yards on 11 carries with Todd Beatty adding 38 on six and Chris Simmons picking up 47 just four carries.

Wilhelm was five of nine for 49 yards and one interception.

Defensively, Jim Hufford intercepted two passes and Gene Simmons one. Stacy Swaisgood, Paul Stout, and Derek Isaman plus Calabrese helped limit the Tornadoes to 54 yards running and 92 passing.



JEFF GENTRY



MIKE PALOMO

Ross 24

Columbian 0

Score by quarters

| | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|---|-----|----|
| Ross | 7 | 7 | 0 | 10— | 24 |
| Columbian | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0— | 0 |

Scoring

Ross: Mike Palomo, 30-yard run (Shawn McCarthy kick) 2:01, first quarter.

Ross: Jeff Nossaman, nine-yard pass from Kevin Wilhelm (McCarthy kick), 5:00, second quarter.

Ross: McCarthy, 31-yard field goal, 9:45, fourth quarter.

Ross: Wilhelm, one-yard run (McCarthy kick) 0:01, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

| | R | C |
|--------------|--------|---------|
| First Downs | 25 | 9 |
| Rushes/Yds. | 48/362 | 16/54 |
| Passing Yds. | 49 | 92 |
| Passes/C/I | 9/5/1 | 26/12/3 |
| Punts/Avg. | 2/33.0 | 4/35 |
| Fmb./Lost | 3/2 | 1/1 |
| Pen./Yds. | 9/75 | 2/27 |

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Jeff Gentry 30/187, Mike Palomo 11/77, Todd Beatty 6/38, Chris Simmons 4/47, Kevin Wilhelm 7/13; Columbian: Tim Walker 5/28, Bob Bean 5/5, Mark Stephens 3/10, Mark Hoar 3/11.

Passing: Ross, Wilhelm 9/5/1—49; Columbian, Hoar 26/12/3—92.

Receiving: Ross, Jim Hufford 2/27, Jeff Nossaman 2/19, Dan Brudzinski 1/9; Columbian, Walker 3/22, Jeff Greer 3/22, Tim Daughenbaugh 2/16, Steve Belville 2/17.

Storm hampers Ross, St. Joe grid teams

The Ross football team narrowly escaped the brunt but the St. Joe grididers had to scurry for cover from the wind and rain storm that rolled across Fremont late Tuesday afternoon.

"We cut practice short by about 10 minutes," Ross Coach Pete Moore said. "We were about ready to go in when it hit. We had been watching the storm move in and could see the lightning."

"I told Joe (Hershey, Ross trainer) to get the younger kids off the field and that we would follow in about five minutes," Moore continued.

"The kids were jogging down the alley (the route from North St. to Harmon Stadium), well actually sprinting, when it hit," the Ross coach described. "It was a good thing we got off when we did because there were barrels and

a lot of other things blowing around out on the practice field."

Chris Hull was taping the Ross practice from atop a scaffold moments before the wind began to blow.

"The scaffold was blown about 30 feet," Moore said. "We had just gotten Chris off it. He and I sat in the van furing the storm."

At Harmon Stadium, however, the electricity

was off, forcing players to either dress in the dark or go home in their practice uniforms.

"It was pitch black in there," Moore said. "The kids could not see to work the combinations on their locks."

At the St. Joe practice at Sacred Heart, streak Coach Tom Narducci's only problem was trying to find safe places for about 140 players.

"We had the varsity,

junior high and grade school teams all out there," said Narducci. "Altogether, that's about 140 kids, and we had only one school bus to try to shuttle them back to school.

"We got the field cleared in about 30 seconds. Some of the kids went to that car wash (Soft Touch), some went to the equipment shed and the others just stood up against the school."

Narducci said it took two bus trips to get the players back to school. Some of the players were picked up by their parents.

"We really didn't have any tense moments," he added. "But we did have to hold Coach (Bob) Molyet down. He was about two feet off the ground."

BOB MARKER and ROB BOUKISSEN

Cincinnati rips Giants 11-1 at des

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — It was the smallest crowd at Candlestick Park in three years, and the San Francisco Giants played with appropriate enthusiasm.

While some of the 3,562 spectators yelled derisively, the Giants were clobbered by the Cincinnati Reds, 11-1, Tuesday night with shortstop Darrell Evans' two errors contributing to six unearned runs.

"If you don't hit, pitch, throw or field, you're not going to win," Giants' Manager Frank Robinson said. "This was a poor excuse for baseball."

Indeed. A total of 17 bases on balls were issued and Reds' first baseman Skeeter Barnes, making his major league debut, was plunked by two pitchers.

Evans, seldom used at shortstop, made his first error in the second inning and the Reds bolted ahead with four unearned runs off Atlee Hammaker, 10-9, who lost his fifth straight.

Gary Redus' bases-loaded walk and Paul Householder's three-run double accounted for the scoring. Hammaker, the National League earned-run-average leader at 2.24,

was chased runs in the

Evans' s three runs Bilardello mance wit

Right-h blanked th parting wi walks. Ric six-hitter a save.

Little Giants blank Oregon Clay 28-0



PETE MOORE, head coach of the Ross football team, gives instructions to Jeff Nossaman during one

N-M photos by Bill Stewart

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor
It wasn't rain that dampened Ross Coach Pete Moore's mood Friday but it was a shower not-threshold.

For the Oregon Clay were hit with a total of 21 penalties and by the time the Little Giants had wrapped up a 28-0 whitewash, 227 yards of yellow flags had rained down on the turf during Ross's football season debut at Harmon Stadium.

Ross was hit with 122 yards in backwards steps while Clay picked up the rest as the Little Giants pulled off their second shutout in as many games.

"Those kind of penalties, if they are the kind of Moore guilty, should be called but it was like taking the air out of the atmosphere."

Ross was hit with numerous holding penalties, two roughing the kicker flags and two pass interference calls.

The Little Giants lost one touchdown, an eight-yard run by Jeff Gentry late in the second quarter because of a penalty but made up for it with four that counted.

Chris Simmons, taking over for Gentry who suffered a shoulder injury on the first Ross offensive play of the game, picked up 20 yards on three carries as Ross marched 50 yards in five plays to take a 7-0 lead. Simmons got the

final eight yards and right end and Shawn McCarty hit the first of his four consecutive extra points just four and one-half minutes into the game.

Mike Palomo, Ross's 5-6, 160-pound fullback, bolted 57 yards to Clay's four late in the first period to set up the Little Giants' second TD. It took four plays before quarterback Kevin Wilhelm sneaked in from the one to put Ross up 14-0.

Wilhelm snaked a pass over the middle to tight end Derek Isaman from 15 yards out to put Ross on the scoreboard again at the 5:10 mark of the third period.

On the following kickoff, the Eagles began to fly and with the help of a roughing the kicker and a pass interference penalty, went from the Clay to the Ross four before the drive stalled. Clay had gotten help from the yellow rain but also took a few steps backward on the drive. Facing a second and 25, quarterback Tim Walters passed to Phil Grivano from 15 yards and on a fourth and 10, hit Alex Szegedi for 19 and a first down at the Ross 20.

On fourth a goal at the four, a Walters pass fell incomplete in the end zone to abort Clay's drive.

After that, Ross began to set up the "crusher." The Little Giants drove the

yards on 22 plays while chewing up nearly 10 minutes of the clock. Gentry dove into the end zone from eight yards out to cap the drive at the 1:19 mark of the final period.

"That was a great effort on Gentry's part," Moore praised. "That was a hell of a drive for us. That is the type of drive we want to keep the defense off the field and that is our strategy: keep the defense off the field."

Joe Siesel, Ross's defensive coordinator, could not fully savor his team's shutout.

"I think we were our own worst enemies out there," he explained. "We made a lot of stupid mistakes; you cannot make mistakes against good teams."

Palomo led Ross's running attack with 88 yards on just eight carries. Todd Beatty took over for "Utility Mite" in the second period and ground out 29 on six carries. Gentry, despite visibly showing the shoulder injury, ran for 30 yards on 19 carries.

Grivano had 75 on 15 carries for Clay. Defensively, Ross was led by defensive halfback Jim Hufford, linebacker Paul Stout who intercepted a pass, ends Chris Simmons and Jerry Manahan and tackle Adam O'Labre. Isaman was also a thorn in Clay's side from his linebacking slot.

Ross 28

Clay 0

Score by quarters

| | | | | |
|------|---|---|---|------|
| Clay | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0— 0 |
| Ross | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7—28 |

Scoring

Ross: Chris Simmons, 8-yard run (Shawn McCarthy kick), 7:40, first quarter.

Ross: Kevin Wilhelm, 1-yard run (McCarthy kick), 11:00, second quarter.

Ross: Derek Isaman, 15-yard pass from Wilhelm (McCarthy kick), 5:10, third quarter.

Ross: Jeff Gentry, seven-yard run (McCarthy kick), 1:19, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

| | C | R |
|--------------|--------|--------|
| First Downs | 9 | 16 |
| Rushes/Yds. | 24/76 | 42/204 |
| Passing Yds. | 67 | 64 |
| Passes/C/I | 20/6/1 | 8/4/1 |
| Punts/Avg. | 4/30.8 | 1/29 |
| Fumb./Lost | 2/1 | 1/0 |
| Pent./Yds. | 11/105 | 10/122 |

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Clay: Phil Grivanos 15/75; Ross: Mike Palomo 8/88, Jeff Gentry 19/50, Todd Beatty 6/29, Simmons 3/20.

Passing: Clay: Bill Bartley 7/2/1, 20, Tim Walters 13/4/0, 47; Ross: Wilhelm 8/4/1, 64.

Receiving: Clay: Paul Lambrecht 3/21, Grivanos 1/22, Mike Row 1/16, Alex Szigeto 1/19; Ross: Jeff Nossaman 1/8, Jim Hufford 1/4, Don Brudzinski 1/37, Isaman 1/15.

Ross is in for tough test

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

Two immovable objects are on a collision course and the moment of impact will be slightly after 8 p.m., Friday, Sept. 16, in Fremont at Harmon Stadium.

Ross, 2-0, will be hosting Division II state power Toledo St. Francis, also 2-0, in a battle that will be a head knocker.

"Both teams are going to find out what they are made of this Friday," Coach Pete Moore said.

The Little Giants posted a pair of shutouts while the Knights have defeated Oregon Clay 17-0 and Toledo Whitmer 18-8. Ross defeated Clay last Friday 28-0 but Whitmer, in the first preseason scrimmage contest, manhandled the Little Giants.

"Compared to that first scrimmage," Ross defensive coordinator Joe Siesel said, "the defense is much improved. But we also have much more 'stuff' in while in the first scrimmage, we like to stay with the basics."

Finding more depth and better movement in the defense has helped the improvement, Siesel

explained.

"We are getting a lot more movement out of our tackles (Adam Calabrese and Rod Lanning) and the linebackers," the Ross coach began. "We had only one linebacker with any playing time, Derek Isaman, and the other three were inexperienced.

"Now Paul Stout, Stacy Swaisgood and Craig Mosser are playing very well with Deke (Isaman). The secondary has played well in both games. Only Gene Simmons had any playing time back there last year and when I told Jim Hufford that he was going to be a defensive back this year, I don't think he believed me, but he has responded well.

"Wolfe (Mike) was a linebacker last season but he has played well in the secondary," Siesel continued. "We have picked up a little more depth. Jason Fought is healthy now and can help at tackle.

"Chris Simmons is beginning to play better at end and Jerry Manahan and Kent Coleman have been playing well at the other end. Matt Hiser played a

little defensive end against Clay but I am moving him to linebacker this week.

"We are still not ready to use two platoons but we can rest kids now and feel at ease doing it," Siesel said.

Against St. Francis, Siesel said the pressure will be on the defensive ends because the Knights run quite bit of option football.

"Basically, they are a power, control type team," Siesel explained, "and we expect them to run the ball to try to draw us up close. They like to run and run but when you take that away from them, they can throw it and score.

"But they have nice size in the line and they would be foolish not to try to control the ball."

Tailback Tom Karpinski, senior, 5-11, 170, is a "good one," according to Siesel. Quarterback Pete Gstaider, senior, 6-0, 175, and flanker Derick Gant, are two other Knights that Siesel feels must be contained.

"The quarterback can throw the ball," Siesel pointed out, "and Gant is a good receiver."

Hufford's grab gets Ross 7-7 deadlock



HANDS ONLY. The only visible part of Jim Hufford, Ross's wing-back, which can be seen in the top picture are his hands as he begins to cradle a touchdown pass from Kevin Wilhelm. The St. Francis de-

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor
Jim Hufford stole the game from Toledo St. Francis to salvage a 7-7 high school football deadlock for the Ross Little Giants on a damp night at Harmon Stadium Friday.

Hufford, 6-1 senior, leaped between St. Francis defenders Tom Karpinski and Tony McCrory, and came down with the ball to complete a 24-yard scoring pass from quarterback Kevin Wilhelm 37 seconds into the final period.

"I know there was someone behind me," Hufford explained the defensive sandwich in which he was caught in the end zone, "but I jumped and had the ball."

"We had two guys there," St. Francis Coach Dick Cromwell pointed out, "and he outjumped them. He made a great play."

"That was a great catch," Ross offensive coordinator Rex Radloff agreed, "but it was our only real offense of the night."

St. Francis limited the Little Giants to 55 yards on the ground and 33 in the air.

"Whatever we tried," Radloff said, "they would take it away from us. And when we did get down there, a penalty would take us out."

"We performed very poorly but they do have a very good defense."

The Knights, 2-1, played ball control in the first half, keeping Ross penned in its own territory for the bigger part of the half. St. Francis had the ball for more than 15 minutes as the Little Giants were unable to generate any offense.

Chris Simmons gained seven and Mike Palomo picked up the first down at the 28. Simmons charged to the 24 to set up Wilhelm's toss and Hufford's theft. Wil-
lief rolled right, took play and got off the toss to Hufford. McCarthy followed with the extra point kick.

The Knights, with Karpinski picking up big chunks of yardage, began its scoring drive midway through the first period. Taking over on the 50, the Knights needed 13 plays to hit pay dirt. Karpinski, a 5-11, 170-pound senior, had carries of 3, 3, 1, 7, 3, 6, 11, 2 and 2 on the drive. The final two yard produced the touchdown at the 10:34 mark of the second quarter. Brian Burns hit the extra point.

The Knights drove to the Ross 18 two series later but gave up the ball when Karpinski was stopped short on a fourth and one. Ross never penetrated St. Francis territory in the first 24 minutes.

Ross got a break on the opening kick-off of the second half but was unable to take advantage of it. Jason Fought fell of Derrick Gant's fumble at the Knights 24 but four plays and a 15-yard holding penalty later, Shawna McCarthy's 52-yard field goal attempt was short and to the left.

St. Francis drove to the Ross 25 before Karpinski's fumble was recovered by Kent Coleman at that spot. Ross was unable to move on the second play from scrimmage at the exchange. St. Francis quarterback Pete Gstaider fumbled and Stacy Swatsgood recovered for Ross at the Knights 38.

Chris Simmons gained seven and Mike Palomo picked up the first down at the 28. Simmons charged to the 24 to set up

Wilhelm's toss and Hufford's theft. Wil-
lief rolled right, took play and got off the toss to Hufford. McCarthy followed with the extra point kick.

Ross Coach Pete Moore pointed out that no thoughts of going for two points,

saying that he felt that there was enough time left to score or go for a field goal.

St. Francis reached the Ross 38 after the kickoff before Ross's defense held but Ross could not move and McCarthy's kick put St. Francis in business at the Knights 35. Six plays later, Gstaider, under heavy rush, got off a wobbly pass which Ross linebacker Matt Hiser intercepted and returned to the St. Francis 48.

On a fourth and 12 at the 50, Wilhel-
m pitched back to Simmons who set up for a halfback pass. Simmons was not able to get a handle on the ball, fumbled and recovered at the Ross 45. McCarthy followed with a 34-yard punt to the St. Francis 21. But the Knights let the final 11 seconds tick off the clock with attempting a play.

"We should have called timeout," Cromwell admitted. "We were not going to try anything dangerous anyhow."

Cromwell felt his team moved the ball well but his downfield blocking left much to be desired. "It (blocking) was not like the last two weeks, but Fremont was a better defensive team."

Ross Coach Pete Moore said there was not thought of not punting in the final minute. "If we had not punted, they would have needed only two good pass plays to put them in position to go for the field goal.

"Tonight, it was just two good defensive teams going at each other," Moore concluded.

Karpinski ended up with 104 yards on 27 carries and St. Francis finished with 184 total yards of offense.

Detroit drops further below surging Birds

BOSTON (AP) — The Detroit Tigers now see the light at the end of the tunnel. What they don't know is that it's the locomotive coming the wrong way.

The Tigers' 6-1 defeat at the hands of the Boston Red Sox on Friday night, coupled with the Baltimore Orioles' easy 8-1 victory over Milwaukee, left Detroit six games behind the Orioles in the American League East and seven games behind them in the loss column with only 15 games remaining.

Even though seven of those 15 games will be against the Orioles, the task now appears hopeless.

Even Manager Sparky Anderson concedes the battle is all uphill. However, he refused to throw in the towel.

"Oh, yeah. We're living dangerously," Anderson said. "But, it's better than not living at all. A lot of teams are dead already."

"But, we've got to win. We've simply got to win. Nobody's obsolete until the magic number. Baltimore could lose 10 in a row. I don't think we can bank on that, though."

Friday night's game against the Red Sox was a game the Tigers simply had to win.

Instead, the Tigers came out flat. Starter Dan Petry, 17-9, was in trouble right from the start, walking the first two Boston batters. In the end, he walked six — struggling all the way. Petry was so wild that in just six-plus innings, he threw 117 pitches.

"This was just not a good time to have a bad game," he said.

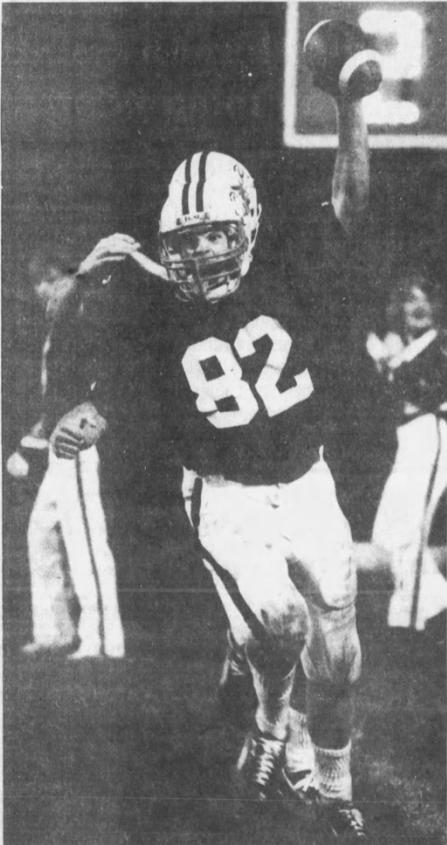
The Tiger bats, meanwhile, were stone cold, especially in the clutch. Lou Whitaker had three of the Tigers' seven hits.

Detroit left 11 men on base, including two in the second when Glenn Wilson looked at a called third strike from Bob Ojeda, 10-7. It was the second time this month that Wilson, who was benched for five games by Anderson — his doomsday. The first time was in Toronto to end a 16-game

Detroit ace Jack Morris, 19-10, was scheduled to try for his 20th victory Saturday against Dennis Eckersley, 7-12. However, rain was forecast, meaning the Tigers might have to play a double-header on Sunday.

The Red Sox grabbed a 1-0 lead when Dave St. Blen hit a solo home run in the second inning.

"See me for all your family insurance needs."



ROSS QUARTERBACK Kevin Wilhelm watches the action during

Area football roundup

*Cats bury Northwood

The Woodmore Wildcats scored 27 unanswered points, including the 20 in the third period, on two touchdown runs by quarterback Jeff Rospert, another by tailback Jeff Chambers and a 28-yard pass from Rospert to Dean Sandwisch.

After Northwood tallied its final TD in the fourth period, Woodmore closed out the scoring on a 53-yard pass from Rick

Perkins. The Wildcats scored 27 unanswered points, including the 20 in the third period, on two touchdown runs by quarterback Jeff Rospert, another by tailback Jeff Chambers and a 28-yard pass from Rospert to Dean Sandwisch.

After Northwood tallied its final TD in the fourth period, Woodmore closed out the scoring on a 53-yard pass from Rick

Raiders to minus-18 yards rushing and picked off six Lakota passes.

Lake 16, Genoa 9

Running back Rob Johnson gained 195 yards in 20 carries and scored two touchdowns to lead Lake past the Comets in Genoa.

Johnson scored his first TD on a two-yard run in the first period.

The Flyers missed the extra point but got two points later in the quarter when Genoa running back Dave Williams was tackled in his end zone for a safety.

On the opening play of the third quarter, the Flyers, now 3-0, tallied the eventual game-winner when Johnson rambled 71 yards to the end zone. John Fisher then caught a pass from Brian Pennington for the extra points.

Perkins finished with 241 total yards while holding the Redmen to 101.

Macomber 27, P.C. 0

Macomber outgained the Redskins 310-24 on its way to the lopsided victory at Port Clinton.

John Lawson led the way for the Macmen with 74 yards in 11 carries and three touchdown runs.

Perkins 13, Bellevue 7

Perkins staked

Bellevue to a 7-0 lead before rallying to hand the Redmen their first regular-season loss in 16 games.

Tom McPeak put

Bellevue in the early lead with a 10-yard TD at the 8:49 mark of the first period before Perkins tied it 7-7 in the same period on a six-yard scamper by standout running back Chris Kenne.

Kenne, who finished with 208 yards in a whooping 38 carries, then scored the game-winner for the undefeated Pirates on a 10-yard run late in the third quarter.

Perkins finished with

241 total yards while holding the Redmen to 101.

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its way to the lopsided

victory at Port Clinton.

John Lawson led the

way for the Macmen

with 74 yards in 11

carries and three

touchdown runs.

Macomber is now 2-1;

P.C. is 1-2.

Ross 7

St. Francis 7

Score by quarters

| | | | | | | |
|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S.F. | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | — | 7 |
| Ross | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | — | 7 |

Scoring

St. Francis: Tom Karpinski, two-yard run (Brian Bruns kick), 10:34, second quarter.

Ross: Jim Hufford, 24-yard pass from Kevin Wilhelm (Shawn McCarthy kick), 11:23, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

| | SF | R |
|--------------|--------|--------|
| First Downs | 13 | 6 |
| Rushes/Yds. | 50/141 | 27/55 |
| Passing Yds. | 43 | 53 |
| Passes/C/I | 6/3/1 | 9/5/0 |
| Punts/Avg. | 2/25.5 | 5/34.2 |
| Fmb./Lost | 5/3 | 4/2 |
| Pen./Yds. | 2/10 | 6/70 |

Individual Statistics

Rushing: SF: Karpinski 27/104, Pete Gstalder 15/12, Dave Mislan 7/12, Miek Nicholson 1/3; Ross: Kevin Wilhelm 5/8, Jeff Gentry 7/13, Mike Palomo 8/26, Chris Simmons 7/8.

Passing: SF: Gstalder 6/3/1, 43; Ross: Wilhelm 9/5/0, 53.

Receiving: SF: Mislan 1/10, Pat McNamara 1/8, Derick Gant 1/25; Ross: Hufford 2/33, Simmons 1/8, Derek Isaman 1/14.

Season records: St. Francis 2-0-1, Ross 2-0-1.

Sports

Ross opens BC campaign against unbeaten AK

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor

Admiral King is a surprise to the Ross High School football coaches but Pete Moore says there is no mystery about why the Admirals are 3-0 this season.

They will travel to Lorain Friday to play the Admirals in the Buckeye Conference opener for both teams.

"Yes," Moore admitted while preparing for Tuesday's practice, "where Admiral King is right now, undefeated, has been a surprise to our staff but they were 8-2 last year and the way I look at it, success breeds success."

"They lost a lot of quality people last season but these kids this year have developed quite

early and they are a good ball club right now."

The new crew is led by speedy Gary Patton, a 190-pound tailback, who leads the Buckeye Conference in rushing with 323 on 63 carries for a 5.1 average.

Toss in Eric West, a 145-pound tailback who runs the fullback and tailback slots with a 13.5 yards per effort average on a dozen carries, the Little Giants, said Moore, will have their hands full.

While King has the runners, the Ross coach pointed out that the past two seasons, the Admirals have hurt the Little Giants with what the Ross coaches call a "waggle pass."

"It's a mis-direction pass," Moore explained, "and they have

been able to work it on us. Of course, we threw it against them and got a touchdown last year but they came back and threw the same pass for a touchdown again to us."

Moore rates the King passing game as potentially powerful although the Admirals have not had to use it much this season. Quarterback Bob Calamari, 6-4, 190, is "capable of throwing it 60 yards. When he does that, they have the guys who can run out and get under it," Moore said.

Calamari is ranked sixth in the conference passing stats, completing only nine of 22 but for 135 yards.

King has size on both sides of the line with 250-pound Tom Jama anchoring both from a

tackle slot. The Admirals average 211 per man from tackle to tackle offensively, including 177-pound center Lee Gelb, and 221 on the defensive front five.

Ross is coming off of a dead-game at Toledo St. Francis, a game that Moore admits he feels his team was fortunate in salvaging the tie.

"We think we're fortunate to come back the way they styled our defense," Moore began, "but our defense got the ball back for us at the right time."

"I feel that St. Francis is one of the best ball clubs in the state, they will be in the top 20 Division I teams this year," he said. "They moved up a division this year."

"No one likes to tie but I think

it would have hurt us if we had lost," the Ross coach said. "We did not get what we wanted (a win) but we did not get the other side (loss) either."

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"We think we're fortunate to come back the way they styled our defense," Moore began, "but our defense got the ball back for us at the right time."

"I feel that St. Francis is one of the best ball clubs in the state, they will be in the top 20 Division I teams this year," he said. "They moved up a division this year."

"No one likes to tie but I think

| | |
|------------|-------|
| OUTDOOR | 16 |
| CLASSIFIED | 19-22 |
| COMICS | 23 |
| TELEVISION | 23 |

interceptions with two.

Sophomore Shawn McCarthy is seventh in punting, averaging 33 yards but Moore said that the "hang time" on McCarthy's kicks is excellent. Gene Simmons is seventh in punt return average with 11.

In team stats, Ross is second both offensively and defensively. Admiral King is first in offense, generating 282 yards per game while averaging 23 points. Ross is a little over 262 yards per game, averaging a little over 17 points per contest. Defensively, Elyria is the leader, permitting 127 yards a game and giving up a season total of 20 points. Ross is next at 134 but has allowed only seven points this season.

Little Giants nip Admiral King 14-13

By ROB BOUKISSEN

News-Messenger Sports Writer

LORAIN — The term "resiliency" is often overused in the sports world, but there is no other word that can be used to describe the Ross Little Giants' effort here Friday night.

The Little Giants overcame not only a strong Admiral King team but also their own mistakes with a big 14-13 triumph over the previously undefeated Admirals in the Buckeye Conference opener for both clubs.

"Every week we seem to come up with penalties or something at a crucial time," said Coach Pete Moore, "and we did that tonight. But the kids played really well together to overcome those mistakes."

The finest show of Ross's resiliency came when it counted — late in the fourth quarter with Admiral King attempting to take the lead.

The Admirals had just scored a one-yard quarterback sneak to cut their deficit to 14-13. There was just 2:15 left in the game when the Admirals scored, leaving the decision whether to go for one or two points in the hands of King Coach Bill Provident.

The Admiral mentor opted to try for the victory.

That's when a swarming Ross defense, led by linebacker Derek Isaman, rose up and stuffed the BC's leading rusher Gary Patton in his tracks on a

sweep play that had worked nearly all night for the Admirals.

King got the ball back one more time after that, but the fired-up Little Giant defense forced four straight Calamari incompletions to lock up their conference-opening victory and up their overall record to 3-0-1.

"When we stopped them on that extra-points try, I was practically down to the goal line," Moore said. "My heart was in my throat."

"When you win a close one like this it's super, especially against these guys. Admiral King has been a thorn in our side for the longest time."

"And that first Buckeye game is always big. If you don't win that one, it's a tough road uphill. You gotta get that first one."

At the start of the game, it appeared that Ross was going to get that big, first BC victory. King got it in its first possession of the night and struttied 79 yards in 13 running plays to the Ross end zone. The drive, which included 51 yards from Patton was capped on a 17-yard, broken-play run by Calamari. Tom Jama's kick made it 7-0 King.

But this only prompted Ross's first sign of being able to bounce back.

After stopping King's next two possessions on three downs each and having a 42-yard field goal attempt by Shawn McCarthy blocked, the Little Giants managed to put it together late in the first half.

They went from their own 36-yard line to paydirt in 12 plays. The first 11 were all running plays, but the final one was a pass — a 17-yard play action strike over the middle from Kevin Wilhelm to Dan Brudzinski, the first of two TD tosses for the senior signal-caller. McCarthy, with plenty of help from holder Rod Logan, who pulled down a high snap, knocked the PAT kick through the uprights to the score 7-7.

In the third period, the Little Giants were forced to bounce back. After taking their first possession of the half to the King 12, the Little Giants lost the ball on a Wilhelm fumble.

But the Little Giant defense kept the Admirals in bad field position until getting a big break with 9:07 left in the fourth quarter when Ross safety Gene Simmons picked off a Calamari pass at midfield and returned it to the King 26.

Ross scored the eventual game-winner three plays later when Wilhelm zipped a 14-yarder to Isaman. The TD came with 8:19 left, and McCarthy's kick made it 14-7.

Ross held King on three downs on the next series, but tailback Jeff Gentry's fumble at the Ross 25 run, forced the Little Giants to show their mettle one final time, which they did with the game-saving defensive stand on the extra-points attempt.

"We bent a little," said Moore, borrowing a famous football cliche, "but we didn't break."

Statistically, it was about even. Ross had 238 total yards and 17 first downs to King's 196 and 13.

Fullback Mike Palomo led the Ross rushing attack with 80 yards in 15 carries and Gentry added 73 yards in 15 carries. Patton carried the ball 25 times for 105 yards, slightly below his average.

Wilhelm finished five of seven for 65 yards while Calamari was just three of 15 for 40 yards.



Ross 14

Admiral King 13

Score by quarters

| | | | | | |
|------|---|---|---|----|-------|
| Ross | 0 | 7 | 0 | 7— | 14 |
| A.K. | | 7 | 0 | 0 | 6— 13 |

Scoring

Admiral King: Bob Calamari, 17-yard run (Tom Jama kick), 3:32, first quarter.

Ross: Dan Brudzinski, 17-yard pass from Kevin Wilhelm (Shawn McCarthy kick), 1:32, second quarter.

Ross: Derek Isaman, 14-yard pass from Wilhelm (McCarthy kick), 8:19, fourth quarter.

Admiral King: Calamari, one-yard run (run failed), 2:15, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

| | R | AK |
|--------------|--------|--------|
| First Downs | 17 | 13 |
| Rushes/Yds. | 44/173 | 41/156 |
| Passing Yds. | 65 | 40 |
| Passes/C/I | 7/5/0 | 15/3/1 |
| Punts/Avg. | 4/25.7 | 5/35.2 |
| Fmb./Lost | 3/2 | 2/0 |
| Pen./Yds. | 5/45 | 4/40 |

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Ross: Mike Palomo 18/80, Jeff Gentry 15/73; Admiral King: Gary Patton 25/102.

Passing: Ross: Wilhelm 7/5/0, 65; Admiral King: Calamari 15/3/1, 40.

Receiving: Ross: Isaman 3/44, Brudzinski 2/21; Admiral King: Tony Blakely 2/21.

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

Infamous Benedictine returns to haunt Ross

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor
Cleveland Benedictine.

The words are becoming a plague to Fremont Ross football teams. Three times in the past three seasons, the Bengals have visited Fremont and three times, have left Ross with a mark in the loss column. All three contests, however, have always been in doubt until the final moments.

In the first meeting, Benedictine won 21-12 with the Bengals scoring on a last play interception. In 1981, Benedictine won 12-10 and last season, it was 14-7 in favor of the Bengals. In each loss, Ross has committed the crucial turnover that has led the Bengals' winning points.

"We know and they know that it will be a good, hard hitting contest," Ross Coach Pete Moore explained, "and if there is anything mental for us to worry about is what are we going to do to give them the ball in good field position.

"There is no doubt that our turnovers have been big plays for them."

In both 1980 and 1981, Benedictine used victories over Ross to vault its way to division state championships.

"It's a big game for them in that respect," Moore said. "The first two years, we were very successful and it helped them."

Last season, the Bengals finished 7-3 and did not qualify for the state playoffs.

Auggie Bossu, coach of the Bengals since 1955, guided the team to the

school's 300th victory last Friday, a 3-0, rain-plagued win over Mansfield Senior. Benedictine is 3-1 this season, losing the season opener to Lake Catholic 14-7.

Moore pointed out two basic differences in the Bengals this season: size and a new defensive look.

"I don't think this team has quite the same size as in the past," Moore said. "Everything else is there. They are fundamentally sound and are very disciplined. They do not make a lot of mistakes and if something does not work, they won't run it again.

"The best thing they do is execute," Moore continued.

"They are playing a '4-4' defense this year where in the other three games, they have used a '50'. What we will face is basically an eight-man line," Moore explained.

Ross held a 7-0 lead at the half in 1982 but on a third quarter punt, Ross's punt hit the shoulder pads of a Little Giant and Benedictine had the ball at the Ross one. A short quick kick, setting the Bengals up in business as the Ross 46, set up the second TD.

Ross is coming off a 14-13 Buckeye Conference opening win and will be putting its 3-0-1 record on the line.

"We played a pretty good game last week," the Ross head coach said. "We were pleased with the way the kids played on the field and their attitude while getting ready for the game. We are going to have to have that same effort this week."



Isaman earns BC honors

Derek Isaman, linebacker and tight end for Fremont Ross, was named the Buckeye Conference "back of the week" for his defensive play in Ross's 14-13 win over Admiral King last Friday. Isaman, a junior, was credited with eight tackles and four assists as well as causing one fumble. His tackle of Admiral King tailback Gary Patton on the PAT attempt after the second AK touchdown, saved the victory for Ross. He also caught a touchdown pass and graded 94 per cent offensively in the game.

Sports



JIM HUFFORD of Ross picks off one of his two interceptions against Benedictine Friday at Harmon Stadium.

5 interceptions slay Bengals

Ross clubs Benedictine 16-6

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor
Gene Simmons intercepted three passes. Jim Hufford two more and Mike Palomo's second half touchdown kickoff return lifted Fremont Ross to a 16-6 victory over Cleveland Benedictine in a hard hitting high school football game at Harmon Stadium Friday night.

"The defense played exceptionally well," Ross Coach Pete Moore may have understated as he savored his first win over the Bengals in four tries. "It's very good pass defense when you intercept five passes."

"Yes, the second half kickoff return was the key play, but Ross's defense did a good job on us," Benedictine mentor Augie Bossu said.

Palomo, all 5-6, 160-pounds of him, followed a host of Ross blockers up through the middle of the field with the second half Bengal kickoff, broke through into the end zone and was never in trouble as he raced downfield. It was the third longest kickoff return in Ross's history, tying that of Jeff Brown who scored from that distance in 1976 season.

"We worked on that wedge," Moore

explained about Palomo's return, "and when I saw that wall out front, I knew we would have good field position but I never thought we would score."

After Shawn McCarthy's kick, Ross led 9-6 but Bossu said that his second half game plan was not altered. It was simple, the Bengals wanted to run at the Little Giants and mix in the passing of Frank Mulac.

After Palomo's strike, Benedictine was unable to move but got the ball at the Ross 30 when Bengal linebacker Jim Mitchell stepped in front of Ross quarterback Kevin Wilhelm's pass at the Ross 46 and returned it to the 30. Three plays later, Hufford intercepted at the Ross 8 to kill the drive.

At the beginning of the fourth period, Benedictine had to punt the Ross 20 from their own 47 with the bulk of the yardage coming on a 22-yard strike from Mulac to Jim Panazzo but on a fourth and five at the 29, Hufford batted down a Mulac pass to kill that drive.

Simmons got the honors again, this time with his third interception to put Ross in business at the Benedictine 37. In six plays Ross scored the clinching touchdown as Jeff Gentry followed a

"student body left" play for the final nine yards with 6:28 remaining in the contest.

"Manahan (Jerry), Calabrese (Adam) and Bobay (Mike) all had good blocks on that sweep," Ross line coach Mike Wetzel pointed out.

The Bengals game plan flew out the window on a series of long passes after the Gentry TD. Hufford picked off his second pass at the Ross 42 with 5:55 left in the final period.

The Little Giants chewed more than three minutes off the clock before giving the ball back to the Bengals are their own 20. The drive stalled 20 yards downfield when a fourth and three pass from sophomore Larry Wanke fell incomplete.

That was it for the Bengals. Benedictine got the ball one more time but defensive end Chris Simmons sacked Wanke for a 13-yard loss to end the game.

The Little Giants defensive unit held the Bengals to 27 yards on 29 rushes. Included in that figure was a 29-yard loss charged to Bengal punter Larry DePompeo when he fell on ball in the end zone after it had sailed over his head on a snap from center Pat

DePietro. That Bengal miscue gave Ross a 2-0 lead at the 4:45 mark of the initial period.

"That's the best defensive game we have had in quite sometime," Ross defensive coordinator Joe Siegel smiled. "We put a lot of pressure on them from the outside in the second half and Gene (Simmons) and Huff (Hufford) did a heck of a job reacting to the ball."

Benedictine took the lead four minutes into the second period on an 18-yard drive after tailback Ken Redd had returned a McCarthy punt 36 yards. Starting Bengal quarterback Ken Deininger rambled over from the two for a 6-2 Benedictine lead.

Ross generated 134 yards rushing but only six through the air.

"We wanted to throw," Rex Radeloff, Ross offensive coordinator, "but the passing game was not sharp."

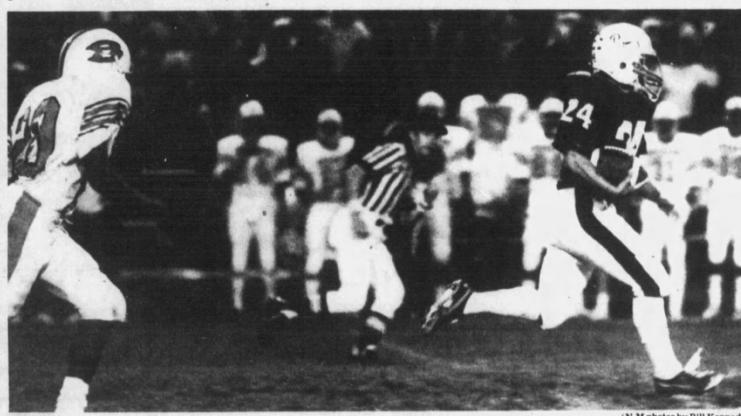
Gentry led Ross rushers with 61 yards on 15 carries while Wilhelm had 34 on 14. Steve O'Neill had 38 yards on eight carries for the Bengals.

Ross, 4-1, will face Elyria next Friday as the Buckeye Conference season resumes for the Little Giants.



GENE SIMMONS tries to elude a pair of Bengals while returning one of the three pass interceptions he

had in Ross's victory over the Cleveland school.



MIKE PALOMO OF ROSS IS ON HIS WAY TO AN 89-YARD KICKOFF RETURN

(N-M photos by Bill Kennedy)

Ross 16

Benedictine 6

Score by quarters

| | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|---|----|----|
| B'dictine | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0— | 6 |
| Ross | 2 | 0 | 7 | 7— | 16 |

Scoring

Ross: Team safety, Benedictine punter recovered bad snap in end zone; 4:45, first quarter.

Benedictine: Ken Deininger, two-yard run (kick failed), 8:22, second quarter.

Ross: Mike Palomo, 89-yard kick-off return (Shawn McCarthy kick), 11:44, third quarter.

Ross: Jeff Gentry, nine-yard run (McCarthy kick), 6:20, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

| | R | B |
|--------------|----------|--------|
| First Downs | 8 | 7 |
| Rushes/Yds. | 6/41/134 | 29/27 |
| Passing Yds. | 6 | 87 |
| Passes/C/I | 9/2/1 | 26/8/5 |
| Punts/Avg. | 6/31.2 | 3/35.7 |
| Fmb./Lost | 3/1 | 1/0 |
| Pen./Yds. | 5/55 | 3/42 |

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Benedictine: Steve O'Neill 8/38; Ross: Kevin Wilhelm 14/34, Palomo 6/21, Gentry 15/61, Todd Beatty 10/16.

Passing: Benedictine: Deininger 7/4/1, 36; Frank Mulac 9/2/3, 31; Larry Wanke 8/2/1, 20; Ross: Wilhelm 9/2/1, 6.

Receiving: Benedictine: Jim Pamazzo 3/88; Bryan Reed 2/22.

Elyria 'D' invades Harmon

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor

Say "defense" around Buckeye Conference football coaches and you will probably hear the defensive tradition at Elyria mentioned more than once.

The Pioneers are steeped in defensive tradition; unfortunately, for the Pioneers, the offense has not kept up with the defense.

"I think since the early 1960s," Ross Coach Pete Moore recalled, "Elyria has been known to play great '4-3' defense. Ever since I came here (1974), I have always heard how great their defense was.

"Elyria's problem," Moore added, "has been with the offense."

The Little Giants will get a shot at the Pioneer defense Friday, when Elyria visits Harmon Stadium in a Buckeye Conference clash. Ross is rolling off a win over Cleveland Benedictine, a game that Moore labeled as a "pride game."

"This is a conference game," Moore explained, "and it will be counted toward the hardware (conference championship) and you have to win it if there going to be any hardware."

But cracking the top ranked BC defense in Elyria may be as hard as hardware for the Little Giants. Through games of last Friday, the Pioneers have permitted 151 yards per contest, three fewer per game than the Ross defense.

In the past seven seasons, Ely-

Ross is 2nd

If the high school football playoffs were played today, the Ross Little Giants would be in them.

The unbeaten and once-tied Little Giants stand in second place in Division I, Region 2, of the Ohio High School Athletic Association's computer ratings, which determine playoff berths.

Buckeye Conference rival Sandusky leads Region 2 with 51.00 points, followed closely by Ross with 49.75 and Gahanna with 49.50.

Complete computer listings are on page 15.

ria has permitted only a shade over 10 points per game. The Pioneers permitted only 15 points for the entire 1979 season. This season, Elyria has given up 40 points but are just 2-3 for the season. Last Friday, the Pioneers lost to Admiral King 14-0.

The kicker is that Elyria has averaged under 10 points the past three seasons and have scored only 34 this season. The Pioneers are last in offense, averaging 113 yards per game.

Ross is second defensively and third in offense, getting more than 233 yards per game.

"It seems like defense prevails over everything there," Moore theorized. "It seems like everyone wants to play defense and no one offense...at least that

is my supposition."

Defensively, Elyria is fairly young with five juniors and a sophomore on the starting team. Two, 6-0, 240-pound tackle Tim Green and 6-1, 190 end Doug Foor, are returning starters.

Offensively, the Pioneers have a starting line that averages 210 per man.

Ross came out of the Benedictine relatively unscathed. Linebacker/tight end Derek Isaman was held out of contact drills Monday and Tuesday because of a shin bone bruise and quarterback Kevin Wilhelm has a banged up shoulder but will be ready, Moore said.

The Ross coach pointed out that after playing three straight mentally and physically tough games, he is concerned about a letdown this week.

"I am worried about being ready to play," he admitted, "because we have had those three tough games in a row but I believe these kids will be ready.

"They never have been the 'rah-rah' type; they don't come to talk, only to play the game," Moore described his team, "and this is a conference game.

"After five games, I am pleased with the progress of the kids," Moore added. "From the first scrimmage up through now, there has been improvement but there is still improvement to be made on both sides of the ball.

"That's one of our goals: to do things a little better each game."

No first downs, minus-6 yards for Elyria

Logan leads Ross to win over Pioneers



ROD LOGAN

Marritt wins twice

TOLEDO — Katie Marritt, described by her coach as playing "the finest I've ever seen her play," advanced to the "winning" semifinals of the Class AAA district tennis tournament with two victories at the Tam O'Shanter complex here Friday.

The Ross High School senior ace, who is seeded fourth, defeated Kelly Erdmann of Toledo Waite 6-4, 6-1 in the first round before outlasting Linda Wick of Toledo Marritt 7-5, 6-6, 6-1 in the quarters.

She will now play top-seeded Latha Pandurangan of Lima Shawnee in this morning's semifinals.

Pandurangan, a

India native, is a

three-time district champion and is undefeated this season in 25 matches.

Marritt is now 20-3. Their match will begin at 9 a.m.

In the other of the Marritt-Pandurangan match will meet the winner of the other semifinal between third-seeded Beth Lemon of McCauley and second-seeded Ann Harrah of Sylvania Northview. Lemon is 22-0 and Harrah is 25-0.

The semifinal victors are assured of a state berth while the losers will meet for the third and final spot. Both those matches are scheduled to be played around noon today. In case of rain, all matches will be played at the Racquet Connection just outside Perryburg.

At Tam O'Shanter Friday afternoon after she had easily defeated Erdmann in the morning, Marritt had to come up with a

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

Pete Moore, Rex Radloff or Joe Siesel would not admit it, but the only thing in doubt after the opening coin flip was whether the south goal post at Harmon Stadium would fall down during the Ross clash with Elyria.

As it was, Ross won the toss, the closest that Elyria had come all night and went on to defeat the punchless Pioneers 20-0. The Little Giants' defense held Elyria to a minus-six in total yardage and no first downs. The defensive figures included 22 rushing plays for a minus-five and a team loss of 13 on a muffed punt attempt and 12 yards passing.

Rod Logan, taking over for regular quarterback Kevin Wilhelm who was sitting out because of a school suspension, led the Little Giants, 5-0-1 and 2-0 in the Buckeye Conference, to the easy win. The 5-6, 140-pound senior, rushed for 51 yards on 14 carries and scored a touchdown in his baptism of fire.

"Logan looked super," Ross offensive coordinator Radloff said. "He ran the option well, read the defense well and he did a great job."

Logan led the Little Giants on an 18-play (three penalties) 53-yard opening drive that consumed 8:13 and set the tempo for the contest.

"We wanted to come out right at them," Moore said. "We wanted to sustain a drive and that drive is a pretty long one in a high school game."

Jeff Gentry started Ross rolling with a six-yard run while Mike Palomo picked up four on a fourth and one at the Ross 46 later in the drive. It was the first of four fourth down plays that the Little Giants converted in the opening drive. The second was at the Elyria 28 and Gentry picked up four on an option around left end.

Logan picked up 28 yards in the drive, running for 16 on an option to the Elyria 35. He later picked up five and ran the final seven to score at the 3:47 mark. Sean McCarthy failed to convert the PAT kick on his first miss after 12 straight successes.

Logan checked off on a couple of plays in the drive, Moore disclosed. "On the fourth and one, he saw that Elyria had put all their big monsters in the middle and he checked off from the quarterback sneak to the belly option for the first down. He made the same call later in the drive."

The six points were academic; the Pioneers got into Ross territory only once, that on a nine-yard shanked punt by McCarthy in the third quarter. Taking over at the 41, Jim Hufford killed the Elyria drive with his fifth interception of the season on the Pioneers' second play.

Ross missed two other scoring opportunities in the first half after fumble recoveries by Mike Wolf and Rod Lanning. Wolf recovered his at the Elyria 19 but the drive ended when McCarthy's 27-yard field goal attempt was wide to the left.

Two plays later, Rod Lanning recovered an Elyria fumble at the Pioneer 20 but on a fourth and two at the eight, Palomo was stopped a yard short.

"At the half, I was disappointed that we did not score on two easy chances but I have to give the Elyria defense credit, they were very physical and stopped us," Moore said.

The Little Giants put the game safely away on their first possession of the second half. After Elyria punter Dave O'Connor went to his knee fielding a bad snap, Ross drove 26 yards in six plays. The key play was a 19-yard run by tailback Chris Simmons to the six on a third and nine. Todd Beatty went the final yard for a 13-0 lead with 6:56 to play in the third period.

The final Ross score came with 1:43 remaining on a 13-yard run by Gentry on another option pitch from Logan. The score came after the Pioneers' fourth and seven play at the Elyria 32 failed.

Defensively, coordinator Siesel was speechless. "There's not a whole lot you can say," Siesel admitted. "Elyria did everything we expected and what they did do differently, the kids adjusted to it."

Defensive ends Jerry Manahan and Chris Simmons along with tackles Adam Calbresi and Lanning shut off any Elyria play inside the tackles while linebackers Matt Hiser, Stacy Swaisgood and whoever Siesel inserted into the lineup polished off any Pioneer who did sneak past the line.

Simmons was not forced to used regular linebacker Derek Isaman who was able to sit out while nursing a shin bone bruise.

Gentry ended up as the second leading rusher for Ross with 49 on 17 attempts. Palomo finished with 34 on 11 carries while Simmons had 27 on eight efforts. Anthony Jackson had seven yards on five carries for Elyria.

And the goal post...despite having the right cross arm bent down, managed to stay up. It was the only thing at Harmon Stadium that did not fall on the Pioneers Friday.



(N-M photos by Bill Kennedy)

victory against one tie. Elyria slipped to 2-4 and 1-2 in the Buckeye Conference while Ross is 2-0 in conference play.



THE BALL flies away from Elyria fullback fumble and Mike Wolf of the Little Giants Anthony Jackson during the second quarter. Matt Hiser of Ross made the hit causing the

Golfers shutout

Two area teams and three individuals were shut out in high school district golf action Friday.

Woodmore and St. Joe finished ninth and 11th, respectively, at the Class A district tournament at Hawthorne Hills in Lima while Clyde's Kevin Toth, St. Clair's Dan St. Clair and Genoa's Paul Beamer did not qualify for an individual state-qualifying spot at the Class AA tourney at Hillcrest in Findlay.

At Hawthorne Hills, Ottoville had 318 strokes to win by three over Van Buren. The low two individuals also came from those schools — Dave Kortokrak of Ottoville and Doug Martin of Van Buren. They both shot 73.

Woodmore had 349 strokes with scores of 78 from Steve Korn, 85 from Todd Pavlica, 90 from Mark Sommer, 96 from Jeff Lemke and 101 from Kevin Giesler.

St. Joe had 363 strokes with scores of 84 from Randy Ebeling, 91 from John Spader, 94 from both Bret Pavlica and Brian Agee and 99 from Billy Ritchie.

At Hillcrest, Toth shot an 85 while St. Clair and Beamer each had 86.

Ross 20

Elyria 0

Score by quarters

| | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|----|----|
| Elyria | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0— | 0 |
| Ross | 6 | 0 | 7 | 7— | 20 |

Scoring

Ross: Rod Logan, seven-yard run (kick failed), 3:47, first quarter.

Ross: Todd Beatty, one-yard run (Shawn McCarthy kick), 6:56, third quarter.

Ross: Jeff Gentry, 13-yard run (McCarthy kick), 1:43, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

| | E | R |
|--------------|----------|----------|
| First Downs | 0 | 11 |
| Rushes/Yds. | 22/-18 | 55/171 |
| Passing Yds. | 12 | 17 |
| Passes/C/I | 7/1/1 | 3/1/1 |
| Punts/Avg. | 3/26.7 | 3/31.7 |
| Fmb./Lost | 4/2 | 4/0 |
| Pen./Yds. | 5/33 | 4/20 |

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Elyria, Anthony Jackson 5/7; Ross, Logan 14/51, Mike Palomo 11/34, Gentry 17/49, Chris Simmons 8/27, Beatty 5/10.

Passing: Elyria, Eric Garretson 7/1/1 - 12; Ross, Logan 3/1/1 - 17.

Receiving: Elyria, Tim Green 1/12; Ross, Jim Hufford 1/17.

Season records: Ross 5-0-1 (2-0-0), Elyria 2-4 (1-2).

Ross faces pass-happy Lorain

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor

Pete Moore must be a stage manager in his alter ego.

He was setting the scene for Friday's Buckeye Conference clash between his Ross Little Giants, 5-0-1 and the Lorain Steelmen, 4-2. It is Ross's Homecoming game.

"We have to have this one Friday," the Ross coach said, "to set the stage for the other three games."

After Lorain, Ross, ranked number 11 in this week's Associated Press high school poll, will travel to Marion Harding, host Findlay and close out the season at Sandusky.

"Setting the stage" will not come easy, Moore pointed out. The Steelmen are 4-2 but own the top offensive team in the Buckeye. That includes the conference's top passer in quarterback Mike Repko.

"I'd rate Lorain's passing game," Moore expressed, "as being as good as Findlay's has been in the past. They have three nice receivers with good foot speed and Repko can stretch (throw) it out and let them run under it."

Continuing, Moore pointed to the conference's statistic sheet, "Look at that...they have the top two receivers and look at the average per catch."

Those figures staggered the Ross coach. Randy Jarvis is the BC's leading pass catcher with 26 for a 21.4 yards per catch average while teammate Kevin Curry ranks second with 16 and a confer-

ence high 23.7 average. Another Steelman, Tony Crewman is sixth with 10 for 18 yards per catch.

Repko has tossed 15 scoring passes, completing 53 of 111 tosses for 1,090 yards. He has had four intercepted.

"This will be one of the best offensive teams our defense will have faced," Moore said. "They present us with quite a few problems."

Passing is Lorain's top threat with the aerial game outgaining the ground attack by more than 400 yards. The top running threat for the Steelmen is Sam Hollins who has rushed for 259 yards on 81 attempts, a 3.2 average.

While thinking of Lorain, Moore said part of his team's inspiration in beating the Steelmen is remembering how the Little Giants lost 17-13 last season. The Little Giants had a 13-10 lead with less than two minutes to go but lost the ball at their own five and Lorain scored in two plays.

"We gave it to them," Moore insisted, "and I think the kids have that thought in the back of their minds."

"We cannot give any game away; we have to get past this one and we have to continue to get sharper each week."

In the Ross camp, the quarterback position is up for grabs.

"It's wide open right now," Moore said during a Tuesday conversation. "We'll decide on Thursday."

Rod Logan stepped in for regular signal caller Kevin Wilhelm last Friday against Elyria and guided the Little Gi-

ants to the 20-0 win. Wilhelm had to sit out a school suspension but Logan did not allow any slack in the Ross offense.

"As I said after the game, Rod did a super job for us," Moore said, "but had Kevin been available, he would have started against Elyria."

ROSS NOTES: Jeff Gentry is ranked second in rushing with 433 yards on 103 carries and a 4.2 average. Mike Palomo, who is listed as questionable after spraining a knee against Elyria, is fifth with 334 on 62 carries and a 5.4 average. Palomo is second in kickoff returns, average 49.5 on two returns. Gene Simmons is third in punt returns with an 11.1 average. Simmons and Jim Hufford share the BC lead with James Keys of Sandusky with five pass interceptions apiece. Shawn McCarthy is ranked sixth in punting with a 31 yard average. Wilhelm is fifth in passing, hitting 21 of 41 for 237 yards and five touchdowns.

Ross, which is fourth in scoring in the BC with 109, has no one in the top 11 in individual scoring. The Little Giants are fifth offensively, averaging 225.5 yards a game but are first defensively, permitting 128 yards per game. In conference games only, Ross is sixth offensively with 213 yards per game and first defensively, yielding 95.5 yards per game. Lorain is first in both areas in offense with 289.5 yards per game overall and 363 in conference games. Defensively, the Steelmen are fifth overall with a 215 yards average and sixth in BC games, giving up 277 per game.

Calabrese plays to a different beat

By BOB MARKER
N-M Sports Editor

Looking at Adam Calabrese, you could think he would bend a clarinet into the shape of a pretzel, not make beautiful music come from it.

It does not seem plausible that this stocky, 5-10, 200-pounder, who has excelled in shoving opposing players into the mud for the Ross High School football team this season, has won top honors at music competitions, but Calabrese has and plans to keep on chasing those musical honors.

And along the way, he will probably pick up honors for his prowess on the football field where silken notes do not mean much to the mugger staring at you from across the line.

The Ross senior won an honor from his teammates before the Little Giants began the football season; he was voted co-captain of the team.

"I have been playing the clarinet since the fourth grade," the offensive guard/defensive tackle said. "My mom started me in music. Why? Because it seemed to be what everyone else was doing."

Calabrese and his parents, Adam Sr. and Donna, moved from Cleveland to Fremont when the younger Adam was in the sixth grade. He brought with him a drive to excel.

Football, however,

That drive led to superior and excellent ratings on the clarinet last March in competition and has gotten Cala-

brese a spot in the Ross High School concert band. He picked up a tenor saxophone last November and plans to play that in the Ross jazz band.

In the concert band, he was second chair clarinet as a junior and has set sights on the first chair this time around.

Calabrese, a 3.89 (out of 4.0) student in college preparatory courses, says the only comparison between his athletic and musical talents is his drive to excel.

"If you want to be the best, you have to do your best," he said.

Football, however, has curtailed his instrumental music practice. "There is not enough time between football practice and my home-



ADAM CALABRESE

work. When the season ends, I will begin to practice to get ready for the concert band auditions," Calabrese explained.

Calabrese said that his parents have not made a preference about his athletic or musical future, "but my mom is calmer when I

am playing music," he smiled.

When he relaxes, Calabrese listens to music and this ties into and helps his play on the gridiron, lifts weights.

"I have entered power lifting contests," he said.

Coach Pete Moore said that Calabrese bench presses well over 300 pounds and pointed out that his Little Giants field leader was second in a Bowling Green power lifting contest for high school students this summer.

While athletics are important to Calabrese, they are not tantamount in his priorities.

"My family and myself, education and to do my best both musically and athletically," he said as he clicked off his

reasoning. "I am not using athletics to get an education; I am using education to get an education."

On the football field, Calabrese admitted that he may be hearing a different beat than his teammates will hear.

"Music gets me going," he explained. "When I hear the band, I know when they are playing well and it gets me going especially when they play the fight song or 'Hang on Sloopy'. I don't really listen for the band but I am hearing it."

For opposing football players and those other students playing the clarinet or sax, that spells trouble because Ross's musician in shoulder pads is ready to get going.

Ross pulls away from Steelmen 34-6

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor
Ross broke a 6-6 deadlock wide open in the second half and crushed Lorain Senior 34-6 in a Buckeye Conference football clash at Harmon Stadium Friday night.

The Little Giants' offensive and defensive line took advantage of Lorain's "yellow fever" in sparking Ross, 6-1 and 3-0 in the BC, to 21 fourth quarter points. The Little Giants' ball control game consumed more than 28 minutes of the contest with nearly nine those minutes coming on the opening drive of the second half.

Ross, with Chris Simmons picked up 23 yards and Kevin Wilhelm passing for 25 more, marched 84 yards for the winning touchdown. Simmons rolled in over the blocks of Terence O'Farrell and Mark Nitschke with 3:02 remaining in the third period. Shawn McCarthy's kick made it 13-6.

Lorain, victimized by 11 penalties for 132 yards and the ejection of three players and an assistant coach, had tied the contest with 18 seconds remaining in the first half. The Steelmen marched 89 yards in five plays, four on Repko passes for 79 of the yards. Repko, with Curry and the final 22, Curry and Ross linebacker Dervi Isaman came down with the ball at the same time in the end zone but a simultaneous catch goes to the offensive player.

"That play should not have happened," Ross defensive coordinator Joe Siesel said. "That drive made me mad but maybe it was a good thing it happened; maybe the kids will wake up now and realize that things like that can happen."

Vic Furiga, Lorain coach, was stunned at the number of penalties his team absorbed but he knew what beat his team.

"Fremont outplayed us, both offensively and defensively," he said. "That was the best rush that our quarterback has had; it's hard to block seven people."

"As for the penalties, it seemed like all the penalties came our way. I will have to see the films to see if they really were penalties but whatever,

we have to cut the penalties down."

The Little Giants' defense turned in its second straight outstanding performance, holding the Steelmen to four net yards on 18 rushes. Repko, who had passed for nearly 1,100 yards this season, added 173 more but those Ross rush nullified most of those gains.

Isaman, Chris Simmons, Stacy Swaisgood, Paul Stout, Matt Hiser and Jerry Manahan were in Repko's face most of the time.

"The best pass defense is a good pass rush," Ross head Coach Pete Moore, who picked up his 50th career win, pointed out. "The line had good penetration and the backs had good coverage."

Offensively, O'Farrell and Nitschke continually opened up big holes in the leaky Steelman defensive front.

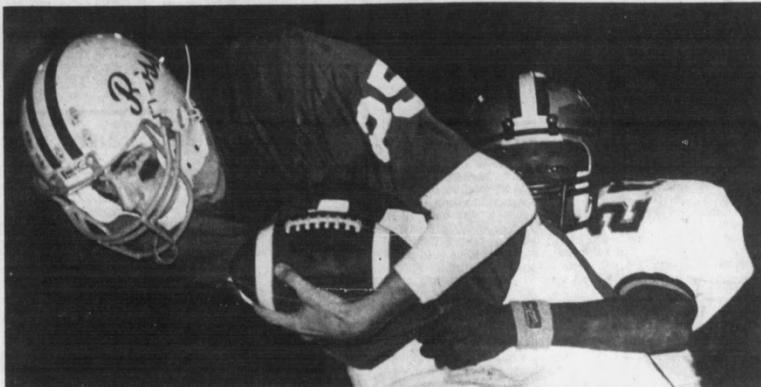
"The line was picking up their stunts," offensive line Coach Mike Wetzel said. "We had the worst practices of the year this week but tonight, the line may have played the best it has all season."

While O'Farrell and Nitschke chewed up the right side, center Scott Cross and the right side, guard Adam Calabrese and Mike Bobay and Matt Whitcomb splitting tackle duties, kept Lorain honest. Along with tight ends Manahan and Chris Sults, the front line paved the way for 277 rushing yards for Ross.

Jeff Gentry had 113 on 13 carries and fullback Todd Beatty, stepping in for injured Mike Palomo, ran up 95 on a dozen carries. Simmons had 34 on 11 to go with a pair of touchdowns. Beatty scored once.

Ross scored first on Wilhelms' one-yard sneak midway through the first period. After Ross' second half opening drive, the Little Giants put the game away on a 46-yard, seven play drive. Beatty scored from three yards out for a 20-0 Ross lead with 9:12 remaining in the game. Six minutes later, Simmons' seven-yard run clinched a 67-yard drive.

The final Ross TD was chalked up by linebacker Paul Stout who fell on a Lorain fumble in the end zone with 63 seconds remaining in the game.



DAN BRUDZINSKI of Ross tries to pull away from Lorain Steelmen defender Kevin Curry during Friday's game at

Harmon Stadium. Brudzinski caught three passes for 67 yards in the Little Giants' win.

PC was dessert for Streaks

By ROY WILHELM
N-M Managing Editor

PORT CLINTON — Dinner with a few close friends, soft music and then some lively entertainment — the ingredients for perfect evening of the team's week.

The Streaks was the basic recipe head coach Tom Narducci chose Friday night and his St. Joseph Central Catholic High School football team made it work, dishing up a 28-17 victory over host Port Clinton in Sandusky Bay Conference football action Friday.

The close friends — maybe 50 or so football players and coaches — dined out together, enjoyed "soft" music compliments of the new stereo on the team bus and then turned in a lively performance in grabbing their third victory Friday.

The evening together is part of what Narducci sees as a positive team atmosphere that played a key role in the Streaks' victory Friday.

"Even with the two tough losses we just had, we had two of our best practices of the season this week," the coach pointed out. "We were ready to play and I feel good that we finally beat a good team."

The Streaks were slow starting, but once they started to fly, they were on their way. After splitting the first two quarters with a 9-9 margin while their offense stumbled on the ground, the Streaks took to the air, moving 48 yards in four plays. The drive, aided by a personal foul penalty against Port Clinton, gave the hosts a forecast of the evening. Quarterback John Sidell hit three straight

passes: 11 yards to Dan Furlong, 13 to John Wolf and 10 yards to junior tight end Vince Miliello in the end zone. That combination of Sidell's strong arm, solid protection by the offensive line and the variety of reserves proved too much for the Redskins throughout the night.

The Streaks, ignited again when Paul Spieldenner recovered a fumble, added to their lead when Wolf made an outstanding catch of a Sidell pass with less than three minutes gone in the second half. Miliello bulldozed his way into the end zone for two extra points after catching a short pass.

Minutes later Port Clinton was trying — and failing — for two points after they had closed the gap to 14-9.

The Streaks

swiftly added to their margin. Spieldenner provided the spark, dashing to the Port Clinton nine after taking a short pass from Sidell that turned into a 49-yard play which was

ended immediately by a scoring pass from Sidell to Furlong.

Then, the third time

was the charm for Spieldenner and just about the end for the Redskins. While his first two big plays had set up touchdowns for others, the third put Spieldenner right in the

spot light and the end zone. He pulled down a Port Clinton punt at his own 25, moved to his left and dashed down the sidelines behind a wall of blockers, breaking the game open at 27-9.

"Phil Mosser had an outstanding block on that punt return. That's what a spark plug is," Spieldenner said.

Narducci was

particularly pleased

with his offense:

"John Sidell did a great job (17 of 28 for 205 yards and three touchdowns) and we have five or six kids who can catch the ball and I'm not afraid to call their numbers. You know those guys up

front had to do a good job for Sidell to have the time he had. We have five juniors on that offensive line and they are getting better each week."

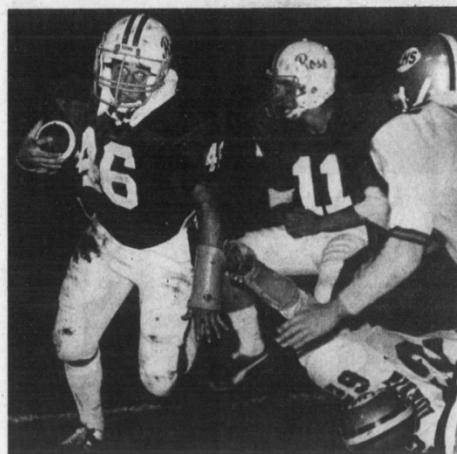
Defensively, the Streaks bent at times,

but came up with numerous big plays to halt the Redskins. Paul Gederl, Mike Brink, Jim Lewaway, Scott Kizma, Dennis Warnecke, Brian Gonya and Steve Widman all delivered key tackles or quarterback sacks to stall the Skins.

**Judge rules
against
OHSAA**

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP) — A federal judge Friday continued a restraining order against the Ohio High School Athletic Association that allows out-of-state students attending private schools in Ohio to play interscholastic sports.

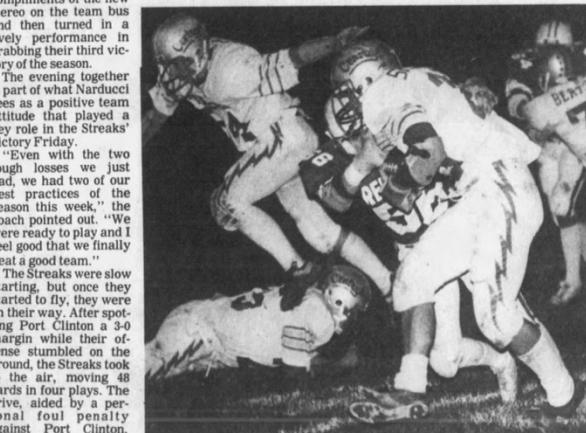
U.S. District Judge John Potter extended the order following a daylong non-jury trial in which he heard testimony on a suit brought by the parents of 35 Michigan children attending private Catholic schools in Ohio.



(N-M photos by Bill Kennedy)

TODD BEATTY (46) of Ross cuts around right end while on his way to a 10-yard gain during the second

quarter Friday. He had taken a handoff from quarterback Rod Logan (11).



(News-Herald Photo)
PAUL SPIELDENNER is hauled down by Port Clinton's Steve Smith after a short gain in Friday's game at Port Clinton.

Football

Ross 34

Lorain 6

Score by quarters

| | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|-----|----|
| Lorain | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0— | 6 |
| Ross | 6 | 0 | 7 | 21— | 34 |

Scoring

Ross: Kevin Wilhelm, one-yard run (run failed), 5:46, first quarter.

Lorain: Kevin Curry, 23-yard pass from Mike Repko (pass failed), 0:18, second quarter.

Ross: Chris Simmons, three-yard run (Shawn McCarthy kick), 3:02, third quarter.

Ross: Todd Beatty, three-yard run (McCarthy kick), 9:12, fourth quarter.

Ross: Simmons, seven-yard run (McCarthy kick), 3:19, fourth quarter.

Ross: Paul Stout recovered fumble in end zone (McCarthy kick), 1:03, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

| | L | R |
|--------------|---------|--------|
| First Downs | 12 | 23 |
| Rushes/Yds. | 18/4 | 47/277 |
| Passing Yds. | 183 | 79 |
| Passes/C/I | 25/13/1 | 5/4/0 |
| Punts/Avg. | 3/40.0 | 1/33.0 |
| Fmb./Lost | 3/2 | 4/2 |
| Pen./Yds. | 11/132 | 6/50 |

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Lorain: Sam Hollins 9/39; Ross: Jeff Gentry 12/113, Beatty 13/95, Simmons 11/34.

Passing: Lorain: Repko 23/12/1 - 173; Ross: Wilhelm 5/4/0 - 79.

Receiving: Lorain: Curry 5/61, Tony Kruman 3/73, Randy Jarvis 4/38; Ross: Dan Brudzinski 3/67, Jeff Nossaman 1/12.

Season records: Ross 6-0-1 (3-0), Lorain 4-3 (1-2).

Ross survives Marion's last quarter uprising

By ROB BOUKISSEN

News-Messenger Sports Writer

MARION — It doesn't matter what kind of team the Ross Little Giants have every odd-numbered year, they almost always seem to have trouble here against the Marion Harding Presidents.

Friday night was no different.

Despite rolling up 333 yards in total, well-balanced offense and playing typically stingy defense, the Little Giants still had to hold off a last-minute Harding drive to preserve an 18-13 Buckeye Conference victory and keep their undefeated record intact.

"We almost always seem to just manage to get by these guys when we come down here," said a relieved Pete Moore. "I guess part of the blame tonight, though, was my fault for not having the kids more fired up."

Still, the Little Giants did not play a poor ball game.

Tailback Jeff Gentry's 122 yards in 27 carries led a more-than-respectable running game while quarterback Kevin Wilhelm's nine-of-17, 134-yard effort paced a highly productive passing game.

The problems entered the picture, however, in the form of... guess what? You guessed it... penalties, fumbles, interceptions and the dreaded kickoff return.

"It's disappointing when you move the ball up and down the field and come up with no points,"

said Moore. "You just can't do that. We looked decent on the field but poor on the scoreboard."

Ross's troubles began on its first drive of the night when Gentry fumbled the ball on a third-and-goal at the Harding six. He got the ball back, but the Little Giants were forced to settle for a 27-yard field goal by Shawn McCarthy, the first of two from that distance for the 6-7 sophomore.

On the ensuing kickoff, the Little Giants came up with a major blunder by letting Harding's Fritz Wink slither through their mitts for a spectacular 93-yard touchdown return. Scott Holliday hooked the PAT attempt, but Harding still had the lead 6-3 with 5:05 left in the first quarter.

The Little Giants moved the ball well on their second possession of the night, but they came up empty when McCarthy's 46-yard field goal attempt fell short.

On their third try, however, they put it all together in an 11-play, 58-yard drive that culminated with a two-yard TD run by Gentry, who accounted for all the rushing yards (34) in the march. McCarthy, like his Harding counterpart, missed the extra-point try, but Ross regained the lead 9-6 with 6:40 remaining in the first half.

The Little Giants returned to their mistake-prone ways on their fourth possession. After Wilhelm brilliantly directed his club 50 yards in six plays to the Harding 20, he not-so-brilliantly tossed the first of three interceptions near the Presidents' goal line.

Wilhelm's second interception toss came on a desperation attempt in the end zone on the final play of the first half, keeping the Presidents in the ball game despite gaining just 21 yards and getting no first downs during that span.

In the third quarter, the Little Giants opened up a little breathing room on a four-yard TD sweep by Gentry that made it 15-6 with 5:07 left, but they could have opened it up more.

On Harding's first play after the Ross TD, stalwart linebacker Derek Isaman picked off a Kent Berry pass, giving the Little Giants field position at the Prexy 27. But six plays later, Wilhelm misfired again at the goal line.

The Little Giants failed to get the ball back, however, as Jim Hufford interception early in the fourth quarter. Hufford, who leads the BC with seven thefts, returned the ball to the 15.

Ross almost came away with nothing again when a 38-yard field goal attempt by McCarthy never left his foot because of a bad placement. But the Little Giants got a break on the play when Harding was whistled for having 12 players on the field. Still fourth down, the Ross specialty unit tried again, and this time McCarthy split the uprights to make it 18-6 with 9:02 left in the game.

Harding's offense finally began to show signs of life on its ensuing possession. Sparked by a 37-yard fake-reverse pass from Berry to Dave Lehner, the Prexies quickly drove 65 yards in six plays to paydirt. The TD came on a 10-yard Berry-to-Rod

Collins pass, and Holliday's kick made it 18-13 with 5:48 left.

A fired-up Harding defense allowed just one Ross first down before forcing the Little Giants to punt, setting the stage for the Prexies' last try at the upset.

It began at their own 25-yard line with 1:56 remaining. The Prexies picked up two first downs, but on a fourth-and-10 at the Ross 47, Little Giant right end Jerry Manahan sacked Berry, forcing a fumble, which left end James Hufford scooped up and returned to the Harding 29, causing a thunderous shrill of relief from the Ross fans at the stadium.

"I was just hoping we could hang on," said Moore. "I think they caught us off guard with their score. That fake-reverse play was a good call. They caught us flat-footed."

"But the main thing is that we won and we stayed on top of the race. If we would've lost, we would've needed help from other teams, and we don't want to depend on anybody else. We gotta do the job ourselves."

With the victory, Ross moved into a tie for the BC lead with Sandusky, both 4-0. The Blue Streaks won a non-conference battle with Barberton 28-0 Friday.

Meanwhile, a major development in Ross's quest for a state playoff appearance last night when Upper Arlington defeated Gahanna Lincoln 7-0. Gahanna was second to Ross in the recent Division I, Region 2 computer ratings while Upper Arlington was fourth. Sandusky was third.

Ross 18 Harding 13

Score by quarters

| | | | | | |
|---------|---|---|---|----|----|
| Ross | 3 | 6 | 6 | 3— | 18 |
| Harding | 6 | 0 | 0 | 7— | 13 |

Scoring

Ross: Shawn McCarthy, 27-yard field goal, 5:21, first quarter.

Harding: Fritz Wink, 93-yard kickoff return (kick failed), 5:05, first quarter.

Ross: Jeff Gentry, two-yard run (kick failed), 6:40, second quarter.

Ross: Gentry, four-yard run (kick failed), 5:07, third quarter.

Ross: McCarthy, 27-yard field goal, 9:02, fourth quarter.

Harding: Rod Collins, 10-yard pass from Kent Berry (Scott Hollidar kick), 5:48, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

| | R | MH |
|--------------|--------|--------|
| First Downs | 18 | 6 |
| Rushes/Yds. | 199 | 60 |
| Passing Yds. | 134 | 67 |
| Passes/C/I | 17/9/3 | 11/4/2 |
| Punts/Avg. | 2/35 | 5/30.2 |
| Fmb./Lost | 3/0 | 1/1 |
| Pen./Yds. | 5/55 | 4/28 |

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Ross: Gentry 27/122, Todd Beatty 14/42; Harding: David Jones 14/48.

Passing: Ross: Kevin Wilhelm 17/9/3 - 134; Harding: Berry 11/4/2 - 67.

Receiving: Ross: Jim Huford 4/70, Jeff Nossaman 3/26.

Season records: Ross 7-0-1 (4-0), Harding 3-5 (1-4).

Only 'the Shadow knows' what's up Findlay sleeve

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor
How did Lamont Cranston put it?

"Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of man?" But Lamont knew because the replay was always, "the Shadow knows."

Maybe Lamont Cranston could loan his special insight to Ross Coach Pete Moore for this Friday. Moore would gladly accept it.

It may not be evil lurking in the heart of Findlay's first year Coach Dan Evans, but whatever it is, Moore would like to know.

In past years, you could count on a "snake in the grass" or spread formation or a fake field goal or maybe a "lonesome polecat" from former Coach Bill Jones, but from Evans???

"We are going to have to generate some new ideas," Moore confessed.

"In the past, we usually could figure out Jonesy's tendencies because we played them so many times," Moore said Tuesday as he prepared to put his Ross Little Giants, 7-0-1, through the first hard practice in preparation for the final home game of the season Friday at Harmon Stadium.

Evans, former Millersburg West Holmes coach, will bring the 4-4 Trojans to town for his first visit to Fremont for a Buckeye Conference clash against the top-running Little Giants.

Findlay is coming off a pair of wins—36-0 over Zanesville, coached by last year Trojans' Coach Jones, and a 14-0 win over Elyria.

"They have improved as the season has progressed," Moore said, "and the past two games Findlay has shown big improvement."

"We, on the other hand," Moore explained, "had a good game two weeks ago against Lo-

rain (a 34-6 Ross win) but did not show any improvement last week at Marion (another Little Giants win but by an 18-13 count)."

In the past weeks, Moore has set that as his team's primary goal each week: improvement on the previous week's performance.

"Findlay has looked good," he continued, "and we know Mike Dillon is a powerful running back. We knew that after last year's game."

Mike Dillon did not run much against the Little Giants in Findlay's 17-14 win, instead he was a path clearing fullback blocker for his brother Pat. The latter gained 125 yards on 23 carries while Mike had 27 on nine.

This season, Mike Dillon, still at fullback, is second in the conference in rushing, averaging 4.5 yards on 671 yards in 124 attempts. The 6-3, 225-pounder is the conference's leading scorer with 13 TDs and two extra points.

"Coach Evans does not throw as much as Jonesy used to," Moore described, "but the offense is about the same. Only when certain situations come up, there is that element of surprise because we are not familiar with how the coach plays those situations."

Quarterback Sam Dunn is second in the conference in passing with 61 of 116 for 775 yards and six touchdowns. The leading receivers are Larry Helms and Mark Ritzler, ranked four-five in conference stats. Helms has hauled in 20 passes for a 15-yard average and sophomore Ritzler has made 22 catches, averaging nearly 13 per catch.

On the Ross side of the ledger, Moore said that the pressure has intensified eight weeks into the season. Riding along in second place in Region II of the com-

puter ratings behind Sandusky, the team the Little Giants share the conference lead with 4-0 records, Moore says the pressure is different from last year.

"It's entirely different," he explained. "This year, it is pressure to stay on top and last year, it was to get up from the bottom. The pressure to stay on top is much more intense."

"I can say the coaches are putting the pressure on themselves; the kids seem to be relaxed."

Buckeye stats: Ross continues to be the defensive leader in both overall and conference games, permitting 135 yards in the former and 126 yard per game in the latter category. Offensively, the Little Giants are third in BC games only with 256 yards per game and third overall with 280 per game.

Findlay ranks last in offense in the BC, permitting 267 yards per game while ranking sixth overall with 290. On offense, the Trojans are fourth overall with 239 yards per game and fifth overall with 244.

Individually, Ross broke into the scoring leaders with Jeff Gentry tied for seventh with 30 points. Kicker Shawn McCarthy is ninth with 27. Gentry is third in rushing with 670 yards and a 4.7 average.

Quarterback Kevin Wilhelm is fifth in passing, hitting 34 of 63, 54 per cent, for 450 yards and five TDs. He has been intercepted six times. In receiving, Dan Brudzinski is seventh and Jim Hufford eighth.

McCarthy ranks sixth in punting with a 31.5 average and Gene Simmons is fifth in punt returns, averaging nine yards on 11 chances. Palomo ranks third in kickoff returns, averaging 49.5 on two returns.

Hufford leads in interceptions with seven while Simmons is tied for second with five.

Ross now 2nd in tight battle

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Six teams, led by Sandusky and Alliance, the leaders this week, are involved in close battles for two of the Division I regional leads in the Ohio High School Athletic Association's weekly computerized football rankings.

The OHSAA relies on the ratings, based on a team's victories and those by its opponents, to select the 40-school, five-divisional post-season playoff spots. Margins of victories are not weighed in the rankings.

Sandusky, Fremont Ross and Toledo St. Francis are running one-two-three in Region 2, fewer

than three points apart. Sandusky has 110.21 points, Ross 109.32 and St. Francis 107.25. Upper Arlington is fourth with 102.50 while Gahanna is fifth with 100.50.

In Region 3, Alliance, second-place Austintown-Fitch and third-place Akron Garfield are within seven points of each other.

Sandusky, Fremont Ross and Toledo St. Francis all have been in the lead in the last four weeks. So have Alliance, Austintown-Fitch and Akron Garfield in that same span.

Complete listings are on page 15.

Findlay blanked 27-0

Ross sets scene for Sandusky battle



BRIAN LENZ (43) of Ross is caught in a Findlay tackle during a third period play at Harmon Stadium Friday night. The ball bounced off Lenz's shoulder seconds before he was hit by Tom Scaife (13) and Mike Dillon.

Punter stays on the bench as Huron whips St. Joe 46-7

By ROB BOUKISSEN

News-Messenger Sports Writer

HURON — The Huron Tigers are said to have one of the finest punting games in the Sandusky Bay Conference, but you couldn't tell it Friday night.

That's because the explosive Tigers didn't punt one time in the driling St. Joe Streaks 46-7 in a high-powered marathon here that included 15 passes and 453 yards through the air from both teams.

Huron scored a touchdown each of the first seven times it touched the ball, and on its eighth and final possession, the third-teamers just couldn't convert a fourth-down situation like the first six times.

The Tiger frontliners converted all five of the fourth-down situations they faced, three for first downs and two for touchdowns, on their way to keeping their perfect SBC record unblemished at 6-0 and increasing their overall record to 8-1.

The win clinched at least a tie for the conference title for the Tigers, who will travel to 5-1 Margaretta Friday for the decisive game. Perkins is also 5-1, having lost 40-14 last week to these same Tigers.

Meanwhile, the loss for St. Joe broke its two-game winning streak and dropped its marks to 4-5 overall and 3-3 in the SBC.

"That's the thing about football," said St. Joe Coach Tom Perkins. "You can have a high one week and then hit the pits the next week."

"But they (Huron) are a very good football team, no doubt about it. They are by far the best team we have played this year because they do so many things so well."

The Tigers showed their versatility Friday night.

Not only did their vaunted passing attack, led by quarterback Randy Strickland, pick up 208 yards, but their secret-weapon running game, led by fullback David Leidheiser, amassed 229 yards for 437 total yards.

Strickland went over the 2,000-yard passing mark for the season by completing 17 of 30 passes for 204 yards, three TDs and no interceptions.

Leidheiser, meanwhile, carried the ball 22 times for 147 yards, including 110 in the first half alone.

Those two, along with a bevy of other talented Tiger "skill" players, led their team on scoring

drives of 71, 60, 22, 80, 67, 39 and 73 yards.

The only interruption in that sequence came early when St. Joe retaliated Huron's first TD with a five-yard run by Rodney Orshoski, with one of its own.

Streak quarterback John Sidell, who finished 18 of 27 for 180 yards and one interception, led his club on a nine-play, 69-yard drive that he capped with a 10-yard TD toss to John Wolf.

Phil Mosser kicked the extra point, temporarily giving the Streaks the lead 7-6 with 4:49 left in the first quarter.

"I told the kids, 'you gotta believe' after we scored," said Narducci. "I thought it was gonna be like Monday Night Football — the last team with the ball would win."

And Narducci almost had his troops "believing," even though Huron soon needed two touchdowns in a row to tie it up by Orshoski and a three-yarder by Leidheiser — to make it 15-7.

Then, because Sidell again brought the Streaks back into serious scoring territory midway through the second quarter before being turned away.

The Streaks went all the way down to the Huron six, but a dropped pass by Vince Miltello, an incompletion by Sidell and a badly missed 22-yard field goal attempt by Mosser killed the drive.

"I think that took a little starch out of us," said Narducci.

And it put a little more firepower in an already overloaded Huron attack.

Strickland hit his third TD passes next — 24 yards to Ed Pettegrew, five yards to Dick Reese and three yards to Orshoski — before Shane Stierhoff closed out the scoring on a four-yard run.

The TD pass to Pettegrew came on a fourth-and-14 at the St. Joe 24 while the scoring to Reese came on a fourth-and-goal from the five.

"That's been our history with these guys," said Narducci. "We have a couple good defensive plays, but we can't stop them on third and fourth down."

"But we moved the ball well tonight. They just wore us down, and I think we were a little intimidated in the second half."

Reese, though, finished with 203 total yards, 245 through the air on 21 of 44 passing. Backup quarterback Kevin Yekley was six of 10 for 65 yards and one interception. Paul Spielbender led St. Joe receivers with seven catches for 105 yards.

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor

Ross pushed across three first half touchdowns before playing out the string in the second half for a 27-0 Buckeye Conference football win over Findlay at Harmon Stadium Friday night.

The win, coupled with Sandusky's 3-0 win over Admiral King, set the table for the conference championship between the Little Giants and the Blue Streaks next Friday night at Sandusky's Strobel field. Ross is 8-0-1 while Sandusky is 9-0 with both teams deadlock at the top of the BC race with 5-0 marks.

"Now you go after it," Ross Coach Pete Moore could finally talk about Sandusky. Not only will the conference title be on the line Friday but a spot in the Ohio High School Athletic Association state playoffs is at stake.

Going into the Friday games, Sandusky held a 15-0 record over the Little Giants in Region II. The two teams will likely be one again when the ratings are released Thursday.

Against Findlay, Ross's offense played consistently enough in the first half while the defense held the Trojans to 109 yards to post the Little Giants' fourth shutout of the season. Ross had 141 yards on the ground and hit another 120 on seven of 14 passing by quarterback Kevin Wilhelm.

The Little Giants took charge of a Findlay fumble by returning back Dave Spruce to set up their first touchdown. Ross drove 37 yards in eight plays, the key play coming on Wilhelm's 19-yard run to the 16. Dan Brudzinski capped the drive, hauling in a 13-yard pass from Wilhelm at the 3:09 mark. Shawn McCarthy's first of three extra point kicks made it 7-0.

Gene Simmons' 13-yard punt by Findlay punter Mike Dillon set up Ross's second six-pointer. Taking over at the Findlay 29, Jeff Gentry ran for two and a Wilhelm pass was incomplete before wingback Jim Hufford hauled in a pass between two defenders for 27 yards and the TD with five and a half minutes remaining.

Simmons set up another TD again with a punt return that went for 21 yards to the Findlay 37. A 26-yard pass to Hufford, who made a diving catch, from Wilhelm was good for 26 yards to the 12. Fullback Todd Beatty covered the final 12 yards and Ross had a 21-0 lead with 63 seconds to play in the first half.

The Little Giants' final touchdown was scored with 21 seconds remaining in the game on backup quarterback Rod Logan's one-yard sneak. Logan

ran for 24 yards on three carries in an eight play, 30-yard drive.

Ross offensive coordinator Rex Radloff was satisfied with the Ross play in the first half but felt that the Little Giants got off on the wrong foot in the second half. The Little Giants were penalized 15 yards for being on the field 20 seconds late for the start of the second half.

Kicking from the Ross 5, Trojan kicker Jim Schut's onside kick was recovered by Findlay's Chris Hughes at the Ross 33. That drive stalled at the Ross 25 when Little Giants linebacker Paul Stout intercepted a Sam Dunn pass at the 23 and returned it to the 48.

On Findlay's next possession, the Trojans drove from their 27 to a first and goal at the Ross 5. That drive stalled with 15 seconds left and Chris Simmons and tackle Tom Lanning sacked Dunn at the 15 a four-yard goal at the eight.

"We never had field position in the second half," Radloff pointed out. "Then they threw a defense at us that we had never seen them use this season — a 5-3. We had not worked against it this week and our kids had trouble adjusting to it."

Radloff was happy with the passing game but said that he probably should have passed more in the second half.

"We became too conservative," he said.

Defensively, coordinator Joe Siesel was pleased with the shutout and praised the play of the defensive ends, Jerry Manahan, Chris Simmons' running mate, was credited with four sacks and helped out on another.

"That and (linebackers) Stout and Deke (Derek Isaman) had pressure on them all night," Siesel said.

Isaman had an interception and Manahan had the fumble recovery that set up Ross's first touchdown.

"Overall, it was a good job," Siesel described. "We just wanted a good performance."

Beatty wound up with 54 yards on 11 carries to pace Ross. Mike Dillon, conference's leading scorer, had 141 yards on 11 carries but the Trojans had a collective 49 yards on 28 attempts. Dunn absorbed 39 yards in losses on seven carries.

Hufford had 65 yards on three catches while Jeff Nossaman hauled in one pass for 47 yards to the Findlay three early in the final quarter. Ross failed to score as a clipping penalty wiped out a TD run by Wilhelm. Brudzinski had 15 yards on two catches.

Ross seniors

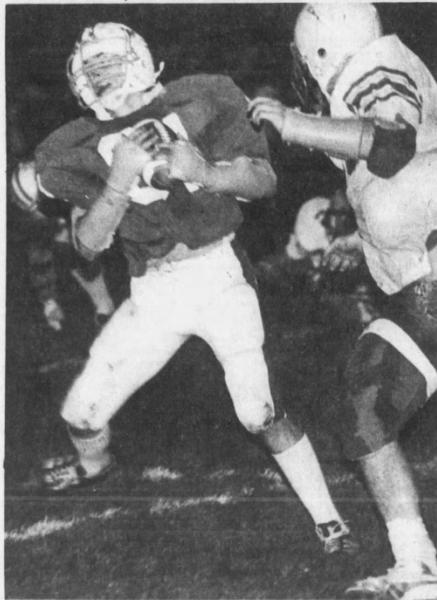
Several Ross senior football players, trainers and cheerleaders took part in their final gridiron home game Friday. Following is the list of seniors:

Players: Kevin Wilhelm, Rod Logan, Jeff Nossaman, Gene Simmons, Mike Palomo, Jeff Gentry, Wade Parker, Jack Konrad, in addition to Jim Capucini, Brad Pitts, Stacy Swaisgood, Matt Hiser, Adam Calaresu, Matt Whitehead, Tom Battista, Rod Lanning, Terry O'Farrell, Chris Sultz, Jim Hufford, Tom Stierhoff, Dan Brudzinski, Paul Stout, Jerry Manahan, Jason Pogorelsky, and Rod Logan.

Student trainers: Allen Darr, T.J. Held and Dan Klock.

Student assistant: Chris Hull.

Cheerleaders: Lesley Brooks, Colleen Gibbs, Sharon Schneider and Susan Stotz.



PAUL STOUT of Ross takes his first step on the way to a 25-yard return of an intercepted pass during a third quarter play. The pass from

Findlay quarterback Sam Dunn was intended for running back Mike Dillon.

Ross JVs at Findlay for season finale

yes
CLASSIFIED
ADVERTISING
DOES THE
JOB

CLASSIFIED

Ross 27 Findlay 0

Score by quarters

| | | | | | | |
|---------|---|----|---|---|---|----|
| Findlay | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | 0 |
| Ross | 7 | 14 | 0 | 6 | — | 27 |

Scoring

Ross: Dan Brudzinski, 13-yard pass from Kevin Wilhelm (Shawn McCarthy kick), 3:09, first quarter.

Ross: Jim Hufford, 27-yard pass from Wilhelm (McCarthy kick), 5:42, second quarter.

Ross: Todd Beatty, 12-yard run (McCarthy kick), 1:03, second quarter.

Ross: Rod Logan, one-yard run (kick failed), 0:21, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

| | F | R |
|--------------|--------|--------|
| First Downs | 8 | 16 |
| Rushes/Yds. | 28/50 | 42/141 |
| Passing Yds. | 59 | 121 |
| Passes/C/I | 19/7/2 | 14/7/1 |
| Punts/Avg. | 5/25.8 | 2/31.0 |
| Fmb./Lost | 1/1 | 0/0 |
| Pen./Yds. | 7/65 | 8/76 |

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Findlay: Mike Dillon 13/61, Dave Sprouse 6/31; Ross: Beatty 11/54, Jeff Gentry 11/26, Wilhelm 8/18, Logan 3/24, Chris Simmons 4/5.

Passing: Findlay: Sam Dunn 7/17/1 - 59; Ross: Wilhelm 14/7/1 - 121.

Receiving: Findlay: Larry Helms 4/36, Dillon 2/10; Ross: Hufford 3/65, Brudzinski 2/15, Jeff Nossaman 1/47.

Season records: Ross 8-0-1 (5-0), Findlay 4-5 (1-4).



(N-M photos by Bill Kennedy)

Rallying for Ross

Sandusky Spirit Week fever seems to have hit just about everybody. Mayor Richard Maier has proclaimed today to be "Little Giants Day," and a couple of thousand people ignored chilly weather to demonstrate their Ross High School pride. Thursday night before tonight's game with Sandusky High School. Above, Ross fans pack the parking lot behind the Sandusky County Courthouse for a community pep rally which featured Coach Pete Moore and the Little Giants, Ross Principal David Aschenbach and county Board of Commissioners President Wesley Fahrbach. At right, district bus drivers show off their entry in Thursday's Sandusky Spirit Parade. Students and individuals entered floats in the parade, and awards were given in three categories. The best Activity Group Float belonged to the junior class entry, "Up with Pride, Down with Sandusky," which featured a huge Ross football player. Runner-up was "Sting Sandusky," the senior class float featuring a giant bee sticking a Sandusky player. The Best School Spirit award went to the sophomore class for "Jam to a Victory," which featured a giant radio blasting the Sandusky players. The Best Individual Entry was senior Rob Shermer's militaristic float with the slogan, "Get out of Granada; Invade Sandusky." Runner-up was David Slater's entry, "Roll Over the Streaks," which depicted a giant steamroller doing just that.



It all boils down to this

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor
It will be the 77th meeting between Fremont Ross and Sandusky when the Buckeye Conference football powers clash at Strobel Field in Sandusky tonight but for Ross Coach Pete Moore, it will be the final moments of a pleasant season.

"This is what it boils down to," Moore said after a Thursday evening community pep rally. "There has been 15 weeks of work and it has come down to 48 minutes."

The Ross coach was remembering the approximately 1,500 to 2,000 people who had attended the pep rally which was staged in chilly, windy weather in front of the Sandusky County Courthouse.

"That was something," he said. Just like this season he may have added.

"It has really been enjoyable," he began talking about the season but at the same time declining to talk about a possible state playoff berth for the 8-0-1 Little Giants. "It's been a different kind of pressure but it has been very enjoyable."

"There has been a limited amount of

problems. We have been able to coach and not worry about some of the internal things that could go wrong."

About tonight's game, Moore said some people could easily say that the conference championship game against the 9-0 Blue Streaks is just another game but he added it is not just another game.

"It's easy to say it's just a game but it is still pretty meaningful," Moore explained as he relaxed in the office at Ross High School's weight training room.

"There is a different feeling about being a champ. Not a whole lot of people have that opportunity. You strive for that goal; it's your number one goal," he said.

Ross, as a team, the coach pointed out, sets winning the Buckeye Conference title as its top goal each season. Being undefeated is another and getting into the playoffs comes behind those two.

This season, the Little Giants are on course for all three with the final 48 minutes at chilly Sandusky settling the season. Ross has accomplished that without the benefit of any particular standout "star."

"We have had people watch us and marvel at what these kids have put together," Moore continued. "The kids are unusual this year. They are not a rah-rah group. Instead, they just want to go out and play the game."

"They boil down to that. They enjoy the competition."

"There is nothing wrong with having a good, solid high school football team," he concluded.

ROSS NOTES: Sandusky holds a 41-28 edge in the series with seven games ending in ties. The Little Giants are 8-3-1 over the past dozen seasons against the Blue Streaks and present Sandusky Coach Jim Colwell is 3-5-1 against Ross.

A couple of the high points in the series was Sandusky's 28-0 thrashing of Ross in 1968 and a 7-0 win by Ross in 1969. Despite that loss, Sandusky 8-2, went to the playoffs instead of the Little Giants who finished 9-1 that year.

In 1969, Ross was limping along with a 1-5-1 record while Sandusky had a 6-1 mark. That night, Tommy Liggins scored all of the Ross's points and the Little Giants stung the Blue Streaks 28-27.



PETE MOORE speaks to the large Sandusky County Courthouse gathering of fans in front of the Thursday night.

A sandwich that did not become a meal

I seldom miss a meal but I did Thursday evening at approximately 8:15.

The cuisine could not have been the tastiest and the chef was definitely not French but the stuff between the slices of whole wheat or rye bun was appropriate.

You may recall that before the season began, I predicted that the Ross Little Giants football team would have a 5-5 and possibly a 4-6 record this season. Chef Dave Aschenbach took exception and pointed that out during the Ross pep rally in front of the Sandusky County Courthouse Thursday night.

The chef, who triples as a full-time player at Ross, is right. In fact, his coach came up with his culinary coup and very graciously offered it to me but, alas, I had to bug out early. A stop that had been delayed a half hour to pick up a Cub Scout and approaching school night bed time for an eight-year-old could not be put off any longer. That, for lack of a better excuse, forced me to miss dinner at Fremont's latest hot spot...the Steps Inn Courthouse.

You do not have to think hard to figure out what the sandwich, an Aschenbach special creation, contained, but newsprint without special sauce lettucecheesepeckleunesesameseed-bun(holdtheonion) is not the best meal in town.

But, touche to the chef. And to the football team, if I had been there I would have "eaten it."

City Editor Mike Kelly held onto his slim lead in the "Panel of Experts" despite a 1-7 week...a week in which I, at last, bobbed to the top.

The top golfing insurance agent in Fremont, Tom Stannard, recorded a 15-5 mark, the same record as I posted.

For the season, Kelly is 99-45 while sports writer Rob Boukissen is 98-46. Managing Editor Roy Wilhelm 95-49 and here I am, struggling along with a 92-52 mark. The "Guests" are 80-31, sitting out the first two weeks of the season.

Departing from tradition, this week it will be a mini-battle within the "Panel" as Dick Sherman and Buz Paeth, athletic directors at Ross and Fremont St. Joe, respectively, take on the regulars.

This week's picks:

Bob Marker

KELLY: Ross over Sandusky, Woodmore over Olmsted, Oak Harbor, St. Joe, Eastwood, Upper Sandusky over Gilmore, Upper Sandusky over Tiffin, Columbus, Notre Dame over Pittsburgh, North Carolina over Cleveland, Oklahoma over Missouri, Washington over Arizona;

Florida over Georgia, Vanderbilt over Kentucky, Green Bay over the Browns, Dallas over Philadelphia, Seattle over Denver, Pittsburgh over San Diego, New Orleans over Atlanta, Marion Harding over Toledo, Rogers, Huron over Margaretta and in the tiebreaker, San Francisco 34, Miami 24.

BOUKISSEN: (winning picks only) Ross, Woodmore, Oak Harbor, St. Joe, Eastwood, Upper Sandusky, Notre Dame, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Washington;

Florida, Vanderbilt, Browns, Dallas, Denver, Pittsburgh, New Orleans, Marion Harding, Huron and San Francisco 24-20.

WILHELM: Ross, Woodmore, Oak Harbor, St. Joe, Eastwood, Upper Sandusky, Notre Dame, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Washington;

Florida, Kentucky, Green Bay, Dallas, Seattle, Pittsburgh, New Orleans, Marion Harding, Huron and Miami 24-21.

MARKER: Ross, Woodmore, Oak Harbor, St. Joe, Eastwood, Upper Sandusky, Pittsburgh, North Carolina, Missouri, Washington;

Florida, Vanderbilt, Browns, Dallas, Denver, Pittsburgh, Atlanta, Marion Harding, Huron and Miami 31-28.

PAETH: Ross, Woodmore, Oak Harbor, St. Joe, Gibsonburg, Columbian, Notre Dame, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Washington;

Florida, Vanderbilt, Browns, Dallas, Denver, Pittsburgh, Atlanta, Marion Harding, Huron and Miami 24-21.

SHERMAN: Ross, Woodmore, Oak Harbor, St. Joe, Eastwood, Upper Sandusky, Notre Dame, North Carolina, Kentucky, Browns, Dallas, Seattle, Pittsburgh, Atlanta, Marion Harding, Huron and Miami 24-21.

This week's picks:



ROSANNE ZIMMER, bus driver for Fremont City Schools, shows her spirit during "Spirit Week" festivities Thursday night.



ROSS HIGH School Choir members Andrea Lauer, with balloons, and Shelly Haas help guide a fire-breathing, streak-eating dragon along the route of the Sandusky Spirit Parade Thursday night.

Overlooked, but not forgotten

By ROB BOUKISSEN

News-Messenger Sports Writer

With all the well-deserved hoopla that has been going around this week about tonight's Ross-Sandusky war, it might be easy for area high school football fans to forget that another heated rivalry will take place this weekend.

It's the one between the Clyde Fliers and the St. Joe Indians and the 35th renewal (St. Joe leads the series 22-10-2) of their matchup will be held Saturday night at Harmon Stadium.

The reasons the Clyde-St. Joe contest might have slipped your mind may have been one of the following:

- 1) both clubs are sporting losing records (Clyde is 2-7, St. Joe 4-5);
- 2) neither team is going to win any conference championship (Clyde is last in the Sandusky Bay Conference at 0-6, St. Joe is fourth at 3-3); and
- 3) neither club can qualify for the state playoffs.

But while it's possible the game wasn't the first thing on your mind this week, it was for St. Joe Coach Tom Narducci and his Clyde counterpart Tom Grine.

"I don't think there will be a letdown by either team," said Narducci, "mainly because this is another one of those good neighborhood rivalries."

"If you look at the past two years (St. Joe lost 13-0 in 1981 and 28-13 last year), we were supposed to get blown out both times. But we didn't. Now, this year, they (the Fliers) are supposed to be down, but I bet they won't be. They'll be ready for us."

Added Grine, "We're definitely excited about the game. It's the last one of the year. We, as coaches, are trying to transmit to the players the importance of ending the season on a positive note."

"It's been a very difficult season for us. We haven't played with a lot of emotion lately..." Grine continued, "I think it's a difficult season for the Fliers this year. He isn't joking.

Currently, the Fliers are on a six-game losing skid that can partially be attributed to the loss of a pair of two-way starters and two one-way starters to injuries.

Among those injured early in the season were co-captains Joe Burkett (tailback, knee) and Greg Myers (offensive and defensive tackle, ankle). The other two were Jim Andrews (flank/defensive back, arm) and Morgan Stanley (defensive end, knee).

"It has hurt us losing those players," said Grine, "especially Burkett and Myers. We lacked experience and leadership."

Picking up most of the slack for those missing stars have been tailback Rick Harrah and quarterback Brian Crum.

Narducci said, "Harrah is a very good tailback and Crum is a good quarterback. Hey, that team has been banged up a lot this season. I don't know what's going to happen to them."

Sports



BEDLAM AND congratulations echoed through the Ross dressing room moments after the Little Giants had walked off the field with the win over Sandusky. Coach Pete Moore is facing his team while Joe Siesel is at the right.



JEFF GENTRY (26) of Ross gets a hug from a fan as he leaves the field at Sandusky Friday night. John Lozano (32) and Matt Hiser, behind Lozano join in the celebration.

Sandusky again Saturday?

Ross wins BC title, spot in playoffs

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor

SANDUSKY—Ross guessed right twice, got a boost from a Sandusky penalty and used an act in the hole in a 79-inch punter to ice a 7-0 Buckeye Conference championship victory over Sandusky Friday at a windy, chilly Strobel Field.

The win carried with it a berth in the Division I, Region II state playoffs next Saturday and ironically the Little Giants could play Sandusky in that game.

Ross, 9-0-1 and 6-0 in the BC, scored on their second possession of the game and then survived two Blue Streak threats to register its ninth win in the last 13 meetings between the two teams. It was the Little Giants' 11th BC title.

"Field position. That was what we wanted," Pete Moore, coach of the Little Giants said while accepting the congratulations of fans. "We didn't doubt what we wanted to do if we won the toss (coming coin flip) but when I looked over and saw that they had won it and took the ball, the pressure was on them."

Ross got a break on the opening kickoff when Shawn McCarthy's line drive kick was taken by James Keys at the 15. Keys was hit by Ross's Jason Fought and tumbled at the 25 where Mike Wolf recovered for the Little Giants. The Little Giants went nowhere and on a 40-yard field goal attempt, the snap from center slipped through the fingers of holder Rod Logan and into the hands of sophomore placekicker McCarthy who got off a

pass to Jeff Nossman back to the line of scrimmage.

Moore's goal of field position took over after that.

The Blue Streaks, moving into a strong north wind, got off the 40 but a 22-yard punt by Milt Pritt put Ross in business at the Little Giants 35.

Halfback Jeff Gentry carried six yards to the 41 and fullback Mike Palomo rambled to the 49 for a first down. On the next play, Gentry slipped out to the left sideline, made it to the Sandusky 40 when a Blue Streak was flagged for grabbing the face mask. That moved the ball to the Sandusky 24.

Gentry lost two and Kevin Wilhelm was held incomplete. With a third and 12 at the 26, Wilhelm gave Nossman on the right sideline for 19 yards and a first and goal at the seven. Palomo was stopped for no gain but Wilhelm rolled left and was stopped six inches short of the goal line. On the next play, the ball was squeezed his way into the end zone off a block by center Scott Cross.

McCarthy's kick made it 7-0 with 2:34 remaining in the opening period.

"It was just like I said before," Ross offensive coordinator Rex Radloff said while recalling a conversation earlier in the week. "It was a guessing game. They stunt so much with their linebacker but they seem to have no rhythm or rhyme to their stunting and you have to guess right and we did a couple of times on the scoring drive."

Sandusky got the wind advantage in the second quarter and used a ball control offense to move

from the Blue Streak 24 to the Ross 22. On a first and 10 at that spot, Pritt's pass into the end zone was picked off by Ross halfback Jim Hufford, his eighth interception of the season, to kill the drive.

On two occasions in the quarter, McCarthy punted Ross out of trouble with 36 and 26 yard punts into the teeth of the wind. The first put Sandusky at its 14 and the next carried to the Streaks 24.

Ross took the second half kickoff and began to move but a clipping penalty pushed the Little Giants back to the 16 where McCarthy, again punting into the wind, got off a 26-yarder to the Ross 24.

Sandusky drove to the 22 but on a fourth and nine, Tracy Steele's 42 yard field goal attempt fell far short and Ross had the ball at the 20.

On Ross's next possession, McCarthy was rouched on a punt and the Little Giants had the ball at the 40. Unable to move, McCarthy's 27-yard punt into the wind carried to the Sandusky 32.

Sandusky began a nine-play march to the Ross 25 before the drive stalled when Pritchess fell incomplete. Both teams were unable to move on their next possession but the 6-foot-7 McCarthy saved the Little Giants when he used all that height to grab a high snap and get off a punt 53 yards to the Sandusky 21.

Ross took over at the Sandusky 38 when the Streaks were unable to move and Pritt's punt into the wind went just nine yards.

The Little Giants' ball control took over after that, killing off nearly all of the four minutes and nine seconds remaining in the game. Sandusky got the ball back at its 13 with 23 seconds remaining. Wilhelm was credited with a 20-yard run on a play that carried from the 37 to inside the five when Ross was charged with clipping. The Ross signal caller picked up a first down with a 14-yard run later in the drive.

"It's hard to express how I feel about this game," Moore admitted. "We had enough offense to win and our defense was great."

"I don't know if there is a load off my shoulders but I still feel like I'm feeling a whole lot better."

Moore, while not wanting to mention it during the season, has been nursing a stomach disorder most of the season.

Ross's defense, ranked number one in the conference, yielded 111 yards rushing and 49 in the air while Sandusky, ranked second, gave up 114 rushing and another 19 in the air. Wilhelm was the leading rusher in the game with 57 on 16 carries while Robbie Robinson had 52 on 15 for Sandusky.

Defensive ends Jerry Manahan and Chris Simmons, tackles Adam Calabrese and Rod Lanning, inside linebackers Craig Moore and Stacy Smealgood, outside linebacker Jason Lanning, Paul Stout and Matt Hiser and defensive back Hufford, Gentry and Wolf shared the bulk of the Ross defensive duties.

The official participants in the state playoffs will be notified either Sunday morning or afternoon.



KEVIN WILHELM, (10), above, of Ross follows blocker Adam Calabrese during a fourth quarter play Friday at Sandusky's Strobel Field. Wilhelm rushed for 57 yards on 16 carries to lead

all ball carriers in the contest. At the right, Jim Hufford (62) of Ross watches a Wilhelm pass sail past him during a first quarter play. The Sandusky defender is James Keyes.



Ross 7, Sandusky 0

Score by quarters

| | | | | | | |
|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ross | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | 7 |
| Sandusky | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | 0 |

Scoring

Ross: Kevin Wilhelm, one-yard run (Shawn McCarthy kick), 2:34, first quarter.

Team Stats

| | R | S |
|--------------|--------|--------|
| First Downs | 6 | 8 |
| Rushes/Yds. | 114 | 111 |
| Passing Yds. | 19 | 49 |
| Passes/C/I | 4/2/0 | 9/6/1 |
| Punts/Avg. | 5/33.6 | 4/26.5 |
| Fmb./Lost | 1/0 | 3/1 |
| Pen./Yds. | 4/50 | 4/40 |

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Ross: Kevin Wilhelm 16/57, Palomo 12/29; Sandusky: Robbie Robinson 15/52, Tracy Steele 8/27.

Passing: Ross: Wilhelm 3/1/19/0; Sandusky: Milt Pritt 9/6/49/1.

Receiving: Ross: Jeff Nossaman 1/19; Sandusky: Joe Young 2/21, Erv Owens 2/17.

Season records: Ross 9-0-1, Sandusky 9-1-0.

Ross to host Sandusky in state playoffs

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor
The suspense ended at 10:40 a.m., Sunday.

The phone rang at Athletic Director Richard Sherman's County Road 73 home and ended

an 11-year wait for Ross football.

Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) Commissioner Richard Armstrong was on the other end of the line from Columbus, announcing officially

Tickets for the Sandusky versus Ross Division I, Region 11, Ohio High School Football Playoff game at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at Harmon Stadium in Fremont will go on sale at 4 p.m., Tuesday.

Tickets will be sold from the ticket booth at the main entrance of the Sandusky County Fairgrounds, corner of Haynes and Rawson Sts. in Fremont.

All tickets, reserved, student and general admission, are \$3.50. Tickets will be limited to four per individual.

Ross Athletic Director Richard Sherman pointed out that the game is part of a state tournament and controlled by the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) and not by Fremont Ross.

Ross has been allocated 4,000 tickets and Sandusky the same number.

Sherman also pointed out that senior citizen passes as provided by the Fremont Board of Education, will not be honored for the game. Only passes issued by the OHSAA are valid at the gates.

what Ross officials and fans had known since Friday: Ross was in the 11th state football playoffs.

"I'm happy as all get out," Ross Head Coach Pete Moore said shortly after the call. "Now we have some hard work to do."

The surprise of the conversation with Armstrong was the announcement that Ross will host Sandusky, the team it defeated 7-0 Friday to insure a playoff berth, at 7:30 p.m., Saturday in Harmon Stadium.

It had been felt that the game would be played in either Waite High School field or at the Glass Bowl in Toledo. Harmon Stadium, because of its lack of press facilities and a fence separating the west stands from the playing field, had all but been ruled out until the call from the OHSAA boss.

"We anticipate building a tem-

Margaretta to play Friday
CASTALIA—Margaretta will play Loudonville, 8-2, at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Arlin Field in Mansfield in a Division IV, Region 14 Ohio High School Football Playoff game.

The Polar Bears, after upsetting Huron 21-19 Friday to earn a share of the Sandusky Bay Conference, picked up enough computer points to finish second to Loudonville and qualify for the state playoffs.

"Everyone is coming down off a high from the weekend," Margaretta Coach Dana Woodring said today. "We knew we had a shot at getting in the playoffs if we beat Huron and things worked out for us but it has been a heck of a weekend...a really great weekend."

Tickets for the game will go on sale at the high school office at 7:30 a.m., Tuesday. All tickets are \$3.50.

Margaretta, 8-2, is making its first appearance in the playoffs.

Sherman and Moore had to be at a meeting at 6 p.m., Sunday to go over details of the playoffs.

Now the pressure is on Moore and his staff.

"I don't like to play a team

(Continued on page 6)

Ross in playoffs

(Continued from Page 1)
back-to-back," he admitted. "I'd rather play someone else and I think the number two team would feel the same way.

"I think the idea of high school athletics," the Ross coach continued, "is to broaden the range of competition and this is not broadening it."

Moore pointed out that one of the problems playing a team two weeks in a row is over-confidence. "That's one thing we have to watch.

"We have to go into the game with our emotions under control

and you don't worry about what you did last week; it's what you do this week that counts," Moore added.

As for the Friday performance against Sandusky, Moore said, "I felt we played as good a defensive game as we have all season. It was very physical."

That was an understatement.

Sandusky tight end/defensive end Erv Owens is definitely out for the Saturday game. He underwent surgery Saturday and had two pins inserted into a broken ankle. Fullback Tracey Steele has an ankle injury while

tailback Robbie Robinson is hampered by a shoulder injury, all suffered in the game against Ross.

"That's three, two-way performers," the Ross coach pointed out.

As far as his team, Moore said his team reacted typically after the win Friday.

"They were back down to earth after about 10 minutes of craziness and are ready for the assignment this week," Moore explained.



IN LINE. Waiting for the ticket booth to open at the fairgrounds to buy their Ross football tickets are from left to right, Scott and Penny Crispen, both of Gibsonburg, Joan Wollensleger, Jane

Toeman, Jim and Don Palermo, Greg Weaver, Judy Hubbs, and first in line, C.C. Cross, who has been waiting in line since 5:30 this morning. Tickets are to go on sale at 4 p.m. today.

(IN-M photo by Bill Kennedy)

Detroit's 'Chili' man KOs New York 15-9

PONTIAC, Mich. (AP) — Bruce McNorton, the Detroit Lions' second-year right cornerback out of tiny Georgetown College, earned the nickname "Chili" in training camp — but he also learned how to play one of the most demanding positions in professional football.

Monday night, McNorton put those lessons to work, coming up with two of the Lions' three interceptions as Detroit earned a 15-9 National Football League victory over the New York Giants.

"During training camp, the defensive backs had to put a dollar in the chili fund if you missed a ball at practice and I missed so many that the other guys said I was paying for the whole chili party we were planning," explained McNorton, who earned one of three game balls. "So, they started calling me 'Chili' and it stuck."

McNorton also explained that balls began sticking to his hands after he started wearing gloves a few weeks ago.

The victory was the fourth in five games for the Lions who lost four of their first five. Their 5-5 re-

cord tied the Lions with Green Bay for second place in the NFC Central Division — one game behind the Minnesota Vikings.

Running back Billy Sims, who was the game's leading rusher with 86 yards and scored the only touchdown of the contest on 14 carries, earned the second Detroit game ball. Robbie Martin, whose 51-yard kickoff return set up Sims' TD, got the other.

"It wasn't pretty," Detroit Coach Monte Clark said. "In fact, it was kind of ugly. But, it was a win and got us back to the 500 mark."

McNorton's interceptions both came in the fourth quarter as the Giants tried in vain to post their first victory in six games.

All the Giants scoring came on field goals by rookie Ali Haji-Sheikh who boomed kicks of 27, 56 and 35 yards. Haji-Sheikh is the first player in NFL history to boot two field goals of at least 56 yards in one season.

Still, it was little solace as the Giants fell to 2-7-1, last in the NFC East.



(AP Lasershot)

FACE MASK! Butch Woolfolk of the New York Giants gets his facemask grabbed by Detroit's Monday's game at the Pontiac Silverdome. The Lions were penalized on the play.

Playoffs in Fremont nice, but also a big headache

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor

Dick Sherman's frustration has been replaced by a headache.

When Fremont Ross was officially named to participate in the Ohio High School Football Playoffs Sunday morning, Sherman could breathe a sigh of relief. He had been waiting a dozen years for the event to take place; four of the years were especially painful he recalled.

"Really, all of the years were disappointing," he admitted. "but when you have kids like Bob Brudzinski, Rob Lytle, the Liggins and for a group from Toledo Scott (1973) to go, it was bad."

"Then the next year, we thought we had a super team with the Liggins twins and others but got shut out again."

Ross was 9-1 in both years. In 1974, Bowling Green got the trip to the playoff spot. The early years of the football playoff were frantic.

One team was able to reach a regional playoff and instead of two, three levels of "comptereeze" was used to figure out the participating teams and each team, at least it seemed to Sherman, Ross was a bridesmaid.

"When Scott went," Sherman recalled, "the computer had three teams and when Scott's beaten option to Saline was out, but the way it was then, the computer was shut off on Friday night and the games on Saturday were figured in as wins."

"Shuff (Chuck, coach then but who left after the 1973 season), and I went to Columbus and argued on that. We felt that we have gotten cheated."

"Then three years ago," he grimaced, "we beat Sandusky and despite losing, they got to go. We lost that because a kid in another game (Bellevue-Tiffin Columbian) dropped a punt and our opponent that we had beaten (Columbian) lost. We finished one

and a half points behind Sandusky then."

That was the year that an early Associated Press bulletin had incorrectly listed Ross as finishing second and thus being in the playoffs.

Sherman and Coach Pete Moore were immediately notified of the AP report but just as quickly let down again when the wire service corrected the mistake.

This year, it's different, the Ross AD can smile now that Ross is in but grab his head in pain because the playoff game is in, ironically, Fremont.

"It's created a lot of headaches," he said Monday evening. "It's great the game is in town and people are coming to it. The only thing that is 'home' for Ross is that Ross will be designated as the home team on the scoreboard."

"Otherwise, it is an Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) tournament game."

One of the biggest problems Sherman has had to wrestle with is the demand Ross's allocated 4,000 tickets for the game at Harmon Stadium.

"If we had reserved seating on both sides of the field, there would be few k problems," he said, "but there isn't and because this is a neutral site according to the OHSAA, Sandusky had to get the same amount of tickets that we got."

Sherman explained to the Ross Booster Club Monday night that the tickets were being dispersed, saying that the players would be the first in line for the tickets and then students.

Other problems the AD has to solve this week is getting additional seats in Harmon Stadium, building a temporary press area and dealing with crowd control.

"For me," he smiled, "I will have to be wearing two hats Saturday—one as the tournament site manager and one as the athletic director."

"It won't be easy."

Lacklustre re-entry draft may be end of big bucks



Hufford,
Beal tops
in BC

Jim Hufford of Fremont Ross and Ron Beal senior were named the Buckeye Conference Players of the Week.

Hufford, a 6-1, 190-pound senior defensive back and offensive wingback, was named as the back of the week for his defensive play in Ross's 7-0 victory over Sandusky.

The Ross player had a solo tackle and five assists and intercepted one pass. He now has eight pass thefts, tops in the conference this season. Hufford graded out at 89 per cent in blocking while playing all 48 minutes.

Beal, a 5-8, 150-pound linebacker, had four solo tackles and five assists to go with two quarterback sacks in Lorain's 34-0 win over Elyria.

NEW YORK (AP) — The 1983 free-agent re-entry draft may have signaled the end to wholesale movement of players in what had become baseball's most lucrative open market.

The major league's 26 teams, which had been through the formality of a round-by-round draft, which really is of little significance since any player may be picked any number of times by any team.

Still, 29 of the 45 free agents were picked by less than four teams, meaning they have been cut loose to negotiate with any club they want, if any wants them.

"As far as a player is concerned, they may now see some danger in going for the re-entry draft," Al Campanis, Los Angeles Dodgers vice president, said. "People are going more for their own farm systems. Some players in the future who aren't outstanding might think twice about becoming free agents."

The Dodgers, who traditionally have eschewed the draft, were not alone in thinking this way. Even the New York Yankees, rebuilt in the 1970s through free agency, chose only one player in the draft, Darrell Evans of Montreal and first baseman Dennis Wailing of Houston, who were chosen by eight teams. Six players — pitchers Jerry Koosman of the Chicago White Sox, Frank LaCorte of Houston, Larry Sorenson of Cleveland and Milt Wilcox of Detroit; outfielder Oscar

was the Texas Rangers, who picked 13 players. Seattle took 12, Toronto 11 and Pittsburgh 10. But 13 clubs, half of those in the major leagues, selected five or fewer players.

"We're here with the intent of drafting only one player," Yankees General Manager Murray Cook said. "The Baltimore Orioles had a lot to do with this. When they won the American League pennant this year, it had a profound effect on the approach of a lot of teams."

"They're going more with their own systems and away from free agency," Cook said.

Evans was the No. 1 pick in the draft, selected by 17 teams. The next two most popular players were relief pitchers Kent Tekulve of Pittsburgh, who was selected 12 times, and Rich Gossage of the Yankees, who was picked by 11 teams.

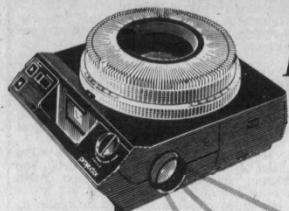
Two players, pitcher Dan Schatzinger of Montreal and first baseman Dennis Wailing of Houston, who were chosen by eight teams. Six players — pitchers Jerry Koosman of the Chicago White Sox, Frank LaCorte of Houston, Larry Sorenson of Cleveland and Milt Wilcox of Detroit; outfielder Oscar

Gamble of the Yankees, and utilityman Derrel Thomas of Los Angeles — were chosen by seven teams.

But several of the big-name free agents received little or no attention in the draft, which was completed in 18 rounds. Rod Carew of the California Angels, a seven-time AL batting champion who hit .339 in 1983, was not chosen at all. Manny Trillo of Montreal, a second baseman, was chosen once (Chicago White Sox), and only top prospects such as catcher Ted Simmons of Milwaukee (Pittsburgh, San Francisco) and outfielder Dave Parker of Pittsburgh (Cincinnati, Seattle).

"Many of these players are leaving contracts that are awfully strong," Expos President John McHale said, "and if there's a great rush for these players, I would suppose they'd think they could get even more."

"Clubs all think somewhat alike when they say, 'Are these players playing at an important position and are they going to do that much for the club?' And perhaps they are reaching the same answer, 'no,'" McHale said.



'The Year of the Giants'

Lights, camera, action!

By BOB MARKER
N-M Sports Editor
Ken Bobay does not plan to apply for a projectionist license and his wife Joan does not aspire to be a photo editor.

For that matter, Gary Beatty and his wife Sharon have no intentions of becoming photographers for National Geographic.

Jane Michael has no goal of being a disc jockey, either, but all the quintet of football player parents played, psychologically, a key role in Fremont Ross's Buckeye Conference title and playoff clinching win over Sandusky last Friday night.

In August, the Bobays and Beattys—they laughingly disdain being called the B & B Production Company—had an idea: find a way to tell the story of the Ross Little Giants' football season.

The idea was to take pictures, turn them into slides and use the slides for an inspiring show for the team. The target date for the first showing was the day of the Sandusky game.

The first step was to approach Ross Coach Pete Moore with the idea.

Getting Moore's okay, Joan, Gary and Sharon began taking pictures.

The first photo was of the title of the mini-production: "The Year of the Giants."

Following that were photos of summer conditioning drills, weight training, coaches preparations, photos of the practice fields and Harmon Stadium and the alley which the players trudge five days a week from the dressing rooms at Harmon to the practice fields behind Ross High School.

Photos were taken of the scrimmage games, and over and it sends chills through us. It's everything the kids have been through; you feel like you have been a part of it."

followed by "We Are Family" and the presentation ends with "Eye of the Tiger."

After that had been accomplished, it was time for the first showing.

The group pointed out that Moore had not told his staff about the group's work.

"We showed it to the team at five minutes after five last Friday afternoon," the Ross Coach disclosed, "just before we got on the bus to go to Sandusky. I think it had a great emotional impact on the kids during the game."

"We can sit through it," Joan said as she spoke for the production crew, "and see it over

the cheerleaders, the band and the crowds at the early season games. The production was right there and there were few delays.

Finally, after approximately 300 slides, 160 of them were chosen for the presentation. Then came the hard work: timing the slides to coincide with music.

"Jane bought the music," Joan Bobay explained.

"We had never did anything like this before," the other three said.

The first music heard in the presentation is "Chariots of Fire." Then comes "It's All Right," followed by "Overkill" which flows into "Hit 'em With Your Best Shot." That is

the cheerleaders, the band and the crowds at the early season games. The production was right there and there were few delays.

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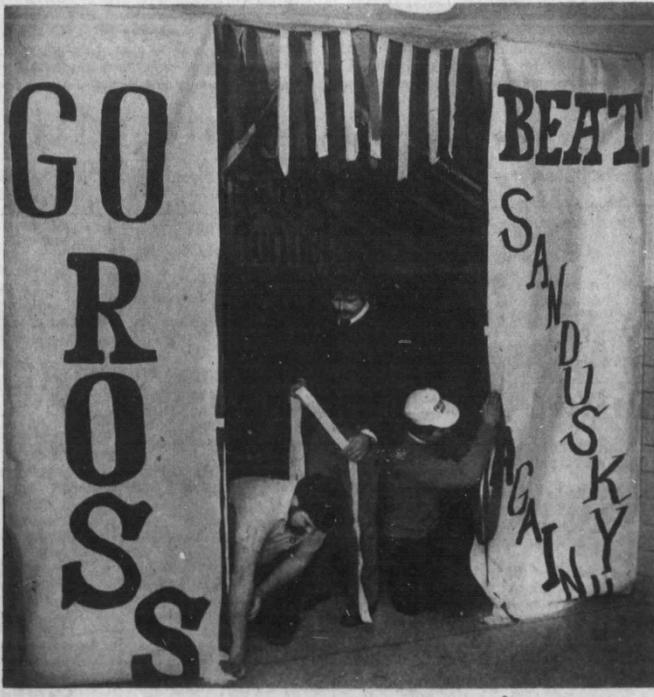


BUTTONS, BUTTONS. Who has the buttons? The Ross Athletic Boosters Club, that's who. The

Club is getting pumped up for Saturday's playoff game against Sandusky.

Clyde's problem:

Continued from page 1



Preparing for the playoff game

Putting the finishing touches on the 'entrance' to the Ross High School social studies hall at left are health teacher Joe Hershey, left, substitute Steve Hampshire, and history teacher Bob Knapp. Twenty people, including students and teachers, spent three hours putting up decorations Thursday afternoon and evening. The decorations were in preparation for the Ross-Sandusky football game in the state high school playoffs Saturday. At right, Brian Wilch, a business education teacher, gets help hanging paper streamers from world history teacher Don Robinson. The celebration will continue with a pep rally beginning tonight at 7 in the gymnasium. The rally will feature a slide presentation depicting the Ross football season, which was put together by a group of Ross boosters. Coach Pete Moore and the Little Giants, the marching band and the cheerleaders will be on hand. Afterward, weather permitting, a Sandusky effigy will be burned at a bonfire on the field between the school and the YMCA.

(N-M photos by Bill Kennedy)



Beatty's run gives Ross repeat 7-0 win; Little Giants face Princeton Saturday

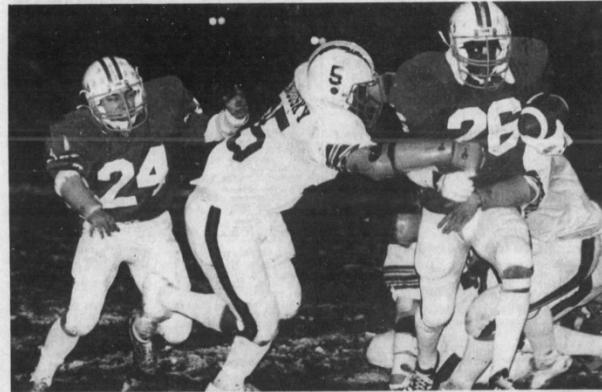


PETE MOORE, head coach of the Little Giants, is escorted off the field Saturday after his team defeated Sandusky to

win the Division I, Region II championship. Tom Batesole (65) and Jerry Manahan (89) walk beside the Ross coach.



GENE SIMMONS of Ross tries to elude Sandusky's Chris Romick as he returns a punt in the first period. Simmons had a 17-yard return to the Sandusky 25.



JEFF GENTRY, Little Giants tailback, cuts through a hole on the left side of the Sandusky line during first quarter action. Mike Palomo (24)

line during first quarter action. Mike Palomo (24)

(N-M photos by Bill Kennedy)

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor
Todd Beatty's two-yard run with 7:26 remaining in the game gave Fremont Ross a 7-0 win over Sandusky Saturday night at Harmon Stadium.

It was the second win in eight days by the Blue Streaks for Ross over the Blue Streaks.

The victory gave Ross the Division I, Region II championship and catapulted the Little Giants into the Ohio High School Football Playoffs semifinal round against Cincinnati Princeton. Ross will take on the Vikings, a 28-21 upset winner over fabled Cincinnati Moeller at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at Dayton's Welcome Stadium.

Beatty's run was the first half but stepped into the limelight when Ross Pete Moore and offensive coordinator Rex Radloff decided a change was needed.

Beatty, a 5-11, 185-pound junior, and Chris Simmons, a 210 pounder and also a junior, were inserted into the Ross offensive scheme at the beginning of the second half. Beatty took over at fullback for Mike Palomo while Simmons stepped in for Jeff Gentry.

"Jeff and Mike were not doing a bad job," Radloff said, "we just felt that we needed a change."

"We wanted bigger backs because of the condition of the field," Radloff explained. "We felt that Simmons and Beatty could run the power plays a little better on that surface."

Palomo, a workaholic 5-6 senior tips the scales at a doubtful 180 pounds while Gentry is 70 pounds lighter.

Trailing over at the Ross 39 on the second possession of the second half, the Little Giants drove 61 yards in 14 plays, a drive that began at the 2:16 mark of the third period and ended with Beatty's run to daylight four minutes and 34 seconds into the final period.

The bruising Ross fullback had runs of 5, 4, 2, 4, 3, 8 and 2 in the drive. Simmons, used sparingly in the first half, had runs of 6, 5 and 2 yards. Quarterback Kevin Wilhelm ran the option to perfection during the drive with runs of 8 and 5 yards, twice, during the series.

The Little Giants converted three third down situations in the drive, the first when Wilhelm optioned around right end for five to the Sandusky 37. The second, and key play of the drive, was a five-yard pass to Jim Hufford to the Blue Streaks 17. Hufford rolled right on the pass, stopped, and fired backhand a pass to his wingback.

Beatty converted the third time, bulling his way eight yards to the two to set up the run scoring play. Center Scott Cross, guard Mark Nitschke and tackle Terry O'Farrell wiped out the left side of the Sandusky line to allow Beatty to go in untouched on the scoring play.

The extra point was an adventure in itself as holder Robbie Robinson put up for a high snap, caught it down and sophomore placekicker Shawn McCarthy converted the ball over the lower right corner of the goal posts for the point.

"The line did a great job," Beatty said about his heroics in the scoring drive.

"I did not expect to score on a high snap," he chuckled while giving that as a tongue-in-the-cheek excuse for his admitted boner on the fourth and one play at the Sandusky six. "In the back of my mind, if we had gone for the field goal and missed, they would have had the ball at the 20. So I felt if we did not make it, they would still be pinned down and we would be in danger again.

"I think I ate my steak too fast tonight," he chuckled while giving that as a tongue-in-the-cheek excuse for his admitted boner on the fourth and one play at the Sandusky six. "In the back of my mind, if we had gone for the field goal and missed, they would have had the ball at the 20. So I felt if we did not make it, they would still be pinned down and we would be in danger again.

"I blocked the linebacker," tackle O'Farrell described his job on the final two yards. "I got a good enough block to have him in."

Cross, a 5-9 junior, admitted that being a hog farmer helped him with his block. "I just plowed him into the backfield," he grinned.

Sandusky and Ross had started each other down in the first half, but the Blue Streaks had the last laugh. The closest blink came when Ross drove to the Sandusky six late in the fourth period but the Blue Streaks held on a fourth and one on a play Moore said was his foul up.

Defensively, Coach Joe Siegel's



chargers were unbreakable. The deepest penetration that Sandusky was to the Ross 44 on the Blue Streaks' first possession of the second half. Ross allowed only three first downs, one in the final 24 minutes and forced Sandusky punter Milt Pritt to use his toe eight times.

Sandusky managed just 34 yards rushing on 23 plays and had only four of 15 passing for 26 yards. One of the passes was picked off by Hufford, his ninth of the year.

Led by tacklers Derek Isaman, Stacy Swaisgood, Craig Mosser, Jason Fought and Paul Stout plus tackles Adam Calabrese and Rod Lanning and ends Simmons and Jerry Manahan, Ross shut down anything Sandusky tried.

Hufford and his defensive backfield teammates Gene Simmons and Mike Wolf, tossed a blanket on the Blue Streak receivers. Pritt's 14-yard strike to Jim Hufford was the only score during the first series of the second half was Sandusky's biggest air raid.

A 14-yard run by James Keys on a reverse was the most yardage surrendered on the ground by the Little Giants. Keys' run was one of two first downs in a drive that Sandusky started on its six after the goal line stand and ended at its 35 early in the second quarter.

Ross had field position all evening, using the running of McCarthy to keep the Blue Streaks in their own territory. The best starting position in 10 Sandusky offensive series began at the Blue Streaks 40 when a Gentry fumble was recovered by Ron Pou.

"This is the happiest thing that has ever happened to me in coaching," Moore said. "We had field position all night and the defense played better, if that's possible, then they did the first time we played them. I would not let a little second guessing hamper his happiness."

"I think I ate my steak too fast tonight," he chuckled while giving that as a tongue-in-the-cheek excuse for his admitted boner on the fourth and one play at the Sandusky six. "In the back of my mind, if we had gone for the field goal and missed, they would have had the ball at the 20. So I felt if we did not make it, they would still be pinned down and we would be in danger again.

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Defensively, Coach Joe Siegel's



TODD BEATTY

Playoff picture

Saturday's results

DIVISION I

Memorial Catholic 14,

Ch. St. Joseph 14,

At Fremont

Fremont Ross 76,

Sandusky 0

At Canton

Akron Garfield 28,

Alliance 12

At Kings Island

Cin. Princeton 28,

Cin. Moeller 21

DIVISION V

At Marion

Mogadore 9,

McDonald 9

At Findlay

McComb 11,

Edgerton 0

At Newark

Newark Cath. 29,

Woodstock 26

At Middletown

Middletown Fenwick 26,

S. Charleston SE 21

State Semifinals

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

At Marion

At Akron Rubber Bowl

Brecksville 11-0 vs.

Youngstown Warren 10-0

At Dayton Welcome Sta-

dium

Celina 15-0 vs. Monroe

Lemon-Monroe 10-1

DIVISION III

Friday, 7:30 p.m.

At Beres

Levi Morris LaBree 11-0

vs. Elyria Catholic 11-0

At Newark

St. Charles 10-0-1 vs.

Urban 14-0

At Groveport

Coat Grove 11-0 vs. Co-

lumbus Ready 9-3

DIVISION V

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

At Canton Fawcett Stadium

Mogadore 11-0 vs. New-

ark Catholic 11-0

At Troy

McComb 11-0 vs. Middle-

town Fenwick 6-5



PETE MOORE



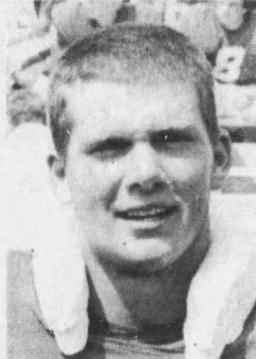
ADAM CALABRESE



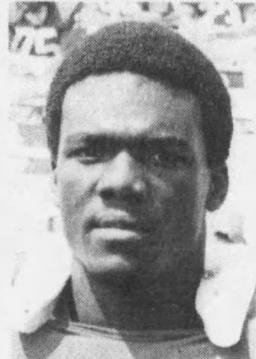
JIM HUFFORD



ROD LANNING



DEREK ISAMAN



CHRIS SIMMONS

Moore, five Giants named BC's finest

Pete Moore and five members of his Ross High School Buckeye Conference championship team have been honored by the conference.

Moore, head coach of the Little Giants the past eight seasons, was named BC Coach of the Year for taking his club from a 3-7 season last year to a current 10-0-1 record, a BC title and a berth in the state playoffs this year.

Meanwhile, the five Ross players who were named to the All-BC first team were Jim Hufford, Rod Lanning, Derek Isaman, Chris Simmons and Adam Calabrese.

Hufford, who led the conference with eight interceptions, made it at a defensive back slot, Lanning was honored as a defensive lineman, Isaman as a linebacker, Simmons as a defensive end and Calabrese earned first-team laurels from his offensive guard post.

Calabrese, Hufford and Lanning are all seniors while Isaman and Simmons are juniors. In fact, Isaman and

Simmons were the only two underclassmen to be named to either first unit.

Sandusky led everybody in first-team selections with eight, followed by Ross and Admiral King with five each, Marion with three, Lorain Senior with two and Findlay and Elyria with one each.

Admiral King tailback Gary Patton was named Back of the Year for his conference-leading 1,100 yards while Sandusky end Ervin Owens won Lineman of the Year honors for both his offensive and defensive efforts. Owens was named first-team end on both sides of the field.

Ross placed six more players on the second team — Jerry Manahan at both tight end and defensive end, Terry O'Farrell at offensive tackle, Kevin Wilhelm at quarterback, Jeff Gentry at running back, Stacy Swaisgood at linebacker and Gene Simmons at defensive back. All are seniors.

Complete listing is on page 15.

Football

All-Buckeye Conference

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

| Pos. | Name, School | Yr. | Hgt. | Wgt. |
|------|----------------------------|-----|------|------|
| TE | Ervin Owens, Sandusky | 12 | 6-2 | 222 |
| T | Tom Jama, Admiral King | 12 | 6-3 | 251 |
| T | Wayne Russell, Sandusky | 12 | 6-3 | 230 |
| G | Adam Calabrese, Ross | 12 | 5-11 | 210 |
| G | Joe Sosinski, Admiral King | 12 | 6-2 | 232 |
| C | Mike Kaser, Sandusky | 12 | 5-10 | 187 |
| WR | Randy Jarvis, Lorain Sr. | 12 | 5-10 | 175 |
| WR | Lester Hill, Marion | 12 | 5-9 | 145 |
| QB | Mike Repko, Lorain Sr. | 12 | 5-10 | 170 |
| RB | Mike Dillon, Findlay | 12 | 6-2 | 220 |
| RB | Gary Patton, Admiral King | 12 | 5-10 | 178 |
| RB | David Jones, Marion | 12 | 6-3 | 193 |
| P | Bob Calamari, Admiral King | 12 | 6-4 | 190 |
| P | Milt Pritt, Sandusky | 12 | 6-2 | 187 |
| K | Tracy Steele, Sandusky | 12 | 5-10 | 236 |

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE

| | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|----|------|-----|
| E | Chris Simmons, Ross | 11 | 6-3 | 210 |
| E | Ervin Owens, Sandusky | 12 | 6-2 | 222 |
| DL | Tim Green, Elyria | 12 | 6-2 | 240 |
| DL | William Henry, Sandusky | 12 | 5-10 | 160 |
| DL | Rod Lanning, Ross | 12 | 5-10 | 180 |
| LB | Derek Isaman, Ross | 11 | 6-3 | 200 |
| LB | Dave Harris, Admiral King | 12 | 5-9 | 165 |
| LB | Elvis Pickens, Sandusky | 12 | 5-10 | 180 |
| DB | Jim Hufford, Ross | 12 | 6-0 | 180 |
| DB | Bill Black, Marion | 12 | 5-10 | 165 |
| DB | James Keys, Sandusky | 12 | 5-10 | 155 |

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

| | | | | |
|----|----------------------------|----|------|-----|
| TE | Jerry Manahan, Ross | 12 | 6-3 | 200 |
| T | Terry O'Farrell, Ross | 12 | 6-1 | 205 |
| T | Bill Benjamin, Findlay | 11 | 6-0 | 230 |
| G | Gary Dye, Sandusky | 12 | 6-0 | 210 |
| G | Adrian Roman, Admiral King | 12 | 6-0 | 199 |
| C | Lee Gelb, Admiral King | 12 | 5-11 | 177 |
| WR | Larry Helms, Findlay | 11 | 5-11 | 165 |
| WR | Kevin Curry, Lorain Sr. | 12 | 6-1 | 155 |
| QB | Kevin Wilhelm, Ross | 12 | 6-0 | 175 |
| RB | Jeff Gentry, Ross | 12 | 5-10 | 170 |
| RB | Robbie Robinson, Sandusky | 12 | 5-10 | 180 |
| RB | Jesse Medina, Admiral King | 12 | 5-9 | 209 |

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

| | | | | |
|----|----------------------------|----|------|-----|
| E | Doug Foor, Elyria | 12 | 6-1 | 190 |
| E | Jerry Manahan, Ross | 12 | 6-3 | 200 |
| DL | Joe Sosinski, Admiral King | 12 | 6-2 | 232 |
| DL | Richard Lewis, Marion | 11 | 5-8 | 155 |
| DL | Darryl Wilson, Sandusky | 12 | 6-3 | 235 |
| LB | Stacy Swaisgood, Ross | 12 | 5-9 | 180 |
| LB | Ron Beal, Lorain Sr. | 12 | 5-11 | 155 |
| LB | Jerry Carter, Marion | 11 | 6-2 | 185 |
| DB | Jim Owens, Elyria | 12 | 5-8 | 155 |
| DB | Gene Simmons, Ross | 12 | 5-9 | 170 |
| DB | Bob Calamari, Admiral King | 12 | 6-4 | 190 |

BACK OF THE YEAR

Gary Patton, Admiral King.

LINEMAN OF THE YEAR

Ervin Owens, Sandusky.

COACH OF THE YEAR

Pete Moore, Ross.

Hockey

Wales Conference

Patrick Division

| | W | L | T | Pts | GF | GA |
|------------|----|----|---|-----|----|----|
| Rangers | 12 | 5 | 2 | 26 | 81 | 64 |
| NY Isles | 12 | 7 | 0 | 24 | 84 | 67 |
| Phila. | 11 | 7 | 1 | 23 | 78 | 63 |
| Washington | 8 | 10 | 0 | 16 | 59 | 69 |
| Pittsburgh | 5 | 11 | 2 | 12 | 53 | 71 |
| N.Jersey | 2 | 16 | 0 | 4 | 46 | 84 |

Adams Division

| | | | | | | |
|----------|----|----|---|----|----|----|
| Boston | 12 | 4 | 1 | 25 | 86 | 51 |
| Buffalo | 9 | 6 | 3 | 21 | 68 | 62 |
| Quebec | 9 | 9 | 2 | 20 | 99 | 76 |
| Hartford | 8 | 8 | 1 | 17 | 63 | 67 |
| Montreal | 8 | 10 | 0 | 16 | 76 | 74 |

Campbell Conference

Norris Division

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|----|---|----|----|----|
| Chicago | 9 | 9 | 0 | 18 | 70 | 75 |
| Toronto | 7 | 9 | 2 | 16 | 77 | 98 |
| Minnesota | 8 | 8 | 1 | 17 | 77 | 81 |
| St. Louis | 7 | 10 | 1 | 15 | 64 | 78 |

Detroit 7 8 2 16 63 71

Smythe Division

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|---|----|-----|----|
| Edmonton | 15 | 3 | 1 | 31 | 112 | 79 |
| Calgary | 7 | 8 | 3 | 17 | 62 | 73 |
| Vancouver | 8 | 9 | 1 | 17 | 79 | 81 |
| Los Angeles | 5 | 8 | 5 | 15 | 75 | 80 |
| Winnipeg | 6 | 10 | 2 | 14 | 68 | 86 |

Tuesday's Games

Detroit 3, Quebec 1

N.Y. Islanders 6, Hartford 4

Montreal 5, St. Louis 2

Minnesota 6, New Jersey 0

Wednesday's Games

Washington at N.Y. Rangers, 7:35 p.m.

Toronto at Pittsburgh, 8:05 p.m.

St. Louis at Chicago, 8:35 p.m.

Buffalo at Winnipeg, 9:05 p.m.

Princeton mentor respects Ross unit

By ROB BOUKISSEN

News-Messenger Sports Writer

CINCINNATI — Contrary to popular belief, the Cincinnati Princeton Vikings will not take the Fremont Ross Little Giants lightly in Saturday night's state semifinal game at Dayton's Welcome Stadium.

That's the opinion of long-time Princeton head coach Pat Mancuso, who admitted that even though his club came away victorious in its big, big game with archrival Moeller last week, it won't look past the Little Giants this week.

"We're not figuring on a letdown," the Vikings' 24-year mentor said in a telephone conversation this morning. "I think the kids realize we have a state championship within our grasp, and they don't want to let it slip away.

"And our kids respect any team (Ross) that is undefeated and only gives up 45 points the whole season. We're a very performance-oriented team, and we know we'll have to play well to win Saturday."

The Vikings have played well enough this season to win nine of their

by a wide 36-17 margin.

"I think that number one ranking had both a positive and negative effect on us," said Mancuso.

"Early in the season it was positive because it helped us believe how good we really were. And we really started out strong.

"But then I think we got too much publicity, and it went to our heads. We played a terrible game against Upper Arlington. It was our worst game in seven or eight years."

The Vikings quickly bounced back, however, drilling previously undefeated and unscorched Cincinnati Roger Bacon 42-7 to start a six-game winning streak. Along the way, they edged another previously undefeated team in Middletown 23-22.

Then came Moeller in the regular-season finale.

"That was a great high school football game," said Mancuso. "It could have gone either way."

It went Moeller's way 28-21, but Princeton came right back again and beat the Crusaders by the same score in the playoff opener last week to get where it is today.

The Vikings have achieved their current status with speed, quickness and experience, according to Mancuso.

"We're predominantly a senior team, and I think that means a lot," he said. "We have a quick team, both offensively and defensively. We rely on our quickness a great deal."

"We're not that big, but we're not small. I think both teams will match up evenly size-wise."

The Vikings are at their best when they have the ball, which will make for an interesting matchup with Ross's vaunted defense. They have scored a whopping 379 points this season.

They're known mostly as a running team, with a trio of backfield people rushing for a combined total of more than 3,000 yards.

Mancuso admitted that his club is a special one, but he also said the same for Ross.

"We didn't send any scouts to the Sandusky game," he said, "but we've seen the films and there's no secret why they're undefeated. They have a very, very aggressive defense, and their offense can move the ball."

"It should be a very good game."

Tickets hit 3,000

Approximately 3,000 tickets for the Ross versus Cincinnati Princeton Division I, semifinal game of the Ohio High School Football Playoffs have been sold at Ross High School Athletic Director Dick Sherman reported this morning.

Tickets will be on sale until 6:30 p.m. today at the basketball ticket office in the gymnasium concourse at the high school. It is the final day for sales in Fremont.

All tickets are for reserved seats and cost \$3.50.

The game will be played at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at Welcome Stadium in Dayton.

11 games. That might be considered a super season for most schools, but for Princeton it was a slight disappointment.

The Vikings were expected to win all their games this year after being ranked No. 1 in the entire country in a preseason poll put out by the national newspaper USA Today.

But after winning their first two games handily, the Vikings hit the skids against Upper Arlington, losing

Football

AP All-Northwest Ohio teams

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — The Associated Press' 1983 Ohio Northwestern District high school football all-stars, selected by a district panel of sports writers and broadcasters:

CLASS AAA

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE — SE Keith Tammarine, Perrysburg, 6-foot-4, 180 pounds, Sr.; TE Damon Hueston, Toledo Macomber, 6-6, 219, Sr.; T Chris D'Esposito, Toledo St. Francis, 6-3, 250, Sr.; and Todd Hanson, Perrysburg, 6-4, 240, Sr.; G Doug Brunner, Toledo Bowsher, 6-3, 240, Sr.; and **ADAM CALABRESE**, **FREMONT ROSS** 5-10, 205, SR.; C Rick Knicely, Toledo Whitmer, 6-2, 222, Sr.; QB John Keller, Toledo Central Catholic, 6-5, 210, Sr.; and RB William White, Lima Sr., 5-11, 170, Sr.; Tom Karpinski, Toledo St. Francis, 5-11, 175, Sr.; and Rory Johnson, Toledo Bowsher, 5-11, 200, Sr.; K Scott Kasper, Toledo Whitmer, 6-1, 205, Sr.; and P Mark Swentofski, Toledo St. John's, 5-10, 160, Sr.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE — E Vincent McClain, Toledo Macomber, 5-11, 175, Sr.; and Erv Owens, Sandusky, 6-3, 212, Sr.; T Tom Anderzack, Toledo Central Catholic, 6-3, 195, Sr.; and Mike Roberts, Shelby, 5-11, 201, Sr.; LB Chris Manojlovich, Mansfield Madison, 5-11, 185, Sr.; **DEREK ISAMAN**, **FREMONT ROSS**, 6-2, 185, JR.; Henry King, Toledo Macomber, 6-2, 195, Sr.; and Mark Zientek, Toledo St. Francis, 6-foot, 180, Sr.; and DB John Lawson, Toledo Macomber, 6-1, 190, Sr.; Tim Gries, Toledo St. John's, 6-foot, 180, Sr.; and **JIM HUFFORD**, **FREMONT ROSS**, 6-1, 185, SR.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE — SE Doug Kantner, Wapakoneta; TE Derick Gant, Toledo St. Francis; T Mike Madigan, Wapakoneta; and **TERRY O'FARRELL**, **FREMONT ROSS**; G Ken Walczak, Maumee; and Bryant Crutchfield, Toledo Macomber; C Greg Eichenauer, Celina; QB Jeff Wiley, Celina; and RB Rick Ross, Celina; Mike Dillon, Findlay; and Steve Stephens, Toledo DeVilbiss.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE — E Brian Burnett, Toledo Start; and **JERRY MANAHAN**, **FREMONT ROSS**; T Tracy Steele, Sandusky; and Tim Batanian, Toledo St. Francis; LB Thad Rosenberger, Mansfield Sr.; Dale Jackson, Lima Sr.; Marc Martin, Sylvania Southview; and Scott Kasper, Toledo Whitmer; and Michael Moss, Toledo Macomber; Mark Whitcomb, Toledo Whitmer; and Chris Romick, Sandusky.

BACK OF YEAR — John Keller, Tol. Central Catholic.

LINEMAN OF YEAR — Damon Hueston, Toledo Macomber.

CO-COACHES OF YEAR — **PETE MOORE**, **FREMONT ROSS**, and Richard Cromwell, Toledo St. Francis.

Three area coaches lead district choices



PETE MOORE



ADAM CALABRESE



JIM HUFFORD



DEREK ISAMAN

Three area coaches and eight area players received top honors in the 1983 All-Northwest Ohio high school football teams released today.

Fremont Ross coach Pete Moore, who was named Buckeye Conference Coach of the Year Wednesday, shared the Class AAA district honor, while Margaretta's Dana Woodring won the Class AA award and Woodmore's Tom Galbraith shared the Class A honor.

The players named to respective first units were Ross's Adam Calabrese, Derek Isaman and Jim Hufford in Class AAA, Margaretta's Randy Fredrick and Oak Harbor's Dan Weirich and Dennis Schiets in Class AA, and Woodmore's Jeff Rospert and Jeff Perkins in Class A.

In Class AAA, Moore, who has guided Ross to an undefeated season, a BC title and the state playoffs, shared top coaching honors with Richard Cromwell of Toledo St. Francis.

His players who were considered by the panel of writers and broadcasters to be the best at their positions were Calabrese at offensive guard, Isaman and linebacker and Hufford at defensive back.

All players on the Class AAA first teams were seniors with the exception of Isaman.

Two other Little Giants — Terry O'Farrell at offensive tackle and Jerry Manahan at defensive end —

made the Class AAA second team.

In Class AA, Margaretta's Woodring won Coach of the Year for taking his Polar Bears to an 8-3 record, their first Sandusky Bay Conference title and a berth in the state playoffs.

His leader, senior quarterback Randy Fredrick, beat out Huron standout Randy Strickland for first-team honors at that position.

Oak Harbor stars Weirich and Schiets earned Class AA first-team berths at running back and tight end, respectively.

Area players on the Class AA second team were Oak Harbor's Dennis Jensen at offensive tackle and Bellevue's Pren Trickett at linebacker.

In Class A, the Woodmore trio of coach Galbraith and players Rospert and Perkins led the way for area people.

Galbraith shared Coach of the Year honors with Richard Roll of Plymouth after taking the Wildcats to a 9-1 record and a Suburban Lakes League championship.

Rospert and Perkins were first-teamers at quarterback and defensive back, respectively.

Another Wildcat, Jeff Chambers, made the Class A second team at running back as did St. Joe's John Sidell at quarterback.

Complete all-district listing is on page 10.



JEFF PERKINS



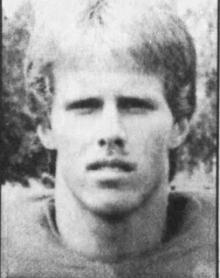
JEFF ROSPERT



TOM GALBRAITH



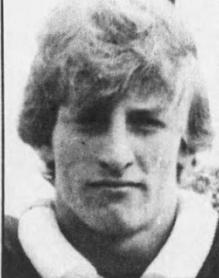
DANA WOODRING



RANDY FREDRICK



DAN WEIRICH



DENNIS SCHIETS



DEFENSIVE TEAM player on the Ross Little Giants are, front row, left to right, end Chris Simmons, tackle Adam Calabrese, tackle Rod

Lanning, tackle/linebacker Jason Fought, end Jerry Manahan; back row, linebacker Paul Stout, half-

back Mike Wolf, linebacker Derek Isaman, linebacker Stacy Swaisgood, safety Gene Simmons,

halfback Jim Hufford, linebacker Matt Hiser and linebacker Craig Mosser.

Defense does the job for Little Giants

Defense. Fremont Ross's football team is known for it.

Head Coach Pete Moore believes in it. "You look at the great teams," he insisted, "and they all have great defenses."

And the Little Giants have produced a great defense this season. Just 45 points have been put on the board against Ross, and six times no team has crossed the goal line.

The "D" overshadows the offense. Members of the unit have played it to that position.

Through 11 games this season, the Little Giants have allowed only 128 yards per game. Teams have run 308 plays for just 687 yards, an average of 2.2 per carry. Opponents have attempted 176 passes, completed 67 for 724 yards, an average of just under 11 per catch but many of the catches have come when teams have had long distances to go for first down yardage.

Jim Hufford and Gene Simmons have combined for 14 pass interceptions from their halfback and safety positions, respectively, for the Little Giants. The third member of the defensive backfield, co-captain Mike Wolf, has come close but has not pulled off a pass theft yet.

"The goal of the defense is to get the ball in good field position for the offense," Hufford said.

"I am surprised that Sandusky did not throw one at me," Wolf laughed, "but we cover up for each other."

Hufford pointed out that with nine interceptions, he feels that he can go for the theft because Simmons' 4.6 speed will offset any mistake.

"The key for us in the backfield," Simmons said, "is what the guys up front on the line do. They put pressure on the quarterback and it helps us."

Members of that up-front group of people include defensive ends Chris Simmons, Jerry Manahan and Kent Coleman, tackles Adam Calabrese, Rod Lanning and Matt Hiser, and linebackers Derek Isaman, Stacy Swaisgood, Craig Mosser, Paul Stout and Jason Fought.

Asked why they have been so successful this season, those defensive players have a number of answers.

Simmons said, "We play together as a unit instead of as individuals."

Calabrese added, "We all communicate so well with each other. We know we're all gonna help

each other."

Manahan chimed in, "You know if you make a mistake, someone is gonna cover up for you."

And said Stout, "There's no one star on the defense. Everyone relies on everyone else."

The players said they began feeling that they were good enough to come this far as early as the end of last season.

Manahan said, "As soon as the year ended, we knew we had 20 lettermen coming back. We knew we had a good nucleus of players and that we were gonna be good."

Swaisgood went further and said, "The scrimmage against Whitmer was the turning point. They blew us out, so we decided we had to do something."

Isaman, backed by the opinions of everyone else, felt that the toughest game this year came in the 7-7 tie with Toledo St. Francis, and that "by the sixth game of the year, we thought we could make it."

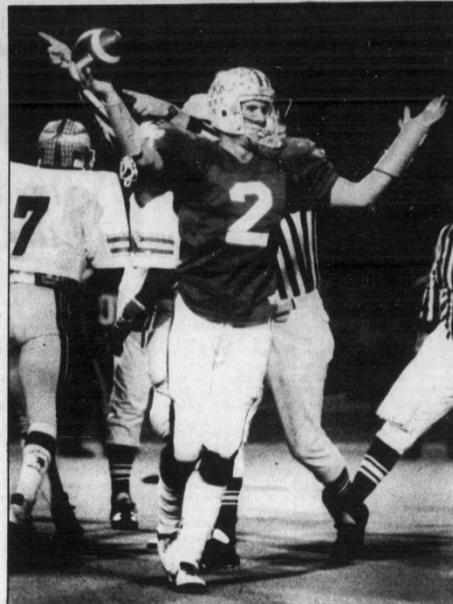
All the players expressed gratitude towards huge fan response to their state championship drive, with Chris Simmons speaking for the group when he said, "It's the best feeling you can have."

Sports

Ross season ends in Dayton



Jeff Nossaman (16), left, Ross wide receiver, is consoled by teammate Tom Bate-sole after the final buzzer that ended the Little Giants' 35-7 loss to Princeton Saturday. At the top, Ross Coach Pete Moore shouts instructions while at the left, linebacker Derek Isaman holds up the ball that he recovered at the Princeton 16 early in the final quarter. The recovery set up Ross's touchdown.



(N-M photos by Bill Kennedy)

Ohio college football roundup

Wolverines trip Bucks

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) — With an emotional victory over arch-rival Ohio State tucked safely away, Michigan Coach Bo Schembechler now can afford to look ahead to the Wolverines' meeting

ter and Bob Bergeron's 26-yard, first period field goal rounded out Michigan's scoring.

Tailback Keith Byars ran for TDs of 1 and 18 yards, and Ohio State quarterback Mike Tomczak

Princeton races past Ross 35-7

Brown, Simpson, Taylor roll up 320 yards against Little Giants

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor

DAYTON—Brown, Simpson and Taylor.

Named out of pro football's history?

Yes, but Saturday night at Welcome Stadium in Dayton.

James Brown, Vinny Simpson and Michael Taylor—not Jim, O.J. and Jim—struck down Fremont Ross's thoughts of a state football title with 320 yards of total offense and Cincinnati Princeton to a 35-7 victory in the Division I sectional game of the Ohio High School Football Playoffs.

Brown tore through Ross's vaunted defense which had yielded just 45 points in the prior 11 games, for 154 yards on 21 carries. He scored three touchdowns and hurt the Little Giants inside and out. The 154 yards were just four less than the top production by a team against the Little Giants this season.

Ross had allowed opponents 128 yards in total offense per game before the class with Princeton.

With Brown driving up huge gains of the artful 4-yard carries, Simpson ran for 111 yards on 14 carries and Simpson, Brown's counterpart at the running back slots, had 69 on a dozen chances. Both Taylor and Simpson scored TDs.

The Vikings, did not have a yard in the air but finished with 100 yards of ground gain.

Princeton took the opening kickoff and marched 80 yards in 10 plays to score. Brown driving over left guard for the TD at the 8:08 mark of the initial period. The 5-foot-11, 195-pound senior opened play with a 13-yard burst on a straight dive over left guard. He followed that up with runs of 2, 17, 7 and the 154 yards.

Simpson clicked off an 18-yard dash on a quick hit off right tackle and Taylor supplied runs of 7 and 20 yards from the option off the veer attack.

After that initial race horse drive, the Vikings' speed nullified any defensive or offensive play.

Princeton made it 14-0, passing the previous high water marks for points scored in a single game against Ross this season, scoring with 4:11 remaining in the half. The drive covered 56 yards in 12 plays.

The second Viking TD was set up when Ross wide receiver Jeff Nossaman hauled in an 18-yard pass from quarterback Kevin Wilhelm at the Princeton 47, but fumbled the ball as he hit the by Vikings' defensive back Marcus Harrison. Shanno Carpenter came up with the loose ball.

Brown picked up 20 of the yards in the drive but Taylor's 12-yard run to the one was the key. Simpson scored on the next play.

Playoff schedule

State Championships

At Ohio State University

Division I

Akron Garfield 11-0 vs. Cincinnati Princeton 10-2, Sunday,

2 p.m.

Division II

Greenville 12-0 vs. Celina 12-

Saturday, 2:30 p.m.

Division III

Elkton Catholic 12-0 vs. Urbana 12-4, Friday, 2:30 p.m.

Division IV

Orville 9-3 vs. Columbus Ready 9-2, Friday, 11 a.m.

Division V

Newark Catholic 10-1 vs. McCollum 12-9, Saturday,

11 a.m.

Statewide's Semifinal Results

Division I

At Akron Rubber Bowl

At Dayton, Mentor Lake Cath. 10

At Dayton Welcome Stadium

At Cincinnati Princeton 35, Fremont Ross 9

Division V

At Columbus Favretti Stadium

Newark Cath. 28, Mogadore

21, OT

At Troy

McComb 7, Middletown Fen-

wick 9

KICKOFF FUMBLE. The ball (71) of Ross has the ball on his back while attempting to block for Princeton player. Terry O'Farrell



KICKOFF FUMBLE. The ball (71) of Ross has the ball on his back while attempting to block for Princeton player. Terry O'Farrell

Pete Moore:

'At times...they were a blur'

DAYTON—"At times, I thought they were a blur," Ross football Coach Pete Moore said about the speed of Cincinnati Princeton.

Moore had just watched the Vikings dissect his Little Giants team 35-7 in the Division I semifinal game of the Ohio High School Playoffs Saturday night at Welcome Stadium.

"They hit the dive quicker than any team we ever seen. We thought they had good speed when we watched them on film but from the sidelines, those guys were a lot of blur."

The Ross coach was most discomfited with the loss. Instead he praised his team, calling it a great season for Fremont Ross football.

"If anyone has told me back on Aug. 10 (the first meeting of the squad this season) that we would be in the Division I semifinals tonight, I would not have believed them," Moore said in his postgame talk. "It was a great season to hang your heads...It was a great season."

Ross was hurt on both sides of the line by the Vikings' speed. It was evident in the first drive as Princeton backs James Brown and Vinny Simpson broke into the clear on straight down plays.

"On the very offense," Moore explained, "we always thought that the dive was the most dangerous and toughest play."

"Then we did begin to stop the dive. Taylor (Princeton quarterback Michael) would keep it and go outside on the option," Moore said. "When Taylor went out there, they were getting good blocks on the ends to open it up."

On Ross's first play after the kickoff, fullback Todd Beatty burst 19 yards to the Little Giants 48, the longest run of the game for Ross, but disaster struck on the next play.

Running on the option, Wilhelm was hit by Harlon Bassett, fullback and the Viking's Sean Croley scooped up the ball and stumbled to the Ross 36. Brown ran for 11, 22 and the final 3 to complete the three-play scoring drive at the 2:03 mark of the period.

Another fumble set up the fourth Viking TD. Ross's Gene Simmons fumbled the second half kickoff at the Ross 21 with the Vikings' John Lampkin coming up with the pigskin.

It took four plays for the Vikings to apply the trick-breakthrough. Shanno Carpenter over left guard for a down. Taylor followed with a four-yard run. Brown got four more over left guard again and went into the end zone over the same place at the 10:14 mark.

It was the first time that the Little Giants had given up points in the first period this season.

It was on the second play of the final period, taking advantage of a Princeton turnover. After Viking William Franklin had intercepted a flanker pass by Nossaman at the Ross 15, outside linebacker Derek Isaman recovered Simpson's fumble at the Viking 18.

Chris Simmons ran to the 11 for Ross but Croley sacked Wilhelm for a five-yard loss. Wilhelm came back with a 14-yard strike to wingback Jim Hufford at the two and on a third and goal at the one. Beatty went over left guard for the touchdown at the 8:26 mark. Shawn McCarthy added the extra point.

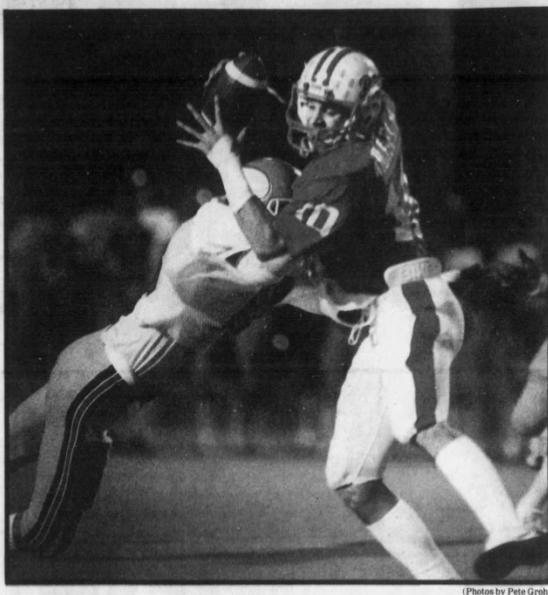
Less than two minutes later, Princeton put the finishing touches on the win, driving 49 yards after Ross's onside kick was recovered at the Princeton 49 by Galen Carrington. It took four plays for the Vikings to score.

Brown ran for nine, Taylor optioned left end for eight. Brown again over left guard for nine and Taylor covered the final 23 on an option play around left end.

The Vikings will play Akron Garfield, a 14-10 winner over Mentor Lake Catholic in the Rubber Bowl on Saturday Division I semifinal, for the state title at 2 p.m., Sunday afternoon at Ohio Stadium in Columbus.

Ross notes: Beatty had 29 yards on eight carries for Ross. Nossaman had five pass receptions for 43 yards. Hufford four for 51. Wilhelm was 10 of 20 for 97 yards.

McCarthy's 73-yard punt in the final quarter had writers glancing through the playoff record book but there is no record kept in that category.



(Photos by Pete Grob)

Pat Mancuso:

'...they ran into more speed then they're used to seeing'

By ROB BOUKISSEN

News-Messenger Sports Writer

DAYTON — Pat Mancuso was as gracious as one could expect a coach to be when his team just beat the Vikings off its opening.

"I'm very, very, very happy with the Buckeye Conference," said the Cincinnati Princeton mentor after his Vikings ripped Ross 35-7 in the Division I state semifinal at Welcome Stadium here Saturday night.

He was well aware of what teams like Ross, Sandusky and Elyria can do and have done in the past. "And Ross has a lot of good players. But, tonight, I think they ran into more speed than they're used to seeing."

Most of the teams they play probably have speed at certain positions. But we have it at every position.

It couldn't have been said any better.

The Ross Little Giants, indeed, have not seen the likes of a speedy quick Princeton team during their highly successful season.

With quarterback Michael Taylor and running backs James Brown and Vinny Simpson handling

the bulk of the offense, the Vikings ran past, through, over and around a surprised Little Giant defense.

"They," said Mancuso, "that's a good defense we played tonight. They only gave up 45 points all year, and we scored 35."

Mancuso wasn't gloating; he was just marveling at the dominance of his club.

"We played a very, very, very good game," he admitted. "We had a good line, good defensive lines controlled the line of scrimmage. Our offensive line opened up holes and our defensive line contained both the run and the pass."

The Vikings' defense was almost as awesome as their offense. Only on a few occasions did Ross manage to get significant yardage.

"We've been working hard on our defense the past two weeks," said Mancuso. "They really played well tonight."

Mancuso, who's been at Princeton 24 years and has won state championship (1978) already under his belt, was asked how this Viking team ranks with his other top teams.

"It's as good as any I've had," he said. "With this team we have a lot of versatility. And I believe we are peaking now."

"We started the season ranked number one (in the state and nation) and then we lost. But we came back strong and improved as the year went on."

"Right now, we're playing as good as we can. The kids are really playing to their potential."

"It's great for the kids. I'm just ecstatic. They've put a lot of time in, and now it's paying off."

Championship lineup

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Four of the top six teams in The Associated Press' regular season high school football poll will be playing for Ohio divisional championships this weekend at Ohio Stadium as the title games are contested at each site for the first time.

Akron Garfield, No. 2 in Class AAA, takes an 11-0 record against 10-2 Cincinnati Princeton Sunday at 2 p.m. in the finale of the five-game showcase.

Garfield edged Mentor Lake Catholic 14-10 at the Akron Rubber Bowl in Saturday's other Division I semifinal.

The first and second-rated teams in the Class AA poll, No. 1 Urbana and No. 2 Elyria Catholic, pit 12-0 records against each other Friday at 2:30 p.m. for the Division II crown, while 12-0 McComb, No. 2 in Class A, meets defending division champion Newark Catholic Saturday at 11 a.m. in the Division V title matchup.

The Green Wave, which finished fifth in the same poll classification, is 11-1 and will be bidding for its third state championship.

One of the other four division finalists was ranked as high as 10th in the final AP poll. That was Columbus Ready, which finished at No. 10 in Class A. The Silver Knights, 10-2, go against Orville Friday at 11 a.m. in the Division IV finals. The Red Raiders were 13th in Class AA and are 9-3 on the year.

Brecksville and Celina both finished unbeaten in 12 games, but were ranked only 16th and 17th respectively in Class AAA. The winner of their game Saturday at 2:30 p.m. will take home the Division II championship trophy.



It's good!

Detrola kicker Ed Murray leaps into the air after kicking a 37-yard field goal with 6:30 remaining in overtime Sunday giving the Lions a 23-20 win over Green Bay. See the NFL roundup on page 22 for details of other games.

Football

AP Class AAA All-Ohio

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

E-Alex Higdon, Cincinnati Princeton, 6-foot-3, 230 pounds, Sr.; Mike Kovac, Cleveland St.Joseph, 6-4, 243, Sr.; and Cris Carter, Middletown, 6-3, 195, Sr.

T-Chris D'Esposito, Toledo St.Francis, 6-3, 250, Sr.; and Mike Bloemer, Cincinnati Aiken, 6-5, 240, Sr.

G-Paul Copeland, Columbus Linden McKinley, 6-2, 200, Sr.; and Doug Brunner, Toledo Bowsher, 6-3, 240, Sr.

C-Kevin Koken, Youngstown Mooney, 6-4, 235, Sr.

QB-Chris Downing, Groveport, 6-2, 170, Sr.; and A.J. Nieman, Cincinnati LaSalle, 6-foot, 180, Sr.

RB-Charles Gladman, Akron Garfield, 5-11, 200, Sr.; D'Juan Francisco, Cincinnati Moeller, 5-11, 175, Jr.; Eric Bryll, Mayfield, 5-9, 170, Sr.; and James Brown, Cincinnati Princeton, 5-11, 195, Sr.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE

DL-Damon Hueston, Toledo Macomber, 6-6, 219, Sr.; Dan Holland, Upper Arlington, 6-2, 205, Sr.; Mike Sullivan, Mentor Lake Catholic, 6-foot, 200, Jr.; Erv Owens, Sandusky, 6-3, 212, Sr.; and Mike Uhlar, Austintown-Fitch, 6-3, 235, Sr.

LB-Chris Spielman, Massillon, 6-2, 216, Sr.; Eric Lester, Lakewood St.Edward, 6-2, 210, Sr.; and Pete Mather, Cincinnati Sycamore, 6-foot, 200, Sr.

DB-John Keller, Toledo Central Catholic, 6-5, 210, Sr.; Byron Larkin, Cincinnati Moeller, 6-3, 185, Sr.; and Sean Bell, Middle-town, 6-2, 185, Sr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE-E Ryan Delaney, Wooster, 6-2, 180, Sr.; and Tim Barrett, Westlake, 6-2, 185, Sr.; T Jon Azok, Amherst Steele, 6-5, 270, Sr.; and Greg Zackeroff, Warren Harding, 6-6, 260, Sr.; G Sean Smith, Galloway Westland, 6-3, 240, Sr.; and Brian Murphy, New Philadelphia, 5-9, 190, Sr.; C Rick Knicely, Toledo Whitmer, 6-2, 222, Sr.; QB Tim Tupa, Brecksville, 6-5, 205, Sr.; and RB Dale Edwards, Lancaster; Donis Toler Jr., Zanesville, 6-1, 210, Sr.; and Gary Patton, Lorain King, 5-10, 178, Sr.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE-DL Tony Lowe, Columbus Walnut Ridge, 6-3, 273, Sr.; Tom Gruno, Massillon, 6-3, 220, Sr.; Bob Mrosko, Wickle, 6-6, 240, Sr.; and Matt Bradley, Centerville, 6-2, 215, Sr.; LB Chris Manolovich, Mansfield Madison, 5-11, 185, Sr.; Mike Walsh, Marietta, 5-7, 155, Sr.; and Jim Davidson, Westerville North, 6-5, 210, Sr.; and DB Randy Hughey, Warren Western Reserve, 5-11, 165, Sr.; Bob Calamari, Lorain King, 6-4, 191, Sr.; and Don Vesling, Midview, 6-4, 195, Sr.

THIRD TEAM OFFENSE-E Randy Jarvis, Lorain Senior, 5-11, 165, Sr.; and Nathan Rector, Dresden Tri-Valley, 6-foot, 180, Sr.; T John Boris, Mentor, 6-2, 240, Sr.; and Todd Hansen, Perryburg, 6-4, 240, Sr.; G Joe Sosinski, Lorain King, 6-2, 232, Sr.; and Chuck Howard, Lancaster, 6-foot, 250, Sr.; C John Colgrove, Cincinnati Princeton, 6-foot, 195, Sr.; QB Dan Boring, Alliance, 6-foot, 190, Sr.; and RB J.C. Penny, Youngstown East, 5-10, 185, Sr.; Tom Karpinski, Toledo St.Francis, 5-11, 175, Sr.; Craig Johnson, Massillon, 5-10, 185, Sr.; and William White, Lima Senior, 5-11, 170, Sr.

THIRD TEAM DFFENSE-DL Mike Laraway, Westlake, 6-2, 195, Sr.; Judd Rupp, Worthington, 6-4, 220, Sr.; Dave Haynes, Columbus Eastmoor, 6-3½, 225, Sr.; Sam Huff, Warsaw River View, 6-1, 190, Sr.; and Mike Roberts, Shelby, 5-11, 201, Sr.; LB Bill McCague, Columbus Beechcroft, 6-2, 230, Sr.; John Sullivan, Lake Catholic, 6-foot, 200, Jr.; and Shawn Finn, Cleveland St.Ignatius, 6-2, 210, Sr.; and DB Dwayne Shields, Cleveland Glenville, 6-1, 165, Jr.; JIM HUFFORD, FREMONT ROSS, 6-1, 185, Sr.; and Greg Nared, Wilmington, 6-3, 175, Jr.

BACK OF YEAR-Charles Gladman, Akron Garfield.

LINEMAN OF YEAR-Alex Higdon, Cincinnati Princeton

COACH OF YEAR-Joe Vadini, Brecksville.

FREMONT AREA SPECIAL MENTION: Keith Tammarine, Perryburg; ADAM CALABRESE, Fremont Ross; Rory Johnson, Toledo Bowsher; Scott Kasper, Toledo Whitmer; Mark Swentofski, Toledo St.John's; Vincent McClain, Toledo Macomber; Tom Anderzack, Toledo Central Catholic; DEREK ISAMAN, Fremont Ross.

FREMONT AREA HONORABLE MENTION: Doug Kantner, Wapakoneta; Derick Gant, Toledo St.Francis; Mike Madigan, Wapakoneta; TERRY O'FARRELL, Fremont Ross; Ken Walczak, Maumee; Bryant Crutchfield, Toledo Macomber; Greg Eichenauer, Celina; Jeff Wiley, Celina; Rick Ross, Celina; Mike Dillon, Findlay; JERRY MANAHAN, Fremont Ross.

Area players on UPI teams

Ten players from this area earned berths on the United Press International All-Ohio football team released Thursday.

From the city, Ross seniors Adam Calabrese and Jim Hufford were each named to the Class AAA second team at offensive guard and defensive back, respectively, while Little Giant junior linebacker Derek Isaman earned honorable mention.

Two St. Joe players earned Class A distinction — senior quarterback John Sidell, who was named to the second unit, and his classmate and favorite receiver Denny Furlong, who made special mention.

From around the area, Oak Harbor placed two players on the Class AA team (senior tight end Dennis Schiets on the second team and senior running back Dan Weirich honorable mention), Bellevue had one on the AA unit (senior linebacker Pren Trickett on the second team) and Woodmore had two on the Class A squad (senior quarterback Jeff Rospert and senior defensive back Jeff Perkins, both honorable mention).



SPECIAL AWARD winners on the Ross football squad were, left to right, front row: Adam Calabrese, Stacy Cross and Rod Logan.

Hufford and Mike Wolf; back row: Todd Beatty, Kevin Wilhelm, Scott Siesel, Shawn McCarthy, Jim

Giants feted for successful season

Jim Hufford was named the most valuable player on the 1983 Fremont Ross football team.

Hufford and members of the team were honored Wednesday during the Ross Football Awards Program in the high school cafeteria. Along with the MVP honor, Hufford was also presented with the most valuable defensive back honor.

Head Coach Pete Moore and his coaching staff of Rex Radeloff, Joe Siesel, Mike Wetzel, Dick Coleman, Chuck Lindsey and Lee Hull presented the awards to the 10-1-1 Little Giants.

Hufford was a two-way player for Ross this season and was named to the All-Team Associated Press Class AAA All-Ohio defensive team and second team All-Ohio on the United Press International voting and led the Buckeye Conference in interceptions with eight while being named to the conference's first defensive team.

Adam Calabrese, in addition to a captain's trophy, was named the most valuable offensive lineman. Stacy Swaisgood won the most valuable defensive lineman award.

Quarterback Kevin Wilhelm won the

most valuable offensive back honor.

Placekicker Shawn McCarthy, a sophomore, was named the most valuable sophomore.

The most improved honors went to senior defensive back Mike Wolf and junior offensive back Kevin Wilhelm. Wolf also received a captain's trophy.

Other special awards during the evening, Rep. Dwight Wise presented a certificate of commendation from the Ohio House of Representatives praising the Little Giants gridiron accomplishments.

All players, managers, trainers and coaches were presented with Buckeye Conference championship trophies. Moore also presented special plaques and conference trophies to his freshmen, eighth and seventh grade coaches.

The players, with co-captains Calabrese and Wolf sharing the honors, presented Moore and the members of his staff with special plaques thanking them for their work this season. The Booster

Club also presented special plaques with the Ross team picture on it to the coaching staff.

The program ended with the final version of the slide show "Year of the Giant."

Following are the first and second year award winners:

Seniors, second award: Dan Brudzinski, Calabrese, Kent Coleman, Jason Fought, Jeff Gentry, Matt Hiser, Hufford, Rod Lanning, Jerry Manahan, Jeff Nossaman, Terry O'Farrell, Mike Palomo, Gene Simmons, Paul Stout, Swaisgood, Matt Whitcomb, Wilhelm and Wolf.

Seniors, first award: Tom Batesole, Joe Capicini, Greg Dorr, Jack Konrad, Brian Lenz, Lori Grande Parker, Brad Pitts and Chris Sultz. Student assistant Chris Hull. Student trainers/managers Alan Darr and T.J. Held.

Juniors, second award: Mike Bobay, Derek Isaman and Chris Simmons.

Juniors, first award: Beatty, Cross, Craig Mosser, Mark Nitschke and Kris Smith.

Sophomore, first award: McCarthy.—
BOB MARKER