

1982 SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

Sectional tennis

BUCYRUS — Two Ross singles players qualified and a doubles team has a shot at qualifying for the Class AAA District Tennis Tournament next weekend in Toledo.

Katie Marritt and Brigid Heid, the Lady Little Giants one and two singles players, respectively, have reached the semifinals in the sectional tourney here after winning two matches Friday. Each had first round byes.

Marritt, seeded first, defeated Aliceson Zeno of Ashland and Michelle Flannery of Galion by identical 6-0, 6-0 sets. She will play Debbie Beathler of Malabar in the semis today.

Heid, seeded third, downed Julie Clark of Shelby 6-1, 6-1 and Alice Rozik of Malabar 6-2, 6-2. She will face Sue Conwell of Ashland in the semifinals.

Diane Shurmer and Lisa Gettman of Ross must win one of two matches today to make the district show. The Ross pair had a first round bye before defeating Kellie Conley and Linnea Gayheart of Shelby 6-0, 6-0. In their third round match, the Ross duo stopped Shelly Kitts and Sherri Lee of Madison 6-1, 6-1.

Elaine White, singles, and the Little Giants doubles team of Kim Otermat and Stacy Carter lost their first matches of the sectional.

Sports

Coaching diplomacy

Michaels a non-rooter in all-Ross tennis final

BUCYRUS — Pete Michaels didn't know which way to look so he diplomatically didn't watch the singles finals of the Class AAA Girls Sectional Tournament Saturday.

The dilemma the Ross High School coach faced was seeing two Lady Little Giants in the finals: number one seeded Katie Marritt against number three seeded Brigid Heid.

"Coaches are allowed to talk to players on the court change," Michaels said, "but all I could do was give them a little hug and little kiss and wish them both luck.

"Then I went to watch the doubles team. I didn't see any of the match until the final few games.

"Many coaches and people there said what an enviable position I had having both girls in the finals but it was difficult," Michaels said. "So I had to use diplomacy and wish them both

luck."

Marritt, who was Ross's number one court player all season and was seeded first in the tourney, proved that her seeding was right, stopping her teammate 6-3 and 6-2. The win followed on the heels of a marathon two and one-half hour win over number four seeded Debbie Beather of Mansfield Malabar in the semifinals.

Marritt won the first set easily 6-1 but struggled and lost the second 3-6. In the final set, the Ross junior reversed the second set for a 6-3 match winner.

Heid had knocked off Sue Conwell of Ashland in the semis 6-1 and 6-4 to set up finals against Marritt.

Marritt, after a 30-minute rest, had enough left to stop Heid in a match that featured many well placed shots.

Both girls qualified for the Class AAA district in Toledo Friday and Saturday.

The disappointment for Michaels was at doubles where the Ross team of Diane Shurmer and Lisa Gettman lost two three-set matches to miss qualifying for the district.

The Ross duo lost to eventual sectional champions Jennie Cole and Molly Weiss of Malabar in a match that Michaels felt his girls should have won.

"We had won the first set (6-3) and had a 4-2 lead in the second," Michaels pointed out, "but the Malabar girls came back and played well."

Cole and Weiss rebounded to win the second set 7-5 and then picked up momentum in winning the final set 6-0.

In the second match, Shurmer and Gettman ran into top seeded Ann Burns and Mellissa Rowan of Ashland who had been upset by Sandusky in the semis. The Ross team forced the match to three sets before losing 6-1, 2-6 and 6-3.
