1969 Fremont Night Relays...

Ross To Defend Night Relays Title Friday

Fremont Ross track team will get the first real test of the season Friday when it attempts to defend its title in the ninth running of the Night Relays. Ross, aided largely by the sprinting skills of Steve Parker, has won the trophy the past two seasons.

Challenging the Little Giant quest for a third crown will be teams from Port Clinton, Oregon Clay, Fostoria, Findlay and Bowling Green. Stiffest challenge is anticipated from Port Clinton and Findlay, a school which has shown signs of a stengthened track program. Findlay and Ross each have romped past Bowling Green in dual meets so far this season. The Little Giants have warmed up for their track special by easily defeating both Bowling Green and Fostoria from the Relays field.

The Night Relays will open at Harmon Stadium Friday with field events at 5 p.m. First field events at this time will be pole vault and high jump. All other field events begin at 5:30 p.m. Initial running event will be the two-mile run at 6:45 p.m. This event is an exhibition and does not figure in the scoring.

In the field events all competition will be the total best performance of three contestants from each school. Running events to be contested in the quest for the Night Relays crown are 440-yard relay, two-mile relay, shuttle hurdle relay, sprint medley relay, distance medley, 880-yard relay and mile relay.

A change in this year's format has been made to comply with Ohio High School Athletic Association rules. In the past, freshman events have been held as exhibitions with the Night Relays. All competition this year will be varsity with no freshman events. The OHSAA rules do not allow junior high school events as preliminaries to high school sport activities.

Parker is gone, but this year's Ross team boasts depth, including eight boys who were parts of relay teams which won first places a year ago in the Night Relays. In taking its repeat crown last season the Little Giants won the discus, 440-yard relay, shuttle hurdles, sprint medley, distance medley and mile relay. The returnees are: Dave Rhodes and Dennis Billman, discus; Jon Schwartz, 440 relay, sprint medley and mile relay; Len Ferguson, 440-relay; Tom Hahm and Kerry Pitts, shuttle hurdle; Larry Sheffield, sprint medley, and Chuck Cheek, distance medley.

The Ross hopes could well ride on field events this year, especially shot and discus. There Coach Ron Brant can call upon the work of Rhodes, Billman, Chuck Miller, Brian Cooley and Doug Ebert. In the first two meets the top three tosses of Ross participants have surpassed the winning distances of last year's Night Relays in both events.

Records at which participants will be shooting Friday night are:

Shot put, 148-2, Findlay; discus, 415-1¾, Port Clinton; high jump, 16-10, Port Clinton; long jump, 60-3½, Fostoria; pole vault, 34-0, Bowling Green; 440-yard relay, :45.2, Fremont; two mile, 8:23.7, Bowling Green; shuttle hurdle, :55.2, Oregon Clay; sprint medley, 1:35.8, Ross; distance medley, 8:07.3, Oregon Clay; 880 relay, 1:33.7, Ross; mile relay, 3:32.4, Ross; obstacle hurdle, :47.9, Oregon Clay.

ROSS WEIGHT STRENGTH—Hopes of repeating as Fremont Night Relays champion rest strongly with the weight event specialists for Ross high school. The Little Giants have the potential to win both shot put and discus in the Relays which begin with field events at 5 p.m. and running events at 7 p.m. tonight. Weight event coach Norm Bray explains shot put techniques to his charges: Kneeling —Dave Rhodes, Doug Ebert, Brian Cooley and Dennis Billman. Standing—Chuck Miller, Bob Kusmer and Tom Nighswander.

LITTLE GIANT DISTANCE MEN—Ross high school track fortunes will rest strongly this season with a fine corps of distance runners—the boys who handle the 880-yard, mile and two mile races. Coach Ron Brant (kneeling front) talks strategy with these runners, many of whom were on the winning Ross cross country team last fall. The distance runners will be a big factor in Ross' bid for the Night Relays title, Monday, starting at 5 p.m. Distance lettermen kneeling are Mel Hoffman, Bob Ballanger, Tom Hoffman, Roger Melson, Chuck Cheek, Tom Thompson and Randy Karg. Other distance runners standing are Keith Livingston, Bruce Beeker, Ed Pendry, Paul Brandenberry, Cy Connors, Howard Steirwalt, Paul Kerns and Dan Haynes. (News-Messenger Photo)

Area Track Relays

Fremont, Clyde Try Again Tonight

Both Fremont and Clyde high schools will attempt to run off invitational relays tonight, which were postponed over the weekend due to bad weather. The Fremont Night Relays, delayed from Friday, will begin with field events at 5 p.m. and running events at 6:30 p.m. At Clyde the annual relays will begin with 5 p.m. field events and 7 p.m. running events. Saturday had been the scheduled date.

Teams competing at Fremont will be the defending champions from host Ross, Findlay, Port Clinton, Fostoria and Bowling Green. Oregon Clay also was invited but could not participate. At Clyde the contests will be host Clyde, defending champion Norwalk, Willard, Oak Harbor, Margaretta and Lake.

Ross' chances to repeat for the third consecutive year were seriously hampered over the weekend when weight expert Dave Rhodes injured a foot. X-rays were scheduled this morning to see if the foot was fractured in a non-athletic accident. Rhodes, a 255-pounder, has had his football cut short the past two seasons with broken legs.

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NIGHT RELAYS TROPHY PRESENTED BY MEET MANAGER RICHARD SHERMAN (RIGHT)
Port Clinton's Joe Lukac (Second From Left), Ross' Ron Brant (Second From Right) Accept

DAN LINDER CLEARS POLE VAULT BAR IN EARLY COMPETITION
Senior's 12-6 Vault Led Little Giants To Night Relays Record

ROSS' LARRY SHEFFIELD AIRBORNE IN LONG JUMP EFFORT
Teamed With Jon Schwartz, Earl Smith For First Place

Final Event Deadlocks Meet

Port Clinton, Ross Tie In Relays

Given a 15-yard lead at the start, Port Clinton freshman Alex Tucker coasted into the number one turn. He eased into the backstretch, glided into the third turn as Ross' Jon Shwartz strained to make up the lost ground of the first three laps. Tucker turned on the power for the final turn and homestretch. He steadily pulled away to a mile relay victory for Port Clinton over a second place Ross.

The final relay win erased a two-point Ross lead and deadlocked Port Clinton with the defending champions in the Fremont Night Relays. Port Clinton tarnished but could not eradicate a Ross share in its third straight Night Relays title. By virtue of the tie, Ross has won or shared three consecutive American Legion-sponsored Night Relays championships.

The co-champions each finished with 43 points. They were followed by Findlay, 29;

Fostoria, 12, and Bowling Green, 5.

Victory all boiled down to the final event when Port Clinton had the better mile relay team. Actually, it was the absence of the number one weight man and a disqualification in the first event which deprived Ross of an undisputed championship. Ross placed in the opening relay, the 440-yard event, but was disqualified when a runner left his lane. Add that disqualification to the fact Dave Rhodes, a 50-food plus shot putter was not in competition for an event which Ross was third by four feet. The best Ross throw was just short of 45 feet by sophomore Chuck Miller.

In final analysis it was Ross field event strength equalizing Port Clinton's flat run power. Even without Rhodes the Little Giants won four of five field events. The Little Giants were the best in the high jump, pole vault, discus and long jump. In the pole vault the combination of Dan Linder, Mike Tooman,

Scott Nahm tied the Old Fremont Night Relays record of 34 feet set by Bowling Green last year. This was the only record tied or broken in the meet.

In running events Ross won two, shuttle hurdle and 880-yard relay. Port Clinton gathered points with firsts in the 440-yard relay, two-mile relay, spring medley, distance medley and mile relay.

The Night Relays turned into a two-team event with either Port Clinton or Ross winning 12 or 13 events. The only break in this domination was Findlay by taking the shot put.

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SUMMARY

440 RELAY—Port Clinton (Harold Brandt, Alex Tucker, Thomas Bruno, Paul Ibnat), :45.1; Findlay, :47; Fostoria, :47.2; Bowling Green, :49.4.
TWO-MILE RELAY — Port Clinton (Charles Barnes, Mike Lettich, Jerry Lunsford, Arnold Priddy), 8:43.2; Ross, 8:45.9; Bowling Green, 8:52.5; Findlay, 8:53.8.
SHUTTLE HURDLE—Ross (Mike Ruland, Kerry Pitts,

Steve Tooman, Tom Nahm), :58.5; Port Clinton, :58.55; Findlay, :58.9; Fostoria, :61.6.
SPRINT MEDLEY—Port Conton (Harold Brandt, Jeff Sherwood, Casey Immel, Thomas Bruno), 1:41.9; Ross, 1:42.7; Fostoria, 1:44.15; Findlay, 1:44.8.
DISTANCE MEDLEY—Port Clinton (Junior Cantu, Mike Hablitzel, Arnold Priddy), 8:18.3; Findlay, 8:20.1; Ross, 8:51.1; Bowling Green, 8:56.7.
880 RELAY — Ross (Earl Smith, Larry Sheffield, Len Ferguson, Jon Schwartz), 1:35.8; Port Clinton, 1:36.4; Findlay, 1:36; Fostoria, 1:42.1.
TWO MILE RUN (Open) — Jeff Shadle (Findlay), 11:00; Bob Ballenger (Ross), 11:14; Port Clinton, 11:17; Bowling Green, 11:17.5.
MILE RELAY—Port Clinton (Paul Ibnat, John Guy, Thomas Bruno, Alex Tucker), 3:36.8; Ross, 3:42.6; Findlay (P. Heckleman, G. Bair, D. Bishop), 133-6½; Port Clinton, 130-2; Ross, 126-6½; Fostoria, 125-2½.
LONG JUMP — Ross (Larry Sheffield, Jon Schwartz, Earl Smith), 56-11¼; Findlay, 55-2½; Port Clinton, 53-5¾; Fostoria, 52-5½.
DISCUS—Ross (Bob Kusmer, Dennis Billman, Tom Nighwander), 391-7; Findlay, 382-5; Port Clinton, 350-3; Fostoria, 312-5.
POLE VAULT—Ross (Dan Linder, Mike Tooman, Scott Nahm), 34-0; Port Clinton, 32-0; Fostoria, 24-; Findlay, 21-0.
HIGH JUMP—Ross (G. Frost, Keith Chapin, Dennis O'Brien), 16-4; Findlay, 16-4; Port Clinton, 16-2; Fostoria, 16-2.

MIGHTY HEAVE BY ROSS LITTLE GIANT
Brian Cooley Puts Shot In Night Relays

Sports In Brief

Frazier Favored

From Associated Press

HOUSTON, Tex. — Unbeaten Joe Frazier is odds-on favorite to defend successfully his portion of the world's heavyweight boxing title tonight in a scheduled 15-rounder against unknown but undaunted Dave Zyglewicz, who lays bricks when he can't get fights. Both men predict the bout

Hiroshima Survivor Is Winner

BOSTON (AP) — Yoshiaki Unetani, a survivor of the atom bomb blast in Hiroshima in 1945, is the latest Boston A.A. Marathon hero from Japan.

The 24-year-old physical education instructor turned the 73rd annual Patriot's Day classic into a one-man race Monday as he overpowered a field of 1,152 and covered the 26-mile, 385-yard course from Hopkinton to Boston in a record time of 2 hours, 13 minutes, 49 seconds.

"This is the biggest marathon I ever won," the muscular 136-pound Unetani said after romping to an easy victory in sunny, 55-degree weather. "I've run in 21 marathons, all except this one in Japan, and I've won four. This was the biggest."

Unetani, who was just 9 months old when the atom bomb was dropped in Hiroshima, about 15 miles from his home, said he has been running since childhood, concentrating on long distances the past five years.

"I went to Mexico City for

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Port Clinton's Joe Lukac (Second From Left), Ross' Ron Brant (Second From Right) Accept

Today's Baseball

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
National League
East Division

	W.	L.	Pct.	G.B.
Chicago ...	11	2	.846	—
Pittsburgh .	8	4	.667	2½
Montreal ...	5	8	.385	6
New York ..	5	8	.385	6
St. Louis	5	8	.385	6
Phila'phia ..	4	8	.333	6½

West Division

Atlanta	10	3	.769	—
Los Angeles	9	3	.750	½
San Fran. ..	6	6	.500	3½
Cincinnati ..	5	5	.500	3½
San Diego ..	4	9	.308	6
Houston ...	3	11	.214	7½

Monday's Results
Philadelphia 2, New York 1, 11 innings
Cincinnati 11, Houston 5
St. Louis 5, Montreal 4
Atlanta 5, San Diego 2
Los Angeles 7, San Fran. 4
Only games scheduled

Today's Games
Philadelphia at New York
Chicago at Pittsburgh, 2
Montreal at St. Louis
Cincinnati at Houston, N
Atlanta at San Diego, N
San Francisco at Los Ang., N