

1973 Buckeye Conference...

*Findlay wins Buckeye crown*

## Ross fourth in BC chase

MARION—Frank Sparks of Sandusky held off a final stretch kick by Findlay's Brent Beams to win the Buckeye Conference cross country individual title in record time. Sparks, only a junior ran the two-miles in 9:42.1 with Beams only nine-tenths of a second behind.

Sparks' victory failed to hold off the rest of the Findlay

squad. Beams came out a step ahead while leading his team to the overall team crown. The Trojans easily defeated the Blue Streaks and the rest of the Conference with 34 points. That was 23 points below Sparks and his Blue Streaks.

Findlay runners finished second, third, eighth, 10th, and 11th to win the crown. Fremont

Ross was fourth with 110 points. Ross' Mark Root was ninth in 10:10. Randy Patrick, in 20th, was the next Ross runner.

"I thought we had a chance for third," Little Giant coach Ron Brant said after the race. "We had beaten Elyria once at the Tiffin Invitational meet and I thought we could do it here, but there were just too many good runners in the meet for us."

Sparks and Beams were never more than three feet apart in the whole race. The duo started off in front of the pack with a fast opening pace and held at those spots for the entire two miles over the Marion Country Club course.

Beams was content with letting Sparks set the pace while counting on his "kick" at the end to pull him through but Sparks had enough left over to win the race.

Following Root and Patrick across the line for Ross was Dave Plihall in 22nd. Jim Thomas was 29th and Denny Byers was 30th.

Team standings: Findlay 34, Sandusky 57, Elyria 82, Fremont Ross 110, Marion Harding 126, Admiral King 136, Mansfield Senior 164, Lorain Senior 230.

Top 15 runners: 1—Sparks (S) 9:42.1; 2—Beams (F) 9:43; 3—Yoxtheimer (F) 9:46; 4—Williams (MH) 9:55; 5—Gosser (S) 9:57; 6—Hahn (E) 10:05; 7—Garver (AK) 10:07; 8—Haas (F) 10:08; 9—Root (FR) 10:10; 10—Cramer (F) 10:11; 11—Line (F) 10:12; 12—Pasenow (E) 10:15; 13—Stoffel (F) 10:16; 14—Otto (F) 10:17; 15—McNemen (E) 10:21.



SANDUSKY BAY Conference champ Rocky Moore enroute to first place for Margaretta Polar Bears.

## Norwalk wins NOL title

to Notre Dame and Ara Par-seghian?

"That rumor is not true," says the Southern Cal coach. "I'm not that stupid."

But you never know when McKay is putting you on ... and USC hasn't lost to Notre Dame since a 51-0 shellacking in 1966.

For instance, he said the Trojans played their best game of the year in beating Oregon 31-10 last weekend. Really, John?

"I lie a lot. We didn't play a very good game. We just played fair. Oregon is not a real strong team."

"We haven't played a real good game yet although our offense has started to improve some. Maybe we expected too much of this team."

The big pick ... Southern Cal 24-21.

Last week's count was 49 right, 15 wrong for a .766 percentage.

The upset special just missed when Missouri shaded Oklahoma State 13-9, but the California-Oregon State score was exactly right with the right winner and so was Pitt-Boston College with the wrong winner. The season's score is 290-104-8 for .736.

Northwestern at Ohio State: Wildcats kept it respectable last year. That was last year. Ohio State 45-7.

Virginia Tech at Alabama: Gobblers posted their first victory last week. Good thing, too. Alabama 49-14.

Oklahoma at Kansas State: Oklahoma's Barry Switzer says this is "a very interesting week" in the Big Eight. "You've got Missouri at Colorado and Nebraska at Oklahoma



MARK ROOT

...Finished ninth