

1997 Season Review...

## High School

### FREMONT ROSS INVITATIONAL

Fremont Country Club

### TEAM SCORES

(17 holes due to rain)

1, Genoa 304; 2, Fremont Ross 307; 3, Willard and Port Clinton 332; 5, Toledo St. Francis 333; 6, Bellevue 337; 7, Fremont St. Joe 338; 8, Gibsonburg 347; 9, Clyde 360; 10, Lakota 376.

### TOP INDIVIDUALS (18 holes)

1. Mike Cicak (Genoa) 75; 2, Kyle Pasch (Ross) 78; 3, Bill Ashline (Genoa) 80; 4, Eric Turner (Willard) 81; 5, Brian Bell (St. Francis) 81; 6, Aaron Zimmerman (St. Joe) 81; 7, Nick Kaemming (Gibsonburg) 81; 8, Jay Farrell (Ross) 82; 9. Justin Pagnard (Bellevue) 82; 10, Nate Waler- szak (St. Joe) 82; Scott Holmes 82.

### OTHER SCORES

ROSS — Mark Walter 87; Troy Ritchie 83.

ST. JOE — David Halm 94; Doug Haaser 102.

GIBSONBURG — Mike Fork 96; Larry LaSalvia 98; Kevin Ohms 99.

CLYDE — Doug Wilkinson 88; Marc Schneider 89; Brett Newsome 96; Geof Meyer 101.

LAKOTA — Trent Tucker 95; Kyle Kaser 100; Paul Brubaker 103; Steve Adams 107.

GENOA — Curt Vogelpohl 84; Nate Tabbert 89.

PORT CLINTON — Ryan Dunlap 83; Tim Belden 91; Scott Holmes 82; Jeff Bredveck 113.

# Giants third at Swanton Invite

News-Messenger reports <sup>N</sup>

SWANTON — Fremont Ross finished third Tuesday at the Swanton Invitational at Valleywood Golf Course.

Genoa, which won the Ross Invitational Saturday at the Fremont Country Club, won the 10-team invitational with a 307. Rossford shot 328 for second place and the Little Giants shot 331.

Jay Farrell had Ross's lowest score, 80, and Mark Walton had an 82. Troy Ritchie shot 84 and Mack Cole 85.

## Thursday

The News-Messenger will publish the schedules, rosters and outlooks for area golf teams in Thursday's editions. <sup>N</sup>

## Fremont Ross Little Giants

The Little Giants hope home field advantage can help them accomplish a key goal. The Great Lakes League tournament will be played at Fremont Country Club, though only nine holes will be used because of renovations to the course.

"We should do well in that," coach Denny Ritchie said. "I would say our main goal is to win the GLL." Findlay and Napoleon topped the Little Giants in GLL play last year. Winning home matches is another Ross goal.

Seniors Troy Ritchie (1996 All-GLL) and Mark Walter are expected to be the low shooters for Ross. "We need a little bit more work," Ritchie said. "Last year at the end of the year we had four guys consistently in the 30s. Now they're having a tough time shooting 41-42.

### Roster

Seniors: Troy Ritchie, Mark Walter; Juniors: Jay Farrell, Mack Cole, Ian Steinart, Matt Bauer, Kyle Pasch, Aaron Kingsburgh; Sophomores: Mike Moxley, Doug Garvey, J.J. Glaspy, Buck Young; Freshmen: Kyle Peck, Brandon Rich; Coaches: Dennis Brudzinski and Denny Ritchie.

### Schedule

Today	Sandusky	H
Friday	Mansfield Madison	A
Aug. 28	Clay	A
Aug. 30	Bellevue Invite	
Sept. 2	Bedford	H
Sept. 4	Whitmer	A
Sept. 9	Fremont St. Joe	H
Sept. 11	Fostoria	H
Sept. 16	Findlay	A
Sept. 19	Whitmer Invitational	
Sept. 22	GLL Tournament FCC	
Sept. 24	Northview	A
Sept. 25	Bowling Green	H
Sept. 27	Genoa Invite, Bowser Invite	

### **Ross 153, Sandusky 198**

Medalist—Mark Walter (FR) 35

Ross—Mack Cole 38, Troy Ritchie 39, Ian Steinert 41

Record—Fremont Ross 2-0

### **Ross JV 170, Sandusky JV 212**

JV Medalist—Aaron Kingsborough (FR) 40

### **Ross 335, Ottawa Hills 349**

Medalist—Jay Farrell (FR) 79

Ross—Troy Ritchie 84, Mark Walter 85, Mack Cole 87

Ottawa Hills—Justin Krause 82

### **Ross JV 355, Ottawa Hills JV 373**

JV Medalist—Doug Garvey (FR) 84

### **Fremont Ross 170, Oregon Clay 176**

#### **Maumee Bay State Park — par 36**

MEDALIST—Mark Walter 40

ROSS—Jay Farrell 42, Troy Ritchie 44, Mack Cole 44

CLAY—Don Poulson 41, Jeff Hess 45, Bob Nowaski 45, Jim Pownoor 45

RECORD—Ross 3-1 (2-0)

Ross JV 180, Clay 191

Ross JV medalist—Ian Steinert 41

# Giants slip past Mules

## No Bedford, Ross players shoot in 30s

By BRIAN SPIESS  
Sports editor

Fremont Ross golfers Troy Ritchie and Mark Walter may not see much of each other on the course after shooting a combined 81 Tuesday at Fremont Country Club.

The senior captains, who were paired with the top two Bedford golfers in the Little Giants' 162-172 win, shot 40 and 41, respectively.

Though Ross remained unbeaten in three Great Lakes League matches, coaches Den-

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ny Ritchie and Denny Brudzinski worry the players are better off on their own.

"They are our seniors and they want to play together," Denny Ritchie said, "but every time they play together they don't play well."

Few did so on Tuesday, regardless of the pairing.

Three of Bedford's six players shot 45 or higher, and no one played in the 30s.

"We're getting to the point where we want three guys in the 30s," Denny Ritchie said.

Troy Ritchie and Walter each double-bogeyed the par-4 second hole as Bedford took the early lead. But an eight by the Mules' Jeremy Dirkmaat after hitting his No. 4 drive out of bounds tightened the score.

Walter's toughest hole was the par 3 fifth, where he putted past the hole several times for a triple bogey six.

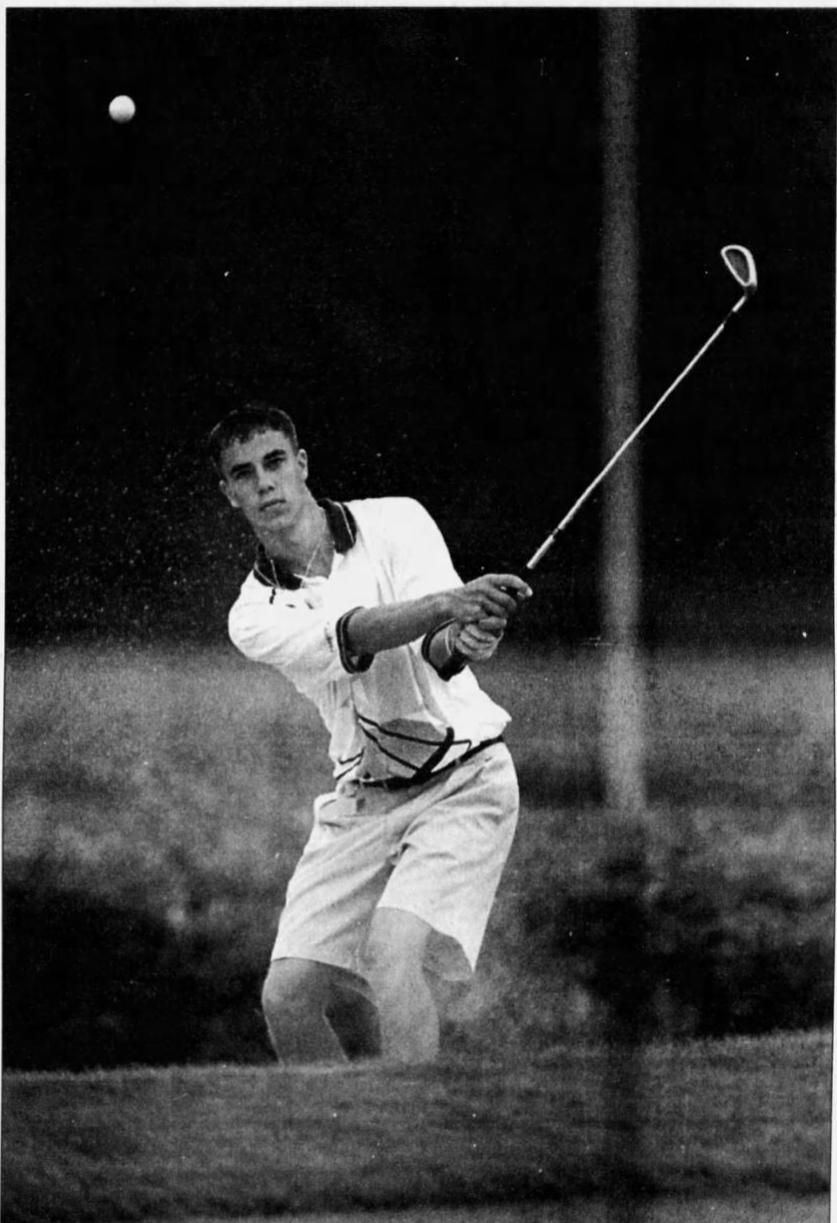
"It was an extremely fast green," he said.

Bedford's Kevin Skomer, who has played at Ross's home course in the past, agreed.

"It was playing fairly tough. Playing pretty long," said Skomer, who tied Ross' Troy Ritchie and Mack Cole for medalist honors. "The greens are tough. ... It was hard to get the speed off the greens."

Yet Walter, rather than fall apart after his triple bogey, turned things around. He shot one-under-par for the last four holes.

"I just calmed down, took a few deep breaths and told



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

**MARK WALTER** of Fremont Ross hits out of the sand on the sixth hole Tuesday during a dual match with Bedford at the Fremont Country Club Tuesday. Walter followed the sand shot by sinking a putt for par. He finished with a 41 and the Little Giants beat the Mules 162-172.

myself to make up for it on the final 4-5 holes," Walter said.

Ritchie also dealt with adversity. On hole No. 7 he hooked his drive well left of the fairway, then recovered for a bogey on the par-4 hole.

"I haven't hit one of those shots in two years," the coach's son said. "I just laughed at myself and forgot

about it."

Cole shot his 40 with help of a fifth-hole birdie. Cole hit an eight-iron left of the pin on the 145-yard par 3, watching the wind drop the ball close to the hole.

"The wind drew it back. I guess I got lucky," Cole said.

Matt Bauer's 41 provided the other score for Ross.

Saturday the team shot 315 for nine holes, led by Walter's 76 and Ritchie's 79.

Brudzinski did not make excuses for his team Tuesday.

"Last week (our team) played well here. They are capable, they probably just missed a couple putts," he said.

■ **Golf roundup, B3**

# Walter leads Ross attack

News-Messenger reports

TOLEDO — Mark Walter shot 38 at Whiteford Valley Golf Course to help Fremont Ross remain unbeaten in the Great Lakes League with a win against Whitmer.

Walter tied Whitmer's Gary Helminski for medalist honors in the 161-164 win.

Troy Ritchie (40), Jay Farrell (41) and Ian Steinert (42) completed the scoring for Ross (5-1 4-0).

In other action:

## Kalida 150, St. Joe 173

Three Kalida golfers shot in the 30s at Sycamore Hills Golf Course, spoiling the 36 shot by Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic's Aaron Zimmerman.

The Wildcats (6-1) were led by Kevin Stechschulte and Derek Schroeder, who also shot 36s. Jason Unverferth shot 38 and John Schmersal 40 to finish Kalida's scoring.

Nate Waleryszak shot 43, Tim Mayle 46 and Dave Halm 48 for St. Joe (6-2).

"I was disappointed that we hit the 170s on our home course," St. Joe coach Greg Koehler said. "We will try to improve on that."

The Crimson Streaks play at 2 p.m. Saturday in the Northwest Ohio Catholic School Association event at

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Thunderbird South in Huron.

### Gibsonburg 162, Eastwood 172, Woodmore 179

ELMORE — Gibsonburg rebounded from its first loss of the season by beating Eastwood and Woodmore by 10 strokes.

The Golden Bears, who lost to Lakota Wednesday, shot 162 at Sugar Creek Golf Course to improve to 8-1.

Eastwood (4-2) shot 172 and the host Wildcats (2-4) hit 179.

Nick Kaemming of the Golden Bears shot 37 for medalist honors. Teammate Ryan Bruce and Woodmore's Jan Snyder shot 40s.

### Old Fort 167, Danbury 176

LAKESIDE — Kyle Ryman shot a 1-over-par 36 as Old Fort beat Danbury by nine strokes.

Darren Brink of Old Fort and Danbury's Dustin Chura each shot 42.

The Stockaders improve to 4-1 while the Lakers sunk to 1-4.

### New Riegel 166, Bettsville 172

NEW RIEGEL — New Riegel's Chad Orians shot 36 to lead the Blue Jackets to a six-stroke win against Bettsville.

Bettsville's Ken Kizer shot 38 as the Bobcats dropped to 2-7.

# Ross, St. Joe take a mulligan

Teams reschedule golf match after playing in tough conditions Monday

By BRIAN SPIESS  
Sports editor

The crosstown golf match between Fremont Ross and St. Joseph Central Catholic turned into a scrimmage Monday when both coaches agreed Fremont Country Club's greens were not suitable for a competitive match.

Players brushed dirt and sand off the greens with towels and allowed for two-putt maximums on some holes to offset debris caused by routine maintenance.

Both teams finished the required nine holes, with Ross beating the Crimson Streaks 173-

178. But with several golfers still playing, Ross coach Denny Ritchie offered St. Joe coach Greg Kohler a chance to reschedule — under better conditions.

"If I had known the conditions were going to be like this, I would have rescheduled for another date," Ritchie said prior to making the offer to Kohler.

The teams will play at the Country Club Sept. 23, one day after the Little Giants host the Great Lakes League tournament.

Monday's match was ruled a scrimmage and will not count against the schools' 18-match

limit, Ritchie said.

Ross's Jay Farrell was willing to give up the win to try again.

"Sure," he said after shooting a 41. "I'm not happy with how I played either."

The problem? The greens had been airified, a process required to let air get to the roots of the greens. Dime-shaped holes are poked out of the greens, often leaving the dirt "plugs" behind. Sand is then scattered on the greens.

"There's sand on the green that thick," Ross golfer Mark Walter said to his teammates, showing

an inch-high space between his thumb and forefinger.

The course is already without half its holes because of renovations which started this month. Holes 1, 2, 3, 4, 12, 17, 11, 10 and 18 create the current nine-hole, par-35 setup.

While St. Joe's Aaron Zimmerman still managed a 38, no other golfer shot below 41.

"You would hit it and it would just keep rolling," St. Joe's Nate Waleryszak said of the greens. His chip on the final hole did just

See CROSSTOWN, B2

## Crosstown matchup rescheduled

Continued from B1

that, rolling on and then off the green.

"The greens, you couldn't hold any shots on them," Kohler said. "And the guys were thinking if they were too soft with a chip," the plugs would alter the shot.

Kohler welcomed the chance to return to the Country Club later in the month, calling it "a privilege to play here for most of our guys."

But Troy Ritchie, who shot a 43 on his home course, was willing to take his game to the Streaks' home.

"We should have just gone to Sycamore Hills," he said.

Regardless of the site, the match is

a rare chance for Ross and St. Joe athletes to compete. The teams met last year for what was believed to be the first head-to-head battle in 10 years. St. Joe won that match, also played at the Country Club.

"I know a lot of the players (for St. Joe)," Farrell said. "It's fun to play with them."

Aside from the questions about conditions, the match nearly did not take place because of prior scheduling. The Little Giants' calendar said the match was today, while St. Joe believed the match was Monday.

The schools agreed on the Monday matchup less than 24 hours before the match.

# Golf

## Ross 162, Fostoria 205

Fremont Country Club — Par 35

MEDALIST—Mark Walter (FR) 37.

FREMONT ROSS—Kyle Pasch 41; Jay Farrell 42; Ian Steinert 42.

FOSTORIA—Max Mendoza 42; Adam Schwab 51; Mike Durbin 56; Nate Hammer 56.

RECORDS—Fremont Ross 6-1 (5-0)

Fremont Ross JV 180, Fostoria 239

JV MEDALIST—Matt Bauer (FR) 41.

# Giants win all 6 league matches

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross defeated Findlay Tuesday to complete its unbeaten march through the Great Lakes League, a feat that will provide confidence — but no points — when the Little Giants host the league tournament Monday.

In the past, teams received points for dual match wins. An unbeaten team could take third in the tournament and still be declared league champs.

"Now we've just got to win," Ross coach Denny Ritchie said

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after his team defeated Findlay 160-168 at the Fremont Country Club.

"I never thought we'd beat them by eight strokes," said Ritchie, who coaches the Little Giants along with Denny Brudzinski.

Senior Mark Walter shot 36 to lead the Little Giants and Troy Ritchie followed with a 38. Findlay's J.J. Rodeheffer also shot 38.

The match was originally to be played in Findlay, but the Trojans' coach asked to play in Fremont to prepare for Monday's tournament.

Ross improved to 7-1 (6-0 GLL). The team's only loss came at Mansfield Madison and Ross's closest GLL match was a three-stroke decision against Toledo Whitmer.

# Golf

## Whitmer Invitational

TEAM STANDINGS — 1. Eastwood 324; 2. Whitmer 326; 3. Perrysburg 328; 4. Fremont Ross 334; 5. Rossford 337; 6. St. Francis 341; 7. Bedford 344; 8. Bowsher 354; 9. Start 361; 10. Clay 366.

### Individual results

MEDALIST—Josh Jaworski (E) 76

ROSS—Kyle Pasch 80, Mark Walter 84, Mack Cole 84, Jay Farrell 86

## Fremont Ross wins crosstown matchup

News-Messenger reports

In a match postponed from earlier in the month, Fremont Ross downed St. Joe 158-188 in the second time the teams have met in duel competition in the last decade.

Ross's Mark Walter won medalist honors, shooting a 36 at the Fremont Country Club.

The Little Giants (9-1) were coming off a fourth-place per-

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formance at Monday's GLL championship meet, where they shot a 337 in 18 holes.

St. Joe's Aaron Zimmerman was the individual runner-up Tuesday, with a 37.

Troy Ritchie and Kyle Pasch each had 39s for Ross.

In other action:

### Bettsville 186,

#### Toledo Christian 191

BETTSVILLE — At Nature Trails, Tony Bonawit was one shot away from medalist honors, but he still led Bettsville to a victory over Toledo Christian.

Doug Wolf shot a 46, Jon Rollins a 48 and Ken Kizer a 51 as the Bobcats improved to 5-11.

Oak Harbor girls second

TOLEDO — Ann Marie Kerstin medaled with a 39 as the Rockets finished second in a nine-team meet at the Toledo Country Club.

Kerstin shot a 4-over-par 39, and the team finished with a 210.

Also for Oak Harbor, Melissa Jenkins had a 54, Kim Ford had a 56 and Karen Kaman had a 61.

## Fremont Ross 166, Northview 169

SYLVANIA — Troy Ritchie shot a match-best 39 to lead Fremont Ross past Sylvania Northview, 166-169.

Matt Bauer added a 41 for the Little Giants, who improved to 9-1 this season.

# Giants win final dual match

News-Messenger reports

Troy Ritchie shot a match-best 39 to lead Fremont Ross past Bowling Green, 164-180, at Fremont Country Club.

The win concluded the Little Giants dual match season with a 10-1 record.

Three other Ross players — Jay Farrell (41), Kyle Pasch (41) and Mark Walter (43) — equaled or bettered the score of Bowling Green's top player, Bucky Parsons (43).

**Huron 168, Oak Harbor 177**

Todd Palmer shot 37 and

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Huron beat Oak Harbor.

**Mohawk 171 (48)**

**Gibsonburg 171 (50)**

**SYCAMORE** — Gibsonburg and Mohawk each shot 171 at Mohawk Country Club, but the Warriors won via a tiebreaker.

Mohawk's fifth man, Justin Wieneck, shot a 48, two strokes better than Gibsonburg five man Ryan Bruce. The top four scores account for the team score.

# Golf

## Genoa Invitational

At Sugar Creek

**TEAM STANDINGS**—1-Genoa Maroon 304, 2-Perkins 311, 3-Genoa Gray 315, 4-Bucyrus 323, 5-Ontario 325, 6-Van Buren 330, 7-Fremont Ross 334, 8-Canton Hoover 334, 9-Bellevue 339, 10-Clyde 349, 11-Start 352, 12-Otsego 365, 13-Bowsher 383.

Medalist—Curt Vogelpohl (GM) 70.

**GENOA MAROON**—Curt Vogelpohl 37-34-71, Mike Cicak 38-38-76, Nathan Tabbert 43-34-77, Dana Vogelpohl 41-39-80, Bill Ashline 42-46-88.

**GENOA GRAY**—Craig Pickerel 42-35-77, Andy Long 43-36-79, Matt Routsos 41-38-79, Jeremy Ward 40-40-80, Bryan Lutman 40-42-82.

**FREMONT ROSS**—Troy Ritchie 37-38-75, Mark Walter 40-42-82, Doug Garvey 45-41-86, Kyle Peck 46-45-91, Mike Moxley 53-44-97.

**CLYDE**—Doug Wilkinson 41-39-80, Jeremy Willer 45-41-86, John Stull 48-42-90, Geoff Meyer 50-43-93, Chad Nickell 58-51-109.

**FIRST TEAM**—Curt Vogelpohl (GM) 71, Nick Enders (Bu) 73, (P) Justin Bertsch 74, Matt Wilkinson (O) 74, Troy Ritchie (FR) 75, Mike Cicak (GM) 76.