

BOYS' SOCCER TEAM SEES HOW THE PIECES FIT AS SEASON NEARS

by [Rich McGowan](#) | Aug 17, 2018 | [Boys Soccer](#)



FREMONT – The Fremont Ross boys soccer team is something of a puzzle without a picture to work from.

Coach Alex Coressel knows he has all the pieces, but figuring out how they fit together, and what they'll look like when combined, remains a bit of a mystery as the season opens with Monday's game at Sandusky Perkins.

The Little Giants enjoyed their first winning season in recent memory last year, going 10-7 overall, but whether they can maintain that level of play in 2018 remains to be seen.



Carlos Pena



Caleb Bennison

"I think field-wise, our first 14-15 guys can hang with a lot of teams, or most teams we'll play," Coressel said. "It's up to these guys where we end up. We could end up with three wins this season, or, if we map it out, nine or 10.

"We're still trying to find all the key pieces and battling through injuries," he added. "We have six guys that all should be starting that are all a little banged up, so we're trying to nurse through."

Ross' biggest unknown comes in goal. The Little Giants have to replace graduated Mikey Contreras, who signed to continue his soccer career at Mount Union and had been the team's last line of defense for three years. Finding a way to fill in between the pipes will be critical, with sophomore Carlos Pena, senior Caleb Bennison, and sophomore Jared Adkins all vying for the job.



Jared Adkins

Pena, who will likely start Monday against Perkins, has experience having played goal for his club team in Toledo. Bennison, a tall athlete joining the team for the first time, has the mental make-up Coressel likes in a keeper, while Adkins was Contreras' back-up last year and is the only one of the three who was on the team.

"We're trying to figure out who it will be," Coressel said. "It could be one guy gets a half, and another guy gets the second half. It's developing that chemistry with the defense.

"(The job is) Carlos's to start with, but I would not hesitate at any point going to Caleb because he's an aggressive kid. At our scrimmage against Woodmore, he made some saves where it was like, 'Where the heck did that come from?' We're trying to teach him the finer points of the goalkeeping job."

Whoever is in goal will benefit from a strong, veteran group in front of him. The Little Giants have a wealth of experience on the back-end, with Mason DeWalt, Tim Mosser, and Chris Navarro all entering their third or fourth year as starters. They're being joined in the lineup by freshman Micah Olvera, whose emergence has given Coressel the flexibility to move another multi-year defensive starter, Charlie Corthell, up to



Mason DeWalt



Tim Mosser

midfield.

Despite all the talent and experience, however, Coressel didn't want to proclaim his defense as the strength of the team.

"I think we have strengths all over the field," he said. "I just think it's nice having experienced guys to rely on. They're athletic and know what to do, especially Mason, Charlie, and Tim.

"They can make up for some mistakes and eat some of those (opposing teams') chances. We have probably had fewer shots taken on us in this preseason than we've had in the last couple of years just because we have more guys, which is obviously going to help out our goalkeeper, not having to make as many saves."



Charlie Corthell



Dylan Brady

One of the most significant changes from 2017 to 2018 will be at midfield. Not only is Coressel looking at moving Corthell up from defense, but he's also taking last season's leading goal-scorer, Dylan Brady, from the forward position to attacking midfield.

Coressel said Brady's move is necessary due to the amount of attention he'll receive being a first-team TRAC honoree last season, having scored 18 goals with seven assists in 2017.

"He's going to be a marked man," Coressel said. "Everybody in the league is going to know where he's at, so his role is going to have to change this year. He's not going to be able to score 15 or 16 goals like he did the last couple of years. It's going to be about getting his eight 10 to 12 goals, at the most, and then being able to distribute and get more assists, 8 to 10 assists, is what we need from him."



Alec Slemmer

Brady's top targets for distributing the ball will include fellow midfielders Alec Slemmer and Isaac Minor, both of whom are among the Little Giants' fastest players, and Coressel said he believes they are primed to have breakout seasons. Up front, the Little Giants will look to a variety of players to provide balanced scoring. Carter Durbin, Cesar Flores, Kevin Navarro, and freshman Haydn Marcee will be looked to give Ross a scoring-by-committee attack.

"It's got to be," Coressel said. "Because we know they're going to try to take away Dylan. So, we need three to four other guys to step up and have eight-goal seasons."

BOYS SOCCER WINS SEASON-OPENER. GIRLS SUFFER SETBACK

by [Rich McGowan](#) | Aug 22, 2018 | [Boys Soccer](#), [Girls Soccer](#)



SANDUSKY – The soccer season officially got underway on Monday, and Fremont Ross' team had an up-and-down start to the season. The boys went to Sandusky Perkins and came home with a 3-1 victory.



Dylan Brady

Dylan Brady scored twice while Chris Navarro put one in the net as well.

“(We) improved throughout, and defense played a solid game,” boys coach Alex Coressel said.

The Lady Giants, however, were not as fortunate. Ross generated some offense but failed to score in a 2-0 loss to the Pirates.

“It was a good match,” girls’ coach Phil Collison said. “Defensively, we held. We created some good opportunities up top. (We were) just unable to finish.”

Both teams return to action on Wednesday with their home-openers against Port Clinton. The girls kick things off at 4:30 and the boys at 6 p.m.

DYLAN BRADY SCORES FIVE GOALS IN LITTLE GIANTS' SHUTOUT OF PORT CLINTON

by [Rich McGowan](#) | Aug 23, 2018 | [Boys Soccer](#)



FREMONT – So much for being shadowed by the opposition.



Dylan Brady

Before the season, the Fremont Ross boys soccer team believed its top scorer from last season, Dylan Brady, would have to transition to a more distributor role, as opposing teams would focus on shutting down the 18-goal scorer.

Brady followed up his two-goal season-opening effort Monday with an emphatic five-goal performance Wednesday in a 7-0 stomping of Port Clinton.

"He was getting to the right spots, firing the ball at the net, instead of trying to play around with it," Ross coach Alex Coressel said. "The biggest thing is all the other guys on offense were all moving the ball really well, which caused their defense to space out and gave him room to be able to work."

Coressel and the Little Giants know most of their matches won't be so lopsided, and stingier defenses will set their sights on shutting Brady down, but Coressel said his senior is rising to the challenge.

"That's a big portion of it," Coressel said. Plus, the other role players are stepping up, and maybe they're not necessarily hitting the back of the net. Still, they're

moving the ball exceptionally well and causing defenses not to be able to focus on him because they're a threat moving forward. It kind of takes a little pressure off him and lets him do what he does best."

Brady scored all three of Ross' goals in the first half on Wednesday, but despite the three-goal lead, the Little Giants were not pleased with their performance.



Chris Navarro



Mason DeWalt

"It was a very poor first half," Coressel said. "It was not the best soccer that we could play. We were playing around with the ball too much. We were shooting the ball over the net, we were not challenging the ball very hard, we were letting them win more of the 50-50 balls."

Isaac Minor and Mason DeWalt added second-half goals, along with two more from Brady. Chris Navarro had a pair of assists.

"They heard about it at halftime, that's for sure, and we scored two in the first seven minutes in the second half and put everything away," Coressel said. "Our kids rose to the occasion and played a whole lot better in the second half."

Caleb Bennison, in his first start as a goalkeeper, picked up the victory, making one save.



Caleb Bennison

"It's good for him to get a clean sheet," Coressel said. "He did a very good job in net tonight. Nothing too challenging, but he was able to learn a lot and did some good stuff."

The victory took some of the sting out of the disappointing news the team received on Wednesday morning. Ross' 3-1 victory over Sandusky Perkins was forfeited due to the use of an ineligible player, due to what Coressel called "a paperwork error."

Ross' overall record is 1-1, and the Little Giants return to action Tuesday at Toledo Central Catholic.

DYLAN BRADY HAT TRICK, ALEC SLEMMER'S 2 GOALS LIFT ROSS OVER LIMA

by [Rich McGowan](#) | Aug 29, 2018 | [Boys Soccer](#)



FREMONT – A lopsided score doesn't necessarily equal a happy coach. When the Fremont Ross boys soccer team put a seven-goal thumping on Port Clinton last week, coach Alex Coressel was thoroughly displeased with his team's first-half effort. Tuesday night, the Little Giants hosted TRAC foe Lima Senior and, as last week, enjoyed a one-sided victory, defeating the Spartans 7-1.



Dylan Brady

So, was Coressel more pleased with Tuesday's effort than last week's?

"Very," he said. "The kids put a lot of things together, and they played a perfect game overall. We were able to get our subs in and play them for 25 minutes tonight. We were up 4-0 at half and pretty much had it put away in the first half." Chris Navarro opened the scoring with a bomb from near midfield, which found the net over the head of the Lima goalkeeper. Dylan Brady then scored a pair of goals, and Alec Slemmer added a tally before the end of the half.

Brady and Slemmer each scored again in the second half, and Navarro had a corner kick that went off a Lima defender and into the Spartans' net.

Brady's hat trick gives him 10 goals in the Little Giants' first three games.

"He's scoring basically every way possible," Coressel said. "He's scored off a free kick, he scored off a corner, he's headed it in, he's had a couple shots he created on his own, and dribbled through people. It's been a little bit of everything."



Alec Slemmer



Chris Navarro

"I think part of that is the fight in him and wanting to carry the team, and the other part is he's gotten much better at distributing the ball, so when he passes it off, he's also able to get some more wide-open looks."

Slemmer's goals were his first two of the season, a much-welcomed sight to Coressel, who will be looking to Slemmer, among others, to ease the scoring burden off Brady when the Little Giants face tougher competition.

"Most important, what was nice was to see him not to shoot too hard or overswing or anything," Coressel said. "He placed a couple of nice balls in the net, and the keeper wasn't able to get to them. He's going through the things we talk about in practice, calming down and getting good shots instead of sailing everything over the net."

Charlie Corthell, Cesar Flores, Carter Durbin, and Navarro all added assists while Caleb Bennison made four saves in goal.

The win improves the Little Giants to 2-1 overall this season, 1-0 in the TRAC. Ross returns to action next Tuesday at Toledo Central Catholic.

POOR FIRST HALF DOOMS BOYS' SOCCER IN A LOSS TO THE IRISH

by [Rich McGowan](#) | Sep 5, 2018 | [Boys Soccer](#)



TOLEDO – It's hard to know which is worse: The actual performance or the knowledge of what could have been?

A lackluster effort in the first half of its match against Toledo Central Catholic buried the Little Giant boys soccer team in a five-goal deficit at halftime. Ross, however, played up to its capabilities in the second half, holding the Irish scoreless until the final seconds of a 6-0 loss.

The Little Giants' strong second half, however, only increases coach Alex Coressel's frustration at his team's first-half performance.

"Absolutely. It's a very big part of the frustration right now," he said. "If we had played the way we are capable, then that's a game we either win or, at the very least, it's a tied ball game."

Coressell said the Little Giants' first half was "very, very lazy and undisciplined."

"We let them get every ball, we let them dictate the pace of play, and when we had a chance to clear some stuff out of the front of the net, we sort of let it sit there and let them capitalize," he said.

Only after halftime did Ross assert itself and take control of the game. Though the Little Giants held a significant edge in offensive pressure, they could not find the back of the net.

"We played them 0-0 until the last two seconds with our subs in," Coressel said. "The leaders of the team stepped up, and we pretty much dominated the entire second half. We just couldn't put anything in the net.

"(Goalkeeper) Caleb (Bennison) only had to make one or two real saves in the second half."

Even in the darkness that was the first half, Coressel did see a shining light or two throughout the match.

"Isaac Minor played a fantastic game tonight from start to finish," Coressel said.

"He was one of the very bright spots on the evening. Any ball that came his way he handled it extremely well, he hustled all night long. He gave us life at times when we didn't have much. He really stood out. And Dylan Brady played the same way."

The Little Giants will return to the field Thursday at home when they host Toledo Start at 5 p.m.

BOYS' SOCCER OVERCOMES ADVERSITY, POWERS PAST START 4-2

by [Rich McGowan](#) | Sep 7, 2018 | [Boys Soccer](#)



TOLEDO – The Little Giant boys soccer team endured a lesson in patience and overcoming adversity Thursday.



Dylan Brady

Inundated by a series of calls that went against them, the Little Giants had to power past the frustration and continue to take a 4-2 victory over Toledo Start.

“Our kids had to battle through some of the non-calls or odd decisions,” Ross coach Alex Coressel said. “Our kids probably drew three (penalty kicks), easily, in the first half; none of them were called.”

Dylan Brady got things started for Ross, scoring 12 minutes into the game off an assist from Tim Mosser. He found the back of the net again with 10 minutes to play before halftime with an unassisted goal to give Ross a 2-1 lead at the break.

“Dylan did some magnificent work again,” Coressel said. “He was in the middle of the field dancing around and through a couple of guys and burying a couple (goals).”

Alec Slemmer scored twice in the second half. The first goal came eight minutes into the half when Mason DeWalt sent a ball from the sideline around midfield to the front of the goal, where Slemmer corralled the ball and put it in the net. His second goal came just after the midpoint of the half when Chris Navarro sent a through-ball to Slemmer, who buried the ball past the Start keeper.



Alec Slemmer

“Alec ran onto it and made a super-beautiful shot,” Coressel said of Slemmer’s second goal. “It was nice to see him capitalize and tally a couple tonight.”

Caleb Bennison made three saves as the goalkeeper for the Little Giants.

“The kids had the battle through tonight,” Coressel said. “The first half, I think it really got to them. We were only up 2-1 at half; the one they scored was not a referee’s fault – that was us communicating poorly. But I think part of that is the

frustration of what else is going on and trying to figure out a way to play through it."

Ross' win improves its record to 3-2 on the season. The Little Giants return to action Tuesday at home against Whitmer.

BOYS SOCCER TEAM SHINES

Boys soccer

The Little Giant soccer team picked up a pair of significant victories this week, one in league play and the other in non-conference action.



Dylan Brady

On Tuesday, the Little Giants hosted Whitmer and came away with a 2-1 win thanks to a pair of goals by Dylan Brady, one of which included an assist from Kevin Navarro.

Thursday night, the Little Giants blew away the Tornadoes of Tiffin Columbian, 9-0.

For the second time this season, Brady scored five goals, upping his season total to 19. Isaac Minor scored a pair of goals while Alec Slemmer and Caleb Bennison each added a goal.

Bennison and Brady split the work in goal, combining for a shutout in net.

The Little Giants are now 5-2 overall on the season, with a 2-1 mark in the TRAC. Ross is back in action on Tuesday at St. John's.

BOYS SOCCER SHUT OUT BY NO. 6-RANKED ST. JOHN'S

by [Rich McGowan](#) | Sep 19, 2018 | [Boys Soccer](#)



TOLEDO – Call it a tough night at the office.

The Fremont Ross boys soccer team saw first-hand why St. John's Jesuit is ranked No. 6 in the state in Division I by the Ohio Scholastic Soccer Coaches Association.

The Titans topped the Little Giants by a 10-0 score Tuesday night.

"St. John's is just that good," Ross coach Alex Coressel said.

"They're just kids that play against top-level competition all the time," he said of St. John's. "They're just an excellent team that has a legit chance to make it to the state finals."

Despite the lopsided score, Coressel said he did see several positives to take from the match.

"There were points where we battled hard," he said. "I think we saw a few guys step up and do some things that we know they're able to do. I guess Cesar Flores played a phenomenal game on the back line, filling in for Micha (Olvera), who went down earlier this year.

"Midfield-wise, I think (Isaac) Minor played an excellent game tonight, batted hard, and gave us a couple of opportunities. (Alec) Slemmer is the one who had outshot tonight."

Ross is now 5-3 overall with a 2-2 league record. The Little Giants are off for a week until they host Clay Boys soccer vs. Clay on Tuesday, Sept. 25.

BOYS SOCCER ROLLS OVER ST. PETER'S, 6-0

by [Rich McGowan](#) | Sep 28, 2018 | [Boys Soccer](#)



FREMONT – After a disappointing result Tuesday night, the Little Giant soccer team had numerous chances, yet only scored once in a loss to Oregon Clay. Ross bounced back in a significant way on Thursday.

But Thursday night, hosting Mansfield St. Peter's, the Little Giants not only played a stronger all-around game, but they also buried their scoring opportunities in a 6-0 rout of the Spartans.



Chris Navarro



Dylan Brady

“It was a completely different team from Tuesday night,” coach Alex Coressel said. “Much more focused, much more positive, much better energy altogether. They linked the ball together, and we were in the attacking half of the field for a substantial portion of the game.”

Dylan Brady scored three goals and added an assist. Chris Navarro had a goal and two assists, filling in for the injured Alec Slemmer in the proper forward position. Isaac Minor scored a goal, and freshman Michael Harper scored the first goal of his career.

Coressel said Ross’s success on offense was attributable to an improved sense of teamwork.

“It wasn’t a bunch of individuals trying to score goals; it was the team trying to score goals, which makes a huge difference,” he said. “When you get team-play and people moving the ball well, giving each other opportunities, it makes the defense stretch out and gives you better looks at the net.”



Mason DeWalt



Cesar Flores

As strong as the offensive output was, Coressel was most impressed by the defensive effort from Cesar Flores and Mason DeWalt.

"They played the entire game on the back line and (St. Peter's) had one excellent attacker who was up front and extremely quick," Coressel said. "They did a phenomenal job keeping him from being able to score. Cesar was all over him all night and didn't really give him any room to breathe, which made Caleb (Bennison)'s night a little easier in net. Caleb had to make a couple of diving plays in the last few minutes in the net to keep it zero. Those three guys had a phenomenal game in the back."

The Little Giants are now 6-4 overall and are back in action Tuesday night at Findlay.

LITTLE GIANT SOCCER TEAM

EMPTIES THE BENCH IN 11-1 WIN OVER OLD FORT

by [Rich McGowan](#) | Oct 5, 2018 | [Boys Soccer](#)



FREMONT – The Fremont Ross soccer team had a fun night at the office. Not only did the Little Giants romp to an 11-1 stomping of Old Fort Thursday, but several of the team's reserve players got their chance to play and found their way on the scoresheet, much to the delight of their teammates.

"It was a good team-building night and a night to get some guys some rest," coach Alex Coressel said.

Chris Navarro opened the scoring about nine minutes into the game, then Isaac Minor scored a goal, hitting what Coressel called "the most beautiful shot I've ever seen in my life. Right-footed, ripped to the second post, just an unbelievable shot."

Then the floodgates opened. Brady Wolfe scored, then Dylan Brady added two of his three goals, and Michael Harper added another, all in the span of about five minutes. Ross began rotating its lineup before the midpoint of the first half, and the Little Giants held a 7-0 lead at halftime.

With the game well in hand, Coressel took the rest of the game to rest his starters and give the reserves their chance, and they made the most of it. Miguel Navarro and Caleb Bennison scored, as did foreign exchange student Allistair Bonny and Chivo Alonso.

"(Bonny) had a couple of opportunities and he was able to finish one," Coressel said. "Chivo, being a junior, doesn't always get a lot of playing time, but has the

greatest heart in the world. Allistair drew a PK, and we let Chivo take it, and he buried it, left-hand corner, nothing the goalie could do about it.

"The kids are leaping off the bench, both guys got swarmed after they scored, the guys on defense ran down to give them a hug and were extremely proud of them."

Ross improves to 7-5 overall on the year and will host Clyde Saturday in a doubleheader with the girls' team. The Lady Giants begin play at 11 a.m., with the boys to follow at approximately 1 p.m.

FAST START, DYLAN BRADY'S 4 GOALS, LIFT ROSS BOYS SOCCER OVER CLYDE

by [Rich McGowan](#) | Oct 7, 2018 | [Boys Soccer](#)



FREMONT – Scoring isn't supposed to happen so fast in soccer.

The Fremont Ross and Clyde boys soccer teams combined for five goals in the first 10 minutes of their match Saturday afternoon. Once the game settled down, the Little Giants' constant offensive pressure was more than enough to prevail as Ross cruised to a 6-1 victory.

"It was a weird game," Ross coach Alex Coressel said.

It may have been weird, but it worked out just fine for the Little Giants.

Ross opened the scoring 99 seconds into the game with a goal by Isaac Minor.

Clyde, however, answered with a goal of its own barely a minute later.

Ross senior Dylan Brady then scored three goals in eight minutes to lift Ross to a 4-1 lead, where the game remained until halftime.

Though Ross took an early, commanding lead, Coressel said his team played a tighter game in the second half.

"We kind of got too complacent and too happy with what we had done,"

Coressel said of Ross' first half. "We wanted to play the fancier pass or make the better dribble. We got a little more in the mode of 'All right, I'm going to score one too.'

"In the second half, we moved the ball extremely well," he continued. "We only put two in, but were firing at the net regularly. Their keeper was busy the entire time, and there were times our defense didn't touch the ball for eight to 10 minutes."

Brady scored his fourth goal of the game in the second half, and Alex Slemmer added another.

Brady's four-goal performance puts him at 31 for the season and over 60 for his career, both marks, Coressel said, are all but assured to be program records.

"There were two he scored tonight off of headers, one off a crosser and the other on a corner kick," Coressel said of Brady. "He's getting his way to the ball, getting a head on it, and he has great control when he's in the air. He's very elusive when he's dribbling, and he has a great touch with the ball, so he's able to finish pretty much from anywhere on the field."

Carter Durbin had a pair of assists while Slemmer, Minor, and Tim Mosser each had one.

Ross is now 8-5 on the season, and Saturday's match marked the Little Giants' final home game of the season. While Ross has three games next week, at St. Francis, Oak Harbor, and Sandusky, the looming prospect of saying goodbye to his seniors is one Coressel is dreading.

"We still have three games left, but it's their last one at home; it's definitely bittersweet," Coressel said. "Especially this being the first group that I've coached here that I've seen through here all four years."

LITTLE GIANT SOCCER TEAM BATTLES ST. FRANCIS HARD BEFORE WEARING DOWN IN THE SECOND HALF

by [Rich McGowan](#) | Oct 10, 2018 | [Boys Soccer](#)



TOLEDO – There are times the final score doesn't reflect the nature of a game. And there are times when a team needs to keep its eye on the process more than the final result.

Both of those items rang true for the Little Giant boys' soccer team on Tuesday. While the final scoreboard showed a 10-0 loss to the powerful St. Francis Knights, it didn't show a competitive 1-0 game at halftime. And while the game will go down in the record book as a loss, coach Alex Coressel sees it as another example of the Little Giant program knocking on the door of becoming more and more competitive in the Three Rivers Athletic Conference.

"We showed last year at St. John's, and St. Francis only losing 2-0, and technically we won against St. Francis on a forfeit, we can compete," Coressel said. "Findlay, we haven't been able to compete with them in the past; it's been a blowout. And this year's game was close (even though we were) down two guys. Clay, who is a much-improved team, we're within a goal or two of them.

"We made huge strides, and I don't want to see us go backwards because we're getting there. We're starting to compete. And I think we can win these next two at the end of the week here, and if we can have two 10-win seasons here, for Fremont Ross soccer, that'd be huge."

Feeling as though they had nothing to lose, the Little Giants tweaked their lineup, moving some players to different positions. The result was a team that

battled from the start. Though St. Francis scored around the midway point of the first half on a disputed call Coressel felt should have been ruled offside, the Little Giants didn't shrink away and kept the game 1-0 until the early stages of the second half.

"The guys played extremely well," Coressel said. "They played super hard. We had a pretty darn good game plan going in.

"We held them at bay, and we had a couple of opportunities," he added. "What I thought should have been a red card was only a yellow. Dylan (Brady) got a breakaway and was pulled down. Our kids, for the first 50 minutes, basically, just played phenomenal."

As the second half progressed, however, St. Francis used its depth to its advantage, wearing out the Little Giants.

"Our kids flat-out got tired," Coressel said. "They had six or seven subs they could turn to that are all top-notch players. We were trying to ride our guys that were playing very well, and we don't have the extra bodies on the bench to have the quality (depth) they do."

That depth, the ability to rotate players and keep the talent level on the field from dropping off, is what Coressel wants his players to take from Tuesday's loss. The Little Giants showed that Fremont Ross soccer can compete with the league's big dogs. Beating them, however, will require a year-round effort from throughout the program.

"Our freshmen, sophomores, and juniors that were there, they see what we're capable of, so we're just trying to use it as a moment to buy in," Coressel said. "In the offseason, we have to be working; we have to have as many people playing all the time that we possibly can. And over the summer, we can't take days off. We have to be in the weight room and on the track and getting in shape so we're ready to go for games like this so that we can maintain, not just a half, but the entire 80 minutes."

Coressell also noted the play of senior goalkeeper Caleb Bennison whose performance under heavy fire, like the rest of the team's play, was far superior to what the final score indicated.

"It was a phenomenal game by everybody," he said. "Caleb Bennison was getting shelled all night in goal, and he really came through. Yes, he allowed 10, but that really isn't what it sounds like."

The Little Giants are now 8-6 overall, 2-5 in the TRAC. They play at Oak Harbor on Thursday at 5 p.m., then conclude the regular season Saturday at 1 p.m. at Sandusky.

Ross will play Perrysburg in a sectional tournament game on Thursday, Oct. 18 at Perrysburg.

LOSING LEAD PROPELS LITTLE GIANT SOCCER TO VICTORY

by Rich McGowan | Oct 12, 2018 | Boys Soccer



OAK HARBOR – Despite taking a quick two-goal lead Thursday, the Fremont Ross boys soccer team needed to blow that lead to invest itself into the game entirely.

The Little Giants regrouped themselves in the second half of their match with Oak Harbor and returned home with a 4-2 win over the Rockets.



Brady Wolfe

"As bad as it is to get scored on...it was at least the wake-up call we needed to get guys moving a little bit quicker and more aggressively," coach Alex Coressel said. Ross jumped out to a quick lead when Isaac Minor scored just four minutes in. The Little Giants added to their lead 12 minutes later when Tim Mosser made it 2-0.

"Kind of like what's been our M.O. this year, when we score a couple goals quickly, we try to get fancy and try things we don't need to be doing," Coressel said.

Oak Harbor trimmed the deficit down to 2-1 at halftime, then tied the game in the opening minutes of the second half.

With its lead gone, the Little Giants returned to playing the type of soccer that has them with a 9-6 overall record.

"It kind of woke our guys up after that," Coressel said. "We were getting on the attack more and played down in their end for a good portion of the second half." Dylan Brady scored midway through the second half to retake the lead for the Little Giants, then, with 11 minutes remaining, Brady Wolfe provided an insurance goal to preserve the win.

Wolfe's play Thursday encapsulated the Little Giants' 'Jekyll and Hyde' game as his second-half performances shone brightly compared with those of his first-half play.

"I called him out at halftime," Coressel said of Wolfe. "He had a not-so-good first half and a very dominant second half. He won a whole lot of balls in the midfield for us and got us moving forward. The goal he scored was on a ball that he was

aggressive and went after, laid it out on the outside, and Isaac Minor hit a ball back in, and he got on the end of it and finished it.”

The Little Giants play the final game of the regular season Saturday as part of a doubleheader with the Lady Giants. The boys begin play at 1 p.m., while the ladies will follow at approximately 3 p.m.

GOALS HARD TO COME BY FOR ROSS SOCCER TEAM



SANDUSKY – In evenly-played matches where teams of similar skill sets are pitted against one another, the most minor things can make the difference. A shot ringing off the post, a pass just off the mark, or simply a bad bounce of the ball can be the difference between a win, a tie, or a loss.

Both the Fremont Ross boys and girls soccer teams saw that play out Saturday afternoon as they battled rival Sandusky in a regular-season finale doubleheader. The boys' teams traded goals in the first half before a scoreless second half knotted their game into a 1-1 tie. The girls' game played 60 scoreless minutes until Sandusky scored the only goal in the Lady Giants' 1-0 loss.



Jared Adkins

Adkins' late saves hold onto a tie for Little Giants

Jared Adkins hasn't been called upon often in goal for the Little Giants this season, but thrown into action Saturday, the sophomore more than rose to the challenge.

With starting keeper Caleb Bennison not available due to a family obligation, it fell on Adkins to turn away the Blue Streaks as both teams desperately sought the go-ahead goal in the late stages of the boys' game.

Twice in the final 10 minutes of the game, with a Blue Streak forward barreling down on him, Adkins rushed out from his net and performed terrific sliding tackles to scoop up the ball and thwart the Sandusky scoring chance. Sandusky fired 10 shots toward Adkins, who made three saves.

"Jared Adkins, the way he played today, wow. Absolutely huge," boys coach Alex Coressel said. "It's not just that he's back-up, but he's a back-up who's hardly seen any time, except for games in a blowout.

"He had about two saves on the season (coming in to the game), and both of them were cupcake saves. Against a team of their caliber, and a couple of their strikers are really good, for him to come up big in those big moments, that says a lot about him."



Isaac Minor controls a loose ball Saturday against Sandusky.

Adkins' stops allowed Ross to have its last chance to get the game-winner as the Little Giants pressured the Blue Streaks' end of the field for the final minute of the game, including a shot on goal by Dylan Brady in the final 30 seconds, which was turned away from Sandusky goalkeeper Ja'Torry Johnson, who made five saves on Ross' 13 shots fired at the goal.

The Little Giants' best chance of the game came seven minutes into the match when a shot rang off the crossbar, and Johnson stopped the ensuing rebound. "Those are so painful, and to see it bounce around two or three times and take a couple more shots and we don't finish one, it's frustrating," Coressel said. "There's always that one play that can define a game, and that could have been it."

With Bennison gone and Cesar Flores injured, the Little Giants played a short bench, only using two subs the entire game and just one, Haydn Marcee, in the second half. Despite their shorthanded status, Coressel thought his team played strongly from the start and continued through the afternoon.



Dylan Brady plays a ball off his chest against Sandusky Saturday.

"Our kids came ready to play," he said. "They knew, the group that started on the field, it was in their hands, there was no one to turn to, no one to come in and save them, to be able to fix things for their bodies. They had to step in and play for 80 minutes."

The Little Giants scored the game's first goal as Brady cashed in on a shot from 15 yards out with 13 minutes to play in the first half.

The lead, however, didn't last for long as the Blue Streaks answered with two minutes remaining in the first half.

"It took a bad bounce and took a left turn into the net," Coressel said. "It was heading toward the right post, came back and had a little bit of spin on it and there was nothing (Adkins could do)."

Ross' regular season ends with a record of 9-6-1 overall. The Little Giants will play at Perrysburg High School in the opening round of the postseason tournament Thursday at 5 p.m.

SHORT-HANDED LITTLE GIANTS' SOCCER SEASON COMES TO A CLOSE

by [Rich McGowan](#) | Oct 18, 2018 | [Boys Soccer](#)



PERRYSBURG – The last thing any team needs when facing a dangerous opponent loaded with talent is being forced to play without its best defender. Unfortunately, that is just the scenario the Little Giant soccer program found itself in when facing Perrysburg in the opening round of the sectional tournament Thursday.

A red card to junior defender Mason DeWalt for purposefully stopping a goal with his hand, about midway through the first half, forced DeWalt from the match, putting an already outgunned Little Giant team shorthanded for 60 minutes in a 10-0 season-ending loss to the Yellow Jackets.

“He’s grown so much in these last three seasons,” Coressel said of DeWalt following the team’s weekend tie with Sandusky. “I remember when he walked in the first day of practice as a freshman and it was like, ‘What are we going to do with all these kids, they’re small and kind of scrawny,’ and now, if we don’t have him back there, we’re definitely not a nine-win team, we’re probably a five- or six-win team, if we’re lucky.”

“He’s a huge difference-maker; he keeps so many opportunities from getting to the net, and especially that he can sprint back and take away those one-on-one opportunities because a lot of teams will bury those.”

While DeWalt's absence certainly didn't help matters, even with him in there, Ross faced a stiff test. Despite the challenge of its opponent, Coressel was pleased with how his team battled.

"They scored relatively early, about 10 minutes in, and it was fighting an uphill battle from there," he said. "They're an excellent team. They knew how to beat our back line to get a couple of balls in, and they also had a couple of shots that were just amazing shots, nothing that our goalkeepers could do anything about. The loss ends the Little Giants' year with a 9-7-2 record, though one of those losses was due to a forfeit of their season-opening win over Sandusky Perkins.

"I was proud of everything they did this year," Coressel said. "We overcame a lot of things, not having a whole lot of depth, and to be able to get, basically, another 10-win season was a program taking a step in the right direction. We showed that we can still compete even without some of the pieces we had that graduated, and we have to try to do that again next season."

Next season, the Little Giants will have to continue without seniors Allistair Bonny, Charlie Corthell, Tim Mosser, Caleb Bennison, Kevin Navarro, and Dylan Brady, who scored 33 goals this year and more than 60 for his career. Replacing Brady's production is going to be a significant challenge for the 2019 Little Giants. "It's going to be huge," Coressel said. "I think we do have some things we found throughout the season during our adversity this season that will help moving forward.

"I think we have a powerful junior group that will be seniors that are going to have the challenge of leading a whole bunch of other young guys to see if we can duplicate the success we've had the last two years."

Ross Soccer (2018) Schedule

2018-19 ▾

 Print



Overall	Conference
9-6-1	2-5
0.594 Win Pct	5th <u>Three Rivers</u>

Home	7-2	GF	60
Away	2-4-1	GA	44
Neutral	0-0	Streak	1T

LITTLE GIANTS' ALL-TIME LEADING SCORER, DYLAN BRADY SIGNS TO PLAY AT TIFFIN

by [Rich McGowan](#) | Feb 19, 2019 | Boys Soccer



FREMONT – A record-setting high school career has paved the way for Dylan Brady to pursue a new career: a collegiate one.



Dylan Brady

The Little Giant senior has signed on to play soccer at the next level, earning a scholarship to Division II Tiffin University.

"It just sort of hit me the other day, I'm actually going to be a college athlete and further my education," Brady said. "I leave it all to the High School, getting me to this point. I'm thankful for everything that got me here."

Brady's penchant for putting the ball in the net also played a significant part in his success.

He leaves the Little Giants program as its all-time leader in career goals, 72, as well as goals tallied in a season, as he potted 32 in his senior season.

Ross coach Alex Coressel said the void Brady will leave will loom large.

"Absolutely massive," he said. "And I think that's an understatement. We lose 32 goals from a team that scored 60-something; he's half our goals, but it's not just that; it's the assists, the attention he draws is huge. We're going to need multiple, multiple guys to step up, not just one or two. It's going to have to be four or five goals to step up and score five or six more goals each to try to make a dent in the production we're going to lose."



Dylan Brady looks toward the Clay goal as the Little Giants attack in the first half of their game in the fall.

While Brady rewrote the Little Giant record book, his postseason performance might be as indicative as anything regarding his collegiate potential. Brady played in a pair of all-star games, representing the Three Rivers Athletic Conference in the TRAC-NLL all-star game and the all-district all-star game. He scored in both games, including the game-winner in the final seconds of the TRAC-NLL game.

"The fact his game moves over to those, and he scores in those situations, shows his game is ready for the next level, and he's going to be successful," Coressel said.

Despite the individual numbers he posted for Ross, Brady said he went to the all-star games determined to prove his goal-scoring could keep up with players from the area's top programs.

"They boosted a lot of confidence for me, scoring in both of them," he said. "All the players on the field were just as good as I was, or better than I was. Fremont is overlooked a lot. We're a smaller school, and 'We're not as good as everyone else' quote-unquote, but it felt good to get out there, get my name and the school out there."

Brady intends to take that something-to-prove mentality – and ability to put the ball in the net – with him to Tiffin.

