

Low numbers could hinder Ross track teams

By BOB MARKER
Staff writer

Coach John Elder's Fremont Ross track and field teams are characterized by new and fewer faces this spring.

The new faces belong to his coaching staff while the fewer faces are in the boys and girls squads.

"Overall," Elder said, "the numbers are down, especially with the girls team. But I like the quality of kids we have out."

The low numbers, however, will hurt.

"We will not be strong in the dual meets," Elder said, "and that will hurt us in the (Buckeye Central Conference) meet. However, we could be very competitive at the big Saturday invitationals — I'm mainly referring to our boys team, but some of our girls have the potential to perform well."

In the coaching ranks, only Andre Purcell was on Elder's staff a year ago. Three new coaches and a volunteer coach fill out Elder's assistants.

"Overall, the numbers are down ... but I like the quality of kids we have out."

— Ross coach John Elder

Beth Kidwell will handle the high jump and distance runners; Victor Huntley coaches the sprints and relays along with the long jumpers; and Cheryl Coresel handles sprints and relays. Bill McCoy is the volunteer coach for the pole vaulters.

On the boys team, Elder has nine returning lettermen.

Senior Chad Bruns vaulted 11-feet last season while sophomore Tony Franks returns at shot put and discus. Elder feels Franks is capable of 50-feet in the shot and 130 in the discus.

Dave Kadlubowski is another vaulter who cleared 11-0 as a freshman.

Returning district high jump

champ, sophomore Mike Pasch, returns. He jumped 6-4 a season ago.

Shunnar Gamble and Hector Rodriguez, both seniors, and sophomore Tyrone Williams anchor the sprint corps. Rodriguez and Williams are also long jumpers capable of 22-foot leaps, according to Elder.

Senior Jim Parker is a 400 and 800 runner who will also run on the 4x400 and 4x800 relays.

Junior Mark Sheidler is an 800 and 1600 runner.

"We have some new faces who will help," Elder said.

Among those are junior Cory Sewell who lettered as a freshman but played baseball as a sophomore. He will high jump and run some sprints. He high-jumped 5-11 as a freshman.

Melvin Rusch, a freshman, vaulted 11-0 as an eighth grader.

"Our pole vault could be one of our strongest events," Elder said.

Other newcomers Elder feels

can contribute include Todd Clark in the sprints and relays, Craig Eppley, Jason Wilhelm and Arnell Bulger in the field weight events, Efraim Moreno and Ryan Vogel in the hurdles and Preston Eberly in the sprints and high jump.

Elder also said freshmen Jeff Pasch, junior Eric Keiser and seniors Nate Sorg and Jim Kelly are first-year distance runners who he feels will help out.

Ross won the Fremont Invitational and district meets last season, and repeating those accomplishments are some of the team's goals, according to Elder.

"We could be better this year," he said, "... If our lettermen improve, we will be better, and if the others step in and contribute like I think they will."

Ten returning letterwinners are on the girls squad.

Five of them — Jenny Maire, Erica McDonald, Stephanie McGee, Amy Ritzman and Jackie Weaver — are seniors. Bille Jo Elder, Leah Lomax, Becky Schwind and Jada Price

are juniors, with Deb Lilley a sophomore.

Ritzman leads the distance people along with Lomax. Maire is a high jumper who runs the hurdles and relays, while McDonald tosses the shot put and discus along with Schwind.

Price is the defending BCC 100 and 300 hurdles champ, while Weaver is the team's most versatile performer, according to Elder. Weaver runs the sprints, hurdles, long jumps and high jumps if needed.

Lilley runs the 400, 1600 and 3200 relay teams.

New faces include sprinters Kristy Swanger and Nicole Hinkle, both freshmen; hurdlers Erika Pickard and Michelle Jenkins and freshman distance runner Heather Mears.

Despite the low numbers on the girls squad, Elder is enthusiastic.

"I've always liked their attitude," he said. "They try their best no matter what."

Ross opens the season Tuesday, hosting Tiffin Columbian.

Tornadoes blow by Little Giants

Fliers beat Bellevue

News-Messenger reports

The distance strength of Tiffin Columbian was too much for the Fremont Ross boys track team Thursday, while the Tornadoes breezed to a girls' victory at Ross High School.

Columbian compiled 66½ points to 52½ for Ross and 48 for Fostoria. In the girls competi-

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tion, Columbian's 98½ points easily outdistanced the Little Giants with 39 and the Redmen with 26½.

In other track action reported, Clyde's boys defeated Bellevue 81-51 while the Flier girls topped Bellevue 88½-39½ and Lakota and Oak Harbor split a meet — the Raiders beating the Rocket boys 82-50 while Oak Harbor's girls beat Lakota 80-48.

Although Ross won four of five field events and got a victory its 4x100 relay team, the Tornadoes swept the distance events.

"They are real strong in the distance events and we're not," Ross coach John Elder said.

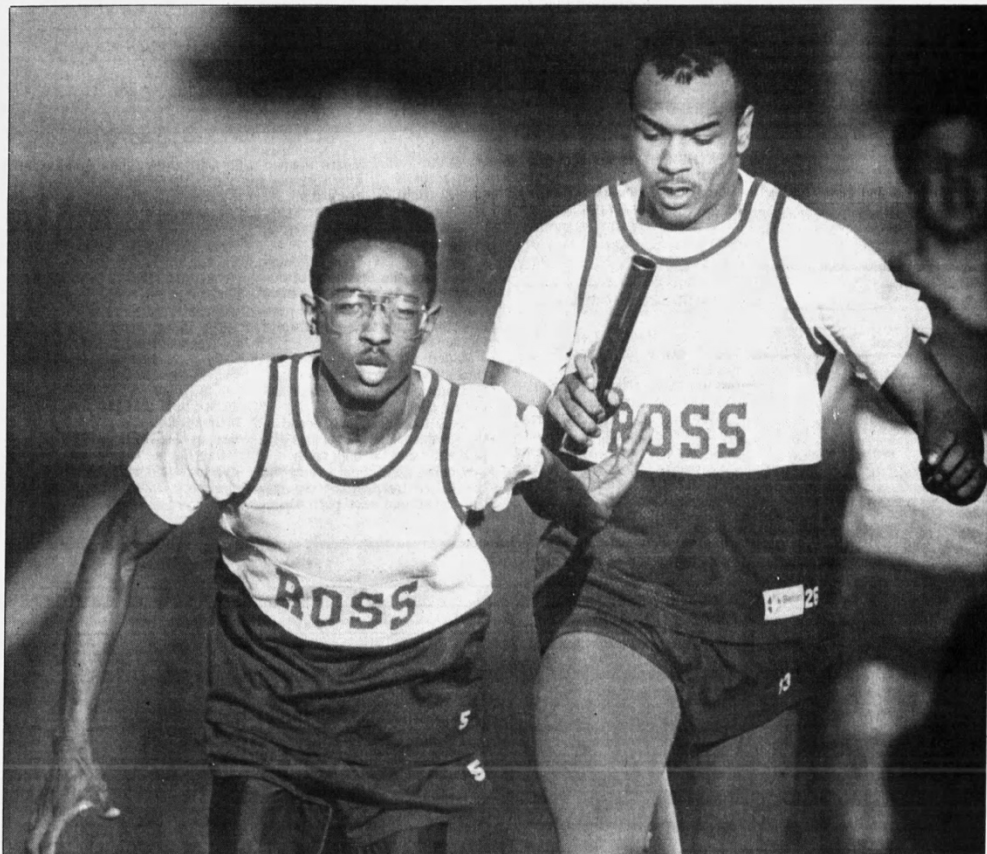
"That's what did it."

"They swept all the distance events except for fourth places. That's 10 points per event, and we lost by 14."

Tony Franks won the discus and shot put for Ross, Mike Pasch took first in the high jump and Dave Kadlubowski led a 1-2-3 finish for the Little Giants in the pole vault.

Shunnar Gamble, who tied for first at 11.7 seconds in the 100 dash, combined with Todd Clark, Cory Sewell and anchor man Tyronne Williams in the 4x100.

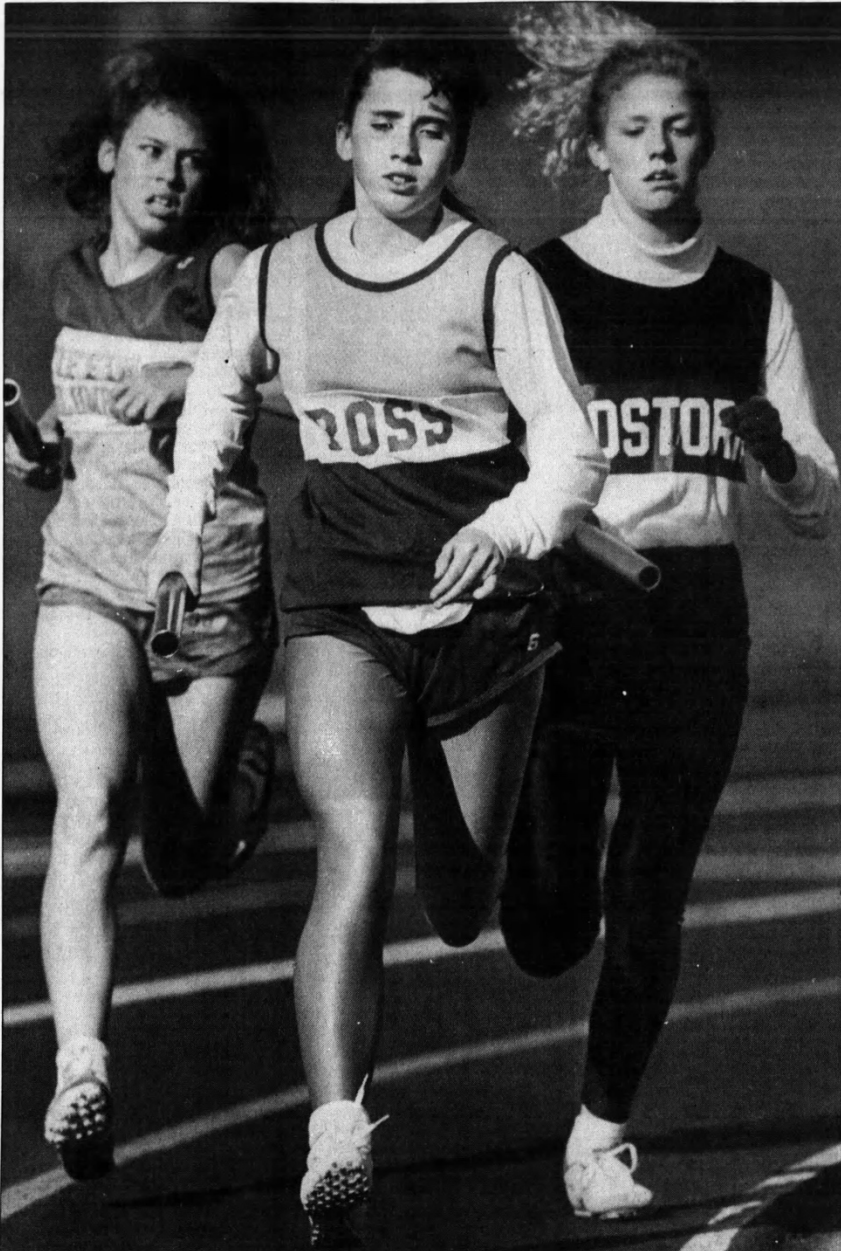
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News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

CORY SEWELL (right) hands off to Shunnar Gamble during the 4x100 relay Tuesday at Ross High School. The Little Giant relay

squad, which also included lead runner Todd Clark and anchor man Tyronne Williams, won the event in 45.8 seconds.



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

HEATHER MEARS of Fremont Ross runs the first leg of the 4x800 relay Tuesday against a runner from Tiffin Columbian (left) and Fostoria (right).

Mears teamed with Deb Lilley, Leah Lomax and Amy Ritzman and the Little Giants won the event in 10:43.5.

Track

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Heather Mears, Deb Lilley, Leah Lomax and Amy Ritzman combined to win the 4x800 relay for the Ross girls. Lomax also won the 800 run and Stephanie McGee took first in the 400 dash for the Little Giants.

"Columbian is a real strong girls team," Elder said. "They are loaded, and we're not a real strong dual meet team."

Clyde-Bellevue

The distance running of Andy Madell and the sprinting of Joe Rodriguez led Clyde's boys team, while the Clyde girls powered their way to 1-2 finishes in all four field events.

Madell won the 1600 and 800 runs at Bellevue High School and Rodriguez won the 100 dash and the 200 dash.

Clyde took first and second in the 100 dash, the 110 hurdles, the pole vault and the high jump.

Winning girls' field events for the Fliers were Mindy Swartz, the discus and shot put; Alisha

Glick, the high jump; and Nicole Vargas, the long jump.

Melanie Jenne won both hurdles races for Clyde, which also won three of four relays.

The Fliers went 1-2 in the 100 hurdles and the 100 dash.

Lakota-Oak Harbor

Ken Null won the shot put and discus, and James Fillhart won both hurdles races for Lakota's boys at Oak Harbor High School.

Oak Harbor's girls swept three of four relays and got two victories from Holly Ontko in the 400 dash and the 200 dash.

Track & Field

High School Boys

Columbian	66½
Ross	52½
Fostoria	48

Field events

Discus: 1-Tony Franks (R) 137-6½, 2-Anderson (F) 132-4, 3-Allen (C) 131-3; Shot put: 1-Franks 47-2¼, 2-Overmier (C) 46-10, Marshall (F) 43-1¾; High jump: 1-Mike Pasch (R) 6-1, 2-Eibling (C) 6-0, Cousin (F) 5-11; Long jump: Ferguson (F) 18-9, 2-Tyrone Williams (R) 18-0, Eibling (C) 17-7½; Pole vault: Dave Kadlubowski (R) 11-0, Melvin Rusch (R) 10-0; Chad Bruns (R) 10-0.

Track events

4x800 relay: 1-Columbian 8:37.9; 2-Ross 8:57.3.

110 hurdles: 1-Schetter (F) 15-8, 2-Hively (C) 16.2, Hartman (F) 17.2.

100 dash: 1-(tie) Shunnar Gamble (R), Doogs (F) 11.7, Todd Clark (R) 11.8.

1600 run: 1-Boos (C) 4:43.6, 2-Ready (C) 4:52.3, Combs (C) 4:58.

4x100 relay: 1-Ross (Clark, Cory Sewell, Gamble and Williams) 45.8, 2-Columbian 46.8.

400 dash: 1-Ferguson (F) 50.8, 2-Jimmy Parker (R) 52.9, Clark (C) 55.3.

300 hurdles: 1-Hively (C) 43.1, 2-Cousin (F) 43.9, Schetter (F) 44.5.

800 run: 1-Karper (C) 2:09.4, 2-Ready (C) 2:11.0, Yocum (C) 2:11.9.

200 dash: 1-Ferguson (F) 23.9 2-Cook (C) 24.4, Preston Eberly (R) 24.5.

3200 run: 1-Boos (C) 9:57.6, 2-Ready 10:27.6, Taylor (C) 10:30.8.

4x400 relay: 1-Fostoria 3:39.1, 2-Ross 3:39.3.

High School Girls

Columbian	98½
Ross	39
Fostoria	26½

Field events

Discus: 1-Sponseller 111-3, 2-Erica McDonald (R) 86-1, 3-Becky Schwind (R) 78.8; Shot put: 1-Sponseller 34-1¾, 2-Pullon (F) 27-3, Mitchel (C) 26-1; High jump: 1-Distel (C) 4-10, 2-Runion (C) 4-6, 3-Meyer (F) 4-6; Long jump: 1-Boes (C) 13-9, 2-Obenlander (C) 13-4, Allen (C) 12-6.

Track events

4x800 relay: 1-Ross (Heather Mears, Deb Lilley, Leah Lomax, Amy Ritzman) 10:43.5, 2-Fostoria 54.5.

100 hurdles: 1-Allen (C) 18.1, 2-Hammer (C) 18.2, 3-Jenkins (R) 18.4.

100 dash: 1-Cowie (C) 13.2, 2-Walker (C) 13.4, Spiker (F) 13.6.

4x200 relay: 1-Columbian 1:53.5, 2-Ross 2:02.

1600 run: 1-Ferguson (C) 5:34.8, 2-Dobson (C) 5:53.6, Mears (R) 6:04.6.

400 dash: 1-Stephanie McGee (R) 1:06.7, 2-Watts (F) 1:07.6, 3-Cowie (C) 1:09.6.

4x100 relay: 1-Fostoria 54.5, 2-Columbian 55.3.

300 hurdles: 1-Allen (C) 55.5, 2-Hammer (C) 56.4, 3-Jenkins (R) 57.2.

800 run: 1-Lomax (R) 2:46.1, 2-Schwartz (C) 2:47.5, 3-Showman (C) 2:49.3.

200 dash: 1-Spiker (F) 28.8, 2-Schlosser (F) 29.5, 3-Myers (F) 30.4.

3200 run: 1-Ferguson (C) 12:03.8, Ritzman (R) 12:08.0, 3-Dobban (C) 12:47.

4x400 relay: 1-Columbian 4:38, 2-Ross 4:40.

Clyde 88½, Bellevue 39½

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meet," Colon said. "We have a good indication of what we have. We just need to make a few minor adjustments.

St. Joe's girls were paced by a pair of victories by freshman Emily Wilhelm in the 100 and 300 hurdles. The Streaks were also victorious in the 4x200 and 4x400 relays. Chris Gonya won the high jump and Dawn Adams captured the 1600.

Tim Arndt won the 800 run and Mike Paeth took first in the pole vault for the St. Joe boys, who also got a victory from their 4x100 relay squad.

At Ross High School, Clyde's girls compiled 84½ points to 40½ for Ross and 35 for Lakota.

The Fliers won all four field events, including victories by Mindy Swartz in the discus and shot put.

Clyde, which won three of four relays, also got two hurdles victories by Melanie Jenne in the 100 and 300. Addie Tusing, Swartz and Nicole Vargas followed Jenne to the finish line in the 100 hurdles.

Heather Mears won the 800 run for Ross, Leah Lomax won the 1600 for the Little Giants and

Christine Swanger sprinted to a victory in the 200.

Lakota won the 4x100 relay and got a victory from Julie Harrison in the 3200 run.

In the boys competition at Ross, the Little Giants swept the relay events while Lakota got double victories from Ken Null (shot put and discus), James Fillhart (hurdles) and Chad Brockschmidt (800 and 1600 runs).

Hector Rodriguez added victories in the long jump and 100 dash for Ross, and Jim Parker won the 400 dash and Mike Pasch the high jump for the Little Giants.

Clyde was able to hang close in the team race with several second, third and fourth place finishes. The Fliers showed their school's pole vault tradition, however, as Chad Laughlin, Brian McClain and Chris Edwards finished first through third, respectively.

Jeremy Dennis added a victory in the 3200 for Clyde.



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Track & Field

High School Boys

Ross59

Lakota59

Clyde49

Field Events

Shot put: 1-Ken Null (L) 54-3, 2-Tony Franks (R) 48-9, 3-Jason Lieb (C); Discus: 1-Null (L) 137-1, 2-Franks (F) 134-9½, 3-Jeremy Thompson (C) 124-10; Long jump: 1-Hector Rodriguez (R) 19-7½, 2-Toddy Price (R) 19-3, 3-Todd Smith (L) 18-0; High jump: 1-Mike Pasch (R) 6-2, 2-Eric Kunkelman (L) 6-0, 3-Mark Hiser (L) 5-10; Pole vault: 1-Chad Laughlin (C) 13-6, 2-Brian McClain (C) 12-0, 3-Chris Edwards (C) 11-6.

Track Events

4x800 relay: 1-Ross (Mark Sheidler, Jim Parker, Tim Leeth, Toddy Price) 8:52.1, 2-Clyde 9:03.0.

110 hurdles: 1-James Fillhart (L) 14.9, 2-Hiser (L) 16.4, 3-Brent Arndt (C) 16.5.

100 dash: 1-Hector Rodriguez (R) 11.3, 2-Jeff Artiaga (L) 11.4, 3-Todd Clark (R) 11.5.

1600 run: 1-Chad Brockschmidt (L) 4:49.6, 2-Andy Madell (C) 4:52.3, 3-Aaron Szabo (L) 5:14.1.

4x100 relay: 1-Ross (Clark, Cory Sewell, Shunnar Gamble, Price) 45.3, 2-Clyde 46.4.

400 dash: 1-Jim Parker (R) 52.9, 2-Rick Walter (L) 54.2, 3-Kevin Murphy (C) 55.9.

300 hurdles: 1-Fillhart (L) 42.4, 2-Efrain Moreno (R) 44.7, 3-Arndt (C) 44.7.

800 run: 1-Brockschmidt (L) 2:03.7, 2-Jeff Pasch (F) 2:09.5, 3-Andy Madell (C) 2:12.2.

200 dash: 1-Joe Rodriguez (C) 24.0, 2-Preston Eberly (R) 24.1, 3-Cory Sewell (R) 24.2.

3200 run: 1-Jeremy Dennis (C) 10:58, Tracy Tahy (L) 11:03.5, 3-Dave Prifitt (C) 11:40.3.

4x400 relay: 1-Ross (Sheidler, Parker, Gamble, Price) 3:38.2, 2-Lakota 3:41.8.

Fostoria95

St. Joe56½

St. Wendelin14½

Field Events

Discus: 1-Anderson (F) 137-1, 2-Weinand (SW) 121-11, 3-Feidler (SW) 120-10; Shot put: 1-Feidler (SW) 47-10, 2-Marshall (F) 43-0, 3-Weinand (SW) 42-0; Long jump: 1-Ferguson (F) 19-6¼, 2-Greg Michael (SJ) 18-9¼, 3-Schetter (F); High jump: 1-Cousin (F) 5-9, 2-Tim Arndt 5-4, 3-Guerra (F) 5-4; Pole vault: 1-Mike Paeth (SJ) 10-6, 2-Lucius (F) 10-6, 3-Andrew Schade (SJ) 9-6.

(OH) 16.6, 3-Thuemmler (B) 18.4.

100 dash: 1-Sam Ulery (OH) 12.0, 2-Ritterspach (US) 12.2, 3-Swinehart (US) 12.2.

1600 run: 1-Ruffing (B) 4:55.7, 2-Martin (B) 4:58.6, 3-Norgard (OH) 5:00.6.

4x100 relay: 1-Oak Harbor (Garrett, Jeremy Hessel, Calvin Metcalf and Ulery) 46.3, 2-U. Sandusky 46.7.

400 dash: 1-Corrman (US) 52.5, 2-Barr (B) 53.5, 3-Sparling (B) 56.3.

300 hurdles: 1-Bardon (US) 43.3, 2-Jensen (OH) 44.2, 3-Garrett (OH) 44.7.

800 run: 1-Johns (OH) 2:08.5, 2-Aichele (B) 2:12.6, 3-Norgard (OH) 2:14.8.

200 dash: 1-Ulery (OH) 24.5, 2-Ritterspach (US) 25.1, 3-Rose (B) 25.4.

3200 run: 1-Schaaf (B) 10:41.3, 2-Ruffing (B) 10:48.6, 3-Hallett (OH) 10:50.2.

4x400 relay: 1-Oak Harbor (Johns, Metcalf, Garrett and Ulery) 3:42.6, 2-U. Sandusky 3:46.2.

High School Girls

Clyde84½

Ross40½

Lakota35

Field Events

Discus: 1-Mindy Swartz (C) 104-2½, 2-Marcie Bowe (L) 92-0, 3-Rochelle Martin (C) 89-8½; Shot put: 1-Swartz (C) 36-8, 2-Robyn Hille (L) 31-2, 3-Cathy Drown (C) 29-10½; High jump: 1-Alisha Glick (C) 5-3, 2-(tie) Jenny Maire (R) 4-8 and Angie Smith (C) 4-8; Long jump: 1-Nicole Vargas (C) 14-9, 2-Wendy Thompson (C) 14-1, 3-Kristi Herbert (L) 13-9.

Track Events

4x800 relay: 1-Clyde 11:05.2, 2-Ross 11:19.8.

100 hurdles: 1-Melanie Jenne (C) 16.6, 2-Addie Tusing (C) 17.9, 3-Swartz (C) 17.9.

100 dash: 1-Thompson (C) 13.8, 2-Stacy Cooper (L) 13.9, 3-Steinmetz (L) 14.3.

1600 run: 1-Leah Lomax (R) 6:07.5, 2-Julie Harrison (L) 6:09.8, Janny Tesar (C) 6:13.3.

4x200 relay: 1-Clyde 1:58, 2-Ross 2:02.7.

400 dash: 1-Julie Langham (C) 1:07.9, 2-Stephanie McGee (R) 1:08.7, 3-Deborah Lilley (R) 1:08.7.

4x100 relay: 1-Lakota 55.8, 2-Ross 56.3.

300 hurdles: 1-Jenne (C) 51.3, 2-Kelly Jenkins (R) 56.6, 3-Tusing (C) 58.0.

800 run: 1-Heather Mears (R) 2:41.7, 2-Savin Wiedle (C) 2:44.0, 3-Artiaga (L) 3:01.2.

200 dash: 1-Christie Swanger (R) 29.6, 2-Cheryl Denudt (C) 30.0, 3-Beth Cochran (L) 30.1.

3200 run: 1-Harrison (L) 13:45.3, 2-Lomax (R) 14:28.4, 3-Tesar (C) 14:58.4.

4x400 relay: Clyde 4:39.1, Ross 4:47.7.

Ross-Huron

With the Whitmer Relays ahead of them Saturday, the Ross boys shifted their lineup some against the Tigers.

"We didn't run a very strong lineup because we have a big meet Saturday we think we can do well in," Ross coach John Elder said.

Tyrone Price (long jump and 4x400 relay), Jim Parker (4x800 and 4x400 relay), Cory Sewell (high jump and 4x100 relay) and Hector Rodriguez (long jump and 4x100 relay) competed in only two events apiece.

"They are going to run in at least four events Saturday," Elder said.

Price won the long jump, the Little Giants swept the relays and Tony Franks took first in the shot put and discus to pace Ross against Huron.

The Ross girls, meanwhile, went full tilt.

"We ran the girls a lot since they don't run this weekend," Elder said. "They performed well in the events they ran.

"A lot of girls got a chance to score some points, and it worked out OK."

Amy Ritzman, recovering from a leg injury, won the 1600 run and the 3200 and led off the Little Giants' winning 4x800 relay team.

Track & Field

High School Boys

Huron 74, Ross 58

Field Events

Shot put: 1-Tony Franks (R) 49-10½, 2-Matt Van Meter (H) 44-11; Discus: 1-Franks (R) 143-1, 2-Mike Nichols (H) 126-1; High jump: 1-Mike Pasch (R) 6-3, 2-Travis Warley (H) 5-10; Long jump: 1-Tyronne Price (R) 19-5¾, 2-Hector Rodriguez (R) 19-4; Pole vault: 1-Todd Brown (H) 12-0, 2-Chad Bruns 10-6.

Track events

4x800 relay: Ross (Tim Nesbitt, Jim Parker, Tim Leeth and Mark Sheidler) 8:56.9; 110 hurdles: 1-Mark Porter (H) 16.5, 2-Bruns (R) 18.3; 100 dash: 1-Van Meter (H) 11.7, 2-Shunnar Gamble (R) 11.8; 1600 run: 1-Brian Lovitt (H) 4:57, 2-Ivan Smith (H) 5:00; 4x100 relay: Ross (Todd Clark, Cory Sewell, Gamble and Rodriguez) 45.3; 400 dash: 1-Troy McHenry (H) 53.5, 2-Jim Steinmetz (H) 55.2; 300 hurdles: Mark Porter (H) 42.4, 2-Bruns (R) 45.2; 800 run: 1-Chris Myers (H) 2:17, 2-Darrin Grieves (H) 2:18; 200 dash: 1-Van Meter (H) 24.0, 2-McHenry (H) 24.1; 3200 run: 1-Lovitt (H) 11:06, 2-Brent Miller (H) 11:24; 4x400 relay: Ross (Parker, Sheidler, Gamble and Price) 3:42.

High School Girls

Ross 70, Huron 58

Field events

Shot put: 1-Cathy Black (H) 29-0, 2-Erica McDonald (R) 24-3¼; Discus: 1-Black (H) 86-11, 2-McDonald (R) 86-6; High jump: 1-Bille Jo Elder (R) 4-8, 2-Jenny Maire (R) 4-8; Long jump: 1-Amy Allendorf (H) 15-1, 2-Jackie Weaver (R) 13-10½.

Track events

4x800 relay: Ross (Amy Ritzman, Deb Lilley, Leah Lomax and Erika Pickard) 11:29; 100 hurdles: 1-(tie) Julie Delahunt (H) and Michelle Jenkins (R) 18.3; 100 dash: 1-Allendorf (H) 13.7, 2-Kristy Swanger (R) 14.4; 4x200 relay: Ross (Lilley, Swanger, Stephanie McGee and Nicole Hinkle) 2:00; 1600 run: 1-Ritzman (R) 6:02, 2-Lomax (R) 6:09; 4x100 relay: Huron 56.0; 400 dash: 1-McGee (R) 1:09.3, 2-Lagando (H) 1:09.6; 300 hurdles: 1-Beth Myers (H) 56.1, 2-Delahunt (H) 56.6; 800 run: 1-Lomax (R) 2:48, 2-Carrie Holden (H) 2:49; 200 dash: 1-Allendorf (H) 29.6, 2-Swanger (R) 30.0; 3200 run: 1-Ritzman (R) 12:44, 2-Megan Talburt (H) 13:35; 4x400 relay: Ross (Lilley, McGee, Maire and Hinkle) 4:43.

Ross-Sandusky

Ross won the 4x800 in eight minutes and 53 seconds_N and came back to take the 4x100 in 44.5 seconds before winning the 4x400 in 3:34.0.

Melvin Rusch led a Ross 1-2-3 finish in the pole vault. Tony Franks added a win in the shot put and Mark Sheidler won the 800 for the Little Giants.

Amy Ritzman won the 1600 and 800 runs for the Ross girls and also ran a leg of the Little Giants winning 4x800 relay team.

Jackie Weaver won the 100 hurdles and Leah Lomax won the 3200 for Ross and the 4x100 relay team also won.

Sandusky 79, Ross 49

Field events

Shot put: 1-Trace Roesar (S) 34-11¼, 2-Orafu (S) 32-8¼; High jump: 1-Chi Chi Orafu (S) 5-2, 2-Roberts (S) 5-0; Discus: 1-Roesar (S) 91-0, 2-Orafu (S) 88-10; Long jump: 1-Conway (S) 15-6, 2-Roberts (S) 15-4.

Track events

4x800: 1-Ross (Lomax, Lilley, Ritzman, Pickard) 11:40; 100 hurdles: 1-Jackie Weaver (R) 18.0, 2-Jenkins (R) 18.8; 100: Musgrove (S) 13.4, 2-Conway (S) 13.5; 4x200: 1-Sandusky 1:56; 1600: 1-Amy Ritzman (R) 5:50.4, 2-Lomax (R) 6:26.1; 4x100: 1-Ros (Weaver, Gamble, McGee, Swanger) 55.2; 400: 1-Dobbins (S) 1:07.6, 2-Lilley (R) 1:09; 300 hurdles: 1-C. Orafu (S) 51.1, 2-Conway (S) 55.6; 800: 1-Ritzman (R) 2:38.4, 2-Lomax (R) 2:49.1; 200: U.C. Orafu (S) 28.6, 2-Swanger (R) 29.5; 3200: 1-Leah Lomax (R) 14:19; 2-Pelliter (S) 14:41; 4x400: 1-Sandusky 4:34.

Track & Field

High School Boys

Sandusky 79, Ross 49

Field Events

Shot put: 1-Tony Franks (R) 48-1½, 2-Kirkwood (S) 43-11; Discus: 1-Mike Miller (S) 132-9, 2-Knupke (S) 127-9; Long jump: 1-Andrew Johnson (S) 21-2½, 2-Price (R) 20-3; High jump: 1-Mike Rankins (S) 6-0, 2-Pasch (R) 5-10; Pole vault: 1-Melvin Rusch (R) 11-6, 2-Bruns (R) 10-6.

Track Events

3200 relay: 1-Ross 8:53 (Nesbit, Scheidler, Leeth, Parker); 110 hurdles: 1-Joe Mathew (S) 15.9 2-Schee (S) 16.6; 100 dash: 1-Andrew Johnson (S) 11.1, 2-Williams (S) 11.5; 1600 run: 1-Todd Lawson 4:52, 2-Fry (S) 5:06; 400 relay: 1-Ross 44.5 (Sewell, Gamble, Price, Rodriguez); 400 dash: 1-Fred Williams (S) 53.3, 2-Eberly (R) 54.9; 300 hurdles: 1-Mathews (S) 42.1, 2-Schee (S) 42.2; 800 run: 1-Mark Sheidler (R) 2:12, 2-Miller (S) 2:13.6; 200 dash: 1-Johnson (S) 23.0, 2-Williams (S) 23.7; 3200 run: 1-Lawson (S) 10:26.6, 2-Nesbit 11:01.1; 4x400: 1-Ross 3:34 (Price, Gamble, Parker, Sewell).

Ross boys win at Clay

News-Messenger reports

OREGON — The Fremont Ross boys won nine events Thursday en route to a high school track and field tri-meet victory over Maumee and Clay.

Ross compiled 78 points to 65 for Maumee and 24 for Clay.

Maumee won the girls' portion of the meet with 69 points, nine better than Ross. Clay had 35.

Tony Franks (discus and shot put) and Efrain Moreno (hurdles) each won two events for the Ross boys.

Other winners for the Little Giants included Charles Chapman (long jump), Preston Eberly (400) and Jim Parker (800).

The Little Giants' 4x100 relay team team of Todd Clark, Cory Sewell, Rodney Pettiford and Tyronne Price was also victorious.

Jenny Maire (high jump), Connie McMorris (long jump), Deb Lilley (400) and Amy Ritzman (3200) were winners for the Ross girls as was the Little Giants' 4x800 relay team of Lilley, Erika Pickard, Ritzman and Leah Lomax.

Track & Field

High School Boys

Ross	78
Maumee	65
Clay	24

Field events

Shot put: 1-Tony Franks (R) 49-11, 2-Kachmarik (C) 40-5½, 3-Martinez (C) 37-4½; Discus: 1-Franks (R) 138-10, 2-Craig Eppley (R) 108-10, 3-Brian King (R) 99-11; High jump: 1-Mike Pasch (R) 6-4, 2-Cory Sewell (R) 5-10, 3-Davis (C) 5-10; Long jump: 1-Charles Chapman (R) 20-1½, 2-Hector Rodriguez (R) 18-8¼, 3-Tyrone Price (R) 18-7; Pole vault: 1-Koenken (C) 11-0, 2-Chad Bruns (R) 10-6, 3-Harns (M) 10-0.

Track Events

4x800 relay: 1-Maumee 8:51; 110 hurdles: 1-Efrain Moreno (R) 17.5, 2-Schwartz (M) 18.0, 3-Frytag (M) 20.2; 100 dash: 1-Warko (M) 11.2, 2-Lowry (M), 3-Todd Clark (R) 11.5; 1600 run: 1-Newham (M) 4:54, 2-Tim Nesbitt (R) 4:58, 3-Johnson (M) 4:59; 400 dash: 1-Preston Eberly (R) 54.4, 2-Selph (M) 55.3, 3-Woodkite (M) 57.1; 4x100 relay: 1-Ross 45.4 (Clark, Sewell, Rodney Pettiford, Price); 300 hurdles: 1-Moreno (R) 43.9, 2-Lane (M) 46.3, 3-Schwartz (M) 47.1; 800 run: 1-Jim Parker (R) 2:09, 2-Mark Sheidler (R) 2:10, 3-Harris (M) 2:12; 200 dash: 1-Warko (M) 23.0, 2-Lowry (M) 23.2, 3-Clark (R) 23.7; 3200 run: 1-Newham (C) 10:38, 2-Romp (L) 10:51, 3-Nesbitt (R) 11:06; 4x400 relay: 1-Maumee 3:44.

High School Girls

Maumee	69
Ross	60
Clay	35

Field events

Shot put: 1-Koeppelm (M) 27-4, 2-Matheng (M) 25-11, 3-Erica McDonald (R) 24-10½; Discus: 1-Koeppelm (M) 95-0, 2-McDonald (R) 93-6, 3-Matheng (M) 80-11; High jump: 1-Jenny Maire (R) 4-8, 2-Billie Jo Elder (R) 4-6, 3-Gross (M); Long jump: 1-Connie McMorris (R) 13-9, 2-Jackie Weaver (R) 13-4, 3-Karlen (C) 12-6.

Track Events

4x800 relay: 1-Ross (Deb Lilley, Erica Pickard, Amy Ritzman, Leah Lomax); 100 hurdles: 1-Karlen (C) 16.7, 2-D'Anniballe (C) 18.2, 3-Weaver (R) 18.4; 100 dash: 1-Kundick (C) 13.2, 2-Byers 13.6, 3-Kristy Swanger (R) 14.2; 4x200 relay: 1-Maumee 2:02; 1600 run: 1-Holes (M) 6:00, Dugny (M) 6:14, 3-Sausebacher (M) 6:17; 400 dash: 1-Lilley (R) 1:08, 2-Hortan (M) 1:08, 3-Broushrier (M) 1:13; 4x100 relay: 1-Maumee 5:30; 300 hurdles: 1-Karlen (C) 52.4, 2-Olson (M) 53.0, 3-D'Anniballe (C) 55.3; 800 run: 1-Geyer (M) 2:43, 2-Baker (M) 2:44, 3-Rinehart (C) 3:03; 3200 run: 1-Ritzman (R) 12:45, 2-Geyer (M) 13:19, 3-Henninger (C) 14:11; 4x400 relay: Maumee (time not available).

Port Clinton58

Ross boys track team 8th at Bill Krause Relays

News-Messenger reports

The Fremont Ross boys and girls track and field teams finished eighth and 14th, respectively, at the 16-team Bill Krause Relays Saturday in Tiffin.

The Little Giants had 34 points in the boys' events and nine points in the girls' events at Columbian Stadium.

At the Seneca East Relays, the host Tigers ran away with the boys and girls titles.

The Tigers won the boys' meet with 227 points, followed by Margaretta with 179 and New London with 161.

Margaretta finished 10th in the girls' competition. Seneca East took first with 172 points, while

Track & Field

Margaretta finished with 17.

The Clyde A.W. Hendricks Invitational was postponed Saturday. Clyde head coach Mike Martin said the meet will be made up either tonight or next Monday, depending on the weather conditions.

At the Bill Krause Relays, Cleveland St. Ignatius totalled 100 points to win the boys' meet, while Bellevue was 12th. The Redmen, who placed in the top six in five events, had eight points.

Ashland won the girls' meet with 113 points.

The Bellevue girls took ninth,

accumulating 25.

In the boys' meet, Ross's shuttle hurdle relay team of Efrain Moreno, Chad Bruns, Mike Pasch and Rodney Pettiford was second in 1:07.2, while the pole vault team of Melvin Rusch, Bruns and Dave Kadlubowski took third.

The Little Giants' 800 relay team of Todd Clark, Pettiford, Cory Sewell and Shunnar Gamble took third, and Jim Parker was third in the 400 dash.

Taking fourth-place finishes for Ross were Tyrone Price in the 200 and the 400 relay team of Gamble, Price, Sewell and Pettiford.

Bellevue's Brandon Barr was

fifth in the 400 (53.9), Scott Aichele was fifth in the 800 (2:08.3), and the 4x800 relay team of Barr, Niklas Rozman, Ben Wendt and Aichele was fifth (8:32.4).

Bellevue's pole vault team of Marc Lehnert, Dave Miller and Steve Kollat was sixth with a combined vault of 20 feet.

The Redmen's long jump trio of Jason Dinan, Scott Klein and Wendt also took sixth, with 55-3½.

For the Ross girls, the high jump team of Bille Jo Elder, Jackie Weaver and Jenny Maire tied for fifth, and the shuttle hurdles team of Michelle Jenkins, Maire, Weaver and Jada Price

was fifth.

Amy Ritzman was third in the 3200.

Bellevue's only first-place finish in the girls' meet came from Maggie Vogel in the 3200 run (12:03.5).

Also for the Redmen, the team of Jami Lilli, Theresa Keske, Kelly Garner and Vogel was third in the 4x800 relay (10:46.2), the discus team of Lynn Dwyer, Suzanne Long and Jennifer Swartzmiller was fourth (249-5), and the team of Garner, Nicole Henderson, Lilli and Keske took fourth in the distance medley (14:43).

See TRACK, B3

Track & Field

High School Boys

Ross 82, Findlay 50

Field Events

Shot put: 1-Williams (F) 48-1, 2-Franks (R) 46-3¼; Discus: 1-Franks (R) 136-6, 2-Williams (F) 124-3½; Long jump: 1-Charles Chapman (R) 20-3, 2-Price (R) 19-11½; High jump: 1-Gralak (F) 5-8, 2-(tie) Spoon (F), Rodney Pettiford (R) 5-4; Pole vault: 1-Melvin Rusch (R) 11-0, 2-Bruns (R) 10-6.

Track Events

4x800 relay: Findlay 8:46; 110 hurdles: 1-Efrain Moreno (R) 17.9, 2-Lynn (F) 18.7; 100 dash: 1-Shunnar Gamble (R) 11.88, 2-Clark (R) 11.95; 1600 run: 1-Withrow (F) 4:51.5, 2-Roberson (F) 4:57.5; 4x100 relay: Ross (Tyrone Price, Pettiford, Todd Clark, Gamble) 46.2; 400 dash: 1-Jim Parker (R) 53.1, 2-Eberly (R) 53.5; 300 hurdles: 1-Bruns (R) 44.1, 2-Moreno (R) 44.3; 800 run: 1-Withrow (F) 2:10.3, 2-Shieldler (R) 2:15.8; 200 dash: 1-Clark (R) 24.0, 2-Pettiford (R) 25.4; 3200 run: 1-Withrow (F) 10:44, 2-Nesbitt (R) 10:47.5; 4x400 relay: Ross (Price, Gamble, Preston Eberly, Parker) 3:39.7.

2:09; 200 dash: 1-Schaller (E) 25.4, 2-Elmers (G) 25.7; 3200 run: 1-Lau (G) 10:57, 2-Jones (G) 11:06; 4x400 relay: Genoa (Elmers, Lau, Jones and Scheffer) 3:47.9.

High School Girls

Findlay 103½, Ross 24½

Field Events

Shot put: 1-Dillingham (F) 30-4, 2-McDonald (R) 25-6; Discus: 1-Dillingham (F) 81-10, 2-McDonald (R) 81-5; Long jump: 1-Summers (F) 14-11, 2-Shellhammer (F) 14-1; High jump: 1-Dulaney (F) 4-8, 2-Elder (R) 4-8.

Track Events

4x800 relay: Findlay 11:36; 100 hurdles: 1-Jackie Weaver (R) 18.6, 2-Shaw (F) 18.7; 100 dash: 1-Fogle (F) 14.08, 2-Snyder (F) 14.46; 4x200 relay: Findlay 1:56.7; 1600 run: 1-Cobb (F) 5:39.7, 2-Guchi (F) 6:06.4; 4x100 relay: Findlay 56.0; 400 dash: 1-Powell (F) 1:05.4, 2-Bachman (F) 1:07; 300 hurdles: 1-Hickerson (F) 56.6, 2-Shaw (F) 57.2; 800 run: 1-Guehl (F) 2:47.5, 2-Reed (F) 2:50.4; 200 dash: 1-Kristy Swanger (R) 29.5, 2-Snyder (F) 30.0; 3200 run: 1-Guehl (F) 14:16.7, 2-Russell (F) 14:36.5; 4x400 relay: Findlay 4:33.9.

Ross boys run past Findlay

Lakota, Woodmore post boys and girls dual meet sweeps

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross won 10 of 16 events and defeated Findlay 82-50 in boys high school track and field Tuesday.

The Ross girls, meanwhile, won only two events in a 103-24 loss to Findlay.

In other track action, Elmwood topped Gibsonburg and Old Fort in both the boys and girls portions of a tri-meet at Gibsonburg; Lakota got by Otsego 69-63 and 71-56 in boys and girls events, respectively; Woodmore topped Eastwood twice, winning the boys meet 78-53 and the girls meet 111-17; and Genoa's boys beat Eastwood 77-55 while the Genoa girls were whipped 123-5.

The Ross boys got victories from Tony Franks (discus), Charles Chapman (long jump), Melvin Rusch (pole vault), Efrain Moreno (110 hurdles), Shun-nar Gamble (100 dash), Chad Bruns (300 hurdles) and Todd Clark (200 dash).

The Little Giants also won the 4x100 and 4x400 relays.

Jackie Weaver won the 100

Track & Field

hurdles and Kristy Swanger the 200 dash for the Ross girls.

Gibsonburg tri-meet

Elmwood's boys compiled 89 points to 49 for Gibsonburg and 25 for Old Fort. In the girls events, the Royals compiled 83 points to 42 for the Stockaders and 37 for the Golden Bears.

Matt Tille and Bob Jahna paced the Gibsonburg boys. Jahna won the 1600 run and finished second in the 800. Tille won the long jump and was second in the 400 dash.

Howard Webb won the 3200 run for Old Fort.

Becky Magers and Chris Havens each won two events for the Old Fort girls, and Julie Brueggemeir won the high jump. Magers won the 800 run and the 400 dash, while Havens took first in the 1600 and 3200 runs.

Gibsonburg's Rachel Henline won the 100 hurdles.

Lakota-Otsego

Todd Smith won the long jump and 800 for the Lakota boys,

while the Lakota girls got victories from Stacy Cooper in the 100 and 200 dashes.

The Raiders won the 4x400 relay in both the boys and girls competition.

Woodmore-Northwood

Greg Sandrock won three events and Mike Bauder two for the Woodmore boys. The Woodmore girls, who finished first in every event but the 1600 run, got three victories from Lori Gnepper and two apiece from Beth Parkins and Karen Robey.

Sandrock won the high jump and both hurdles races, and Bauder won the long jump and 800 run.

Gnepper took first in the shot put, discus and high jump. Parkins won the 100 and 200 dashes, and Robey won both hurdles races.

Genoa-Eastwood

The Genoa boys swept the relay events and got victories from Bill Werner in the long jump and 1600 run.

The Comets failed to win an event in the girls meet.

Sandusky Relays

Host Sandusky won the Open Division and Cleveland St. Ignatius won the Relay Division Saturday at the Sandusky Relays at Strobel Field.

Ross took seventh in the Open Division with 29 points and was fourth in the Relay Division with 45.

In the open events, Ross's Charles Chapman won the long jump at 21 feet, 7¼ inches, while teammate Tony Franks was second in the discus (148-7) and third in the shot put (47-9½).

In the relay events, the Little Giants' trio of Tyrone Price, Hector Rodriguez and Chapman won the long jump with a combined jump of 62-5¾.

Ross's 4x1600 relay team was fourth (20:16.8), the sprint medley (1:38.1) and 4x200 relay (1:32.3) both took second, and the shuttle hurdles team was third (1:06.3).

The Little Giants also finished fourth in the 4x400 (3:33.7).

The Ross girls competed in the seven-team Toledo Whitmer Relays Friday.

The Little Giants were seventh with 51 points, five points out of fourth place.

Tiffin Columbian won the meet with 138.

Ross's Amy Ritzman won the 3200 in 12:28 and took third in the 1600 (5:48).

Bellevue Invitational

3 athletes win MVP awards

News-Messenger reports

Greg Byrnes, Jim Parker and Amy Ritzman won "most valuable" awards Wednesday during the first of two Fremont Ross High School spring



BYRNES

sports awards programs.

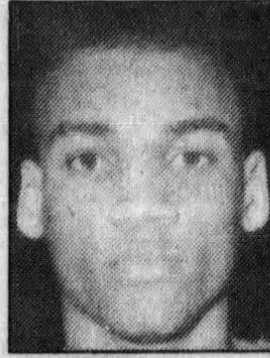
Byrnes won the top tennis award.

Coach Craig Kachmarik also presented the most improved player award to Ryan Mitchell and Doug Snider took home a captain's trophy.

Parker and Ritzman, a four-year letter winner, were named the track teams's most valuable performers.

Coach John Elder also presented the most improved trophy to Preston Eberly.

The outstanding field events



PARKER



RITZMAN

performer was Tony Franks and Shunnar Gamble was named the outstanding runner. Efraim Moreno won the coaches award.

Bille Jo Elder was the girls most improved while Erica McDonald won the outstanding field events performer and Debra Lilley was outstanding runner honor. Jackie Weaver won the coaches award.

The baseball and softball teams will receive awards at 7 p.m. tonight in the high school cafeteria.

Moreno, Ritzman earn top awards at Ross

News-Messenger reports

Amy Ritzman and Brian Moreno were named Ross High School's outstanding female and male athletes Thursday night during a spring sports awards program in the school cafeteria.

The two shared the spotlight with Paul Rostetter and Amy Brandt, who won the most valuable player awards for the baseball and softball teams, respectively.



MORENO

Ritzman won the outstanding senior female athletic award, a \$500 scholarship from the Ross Athletic* Boosters. The scholarship is named in honor former Ross athlete Ken Svanoe.

Ritzman won 10 letters — four in track and three in both cross country and basketball. Wednesday, Ritzman was named the track team's most valuable performer. She was not present to accept the award Thursday, instead she was competing in the Division I district meet at Mansfield.

Moreno won the Baron-Sherman Award as the top male ath-

lete. He won eight letters — four in wrestling, two in both football and track. The honor is named in honor of former Ross athletes.

Rostetter, a senior, was presented his MVP award by coach Steve Ebert. This was his first year to letter in baseball. Rostetter was also named the team's best defensive player from his catcher position.

Other baseball winners were junior Nick Wolf as the most improved and Rob Weiker, who received the coaches award.

Brandt led coach Sue Wolf's special award list. The Little Giants' shortstop also won team batting trophy with a .383 aver-



BRANDT



ROSTETTER

age.

Wolf also presented pitcher Deb Hammond with the best defensive player award, and freshman Andi Opre won the most improved player award.