

## 1968 Buckeye Conference...

# Ross Fills Underdog Role In Conference Swim Meet

"We feel Ross must put forth a great individual and team effort in an attempt to move up out of that third place ranking." This was the appraisal of Coach John Balsizer as he rated Findlay and Sandusky as favored teams for Saturday's Buckeye Conference swimming championship. The Buckeye Conference meet will be held Saturday at Sandusky high school pool.

The meet will open with diving preliminaries at 11 a.m. Diving and swimming finals will follow at 2 p.m.

Sandusky is defending champion. Only four Buckeye Conference schools have swimming and three of these have won championships in the four-year history of the meet. Fremont was champion the first two years. Findlay was the second and then Sandusky won last

year. Ross actually won the third annual meet with victory in the final 400-yard freestyle relay, only to have the team disqualified. This disqualification came when an excited teammate jumped into the pool too soon to congratulate the winning team. The disqualification dropped the Little Giants to third. They finished second last year.

"Findlay has moved into the favorite's role this year with a vastly improved squad," says Balsizer. He continued with a warning, "Sandusky cannot be overlooked as they possess the manpower to win it all."

During the regular season Findlay defeated Ross twice and Sandusky by a convincing 60-35 count. On the Trojan side of the ledger is the capability to win several events and the best

overall freestyle strength in the conference.

Sandusky appears to have the individual to win at least four events, but does not have the depth to win important third and fourth places. Findlay does have this depth.

Ross has to rate third best in pre-meet analysis, having lost decisively to both Findlay and Sandusky, but beating Mansfield. Mansfield has four boys Balsizer figures can finish in the top four for their specialty, but they just are not strong enough overall to move out of fourth place . . . .

The coach says hopefully, "We feel that with some spirited swimming we can take a couple of firsts and be right in the thick of the battle . . . . The squad seems to be buoyed by their improvement last week and seem eager for more this weekend."

Four records were set last year in the Buckeye championships and all four figure to fall again. In the record spotlight could be Paul Gilbert, only a sophomore for Sandusky. A year ago as a freshman he set new marks in the 200-yard individual medley, 2:14.1, and 100-yard butterfly, :57.1. This year Gilbert has gone as fast as 2:14 in the medley and :55.2 in the butterfly. The butterfly time is the fastest recorded this year in Ohio scholastic competition.

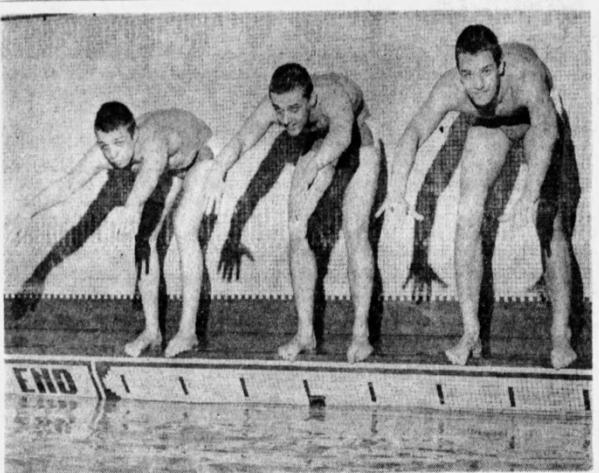
The Fremont Ross team of Kirby Taylor, Jon Zink, Dan Kohr and Ken Mathias last year set a Buckeye record of 3:39.1 in the 400-yard freestyle relay. Zink is the only one of this quartet returning. This record-setting mark has been surpassed in regular season competition by Findlay, 3:36, and equalled by Sandusky.

The fourth record to be set a year ago was the 1:49.6 in the 200-yard medley relay by Findlay. Findlay, Sandusky and Ross all have topped this mark during the season.

Zink and diver Bill Slemmer have to rate as favorites in undefeated this year in diving competition and will be out to improve his second-place finish of the last conference meet. Zink is the lone Ross swimmer who has posted the best time in his event this year. This is a :52.7 in the 100-yard freestyle.

Steve Miller, who started the season as a breast stoker, has the second best 200-yard individual medley time of 2:17.6.

Ross has had a strong sophomore core this season. One of the best of these is Pat Aten, who has the second best Buckeye time this year in the 400-yard freestyle. This best mark of 4:33.3 is only one-tenth of a second slower than the 4:33.2 of Sandusky's Jim Glass.



**BEST ROSS HOPES** — Top Ross hopes in swimming events at the Buckeye Conference championship meet Saturday in Sandusky float with this trio. The three boys have posted the best or second best time of any Buckeye swimmer in their specialty during the season.

They are Mike Aten, 400-yard freestyle; Steve Miller, 200-yard individual medley, and Jon Zink, 100-yard freestyle. Diver Bill Slemmer is unbeaten in dual competition and the favorite in that event. (News-Messenger Photo)

### COMPETITORS CONCEDE:

## Fleming Ranks By Herself

GRENoble, France (AP) — America's Peggy Fleming would have to fall 20 times and wind up landing on her ear to lose the Olympic gold medal in the ladies' free-style figure skating final Saturday, her rivals conceded today.

"Peggy—she is much too good. No one has a chance to catch her," said Gabrielle Seyfert of East Germany, who placed second to Miss Fleming in the compulsory figures competition Thursday.

Tracing five figures brilliantly, the 19-year-old ice ballerina from Colorado Springs, Colo., rolled up 1,062.1 points to 984.9 for Miss Seyfert, 960.0 for Austria's Beatrix Schuba, and 945.2 for Hana Maskova, the European champion from Czechoslovakia.

Miss Maskova, 18, a student at Prague and a shapely, brown-eyed blonde who has been labelled the prettiest girl in the 10th Winter Olympics, joined in the raves for her American opponent.

"Peggy is a marvelous free skater and she will win quite easily," admitted the Czech girl. "The only competition is for the silver and bronze medals."

Miss Schuba, 16, her blonde hair tied in a bun, laughed when someone asked if she, in third place, had a chance of making up the difference in free-skating.

"Oh, no, no," she insisted. "It is impossible. We have no chance."

Even the Russians admitted that Miss Fleming was the sport's unparalleled queen.

"Peggy, she is way up here," Elena Cheglova of the Soviet Union said through an interpreter, lifting one hand above her head. "And the rest of us—we are way down here."

Petra Ruhrmann of Germany, after watching Peggy trace the last of five figures, commented, "When she skates, we all rush to the edge of the rink to watch her perform."

When Peggy's name is announced, an electric charge seems to go through the big, glassed-in arena. Spectators who have been chatting casually and paying little attention to the other competitors suddenly come alive. There is a rustling movement.

People rush to vantage points. Some pull out cameras. Others hug the plastic edge of the rink. They watch in quiet appreciation.

Almost everybody says in one language or another, "She's sensational."

### American Hockey League

#### Eastern Division

	W	L	T	Pts.	GF	GA
Hershey	23	18	6	52	179	156
Springfield	23	23	6	52	174	195
Baltimore	19	19	9	47	170	152
Providence	19	23	9	47	169	194

#### Western Division

Cleveland	24	16	10	58	166	155
Rochester	24	17	8	56	167	152
Quebec	20	21	8	48	186	173
Buffalo	19	22	8	46	158	171

## Killy Snags Downhill Ski; U. S. Girl Racers Startle

GRENoble, France (AP) — Jean Claude Killy, France's cool colossus of the ski slopes, won the men's downhill race at the Winter Olympic Games today while three American girls sprang a major surprise by sharing silver medal honors in the 500-meter speed skating test.

Killy, 25-year-old ace of the powerful French Alpine team, beat countryman Guy Perillat by a slender margin for the gold medal in the downhill, with J. Daniel Daetwyler of Switzerland third and the four-man Ameri-

can contingent far off the pace. The victory opened Killy's bid to match the 1956 feat of former Austrian star Toni Sailer, who won all three Olympic Alpine events—the downhill, slalom and giant slalom.

Mary Meyers of St. Paul, Minn., Dianne Holum of Northwood, Ill., and Jenny Fish of Strongsville, Ohio, provided the speed skating fireworks, finishing in a startling three-way tie behind gold medalist Ludmila Titova of Russia in the women's 500-meter race.

The American trio finished

## Club Teaching Pro Powell In Early San Diego Lead

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The par day's play with a lead of two wrekkers of golf, who had a strokes, pretty busy day in the first Nicklaus, ending a three-week round, set forth again today in vacation from competition, was the \$150,000 Andy Williams-San Diego Open Tournament with 33-34-67. Casper was in the 68 bracket after 34-34 and Palmer was even par with 36-36-72.

Powell, a strapping 6-footer who teaches the game for a living at Indian Hills Golf Club in Riverside, Calif., gave such more renowned pros as Jack Nicklaus, Billy Casper and Arnold Palmer a lesson on how to whip the Torrey Pines Golf Club's par 36-36-72.

He did it Thursday over the 6,792-yard layout with 32-32-64, the lowest score of the 1968 PGA winter tour, and moved into to

with identical times of 46.3 seconds—two-tenths of a second behind the winner—and each will receive a silver medal, highest award ever captured by U.S. girls in Olympic speed skating competition.

Killy, the world's premier skier, ripped down the Chamrousse slopes in one minute, 59.85 seconds to win the downhill race, postponed Thursday because of bad weather, by less than one-tenth of a second.

Perillat, starting in the No. 1 position, had set a blistering race of 1:59.93. Daetwyler finished in 2:00.32 and fourth-place Heinrich Messner of Austria in 2:01.03.

Billy Kidd of Stowe, Vt., skiing on a tender left ankle which he sprained two days ago during practice, could do no better than 18th, with a 2:03.40 clocking.

Dennis McCoy of Bishop, Calif., was 21st in 2:04.82, but the other two U.S. starters, Jerry Elliott and Jim Barrows, both of Steamboat Springs, Colo., were among five of the 62 skiers who did not finish.

"I just skied badly," Kidd said. "I was terrible at the turns. My ankle was all right. It gave me no trouble."

Killy announced after the race that he would retire from competition after the World Cup race in Heavenly Valley, Calif., April 5-7. "I'm very happy about this victory," he said. "I'm especially happy I showed that I was in as good form as at Portillo two years ago."

Killy won the downhill event



Four players were tied at 66 —Ron Reif with a 31-35; Ray Floyd, 33-33; Ron Funseth, 32-

at the 1966 world championship.

## SANDUSKY WINS BUCKEYE CONFERENCE SWIM TITLE

# Slemmer Is Diving Champ, Ross Finishes Third

**SANDUSKY** — Bill Slemmer, Fremont Ross diver, carried his dual meet supremacy into the Buckeye Conference Championships Saturday to give the Little Giants their one individual title. Slemmer finished 12 points ahead of John Cassidy, Slemmer, the defending Buckeye Conference champion.

Coach John Balsizer lauded the improvement of his premier diver and the assistant coach responsible for this development. "Bill has come a long way in the last two years under Coach Gary Shelt. His Saturday win over the defending conference champion was proof of his improvement."

Despite a third place finish in the Ross meet, he was pleased with the balance of his team and improved times. Sandusky pulled a minor surprise in repeating as team champion with 65 points. Finishing behind the Blue Streaks were Findlay, the pre-meet favorite, 38; Fremont, 51½, and Mansfield Senior, 29½. Balsizer termed the 51½ points "Better than I thought."

Sandusky repeated its strong showing of the Bowling Green relays two weeks ago. It gave them a second championship and tied with Ross for most conference swimming titles.

In rating the Sandusky performance Balsizer praised

"Several of the Sandusky swimmers far exceeded their best performances of the year to take the win. As a team Sandusky is well-coached, well-disciplined and quite determined."

The top three teams were all in the running for the team title up to the final relay. In most cases only tenths of a second separated places and judges' decisions were needed in two cases to decide places.

"I felt we swam very well in all but a couple races," Balsizer stated. "For the first time all season the boys reached back for little extra that it takes to be something more than just another swimmer. . . . We had good improvement

where it counts from our sophomores and juniors."

Balsizer had particular praise for Randy Christy in the 200 and 400-yard freestyle and Mike Aten in the 100 events. The pair placed in both events with Christy improving his 200 time from 2:09.3 to 2:08.6 and the 400 time from 4:43.2 to 4:38.3. Aten turned in his career best in the 400, leading most of the way.

He was not strong enough to withstand Mansfield's junior Larry Williams in the last 50 yards. Aten swam the distance in 4:30.8 and added a career best of 2:02.8 in the 200.

Dan Abney swam the 100-yard backstroke in 1:05.4. His best by eight-tenths of a second

and placed fifth. Steve Miller had his best day of the year with a 2:16.6 in the 200-yard individual Medley only five-tenths second off the school record for second in conference. Miller just two weeks ago was a breaststroke, but was switched to backstroke where his 1:03.1 was good enough for second.

50 FREESTYLE — Feick (S), Stevens (F), 53.3; Cahsell (M), 53.35; Zink (R), 53.7; Bookwater (M), 55.5.

100 BACKSTROKE — Cramer (F), 1:02.4; Miller (R), 1:03.1; Imler (M), 1:03.15; Leech (S), 1:03.8; Abney (R), 1:05.4.

200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY — Gilbert (S), 2:10.3 (conference record); Miller (R), 2:14.6; Kearnay (M), 2:22.6; Keller (R), 2:23.5; Bish (F), 2:24.8.

DIVING — Slemmer (R) 2:57; Cassidy (S), 2:42.5; Miller (F), 2:41.5; Linder (R), 2:18.4; Bender (F), 2:15.8.

100 BUTTERFLY — Gilbert (S), 54.7 (conference record); Mathias (F), 57.6; Dicker (R) and Koebel (R) tie, 1:02.2; Kearnay (M), 1:06.8.

100 FREESTYLE — Feick (S), 3:17 (conference record);

### SUMMARY

200 MEDLEY RELAY — Findlay, 1:47.5 (conference record); Sandusky, 1:50.5; Ross, 1:50.8; Mansfield, 1:56.7.

200 FREESTYLE — Stevens (F), 2:01.1; Yost (S), 2:01.8; Glass (Z), 2:02.1; Aten (R), 2:02.8; Christy (R), 2:05.6.

## BOWLING HIGHLIGHTS

# Wickes Takes City Tourney Lead

### Durdel Shot Gives Elmore League Win

**ELMORE** — The championship is out of reach and there is only an outside chance for third, but Elmore took undisputed fourth place in the Lakeshore Conference Saturday night. Rex Durdel sank a jump shot with two seconds remaining to give Elmore a 63-61 win over Grand Rapids. The game avoided a tie between the two schools and insured at least an undisputed fourth for Elmore. The Bulldogs of Coach Robert Eickel now have a 5-2 league record.

Durdel with that final shot gained an edge in the two-man battle with Grand Rapids' Jim Parsons. Parsons and Durdel each had 24 points to lead their respective teams. They also had been the rebound leaders for their teams but Durdel had a definite edge. Durdel captured 27 rebounds to 15 for Parsons. Elmore led in rebounding by a slim 56-51 margin.

Elmore made 27 field goals in 79 shots, 34 per cent, and won nine of 23, 39 per cent. For Grand Rapids it was 25 of 82, 30 per cent, and 11 of 18 at the foul line, 61 per cent.

In the reserve game Elmore defeated Grand Rapids, 45-25.

**GRAND RAPIDS** — Long 6-1-13, Parsons 11-2-24, Fortney 6-2-14, Lines 6-1-1, J. Weaver 2-2-6, Gill 0-3-3. TOTAL 25-11-61.

**Elmore** — Ames 2-0-4, Benning 5-0-10, Durdel 11-2-24, Bergman 3-4-10, Floro 5-3-13. Wiss 1-0-2. TOTALS 27-9-63.

**Score By Quarters**  
G. RAPIDS 9 19 14 19-61  
ELMORE 17 16 11 19-63

**National Hockey League**

East Division  
W L T Pts. GF GA

## BOWLING HIGHLIGHTS

# Wickes Takes City Tourney Lead

Wickes Building Supply had four bowlers top the 600 series this weekend as the team took the lead in the opening action of the Men's City Bowling Tournament. In initial action at Rainbow Lanes the Wickes team had a 3,076 pinfall for a 39-pin lead over Plaza Lanes, 3,017.

On the way to the high handicap series the Wickes team which has only a 21-pin a game handicap rolled a 3,013 actual series.

Leading the way for Wickes were Frank Walby, 667; Don Walby, 637; Jim Provenzale, who rolled his 211 average with a 633 series and Denny Wheeler, 612.

The team competition will conclude with action next Saturday. Singles and doubles in the Men's City Tournament then begin Sunday with all action at Rainbow Lanes.

Four teams topped the 3,000-pin mark in the opening shifts of team competition. In addition to Wickes and Plaza two teams rolled 3,014 handicap series. Fremont, Gun Store and Wilson Brothers.

In regular league action over the weekend Marge Harmon converted the 6-7-10 split in Whirlpool Mixed Doubles action Sunday at Plaza Lanes.

Larry Wiechman of the Trail Blazers in the Friday Night Mixed Couples league at Plaza

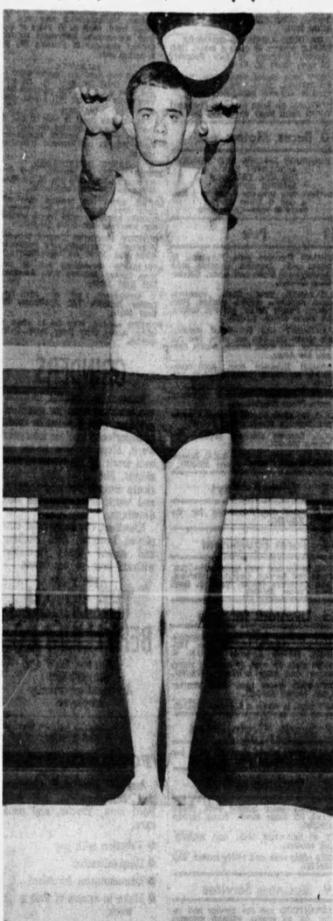
picked up two splits, the 2-7-10 and the 3-7-10.

Bill Rogers won a place in the Buckeye Beer Open Pro-Am tournament to be held in Toledo February 15. He won in a qualifier at Rainbow Lanes with a 596, plus 37 handicap, for 633. His entry ticket was contributed by Myers Distributing, local Buckeye dealer.

### Cincinnati Bengals Sign Quarterback Stofa

**CINCINNATI** (AP) — Quarterback John Stofa has signed a two-year contract with the Cincinnati Bengals of the American Professional Football League, coach-general manager Paul Brown announced Thursday. Terms of the contract were not disclosed.

The 25-year-old Stofa came to the Bengals from the Miami Dolphins last December in exchange for two draft choices.



LITTLE GIANT BILL SLEMMER  
Buckeye Conference Diving Champ

## Your Safety is Our Business at

# Firestone

HEADQUARTERS for EXPERT CAR SERVICE

## Brake and Front End CAR SERVICE OFFER

to INCREASE  
TIRE PERFORMANCE