



Boys Varsity Picture

Front row (l-r): Daryl Copley, Doug Steinberger, Matt Salas, Rob Straight, Tony Weiker, Jake Gutschalk, Tyrone George, Nick Rowan, Josh Warner

Back row (l-r): Mike Lozano, Derek Sprouse, Tim Holman, Brian McCord, Craig Hickey, Jarred Stull, Luke McElfresh, Adam Swope, Alex Damschroder

Missing: Dan Tin

BOYS SOCCER

Ross 4, Findlay 1



GEORGE

FINDLAY — Freshman Tyrone George celebrated his first varsity start with a hat trick Tuesday as the Little Giants earned the school's first soccer victory on Findlay soil.

George scored all three of his goals in the first half. Matt Salas poured in the other Ross goal. Jarred Stull added two assists, Salas one.

The victory gives the Little Giants an early advantage in the Great Lakes League. Findlay's top team is not competing in the GLL again this season, so Ross is expected to repeat its 2000 league title.

The Little Giants outshot the Trojans 17-4.

The Ross defense got nine intercepts from Craig Hickey and five from Brian

McCord. Goalkeeper Robby
Straight saved three Findlay shots.

Ross will host North Olmsted
at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Ross stuns state soccer powerhouse

Vanquished North Olmsted won '00 state championship

News-Messenger reports

Freshman Tyrone George scored the go-ahead goal with about three minutes to play as the Fremont Ross boys soccer team upset perennial power North Olmsted 3-1 Saturday at Kelsey Hayes Field.

Ross coach Jeff Pendry said the victory ranks with a 1998 tournament upset of Sylvania Southview as one of the biggest in Little Giants soccer history.

North Olmsted won state championships in 1998 and 2000 and has played in the state

final in three of the past four seasons. It was the Little Giants' first victory over North Olmsted in five meetings.

"I'd consider it a big win for us," Ross coach Jeff Pendry said. "It's not a normal year for North Olmsted, but a down year for them is a good year for everybody else. They're either good or great. They're still a top 15 team in the state."

George, who scored three goals in the season opener, poured in pair of goals Saturday. Matt Salas notched the other goal on a header five minutes into the match.

Alex Damschroder dished out an assist as did Adam Swope, who assisted George on the game-winning goal. Pendry said Swope, Ross's all-time leading goal scorer, and fellow four-year starter Jarred Stull are drawing a lot of defensive attention, freeing up George and Salas.

"Against better teams, he's still a major factor, moving

Fall Roundup

the ball upfield and passing," Pendry said of Swope.

Seniors Craig Hickey and Brian McCord led the Ross defensive stand with 11 and nine intercepts, respectively. Goalkeeper Robbie Straight stopped nine shots.

North Olmsted outshot Ross 12-10, but the Little Gi-

ants averted several close calls.

"The kids played very well," Pendry said.

"There were a few lapses, but the guys

recovered. Good teams create their own luck, and these guys did that."

Earlier this season, North Olmsted defeated Findlay's A squad 3-2 at Findlay.

Ross is at Toledo St. Francis on Wednesday.

Lake 5, St. Joe 1

Milena Mauric scored the lone St. Joe goal in a home loss to Lake.

The Flyers outshot the Crimson Streaks 23-12. St. Joe goalkeeper J.T. Mauric stopped 13 shots.

St. Joe is at Keystone on Wednesday.

CROSS COUNTRY

Garcia leads Woodmore

COLUMBUS GROVE — Woodmore's Montana Garcia broke a school record, pacing the Wildcats to a second-place finish Saturday at the Columbus Grove Invitational.



GEORGE



SALAS

Carey won the meet with a 172, the Raiders recorded a 180 and North Baltimore managed a 202.

Bryan Chaney and Kevin Hammer posted 45s for Lakota (2-5). Josh Garcia pitched in with a 46.

BOYS SOCCER

Ross 2, St. Francis 2

TOLEDO — Goals by Matt Salas and freshman Nick Rowan earned the Little Giants a tie with Toledo St. Francis.

Salas scored just before half-time to tie the score at 1, and Rowan's chip shot gave Ross a short-lived 2-1 lead. Alex Damschroder assisted on the Salas goal.

St. Francis outshot the Little Giants 9-7. Ross goalkeeper Rob Straight made six saves.

Craig Hickey led Ross with

15 intercepts. Brian McCord added 13 intercepts.

Ross (2-0-1) visits Defiance on Saturday.

VOLLEYBALL

Margaretta 15-15, Edison 6-6

MILAN — The Polar Bears tuned up for today's showdown with Huron by blasting the Chargers in Sandusky Bay Conference action.

Megan Scheible went 7-for-7 in attacks and recorded five kills and two blocks. Katrina Day added three aces, and Kristi Day had nine digs. Heather McGory and Nicole Edwards were perfect from the serving line.

Margaretta (3-1, 2-0 SBC) is at Huron today in a battle of first-place teams.

See ROCKETS, B2

SJCC girls tennis 2nd at NWOCSA

News-Messenger reports

WILLARD — The Fremont Ross volleyball team served notice on Sandusky with a decisive victory Saturday in the championship match of the Willard Invitational.

The Little Giants (5-0) recorded a 15-5, 15-9 triumph over the Blue Streaks and took the invitational crown. Sandusky beat Ross three times last season, including once in the sectional tournament.

"That's huge," Ross coach Karrie Gardner said of her team's victory. "To beat them in two sets a little bit of a tone for the GLL (Great Lakes League)."

Sophomores Seanna Steinle and Nicole Marroquin led the charge against Sandusky. Steinle had five kills, Marroquin 11 points.

To get to the final, Ross downed Medina Buckeye 15-2, 15-7 and Willard 15-2, 11-15, 15-11.

Seniors Sara Steinle and Erin Barr pitched in with seven kills and 12 points, respectively, against Buckeye. Classmates



MARROQUIN

Lindsay Cobb and Jessica Fick had 10 kills and 14 points, respectively, against Willard.

The Little Giants are back in GLL action on Tuesday at Findlay.

Lakota 15-15, Woodmore 3-4

St. Wendelin 16-15, Woodmore 14-9

FOSTORIA — The Wildcats dropped a pair of matches in a tri-meet at St. Wendelin.

Erin Deal served 12 points in the loss to St. Wendelin. Rorey Giesler had eight kills and two blocks in the same match.

Woodmore (1-6) is at Lake on Tuesday.

BOYS SOCCER

Defiance 2, Ross 1

DEFIANCE — John Menendez scored both goals as Defiance handed Fremont Ross its first loss.

Adam Swope scored the lone Ross goal. The Little Giants are 2-1-1.

Defiance outshot Ross 9-4. Brian McCord and Craig Hickey had 14 intercepts apiece for the Little Giants. Goalkeeper Rob Straight stopped five shots.

Ross hosts Whitmer on Tuesday.

GOLF

'Cats win at Old Fort

KANSAS — Brett Bowen's 76 led Woodmore to a nine-stroke victory at the 14-team Old Fort Invitational.

The Wildcats shot a 315, best-

BOYS SOCCER

Ross 9, Clay 1

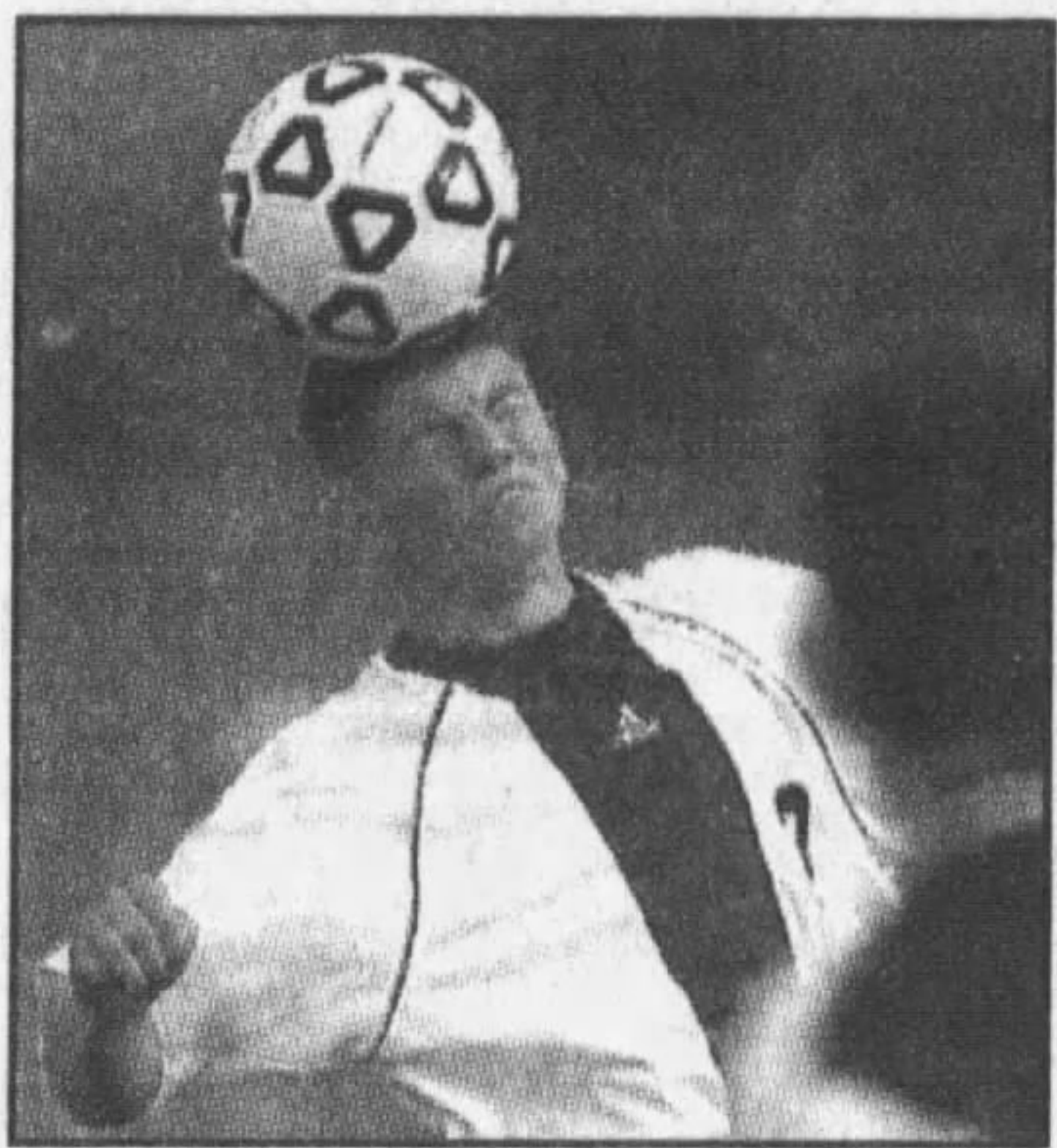
OREGON — Adam Swope scored four goals, and Jarred Stull dished out six assists as the Little Giants stayed unbeaten in the Great Lakes League.

Swope became the school's all-time leading goal scorer. His 35 goals are four better than Jason Strayer's total. Stull now has 22 career assists, taking the school record from Mike Salas.

Swope scored each of his goals in the first 25 minutes of the match. Stull assisted on all of Swope's goals and goals by Doug Steinberger and Craig Hickey. Brian McCord, Tim Holman and Tyrone George scored the other three Ross goals.

McCord and Hickey led the Little Giants' defensive efforts with eight intercepts apiece.

Ross (3-1-1, 2-0 GLL) hosts Sandusky on Tuesday.



Giants boot Blue Streaks

Seniors Stull, Swope combine for 7 goals

By **TIMOTHY R. WOLFRUM**
Sports editor

Four regular starters were missing from the Fremont Ross boys soccer team at the outset of Tuesday's Great Lakes League match against Sandusky.

Two players served a match-long suspension and two others arrived late and got benched for the first 20 minutes.

But fortunately for the Little Giants, they still had their three captains, all four-year starters.

Two of them, Jarred Stull and Adam Swope, provided more than enough offense, while the third, defender Craig Hickey, made sure the overmatched Blue Streaks stayed at the Ross end of the field.

Stull scored a career-high four goals, and Swope added three more as the Little Giants claimed a 10-0 victory at Kelsey-Hayes Field and stayed perfect in the GLL.

"Jarred Stull and Adam Swope are the two senior offensive leaders of the team. Since game one, they've been having a tremendous season," Ross coach Jeff Pendry said. "They're playing like seniors should. ... They haven't carried the team on their backs, but it's been pretty close."

Luke McElfresh added two goals, and Alex Damschroder capped the victory with a late goal for Ross (4-1-1, 3-0 GLL).

Stull, the school's all-time assist leader, took advantage of his own scoring opportunities Tuesday. He knocked in three goals in the first half, then punctuated his evening with a 35-yard rocket late in the second half.

"I was in the right place at the right time," Stull said of his four goals. "I got a little help from my team. Good balls put me in place, and I put them in the net."

Swope, the school's leading career scorer, notched goals in the 14th and the 16th minutes of the match, the latter on a penalty kick, and leaped to kick in a goal on a sweep pass from Stull early in the second half.

It was Swope who helped Stull score his first goal of the evening in the fourth minute. Ross's Tim Homan lofted a crossing pass that rolled toward the right baseline, within reach of both captains. But Stull called Swope off and blasted a shot off the Sandusky goalkeeper and into the top left corner of the net.



News-Messenger photos/Ben French

JARRED STULL (6) of Fremont Ross kicks the ball past a Sandusky defender during Tuesday's match at Kelsey-Hayes Field. The Little Giants won 10-0 as Stull scored four goals. Above left, Ross player Doug Steinberger passes the ball with his head.

Ross keeps perfect GLL mark

Continued From B1

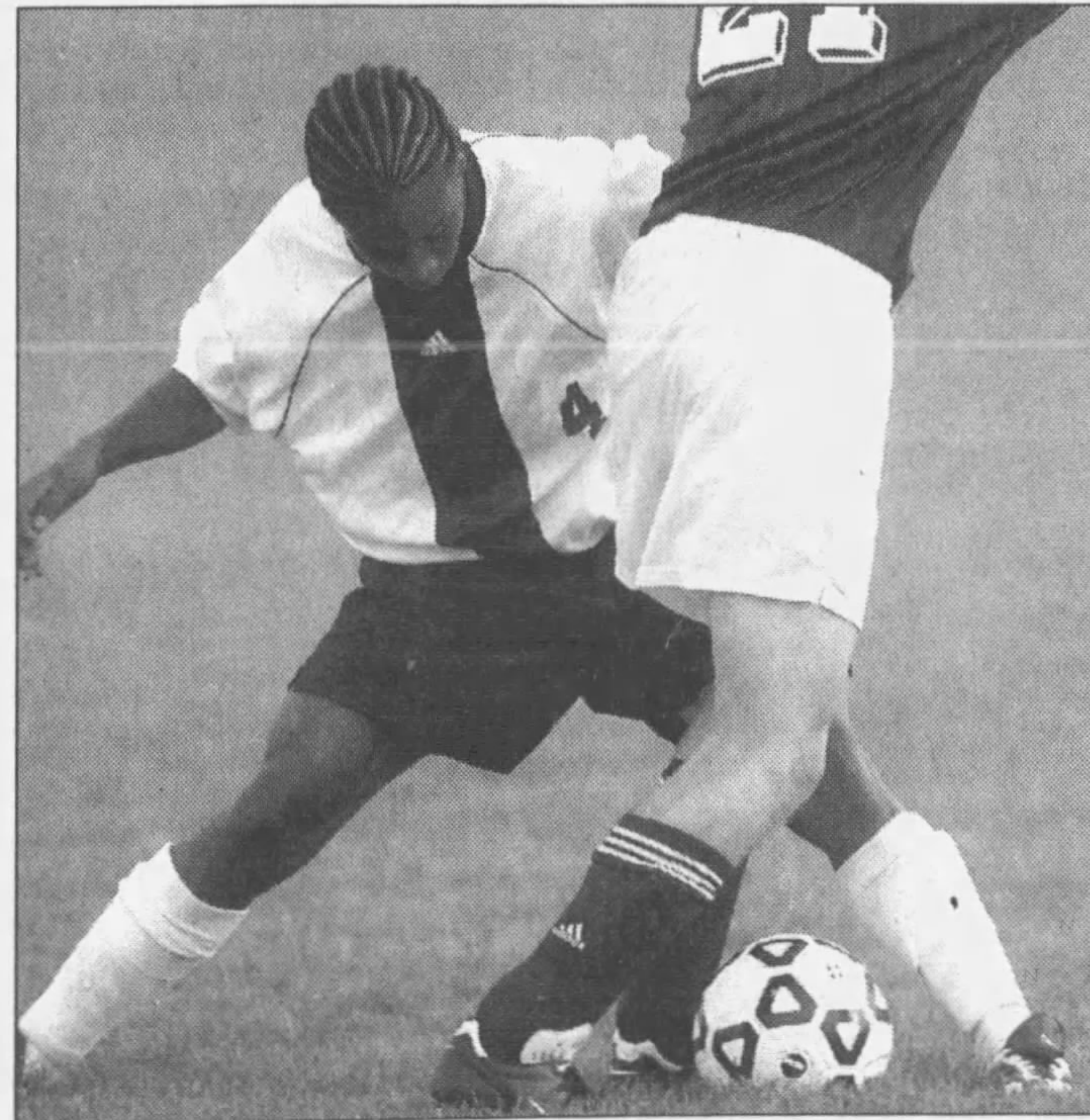
"I gave him a little handshake for that," Stull said. "I know how bad he wanted it."

Ross outshot Sandusky 39-2. The Little Giants' goalkeeper, Rob Straight, saved the shutout when he deflected a penalty kick from Sandusky's Nick Sullivan. It was the Little Giants' first shutout of the season.

"We've had six games, and four or five of them should have been shutouts," Pendry said. "Robbie's save, you saw what it did. The players got pumped up because they wanted to preserve the shutout."

Hickey led the defensive effort with six intercepts. Straight made the two saves.

Ross will wrap up the first half of the league season by hosting Toledo Whitmer at 5 p.m. Thursday. The match was scheduled for Sept. 11 but was postponed by the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, D.C.



News-Messenger/Ben French

TYRONE GEORGE of Fremont Ross struggles to gain control Tuesday at Kelsey-Hayes Field.

SOCCER

Ross 5, Whitmer 0

Doug Steinberger and Tyrone George each had two goals Thursday as the Little Giants blanked Whitmer and improved to 4-0 in the GLL.

Adam Swope had the other goal and an assist. Nick Rowan and Brian McCord each added an assist.

Defensively, Craig Hickey had eight intercepts and McCord followed with seven. Goalkeeper Robbie Straight recorded two saves.

Ross (5-1-1) hosts Findlay on Tuesday.



News-Messenger photos/Ben French

JARRED STULL, right, bumps chests with Matt Salas after scoring the only goal of Fremont Ross's 1-0 victory over Findlay on Tuesday at Kelsey-Hayes Field. At left is Luke McElfresh, who assisted on the goal.

Giants smell GLL title

Ross survives cold battle with Findlay

By **TIMOTHY R. WOLFRUM**
Sports editor

The Fremont Ross boys soccer team "unofficially" clinched its second consecutive Great Lakes League crown Tuesday, according to head coach Jeff Pendry.

But there was no celebration after the 1-0 victory over Findlay, and that was only partly attributable to the unseasonably frigid conditions at Kelsey-Hayes Field.

The Little Giants (6-1-1, 5-0 GLL) know they have more work ahead before reaching their ultimate league goal.

"The thing they want to do is run the table,"

Pendry said. "They had one mistake last year when they lost to Findlay at Findlay. That's kind of their goal this year, to go 8-0 (in the league)."

Ross handed the Findlay B team its second league loss of the season. The only GLL challenge remaining for the Little Giants is a trip to Whitmer, and the Panthers already have a tie and a loss to Ross in GLL play.

The Little Giants' other two league matches are against Oregon Clay and Sandusky, two teams Ross has defeated by a combined score of 19-1.

Tuesday's match was

closer than expected, however. Ross defeated Findlay 4-1 on Aug. 29.

Senior Jarred Stull scored the match's only goal on a feed from Luke McElfresh two minutes and 10 seconds into the second half.

"I credit that to Luke McElfresh," Stull said. "He gave me the ball, gave me the assist, and I put it in."

McElfresh got past the last line of Findlay defense with a nifty move near midfield and kicked the ball ahead to Stull. Stull, who had missed a point-blank shot wide right late

See ROSS, B3



ADAM SWOPE of Ross makes a move during Tuesday's victory over Findlay at Kelsey-Hayes Field.

Ross takes another step toward GLL title by beating Findlay, 1-0

Continued From B1

in the first half, slowed down, punched the ball past the Findlay goalkeeper and lofted a shot into the upper right-hand corner.

"We talked about that at half-time," Pendry said. "We had plenty of opportunities in the first half where the plays were made, and the guy who had the chance to score didn't score. The situation came up very early in the second half, and they finally took care of it. Unfortunately, they didn't do it any other times in the second half."

Stull played Tuesday with a heavily wrapped right foot after pulling a muscle during Thurs-

day's match with Whitmer.

Ross outshot Findlay 35-0 but failed to blow the match open. The Trojans had a corner kick as time expired but failed to get off a shot.

Tuesday's match, played with temperatures in the 40s and a strong wind, started 30 minutes late because the scheduled officials did not appear. A scheduling mixup forced Pendry to call in a Fremont-based official and pull two makeshift line judges out of the stands.

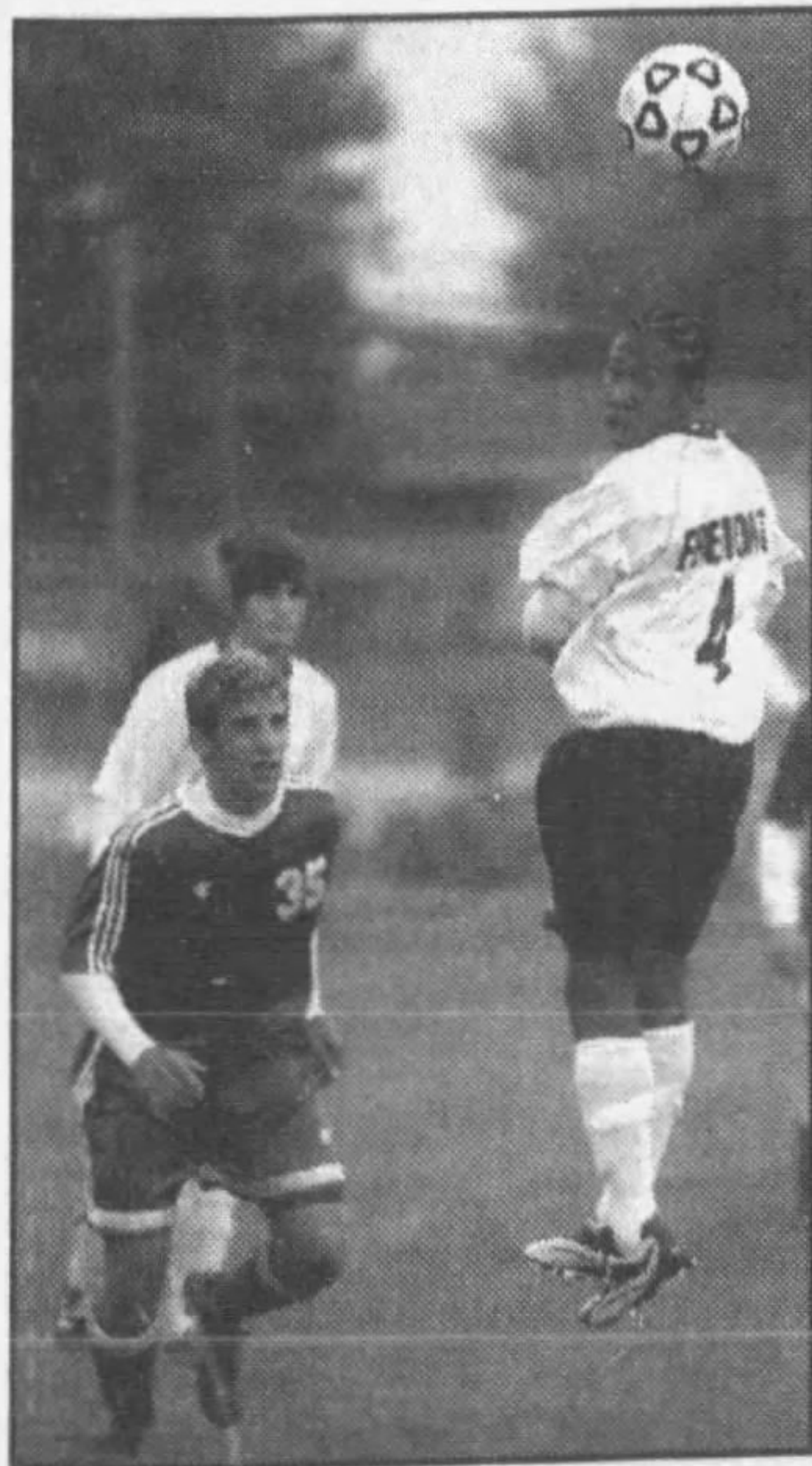


PENDRY

Pendry blamed his team's sluggish performance on "the conditions and the fact that we were in a situation where there were no officials at the beginning of the game. So, mentally, they were obviously taken out of it."

"The nicest thing about the whole game is I think it will be a wake-up call for what they have Saturday with Northview and Oct. 6 with St. Francis. They needed a game like that from a team that on paper they were better than. They needed a team to step up and make them earn their win."

Ross is at Napoleon on Thursday and hosts Sylvania Northview at 1 p.m. Saturday.



News-Messenger/Ben French

TYRONE GEORGE (4) of Fremont Ross sends a header toward the Little Giants goal during Tuesday's match against Findlay.

News-Messenger reports

HURON — Fremont Ross freshman Kevin Vassar fired an 81 to lead the Little Giants to second place Thursday at the Great Lakes League golf meet at Saw Mill Creek Resort.

Vassar's score earned him first-team All-GLL honors. The Little Giants shot a 347, second to Findlay's 318. Whitmer was third at 349.

Findlay's Tyler Riley earned medalist honors with a 71.

Austin Young shot an 88 for Ross. Josh Harnish and Joe Garza added 89s.

Ross finished third in the overall league standings, which also include regular-season matches. Findlay won the title.

BOYS SOCCER

Ross 4, Napoleon 0

NAPOLEON — The Little Giants recorded their fourth

straight shutout, and senior Jarred Stull set a single-season assist record during a non-league match Thursday.

Stull had one assist, his 10th of the season. That broke the record of nine he set last season.

Adam Swope scored three goals, Tim Holman one for the Little Giants (7-1-1). Tyrone George also had an assist.

Craig Hickey led the defensive effort with 12 intercepts. Swope and Brian McCord had 10 apiece. Robbie Straight had three saves for the Little Giants, who outshot the Wildcats 13-3.

Ross hosts Sylvania Northview at 1 p.m. Saturday.



VASSAR

BOYS SOCCER

Northview 2, Fremont Ross 0

Sylvania Northview handed the Little Giants their second loss of the season Saturday at Kelsey-Hayes Field.

The Wildcats outshot Ross 10-4. Little Giants goalkeeper Robby Straight had seven saves. Brian McCord and Craig Hickey had 10 interceptions apiece.

Ross (7-2-1) is at Whitmer today.

Ross grabs 2nd straight GLL trophy

News-Messenger reports

TOLEDO — The Fremont Ross boys soccer team clinched its second consecutive Great Lakes

League title with a 2-0 victory Tuesday over Toledo Whitmer.

The Little Giants won the **ROWAN** school's first GLL boys soccer crown last season.

Tyrone George and Luke McElfresh scored the Little Giants goals on Tuesday. Both came in the first 13 minutes of the match. Nick Rowan assisted on both goals.

Ross outshot Whitmer 9-2. Robby Straight had two saves for the Little Giants (8-2-1, 6-0 GLL). Craig Hickey and Brian McCord turned in 13 and 12 intercepts, respectively.

Ross will host Clay at 5 p.m. Thursday. It will be Parents Night.



Ross falls in pursuit of GLL perfection

News-Messenger reports

Oregon Clay forgot to bow before the newly crowned Great Lakes League boys soccer champions.

The Eagles stunned Fremont Ross, 2-1, Thursday on Parents Night at Kelsey-Hayes Field, ending the Little Giants' perfect run through the league.

"I think they looked past the game tonight," Ross coach Jeff Pendry said of his players. "They didn't show up."

Ross (8-3-1, 6-1 GLL) had beaten Clay 9-1 on Sept. 13 in Oregon. The Eagles recorded their first win over the Little Giants in Pendry's five years as head coach.

The Little Giants clinched their second straight league title Tuesday with a 2-0 victory over Toledo Whitmer.

Clay jumped ahead by scoring both of its goals in the

first 25 minutes. Ross responded with a Doug Steinberger goal just before the half on an assist from Tyrone George.

Ross outshot Clay 10-4 but failed to capitalize on its opportunities.

"One of the problems we've faced this year is finishing, which means to score," Pendry said. "Usually, it happens in spurts. Tonight, it happened throughout the match."

Craig Hickey led the Ross defense with 12 intercepts. Brian McCord added eight intercepts, Adam Swope seven.

Ross hosts Toledo St. Francis at 11 a.m. Saturday.

In the sectional tournament, the Little Giants will meet Lima Senior (4-6-1) at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 15, at Findlay High School. Ross received the No. 2 seed. The top Findlay squad got the No. 1 seed.

Oak Harbor 4, St. Joe 1

OAK HARBOR — Senior Mike Brown scored twice to pace Oak Harbor on Thursday.

Brown netted goals in the 18th and 26th minutes, respectively, as the Rockets jumped out to the early lead. Colin Tong assisted on Brown's second score.

Chris Windnagel converted a penalty kick in the 30th minute to push the Rockets' lead to 3-0 at halftime.

The Crimson Streaks pulled back one goal in the second half when Milena Mauric scored off an assist by Jeff Young in the 69th minute to cut the deficit to 3-1.

Senior Rachel Goldstein netted the final goal for the Rockets in the 79th minute. Derek Gerber assisted on the goal.

Oak Harbor (7-5) plays host to Tiffin Columbian Saturday then jumps back into San-

dusky Bay Conference play next week with matches against Perkins, Magaretta and Port Clinton.

Oak Harbor faces Port Clinton on Oct. 15 in the opening round of the sectional tournament at Rossford.

St. Joe (0-12) plays at River Valley on Saturday.

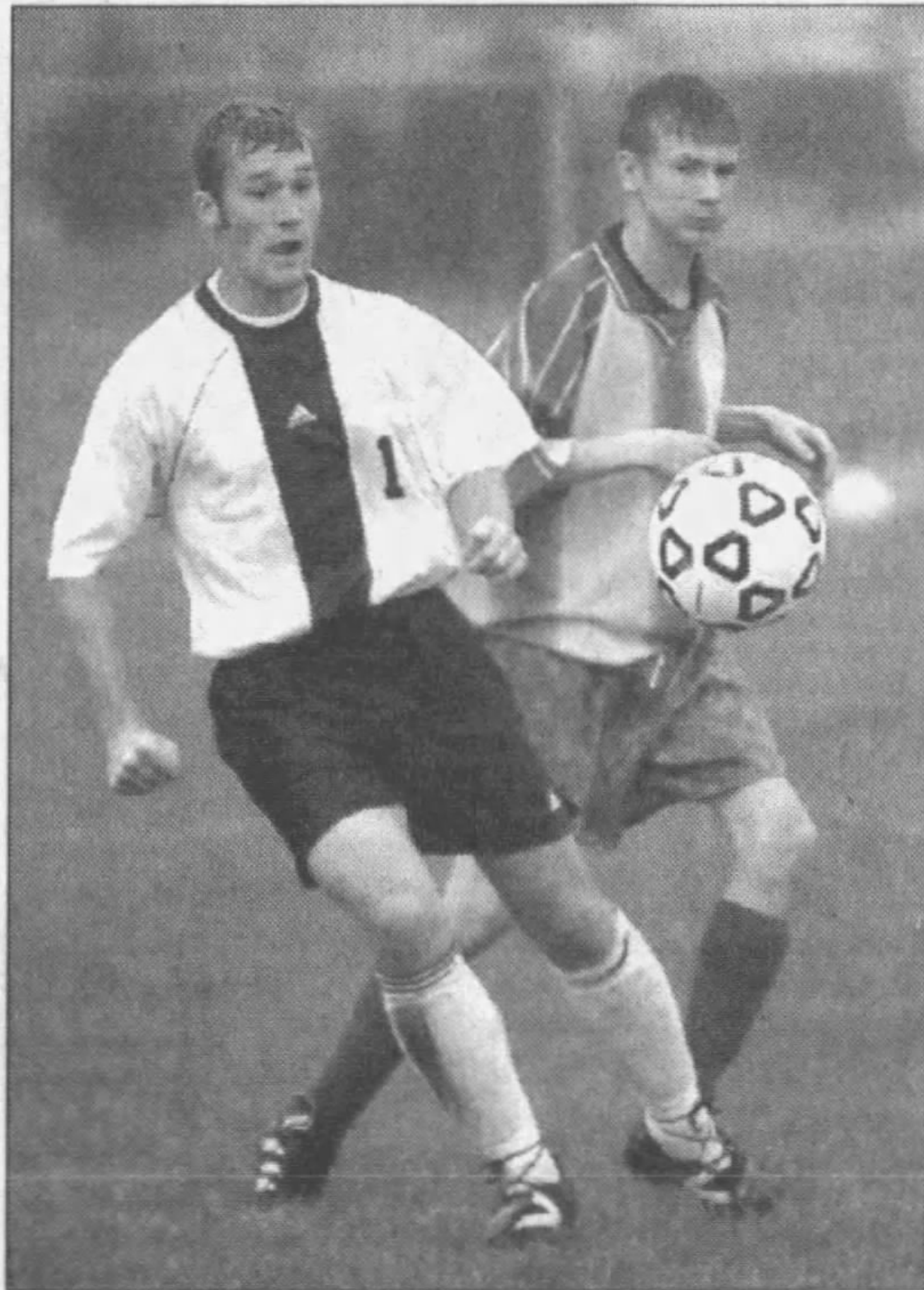
GIRLS TENNIS

Port Clinton 4, Clyde 1

PORT CLINTON — The doubles team of Janetta Chrisman and Tina Dodson pulled off the Fliers' only victory in a Sandusky Bay Conference match Thursday.

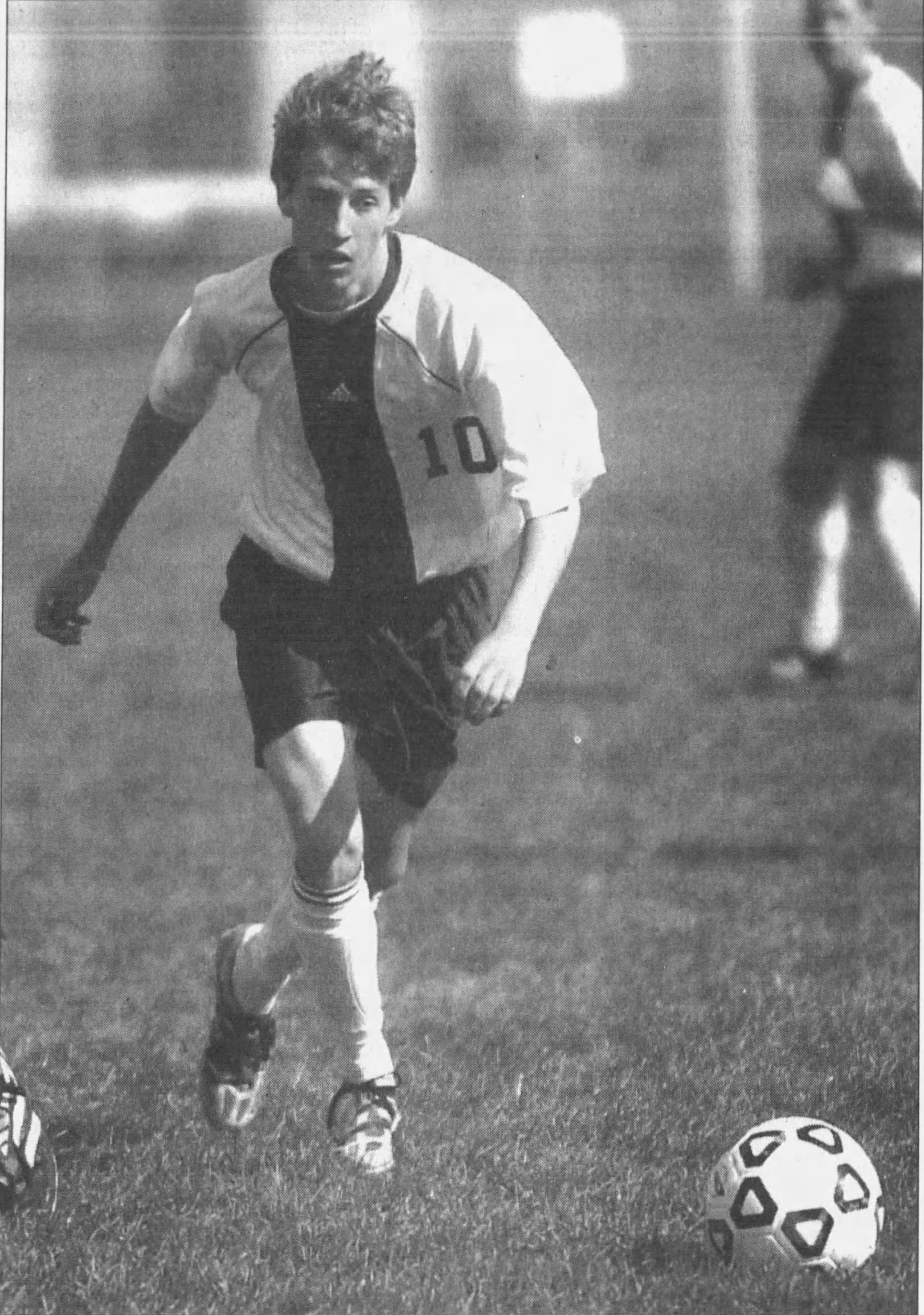
Chrisman and Dodson, who will be playing doubles together at the sectional tournament today, downed Tiffany Greet and Lauren Perl 6-2, 6-1.

Clyde is at the Division II sectional tournament today at Port Clinton.



News-Messenger/Ben French

CRAIG HICKEY, left, of Ross follows the bouncing ball as an Oregon Clay player closes in during Clay's 2-1 victory Thursday at Kelsey-Hayes Field.



News-Messenger/Ben French

ADAM SWOPE of the Fremont Ross boys soccer team chases a loose ball during Saturday's match against Toledo St. Francis at Kelsey-Hayes Field. Results of the match were unavailable.