

1972 Buckeye Conference...

Sandusky Gets Nod

Buckeye Conferences coaches are unanimous in their opinion—only time is between Sandusky and its fifth consecutive track and field championship.

And the powerful Blue Streaks, who made a shambles of Fremont Ross Wednesday in a dual meet, will erase that last barrier at Marion Harding Saturday.

Sandusky is heavily favored to its fifth straight title and seventh in the last eight years when the eight conference schools gather at Harding's all-weather oval. A victory by anyone other than the Blue Streaks would be considered the biggest track and field upset in conference history.

Thus, the attention at the meet will be focused on the battle for second place which is expected to be between Ross and Findlay.

"I think the battle for second place will be between us and Findlay," Little Giant head coach Ron Brant said Thursday. "I really can't see anybody coming close to Sandusky—they have too much individual talent and depth."

Ross finished third in the conference meet last year—the highest finish ever for a Little Giant squad. Sandusky ran away with the meet, scoring 69½ points while Elyria was second with 42 and Ross had 37½. Lorain (33), Findlay (21), Mansfield (19), Marion (10) and Admiral King (eight) completed the field.

Three new records were established last year and Ross was responsible for two of those marks. Earl Smith cracked the 880 barrier and the mile relay team also put itself in the conference record book. Tim Wasco of Lorain Senior set the other mark in the two-mile run.

Ross' best hope for an individual win tomorrow appears to be with junior sprint star Rob Lytle. He will be a slight favorite in both the 100 and 220. He failed to place in either event last year. Lytle, who recorded a 9.9 in winning the 100

at the Marion Invitational last Friday, is unbeaten in the century this spring and has fallen only one in the 220—to Findlay's Hal Paul.

The Little Giants have three individual place winners returning from the 1970 meet. Tom Liggins will try and better his second place effort in the shot put while Tom Pitts will be out to improve on his fourth in the high hurdles and Chuck Celek will be aiming higher than his fourth place in the high jump.

Pitts will probably be the only member of that trio who will participate in more than one event. He's also scheduled to run in the 440 and lead off Ross' mile relay. Other mile relay members will be Ken Price, Jim Heidelberg and Lytle.

Liggins could possibly get the call in the 880 relay but the Ross coaching staff was still attempting to pick its quartet for that event Thursday.

Past Champions

1956 — Marion; 1957 — Marion; 1958 — Marion; 1959 — Marion; 1960 — Marion; 1961 — Sandusky; 1962 — Marion; 1963 — Marion; 1964 — Sandusky; 1965 — Sandusky; 1966 — Sandusky; 1967 — Elyria; 1968 — Sandusky; 1969 — Sandusky; 1970 — Sandusky; 1971 — Sandusky.

Track Events

120 HIGH HURDLES — Jon Jackson, Sandusky, 14.3, 1968.

100 DASH — MacArthur Thomas, Elyria, 9.6, 1970.

MILE RUN — Tim Wasco, Lorain Sr., 1970 and Osmond Pearson, Sandusky, 1971, 4:27.6.

880 RELAY — Mansfield (Davis, Rawls, Walker and Hill), 1:28.6, 1969.

440 DASH — Steve Parker, Ross, 1968, and Paul Garrett, Sandusky, 1963, 49.8.

180 LOW HURDLES — Bob Lindsay, Sandusky, 19.0, 1965.

880 RUN — Earl Smith, Ross, 1:57.5, 1971.

220 DASH — Bob Lindsay, Sandusky, 21.4, 1965.

TWO MILE RUN — Tim Wasco, Lorain Sr., 9:30.6, 1971.

MILE RELAY — Ross (Bill Burkett, Tom Pitts, Claude Price and Earl Smith), 3:25.7, 1971.

Field Events

SHOT PUT — Ed Williams, Sandusky, 59-8½, 1968.

DISCUS — Ken Kreuger, Sandusky, 178-0, 1968.

HIGH JUMP — Chris Cowie, Lorain Sr., 6-4, 1968.

LONG JUMP — David, Rather, Sandusky, 23-8, 1969.

POLE VAULT — Jerry Kiyop, Elyria, 14-1½, 1968.

Ross Has Best Finish Ever In Buckeye

By MARK CARLSON
N-M Sports Editor

MARION — What Rob Lytle did was expected.

But the performances of sophomore Jeff Opelt and Ross' mile relay team in the Buckeye Conference championships were not.

Lytle, a junior speedster, won both the 100 and 220 yard dashes while Opelt surprised everyone by taking the pole vault competition as the Little Giants stormed to their highest finish ever in the conference competition.

Team Scoring
Sandusky 71 1/2
Ross 38 1/2
Findlay 36
Elyria 34
Adm. King 18
Mansfield 15
Marion 17
Loran 13

LONG JUMP—1. Tyrone Coleman (Mansfield), 23.4m; 2. Velma Evans (Sandusky), 20.1m; 3. Scott May (Sandusky), 20.0m; 4. Peter Slater (Marion), 19.4; 5. Jim Heidelberger (Fremont), 19.7m.
SHOT PUT—1. Tom Liggins (Fremont), 50.1; 2. Monty Weeks (Admiral King), 49.6m; 3. Dale Griffin (Elyria), 48.1; 4. Bryan Gale (Admiral King), 48.0m; 5. Bob Koebel (Fremont), 48.0m.
DISCUS—1. Scott May (Sandusky), 130.7; 2. Dale Griffin (Elyria), 108.4; 3. Monty Weeks (Admiral King), 104.4; 4. Steve Cook (Findlay), 106.7; 5. Jim Hall (Sandusky), 106.5.
10-YARD HIGH HURDLES—1. Hal Paul (Findlay), 15.1; 2. Terry Hecron (Marion), 14.4; 3. Mike Salomon (Mansfield), 13.5; 4. Ken Price

Ross finished second with 36 1/2 points, far back of front-running Sandusky, which had 71 1/2. The Little Giants just squeaked by Findlay for the runnerup slot. The Trojans had 36 points at the end of the 15 events.

"Being number two isn't so bad," Ross head coach Ron Brant said. "We knew Sandusky would have to have a complete collapse for anybody to come near them. The battle for second place between us and Findlay was a lot more interesting than the race for the championship."

"Sandusky's depth was the big ***
(Fremont), 15.6; 5. Phil Oliver (Elyria), 13.7.
100-YARD DASH—1. Rob Lytle (Fremont), 10.2; 2. Mel Rush (Loran), 10.3; 3. Willie Jordan (Sandusky), 10.7; 4. Velma Evans (Sandusky), 10.4; 5. Mike Smith (Loran), 10.6.
MILE RUN—1. Jeff Hochstetler (Findlay), 4:27.9; 2. Osmund Pearson (Sandusky), 4:30.0; 3. Ed Organ (Mansfield), 4:38.3; 4. Bryan Lockmont (Admiral King), 4:46.0.
80-YARD RELAY—1. Marion Harding (Pete Slater, Bob Cline, Dan Davis, Randy Cochran), 1:21.3; 2. Loran, 1:31.4; 3. Sandusky, 1:32.1; 4. Mansfield, 1:34.3; 5. Findlay, 1:34.9.
POLE VAULT—1. Jeff Opelt (Fremont), 13.3; 2. Rick Ede (Findlay), 13; 3. Richard Allen (Mansfield), 12.4; 4. Dave Sellers (Elyria), 12.4; 5. Jim Sank (Elyria), 12.4.
40-YARD DASH—1. John Whitaker (Admiral King), 10.5; 2. Leo Ferguson (Sandusky), 10.4; 3. Bob Sherman (Sandusky), 11.9; 4. Tom Harris (Elyria), 12.0; 5. Dave Lindstrom (Loran), 12.1.
80-YARD RUN—1. Jeff Hochstetler

difference. They had four first places, the same number as us, but those second and thirds were what counted. They had them and we didn't."

Tom Liggins took the shot put competition to become the fourth Little Giant first place winner. "We expected Lytle to win the 100 and 220 and for Tommy to take the shot put, but what Opelt did in the pole vault was just too much," Brant said.

Opelt, a sophomore, went out at 13.3, the highest he has gone in his career. Findlay's Rick Ede went out of the competition at the same height, but Opelt took the first place medal based on number of misses.

(Findlay), 1:59.1; 2. Paul Leslie (Sandusky), 2:00.2; 3. Brent Fahrer (Sandusky), 2:01.5; 4. Dick Griffith (Marion), 2:02.0; 5. Mark Born (Loran), 2:06.7.
HIGH JUMP—1. Ira Perkins (Elyria), 6.4m, (new record); 2. Ron Beckett (Elyria), 6.4; 3. (tie), Scott May (Sandusky) and Kim Michael (Fremont), 6.2; 5. Chuck Celek (Fremont), 6.0.
160-YARD LOW HURDLES—1. Jim Fanning (Sandusky), 19.4; 2. Hal Paul (Findlay), 19.7; 3. Ken Price (Fremont), 20.3; 4. Scott May (Sandusky), 20.4; 5. Terry Hayes (Marion), 20.7.
220-YARD DASH—1. Rob Lytle (Fremont), 22.1; 2. Mike Smith (Loran), 22.5; 3. Willie Jordan (Sandusky), 22.8; 4. Bruce Jefferson (Mansfield), 22.9; 5. Randy Cochran (Marion), 23.1.
200-MILE RUN—1. Bob Fair (Sandusky), 4:22.8; 2. Craig Line (Findlay), 10:01.8; 3. Jim Rosino (Sandusky), 10:17.7; 4. Jerome Simmons (Admiral King), 10:22.4; 5. Ron Paris (Elyria), 10:24.5.
MILE RELAY—1. Sandusky (Bob Sherman, Chuck Miller, Bob Jackson, Leo Ferguson), 3:25.3 (new record); 2. Findlay, 3:29.4; 3. Loran, 3:30.3; 5. Marion, 3:36.4.

the start of the mile relay and told them they had to beat Findlay," Brant said. "Actually, we could have finished one place behind them and still would have come in second."

The mile relay quartet stepped off a 3:28.8 for second behind Sandusky, which had a record-breaking 3:25.2. Findlay was only a tenth of a second off Ross' pace.

Two sophomores (Tim Smith and Jim Heidelberger), a junior (Jon Smith) and senior (Ken Price) formed the mile relay unit. The Smiths were running in the event for the first time. They replaced Tom Pitts and Lytle.

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"He (Pitts) was very unhappy spot until the mile relay. Then it took a brilliant second place effort by a revamped quartet to keep the Little Giants in second. Going into the final race Ross had 34 1/2 points compared to Findlay's 33. "I talked to every boy before

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Price (third, low hurdles) and fourth, high hurdles), high jumpers Kim Michael (tied for third) and Chuck Celek (fifth). In previous conference meets, the highest Ross finish was third in 1971. The Little Giants were fifth in 1970 with just 16 points.

Other individual winners were Mansfield's Tyrone Coleman (long jump), Findlay's Hal Paul (high hurdles) and Jeff Hochstetler (mile run and 800).

Loran Admiral King's John Whitaker (440) and Elyria's Ira Perkins (high jump). Marion fielded the winning squad in the 800 relay.

Elyria was fourth in the team standings with 34 points followed by Loran Admiral King (30), Mansfield Sr. (18), Marion Harding (17) and Loran (15).

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ROSS' SOPHOMORE pole vaulter Keith Pettiford appears to be spreading out a white carpet for fellow sophomore Jeff Opelt after Opelt won the pole vault competition at the Buckeye Conference track and field

competition Saturday. Opelt went 13.3, a career high, to take the first place medal. His first helped Ross to a second place finish. (News-Messenger Photo)



ROB LYTLE (second from right) of Ross leads the race to the finish line in the 100-yard dash of the Buckeye Conference track and field meet at Marion Saturday. Lytle also took the 220 competition. Ross placed second in the team

race, the highest finish ever for the Little Giant thincads. (News-Messenger Photo)

Invitational Crown Stays In School Of Meet Hosts

CASTALIA — It took seven tries but Margaretta has finally won its own Invitational track and field meet with a 23.06 in the 220. Wayne Fegley of the Wildcats finished right behind Hernandez, who tied the high