

2013 Season Review

FREMONT ROSS

Coach: Lisa Wolfe

Last year: 7-11 (2-5); Fourth at the TRAC Tournament/Fifth overall.

Graduates: Sarah Gray, Brenna Druckenmiller and Jenna Overmyer.

Returns: Lauren Emrich (senior), Emily Hamilton (senior), Aubrey Fox (senior), Emily Moyer (senior), Kelly Bondra (senior), Andrea Lee (senior), Katarina Whisler (senior), Kana Tritch (senior), Jessica Giardina (junior), Gaby Gutierrez (junior), Bailey Druckenmiller (junior) and Taylor Paeth (sophomore).

Newcomers: Mari Warwick (junior), Alexis Green (sophomore), Candace Lee (freshman), Alyssa Meyer (freshman) and Jena Willey (freshman).

Outlook: Gray was the Little Giants No. 1 singles player in 2012. Emrich, a senior, is expected to take her place in most of the matches. Paeth is slotted in as Ross' second singles player with the third slot being a mix of Fox, Hamilton and others. Hamilton and Emrich qualified to districts as a doubles pair a year ago, going 20-14. "I have six returning letter winners but only three had a permanent varsity position, so we have a lot of holes to fill," Wolfe said. "We do the very best with our ability, never giving up each time we compete."

Girls Tennis: Ross 5, Tiffin Columbian 0

FREMONT — The Little Giants had some impressive scores Tuesday, but one in particular stood out to Ross coach Lisa Wolfe.

“Kelly Bondra at No. 3 singles played an incredible match in a position on varsity that she’s not familiar with,” said Wolfe of Bondra’s 7-5, 5-7, 6-3 victory over the Tornadoes’ Tiffany Walker.

Lauren Emrich won in straight sets at first singles (6-4, 6-1) and Taylor Paeth swept her opponent (6-4, 6-0 in second singles as the Little Giants won their season opener. Columbian won the same match 5-0 a year ago.

Ross (1-0) also swept the doubles courts as Emily Hamilton and Bailey Druckenmiller were 7-5, 6-2 winners at No. 1 doubles, while Aubrey Fox and Emmie Moyer won 6-0-, 6-2 at second doubles.

The Little Giants will play at Ashland today at 11 a.m.

TENNIS

Hoops duo helps Clyde tennis to win

Fliers take match at Fremont Ross, 4-1

By Kevin Shields
Sports writer

FREMONT — Tennis isn’t always the main priority for Clyde basketball standouts Amanda Cahill and Lexi Weber.

But, each time the Fliers’ duo takes to the tennis courts, coach Jeff MacFarland always knows what he’s getting: Two kids that love to compete.

Normally, No. 1 doubles partners, Cahill and Weber were split up to play singles matches on Thursday at Ross. Cahill won 6-2, 6-2 at first singles, while

Weber won 6-0, 6-0 at second singles in the Fliers’ 4-1 non-league victory.

“Obviously, we don’t put in as time with tennis as others on our team do but we love to play when we can,” said Cahill, who was named the Division II state player of the year in basketball the previous two seasons and will play at Indiana University next winter. “I think we’ve been having good practices where we’re trying to get better. Me and Lexi have been doubles together again, but we’re also trying to get our singles games better as well.”

Together, Cahill and Weber — two-time SBC doubles champions and state qualifiers in 2011

— lost a single match and earned their second straight sectional crown last fall, before being denied a return trip to state with two losses at the district tournament.

“We’re not dwelling on last year,” Weber said. “We’re just looking ahead. We lost to two good doubles teams with a lot of tennis experience at last year’s district tournament and all we can really do is learn from it. Getting back to state is our top goal.”

Emi Bowers and Andrea Nearhood played first doubles on Thursday in their place, topping Ross’ Emmie Moyer and Bailey Druckenmiller 6-1, 6-1. The doubles sweep by the Fliers

was finished off by Brooke Smith and Clara Sewell topping Aubrey Fox and Jessica Giardina 6-2, 6-0.

“I think we’ll have an all-around solid team,” Weber said. “Andrea and Emi are both solid singles players, who, like me and Amanda, also play well together in doubles.”

Ross got its lone win from senior Emily Hamilton, who fought back from 2-6 loss in the first set to win the second set 7-5 and the tiebreaker 10-5 as she topped Clyde’s Brianna Baughman in third singles.

“I’m very proud of Emily with this being her first time playing singles after being strictly a doubles player last

year,” Little Giants coach Lisa Wolfe said. “It’s nice knowing we can count on her to play third singles when we need her to but still know what she gives us on the doubles court.”

Hamilton played with Lauren Emrich as a junior. The duo was 20-14 and made districts.

“I’m feeling pretty positive about my serving this year. I have a strong serve,” Hamilton said. “Hopefully my cross-court shot will catch up.”

“I’m just excited to see how this year progresses and see how we do.”

KShields@gannett.com
419-334-1043
Twitter: @KShieldsNM

Tennis: Ross 5, Lima Senior 0

LIMA — The Little Giants opened Three Rivers Athletic Conference play with a dominating sweep of the Spartans on Tuesday.

Lauren Emrich (first singles), Taylor Paeth (second singles) and Kelly Bondra (third singles) all dropped a single game en route to wins for Ross (2-3, 1-0) on the singles courts. Same was the case for Emily Hamilton and Aubrey Fox at first doubles and Emmie Moyer and Bailey Druckenmiller at second doubles.

The Little Giants host Maumee today at 4:30 p.m.

GIRLS TENNIS



Fremont Ross' Kelly Bondra returns the ball during a tennis match against Port Clinton on Thursday. JONATHAN BIRD/NEWS-MESSENGER PHOTOS

A drink of energy



Fremont Ross' Taylor Paeth plays the ball during a tennis match against Port Clinton on Thursday.

Druckenmiller, Moyer provide a little mojo

By Matthew Horn
Sports writer

PORT CLINTON — Fremont Ross coach Lisa Wolfe wants to see all five courts demonstrate the type of energy exhibited Thursday by Emmie Moyer and Bailey Druckenmiller at No. 2 doubles.

Druckenmiller and Moyer earned the Little Giants victory in straight sets, but the Little Giants fell to Port Clinton 4-1 in a non-conference matchup.

"They're serves were working well and their net play was great," Wolfe said.

"They showed energy and determination. We need to be consistent with that type of energy on all the courts. The season only gets tougher after (Thursday) with our league."

Wolfe plans to focus upcoming practice time on footwork and enthusiasm.

"That's all we're going to work on (today)," she said of footwork.

"To be good players, their footwork

has to improve. Some of the courts seemed lethargic."

Moyer and Druckenmiller, however, caught Wolfe's eye Thursday with their positioning and court coverage. They are 3-1 this season after playing at the junior varsity level last season and played their best match against the Redskins.

"The highlight was No. 2 doubles," she said. "They played like a doubles team and looked like a doubles team should look."

Lauren Emrich, who played No. 2 singles last season, was at No. 1 singles Thursday.

Taylor Paeth played singles and doubles last season, and was at No. 2 singles against Port Clinton.

Kelly Bondra played junior varsity last year and No. 3 singles Thursday while Emily Hamilton and Aubrey Fox were at No. 1 doubles.

Hamilton also played first doubles last season while Fox was at No. 2 doubles and junior varsity.

The Little Giants (3-4), who shut out Maumee on Wednesday, had a busy week with four matches.

mhorn@gannett.com
419-734-7519

Twitter: @MatthewHornNH

BURN, BABY, BURN!



Fremont Area Foundation Treasurer Doug Bischoff, left, holds the mortgage for the high school tennis courts as Ross tennis coach Lisa Wolfe lights it on fire. The final \$93,000 due on the courts, financed entirely through private donations, was paid off thanks to an anonymous donor. VINCE GUERRIERI/NEWS-MESSENGER

Tennis: Toledo St. Ursula Academy 4, Ross 1

FREMONT — Emily Hamilton and Aubrey Fox won 6-4, 7-6 (7-5) at first doubles for the Little Giants on Thursday in a loss to the Arrows in a Three Rivers Athletic Conference match.

“I’m very proud of Emily and Aubrey at No.1 doubles,” Ross coach Lisa Wolfe said. “Their individual wins are all about seeding records for the league tournament. They won four games in-a-row to set up the tiebreaker situation — beating a very talented doubles team.”

Tennis: Ross 5, Fostoria 0

FOSTORIA — Lauren Emrich (No. 1 singles) and Aubrey Fox (No. 3 singles) each won 6-0, 6-0 for the Little Giants who swept the Redmen on Wednesday in non-league play.

Ross' Emily Hamilton won 6-1, 6-0 for Ross at second singles, while both doubles — Emmie Moyer and Kelly Bondra at first doubles and Jessica Giardina and Charlott Wiejack at second doubles — teams won 6-0, 6-1.

Ross plays at Whitmer on Thursday.

TENNIS

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FREMONT ROSS 5, WHITMER 0

» Site: Whitmer Tennis Courts, Toledo

» **1st Singles:** Lauren Emrich (R) def. Tricia Kimmel, 7-6(1), 6-3.

» **2nd Singles:** Taylor Paeth (R) def. Erica Cochenour, 6-1, 6-2.

» **3rd Singles:** Kelly Bondra (R) def. Emily Miller, 6-2, 6-0.

» **1st Doubles:** Emily Hamilton/Aubrey Fox (R) def. Gabrielle Hott/Erin Franz, 6-2, 6-2.

» **2nd Doubles:** Emmie Moyer/Bailey Druckenmiller (R) def. Kara Schomaker/Kelsy Measles, 6-0, 6-0.

» **Next:** Ross hosts Michaels Memorial Doubles Tournament, Saturday, 9 a.m.

Tennis: Fremont Ross 3, Findlay 2

FINDLAY — The Little Giants' girls tennis team escaped Findlay with a 3-2 TRAC win Tuesday over the Trojans.

Lauren Emrich (No. 1 singles) won her first set in tie-break fashion 7-6(2) then fell 6-1 in the second set before winning the match 6-4 in the third.

"The [team] score was 2-2 when Lauren was heading into her third set," said Ross coach Lisa Wolfe. She played the best I have ever seen her play. She kept her composure and fought for every point during her three-hour match. She played a controlled match and was consistent with her shots."

Taylor Paeth and Bailey Druckenmiller both lost their singles matchups for the Little Giants (6-9, 3-4).

Ross' No. 1 doubles team of Emily Hamilton and Aubrey Fox split the first two sets 7-5, 2-6 before winning the final set 6-2. Emily Moyer and Kelly Bondra (No. 2 doubles) won in straight sets.

TENNIS HITS HARD, BUT TEAM BOND HITS HARDER

Kelly Bondra
Staff Reporter



"Lady Giants on three, One-Two-Three, LADY GIANTS!!!" senior Aubrey Fox, yells, at the beginning of every match and end of every practice with her tennis family of 17 girls chanting along with her. The girl's tennis team seems to be closer than ever, finishing up their season with a current varsity record of 8-10 and a JV record of 10-7.

"Season is going well, and I think the girls are having fun," coach Lisa Wolf explained. Throughout the season the girls have faced some tough opponents at TRAC league matches or weekend tournaments. The

Lady Giants have placed 6th at both Perkins Invite and the Michael's tournament at home. The team continued to push through with the Varsity and JV TRAC tournaments. Varsity placing 5th overall and JV placing 6th

The official last TRAC league match was September 17th against Findlay. The Lady Giants played their hearts out and defeated Findlay in a close match of 3-2.

As season comes to an end Senior Aubrey Fox, who played 1st doubles in varsity, reflected on her year. "I think we had a great, competitive season. Emily (Hamilton) and I did really well in our TRAC league matches. I'm really happy with my senior year season, but I'm sad that it's my last year." Her partner and senior Emily Hamilton agreed and left the interview with the



Senior Laren Emrich turns and steps to hit a ball at the Micheals tournament during a doubles match against Bowling Green.

joking comment: "Ball is life."

Nothing makes a team more than the bond between the players. Junior and returning JV tennis player, Gaby Gutierrez shared her feelings about the

connection of the team. "I feel this year the JV girls (and varsity) have become very close, like family. We all have a lot of inside jokes. Shout out to my girl Kana, do that dance!"

Sectionals and Districts

took place in the first weeks of October and their against St. Joe on September 23rd at Roger Young Park, winning 3-2. With that coach Wolf concluded "We are going to finish this season on a high note!"

Tennis: Fremont Ross 3, Bowling Green 2

FREMONT — The Little Giants girls tennis team won 3-2 on Thursday over the Bobcats in nonconference play, and for the second time this week, it was Lauren Emerich who won in three sets to break a 2-2 tie.

Emerich also broke a 2-2 tie with the Trojans on Tuesday with a three-set win.

“Lauren has stepped up her game at just the right time heading into the league tournament,” said Ross tennis coach Lisa Wolfe.

Ross’ Taylor Paeth (No. 2 singles) and No. 2 doubles team of Emmie Moyer and Bailey Druckenmiller won in straight sets.

The Three Rivers Athletic Conference tournament starts at 9 a.m. Saturday at Toledo’s Jermain Park.

Tennis: Perkins 3, Ross 2

PERKINS TOWNSHIP — The Little Giants swept the doubles courts, but were unable to steal a win on the singles side, falling to the Pirates on Wednesday in a non-league match.

Lauren Emrich and Emily Hamilton were 7-6 (5), 5-7, 10-8 winners at first doubles for Ross (7-10), while Aubrey Fox and Taylor Paeth won 6-2, 6-2 at No. 2 doubles.

“We took this opportunity to play our sectional lineup and gave them the chance to practice at an unfamiliar position,” Little Giants coach Lisa Wolfe said. “The two doubles teams worked hard to get those wins. Perkins is a great program.”

Fremont Ross tennis edges Crimson Streaks

Emily Hamilton and Aubrey Fox (No. 1), and Emmie Moyer and Bailey Druckenmiller (No. 2) earned narrow victories at doubles as Fremont Ross topped St. Joseph Central Catholic 3-2 in the non-conference matchup Monday.

Lauren Emrich breezed to a shutout at No. 1 singles for the Little Giants.

Daniela Baez and Ashley Burns lost 6-4, 7-5 at No. 1 doubles while Kelsey Nevius and Lillian Cook fell 6-0 in the first set, but 7-6 (7-3) in the second. Tricia Reinhart (No. 2 singles) topped Taylor Paeth 7-5, 6-4 while Laura Baez beat Kelly Bondra 7-5, 7-5 at No. 3.