

2012 Season Review

HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL



Fremont Ross' Peighton Collier, 12, and Cassie Woelagel, 2, jump up to try to block a hit by Notre Dame's Morgan Fioritto, 3, Thursday in a Three Rivers Athletic Conference match at the Purple Pit. BRENDA SOULE/NEWS-MESSENGER CORRESPONDENT

Notre Dame overwhelms Ross

By Kevin Shields
Sports writer

FREMONT — Cassie Woelagel had five blocks, including two good ones that got Ross within five points of Notre Dame Academy in each of the first two games on Thursday.

But it was the Eagles' play at the net, particularly their hitting adjustments, that overwhelmed the Little Giants in a 25-16, 25-10, 25-10 Three Rivers Athletic Conference setback.

"What killed us was (Notre Dame) started tipping, and we didn't adjust well on defense," Ross coach Lyndsey Robinson said. "Other than that, we were fine. We dug very well. We got a lot of their hits up, and we were

also blocking well."

Woelagel finished with five blocks for the Little Giants (1-1, 0-1 TRAC). In the back, McKenzie Gallagher tallied 20 digs.

Ross got as close as 20-16 in Game 1 on a kill from Melanie Edris.

Molly Mosser's point gave the Little Giants a brief lead in Game 2, before the Eagles scored 11 of the next 15. A block from Woelagel and an attacking error got Ross within 13-9, but kills from Stefanie Comte, Nicole Sheehan and Morgan Fioritto and a block by Maddy Smyth highlighted a 11-1 run for Notre Dame to finish the game.

"Those long runs hurt," Robinson said. "I'm confident our serve-serve will get better as the year goes on. By the time we see

them in the tournament the second time around, I think we'll be fine."

Peighton Collier, Pam Michael, Allison Ackerman and Edris all had kills for the Little Giants in Game 3. Michael recorded a team-high four kills, Edris added three.

Ross was never closer than 7-4 in the final game.

"I couldn't be prouder of the girls," Robinson said. "Notre Dame is a very tough team and we hung in with them tough. The second game we could've pushed a little bit harder, but we'll work on that."

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FREMONT ROSS.....25-25
OAK HARBOR.....21-20

FREMONT ROSS25-25
TOLEDO SCOTT8-7

OAK HARBOR — Abbie Gezo had 8 assists and Hannah Waldron recorded 4 kills in the first match win over the Bulldogs Saturday. Lindsey Reau had 4 digs and teammate Maggie Zurvalec served 6 aces for the Rockets. Gezo racked up 10 assist to compliment her 9 digs in Oak Harbor's second match loss to the Little Giants. Katelyn Tice recorded also recorded 5 kills for the Rockets.

Melanie Edris had 12 kills, 8 digs, 10 assists and 14 points — including 6 aces — in both matches for Ross. Molly Mosser also recorded 21 assists and 2 aces for the Little Giants.

Next: Oak Harbor at Edison, Tuesday; Ross vs. Oregon Clay, Thursday.

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS
VOLLEYBALL

Ross can't hang with Elmwood

By Kevin Shields
Sports writer

JERRY CITY — Ross' Melanie Edris tallied 12 kills, including five in a dominating Game 3 win on Monday.

But as Little Giants coach Lyndsey Robinson said, it was her team's "flat-footed play," which resulted in Elmwood controlling the match in the first two games. The Royals then finished the job in Game 4 en route to a 25-12, 25-14, 17-25, 25-20 win in a non-league contest.

"I'm not sure what the girls were thinking those first two games," Robinson said. "That third game, they played harder. We had fewer errors and they were scrappy."

Kills from Cassie Woelagel, Molly Mosser, Pam Michael, Allison Ackerman and Edris helped Ross (3-3) to an 8-2 edge in Game 3 after the Royals had scored 12 of the final 16 points in Game 2.

Ackerman, a 5-foot-10-inch junior, added two more kills and a block for a 24-17 lead. She finished the match with 10 kills and 13 blocks.

"Allie was quick off her feet tonight," Robinson said. "Especially on blocks and attacks."

"And Mel (Edris) did a nice job in that third game of mixing up her shots," Robinson added. "She wasn't just swinging each time, she was tipping, too. She kept the defense moving and that's what we need to see all the time."

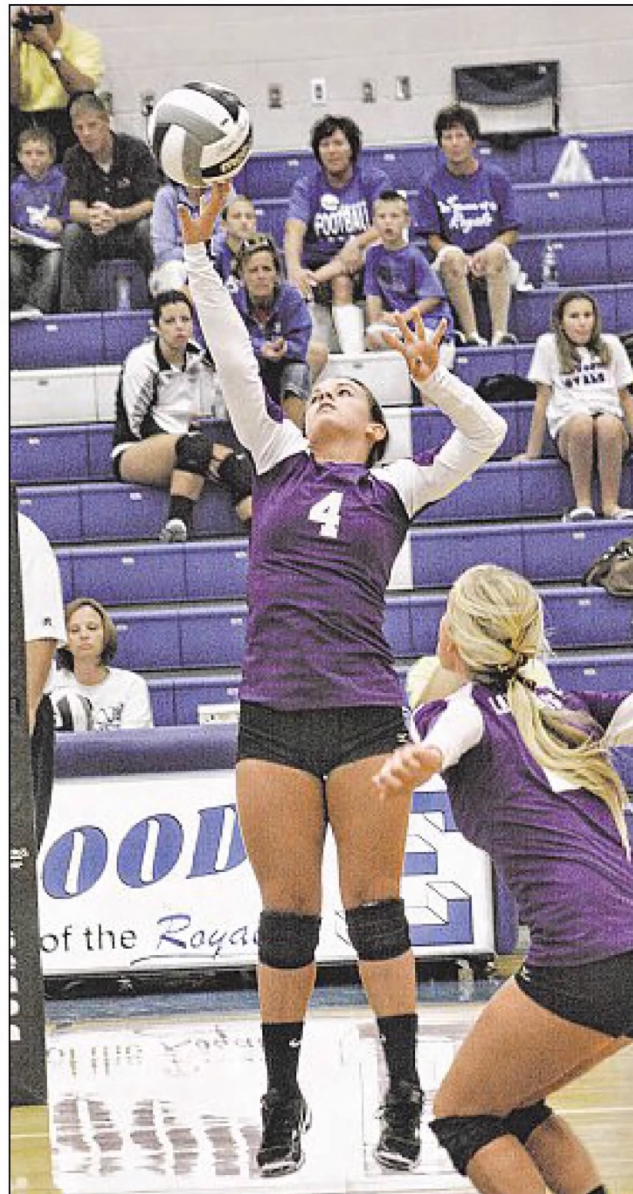
Ackerman's final block got the Little Giants within 16-15 in Game 4. Her kill, along with an ace from Michael got Ross to within 19-17 five points later.

But Elmwood (6-2) finished the game on 6-3 run, thanks in large part to big kills from Madison Arnold and Courtney Thompson. Arnold led all hitters with 15 kills and added 20 assists.

"You could tell she definitely held the momentum on the floor today," Royals coach Penny Rayle said. "We took her out in the third game, put her back in the fourth and we got the win."

Elmwood scored 12 of the final 13 points to win the opening game, which Ross led 3-1 early on a kill

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Molly Mosser, of Fremont Ross, tips the ball for a point against Elmwood on Monday in a non-league match. PHOTO BY DOUG HISE

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS: ROUNDUP

Ross, Start play to soccer tie

News-Messenger staff reports

Jordan Burns and Emily Bloom provided all the scoring for the Ross girls soccer team on Monday, as the Little Giants tied Toledo Start 3-3 in a non-league match at Alumni Fields.

Their efforts were supported by a good showing in net by goalkeeper Erin Slaughter.

"Erin made a really nice save on penalty kick," Ross coach Mindy Miller said. "And the de-

fense held off Start's offense, which minimized the shots on goal.

"The girls are making great strides and working together as a team."

Tennis Ross 4, Huron 1

Brenna Druckenmiller dropped a single game en route to a win (6-0, 6-1) at third singles as the

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Ross

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by Edris. Edris added 10 assists and 15 digs to her totals.

Picking up six blocks was Woleslagel, while Mosser recorded 12 assists. Mckenzie Gallagher tallied 25 digs.

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Volleyball

Ross 25-25-25,

Lima Senior 13-18-20

Allison Ackerman's seven blocks and five kills paced the Little Giants in a Monday TRAC match in Lima.

Melanie Edris recorded seven kills, nine assists, three aces and nine digs. Molly Mosser had five aces, six assists and 12 digs, while Mckenzie Gallagher picked up 17 digs. Cassie Woleslagel added three blocks.

Little Giants reach goal despite loss to St. Ursula

By Kevin Shields
Sports writer

FREMONT — Playing a state volleyball power, the Ross volleyball team approached Thursday's game against St. Ursula Academy with a goal: Score at least 10 points each game.

Not a lofty ambition, but a realistic one nonetheless. Thus, it was hard for coach Lyndsey Robinson to find negatives in the Little Giants 25-12, 25-12, 25-15 Three Rivers Athletic Conference loss inside the Purple Pit.

"We achieved our goal of scoring more, and the girls stayed positive the entire game," Robinson said. "We were able to work cross-shots and playing defense against those. We were able to work on deep-line corners.

"It was a good night and I can't complain even though we didn't win."

Melanie Edris tallied a kill to give Ross (5-7) a 1-0 lead in Game 3. Five points later, her kill and ace tied the game at four all.

Edris led the Little Giants with seven kills and added two blocks. Allison Ackerman had four kills and a pair of blocks, while Mckenzie Gallagher had 11 digs and Molly Mosser recorded eight assists.

"I thought (Ross) was very scrappy," Ar-

rows coach John Buck said. "They didn't give us points. They made us earn everything we got."

Maddie Burnham, a senior outside hitter, picked up a hard kill and Buck's other senior, Katie McKernan, had a nice tip for a point as part of a 4-0 run for St. Ursula (11-1, 4-0) to take an 8-4 lead.

"We're playing two freshmen and five sophomores, plus a good mix of juniors," Buck said. "I only have two seniors on the team, but they provide a lot of leadership for us."

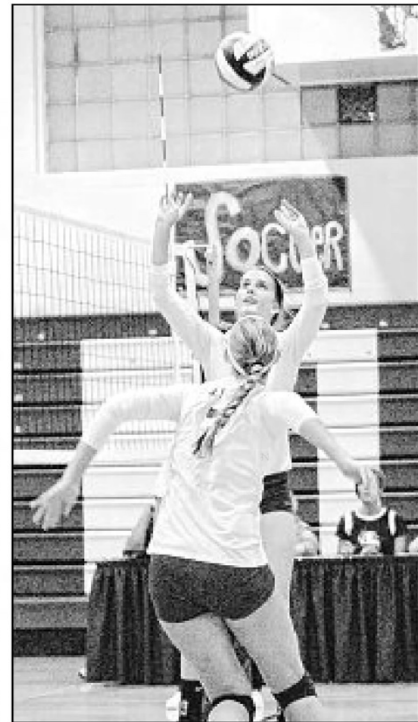
Ross cut it the lead to three twice in Game 3, once on a kill from the middle of the net by Ackerman to make it 9-6, the other came on an attack error that made it 10-7.

"(St. Ursula's) defense is just good," Robinson said. "We didn't have very many kills or aces. Their serve-receive is excellent."

Lacking size up front, Ross did a nice job of holding its own.

Cassie Woleslagel chipped in four blocks for the Little Giants' front.

"We had a lot of touches on the net, which was good to see," Robinson said. "The girls didn't talk as much as they could have, but other than that, they played well."



Melanie Edris sets the ball for Allison Ackerman during Thursday's game against St. Ursula. BRENDA SOULE/NEWS-MESSENGER CORRESPONDENT

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Goal

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St. Ursula, last year's Division state runner-up, knows all about success and maintaining a good program, something Buck sees as a possibility for Ross down the road.

"It was a nice crowd, and the boys were yelling," Buck said. "It's always exciting to see that and it's makes for a good envi-

ronment to play in.

"I definitely feel like they've improved from last year. The enthusiasm and the fight is there. They got something going here and that's how you build it up."

Lauren Graves and Lauren Daudelin each recorded nine kills, as did Burnham to lead the Arrows. Burnham added 17 assists, while McKernan had 15.

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Ross shuts down Lake

By Kevin Shields

Sports writer

FREMONT — Playing alongside the likes of Cassie Woleslagel and Allison Ackerman is nothing new to Ross outside hitter Melanie Edris.

The senior controlled the Little Giants' front line next to the two juniors a year ago. But, so far this season, Edris is noticing a little more assertive play from both.

Ackerman, at 5-foot-10, had seven kills and five blocks, while Woleslagel, 5-7, added seven kills and four blocks as Ross topped Lake 25-17, 25-17, 25-22 on Monday in non-league play at the Purple Pit.

"I think our two middles have definitely gotten more aggressive," said Edris of her two teammates. "They're swinging more, and they're blocking really well."

Edris, a second-team all-District 6 player as a junior, led the Little Giants (6-7) on Monday with 13 kills and nine assists. Her tip for a point gave Ross a 24-22 lead in Game 3, before the match ended on a ball hit out of bounds. The Flyers had battled back from an earlier 15-7 deficit.

"Lake was a scrappy team, and they kept fighting back,"

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Ross

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Little Giants coach Lyndsey Robinson said. "(The Flyers) worked hard, but my girls were working just as hard as they were.

"We were able to switch up our defense in the third game, so things were a little bit different for us, but it's something we needed to implement in a game. It got them out of their normal spots, yet they still fought back even when the circumstances were a little bit different."

Edris had two hard kills for a 4-2 advantage in Game 3. McKenzie Gallagher tallied an ace and Ackerman's swinging added two more points on kills as the Little Giants jumped out to an 8-3 lead. It climbed to eight thanks to kills from Ackerman, Woleslagel and Edris up front.

"All three of them were hitting really well," Robinson said. "And Molly Mosser was setting them up well, too."

Mosser contributed 17 assists. Gallagher picked up 16 digs.

Ross trailed much of the early portion of Game 1, before controlling the game's middle to late stages. Woleslagel picked up a kill and block on back-to-back points for a 16-12 advantage. Edris, later recorded two straight kills for a 19-14 edge as the Little Giants scored 11 of the final 16 points.

Game 2 went much the same, as Lake led 10-6, forcing Robin-

son to call a timeout. Fifteen points later, Ross led 17-13 with Ackerman, Edris and Woleslagel having a hand in seven of the Little Giants' 11 points in the run.

"We just came out and did our thing tonight," Edris said. "We've been working for the past week on a different type of defense. And tonight, we played that really well. And we've been playing up tips really well, too."

Monday's game was part of the Little Giants' Hitting To Heal "Kids Helping Kids" event.

Both teams wore special white and pink T-shirts, as did many in the stands, honoring Alexa's Butterflies of Hope for the Alexa Brown Foundation. All the events estimated \$1,234 proceeds will stay in the area and help with the costs incurred by the families of the children affected by the Clyde Cancer Cluster.

"We've done this for about three years now, and it's been great," Edris said. "We all know it's something we can do for the local community and it's for a really good cause."

The event raised over \$2,000 the previous two years.

"It's mostly done through the volleyball boosters," said Edris, of where the majority of the events' efforts comes from. "We get some help from the Leadership class here in school, but it's mostly through our parents and the boosters."

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ROUNDUP

Ross tops Fostoria

News-Messenger staff reports

Melanie Edris had 11 kills, nine assists and seven digs, while Cassie Woleslagel tallied seven kills and six blocks as the Ross volleyball team earned a 25-13, 25-8, 25-18 sweep of Fostoria on Wednesday.

Allison Ackerman added seven kills, four blocks and two aces for the Little Giants, Mckenzie Gallagher had 11 digs and Molly Mosser contributed 13 assists and five aces.

Volleyball

- » **Division I.**
- » **At Otsego.**
- » **Upper Bracket:** Bowling Green (5-14) vs. Ross (9-9), Oct. 16, 6 p.m.; Winner vs. Findlay (18-2), Oct. 20, 4 p.m. for title.
- » **Lower Bracket:** Perrysburg (15-4) vs. Anthony Wayne (13-5), Oct. 16, 6 p.m.; Winner vs. Springfield (14-6), Oct. 20, 5:30 p.m. for title.

Ross' Edris, Gallagher lead district choices

News-Messenger staff report

Melanie Edris and Mckenzie Gallagher of Ross were named to the first-team all-District 6 squad in Division I by the Volleyball Coaches Association.

Margaretta's Makayla Windau was first-team in Division III, while St. Joseph Central Catholic's Kristin Sessler was first-team in Division IV.

^N The Little Giants' Allison Ackerman, Molly Mosser and Cassie Woleslagel were all second-team selections in Division I.

Clyde's Missy Setzler was second-team and Hannah Wadsworth was voted to the third-team in Division II.

Bellevue's Amara Hemenway, Tara Rinner and Hannah Lilly were honorable mention selections in Division II, as was Oak Harbor's Abbie Gezoz.

The Polar Bears' Chey Morris was second-team in Division III, while Whitney Strause and Jessica Napka made the honorable mention squads.

SJCC's Amanda Binder was honorable mention in Division IV, as was Kristin Bender of Old Fort.