



News-Messenger/Bob Marker

Sectional tournaments begin

Fremont Ross's tennis team will be competing in the Class AAA Sectional Tournament beginning today in Toledo at Bowman Park. Members of the team which finished second in the Buckeye Conference Tournament last weekend, are, left to right, front row: Tom Herlihy, Tom Bowlus; second row: Ryan

Brant, Tom Denman, Brian Casselman, Curt Inks, Doug Peterson, Rodney Smith, Troy Laird; back row: Coach Pete Michaels, Chris Shirvis, Tom Myers, Brian Dierkschiede, Kurt Swartzlander, Jon Ickes, Andres Vernengo and John Battles.

The Ross and Clyde tennis teams each have one doubles team alive, but the St. Joe netters came away empty in sectional tournament action Friday.

At the Class AAA sectional at Bowman Park in Toledo, Ross aces Chris Shirvis and Jon Ickes teamed up to make it into today's semifinals.

After receiving a bye in the first round, the No. 3-seeded Little Giant tandem blanked Dan Garner and Terry Awls of Toledo Macomber 6-0, 6-0, and then overcame Ed Lee and Tom Abowd of Toledo St. Francis 6-0, 5-7, 6-2.

They will now play brothers Dave and Bruce Jacobs of Sylvania Southview, the No. 2-seeded team, today at 9 a.m., at Bowman Park, located behind Toledo Start High School on Tremainsville Road in Toledo.

Only the top three finishers will qualify for district, so if Shirvis and Ickes lose, they must come back and win in a consolation match with the other semifinal loser to continue on the tournament trail.

In the Class AAA sectional at Bowman Park in Toledo Saturday, the Ross's Shirvis-Ickes team lost both its matches in three sets after winning the first set each time.

In the semifinals, they lost 1-6, 6-3, 6-2 to brothers Bruce and David Jacobs of Sylvania Southview, and then in the match for the final qualifying berth to district, they lost 2-6, 6-2, 6-0 to Tim Keller and Jim Marlen, also of Sylvania Southview.

"I don't know what happened," said Ross Coach Pete Michaels. "We blew both teams off the court in the first set and then we couldn't buy a shot after that. I think our kids became a little too conservative, plus those other teams were good."

The Keller-Marlen team was top-seeded while the Jacobs brothers were second-seeded. Shirvis and Ickes were third-seeded.