

SWIMMING

Fremont coach: 'Holy cow, we've got a lot of new swimmers'

News-Messenger reports

There are a total of 58 swimmers out for Fremont Ross this year — and a lot of them are new faces.

"Holy cow, we've got a lot of new swimmers," said Ross swim coach Phil Moran.

Of the 25 girls out, Moran said that 10 were new swimmers. Of the 33 boys out, Moran said that seven are new swimmers. Some have club experience, but most don't.

"We're talking a lot of totally novice swimmers," Moran said. "We'll be a work in progress every week."

The Little Giants qualified nine swimmers to the state meet in Columbus last year. Courtney Gabel and Dexter Foos graduated, and Christy Meggitt opted to play basketball as a senior this year.

Otherwise, the Little Giants return state qualifiers Taylor Waggoner, Sammi Miller, Laura Duncan, Alex Hoffman, Luke Wilhelm and Keith Wasserman.

On the girls' side, returners include Ellen Silva, Amy Yuhas, Natasha Fisher, Alesha Overmyer, Danielle Minier and Devyn Swigart.

Megan Hawk and Emily Moyer are both freshmen, but Moran said they have a lot of club experience.

Returning swimmers on the boys side include Harry Dorobek, Jared Schuereen, Chris Yanes, Eric Yuhas, Bobby Carnicom, Brett Foos, Brandon Hoelzer, Collin Michael, Luke Kingsborough, Jacob Berryman, Adam Jenkins, Josh Eikin, Chris Hoffman, Scott Kosakowski, Graham Moore, Mason Sloma, Nate Otermat and Ty Wilson.

Newcomers include Japanese exchange student Yasuhiro Makise and freshmen Jose Gonzalez and Adam Rodd, who will try diving.

"They've got lots of talent," Moran said.

This is Ross's last year in the Greater Buckeye Con-

ference. Next year, they will join the Three Rivers Athletic Conference. The TRAC will include Northwest Ohio swim powers St. Francis, St. John's, St. Ursula's and Notre Dame Academy.

SJCC

Kevin Casey, in his sixth year as Crimson Streaks swim coach, is pleased with the growth of his program.

There are a total of 30 swimmers out for St. Joseph Central Catholic — an increase of 12 from last year. When Casey started coaching, there were a total of 10 swimmers out for the Streaks.

Among those back are seniors Leah Walters, Courtney Ebert, Samantha Kieffer, Robert Reineck, Alex Young and Adam Culbert; juniors Emily Ronski, Katie Stierwalt, Jackie Wasson, Erica Adams and Zeke Rodriguez; and sophomores Leah Binsack and Caroline Darr.

"I hope to get a few more swimmers to districts this season," Casey said.

OAK HARBOR

The Rockets qualified six girls to the state meet last season, but only have two returning state qualifiers in Marlee Carpenter and Danielle Franck.

"We look to them to get back to the state meet and do well this year," said Oak Harbor coach Andrea Sorg. "We also have a good crew of freshmen."

There are a total of 15 girls on the swim team, and eight district qualifiers.

Brielle Hanthorn and Olivia Porter each made their fourth trip to state. Porter finished third in the 50 freestyle at Division II districts at Bowling Green. She had the 18th best qualifying time. Hanthorn, Porter, Marlee Carpenter and Jenna Diekman were fifth in the 200 freestyle relay to qualify 15. Bethany Mc-

Nutt, Diekman, Danielle Franck and Carpenter were fifth in the 400 freestyle relay to qualify 17.

Carpenter, Hanthorn, Diekman and Porter then took 12th in the 200 free relay in Canton and 13th in the 400 free relay.

On the boys side, there are 17 swimmers and four divers out, with a total of five returning district qualifiers.

"I look to them to grow as the season progresses," Sorg said.

MARGARETTA

The Margareta swim teams will have a total of 49 swimmers out this season. Of those, 18 will be freshmen.

"I think we'll do pretty well," Margareta coach Joe Groskost said. "We have two very good freshmen classes coming up. We're expecting a good year."

There are a total of 26 girls on the swim team, and 17 returning letterwinners. The Polar Bears had four girls

qualify to districts last season — the three returning are sophomore Ashley Traczek, junior Rachel Patten and senior Sydney Craig — while Craig went to Canton for the third straight season.

Groskost has nine new freshmen girls he expects to make an immediate impact.

On the boys side, Margareta will be made up of 23 swimmers, and 19 returning letterwinners.

Returning seniors Zach Braun and Drew Balduff were among three returnees that were part of the district qualifying 200 freestyle relay squad, along with junior Joe Orshoski. Braun and Orshoski were also two of the four Polar Bear swimmers on the district qualifying 400 freestyle relay team.

Junior Tyler Beekman was 10th in the state in 1-meter diving as a sophomore.

Like the girls, Groskost will have nine new freshmen on the boys team.



Photos by Doug Hise | News-Messenger correspondent

Art Bucci is congratulated by Board of Education Vice President Marc Glotzbecker. For coverage of Tuesday's meet, see page 8.

Fremont Ross natatorium dedicated

BY KEVIN SHIELDS
Sports writer

FREMONT — As a swimmer at Fremont Ross, Hal Hawk served as Art Bucci's first captain when he took the helm of the Little Giants program in 1974.

More than three decades later, Hawk is once again linked to his old coach.

Hawk, president and CEO of Crown Battery in Fremont, saw the natatorium at Ross High School dedicated in his and his wife Diane's name along with Bucci — the current Ross athletic director — in a ceremony Tuesday before the Little Giants' season opener against

archrival Sandusky.

"It's amazing how things work out," said Hawk, who served as a Ross captain twice before swimming for four years at John Carroll University. "I never really envisioned this, nor did I set out for the recognition. I just wanted to bring the school a new facility."

The Hawks, along with the Fremont Area Foundation and key supporters Bill Beck, Lee Koenig and the late Dan Lease, led the swim and dive group fundraising and the construction of the new facility. In addition to the new natatorium, a wrestling room and seven new classrooms



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Hal and Diane Hawk, and Art and Lisa Bucci were honored.

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were built at a cost of about \$4.5 million.

Two months ago, an anonymous donor paid the final funds for the natatorium with the specific request that it be named in Hawk and Bucci's name.

"Sharing the title with Hal is a dream," Bucci said, who coached the Ross swim team from 1974 to 1985 before being hired as athletic director in 1986. "All of the honors and accolades I've received related to school have been because of the great people I've been associated with. And Hal and his family are definitely some of those people."

In his 11 seasons as a coach, Bucci was the Northwest Ohio coach of the year twice. In 1980, he was coach of the year for the Swim Coaches Association.

"It was fun swimming for Art, but he was very serious," Hawk said. "He taught you a lot about swimming and he also taught you how to be a good person."

During his tenure as athletic director, Bucci has been involved with the construction and completion of two softball diamonds, two baseball fields, a new track

and press box, a new soccer field, seven practice football fields, eight new tennis courts, a new football stadium, and the new natatorium, classroom and wrestling project.

"I need to thank all the people that made this project possible," Bucci said. "It wouldn't have been possible without Bill Beck, Lee Koenig and Dan Lease and our anonymous donor, who is no longer in town, but has been a strong supporter of the program for years.

"This facility speaks for itself, and I'm just excited to be a part of all those facilities."

Superintendent Traci McCaudy welcomed and introduced all in attendance before the dedication made by Marc Glotzbecker, vice president of the Fremont City School Board.

"As you can see, this honor is well deserved by all three of these individuals," Glotzbecker said.

After remarks by Jerri Miller of the Fremont Ross Swim Boosters, and the national anthem from Ross senior Meagan Eishen, the natatorium's name was unveiled in purple paint on the west side wall.

The Hawk-Bucci Natato-

rium's first meet saw the Little Giants sweep the Blue Streaks, winning 95-81 on the girls side and 122-61 on the boys.

Hawk — who has been a swim official for six years now — watched his daughter Megan, a freshman, take part in three winning relays and win the 100-yard freestyle.

"As a father it meant more to me seeing her compete today," Hawk said. "It was her first high school meet, and it's something she's been looking forward to for a long time."

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Doug Hise | News-Messenger correspondent

Alesha Overmeyer swims in the 100 yard butterfly Tuesday against Sandusky. Overmeyer was second in the event and the Little Giants swept Sandusky.

Ross opens pool in style

Hawk-Bucci Natatorium sees sweep of Sandusky

BY KEVIN SHIELDS
Sports writer

FREMONT — Alex Hoffman (200 freestyle, 500 freestyle) won two events and swam on two first-place relays as Fremont Ross's boys defeated archrival Sandusky 122-61 on Tuesday.

It was the inaugural meet for the Hawk-Bucci Natatorium that was dedicated prior to the meet. The facility was formerly known as the Ross High School Natatorium.

"It was a great meet to start off the Hawk-Bucci Natatorium," Hoffman said. "It's the best high school facility I've ever swam in. I'm very grateful to all the donors, all the volunteers and parents that help out. It's an amazing pool and it wouldn't run without those people."

Hoffman swam a winning time of 1:53.29 to beat teammate Keith Wasserman (1:56.94) in the 200 freestyle. He then beat out the Little Giants' Eric Yuhas in the 500 freestyle as they swam times of 5:16.28 and 5:18.02 respectively.

Hoffman, Wasserman, Luke

Wilhelm and Scott Kosakowski won the 200 freestyle relay (1:37.37). Hoffman, Wasserman, Yuhas and Wilhelm took the 400 freestyle relay.

Last season, Hoffman went to the state meet with Wasserman, Wilhelm and current Eastern Michigan University swimmer Dexter Foes. Though the 200 free relay failed to make the top 16, the 400 free relay group took 13th, swimming a personal-best time of 3:15.90 in the final.

Currently Hoffman is the anchor for both, with Wasserman serving as the lead. A year ago he was the lead with Foes closing.

"I'm happy with the order we have now," Hoffman said. "Things can always change between now and the end of the year, but it looks like we have a solid order right now for the relays. Those were good times we had."

Wasserman won the 100 freestyle (51.23) and Yuhas won the 200 individual medley (2:10.46).

Ross also got firsts from

Graham Moor (100 butterfly) and Brett Foes (1-meter diving).

"It's awesome to start the year with a win, especially against a team like Sandusky with a lot of prestige," Hoffman said. "We did what we had to do and it was a lot of great times to start the season."

Sammi Miller (100 butterfly), Laura Duncan (200 freestyle), Megan Hawk (100 freestyle) and Taylor Waggoner (500 freestyle) each won one event and swam on three first-place relays as Ross's girls completed the sweep with a 95-81 win.

"All the hard work we've been doing the past week paid off and we can finally see where we're at," Miller said. "And for our first meet, I thought both the guys and girls did really good."

Miller, who went to state for the 100 freestyle and as a member of the 200 freestyle relay with Waggoner, won the 100 butterfly in a time of 1:03.29. She beat out teammate Alesha Overmeyer, who swam a 1:08.68.

Miller, Duncan, Hawk, Waggoner won the 200 medley relay in a time of 1:54.25. They

also won the 200 freestyle relay in a time of 1:42.80 and 400 freestyle relay in a time of 3:48.77.

"We all worked good as a team tonight," Miller said. "All the relays did good overall."

Hawk, a freshman, was one of the middle legs for each of the relays and won the 100 freestyle in a time of 57.33 seconds.

"We have a lot of new girls and they're doing really good," Miller said. "It's going to be exciting to see how they improve throughout the year."

Waggoner took the 500 freestyle in a time of 5:32.99, while Duncan won the 200 freestyle with a swim of 2:08.16.

The girls also got runner-up finishes from Danielle Minier (200 individual medley), Ellen Silva (50 freestyle) and Holly Phillips (100 backstroke).

"It should be a good season," Miller said. "I'm excited to see how we progress and do at districts at the end of the year."

E-mail Kevin Shields at kshields@gannett.com.

Boys Results

FREMONT ROSS 122, SANDUSKY 61

■ **Site:** Fremont Ross High School

Natatorium, Fremont.

■ **200 medley relay:** 1. Stauffer, Cremean, White, Waddington (SAN) 1:50.70; 2. Dorobek, Yuhas, Moor, Carnicom (FR) 1:52.10; 3. Hoffman, Michael, Yanes, Hoelzer (FR) 2:00.51.

■ **200 free:** 1. Alex Hoffman (FR) 1:53.29; 2. Keith Wasserman (FR) 1:56.94; 3. Scott Kosakowski (FR) 2:00.54.

■ **200 IM:** 1. Eric Yuhas (FR) 2:10.46; 3. Graham Moor (FR) 2:21.90; 4. Luke Wilhelm (FR) 2:25.79.

■ **50 free:** 1. Eric Bondarenko (SAN) 23.62; 2. Bobby Carnicom (FR) 25.0; 3. Brandon Hoelzer (FR) 25.67; 4. Jacob Berryman (FR) 27.78.

■ **1M diving:** 1. Brett Foos (FR) 156.10; 2. Jared Schueren (FR) 150.15; 3. Adam Rodd (FR) 142.85.

■ **100 butterfly:** 1. Graham Moor (FR) 56.89; 3. Christopher Hoffman (FR) 1:08.40; 4. Harry Dorobek (FR) 1:08.91.

■ **100 free:** 1. Keith Wasserman (FR) 51.23; 4. Luke Wilhelm (FR) 55.70; 6. Troy Burrows (FR) 1:09.92.

■ **500 free:** 1. Alex Hoffman (FR) 5:16.28; 2. Eric Yuhas (FR) 5:18.02; 3. Scott Kosakowski (FR) 5:27.38.

■ **200 free relay:** 1. Wasserman, Wilhelm, Kosakowski, A. Hoffman (FR) 1:37.37; 2. C. Hoffman, Berryman, Hoelzer, Yanes (FR) 1:44.86.

■ **100 backstroke:** 1. Jack Stauffer (SAN) 1:01.55; 2. Harry Dorobek (FR) 1:06.15; 3. Luke Kingsborough (FR) 1:12.53; 4. Christopher Hoffman (FR) 1:13.39.

■ **100 breaststroke:** 1. Brock Cremean (SAN) 1:13.14; 2. Collin Michael (FR) 1:18.41; 3. Mason Sloma (FR) 1:21.18; 7. Michael Hall (FR) 1:47.10.

■ **400 free relay:** 1. Wasserman, Wilhelm, Yuhas, A. Hoffman (FR) 3:31.63; 3. Kosakowski, Moor, Yanes, Dorobek (FR) 3:42.16.

Girls Results

FREMONT ROSS 95, SANDUSKY 81

■ **Site:** Fremont Ross High School

Natatorium, Fremont.

■ **200 medley relay:** 1. Waggoner, Duncan, Hawk, Miller (FR) 1:54.25; 3. Swigart, Minier, Overmyer, Silva (FR) 2:03.79.

■ **200 free:** 1. Laura Duncan (FR) 2:08.16; 4. Holly Phillips (FR) 2:18.99; 5. Amy Yuhas 2:20.38.

■ **200 IM:** 1. Taylor Vargo (SAN) 2:14.06; 2. Danielle Minier (FR) 2:31.79; 4. Devyn Swigart (FR) 2:41.02.

■ **50 free:** 1. Ashley Ahlers (SAN) 26.01; 2. Ellen Silva (FR) 26.96; 4. Emily Moyer (FR) 27.59; 5. McKenna Willis (FR) 31.12.

■ **100 butterfly:** 1. Sammi Miller (FR) 1:03.29; 2. Alesha Overmyer (FR) 1:08.68.

■ **100 free:** 1. Megan Hawk (FR) 57.33; 4. Emily Moyer (FR) 1:03.69; 6. Alesha Overmyer (FR) 1:04.67.

■ **500 free:** 1. Taylor Waggoner (FR) 5:32.99; 3. Amy Yuhas (FR) 6:10.64; 4. Natasha Fisher (FR) 6:23.27.

■ **200 free relay:** 1. Miller, Hawk, Duncan, Waggoner (FR) 1:42.80; 3. Overmyer, Minier, Moyer, Silva (FR) 1:49.78.

■ **100 backstroke:** 1. Sarah Miller (SAN) 1:09.13; 2. Holly Phillips (FR) 1:11.93; 3. Devyn Swigart (FR) 1:12.48; 4. Ellen Silva (FR) 1:16.41.

■ **100 breaststroke:** 1. Taylor Vargo (SAN) 1:09.32; 3. Danielle Minier (FR) 1:16.38; 4. Natasha Fisher (FR) 1:28.29; 6. McKenna Willis (FR) 1:44.56.

■ **400 free relay:** 1. Miller, Hawk, Duncan, Waggoner (FR) 3:48.77; 3. Swigart, Yuhas, Moyer, Phillips (FR) 4:15.88.

HIGH SCHOOL SWIMMING



Jonathon Bird | News-Messenger

Fremont Ross' Harry Dorobek competes in the boys 500-yard freestyle during a swim meet at Port Clinton high School on Tuesday.

Fremont girls put in solid performance

Little Giants split relays; Waggoner wins 100 backstroke

BY KEVIN SHIELDS
Sports writer

PORT CLINTON — The Fremont Ross girls didn't waste any time making some noise in Tuesday night's swim dual with Port Clinton and Oak Harbor.

In fact it took just one event.

That's because the 200-yard medley relay team of Taylor Waggoner, Sammi Miller, Laura Duncan and Megan Hawk swam their way to a new pool-record time of 1:54.16, as the Little Giants split with the Rockets and Redskins, topping Oak Harbor 110-66 and falling

to Port Clinton 106-77.

"We were going for it," said Waggoner. "When we saw we got it, we were really excited."

For the Ross senior, it was one of two wins on the night, as she also captured in the 100 backstroke in 1:03.48. She then was second in to Port Clinton's Allie Reynolds in the 100-yard freestyle and was part of the 400-yard freestyle relay team that also consisted of Miller, Duncan and Hawk that was runner-up to the Redskins.

"I didn't play volleyball this year, I just swam in the fall," Waggoner said. "A lot of girls did

that too, though, and I think that's why we're doing so good."

Miller was second in the 100-yard butterfly and third in the 100 backstroke. Duncan took a pair of third-place finishes in the 100-yard butterfly and 200 freestyle, while Hawk was second in the 500-yard freestyle and fifth in the 100-yard breaststroke.

Finishing third in the 50-yard freestyle was Ellen Silva, who was also fifth in the 100 butterfly. Danielle Minier had two top-five finishes in the 200-yard IM and the 100-yard breaststroke.

It was another solid performance from a squad that

finished ninth of 39 teams scoring points at this past weekend's Ned Reeb Memorial Invitational at Ohio State.

"Everyone did real well down there," Waggoner said. "We posted fast times and had good finishes. But even the girls that didn't go are doing well."

"I think we're going to have a really good team this year."

In the other girls' dual, Oak Harbor was topped by the Redskins 125-60.

The Rockets' top performance from the girls came from

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Freshman leads Ross past Lima, Marion

BY KEVIN SHIELDS
Sports writer

FREMONT — Megan Hawk may share the same name of that of a bird that hunts its prey from the air.

But the Fremont Ross freshman has been doing most of her damage from the water. And the eyes of this Hawk have been firmly set on dropping swim times and helping her teammates make victims out of their competition.

Hawk won the 200-yard individual medley and the 100 butterfly Tuesday afternoon as the Little Giant girls swept two Greater Buckeye Conference duals meets at the Hawk-Bucci Natatorium. Ross topped Lima Senior 131-39 and defeated Marion Harding 132-34.

Hawk was also part of Ross's winning 200 medley relay team (2:01.07) with Holly Phillips, Danielle Minier and Sammi Miller, while her 200 freestyle relay group of herself, Taylor Waggoner, Emily Moyer and Zenaida Frew took second. As a whole, the Little Giants finished one-two in all six relay events with them getting first through third in four.

"We're swimming pretty good,

considering we've been doing a lot of yards in practice lately," said Hawk. "It really hasn't affected us as much as we thought it might."

Even with the tired arms and legs, Hawk swam a winning time of 2:26.95 in the 200 IM, a race she's not totally familiar with.

"I hadn't swam that race in awhile," Hawk said. "And doing it again after I've grown and put on more muscle really helped."

Her time of 1:08.92 in the 100 butterfly then was nearly two seconds faster than that of Moyer's who took second.

Other winners for the Little Giants were Devyn Swigart (200 freestyle), Ellen Silva (50 freestyle), Laura Duncan (500 freestyle), Phillips (100 backstroke) and Waggoner (100 breaststroke). Moyer, Miller, Duncan and Frew won the 400 free relay. Silva, Swigart, Minier and Duncan took top honors in the 200 free relay.

"Swimming with these girls has been really fun," Hawk said. "I've been swimming with a lot of them since I was younger."

Unlike other Ross swimmers, though, Hawk's situation is a little different. Not only does she swim in a facility now named after her father, Hal Hawk, but

she also has to deal with having her dad be an official.

"It was pretty weird at the beginning, but now I'm getting use to it," the younger Hawk said. "He's still yet to disqualify me, so that's good."

On the opposite side, the Ross boys remained unbeaten in duals competition as they also swept Lima Senior and Harding, defeating the Spartans 139-44 and the Presidents 131-45.

Winning individual events and swimming on winning relays for the Little Giants were Eric Yugas, Graham Moor, Bobby Carnicom, Scott Kosakowski and Keith Wasserman. Yugas took first in the 100 backstroke (1:01.71), with Moor winning the 100 breaststroke (1:14.95), Carnicom the 200 freestyle (2:07.27), Kosakowski the 500 freestyle (5:19.95) and Wasserman the 200 IM.

For Wasserman, who swam in both the first-place 200 and 400 free relays, it was good to see some positives. Last season as a sophomore, he qualified to the state meet in Canton and has been expected to be one of coach Phil Moran's top guys.

"So far it's been a rough year,"

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said Wasserman. "Some events I've been doing good in, and then I haven't been doing so hot in others.

"I'm hoping by the end of the year I'll be doing a lot better."

Fatigue is Wasserman's biggest opponent, as he comes to all the swim practices and doesn't get much off time. Meanwhile, a guy like Carnicom is battling the challenge of height.

"I sink down in the water so I have more drag than the smaller guys," said Carnicom. "But then on the flip side, I have the

size and reach to get more power in my strokes and kicks."

The junior however, has been seeing his top results. He swam on the winning the 200 medley and 200 freestyle relays.

"I've been doing really well," Carnicom said. "Last year wasn't a good year for me and to swim the times I did today with all the yards in practice this week, I'm pretty happy."

Luke Wilhelm won the 100 butterfly (1:04.53) and Brett Foos was first in 1-meter diving for Ross.

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Swimming

Girls Results

FREMONT ROSS 132, MARION HARDING 34

FREMONT ROSS 131, LIMA SR. 39

■ **Site:** Ross HS Natatorium, Fremont.

■ **200 medley relay:** 1, Holly Phillips, Danielle Minier, Megan Hawk, Sammi Miller (FRE A) 2:01.07; 2, Devyn Swigart, Alesha Overmyer, Ellen Silva, Taylor Waggoner (FRE B) 2:03.61.

■ **200 free:** 1, Swigart 2:17.04; Amy Yuhas 2:21.26; 5, Sarah Wylie 2:40.31.

■ **200 IM:** 1, Hawk 2:26.95; 2, Overmyer 2:32.22; 3, Natasha Fisher 2:51.13.

■ **50 free:** 1, Silva 27.44; 3, Emily Moyer 28.62; 5, Zenaida Frew 30.31.

■ **100 butterfly:** 1, Hawk 1:08.92; 2, Moyer 1:10.41; 3, Phillips 1:10.79.

■ **100 free:** 2, Silva 1:02.32; 6, Wylie 1:16.67.

■ **500 free:** 1, Laura Duncan 5:48.09; 2, Yuhas 6:15.73; 3, Fisher 6:34.02.

■ **200 free relay:** 1, Silva, Swigart, Minier, Duncan (FRE A) 1:49.90; 2, Waggoner, Moyer, Frew, Hawk (FRE C) 1:50.47..

■ **100 backstroke:** 1, Phillips 1:09.29; 2, Miller 1:11.45; 3, Minier 1:14.50.

■ **100 breaststroke:** 1, Waggoner 1:14.83; 2, Overmyer 1:19.32; 3, Swigart 1:21.82.

■ **400 free relay:** 1, Moyer, Miller, Duncan, Frew (FRE B) 4:08.64; Yuhas, Waggoner, Minier, Fisher (FRE A) 4:15.04.

Boys Results

FREMONT ROSS 131, MARION HARDING 45

FREMONT ROSS 139, LIMA SENIOR 44

■ **Site:** Ross HS Natatorium, Fremont.

■ **200 medley relay:** 1, Eric Yuhas, Michael Collin, Graham Moor, Bobby Carnicom (FRE A) 1:53.39; 2, Scott Kosakowski, Alex Hoffman, Keith Wasserman, Luke Wilhelm (FRE B) 1:54.03.

■ **200 free:** 1, Carnicom 2:07.27; 5, Chris Loose 2:38.79; 6, Ty Wilson 2:43.44.

■ **200 IM:** 1, Wasserman 2:13.76; 4, Luke Kingsborough 2:44.24.

■ **50 free:** 1, Chris Yanes 25:01; 3, Harry Dorobek 25.57; 4, Joshua Eakin 27.32.

■ **1M diving:** 1, Brett Foes 163.10; 2, Jared Schueren 151.70; 3, Adam Rodd 147.50.

■ **100 butterfly:** 1, Wilhelm 1:04.53; 3, Christopher Hoffman 1:07.65.

■ **100 free:** 2, Eakin 1:01.56; 3, Nate Otermat 1:06.79; 6, Adam Jenkins 1:14.27.

■ **500 free:** 1, Kosakowski 5:19.95; 2, Kingsborough 6:42.98; 3, Lorenzo Zamora 7:06.30.

■ **200 free relay:** 1, Wasserman, Carnicom, Moor, Michael (FRE B) 1:41.98; 2, A. Hoffman, Brandon Hoelzer, Dorobek, Kingsborough (FRE A) 1:44.03.

■ **100 backstroke:** 1, Yuhas 1:01.71; 2, A. Hoffman 1:01.98; 5, Michael 1:17.46.

■ **100 breaststroke:** 1, Moor 1:14.95; 2, Hoelzer 1:20.95; 7, Berryman 1:36.02.

■ **400 free relay:** 1, Wasserman, Kosakowski, Moor, Berryman (FRE B) 3:47.29; 2, A. Hoffman, Carnicom, Yanes, Hoelzer (FRE A) 3:51.41.

Woodmore 59, Gibsonburg 47

Woodmore got a game-high 18 points from Bryan Kuhlman en route to its Suburban Lakes League win at Gibsonburg Thursday — also taking with it the first installment of the eastern Sandusky county rivalry.

Chipping in 12 and 10 points respectively for the Wildcats were Donny Bowen and Cody Croll.

Logan Jones' 15 points paced the Golden Bears who also got 14 points from Gage Beaber and 10 from Dylan Dorfmeier.

BOYS SWIMMING

Ross 99, Findlay 87

Alex Hoffman earned a pair of first-place finishes in the 200-yard freestyle (1:51.35) and the 100 freestyle (49.93) Tuesday as Fremont Ross topped its Greater Buckeye Conference rival Findlay in a dual at the Hawk-Bucci Natatorium.

Keith Wasserman added a victory in the 200 individual medley (2:12.44) for the Little Giants only other win. The Trojans won nine of the 12 events, including all three relays.

But it was Ross' ability to score points in each event that pro-

pelled it to the front. Picking up second place finishes for the Little Giants were Eric Yuhas (200 IM), Luke Wilhelm (50 free), Jared Schueren (1-meter diving), Graham Moor (100 butterfly), Wasserman (100 free), Scott Kosakowski (500 free), Harry Dorobek (100 backstroke) and Collin Michael (100 breaststroke).

GIRLS SWIMMING

Ross 94, Findlay 89

Thanks to four first-place swims from Taylor Waggoner and Sammi Miller, the Fremont Ross girls completed the sweep of Findlay Tuesday as the Little Giants took eight of the 12 events.

Waggoner paired with Laura Duncan, Miller and Megan Hawk to win the 200 medley (1:55.31) and the 400 freestyle relays (3:47.81). She added victories in the 200 IM (2:18.11) and the 100 butterfly (1:00.25).

Duncan took first in the 100 breaststroke (1:10.59), while Miller was first in the 50 free (25.18) and 100 free (56.05).

Holly Phillips was Ross's other winner in the 100 backstroke (1:07.70).

Freshman diver Bethany Glick set a pool record for the Trojans in

the diving competition with 236.65 points.

SWIMMING

Rockets' Wiegand in on three event wins

Ayron Wiegand won the 50-yard freestyle (25.21 seconds) and 100 freestyle (55.97) and swam on two first-place relays for Oak Harbor in a meet with Anthony Wayne and Perrysburg.

Wiegand, Ian Rhoades, Michael Cervantes and Tyler Schmidt won the 400 freestyle relay (3:52.32) while Wiegand, Schmidt, Rhoades and Eli Boldt took the 200 freestyle relay (1:44.93).

Cervantes, Boldt, Zach Seaman and Michael LaFountain won the 200 medley relay (2:04.50). Rhoades took the 200 freestyle (2:04.94). Devon Griffin the 1-meter diving competition (155.15 points) and Cervantes the 100 breaststroke (1:10.35).

Allie Dombrowsky won the 50 freestyle (27.44) for Oak Harbor's girls. Danielle Franck took the 100 breaststroke (1:13.26), and Dombrowsky, Franck, Kaylie Hallett-Szymanski and Marlee Carpenter won the 400 freestyle relay (4:03.52).

SWIMMING

FREMONT ROSS

Giants excel individually, can't win meet

BY KEVIN SHIELDS
Sports writer

FREMONT — For nearly all 100 yards of Tuesday night's 100-yard freestyle, Ross' Taylor Waggoner and Notre Dame Academy's Ali Sellick could almost look into each other's eyes.

They were neck and neck in lanes 5 and 6 for the entire distance of the football field distance they were swimming. Waggoner would get ahead for brief periods, but Sellick would always find a way to catch her. And it was that way all the way up until they finally touched the wall.

In the end, the clock read 56.00 seconds for the Little Giants' senior and 56.02 for Sellick.

"I saw her over there, and I thought she had me," said Waggoner. "But somehow I got into the wall a little quicker. I knew I had to dive in on that last stroke."

The win was closest of four total for Waggoner on the evening, but it wasn't enough as Ross fell to the visiting Eagles 89-79 on Senior Night at the Hawk-Bucci Natatorium.

"Just to be even close to Notre Dame, being that we had no divers, is a great accomplishment for us," Waggoner said. "They've won districts the past two years, and we've been swimming a lot of yards lately. But everyone is swimming really fast times for how tired we are."

Waggoner swam the opening leg of the winning 200 medley relay (1:54.41) that also boasted Ross' Laura Duncan, Megan Hawk and Sammi Miller. The same four won the 200 freestyle relay (1:42.06).

"I think we're a little faster in the 200 medley than we were last year," Waggoner said. "Right now that's our most solid of the relay events."

Last week at Napoleon, the 200 medley relay won the Greater Buckeye Conference title. Waggoner, Duncan, Miller and the graduated Courtney Gabel qualified to state in the event last season.

Miller won the 200 individual medley Tuesday, touching the wall at 2:21.33. Duncan took first in the 100 butterfly (1:01.86).

Earning second-place finishes were Duncan in the 200 free, Hawk in the 50 free and Danielle Minier in the 100 breaststroke.

Joining Waggoner with four victories on the night was fellow senior Alex Hoffman.

Hoffman won the 200 (1:50.20) and 100 free (49.43) before teaming with Keith Wasserman, Luke Wilhelm and Eric Yuhas to win the 200 (1:34.47) and 400 (3:28.13) free relays.

The Ross boys won six total events in losing 96-81 to St. John's Jesuit.

"We knew we were going to have our hands full," said Little Giants coach Phil Moran. "But I'm pretty happy we held them under

SWIMMING FROM 6

100. That's pretty good for us." ❧

Hoffman would agree with his coach.

"It's tough to score against big teams like that," said Hoffman. "But our team swam really well tonight. We pushed each other and swam great times."

Yuhas, a senior, was another four-event winner for Ross, earning top spots in the 100 butterfly (56.37) and 200 IM (2:08.42). He swam the third leg of the 200 free relay second leg of the 400 free relay. Hoffman anchored both swimming splits of 22.78 and 49.82 seconds respectively.

"I'm really happy with where those relays are right now," said Hoffman, who won the GBC title in the 200 free this past weekend. "We've had the same relays since the beginning of the season, so things have really been flowing well."

Both relays, featuring Hoffman, Wilhelm, Wasserman and current Eastern Michigan swimmer Dexter Foos, made it to the state finals in Canton last year.

"We're about where we normally are at this time," Moran said. "These are just stepping stones right now. We don't put a lot of emphasis on the league championship meet. It's too late in the season to do that and taper well."

In the diving portion of the meet, Ross senior Jared Schueren earned second-place with a combined score of 179.15. Other runner-up finishes tallied by the Little Giants included Wilhelm's second-place effort in the 50 free.

Wasserman was third in the 200 free, Brandon Hoelzer was third in the 50 free and Graham Moor took third in the 100 butterfly.

Ross will host the Dan Lease-Little Giant Invitational Friday and Saturday. Diving will start at 4:45 p.m. Friday and the swim portion will take place Saturday starting at 9 a.m.

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Swimming

Girls

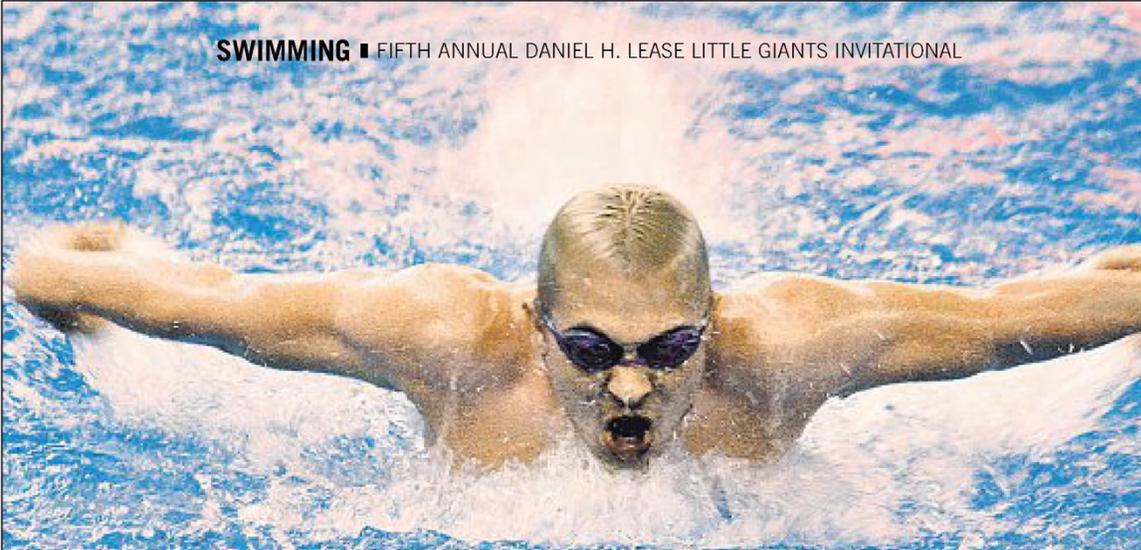
NOTRE DAME ACADEMY 89, FREMONT ROSS 79

- **Site:** Hawk-Bucci Natatorium, Fremont.
- **200 medley relay:** 1, Taylor Waggoner, Laura Duncan, Megan Hawk, Sammi Miller (FR A) 1:54.41; 3, Holly Phillips, Danielle Minier, Emily Moyer, Devyn Swigart (FR B) 2:02.36; .
- **200 free:** 2, Duncan 2:03.59; 5, Amy Yuhas 2:20.66; 6, Zenaida Frew 2:33.28.
- **200 IM:** 1, Miller 2:21.33; 3, Phillips 2:29.89; 5, Swigart 2:33.27.
- **50 free:** 2, Hawk 26.28; 3, Alesha Overmyer 27.16; 5, Ellen Silva 27.50.
- **100 butterfly:** 1, Duncan 1:01.86; 3, Overmyer 1:07.70; 5, Moyer 1:11.40.
- **100 free:** 1, Waggoner 56.00; 3, Swigart 1:00.99; 6, Silva 1:03.23.
- **500 free:** 3, Hawk 5:49.89; 5, Yuhas 6:02.14.
- **200 free relay:** 1, Miller, Duncan, Waggoner, Hawk (FR A) 1:42.06; 3, Overmyer, Swigart, Moyer, Silva (FR B) 1:49.57.
- **100 backstroke:** 1, Waggoner 1:04.63; 3, Phillips 1:05.77; 5, Miller 1:09.03.
- **100 breaststroke:** 2, Minier 1:17.69; 4, Fisher 1:24.48; 6, McKenna Willis 1:37.09.
- **400 free relay:** 2, Overmyer, Phillips, Silva, Minier (FR A) 4:04.68; 4, Frew, Yuhas, Fisher, Willis (FR C) 4:33.20. N

Boys

ST. JOHN'S JESUIT 96, FREMONT ROSS 79

- **Site:** Hawk-Bucci Natatorium, Fremont.
- **200 medley relay:** 3, Harry Dorobek, Collin Michael, Graham Moor, Chris Yanes (FR A) 1:52.38; 4, Luke Kingsborough, Joshua Eakin, Scott Kosakowski, Bobby Carnicom (FR B) 2:00.97.
- **200 free:** 1, Alex Hoffman 1:50.20; 3, Keith Wasserman 1:54.52; 6, Yanes 2:02.81.
- **200 IM:** 1, Eric Yuhas 2:08.42; 4, Moor 2:15.36; 6, Kosakowski 2:19.82.
- **50 free:** 2, Luke Wilhelm 24.09; 3, Brandon Hoelzer 24.77; 5, Carnicom 25.15.
- **1M diving:** 2, Jared Schueren 179.15; 3, Brett Foos 174.50.
- **100 butterfly:** 1, Yuhas 56.37; 3, Moor 58.21; 6, Kosakowski 1:05.53.
- **100 free:** 1, Hoffman 49.43; 4, Carnicom 55.66; 6, Jacob Berryman 1:02.22.
- **500 free:** 3, Wasserman 5:23.07; 4, Yanes 5:29.62; 5, Wilhelm 5:34.09.
- **200 free relay:** 1, Wasserman, Wilhelm, Yuhas, Hoffman (FR A) 1:34.47; 4, Carnicom, Hoelzer, Hoffman, Berryman (FR B) 1:42.62.
- **100 backstroke:** 2, Dorobek 1:03.13; 4, Hoffman 1:09.54; 5, Kingsborough 1:10.18.
- **100 breaststroke:** 4, Michael 1:16.47; 5, TJ Harkness 1:17.07; 6, Eakin 1:17.15.
- **400 free relay:** 1, Wasserman, Yuhas, Wilhelm, Hoffman (FR A) 3:28.13; 3, Yanes, Moor, Kosakowski, Dorobek (FR B) 3:42.22.



DOUG HISE/NEWS MESSENGER CORRESPONDENT
 Ross's Alex Hoffman swims in the 100 yard butterfly at the Fifth Annual Daniel H. Lease Little Giant Invitational

Ross swimmers excel

Girls second, boys third in Little Giants Invitational

BY MATTHEW HORN
 Sports writer

Taylor Waggoner won the A-final of the 100 backstroke at 1 minute, 3.30 seconds and was part of two first-place relays as Fremont Ross's girls swim team was edged for the team title at the Fifth Annual Daniel H. Lease Little Giants Invitational on Saturday.

The Little Giants had 527 points to 530.5 for Port Clinton.

Bobby Carnicom, Brandon Hoelzer, Scott Kosakowski and Chris Yanes won the B-final of the 200 freestyle relay at 1:39.16 as Ross's boys were third at 447. Toledo St. Francis DeSales won the boys portion at 999.

St. Joseph Central Catholic's boys were 13th and the girls were 18th.

Waggoner, Laura Duncan, Sammi Miller and Megan Hawk won the A-final of the 200 medley relay at 1:53.03. Miller, Hawk, Duncan and Waggoner won the A-final of the 200 freestyle relay at 1:41.36.

"I was really happy with the medley and 200 free relays," Waggoner said. "We all went

"It was a good meet. We have a strong group of girls. They've been strong all season."

PHIL MORAN
 Fremont Ross swim coach

our fastest split — or close to it. For where we are in the season those are our best splits.

"I'm really happy where everybody is at. We're a lot faster at this time of year than last year. This year at districts we're all going to do well. I just feel it."

Alesha Overmyer won the B-final of the 100 butterfly at 1:08.11 while Natasha Fisher took the B-final of the 500 freestyle at 6:09.44 for Ross.

"It was a good meet," Ross coach Phil Moran said. "We have a strong group of girls. They've been strong all season."

Several Little Giants swimmers were at less than 100 percent because of illness but Moran was pleased with his underclassmen.

"Our younger kids are continuing to improve," he said.

"It was a good meet for the younger kids. We had some impressive times with the older kids who were sick.

"They're beaten down. That's always the case this time of year. They're showing fatigue."

Waggoner said this season's group has improved on its consistency.

"Last year as a team I was confident. But this year we have girls PRing all the time and girls swimming close to district times," Waggoner said.

SJCC's Emily Ronski, Caroline Darr, Samantha Kieffer and Leah Binsack were second in the B-final of the 200 freestyle relay at 1:55.46 for a season best. Zeke Rodriguez, Alex Young, Aaron Swint and Robert Reineck were fifth in the B-final of the 200 freestyle relay in a season-best 1:46.65 while

the same foursome was fourth in the B-final of the 400 freestyle relay in a season-best 4:05.98.

"This meet is a stepping stone to get ready for sectionals," Crimson Streaks coach Kevin Casey said.

Lake's Samantha TenEyck established a six-dive record with 240.35 points and was selected girls MVP. Her sister Brittany holds the meet record for an 11-dive format.

DeSales' Dylan Szegegi topped his own meet diving mark with 296.95 points to earn boys MVP.

The invite included teams from Toledo, Lima and Cleveland.

"From the standpoint of the community, this was a big event when you bring these teams in," Moran said. "It's a boost for the community's economy with restaurants and hotels. It's nice we're able to host these events. Sometimes that gets lost — the economic value."

"Fremont can show off. You'd be amazed what you can do when a community puts its minds to it."

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Ross comes away with boys' half of Ken Gipe Relays



DOUG HISE/NEWS MESSENGER CORRESPONDENT
Fremont Ross's Alesha Overmyer swims in the 300-yard individual medley relay Saturday at the Ken Gipe Relays at Port Clinton High School.

BY KEVIN SHIELDS
Sports writer

PORT CLINTON — Fremont Ross's Alex Hoffman has had plenty of success on his own terms this winter.

But those take a backseat to what he does with his teammates. "There's nothing like doing relays... they're the best," Hoffman said. "It takes away the individual parts. You work as a team and you get to share that victory in the end with someone else."

Saturday, Hoffman paired with Keith Wasserman, Eric Yuhas and Chris Yanes to win the 850-yard crescendo relay (8:24.09).

He also shared that winning feeling with Wasserman, Yuhas and Joshua Eakin in the 300 individual medley relay (3:00.23) as the Little Giants won the boys meet at the 44th annual Ken Gipe

Relays held at Port Clinton High School.

Ross totaled 72 points to beat out second-place Toledo St. John's Jesuit, which finished with 60. With 28 points, Oak Harbor took sixth. The unique event featured relays and nothing but relays.

It's used more as a stress-relieving event that allows tired swimmers the chance to mellow before shifting into top gear the next three weekends at the sectional, district and state meets.

"It's still a competitive meet," Hoffman said.

"But it's a fun meet that mixes up the events. It gives you a little bit of everything."

Hoffman qualified for state in the 100 butterfly, and he, Luke Wilhelm and Wasserman were part of a 200 freestyle relay that advanced to Canton last season. Hoffman, Wilhelm and Wasser-

man also swam on a 13th-place 400 freestyle relay.

Currently, the senior is swimming some high yardage in practice, but soon will be starting his taper after the sectional meet this Saturday.

"That'll be awesome," Hoffman said. "I make sure I get most of my yards in earlier in the season so I can start resting earlier, but it's still a fun time of the season."

Hoffman led off the 300 medley relay, which was the closer of the two races. Wasserman, swimming the final leg, tapped the wall just 12 one-hundredths of a second before Eric Evans of Lewis Center Olentangy.

"You always want to be on the better side of them, but there is nothing like watching a close race," Hoffman said.

See RELAYS, page 7

RELAYS FROM 6

Harry Dorobek, Luke Kingsborough, Wilhelm and Christopher Hoffman were runners-up in the 200 backstroke relay (1:57.17).

Wilhelm, Scott Kosakowski, Chris Yanes and Bobby Carnicom were second in the 400 free relay (3:42.67).

"I think the boys swam faster in every event today in the finals," Ross coach Phil Moran said.

"And that was with a 25-minute window between prelims and finals. So I thought them coming back and swimming like that was pretty good."

"Two years ago we had two or three disqualifications and it killed us," Moran continued.

"And St. John's ended up getting two or three today, which was the main reason we ended up on top."

Tyler Schmidt, Eli Boldt, Ian Rhoades and Ayrton Wiegand had the Rockets' top performance,

taking third in the 200 underwater free relay (2:00.21).

"The boys made it back in every event we were expecting and probably one or two events beyond that," Oak Harbor coach Andrea Sorg said.

On the girls side, Toledo Notre Dame Academy topped Port Clinton 70-68. Ross took third with 54 points, while the Rockets were fifth with 34.

Taylor Waggoner, Laura Duncan, Sammi Miller and Alesha Overmyer won the 300 medley relay (3:14.60) for the Little Giants.

Waggoner, Miller, Duncan and Amy Yuhas were second (9:10.73) in the 850 crescendo relay. Holly Phillips, Danielle Minier, Megan Hawk and Ellen Silva finished second in the 200 medley relay (2:03.35).

"The girls swam well," Moran said. "We were just happy to be competing today with the weather today and the way it was this past week."

Kaylie Hallett-Szymanski, Katelyn Tice, Marlee Carpenter and Danielle Franck were second (2:08.01) in the 200 butterfly-breaststroke relay for Oak Harbor. Franck, Carpenter, Bethany McNutt and Lindsay Cochran were runners-up (2:05.91) in the 200 underwater free relay.

"Every event that we entered made it back to finals," Sorg said. "Some of them improved upon their times then in the finals. They swam a real nice meet today."

Next on the agenda for everyone are sectionals. Those will take place at Ross's Hawk-Bucci Natatorium Feb. 11 (diving) and 12 (swimming).

"We're not ready," Moran said. "Today was a good barometer, though, to see where we're at."

"We just want to keep the kids healthy and trying to have a routine."

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High School Swimming

GIRLS RESULTS

44TH KEN GIPE RELAYS

■ **Team Standings:** 1. Notre Dame Academy 70; 2. Port Clinton 68; 3. Fremont Ross 54; 5. Oak Harbor 34.

■ **Site:** Hawk-Bucci Natatorium, Port Clinton.

■ **850 Crescendo relay:** 1, Cheyenne Meek, Allie Reynolds, Ashley Zoeller, MacKenzie Stewart (PC A) 8:47.63; 2, Amy Yuhas, Sammi Miller, Taylor Waggoner, Laura Duncan (FR A) 9:10.73; 6, Emily Tice, Allie Dombrowsky, Lindsay Cochran, Felisha Lazenby (OH A) 9:49.34.

■ **200 fly-breast relay:** 2, Kaylie Hallett-Szymanski, Katelyn Tice, Marlee Carpenter, Danielle Franck (OH A) 2:08.01; 3, Emily Moyer, Ellen Silva, Megan Hawk, Alesha Overmyer (FR A) 2:10.22; 4, Erin Smith, Marcy Lindsley, Katelyn Zam, Rachel Finley (PC A) 2:13.17.

■ **200 backstroke relay:** 1, Meek, Raegan Frye, Elise Schellin, Nikki Twarek (PC A) 2:01.33; Zenaida Frew, Emily Moyer, Devyn Swigart, Holly Phillips (FR A) 2:07.38; 6, Nikkie Wilhelm, Megan Wistinghausen, Elyse Hablitzal, Bethany McNutt (OH A) 2:14.68.

■ **300 individual medley relay:** 1, Waggoner, Duncan, Miller, Overmyer (FR A) 3:14.60; 2, Stewart, Smith, Reynolds (PC A) 3:18.79; 5, Wilhlem, Abbi Reichman, Lazenby (OH A) 4:00.76.

■ **400 freestyle relay:** 3, Frye, Kelly Passabet, Allison Martin, Zoeller (PC A) 4:05.88; 5, Natasha Fisher, Amy Yuhas, Sarah Wyie, Frew (FR A) 4:33.41.

■ **200 medley relay:** 2, Phillips, Danielle Minier, Hawk, Silva (FR A) 2:03.35; 3,

Twarek, Lindsley, Zam, Passabet (PC A) 2:05.08; 4, Hablitzal, Tice, Hallett-Szymanski, Dombrowsky (OH A) 2:06.50.

■ **200 underwater free relay:** 2, McNutt, Cochran, Franck, Carpenter (OH A) 2:05.91.

BOYS RESULTS

44TH KEN GIPE RELAYS

■ **Team Standings:** 1. Fremont Ross 72; 6. Oak Harbor 28; 7. Port Clinton 22.

■ **Site:** Hawk-Bucci Natatorium, Port Clinton.

■ **850 Crescendo relay:** 1, Alex Hoffman, Keith Wasserman, Eric Yuhas, Chris Yanes (FR A) 8:24.09; 3, Cody Gray, Christian Raff, Josh Scott, Michael Long (PC A) 8:37.01; 6, Tyler Johnson, Curtis Priesman, Ian Rhoades, Michael Cervantes (OH A) 9:27.42.

■ **200 fly-breast relay:** 4, Graham Moor, Collin Michael, Scott Kosakowski, Joshuah Eakin (FR A) 2:02.45; 5, Michael Lafountain, Tyler Schmidt, Eli Boldt, Cervantes (OH A) 2:06.74.

■ **200 backstroke relay:** 1, 2, Harry Dorobek, Luke Kingsborough, Wilhelm, Christopher Hoffman (FR A) 1:57.17.

■ **300 individual medley relay: 1, A.** Hoffman, Wasserman, Yuhas, Eakin (FR A) 3:00.23.

■ **400 freestyle relay:** 1, Long, Raff, T. Scott, J. Scott (PC A) 3:35.86; 2, Wilhelm, Scott Kosakowski, Yanes, Bobby Carnicom (FR A) 3:42.67; 4, Priesman, Lafountain, Zach Seaman, Ayrton Wiegand (OH A) 4:11.82.

■ **200 medley relay:** 3, Dorobek, Michael, Moor, Brandon Hoelzer (FR A) 1:52.88.

■ **200 underwater free relay:** 3, Schmidt, Boldt, Rhoades, Wiegand (OH A) 2:00.21.
