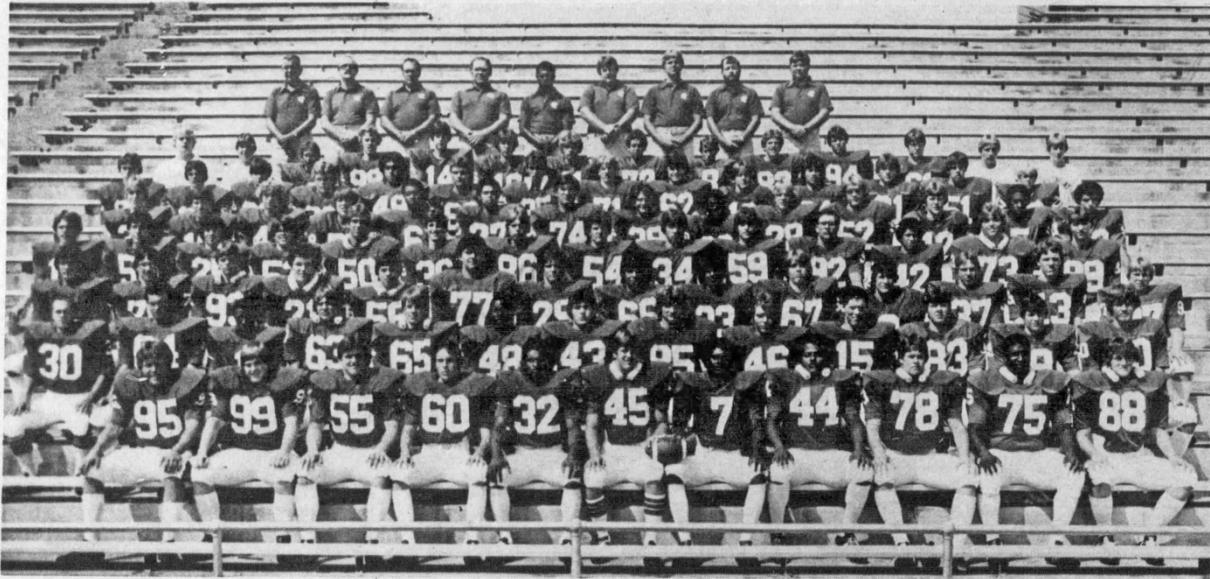


The 1981 Fremont Ross Little Giants



FIRST ROW (left to right): Craig Forgatsch, Tom Garand, Matt Swartzlander, Ralph Hirshberg, Eric Bates, Bob Lotycz, Tony Gant, Orlando Carter, Tim Michael, Tony Gardner, Jerry Gillmore; SECOND ROW: Matt Andrew, Richard Meek, Lou Bulger, Doug Winans, Dave Hicks, Sam Lindsey, Mitch Curliss, Dan Bollenbacher, Tom Brown, Bo Johnson, Jay Bowers, Mark Balsizer, Mark Mathias; THIRD ROW: Doug

Gallagher, Ron Kovaleski, Doug Zink, Dave Elcher, Kevin Shaffer, Tom Shaffer, Craig Trick, Andy Esquivel, Roy Cantu, Gary Hibbs, Mike Hepp, D.J. Szymanowski, Brian Borden, Terry Haubert; FOURTH ROW: Jeff Tome, Jeff Lamson, Chris Bliss, Rick Rawson, Mike Wendt, Greg McNelly, Tracy Laird, Bob Ward, Ron Thrun, Micah Shumacher, Mike Stull, Jock Hicks, Jeff Ruggiero, Carl Britt; FIFTH ROW: Dave Chambers, Steve

Sater, Jeff Bates, Bill Dowling, John Hill, Mario Vargas, Jerry Manahan, Ken Martin, Gene Simmons, Wade Parker, Brad Pitts, Greg Weaver, Willie Martin, Steve Ebert; SIXTH ROW: Paul Stout, Rod Lanning, Mike Wolf, John Ickes, Stacy Swaisgood, Matt Hiser, Tom Batesole, Terry O'Farrell, Kevin Wilhelm, Mike Palomo, Kit Sultz, Matt Whitcomb, Bryan Lenz; SEVENTH ROW: T.J. Held, Alan Darr, Chris Hull, Kent

Coleman, Dan Brudzinski, Jeff Nossaman, Rod Logan, Joe Capucini, Melvin Clark, Jim Hufford, Jason Fought, Adam Calabrese, Tom Szakovits; EIGHTH ROW: equipment Manager Joe Lotycz, Trainer Bill Green, assistant Coaches Dick Coleman, Joe Siesel, Chuck Lindsey, Mike Wetzel, Rex Radeloff, Less Hull and head Coach Wayne "Pete" Moore.

Bates, Gant pace Little Giants offense

Ross football Coach Pete Moore hit the nail on the head for both the offensive and defensive units: "We lost a real super outfit," he said.

Moore was thinking back to the 1980 Buckeye Conference championship season when his Little Giants posted a 9-1 record, losing only to state Class AA champ Cleveland Benedictine.

The Little Giants are inexperienced on both units with the offense having the biggest chunk of experience returning in 1,000-yard rusher Eric Bates at tailback.

There are players who saw limited use in '80 but as for offensive experience, Bates is the leader with tackle Tony Gardner, the other leading veteran.

Tony Gant, 6-1, 180, senior, is the man who will draw the attention of opposing teams. He will be at quarterback and will be running the options that will, along with Bates, put a good deal of pressure on the defense's outside. Gant played mainly defense a year ago.

Two juniors, Greg Weaver and Brian Borden, are not as quick as Gant but are fighting it out for the backup spot.

Bates, 5-11 and 180, senior, is the second marked man in Ross's attack. He led the Buckeye in rushing in '80 but will likely have his yardage come grudgingly this year while running behind an inexperienced line. Backing up Bates is junior Jock Hicks, a speedster, but on the small size at 150 pounds.

Tom Brown and Bo Johnson both saw spotty duty at fullback a year ago. Brown, a stocky, 190-pounder and Johnson, 175, both seniors, could share equal billing when it comes to playing time.

Dan Bollenbacher, 6-2, 190, will run at tight end. He saw some action in '80. The backup could be junior Jeff Tome.

Sam Lindsey returns at split end with Doug Gallagher, a junior, pushing the Ross senior for the starting slot. Lindsey is the quicker but Gallagher may have the better hands.

Gardner, one of a couple of Ross players expected to play both ways, will use his

250-plus pounds to anchor one side of the line with junior Jeff Ruggiero, 6-3, 220, and senior Tim Michael, 6-2, 220, in the running for the other tackle.

Dave Hicks, a letterman mainly at linebacker, will step into a guard slot this

season. He will be joined by Doug Winans. Both players are in the 170-pound range. Rich Meek is also in the running for guard duty. All three are seniors with the lone underclassman, Gary Hibbs expected to see spot duty.

Matt Swartzlander, senior, 205, is the front running center. Ralph Hirschberg, 5-10, 170, is the backup at the spot.

"Speed at quarterback and tailback has to be our strength," Ross offensive coordinator Rex Radeloff

said about his squad. "Last year, we were power and pass — ended up more power — but this year we are working more on the option."

Radeloff continued to talk about the offense that he hopes will benefit from that speed in the two spots.

"This year, we are going to have to be quicker — we are quicker," he affirmed. "Bates is quicker and Gant is quicker than last year."

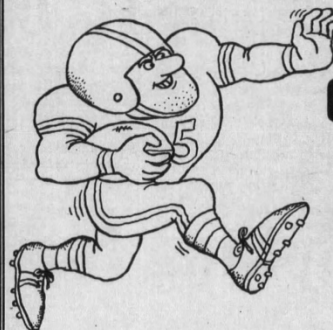
"We are slower on the line than last year," he said.

One thing that could hurt the offense is Gant will be going both ways. He will be at the safety on defense and Radeloff pointed out that it will be difficult to make adjustments with him because the conferences with the quarterback that Radeloff normally would have with him while the defense is on the field, will not be taking place.

"Our weakness is the inexperience. We have to improve each game," Radeloff concluded.



TONY GANT will be one of possibly two Ross players playing both offense and defense. The 6-1, 180-pound senior, will be the quarterback and defensive safety.



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Injuries may force Ross defense to rob offensive team

Warning: Any injury to a Ross defensive football player may cause a profile change in the offense.

"If someone gets hurt," Ross defensive coordinator Joe Siesel tried to smile, "we may have to pull someone from the offense."

Siesel did not have to say that the depth of the Little Giants defense is about as fat as Tiwgy. There are no wrinkles; Ross's defense is lean, especially at the key spots: the inside and outside linebacking.

"Our front line of linebackers are pretty damn good," Siesel praised, "they have backup but there are not enough of 'em."

Tony Gant, the Little Giants' offensive signal caller, is at safety and possesses the most experience in the secondary.

Joining him in the pass defense will be Mark Balsizer at a halfback. He saw limited duty in '80.

Any one of a number of players could play at the other defensive back. Ron Thurn, junior, 165, Matt Andrews, senior, D.J. Szymanowski, Mike Hepp and Willie Martin, all juniors, have a shot at the spot.

There are several players in the running for the defensive end slots. Jeff Bates, Doug Zink and Micah Schumacher are the juniors at the positions with a pair of seniors, Mark Mathias and Jay Bowers also trying to land the starting jobs.

Gardner is expected to be at a tackle with Tom Girand, senior, 5-11, 220, Greg Forgatch, senior, 205, rounding out the top three. Tom Schaffer, junior, 230,

is another tackle possibility.

Siesel's linebacker corps will be anchored by Orlando Carter, 6-2, 210, and Dave Eicher, 5-11, 180, on the outside with senior Bob Lotycz, 6-2, 200, and Mike Wendt, junior, 6-1, 185, on the inside. Eicher and Carter are lettermen with Carter the more experienced.

Lotycz was a starter at defensive end in 1980.

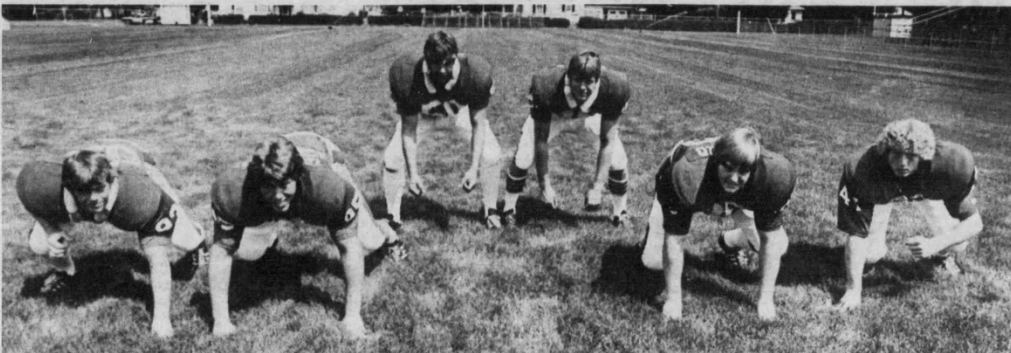
Jeff Lamson, junior, 165, and sophomore Matt Hiser, 160, were in the preseason running for the backup slots on the outside. On the inside, Siesel was looking at junior Andy Esquivel and sophomore Stacy Swaisgood.

"We need a lot of work at each spot," Siesel said. "We have to work on our reacting to getting where we are supposed to be."



TIGHT END DAN BOLLENBACHER OF ROSS

Ross defensive front and linebackers



This is one possible lineup for the Ross defensive corps in the team's "4-4" look. Left to right are defensive end Jay Bowers, tackle Craig Forgatsch, inside linebackers Mike Wendt and Bob Lotycz, tackle Tom Garand and end Jeff Bates.

Sandusky favored in BC

Sandusky is the pick of the Buckeye Conference coaches with Findlay and Fremont Ross following the Blue Streaks in the Conference rave.

The Blue Streaks have 12 starters back from last season's 8-3 state playoff team. The starting crew is split evenly on offense and defense.

Sandusky will be long on speed in the backfield and will be strong defensively. Melvin Brown, the second team all-BC running back, is back and coupled with lightning quick Richard Twine, the Blue Streaks are abundant with the breakaway threats.

Defensively, All-BC tackle William Curley is back for Sandusky.

Findlay has 11 starters back, six on offense. The

Trojans are big with the defensive tackles in the 230-pound range.

The biggest problem for Coach Bill Jones' squad is speed, the Trojans do not have much of it.

Ross has to avoid injuries to be in the conference race. With only three starters back on both offense and defense, Ross has to develop the new starters and backups quickly.

The Little Giants have the BC's top ground gainer back in Eric Bates plus 250-pound offensive tackle Tony Gardner on the offense. Tony Gant, a defensive back with spot action at quarterback in 1980, will be one of Ross's two two-way performers.

Admiral King is rated as a dark horse in the BC race

with Lorain Senior, long on defensive strength, expected to take on Findlay, Ross and the Admirals in the battle for the spot behind Sandusky.

The Steelmen are under a new coach — Vie Furiga — but the new man is familiar with Lorain. He was an assistant under former Coach Doug Thompson for 18 years.

Lorain has 22 lettermen back with six offensive starters and vie on defense.

Elyria and Marion Harding are expected to fill out the standings but most of the conference coaches hasten to point out that no team is a pushover.

PREDICTION: Sandusky, Findlay, Ross, Lorain Senior, Admiral King, Elyria, Marion Harding.

GOOD LUCK!





ERIC BATES is the second Bates in the last four seasons to have gained over 1,000 yards rushing for the Ross Little Giants. Eric's brother, Terry, holds the Ross single season record win over 1,700 yards. Eric led the Buckeye Conference in 1980 and is back at the tailback slot for Ross this season.

Little Giants lettermen



Ross will have only seven lettermen on the 1981 edition of the defending Buckeye Conference champs. In front (left to right) are Orland Carter and Tony Gardner while in the back row are Dave

Hicks, Eric Bates, Tony Gant, Bob Lotycz and Dan Bollenbacher. All of the returning lettermen will be starters this season.

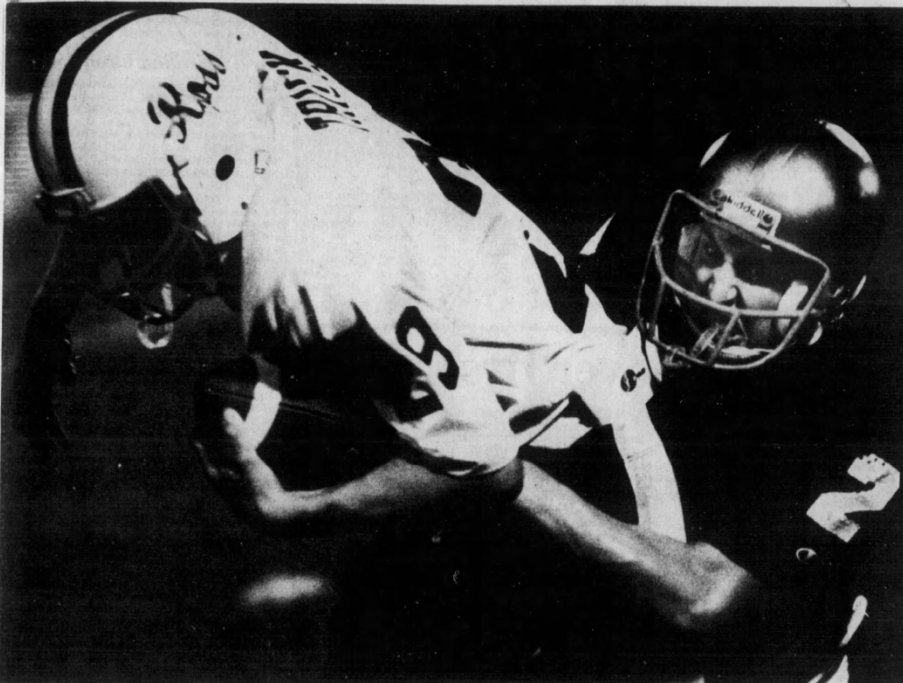


OFFENSIVE BACKS of the Little Giants: Quarterback is Tony Gant with Craig Trick (29), Bo Johnson (15), Eric Bates (32), Tom Brown (46) and Sam Lindsey (48).

Sports

Bob Marker, editor

Bates scores twice; Giants grab opener



CHRIS BELLVILLE OF COLUMBIAN HAS A GOOD HOLD ON ROSS RECEIVER CRAIG TRICK

N-M photos by Bill Kennedy

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger sports editor

TIFFIN — Ross needed a half to realize it was in a game and then a bit of a boost from the "Sand Man" to subdue a fired up Tiffin Columbian squad 13-0 in the season opening football game for both teams Friday.

Eric Bates scored from 11 yards out midway through the third period and capped off the night with another TD in the closing moments of the game to give the Little Giants the win. Bates had 127 yards on 22 carries for Ross.

"I think the key to the whole game," Ross offensive coordinator Rex Radeloff said after the game, "was that our kids came in at the half and said that the Tiffin kids were saying that they were tired."

"I know they have a lot of players going both ways while we have only one. The kids just decided that they were going to put it to them in the second half."

Ross took the second half kickoff and marched to the Columbian 22 before fullback Bo Johnson coughed up the ball into the hands of Columbian defensive back Gary Hall to stall the drive.

The Tornadoes did not take advantage of the Ross bobbie and Ross took over again following a punt on the Columbian 45. But that drive also fell short at the 21 when quarterback Tony Gant's fourth and six pass fell incomplete. The tables, and the "Sand Man" began to turn against the Tornadoes in those last defensive heroics.

Four plays (along with a penalty) into Columbian's next possession, wingback Kevin Shultz was dislocated from the ball by linebacker Dave Elcher and defensive end Jeff Hicks of Ross fell on the ball at the Columbian 11. Mr. Bates took it from there around right end and Ross had his first touchdown of 1981. Tom Schaffer split the uprights and Ross had, as it turned out, a comfortable lead as Ross's defense shut down the Tornado offense.

Tony Colatruccio, Columbian tailback, cruised through the Ross defense for 98 yards on 26 carries but 22 of that came on the final play of the game. Still, Colatruccio gave the Little Giants fits in the first two series that the Tornadoes had the ball.

"He's a good back," Ross defensive coordinator Joe Siesel agreed, "but after we made a few adjustments inside, we pretty much shut them down."

Siesel's defense choked the Tornadoes, allowing only four first downs in the first half and two more in the second while surrendering 120 total yards.

"When we recovered that fumble, though, that was the key to the game."

And that was when the "Sand Man" tossed sand in the tiring Tornado players' eyes.

The Little Giants took over the ball nine seconds into the final quarter and began to rock Columbian to sleep. Ross used 15 plays to march 59 yards to put the icing on the cake.

Columbian was socked with a personal foul penalty in the drive that moved the ball to the Columbian 28 but Ross had a holding penalty two plays later to force a second and 25 play at the Tornado 45.

Gant lofted a pass to Steve Ebert who made an acrobatic on-the-hip catch at the 22. Bates got the first down on the next play and seven plays later cut off the blocks of Rich Meek, Tony Gardner and Dan Bollenbacher to score from five yards out to cap off the win. There was less than five minutes left to play.

The Little Giants had come close to scoring in the first half but came away empty handed when Gant fumbled at the Columbian 13. Gant had completed a pass to Doug Gallagher on the previous play but Gallagher was ruled out-of-bounds in the end zone when he made the catch.

"I figured we could have had three more (touchdowns)," Radeloff said, "but I promised you we would keep it exciting."

Head Coach Pete Moore praised Columbian but admitted that he figured it would be a game where he might be able to play more players.

"I wanted to play more kids, but we did not play well enough to play more players."

"I am pretty pleased, though," Moore said, "except for the penalties but for an inexperienced ball club we anticipated the mistakes. It was nothing to nothing at the half so I figured that they had to be doing something good against us."

Rain and Angels soak Cleveland 3-1

CLEVELAND (AP) — Geoff Zahn allowed only two hits and Fred Lynn and Larry Harlow each scored one run and drove in another to spark the California Angels to a 3-1 victory over the Cleveland Indians in a rain-shortened game Friday night.

The contest was called after a 40-minute rain delay with Cleveland coming to bat in the bottom of the sixth inning. The second game of the scheduled two-night doubleheader was postponed and rescheduled as part of a doubleheader Saturday afternoon.

Zahn, 9-7, struck out five and walked one. The Angels' lefthander held Cleveland hitless until the fifth inning and was credited with his eighth complete game.

Len Barker, 7-5, went the route for Cleveland, allowing six hits, striking out six and walking four as he pitched his ninth complete game.

The Angels took a 1-0 lead in the first.

Lynn walked with two out and moved to third when third baseman Toby Harrah couldn't handle Don Baylor's bouncer. On Barker's first pitch to Bobby Grich, Baylor went halfway to second, drawing a throw by catcher Chris Bando. Lynn scored as the throw went into center field.

California added a run in the fifth. Harlow led off with a bunt single, moved to second on a groundout and, after Rod Carew walked, advanced to third on a

fielder's choice. Lynn singled him home.

The Indians picked up their first hit off Zahn as Harrah singled leading off the fifth. He scored one out later on a double by Bando.

Grich led off the Angels' sixth with a double and scored on a two-out single by Harlow, building the California advantage 3-1.

The game was delayed by rain in the third inning for 52 minutes.

Phillies' Davis 'feeling good' but Reds miserable

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Philadelphia Phillies clubhouse door was open to the media about 10 minutes after the game Friday night.

And as the reporters moved in, Dick Davis, the hero of the Phillies' 7-6 comeback win over the Cincinnati Reds, came rushing out.

"Hey, Dick, hold up, you got the winning hit. We want to talk to you," a reporter said to the moving

it good. I made a real good pitch to Householder, so give the young fellow credit for hanging in there and hitting it," McGraw said.

"With Cincinnati, you do your best and something always seems to happen."

Concepcion said McGraw threw him three straight fastballs for a 1-2 count.

Did he expect the screwball on the next pitch?

Householder.

Ray Knight and Joe Nolan later singled home runs. Ron Oester hit a sacrifice fly for the tying run and Bittner's RBI single sent the Reds ahead 5-4.

Sparky Lyle, the third of four Phillies pitchers, was credited with his seventh win in 11 decisions. Doug Bair, 2-2, the third of five Cincinnati pitchers, took the loss.

Ross 13, Columbian 0

Score by quarters

Ross	0	0	7	6—13
Columbian	0	0	0	0—0

Scoring

Ross: Eric Bates, 11-yard run (Tom Schaffer kick), 2:40, third quarter.

Ross: Bates, five-yard run (kick failed), 4:52, fourth quarter.

Team stats

	R	C
First downs (ttl.)	12	6
Rushes/Yards	166	118
Passing Yards	62	2
Passes/Comp./Int.	10/5/0	9/1/0
Punts/Avg.	4/32.8	5/29.6
Fumbles/Lost	3/2	2/1
Penalties/Yds.	5/65	5/75

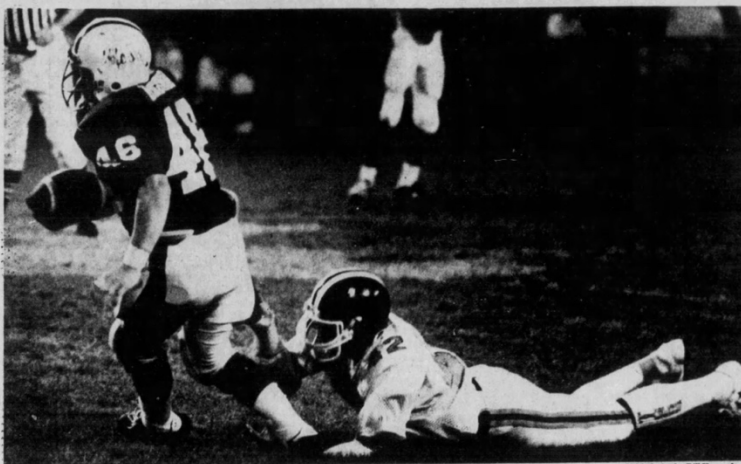
Individual stats.

Rushing: Eric Bates 22/127, Bo Johnson 6/24, Tom Brown 5/9, Tony Gant 7/6, Ross; Tony Colatruglio 26/98, Chris Bellville 6/22, Columbian.

Passing: Gant 10/5/0, 62, Ross; Bellville, 9/1/0, 2.

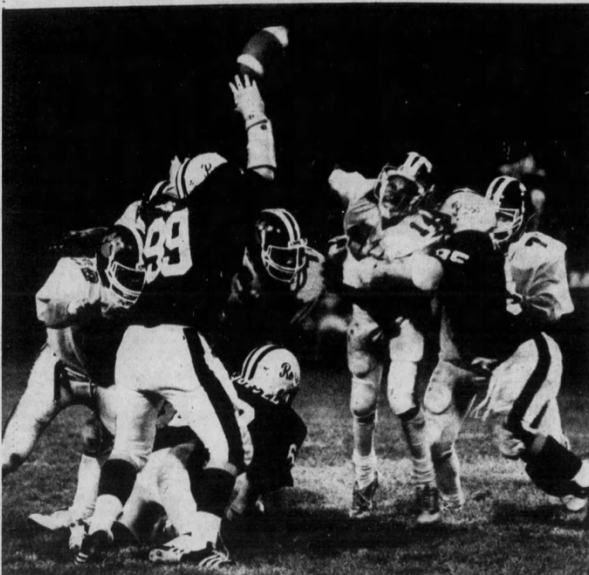
Receiving: Doug Gallagher 2/28, Steve Ebert 1/29, Ross.

No beauty contest, but Little Giants won it



ROSS FULLBACK TOM BROWN PULLS AWAY FROM DEVILBISS DEFENDER RICHARD JOHNSON

N-M photos by Bill Kennedy



LITTLE GIANTS DEFENDERS TEAM UP ON DEVILBISS QUARTER DARRELL BELL

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

Bo Johnson ran for 192 yards and scored three touchdowns and Ross blanked Toledo DeVilbiss, but it was not pretty.

"It was a crude exhibition," Ross Coach Pete Moore admitted, "we did not play well at all."

"At least I'm glad we won—I'm happy for the kids, but," Moore stopped, "that crew (officials)... everytime we have them, it seems they are overly looking for penalties."

One glaring penalty called against the Little Giants was before the second half when Ross was set back 15 yards for delay of game.

"He told me we came out too late for our three-minute loosening up drill," Moore said after a conversation with head official Bill Monaghan. "I just shook his hand, that's all I could do."

Moore paused while trying to find some words. "Oh, well, this was win number two. Now we have eight rough ball games left."

Ross ran only two good plays in the shoddy first half of play but both came on the same series. Taking over at their own 22, Johnson, running out off the fullback slot this time, bolted 41 yards to the DeVilbiss 37. Quarterback Tony Gant took it from there, running around right end for the TD.

The 78-yard drive took 38 seconds and it was the only time that the Little Giants penetrated DeVilbiss territory in the first half.

Johnson took over at tailback after starter Jock Hicks fumbled the first two times he touched the ball. Hicks was inserted in the lineup for regular Eric Bates who sat out the game nursing a stress fracture of the left ankle.

Before the night was over, Johnson, a six-foot, 175-pound senior, had carried the ball 13 times and scored on runs of three, 20 and 71 yards. The latter run iced the game early in the final period.

"It wasn't pretty," Ross offensive coordinator Rex Radeloff described his unit that generated 295 yards. "Bo did have a hell of an effort on that last run."

DeVilbiss, with linebackers David Hawthorne and John Townsend doing most of the damage, took away Ross's inside running game.

"They were tougher inside than we had anticipated," Radeloff said. "We did not control the line from guard to guard; we had to get outside."

"Really, it was just a difficult game."

The Little Giants' defense, led by inside linebacker Mike Wendt, held the Tigers to 35 yards on 37 rushing efforts. DeVilbiss, using a short passing game, had 106 yards through the airways.

DeVilbiss reached the Ross nine, five, and 11 before drives stalled. Each time, a field goal attempt by Dexter Barringer fell short.

The Tigers closest scoring challenge came as the buzzer ended the first half. Defensive end Derrick Owens scooped up Ross fullback Tom Brown's fumble at the Little Giants nine but was tackled just short of the goal line as the half ended.

Ross's second six-pointer was set up by a 48-yard pass from Gant to Doug Gallagher. The four-play drive covered 63 yards on Ross's first possession of the second half.

Wendt intercepted a pass to set up the third Little Giants score. It took Ross five plays to score, the final 20 yards of the 31-yard drive coming on Johnson's run.

The final Ross drive covered 82 yards on four plays with Johnson's 71-yard run clinching the drive.

ROSS NOTES: Bob Lotycz, injured in Wednesday's practice, missed the DeVilbiss game and will be out for the Toledo Central Catholic game next Friday. He suffered a slight concussion.

Dave Hicks, out the first two games because of a shoulder injury, will be back at practice Monday. He will probably start at a guard slot.

Navratilova wins early Open finals

NEW YORK (AP) — Martina Navratilova broke Chris Evert Lloyd in the eighth and 10th games of the third set Friday to upset the tournament's No. 1 seed 7-5, 4-6, 6-4 and advance to the women's final of the U.S. Open tennis championship.

"This was like the finals, only I've got to go out and play again," Navratilova said of the 2-hour, 12-minute battle.

Navratilova, who has never won America's premier tennis event, will meet third-seeded Tracy Austin in Saturday's final. Austin advanced with a 6-1, 6-3 victory over No. 11 Barbara Potter earlier Friday.

The men's singles semifinals also are scheduled for Saturday, with top-seeded John McEnroe meeting No. 15 Vitas Gerulaitis and No. 2 Bjorn Borg of Sweden taking on No. 4 Jimmy Connors.

"It's a question as to whether I'll be on such a high (for the finals), whether I'll be playing great or whether I will have expended so much energy that I'll be flat," Navratilova said.

But Navratilova roared back, holding her own serve before play was interrupted for another five minutes as guards ejected a third man.

Then Navratilova broke Lloyd at love, winning the final two points with two forehands down the line.

That evened the score at 4-4 and set the stage for Navratilova's 14th career victory over Lloyd in 42 meetings.

Fighting through two deuces, Navratilova held serve in the ninth game as Lloyd was wide with a cross-court backhand passing shot and Navratilova was on the money with a backhand cross-court volley.

Lloyd won the first point with a cross-court forehand volley, but Navratilova hit a perfectly placed backhand cross-court volley to pull even. Two points later, with the score at 30-30, Navratilova reached match point as Lloyd's forehand volley was wide.

The defending champion saved that point, pulling to deuce with a forehand passing shot. But Lloyd double-faulted,



BO JOHNSON
... Three TDs



MIKE WENDT
... Leads defense

Ross 26, DeVilbiss 0

Score by quarters

DeVilbiss 0 0 0 0—0

Ross 7 0 13 6—26

Scoring

Ross: Tony Gant, 37-yard run (Tom Schaffer kick) 7:50, first quarter.

Ross: Bo Johnson, 3-yard run (Schaffer kick), 5:41, third quarter.

Ross: Johnson, 20-yard run (kick failed), 1:52, third quarter.

Ross: Johnson, 71-yard run (kick failed), 9:38, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

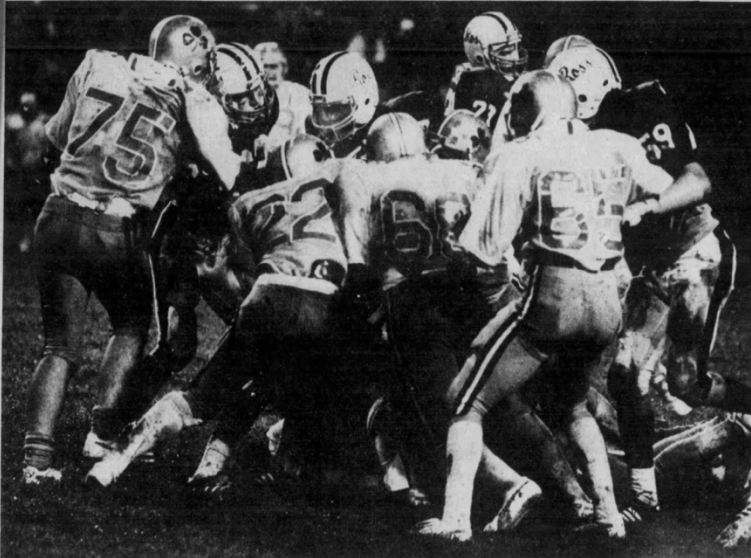
	D	R
First Downs (ttl.)	13	9
Rushes/Yards	37/35	30/239
Passing Yards	106	56
Passes/Comp./Int.	23/14/2	8/3/0
Punts/Avg.	6/29.7	4/
Fumbles/	3/0	4/24.5
Penalties/Yards	5/55	9/113

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Ross: Johnson 13/192, Gant 5/44, Tom Brown 4/9; DeVilbiss: Darrell Brown 10/14, Roy Leffler 4/25.

Passing: Ross: Gant 8/3/0/56, Borden 1/0/0, Weaver 1/0/0; DeVilbiss: Brown 12/19/1/92

Receiving: Ross: Johnson 2/8, Gallagher 1/48; DeVilbiss: Bryan Williams 7/59.



THERE'S A FOOTBALL in there! A fumble by Ross quarterback Tony Gant drew this gang of players during Friday

night action in the Ross-Toledo Central Catholic football game at Harmon Stadium. The Little Giants got the ball back

on this miscue. (News-Messenger Photos by Bill Kennedy)

Little Giants won, but . . .

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor
It sounded like Ross lost.
"As a coaching staff, we just did not make the right adjustments," frowned head Coach Pete Moore. "I'm disappointed in that."

Wait a minute . . . did you lose coach.
The answer was no . . . Ross blanked Toledo Central Catholic 7-0. It was a defensive show on Ross's part that netted the Little Giants their third straight win of the season.

The shutout also extended the Little Giants string to six games and the whitewash quarters to 25. The last team to score against Ross was Lorain in the third quarter of a 12-6 loss to the Little Giants in 1980.

The Little Giants' only touchdown on the muddy surface of Harmon Stadium was a five-yard burst on an option play by Eric Bates midway through the second quarter. Bates had taken a pitch from quarterback Tony Gant, got a block from fullback Bo Johnson at the five and darted into the end zone untouched.

The scoring run climaxed a 13-play, 79-yard scoring drive. Gant provided the key plays with a 15-yard burst for a first down at the Ross 45 and a 13-yard run to the Central 17 for another first down. Bates, who finished with 94 yards on 23 carries, had runs of 15 and 10

yards plus the final five.

The Little Giants had another scoring opportunity in the first half but a 47-yard field goal attempt by Tom Schaffer was wide to the right. Ross had driven from the Central 40 on the series after Ron Thrum had intercepted a pass by Central quarterback John Keller and returned it 15 yards to the Central 40.

But it was a drama that took place at halftime that distressed Moore and offensive coordinator Rex Radeloff.

"We just did not stop what they were doing to us (in the second half) and that was our (coaching staff) fault," Radeloff said. "It was disappointing because the defense gave us good position and we did not take advantage of it."

"We came out in the second half and ran some isolation and made good yardage on first down but they would stunt with their linebackers on the second and third downs and stick us and it was because we did not make the right adjustments."

Radeloff, although not offering it as an excuse, said that the rain-plagued practices during the week did not aid Ross's preparation.

Defensively, Ross had all the adjustments. The Little Giants' "D" with defensive coordinator Joe Siesel conducting the squad from the sidelines like a finely

tuned orchestra, limited the Fighting Irish to 65 total yards, 35 on the ground in 21 attempts.

"We'll take that," Siesel laughed. "We told them all week long that we had to get field position; that we could not let them move the ball on us because of the wet field. We just did a good job of adjusting to what they tried to do."

Central's deepest penetration was to the Ross 19 with less than five minutes to play. Taking over at the Central 49, a six-yard pass from Jerry O'Brien to Jim Ross plus a late hit penalty moved the ball to the 19. But the drive stalled two plays later when Scott Hoffman of Central was hit in the backfield, fumbled and the ball was pounced on by Ross defensive end Chad Parker at the 23. It was the second fumble recovery of the game for Parker.

Other than that, the Central offense was shut down tight.

Ross picked up 139 yards on the ground and another 15 in the air. Both offensive teams were hampered by the sloppy conditions of the turf.

Central attempted 17 passes but only four fell into a receiver's hands.

Ross will travel to Lorain to take on Admiral King next Friday in the Buckeye Conference opener. The Admirals, 9-3, lost to Brunswick 2-0 Friday on a safety with under two minutes left to play in the game.

Cleveland extends Detroit famine

CLEVELAND (AP) — The Detroit Tigers last visited Cleveland a week ago, sweeping the Indians in three games and leaving town in command of the American League Eastern Division race.

They've not won a game since, falling to the Indians 8-4 Friday night for their fifth straight loss and slipping into second place, one-half game behind the Milwaukee Brewers.

"We had a three-game lead when we left," said Tigers Manager Sparky Anderson, whose club lost four straight to the Boston Red Sox in Fenway Park before returning to Cleveland. "I thought if we'd split on this trip, we'd be in pretty good shape. I hope it will be salvaged, because we've got five more games."

On Friday, the Tigers had the misfortune of facing Indians right-hander John Denny, winner of his last six decisions.

His earned run average over that period is 1.09, dropping his ERA for the year to 2.80.

"I wasn't very sharp tonight, not like I've been," said Denny, who had skipped one start to let his arm rest.

"The rest was welcome," he said. "I've thrown a lot of innings. We're in a four-man rotation, and after the strike it's been a challenge to all starting pitchers. Even though I was not strong and sharp tonight, I feel the rest

helped."

Bo Diaz slugged a two-run home run, and Alan Bannister scored three runs to lead the Indians' offense against loser Dan Schatzeder, 6-8.

Denny, 9-4, allowed nine hits in eight innings, striking out four and walking three.

Cleveland took a 2-0 lead in the second — the first of four two-run innings for the Indians — when Toby Harrah singled and came home on Diaz' seventh homer.

Detroit scored a run in the third on Alan Trammell's sacrifice fly, but Cleveland built a 4-1 edge in the bottom of the inning when Jorge Orta tripled and scored on Andre Thornton's single.

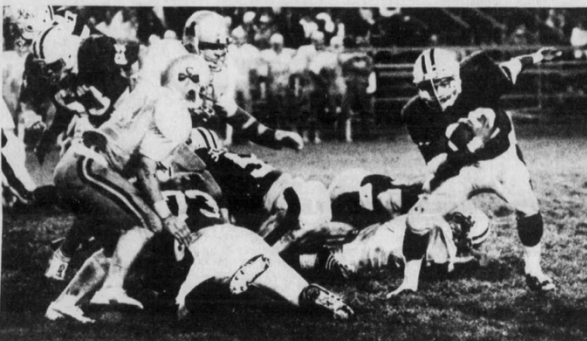
The Indians added two runs again in the fifth on consecutive run-scoring singles by Von Hayes and Harrah.

The Tigers cut the deficit to 6-3 in the sixth on a run-scoring groundout by Champ Summers and an RBI single by Lance Parrish.

Mike Hargrove and Hayes hit RBI singles as Cleveland went up 8-3 in the sixth.

Detroit added a final run in the eighth, Denny's last inning. Dan Spillner then relieved Rick Waits, who started the ninth, and gained credit for his sixth save.

"I don't think we gave them anything," Anderson said. "I was pleased that we kept coming back. We just got beat."



ERIC BATES, right, of Ross cuts to the outside to get a portion of 94 yards rushing against Toledo Central Catholic. Bates

scored the game's only touchdown midway through the second period.

Two minutes long time for Bengals

CINCINNATI (AP) — Cleveland Browns quarterback Brian Sipe makes his living on the two-minute drill, winning ball games at the last minute. And that's what Cincinnati Bengals have to worry about.

In the last three games, counting the final preseason contest, Bengals opponents have scored

"They (opponents) have hit a couple of plays in the most critical time of the games. This can be corrected. It's not that our guys don't know what to do. They're just not quite getting it done," said LeBeau.

"The nickel works well all during the ball game, but it hasn't been

The New York Jets' Richard Todd moved the Jets for a touchdown to pull within one point of a tie.

Sipe won nine ball games last season in the final two minutes, and the Browns are third in passing this season despite their 9-2 record.

Ross 7, Central 0

Score by quarters

Central	0	0	0	0	0
Ross	0	7	0	0	0

Scoring

Ross: Eric Bates, five-yard run (Tom Schaffer kick), 7:42, second quarter.

Team Stats

	C	R
First Downs (Total)	4	9
Rushes/Yards	21/35	43/139
Passing Yards	30	15
Passes/Comp./Int.	17/4/1	7/2/0
Punts/Avg.	7/29.7	6/29.8
Fumbles/Lost	3/2	4/1
Penalties/Yards	5/43	8/90

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Ross: Bates 23/94, Tony Gant 17/43; Central: Eric Thompson 6/14, Jim Rose 4/14.

Passing: Ross: Gant 7/2/0/15; Central: John Keller 6/1/1/3, Jerry O'Brien 11/3/0/27.

Receiving: Ross: Dan Bollenbacher 1/19; Central: Tom Brubaker 1/15.

King bursts Little Giants' bubble 20-12

By ROBBOUKISSEN
News-Messenger Sports Writer
LORAIN — The talk before Friday night's Ross-Admiral King game at George Daniel Field was that the host Admirals weren't as bad as their 0-3 record indicated. It was said that they have just had some untimely errors.

It wasn't idle chatter. The lightning-quick Admirals took advantage of good field position and got one big break of their own to calmly erase an early 12-0 Ross edge and lead them to a 20-12 win over the Little Giants in both club's first Buckeye Conference game of 1981.

The loss not only dropped Ross from the ranks of the unbeaten, but also ended its consecutive-game shutout streak at six.

"We took them too lightly, and

you can't take any team too lightly," said Ross Coach Pete Moore. "We just weren't ready."

That didn't seem to be the case on the opening kickoff, which Ross' Eric Bates returned 88 yards up the middle of the wedge for a touchdown. He was not touched by an Admiral King defender.

And after Tony Gant intercepted a Derrick Nix pass midway through that initial quarter, the Little Giants again didn't waste any time adding to their point total.

They took the ball from their own 33 to paydirt in eight plays. The clincher came with just under a minute to play in the quarter when Gant found split end Doug Gallagher all alone in the left corner of the end zone for a 34-yard scoring strike.

But, as was the case after their

first score, the Little Giants' Tom Schaffer failed to convert on the kick for the extra point. Those two flubs were sign of things to come for the Giants as they failed to apply the final, killing blow to the Admirals.

Lorain started its comeback immediately after Ross's last score when it marched from its own 35 to the end zone in a drive similar to that which led to Ross' second touchdown.

It took the same amount of plays (eight) and was sustained in almost exactly the same way, with a long pass. The only difference was that Nix threw his five yards longer (39) to Leon Rainey, who was also wide open in the corner of the end zone.

Soccer-style kicker Jeff Keron came in and nailed the extra point.

The score remained 12-7 Ross as both teams headed for the dressing rooms.

But the Admirals quickly changed that at the start of the third quarter. Nix returned the Ross kickoff to his own 42 and the swift quarterback proceeded to lead his team to the go-ahead score in just five plays.

It came at the 9:12 mark when Nix's speedy backfield mate, tailback Jerry Dunlap, crossed the goal line after a graceful run around right end from 26 yards out. Keron's kick made it 14-12 Admiral King.

The death blow for the Little Giants came later on in the third period when the Admirals got the break that has been said to have been eluding them this year.

It came when Bates fumbled a

Gant pitch at the Ross 37. Lorain's Steve Sutton picked up the loose ball on a "Sunday hop" bounce and scampered untouched into the end zone.

"That fumble really hurt us," Moore said. "I guess we just did the things that they (the Admirals) have been doing."

"I was pleased with the way we moved the ball. We threw the ball a little more than we anticipated. We wanted to run the option more. We just made mistakes at the wrong times."

The Giants gained more yards (235-190) and had more first downs (12-10) than Admiral King. Gant hit on 11 of 21 passes for 105 yards and no interceptions. (He had two thefts on defense.) Bates gained 55 yards in 22 carries.

Meanwhile, on defense Moore

wasn't too pleased.

"We didn't handle the sweep very well," he said. "We practiced against it all week, too." Admiral King had 141 yards rushing.

"But what I was really disappointed in was the special teams," Moore said. "I have told the kids that kicking is 30 percent of the game. Tonight, we had poor coverage and we gave them great field position."

"You have got to give Fred (Churchill, Admiral King's coach) credit. His team deserved to win. We just have to use this game as a stepping stone like we did with the Benedictine game last year."

Speaking of the Bengals, Moore will get a quick chance to see if the Giants "step" in the right direction when his club faces the Class AA second-ranked team next Friday.

Admiral King 20, Ross 12

Score by quarter

Ross	12	0	0	0—12
Admiral King	0	7	13	0—20

Scoring

Ross: Eric Bates 86-yard kickoff return (kick blocked) 11:49 first quarter.

Ross: Doug Gallagher 34-yard pass from Tony Gant (kick failed):57 first quarter.

Admiral King: Leon Rainey 39-yard pass from Derick Nix (Jeff Keron kick) 9:49 second quarter.

Admiral King: Jerry Dunlap 26-yard run (Keron kick) 9:12 third quarter.

Admiral King: Steve Sutton 37-yard fumble return (kick failed) 2:29 third quarter.

Team stats

	R	AK
First Downs (Total)	12	10
Rushes/Yards	32/130	35/141
Passing Yards	105	49
Passes/Comp./Int	22/11/0	7/2/2
Punts/Avg.	3/34	5/31-6
Fumbles/Lost	3/2	4/1
Penalties/Yards	4/40	2/30

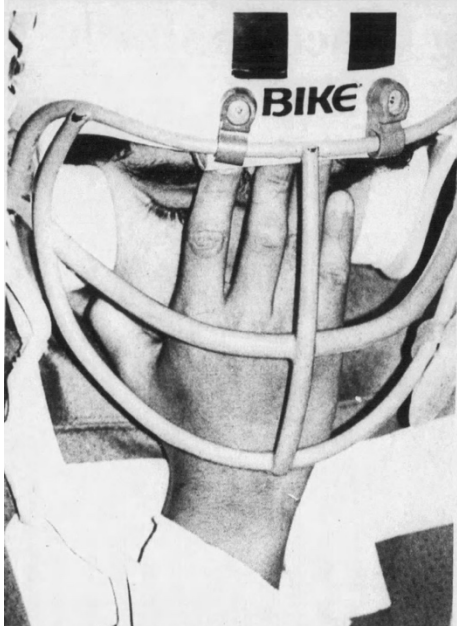
Individual statistics

Rushing: Ross — Bates 22 /95; Admiral King — Dunlap 20 /82.

Passing: Ross0gant 21/11/0/105, Brian Borden 1/0/0/0; Admiral King—Nix 7/2/2/49.

Receiving: Ross—Gallagher 4/59, Bates 4/7, Dan Bollenbacher 2/29; Admiral King—Rainey 1/39.

Season records: Ross 3-1 (0-1), Admiral King 1-3 (1-0).



THAT'S THE WAY IT WAS. Tom Schaffer, Fremont Ross place kicker, shows the effect of a last minute

touchdown by Benedictine. The Bengals topped Ross 12-10 with the TD.

Benedictine's final minute touchdown nips Ross

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor
Cleveland Benedictine tossed a pair of lightening bolts at Ross in the final 60 seconds of play and spoiled an early Ross celebration on Parents' Night.

The Bengals used two Paul Hrisko passes to Rick King to cover 59 yards to a touchdown with 25 seconds left to play in the game. The two strikes wiped out a Ross lead and sent the Class AA's number two ranked Bengals home with a 12-10 victory.

"It's tough," a drained and expressionless Pete Moore, Ross head coach, said wearily after the stunning defeat. "When the kids play with so much enthusiasm as they did tonight, it's tough."

Ross had taken a 10-6 lead at the 5:21 mark of the final period on a 50-yard scoring pass from Tony Gant to wide receiver Doug Gallagher.

That began Ross's ill fated celebration. The festivities mounted a minute later when Gant intercepted a Hrisko pass at the Ross 32 and returned it to the 37.

Things began to sour at that point.

Ross was flagged for a holding penalty when it needed a first down. Eventually, the Little Giants were forced to punt on a fourth and 22 at their own 25. Gene Simmons, who had brought Ross out of its own territory with booming punts of 57 and 50 yards earlier in the half, punted out to the Benedictine 46.

After one pass fell incomplete from the

hand of Hrisko, Chad Parker of Ross sacked the Bengal signal caller for a five-yard loss. There were 44 seconds left on the clock.

After a timeout, Hrisko found King all alone down the right sideline and hit him for the 51-yard play to the Ross eight. On the next play, Hrisko found King in the end zone for the game winner.

"I thought we would run the ball," King said about his catch. "I thought maybe we would run a draw or something like that."

He guessed wrong and became a hero instead.

"I was just not in position," a disconsolate Gant said in the quiet Ross locker room while thinking back about the play in which King caught the ball in front of him.

"I tried to break down but he put a move on me and then I was just trying to catch up."

The play marred an outstanding night for Gant. He rushed for 72 yards on six carries while passing for another 76. He also intercepted two passes.

The Ross touchdown pass caught Benedictine in a defensive shift.

"They caught us in the middle of a rotation," Bengals Coach Augie Bossu said. "I think he (Vince Boddy) thought it was an option. Anyway, it was a very well executed play."

"We wanted to catch them in it (rotation)," Moore said. "That's exactly what we wanted to do."

Benedictine scored first on 32 and 27-yard field goals by Alex Socca in the first period. Schaffer chopped the Bengals' lead in half with a 32-yard field goal for the Little Giants midway through the second period. Gant's one-handed juggling interception at the Benedictine 37 and return to the 21 set up the Ross field coach.

Mike O'Neill, the Bengals flashy tailback, had 135 yards on 28 carries but was pretty well contained by Ross's defense in the second half. He had picked up 82 yards on 16 carries in the first half.

The Bengals' defense, behind tackle Mike Griffin, held Ross's leading rusher Eric Bates to 34 yards on 20 carries.

Ross drove to the Benedictine 31 just before the half. Gant had runs of 21 and 12 yards in the drive from the Ross 23. The series ended when Gant's fourth and 12 pass fell incomplete at the intermission buzzer.

On the Bengals first series of the second half, the Bengals drove to Ross's seven from their own 34. O'Neill ran for 27 to the nine on the play after Hrisko had hit King with a 26-yard aerial to the Little Giants 36.

The drive stalled when Szocs' 26-yard field goal attempt was wide.

After that, it was a time bomb until the final hectic seconds when Ross had the win snatched out of its hands.

Ross will host Elyria, a 10-0 loser to Admiral King Friday, in a return to Buckeye Conference play next Friday.

Benedictine 12, Ross 10

Score by quarters

Benedictine	6	0	0	6—12
Ross	0	3	0	7—10

Scoring

Benedictine: Alex Szocs, 32-yard field goal, 9:03, first quarter.

Benedictine: Szocs, 27-yard field goal, 5:17, first quarter.

Ross : Tom Schaffer, 32-yard field, 6:24, second quarter.

Ross: Doug Gallagher, 50-yard pass from Tony Gant (Shaffer kick), 5:21, fourth quarter.

Benedictine: Rick King, eight-yard pass from Paul Hrisko (kick failed), 0:25, fourth quarter.

Team stats B R

First Downs (Total)	10	7
Rushes/Yards	36/160	28/110
Passing Yards	122	76
Passes/Comp./Int.	12/7/2	11/4/0
Punts/Avg.	4/30.5	7/33.0
Fumbles/Lost	1/0	1/0
Penalties/Yards	6/49	4/50

Individual stats.

Rushing: Ross: Tony Gant 6/72; Benedictine: Mike O'Neill 28/135.

Passing: Ross: Gant 11/4/0/76; Benedictine: Paul Hrisko 12/7/2/122.

Receiving: Ross: Doug Gallagher 3/71; Benedictine: Rick King 6/118.

Elyria provides stiff opposition as Ross tries to bounce back again

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

Ross, shaken by a spine-tingling, last seconds loss to Cleveland Benedictine last Friday, will jump back into the torrid competition of the Buckeye Conference Friday, hosting Elyria.

The Pioneers, a thorn in Ross Coach Pete Moore's side for several years, will be a formidable foe simply because the game follows the 12-10 loss to Benedictine. That loss may still be lingering in the hearts and minds of Ross coaches and players.

A Benedictine touchdown pass with 25 seconds to play lowered Ross's season record to 3-2. The Little Giants have lost the last two games.

"A loss is definitely never easy to accept," Moore said before Tuesday's practice, "and we probably still have it in our minds.

"But so far, it has not shown or been heard (talk of the loss) in practice. It's all talk of Elyria now."

Part of that talk has to reflect Ross's overwhelming 30-0 win over the Pioneers in 1980. That ended a personal four-game losing streak to Elyria for Moore. In the years since taking over the Ross job, Moore's teams had lost to the Pioneers 14-13 in 1976, 13-7 in 1977, 24-21 in 1978 and 3-0 in 1979.

"I know people like to beat us," Moore understated, "but we like to beat certain people more than others."

He left unsaid that Elyria is one of the "certain" teams.

The Pioneers lost 10-0 to Admiral King last Friday. The Admirals were fresh off a 20-12 upset of the Little Giants the week before.

"Those kids (Admiral King) have been playing with a lot of enthusiasm and since they beat us, they think that they can win this (Buckeye Conference title)."

Moore said the big difference in Elyria from years past is that the Pioneers are going to the air more frequently.

"They have thrown the ball 60 times and that is as many times as they usually have in a season in past years," the Ross coach pointed out.

The Pioneers, with quarterback Jay Bender hitting on 23 of 59 passes, have picked up 321 yards in the air.

Elyria, though, is rated last in the BC in total offense, churning out 178 yards per game while scoring 55 points.

The Pioneers' defense is ranked fourth, giving up 185 yards a game but have the conference's leading pass interceptor in linebacker Andy Vollney. He has hauled in six this season.

"They use a 4-3-4 alignment," Ross offensive

coordinator Rex Radeloff said, "and they rush hard with their tackles. The ends contain the quarterback and so far they have been getting a good rush. He (Vollney) just drops back and picks them off."

ROSS NOTES: Eric Bates has rushed for 356 yards on 88 carries this season. The total yardage is second in the BC but his 3.1 average per carry puts him 15th. Tony Gant has hit 26 of 57 passes for 313 yards and two TDs which ranks second. Doug Gallagher has a dozen receptions for 197 yards for a 16.6 average, fourth best in the conference. Gant is tied for second in pass interceptions with four.

Bo Johnson, with 232 yards on 29 carries for an eight-yard average, is second in the BC. Bates' 24 points scored is second best in the conference and his 31.6 yards-per-kickoff-return also puts him in the second position. The Ross team offense, generating 222 yards per game, is rated fourth in the BC while the defense, allowing 161 yards a game, is rated second. In conference play only, the defense is on top while the offense is fifth. Gene Simmons is fifth in punting with a 33.8 average and Rod Thrun is eighth at 29.2.

**Sunday Night
is
New Orleans Night
in the
Flask Lounge**



Ross 'D' smothers Elyria

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

Ross tossed its defense plus Tony Gant at Elyria Friday night at Harmon Stadium and used the combination to climb back into the Buckeye Conference football race with a 14-7 win.

The Little Giants "D" limited the puncheonish Pioneers to one yard rushing, 20 passing yards (18 on the final play of the game) and two first downs, one on the final play and another by penalty.

Ross is now 4-2 overall and 1-1 in the conference. Elyria sank to 3-2-1 and 1-2 in the BC.

Gant scrambled for one touchdown, passed to Doug Gallagher, carried the ball 16 times for 133 yards and topped that off with his fifth intercepted pass of the season.

"It was a good thing that we put the defense and Tony Gant on the field tonight," Ross coach Pete Moore agreed. "I knew our defense could hold them; I was just worried about whether our offense could score."

Gant's interception at the Ross 45 of a Jay Bender pass and a 22-yard return started Ross's initial TD drive. It took the Little Giants five plays to cover the 33 yards, the final 15 coming on a pass from Gant to Doug Gallagher with 4:41 to play in the first period.

Gallagher ended up with three receptions and 53 yards for the Little Giants.

Elyria tied the game midway through the second quarter on a pair of Little Giants' gifts. Andy Volney, the BC's leading pass interceptor with six, scooped up a lateral and ran 20 yards for the TD. Gant had tossed the ball out to Eric Bates in the right flat but the ball sailed over the Ross tailback's head.

Bates did not chase the ball, Volney did and the Pioneers had six points.

"I hate to give up those cheap touchdowns," Moore winced after the game. "That pass has been good to us and Bates knows that it's alive but he just did not go after it."

"It was just not a heads up play and Eric knows it."

Ross moved 68 yards with the second half kickoff for the go-ahead TD. On the third play, Gant rolled left and ran 20 yards to the Elyria 40. Three plays later, Ross was hit with a clipping penalty and faced a third and 19 at the Pioneer 49.

Gant dropped back to pass on the next play but could not find a Ross receiver. He eluded a pair of Elyria tacklers at the Ross 45, squeezed through three more at the Elyria 45 and outraced two others at the 30 before breaking into the clear and being escorted by four Little Giants into the end zone.

Tom Shaffer's second placement gave Ross the 14-7 lead at the 8:08 mark of the third period.

The Little Giants drove to the Elyria three on the next series but a 20-yard field goal attempt by Schaffer was wide to the left. Gant had passed to Gallagher for 18 yards on a third and 16 to a first down at the Elyria 27 to key the drive.

The Ross quarterback ran 13 yards to the 11 but the drive stulted three plays later.

"I hate to second guess myself," Moore said, "but if I had to do it over again, I would have gone for the touchdown. Definitely if it was 7-7, but I had confidence that we could make it."

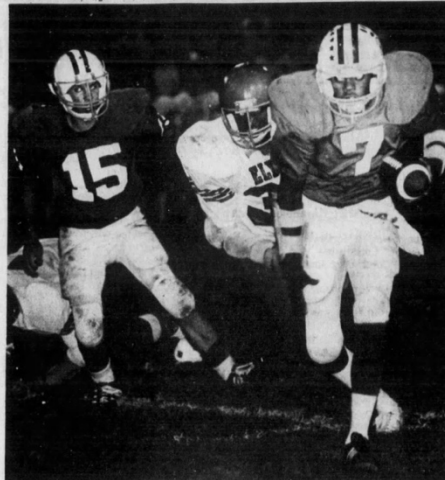
"If we had not tried it, we would have had them at the one with a shot at a safety or at least keep them penned in deep."

Ross intercepted Bender twice, the first time by Mike Wendt in the first period.

Gant finished with four completions in five attempts for 62 yards. The Little Giants had 208 yards rushing with Bates getting 39 on 17 carries.

Ross's defense was spearheaded by tackles Greg Forgatch and Tom Garand, linebackers Orlando Carter, Dave Eicher, and Wendt along with Chad Parker, Gant and Rod Thrun.

Next Friday, Ross will host Lorain Senior in the Homecoming game.



TONY GANT (7) of Ross pulls away from an Elyria defender while on his way to a 20-yard pickup Friday night (News-Messenger photos by Bill Kennedy)



ERIC BATES starts to cut left while searching for a hole in second quarter action Friday. Tony Gardner (75) trails the play.

Phillies, Dodgers hang on

Phils 6, Expos 2

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Right-hander Larry Christensen, in his first start since Aug. 24, allowed four hits in six innings and the Philadelphia Phillies' bats came alive Friday to beat the Montreal Expos 6-2 and avoid elimination in the best-of-five National League East Division playoff series.

The Expos now lead the series 2-1 and will pitch Scott Sanderson against Dickie Noles in the fourth game here at 1:05 p.m. EST Saturday.

The Expos, who won the first two games of the divisional playoffs in Montreal, took a 1-0 lead in the second inning.

The Phillies, however, went ahead for the first time in the series in

Oak Harbor grabs SLL top spot with a 21-6 victory over Genoa

The Oak Harbor Rockets scored 13 first-quarter points on their way to a 21-6 victory over the Genoa Comets Friday night at Genoa. The win kept the Rockets' record unblemished after six games possession of first place in the Suburban Lake League.

Jim Hungate scored Oak Harbor's first six points on a six-yard run at the 5:08 mark and Norm Cook got the other six with just three ticks of the clock left in the first period on a three-yard run. Cook made one of the two extra-point attempts.

Cook capped the Rocket scoring on a seven-yard run midway through the second quarter to put his team up 21-0.

Genoa's only score came late in the game when Rob Lowe plunged in from the one.

Mike Somers sneaked in from one yard in the second quarter and John Frazier ran 13 yards for another score early in the third stanza.

Calvert had 18 first downs and punted only once, while the Redskins could only manage five first downs. Grant Hemminger had 89 yards in five carries for Calvert with Cool adding 39 more.

The Senecas now improve to 5-1 overall and 2-1

in the SBC while Port Clinton is winless in six games.

Bellevue 20, Norwalk 7

Bellevue lost its shutout string of five games this season but remained unbeaten by defeating Norwalk in a NOL clash.

Jeff Schaffer hauled in two Joe Green scoring passes covering 45 yards in the first period and 15 yards to open the second quarter.

Norwalk got on the board on a 38-yard pass from Mike Sweet to Mike Stewart just before the half.

The Redmen added an insurance score late in the third quarter with Green tossing nine yards to Mike Bollenbacher.

Jeff Tackett had 74 yards on the ground in 16 carries while Green completed eight passes in 18 attempts and 125 yards.

WEEKEND FOOTBALL SPECIAL
Friday, Saturday, Sunday
October 9, 10, 11th

Ross 14, Elyria 7

Score by quarters

Elyria	0	7	0	0—7
Ross	7	0	7	0—14

Scoring

Ross: Doug Gallagher, 15-yard pass from Tony Gant (Tom Schaffer kick), 4:41, first quarter.

Elyria: Andy Vollney, 20-yard return of fumbled lateral (Mike Walsh kick), 6:45, second quarter.

Ross: Gant, 49-yard run (Schaffer kick), 8:06, third quarter.

Team stats.

	E	R
First Downs (ttl.)	2	10
Rushes/Yds.	20/1	48/208
Passing Yards	20	62
Passes/Comp./Int.	10/2/2	5/4/0
Punts/Avg.	4/35.3	4/34.0
Fumbles/Lost	2/1	1/1
Penalties/Yds.	3/29	7/85

Individual stats.

Rushing: Ross: Gant 16/133, Bates 17/59, Johnson 14/26; Elyria: Mobley 7/18.

Passing: Ross: Gant 5/4/0/62; Elyria: Bender 10/2/2/20.

Receiving: Ross: Gallagher 3/53, Bollenbacher 1/9; Elyria: Capers 1/18.

Explosive Lorain offense will test the Little Giants

By BOB MARKER
N-M Sports Editor

Dempsey Noble is impressive Ross Coach Pete admits about the Lorain tailback but as far as he is concerned, it's what's up front that counts.

Lorain is Ross's Homecoming game opponent in the 42nd renewal of the rivalry. Both teams are 1-1 in the Buckeye Conference race and both are coming off big victories.

Lorain stopped Findlay 24-18 in a wild and woolly offensive show while Ross's defense limited Elyria to 21 yards in a 14-7 Little Giants victory.

Noble ran for touchdowns of 70 and 80 yards in the win over Findlay. He leads the Buckeye Conference in rushing with 625 yards on 85 carries. He is especially dangerous on the Lorain sweep.

"I don't care who carries the ball," Moore said, "it's the line up front that gets him room to run."

"We are definitely going to get tested defensively this week," the Ross coach continued, "Lorain has the most experienced offensive line in the conference. They generate a lot of offense up front and we are just going to have our hands full defensively."

"It's just a typical Lorain team," Ross defensive Coordinator Joe Siesel said. "You have to stop the sweep and the power off tackle. They use two tight ends and they try to control the ball on you."

"Noble?" Siesel said, "He's a dandy; he's their big gun. He has nice speed but their fullback is a good blocker."

Lee Jones is the Lorain fullback who Noble follows. On the sweep, Jones is one of the blockers who helps clear the path for Noble.

Siesel also respects the Steelmen's passing game

with quarterback John Mullins. The signal caller is rated only seventh in the conference rating with 16 of 38 for 268 yards but three of the completions have gone for TDs.

"When they do air it out," Siesel said, "they will throw it deep."

Lorain, normally a tough team for Ross to crack defensively, mystified Moore, especially after last week's game. Findlay quarterback Bruce Porter hit 20 of 32 passes for 369 yards against the Steelmen as Findlay ran up nearly 500 yards in the losing effort.

"It's interesting trying to figure out how he did that," Moore mused, "because they usually put so much pressure on you."

"I know that we are going to have to have an error free game and we have to avoid the penalties. They hurt us last week."

"Offensively, the line has to 'generate' more. It (line) does it in practice but in a game, it has not done it."

ROSS NOTES: Quarterback Tony Gant is rated second in BC passing with 28 of 61 for 364 yards and three touchdowns. Receiver Doug Gallagher is fourth with 15 catches for an average of 16.6 yards.

Eric Bates is fifth in scoring with 24 and Gant is third in pass interceptions with five. Bates is third in the conference in total yardage rushing with 413 but Gant and Bo Johnson rank fourth and fifth, respectively, in average per rush. Gant had 342 yards for a 6 yard norm and Johnson had 256 for 5.9 each effort.

As a team, Ross is first defensively, allowing 139 yards a game and fourth offensively, generating 230 per contest.

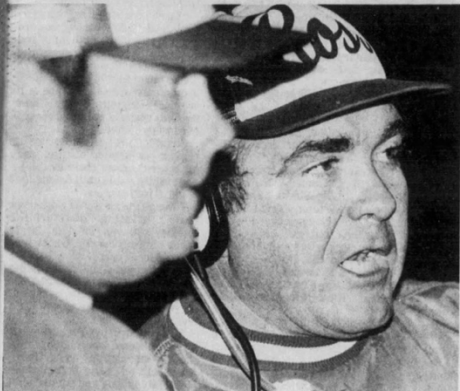


TAVIR

Sports

Bob Marker, editor

'O' and 'D' share billing in Ross victory



JOE SIESEL, Ross defensive coordinator, right, discusses strategy with head Coach Pete Moore during second

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor
Ross scored twice in the first quarter and then rode the compact form of Mike Palomo to a second half boost for a 28-14 victory over Lorain in a key Buckeye Conference football game Friday at Harmon Stadium.

Tony Gant passed 12 yards to Dan Bollenbacher and Ron Thrun returned a pass interception 36 yards to get Ross rolling in the first period. Palomo's 70-yard return with the second half kickoff provided a spark that Ross Coach Pete Moore said will make the next three weeks "sweet."

The Little Giants, 5-2 and 2-1 in the BC, turned Lorain's next three weeks sour with the surprisingly easy victory.

"Now they have two losses," Moore said, "and that just about puts them out of this thing (conference title race) but we are still in it."

Ross will travel to Marion to play Harding next Friday before returning home to face Findlay. Sandusky, the conference leader along with Admiral King, closes the Ross season.

The Little Giants, however, generating an offense that had the Lorain defense baffled in several stages of the game, put together its best "two-way" performance of the season.

With linebackers Orlando Carter and Dave Elcher plus Chad Parker, Tom Garand and Craig Forgatch turning in big

plays, the Little Giants defense controlled Lorain. The two Lorain TDs were set up on a pair of fumbled punts.

"Those fumbles put the pressure on us," admitted Moore, "but each time it took Lorain several plays to score from in close."

The Steelman needed four plays to score from 15 yards late in the second quarter with Dempsey Noble, the conference's leading rusher, scoring on a fourth and one at the six. The second TD was a seven-play, 22-yard drive after the second Ebert fumble. Lee Jones capped it with a three-yard run.

That was it; Ross defensive coordinator Joe Siesel was not charging his team with either of the TDs.

"We have been telling the guys all week that they had to control the line of scrimmage and they did it," Siesel said. "If I would have known we were going to play like this before the game, I would have been more than happy."

He's smiling; Ross limited the Lorain offense to 82 yards, 76 on the ground in 35 plays. Noble finished with 63 yards on 26 carries.

Ross marched 80 yards in 14 plays to score on its first possession. It was the longest drive this season for Ross.

"They (Lorain) have a tendency to start slow," Ross offensive coordinator Rex Radeloff said, "and they could not handle Tony (Gant). Then Bates (Eric) had a couple of nice runs."

Bates ran for 43 yards including a 19-yard

run on a third and seven from the Ross 23. He cut off the block of tackle Jeff Ruggiero for the big gainer. Gant hit Bollenbacher with 17-yard strike on a third and 14 at the Ross 49 on the eighth play of the drive, and then hooked up with him for the final 12 yards.

Thrun picked off a Chuck Muzio pass in the right flat and returned it for the six-points on Lorain's possession after Ross's first TD.

Palomo took the spotlight at the start of the second half.

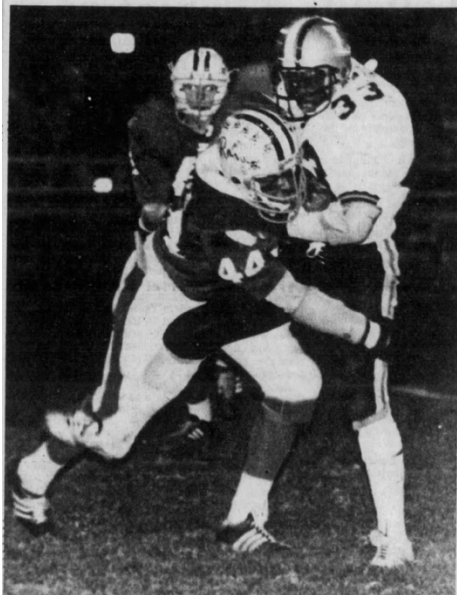
"How many times," Moore asked, "do you see a kickoff or a punt fumbled around and then going for a big gain. We had a return right on and you could just see the hole open up."

Palomo, a sophomore who is listed as five-feet, six inches, depending on who's measuring, ran from the Ross 26 to the Lorain four before being run down by Lorain's Melvin Noble.

On the next play, Gant faked to Eric Bates before rolling around right end for the TD.

Leading 21-14, Ross got the final big break of the game when Dempsey Noble fumbled at the Lorain 34 with five minutes remaining. The Little Giants used 12 plays and key eight-yard Bates run along with a 13-yard penalty on Lorain to score the clinching TD. Gant hit Doug Gallegher with a pin-point pass from the 15 with 1:03 remaining in the game.

Gant rushed for 59 yards on 20 carries and Bates had 60 on 19.



ORLANDO CARTER of Ross wraps his hands around Dempsey Noble of Lorain in their period play. Carter helped Ross's defense hold the Buckeye Conference's leading rusher to 63 yards.

Woodmore golfers win district title

The Woodmore Wildcat golf team is going to Columbus, but the St. Joe, Clyde and Port Clinton golfers and Ross' Dave Miller had their dreams of traveling south cut short in district competition Friday.

The Suburban Lakes League champion Wildcats won a sudden-death playoff with Ottawa Hills on the second extra hole to capture the Class A District crown at Hawthorne Hills in Lima. Both teams shot 320 in regulation.

Woodmore was led by Jason Vie Brooks' four-over 76. John Schaffer and Brian Neeb both shot 81s and Steve Korn added an 82 to round out the Wildcat scoring. Ottawa Hills will also be making the trip to the Scarlet course as a result of its second-place finish.

The St. Joe Streaks also played at Hawthorne Hills, but fell 35 strokes short to finish in ninth place. Jeff Decker paced St.



MIKE PALOMO (24) of the Little Giants is on his way to a 70-yard return with the second half kickoff. Palomo, a sophomore, was stopped at the Lorain four. Ross scored on the next play.

Ross 28, Lorain 14

Score by quarters

Lorain Senior	0	7	0	7-14
Ross	14	0	7	7-28

Scoring

Ross: Dan Bollenbacher, 12-yard pass from Tony Gant (Tom Schaffer kick), 1:23, first quarter.

Ross: Ron Thrun, 36-yard pass interception return (Schaffer kick), 0:22, first quarter.

Lorain: Dempsey Noble, six-yard run (Vince Villanucci kick), 3:40, second quarter.

Ross: Gant, four-yard run (Schaffer kick), 11:43, third quarter.

Lorain: Lee Jones, three-yard run (Villanucci kick), 8:02, fourth quarter.

Ross: Doug Gallagher, 15-yard pass from Gant (Schaffer kick), 1:03, fourth quarter.

Team stats

	L	R
First Downs (Total)	4	13
Rushes/Yards	35/76	43/139
Passing Yards	16	44
Passes/Comp./Int.	9/1/2	8/3/0
Punts/Avg.	7/38.1	4/36.3
Fumbles/Lost	2/2	3/2
Penalties/Yards	9/108	6/60

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Ross: Gant 20/59, Eric Bates 19/60; Lorain: D. Noble 26/63.

Passing: Ross: Gant 8/3/0/44; Lorain: Chuck Muzio 5/1/2.

Receiving: Ross: Bollenbacher 2/29, Doug Gallagher 1/15.

Saturday, Oct. 24, 1981, The News-Messenger, Fremont, O.

A-9

Sports

Bob Marker, editor

Ross capitalizes enough for 16-6 victory

By ROB BOUKISSEN
News-Messenger Sports Writer
MARION — Being semi-opportunistic was good enough for the Ross Little Giants Friday night at Harding Stadium.

The Marion Harding Presidents turned the ball over to the Giants five times, four of which came deep in Marion territory, but Ross only took advantage of the gifts twice.

Despite their slight lack of capitalization, the Little Giants still came away with a 16-6 victory over the Prexies to up their overall record to 6-2 and their Buckeye Conference mark to 3-1, keeping them in contention for a conference title.

Ross Coach Pete Moore admittedly was not too pleased with his club's inability to turn Harding errors into scores, but still was

happy with the win.

"We are always happy with a win," Moore said. "But we can't expect to do the same the next two weeks and still win." Ross will play Findlay next Friday and Sandusky after that in the classic season finale.

Moore, however, did cite two bright spots, one of which was the scrappy Ross defense that caused all those turnovers.

"Our defense had an outstanding game," said Moore. "They gave us the ball in their (Marion's) territory all night."

Leading the Little Giants' defensive charge was Jeff Bates, who caused three of the Prexies' four fumbles. Tackle Tom Garand recovered two of those fumbles while linebacker Mike Wendt and Dave Eicher snatched up the other

two.

Harding's other turnover was an interception by end Orlando Carter, which came at a pivotal time in the first quarter.

After Ross took the opening kickoff and marched from its own 44 to a Tom Schaffer 29-yard field goal to go up 3-0, Harding came back and moved the ball to the Ross 11 on 10 plays.

On a second-and-nine situation, Marion quarterback Mark Schweinfurth attempted his first pass of the night, a quick slant-in to end Todd Hecker. But Carter stepped in and picked off the pigskin to thwart the Prexy drive.

After an exchange of punts, Ross' Tony Gant threw an interception on his only pass attempt of the night. The theft was made by Marion's King Mayse at his own 11.

Three plays later, the Prexies returned the favor when Garand pounced on a Lane Hempfield fumble at the 25.

That happened at the 2:37 mark of the second period and two minutes later, Ross had its second score of the night when fullback Bo Johnson bulled over right tackle to give the Giants a 9-0 lead going into the dressing room.

The running of Johnson was the other bright spot Moore had referred to earlier as the 6-0, 175-pound senior found enough room inside to scamper for 111 yards in 24 carries.

"Bo was running well," Moore said. "They (the Marion defense) was taking away the outside game, so we went inside."

Johnson accounted for Ross' final tally of the night when he

again punched it over from the two with less than two minutes gone in the third quarter.

Johnson's second touchdown came on a three-play Ross drive which started at the Marion 10 where Wendt had snatched up a Marion fumble on its first play of the second half.

The Little Giants had a chance to put the game away for good in that same quarter when they recovered the final two Harding fumbles in Marion territory, but two 15-yard holding penalties stopped one drive and poor offensive execution halted the other.

The defense, however, kept the Giants lead safe allowing only a five-yard Hempfield TD run late in the game which was set up by an Eric Bates' fumble at his own 15. Marion is now 1-7, 0-5.

Moore reiterated his praise for the Ross "D." He said, "Our defense was just super. You win championships by having a good defense."

ROSS NOTES: A number of Ross coaches had some negative remarks about the officiating Friday night . . . One play in particular which had the Little Giants' brass fuming came in the fourth quarter when Gant apparently broke free for a spectacular 87-yard jaunt only to have it called back on a delayed flag for clipping . . . Schaffer was set to attempt a 46-yard field goal in the third quarter, but instead, he wound up attempting a pass as the snap from center went unintentionally into his hands . . . His "pass" fell incomplete.

Ross 16, Harding 6

Score by quarters

Ross	3	6	7	0—16
Harding	0	0	0	6—6

Scoring

Ross: Tom Schaffer 29-yard field goal 5:32 first quarter.

Ross: Bo Johnson two-yard run (kick failed) :37 second quarter.

Ross: Johnson two-yard run (Schaffer kick) 10:04 third quarter.

Harding: Lane Hempfield five-yard run (run failed) 2:26 fourth quarter.

Team stats

	H	R
First Downs (Total)	8	10
Rushes/Yards	26/110	53/185
Passing Yards	65	0
Passes/Comp./Int.	10/5/1	2/0/1
Punts/Avg.	2/34	3/35
Fumbles/Lost	4/4	4/1
Penalties/Yards	4/58	6/55

Individual statistics

Rushing: Ross Johnson 34/111, Eric Bates 15/45; Harding Hempfield 10/69.

Passing: Ross Tony Gant 1/0/1/0, Schaffer 1/0/0/0; Harding Mark Schweinfurth 10/5/1/65.

Receiving: Harding Todd Hecker 3/33.

Records: Ross 6-2 (3-0), Harding 1-7 (0-5).

Sports

Tony Gant: a special student-athlete

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor
Tony Gant is not a normal high school student athlete.

Athletically, Gant, 17, was rated one of the 10 best football players in Ohio heading into this season. He has done little to dispell that lofty position.

Academically, the Ross senior, is far from average. He carries a 3.8 grade average out of a possible 4.0. And that is not in the "push over" subjects. Gant takes courses like trig, chemistry, advanced English classes; the hard courses, not the jock classes.

"I see a lot of kids waiting until the last year of school to try to get good grades," the soft speaking Ross Little Giants two-way football star said. "Some kids take the easy courses to get a good grade average. I don't. I have been college preparatory all along."

"... even if I was not a good athlete and no one was recruiting me, I'd still go to college."

Gant's reputation on the football field has been noticed. His academic prowess is a bonus. At last count, by letter or phone call, the slender, six-foot, one-inch Gant had been contacted by 60 colleges wanting his services.

He's writing his ticket to college both ways: on the field and in the books.

Every Big Ten school has contacted Gant; many southern colleges have dropped their names at his doorstep; and the west coast powers such as UCLA have more than liked what the transplant from Sandusky has been accomplishing.

The Ivy League schools have also been noticing. He would not get an athletic scholarship from any team in that stoic conference; it would be purely academic.

And Ivy League schools don't recruit that many black athletes.

"Yeah, I know that," he smiled, while noting that he wants to go into pre-law with more than a passing glance at political science.

He knows where football is in his life.

"It's my way to get to school," Gant, one of a family of four said but then added, "even if I was not a good athlete and no one was recruiting me, I'd still go to college."

Gant has accepted his gift of brains and athletic ability in stride. "Athletics have been easy to me," he admits, "and I was a straight-A student until I got into high school when it got a little more difficult."

"I feel that I am one of the 10 best players in Ohio."

Cocky?

"No," he insisted. "I have the ability and I am dedicated."

He shows that dedication toward the books, saying that he would not go to a college that promised him the "cake" courses like Football I and advanced Football II to go with elementary baseball rules. That's not for him.

"My first goal in college is planning for my future. Sports is second."

While attending the Ohio State University football camp last summer, he recalled a fact that has stuck in his head; a fact that has solidified his desire to go into law.

"I want to become a successful lawyer," he began. "When I was in Columbus I found out that there were maybe three or four black lawyers there. There are not too many black lawyers... just look at Fremont."

Gant and his family moved to Fremont from Sandusky when he was a fifth grader. Up to that time, it was basketball, then football. Then the magic of the Fremont football fan began to stalk him.

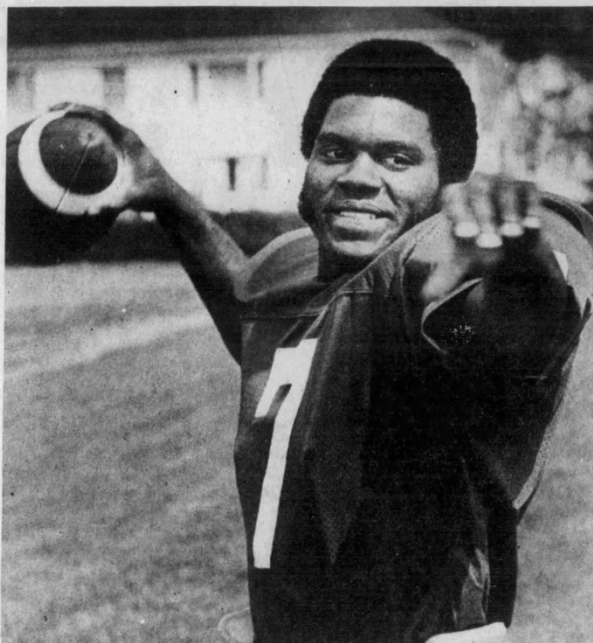
"I found out that football was very special here."

He quietly admits that he felt basketball was his better sport up till this year.

"I have improved a lot in football," he admitted, "but I figure that I am done growing now."

He didn't have to add that he felt his size would hinder him on the hardwood but that his size and his better than 4.6 speed in the 40 would not be a hinderance on the football field.

Last year, Gant was mainly a defensive back on Ross's 9-1 season. He is very happy with his role he played on



TONY GANT

the 1980 Buckeye Conference football champs.

"We did not have a super star on the team," he said. "I felt we were just a good solid bunch playing last year. We knew what we had to do on Friday night and we did it."

This season Ross is 6-2 with Gant playing safety and quarterback and he may be more satisfied with this Ross team.

"We did not have a lot coming back this year," he said.

He shrugs off the fact that if the Little Giants have a super star this season, he's the guy.

"I can handle the attention," he said quietly. "My ego is not that inflated."

His saddest moment this season was in Ross's 12-10 loss to Cleveland Benedictine; a game in which he made a mistake in pass coverage on Benedictine's last minute touchdown drive.

"I really felt bad about that," he offered.

Maybe the reason Gant is down to earth with his "head screwed on right," is the way he has been brought up.

"Church is a big part of my life," he said. "I have grown up in the church and I will always be in the church."

And with that attitude, you get the feeling that Tony Gant is not just a jock waiting for people to wait on him because he's just not your normal high school student first and athlete second.

Records for Findlay, a showdown for Ross



ERIC BATES of Ross cuts through a hole on the first play of the game against Sandusky Friday at Harmon Stadium. Bates picked up 18 yards on the

play. He finished with his first 100-plus yardage game of the season with 130 on 17 carries. (News-Messenger photos by Bill Kennedy)

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor
Findlay got the records but Ross got another shot at a Buckeye Conference football title Friday at Harmon Stadium.

Findlay's aerial show netted two Buckeye Conference records but Ross's defense and a balanced attack propelled the Little Giants to a 29-7 win over the slumbering Trojans.

Ross, now 7-4 and 4-1 in the BC will square off against Sandusky at the Blue Streaks' home Friday for a possible portion of the conference title. Sandusky knocked off Admiral King 28-14 Friday and will carry a 5-0 conference mark and an 8-1 record into the showdown.

Ron Thrun along with a handful of linemen, on both sides of the ball, and group of linebackers that played hopscotch with the Trojans stood out in the easily deceptive win. Thrun intercepted two passes but could easily have had five.

"I've never intercepted a pass," Thrun, a 165-pound junior halfback claimed, "and never three. I thought the third one was okay."

A Ross holding penalty wiped that one out. Two others that Thrun had a shot at fell to the ground. One hit his hands and bounced away and the fifth was knocked from his grasp when he was hit by the Findlay receiver.

The pass interception that wasn't kept Findlay alive on a 14-play, 95-yard drive to its first points against Ross in three years.

Bruce Porter, the conference's leading passer kept his claim on that distinction for Findlay. He connected on 24 of 34 for 228 yards. He was intercepted three times — the third Ross theft belonged to Mitch Curtiss.

Despite Porter's stats, both Ross head Coach Pete Moore and defensive coordinator Joe Siesel

were unanimous in thought.

"I'm satisfied with the pass defense," Siesel said, "I think we did a heck of a job. We showed them three different coverages and that confused him (Porter). Everytime he looked up, the coverage was different and that put pressure on him."

Orlando Carter, Doug Zink and Craig Forgatch were credited with two sacks apiece for 46-yards in losses for Porter. Carter's second sack of the game resulted in a safety.

Ross's defense allowed the Trojans a minus-15 yards on 20 efforts.

Sull, Porter's night gave him a BC records 1511 yards for the season, breaking the old mark of 1,475 set by another Findlay quarterback and now an assistant coach for the Trojans, Cliff Hite.

Findlay receiver Shannon Clark hauled down 13 of Porter's passes for 150 yards. He now has 59 receptions this season, another conference record.

Ross didn't break any records... just Findlay's defense.

Eric Bates romped for 130 yards on 17 carries; Tony Gant fired two scoring passes to tight end Dan Bollenbacher; and the Little Giants offense rolled over 300 yards (322) for the first time this season.

Gant had 57 yards on a dozen carries and fullback Bo Johnson ran for 76, also on a dozen efforts.

Gant's 35-yard strike to Bollenbacher gave Ross its first TD with 3:07 remaining in the first period.

"It was a case of the perfect offense against an imperfect defense," Ross offensive coordinator Rex Radeloff said. "Findlay brought the safety right up to the line and I knew when I saw it that it was going to be a touch-

down."

Bates, who opened the game with a 18-yard run, a run that would have gone another 50 had he not stepped out at midfield, got Ross's second six-pointer. He cut around a block by left tackle Tim Michael and bolted 73 yards early in the period.

Johnson got Ross's third touchdown, a six-yard run to cap an eight-play 64-yard Ross drive.

Ross put the game on ice late in the third frame.

Facing a third and 10 at the Findlay 24, Porter was sacked by Zink, fumbled and Carter recovered at the 13. Two plays later, Gant hit Bollenbacher to cover the final 11 yards.

All during Ross's offensive night, the linemen were moving the Trojans out. Tony Gardner and Michael, subbing for the injured Jeff Ruggiero, right guard Doug Winans, center Micah Schumaker, messenger guards Dave Hicks, Rich Meek and Ralph Hirschberg were all lauded by Radeloff.

Defensively, it was more of the same with Siesel pointing out the efforts of linemen Tom Garand, Forgatch, Zink and left Bates plus linebackers Carter, Bob Lotycz, Mike Wendt and Dave Eicher.

"It was a nice win," Moore said. "Findlay put on a real air show but our kids responded to it very well."

"There is no question about it; I don't care if they had gained 400 yards (in the air), our kids had a great game."

"But," Moore continued, "I think all of the coaches were worried about this game... about looking ahead."

Now the Little Giants do not have to look ahead. Sandusky is staring them in the face.

The showdown begins at 8 p.m. Friday in Sandusky's Stroebel Field.

Huron rocks St. Joe 41-0

By DAN HOFFMAN

News-Messenger Sports Writer
HURON — St. Joe head coach Tom Narducci knew before the game that his team would have to play a flawless game to beat the Huron Tigers. Instead, it was the Tigers who worked to near perfection, rolling up a 41-0 lashing of the Crimson Streaks in a Sandusky Bay Conference tilt.

"I think God is punishing me," said Narducci, "There must be some blackmark in my life that he doesn't like."

"Huron has a real nice team" continued Narducci, "They run basically the same offense as we do, but as you can see they do it better."

Not only did Huron's offense excel, but the Tiger defense was just as good. St. Joe was limited to four first downs and 28 yards in the contest.

"We didn't play too badly in the first half," Narducci, "But that last play of the half killed us."

Narducci was referring to a 57-yard scoring pass from the Tigers' Marc Munafa to Tripp Davidson as

time expired. Munafa looked as if he was being tackled at the line of scrimmage when he dumped a shuffle pass off to the speedy Davidson who outraced the Streak secondary to the flag.

Huron took a 21-0 lead into the locker rooms but refused to sit on its lead in the second half. Tiger linebacker Dan Smelser picked off a deflected Mark Gabel pass with less than a minute left in the third stanza and went 44 yards untouched for the score.

After the Streaks generated a first down following the kickoff, Streak punter Scott Kuzma was forced to kick one of his 10 punts, which was downed at the Huron 35.

Davidson bolted off left tackle on the first play and wasn't brought down till he reached the St. Joe 13. Six plays later Davidson went up and over from the two to score his third touchdown.

Reserve quarterback Randy Strickland closed out the scoring for the Tiger's by dashing in from six yards out at the 5:28 mark of the final period.

"We were unable to handle them physically," said Narducci, "We

had too many letdowns on defense, including that play by Davidson at the half."

"I thought if we could have held them to seven points in the first half we would still have a shot at them. Instead we gave them 14 points in a minute."

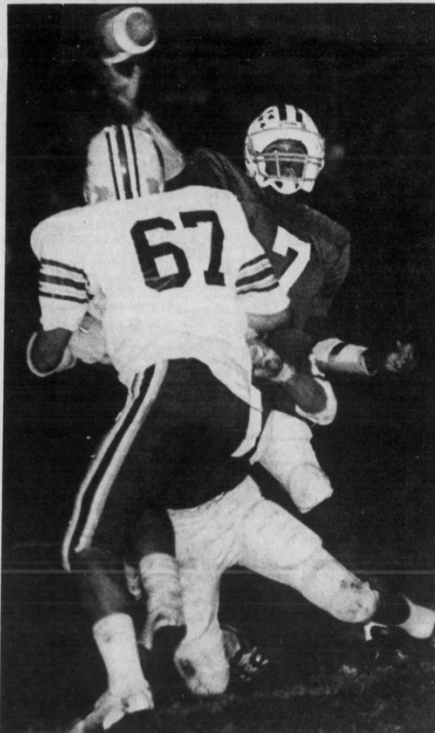
Davidson burst over from a yard out with 1:03 left in the half giving his team a 14-0 lead, only to lengthen that score at the end of the half.

Doug Pfahl opened the scoring by hauling in a 14-yard pass from Munafa on Huron's first drive. Munafa ended up totaling 223 yards through the skies, including 209 in the first half of action.

"We will keep doing the things we are doing now," said Narducci in reference to next Saturday's finale with Clyde at Harmon Stadium.

"I'm not ashamed of anything," offered Narducci, "We have been getting tremendous support from the fans and we have the best booster club in the state as far as I'm concerned."

"We will be ready for Clyde, I'm sure of it."



ROSS QUARTERBACK Tony Gant gets off a pass to Doug Gallagher. An unidentified Ross blocker protects

Gant. The play went for 14 yards to the Findlay 24.



RON THRUN had two pass interceptions but came close to getting five in the Ross victory.

Wrong word

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — An official of the NCAA says the word "investigation" is being used improperly in connection with the association's involvement in a recruiting controversy surrounding Notre Dame football Coach Jerry Faust.

"I don't see why some individuals are inclined to use the word 'investigation.' It's nothing other than determining how NCAA rules apply to what occurred," David Berst, the NCAA's director of enforcement, told The Columbus Dispatch.

But Berst declined to say whether the NCAA is trying to make such a determination.

The controversy erupted after Faust visited the locker room of his former high

Sipe the Scrambler may emerge Sunday in Buffalo

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. (AP) — Everyone in Rich Stadium, from the fans in the back row watching the freighters on Lake Erie to the players on the field, will expect the Buffalo Bills to put a strong pass

good. We have to keep our intensity or we're not going to win."

Neither team is where it wanted to be at the National Football League's halfway mark, but the Bills are only a game off at 5-3. The

met once in a scrimmage and twice in exhibitions, with the Browns winning 13-10 here before Buffalo reversed that with a 31-20 decision in Cleveland.

Sipe is right about the numbers:

Ross 29, Findlay 7

Score	
Findlay	0 0 0 7 7
Ross	7 14 6 2 29

Scoring

Ross: Dan Bollenbacher, 35-yard pass from Tony Gant (Tom Schaffer kick), 1:50, first quarter.

Ross: Eric Bates, 73-yard run (Schaffer kick), 8:36, second quarter.

Ross: Bo Johnson, six-yard run (Schaffer kick), 3:40, second quarter.

Ross: Bollenbacher, 11-yard pass from Gant kick failed, 3:07, third quarter.

Findlay: Pat Dillon, three-yard run; Bruce Porter kick, 10:23, fourth quarter.

Ross: Orlando Carter, safety, tackled quarterback in end zone 4:30 fourth quarter.

Team Stats

	F	R
First Downs (Total)	16	11
Rushes/yards	20/15	43/262
Passing Yards	228	60
Passes/Comp./Int.	34/24/3	4/3/1
Punts/Avg.	4/36.8	5/38.2
Fumbles/Lost	5/1	4/1
Penalties/Yards	1/8	5/55

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Ross: Gant 12/57, Bates 17/130, Johnson 12/76; Findlay: P. Dillon 12/29.

Passing: Ross: Gant 4/3/1/60; Findlay: Bruce Porter 34/29/3/228.

Receiving: Ross: Bollenbacher 2/46, Doug Gallagher 1/14; Findlay: Shannon Clark 13/150, Jamie Houdshell 10/72.

Records: Ross 7/2 (4/1), Findlay 1/8 (1/4).

Students' spirit overcomes gloom

By CYNDI METZGER
News-Messenger Staff Writer

Cheers of "Juniors, juniors, juniors" rose above sputtering hot rod engine. A cry of "Sophomores, sophomores, sophomores," answered back.

Young float builders rushed to cover their delicate creations with plastic. Rain-soaked tissue paper still streaked the lighter parts of the floats with unwanted color.

Everything from a hearse to a 16-foot-tall "Little" Giant gathered in the east parking lot of Ross High School to become part of the first Sandusky Week parade-pep rally Thursday night.

By the book, the evening couldn't have been much worse.

Students, teachers and administrators had spent the last two days mourning the defeat of the Fremont School district's 4.3-mill levy in Tuesday's election.

Then, bodies as well as spirits were dampened by rain that drenched the floats less than 30 minutes before the parade began.

But, the seemingly irrepressible teen-agers answered the odds in one breath: "Beat Sandusky."

The parade and pep rally culminated a week of activities planned by school administrators to transform the usually vandalism-ridden week before the Sandusky-Ross football game into an organized "spirit" week. By most accounts, the first attempt was successful.

Reminders of the "old days" when transplanting outhouses on the high school lawn was ritual still appeared. Replicas of shanties adorned two of the floats, including one of the prize-winners.

The Future Farmers of America club took first place in the best s'ogan competition with a pickup hauling an outhouse and sign that read "Wipe out Sandusky, and spread them across the field."

There was also proof of long hours spent on the project. The Social Studies Club, creatures of the overwhelming tissue paper and chicken wire Little Giant, worked "until the late hours of the night" all this week, according to club member Sue Celek.

They captured first place in the most original design



"EAT THE STREAKS" was the slogan that won Robin Rapp, left, and Sophie Ratliff the most humorous award in the locker decorating contest during Ross High School's Sandusky Week. The junior girls made their decoration a two-locker display because their lockers are adjoining. Other winners in the contest were sophomore Paula Wethington for best slogan, sophomore Molly Schutzer for school spirit; senior Robin Scott for most original; and senior Terri Growel for best design. (News-Messenger photos by Bill Kennedy)



CO-CAPTAINS TONY GANT AND BOB LOTYCZ AT THE RALLY

contest. Other winners were the sophomore class float for best design, the pompon club for the best display of school spirit, and the choir float for the most creative use of sound effects.

Some of the students even used the parade to vent their anger and disappointment with the defeat of the school levy.

A late entry, put together by a group of juniors, Wednesday night, urged the Ross football team to "bury Sandusky like the voters buried us."

"We are just expressing what we feel," said junior Tracy Beard.

"We just want a good school year; that's not too much to ask," said Hope Richardson, another junior.

As a result of the levy's failure all extracurricular activities, including sports, clubs and organizations, are scheduled to be eliminated next fall.

Even the cheerleaders challenged the voters with their float asking, "How could you take our sports away?"

As the parade coursed south on Franklin Street, then east on State Street, bar patrons and shoppers, most unaware of the planned procession, stepped onto the

sidewalks. Youngsters squirmed for their first glimpses of the wailing police car that led the way, while parents wondered what was happening.

By the time the parade of decorated cars, bicycles, trucks and floats reached the Sandusky County Courthouse via Front and Croghan streets, everything but the upcoming football game was forgotten.

Choruses of "We are super" rang from the exuberant group of about 300 students that gathered on Park Avenue in front of the courthouse.

After short speeches by Fremont Mayor Richard Maier, Ross football coach Pete Moore and Ross Principal David Aschenbach, the crowd of alumni, parents and frenzied high schoolers burst into the Ross High School fight song, accompanied by the marching band.

About 45 minutes after the whooping and hollering, screaming and shouting began, Park Avenue emptied. David Brickner, an assistant principal at the high school, had only one reaction to the dissolving display of organized enthusiasm: "Super!"



DOOM FOR SANDUSKY BLUE STREAKS?

Sports

Bob Marker, editor

Ross takes part of crown from Sandusky

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor
SANDUSKY — Ross played take-away Friday at wind swept Strobel Field and brought home a share of the Buckeye Conference football championship in a victory that salvaged the week for the Little Giants.

Sandusky, 8-1 heading into the game and sitting on top of the BC with a 5-0 mark, could not dent the Little Giants defense and fell 24-8. The Blue Streaks generated only 56 yards on 32 running attempts but picked up another 110 in the air.

Ross, possessing the top defensive unit in the conference, turned in four interceptions, forced seven

Sandusky fumbles and fell on two of them in routing the cold Blue Streaks.

"We took it away from them," Moore, fresh from the showers, said. "We had a lot of fun tonight; we were pretty loose. We did not have any pressure on us."

Ross put the pressure cooker on the fire early for Sandusky. The Little Giants took the opening kickoff to the Blue Streaks 33 before giving up the ball to temporarily halt R's.

Ron Thrun, w o intercepted two passes a week ago, against Findlay, pulled down his sixth of the year at the Ross 32 on Sandusky's drive. It

took Ross a dozen plays to march 62 yards. Tony Gant scored the first of his three touchdowns, sneaking in from the one just a second into the second period.

With 47 seconds remaining in the first half, Gant scored again on a four-yard run. Tom Schaffer converted after both TDs for a 14-0 Ross lead.

The second was set up by a fumble recovery by Ross linebacker Bob Lotycz at midfield. The Little Giants needed six plays to score. An 18-yard pass from Gant to Doug Gallagher to the Sandusky 16 keyed the drive.

The Little Giants benefited from

a fired up offensive line. With tackles Tony Gardner, Jeff Ruggiero and Tim Michael, a quartet of guards — Doug Winans, Dave Hicks, Ralph Hirschberg and Rich Meek, center Micah Schumacher plus tight end Dan Bollenbacher turning in big plays several times in the contest, Ross got the yards it needed when it had to.

"Sandusky did what we thought they would," Ross offensive coordinator Rex Radeleff, who also got the pre-Saturday night bath treatment, said. Radeleff and tackle coach Mike Wetzel were unanimous in agreeing that the Ross offensive line had one of its best games of the season.

Radeleff was also pleased with the running of his backs, especially Bo Johnson who ran for 77 yards on 15 carries. He opened the game with a 17-yard burst up the middle.

"That was supposed to be a pass play," Moore said as he called off the jargon describing the planned first play, "but the wind took that away from us."

Ross stretched its lead midway through the third period on a 25-yard field goal by Schaffer. The Little Giants had kicked off with the wind and Schaffer's kick had sailed through the end zone. Sandusky was unable to move and

Ross was in business when Sandusky punter Kevin Johnson's punt stopped at the Blue Streak 46.

The drive stalled at the eight and Schaffer hit the three-pointer.

Ross scored the clincher four minutes later. Tom Garand, Ross defensive tackle, recovered Sandusky quarterback Bret Ninke's fumble at the Sandusky 25.

Gant scored four plays later and Schaffer's boot made it 24-0 with 2:57 to play in the third period.

It was academic from that point with Ross's defense bending with the pass but snapping back against any ground attack.

"This time," defensive coordinator Joe Siesel insisted, "it was a team effort. They all played well."

Drawing praise from Siesel were linemen Garand, Doug Zink, Jeff Bates, Gardner, Ruggiero and Craig Forgatsch; linebackers Orlando Carter, Mike Wendt, Dave Elcher and Lotycz along with backfield people Gant, Thrun, Bates and Mark Balsizer.

Besides Thrun, Balsizer, Bates and Carter intercepted passes.

The only score for Sandusky came on a fourth and goal at the Ross seven. Quarterback Troy LaCourse passed to wingback Gene Whaley for the TD with six and one-

half minutes left in the game.

Moore, who felt he might have witnessed his team's best performance of the year said, "I think this team just kept getting better."

"We are just beginning to play our best ball," he said and then alluded to the playoffs, a post-season activity that Ross will miss again. "I think in the past three years we have shown people around the state that we have the tools to play anyone. We may not beat them but we would be in it."

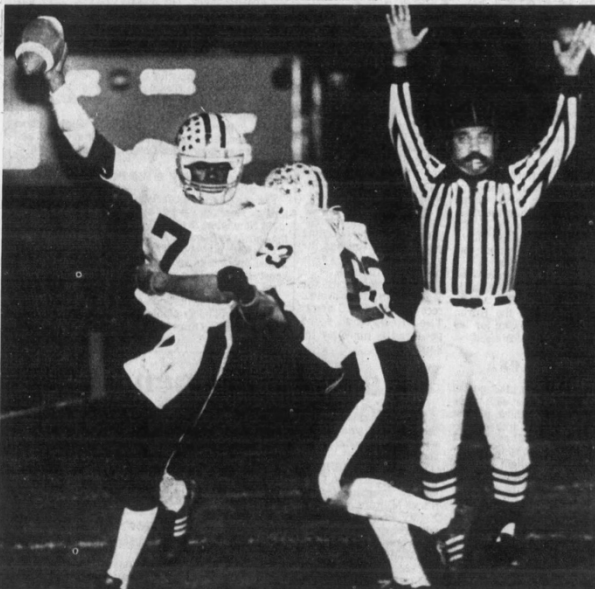
"I'd like to play Upper Arlington (Sandusky's playoff opponent last year after Ross had beaten the Blue Streaks 7-0), we would put on a good show for them."

Moore refused to talk about any disappointment that his team or staff had with the failure of a Ross levy Tuesday despite the reality that all extra-curricular activities would be wiped out in 1982.

"Right now we are going to enjoy the weekend and worry about that next week."

ROSS NOTES: Both Gant and Bates had 91 yards rushing, Gant on 12 carries and Bates on 18, and Johnson 77. Ross ended up with 261 yards rushing and another 18 through the air.

Ross's defense surrendered just 56 yards, 30 in the final period, in rushing and 110 more in the air.



ROSS quarterback Tony Gant gets congratulations from his teammate Doug Winans after a four-yard run into the end zone during the second quarter of play at Strobel Field in Sandusky Friday night. The touchdown was the second of three for the Ross signal caller.



BO JOHNSON, Ross fullback, gets wrapped up by Sandusky defenders on one of his 15 carries. Johnson rushed for 77 yards and the Little Giants picked up 261 yards on the ground.

Griffins in hock

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)

— According to Franklin County Common Pleas Court records, brothers Archie and Raymond Griffin of the Cincinnati Bengals football team and their older brother, James Jr., owe more than \$200,000 to corporate creditors.

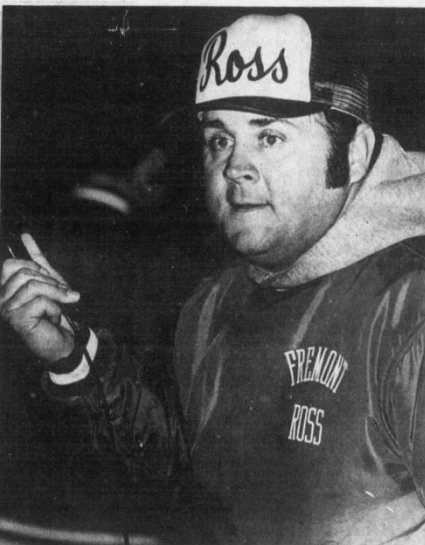
However, their lawyer says Archie and Raymond won't have to promise away a Super Bowl bonus before they even have a chance to collect it.

It also is unlikely that their football salaries will be garnished to pay debts of their company, the Griffin Corp.

"We don't anticipate anything like that. It's a corporation. These are corporate obligations," said Kathleen Hayes Ransier, the lawyer representing the brothers.

She said the Griffins "are entertaining options to purchase" their central Ohio franchise of the Athlete's Foot, a retail chain which sells athletic shoes and clothing.

"Obviously, the business is in poor condition. It's a reflection of the economy and the industry. The jogging craze has waned," Ms. Ransier said.



PETE MOORE, Ross head coach, puts away the headphones just long enough to watch a Little Giant play Friday night. (News-Messenger photos by Bill Kennedy)

Rockets get title share

By DAN HOFFMAN

N-M Sports Writer
OAK HARBOR — The Oak Harbor Rockets gained a share of the Suburban Lakes League title and at the same time enjoyed sweet revenge by pouncing the Gibsonburg Golden Bears 49-16 in the season finale for both squads Friday night.

"We owed these guys one," said Rocket Head Coach Gary Quisno, referring to a 10-7 defeat to the Bears last year that cost the Rockets the title.

"It was a total team effort," praised Quisno.

Cook added a one-yard jaunt at the start of the second quarter and rambled in from six and four yards before the period came to a close. The Golden Bears were limited to 26 yards rushing in the first half of action and three first downs while finding Oak Harbor territory only once.

Gibsonburg was dealt a severe blow when starting fullback and linebacker Paul Sanchez was injured on Oak Harbor's first offensive series.

"Losing Sanchez hurt us," Bear head Coach John Hoover said. "But

the fourth quarter. Mark Russer sneaked it in from one to avert a Rocket Shutout.

Oak Harbor came back to widen their lead as Steve Hammond capped a nine-play drive by punching it in from nine yards out. Both teams were substituting freely but that didn't hinder the game's most interesting play of the night.

After Hammond's score the Bears took over from their own 35 following the ensuing kickoff. After a Rocket penalty, Russer took the snap from center and placed the ball on the



Ross 24, Sandusky 8

Score by quarters

Ross	0	14	10	0—24
Sandusky	0	0	0	8— 8

Scoring

Ross: Tony Gant, one-yard run (Tom Schaffer kick), 11:59, second quarter.

Ross: Gant, four-yard run (Schaffer kick), 0:47, second quarter.

Ross: Schaffer, 25-yard field goal, 6:21, third quarter.

Ross: Gant, four-yard run (Schaffer kick), 2:57, third quarter.

Sandusky: Gene Whaley, seven-yard pass from Troy LaCourse (Scott Van Dottingh pass from LaCourse), 6:30, fourth quarter.

Team stats.

	R	S
First Downs (Total)	14	13
Rushes/Yards	38/261	32/56
Passing Yards	18	110
Passes/Comp./Int.	3/1/0	16/9/4
Punts/Avg.	1/42.0	2/25.0
Fumbles/Lost	1/1	7/2
Penalties/Yards	4/40	4/22

Individual statistics

Rushing: Ross: Gant 12/91, Eric Bates 18/91, Bo Johnson 15/77; Sandusky: Richard Twine 18/37.

Passing: Ross: Gant 2/1/0/18; Sandusky: LaCourse 11/7/3/87, Bret Ninke 5/2/1/23.

Receiving: Ross: Doug Gallagher 1/18; Sandusky: Whaley 4/38, Rich Fantozz 2/35.

Records: Ross 8-2 (5-1); Sandusky 8-2 (5-1).

Sports

Ross's first team picks



CARTER



WINANS



FORGATSCH



GANT



MOORE

Lorain dominates Buckeye star picks

Lorain forced Buckeye Conference co-champs Ross and Sandusky to play second fiddle in the Buckeye Conference "dream team" selections.

The Little Giants did have a pair of top picks — Coach Pete Moore won his third coach of the year honor and Tony Gant was named the back of the year — but Lorain ruled the roost with nine first team selections. Ross had four and Sandusky three.

Lorain, third place finisher in the conference race, placed five on the first team defense and four on offense. Add to that punter of the year Dave Tiller and the Steelmen were represented in 10 first team spots.

Ross had a single first team offense selection in guard Doug Winans and three more on defense. The Little Giants, top rated defensively in the conference, had tackle Craig Forgatch, linebacker Orlando Carter and defensive back Gant on the team but still took a back seat to Lorain which had the third best defense in the final conference statistics.

Gant was also named to the second team offense at quarterback while earning the back of the year honors. He intercepted five passes defensively while running for six touchdowns, passed for seven more, and compiled 576 yards rushing on 113 carries. He was 37 of 77 passing (48 percent) for 497 yards.

Moore completed his

sixth year at Ross with an 8-2 overall record and 5-1 in the conference. It was the third title for Moore as a head coach and his fourth that he has been associated with in his eight years at Ross. He now owns a 41-16-3 record at the helm of the Little Giants. It was Moore's third pick as the BC's top coach and the second in a row.

Villanucci was a first

team offensive guard pick and a first team selection defensively at linebacker. He was also Lorain's kicker.

Offensively, Ross had five players on the second team. Eric Bates, a first team pick a year ago, and running mate Bo Johnson were picked as running backs to go with Gant at quarterback. Tackle Tony Gardner and tight end Dan

Bollenbacher were the other Ross second team offensive picks.

On defense, Ross had only two players named to the second team. Bob Lotycz at linebacker and Ron Thrun made the team as a defensive back.

Ross' special mentions were linebackers Mike Wendt and Dave Elcher; tackle Tom Garand;

center Micah Schumacher; split end Doug Gallagher; and flanker Craig Trick.

Findlay had three players on the first team offense: junior quarterback Bruce Porter and wide receivers Shannon Clark and Jamie Houdeshell. The tight end and one tackle were from Lorain, Dave Driscoll and Eddie Nazario, respectively.

The other first team offensive tackle was Perry Franketti of Sandusky. Ron Dorsey of Admiral King is the center to go with guards Winans and Villanucci. Melvin Brown and Willie Clark of Sandusky along with Dempsey Noble of Lorain are the running backs.

Defensively, Brian Henry of Elyria and Steve Risdon of Lorain are the ends. Jerome Williams and Gary Huff of Lorain go along with Forgatch as linemen. Carter and Villanucci are joined by Mike Smigel of Admiral King at linebacker with Gant, Andy Volney of Elyria and John Mullins of Lorain in the backfield.

1981 All-BC team selections

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE					FIRST TEAM DEFENSE				
POSITION	PLAYER	SCHOOL	HT.	WT. GR.	POSITION	PLAYER	SCHOOL	HT.	WT. GR.
Wide receiver	Shannon Clark	Findlay	6-0	160 12	End	Bryan Henry	Elyria	6-3	200 11
Wide receiver	Jamie Houdeshell	Findlay	6-0	175 12	End	Steve Risdon	Lorain	6-3	190 12
Tight end	Dave Driscoll	Lorain	6-2	185 12	Lineman	Jerome Williams	Lorain	5-10	220 12
Tackle	Eddie Nazario	Lorain	6-0	219 12	Lineman	Gary Huff	Lorain	5-11	260 12
Tackle	Perry Franketti	Sandusky	6-1	212 12	Lineman	Graig Forgatsch	Ross	6-0	210 12
Guard	Vince Villanucci	Lorain	6-1	193 12	Linebacker	Orlando Carter	Ross	6-0	210 12
Guard	Doug Winans	Ross	5-10	170 12	Linebacker	Vince Villanucci	Lorain	6-1	193 12
Center	Ron Dorsey	A. King	6-0	178 12	Linebacker	Mike Smigel	A. King	5-9	166 12
Quarterback	Bruce Porter	Findlay	6-1	175 11	Defensive back	Tony Gant	Ross	6-2	180 12
Running back	Mel Brown	Sandusky	6-0	180 12	Defensive back	Andy Volney	Elyria	6-2	160 12
Running back	Willie Clark	Sandusky	5-11	175 11	Defensive back	John Mullins	Lorain	5-11	170 12
Running back	Dempsey Noble	Lorain	6-0	170 12					
SECOND TEAM OFFENSE					SECOND TEAM DEFENSE				
Wide receiver	Rich Fantozz	Sandusky	6-0	165 12	End	Ken Rankins	Sandusky	6-0	185 12
Wide receiver	Todd Hecker	Harding	6-6	174 11	End	Steve Sutton	A. King	6-0	190 12
Tight end	Dan Bollenbacher	Ross	6-2	190 12	Lineman	James Arnold	Elyria	5-10	220 12
Tackle	Tom Gardner	Ross	6-0	250 12	Lineman	William Curley	Sandusky	6-0	200 12
Tackle	Steve Meyer	A. King	6-2	215 12	Lineman	Mark Everett	Sandusky	5-10	240 12
Guard	Greg Kuback	Sandusky	5-8	187 11	Linebacker	Chris Hartman	Lorain	5-0	205 12
Guard	Jeff Kaya	A. King	6-0	205 12	Linebacker	Ken Rider	Elyria	6-0	170 11
Center	Dene Maschali	Sandusky	5-8	175 12	Back	Bob Lotycz	Ross	6-1	195 12
Quarterback	Tony Gant	Ross	6-2	180 12	Back	Ron Thrun	Ross	5-10	165 11
Running back	Eric Bates	Ross	5-10	185 12	Back	Gene Whaley	Sandusky	5-9	180 12
Running back	Bo Johnson	Ross	5-10	175 12	Back	Doug Molnar	A. King	6-2	173 12
Running back	Jerry Dunlap	A. King	5-10	163 11					
Punter	Dave Tiller	Lorain	5-10	170 12					
Kicker	Alan Antel	Sandusky	5-11	180 11					

BACK OF THE YEAR: Gant, Ross.

LINEMAN OF THE YEAR: Villanucci, Lorain.

COACH OF THE YEAR: Wayne "Pete" Moore, Fremont Ross.

Gant, Stone garner top district honors

Tony Gant and Bruce Stone led eight area football stars who were selected to the first team of the Associated Press (AP) Northwestern Ohio District football team.

Gant, a senior two-way starter at Fremont Ross, was tabbed as the Class AAA "Back of the Year" while Stone, a stalwart part of Oak Harbor's 9-1 season, earned the Class AA "Lineman of the Year" honor.

The Ross defensive back/quarterback, edged out Mansfield Malabar running back George

Swann for the singular honor. Gant is a repeat honoree on the team, earning first team defensive honors in 1980.

The 6-2, 180-pound Gant led Ross to an 8-2 co-Buckeye Conference championship season. He was in on 58 tackles, had five interceptions and totaled 1,073 yards on offense.

The Ross defensive back/quarterback, edged out Mansfield Malabar running back George

Stone, an offensive guard and defensive tackle, led the Rockets to a share of the Suburban Lakes League title. The 6-1, 220-pound senior, was named to the first team offensive



GANT



STONE

Entire AAA, AA and A listings appear in Scoreboard section

... Page 15



GARDNER

unit of the district team.

Other first team performers from the area included tight end Dan Bollenbacher, offensive tackle Tony Gardner and defensive tackle Craig Forgatsch, all of Ross.

Eric Bates, Ross running back, was also named to the first offensive team, the second year in a row that he has accomplished

that.

In Class AA, Mike Ickes of Lakota, a second team defensive end in 1980, moved up to the first team this year. Ron Hay, a key part of Bellevue's 9-1 state playoff team, garnered a linebacker slot.

There were no area players named to either a

first or second team in Class A voting. Grant Heminger of Tiffin Calvert, however, earned the district's "Back of the Year" honor for the small schools.

Several players made second team and special mention lists in all three divisions.

In Class AAA, Ross offensive guard Doug

Winans made the offensive team while on the defense, linebacker Bob Lotycz and defensive back Ron Thrun were named to the squad.

Norm Cook, Oak Harbor



FORGATSCH

defensive back, respectively.

A district panel of sports writers and broadcasters selected Rudy Reed of Mansfield Malabar and Steve Bok of Elida as Class AAA CO-Linemen of the Year with Toledo St. John's Fred Beier the Coach of the Year.

Reed, a 6-foot, 200-pound running back-linebacker,



BATES

Defensively, Mark Helle of Oak Harbor was named at an end slot while Gary Welter of Clyde is at a tackle position. Mike Hula of Margaretta and Jeff Schaffer of Bellevue are on the team as linebacker and

two interceptions and four fumble recoveries this fall.

Beier, after 14 seasons as an assistant, led St. John's to an 8-2 record in his first attempt. Beier is a native Fremont.

In Class AA, Tom McCrory of Oregon Stritch was the area Back of the Year and Dave Hansbarger of Swanton the leading coach.

In Class A, the district honors went to Andy Shell of New Washington Buckeye Central and Coach Gene Paluso of Fostoria St. Wendelin.



HAY



ICKES



BOLLENBACHER

Penn State, Ohio State, Michigan and five Ivy League schools are among the many universities seeking the highly-skilled athletic abilities of Gant, a 3.8 student at Ross.

Gant 1st team All-Ohio

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Bernie Kosar, Boardman's tall, smooth-throwing quarterback, and Cincinnati Princeton tight end Arnold Franklin, blessed with a rare combination of speed and size, are The Associated Press' Players of the Year in Ohio Class AAA prep football.

Tony Gant of Fremont Ross was named to the first team defense Associated Press (AP) All-Ohio football team.

A two-way player, Gant led Ross to an 8-2 record and a share of the Buckeye Conference title.

Making special mention for the Little Giants were running back Eric Bates, tight end Dan Bollenbacher, tackle Tony Gardner and Craig Forgatsch, guard Doug Winans, linebacker Bob Lotycz and defensive back Ron Thrun.

Terry Forbes, who engineered Canton McKinley's 13-0 playoff title upset of Cincinnati Moeller, earned the Class AAA State Coach of the Year laurels.

The selections are made with the recommendations of a statewide panel of sports writers and broadcasters.

Kosar, a 6-foot-5, 200-pound senior, shattered all the Steel Valley Conference and school passing records this fall. Although he completed 152 of 275 passes for 2,222 yards and 19 touchdowns, the

Boardman quarterback threw just nine interceptions. He had one passing game of 350 yards in 1981.

Kosar, with a 3.6 scholastic average out of 4.0, ranks 50th in his graduating class of 480. He already has visited Florida and Miami Florida as two of his college possibilities. He also is considering Ohio State, Michigan, Pittsburgh and Penn State.

"He is the best quarterback I've seen in 18 years of coaching," said Boardman's Gene Pushic. "He has the ability to throw the ball 70 yards or finesse it short. He has a pro arm."

Franklin, a running back in junior high school, possesses 4.6 speed in the 40-yard dash to go with his 228 pounds. Often used as a decoy, the 6-3 senior still caught 25 passes for 479 yards and seven touchdowns. He also started the first four games as a linebacker for Princeton this season.

"He's the best we've had here if you're talking in terms of a total football player," said Princeton Coach Pat Mancuso, a coach for 22 prep seasons. "He'll be the most recruited kid by the major colleges we've had."

Mancuso said every big-time college power wrote Franklin. The coach says Franklin has narrowed his list to Ohio State, Michigan, LSU, Notre Dame, Florida, UCLA, Southern California, Clemson, Texas, Tennessee, Penn State, Pittsburgh and North Carolina.

Even though he has a two-year record of 22-2 at McKinley, Forbes' brightest hour came in the playoff final last weekend when the Bulldogs' severed Moeller's 45-game winning streak.

It marked the first playoff championship and a 13-0-0 accomplishment for McKinley this fall. It also was the first time in 108 games that Moeller had been shut out.



GANT

AP all-state AAA football lineup

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — The Associated Press' 1981 Class AAA All-Ohio high school football selections, selected on the recommendations of a statewide panel of sports writers and broadcasters:

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

Ends — Arnold Franklin, Cincinnati Princeton, 6-foot-3, 228 pounds, Sr., and Bill Seder, Ashland, 6-1, 175, Sr.

Tackles — Ed Boone, Cleveland St. Joseph, 6-7, 250, Sr., and Richard Kelker, Dover, 6-4, 255, Sr.

Guards — Mike Estep, Newark, 6-3, 212, Sr., and Andy Cregan, Cleveland St. Joseph, 6-2, 230, Sr.

Center — Marty Shimko, Cleveland St. Ignatius, 6-4, 220, Sr.

Quarterback — Bernie Kosar, Boardman, 6-5, 200, Sr.

Running backs — Tony Cospy, Trotwood-Madison, 5-9, 185, Sr., Mike Lanese, Mayfield, 6-foot, 195, Sr., and John Woodridge, Akron Central-Hower, 6-foot, 190, Sr.

Kicker — Hal Von Wyl, Cuyahoga Falls Walsh, 6-2, 220, Sr.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE

Ends — Ron Davis, Cincinnati Moeller, 6-1, 205, Sr., and Mark Vitko, Lakewood St. Edward, 6-foot, 170, Sr.

Tackles — Mike Applegate, Cincinnati Colerain, 6-3, 262, Sr., and Rick Heather, Massillon, 6-3, 235, Sr.

Middle guard — Stan Jackson, Canton McKinley, 6-foot, 180, Sr.

Linebackers — Mark Pfister, Upper Arlington, 6-2, 222, Sr., Mark Harmeyer, Cincinnati Moeller, 5-11, 186, Sr., and Rudy Reed, Mansfield Malabar, 6-foot, 200, Sr.

Deep backs — TONY GANT, FREMONT ROSS, 6-2, 180, SR., Barry Larkin, Cincinnati Moeller, 6-foot, 172, Sr., and Jeff Sharkey, Barberton, 6-1, 170, Sr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Ends Ron Heffron, Cincinnati Colerain, and Tim Hatchett, Cleveland John Hay; tackles John Askin, Cincinnati Moeller, and Tom McCormick, Lakewood St. Edward; guards Tom Odum,

Cincinnati Moeller, and Vince Villanucci, Lorain Senior; center George Nikitenko, Massillon; quarterback Todd Rollins, Zanesville; running backs George Swann, Mansfield Malabar, Tom Graham, Lancaster, and Barry Walker, Lancaster, and kicker Ken Harper, Cincinnati Moeller.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Ends Walt Dotson, Canton McKinley, and Lee Bullington, Brunswick; tackles Byron Lee, Columbus Eastmoor, and Doug Brunot, Conneaut; middle guard Joe Reisinger, Miami Trace; linebackers Mike Kee, Columbus Eastmoor, Steve Bok, Elida, and Jim Harmon, Lancaster, and deep backs Rick Leggett, New Philadelphia, Andy Volney, Elyria, and Nick Faulkner, Canton McKinley.

THIRD TEAM OFFENSE

Ends Dan Yarano, Zanesville, and Bill Berg, North Canton Hoover; tackles Carlos McClain, Canton McKinley, and Daryl Lee, Columbus Marion Franklin; guards Kirk Walker, Steubenville, and Matt Cupito, Cincinnati Elder; center Paul Rolles, Cincinnati Oak Hills; quarterbacks Todd Wait, Ashland, and Ric Albani, Dayton Wayne; running backs Tom White, Pataskala Watkins Memorial, Todd Stanish, Marlinton, and William Howard, Lima Senior, and kicker Steve Grooms, Miami Trace.

THIRD TEAM DEFENSE

Ends Dennis Hueston, Toledo Macomber, and Bill Hadden, Mentor; tackles Lou Blackwell, Wintersville, and Jim McConville, Lakewood St. Edward; middle guard Matt Grebenc, Cleveland St. Joseph; linebackers Mark Polivka, Parma Normandy, Tom Bose, Stow, and Willie Simpson, Warren Western Reserve, and deep backs Ray Seballos, Parma Normandy, Vic Kuchmaner, Austintown Fitch, and Ray James, Xenia.

BACK OF YEAR — Bernie Kosar, Boardman.

LINEMAN OF YEAR — Arnold Franklin, Cincinnati Princeton.

COACH OF YEAR — Terry Forbes, Canton McKinley.

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ROSS'S SPECIAL AWARD winners from Tuesday's football program were, left to right, Ron Thrun, Doug Winans, Tony Gant, Bob Lotycz, Mike Palomo, Orlando Carter and Jerry Gillmor. Not in the photo were Bo Johnson and Dave Hicks.

9 win special Ross grid awards

Tony Gant pulled off the expected and walked off with three trophies Tuesday in the second phase of Ross High School's Fall Sports Awards programs.

Gant, the Little Giants highly recruited defensive back, won the team's most valuable player award plus the most valuable offensive back honor and a captain's trophy. The 6-1 senior helped Ross to a share of the Buckeye Conference title while being named the BC back of the year and the Associated Press Northwest Ohio District back of the year.

Several other Ross players took home special awards.

Bob Lotycz, along with his

captain's trophy, was named the most valuable defensive lineman. The Little Giants senior played linebacker.

Doug Winans, an offensive guard, was named by Coach Pete Moore as the top offensive lineman and Orlando Carter, a linebacker, won the team's most valuable defensive back award.

There were three most improved trophies. Bo Johnson, fullback who rushed for nearly 700 yards and twice went over 100 yards in a game, won the most improved senior honor.

Ron Thrun, defensive back, took the most improved junior trophy. He intercepted six passes this season.

Mike Palomo, a sophomore, won the most improved for his class. Palomo's season highlight was a 74-yard kickoff return to the four against Lorain Senior.

Jerry Gillmor received the "True Grit" award given by the Sandusky County YMCA Y's Men's Club.

Dave Hicks, who sat out several games early in the season, won his second Giant Club Award. The award deals with several requirements met dealing with physical achievements in running and weight lifting.

Also during the evening program, letters were presented to 24 seniors and a dozen juniors.

Tony Gant UPI's top back

Tony Gant of Fremont Ross was named the United Press International (UPI) Class AAA Ohio High School football "Back of the Year"

The AAA team was released today. The team is selected by a vote of the coaches.

Gant is the first defensive back to be selected for the UPI honor. Earlier, the Ross two-way star had been named to the Associated Press (AP) All-Ohio first team and was the AP Northwest Ohio District "Back of the Year."