

1945 Season review...

# EXHIBITION IN BEE-GEE POOL TO BE JAN. 9

## Coach George Gruse Pares Squad To 27; Many Free-Stylers

The Ross high natators will do their first serious plunging of the season on December 21 when they travel to Bowling Green for an exhibition with the university fish, Coach George Gruse announced today.

The exhibition, which will afford them with some good practice, comes well in advance of the Little Giants first dual meet in scholastic circles, a brush with Findlay, defending state champions, in the latter's pool on January 9.

Coach Gruse has been holding time trials and his varsity squad is now comprised of 27 boys, 12 of whom are free-style swimmers. He added that they would be the likely starters against the university natators. The squad personnel is as follows:

### Lists Squad Members

Back strokers, Warren Smith, Lee Koenig, Jim Cockran, Jerry Anderson and John Fought; breast strokers, Bob Nickloy, Jim Pence, Al King, Dave Forgatsch, Neil Love and Harry Strauch; free stylers, Capt. Bill Wendler, Al Fisher, Bruce Tindle, Jim Curtin, Bob Houghtaling, Norman Gressman, Bob Maule, Bob Bodenlos, Gene Slaymaker, Bob Gilberg, Gus Ferguson, and Herman Webber; divers, Don Richards, Gale Love, Bob Sampsel and Don Wensinger.

Tom Arend is student manager of the swimming team.

Balance of the Little Giants' schedule thus far is as follows:

Jan. 9, at Findlay; Jan. 18, Sandusky; Jan. 25, at Toledo Scott\*; Feb. 1, Toledo Scott; Feb. 8, at Sandusky\*; Feb. 13, Findlay; Feb. 16, Canton McKinley\*; Feb. 23-24, state meet at Columbus.

\*Denotes afternoon meets, others are at 7:30 p. m.

# GRUSE NAMES 18 SWIMMERS

## Little Giant Squad Swims Against B-G Team In Exhibition

Coach George Gruse will take a squad of 18 swimmers and a student manager to Bowling Green tonight where his Little Giant swimmers will get their first actual competition of the season against the collegian strokers.

Entries for the eight-event exhibition were determined Tuesday afternoon when final time trials were held in the pool here.

The meet will be the first test for the Ross team which will try to regain its state championship laurels which were snatched by Findlay last year with the Little Giants finishing fourth after years at the top.

The boys who will swim in the Bee-Gee pool and then remain for a basketball game between the Falcons and Romulus Air Base will be as follows:

Bill Wendler and Bob Maule, 50-yard free style; Neil Love and Al King, 100-yard breast stroke; Al Fisher and Gene Slaymaker, 200-yard free style; Lee Koenig and Jim Cockran, 100-yard back stroke; Bill Wendler and Jim Curtin, 100-yard free style; Don Wensinger and Gale Love, diving; Warren Smith, Jim Pence and Jim Curtin, 150-yard medley relay; Norm Gressman, Herman Webber, Don Wensinger and Bob Houghtaling, 200-yard free style relay.

Also making the trip are Bob Bodenlos, Harry Strauch and Tom Arend, student manager.

# SEND BIDS TO 30 SCHOOLS IN THIS SECTION

## Meet Will Be Individual Affair And Is Booked For Feb. 3

Invitations have been sent to 30 northwestern Ohio high schools to enter their best swimmers in what will be the first annual Ross high school individual swimming meet, George Gruse, swimming coach, announced today.

Gruse said that it was hoped to establish a meet here that will eventually rival any held in this section of the country and will become as widely known as any of the similar events in Ohio which have been and are now being held.

The venture has been approved by H. W. Emswiler, new commissioner of the Ohio High School Athletic association, and swimmers of high school affiliation who are members of YMCA's and other independent organizations will also be eligible to compete if they are amateurs.

### Meet Is Feb. 3

The first invitational meet is scheduled for February 3, starting at 2 p. m., and entries must be received not later than January 28. Swimmers may enter not more than two events and, if necessary, preliminaries will be held in each event.

Six events have been scheduled—a 50-yard free style, 100-yard breast stroke, 200-yard free style, 100-yard back stroke, 100-yard free style and a 75-yard individual medley relay.

Ribbons will be awarded the winners of the first three places in each event.

If the invitational meet is successful and becomes firmly established, it will give Fremont a swimming event comparable with the Lakewood Relays.

## SWIM MEET WITH FINDLAY DELAYED

The Little Giants first regularly scheduled swimming meet with Findlay, originally booked for Tuesday night, has been postponed until later in the season and the Ross mermen will not swing into action until January 18 when they meet Sandusky, Coach George Gruse announced today.

The meet with Findlay, defending state champions, which was to have been held in the Hancock county pool, was postponed due to several conflicts, the Ross mentor stated. One of the reasons also was that the Trojans have been able to get in but little practice thus far.

Coach Gruse added that additional invitations to the individual invitational meet, to be staged here February 3, would be sent out this week. Thus far the response has been good and indications are for an excellent array of swimmers for the event, first of its kind to be booked for the Ross pool.

# LOCAL TEAMS PLAY FRIDAY

## Swimming Meet Pads Out Slim Basketball Program This Week

Fremont's basketball teams are playing a light schedule this week, each engaging in but one game and that on Friday night.

The Little Giants, toppled from the Buckeye League lead by Findlay, will attempt to stay on the pace-setter's heels and retain their chances for a title, by turning back Bowling Green in a circuit game at Ross gym.

At the same time the Crimson Streaks will be in Tiffin, tangling with a Calvert quintet that has been seriously weakened since it handed the upper Croghan streeters a 40 to 27 licking here last month. Paul Milette has left the Calverteers for the Navy.

While the cage schedule is a bit light with only one contest scheduled for this city, there will be an added sport attraction when the Ross high swimming team makes a belated start Thursday night.

The Little Giant mermen, coached by George Gruse and with hopes of regaining the state title lost last year, tackle Sandusky in what should be a stiff test. Last Saturday the Sanduskians defeated Findlay, defending state champion, 58 to 8.

## TRIO OF VETS NUCLEUS FOR LITTLE GIANTS

### Coach Gruse Fears Visitors Who Downed Findlay, 58 TO 8

Ross high's swimming team, dethroned as state champions or near-champions by Findlay and two other schools last year, will open its campaign to regain the heights it occupied for eight years when it engages in its first dual meet of the current season Thursday night.

The Little Giant mermen will tackle the Sandusky high fish in the Ross pool in a meet scheduled for 7:30 p. m. and one that looms as a real opening test for the charges of Coach George Gruse.

Out of the interscholastic picture for two years, the Sanduskians barged back into competition with a resounding splash last Saturday afternoon when they defeated Findlay, the defending state champion, 58 to 8, taking first place in every event and adding most of the second places.

Coach Gruse is eyeing the coming meet as one of the toughest on the Fremont schedule this year and is anything but confident about the outcome. The Ross mentor has but three lettermen on his squad, Capt. Bill Wendler, Warren Smith and Al Fisher, with the other swimmers having varied experience and with one freshman, Jim Pence, on the team.

Time trials were held Tuesday afternoon and were far from good, Coach Gruse stated. He added, optimistically, that he hoped it was a good sign, mentioning that a poor dress rehearsal for a play usually meant a fine opening performance.

As a result of the time trials the Little Giant coach said the following swimmers would match strokes with the Sanduskians:

Bill Wendler and Bob Maule, 50-yard free style; Jim Pence and Al King, 100-yard breast stroke; Herman Webber and Gene Slaymaker, 200-yard free style; Warren Smith and Lee Koenig, 100-back stroke; Wendler and Al Fisher, 100-yard free style; Smith and Bob Hough-taling, 75-yard individual medley; Jim Cochran, King and Maule, 150-yard medley relay; Jim Curtin, Webber, Slaymaker and Fisher, 200-yard free style relay.

The 75-yard individual medley is being substituted for the diving event at the request of Sandusky Coach Walter Caldwell, who has no divers.

## VISITORS COP FIRST IN ALL BUT ONE RACE

### Bill Wendler Saves Rossmen From Shutout By Winning 50 Free

Winning but one race, and that the first one on the program, Ross high's swimming team went down to a 53 to 14 defeat in the wake of Sandusky high's well-balanced swimming.

The first dual meet of the current season for the Little Giants, they showed considerable talent but proved no match for Coach Harry Caldwell's crew which swept seven first places and came through with seconds in four of the six individual events.

The Little Giants will tackle another tough contender Saturday when they travel to Findlay to meet the defending state champions, also a 1945 victim of the Sanduskians who are returning to competition after a two-year absence.

Capt. Bill Wendler saved the Ross mermen from a complete shutout by winning the 50-yard free style, first event on the program, in the incredible time of 26.5 seconds, but it was the only time the team was ahead.

Wendler also placed second in the 100-yard free style to account for eight of the 14 points that his team scored.

In two races, the 100 yard free and the 100 yard back stroke, Fremont missed winning by inches. In the first, Wendler was tapped out by Spore and in the second Warren Smith just missed by inches after a great last lap. Those two were the best races of the meet.

Wendler won the 50-yard free, opening race, by about a half stroke from Helget, leading all the way, but in the second event, the 100-yard breast stroke, Fremont fell behind and never again was a factor. In this race Jamison and Paggioli won about as they pleased with Fremont's Al King a poor third.

**Threatens Record**  
Sandusky's Morris made a romp of the 200-yard free style, winning by more than a length of the pool and finishing but nine-tenths second over the pool record held by Slick Hess. Had he been pressed, he might have equalled his teammate, Burkett, at about 26 yards ahead of Gene Slaymaker.

Smith made a great try in the back stroke. Second by about six feet on the second lap, he fell back to third on the last turn and then turned on the heat and all but nipped Ronan at the finish. The same was true of Wendler in the very next race, the 100 free.

Individual medley, substituted for the diving, was to Sandusky by a length as both Smith and Houghtaling trailed all the way. Paggioli and Caldwell steadily widening the gap on each of the three laps.

The Sandusky swimmers also took both the medley and free style races with comparative ease, especially the latter with Helget, King, and finishing some 40 feet in front of Al Fisher.

A diving exhibition, with no points awarded, was staged by Wensinger of Fremont, and Kent and Lauber of Sandusky, and gave the big crowd, one of the largest to ever see a swimming meet here, a big thrill.

50-yard free style—won by Wendler (F); Helget (S) second; Killoran (S) third. Time 26.5 seconds.

100-yard breast stroke—won by Jamison (S); Paggioli (S) second; King (F) third. Time, 1:13.3.

200-yard free style—won by Morris (S); Burkett (S) second; Slaymaker (F) third. Time, 2:13.

100-yard back stroke—won by Ronan (S); Smith (F) second; Smith (S) third. Time, 1:12.2.

100-yard medley style—won by Spore (S); Wendler (F) second; Vogel (S) third. Time, 1:01.

Individual medley—won by Paggioli (S); Caldwell (S) second; Smith (F) third. Time, 50.8 seconds.

Medley relay—won by Sandusky (Smith, Jamison, Spore). Time, 1:30.7.

Free style relay—won by Sandusky (Morris, Killoran, Vogel, Helget). Time, 1:49.9.

Officials: Althoff, starter; McConnell, Schahet, Hoffman, judges; Cochran, Snyder, timers.

## FREE STYLERS WIN RELAY IN CLOSE FINISH

### Fremonters Account For Firsts In Six Of The Eight Races

The Ross high mermen chalked up their second victory of the season in Toledo on Thursday afternoon defeating the Toledo Scott natators, 37 to 29, in a close meet.

It was a victory in the 200-yard free style relay, closing event of the meet, which brought the Little Giants the decision. With seven events completed, Scott trailed by a lone point and the final race was a very close affair.

The Little Giants won four of the five individual events and also took the diving, but the Scottmen stayed close behind by piling up points on second and third places. Then they copped the 150-yard medley relay, by a slim margin, to throw the meet wide open again.

#### Take Six Firsts

With seven points and victory at stake, the Fremont quartet of Tindle, Smith, Maule and Capt. Bill Wendler, came through with the latter barely touching out Radeloff, Scott anchor man, in the good time of 1:05.6.

Other first places went to Pence in the 100-yard breast stroke; Tindle in the 200-yard free style; Smith in the 100-yard back stroke in a very close race; Wendler in the 100-yard free style and Wensinger in the diving exhibition. The only second place garnered by the Fremonters was in the 100-yard free, where Al Fisher pulled in behind Wendler with three badly needed points.

The Scott team will get a chance for revenge on February 1 when they come here for a return match, next on the Little Giants' schedule.

#### Results of the meet:

##### Meet Results

50-yard free style — won by Brackney (S); Hinds (S) second; Maule (F) third. Time, 28 seconds.

100-yard breast—won by Pence (F); Wheeler (S) second; Strauch (F) third. Time, 1:18.3.

200-yard free—won by Tindle (F); R. Hinds (S) second; Slaymaker (F) third. Time, 2:19.

100-yard back—won by Smith (F); Morgan (S) second; Buck (S) third. Time, 1:12.8.

100-yard free—won by Wendler (F); Fisher (F) second; Radeloff (S) third. Time, 60 seconds.

Diving—won by Wensinger, 52.60 points; Gentry (S) 34.95; Guyken (S) 26.95.

150-yard medley relay—won by Scott (Morgan, Ligibel, J. Hinds). Time, 1:36.2.

200-yard free style relay—won by Fremont (Tindle, Smith, Maule, Wendler). Time, 1:50.6.

## LITTLE GIANT MERMEN TAKE THREE FIRSTS

### Sandusky, Fremont Entries Dominate Meet As 61 Boys Competed

Fremont and Sandusky swimmers dominated the first annual Ross high invitational individual swimming meet, held Saturday afternoon in the Fremont pool, winning firsts in five of the six events, accounting for all but one second place and taking all the third places.

Ross mermen won three events and placed second in one and third in another while the Sanduskians took two firsts, four seconds and five thirds.

Two Toledo swimmers broke the two-school monopoly. Morgan of Scott winning the 75-yard individual medley and Veldss's placing second in the 100-yard back stroke.

With 61 swimmers representing eight schools and the Toledo Y on hand, elimination heats were run in all events but the 200-yard free style. With 11 entries for that race, the final positions were determined by time. In the other five events final heats of four contestants were held.

#### Tindle Is High

Bruce Tindle, Ross free-styler, was high-point man of the meet with a first in the 50-yard free style and a second in the 200-yard free style to his credit. Capt. Bill Wendlar copped the 100-yard free style and Warren Smith the 100-yard back stroke to account for the other Fremont fl. st. Al King was third in the 100-yard breast stroke.

There were 22 boys entered in the 50-yard free and a half-dozen heats were run with Tindle and Wendlar of Fremont, Spore and Vogel of Sandusky, the qualifiers. At the start of the final heat, Spore jumped the gun but Starter Joe Glander couldn't get him or the other Fremont entries to stop and they raced the 50-yards. The race was then moved back to the last on the program.

When the 50 free was finally run, Tindle took a close decision from Spore, with Vogel third. Wendlar was a close fourth in what was almost a blanket finish. Tindle's time was 27.1 seconds, nine-tenths second slower than his qualifying time.

#### Heat Decides Race

Jamison and Poggiali, both of Sandusky, finished one-two in the 100-yard back stroke, the former having a 12-foot lead on his teammate while King of Fremont, was several feet behind the second man. Wheeler of Scott, was fourth. The winner's time was 1:16.4, almost three seconds faster than his qualifying time.

The first heat of the 200-yard free style resulted in a close finish with Morris of Sandusky, Tindle of Fremont, Helget and Burkett of Sandusky, within feet of each other. That heat decided the race as the times were the fastest chalked up. Morris was clocked in 2:13.3, Tindle in 2:15.8 and Helget in 2:28.4.

Smith scored perhaps the most spectacular victory in the 100 yard back stroke. Trailing Veldss of DeVilbiss for three lengths of the pool, he pushed into a slight lead on the last turn, pulled in front by a length and then fought off a closing sprint to win by a head in 1:11.5. Best time for the event, however, was the 1:11.6 made by Veldss in the qualifying heat.

#### Wendlar Wins

Wendlar qualified for the 100-yard free style in 61.1 seconds, fastest time chalked up, and then won the final heat in 62.6 seconds to nose out Spore and Vogel of Sandusky. Helget, also Sandusky, was fourth.

Pence was the only Fremont entry in the individual medley and his time of 53.7 seconds wasn't fast enough to get into the final heat. Morgan, who won his heat in 50.8 seconds also took the race in 51.1, with a fair lead over Burkett, Caldwell and Poggiali, all of Sandusky, who trailed in that order.

Coach George Gruse expressed himself as very well pleased with the meet and the number of entries and with this opening suc-

cess, the event will probably draw more entries next year.

**PLAY IN CLEVELAND**  
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## ROSS SWIMMERS GO TO SANDUSKY

The Ross high swimming team, winners of three consecutive meets, will face a tough foe and logical contender for the state championship, Thursday afternoon when they trek to Sandusky for a return meet with the Streaks.

The Streaks dunked the Little Giants, 52-14, early last month, but Coach George Gruse's charges have improved measurably since that time. The Ross mentor said he would start the same team that defeated Toledo Scott, 41-25, last week and the entries will be as follows:

50-yard free style, Maule and Wensinger; 100-yard breast stroke, Pence and Strauch; 200-yard free style, Curtin and Webber; 100-yard back stroke, Smith and Koenig; 100-yard free style, Tindle and Fisher; diving, Wensinger; 150-yard medley relay, Smith, Love and Wendler; 200-yard free style relay, Tindle, Fisher, Maule and Wendler.

## SCORE FIRSTS IN THREE OF EIGHT EVENTS

### Four Races Decided By Inches; Tindle Again Paces Rossmen

Sandusky high school mermen scored their second victory of the season over the Little Giant splashers Thursday afternoon, finishing on the long end of a 42-24 score in the Sandusky pool, but they were much harder pressed than in their initial 52-14 triumph.

It was a "touch and win" meet throughout with four of the seven events decided by inches, the Fremont splashers taking three of them.

Although defeated, the Rossmen showed improved form in taking three firsts and a pair of seconds and Coach George Gruse stated that his team was coming along, perhaps slowly, but surely.

Bruce Tindle was again the high point man with a first in the 100-yard free style and a second in the 200-yard drag, a race he barely missed winning.

#### Take Early Lead

The Sanduskians got away to an early lead when Spore won the 50-yard free style in the exceedingly fast time of 20.6 seconds with Bill Wendler, the only Fremont swimmer who appeared to be off form, second and Helget third and then added a first and a second in the 100-yard breast stroke.

Tindle was touched out in the 200-yard free style by Morris who

#### SPORT SCHEDULE

Three basketball games, two at home and one on the road, and a swimming meet form the weekend sport schedule for Fremont fans. The Ross high cage team meets Findlay in an important Buckeye League game here tonight while St. Joseph's courtmen play in Clyde, and Saturday afternoon the Little Giant swimmers meet Findlay in the local pool. On Sunday afternoon St. Joe entertains Lima St. John's, eliminated in the finals of the state tournament last year.

was forced to swim the distance two seconds faster than he had at any time this season to beat the Fremont youngster.

Warren Smith won the 100-yard back stroke, also by a touch, edging Bill Smith and Rouan, and then Tindle won the same way in the 100-yard free style, nosing out Spore.

The two teams split the relay events with Fremont taking the medley and Sandusky the free style.

The Little Giants next meet will be at 2 p. m. Saturday when they are hosts to Findlay defending state champion. Results of the Sandusky meet were as follows:

#### Meet Results

50-yard free style—won by Spore (S); Wendler (F) second; Helget (S) third. Time, 20.6 seconds.

100-yard breast stroke—won by Poghall (S); Jamison (S) second; Pence (F) third. Time, 1:14.3.

200-yard free style—won by Morris (S); Tindle (F) second; Burkett (S) third. Time, 2:11.4.

100-yard back stroke—won by Smith (F); E. Smith (S) second; Rouan (S) third. Time 1:11.

100-yard free style—won by Tindle (F); Spore (S) second; Wendler (F) third. Time, 60.2 seconds.

Diving—won by Kent (S); Lauber (S) second; Wensinger (F) third. Points, 86.

150-yard medley relay—won by Fremont (Smith, Pence, Fisher). Time: 1:56.4.

200-yard free style relay—won by Sandusky (Helget, Vogel, Caldwell, Burkett). Time, 1:25.6.

# Pool Record Broken As Canton Mermen Win

Flashing the power that may carry them back to the heights again and to another state title, Canton McKinley's swimmers handed the Little Giant mermen a convincing 42-24 defeat in the Ross pool Friday afternoon.

The Bulldogs won firsts in six of the eight events, backed these up with a pair of seconds and four thirds, broke a pool record and dominated all of the races except the back stroke.

Harry Shearer broke the pool mark in the 200-yard free style when he easily defeated Bruce Tindle in the fast time of 2:08.7, shaving eight-tenths second off the time set last year by Dean (Slick) Hess.

## Tindle Off Form

Only races the visitors dropped were the back stroke in which Warren Smith and Lee Koenig finished one-two, with the latter giving the best performance of any Fremont swimmer, and the medley relay. Trailing all the way, Koenig lashed through the water with a finish that all but nipped Smith.

Tindle was off form yesterday and was handily beaten by not only Shearer in the 200, but by Johnson in the 100.

Fremont held a mathematical chance of tying the meet until after the diving exhibition wherein Wensinger was nosed out of a second place on the final dive made by Oby. The Fremont youngster had a slight edge when Oby came through with a fine closing effort to end up with 51.8 points, just two more than Wensinger.

About the only races that were really close, except the back-stroke, was the medley relay in which Smith took a length lead on the first lap, Pence held the edge and Wendler increased it to about 15 feet, and the big relay.

## Final Meet

In the latter race, against Canton's second quartet, Maule finished the first 50 yards about a yard back, with Weber making up the deficit and finishing a half-length ahead of his man. Curtin held the lead but Fisher fell back in the final lap and Watson beat him out by a stroke.

The meet was the last one for the Little Giants before the state championships in Columbus next week-end and Coach George Gruse said he would have entries in all events except the free style relay.

50-yard free style—Won by Perdue (C); Wendler (F) 2; Tracy (C) 3. Time, 25.9 seconds.

100-yard breast stroke—Won by Schaver (C); Hechtl (C) 2; Pence (F) 3. Time, 1:09.3.

200-yard free style—Won by Shearer (C); Tindle (F) 2; Beck (C) 3. Time, 2:08.7. New record.

100-yard back stroke—Won by Smith (F); Koenig (F) 2; Green (C) 3. Time, 1:11.7.

100-yard free style—Won by Johnston (C); Tindle (F) 2; Watson (C) 3. Time, 60.4 seconds.

Diving—Won by Petroff (C); Oby (C) 2; Wensinger (F) 3. Points, 60.4.

150-yard medley relay—Won by Fremont (Smith, Pence, Wendler). Time, 1:31.3.

200-yard free style relay—Won by Canton (Holder, Meyer, Beck, Watson). Time, 1:55.3.

## GIBSONBURG EDGES CLYDE

Gibsonburg won a rough and rugged ball game from Clyde last night, 38-30, pulling up a slim margin in the middle two quarters and making it stand although the Flyers made a game bid for victory in the last stanza.

The Bears were in front the entire way, but never by a safe lead. Each time Coach Jim Whittaker's boys appeared to be on their way the Flyers would rally to trim the lead to a few points. Len Shull was the only Golden Bear who could register with any frequency and his 23 points were responsible for the win. Baskets by Shull and Crispin in the third frame iced the game. The Clyde reserves won the preliminary, 34-41, in an overtime.

Gibsonburg—38			
Tureo, f	0	3	3
Crispen, f	3	3	9
Shull, c	9	5	23
Watt, g	0	1	1
LaSalvia, g	0	1	1
Myers, g	0	1	1
Totals	12	14	38
Clyde—30			
Mason, f	3	2	8
Gill, f	0	3	3
Lamson, f	2	2	6
Lund, f	3	0	6
Burkin, c	1	0	2
Wood, g	2	0	4
Humberger, g	0	1	1
Totals	11	8	30
Gibsonburg	13	9	7
Clyde	11	6	3
10—38			



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