

1969 Buckeye Conference...

14 Fremont News-Messenger Friday, Feb. 14, 1969

Three-Team Race Seen In Buckeye Swim

The three former champions figure to be locked in at least a three-team battle for the championship of the sixth annual Buckeye Conference swimming meet Saturday. Fremont, Sandusky and Findlay share the favorite's role as the Buckeye Conference teams splash in the Mansfield Malabar pool. Sandusky is the defending champion with victories the past two years. Fremont Ross won the title in 1964 and 1965 while Findlay was the 1966 champion.

If there is a team with an edge in this year's meet Ross Coach Jack Balsizer feels it is Findlay. He noted the meet promises to be one of the closest and exciting of the series. "No one team has a commanding edge toward the championship as the talent is evenly divided among three schools. On the basis of previous times Findlay must be a slight favorite

because of their two strong relays and good freestyle strength."

Marion Harding will be making its conference swimming debut and promises to be a factor in its first appearance. Preliminaries of the meet are at 11 a.m. with swimming and diving finals at 2 p.m.

In appraising the contending teams Coach Balsizer noted:

FINDLAY — "Findlay has the two best relays plus two good 50 and 100-yard freestylers in Jerry Stevens and Larry Reibema. Les Bish and Scott Mathias rank the fourth and fifth in the 100-yard butterfly. Bill Wittenmyer ranks third in the 100-yard butterfly. Bill Wittenmyer ranks third in the 100-yard breast stroke."

SANDUSKY—"Led by Paul Gilbert who presently has

the best times in the 200, 50 and 100-yard freestyles and the number one 100-yard backstroke. Paul is currently ranked third in the nation in the 100-yard backstroke. They also have Kurt Yost ranked number two in the 200-yard freestyle and number one in 400-yard freestyle. Bill Coyle in the 100-yard breaststroke is number one. Phil Skirball is number three in the 100-yard butterfly and in the top four in the 50 and 100-yard freestyle."

ROSS—"We do not have the super star like Sandusky, but our overall team depth is good. We will have trouble winning many individual events. Dan Linder should be the top contender in diving and Mike Aten ranks number two in the 200-yard individual medley, 200-yard freestyle and 400-yard freestyle. Pat Aten and Dan Abney, Scott Keller are in the top five in the 200-yard individual medley. Pat Aten ranks num-

ber two in the 100-yard breast stroke. Scott Keller ranks fourth in the 50 and 100-yard freestyles."

MANSFIELD—"Senior has the number two ranked medley relay along with the number three backstroke in Jim Imler. Dennis Bookwalter ranks third in the 500 and 100-yard freestyle. They also have the defending 400-yard freestyle champ in Larry Williams. Bob Higgs is a much improved diver and could win. Jim Henry is the number four ranked 100-yard breaststroke. Mansfield should have its greatest success this year."

MARION — Although this is their first year, they have several good boys that will score points for them. Doug Browning has the top 200-yard individual medley time and the second best 100 backstroke time. Bob Green ranks number one in the 100 butterfly and Jim Jones fifth in backstroke."

Findlay Is Champion

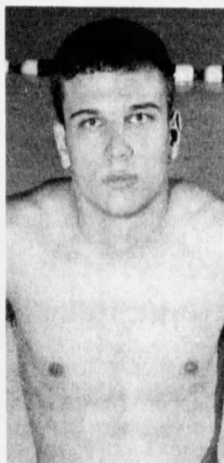
Ross Places Second In Buckeye Swim

Dan Linder and Felix Robles finished one-three in the diving for the lone bright spot Saturday as Fremont Ross placed second in the Buckeye Conference swimming meet at Mansfield Malabar pool. Linder in winning the conference diving championship scored 273 points. This is more than any previous winner in setting a record.

Robles, who was getting his first taste of big-time competition, was the surprise of the meet. Robles, who dove as a varsity swimmer in only two meets this season was a strong third with 243 points. Linder mastered Sandusky's Capucini, who was second with 263.3 points.

Findlay, which won three events, won the conference championship with 56 points. Although Coach Jack Balsizer was disappointed in his team's performance the Little Giants finished second with 50 points. Others in the field were Sandusky, 46; Mansfield, 32, and Marion, 24.

Diving was the only first place finish for Ross. Sandusky's bid was centered around the performance of Paul Gilbert. Gilbert set two Buck-



DIVER DAN LINDER
Sets Conference Record

eye Conference records in winning the 200-yard freestyle, 1:53.41, and the 100-yard backstroke, :55.88.

"Swimming wise we gave the meet away," lamented Balsizer, adding "we missed several turns and did several others very poorly. In some cases even our stroke technique was poorly executed." Balsizer also scored the fact his team's times showed no noteworthy improvements. In some cases the Little Giants were slower than six weeks ago.

Despite this, Ross had a chance to win with the start of the 100-yard breast stroke. In this event Findlay's Wittenmeyer beat Pat Aten by .33 of a second for second place. This gave Findlay a four-point lead with only the 400-yard freestyle relay. To overcome this lead Ross' relay team had to win and Findlay finish no higher than third. As it was Findlay finished second and Ross third behind Mansfield.

St. Peter Gives Streaks Lesson

If defending Class A basketball champion Mansfield St. Peter does not have the material to repeat, you could never prove it by Fremont St. Joseph. The traveling Crimson Streaks were on the receiving end of a basketball lesson Saturday with special courses on shooting over a zone defense and fast break basketball.

The Streaks also were introduced to the revitalized St. Peter Spartans, featuring the return of All-Stater Whitey Varga. Varga, who has been out of action for the latter half of the season with injury was back in action, shooting, running and directing the St. Peter attack to a 93-43 victory.

St. Joseph just did not get the shots against a hustling St. Peter defense. St. Joseph took only 53 shots, making 17, 32 per cent. Hoping to slow down the fast-paced Spartan attack the Streaks put up a zone defense. St. Peter reacted with hot-handed shooting which sank 43 of 79 action shots, 54 per cent. The marksmanship was

Six different subs combined for 22 points in the last eight minutes.

Defensively the Spartans started in a man-for man defense. Although not even, the Streaks handled this defense sufficiently to prompt Frye to shift his Spartans into a zone. The Streaks couldn't find the range and the zone shut off all St. Joseph hopes. Mike Chudzinski and Charlie Rhoad were the best the Streaks could put forth. Rhoad had 13 points, while Chudzinski tallied 12 points and brought down 12 rebounds.

In the reserve game St. Peter won a 43-27 battle.

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VARSITY

ST. JOSEPH — Geller 0-3-3, Chudzinski 6-0-12, Rhoad 6-1-13, Halbeisen 0-4-4, Yeager 4-1-9, Kiser 1-0-2. TOTALS 17-9-43.

ST. PETER — Henrich 6-0-12, Moloney 12-0-24, Wake 2-1-5, Wiles 5-1-11, Varga 8-3-19, Baker 2-0-4, Jakobick 2-1-5, Cowdery 2-0-4, Demyan 1-0-2, Wentz 1-1-3, Moritz 2-0-4. TOTALS 43-7-93.

Score By Quarters

ST. JOSEPH 12 12 8 11-43
ST. PETER 24 22 25 22-93

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RESERVE

ST. JOSEPH — Miesle 1-0-2, Fey 3-0-6, Valle 1-0-7, Eberly 1-1-3, Moyer 1-0-2. TOTALS 10-2-22.

Buckeye Swimming Summary

200 MEDLEY RELAY — Findlay (Stilverstein, B. Wittenmeyer, S. Mathias, S. Till), 1:50.77; Ross (C. Miller, S. Nahm, M. Frey, D. Hooser), 1:52.84; Sandusky (Zimmerman, B. Coyle, Hutchins, Leighton), 1:53.02.

200 FREESTYLE — Paul Gilbert, Sandusky, 1:53.41 (New Buckeye Conference Record); K. Yost, Sandusky, 2:01.78; Scott Keller, Ross, 2:02.97.

50 FREESTYLE — J. Stevens, Findlay, 23.55; L. Reitsema, Findlay, 23.85; C. Bookwalter, Mansfield, 24.68.

200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY — D. Browning, Marion, 2:16.22; Dan Abney, Ross, 2:20.18; J. Strathman, Findlay, 2:23.88.

DIVING — Dan Linder, Ross, 273; Capucini, Sandusky, 263.30; Felix Robles, Ross, 243.7.

100 BUTTERFLY — A. Green, Marion, 1:01.09; Mike Aten, Ross, 1:01.43; F. Felt, Marion, 1:01.49.

100 FREESTYLE — J. Stevens, Findlay, 23.55; L. Reitsema, Findlay, 23.85; Scott Keller, Ross, 24.45.

100 BACKSTROKE — Paul Gilbert, Sandusky, :55.88 (New Buckeye Conference Record); D. Browning, Marion, :59.51; J. Imler, Mansfield, 1:00.95.

400 FREESTYLE — K. Yost, Sandusky, 4:30.43; L. Williams, Mansfield, 4:37.18; Randy Christy, Ross, 4:42.58.

100 BREAST STROKE — B. Coyle, Sandusky, 1:06.90; B. Wittenmeyer, Findlay, 1:08.07; Pat Aten, Ross, 1:08.4.

400 FREESTYLE RELAY — Mansfield (J. Davis, D. Brookwalter, C. Bookwalter, J. Imler), 3:41.16; Findlay (L. Burrell, S. Tille, B. Schuck, L. Bish), 3:46.25; Ross (Randy Hottinger, Dick Hooser, Jeff Keeler, Al Stephenson), 3:48.17.