

1988 Football Season

First scrimmages kick off grid season

News-Messenger reports

The first round of preseason high school football scrimmages for area teams are complete and the reviews of area coaches were mixed after the Saturday clashes.

Ross hosted former Buckeye Conference foe Elyria and the Pioneers outscored the Little Giants 2-1 although one of Elyria's scores was posted while the third teams were on the field.

"We threw the ball pretty well," said Ross Coach Rex Radeloff. "I was pleased with the performance of all three quarterbacks (Jeff Draeger, Cory Lance and Tim Nesbitt)."

"We started off well but got a little tired. We lost that edge but overall, it was a good scrimmage."

On offense, Ross penetrated inside the Elyria 30 each time it had the ball. Inside the 30, the teams went into game (first-and-10) situations.

"We did not score every time," Radeloff said, "but we have not put in our goal line offense yet."

"Defensively, I was pleased with the hitting; we had some good 'sticks' out there."

Ross will host Toledo DeVilbiss at 6 p.m. Tuesday at Harmon Stadium in the second of its three scrimmages.

St. Joe-Springfield
St. Joe's first team put the only score on the board as Tim Meek scored from three yards out after a long run by Todd Drusback and a long pass completion from Scott Radde to Jeff Radde.

"I had mixed reviews," said St. Joe Coach Tom Narducci. "I felt real good when we left the field, but after looking at the films, I didn't think we played that well."

"But that is typical for a scrimmage."

St. Joe will play Lakota at 7 p.m. Friday at the Clyde High School Preview.

Bellevue-Clyde
The Fliers and Redmen each scored once, with Bellevue's score coming on a 70-yard pass play on the first play of the scrimmage.

"Generally we were pleased with (the scrimmage)," said Clyde Coach Bob Bishop. "Some kids did some things that told us we can count on them."

Bellevue Coach Terry Adams echoed those sentiments.

"We had a pretty good scrimmage," Adams said. "In our first scrimmage, we always look to see who wants to play football."

Clyde will host Tiffin Calvert Friday after the St. Joe/Lakota scrimmage while Bellevue travels to Margaretta at 7 p.m. Saturday.

Port Clinton-Gibsonburg
In a matchup of new coaches installing new systems, Port Clinton scored twice, once by the first team.

"I thought we had a good scrimmage," said first-year Port

Clinton Coach Pete Moore. "For teams with new programs, it was a good matchup."

"We do have a lot of work to do but I can see lot of progress. Fundamentally, the kids have a lot to learn."

Port Clinton will host Findlay at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday while Gibsonburg will face Sandusky St. Mary's at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Woodmore-Evergreen
"We have a lot of improvement to do," Woodmore Coach Chip Hollenbach said after his team outscored Evergreen 2-1.

"The kids hit well but there was a lot of inconsistency," Hollenbach added that the Wildcats ran the ball fairly well and played well defensively.

Woodmore will host Toledo Ottawa Hills at 6 p.m. Tuesday.

Lakota-Wynford
Although Wynford outscored Lakota 2-1, Raider Coach Jim Oswald was happy to escape without injury.

"We were very pleased that there were no injuries," Oswald said. "With our lack of depth, that was a great concern of ours."

Oswald said the Royals outthit Lakota, but the Raiders showed good poise.

"It was a positive (scrimmage) because the kids kept building enthusiasm," he said. "They realized when they made mistakes. They didn't quit and that's where you have to start."

Lakota will host Maumee at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Oak Harbor-Bowling Green
Bowling Green outscored Oak Harbor 3-2, including 2-0 while the first teams were on the field.

"We need a lot of work in all phases of the game," said Oak Harbor Coach Gary Quisno.

The Rockets travel to Eastwood Friday at 6:30 p.m.

Margaretta-Elyria Catholic
Margaretta outscored Elyria Catholic 2-1, but as is the case in most scrimmages, that wasn't what counted most.

"It was a very good scrimmage for us," said Margaretta Coach John Zang. "Elyria Catholic is a fine football team and that's why we play them every year."

"They give us a good read on where we're at every year," And Zang likes where the Polar Bears are at this season.

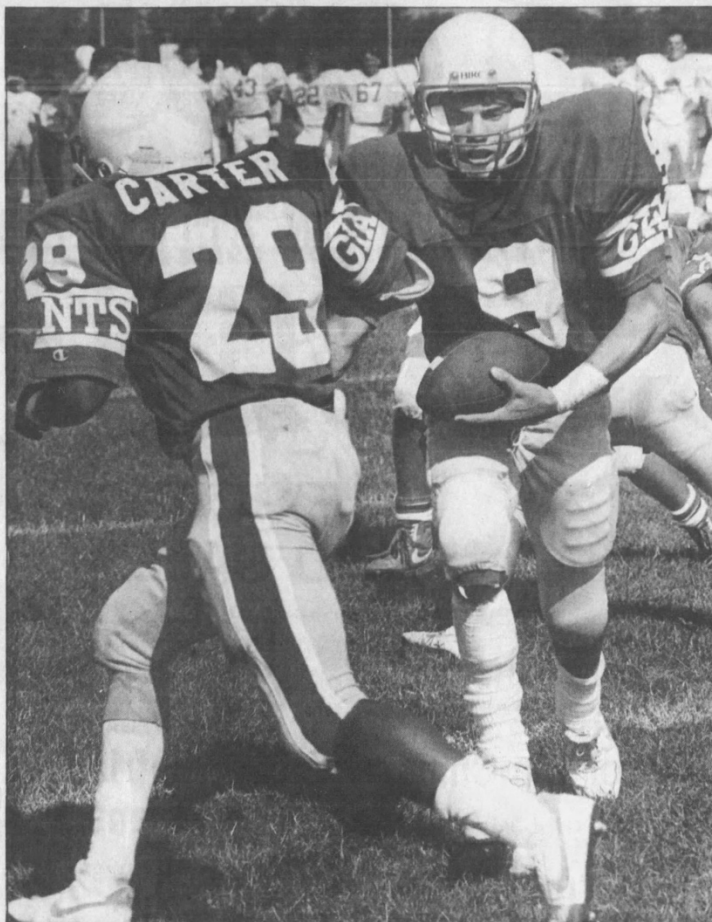
"We were able to move the ball offensively," he said, "and we did a nice job stopping them defensively."

The Polar Bears host Bellevue Saturday at 7 p.m.

Genoa-Liberty Center
Both teams scored twice and Genoa Coach John Boles also had mixed reviews.

"The first week (of practice), the kids did a lot of learning," Boles said. "Technically, we looked okay as far as being in the right place (against Liberty Center)."

"But we were not as aggressive as I would like the kids to have been."



ROSS QUARTERBACK Cory Lance fakes a hand-off to tailback Terry Carter during the Little Giants scrimmage with Elyria Saturday at the Ross High School practice field.

News-Messenger/Scott Lightfoot

Fremont swimmers win open water titles

News-Messenger reports

FOX LAKE, Ill. — Chris Black and Rob Penrod of Fremont won their age division races in the Fox Lake Challenge, a four-mile open water swim, Saturday.

Also competing in the event were Kim Haubert and Brian Koenig of Fremont.

Penrod, competing in the 15-18 division, was second overall in the event, finishing in one hour, 24 minutes and 13 seconds.

Black was five seconds behind Penrod while finishing first in the 19-24 age group.

Koenig was fourth in the 25-29 division, completing the distance in 1:39:15, good for 19th overall.

Haubert did not place.

The winners in the 19 and older age groups were recognized as the United States Masters open water long distance national champions.

There were 138 swimmers from 11 states including Texas, New York and California.

136th
annual



Emotion lacking in Ross test

News-Messenger reports

Maybe it was the weather but Rex Radeloff was not thrilled with his team's preseason football clash Tuesday evening at Harmon Stadium.

Radeloff's Ross team lost 1-0 to Toledo Devilbiss.

"We did not play with any emotion," Radeloff said. "We have been showing a lot of emotion before this but maybe it was not knowing if we would be scrimmaging had something to do with it."

Heavy rains that hit Northwest Ohio early Tuesday threatened to postpone the scrimmage but the rains departed in early afternoon.

"The kids did not know for sure that we were going to scrimmage until around four o'clock when they got to the stadium," Radeloff said.

Either way, Ross had its troubles until the team began playing in game situations. DeVilbiss, using a "wishbone" offense, had scored when the teams were running 10-play series.

Looking on the good side, Radeloff said he did see good hits defensively.

The scrimmage ended when Ross came up short on a fourth down play inside the DeVilbiss 25.

Ross will travel to Ashland for a 6 p.m., Friday scrimmage.

Ross win scrimmages

"We over-pursued on a few occasions and (the Raiders) were able to cut it up but overall we did a good job on defense," said Narducci. "Typical quote. They bent, but they didn't break."

Joe Boice had a good night running the football for Lakota.

Clyde, meanwhile, treated the home fans to a couple of scores and some hard-nosed defense.

After a defensive stand inside their own 20, the Fliers scored on a 52-yard pass from Mike Carter to Jason Whaley. Josh Jackson added the PAT.

Troy Newsome later scored from 3 yards out.

ROSS-ASHLAND

Ross scored twice in its first series of 10 plays, driving 70 yards in eight plays with tailback Terry Carter scoring.

Taking over again on the 30, Carter ran 70 yards off an option on the first play. Quarterback Jeff Draeger scored the third Ross TD.

"Defensively, we moved to the ball well; we attacked it," Ross Coach Rex Radeloff said, "and it controlled the line of scrimmage.

"On offense, we were more consistent," Radeloff said.

"The kids were having fun tonight (Friday)."

In the junior varsity game, both teams scored once.

Ross wins first opener in three years

Carter, big-play defense stop Columbian

By BOB MARKER
Staff writer

The ending made a sweet beginning sweeter.

Ross scored a pair of first-quarter touchdowns and then got a pair of key sacks and an interception in the waning minutes to preserve a 14-7 high school football win over Tiffin Columbian at a rain-soaked Harmon Stadium Friday.

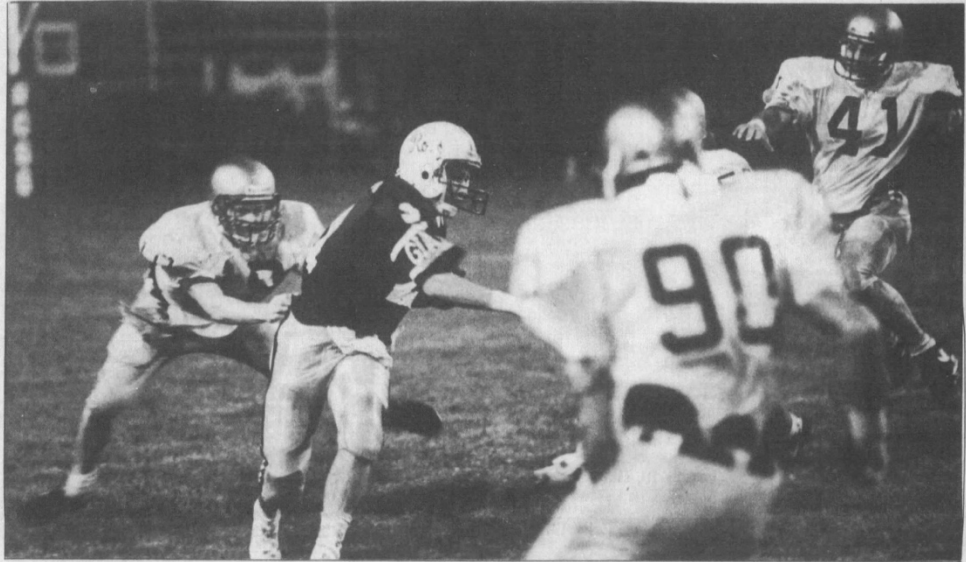
The half was extended 15 minutes because of lightening and thunderstorm in the area.

Sophomore Charles Chapman bolted 37 yards to score on his first varsity carry and Terry Carter's 65-yard TD run got Ross rolling in the first quarter.

"I knew we were going to have something happen at the end," Ross Coach Rex Radeloff said after his first opening game win in three seasons as head coach. Columbian had handed the Little Giants opening game losses the past two seasons.

The "something happen" was a pair of quarterback sacks by Ross defensive end Maurice Jones and an interception by defensive back Rodney Johnson at the Ross 10 with less than 30 seconds remaining in the game.

"The down linemen and the linebackers played a heck of a



News-Messenger/Terry Reimer

SCOTT MEZINGER of Ross pulls out of the grasp of Columbian's Mike Martin while returning a second half punt. Closing in on

the Ross receiver are Dave Kaminski (90) and Brad Scheiber (41). Mezinger was stopped after a short return.

game," Radeloff said. The Ross defense limited the Tornadoes to 81 yards rushing and 71 passing.

"That's about right," Joe Siegel, defensive coordinator, said

while clapping his hands. "That's what we want."

Carter, who rushed for over 1,000 yards as a sophomore last season, ran for 172 first-half

yards on 17 carries, 147 on 11 carries in the first quarter.

He cut over the middle, off center Jason Hull, and eluded the Columbian backfield to score

from 65 yards out with 19 seconds remaining in the first quarter.

See ROSS, B-3

Football

Ross 14, Columbian 7

Score by quarters

Columbian	0	0	7	0	—	7
Ross	14	0	0	0	—	14

Scoring

Ross: Charles Chapman, 37-yard run (Eric Siesel kick), 10:02, first quarter.

Ross: Terry Carter, 65-yard run (Siesel kick), 0:19, first quarter.

Columbian: Doug Kagy, 35-yard run (Matt Ash kick), 9:33, third quarter.

Team Stats

	C	R
First Downs	10	10
Rushes/Yards	30/81	46/241
Passing Yards	71	2
Passes/Comp./Int.	13/8/1	9/2/0
Punts/Average	6/34.5	5/37.2
Fumbles/Lost	2/2	2/0
Penalties/Yards	4/35	12/110

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Columbian: Kory Staib, 13/42; Kagy, 7/50. Ross: Carter, 27/195; Chapman, 10/52.

Passing: Columbian: Jim Newland, 13/8/1 — 71. Ross: Jeff Draeger, 9/2/0 — 2.

Receiving: Columbian: Joey Goodman, 2/31; Bob Boes, 2/10. Ross: Scott Mezinger, 1/5.

Records: Ross 1-0, Columbian 0-1.

Ross looks to build on strong opening victory

By BOB MARKER
Staff writer

The last remnants of mud have been washed off and it is onto Game Two for the Ross Little Giants football team.

Ross scored a pair of first-quarter touchdowns and then sloshed through the rain and lightening while polishing off Tiffin Columbian 14-7 at Harmon Stadium Friday in the season opener. The performance was as flawless as Coach Rex Radeloff could have wanted.

"It was the first time out and we played with a lot of emotion," Radeloff said. "The defense, with the exception of the first drive of the second half, played very well."

The Little Giants defense reduced the Tornados to a puff of wind, holding them to 81 rushing yards on 30 attempts and 71 yards in the air. Toss out the only flat point and Ross would have limited Columbian to 85 total yards.

In spite of the heavy-rains that soaked

the stadium and reduced the crowd to miniscule proportions, the Little Giants fumbled just twice but did not commit a turnover.

"We have been stressing that — holding onto the ball," Radeloff said.

Terry Carter, fresh off of rushing for over 1,000 yards his sophomore year, ran for 195 yards, including a 65-yard TD jaunt while gaining 147 yards in the first quarter alone.

But there were drawbacks.

Ross was penalized 12 times for 110 yards.

"The penalties hurt us," Radeloff said, "and even though we had no turnovers, a penalty took a touchdown away from us."

"Penalties hurt, but they are correctable," he said.

In Game Two, Radeloff's crew will not be able to take backward steps against Toledo City League power Macomber.

The Macmen and Ross had scrimmaged for the past several years but now, the fun

game has been tossed out the window.

"They are about the same size as Columbian," Radeloff described, "but they have more speed, excellent speed."

The Macman did lose a big cog in Chuck Webb, All-Ohio running back now at the University of Tennessee, but he has been replaced by another All-Ohio pick in 1987, Myron Bell. The Macomber tailback was all-state defensive back.

Bell will run from the tailback slot while playing a cornerback defensively. In Macomber's 26-0 win over Anthony Wayne Friday, Bell had a 37-yard scoring run.

"The quarterback — Brian Winters — is a quick," Radeloff said, "and we cannot allow him to get outside. If he does, he is very hard to stop."

Winters had a 55-yard scoring run in the Macmen's season debut.

Defensively, the Macmen use a "5-2" with Bell and end Eric Kynard, 6-4, 180-pound junior, the players to watch.

ROSS NOTES: Junior Cory Lance will start at quarterback Friday, replacing

Jeff Draeger who cracked the thumb of his left hand, his throwing hand, early in the Columbian game. Draeger could take snaps, Radeloff said, but only if needed. He will play in his defensive safety spot but will have to have a playing cast on the hand.

BUCKEYE STATS: Steve Hodge of Zanesville is the Buckeye Central Conference's rushing leader after one game. Hodge rushed for 205 yards on 39 carries while scoring four touchdowns in the Blue Devils' 34-24 win over Columbus East. Hodge has taken over for the graduated Buster Howe in Zanesville's single-wing offense.

Hodge is the leader in three categories — rushing, scoring and kickoff returns — and second in passing.

Carter is second while Shawn Dulaney of Findlay is third, a yard behind Carter with 194 yards on 23 carries.

Ross punter Eric Siesel leads the BCC with a 37.6 average on five punts.

Radeloff heeds sound advice; Ross wins 12-8

Little Giants whip Macomber

By BOB MARKER
Staff writer

This time, the offensive linemen gave the halftime talk. All Rex Radeloff did was follow their advice.

"We can handle those guys," they told me," Radeloff said, "and we will always listen to the kids' advice."

It was advice well-heeded; the advice-givers opened up huge holes in the final 24 minutes as Ross knocked off Toledo City League power Macomber 12-8 at Harmon Stadium Friday night.

The win topped off a night in which Ross showed its offensive backfield depth. Quarterback Cory Lance took over for last week's starter Jeff Draeger and guided the Little Giants to 217 rushing yards.

Tate Young started the game at tailback, replacing Terry Carter, and gained 52 yards on nine carries. Carter was hampered by a case of bronchitis.

Draeger played mostly defense while wearing a cast to protect the cracked thumb on his left hand, his throwing hand.

Sophomore fullback Charles Chapman led the Ross rushers with 92 yards on 21 carries. He also scored both Ross touchdowns. Carter, who had 195 yards last week, saw enough action to rack up 69 yards on 16 carries.

Lance completed just one of eight passes but Radeloff was not distressed.

"The passing game will come," he said. "(Lance) did a heck of a good job tonight."

Macomber drew first blood on

Demetrice Reasonover's 4-yard run with 90 seconds remaining in the first quarter. Quarterback Brian Winters' run put the Little Giants down 8-0.

Chapman scored from 2 yards out with 53 seconds left before halftime. Chapman's second TD of the season capped off a seven-play, 48-yard drive. Carter's 27-yard twisting run to the 15 was the key play in the drive.

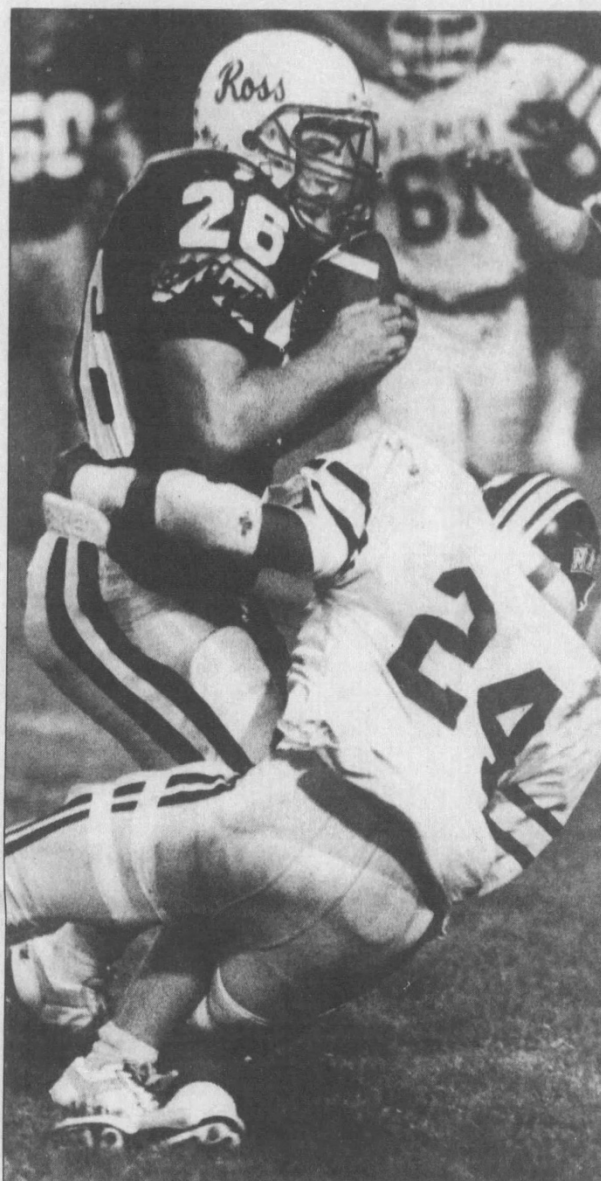
Chapman's second TD, a three-yard run, came with 5:35 remaining in the final quarter. He followed the block of right guard Brian Smith and then cut back off wide receiver Darnell McDonald's wipeout block on the remaining Macomber linebacker.

"The offensive line was really firing out," Ross offensive Coordinator Les Hull said. "We started the game running at them and then tried to pass to loosen them up but at the half, we decided to just play power football."

It worked. Smith at right guard and Tony Roob at right tackle, left guard Matt Otermat and left tackle Jeff Green along with center Jason Hull and tight end Steve Swanger did just about what they pleased with the Macomber defensive line.

The line allowed Ross rushers to be tackled for just three losses — the last when Lance dropped to the ground on the final play of the game.

"One thing that Ross did," Macomber Coach Bill Youngs said, "was (the Little Giants') offen-



News-Messenger/Terry Reimer

SCOTT SWANGER of Ross pulls in a pass from Cory Lance during third quarter action Friday night at Harmon Stadium. Myron Bell makes the tackle for Macomber.

Ross

Continued From B-1

sive line was beating us off the ball. That does not happen to us too often."

While the offense was following its line's advice, the Ross defense was quietly bottling up Macomber's speed.

Macomber had 124 yards rushing on 32 attempts with tailback Myron Bell getting 101 on 13 carries. Bell set up the Macomber score with a 50-yard run.

The Macmen did have one TD called back and possibly one other.

Winters ran 74 yards last in the third quarter, but the touchdown was wiped out by a clipping penalty at the line of scrimmage. After Ross took the lead in the final quarter, Winters, after being trapped behind the line by the rushing Ross defense, broke out of the pack and was apparently on his way to 58-

yard scoring run — but the play had been blown dead.

"We did not let them get outside," Ross defensive Coordinator Joe Siesel said of Macomber's speedy backs. "We got a heck of a game from everyone."

He clicked off the names of defensive ends Maurice Jones, who had two sacks, Roob and Brian Baker, outside linebacker Eric Siesel and Young, and down linemen Swanger and Chris Smith.

Topping it off, defensive back Draeger intercepted a Winters pass late in the game.

The only tarnish on the defense was several missed tackles but Siesel explained that.

"Those guys were so quick, they would get in the hole and move side to side so quick, we'd miss'em," he said while moving his hands back and forth quickly.

Ross will hit the road for the first time Friday, playing Toledo Central Catholic in the Glass Bowl on the University of Toledo campus. The game begins at 7 p.m., an hour earlier than usual.

Football

Ross 12, Macomber 8

Score by quarters

Macomber	8	0	0	0	—	8
Ross	0	6	0	6	—	12

Scoring

Macomber: Demetrice Reasonover, 4-yard run (Brian Winters run), 1:26, first quarter.

Ross: Charles Chapman, 2-yard run (run failed), 0:53, second quarter.

Ross: Chapman, 3-yard run (pass failed), 5:35, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

	M	R
First Downs	5	14
Rushes/Yards	32/124	51/217
Passing Yards	13	7
Passes/Comp./Int.	4/1/1	8/1/0
Punts/Average	4/28.3	3/35.0
Fumbles/Lost	2/2	2/2
Penalties/Yards	5/33	4/50

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Macomber: Myron Bell 13/101, Demetrice Reasonover 10/33, Brian Winters 7/10, Ron Harris 1/1, Travis Grant 1/2; Ross: Terry Carter 16/69, Chapman 21/92, Tate Young 9/52, Jason Schultz 1/2, Cory Lance 4/2.

Passing: Macomber: Winters 4/1/1-13; Ross: Lance 8/1/0-7.

Receiving: Macomber: Bell 1/13; Ross: Scott Swanger 1/7.

Records: Ross 2-0, Macomber 1-1.

ROSS (2-0) vs. TOLEDO CENTRAL CATHOLIC (0-2)

7 p.m. Friday at the Glass Bowl, Toledo

PLAYERS TO WATCH

TOLEDO CENTRAL CATHOLIC: Quarterback Chris McCauley, running backs Art Bates and Randy Peterson and split end Ty Fries are TCC's offensive keys. McCauley is 6-2, 190-pounds, Bates 6-1, 205 and Fries 5-9, 150. All are seniors while Peterson is a 5-9, 165-pound junior.

Defensively, the Fighting Irish are led by senior defensive tackle Tom Underwood (5-8, 205), senior defensive end Allan Neidbalski (6-4, 210), inside linebackers John and Joe St. Julian, both 200-pound seniors, and Fries at cornerback.

TCC THUS FAR

The Fighting Irish are scoreless in two games. They lost to Michigan big school power Detroit Central Catholic 24-0 to open the season and fell to Toledo St. John's 7-0 last Friday.

COACH'S COMMENTS

"Toledo Central Catholic will be fired up," said Ross Coach Rex Radeloff. "We are looking for a very physical game."

"They are a very disciplined and well-coaching team. The quarterback can throw and will throw deep; he has a good, strong arm."

Radeloff said the Irish dropped two passes in the endzone in their loss to DCC.

"They play a good, quick angling defense," said Radeloff, "with Underwood a very quick tackle."

ROSS SIDE

The Little Giants are coming off a 12-8 win over Toledo Macomber. The game was highlighted by a dominating Ross offensive line, especially on the right side.

Sophomore fullback Charles Chapman scored both Ross touchdowns behind the blocking of right tackle Tony Roob and right guard Brian Smith. Tailback Terry Carter, hampered by bronchitis last week, is expected to start against TCC.



ROOB



SMITH

Special team miscues lead to Ross loss

By TIM HARMON
Staff writer

TOLEDO — Fremont Ross received an F for its presentation, "How To Play Special Teams."

The Little Giants muffed four snaps from punt formation in Friday night's 16-8 loss to Toledo Central Catholic at the Glass Bowl. Despite their offensive ineptitude, the Fighting Irish reaped the benefits.

"We were fortunate to get the opportunities we did," said Irish Coach Greg Bailie. "The kids did a good job taking advantage of what was presented them, and you have to do that to win."

Said Ross Coach Rex Radeloff: "It's one of those things. Snapping is part of the kicking game and we didn't execute."

The Irish set up shop at the Ross 17 in the first quarter after Ross punter Eric Siesel fell on a high snap 30 yards behind

the line of scrimmage. Landy Peterson swept left end and scored from 5 yards out four plays later.

Ross's lone opportunity to score in the first half came five seconds before the intermission when Siesel missed a 22-yard field goal. The kick was partially blocked by Andy Katafiasz.

Ross, 2-1, gained only 89 yards in the first half and 30 of that was wiped out by the bad snap.

"We couldn't move (the Irish) defensive line," said Radeloff. "They played great defense."

Terry Carter returned to the Ross starting lineup with a whimper. He netted 0 yards in seven first-half carries. He finished with 80 yards on 18 carries but was never a factor.

The Little Giants' rushing total for the game was just 76 yards. Cory Lance picked up some of the slack with 89 yards

passing, but he needed 28 throws to amass his seven completions.

"We thought we had to put it up (throw) a little bit because we had a hard time controlling the line of scrimmage," said Radeloff.

Kelly Parton made it 9-0 with a 35-yard field goal late in the third quarter. Siesel fell on a high snap 13 yards behind the line of scrimmage at the Ross 20 four plays earlier.

TCC, 1-2, gained just three yards before Parton's kick. The Irish finished the game with 103 yards total offense.

"The (Ross) defense played great," Radeloff said.

Jeffrey Gillmor's fumble recovery in the fourth quarter saved the Little Giants after Siesel dropped a snap for a 10-yard loss at the Ross 11.

Catastrophe, though, struck minutes later when Allan Niedbalski sacked Cory

Lance and knocked the ball loose. Katafiasz recovered the fumble in the end zone.

Ironically, the TD was set up by a roughing the kicker penalty after Jeff Draeger, subbing for Siesel, was forced to field a low snap.

Ross scored with 1:40 left to play on a 17-yard pass from Lance to Troy Williams. Lance's conversion run made it 16-8, but the ensuing on-sides kick was recovered by the Irish.

"We played a good football team," Radeloff said. "We're a good football team but tonight (TCC) was better than we were."

The Little Giants' misfortunes also included six penalties which set them back 68 yards.

"We created our own mistakes," said Radeloff. "(The Irish) played good defense, but they didn't force mistakes. We had the bad snaps and the penalties."

High School

Toledo C.C. 16, Ross 8

Score by quarters

Ross	0	0	0	8	—	8
Toledo C.C.	0	6	3	7	—	16

Scoring

Toledo Central Catholic: Landy Peterson, 5-yard run (kick failed), 9:58, second quarter.

Toledo Central Catholic: Kelly Parton, 35-yard field goal, 2:00, third quarter.

Toledo Central Catholic: Andy Kataflasz recovered fumble in end zone (Parton kick), 6:03, fourth quarter.

Ross: Troy Williamson, 17-yard pass from Cory Lance (Lance run), 1:40, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

	R	TCC
First Downs	13	5
Rushes/Yards	41/76	40/72
Passing Yards	89	31
Passes/Comp./Int.	28/7/1	5/2/1
Punts/Average	6/40	7/35.7
Fumbles/Lost	6/1	4/1
Penalties/Yards	6/68	4/60

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Ross: Carter, 18/80; Toledo Central Catholic: Landy Peterson, 22/40, Art Bates, 12/34.

Passing: Ross: Cory Lance, 28/7/1/89; Toledo Central Catholic: Kurt Snyder, 5/2/1/31.

Receiving: Ross: Troy Williamson, 3/58; Toledo Central Catholic: Leroy Barnett, 1/21.

Ross visits Clay while searching for consistency

By BOB MARKER
Staff writer

Rex Radeloff would have liked to have thought it was just a nightmare.

The only problem was, he had proof that it was not. It was all there on film Saturday morning ... the nightmare that was a 16-8 loss to Toledo Central Catholic the night before.

The loss was the first in three games this high school football season for Radeloff's Ross Little Giants and it was a study of inconsistency.

"Overall, we did do some things well," Radeloff said Tuesday while emphasizing the positives of a disappointing game, "but we had too many penalties and the special teams played poorly and not just the

punting team."

In the loss to the Irish, the Little Giants muffed four long snaps on punts and Central Catholic turned three of them into scores.

"Those mistakes are correctable," Radeloff said, "and that is done by hard work."

Ross ran 74 offensive plays against the Irish and that is usually an indicator that a high school team has won the game — but not this time.

"We were forced to throw the ball," Radeloff said, "and we are still working on that. We are just inconsistent in that area."

Ross went to the air 28 times but connected on just seven.

The Ross inconsistencies will have to be cured quickly. Waiting in Oregon for the Little Giants Friday is unbeaten, 3-0, Clay. The Eagles have defeated Bowsher and Cardinal Stritch easily but struggled Friday with Sylvania Southview. Clay trailed Southview 13-0 at the half but came back to win by eight.

The only consistent part of the Ross game in the first three weeks has been the defense and it will be tested by Clay, Radeloff said.

"We want to stop their running game and force them to throw," Radeloff said. "With the exception of a pair of long runs in the Macomber game (both called back), we have stopped the run."

"Clay's quarterback (Eric Heintschel,

son of former Gibsonburg athletic director Rick Heintschel) is a good thrower," Radeloff said, alluding to the Woody Hayes axiom that two of the three things that can happen while passing are bad.

Fullback Jamie Muir and halfback Mike King are the chief runners out of Clay's wing-T offense. "Defensively, they have a good, solid front line," Radeloff said. "I think they are bigger than what the program lists them, too."

The biggest Eagle on the front five is Ed Cutcher, a junior, listed at 6-3, 217.

Another key defensive performer for the Eagles is cornerback Danny Williams, a 5-10, 170-pound junior transfer from Macomber.

Game time Friday is 7:30 p.m.

Ross defense tough in 10-7 victory

By TIM HARMON
Staff writer

OREGON — A dominating defense and just enough offense was all Fremont Ross needed for a 10-7 victory over Oregon Clay Friday night.

"A win is a win is a win," said Ross Coach Rex Radeloff after the Little Giants improved to 3-1.

Clay, 3-1, netted 93 yards in offense. Thanks to four sacks, including three by Maurice Jones, the Eagles rushing total was zero.

"We played defense the way we have in the last three ball games ... tough, hard and aggressive," Radeloff said.

Most of Clay's positive yardage came on a 13-play, 80-yard drive in the fourth quar-

ter. Eric Heintschel's 5-yard touchdown pass to Danny Williams made it 10-7.

The drive, which took almost six minutes off the clock, was kept alive twice by fourth down conversions.

Clay got the ball back with 1:52 left to play after a Ross punt. Jones, though, smothered the Eagles' last chance when he dropped Heintschel for a 13-yard loss.

A Clay punt and two snaps later, Ross was back on the winning track.

"We just don't have the strength to control them on the line of scrimmage," said Clay Coach John Johnson. "The game (offense) was there, but (the Little Giants) were just too strong up front."

Ross scored all its points in the second quarter on a 27-yard Eric Siesel field goal

and a 15-yard pass from Cory Lance to Andy Manbeck.

Terry Carter rushed for 85 yards on 21 carries, but the improved play of Lance gave the Ross offense its biggest boost.

"We did a better job mixing the sprint draw and the pass, running on passing downs and throwing on first down," said Radeloff. "That forced the linebackers to stay inside and not drop so deep and that created some seams in the zone (coverage)."

"Cory had his best game ever and we finally caught the ball."

Scott Swanger had three catches for 40 yards and Scott Mezinger had two receptions for 29 yards.

But 10 penalties were a sign that Ross,

which started just three seniors on offense in the second half, is still experiencing growing pains. The penalties set the Little Giants back 122 yards.

"We are young," said Radeloff, "but you go with what you've got."

On the defensive side of the ball, the numbers speak for themselves.

Clay mustered six first downs, one by penalty and four on its scoring drive; the four sacks were good for 29 yards in losses; Ross intercepted two passes (by Siesel and Mark Gonzalez) and only on eight occasions did Clay rushing attempts net positive yardage.

"You win with good, strong defense," said Radeloff.

Football

Ross 10, Oregon Clay 7

Score by quarters

Ross	0	10	0	0	—	10
Clay	0	0	0	7	—	7

Scoring

Ross: Eric Siesel, 27-yard field goal, 7:18, second quarter.

Ross: Andrew Manbeck, 15-yard pass from Cory Lance, 1:26, second quarter.

Clay: Danny Williams, 5-yard pass from Eric Heintschel, 4:18, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

	R	C
First Downs	7	6
Rushes/Yards	40/139	18/0
Passing Yards	98	93
Passes/Comp./Int.	18/8/0	24/9/2
Punts/Average	5/35.6	8/35.5
Fumbles/Lost	1/0	1/0
Penalties/Yards	10/122	5/35

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Ross: Terry Carter 21/85, Cory Lance 10/35; Clay: Dennis Walendzak 6/5.

Passing: Ross: Cory Lance 18/8/0 — 98; Clay: Heintschel 21/9/1, Don Miller 3/0/1 — 93.

Receiving: Ross: Scott Swanger 3/40, Scott Mezinger 2/29; Clay: Danny Williams 4/59.

Records: Ross 3-1, Clay 3-1.

BENEDICTINE (2-2) vs. ROSS (3-1)

8 p.m. Friday at Harmon Stadium, Fremont

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Cleveland Benedictine plays tough basic football. Generally, teams know what the Bennies are going to run ... it's just a case of stopping them.

The Bennies run out of the "I" formation with usually a wingback and one wide-out.

Defensively, Benedictine likes to stunt from it's 4-4 alignment.

PLAYERS TO WATCH

BENEDICTINE: Tailback Tim Zdanowicz played fullback last season. He missed the first two games, both losses, because of an injury but has gained 225 yards in the last two games, a pair of wins. Sophomore quarterback Joe Rosalina has started the last three games, completing 32 passes in 69 attempts for 427 yards, three touchdowns and six interceptions.



JONES



SIESEL

On defense, senior John Browne (6-5, 205) is a two-way starter at defensive end. Also keep an eye on junior linebacker Bruce Coffey (5-9, 185).

ROSS: End Maurice Jones leads a Little Giants' defense that has allowed under 117 yards of total offense per game. Jones had three sacks in last week's 10-7 victory over Oregon Clay. Placekicker and linebacker Eric Siesel kicked his first field goal and intercepted a pass a week ago. Cory Lance is improving every week at quarterback.

COACH'S COMMENTS

"Benedictine has great quickness," said Ross Coach Rex Radeloff. "They have been stunting more on defense this year.

"They have good size on the defensive line. On offense, when they run, the tailback carries the ball most of the time."

THE SERIES

Benedictine holds a 6-1 lead. This will be the final game of the series. The Ross win was in 1983, the year the Little Giants made it to the state playoff semifinals.

Benedictine beats Little Giants 17-12

Ross miscue leads to loss

By TIM HARMON
Staff writer

It happened again.

The Fremont Ross punt team picked the wrong place and the wrong time to unveil some old tricks in Friday night's 17-12 loss to Cleveland Benedictine at Harmon Stadium.

Trailing 10-6 late in the third quarter, the Little Giants lined up in punt formation at their 34-yard line. The snap from center sailed over punter Jeff Draeger's head.

Draeger fell on the ball 29 yards behind the line of scrimmage at the five. Two plays later, Tim Zdanowitz scored from the one. The touchdown proved to be the game-winner.

A mistake turned the game around and gave the Bengals their seventh win in eight games against Ross, which had four muffed snaps from punt formation in a loss to Toledo Central Catholic two weeks ago.

"(The Little Giants) played us tough, as always," said Benedictine Coach Augie Bossu. "We have had a heckuva series."

Ross, 3-2, answered Zdanowitz's touchdown with a 28-yard

scoring pass from Cory Lance to Darnell McDonald with 9:31 left to play.

The Little Giants, though, netted negative-2 yards in offense the rest of the game, which ended when Mike Kadlub intercepted Lance for the second time in the contest.

"We need to get some people healthy and have a good week of practice," said Ross Coach Rex Radeloff. "I believe we can come back and win our last five games."

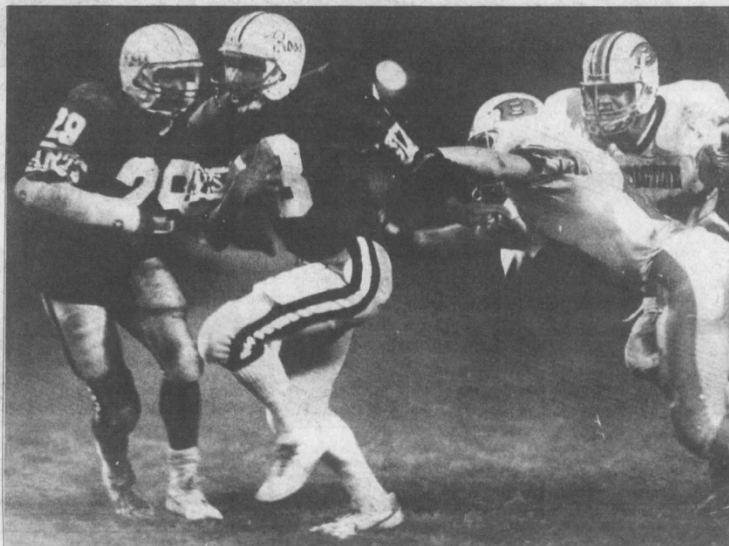
Maybe so, but this one got away.

Ross injuries included offensive linemen Tony Roob, and Tim Perkins and fullback Charles Chapman.

After Joe Kascandi gave the Bengals a 3-0 lead with a 32-yard field goal, Terry Carter scored on a 1-yard run for Ross. The play was set up by a 43-yard Lance to McDonald completion.

"We had trouble controlling the line of scrimmage," said Radeloff. "We couldn't run the football and had to throw it, and we haven't been very consistent in the passing game."

See ROSS, B-3



News-Messenger/Terry Reimer

ROSS QUARTERBACK Cory Lance runs past Cleveland Benedictine's Tony Ferrone as Terry Carter looks to block during the Little Giants 17-12 loss Friday night at Harmon Stadium.

Ross

Continued From B-1

Although Lance threw for 111 yards, he completed just five of 20 passes.

Joe Rosalina hooked up with Kadlub for a 23-yard TD reception which made it 10-6 at half-time.

"I knew we would stop the run because we would control the line of scrimmage on defense," Radeloff said. "I knew (the Bengals) would keep throwing the ball downfield until they hit one."

Rosalina and Kadlub hit six times in the first half for 89 yards.

"They bang at you and they bang at you," said Radeloff. "Zdanowitz is a good runner and he broke some tackles along the way."

Zdanowitz carried 10 straight times on Benedictine's last drive of the game before the Bengals gave it over on downs at the Ross seven with 48 seconds left.

Benedictine 17, Ross 12

Score by quarters

Benedictine	0	20	0	7	—	17
Ross	0	6	0	6	—	12

Scoring

Cleveland Benedictine: Joe Kascandi, 32-yard field goal, 8:34, second quarter.

Ross: Terry Carter, 1-yard run, (kick blocked), 3:29, second quarter.

Cleveland Benedictine: Mike Kadlub, 23-yard pass from Joe Rosalina, (Rosalina kick), 2:26, second quarter.

Cleveland Benedictine: Tim Zdanowitz, 1-yard run, (Kascandi kick), 11:57, fourth quarter.

Ross: Darnell McDonald, 28-yard pass from Cory Lance, (pass failed), 9:31, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

	CB	R
First Downs	9	7
Rushes/Yards	40/122	34/16
Passing Yards	100	111
Passes/Comp./Int.	21/8/1	20/5/2
Punts/Average	7/41.4	8/34.5
Fumbles/Lost	2/1	3/1
Penalties/Yards	6/40	4/19

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Ross: Terry Carter, 14/34; Cleveland Benedictine: Tim Zdanowitz, 37/114.

Passing: Ross: Cory Lance, 20/5/2 — 111; Cleveland Benedictine: Joe Rosalina, 21/5/2 — 100.

Receiving: Cleveland Benedictine: Mike Kadlub, 6/89; Ross: Darnell McDonald, 3/81.

Season records: Benedictine 3-2, Ross 3-2.

Banged up Ross due for 'up' game vs. Newark

By TIM HARMON
Staff writer

Fremont Ross wants to put all the parts of an up-and-down season together when it hosts Newark Friday night at Harmon Stadium in the Buckeye Central Conference opener for both teams.

The Little Giants first step is to get healthy, or as healthy as a banged-up football team can get.

The second step: Run Terry Run.

Ross, 3-2, is hampered by a series of injuries to its offensive line and its running backs. Junior running back Terry Carter, the man who makes the Little Giants go, is among the injured players.

"We have to get the running game going," said Ross Coach Rex Radeloff. "Sustain our blocks, eliminate the penalties and spring Carter."

Carter is averaging 93.4 yards per game but was held to just 34 yards in 14 carries last week against Cleveland Benedictine.

Still, the Little Giants run the football

better than they throw it. Newark, 2-3, defends the run better than it defends the pass.

"It's strength against strength," said Newark Coach Tim Thimmes.

Radeloff, though, said Newark may be the means by which the Little Giants reach the desired ends. The Wildcats like to stunt from their 4-4 defensive alignment.

"We have to be able to pick up the stunt but if we break it, there is less people to contend with Radeloff said. "We have to get Terry (Carter) past the line of scrimmage because that's when he becomes exciting."

Carter is bothered by a sore shoulder while fellow running backs Tate Young (ribs) and Charles Chapman (ankle, knee) will also play hurt.

The Ross offensive line has become patchwork. Center Jason Hull is the only fully healthy player in the bunch.

Tackle Tony Roob, who missed last

week with a knee injury, will play at less than 100 percent; Brian Smith will move from tackle to guard, replacing Tim Perkins, who will miss Friday's game with a strained knee; and Jeff Green will take over Smith's tackle spot. Guard Matt Otermat is bothered by ankle and shoulder injuries but will play.

Jeff Draeger, who has played only defense while a broken hand heals, could play Friday in place of Cory Lance at quarterback.

While Radeloff hopes a strong running game will open things up for the pass, he knows Newark will throw the ball — a fact Thimmes won't disguise.

"We know we'll have a problem with the Ross defense," Thimmes said. "We're going to have to throw it."

Senior Dave Hatfield starts at quarterback for Newark, which dropped a 13-7 decision to Columbus DeSales last week. Hatfield's primary targets are Aaron Brown and Mark Lovett.

"We know we can control the running game," said Radeloff. "That will force (the Wildcats) to pass. Stopping that means a pass rush and coverage in the secondary."

Maurice Jones leads Ross with seven quarterback sacks, and the Little Giants have intercepted seven passes, including two by Rodney Johnson.

After last week's 17-12 loss to Benedictine, Radeloff said "we need to get some people healthy and have a good week of practice."

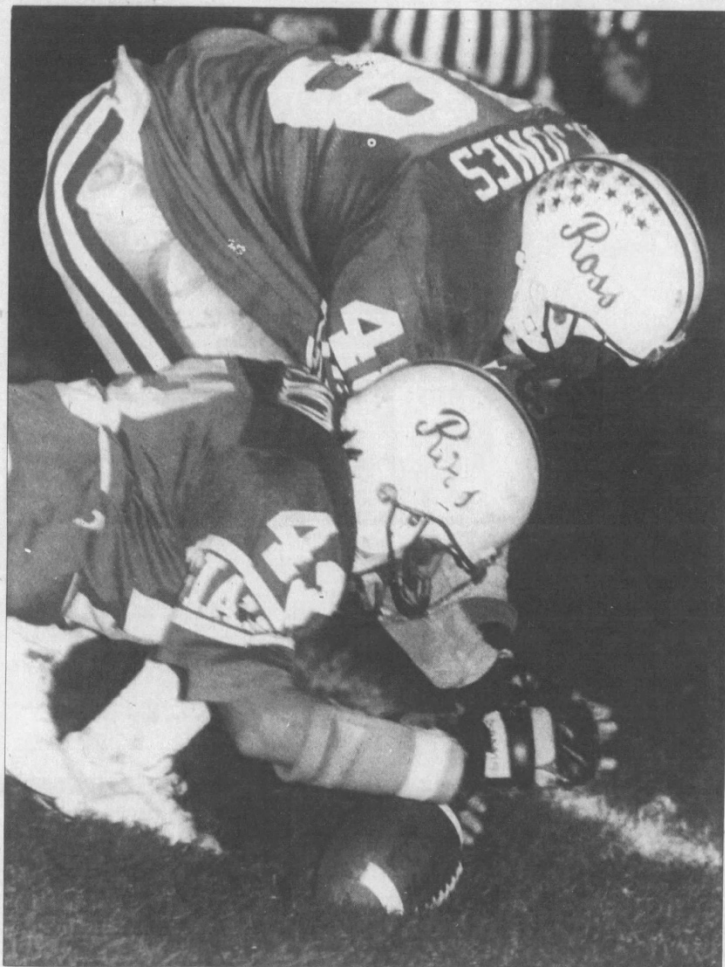
The Little Giants' health is still a question mark. The latter?

"It's been a good week," Radeloff said before Wednesday's practice.

"The kids realize we've got five games to go with a league championship on the line ... and a playoff spot."

Ross is fifth in Region 2 of the Ohio High School Athletic Association computer rankings, a half-point out of fourth, the last playoff qualifying spot.

Biggest of the big keys Ross win



BILL HRYNCIW (43) of Ross recovered a Newark fumble early in the fourth quarter. Ross defensive end Maurice Jones moves in to help his

teammate. The fumble resulted when Wildcat quarter Dave Hatfield fumbled while being sacked.

News-Messenger/Scott Lightfoot

Johnson's 81-yard pass interception cages 'Cats

By TIM HARMON
Staff writer

In a game of big plays, Fremont Ross defensive back Rodney Johnson had the biggest.

Johnson's 81-yard interception return early in the second half was the difference in the Little Giants' 28-20 victory over Newark Friday night at Harmon Stadium.

Ross improved to 4-2 and Newark fell to 2-4. The game was the Buckeye Central Conference opener for both teams.

"We wanted a shutout, but we'll take the win," said Ross Coach Rex Radeloff. "It's the first conference game. (The conference) is what we're pointed at, and we're on our way."

Johnson's touchdown gave Ross a 21-0 lead but loomed much larger in the end.

The play, the fifth longest interception return for a touchdown in Ross history, stopped Newark on the opening drive of the second half. The Wildcats

See ROSS, B-3

Woodmore wins 'A' district golf crown

News-Messenger reports

Woodmore won the Class A District Golf Tournament Friday and two other area schools qualified for Thursday's regional tournament.

In the Class AAA at Bowling Green, Ross finished sixth, but only the top three teams earned regional tourney berths.

Port Clinton qualified for the regional in Class AA, placing third at Detwiler Golf Course.

Paced by a trio of players carding 81s, Woodmore had 326 strokes over the Green Hills Golf Club layout at Clyde. Toby Rodawalt, an individual state tournament qualifier a year ago, Brian Taylor and Nate Overmyer shot 81s for the Wildcats.

The scores of the lowest four golfers figure in the team scores.

Second at Green Hills was Sandusky St. Mary's at 331 while Old Fort was third with 333, a stroke ahead of Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic.

Ryan Fry and Kevin Guth led Old Fort with 81s.

Jim Schaeffer shot a 79 for St. Joe's medalist honors.

Other area Class A teams included Bettsville with a 341 and Gibsonburg at 345. Kyle Krotzer shot an 82 for Bettsville and Kevin Keene's 83 was low for Gibsonburg.

At Bowling Green, Toledo St. John and Defiance tied for first with 314 and Findlay was a stroke off that pace. Ross shot a 323 and Bellevue finished 11th at 345.

Mark Gottron shot a 79 for Ross.

P.J. Peterson's 80 was low for Bellevue.

Port Clinton shot a 331 at Detwiler, finishing behind Wauseon's 312 and Rossford's 330.

Clyde was fourth with 341 but had two players qualify for the regional tourney. Kevin Stallard shot an 81 and Flier teammate Eric Hall carded an 82.

Joe Carr's 79 paced Port Clinton.

Other area teams in the AA were Lakota fifth with 350, Oak Harbor ninth at 363 and Genoa 10th with 367.



News-Messenger/Scott Lightfoot

CORY LANCE, Ross quarterback, eludes Newark defender Mark Lovett during second half action

of the Buckeye Central Conference game at Harmon Stadium.

Ross

Continued From B-1

had clicked off a couple of first downs trying to cut into a 14-0 halftime deficit.

"That was the turning point," said Newark Coach Tim Thimmes.

Dave Hatfield's pass was intended for Aaron Brown, who made a diving attempt at a catch. The ball popped in the air and was batted around by players from both squads before Johnson, who also bobbled it, hauled it in.

"Unbelievable," said Ross Coach Rex Radeloff. "And to take it all the way back. That was a helluva play."

Johnson's return was the longest for a Ross player since John Lozano returned an interception 91 yards against Marion Harding in 1984.

"We were driving and the pass would have given us a first down," Thimmes said.

As it was, Newark still made a game of it.

Hatfield, who completed 17 of 37 passes for 291 yards but was intercepted four times, came right back with a 12-yard scoring pass to Aaron Brown. After a Ross punt, Hatfield and Brown hooked up on a 34-yard scoring play.

The teams traded punts before Terry Carter, who rushed for 198 yards on 24 carries, excited the Ross Homecoming crowd with a 61-yard run. Two plays later, Carter scored from 12 yards out for a 28-14 Ross lead.

Hatfield fired his third TD

pass to Rob Evans with 1:29 left to play. Ross sealed its victory, though, when Dean Bliss covered Kirk Sidwell's on-sides kick following the 21-yard scoring play.

"I knew (the Wildcats) we're going to throw the ball," Radeloff said. "Anytime you throw deep like they do, things will happen."

"I would have been disappointed if we didn't stop the run."

Newark netted minus-19 yards rushing as Ross sacked Hatfield six times.

"I wish I was a fan," said Thimmes. "We wanted to win, but we're pleased again with the effort ... but we didn't win."

"(The Little Giants) scouted us well and were well prepared."

Said Radeloff: "I thought it would be a low-scoring game. We hadn't been scoring much and neither had they."

Ross led 6-0 after Carter's 23-yard TD run in the first quarter. The touchdown was set up when Newark punter Mike Van Ostram fell to one knee fielding a low snap from center at the Wildcat 25.

The Little Giants made it 14-0 when Tate Young capped a nine-play, 87-yard drive with a 2-yard scoring run after Jeff Dreager intercepted Hatfield at the Ross 13.

Johnson, who also recovered a fumble, had two of Ross's four interceptions. His first, which he returned 22 yards, snuffed a Newark drive just before halftime.

Nine plays in the game covered more than 20 yards, but Rodney Johnson made his big play stand out.

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Football

Ross 28, Newark 20

Score by quarters

Newark	0	0	14	6	—	20
Ross	6	8	14	0	—	28

Scoring

Ross: Terry Carter, 23-yard run, (kick blocked), 6:25, first quarter.

Ross: Tate Young, 2-yard run, (Scott Meizinger pass from Young), 4:35, second quarter.

Ross: Rodney Johnson, 81-yard, interception return, (Eric Siesel kick), 9:49, third quarter.

Newark: Aaron Brown, 12-yard pass from Dave Hatfield, (Kirk Sidwell kick), 7:33, third quarter.

Newark: Brown, 34-yard pass from Hatfield, (Sidwell kick), 3:52, third quarter.

Ross: Carter, 12-yard run, (Siesel kick), :04, third quarter.

Newark: Rob Evans, 21-yard pass from Hatfield, (run failed), 1:29, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

	N	R
First Downs	14	5
Rushes/Yards	23/-19	38/197
Passing Yards	291	16
Passes/Comp./Int.	38/17/4	7/1/1
Punts/Average	4/27.8	7/28
Fumbles/Lost	4/2	2/0
Penalties/Yards	3/32	7/28

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Ross: Terry Carter, 24/198, Tate Young, 7/28; Newark: Brian McDonald, 14/19.

Passing: Ross: Cory Lance, 7/1/1 — 16; Newark: Dave Hatfield, 27/17/4 — 291.

Receiving: Ross: Andy Manbeck, 1/16; Newark: Aaron Brown, 6/145, Mark Lovett, 6/96.

Little Giants must contend with Zanesville's Hodge

By TIM HARMON
Staff writer

Fremont Ross has scored an average of 16 points per game this season. Zanesville halfback Steve Hodge averages 16.3.

When Ross travels to Zanesville Saturday for a Buckeye Central Conference against the Blue Devils, a happy ride home will hinge on how well the Little Giants contain Hodge.

Contain is the right word. No one has stopped the 6-2, 195-pound junior yet.

Hodge, who replaced Buster Howe, Ohio's Mr. Football in 1987, has rushed 211 times from his tailback slot in the single wing for 968 yards and 16 touchdowns.

Ross, meanwhile, has yielded just 57 yards rushing per game.

"(The Little Giants) are a veteran, aggressive defensive team," said Zanesville Coach Whit Parks. "After watching them

on film, they will be the best team we play this season."

Ross Coach Rex Radeloff hopes the Little Giants' defense lives up to its reputation.

"We have done a good job shutting down the run this year," Radeloff said. "Hopefully, we will continue to do that."

But Hodge is multi-talented. He has completed 27 of 44 passes for 418 yards and three touchdowns.

"(The Blue Devils) have been successful throwing the ball," said Radeloff. "They throw when they want to."

"They haven't been forced to throw, but that's what we have to do."

Said Parks: "We have a very efficient passing game. I have a lot of confidence in it."

Hodge is joined in the backfield by fullback Cody Dickinson, signal-caller Tim

Randles and Chad Grandstaff, who lines up as a wing on the strong side of the Blue Devils' unbalanced line.

"They have some great athletes," said Radeloff. "I don't care what offense you run, it's the players that make it work."

"The toughest thing about (the single wing) is being able to run it in practice to get a look at it."

Zanesville's best athlete on defense is senior tackle Matt Warth (6-4, 245).

Ross enters the game at 4-2 while Zanesville is 5-1. Both teams are 1-0 in the BCC. The Little Giants opened conference play with a 28-20 over Newark last Friday while Zanesville beat BCC foe Findlay 20-9.

Last year, three Little Giant turnovers led to Zanesville's first 17 points in a 33-7 Blue Devil victory.

Parks said turnovers will be the key to Saturday's game. Zanesville lost four fun-

bles in its lone loss, a 25-15 setback to Cambridge.

"Any time you put two good football teams on the field, the team that makes the fewest errors will win," he said.

Ross defensive end Maurice Jones and linebacker Eric Siesel are questionable for Saturday's game.

Jones has a case of pink eye and Siesel has been hobbled by a bruised thigh.

DIRECTIONS: To get to Zanesville Stadium, according to Ross Athletic Director Tom Easterday, take Rt. 53 south to Rt. 23 south. Take Rt. 37 east to Rt. 70 east. An alternative is Rt. 53 south to 23 south to 270 east to 70 east.

Take Rt. 70 into Zanesville. Get off at exit 153A and take Blue Ave. north. The school and stadium will be on the left. Turn left just before the high school building to get to the stadium.

Zanesville's key plays drop Ross

By BOB MARKER

Staff writer

ZANESVILLE — A veteran senior took a tip and a porous defense came up with a big play.

That was it in a nutshell as Zanesville outscored Ross 29-26 Saturday night in a game Ross dominated statistically, but not in points and big plays.

"I can't ask these kids to play any harder," Ross Coach Rex Radeloff said.

"What it came down to was they made their fourth down play and we did not," Radeloff said.

Those were two of the many big plays in the Buckeye Central Conference clash that could have been dubbed the championship game. Zanesville is 6-1 and 2-0 in conference play while Ross is 4-3 and 1-1 in the BCC.

Overshadowed by the last two big plays was the 240 yards rushing and two touchdowns by Ross junior Terry Carter.

Blue Devils senior Cody Dickinson came up with the first clutch play, grabbing a tipped pass while falling backwards on a fourth-and-seven play at the Ross 18 with six minutes remain-

See ROSS, B-4

Ross

Continued From B-1

ing in the game. Ross linebacker Jason Schultz tipped the ball but Dickinson's snag was good for nine yards and a first down at the nine.

Two plays later, Steve Hodge, running out of the tailback slot in Zanesville's single-wing, scored from 5 yards out. Another Hodge run got the two extra points for a 29-26 lead with 5:10 remaining.

In this game, Zanesville, seemingly, had scored too quickly.

Ross took over on its 32 and behind the running of Carter, drove to the Blue Devils 34 where the Little Giants faced a fourth down and about four inches for a first down.

"Our defense is young," Zanesville Coach Whit Parks said,

"and they have given up some big plays, but it's a case of bend and bend but not breaking."

On the fourth and inches, the middle of the Blue Devils defense, which had been repeatedly ripped apart by the Little Giants, refused to budge, stopping Ross quarterback Cory Lance in his steps with 1:26 left.

Those few seconds of elation for Zanesville but despair for Ross, were the game.

"Ross, undoubtedly," Parks said and emphasized it with sigh of relief, "is the best team, we have faced."

An old complimentary cliché, but very believable.

Ross ran off 67 plays, 34 more than the Blue Devils. The Little Giants had 395 total yards to Zanesville's 234 and Ross had a 20-9 edge in first downs.

The Little Giants' defense held Hodge, the BCC's leading rusher,

to 68 yards on 19 carries. Hodge did complete eight passes in 11 attempts for 168 yards and two touchdowns. Lance was also eight of 11 for 96 yards.

Zanesville scored a little a over minute into the game on a 56-yard pass from Hodge to tight end Tony Sines. Ross came back, driving 74 yards in 16 plays with Carter's 2-yard TD run capping the drive. Jason Schultz scored the two extra points out of the Little Giants spread formation.

The Little Giants used another 16-play drive, going 78 yards with Lance sneaking in from the one for a 14-7 lead with 4:52 remaining in the half. Zanesville came back two minutes later with Hodge hitting Cornelius Harris on a 37-yard scoring pass but Jamie Whipple blocked Harris' kick and Ross led 14-13 at the half.

Four minutes into the second

half, Hodge capped a four-play, 17-yard drive with a 2-yard TD run and hit Jim Goins with a pass for the two extra points and a 21-14 Zanesville lead. A Zanesville defender recovered Lance's fumble to set up the drive.

It took Ross 90 seconds to pull within a point, driving 87 yards in four plays. Lance passed 36 yards to Ty Williamson, setting up Carter's 48-yard TD run. Ross, playing without injured placekicker Eric Siesel, had a PAT pass fail.

Ross took a 26-21 lead 90 seconds into the final quarter with fullback Charles Chapman carrying the final yard on a fourth and goal play. The Ross drive covered 66 yards in 11 plays.

Zanesville took over at its 19 on the kickoff and marched to the 18 where Dickinson turned in the first of the two plays that felled the Little Giants.

Zanesville 29, Ross 26

Score by quarters

Ross	8	6	6	6-26
Zanesville	7	6	8	8-29

Scoring

Zanesville: Tony Sines, 56-yard pass from Steve Hodge (Cornelius Harris kick), 10:53, first quarter.

Ross: Terry Carter, 2-yard run (Jason Schultz run), 2:44, first quarter.

Ross: Cory Lance, 1-yard run (kick failed), 4:52, second quarter.

Zanesville: Harris, 37-yard pass from Hodge (kick blocked), 2:42, second quarter.

Zanesville: Hodge, 2-yard run (Jim Goins pass from Hodge), 7:52, 3rd quarter.

Ross: Carter, 48-yard run (pass failed), 5:45, third quarter.

Ross: Charles Chapman, 1-yard run (run failed), 10:34, fourth quarter.

Zanesville: Hodge, 5-yard run (Hodge run), 5:10, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

	R	Z
First Downs	20	9
Rushes/Yards	56/299	22/66
Passing Yards	96	168
Passes/Comp./Int.	11/8/0	11/8/0
Punts/Average	1/18.0	3/40.3
Fumbles/Lost	2/1	0/0
Penalties/Yards	6/42	1/15

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Ross, Carter 39/240, Lance 7/31, Chapman 6/12, Tate Young 4/16; Zanesville, Hodge 19/68, Chad Grandstaff 1/-4, Harris 1/-2, Pete Mathews 1/4.

Passing: Ross, Lance 11/8/0 — 168; Zanesville, Hodge 11/8/0 — 168.

Receiving: Ross, Carter 1/1, Scott Swanger 2/19, Ty Williamson 4/58, Scott Mezinger 1/18; Zanesville, Cody Dickinson 1/9, Sines 3/90, Harrison 3/64, Goines 1/5.

Season records: Zanesville 6-1 (2-0), Ross 4-3 (1-1).

ROSS (4-3) vs. LAKEWOOD (5-2)

7:30 p.m., Friday at Lakewood Stadium, Lakewood

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

A new, \$3-million facility with artificial turf. The stadium was part of a \$12-million sports facility renovation by the Lakewood system.

Lakewood's balanced attack against the Ross defense. Lakewood will likely attack the Little Giants secondary while attempting to freeze the line-backers with play-action.

A Ross offense that in a 29-26 loss to Zanesville, had coaches searching their memories to recall a better performance.

PLAYERS TO WATCH

LAKEWOOD: Returning quarterback John Koz. The strong-armed senior likes to spread his passes around. He often checks off at the line and at times, will take a look at two or three receivers before he throws.

Nose guard Bill Bishop and defensive linemen Phil Sahley and Craig Lagouski in the "50" defense of the Rangers.



CARTER



LANCE

ROSS: Running back Terry Carter is zeroing in on his second 1,000-yard rushing season after gaining 240 on 39 carries against Zanesville. The Ross junior has 902 yards on 159 carries.

Quarterback Corey Lance had his best passing game of the season against Zanesville, completing eight of 11 for 96 yards.

COACH'S COMMENTS

"Lakewood uses the passing game to open up the run," Ross Coach Rex Radeloff said. "Koz is a good, smart quarterback with a good arm. He does not have a favorite receiver; he throws to all of them."

DIRECTIONS

According Ross athletic director Tom Easterday, take the Ohio Turnpike or Rt. 6 to Rt. 2 (I-90) east. Stay on Rt. 2/I-90 to Lakewood. Get off Rt. 2/I-90 at the Bunts Ave. exit, go three traffic lights and turn left onto Bunts. Stay on Bunts to the stadium. Estimated driving time is 1½ hours.

Ross drops heartbreaker

News-Messenger reports

LAKEWOOD — Terry Carter rushed for over 200 yards for the second consecutive game and for the second consecutive week, Ross lost a heartbreaker.

This time, Lakewood nipped the Little Giants 21-19 Friday. The Rangers escaped as a 32-yard Chris Benson field goal was blocked with 43 seconds remaining in the game.

Last Saturday, Ross lost to

See ROSS, B-3

Ross

Continued From B-1

Zanesville 29-26 as a last second drive ended when the Little Giants were unable to pick up a first down on a fourth-and-inches inside the Blue Devil 35.

Against Lakewood, Ross failed to score on five occasions after getting inside the Rangers 15.

Carter matched his rushing total of a week ago against Zanesville when he rushed for 240 yards. This time he needed just 38 carries, one less than against Zanesville. The junior tailback scored twice in the second half on runs of 32 and 24 yards.

But while Carter ran wild, Lakewood quarterback John Koz was having a wilder time in the airways. Rangers receiver Chip Chambers, however, may have had the wildest time.

Koz passed for 257 yards on 16 of 26 including three scoring aerials. Chambers hauled in nine Koz passes for 189 yards and all three touchdowns.

Koz connected with Chambers on a 36-yard toss two minutes into the second quarter and seven minutes later, tossed a 52-yard bomb to Chambers, putting Ross down 14-0.

Ross got on the board while taking advantage of a fumble recovery shortly before halftime. Jeff Drager, replacing Cory Lance at quarterback, hooked up with tight end Scott Swanger on a 10-yard scoring pass with eight seconds remaining in the half.

After a scoreless third quarter, Ross clicked off a pair of touchdowns within five minutes in the fourth quarter to take a 19-14 lead.

Carter's 32-yard run came with 11:17 to play and his 24-yard run put Ross ahead with 6:21 to play.

But Koz and Chambers answered that. Koz drove the Rangers 88 yards in four plays, all passes, with a 9-yard scoring strike putting Lakewood on top 21-19 with 4:12 to play.

Ross came back but the drive stalled at the 25.

Benson, subbing for regular Ross placekicker Eric Siesel who has a bruised thigh on his kicking leg, never really had a chance on the winning field goal attempt. The snap was low and Benson's rushed kick was too low and was blocked by the charging Lakewood defensive line.

Ross, however, can smile in defeat. Lancaster defeated Zanesville 14-7, giving every Buckeye Central Conference team at least one conference loss. Lancaster visits Ross Friday.

Football

Lakewood 21, Ross 19

Score by quarters

Ross	0	7	0	12	—	19
Lakewood	0	14	0	7	—	21

Scoring

Lakewood: Chip Chambers, 36-yard from John Koz, (Vince Curiale kick), 10:24, second quarter.

Lakewood: Chambers, 52-yard pass from Koz, (Curiale kick) 3:23, second quarter.

Ross: Scott Swanger, 10-yard pass from Jeff Draeger, (Chris Benson kick), 0:08, second quarter.

Ross: Terry Carter, 32-yard run, (kick failed), 11:17, fourth quarter.

Ross: Carter, 24-yard run, (run failed), 6:21, fourth quarter.

Lakewood: Chambers, 9-yard pass from Koz, (Curiale kick), 4:12, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

	R	L
First Downs	24	12
Rushes/Yards	56/294	14/18
Passing Yards	99	257
Passes/Comp./Int.	17/6/0	26/16/0
Punts/Average	1/30.0	3/34.0
Fumbles/Lost	4/3	2/2
Penalties/Yards	7/60	3/30

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Ross: Carter, 38/240, Charles Chapman, 6/25, Draeger, 6/24, Tate Young, 3/7, Lance, 3/-2; Lakewood: Chris Miller, 8/41, Koz, 4/-17, Mike Griffin, 11/6.

Passing: Ross: Corey Lance, 7/2/0 — 34, Draeger, 10/4/0 — 65; Lakewood: Koz, 26/16/0 — 257.

Receiving: Ross: Scott Mezinger, 2/29, Swanger, 2/24, Darnell McDonald, 1/30, Troy Williamson, 1/16; Lakewood: Chambers, 9/189, Jim Bingham, 2/32, Mike Miller, 3/14, Chris Louga, 1/11, Bob Kincel, 1/11.

Season records: Lakewood 6-2, Ross 4-4.

Ross has new life

Little Giants host Lancaster Friday

By BOB MARKER
Staff writer

Just when it was needed, Ross got a breath of life.

Not that Ross was dead, but after a pair of disappointing losses, it was welcome refreshment. Ironically, Ross has a shot at knocking the air out of the team providing its new life Friday night at Harmon Stadium.

Lancaster upset Zanesville 14-7 last Friday in a key Buckeye Central Conference game while Ross was falling to Lakewood 21-19 in a non-conference clash. The Golden Gales' win left every team in the five-team BCC with at least one conference loss.

Lancaster and Zanesville are 2-1 while Ross and Newark are 1-1, with all four having a shot at earning at least a share of the conference title. Only Findlay is out of the title picture with a pair of BCC defeats.

Ross must win its last two games to earn a title share. The Little Giants close the season at Findlay Nov. 4.

"We got a break when Lancaster beat Zanesville," Ross Coach Rex Radeloff said. "Winning the conference title is always one of the goals you shoot for and now we have a chance at it."

Last season, Lancaster took Ross out of the title picture, scoring on a pair of controversial plays in a 28-22 victory. The winning touchdown came on a "flea-flicker" covering 53 yards with less than a minute to play. A pass from quarterback Jeff Pica to John Holland was lateraled to Tim Graham who ran untouched to the end zone. On film, it appeared that Holland's knee had hit the ground before the lateral.

"They beat us with a couple of trick plays," Radeloff said. "In our mind, we question whether they were legal, but you have to go with what the officials say."

Lancaster also scored seconds before halftime on a fake field goal. Graham caught a 29-yard pass for the TD even though he had apparently been waved off the field by his teammates. Graham had stopped before reaching the sidelines, cut up field at the snap and caught the scoring pass from holder Joel Foote.

"That is past," said Radeloff, "and revenge is not the primary factor. Keeping on line to win the championship is."

Ross fell victim to Lakewood quarterback John Koz's aerial accuracy last Friday. The Little Giants were burned for 257 yards in the air and surrendered all

Ross

Continued From B-1

three Lakewood TDs via the pass.

"Koz is one of the top quarterbacks in the state," Radeloff said. "We defended the pass well on some plays and not so well other times."

Pica, back for his senior year, is no Koz but he is formidable. Pica has passed a BCC-leading 983 yards, completing 80 of 166 attempts including 11 touchdowns and nine interceptions. Graham is back and leads the

BCC in receptions with 30 for 364 yards and seven TDs. Mark Smith, another Pica target, has hauled in 20 passes for 290 yards.

"I think Lancaster is more blanced than Lakewood," Radeloff said.

Lancaster's leading rusher is Matt Loraditch with 476 yards on 110 carries.

The Little Giants are coming off a pair of strong rushing games. Tailback Terry Carter has gained 480 yards on 77 carries in that span.

"Terry has been running hard and been cutting well," Radeloff said, "and the line has been

playing very well. I think it is a combination of Carter running well and having confidence in knowing the line will have a hole for him."

Radeloff ticked off the names of that line: tackles Tony Roob and Jeff Green, guards Tim Perkins, Matt Ottermat and Brian Smith, center Jason Hull and tight end Scott Swanger. Perkins has been hampered by a knee injury with Smith stepping in for him.

BCC NOTES: Carter has taken over the BCC rushing lead. He has 1,142 yards on 197 carries, a 5.8 average, while Steve Hodge of Zanesville has 1,138 yards on

265 attempts. Carter is third in scoring with 48 points, the same as Lancaster's Graham.

Eric Siesel of Ross is first in punting with a 36.6 average despite not punting the past several games because of an injury. He is expected to resume his place-kicking duties Friday.

Defensive back Rod Johnson is tied with Lancaster's Cody Dickinson and Bryan McQuaide for the interception lead with four.

In team statistics, Ross is the conference games only offensive leader with 303.5 per game and is the top defensive team for all games, allowing 182 yards a contest.

Golden Gales' defense bottles up Little Giants 17-0

Loss knocks Ross from BCC race

By BOB MARKER
Staff writer

Lancaster had the offense, but it's defense stole the show.

The Golden Gales, 6-3, 3-1 in the BCC, clinched at least a share of its second consecutive Buckeye Central Conference football title and at the same time knocked Ross, 4-5 (1-2) from the title picture Friday night with a 17-0 victory at Harmon Stadium.

Lancaster's "D" posted the shutout after stopping Ross five times inside the Golden Gale 25.

"They are a good team," Ross Coach Rex Radeloff said succinctly. "They took our tailback away."

"They were quicker on the defensive line than we thought and offensively, they did a good job of mixing up the plays. They threw a lot on first down and kept us off-balance."

Lancaster held the BCC's leader rusher, Terry Carter, to 77 yards on 22 carries.

"Ross had good field position but the defense just rose to the occasion," Lancaster Coach Phil Mauro said. "The defense did a great job. We knew we had to shut down Carter, he's a great athlete."

"I just can't say enough about our defense."

He did not have to, it spoke well enough for itself.

With the Little Giants controlling field position in the first quarter, the Lancaster defense gradually pulled its offense out of the hole. The Golden Gales' first four possessions started at

their own 24, 16, 20 and 25.

Lancaster took the last start and marched 75 yards on 10 plays with Jeff Pica passing 2 yards to Tim Graham for a 6-0 lead three minutes into the second quarter.

That was the beginning of a hot night for the BCC's top passing and receiving duo. Pica connected on 21 of 30 passes for 234 yards and Graham had 10 receptions for 121 yards. For good measure, Lancaster rushed for 147 yards on 35 attempts.

Lancaster took a 9-0 halftime lead on Clint Cox's 36-yard field goal as time expired.

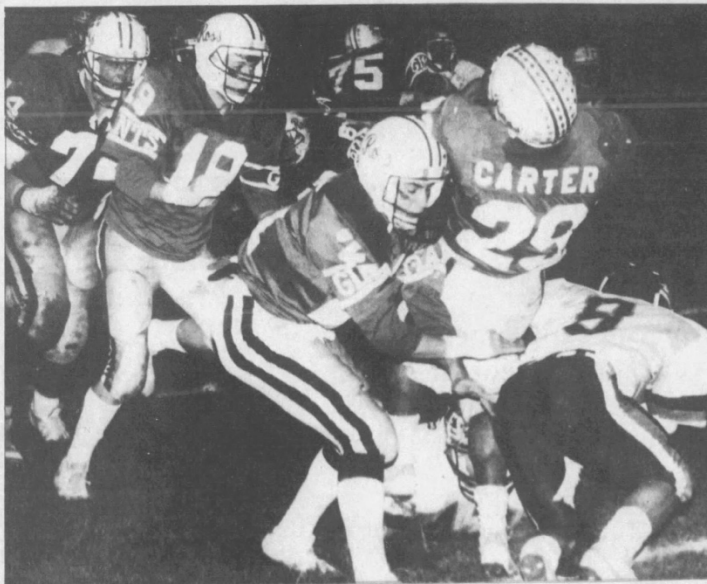
Lancaster held Ross to 68 total yards in the first half.

The drive that settled the game came early in the second half. Ross drove from its 48 on its first possession to a fourth-and-two at the Lancaster 5. The drive ended when Carter was stopped at the four.

Lancaster took over and marched out of trouble with a 21-yard run by Matt Loraditch keying a drive to the Ross 23. Carter intercepted Pica at the Ross 1 to kill that drive.

Three plays later, Ross quarterback Cory Lance slipped in the end zone for a safety for an 11-0 Lancaster lead.

Carter blocked a Scott Daniel punt on Lancaster's next series, putting Ross in business at the Golden Gales 43. Ross drove to the 22 but Lance's pass bounced off Carter's hands and into the hands of linebacker Mark Ewing, killing the drive.



News-Messenger/Chris Walker

TERRY CARTER of Fremont Ross is upended by Lancaster's Chad Axe and an unidentified Golden Gale player as the Little Giants Scott Mezinger,

Andy Manbeck (19) and Tony Roob (74) try to block during Lancaster's victory over Ross Friday night at Harmon Stadium.

It took Lancaster nine plays to drive 81 yards for the clinching TD. Pica passed 29 yards to Graham to the Ross 37 and five plays later, hooked up with tight end Mark Smith for 22 yards and

the six points at the 7:51 mark of the final period.

Ross drove to the Lancaster 25 but a penalty and an interception by Chad Aquillo on a fourth-and-

21 at the 36 stopped that drive.

That was the Little Giants' last fling; Lancaster ran out the clock, letting the final seconds tick away with the ball at the Ross 6.

Football

High School

Lancaster 17, Ross 0

Score by quarters

Lancaster	0	9	2	6	—	17
Ross	0	0	0	0	—	0

Scoring

Lancaster: Tim Graham, 2-yard pass from Jeff Pica, (kick failed), 9:17, second quarter.

Lancaster: Clint Cox, 36-yard field goal, 0:00, second quarter.

Lancaster: safety, 2:52, third quarter.

Lancaster: Mark Smith, 22-yard pass from Pica, (kick failed), 7:51, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

	L	R
First Downs	20	8
Rushes/Yards	35/147	38/131
Passing Yards	234	48
Passes/Comp./Int.	20/21/1	13/5/2
Punts/Average	5/21.0	4/28.0
Fumbles/Lost	1/1	2/0
Penalties/Yards	4/45	1/15

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Lancaster, Pica 5/3, Matt McCracken 10/46, Matt Loraditch 12/61, Colin Foote 7/37, Joel Foote 2/0; Ross, Jeff Draeger 1/6, Terry Carter 22/77, Charles Chapman 8/31, Cory Lance 7/17.

Passing: Lancaster, Pica 30/21/1 — 234; Ross, Draeger 1/0/0 — 0, Lance 12/5/2 — 48.

Receiving: Lancaster, Graham 10/111, Loraditch 2/32, Colin Foote 1/1, Mark Smith 2/39, Ky Hines 1/10, Scott Daniel 3/24, Mark Lieser 2/17; Ross, Carter 1/8, Chapman 1/4, Andy Manbeck 1/2, Scott Swanger 1/11, Troy Williamson 1/23.

Season records: Lancaster 6/3 (3-1), Ross 4-5 (1-2).

Little Giants close out schedule with last true rival

By TIM HARMON
Staff writer

The last true rivalry on the Fremont Ross football schedule unfolds Friday night at Donnell Field when the Little Giants travel to Findlay.

Both teams, formerly of the Buckeye Conference, are 4-5 and 1-2 in the Buckeye Central Conference. The Little Giants have lost three straight games while the Trojans have won their last two.

"Losing to Zanesville (29-26) and Lakewood (21-19) took a lot out of us," said Ross Coach Rex Radeloff. "That played a part in the loss to Lancaster (17-0)."

Findlay is coming off wins over Toledo Woodward (34-6) and Newark (28-7).

Ross leads the all-time series 40-19-3. The Little Giants have won the last five games, including a 27-20 victory last year in Fremont.

"If we're looking for a rivalry on our schedule, it's Findlay," Radeloff said. "I think our kids finally realize how far away Zanesville, Newark and Lancaster are (from Fremont)."

"It's tough to get any kind of rivalry started with schools at that distance. Sandusky is the community rivalry but if you ask the players, they'll say that Findlay is the one."

Said Findlay Coach Dick Cromwell: "It's a natural rivalry. With Sandusky off Fremont's schedule for a couple of

years, I guess its a real big one for them."

Findlay revolves around the play of junior quarterback Scott Garlock and senior tailback Shawn Dulaney. Both are two-year starters. Radeloff likens Garlock to Lakewood quarterback John Koz and Lancaster signal-caller Jeff Pica.

"Anytime you have a kid who is experienced, can pull the trigger and is smart at quarterback, its tough to contend with," Radeloff said.

Although Garlock has completed 46 percent of his passes for 963 yards and is a capable runner, stopping Dulaney, who has rushed for 1,029 yards and 11 touchdowns, will be the Little Gi-

ants first priority.

"(Dulaney) can make the big play, and we have given up the big play on defense," said Radeloff. "(The Trojans) like to get him the ball any way they can."

Ross, meanwhile, will have to contend with Findlay's active defense. Radeloff said the Trojans have shown multiple alignments this season.

"They like to slant people up front and stunt," he said. "They do a lot of different things."

Inside linebacker Mike Gladstone is the most active of the Trojans although Phil Tate, who plays both nose guard and defensive end, might be their best player.

The Little Giants will again try

to spring Terry Carter in hopes that the speedy junior can counter with a few big plays of his own. Carter, with 1,219 yards, is 19 yards behind BCC rushing leader Steve Hodge of Zanesville.

"(Carter) is an awfully good back," said Cromwell. "We would like to tackle him which is something we haven't been doing very well the last couple of weeks."

"We're concerned about that but we're going to go after (Carter)."

That's not a secret to Radeloff. "We run the ball better than we throw it," Radeloff said. "(The Trojans) could load it up and go after Terry."

Looking for that little extra

Ross's Carter says he could work harder

By TIM HARMON
Staff writer

Terry Carter rushed for 1,000 yards in 1987 and is well over that mark in 1988.

It seems a foregone conclusion that the Fremont Ross tailback will reach the 1,000-yard plateau in 1989.

But Carter isn't assuming anything.

"I need to work harder," Carter said Thursday after the Little Giants' final tune-up for tonight's game at Findlay. "I did the work I needed to last year ... just maybe I could have worked a little harder."

In two seasons, Carter has rushed for 2,273 yards. He gained 1,054 as a sophomore and has clicked off 1,219 this season on 219 carries. The 5-9, 165-pound junior had back-to-back games of 240 yards against Zanesville and Lakewood.

"We were fired up, and that makes everyone play harder," Carter said, acknowledging the fact that the Little Giants lost both games.

"This season has not been what I expected. The coaches and everyone wanted to win every game, but as long as we did our best I guess I can accept that."

Ross Coach Rex Radeloff said it hasn't been hard ac-



News-Messenger/Terry Reimer

TERRY CARTER looks for daylight against Tiffin Columbian earlier this season.

See **CARTER**, B-2

Carter

Continued From B-1

cepting a back with Carter's ability.

"I feel fortunate in having Terry in the program," Radeloff said. "He's a great back that has great physical ability. The linemen have confidence in him and he has confidence in the linemen."

Carter said he particularly needs to be in better shape to play defense. As a defensive half-back, he has struggled at times this season.

"(My defensive ability) has been questioned," Carter said. "I worked hard at it, but when I got to the games it didn't seem like I did."

"Running with the ball is a natural thing. It just comes to me. It doesn't come to me on defense."

Terry Carter the running back doesn't want to overshadow Terry Carter the defensive back.

"You have to put your best athletes on the field," said Radeloff.

"If that means Terry Carter at defensive back then that's what it means."

Radeloff was quick to point out that Terry Bates, who rushed for a school single-season record of 1,628 yards in 1976, played every down on both sides of the ball throughout the record-breaking season.

"Playing on both sides of the ball is a mental game," Radeloff said. "It's a matter of fatigue, and you have to be able to play through it."

Carter said: "I battled with whether I wanted to play defense, but I've made up my mind and know that I do."

He also knows that he wants to win.

"We had good team unity early in the season, then the individuals began coming out," Carter said. "The yards are nice, but we have to have everyone stick together."

Carter added that hard work is the key.

"A little extra ... that can make a difference in a ballgame," he said.

Ross crushes Findlay 54-14

By TIM HARMON
Staff writer

FINDLAY — Fremont Ross made up for a disappointing season in a big way Friday night at Donnell Stadium.

Playing for not much more than pride and bragging rights in their longstanding rivalry with Findlay, the Little Giants closed out the 1988 campaign with a 54-14 victory over the Trojans.



CARTER

Terry Carter rushed for 166 yards and four touchdowns and Ross, 5-5 and 2-2 in the Buckeye Central Conference, converted four Findlay turnovers into

touchdowns.

The Little Giants scored two touchdowns in each quarter. The 54 points were the most by a Ross team since the 1979 squad scored 54 against Cleveland John Adams.

Ross has now won six straight games over Findlay, 4-6 and 1-3 in the BCC. The Little Giants lead the all-time series 41-19-3.

"I'm really glad for the seniors," said Ross Coach Rex Radeloff. "They wanted to play hard and go out with a win."

"No matter what is said about our season, I had no doubts in my mind that we could come in here and win."

The issue was settled early.

Carter scored from a yard out in the first quarter after Jason Schultz stepped in front of a Scott Garlock pass at the Find-

lay 44 and returned it 30 yards to the 14.

Scott Swanger, one of 23 Ross seniors playing in their last game, took a screen pass from senior Jeff Draeger on Ross's next possession and went 79 yards for a score. Swanger broke several tackles in front of the Ross bench en route to the touchdown.

Draeger, who found out Friday afternoon that he would start at quarterback, summed up the postgame reaction in the Ross lockerroom.

"Fremont Ross is a great place to play," said Draeger, who started Ross's opening game against Tiffin Columbian but did not play much at quarterback after suffering a broken thumb on his throwing hand. "I just wanted a win."

Draeger also hooked up with

Scott Mezinger for a 62-yard touchdown pass.

"(The Trojans) were so run-conscious, and (Draeger) threw a nice waggle pass," Radeloff said. "I'm just happy for Jeff."

Shawn Dulaney, who entered the game averaging 114 yards per game but was held to 38 on 20 carries, slammed over from the one midway through the second quarter for Findlay's first points. The play capped a nine-play, 51-yard drive.

Findlay scored again before halftime on a 5-yard Scott Garlock to Blaise Winch pass but not before Ross had added two more touchdowns.

Draeger answered Dulaney's score with his strike to Mezinger, and Carter punched it in

See ROSS, B-3

SPORTS

Ross

Continued From B-1

from the 2 six plays after Joe Williams' fumble was recovered by Rodney Johnson inside the Findlay 30.

Carter, who finished the season with 1,385 yards on 240 carries, got untracked in the second half, rushing for 131 yards after the intermission.

He raced 71 yards for a touchdown with 5:37 left to play in the third quarter then left several Trojans in his dust on a dazzling 33-yard run with 1:52 left in the period.

"We had to find out where (the Trojans) were slanting and run away from the slant," said Radeloff. "It's no secret that we want to get Terry past the line of scrimmage."

Said Carter: "The line made the blocks and picked up the stunts better in the second half. We pushed and pushed and finally broke one."

The Ross defense, meanwhile, held the Trojans to 139 yards including just 54 in the second half.

Findlay quarterbacks Garlock and Ian Fenberg completed only five of 21 passes.

"We put pressure on (Garlock)," said Radeloff. "That little bit of heat made the difference."

Said Ross defensive coordinator Joe Siesel: "We got some pressure, and that's the key to a lot of what we do defensively."

John Liggins capped the scoring for Ross in the fourth quarter. The sophomore scored on runs of 6 and 7 yards.

The first touchdown came after Dean Bliss intercepted Fenberg at the Findlay 42 and returned it to the 18 and the second after Brian Moreno recovered Williams' fumble on the ensuing kickoff.

"I guarantee that the seniors will always remember this win," said Radeloff. "The sophomore and juniors can remember what it feels like and we'll work on it for next year."

High School

Ross 54, Findlay 14

Score by quarters

Ross	14	13	13	14	—	54
Findlay	0	14	0	0	—	14

Scoring

Ross: Terry Carter, 1-yard run, (Eric Siesel kick), 9:17, first quarter.

Ross: Tate Young, 79-yard pass from Jeff Draeger, (Siesel kick), 5:42, first quarter.

Findlay: Shawn Dulaney, 1-yard run, (Mike Greer kick), 6:12, second quarter.

Ross: Scott Mezinger, 62-yard pass from Draeger, (Siesel kick), 5:03, second quarter.

Ross: Carter, 2-yard run, (pass failed), 2:17, second quarter.

Ross: Blaise Winch, 5-yard pass from Scott Garlock, (Greer kick), :04, second quarter.

Ross: Carter, 71-yard run, (Siesel kick), 5:37, third quarter.

Ross: Carter, 33-yard run, (kick blocked), 1:52, third quarter.

Ross: John Liggins, 6-yard run, (Siesel kick), 4:45, fourth quarter.

Ross: Liggins, 7-yard run, (Siesel kick), :52, fourth quarter.

Team Stats

	R	F
First Downs	12	11
Rushes/Yards	42/220	34/94
Passing Yards	168	45
Passes/Comp./Int.	8/4/1	21/5/3
Punts/Average	4/31.3	5/31.6
Fumbles/Lost	2/1	2/2
Penalties/Yards	7/77	6/49

Individual Statistics

Rushing: Ross: Carter, 21/166, Liggins, 12/37; Findlay: Dulaney, 20/33, Joe Williams, 6/45.

Passing: Ross: Draeger, 8/4/1 — 168; Findlay: Scott Garlock, 18/4/2 — 42, Ian Fenberg, 3/1/1 — 3.

Receiving: Ross: Young, 1/79, Troy Williamson, 1/13, Mezinger, 1/62, Scott Swanger, 1/14; Findlay: Winch, 2/17.

Eight Ross players honored by BCC

News-Messenger reports

Five Fremont Ross defensive players and three Little Giant offensive players head the All-Buckeye Central Conference football team.

Named to the first-team defensive unit were defensive end Maurice Jones, defensive tackle Chris Smith, linebacker Jason Schultz, defensive back Jeff Draeger and punter Eric Siesel.

Running back Terry Carter, center Jason Hull and tackle Tony Roob were members of the first-team offense.

Second team selections included defensive back Rodney Johnson and tight end Scott Swanger.

Linebacker Mike Gladstone of Findlay won defensive player of the year honors while Steve Hodge of Zanesville and Tim Graham of Lancaster shared offensive player of the year honors.

Phil Mauro of Lancaster and Whitt Parks of Zanesville were named the co-coaches of the year.

High School

Northwest All-District

COLUMBUS — The 1988 Associated Press Northwest Ohio all-district high school football team, as selected by sports writers and broadcasters in the district.

DIVISION I

First team

Offense

Ends—Jason Carthen, Toledo Scott, 6-4, 220, Sr.; Danny Williams, Oregon Clay, 5-11, 165, Jr.
Linemen—Bill Steuk, Sandusky, 6-4, 245, Sr.; Tony Roob, Fremont Ross, 6-6, 235, Sr.; Dennis Williams, Lima Senior, 5-10, 230, Sr.; Dave Wolfe, Toledo Whitmer, 6-2, 220, Sr.; Mike McClain, Toledo DeVilbiss, 6-2, 240, Sr.
Quarterback—Troy Keegan, Sandusky, 6-0, 180, Sr.
Backs—Corey Croom, Sandusky, 6-1, 195, Sr.; Andre Ramsey, Lima Senior, 6-foot, 206, Sr.; LeRoy Smith, Toledo Whitmer 6-2, 180, Sr.
Kicker—Jim Cramer, Toledo St. John's, 5-10, 170, Sr.

Defense

Linemen—Rico Williams, Lima Senior, 5-10, 230, Sr.; Allan Niedbalski, Toledo Central Catholic, 6-4, 210, Sr.; Jim Gant, Toledo St. Francis, 6-1, 210, Sr.; Tony Johnson, Sandusky, 6-1, 215, Sr.
Linebackers—Richard Glover, Lima Senior, 6-3, 215, Sr.; Marty Michaelson, Toledo St. Francis, 6-foot, 208, Sr.; Pete Gorman, Toledo St. John's, 6-1, 190, Sr.; Mike Kaufman, Sandusky, 5-9, 175, Sr.
Backs—Mike Haack, Toledo Whitmer, 6-foot, 185, Sr.; Robert Blanton, Toledo St. Francis, 6-1, 180, Sr.; B.J. Reagan, Toledo Bowsher, 5-11, 165, Sr.
Punter—Marty Nowak, Toledo St. John's, 5-10, 170, Sr.

Lineman of the Year—Bill Steuk, Sandusky, 6-4, 245, Sr.

Back of the Year—LeRoy Smith, Toledo Whitmer, 6-2, 180, Sr.

Coach of the Year—Leonard Rush, Lima Senior.

Special Mention

Terry Carter, Maurice Jones, Rodney Johnson, Chris Smith, Fremont Ross.

Honorable Mention

Jason Schultz, Jeff Draeger, Fremont Ross.

Carter named Ross MVP

News-Messenger reports

Terry Carter was presented the most valuable player and the outstanding offensive back awards by Coach Rex Radeloff during the Fremont Ross High School Football Awards Program Monday night.

Carter, a junior tailback, rushed for 1,384 yards this season, scoring 12 touchdowns, and was named to the first team in Buckeye Central Conference voting. He was also an honorable mention selection as a defensive halfback and was a special mention pick on the Associated Press All-Northwest Ohio District team.

Other special awards went to Jason Hull, Jason Schultz, Rodney Johnson, Dean Bliss, Mark Gonzalez, Cory Lance, Toby Wagoner and Charles Chapman.

Hull, the Little Giants center, won the outstanding offensive lineman award while Schultz, a three-year letterwinner, won the outstanding defensive lineman honor.

Johnson, who intercepted four passes, returning one 80 yards for a touchdown, won the outstanding defensive back honors.

Bliss and Gonzalez shared the most improved seniors honor while Lance was named the most improved junior.

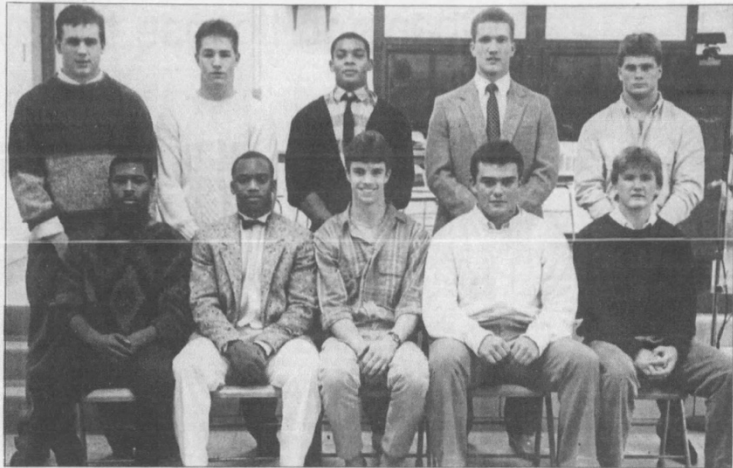
Wagoner won the "True Grit" award and Chapman was named the most valuable sophomore.

Jeff Draeger, Johnson and Schultz were presented captain's trophies.

Other first team, all-conference awards went to Hull and tackle Tony Roob on offense and Draeger, defensive end Maurice Jones, Schultz at linebacker, tackle Chris Smith and punter Eric Siesel.

Tight end Scott Swanger and Johnson won second team, all-conference honors.

Chapman, Gonzalez, offensive tackle Jeff Green, Lance at quarterback and Swanger as a defensive tackle were honorable mention, all-conference selections.



ROSS FOOTBALL special award winners, front row, left to right: Charles Chapman, Terry Carter, Cory Lance, Mark Gonzalez, Toby Wagoner; back-

row: Jason Hull, Dean Bliss, Rodney Johnson, Jeff Draeger and Jason Schultz. The honors program was Monday evening.

Roob earns All-Ohio honors

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross offensive tackle Tony Roob has been named to the Division I All-Ohio Football Team, announced today.

Roob (6-4, 245) was selected to the first-team All-Northwest Ohio team last month. He is joined on the All-Ohio offensive line by Bill Steuk of Sandusky High School.



ROOB

Steuk (6-6, 235) was also selected as the Division

I Lineman of the Year.

Roob was the Little Giants best offensive lineman. The senior helped pave the way for Terry Carter to rush for over 1,000 yards for the second straight season.

Other first team linemen are Marcus Butler of Warren Western Reserve (5-10, 235), Matt Warth of Zanesville (6-4, 235), Jack Thrush of Cincinnati Moeller (6-5, 260) and Drew Gerber of Wooster (6-2, 260).

Roob missed one game this season with a knee injury as Ross finished 5-5.