

1968 District meet...

COMPETE IN DISTRICT AT BOWLING GREEN

Friday, March 1, 1968 Fremont News-Messenger 19

Little Giants Pick Spots In Bid For State Swim Berth

Fremont Ross will put together its two best relay teams and try to space its other key swimmers away from Toledo St. Francis power in this weekend's District swimming meet.

The district meet opens today with diving competition at Bowling Green State University.

St. Francis, defending state champion and twice consecutive winner of the district crown, is again the team to beat. The Toledo team has the freestyle strength and depth to once more dominate the action.

The battle of the day should develop for second place with Sandusky and Findlay, plus a dark horse chance for Fremont's Little Giants. Coach Jack Balsizer of Ross has set his team's bid at a "one to finish among the top five to five places." He fears the Little Giants do not have freestyle depth to compete with Findlay and Sandusky for the runner-up spot.

Most coaches have conceded the team title to St. Francis, Balsizer appraises. "Several

teams in the district have individuals that will challenge for top honors in some events, but are not strong enough team-wise."

Concerning the Fremont approach to the district meet Balsizer stated, "Our plan is simple. We are going with the two best swimmers and put another in an attempt to qualify them for state. We are also going to swim our people in events where they have the best chance of qualifying. In other words, we are going to

try to avoid St. Francis domination in certain events."

Fremont's best chances to win an event is in this afternoon's diving with Bill Slemmer and Dan Linder. Slemmer is the Buckeye Conference diving champion. He was beaten only twice in 11 dual meets, once by teammate Linder in the final meet. Since there are more than nine teams in the Bowling Green district, four places will qualify for the state competition.

In all other events the top three swimmers or relay teams advance to the state meet. There is a possibility for an additional qualifier since six at-large selections are made from throughout the state to fill the field for the state meet.

Also given a strong chance to qualify in an individual event is Steve Miller, who ranks third in the district for the 200-yard individual medley.

All the Ross team members will be entered in at least one event. This is possible due to the fact each team can swim

four boys in each event. This gives some sophomores and juniors with little meet action of what is needed to win Saturday are:

200 medley relay, 1:46.200
freestyle, Dave Marker, 1:53.4
50 freestyle, Marker, 23.4.200

individual medley, Dan Hylant, 4:02.2. 400 - yard freestyle relay, 3:25.9

St. Francis swimmers have recorded the top five 200-yard freestyle times and five of the top six times in the 400-yard freestyle for the district.

Miller has recorded a 2:13.2 time for the individual medley. Ross' best medley relay time is 1:49, fifth best in the district.

The swimming finals Saturday will begin at 1:30 p.m. Relays and individuals are entered according to their best times in season long competition. They will swim in a heat with other teams or boys that have a similar time. In the tally for a team title the relays are scored 14-10-8-6-4-2 and individual events 7-5-4-3-2-1.

Linder Dives To State Meet

Fremont Ross' Dan Linder qualified for the state swimming meet Friday by finishing second in District diving. Linder accumulated 220 points in the district diving at Bowling Green University pool.

Linder was only nine points behind winner Aaron Spechler of Lima, who scored 229.

Ross' number one diver most of the year, Bill Slemmer, finished 10th and failed to qualify for the state.

Ross Sends Five Into State Swim

BOWLING GREEN—Fremont Ross qualified one relay team and one individual for the state swimming meet during district action Friday and Saturday. Dan Linder finished second in diving Friday to earn one of four diving berths at the state meet from the Northwest District.

Saturday the Ross 200-yard medley relay team also finished second to gain a right to swim at state this coming weekend. The Ross combination of Steve Miller, Scott Nahm, Gene Dickert and Jon Zink finished behind the district record showing of Findlay.

St. Francis dominated the meet as expected to roll up 113 points and its third consecutive district championship. At Columbus this weekend St. Francis also will be bidding for a repeat State Championship. Finishing a distant second behind St. Francis was Sandusky, 41. The top two were followed by Findlay, 36½; Lima Senior, 26; Ross, 24; Mansfield Malabar, 15; Lima Shawnee, 13; Mansfield Senior, 12½; Perkins, 8; Colonel Crawford, 3, and Port Clinton, 3. Entered in the district meet but not scoring were Ashland, Margareta and Toledo Whitmer.

St. Francis swimmers won seven of 11 events. Only competitors to break the St. Francis domination were Findlay's 200-medley relay team; Aaron Spechler, Lima Senior, diving; Paul Gilbert, Sandusky, 100-yard butterfly, and Jim Horvath, Mansfield Malabar, 100-yard breast stroke.

Six new records were established in the competition, four by St. Francis swimmers. Dan Hylant of St. Francis set two of the new marks. He swam the 200-yard individual medley in 2:06.4 breaking the old mark of 2:10.6. Hylant also set a new 400-yard freestyle record of 4:04, lowering the old standard by 5.4 seconds.

Other St. Francis record-setters were Dave Marker, 200-yard freestyle, 1:58.2 (old record, 1:53.9), and D. Edwards, 100-yard backstroke, :59.4 (old record, 1:03).

Other records were set by Gilbert, 100 butterfly, :54.4 (old record, :55.8), and Findlay's 200 yard medley relay team (G. Cramer, Rowe, Mathias, Stevens), 1:44.4 (old record, 1:53.9).

Hylant was the only double winner of the district meet.

Other first place winners were Phil Johnson, St. Francis, 50-yard freestyle, :23.5, and Bill Murtagh, St. Francis, 100-yard freestyle, :51.6, in addition to the St. Francis 400-yard freestyle relay team (Blank, Johnson, Edwards, Murtagh), 3:30.9.

The 200-yard medley relay

team of Ross registered its best effort of the year, 1:48.3. It was the first time in seven years that Fremont swimmers failed to win at least one event.

The 400-yard freestyle relay also swam its best time of the year, 3:37.5, but it was fifth best. It missed the third best time and a state trip by seven-tenths of a second.

Coach Jack Balsizer of Ross stated, "Overall we were pleased with the boys' performances in the district as we posted many time improvements. The majority of these improvements came from our sophomores and juniors . . . As we look to the next season this is gratifying."

Other point winning performances were:

Steve Miller, 200-yard individual medley, fifth, 2:10.5; Scott Keller, 200-yard individual medley, sixth, 2:19.6 (two second improvement over previous best); Gene Dickert, 100-yard butterfly, fifth, 1:00.8 (best time of year). Swimming on the 400-yard freestyle team for Ross were Mike Aten, Scott Keller, Craig Wright and Jon Zink.

NBA Standings

Sunday's Results

Detroit 134, Chicago 123
St. Louis 106, San Diego 104
Cincinnati 136, Seattle 128
Philadelphia 133, Boston 127
Los Angeles 121, Baltimore 114

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