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# Little Giant Performance Cure For 'Bug'

By MARK CARLSON  
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BOWLING GREEN — Members of the medical profession take note.

Here's the latest cure for your infamous 'bug'.

(1) A first place in the 800 from debuting Earl Smith.

(2) A breath-taking come-from-behind victory in the mile relay.

(3) A second place finish from sophomore upstart Rob Lytle in the 100.

(4) A second from muscular Tom Liggins in the shot put.

This medical concoction might not do much for the ordinary patient but it is miracles for Ross track coach Norm Bray.

"I think I have a little touch of the flu," Brant said as he walked away from Robert H. Whitaker Track on the Bowling Green State university campus Saturday. "But the performances of our kids have made me feel a lot better."

Ross, headed by Smith, who gets stronger with each race, brought eight individuals here for the Northwest District Class AAA track meet and six of them earned a trip to the state meet at Ohio Stadium, Columbus, this weekend.

Smith turned in two brilliant performances for the Little Giants. He won the 800 in record-breaking time (1:56.6) then came back to anchor the mile relay team to victory in the most thrilling race of the meet.

Smith had the lead when he took the baton from Claude 'Country' Price for the final quarter mile. But he lost it and at one time was in fourth place before pulling even with a Toledo State runner on the last curve and then passing him on the backstretch.

The mile relay accounted for one of two upsets turned in by the Little Giant delegation. The other belonged to Lytle.

The blond-headed youngster, who's running with the varsity for the first time this spring, finished behind Toledo Libbey Speedster Bob Lawson in the 100. Lytle had an easy

time taking second. He was clocked in 10.3 (although unofficial Ross watches had him in 10 flat) and the third place finisher had a 10.6. The first two finishers in each event qualified for the state.

"The performance of the mile relay and Lytle had to be the highlights of our performance," Brant said. "We expected Earl to qualify in the 800 and Tom to go to the state in the shot."

"But, we knew the mile relay team was going to have a tough time. I never figured we would win it. Scott had already run a 3:24 this season which was a second faster than we had ever run."

"I thought our kids would have a tough battle to get second, but I knew if we put everything together we could cause the other teams problems."

"Our kids really did a heck of a job. They had to when you consider that we ran a 3:24.2, that averages out to 51.1 seconds a man."

Bill Burkett ran the opening leg for Ross in 51.2. Next to haul the aluminum baton around the all-weather oval was Tom Pitts, who was clocked in 51.7. Price checked in after 50.7 then Smith erased the final 440 yards in 50.6.

"All four did a heck of a job," Brant said. It was the best time of the year for Burkett, who had a little bit of a lead when he turned the baton over. Price kept on even and then Country and Earl turned it on.

"I was worried — sick is a better word — when Smith fell behind. But he told me after the race that he wanted the other kids to give their best early. He figured he could take them in the final 100 yards. It worked out just like he had it planned."

"That time is really something. At the beginning of the year I would have been happy if we were around 2:30. Those kids have kept practicing and improving. Three of them are seniors and they rally want to do well."

"They are a fine bunch of fellows and I can't say enough about them."

Lytle's second place came after a series of false starts — five — which included the disqualification of Sandusky's fine sprinter Willie Jordan after he jumped the gun twice.

Lytle was also a false start victim. He was the first one to jump the gun.

"A false start is tough on any individual," Brant said. "After he's called for jumping he has to wait in the blocks. Rob handled it well and had an excellent jump when the race finally started."

"He looked strong, but I must admit I didn't expect him to qualify. Rob has come a long way in the last couple of weeks. It's rare to see a sophomore perform like he has in the sectional and district."

Smith, with his 800 victory, earned his second straight state ticket in that event. Last year he placed eighth in a 16-team field.

"Earl had a tremendous day," Brant said. "It was the best he has ever performed. He ran a smart race. We told him to go out and get the lead in the first quarter and make the other fellows chase him."

"That's exactly what happened. We wanted Earl to complete the first lap in 55 seconds. He did it in 55.4 so we don't have anything to complain about."

"We still aren't sure what Earl is capable of doing. He wasn't pushed hard and still turned in his career best."

The previous Ross 800 standard of 1:56.9 was established by Smith in the Marion Harding Invitational earlier this season. Liggins turned in a 50-10, which wasn't his best throw of the year.

"Tom didn't have a good throw but he was just trying to make sure he got that second place and a trip to the state," Brant said. "Tom has worked hard and knows he'll have to improve to place in the state."

"All of our kids know they must improve for next weekend. But they are the type of fellows who will go out and work extra hard this week. The coaching staff won't need to worry about forcing them to work out, they'll do it on their own."

"These fellows are just a tremendous group to work with. They were on cloud nine, but they had every right to be."

We had two firsts and two seconds and I don't think we could have asked for much more. This has to be one of the highlights of our season. It ranks right up there with the win over Sandusky and our performance in the Buckeye.

"We have accomplished every one of the goals we set out to do as a team earlier in the year. We wasted a winning season, to win our night relays and also to get five or six boys to the state."

There was one bit of disappointment in the Little Giant camp, however. Tom Nighwander and Chuck Miller failed to advance in the discus and shot put, respectively.

Nighwander, a senior, came the closest. He placed third behind Sandusky's powerful duo of Mark Deming and Bob Rogers. Deming won the event with a toss of 171.4. Rogers spun the platter 162.9 and Nighwander checked in at 155.1.

"Rogers had beaten Nighwander earlier this season but I still thought Tom had a chance," Brant said. "His throws weren't his best."

In the team race, Ross finished third with 44 points. Sandusky and Toledo Libbey finished first and second with 66 and 65 points, respectively.

"We didn't win a trophy but I was pleased with that finish," Brant said. "For the first time our fellows we had entered I think third place is quite respectable."

In the number of qualifiers for the state we were almost even with Sandusky. They qualified one relay team and five individuals. We qualified one relay team and three individuals."

## In Class AAA Blue Streaks Capture District Championship

BOWLING GREEN — Sandusky scored a fourth place in the final event of the day, the mile relay, and edged Toledo Libbey for the Northwest District AAA track and field championship here Saturday.

The Blue Streaks gained four points for their fourth place finish. Libbey, which placed sixth in the final race, received one point. Those three points were the difference between Libbey taking home the first and second place trophy.

Sandusky finished the 15-event program with 66 points. Libbey totaled 65. Fremont Ross (44), Toledo Scott (31) and Toledo DeVilbiss (30) completed the top five.

Libbey picked up four first places compared to two for the Blue Streaks. Bob Lawson, a junior speedster, scored half of the Libbey first place points by running away from the field in the 100 and 220.

Other Libbey first places were notched by Jerry O'Neal, 120-yard high hurdles, and the 800-yard relay team composed of Rick Lesure, Tony Chapman, O'Neal and Lawson.

Two seniors — Mark Deming and Bob Crabb — accounted for the Sandusky first place finishes. Deming won the discus with a toss of 171.4 and Crabb took the pole vault with a leap of 13.4. Fremont Ross and Toledo DeVilbiss were the only other schools which could claim more than one first.

Winners for Ross were 800 competitor Earl Smith and the mile relay team. DeVilbiss winners were Jeff Schnell in the mile run and Walt Churchill in the two mile.

Other individual winners were Ron Soviar of Toledo St. Francis in the shot put, Toledo Maumee's Cliff Adams (long jump),

Toledo Scott's Ron Taylor (400), Joe Chalmers of Lima Shawnee (180-yard low hurdles), and Wapakoneta's Tom Voren in the high jump.

The district meet served as the

qualifier for this week's state meet at Ohio Stadium. The top two performers in each event qualified for the state, which will be conducted Friday and Saturday.

### FIELD EVENTS

SHOT PUT — 1. Ron Soviar, St. Francis, 36.2; 2. Tom Liggins, Fremont Ross, 36.19; 3. Mike Murry, Bowling Green, 35.10; 4. Stan Johnson, Sandusky, 45.1; 5. Chuck Adams, Toledo Maumee, 42.9.  
LONG JUMP — 1. Cliff Adams, Maumee, 25.5; 2. Verma Evans, Sandusky, 22.1; 3. Tom Nowhere, Libbey, 22.1; 4. Scott May, Sandusky, 21.7; 5. John Johnson, Marion, 21.4; 6. Karl Rump, Defiance, seven fouls, no score.  
DISCUS — 1. Mark Deming, Sandusky, 171.4; 2. Bob Rogers, Sandusky, 162.9; 3. Tom Nighwander, Fremont Ross, 155.1; 4. Jim Hall, DeVilbiss, 149.5; 5. Ron Soviar, St. Francis, 136.6; 6. Karl Adams, Maumee, 122.2.  
POLE VAULT — 1. Bob Crabb, Sandusky, 13.4; (fewer misses); 2. Chris Jackson, Marion, 13.4; 3. Sam Webster, Galton, 13.0; 4. Jeff Mortimer, Sylvania, 12.4; 5. Tom Demko, Whittier, 11.0; 6. George Rode, St. John's, 11.0.  
HIGH JUMP — 1. Tom Green, Wapakoneta, 6.2 (fewer misses); 2. Paris Jones, Mansfield Maumee, 6.0 (fewer misses); 3. Dennis Tyson, Lima Senior, 5.8; 4. Mike Baker, Bowling Green, 5.5; 5. Jerry Davis, Toledo Woodward, 5.10; 6. Rich Golden, Maumee, 5.4.

### TRACK EVENTS

100-YARD DASH — 1. Bob Lawson, Libbey, 19.3; 2. Rob Lytle, Fremont Ross, 19.3; 3. Ralph Rawls, Mansfield Senior, 19.6; 4. Greg Strawn, Maumee, 5; Rick Lesure, Libbey.  
180-YARD HIGH HURDLES — 1. Jerry O'Neal, Libbey, 15.1; 2. Greg Norton, Lima Senior, 15.2; 3. Jason Jones, Libbey, 15.3; 4. Ray Schall, Findlay, 1; Bob Lee, Maumee.  
ONE MILE RUN — 1. Jeff Schnell, DeVilbiss, 4:17.5; 2. Jan Ekum, Bowling Green, 4:21.7; 3. Mike Imms, Saint John's, 4:22.4; 4. Dennis Barnes, Findlay, 5; Ormond Pearson, Sandusky, 4:22; 6. Ray Webb, Ashland.  
800-YARD RELAY — 1. Toledo Libbey, Rick Lesure, Tony Chapman, Terry O'Neal, Whittier, 1:38.7; 2. Lima Shawnee, 1:37.2; 3. Toledo Scott, 1:36.6; 4. Toledo Whittier, 1:36.7; 5. Lima Shawnee, 1:37.2; 6. Toledo Scott, 1:37.2.  
160-YARD DASH — 1. Bob Taylor, Scott, 49.7; 2. Ray Webb, Mansfield Senior, 49.8; 3. Greg Strawn, Maumee, 49.2; 4. Al Tucker, Port Clinton, 50.3; 5. Tom Baker, Mansfield Maumee, 50.4; 6. Tom Voren, Toledo Scott, 50.7; 7. Jerry O'Neal, Libbey, 19.8; 8. Greg Norton, Lima Senior, 20.0; 9. Len Stans, St. Francis, 20.5; 10. Jason Jones, Libbey.  
800-YARD RUN — 1. Earl Smith, Fremont Ross, 1:56.6; 2. Dennis Barnes, Findlay, 1:58.9; 3. Jerry Kiser, Ashland, 1:59.5; 4. Jeff Schnell, DeVilbiss, 1:59.5; 5. Bob Stratton, Sylvania, 1:59.5; 6. Dan Durr, St. John's.  
300-YARD DASH — 1. Bob Lawson, Libbey, 21.6; 2. Jeff Schnell, Whittier, 22.2; 3. Ron Taylor, Scott, 22.5; 4. Mike Lindsey, Bellevue, 22.6; 5. Ralph Rawls, Mansfield Senior, 22.6; 6. Ray Webb, Mansfield Senior.  
TWO MILE RUN — 1. Walt Churchill, DeVilbiss, 9:35.7; 2. Bob Fair, Sandusky, 9:46.1; 3. Jim Telford, Whittier, 9:48.2; 4. Doug Nevills, Ashland, 9:54.9; 5. Dave Jumper, Tiffin Columbus, 9:51.1; 6. Tom Thelen, Toledo DeVilbiss, 9:54.9.  
MILE RELAY — 1. Fremont Ross (Bill Burkett, Tom Pitts, Claude Price and Earl Smith), 3:24.2; 2. Toledo Scott, 3:24.3; 3. Toledo Bowler, 3:25.1; 4. Sandusky, 3:27.2; 5. Lima Shawnee, 3:31.1; 6. Toledo Libbey, 3:32.4.

Sandusky 96, Libbey 65, Fremont Ross 44, Scott 31, DeVilbiss 30, Whittier 20, Lima Senior 20, Mansfield Senior 17, Bowling Green, 17, St. Francis 11, Findlay 18, Lima Shawnee 13, Maumee 12, Maumee 12, Ashland 11, Marion 10, Mansfield Maumee 10, Wapakoneta 10, St. John's 8, Bowler 6, Galton 6, Sylvania 6, Bellevue 4, Port Clinton 4, Woodward 3, Tiffin Columbus 2.

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HAPPY ROSS DELEGATION—Members of the Fremont Ross mile relay team had just captured the Northwest District AAA championship when this photo was taken. Tom Pitts is accepting congratulations from coach Norm Bray. Giving Pitts a pat on the back are Tom Liggins (left) and Bill Burkett. Tom Nighwander is behind Pitts and partially hidden. Moving in to meet Pitts is Rob Lytle, who qualified for the state meet in the 100. Walking up the track are Earl Smith (with baton), who anchored the relay, and Claude 'Country' Price, who ran the third leg. Liggins qualified for the state meet in the shot put.

## Two Teams Deadlock For AA Team Title

BOWLING GREEN — Rossford and Bowling Green share the 1971 Northwest District Class AA track championship.

The two powers each finished the district meet at Bowling Green State University Saturday with 50 points.

Rossford, however, had to

division went to Lakota with 34 points. Bucyrus (26½) was fourth. Upper Sandusky and Perryburg tied for fifth with 24 points.

Highlights of the competition were the performances of Rossford's Ron Weber and Jeff Huggins of Ottawa-Glandorf.

Both were double victors.

LONG JUMP — 1. Rich Upchurch, Springfield, 23½; 2. Jeff Huggins, Ottawa-Glandorf, 21.2½; 3. Kevin McPherson, Kenton, 21.1½; 4. Worthy Huggins, Riverdale, 20.1½; 5. Randy Ziegler, Maumee, 20.7½; 6. Sonny Cole, Norwalk, 20.3½.

SHOT PUT — 1. Dale Limes, Oregon, 36.1; 2. Dan Althouse, Paddock 140, 35.0; 3. Donald Boudart, Ottawa-Glandorf, 33.6; 4. John Wright, Kenton, 31.8; 5. Mike Woodman, Upper Sandusky, 31.0; 6. John Griffin, Vermilion, 29.1.

DISCUS — 1. John Wright, Kenton, 162.5; 2. Jim Deer, Lakota, 148.9; 3. Bob Conger, Ontario, 139.7; 4. Tim Monroe, Upper Sandusky, 137.4; 5. Randy Fugitt, Lake, 136.2; 6. Jim Carrero, Mansfield, 136.2.

POLE VAULT — 1. Mike Pennington, Bucyrus, 14.0; 2. Ron Weber, Rossford, 13.6; 3. Paul Treadway, Sandusky, 13.4; 4. Tim Young, Wyndorf, 13.0; 5. ...