

2002 District Tournament...

Steady Aseltine represents Ross at district tourney

By **TIMOTHY R. WOLFRUM**
Sports editor

Andrew Aseltine has absorbed a lot of golf as the son of Fremont Country Club pro Chris Aseltine.

But, according to his dad and his high school coach, the Fremont Ross freshman has learned much more than swing technique and the importance of a short game.

Aseltine, the only Little Giant headed to the Division I district tournament Friday, has a golfer's mentality beyond his years.

He takes every shot as it comes.

"That helps a lot," Ross head coach Dessie Morehart said of Aseltine's consistent demeanor. "He just goes along and takes everything in stride. He's fun to work with.



A. ASELTINE

"He really tries to focus. If something's wrong, he'll concentrate and correct it right away. His father has taught him

well. He (Chris) has a lot to be proud of."

Chris Aseltine, the country club pro for 20 years, said Andrew's mindset works to his advantage.

"He's just kind of that way in everything, fortunately," he said.

Andrew Aseltine, one of three standout freshmen on the Ross squad, shot an 81

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Ross freshman heads to district

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Friday in the wind and rain at Westbrook Country Club in Mansfield. The score secured him the fourth and final individual qualifying spot for Friday's district at Hawthorne Hills in Lima.

The top two individuals in Friday's event will earn a trip to the Division I state tournament on Oct. 18 and 19 at Ohio State University.

No matter how he performs this week, Aseltine will benefit from the experience of a district tournament. He, Spencer Schabel and Scott King — all three freshmen played varsity at some point during the season — are expected to lead a strong Little Giant squad in the years to come.

"The next three years, we'll have a really good team," Morehart said. "I'm looking forward to that.

"I think it's wonderful that he's playing at the district. It'll build for the future."

But Chris Aseltine, who plans to attend the district, hopes his son will fare well this season. Chris, a 1976 Sylvania High School graduate, made one trip to the state tournament in his junior season.

"Being a freshman, you don't know how you're going to perform," he said. "But if your short game is on, you never know what can happen. He'll need a good score."

Morehart and Chris Aseltine said Andrew's putting will be key to his success. He has consistent distance and accuracy from the tee and on the fairway.

Andrew will visit Hawthorne Hills today for a practice round. He tees off at 9 a.m. Friday.

Huffman, Aseltine find going tough at state, district



HUFFMAN

News-Messenger reports

The competition only gets tougher the deeper golfers get into the postseason.

Fremont Ross's Andrew Aseltine and Woodmore's Ian Huffman found that out Friday.

Aseltine and Huffman struggled in making their first appearances at the high school district and

Prep Golf

state tournaments, respectively.

Huffman, a junior, finished the first round of the Division III state tournament with an 80. He hits the Gray Course again at 8:30 a.m. today at Ohio State University in Columbus.

Huffman trails individual leader Jason Kokrak of Warren JFK by 13 strokes. Mansfield St. Peter's leads the team competition with a 297, two strokes ahead of Lima Central Catholic heading into the final day of competition.

Aseltine, a Ross freshman, competed in the Division I district tournament at

Hawthorne Hills in Lima, carding a 91 and ending his postseason run.

"He was very disappointed," Ross head coach Dossie Morehart said Friday night. "He and the pine trees got to know each other on a first-name basis.

"He was a little nervous. His remark now is, 'We have 364 days until district next

year. Hopefully, he and the whole team will be back here next year."

Aseltine was one of nine individual district qualifiers, none of whom qualified for state next weekend. Lima Shawnee's Matt Jackson (74) and Ashland's Mike Runyan (75) moved on, as did the teams of Anthony Wayne (307) and Findlay (310).