



PART OF THE 56 RUNNERS AT THE START OF THE BUCKEYE CONFERENCE CROSS COUNTRY MEET AT FINDLAY

Trojans glide to BC cross country crown



GARY CLARK was the first Ross runner to cross the finish line. The Ross junior finished eighth and in the process received a congratulatory whack on the backside from the meet's starter.

FINDLAY — The Findlay Trojans turned in a brilliant performance while running to their second straight Buckeye Conference Cross Country Meet title. The Trojans grabbed five of the top seven spots while being charged with only 22 points to easily outdistance runnerup Sandusky.

Ross finished fourth in the eight team race but the upper division finish was what Little Giant coach Ron Brant set as the team's goal.

"That's where I thought we would finish," Brant pointed out after the two-mile run over the sprawling Hillcrest Golf Course layout. "I would have been disappointed if we had finished any lower."

Brant clarified his explanations about the fourth place by adding, "Looking at the meet realistically, we figured that it would be Findlay, Sandusky, and Marion as the top three teams but we knew we could get fourth."

One other detail of the race brought smiles to Brant's face. Gary Clark, a junior, was the top Ross finisher in eighth spot and as it turned out, Clark was the only junior to finish in the first 11 places in the race. The rest of that finishing order were seniors. Clark was timed in 10:10.

But the race belonged to Findlay's talented group of runners. Brent Beams broke his own course record by seven seconds with a 9:46 timing. The Trojan runner was three seconds ahead of Marion's John Williams and five seconds ahead of teammate Harry Yoxheimer. Both Williams and Yoxheimer ran under the previous course mark.

Frank Sparks, last year's BC champion, was fourth this year in 9:56 while Kevin Kramer, Bill Hover, and Scott Line, all of Findlay, rounded out the top seven runners.

For Ross, besides Clark's

eighth, Sam Starks was 17th in 10:30; Dave Plihall, 26th in 10:53; Dane Ramirez, 29th in 10:58; and Jim Elder finished 31st in 11:04.

TEAM STANDINGS: Findlay 22, Sandusky 71, Marion 77, Ross 111, Mansfield 113, Admiral King 143, Lorain Senior 180, Elyria 208

Top 10 runners

1 — Brent Beams, (F) 9:46; 2 — John Williams (Mar) 9:49; 3 — Harry Yoxheimer (F) 9:51; 4 — Frank Sparks (S) 9:56; 5 — Kevin Kramer (F) 9:58; 6 — Bill Hover (F) 9:59; 7 — Scott Line (F) 10:02; 8 — Gary Clark (R) 10:10; 9 — Garver (AK) 10:12; 10 — Cottier (S) 10:13

Lake to third

BOWLING GREEN — On the windswept expanses of the university golf course here, Lakota extended its domination of the Suburban Lakes League cross country for another year.

Since the league was formed in 1972, no team has beaten Lakota in the