

2025 Season Review

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Ross' Kevin Jones MATTHEW HORN

'Closest our team's ever been'

Fremont Ross football creating a brotherhood

Matthew Horn
Fremont News-Messenger
USA TODAY NETWORK

Fremont Ross football players told coaches they wanted the team to be more of a brotherhood.

Seniors Cade Reineck, Jayden Slater and Kole Myers, juniors Jaxson Mackey, Kaiden Swint, Mason Englund and Dylan McDonald, and sophomores Aaric Jurovick, Marcus Lewis, Eli Toomer and Matthew Biddle comprise a leadership council. They've prioritized building bonds with teammates on the field and between practices.

"This is the closest our team's ever been," Little Giants coach Chad Long said. "They're enjoying it and we as coaches are, too. They're hanging out. We have 'grind time.' We put you through a lot and the kids root each other on. If we all believe, we can

achieve.

"It's an awesome team. I love them. There's no individuals. Everyone wants to play for each other. Nobody cares about who catches touchdowns or who runs for touchdowns or who makes sacks. They just want to win."

The tempo at practice has a quicker pace and there's competition for playing time at many positions. The defense has more experience back and has mostly dominated as practice starts in earnest.

Here's a look at a few members of the Little Giants' family.

Kevin Jones: The junior cornerback is remarkably coachable.

"All you have to do is tell the kid once and he does it," Long said. "He's the best coverage kid we have and his fundamentals are incredible. He loves the game."

See FREMONT ROSS, Page 3B



Tallon Brown carries the ball for Ross. MATTHEW HORN/NEWS-MESSENGER

Fremont Ross

Continued from Page 1B

Mason Englund: The junior corner-back is fearless.

"He's special; he was all-conference both ways last season," Long said. "He's a joy to have around. He's a huge play-maker on offense. If you look at him, his nickname is 'bones.' He loves contact, he loves to hit. We have the best outside corners in the area, hands down, and they're on the field together."

Cade Reineck: The senior linebacker was the most valuable player on defense last season.

"The heart and soul of the defense," Long said. "He sacrifices, he's vocal, he's inspirational. You couldn't ask for more. He missed a few games last year. We beat Tiffin Columbian if he plays. That's how highly I think of him."

Marquez Williams: The senior defensive end had eight sacks last season.

"Explosive," Long said. "A freak. He's so athletic and so fast. He's big (6-0, 230). He's a man playing a boy's game in high school right now."

Kole Myers: The senior returning starter takes his turn as centerpiece of the offensive line.

"He's the fridge of the trenches and I say it lovingly," Long said. "He's large, 6-4, 350. You're not moving him on defense and you're going to get moved when he's on offense. He swallows up two kids all the time."

Breylen Garza: The junior quarterback nearly earned starting experience last season. He sprained an MCL mid-season while on the cusp of taking the helm.

"He's a gun slinger," Long said. "He's experienced. He's a great athlete. He knows the offense. He can get rid of the ball fast. He was good as a freshman on JV. He was competing (last season) with Karson (Kayden)."

Tallon Brown: The senior running back is poised to be on the top of the list for carries.

"He played defensive end and tight end and a little running back last year," Long said. "He's a power back. He's going to punish. He's like Kelandre (Jones). He'll play defensive end opposite 'Quez. They'll cause a lot of havoc."

Mackey: He was second-team in the Northern Lakes League Cardinal Division as a sophomore tight end.

"He's a hybrid," Long said. "He can play receiver. He's one heck of a linebacker, too."

McDonald: There don't seem to be many positions he can't play off the line of scrimmage.

"He's by far the most improved player through offseason and from last year," Long said. "He waited and he's amazing. He'll be a receiver and safety. He'll take care of some of the punt return duties. He'll play corner. He can do everything."

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LITTLE GIANTS HOLD OFF TIFFIN IN DEFENSIVE BATTLE...

by Chad Berndt | Aug 26, 2025 | Featured News



FREMONT – It was a picture-perfect Friday night at Don Paul Stadium as the Fremont Ross Little Giants opened the 2025 football season in front of a packed home crowd. In a game defined by tough defense and timely plays, the Little Giants held off visiting Tiffin Columbian to earn a hard-fought 13-9 victory on Senior Night.

Ross struck first late in the opening quarter when senior Stephen Reiter took a reverse handoff and dashed 11 yards into the end zone. Kicker Carson Lewis added the extra point to give the Little Giants a 7-0 lead after one.

Tiffin answered midway through the second quarter, putting together a six-play, 44-yard drive capped off by a one-yard touchdown run from Mason Seitz. The extra point knotted the game at 7.

With halftime approaching, Ross seized the momentum with a clutch scoring drive. Quarterback Breylan Garza led an 11-play, 59-yard march, capped by an 8-yard touchdown strike to Reiter with just two seconds remaining in the half. The blocked extra point left the Little Giants ahead 13-7 heading into the locker room. The second half became a defensive struggle as both teams traded stops.

Neither offense could break through, and the score held steady well into the fourth quarter. With just three minutes remaining and backed up against their own end zone, Ross elected to take a safety, narrowing the lead to 13-9 but flipping field position.

The strategy paid off. After Lewis boomed the ensuing free kick, Tiffin started on its own 35-yard line but stalled. The Tornadoes' final drive ended with an

incomplete pass on 4th-and-2 at Ross' 18-yard line, handing possession back to the Little Giants with 40 seconds left. From there, Ross went into victory formation, sealing a gritty opening-night win.

The Little Giants (1-0) will look to build on their defensive effort as they continue the 2025 campaign next week at Sandusky.

FIVE STRAIGHT: LITTLE GIANTS DOMINATE SANDUSKY, 48-14...

by Chad Berndt | Sep 3, 2025 | Featured News



The Fremont Ross Little Giant football team kept their winning streak alive against rival Sandusky, leaving Strobel Field on Friday night with a commanding 48-14 victory. The win marks the fifth consecutive season Ross has come out on top in the historic rivalry.

Sandusky struck first in dramatic fashion, taking the opening kickoff 98 yards for a touchdown to grab an early lead. But the Little Giants wasted no time responding. On the ensuing possession, quarterback Breylen Garza connected with Mason Englund on a 79-yard touchdown strike to knot the score at 7-7. The Blue Streaks answered quickly, marching down the field and punching in a 13-yard touchdown pass to reclaim the lead. Ross refused to back down, with Garza breaking loose for a 17-yard touchdown run to tie things again at 14. Before the end of the first quarter, Ross found the end zone once more as Joel Pickard powered in from nine yards out. A missed extra point gave the Little Giants their first lead at 20-14, one they would never relinquish.

Both defenses stiffened in the second quarter, keeping the score locked heading into halftime. But coming out of the break, Ross made the necessary adjustments and took control. Garza scored again on a six-yard keeper, igniting an explosive second half for the Little Giants.

The Ross defense set the tone after the break, forcing three turnovers, including two fumbles and an interception from Kayden Moreland. With the Blue Streaks shut out in the final two quarters, the Little Giants offense piled on with four rushing touchdowns—two more from Garza, along with scores from Ben Waggoner and Stephen Reiter.

By the final whistle, Ross had rolled to a 48-14 win, keeping their record unbeaten and extending their dominance in the rivalry to five straight years. The Little Giants now face their toughest test yet as they travel to Perrysburg this Friday to battle the Yellow Jackets. Kickoff is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.





FOOTBALL FALLS TO PERRYSBURG...

by Chad Berndt | Sep 9, 2025 | Featured News



The Fremont Ross Little Giants struggled to find their footing on Friday night, falling to Perrysburg by a score of 31-0.

Offensive rhythm proved elusive for Ross, who managed just eight first downs and 118 yards of total offense. Most of that production came on the ground, where senior running back Tallon Brown shouldered the load. Brown carried the ball 19 times for 75 yards, serving as the lone bright spot in an otherwise quiet night for the offense.

Junior quarterback Breylen Garza finished 6-of-14 passing for 38 yards. His top target was Dylan McDonald, who hauled in three receptions for 23 yards, while Jaxson Mackey added two catches for 10 yards.

Defensively, the Little Giants showed fight early on, keeping the game within reach in the opening quarter. However, extended time on the field eventually wore them down, allowing Perrysburg to string together long scoring drives. The Yellow Jackets built a 28-0 lead by halftime, but Ross refused to quit, limiting Perrysburg to just a field goal in the second half.

Head coach and the Ross staff credited their players for battling to the final whistle despite the deficit.

The Little Giants (2-1) now turn their attention to another formidable challenge as they return home this Friday to host Toledo Whitmer. Kickoff is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.

TOLEDO WHITMER 27, FREMONT ROSS 6

September 12, 2025

Findlay football fires on all cylinders in road win over Fremont Ross



EMMA FINER
The Blade
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SEP 19, 2025 11:37 PM



FREMONT — Four sacks, two forced fumbles, one interception, and only allowing 13 total yards made for a dominant defensive night for Findlay.

The Trojans defeated Fremont Ross 42-0 on Friday, their seventh consecutive win over the Little Giants and second 4-1 start in three seasons.

"When we're able to get pressure, we're playing really well," fifth-year Findlay head coach Stefan Adams said. "I think we're playing to our strengths, to who our guys are, and to watch those guys week in and week out has given us confidence in what we've done."



Junior defensive linemen Trace'son Hyde and Jack Young each had two sacks and senior defensive back Hudson Yeager had the interception for Findlay. The Trojans' other two turnovers came on a muffed punt in the first quarter and a quarterback fumble in the second, which Young recovered.

Hyde said he was able to take advantage of heavy set offensive line formations and that the defense perfectly executed its philosophy of being a physical and scrappy unit regardless of the score.

"We play good football, play rough, play tough, play violent, fast, and fly to the ball," Hyde said. "Both sides of the ball were firing off, and I'm just very proud of our boys."

Fremont Ross quarterback Breylen Garza finished the game with two yards passing and minus-24 yards rushing. The one bright spot was junior running back Tallon Brown, who had a team-leading 19 yards on the ground.

There wasn't much on the positive side for the Little Giants (2-3), but head coach Chad Long said his team will need to put this game behind them and work harder toward their goal of winning next week on the road against Scott.

"We're going to watch film and we have to get better," Long said. "We're a young team, we have to build, and we have to dig down deep and find some Little Giant pride that I think we're losing."

In addition to the strong defensive effort, Findlay's offense also hummed throughout the game. Quarterback Miles Bailey ended the game with 131 passing yards, a first-half hat trick of rushing scores, and two passing touchdowns as the Trojans led 35-0 at the break.

Junior wide receivers Carter Imke and Jed Scott caught the touchdowns for one and 22 yards, respectively. Junior running back Ramier Williams sealed the game with a 54-yard touchdown run at the 10:35 mark of the fourth quarter.

Adams said Bailey is playing with a tremendous amount of poise in his final season donning blue and gold and his confidence reflects onto the entire team, giving them extra motivation.

"A senior knows their time is very slim and every game counts and I think he just has brought a confidence, a swagger, and a little bit of an identity offensively, that we've been building on," Adams said.

First Published September 19, 2025, 8:59 p.m.

Little Giants Blank Bulldogs, Even Record at 3-3.

After a tough stretch of games against Perrysburg, Whitmer, and Findlay, the Fremont Ross football team bounced back in emphatic fashion Friday night. Hitting the road to face the Scott Bulldogs, the Little Giants put together their most complete performance of the season, cruising to a 41-0 victory.

An offense that had struggled to find consistency in recent weeks came alive, racking up 324 total yards. Junior quarterback Breylen Garza was sharp from the start, completing 15 of 18 passes for 143 yards and three touchdowns.

Garza spread the ball effectively, with Jaxson Mackey leading all receivers with seven catches for 60 yards and a touchdown. Mason Englund proved to be a red-zone threat, finishing with three receptions for 42 yards and two scores.

The aerial attack was balanced by a strong running game, as a reshuffled offensive line opened up lanes all night. Talon Brown carried 12 times for 74 yards, while Ben Waggoner added eight rushes for 55 yards and a touchdown.

By halftime, the Little Giants had built a commanding 35-0 lead. With the outcome in hand, the second half provided opportunities for reserve players to gain valuable game experience.

When the final horn sounded, Fremont Ross walked off with a shutout win, evening their record at 3-3 on the season.

The Little Giants now turn their focus to divisional play. They'll travel to Southview this Friday to take on the Cougars, with kickoff scheduled for 7:00 p.m.



LITTLE GIANTS SACK SOUTHVIEW IN 21-13 WIN

by Jordan Mackey | Oct 9, 2025 | Featured News



The Fremont Ross Little Giants earned a hard-fought 21-13 victory over Cardinal Division NLL foe Sylvania Southview this past Friday night, powered by a balanced offensive attack and a relentless defensive front.

The Little Giants tallied 307 total yards of offense, including 214 through the air, as quarterback Breylen Garza turned in one of his most efficient performances of the season. Garza completed 13 of 18 passes for 214 yards, tossing three touchdowns with zero interceptions.

Senior wide receiver Stephen Reiter had an incredible night, hauling in six receptions for 128 yards and two touchdowns. Reiter showcased his big-play ability with multiple long gains fueled by yards after the catch. Jaxson Mackey added a touchdown of his own, finishing with four receptions for 42 yards, while Tallon Brown anchored the ground game with 19 carries for 72 yards.

Defensively, the Little Giants were dominant. They recorded a remarkable 11 team sacks. While single-game sack totals aren't officially tracked in the Fremont Ross record book, Head Coach Chad Long believes this performance would rank among the very best in program history.

The sack barrage was a total team effort, with Parker Jackson, Noah Crawford, Anthony Sorg, Tallon Brown, Kole Myers, and Marquez Williams all contributing. Cade Reineck led the defensive charge with seven solo tackles and five assists, while Kole Myers continued to make his presence felt as the anchor of both the offensive and defensive fronts.

Coach Long praised his linemen after the win, saying, "It starts up front—offensively and defensively."

The Little Giants will look to keep their momentum rolling as they hit the road once again tomorrow night, traveling to Springfield to take on another tough Cardinal Division opponent in NLL play.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

'Heart and soul of the defense'

Reineck sets tone for Ross football

Matthew Horn
Fremont News-Messenger
USA TODAY NETWORK

Tacklers who make certain the ball carrier is down can sometimes miss out on delivering hits.

If a defender goes for a hit, he might miss a tackle. Fremont Ross senior Cade Reineck collects tackles, and he rarely fails to make sure an opponent pays for bringing the ball near him.

Reineck wasted no time Friday with a rather ferocious hit on the first play in a 21-13 victory over Sylvania Southview in the Northern Lakes League Cardinal Division. He didn't so much break up a pass on Southview's next possession, as much as he eliminated a catch from the realm of

possibilities by crushing a receiver at the same time the ball arrived.

"Big hits get the guys going," Reineck said. "I love to hit."

Reineck ran about 40 yards in a huge loop Friday while watching and tracking the play, before making a stop along the sideline in the fourth quarter.

"He's a passionate player," Little Giants coach Chad Long said. "He's the

See FOOTBALL, Page 2B



Ross senior Cade Reineck
MATTHEW HORN/NEWS-MESSENDER

Football

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Continued from Page 1B

heart and soul of the defense. He leads by example, he loves the game, and he just plays.”

Reineck started at linebacker as a junior after a reserve role as a sophomore.

“Be the best leader you can be,” he said of what he learned. “People will follow. I was quiet last year; it was a learning thing. Be vocal; trust the guys and trust the coaches. I’d rather be a leader than have a good game.”

Reineck knows he sets a tone.

“Really being a loud, vocal guy,” he said. “Get the team going. Everybody goes hard. Let (opponents) know it’s going to be a battle. We’ll hit them all game long.”

The Little Giants (4-3) wanted to send a message as a team against Southview.

“It’s kind of a new beginning,” Reineck said of finally finishing the non-conference slate. “We want to win out and win the Cardinal (Division).”

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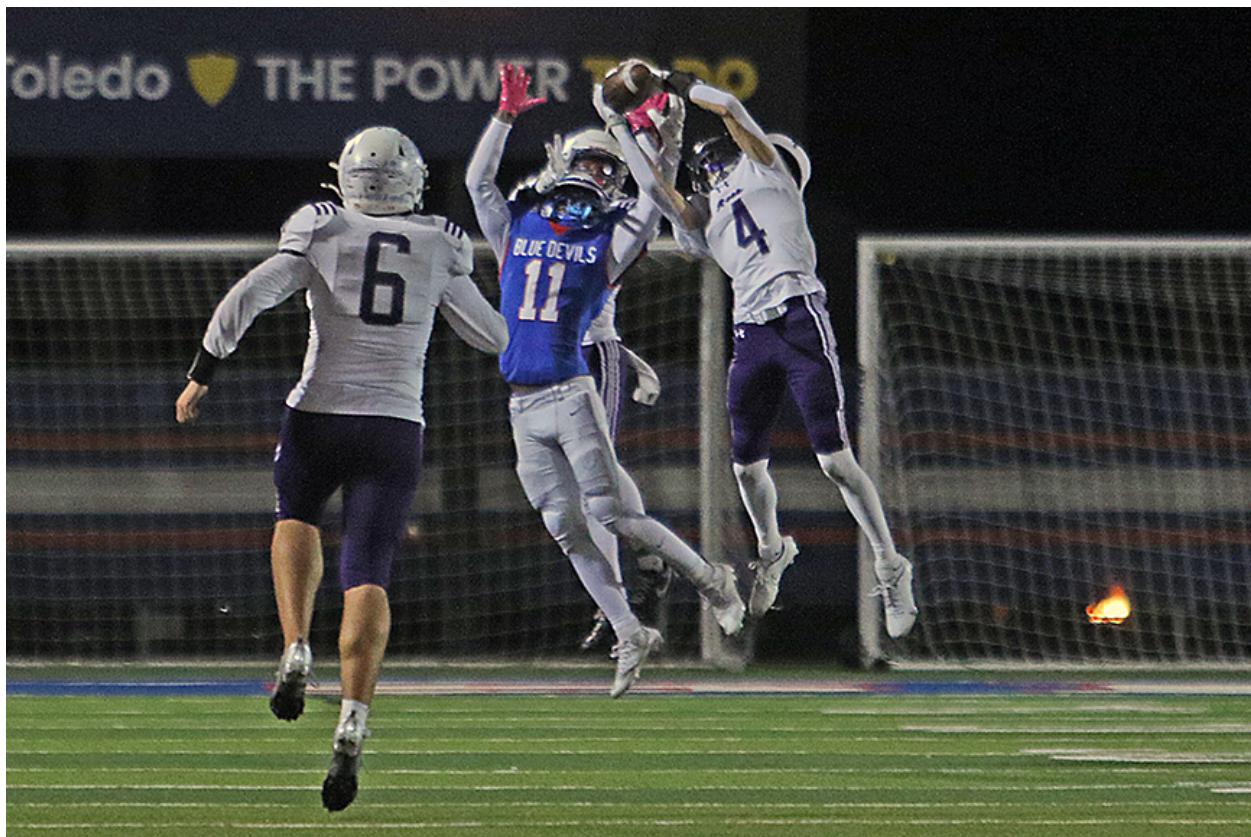
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LITTLE GIANTS 48, SPRINGFIELD 14

October 10, 2025







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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL



Ross' Marcus Lewis catches a touchdown pass. DOUG HISE/CORRESPONDENT

Lewis unfazed by lights as Ross underclassman

Matthew Horn
Fremont News-Messenger
USA TODAY NETWORK

Fremont Ross coach Chad Long liked what his defense looked like with Kevin Jones at one cornerback spot and Mason Englund on the other side at the other.

Then, one of the Little Giants' safeties was injured. Englund slid to the middle of the field, and sophomore Marcus Lewis replaced Englund opposite Jones.

Long feels even better about the con-

"Marcus has proven he could do it. He's put us in awe doing it at the varsity level as a sophomore."

Chad Long
Fremont Ross head football coach

figuration now.

"Marcus has proven he could do it," Long said. "He's put us in awe doing it

at the varsity level as a sophomore. We have two great cover corners. We moved Mason to defend the slot. Mason at strong safety. It made the defense better."

Thrown into the fray, Lewis didn't wade in.

"The lights never got to him," Long said. "He tackles well; he covers well. It's been impressive as a sophomore. His growth and development is understanding the defense and his strengths and weaknesses in coverages. He can

See FOOTBALL, Page 2B

Football

Continued from Page 1B

be in position to make plays; he has an athletic knack to be around the ball and make interceptions."

Lewis and Englund have two interceptions apiece. Jones allows little action in his vicinity, despite covering the best weapons opponents have to offer.

The Little Giants have a turnover chain to be worn by those who flip the field. If you steal the ball, you sign your name on the back of the pendant.

Lewis signed after an interception in a win over Toledo Scott, but hasn't had time to sign it a second time after last week's 48-14 victory over Springfield in the Northern Lakes League Cardinal Division. He added his second touchdown reception of the season.

"We were in Cover 3," he said. "I had deep. I bit on an out route; I saw the ball in the air, and it was underthrown. I'm trying to work hard since they asked me to step up. It's exciting. I've been dreaming about playing on varsity since I can remember.

"I didn't expect an opportunity on defense. It just came natural."

Long wants the Little Giants to think about interceptions.

"We're always looking for turnovers," he said. "We stress to the secondary, if you're around the ball, make plays. They're creating and making plays, and they're around the ball and in position and breaking on the ball. The defensive line gets pressure and the quarterback throws some balls they probably wish they didn't throw."

Lewis reminds Long of graduate Bryson Hammer as an underclassman. Hammer continued his career on special teams at Toledo.

"The way he carries himself," Long said. "He's a good receiver as well. His athletic ability, his hands, his explosion, his quickness when he doesn't have the ball."

Before this season, Lewis was certain he would never like playing defense, preferring to catch passes instead. Ross assistant Billy Binder, however, began telling the reserve receiver his talents and traits were suited to defense last season and never relented.

Binder insisted Lewis play defense on the scout team.

"I didn't think I'd enjoy it as much as I did," he said. "(Binder) saw it. I was out there free; it became fun. I'm starting to enjoy tackling; causing contact. I was surprised. It was a journey. Basically, I like defense more than offense."

He now prefers running where the play takes him, rather than running where he's supposed to go.

"I'm getting more comfortable, especially with the ball in the air," he said. "I'm quick, I can stay on top of a receiver. I can learn quick. Not getting beat deep, keep it in front of me and if a tackle comes."

Ross (5-3) plays host to Napoleon (6-2, 3-0) in the Cardinal Division this week.

"This is the game; this is going to determine who wins the championship or not," Long said. "It means a lot to the guys. Our goal is to win the Cardinal; we were second last year. We're in a good position against Napoleon; they won it last year.

"We're 2-0. This will determine our fate. We can win the NLL championship; and next week (host to Bowling Green) win it outright."

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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL NAPOLEON 7, FREMONT ROSS 0



Ross' Kevin Jones (20) looks up the field after snagging an interception in the first half on Oct. 17 in a 7-0 loss to Napoleon. Tallon Brown (9) looks for a block. PHOTOS BY RYAN HARLESS/CORRESPONDENT

NLL Cardinal Division decided by one drive

Ryan Harless

Fremont News-Messenger
USA TODAY NETWORK

Only one drive culminated with points Friday in a game to determine the likely winner of the Northern Lakes League Cardinal Division.

Fremont Ross fell 7-0 to visiting Napoleon, which finished unbeaten in the Cardinal Division. The game was a defensive slugfest where neither team was able to find any offensive success whatsoever until the fourth quarter.

"It has been our story all year long," Little Giants coach Chad Long said. "We get first downs, and then we get penalties and have to move back. It's unacceptable. Our kids know better, and unfortunately, that cost us a couple of times."

Ross (5-4, 2-1) won its previous three games, outscoring opponents 110-27. With a share of the Cardinal Division title on the line, the Little Giants' defense held up its end of the bargain.

Kevin Jones intercepted a pass for Ross.

"If you have a good defense, you have a



Fremont Ross players burst through a banner to kick off Friday night's homecoming celebration.

good team," Long said. "Unfortunately, we weren't able to muster up any scores on the board. They kept us in the game and they have all year. It's a big, experienced defense. We just have to score and not have mental breakdowns on the offensive side."

Ross punted on fourth-and-1 on Napoleon's side of the field as neither team scored in the first half.

The Wildcats (7-2, 4-0) started the

fourth quarter with possession and began to move the ball. They capped the drive with a run from three yards out for the only score in the game.

"(Napoleon) did a really good job in the second half," Long said. "They made the little adjustments that they needed to make. They shifted and did some things that we haven't seen and were able to muster a touchdown against our defense."

Home Finale Ends With Dominant Win over Bowling Green

The Fremont Ross football team closed out its regular season in dominant fashion Friday night, shutting out Bowling Green 28-0 at Don Paul Stadium. It was a complete performance from start to finish and a perfect way for the seniors to end their careers on their home field.

The Little Giants defense set the tone early and never let up. The defensive end duo of Marquez Williams and Tallon Brown wreaked havoc in the Bowling Green backfield all night. The brothers—on and off the field—combined for 10 tackles, 8 tackles for loss, and an incredible 7 sacks. They were backed by strong defensive efforts from Cade Reineck, Kole Myers, Anthony Sorg, Kayden Moreland, and Noah Crawford, who helped preserve the shutout.

Offensively, quarterback Breylen Garza turned in a poised, mistake-free performance. Garza completed 12 of 19 passes for 111 yards and one touchdown, distributing the ball evenly to seven different receivers. Mason Englund led the group with 4 receptions for 54 yards and a touchdown.

The highlight of the night came in dramatic fashion as Coach Chad Long reached into his playbook for a special "Lard Formation" package. With the offense on the one-yard line, Tallon Brown lined up at quarterback, Parker Jackson at fullback, and—stealing the show—Kole Myers, the team's 350-pound guard, lined up at tailback. Myers powered his way into the end zone for his first career touchdown, creating a memorable moment that brought the Fremont crowd to its feet.

Coach Long praised his seniors after the game, expressing how much he will miss this group. "They left it all out there tonight," he said. "It's a special way for them to finish their careers at home."

With the victory, the Little Giants secured a spot in the OHSAA postseason. Fremont Ross enters the playoffs as the 11th seed and will travel to face the 6th-seeded Olmsted Falls Bulldogs this Friday night.

Go Giants—and congratulations to our seniors on a memorable home finale!







MAROUEZ WILLIAMS

1ST TEAM ALL NLL- DEFENSIVE END







KEVIN JONES

1ST TEAM ALL NLL- CORNERBACK



F R E M O N T R O S S L I T T L E G I A N T S



LINEMAN PLAYER OF THE YEAR KOLE MYERS

NLL CARDINAL CONFERENCE LINEMAN PLAYER OF THE YEAR





STEPHEN REITER

2ND TEAM ALL NLL- WIDE RECEIVER







BREYLEN GARZA

2ND TEAM ALL NLL- PUNTER





CADE REINECK

1ST TEAM ALL NLL- OUTSIDE LINEBACKER





KAIDEN SWINT

2ND TEAM ALL NLL- OFFENSIVE LINEMAN

F R E M O N T R O S S L I T T L E G I A N T S



DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

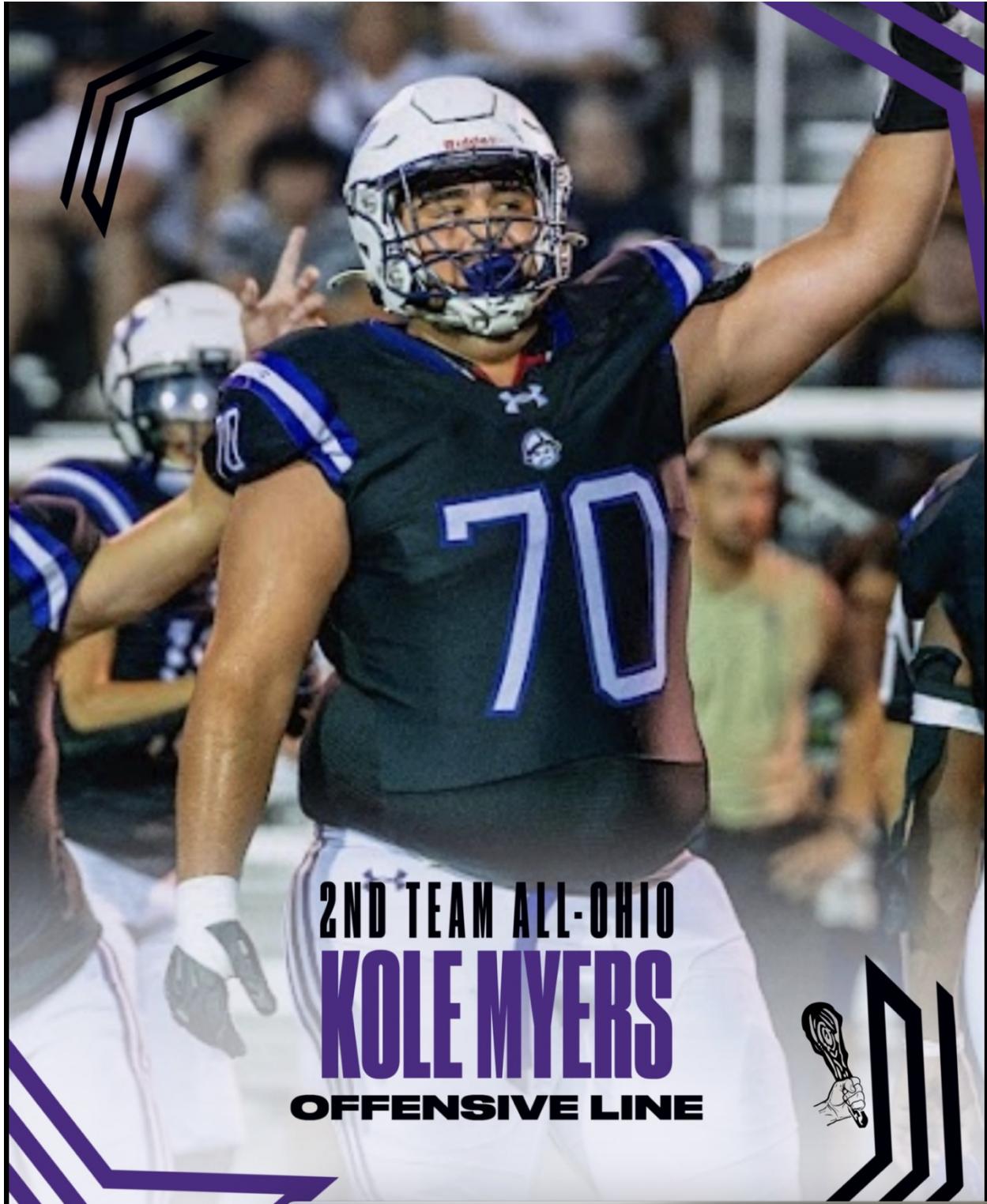
MARQUEZ WILLIAMS

NLL CARDINAL CONFERENCE DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR



Our Fremont Ross Little Giants were well represented in the Division II All-Northwest District honors, and we couldn't be more excited to cele... [See more](#)





2ND TEAM ALL-OHIO
KOLE MYERS
OFFENSIVE LINE



