

2003 Season preview...

**News-Messenger reports**

The Fremont Ross boys finished tied for second but took the spot on sixth-place finishers in a five-team cross country meet Tuesday at Hedges Boyer Park in Tiffin.

Host Columbian came out on top with Bowling Green third, Findlay fourth and Clay on the bottom.

In other boys meets Tuesday, Gibsonburg split in a double dual with Genoa and Otsego; Woodmore downed Lake; Oak Harbor was second in a quadrangular with Huron, Perkins and Sandusky; and Lakota was 1-2 in a triple dual with Fostoria, Eastwood and Elmwood.

In girls meets, Ross was fifth in the five-team meet at Hedges Boyer; Gibsonburg was 2-0 in a double dual with Otsego and Genoa; and Lakota was 2-1 in triple dual with Eastwood, Elmwood and Fostoria.

At Tiffin, host Columbian had 29 to the Little Giants' 59, the same as Bowling Green. Findlay had 82 and Oregon Clay 124.

Jay Ohms led Ross with a sixth-place finish in 18 minutes, four seconds. Derek Hill followed two places and 23 seconds later in 18:27.

Ross's sixth finisher was Micheal Flores (19:48). He placed 21st, three better than Bowling Green's sixth runner.

in 17:11 and Jordon Miller finished 12th in 17:32.

Bettsville's top finisher was Travis Lang, 50th in 19:03.

In the girls meet, state-power Minster won with 29 points. Five Minster runners finished in the top 10.

Old Fort was seventh in the 12-team girls race. Lisa Ortiz was 10th for the Stockaders, finishing in 20:23.

Carime Reinhart of Hopewell-Loudon won the girls event in 18:49.

#### **Chris Green Invitational**

Fremont Ross' Derek Hill finished fifth at 17:36 at Osborn Park.

The Little Giants had 98 points, 53 points behind Bay. Jay Ohms was 11th

at 17:44.

Bellevue finished one point back of Ross as Jake Grice finished 14th in 17:57, Dave Wallingford 16th in 18:01 and Justin Nottke 18th in 18:02.

Margaretta was sixth with 139 points as Adam Miller finished fourth in 17:33 and Aaron Stewert 13th in 17:56.

The Redmen's Holly Sumser finished eighth at 21:31 as Bellevue girls finished in fourth place.

Wendy Sumser and Jessica Cook each ran the course in 22:40, good for 17th and 18th place, respectively.

The Fremont Ross girls had 139 points as Ashley Fischer was third at 20:51 and Alyssa Bowerman 14th in 22:28.

Margaretta finished 12 points behind the Little Giants as Emily Kuns was 15th at 22:30.

#### **Otsego Invitational**

Perrysburg won the boys meet with 40 points followed by runner-up Eastwood with 45 and Lakota third with 49.

Kyle Dussel was third for the Raiders in 17:53. Patrick Graber was sixth in 18:16 and P.J. Combs 12th in 19:07 for Lakota.

Eastwood was first in the girls meet with 31 points. Perrysburg finished second with 44 and Lakota had 52.

Ashley Brockschmidt was fourth in 22:43 and Tara Swim seventh in 22:50 for Lakota. Erica Walters finished 11th in 23:17, also for Lakota.

#### News-Messenger reports

**TIFFIN** — The Old Fort boys finished fifth in its division at the Tiffin Cross Country Carnival Saturday at Hedge Boyer Park.

The Stockaders competed in the 50-team Division III competition.

In other boys divisions, Fremont Ross was 20th in the 24-team Division I running; Bellevue finished 14th, Clyde 24th, Oak Harbor 26th and Margaretta 35th in Division II; following Old Fort in Division III was Lakota 11th, Gibsonburg 15th, Woodmore 30th and St. Joseph Central Catholic tied Bettsville for 34th.

In Division I, Derek Hill was the Little Giants' top finisher, 60th in 17 minutes, 15 seconds.

"(It was) great competition for the boys to compete with," Ross coach Cathy Esposito said. "They looked stronger today as a team and are ready to improve times during the second half of the sea-

son. Derek Hill had a great effort getting so close to the 16's. Next week at Galion will prove interesting with so many of them ready for the next level."

Ross, led by Adam Brandt, placed 34th in Division I-B.

Kings finished first in the division with 88 points.

#### Division II

Bellevue was 14th of 41 teams.

Oak Harbor's Jim Kuli was the top area individual finisher, 35th in 17:18.

Justin Notke finished 42nd for Bellevue in 17:25. Bellevue's Brett Veach finished 67th in 17:49, Dave Wallingford 94th in 18:11 and Jake Grice in 18:18.

Clyde's Jon Taylor finished 38th in 17:23.

Margaretta was led by Aaron Stewart's, 71st in 17:56.

Ashtabula Edgewood was the Division II winner with 70 points.



# Little Giants' Fischer is 16th

News-Messenger reports

**TIFFIN** — The Fremont Ross girls finished 21st of 28 teams in the Division I-B race Saturday in the Tiffin Cross Country Carnival at Hedges Boyer.

In Division II-A, Oak Harbor finish 22nd and Bellevue 23rd while in Division III, Lakota was 12th, St. Joseph Central Catholic 19th, Woodmore 22nd, Gibsonburg 28th, Old Fort 32nd and Margaretta 33rd.

Ashley Fischer was Ross's top finisher, placing 16th in 20 minutes, 57 seconds. Also for Ross, Alyssa Bowerman placed 76th in 22:41 and Allison Adams placed 141st in 24:49.

"(It was) a great team effort with much improvement individually," Ross coach Cathy Esposito said. "Ashley Fischer was strong the entire race."

Wapokenta finished first in the race, followed by Centerville and Seton.

## Division II-A

Oak Harbor was led by Kelly Gephart's 64th in 21:24 and Amy Jenkin in 83rd in 21:46.

Bellevue's top finisher was Holly Sumser, placing 70th in 21:30.

## Division III

Woodmore's Tanya Eriksen

was the top area finisher, placing 12th in 19:52. Carrie Netcher was 8th for the Wildcats.

Old Fort's Lisa Ortiz placed 22nd in 20:30.

Lakota was led by Tara Swim's 71st in 21:36 and Ashley Brockschmidt's 82nd in 21:49.

Jessica Merrill, 72nd, was the Streaks top finisher, coming in at 21:37. She was followed by Sarah Stierwalt, 120th in 22:23 and Jenny Knisely, 124th in 22:26.

Gibsonburg's top finishers were Brittney Redd in 105th in 22:11 and Stephanie Hiser was 108th in at 22:13.

Emily Kuhns led Margaretta, placing 78th in 21:41.

## Division I Galion Invitational

Derek Hill finished 71st in 17:37 as the Ross boys finished the 41-team event in 23rd.

Jay Ohms was 102nd in 17:53 for the Little Giants.

The Toledo Catholic Central boys and Bowling Green girls won the event.

Ashley Fisher was 51st in 21:11 and Alyssa Bowerman 75th in 20:35 as the Ross girls team finished 26th with 704 points.

# Ross boys win triangular at Sandusky

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The Ross boys cross country team had 31 points to win the quadrangular with Perkins (35), Sandusky (75) and Clyde (97) Tuesday as Jay Ohms finished third in 10:51 in the 2-mile race.

In other races, Old Fort won its Invitational and St. Joseph Central Catholic was fifth and Bettsville sixth.

Derek Hill was fifth in 11:00 for Ross.

Jonathan Taylor was 15th Clyde.

Micheal Rodriguez was second in 17:46 and Jordan Miller fourth in 18:02 for the Stockaders.

Billy Pietrykowski finished third in 17:58 for the Crimson Streaks. Jon Trautwein was ninth in 18:29 for the Bobcats.

New Riegel's Jason Bumb won in 17:05.

**Lakota 26, Oak Harbor 29**

**Lakota 23, Gibsonburg 36**

**Oak Harbor 24, Gibsonburg 31**

Kyle Dussel was third in 17:38 for Lakota at Terra Community

Kuli's second in 17:31.

The Raiders were led by a third place finish from Kyle Dussel (17:38).

**Eastwood 23 Woodmore 32**

**Eastwood 16 Genoa 45**

**Woodmore 20 Genoa 37**

Woodmore came away with a win and a loss and Genoa two losses in a Triangular with Eastwood.

The Wildcats took third, fourth and seventh in the meet. Jeremy Schroeder finished in 17:57, Mark

## **Perkins 23, Ross 56, Clyde 57**

Ashley Fischer finished first in 12:48 but Ross was second in the triangular at Osborne Park.

Becky Pearce was eighth in 14:22 for the Fliers.

## **BOYS CROSS COUNTRY**

### **Cardinal Stritch Invitational**

Mike Rodriguez finished fifth to lead Old Fort to the title in the 17-team small-school division.

Old Fort had four other runners in the top 29 with Jordan Miller placing eighth in 17:36, Cliff Riehm 14th in 18:02, Marcus Hoke 19th in 18:22 and Ron Dull 29th in 18:36.

They finished 30 points in front of second place Hopewell Loudon(105).

Ross won a tiebreaker with Edison to earn second place in the 15-team, large-school division.

Derek Hill (eighth) and Jay Ohms (ninth) finished together at 17:17 to lead Ross. Elon Simms placed 22nd in 17:49, Nathan Bowen followed placing 23rd in 17:50 and Josh Ohms placed 29th in 17:59.

"(This was our) best team effort all season," Ross coach Cathy Esposito said. "It's nice going into the league meet in two weeks having (our) top five in 17s already. This was a big victory for them."

## **Cardinal Stritch Invitational**

### **Black Division**

#### **Top teams (13 total)**

Blissfield (Mich) .....	56
Hopewell-Loudon .....	60
St. Joseph Central Catholic .....	123
Emmanuel .....	144
Cardinal Stritch .....	168
Old Fort .....	196
Danbury .....	197

Old Fort finishes: 4-Lisa Ortiz 20:05; 35-Emily Ellis 23:13; 38-Jenny Kline 23:19; 54-Audra Cleveland 24:24; 65-Amanda Ortiz 25:42; 73-Tony Baker 26:33; 74-Danielle Miller 26:38

Girls open, Old Fort finishes: 85-Rachel Terry 28:29; 93-Meghan Mills 29:30.

### **Red Divison**

1-Bowling Green 23; 12-Ross 310

Ross finishes: 13-Ashley Fisher 20:47; 23-Alyssa Bowerman 21:15; 73-Allison Adams 24:47; 77-Jean Forgatsch 25:48; 78-Amy Price 26:11.

## **Girls Cross Country**

### **Fischer fourth in dual**

Ashley Fischer finished in 21:25, but Ross fell to Napoleon 19-41 in the Greater Buckeye Conference.

Alyssa Bowerman was fifth in 21:47 and Allison Adams ninth in 25:15 for the Little Giants.

### **Hill wins by 59 seconds**

Ross' Derek Hill finished first in 17:08, almost one minute faster than teammate Jay Ohms (18:07) as the Little Giants topped GBC foe Napoleon 21-37.

Nathan Bowen was fourth in 18:39 and Josh Ohms sixth in 19:02 for Ross.

### **Hill 16th; Ross ninth**

Derek Hill was 16th in 17:18, but Ross finished the Eagle Invitational at Pearson Park in ninth with 261 points.

Toledo Central Catholic won the event with 68.

James Ohms was 20th in 17:29 for Ross.

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### **Ross's Bowerman 39th**

Ross's Alyssa Bowerman finished 39th individually in 21:14, but the Little Giants didn't register a team score at the Eagle Invitational at Pearson Park.

Jennifer Spieldenner of Findlay won the event in 18:42.