

1939 State meet...

DOZEN PURPLE MERMEN TO VIE IN STAR MEET

Charges of Coach George Gruse Seek 3rd Crown In Four Years

The Little Giant swimmers of Fremont Ross high journey to Columbus Saturday to defend their title in the annual Ohio scholastic aquatic championship meet in the Ohio State University natatorium.

A dozen Purple mermen, who qualified in the district meet at Toledo last Saturday, will also be seeking their third state crown since 1935 when swimming was installed as an interscholastic sport at Ross under Coach Bim Stults, who resigned last year to study at Ohio State and become an assistant to Mike Peppe, Buckeye swimming mentor.

Strong Field
The excursion to the state capital will be the first for the Fremont tank squad under Coach George Gruse, former aide to Stults, who became head coach this season.

Chief challengers in a strong field of more than a dozen schools from various parts of the state are expected to be Canton McKinley and Sandusky, each of whom Ross defeated 34-32 in dual competition this winter.

The Ross entries include:

50-yard free style—Jack Nickloy and Bob Tolhurst.

100-yard breast stroke—Ben Hayes and Bob Mangas.

200-yard free style—Bob Huss and Pierce Bahnsen.

100-yard back stroke—Harry Stickele and Al Tuckerman.

100-yard free style—Bill Berrill, 150-yard medley relay—Stickele, Hayes and Don Greetham.

200-yard free style relay—Tolhurst, Huss, Nickloy and Greetham. Diving—Earl Christy and Greg Schultz.

May Crack Marks

Based on their performances during the season in which Ross won the Northern Ohio Relays and eight duals as well as the district meet, while losing one dual affair, Hayes, Stickele and the medley relay team are expected to hang up new state records.

Hayes was clocked in 1:05 in the meet with Sandusky, lowering by seven-tenths of a second the present state record of 1:05.7, set by Rosenberg, of Cleveland Shaw, as he defeated Hayes in the state meet last year. Also in the meet with Sandusky, Stickele was timed in 1:04 in the back stroke, stripping a full second from the mark of 1:05 established by Ulrich of Canton Lehman last year.

Eight Seniors

The Ross medley trio of Hayes, Stickele and Greetham has negotiated the 150-yard distance in 1:23, bettering its own mark of 1:25.7, hung up last year, by 2.7 seconds. The medley team also is credited with a national record of 3:08.5 for 300 yards.

Unless Ross enters a post-season invitational meet, the state competition will wind up the prep careers of eight Little Giants, including Greetham, Huss, Mangas, Jack Nickloy, Stickele, George Stokes, Tolhurst and Tuckerman.

In the district meet, the Little Giants won the 50-yard free style, the breast stroke, the back stroke, the medley relay and the diving, with Jack Nickloy, Hayes, Stickele and Christy winning individual sectional titles.

Ohio Scholastic Records

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50-Yd. Free Style—24.2"—Rosenthal (Cincinnati Hughes)—O. S. U., 1938.

100-Yd. Breast Stroke—1' 5.7"—Rosenberg (East Cleveland-Shaw)—O. S. U., 1938.

220-Yd. Free Style—2' 21.7"—Otis (Cleveland Heights)—O. S. U., 1933.

100-Yd. Back Stroke—1' 5.0"—Uhrich (Canton Lehman)—O. S. U., 1938.

100-Yd. Free Style—54.3"—Bryant (Columbus Bexley)—O. S. U., 1935.

150-Yd. Medley Relay—1' 25.7"—Fremont (Stickel, Hayes, Greetham)—O. S. U., 1938.

200-Yd. Free Style Relay—1' 41.6"—Cleveland Heights (Cloyes, Moonan, Feazel, Otis)—O. S. U., 1934.

Diving Champions—1927—Heil, Columbus South; 1928—Williams, Hamilton; 1929—Graham, Dayton-Roosevelt; 1930—Graham, Dayton-Roosevelt; 1931—Kallman, Sandusky; 1932—Kallman, Sandusky; 1933—Kallman, Sandusky; 1934—Pope, Cleveland Shaker Heights; 1935—Karst, Columbus East; 1936—Lawler, Lakewood; 1937—Serwinsky, Fremont; 1938 — McVehil, Canton McKinley.

