

1992 Season Review

FREMONT ROSS

Coach Sue Badertscher is counting on the improvement of two-year letterwinner Andi Opre and the gradual development of a group of talented freshmen to help the Little Giants forget the loss of singles player Carol Darr as well as Great Lakes League doubles champions Heather Lane and Carol Longanbach to graduation.

The freshmen are Dawn Zerman, who will play second singles; Kristen Farrell, Sara Williams, Dena Schepflin, Casey Schepflin, Kristen Farrell and Sarah Williams. Farrell and Williams have a chance of playing varsity, while the Schepflins will be a strong doubles team for the junior varsity.

Badertscher said the improvement of Opre will enable her to start at first-court singles this year compared to first-court doubles a year ago.

Three-year letterwinner Ann Darr is the lone returning senior, while juniors Meagan Hadley and Heather Boggs will also vie for playing time.

Ross, 10-8 a year ago, opens the season Thursday against Bowling Green at Rodger Young Park.

ROSS TENNIS CORRECTION: An error in reporting on the Ross tennis preview published in The News-Messenger Friday. Cousins Dena Schepflin and Casey Schepflin will play varsity. Kristen Farrell and Sarah Williams will be on the junior varsity team and not immediately on the varsity squad. "They could move up," according to coach Sue Badertscher.

Little Giants win first match easily

News-Messenger reports

The Fremont Ross High School girls tennis team lost just five games at Rodger Young Park in a season-opening 5-0 victory over Oregon Clay Tuesday.

Included in the Ross victories was a 6-0, 6-0 win by Heather Boggs and Megan Hadley at second-court doubles.

Andi Oprei at first singles and Ann Darr at third lost one game each.

At No. 1 doubles, Deana Schepflin and Casey Schepflin won the first set 6-0 and were leading the second 4-0 before winning by default.

In one other match reported, Clyde defeated Edison 3-2.

Clyde 3, Edison 2

The Fliers remained undefeated in three matches, including two Sandusky Bay Conference contests, as both doubles team prevailed along with second-court singles player Sarah McDonald.

McDonald and the No. 2 doubles team of Tara Scheck and Amber Notestine won in straight sets, while the first-court doubles team of Jenny Maines and Abby Laurendeau did not lose a game.

Edison falls to 1-3 and 1-2 in the SBC.

Tennis

High School Girls

Ross 5, Clay 0

Singles

- 1-Andi Oprie (R) d. Dawn Brinkman 6-1, 6-0;
- 2-Dawn Zerman (R) d. Andrea Segura 6-3, 6-0;
- 3-Ann Darr (R) d. Chriss Hernandez 6-1, 6-0.

Doubles

- 1-Deana Schepflin and Casey Schepflin (R) by default over Jennifer Gilliland and Jamie Island;
- 2-Heather Boggs and Megan Hadley (R) d. Dawn Lawrence and Kerri Reynolds 6-0, 6-0.

Records: Clay 0-1 (0-1), Ross 1-0 (1-0).

JV winners: Sarah Williams (R), Sarah Binau (R), Alison Neeley (R); Brandy Cheek and Kristen Farrell (R), Monica Wolfe and Crystal Wolfe (R), Miki Steffens and Lisa Sherck (R).

Schepflin duo paces Little Giants

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross won its second straight Great Lakes League high school tennis match Thursday, topping Napoleon 4-1.

Casey Schepflin and Dena Schepflin did not lose a game at first-court doubles, while Meagan Hadley and Heather Boggs won in straight sets on the second doubles court.

Andi Opre and Dawn Zerman won in straight sets at first and second singles, respectively, for the Little Giants.

Napoleon, 1-4, is winless in two

Tennis

GLL matches.

In other matches, Huron edged Clyde 3-2 and Port Clinton shut out Oak Harbor 5-0.

Huron 3, Clyde 2

The Fliers won both doubles matches against the Sandusky Bay Conference's preseason favorites, but the Tugers lost only six games in the three singles matches.

Abby Laurendeau and Susan

Stallard won in straight sets for Clyde at first-court doubles, while Amber Notestine and Tara Scheck needed three sets to record a victory on the second doubles court.

Huron is undefeated in five matches, including two in the SBC. The Fliers, 2-1, in the SBC, lost for the first time in five matches.

Port Clinton 5, Oak Harbor 0

Port Clinton lost eight games, improving to 4-0 and 3-0 in the SBC and sending Oak Harbor to its fifth loss in as many matches.

Tennis

High School Girls

Ross 5, Columbian 0

Singles

1-Andi Opre (R) d. Laura Crumrine 6-1, 6-3;
2-Dawn Zerman (R)d. Amanda Fey 6-4, 6-3; 3-
Ann Darr (R) d. Kristyn Carmon 2-6, 6-1, 7-6 (7-
5).

Doubles

1-Dena Schepflin and Casey Schepflin (R) d.
Andrea Scheiber and Amy Gelinas 6-1, 6-3; 2-
Heather Boggs and Megan Hadley (R) d. Lisa
Woods and Anjee Beard 6-4, 6-3.

Records: Ross 3-0, Columbian 2-2.

Darr lifts Ross past Redskins

News-Messenger reports

PORT CLINTON — Ann Darr's three-set victory over Stephanie McDavid at third-court singles was the difference as Fremont Ross edged Port Clinton 3-2 in a high school girls tennis match Tuesday.

The win was _____
the Little Gi- **Tennis**
ants' fourth _____

without a loss, and the loss was PC's first against four victories.

"The girls are really boosted right now," Ross coach Sue Baderscher said. "I really didn't think we'd be 4-0."

Ross hosts another Sandusky Bay Conference opponent, Huron, Thursday at Rodger Young Park.

Darr, the lone Ross senior, defeated McDavid 6-1, 4-6, 6-4.

With Darr leading 5-4 in the third set, the 10th game went to four deuces. Darr then took McDavid wide, came to the net and hit a volley into the open court.

Ross freshman Dawn Zerman defeated Kara Kokinda 6-2, 6-2 at second-court singles.

Two other Ross freshmen, Dena Schepflin and Casey Schepflin, topped Jennifer Chudy and Bree Noblitt 6-1, 6-2 on the first doubles court.

Tennis

High School Girls

Ross 3, Huron 2

Singles

1-Leslie Wargo (H) d. Andi Opre 6-1, 6-3; 2-Cassidy Landes (H) d. Dawn Zerman 6-0, 6-0; 3-Ann Darr (R) d. Mande Roesch 6-3, 6-2.

Doubles

1-Dena Schepflin and Casey Schepflin (R) d. Jodi Hartley and Jessica Ruffing 6-1, 6-2; 2-Sarah Williams and Brandi Cheek (R) d. Geanne Portteus and Jill Caporini 6-4, 6-4.

Records: Huron 6-1, Ross 5-0.

JV winners: Debbie Miller (R); Kristen Farrell (R); Meghan Hadley and Heather Boggs (R); Monica Wolfe and Crystal Wolfe (R); Miki Steffens and Lisa Scherck (R); Sarah Binau and Shannon Neeley (R).

Little Giants win Sandusky Invitational championship

News-Messenger reports

SANDUSKY — Fremont Ross won four titles while dominating the Sandusky/Team Sports Tennis Invitational Saturday at Sandusky High School.

The Little Giants won the second and third singles and both doubles titles while piling up 128 points, well ahead of runner-up

Girls Tennis

Norwalk's 90.

"I thought we had a real good crack at winning it," Ross coach Sue Badertscher said. "I was surprised that we took four firsts."

Sandusky Perkins was third with 48 points followed by Wil-

lard at 44, Clyde with 40, Mansfield with 30, Sandusky St. Mary's Central Catholic at 26 and Sandusky with 4.

Freshman Dawn Zerman won the second-court singles title, defeating Megan Haas of Norwalk in the final 6-0, 6-2.

Ann Darr captured the third-court singles crown with a 6-0, 6-

1 romp past Sarah Zieber in the finals.

"Dawn had a tough time with a couple of matches, but she pulled them out," Badertscher said.

Dena and Casey Schepflin won the first-court doubles

See TENNIS, B3

Tennis

Continued From B1

championship for the Little Giants with 6-1 straight set victories over Lori Heckman and Mandy Frye of Willard in the championship match.

The fourth title for the Little Giants went to Megan Hadley and Heather Boggs on the second doubles court. The duo polished off Julie McFaden and Ilsie Weichers of Norwalk in the finals 6-0, 6-3.

"They played well together," Badertscher said.

Ross first-court singles player Andi Opre placed fifth, defeating Clyde's Melanie Jenne 8-5. Opre lost to eventual champion Mariella Bemelmans of Perkins 4-6, 6-1, 6-3 in the first round. Jenne, who lost her opening

match, won her first match in the consolation round before losing to Opre.

"All my girls scored points for me," Clyde coach Jeff McFarland said. "Besides Fremont, we were the only team that got point totals from every player. I was really encouraged by that."

Sarah McDonald, who lost to Zerman in the semifinals, finished third for the Fliers at second singles.

Jenny Maines finished fifth at third singles, defeating Kara Deering of Perkins and Michelle Blakely of St. Mary's in the consolation round.

Splitting third- and fourth-place points for Clyde was the first-court doubles team of Amber Notestine and Tara Scheck. Clyde's second-court doubles team of Abby Laurendeau and Susan Stallard finished fifth.

Tennis

High School

Ross 3, Perrysburg 2

Singles

1-Cindy Mikolajewski (P) d. Andi Oprie 6-0, 6-0; 2-Jean Lowry (P) d. Dawn Zerman 6-2, 6-4; 3-Ann Darr (R) d. Jess Kuhl 6-1, 6-1.

Doubles

1-Dena Schepflin and Casey Schepflin (R) d. Rachael Waring and Christie Zelling 6-4, 6-1; 2-Heather Boggs and Megan Hadley (R) d. Erica Dane and Brittany Teen 4-6, 6-0, 6-3.

Records: Ross 6-0, Perrysburg 8-2.

Ross records 7th tennis win

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross rolled to its seventh girls tennis victory against no losses Tuesday, blanking Great Lakes League rival Fostoria 5-0.

The Little Giants singles trio of Andi Opre, Dawn Zerman and Ann Darr lost a game apiece in winning easily.

Dena and Casey Schepflin, the Ross first-court doubles team, won in straight 6-0 sets while the second doubles duo of Heather Boggs and Kristen Farrell had the toughest time, defeating Autumn Emmons and Stacy Rhodes 7-6 (8-6 in the tiebreaker) and 6-4.

Ross hosts another GLL foe, Northview at 4:15 p.m., Thursday at Rodger Young Park.

In another match Tuesday, Port Clinton's first-court singles player Bethany Gale won her 50th high school match, defeating Kelli Fifer of Oak Harbor 6-0, 6-0 in the Redskins' 5-0 victory.

Tennis

High School Girls

Ross 5, Northview 0

Singles

1-Andi Opre (R) d. Sarah King 6-0, 6-2; 2-Dawn Zerman (R) d. Kris Burkhart 6-1, 6-2; 3-Ann Darr (R) d. Amy Young 6-4, 6-3.

Doubles

1-Dena Schepflin and Casey Schepflin (R) d. Caroline Matt and Joan Grossman 6-1, 6-1; 2-Meagan Hadley and Heather Boggs (R) d. Melissa Messmer and Jenny Jones 7-5, 6-2.

Records: Northview 7-5 (3-1), Ross 8-0 (4-0).

JV winners: Brandi Cheek and Sarah Williams (R), Monica Wolfe and Crystal Wolfe (R), Alison Neeley and Debbie Miller (R), Miki Steffens and Lisa Scherck (R), Shannon Neeley and Sara Binua (R).

Little Giant netters still undefeated

News-Messenger reports

The Fremont Ross girls tennis team ran its record to 9-0 Tuesday with a 5-0 Great Lakes League victory over Toledo Whitmer at Rodger Young Park.

The Little Giants are undefeated in five GLL matches with one left Tuesday at Bedford.

All Ross singles players and both doubles teams won in straight sets.

In other matches, Huron beat Clyde 4-1 and Sandusky St. Mary's Central Catholic beat

Girls Tennis

Oak Harbor 4-1.

Huron-Clyde

Clyde's lone point came from the first-court doubles team of Susan Stallard and Abby Laurendeau, who needed a tiebreaker in the second of three sets.

St. Mary's-Harbor 1

Beth Parlette and Cindy Wegman won a three-set match at second doubles for winless Oak Harbor.

Little Giants now 10-0

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross improved to 10-0 in high school girls tennis Wednesday with a 4-1 victory over Maumee.

The Little Giants' lone setback against Maumee was Susan Okuley's 0-6, 6-1, 6-0 victory over Andi Opre at first-court singles.

Opre injured her back in the first set but finished the match.

Dawn Zerman and Ann Darr posted straight set singles victories, while both doubles teams were also winners.

Girls Tennis

The first-court doubles tandem of Dena Schepflin and Casey Schepflin did not lose a game.

Maumee fell to 4-7.

In one other match, Edison defeated Oak Harbor 3-2.

The Rockets won both doubles matches but remained winless in 12 matches, including 11 in the Sandusky Bay Conference, in their first season as a team.

Edison is 2-8 and 2-7.

Tennis

High School Girls

Ross 4, Maumee 1

Singles

1-Susan Okuley (M) d. Andi Opre 0-6, 6-1, 6-0; 2-Dawn Zerman (R) d. Sara Hamman 6-0, 6-1; 3-Ann Darr (R) d. Anisa Saleh 6-1, 6-1.

Doubles

1-Dena Schepflin and Casey Schepflin (R) d. Emily Bollman and Emily Gusses 6-0, 6-0; 2-Meagan Hadley and Heather Boggs (R) d. Kate Duty and Lindsay Meyer 6-1, 6-0.

Records: Maumee 4-7, Ross 10-0.

JV winners: Kristen Farrell (R) and Sarah Williams (R).

Still perfect

The Fremont Ross girls tennis team remained perfect in 11 matches Monday with a 5-0 victory over Clyde.

In a Sandusky Bay Conference match, Oak Harbor lost to three-time defending SBC champion Huron 5-0.

Dawn Zerman, Ann Darr and Kristen Farrell all won singles matches for Ross. Doubles winners for the Little Giants were Dena Schepflin and Casey Schepflin at No. 1 and Sarah Williams and Brandy Cheek at second doubles.

Clyde fell to 8-5 with the loss.

Tennis

High School Girls

Ross 5, Clyde 0

Singles

1-Dawn Zerman (R) d. Melanie Jenne 6-3, 6-4;
2-Ann Darr (R) d. Sarah McDonald 6-3, 6-2;
3-Kristen Farrell (R) d. Jenny Maines 6-3, 6-1.

Doubles

1-Dena Schepflin and Casey Schepflin (R) d. Susan Stallard and Abby Laurendeau 6-3, 6-1;
2-Sarah Williams and Brandy Cheek (R) d. Amber Notestine and Tara Scheck 6-1, 6-1.

Records: Ross 11-0, Clyde 8-5.

JV winners: Megan Hadley (R), Sara Binau and Shannon Neeley (R), Debby Miller and Alison Neeley (R), Miki Steffens and Lisa Sherck (R), Monica Wolfe and Chrystal Wolfe (R).

Tennis

High School Girls

Ross 4, Bedford 1

Singles

1-Jenny Kulju (B) d. Andi Oprie 6-0, 6-1; 2-Dawn Zerman (R) d. Leigh Waganfield 6-0, 6-2; 3-Ann Darr (R) d. Erika Wakefield 6-2, 6-3.

Doubles

1-Dena Schepflin and Casey Schepflin (R) d. Miranda Schneider and Jeanine Resseque 6-3, 6-4; 2-Heather Boggs and Meagan Hadley (R) d. Sarah Schwartz and Chrissy Kulju 6-0, 6-0.

Records: 12-0 (6-0), Bedford 4-5 (1-4).

JV winners: Sarah Williams and Brandy Cheek (R).

Little Giants net victories together

By BOB MARKER
Staff writer

Sue Badertscher gives credit to "Coach Honey" while counting her blessings for the success of her Fremont Ross High School girls tennis team.

Ross is 13-0 after defeating Findlay 4-1 Wednesday, and the Little Giants will take that mark into Tuesday's Great Lakes League Tournament.

Wednesday's results, B3

"I have had really good help from my husband, Ken," Badertscher said.

Ken Badertscher, the vo-ag teacher at Ross, was bestowed the nickname "Coach Honey" because of Sue Badertscher's slip-up. During practice earlier this season, she affectionately called her husband "honey" and the the Ross girls picked up on it. So it's "assistant coach Honey."

While trying to downplay the humorous tag for her husband, the Ross coach said she was blessed with an unpaid helper.

"Pat Ortner has been giving private lessons to the girls," she said, "and that has been a big blessing.

"Another thing that worked, was this summer was the first time I had a clinic, and the kids jelled at the clinic. They wanted to work together. They started out at the clinic saying, 'We are going to win this season,' and they never changed."

The Little Giants have turned in the unbeaten record despite having only one senior — Ann Darr, who has compiled a record of 17-2 at third-court singles.

The lack of upperclassmen bothered Badertscher at first.

"It really did until I saw my freshmen," she said.

See ROSS, B3



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

FREMONT ROSS: girls tennis team is front row, left to right: Heather Boggs, Andi Opre and Ann Darr; middle row: Sarah Williams, Meagan Hadley

and Dawn Zerman; back row: coach Sue Badertscher, Brandy Cheek, Casey Schepflin, Dena Schepflin and assistant coach Ken Badertscher.

Ross

Continued From B1

Dawn Zerman and cousins Dena and Casey Schepflin stepped smoothly into the Ross lineup. Zerman is 16-3 at second-court singles and the Schepflins are undefeated in 19 matches on the first doubles court.

Heather Boggs and Meagan Hadley, who have filled the No. 2

doubles slot most of the season, are 15-2. Boggs is a junior and Hadley a sophomore.

"Zerman has great court sense," Badertscher said, "and the Schepflins have played together since they were 9-years-old."

Junior Andi Opre, meanwhile, has drawn some of the toughest assignments at first singles. Still, Opre is 10-8.

Baderstcher calls her team upbeat.

"When one is down, everybody boosts them up," she said. "One time, one of the kids grandmothers died and they came to me and asked if they could go together as a team. I thought that was wonderful."

Problems have been few according to the Ross coach.

"Once in awhile," Badertscher smiled, "they get a little cocky... but that has happened only a couple of times. That's pretty good for an undefeated team."

Tennis

N

High School Girls

Ross 5, Sandusky 0

Singles

1-Dawn Zerman (R) d. Lara Murray 6-1, 6-4;
2-Ann Darr (R) d. Shannon Wieber 6-0, 6-1; 3-
Kristen Farrell (R) d. Lindsay Holland 6-0, 6-2.

Doubles

1-Dena Schepflin and Casey Schepflin (R) d.
Amy Knef and Jenny Ritter 6-0, 6-0; 2-Sarah
Williams and Brandy Cheek (R) d. Christina
Hansen and Kara Braun 6-0, 6-0.

Records: Ross 14-0.

JV winners: Alison Neeley and Debbie Miller
(R), Lisa Scherck and Miki Steffens (R), Shan-
non Neeley and Sarah Binau (R), Monica Wolfe
and Crystal Wolfe (R).