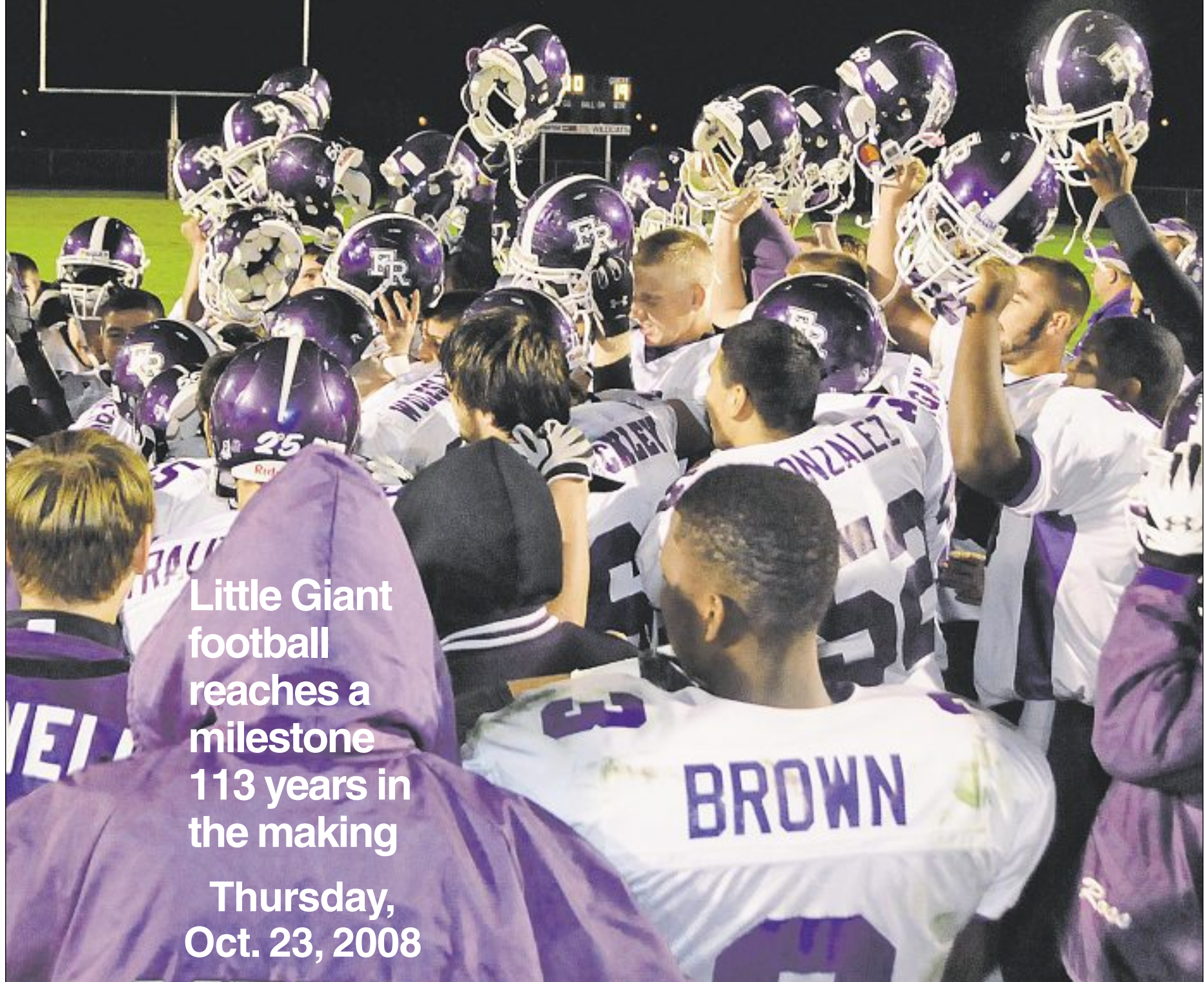


Special Commemorative Edition

600 wins!



Little Giant
football
reaches a
milestone
113 years in
the making

Thursday,
Oct. 23, 2008



CYAN MAGENTA YELLOW BLACK PAGE #



Milestone wins

During the 1895 season, the Little Giants dropped four games before picking up their first win. Losses to Sandusky (6-0), Clyde (twice, 8-0 and 20-4) and Norwalk Semi-Pro (24-0) preceded Ross's 16-0 victory over Flower Valley, which was a small school on the west side of Fremont.

100 — 25-0 against Van Wert at Harmon Field, 1928

200 — 65-0 against Fremont St. Joseph at Harmon Field, 1944.

300 — 14-13 against Sandusky at Harmon Field, 1957.

400 — 14-13 at Lorain Senior in 1976.

500 — 29-7 at Tiffin Columbian in 1992.

600 — 42-17 over Lima Senior at Don Paul Stadium.

Although the Little Giants celebrated their 600th on-field victory after a 19-13 win at Napoleon on Friday, a pair of forfeit wins — one in 1915 versus Sandusky and one in 1923 against Elyria — were discovered and gave the Little Giants two additional victories.

ON THE COVER: The Fremont Ross football team celebrates after beating Napoleon 19-13 on Friday.

Cover by Vince Guerrieri/Photo by Charlie Longton

The News - Messenger

Jill Nevels-Haun
Executive Editor

Vince Guerrieri
Section Editor

Jeff Arenz, Matthew Horn
Staff writers

Jon Kerns, Bob Marker
Correspondents

Charlie Longton
Staff photographer

Archive photos courtesy of:
Van Ness's Time-Out Bar & Grill
Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center

113 years and still going strong

By **JEFF ARENZ**

Sports Writer

FREMONT — For 113 years, Fremont high school football has displayed a consistent commitment to gridiron excellence.

In 2008, the Little Giants secured their 600th victory for a program that has a tradition matched by only a handful of other teams.

The Little Giants rank 16th among Ohio high school football teams on the state's all-time wins list.

"It's pretty special to all of us because we're going to be able to remember this for the rest of our lives that we're the team that brought No. 600 home," Ross quarterback Cody Foos said.

Foos, and the entire Little Giants football family, are extremely proud of the accomplishments of the program.

Year after year, great coaches made great players who were the heart and soul of great teams.

On the occasion of the Little Giants' 600th on-field victory, let's take a look back at some key moments in the history of the Ross program.

GREATEST COACHES

The following coaches were selected on the basis of having coached 50 games or more.

Mal Mackey is considered the dean of all Little Giants' coaches. From 1950-1966, his record was 104-59-8, which are Ross coaching highs for wins, losses and ties. He coached in 171 games, also a Little Giants' record.

Mackey won eight of Ross's 34 league championships. He coached the Little Giants to four of their six undefeated seasons (1951, 1955, 1956, 1957), which included the longest string of consecutive wins in

school history (29 from 1955-1957).

Rex Radeloff (71-41-0, 1986-1996) is the only Ross coach to guide two different teams (1989 and 1994) into the playoffs.

Wayne "Pete" Moore (70-28-4, 1976-1985) is the only Little Giants' coach to win a playoff game — a 7-0 victory over Sandusky in 1983.

Lester "Legs" Binkley (47-18-2, 1941-1943 and 1946-1949) has the highest winning percentage (.716) in Ross history. His 1949 Little Giants scored the most points (384) pf any Ross team in a single season.

Robert "Bob" Oldfather (51-23-6, 1929-1936) succeeded William "Bunk" Ross in 1929 as coach of Fremont High School. In 1930, the school was renamed Fremont Ross High School.

GREATEST PLAYERS

The list is very long.

Charles Woodson, who won the 1997 Heisman Trophy while playing for Michigan and has gone on to a Pro Bowl NFL career with Oakland and Green Bay, holds five Ross football records.

Those include single-game rushing (335 yards, Oct. 21, 1994, vs. Oregon Clay), season scoring (230 points in 1994), season rushing (2,028 in 1994), career scoring (466 points from 1992-1994) and career rushing (3,861 yards from 1992-1994).

The Little Giants 14 players selected to the All-Ohio First Team. They include Woodson (halfback, 1993 and 1994), Derek Isaman (linebacker, 1984), Tony Gant (defensive back, 1981), Bob Brudzinski (end, 1972), Rob Lytle (halfback, 1972), Ted Kreilick (tackle, 1971), Wes Glover (tackle, 1956), Jim Tiller (halfback, 1956), Tom Cooper (guard, 1953), Bob Biggs (guard, 1951), John "Big Thunder" Lewis (halfback, 1951), Hosea Sims (end, 1949), Bob Heid (center, 1947)

and Bob Demmel (halfback, 1944).

Aaron Opelt is the holder of the Ross record for completions (148) in a season (2005), while Ryan Ottney has thrown for the most yards in a season 2,187 (2006). From 2003-2005, Opelt threw for 4,511 yards, the Little Giants' career leader.

Tom Brudzinski's 699 yards receiving (1978) stands as the single-season record.

GREATEST TEAMS

The greatest era in Ross football has to be from 1955-1957, when the Little Giants won 29 consecutive games under Mackey.

Three other Ross teams (1983, 1997 and 2006) share the school record of 10 victories in a season. All three of them went to the playoffs. In 1997 under Dan Pallante and 2006 under Derek Kidwell, the Little Giants were ousted in the first round after completing a 10-0 regular season campaigns.

The 1951 Little Giants, who went 9-0-1, were the first undefeated Ross team in the modern football era.

The early 1970s were another great era for the Little Giants, who went 9-1 in 1971, 9-1 in 1972, 9-1 in 1973 under Chuck Shuff and 9-0-1 in 1974 under Tom Hollman.

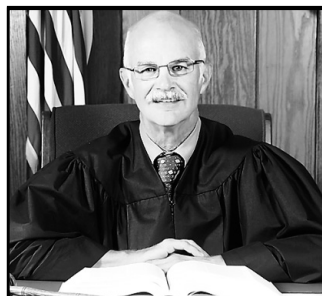
Moore and Radeloff coached Ross to 9-1 marks in 1980 and 1993, respectively. Other 9-1 years included 1919, 1947 and 1953.

Largest win

On Oct. 12, 1929, Fremont High erupted for 81 points as J.W. Miller set a school record by scoring 44 points as the Little Giants routed Bellevue 81-0.

The program's all-time record stands at 602-384-48.

E-mail Jeff Arenz at jarenz@fremont.gannett.com.



Keep Judge
HAFFORD

**Congratulations to the Fremont
Ross Football team on your
600th WIN!!
OUTSTANDING!!**

Paid for by Hafford for Judge Committee
Billie Chudzinski -Lee Treasurer 1901 whittaker Dr, Fremont OH

Visit www.Keepjudgehafford.com



Eyewitness to history: Great players, good coaches

In 1973 when I moved to Fremont from Greenville, a city of 12,000 in southwestern Ohio, I had a inkling of the tradition of the Fremont Ross High School football program.

What I did not know was how long I would be associated with it.

Now, after the school's 600th football victory last Friday at Napoleon, I looked back over the years I was personally involved with the program.

After 23 years of covering the Little Giants as sports editor of The News-Messenger, Ross and its athletic teams became a part of me. But football, because of a string of coaches I had become acquainted with while in Greenville as sports editor of the city's newspaper, became special for me.

Through the years, I watched and covered 165 Ross wins while being involved with four coaches. In 1973, the final year as head coach for Chuck Shuff, I was introduced to the what



Bob Marker
Former sports editor

football meant for the Fremont community. Nine wins with Shuff and his migration to Massillon Washington gave me an opening.

When I first met Ross athletic director Dick Sherman, I told him I know of some good football coaches he should go after should he need them. A year later, with the departure of Shuff, Sherman heeded my advice and contacted Tom Hollman, who had turned Greenville into a power.

Hollman came north and with him brought Pete Moore and Rex Radeloff, two future Ross head football coaches. The trio fit right into the Ross tradition of well-schooled, tough football. Hollman's teams produced a 15-3-2 record in two years

before he left for a collegiate coaching career at his and Radeloff's college alma mater, Ohio Northern.

Moore, who served as defensive coordinator of the Little Giants while Hollman was head coach, produced a 70-28-4 record, including the first playoff berth for the Little Giants in 1983. That was the year Ross ended the regular season with a 7-0 win over Sandusky and followed that up with another 7-0 over the Blue Streaks the following week at an icy Harmon Field in the first round of the Division I playoffs.

At the end of Moore's 10 years, Radeloff, who had served as Holman's and Moore's offensive coordinator, took over as head coach for 11 years, producing a 71-41 record and two berths in the playoffs in 1989 and 1994.

That quartet of coaches were some of the best who patrolled with Ross sidelines and I had the good fortune of being associated with them. I got to witness and write

about how they produced those 165 wins — wins constructed from both serious and comical methods.

Once during the week before a Findlay game, a mysterious package addressed to the Little Giants football team arrived at Harmon Field according to coaches. The package contained several pairs of girls underwear with the note that is what the Little Giants should be wearing because they played like sissies. I know where that package came from and it was not from Findlay but the players thought that and the Trojans felt their wrath that Friday night.

While I was close to the coaches, there were outstanding players I had the fortune of covering which are too numerous to list but all had a hand in building and keeping the Ross winning tradition alive with nearly 28 percent of those 600 wins.

I was fortunate to have written about those wins for a high school football



Hayes Presidential Center

Ross coach Chuck Shuff, right, helps Bob Brudzinski try on pads ca. 1972.

program that is known and envied through all of Ohio.

While I will not be writing about it, but may win number 601 come Friday night as Ross hosts its oldest rival, Sandusky.




Congratulations on your 600th Win!




“Committed to Excellence”
FREMONT - 419-334-4434
WOODVILLE - 419-849-2570
www.fremontfcu.com

Congratulations and Best Wishes To The Staff, Faculty and Students of Fremont Ross High School on your 600th Win!

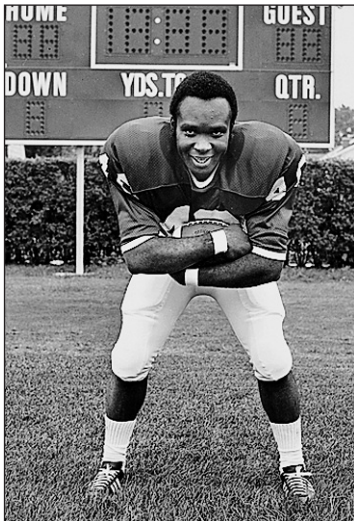
From the Terra State
Community College Family



www.terra.edu



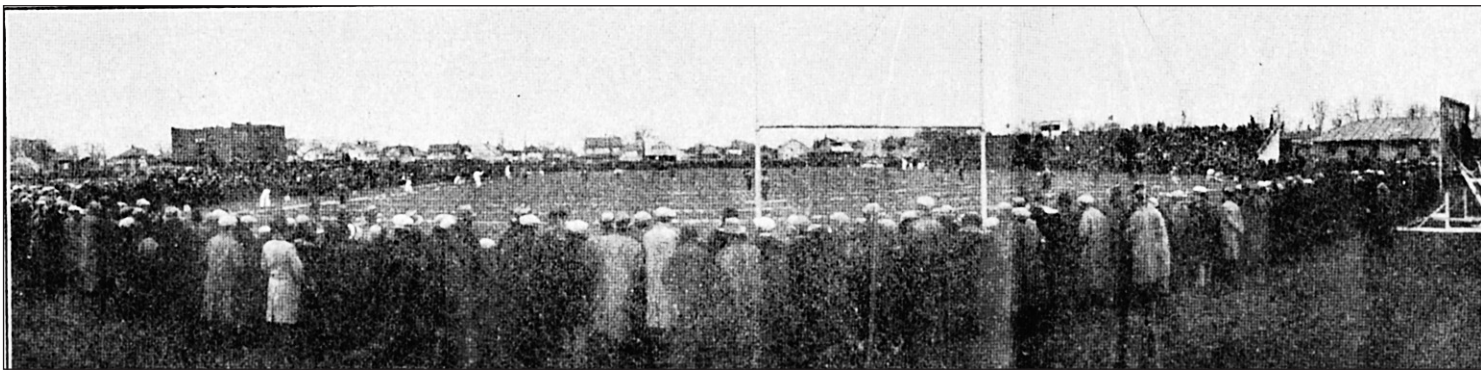
Fremont high school football then...



Hayes Presidential Center

Fremont Ross's Tom Liggins

Record by Decade	
1890s.....	6-9-3
1900s	26-20-3
1910s	32-44-9
1920s	47-35-7
1930s	64-31-6
1940s	62-30-4
1950s	70-24-6
1960s	41-57-3
1970s	71-23-6
1980s	69-33-1
1990s	70-32-0
2000s	44-46-0



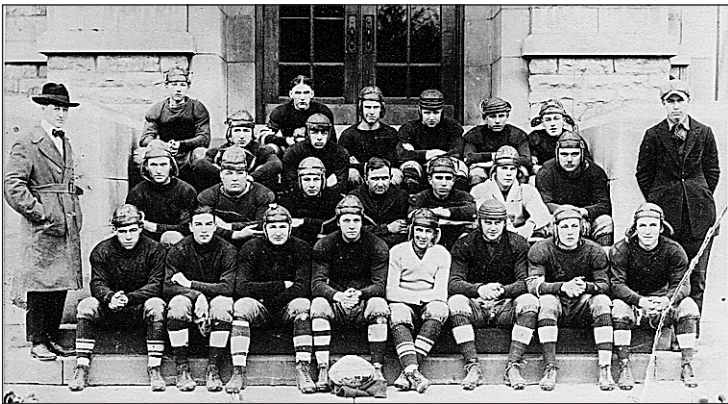
News-Messenger file photo

An estimated crowd of 6,000 gathers to watch Ross play Sandusky on Thanksgiving Day, 1927. This is the first Harmon Field, with wooden bleachers, a track and a football field.



Hayes Presidential Center

Ross football coaches ca. 1972.



News-Messenger file photo

The 1920 Fremont Ross football team, taken after the team beat Sandusky.



Photo courtesy of Van Ness's Time Out Sports Bar and Grill

Fremont Ross fans lined up outside the Tremper's store to buy tickets for an out-of-town football game in the 1950s.

POSTNET
CREATE • DUPLICATE • DELIVER

CONGRATULATIONS ROSS!!!
15% OFF of ANY Service in the Store

1409 East State Street
Fremont, Ohio 43420
(419) 334-7447 (SHIP)
Mon-Fri 8:30am to 7:00pm
Sat 9:00am to 2:00pm
(Not valid on USPS products & services; valid at this location only.)

At PostNet, you have shipping options!
 Authorized Shipping Center
 Authorized ShipCenter
 UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE®

800.934.8071

FREMONT FLOOR COVERING
OUTLET LTD.

218 N. Front St., Fremont
419-355-8480

Great Job on your 600th Win!

0000345051

...and now



Vince Guerrieri/News-Messenger

The view from the press box looking toward the south end zone at new Don Paul Stadium in 2006.



Charlie Longton/News-Messenger

Fremont Ross's Greg Brown runs the ball against Napoleon on Friday.



**Congratulations
Fremont Ross**
on your
“600th WIN”
from The Fremont Ross
Booster Club!!!!



Charlie Longton/News-Messenger

Fremont Ross quarterback Cody Foos runs with the ball during a game earlier this year against Whitmer.



AIR-EEZ

Comfort Systems LLC

“It’s A Breeze, with AIR-EEZ”
Great Job!
James E. Wagner
President



Carrier
Residential/Commercial
Plumbing
Electrical
Framing/Roofing
Duct Cleaning

**HEATING ♦ COOLING ♦ PLUMBING
ELECTRICAL ♦ BACK HOE ♦ TRENCHING**

901 N. 5TH ST. 419-332-8904



CYAN MAGENTA YELLOW BLACK PAGE #



Kidwell current caretaker for Ross tradition

By **MATTHEW HORN**
Sports Writer

A large mural inside the football stadium encourages Fremont Ross to 'Protect Tradition.'

Little Giants head coach Derek Kidwell takes it to heart.

Ross won the 600th game in program history on Kidwell's watch last week. In five years at the helm Kidwell has led the Little Giants to the playoffs once, had them on the cusp last year and an appearance this season will come down to this weekend.

"It's more for the kids," Kidwell said. "It's something these seniors can always keep with them, along with the rest of the team. It says a lot about the tradition that's been at Fremont Ross for years. I don't look at it as a personal feather in my cap but as a tradition of great athletes with pride in football for years."

Charles Woodson, Rob Lytle, Aaron Opelt ...

"Shawn McCarthy came back and was kind of an honorary coach for the Marion game," Kidwell said. "He kept thanking me and I kept thanking him. It was awesome for him to come back and give back. Our kids know of the history of the kids who have moved on. We talk about it quite often, but we have to motivate them to play their best football each week.

"We talk about it to a point but we have to be realistic — we won't have that

(Woodson) every year."

But they will have that Kidwell.

"I couldn't be any happier," Kidwell said of taking the job. "It was a great opportunity for me.

People thought it was a tough decision to leave Hopewell with what we'd built there and what they went on to do. When I got the call that February, I've never had one minute of doubt or regret.

"Plus, we have some great athletes walking the streets and it's been our job to get them motivated and wanting to play football. For years on they'll see a strong program. There's not another job in the state I could see myself being at for a long time. It's a great place to raise a family."

Kidwell has a wife, Beth, and three daughters — Mackenzie, 7, Camryn, 5, and Kendyl, 3. But he could just as well have been talking about his football family.

Painted on the wall of the Little Giants' locker room is a reminder to put 'Family First.'

"We're all here for one another at any given time," Kidwell said. "It's not just a three- or four-month slogan. We're not just here to care about victories, we want to mold kids into the best members of society we can and help get them through tough times in high school."

Trust and communication



Kidwell

within a team can lead to cooperation, self-discipline and dedication. Kidwell prefers accountability and reliability.

"We want 100 percent for four months of the season and 6.5 months in the weight room," he said. "I have to be accountable and dependable to them so if they have a problem there's an outlet. Once you're in the family you're in it for as long as you want to be."

Kidwell understands adversity well as an intervention specialist at the high school. He also saw firsthand the love, enthusiasm and commitment apparent with his father's program at Fostoria.

"He's a positive role model," Ross athletic director Art Bucci said. "He treats all the kids with respect. No matter if you're the best player on the team or a kid trying to work your way in, it's amazing how the kids really like him. They look up to him."

"He fair. He's got rules and the kids know there are consequences. He makes sure kids hit the books. Kids today look for discipline. The kids are on time, they study when they get home and they stay out of trouble."

All that certainly helps a coach protect tradition.

"They've always put a great product on the field," Kidwell said. "When they play Fremont Ross they know we'll be physical and play hard for four quarters. However many coaches have been through, the best statement is the team played hard for four quarters because that's the way you've asked them to play and that's been the case through 600-plus victories and I don't see that changing."

"With the makeup of the community and expectations in the community, kids grow up wanting to be Little Giants."

E-mail Matthew Horn at mhorn@gannett.com.

Coaching records

Edgerton J. "John" Garvin	1-4
Ben Wickham	3-2-1
Harry Hazel	1-0-2*
Burt German	2-3-2*
No Coach	8-7-1
Elliot	1-2-0*
Ed Seibert	1-2-0*
Rollin Mowry	1-1-0
Albert O. Baumann	7-5-2
Arthur Christy	4-3-0*
Karl D. Figley	9-11-4*
Dick Sherwood	10-10-4*
E. Swinehart	2-5-1*
Robert L. Todd	7-14-4*
Edgar Roper	5-3-0
Harry Stout	6-12-0
George Crane	0-6-1
Warren Bannorsdall	18-5-0
Charles A. Taylor	11-13-3
William "Bunk" Ross	22-14-4
Fred L. McClintock	21-9-0
Les "Legs" Binkley	47-18-2
Sylvester "Sive" Kohr	12-5-2
Mal Mackey	104-59-8
John Behling	4-6-0
Chuck Shuff	35-23-2
Tom Hollman	15-3-2
Wayne "Pete" Moore	70-28-4
Rex Radeloff	71-41
Dan Pallante	18-3
Mike Eicher	10-10
Mike Wetzel	4-6
Chuck Lindsey	1-19
Derek Kidwell	32-17

Congratulations & Continued Success From Rob Lytle and the Entire Old Fort Bank Staff

600 Wins!



www.oldfortbank.com

FREMONT ROSS LITTLE GIANTS



CONGRATULATIONS FREMONT ROSS

Homes
by KF Ventures, Inc.

Call us for all of your contracting needs
419-547-7555

0000345112

0000345112

1950s start of Little Giants' Golden Era

By JON KERNS

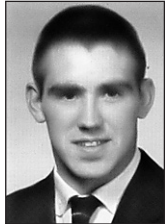
News-Messenger correspondent

Burdette "Bee Bee" Schneider seems to remember his high school football playing days like they were yesterday — not more than 50 years ago.

Schneider was a major player on the undefeated 1955 and 1956 teams that nearly won the big-school Ohio state championship.

"We finished second to Canton McKinley in 1955 and were fourth in the final poll the next year," Schneider said.

In 1957, a year after Schneider graduated, Ross finished with a 9-0-1 record to extend their unbeaten streak to 30 games, a school record. In fact, Fremont won 61, lost 6 and tied 3 from 1951-1957, the most successful run of seasons since the program



Schneider

began back in 1895.

Mal Mackey was the head football coach of the Little Giants from 1950-1966 and compiled an overall record of 104 wins, 59 losses and 8 ties during those 17 years. He coached more games and had more victories than any other coach in school history.

"Coach Mackey was really super," Schneider said. "He really cared about the kids."

He also had outstanding assistant coaches.

Mackey suffered a heart attack during the Elyria game in the middle of the 1956 season and assistant coach Robert Seele guided the team during the final four games of the season. Mackey recovered to coach another 10 years in Fremont.

"Our scouting reports were great," Schneider said. "The assistant coaches made sure we knew a lot about the other teams."

Schneider was the team's co-captain his senior year in 1956 and was rarely off the field. In addition to playing quarterback

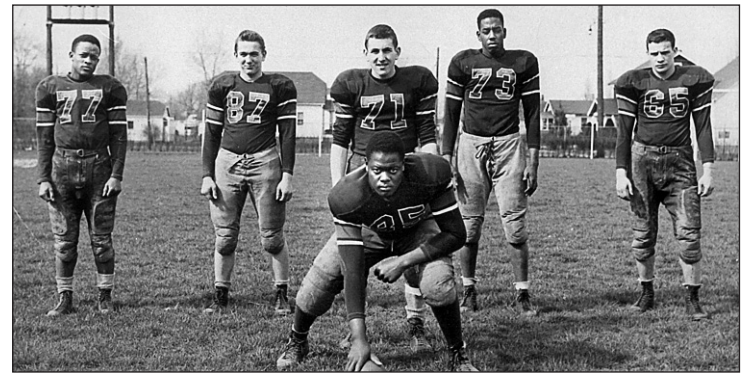
— while calling most of his own plays — he kicked, punted and played defense.

He said that the team stuck together and there were no stars, although the late Jim Tiller moved the ball down the field — a lot. Running back Tiller rushed for 3,755 yards from 1953-56, a school record that stood until it was broken by Charles Woodson in 1994.

"We had a great following back in those days," Schneider recalls. "It was not only students who supported us, but Fremont fans and boosters as well."

Schneider is a 2004 inductee into the Fremont Ross Sports Hall of Fame. Teammate Jim Tiller was in the hall of fame's first class in 1990.

"Bee Bee" was named to the All-Buckeye Conference in football after both his junior and senior years while scoring 10 touchdowns and running for 480 yards. He also was co-captain of the track team his senior year and co-captain of the basketball team as a junior.



Photos courtesy Time-Out Bar and Grill

TOP: The 1951 Ross football team included Charles Jones (85), Jerome Surratt (77), Dick Harter (87), Ron Whitcomb (71), John Lewis (73) and Charles Black (65). BOTTOM: Coach Mal Mackey (far left) talks to assistant coaches, from left, John Ihnat, Jack Decker, Paul Raines and Robert Seele.



101 S. Clover St.
Fremont, OH
419-332-9268
Jamie Heberling, Broker

CONGRATULATIONS
FREMONT ROSS
*Little Giants on the 600th win
for our school!*

0000345090

**Congratulations
to the staff, faculty
and students of
Ross High School.**



425 East State Street • Fremont, OH 43420
(419) 332-6409 • www.wonderlyhorvathhanes.com



0000343753

WONDERLY HORVATH

**ALL ★ STAR
IMPROVEMENTS, LTD.**

Chris J. Heflinger

- ★ Bathrooms
- ★ Kitchen
- ★ Plumbing
- ★ Electrical
- ★ Vinyl Siding
- ★ Windows
- ★ Concrete
- ★ Roofs



® Preferred Contractor

Call: (419) 355-9474

Locally Owned and Operated

0000341223

Quality begins with doctors who care

Memorial Hospital is Pleased to Introduce Our New Emergency Department Medical Staff



It's all about our patients

When you come to the emergency department, many times you're scared – sometimes in pain – and hopeful that the doctors and nurses will take good care of you.

When Memorial Hospital began searching for a team of doctors to staff our emergency department, we wanted doctors who put their patients first – and respond not only to their patients medical needs, but also their comfort and concerns.

We looked for doctors who define quality medical care by both clinical excellence and genuine consideration and compassion for every patient – and we've assembled an excellent team.

Change is Good

For the past several years, Memorial Hospital has been making important changes. From exciting new medical technology to new services and programs, Memorial Hospital has grown substantially over the past few years.

But perhaps the most important change is how we listen to our patients. It's your input and comments that help us to fully understand the quality of your experience at Memorial Hospital. We appreciate your input and thank you for the opportunity to make changes for the good of our entire community.

Meet the new Emergency Physicians

The following physicians are the new Memorial Hospital Emergency Department Medical Staff. Every doctor is residency-trained in emergency medicine, experienced, and fully committed to care for this community.



Scott Burnham, D.O.

Medical School: Western University of Health Sciences

Residency: St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center



Spencer Johnson, D.O.

Medical School: Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine

Residency: St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center



Kenneth Mapes, M.D.

Medical School: University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

Residency: St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center



Bryan Miksanek, M.D.

Medical School: Southern Illinois University School of Medicine

Residency: St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center



Marc Taylor, D.O.

Medical School: Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine

Residency: St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center



Andrea Toflinski, M.D.

Medical School: University of Toledo Medical Center

Residency: St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center



MEMORIAL
HOSPITAL

Memorial Health Care Systems
Our Doctors Make The Difference



Congratulations
Fremont
Ross
on your
600th
win!!