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## Comeback nets victory for Ross's girls squad

BY JEFF ARENZ  
*Sports writer*

FREMONT -- In a meet that was a toss-up for much of the way, the Fremont Ross girls track and field team emerged with a quadrangular victory Tuesday at Alumni Fields.

The Little Giants outscored Marion Harding 30-12 and Sandusky Perkins 30-16 during the final five events en route to a 73-64 win against the Presidents (64), who slipped past the Pirates (63) by a single point.

"The girls are improving steadily because they gaining confidence," Ross coach Cathy Esposito said. "Any other time that we have run against these teams, they didn't have the confidence that they have now. You can see the excitement when they come across the finish line with PRs (personal records)."

After 12 events, Harding led Perkins 52-51 and Ross stood in third place with 43 points.

Enter Little Giants' thrower Victoria Logan, who captured the shot put (39-3 1/2) and was the runner-up in the discus (101-11). Alex Chapman (30-0 1/2) chipped in by scoring a pair of team points by ending up fourth in the shot put.

Paige Wiechman (13:49) and Alyssa Fischer (13:55) ran third and fourth in the 3,200 run, where Harding's Emily Green (13:34) finished second and Perkins didn't enter a competitor.

Ross (Donisha Walk, Ellen Silva, Carlea Harper and Alesha Overmyer in 4:19.27), Clyde (Lindsay Smetzler, Ashley Alejandro, Taylor Guggisburg and Rachel Smetzler in 4:35.00) and Perkins (Stacey Gratwol, Kristen Campbell, Leah Butler and Kerry Fial) went 1-2-3 in the 1,600 relay, leaving fourth-place Harding without any team points.

Harding's Tricia Hall won the pole vault over Perkins' Brianna Trent 8-6 to 8-2, but the Little Giants' Stephanie Swint (third, 8-0) and Silva (fourth, 7-6) sealed the meet for Ross with five team points.

During the first 12 events, Ross had no first-place performances. Harper and (200 dash, 27.88 seconds) and Jessica Soule (1,600 run, 6:03) were runners-up in their events, while the Little Giants' relay teams in the 400 (Walk, Harper, Jericha Martin and Essence Price in 54.68 seconds) and 800 (Silva, Walk, Martin, Harper in 1:54.24) placed second to Harding during both events.

## CLYDE

Taylor Ebert stepped up for the Fliers by winning the 1,600 and 3,200 runs in 5:44.73 and 12:46.22, respectively. Jamie Hoppe claimed the 100 hurdles in 16.47 seconds.

"Taylor Ebert is doing a really nice job for us in the distance events," Clyde coach Mike Martin said. "The other girls are coming along after battling sickness this week. Even though we were a little shorthanded, the girls we had competed very well."

Hoppe (300 hurdles, 50.02 seconds) and Rachel Smetzler (400 dash, 1:04.30) were runners-up in their respective events.

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