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Fremont Ross netters second at GBC Tournament

News-Messenger reports

LIMA — Fremont Ross doubles teams of Alexis Gedeon and Sarah Osborne (No. 1) and Maddie Kuieck and Sarah Gray (No. 2) won league championships as the Little Giants placed second at the Greater Buckeye Conference Tournament on Saturday.

Gedeon and Osborne, the No. 1 seed, received a first-round bye before knocking off James and Neyer (Napoleon) 6-0, 6-2 in the semifinal round. The Ross duo topped Ishikawa and Nakura (Findlay) 7-6 (4), 6-2 in the No. 1 doubles championship match.

Kuieck and Gray, the No. 1 seed, used a bye to move into the semifinal round, where they overcame Slagle and Sharrock (Marion Harding) in three sets 5-7, 6-1, 7-5. The Little Giants' combo defeated Soli and Worstell (Findlay) 6-4, 7-5 for the No. 2 doubles title.

"Because they had the byes, our doubles teams used that time to scout the weaknesses of their opponents," Ross coach Lisa Wolfe said.

Both of the Little Giants' doubles teams earned first-team all-GBC awards.

In singles play, Sam Lagrou (No. 1), Rachel Laeng (No. 2) and Casey Clark (No. 3) had solid performances.

Lagrou, a No. 3 seed, finished third after losing to Mackenzie Eickhoff (Napoleon) 6-1, 6-3 and, then, defeating Kristina Moodley (Marion Harding) 8-4 in the third-place match.

Laeng, a No. 3 seed, ended up third after dropping a 6-3, 6-2 decision to Alayana Schlade (Napoleon) and, then, topping Kelsey Conway (Lima Senior) 8-0 in the third-place contest.

Clark, a No. 2 seed, won her semifinal round match against Liz Yarnell (Napoleon) 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 before falling to Lindsey Barlett (Findlay) 5-7, 6-4, 6-1 in the No. 3 singles championship match.

"I'm extremely proud of all of the girls, especially Casey," Wolfe said. "She's been playing tennis for only four months and Casey gave it her all to win a conference title. She took the GBC champion to three sets."

Wolfe said her team was not distracted by weekend events.

"I noticed the determination our girls had Saturday," Wolfe said. "We had a rain delay during the tournament and I know the girls would have liked to have returned home earlier to go to Homecoming. But this team did a great job with its focus."

In addition, Wolfe, who has guided Ross to a 14-2 dual meet record in 2009, was selected as the GBC Coach of the Year.

"It's a great honor to win Coach of the Year," Wolfe said. "But this award isn't possible without the determination the girls have played with this season."

With the GBC Tournament accounting for half of the league's point system, a high finish in Lima on

Saturday assured Ross a second-place position in the conference. Findlay won the dual meet and tournament championships with 30 points. Ross had 24 points, followed by Napoleon (18), Marion Harding (12), Sandusky (six) and Lima Senior (zero).
