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Redskins sweep Little Giants

BY JEFF ARENZ
Sports writer

Both teams use match to prepare for district tournaments

PORT CLINTON -- When Fremont Ross and Port Clinton played a dual match Monday at the Von Thron-Halblitzel Tennis Center, both teams used it as a tuneup for upcoming district tournament matches.

The Redskins, who recorded a 5-0 win over the Little Giants and completed a 17-0 season campaign, took turns ringing the Port Clinton High School victory bell after the match. Monday's win came against a Ross squad that went 15-3 this season.

"It was a great match to get the kids ready for the final rounds of the coaches tournament and for the district tournament," Port Clinton coach Jim Greer said. "This is the toughest match we had all season. Fremont (Ross) is a very well-balanced team because they pushed each one of our players up-and-down the line."

Little Giants coach Lisa Wolfe agreed.

"With six of our seven players heading into districts, this was a great match to help them prepare," Wolfe said. "I knew Port Clinton's reputation is outstanding on the tennis court. This was a great practice session."

Both teams have numerous players competing in the Division II district tournament Wednesday at Port Clinton High School and in the Division I district tournament Thursday at Sandusky High School.

Division II sectional champions Chelsea Beck and Aubrey Gillman and sectional runners-up Jordan VanWinkle and Samantha Griffin will represent the Redskins at the district level in doubles play while Rachel Szabo placed fourth in sectional singles action to advance.

"Some of them are playing as well as they can play right now," Greer said of his players. "Other players peaked a little early, and we hope they can get their games back together before the district tournament."

Sam Legrou secured her Division I sectional singles championship over teammate Rachel Laeng as both Little Giants moved on to the singles competition of the district tournament. Ross players Alexis Gedeon and Sarah Osborne placed second in Division I sectional doubles while teammates Maddie Kuieck and Sarah Gray advanced after finishing fourth.

"It's a great feeling to have this many players make the district tournament," Wolfe said. "All of them have experience except Gray, who is a freshman, and Gedeon, who didn't qualify for districts last year. All of them have to remember what they have been taught, stay focused and use the determination that have displayed all season long."

On Monday, Beck ousted Legrou 6-3, 6-0 in the No. 1 singles match. Aubrey Gillman turned back

Laeng 7-5, 7-5 at No. 2 and Szabo defeated Casey Clark 6-1, 6-0.

VanWinkle and Griffin topped Gedeon and Osborne 6-2, 6-2 at No. 1 doubles. Amber Petro and Haley DeLeon posted a 6-4, 7-6 (3) victory against Kueick and Gray at No. 2.

"This is the fourth attempt that we've had to get this match in and I'm glad it happened this way," Greer said. "We were scheduled to play Ross in the second week of the season. But as it worked out, it was a great tuneup."



Fremont Ross player Casey Clark returns the ball during a tennis match against Port Clinton on Monday.
(Jonathon Bird | News-Messenger)