

# Paeth officially hired as Ross boss

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor

Norman "Biz" Paeth was officially hired as Ross High School's varsity basketball coach Monday night during the Fremont Board of Education meeting.

The pending appointment of Paeth was announced in last Thursday's News-Messenger.

Paeth, 30, replaces Kenny Miller who resigned following this past season after five years at the helm of the Little Giants. Paeth, a native of Fremont and a graduate of Fremont St. Joe in 1964, spent the last four basketball seasons at Sandusky St. Mary's.

Prior to coaching at St. Mary's, Paeth had spent three years as head coach at Tuscarawas Central Catholic. He went to TCC after a year at Fremont St. Joe as the junior varsity coach.

No stranger to the Fremont school system and Ross, Paeth's first job after graduating from the University of Tampa in '68 was in the Fremont Junior High coaching an eighth grade basketball team.

"I guess you could say that I was Hank

Miesle's (long time Fremont teacher and coach) assistant back then," Paeth chuckled.

About the Ross job, Paeth said, "This is the biggest challenge that I will have faced as a coach. It's a big step up the ladder for me."

St. Mary's is a Class A school and making the jump to triple-A Ross brought mixed emotions to the new Little Giants coach.

"I really wasn't looking for another job," Paeth contended, "Ross was the only place that I applied. At St. Mary's I felt that I accomplished what I had started."

Paeth piloted the Panthers to a 56-27 record including two Sandusky Bay Conference championships, two sectional crowns, and a district runnerup.

The new Ross coach offered a brief glimpse into his plans for Ross.

"Next year we will really work the kids hard but it will not be punishment — I don't work that way," he said. "I want to have fun and I want the kids to have fun on Tuesday and Friday nights (most of Ross's games will be played on those nights)."

Paeth also discounted the crowded practice situation at Ross by saying it was nothing compared to St. Mary's.

"We had to schedule grades 7-12 in that gym for both boys and girls teams and that type of situation has taught me to be 'economical' with my practice time," he said while describing that he feels he makes the most of his practices.

The new coach also said that he favors a "running" type of offense but not a free lance system. On defense, he is strictly one-sided.

"I hope that we can play man-to-man 99.9 per cent of the time," Paeth disclosed but then tempered that statement by saying that he is familiar with zone defenses and he used primarily a zone at Tuscarawas Central Catholic.

"I am going to sell defense to the players," Paeth continued, "that is the most important part of the game and of course, to play a good zone — you have to play a good man-to-man."

Paeth admits that he faces a big problem in rebuilding Ross's hardwood sport but relishes the challenge. He does have his ideas how to accomplish it and

is calling on the football players to help out.

"Ross has a football tradition," he began, "and I have to get the football players to realize that I want them to contribute to the basketball program. It makes no difference to me if an athlete plays football — we just need athletes out for basketball."

"I do not believe athletes have to be that much of a specialist in high school that they cannot play more than one sport."

As for his first year, Paeth wants to have a measure of success. He did not speak in terms of wins but said that any success, and hopefully it would be victories, would have a "snowballing" effect at Ross.

"Ross plays in one of the best leagues in Ohio and there is no reason why Ross cannot be competitive," he pointed out.

He announced that he will meet with prospective players on June 1 and 2. At 3 p.m. on June 1 he will talk with the freshmen at the junior high while at the same time on June 2, Paeth will be at the high school to talk to upperclassmen.



NORMAN "BIZ" PAETH  
New Ross basketball coach

## Lakota stops Eastwood winning streak at 19

PEMBERVILLE — Lakota bombed Eastwood for eight runs in the first

sophomore pitcher Tim Ray pitched a "nice ball game" despite giving up

## Sports in Brief

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
HOCKEY

HARTFORD, Conn. — The World Hockey Association's New England Whalers signed the three hockey playing Howes — Gordie and his sons. Mark and

scored a 6-1, 6-0, 6-0 victory over Martin Robinson of Britain in the opening round of the French Open tennis championships.

GENERAL