

1954 Buckeye League Champions

Buckles' Long Shot In Last Three Seconds Nips Little Giants, 56-55

FINAL STANDINGS

Team	Won	Lost
Fremont	8	2
Findlay	7	3
Bowling Green	7	3
Fostoria	5	5
Marion	2	8
Tiffin	2	8

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BOWLING GREEN—Fremont Ross cagers lost a heart-breaker here last night but their gloom, thicker than flies at molasses-making time after a desperation shot beat them in the last three seconds, was dispelled with news they are the 1954 Buckeye League champions.

Fostoria's 60-36 rout of Findlay gave the title to the Little Giants. It may appear that they backed into the title, but nobody can deny that they deserved it—despite a 56-55 loss on the B.G. court.

Jerry Buckles' jump shot from far out turned what seemed certain defeat into victory for the Bobcats. Only two seconds earlier, Dean Doren had put Fremont ahead, 55-54, with a free throw. He made his first of two shots, but missed the second. The Bobcats got the rebound, passed up court to Buckles who fired at the hoop. The ball went through without touching the rim.

Doren, Miller Restricted

Both teams fought uphill battles, but the Little Giants had to do it the hard way. Two of their aces, 64 Dean Doren and 63 Larry Miller, were the victims of early personal fouls. Both missed part of the second quarter. Doren rode the bench all during the third period after getting four personal fouls in the second. Miller, who had three personal fouls the first half, didn't start the second half and when he went in, he played only one minute before committing No. 4 and was taken out again.

Ross looked like champions of any league in the first period, when Miller and Doren sparked a 15-5 lead. Personal fouls took an alarming toll in the second quarter, but still the Giants led 30-20 at the half.

But the Bobcats rolled up 10 straight points to get a 30-30 tie before Henry Tiller made Fremont's first points (and only field goal) of the third quarter on a rebound shot.

With Miller and Doren sorely handicapped, B.G. soared to a 49-42 lead with four minutes to go, thanks to the deadly shooting of substitute Jim Binkley.

Ross Draws Even

Ross scrapped back. Miller sank

a free throw and Doren a field goal for a 49-45 count with 3 minutes to play. Baron made a sizzling shot from the side and it was 49-47. Jim Graham and Phil Ward countered from the foul line to make it 51-47. With 1:35 left, Baron made a long shot. Buckles hit a free throw for B.G. to run the score to 52-49 at 1:20. Then Charlie Black was fouled. The Fremont guard made his first shot, missed his second and Doren grabbed the rebound and scored for a 52-52 tie.

Again free throws, which played a vital role for the Bobcats, put Fremont in hot water. Jim Whittaker and Buckles each connected and Ross trailed 54-52 with 30 seconds remaining.

Then the speedy Baron dribbled through the key hole, circled to the right and drove an accurate shot against the banking board, the ball bouncing through for a 54-54 score. Bowling Green tried a shot that was wild and Graham fouled Dean Doren during the rebound. The clock showed five seconds to play.

Doren Sinks First Shot

The Fremont center made his first shot despite the efforts of the screaming B.G. fans to distract him, but his second shot went off to the side. B.G. controlled the tip, passed to Buckles, who bounced the ball a couple of times, then fired. When the ball went through, the B.G. fans went wild, some running out on the court before time expired. Ross didn't have time to get off another shot.

Despite the defeat, the Giants can point with pride to a 14-3 season, which ranks as the third best in the school's history. Losses were inflicted by Bellevue, Findlay and Bowling Green. In the Buckeye, the Giants won 8 and lost 2.

Doren scored 15 points, Baron 14 and Miller 12. Miller fouled out with 2:25 to play. Buckles led B.G. with 15. Binkley added 13 and Ward 12. Graham didn't make a field goal.

B.G. won the reserve game, 44-32.

BOWLING GREEN (56)

	G	F	P	T
Buckles, f	3	9-14	4	15
Ward, f	2	8-9	4	12
Graham, c	0	4-6	5	4
Whittaker, g	1	1-2	1	3
Rice, g	2	1-2	4	5
Binkley	6	1-2	2	13
Soflos	2	0-0	1	4
Totals	16	24-35	20	56

FREMONT (55)

	G	F	P	T
Miller, f	4	4-7	5	12
Tiller, f	3	2-3	5	8
Doren, c	6	3-9	4	15
Baron, g	5	4-4	14	
T. Houghtaling, g	1	1-2	2	3
Harter	0	0-6	2	0
Black	0	3-5	4	3
Totals	19	17-30	23	55

Score by quarters:

Bowling Green ... 5 20 39 56
Fremont ... 15 30 36 55

Officials: Dan' Perezynski and Don Mewhort.

Oak Harbor, Genoa In Ottawa Finals

PORT CLINTON -- The Oak

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‘Solid Seven’ Eye Tourney Championship

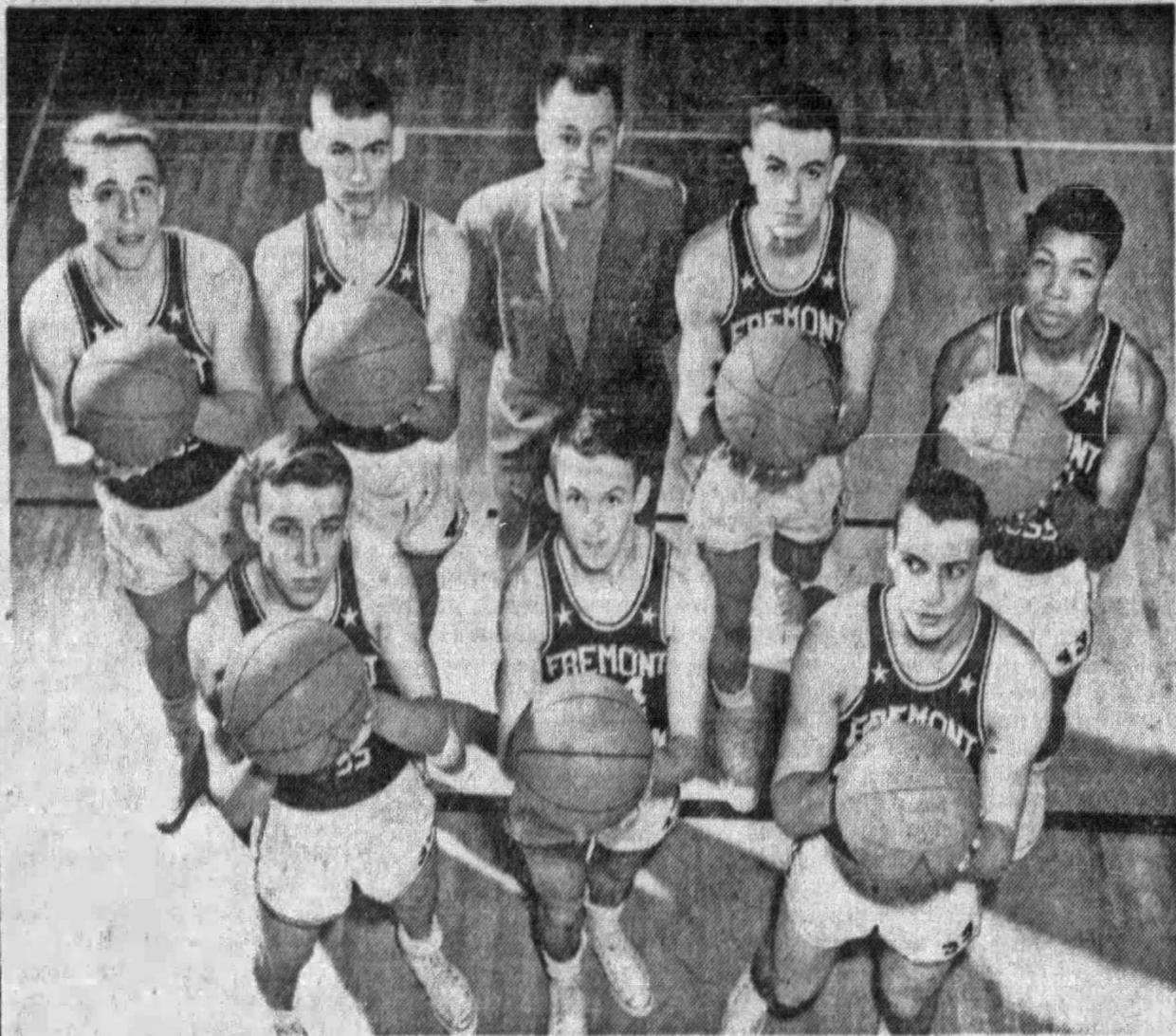


Photo by Townsend

THINGS ARE LOOKING UP, just like the players in the above picture, for the Fremont Ross basketball team. These "solid seven" did practically all of the playing as the Little Giants won the Buckeye League championship while compiling a 14-3 season record. They go after more laurels tonight at Sandusky Junior High in the finals of the Sectional Class A tournament. A victory will put them in the Toledo District. The three lads in the front row, left to right, are Ted Houghtaling, Jack Baron and Charlie Black. In the back row are Dick Harter, Larry (All-Buckeye) Miller, Coach Al Ziemke, Dean Doren and Henry Tiller. All except Miller and Tiller are seniors.