

2023-2024 Season Review



December 2, 2023 · 🌐

Fremont Ross has a 62-38 opening win over Toledo Woodward. Tykell Patterson led the scoring with 16 points. Michael Stover and Justin Haralson, the twin towers, had 10 points apiece.



 December 7, 2023 · 

The Little Giants battled with Sylvania Northview but fell 48-41 in a fast paced game. Ross had a lead at the half. It was the 22-6 third period that gave Northview the upper hand. But even with that fact, The Giants fought back and closed the 40-28 Northview lead down to the final seven point difference. Leading Fremont in scoring Dekentre Hardin who finished with 13 points. Michael Stover made his presence felt adding 11 points. "If we would shoot better it would have been a different game," coach Cahill said. "I really like where this team can go. They play together and battle." Ross is back on the road Saturday as they take on the Tiffin Columbian Tornadoes.



Tiffin Columbian 53, Fremont Ross 50
12-09-2023

Fremont Ross 56, Anthony Wayne 54
12-14-2023



December 16, 2023 · 🌐

Little Giants Suffer Loss to Mansfield

Since 1926 Fremont Ross has only beaten Mansfield Senior 18 out of 66 attempts. The Tygers notched their 48th win with a 52-45 victory.

The most glaring statistic came at the foul line. The Tygers had 26 attempts at the line converting on 15 of those shots. Meanwhile, Fremont Ross saw the foul line only four times through the game. A statistic that left coach John Cahill shaking his head,

"We have a quote that says, 'win anyway'" Cahill explained. "Sometimes things just don't go your way and for whatever reason we weren't aggressive enough, and we didn't get calls. Sometimes you must overcome. Our guys battled again tonight playing really, really hard. Mansfield was long and athletic and hurt us in a lot of fashions and we just didn't execute very well offensively. I thought Mansfield executed very well in the second half," Cahill concluded.

Fremont had a 21-20 lead at the break but got outscored 32-24 in the second half. In the fourth quarter, eight of Mansfield's points were scored at the foul line as Ross had a few fouls committed on purpose. But the game was won at the charity stripe for the Tygers.

Makai Lee led Fremont with 12 points. Tykell Patterson and Ryan Tucker added six points apiece.

Next up for the 2-3 Little Giants of John Cahill is a Tuesday night trip to Napoleon's Grand Canyon where NLL play opens for both schools.



Napoleon 61, Fremont Ross 51
12-19-2023

Fremont Ross 48, Springfield 37
12-22-2023

Bellevue 33, Fremont Ross 22
01-05-2024

GIANTS REBOUND DOWNING PERKINS 68-45

by [Bill Bray](#) | Jan 7, 2024 | [Boys Basketball](#)



BY BILL BRAY

FREMONT– The Fremont Ross Little Giants came to life in the second half as they notched win no. 4 over Sandusky Perkins, 62-45.

After a rusty, at best, performance the night before against Bellevue, when the Giants scored their season-low 22 points, this game started much the same way as the evening began.

After a first-half performance that ended with Perkins holding a 22-21 lead, John Cahill's team regrouped and came back to the floor to pump in 41 second-half points, 28 being scored in the deciding fourth period, as Fremont ran to the 17-point victory. The final quarter was a matter of the Little Giants running their high-powered offense to its finest. DeKentre Hardin zigged and zagged his way to 13 points during the stretch to lead Ross to the win.

"I can make a lot of excuses after the Friday night loss," coach Cahill said after the game. "But our group of players is resilient. It would be easy to point fingers all around after the performance on Friday, but they don't do that. They come right back and work and put the loss behind them. They are fun. They are fun to be around and to have at practice. Though at times offensively we are challenged," Cahill said. "We are getting better. Back at the beginning of the season, we talked about having many new faces and new roles. We were hoping to be 'getting there' by mid-January. I feel like we are on pace."

The Little Giants (4-5) travel to Perrysburg (5-3) on Tuesday and then into their league stretch of games. "We are going to give it our best shot and see what happens," Cahill concluded.

Hardin ended the night with six 2's, two 3's, and three foul shots for a game-leading 21 points. Also stepping up to the plate was post player Michael Stover, who finished with four 2's and stepped away from the low post to drain two 3's for 14 points. Dontrell Heard added eight points, and Justin Haralson added seven for Ross.







January 9, 2024 · 🌐

Perrysburg Stings The Little Giants

By Bill Bray

Perrysburg senior, Austin Shultz put on a clinic against Fremont Ross as he lit up the scoreboard for 31 points as the Beehive was Fremont's enemy in an 86-63 victory.

Shultz was hot beyond the arch as the 5'11" sharpshooter canned four 3-pointers in the first quarter and wound up with eight makes from 3-point land on the night.

Ross fell behind 25-12 as the first period ended. By the half the Perrysburg (8-3) lead was 40-29.

Dontrell Heard led the Little Giants with seven-first half- points.

Perrysburg used a 46-31 advantage over the second half to put the game away. Fremont Ross did not have an answer for the Perrysburg offense as 'back door' plays were open most of the night and many of Perrysburg's high percentage shots came from deep in the post.

The Little Giants continued to battle as once they shrunk the lead to 13 but Perrysburg was the aggressor and better team on this night.

Ross (4-6) had three players in double-figures. Makai Lee led the Fremont attack with 17 points including two makes from beyond the three-point line. Senior Tykell Patterson played an aggressive style of basketball and finished with 14 points. Four of those points were from the foul line. Dontrell Heard also tried to keep Ross in the game as the quick moving junior collected 12 points as half of his points were from three-point land.

Fremont Ross falls to 4-6 on the season and will open play in the Cardinal Division of the Northern Lakes League as they will host Oregon Clay Friday night at the "Purple Pit".



Oregon Clay 50, Fremont Ross 43
01-12-2024

LITTLE GIANTS SLOW THE COUGARS 66-60

by Bill Bray | Jan 17, 2024 | Boys Basketball



By Bill Bray

FREMONT– The Little Giants (5-7) took on the NLL Cardinal Division’s leading Sylvania Southview (7-2) and survived a second-half Cougars run to prevail 66-60.

Thanks to Makai Lee’s hot hand in the first eight minutes of play, which included three 3-point makes, Ross broke out to a 21-10 lead to open the contest.

Dontrell Heard took over where Lee left off in the second quarter of play. The junior guard connected for seven points to lead Fremont to a 43-28 lead at the break.

The league’s leading scorer, Micah Bays, who finished with 23 points, helped to propel the Cougars back into the contest by the time the third period ended. The Cougars clawed their way back to within two points as Fremont’s 15-point lead shrank to a 51-49 lead.

In this one, the fourth quarter would tell the story. Could Ross hold on for the upset victory? Not being a strong second-half team, that was the question on the fans’ minds as the final quarter began. “We have had our share of adversity,” coach John Cahill began explaining the uncommon second-half surge by his team. “We came in early today and just talked about how we were picked to finish fifth or sixth in the league, and Southview was picked to win it. But we have worked very hard during the spring, summer, and fall, and we have worked

hard in practice. We knew at some point things were going to begin to click, and the hard work would begin to pay off.”

Enter Makai Lee, who was not to be denied. The junior point guard leader took matters into his own hands as he poured in 12 fourth-quarter points to awaken a Fremont offense that was held to just eight points during third-quarter action. “Kai was on fire tonight. After being hit with fouls, he sat out most of the second quarter. He had some nice rebounds and assists, and he made the big shots when he needed to,” Cahill said. Lee ended with a season high 25 points to outscore Southview’s league leader by two points.

Cahill is hoping his team is going to have another good outing against the second-rated team in the state when the undefeated Findlay Trojans and the Buckeye Division’s leading scorer, Will Cordonnier (20.6 points), come to the “Purple Pit” Friday night.





Findlay 64, Fremont Ross 22
01-19-2024

GIANTS FALL TO BOWLING GREEN 54-50

by [Bill Bray](#) | Jan 27, 2024 | [Boys Basketball](#)



By Bill Bray

BOWLING GREEN– The Bobcats lit up the night with seven makes from beyond the arc to improve their mark to 6-8 (2-3) in the Northern Lakes League's Cardinal Division standings as they downed our Little Giants 54-50 Friday night.

Fremont Ross, 5-9 (2-3) was led by Makai Lee's 22-point effort while the Little Giants next best scorer, Dekentre Hardin had seven. "We're 2-3 in the league at the halfway mark," Coach John Cahill said. "We gave Southview their only loss and have been in every game. We will keep working and striving to get better."

The game was evenly matched throughout the contest as the first half ended with Bowling Green up by a single point at 27-26. It was more of the same during the second 16 minutes as the Bobcats held a slim 27-24 margin, but it was enough for the win.

BG with two players amongst the league leaders in scoring got 20 points from Ahmir Ruffin and Jacob Amspoker ended the night with 11 points.

In the latest names of the Division's scoring leaders Makai Lee ranks eighth. "I am really happy with the work Makai is putting in. His hard work is paying off." Cahill said.

The Little Giants return to battle Tuesday night when Napoleon comes to the "Purple Pit" for another NLL (Cardinal Division) match up.

Bowling Green 54, Fremont Ross 50

01-26-2024

Michael Stover	1	1	0	5
Dontrell Heard	3	0	0	6

Tykell Patterson	3	0	0	6
Makai Lee	6	3	1	22
Ryan Tucker	1	0	0	2
Tallon Brown	1	0	0	2
DeKentre Hardin	2	0	3	7



January 31, 2024 · 3

Cold Second Half Leads Napoleon 73-58

By Bill Bray

FREMONT—Behind four 3-pointers and a dunk, the Napoleon Wildcats pulled out to a 23-6 first quarter lead as it looked as though they would get an easy win over Ross. A second quarter spirt by Fremont saw our Giants outscore Napoleon 26-18 over the eight minutes to trail by only nine at the half 41-32.

Ross came out the third quarter and continued the aggressive play that propelled them in the second. DeKentre Hardin and Makai Lee took matters into their own hands to scrap all the way back to a three-point deficit at 46-43 on a Lee make with 4:55 remaining.

Unfortunately for the Giants, that was their last basket until a DeKentre 3 broke up an 8-0 run by Napoleon as the third quarter ended with Napoleon up 57-46.

In the final eight minutes with another Napoleon 8-0 run combined with a cold shooting stretch by Ross broke the game open.

"I continue to be proud of the fight in our boys," coach John Cahill said. "We need to keep getting better." The Wildcats, behind eight 3-pointers and 13 of 20 from the foul line finished only with one more than Fremont's seven 3s and 9 of 14 from the foul line where both teams were even as well, shooting 65%. Turnovers and lack of rebounding left the Giants short at game's end.

Toledo Whitmer 92, Fremont Ross 55
02-02-2024



Fremont Ross Athletics

February 7, 2024 · 🌐



In a non-league game in boys basketball action last evening Lorain outscored the Little Giants 65-51. Fremont Ross is now 5-12 for the season and will travel to Springfield Friday night for a NLL clash. In the Lorain game, Makai Lee and Dekentre Hardin led Ross with 11 points apiece.



Springfield 49, Fremont Ross 44
02-09-2024

Oregon Clay 58, Fremont Ross 44
02-15-2024

Sandusky 70, Fremont Ross 59
02-17-2024



Sylvania Southview 80, Fremont Ross 58
02-20-2024

Little Giants end regular season on losing note

Bobcats Bounce past Ross 71-58

FREMONT— On a night that honored Braiden Rapp, Dominic Brown Will Kiser and Tyrell Patterson, the Little Giants fell to the Bowling Green Bobcats to finish the season 5-17.

Fremont's slow start provided Bowling Green with a 7-0 run to start the game. But after a bucket by Tykell Patterson and Dominic Brown and then a 3-pointer from DeKentre Hardin Ross was suddenly down by only two at 9-7. After a tradition three-point play by Makai Lee, Tallon Brown tied the game at 12-12 with the next Ross basket.

The Giants finished the first quarter with a 19-16 advantage. But a dismal second quarter that ended with Ross only getting three baskets dropped them behind at the half 31-25.

The second half started with another Hardin 'tre' but Bowling Green matched Dekentre's bomb with one of their own as their lead grew to 10 at 38-28. The Little Giants again, battling, got to within four points two more times during the quarter, but a 9-2 Bowling Green run to end the third period saw them ahead 49-38.

The last quarter continued to show the Ross fight as they were able to get to within 8 points with a Lee 'three' to make it 55-47. After that Bowling Green began stacking on points to run away with the 71-58 win "Our seniors all played and scored," coach John Cahill said. "I continue to be proud of this team."

Statistically the Giants were 42.4% from the floor on 25-59 and finished 3-6 from the foul line. DeKentre Hardin led the Giants with 15 points. Ross was outrebounded 31-26. Bowling Green committed one more turnover than Ross at 16-15.

Bowling Green finished with a shooting percentage of 55.6% hitting on 25-45 shots from the floor including 5-12 from beyond the arc. It shows that the game was won at the foul line as Bowling Green bettered Fremont's 3-6 effort with their own 16-24.

Next up for the Little Giants is the first leg of the state tournament when they travel to Ashland Tuesday to take on Eagles on their home court, Tuesday at 7 pm as part of the (Northwest 2) Division I bracket. Pictured below are Fremont Ross' four seniors, Braiden Rapp, Tykell Patterson, Dominic Brown and Will Kiser. (Photos courtesy of Michelle White)



