

2017-2018 Season Review

Ross builds on experience, will rely on role players



Maliek Johnson is among Mark Gedeon's returning players for Ross. FILE

Heidelberg will be key on both ends of the court

Matthew Horn

Fremont News-Messenger
USA TODAY NETWORK

FREMONT – Fremont Ross senior guard Maliek Johnson scored 27 points in an overtime loss to Findlay at home last season.

Junior post Bryce McKinstry was the best player on the floor in the Little Giants' sectional semifinal setback to Springfield with his shot blocking, rebounding and ability to finish.

Still, Fremont Ross doesn't have any players who are likely to dominate every night.

"We don't have a Vince Williams at St. John's," Little Giants coach Mark Gedeon said. "We have a collection that can go out and make plays."

Junior point guard Jabryis Heidelberg is one of the quickest players with the ball whom Gedeon has coached.

"He'll be a key player on offense and defense," Gedeon said. "He's a little water bug. He works extremely hard."

Senior wing Keyon Sewell and junior wing Bryce Root can heat up from the perimeter.

Senior guard Davion Anderson is a glue-guy.

"He does a little of everything to make his teammates better," Gedeon said.

Johnson, Sewell and McKinstry started games last season. Gedeon always likes to try different combinations

See ROSS, Page 6A



Bryce McKinstry finished strong last season for Fremont Ross. FILE

Ross

Continued from Page 5A

and matchups with lineups.

"We have more experience this year than the last three in terms of varsity experience," Gedeon said. "That helps with the expectations of the coaching staff. We've seen what works and doesn't.

"We had a good summer trying to build on that and we're farther along at this point than we were the last two years."

Ross was 7-17 last season, with two wins in the Three Rivers Athletic Conference.

"It's a tough league," Gedeon said. "There's a level of returning experience, but we're in a better position than years past."

Senior forward Jovan Lewis lettered last season and junior forward Hayden Lehmann played junior varsity. Seniors Tre Campbell and Dan Noftz are trying to earn varsity minutes.

"It's always a challenge taking a collection of individuals and bringing them together to see how much you can improve in four months," Gedeon said. "This group likes to compete and play the game.

"They like to have fun together."

mhorn@gannett.com

419-307-4892

Twitter: @MatthewHornNH

Instagram: @matthewchorn

Anthony Wayne 59, Fremont Ross 51

Keyon Sewell had 13 points and Bryce Root 12 as Ross lost its opener.

The Little Giants were outscored 16-6 in the decisive third quarter.

Ross starts strong in setback to St. Francis

Matthew Horn
Fremont News-Messenger
USA TODAY NETWORK

Visiting Toledo St. Francis was picked to finish second in the Three Rivers Athletic Conference in the preseason.

Fremont Ross junior guard Jabryis Heidelberg demonstrated eye-opening skills in the first quarter Friday and the Little Giants led by five in the second quarter before falling 73-34.

Maliek Johnson scored, Bryce Root canned a jumper and Keyon Sewell dropped in two free throws early in the second quarter for Ross. St. Francis, however, allowed 11 points the rest of the game.

"They played with more poise," Little Giants coach Mark Gedeon said. "They stayed with their game-plan. Our kids reverted to some bad habits — quick shots, execution. Compare that to the first quarter.

"Our energy level was very good coming out. We didn't close out the (second) quarter well at all. Our shot selection became poor. They were ready to pounce."

Jackie Harris and Drew Swerlein scored 14 points apiece for St. Francis.

Johnson scored five points, including a three-point play and Sewell made a 3 early in the game.

"You talk about executing the game-plan," Gedeon said. "In the first quarter, we played exactly how we hoped to play. How we moved the ball. How we got quality shots. We showed at times that we're capable of competing at a high level."

Heidelberg then electrified the home crowd with his quickness and handle, including a crossover and jumper, give-and-take fake and two slithering finishes. Opponents will have a tough time preventing Heidelberg from getting to the spots he wants to get to when he's under control.

"He gives us energy on both sides of the ball," Gedeon said. "He works hard. The nice part is, he's a junior. This was his second varsity start. Hopefully it's a baseline and he'll continue to improve."

Heidelberg had nine points Friday, Sewell eight and Johnson seven, among five who scored for Ross (0-2, 0-1).

"When our kids buy in to what we want to do together, we can compete at a higher level," Gedeon said. "Collectively is the way to do it. The buy-in is what we're trying to preach. We've seen it at times.

"Execute the game plan and good things happen. We've also seen when our kids go too quick. Our opponents are high-quality. It comes back to consistency."

mhorn@gannett.com
419-307-4892
Twitter: @MatthewHornNH
Instagram: @matthewchorn



Keyon Sewell scored seven points Tuesday for Fremont Ross in a setback to St. John's.

Little Giants fall to elite duo

Matthew Horn
Fremont News-Messenger
USA TODAY NETWORK

Houston King is from Atlanta, plays basketball at Toledo St. John's Jesuit High School, and is considering continuing his career at Georgetown.

His travels include 23 points Tuesday as visiting St. John's topped Fremont Ross 80-37 in the Three Rivers Athletic Conference.

"He's basically like me," St. John's senior Vince Williams said. "Just a smaller version. He can shoot. He plays hard on defense. We've been doing it together for four years. We feed off each other. He's like an older brother."

One version of Williams is too much for most opponents. He is a Virginia Commonwealth commit.

"First-team all-Ohio as a junior puts you in elite company," Little Giants coach Mark Gedeon said of Williams. "Let alone third-team as a sophomore. He makes his teammates better."

"In addition, he can score and rebound. He comes with a complete game."

Williams had 20 points Tuesday. St. John's (2-0, 1-0) scored the first 14 points and led by 13 after one quarter. Ross (0-3, 0-2) turned it over on four of its first five possessions.

"You don't score points," Gedeon said. "That set the tempo. We want to go out and control what we can control. We know (St. John's is) an outstanding team. They've got outstanding players."

"They can hurt you offensively and defensively in transition. On the glass.



Maliek Johnson scored a team-high nine points Tuesday for Fremont Ross.

PHOTOS BY MOLLY CORFMAN/THE NEWS-MESSENGER

They're an outstanding team, but we'd like to see our kids compete better. We have to handle adversity better. We've got to learn from our mistakes."

St. John's scored 17 straight in the second quarter and led 45-14 at the half. It made all 17 of its attempts from the free throw line.

"We can slow it down," Williams said. "We play hard on defense. If we get an early lead, our press makes it hard."

Keyon Sewell scored all seven of his points and Maliek Johnson added six of his team-high nine points in the third

quarter, but St. John's still stretched its advantage by four.

"Maliek and Keyon were able to get to the rim some," Gedeon said. "St. John's is a great defensive team. We've got two days to get ready for Catholic Central. You focus on the next possession."

"Control the now. We've got to focus on practice Wednesday and get better."

mhorn@gannett.com

419-307-4892

Twitter: @MatthewHornNH

Instagram: @matthewchorn

Toledo Central Catholic (39-48) and Findlay games (43-66) not reported on.

Boys
Fremont Ross, 50, Lima Senior 48
Score by quarters:
Lima Senior 20 11 12 5 - 48
Fremont 16 13 16 5 - 50
LIMA SENIOR
Jafeel King 18, BJ Miller 11, Cory Clair 8,
Greg Johnson 4, Nasir Tyree 4, Jermaine
Daniel 3. 20-6-48
FREMONT ROSS
Jabryis Heidelberg 15, Maliek Johnson 14,
Bryce Root 10, Davion Anderson 3. 20-7-50
3-point goals: LS-Jafeel King 1, Jermaine
Daniel 1; FR-Maliek Johnson 1.
Records: LS (5-4), FR (1-9)
JV Score: Lima Senior 58, Fremont Ross 44

Root paces Ross to win over Clyde

Josh Morgret

Special to Fremont News-Messenger
USA TODAY NETWORK

For the second night in a row, Fremont Ross had to play all the way down to the final buzzer. And for the second night in a row, the Little Giants came out on top.

Ross overcame a 12-point deficit in the fourth quarter Saturday to top Clyde 48-44 in a nonconference matchup.

Cam Farrar's 3-pointer with five seconds left was no good for the Fliers. Malik Johnson split two free throws with 2.6 seconds left to seal the win for the Little Giants (2-5).

"We knew Clyde was either going to get a quick two or run Farrar off of a couple of screens," Ross coach Mark Gedeon said. "We put Bryce McKinstry — one of our best defenders — in to match up a

See ROSS, Page 6A

Ross

Continued from Page 5A

bit. Our kids did a nice job pressuring the basketball, which forced them out a bit farther than their initial set."

Buckets by Bryce Root and Johnson gave the Little Giants a 45-44 lead with 43 seconds left. Conner Long was fouled, but missed the front end of a one-and-one for the Fliers.

Root grabbed the rebound and was fouled with 23.8 seconds left. The senior calmly drilled both free throws.

"Bryce loves those situations and he loves basketball," Gedeon said. "He loves to compete and he is definitely one of the people we want at the line there. I know he wants to be there too."

The Fliers (3-4) called their final timeout as the ball crossed half-court with 19.6 seconds left. Ross's defense clung to each Clyde player as time ticked down and Farrar's shot was no good.

"That is the play we wanted to run and Cam had the hot hand all night," Clyde coach Ryan Fretz said. "We knew we wanted to get him the ball. We knew Ross would be trying to take him away and Cam had a good pump fake."

A bucket by Derick Harrah gave Clyde a 40-28 lead just 31 seconds into the final quarter. Harrah made two free throws with 5:46 left for a 42-31 lead.

The Little Giants dominated from there. Jabryis Heidelberg made two free throws and then scored after one of Clyde's five turnovers in the final eight minutes.

Root made four straight free throws before Seth Hohman made two for the



Clyde's Cam Farrar scored 16 points Saturday. MOLLY CORFMAN/THE NEWS-MESSENGER

Fliers — giving Clyde a 44-41 lead with 2:09 left.

"What I am not OK with is the amount of turnovers we had against the Ross press in the fourth quarter," Fretz said. "We knew they could pressure it and had the athletes to pressure us. We could not execute our press breaker. It is something we do every day. We had a handful of guys freeze like deer in the

headlights."

The Fliers led 15-6 in the first quarter after making their first three 3s of the night. Tre Campbell hit a trio of 3-pointers himself to help get the Little Giants to a 17-all tie after one quarter.

The pace of the game slowed dramatically in the second quarter. The first points came with 3:15 left, when Root scored for the Little Giants. Farrar hit a 3

on the other end just eight seconds later and the Fliers led 22-21 at halftime.

"I was extremely disappointed at halftime because we would get a defensive rebound and we would just walk the ball up the floor," Fretz said. "Like, fellas, that is not how we play. We wanted to get the ball up the floor and attack them in transition."

The third quarter belonged to Clyde. Farrar scored twice and Hohman scored off of an offensive rebound for the first six points of the quarter. Carson Rieman scored on a putback and Farrar hit his fourth 3-pointer of the evening to help the Fliers take a 38-28 after three quarters.

"I do not know what magically changed, but what we preached was we just had a lousy third quarter," Gedeon said. "We rushed shots and got out of our game on what we wanted to do."

Farrar's 16 points paced the Fliers while Hohman tallied nine points and 10 rebounds.

"We are average," Fretz said. "It is a little frustrating because at average, you are as close to the top as you are to the bottom. It is the small details that make the difference and that is going to be our focus going into 2018."

Root led the Little Giants with 16 points and six rebounds while Campbell scored 11 points off the bench. Johnson scored 10 points after hitting the game-winning 3-pointer on Friday against Lima Senior.

"I actually do think fatigue was a factor," Gedeon said. "Coming off back-to-back games — especially with the intensity at which both of these games were played with. That was definitely a concern on our end."

ROUNDUP



Maliek Johnson scored 32 points Saturday as Ross beat Woodward 83-76. MOLLY CORFMAN/THE NEWS-MESSENGER

Johnson steps up to lead Ross to OT win

From Staff Reports
Fremont News-Messenger
USA TODAY NETWORK

Boys Basketball

Fremont Ross 83, Toledo Woodward 76 (OT)

Maliek Johnson scored 32 points Saturday as Ross won the nonconference matchup in overtime.

Tre Campbell scored 15 points, including five in overtime and Davion Anderson was 4 for 4 from the free throw line in overtime for his only points for the Little Giants.

Bryce McKinstry scored 14 points for Ross.

Ross led 54-44 after three quarters but Woodward forced overtime at 69-69.

the first three quarters in SJCC's nonconference win.

Zach Wonderly and Chase Harrison had 13 points and Chris Morrisette added 11 for the Crimson Streaks.

SJCC led 37-17 at the half and 58-26 after three quarters.

Old Fort 55, Tiffin Calvert 48

Jacob Webb had 16 points and five assists in Old Fort's Sandusky Bay Conference River Division victory.

AJ Steyer added 12 points and seven rebounds for the Stockaders (5-5, 3-1). Luke Wagner had five assists and four steals.

Old Fort led 44-35 after three quarters.

St. Mary Central Catholic 68, Lakota 47

Tyler Wehrle had 12 points and eight rebounds in Lakota's SBC River Divi-

Girls Basketball

Gibsonburg 47, Emmanuel Christian 41

Becca Morelock had 18 points as Gibsonburg won the Toledo Area Athletic Conference matchup.

The Golden Bears (3-7, 3-4) trailed 36-34 after three quarters.

Danbury 33, Maumee Valley Country Day 18

Haley Hoffman had 10 points and six rebounds as Danbury won the TAAC matchup.

Robin Skinner had eight rebounds and Erin Uhinck seven assists for the Lakers (7-6, 5-2).

Wrestling

Woodmore A Classic

ROUNDUP



Jabryis Heidelberg scored seven points Saturday for Fremont Ross. MOLLY CORFMAN/THE NEWS-MESSENGER

Ross struggles to find scorers in loss

From Staff Reports
Fremont News-Messenger
USA TODAY NETWORK

Boys Basketball

Toledo Start 57, Fremont Ross 37

Tre Campbell scored nine points Saturday in Ross's nonconference setback.

Jabryis Heidelberg added seven points for the Little Giants.

Ross trailed 32-12 at the half. Both teams scored 25 points in the second

half.

Oak Harbor 74, St. Mary Central Catholic 39

Jac Alexander scored 22 points in Oak Harbor's Sandusky Bay Conference nondivision victory.

Alex Gezo had 19 points, including four 3-pointers, Clay Schulte had 12 points and Tate Smith 10 for the Rockets (9-2).

Oak Harbor led 46-14 at the half as it committed two turnovers.

Genoa 75, Tiffin Columbian 48

Jacob Plantz scored 21 points

through three quarters in Genoa's nonconference victory.

Andrew Bench added 19 points and Nate Lewis nine for the Comets.

Genoa led 36-23 at the half and 58-37 after three quarters.

Woodmore 46, Margaretta 42

Mitchell Miller scored 24 points in Woodmore's nonconference victory.

Drew Burner added 11 points for the Wildcats (8-2).

Dylan Morris had 18 points and Bailey

See ROUNDUP, Page 8A

Toledo Whitmer 47, Fremont Ross 26: Tre Campbell scored six points in Ross' Three Rivers Athletic Conference setback.

The Little Giants trailed 24-14 at the half and 41-15 after three quarters.

Oregon Clay game (57-61) not reported on

Toledo St. Francis 63, Fremont Ross 46: Bryce Root scored 16 points in the first three quarters in Ross' Three Rivers Athletic Conference setback.

Tre Campbell added 10 points for the Little Giants.

Ross trailed 35-21 at the half.

St John's game (34-64) not reported on.

Fremont Ross 66, Springfield 51

Bryce Root scored 15 points in Ross' nonconference victory.

Tre Campbell had 14 points and Bryce McKinstry 13, including nine in the first quarter for the Little Giants. Keyon Sewell added 10 points.

Ross led 19-9 after one quarter and allowed nine points again in the fourth quarter.

The Toledo Central Catholic game (45-44) was not reported on.

Boys Basketball

Fremont Ross 70, Sandusky 61

Keyon Sewell led five Ross players in double figures in the non-conference victory.

Sewell had 19 points, Johnson had 15, including 11 in the fourth quarter and Bryce McKinstry added 11 for the Little Giants. Bryce Root and Jabryis Heidelberg had 10 points apiece.

Ross trailed 31-26 at the half and led 44-42 after three quarters.

The Little Giants beat Toledo Central Catholic on Friday.

Findlay's game (45-57) was not reported on.

Lima Sr. game (49-70) not reported on.

The Toledo Whitmer game (28-49) was not reported on

Fremont Ross 65, Tiffin Columbian 52

Keyone Sewell led five players in double figures with 14 points in Ross's nonconference victory.

Bryce Root had 13 points, Jabryis Heidelberg 12 and Maliek Johnson 11 for the Little Giants. Bryce McKinstry scored 10 points.

Ross led 33-31 at the half and 50-39 after three quarters.

Boys basketball

Ross 66, Bowling Green 63: Keyon Sewell had 19 points in Ross's nonconference victory.

Tre Campbell had 15 points for the Little Giants and Jabryis Heidelberg added 12. Campbell scored eight points in the second quarter and made a 3-pointer in overtime and Heidelberg canned three free throws.

Ross led 27-21 at the half, despite scoring five points in the first quarter. It led 41-40 after three quarters and outscored Bowling Green 10-7 in overtime.

Oregon Clay game (64-49) not reported on.

Season Leaders

Most Points: Keyon Sewell, 190

Most Rebounds: Bryce McKinstry, 140

Most Assists: Jabryis Heidelberg, 77

Most Steals: Jabryis Heidelberg, 29

Most Blocked Shots: Maliek Johnson, 13

Most Charges Taken: Bryce McKinstry, 5

Most Offensive Rebounds: Bryce McKinstry, 59

Most Minutes: Jabryis Heidelberg, 622

Most 2 point attempts: Jabryis Heidelberg, 125

Most 2 point makes: Maliek Johnson - 61

Best 2 point percentage (minimum 35 shots): Bryce McKinstry 56% (56/100)

Most 3 point attempts: Keyon Sewell, 108

Most 3 point makes: Keyon Sewell, 38

Best 3 point percentage (minimum 20 attempts): Keyon Sewell, 35.2% (38/108)

Most Free Throws attempts: Jabryis Heidelberg, 70

Most Free Throws made: Keyon Sewell, 40

Best Free Throw percentage (minimum 20 attempts): Davion Anderson 74.1% (20/27)

**Team Awards
Voted by the Players**

Varsity

Most Valuable Player: **Maliek Johnson**
Most Improved Player: **Bryce Root**
Best Defensive Player: **Bryce McKinstry**
Billy Stierwalt Award: **Jovan Lewis**
Captain's Award – **Davion Anderson**

Junior Varsity

Most Valuable Player: **Deryante Hardin**
Most Improved Player: **Jason Burling**
Best Defensive Player: **Raleigh Weaver**
Billy Stierwalt Award: **Jason Burling, Connor Malan**
Captain's Award – **Dylan Brady, Deryante Hardin**

Freshmen

Most Valuable Player: **Dion Bradley, Javien Burel**
Most Improved Player: **Tarian Bowling**
Best Defensive Player: **Spencer Price**
Billy Stierwalt Award: **Joshua Rhea**
Captain's Award – **Jonathan Szymanowski**

AP Honors

All Northwest Ohio: Honorable Mention: Bryce Root

Toledo Blade: Honorable Mention: None

Fostoria East-West All-Stars: Maliek Johnson, Keyon Sewell

OHSBCA
DISTRICT 6 TEAMS 2017-2018
DIVISION I BOYS

1ST TEAM

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------|----|
| KYLE JACKSON | MADISON | 12 |
| MASON CAMPBELL | MADISON | 12 |
| GARRETT DENBOW | ASHLAND | 11 |
| MANNY LANGSTON | ASHLAND | 12 |
| BRYCE ROOT | FREMONT ROSS | 11 |
| JABRYIS HEIDELBURG | FREMONT ROSS | 11 |

2ND TEAM

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|----|
| CARL RICKERT | MADISON | 12 |
| SHAMIR BROWN | MADISON | 12 |
| MITCH HEILMAN | ASHLAND | 10 |
| KAMERIN KNOWLTON-GOINGS | ASHLAND | 12 |
| MALIEK JOHNSON | FREMONT ROSS | 12 |
| KEYON SEWELL | FREMONT ROSS | 12 |

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

KYLE JACKSON –MADISON

COACH OF THE YEAR

TIM MERGEL-MADISON

TRAC BKB BOYS ALL LEAGUE 2017-2018

Player of the Year

Vincent Williams Jr. (SR) – St. John's Jesuit

1st Team

Houston King (SR) – St. John's Jesuit

Jackie Harris (JR) – St. Francis

Ryan Nunn (JR) – Findlay

BJ Miller (SR) – Lima Senior

Edward Colbert (JR) – Whitmer

2nd Team

Ryan Roth (JR) – Findlay

Jakiel Wells (JR) – St. Francis

Jaleel King (JR) – Lima Senior

Reese Wamer (JR) – Clay

Jonzell Norrils (SO) – Central Catholic

Leon Hughes (JR) – Whitmer

Honorable Mention

Dallas Fields (SR) – Central Catholic

Dominique Cole (SO) – Central Catholic

Trey Reddick (JR) – Clay

Dustin Aiton (JR) – Clay

Jacob Logsdon (SR) – Findlay

Isaac Schumm (SR) – Findlay

Bryce Root (JR) – Fremont Ross

Jabryis Heidelberg (JR) – Fremont Ross

Jatsiel Colon (SR) – Lima Senior

Jermaine Daniel (SO) – Lima Senior

Drew Swerlein (SR) – St. Francis

Tayler McNeal (SR) – St. Francis

Ryan Christie (SR) – St. John's Jesuit

Payton Moyer (JR) – St. John's Jesuit

Trey Syroka (JR) – Whitmer

Areon Evans (JR) – Whitmer

Coach of the Year

Ed Heintschel – St. John's Jesuit

Division I Boys

All-Northeast Ohio
2017-18

FIRST TEAM

Vincent Williams, St. John's, 6-foot-5, senior, 18.9 points per game; Houston King, St. John's, 6-4, sr., 17.0; Jackie Harris, St. Francis, 6-6, jr., 16.5; Kyle Jackson, Mansfield Madison, 6-6, sr., 20.3; Alek West, Northview, 6-3, jr., 14.5; Ryan Fries, Southview, 5-11, sr., 16.7.

SECOND TEAM

Christian Smith, Rogers, 6-6, sr., 18.5; Ryan Nunn, Findlay, 5-11, sr., 18.3; Devin Williams, Start, 5-8, jr., 13.1; B.J. Miller, Lima Senior, 5-11, sr., 14.6; Edward Colbert, Whitmer, 6-5, jr., 13.2; Isaac Elsasser, Bowling Green, 6-4, jr., 19.9.

THIRD TEAM

Seth Morgan, Perrysburg, 6-2, sr., 14.4; Charles Robinson, Woodward, 6-1, sr., 16.1; Mason Campbell, Mansfield Madison, 6-4, sr., 14.7; Ajai Washington, Bowsher, 6-1, sr., 13.5; Tehree Horn, Southview, 6-1, jr., 13.3; Andrew Murphy, Anthony Wayne, 6-1, sr., 14.9.

Player of the year: Vincent Williams, St. John's.

Co-coaches of the year: Stan Joplin, Southview; Matthew Wortham, Start.

HONORABLE MENTION

Ryan Roth, Findlay; Denzel Price, Springfield; Reese Wamer, Clay; Sam Clear, Northview; Colton Snow, Northview; Christian Wagenhauser, Southview; Jonzell Norrils, Central Catholic; DeSean Nelson, Rogers; Ketaan Wyatt Jr., Rogers; Alex Perry, Start; Brandon Lewis, Start; Jakiel Wells, St. Francis; Keyshawn Leach, Waite; Dominique Booth, Waite; Leon Hughes, Whitmer; Max Denman, Anthony Wayne; Bryce Root, Fremont Ross; Jaleel King, Lima Senior; Garrett Denbow, Ashland.