

## 2015-2016 Season Review

FREMONT ROSS

## ROSS TRYING TO FIT PIECES TOGETHER



Rich McGowan  
Reporter

FREMONT - Fremont Ross did not have to scour the school to get athletes interested in playing basketball.

More than 50 players tried out for to play for the program.

That is great news for longtime coach Mark Gedeon and his staff on one hand, but having so many players does have its drawbacks.

"It also set us back a little bit too in terms of these other programs, from Day 1, they're adding stuff to what they had in place in the summer," Gedeon said. "We did a lot of reteaching at the beginning. It's a work in progress, and it has to come together real quick. It doesn't leave us much time."

As practice got into full swing, the Little Giants were much like a puzzle. Plenty of pieces capable of fitting in various places. But this puzzle doesn't come with a picture on the box to show what it's supposed to look like.

"We're still trying to find a little bit of an identity right now," Gedeon said. "I do think we have some versatility. We're still trying to figure out what our strengths are going to be. Are we going to be an up-tempo team, are we a half-court team? Are we going to be a pressing team or an inside-outside

team?"

However the puzzle ends up, Gedeon went on to say he believes senior forward Steven Blodgett will be at the center of it. A season ago, the 6-foot-6

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Ross' Tavarious Simms drives to the basket against the Toledo Central Catholic defense.

# ROSS

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post player averaged 5.1 points and 5.2 rebounds per game.

"(Blodgett) is definitely going to be a focal point of what we want to get accomplished on the floor," Gedeon said. "We saw in our first scrimmage that a lot of things can feed off his presence whether he has the ball in his hands as a scorer or as a distributor or just his presence allows our shooters or driving lanes to be open."

Also returning from last season are seniors Tavarious Simms (5.1 points, 5.7 rebounds per game), Brody Chudzinski (5.5 points), Jarren Hampton and JaVonte Garza. Ross went 8-16 last season.

Ross also is expecting major contributions from senior Jermani Holmer, junior Brandon Trolio and junior point guard Taylor Druckenmiller.

"You look up the definition of a gym rat, and Taylor is it," Gedeon said. "He just loves to play basketball, loves the game. I think any coach would be excited to coach somebody with his passion for the game of basketball and really wanting to do things right."

After a sixth-place finish with a 4-10 record in the Three Rivers Athletic



PHOTO BY DOUG HISE

**Fremont Ross coach Mark Gedeon inspires the Little Giant bench during a game last season.**

Conference, Ross knows contending for a championship will be a challenge. But the Little Giants do expect to be competitive.

"We know it's great competition, but our kids have seen and been ex-

posed to great competition," Gedeon said. "We know if we do things together as a team, hopefully that can offset some of the great individual talents we see in our league."

# Ross ready for opener

1st game will be Friday after two cancellations

**CRAIG SHOUP**  
REPORTER

FREMONT - After safety concerns over a Nov. 20 altercation canceled two boys basketball games and a swim meet, all against rival Sandusky, the Fremont Ross boys basketball team is looking forward to playing its first game of the season Friday night.

The original home opener, scheduled

for Nov. 27 against Sandusky High, was postponed until Tuesday, and was canceled once again after school officials and Fremont police decided the safety of students, parents and the community was threatened.

The safety concerns stemmed from a fight between groups of young adults from Fremont and Sandusky at the Nov. 20 Ross girls basketball game. Police were dispatched to the school around 9:20 that night, and according to an incident report, four officers monitored a large crowd as it was dispersing after the game.



**Mark Gedeon**

No arrests were made, but when the boys teams were scheduled to play Nov. 27, threats were made and officials canceled the game, and later canceled the rescheduled game. Police and school officials did not reveal the source or nature of the threats.

The basketball teams have been caught in the middle, meanwhile, and the Little Giants are ready to get their season started.

"It's been an emotional roller coaster," Ross coach Mark Gedeon said. "No question our kids wanted to play and Sandusky kids wanted to play. We've been working hard all summer and fall. It's a special rivalry for both sides."

Gedeon hopes to play the next regularly scheduled game against the Blue Streaks, scheduled for Jan. 23 in Sandusky, but understands that there are safety protocols in place.

"We take threats very seriously and we trust those same steps will be taken

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before we play them," Gedeon said.

Despite the threat of violence that surfaced before the Ross-Sandusky games, Fremont District Superintendent Traci McCaudy said Thursday that security for school sporting events will not be increased. She said there are no problems between Ross and any other teams, and that the number of security personnel is determined by the size of the crowd expected.

McCaudy said she thought she had resolved the situation after sending letters to four men allegedly involved in the Nov. 20 fight, barring them from school property.

The letters were dated November 24 and were hand-delivered by Fremont police to three Fremont residents, Tyrese Fisher, age unknown, James Jackson, 19, and Howard Chapman, age unknown, and sent by certified mail to Scottie Palmer, 18, of Sandusky.

In the letter, McCaudy informed each individual that "because of your behavior you are being ordered to stay off school property at all times ... If you are found to be in any building or on lands of Fremont City Schools, legal actions will be taken."

McCaudy said Thursday that these were the only four involved.

"It will be just these four (barred) at this time. They were the four involved in the Nov. 20 altercation," she said. "I am confident the police department will come to a resolution on this matter."

McCaudy stressed that none of the young adults involved is a student at Ross or Sandusky High.

While it is unclear how authorities became aware of the threats, a review of Palmer's Facebook page showed a message posted on the account Tuesday saying, "Why Fremont School Just Called Me An Said The Game Was Cancelled.... Hahhahaha soo funny."

Two of the other men alleged involved in the Nov. 20 altercation have criminal records.

Chapman was sentenced to three years of community control, or probation, after pleading guilty to burglary charges on July 31.

Jackson pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct at Ross High in 2014 and was given a year's probation and 20 hours of community service.

Fremont Interim Police Chief Jim White said detectives are investigating the incident and that it was not the first time a group of young adults from Fremont and Sandusky have been involved in an altercation.

"We had problems in the summer with a group in Fremont and Sandusky at the biker club (Knight Riders Motorcycle Club) on Adams Street and Bidwell Avenue," White said Tuesday.

Fremont police were dispatched to the club June 5 for reports of a large fight with gunshots fired in the area, a police report said.

The report said Ryan Hollingshead, 18, of Sandusky, was shot in the left cheek with a BB gun. Officers were unable to locate a suspect in the shooting.

White was not available for comment Thursday, but Tuesday he said he is unsure how many people are in each group.

McCaudy said she and White plan to hold a phone conference Friday with Sandusky City Schools Superintendent Eugene Sanders and Sandusky Police Chief John Orzech.

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ST. JOHN'S 52, ROSS 28



MOLLY CORFMAN/THE NEWS-MESSENDER

Ross' Kaleb Young takes it to the hoop past St. John's Blake Williams, left, and Keith Jordan, Jr. on Friday night.

# Ross struggles in opening loss

JOSH MORGRET  
CORRESPONDENT

**F**REMONT - Ross coach Mark Gedeon admitted it was nice for his team to get out and play someone other than each other after the season opener against Sandusky was postponed twice over the last two weeks.

Unfortunately for the Little Giants, the opponent was one of the best teams in Northwest Ohio in Toledo St. John's Jesuit.

Ross scored just two points in the second quarter as the Titans racked up a 52-28 Three Rivers Athletic Conference win on Friday.

"First and foremost, we were facing a very talented team," Gedeon said. "St. John's is outstanding

fundamentally and very well-coached. We had to play well for long stretches in order to be successful and that's hard against them."

The Little Giants (0-1 overall, 0-1 TRAC) trailed 14-7 after one quarter before St. John's (1-1, 1-0) picked up the speed of the game in the sec-

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## Giants

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ond quarter to its liking. The Titans scored the first 12 points of the quarter before Jarren Hampton scored almost five-and-a-half minutes into the quarter.

It didn't deter St. John's, as they scored the next eight points for a 20-2 advantage in the quarter and a 34-9 lead at halftime. Ross had 11 turnovers in the first half.

"We were able to press pretty good and created the fast tempo," SJJ coach Ed Heintschel said. "Ross would probably rather play a slower tempo but we were effective in speeding it up."

The Little Giants scored as many points in the third quarter as they did the entire first half

but the speed of Gabe Kynard and Vincent Williams was too much for Ross. Kynard tallied a game-high 15 points and also pulled down six rebounds while Williams added eight points and five rebounds.

"We got some easy baskets and got it inside well," said Heintschel. "Their defense was tough in all the switching they do but we played well. We pressured the ball and was able to get to the free throw line."

Ross made its first free throw but missed the final six shots at the charity stripe. The Little Giants had 26 turnovers and made 12-of-39 (30.8%) shots.

"We wanted to play different speeds against them but we knew they wanted to pick the speed up," Gedeon said. "We tried to control the tempo but we didn't read and react like we did in practice."

Two minutes into the fourth

quarter, Ross trailed 52-18 but outscored the Titans, 10-0 over the final six minutes of the quarter, including two 3-pointers by Taylor Druckenmiller.

"We definitely were happy with how we ended the game," said Gedeon. "We told Taylor to slow down and relax and he has a smooth shot when he does. We'll take this and build on it. We know we have to execute better but we played with better energy in the fourth quarter."

Kaleb Young topped the Little Giants with eight points. St. John's out-rebounded Ross, 37-26.

Ross returns to action Saturday when they host Clyde for the first time since before "at least 1950," according to Gedeon.

"It'll be fun and it'll be a fun atmosphere," Gedeon said. "The kids want to play in that so it should be a good game."



MOLLY CORFMAN/THE NEWS-MESSANGER

A foul is called on St. John's Joey Fretti as Ross' Kaleb Young takes it to the hoop on Friday night.

ROSS 59, CLYDE 46



PHOTOS BY DOUG HISE/NEWS-MESSENDER

Ross' Jarren Hampton and Clyde's Zach Rieman fight for a loose ball.

# LITTLE GIANTS BOUNCE BACK FOR 1ST VICTORY

BY JOSH MORGRET  
CORRESPONDENT

FREMONT - During Saturday's non-league game, it appeared as though Ross was the team that hadn't played the night before against one of the toughest teams in Northwest Ohio. Except they were.

The Little Giants used a renewed energy after Friday's lopsided loss and shot over 50 percent from the field in defeating Clyde 59-46 to improve to 1-1 on the season.

"We wanted to dictate the tempo," said Ross coach Mark Gedeon. "We relaxed in the second half and had some nice assists."

Ross used a 16-8 edge in the third quarter to turn a six-point lead into a 14-point advantage.

"We withstood some Clyde runs and executed like we wanted to," Gedeon said. "It helped to have a game under the lights already and have an extra week of practice than Clyde did."

Clyde coach Lou Garcia noted that adjustments by Gedeon and Ross on Zach Rieman were key in the third quarter. Rieman scored 12 of Clyde's 17 points in the first half, but mustered only two free throws in the third quarter.

"Zach kept us in the game, but they made adjustments to stop him in the second half," Garcia said. "He's a player and he's going to find his ways to score."

Jarren Hampton hit one of his two 3-pointers to put the Little Giants ahead 30-19 early in the third quarter. Later, Brody Chudzinski followed suit for a 37-23 lead.

"The kids were positive in the locker room," Garcia said. "They were OK with the loss even though it hurts. We will keep practicing and improve and get ready for Tiffin Columbian at home on Wednesday."

The Fliers (0-1) couldn't get any offense going throughout the night. They hit just 14-of-39 shots (35.9 percent) and never got within ten points in the fourth quarter. The closest Clyde got was 50-39 after 3-pointers by Conner Long and Seth Hohman.

"We used our offense to create better offense," Gedeon said. "We made the extra pass to get a better shot and our spacing was good. We attacked with a purpose."

Ross got a boost of energy from returning senior Ja-Vonte Garza, who missed Friday's game against Toledo St. John's with a sprained ankle. He scored eight points and

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Ross' Ja-Vonte Garza drives to the basket and is fouled by Clyde's Lucas Nicely.

# ROSS

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played energetic defense.

"He's not 100 percent, but he played well," Gedeon said of Garza. "He wasn't able to cut like he normally would, but he used his basketball IQ,

which is high, to create other opportunities to help the team."

Rieman finished with 20 points and 10 rebounds

"We make no excuses whether we win or lose, but the edge to them was because they were a better team than us," Garcia said. "We're still trying to find it as a staff, as we've only been together for 13 days because of the foot-

ball team's run. I'm proud with how they played, though. Ross played well and it could've been a big win for them."

Tavarious Simms led Ross with 17 points and 11 rebounds.

"Tavarious finished well inside," Gedeon said. "He gathered himself and made some big shots for us."

Findlay Loss not reported

LIMA SENIOR 103, FREMONT ROSS 57

# SIMPSON'S 59 BEATS ALL

Little Giants have no answer to stop record performance

RICH MCGOWAN  
REPORTER

FREMONT - Xavier Simpson put on a show Tuesday night and the Fremont Ross boys basketball had a front-row seat.

The Lima Senior High School senior guard dropped a school-record 59 points for the Spartans, outscoring the Little Giants by himself, leading his team to a 103-57 win over Ross.

Simpson, who has committed to the University of Michigan, drained 23 field goals, including eight 3-pointers, and hit 5-of-9 free throws to surpass the previous record of 57 points, held by his cousin, Greg.

"I've had nights where I was feeling it, but not like this," said Simpson, who also finished with five steals and four assists. "This was different."

While Simpson went off on his historic night, the Little Giants (1-3 overall, 0-3 Three Rivers Athletic Conference) were left trying to figure out a way to slow him and the rest of the Spartans (2-0, 2-0) down. Making matters more difficult, Ross played without two starters.

Steven Blodgett (ankle) and Brody Chudzinski (concussion) missed the game and their returns are unknown, though Blodgett is expected back sooner than Chudzinski.

"You try picking your poison, he can hurt you in so many different ways," Ross coach Mark Gedeon said of Simpson. "You hope, with a long bus ride and in a different gym maybe he misses some of those shots early, but the way he started off you could tell he was in a special zone there."

Simpson's night started off quickly, draining a pair of 3-pointers in the game's opening 45 seconds as Lima jumped out to an 11-0 start.

Ross managed to climb back with in five points midway through the period, but the Spartans not named Simpson also knocked down their shots as Lima connected on 14 3-pointers as a team on the night.

"They can beat you in so many ways, their quickness, their length, their physical strength too," Gedeon said. "It's not like they have any weak



MOLLY CORMAN/THE NEWS-MESSANGER

Lima's Xavier Simpson, a Michigan recruit, topped his cousin's school record Tuesday.

players out there."

Ross trailed 23-11 after the opening quarter and Simpson opened the second period in the same fashion as the first, knocking down a pair of 3-pointers in the opening minute. He went into halftime with 29 points on 11 field goals, including five from long-range, but even then he wasn't thinking about breaking the mark.

"(Not until the) beginning of the third quarter when I was still hitting shots," he said. "At halftime I had 29 I was going to go with the flow for maybe 40, but once I was hitting shots, and I'm glad for the teammates I have because they were telling me when I got 50 then telling me to get

the record."

Another 18 points in the third quarter gave Simpson 47, 10 shy of the record, entering the fourth quarter.

Simpson tied the record on a steal and layup, then broke it a minute later on another layup, sending his teammates into a frenzy on the bench.

"My assistants told me, 'Hey, let him go,' because I was going to pull him out at the end of the third," Lima senior coach Quincey Simpson said.

"He had a special night," he added. "When you get those special nights

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# ROSS

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from a player, sometimes you just have to let him go."

Not to be forgotten, Ross senior Ja-Vonte Garza turned in a fine performance as well, scoring a team-high 22 points, with

three 3-pointers. He continued to be aggressive with the ball, without forcing shots, despite Simpson's dazzling show on the other end of the floor.

"I thought Ja-Vonte, in the third quarter, refocused himself very well, came out and had an outstanding quarter there," Gedeon said. "He played with heart, played with

passion but didn't force things. He was aggressive and played off their pressure and took whatever opportunities were presented to him."

**Note** – The Little Giants filled the void left by the canceled game against Sandusky. Ross will host Holland Springfield at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 30.

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# ROUNDUP

## BOYS BASKETBALL

### **Fremont 63, Tiffin 37**

JaVonte Garza scored 15 points and had six rebounds and six assists for Fremont (2-3) Saturday in a win at Tiffin (4-4). The Little Giants outscored the Tornadoes 17-4 in the opening quarter and led 21-14 at the half.

Tavarius Sims had nine points for the Little Giants and he and Kaleb Young each had five rebounds.

**Stat Book:** Fremont: 22 FG, 3 3-pt., 16 FT, 23 rebounds, 12 assists, 18 turnovers.

Scoring: Mason 8, Young 7, Druckenmiller 6, Homler 5, Bulger 5, Hampton 4, Blodgett 2. Tiffin: 14 FG, 1 3-pt., 8 FT, 29 rebounds, 6 assists, 34 turnovers. Scoring: Durham 11, Dryfuse 6, Simmons 4, J. Bupp 4, Alcers 4, Johnson 3, Kimmett 2, S. Bupp 2, Simons 1.

## **Fremont Ross 81, Toledo Woodward 77**

Fremont Ross (3-3) won at home against Toledo Woodward (3-5) in non-league play.

Fremont Ross was led by JaVonte Garza with 20 points and Steven Blodgett with 15 points. Jarren Hampton scored 13 points and Tavarious Simms added 11 points. Woodward was led by Daijour Whittington with 19 points, while TreySean Mitchell scored 18 points and Charles Robinson Jr. added 17 points. Gnonn Caraway chipped in 11 points.

**Stat Book:** Fremont Ross: Scoring: Drunkenmiller 6, Trolio 6, Bulger 4, Young 4, Homler 2. Toledo Woodward: Scoring: Johnson 4, Bankston 4, Hunt 2, Mathis.

TOLEDO START 69, FREMONT ROSS 50



PHOTOS BY MOLLY CORFMAN/THE NEWS-MESSANGER

Ross' Steven Blodgett, middle, fights for a rebound during the Little Giants' 69-50 loss to Toledo Start.

## LITTLE GIANTS DIP BELOW .500

### Ross comes out of gate rusty following break

RICH MCGOWAN  
REPORTER

FREMONT - A step slow on defense. A jump too late in the post. Shots that normally fall refused to do so. It all marred Fremont Ross' first game following a week off due to the holiday break.

The Little Giants came out of the gate slowly Tuesday and never got themselves up to speed in a 69-50 loss to Toledo Start.

"We had to come out with a defensive intensity to take away their outside shooting, we had to make sure we valued the basketball and he had to make sure we boxed out and rebounded," Ross coach Mark Gedeon said. "We actually put on the board 'Don't watch.' Those things, unfortunately, we did not do to the best of our ability tonight."

Ross had won its previous two games prior to Christmas to get back to a .500 record, but Tuesday's loss dropped the Little Giants back down to 3-4 overall.

The holiday break presents coaches and players with a unique challenge each season, and every team responds differently.

"In general, anytime over the holiday break coaches definitely have a lot to do. We have four games over the break and there's a lot of prep time for coaches, but at the same time you have kids switching modes from going from exams to game mode, going on vacation for a few days and coming back."

Tuesday night Ross found itself trailing by just five at halftime, 28-23, but the Spartans jumped out to a fast start in the third quarter. While Ross turned the ball over twice and missed a shot on its first three possessions of the second half, Start had two steals and went 3-for-3 from the field to quickly open up a 34-23 lead. A 3-pointer a short time later gave Start a 9-2 start to the third quarter, prompting a Ross timeout. Start led by as many as 17 in the third quarter before Ross



Ross' Jermani Homler takes it to the rim.

#### Stat Book

Toledo Start 12-16-22-19 — 69  
Fremont Ross 11-12-17-10 — 50  
Visitor: 24 9-14 69, 3FG, 8 (Munn 2, Shaw 2, Wortham 3, Wanamaker). Rebounds, 36 (Munn 17), Turnovers, 17, Assists, 8, Steals, 6 (Wanamaker 3). Scoring: Munn 6 0-0 14, Myers 3 2-2 8, Shaw 3 1-1 9, Wortham 5 0-0 13, Wanamaker 5 3-6 14, Reed 1 0-0 2, Henderson 1 1-2 3, McIntosh 1 0-0 2, Douglas 1 2-3 4. Home: 22 2-4 50, 3FG, 4 (Trolio, Homler, Young, Hampton). Rebounds, 24 (Homler 5), Turnovers, 16, Assists, 8, Steals, 5 (Simms). Scoring: Druckenmiller 3 2-2 8, Trolio 1 0-0 3, Homler 4 0-0 9, Simms 3 0-0 6, Young 1 0-0 3, Hampton 3 0-0 7, Blodgett 3 0-2 6, Garza 4 0-0 8.

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# ROSS

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trimmed the deficit to 10 entering the fourth.

But hopes of Ross comeback were dashed when Start hit a pair of 3-pointers in the first 90 seconds of the fourth quarter and maintained a lead of 13 points or more the rest of the game.

“It’s a team that shoots the 3-point basket well, is aggressive on the offensive glass and a team that will come and press you selectively,” Gedeon said of Start. “The things we had to do we didn’t do. I think everybody knew that.”

Start outrebounded Ross by a 36-24 margin and senior T.J. Munn

grabbed 17 rebounds to go with 14 points for Start (2-5 overall).

Ross, which totaled 16 turnovers, made just one first-half 3-pointer and four from long-range for the night, while Start hit eight from behind the arc.

Jermani Homler led the Little Giants with nine points and a team-high five rebounds. Taylor Druckenmiller and Ja-Vonte Garza each scored eight for Ross and Jarren Hampton added seven.

“They got seven offensive rebounds in the first half and I believe we had seven turnovers that led directly to 12 points,” Gedeon said. “When you give team second and third opportunities and take away opportunities for yourself, that’s not a good equation.”

## **Holland Springfield 68, Fremont Ross 42**

The Little Giants (3-5) lost to Holland Springfield (7-0) at home in nonleague play. Fremont Ross was led by Steven Blodgett with 10 points and JaVonte Garza with nine points.

**Stat Book:** Holland Springfield: Scoring: Lightner 23, Cason 10, Boykins 9, Bloomes 6, Bond 6, Bryant 6, Leonard 2, Key 2, Spangler 2, Williams 2. Fremont Ross: Scoring: Simms 7, Hampton 5, Bulger 4, Young 2, Homler 2, Trolio 2, Alridge 1.

Toledo Whitmer Loss not reported

FREMONT ROSS 56, OREGON CLAY 45



MOLLY CORFMAN/THE NEWS-MESSENDER

Ross' Steven Blodgett eyes the basket Friday night.

# LITTLE GIANTS PICK UP 1ST TRAC WIN

RICH MCGOWAN  
REPORTER

FREMONT — It's been nearly a month since Brody Chudzinski suffered a concussion. While the discomfort from the injury was bad enough, perhaps more painful for the Fremont Ross senior was having to watch his Little Giants teammates play without him.

But in his second game back in the lineup, and his first game playing extended minutes, Chudzinski and his

team got some pain relief in the form of Ross' first conference victory in a 56-45 win over Oregon Clay.

"I'm getting better every day. Headaches are going away, I'm getting healthier, getting back in shape," said Chudzinski, who was injured Dec. 11 in a loss at Findlay.

"I didn't come to the Lima game, that was tough. I was in bed crying because my mom wouldn't let me leave the house, I wasn't in shape to leave the house, but I wanted to be there with my team," he added.

Without their senior 3-point shooting specialist, Ross struggled to a 2-4 record, including three-straight losses entering Friday night.

Chudzinski hit a pair of 3-pointers against Clay, finishing with eight points, while helping guards Taylor Druckenmiller and Jarren Hampton find lanes to penetrate due to defenses having to respect Chudzinski's shooting ability.

"He's getting his lungs back and

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MOLLY CORFMAN/THE NEWS-MESSENGER

Ross' Brody Chudzinski drives past Clay on Friday night.

## Ross

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his legs under him after being out three weeks with the concussion," Ross coach Mark Gedeon said. "He's a key part of us. He's been dressing varsity since his sophomore year here. He's one of the people who spends all his time in the summer in here, a true basketball junkie and he gives a presence on the floor."

Ross took a seven-point lead into half-time then began the second half with one of its best quarters of the season. The Little Giants went on a 7-0 run in the opening 90 seconds on the third quarter to open up a 34-20 lead, forcing Clay to call timeout.

A couple of minutes later Druckenmiller converted on a 3-point play after getting fouled on a layup. With a minute remaining in the third, Druckenmiller found Chudzinski for a 3-pointer and 15-point lead.

"I thought very important was how we started the first and second halves," Gedeon said. "We moved the ball well, we didn't force and we made some plays there. That's something we've struggled with at times, finishing plays, making plays."

Ross needed its comfortable lead in

### Stat book

Visitor 6-14-7-18 — 45  
Home 14-13-13-16 — 56  
Visitor: 16 12-21 45. 3FG, 1 (Bush). Rebounds, 9, Turnovers, 11, Assists, 2, Steals, 1. Scoring: Bush 2 1-1 6, Elamzjoub 2 4-4 8, Walter 2 0-0 4, Durczynski 2 1-2 5, Kiss 5 2-6 12, Hahn 1 0-0 2, Nguyen 0 2-2 2, Wamer 2 2-6 6.  
Home: 18 17-24 56. 3FG, 3 (Chudzinski 2, Druckenmiller). Rebounds, 25 (Simms 7), Turnovers, 18, Assists, 7 (Hampton 3), Steals, 4 (Simms 2). Scoring: Druckenmiller 3 4-5 11, Hampton 2 5-10 9, Homler 4 1-1 9, Young 1 2-2 4, Trolio 1 0-0 2, Chudzinski 3 0-0 8.

the fourth quarter. The Little Giants turned the ball over eight times as Clay came within seven points with two minutes to play, but the Eagles went just 3-for-8 at the free throw line in the fourth quarter as Ross held on for its first win the Three Rivers Athletic Conference (4-6 overall, 1-4 TRAC).

"We need to learn how to close out games," said Druckenmiller, who finished with 11 points. "When we're stalling, we're not a real good offense. We're trying to make the crazy pass and that's not us."

FREMONT ROSS 46, PORT CLINTON 32

# LITTLE GIANTS FIND BIG ENERGY LATE

## Despite Ross' weak 3s, 'Skins can't find footing

MATTHEW HORN  
REPORTER

Visiting Fremont Ross ramped up its energy in the third quarter Saturday and took the life out of Port Clinton in the process in a 46-32 non-conference victory.

Jarren Hampton scored five points as the Little Giants scored 14 straight points for a 36-22 lead in the third quarter.

"We got the tempo going," Ross coach Mark Gedeon said. "In the first half, Port Clinton played outstanding defense and we were searching for shots and stagnant. We wanted to turn defense into offense and we got a cushion to relax."

Hampton and Jermani Homler made consecutive 3-pointers during the scoring spurt. Homler didn't hide his excitement with all seven of his points in the second half.

"Homler did well finishing in the second half," Gedeon said.

Ross canned three 3-pointers and added two free throws as the game was knotted at 14-14 after one quarter. The teams traded 3s for the first 15 points.

The Little Giants misfired on 14 of 17 3s in a win over Clay on Friday.

"It was nice to hit those shots," Gedeon said. "We can't rely on that to win. We need to mix it up. We had to hit them to stay in it in the first half."

Ross's four-point lead early in its third quarter run was the largest of the game to that point. Port Clinton scored six points in each of the final three quarters and trailed by at least 10 throughout the fourth.

"Coach told us in the locker room to push the ball and don't let them set up in their 2-3," Hampton said. "We got off to a good start and knocked down shots. Taylor (Druckenmiller) pushed it and we got shots. When we got the lead, we played better defense. Coach told us to play with passion. We had players make big plays. We struggled shooting (Friday), but Taylor hit two early 3s (against Port Clinton)."

Hampton had 10 points while Druckenmiller and Tavarious Simms added eight apiece for Ross (5-6).



MATTHEW HORN/THE NEWS-MESSENDER  
Jarren Hampton brings the ball up the floor for Ross against Port Clinton on Saturday.

"He's been with me for three years," Gedeon said of Hampton. "He's our most experience player and he's a competitor. He wants to win. He's a co-captain with Simms and we need his leadership and energy. He does different things — rebounding, feeding the post, he leads us in assists-to-turnovers as a wing — to win games."

Joey Brenner had a game-high 13 points and added eight rebounds for the Redskins (3-8).

"He's giving you better than his average," Port Clint coach Von Graffin said. "Joey is important to us."

Skyler Cook started for the Redskins and opened the scoring with a 3 as

Graffin continued to work to find combinations and rotations. Matt Paeth and Kaleb Mizener also started together in the backcourt for the first time.

Graffin was pleased with his team's shot selection, but not its execution.

"We didn't take bad shots," he said. "We attacked the basket. We got looks we've got to make. I have two of the best assistants in the area and they can X and O with the best of them. We have to knock them in. Our energy left us in the third. A high-energy team has success."

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St Francis Loss not reported

TOLEDO CENTRAL CATHOLIC 72,  
FREMONT ROSS 41

## Little Giants rolled over by the Irish

RICH MCGOWAN  
REPORTER

FREMONT – Six days can make a big difference. Just last Saturday, Fremont Ross and Toledo Central Catholic's boys basketball teams met on the Irish's home court. And while Ross remained competitive, the Little Giants suffered a 14-point defeat.

Friday night the Little Giants played host to the Fighting Irish but could not stay close to the Irish. Despite leading after the first quarter, Ross saw Central Catholic dominate the remaining three periods en route to a 72-41 Three Rivers Athletic Conference defeat.

The Little Giants crashed the glass early on, holding an 11-5 advantage in rebounding after the first quarter and a 13-9 lead. That, however, was the high-water mark for Ross.

"I think anybody who watched was pleased with the first quarter," Ross coach Mark Gedeon said. "We moved the ball, we had good spacing, we had good cuts. Defensively, I thought we had a much better job of playing early, ready defense. We tried to take away some of those passing lanes which, unfortunately, became very open there in the second, third and fourth quarters.

As Ross' post players found themselves in early foul trouble, Ross' ad-

See ROSS, Page 2B



RICH MCGOWAN/NEWS-MESSENDER  
Fremont Ross senior Tavarious Simms  
battles against Toledo Central Catholic's  
Jalen Daoust Friday.

# ROSS

Continued from Page 1B

vantage on the glass evaporated as Central Catholic began to find its offensive rhythm. The Irish went on a 15-0 run over a four-minute stretch in the second quarter to turn a 15-11 deficit into a 26-15 lead. Central Catholic grew its lead to 13 points at halftime after outscoring Ross 25-8 in the second quarter.

"I thought the biggest difference from six days ago to tonight was once we got a lead, we added to that," Central Catholic coach Nick Lowe said. "Last Saturday we got a lead and kind of got complacent and missed some layups and some free throws and, to Fremont's credit, they battled and chipped away at our lead. Tonight we extended that lead."

Central Catholic only grew its lead in the second half. Ross turned the ball over or lost a jumpball on four of its first five second-half possessions while Central Catholic grew its lead to 20 points on a 3-pointer by James

Harris III just three minutes into the third quarter.

The loss is Ross' fourth in a row as the Little Giants' overall record dips to 5-10 with a 1-8 record in the TRAC.

"We just played three private schools over four games in a row, teams that were clearly picked ahead of us in the league and I don't think anybody around would say we're more talented, necessarily, on paper, than these teams," Gedeon said. "It's my job as a coach to make sure our players are playing to the best of their ability and we're playing team-oriented basketball and learning the life skills they'll take off the basketball court too."

Ross travels to rival Sandusky (8-3) Saturday for a 7:30 tipoff against the Blue Streaks. It's the first meeting of the season between the rivals after the year's first meeting was cancelled due to threats of violence on social media.

"We have a huge challenge tomorrow with a very, very talented Sandusky team they got some outstanding

## Stat book

Toledo Central Catholic

9-25-20-18 — 72

Fremont Ross 13-8-12-8 — 41

Toledo Central Catholic: 25

15-24 72. 3FG, 7 (Tripplett 2,

Buford 2, Harris III, Christie,

Grombacher). Rebounds, 34

(Smith 7, Daoust 7), Turn-

overs, 11, Assists, 7, Steals, 5.

Scoring: Parker 4 3-4 11,

Smith 1 0-2 2, Hoover 1 0-0 2,

Daoust 7 7-9 21, Harris III 1

0-0 3, Tripplett 3 0-0 8, Denko

1 3-5 5, Buford 3 0-0 8, Grom-

bacher 1 0-0 3, Christie 3 2-2

9.

Fremont Ross: 17 5-12 41.

3FG, 2 (Druckenmiller 2).

Rebounds, 31 (Hampton 6),

Turnovers, 18, Assists, 9

(Garza 3), Steals, 1 (Garza).

Scoring: Druckenmiller 2 0-0

6, Hampton 1 2-4 4, Garza 4

0-0 8, Simms 4 0-0 8, Blod-

gett 2 0-0 4, Burling 1 0-0 2,

Homler 2 1-2 5, Trolio 0 0-3 0,

Bulger 1 0-0 2, Chudzinski 0

1-2 1, Alridge 0 1-2 1.

guards, it'll be a great, tournament-type environment up there," Gedeon said. "I think both sides are excited we get to focus on just playing basketball.

"I think coming back and playing another high-profile team is not a bad thing for us right now."

St John's Loss not reported

Toledo Central Catholic not reported

BOYS BASKETBALL: SANDUSKY 64, FREMONT ROSS 54



DOUG HISE/FOR THE NEWS-MESSENDER

Ross' Taylor Druckenmiller fights for a loose ball Saturday against Sandusky.

# IMPASSIONED ROSS MAKES PROGRESS

**RICH MCGOWAN**  
REPORTER

SANDUSKY – Moral wins do not exist. A loss in the final seconds of overtime counts on the record exactly the same as a 40-point blowout.

While Fremont Ross' visit to Sandusky on Saturday night measures equally in the loss column as Friday night's 31-point loss to Toledo Central Catholic, the Little Giants could find plenty to like despite the 64-54 loss to the Blue Streaks.

"I told our kids if we can play and practice with the type of energy and passion we showed tonight, we still have a month left

in our season, and we can still accomplish some good things," Ross coach Mark Gedeon said.

Ross trailed by seven at halftime and opened the third quarter on a 9-2 run and held Sandusky without a field goal for more than five minutes. The Little Giants trailed by three points heading into the fourth quarter and then tied the game on the first bucket of the period on a 3-pointer by Jermani Homler.

"The kids were passionate, hungry and aggressive," Gedeon said. "I thought we rebounded better than we had in a long time, and I think that helped us a lot, too."

Sandusky held a two-point lead with

five minutes to play when George Brown hit a 3-pointer to give the Blue Streaks a 49-44 lead. Less than two minutes later, Jayrese Williams connected from behind the arc and moments later scored on a baseline jumper, giving Sandusky a 10-point lead with 2:23 to play.

"That was a bit of a dagger," Sandusky coach Colin Irish said of Williams' 3-pointer. "We were looking for a little more patience, it was one of those 'no, no, no ... yes!' Jayrese is an unbelievable shooter, and that was a big shot for us and gave us a good shot of adrenaline."

**See PROGRESS, Page 7A**

# Progress

Continued from Page 6A

Ross (5-11) being in the game at such a late stage was impressive considering the Blue Streaks not only entered the game with a 8-3 record but started the game shooting 61 percent (8-for-13) in the first quarter, taking an early 11-point lead.

"No question about it, I thought our kids played with a tremendous amount of energy and passion in our fifth game in eight days," Gedeon said. "We showed a lot of heart. We could have packed it in when Sandusky got off to that great start in the first quarter. Very proud of our kids, how they responded to that."

Steven Blodgett gave the Little Giants a strong presence in the post, scoring a team-high 14 points and eight re-



DOUG HISE/FOR THE  
NEWS-MESSENDER

**Ross' Steven Blodgett looks for a shot Saturday against Sandusky's Davion Fisher.**

bounds. Ja-Vonte Garza added 12 points, all of which came in the second half.

"That's the type of dimension he gives this ball club with the way he can not only shoot the three but also slash (inside)," Gedeon said. "We talk about it as coaches at

## Stat Book

**Fremont Ross** 16-10-13-15

— 54

**Sandusky** 23-10-9-22 — 64

**Fremont Ross:** 23 1-5 54.

3FG, 7 (Druckenmiller 3, Hampton 2, Homler 2). Rebounds, 29 (Hampton 8, Blodgett 8), Turnovers, 17, Assists, 7 (Druckenmiller 3), Steals, 5. Scoring: Druckenmiller 3 0-0 9, Hampton 2 1-3 7, Garza 6 0-0 12, Simms 1 0-1 2, Blodgett 7 0-1 14, Homler 2 0-0 6, Trolio 2 0-0 4.

**Sandusky:** 21 17-21 64. 3FG, 5 (Brown 2, J. Williams 2, K. Williams). Rebounds, 24 (Croom 6), Turnovers, 11, Assists, 7, Steals, 9. Scoring: K. Williams 4 0-0 9, Croom 2 3-4 7, Brown 5 7-8 19, Fisher 2 0-0 4, J. Williams 6 6-8 20, Hanson 2 1-1 5.

times and in the media you talk about the lost art of the mid-range shot, and Ja-Vonte had a very good one there."

Williams led Sandusky with 20 points while Brown added 19 for the Blue Streaks.

# Bobcat boys fall to Ross

**By TARA JONES**

Sentinel Sports Writer

Fremont Ross' zone defense rattled Bowling Green in non-conference action Tuesday night to hand the Bobcats a 52-49 loss.

The Bobcats fell to 1-13 overall with the loss and Fremont Ross moved to 6-11.

Ross went on an 18-4 run in the second quarter to take an eight point lead at the half. Bowling Green committed seven of its 18 turnovers during the run, whereas Ross had four.

"We turned the ball over way too many times," said Bowling Green head coach Erik Marschall. "That's taking 18 opportunities away from us to score and giving them easier looks on the other end.

"Guys need to get more comfortable in that zone, they sped us up and we turned the ball over," he said.

Freshman Isaac Elsasser scored 10 points in the third quarter to fuel a Bowling Green comeback in the second half to give the Bobcats a chance at the win in the closing seconds.

Elsasser finished with 13 points to lead Bowling Green with Trent Hinton, who also had 13.

"We weren't playing at the half-court line, we started to attack," Marschall said of the

**(See BOBCAT on 11)**

# Bobcat

(Continued from 9)

comeback. "We got the ball in the middle and Dylan Dohanos made a couple of plays where he throws it out to the corner for a wide-open 3 or drives and gives our big an opportunity for a 3-point play."

Kurt Griefer's layup put Bowling Green within 45-43 with 3:44 to play. He was fouled but missed the free throw that would have brought the Bobcats within a point.

Hinton kept the lead at two before Brandon Trollo made a free throw to give Ross a three-point advantage with 8.4 remaining.

Hinton jacked up a triple nearly identical to the one that upset Springfield last week, but this one fell short.

"Defensively they pressured us, they came out in a zone. We're not comfort-

able when they're trapping us, and they did a good job doing that," Marschall said. "We've got to get a middle man that wants to attack and make plays. We're going to keep working and try to find that guy."

"We need guys that are going to make plays and that aren't afraid to step up, and I think Dylan did a good job at times of that tonight," he said. "We've got to be able to do that whenever teams go in a zone against us, we can't panic and I think that's what we did tonight."

Elsasser was another who stepped up for the Bobcats after earning another start Tuesday with Marschall shaking up the lineup since the Springfield game.

"He's playing well, and I thought he's played well

for a while," Marschall said. "Whether he's making shots or not, he's doing what he needs to do to be out on that court. He's guarding, he's rebounding, he's in the right spot, and it shows he's put time in. We need him to put a lot more time in, to keep working, because he's going to be a big player for us in the future."

Griefer and Dohanos have also made their way into the starting lineup after the Bobcats had a consistent one for the first half of the season.

Marschall said it's all about rewarding the players who are getting it done in practice and in games with the start.

Bowling Green won the junior varsity game 58-40. Tucker Craft and Kaleb Fair led the Bobcats with 15 points each.

FINDLAY 53, FREMONT ROSS 32

# LITTLE GIANTS CAN'T OVERCOME SLOW START



MOLLY CORFMAN/THE NEWS-MESSANGER

Ross' Steven Blodgett, left, and Trey Bulger battle with Findlay's Chaze Proehl for a rebound Friday night.

## Ross shut out in first quarter en route to blowout loss

**RICH MCGOWAN**  
REPORTER

FREMONT - With the writing already on wall at halftime, Fremont Ross coach Mark Gedeon wanted to see some fight from the Little Giants.

After a first-half nightmare, Ross could decide to roll over and wait for the time to expire or it could wake up from the nightmare and at least give a decent showing for itself in the second half.

Though Ross chose the latter, a 28-point halftime deficit was far too deep a hole to climb out from as the Little Giants lost to rival Findlay, 53-32.

"It's a great life lesson," Gedeon said. "You can turn and run and hide or you can go out and compete, and I'm very pleased to say in the second half at least we came out and competed."

Ross fell behind in a hurry as the Little Giants were shut out in the first quarter and trailed 17-0 heading into the second. Steven Blodgett scored the first point of the game 90 seconds into the second period and scored the first field goal nearly halfway through the

quarter.

Ross (6-12 overall, 1-9 TRAC) trailed at halftime 33-5, held to just two field goals and five rebounds. Findlay (10-5, 5-4) had as many 3-pointers as Ross had points at the intermission.

"We did not do a good job at all in the first half in any way, shape or form," Gedeon said. "We did a lot of standing, I thought our energy level was poor, our execution was poor. Hopefully, our players learned from that."

Faced with either battling or getting utterly humiliated on its home floor, the Little Giants showed great life in the third quarter. Ross opened the second half on a 12-0 run, aided by 3-pointers from Brandon Trollo and Jarren Hampton and a strong post presence by Blodgett.

"I thought the third quarter was some, if not the best, defense we played all year," Gedeon said. "I thought our players were very energetic and they worked hard and it carried over to the offensive end

**See ROSS, Page 6B**

# ROSS

Continued from Page 1B

where we got Steven going there and Jarren Hampton got a couple things off transition. It just made a lot of the rest of our game go much easier for us."

Blodgett was Ross' best player all night, giving the Little Giants their only reliable source of offensive production as he scored six field goals and his 16 points accounted for half of Ross' total. Hampton added seven points.

Ross outscored Findlay 18-7 in the third quarter and came within 15 points in the first minute of the fourth. Findlay, however, kept Ross at arm's length and kept any hope of a miracle comeback at bay.

## Stat book

Findlay 17-16-7-13 — 53

Fremont Ross 0-5-18-9 — 32

Findlay: 22 3-3 53. 3FG, 6 (K. Nunn 2, C. Miller, Elbin, Miles, R. Nunn). Rebounds, 25 (Elbin 8), Turnovers, 11, Assists, 5. Scoring: T. Miller 1-0 2, C. Miller 1 0-0 3, K. Nunn 7 0-0 16, Hapner 2 1-1 5, Elbin 3 2-2 11, Miles 1 0-0 3, R. Nunn 3 0-0 9, Proehl 1 0-0 2.

Fremont Ross: 13 4-9 32. 3FG, 2 (Hampton, Trolio). Rebounds, 17 (Simms 5), Turnovers, 10, Assists, 3 (Druckenmiller 2), Steals, 1 (Hampton). Scoring: Druckenmiller 1 0-0 2, Hampton 3 0-0 7, Trolio 2 0-0 5, Blodgett 6 4-7 16, Bulger 1 0-2 2.

Lima Sr 103-54 Loss not reported



MOLLY CORFMAN/THE NEWS-MESSENGER

**Ross' Steven Blodgett pump fakes Findlay's Chaze Proehl off his feet on Friday night.**

WHITMER 60, ROSS 46

# ROSS FALTERS IN SECOND HALF

Panthers hand Little Giants 8th loss in last 9 games

JOSH MORGRET  
CORRESPONDENT

FREMONT - Fremont Ross led Toledo Whitmer by 11 points late in the second quarter when Jarren Hampton grabbed a steal and drove for a layup. Hampton was ultimately called for an offensive foul.

The Panthers took advantage of the turnover and turned that into a common theme.

Whitmer stormed back and scored 22

of 24 points in a stretch during the third quarter to top the Little Giants, 60-46, in Three Rivers Athletic Conference action on Friday.

"I thought the first 14 minutes were some of the best basketball we've played all year," Ross coach Mark Gedeon said. "We played slower and we got some post touches which allowed us some open shots outside."

Nick Witcher scored and two free throws drew the Panthers (14-5 overall, 8-4 TRAC) within 25-19 at halftime and

the momentum for Whitmer slowly carried into the third quarter. Brandon Trolio hit his fourth 3-pointer of the game for a 28-21 lead and a score by Hampton made it 30-23, with 6:17 left in the third quarter.

"Our defensive rotations were spot on and I thought we were executing the way we wanted to," Gedeon said.

That's when Whitmer took over.

The Panthers scored 10 points in a row, prompting a second timeout from Gedeon in the quarter. The Little Giants (6-14, 1-11) committed turnover after turnover, leading to many easy buckets

for the Panthers.

"We preach to the kids the value of the basketball," Gedeon said. "I think Whitmer was able to speed us up a bit and when that happens, you have to rely on the fundamentals and we faltered in that tonight."

Steven Blodgett scored off of an offensive rebound to stop the Whitmer run, but only for a moment. The Panthers reeled off 12 more points in a row, thanks in part to the ability to get to the rim for either easy shots, or free throws after

See LITTLE GIANTS, Page 2B

## Little Giants

Continued from Page 1B

getting fouled. Whitmer made 16-of-24 free throws on the night, compared to 4-of-12 for Ross.

"In the first half, we did a better job of containing their driving lanes," said Gedeon. "We eventually started to drop our hands and fouled them and they made some free throws."

The Little Giants played their "best first quarter of the season," according to Gedeon. Ross scored the first five points and Trolio's second 3-pointer made it 11-2 and another 3-pointer blossomed the lead to 16-4.

Ross continued to hold its own in the second quarter, as a bucket by Hampton and a free throw by Jermani Holmer opened the 25-14 lead. Ross com-

mitted four turnovers in the final two minutes of the quarter to allow Whitmer to get back into the game. The Little Giants turned the ball over 25 times on the evening.

"We competed," said Gedeon on what he'd take from the evening. "That's something at times this season that we haven't done. We have to develop consistency. We show flashes at times, but inconsistencies hurt us. We wanted to compete and we wanted to win. That's always good to see out of your team."

Ross hit eight 3s on the night and Trolio's 12 points led the team. Ross has now lost eight of its last nine games.

"If you look at those eight teams, just about all of them were around 11-6 or better going into the night," Gedeon said. "We're playing the top teams in Northwest Ohio and eventually talent dictates a lot. Right now, we'll focus on facing Clay next Friday."

FREMONT ROSS 54, OREGON CLAY 37

# MONSTER SECOND HALF LIFTS FREMONT

12-0 Little Giants' run helps sink  
Eagles to 0-13 in league play

JOSH MORGRET

CORRESPONDENT

OREGON - After buckets by Steven Blodgett and Jarren Hampton drew Fremont Ross to a tie with Oregon Clay at halftime, the Little Giants' defense stepped up big in the second half.

Ross held the Eagles to four points over a near 15-minute span Friday night and cruised in the second half to a 54-37 Three Rivers Athletic League road win.

"Defensively, it was one of our better halves all season," Ross coach Mark Gedeon said. "We held them scoreless for their first eight possessions of the third quarter and later held them 13 straight possessions without a score. That was huge. We wanted to get players in the right positions and not give up easy baskets."

A score from Taylor Druckenmiller and two buckets from Hampton finished off a 12-0 run for the Little Giants (7-14 overall, 2-11 TRAC). Josh Kiss converted consecutive scores for the Eagles (3-17, 0-13) to cut the Ross lead to 32-28, but Ross ran off the next 14 points. All told, the Little Giants' run was 26-4 in 14:56 of game time.

"They missed shots and we hit some good shots," Gedeon said. "We were in the right position and we did not give up much at the rim. We wanted to force them to take tougher shots. Earlier in the season, we might have fouled them, but once we got the momentum, we were the more relaxed team."

Hampton was key for Ross, finishing with a game-high 15 points.

"Jarren is a co-captain for us and he brings energy," Gedeon said. "Defensively, he is our best defender and he has the ability to drive or shoot. He has composure and gives us an identity."

The Little Giants had a big night on the boards, out-rebounding the Eagles, 36-15. Blodgett had 11 rebounds

See ROSS, Page 2B

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# ROSS

Continued from Page 1B

while Hampton grabbed nine. Druckenmiller added six for good measure.

“Clay is the only team in the league we’ve out-rebounded,” Gedeon said. “I think we might have more height and athleticism than them. We grabbed the ball with two hands and it led us to be successful.”

Ross hit the last six shots in took in

the first quarter for a 15-12 lead. The Eagles used a 7-2 run in the second quarter and opened their biggest lead of the night (24-20) when JD Davis hit a 3-pointer with 3:20 left in the second quarter.

“It is a road win in the league,” Gedeon said. “It is nice to see smiles on the kids’ faces. We had a tough schedule there for a while and have a tough test coming next Friday at home against Toledo St. Francis. We had a good week of practice and played with a good amount of energy tonight. It is a good team win.”

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St Francis 65-57 Loss not reported

## **ALL-DISTRICT 6 BOYS BASKETBALL TEAMS**

### **Boys Division 1 OHSBCA District 6 First Team**

Logan Brewer, Ashland; John Wolfe, Ashland; Zach Stoops, Ashland; Griffin Gerwig, Ashland; Jarren Hampton, Fremont Ross

### **Second Team**

Grant Denbow, Ashland; Steven Blodgett, Fremont Ross; Tavarious Simms, Fremont Ross; Taylor Druckenmiller, Fremont Ross

**Player of Year: Logan  
Brewer, Ashland**

# 2015-16 TRAC Boys Basketball All-Conference Teams

ON FEBRUARY 23RD, 2016



**TRAC Player of the Year:** Xavier Simpson – Lima Senior  
**TRAC Coach of the Year:** Quincey Simpson – Lima Senior

## First Team

Xavier Simpson – Lima Senior – Senior  
Marquevious Wilson – Lima Senior – Senior  
Kenny Coleman-Graham – St. Francis de Sales – Junior  
Vincent Williams – St. John's Jesuit – Sophomore  
Sam Hickey – Whitmer – Senior  
Montrece Collins – Whitmer – Senior

## Second Team

Kyle Nunn – Findlay – Junior  
Jay Thomas – Lima Senior – Senior  
Jarius Ward – Lima Senior – Junior  
John Burnham – St. Francis de Sales – Junior  
Gabe Kynard – St. John's Jesuit – Senior  
Aaron Thompson – St. John's Jesuit – Senior

## Honorable Mention

Jamarr Parker – Central Catholic  
Jalen Daoust – Central Catholic  
Nate Bush – Clay  
Chris Walter – Clay  
Jake Elbin – Findlay  
Chase Miller – Findlay  
Jarren Hampton – Fremont Ross  
Steven Blodgett – Fremont Ross  
Rico Stafford – Lima Senior  
Ruben Flowers – Lima Senior  
Kevin McVicker – St. Francis de Sales  
Jakiel Wells – St. Francis de Sales  
Harrison Riggs – St. John's Jesuit  
Derrick Rayford Jr. – Whitmer  
Mason Durden – Whitmer

**Team Awards  
Voted by the Players**

**Varsity**

**Most Valuable Player: Steven Blodgett**

**Most Improved Player: Tre Bulger**

**Best Defensive Player: Jarren Hampton**

**Billy Stierwalt Award: T.J. Mason, Kaleb Young**

**Captain's Award – Jarren Hampton, Tavarious Simms**