

Ross basketball has new coach

By TIM HARMON
Staff writer

Frank Gioffre has been named head basketball coach at Fremont Ross High School, Athletic Director Pat McGhee announced this morning.

Gioffre, 26, will be formally hired at Monday's Fremont Board of Education meeting.

"I'm really excited about the position," Gioffre said. "It's a great opportunity for me. I felt like I paid my dues at Sandusky for three years as (junior varsity coach).

"This has always been sort of a dream for me. I've always wanted to coach basketball."

Gioffre replaces McGhee, who relinquished the position when he was named

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— Frank Gioffre

athletic director Aug. 8. McGhee compiled a 43-43 record in four seasons with the Little Giants.

"I don't want to change the whole system right away," Gioffre said. "I will try to work with Pat's philosophy and work some of my philosophies in slowly but surely.

"I'm going to make the transition as easy as possible for the kids."

Gioffre said he favors an aggressive man-to-man defense and will likely use a variety of motion offenses.

"I think the people are really going to like the style of ball I'm going to bring to Fremont," he said. "I plan on playing a rotation of eight or nine kids."

A 1982 graduate of Huron High School and a 1986 graduate of Otterbein College, Gioffre has been an assistant at Sandusky High School the past three seasons.

He served one year as a freshman coach and varsity assistant at Huron after graduating from college.

Gioffre was a member of an Otterbein team that was undefeated and the top-

ranked Division III team in the nation for two years. Otterbein compiled a 70-15 record in the three years Gioffre, an All-Ohio Athletic Conference performer, was a member of the team.

Gioffre, who will teach special education at Ross, compiled a 54-6 record as the junior varsity coach at Sandusky.

"I'm going to work really hard for the people in Fremont," Gioffre said. "They are giving me an opportunity and I'm not going to let them down."

McGhee also announced this morning that Alex Clark, a former Ross basketball coach and currently chairman of the school's science department, will be formally hired Monday as assistant athletic director.

Ross eases nervous coach with win

By BOB MARKER
Staff writer

Frank Gioffre could not have gotten a better prescription from a doctor to ease an upset stomach.

The Fremont Ross Little Giants supplied the perfect tonic for their basketball coach's ailments.

Ross scored the first 13 points and sailed to an 80-46 victory over Sylvania Northview in the season opener at Ross High School Tuesday, soothing the first-year varsity coach's turbulent stomach.

Gioffre, in his first year at Ross after coaching the Sandusky High School junior varsity to a 54-6 record the past three seasons, was nowhere to be seen while his Little Giants squad went through pregame warmups.

"I was inside, in the restroom," Gioffre admitted, "with butterflies, vomiting, upset stomach... typical things for a coach in his first game."

Northview, sporting T-shirts with "One for the wall" emblazoned on the back, was put up against the wall by a pressurized

Ross defense and an offense that tore apart the inner defenses of the Wildcats.

Jeff Green put Ross ahead for good with a bucket from 3 feet out 20 seconds into the game and the Little Giants wrote a prescription that failed their coach only briefly.

Green, a 6-7 senior, scored nine points in the first three minutes with Mark Sheidler and Chris Wolfe adding the other buckets for a 13-0 lead. Northview finally got on the board on a pair of technical foul shots awarded Jeff Slade when Nick Wolf was

called for reaching over the base line on a Wildcat inbounds play.

Northview ran off four straight points but Sheidler and Justin Perry scored back-to-back buckets and the Wildcats never got closer than 11 the rest of the way.

"Our kids played hard," Gioffre said about the quick start, "that was the key ingredient."

"Everyone showed a great amount of intensity; we were patient with the basket-

See ROSS, B-3