

1990 Division I Sectional Tournament

# Ross advances to sectional final

By BOB MARKER  
Staff writer

NORWALK — Fremont Ross turned up the pressure and the effort expelled Ashland from the Division I boys basketball tournament Tuesday night at Norwalk Middle School.

The Little Giants trailed by 10 in the third quarter but behind Shane McConnell's 12 fourth-quarter points, Ross overtook the Arrows and posted a 67-57 win in the tournament's first round.

The victory puts the Little Giants into the 6:30 p.m. Friday sectional final against Mansfield Senior, which defeated Tiffin Columbian 90-73 Tuesday.

Ross, after spurting to a 14-9 lead with 1:52 remaining in the first quarter, fell behind 21-14 two minutes into the second period. Steve McAllister and Randy Norris

scored five points apiece for Ashland and the Arrows maintained a four to seven-point cushion the rest of the half, walking off the floor with a 35-29 halftime lead.

"We did not make any major adjustments at halftime," Ross coach Pat McGhee said, "other than we felt like we really had to increase our pressure on defense and force their guards to handle the ball."

"We caused some turnovers and chipped away at the lead with some defense and we rebounded the ball better in the second half. Those were the two things we did better in the second half."

In the second quarter, Ashland took charge of the boards and the lead.

"We were standing around and waiting for the ball to come to us instead of going to the ball and snapping it off aggressively," McGhee said. "We did not snap too

many of them in the second quarter but we went back to doing that better in the third and fourth quarter."

Coupled with the poor rebounding was Ross could not hit a short shot.

"We missed 14 shots in the paint in the first half," McGhee pointed out. "It was not so much they were beating us as we were beating ourselves."

The Little Giants trailed 39-29 before McGhee began to see his team respond to his halftime urgings.

Ross forced five turnovers while scoring 10 straight points. Jeff Green started the run with a tip at the 5:58 mark of the third period. Chris Wolfe followed with two buckets, Green hit another and Todd Clark scored on a breakaway layup off an Ashland turnover, tying the contest at the 3:30 mark.

Grant Fauver stopped the Ross run, hitting two free throws for Ashland but Hector Rodriguez canned a free throw and McConnell gave Ross its first lead since the first quarter on a driving layup. Ashland came back to lead 43-42 at the end of the three quarters but Ross had the tempo in its favor.

After Chad Honaker put Ashland up 45-42, the Little Giants took over. Wolfe hit a free throw and McConnell tied it with two more free tosses with 6:37 remaining in the game. Seventeen seconds later, McConnell launched a 3-point bomb from the left side and Ross never trailed again.

The Little Giants built a 56-51 lead before the Arrows closed to 56-55 but McConnell rifled in another 3-pointer for a 59-55

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## Ross

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lead with 2:30 to play.

Aaron Crites cut the deficit to 59-57 but the Ross defense forced two turnovers and the Little Gi-

ants made eight consecutive free throws down the stretch to hold off the Arrows.

Ross made 20 of 28 free throws, one of its better efforts.

McConnell had a season-high 23 points, Green 14 and Wolfe 12 for Ross. Crites had 14 for Ashland and Fauver 13, seven below his

average.

"We had too many turnovers in the first half (12) but in the second half, we took care of the ball better and then made the shots," McGhee said. "We just finished the plays."

That was enough to finish Ashland.

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# Basketball

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## High School Boys

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### Ross 67, Ashland 57

	Score by quarters				
Ross	14	15	13	25	— 67
Ashland	14	21	8	14	— 57

#### Scoring

ROSS — Chris Wolfe 5-2-12, Jeff Green 6-4-16, Shane McConnell 7-6-23, Todd Clark 2-0-4, Justin Oxley 0-5-5, Cory Lance 1-0-2, Hector Rodriguez 1-1-3, Mark Gottron 0-4-4, totals 22-20-67.

ASHLAND — Grant Fauver 4-4-13, Steve mcAllister 2-3-7, Trent Harrop 2-2-7, Chad Honaker 2-3-7, Aaron Crites 5-3-14, Randy Norris 3-3-9, totals 18-18-57.

3-points goals: McConnell 3, Fauvey, Harrop, Crites.

Records: Ross 13-8, Ashland 10-11.

# Mansfield Senior runs past Ross

By TIM HARMON  
Staff writer

NORWALK — Mansfield Senior's 100-64 Division I boys sectional victory over Fremont Ross Friday night is summarized by the initial responses of coaches Joe Prats and Pat McGhee.

"What can you say," Mansfield's Prats said after the Tygers scored at least 100 points for the sixth time this season and

won the school's eighth sectional championship in 10 seasons.

A simple four-letter expletive was Ross coach Pat McGhee's first utterance.

The edited version of McGhee's comments: "Pretty similar (to Mansfield's 63-58 sectional victory over Ross last year)."

Mansfield, which has won six sectional titles in seven seasons including three straight, started

thinking about the district tournament after a 12-0 second-quarter run gave it a 40-29 lead with 2:15 left before halftime.

"We really get pumped up," Prats said. "Our season is geared to peaking at the right time."

Mansfield, 20-2, will play Findlay Thursday in the district tournament at Bowling Green High School. The Trojans defeated

Bowling Green 57-43 Friday in a sectional title game at Ohio Northern University.

Ross, 13-9, trailed 26-17 early in the second quarter, but a 10-2 run by the Little Giants made it 28-27 with 4:56 left in the period.

After Jerry Lanier's jump shot from the left corner made it 30-27, Ross committed five straight turnovers — which the Tygers converted into 10 points.

"We made some poor decisions," McGhee said.

A timeout and a basket by Joe Frazier got Ross off the slide, but Mansfield closed the first half with an 11-3 run including a turnaround shot by Robert Milner and a three-point play after a turnover by Scott Francis in the final five seconds.

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# Ross

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The Little Giants committed 11 of their 27 turnovers in the second quarter.

"They thought they had a chance to make a game of it," Prats said. "We had that spurt and it gave us a cushion to go on in the second half."

Mansfield, which led 23-15 after one quarter and 51-32 at halftime, moved out to a 72-49 lead after three quarters.

"We never got the game in the half court," McGhee said. "It was a full-court game from the first two minutes until the last two minutes."

"We had to do what we did to get back in it (28-27) throughout the whole game," McGhee said. "Checking out, making free throws and finishing plays off the press."

Said Prats, "They were hurting us on the press by sending a man to the middle. We made adjustments and took the option of the cutter away from them."

Kenny Feagin led six Tygers in double figures with 18 points. Chico Feagin scored 17 points for Mansfield, Francis finished with 15 including an 11 of 15 effort at the foul line, Eddie Marshall added 13 and Terrence Carmichael and Robert Jones chipped in 11 and 10, respectively.

"They have too many weapons," McGhee said. "You try to take something away, and they make it tough because they can run 10 guys at you."

Jeff Green led Ross with 15 points and nine rebounds and was joined in double figures by Frazier with 10 points.

"I thought Green played well when we got him the ball," McGhee said. "But for Jeff to be real effective, it's got to be a half-court game."

"It wasn't the type tempo for him to be effective on a consistent basis."

Mansfield shot 64 percent from the field — with most of their shots coming inside 10 feet.

The Tygers' hit the century mark on a 3-point shot by Robert Marshall with two seconds left in the game.

## Mansfield 100, Ross 64

### Score by quarters

Mansfield	23	28	21	28	—	100
Ross	15	17	17	15	—	64

### Scoring

**MANSFIELD** — Kenny Feagin 6-6-18, Chico Feagin 8-1-7, Scott Francis 2-11-15, Jerry Lanier 3-1-7, Terrence Carmichael 4-2-11, Robert Jones 4-2-10, Eddie Marshall 5-2-13, Robert Milner 2-0-4, Robert Marshall 2-0-5, totals 36-25-100.

**ROSS** — Todd Clark 2-3-7, Justin Oxley 1-2-4, Jeff Green 7-1-15, Chris Wolfe 1-2-4, Shane McConnell 3-0-9, Mark Gottron 2-0-6, Cory Lance 4-0-8, Joe Frazier 4-2-10, Hector Rodriguez 0-1-1, totals 24-11-64.

3-point goals: Carmichael, E. Marshall, R. Marshall.

Records: Mansfield 20-2, Ross 13-9.