

LITTLE GIANTS OPEN SEASON 79-35 WINNERS

by [Bill Bray](#) | Dec 4, 2022 | [Boys Basketball](#)



By Bill Bray

FREMONT – The tale of two halves took place at the “Purple Pit” Saturday night as the Fremont Ross Little Giants strolled to a 79-35 victory in the team’s opener.

After spending the first half shaking off the nerves and mistakes, Ross turned up the heat in the cold gym in the third quarter, pouring in 32 third-quarter points to gain their inaugural victory.

“At the break, I told them just to stop being so nervous,” coach John Cahill said. “We just played so tight. We scrimmaged well the past few weeks, but we just looked terrified in the first half.”

All-Ohio candidate Ayden Carter carried the team on his shoulders the first half as the senior ended the first two quarters with 19 of Fremont’s 36 points. The Giants ended the first half holding a 36-25 lead.



Carter Rodriguez (10) started the season out right with 19 points.



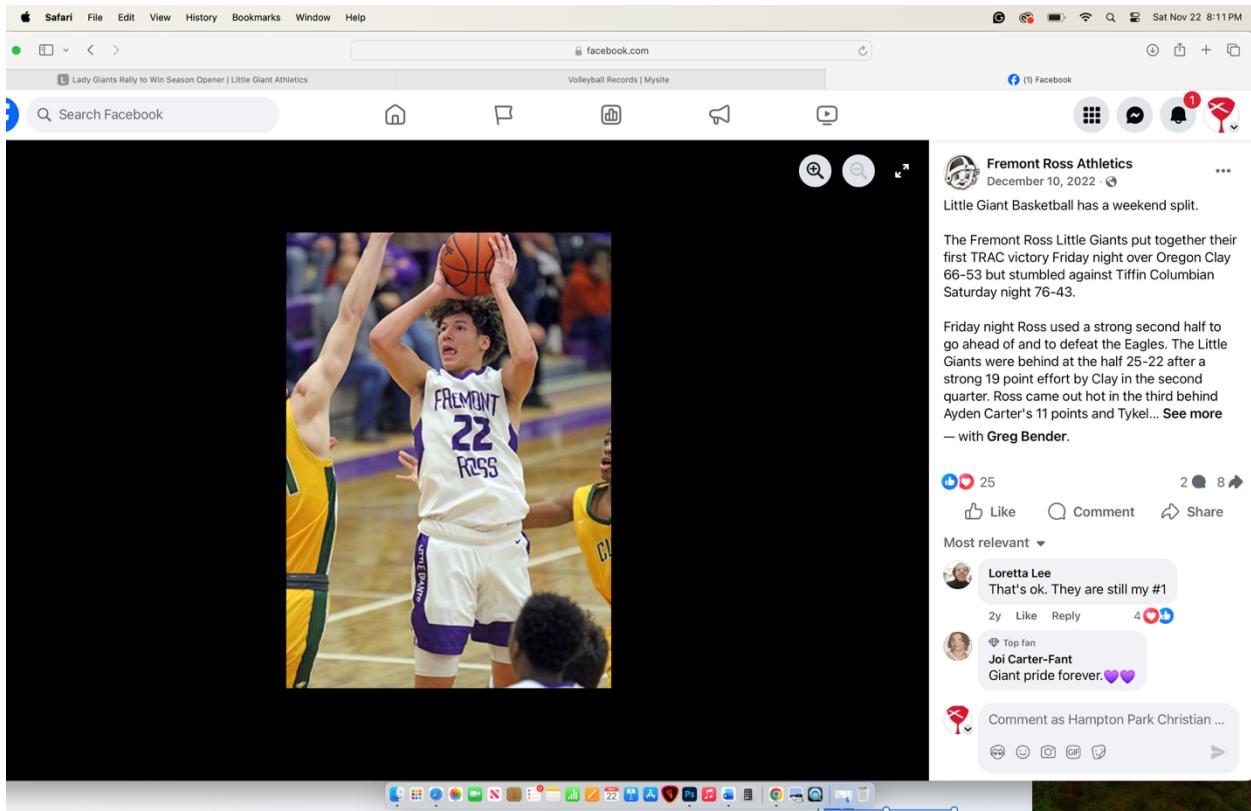
Ayden Carter (22) scores two of his 30 points with this rim tickler.

It proved to be a third quarter led by Fremont's two senior veterans, Carter and Carter Rodriguez. Of the 32 third-quarter points scored in the third frame, Carter contributed eight points while Rodriguez came to life, leading the way with 13 markers.

Fremont's score sheet, which is shown on this page, indicates that Carter ended the night with an acceptable 30-point performance. Carter Rodriguez was the other double-figure scorer for Ross with 19 points. Makai Lee, a new face to the varsity, scored nine, seniors Mason Durnwald and Adam "Ciwey" Hrynciw finished with seven points apiece, fellow senior Anthony Vann had four points, and DeKentre Hardin finished with a three-pointer for three points.

"We had a lot of guys playing varsity for the first time," Cahill added. "Once we got going, I like this team. If we are judged on how hard we play and how well we share the ball, we struggled with that early. But when we put up 32 in the third quarter, the ball moved well, and a lot of our guys got shots. I think we will be a team that Fremont will be proud of."

The Little Giants have back-to-back games this weekend when they host TRAC opponent Oregon Clay Friday night and then play host to a tough Tiffin Columbian Tornado team Saturday.



TOLEDO ST. FRANCIS 51, FREMONT ROSS 35
12-16-2022



December 20, 2022

Little Giants fall to the Titans 66-46

By Bill Bray

TOLEDO – For a quarter and a few minutes the Little Giants stuck right on the Titans. Then in the second quarter with 6:09 remaining with the score tied 23-23, the Titans ran on a 14-1 run the remainder of the half to build a halftime lead of 37-24.

The Giants came out fired up in the third period and hit a few shots but could never get closer than 10 points the rest of the way.

Ayden Carter continues to lead Ross scorers in a big way. The senior veteran scored 22 points while Devontre Hardin and Anthony Vann finished with six points apiece.

The Titans had four players in double figures in their high energy offense.

"Credit to St John's for shooting at a high clip," coach Cahill said. "We did some good things tonight and will continue to grow."

Next up for the Little Giants is the team from Latrobe PA. The game was switched to Wednesday evening from Thursday evening because of the impending weather forecast.



LITTLE GIANTS CONQUER GREATER LATROBE, PA

by Bill Bray | Dec 22, 2022 | Boys Basketball



By Bill Bray

FREMONT – The Little Giants gave themselves an early Christmas gift Wednesday evening at the Purple Pit with a 58-56 win over Greater Latrobe, PA.

It was the first time a Little Giant basketball team hosted a team from outside Ohio. The Pennsylvania team will spend the night in Findlay and play the Trojans on Thursday at 4 pm.

The Little Giants turned on the jets throughout the game as they were pressured by full-court defense, breaking through it several times. Many times, the Giants seemed almost out of control, as the game moved at a fast, furious pace. "It's the first time all year we faced that kind of pressure," coach John Cahill said. "They did a great job of running bodies at us. Then we ran into a stretch where we ran into foul trouble, so we were putting guys in different positions. We only have three guys who played last year, so the rest of our lineup is still figuring things out as they go. You can't beat varsity experience. Dekentre (Hardin) was at the foul line late, and he has never been in that situation at the varsity level. Makai (Lee), along with a few other sophomores, was in new situations. I am just happy with everyone who played. I thought Jacob Krebs gave us some great minutes in the first half, and I thought Justin Haralson, the freshman, came in and did a great job inside."

The team was led on defense by several Giants. Anthony Vann, Ayden Carter, Carter Rodriguez, Justin Haralson, and the "garbage man" Adam Hrynciw. Wherever the ball was, that is where Hrynciw was. "Ciwey" has no ego and plays," Cahil said. "He plays as hard as he can."

Offensively, the team, as always, was led by its leader, Ayden Carter. The senior is still fighting through double and sometimes triple teams to lead the

Giants in point production. Against Latrobe, Carter scored just 16 points as he received his fourth foul early in the third quarter. Also scoring for Ross was Carter Rodriguez, who contributed with 12 points to be the only other Giant in double figures. Hrynciw added nine points, and Vann finished with seven points. Lee had five points, and Tykell Patterson finished with four points. Hardin and Haralson had two points apiece, and Mason Durnwald added a point from the foul line.

In the end, the foul line was critical for the Giants tonight, and they answered the call, finishing 14-22 from the line. "I'm happy with the win. We are 3-3 and have a little time off here for the holidays, then we come back next week for a few games in the Jingle Bell Jam Tournament in Sandusky." Cahill concluded.



Ayden Carter (22) continues to be the offensive leader for Ross as he connected for 16 points.



Anthony Vann (1) eyes the basket as he goes up for two point.



Tykell Patterson (24) looks for a team mate for an assist.



Makai Lee (21) is one of the sophomore who is getting experience at the varsity level this season.,



Freshman Justin Haralson (15) tries for two points during first half action.



Senior Jacob Krebs (25) earned praise from his coach during his time on the floor.



Dekendre Hardin (55) got some minutes during the game Wednesday night at the varsity level.



Spark-plug Carter Rodriguez (10) supplies the quickness and moves for the Little Giants.



Senior Adam Hrynciw is taking advantage of his role on the varsity this season as he was around the basket on numerous occasions versus Latrobe, PA.

FREMONT ROSS 62, LIMA BATH 51
12-29-2022

SPRINGFIELD 66, FREMONT ROSS 61 OT
12-30-2022

TOLEDO ST. CATHOLIC 71, FREMONT ROSS 59
01-03-2023

FINDLAY 73, FREMONT ROSS 48
01-06-2023

LIMA SR. 71, FREMONT ROSS 43
01-10-2023



January 14, 2023 ·

Little Giants Battle but Fall Short 69-63

By Bill Bray

FREMONT – The Fremont Ross Little Giants' Men's Basketball team returned to home action Friday night where they hosted the Toledo Whitmer Panthers in a Three Rivers Athletic Conference Battle. When the smoke cleared, Ross had fallen in a hard fought 69-63 verdict.

After falling behind early 3-2, the Little Giants (4-8, 1-6) roared to a 11-0 run to build a 19-5 advantage at the end of the first quarter. It was the senior quartet of, Anthony Vann, Carter Rodriguez, Ayden Carter, and Adam Hrynciw who contributed to the first quarter run. Vann led the charge connecting on two three pointers during the stretch.

After a three-ball from another senior, Mason Durnwald, the Giants saw their lead escalate to 17 points at 22-5 as the second quarter began. By the time the half ended, however, the Panthers overcame their cold shooting and closed the gap to just a nine-point deficit as the halftime score read Fremont Ross 35, Toledo Whitmer 26.

After two 3's from Whitmer (8-4, 6-1) and another bucket off a steal, the Panthers were right back in the contest at 37-35. They tied the game at 40-40 at the 5:22 mark of the third period as they climbed to the top of the hole, they had dug for themselves early on.

The 40-40 tie was broken off a Whitmer steal followed by a three-point goal and yet two more points off a Ross turnover. By the end of the third period Whitmer had taken a 57-46 advantage.

The fourth quarter began with a 3-pointer by Rodriguez to make it an eight-point game at 57-49. Ross, thanks in larger part to Rodriguez, Carter and Vann scrapped their way back into the game as Carter's make made it a 65-60 game. The Little Giants stayed close the rest of the way but could not overtake the Panthers as Whitmer escaped from the "Purple Pit" a 69-63 winner.

"I'm proud of our effort and the improvement we showed against the top team in our league," coach John Cahill said. "Obviously not happy with the result, but excited for the second half of the season."

Antione West, the TRAC's leading scorer, led his team pouring in 32 points. The Whitmer star was the key to their come from behind win. He scored 15 third quarter points to go with four more in the fourth period.

Carter, the second leading scorer in the TRAC, led his Purple and White legions with 20 points. Rodriguez contributed with 14 points and Vann ended the night with 10 points.

Ross gets a bit of a breather now until Friday when they travel to Toledo St. Francis.

(NOTE: Thanks to Douglas Hise for the photos)





January 21, 2023 - ☀

St Francis Downs Little Giants 77-62

By Bill Bray

TOLEDO – A team can either live or die by the three-point shot. Toledo St. Francis not only lived, but they canned 13 3-pointers to send Fremont Ross to their 9th defeat in 13 games.

Just as in their last few outings, Ross (4-9, 1-7) was aggressive offensively the first quarter while showing some good defensive effort throughout the first half. At the end of the first quarter the Giants had a 15-10 advantage thanks in large part to a pair of three-pointers from Carter Rodriguez and a third '3-ball' from Ayden Carter.

The second quarter saw Te'Lir Sanders drain three of his five makes from beyond the arc. In most cases he stood waiting in the corner and his shots fell like a winter snowflake. Add a fourth three from Heck and the Knights took the halftime lead 30-27.

The third quarter the Little Giants were outscored 19-15 as the defense began missing assignments and the spark that belong to the Purple and White in the first eight minutes was not burning as brightly. "I believe in this team," coach John Cahill said. "We had some missed assignments in the second half and we just kind of fell apart. I am determined to keep working and trying to find ways to improve going down the stretch."

The third period saw five more three-point shots from St Francis. Ross continued to fall further behind because of those shots from beyond the arc.

In the final eight minutes St. Francis outscored Ross 28-20. Again, St Francis added their 12th and 13th three-point shots.

Ayden Carter led Ross with 21 points. Others in double figures included Carter Rodriguez with 17 and Anthony Vann with 13.

St Francis (11-5, 4-4) finished with four players in double figures. Reche Dixon has 19 to lead the Knights, including three from beyond the arc. Te'Lir Sanders, the man in the corner, finished with 17 points, five from three-point land. Vince Ferguson was big for the Knights as well as he scored all 16 of his points in the final eight minutes. Add five more three-point goals by Jameson Heck who finished with 15 points and the result is clear.

Other Scores

51-46. Whitmer over Findlay

62-46 Central over St Johns

80-42 Lima Sr. over Clay



TOLEDO ST. JOHN'S 58, FREMONT ROSS 45
01-24-2023

TOLEDO CENTRAL CATHOLIC 75, FREMONT ROSS 31
01-27-2023



January 29, 2023 ·

Little Giants score 72 in win over Oak Harbor

OAK HARBOR – After losing to a very good Toledo Central Catholic team Friday night, the Fremont Ross Little Giants' boys basketball team bounced back Saturday with a 72-59 win over the 6-11 Oak Harbor Rockets. A member of the Sandusky Bay Conference.

After one half of play, Ross (5-11) held a 32-26 advantage thanks in large part to the first half effort from co-captain Anthony Vann who led Fremont in scoring the first 16 minutes with 14 points.

The biggest question for the Giants was could they maintain the lead into the second half of play as the third period has plagued them in every loss this season. 22 points later during the period that question was answered with a resounding "YES". A put-back from Tykel Patterson started the third period followed by an Ayden Carter bucket. These makes gave Ross a 10-point advantage at 36-26. After an Oak Harbor basket, Anthony Vann put Ross up by 11 with a three-point shot making it 39-28. Carter scored the next basket and Ross found themselves with a 13-point advantage with 5:49 remaining in the quarter.

A 12-point margin was intact for Ross with 2:05 remaining as they had a 51-39 advantage. The quarter ended with a three point make by the Rockets closing the Ross lead to 54-46.

Oak Harbor sank a second straight 'three' to start the fourth quarter and suddenly it was a five-point Ross lead at 54-49. Carter Rodriguez, living and dying with the three-ball all game long, lived with one giving the Giants a 57-49 lead with 6:26 remaining in the game. But two buckets by Oak Harbor and Ross' lead shrunk to four points 57-53 with 4:58 remaining.

Oak Harbor had scratched and clawed back to a two-point deficit, 57-55, with 4:33 remaining.

But it was Rodriguez again firing from 'downtown' and scoring giving Ross a 60-55 lead. After a Carter Basket, the teams traded turnovers and two missed free throws by Oak Harbor led to a Fremont Ross timeout with 2:03 left with Ross up seven at 62-55.

After the Ross time out, it was yet another 'three-ball' from Rodriguez building the Ross lead to 10 once again at 65-55. The remaining seven Ross points were dropped in by Ayden Carter and Ross had their fifth win of the season 72-59.

"I grew up going to the Ross vs Oak Harbor games and Oak Harbor won often," a happy coach John Cahill said. "It was a great high school atmosphere. I was proud of the way our guys defended."

Ross' two co-captains, Ayden Carter and Anthony Vann led the Ross charge scoring a total of 46 of Fremont's 72 points. Carter finished with 25 and Vann had 21. Rodriguez ended with 17 points.

The Little Giants return home with a TRAC showdown when Findlay returns to the "Purple Pit Friday night. [See less](#)



By Bill Bray

FREMONT – The Little Giants dropped their ninth of ten Three Rivers Athletic Conference meetings with their nemesis from the south, the Findlay Trojans 62-41.

Much of the game was viewed as Findlay vs Ayden Carter (pictured below) as the senior leader of the Giants finished with 24 of his teams 41 points.

Findlay (12-7, 10-2) sank seven three-point shots during the contest as they used their first of the "tres" on a wing and a prayer to end the first quarter that ended with the Trojans having a 10-point advantage at 20-10.

Findlay's lead ballooned to a 14-point lead at the end of the first half. Jake Bishop continued his dominating play versus the Little Giants, in the first meeting between the schools, Bishop poured in 30 points to lead Findlay to a 73-48 win. This time, Bishop had a game high 26 points in the 21-point victory.

Ayden Carter kept pace with Bishop with his 24-points to lead Ross (5-12, 1-10) but the difference was the supporting cast. While Carter scored 58% of Fremont's points. There was no one else in double figures as Carter Rodriguez ended with seven points and Mason Durnwald



 **Fremont Ross Athletics** · February 7, 2023 · 

Little Giants deliver a slam dunk at Oregon Clay 78-65

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 **Fremont Ross Athletics**
Story will follow Wednesday..
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February 11, 2023

Little Giants Battle but Fall to Lima Sr. 61-53

By Bill Bray

FREMONT – It seems to be the destiny of the Ross boys' basketball team to battle for four quarters but come up short as they lost their 13th game in 19 tries Friday night to TRAC opponent the Lima Sr. Spartans.

Ross (6-13, 2-11) only had one lead in the game that came with 3:07 remaining in the third period after a three-point play by Ayden Carter. The first tie of the game came early when Tykell Patterson made a putback basket to make it a 2-2 game. But for the remainder of the first quarter the Spartans held off the Giants. It seemed every time the Giants were good on their offensive end of the court, Lima Sr. always had an answer. After Lima built a 16-9 lead with two minutes left in the first quarter, Fremont fought back as Anthony Vann sank a three-point shot and Makai Lee was fouled from beyond the arc but was good on only one of three foul shots as the score was 17-13 in Lima's favor with 1:08 remaining in the half. Ross shrunk Lima's lead to two at 17-15 on a nice pass from Patterson to Lee for the bucket with 7.4 second remaining in the half. Lima sank a shot at the buzzer and had a 19-15 lead after one quarter.

A Lima put-back in the second quarter gave the Spartans their biggest lead at 24-16 with a little more than a minute gone the second quarter. However, behind Carter's 12 points during the quarter Ross tied the game up at 30-30 with 1:59 remaining, but again, Lima moved away with a three-pointer, two foul shots and a put back to end the half up 39-30.

The Spartans grew the lead to 41-31 with two foul shots early in the third period. Again, Carter and Rodriguez shared a pair of threes and Carter added another tradition three-point play to give Ross a short-lived lead at 44-43. By the time the quarter was over though Lima was back up five points at 49-44.

Ross was within two points after a Mason Durnwald bomb from beyond the arc that cut Lima's lead to 49-47 as the fourth quarter began. But again, the Spartans used rebounding and putbacks to build their lead back to 59-50 with 1:47 remaining. Carter added one more three-pointer down the stretch, but the Spartans hung on for the 61-53 TRAC win.

"We are wanting to be at our best come tournament time and I am hoping that will be the case," Ross coach John Cahill said. "Our young guys are continuing to improve, and we have to have the senior leadership in order to make things happen."

Fremont is back in action tonight as they meet Bowling Green in a game that was postponed earlier in the season then the Giants travel to conference leader Toledo Whitmer to take on the Panthers Friday.

Ross finished 13 of 31 from two-point range and five of 22 from three-point land. They hit 12 of 19 foul shots. The Giants managed 31 rebounds, 20 defensive and 11 offensive boards. Anthony Vann led Ross rebounders with six.

Carter continuing his assault on the season scoring record accumulated 28 points. The total gives the senior leader 406 points on the season, just 52 points behind Greg Bender's 458 set in 1984-85. Rodriguez finished with 12 hard earned points including one three and three foul shots to go with his three two-point makes. Vann and Lee added four points apiece. Durnwald finished with three and Patterson finished with two.





February 12, 2023 ·

Giants Score Win over Bowling Green

By Bill Bray

FREMONT – The Fremont Ross Little Giants basketball team used a great defensive performance to go along with 32 points by Ayden Carter to win their 7th game of the season and three of their last five.

During first quarter action, Ross played behind most of the eight minutes. They took an early 6-5 lead thanks to two 3-point goals by Anthony Vann and Carter. The two seniors scored all of Fremont's 15 first quarter points, but they trailed at the buzzer 18-15.

The game was tied four different times during the second quarter. A bucket by Adam Hryniw saw the first tie at 18-18. Carter Rodriguez was one of two at the line as the score was 22-22 with 4:25 remaining in the quarter. A 24-24 tie occurred after two Carter foul shots and a make by Bowling Green at the 3:38 mark. The action was fast and furious as another tie happened at 28-28 after two Bowling Green foul shots and a tough two-point goal by Vann. The two teams seesawed back and forth from there. A bucket by Carter, a three by the Bobcats and a last second bucket by Vann left Ross up 32-31 at the break. It was Vann and Carter again who kept the Giants in the game during third period play. Ross held a 38-35 lead after a bucket from Carter. But Bowling Green kept fighting and after a Ross turnover took a 39-38 lead with 2:30 remaining in the third. Ross regained the lead in the battle Rodriguez to make the score 42-39. After Bowling Green crept back within one at 42-41, Vann stepped up to the plate again. A tough make near the basket that led to an 'and one' that the senior calmly converted, Ross was up 45-41. The quarter ended with a Durnwald 3 giving the Giants their biggest lead of the night at 48-42.

A Carter '3' shot the Giants out to a nine-point lead at 51-42 as the fourth quarter began. Bowling Green got within three points at 53-50 with 3:50 left. But the remaining time belonged to the Little Giants as they outscored Bowling Green 13-6 the rest of the way.

Ross finished 17 of 31 from two-point range, seven of 24 from 'three-point land' And 11 of 17 from the foul line.

Individually, Carter finished with 32 points and 10 rebounds. Vann turned it up a notch and finished with 17 points and seven rebounds.

Two tough games remain before the tournament takes place. Ross goes to Whitmer Friday and then comes home for their final game in the "Purple Pit" for the season against rival Sandusky. [See less](#)

TOLEDO WHITMER 78, FREMONT ROSS 62
02-17-2023

SANDUSKY 91, FREMONT ROSS 70
02-18-2023

FREMONT ROSS BASKETBALL

1st Team ALL-TRAC

FREMONT ROSS BASKETBALL

Hon. Mention ALL-TRAC

FREMONT ROSS LITTLE GIANTS

Fremont Ross Athletics
February 21, 2023 · [See more](#)

Congratulations goes out to senior Ayden Carter - who over the weekend was selected as a member of the 1st Team all conference within the TRAC. This honor is fitting for Ross' most recent 1000 point scorer.... [See more](#)

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Congratulations! Great job!

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Michael Salas
Congratulations young man!

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FREMONT ROSS BASKETBALL

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FREMONT **ALL-TRAC**

CARTER RODRIGUEZ
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LITTLE GIANTS

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