

## 1970-1971 Class AAA Sectional Tournament

# Little Giants Rip Shelby For Tourney Win

## Lewis' 38 Sparks 82-58 Victory

By MARK CARLSON  
News-Messenger Sports Editor  
NORWALK — John Lewis gave Ashland high school basketball coach Doug McDonald something to think about.

Lewis went on a scoring expedition here last night and when it was all over the sharp-eyed senior had ripped the cords for 38 points to lead Ross past out-manned Shelby, 82-58, in the opening game of the Ashland AAA sectional tournament.

McDonald will probably spend the next three days trying to devise a defense to stop Lewis, who scored from outside and underneath in the 30 minutes that he was on the floor. Ross plays Ashland at Ashland College Saturday at 6:30 p.m. for the right to advance to the sectional finals.

"Is he always like that?" asked Shelby head coach Charlie Williams. "Fremont wouldn't be a bad team to play against if you didn't have to defense against Lewis."

"He was definitely the difference. He started well and was relaxed. After that there was no way we could stop him. 'Yes one of the best we've faced in a long time.'"

With Lewis accounting for eight points, Ross jumped into an 18-8 lead in the first quarter. He added nine more in the second quarter when the Little Giants outscored the Whippets, 21-12.

The third quarter was the biggest for Lewis — 17 points. He connected for seven field goals in 11 tries and was three-for-three at the foul line. Four more points followed in the fourth quarter before he was pulled from the game.

"There isn't much I can say about John's performance except that it was tremendous," Head Coach Alex Clark said. "He was taking the good shots

like we have wanted him to do all year. We were getting him open a lot more on the break than we have done in our previous games."

"He did a lot more than just shoot, however. He also helped out on the boards (seven rebounds) and had a couple of steals."

When Lewis wasn't scoring, Denny Shearon and spunky Dave Kridler were ridding the Shelby zone defense. Shearon accounted for 10 points and Kridler chipped in the same.

The entire Ross team had a hot hand from the floor. Lewis made 15 of 35 attempts with the rest of the squad scoring on 15 of 33. The starting five combined to make 27 of 47.

The victory was never in doubt. After the score was tied at two, Ross ran off eight straight points, a pair of baskets by Lewis and one apiece from Kridler and Bob Brudzinski, to take a 10-2 lead with 4:29 still left in the opening quarter.

Dave Hoover closed the gap to 10-4 with a 20-footer but Lewis countered with a shot from deep in the left corner. Shelby got a free throw from Denny Zeiters before Chuck Celek tallied his only basket of the game to make it 14-5.

Ross' bulge closed to six points (14-8) before Lewis and Kridler closed the period with buckets. Shelby again came within six (18-12) at the start of the second quarter. But a field goal and free throw from Lewis and two more charity tosses by Kridler lifted Ross to an 11-point advantage, 23-12, with 5:44 still left in the half.

The Whippets, who were 7-11 during the regular season, narrowed the gap to nine (23-14 and 25-16) in the next minute.

Kridler then hit for a bucket and Brudzinski scored from close range twice to make it 31-16. After Jeff Hassler made it 31-18, Shearon came back with a field

goal and Lewis added two free throws making the scoreboard read 35-18 with 2:12 left in the half.

Hassler closed the Shelby scoring with about a minute remaining when he hit from above the key. Lewis and Shearon then scored in a 28-second span to hike the lead to 19 points, 39-20.

Twice in the third quarter Shelby cut the Little Giant advantage to 14 (51-37 and 53-39). Ross, however, scored nine straight points in the final 1:11 to enter the fourth quarter with a 62-39 cushion.

It was Lewis who was instrumental in building the lead to 23, which was the biggest of the night for Ross until that point. He scored seven of the nine points in the stretch. Two Kridler free throws accounted for the other markers.

Tom Liggins and Lewis tallied in the opening moments of the fourth quarter to make it 66-39. The biggest lead came at the 4:59 and 2:15 marks when Ross was in front by 27 points, 70-43 and 76-40.

Clark began to clear the bench with about four minutes left in the game. Lewis was the final starter to leave the floor. He received a standing ovation from the Little Giant followers when he headed to the bench with 2:29 remaining.

Ross employed 12 players during the contest, including several who were elevated from the reserve squad. All but two squad members dented the scoring column.

Statistically, the Little Giants dominated every department. Ross finished with a 30-56 performance from the floor compared to Shelby's 26-57. At the line the winners were 22-31. Shelby shot a very cold 27.4 percent from the stripe, making six of 22.

In the rebounding departments, Ross had a 47-41 advantage. Shearon and Brudzinski combined to pull down 24 of the Little Giant carcasses. Shearon grabbed 14, including 11 in the first half, and Brudzinski 10.

## Were Little Giants Saving Something?

NORWALK — "I guess we've just been saving it."

That was the comment of Ross basketball coach Alex Clark as he accepted congratulations for the Little Giants' lopsided 82-58 sectional AAA victory over Shelby last night.

"I don't know how else to describe it," Clark said. "This was probably our best game all year. It was a steady effort. We never let up."

Naturally, John Lewis, who scored 38 points, a career high, was the center of attention in the happy locker room.

"He sure helped out," Clark said. "He was hitting the good shots. I can say enough about his effort. I hope he can keep going."

"John does need some scoring help from the other fellows. At times we had a pretty good effort from them tonight. Saturday they will have to help out more."

Next assignment for the Little Giants on the tournament trail is Ashland. The Arrows, who were 15-3 in regular season play, are the second-seeded team in the Ashland College sectional. Game time at Ashland College's Gym is 6:30 p.m.

One of the keys to the Ross victory was the defensive effort turned in by Dave Kridler against Shelby's high scoring Denny Zeiters. The Northern Ohio League's leading scorer this season was limited to just eight points — three field goals and two free throws.

"The job Kridler did on Zeiters was very important," Clark said. "When Zeiters couldn't get free for the good shot it hurt their entire offense. Kridler also directed the offense well. He was getting the ball to Lewis when he was open."

"Our defensive effort was very important. Denny Shearon had a good night on the boards and so did Bob Brudzinski. Both of them also came up with a couple of important buckets."

"Chuck Celek kept them from getting the ball to their big man (Mike Felter) in the first half. Felter had only six points in the first two quarters and four of them came in the second."

"I thought our first half effort was the difference. We dominated it in every respect. It was the key to the ball game."

## Dobson Throws Curve For Drugs

By DICK COUCH  
Associated Press Sports Writer

Chuck Dobson has thrown Bowie Kuhn a curve by making a pitch for the "Greenies."

While other pitchers loosened up their throwing arms at spring training camps Tuesday, the Oakland right-hander questioned about baseball's upcoming drug seminars, admitted that he had taken pain pills called greenies and said, "I don't see anything wrong in it."

Dobson will attend one of the seminars, set for next month to watch what you're getting to watch."

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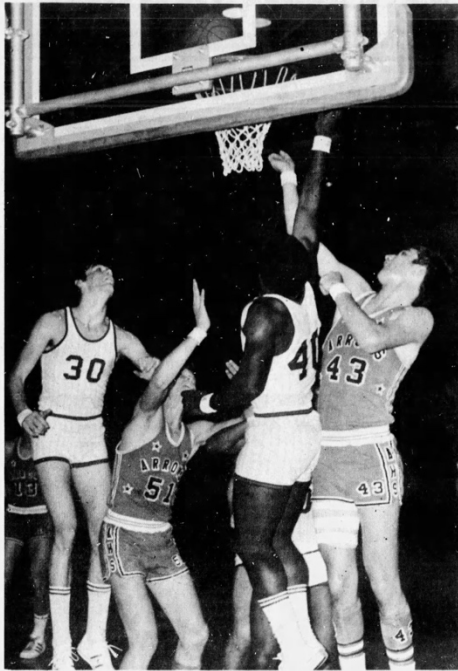
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# Little Giants Bow Out Of Tournament



**TIP-IN ATTEMPT**—Tom Liggins (40) of Fremont Ross tips ball to bucket on this offensive series in second quarter of Ross-Ashland game at Ashland College Saturday. (News-Messenger Photo)

## Alejandro Banks Crown In AAA Sectional Meet

By RICK CLEVELAND

(Special To The N-M)

**FINAL**—There is more to winning the class AAA sectional than sending three wrestlers in to the finals and beating Sandusky.

The Fremont Ross Little Giants found that out Saturday as they finished third with 84 points, 21 less than champion Mansfield Senior's 105. Bellevue wrapped up second place with 96 points while Sandusky was fourth with 81.

Winners and runners-up in the championship and consolation events advance to the district tournament at Toledo Whitner Friday and Saturday.

Ross, which finished 4-6 in dual meets this season, had only one champion—105-pounder Dave Alejandro, who pinned Marion Harding's Mike Hinton at 5:29 of the third period. After a scoreless first period, Alejandro started the second on the bottom. Midway through the period the Ross senior got Hinton in a cradle and received three points for a near pin. A second cradle in the third period was enough for the fall.

Fremont's other entries in the finals, Dale Reiter and Chuck Wickert, were both defeated. Reiter, at 175 pounds, never led in his match with Don Atkins of Mansfield Senior. After working for a takedown most of the first period, Atkins put together an escape in the second period and predicament in the third to win a 5-0 decision.

It was almost instant defeat for Wickert, a fine wrestler, in the 185-pound class as he was pinned by Bellevue's Doc Didion at 1:19 of the first period. Didion had a 5-0 lead at the time of the fall.

## Bombers Win Title

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Cincinnati St. Xavier has formed the newest Ohio high school swimming dynasty and the Bombers may challenge Canton McKinley's record run titles.

The 227 points St. Xavier rolled up for its second straight state crown Saturday was accomplished with two freshmen, seven sophomores and three juniors.

Ross diver Andy Christensen

"I thought they did a real good job," Ross head coach Mal Mackey said. "We really didn't expect this high a finish."

"It makes me real happy to get third over Sandusky. They killed us this year."

While obviously pleased with his team's third place finish and the rating over Sandusky, Mackey was disappointed in several of his wrestlers.

"I was a little disappointed in Wickert," Mackey said. "He beat Didion earlier in the year."

Bellevue, which was supposed to challenge Mansfield for the title, won two of three bouts in the championship.

Besides Didion's victory, Brad Linder won the 138-pound title with a 1-0 decision over Joe Petrella of Mansfield Senior. Linder and Petrella battled on even terms the first two periods. But Linder took advantage of a Petrella mistake and won the match late in the third.

In the highest scoring match of the finals, Sandusky's Calvin Lewis bested Bellevue's Chris Crosby, 12-2, in the 132-pound class. In the first period, Lewis started with a takedown and Crosby escaped. Lewis then picked up his second takedown before the period ended. In the second, Lewis added a takedown and Crosby escaped to make it 6-2 after four minutes.

Lewis escaped early in the third period and gained five more points on a takedown and near fall.

Port Clinton's only finalist, undefeated Mark Belknap, won his match easily, 5-1, over Roger Sheldon of Findlay. Wrestling in the 128 class, Belknap opened with a takedown in the first period. Belknap started the second period on the bottom and escaped. He nipped a takedown before allowing Sheldon to escape for his only point of the match.

John Holmes of Mansfield Madison won the 112 title with a pin over Mansfield Senior's Parnell Cameron at 5:15. Cameron started off with a two-point takedown but Holmes bounced back with a reversal and tied the score 2-2 at the end of the period. Cameron went ahead 4-2 on a reversal in the second and was still leading at the time of the fall.

In the 119-pound class, Mansfield Madison's Bill Miller won a 3-2 overtime thriller over Mansfield Malabar's Rocky Merrill. With the score knotted 1-1 after three regulation periods, the grapplers traded reversals in the first overtime. Miller worked harder than the tying Merrill in the second period and gained an escape for the go-ahead point.

Mansfield's Senior's Joe Sullivan edged Steve Giovagnoli of Sandusky, 9-6, in the 145-pound final. Giovagnoli never led in the match although it was tied 6-6 early in the third period.

Jeff Ward of Sandusky won the 156-pound title at the expense of Mansfield Madison's Tim Keen, 7-1. Ward led 3-0 after the first period on a takedown and increased his lead in the second with a reversal and predicament. Keen's only point came on an escape in the third period.

Malabar's Nick Oliveri, leading 8-2, pinned Sandusky's Ken Taylor at 2:43 in the 167-pound championship.

The two top seeds, Tiffin Columbian's Chuck Heister and 230-pound Chuck Davis of Mansfield Malabar, collided in the heavyweight championship. Heister, who pinned Davis, was ahead 7-0 at the time of the fall.

Ross qualified Eric Wolfe, Howard Stierwell and Miller for the district through consolation matches.

By MARK CARLSON

News-Messenger Sports Editor

**ASHLAND**—Ashland had the inside dope. Doug McDonald, head coach of Ashland, lectured on his zone offense at a Wooster College Clinic last year. One of his listeners was Ross head coach Alex Clark.

McDonald saw a familiar zone attack — his own — when he scouted the Little Giants against Shelby Tuesday. So he wasn't too concerned about planning a defense for Ross. He knew what they were going to do.

Besides being an authority on his offensive attack, McDonald also knows how to defend it. His Arrows, playing varied zone defenses, stopped the Little Giants, 66-56, in an AAA sectional contest played at Ashland College Saturday.

"We knew what they were doing with their offense," McDonald said. "It certainly helped. I think we knew so much that it forced Ross to do some things different in the second half — things they normally don't like to do offensively."

"We used about every type of zone you could imagine. One time we would be in a 1-2-2. The next time it might be a box and one on Lewis (John). We also used a diamond and one and a two-three. We wanted to show them a lot of things."

The box-and-one was designed to stop the high-scoring Lewis, who finished his career with 749 points, giving him third place on the Ross all-time scoring list. Lewis had 412 points this season, a record in a single campaign. The previous high was held by Carl Brauchla of the 1955-56 squad who tallied 388.

Ashland, however, found the formula to stop the 6-1 guard. He was limited to 11 points, making five of 14 field goal attempts and one-for-one at the foul line.

"Their different defenses made us change some things around," Clark said. "That's why we had John on the point when they were in the box-and-one. The idea was to free John for the open shot. But, several times he was open and didn't shoot."

"Also, if I had a chance to do things over I would want to get the ball inside more than we did. We took very few shots from close range."

"But, the officials had something to do with that. They were calling them very close on us. But on the other end of the floor Ashland was getting away with just about everything. They were pushing, shoving and hacking our kids and getting away with it."

Foul shooting, however, kept the Little Giants in the game and prevented the Cardinal Conference champion from making the contest a runaway. Ross canned 16 of 18 charity attempts for 80 per cent. Ashland cashed in on 14 of 25 tosses.

"If anything was a bright spot it was our foul shooting," Clark said.

The second-year head coach also singled out the rebounding of Denny Shearon and defensive play of Dave Kridler as being factors that kept the game close.

Shearon pulled off 16 rebounds, one more than Ashland's 6-5 senior center Dave Honaker.

"This is the third straight game Denny has pulled off 16 rebounds or more," Clark said. "He has worked hard on his rebounding the last three years. He will be tough to replace next season."

Kridler, who along with Lewis and Shearon have played their final game for the Purple and White, limited Ashland's second-leading scorer, Gary Baum, to 10 points.

But, the Little Giants were able to find a defense to prevent Honaker from going to the bucket. His scoring in the second half probably spelled the difference between victory and defeat for Ross.

Honaker, an all-league selection, poured 22 points through the cords in the final 16 minutes. It was more than half of Ashland's output (38) in the second half. He finished the game with exactly half (31) of the Arrow point total.

"He's a fine high school center, one of the finest we've seen this season," Clark said. "When he gets the ball inside he used a turn-around jumper that was practically impossible for us to stop."

Ashland shot a neat 56 per cent from the field in the second half, making 14 of 24 shots. Honaker connected on nine of 10 attempts. Six of the buckets were layups, another came from about 10 feet out and the other two were fired in from the foul line.

"Dave is a fine offensive ball player," McDonald said. "He has kept us out of trouble all year with his scoring."

Despite Honaker's shooting prowess, Ross was still in contention with 5:10 remaining. The Little Giants trailed by three points, 58-49 following two Shearon free throws.

Baum came back with a layup and Shearon hit a free throw making it 54-50 with 4:30 remaining. Then the Little Giant offense, which was operating without Lewis who fouled out at the 5:12 mark, went cold.

Ross couldn't score again until Steve Smith sank a jumper with 2:42 remaining. Ashland had scored six straight to take a 10-point lead, 60-50. Honaker had four of the six, a field goal and two free throws, and Randy Emmons accounted for the other two with a layup.

After Smith narrowed the gap to eight, Kridler brought Ross within six with 1:21 remaining when he drove the lane. Honaker then scored with a minute left and Mark Hamilton added two free throws to tie the victory, Ashland's 16th in 19 outings.

Ross had the lead only once in the first half. Tom Liggins put the Little Giants in front, 27-26, when he scored on a jumper with about a minute remaining. Ashland bounced right back, however, on a basket by Emmons and had a 28-27 lead at the half.

Two straight buckets by Shearon gave Ross the lead (31-30) with 6:54 left in the third period. The contest was then knotted at 31 and 33 before Ashland went ahead for good on a basket at the 4:22 mark by Emmons. Honaker followed with another two-point shot with 3:10 remaining and the Arrows were in front, 37-33.

Liggins connected for the Little Giants cutting the Arrow cushion to two points. The Arrows outscored Ross, 9-3, in the final 1:55 of the period. However, and carried an eight-point advantage (46-33) into the final eight minutes.

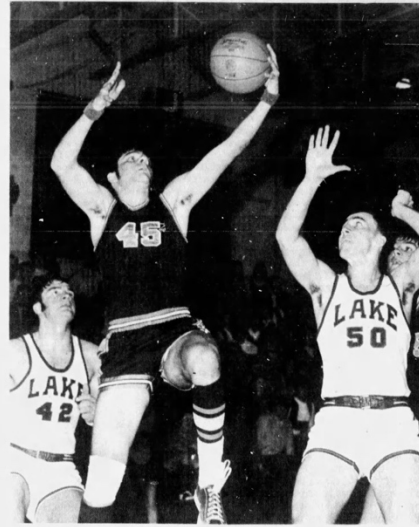
Shearon (14) and Kridler (13) joined Lewis in double figures for Ross. Ashland, which didn't even dress three of its players because they were sick with the flu, got scoring from only four players. All three climbed into double digits. Emmons tallied 13 and Hamilton 10 to join Honaker and Baum in the scoring column.

Despite its hot hand at the foul line Ross was cold from the field. The Little Giants hit on just 36 per cent (20-55) of their floor shots.

Malabar's Nick Oliveri, leading 8-2, pinned Sandusky's Ken Taylor at 2:43 in the 167-pound championship.

The two top seeds, Tiffin Columbian's Chuck Heister and 230-pound Chuck Davis of Mansfield Malabar, collided in the heavyweight championship. Heister, who pinned Davis, was ahead 7-0 at the time of the fall.

Ross qualified Eric Wolfe, Howard Stierwell and Miller for the district through consolation matches.



**LAYUP**—Frank LaSavia (46) of Gibsonburg goes past Lake's Cliff Adamson and Mel Scott pulled out a 40-36 victory over the Bears. (News-Messenger Photo)

## SBC Grapplers Advance

**NORTHWOOD** — The Sandusky Bay Conference is going to have more than its share of representatives in the Northwest District's AA-A wrestling meet at Fremont Ross Friday and Saturday.

Clyde with seven entrants and Fremont St. Joseph with six head a list of 24 participants from the SBC that qualified from Northwood high school's sectional. In addition, five more grapplers from Huron, which wrestled at Bellevue, qualified for the district meet.

The SBC produced four champions at Northwood. Clyde had two winners, Kurt Leonard at 98 pounds, and 170-pounder Dave Woodmore's Rich Wagner, who defeated Albert Zamora of Fremont St. Joseph in the 106-pound finals.

Other second place finishers from the area included St. Joe's Umble Zamora at 106, Kevin Coleman of Lakota at 129, Tom Froderick of Woodmore at 135, Woodmore's Jim Gahn at 141, John Beier of Clyde at 158, St. Joe's Chuck Beier at 170 and Jim Skakovits of St. Joe at 178.

Also qualifying from Clyde were Mike Cullen (135), Terry Beebe (148), Keith Bonnington (178) and Dale Carroll (heavyweight). In addition to its first and second place finishers St. Joe will send Terry Hoffman (101) and Dave Courtney (185). Lakota will send heavyweight Jerry Shultz (161) and Jeff Foreman (158). Margaretta will send only 170-pounder Doug Cullen to the district championships.

## Ticket Sale

Tickets for the Fremont St. Joseph-Eastwood sectional championship game to be played at Rosford went on sale Monday at St. Joe. Head basketball coach John Kahle said tickets would be available on a first come first serve basis. The Crimson Streaks have been allocated 800 tickets and 400 sold out — for the game which gets under way at 7:30 p.m.

## News-Messenger SPORTS



**REBOUND**—Lakota and Fostoria players battle for rebound in first game of tournament doubleheader at Fremont I Saturday. No. 40 for Fostoria is Mel Spencer. Bill Kire (45) of Lakota has a close view as one of his teammates with Spencer and another Fostoria player for control. (News-Messenger Photo)

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