

Heidelberg picked for All-Ohio

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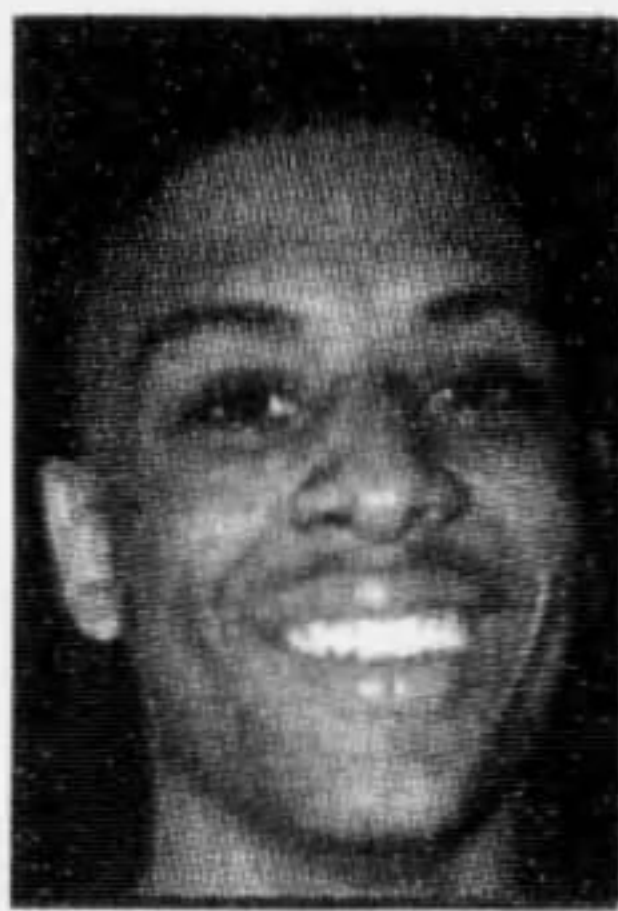
Fremont Ross junior Joell Heidelberg savored his selection to the All-Ohio boys basketball team for about as long as it takes him to blow past a defender for two points.

"I got all-state?" Heidelberg asked when told of his honorable mention honor Monday. "It feels pretty good and I appreciate it."

OK, enough celebrating.

"Next year I can go for an even higher award, maybe first team," he said.

Heidelberg, a 5-foot-11 point guard, scored 16.6 points per game as he combined 3-point jump shots, fast-break dunks and quick first steps



HEIDELBURG

to the basket that led to layups. He helped guide a young Ross team to a 14-8 record and a sectional championship.

The Division I All-Ohio selections were based on recommendations of a statewide media panel, and include a first team, second team, third team, special mention and honorable mention.

Heidelberg is the first Ross underclassman to make All-Ohio since Greg Bender was an honorable mention pick as a junior in 1984. Bender made special mention in 1985 and played for the University of North Carolina-Wilmington.

Twelve years passed between Bender's selection and 1997, when Ross's Derrick Hershey made honorable mention All-Ohio.

Now Ross has two in a row.

"It shows how hard Joell has worked in all phases of his game," Ross coach Mark Gedeon said. "Not only from a statistical standpoint but from his leadership as well."

Three other Great Lakes League players — Whitmer's Floyd Campbell, Findlay's Mark Wilson and Sandusky's Jamaricus Hampton — made All-Ohio.