

1993 Division I Sectional Tournament

Ross wins tourney opener

Root, Zilles star in OT

By BOB MARKER
Staff writer

WILLARD — Chad Root's free throw and Jason Zilles' blocked shot helped Fremont Ross to a 69-68 overtime win over Mansfield Madison Tuesday night in the Division I sectional basketball tournament at Willard High School.

Tickets available

Tickets for Friday night's Division I boys sectional title game between Fremont Ross and Ashland at Willard High School will go on sale after 1 p.m. today at the Ross athletic department office, Fremont Athletic Supply and Ken Dummingen Photography.

The price is \$3 for adults and \$2 for students. Ross will keep 20 percent of the presale money.

The win puts the Little Giants, 7-14, into the sectional finals at 8:30 p.m. Friday against Ashland, 14-6. Madison bowed out 12-9.

Root, after coming up short on the first of his two free throw attempts, survived a Madison timeout to bury the second with 10 seconds remaining in overtime.

Rob Whitfield had a shot at winning it for the Rams, but Zilles blocked his shot from in close with two seconds to play and Charles Woodson batted the ball toward midcourt to preserve Ross coach Frank Gioffre's first tournament win.

"I just slammed it right in his face," Zilles, a 6-4 senior said. "I had the whole thing (ball)."

It was the second attempt at a game-winning shot for the Rams. Josh Hood's 15-foot jumper bouncing off the rim as regulation time ran out.

Root's and Zilles' heroics capped a sizzling Ross shooting night. The Little Giants made 15 of 18 shots (83 percent), including all five 3-point attempts in the first half, while wiping out an early 18-6 deficit for a 35-30 halftime lead.

"That's two games in a row where our kids have fought back, and we were fortunate enough to win," Gioffre said.

Last Friday, the Little Giants came from 17 points behind in the fourth quarter to edge Findlay 74-73.

Against Madison, Ross was



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

MIKE PATTERSON of Fremont Ross runs over Mansfield Madison's Greg Rush for a charge during the first quarter Tuesday night. Patterson helped the Little Giants win in overtime.

29-of-45 (64 percent) — and needed that performance as Madison made 16 of 28 second-half shots and held a 28-16 rebounding edge.

"We were down big early," Gioffre said. "I knew our kids were nervous ... but Mikey Patterson picked us up in the second quarter, Chad (Root) hit a big 'three' for us and David Gibbs and Moe (Bryan Myers) came in and did a great job for us."

The hot shooting cured the Little Giants' case of the nerves.

"Not at all, that was not nerves," Gioffre said about the shooting, "but eight turnovers in the first quarter,

that's nervousness."

Ross made 10 of 12 second-quarter shots as Patterson, Myers and Root scored five points apiece — each hitting 3-pointers. Gibbs came off the bench to score seven points, which included a 3-pointer and a shot at the halftime buzzer.

Ross rolled to a 45-36 lead midway through the third period but Madison, paced by Joe Schag's two 3-pointers, cut the Ross lead to 51-46 with one quarter left.

Schag scored the Rams's first five points of the final quarter as Madison caught Ross at 53 and went ahead 57-55 with 4:30 left.

Neither team led by more

than two in the final quarter, with the Rams taking a 64-63 lead with 1:24 to play on Whitfield's free throw. Root got it even again with a free throw 16 seconds later.

In the overtime, Woodson scored four straight points, giving him 24 for the night, but Hood and Whitfield converted after Ross turnovers to tie it at 68.

That set up the heroics by Root and Zilles.

Patterson finished with 16 points and Root nine as Ross evened its record in overtime games this season at 2-2.

Whitfield with 22, Schag with 16 and Hood with 15 paced Madison.

Basketball

High School Boys

DIVISION I

Ross 69, Madison 68 (OT)

Madison 20 10 16 18 4 — 68

Ross 11 24 16 13 5 — 69

MADISON — Greg Rush 3-0-6, Josh Hood 4-7-15, Carlos James 2-0-4, Rob Whitfield 8-6-22, Joe Schag 6-0-16, Andy Arnold 1-1-3, Clark Gerber 1-0-2, totals 25-14-68.

ROSS — Charles Woodson 11-2-24, Ryan Smith 0-0-0, Jason Matney 0-0-0, Jason Zilles 0-2-2, Mike Patterson 7-0-16, Tyrone Price 2-0-4, Chad Root 3-2-9, Bryan Myers 3-0-7, David Gibbs 3-0-7, totals 29-6-69.

3-point goals: Schag 4, Patterson 2, Root, Myers, Gibbs.

Records: Madison 12-9, Ross 7-14.



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

DIVISION II

Oak Harbor 76, Clyde 71

Oak Harbor 17 21 17 21 — 76

Clyde 8 25 13 25 — 71

OAK HARBOR — Tom Hallett 6-10-24, Josh Noble 8-3-19, Matt Bradfield 8-1-17, Clay Hock 1-0-2, Scott Schmidt 1-0-2, Matt Lochotzki 0-3-3, Steve Keller 3-2-9, totals 27 19-23 76.

CLYDE — Jeff Paul 1-0-2, Aaron Wilson 3-1-7, Eric Hutchins 2-0-4, Ryan Greenslade 4-0-8, Josh Gregg 7-3-21, Ty Newsom 2-3-7, Andy Norman 3-0-7, Ryan Carter 7-1-15, totals 29 8-11 71.

3-point goals: Hallett 2, Keller, Gregg 4, Norman.

Records: Oak Harbor 12-9, Clyde 4-17.

Bellevue 82, Norwalk 58

Norwalk 8 14 14 22 — 58

Bellevue 16 18 27 21 — 82

NORWALK — Scott Spettle 1-1-3, Josh Robles 1-0-2, Nathan French 1-2-4, Chris Dials 0-1-1, Jon Hood 7-0-14, Brian Perkins 2-0-4, Sam Ryerson 10-3-23, Greg Hipp 2-3-7, totals 24 10-17 58.

BELLEVUE — John Bollinger 0-6-6, Marc Minnick 5-1-14, Dan Paul 6-0-16, George Parks 1-0-2, Chris Snavely 1-2-4, Jeremy Cornwell 3-0-6, Shane Strayer 2-0-5, Josh Manlet 5-4-14, Tom Abel 1-0-2, Jason Easterday 1-0-2, Jeremy Nichols 2-0-4, totals 28 17-20 82.

3-point goals: Minnick 3, Paul 4, Strayer.

Records: Norwalk 4-17, Bellevue 19-2.

DIVISION III

Huron 52, Margaretta 50

Huron 8 18 10 14 — 52

Margaretta 13 8 16 15 — 50

HURON — Jamie Eisonor 2-0-6, Matt Horner 6-3-15, Rob Majoy 2-0-4, Joe Harkelroad 4-2-12, Scott Paprzycski 3-3-9, Joe Dike 2-2-6, totals 19-10-52.

MARGARETTA — Bryan Maschari 0-1-1, Jason Bodt 2-2-7, Danny Cassel 2-1-6, Derick Bailey 3-2-9, Ryan Yost 5-0-12, Tom Groot 4-1-9, Rick Osburn 2-0-4, Pat Kane 0-2-2, totals 18-9-50.

3-point goals: Eisonor 2, Harkelroad 2, Bodt, Cassell, Bailey, Yost 2.

Records: Huron 14-7, Margaretta 5-16.

DIVISION IV

Mohawk 69, Old Fort 61

Mohawk 14 18 16 21 — 69

Old Fort 12 17 18 14 — 61

MOHAWK — Justin Litton 0-2-2, Bob Wilt 2-0-4, Tony Ferkel 5-6-16, Brent Konkle 6-2-14, Jeremy Nutter 0-2-2, Andy Young 8-0-16, Glenn Stuckey 4-4-15, totals 25-16-69.

OLD FORT — Matt Molyet 6-6-20, Jason Fortney 1-0-2, Troy Diels 3-1-7, Joe Steyer 4-0-8, Scott Wilkinson 6-2-14, Jeff Miller 3-1-8, Eric Hoover 1-0-2, totals 24-10-61.

3-point goals: Stuckey 3, Molyet 2, Miller.

Records: Mohawk 7-14, Old Fort 11-10.

Woodson scores

Charles Woodson of Fremont Ross goes over Mansfield Madison's Rob Whitfield for two of his 24 points Tuesday night at Willard High School. The Little Giants advanced in the sectional tournament with a 69-68 victory over the Rams in overtime.

Ross loses with 0:00 left

Miracle tip knocks out Little Giants

By BOB MARKER
Staff writer

WILLARD — Bryan Murvine had given up hope.

"I thought the clock was going to expire before we even touched the ball," the 6-foot-6 Ashland senior said.

Murvine, with help from a pair of Ross Little Giants, tipped the ball toward the rim, watched it as it bounced off the back of the iron and fell through as the buzzer went off, giving Ashland a 45-44 win in the Division I sectional boys basketball finals at Willard High School Saturday afternoon.

Charles Woodson's running jumper with 17 seconds left gave Ross a 44-43 lead.

After Ashland coach Jody Peters set his offense in a timeout with 14 seconds remaining, Ross seemingly had the perfect defense set up with the Arrows' Jeremy Anderson at the top of the key trying to find Murvine.

"They (Ashland) tried to set a back pick for Murvine for an alley-oop pass," Ross coach Frank Gioffre described the play in the depths of a stone-silent Ross locker room. "Our kids were there. I thought maybe even one of our kids tipped the ball — I'm not really sure who tipped it — but the ball happened to find its way into the basket and that's the game."

Mike Patterson and Woodson responded to Anderson's lob to the left of the basket as the clock hit two seconds. The Little Giants duo went up with Murvine four feet from the basket and all three appeared to touch the ball, sending it careening toward the goal.

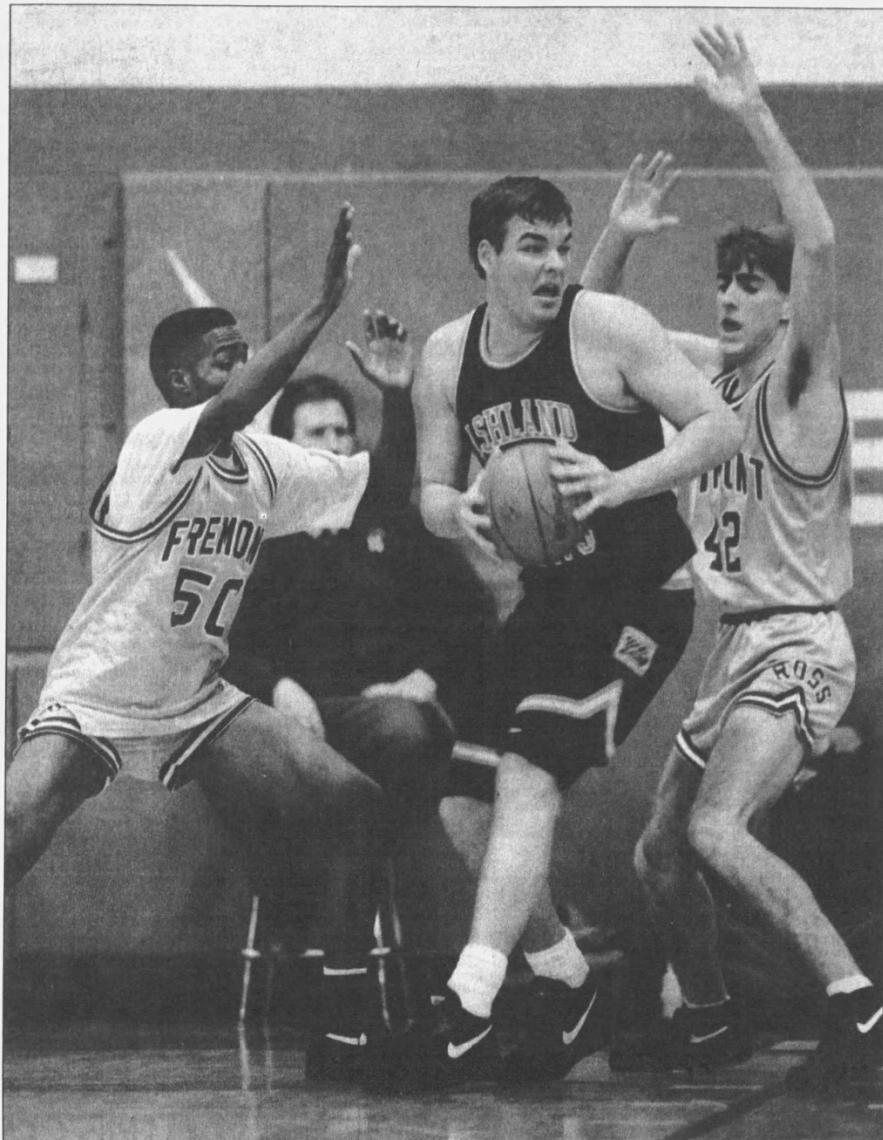
Murvine, who finished with 24 points, was confused over who tipped the ball.

"I touched a little bit of it," Murvine said, "but I think Woodson got more of it."

Peters also did not have a definitive answer.

"It looked like Murvine got a hand on the ball," he said. "It looked like he flipped it over his back, had no idea where it was going, and somehow it ended up in the hoop."

Whoever tipped it, the ball fell through, ending a rocky season for Ross, 7-15, and putting the



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

MIKE PATTERSON (left) and Jason Zilles of Fremont Ross put defensive pressure on Ashland's Bryan Murvine Saturday in the Division I sectional championship game.

Arrows, 15-6, into the Division I district tournament against Lima Senior at Bowling Green State University Thursday.

"You hate to see anybody lose that kind of basketball game," Peters said, "especially like that. If you are going to win great basketball games like that, you got to have some luck."

Ross had bounced back from a

15-4 second-quarter deficit to trail 23-21 at halftime. Woodson and Patterson scored all of the Ross first-half points, with Patterson getting 12.

In the final quarter, Ashland led 41-36 before four free throws by Chad Root closed the Arrows' lead to 41-40 with 3:16 to play. Anderson and David Gibbs of Ross each sank two free throws

but Murvine missed three consecutive free throws, the last giving the ball to Ross with 55 seconds left, trailing 43-42.

Woodson led Ross with 20 points and Patterson had 16.

"I really feel bad for the kids because they deserved to win today," Gioffre said, "but the ball bounced in Ashland's favor."

Basketball

High School Boys N

Ashland 45, Ross 44

Ashland	12	11	9	13	— 45
Ross	4	17	12	11	— 44

ASHLAND — Ben Johnson 0-0-0, Jeremy Anderson 1-2-4, Randy Harding 3-2-10, Chris DeLong 1-0-2, Bryan Murvine 9-6-24, Jeff Honaker 0-1-1, Tim Norris 2-0-4, totals 16-11-45.

ROSS — Ryan Smith 0-0-0, Chad Root 1-4-6, Charles Woodson 8-2-20, Jason Matney 0-0-0, David Gibbs 0-2-2, Tyrone Price 0-0-0, Jason Zilles 0-0-0, Mike Patterson 6-2-16, totals 15-10-44.

3-point goals: Harding 2, Woodson 2, Patterson 2.

Records: Ashland 15-6, Ross 7-15.