

ROUNDUP

Girls Basketball: Ross 60, Mansfield Senior 53

BUCYRUS — Thirteen long years had passed since Ross last won a sectional championship.

But thanks to a 28-point effort by junior point guard Abbi Hasselbach and a 20-point fourth quarter, the Little Giants ended the drought Saturday, topping Mansfield Senior 60-53 Saturday in a Division I final played at Bucyrus High School. Hasselbach knocked down five 3-pointers and added five assists in the effort, helping fourth-year Ross coach Juan Vela earn his first-ever postseason win.

“When you look at what we accomplished (Saturday), there’s a couple good things to build off of,” Vela said. “One, we haven’t had six wins in a long time or won a sectional title. But more importantly, there are kids in this program that believe we’re better than the way we had been playing in the past. So there’s a lot of excitement with this team right now.”

The Little Giants (6-17) trailed 16-8 after one quarter, but outscored the Tygers (12-12), 20-14, in the second to get within 30-28 at halftime.

“In the first quarter we were down eight points with Abbi in foul trouble,” Vela said. “But we cut the deficit down to two going into the half. Then in the third quarter, we tried some different things on defense and really started limiting (the Tygers) inside touches.”

Ariana Spencer inherited the point guard duties with Hasselbach on the bench, adding nine points and six steals. Pam Michael poured in 10 points, while Whitney Overmyer and Shania Kiser combined to pull down 15 rebounds.

“Everyone that came in the game gave me something, whether it was on defense or offense,” Vela said. “We even had a couple of freshmen that came in and helped out.”

Ross was 1-13 in its 14 tournament games entering the postseason. The Little Giants last won a sectional title in 2000 when they topped Mansfield Senior 64-42 to make it to the Bascom district, losing in the semifinals to Defiance (42-25).

Ross will play Ashland in district semifinal Thursday at Gallion. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m.

Girls Basketball: Woodmore 43, Lakota 31

PEMBERVILLE — The Wood-