

# Ross, G'burg, OF advance

## Lady Giants survive Sandusky upset bid

By TIMOTHY R. WOLFRUM  
Sports editor

BASCOM — Something funny happened to the Fremont Ross girls on their way to a sectional final date with No. 10 Mansfield Senior.

They almost tripped over winless Sandusky.

The determined Blue Streaks, who lost to Ross twice by a total of 34 points during the regular season, led by three points early in the fourth quarter Tuesday.

But the Lady Giants settled down, and Sandusky suddenly remembered its record.

Sophomore Paige Kingsborough started a 9-0 Ross run with back-to-back buckets, and the Lady Giants survived with a 45-39 victory in the Division I sectional opener at Hopewell-Loudon High School.

The ugly victory wasn't exactly what Ross (9-12) was looking for heading into Saturday's matchup with the powerful Tygers (19-1). But at least the Lady Giants are still playing.

"Anytime you win in the tournament, you've got to be glad," Ross head coach Sue Wolf said. "I don't think they rate the victories on style."

It's a good thing because neither team had much pinache.

Ross finished 17-of-50 from the field (34 percent) and 11-of-24 from the free-throw line (45.8 percent). Sandusky committed 29 turnovers and

## Girls



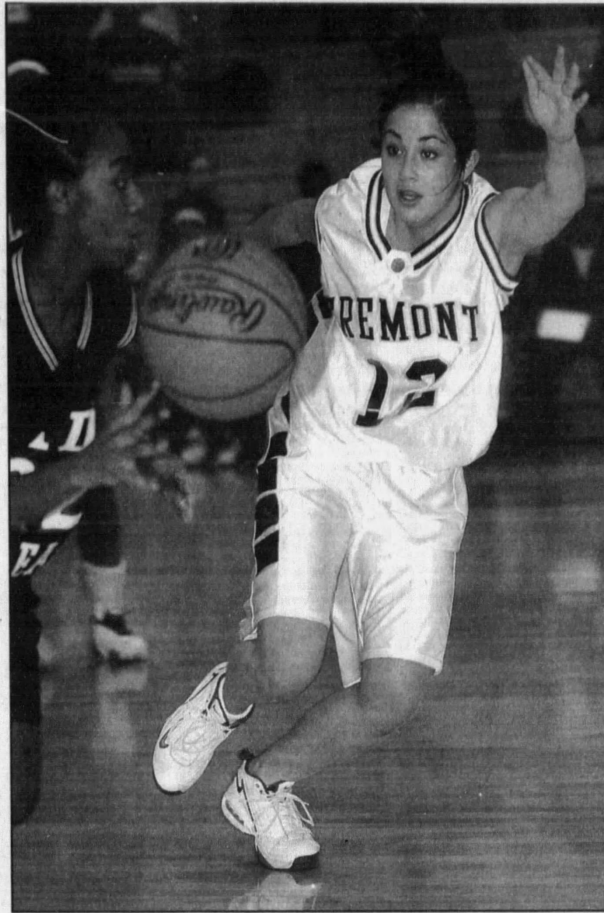
### BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

made only 14 of 42 field-goal attempts (33 percent).

Kingsborough led Ross with 16 points, 12 coming in the second half. Rachel Hammer added 11 points, seven steals and six rebounds. Stacy Hall had seven points and a team-high seven rebounds.

Sandusky (0-21) got 18 points from Kelly Wilke.

Wilke, a long-range shooter, scored all nine of her team's first-quarter points on 4-for-4 shooting. The Blue Streaks trailed 14-9 after one quarter, but they stayed within striking distance of Ross the whole game.



News-Messenger/Ben French  
NICOLE MARROQUIN, right, of Fremont Ross stays in front of Sandusky's Tiffany Reed during Tuesday's Division I sectional tournament game at Hopewell-Loudon.

See ROSS, B2

## Bears cruise; McCool nets 1,000th point in OF victory

News-Messenger reports

BOWLING GREEN — Gibsonburg started its postseason run with a sprint.

The Golden Bear girls basketball team jumped to a 29-4 lead following the first quarter and coasted to an 86-59 triumph over Toledo Christian in a Division IV sectional opener on Tuesday night.

### Div. IV Roundup

Gibsonburg (13-8) advances to play top-seeded Van Buren (15-5) at 6:30 p.m. Saturday in a sectional semifinal back at Bowling Green. It will be the fourth time the two teams have met in the final.

Early foul trouble wasn't trouble at all for Gibsonburg. Julie Beaschler came off the bench and had a career night — 27 points and 10 rebounds — to lead her team.

"Julie Beaschler was outstanding tonight, as was the rest of our bench. Mallory (Fleming) got into foul trouble early, and they really stepped up," Gibsonburg head coach Shawn Ginnan said.

Fleming also had a double-double with 12 points and 12 rebounds. Aisha Kaemming finished with 19 points. She had 11 first-quarter points, and Joni Rupke added eight in the opening-quarter barrage.

# Ross holds off Blue Streaks, looks ahead to Tygers

## Continued From B1

Sandusky finally tied the game at 28 on a Jamie Matthews deuce with 33 seconds to play in the third quarter. A Vanessa Randleman layin at the buzzer sent the Streaks into the fourth quarter with a 30-28 lead.

Sandusky took its biggest lead of the second half at 33-

30 when Brittany Walker put in a rebound bucket with 6:19 to play in the game.

The Blue Streaks began to think their first win was imminent.

"I sure thought we were in a position to do the things we needed to do (to win)," Sandusky head coach Karen Phillips said. "But we've only been in six or seven close

games all year, and they weren't in any last year. It's something we need to work on as a team. It's just the inexperience of being in that situation."

The Streaks still led 34-33 when Ross began its run with Kingsborough's two buckets. The Lady Giants held Sandusky scoreless for nearly five minutes during

the streak and forced six turnovers.

"We always hope our defense is going to win the game for us," Wolf said. "We could have shot the ball much better. Maybe we only needed that many tonight. Maybe the next one, they'll all go in."

Ross leading scorer Kristen Hammer struggled

through a long night. She finished 1-of-15 from the field and scored two points.

But Wolf was pleased with the play the Lady Giants got off the bench. Kara Willoughby, Erica Wolfe, Tia Simms and Rachael Daugherty all scored.

Ross meets Mansfield Senior at 6:30 p.m. Saturday at Hopewell-Loudon.