

GIANTS WIN 3RD STRAIGHT SECTIONAL TITLE

# Ross Plays Sylvania In District Friday At TU

By Fred Takacs  
N-M Sports Editor

**BOWLING GREEN** — It will be Fremont Ross against Sylvania in the first game of district play at Toledo Friday after Coach Dick Norman's cagers wrapped up their third straight Bowling Green State university sectional title by holding off struggling Huron Saturday night, 63-54.

The Little Giants take a 13-8 record into the district at Toledo university's fieldhouse. Sylvania fought its way to the district with a 52-47 win over Toledo Central Catholic Saturday to put its record at 15-5. Chances are Norman will

have his crew working on moving against the press this week since Sylvania uses this tactic against opponents. Saturday night Ross almost blew a game it had control of most of the way when Coach Jess Hagy put his Tigers into a pressing defense midway through the third canto.

Although the Little Giants were never out of the lead after the first few minutes of the game, the victors came very close to coming apart at the seams late in the fourth period.

Diminutive guard Tim Thomas emerged as the hero of the game when he pumped in six consecutive foul shots

and a field goal in the last minute and 27 seconds to fend off the Tigers' surge.

Ross fell behind only once, 7-5, after Tom Coe rebounded a missed shot. After Thomas drove for two to tie it, Captain Russ Hagerty hit a foul shot and Terry Bork scored from underneath for a 10-7 edge. Hagerty pumped in two fielders and Bork rebounded another shot while Dan Bernard was getting one for Huron and the Tigers never again got closer than five points.

By the end of the first period, Ross was ahead 20-13 and held a 35-26 lead at halftime. Midway into the third stanza the Giants had pushed ahead by 10 points 45-35, when Hagy put his crew into a half-court press.

Fremont then went four minutes with only one bucket, a two-pointer to Hagerty underneath, as Huron cut the lead to 47-40 entering the last go around. Ross, which had had only four turnovers in the first half, started throwing the ball away and committed six miscues in the third period.

In the last quarter, Fremont lost the ball eight times and things began getting tight when Coe rammed in the second of two free throws to cut Ross' lead to 55-50.

But Thomas took over, hitting his six foul shots and field goal just before the buzzer to wrap it up. Although the Tigers were breathing down the Little Giants' neck, they missed too many key shots, both from the floor and at the foul line, to make a real run for the title.

During their stretch drive in the fourth period, while Ross was getting four field goals and 16 points, Huron was able to manage only 14 tallies. The Tigers missed 15 shots during

those final eight minutes and converted on four of nine charity tosses.

Thomas, who finished with a game high of 21 points, had his best night of the season and brutalized Huron with his driving layups around a double screen set up by his teammates. Hagerty did a tremendous job of keeping 6-5 Mike Fischer, the Tigers' strong 220-pound center away from the bucket.

Fischer collected just five points before Hagy sat him down in the third quarter when Huron went into its press. Especially in the first half when Ross held a 22-16 rebounding edge, the Little Giants played their best board game of the three tourney outings.

The Little Giants collected five baskets on rebounds and shots underneath mainly by Bork, who took feeds just outside the foul lanes, faked his man off his feet and dropped the ball in.

Hagerty led the way under the boards with 12 rebounds but got strong support from Don Weisz, with nine caroms, and Bork with eight. Ross wound up with a 44-40 edge in rebounding. Coe had 11 for Huron.

In addition to Thomas, Hagerty and Bork hit double figures with 16 and 13 respectively. The Little Giants continued their hot shooting with 24 of 46 from the field for a sparkling 52.2 per cent, including nine for 16 and six for 13 in the first two periods when they connected on 53.6 per cent.

Huron managed 10 for 28 in the first half (35.7 per cent) and ended with 20 of 62 for 32.3 per cent. The Tigers were 14 for 24 from the foul line and Ross was 15 for 25.

Bill Seder led Huron, which bowed out with a 15-6 record, with 16 points, Coe had 13 and Bernard 10.

Huron	Fremont
Coe	4 5 13
Richardson	4 0 8
Fischer	2 1 5
Seder	5 6 16
Bernard	5 0 10
Jensen	0 2 2
Total	20 14 54
Score by Quarters	
HURON	13 13 14 14-54
FREMONT	20 15 12 16-53
Attendance:	1900

## Tourney Tickets On Sale Tonight

Tickets for the Fremont Ross-Sylvania first-round district basketball game at Toledo university's fieldhouse Friday night will go on sale to the public at 6:30 tonight in Tremper's store in west State street.

Faculty Manager Dick Sherman announced persons who purchased season tickets to Ross regular season home games will have first shot at the tourney pasteboards. Those persons will be able to buy their tickets from 6 to 6:30 in Tremper's.

Fremont has been allotted 500 adult and 500 student tickets, the same as the other three competing schools. Student tickets will be sold at Ross and the junior high only.

Ticket sales will end at 7 p.m. Thursday since receipts must be turned in Friday morning. Adult tickets are \$1 and student ducats are 50 cents. The amount of the advanced sale will indicate how many tickets will be available at the fieldhouse on the night of the game.

At the pairings conducted Sunday in Toledo, Barney Francis, tourney manager, informed the coaches Ross will meet Sylvania at 7 p.m. Friday in the first tilt with Maumee (14-5) taking on Rossford (17-3) 20 minutes after the first game ends, approximately 8:45.

The T. U. fieldhouse will not be cleared after the first game and fans wishing to remain for both contests may do so.

## Jackson Garners Jaycee Pin Title

Larry Jackson smacked out games of 215, 257 and 202 and with his 78-pin handicap, finished with a 752 total to win the Fremont Jaycees Junior Bowling Tournament at Plaza Lanes Saturday.

Jackson was the boys senior division winner while Fred Tolhurst was runnerup with a 633 score. Cheryl Reed took the girls senior division with a 565 score and Pam Ruehle notched a 523 to come in second.

Junior boys division champ was Charles Rhoad who had a 648 total, well ahead of runner-up Bill Clark's 590. Linda Williamson topped 519 pins to beat out second Cindy Paine, with a 508, for first place in the junior girls competition.

Trophies will be presented to winners and runnersup, all of whom will be eligible to compete in the state Jaycee tourney later this month at Rainbow Lanes.

**B-W MAT TITLISTS**  
SPRINGFIELD, Ohio (AP)—Baldwin-Wallace captured its second Ohio Conference wrestling championship in three years here Saturday by edging Akron 57-53.



NICE GOING — Bowling Green State university Sectional Manager Harold Anderson, left, congratulates Fremont Ross Coach Dick Norman after his cagers won their third straight Class 'AA' Sectional championship Saturday night at Anderson Arena. Team Captain Russ Hagerty (34) holds the winner's trophy while onlookers include Terry Bork (right) Jim Hess, Fred Tolhurst and Wally Pankratz, all between Norman and Hagerty.

# OHIO U., MIAMI VIE FOR MAC TITLE NCAA Tourney Starts Tonight

By BOB GREEN  
Associated Press Sports Writer

The long, long road to Portland, Ore., and the finals of the far-flung NCAA Basketball Tournament begins tonight with first round activity in Philadelphia and Lubbock, Tex.

In addition, playoffs are scheduled tonight in Waco, Tex., and Dayton, Ohio, to determine the last two teams in the NCAA tourney field, a field that will be reduced to four for the finals in Portland, March 19-20.

In between, there's another set of first-round games in Bowling, Green, Ky., Tuesday, and the four regional tourneys, in College Park, Md.; Lexington, Ky.; Manhattan, Kan., and Provo, Utah. All the regionals are scheduled Friday and Saturday.

**Penn State Plays Princeton**  
Philadelphia has a tripleheader tonight, Penn State vs. Princeton, West Virginia vs. nationally fourth-ranked Providence, and third-ranked St. Joseph's, Pa., vs. Connecticut.

The winners of those three, along with North Carolina State, surprise winner of the Atlantic Coast Conference tourney Saturday night, will advance to the East regional.

The doubleheader in Lubbock matches Houston and Notre Dame, and Colorado State U. against Oklahoma City. The Houston-Notre Dame winner goes into the Mid-West regional and the Colorado State-Oklahoma City winner to the West regional.

The playoff at Waco matches

Southern Methodist and Texas for the right to represent the Southwest Conference. Tex Tech won the title but had to abandon it for using an ineligible player. **Bobcats, Redskins In Playoff**

Ohio U. and Miami of Ohio play for the Mid-American Conference title in Dayton, with the winner going on to Bowling Green for a Mid-East first-round game against Dayton

Tuesday. Eastern Kentucky plays DePaul in the other half of the doubleheader, completing all first-round play.

An obscure substitute and a veteran coach were the key figures Saturday in the wind-up weekend of the regular season.

Substitute Larry Worsley came off the bench, scored 30 points and led North Carolina State to a 91-85 upset of eighth-ranked Duke, 1964 runner-up to UCLA's national champions.

And the Oklahoma State Cowboys carried veteran Coach Hank Iba off the court after beating Kansas 64-58 and clinching the Big Eight title at Lawrence, Kan., Saturday.

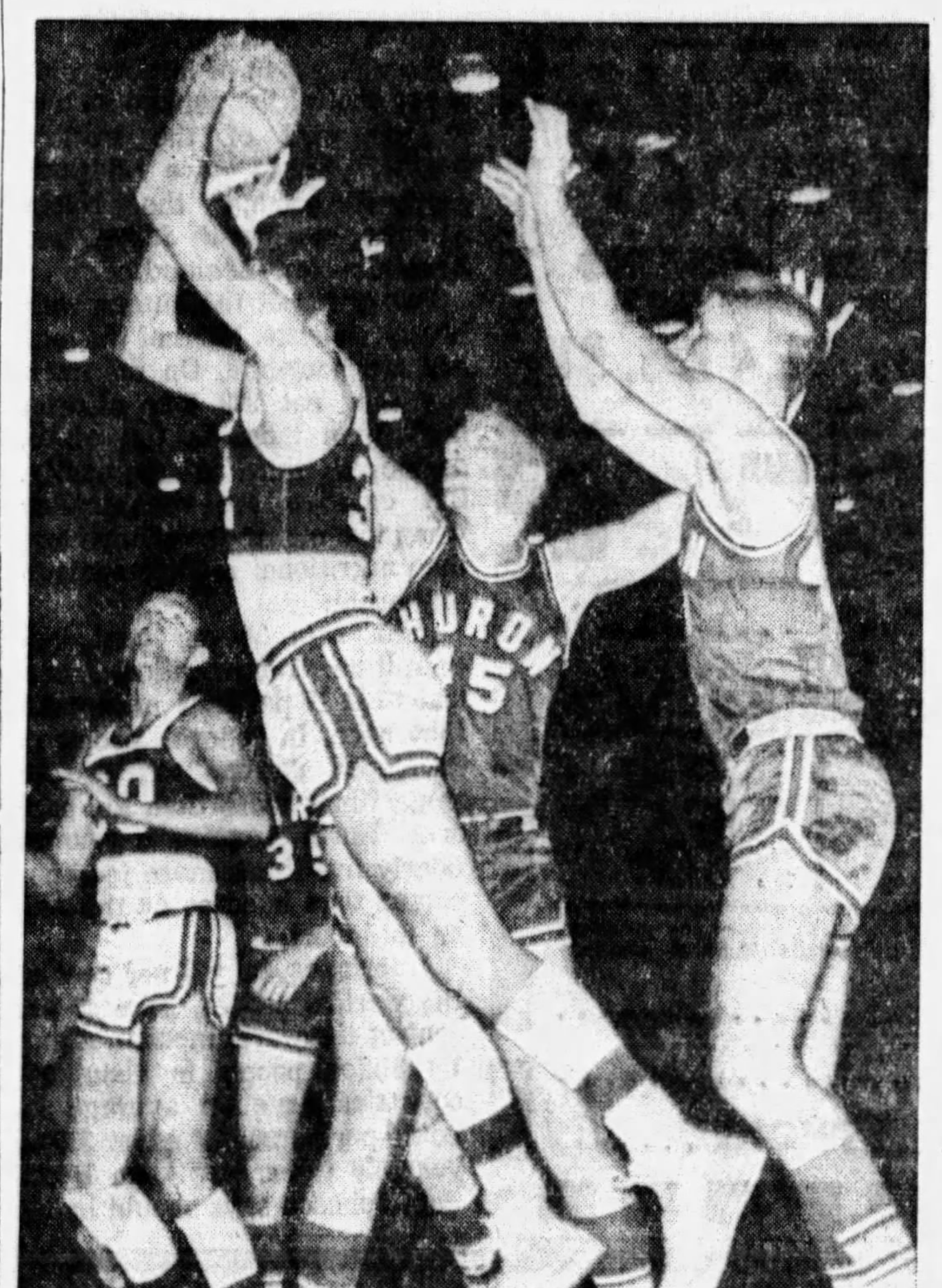
The Big Eight crown had eluded Iba, an almost legendary coach. He is one of the two active coaches with 700 or more victories, was a many-time winner of the Missouri Valley title, has had NCAA champions and was the coach of the 1964 U.S. Olympic champions.

**Wolves Cement Title**

Michigan, the nation's No. 1 team, wrapped up its second straight Big Ten title and an NCAA berth with an 88-85 decision over sixth-ranked Minnesota. All-America Cazzie Russell sparked the Wolverines with 24 points, including the go-ahead basket.

Wichita also clinched an NCAA spot by edging Drake in overtime, 76-74, after Bradley had beaten St. Louis 94-91, also in overtime. Both Bradley and St. Louis will play in the National Invitation Tourney, opening in New York Thursday.

Ninth-ranked Villanova, the No. 1 seed in the NIT, finished its regular season with a 73-69 edge over Marquette, second-



DRIVING FOR TWO — Fremont's Don Weisz leans in for a shot at the hoop while Huron's Stu Miller (45) and Mike Fischer (right) try to stop him. Terry Bork (30) waits for a possible rebound.

## WISTS 'N' URNS

By  
Fred Takacs  
Sports Editor

Tournament fever has hit Fremont. You could feel it in the crowds which followed Ross' improving Little Giants to Bowling Green Saturday night. It was especially noticeable in the last 10-12 minutes of the 63-54 win over Huron when the Tigers appeared to be getting close. When Huron went into its press the fans began screaming over what they felt should have been and maybe not. At any rate, one irate fan, whose identity shall remain anonymous, sailed his soft hat onto the floor of Anderson Arena in protest. Others tossed pennies. All were emotional expressions of the unspoken hope that lies in the hearts of Fremonters . . .

Can Ross go all the way?

When tournament action first started what seems like a long two weeks ago, people were saying, 'well, it would be nice if they could win the sectional again'. Now they're thinking: a district championship would be swell. If the Little Giants do that and become 'sweet 16', people will be hoping: even if they just get into the semi-finals in Columbus. And if that should happen, they'll be hoping . . .

Columbus is a long way off and before anything like that happens, Ross has to get by several big obstacles, the first being Sylvania Friday night. Then, if they win, there are three more games to win just to get to the state capitol. In the way are a host of good teams, all with the same goal.

Ross has two big question marks — can they rebound effectively and bench strength. Looking at the first, the records show they can but sometimes don't. Against Bowling Green and Eastwood, neither of which boasted very big cagers, the Little Giants had trouble in the first half but rallied after intermission to take control of the boards. Against a big rebound team, they might not get that second chance. This is one of the keys, they must get their share of caroms.

Secondly, Fremont does not have any proven reserves. This is not said to indicate the boys on the bench aren't capable of going into a tight tourney game and doing the job but just that they haven't been tested under fire. Throughout most of the regular season Coach Dick Norman has had to go with his five starters because Ross has been involved in so many tilts that have gone right to the wire. This isn't because he didn't want to use substitutes since any coach would love to have two or three seasoned reserves to shoot in when needed, either to spell the regulars or because someone is in foul trouble.

Fortunately, Ross Hagerty, Terry Bork, Dennis Brindley, Tim Thomas and Don Weisz haven't fouled out of any tourney games, although some have come close, and their experience under fire against tough competition in tight games has stood them in good stead. It was probably the edge they've had over their first three foes. But the question is still there, if one of those five has to come out for one reason or another, can Ted Wolfe or Fred Tolhurst or Roger Hafford or Jim Hess, or whoever Norman calls on, go in and do the job? Only time will tell.

Ross has, right now, as good a first five as any team still in the tournaments but in the final analysis the whole story may rest on the shoulders of that fellow sitting right there, number . . .

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