

Old Fort, Bellevue go on; Ross goes home

News-Messenger reports

Old Fort and Bellevue move on, but it was the end of the girls basketball season for Fremont Ross and Bettsville.

Old Fort upset second-seeded Norwalk St. Paul 61-54 in the Division IV sectional tourney at Willard High School Tuesday night, while Bellevue downed Fostoria 63-51 at Sandusky High School in Division II play.

Meanwhile, Tiffin Columbian beat Ross for the third time this

season, 39-34, in the Division I sectional at Ontario High School and Bettsville's losing streak reached 57 as Calvert prevailed 46-30.

Old Fort coupled a strong defense with a dominating rebounding game in the second half to wipe out a 33-22 deficit.

"We scored 39 points in the second half," Coach Gary Perkins said, "and we have had games in which we have not

scored that much."

Laura Adelsperger scored 17 points and Hope Kesler 16 for the Stockaders. Kesler grabbed 15 of Old Fort's 50 rebounds, Susan Miller had 10 and Amy Bruegge-meier eight. Twenty-four of the rebounds were on offense. St. Paul had 24 total rebounds.

Adelsperger had 13 second half points and Kesler, 11.

"The girls played with more spirit and heart in the fourth

quarter than I have ever seen this season," Perkins said. "These seniors had never won a tournament game and this was one they wanted."

Colleen Creamer had 20 points for St. Paul.

Old Fort will play second-seeded Mohawk Saturday in the sectional final.

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Ross lost the rebounding war and with it, the game.

“At times in the second half, we forced them to take 30 to 40 seconds to get a shot,” Ross Coach Sue Wolf said, “but if they missed it, they would get the rebound and put it in.”

Columbian held a 29-16 rebounding edge.

Shanon Alberts tossed in 14 points for Columbian and Kendra Cartwright 10. Shelley Hetrich had 13 for Ross.

“They would not let us get the ball inside,” Wolf pointed out. “They were double-teaming Amy (Schepflin, six-foot senior) and taking the inside game away.”