

r For Sectional Title

Giants Spurt In 4th Period, Beat Tiffin 57-54; Dick Houghtaling Scores 24 Points

Ross high's cool and determined basketeers, in their third straight pressure-packed game, became champions of the sectional tournament at Sandusky Saturday night by coming from behind in the last quarter to defeat Tiffin Columbian 57-54.

The Giants were ahead 55-54 with two minutes and five seconds to play when they started to stall out the remaining time. They waived three free throws, the first with 1:40 to go, then took a three point game clinching lead when John Lewis went in unguarded to score on a layup.

Amazing accuracy at the foul line is the prime reason why the Giants will participate in the one-game district eliminations at Toledo this Saturday. The Giants made 15 of 16 tries. Tiffin, outscored from the field 20 goals to 21, also showed a good percentage on its free throws. Coach Harry Auble's lads made 14 of 20.

Dick (Mr. Swish) Houghtaling, whose field goal in the last 12 seconds tied the score in the Sandusky game and enabled Ross to go into overtime, again rose to the occasion by scoring 24 points.

Coach Al Ziemke's aggregation treated the crowd to another thrilling finish, although it wasn't quite as dramatic as Thursday's overtime victory over Sandusky. The lead changed hands eight times and the score was tied on six occasions.

Ross Trails, 42-36

Columbian got off to a slow start but picked up 17 points in the third quarter while holding Ross to six for a 42-36 lead heading into the last period.

Tiffin led 45-41 with 6:18 remaining to play, but Houghtaling scored twice, once a long shot and again on a tip-in, to tie the score. Then Gaylden (Little Poison) Shafer hit a side shot and the locals were in command. Jim Homan tied it up for Tiffin, however, with a shot from 10 feet out.

Charlie Glover, whose performance as a substitute helped the Giants over rough spots in each tourney game, sank a sizzling shot from the side with 4:15 to go and the Giants took a lead they never gave up, although Tiffin stayed too close for comfort.

Bob Harger's free throw made the score 49-48, but Lewis retaliated with a pair of free throws to make it 51-48 with 3:38 left. Harger and Houghtaling traded buckets, then Chad Vogt put Tiffin only a point back with a pair of fouls for a 53-52 count with 2:55 to play.

Ross Starts "Freeze"

Bob Boucher, scoreless up to that time, scored from the pivot

and the Giants kept the lead, 55-52. Columbian swept down the floor and after Vogt missed a shot, Groman tipped the ball in and it was 55-54 with 2:15 left. Glover tried a shot from the side a few seconds later, missed, but Ross controlled the rebound and started their "freezing" act. Tiffin never came close to wresting control. Three personals were committed by Columbian, two in favor of Houghtaling and once on Lewis. Houghtaling was fouled with 1:40 left the first time, 0:57 the next, and Lewis turned down a shot with 0:53 remaining.

As the finish neared and with the crowd of about 1,000 persons shouting and screaming, the Columbian defense moved out toward mid-court. Lewis spotted the clear territory, took a pass from Houghtaling, bounced the ball once and scored.

Ross jumped into an early 6-1 lead and goals by Lewis and Houghtaling and two fouls by Houghtaling but Tiffin roared from an 8-2 deficit to take a 12-10 lead. Harger's shot from the side gave Tiffin the lead at the end of the quarter, 14-13, the ball being in the air when the buzzer sounded. Referee C. W. Jones first signalled that the shot was too late, but after conferring with the timer, ruled the opposite.

In the second period, the score was tied at 16-16 and 18-18, before Homan scored with 5:40 left for a 20-18 Tiffin lead. Lewis promptly tied it up on a rebound, then DeVon Simon and Harger scored to put Columbian on top by four points, 24-20.

Giants Ahead At Half

The Giants ended the period with a flurry of baskets, Houghtaling, Glover, Lewis and Ken Wolf sinking goals for a 30-25 halftime margin.

The third quarter was harrowing for Ross. The team attempted 21 field goals but made only two, while Tiffin went over the 500 mark with seven for 13. But

Sectional Champs!

ROSS (57)	G.	F.	P.	T.
Boucher, f	1	0-0	4	2
Houghtaling, f	9	6-7	2	24
Lewis, c	5	6-6	1	16
Farver, g	0	0-0	3	0
Schafer, g	2	1-1	5	3
Glover, f	3	1-1	2	7
Wolf, f	1	1-1	0	3

Totals 21 15-16 17 57

	G.	F.	P.	T.
C. Vogt, f	5	3-5	1	13
Harger, f	5	5-6	5	16
Groman, c	5	3-5	3	13
Simon, g	3	1-2	1	7
Homan, g	2	2-2	1	6
Brinkman, f	0	0-0	0	0

Totals 20 14-20 11 54

Score by quarters:

Ross	13	30	36	57
Tiffin	14	25	42	54

Officials: D. K. Wallace and C. W. Jones.

the Giants never gave up trying and stormed back in the last period to make nine of their 18 shots from the field.

Tiffin had a better average on field goal attempts during the game, making 20 for 61, an average of 32.7 per cent. Ross, however, had more opportunities. The Giants shot 79 times and made 21, a 26.4 mark.

One player on each side fouled out late in the game, Groman getting his fifth personal when he fouled Houghtaling with 1:40 left, and Schafer drawing No. 5 with 13 seconds to play.

The Giants have played better games than they did in Saturday's finals, but they continued to show nerves of steel in critical moments and that was the difference in the teams.

Houghtaling carried the scoring burden with 24 points, while Lewis, although the prime target of the Tiffin defense, made 16.

Tournament director Carl Mackey presented the championship trophy to Houghtaling and Schafer, the Ross co-captains, in a brief ceremony from the stage of the Sandusky junior high auditorium.

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