



**LAST GAME AS ROSS COACH FOR KEN MILLER**

# *Miller resigns!*

Ken Miller announced his resignation from the head basketball coaching job at Fremont Ross Thursday night. The resignation ended his five-year stint as the head man at Ross.

Miller, however did not resign his teaching post as head of the Ross physical education department.

A disappointing 0-19 season, the first time a Ross team has not won at least one game during the season, prompted Miller's move but concern for his program not moving forward was one of the major factors.

"Really," Miller said calmly, "what it boils down to is that I have worked awfully hard at this job. When you work hard, you lose hard — you fall hard.

"There is no job worth losing your health over so I feel it is time to step aside and give someone else a chance."

The outgoing coach said, "I feel very good now except that I am emotionally and physically drained."

Miller, 42, spoke briefly of his first five years at Ross after a successful six years at Sidney High School.

"When I first came here, the number one objective was to put a team on the floor that was interesting and competitive. We were able to do that the previous three years to this.

"We did not win them all," he explained, "but when we lost, that opponent knew that he had been in a heck of a ball game."

Miller paused before going on but then registered his disappointment at the failure to move forward after accomplishing his first objective.

"After accomplishing that objective, you want to move forward and strive to get to the top," he said

and then spoke of his season's team.

"I knew that this year's team was not equipped to get to the top — and I knew that it was going to be a long, tough year but I thought that we would be more competitive. From that standpoint, we have slid backward this year — that's no direction to go."

Miller, the father of six, said that he had not been pressured into resigning, but instead had complete cooperation from Ross Principal Richard Butdorf and Athletic Director Dick Sherman.

"They have been wonderful to work for and with," he said.

Does he rule out the possibility of coaching again at another school.

"As it stands right now, I will be back next year to teach but to say that I will never coach again, well, never is a long time.

"Coaching is just like gambling — it gets in your blood."

Continuing, Miller said, "I do not want to quit now but I am disappointed that there was not more accomplished. It is a matter of trying to determine what is best for my family, and myself.

"I know that I have worked hard — I don't know what else I could have done. Maybe someone else could have done better."

While at Ross, Miller's teams posted a combined record of 34-63. Included in that record was a sectional championship. Miller also coached Mike Reardon who was player of the year in Northwestern Ohio in 1974 and a first team All-Ohio selection that same year.

The coaching veteran of 19 years has a career record of 229-157.