

Harding rolls past Fremont for sectional title

Jenkins sets another school scoring record

By **VINCE GUERRIERI**
For The Marion Star

BUCYRUS — In the third quarter of Saturday's Division I girls basketball sectional championship, Marion Harding's Brenae Harris missed a pair of free throws.

Fremont Ross' MaRyan Darr pulled down the rebound of the second miss, drove to the basket and scored.

Only the two-point score was at the Lady Presidents' basket.

Shots made by Fremont, no matter what team they counted, were rare Saturday night as Harding rolled to a 67-28 victory in a Northwest District Division I sectional tournament final at Bucyrus High School.

It was a record-setting night for the Lady Presidents (21-1) as they set a school record for the most wins in a season and senior Jessica Jenkins became Harding's all-time scorer, male or female.

Jenkins scored a game-high 17 points, giving her a career total of 1,254, eclipsing the mark of 1,246 set by Dave Merchant (1966-69).

Harding returns to the tournament trail at 7 p.m. Thursday against Mansfield Senior at Bucyrus High

Harding, which claimed its fifth straight sectional title, got off to a slow start in its first tournament game against Sandusky, but the Lady Presidents did not let that happen a second time.

Jessica Jenkins got



JENKINS

Harding on the board first, hitting a three-pointer.

Brianna Crowe hit a jumper for Fremont Ross but the Lady Presidents went on a 12-point run before Victoria Logan scored the first of her team-high 12 points for the Little Giants.

"We wanted to get after it defensively and set the tempo," said Harding coach Bill Sycks. "We talked before the game about being focused and we did that right from the beginning of the game."

Fremont Ross (6-15) scored just six points in the first half as Harding led 42-6 at the half.

"We missed too many shots," said Ross coach Sue Wolf. "We wanted to come out and run our offense."

The Little Giants weren't helped with 14 first-half turnovers, and a total of 22 for the game.

Wolf also noted that the Little Giants were unable to get a lot of offensive rebounds, as the team would bounce a shot off the rim where Lady President players could grab it and score quickly in transition.

"We gave up too many layups," Wolf said.

But Sycks had no complaints about his team's transition game.

"I was very happy about it," he said, while also crediting the defensive play of Erin Williams and Brenae Harris.

Shawnta Dyer collected 13 points and eight rebounds for Harding while the Harris sisters, Brittany and Breanae, each scored eight points. Jenkins dished out five assists and added three steals.

Marion Star sportswriter Bob Putman contributed to this story.