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H.S. Hoops: Ross girls fall short vs. Rogers

Ross rallies to tie Rogers, but misses shots at victory

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The Fremont Ross girls basketball team dug itself too deep a hole to climb out of in a 41-40 setback to Rogers on Monday night.

The Little Giants outscored the Rams 28-19 in the second half, but couldn't complete the comeback.

After a sloppy first half in which they only scored 12 points, the Little Giants tied the game late. Ross, however, failed to capitalize on two possessions with a chance to take the lead in the final 25 seconds.

With 42 seconds remaining in the game, Casey Clark converted one of two free throws to even the score at 40-40, but on the ensuing possession Jalisa Brown, who hadn't scored in the game, was fouled and gave the Rams (5-1) the lead for good at 41-40 when she split her two free throws with 25 seconds left.

With 14 seconds left, Ross's Morgan Welty was called for traveling as she drove along the baseline. The Little Giants then stole the inbounds pass but McKenzie Schneider misfired with her jumper and the Rams came up with the rebound to seal the game.

"I'm not happy with our first half, we had a lot of mental mistakes," Ross coach Juan Vela said. "But in the second half we were much better. The girls responded to the changes we made at half.

"We had a couple chances to win the game, but couldn't score. That's how sports goes sometimes."

The Little Giants' first half struggles were primarily due to Rams guard Latisha White, who scored a game-high 20 points.

"Tisha's our leader, she's great on and off the court for us and the heart beat of this team," Rogers coach Gary Wolfe said. "Our hustle created a lot of turnovers and that was a big factor in the game."

Clark led Ross, which shot 35 percent from the field, with nine points and six rebounds, and Schneider added seven points and five rebounds.

"You always want to win, but we have to move on to tomorrow and keep working and continue to improve," Vela said.



Ross guard McKenzie Schneider and Rogers' Latisha White chase a loose ball during the first half of Monday's game at the Purple Pit. Rogers made the plays late and left with a 41-40 victory. (Jonathon Bird | News-Messenger)