

1984 Class AAA Sectional Tournament

Ross gets by in AAA sectional

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor

ONTARIO—It wasn't as dramatic as the final score indicates but Ross Coach Sue Wolf could joke about her girls basketball team's 30-27 win over Ashland in the first game of the Class AAA Sectional Tournament Tuesday.

"Well," she said as she walked off the court, "we won it."

That's about all she could say.

The victory put the Lady Little Giants into the sectional semifinals at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, against top-seeded Mansfield Senior, 17-3.

Against Ashland, 5-16, the Lady Giants trailed only once, 1-0, but threatened to kick away that lead with erratic play.

"The kids were scared out there," Wolf charged. "They were scared to death."

"We shot 11 times in the first half, made seven of them—that's a great percentage—but it's not enough shots," the Ross coach continued. "There wasn't too many shots in this ball game."

Ross, 13-7, took only 27 shots, made 11, while Ashland, while shooting from long distance most of the game, made 10 of 44 shots.

Twice, Ross stumbled to eight-points leads—11-3 and 23-15—but each time the Lady Arrows, with Barb Maze and Toni Naylor leading the attack, charged back to trail by three. First it was 15-12 at the half and at the final buzzer.

The Lady Giants' zone defense took away any inside offense Ashland attempted to muster but Ross had it's problems inside.

"We wanted to go inside but couldn't," Wolf succinctly summed it up.

Sue Gahn, despite getting into early foul trouble, led Ross with 13 points. Katie Marritt added eight and Tina Michael had six. Gahn had nine rebounds and Micheal 10 despite Ashland holding a 24-23 edge.

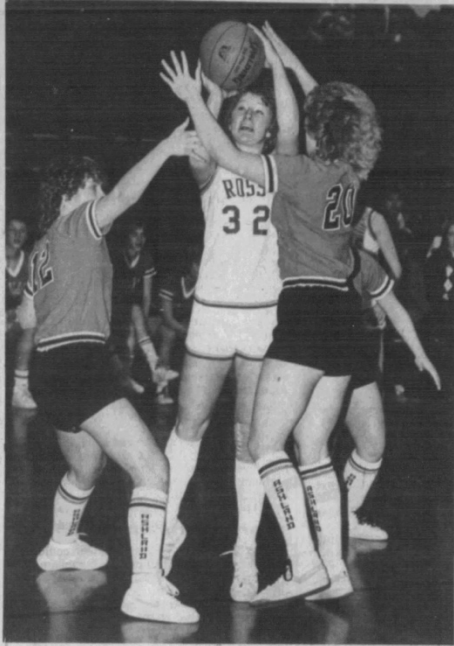
Wolf praised the play of sophomore Shelly Leggett saying she played well when her team needed it.

About Mansfield, Wolf called the Lady Tygers a very good ball team.

"They have the District 6 player of the year in Carla Norris," she pointed out, "plus they have a good shooter in Jackie Marshall. They also have a couple of very good guards."

In the night's second game, Sandusky, 9-12, defeated Galion, 6-15, 60-43. Anita Smoot had 18 and Monica Pearson 16 to lead the Lady Blue Streaks.

Sandusky will play Malabar at 8:15 p.m., Wednesday.



SUE GAHN (32) of Ross is surrounded by Ashland's Jill Petee (12) and Barb

Maze (20). Gahn was unable to get off the shot during the first quarter play.



(N-M photos by Bob Marker)

SUE WOLF, coach of the Ross High School girls basketball team, gives in-

structions to her team late in the final quarter.

Slow moving Vols sneak past Auburn

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

First, the Tennessee Volunteers took their time. Then they took care of 19th-ranked Auburn.

Using the Southeastern Confer-

rallied to take a 44-43 lead with 5:09 left on a dunk by Jones. The teams swapped baskets until the decisive final minute.

The Tigers slipped to 16-7 overall

Ross rally, season ended by Mansfield

ONTARIO — The 1983-84 season ended Wednesday night for the Ross girls basketball team, but not without a fight.

The Lady Little Giants cut a 15-point deficit down to five in the final quarter before finally succumbing 70-57 to a very strong Mansfield Senior team in the semifinals of the Class AAA sectional at Ontario High School here.

"I was really happy with the way we came back," said Ross Coach Sue Wolf. "That's been sort of a problem all year, but we did a nice job last night.

"We got to within five points, but we just couldn't make it all the way."

Sue Gahn led Ross's comeback bid with 15 of her team-high 19 points in the second half. She was aided in the scoring column by Shelly Leggett with 16 points, Tina

Michael with 12 and Katie Marritt with 10. They were the only four Ross players to score last night.

"Shelly Leggett played an excellent game," Wolf said of the 5-8 sophomore. "She has played an outstanding tournament.

"And Katie played a really good game, even though she had just 10 points. They played a box-and-one on her. She didn't have any turnovers and she had five assists."

Ross closes out its season with a 13-8 record while Mansfield, which was led by Jackie Marshall's 20 points, continues to Saturday's finals with an 18-3 mark.

"I'm happy with our season," concluded Wolf. "The only game we weren't in was the Central game (a 56-23 loss). Other than that game, we were in every other one."