

# Real 'Little' Giant leads Ross

By **BOB MARKER**  
N-M Sports Editor

Sue Wolf will never sing a lyric of "Short People."

"Don't want no short people 'round here' would be blasphemous. Wolf and her Ross High School girls basketball team fortunes rise and fall on the play of a 5-1 giant: Judy Shetzer.

"I guess you could say I'm shy and quiet," the pixie-like Ross senior said as she pondered a description of herself. "I don't really open up and talk a lot."

"Yeah," Wolf agrees,

"sometimes I can hardly get her to say anything to me."

But put a basketball in the hands of Shetzer and she is as tall as any player on the floor; sometimes taller. Her play does all the talking.

"I'm almost the opposite on the floor," she grinned while taking a breather last week during a Ross practice.

Shetzer will lead the Lady Little Giants into tonight's first round game of the Findlay Class AAA Sectional Basketball Tournament against Celina. The game will begin around 8:30 p.m.

Shetzer is chomping at the bit to get into action. "Chomping" because the competitive Ross guard is at her best when the pressure is on. She does not know the meaning of "take it easy."

Last Thursday in a game against Sandusky, Ross had a 30-point lead on the Blue Streaks. At that stage a ball careened toward the stands on its way out-of-bounds. Shetzer was in fast

pursuit and could have easily let it go but true to her nature, she flung herself parallel to the floor attempting to get the ball.

She missed and hit the bleachers. Shetzer did not have to do that; the game was not in doubt but it was a mirror of the way she plays the game.

"I can't take it easy; that's the way I am."

This little competitor, however, almost did take it easy four years ago. Indeed, she also quit.

"I wasn't even going to out for basketball in the ninth grade," she disclosed.

Why?

"Because everyone thought I was a 'tomboy,'" she managed a little smile.

Today, she is not a "tomboy." The progress of girls athletics is making that phrase a relic. Today, Shetzer and other girls are athletes; some are just better than others and Shetzer is one of the latter.

She learned her basketball while goofing around with her brother

Tim, a standout player for Wooster College several years ago.

"Yeah," she said quietly, "we used to joke around playing at home."

From joking around, the little playmaker has grown to the stature where she is no joke. To stop Ross, a team must stop Shetzer.

From 3-16 a year ago, Shetzer has led Ross to 11-9 this season. The number of wins is a record for the Ross girls in regular season.

Ironically, Shetzer became a better player as the season wore on but it took a nasty bit of luck to Shetzer's friend, Margaret Van Gilder, to put the full spotlight on her. Van Gilder suffered a knee injury in Ross's fourth game, knocking her out for the season. Ross was 4-0 at that point but lost six straight while missing Van Gilder's scoring leadership.

"I knew what she (Van Gilder) was going to do," Shetzer said, "and she knew what I wanted."

"I think of what happened to her and what we (Ross) could have been this season, and I get sick," she explained.

"With Margaret out, the girls did not know what to expect."

It took awhile but under Shetzer's generalship, Ross straightened out to go 7-3 over the final half of the year.

Talking about Van Gilder's bad break, Shetzer can see some good.

"I think that the other players developed more after that," she said.

Now, the development and Shetzer's heady play will be tested by Celina tonight. Wolf and her star "Little" Giant will be pressed by the rather deliberate Bulldog offense and a tough multiple defense.

Given that outlook, though, Shetzer will probably be at her tallest. If she does, Wolf will personally break every recording of "Short People."

News-Messenger

Sports  
news

## Shedd captures 1st PBA title

NORTH OLMSTED, Ohio (AP) — Big Kyle Shedd, a right-handed fireballer, literally blasted his way to his first professional bowling championship with his powerful hook.

"My size helps me crank the ball," the 6-foot-1, 200-pound tour sophomore said

Kingsport, Tenn., 257-236.

His winnings moved him into second place in the 1980 PBA money standings with \$28,603 for eight tournaments.

Shedd started strong in the championship match with a double, but missed a 3-10 split in the third frame to even the contest at 56

tournament, collected \$8,000 for second place. Martin earned \$6,000 for third.

Handley, who defeated Dave Husted of Milwaukie, Ore., 193-192, in the first match of the finals, took home \$5,000 for fourth place, while Husted got \$4,000 for fifth.

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# Ross girls ousted

By BOB MARKER

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FINDLAY — The tournament trail ended quickly a day late for Fremont Ross's girls basketball team.

The Celina Bulldogs, although lacking the canine authority to put the Lady Little Giants completely on the ropes, did put Ross in the doghouse for the basketball season with a 46-38 triumph in the delayed first round of the Findlay Class AAA Sectional Tournament.

The loss ended the season on a sour note for Ross during a season that had a sweet and sour taste. The Lady Little Giants ended 11-10 while Celina marches on to the second round of the tournament Feb. 28 against Bowling Green, also with an 11-10 record.

The game had originally been scheduled for Monday but the snowy weather pushed it back to Tuesday night.

"How difficult is it to foul someone?" an exasperated Coach Sue Wolf asked herself while sitting on the bench after the game. "It was the only chance we had with the time that was left."

Wolf was dismayed at her team's unwillingness to foul from the 56-second mark down to the 20-second mark in the final period. Ross had cut Celina's one-time 15-point lead down to eight, 44-36 on free throws by Della Hall and Tammy Haas with 55 seconds to play and Wolf's plan of fouling was working fine to that point.

That's when the Lady Little Giants played shrinking violets and let the Bulldogs handle the ball unmolested around the perimeter of the Ross defense for 35 valuable seconds. That put the game on ice for Celina.

The game, however, was decided before that point. Wolf summed it up succinctly: "We couldn't hit the broad side of a barn," she said.

"You have to score to win and we have not scored lately," Wolf added.

The Lady Little Giants connected on a paltry 11 of 53, 20 percent, with only 16 of 24 charity shooting keeping them within earshot of Celina. Judy Shetzer, although stone cold from the floor, hit eight of eight from the foul line to finish as Ross's high scorer with a dozen.

Janine Beckman, with 11 last-period points, led Celina with 15 and Vickie Kuess dropped in 12.

Celina was 20 of 46 from the floor.

Ross held a 15-8 lead midway through the second period but eight straight turnovers allowed Celina to go ahead 17-15. Ross led only once more, 19-17 early in the third period.

## SCORE BY QUARTERS

Ross	10	7	4	17	— 38
Celina	6	11	12	17	— 46

## SCORING

ROSS: Shetzer 2-8-12, Haas 2-2-6, Lindstrom 0-0-0, Smith 1-1-3, Paulson 2-2-6, Hall 3-2-8, Pfeiffer 1-0-2; totals 11-16-38.

CELINA: Je. Beckman 5-5-15, Allmandinger 3-0-6, Fleck 2-1-5, Millhouse 2-0-4, Ju. Beckman 2-0-4, Kuess 6-0-12; totals 20-6-46.