

Ross coach hoping for growing pains

News-Messenger Reports

Sue Wolf is hoping that her Ross High School girls basketball team will have growing pains this season.

On the eve of her team's opener at Bellevue (1 p.m., Saturday), Wolf was painting a picture that many coaches create in the preseason and the veteran coach was not pulling any brush strokes.

"We are very young and inexperienced," Wolf explained. "In the preseason, we have stressed fundamentals.

"We need to learn from our mistakes and not get frustrated; we need to grow a little each game."

Preseason has been a little frustrating for Wolf. She does not have a starter back from her 7-13 team. She could have one, but Shelley Leggett, a two-year letter winner, reinjured a knee that had kept her out for nearly half of last season.

"If Leggett is able to come back," Wolf said, "we could have one of our starters back."

Gone from last year's team are Sue Gahn, now a member of the Bowling Green State University women's team, Michele Blue and Denise Wilkens, both via graduation, possibly Leggett and Chris Yeager who has moved.

If Leggett returns, the Lady Giants could have five letter winners back. In addition to Leggett, the returning letter winners are Brenda Kline, Minerva Nevarez, Belinda Walters and Aimee LeJeune. In reality, however, the letter returnees did not see that much action last season.

Wolf's lineup for the opener could feature a senior, two juniors and a pair of sophomores. Kline, 5-8, is the

senior and will be operating from a forward slot. LeJeune, 5-4, and Walters, 5-7, the juniors, will be in the guard slots while sophomores Amy Schepflin and Julie Young will round out the lineup. Schepflin is a slender six-footer who will be at center while Young, 5-6, is a forward.

"So far in scrimmages," Wolf pointed out, "the sophomores have shown great improvements and seem to be adjusting to our program. We are counting on them to hit the boards and contribute to our offense."

Nevarez, 5-8, will be one of

Wolf's first subs this season in either the forward or center slot. Up from the junior varsity team of last season are guards Jenny Monak and Amy Wilkins along with forward Nicole Buehler, all juniors. Taunya Downing, a 5-8 senior, played as sophomore but not as a junior.

Wolf pointed several things she feels her team must have from several individuals.

"Kline has been showing great improvement this season," the Ross coach began. "We will be relying on her for leadership. Nevarez has the capabilities to

score and rebound.

"Walters will play both the point guard and wing," Wolf continued, "but we need her to score more and be aggressive defensively.

"LeJeune has improved tremendously from last year. We brought her up last season from the JVs because of injuries and she played fairly well. This year, I think she feels more at home. Her shooting and her defense have really improved."

If those assignments are pulled off, Wolf could be smiling at the mention of growing pains.



News-Messenger/Bill Kennedy

MEMBERS OF the Ross High School girls basketball team are, left to right, front row: Nicole Buehler, Aimee LeJeune, Julie Young, Jenny Monak, Amy Wilkins, Belinda Walters;

back row: Coach Sue Wolf, Minerva Nevarez, Brenda Cline, Amy Schepflin, Taunya Downing, Shelley Leggett and manager Heidi Lehmann. Ross opens at Bellevue Saturday.

Bellevue girls slip past Ross Lady Giants 32-31

By BOB MARKER

Reporting for The News-Messenger

BELLEVUE - Swish! The ball off the hand of Aimee LeJeune went cleanly through the hoop for an apparent Ross High School girls basketball win over Bellevue.

The win was only apparent; hundreds of a second before LeJeune's shot, the Lady Giants had called timeout and Bellevue sneaked off with a 32-31 lead Saturday afternoon.

The timeout came with three seconds remaining in the game and when play began again,

Lady Giant Brenda Kline's shot bounced off the rim and Bellevue's victory was insured.

"We wanted timeout at midcourt if they had made the free throw," Ross Coach Sue Wolf said after the losing debut, "but we did not want timeout if we got the rebound. The girls just misunderstood."

Michelle Miller of Bellevue was on the foul line with 10 seconds remaining and her team up by one. She missed the free throw with the rebound going to Ross. The ball ended up in LeJeune's hands who dribbled to the left of the Ross free throw

lane, got off a 12-footer and watched the ball fall through.

It turned out to be a shot in futility.

"Our girls hustled," Wolf said as she sorted out the good points of the climatic loss. "When the ball was loose, they were diving for it."

That style of play characterized the Lady Giants play; poor shooting was another characteristic.

The Lady Giants were just

nine of 49 from the floor for an anemic 18 per cent. Bellevue was not much better, making 14 of 47 for 30 per cent.

The game featured rough and tumble play with Ross marching to the foul line 31 times but making only 13 of the free shots. Bellevue was whistled for 25 fouls, a dozen more than Ross.

"We could have won the game at the foul line," Wolf said glumly.

Kline paced Ross's scoring

with 10 points. LeJeune finished with seven, all in the final eight minutes. Rachel Coe, whose bucket from 10 feet out on the right side gave her team the victory margin with 35 seconds remaining in the game, had 10 points. Miller finished with eight.

Ross outrebounded the Lady

Redmen 50-41. Ross had 28 offensive rebounds including nine in the final quarter.

The Lady Giants were guilty of 25 turnovers and Bellevue 30. Thursday, Ross will host Macomber at Ross High School. The junior varsity game begins at 6 p.m.

HURRY IN

Lose up to 5-10-15 LBS. By Christmas During Our—

PRE-CHRISTMAS

Huron fells Ross; Woodmore belts Old Fort

News-Messenger Reports

Huron turned it on in the final quarter to roll to a 71-43 high school girls basketball win over Fremont Ross Tuesday in the Tigers' cage.

"It was a good game up through the third quarter," Ross Coach Sue Wolf said, "but then we died."

In another area game, Woodmore rolled to a 69-35 conquest of Old Fort.

Ross's death was a 26-5 onslaught by Huron in the final quarter. Monica Bickley, who finished with a game high 26 points, scored 10 of those in the final eight minutes. Whe was one of four Huron players reaching double figures.

Huron held a fairly slim 45-38 lead after three quarters but the Lady Tigers' full court press took its toll on the Lady Giants in the final quarter.

"Both of our guards, Belinda Walters and Aimee LeJeune, played very well," Wolf praised.

Walter had 22 points, five steals and three rebounds while

LeJeune finished with eight points.

Huron outrebounded Ross 35-25 with a majority of the Lady Tigers retrieves coming off the offensive boards.

Huron was 28 of 58 from the floor and Ross 19 of 48.

Ross will host Macomber Thursday in its season opener.

Woodmore	69
Old Fort	35

Lori Kuhlman scored 20 points, grabbed 17 rebounds and had six steals to lead Woodmore to its third win against no losses.

Lisa Sandwisch added 19 points, eight assists and six steals to the Woodmore totals. Ten Woodmore players scored in the contest.

The Lady Wildcats roared to an 18-6 lead after one quarter and built that advantage to 36-14 at the half.

Kelli Brueggemier and Hope Kesler had 10 points apiece for Old Fort, 2-2.

Lady Macs pull away from Ross

News-Messenger Reports

The first game was nice but that second game, well, Sue Wolf would just as soon forget it.

Toledo Macomber fought off a determined first half effort by Ross with a dominating second half while tripping the Lady Giants 53-31 Tuesday night in a high school girls basketball game at Ross High School.

"Yeah," Wolf, the Ross coach said, "that was like two different games."

Ross, 0-3, was deadlocked with the Lady Macs 21-21 at the half but the third quarter was another story.

"We didn't even come back out on the floor in the second half," Wolf said. "We've done that all three games."

Dionne Lott, a 6-foot sophomore, tossed in 10 of her game high 14 points in the third quarter as Macomber outscored Ross 14-4.

That was bad but the first 63 seconds of the final quarter knocked Ross flat. In that span, the Lady Giants committed six turnovers and Macomber scored 10 unanswered points to take a 45-25 lead.

"Their defense was not hurting us," Wolf insisted, "we were just throwing the ball away."

"We basically beat ourselves."

Ross hit just 10 of 43 shots while Macomber was 25 of 75. The Lady Macs grabbed 46 rebounds and Ross 35.

The Lady Giants committed 31 turnovers, 23 in the first half and 16 in the final eight minutes.

Minerva Navarez and Belinda Walters had seven points apiece and Julie Young six for Ross. In addition to Lott's 14 points, Taronda Finn had nine points, Edith Garrett and Tracey Sparks eight apiece for Macomber.

Ross lost the junior varsity games 35-30 after leading 8-1 at the end of one quarter. Julie Wendt had 10 points and Shelley Hetrick nine for Ross.

St. Joe rolls past Bettsville

News-Messenger Reports

Fremont St. Joe rolled to its second win against no losses, but Ross fell for the fourth straight time in girls high school basketball Tuesday.

St. Joe, 2-0, topped Bettsville 53-21 while Ross, 0-4, absorbed a 65-19 defeat at the hands of Sandusky Perkins.

In other area games, Eastwood beat Lakota 67-45, Woodmore remained unbeaten with a 51-39 win over Elmwood, Oak Harbor is 4-0 after beating Gibsonburg 49-30, and Old Fort slipped past Danbury 47-45 in overtime.

St. Joe was 24 of 70 from the floor but just five of 21 at the line while rolling easily past Bettsville.

Nine Lady Streaks scored with Pam Brandt getting 12. Joann Reardon added 11 points and 12 rebounds as St. Joe dominated the rebounding department 53-25. Barb Phelps had six points and Mary Chavez five for Bettsville. The Lady Bobcats were guilty of 30 turnovers.

Perkins65

Ross19

Perkins rolled to a 33-11 lead at the half and never looked back in dominating the Lady Giants.

Val Pruitt scored 32 points, including 20 in the first half, to pace the Lady Pirates. Denise Lynch added 10 for Perkins. Brenda Kline had eight for Ross.

Ross was six of 46 from the floor and Perkins 29 of 57. Ross committed 29 turnovers, 17 more than the Lady Pirates.



News-Messenger/Bill Kennedy

BELINDA WALTERS (34) of Ross shouts for help while being closely guarded by Perkins' Amy

Litz during girls high school basketball action Tuesday night at Ross High School.

Woodmore.....51
Elmwood.....39

Oak Harbor.....49
Gibsonburg.....30

Stephanie Norwine scored 13

In the overtime, Hope Kesler gave Old Fort the lead but Danbury, 1-2, tied it to set up Abrahamson's winning shot.

Kesler led Old Fort with 17

At Ross High School, Findlay shook off the Lady Giants in the second quarter while running to a 53-28 victory.

Findlay.....53

Ross28

Sue Wolf got a little bit more than she asked for from her Lady Giants.

"They had not been aggressive in the last couple of games," Wolf explained, "and I told them I wanted more aggressiveness.

"But," Wolf was able to smile, "they may have been a little too aggressive."

Ross was called for 30 fouls, 16 more than the visiting Lady Trojans. Findlay made exactly half of those opportunities to go with 18 of 58 from the floor.

Findlay held a narrow 12-8 lead after one quarter but a 17-7 spurt in the second quarter gave the Lady Trojans control of the game.

Kristi Erner with 15 points and Sarah Edelbrock with 14 paced Findlay. Belinda Walters had six points and Brenda Kline five for Ross, 0-5.

"We hustled a little more," Wolf said, "and that was nice to see."



News-Messenger/Bob Marker

AMY SCHEPFLIN (24) of Ross watches the ball sail out-of-bounds during first quarter action

Thursday at Ross High School. Getting blocked away from the ball is Linda Avers of Clyde.

Schepflin lifts Ross girls to first victory of season

Reardon sets rebound record in St. Joe loss

News-Messenger Reports

Amy Schepflin does not appear to be a person who packs any clout. Instead, the slender, not skinny, six-foot sophomore appears to be the ideal one to be clouted.

"Hey, she's becoming more aggressive," Ross girls basketball Coach Sue Wolf insisted.

You'd have to go along with that as Schepflin packed the clout Thursday while leading the Lady Giants to their first high school girls basketball win in six games, a 34-31 decision over Clyde.

The Ross win highlighted two games played in Fremont. In the other, St. Joseph Central Catholic dropped its second game this week, falling to St. Wendelin 51-46.

Schepflin scored eight points, including four in the final quarter, all in clutch situations for the Lady Giants. Her two free throws with 3:14 remaining in the game brought Ross to within a point at 29-28. Schepflin's basket with 1:20 to play gave Ross a 32-29 advantage.

Schepflin's knockout punch followed a diving steal and save by Ross point guard Aimee LeJeune and the ensuing go-ahead basket by Brenda Kline.

LeJeune dove in front of a Clyde player beneath the Ross bucket. The ball flew across the baseline but LeJeune caught it while parallel with the floor, slapped it back to Kline, who gave Ross the lead with a layup. There was 2:15 to play when LeJeune made the theft.

Schepflin followed with her bucket a minute later and Ross hung on for the win.

"That is one (first win) and that helps," Wolf smiled but admitted she was a little mystified how her team had won this one.

"We have to cut down on our



JOANN REARDON
...St. Joe record-breaker

turnovers (28) and I don't see how we missed all those shots (layups) in the last quarter. They were 'gimme' shots."

The Lady Giants missed four layups in the final four minutes of the game to keep the pressure on themselves.

Clyde, too, was its own enemy when it came to the easy shot.

"The free throw line killed us," Coach Doug Ottney pointed out. "We were only one of 11. We outscored them from the floor."

"We just cannot get our offense going," he added.

Clyde had a 16-7 lead midway through the second quarter but Ross ran off 10 straight points to take a 17-16 lead. Schepflin tossed in the go-ahead bucket on a rebound. Joely Andrews, who finished with a game-high 16 points, 14 in the first half, hit a jumper with two seconds remaining in the period to put Clyde on top 18-17 at the half.

Schepflin led the balanced

Ross scoring with Kline, LeJeune and Belinda Walters scoring six points each. Shelly Leggitt, making her first appearance of the season, scored five. Andrews topped Clyde and Lisa Avery added 11.

Ross was 13 of 50 from the floor and Clyde 15 of 45. The Lady Giants were eight of 16 at the line and outrebounded Clyde 39-21.

St. Wendelin.....51
St. Joe.....46

Joann Reardon and Elaine Gonya each had record-setting nights, but they were all for naught as the Lady Streaks fell to the Lady Mohawks at St. Joe.

Reardon, a 5-9 senior, broke the school record for rebounds in a career. With her 16 caroms last night, she now has 637, eclipsing the mark of 624 set by Reenie House.

Gonya, a 5-6 sophomore, handed out eight assists to tie the school mark set by Cindy Oprie. Gonya also had three steals.

But those efforts were not enough to keep St. Joe from falling for the second time in five games this season. The main culprits for St. Wendelin, now 7-1, were Ann Strouse with 25 points and Theresa Steyer with 14.

The game was close the entire way, with St. Wendelin clinging to a 35-34 lead after three quarters. In the final period, St. Joe still trailed by one with 1:10 left and had the ball, but the Lady Streaks threw it away.

After a Strouse free throw made it 48-46, St. Joe missed a shot to tie it and the Lady Mohawks came back with a basket and a free throw to put the game away.

St. Joe outgaled St. Wendelin 23-22, but the Lady Mohawks made seven of 13 free throws to zero of three for St. Joe.

Pam Brandt paced St. Joe with 14 points while Reardon and Maureen Barry added 10 each.

Columbian tops Ross girls

News-Messenger Reports

TIFFIN — Columbian outscored Fremont Ross 19-0 in the first quarter and used that cushion to roll to a 64-30 high school girls basketball win Saturday afternoon.

Ross broke its scoring famine with 10 second quarter points but Columbian added 18 more for a 37-10 halftime stranglehold.

Kim Darner tossed in 17 points, Kelly Outcalt 15 and Wendy Dick 14 to pace Columbian.

The Tornadoes made 25 of 52 shots and outrebounded Ross 30-24. Ross was 14 of 51 from the floor. Ross committed 21

turnovers and Columbian 20.

Shelly Leggett had seven points, all in the second half, to pace Ross. Brenda Kline and Nicole Buehler added six apiece.

Ross girls fall to Toledo CC

TOLEDO — Toledo Central Catholic outscored Fremont Ross 16-7 in the second quarter to take command of the game and roll to a 56-30 high school girls basketball victory Saturday.

Lori Knannlein scored 16 points, all in the first half, to pace Central. She was the only Central player in double figures.

Central, after leading 18-10 at the end of the first quarter, charged to a 34-17 halftime advantage.

Ross was led by Julie Young's nine points. Brenda Kline added seven.

Central made 27 of 64 shots and Ross 11 of 33. The Central defense forced 36 Ross turnovers.

News-Messenger Reports

Ross reached a season scoring high and Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic rolled to its fifth win to highlight area high school girls basketball games Saturday.

Ross defeated Port Clinton 55-33 and St. Joe ran past Old Fort 58-36. In the other games, Gibsonburg slipped past Lakota 45-42, Eastwood stopped Woodmore 57-40, and Oak Harbor cruised past Genoa 53-30. The latter three games were Suburban Lakes League contests.

Ross won its second game of the season against seven losses. Nine Ross players scored, with Shelly Leggett leading that parade with 13 points. Amy Schepflin contributed nine with Nichole Buehler getting eight and Minerva Nevarez seven for Ross.

Julie Young had 11 rebounds and six points for Ross with Brenda Kline tossing in four points to go with eight rebounds. Leggett had five rebounds as Ross controlled the boards 39-30.

After an 8-8 deadlock at the end of the first quarter, Ross outscored the Redskins 18-6 in the second eight minutes to take command. A 20-7 scoring advantage in the third quarter iced the game for Ross.

Amy Popson had 10 points to pace Port Clinton.

Harding.....51

Ross43

Harding broke away from a 22-22 deadlock to win for the 10th time in 11 games at Marion.

Ross had outscored the Presidents 16-12 in the second quarter to get the tie.

"We played hard and hustled all over the floor," Ross Coach Sue Wolf explained, "but we missed too many bunnies (short shots)."

Shelly Leggett had 19 points and nine rebounds for Ross. Amy Schepflin added eight points and Brenda Kline seven. Latrina Field led Harding with 15 points and Suzanne Row had 13.

Harding made 22 of 65 shots and Ross 15 of 44. The Little Giants sank 13 of 19 from the foul line, the best performance of the season in that department.

Ross, 2-8, will host Lorain Senior Thursday. The junior varsity game begins at 6 p.m.

Findlay.....66

Ross48

Findlay pulled away from the Little Giants in the second quarter, outscoring Ross 22-9.

The Trojans held a 16-12 lead after the first quarter. In the second half, Findlay had a 28-27 scoring edge.

"They (Findlay) would get the ball inside when they wanted," Ross Coach Sue Wolf said, "and we could not do anything about it."

Sarah Edelbrock led a quartet of Findlay players reaching double figures with 14. Anne Newton had a dozen points with Kristi Erner and Jeanine Gralak scoring 10 points apiece.

Aimee LeJeune of Ross led all scorers with 16 points. Brenda Kline had 10 for the Little Giants.

Ross was 15 of 56 and Findlay 28 of 69. The Little Giants made 18 of 30 free throws.

Ross will be at Bowling Green for a 1 p.m. Saturday game.

Lady Giants fall to BG 49-40

News-Messenger Reports

Terri Keeley scored eight points in the third quarter to help Bowling Green break an 18-18 halftime deadlock and go on to defeat Fremont Ross 49-40 in a high school girls basketball game at BG Saturday afternoon.

In other area games, Lake turned back Lakota 67-44 and Clyde fell to Huron 64-42.

The Bobcats outscored the Little Giants 12-7 in the third quarter and iced the victory with a 19-15 advantage in the final eight minutes.

Keeley had a game-high 16 points. Teammate Julie Vannett scored all 10 of her points in the final quarter.

Brenda Kline and Shelly Leggett had 10 points apiece and

Belinda Walters added nine for Ross.

Ross outrebounded the Bobcats 31-22 but had seven more turnovers with 18.

Ross made 13 of 56 shots and 14 of 20 free throws while Bowling Green was 19 of 66 from the floor and 11 of 20 at the line.

Tuesday, Ross will host Oregon Clay.

Lake.....67

Lakota.....44

Lake picked up its 12th win in 13 games as Jenny McCamey tossed in 17 points and the Flyers' defense forced Lakota into 42 turnovers.

Lisa Hicks had 13 points for Lake.

Tammy Stahle had 20 points for Lakota.

Lake held an 11-8 lead at one quarter but ran to a 29-halftime lead.

Huron

Clyde

Leading 8-6 after the first eight minutes of the game, Huron outscored Clyde 44-17 in the second and third quarters to cruise to its seventh win in games.

Monica Bickley tossed in 17 points to pace Huron. Teammate Teresa added 11.

Joely Andrews had 13 points and Dawn Longyear had 12 for Clyde, 3-8.

Ross tops Clay 42-28

By BOB MARKER

Reporting for The News-Messenger

Ross resisted the urge to hit the panic button Tuesday and used that resistance for a 42-28 high school girls basketball win over Oregon Clay.

Ross, winners only twice in 13 previous games, pumped in six of 13 first quarter shots while gliding to a 12-3 lead. In the second quarter, the Little Giants did not function as smoothly as in the first, but still carried a comfortable 21-7 lead into the intermission.

"In the first quarter," Ross Coach Sue Wolf described, "we ran our offense well, but in the second quarter we panicked a little."

That panic nearly turned into a full scale retreat in the third quarter as Clay outscored Ross 13-8. At one point, Ross's 14-point halftime lead shrank to seven points. At that moment, the Little Giants yanked their fingers off the panic buttons and responded with a late-quarter surge to retain a still comfortable but trembling 29-20 lead.

The Eagles had switched from a man-to-man first half defense into a "2-3" zone which caused the Little Giants problems in the third quarter.

In the final quarter, Ross got a pair of key turnovers when Shelly Leggett took a pair of offensive charges early in the period. Belinda Walters dropped in four points with Brenda Kline, Leggett and Julie Young getting three points apiece as Ross pulled away late in the quarter to win going away.

Young finished with nine points but grabbed 17 rebounds as the Little Giants outrebounded the taller Eagles 48-30.

Aimee LeJeune, who keyed the Ross full-court press with three early steals and 11 first-half points, led Ross with 13 points. Kline added nine while Leggett had five points and 11 rebounds. Mary Navarre, a 6-1 senior, led Clay, 4-10, with nine points.

Ross was 16 of 41 from the floor and 10 of 19 at the line. Clay, after a two of 25 performance in the first half, finished with 12 of 54 shooting. Ross had 27 turnovers and the Eagles 14.

Ross girls win second straight

News-Messenger Reports

Ross survived a middle-quarters letdown Thursday to record its second consecutive high school girls win.

The 37-30 verdict over Sandusky at the Blue Streaks' home raised the Little Giants' season record to 4-11.

In other area games, Calvert defeated Clyde 46-39, Eastwood flattened Lakota 75-35, Woodmore toppled Elmwood 53-40, New Riegel defeated Old Fort 55-50, Port Clinton fell to Huron 56-42, and Otsego slipped past Genoa 66-61.

Ross held a 20-10 lead at the beginning of the third quarter, but, after trailing by two at one point, took just a 24-23 lead into the final eight minutes.

"Brenda Kline and Shelly Leggett played very well in the final quarter," Ross Coach Sue Wolf pointed out.

Kline had five of her game-high 13 points in the quarter and Leggett scored six of her 10 in the period. Kline also grabbed nine rebounds.

Marva Warren led Sandusky with 12 points and Katie Millott added 11.

Ross was 13 of 40 from the

floor and Sandusky 13 of 39. Ross was 11 of 22 and Sandusky four of 13 at the line.

Calvert46
Clyde39

Calvert outscored Clyde 24-16 in the second half to wipe out the Fliers' 23-22 halftime lead.

The game was halted briefly in the fourth quarter when the lights went out in the Clyde gym.

Lisa Lucius had 19 points and Lisa Bickley 13 for Calvert. Dawn Longyear had 12 points, Joely Andrews and Lisa Avery 10 apiece for Clyde.

Eastwood.....75
Lakota.....35

Eastwood outscored Lakota 22-8 in both the first and third quarters while rolling to the easy Suburban Lakes League victory.

Jodi Juergens paced Eastwood with 22 points. Diane Carlo and Teresa Sunderland had 10 points apiece for Lakota.

Eastwood, which shot 57 percent from the field, is 10-0 in the SLL race.

Woodmore.....53
Elmwood.....40

The Wildcats upped their record to 11-4 overall and 6-3 in the SLL with the win over the Royals in Woodville.

Lori Kuhlman led the way for Woodmore with 15 points, 11 rebounds and five steals. Tina Bruntz added 13 points.

Woodmore held a 33-24 lead after three quarters and pulled away for the win.

Kim Bateson led Elmwood with 12 points.

Otsego66
Genoa.....61

At Genoa, Stacey Niedbalski scored 27 points and hauled in 27 rebounds, but it was not enough for a Genoa victory.

Genoa, 2-12, started fast, building a 22-11 lead after one quarter and a 36-27 lead at the half. The Comets still led by one 48-47 after three quarters.

But Otsego outscored the Comets 19-13 in the last eight minutes to get the win. Genoa was hurt by 32 turnovers in the

game, eight in the fourth quarter.

New Riegel.....
Old Fort.....

New Riegel held off a late Old Fort charge for the victory. The Blue Jackets had a 37-point halftime lead.

Dana Kuhlman had 17 points and Lisa Paul 13 for New Riegel.

Kelli Brueggemeier paced the trio of Old Fort girls reaching double figures with 19. Lisa Curns finished with 12 and Lisbeth Abrahamson 10 for Old Fort.

Huron
Port Clinton

Port Clinton led 13-10 after the first quarter, but Huron, 8-6 and 17-10 took over at the half 28-21. A 11 third-quarter run by the Redskins made it 39-38 but the Tigers outscored the Redskins 17-4 in the final period to get the win.

Amy Popson scored 17 points and Deb Hetzel had 14 for the Redskins. Monica Bickley led Huron with 17 points.

Northview tops Ross girls 48-37

Clyde, Gibsonburg, Old Fort win.

News-Messenger Reports

It was a case of a job half done but Ross Coach Sue Wolf was not miffed.

The underdog and out-sized Ross Little Giants girls basketball team battled Northview on nearly an even keel for three quarters Monday night but still fell 48-37.

Northview is 11-3 while Ross slipped to 4-12.

The game was one of four area high school games. In the others, Clyde slipped past Norwalk St. Paul 44-42, Gibsonburg pulled off a first while defeating Danbury 44-41 and Old Fort won its sixth game in its last seven 55-38 over North Baltimore.

"In the third quarter," Wolf explained, "we shut them down defensively but we did not do anything with the ball at the other end."

"We did what we wanted to do on defense but not on offense."

Northview had pulled away to a 22-14 lead late in the first half before Ross ran off the final five points to cut the deficit to 22-19 at the half. Carson Slade, a 5-11 Northview junior, collected 12 first half points, all of them from in close to the bucket.

In the third quarter, Slade was held to a single bucket but Ross was outscored 6-2 to fall behind 28-21. Aimee LeJeune, who finished as Ross's top scorer with 14 points, canned Ross's only basket of the quarter.

"If we could have played any offense in the third quarter," Wolf conjectured, "it would have been a much closer game."

In the final quarter, when Ross was chased out of its "2-3" zone and into a man-to-man, Slade picked up four more buckets from short range to hold off Ross and finish the game with 22 points.

LeJeune hit eight of her points in the final eight minutes.

Six-foot sophomore Amy Schepflin came off the bench to score nine for Ross and Julie Young added eight.

Surprisingly, the shorter Little Giants had a 29-24 rebounding edge.

Thursday, Ross will host state-ranked Elyria.

Clyde44

St. Paul42

St. Paul's last quarter rally fell short as Clyde won for the fourth time against 10 losses.

The Fliers held a 37-26 lead after three quarters but St. Paul poured in 16 points in the final quarter while holding Clyde to seven.

Joely Andrews had 21 points and Lisa Avery 17 for the Fliers. Tina Hemenway with 12 and Rosalie Boes and Colleen Landoll with 10 apiece paced St. Paul.

Gibsonburg44

Danbury41

The win over the Lakers was the first in girls basketball history at Gibsonburg and raised the Golden Bears to 9-5, the same as Danbury, this season.

Leading 42-41 with 22 seconds remaining in the game and Danbury working for the final shot, the Gibsonburg defense forced a turnover and the Golden Bears got a free throw and a basket in the final 10 seconds to seal the victory.

Julie Kirwen tossed in a dozen points to lead Gibsonburg. Teammates Corinne Schaeffer and Linda Reineck finished with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

Jeanene Sauvey had 18 points and Krishna Myers tossed in 11 for the Lakers.

Old Fort55

North Baltimore38

Four Old Fort players scored in double figures as Old Fort raised its record to 9-7.

Kelli Brueggemeier led the quartet with 18 points and 10 rebounds. Lori Curns added 13 points, Laura Adelsperger and Hope Kesler 10. Lisbeth Abrahamson contributed seven assists for the Stockaders.

Old Fort grabbed a 22-19 halftime lead and increased that advantage to 37-28 after three quarters.

Dena Altman had 16 points and Amy Stewart 10 for North Baltimore, 7-9.



AIMEE LEJEUNE of Ross looks for a route around a Northview defender during first half play at Ross High School Monday night.

Bettsville pick plagues Perfect 10 entrants

It used to be in The News-Messenger Perfect 10 Basketball Contest that a pick against Bettsville was the next best thing to a guaranteed winner.

Not anymore.

The Bobcats are an up-and-coming team, and they proved it this past weekend by beating North Baltimore 62-58 and shocking a huge majority of the 200 entrants in the Perfect 10 Contest.

Approximately 90 percent of the entrants tabbed North Baltimore to win that game, but the Bobcats had other ideas.

The result was no perfect pickers in the contest and an increase in the jackpot to \$150 for this week.

☐ Entry form on Page B-4

Elyria.....42

Fremont Ross35

The Lady Giants put up a good fight against the 14th-ranked team in the state, but a late comeback fell a bit short.

The Lady Pioneers outscored the Ross squad in each of the first three quarters to build a 34-23 lead, and the Lady Giants could not make up the difference in the final period.

Ross fell to 4-13 for the season, 1-4 in the Buckeye Conference. The Pioneers are now 17-1.

Shelley Leggett scored 12 points and Brenda Kline had 11 to provide the scoring punch for the Lady Giants. Kline also had nine rebounds and Julie Young had eight.

Ann Gilbert scored 15 for Elyria to lead all scorers.

Ross, which had been shooting 60 percent from the free throw line this season, hurt their chances against Elyria by converting just nine out of 20.

"If we could've shot a little better, we could've given them a run," said Ross Coach Sue Wolf. "But the kids hustled, and that's all I can ask. They are working hard and improving."

Admiral King.....46

Ross25

Ross stayed close to the taller Admirals throughout the first half.

The Little Giants trailed 20-12 at the half after missing several shots from in close.

"In the third quarter," Ross Coach Sue Wolf described, "we tried to dribble instead of passing against thier press and we cannot do that. We did not do what we are capable of in the third quarter."

Wolf said she was satisfied with the first-half and fourth-quarter play, but the third quarter was one that she would just as soon throw out.

Six-foot Debbie Taylor had 18 points for Admiral King. Shelly Leggett had 12 points for Ross.

S t a t i s t i c a l l y , R o s s outrebounded the Admirals 30-21 but made just 10 of 32 shots. Admiral King was 21 of 42.

Ross downs Woodward

News-Messenger Reports

Fremont Ross had two of its better quarters of the season and used them to defeat Toledo Woodward 57-47 in a high school girls basketball game at Ross Monday night.

The Little Giants scored 19 points in both the first and fourth quarters, using the first scoring outburst to race to a 19-6 lead. That lead was to get no lower than nine points the remainder of the game.

"We got up and kept ahead," Ross Coach Sue Wolf said. "In the third quarter, we had a little letdown but not as bad as usual."

In the majority of the games this season, third quarter problems have plagued Ross and against Woodward, Ross scored just six points in the quarter but Woodward was able to generate

just a point more. Ross took a 38-28 lead into the final eight minutes.

The final quarter scoring onslaught matched that of Woodward and insured Ross's fifth win in 19 games.

Shelly Leggett scored 18 points for Ross and teammate Aimee LeJeune added a dozen. Brenda Kline had seven points and led Ross to a 36-31 rebounding advantage with nine. Amy Schepflin had eight rebounds to go with six points for Ross.

Kedra Young had 16 and Stacy Zylka 12 points for Woodward.

Ross was 22 of 47 from the floor and Woodward 20 of 57.

Thursday, Ross will host Sandusky in the final regular season game.

In the junior varsity game, Ross won 28-23 as Linda Borys scored nine points.

Ross, St. Joe close with wins

News-Messenger Reports

Ross reinforced the theory that a diamond is a girl's best friend Thursday.

The Little Giants pulled away from Sandusky by using a variation of a "diamond" in the final quarter for a 46-37 high school girls win.

In one other Fremont girls game, St. Joe beat Huron 43-42.

The "diamond and one" defense that Ross Coach Sue Wolf slipped into the game unraveled the Blue Streaks. Taunya Downing came up with three interceptions from that special defense that led to three Ross baskets midway through the final quarter. That three-basket spurt, plus another out of the Ross offensive patterns, took the Little Giants from a 33-32 deficit into a 41-33 advantage.

Before that spurt, neither team was able to generate more than a three-point lead.

"Downing made a big difference," Wolf said about her 5-8 senior forward's effort. "She had those big interceptions for us

and got a couple of key rebounds."

Wolf was also pleased with the efforts of Nicole Buehler, who came off the bench to contribute a bucket and was a key to the Little Giants' three-quarters-court press.

"Shelly Leggett," Wolf added, "did a nice job in the second half after having to sit out most of the first half because of fouls."

Leggett picked up her third foul early in the second quarter but came back in the second half to score 12 of her game-high 14 points, including eight in the final eight minutes.

Brenda Kline put Ross ahead for good in the final quarter, clicking on a three point-play to make it 35-33. Kline made the bucket after missing on two consecutive rebound shots. The foul also put Marva Warren, Sandusky's leading scorer, out of the game with her fifth foul.

That was when Wolf flashed her team's diamond.

"When she (Warren) went out, we knew they were going to go to

Millott (Katie) inside," the Ross coach said.

The fifth Ross defender had the job of shadowing Millott, who had scored nine points in the first three quarters. In the final eight minutes, Millott was held to a single free throw.

Kline finished with 10 points and six rebounds for Ross. Downing had seven points and four rebounds. Ross, however, was outrebounded 35-25.

The Little Giants were 20 of 49 from the floor and six of nine at the line. Sandusky was 13 of 54 and 11 of 27 from the foul line.

The win, the second in a row for Ross, gave the Little Giants a 6-14 regular season mark. Ross will open sectional tournament play at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, at Cory-Rawson High School against Findlay.

St. Joe.....43

Huron42

Elaine Gonya capped an 18-point night by making the first of two free throws with 12 seconds

left to lift the Lady Streaks to the season-ending thriller.

The victory marks the first time St. Joe has beaten Huron twice in one season and also helps the Streaks match last year's 13-7 record.

After Gonya's clutch free throw, Huron came back and put up one last shot, but it bounced off the rim just before the buzzer sounded.

Joann Reardon added 10 points and 19 rebounds for the Streaks, who finished tied with Huron for fourth place in the Sandusky Bay Conference at 8-6.

Coach Gary Geller also cited the play of Kathy Miller and Sandy Wagner. Miller had just one point but made five steals and "worked like crazy on defense," said Geller.

The Streaks held a decided advantage on the foul line, canning 15 of 22 free throws to six of 16 for Huron.

St. Joe begins tournament action Tuesday at 6:30 p.m., against Hopewell-Loudon at Fostoria High School.



ROSS HIGH SCHOOL'S winter sports teams' most valuable performers, left to right, front row: Julie Schaaf, Shelly Leggett and Brenda Kline;

back row: John Lozano, Dave Kovaleski, Brian Mowry and Tom McDonald. All of Ross's winter sports athletes were honored Tuesday night.

Ross honors winter sports stars

News-Messenger Reports

Seven Fremont Ross High School varsity athletes received "most valuable" honors for their respective sports during the Ross Winter Sports Awards Program Tuesday night.

Two of the sports, boys swimming and girls basketball, had co-most valuable selections.

Brenda Kline and Shelly Leggett, both seniors, shared the honor in girls basketball while Tom McDonald and Brian Mowry, also seniors, got the honor for the boys swim team.

In addition to the most valuable awards, girls basketball coach Sue Wolf presented the most valuable reserve player award to sophomore Shelly Hetrick.

Other girls court honors went to Taunya Downing as the most improved varsity player and Shannon Carter as the most improved junior varsity player. Kline and Amy Schepflin shared the best free throw shooter honor while Kline and Julie Young took home the top rebounders trophy. Aimee LeJeune won the top defensive player honor and Kline and Leggett received captains awards.

Dave Kovaleski won the boys basketball most valuable award. He was also presented a captain's trophy along with co-captain Matt Reed by Coach John Sawyer.

Mike Wolfe won the most valuable JV trophy while Pat Hetrick, varsity, and Kevin Jacobs, JV, won the most improved honors. Stan Newell was named as the best defensive player while John Stierwalt won the best free throw shooter

honor. John Cahill won the top rebounding honor.

John Lozano won the Mal Mackey Award, emblematic of being the most valuable wrestler. Coach Al Voggenthaler presented the most improved award to Jon Ramirez and the most takedowns trophy to Matt Marinis.

Other wrestling awards went to Jamie Ramirez for having the most pins while Richard Ysasi won the coach's award. Lozano received the captain's award.

Voggenthaler announced that Shawn Ramirez, by a vote of his teammates, would be the captain for the 1986-87 season.

Julie Schaaf won the most valuable swimmer award for the girls swim team by Coach Beth

Caster. The most improved swimmer honor went to Dawn Brooks while Jamie Brudzinski won the coach's award.

Julie Randolph and Dawn Vogel received captain's awards.

Coach Art Bucci presented the most valuable swimmer awards to McDonald and Mowry, and that same duo took home captain's trophies. Bucci also presented the most improved award to Brad Shank.

McDonald, Mowry, Andy Scott and Bill Taylor won coach's awards.

Four cheerleaders — Erin Brudzinski, Shannon Moran, Melanie Tod and Jill Wright — won first year letters while Jodi Beatty, Christy Michael, Ann Schroeder and Wendy Woolf won second year cheerleading letters.



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