

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.