

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL

Wolf won't be leading Ross hoops anymore

BY JEFF ARENZ
Sports writer

FREMONT — After 34 years of coaching Fremont Ross girls basketball, Sue Wolf will not be back to lead the Little Giants in the 2009-2010 season.

Wolf declined to sign a coaching evaluation put forth by Ross athletic director Art Bucci.

"I did not resign as Fremont Ross's girls basketball coach," said Wolf in a statement to The News-Messenger on Wednesday. "My integrity as a coach and as a person kept me from being able to sign my coaching evaluation."

Bucci said he knew Wolf was unhappy with her evaluation.

"The evaluation process is to help people get better," Bucci said. "Sue was offered a contract, but because of the evaluation, she did not feel that she should sign the contract. I thought her statements (to me) were very good, and I know she wasn't happy."

At the end of each school year, Ross coaches are evaluated by Bucci before being sent to principal Jose Hernandez and superintendent Dr. Traci McCaudy. The final step occurs when the coaches' contracts are presented to the Fremont Schools Board of Education, which decides upon their renewal.

"Since Sue did not sign her contract, the process of renewing it was not started," Bucci said.

On Monday, the Fremont board agreed to bring back all of the Little Giants' other varsity head coaches. It also agreed to hire Randi Whitman, a 1999 graduate of Old Fort High School, to lead the Ross volleyball program.

"I wish the team the best of luck next year," Wolf said. "The potential to be good is there. They just need to work together to get there."

The Little Giants were 1-20 in 2008-2009 under Wolf, who coached Ross to a 336-362 record since the 1975-1976 season. She was inducted into the Fremont Ross Hall of Fame as a coach in 2001.

"I want to thank all my former players, coaches and support staff that I have had the honor to work with and coaches I have coached against," Wolf said. "It was a very special part of my life."

Bucci said the search to hire a new girls basketball coach will begin immediately.

"We will get the job posted so that the hunt for a new coach will begin," Bucci said. "We will see what kind of interest we get."



WOLF

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sue Wolf — an exceptional person

As I read the article about Sue Wolf in The News-Messenger, I was shocked. Being a former player for Fremont Ross and Coach Wolf, I was saddened to see someone of her caliber leave Ross athletics.

She is a person who did things the right way and truly cared about each player as an individual as much as she did as a basketball player. Her goals were to teach young women how to accomplish goals the right way; without cheating or masking grades; having a good work ethic, and using discipline correctly. In today's athletic world, that combination is a rarity. I not only commend Coach Wolf on her own ethics, attitude and work ethic, but more importantly on what she believed in: Teaching and accomplishing goals the right way!

Having gone through college and professional ranks as a basketball player, I still rely on many principles that Coach Wolf instilled in me. Although I know everyone has a job to do in the athletic program and sometimes that involves making difficult decisions, Wolf will be greatly missed and the Fremont Ross girls basketball program has lost a wonderful coach, but more importantly, a person with a big heart, love for the game, and a coaching style that teaches kids about life and basketball.

I am proud and thankful to have played and learned from such a great person. Thanks, Coach, for everything you have given, not only to me, but Fremont Ross athletics.

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1996 Fremont Ross graduate

