

Ross ends season with sectional loss

By BOB MARKER
Staff writer

ONTARIO — His team did what he did not want, but Dave Hershey has no regrets.

Hershey's Tiffin Columbian girls basketball team used a mobile 1-3-1 defense to shackle Ross and hand the Little Giants a 46-26 setback in the first round of the Division I sectional tournament Tuesday night.

"We started the first possession in the 1-3-1," Hershey said. "Then I wanted to go to what I wanted to play, the 2-3, but they had trouble with the 1-3-1 right away, so, hey, the 2-3 wasn't

working so we went back to the 1-3-1 and it probably was the difference in the ballgame."

"It was the same defense that Findlay used the other night," Ross Coach Sue Wolf said, "but we just did not move against it tonight."

Ross upset Findlay Friday 49-46, a game in which Wolf agreed that the Little Giants played as well as they could.

Against Columbian, it was another story.

"We could not do anything right," Wolf said.

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Ross

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Ross led 10-9 after one quarter but the Columbian defense took its toll in the second quarter, forcing Ross into two of nine shooting.

After Ross took its last lead 14-13 on Amy Ritzman's follow-up on a missed Ross free throw with 5:18 remaining in the first half, the bottom fell out.

Ross did not score again until

s with balance

St. Wendelin, 5-15, came back for a 25-16 fourth-quarter advantage.

Eric Nye led Lakota with 19 points, Joe Boice had 18, Mike Geyman added 11 and Andy Meinke chipped in 10.

St. Wendelin's Ryan Krupp led all scorers with 23 points.

The Mohawks committed 33 turnovers.

4:36 remained in the third quarter, a span of eight minutes and 42 seconds without a point.

Columbian jumped ahead 15-14 on Adrienne Allen's tip, and when Carrie Stiltner hit a 3-pointer for an 18-14 Columbian lead, Ross was on the skids.

By the time Ritzman ended the Ross scoring famine in the third quarter, the Tornadoes led 22-16. After three quarters, the lead had grown to 31-20.

When Ross did not score the first two minutes of the final quarter, Columbian had it sealed, signed and delivered with a 38-22 lead.

Stiltner led the Tornadoes with 15 points. Allen added nine, with Amy Meyer and Kara Gordon dropping in eight apiece.

Ritzman topped Ross with 10.

Dian Schepflin led Ross to a 39-30 rebounding advantage with 11.

Ross was 11 of 51 from the floor and Columbian 21 of 51.

Ross ends its season 3-18 while Columbian is 6-15.