

Ross, Bellevue girls booted from tourney

By **BOB MARKER**

Staff writer

RAWSON — High school basketball tournament officials don't keep the statistic, but Ross could be listed under the "no shows."

"We did not show up to play the game," Ross High School girls basketball Coach Sue Wolf said tersely after her team had done about everything but vaporize in a 64-35 loss to Napoleon in the first round of the Class AAA sectional tourney at Cory-Rawson High School Monday.

In one other game involving an area high school girls team, Bellevue also was roughly evicted from tournament play, losing 61-40 to Ashland at Ontario High School.

Ross was out of its game early. The Little Giants did not get a shot off until three minutes had elapsed and did not get a basket until Julie Young, fresh of the sick list, hit a jumper with 36 seconds remaining in the first quarter. By that time, Napoleon held a 12-4 lead.

It was as good as over at that point.

The Wildcats sank seven of 16 first quarter shots and backed that up with seven of 14 in the second eight minutes for a 28-15

halftime lead. The Little Giants did fire up briefly in the period, hitting five of eight shots.

The most serious Ross effort was midway in the third quarter. After falling behind 39-17, the Little Giants put on a brief flurry as Amy Schepflin and Sherrie Hathaway made two baskets apiece but Ross still trailed 45-28 at the end of the quarter.

Hathaway's 20-footer with 10 seconds remaining the third period turned out to be the final Ross basket of the season.

One of the glaring facts of Ross's non-aggressive attack was the Little Giants committed just seven fouls with four of those in the final quarter.

Wolf flooded the floor with substitutes early in the final eight minutes and the group managed to hit seven of 13 foul shots as Napoleon outscored Ross 19-7.

Penny Agler with 12 points, Chris Eitzman with 11 and Kay McKnight with 10 led Napoleon. Floor general Laura Griggs added eight and five assists to the Wildcats' attack.

Hathaway had nine points for Ross and Aimee LeJeune added seven. Young, who missed much of last week's practice and the

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regular season finale with Sandusky Friday because of illness, had five points.

Napoleon was 29 of 57 shooting and six of nine at the foul line. Ross finished with 12 of 36 and 11 of 26 at the line. The Wildcats outrebounded Ross 40-25 while the Little Giants had 27 turnovers and Napoleon 22.

The Wildcats will face Lima Senior at 8:15 Thursday night in the second round of the tourney.