

Nine Lettermen Back

Ross Baseball Squad Loaded With Veterans And High Goals

"We have some winners on this ball club who can make things happen. How far we go is up to them."

Ross baseball coach Tom Dorman made that statement in sizing up his Little Giant diamond prospects for the upcoming season. They open April 5 against Port Clinton at Anderson Field.



Kapp Files Suit

Former NFL and CFL quarterback Joe Kapp, shown here keeping his arm in trim in Vancouver where he is involved in a hotel-restaurant operation, has filed an anti-trust conspiracy suit in San Francisco against the National Football League and its 26 teams. The suit asks damages in the millions of dollars and charges that Kapp has been barred from professional football because he refused to sign the standard NFL player contract (AP Wirephoto)

"They've made some goals for themselves and in the past they have reached most of them," Dorman added.

The third-year Ross mentor was referring to last year's squad, most of which is returning this year, which set as its goal the Buckeye Conference championship. It was May 29 last spring when they landed that honor, beating Lorain Senior, 2-0, at the Soldiers and Sailors Field in Sandusky.

"We put it all together that day and fulfilled what we had set out to do," Dorman said. "This year's goal will be a bit higher."

Dorman's Giants want to be in the Class AAA state competition come June in addition to copping the Buckeye Conference crown again. Indications are that a state championship is within reaching distance if the local hardballers can put it all together.

"You have to be able to put everything together during the tournaments," the Ross coach pointed out. "Our aim is to win in the tournaments but it'll take a lot of desire."

Dorman has nine lettermen returning from last year's squad that went 18-11-1. A host of talented underclassmen will be pushing them for their jobs, however. Leading the returnees will be senior Jim Fausey, a two-year letterman who was Ross's Most Valuable Player last year, and senior Roger Hetrick, another two-year letterman who has handled the catching chores the past two seasons.

Fausey came into his own last season and dubbed himself as the Giants' number one starter for 1972. Dorman indicated that the 6-1, 175-pounder would be used only on the mound this season, contrary to last year when Fausey saw action in the outfield as well.

Hetrick "never fails to give his best," according to Dorman, and will be a valuable asset both behind the plate and in the batter's box.

Rounding out the senior veterans are outfielder Denny Knipp, second-baseman Chuck Lindsey, third-baseman Dale Shoemaker and pitcher Lee Winkle.

Knipp will probably be the starting left fielder for the Giants. He has a good arm and does his share of damage at the plate.

Lindsey had a fine season in 1971 operating out of his infield slot. He's fast and has shown power with the bat on occasion. His number one asset, though, is on defense where he combines with returning shortstop Mike Lowery for probably the best keystone combination in the conference.

Winkle, a tall and lanky southpaw who had limited success last year, will see plenty of action on the perch. Much of the Giants' success or failure this season could depend on the left arm of the 6-3 hurler.

Shoemaker came on strong at the end of last season and Dorman hopes that he'll continue to improve this spring. Shoemaker is being tutored for the third-base job but he'll have to beat junior Greg Burr for the slot.

Burr, one of three returning junior lettermen, was used primarily as a utility player last year. He's improved, Dorman said, and may find third-base to his liking.

Other junior lettermen are Bob Brudzinski and Lowery. Brudzinski will see split duty on the mound and in the

outfield. Dorman feels that this 6-4, 205-pound Giant will constitute most of Ross's long-ball power so he wants to keep him in the line-up everyday.

"It should be interesting to see how much Bob has improved," Dorman stated. "He's a fine athlete."

Scott March, a retiring senior who failed to letter last season, will have the first base job to himself — finally. He played behind Denny Smith at first base the past two seasons and didn't get much of a chance to show himself. He'll get plenty of chances this season.

"I haven't set my defense as yet and probably won't have it down pat until we play a few games and see the boys perform," the Ross coach explained. "There are a few spots up for grabs and the best player will get the job."

As it looks now, though, Hetrick will be behind the plate, March at first, Lindsey at second, Lowery at shortstop and either Shoemaker or Burr at third. Outfield positions will be taken by either Knipp, Brudzinski, Senior Mike Feasel or juniors Paul Silcox or Mike Baker. A number of other juniors and sophomores will be vying for those slots as well.

Dorman lost seven players to graduation last year, but only three of them saw full-time duty. Randy Arndt, a stunning performer at third base, outfielder Gary Butdorf and Smith saw their final varsity action last spring.

"The loss of those seniors hurt us in the hitting department," Dorman pointed out, "but I feel we have plenty on reserve to fill the void."

A void that may not be filled so easily is the one created by flashy Al Davis, a junior centerfielder last season who was "Mr. Everything" for the Little Giants. He was deemed ineligible this season for personal reasons.

"We'll miss Davis alot," Dorman said. "He was a fine hitter and gave us speed and reliability in the outfield."

Davis made only one error during his two seasons with the Giants where he was used mostly in center field. He was also a demon on the basepaths. "We lost one-third of our speed when we lost Al," Dorman added.

The Little Giants have the capabilities this year to go along way, Dorman pointed out, if they hustle and use their heads.

It should be an interesting and colorful season for the Little Giants.

The schedule:
April 5 — PORT CLINTON; 6 — At Gibsonburg; 8 — At Admiral King (doubleheader); 11 — OREGON CLAY; 13 — FINDLAY; 15 — At Perrysburg (doubleheader); 17 — TIFFIN CALVERT; 18 — At Tiffin Columbian; 20 — At Findlay; 22 — LIMA SENIOR (doubleheader); 24 — At Clyde; 26 — At Toledo Whitmer (doubleheader); 28 — LORAIN SENIOR (doubleheader);
May 3 — TOLEDO WHITMER (doubleheader); 5 — GIBSONBURG; 6 — Buckeye Conference at Findlay; 8 — At Port Clinton; 9 — EASTWOOD; 10 — At Tiffin Calvert; 11 — At Oregon Clay; 13 — Buckeye Conference at Findlay; 15 — CLYDE; 17 — BOWLING GREEN (doubleheader); 19 — At Bellevue

Rupp Pondering Decision To Run

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS going out on a discordant
The grand old man of college notes

At Anderson Field

Little Giants Face Redskins In Opener

The 1972 edition of the Ross High baseball team will be on display for the first time this spring when the Little Giants take on Port Clinton in the home opener at Anderson Field Wednesday afternoon.

The Redskins feature six lettermen returning from last year's squad which posted a 5-14 log overall while competing in the Great Lakes League.

This year's Port Clinton diamond mentor will be a new face to area sports enthusiasts. Tom Schweitzer, who graduated just two years ago from Bowling Green State University where he was a starting hurler for the Falcons for two seasons, has taken the Redskin reins this season from Jim Robinson who resigned after the 1971 campaign.

Schweitzer is a high school grad of Liberty Union where he was a starting pitcher for three years. That squad took three consecutive Class A state championships while he was there and that experience should prove beneficial to the Port Clinton baseball program in years to come.

The young mentor refuses to admit this is a rebuilding year for the Redskins although nearly all of his troops are either seniors or juniors.

"I never label a season a rebuilding year even though there isn't a whole lot to work with," the personable baseball tutor said. "Overall it looks like we're hurting in team depth, especially in the pitching department. We could be caught in a bind there (pitching) later in the season."

Schweitzer hasn't had much chance to work with his ball players this spring due, as always, to the inclement weather conditions. He feels, though, that once he can get his troops outdoors he'll be able to work more with them and show them a few things he believes will help them greatly.

"I feel I've learned a few things from college and high school ball that will help my players, but I haven't really had the chance yet to get going on anything beneficial," he said. "I'm sure that by the middle of the season the pitching staff and hitters will be greatly improved, though."

The Redskin coach is optimistic on improving upon last season's dismal record, at least, he said, to get above the .500 mark. Concerning future seasons with the Redskins, Schweitzer said he hopes more Port Clinton schoolboys will come out for the team but added that the modern way of life keeps youngsters away from athletics.

"There are very few underclassmen out for the squad this year," he said. "I can't say what that means for the future of Port Clinton high school baseball. But I take one season at a time and do the best job that year I can possibly do."

The Redskins are plagued by pitching problems and an additional burden there is the fact that Schweitzer has no southpaws on the squad.

"There is only one left-hander on the team and that's our first baseman," he sighed. "The same thing is true at the plate. We've got just one left-handed hitter and that's the same first baseman."

That first-sack defender is senior Mike Fletcher who didn't play for the Redskins last campaign but came out this year. He won the starting job there from G. B. Nelson, a senior who landed that spot last year but will see right field duty in 1972. Nelson is one of the six returning lettermen Schweitzer is boldly depending upon this spring to get the Redskins out of the hole.

The Port Clinton hitting attack will be led by senior centerfielder Dan Timmons who rang out an impressive .354 batting average in 1971 when he earned a letter. "Dan's got good wheels and quick hands at the plate," Schweitzer commented. "He'll be a great asset to our team."

Junior Mark Tarrolli heads the plagued pitching corps. He lettered on the perch as a sophomore and has been marked as Schweitzer's number one starter. Tarrolli is expected to open on the mound against Ross on Wednesday.

Another letter-winner, junior Larry Smith, has been slated for third-base duty. Schweitzer also has Smith ready as the number two starter for the Redskins.

Senior Mike Matta, a burly returning letterman, will take on the catching chores and Schweitzer hopes Matta can produce a good amount of RBIs this spring with his powerful bat.

The sixth letterman is junior Steve Kosto. He's nailed down second base.

Rounding out the starting line-up, the Redskins will feature junior Jim Floro in left field and either seniors Ron Amiss or Rick Ward at shortstop. Schweitzer indicated that Amiss will start against Ross but that Ward could take that position anytime. Ward also is the Redskin's top relief hurler.

Senior Bill Cipiti has been tabbed as Port Clinton's third starter while senior Fred Cedoz will be number four in the rotation.

The Ross-Port Clinton contest is scheduled to get underway at 4 p.m.

--:--

April 5 - at Ross; 10 - at Woodmore; 13 - at Margaretta; 14 - at Sylvania; 18 - BOWLING GREEN; 19 - SANDUSKY PERKINS; 25 - at Bedford; 28 - at Clay.

May 2 - SYLVANIA; 4 - at Sandusky St. Mary's; 5 - at Bowling Green; 6 - Sandusky St. Mary's Invitational Tournament; 8 - at Ross; 9 - at Sandusky Perkins; 12 - BEDFORD; 13 - Sandusky St. Mary's Invitational Tournament; 18 - SANDUSKY ST. MARY'S; 19 - CLAY; 20 - Sandusky St. Mary's Invitational Tournament; 22 - WOODMORE; 27 - Sandusky St. Mary's Invitational Tournament.

Allow One Hit

Ross Pitchers Shackle Bears

GIBSONBURG — What happens when an experienced club goes up against opposition that's inexperienced?

Most of the time, the club with the experience is going to come out ahead in the final outcome and that's what happened here Thursday when Fremont Ross rattled Gibsonburg with some daring maneuvers on the base paths and posted a 6-0 decision.

"The inexperience of our catcher and first baseman hurt us the most," Gibsonburg head coach Tom Kashmer said. "It cost us all six of the runs."

Ross used a delayed double steal to rattle the younger Golden Bears. The Little Giants would get runners to first and third and then head coach Tom Dorman would send the runner from first down to second. The runner would attempt to get caught in a run down while the runner from third dashed for home.

Five times the Little Giants executed that play and it worked each time. The sixth run was set up by the maneuver.

The Little Giants combined their daring base running with air tight pitching that handcuffed the Bears for only one hit — a scratch single in the infield by losing pitcher Tom Jurski in the fourth inning.

Dorman used three underclassmen — Bob Brudzinski, Mike Reardon and Dave Ziemke — on the mound. All three were impressive and gave the Little Giant coach reasons to smile as he began making preparations for an important doubleheader at Lorain Admiral King Saturday. Brudzinski went the first three

innings. He faced only 11 batters while walking two and striking out four. Reardon followed and after a shaky fourth frame, he settled down and fanned the side in the fifth. Reardon had four strikeouts in two innings. Ziemke hurled the final frame of the abbreviated six-inning contest.

The Little Giants got the only run they needed in the first. With one out, Greg Burr singled. He stole second and went to third when senior catcher Roger Hetrick singled to left. Then came the first delayed steal that produced the first run.

Ross notched two more runs off losing pitcher Tom Jurski in the second frame. The victors had only one hit in the inning — a single by Dale Shoemaker — but benefited from three errors. Again, both runs crossed the plate on the steal.

The final Ross runs came in the fourth inning. Shoemaker, Brudzinski and Chuck Lindsey each had singles in the inning.

Gibsonburg never got a runner past second in the contest.

Ross, which has now limited two opponents to just two hits, will probably use senior Jim Fausey in one of the games against Admiral King. The starter in the second contest will probably be another veteran, Lee Winkle. Fausey and Winkle both did a stint on the mound in the 5-2 victory over Port Clinton Wednesday.

The line score:

Ross	120	300	-6	7	2
Gibsonburg	000	000	-0	1	3

Bob Brudzinski, Mike Reardon (4), Dave Ziemke (6) and Roger Hetrick; Tom Jurski, Gary Schlea (5) and Ron Shreffler, W—Brudzinski. L—Jurski.

Ross Hurlers Whip Clay On No-Hitter

Ross High's awesome pitching staff proved overpowering once again Tuesday as the Little Giants shut out visiting Oregon Clay, 4-0, behind the no-hit pitching of Jim Fausey, Lee Winkle and Bob Brudzinski.

In running up their third victory in as many outings this spring, the Little Giants allowed only two Clay runners past second base while recording two tallies themselves in each the first and fifth frames.

Fausey, who was credited with his second victory, pitched the first two innings. He faced seven batters, striking out one and walking one. Winkle came on in the third inning and hurled two more innings facing eight batters and whiffing two and walking two. Brudzinski finished off the last three innings, facing 11 batters and striking out six and walking a pair.

"Our pitching is coming along real nice," Ross coach Tom Dorman said. "There's still work to be done on control on pitches other than the fast ball . . . but I was pleased with the way our pitchers performed."

Dorman said he is trying to develop as many starters as he can and pinpointed defending Class AAA state champion Findlay as one reason why. "We could very easily play Findlay four times this spring," Dorman said. "I'd like to have four different starters to go against them."

The Little Giants meet Findlay twice during the regular season — tomorrow afternoon at Anderson Field and again April 20 at Findlay — and could easily play the Trojans in the Buckeye Conference playoffs slated for May 6 and 13 at Findlay. Should both squads make it through their respective sectional tournaments in mid-May, the possibility of them meeting for the fourth time in the district tournament would be good.

Findlay is the favorite to retain their state championship crown again in 1972 due to the fact that they have 13 lettermen returning from last spring's squad.

"Anytime we play Findlay it becomes one heck of a battle," Dorman stated. "I look for another tough one this time around."

Dorman's pitching staff has yielded just two hits in three games this season. In the opening - day 5-2 victory over Port Clinton, Fausey, Winkle and reliever Mike Feasel held the Redskins in check with one hit. In the 6-0 win over Gibsonburg last Thursday, Brudzinski, Mike Reardon and Dave Ziemke combined for a one-hit shutout.

"It's still too early in the season to say what kind of pitchers we're going to have," Dorman said. "We'll get a good indication of our pitching strength when we play Findlay, Lima Senior and Lorain Senior later on."

Ross's pesky little second-baseman, Chuck Lindsey, started things off in the first inning Tuesday with a long triple to left field. Dale Shoemaker then walked before Roger Hetrick pounded a deep fly ball that allowed Lindsey to tag at third and scamper home. Shoemaker later scored on an infield error, a passed ball and a single by Scott March.

The Little Giants scored another pair in the fifth frame. Hetrick led off with a base-on-balls before Greg Burr lashed a home run over the left field fence. The ball hit the top of the fence marked "321 feet" and bounced over.

The line score:

Clay	000	000	0-0	0-2
Ross	200	020	x-4	6-3
Denman, Huguely (5) and Piriczky; Fausey, Winkle (3), Brudzinski (5) and Hetrick. W-Fausey (2-0), L-Denman (0-1), HR-Ross; Burr (1).				

Giants Bank Fourth Win Of Campaign

Ross stretched its unbeaten string to four with a 10-4 win against Tiffin Calvert at Anderson Field Monday.

The Little Giants, who visit Tiffin Columbian today, racked up five runs in their half of the first inning after falling behind 1-0 during Calvert's first turn at the plate.

Greg Burr knotted the contest with a one out homer. Roger Hetrick and Scott March followed with singles before March was erased when Dale Shoemaker grounded into a fielder's choice. But Hetrick scored after a throwing error by Calvert's second baseman.

Mike Feasel walked to put runners at first and second and they scored when Mike Baker laced a double. A single moments later by Denny Knipp scored Baker. A strikeout ended the inning.

Ross still had its four run cushion after the clubs traded runs in the third frame. Baker opened the inning by walking and a double moments later by Knipp sent Baker home.

Calvert came up with another run against winning pitcher Jim Fausey in the fourth but Ross countered with its final four runs in its half of the inning. Key hit in the uprising for Ross was a two run double by senior letterman Chuck Lindsey.

Fausey, who notched his third win of the campaign, was not overpowering. He issued three walks while striking out seven.

The Little Giants continued to show a strong offense. They collected 11 hits against two Seneca hurlers. The Calvert throwers also issued six walks and hit one Ross batsman.

Burr, Shoemaker and Knipp had two hits apiece for the locals, who haven't scored less than five runs in any of their games so far.

Little Giant head coach Tom Dorman named lefty Lee Winkle as his starting pitcher against Columbian. Ross is also on the road Thursday. They will be hosted by Findlay, the defending Class AAA champions. Junior righthander Bob Brudzinski has been nominated to hurl that important tilt.

Ross returns home for a doubleheader at Anderson Field Saturday against Lima Senior. The first game begins at 10 a.m. with the second tentatively set for 1 p.m. Fausey and Winkle will probably receive the starting call in those contests.

The line score:

Calvert	101	110	0-4	7	1
Ross	501	400	x-10	11	2

Jim Fausey and Roger Hetrick; Montz, Frank (4) Schultz and Hart. W—Fausey (3-0). L—Schultz.

Giants Remain Unbeaten

TIFFIN—Ross High rang up its fifth baseball win in as many outings this spring with a 14-5 victory over Tiffin Columbian here Tuesday.

The Little Giants turned out a complete team effort in whipping the Tornadoes. Eight Giants hit safely as the winners scored five runs in the second inning, three in the fourth; two in the fifth and four in the sixth to take home the victory.

Columbian could only manage a pair of runs in each the second and fifth frames, in addition to a single tally in the sixth.

Lee Winkle earned his first victory on the mound this season for the Little Giants. The lanky southpaw went five innings before being relieved by Mike Reardon in the sixth. Winkle allowed four runs on six hits while striking out seven. He walked just one.

Reardon's performance proved admirable as the big sophomore righthander struck out three while allowing just one run on one hit. He also walked one.

The Tornado hurlers weren't so fortunate. Three Columbian pitchers did time on the mound and each was shellacked by the powerful Little Giant guns. Ted Bowers, who was nipped for nine of the runs, was credited with the loss, his second of the season.

Chuck Lindsey led Ross in the slugging column. The Giant second-baseman racked three hits, including two RBIs, in five trips to the plate.

Rapping two hits apiece were Greg Burr, Mike Feasel, Chuck Lowery and Winkle. Burr had a pair of doubles while the others each collected two singles.

The Ross baseball machine invades Findlay Thursday for its first encounter with the state champion Trojans this spring.

Ross	050	324	0-14	15	2
Columbian	020	021	0-5	7	4
Winkle, Reardon (6) and Hetrick, Clouse, Bowers (2), Florence (7) and Lofau, W—Winkle (1-0), L—Bowers (0-2).					

Ross Draws Shelby As Sectional Foe

Ross High will begin its quest for a state baseball title when it faces Shelby April 29 in its opening game of the Class AAA Sectional Tournament at Colonel Crawford.

The Little Giants, currently boasting a 5-0 record, will meet either Ashland or Bellevue in the lower bracket title game should they defeat Shelby in the first contest. The lower bracket title game is slated for May 9 at 4 p.m.

Ross beat Shelby, 5-0, in the sectional upper bracket opener last year before losing, 7-4, to Mansfield Madison in the title contest.

The Colonel Crawford pairings have Ross and Shelby meeting April 29 at 2:30 p.m. followed by upper bracket games featuring Mansfield Madison against Galion and Mansfield Malabar against Mansfield Senior. The Madison-Galion game will be played at 12:30 p.m. while the Malabar-Senior contest is slated for 10 a.m. Ashland and Bellevue play May 2 at 4 p.m. The two winners of the upper bracket contests meet for the upper bracket championship game and a chance to advance to district play at Lima.

The lower bracket winner will also advance to district action at Lima. Exact dates and times for district play have not been set.

concerning the wrestling job yesterday while Wamstey was not available.

Voggenthaler, 34, is a Bowling Green State University graduate. He was a member of the Falcon mat teams in 1955-59 and 1959-60. During those two seasons the Falcons won the Mid-American Conference championship.

Voggenthaler, who's married and the father of two children, did most of his wrestling at 147 and 157 for the Falcons. At the same time he was wrestling at BG, there were three All-Americans on the roster — John Smith, Jim Hoppel and Bob Duke.

After graduating from BG, Voggenthaler went to Crestline, Ohio, where he founded the mat program at that high school. He was at Crestline for four and a half years before accepting the head post at Sylvania.

Ross Defeats Clyde, 6-4, As Fausey Earns Fourth Win

CLYDE — Jim Fausey recorded his fourth win in as many starts this spring as the Ross hardballers edged Clyde, 6-4, Monday afternoon. The victory upped the Little Giants' season

ledger to 6-0 while the Fliers dropped to 2-4. Fausey was backed by five runs in the first inning when the Little Giants sent nine men to the plate. The visitors could muster only two more runs the rest of the game, though, as the Fliers' Keith Nofzt checked Ross on just six additional safeties.

Clyde scored single tallies in each the second and fourth frames before rallying for two runs in the sixth to pull to within two. After a lead-off single by Steve Lippert in the seventh, though, Fausey retired the side on a pair of strike outs and a force out.

"Jim still has a lot of work to do," Ross coach Tom Dorman related after the contest. "He had great defense out there today and I'm sure he agrees. Jim's coming along fine, though."

The game became a pitchers'

battle after the early uprising by Ross. Both hurlers went the distance and each struck out six and walked a pair.

"Our boys aren't disappointed with this loss," Clyde mentor Pete Rettig said. "This Ross ball club is a fine team and I'm sure my boys were happy to have given them a good game."

Chuck Lindsey led off the opening-frame rally for Ross with a base hit. He was followed by Dale Shoemaker, Greg Burr and Roger Hetrick. Each rapped singles, enabling Lindsey and Shoemaker to score and Burr and Hetrick to man the corner sacks.

Following two put outs, Mike Lowery powdered a double to left field, scoring Burr and Hetrick. Bob Brudzinski's ensuing two-base hit brought Lowery home for the Little Giant's fifth tally. Fausey fanned to end the inning.

"Lindsey has to be one of the best ball players in the area,"

Rettig complimented. "He can do everything."

Clyde scored its first run in the second on a home run by Mike Hessick, his first of the campaign.

Ross retaliated in the third frame with a single run on a base hit by Hetrick, two passed balls allowing the Ross backstop to advance to third, and two infield outs, the latter by Brudzinski enabling Hetrick to scamper home.

Clyde's fourth-inning tally resulted from Nofzt's three-bagger and Jim Patton's sacrifice fly. The Fliers added a pair of runs in the sixth on a base hit by Hessick and three consecutive singles by Patton, Bob Obee and Larry Meyer.

The line score:
ROSS 501 000 6-6 12 2
CLYDE 010 102 6-4 10 0
Jim Fausey and Roger Hetrick; Keith Nofzt and Steve Lippert. W—Fausey (4-0). L—Nofzt (1-1). HR—Clyde. Mike Hessick (1).



ROSS BASEBALL COACH Tom Dorman discusses pitching strategy with Jim Fausey during Monday's 6-4 victory at Clyde. At left

is Little Giant catcher Roger Hetrick. (News-Messenger Photo By Don Fogleson)

Little's Three-Hitter Paces 'Cats To 2-1 Win

WOODVILLE — Woodmore, which had not played since April 12, scored one run in the sixth and another in the seventh to cart off a 2-1 Lakeshore Conference victory against Otsego Monday.

The win ran Woodmore's season log to 2-0-1 overall and 1-0 in conference play. The Wildcats met Genoa here this afternoon in

out and fly ball that was caught for an out.

Senior outfielder Ron Busdeker led off the Woodmore seventh by singling. He stole second but remained there while Vollmar fanned Little. An infielder grounded by Don Flick advanced Busdeker to third.

Gary Perkins then hit a chopper toward third. The

Little, who retired 11 men in order after his first inning troubles, struck out 13 Black Knights. He retired the side in order in four of the seven frames.

"It's just great to get a game in," Woodmore head coach Dave Schwartz said. "We had to sit through five postponements. Jeff did a good job, especially since it

Ross Win Skein Stands At Seven

TOLEDO—It's up to seven... Ross' unbeaten string in baseball reached that figure Wednesday with an 11-6 victory at Toledo Whitmer.

The Little Giant batters unloaded for 13 hits against three Panther pitchers. It was the highest hit total of the campaign for Ross, which opens Class AAA sectional tournament play at North Robinson Saturday at 2:30 p.m. against Shelby.

Chuck Lindsey, Dale Shoemaker and Scott March were responsible for 10 of the

Ross safeties. Lindsey rapped three singles and a home run in five appearances at the plate, Shoemaker had a pair of homers and a double while March connected for three singles.

A 0-0 deadlock was broken in the third when Ross tallied three times. Lindsey opened the frame with a single and Shoemaker followed with his first home run. Greg Burr was safe on an error by the Whitmer shortstop before Roger Hetrick flew to center for the first out.

March followed with a single

to put runners at the corners and a double by junior third baseman Mike Lowery sent Burr home with the third run. Two strike outs ended the threat.

After Whitmer got a run in its half of the third, Ross came back with four markers in the top of the fourth. Again, it was a Lindsey single that got the rally started and Shoemaker following with a home run.

Following Shoemaker's blast, Burr again was safe on an error. A strike out followed, but before the next out, Ross had scored another run after an error, walk and error.

Whitmer got one of the runs back in its half of the inning but Ross came right back with three in the fifth. A two-run double off Shoemaker's bat and RBI-single by March were the key blows in the inning.

The hosts picked up three runs in their fifth to cut the Ross cushion to 10-5. Neither team scored in the sixth but each club came up with a single tally in the seventh. Lindsey's homer gave Ross its final run.

Bob Brudzinski, who went the distance, received credit for the victory. It was his second win of the campaign. He had not pitched since April 6 when he defeated Gibsonburg.

Brudzinski, a junior righthander, allowed seven hits, struck out four and walked eight. Two of the strike outs came in the second when the side went down in order.

Ross' reserve squad dropped a 12-3 decision in a game played at Fremont. Mike Reardon and Dave Ziemke hurled for the Ross cubs. Reardon was tagged with the loss.

	Varsity		
Ross	003 430	1-11	13 2
Whitmer	001 130	1-6	7 5
Bob Brudzinski and Roger Hetrick; Miners, Rutor (4), Lewis (6) and Harrow. W—Brudzinski. L—Miners.			

	Junior Varsity		
Whitmer	334 020	0-12	10 2
Ross	100 020	0-3	9 4
Mike Reardon, Dave Ziemke (4) and Dan Baker; O'Reilly, Bore (5) and Raquette, Bennes (5).			

By Oak Harbor

Streaks Downed

Fremont St. Joe's golf report card dropped back to .500 with a 7-2 loss to Oak Harbor at Sycamore Hills Wednesday. The Streaks, who entertained Clyde today, are now 3-3-1.

The Crimson Streaks received points from John Szabo and Bob Heckters. They drew with their opponents.

Szabo and his foe, Jim Murray, each had 42s. Jay Pinson of Oak Harbor had a 45 to Heckters' 46, but Heckters won the most holes in match play.

Jim Ford and Jim Knieriem registered 2-0 decisions for the Rockets, who were beaten by St. Joe earlier in the spring. Ford fired a 35 compared to Poseler's 48 while Knieriem had a 48 and John Halm 49.

Oak Harbor also had a big edge in team strokes. The Rockets used 170 for nine holes while St. Joe's quartet needed 185.

The results:

John Szabo (St. Joe, 42) and Jim Murray (42) drew, 1-1.

Jim Ford (Oak Harbor, 35) def. Steve Poseler (48), 2-0.

Jay Pinson (Oak Harbor, 45) and Bob Heckters (46) drew, 1-1.

Jim Knieriem (Oak Harbor, 48) def. John Halm (49), 2-0.

Team Strokes: St. Joe, 170-185.

Bellevue Linksters Deal Loss To Clyde

CLYDE—There was only a difference of three in total team strokes, but Bellevue whipped Clyde, 7-2, in the first meeting of the spring on the links between the two schools. The match was played at Sleepy Hollow Golf Course Wednesday.

Clyde's only points came from Jim Humbert playing in the No. 1 position. He blanked Tim Soule, 2-0. Humbert carded a 38 while Soule checked in with a 46.

Rocky Tournament Trail Opens For Little Giants

The state tournament. . .

For every high school athlete playing in the state tourney is one of his goals. Many have the dream but few ever realize it.

A berth in the final four of Class AAA at Columbus was a goal most of the Ross baseball players set for themselves before practice even started this year. Saturday they begin the journey which head coach Tom Dorman hopes will end in Columbus the weekend of June 2-3.

Ross opens sectional play at Colonel Crawford High School in North Robinson against Shelby Saturday at 2:30 p.m. It will be the final contest of a scheduled tripleheader.

The Little Giants enter the single elimination playoff with a glossy 7-0 record. Their latest outing was an 11-6 win at Toledo Whitmer Wednesday. So far, it has been a relatively easy campaign for the Giants, who defeated Shelby, 5-0, in the sectional opener last spring.

But Dorman and his team know things are going to get tougher along the tournament road.

"So far the kids don't feel that they've faced strong pitchers," Dorman said Thursday. "They know we'll be seeing some good pitchers in tournament play, though."

Besides the shiny 7-0 mark, the Little Giants also enter tourney play with some fantastic batting averages. The leadoff batter, Chuck Lindsey, is hitting at a .680 clip and among the eight regulars only one has an average less than .320.

Lindsey, the second baseman, will be followed in the batting order by third baseman Greg Burr (.320), center fielder Dale Shoemaker (.400), catcher Roger Hetrick (.348), first baseman Scott March (.364), shortstop Mike Lowery (.556), right fielder Mike Feasel (.400), left fielder Denny Knipp (.250) and pitcher Jim Fausey (4-0).

Fausey, a 6-1, 175-pound senior, has been the bell cow of the Little Giant mound corps this spring. He has been the winning pitcher in every game that he has appeared and presently carries a 2.21 earned run average. His latest outing was Monday, a 6-4 victory over Clyde.

Fausey has worked 19 innings, yielded 17 hits, nine runs, walked seven and struck out 18.

If Fausey runs into trouble, Dorman would

probably call on lefthander Lee Winkle (1-0). The junior fastballer has a 2.10 ERA in 10 innings and has allowed seven hits and five runs. He has walked six batters and notched 17 strikeouts.

"Our pitchers know they are going to have to do better than they have been," Dorman said. "Right now all of the fellows are about equal. None of them has been outstanding lately, but our hitters have been getting us enough runs to get us through."

"The pitchers had a lot of work inside and looked good when we first went outside, but now the hitters are starting to catch up."

Dorman admits that pitching could be the big questionmark throughout the tournament trail. The Ross hurlers have been hampered early in the season because they haven't been able to get in a lot of work. Eight games — all against strong baseball schools — have been cancelled by the weather.

Bob Brudzinski, a junior righty, threw for the first time in competition against Whitmer after a 20 day layoff. Winkle hasn't made an appearance since April 18. Several of the promising underclassmen have hurled only one or two innings of varsity ball.

The 7-0 mark has left Dorman slightly surprised.

"In a way it has me surprised, but we've been rained out of some important games where the other team would have given us a strong test," Dorman said. "But it takes extra desire to go 7-0. I'm not surprised by a thing they do. It seems that this group can do what they want. They've had a team effort in every game."

"Sure, the first, second and third batters are getting on base a lot, but those guys batting fourth, fifth and sixth have to drive them home."

Mansfield Madison, which eliminated Ross last year, and Galion will open the sectional at 10 a.m. Mansfield Malabar and Mansfield Madison will follow at 12:30 p.m. Those teams are involved in the upper bracket.

Ross and Shelby are in the lower bracket with Ashland and Bellevue. Ashland and Bellevue will square off Tuesday at 4 p.m.

The upper bracket sectional championship will be played May 8. The survivors of the Ross-Shelby and Ashland-Bellevue collisions will return to North Robinson May 9.

Ross Whips Shelby

NORTH ROBINSON — Three double plays pulled Ross out of potentially fatal situations and helped the Little Giants gain a 9-6 Class AAA sectional tournament win over Shelby here Saturday.

The win advances Ross to a sectional title contest May 9 against either Ashland or Bellevue, who will play their first tournament game here Tuesday.

Ross (8-0) bailed winning pitcher Jim Fausey out of jams in the second, sixth and seventh innings with twin killings.

"Those three double plays pulled us out of a couple of messy situations," Ross head coach Tom Dorman said. "Overall I felt we played real good defense although we had some errors in the game."

Despite the score, Ross was out-hit by an 8-4 count. But the Little Giants benefited from the wildness of two Shelby pitchers — 10 walks and two hit batsmen — and were also aided by four Whippet errors.

"Their pitchers were so wild we never had a chance to get our timing down at the plate," Dorman said. "The fellows that were hit by pitches had a 3-0 count."

Trailing 3-2, Ross busted loose in the third for five runs with the use of only one hit. Two walks and a hit batsman loaded the bases with nobody out. After a strikeout, Denny Knipp was hit by a pitch that forced Roger Hetrick home with the tying run.

A walk to Fausey forced Scott March home with the tie-breaking run. A Passed ball allowed Mike Lowery to score and a long fly ball by Chuck Lindsey, who had half of Ross' hits, provided Knipp with the opportunity to get home. Greg Burr followed with a double

which allowed Fausey to score with the final run of the inning.

The Little Giants came up with another run in the fourth to go ahead 8-3.

Two Whippet markers in the sixth narrowed the Ross margin to 8-5, but the Little Giants bounced back with a tally in their half of the frame. A walk, fielder's choice, error and base hit by March, who had walked in his three previous trips to the plate, gave Ross its ninth run.

Shelby, which was the visiting team, got the game's final run in the seventh. The Whippets threatened to score more in the inning — the bases were full with two outs — but a grounded ball to Lindsey ended the contest. Those were the only three runners stranded in the contest by Shelby but the losers did have runners on base in every inning but the first, fourth and fifth.

"Shelby had a bunch of good hitters," Dorman said. "They were getting good wood on the ball. But the umpires weren't giving Jim the low strike and he was forced to get the ball up a little more than he usually does."

"Jim did look better though than he did in his previous two starts."

"I didn't think our kids played one of their better games of the year overall but the defense was great."

Fausey, who's now 5-0 for the season, walked two and struck out two.

Ross continues regular season play Wednesday with a home game against Toledo Whitmer. The Little Giants host Gibsonburg Wednesday before going into Buckeye Conference play Saturday. Ross will play Marion Harding at Findlay starting at 1 p.m. If Ross wins it

will go against either Findlay or Mansfield at 4 p.m. for the division championship and the right to enter the conference finals.

In other Class AAA games here Saturday, two Mansfield schools advanced to the title contest for

the upper bracket. Madison edged Galion, 1-0, while Malabar got past Mansfield Senior, 2-0.

The line score:

Shelby	012	002	1-6	8	4
Ross	115	101	x-9	4	3
Fausey and Hetrick:	Hummel, Vieto				
(3) and Hatch:	W—Fausey, L—Hummel				

Beck's Hitting Advances Bears To Title Tilt

WOODVILLE—Jeff Little will be glad to see Ladd Beck wearing the same uniform as he is this summer.

Little and Beck, who were teammates on the Fremont American Legion Post 121 traveling team last summer and will be again this year, were on opposite sides in the opening round of the Class AA sectional here Saturday and Beck had the upper hand in the dual with Little.

Beck, a senior catcher, racked Little for three hits — including two scorching triples and drove in five of the Gibsonburg runs in the Golden Bears' 6-2 victory.

The victory sets up a Gibsonburg-Fremont St. Joe matchup for the sectional title here Wednesday at 4 p.m. They met last Friday and Gibsonburg squeezed out a narrow 5-4 decision.

"It should be a darn good game," Gibsonburg head coach Tom Kashmer said. "When we get together with St. Joe it isn't just a baseball game — it means

a lot more than that to both teams."

Beck's first triple was a line shot in the first inning that got into the leftcenter field gap. It scored Carl Kohler, who had walked, and gave the Bears a short-lived 1-0 bulge.

Woodmore came right back with a run in its half of the first. Ron Busdeker's double scored sophomore shortstop Kevin Owen, who had walked.

The Wildcats got the lead in the third with an RBI-single by Busdeker. Again, it was Owen, who dented home plate.

Gibsonburg got back on the board in the fifth, thanks to Little's wildness. After striking out the first batter, Little walked Kohler. Another strikeout followed but winning pitcher Tom Jurski was then hit by a pitch. Beck then beat out an infield hit which allowed Kohler to score and Jurski came home moments later on a wild pitch to give the Bears a 3-2 advantage.

Walks again got Little into trouble in the seventh. He walked three batters and the sacks were jammed with one out. Beck then

Ross Bags Ninth

Four Ross pitchers benefited from 15 Little Giant hits plus four more walks as the local club raced to its ninth consecutive win of the season, routing Eastwood, 12-3, at Anderson Field Wednesday.

Eastwood was not scheduled to appear at Anderson Field until next Tuesday, but agreed to take Wednesday's date which was supposed to be occupied by Toledo Whitmer. Whitmer had a Class AAA sectional tournament game Wednesday.

Ross officials said this morning that Whitmer has agreed to play at Anderson Field Friday at 4 p.m. for a regular seven-inning contest.

The Little Giants will also be playing Saturday. They open defense of their Buckeye Conference championship with the division tournament at Findlay. Marion Harding will meet Ross at 1 p.m. on the Findlay High School diamond following a game between Findlay and Mansfield that is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. The winners meet at 4 p.m. for the division title and the right to play the division winner from the Lorain area for the conference crown later this month.

Little Giant head coach Tom Dorman used Jim Fausey, Bob Brudzinski, Mike Feasel and Mike Lowery against Eastwood. Fausey,

who went the first two innings, and gave up just one run was credited with the victory. Ross was leading 5-1 when Fausey was pulled.

Ross got out to a quick 4-0 lead in its half of the first. The Little Giants had four hits in the inning — the biggest a three-run homer by junior shortstop Mike Lowery.

A triple by Fausey and one out double by Greg Burr gave the Giants their fifth run in the second. They added another run in the third and added three more in the fourth. Scott March and Lowery, who finished with four hits in four trips to the plate, had the run-scoring hits in the fourth.

Ross, which scored in every inning, added single markers in the fifth and sixth frames.

The Little Giant pitching corps limited Eastwood to just three hits. The Eagles came up with their final two runs in the seventh with Lowery on the mound.

Fausey, Brudzinski and Feasel each took two inning stints while Lowery went one. Overall, they struck out 11 batters and issued four free passes.

Lowery's four hits was high for Ross, but Burr contributed three and March two. Feasel was the only starter who failed to dent the hit column.

Third Straight

Another Defeat For Ross Nine

TIFFIN—Ross' baseball team still can't locate the victory key.

The Little Giants, who had nine consecutive victories to start the season, sent down to defeat for the third consecutive game at Tiffin Calvert Wednesday, 3-2.

Ross, which was scheduled to play a Class AAA sectional championship tilt at North Robinson today against Ashland dented winning pitcher Phil Strasser for only four hits.

Three of those safeties came in the sixth inning when Ross had its only run. Losing pitcher Mike Feasel started the rally with a double and walks to Chuck Lindsey and Greg Burr loaded the bases.

Dale Shoemaker then laced a single that scored Feasel and Lindsey. But Burr was erased on the play when he tried to make third base.

Roger Hetrick popped out and Scott March singled before Mike Lowery grounded into a fielder's choice to end the inning.

Lindsey was responsible for Ross' first hit

— a two-out single in the third inning. He stole second but couldn't advance further as Strasser got out of the inning with a strikeout.

Overall, Ross stranded five runners on the base paths.

Calvert's runs all came in the third inning. The Senecas sent nine men to the plate in the frame and had five singles. They also benefited from a pair of free passes.

Except for the sixth, Ross never had more than one runner on base in an inning. Lindsey, who made it to first three times in four plate appearances, walked to start the game but couldn't advance. The Little Giants also had the leadoff batter — Denny Knipp — on base in the seventh but couldn't push him around.

Strasser set the side down in order in the second, fourth and fifth innings. During one stretch, he retired seven consecutive batters.

The line score:

Ross	000	002	0-2	4	0
Calvert	003	000	x-3	7	1

Feasel, Lowery (6) and Hetrick; Strasser and Schultz.
W—Strasser. L—Feasel.

For Ross Diamondmen

Young, Fast Shawnee

First District Foe

By DON FOGLESON
News-Messenger Staff Writer

Ross High will be facing a fast, young ball club Tuesday when it battles Lima Shawnee in the Lima Class AAA District semifinals.

The Indians will field four freshmen, four juniors and only one senior against the experienced Little Giants, who are boasting an impressive 10-3 log and the North Robinson lower bracket sectional title.

Shawnee coach Jim Roberts, labeled by many as one of the outstanding high school baseball tutors in the state, respects the Giants' pitching and defense but isn't over-awed by his district semifinal foes.

"I saw them (Ross) play once this season and they seem to be a very good ball club," Roberts said. "They're a veteran club with good speed at the top of their lineup.

"My players are very young but have had exceptionally good experience for such a young club," he added. "If we play the type of ball we're capable of playing it should be a close game."

Although the Indians show inexperience throughout their lineup, their batting averages are still impressive. Two of the starters are hitting at a .400 clip while three others are in the .300 bracket.

Freshman Chuck Brock at shortstop will lead off for the Indians. He's hitting an even .400 and is deadly at his keystone slot. Centerfielder Roger Gieseck, a junior who also sees duty on the mound, will bat in the number two slot. He's averaging about .300.

Junior Mike Loar will bat third. The Shawnee second sacker is hitting at a .300 clip, also, and is a major contributor to the Indians' RBI total. Hugh Baker, a frosh first baseman, will hit cleanup. The big fella, who also hurls for the Lima contingent, is the other .400 hitter.

Shawnee, which is 6-9 on the year, will have junior John McGough (.350) at third base and Dan Simms (.320) in right field. Simms, a junior, may be platooned with sophomore Steve Shuster (.250).

Larry Nonnamaker (.170), another freshman, is the Shawnee backstop while junior Kim Samlley (5-2) should be on the mound against Ross Tuesday. The only senior in the starting lineup, Don Camper (.250), will see duty in left field.

"The outcome of the game will be entirely contingent on our pitching," Roberts explained. "I can't be optimistic because our pitchers have had injury troubles in the past. We'll just have to see what happens."

Roberts added that his squad's overall speed could be another determining factor in the outcome.

"We go on the base paths," he said. "We go and they (competition) know it. We try to make our own breaks."

Ross coach Tom Dorman respects the Indians, especially Roberts.

"The Shawnee coach is probably one of the very best in the state of Ohio," Dorman said. "He has a good baseball program going for him there and they play some tough competition.

"The fact that Shawnee has a lot of young ball players could be in their favor," Dorman pointed out. "Young players are not as consistent as veteran players and you never know what kind of game you'll get out of them.

"If Shawnee can get some things going for them those younger kids could get inspired," he said. "It's hard to look ahead and try to figure out how to beat them."

Dorman will throw either senior Jim Fausey (5-1) or junior Bob Brudzinski (3-0) against the Indians Tuesday.

"Which pitcher I use depends on which one feels better on Tuesday," Dorman stated. "I may use both of them, but if one is strong and ready he could go all the way."

The Little Giants have laced just 10 hits in the past four games and that has Dorman concerned.

"We haven't been hitting the way we should," he said. "The guys are getting on the ball but there's always a defensive player there to catch it.

"Maybe the guys are trying too hard," he added. "They've got to be relaxed up there in the batter's box and let the hits fall in."

Ross is boasting four starters in the .300 hitting bracket, while senior second baseman Chuck Lindsey leads everybody with a 5.12 average.

Greg Burr (.318), Dale Shoemaker (.349), Mike Lowery (.385) and Scott March (.378) are included in the .300 group while Roger Hetrick is hitting .219, Mike Feasel .286 and Al Davis .000.

"There's no doubt about it," Dorman concluded. "We've got good hitters. It's just a matter of getting out of this slump."

Season Ends With Defeat

BELLEVUE — Ross' baseball campaign, which started on a high note with nine consecutive victories, came to a dismal close in a 5-4 extra inning loss to Bellevue Thursday.

An error by the Ross first baseman allowed Bellevue to score the winning run with two out in the eighth. Dan Lenley tripled with two out and then scored on the bobble.

Ross coach Tom Dorman, who used 16 players in the contest, saw his team take a 2-0 lead with single tallies in the first and fifth innings.

A walk, singles by Greg Burr and Dale Shoemaker and two fielder's choices gave the Little Giants their first tally. In the fifth a walk and two errors allowed Burr to score his second run of the game.

Sophomore Dave Ziemke, who made his first start of the season for Ross, yielded two runs in the fifth inning. That tied the score and the hosts found the lead with two more runs in the sixth.

A walk to Chuck Lindsey and triple by Burr gave Ross one of the runs back in the seventh. Shoemaker then hit a deep fly ball to left that allowed Mike Baker, who was running for Burr, to cross the ditch with the tying tally.

Ziemke went the distance for the Little Giants. He walked four while striking out eight. Curt Stoldt received the victory for the Redmen.

The Little Giants finished with a 10-5 mark.

The Ross reserves also completed their campaign. Assistant coach Hank Miesle's corps dropped a 4-0 verdict to Bowling Green. Ross had only three hits.