

Little Giants battle Sandusky to the end

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**— Ross coach
Mike Gilbert**

News-Messenger reports

There was absolutely no quit in this year's Fremont Ross softball team.

The Little Giants were eliminated from the Division I sectional tournament Monday when their season ended with a runner being thrown out at the plate.

But despite a 13-12 setback to Greater Buckeye Conference rival Sandusky, Ross coach Mike Gilbert was pleased with the remarkable resiliency of his team.

Ross (12-10) overcame two substantial deficits to defeat Ashland 11-10 in the second game of a dou-

bleheader after losing the first game 15-2 Saturday.

Monday they rebounded from a 12-2 deficit but could get no closer than one run.

"They never quit," Little Giant coach Mike Gilbert said. "What the Lady Giants have shown all year is their character. You had to like what you saw Monday. They never quit. They could have quit — they showed that pluckiness all year."

Ross outhit Sandusky, which defeated it in two of three meetings this year, 13-8 Monday.

Megan Wasserman and Paige Kingsborough each had three hits

and scored two runs. Kingsborough drove in four runs and Wasserman one.

Wasserman's bid for a second RBI was thwarted when the game ended with an out at the plate following her two-strike single. Each team had two runners gunned down at home.

"Sandusky made the play when it had to," Gilbert said. "But I can't tell you how many times the girls came through. Wasserman was huge. Paige has to be one of the best hitters in the area — if not the district."

Beth Shaffer had three hits and

scored four runs, and Mindy Meggitt added two hits for Ross.

Gilbert will lose Kingsborough, Stephanie Nagle and Rachael Daugherty to graduation. And they will be missed by Gilbert for more than their contributions on the field.

Gilbert's father James, who was known as Mike, died on Thursday and the varsity team attended the burial service on Mothers' Day.

"I'm going to miss the caring nature of these kids," Gilbert said. "I can't tell you how much that meant to me."

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