

## HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL



Clyde's Maddie Montgomery beats the tag of Ross' Andrea Ysasi and scores. DOUG HISE/NEWS-MESSENGER CORRESPONDENT

# Little Giants scorched by Clyde bats in opener

By Kevin Shields  
Sports writer

CLYDE — Their hands may have been frozen, but the Fliers' bats sure weren't.

Clyde got three RBIs each from Tayler Arndt and Tara Miracle as the Fliers routed Fremont Ross 23-3 in a run-rule shortened season opener for both squads played in frigid temperatures.

Most of the damage came in the first inning where the Fliers (1-0) plated 17 runs — nine before their first out — on seven hits. Clyde sent a total of 23 hitters to the plate during the inning, making life hard on new Little Giants' pitcher Kayla Foos.

The Fliers added two more runs in the second inning, before tallying four more in the third.

Clyde's offensive explosion answered a two-run top of the



Ross' Andrea Ysasi delivers a hit for a first inning RBI during Saturday's game with Clyde. DOUG HISE/NEWS-MESSENGER CORRESPONDENT

first inning by Ross (0-1), which got both of its runs home on a two-RBI groundout by Mo Fox.

"We hit the ball well and I thought we ran the bases well," Clyde coach Marc Marshall said. "We looked good defen-

sively in spurts. I thought we had a couple mistakes, a couple bad throws and a couple dropped balls. But all the things we made mistakes on we can correct.

"At least now, we've been

able to get that first game in and see exactly what it is we do need to fix. It's one thing to be in the gym and think you're ready, it's another to come outside and do that. Good thing is we got Monday and Tuesday now to work on things before our next game."

The Fliers got both an RBI double and an RBI single from Arndt and Miracle. Both of those girls finished with two hits, as did centerfielder Maddie Montgomery. Montgomery also scored a game-high four runs.

Sophomore leftfielder Maddie Young — one of only two new faces in the Fliers' veteran lineup — sent a 1-2 pitch over the fence in left field for a two-run homer in the fourth inning. Young was one of four Clyde players to score three runs, reaching base twice via an

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# Fliers

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error and once after being hit by one of Foos' pitches.

"It's good for our younger girls, like Maddie, to get some confidence," Marshall said. "We've beefed up our schedule this spring. We play some very good teams, so any time they can get some experience and got some confidence, it's only going to help us later."

Hannah Hammons, Adriana Sanchez and Kennedy Arndt also scored three runs each for the Fliers who had 10 total hits.

Ross committed a total of five errors in the field, while Clyde had four.

Chloe Swaisgood tallied an RBI double for the Little Giants in the top half of the fifth inning. Brina Hrynciw singled twice and Kelsey Ivy scored two runs.

Chelsea Zerman earned the victory in the circle giving up two runs on six hits. She finished with five strikeouts and walked a single batter.

"(The Little Giants) hit the ball hard," Marshall said. "We gave them four outs instead of three in the first inning, which didn't help, but Chelsea settled in as the game went on. And on the positive side, we came back right away, plated some runs and got the momentum in our favor."

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Woodmore pitcher Madeline Phillips pitches during Thursday's 12-0 win over Fremont Ross. DOUG HISE/NEWS-MESSENGER CORRESPONDENT

## SOFTBALL

# Woodmore's Phillips dominant in victory

By Jeffrey Norwalk

News-Messenger correspondent

WOODVILLE—On a blustery afternoon in Woodville, where a spring wind relentlessly blew swirls-upon-swirls of infield dust into the faces and eyes of the players, coaches, spectators, and pretty much everyone in attendance, offense understandably came at a premium.

Yet, all the host Wildcats would need would be a measly three hits, and a huge 12-run second inning to dispatch the reeling Little Giants in a 12-0 run-rule win in the non-league game that lasted five innings.

Woodmore (4-0) worked

through its batting order twice in the second inning, scoring its dozen runs in a variety of ways. Three of those runs came off walks with the bases loaded, two off of hit batters, four off of baserunners coming home on passed balls, an errant throw, and finally, one off of an RBI shot into center by second baseman Grace Weirich. Her hit scored Madeline Phillips with ease.

Ross pitcher Kayla Foos, an up-and-coming sophomore, nonetheless struggled with her control in the stiff wind, hurling many offerings high from the circle, which kept

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# Wildcats

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battery mate Andrea Ysasi on her toes and scrambling to make plays.

The Wildcats ran roughshod on the bases. After issuing eight walks, plunking a batter, allowing two hits, and striking out one — though eventually Woodmore infielder Courtney Clowers would reach first on a passed third strike — Foos was flip-flopped to third with her team down 9-0. But, freshman hurler Chloe Swaisgood wouldn't fare much better, walking two and plunking one run home.

Swaisgood finally stopped the bleeding after she threw out Weirich at first on a hard comebacker to the circle. The freshman would then proceed to pitch two more scoreless innings, hitting an additional batter, while striking out three.

The Little Giants' defense didn't help out their pitching tandem's cause much either, committing too many throwing errors, and a few key field-

ing errors, which allowed the much-more veteran Wildcats to capitalize.

"We've got a young infield," first-year Ross coach Jen Bair said. "We're still trying to work things out, and figure out who our pitchers and catchers are, and we're still trying to work on making good plays, while eliminating the errors."

Yet, the loss by Ross (0-6), couldn't be attributed solely to a shaky day at the office by their pitching staff, and some inexperience behind the gloves, as Ross wasn't getting it done in the batter's box either. But, then again, the young roster did have the misfortune of staring back at Woodmore ace and a returning two-time first-team all-Northern Buckeye Conference hurler in Phillips.

"It was a pretty typical game for Madeline," Wildcats coach Aaron Clouse said, whose star hurler went on to notch 10 strikeouts, while issuing zero walks, and allowing a single hit. "To be honest with you, I think I'm getting kind of spoiled, because she's just always, always ahead of the hitter.

She's always 1-2, or 0-2, and I thought her movement was really good today. I mean, even through all this wind, her movement was real nice on her curve ball, and on her screwball."

"When she gets ahead of a hitter, she's just real hard to handle."

Phillips also helped out her own cause by drawing two walks in the second, and retiring the Ross batters in order in the second, third, fourth, and fifth innings. In the fifth, she struck out three consecutive batters to end the ballgame.

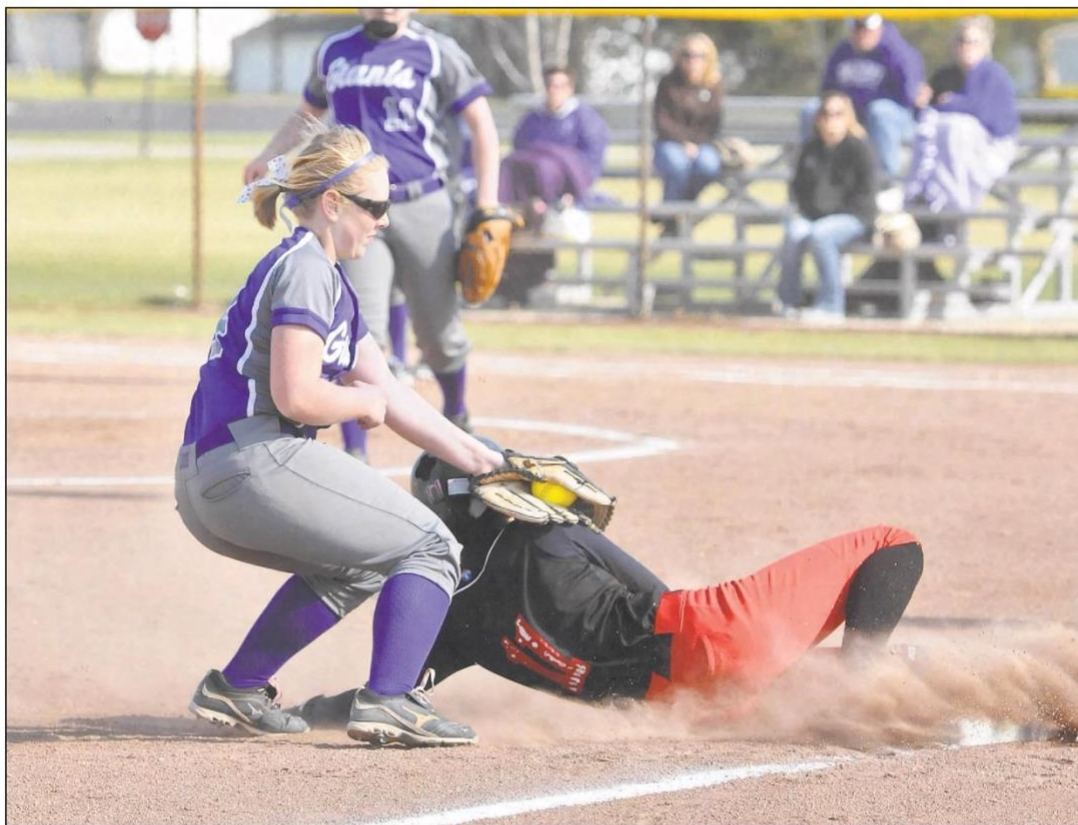
Phillips also got a lot of help from her veteran supporting cast on defense. The top of the fourth showed the Wildcats' prowess with the leather in particular, when left fielder Jordan Witt, Willhardt, and Weirich all made solid plays on nicely-hit balls by the Little Giants to help sit them down in order.

Defensive highlights for Ross came courtesy of Ysasi, who made a nice hustle play on a passed ball to tag a Woodmore baserunner out at the plate.

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## HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL



Fremont Ross' Kelsey Ivy is late with the tag at third during a softball game against Fostoria on Tuesday. JONATHAN BIRD/NEWS-MESSENGER PHOTOS

# Fostoria walks way to victory

By Josh Morgret  
News-Messenger correspondent

FOSTORIA — A walk can be just as good as a hit.

Fostoria mustered just five hits but took advantage of nine walks and three hit batsmen as the Redmen blanked Fremont Ross 9-0 in non-league play Tuesday. Erica Moore threw a complete game shutout.

"All the girls focused," Fostoria coach Clayton Moore said. "We had one player out and Erica Moore knew she was going to be the only pitcher today. She was in a different mindset and pitched really well."

The Redmen (2-8) scored a run in the first inning without a hit and five more in the second with just two hits. The Little Giants (2-9) threatened in the second inning. They loaded the bases with no outs but two strikeouts and a line out

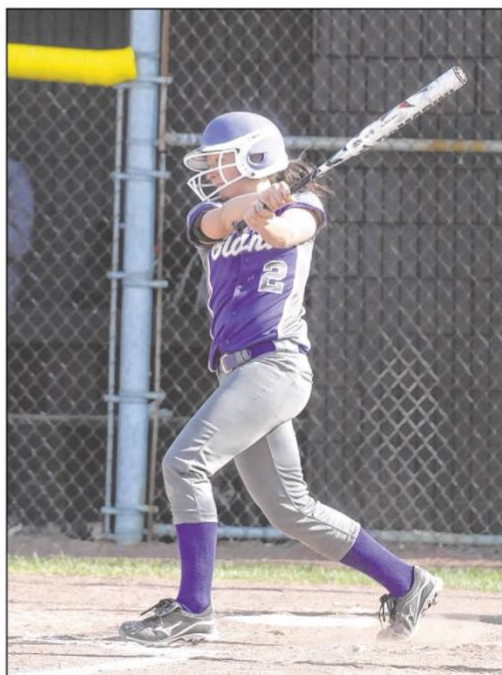
*"We had one player out and Erica Moore knew she was going to be the only pitcher today. She was in a different mindset and pitched really well."*

**Clayton Moore**, Fostoria coach

later and they were back on defense.

"That set the tone," coach Moore said. "That was the difference in the game. That was a momentum changer."

Bre Biles led off the bottom of the second inning with a single for Fostoria. Three walks and two hit-by pitches followed before Jada Hampton lined out and Moore singled to



Fremont Ross' Mo Fox swings at a pitch during a softball game against Fostoria on Tuesday.

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# Walks

Continued from Page 1B

left field to score a run. Biles came to the plate for a second time in the inning but an awkward double play on a grounder where the runners hardly moved ended the inning.

Fostoria added two more runs in the third inning on just one hit. Three walks would end the day for Ross starter Kayla Foos.

After a fielder's choice, Hampton drew a bases-loaded walk. Moore followed with a single but Alexis Smith was

thrown out after rounding third base a little too far.

The Redmen added a run in the sixth. Moore tripled to deep left field and scored on a throwing error.

Chloe Swaisgood pitched the final  $3\frac{2}{3}$  innings for the Little Giants. She allowed three hits, while striking out six.

"We have two young pitchers that need more experience," Ross coach Jen Bair said. "We're making improvements a little at a time."

Moore finished with nine strikeouts and five walks, firing an impressive 132 pitches. She allowed just three hits.

"We have the potential to be a dangerous team," coach Moore said.

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## **Softball: Fremont Ross 5, St. Ursula Academy 4**

FREMONT — Kelsey Ivy, Chloe Swaisgood and Logan Lamalie each had two hits for the Little Giants who topped the Arrows on Thursday in the Three Rivers Athletic Conference.

Lamalie drove in two runs, while Swaisgood tripled and drove in a run.

Brina Hrynciw scored the game-winning run in the bottom of the seventh inning.



## **Softball: St. Ursula Academy 10, Fremont Ross 5**

OTTAWA HILLS — Chloe Swaisgood doubled and drove in two runs in a 3-for-3 effort for the Little Giants who dropped Friday's Three Rivers Athletic Conference game to the Arrows.

Kelsey Ivy homered for Ross and scored three runs, while Mo Fox, Logan Lamalie and Alexis Winters all had single hits.

## **SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE**

### **Division I**

» **Site:** Maumee HS District, Maumee.

» **NOTE:** Sectionals played at home sites.

» **Monday, May 12.**

» **Fremont Ross** at Toledo Start, 5 p.m.  
(winner plays at Springfield on Thursday, May 15 at 5 p.m.).

» **Thursday, May 15.**

» Toledo St. Ursula at Perrysburg, 5 p.m.  
(winner plays Start/Ross - Springfield winner on Tuesday, May 20 at 5 p.m. at Maumee HS).

» Toledo Bowsher at Anthony Wayne, 5 p.m.

» Sylvania Southview at Toledo Notre Dame, 5 p.m.

Winners meet in district semifinals, Tuesday, May 20 at 5 p.m. at Maumee HS.

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# Fremont Ross falls to Findaly

Trojans beat Little  
Giants 16-0 in TRAC

**By Josh Morgret**

News-Messenger correspondent

FREMONT—Findlay only scored in three innings against Fremont Ross on Friday, but each inning was a big one.

The Trojans mustered only six hits but took advantage of numerous Little Giants mistakes in a 16-0 Three Rivers Athletic Conference victory over Ross.

Findlay (7-17, 5-6) scored five runs in the second inning off of Ross starter Chloe Swaisgood. Taylor Steinke and Shelby Roether singled to start the inning and moved up a base on a wild pitch.

Mackenzie Atchison walked and Bree Snapp singled to left field to score a run. Mariah Nill grounded out to first but wild pitches continued to haunt Swaisgood as three additional runs came in via the misfires.

Libbey Crow led off the third with a single for the Trojans. She scampered all the way to third on a sacrifice bunt and scored on a wild pitch.

Roether and Atchison each singled before Snapp and Nill each reached on errors with three runs scored in the process. Kayla Foos replaced Swaisgood, but the wildness continued.

Brook Brigadoi walked and Nill scored two wild pitches later. Kristin Paris had a sacrifice fly to cap the scoring.

"We have been struggling to hit in the last few games," Ross coach Jen Bair said. "We can't make this many errors and expect to win."

The Trojans scored five runs in

**See ROSS, Page 2B**

# Ross

Continued from Page 1B

the fifth inning without a hit.

“Our kids were aggressive from the start,” Findlay coach Michael Colyers said.

Alexis Winters singled in the second inning for the only hit for Ross.

Snapp struck out three and walked one for the victory in the circle.

“She had good command of all her pitches,” Colyers said.

Swaisgood went a total of  $3\frac{2}{3}$  innings, allow-

ing 10 runs on six hits and three walks. Foos went  $1\frac{1}{3}$  innings, allowing six runs on six walks without allowing a hit.

“Our two pitchers had been improving lately,” Bair said.

“We need to field the ball more cleanly and hit the ball better.”

## Softball: Whitmer 17, Fremont Ross 2 (5 innings)

TOLEDO — Chloe Swaisgood had two hits and drove home both runs for the Little Giants in Monday’s Three Rivers Athletic Conference loss to the Panthers.

Kelsey Ivy added two hits for Ross, which also got hits from Odie Lopez, Kayla Foos, Mo Fox and Kortni Lagrou.



## HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

# Three Ross spring athletes make All-TRAC first team

News-Messenger staff report

Three spring athletes — Kole Amor, Kelsey Ivy and Bryce Moreno — from Fremont Ross have been selected to the Three Rivers Athletic Conference's first team as the league released its all-league teams for spring sports.

Amor, a senior catcher for the Little Giants, earned first team in baseball in the at-large category, while Moreno, a junior, was selected as one of four outfielders.

Ivy, a senior shortstop for the Ross softball team, has been a rock in the heart of the Little Giants' defense and batting order all four years she wore the purple and white.

Freshman Chloe Swaisgood was a second-team at-large pick

In tennis, Juniors Robert



Fremont Ross Kole Amor hits a triple during a baseball game against Sandusky on May 8.

Joerg and Nate Rellinger each earned second-team honors, with Connor Martin and Dylan Wiley getting recognized as honorable mention.

Honorable mention picks in



Fremont Ross' Kelsey Ivy applies tag during a game against Fostoria on April 22. FILE PHOTOS

baseball for the Little Giants included Dominic Cominsky, Andy Mapus and Bryce Dukeshire. Logan Lamalie, Mo Fox and Brina Hrynciw were honorable mention in softball.