

TOURNAMENT ROAD FOR LITTLE GIANTS

Ashland's big inning too much for Ross

News-Messenger Reports

BUCYRUS — It's a problem that Christy Holland has seen crop up all too often this season.

"That has been one of our problems," the Ross High School girls softball coach began. "We have one bad inning and when it is bad, it is bad."

That problem cropped up Monday night in the finals of the Class AAA sectional tournament finals at Bucyrus High School. Trailing 3-2 going into the bottom of the sixth inning, the Ross problem hit hard.

Ashland took advantage of three errors, two walks, a fielder's choice and a base hit to score eight times and go on to win 11-2.

That inning wiped out any momentum the Little Giants had gotten in the top of the inning when they had scored twice to close to within a run.

Dawn Lash scattered six Ross hits, striking out two, to pick up the pitching win for Ashland, 17-4. One of the hits was a two-run single by Aimee LeJeune in the Ross sixth.

Lora Almaguer and Shelly Leggett doubled for Ross.

White allowed just five hits but seven errors hurt her efforts.

The loss dropped Ross to 9-10 this season.

Ross, St. Joe girls move to finals

Lady Giants play this afternoon, Streaks go for title Tuesday

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Ross got off to a running start with eight runs in the first inning while coasting to a 29-11 victory over Mansfield Malabar in the Class AAA softball sectional tournament semifinals at Bucyrus High School Saturday.

St. Joe also won a tournament semifinal game Saturday, beating Old Fort 6-0 in the Class A sectional at Bettsville.

The Little Giants will play Ashland at 4:30 this afternoon at

Bucyrus High School for the sectional title.

Ross led 13-0 before Malabar scored in the bottom of the third. Malabar closed to within 15-7 before the Little Giants put the game out of reach with a 13-run outburst in the sixth inning.

Ross collected 24 hits, including four apiece by Angie Flores and Taunya Downing. Flores had four RBI and Downing three. Aimee LeJeune and Sue Tousignant had three hits apiece for Ross.

Winning pitcher Kim White, Lora Almaguer, LeJeune and Shelly Leggett doubled for Ross.

White pitched the first five innings and Almaguer the final two.

St. Joe6

Old Fort0

Kelley Aldrich hurled a one-hitter as the Streaks topped the Stockaders in Bettsville.

St. Joe, 8-10, will now play Fostoria St. Wendelin Tuesday at

4:30 p.m., in the sectional finals.

Aldrich struck out four and walked seven. The only hit she allowed came on a leadoff single by Deb Hoerig in the seventh inning. That's the second time in less than a week that Aldrich has pitched a one-hitter and given up that hit in the final frame.

St. Joe had nine hits, led by Michelle McGrath with three and Aldrich and Ann Hossler with two each.

McGrath drove in two runs.

Ross nips Lexington in sectional tourney

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The Ross Lady Giants rallied from a five-run deficit in the final two innings to edge Lexington 13-12 in the Class AAA sectional softball tournament at Bucyrus High School Saturday.

The Lady Giants scored two runs in the sixth inning to make it 12-9 and then added four runs in the seventh to go ahead. Angie Flores had a three-run double to tie the game and Lora Almaguer had a run-scoring single to win it.

Aimee LeJeune finished with three hits to lead Ross while Flores, Kim White, Sue Tousignant and Shelly Leggett added two hits each.

Ross, now 6-7, will play Mansfield Malabar Saturday at 1 p.m.