

Ross gets eliminated in opener

Giants stunned by Mansfield Senior

News-Messenger reports

The Fremont Ross baseball team started the season 9-1 and earned a nice, shiny No. 4 ranking in the initial Associated Press Division I coaches' poll.

The Little Giants had dreams of a memorable season.

It has turned into more of a nightmare year.

Ross was eliminated from the postseason with an 8-6 loss to lowly Mansfield Senior in Monday's sectional opener at Mansfield Madison.

"This is very disappointing," said Ross coach Rob Schimmoeller on his cell phone while riding back to Fremont. "The guys are pretty quiet on the bus right now."

"It's a big-time downer," he continued.

Ross fell to 12-6-1.

Mansfield (3-12) scored three first-inning runs — all with two outs — to set the tone and finished with 10 hits — all singles.

"It seemed like everything they hit tonight had eyes," Schimmoeller said. "We hit the ball hard, just right at people."

Joey Garza had a two-run double and Doug Henkel had a two-run single as the Little Giants tallied five in the fifth inning to pull within 7-6.

They, however, couldn't get any closer.

Jared Dickman hit a first-inning solo home run for the Little Giants.

Kyle Cook (3-2) took the loss. He allowed six runs and six hits in 4 $\frac{1}{3}$ innings.

Cook struck out eight and walked four.

Jared Frederici, who went 2-for-2 with two runs scored, earned the complete-game victory.

"It's all really frustrating," Schimmoeller said.

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