

Fremont Ross

Coach: Rob Schimmoeller, 1st year.

2002 record: 10-11 (4-6 GLL, 4th).

2002 tournament: Lost 5-2 to Ashland in sectional opener.

Key losses: P Josh Harnish, P Adam Garcia, 2B Dash Yost, C Jared Kingsborough, OF Nick Oprie.

Key returnees: Senior — SS-P Kyle Hintze (.338 batting average, 14 runs, 8 runs batted in). Juniors — SS-3B-P Jonathan Franks (.373, 8 RBI), P-2B Doug Henkel (.280), CF-P Jared Dickman (.271 16 RBI). Sophomore — P-1B Joey Garza (.150).

Key newcomers: Juniors — C Cody

Myers, INF Aurelio Ruiz, INF Kyle Spriggs,

OF Jake Kingsborough, OF Derek

Knapp, P Steve

Smith. Sophomores — OF Garrett Stine,

INF Brad Cobb.

Outlook: There will be several new faces on the diamond this year for the Little Giants. Ross graduated a slew of senior talent and Schimmoeller, a five-year assistant, replaces seven-year head coach Chuck Lindsey. Schimmoeller helped lead the Little Giants to the state ACME baseball tournament last summer, and the team is banking on that experience this season with only one returning senior. Hintze and Franks are the team's top returning hitters and will lead the Little Giants at the plate. Ross lost most of its pitching in Harnish, Coonrod and Garcia. They combined for 122 innings and 88 strikeouts a year ago. Hintze, who pitched in the ACME state opener, will lead the pitching corps. The Little Giants open the season Monday at Bowling Green.

Coach's quote: "We're working toward continuing our successful summer. Our pitching will be the key to our success."



HINTZE