

## HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

# Run production needed at Ross

By TIM HARMON  
Staff writer

Opponents collected only 12 more hits than Fremont Ross last spring. The Little Giants, though, hardly ever produced timely hits.

The lack of clutch hitting in 1994, combined with a defense that became porous as the season progressed, produced just six wins in 23 games.

Ross finished 2-10 in the Great Lakes League despite a .275 team batting average.

"It's one of the best batting averages that we've had since I've been here," Ross coach Dan Fought said.

The Little Giants return seniors Kyle Kusmer, Shane Moran, Gary Rakes, Brian Reinbolt, Tyler Tooman and Ryan Wagner. Twelve juniors round out the squad.

"The inexperience of the pitching staff really concerns me," Fought said. "We have experience at the other positions. We're looking to be better at those positions than what we were."

Moran is the No. 1 pitcher, although he didn't pitch much last year.

"He had a growth spurt gap in his elbow,

*"We don't care if they get four hits a game, it's when they get the hits."*

Dan Fought, Ross coach

which created soreness and tightness whenever he threw," Fought said. "I didn't use him because I didn't want to hurt him, and I was hoping the seniors last year could pull us over the hump."

Aaron Smith and Ryan Smith combined to pitch 116 innings last year. Aaron Smith was 3-8 with a 4.57 ERA, while Ryan Smith was 3-5 with an ERA of 3.26.

"Moran is number one because of what he did as a sophomore," Fought said.

Two seasons ago, Moran had two saves and tossed a three-hitter against Sandusky in his first varsity start.

Juniors Eric Brough and Matt Fox, both left-handers, will work behind Moran. Bryan Coonrod and left-hander Marc Naderer also

will pitch.

Ross committed 67 errors a year ago, but Fought said mental mistakes that often led to extra outs were the team's biggest problem.

"We don't have a true dominating player," Fought said. "We said it last year; we're saying it again. Just make the average play."

Wagner (.339) and Moran (.333) are the top returning hitters, and Rakes scored a team-leading 22 runs while driving in 12 last spring. Moran's 13 RBI last year tied for the team lead with Jeremy Aldrich, who graduated after batting .347.

Ryan Smith (.397) led Ross at the plate in 1994.

The Little Giants open the season on April 3 on their new diamond at Ross High School.

Against the Tornadoes, Fought is likely to start Bucky Byers (.231) at catcher, Ryan Shively (.207) at first base, Rakes (.263) at second, Kyle Kusmer (.155) at shortstop and Tim Rakes (.172) at third.

With Moran on the mound, Graham Hogan is expected to start in left field with Reinbolt (.295) in center and Wagner in right.

## PREP BASEBALL

# Columbian spoils Little Giants' opener

By TIM HARMON  
Staff writer

Alumni Field at Fremont Ross High School is christened.

For the Ross Little Giants, unfortunately, the christening was Monday's 4-3 Tiffin Columbian victory.

"They played Little Giant baseball the way that we want it played," Ross coach Dan Fought said. "They played great defense, and I really thought that they went up to the plate doing the things that we ask them to do — trying to work the middle; trying to go to the opposite field when they were down in the count."

Ross did not commit an error but left seven runners on base in the season opener, and Kory Winkler's two-run homer in the top of the sixth gave Columbian its first win in four games.

"We've been in every ballgame, but we played tentative and we were afraid to lose at times," Columbian coach Doug Hartenstein said. "Kory Win-

### WHAT'S NEXT

Fremont Ross travels to Toledo today for the Great Lakes League opener at Whitmer.

After an off day Wednesday, the Little Giants visit Sandusky on Thursday and host Sylvania Northview in a GLL game at Alumni Field Friday.

Saturday, Ross travels to Toledo St. John's for a 3 p.m. game.

kler's shot relaxed us a little bit."

Losing pitcher Eric Brough took the complete-game loss, walking six with four strikeouts.

"This gives us confidence because we went in to the season thinking that pitching was our suspect area," Fought said. "One pitch determined the outcome. It was down and the kid went down and drove it."

Shaun Haman pitched a complete game for the victory. He scattered 10 hits with one walk and four strikeouts. Haman stayed in front of Ross hitters all

game.

"He made them earn it," Hartenstein said. "That's the key. Make them earn it honest instead of giving them that free pass."

Ross had runners at first and third with no outs in the first inning but could not build on Shane Moran's RBI single, and the Little Giants left the bases loaded in the third.

"The kids have proven that they can hit the ball," Fought said. "Now, all we have to do is time them up and put them in the right spots."

Columbian led 1-0 before Moran's single tied it and Ross took a 2-1 lead in the second on Ryan Shively's run-scoring single.

Dave Eberly's sacrifice fly in the fourth tied it 2-2, but Ross regained the lead with an unearned run in the fifth.

Dave Porter doubled leading off the sixth before Winkler homered to left-center field.

### How they scored

#### COLUMBIAN FIRST

Aaron Bonnell walked, Shawn Burgerderfer struck out and Bonnell moved to second on a passed ball. Aaron Ward walked, and Bonnell was out trying to steal third. Ward went to second on a wild pitch and scored on Ryan Bleeks' double inside the bag at third. Jason Pagnard walked. Dave Porter grounded to second. 1 run, 1 hit.

#### ROSS FIRST

Gary Rakes singled to left, Ryan Wagner bounced a single to left and Rakes scored when Shane Moran singled past shortstop. Kyle Kusmer and Brian Reinbolt struck out. Bucky Byers grounded to third. 1 run, 3 hits.

#### ROSS SECOND

Tyler Tooman singled to center and went to third on center fielder Ward's error. Ryan Shively singled home Tooman. Tim Rakes fouled out to the catcher. Gary Rakes reached on a

fielder's choice; Shively forced third baseman to second. Gary Rakes stole second. Wagner grounded to first. 1 run, 2 hits.

#### COLUMBIAN FOURTH

Porter walked and Kory Winkler singled. Jamie Detillion's sacrifice bunt was followed by Dave Eberly's sacrifice fly to score Porter. Bonnell walked. Burgerderfer flied to center. 1 run, 1 hit.

#### ROSS FIFTH

Moran reached second on third baseman Burgerderfer's throwing error. Kusmer bunted safely for a hit. Moran to third. Moran scored on an errant pick-off throw. Kusmer out right fielder to catcher. Reinbolt flied to center. Byers grounded to second. 1 run, 1 hit.

#### COLUMBIAN SIXTH

Porter doubled to right-center. Winkler homered to left-center. Detillion grounded to third. Eberly singled. Bonnell lined to second. Burgerderfer struck out. 2 runs, 2 hits.

■ St. Joe undefeated, see roundup on B3

# Ross rallies past Sandusky

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross coach Dan Fought preaches at the Little Giants to relax at the plate. The preaching paid off Thursday in a come-from-behind 7-5 non-league victory at Sandusky Thursday.

Ross (1-1) scored four runs in the seventh inning to overcome a 5-3 deficit.

"It was nice to see the hits back-to-back-to-back," Fought said. "It was surprising. The kids were really relaxed."

Tim Rakes led off the Ross seventh with a walk and Gary Rakes and Ryan Wagner followed with singles to load the bases. Tim Rakes was forced at home on Shane Moran's bouncer back to the mound, but Kyle Kusmer tied the game with a double to right-center.

Brian Reinbolt then doubled in Moran, with Kusmer holding at third, and Bucky Byers knocked in Kusmer with a grounder to

## Baseball Roundup

second.

The rally made a winner out of Bryan Coonrod, who allowed a run on three hits in three innings after taking over for starter Matt Fox.

Moran worked the seventh, escaping a bases-loaded, no-out jam by striking out Josh James and getting Tim Barnhart to hit into a third to home to first double play.

Wagner finished with three hits for Ross, with Kusmer, Byers and Gary Rakes each collecting two. Kusmer finished with three RBI.

Kirk Fortier took the complete-game loss for Sandusky, 1-4.

In other games:

**Clyde .....3**  
**Eastwood .....0**

Wade Conner pitched a four-hitter, and the Fliers played

errorless ball for their first win in three games.

"We had been walking a lot of people in the first couple of games," Clyde coach Rick Bowerman said. "He threw strikes and kept the ball low so they couldn't hit it hard."

Conner struck out five, walked one and hit a batter.

David Lemmerbrock pitched a complete game for Eastwood, striking out six and walking three.

Clyde scored an unearned run in the third and added two in the sixth on Brad Chambers' two-run, pinch-hit single.

**H-Loudon.....9**  
**Gibsonburg .....0**

Brian Cline pitched a one-hitter, and Benji Zoeller had three hits in the Chieftains' non-league victory.

Hopewell-Loudon evened its record at 3-3, while Gibsonburg is

winless in two games.

Scott Hill's one-out single in the third inning was the Golden Bears' lone hit.

**Oak Harbor.....13**  
**Lakota.....1**

Mike Butzin and Rich Taylor each went 4-for-5 as Oak Harbor won its fifth game against one loss.

Brian Schultz pitched five innings with no walks and six strikeouts for the Rockets.

Lakota, 2-4, scored in the second inning on Aaron Bomer's RBI single.

**Arlington .....19**  
**Bettsville .....0**

Arlington scored 14 runs in the fifth inning on nine hits, three Bettsville errors, two walks and a hit batsmen.

Mike Butte pitched a one-hitter in Bettsville's first game since the 1993 season.

Losing pitcher Chris Rapp had a fourth-inning single for the Bobcats' hit.

**Bellevue .....11**  
**Springfield .....3**

Bellevue broke open a close game with eight runs in the fourth inning. The inning was highlighted by Seth Strayer's two-run single and two-run doubles by Casey Smith and Ken Kalvig.

The Redmen, 5-1, did not commit an error behind winning pitcher Josh Nelson and reliever Matt Patten.

Springfield, 1-2, managed four hits.



# Ross wins GLL opener

## Byers, Moran lead way

By TIM HARMON  
Staff writer

Fremont Ross catcher Bucky Byers wasn't trying to do too much at the plate Friday at Alumni Field.

The approach worked as Byers drove in five runs in a 10-4 Ross win over Sylvania Northview in the Great Lakes League opener.

"I was trying to make contact because the people were in scoring position," said Byers, after going 3-for-4 and reaching base four times. "I'm picking the ball up real well."

Northview allowed plenty of baserunners, and Byers helped make sure they had a place to go — home.

He served a curveball to right for a two-run single in the first inning to start the scoring.

"During the preseason, we worked on going to the opposite field," Byers said. "I've hit five curveballs the opposite way."

Byers smacked a two-run double to left field in the fifth and singled in a run in the sixth.

"Bucky came through every time he was at the plate with runners in position," Ross coach Dan Fought said. "The other guys at least put the thing on the ground where mistakes could be made."

"If you put it up in the air, those are easy plays to make. On the ground, they have to work for outs."

The Wildcats defense was in disarray after starting pitcher Ken Lesner left the game after the first inning with a sore arm.

Lesner, who pitched nine innings in a 12-inning loss to Toledo Start last Saturday, also plays shortstop.

"We had to move some kids around," Northview coach Jack Koch said. "I had to shuffle. The kids were a little bit nervous out of position."

Northview (0-2 and 0-1), took a 3-2 lead with a single run in the second and two runs in the third.

Ross (2-1 and 1-0), took the lead for good in the bottom of the



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

**FREMONT ROSS** pitcher Shane Moran aims a throw to first on a sacrifice bunt by Sylvania Northview's Rob Harkless (right) during the third inning Friday at Alumni

Field. Harkless reached base on the play, and Northview scored two runs in the inning. But the Little Giants defeated the Wildcats 10-4.

## How they scored

### ROSS FIRST

With two outs, Shane Moran reached on shortstop Chad Collins' throwing error. Kyle Kusmer doubled to left-center. Bucky Byers singled to right, scoring Moran and Kusmer. Byers caught stealing. **2 runs, 2 hits.**

### NORTHVIEW SECOND

John Moss singled leading off and went to third on Chad Olszewski's sacrifice bunt. Kurt Schlerf grounded to short, with Moss taking third. Moss scored when shortstop Kusmer committed an error on Case Carstensen's grounder. Carstensen stole second, and Arturo Sanabria walked. Sanabria out unassisted at second on Brian Ruckman's grounder to Kusmer. **1 run, 1 hit.**

### NORTHVIEW THIRD

Anderson doubled leading off, and Collins reached on third baseman Tim Rakes' error. Anderson scored when first baseman Ryan Shively mishandled a throw on a sacrifice bunt by Rob Harkless, with Collins taking third. Collins scored on a sacrifice fly to shortstop. Olszewski singled to shortstop, and Kusmer doubled Harkless off first. **2 runs, 1 hit.**

### ROSS THIRD

Gary Rakes tripled to right-center leading off, and Ryan Wagner followed with an infield hit. Moran walked to load the bases. Kusmer lined softly to first. Rakes and

third when two errors by Brian Ruckman at shortstop let in two runs. Ruckman moved from center field to short when Lesner departed.

Little Giants' starter Shane Moran, meanwhile, battled through eight Ross errors.

"I try to stay positive," Moran said. "If they make a mistake, it's over with. You can't do anything about it."

All four Northview runs were unearned.

"I was worried today when we came out here," Fought said. "I didn't think we were mentally ready to go."

"They took the win a little bit too serious last night, and we had a hard time shaking it off."

Moran, who saved Thursday's 7-5 win over Sandusky, limited the Wildcats to three hits while

Wagner scored on back-to-back errors by shortstop Ruckman. Tyler Tooman bounced into a pitcher to home force out. Shively grounded to second. **2 runs, 2 hits.**

### ROSS FIFTH

Moran singled leading off and went to second when the ball got past Harkless in right field. Todd Rakes ran for Moran. Kusmer sacrificed Rakes to third and was safe on Collins' throwing error. Byers hit a two-run double to left. Bryan Coonrod ran for Byers. Brian Reinbolt singled, with Coonrod holding third. Reinbolt took second on Tyler Tooman's sacrifice bunt. Shively grounded back to the mound. Rob Stotz struck out. **2 runs, 3 hits.**

### ROSS SIXTH

Rakes reached on third baseman Olszewski's error, and Wagner followed with a bunt hit. Rakes scored when Collins committed an error on a grounder by Moran. Wagner went to third on Kusmer's fly ball to center, and scored on Byers' single to left. Moran and Byers moved up on a wild pitch. Reinbolt grounded to third. Moran scored on Tooman's infield single. Byers scored on Shively's single to center. Stotz bounced to the mound. **4 runs, 4 hits.**

### NORTHVIEW SEVENTH

Anderson reached on Kusmer's error. Collins and Harkless walked. Moss grounded to short, forcing Harkless at second, with Anderson scoring when Kusmer threw wide of first. Olszewski struck out. Schlerf flied to center. **1 run, 0 hits.**

striking out five and walking five.

"In the early innings, I was throwing mostly the fastball," Moran said. "In the fifth inning, I started throwing first-pitch breaking balls. That got them off balance."

### Ross 10, Northview 4

Northview	012	000	1	—	4	3	7
Ross	202	024	x	—	10	11	8

# St. John's routs Little Giants 15-0

News-Messenger reports

TOLEDO — No offense. No defense.

Put those ingredients together for Fremont Ross and you have Saturday's 15-0 Toledo St. John's victory.

"They're not that good, and we're not that bad," Ross coach Dan Fought said.

Ross (2-2) managed just one hit, a lead-off single by Graham Hogan in the fourth inning, and committed eight errors.

St. John's scored nine runs in the first inning, when the Little

## Baseball Roundup

Giants made five errors, and took advantage of two more errors to score four times in the second.

All 13 runs in the first two innings were unearned.

Doug Bond was the winning pitcher, facing two batters over the minimum in the game that was shortened to six innings. Marc Naderer pitched  $1\frac{2}{3}$  innings and took the loss.

In one other game:

Carey .....5

Gibsonburg .....4

Carey scored a run in the sixth inning and one in the seventh to win the battle of winless teams at Gibsonburg.

Gibsonburg (0-3) took a 4-3 leads with three runs in the fifth inning. Mike Jividen, the third Gibsonburg, took the loss.

Jay Morelock, Scott Hilt and Jividen each had two of the Golden Bears' seven hits.

Nate Jaynes had three hits for Carey (1-5).

# PREP BASEBALL

# Brough, Ross blank PC

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross pitcher Eric Brough had a tougher time in Tuesday's 9-0 victory over Port Clinton than he did in a loss to Tiffin Columbian last week, Ross coach Dan Fought said.

"This game tested his mental toughness more than that loss," Fought said. "He battled through some tough spots."

Brough, a junior left-hander, allowed two hits, struck out 11 and walked six against Port Clinton at Alumni Field.

## Roundup

"He got better and stronger as the game wore on," Port Clinton coach Dan Timmons said. "When we got on, he picked us off."

Brough picked four PC runners off base.

Ross (3-2) scored two runs in the first inning, three in the fifth and four in the sixth. Port Clinton (1-4) issued four walks and committed two errors in the fifth and sixth.

The Redskins best chance to score came in the second inning, but Mike Pugh struck out with the bases loaded.

"That was key because it was still 2-0," Timmons said. "We had one of our better hitters at the plate."

Tyler Tooman and Brian Reinbolt each had two of the Little Giants' seven hits and drove in three runs for Ross.

Losing pitcher Ron Windnagel had a one-out single in the fourth for PC, and Dave Walker had a one-out infield single in the fifth.

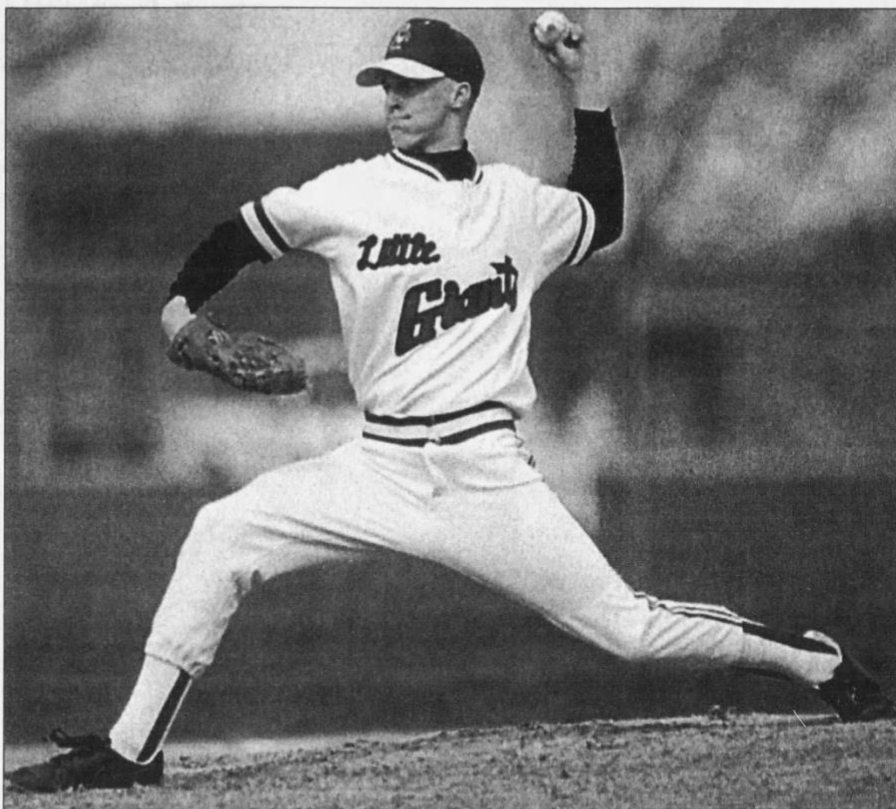
The Little Giants were shut out by Toledo St. John's on Saturday and got rained out at Perrysburg on Monday. They committed eight errors against the Titans and just one Tuesday.

"We got to work on defense," Fought said. "We needed that work. We needed to get back to fundamentals."

In other games:

Edison .....17  
Clyde .....10

Edison scored 12 runs in the



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

**ERIC BROUGH** of Fremont Ross fires a pitch home during his two-hit shutout victory over Port Clinton Tuesday at Alumni Field. Brough struck out 11 and picked four runners off base.

third inning and went on to win the Sandusky Bay Conference opener.

Larry Koelsch capped the Chargers' big inning with a grand slam, which was one of three Edison homers. Ten of the 12 runs in the inning were unearned.

John Murray had three hits and drove in four runs for Clyde (2-3), and Tony Oakleaf and Nate Morrison had two hits apiece. Oakleaf also drove in three runs.

Josh Goodwin was the winning pitcher, working the final four innings, and Clyde starter Justin

Chagnon took the loss.

The Chargers improve to 6-2.

Lakota .....4  
New Riegel .....2

Lakota managed just three hits but scored all of its runs in the fifth inning, and that was enough as winning pitcher Darren Johnson made them stand up.

Johnson, who scattered seven hits, struck out nine and walked two.

Adam Gnepper had two hits for Lakota (3-4), and the Raiders got a two-run single from Jason

Bomer as part of their four-run fifth.

Bellevue .....12  
Bucyrus .....0

Josh Nelson's three-hit shutout was his fourth victory without a loss. He struck out eight and walked three.

Nelson also scored three runs as Bellevue improved to 7-1.

Shawn Ray, Ryan Falknor, Seth Strayer, Doug Collins and Nelson had two hits apiece for Bellevue in the Northern Ohio League opener.





News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

## Safe at first

Fremont Ross first baseman Ryan Shively is late with the tag as Frank Fox of Port Clinton is safe at first following a pick-off attempt by Ross pitcher Eric

Brough. Brough picked four runners off base in the Little Giants' 9-0 victory at Alumni Field Tuesday.

## PREP SPORTS REPORT

# Undeclared Whitmer beats Ross

News-Messenger reports

Dan Fought did not sound like a baseball coach whose team had absorbed an eight-run loss.

"I thought we played well," the Fremont Ross coach said Wednesday after Toledo Whitmer's 9-1 Great Lakes League victory over the Little Giants.

"If we get a call in the first inning, the game is still 1-1 in the fifth," Fought said. "In the first inning we turned what I thought was a double play but we did not get it called. Mentally, that was a big thing."

Ross (3-3 and 1-1) scored in the top of the first but the Panthers got four in the bottom of the inning.

Three more runs in the fourth and two in the fifth wrapped up the scoring for Whitmer (8-0 and 3-0).

Kyle Kusmer doubled for one of the three Ross hits, and Whitmer turned three double

## Baseball

## Gibsonburg hosts tourney

News-Messenger reports

GIBSONBURG — The Bear Holiday Classic Baseball Tournament begins today at the Hilfiker School Diamond.

Host Gibsonburg will play Bettsville at 4 p.m. in the first of the semifinal games. The other semifinal has Toledo Christian playing Evergreen at 10 a.m. Saturday.

The losers of the semifinals play at 1 p.m. Saturday and the winners play for the title at 4 p.m.

Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for students.

plays defensively.

The game was delayed 15 minutes while the teams waited for rain to stop.

In other games:

Ottawa Hills .....19  
Gibsonburg .....5

The Green Bears erased a 5-3 deficit with nine runs in the top of the fourth inning.

Gibsonburg (0-4) scored twice in the first inning and three times in the third.

Jay Morelock and Nick Kaeming had two hits apiece for Gibsonburg.

Edison .....3  
Oak Harbor .....2

Larry Koelsch pitched a five-hitter with 12 strikeouts as Edison won for the seventh time in nine games, including both its Sandusky Bay Conference outings.

The Chargers, who took a 2-0 lead in the third inning, broke a 2-2 tie with a run in the bottom of the sixth.

Bryant Whitcomb had two hits for Oak Harbor (5-3 and 0-1).

# Bowling Green defeats Ross

News-Messenger reports

An old problem cropped up again for Fremont Ross Thursday.

The Little Giants' failure to drive in runners from scoring position figured prominently in Bowling Green's 5-1 non-league victory.

Ross (3-4) left nine runners on base, including two in the first inning, two in the sixth and the bases loaded in the seventh.

Mike Buckland's three-run homer in the first inning off Shane Moran provided all the runs Bowling Green (3-3) needed.

A walk to Tyler Tooman, a double by Brian Reinbolt and Ryan Shively's sacrifice fly gave Ross its run in the second. But the inning ended with Reinbolt stranded on third.

Kyle Kusmer had two of the Little Giants' six hits.

Moran allowed two unearned runs in the second inning then blanked the Bobcats the rest of the way. He struck out four and walked one.

Dan Binkowski was the winner in relief, allowing four hits, striking out five and walking three in six-plus innings.

The Bobcats did not commit an error.

In other games:

**H-Loudon.....15**

**Lakota .....7**

Lakota committed six errors, while Hopewell-Loudon played errorless ball in the non-league game.

The Chieftains (6-3) never trailed after taking a 3-

## Prep Baseball Roundup

0 lead in the first inning.

Darren Johnson had two doubles among three hits for Lakota (3-5), scored two runs and drove in three.

Brian Cline was the winning pitcher and Bill Beaston took the loss.

**Oak Harbor.....4**

**Perkins.....1**

Oak Harbor scored three runs in the first inning and went on to its sixth win in nine games, and the Rockets evened their Sandusky Bay Conference record at a win and a loss.

Winning pitcher Mike Lipstraw struck out five and walked one before leaving in the sixth inning after being hit by a pitch.

Groundouts by Kevin Kersten and Brian Schultz and a single by Lipstraw accounted for the RBI in the Oak Harbor first.

Perkins is winless in six games.

**Wynford .....7**

**Bellevue .....6**

A lead-off walk to Anthony Montgomery ignited a four-run seventh inning for Bellevue, but the rally fell short with the tying and winning runs on second and third.

Casey Smith and Ryan Falknor each had two hits for the Redmen (7-2). Smith scored two runs.

Kyle Gerhart was the winning pitcher, and Ed Baptista went five innings and took the loss.

# Little Giants collect 15 hits in 13-8 victory over Bellevue

By TIM HARMON  
Staff writer

It's a tired, old subject that won't go away. It being the inability or ability of the Fremont Ross Little Giants to hit with men on base.

"Thank God for timely hitting," Ross coach Dan Fought said Saturday after a 13-8 non-league victory over Bellevue at Alumni Field.

Ross (4-4) collected a season-high 15 hits to improve to 3-1 at its new home field. More importantly, the Little Giants left just five men on base.

"The thing that separates us is the timely hitting because a good club comes up with those hits, and the want-to-bes don't come up with them," Fought said. "We were a want-to-be for a while. We have to have that timely hitting to be a good club."

Shane Moran, Kyle Kusmer, Tyler Tooman and Tim Rakes led the Little Giants' offense.

Moran had three hits, including a double.

"We mixed up the lineup," Fought said. "The top of the order wasn't getting on base, and Shane's been on base about 70 percent of the time out of the three hole. All we do is slide him up to one and get him more opportunities at the plate to give

us baserunners.

"Bucky (Byers) slid up to the number two spot because he makes good contact, he's a good bunter, he can move runners for me and he's a good baserunner.

"Gary (Rakes) has been hitting the ball in the air so I put him in a position (the fifth spot) to go with sacrifice flies and moving runners at the same time."

Kyle Kusmer — still batting fourth — had two hits, including a double, and drove in two runs. Designated hitter Tyler Tooman, hitting sixth, was 3-for-4 with four RBI. Tim Rakes had two hits and drove in three runs from the ninth spot.

Bellevue (7-3) took a 2-0 lead in the second inning, but Ross countered with two in the bottom of the second. After a run-scoring single by Tooman, Gary Rakes scored on a balk by Bellevue starter Anthony Montgomery.

"That inning was real big for us for two reasons," Fought said. "Number one, it put us in an attack mode. Number two, we got our good baserunners on base and used their intelligence to force some mental mistakes on Bellevue's part."

The Little Giants had their biggest inning of the season in the third, scoring seven runs on

six hits. Tim Rakes' two-run single knocked out Montgomery.

"It wasn't one of his better outings," Bellevue coach Brian Schubert said. "It was a combination of not having his best stuff, and them putting together a string of hits. They hit the ball pretty well I thought."

Walks almost cost Ross. Eric Brough (2-1) walked five, and reliever Bryan Coonrod walked three.

"You cannot defense walks," Fought said. "The pitching staff has to make them use the bat."

Three of the first four Redmen walked to start the fifth, and Bellevue took advantage by scoring five runs to cut a 10-3 Ross lead to 10-8.

"We've got the sticks to battle back and get back in the ballgame," Schubert said. "The big inning is what's hurting us. Our pitchers have got to be able to shut it down after a couple of runs."

After Coonrod walked Casey Smith and Andy Lawrie to start the seventh, Moran came on to get the final three outs. Charles Parks forced Lawrie at second for the first out. Ryan Falknor then lined out to Moran, who doubled Parks off first.



## HOW THEY SCORED

### BELLEVUE SECOND

Ryan Falknor struck out. Josh Neslon walked and took second on a wild pitch. Chris Ray walked, and Anthony Montgomery singled in Nelson. Shane Strayer grounded to short, forcing Montgomery at second and scoring Ray. Strayer caught stealing. 2 runs, 1 hit.

### ROSS SECOND

Kyle Kusmer doubled to left-center, and Gary Rakes walked. Kusmer to third on wild pitch. Tyler Tooman singled to right to score Kusmer, with Rakes taking third and Tooman second on the throw. Graham Hogan bounced to the mound. Rakes scored on a balk by Montgomery. Tim Rakes struck out. 2 runs, 2 hits.

### ROSS THIRD

Shane Moran blooped a single to right, Bucky Byers bunted for a hit and Ryan Wagner singled to center. Kusmer followed with a two-run single to right. Gary Rakes was hit by a pitch, and Tooman followed with a two-run single to center. Ryan Shively bounced to third, Rakes and Tooman each advancing a base. Rakes scored when Nelson booted Hogan's grounder at shortstop. Brian Reinbolt ran for Hogan and went to second on a wild pitch.

Tim Rakes singled to center, scoring Tooman and Reinbolt, and took second on the throw to the plate. B.J. Brown came on to pitch for Montgomery. Eric Pasch ran for Rakes. Moran bounced to the mound. Byers grounded out to first, pitcher covering. 7 runs, 6 hits.

### BELLEVUE FOURTH

Charles Parks flied to center. Falknor singled. Nelson followed with a single and was out catcher to first baseman to third baseman to shortstop to second baseman when a throw to the plate held Falknor at third. Falknor scored on a passed ball. Ray grounded to second. 1 run, 2 hits.

### ROSS FOURTH

Wagner doubled to right-center. Kusmer grounded to second, moving Wagner to third. Wagner out catcher unassisted on Gary Rakes' squeeze bunt. Rakes stole second, and Tooman singled to right to score Rakes. Todd Rakes ran for Tooman. Shively singled, and Aaron Waggoner came on to pinch run for him. Reinbolt popped to the mound. 1 run, 3 hits.

### BELLEVUE FIFTH

Brown walked and took second on a passed ball. Strayer walked, and Bryan Coonrod came on to pitch for Brough. Baptista flied to center. Casey Smith walked to load the bases. Andy Lawrie singled in a

run, and Parks cleared the bases with a double to left-center.

Falknor grounded to second, moving Parks to third. Parks scored when Gary Rakes booted Nelson's grounder to second. Chris Ray grounded to second. 5 runs, 2 hits.

### ROSS SIXTH

Kusmer reached on Falknor's error at third base, advanced to second on Gary Rakes' sacrifice bunt and went to third on Tooman's ground out to second. Shively grounded to short, and Kusmer scored when Nelson threw wildly to first — Shively taking second. Shively scored on Reinbolt's single to center, with Reinbolt taking second on the throw home.

Tim Rakes singled in Reinbolt. Moran singled. Matt Patten came on to pitch. Moran forced at second for third out when second baseman Smith made a diving stop of Byers' grounder up the middle. 3 runs, 3 hits.



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## Fremont Ross at Sandusky with Ashland, Tiffin Columbian, Mansfield, Mansfield Madison and Sandusky in Division I.

# Little Giants lose in bottom of seventh

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross battled back from a 6-0 deficit on Wednesday at Perrysburg, but the Yellow Jackets broke a tie score in the bottom of the seventh for a 7-6 non-league victory.

Winning pitcher Rob Saver walked with one out in the Perrysburg seventh, went to second on a passed ball and scored on a single to left field by Matt Ferguson.

Bryan Coonrod, who came on in relief of Marc Naderer in the fourth inning, took the loss as Ross fell to 4-5 and Perrysburg improved to 3-6.

Kyle Kusmer had three of the Little Giants' eight hits and drove in three runs, but Ross left

### Prep Baseball Roundup

10 men on base. The Little Giants stranded six in the first four innings.

Jeff Hall's two-run homer in the last of the fourth gave Perrysburg a 6-0 lead, but Ross tied the score with two runs in the fifth and four in the sixth.

Kusmer had a run-scoring single, and Gary Rakes had an RBI groundout in the sixth.

In the sixth, Brian Reinbolt singled and Tim Rakes walked in front of Shane Moran's run-scoring double. Saver issued one of his eight walks to Bucky Byers to load the bases. Graham Hogan knocked in a run with a ground-

out and Kusmer capped the inning with a two-run single.

In other games:

Genoa .....18

Woodmore .....2

Genoa scored four runs in the first inning and went on to the Suburban Lakes League victory.

Joe Brossia, who drove in three runs, and Chad Buehler each had three hits for Genoa. Jason Ench scored four runs and stole three bases.

Northwood .....11

Gibsonburg .....1

Northwood snapped Gibsonburg's three-game winning streak as every starter collected

at least one hit.

The Rangers (5-3 and 2-0 in the SLL) took advantage of seven Gibsonburg errors and committed just one themselves.

Jeff Stallard struck out 10 in the complete-game victory, and Doug Miller took the loss.

Jay Morelock had two hits for Gibsonburg (3-5 and 1-1), including an RBI single in the first inning.

Eastwood .....12

Lakota .....0

Aaron Lawmick pitched a three-hitter with 11 strikeouts, and Eastwood knocked Lakota starter Darren Johnson out after two innings.

Jeff Opfer and Dave Lemmerbrock homered for the Eagles (3-6 and 1-1 in the SLL).

The Raiders are 3-7 and 0-2.

Old Fort .....11

Seneca East .....4

Dustin Bowersox had three hits and Nick Strausser two in the Midland Athletic League game for Old Fort.

Bowersox and Jeff Oakleaf drove in two runs apiece as the Stockaders (6-1) won for the third time in four league games.

Eric Hoover and Paul Schmidt each gave up three hits, with Schmidt pitching the last four innings for the victory.

# Ross splits with Ashland

News-Messenger reports

ASHLAND — The heavy-hitting of Shane Moran gave Fremont Ross a 3-1 victory in the first game of a doubleheader Saturday over Ashland.

Moran, who had three doubles in the game, scored the Little Giants first run and broke a 1-1 tie with a two-run double in the top of the seventh inning.

The Arrows managed to salvage the nightcap with a 5-4 victory in nine innings.

Eric Brough picked up the complete-game victory in the opener, striking out four with three walks.

Tyler Tooman started the Ross seventh with the second of his two hits, and Todd Rakes came on to run.

After Ryan Shively struck out and Brian Reinbolt grounded out to short, Rob Stotz came on to pinch hit for Tim Rakes. Stotz struck out but reached base on an error on the catcher. Moran then delivered.

In the second game, Ross

starter Matt Fox carried a 4-1 lead into the bottom of the sixth before tiring. Ashland scored three runs in the inning and the score stayed that way until the Arrows scored in the bottom of the ninth off Bryan Coonrod.

Fox worked 5 $\frac{2}{3}$  innings, allowing four runs on six hits with nine strikeouts and two walks.

Ashland (5-2) led 1-0 after four

innings, but the Little Giants (5-6) scored two runs in the fifth and two in the sixth.

In the fifth, Bucky Byers drove in a run with a fielder's choice and Kyle Kusmer walked with the bases loaded.

Moran, who walked three times in the second game, and Byers had run-scoring singles in the sixth.

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Dr. Young

# Halm homers in St. Joe's 5-3 win; Ross drops Clay 3-1

News-Messenger reports

Nick Halm went 2-for-2 with a home run and Doug Abdoo and Bobby Druckenmiller both added two hits Monday in Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic's 5-3 Midland Athletic League victory over Tiffin Calvert.

Halm smashed a two-run homer in the third inning in support of winning pitcher Dan Kalo, who went the distance and allowed five hits, four walks and struck out four. St. Joe is 10-0 and 3-0 in the M.A.L.

"He struggled a little bit earlier in the game, but in the last innings he did all right," St. Joe coach Rick Barbour said of Kalo. The Crimson Streaks, ranked fourth in Division IV in the inaugural state coaches poll, had nine hits and scored all of their runs in the first three innings.

Losing pitcher Bob Grathaus gave up all nine hits, walked one and struck out two for Calvert, 4-5.

In other games Monday:

**Ross.....3**  
**Clay.....1**

Ross scored single runs in the second, sixth and seventh innings to run its record to 6-6 and 2-1 in the Great Lakes League. Clay is 3-5 and 0-3 in the GLL.

Right-hander Shane Moran was the winning pitcher, going the distance and giving up five hits and one unearned run. Moran (2-1) struck out five and walked one.

"His performance was excellent," Ross coach Dan Fought said. "He kept them off balance with his curveball. They didn't make any real good contact at

## Baseball Roundup

any time. He was a real competitor on the mound."

Kyle Kusmer gave the Little Giants a 1-0 lead in the second when he scored on an error. Clay tied it in the bottom of the fifth, but Ross went up 2-1 when Moran scored on another error in the sixth.

The Little Giants scored an insurance run in the seventh, when Moran hit a two-out single to score Todd Rakes off loser Jim Murray.

"Murray is a pretty good pitcher," Fought said. "We had never beaten him on the jayvee or varsity level."

Ryan Wagner, Kusmer, Rakes and Ryan Shively all singled for the Little Giants.

**Genoa.....9**  
**Gibsonburg.....0**

Todd Pickered tossed a two-hitter as Genoa remained unbeaten in the Suburban Lakes League race.

Pickered (2-0) struck out four and walked three as the Comets improved to 9-2 and 4-0 in the league. Genoa is ranked ninth in Division III in the inaugural state coaches poll.

The Comets broke loose for six runs in the third inning off Gibsonburg loser Brian Riedmaier. Chad Buehler hit an RBI double. Jason Erbe and Jan Brossa both had RBI singles and Genoa scored two other runs in the inning on errors.

Nick Kaemming and Riedmaier both singled in the fourth for the only two hits for the Golden Bears, 3-7 and 1-3. Ried-

maier pitched three innings and allowed two earned runs on five hits and two walks, with three strikeouts.

**Otsego.....4**  
**Woodmore.....0**

Terry Tansel pitched a one-hitter, leading Otsego to the SLL win over the Wildcats.

Ryan Travis doubled in the first inning for Woodmore, 3-9 and 1-2 in the league. Tansel, a junior right-hander, struck out 14 and walked two for Otsego, 3-6 and 2-2.

"We just weren't making contact," Woodmore coach Bruce Hammersmith said. "He [Tansel] was just throwing hard and we weren't getting around on him."

Mike Cairns went 3½ innings and took the loss for Woodmore. Cairns allowed five hits, walked three and struck out two. Reliever Eric Fegley went 3½ innings and gave up one walk and struck out five.

Chad Treen hit a two-run homer in the fourth inning to lead the Knights.

**Margaretta.....8**  
**Clyde.....7**

Winning pitcher Kevin Lowery gave up two hits and struck out 12 in five innings to lead Margaretta to the Sandusky Bay Conference win. Lowery, who walked three, also hit a grand slam homer in the fifth inning.

Clyde (2-7) outlasted the Polar Bears 6-3 and scored five runs in the top of the seventh to make it close.

Nick Clevenger doubled and drove in three runs, Tony Oakleaf had two hits and Adam

Turner and Jim Tyrce had two and one RBI, respectively, for the Flyers.

**Huron.....9**  
**Oak Harbor.....6**

Bryant Whitcomb had three of Oak Harbor's nine hits as the Rockets dipped to 7-4 and 2-2 in the SBC with the loss.

Mike Lipsitrow and losing pitcher Brian Schultz both added two hits for Oak Harbor. Lipsitrow drove in three runs and Schultz added an RBI.

Huron had 12 hits and took advantage of five Oak Harbor errors.

**Old Fort.....11**  
**Bettsville.....0**

Jeff Miller homered and drove in two runs and Eric Hoover tossed a two-hitter as Old Fort improved to 9-2.

Hoover struck out 11 and

walked two for the Stockaders, who had 12 hits. Jeff Oakleaf doubled and drove in three runs. Hoover doubled in a run and Nick Strasser doubled and added three RBI for the winners.

**Lakota.....13**  
**Northwood.....7**

The Raiders scored six runs in the seventh inning to pull out the SLL win and improve to 4-7 and 1-2 in the league.

John Marshall had two hits and three RBI. Brad Heiserman drove in three runs and Brian Crawford added a double and a single for Lakota. Mark Adams also had a pair of singles for the

winners. Darren Johnson was the winning pitcher despite allowing 13 hits. Johnson went the distance and finished with nine strikeouts and three walks.

Brad Goeckerman went 2-for-3 with two RBI for Northwood, 6-4 and 2-1.



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## PREP BASEBALL

# Ross in thick of GLL race

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross crept over the .500 mark with a 15-5 victory over Fostoria Tuesday — the third for the Little Giants in four Great Lakes League games.

Ryan Wagner had three hits and scored three runs for Ross, with Bryan Coonrod pitching 4⅓ innings of relief for the win.

The Little Giants (7-6) are chasing Toledo Whitmer in the GLL standings.

"The kids are excited," Ross coach Dan Fought said. "They believe they're just as good as Whitmer."

"They believe that even if Whitmer doesn't lose, we'll do it at our place and share the title."

Ross is scheduled to play Whitmer next Tuesday at Alumni Field, but that game will be rescheduled because of the Little

## Roundup

Giants' Division I sectional tournament game against Tiffin Columbian that day in Sandusky.

Eric Brough walked seven Tuesday, helping Fostoria take a 4-0 lead. Coonrod limited the Redmen (6-5 and 0-3 in the GLL) to one run, two hits and two walks with seven strikeouts.

Ross trailed 5-2 after four innings, but the Little Giants scored eight runs in the fifth.

Wagner, Kyle Kusmer, who had three RBI, and Rob Stotz highlighted the Ross fifth with run-scoring doubles. The inning made a loser of Chris Clagg.

"We forced him to throw a lot of pitches early," Fought said. "Then we got a hold of him in the fourth to score two. We hit him hard."

Coonrod struck out four over the last two innings.

"He's pitched well in all of his outings whenever we've been on top," Fought said.

In one other game:

**Oak Harbor.....10**  
**Eastwood.....6**

Kevin Kersten had two hits and drove in two runs for Oak Harbor (8-4).

Levi Joseph added three run-scoring grounders as the Rockets won despite being out-hit 11-6.

"Any way we can take them, we'll take them," Oak Harbor coach Tim Laderach said.

Jeremy Tailford was the winning pitcher with relief help from Nathan Denman, who pitched the final two innings.

Eastwood falls to 3-7.

# Little Giants outlast Fliers

News-Messenger reports

A bases-loaded walk forced home the winning run in an 11-10 Fremont Ross victory over Clyde Thursday in a game that featured 18 hits and 12 errors.

Ross (8-7) and Clyde (2-8) each had leads in the non-league game before the Little Giants prevailed at Alumni Field.

In the seventh, Shane Moran walked with two outs and stole second. Nate Morrison walked Bucky Byers and hit Ryan Wagner with a pitch. Kyle Kusmer then walked to force in Moran.

The Little Giants scored five runs in the first inning and added three in the second after Clyde scored three in the top of the inning.

The Fliers made it 8-4 in the third and took a 10-8 lead with a six-run fourth, which included run-scoring singles by Adam Turner, Jim Tyree and Morrison and a sacrifice fly by Bill Dirlam.

Ross scored a run in the fourth and one in the fifth to tie it.

Moran had two hits, walked twice and scored four runs for Ross. Byers added three hits for the Little Giants.

Tyree had three hits for Clyde.

Gary Rakes was the winning pitcher in relief of Marc Naderer. Morrison was the loser in relief of Dale Dick.

In other games reported:

**Gibsonburg** ..... 9  
**Danbury** ..... 3

Gibsonburg played errorless ball in the non-league game and took advantage of five Danbury errors, improving to 4-8 behind the complete-game pitching of Scott Hilt.

Danbury (3-10) scored two runs in the top of the first, but the Golden Bears took the lead back with three runs in the bottom of the inning. The Bears added a run in the second and scored five in the third.

## Prep Baseball Roundup

Hilt walked five and struck out two.

Each team had eight hits, with Ryan Parker and Doug Miller collecting two apiece for Gibsonburg. One of Parker's hits was a double.

Miller and Mike Jividen each drove in two runs.

**Columbian** ..... 4  
**Bellevue** ..... 3

Columbian scored three runs in the bottom, of the seventh in the Northern Ohio League game.

Josh Nelson, who lost for the first time in five decisions, got the first two men out in the seventh. Aaron Ward followed with a solo home run. Following a walk and an infield single, Dave Eberly blooped a hit to right to tie the game.

Shawn Burgerderfer's single to right gave Columbian its fourth victory in 10 games and sent Bellevue to its fourth loss in 15.

The Tornados remained undefeated in three NOL games, while the Redmen lost for the first time in six league games.

Nelson struck out 10 and walked two.

Ed Baptista homered and doubled for Bellevue, which scored single runs in the third, fourth and fifth.

**Wynford** ..... 13  
**Old Fort** ..... 6

Wynford collected 15 hits, scoring four runs in the second inning, five in the fourth and four in the seventh of the non-league game.

Mark Middleton homered for Wynford (11-3), while Jeff Miller and Ryan Heilman homered for Old Fort (10-3).

Bryan Robles had three hits and scored two runs for the Stockaders. Miller drove in two runs and scored twice and Jeff Oakleaf also scored twice.

# Ross sets up key clash with Bedford

By **TIM HARMON**  
Staff writer

Fremont Ross goes from Friday's 4-1 Great Lakes League victory over Napoleon at Alumni Field into Monday's league encounter with Bedford, a team it is battling for second place with behind Toledo Whitmer.

The Little Giants (9-7) matched their league record with four wins and a loss this week.

"We gave Madison the game (on Wednesday), but we played well for the most part," Ross coach Dan Fought said. "We especially played well in the league games that are real important."

Shane Moran (3-1) scattered seven hits and used his curveball

## How they scored

### NAPOLEON THIRD

Ryan Fortner doubled to left, and advanced to third on a sacrifice bunt by Jeremy Desgranges. Fortner scored on C.J. Schlosser's squeeze bunt. Scott Bruhn flied to left. 1 run, 1 hit.

### ROSS THIRD

Rob Stotz doubled off the glove of third baseman Bruhn's glove. Graham Hogan bunted for a hit, with Stotz taking third. Stotz scored on Shane Moran's groundout to shortstop, and Hogan took second on the fielder's choice. Bucky Byers blooped a hit to right, moving Hogan to third. Byers stole second. Hogan scored on Ryan Wagner's groundout to shortstop, and Byers took third on the fielder's choice.

Kyle Kusmer grounded out to second. 2 runs, 3 hits.

### ROSS FOURTH

Gary Rakes doubled to left-center. Tyler Tooman lined to center. Rakes stole third and scored on a passed ball as Brian Reinbolt walked. Reinbolt stole second. Stotz struck out. Reinbolt went to third on a wild pitch. Hogan popped out to first. 1 run, 1 hit.

### ROSS FIFTH

Moran flied to right. Byers singled to center, Wagner singled to right and Kusmer singled to second. Rakes popped out to first. Byers scored when Tooman was hit by a pitch. Reinbolt's grounder to shortstop forced Kusmer at third. 1 run, 3 hits.

effectively to strike out eight.

"He's doing a good job right now with Bucky (Byers) calling pitches," Fought said.

Moran also induced the Wildcats into eight fly ball or pop fly outs.

"If you hit the ball in the air

here, it's going to be an out because of the dimensions," Fought said.

Napoleon (0-8 and 0-4) scored its run in the third inning on a squeeze bunt. Ross countered with two runs in the bottom of the inning and added single runs

in the fourth and fifth.

The Wildcats had seven baserunners the rest of the way but failed to score, and Kyle Fitzenreiter took the complete-game loss.

"We're not dissatisfied with the hitting," Napoleon coach Larry

Sasaki said. "If we hit the ball on the ground more, it might have been a different story."

The Little Giants scored two runs in the third on a pair of groundouts. In the fourth, Gary Rakes doubled, surprised the Wildcats by stealing third and scored on a passed ball.

"The kids get tentative and think about not making mistakes," Sasaki said. "You have to come to a point where you just play baseball."

Tyler Tooman was hit by a pitch, forcing home the Little Giants' final run in the fifth.

"We moved the runners," Fought said. "Offensively, we did the things we had to."



## High School

# Streaks tied for MAL lead; Ross 1 game back in GLL

News-Messenger reports

Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic stayed in a virtual tie with North Baltimore in the Midland Athletic League, while Fremont Ross remained a game off the lead in the Great Lakes League Monday.

St. Joe defeated Mohawk 9-7 on Monday, and Bedford topped Ross 4-2 at Alumni Field.

### St. Joe 9, Mohawk 7

The Crimson Streaks collected a season-high 17 hits and overcame 14 walks with errorless defense to improve to 12-2 and 5-1 in the MAL.

St. Joe never trailed after taking a 5-0 lead with a four-run second inning, but Kyle Kayden was called on to preserve the victory. Kayden came on to pitch with no outs and the tying runs on base in the seventh inning, and Mohawk did not score.

Kevin Banks pitched four innings for the victory, and Dave Tischler worked two innings before giving way to Kayden.

Kayden finished with three hits, and Nate Dray drove in two runs for the Streaks. Kayden and Mark Gillenwater each scored two runs.

Jason Karcher took the complete-game loss as Mohawk fell to 10-5 and 1-5.

### Bedford 4, Ross 2

Bedford broke a 1-1 tie with three runs in the fifth inning and kept a share of the GLL lead with Toledo Whitmer.

Ryan Wagner, who had two hits, scored both runs for Ross (9-8 and 4-2). Wagner came home on a double by Gary Rakes in the first inning and scored on a single by Tyler Tooman in the sixth.

Jeff Gray was the winning pitcher, with no walks and four strikeouts. Eric Brough, who walked four and struck out three, took the loss.

In other games...

the Royals won their 14th game in 16 outings while moving into a tie for the SLL lead with Genoa at 6-1.

Kingery walked two and struck out eight. Mike Music took the loss despite surrendered only two earned runs.

Woodmore (5-10 and 3-3) committed six errors.

### Bellevue 16, Willard 0

Chris Ray hammered two home runs and Ryan Falknor homered and doubled for the Redmen in the Northern Ohio League game.

Winning pitcher Ed Baptista pitched a two-hitter, striking out 12 and walking one.

Casey Smith doubled and single twice for Bellevue (12-4 and 6-1) and scored four runs.

Falknor's homer was a three-run shot in the first inning. Ray hit a two-run homer in Bellevue's seven-run third and added a solo shot in the fourth.

### Perkins 6, Oak Harbor 5

The Pirates built a 6-2 lead in the first four innings and held on for the Sandusky Bay Conference victory.

Tim Obergfell had a two-run single in Perkins' three-run second inning as the Pirates grabbed a 4-0 lead.

Darren DuPree had two hits for the Rockets, 10-5 and 4-3 in the SBC.

### Clyde 8, Port Clinton 4

The Fliers scored four runs in the bottom of the second inning and held a 6-2 lead after four innings of the SBC game.

Dale Dick was the winning pitcher, going six innings. He allowed five hits, struck out three and walked three. Tony Oakleaf pitched the seventh.

Oakleaf, Jim Tyree and Nick Clevenger had two hits apiece for the Fliers (3-10 and 1-6). One of Clevenger's hits was a home run.

Nate Morrison, Wade Conner and Oakleaf had RBI singles in the Clyde

**Maumee .....10**

**Ross .....6**

Maumee pitcher Dave O'Neill held Ross to two hits through six innings as the Panthers improved to 15-3 and the Little Giants fell to 9-10.

Ross scored all its runs in the seventh, collecting five hits in the inning including Ryan Wagner's two-run double.

Rob Stotz finished with two hits for the Little Giants.

News-Messenger reports

Jeff Mosser was 4-for-4 and drove in four runs and Doug Abdoo had four hits with one RBI Monday, leading Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic to a 15-9 high school baseball victory over Cardinal Stritch.

Nate Dray went 3-for-3 with two RBI for the Crimson Streaks, 15-3. Winning pitcher Dan Kalo earned the win in relief of Dave Tischler.

Kalo (4-0), a sophomore, pitched 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> innings and gave up one run on six hits, with two strikeouts and one walk.

Stritch, which was outhit 16-14 and committed five errors, fell to 9-8.

In other games:

**Clay .....11**  
**Ross.....5**

Clay broke loose for seven runs in the first inning and four in the second for an 11-0 lead in the Great Lakes League win.

The Little Giants, who outhit the Eagles 8-7, committed nine errors. Ross is 10-11 and 5-3 in the league race.

Losing pitcher Shane Moran (3-3) pitched all seven innings and gave up one earned run on seven hits with five strikeouts and two walks.

Clay had 10 unearned runs, including all seven in the first inning. Ross had five errors in the inning.

The Little Giants' Ryan Wagn-

## Baseball Roundup

er, the leading hitter in the GLL, doubled twice, drove in two runs and scored a run. Gary Rakes also singled twice for Ross.

Clay improved to 5-15 and 2-6 in the league.

**Elmwood.....15**

**Gibsonburg .....0**

Nick Kaemming, Scott Hilt and Mike Jividen had singles for the only hits for visiting Gibsonburg, 6-12 and 2-7 in the Suburban Lakes League.

Winning pitcher Brian Kingery struck out four and walked none for the Royals, 16-2 and 9-1.

Losing pitcher Ryan Riedmaier allowed all 15 runs (two earned), on seven hits in three innings of work.

**Huron .....13**

**Clyde .....3**

At Clyde, the Fliers mustered one hit against Huron pitcher Chris Nightengale in falling to 4-13 and 1-11 in the Sandusky Bay Conference.

John Murray singled in the third inning for Clyde. Nightengale had 11 strikeouts and seven walks.

Dale Dick pitched 6<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> innings and took the loss. He allowed 12 runs (five earned) on six hits, with five strikeouts and 13 walks.

The Tigers put the game away in the seventh, scoring seven runs with two outs.

# Whitmer moves past Ross, 4-2

News-Messenger reports

Toledo Whitmer scored a run in the first inning and one in the second and went on to defeat Fremont Ross 4-2 in a Great Lakes League game Monday at Alumni Field.

Ross (10-12 and 5-4) trailed 4-0 entering its seventh.

The Little Giants scored two runs in the seventh, when Ryan Wagner walked with the bases loaded and Tim Rakes scored, and Shane Moran scored on a sacrifice fly by Kyle Kusmer.

Moran, who had two of the Little Giants' five hits, pitched a complete game and took the loss.

Tony Blankenship pitched 6 $\frac{1}{3}$  innings, and Dan Speegel got the

## Prep Baseball Roundup

last two outs as Whitmer improved to 19-4 and 7-2.

Ross had the tying runs on base when the game ended.

In other games:

St. Joe .....12

Danbury .....3

Nick Halm drove in four runs to back Dan Kalo, who pitched a complete game with seven strikeouts and two walks.

Halm had a two run double in St. Joe's six-run third inning and drove in two runs with a single in SJCC's five-run fifth.

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See ST. JOE, B2

# Ross keeps Bedford from clinching GLL

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross used 14 hits to overcome a 6-0 deficit and defeat Bedford 10-7 in a Great Lakes League game Tuesday in Michigan.

"That's three games worth of hits," Ross coach Dan Fought said.

Shane Moran and Gary Rakes had three hits apiece, with Bucky Byers and Brian Reinbolt each collecting two.

Byers drove in three runs, Moran and Ryan Wagner two and Tim Rakes scored three times for the Little Giants.

Ross (11-12 and 6-4) scored two runs in the third inning, two in the fourth, four in the fifth and one in both the sixth and seventh.

Eric Brough was the winning pitcher, but Shane Moran came on in relief twice.

Moran got Steve Schwartz for the last out in the sixth after giving up a run-scoring single to Chuck Stoner.

Brough came back to start the seventh, but Moran returned to get Chad Stock to ground into a fielder's choice for the final out as Stock represented the tying run.

"They (Schwartz and Stock) had hit Brough hard," Fought said.

Casey Burmeister took the loss in relief of Jeff Gray as

## Baseball Roundup

Bedford fell to 16-6 and 10-2.

The Mules can do no worse than share the GLL championship. If Whitmer loses another league game, Bedford will win the title outright.

In other games:

**Margaretta.....8**

**Oak Harbor.....1**

Steve Apple pitched a no-hitter with seven strikeouts and six walks, and Kevin Lowery hit his third homer in two days for Margaretta.

The Polar Bears improved to 9-9 and 6-5 in the Sandusky Bay Conference.

Oak Harbor (14-8 and 6-5) scored an unearned run in the third inning.

**Genoa .....16**

**Gibsonburg .....0**

Genoa scored all its runs in four innings of the five-inning Suburban Lakes league game.

Jason Emch had two hits and scored four runs for the Comets (19-5 and 9-3).

Winning pitcher Brian Leu allowed one hit, Nick Kaeming's two-out single in the first.

Matt Liskai took the loss as the Golden Bears fell to 6-14 and 2-11



# Moran leads Little Giants

News-Messenger reports

Shane Moran led off the home half of the first inning with the first homer by a Fremont Ross Little Giant at Alumni Field, and Ross went on to a 7-6 Great Lakes League victory over Fostoria Friday.

Moran (4-4) struck out four and did not walk a batter while overcoming home runs by Fostoria's Chris Clagg and Casey Yerkes.

There have been just four homers hit at Alumni Field this season, its first. The other belongs to Tiffin Columbian's Kory Winkler in the first Ross home game of the year.

Ryan Wagner had two hits for Ross, and Brian Reinbolt drove in two runs. Moran and Gary Rakes each scored twice.

The Little Giants evened their record at 12-12 and upped their GLL mark to 7-4. The final game of the season is Tuesday at Napoleon.

Ryan Drenning took the loss for Fostoria (10-11 and 3-8).

In other games:

**Clyde** .....3

**Margaretta**.....2

Clyde broke a 2-2 tie with a run in the bottom of the fifth in the Sandusky Bay Conference game.

John Murray led off the Clyde fifth with a single, moved to second on an error and took third on

## Baseball Roundup

a bunt base hit by Ryan Cook. Wade Conner then singled to score Murray.

Murray and Conner had two hits apiece for the Fliers (5-17 and 2-12).

Both Margaretta runs were unearned off Clyde starter and winner Tony Oakleaf, who struck out one and walked two.

Chris Crumm took the loss in relief of Shawn Ruthsatz.

Kevin Lowery and Shawn Buick each had two hits for the Polar Bears (11-10 and 7-7).

**Woodmore** .....11

**Lakota** .....1

Eric Fegley had three hits, including a double and a triple, drove in three runs and scored four times for Woodmore in the Suburban Lakes League game.

Woodmore scored in every inning but the third and fifth, and Ryan Travis went the distance with eight strikeouts and four walks.

The Wildcats (8-14 and 6-6) committed one error, while Lakota (7-15 and 3-9) made six.

Brad Heiserman had two hits, including a double, for the Raiders. Heiserman's double drove in Craig Miller with Lakota's run in the sixth.

Bill Beaston lasted just 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> innings and took the loss.

# Brough pitches no-hitter

## Ross left-hander stops Napoleon

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross junior Eric Brough said the Little Giants came together well in their last baseball game of the spring. No-hitters can do that.

Brough held Napoleon hitless in a 4-0 Great Lakes League victory over the Wildcats Tuesday.

### Baseball

"About the fifth inning, my stomach started to turn," the left-hander said after raising his record to 6-2 and lowering his ERA to 1.97. "I got nervous."

Brough faced 23 batters and retired

the last 10 men he faced.

"At the beginning of the game, I thought I was a little wild," he said. "As the game went along, Bucky (Byers) my catcher coached me through it."



See ROSS, B2 BROUGH

# Ross sophomore tosses no-hitter

Continued From B1

"He always keeps me calm when I get mad at myself."

Said Ross coach Dan Fought: "Bucky is good at that."

Ross (13-12 and 8-4) scored two runs in the second on Tim Rakes' double. Rakes added a run-scoring single in the fourth and scored on a single by Byers.

Napoleon (3-19 and 0-11) got a runner to second base in the second inning after a walk, Brough picked a runner off first in the third after a walk and gave up a two-out walk in the fourth.

"This was the first game I didn't have one bad inning," Brough said. "In the last inning, I had really good stuff."

Brough struck out six.

"He mixed it up with the fastball and change-up," Fought said. "I don't think he threw many curveballs. He just changed speeds."

"He was around the plate all night and wild when he wanted to be. He had total command of the game."

Of course, the defense contributed.

Shortstop Kyle Kusmer made a play on a ball that glanced off Brough in the second.

Second baseman Gary Rakes leaped to stab a liner for the first out in the fifth then went far to his right to make the play on a groundball.

Center Fielder Brian Reinbolt helped preserve the no-hitter with one out in the seventh when he raced to catch a drive in right-center.

The next batter, losing pitcher Scott Bruhn, just missed dropping a hit inside the line in right field before grounding out to short.

Ryan Wagner had two hits for Ross, finishing the season with a .429 batting average.

The Little Giants won seven more games than last year, including six more in the GLL.

"It was an enjoyable year," Fought said. "I think the kids exceeded a lot of people's expectations."

In one other game:

# High School

## All-GLL Teams

Following is the 1995 All-Great Lakes Leagues baseball team as selected by league coaches with grade, position and pertinent statistics:

### FIRST TEAM

Ken Lesner, Northview, Sr., P, 5-5, 1.77; Dan Rober, Whitmer, Sr., P, 7-2, 1.99; Todd Calcamuggio, Whitmer, Jr., C, .360; Brad Wagner, Whitmer, Jr., 1B, .333; John Blaze, Whitmer, Sr., 2B, .325; Steve Schwartz, Bedford, Sr., SS, .455; Chad Stock, Bedford, Sr., 3B, .400; Tony Blankenship, Whitmer, Sr., Utility, .305; Jim Murray, Clay, Sr., DH, .303; Ryan Wagner, Ross, Sr., OF, .429; Chuck Stoner, Bedford, Sr., OF, .400; Joe Kopke, Whitmer, Jr., OF, .339.

### SECOND TEAM

Jeff Gray, Bedford, Sr., P, 4-1, 2.72; Mike Pirriwitz, Clay, Jr., P, 3-5, 1.75; Kurt Schleif, Northview, Sr., C, .246; Ryan Hugueley, Clay, So., 1B, .316; Brian Anderson, Northview, Sr., 2B, .338; Billy Nye, Fostoria, Jr., SS, .466; Casey Yerkes, Fostoria, Jr., 3B, .414; Kyle Kusmer, Ross, Sr., Utility, .315; Chad Collins, Northview, Sr., DH, .311; Shane Moran, Ross, Sr., OF, .338; Brandon Canterbury, Fostoria, Jr., OF, .338; Brian Ruckman, Northview, Sr., OF, .342.

Player of the year: Tony Blankenship, Whitmer

Coach of the Year: Tim Larson, Bedford

### HONORABLE MENTION

Bucky Byers, Bryan Coonrod, Eric Brough, Gary Rakes, Ross; Rick Amburski, Bob McGee, Eric George, Clay; Jamie Emerson, Jeff Ficks, Casey Burmeister, Rich Sanford, Bedford; Matt Steegle, Brandon Hartsell, Jamie Durham, Whitmer; Walt Talley, Mike Headley, Fostoria; John Moss, Northview; Ryan Glantz, Ryan Hines, Napoleon.