

Ross claims sectional title

Giants top Ashland 4-0

News-Messenger reports

BUCYRUS — Courtney Abbott fired a six-hitter and Fremont Ross played error-free softball and beat Ashland 4-0 in a Division I sectional championship game at Bucyrus High School.

The Little Giants collected just five hits but used alert baserunning and sound defense to advance to the district semifinal May 17 at Tiffin University.

“We played really well,” said Ross coach Mike Gilbert. “We executed bunts, everybody contributed you can’t point your finger at just one individual.”

“It’s been that way all year.”

Jodi Fick had two hits to lead Ross (16-2). Jenn Mielke, Ainsley Watkins and Abby Gilbert had the other hits for the Little Giants. Abbott struck out 11 and walked two to improve to 10-2 on the mound.

The Little Giants opened

Saturday	
Ross	4
Ashland	0
Today	
Ross at Whitmer, 4:30 p.m.	

the scoring in the second, as Fick led off with a single, took second on an error, went to third on a wild pitch and scored on Gilbert’s squeeze bunt. In the fourth, Watkins doubled and scored on a squeeze bunt by Ashleigh Horn.

Ashland threatened in the bottom of the fifth. With two

outs and runners on first and second, the batter hit a sharp ground ball that took a bad hop and skipped away from second baseman Emily Bibler. But Bibler recovered and threw home to Gilbert in time to nail the runner at the plate.

“That was the key play, it kind of broke their backs,” said coach Gilbert. “If they score it’s 2-1, and a different game. Emily made a great play and Abby did a nice job of blocking the plate.”

The Little Giants put the game away in the top of the

Softball

seventh. Allyson Hickey walked and Bibler sacrificed her to second. Mielke singled Hickey home and scored on a three-base throwing error.

Ross travels to Toledo Whitmer for a Great Lakes League game today.

In other sectional finals Saturday, Lakota beat Hopewell-Loudon in a wild 10-inning game and Old Fort beat Carey 6-3. In a regular season doubleheader, Port Clinton beat St. Joe 6-4 and 5-4.