

PREP SOFTBALL PREVIEW

Ross blends defense, offense

News-Messenger reports

High school softball starts, and often ends, with the pitcher. Fremont Ross has had a setback in that department already.

Jessica Rollins, a junior who won five games as the No. 2 pitcher behind Kim Crawford last year, will miss the first month of the season after having foot surgery.

Erin Lease, 10-7 for Ross junior varsity a year ago, is filling in.

"Our success will depend on how well we do offensively as Erin gets her bearings on varsity," Ross coach Cheryl Coressel said. "She will have to develop and learn quickly."

Coressel said the Little Giants are bolstered by an experienced defense and a strong offense.

The Little Giants returns four players who batted over .300 from a team that finished 18-7 last spring, including third baseman Belinda Sandoval who batted .421.

Center fielder Holly Pelfrey (.380), first baseman Tricia Busdeker (.364) and sophomore shortstop Dawn Zerman (.329) lead the offense.

Catcher Natalie Robbins, second baseman Andi Oprie and outfielders Beth Sanford and Donna Steinberger also return.

Newcomers include infielder Casey Schepflin and utility players Ragan Rusch and Adrienne Brown.

Ross, Lease win opener

News-Messenger reports

Erin Lease allowed one hit, and Belinda Sandoval had three hits and three RBI as Fremont Ross beat Sandusky 16-1 Wednesday.

Lease struck out nine and walked four in five innings.

Softball

Donna Steinberger, who also drove in three runs, and Dawn Zerman each scored four runs.

Softball

Ross 16, Sandusky 1

Sandusky	100	00	—	1	1	0
Ross	534	31	—	16	9	0

WP: Erin Lease, LP: Michelle Lochotski.

3B: McIntire (S), Belinda Sandoval (R), Dawn Zerman (R). 2B: Sandoval (R).

Records: Ross 1-0, Sandusky 0-1.

Ross errors in softball loss

News-Messenger reports

TIFFIN — Columbian took advantage of nine Fremont Ross errors for a 15-9 high school softball victory.

Columbian never trailed Thursday after scoring five runs in the first inning.

"Erin (Lease) walked 13 and hit a batter but when the defense doesn't play behind you, it's hard to stay in the game," Ross coach Cheryl Coressel said. "We had a good offensive game."

Donna Steinberger had two doubles among three hits for Ross, 1-1, Dawn Zerman batted in two runs and Natalie Robbins scored three times.

Fliers rally past Little Giants in seventh

News-Messenger reports

Clyde scored twice in the bottom of the seventh inning to nip Fremont Ross 4-3 Thursday.

Ross held a 3-2 lead when Clyde rallied.

Softball Roundup

Pinch-hitter Paula Mounts walked to start the Clyde seventh, with Kelly Emery entering to run. Maryjo Hoffman's single sent Emery to third, and Jessica Swartz came to bat.

Hoffman attempted to steal

second and when the throw was cut off, Emery executed a steal of home to tie the game. Hoffman continued to third on the play and scored on a throwing error.

Kim Lawrence had two hits for Clyde while Donna Steinberger, Tricia Busdeker and Holly Pelfrey had two hits apiece for Ross.

In other games:

Oak Harbor 9, St. Joe 2

The Rockets scored a run in the bottom of the fourth to break a 2-2 tie and added three runs in both the fifth and sixth.

Dawn Gladieux doubled and singled for Oak Harbor. Cory Bruchs had two hits for St. Joe.

Woodmore 10, New Riegel 0

Angie Fegley pitched a one-hitter, striking out 12 with one walk.


Fegley also doubled and singled, while Karen Roby and Nara

Rupa added two hits apiece.

Margaretta 10, Bellevue 3

The Polar Bears scored seven runs in the top of the seventh to erase a 3-3 tie.

Mandi Pooch, Farah Lowery and Tera Spurlock had two hits apiece for Margaretta.

<p>Fast relief for your Heel Pain</p> 	<p>All foot and ankle problems treated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Bunions, corns, calluses ➤ Ankle injuries, sports medicine
--	---

Bellevue 7-1, Ross 6-5

After Bellevue scored a run in the bottom of the ninth to win the opener, Casey Schepflin had two hits as Ross won the nightcap.

The Little Giants, 2-3, lost the first game despite 12 strikeouts by Jessica Rollins and Holly Pelfrey's three hits.

Andrea Snyder got the win in both games for the Redmen, 7-3.

Ross girls upset Northview

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross upset Great Lakes League favorite Northview 14-2 Monday afternoon to highlight are high school softball games.

Ross winning pitcher Jessica Rollins limited the Wildcats to four hits while striking out six and walking four.

Holly Pelfrey and Natalie Robbins both homered, doubled and singled for the Little Giants (3-3). Pelfrey drove in four runs and Robbins three. Dawn Zerman added three singles for Ross.

Ross erases 8-1 deficit

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross overcame a seven-run deficit for a 9-8 Great Lakes League victory over Bedford Tuesday.

Ross 4-3 and 2-0 in the GLL, scored two runs in the fifth inning, three in the sixth and three in the seventh.

In the seventh, the Little Giants loaded the bases on a walk and two bunts. Dawn Zerman, who had two hits, drove in one run with a sacrifice fly and Donna Steinberger added a run-scoring single.

Softball Roundup

Tricia Busdeker, who had two hits and three RBI, then followed with a single. Pinch runner Kristen Farrell scored when Bedford's center fielder failed to field Busdeker's hit cleanly.

Jessica Rollins pitched two innings in relief of Erin Lease for the victory.

A home run by Natalie Robbins was one of eight Ross hits.

In other games:

Woodmore 20, Bettsville 3

Angie Fegley had three hits, including a home run and a double, drove in six runs and scored three times as Woodmore improved to 7-2. Kelli Harman added three of the Wildcats' 18 hits.

Kate Hinrichs struck out seven and walked two while not allowing a hit in four innings, and Rupa Narra finished off a five-inning no-hitter.

Margaretta 5, Clyde 2

Mandy Pooch had two hits and the Polar Bears took advantage of eight walks off losing pitcher Deniel Murphy.

Alinor Stephens pitched a complete game and did not walk a batter.

Pelfrey leads Little Giants to 10-7 win

News-Messenger reports

One day after needing a comeback to win, Fremont Ross scored early and often Wednesday in a 10-7 victory over Toledo Central Catholic.

"We took their pitcher out of the game early," Ross coach Cheryl Coressel said. "We hit her hard; it was nice to see."

Holly Pelfrey had four hits, drove in three runs and scored three times for Ross, 5-3.

Softball Roundup

Dawn Zerman, who had three hits, and Donna Steinberger also scored three runs apiece.

Jessica Rollins overcame six walks to pick up the victory.

In other games:

St. Mary's 9, Clyde 8

St. Mary's scored two runs in the bottom of the seventh after Clyde scored two in the top of the inning. The tying run for the

Panthers scored on a passed ball.

Kim Lawrence, Mary Jo Hoffman and Kelly Hoffman had two hits apiece for the Fliers, 3-5 and 0-3.

Woodmore 3, Genoa 1

Woodmore scored two runs in the bottom of the fifth inning after Genoa tied the game at 1-1 with a run in the top of the inning.

Angie Fegley pitched a four-hitter, while Genoa's Melissa

Cuthbertson allowed three hits. **Edison 13, Oak Harbor 3**

Edison scored 11 runs in the third inning and outhit Oak Harbor 13-4.

The Rockets lost for the second time in seven games.

Margaretta 7, Port Clinton 1

Mandy Pooch had three hits, and Sarah Lowery pitched a two-hitter for Margaretta.

Lowery and Kelly Koch added two hits apiece for the Polar Bears, 5-1.

Ross blanks PC

News-Messenger reports

Erin Lease pitched a two-hitter and Fremont Ross defeated Port Clinton 6-0 Thursday at Rodger Young Park.

Ross, 6-3, played errorless ball behind Lease.

Donna

Steinberger

had three of the Little Giants' 12 hits. Steinberger also stole two bases and scored two runs.

Dawn Zerman and Natalie Robbins had triples for Ross, and Holly Pelfrey added a double.

Port Clinton lost for the sixth time in seven games.

In other games:

Genoa 21, St. Joe 6

St. Joe committed 13 errors and lost for the sixth time without a victory.

Genoa, 3-5, scored 13 runs in the fourth inning.

Allison Bauer drove in two runs for the Crimson Streaks.

Woodmore 15, St. Wendelin 0

Kate Hinrichs pitched a two-hitter with eight strikeouts and three walks, and Angie Fegley had three hits for Woodmore.



FREMONT ROSS second baseman Andi Opre throws to first to complete a double play after Keysia Sherred of

Port Clinton was forced out during the Little Giants' 6-0 win over the Redskins Thursday at Rodger Young Park.

News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

Ross trips Fostoria

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross built an 8-1 lead after three innings before holding on for an 11-7 high school girls softball victory Friday.

The Great Lakes league win raised the Little Giants' record to 7-3 and 3-0 in league play. Fostoria is 2-5 and winless in two GLL games.

Tricia Busdeker tripled and doubled, Belinda Sandoval tripled and Holly Pelfrey had two hits for Ross.

Bobbi Hannigan had two triples for Fostoria.

In another game:

Softball Roundup

Clyde 9, Port Clinton 7

Four players had two hits apiece in the Fliers' 12-hit attack. Mary Jo Hotlman doubled twice and Angie Carroll once.

After a scoreless first inning, Clyde took a 3-0 lead but fell behind 5-4 when Port Clinton scored three times in the top of the fourth. The Redskins still held a 7-5 lead until the Fliers pushed across a pair of runs in both the fifth and sixth innings.

Little Giants win seventh straight game

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross won its seventh straight game Saturday, defeating Norwalk 7-4 at Rodger Young Park.

Ross, 8-3, trailed 4-3 when it scored four runs in the fifth inning.

Tricia Busdeker had a run-scoring bunt in the inning, Casey Schepflin drove in two runs with a single and Dawn Zerman sin-

Softball Roundup

gled in the final run of the inning.

Busdeker finished with three hits and two RBI.

Jessica Rollins got the win despite walking five and hitting three batters.

In other games:

Woodmore 3, Northwood 1

Angie Fegley struck out the first nine batters she faced and

finished with 16 strikeouts and a two-hitter for the Wildcats, 10-2.

Fegley also had the lone hit for Woodmore, which scored all its runs in the fifth inning.

Oak Harbor 9, St. Wendelin 2

Nancy Applehans had three hits and scored three runs for Oak Harbor, 7-2, while Sara Moore drove in three runs.

Winning pitcher Erin Radsick and Jenny Okorowski combined on a five-hitter.

Ross runs win streak to eight

News-Messenger reports

The Fremont Ross winning streak reached eight games Monday after the Little Giants defeated Bowling Green 7-2 at Rodger Young Park.

Ross, 9-3, got three of its nine hits from Dawn Zerman, who also scored two runs.

Erin lease got the victory, allowing three hits, striking out three and overcoming six walks as the Little Giants played errorless in the field behind her.

"I'm hoping we cut down the walks by the end of the week," Ross coach Cheryl Coressel said. "We've got some big games coming up."

Ross plays Great Lakes League foe Napoleon today at Rodger Young, travels to Woodmore on Thursday and hosts Toledo Whitmer in a league game Friday.

The Little Giants play in the Division I sectional Saturday at Ashland.

In other games:

Softball Roundup

Clyde 24, Perkins 4

Clyde scored 12 runs in the third inning and outhit Perkins 16-2.

Angie Carroll, Paula Mounts and Sandy Nicely each had a home run for the Fliers, 4-5 and 2-3 in the Sandusky Bay Conference.

Clyde's Kelly Emery and Kim Lawrence each had three hits and drove in four runs apiece.

Woodmore 10, Otsego 0

Michelle Baker had three hits, and Angie Fegley pitched a three-hitter with 14 strikeouts.

Woodmore has won nine straight games and is now 11-2.

Oak Harbor 14, Port Clinton 1

Jamie Seeger and Chelle LaBounty had two hits apiece to lead Oak Harbor, 8-2 and 3-2 in the SBC.

Jessica Sanchez singled in the sixth inning for the only hit off Oak Harbor pitcher Jenny Okowski, who struck out 12.

Softball

Rupa Narra added a pair of hits for the Wildcats. Fizz doubled and singled twice for TCC.

In other games:

Ross 7, Napoleon 2

Fremont Ross won its 10th game against three losses and remained undefeated in four Great Lakes League games.

Winning pitcher Jessica Rollins had 10 strikeouts and did not walk a batter.

Andy Oprie and Jamie Hinkle had two hits apiece for Ross. Hinkle drove in two runs. Tricia

Busdeker tripled for the Little Giants.

Old Fort 15, Port Clinton 11

The Stockaders (7-2) scored nine runs in the bottom of the first inning and then cruised to the win.

Deanna Schubach was the winning pitcher. Tonya Hoover doubled for Old Fort.

Jessica Sanchez homered for Port Clinton (1-10).

Bettsville 9, Danbury 8

The Bobcats pushed across six runs in the bottom of the second and then held on for the win.

Tracie Lynch was the winning pitcher.

Pelfrey knocks in winning run as Ross wins 10th straight

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross has won 10 straight games, and Holly Pelfrey has been the Little Giants' hottest hitter.

Friday, Pelfrey knocked in Casey Scheplin with the winning run as Ross edged Toledo Whitmer 11-10 in a Great Lakes League game at Rodger Young Park.

Softball Roundup

The Little Giants, 11-3 and undefeated in six GLL games, trailed 10-9 before scoring twice in the bottom of the seventh inning.

After Andi Oprie and Schepflin walked in the seventh and moved up a base on a wild pitch by Whitmer reliever Jill Lieske, an error scored one run and Pelfrey followed with her hit.

Jessica Rollins got the victory as Whitmer committed five errors and starting pitcher Becky Thatcher walked 11 batters.

In one other game:

Margaretta 4, Oak Harbor 2

Sarah Lowery pitched a one-hitter in Margaretta's Sandusky Bay Conference victory.

Lowery had a no-hitter through 6 1/3 innings but Nancy Applehans' two-run single for Oak Harbor spoiled the no-hit bid and the shutout.

Lowery struck out 11 and walked just one.

Losing pitcher Jenny Okorowski tossed a two-hitter with four walks and six strikeouts.

Little Giants' winning streak continues

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross won its 11th straight game Tuesday, defeating Sylvania Northview 11-2.

The Little Giants are undefeated in six Great Lakes League games. Belinda Sandoval, Natalie Robbins and Jaime Hinkle each drove in two runs for Ross, 12-3.

Softball Roundup

Jessica Rollins pitched a complete game for the victory, walking one and striking out two.

In other games:

Ottawa Hills 15, St. Joe 2

Two Ottawa Hills pitchers combined on a no-hitter, and the Green Bears collected 13 hits.

St. Joe, winless in 13 games, committed six errors.

Bettsville JV 24, North Baltimore 15

The Bobcats played mostly freshmen against North Baltimore, which is playing only a junior varsity schedule this year.

Bettsville collected 11 hits and Hope Stickney pitched the victory.

Rollins' hit keeps Ross rolling

News-Messenger reports

Jessica Rollins used her fifth at bat this season to drive in two runs and give Fremont Ross its 12th straight victory, an 11-10 triumph Wednesday over Maumee at Rodger Young Park.

Rollins drove a pitch over the Maumee left fielder's head in the bottom of the seventh inning as Ross overcame a 10-9 deficit.

The Little Giants' top pitcher, Rollins missed part of the season with a foot injury.

Ross, 13-3, play Great Lakes League foe Oregon Clay today. Both teams are undefeated in league play.

Donna Steinberger had three hits and drove in two runs against Maumee, 5-11, while Dawn Zerman scored four runs

Softball Roundup

and stole three bases.

The Panthers took a 10-7 lead in the fifth as Ross committed five errors in their seven-run inning.

Erin Lease was the winning pitcher, striking out seven and overcoming four walks and a hit batsmen.

In other games reported:

Woodmore 11, Eastwood 3

Rupa Narra, Kelli Harman and Mariah Fennewald had two hits apiece and winning pitcher Angie Fegley struck out 10.

The Wildcats won their 14th game against three losses.

Arlington 17, Bettsville 8

Kelly Olmstead homered among two hits, but Arlington outhit Bettsville 18-8.

Arlington, 1-6, scored six runs in the first inning. The Bobcats, 3-10, scored four in the sixth and four in the seventh.

Oak Harbor 6, Huron 5

Erin Radsick earned her first varsity softball victory in the Rockets' Sandusky Bay Conference victory.

Radsick, a freshman, pitched in relief of Jenny Okorowski with one out in the fourth inning and held the Tigers scoreless the rest of the way. She allowed one hit, struck out seven and walked two.

Oak Harbor, 11-4 and 5-3, broke a 5-5 tie in the bottom of the sixth when Ellyn Vreeland scored on a bases-loaded walk to Chelle LaBounty.

Nancy Appelhans had three hits for the Rockets.

Ross wins 13th straight

■ First in GLL:

Ross edged Clay 6-4 in a 9-inning league showdown.

By BOB MARKER
Sports Editor

OREGON — Fremont Ross scored twice in the top of the ninth inning to defeat Oregon Clay 6-4 in a game that pitted undefeated Great Lakes League softball teams.

Ross, winner of 13 straight, is undefeated in seven league games. Clay, 11-4, is a game behind at 6-1.

Tricia Busdeker slid in under a tag following a single to right field by Belinda Sandoval to put

Ross up 5-4 in **Softball** the ninth. Sandoval later scored on a single by Jamie Hinkle.

The Little Giants led 3-0 going into the bottom of the fourth but a pair of dropped fly balls buffeted around by a strong westerly wind led to four unearned runs for Clay in the bottom of the inning. All of the runs scored after two outs.

"This is the type of team," Ross coach Cheryl Coressel said, "where if someone is down, somebody else is there to pick them up."

Ironically, Holly Pelfrey and Donna Steinberger picked themselves up after each dropped fly balls in Clay's fourth inning before Little Giants cut the Eagles' lead down with double plays in the last two innings.

The Eagles' Tonya Rollo singled to center to start the Clay rally. She stole second and remained there as Ross pitcher Jessica Rollins recorded her third strikeout. Rollo scored when Pelfrey dropped Megan Revenaugh's liner.

With runners at first and second following a walk, another run scored when Steinberger dropped Cindy Menden's fly. Clay took the lead on Michelle Schenkel's single.

"Holly and Donna had a rough inning," Coressel said, "but they are the ones who gave us the go-ahead runs. They came back and made up for what happened and then our defense backed them."

Ross pulled even in the sixth. After two outs, Steinberger had an infield single and Pelfrey doubled to the left field corner to score Steinberger.

Amy Marlow walked with one out in the Clay eighth, and Carly Page was thrown out at first by Ross third baseman Belinda Sandoval on a sacrifice bunt attempt. Marlow, who never stopped running, was thrown out at third by Casey Schepflin as the Ross first baseman Busdeker raced over to cover third.

"That is a covered play on a bunt," Coressel said. "We work on that...it is a part of our routine."

Ross turned in a second double play in the bottom of the ninth after Schenkel opened with a triple.

Candice Free grounded to Sandoval, who looked Schenkel back to the base before throwing to Busdeker to get Free. Schenkel broke for the plate on the throw and was out on Busdeker's throw to catcher Natalie Robbins.

Rollins pitched a complete game, striking out four, walking six and allowing six hits. All of the runs against her were unearned.

Steinberger finished 3-for-5, while Pelfrey, Sandoval and Dawn Zerman had two hits apiece for Ross.

Ross 7, Whitmer 2

Ross won its 14th straight game and remained undefeated in eight Great Lakes League games as Dawn Zerman and Holly Pelfrey each had three of the Little Giants' 11 hits.

Jessica Rollins got the victory, striking out 10 and overcoming seven walks.

Ross led 1-0 after four innings but scored three runs in the fifth inning and three in the sixth.

Ross, St. Joe win

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross won its 16th game in a row and St. Joseph Central Catholic its third to highlight a light slate of area softball games Thursday.

Ross scored six runs in the first two innings and was never threatened seriously in a 13-6 romp over Findlay.

Erin
Lease
scattered

Prep Softball

five hits and weathered a four-run Findlay seventh for the win. Lease had three strikeouts and walked six.

Donna Steinberger was 4-for-4 for Ross, 17-3. Holly Pelfrey had three hits, while Belinda Sandoval and Beth Sanford each added two.

Little Giants keep winning

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross softball coach Cheryl Coressel says the Little Giants are handling their success this season very well. It's a different story for herself.

"I'm stressed about every game now," Coressel said Friday after a 16-4 Great Lakes League victory over Bedford gave the Little Giants' their 17th straight victory. "The pressure keeps building and building."

"It doesn't get any easier next week. The kids are doing well, though, and I think we'll play well next week."

Ross, 18-3 and 9-0 in the GLL, can clinch a share of the league championship at home against Fostoria on Tuesday. Wednesday, the Little Giants play in the Division I district tournament at Ashland against Mansfield Madison.

Oregon Clay visits Rodger Young Park on Thursday, when

Softball Roundup

the Little Giants can win the GLL title outright.

If Ross wins its tournament game, it will meet the winner of a game between Vermilion and Ashland Friday. If the Little Giants lose, they'll play Napoleon Friday.

Holly Pelfrey led the victory over the Mules, collecting four of the Little Giants' 16 hits and driving in four runs. Dawn Zerman scored four times for Ross, which did not commit an error.

In other games:

Woodmore 17, Northwood 1

Northwood pitcher Brandy Haas limited Woodmore to one hit the last time she faced the Wildcats, but Woodmore was able to pull out a 3-1 win.

On Friday, Haas lasted just one inning, allowing 8 runs on three hits with six walks.

"We were real happy with the quick start," Woodmore coach Mike Lee said. "We've been hitting the ball lately. Things are starting to happen."

The victory was the seventh straight for the Wildcats, 18-3.

Kate Hinrichs led Woodmore's 10-hit attack with three hits, two runs and two RBI. Mariah Fennwald added two hits in support of winning pitcher Angie Fegley.

Fegley tossed a two-hitter and struck out eight, with three walks.

Oak Harbor 7, Clyde 6

The Rockets got two hits apiece from Chelle LaBounty, Lisa Overmyer and Sandy Whitcomb to improve to 15-5 and 9-4 in the Sandusky Bay Conference.

Whitcomb and Overmyer drove in two runs apiece, while Jamie Seeger scored twice as Oak Harbor won its fourth straight game.

Ross clinches GLL title share

News-Messenger reports

Dawn Zerman hit for the cycle and drove in 10 runs as Fremont Ross clinched at least a share of the Great Lakes League softball championship with a 29-3 romp over Fostoria in five innings Tuesday at Rodger Young Park.

"The good thing about this game," Ross coach Cheryl Coressel said, "is we got a lot of kids in the game and they all got to hit."

The Little Giants, winners of 18 straight games, remained undefeated in 10 GLL games — two games ahead of Oregon Clay's 8-2 mark. Ross can win the title outright when the Eagles visit Fremont for a game at 4:30 p.m. Thursday.

Today, Ross takes on Mansfield Madison in the Division I district tournament semifinals at

Softball Roundup

Brookside Park in Ashland.

Fostoria led 3-0 before Ross broke out.

Zerman's grand slam and Belinda Sandoval's RBI single highlighted a six-run Ross second inning.

A two-run double by Zerman, Donna Steinberger's run-scoring single and a two-run single by Natalie Robbins gave Ross an 11-3 lead at the end of three innings.

In the fourth, Ross scored 18 runs on 10 hits, five walks and a pair of Fostoria errors. Zerman tripled and singled, driving in four runs; Ragan Rusch tripled in three runs; and Sandoval singled twice for three RBI in the big inning.

Erin Lease struck out the final

four batters she faced after taking over for Ross starter Jessica Rollins.

In other games:

Margaretta 2, Bucyrus 1 (10)

Amy Bard singled in Jennifer Castle with the winning run in the bottom of the 10th inning, lifting the Polar Bears into the Division II district tournament championship game Friday at Baines Park in Norwalk.

Margaretta, 16-4, will meet Willard in the 4:30 p.m. final. Willard edged Bellevue 7-6 in the other semifinal Tuesday.

Alinor Stephens pitched a complete game for the win, striking out two with two walks. The Polar Bears committed just one error.

Castle led off the Margaretta 10th with a single, advanced to second on a wild pitch and

run in the sixth.

Elmwood 11, Old Fort 2

Elmwood advanced to Friday's Division III district championship against Woodmore after scoring 10 runs in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings against Old Fort.

The Royals, who will meet Woodmore at 4:30 p.m. at Woodville Grade School, won for the 18th time in 21 games.

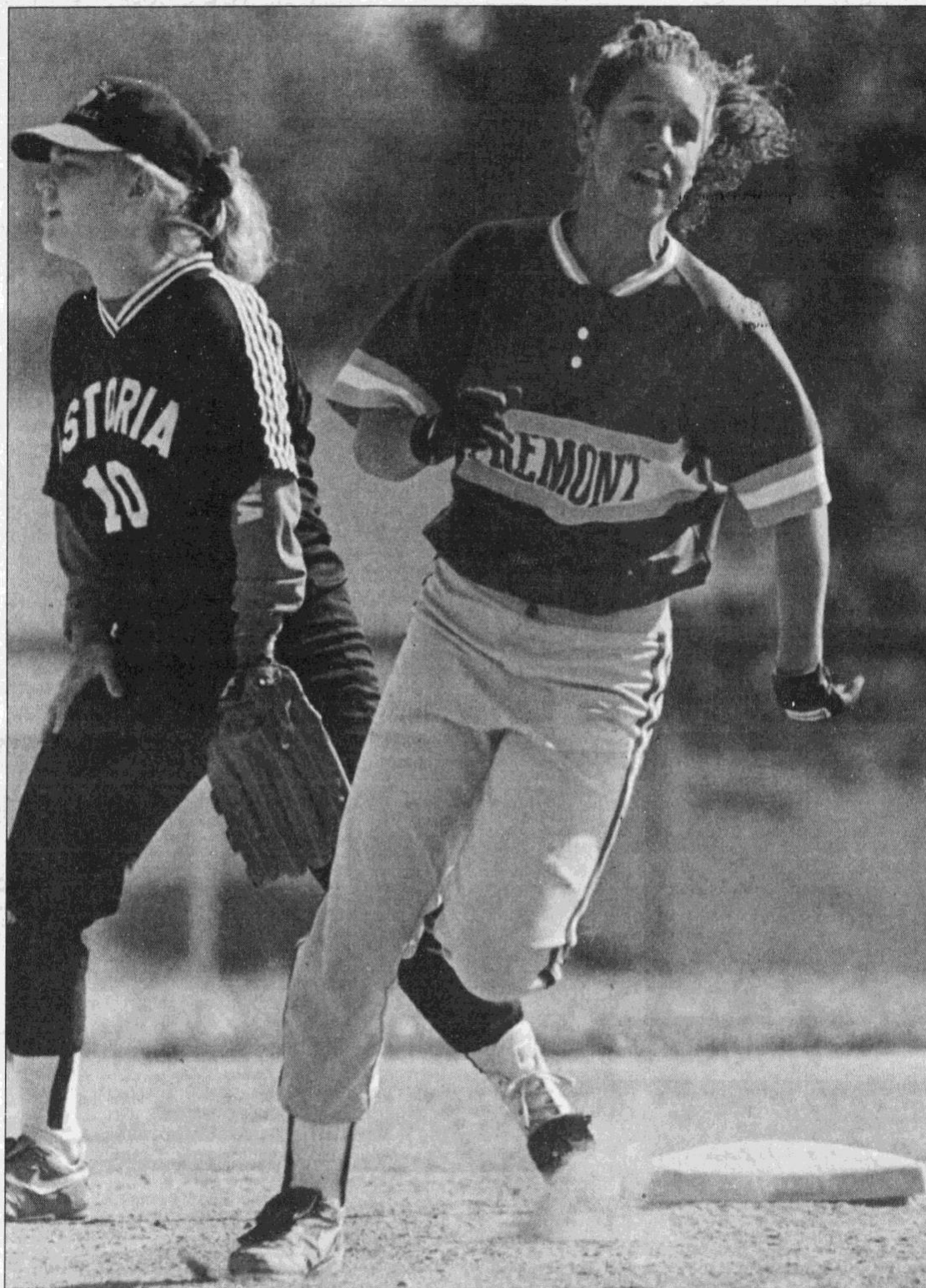
The Stockaders, who committed five errors, fell to 13-5.

Port Clinton 17, St. Joe 14

Port Clinton collected five hits but was the recipient of 18 walks by St. Joe pitching. Winning pitcher Bonnie Hofer, meanwhile, allowed 14 hits.

The Redskins, 4-18, have won three straight games. St. Joe fell to 3-16.

Northwood 19, Bettsville 4



Heading home

News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

Dawn Zerman of Fremont Ross rounds second on her way to an inside-the-park grand slam Tuesday at Rodger Young Park as Fostoria's Anna Schwepe awaits

a relay throw. Zerman hit for the cycle and drove in 10 runs in the Little Giants' 29-3 victory over the Redmen. **Please see Softball Roundup on B3.**

Ross claims GLL

By BOB MARKER
Sports Editor

Fremont Ross added an exclamation point to its first Great Lakes League softball championship, defeating Oregon Clay 8-7 in eight innings Thursday at Rodger Young Park.

The Little Giants secured a tie for the GLL crown Tuesday — as least Coach Cheryl Coressel thought — with a win over Fostoria. She believed Ross had to defeat Clay to earn an outright title.

"Don't say anything," Coressel said when informed prior to the game that Clay was 7-3 not 8-2 in the GLL.

Said Clay coach Jeff Lee: "We have not played well since Ross beat us (6-4 in nine innings May 5)."

Ross is now 11-0 in the GLL and 21-3 for the season with a 20-game winning streak. The Little Giants have a game at Napoleon to close out the league slate. That game was to have been today but has been postponed because Ross plays Vermilion at 4:30 p.m. in the Division I district finals at Brookside Park in Ashland.

Against Clay, winning pitcher Jessica Rollins spurred a Ross comeback. The Little Giants led 5-1 after two innings but the Eagles plucked away, finally taking a 7-5 lead on Nichole Leathers' two-run triple in the fifth inning.

Rollins' sacrifice fly in the bottom of the eighth scored Tricia Busdeker with the winning run.

Busdeker's fly ball to left leading off the inning fell in front of Eagle left-fielder Melinda Batch. When the ball took a sharp bounce to Batch's right, Busdeker cruised into second. Busdeker went to third when Leathers dropped a third strike on Natalie Robbins and had to throw to first for the putout.

Busdeker held third on Beth Sanford's bunt single, setting up Rollins' fly to center.

"They have done this too many times. My heart can't take too much more of this," Coressel said after narrowly avoiding a bucket of ice water that members of her team were using to baptize the championship season. "They are prematurely aging me."

Wednesday, Ross spotted Mansfield Madison a 4-0 lead before winning the district semifinal 7-6.

After Clay scored a run in the first, Ross took the lead in the bottom of the inning as singles by Dawn Zerman, Donna Steinberger and Holly Pelfrey loaded the bases. Belinda Sandoval's base hit put Ross up 2-1.

In the second, Sandoval ripped a bases-loaded triple to right center.

Clay scored an unearned run in the third on a pair of Ross errors and cut the lead to 5-4 in the fourth on two more Ross miscues.

Ross left the bases loaded in third and sixth innings. In the third, two pitches got past Leathers, but each time, Little Giant runners held third.

"It's the baserunner's call," Coressel said, "and we have been skitterish down there. I don't understand why they are not going. They are just not being aggressive on third."

In the sixth, Holly Pelfrey singled, Sandoval was safe on an error and Busdeker's single loaded the bases. Robbins popped to second and Sandoval was doubled off second when Sanford lined to second-baseman Stephanie Cousino.

Little Giants finish 12-0 in GLL race

News-Messenger reports

NAPOLEON — Fremont Ross needed a six-run seventh inning to finish the Great Lakes League softball season undefeated.

Ross (23-3) nipped Napoleon 10-6 after trailing 6-4 going into the top of

the final **Softball** inning.

The win in the regular season finale was the Little Giants' 22nd in a row. Ross was 12-0 in the GLL race.

Ross held a 2-0 lead before Napoleon plated five in the third and one in the fourth.

Holly Pelfrey started the Ross rally with a single. Belinda Sandoval walked and both runners moved up on a passed ball. Tricia Busdeker singled in both runners to tie the game. Casey Schepflin walked and Busdeker scored the go-ahead run on Jamie Hinkle's second hit of the game. Beth Sanford followed with a walk, before Dawn Zerman and Donna Steinberger closed out the rally with run-scoring singles.

Pelfrey and Busdeker, along with Steinberger and Hinkle had two hits apiece. Busdeker drove in three runs.

Softball

High School

Coaches All-Ohio Team

SOUTH POINT, Ohio (AP) — The 1994 All-Ohio girls softball team, as selected by the Ohio High School Fastpitch Softball Coaches Association (position in parentheses):

DIVISION I

FIRST TEAM: Traci Teagardner, Lancaster (OF); Chrissy Billiter, Elida (C); Mandy Fix, Tol. Cent. Cath. (P); Carey Monnin, Perrysburg (P); Angie Lala, Marysville (P); Heather McCliney, Hilliard (P); Jaimie Samelko, Westerville South (P); Alanna Barker, Akron Springfield (P); Erin Carey, North Canton Hoover (P); Carrie Dimickele, North Canton Hoover (2B-OF); Jennie Kerr, North Olmsted (P); Jennifer Borod, Cin. Sycamore (P); Maggie Clark, Piqua (SS); Shauna Dover, Springfield South (P); Rose Martin, Greenville (OF); Jami Bendle, Edison (P); Carrie Miller, Wintersville Indian Creek (P-OF).

SECOND TEAM: Melissa Cooper, Logan (SS); Amy Jauert, Findlay (C); Sunny Lital, Mansfield Madison (C-OF); Dorey Schmidt, Sylvania Northview (2B); Heather Barnhart, Newark (3B); Becky Egelhoff, Cols. Watterson (SS); Susan Krivac, Gahanna-Lincoln (CF); Mandy Coffman, Ravenna (C); Laurie Crano, Uniontown Lake (SS); Allison Downs-Heine, North Olmsted (OF); Kris Johnson, Grafton Midview (C); Susan Cotterman, Sidney (P); Kenya Donahue, Huber Hts. Wayne (P); Leah Hanna, West Chester Lakota (3B); April Langenkamp, Clayton Northmont (SS); Carrie Swinford, Dover (P); Heather Miller, Cambridge (SS).

HONORABLE MENTION: Angie Booker, Marietta; Miriam Pecsok, Anthony Wayne; **Holly Pelfrey, Fremont Ross; Dawn Zerman, Fremont Ross;** Sue Baugh, Upper Arlington; Kelli Enyart, Groveport-Madison; Laura Purpera, Cols. Independence; Tara Castilow, Akron Springfield; Lora Dragan, North Ridgeville; Kim Hurt, Greensburg Green; Anne Mitchell, Amherst Steele; Angie Corcoran, Amelia; Teresa Grove, Beaver Creek; Brooke McGinnis, New Carlisle Tecumseh; Tricia Schmitt, Greenville; Stephanie Menapace, Dover; Joy Elliott, Cambridge.

Ross awards

Junior Holly Pelfrey and senior Tricia Busdeker shared the Most Valuable Player honor for the Fremont Ross High School softball team at an awards program at the Elks Lodge Thursday night.

Busdeker also received the Golden Glove Award and a senior leadership award along with Natalie Robbins, Andi Opre and Belinda Sandoval.

Pelfrey and Ragan Rusch each received a coaches award from Cheryl Coressel.

Other awards went to Donna Steinberger as the most improved player and to Dawn Zerman, who was named batting champ after hitting .475 this season.

Coressel announced the selections for the All-Great Lakes League team. That was highlighted by pitcher Jessica Rollins being named Player of the Year and Coressel being named Coach of the Year.

Softball

High School

All-Great Lakes League

Following are the All-Great Lakes League selections for the 1994 softball season:

First team

Jessica Rollins, Ross, P; Megan Revenaugh, Clay, P; Nichole Leathers, Clay, C; Tricia Busdeker, Ross, 1B; Dorey Schmidt, Northview, IF; Cory Tice, Whitmer, IF; Dawn Zerman, Ross, IF; Holly Pelfrey, Ross, OF; Nicki Conrad, Whitmer, OF; Cindi Menden, Clay, OF; Lindsay Nofzinger, Bedford, DH; Carrie Girrell, Whitmer, Utility.

Second team

Mandy Brown, Napoleon, P; Janelle Bateson, Northview, P; Natalie Robbins, Ross, C; Sherri Brown, Clay, 1B; Belinda Sandoval, Ross, IF; Juli Woutila, Northview, IF; Kristina Mankin, Fostoria, IF; Donna Steinberger, Ross, OF; Miranda Schneider, Bedford, OF; Michelle Schenkel, Clay, OF; Chrsiti Szych, Whitmer, DH; Beth Thatcher, Whitmer, Utility.

Player of the year: Jessica Rollins, Ross

Coach of the year: Cheryl Cöressel, Ross