

Sports

Ross, Stockaders lose softball debuts



N-M photos by Bill Kennedy

KIM SCHUTT, above, of Fremont Ross watches her pitch sail toward a Tiffin Columbian batter during the second inning of the game at the Joseph G. Lauer Complex at Rodger Young Park Monday. At the right, Sharon Schneider of Ross prepares to put the tag on a sliding runner. Umpire Jim Ewanski made the out call a fraction of a second later.

Tiffin Columbian scored seven runs in the first two innings and never was threatened after that as Ross absorbed a 14-5 loss in the opening high school softball game of the season for both teams.

The Lady Tornadoes scored three times after two were out in the first inning and added four more runs in the second.

In one other area game, Plymouth defeated Old Fort 10-7.

Ross committed 13 errors and Columbian had nine hits. Kim Scherer had the only extra base hit of the game, a double for Columbian.

Winning pitcher Cheryl Fox allowed five hits and survived six Columbian errors.

"I played 17 players," Ross Coach Christy Holland pointed out, "and quite a few of them were sophomores. It looks like we might win a few ball games, though."

At Old Fort, Mary Reynold hit a grand slam home run in the top of the first inning to give Plymouth a lead it never surrendered.

Old Fort scored three times in the bottom of the inning but Plymouth held a 6-4 lead after two innings. The Stockaders trailed 8-7 heading into the last inning but Plymouth added two insurance runs in the top of the seventh.

Missy Rexrode tripled and Tina Bish and Deb Hoerig had two hits apiece for Old Fort.



Perkins.....17

Ross.....9

Perkins scored seven runs in the second inning and took advantage of 19 Ross errors on its way to defeating the Lady Little Giants at RYP.

Jody Schling and Sue Gahn had two hits each to lead Ross, 0-2.

Margaretta.....14

Ross7

Margaretta scored nine runs in the first three innings on its way to handing the Lady Little Giants the defeat in Castalia.

Terri Cole led the winners' 14-hit attack with three while Sue Gahn and Sharon Lamalie led Ross's 10-hit performance with two each.

Briefs

Lady Giants get 30 hits in win

BASCOM — The Ross girls softball team finally got its first win, and they did it with a bang.

The Lady Little Giants banged out 30 hits, including five each from Sharon Lamalie and Lora Almaguer, on their way to a 27-14 triumph over Hopewell-Loudon here Friday night.

Sue Gahn added to the attack with four hits while Jody Schling, Shelley Leggett and Kim Schutt each had three hits. One of Gahn's hits was a home run.

Ross, which scored in every inning, is now 1-3 on the young season.

Lady Giants split two with Marion

MARION — Ross came up with the big late inning in the first game and Marion did it in the second as the two Buckeye Conference girls softball teams split a doubleheader here Saturday.

In the opener, Ross used an eight-run sixth inning to blow past the Lady Presidents 18-5, and then in the nightcap, Marion came up with a six-run sixth frame to nip the Lady Little Giants 15-14.

The score was tied 4-4 after five innings of the first game when Ross exploded for its eight runs in the sixth. After Marion tallied a run in the bottom of the sixth, Ross scored six more times in the

seventh to finish off the rout.

Sue Gahn had a home run and a double and Shelly Leggett tripled and doubled to pace Ross. The Lady Giants also got two hits each from Taunya Downing, Lora Almaguer and Jodi Smith.

Kim Schutt pitched a three-hitter to gain the win.

In the second game, it was Marion's turn to come from behind. The Lady Prexies erased a 13-9 Ross lead with their big sixth inning.

Smith led Ross with three hits in the nightcap, followed by Gahn, Almaguer, Katie Marritt and Jody Schling with two each. One of Schling's hits was a home run.

Findlay 12, Ross 3

Lori Tapier limited Ross to four hits to lead the Lady Trojans of Findlay past the Lady Little Giants in Fremont.

Katie Marritt, Sharon Lamalie, Sue Gahn and Shelly Leggett were the only Ross players able to collect hits as the Lady Giants fell for the fifth time in seven games.



ROSS CATCHER Shelley Leggett gets into position to block a pitch but the ball bounces into her bare hand

during third inning action Tuesday. Leggett came up with the ball to hold a New Riegel runner at third base.

Lady Giants nip New Riegel in 8

The Ross Lady Little Giants used the fast legs of Katie Marritt to snare a 12-11 victory over New Riegel in eight innings in girls high school softball action at Joseph G. Lauer Complex Tuesday.

In one other area girls softball game yesterday, Margaretta edged Old Fort 6-5.

In the Ross-New Riegel thriller, the Lady Blue Jackets jumped out to a quick 8-0 lead after their first two at-bats. Ross came back to take an 11-8 lead after five innings before New Riegel tied it up 11-11 in the sixth.

Neither team scored again until Marritt led off the eighth inning with her mini-track show. After laying down a bunt, the senior Ross star not only made it to first base, she also went all the way around the bases when throws to get her at first and at third were off the marks.

Marritt finished with two hits for Ross as did

teammates Sharon Schneider and Sharon Lamalie. Sue Gahn paced the Lady Little Giants with three hits, including two triples.

Ross, 3-5, will play in the Class AAA sectional tournament at Ashland's Cahn Park today at 4 p.m., against Mansfield Senior.

Margaretta 6, Old Fort 5

Margaretta blew a three-run lead in the seventh inning but came back with the winning run in the bottom of the seventh to nip Old Fort in Castalia.

The Lady Polar Bears led 5-2 entering the final inning when Old Fort rallied to tie the game 5-5. Tammy Hull and Kelli Brueggemeier had RBIs in the inning and Lori Curns scored the tying run on a wild pitch.

But Margaretta came back with the winning run in the bottom half of the inning when Rene Nicholson scored on an Old Fort error.

Ross 10, Marion 8

Ross scored six runs in the bottom of the first, added three more in the third and then hung for the victory. The Lady Giants, 5-5, collected 10 hits while winning pitcher Kim Schutt allowed six hits and struckout six.

Sue Gahn hit a bases loaded triple to highlight the Ross first inning. In the Ross third Sharon Schneider singled in a run with the other runs scoring on errors.

Gahn also doubled for Ross with Taunya Downing and Jody Schling driving in two runs apiece.

Ross will host Margaretta at the Joseph G. Lauer Complex today at 4 p.m.

Smith's clutch single caps Ross comeback

Jodi Smith's RBI single in the bottom of the seventh inning capped a tremendous comeback by the Ross girls softball team and sparked the Lady Little Giants to a 13-12 thriller over Margaretta here Wednesday.

In one other girls game, St. Joe lost 9-4 to Huron.

In the Ross game, the Lady Giants fell behind 9-0 after 3½ innings. But they scored once in the bottom of the fourth, seven times in the fifth and four more times in the sixth to take a 12-9 lead.

Margaretta came back to tie the score 12-12 with three runs in the top of the seventh before Ross edged it with its run in the bottom of the frame. Shelly Leggett led off for Ross with a walk and moved to second on a sacrifice by Jody Schling. After a fly out, Smith ripped a hard base hit to

right center to score Leggett with the game-winner.

Ross, which evened its record at 6-6 with the come-from-behind victory, had 13 hits in the game, led by Kim Schutt's three and Smith and Katie Marritt's two.

Huron 9, St. Joe 4

The Lady Streaks lost for the third time in a row and saw their Sandusky Bay Conference title hopes dwindle as the Lady Tigers banged out 12 hits to take the win in Huron.

Lori Waldron led the winners with a four-for-four performance. Huron blew the game open early by taking a 9-2 lead after four innings.

Lynn Setzler had two hits for St. Joe, now 10-5 overall and 5-3 in the SBC. Margaretta, with only one loss in the conference, and Huron, with two, appear to have the best chances to win the title.