

# Defense first priority for '93 Little Giants

By TIM HARMON  
Staff writer

This isn't Florida, but that doesn't mean a baseball team can't train outside if the weather is moderate.

If the snow is dispersed and the temperature is in the 40s, as it was last Tuesday, Fremont Ross coach Dan Fought will have the Little Giants outside.

"We had everything but a right field," Fought said. "I couldn't get a right field no matter how I walked it off."

Fought says the reasoning behind his outside if at all possible philosophy is twofold.

"Parents and the community don't accept you making cuts by seeing kids in the gymnasium," Fought said. "The other thing is, baseball is an outside sport. I really believe an hour outside is worth three hours in the gym."

The Little Giants had infield and outfield practice on Tuesday, the second day of full-squad workouts.

"What we accomplished out

## For the parents

A meeting for all parents of prospective Fremont Ross High School baseball players is to-night in Room 116 of the school.

The informational meeting is set to begin at 7 p.m. Parents are asked to enter through the doors leading to the Nautilus Center.

Ross head coach Dan Fought will discuss details of the Little Giants' program with parents and answer any questions.

there was me getting an opportunity to see especially outfield candidates," said Fought, who replaces Steve Ebert in his second stint as Ross coach. "It gave me an opportunity to see infielders making cut-offs.

"Plus, you get to see how the team is communicating at that point."

Fought said he used live pitching last Monday for his first look

at the Ross hitters. The players faced a pitching machine Thursday and hit off tees Friday.

"You put off more of the offensive aspects than anything because you have to be able to play fundamental baseball in the field," Fought said. "If you commit errors and are not making fundamental plays, I don't care how well you swing the bat; you're always playing catch-up."

Pitching, of course, is an extension of the defense.

"Our kids realize we don't have a true number one yet," Fought said. "There's no one coming back with the kind of experience you build around."

Five pitchers are vying for spots in the Ross rotation. Fought expects conditioning to be a given since the pitchers and catchers have had two additional weeks of work.

"You're looking for a kid to be able to throw 75 pitches by game one (April 2)," Fought said. "That's our point of emphasis early."

## Ross baseball today builds for tomorrow

By TIM HARMON  
Staff writer

There is a heavy emphasis on senior leadership in the Fremont Ross High School baseball program.

The future also looks bright for the Little Giants, Ross coach Dan Fought says.

"We're pretty solid with a group of five seniors to lead the program," said Fought, who compiled a 73-75 Ross record in six years before stepping down after the 1990 season.

Seniors Jamie Reimer, Brian T. Wilson, Brian J. Wilson, Bryan Myers and Scott Root comprise the nucleus of the Little Giants.

Fought says he can envision a return to the days when he guided Ross to a district championship, two sectional titles and a conference crown in his first stint as coach.

"In the back of my mind, I'm impressed with the sophomore and maybe more impressed with the freshman class," he said.

# Smith, Ross open with 6-2 victory over Columbian

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross opened the season Monday with a 6-2 high school baseball victory over Columbian in Tiffin.

The Little Giants had 11 hits and rode the strong pitching of junior right-hander Ryan Smith.

Smith went the distance and gave up six hits, with seven strikeouts and three walks. He threw 109 pitches and struck out four in the final two innings.

"It was a good first game," Ross coach Dan Fought said. "We hit the ball well in our final scrimmage against Anthony Wayne and that's a strength that's nice to see.

"We hit the ball real well today."

Kyle Kusmer hit a two-run homer in the second inning to give Ross a 4-0 lead. Moe Myers went 3-for-4 with a double and drove in a run, while Shane Moran doubled and added an RBI in the third inning.

## Baseball

Brian T. Wilson had a double and a single. The Little Giants travel to Napoleon today.

In other games Monday, Bellevue ripped Port Clinton 12-0, Woodmore defeated Fostoria St. Wendelin 5-3, Oak Harbor lost to Lake 10-7 and Lakota dropped Margaretta 5-4.

Bellevue 12, Port Clinton 0

Pitchers Marc Minnick and John Bollinger combined on a no-hitter for the Redmen, 2-0.

Minnick pitched the first three innings of the five-inning game and finished with eight strikeouts and one walk. Bollinger went the final two innings and struck out four and walked two.

Scott Rickel started and took the loss for Port Clinton, 0-1.

Woodmore 5, St. Wendelin 3

At Woodmore, starting pitcher Adam Bringman pitched four hitless innings for Woodmore, 2-1.

Bringman was relieved by Josh Bayes (1-1) who picked up the victory. Bringman struck out seven and walked seven before retiring.

"He wanted to come out," Woodmore coach Bruce Hammersmith said. "His arm was hurting. He was 'walking' himself into trouble."

Bayes pitched the last three innings and gave up one run on two hits. He and teammate Eric Rippke each drove in a run.

St. Wendelin dropped to 0-2.

Lake 10, Oak Harbor 7

The Rockets trailed 8-0 before scoring seven runs in the top of the sixth.

The Flyers' starting pitcher threw four no-hit innings and struck out 10 before being relieved. Oak Harbor's Jeff Jones

and Roger Hamilton drove in two runs apiece in the Rockets' sixth inning.

Rob Schimmoeller started and took the loss for the Rockets, 9-3. Schimmoeller lasted three innings and gave up six runs (two earned) on six hits, with two walks and four strikeouts.

Lakota 5, Margaretta 4

The Raiders scored all five runs in the second inning to erase a 2-0 deficit.

John Gruber hit a two-run single and came around to score for Lakota, 2-0, which got a sixth-inning single by Eric Milligan for its only other hit.

Winning pitcher Nathan Nye started and pitched 3 1/3 innings. He allowed four hits and walked four, with one strikeout.

Brad Gnepper picked up the save. Gnepper did not allow a hit or run and finished with two walks and three strikeouts.

Jon Morris suffered the loss for Margaretta, 0-1.

# Ross wins with pitching and defense

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross won its second game in as many days Tuesday, relying primarily on pitching and defense.

Aaron Smith used 87 pitches and Ross played errorless ball for the second straight game as the Little Giants defeated Napoleon 1-0 in a Great Lakes League game that lasted 1 hour, 40 minutes.

"It's wonderful to have pitching like that," Ross coach Dan Fought said, "and the defense has played terrific."

Moe Myers supplied the offense for Ross, doubling in Jamie Reimer with the lone run in the fourth inning. Reimer singled leading off the inning and moved to second on Brian T. Wilson's sacrifice bunt.

## Baseball Roundup

Smith, allowed three hits, did not walk a batter and struck out seven — outdueling Napoleon's Mike German, who allowed four hits, struck out 11 and issued one intentional walk.

"(Smith) was ahead of all the hitters," Ross coach Dan Fought said. "He spotted the ball, moved it in and moved it out. He was getting his curveball over for strikes."

Myers finished with two hits, and Brian J. Wilson added one for Ross. Craig Good had two for the Wildcats.

In other games, Woodmore defeated Clyde 9-6, Lakota topped Oak Harbor 6-2

and Danbury beat Gibsonburg 7-3.

Woodmore 9, Clyde 6

Woodmore scored five in the first and four in the sixth to win its third game against one loss. Clyde, playing its first game, led 6-5 after five innings.

Kevin Harman pitched a complete game for the victory, and Ryan Carter took the loss in relief of Scott Price. Carter allowed two walks.

Jay Kiser had a home run among two hits for Clyde, and Jeff Beckman had two hits for Woodmore.

Lakota 6, Oak Harbor 2

Winning pitcher Eric Milligan had two hits, drove in two runs and scored twice as the Raiders remained undefeated in three games.

Milligan allowed one earned run, walked two and struck out three — sending Oak Harbor to its fourth loss without a victory. Brad Gnepper pitched the seventh for the Raiders, who also got two hits and three runs scored from Gregg Prenzlin.

Danbury 7, Gibsonburg 3

Danbury played errorless ball, and winning pitcher Nate Dupis held Gibsonburg scoreless until the seventh in the Lakers' first game.

The Lakers scored in every inning but the third and seventh, and Tony Puckett's two-run double keyed a three-run sixth.

Dupis did not allow a hit until Marc Shull singled with two out in the fifth. Shull finished with two hits.

# Little Giants winning with fundamentals

Dan Fought's stamp is back on the Fremont Ross High School baseball team.

Fought's teams rely on defense and an aggressive offense predicated on fundamentals. The 1993 Little Giants have fit the mold perfectly so far.

Of course, pitching has had as much to do with the Little Giants' 3-0 start as anything else.

Shane Moran was the third Ross pitcher to throw a complete-game victory Thursday as Ross defeated Sandusky 4-1. Moran needed only 66 pitches and the game was played in an hour and 20 minutes.

Ryan Smith, Aaron Smith and Moran have combined to throw 262 pitches in the Ross wins.

"I don't want them looking forward and I don't want them

## On the side

**Tim Harmon**



looking back," said Fought, who returned to coach this season after taking two years off. "I'll use any one of them any time."

Moran struck out five, including Sandusky clean-up hitter Eric Irby three times, and did not walk a batter. "He mixed his pitches very well," Fought said. "That's a credit to Moe (catcher

Myers); he called a great game."

The pitchers have been the beneficiaries of great defense. The Little Giants have not committed an error this season.

"It was great defense," Fought said of the effort against the Blue Streaks. "(Second baseman) Brian T. Wilson made three big-league plays."

Fought said Wilson speared a line drive up the middle off the bat of Sandusky's first batter, did the same thing to snuff out the Blue Streaks lone rally and ended the game with a diving stop of a grounder in the hole between first and second.

Shortstop Brian J. Wilson, meanwhile, finished with five assists and one putout. "They work real well together," Fought said.

Offensively, all four of Ross's one-run innings Thursday included a sacrifice bunt. The Little Giants are seven of eight in sacrifice situations this season, according to Fought.

"They all have a willingness to sacrifice at any time," he said. "And I think they understand that anytime you lay down a bunt, there's a good chance in high school baseball it might not get fielded (correctly) and you could get on base."

That's fundamental thinking.

Ross is scheduled to play its first home game Monday, hosting Perrysburg at Anderson Field at 4:30 p.m. Get out and see the Little Giants.

□  
Tim Harmon is a staff writer for The News-Messenger.

## Baseball

strikeouts.

Howard pitched the final inning and gave up one run on two hits, walked two and struck out two.

"I'm pleased," Polar Bear coach Ernie Czekaj said, "but we know we have to finish a little stronger."

Mike Stubblebine started for Perkins and took the loss after allowing seven runs in four innings.

### Perrysburg 4, Ross 2

The Little Giants dropped their first game in four tries, while Perrysburg improved to 4-1.

Yellowjackets pitcher Hector Rivera limited Ross to three

hits, struck out nine and walked two.

Jeremy Aldrich, B.J. Wilson and losing pitcher Ryan Smith all had singles for the Little Giants. Smith lasted three innings and gave up three runs (one earned) on three hits, with two strikeouts and one walk.

Shane Moran pitched the final three innings for Ross. He gave up one run on four hits and struck out two.

### Gibsonburg 7, Bettsville 1

Gibsonburg pitcher Steve Bowers (1-0) pitched a complete game, holding Bettsville to five hits and striking out five with two walks.

The Golden Bears, 3-1, finished with six hits, including two each

# Offensive outburst lifts Ross

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross finally had a big inning, scoring all seven of its runs and collecting all five of its hits in the fifth inning of a 7-4 Great Lakes League victory over Toledo Whitmer Tuesday.

The previous top output in a game for the The Little Giants, 4-1 and 2-0 in the GLL, was six runs in a victory over Tiffin Columbian.

"We got the bats going at the right time," Ross coach Dan Fought said. "We **Baseball** had some luck with the ball falling in the right spot."

In other games, Genoa defeated Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic 6-4, Tiffin Calvert topped Gibsonburg 7-4 in eight innings and New Riegel routed Bettsville 20-1.

Ross trailed 2-0 when it erupted against Whitmer, 4-2 and 1-1 in the GLL.

Ryan Smith led off the inning with a double but was thrown out at third after a bunt by Shane Willer. Kyle Kusmer reached on an error and Brian J. Wilson walked to load the bases.

Jamie Reimer's single to left field scored one run, and Brian T. Wilson's infield singled scored Kusmer.

After Bryan Myers popped out, Shane Moran walked to force in another run.

"It was real frustrating," Fought said. "We were waiting for something big to happen, and we hadn't done it all year.

"Scott Root's hit was big in the inning and Ryan Smith was hot."

Root singled in two runs, chasing Whitmer starter and loser Matt LaPoint. Smith greeted reliever Justin Keller with a two-run triple before Willer grounded out to end the inning.

The Panthers scored two runs in the sixth off Ross starter and winner Aaron Smith. Shane Moran, who finished for the save, had to get out of a two-on, one-out jam in the sixth and a bases-loaded, one-out jam in the seventh.

## Bowling Green 3, Ross 2

The Little Giants carried a 2-0 lead into the bottom of the seventh, when Bowling Green scored three runs.

Ross coach Dan Fought said it was the third time in his career that the Little Giants have lost to the Bobcats in the bottom of the seventh at BG.

After a run-scoring single and a sacrifice fly, Mark Fox blooped a hit to center field for the game-winning RBI.

"I had four guys collide on it and no one came up with it," Fought said.

Aaron Smith took the loss, working  $1\frac{2}{3}$  innings in relief of starter Shane Willer, while Joel Bishop got the complete-game victory. Bishop struck out seven and walked one.

Shane Moran's two-run double in the first gave Ross the lead. Moran and Brian T. Wilson each had two of the Little Giants' five hits.

# Ross routs Fostoria 15-6

News-Messenger reports

Collecting a season-high 17 hits, the Fremont Ross High School baseball team beat Fostoria 15-6 Thursday in a Great Lakes League game.

Ross, 5-2 and 3-0, scored eight runs in the fifth inning.

In one other game, Lakota shut out New Riegel 5-0.

## **Baseball**

Winning pitcher Ryan Smith led Ross with four hits, including a home run. Smith and Brian T. Wilson drove in three runs apiece, Bryan Myers had two doubles among his three hits and Shane Moran scored three runs.

Smith pitched  $5\frac{2}{3}$  innings before Shane Willer finished.

# Titans rout Ross

■ **Three winners:**  
Woodmore, Lakota  
and Margaretta post  
victories.

News-Messenger reports

The Titans had more sock than the Little Giants.

Toledo St. John's scored all of its runs on all of its hits in two innings Thursday and beat Fremont Ross 15-4.

St. John's, 6-4, scored nine runs on eight hits in the second inning and six runs on five hits in the third of the five-inning game.

"They hit the Roundup heck out of it," Ross coach Dan Fought said. "I thought maybe it would be a hitter's game, and we can't get in those kind of games. Our strength is pitching and defense."

"We hit the ball hard, but we hit it right at people."

In other games, Woodmore shut out Port Clinton 4-0, Lakota defeated Eastwood 7-3 and Margaretta edged Edison 2-1.

Ross, which collected six hits and fell to 5-3, led 4-0 after an inning and a half before St. John's erupted. Chad Maxon's three-run homer highlighted the Titans' nine-run second.

Pat Richard was the winning pitcher, and Shane Willer lasted  $1\frac{1}{3}$  innings to take the loss.

## Clay 4, Ross 2

Clay pitcher Pat Edwards limited Ross to five hits, struck out 12 and walked one.

Aaron Smith went the distance for Ross and allowed six hits, walked two and struck out two as the Little Giants dropped to 5-4 and 3-1 in the Great Lakes League.

"It was a real good pitcher's dual," Ross coach Dan Fought said. "Edwards can really bring it. They probably have the top three pitchers in the league."

Clay is 11-2 and 4-1 in the SLL.

Moe Myers went 2-for-3 with an RBI and Jamie Reimer drove in a run for Ross.

# Smith leads Ross over Northview

News-Messenger reports

Ryan Smith pitched a four-hitter and Moe Myers went 3-for-3 with two RBI Monday, leading Fremont Ross to a 4-0 Great Lakes League baseball victory over visiting Sylvania Northview.

Smith (3-1) walked two and struck out five for the Little Giants, 6-4 and 4-1 in the GLL.

"He did a great job on location with his fastball," Ross coach Dan Fought said. "He set the hitters up well and was ahead of about every one. He just did a super job."

Myers hit a run-scoring double in the fifth inning to pace the Little Giants' six-hit attack.

Northview dropped to 4-7 and

## Baseball

### 1-4 in the league.

In other games Monday, Mohawk whipped Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic 10-2, Margareta nipped Clyde 6-5 and Elmwood downed Lakota 4-3 in eight innings.

**Mohawk 10, St. Joe 2**

St. Joe took a 2-0 lead in its first at-bat against Mohawk left-hander Don Chester but was unable to make it stand up.

Chester went the distance and allowed five hits, walked one and struck out 11.

Kris Kayden (3-2) pitched four innings and took the loss. He gave up 11 hits, walked five and

struck out four.

The Crimson Streaks, 5-3 and 4-1 in the Midland Athletic League, were outhit 14-5. Mohawk put the game out of reach with a six-run fourth inning.

"We just let a couple (balls) fall in that should have been caught," St. Joe coach Rick Barbour said. "Kris got a little flustered. I probably left him in a little too long."

Bryan O'Donnell tripled, singled and drove in a run, while Kayden added two hits and an RBI for the Streaks.

**Margareta 6, Clyde 5**

Margareta scored three runs in the bottom of the seventh to beat the Fliers, 1-8 and 0-4 in the

Sandusky Bay Conference.

Senior captain Dave Coffman, who had two hits for the Polar Bears, singled in pinch runner Jason Peir with the game-winning run with two outs.

Pelz was running for Sean Culien, who had two hits and one RBI for Margareta, 7-1 and 5-0. Steve Howard added two hits and an RBI for the Polar Bears.

Ryan Carter hit a two-run homer in the fourth inning for Clyde.

Steve Apple was the winning pitcher in relief of Chris Zahel. Apple went three innings, did not allow a run or a hit and struck out six. Zahel pitched the first four innings and gave up four hits, with four walks and three

strikeouts.

Josh Gregg took the loss in relief. Gregg allowed three runs (two earned) on three hits in three innings, walked four and struck out five.

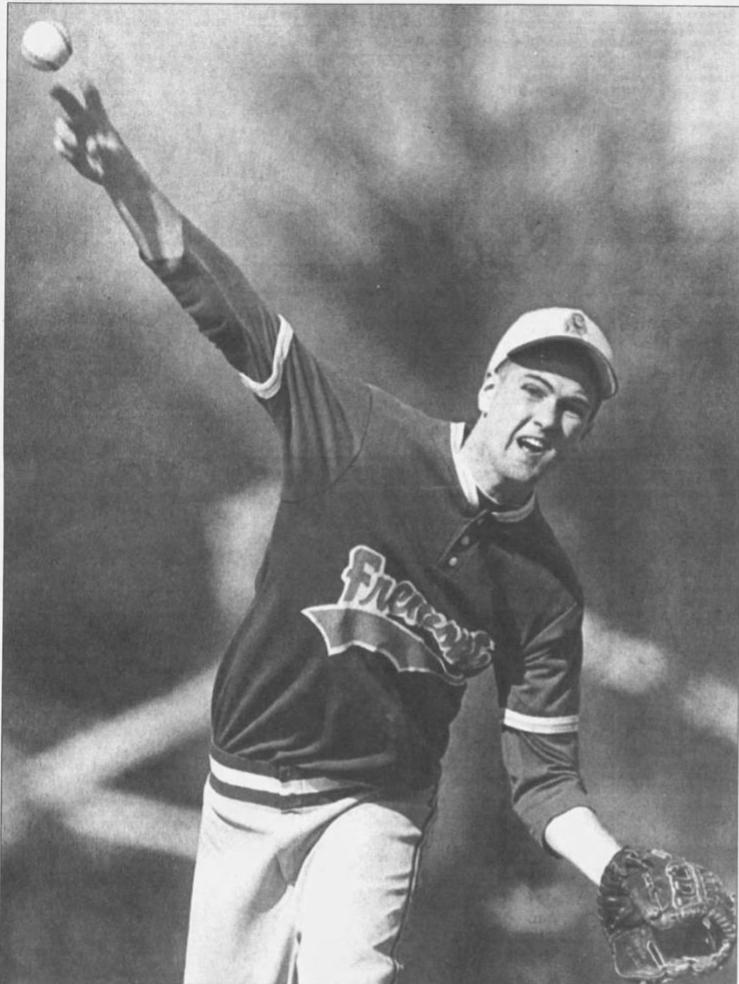
**Elmwood 4, Lakota 3 (8)**

Jeremy Gilliland scored on Chad Schultz's single with one out in the top of the eighth inning as Elmwood edged Lakota.

Gregg Prenzlin pitched all eight innings for the Raiders, 8-4 and 3-1 in the Suburban Lakes League. Prenzlin gave up three earned runs, walked two and struck out 13.

Bob Monard pitched the final four innings to earn the win for Elmwood, 7-4 and 3-0. The Royals trailed 3-0 after two innings.

## HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

**AARON SMITH** (above) of Fremont Ross delivers a pitch Tuesday at Anderson Field against Bedford. Smith was the winning pitcher in the Little

Giants' 2-1 Great Lakes League victory. Below, Brian J. Wilson of Ross dives safely back to first base ahead of a pick-off throw.



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

# Ross edges Bedford

News-Messenger reports

Bedford (Mich.) outhit Fremont Ross 7-2, but the Little Giants defeated the Mules 2-1 Tuesday in a Great Lakes League game at Anderson Field.

Aaron Smith got the victory, yielding a lead-off home run in the seventh inning, before Shane Moran finished for the save.

In other games, Clyde defeated Fremont St.

Joseph Central Catholic 3-1, Bettsville topped Old Fort 6-4, Margaretta beat Huron 9-2, Woodmore defeated Genoa 5-1 and Eastwood beat Oak Harbor 10-4.

Ross, 7-4 and 5-1 in the GLL, got a run in the first when Jamie Reimer scored from second on an error on Bedford's shortstop. The Little Giants added a run in the fifth when Scott Root doubled, moved to third on a passed ball and scored when the Mules' second baseman misplayed Kyle Kusmer's grounder.

Smith struck out seven and did not walk a batter.

Clyde 3, St. Joe 1

Josh Gregg doubled in two runs for Clyde in the third and doubled and scored in the sixth on Dave Lozier's pinch single.

Jason Dick struck out eight and walked one for the complete-game victory.

St. Joe, 5-4, scored in the fourth when Bob Pressler walked, moved to second on Bryan O'Donnell's single and scored on Kris Kayden's double.

Bettsville 6, Old Fort 4

The Bobcats won for the first time in nine games by scoring two runs in the seventh.

Bill Craun and Andy Berry opened the seventh with walks, Damuan Wise reached on an error and Paul Varner followed with a two-run single.

Berry doubled in two runs in a three-run fifth as the Bobcats, 1-3 in the Midland Athletic League, erased a 4-1 deficit.

Al Alloway did not walk a batter in a complete game.

Jason Fortney had two hits for Old Fort.

Margaretta 9, Huron 2

Margaretta scored five runs in the fourth and improved to 6-0 in the Sandusky Bay Conference.

John Morris and winning pitcher Steve Howard each had a two-run homer for the Polar Bears. Howard, who finished with three hits, struck out 11.

Woodmore 5, Genoa 1

Adam Bringman pitched the complete game victory for the Wildcats, who scored four runs in the sixth and improved to 7-3 and 1-2 in the Suburban Lakes League.

Bringman and Kevin Harman each had two of Woodmore's seven hits.

Eastwood 10, Oak Harbor 4

Oak Harbor took a 1-0 lead into the bottom of the fifth, when Eastwood scored six runs.

Rob Schummoeller and Bryant Whitecomb had two hits apiece for the Rockets, 0-8.

# Root powers Ross comeback over Clyde

News-Messenger reports

Scott Root homered and drove in four runs as Fremont overcame a 7-4 deficit for an 11-7 victory over Clyde Thursday at Clyde High School.

Ross, 8-4, scored five runs in the fourth inning after Clyde, 3-9, scored six runs in the second.

Kyle Kusmer got the victory, pitching four shutout innings in relief of Shane Willer, and Shane Moran pitched the seventh for his fourth save.

In other games reported, Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic defeated Port Clinton 4-2 and Seneca East topped Bettsville 10-7.

Root's two-run double highlighted the Ross fourth and four of the Fliers' runs in the second

## Baseball Roundup

were unearned as the Little Giants committed four of their six errors in the inning.

"We did not play well, but we won and that's a big plus," Ross coach Dan Fought said. "Give Clyde credit for putting the ball in play, but we didn't play our type of game.

"We've been working very hard with the bat so I didn't think we were out of it. In the time period we had to come back, we didn't have to do too much at one time. We came back very nice."

Root capped the comeback with a two-run homer in the sixth.

Brian J. Wilson also had three hits for Ross, scored three runs and stole two bases.

Dave Lozier, Jay Kiser and Josh Gregg had two hits apiece for the Fliers.

St. Joe 4, Port Clinton 2

Freshman Bill Dirlam pitched 5½ innings of no-hit ball and St. Joe outhit Port Clinton 9-2.

The Crimson Streaks improved to 6-5, and the Redskins remained winless in 10 games.

Dirlam, who pitched four innings in a junior varsity game Tuesday, hit a batter with one out in the sixth and one out later Scott Rickel broke up the no-hitter with a two-run homer.

Kris Kayden pitched the seventh and earned a save.

St. Joe scored a run in the first, two in the fourth and one in the seventh. Chris Denman and Brian Eshleman had two hits apiece for the Streaks.

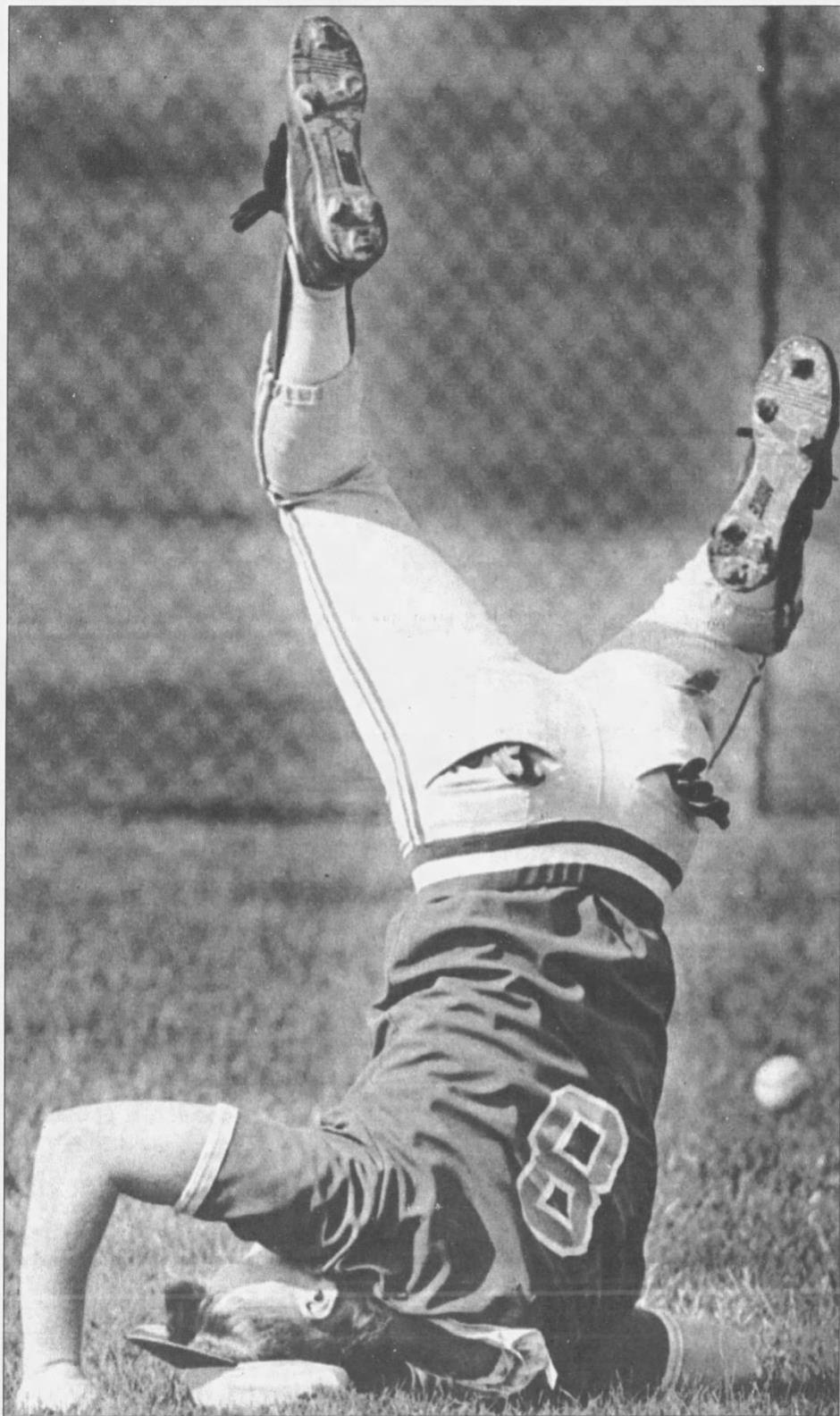
Seneca East 10, Bettsville 7

Seneca East won its first game, although Bettsville's Bill Craun had three hits and drove in three runs in the Midland Athletic League game.

Craun had a home run and a double, and losing pitcher Damian Wise also had two hits.

The Tigers, 1-7 and 1-4, overcame a 7-3 deficit.

The Bobcats are 1-9 and 1-5.



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

## Almost a catch

Fremont Ross left fielder Shane Moran fails to come up with a catch after diving for the ball Fri-

day during the Little Giants' 7-5 loss to Fostoria. Please see BASEBALL ROUNDUP, B3.

# Maumee defeats Ross; Clyde wins third straight

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross carried a 2-1 lead into the sixth inning, but Maumee scored five runs in the bottom of the inning and went on to a 6-4 victory Thursday.

Ross, 8-7, committed its lone error in the Maumee sixth and it led to three unearned runs.

In one other game reported, Clyde defeated Sandusky Perkins 4-2.

Losing pitcher Ryan Smith allowed two singles and a walk to open Maumee's decisive inning, and the Little Giants then failed to turn a double play.

Ross made it close with two runs in the top of the seventh, but Maumee improved to 10-8 behind winning pitcher John Key.

Bryan Myers and Shane Moran

## Baseball

had two of the Little Giants' seven hits.

Clyde 4, Perkins 2

Jason Dick pitched a three-hitter with nine strikeouts and three walks and the Fliers won

their third straight game.

Dick and Jay Kiser each had two of Clyde's five hits.

Clyde, 6-11 and 4-5 in the Sandusky Bay Conference, scored all of its runs in the first three innings.

The Pirates, 2-11 and 2-6, got one in the third and one in the seventh.

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547-6695

# Rockets make Fliers 1st victim; Ross loses

News-Messenger reports

Mike Lipstraw gave up seven hits over  $5\frac{1}{3}$  innings and Kevin Kersten and Kevin Smith both knocked in runs Friday, propelling Oak Harbor to its first baseball victory of the season, 5-2 over visiting Clyde.

In other games Friday, Ross lost to Whitmer 5-0, Lakota beat Woodmore 13-4, Arlington beat Bettsville 14-3 and Margaretta nipped Huron 2-1 in eight innings.

Lipstraw (1-0) allowed one earned run and walked two for Oak Harbor, 1-12 and 1-5 in the Sandusky Bay Conference.

Freshman Brian Schultz relieved Lipstraw with one out in the sixth inning and the bases loaded. Schultz got out of the inning when he forced Clyde to hit into a double play.

Bryant Whitcomb, Matt Elson and Kersten all singled for the Rockets' only hits against the Fliers, 6-12 and 4-6 in the SBC.

Ryan Carter pitched  $2\frac{1}{3}$  innings and suffered the loss after allowing four runs (two earned) on two hits. Carter also had two of the Fliers' seven hits.

The two teams meet again today at Clyde.

## Whitmer 5, Ross 0

Whitmer pitcher Kevin McIlhardey tossed a two-hitter, struck out seven and walked one as the Panthers improved to 13-5 and 7-2 in the Great Lakes

## Baseball

### League.

Aaron Smith took the loss for Ross, 8-8 and 5-3. Smith went the distance and allowed four earned runs on nine hits, with four strikeouts.

### Lakota 13, Woodmore 4

Jason Hallinger hit a three-run homer in the fifth inning, Brad Gnepper went 3-for-4 with a double and Erick Backus had three hits and drove in three runs for Lakota, 11-6 and 6-3 in the SLL.

Gnepper was the winning pitcher, allowing five hits, two walks and striking out eight.

### Arlington 14, Bettsville 3

Billy Craun had two hits for Bettsville, 2-12 and 1-7 in the Midland Athletic League.

Jason Milton pitched  $4\frac{2}{3}$  innings and took the loss, giving up all 14 runs on eight hits. The Bobcats committed seven errors.

### Margaretta 2, Huron 1 (8)

Josh Dyer singled with one out, stole second and scored on the shortstop's fielding error in the top of the eighth inning for Margaretta.

Kevin Lowery added an RBI double for the Polar Bears, 12-3 and 10-1 in the SBC.

Aaron Blanton picked up the win in relief, pitching three innings and allowing two hits. Steve Howard started and lasted four innings. He gave up one run on five hits.

# Little Giants lose fifth straight game

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross lost its fifth straight game Tuesday, failing to hold a 2-0 lead and falling 6-2 to Sylvania Northview in a Great Lakes League game.

Northview scored four runs in the fourth inning, including two unearned ones.

In other games reported, Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic routed Bettsville 21-1 and Port Clinton beat Oak Harbor 14-8.

**Ross, 8-9 and 5-4 in the GLL, took its lead with a run in the first and one in the third. Northview tacked on two runs in the fifth.**

Darren Snepp pitched five innings for the victory, and Aaron

Smith took the loss.

St. Joe 21, Bettsville 1

Kris Kayden had two home runs among three hits, drove in seven runs and scored four times as St. Joe improved to 9-8 and 6-3 in the Midland Athletic League.

The Crimson Streaks outhit Bettsville 18-2 and did not commit an error.

Port Clinton 14, Oak Harbor 8

Jason Wierzba went 4-for-5 and Scott Rickel 3-for-5 with four RBI for Port Clinton.

Andy Laurel, Jamie Green, Travis Woodworth and Rick Arnold all had two hits for PC.

Mike Lipstraw had a double among two hits and Bryant Whitcomb added two hits for Oak Harbor, 1-15 and 1-8 in the SBC.

## Baseball

# Little Giants hold off Findlay

## ■ Streak ends:

A five-game Fremont Ross baseball losing streak ends.

By TIM HARMON  
Staff writer

Fremont Ross had problems holding leads during its recent five-game losing streak.

The Little Giants blew not one, but two, leads against Findlay Thursday at Anderson Field. This time, Ross recovered and scored a run in the bottom of the seventh for a 6-5 victory.

"We've been battling for two weeks," Ross coach Dan Fought said. "The Sandusky thing (a 3-2 sectional tournament loss in which Ross blew a 2-0 lead in the

seventh inning) took a lot out of this team."

Ross, 9-9, led 2-0 and 5-2 against Findlay before Bryan Myers scored the game-winner in the seventh. Myers doubled with one out, moved to third when Zach Dennis failed to field Shane Moran's bouncer to the mound and scored on Ryan Smith's bouncer to short.

Dennis took the loss in relief of Adam Rakestraw.

"There were a lot of adversity points in this game," Fought said. "We battled through all of them."

Moran, who gave Ross a 1-0 lead with a solo home run in the fourth, took a one-hit shutout into the sixth when Findlay scored twice.

"(Moran) was still strong, but they were

getting him timed up," Fought said. "I probably went with him a batter or two too long."

After Marlan Berry opened the Findlay sixth with an inside-the-park home run, an error and consecutive singles by designated hitter Jeff Betts and Chris Rose tied the game at 2-all.

Smith replaced Moran and pitched out of a one-out, bases-loaded jam.

The Little Giants countered with three runs on five hits in the bottom of the sixth.

"I was really happy the way we fought, down two strikes, to put the ball in play," Fought said.

Myers opened the Ross sixth with a single off Rakestraw, moved to second on Moran's sacrifice bunt and scored on a single by Smith.

Jeremy Aldrich, designated hitter Josh Hetrick and Brian T. Wilson followed with consecutive singles. Hetrick, who also drove in a run in the fourth after Findlay right fielder Scott Macke dropped Smith's fly ball for a two-base error, and Wilson picked up RBIs to chase Rakestraw.

"(Rakestraw) is a senior, and I thought he deserved a chance to get out of it himself," Findlay coach Jack Foltz said. "I went with him as long as I could."

The Trojans, who finished the season 10-11, tied the game 5-5 in the seventh with the help of three walks. Smith walked Rose with the bases loaded for one run, and reliever Aaron Smith gave up a two-run single to Macke.

Smith retired Dennis on a fly to center and wound up with his fourth victory in nine decisions.

# Port Clinton beats

News-Messenger reports

Clutch hitting by Scott Rickel and Travis Woodworth led Port Clinton to a 10-7 victory over Fremont Ross Friday.

"We're finally starting to hit the ball," Port Clinton coach Dan Timmons said.

Rickel's three-run homer in the second inning at Anderson Field gave PC a 6-3 lead, and Woodworth's three-run double in the seventh erased a 7-6 Ross lead.

"They only left three runners on base, and we left nine," Ross coach Dan Fought said.

In other games, Genoa beat Lakota 8-1, Woodmore outscored Gibsonburg 12-11 and Huron topped Oak Harbor 7-6.

Port Clinton won for the fourth time in 19 games, while Ross slipped to 9-10.

Bryan Rogers pitched a complete game for the PC victory, walking one batter after the first inning after issuing three walks in the first when Ross scored three runs. Ross left the bases

## Baseball Roundup

loaded in the inning.

"(The Little Giants) were making contact," Timmons said. "Fortunately for us, he kept them off balance."

After the Redskins knocked out Ross starter Ryan Smith after two innings, Shane Willer blanked PC until the seventh.

The Port Clinton seventh started with an infield single and a hit batsmen before Rickel reached on an error after Aaron Smith replaced Willer, who took the loss. Woodworth delivered the game-winner, and the third of Eric Heise's three hits scored Woodworth.

Scott Root homered and doubled among three hits for Ross.

Genoa 8, Lakota 1

Genoa scored two runs in each of the first three innings, and the Comets moved into a first-place tie with Elmwood in the Suburban Lakes League.

The Comets, 12-9, are 8-3 in the

# Ross with big hits

SLL Elmwood fell to that mark after the Royals lost to Northwood Friday.

Lakota, 14-7, is 8-4 in the league.

"We played great Wednesday

against Elmwood (a 10-2 victory) but get beat tonight," Lakota coach Paul Gnepper said. "Their pitcher did a nice job."

Ryan McDaniel earned the complete-game victory, scattering four hits, walking two and striking out eight.

"He mixed up his pitches well," Genoa coach Jeff Thompson said. "In his last outing (a 6-1 loss to Otsego on May 7), he didn't do that."

"He got ahead of the hitters (Friday) and his curveball was effective. He outsmarted them by throwing the fastball when they were expecting the curveball."

Brad Gnepper pitched four innings and took the loss, but the Raiders allowed five unearned runs.

"We didn't field the ball very

well," Gnepper said. "We didn't hit it very well either."

Andrew Gladden hit a two-run homer in the Genoa second, and Eric Asman had a solo shot in the sixth.

Lakota scored in the third when Erick Backus scored on Nathan Nye's double.

Woodmore 12, Gibsonburg 11

The Wildcats outhit the Golden Bears 15-5 and won their second SLL game in 10 outings.

Josh Bayes was the winning pitcher, working 1-1/3 innings in relief.

Woodmore, 8-10, scored four runs in the bottom of the sixth after Gibsonburg took an 11-8 lead in the top of the inning.

Bayes led the Woodmore offense with three hits, including two doubles.

Huron 7, Oak Harbor 6

Huron outhit Oak Harbor 13-5 and overcame five errors in the Sandusky Bay Conference game.

Roger Hamilton hit a two-run homer for the Rockets, 1-18 and 1-11 in the SBC.

## Ross 6, Napoleon 4

The Great Lakes League game began in Fremont earlier this month and finished in Napoleon. The Wildcats outhit Ross 11-5, but the Little Giants evened their record at 10-10 and improved to 6-4 in the GLL.

Ross led 2-1 with no outs and runners on first and second when the game resumed in the second inning and led 3-1 after two. The Little Giants added three runs in the sixth.

Shane Moran, who finished with seven strikeouts and one walk, got the win despite allowing losing pitcher Mark Glick's home run in the seventh.

Brian T. Wilson had two hits and drove in two runs for Ross.

# Bedford nips Ross in 8th

News-Messenger reports

Bedford scored a run with one out in the bottom of the eighth inning to hand Fremont Ross a 6-5 high school baseball loss Friday.

Ryan Smith had two doubles and drove in two runs and Scott Root hit a two-run home run in the fourth inning for the Little Giants, who finished 11-12 and 6-6 in the Great Lakes League.

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## Baseball

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"The team far exceeded my expectations," Ross coach Dan Fought said. "It was a terrific season."

Aaron Smith went the distance and took the loss despite allowing just seven hits and two earned runs. He walked three and struck out six.

## Clay 10, Ross 3

Clay clinched the Great Lakes League championship by outhitting Ross 12-5 and playing errorless ball.

"This is the best club that we have faced all year," Ross coach Dan Fought said.

Clay, 20-5, finished GLL<sup>N</sup> play 10-2. Ross is 10-11 and 6-5 in league play.

Aaron Smith took the complete-game loss, walking three with three strikeouts.

One of the Little Giants' five hits was a homer by Scott Root in the seventh.

### Baseball Roundup

Port Clinton, 6-17 and 3-9, scored a pair of runs on wild pitches in the bottom of the first inning against Mike Lipstraw.

Oak Harbor came back with two unearned runs off Brian Rogers in the second inning and added eight runs in the fourth and one in the fifth.

Lipstraw, who now owns both Oak Harbor victories, was replaced by Brian Schultz with two outs in the fifth.

#### Ross 8, Swanton 4

Bryan Myers, winning pitcher Ryan Smith, Jeremy Aldrich and Kyle Kusmer each had two of the Little Giants' 12 hits as Ross

evened its record at 11-11.

Smith, who drove in two runs, got relief help from Shane Moran after striking out 10 and walking five. Moran came on with the bases loaded in the seventh inning, allowing one to score, as he

recorded his fifth save.

Lakota 19, Gibsonburg 0

The Raiders collected including three by Jason Linger. Hollinger drove runs and scored twice as improved to 15-8 and 9-4 Suburban Lakes League.

### Legal/public notices

#### NOTICE OF APPLICATION

Public notice hereby is given that Bowlus Trucking Co., Inc., has filed with the Public Utilities of Ohio an application to amend Contract Motor Carrier permit No. 81 by adding, as a shipper, Union Camp Corporation, 6225 Camp Industrial Road, Solon, Ohio

44139. Applicant proposes to use at least one truck. Interested parties may obtain further information by addressing the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio 43266-0573.

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2515 West Granvil  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Attorneys for App  
May 20, 27  
June 3, 1993

## **High School**

### **All-GLL teams**

The All-Great Lakes League teams selected by the coaches:

#### **FIRST TEAM**

Pitchers: Aaron Smith, jr., Ross; Justin Keller, sr., Whitmer

Catcher: Brent Dukate, jr., Bedford

Infielders: 1st-Jeremiah Przybylski, jr., Clay; 2nd-Kevin McIlhargey, sr., Whitmer; SS-Tony Hammond, sr., Fostoria; 3rd-Mark Glick, jr., Napoleon

Outfielders: Aaron Mora, sr., Fostoria; Ted Nigh, sr., Northview; Jeremy Fritz, jr., Whitmer; Shane Heams, jr., Bedford

Designated hitter: Dan Tobias, sr., Clay; Jason Holmes, jr., Bedford

Utility: Chris Fussell, jr., Clay

Player-of-the-year: Tobias

Coach-of-the-year: Dick Kandik, Clay

#### **SECOND TEAM**

Pitchers: J.J. Edwards, sr., Clay; Matt LaPoint, sr., Whitmer

Catcher: Bryan Myers, sr., Ross

Infielders: 1st-Jason Thompson, jr., Whitmer; 2nd-Jason Giha, sr., Northview; SS-Scott Zgorzelski, sr., Bedford; 3rd-John Kayser, sr., Clay

Outfielders: Scott Root, sr., Ross; Dustin Smith, jr., Fostoria; Rhett Boyd, sr., Whitmer

Designated hitter: Matt Calmes, sr., Whitmer

Utility: Mike Germann, jr., Napoleon

#### **Ross honorable mention**

Jamie Reimer, Brian J. Wilson, Brian T. Wilson, Ryan Smith, Shane Moran

#### **Ross Metro All-Star Game selections**

Myers and Root

Game: 4 p.m., June 7 at University of Toledo