



**Fremont softball falls to Oregon Clay last season.** MOLLY CORFMAN/THE NEWS-MESSENGER

# Turner wants Ross to play with confidence

**Matthew Horn**

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Fremont Ross coach Megan Turner devoted one day last week to swag. Turner, however, wants confidence to be a staple for the Little Giants every day.

"We had Swag Day," Turner said. "They had to show confidence. In tough situations, show your swag and your confidence. You know what you're doing. Tell them to show their swag, and there's a new level."

Turner, who was an assistant coach last season, first wants Ross girls to control what they can control.

"Approach at the plate," she said. "Emotions. Reactions. The small things will allow us to create that big picture. If you work on the fundamentals every day, you can make the big plays when they happen."

Senior center fielder Kayla Rich and juniors Malayah Horn (third base) and Kaylee Dodson (second base) are returning starters. Sophomore first baseman/utility Mya Lenke started but is recovering from an injury.

"It's great to see how well the girls work together," Turner said. "If somebody makes a mistake, others uplift her. I've seen the girls grow and mature and they've built a culture to step up and motivate with confidence in each other."

"Their bond is exciting."

Senior Alexis Flores (right field) and sophomores Audrianna Melchor (pitcher), Maci Figley (first base) and Mattie Billow (left field) are new to starting roles. Senior Emily Morris and freshman Faith Beaver are catchers and freshman Jakaia Harper Horn takes over at shortstop.

"It's exciting they're young and they're stepping up," Turner said. "They're confident in their positions. The young talent in the program is good to see and it's promising for the future."

Melchor has varsity experience.

"She's put in a lot of work," Turner said. "I've seen her grow tremendously the last nine months. She has spin on the ball. If you ask her to do something, she'll do it."

Ross won 10 games last season, including three in the Three Rivers Athletic Conference.