

Ross girls win No.1

BETTSVILLE — Ross opened the girls softball season on a sweet note, stopping Bettsville 20-10 Friday afternoon.

The Lady Little Giants collected 14 hits, three off the bat of Diane Borys during the win. Ross scored in every inning, topped off by a pair of five-run outbursts.

Rhea Paulson, Lori Shoemaker and Sue Yingling had two hits apiece for Ross.

Janet Decker was the winning pitcher.

Today, Ross will host Lorain Senior and Admiral King in a double header at Rodger Young Park. The games begin at noon and 1:30 p.m.

SCORE BY INNINGS

	R—H		
Ross	222	535	1—20-14
Bettsville	021	024	1—10—4

WP: Janet Decker.

Season record: Ross 1-0.

Ross girls split

The Ross girls softball team split a doubleheader Saturday afternoon at Rodger Young Park, taking the first game 7-4 over Lorain Senior and dropping the second contest to Admiral King 21-18.

The weekend split gave the Lady Little Giants a 2-1 season record.

In the first game, Ross pulled out to a 5-1 lead after the first inning but Lorain took the lead in the fifth 6-3 with a four-run rally.

Ross came back to score a run in the bottom of the sixth and seventh innings to win the game. Cindy Gilson was the leading hitter for the Little Giants, going two for three. Sue Yingling added a double.

Ross also took the early lead in the second game, jumping to a quick 10-4 advantage after one inning. By the end of the third inning, Ross had built a 17-7 lead.

Admiral King, however, scored 14 runs in the final four innings to gain the win.

"We should have won that second game," Ross coach Christy Holland said, "but we just ran out of gas."

Yingling was two for three in the second game to pace Ross.

Lorain	101	040	0-6	4	9
Ross	500	001	1-7	6	7
WP: Diane Borys LP: Bauza					
Admiral King	421	733	1-21	7	10
Ross	1007	001	0-18	7	10
WP: Zurcher LP: Tina Schawb					

Pirates-Cards end first battle

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The St. Louis Cardinals were getting like part of the "Fam-alee" for the Pittsburgh Pirates.

But after meeting Pittsburgh eight times in the first 11 days of the season, the two hard-hitting National



THE IN YOUR FACE DISGRACE. A Lorain player puts the tag right in the face of an unidentified Ross softball player. The Lady Little Giants split a doubleheader with the two Lorain schools Saturday.

"I made up my mind to



SAFE AT HOME. A Findlay softball player slides into home following a passed ball in the first inning. Covering home plate for the Lady Little Giants is pitcher Jodi Frampton. Fin-

dlay scored 10 runs in the first inning en route to its 16-5 triumph over Ross. Story on page four.



MEMBERS OF THE ROSS girls softball team are, first row, left to right: Dawn Kashmer, Mary Long, Janet Dicker, Trescha Brown, Carolyn Forgatsch, Teresa Norrocky; second row: Jody Frampton, Amy Woessner, Linda Keller, Monica Lochotoski (no longer with the team), Lori Shoemaker, Dana

Michaels, Tina Schawb; third row: Assistant Coach Sue Wolf, Sue Yingling, Diane Borys, Kim Kelly, Cindy Gilson, Rhea Paulson, Lisa Pfeiffer, Lisa Riehl, Dale Barr, manager, Head Coach Christy Holland. Missing from the picture is Julie Richart.

Holland's view

Ross softball taking shape

By TOM STOREY
News-Messenger Sports Writer

It was a beautiful spring day with temperatures in the mid 60's and a refreshing breeze blowing out of the west. The bright yellow sun shown and not a cloud was in the clear blue sky.

Christy Holland was already on the practice field, measuring off the distances between bases and getting the field ready for practice. In a few minutes, the Ross girls softball team would be on the field, polishing their game for a 4:15 p.m. meeting with Findlay today at Rodger Young Park.

Holland loves softball and has been coaching girls teams for about 25 years, he says. When Ross started its program last year, he jumped at the chance to coach the squad.

In their first year, the Lady Little Giants went 7-6 and so far this season, they are even at 2-2. With a little better hitting and defense, Ross might be 4-0.

"Our big weakness has been hitting," Holland said one day before practice. "We're not hitting the ball like we should. We've also had a problem with errors but we hope to get that corrected in the next few games."

Holland has eight returning letterwomen from last season's team but still fields a young squad. He has only two seniors on the team. The rest are sophomores and juniors.

Many of the girls are new to fast pitch softball and are just starting to feel comfortable with the game. Holland says the team is probably a year away from peaking, but is looking forward to a good showing this year.

"We're still shifting people around and trying to find the right positions for the right persons," Holland explained. "That's part of the error problem."

"Next year we should be a very fine team. Everyone will be settled into positions and at least two-thirds of the team will have two years of playing. But I'm looking forward to a good year this year."

While Ross has been struggling in the field and with the bat so far this season, Holland says his pitching has looked pretty good.

The slender coach has five girls who can pitch and all have this season except for one.

"I have two pitchers who are sophomores. We look for some good pitching out of them," Holland said.

The sophomore pitchers Holland has are Janet

Dicker and Amy Woessner. Other pitchers are Diane Borys, Jody Frampton and Kim Kelly.

"Both hitting and pitching are of equal importance," Holland emphasizes. "If you can't hit the ball, you can't get any runs and you can't win ball games."

"On the other hand, bad pitching will lose you ball games."

The starting lineup for today's game for Ross will look like this: Cindy Gilson will bat first and play second base; batting second and playing right field will be Rhea Paulson; Sue Yingling will bat third and play first base; in the cleanup spot is Diane Borys and she will play left field;

Kim Kelly will bat fifth and play shortstop; Lisa Pfeiffer is the catcher and will bat sixth; Lori Shoemaker will play third and bat seventh; Dawn Kashmer will bat eighth and play center field and Janet Dicker will bat last and pitch.

On Saturday, the Lady Little Giants will travel to Lorain and play a doubleheader with Admiral King and Lorain Senior.

Both are in the eastern division of the Buckeye Conference as well as Ross. Elyria is the other member of the conference.

This is the first year of conference competition and the Buckeye was divided into two divisions to eliminate scheduling problems.

The best for last

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Peter Vidmar saved some of his best until the last during the opening night of the United States Men's Gymnastics Championships. But his top opponent, Jim Hartung, didn't.

"This was the best meet of my life," Vidmar said after taking the all-around lead Thursday with 57.550 points in the compulsories of the three-day meet. The UCLA freshman had

trailed Hartung, the current NCAA all-around champion from Nebraska, by .05 of a point going into the final event.

Vidmar finished in the top three in each of six events, winning the parallel bars and placing second in floor exercise and horizontal bar and third in still rings and vault.

The all-around competition is to follow tonight.



HERE COMES THE PITCH. Ross pitcher Jodi Frampton lets go of a pitch during the Lady Little Giants' game with Findlay at Rodger Young Park Friday afternoon. Ross lost 16-5.

Ross girls fall to Findlay 16-5

Findlay broke for 10 runs in the first inning and coasted the rest of the way to hand Ross a 16-5 defeat in girls softball at Rodger Young Park Friday afternoon.

Findlay took advantage of six walks and three hits to roll up the 10 runs in the opening inning. The Lady Trojans added three runs in the fifth and sixth.

Ross, now 2-3, got all of its runs in the fifth inning.

Rhea Paulson and Lori Shoemaker

had doubles and two RBI's apiece to pace the Lady Little Giants while Sue Yingling and Diane Borys each added two hits for Ross.

Sophomore Janet Dicker started the game for Ross and was the losing pitcher but gave way to Jodi Frampton early in the first inning.

Ross will play a doubleheader today with Lorain Senior and Admiral King in Lorain.

Elyria tops Ross 16-1

ELYRIA — Elyria broke to a 9-0 first inning lead and coasted the rest of the way to defeat Ross 16-1 in a girls Buckeye Conference softball game Wednesday night.

Jody Frampton started the game on the mound for the Lady Little Giants and surrendered eight runs before being relieved by Diane Borys early in the first inning.

Elyria added five more runs in the third and two in the sixth. Ross got its lone run in the fifth.

Rhea Paulson and Borys got Ross's only hits, each ripping a single. The Lady Little Giants were plagued by 11 errors.

Ross girls fell Old Fort 11-7

Ross scored six runs with only one hit in the third inning to pick up momentum and hand Old Fort an 11-7 setback in high school girls softball Friday at Rodger Young Park.

Old Fort committed four errors in the Ross third, and coupled with a pair of walks and Rhea Paulson's single, helped the Little Giants to a 7-1 lead after the frame.

The Lady Little Giants added a pair of runs in both the fourth and fifth innings to insure the victory.

Diane Borys had a single and a double for Ross. She was the only player for the Lady Little Giants with more than one

hit. Losing pitcher Beth Omlor allowed Ross only a half dozen hits.

Four Old Fort girls had two hits each as the Stockaders collected 11 hits in the losing effort. Wendy Miller singled and doubled, Jeananne Young singled and tripled, Lisa Burks singled twice and Beth Eachus also singled twice for Old Fort.

This morning at 10, Ross is to play its first Class AAA Sectional Tournament game in Ashland.

Score by innings

				R	H	E
Old Fort	001	121	2-	7	11	4
Ross	106	220	x-	11	6	6
WP: Jody Frampton; LP: Beth Omlor						
Season record: Old Fort 5-4, Ross 3-6.						

Bundle of miscues cost Ross

The Ross girls' softball team, plagued by 16 errors, dropped an 18-16 contest to Buckeye Conference rival Elyria at Rodger Young Park Monday afternoon.

Four errors in the seventh inning were particularly costly for the Lady Little Giants. Ross had the lead 15-14 entering the first inning but four errors helped Elyria score four runs and take the

game.

"Those 16 errors did it again," Ross Coach Christy 'Long Schlong' Holland said. "We just can't shake our error problem. We were ahead going into the seventh inning but we just couldn't hold them off."

Diane Borys, Sue Yingling and Lisa Pfeiffer each went three for four to lead the Lady Little Giants. Borys and Yingling had doubles.

Ross travels to Findlay on Wednesday and then will be home Thursday and

Friday for games against Norwalk and Bettsville.

In another girls softball game, Mohawk scored 10 runs in the first three innings to take a 10-4 lead and coasted the rest of the way to defeat Old Fort 13-6.

Lisa Burks, Barb Gabel and Jeananne Young had one hit apiece for the Lady Stockaders.

Elyria 18, Ross 16

Score by inning

				R	H	E
Elyria	160	421	4-18	12	8	
Ross	330	081	1-16	14	16	

WP: Machock; LP: Diane Borys
Mohawk 13, Old Fort 6

Score by inning

				R	H	E
Mohawk	424	110	1-13	9	7	
Old Fort	310	020	0-	6	3	7

WP: Robin Parsell; LP: Lisa Burks

Season record: Old Fort 4-5

ED BARN

REMODELING?

Bugaboo haunts Ross

Errors continued to plague the Ross girls softball team as they dropped their eighth decision of the season to Norwalk 21-6 at Rodger Young Park Thursday afternoon.

The Ross squad committed 12 errors to help Norwalk get its victory. The loss gave Ross a 3-8 mark on the year.

The Lady Little Giants fell behind 5-3 after the first inning and trailed 6-4 after three innings. They closed the gap to one run in the fourth but Norwalk exploded for seven runs in the top half of the fifth and scored eight in the last two innings to put the game away.

Jody Frampton, Diane Borys and Lisa Pfieffer had one hit apiece for Ross.

The Lady Little Giants face Bettsville today at 4 p.m.

SCORE BY INNINGS

				R	H	E
Norwalk	501	073	5—21	13	6	
Ross	301	110	0—6	3	12	

WP: Leiphacher LP: Diane Borys

Season record: Ross 3-8

Ross girls defeat Margaretta

The Ross girls softball team ended its season on a winning note, defeating the Margaretta Polar Bears 11-10 Wednesday afternoon at Rodger Young Park.

The triumph gave the Lady Little Giants a 5-9 mark for the season.

"We really played a good game," Ross Coach Christy Holland said. "We cut down our errors considerably."

Errors have plagued the squad for much of the year but the Lady Little Giants had only four miscue's Wednesday compared to Margaretta's six.

Ross took a 3-1 lead after the first

inning but Margaretta rallied for six runs in the third to take a 7-3 advantage. The Lady Little Giants regained the lead in the fourth when they scored six runs but Margaretta countered with three in the fifth to go back on top 10-9.

Ross scored the winning runs in the bottom of the sixth.

Cindy Gilson, Lisa Pfeiffer and Julie Richart paced Ross with one hit and two RBI's apiece.

				R	H	E
Margaretta	106	030	0—	10	5	6
Ross	300	602	x—	11	7	4

WP: Diane Borys LP: Wilbur
Season record: Ross 5-9.