

Giants Topple

Ashland 3 To 1

Fremont Nine Meets Elyria There Today

BELLEVUE—The Bellevue Class AA sectional baseball tournament honors belong to Fremont Ross following the Little Giants' shaky 3 to 1 victory over Ashland Thursday, here at the Greenwood Heights diamond.

Triumph sends Ross against the winner of the Galion AA sectional, game to be played sometime next week in Galion.

If Ross defeats the Galion sectional winner, the Fremont nine will tackle the winner of the Swanton sectional winner vs. Defiance sectional winner, final game to be played at Anderson Field, Fremont. Winner at Fremont advances to the Regional.

This afternoon, Ross engaged Elyria with the winner to play in the Buckeye Sports Day baseball competition next Friday in Elyria.

Ross and Ashland collected four hits apiece, all singles, but Coach Lawrence Doren's Fremont club capitalized on errors to win the decision.

Both teams were guilty of leaky fielding, Ashland committing six errors and Fremont five.

Gary Bierly started on the mound for Ross, allowed the lone Ashland run and four hits, struck out five and walked five. Ashland had the tying runs on second and third with one out in the top of the seventh when lefty Doug Gallagher was brought in in relief of the tiring Bierly. Gallagher proceeded to strike out the final two Ashland hitters.

Tall righthander Jim Diffendorfer worked on the mound for Ashland and drew the loss. Bierly was the winning pitcher. Diffendorfer struck out 10, walked three, gave up four hits.

Ross picked up a run in the first on a walk to Kelly, an error to Diffendorfer on Bierly's ground ball which he threw into center field trying to pick off Kelly going into second base, Kelly reaching third on the error. Chuck Houdeshell grounded out, Kelly scoring.

Double Error

In the Ross second, Mann reached base on a walk. Steve Cecil struck out but the Ashland catcher let the ball roll back to the screen. Cecil was an automatic out but the catcher, trying to catch Mann at second, uncorked a wild toss. The Ashland second baseman, attempting to catch Mann at third, heaved the ball over the head of the third sacker, Mann crossing the plate with the second Ross run.

A similar double-error fault by Ashland produced the third Fremont run in the fifth. Harry Walter led off with an infield hit. He reached second on a passed ball. Walter came all the way home as Ashland catcher Jack Kehl tossed another wild throw into short center field and, second baseman Gary Stoufer bobbled Bierly's ground ball.

Ashland scored its only run in the sixth on a walk, ground out and single by Larry Maneese.

Diffendorfer had two singles to lead Ashland's attack. Kelly, Bierly, Houdeshell and Harry Walter rapped singles for all of Ross high's hits.

Bierly was in trouble in every inning but the fourth when he retired the Ashland batters in order.

Ashland (1)

Ross (3)

ab r h

Sachs,lf 3 0 0 Level,1b 3 0 0

Waite,rf 3 0 0 Kelly,cf 2 1 1

Briggs,ss 4 0 0 Bierly,p,3b 3 0 1

Diffendorfer,p 3 0 2 Houdeshell,rf 3 0 1

Kehl,c 3 0 1 M.Walter,ss 3 0 0

Stoufer,2b 4 0 0 Gallag'er,lf,p 2 0 0

Herron,3b 3 1 0 Mann,2b 1 1 0

Myers,1b 3 0 0 Cecil,c 3 0 1

Maneese,cf 3 0 1 H.Walter,3b 3 1 1

Walby,lf 0 0 0

Totals 29 1 4

Totals 23 3 4

Score by innings:

Ashland 000 001 0-1-4-6

Ross 110 010 x-3-4-5

Errors—Diffendorfer, Kehl 2, Stoufer 2,

Herron, Level, Houdeshell, M. Walter,

Mann 2. Runs batted in—Houdeshell, Ma-

neese. Struck out by—Bierly 5, Gallagher

2, Diffendorfer 10. Walked by—Bierly 5,

Diffendorfer 3. Passed Balls—Kehl 2,

Cecil. Hits off Bierly—4 for 1 run in 6½

innings. Hits off Gallagher—0 for 0 runs in

¾ inning. Hits off Diffendorfer—4 for 3

runs in 6 innings. Winning pitcher—Bierly.

Losing pitcher—Diffendorfer. Wild pitch—

Bierly. Umpires—Austin Shadle (P), Tom

Howarth (B).