

Shelby walks by Little Giants

Woodmore gets revenge in Div. IV

News-Messenger reports

McCUTCHINVILLE — After pitching sensational softball games all season, Fremont Ross pitcher Jodi Kusmer picked the wrong time for control problems.

Kusmer walked eight batters and Shelby took advantage to earn an 11-5 win in a Division I district semifinal.

"I don't think I've ever seen Jodi Kusmer walk that many," said Ross coach Cheryl Schell.

SOFTBALL

"We just put too many runners on base. It was very uncharacteristic."

The Whippets (18-6) pounded out 11 hits, including a double and triple by Beth Newlan as they advanced to the district final against Defiance.

"The umpire had a tight strike zone and they adjusted and we didn't," Schell said. "(Kusmer) tried to get them to fish (at bad pitches) and they wouldn't do it. She started getting hit hard and became afraid to throw the ball in there."

The Little Giants managed just six hits and left nine runners on base.

"Give Shelby credit, they adjusted," Schell said. "We swung at some bad pitches."

Emily Dowell homered and Tiffany Nitchke went 2-for-4 with a double for the Little Giants.

Ross (15-4) travels to Bedford, Mich., today to face the Kicking Mules in a Great Lakes League game.

"This team needs to show some character and bounce back and win," Schell said.

"We need this game to have any chance at winning the league. The seniors deserve to win."