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## Errors don't help Little Giants in non-league loss

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FREMONT- Despite a wonderful pitching performance by Cameron Hoard, the Fremont Ross baseball team surrendered 5 errors in the field, allowing 5 extra runs for the Perkins Pirates in a 9-1 non-conference win on Thursday.

"Cameron did a great job on the hill," said Ross coach Mark King. "For him to only give up four earned runs against a team with the caliber of Perkins says a lot. We just need to stop committing so many errors in the field. We can't expect a good outcome with four and five errors a game."

The scoring started for the Pirates (2-0) in the first inning when Matt Gundlach scored on a past ball by the Giants (0-3) after three straight singles loaded the bases for the Pirates. Two more hits led to two more runs as the Pirates took a 3-0 lead after the first.

In the second, Little Giants pitcher Cameron Hoard settled down and started sitting the Pirates down. After striking out the first two hitters of the inning, Hoard then got Gundlach to ground out to short to end the inning and keep the game in reach for the Giants. Hoard took the loss for the Little Giants, going the distance with five strikeouts and three walks.

The trouble for the Giants would start in the third inning where the defense committed three errors, but only allowing one run to make the Pirates lead 4-0.

"We did a lot of positive things today," said Hoard. "But, we still need to cut down on our errors. Perkins is a very tough team with very tough hitters."

Perkins scored consistently from the third inning to the seventh inning, scoring five more runs off of two more Ross errors. But a one run lead would have sufficed as Tyler Dix and the Pirates defense took care of the home half of baseball.

Dix, who is usually the team's number one catcher took a no-hitter into the sixth inning as the Pirates kept adding on the runs.

"Tyler had a very good game on the mound," said Perkins coach Ray Neill. "I'm also very proud of our outfield after today's game, it's so hard to play the field with the wind blowing like this."

"I just went out and threw strikes, and my defense did the rest for me," said Dix, who took the win for the Pirates, pitching five innings with three strikeouts, one walk and one hit surrendered.

The Little Giants bats didn't get anything going until the sixth inning when lead-off hitter Jake Hiestand singled to end the no-hit campaign and later scored to cut the Perkins lead to 8-1.

"Jake is a very coachable player. He learns a lot and is very aggressive at the plate, and that's what were looking for in our lead-off man," King said. "Every game he gives us his all, he's always giving 110 percent."

After losing the no-hitter in the sixth, Spencer Bryant came on in relief for Dix. He pitched two innings two walks and three hits.

"We're a young team that makes young mistakes," said King. "I'm extremely confident in my players that we will right this ship. It only takes one night for things to change, we just need to play better defense."

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