

600 Boys Take Part In Pee wee Baseball Program



GLIDE'S 15-YEAR-OLD CHAMPS captured title with 12-2 record. Back row from left to right are David Evans, Gary Wagner, Ronnie Dell, Wayne Kennaday, Greg Kuykendall, Richard Harvey, Jerry McCourtney and Coach Jack Forsythe. Kneeling from left are Harold Gaylor, Billy Eswine, Ronnie Quimby, Larry Jones, Danny Kenny, Dennis Gilkeson, Eugene Hopper, Paul Amann and Frank Churchill. (Photos on this page by Chris of Fredrickson's Photo Lab).

Civic Workers Made Plan Possible; Move Grew Fast Since Initial Year In 1947

By JIM VANCE
Sports Writer, News-Review

Concluding its biggest year ever this weekend in Douglas County is pee wee baseball — a recreational and athletic program fashioned by sports-minded citizens for the youngsters of their respective communities.

Since 1947 when about 80 boys turned out for a well-organized summer course in baseball in Roseburg, the program has expanded in organization to include nine communities and up to 600 kids in the county.

Leader in the development of little boys' ball in Roseburg and in the county has been ex-Mayor Al Flegel, recognized fondly by his associates as Little League Car.

Spasmodic effort to initiate little league ball for local youngsters before World War II was based on the principle of summer recreation with the bill serving about 15 or 20 prospects.

During the war years, Mel Ingram, coaching at Roseburg High at that time, continued the pee wee program in conjunction with the Junior Legion ball which he was coaching at that time.

It was not until 1952 that most communities around the county began to undertake the development of pee wee ball under qualified instruction. Drain, for one, had always sponsored some type of summer program for its youngsters but it was among the last members to join what has become known as the Southern Oregon Pee wee Baseball League this year.

As the idea caught on, the communities of Myrtle Creek, Sutherlin and Riddle organized their branches with coached teams in 1952. In 1953, teams from these towns along with Roseburg and a newly founded organization in Glide began operating as a league.

Between 400 and 500 kids were served in these communities by their programs through each of these organizational years of 1952 and 1953.

Tyke Smith of Yoncalla directed his efforts this year in getting Cottage Grove and Drain to join the Southern Oregon Pee wee League this summer and his success in doing so helped produce two divisions of the league in the county.

Northern teams played a double round robin schedule among their four representatives. Winner was Yoncalla, with the other teams, Sutherlin, Cottage Grove and Drain carrying on a season-long struggle for second place.

In the Southern Division of the league, play included six communities, including the new branches of Green and Winston-Dillard. Holdovers in the league were Riddle, Glide, Myrtle Creek and Roseburg.

The program met with enthusiasm in its first year at both Winston-Dillard and Green. Green alone was represented by 60 boys.

Problems confronted the operations of the league from the start of its season this year, however, and all was not smooth through the early stages of the year. But with one purpose in common for all concerned, as the season progressed the recreational aspects of the program were able to assert themselves to all concerned and harmony in conducting the league was apparent through most of the season.

One of the more serious challenges to the program's welfare was the division of play into two age groups in the Southern Division. Various communities, with individual age problems were confronted with dim prospects of fielding representative teams in the two age groups. Changing the age limit from 14 years to 15 in the early part of the season led to serious complications for some teams in fielding a team to fit the new age requirements and one community, Riddle, was forced to forfeit much of its schedule.

But the complications which arose from this problem of one community has ushered in the idea of even better organization in the

future. Rather than wait until the season's onset next year to organize, league officials plan a meeting sometime in October to iron out apparent difficulties.

Chief among these problems, as mentioned, will be the age group division and the division of the league into two sections. Prospects of one undivided circuit will be considered as well as extension of the pee wee program to serve 15-year-olds in the northern communities. Northern Division teams played only in the 12-year old class this year.

The financial aspects of the program were no less minimized, and Roseburg's teams were entirely supported by donations. About \$2,300 was spent this year as compared to the \$450 that was spent in 1947.

In the years 1952 and 1953, money was appropriated from the city budget's recreational program but money was not made available with the bill serving about 15 or 20 prospects.

Pee wee ball has developed the playing talents of most of today's high school baseballers and as an example only three members of this year's Roseburg Junior Leg district championship team have not participated at one time in the organization.

Coaches who carried the program in the league this year included Jack Forsythe, Glide; Bill Harper, Roseburg; Bob Abrahamson, Myrtle Creek; Bill George, Riddle; Roy Harrington, Winston-Dillard; Bob Easter, Green; Swede Sikstrom, Sutherlin; Tyke Smith, Yoncalla; Carl Wickham, Drain; Frank Divers, Cottage Grove.

State Baseball Meet To Commence Monday

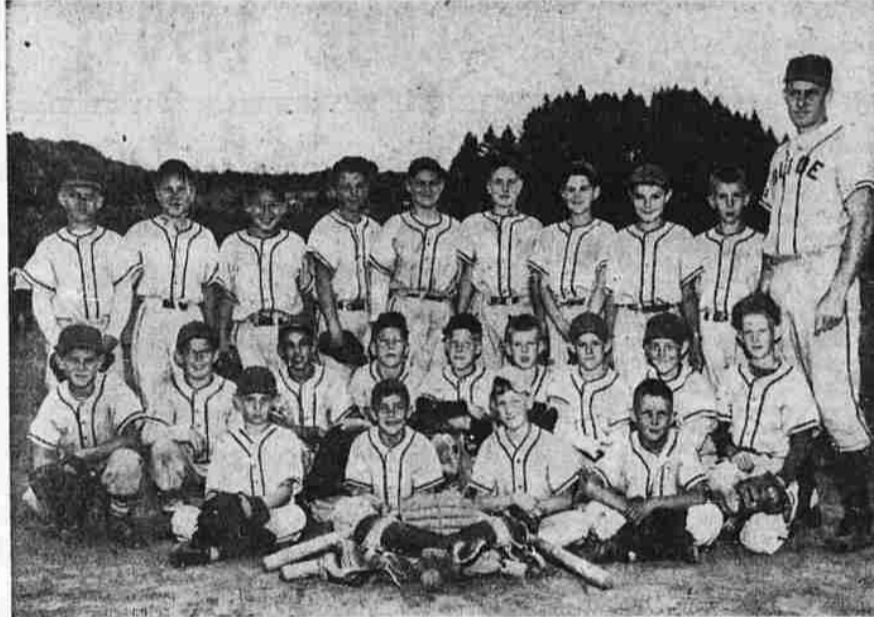
PORTLAND — Oregon's American Baseball Congress tournament opens here Monday with 18 teams scheduled to play in the first round, which ends Thursday.

This is the schedule, the first night game being at 7 p. m. and the second at 9 p. m. Play will be at Westmoreland Park, on McLoughlin Boulevard.

Monday, Oregon City vs. Tillamook; Sweet Home vs. Heales of Portland; Tuesday, Norgans of Portland vs. Willamette; Drain vs. Verboort; Wednesday, Gaston vs. American Legion of Portland; Banks vs. Longshoremen of Portland; Thursday, Condon vs. Friberg of Portland; Archer of Portland vs. Hood River.



TWELVE-YEAR-OLD CLASS CHAMPIONS from Roseburg pose with coaches Bill Harper and Don Severson. Team ended regular season with 12-2 record ahead of Glide. Roseburg plays Yoncalla's Northern Division titlists this weekend in series to determine county champs. From back row left to right are Bob Rice, Larry Hink, Jerry Halliday, Bob Scott, Len Baxter, Russ Dandero, Collet McElroy. Front row are Jim McGehey, Bob Stormer, Vern Stoddard, Chuck Hiney, Ed Lorenzen.



COACH JACK FORSYTHE and his 12-year-old Glide team placed second in Southern Division. Back row from left are John Morberg, Billy Mitchell, Chuck Cadmore, Johnny Livingston, Claude Roberts, Gary Kennaday, Smithy Earp, Roland Ried, Virgil Miller. In second row are Ronnie Polley, Darryl Cellers, Bill Franks, Butch Quimby, John Churchill, Dennis Miller, David Cellers, Eugene Wagner and Robbie Blakely. Seated are Rickie Watkins, Mickey Evans, Johnny DeGroot and Mickey Walker.

Redskins Swamp Naval Gridders

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — The Washington Redskins swamped the 11th Naval District all-star football team, 52-0, before a crowd of 10,000 in an exhibition game Friday night.

Washington quarterbacks Jack Scarbath of Maryland and Al Dorow of Michigan State each threw two touchdown passes during the evening.

Congden, Wood Head Golf Team

TACOMA — Chuck Congden of the Tacoma Country and Golf Club and Wendell Wood of the Eugene, Ore., Country Club will serve as non-playing co-captains of the professional team which meets a picked squad of Northwest amateurs in the annual Hudson Cup matches Aug. 14-15 at the Eugene course, it was announced here Friday.

Despite a back injury which caused him to miss both the Canadian Open and the Northwest Open, Congden finished at the top of the point standings which determined the personnel of the pro aggregation, posting a 365 total for the season's competitive play.

Runner-up was Joe Greer of Yakima with 348, Eddie Hogan of Portland was third at 226 and Harold West of Eugene was fourth with 200.

Other members of the pro squad and their points: Dave Killan, Eugene, 160; Ray Honsberger, Seattle, 120; Joe Steiger, Eugene 108; Dick Haskell, Seattle, 77; John Langford, Portland, 61; Bill Welch, Kennewick, 50; and Bob McKendrick, Oswego, Ore., 43.

Other professionals who registered points during the season were Bobby Litton, Vancouver, Wash., 40; Leo Cauloche, Olympia, 30; Al Williams, Medford, Ore., 25; JJM Russell, Walla Walla, 18; Bunny Mason, Salem, 15; and Larry Lamberger, Portland, 12.



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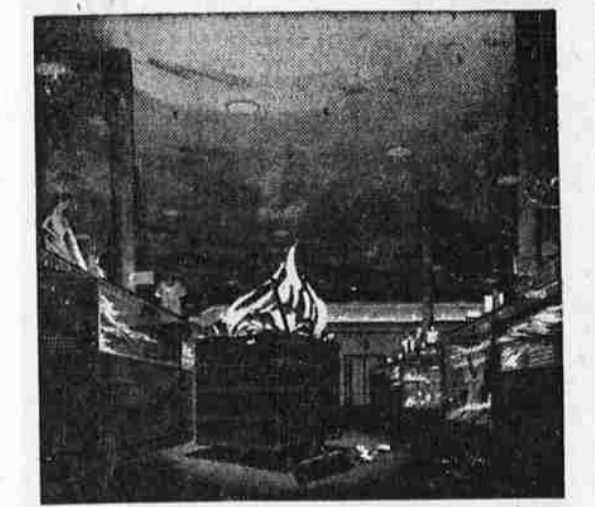
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