

# LL All-stars primed for Redmond opener

Optimistically, Manager Ted Toll thinks his Willow Creek all-stars are going to surprise a few people this week.

The Willow Creek Little League all-stars, represented by Ione, Heppner, Lexington and Hardman ball players will leave Thursday for Hood River and the District 5 Little League tourney.

Good hitting is the teams best asset, Toll said, along

with Jerry Stefani, coach, and added that the squad's pitching should come on. Toll was optimistic when he noted that Willow Creek won their opener last year.

He said he thinks this year's squad can out do even that performance.

Willow Creek will open the tourney with a 10:30 a.m. contest against Redmond. If they win, they will advance into the winners bracket and play

either Deschutes or The Dalles.

Other teams in the tournament to qualify for state are Columbia from Boardman, Arlington, Umatilla, Stanfield and Echo who meet Jefferson County at 3:30 p.m.; Hood River will meet the winner of the Hermiston-The Dalles Western game, to be played Wednesday evening at 6 p.m.

Doug Holland, a right-handed hurler, should get the nod

from Toll to work the mound in the opener. Holland, one of five Giants that made the team, joins league teammates John Breidenbach, Robert Bier, Wayne Wilson and Don Lott. Wilson is from Hardman and the other four from Heppner.

From the Indians, an Ione squad, John Murray, Craig Gutierrez, Mary Kincaid, Jeff Hams and Don Taylor will vye for starting positions. Kincaid is the only girl on the squad. Last year there were two.

The Dodgers and Braves fielded two men each on the Willow Creek all-stars. From the Dodgers, Rick Klaus and Kelly Crewse, both Heppner join the squad.

The Braves will be represented by Harry Groshens and Earl Hammond. Groshens is from Heppner, Hammond from Lexington.

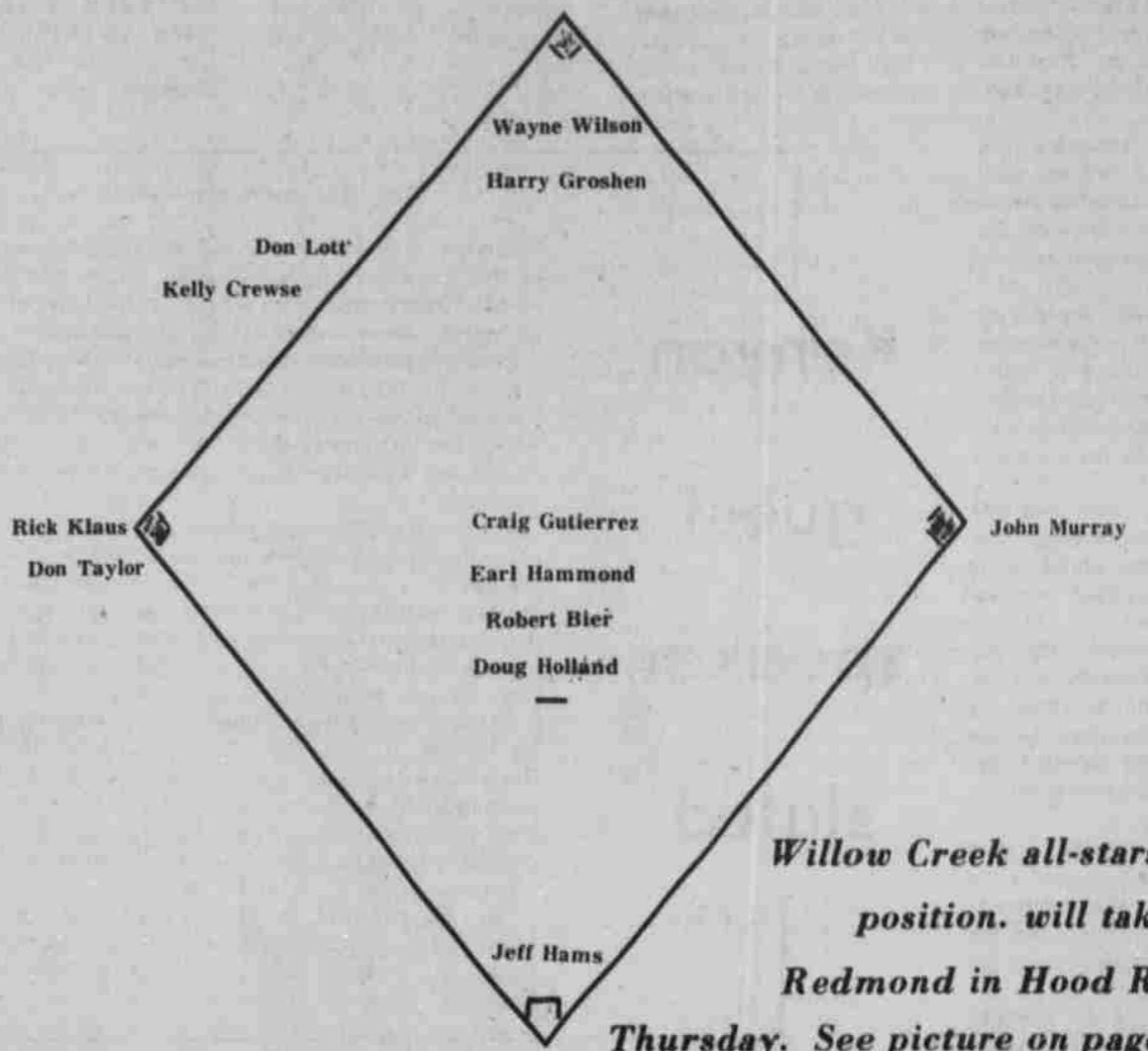
Two alternates, Andy Gorman is from the Braves and Mike Walsingham, from the Dodgers.

The team is coached by Jerry Stefani, Ione and Ted Toll, Heppner.

In practice games this summer, the Willow Creek squad bombed Arlington at Ione 11-4 and whipped Pilot Rock in Heppner Saturday 7-3.

John Breidenbach

Mary Kincaid



Willow Creek all-stars, by position, will take on Redmond in Hood River Thursday. See picture on page 10.

## Heppner Invit. Sunday

More than 120 swimmers will merge in Heppner Sunday for the first annual, Heppner Invitational Swim Meet.

Heppner will host Baker, Enterprise and John Day in the "B" meet. Heppner swim coach Doug Sams expects at least 120 swimmers.

Sams is optimistic, too, about his Heppnerite club. He said the championship will be between Heppner and John Day.

"It'll be between us and John Day," he said, "if we swim good, we could edge John Day out because of our depth."

John Day will be sparked by Sam Glass, who has made a name for himself in many Eastern Oregon meets this year and last.

Sams is eyeing possible winners in Kelli Bergstrom, Dale Holland, Brian Kerr, Greg Connor, Lottie Laughlin and Cam George.

He said he "expects everybody to swim well." Trophies will be awarded to first place winners and ribbons to the top six placers.

The meet is slated to start at 1 p.m. Sunday afternoon.

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