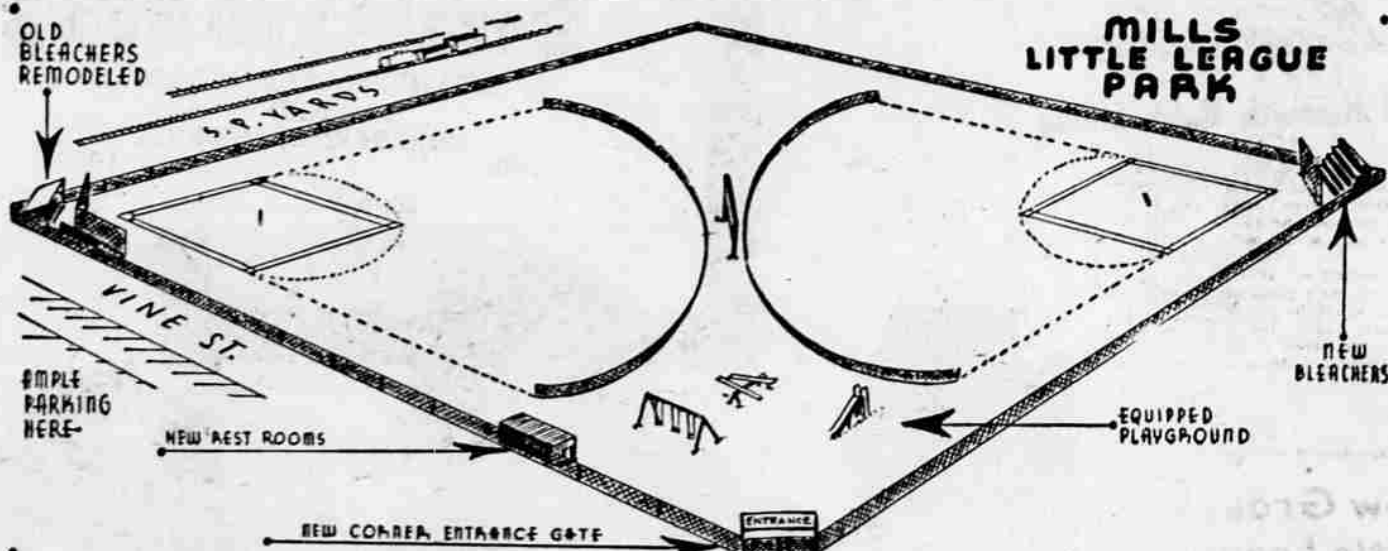




LONG SOUGHT LITTLE LEAGUE HOME—Pictured is the artist Jim Floyd's conception of the Mills Little League Park as it will appear upon completion of plans slated for Recreation Field in Mills Addition. The work is to be done by volunteers on a community project basis. Not shown in the diagram are

dugouts planned for both diamonds and additional stands to extend along the basepaths. The curved fences shown in the center of the field are removable, thus allowing full use of the field during football and other school programs.

Little League Sets High Principles For Players, Coaches; Aids In Citizenship

Although the Little League baseball program in the Klamath Falls area is barely more than a year old, Little League Baseball, Inc. on a national level, marks the start of its 20th year of operation this season.

There are eight paragraphs that explain, in detail, the exact reasons for the continued success, growth and popularity of the Little League program over such a long period of time. These eight

paragraphs encompass the "Credo of the Little League Volunteer":

I Will . . .
Safeguard Little League as a national asset and help endow it with the highest possible standards.
Respect the boy as an individual. Try to understand his capabilities, limitations, and problems of growing up.
Be an exemplar in the grow-

ing movement of Little League, ready to improve the estate of our youngsters whenever possible, and to find honest enjoyment in the creative service and teaching the program affords.

Recognize obligations in training boys and teaching lessons of fair play, discipline and teamwork.

Keep myself informed in basic understanding and knowledge of the objectives of the program.
Cooperate in scrupulous under-

standing of the rules and regulations which are the strength of the Little League.

Encourage volunteer support of parents, educators and all agencies devoted to the welfare of youth.

Protect the Little League franchise against exploitation and use of Little League players for purposes of commercialization or personal profit.

A credo such as this, no matter

how diligently applied, cannot be a panacea for juvenile delinquency, nor is it intended as such.

It can however, in its proper application, prove a way of life in the United States that not only safeguards our present well-being, but might well prove a guarantee of continued good will, prosperity and happiness for future generations, as each of today's Little Leaguers grows up to take his place in our world.

Little League Ball Off To Season Start In Area

By WAYNE SCOTT
Herald and News Sports Editor

Tuesday night in Gem Stadium the Klamath Falls Little League, Inc. opens its 1959 campaign. Its second year of active participation in organized Little League baseball and its first season as a group qualified to send a team to the Little League World Series slated for Williamsport, Pennsylvania, in August.

On June 12, another group of 90 youngsters, 10 through 12, will repeat Tuesday's performance as

the brand new South Suburban Little League gets underway with its big jamboree also at Gem. The new league, like the earlier group, may play only on a local level for the balance of this season, then at the completion of its second season, also plan on entering a team in regional and national tournament competition.

Between the two leagues, each completely separate units with individual sets of officials, sponsors and coaches, 180 boys resplendent with regulation uniforms, will compete in a full schedule of league competition with the emphasis placed on the interests of the boy rather than the importance of winning.

In addition to the 180 youngsters encompassed in the "major" local league program, perhaps twice that number are getting the opportunity to play in exactly the same atmosphere with the possible exception of the lack of uniforms, in a completely supervised and regulated "minor" or "farm" team system.

Naturally, as is the case with most projects in which the interest and enthusiasm displayed in the Little League program predominates, there is a large number of boys, who for the lack of time, room, facilities, supervisory personnel, and in some cases, ability, are still sidelined, forced to adopt the role of spectators for at least another season.

This, of course, seems a shame, and in the eyes of the inactive lad is almost a calamity.

The brighter side of the picture, however, shows that little more than a year ago there was no Little League at all in Klamath Falls or its environs and that a much greater number of boys had no chance of any kind to play baseball, despite the efforts of an overtaxed park and recreation department to provide softball and other activities to fill the young-

sters' time.

The Little League program, did not, however, just leap into existence in this two-year period. The opening jamboree in 1958 in Gem Stadium was the culmination of nearly five years of work, plans and frustrations of a small group of local citizens who clearly recognized the need for and the benefits of an efficient summer program such as the present Little League and quietly set about translating these thoughts into action.

No one man, nor group of officials, is alone responsible for the development of Little League in Klamath Falls.

The sensible progression of training for youngsters who wish to learn baseball from the ground up requires that the boys participate in their own age groups, with other boys of like capabilities and limitations so far as the sport is concerned.

The Cover

All set for a big season of Little League baseball in and around Klamath Falls this summer is this group of players belonging to both the Klamath Falls Little League, Inc. and the South Suburban Little League. Each league is composed of six, 12 boy teams. The lads are, from the bottom, left to right (team affiliations shown in parentheses): John Stillwell (Bend - Portland), Mike Kirkpatrick (Teamsters Local 911), Dale Down (DARCO), Jim Bridges (Hal's Sport Shop), Mike Phillips (Kingsley), Rickie Gustafson (House of Discount), Larry Stokes (Oregon Food), Richard Lauchhammer (Car-Ad-Co), David Putnam (House of Discount), Jim Schweigert (Metler Bros.), Curtis Coleman (Park Cabinet-Moyina Heights), Steven Young (Weyerhaeuser-Don's), and Rick Brusterhous (Johns-Manville).

tations so far as the sport is concerned.

A normal starting point is in the softball program which, although it covers groups ranging from 5 to 6 years old through manhood, depending on the boy's preference for a type of ball, is most times considered preparation for the boy's move into hardball.

The Little Leagues, after thorough study, consider the age of 10 as the ideal point at which a boy may be ready to play "hardball." After participating in the Little League through the age of 12, the youngster would then be ready for the next step.

In Klamath Falls, as in many other communities, the next step is the Babe Ruth League, which encompasses ages 13 through 15. Following Babe Ruth League comes the American Legion in Klamath Falls, for boys 16 and 17. From here on, the boy, providing the ability and desire exists, may move on into semi-pro (Klamath Falls) baseball or other groups that maintain no age limitations.

In Klamath Falls, the Babe Ruth League came first, possibly because of the availability of youngsters already interested in baseball by other sources, the junior high and high school programs, for example. Another possible reason for origination of the Babe Ruth League ahead of the Little League was for lack of availability of supervisory and coaching personnel. At any rate, Babe Ruth League ball began in Klamath Falls four years ago.

With the advent of the Babe Ruth League the persons interested in the full development of an overall program saw the need heightened for work with sub-Babe Ruth age boys, if for nothing more than to provide the potential players with a background in the sport.

At the risk of failing to recognize individuals who played an important part in organizing the

Little Leagues, a partial list of those who worked so hard include Loren Binney, Bud Adkins, Floyd Phelps B. M. Antle, Jack Kennitzer, George Sprague, Marv Cunningham, Ray Coffman, Clayton Hannon and Bob Bonney among others.

This group formed a nucleus that was to struggle through a number of adversities, one of which, strangely enough, was public opinion, toward their goal.

Realizing the importance of securing the aid of the right group of officials and leaders to help

(Continued On Page 3)



GENE FAVELL is directing the Klamath Falls Little League for the second consecutive season. Favell, one of the original group responsible for the growing success of Little League baseball locally, terms the program ideal for "not the emphasis on winning but on the knowledge gained."



MAJOR WILLIAM HARRIS, of Kingsley Field, has shouldered the responsibility of serving as the first president of the newly formed South Suburban Little League. Harris is assisted by a group of suburban citizens and Air Force personnel.