Page B2-The Chronicle, Thursday, August 29, 1985

Softball

Franco's makes world tourney

By DAVID BULLA Chronicle Sports Editor

Monica Roberts is used to the small ball. Roberts pitches for Franco's Boss Ladies, a Winston-Salem softball team that will play in the United States Slo-Pitch Softball Association Class B World Championships this weekend in Johnson City, Tenn. More than 100 teams will participate. "'I played baseball when I was seven or eight," Roberts said. "So I'm ready for this. The USSSA ball is not much bigger than a baseball, 11 inches in circumference." A baseball is 91/4.

"You can toss it on a arc of 3 to 10 feet," Roberts said. "The larger ASA (American Softball Association) arc is 6-12. So you can flatten out your pitches more."

In her first year with Franco's, Roberts has mastered pitching the smaller softball. The righthander takes a 25-7 record into the World Championships.

Success is nothing new for Roberts. The Reidsville native helped Winston-Salem State to its second consecutive Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association championship in April. She posted a 23-2 mark with 23 complete games and 13 shutouts.

"Playing softball keeps me doing something constructive in the summertime," said the all-CIAA hurler. "I also did it so I could stay in shape."

Roberts gets plenty of support from WSSU teammate Faye Cobb, who has led the Boss Ladies to a 54-16 record and Winston-Salem Astro League championship.

Cobb, another Reidsville product, plays the sport more like a man than a woman. She has a .677 batting average with 27 homers. In the North Carolina Women's State Championships two weeks ago, the shortstop hit four homers, including a grand slam.

But Cobb is not the only standout on Manager Francisco Hardnez's team. Right-center fielder Teresa Hall has put her all-around athletic talent to good use, hitting 23 homers and batting .473. Hall is the team's captain.

"This is the best team I've ever had personnelwise," said Hardnez, who has won more than 500 games as a softball manager. "The big thing is

Local Sports



Cynthia Floyd of Franco's Boss Ladies works on her fundamentals (photo by James Parker).

recruiting. You want to win tournaments, you have to get the talent."

The Boss Ladies, who have won six tournaments this summer, advanced to the World Championships based on a second-place performance in the state tournament. They forfeited the deciding game when rain and lightning got too close for comfort.

"There also were bats flying around the park," Hardnez said. "There was no way I was going to ask my players to compete under those conditions."

The Boss Ladies' manager said he could have taken his team to the Class B World Championships in Concord, Calif. "But we chose the shorter route because we didn't have funds to cover an undertaking of that dimension."

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Tiny Indians open with Lewisville

The Tiny Indians football program begins the new season next Saturday by hosting Lewisville at Atkins Middle School.

It's the beginning of an eightgame schedule. The rest of the schedule is as follows: Sept. 14 -at Mount Tabor; Sept. 21 -- Tiny Greyhounds; Sept. 28 -- Tiny Demons; Oct. 5 -- at Northwest Packers; Oct. 12 -- at Ardmore; Oct. 19 -- at the Mineral Springs Vikings; Oct. 26 -- Walkertown.

The top team in the Indians' camp is the Midget group, coached by Tom Brown. Top players included Preston Wright, Shane Allen, Phillip Warren, Earl Langley and Marion Hawkins.

A large number of players tried out for the five Tiny Indian teams. The youngest group, the Mighty Mites, attracted 70 players trying out for 26 spots on the roster.

Other coaches include Bobby Giles (Mighty Mites), Thurmond Edwards (Junior Pee Wees), Curtis Green (Pee Wees) and Donald Lewis (Junior Midgets).

Boss Ladies Honored

Mayor Wayne A. Corpening commended Franco's Boss Ladies softball team this week for their outstanding play in the recent state championships.

Manager Francisco Hardnez's team finished second in the United States Slo-Pitch Softball Association Class B tournament in Gaston.

Sluggers Advance

The Jerry Watkins Sluggers will play in the ASA Class E State Tournament this weekend in Raleigh.

The Sluggers advanced by winning the District II championship two weeks ago.

Pond Giants Win

The Winston-Salem Pond Giants edged the Indians 7-6 in the Old-Timers Game at Ernie Shore Field Sunday afternoon. A pair of unusual plays helped

If you would like to report news of a local sports event to the Chronicle, contact David Bulla between 1:30-5:30 p.m. Monday or bring your news item to the newspaper's front office at 617 N. Liberty St. by 5:30 Monday.

College Football

"But that's the way preseason practices go as a rule. Players get very tired during two-a-days, so perhaps that's why they don't execute."

Hayes said the loss of Workman and Coles was disturbing because "I know the financial status of both players." He said he didn't think either player could afford the transfer. Coles, for instance, would have to pay for his year at Atlanta Junior College, since the school has no football program.

Neither Hayes nor WSSU Athletic Director Clarence "Bighouse" Gaines has accused either Oral Roberts or Georgia Tech with tampering. But Hayes said Coles did not ask for permission to talk to another school, and Gaines believes ORU encouraged Workman to transfer in an illegal manner. The loss of Workman also the Indians, who took third in the directly affected Gaines, who doubles as WSSU's basketball

coach. Workman was the Rams' starting point guard last season. "Haywood was a good leader

and did an excellent job for us as a freshman," Gaines said. "But we thought he would be even more effective as a sophomore.

"He's an athlete's athlete. He can play basketball as well as anyone in Division I. The kind of kid you can coach. He does everything you tell him."

Workman, a Charlotte Myers him," Gaines said.

W-S Indians take third place

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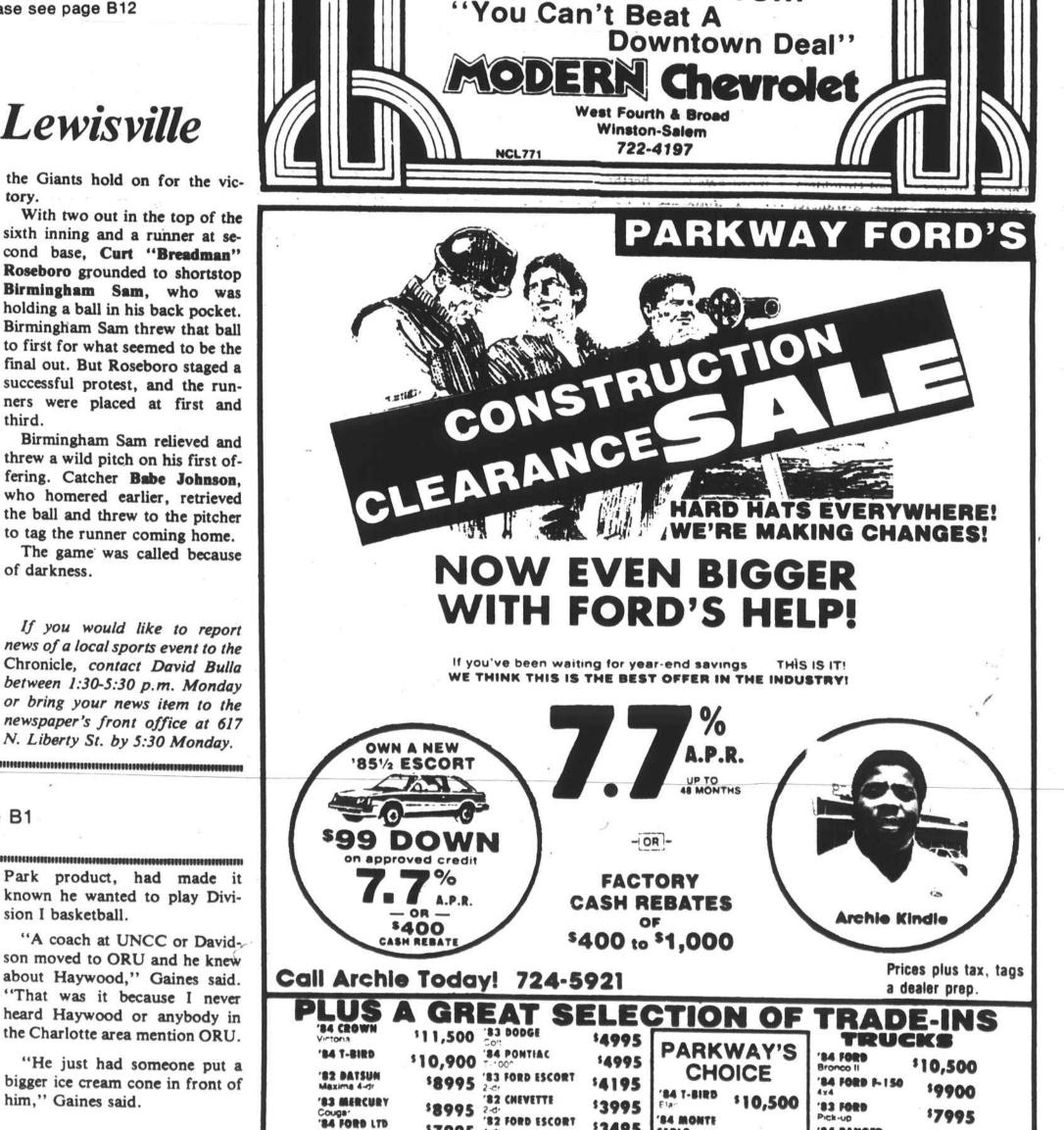
DANVILLE, Va. -- Despite two home runs by Kim Pooley, the Winston-Salem Indians could

Earlier, Manager Rip Wilkins' team lost to South Boston, Va., 8-7 on an 11th-inning home run.

"We played good ball,"

Wilkins said. "We were about

wore out, though, after that bad



not hold off host Danville last Sunday in the Danville Dolphin Semi-Pro Invitational Tournament.

break in the first game. That did Danville's 9-7 win eliminated it. "But we had a good time and tournament. The Indians finished enjoyed a long, successful the season with a 27-9 record. season."



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