Sports

Hoke County joins Babe Ruth League

The Babe Ruth Baseball Association has come to Hoke

The move is considered a major one for young athletes who wish to participate in competition with their peers. Supporters believe the league will open the door to postseason play for county baseballers.

There are two leagues in the Babe Ruth Association and both will field teams in Hoke County.

The Babe Ruth League is open for players 13-15 years old whose 16th birthday falls on or after August 1, 1984, or whose 13th birthday falls on or before August 1,1984; and the Bambino League, for persons aged 10-12 whose 13th birthday comes on or after August 1 or whose 10th birthday comes on or before August 1.

These new leagues will allow Hoke athletes to continue into post-season play.

According to a release from the association, at the end of regular

be picked from each league to represent Hoke County in a district tournament.

The Babe Ruth District Tournament will be held in Wilmington around July 10.

The Bambino District Tournament sites and times have not been arranged yet.

If a team wins at the district level, they will advance to the State Tournament with a chance to advance to the Babe Ruth World

The Hoke County Recreation Department has set a goal of eight Bambino League teams and four Babe Ruth league teams.

There is a registration fee of \$3 for all persons wanting to play for the association (\$2 for team insurance and \$1 for an official I.D. card). Both are required by the association.

May 7th is the last day to register

Lady Bucks split pair

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The Hoke County High School varsity softball team split two games before the Easter break.

On April 17, the Lady Bucks beat opponents Lumberton by a score of 9-7.

Coach Chervl Farmer said,"We decided after losing to them 4-3 on our first meeting, we would pay them back

De De McLean was hitting 4 for 5 on the afternoon and had one

run batted in.
Sharon McNeill and Miranda
Cunningham each hit 3 for 4 with each having an RBI.

Thomasina Walker hit in the winning run with no outs and run-

ners on first and second. Andrea Jones was the winning

pitcher.
"It took a lot of hard coaching, team work, and keeping a positive mental attitude," Farmer said adding, "I have tried to instill this thought in my athletes...If you believe in yourself, anything is possible."

Traveling to Terry Sanford High School on the 20th proved to be not as inspiring as it may have been.

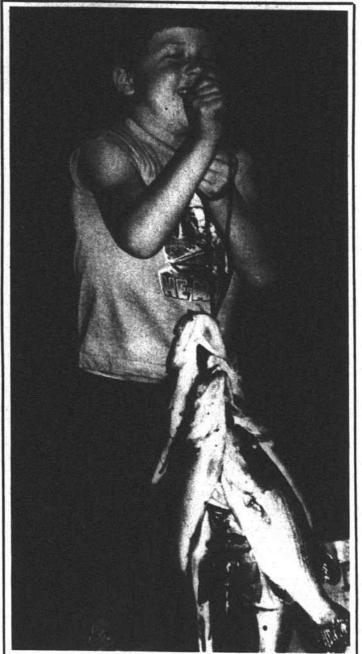
The varsity softball team lost that one in a match that ended 6-2 in favor of Terry Sanford High.

"The team started out with a good showing but by the bottom of the fifth inning, it was obvious who intended on increasing the numbers in the winner's column,' Farmer said

Hoke's outstanding players in that game included Vickie Cunningham who was 2 for 3 with a single and a triple

Karen Troublefield and Sharon McNeill also went 2 for 3 on the day.

Farmer blames part of the team's loss on the fact that the game was played on the day before Easter break saying, "When school re-opens, it will be back to the drawing board."



Weighty problem

Ricky Jones has to put an extra effort into lifting the fish he caught this week. Ricky landed nine bass while fishing in a private pond. Although he was reluctant to say, observers noted that worms were the young angler's preferred bait.

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Rockingham drag races crank up for Sunday

Save the sad songs, and hold off the gone-but-not-forgotten laments for drag racing's rip roaring Raymond Beadle and his bombshell Blue Max Mustang, the fire-breathing combination that blew away all comers a couple years back.

The torrid Texan hasn't gone anywhere, and before the first tear drop falls he could be standing in Victory Lane accepting plaudits for winning the IHRA-Winston Pro-Am Nationals championship at Rockingham International Dragway late Sunday afternoon.

Beadle, or whoever triumphs over the 16-car field of whos-who Pro Funny Car competitors, will receive a check for \$20,000 as a share of the whopping \$450,000

posted awards that gives the Pro-Am billing as the richest drag race ever held in the Carolinas. The action will begin Friday with practice and time trial runs at 10 a.m. and qualifying at 5 p.m. Class cham-pionship runs and qualifying will be held beginning at 9 a.m. around the clock Saturday. Final eliminations start at noon Sunday.

Beadle will be facing one of the toughest challenges of his career when he takes on a world class field expected to number more than 25 vying for 16 finalists positions. Records are expected to blossom like the dogwoods that brighten the spacious speed arena nestled among tall pines in the

Recreation Bits

Bambino and Babe Ruth baseball sign-ups

The Recreation Commission will be signing up participants for the Babe Ruth Bambino League (10-12) and the Babe Ruth League (13-15). Sign-ups will take place in the Recreation Office beginning Monday, April 30 through Friday, May 4 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Please bring your \$3.00 registration fee and your birth certificate when you register.

Liniment softball meeting

The Recreation Committion will hold an organizational meeting for the Men's Liniment Softball League (ages 30-up) on Wednesday, May 9 at 7 p.m. in the Recreation Office. All interested teams should have a representative present.

Women's Softball Meeting

An organizational meeting will be held for those interested in playing in the Women's Softball League (ages 16-up) on Wednesday, May 9 at 7:30 p.m. in the Recreation Office. All interested teams should have a representative present.

Women's Liniment Softball

The Parks and Recreation Commission will hold an organizational meeting for a Women's Liniment League (ages 30-up) on Wednesday, May 16 at the Recreation office at 7 p.m. All suggestions and ideas are encouraged

Karate

For those interested in the martial arts, classes are currently being held in the room above Howell's Drug Store on Main Street. Classes are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30-7 p.m. Cost is \$25 per month for instruction plus insurance fee. (\$5 for ages 18 and under, \$10 for those 19 years or older. Insurance is good for one year from date paid, and needs to be turned in at the Recreation Office). For more information, contact the Recreation Office at 875-5603.

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