

Baseball Team Shoots For Playoff Berths

TOURNAMENT TIME FOR SOFTBALLERS

WNC Event To Be Held; Team Drops One Game During Month

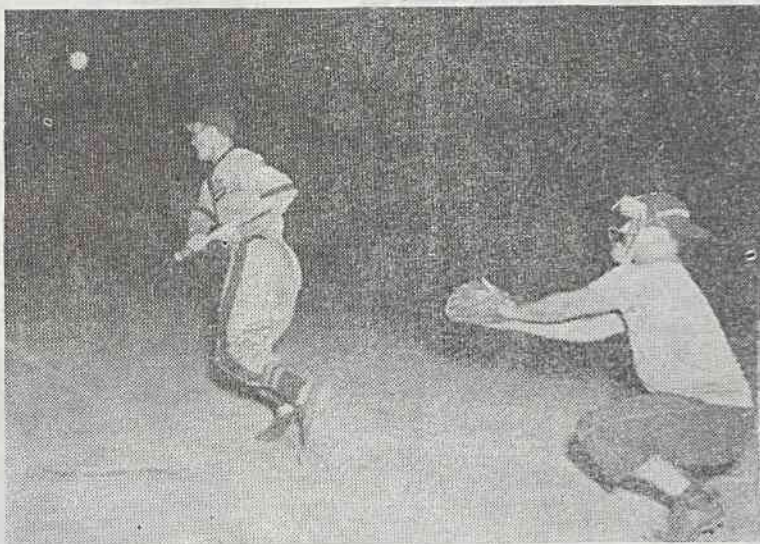
Heading down the home stretch of a highly successful season, our softballers are looking to August as a most important month.

August 13, be it unlucky or otherwise, is the first date. Beginning then, the W.N.C. Invitational Softball tournament is slated for the Brevard high field. Top teams from Canton, Waynesville, Bryson City, Asheville, Tryon, Brevard, and Enka will be among the sixteen entrants. The state tournament will be in Greensboro, August 21-26.

Saturday night, July 26, will be the date of an interesting exhibition when the Army Store of Asheville meets Ecusta in an exhibition game on the local field. Twins, Fritz and Hans Merrell, will oppose each other in this Lions Club benefit game. A preliminary between Albert Shuford's midgets and Jack Alexander's coaching school team is scheduled for 7:30 p. m.

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Softballer Ed White In Action



ED WHITE, valuable third baseman of our red-hot softball club, is shown above attempting a bunt in the Firestone game July 4, but most of the time Ed is seen in heavier hitting roles than bunting. His prize hit of the month was his home run in the last inning against the Elks Club, a blow that gave Ecusta a 6-5 win over the strong Asheville nine. Johnson is the Firestone catcher.

Bolt And Surrett Get Biggest Fish

Biggest catches at Camp Sapphire during the month went to Bob Bolt with an 18½ inch bass, weighing over 3½ pounds. Lewis

Surrett also hooked a nice one, weighing 2 pounds, five ounces, and measuring 16 inches.

The lake is continuing to enjoy a steady patronage, with an average of seven people fishing each day.

WINNERS IN LAST TWO TILTS; SAYLES HERE SATURDAY

Big Scramble Predicted For Playoff Berths; Hazerwood Here Tuesday

Victors in their last two games our baseball club has one primary objective to accomplish during this busy month of August: Force a place or higher in the W.N.C. League standings, thus landing a spot in the league playoffs which will begin at the completion of the regular schedule.

At present the team is still in the cellar, with three wins and four defeats, but there are four other teams also in the lower section of the standings and it looks like a battle royal for that one remaining position in the playoffs. Hazerwood, Beacon, and Enka have the first three places in the standings pretty well sewed up, but Greer, River, Champion, Martel, Sayles and Ecusta all have a chance for fourth spot.

First hurdle for the local jump on their playoff journey will be...

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Softball Team Enjoying Excellent Season



The night the above picture was taken (July 16) turned out to be a nightmare for our softballers and probably the fellows now firmly believe in the superstition that a picture before a game is bad luck. Anyhow, Canton proceeded to drub us 15-3. But that night was an exception to the performances turned in by the men on most occasions this season. During the past month, two of the most powerful

teams in the state—Firestone of Gastonia and the Elks Club of Asheville—tasted defeat at the hands of Ecusta.

Left to right are Roy Head, cf; El Allen, 2b; Morris Dorn, catcher; Grady Carland, outfielder; Jack Wilber, ss; Johnny Merrell, 1b; Fritz Merrell, manager and pitcher; Ed White, 3b; Rusty Carland, 1b; Roy Carter, rf; Bob Jennings, outfielder; Lawrence "Shaper" Holt, lf; Jim Griffin, pitcher, was not present.