

SMITHFIELD HIGH TIMES



Baseball-'67-Capital Area Champions

The 1967 edition of Red Devil baseball accomplished a feat that the Big Red hasn't done since 1959. Not only did they win the Southern Division title for the third year running, but they also beat Vaiden Whitley two games straight to take the Conference title.

This year the Red Devil Nine had seven returning lettermen including Carlton Overby, shortstop; Kenneth Stephenson, outfielder; Johnny Creech, catcher; Bill Jackson, outfielder; Steve Brant, first base; Ronnie Hopkins, pitcher; and Craig Ennis, second base. The newcomers rounding out the squad are: Barry Foote, third base; Mark Moye, outfielder; Joe Parrish, outfielder; Robert Sigmon, outfielder; and Benny Hatcher, outfielder. Mack David Overby and Harry Hopkins were the team's managers. The Devils moved from the Recreation Park to the Legion Park (behind Nelson's) this season.

CLAYTON DOWNS RED DEVILS,  
5-1

With the help of a five-run second inning and very quiet Red Devil bats, Clayton's Comets breezed to a 5-1 victory in the opening game of the 1967 season. Carlton Overby and Johnny Creech collected the only two hits Smithfield could manage.

Winner - Parrish (1-0) Loser - Hopkins(0-1)

	R	H	E
Smithfield	000	000	1 1 2 1
Clayton	050	000	0 5 8 1

RED DEVILS TOP BENSON, 2-0

Smithfield, playing their first game at the Legion Park, defeated Benson 2-0. Even though the Red Devils got only three hits, they managed to put them together for two runs as sophomore hurler Ronnie Hopkins held the Phantoms scoreless. Johnny Creech led Smithfield at bat with two-for-four.

Winner-Hopkins(1-1) Loser-Stephenson (0-1)

	R	H	E
Benson	000	000	0 0 5 1
Smithfield	002	000	X 2 3 1

DEVILS BLANK PANTHERS, 5-0

Ronnie Hopkins pitched his second shutout in a row as he limited North Johnston's Panthers to just one single. Craig Ennis had the big bat as he had two triples in four at bats.

Winner-Hopkins (2-1) Loser-Holt

	R	H	E
Smithfield	300	000	2 5 8 0
North Johnston	000	000	0 0 1 0

SMITHFIELD BLANKS SELMA, 5-0

Smithfield moved into a tie for the Southern Division with a 5-0 shellacking of Selma. Again pitcher Ronnie Hopkins came through pitching his third consecutive shutout. The Red Devils took advantage of six walks issued by Selma