



MOST VALUABLE—Artis Gay, a Virgil's Drive-In player, was voted the Most Valuable Player for the Men's Slow Pitch Softball Tournament and received congratulations on his ability and sportsmanship at the close of the tournament July 16.



SEASON TROPHY—Gary Gentry receives a trophy from Mac McNeill honoring Gentry's Tire Service for being regular season champions during ceremonies at the close of the 1976 softball tournament.



RUNNERS-UP—Virgil's Drive-In became runners-up in the 1976 adult mens softball season by losing to Rose's Aviation. Front row, left to right, are Marion Hollingsworth, Bobby Leslie, Joe McCollum, Artis Gay, Elvis Buie, Ben McPhatter, Meice Buie (bat boy). Back row, Sam Bo Hurst (coach), Sam Wallace, Larry McDonald, Clarence Bratcher, Alfonso Pickett, Red Singletary, Rudolf Maynor, Bruce Hurst, George Maynor, Charles Chandler, Eric McPhatter (coach).



CHAMPIONS—Rose's Aviation is tournament champs of the Men's League Softball season. Front row, left to right, are Karl Hendrix (bat boy), Paul Rose (bat boy), Paul Rose Sr. (sponsor), Mrs. Paul Rose. (Middle Row) Jerry Long, Larry Lunsford, Ronnie Prince, Leon Smith. (Back row) Noah Hendrix, Wayne Denkins, Richard Gardner, Alan Thomas, George Hendrix, Bucky Hendrix, Rene Figuora, Howard Hendrix, Bill Harris, Jimmy Baxley. (Not pictured: Noah Hendrix Jr., Ronnie Taylor.)

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Volleyball

Huff Leads Streak

By Ann Howell

Volleyball at Upchurch School was once again underway Monday, July 12. In the opening match, Denise Brown and teammates cap-

tured the first game, 15-7 over Ralph Huff's team.

Miyoshi Gordon and Minnie McPhatter both had good serving rounds for Brown's team. The second game of the match went to Ralph Huff's group, 15-6. Kathy Huff was the leading server and aided her team's victory. Third game of the match was picked up by Ralph Huff's team. The match was won in a good final game by the score 15-8.

Teams one and three, captained by Susan Bounds and Ken Koonce, did not compete because of team one's forfeit. Koonce's players got in some good practice rounds.

The final match of the night went to Teresa Freeman's team over Ken MacDonald's. The first game of the match was a victory for MacDonald. Betty Smith led her team to a victory by collecting eight points from serves. The second game of the match went to Freeman's team. Steve Sawyer was a true credit to his team by some outstanding serves and net play. Game score was 15-6. Final game of the match again went to Freeman's team. This last round was a tight battle with the end score 16-14. Freeman's group came from way behind to capture the win.

STANDINGS

Team Captains	W	L
Ken Koonce	4	0
Ralph Huff	3	1
Teresa Freeman	2	2
Denise Brown	1	3
Susan Bounds	1	3
Ken MacDonald	1	3

Men's League

Rose's Aviation Wins Tournament

By Ann Howell

Rose's Aviation defeated Virgil's Drive-In in the final round of the Men's Slow Pitch Softball Tournament July 16 to take the championship.

Tournament action got underway July 13 with Raeford Plumbing and Heating beating Rexall-Turf 10-9. Eddie Roper was RPH top batter with a 3-3 showing. RPH picked the 13 hits for the victory. RX-Turf was led at the plate by Charles Crowder, going 3-4. RX-Turf collected 14 total hits.

The second game of the tournament went to Rose's Aviation 14-4 over Hoke Concrete. Rose's ended the regular season play in third place. Leon Smith was Rose's best hitter of the night, going 3-3. The second inning was Rose's best, pulling in six runs. Hoke Concrete had a tough time, gathering only seven hits and was led at the plate by Dale Teal and Gary Mauney, both 2-3.

The third game of play was a victory for RPH 7-5 over Gentry's Tire. Eddie Baker, 2-4 at the plate, was Gentry's leading hitter. Gentry's pulled in nine hits. RPH was led by James Rainey, who was 4-4 with a homer in the sixth inning.

Second night of the tournament was July 14 with Rose's defeating Virgil's 5-4 in the first game. Rose's was aided by top batters R. Gardner and D. Hardin, both 2-3. Rose's pulled together nine team hits. Virgil's had a good first inning, gathering three runs. B. Hurst, C. Chandler and S. Wallace all were 2-3 at the plate for Virgil's.

First game of the loser's bracket went to Gentry's Tire 8-1 over Hoke Concrete. Gentry's picked up seven runs in the first and second innings for a super start. L. Phillips and H. Thompson were both 3-4 at the plate for Gentry's. Hoke Concrete gathered six hits and scored their only run in the seventh inning. Hoke Concrete's defeat was their last round of competition for the season.

The last game of the night went to Virgil's 18-2 over RX-Turf. Virgil's collected 13 runs in the first two innings and 19 total hits. Peter Maynor and George Maynor both

picked up homers for Virgil's. Rx-Turf gathered seven hits and was led at bat by D. Monroe and D. Williamson, both 2-3.

In the opening game of the tournament's third night Rose's defeated RPH 8-4. Delton Hardin was 3-3 at the plate for Rose's. Rose's collected 12 total hits and five of their runs in the first inning. RPH was led at bat by E. Roper, 3-4. RPH also gathered 12 total hits for the night.

The eighth game of the tournament was picked up by Virgil's 8-6 over Gentry's. Pete Maynor smashed a homer in the sixth inning for Virgil's. Virgil's collected 12 total hits. Gentry's was credited with two homers by Henry Thompson and G. Gentry. Gen-

try's gathered 10 total hits.

Last game in the loser's bracket went to Virgil's, 14-5 over RPH. This victory gave Virgil's a chance at the championship by advancing them to the finals. Bruce Hurst was Virgil's top batter with a record of 4-4. Virgil's collected 20 total hits. RPH scored all five of their runs in the fifth inning, collecting seven hits. J. Rainey was 2-3 at bat to lead RPH for the night.

In the final game, Virgil's lost 9-5 to Rose's to dash their hopes for the championship. Rose's collected 16 total hits and was led at the plate by B. Hendrix and L. Smith, both 3-4. The fourth inning was Rose's best, as they gathered five runs and eight hits. For Virgil's, there were 10 total hits and their top batter was Pete Maynor, 2-3.

**Basketball
Clinic Set**

The Hoke County Recreation Department is sponsoring a basketball clinic to be held at Upchurch School gym from 9-11:30 A.M.

Dates are Thursday July 22, Tuesday July 27, Wednesday July 28 and Thursday July 29. All children ages 8-14 are invited. Instruction is free.

Basketball fundamentals and various practice drills are planned.



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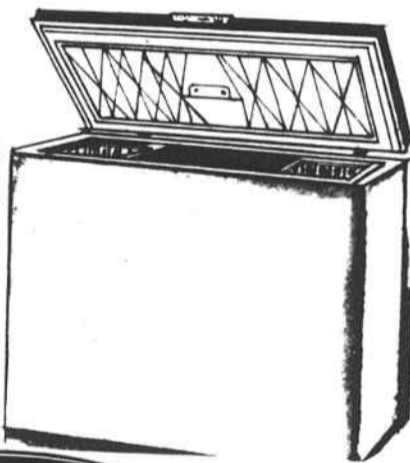
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