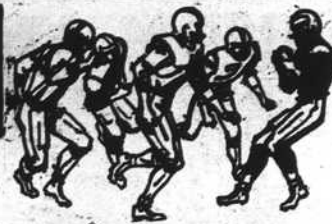


SPORTS



Chuck Harris



GRAMBLING TAGGED AS BASEBALL HAVEN

By COLLIE J. NICHOLSON

GRAMBLING, La. - (NPI)--It might sound slightly exaggerated, but scouts representing half the teams in the American and National baseball leagues are calling the Grambling College squad a \$1 million club.

The statement will likely bring a lot of fans out of their seats with a look of incredulity that can be translated only one way: I don't believe it...but a \$1 million tag hardly seems proper description for a team with such distinguished characteristics.

Even President-Coach R. W. W. Jones, imperturbable after 42 years on the coaching line, admits that "this club provides a special quality of excitement."

Grambling has compiled an unmatched 35-1 record this season and rates as one of the greatest collection of college players ever assembled. Their performance brings to mind Hemingway's classic description of "Grace Under Pressure."

THE TIGERS won the Southwestern Athletic Conference and NAIA area five championships by making a fetish of stinginess and frustrating rivals with tight pitching and heavy hitting.

Power hitting is the modus operandi for the north Louisiana club as every member of the starting team is hitting over .300. The team set an NAIA playoff record by hitting seven homers in one game against Frostburg State (Md.).

Grambling dominates current NAIA national statistics with a .355 team batting average and a 0.88 pitching staff earned-run-average. The Tigers have commanded unequivocal rating as the No. 1 college division team in the U.S. from the NAIA and the newspaper collegiate baseball.

Second Baseman Ralph Garr has been a dramatic and relevant force in Grambling's drive. He leads the nation in hitting with a flamboyant .585 average and 11 triples. Scouts insist that his credentials are impeccable. They analyze him as a super-star of the future. His versatility could command a bonus in the neighborhood of the \$200,000 received by Rick Reichardt from the California Angels.

GARR WOULD like to follow in the footsteps of ex-Grambling star Tommie Agee, 1966 American League rookie-of-the-year with the Chicago

(See GRAMBLING, page 12)

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JO MACKEY WINS GIRLS SOFTBALL TOURNEY



THE CHAMPS--Jo Mackey team, 1st place winners of Doolittle's Girls' Softball Tournament are (kneeling, 1st row from left) Cerita Dukes, Camille Burrell, Debra Siggall, Vivian Shelton, Mary Jones--Presenting trophy is Mrs. Fowler...second row (kneeling, from left): Connie Jones, Vernita Blake, Mary Williams, Brenda Davis, Vera Sampson...third row (standing, from left) are Mrs. Collins, Kathy Edwards, Damita Lockhart, Lynette Black, Sue MacDonald, Mary Wilson, Teresa Randolph... Two proud gentlemen are coach H. L. Williams (left) and Joe Mackey Principal, H. P. Fitzgerald.

MATT KELLY - - 2ND PLACE



THE FIRST Elementary Girls Softball Tournament ever to be held under the lights took place on Friday, May 26 at Doolittle Recreation Center with four teams representing four local elementary schools fighting valiantly for the right to wear the "Champ's" crown.

Participating in the event before an estimated crowd of 300 were the Jo Mackey, Madison, Matt Kelly and Westside elementary schools whose teams finished in that order. Jo Mackey emerged the tourney victor by trouncing Matt Kelly 29-15 in the championship game. Earlier, Madison defeated Westside by a score of 18 to 16 for third place.

Success of the tournament was made sweeter to the Doolittle staff because of the great support and interest of parents.

(SEE page 9; for other TOURNEY TEAMS)

The Recreation Department also wished to express, publicly, appreciation to the parents who made the presentation of trophies to the various teams and commended the Doolittle staff for its untiring efforts and assistance in making the tournament a reality.

THE SUMMER Recreation Program begins June 19 and parents are urged to sign up their boys and girls for it as soon as possible. The Program will run five days a week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. There is no admission charge fee of any kind. Every child will be properly supervised by recreational personnel.

Among the activities offered in the Summer program are (a) Arts & Crafts (b) Music and Rhythm (c) Active Games (d) Low Organized Games (e) Drama (f) Contests and Tournaments.

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