

Little League Trophy Awarded



Young Billy Brunges, captain of the Cardinals, is shown here receiving the Little League trophy on behalf of his team which topped the four-team league in Havelock. Chris Rouse, Jaycee Little League chairman, presented the trophy. Lee Bratton, who managed the winning team, is shown in the rear. (Photo by Dave Windley).

June 3, 2005 By Joe Willis
Lee Bratton:

Lee was borne and raised in Pulaski, VA and now lives in Dublin, VA after retiring from Cherry Point after thirty plus years.

He moved to New Bern around 1947 to work at Cherry Point. He played basketball that year in Newbern and in 1948 he played for Havelock in the Tidewater league. He also would play for Newport when Havelock wasn't playing.

He remembers fondly playing with players like Blevens, Robin Robinson and Jim Hodges. The toughest pitcher he faced was James Webb of Morehead City.

Like many baseball players, Lee went on to coach and mentor others. In 1952 he won the Havelock Little League Trophy when his team beat out four other teams.

Little Leaguers End Season With Wiener Roast In Park

Fathers Lose 10-9 In Morning Game Against Their Sons

A picnic for all players in this year's Havelock Little League and their families was held last Saturday afternoon at the park opposite the Community church.

More than 100 future baseball stars and their families attended the affair. Feature of the program was the awarding of the Little League trophy to the team which won the league championship. The baseballers played softball at the picnic.

Chris Rouse, chairman of the Junior Chamber of Commerce committee which sponsored the Little League in Havelock, presented the trophy to Billy Brunges, captain of the winning Cardinals. Lee Bratton, who managed the Cardinals, also took part in receiving the trophy.

The picnic was a wiener roast. The ladies brought cup cakes, potato salad, and slaw to supplement the wiener diet. All four of the teams in the league were well represented.

Saturday morning, the fathers of the Little Leaguers lost to their sons in a thrilling ball game at the Little League park by the score of 10 to 9. The game was a very rough affair and several fathers had to be taken out of the line-up due to injuries. None of the Little Leaguers were hurt.

Mr. Rouse hit the only home-run of the game, knocking the ball out of the park. At one last report, the ball was still lost.

Jimmy Hodges and Bill Kleschick umpired the tight game.