

Lonnie Huard's involvement in Softball started in 1959, when he was 14 years old. Two years later he went to play with Diamond Match led by pitcher Bob Elson, one of Cloquet's four Hall of Fame pitchers. In 1963, Lonnie was picked up by Cloquet City Champion, Wood Conversion.

In 1964, a new sponsor took over which was Wood City Motors. Wood City was the City Champions, and went on to the Northern Regional that was hosted by the Regional Champion, which was hosted by the City of Cloquet. Wood City became the Regional Champion ousting Perennial Champion, Whitaker Buick. As a result, Lon won a trip to the World Tournament in Sunnysvale, California, placing 13th.

In 1965, Wood City had an ambitious schedule playing against Stratford Conn., Aurora, Ill., and Eau Claire, WI. They went on to play in Fargo, N. D., as defending regional champion. In 1966, Lon played with the Fort Jackson Softball Team. In 1967, Lon played in St. Paul with an infield, and two outfielders that are in the Hall of Fame.

Lon returned to the Duluth League in 1968, playing for Amber Flow - City Champions and state tournament participants. In 1986, Lon coached a Junior Olympic boys team to a second place finish in the state tournament.

In 1972, Lon started umpiring in Coon Rapids and umped the Men's State Tournament, the Women's State Tournament, the Co-Rec State Tournament, Minnesota Junior College State Tournament, and the MSHL High School playoffs. Lon

has been active in Hall of Fame nominations over the years with seven of his nominations being inducted into the Hall of Fame.

ENDORSED BY: GARY HUARD - HOF - 1995
JERRY POLLARD - HOF - 2003
KEN JOYCE - HOF - 2008
STUART MORRISON - HOF - 2016
J. Bud JOYCE - PROCTOR, MN. HIGH SCHOOL COACH

Strong Hurling Boosts Cloquet's Softball Hopes

Wood City Motors Manager Billy Gillette has faith in a trio of highly-touted pitchers from the tough Cloquet Softball League.

"It's just a question of how many runs we get," admitted Gillette, when asked how he feels Wood City will fare in the Northern Regional Softball Tournament opening at 11 a.m. Saturday at Athletic Field in Cloquet.

"We have our regular pitchers—Chuck Lindquist and Arv Burton—besides Bob Ellison, who we picked up from Diamond Match."

Lindquist, who pitched a perfect game against A & B Lounge in the Cloquet playoffs this year, is a veteran of state tournament play with A & B Lounge, Wood Conversion and Blomquists. He throws a sharp rise ball and a drop. His season's record is 3-4.

Other starters Saturday for Wood City, said Gillette, will be Lon Hurd, 1b; Gary Arthur, 2b; Bob Gernander, ss; Joe Mackal, 3b; Gary Hurd, left field; Mike Forrest, center field; Bob Pollard, right field, and Jerry Pollard, catcher. Gernander, a Duluthian, was named All-State with A & B Lounge Monday.

"The hitting runs in streaks," said Gillette, "so we'll have to 'nickel and dime' opponents to death."

Meanwhile, the Duluth Air Base received a severe blow Thursday when it was learned ace hurler Kirby Newbern would be unable to pitch in the regional because of a muscle separation in his throwing arm. "He'll be used only in the outfield," said Manager Don Ness.

With Newbern through pitching, Jack Stark and Benny Monds will carry the hurling load for the Skyhawks. Monds has been sharp of late, twirling

a one-hitter in the State Tournament last weekend. And Stark is always tough.

Pairings for the tourney won't be known until after the 9:30 a.m. open draw Saturday at the Labor Temple in Cloquet.

Other tourney entries are Hektner's of Fargo, N.D., and Whitaker Buick and Suburban Heating of St. Paul. Entries from Minneapolis and South Dakota have not been named yet.



Duluth's claim as the softball hotbed of the state certainly didn't suffer over the Labor Day holiday.

Not only did a Duluth team retain the state championship, but the tournament games drew remarkably well despite heavy rains which would have wiped out a less-organized event.

DULUTH AIR BASE, a team which had never reached the city playoff finals in 12 previous years in the Double A League, rode the strong right arms of its own Kirby Newbern and Bennie Monds—plus the wing and bat of borrowed Jack Stark—to the title won a year ago by Royal 58.

Stark also had a big hand in that victory, too. Tournament Manager John Ciesielski and his able force of assistants rate a salute for the conduct of the tournament. The fine Double A season just completed and the success of the state competition lend promise for an even bigger season next summer.

But before saying goodbye to softball for the summer, here's a reminder of another big event which will bring added stature to northeastern Minnesota this weekend.

CLOQUET, ALWAYS A leading softball community and whose A and B Lounge team made it to the Class A state finals Monday, will be the scene of the Northern Regional tournament Saturday and Sunday.

If you enjoyed the brand of the fast pitch game last weekend at Wheeler Field, you'll see more of the same this weekend at Cloquet.

Wood Snaps

SUNNYVALE, the clutch hitting relief pitching Wood City M bounced Baltimore Softball Sunday, 5-1.

Ellson drove with a pair of 3-2-3 innings pick up the v

Cloquet, winner of the 1st (Tex.) game (Duluth time a 1-0 deficit at 1-1 in the tournament.

The victor in the four pitcher Vared off at in the top

Catcher the Cloquet taking this bunt sing ing Poll doubled scored

Huard a Pollar going w when V insuran plated

Ellso chores Vonde quist. was

when Ell didn' out 1

(Game 14)

Baltimore	ab	r	h	Cloquet	ab	r	h
Welsh, 1b	4	0	0	Arthur, 2b	3	0	0
Skipper, rf	4	0	0	Forrest, cf	4	0	0
Williams, lf	2	0	0	G. Pollard, c	3	2	2
Jacob, 2b	2	0	1	G. Pollard, ss	2	1	0
Vondenbosch, p, lf, p	2	1	2	Lindquist, p	0	0	0
Jacobs, c	2	0	1	Ellison, p	2	1	2
Schunske, cf	3	0	1	G. Hvard, cf	3	1	2
				B. Pollard, rf	3	0	0

Lounge Ripped By Conversion

CLOQUET — Wood Conversion trampled A&B Lounge and Diamond Match blanked Benkoski & Holmes here Thursday night in Cloquet Softball League action.

Chuck Lindquist smacked a grand slam homer and pitched a five-hitter to pace Wood Conversion to a 10-4 conquest of A&B, while Diamond Match stopped Benkoski & Holmes, 7-0, behind Bob Ellison's three-hit pitching.

Lindquist hit a shot down the left field line for his grand slammer in a six-run Conversion fifth inning. Bob LaVoie added a two-run double later in the frame.

Bobo Johnson and Ed Morrisette also homered for Wood Conversion and Joe Mackai had a triple.

Lonnie Huard drove in three runs with a triple, double and single as Diamond Match beat Benkoski & Holmes.

Ellison backed up his shutout pitching with 11 strikeouts. He walked one.

Wood Conversion 130 000 8-10 7 3
A&B Lounge 000 001 1-4 5 2
Lindquist and Palford: Anderson and Harley Johnson.

Diamond Match 130 021 0-7 13 1
Benkoski & Holmes 000 000 0-0 2 0
Ellison and Helmi: Harold Johnson and Aalto.

The 1-2 teams in the Cloquet Softball League, Wood City Motors and Diamond Match, both won Thursday. The Diamonds nipped A & D Lounge 4-3 and Wood City spilled Benkoski & Holmes 8-5.

Dave Meisner tripled for D-M. Gary Arthur and Lon Huard homered for Wood City in the third frame.

While Wood City polished off Benkoski & Holmes, A&B knocked Diamond Match out of a tie for the league lead with a 6-5 victory.

Wood City now has an 8-3 record, Diamond Match is 7-3. A&B leveled its record at 5-5, while Benkoski & Holmes now is winless in 10 starts.

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In 1996 we asked the Cloquet Park board for permission to erect a sign as a monument to the Cloquet softball

players who have been elected to the Minnesota Softball Hall of Fame. The park board approved the sign, and

Dean Levinski volunteered to make the sign. It was erected at Pinehurst park with eight names on it.

Since then there have been five more people elected to the hall. With more activity occurring at Braun Park,

and due to park improvements at Pinehurst, the city approached Ken Joyce about moving the sign to Braun.

The city crew cut the legs off with a chainsaw. When it was delevered to Braun, it placed into the parking

lot and was broken beyond repair. We asked Sign Pro for a new design and estimate.

The cost of the new sign is \$680.00 and \$150.00 for installation. Les Peterson said his crew could

install the new sign, and eliminate that cost. The Park Commission approved the motion 5-0. Since then

the process has been stalled by Brian Fritsinger. He said there was no monies available to replace the sign.

We are asking the Mayor and council to look into this decision and possibly reconsider the minimal cost of

this project. The softball Hall of Fame honors players, coaches, sponsters, and volunteers who have achivied

excellence in the game of softball. Attached are the minutes of the Park commission meeting and the current

members of the hallof fame from Cloquet

Thank you,

Lonnie Huard

Ken Joyce

Minnesota Softball HALL OF FAME



Duane "Dubug" Johnson 1984

Ronald "BoBo" Johnson 1986

Chuck Lindquist 1987

Larry Anderson 1993

Ed Morrisette 1993

Gary "Hawk" Huard 1995

Renee Dion-Edin 1996

Don Bourdeau 2000

Jim Lowe 2000

Herb Huard 2002

Gerry Pollard 2003

Bob Ellison 2004

Ken Joyce 2008

Mike Forrest 2022

Dennis Karp 2012

Stu Morrison 2016

CLOQUET INDUCTEES

This is a sign created by Lannie Huard to honor the Cloquet inductees into the Minnesota softball hall of fame. The sign sits at the main entrance of Braun Park, the softball complex in Cloquet, Minnesota.

B&H Wrecked By WC Nine

Bob LaVoie, Bud Burggraff and Pat Forrest belted homers as Wood Conversion smashed Benkoski and Holmes, 18-3, in Cloquet Softball action Tuesday night.

Diamond Match once again tossed a damper in A&B Lounge's title hopes in the nightcap with a 5-1 victory behind the three-hit hurling of Bob Ellison.

In Duluth Single A League play at Wheeler Field, Congress Bar stopped Van Vick Paper, 8-7, and the Teamsters downed Shoppers' City, 5-3.

In addition to the home runs, Wood Conversion received triples from Gary Arthur and Burggraff, two doubles by Denny Breitbarth and doubles by Forrest, Tom Hoppe and Joe Mackai.

Forrest was the winning pitcher, allowing just three hits.

Lonny Huard and Dick Sorenson collected doubles to lead Diamond Match. Harley Johnson's home run accounted for A&B Lounge's only tally.

Jack Brohier drove in two runs with a double as the Teamsters defeated Shoppers' City. Curt Heeden did the same for Congress

Wood City Grabs 1st

Wood City Motors got a helping hand from A&B Lounge Tuesday night to take over first place in the Cloquet Softball League. While Wood City polished off Benkoski & Holmes, A&B knocked Diamond Match out of a tie for the league lead with a 6-5 victory.

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Fourteen-year-olds did the pitching for both teams. Wood City's Craig Pollard earned the victory with a seven-strikeout, three-hit performance to beat out Timmy Hoppe.

Don Bourdeau hit the first pitch of the game for a home run, springing A&B on its way past Diamond Match. George Paquin added another A&B homer in the fourth.

Diamond Match outhit the winners 9-8, but all of the Matchmen's safeties were singles.

Duluth Single A League games found The Merchants routing Security Jewelers 8-2 and Shoppers City outlasting White Front 11-6.

A three-run homer by Tom Tostrup of the Merchants was the only extra base hit in that contest. Winning pitcher John Bonneville scattered five hits.

Ray Peterson's two-run homer led Shoppers City. Dobbie Messina and Dick Bergason had three hits apiece.

The Panthers stopped Peoples' Fuel & Paint 12-9 on John Remington's bases-loaded triple in the last inning of a Senior League game.

In a third Single A game, Erickson Electric crushed Modern Woodmen 15-8 behind three hits by Larry Beaupre. Wayne Bibeau had three hits for the losers.

CLOQUET LEAGUE
Wood City Motors 004 022 1— 9 11 1
Benkoski & Holmes 100 230 0— 6 8 2
Craig Pollard and George Aalto: Tim Hoppe and Butch Cavanaugh.

A&B Lounge 101 102 1— 6 8 1
Diamond Match 000 401 0— 5 9 4
Bob Johnson, Larry Anderson (4) and Harley Johnson; Bob Ellison and Bruce Rimstad.

SINGLE A
Security Jewelers ... 000 100 1— 2 8 3
The Merchants 130 102 0— 9 11 1
Tom Bartholdi and Tom Elmes; John Bonneville and Tom Tostrup.

Shoppers City 100 002 3— 6 11 9
White Front 025 102 2—10 14 3
Houtz and Gruber; Dan Early and Larry Puhl.

A 1 1 1 1 1

Amber, Rustic Battle Today

The Double A Softball League has its final playoff game tonight with regular season champions Amber Flow Maroons facing Rustic Bar & Grill at 7 p.m. at Wheeler Field.

Rustic won the opening game the best of three series 2-0 today behind Ray Zimm's shut-pitching and the Maroons had to win Wednesday's game in 10 innings.

Today's victory was the only one Rustic has scored over Maroons this year, but all games have been close.

"There haven't been any run-games between us," Manager Rudy Senich said

Thursday. "They're a tough team and the outcome of the game will boil down to how much desire our team has."

Senich is noncommittal about his starting pitcher. He said he plans to watch his three pitchers.

Bobo Johnson, Denny Johnson and Jack Stark, warm up before deciding who will start.

Bobo has pitched both playoff games this week, but Rustic Manager Arv Burton is confident that his team will see Bobo again.

"We'll have all three pitchers ready because there's no tomorrow," Senich said. "My big worry is that the two games Bobo pitched may have taken a lot out of him."

The remainder of the Maroon lineup is expected to include shortstop Dubug Johnson, leftfielder Harry Oden, centerfielder Bob Hill, first baseman Larry Huard, rightfielder Chuck Zeh, catcher John Teslaw, second baseman Dick Gillen and third baseman Russ Anderson.

Oden Huard and Hill have been the team's leading hitters throughout the season but no one has hit real well in the playoffs.

"Unless we get more hits, the pitchers are thinking of suing for non-support," Senich said jokingly.

Burton said he plans to start Dick Carr with Zimm ready for relief if necessary. He will start his regular lineup except for catcher Joe Sinnott, who is unable to play because of a work commitment.

The lineup includes catcher Scott Gernander, first baseman John Gornick, second baseman Tom Lindvall, shortstop Dick Donahue, third baseman Dennis Brodin, leftfielder Red Nelson, centerfielder Dick Fabini, and leftfielder Bill Anderson, and utilityman Pink Gellately.

Nelson, Fabini and Anderson

Maroons Boost Double A Lead

The Amber Flow Maroons increased their Double A softball lead over second place Rustic Bar & Grill Wednesday as the Maroons downed Amber Golds 3-0 and Kro Bar upset Rustic 6-4.

For the second time this week veteran Bobo Johnson led the

Maroon victory. Though not as sharp as in his two hitter Monday, the ageless pitcher had enough control to shut out the Golds.

He struck out six, walked none, allowed only five hits, and drove in the Maroons' third run after Lonny Huard had given the Maroons a 2-0 lead with a two-run homer in the second inning.

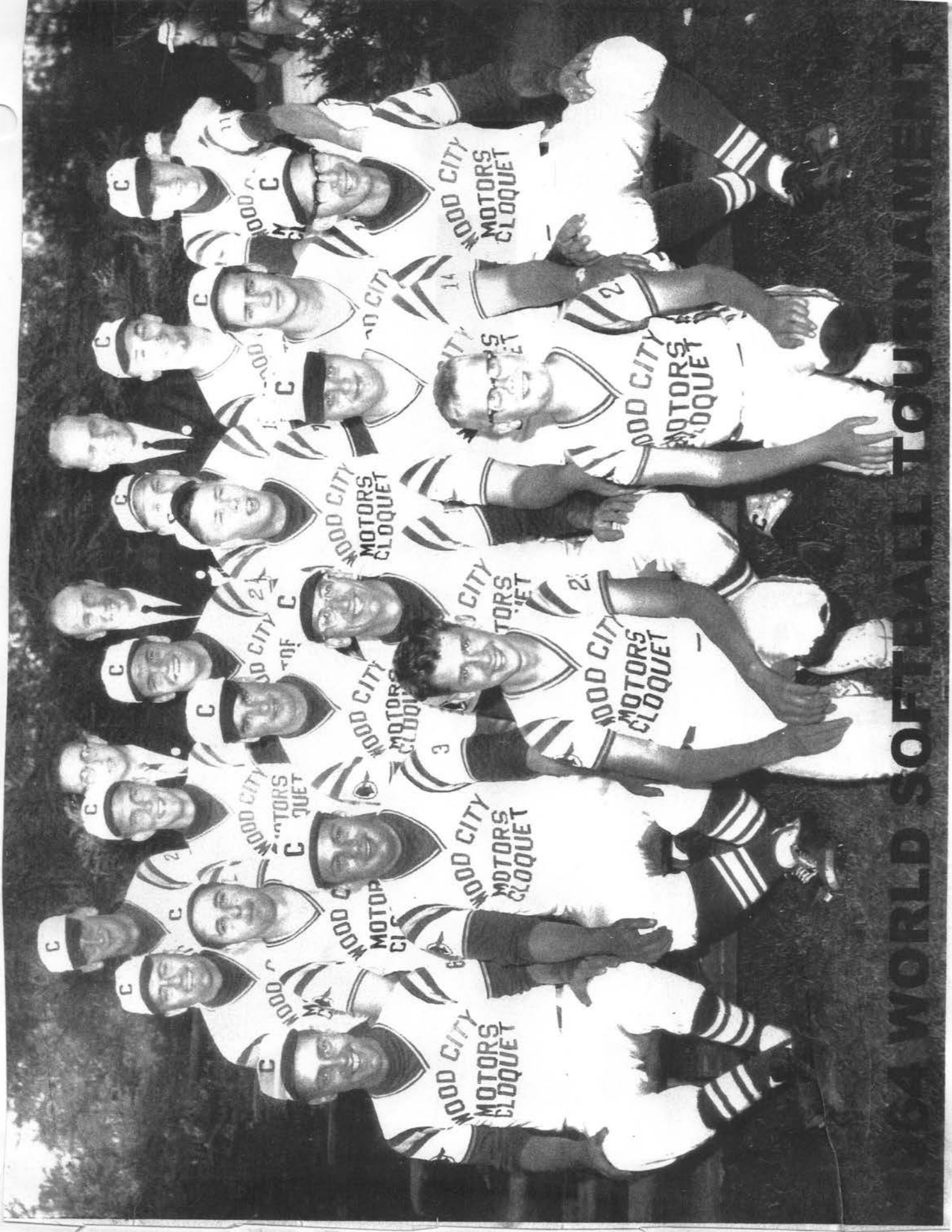
The big blow in Kro Bar's upset victory was a home run by Dick Raymond. Kro Bar grabbed a decisive lead scoring five runs in the top of the fourth and then added a run in the seventh.

The Maroons try for their sixth straight victory in an 8 p.m. game against Air Base at Wheeler Field Friday.

STANDINGS
W L Pct. GB

FIVE STAR

FIVE STAR



WORLD SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

Cloquet's Wood City Motors softball team, seeking a return trip to the World Tournament, is in Fargo, N.D. today to face Minneapolis Metro in the first game of the regional double elimination tournament.

Wood City won the regional crown last season in a thrilling double victory over St. Paul's Whittaker Buick at Cloquet. Wood City had to defeat the unbeaten St. Paul nine — a perennial World Tournament entry — twice for the crown, and the home town crowd went home happy as the Cloquet nine came through.

Manager Don Bourdeau announced this roster for the trip: Ed Johnson, Larry Anderson and Chuck Lindquist pitchers; Bob Gernander catcher; Lonnie

Wood City Tips Peters Meats

EAU CLAIRE—Mike Forrest's double gave Wood City Motors of Cloquet a 1-0 exhibition softball victory over Peters Mats here Saturday night. Forrest's hit came after Lon Huard had singled. Wood City pitcher Chuck Lindquist struck out 10 and walked none in his two-hitter.

Wood City Motors	..000	0-0	0—1	3	0
Peters Meats000	000	0—0	2	1

Chuck Lindquist and Mike Forrest;
Gary Wofford, Tex Books (7) and Fred
Golden.

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Wood Conversion 130 060 0—10 7 3
A&B Lounge 200 001 1— 4 5 2
Lindquist and Pollard; Anderson and Harley Johnson.

Diamond Match 130 021 0— 7 13 1
Benkoski & Holmes 000 000 0— 0 3 0
Ellison and Helm; Harold Johnson and Aalto.

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Double A Series

A two-out single by Lonnie Huard drove in Harry Oden in the bottom of the 10th inning as the Amber Flow Maroons nipped Rustic Bar & Grill 2-1 Wednesday night at Wheeler Field.

The victory for Amber Flow evened the best-of-three series at one game apiece in the Double A softball final playoffs.

Bobo Johnson pitched the route for the Maroons, giving up six hits. Dick Carr and Ray Zimm hurled for Rustic, with Zimm coming in in the seventh and taking the loss. The Maroons also had six hits.

Tom Lindvall singled in the third, went to second on a bunt and scored on John Gormick's single to give Rustic a 1-0 lead.

The Maroons came back to tie the game in the same inning when Johnson reached first on an error, was forced at second on an attempted sacrifice by Dubug Johnson, and Dubug Johnson moved around before scoring on a sacrifice fly by Oden.

In the 10th Bobo Johnson again singled and Oden also added

to decide the Double A champion.

Rustic Bar & Grill	001 000 000	0-1	6	1
Amber Flow				
Maroons	001 000 000	1-2	6	3
Dick Carr, Ray Zimm (7) and Joe Sinnott; Bobo Johnson and John Teslaw.				

Wood City Downs Duluth Air Base

Arvin Burton spun a sparkling one hitter as he led the Cloquet Wood City Motor team to a 1-0 win over the Duluth Air Base last Sunday. Burton struck out four en route to his first softball victory of the season, as he pitched his first complete game for his new teammates.

Burton was given great support in the field in the airtight pitching duel between himself and Kirby Newbern of the Air Base, as Newbern pitched a two hit game. The pitching duel was played before a large Armed Forces Day crowd who sat tense throughout the entire game.

The Wood City team scored its single run in the top of the fourth inning as Mike Forrest ed off with a triple. Lon Huard then hit a slow bouncer to second base and Forrest scooted across with the only and winning run. Then as the crowd sat tense knowing Burton had a no hitter going in the bottom of the sixth inning, Airman Bill Deegan hit a line smash over the pitcher's head for the Air Base's only hit.

The win evens the Wood City team's record for the exhibition season at 1-1. Next weekend, the Cloquet team will travel to Duluth for a 7:30 p.m. contest with Royal "58" and then on Sunday will again play in Duluth at 2 p.m. against Don and Dobby's. They will return home the following weekend, May 30, to play against Blandor Paper Co. of Grand Rapids at 7 p.m. in Pinehurst park.

Injured Players' Condition Told

Doctors report no change in the condition of Mike Forrest, Cloquet athlete hurt in an auto accident in Eau Claire Saturday. Mike suffered a skull fracture, and is still unconscious in a Rochester hospital.

Lonnie Huard and Bob Pollard have been transferred to the Cloquet Memorial hospital, where they are in the same room. Bob had a slight concussion, but his condition is good and he is expected to be released within the next few days.

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Wood City Motors	..000	0-0	0—	1	3	0
Peters Meats000	000	0—	0	2	1

Chuck Lindquist and Mike Forrest; Gary Watland, Tex Books (7) and Fred Golden.

Forrest and three teammates—Bob Pollard, Bob LaVoie and Lonnie Huard—were injured after a doubleheader against Eau Claire's Peters Meats while they were en route to their motel.

Forrest has been unconscious since that time, but Wednesday's report was the most encouraging so far. Pollard is the only one of the other three still hospitalized, but he is expected to be released soon. He is in a Cloquet hospital.

Jim Hagen, publicity director for Wood City, said he was at the hospital shortly after the four starters had been admitted. "I talked to Lonnie Huard and Bobby Pollard just after they were treated," he said.

"Nobody seems to know how it happened, but apparently all except Pollard were thrown from the car. He was driving. Huard's forehead is cut badly, and his left shoulder was banged up — he's had shoulder troubles before so that could be serious."

Forrest, LaVoie and Huard all are 20. Pollard is 23. Pollard is Wood City's regular left fielder, LaVoie is the starting right-fielder and Huard is the team's first baseman.

"We're supposed to play in Racine, Wis.; Aurora, Ill., and again in Eau Claire yet this season," Lahti said. "But we don't know what we're going to do about the schedule."

Wood City had split the doubleheader with the tough Peters Meats team, losing the second game 5-1 after a 1-0 triumph in the opener. In the Wood City victory, Forrest's double drove in the game's only run.