



Upper row: Gates, Norton, Fisher, Giacopuzzi, Uruburu, Schwartz
 Lower row: Newnan, Cox, Aune, Verbeck, Hermes, Crafton

FIRE DIVISION HAS GOOD SOFTBALL TEAM

The division softball team participated in two leagues during the 1945 season--won eleven and lost five in the Long Beach League; won seven and lost one in the Compton League. The team was in the playoffs at Long Beach and lost a heart-breaker to the Lady Katherine Candy Company team in the finals. The score, 4-2. The boys had a bad night in the field, committing five errors. It was the poorest game of the season. In the Compton playoffs about the same thing happened; the team made four errors and lost 11-0.

The team was managed by Stan Newnan; Field Captain, Mary Norton; coaches, Bill Verbeck and Ed Fisher. The team: Jones, Bachtell, Cox, Schwartz, Giacopuzzi, Pawlus, Uruburu, Hermes, Bartells, Mayrer and Chief Gates. Hermes was score keeper and statistician.

Our rooting section was made up eagerly of players' wives and SPARS. Cheer-leading was ably handled by Lieut. Downey of Waterfront Inspection.

Bill Verbeck led the team in batting with an average of .316, closely followed by Norton with an average of .315. Four were above .300. Norton led the team in runs batted in with 27. Jones and Schwartz each scored 25 runs to lead the team in that department. Uruburu, Giacopuzzi and Mayrer led the team with perfect fielding average, followed by Jones and Verbeck with .961 averages. Schwartz led in stolen bases with 19. Cox led in bases on balls received with 26 and Bachtell was next with 24.

In the pitching department, Chief Gates won eleven and lost four; Fisher won eleven and lost five. Mayrer joined the team late in the season and only appeared in four games, but he was very effective winning one and losing none.

The club did have a good season, winning thirty-two and losing ten. Batting average was .264, and fielding average was .943.