

Submitted photo

The Lake Keowee senior softball team holds the Championship Plaque after going a perfect 4-0 to win the Sun City Slow Pitch Softball Tournament held recently in Sun City. Pictured are, front row from left, Bill Luke, Roger Jackson, Willie Galarza, Rich Lowe, Bill Shimel; back row, Don Borth, Gary Kelley, Claude Smith, Larry Gabe and Dennis Bausman.

Keowee team shines in tourneys

Staff Reports

During the past month the Lake Keowee senior softball team attended two regional slow-pitch softball tournaments, one in Georgia and one in Hilton Head.

The Georgia Tournament was an eight-team tournament held in Hiawassee, Ga., featuring teams were from the North Carolina, South Carolina and greater Atlanta area. Lake Keowee ended up tied for the championship, but unfortunately lost in a tiebreaker, thus claiming the official second-place trophy.

The highlight of the tournament was a triple play completed in the very first game. The play turned out to be the turning point of the game and was the first triple play that Lake Keowee has ever completed in a competitive game against other teams.

Lake Keowee was one of four teams invited to the Hilton Head Sun City Slow Pitch Softball Tournament held in Sun City. The tournament featured the No. 1 rated 65-plus team in the Southeast, the Sun City squad. The luck of the draw had Lake Keowee playing Sun City twice during the two-day event.

During the tournament's four games, Lake Keowee turned 10 double plays, which was more then all the other teams combined, and outstanding defensive plays were made by everyone on the roster, time and again to shut down an opponent's rally. For the tournament, the Lake Keowee team went 4-0 with two of the wins against the top-ranked Sun City squad and captured the Championship Plaque.

One dampening experience was the illness of Neil Wilson, who was hospitalized in Hilton Head with what was later diagnosed as a heart attack. Wilson had a stint put in a totally occluded artery and is recovering from this serious episode. However, Neil has the Championship Plaque with him at the hospital as a reminder of the love from his teammates on the Lake Keowee senior softball team.