



By EARL WATT

- Leader & Times

While slow pitch softball is the recreational sport of choice today, back in the 1960s and '70s, men's fastpitch softball was a sport that went beyond recreational.

One of the teams that took the sport to its highest level was the Rosel softball team.

Rosel competed in district, regional and state championships, and thanks to the support of the team's namesake, George Rosel, he was able to fund the team including travel by plane to games.

Rosel owned and operated Rosel Energy, and he spent his spare time in the summer playing and managing his softball team.

The city league games were played at the corner of Seventh and Calhoun, and Rosel's team was a perennial powerhouse.

Rosel also invested in the field and provided labor to keep the field ready for play.

## **Public invited to Rosel Field dedication**

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When the field needed a scoreboard, Rosel made the purchase, and he also gave the field a name — Rosel Field.

While men's fastpitch softball faded away, the field was repurposed for youth baseball games, and it is still used today.

The Rosel monicker has stuck over the years, and Saturday, the field will be officially dedicated as Rosel Field with a permanent placque and ceremony.

A free public cookout will begin at 5 p.m. with the dedication ceremony to begin at 6 p.m.

Area youth teams will run the bases following the dedication ceremony.

City league youth games will follow.

There is no cost, and the public is invited to attend.