Tides

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and serving in Okinawa and Japan. He'll face heavy guns again in three weeks. He'll turn 26 years of age May 10 and then pitch against the defending champion Eastern Blues May 11.

Skipper Wilson Davis' Eastern Blues kept pace with the Tides by trouncing the Beaufort Sea Dogs, 18-4, in the wooded beauty of the Blues' home in Smyrna. Manley Gaskill, 22-year-old second-baseman, paced the defending champions with a single, double and triple and three runs-batted-in in four times at bat.

Davis alternated George Zurenko, Kenny Lewis and Dallas Arthur on the mound in limiting the Sea Dogs to four hits. Joe Willis electrified some 300 fans when he rocketed the only home run of the game into the pines. Crawford Pigott, who surely must lead the league in getting on base, smashed a triple in his only official atbat.

The fire-eating Western Blues shocked the Red Sox, 8-6, in the latter's Broad Creek home. Wardell Johnson and Frank Dennis led the Westerners' well-balanced attack with two hits apiece. They drove home half the Blues' runs between them. D. Sutton came in to relieve George Tootle and gain credit for the pitching save with three fine clutch innings.