

Western Blues to Face Braves Amid Memories of Jim Thorpe

JIM THORPE played baseball "not . . . for the money there was in it . . . but because I like to play ball."

That was Jim's "crime," one of innocence, when he

played baseball for the Rocky Mount Railroaders and the Fayetteville Highlanders in the Eastern Carolina League of 1909-1910.

THE SAC and Fox Indian, possibly the greatest all-around athlete of all time, never received more than \$15 a week in that legendary Eastern Carolina League of 65 years ago. But those precious dollars cost him dearly.

They cost Wa-Tho-Huck, Thorpe's Indian name, the Olympic medals presented to him by King Gustav of Sweden after Jim won both the decathlon and pentathlon in the 1912 Games in Stockholm.

"YOU, SIR, are the greatest athlete in the world," said King Gustav.

"Thanks, King," replied Jim Thorpe.

THE LINE of succession from that Eastern Carolina

League of yesteryear and the Seashore League of Carteret County, which goes into its third week of its second season on Sunday, is a direct one.

Turning back the clock to the 1930's, the "amateur" Coastal Plain League had to change its classification to professional to survive. The amateur payroll proved too expensive.

JUMPING to the Tide-

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