Eastern Blues to Meet Elon

In Tourney, Noon Saturday

By STURGIS HEDRICK

HOPING for fair skies, Manager Wilson Davis will once again this weekend escort his tired travelers, the Eastern Blues, to Roxboro to play in the Eastern North Carolina Regionals Saturday at 12 noon.

Rained out a total of six times, the Blues are at full strength for the Elon Colonels. And win they must, either team, in this double-elimination. Both the Blues and the Colonels lost heart-breakers in their openers July 5.

IT'S A story in itself, how Master Mariner Davis has kept his Blues in instant communication while constantly on the move. Kenny Lewis, for example, phoned yesterday from Charleston, S. C., to ask whether he should report direct to Roxboro or head for home. Manager Davis radios the latest baseball itinerary

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But this never-say-die fervor of the Blues best reflects the true spirit of the Roxboro tournament.

WE'LL NEVER forget a mid-1950's conversation with Mr. Hustle himself, Enos Bradsher (Country) Slaughter, the former bigleague great who founded the Roxboro Blues and Roxboro's role in the tournament.

You'd have to call it Country's credo:

"YOU HUSTLE on everything," said Slaughter.
"You never give up. You try for every ball that's hit within a city block of you and you run out everything — 4 inches from home plate or 400 feet — it makes no difference."

And we'll never forget a home run Enos hit in a World Series game in Boston. The ball was long gone into the Fenway Park bleachers, but Slaughter ran around the bases as if he were late for an appointment.

"COUNTRY ran as though he was afraid the Governor of Massachusetts would veto the hit before Enox touched home plate." That's the way a Boston sportswriter described the spectacle the next day.

The Blues have the same kind of hustle.