

# Seashore League

(Continued from Pg. 2-A) July 24, 1975

rank of "Boats," Chief Boatswain's Mate, and commanded his own 30-foot Search and Rescue Boat at Cape Lookout. There, he met his bride-to-be.

One week after he left the Coast Guard to become a landlubber, George and his girl were wed and they settled on Harker's Island. That was 1972. They still live there and the happy husband is supervising the building of his own home each evening after his 70-mile daily commute to and from Cherry Point.

MANAGER DAVIS of the Blues calls Zurenko's ace-in-the-hole pitch his "Funny Ball." The Seashore League batters will agree. They become enraged at themselves, because they wonder what in the world George is throwing to get them out. But, grudgingly, they will admit that "there you see it and then it's gone."

What George's "Funny Ball" does is sink and then disappear. Try and hit that one some time.

OH YES, ONE thing more. Zurenko has yet to lose in Seashore League competition. He went 4-0 last year and already has won 4 and lost 0 in 1975 with 6 games still left on the Eastern Blues' schedule.

Now, back to big Jack Daughtrey, who was Zurenko's roomie on the Blues' first ill-fated trip to Roxboro for the Southern Regional championship of the National Baseball Congress. Although they're 13 years apart in calendar age, they're both mature big-league thinkers.

DAUGHTREY HAS seen a lot in his 38 years, enough to realize that it pays off to keep in shape. That's why he has the physique of an 18-year-old at 6 feet 4 and 200 pounds.

Jack may not agree, but he very possibly may be as good a pitcher today as he was in his salad days of the late 1950's at Washington and Lee University. With a Nolan Ryan-Sandy Koufax caliber fast ball, Jack didn't have to pitch in those days. All he needed to do was toe the mound and throw.

SEASHORE LEAGUE batters will tell you that he's some kind of a pitcher today, with a still-live fast ball and multiple changes on curves. And he can control those puzzlers through the hole in an over-sized doughnut.

Playing the Eastern Blues in Smyrna ranks somewhere in the same league with jumping into the ancient Roman Coliseum amid a pride of starving lions. That's why Braves' Manager Otis Pittman declines to pass along the slightest tip as to his starting pitcher.

IN FACT, SUNDAY'S confrontation reminds some old-timers as a test between John McGraw (Wilson Davis) and Connie Mack (Otis Pittman). Both did a lot of winning.

Otis has his sound reasons for keeping mute on his starting pitcher. He has the deepest staff in the league with Daughtrey, Bubble-Gum Artis Neal Smith, Lefty George Viereck and Wild Man left-hander, Bob McIntosh, who already has a no-hitter to his credit.

The Beaufort Sea Dogs, constantly improving under Manager Sterling Hancock, should give the Red Sox all they can handle at Broad Creek. The Western Blues may test the Carteret Tides in Swinson Park.