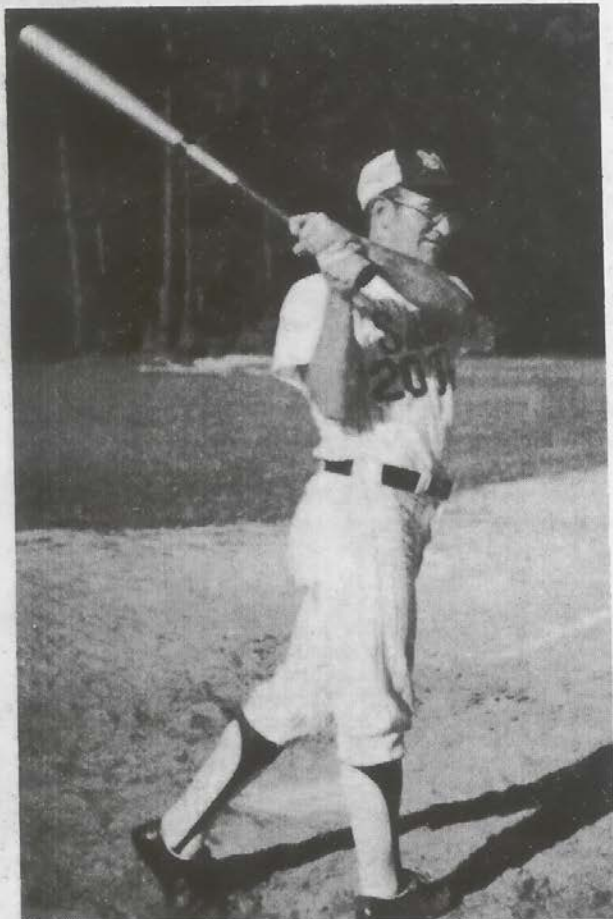


16-0 1975  
14-0 1974

# Even Tropical Storm Yields Smyrna to Blues

**Sports News**  
*Jeff Jones, Editor 726-7081*



Hitting at a .426 clip for the Seashore League baseball season, outfielder-pitcher Bobby McIntosh crashed two booming home runs into the towering right-field pines yesterday afternoon in Smyrna. Despite his heroics for the Braves, Salter Path bowed to the undefeated Eastern Blues, 15-6.

By STURGIS HEDRICK

TROPICAL storm Blanche was swirling on a collision course for Smyrna at game time Saturday afternoon.

But the Eastern Blues' big test with the Salter Path Braves was charted for 2 p.m. Sunday. And, as everybody Down East knows, the Seashore League champion Blues have yet to lose to anybody in the 2-year history of the sizzling-hot amateur baseball competition.

MISS BLANCHE? Well, that might have produced more of a contest: The Blues vs. The Weather.

But Down East Manager Wilson Davis had a bit of magic in his bag of tricks to confront even Blanche. He asked everybody within 50 miles of Smyrna to huff and puff. Blow, blow they did and Blanche took the hint.

AT LEAST, the storm was reported 525 miles away out in the ocean by game time yesterday. So, the Blues had only the war-whooping Braves as opponents and the Easterners disposed of the Salter Path invaders, 15-6, in Smyrna.

The Braves, after all, mere mortals be.

SUPERLATIVE fielding won the game for the second week in a row for the Blues. That grand infield of Milton Scott, Dale Lewis, Manley Gaskill and Crawford Pigott thrilled some 1,200 spectators with four of the prettiest double-plays you'll see on any diamond.

Ironically, Craig Weber's fire-eating hustle gave the Blues an unexpected assist and the Braves a staggering blow of ill-fortune in the very first inning. He's the chief holler-guy and sparkplug in the Salter Path lineup.

HE GIVES them that something extra in the way of inspiration. But they're never quite the same when he's away.

Craig tore into Down East starting pitcher Brad Piner with a rifle single to left to open the game. But then the Braves' No. 2 batter, George Viereck, slapped a ground ball to second-baseman Gaskill.

WEBER WENT sliding into shortstop Dale Lewis with all the fury the Brave speedboy could muster. Craig's goal was to break up the double-play, but what he tore was something in his chest.

His young bride, Sally, rushed Weber to Carteret General for emergency x-rays and the symptoms sounded very much like a broken rib or ribs. Craig was gasping for breath.

THIRTY-EIGHT-YEAR-OLD Jerry Pittman, once the kingpin pitcher of Carteret County, stepped staunchly into the catcher's pads. But Jerry's not a catcher. And 9 stolen-bases and 4 passed-balls gave the Blues some unexpected help no opponent can afford to surrender.

So the Blues continued their unchallenged march to their second pennant in a row. They're still undefeated with 16 straight victories this season after a 14-and-0 won-lost record in 1974. They picked up a forfeit verdict when

(See SEASHORE LEAGUE Pg. 3-A)