

THE EYES behind this typewriter have seen a bit of baseball in the last 45 years. They've seen home runs by Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Wes Ferrell, Mickey Mantle, Ted Kluszewski, Mel Ott, Joe Medwick, maybe Fred Nelson, Alex Fox. . . well, just a few mighty wallops.

But the ones that come to mind quickest always seem to be the ones that happened yesterday. And, no doubt, the ones that loom in the here-and-now future.

ALL THE Downeasters will tell you that the picturesque tree farm of the Blues rings the green, green, green diamond with two bays of stately pine trees. The first bay belongs to a forest of 50-year-old youngsters. The back bay dates way back when. The Croatan Indians probably pitched their teepees thereabouts a century or two ago.

Suffice it to say, that Kenny Lewis' drive cleared

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the baby bay of 60-100-foot pines by 20 feet. Will the adventurous explorer that finds that baseball be kind enough to measure its distance from home plate and report its statistic to The NEWS-TIMES?

It rates an asterisk, at least.

BRUCE MANESS did indeed pitch his heart out for the Red Sox. In fact, he carried a 4-2 lead into the bottom of the fifth. Then Scott and Kenny Lewis lowered the boom.

But, let's face it, boys and girls, this team of Blues can hit. The winners also can field. And run. And play ball.

DALE LEWIS beat out a single to third to open the scoring in the first. He stole second and tallied on Joe Willis' single. Ronnie Fulcher opened the second with a slicing double to left and counted on George Zurenko's hard single down the middle.

Their own base-running killed the Sox, even while they were scoring their first run in the fourth. Alex Fox opened with a blistering single. Maness hammered a mighty double to left and Fox crossed home plate. But Alex failed to touch second base in his travels and very properly was called "out" by Umpires Mike Jakubek and Bill Simmons after the Blues' appeal.

TOM MANN drove in Maness with his bullet single to left. The Sox counted just one run, however, on those three beautiful hits.

Newport paraded no less than eight runners to the plate in the top of the fifth. Manager-catcher Donnie Aycock opened with a single over short. Allen Garner singled to center. George Mettrick did likewise. Fox and Maness each singled to left and Cecil Hardesty walked with the bases loaded.

THAT FINISHED Blues' starting pitcher George Zurenko. Yet with all those sniper shots, 5 hits in all counted just 3 runs before 18-year-old Brad Piner came in to quell the carnage on a spectacular double-play from second-baseman Manley Gaskill to shortstop Dale Lewis to catcher Randy Grady.

The Blues sealed the seams of their 19th straight league victory of 1975 in the eighth. Fred Nelson pinch-hit a double to left to score Kenny Lewis, who drew a precautionary walk.