

Sturgis Hedrick to Manage All STARS

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Sept. 18, 1975

AFTER AN extremely successful season, the County Seashore League proudly boasts that the leader of the first annual all-star game will be the colorful, articulate, enthusiastic and knowledgeable Sturgis Hedrick.

The Seashore League all-star contest will be staged at 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 27, at Swinson Park, located between Country Club Road and Highway 70 west of Morehead City. The all-stars will take on the league champions, yet to be determined.

THE NEWPORT Red Sox will meet the Carteret Tides at 2 p.m. Sunday at Swinson Park in the third and final game to decide the league's 1975 championship.

Sturgis brings a lifelong love and experience of baseball to this first gala happening. His rich comparisons of our heroes with those of old have generated great fan and player interest throughout the county. He has spent countless hours compiling statistics, covering baseball games and creating, in inimitable Hedrick style, the classy journalistic coverage of each Sunday's Seashore League activity.

CERTAINLY, acknowledgement and gratitude should be extended to his lovely wife and soulmate, who has aided, advised and patiently worked with Sturgis through the long

hours of grinding but rewarding work.

Many people in the county who were, before this baseball season, either non-fans or athletically uninterested have through Sturgis Hedrick's columns developed new or renewed interest in the occurrences of the Seashore Baseball League and its players. Several residents who know almost nothing about baseball now report that the Hedrick words are the first that they read in the newspaper.

WHO IS STURGIS, the transplanted Major from Buffalo, N. Y., who has so endeared himself to the hearts of baseball fans here? "Who ever heard of a baseball man named Sturgis?" the brewery executive who had just selected Sturgis Lee Hedrick as No. 2 play-by-play sports announcer to Harry Caray on the St. Louis Cardinal baseball network puzzled the question.

That was asked a good many years ago. The advertising group, meeting on this final issue, volunteered no response. Neither did our Mr. Hedrick. Finally, the latter young hopeful meekly offered an alternative: Well, I have a middle name of Lee. Would that be more suitable for broadcasting?"

THUS WAS born a name familiar to the St. Louis airwaves, but more so to Houston and Cincinnati in later years — Lee Hedrick.

In fact, the very recently deceased Morris Frank, best known and best loved of all the Houston columnists, christened the Texas sports announcer of 1946-1951 as "Line Drive" Lee Hedrick.