

King Richard Arthur Rules Blues; Sox Nip Braves in Pitching Duel

By STURGIS HEDRICK

KING ARTHUR STILL reigns as monarch of the Eastern Blues.

But one question looms large in the kingdom of Manager Wilson Davis. Will the real King Arthur stand up, please?

For 3 years now, Lefty Dallas Wayne Arthur has occupied the throne. But yesterday it was Dallas' cousin, right-handed Richard Arthur, who pitched the Blues to an 11-4 Seashore League baseball victory over John Thompson's Coastal Greys.

Richard spun a 6-hitter, struck out 13 and walked 4. He led all the way from the very first inning when Joe-Boy Willis drew a bases-loaded walk to score Milton Scott and Braxton Piner lofted a fly to deepest center field in Swinson Park to score Dale Lewis.

THIS FIFTH STRAIGHT victory for the undefeated Blues proved one honey of a ball game and drew an estimated 3,500 fans. Every available

old-timer agreed that this very likely drew the largest attendance to witness any athletic event in the history of Carteret County.

And yet, oddly enough, the Newport Red Sox edged out the battling Braves, 3-1, in an even more taut thriller before another jam-packed throng in Salter Path.

Long lean Charley Hardesty, the Greys' ace southpaw, matched Richard Arthur pitch for pitch until Hardesty ran out of steam in the 8th inning. Charley gave up 8 hits, walked 5 and fanned 5. It was a 5-2 ball game, Blues on top, when Hardesty departed.

That was when the undefeated perennial winners of Wilson Davis broke the game wide open with 6 great big runs, 5 of them unearned.

Manley Gaskill opened with a single, Milton Scott was hit by a pitched ball, Dale Lewis and Paul Damren singled, Joe-Boy Willis reached first on an error and Braxton Piner cleaned the bases with a double.

ASPREDICTED, home runs leaped off the bats of both teams and none of the circuit wallops needed the help of the sou'wester, blowing straight out from home plate.

Charley Hardesty smashed the longest of the day, a 360-foot drive to right-center, that gave him the league lead with 4 homers for the season in just 5 games. Robert Hill Jr. smashed another circuit blow for the Greys. Richard Collins and Alex Fox led the Coastal second-place incumbents with 2 singles apiece.

Milton Scott and Paul Damren smashed mighty home runs for the Blues. Scott added a timely double and Damren a single. Braxton Piner clouted 2 doubles in 4 trips, Ronnie Fulcher went 2 for 5 and Joe Willis exploded a double and got on base 4 times in his 3 official at-bats.

SEASHORE BASEBALL STANDINGS

	W	L
Eastern Blues	5	0
Coastal Greys	3	2
Carteret Tides	2	2
Newport Red Sox	2	3
Salter Path Braves	0	5

SO NEXT SUNDAY will pit the ever-improving Newport Red Sox against the leading Blues in the latter's home Eastern Park bivouac in Smyrna.

"I don't know what we have to do to win a ball game," said the disconsolate Otis Pittman after yesterday's crushing 3-1 loss at Salter Path. "We didn't make a single error, we got great pitching, but we just lost another heart-breaker," moaned the Brave manager.

The teams battled to a 0-0 tie, going into the 6th of a defensive masterpiece that was completed in just under 2 hours. Then the Sox broke the ice when George Viereck doubled home the first run. Jimmy Davis, who had pitched a no-hitter till then, countered with a home run in the home sixth.

THEN TOM MANN broke the heart of the Braves with the key Newport double in the ninth. That made it the final 3-1 victory for the Sox, who are rolling at full momentum now under the patient guidance of Manager Donnie Aycock.

Right-handed Dick Shelton pitched a superlative 3-hitter for the winners. Davis matched the Sox ace all the way and gave up just 6 hits in an errorless classic. Ronnie Willis of Newport went 2 for 3, the only batter to collect more than a single hit.

Tides Will Battle Meredith Monarchs

The Carteret Tides of the Seashore Baseball League will play host to the Meredith College Monarchs at 8 o'clock Friday night on the Swinson Park field, located west of Morehead City.

The contest will follow a Babe Ruth (senior division) game, under the lights. There will be no admission charge. A concession stand will be in operation.