

Smyrna Defeats Rams 3-2; Slides by NHS

The Smyrna Blue Devils scored three runs on three hits in the first inning Tuesday and didn't get another hit, but held on to score a close 3-2 win over the Havelock Rams in a game played at Smyrna Tuesday.

In the leadoff inning Norris Nelson was hit by a pitched ball and then stole second while James Meares was striking out. Curt Nelson then got the first hit of the game, a single, to score Norris Nelson from second. Braxton Piner, the next batter, boomed a triple that scored Curt Nelson and then Grady Davis singled, driving in Piner.

For the Blue Devils that was it — although it proved to be enough, even though they were outhit 6-3. Zimmer, the Havelock hurler, didn't allow another hit in the game. His teammates collected three hits apiece off Smyrna starter Byron Styron and reliefer Braxton Piner.

On Friday of last week the Blue Devils scored another close win as they downed Newport 2-1 behind the three-hit pitching of lefthander Braxton Piner.

Piner, in recording his ninth win of the season, struck out 13 Hawks. Winkie Chadwick took the loss for Newport, surrendering five hits and striking out five.

The Blue Devils put together single runs in the fourth and sixth inning for the win. Newport's lone tally came in the top of the third inning.

The two wins boosted Smyrna's record to 13 wins and one loss.