

Tides Tie Sox for Second As Leading Blues Romp

By STURGIS HEDRICK

RAIN, RAIN and more rain failed to dampen the fire of the Seashore League baseball race. But it did tighten up the competition in the three middle spots and create a log jam of makeup games.

Those "New Look" Eastern Blues put it all together with a vengeance yesterday afternoon to dominate the Newport Red Sox, 18-5, in Eastern Park, Smyrna.

Tote up six wins in a row for the Carteret Tides now, after their 8-3 victory over the Coastal Greys yesterday in Swinson Park.

But the Friday night game between the Salter Path Braves and the Coastal Greys and the Tides-vs-Blues contest were flooded and rained out, despite the sunshine that finally peeped through the clouds on Saturday.

WILSON DAVIS qualified once again as the master showman of the league. Leading, 18-3, in the 8th inning yesterday, the Blues' skipper continued to pour it on, sending base runners off on stolen-base missions usually featured when a team leads by a narrow margin.

Purposely or not, Wilson angered Don Zagorski. And one thinks twice before arousing a Don Zagorski.

Bobby Shelton of the Red Sox led off

STANDINGS			
	W	L	AVG.
Eastern Blues	12	4	.750
Newport	8	6	.571
Carteret Tides	8	6	.571
Coastal Greys	6	9	.400
Salter Path	3	12	.200

the 9th with a walk. That set the stage for the Newport cleanup hitter and former North Carolina State All-Conference star, Zagorski.

Big Don had warned the Blues' manager as the teams changed sides to start off the 9th. "Davis, I don't like those stolen bases on top of an 18-3 lead," said Zagorski. "I'm going to lose one of your darned baseballs."

AND THAT'S when Don unloaded the longest home run ever seen in Eastern Park. He hammered a terrifying blast, estimated at better than 500 feet, some 50 feet over Highway 70 into the left-field muck.

That gave Zagorski a 3-for-3 afternoon, with a single and 2 homers and all 5 of the Sox runs-batted-in. He now has an incredible .600 batting average with 6 home runs and all but 2 of his hits good for extra bases.

That circuit wallop tied Don with Paul Damren, who had quite a day himself for the Blues. He hammered 2 doubles, a triple and single for 4 RBI's. He's hitting .456, with almost

half his hits good for extra bases. But Damren remains tied with Zagorski at 6 home runs.

IT PROVED a glorious day of batting practice for the Blues as they beat out a steady rat-a-tattoo of 18 hits.

Manley Gaskill blasted a double and triple. Joe-Boy Willis knocked in 3 runs with his single and triple and 4 runs-scored. Richard Arthur hammered a single and triple. Kenny Lewis pounded out 4 singles in 6 trips. Dale Lewis boosted his base-stealing lead to 13, and scored 3 runs to lift that lead to 30 on his .295 batting average.

Tony Hancock contributed the top fielding gem for the Blues when he threw out Tommy Vincent from right field to first base on what normally would go for a single.

Yes, you Downeast fans, that does indeed include Hancock with the immortals. Ty Cobb, who won high vote to top all entries in the very first Baseball Hall of Fame, specialized in throwing out runners from right field to first on would-be hits.

JOHN TURNAGE pitched 9-hit ball to coast to an 8-3 win for the Tides over the Greys. That 6th straight Carteret victory moves the Tides into a tie for second place with the Red Sox.

George Gilbert led the batting attack for the defending champs with a double in his 3-for-6 afternoon. Fletcher Poulk, Chuck Lewis and Turnage himself weighed in with 2 hits apiece.

Monroe Johnson hit a 2-run homer for the Greys and Wardell Johnson clouted a solo circuit shot.