

On Target

By Sturgis Hedrick



JOHN TURNAGE

BY GUM AND BY CRACKIE, he did it. And he didn't wait until Sunday's playoff opener either.

That say-little do-much infielding whiz, Fletcher Poulk, accomplished his goal with 9 eye-opening fielding chances last Saturday afternoon to celebrate the arrival of his first-born, Thomas Fletcher Poulk, on the 9th day of the 9th month. Fletcher's precious wife, Daryl, presented her husband with a 9-pound 5-ouncer at 9:05 a.m.

The senior Mr. Poulk roamed far, wide and deep to play a flawless, critical role in John Turnage's 8-1 triumph for the Carteret Tides over the Braves in the latter's Seashore League finale for 1976 in Salter Path.

BUT THAT BASEBALL hotbed, the cozy Fenway Park-style Salter Path Ball Park, looms as the focal point in Sunday's opening round of the double-elimination playoffs. Because that's where the friendly finalists of last year's playoffs, the champion Tides and the Newport Red Sox, renew competition for the 1976 title.

At the same 2 p.m. starting time, the eternally-favored Eastern Blues will entertain the Coastal Greys in the

**OPENING SEASHORE
PLAYOFFS
(Double Elimination)
SUNDAY AT 2 P.M.**

**Coastal Greys at Eastern Blues
(Smyrna School diamond).
Newport Red Sox vs. Carteret
Tides (Salter Path Ball Park).**

picturesque Smyrna School pines.

Victory does not always go to the team with the greatest pitching depth, but that is where to look. Here the Blues and the Greys would appear well-matched with Dallas Wayne Arthur, Brad Piner, Richard Arthur, et al. vs. John Reels, Charley Hardesty, Delbert Sutton and William Steward.

But, on the basis of the regular season, Dallas and Brad reign supreme.

RODNEY KEMP's TIDES and Donnie Aycock's Sox present quite a bit more of a pitching contrast.

Close followers of the league will rank John Turnage right up there with

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