

July, 1977

By RODNEY KEMP

THE EASTERN BLUES and Lenoir County All-Stars remain unbeaten and four teams were eliminated as the NBC Coastal Division baseball tournament completed its second weekend of play Sunday at Swinson Park, Morehead City.

The Blues beat Salter Path 8-1 and the All-Stars outlasted Grifton 14-10 to send those two teams to the loser's bracket against the two remainders, Carteret Tides and Chicod Cowboys.

THE POLLOCKSVILLE BEARS, Stantonsburg Hawks, Coastal Greys and Western Red Sox were eliminated.

Blues first baseman Paul Damren hammered two home runs and accounted for 5 RBI's as Brad Piner stilled the Braves' bats with a neat four-hitter in Sunday's first game.

THE ALL-STARS spotted the Reds a 7-run lead in the first three innings and then broke out their heavy artillery to win going away in Sunday's nightcap.

The Blues and All-Stars will meet Saturday night in head-to-head competition.

**THE COWBOYS AND Tides** staved off the elimination threat with a pair of wins on Friday and Saturday.

Chicod beat Stantonsburg in Friday's first game, 8-7, as shortstop Randy Adams went three for four and third baseman Jack Jones drove in four runs. This loss eliminated the Hawks from the tourney. They had been one of the pre-tournament favorites, but lack of pitching depth was evident.

ON SATURDAY Chicod dropped the Bears from the action with a nifty 5-1 win. Ron Pelletier, the winning pitcher the night before, got credit for a pitching save and also went two for two with two doubles and two runs.

The Tides and Greys hooked up in a clash of Seashore Baseball League rivals, each facing tournament elimination. Tides right-hander Gary Raynor struck out 11 Greys in seven innings as the Tides won 5-3.

CHUCK LEWIS'S two-run homer in the first inning of Saturday's final game between the Tides and the Red Sox was all ace Jim Raynor needed. He pitched a two-hitter, striking out 12 Sox en route to a seven-inning shutout, 6-0. The Tides will play the Braves in the season finale.

The Tides will play the Braves in next Friday's first game and the Cowboys will meet the Reds in the finale. The winners of these two will meet in an opener prior to the Blues-All-Stars clash on Saturday.

2A THE NEWS-TIMES Morehead City-Beaufort, N. C.



Blues' power hitter Paul Damren heads for third base, en route home, after blasting a three-run homer over the left field fence in first-inning action Sunday at Swinson Park. Damren came back in the third frame to slam out a two-run homer, pushing his RBI total to 11.

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Eastern Blues 8				Saiter Path Braves 1
Braves	100	000	0	1 run on 4 hits
Blues	402	200	x	8 runs on 5 hits

WP — Brad Piner, struck out 12 in 7 innings  
 LP — John Lippert

Highlights:

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Lippert, Braves, 2 for 4  
Gene Sessions, Braves, 1 for 4  
Paul Damren, Blues, 2 for 4, 2 HR, 5 RBI  
Braxton Piner, Blues, 1 HR  
Ronnie Fulcher, Blues, 3 runs

Lenoir All-Stars 14				Griffon Reds 10
All-Stars	000	243	500	14 runs on 14 hits
Reds	510	400	000	10 runs on 14 hits

**Highlights:**

Little, Stars, 2 for 5, 2 HR  
Bob Scott, Stars, 2 for 5, 1 HR  
Ron Bryant, Stars, 2 for 4, 1 HR  
Dan Tripp, Reds, 3 for 5  
Hatcher, Reds, 2 for 5, 1 HR  
Gary Tripp, Reds, 2 for 5, 1 HR