

# Tides Have Final Shot at Eastern Blues Sunday

By TOM DOYLE

THE EASTERN BLUES, leaders of the Seashore Baseball League, will meet the Carteret Tides at 2 p.m. Sunday at Swinson Park. This is it, the last time these two will clash in regular season.

The Blues boast a 14-4 win-loss mark, while the Tides trail at 12-5. For the Tides, Sunday's battle is a "must win" situation. If they lose, they will finish as runners-up to the Blues, perennial regular season champions of the Seashore circuit.

THE BATTLE FOR THIRD place is between the Western Red Sox, 7-12, and the Salter Path Braves, 7-10. Those two will meet at 8 o'clock Friday night at Swinson Park.

The Braves had just two more games to go, one with the Greys at 2 p.m. Sunday at Salter Path, the other next week against the Carteret Tides.

Here are the standings so far:

|                    | W  | L  | Pct. |
|--------------------|----|----|------|
| Eastern Blues      | 14 | 4  | .777 |
| Carteret Tides     | 12 | 5  | .705 |
| Salter Path Braves | 7  | 10 | .411 |
| Western Red Sox    | 7  | 12 | .368 |
| Coastal Greys      | 4  | 13 | .222 |

### Top Twenty Batting Leaders (35 at-bats)

|                         | AB | R  | H  | Pct. | O  |
|-------------------------|----|----|----|------|----|
| Andy Raynor, Tides      | 59 | 28 | 33 | .559 | 16 |
| Paul Damron, Blues      | 54 | 23 | 24 | .444 | 17 |
| Fletcher Pouik, Tides   | 44 | 16 | 26 | .604 | 16 |
| Chuck Lewis, Tides      | 63 | 18 | 25 | .396 | 16 |
| Ronnie Fulcher, Blues   | 47 | 13 | 18 | .382 | 15 |
| Richard Collins, Greys  | 46 | 12 | 24 | .343 | 17 |
| Ronnie Willis, Red Sox  | 47 | 11 | 24 | .358 | 19 |
| Alex Fox, Greys         | 49 | 12 | 17 | .346 | 17 |
| Richard Arthur, Blues   | 35 | 6  | 12 | .342 | 11 |
| Tony Neuman, Braves     | 42 | 11 | 14 | .333 | 13 |
| Jimmy Davis, Braves     | 39 | 10 | 13 | .333 | 12 |
| Mike Burchette, Red Sox | 53 | 14 | 17 | .320 | 15 |
| Wayne Mobley, Tides     | 47 | 13 | 15 | .319 | 14 |
| Dallas Arthur, Blues    | 44 | 12 | 14 | .318 | 12 |
| Neal Smith, Braves      | 49 | 9  | 21 | .304 | 17 |
| Cecil Lilly, Tides      | 41 | 8  | 12 | .292 | 14 |
| Johnny Lippert, Braves  | 32 | 13 | 15 | .288 | 14 |
| John Turnage, Tides     | 32 | 20 | 15 | .288 | 15 |
| Jay Garner, Red Sox     | 35 | 4  | 10 | .285 | 12 |
| Kenny Lewis, Blues      | 43 | 16 | 18 | .285 | 17 |

| Team Batting       | AB  | R   | H   | 2B | 3B | HR | SB | Avg. |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|------|
| Carteret Tides     | 569 | 152 | 178 | 20 | 3  | 30 | 16 | .312 |
| Eastern Blues      | 506 | 146 | 162 | 12 | 4  | 35 | 38 | .276 |
| Western Red Sox    | 561 | 86  | 134 | 17 | 2  | 15 | 29 | .238 |
| Salter Path Braves | 531 | 76  | 123 | 24 | 1  | 12 | 26 | .231 |
| Coastal Greys      | 500 | 93  | 106 | 10 | 5  | 8  | 41 | .212 |

### Pitching (based on ERA)

|                       | IP   | H  | BB | SO | W | L | ERA   |
|-----------------------|------|----|----|----|---|---|-------|
| Jim Raynor, Tides     | 46.3 | 29 | 10 | 74 | 5 | 1 | 2.63  |
| Dallas Arthur, Blues  | 47.3 | 28 | 25 | 72 | 4 | 2 | 3.92  |
| Neal Smith, Braves    | 27   | 14 | 14 | 25 | 3 | 2 | 4.64  |
| Gary Raynor, Tides    | 37.3 | 28 | 16 | 28 | 2 | 2 | 5.31  |
| Rusty Nelson, Red Sox | 20.4 | 25 | 16 | 21 | 1 | 3 | 7.98  |
| Richard Arthur, Blues | 39.4 | 29 | 15 | 31 | 4 | 0 | 8.06  |
| Bruce Jeter, Red Sox  | 32.3 | 26 | 28 | 48 | 3 | 0 | 8.81  |
| Brad Piner, Blues     | 64.4 | 53 | 32 | 65 | 6 | 2 | 9.43  |
| Jay Garner, Red Sox   | 32   | 33 | 22 | 31 | 1 | 3 | 17.37 |
| Jimmy Davis, Braves   | 34.4 | 27 | 25 | 30 | 2 | 1 | 17.47 |

### Strikeouts

|                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Mike Dudley             | 100 |
| Jim Raynor, Tides       | 74  |
| Dallas Arthur, Blues    | 72  |
| Brad Piner, Blues       | 65  |
| Bruce Jeter, Red Sox    | 47  |
| Tommy Vincent, Red Sox  | 43  |
| Keith Waters, Braves    | 39  |
| Richard Arthur, Blues   | 31  |
| Jay Garner, Red Sox     | 31  |
| Jimmy Davis, Braves     | 30  |
| Charlie Hardesty, Greys | 30  |

### Statistical Leaders

HOME RUNS: Damron, Blues — 18; A. Raynor, Tides — 9; Turnage, Tides — 7; Gaskill, Blues — 6; R. Willis, Red Sox — 6; K. Lewis, Blues — 5; Brax. Piner, Blues — 5; Fox, Greys — 5; C. Lewis, Tides — 4, 4 tied with 3.

RBIs: A. Raynor, Tides — 37; R. Willis, Red Sox — 24; Pouik, Tides — 22; Fox, Greys — 21; Damron, Blues — 19; Gaskill, Blues — 19; K. Lewis, Blues — 18; Mobley, Tides — 17; Turnage, Tides — 16; C. Lewis, Tides — 16; N. Smith, Braves — 16.

RUNS SCORED: A. Raynor, Tides — 28; Damron, Blues — 23; Turnage, Tides — 20; C. Lewis, Tides — 18; Hancock, Blues — 16; Pouik, Tides — 16; K. Lewis, Blues — 16; Burchette, Red Sox — 14; D. Lewis, Blues — 14; Gilbert, Tides — 14, 5 tied with 12.

STOLEN BASES: Hardesty, Greys — 9; Burchette, Red Sox — 9; Sessions, Braves — 8; Collins, Greys — 7; Fox, Greys — 7; Hancock, Blues — 7; Landingham, Tides — 6, 5 tied with 5.