

#47 1948 August 6 TWL –Jack Gardner DAY! Jack is the Manager of the Morehead 9 & one of the Most Feared Hitter in the TWL; Batting .400 [Jack Gardner, Joe Hill (Former Manager of Newport) and Footsy Palmer Make up the Murderer’s Row for Morehead whose Record was 20-7 and leads the League)

Sunday

This Sunday will be “Jack Gardner Day” in Morehead City as the team of that town take on Marshallberg in a Tidewater League contest in Wade Brothers ball park. Tomorrow the two teams will meet on Marshallberg’s home diamond.

A number of Morehead City fans have organized to honor their slugging centerfielder and manager in pre-game ceremonies Sunday in recognition of the bang-up job that Jack has done for the club this season.

Gardner, besides covering the outfield like a hawk, has been slapping the ball around at a .400 clip. A good slugger and a “clinch” hitter, he has a large number of extra base hits and few home runs to his credit, and a fat runs-batted-in record to boot.

Batting in the number three slot in the Morehead batting order, Gardner has become the most feared batter in the league, and is often passed intentionally by opposing pitchers in order to avoid pitching to him.

Gardner is followed in the Morehead batting order by left fielder Joe Hill, former manager of Newport, and shortstop Footsy Palmer, state college star athlete who set an intercollegiate punting record in football last year. This trio is the dangerous “Murderers’ Row” of an already slugging batting order.

Gardner assumed his managerial duties sometime in June after

Moose Teecey, then manager of the club, decided to step down in favor of a younger man and a playing skipper.

Attesting to both his playing ability and his field leadership, the Morehead City team is now sitting in first place, leading second-place Swansboro by a half game. These two teams will apparently battle it out down to the wire for the league championship, with Marshallberg assuming the “dark horse” role.

Aside from these three teams, no other combination in the league appears to have even an outside chance to win league honors. In fact, the remaining five teams are playing a brand of ball well below the .500 percentage mark.

The fans who intend to honor Gardner are going around to the various merchants in Morehead City for gifts and donations which will be presented to Gardner before Sunday’s game.

The movement is apparently a spontaneous one on the part of the fans. Prominently mentioned in the activity is Jack Roberts, who has been seeing many of the town’s businessmen in regards to the various gifts.