

County All-Star Game Will Break Series Tie Between East, West

Four-Year Series is Tied At Two Victories Each

After four years of competition, the east and west all-star teams are all tied up at two victories each. The west won the first two games, in 1953 and '54, by scores of 11-3 and 8-7. The east has won the last two games by scores of 13-11 in 1955 and 9-6 in 1956.

Leadership in the series will go to the winner of the July 7 contest at the Smyrna diamond. Manager Ty Frost of the western aggregation says his men are going all-out in an effort to get back on the winning side of the ledger.

Roy Cockerham, who will lead the eastern all-stars, says the east has the most powerful batting order ever assembled on one team in the league.

Buddy Willis Tops Sluggers

Based on past performances, Buddy Willis of Atlantic will be the man to watch in the game. He has appeared in three all-star games. In 12 trips to the plate he has collected three doubles and two homers.

In 1954, he hit one double in five trips to the plate. John Hamilton was the big gun for the east in that game with three hits in five turns at bat. The west took the game 8-7 in 10 innings.

In 1955 Willis poled two doubles and a homer over the gymnasium at the Morehead City High School field. To clear the gym, a ball would have to travel at least 400 feet in the air.

Last year Willis clouted the horseshoe over the centerfield bleachers at the Beaufort ball diamond.

Top percentage hitter in the series is Harold Bass, Salter Path

shortstop. Bass played for the west all-stars in the 1955 and 1956 games. He has collected a pair of doubles and four singles in 10 trips to the plate for a cool .600 mark against all-star pitching.

The only pitcher in the history of the league to pitch three innings of hitless ball in an all-star game is Walter Thomas. He turned the trick against the east in 1953.