

the entire Eastern Blues, so they could take the Eastern Blues lead the Seashore League by two full games with 13-0 won-lost record for 1975.

But what about the Western Blues? They've had their moments, but have a 1-11 won-lost standing. They like to laugh, too, and, remember, they have nothing to lose.

IT'LL be interesting to see who enjoys the last laugh, come Sunday evening.

Manager Rodney Kemp of the Carteret Tides. Explores the subject in another interesting way: "It's just a matter of time." He means. Of course, the Eastern Blues are over-ripe to be plucked.

DONNIE AYCOCK, pilot of the Newport Red Sox, feels very much the same. And the second place Tides and the third-place Sox appear just the teams to turn the trick.

But first these two friendly enemies have their own private feud to settle. They meet Sunday at 2 p.m. in what looms as the key game thus far this season in the Home of the Red Sox at Broad Creek.

IT COULD evolve into a classic pitching duel. Kemp has named John Turnage to hurl for the Tides and John would like nothing better than to face Bruce Maness of the Sox.

These right-hand contemporaries made West Carteret High School the toast of the State when they competed as teammates and strong-armed stars on the Patriot mound. They shared that role on a higher level. as roommates at East Carolina University.

Now John and Bruce will tangle Sunday with the chips piled mighty high and both have sparkling supporting casts.

CARTERET BOASTS the smoothest defensive infield in the league. And what power: With Fletcher Poulk (.385) at third, Kenny Randolph (.429) at short, Doug Landingham (.345) at second and Chuck Lewis (.407) on first!

Andy Raynor, hitting .325 with power, gives the Tides perhaps the premier catcher in the league; But Wayne Mobley, who can play anywhere, stands ready to fill the breach. Manager Kemp, Phil Moran, Donald Leatherman and George Gilbert add awesome outfield range, power and experience.

BUT JUST appraise that Red Sox potential. Maness himself powers a .452 batting average. Alex Fox, a great all-around athlete at first base, ranks in a class by himself with 7 home runs, 20 runs-batted-in (both league-highs) and a plate average of .373.

George Metrick serves as the balance wheel of that splendid Newport outfield. He hits the long ball, covers an impressive range in center and throws with the very best in the league.

BUT IT'S A keenly-competitive circuit from top to bottom, as the Beaufort Sea Dogs will go Broad Creek field in Seashore league competition attired like the champs they are. She's also one of the best softball players in Eastern Carolina.

(See Seashore League batting averages on Pg 5-A.)

Meet the family-together which typifies the Eastern Blues the defending champions of the League baseball. From left bottom to top, are Susan, 7, Carol 5; Iva, 10, and Brian, 8; _____ Pigott and husband, Crawford, "Mr. Hustle," captain of the Blues.