

Leading The Loop—

Southport Nine Winner Over Shallotte

The Southport Sails won a hard-fought game from Shallotte Sunday afternoon at the Shallotte field, 10 to 3 but the game was much closer than the score indicates. The home team left men on base in every inning after the second frame, and outthrew the Sails eleven to seven. Joe Swain was the winning pitcher for Southport while Beaman Hewett took the loss. Both pitchers went the route and turned in top-notch performances. Swain fanned 11 and walked only two, and his effort was matched by Hewett who fanned 10 Sails while giving up six free passes. Swain received a little more help from the field Southport only bobbled the ball twice while the Shallotte fielders committed four errors.

Ronnie Hood led off for Southport by drawing a base on balls and went to second on a passed ball before Gene Russ popped out to Steve Gore behind the plate. Chris Holland, the Southport shortstop, also worked Hewett for a free pass to put men on first and second with only one out. Bobby Spencer, the Sails clean-up hitter who sports a batting average of .357, slapped out a double on the first pitch to send Hood home with the first run of the game and advance Holland to third. Paul Cochran bounced one off Mark Hewett's glove at shortstop, scoring Holland and giving Spencer ample time to get to third. This brought up John Carr Davis for his first time at bat this year. He dropped a blooper over the third baseman's head for a single, scoring Bobby Spencer from third. There was a short conference on the mound

which apparently settled Hewett down as he caught Gehrig Spencer swinging at a third curve for the second out. Tebo Rogers popped out to the mound to end the inning with the Sails off to a three run lead. For Shallotte it was three up and three down in their half of the first frame as Hal Reynolds and B. Hubert both flew out to centerfield and Mark Hewett grounded out, short to first.

Neither team was able to get a runner in the second inning and both pitchers added one strikeout to their day's total.

In the third Holland led off for the Sails by working Hewett for his second walk of the afternoon and promptly stole second base, the first of three that he stole during the game. Spencer popped up behind third base for the first out but when the shortstop and third baseman went after the flyball they left third base unprotected and Holland moved up. Cochran also popped up to the third baseman and this time Hubert had to go into deep foul territory to haul in the ball. Holland tagged up after the catch and streaked for home. Hubert threw to Gore at the plate but the ball got by him and Holland was safe with the Sails' fourth run. Davis went down swinging for Southport's third out. When Shallotte came up in the third Swain looked like a big leaguer on the mound as he struck out J. Hinson and Tex Holden and got two strikes on Hewett before he leveled off on the third pitch and sent it rocketing into rightfield for a double, the first hit off of Swain. Reynolds flew out to Spencer in rightfield to end the mild threat but the home boys had found out that Swain was not invincible and they banged out hits in every inning from there on out.

Hewett took his cue from Swain and sent Spencer, Rogers and Swain back to the bench without being able to get their bats on his pitches in the fourth. The strikeout parade continued with Hubert going down swinging for the first Shallotte out, but Hewett sent one of Swain's pitches out into leftfield for a single and went to second on Gore's Texas Leaguer. Billy Cheers ended the inning by lining out to Holland at shortstop, who tossed over to

Davis at second to double Hewett off the bag for the third out and the only double play of the game.

Ronnie Hood led off for the Sails in the fifth inning and became the seventh strikeout victim for the hard throwing Hewett. Gene Russ hit a hard one at M. Hewett, playing a rather shallow shortstop, that went through his legs for a two-base error. Russ advanced to third on a passed ball while Holland was drawing a walk to put runners on first and third. Spencer chose this moment to blast one over the leftfielder's head for a triple to score Russ and Holland for the fifth and sixth Southport runs. M. Hewett erred for the third time on a grounder by Cochran to let in B. Spencer with the seventh tally. Davis was issued a free pass to send Cochran to second. Davis took a long lead off first and was caught in a run-down when Gore snapped the ball to Hinson. During the run-down Cochran sneaked over to third but was left there when Red Best, batting for Spencer, grounded out, third to first, to end the inning with the Sails out front 7 to 0. B. Russ and J. Hinson went down swinging for the first two Shallotte outs and Southport should have gotten out of the inning unharmed, but Spencer let a hard one by Tex Holden get past him to put a Shallotte runner on first. B. Hewett drew a base on balls, sending Holden on down to second, then Hal Reynolds sent one through the mound and over second base for a single to score Holden. The relay from the outfield caught Hewett going into third for the last out of the inning.

In the sixth Rogers popped up to Hinson at first, Swain flew out to Cheers in centerfield and Hood took a called third strike. Hubert led off for Shallotte with a single into rightfield and went to second as M. Holden, batting for M. Hewett, drew a walk. Gore also singled into rightfield to send Hubert home and Holden to third. Cheers lined out to B. Spencer at third base and B. Russ grounded out, third to first, to end the inning and leave Shallotte on the short end of a seven to two score.

As usual Hewett got the first Southport batsman on strikes as

was three up and three down for the fourth time as Rogers grounded to Hinson for an unassisted putout at first, Swain flew out to Holden in centerfield and Hood popped up to M. Holden at short. Swain struck out Hubert but then he loosened up and let Holden single into centerfield and Gore single over first base. Both runners advanced a base when Rogers erred the throw-in from the outfield to put Shallotte runners on second and third. Swain ended the threat by getting Cheers and B. Russ to swing at third strikes.

Both teams scored in the ninth inning as Russ led off for Southport by grounding out, short to first, on a nice fast play. Holland doubled into left field on a long fly that Holden couldn't quite get to, then went to third as B. Spencer grounded out, short to first. Dick Brendle came in to bat for Cochran and got his fourth hit in eight times at bat this year. Holland scoring easily on the play. Brendle was left on first as Davis grounded out, third to first, for the third out. Jarvis Jones, batting for J. Hinson, led off for Shallotte with the longest hit of the day, a booming triple into deep leftfield. The Pirates went

to their bench again, this time bringing Carter in to bat for Holden. The strategy didn't pay off, however, as Carter went down swinging for the first out. B. Hewett, with a double and a single for two official times at bat, slapped out another bingle into centerfield to score Jones and narrow the gap to ten to three. Hewett stole second base to get into scoring position but was left there as Reynolds grounded out, second to first, and Hubert flew out to leftfield to end the game.

The Southport Sails have now won four games and are undefeated in Cape Fear loop play to lead the league by a full game. The Sails next game will be against Ogden Sunday afternoon at 2:30, the game to be played in Southport at Taylor Field. Ogden has fielded a strong team this year and are currently holding down place in the league, the game

James L. Bishop Dies On Friday

LELAND—James Lauder Bishop, 78, retired merchant, died at his home here, Friday, after a long illness. Final rites were held Tuesday at 11 a. m. at Cooper Funeral Home chapel by the Rev. Charles Aikens, with burial in Greenlawn Memorial Park, Wilmington.

Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. C. D. Holden, Wilmington; three sisters, Mrs. Sam Fitzgerald of Danville, Va., Mrs. J. B. Belch and Mrs. Ed Mims, both of Fayetteville; three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Sunday promises to be a good one and the Sails will have to hustle and play heads-up ball for nine full innings to remain undefeated.

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