



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

FINAL

Established Dec. 8, 1888.

Largest Evening Newspaper in The Two Carolinas
Charlotte, North Carolina, Saturday, June 20, 1959

28 Pages—Price Ten Cents



Mike Tells His Pop About His Baseball Playing

Mike Takes Honors

Fishing, Baseball Help Pop To Top

"You find a boy who is interested in fishing and in baseball and you'll find a boy who is not in trouble."

J. Henry Cromartie looked down at the eight-year-old freckle-faced son who sat by his side in the back yard of their 1021 Hahersham Dr. residence. Mike Cromartie was adjusting a baseball glove and getting ready to climb on his father's back for one of the pictures the photographer wanted of him as the lad who wrote the winning letter. "The News' 'My Pop's Top' Father's Day contest."

GOES FISHING

In that letter Mike had said his father was tops "because he takes me fishing, hunting and plays baseball with me." Mrs. Cromartie brought out some brand new fishing rods. "His father just got these for Mike," she said.

And while Mike tested them, the photographer snapped some more pictures. "We go fishing mostly in private lakes," Mr. Cromartie said. Then turning to Mike, he added, "He's better than I am. Mike was the only one to catch a fish on Lake Moultrie."

HUNT ON FARM

To hunt the father and his two sons — there is 15-year-old Jimmy — go to the family farm in Bladen County. "We hunt squirrel and rabbits," he said.

"Just as much as we can find," added Mike. "He uses a high-powered BB gun," said Mr. Cromartie of his prize-winning son. "But he wants a .22 caliber rifle. Mike is on the A.Z. Price farm team in the Little League baseball program."

PLAYS FIELD

"I play left or right (field)," he said. "His brother assists Coach Jim Lewis with the team. 'Jimmy did play baseball,' said Mr. Cromartie.

"And I taught swimming," chirped Jimmy. Watching all the activity of celebrity Mike in the back yard was 7-year-old Vicki (Victoria) Cromartie, who had just emerged from her play house with a girl friend.

LIKES SPORTS

Mike, who plays about all the sports except ice hockey — "because there's nowhere to play," also wrote in his prize-winning letter about his father.

"He can spank too, but only when I'm bad. We're friends." Just what would anyone give