

News-Times to Sponsor All-County Hoop Teams

Seadogs Open County Campaign With 60-51 Victory over Hawks

By H. D. PAUL

The Beaufort Seadogs opened their campaign for the county championship with a 60-51 victory over the defending champion Newport Hawks Friday night at Beaufort.

Butch Hassell was the big man in the Seadog victory. He scorched the nets with 31 points and played an outstanding floor game.

The Seadogs grabbed a 7-0 lead before Newport was able to connect for a basket. The Hawks hit a hot streak midway through the first period and pulled up to tie the score at 11 all just before the quarter ended.

Seadogs Pull Away

The lead changed hands several times in the second quarter before the Seadogs pulled away to a 28-25 halftime lead. The Hawks rallied briefly in the third period to close the gap to 30-28 in favor of the Seadogs.

By the end of the period, however, the Seadogs held a seven-point advantage, 45-38. A last quarter surge by the Hawks gave them seven quick points while they held the Seadogs to two. With the score standing at 47-45, Coach T. H. McQuaid sent in Pud Hassell to spark up the Seadogs.

Seadog Starters

He hit four straight free throws to lead the Seadog rally that ended with a nine-point victory margin. The Seadog starters were Danny Willis, 13, Sammy Merrill, 1, Allen Autry, 5, Butch Hassell, 31, and Raymond Gillikin. Substitutes were Alex Copeland, Pud Hassell, 4, and Larry Dudley.

Johnny Mason was high scorer for Newport. The smooth forward collected 16 points for the night against a tight Beaufort defense. Reuben Lilly was runner-up with 13 points. Others scoring for Newport were Larry Kirk, 4, Larry Wallace, 11, Alton Hardison, 5, and Billy Wade, 2.

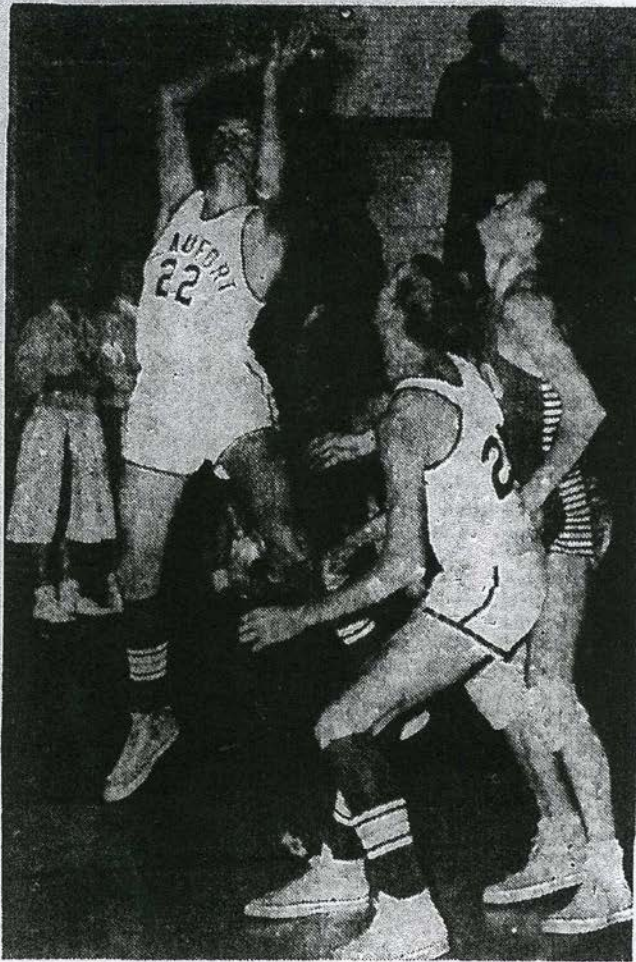


Photo by Bob Seymour

Butch Hassell, 22, fires one at the basket as Pud Hassell and Larry Wallace, right, of Newport get into position for a possible rebound. There wasn't one. Hassell hit 31 points to spark Beaufort over Newport.

The News-Times will sponsor All-County basketball teams this year. Members of the all-county boys and girls teams will get keys and certificates from the paper. Second team selections and those getting honorable mention will receive certificates.

The decision to sponsor an all-county team came after the Seashore Basketball Conference was disbanded. While there has been no formal announcement that the conference is finished, all the schools seem to have given it up as a lost cause.

More Representative

Last year four members of the All-Seashore Conference boys team came from the county and one came from Swansboro. THE NEWS-TIMES feels that all-county teams will be more representative of the basketball played in the county. Such a team should prove to be of more interest to fans and casual readers of the sports page as well.

All schools in the county play each other at least twice, so coaches should be able to give a fair appraisal of every candidate for honors.

To Publish Scores

The paper will publish scoring figures for the top players in the county. Feature articles, written by the coaches themselves, will give fans a chance to see which players are looking best to the men and women who really know.

The junior varsity programs being followed at some of the schools will merit much space in THE NEWS-TIMES. These programs are developing the stars of the future.

Sports in Carteret County have always been conducted on a high level of sportsmanship and competition. THE NEWS-TIMES feels that by adding the incentive of an all-county team the players will strive even harder to maintain that level of excellence.