

Smyrna Teams Advance

Blue Devils Rally for 31 In Final Period of Play

A last quarter rally by the Smyrna Blue Devils broke open a tight battle with Atlantic in the first round of boys play in the county tournament at Atlantic Wednesday night. The Blue Devils scorched the nets for 31 points in the last 10 minutes of play.

Until the last quarter the game had been nip and tuck, with Atlantic holding a slight edge. Coach H. T. Sanders "two-platoon-ed" his Smyrna charges to good advantage. His starting squad held even with the Pirates in the first quarter and had a 2-point lead until Bobby Nelson stole the ball for Atlantic and drove down court to score on a lay-up as the quarter ended. The score was tied at 9 all going into the second quarter, and Coach Sanders sent in his other platoon.

Pirates Lead

The Pirates had even better luck against this team and left the court at halftime with a 27-24 lead. They continued to hold the advantage during the third quarter and built their lead to 40-35 by the end of the period.

The Smyrna starting squad came into the game to play the final period. The Blue Devils went ahead 43-42 after 1:51 of the period had elapsed. The last six minutes of the game were a complete rout as Kenny Davis sparked the Blue Devils with 14 points. The game was played to the hilt by the losers, who never gave up, but just couldn't maintain the hot pace set by the refreshed Blue Devils.

Davis Top Scorer

Davis was the top scorer for the game with 16 points. He hit on 2 points in the first quarter in addition to the 14 he collected in the last period. Charlie Goodwin was big gun for the Pirates with 12 markers.

Bobby Nelson played an outstanding game for the Pirates as he came up with the ball when it seemed that it was no where near him. He personally accounted for 11 points and had several assists.

Johnny Ingram was second high scorer for the winners with 11 points. Billy Willis hit for 9 points for the Blue Devils. Elmo Gaskill and Phillip Morris collected 9 points each for the Pirates.

Smyrna—Kenny Davis, 16, Sonny Davis, 5, Ronnie Arthur, 7, Louis Thomas, 8, William Nelson, 2, Billy Willis, 9, Glen Willis, 4, Johnny Ingram, 11, Glenn Arthur, 4, and Paul Wade.

Atlantic—Phillip Morris, 9, Stevie Mason, 7, Charlie Goodwin, 12, Bobby Nelson, 11, Elmo Gaskill, 9, Bruce Lupton, George Golden, Aubrey Harvey, and Rodney Pittman.

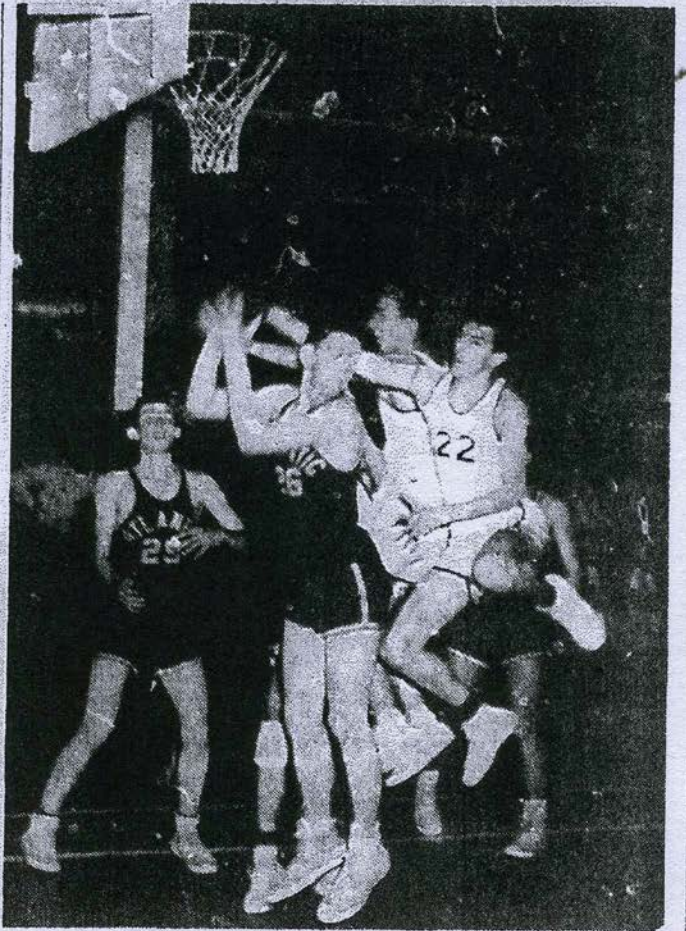


Photo by Bob Schour

Two of the four hands on the basketball belong to Atlantic center Stevie Mason, who finally ended up with the ball. William Nelson, 22, and Johnny Ingram of Smyrna both went after the ball, but Mason had position on them. Charlie Goodwin, 29, was left out of the play when the ball went to the left side of the basket.

Islanders Lose To CP All Stars

The Cherry Point Marine All Stars edged the Harkers Island Islanders 50-41 at Harkers Island Wednesday. The winners built a 33-17 half-time lead, but the Islanders cut it to 38-25 by the end of the third quarter. The All Stars hit for 12 points in the final period to sew up the game.

Playing for the Islanders were Henry Allen, Monroe Payton, Tubbie Willis, Clark Davis, Ronald Davis, Frederick Willis, Gill Guthrie, and Louie Willis.

Burton Ball, Carroll Zwack, and Andrews played for the All Stars.