

Smyrna Blue Devils Sweep Twin Bill from Atlantic

Smyrna cage teams swept a twin bill from the visiting Atlantic Pirates Tuesday night. The Smyrna girls won the first game by a 64-59 score and the Blue Devils won an overtime thriller, 60-58, in the feature game.

Jean Willis scored 40 points as she led the Smyrna sextet to victory in the opener. She hit 19 field goals and two extra points to roll up her total.

Carolyn Phelps scored 20 points on 10 field goals and Brenda Baker, the third starting forward, hit four of five free throws for four points. Brenda Willis, Carol Willis and Clarice Willis started the game as guards.

Sally Hooper was the only Smyrna substitute of the game. She came in during the fourth quarter when Carol Willis fouled out.

Rita Gilgo paced the Atlantic attack with 27 points. She hit 10 field goals and seven of nine free throws. Anita Brown scored 19 points, Linda Taylor scored 10, Bonnie Brickhouse scored two and Catherine Willis scored one.

Brenda Salter, Jency Mason and Brickhouse started at the guard positions and Coach Roy Cockerham shifted his players considerably during the contest.

The boys game was a dilly. The Pirates grabbed a 15-9 lead in the first quarter but the Blue Devils scored 20 points in the second quarter while holding the Pirates to 15, moving to within one point at 30-29.

Braxton Piner hit two straight shots as the second half opened to put the Blue Devils into a 32-30 lead. Bobby Nelson sparked an Atlantic rally in the fourth quarter after the Pirates had gone into the period trailing by a 43-41 margin.

Nelson hit six straight points for the Pirates and pushed them back into the lead at 49-46. With the score tied at 51 all, Nelson hit on a fast break play and seconds later stole the ball and scored to give the Pirates a 55-51 lead.

Piner hit for Smyrna to close the gas to two points but moments

for a good percentage. Carroll Hill hit a long hook shot for Smyrna to break the scoring ice.

Danny Harvey hit a free throw for Atlantic but it was countered by a free throw by Curtis Nelson. Harris hit a jump shot for Atlantic to tie the score. Atlantic had possession of the ball with the score tied at 58 all and 15 seconds remaining.

Dale Lewis broke up an Atlantic pass and went all the way down court to score for the Blue Devils, two seconds before the game was over. Atlantic did not get the ball down the court before the final buzzer sounded.

Bobby Nelson of Atlantic and Piner of Smyrna shared scoring honors with 18 points each. Others who scored for the winners were Lewis, 11, Curtis Nelson, 14, Hill, 15, and Horace Lawrence, 2. Paul Wade did not score.

Scoring for Atlantic were George G'lden, 15, Harris, 13, Stevie Mason, 8, Sammy Salter, 3, and Danny Harvey, 1.