

Blue Devils Rout Swansboro 71-51

By LIONELLE TAYLOR

The Smyrna Blue Devils gained revenge for an earlier season defeat and got back on the winning track at the same time Friday night as they pasted the Swansboro Pirates 71-51 in a game played at Smyrna.

Their play against the Pirates was just the opposite of their Tuesday night showing when they bowed to the Pamlico Hurricanes 83-73.

Against Swansboro the Blue Devils could do nothing wrong as they jumped off to an early lead, and were never headed. Their well balanced scoring attack was in high gear and their aggressive defensive play checked the Pirate scoring.

The end of the first quarter found the Blue Devils enjoying a three-point lead at 18-15 and by halftime they had increased this to eight points as they left the floor with a 36-28 advantage.

Smyrna's defensive play was really outstanding in the final two periods as they allowed Swansboro only 22 points, ten in the third quarter and 12 in the final frame. The Blue Devils meanwhile were collecting a total of 35 to give them a three-quarter lead of 57-38 and the final margin of 71-51.

Curt Nelson, Carroll Hill and Horace Lawrence led the Blue Devil scoring attack that saw four of their players finish the game in double figure scoring. Nelson tossed in eight field goals and a pair of free throws for 18 points while Lawrence accumulated 15 points that came on a single field goal and 13 free throws.

Carroll Hill turned in his highest total of the season by dropping in 16 points. Dale Lewis was the other Blue Devil starter, hitting the double figures as he finished the night with 12 tallies. Wiggins of Swansboro was the game's high scorer with 26 points.

At the free throw line the Blue Devils also proved themselves, sinking 23 of 30 charity tosses attempted for a very respectable 76.6 per cent accuracy. The Pirates got two more free throws

than Smyrna' but connected on only 20 of them for an average of 62.5 per cent.