

Smyrna Blue Devils, Newport Hawks Split Two-Game Set at Smyrna Friday



Viewing Sports

by
Larry McComb

If there was any doubt in anyone's mind prior to Saturday night about the Beaufort Seadogs ruling as masters supreme of county cage quints, that doubt was quickly erased in their encounter with the Morehead City Eagles.

Beaufort made a runaway of the game that a lot of onlookers had figured as a toss-up and in so doing they accomplished one thing that no other team had been able to do this year — they beat the Eagles on the Morehead hardwoods.

The defending state champions were even more impressive against the Eagles than they were the previous week against Smyrna as they jumped off to a fast start and dominated play throughout. Early in the second quarter, the Eagles pulled to within seven points of the Seadogs at 22-15 but this was as close as they could get as Beaufort gradually upped its lead to the final 24-point margin.

The Eagles employed a man-to-man defense to try and stop the Seadogs but this proved futile as they got into early foul trouble trying to stop Beaufort's inside shooting. Three Eagle starters, Jimmie Smithwick, Chuck Sledge, and George Styron later were forced out of the game with five fouls each.

As efficient as the Seadogs were from the floor, their free throw shooting let a lot to be desired. From the charity stripe they hit only 25 of 48 attempts for a cool 52 per cent accuracy. Pud Hassell had the majority of free throw troubles, as he could make only 11 of the 23 he tried. The Eagles could do only slightly better as they converted 53.1 per cent of their free throws, making 17 of 32 attempted.

Boots and Bingles

Chuck Sledge of the Eagles carved, perhaps, an unenviable niche for himself in Beaufort-Morehead history in the third quarter of the game when he scored a basket for the Seadogs.

Although it's probably happened many times before in basketball, Chuck's wrong-basket goal was the first one anyone could remember in the long Beaufort-Morehead rivalry.

The play came on a held ball in the third quarter. Chuck, standing at the edge of the free throw circle under the Seadog basket took the tip from his team mate and dropped in the two-pointer. Basketball rules state that anytime the ball goes through a team's basket, except on a free throw attempt, the team is awarded two points, so Sledge became probably the first Morehead City cager in history to score two points for Beaufort. To add insult to injury, as it were, the basket turned out to be the only two points Sledge scored all night.

That's 30 for now.

Hawkettes Edge Girl Blue Devils 71-69 in Opener

By LIONELLE TAYLOR

The Smyrna Blue Devils won their 16th game of the year Friday night and the Smyrna girls lost their second of the year in a pair of contests with the Newport Hawks. The Blue Devils downed the Hawks 78-45 after the Hawkettes had registered a courageous 71-69 win over the Smyrna sextet.

In the boys' game, the Blue Devils got off to a flying start in the first quarter and raced to a 25-11 lead over the Hawks. Their shooting cooled off somewhat in the second period but halftime found them still leading comfortably at 42-25.

Smyrna coach Jim Parkin platooned his 10 players in and out of the game in the second half as the Blue Devil lead mounted. In the third quarter the Hawks were ice-cold at the basket and managed only six points in the eight-minute period. They did a little better in the final frame against the Smyrna second unit as they scored 14 points to Smyrna's 16.

The Smyrna attack had four players hitting in double figures with rugged Dale Lewis leading the way with 19. Braxton Piner and Curt Nelson each finished with 15 points and Genus Jones had 10. Jimmy Mills and Clayton Garner paced the losers with 20 and 14 points each.

In the girls' game, the Hawkettes, who are rapidly establishing themselves as one of the top sextets in the county, jumped off to a seven-point lead over Smyrna and held the lead throughout the game to hand Smyrna its second loss in 16 starts.

The forward combination of Bette Green, Margaret Lilly and Jenny Lynn Garner went all the way for the Hawks. All three turned in double figure scoring performances

with Garner topping the trio with 31 points. Lilly added 22 and Green had 18.

Erenda Golden tallied 35 points for the losers and Carolyn Phelps had 27 but this wasn't enough to offset the well-balanced attack of the Hawkettes. Rose Arthur had five points and Elizabeth Styron two to round out the Smyrna scoring.

Back court combinations for Newport consisted of guards Melanie Garner, Lana Linebarger, Paula Mann and Dottie Whitley. Smyrna coach Walter Fulcher used Linda Willis, Alice Chadwick, Becky Brown, Diana Willis, Trudy Gillikin and Jo Ann Valentine at the guard positions.

Game Postponed

The basketball game scheduled between Atlantic and Havelock high schools that was to be played Friday in Atlantic has been postponed until Feb. 17, according to Atlantic coach Roy Cockerham. No school in Havelock Friday was the reason for the postponement.

License Revoked

The North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles has revoked the driver's license of Kenneth A. McDonald, Beaufort, for drunk driving.

BOX SCORE

Smyrna	FG	FT	PF	PTS
Jones	5	0	0	10
Nelson, N.	1	0	1	2
Piner	7	1	3	15
Willis, B.	0	0	1	0
Willis, M.	0	2	3	2
Lewis	9	1	1	19
Davis, G.	0	0	2	0
Meares	4	0	4	8
Yeomans	2	1	2	5
Nelson, C.	6	3	5	15
Davis, A. C.	1	0	1	2
	35	8	23	78

Newport	FG	FT	PF	PTS
Chadwick	2	0	1	4
Garner, C.	4	6	3	14
Mills	3	14	1	20
Thrower	1	2	3	4
Garner, T.	1	1	0	3
	11	23	8	45

Six Couples Get Licenses to Wed

Odel Merrill, register of deeds, has issued marriage licenses to six couples since Jan. 10. They are as follows:

- Jan. 10: Russell Ward, 22, Wilson, and Bessie Lee Brock, 28, Newport.
- Jan. 11: Terrance N. Glover, 34, Johnstown, Pa., and Carolyn H. Bell, 25, Newport.
- Jan. 14: Harvey Frazier, 39, Havelock, and Mattie Jean Darden, 25, Havelock.
- Jan. 18: Howard Jones Sr., 67, Raleigh, and Lena Jones, 62, Beaufort.
- Jan. 20: Benjamin Carl Gray Jr., 32, Trenton, and Johnnie Hardesty, 22, Jacksonville.
- Jan. 21: John W. Newkirk, 25, Beaufort, and Evelyn Small, 38, Beaufort.