

Smyrna Blue Devils Threaten Sluggish Atlantic Pirates

A fourth-quarter slump by the Atlantic Pirates almost cost them a ball game at Smyrna Friday night. The Pirates, leading by a 40-33 score when the quarter opened, scored only nine points while the Blue Devils were scoring 13. The final score was 49-47.

The Pirates seemed to be suffering from a bad case of over-confidence. After giving the Blue Devils three solid lickings in a row, they felt they had the game in the bag.

In the first quarter the Blue Devils dominated the game, scoring 12 points to six for the Pirates. Atlantic rallied in the second period to pull ahead by a 24-22 score by the half.

In the third quarter the Pirates built a seven-point margin, only to see it fade in the final eight minutes.

Sammy Salter scored 15 points to lead the winners in the scoring department. It was the first time this year that Salter has been high scorer.

Coach Roy Cockerham says he is very pleased with the balance his team is getting. "We have three boys averaging over 10 points a game and the other two starters are close to that mark," he explains.

Other Atlantic players were George Golden, 5, Roger Harris, 10, Stevie Mason, 7, and Bobby Nelson, 12.

Scoring for Smyrna were Glenn Wilks, 24, Curtis Nelson, 12, Paul Wade, 4, Bobby Sellers, 4, and Vaughn Yeomans, 3.

Willis raised his average from 14.4 to 15.1 points per game with his 24-point performance.

The Pirates will tangle with the Morehead City Eagles at Morehead City tonight. The Eagles took a 68-62 decision in a previous meeting of the two teams at Atlantic.

The Blue Devils do not have another game scheduled until Feb. 4, when they will play host to the Newport Hawks.

Hoop Schedule

Tonight

Atlantic at Morehead City
Beaufort at Newport

Friday Night

Atlantic at Pamlico
Swansboro at Beaufort
Newport at Havelock

Smyrna Lassies Beat Atlantic By 45-22 Score

The Smyrna sextet won its fourth game of the season over the Atlantic lassies Friday night. As in their other three meetings, Smyrna won with plenty to spare. The score stood at 45-22 when the final buzzer sounded.

Smyrna, with Scrina Davis, accounting for about half of the points, grabbed an 11-5 lead in the first quarter. By the end of the first half the winners held a 22-10 margin.

In the third quarter Atlantic scored two points but held Smyrna to eight.

Davis was high scorer for the night with 22 points. Elberta Gilkin scored 10 points for Smyrna and Jean Willis scored nine. Carolyn Phelps, a substitute, scored four points.

The Smyrna guards played a very good defensive game in holding Atlantic to 22 points. They were Laura Lewis, Brenda Willis and Clarice Willis.

High scorer for Atlantic was Anita Brown with 12 points. Janis Goodwin scored two points and Rita Gilgo scored eight for Atlantic. Jean Fulcher, Jean Mason and Pat Fulcher played at the guard positions for the losers.

The victory did not affect Smyrna's standings in the county. They still have an official mark of five victories and one loss. Only two of the Atlantic-Smyrna games go on the standings.

The Morehead City Eagles, only county team to beat Smyrna, have a record of four and one for second place. Newport's lassies are in third place with a four and two mark. Beaufort has a record of one victory and four losses and Atlantic is winless after six games.

Raiders Keep Share of Lead

The Smyrna Nite Raiders put into their share of first place in the New Bern basketball loop with a 51-51 victory over the Havelock Men's Shop Thursday night.

Thomson Willis was the star in the Smyrna victory. The Men's Shop was eight points ahead with five minutes left to play when Willis got hot. He scored 12 of his 11 points in the final minutes to lead the Nite Raiders winning rally.

Leotis Thomas scored 12 points for the winners. Kenny Davis and Wilson Davis scored eight points each and Nick Sikorski and Everette Golden scored six each.

Smith was high scorer for the losers with 12 points. Biggs hit for nine and Bass added seven.

Maeda won a 78-74 victory over the Oilers to keep pace with the Nite Raiders. Each team has a record of four victories and one loss.