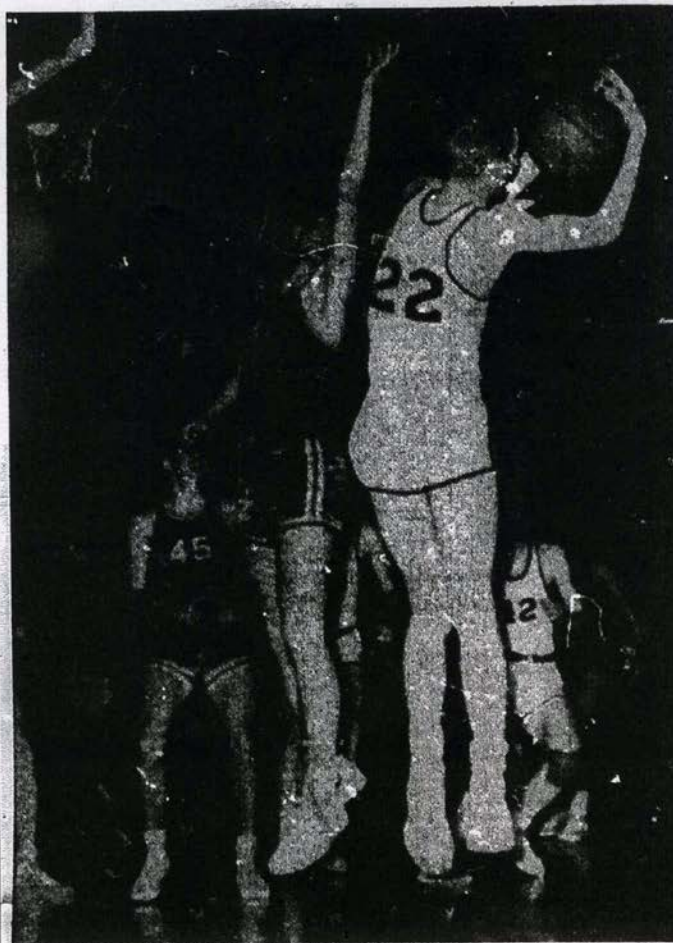


# Again Win State Crown



Allen Autry of Beaufort and a St. Pauls player are caught in mid air as they fight for possession of a rebound in Saturday's game in the finals of the Class A tournament at Winston-Salem. Looking on is No. 45, Frank Potter of the Seadogs.

## Beaufort Downs Favored St. Pauls 62-54 in Finals

By LARRY McCOMB

"I don't know how I'll ever live through this", said Tom McQuaid seconds after his Beaufort Seadogs had won their second state title in five years by downing St. Pauls 62-54 in the championship game Saturday night at Winston-Salem. "One thing you can be sure of," continued McQuaid "There's going to be a real party tomorrow."

But for McQuaid's boys, the party was Saturday night and lasted only 32 minutes — 32 thrill-packed minutes in which they proved that they were the champions their record indicated they were.

After being forced into a sudden death overtime period in the opening round of the tourney, the Seadogs displayed a sharpness and finesse of the well-coached team they are as they dominated play over the classy St. Pauls five.

The Saints actually outscored the Seadogs from the floor, getting 21 field goals to 20 by Beaufort but the Seadogs canned 22 of 31 attempts from the free throw line to hand them the victory by a comfortable margin. St. Pauls collected only 12 points at the charity stripe.

The large Beaufort delegation cheered to hoarseness throughout the contest, which saw their team again and again come from behind on the way to their 27th consecutive win of the year.

The Seadogs opened the scoring in the game on a field goal for a quick 2-0 lead. St. Pauls scored next on a free throw and from here the two evenly matched teams took turns exchanging field goals as one team would just a lead and then the other team would rally momentarily to tie the score and go ahead. The end of the first quarter found the Saints ahead by a slim two-point margin at 13-11.

The Beaufort attack warmed up in the second quarter of play as they came up with an 18-point outburst and the Seadog defense dominated, backboard play led by the hungry rebounding of co-captain Sammy Merrill and Allen Autry, who played their best games of season in a fitting tribute to their fine high school careers.

The 18 points scored by the Seadogs in the second quarter knotted the count at 29 all as the two teams left the floor at intermission.

The third quarter saw Beaufort able to build up a slight lead of five points as they led at the buzzer by 44-39. Gene Jackson, who was later to be named captain of the all-tourney team, committed his fifth personal foul of the game in this quarter and his loss put the Saints at a definite disadvantage as he had been their top point-maker throughout the game and the season.

With two and a half minutes remaining between them and the state championship, the Seadogs tied the score at 52-52. Beaufort then shook Butch Hassell loose for a layup and Allen Autry dropped in two free throws.

Freshman Ray Hassell, who would have walked off with the favorite player trophy, if such a thing had been awarded, then sank four straight free throws to give the Seadogs an eight-point lead at 60-52 with 22 seconds remaining on the clock.

Allen Autry scored on another field goal and James Higgins tallied for the Saints to make the final score 62-54.

The jubilant Beaufort rooters who had lined the playing floor minutes before the final buzzer, swarmed onto the court en masse to congratulate their team and Coach McQuaid for their thrilling victory.

Although it is customary in a newspaper account of a basketball game to list the individual scoring

See CHAMPS, Page 7

## McQuaid Says He Has Quit As Basketball Coach

T. H. McQuaid, Beaufort's basketball coach, announced in chapel yesterday morning that he has coached his last year of basketball.

Mr. McQuaid said that he will take, next year, the job of distributing textbooks to schools throughout the county, a job that pays more than \$800 a year.

His supplement for coaching is reported to be \$350 a year. Mr. McQuaid said that it is impossible to raise a family on his teacher's pay and the coaching supplement.

Last summer he carried mail to supplement his salary as teacher and coach. Mr. McQuaid said he has coached basketball at Beaufort since he first came here in 1935. He said he will remain as a member of the faculty. Mr. McQuaid teaches algebra and math.