

Surveying the Scene

with Hal Shapiro

• Basketball fans of the county will be treated to two of the outstanding contests of the season this week as Morehead City plays host to Beaufort tonight and Newport journeys to Beaufort Friday night.

Prior to the beginning of the season these three clubs were nominated as tops, not alone in county hoop circles, but in the Seashore Conference as well.

Morehead City's Eagles have run roughshod over their first six opponents, and the Newport Hawks have been victorious in 9 of 10 outings, losing only to Dover in a non-conference tilt.

The Eagles have the high scorer of the year in Wayne Cheek, 6 foot 7 inch center. At this writing he has made 187 points, and from all indications he will set a new scoring record in county and conference play.

Beaufort, defending State Class A champions, have had an in-and-out season thus far but victories over either Morehead or Newport would certainly boost their stock.

Leading the Seadogs in their frays this season have been the three big boys, Jimmy Davis, Jimmy Owens and Terry Nance.

Davis, the lone repeater from last season's undefeated five, has been pacing the scoring parade for his team this season.

At Newport Coach Rob King's Hawks have been doing a fine job, with all the members of the squad sharing in the efforts.

Center Leston Gillikin has been the high scorer of the squad but he has been assisted by Berlyn Temple, Gil Garner, Al Wallace, Eugene Edwards and Al Hardison.

The Hawks have gone over the 100 mark twice this season, and the Eagles have attained the magic figure once.

It is amazing to note that the boys made 100 points in games of 32 minutes duration, and we have seen many professional games that went 48 minutes where neither team hit the century mark.

• In the girls division it is expected that the county champs for '55-'56 will be either Beaufort or Newport, so their initial contest on Friday night should be a real humdinger.

Newport has lost Dot Garner, high scoring forward, whose family has moved from the county.

Beaufort's sextet is paced by Peggy Williams, Jerri Bodiford and Shirley Piner, the same forward alignment as last year, but the big difference in play thus far this season, has been the ability of guards Annette Merrill, Winkie Willis and Rae Frances Hassell to handle the opposing team's forwards.

Hassell has been the biggest surprise to Coach Hugh Gordon, as she utilizes her height to full advantage and makes certain that the other teams have to shoot from outside.

The scorers at Newport, with Garner gone, are Virginia Mann and Ann Dennis, and either is capable of hitting for 20 points or better on a hot night.

The defending Eagles, county champs for the past three years, lost their first string of last year with the exception of Daisy Brock. She and Varina O'Neal offer a fair scoring punch, but the defensive department is woefully weak.

• The latest AP information sheet notifies us that Mal Mallette, former pitcher for the Brooklyn Dodgers farm clubs, will become sports director of the Winston-Salem Journal and Sentinel about Jan. 15.

Mal, who has been sports editor of the Asheville Citizen, was a stellar hurler for the Montreal team of the International League several years back, and when he was notified to report to spring training with the parent Dodgers, he left baseball to follow his college studies in journalism.

Mal is a fellow Syracuse University graduate, and is a fine fellow.

Seadogs, Smyrna Split Doubleheader Friday

By BUDDY BARDEN

Beaufort's Seadogs split their twin bill Friday night at Smyrna, running away with the feature contest 59-38, and losing the preliminary contest 65-57.

The feature contest saw the Seadogs take a 19-12 lead at the end of the first quarter and extend the advantage to 31-21 at halftime. At the end of three quarters Beaufort had a 46-31 lead and were never headed.

Davis Hits 17

Jimmy Davis was high point-maker for the victors with 17 points as teammates Jamie Norris 12, Terry Nance 11, and Ed Willis 10, also hit for double figures.

Ronald Styron took scoring honors for Smyrna with 13 points with runnerup honors going to Kenny Davis with 10 markers.

Nip and Tuck

The preliminary contest was a thriller throughout with the Smyrna sextet jumping out to a 16-12 lead at the end of the initial quarter. They extended the advantage to 32-27 at halftime and at the end of three quarters were in the lead 52-47.

Gladys Willis was high scorer for Smyrna with 38 points as her teammates, Serina Davis 16, and Elberta Gillikin 11, hit for double figures.

Peggy Williams paced the Beaufort attack with 29 points with Vonda Goodwin tossing in 17 markers.

The lineups: Beaufort boys (59) —Nance 11, Davis 17, Owens 7, Norris 12, Willis 10, Windley 2, Moore, Copeland, Gillikin and Martin.

Smyrna boys (38) —Styron 13, K Davis 10, Arthur 7, Thomas 8, S. Davis and Guthrie.

The score by quarters: Total Beaufort 19 12 15 13—59 Smyrna 12 9 10 7—38

The lineups: Beaufort girls (57) —Williams 29, Bodiford 4, Piner 7, Goodwin 17, Hassell, Willis, Merrill.

Smyrna girls (65) —G. Willis 36, S. Davis 16, E. Gillikin 11, Tyler, Lewis, B. Willis and Cash.

The score by quarters: Total Beaufort 12 15 20 10—57 Smyrna 16 16 20 13—65

House of David at New Bern

The House of David basketball team will meet the New Bern All-Stars in an exhibition contest Thursday at 8 p.m. at the New Bern gym. Featured in the bearded team's lineup will be clown Bobby Roth and Big Man Clark (John Ludka), 6-10 pivotman.

Chowan JV's Beat Morehead Eagles

Morehead City's Eagles played an exhibition game Saturday night at Chowan Junior College and were defeated in a very tight contest, 79-73.

Playing against the Jayvees of the college, the Eagles gave an excellent account of themselves with Wayne Cheek pacing the scoring parade with 38 points.

Craig Horne popped in 16 points and Llewellyn Phillips hit for 11 for the Morehead City team.

Cheek had four fouls in the first quarter and had to play a careful game the rest of the way out.

Coach Gannon Talbert stated that his boys played a fine contest.

Hoop Schedule

Tonight

Beaufort at Morehead City
Swansboro at Newport
Atlantic at Dixon
Camp Lejeune at Jones Central
Pamlico at White Oak

Tomorrow

King School at Jacksonville