

Tournaments

Beaufort Bombs Smyrna 47-37 in County Finals

By SARA GERY

The Beaufort Seadogs Saturday night cleared their first hurdle on the way to their third straight undefeated state championship by disposing of a battling quintet of Smyrna Blue Devils 47-37 in the finals of the county tournament at Atlantic.

As in the two teams' previous meetings this year, the Seadogs had things pretty much their own way as they recorded their 70th consecutive win over a three-year period.

David Jones drove through the Smyrna defense to score on a driving layup to get the Seadog scoring machine in gear with a 2-0 lead. The Blue Devils knotted the count on a 20-foot jump shot by Genus Jones but fell behind again on a basket by Pud Hassell.

Jones put on a one-man effort for the Blue Devils in the first quarter as he scored all of his team's points in the first period. He kept Smyrna on the heels of the Seadogs until Ray Hassell hit two straight baskets late in the period for a 10-5 Beaufort lead.

With 1:21 left to play in the first quarter, a mild skirmish occurred under the Smyrna basket that resulted in Blue Devil Dale Lewis being ejected from the game. Officials escorted Lewis to the bench when they interpreted his going after a loose ball as being a little too aggressive. Following Lewis's ejection, the Seadogs scored two baskets to one for Smyrna for a 14-7 first-quarter lead.

Chuck Lewis took over the role of scoring sparkplug for Beaufort in the second quarter as the Seadogs opened up a lead that reached 13 points at one stage in the period. Lewis dropped in four field goals and a pair of free throws in the stanza to help the defending state champions to a 30-18 halftime lead.

The Blue Devils got a basket on a fast-breaking layup by Braxton Piner at the start of the third quarter to narrow the Beaufort lead to an even 10 points, 30-20, but then Pud and Ray Hassell went to work to score three Beaufort field goals to hold a comfortable lead. By the end of the third quarter the Beaufort lead had reached 11 points at 38-29.

The Blue Devils brought the Smyrna fans to their feet at the

start of the final frame by scoring a pair of field goals and two free throws to pull within seven points of Beaufort at 38-31.

Beaufort moved one more ahead on a free throw by Pud Hassell and then Braxton Piner connected on a jump shot that narrowed the Beaufort margin to 6 points.

This was as close as the Blue Devils were to get, though, as the Seadogs countered with three straight field goals for a 45-33 edge before Smyrna could score again.

Play in the fourth quarter was marred by a small-scale riot that took place at mid-court. As Beaufort and Smyrna players began mixing it up going for a loose ball, players and fans from both sides of the gym swarmed onto the floor to join in the melee. Referees, officials and coaches quickly brought the flare-up under control and the game was continued after several of those involved had been escorted out of the gym by sheriff department deputies.

With two minutes left to play the Seadogs went into a freeze and managed to hold the ball until the final buzzer sounded.

BOX SCORE

Beaufort	FG	FT	PF	PT
Croom	0	0	2	0
Hill	0	2	2	2
Lewis	6	2	0	14
Hassell, P.	5	6	4	16
Hassell, R.	5	1	0	11
Jones	1	2	2	4
	17	13	10	47

Smyrna	FG	FT	PF	PT
Jones	4	1	4	9
Piner	4	1	1	9
Lewis	0	0	3	0
Meares	2	3	3	7
Yeomans	3	0	1	6
Nelson	2	2	3	6
	15	7	15	37

Knights Add Two More Victories to Win Streak

By WILLIAM HYMAN

The Queen Street Knights won their 15th and 16th straight ball games last week as they scored a 60-41 victory over Georgetown high school Tuesday night and a 52-47 win over Fort Barnwell Thursday night. Thursday's game concluded the regular season for the Knights.

Against Jacksonville, the Knights had to come from behind a first-quarter Georgetown lead to go ahead to stay in the second period. Queen Street forged to a 27-20 halftime advantage and then salted the game away in the final two frames by adding gradually to the lead. By the end of the third quarter they were leading 40-27.

On Thursday night the Knights were given a scare by Fort Barnwell before posting a 52-47 win. Fort Barnwell took an early lead in the game and, although they were never ahead after the first quarter, managed to stay right on the heels of the Knights.

The Knights went from a 9-9 deadlock at the end of the first

quarter to post a four-point half-time lead, 24-20.

In Tuesday's game Albert Cowar paced the Queen Street attack with 18 points while Godfrey Ellison's 15 was top against Fort Barnwell.

The Queen Street girls lost preliminary contests in both games bowing 47-13 to Jacksonville and 34-11 to Fort Barnwell. The Fort Barnwell loss was the 10th straight for the Queen Street sextet.

Plonnie Fenner scored six points Tuesday for game honors while Yvonne Teel led with five Thursday.

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