

Blue Devils Scare Eagles Before Bowing Friday Night

The Morehead City Eagles turned back a fighting team of Smyrna Blue Devils by a 62-51 score Friday night in one of the most bitter contests of the county tournament.

The Blue Devils, who hadn't won a game in the county prior to tournament time, already had disposed of the Atlantic Pirates. In the first quarter they threatened to do the same thing to the Eagles.

They led all the way through the initial period until less than a minute remained. Llewellyn Phillips hit on a jump shot to give the Eagles a 13-12 lead as the buzzer sounded.

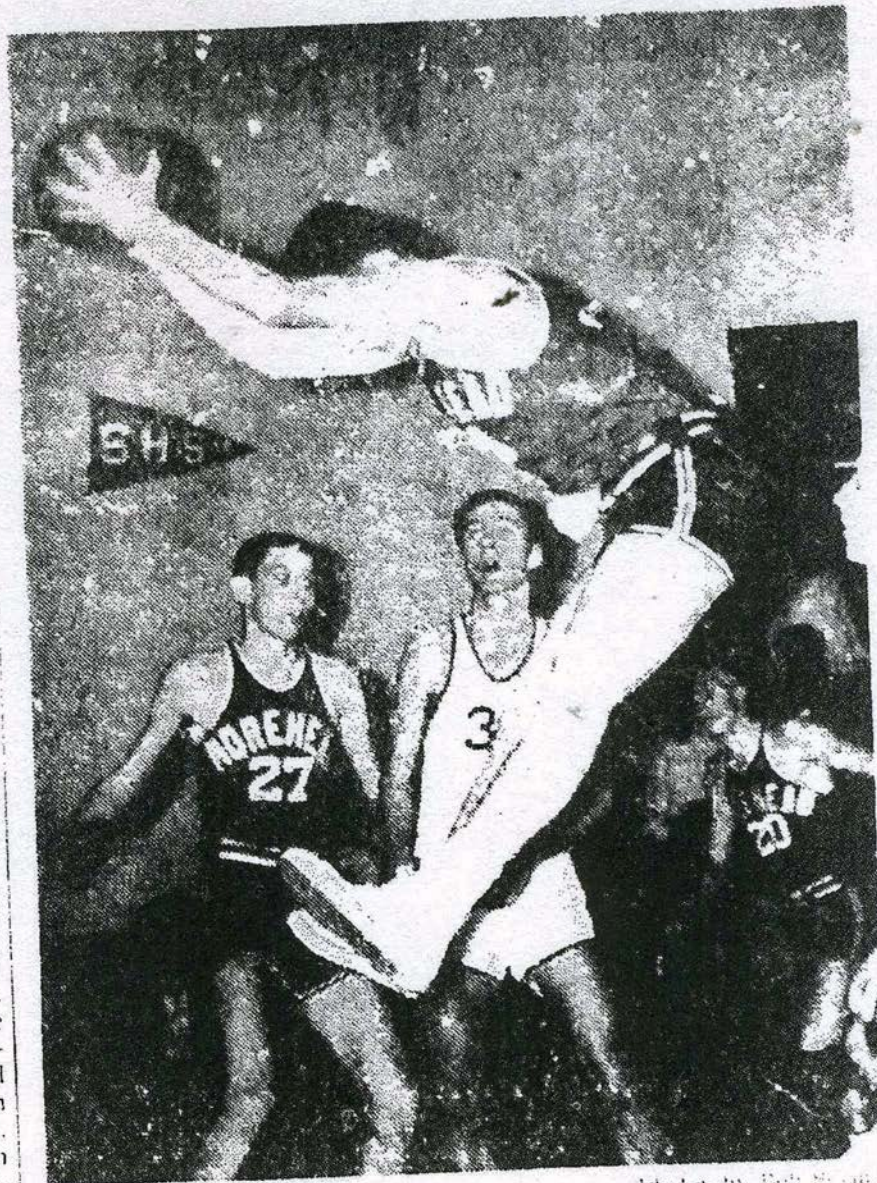
With Glenn Willis* and Horace Lawrence furnishing most of the offensive punch, the Blue Devils played the Eagles on even terms through most of the second period. Late in the quarter the Eagles began to pull away and gained a 21-26 advantage just before the teams left the floor for the half.

The Blue Devils put up a game fight in the second half but the Eagle reserve strength was too much for them to cope with. Llewellyn Phillips scored 28 points, most of them coming in the second half.

Willis ended the game with 17 points to lead the Smyrna scorers. Lawrence scored 12 points for the Blue Devils. Paul Wade and Braxton Piner scored eight each and Curtis Nelson scored six. Vaughn Yeomans started but did not score.

Jimmy Swann was second high scorer for the Eagles with 12 markers. Darden Eure and Walter Morris scored eight each. John Phillips hit for four and Lynwood Durham scored two points.

The victory put the Eagles in the finals against the Beaufort Seadogs.



Photos by Bob McCallister

Llewellyn Phillips brings down a rebound for Morehead City in Friday night's game with the Smyrna Blue Devils. Phillips scored 28 points and was the leading rebounder in the Eagle victory. Others in the picture, left to right, are John Phillips, Paul Wade and Jimmy Swann.