

Pake Leads Beaufort's Last-Half Comeback

Chris Pake, Richard Stanley and several fourth-quarter fouls gave Beaufort a 54-51 edge in Tuesday night's game at Smyrna.

The Blue Devils shocked Beaufort with a swift and accurate offensive attack in the first period, taking a 9-3 lead with four minutes gone. They finished the quarter ahead of the visiting Seadogs by 19-13, and continued to hit in the second period. Smyrna held an 11-point lead, 29-18, with three minutes left in the half.

Pake hit two free throws at the close of the second quarter to keep Beaufort within 10 points of the Devils, 31-21. Pake, the Seadogs' 6-foot center, blasted Smyrna's defense in the third period with 8 quick points. Aided by a few on-target field goals from guard Richard Stanley, Beaufort overtook Smyrna, 37-36, with two and a half minutes left in the third period.

The Devils finished the quarter with a 43-41 lead on shots by Linwood Parker and David Bailey. Smyrna was unable to keep the lead, with Pake sinking another shot from the corner to tie the game at 47-all with four minutes left on the clock. Beaufort attempted a break against the Blue Devils, but Smyrna's anything-but-sluggish defense matched the Seadogs two-for-two and Norris Nelson picked off a pass.

Smyrna moved back into the lead 49-47, but a close-in shot by Beaufort's Bill Peck tied up the game again.

Stanley was fouled, but missed the free throws. The Devils gained possession, lost the ball and fouled Clem Woodard in the process. His shot was good, giving Beaufort a 50-49 lead with two minutes, 15 seconds remaining.

Smyrna missed a field goal attempt. The Seadogs came up with the rebound, called time, then came out in a freeze. Smyrna's Danny Gillikin fouled Peck with 50 seconds left. The Beaufort guard missed a free throw. Pake and Bailey tied up on the rebound. Smyrna's Norris Nelson took the tap, a seat on the court and the referee called for another jump.

Nelson tapped the ball out of bounds, giving the Seadogs possession. With 33 seconds to go, Gillikin fouled Peck. Beaufort's little guard hit both shots this time to boost the Seadogs' lead to 52-49. Linwood Parker sank a corner shot moments later, bringing the score to 52-51.

Beaufort brought the ball down court, and tried another freeze. Woodard was fouled, missed the

free throw, but came up with the rebound. He was fouled again by Smyrna's Joe Willis, in a flying scramble for the ball. Woodard tossed in both free throws, pushing the Seadogs' lead to 54-51, the winning margin.

A few seconds later, Woodard broke into the clear for a layup after the buzzer had sounded. It was Beaufort's only successful fast break of the evening, but too late to count.

The Seadogs finished the game with 47 per cent from the floor, hitting 22 of 47 field goals. They brought their averages out of the cellar with a 63 per cent performance in the third quarter, and an 80 per cent showing in the final period. Beaufort scored a total of 33 points in the second half.

Chris Pake accounted for 10, 18 points overall, to lead the Seadogs. He hit better than 90 per cent from the floor. Stanley scored 8 points in the game, all of them in the second half.

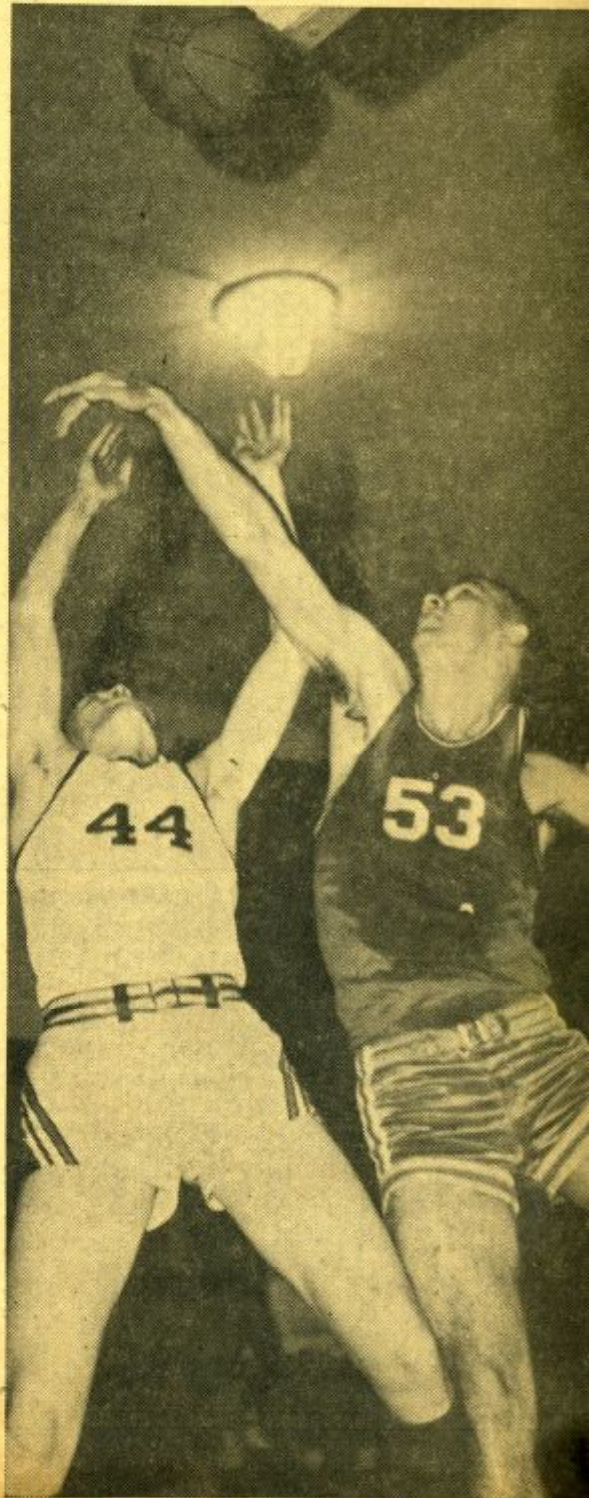
Also scoring for Beaufort were Woodard, 11; Brady Way, 10; Bill Peck, 6; and Tommy Piner, 1. Beaufort was without forward Mickey Bertram, still recovering from the measles.

Linwood Parker, listed at forward for Smyrna, turned in perhaps the best performance of the contest. He led both teams in rebounding and was the Devils' high scorer, with 16 points. Nelson was next, with 13. Also scoring were Gillikin, 9; Willis, 8; and Bailey, 5.

Both Parker and Nelson were defensive standouts as well. The Blue Devils sank 16 of 44 field goals for 36 per cent. They picked up 19 points in 26 free throws for 74 per cent, however, to Beaufort's 10 of 18 for 56 per cent.

"What can you say about a game like that?" coach Fred Bartholomew, Smyrna, commented. "I thought we were going to win." He added that the contest was Smyrna's best defensive effort of the season. "They just wanted to play ball," he says. "I was pretty proud of them. Beaufort knew they had been in a ballgame."

The win gives Beaufort an 11-2 record, and Smyrna, 15-4.



Chris Pake, No. 53, reaches high to deflect a shot by the Seadogs' Danny Gillikin in the final minutes of the game at Smyrna.