

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1954

# Beaufort Drop

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## Eagles 50-38;

### Holland, Pittman Lead Sea Dogs to County Crown

By STANLEY SIMPSON  
Sports Editor

Beaufort High School is the 1954 Carteret County Basketball champion, replacing Newport, by virtue of a 50-38 win Saturday over Morehead City High at the Beaufort gym before an overflow crowd.

The outcome was never in doubt after the opening minutes of the second quarter as Gehrman Holland and Murray Pittman paced the Sea Dogs to victory. The Eagles only threat came in the fourth quarter. The game started with both teams playing possession ball which made a slow-paced first period. Both teams matched each other point for point and at the end of the period the score was tied 7-7.

#### Mason Works Boards

Morehead City was using a man to man defense and Beaufort was countering with a 2-3 zone. Wayne Check was doing the rebounding for the Eagles while Herb Mason and Holland worked the boards for Beaufort.

In the second period Morehead's passing grew wild. Time and again the ball was thrown out of bounds or into the waiting hands of a Sea Dog defender. Early in the period the Sea Dogs took command of the situation and began to pour on the steam.

The Eagles were outscored 12-10 as Beaufort walked off the floor leading 26-19 at halftime. Morehead City had attempted 11 shots and made six for 54 per cent.

Beaufort had attempted 26 from the floor and made 11 for 42 per cent. Both clubs together tried 37 shots from the floor in the first half.

Check and Holland were controlling the boards with Pittman and Denny Lawrence directing floor play. Morehead was trying a combination of close in shots and set shots to break up the Beaufort defense. But the Eagles' shooting eye waxed off and instead of aiding their cause gave the ball to Beaufort, who was quick to take advantage.

#### Beaufort Grabs 10-Point Lead

Beaufort streaked to a 10-point lead early in the third period, but the Eagles ruffled as Jerry T. Willis began to hit and narrowed the gap to seven points at the end of the period, 34-27.

In the fourth period's opening minutes Morehead whittled away at Beaufort's lead, paced by "Bones" Willis, and crept to within three points, 38-33. The Sea Dogs quickly rallied behind Holland and Pittman and a minute later led 43-35.

The Sea Dogs hit seven points in the final minute as the Eagles dumped in three to lose the final game of the tourney.

Holland led the Sea Dogs with 15 points followed by Pittman with 11. Herb Mason with nine, Jim Willis with seven, and Hugh Mason with eight. "Bones" Willis led the Eagles with 19 points followed by Check with nine, Denny Lawrence with five, Bobby Willis with three, and Jerry W. Willis with two.

Following the Beaufort win the net was ripped from the Beaufort goal and strung around Holland's neck. The team rushed over in a body and lifted Coach Tom McQuinn to their shoulders and carried him to the dressing room.

#### Eagles Gain Finals 61-50

Employing a semi-freeze in the final six minutes of Friday's semifinals of the county cage tourney, Morehead City High Eagles

grabbed a well-deserved 61-50 win over a red-hot and surprisingly strong Smyrna Five.

Smyrna, driving hard on the Eagles' heels throughout the game, had crept to within five points of the Eagles, 43-38, at the close of the third period. Coach Gannon Albert's charges then elected to use the freeze to insure victory. Working the unfamiliar tactic to perfection, the Eagles increased their lead to 11 points by surging to the bucket for quick goals.

Smyrna tried to full press the ball away from the Eagles in the final 30 seconds, but it was too late. Facing the Eagles to the win were Jerry W. Willis with 19, Denny Lawrence had 16, and Jerry T. Willis contributed 14 points. Roy Styron took scoring honors for Smyrna with 14 points, followed by Walker Gillikin and Guion Simpson with 10 each.

Smyrna jumped to a 3-2 lead in the first period, but saw it disappear as Wayne Check and "Bones" Willis took control of the boards for a 4-3 lead, then Smyrna tied it 4-4. The Eagles went ahead 5-4 only to see Smyrna tie again 6-6. The lead continued to switch hands until, with a minute left, the score stood 11-11. Smyrna broke the tie 12-11 as the Eagles hit a bucket to go ahead 13-12 and from then on out, Smyrna was fighting an uphill battle.

The first period ended with Morehead ahead 17-13 as Gillikin and Jack Davis vied with Check and J. T. Willis for rebounds. The Eagles kept control in the second period to outscore Smyrna 14-11 as Jack Davis fouled out. The Eagles led at the half 31-24. As the battle resumed, Smyrna crept up to within three points of the Eagles 33-30.

But the Eagles pulled themselves together and poured in six straight points to lead 39-31 as the period entered the final two minutes. Smyrna hit seven points to the Eagles, four threatening again, 43-38, ~~and~~ setting the stage for the freeze.

#### Beaufort Tops Newport 49-38

Beaufort High pulled away in the second and third periods Thursday to eliminate last year's county champs from further play as it bumped Newport 49-38 in the county cage tourney.

The Sea Dogs posted a 12-0 lead in the first period with 3:30 gone before Newport started to click and hit 12 straight points. The Sea Dogs hit three to lead 15-12. Both teams played possession ball in the second period with Beaufort scoring eight points to lead 23-19 at the half.

Beaufort's Jimmie Willis and Hugh Mason controlled the ball in the third period allowing Gehrman Holland to lead the Sea Dogs in scoring 18 points for a 41-27 three period lead.

Sidney Manning and Jimmie Kelly took command of the boards in the fourth period to outscore Beaufort 11-5, but the damage had already been done. Holland paced Beaufort with 26 points followed by Hugh Mason with 10. Manning and Levy Lilly shared Newport scoring honors with 14 each.