

Blue Devils Attack Pirates Friday, Take 80-41 Victory

The Smyrna Blue Devils took an easy 80-41 victory at Atlantic Friday night behind the shooting of Norris Nelson and Linwood Parker. It was Smyrna's third game and third win.

The Blue Devils opened the first quarter with an offensive burst that put them in front by 26-8. Smyrna continued to out-score the Pirates in the second and third periods, 18-10 and 22-8. Atlantic managed to match the visitors in the fourth quarter 14-14.

Guard Norris Nelson accounted for 30 of the Blue Devils' 80 points, and Linwood Parker, center, added 23. Also scoring for Smyrna were David Bailey, 10; Joe Willis, 10; and Danny Gillikin, 7. Smyrna hit 29 field goals for 51 per cent, and sank 22 out of 27 free throws for 81 per cent.

The Pirates managed to lose in only 18 field goals, and hit 5 out of 20 free throws for 25 per cent. D. Brickhouse was Atlantic's high scorer with 12. Bruce Styron and Edwin Saller got 9, Walby Morris, 3. Jackie West, Mervin Hancock and Stanley Morris each got 2.

The Blue Devils' shooting has improved, according to coach Fred Bartholomew, especially free-throw shooting. He said he was satisfied with his boys' defensive play, at least until the fourth quarter.

He cited forward Norris Nelson and Joe Willis, guard, as the Blue Devils' defensive standouts. David Bailey, double-post forward, led the team in rebounding. High scorer Nelson also accounted for 7 assists.

Shooting averages for the starting five after three games are as follows: Linwood Parker, 20.7; Norris Nelson, 16.7; David Bailey, 12.7; Joe Willis, 10.7; and Danny Gillikin, 6.7. The team has averaged 60.3 points per game, and given up an average of 41 points per game.

The Blue Devils will meet Top-sail there tomorrow night. Game time will be 7 o'clock.

The Smyrna junior varsity took its first victory Friday night at Atlantic, 26-24. Danny Lawrence scored 8 points to lead the baby Blues.

Also scoring for Smyrna were Tony Hancock, 7; Charles Lawrence, 4; Stephen Finer, 4; and Clinton Nelson, 2. Jimmy Am-sparcher scored 18 points to keep the Atlantic JV's alive. C. Styron added 3 for the Pirates.