

# Sports

## DeMarcus Nelson a Devil no more

By Joseph Chilton  
Editor in Chief

DeMarcus Nelson had a great senior season at Duke. He was the Blue Devils' team captain, was named to the All-ACC First Team this year, and made the game-winning shot in Duke's first round NCAA tournament win over Belmont.

And yet, most NBA Draft previews tend to suggest that Nelson will need a little help in order to get drafted in the first round come June.

Nelson may have received that necessary extra push this past Saturday during the annual ACC/Crossfire game in Asheville.

The ACC/Crossfire game is a basketball exhibition held annually at the Asheville Civic Center. The game always features a team sponsored by Crossfire Ministries, an evangelism group based in

Western North Carolina pitted against the seniors from all of the schools around the ACC.

Crossfire's players are old and slow, and the ACC's players always beat Crossfire to a pulp, showing a level of dominance reminiscent of the glory days of Teen Wolf.

But that's okay with Crossfire. Their mission in sponsoring the event is to get thousands of people to show up at the arena in order to see big name basketball players, and then subject them to an hour-long sermon and an altar call at halftime.

This year I was assigned to cover the game for my internship with the *Hendersonville Times-News*,

because I am the lowly intern and none of the staff writers wanted to sit through the sermon.

During halftime I was sitting on press row and got an up close and personal view of Crossfire founder Randy Shepherd's proselytizing. At the end of his message he asked everybody in attendance to bow

their head and close their eyes, and then asked that everybody who wished to accept Christ as their Lord and Savior raise their hand.

I think it was just my nature as a basketball fan, but at that moment I had the urge to look and see if any of the ACC players, people who I had watched on TV for the last four

years raised their hands. I resisted initially, but when I heard the clicks emanating from the camera of the *Asheville Citizen-Times* photographer seated next to me, I figured that it would soon be no secret who had raised their hand, and I peeked.

When I snuck my glance at the ACC bench, I saw DeMarcus Nelson with his hand up roughly fifty feet in front of me.

Will this decision aid Nelson in his quest for a guaranteed contract in the NBA? Only time will tell. But I will tell you this: Nelson had 15 points in the first half before he got saved (Before Christ, I will call that half), and 20 points in the second half after he made his life-altering decision. If that isn't evidence supporting the theory of the prosperity gospel, I don't know what is.



## Inaugural BC Spring Game a success

Courtesy Brevard College  
Sports Information

The Brevard College football team wrapped up three weeks of spring practices on Saturday night with the Inaugural Spring Football game at Brevard Memorial Stadium.

In a contest in which the defense controlled most of the game, a number of individuals on both sides of the ball had strong performances on the evening as the Blue team came away with the 28-3 win.

Quarterback Kye Hamilton led the Blue team for most of the game, as the newcomer was 11-of-21 through the air for 166

yards.

Junior running back John Taylor had a strong game in which he carried the ball 11 times for 75 yards and three scores, including a nine-yard touchdown run up the middle that started the scoring for the game.

Quarterback Matthew Gaines had the lone other touchdown for the game, a 20 yard scramble to the end zone to give the Blue team the 28-3 advantage.

Kicker Chase Henry was perfect on the day, as the freshman kicker made a 42-yard field goal for the White team and was 4-4 on point after attempts for the Blue team.

"I am extremely pleased with

the execution of our players on both sides of the ball, as well as the tremendous effort and discipline we played with here tonight," commented head coach Paul Hamilton.

Blue team wide receiver Cory Pertz led the receiving corp. with eight catches for 71 yards for the game, while Donald Hudson, Justin Fleming and tight end Curtis Lorenz all had two catches for the game.

In only the second year of the BC football program, the Tornados went 2-9 in 2007 as they competed as provisional members in the very tough South Atlantic Conference.

"I am extremely proud of how far we have come as a team and how much we have progressed

as a team since January," continued Coach Hamilton. "We played tonight with a lot of speed and a lot of effort. We know we have miles and miles to go to be where we want to be and know that we can build on where we are right now as a program."

"I, as well as the staff, would like to personally thank everyone that was involved with the game, the Tornados club, the administrative and support staff and the community," stated Coach Hamilton. "We appreciate all the work that was put into this event. It was a great day not only for the football program, but for Brevard College as a whole."