

CHAPTER IV

A RESURGENCE: 1969-1974

1969

Three years of rebuilding culminated in 1969. The Seminoles possessed talented personnel in most of the 17 events on the dual meet program. The most obvious cloud on the horizon of prosperity was the lack of depth. A team must have more than just one quality performer for each event, if they are to succeed over a long competitive season.

"Our depth is the crucial factor, there is no questioning that," said Coach Mike Long. "We don't have the numbers some of the larger schools in the South now have and that makes it tough in dual meet competition" (FSU Track Brochure File, Track and Field 1969).

With money having been historically in short supply for track and field, the increase of \$3,000 in the operating budget and a \$6,000 boost in scholarship funds were welcome additions (Athletic Office Budget File, 1968-1969). The additional funding came at an opportune time as the consumer price index had risen five and six-tenths points over the previous year (U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1975).

Mike Kelly led a talented contingent of Seminole runners. Back for his senior year, the hard working hurdler was expected to be better than ever. During the 1968 season, Kelly had broken both hurdle school

records with clockings of :13.8 and :51.5. In the Sixth Annual United States Track and Field Federation Outdoor Championships, Kelly had placed sixth in both the 120-yard high hurdles and the 440-yard intermediate hurdles.

The talented hurdler was characterized by teammate Sandy Garland as "the type of man every great track coach needs" (Garland, 1975). The description was very apropos as Kelly was dedicated to his sport. He possessed the self-discipline necessary to condition himself for competition and the ability to use his talents at meet time. Mike Kelly was at his best in tough competition (Long, L. S., 1976).

Ken Misner was a rising sophomore who had established himself in 1968 as the distance runner to watch on the Seminole squad. He handled the Tribe's two- and three-mile chores and competed, on occasion, in the mile run.

The field events did not appear on paper to have the number of quality athletes found in the running events, yet they were stronger than in recent years. The long and triple jumps appeared to have the greatest potential for scoring with Phil Parker and Steve Lewis carrying the garnet and gold into competition. Parker had been slowed by injuries during much of 1968 (Long, L. S., 1976), but the opportunity of developing into the best Seminole triple jumper was open to him if he could remain injury free. The javelin was the only weak event for the Tribe. If that event was strengthened, or compensated for, 1969 would again be the year of the Seminoles.

The Tribe opened their indoor season with a limited entry in the Astrodome Federation Championships on January 24-25 in Houston.

FSU utilized university station wagons to convey their small contingent to Texas (Long, L.S., 1976).

Mike Kelly captured the only Seminole points with a very respectable showing in the 60-yard high hurdles. The muscular senior placed fourth in a very swift race that was won by Southern California's Franklin in :06.9 (New York Times, 26 January 1969).

Florida State traveled to Lexington, Virginia, for the first team competition of the young indoor season. The Seminole entries in the VMI Winter Relays on February 1 established a school record in a new event and came close to the school standard in two other events (FSU Track Office Files, 1 February 1969).

The shuttle hurdle team of Roger Peterson, John Fuss, Phil Parker, and Mike Kelly finished fourth with a time of :30.6. The race marked the first time the shuttle hurdle event had been run by a Seminole quartet indoors.

A second place finish by Ken Misner in the two-mile was timed at 9:28.1. Misner's time was only six-tenths of a second off his own record set in 1968.

The mile relay team of Greg Kaufman, Andy Guy, Randy Stow, and Mike Link turned in a fine 3:23.7 performance. The Tribe finished fourth and only four-tenths of a second over the school mark. The effort was highlighted by Link's :49.4 anchor leg. He became the first Seminole to split under 50 seconds in an indoor mile relay.

The Seminoles took a break from the rigors of the indoor season to host the Rattlers of Florida A & M University in a dual meet.

This was the first meeting between the two Tallahassee schools. The friendly confrontation took place at FSU's track on February 22 (FSU Track Office Files, 22 February 1969).

FAMU's sprint program had gained national renown for the track exploits of 1964 Olympian Robert Hayes, Bob Parramore, Eugene Milton, James Ashcroft, and many other fine dashmen. Mike Long had always had the reputation of being willing to run the best teams, yet many observers of the track scene remarked to him that perhaps, he had gotten too ambitious (Long, L. S., 1976).

The reputation of the Rattler track program was built upon the sprint events. True to form, FAMU won the 440-yard relay, 100- and 220-yard dashes, and the quarter-mile run. Outside of these four races, the Rattlers only scored 12 1/2 points.

Phillip Parker led an FSU field event contingent that allowed only six points to escape their grasp. Parker captured the long jump with a leap of 23' 6-3/4". Turning to his specialty, Parker bounded 49' 1/4" to win the triple jump and erase Don Casteel's school mark of 48' 9-3/4" set in 1965.

Continuing to jump well, Mike Kelly copped the high jump at 6' 7" narrowly missing Bud Manning's FSU standard by one-half inch. Kelly proceeded to win the 120-yard high hurdles (:14.7), finish second to FAMU's Kent Schoofield in the 440-yard intermediate hurdles (:53.9), and run a leg on FSU's victorious mile relay. Mike Kelly was high point man for the meet with 14 1/2 points, leading the Seminoles to a 106 1/2 to 38 1/2 victory.

The Seminoles returned to Montgomery on March 1 to defend their Coliseum Relays title. The Tribe had dominated the independent division by 32 points in 1968. FSU had little trouble repeating as the Tribe more than doubled the score of their nearest competitor. Florida State set five new indoor school records and tied two other while amassing their 54 1/2 point total (Montgomery Advertiser, 2 March 1969).

Bob Thomas led the Seminole record setters with a victorious clocking of 2:14.6 in the 1,000-yard run. Phil Parker joined Thomas in the winners' circle with a triple jump of 47' 1-1/2". Parker had bettered his old indoor school mark by over one and one-half feet.

The mile relay was the other victorious record producing performance. The foursome of Greg Kaufman, Randy Stow, Mike Kelly, and Mike Link moved the baton through the ten-lap mile in 3:20.8.

Ken Miser and Joe Law both bettered the school standard in non-winning performances. Misner whipped through the mile in 4:13.6, only to finish behind Russell of David Lipscomb. Law did not fare as well, as his record setting performance of 1:55.7 in the half-mile only brought him fourth place.

Doug Brown joined Jack Terwilliger and Craig Johnson at :06.3 in the 60-yard dash with his second place effort. Brown was nosed out at the wire by Pleasant of Alabama State. Pleasant and Brown were both given the same time.

Strong performances were also turned in by Steve Oulman and John Snyder. Freshman Steve Oulman displayed his rawboned strength in the 600-yard dash. The young man finished third in a very good field

with a time of 1:13.6. Snyder became the first Seminole shot putter to throw over 50 feet indoors since Al Williams tossed the shot 56' 1" in the 1964 Coliseum Relays. Snyder's throw of 51' 11-1/4" placed him second behind the 52' 4-3/4" effort by Brown of Georgia Tech.

Mike Kelly won his second event of the meet by taking the 60-yard high hurdles in :07.5. The high jump record of 6' 7" held by Floyd Lorenz was tied when Mike Kelly scaled the identical height to win the vertical jumping contest. The most valuable performer selection was made easy by Kelly's victories in the high jump, high hurdles, and a strong middle leg on FSU's winning mile relay (Tallahassee Democrat, 2 March 1969).

The Jesuit Invitational State Championship in Tampa on March 8 was the second stop on Florida State's outdoor schedule. A hard driving rain during the competition (Tallahassee Democrat, 9 March 1969) put a constraint on the quality of performances. With Florida A & M capturing only 14 points, the Jesuit Invitational turned into a two team meet. The University of Florida prevailed over the Seminoles by a commanding 94 to 67 score (FSU Track Office Files, 8 March 1969).

FSU's 440-yard relay of Doug Brown, Greg Kaufman, Steve Lewis, and Andy Guy registered the first of four Seminole triumphs with a fine :41.4 clocking. Continuing to run well in the short sprint races, Florida State copped the 120-yard high hurdles with a :14.7 performance by Mike Kelly. Andy Guy showed a flash of brilliance by winning the 220-yard dash in :21.5. If muscle pulls could be avoided, the Tribe sprinting corps would receive a valuable boost from the oft injured Andy Guy.

The lone Seminole victory in the field events was won by the strong legs of Phillip Parker. The slender Atlanta sophomore bounded 48' 3-1/2" in the triple jump.

The next Seminole home dual meet was against East Carolina University on March 12. The Tribe was devastating as they won 14 of 17 events and set one school record while tying another. The final tally of 111 to 34 was the largest Tribe victory total in Seminole track history (FSU Track Office Files, 12 March 1969).

Bill Jackson, a sophomore pole vaulter, cleared 14' 9" for a victory and an FSU record. The pressure had really been on Jackson to perform. Phil Edmonds had left school in the early spring, leaving the Thomasville, Georgia, native as the lone Seminole entry in the pole vault. Jackson shared his memory of the pole vault competition.

My vaulting had been improving through the fall quarter of my sophomore year and I was beginning to regain some of the confidence that I had lost after "freshman year jitters." I had vaulted 14' 6" in practice the week before the meet and had a 14' 0" clearance indoors at Montgomery a couple of weeks before. I was aiming for a good meet for a number of reasons, first and foremost in my mind was the school record of 14' 7"; second, I needed a good outdoor meet to give me a confidence boost before the Florida Relays two weeks later; and third, to get a good start on the outdoor competitive season. The meet was at night and I felt better in my practice vaults than I had ever felt before. After I had cleared 14' 6", I told the head judge to raise the bar to anything over 14' 7". When the standards were raised and measured, the bar was at 14' 9". It seems I cleared the bar on my third attempt with some room to spare. After three anticlimatic attempts at 15 feet, I called it a night. I was happy that I had broken the school record, but was disgusted with myself because it took three vaults to do it. (Jackson, 1976)

The 440-yard relay was the other record producing performance. Doug Brown, Greg Kaufman, Denson Pepper, and Andy Guy performed flawlessly in a :41.2 school record tying run. The East Carolina dual meet

was a feast day for sprinters. Doug Brown pounced out of the blocks and sped to a personal best of :09.7 in the 100-yard dash. His sprint victory was duplicated by Andy Guy's :21.5 clocking in the furlong.

Mike Kelly was the king in both hurdle events. Kelly clocked a quick :14.2 in the 120-yard high hurdles and returned to cover the quarter-mile intermediate hurdles in :52.7.

The FSU half-milers had it all to themselves in the 880-yard run. Steve Oulman finished first with a time of 1:53.7, closely followed by Joe Law in 1:53.8. Sandy Garland, a junior college walk-on, scored his first Seminole point with a fine 1:54.8 effort. Ken Misner rounded out the footracing action with a superlative 14:09.0 performance in the three-mile run.

The Seminole performances in the field events were not outstanding; however, the Tribe won all but six of the 56 contested field event points. George Frank highlighted the field event effort by powering the discus 158' 2-3/4".

Florida State competed in four relay carnivals in a row. The first was the Florida A & M Relays on March 15 in Tallahassee. The Tribe entry in the FAMU Relays was on an individual interest basis (Long, L. S., 1976). The Rattler clay track gave up times and performances grudgingly. FSU did manage to capture five events including the sprint medley relay (FSU Track Office Files, 15 March 1969).

The most noteworthy effort by a Seminole was a 47' 5" winning triple jump by Charlie Galloway. This was the first 47-foot jump for the sophomore from Atlanta. After having won the high hurdles in :14.5, Mike Kelly suffered his second straight defeat at the hands of

FAMU's Kent Schoolfield in the 440-yard intermediate hurdles. Schoolfield's time was a sterling :52.7. John Snyder copped the shot put with a throw of 51' 1" and Ken Misner dominated the mile in 4:20.2.

The traveling Tribe made the long trip to Greenville, South Carolina for the 12th Annual News-Piedmont Relay. As a team, the Seminoles were not sharp. Coach Mike Long could find a little solace in the fact that no team title was at stake (FSU Track Office Files, 22 March 1969).

Mike Kelly was his reliable self. He took the 440-yard intermediate hurdles with a meet record time of :52.3 and won the high jump at 6' 6". Kelly suffered his only defeat of the day in the 120-yard high hurdles, as he finished second behind Jeff Howser of Duke with a time of :14.2.

Ken Misner set a new Seminole standard for two miles with a 9:01.0 clocking. However, his third place clocking was almost ten seconds behind the winning time. John Snyder copped the shot put with a toss of 52' 5", his best toss of the season.

The sprint medley team was involved in a tight battle with Yale and South Carolina for the relay trophy. Andy Guy led off in :22.4 and Paul Sepulveda turned his half-lap in :21.3. The 440-yard leg was run by Randy Stow in :48.3. Joe Law brought the baton home on the 880-yard anchor leg in 1:55.5. The Seminoles' overall time placed them second on the FSU all-time list with a 3:27.5 clocking. However, FSU's time was not fast enough as Yale burned a 3:27.0 and the Gamecocks of South Carolina edged the Tribe by one-tenth of a second in 3:27.4.

The next stop on the Florida State's relay swing was Gainesville for the 26th Annual Florida Relays. The competition was fierce as the Tribe broke three school records and did not win an event (FSU Track Office Files, 28-29 March 1969).

The 440-yard relay team of Doug Brown, Greg Kaufman, Steve Lewis, and Andy Guy blazed to the first sub-41-second time in the history of track and field at Florida State. FSU's :40.9 clocking was topped only by Florida A & M's :40.5 performance.

Phillip Parker, John Fuss, Roger Peterson, and Mike Kelly joined their hurdling talents to lower FSU's shuttle hurdle record to :58.6. Their joint efforts netted FSU a third place. In spite of a school record race in the two-mile, Ken Misner's 9:00.7 was only sufficient for fourth place, as Russell of David Lipscomb turned in a winning time of 8:54.5.

Mike Kelly garnered two seconds in the hurdle races. Old nemesis Jeff Howser of Duke nipped the FSU hurdler by a scant two-tenths of a second in the 120-yard high hurdles. Kelly's time was a nifty :14.1. He was again second in the 440-yard intermediate hurdles with a time of :52.3. In the triple jump, Phil Parker and Charles Galloway jumped 48' 4" and 47' 6-1/2" for third and fifth places, respectively.

The Seminoles completed their four relay carnival tour in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, on April 16 (FSU Track Office Files, 16 April 1969). The 10th Annual Carolina Relays format did not call for a scored team title. Without a team championship on the line, the competitive spirit blew hot and cold among the Seminole performers.

The first 15-foot vault in FSU's track program came at the Carolina Relays. Bill Jackson tried to convey his feeling of exhilaration when he wrote:

There's not much to recall from this meet except the feeling I experienced clearing 15' 1/2". In my entire career this vault is the one I remember because it felt like everything came together. I felt relaxed as I came down the runway, my pole plant was smooth, but after that I don't remember much until I pushed off the pole. On top, I remember looking down and seeing the top of the pole in the box. As I pushed away I saw the cork in the top of the pole and the bar and I knew that I had just made the best vault of my life. The feeling was and still is, indescribable. (Jackson, 1975)

FSU's shuttle hurdle team of Charles Galloway, John Fuss, Roger Peterson, and Mike Kelly won that event in a meet record time of :59.1. The shuttle hurdles victory was the only Tribe triumph of the afternoon.

FSU's Mike Kelly and Carl Wood, a nationally ranked intermediate hurdler from the University of Richmond, hit the tape together in a relays record :52.1. Wood was judged the winner with both men receiving the same time.

With a throw of 160' 4", George Frank became the first Seminole since Al Williams in 1964 to throw over 160 feet in the discus. Frank's toss of 160' 4" was a second place earning effort.

Florida State track men received only three days rest before competing in the Gulf Coast Five-Way Meet in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, on April 19. The Seminoles' performances reflected the strain of travel, yet they battled hard before dropping a nine and one-half point decision to the University of Florida. The Tribe came in second with

70 1/2 markers, 13 points ahead of third place Alabama (FSU Track Office Files, 19 April 1969).

Ken Misner placed second in the mile run with a career best of 4:11.9. With a vengeful effort, he took the three miles in 14:23.8. Finishing third, Steve Oulman broke George Griffin's school mark in the 880-yard run with a 1:51.4.

Mike Kelly's long day began with a :14.2 victory in the 120-yard high hurdles. Following his win in the high hurdles, Kelly romped to victory in the 440-yard intermediate hurdles with a :52.7. The mile relay provided the setting for Kelly's final race of the afternoon. Greg Kaufman opened the relay with a :50.0 split out of the blocks. Randy Stow followed in :48.9 and Kelly ran :48.5 on the third leg. Mike Link brought the stick home in second place with a :48.7 split. The Seminole team time was 3:16.0.

The Florida State track team made the long trek to Philadelphia on April 25-26 for the Pennsylvania Relays. The effort was rewarded only by a fourth place finish by Mike Kelly in the 440-yard intermediate hurdles. Kelly's time was recorded at :53.0 (New York Times, 26 April 1969).

Florida State University hosted their intrastate rival, the University of Florida, on May 3. The Seminoles had not defeated the Gators since 1965.

The competition broke down into two smaller meets. In the field events, the Florida Gators blitzed the Tribe 42 to 21 while the Seminoles edged the Gators 42 to 40 in the running events (FSU Track Office Files, 3 May 1969). Florida was able to grab their points in

large clusters. The Gators swept all three places in the half-mile and took both first and second places in the long jump, high jump, javelin and quarter-mile, leaving only the single third place point for the Tribe.

The 440-yard relay foursome of Doug Brown, Greg Kaufman, Denson Pepper, and Andy Guy opened the meet with a :41.1 meet record setting conquest. In addition to his lead off leg on the quarter-mile relay, Brown prevailed in the 100-yard dash in :09.7 and in the furlong at :21.6. Brown's time in the 220-yard dash was a career best, while his effort in the century matched his personal record.

A meet and track record of :13.9 was set by Mike Kelly in the 120-yard high hurdles. Kelly also captured the 440-yard intermediate hurdles in :51.9 and anchored FSU's winning mile relay. The Winter Park senior had never run on an FSU team that had beaten the University of Florida; however, the Gators had managed only once in three years of running the high and intermediate hurdles in FSU-Florida dual meet competition to beat the man himself.

The Seminoles had a fine performance turned in by Ken Misner as he captured the three-mile run for the second consecutive year with a meet record 14:29.9. Equally outstanding performances were Charles Galloway's win in the triple jump with a personal best of 47' 8" and George Frank's second place throw of 160' 3" in the discus. Frank related the circumstances surrounding the discus event:

This was prelude to the school record. My very first practice turn of the night was 173 feet (no scratch) which I'd like to think woke John Morton out of the doldrums. He had been having a terrible year. Here was some unknown thrower who he saw consistently throw 130 feet the year

before. Anyway, Morton threw 183' 9" that night for a meet and track record. We had a really good talk afterwards. (Frank, 1975)

The Seminoles had fought hard, but a Florida sweep in the half-mile had been devastating. Florida went on to register an 82 to 63 victory despite losing nine of 17 events. Depth, as Coach Long had pointed out in his preseason prognosis, was a crucial factor.

FSU completed its dual meet season against the Crimson Tide of Alabama on May 10 in Tallahassee. The outcome was never in doubt as the Seminoles captured 14 of 17 events (FSU Track Office Files, 10 May 1969). The final score was a lopsided 93 to 52 verdict for the Tribe.

Mike Kelly closed out his career at home with a three-victory performance that included three meet and one track record. He began by copping the 120-yard high hurdles in a meet record :14.3. The high jump was won by Kelly with a meet record leap of 6' 6". The final triumph came in the 440-yard intermediate hurdles. His :51.7 clocking set a new meet and track record. A very fitting way for an athlete of his calibre to close out his last meet before a home crowd.

Doug Brown turned in his career performance in the 100-yard dash. Brown recounted his :09.6 race:

I still feel that the old cinder track, if prepared right and with no rain, was one of the fastest tracks for a sprinter. When we ran the University of Alabama, the conditions were perfect--I should have run faster, I suppose--but the track was right. I had an excellent start and a good finish. That was my sophomore year and what I consider my best. (Brown, 1975)

George Frank had thrown over 160 feet against the University of Florida. According to Coach Mike Long, he looked ready to throw

(Long, L. S., 1976). Against the University of Alabama, Frank touched one off. The platter settled to earth 168' 5-1/2" from the throwing circle. Frank's throw was a new meet and school record. Frank explained his attitude toward throwing during his sophomore year:

This was the school record toss which was anti-climatical to me because I had exceeded the old school record on practice throws before my last several meets. The unique thing about my sophomore year was confidence. While I didn't expect to defeat guys like John Morton of Florida or Dick Drescher of Maryland, I felt they would have to really compete to beat me. In other words, I was competing against myself each week and it really didn't matter what anyone else did. (Frank, 1975)

An incident occurred in the three-mile that showed what FSU's team spirit was all about. Tom Rickards was a senior distance runner who had played a role in setting a distance medley school record when he was a sophomore. He had toiled during his junior and senior years without much tangible return. Rickards needed to win the three-mile in the Alabama meet in order to have enough points to win his varsity letter. There appeared to be little hope as teammate Ken Misner was vastly superior.

Tom Rickards was giving the race a good effort. Without ever having talked to any of the coaches, Ken Misner decided to try to win only if the Alabama runner challenged for the lead. Rickards beat the Alabama runner and won his senior year award (Roberts, 1976).

Florida State University was represented by Mike Kelly, Doug Brown, Phil Parker, and Ken Misner in the Seventh Annual USTFF Track and Field Championships on June 13-14 (FSU Track Office Files, 13-14 June 1969). The 440-yard relay team had qualified but due to injuries

and summer job commitments did not run (Tallahassee Democrat, 12 June 1969).

All-American honors were won by Mike Kelly in both the 120-yard high hurdles and the 440-yard intermediate hurdles. Kelly finished third in the intermediate hurdles behind Carl Wood of the University of Richmond and Ralph Mann from Brigham Young University, with a time of :51.5. The strapping senior hurdler had made an early season decision to try to run the first six hurdles in 13 strides rather than the usual 15. This technique requires great strength; however, Kelly was convinced that he could not generate enough speed using the normal 150 step approach (Long, L. S., 1976). The soundness of his reasoning was corroborated by his high national finish. Kelly also earned All-America honors with his fourth place finish in the high hurdles. His official time was an impressive :13.9.

Sixth place finishes were collected by Phillip Parker in the triple jump with a 47' 6-1/2" effort, and by Doug Brown in the 100-yard dash with a :10.0 clocking. Brown offered the following description of his success:

I qualified for nationals and did surprisingly well at the USTFF Championships. I believe it was because I didn't know any better. I surprised myself as I placed second in my preliminary and semifinal heats. (Brown, 1975)

Florida State tied for 19th in the national meet with 12 points.

The Seminole entries in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Championships in Knoxville on June 19-21 did not fare very well (New York Times, 21 June 1969). Mike Kelly had the unfortunate

experience of being disqualified in both hurdle events. Mike Kelly told of his experience at the NCAA Championships:

After competing in the 1969 USTFF Championship meet at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, Coach Long, Doug Brown, Ken Misner and myself drove south to Knoxville for the NCAA Track and Field Championships.

At Knoxville the 120-yard high hurdle trials were on June 19, before the 440-yard intermediate trials. I was very excited about this meet, because it was the culmination of my college track career. I felt good and as usual my times seemed to be peaking toward the end of the season. Tom Black track at the University of Tennessee was tartan, which seems to be a good running surface for me. I feel effortless on it. We had just received new double-knit uniforms which really looked sharp.

My heat of the 120-yard high hurdles had Richmond Flowers, George Carty, Jeff Howser, and four other runners. I was assigned lane one. The starter told the runners to come to their marks, and I remember my left leg and arms visibly quivering as I readied myself. The gun sounded and the race began. I was smooth over the hurdles, and my balance was good for me. I usually swing wildly with my arms to maintain balance and my hips are usually turned counterclockwise.

To my surprise, I maintained contact with the leaders and finished third in my heat in :13.7. Richmond Flowers was first with a :13.6, Carty second in :13.6 and Jeff Howser was fourth with :13.7. Unfortunately, we later learned I had been disqualified for allowing my trail leg to pass below the side of the ninth and tenth hurdles. This angered me inwardly and possibly charged me up for what was ahead.

Because of my high hurdles disqualification, I was really charged up along with my usual pre-race nervousness. I also had a constant desire to put one race together and to attain a personal goal of becoming an NCAA All-American, as well as a more unattainable goal of being the best. My heat of the 440-yard intermediate hurdles began, and I used my 13-stride pattern and it was easy. At the eighth hurdle I cut back to 15 strides and began my kick. I was running with the feeling that it would be difficult to qualify for the semifinals and would require an all out effort. I didn't want to pack up and go home yet.

At the end of my race, I even felt strong, and finished first in my heat. After the race, I was walking around and looked up at the timing clock. It read :50.2 seconds, and I learned this tied with a Russian for the fastest clocking in the world for 1969, up to that time. Wow! what an ego trip. I had visions of glory and you just name it. The next morning even Ron Whitney, a world class intermediate

hurdler and Adidas salesman, came by to see if my shoes were in good shape.

Physically my right hamstring was a little sore, and I had a heart flutter after the race which lasted for about 30 minutes. The next day, in the semifinals, my leg was still sore, but I took off like the day before. Carl Wood of Richmond was in my heat and trailed me throughout the race. At the tenth hurdle I thought about my hamstring and decided not to push to the finish line. I eased up and Wood passed me. Wood finished in :50.8 and I was second in :51.2.

The finals were run on the third day. I was in lane one. The hurdles used for this meet were narrow compared to the lane width and made it difficult for a large right-footed hurdler to keep his whole body over it. I had great hopes of winning this final, since my :50.2 was the fastest qualifying time and I eased through the semifinal race. My right leg was still sore and half-way through the race my leg popped. Apparently the pull wasn't too bad, because I was able to finish the race in :50.3 with a fourth place. My finish and time were disappointing but at least fourth place was All-American. It sounded great, but some minutes later it was announced that I had been disqualified for trailing my leg over the side of a hurdle.

There was some consolation in this meet, because my times of :50.2 for the intermediates and :13.7 for the highs are ranked as one of the best one-day hurdle doubles of all time. (Kelly, 1976)

"Mike hung in there well," said FSU track coach Mike Long.

"This is the most disappointing thing that has happened to me in 30 years of coaching. It is too bad a really nice kid like Mike had to end his college career like this" (Tallahassee Democrat, 22 June 1969).

Ken Misner was never able to stay with the pace in the three-mile and was eventually lapped in the race. Doug Brown remembered the moments before his 100-yard dash preliminary:

I remember John Carlos was in my preliminary heat. We were all working out of the blocks and warming up, but Carlos was not there. Suddenly, a roar came up at the far curve and people jumped to their feet. Carlos came trotting out with a yellow wind breaker with a big red "Johnny" written on the back. The rest of us knew he was the man. He pranced around the track, and then came to the start of the 100-yard dash.

He gave a few nods to pals from the West Coast--took off his jacket, set his blocks, and ran a :09.1 qualifying time. I came in eighth out of nine runners. (Brown, 1975)

Summary. Indeed, 1969 had been the year of the Seminole. The Tribe had captured the Coliseum Relays title, and was second in both the Jesuit Invitational and the Gulf Coast Five-Way Meet. The Seminoles rolled up a 3-1 dual meet record with victories over Florida A & M (106 1/2 to 38 1/2), East Carolina (111 to 33), and Alabama (93 to 52). The only blemish was a defeat to the University of Florida (82 to 63). During the regular season, ten school records were overturned.

Mike Kelly was the outstanding Seminole performer for 1969. The senior hurdler revised both of his hurdle records. He covered the 120-yard high hurdles in :13.7 and toured around intermediate hurdle littered oval in :50.2.

Many top honors were earned by Mike Kelly during the 1969 season. He was named outstanding performer in the Coliseum Relays, finished third in the National USTFF Track and Field Championship intermediate hurdles and fourth in the high hurdles, while close judgment calls separated him from All-America honors in the NCAA Track and Field Championships. In spite of his many physical contributions, Coach Mike Long described Kelly's greatest contribution as being in the spiritual domain. Long identified his unique talent as "dedication--the desire to make the sacrifices needed to win" (FSU Track Brochure File, Track and Field 1968).

Coach Mike Long's belief was corroborated by a statement by Bill Jackson:

During my competitive years at Florida State there were many outstanding performers, to include such people as Ken Misner, Charlie Galloway, George Frank, Rudy Falana, John Fuss, Doug Brown and George Kaiser to name a few. But to me the performances, and I can't begin to mention them all, of Mike Kelly stand out as perhaps the most significant. Mike was in every sense the finest competitor I have ever seen, and watching him compete was an experience that I will never forget. The meets and performances in which he set school records in the high hurdles, intermediate hurdles, and high jump were all memorable. The team spirit, individual desire, and dedication that were exhibited by Mike Kelly were an inspiration to those of us who were fortunate enough to have competed with him. (Jackson, 1976)

Doug Brown and Phil Parker also did well in national competition. Brown finished sixth in the National USTFF 100-yard dash with a :10.0 clocking. Parker snagged a sixth place in the triple jump with a 47' 6-1/2" effort. He had been beset by nagging injuries to his hamstrings and knees during the entire 1969 season (Long, L. S., 1976). He was able to shake his ailments long enough to unleash a 49' 1/4" school record setting jump in the FSU-FAMU dual meet.

A pair of school records were lowered to new levels by Ken Misner. He covered the two-mile event in 9:00.7 and ran through three miles in 13:54.5. Misner's time marked the first three-mile race ever run by a Seminole under 14 minutes.

Steve Oulman erased George Griffin's school record in the 880-yard run by whipping to a 1:51.4 clocking. Both records had been set in the Gulf Coast Five-Way Meet, only one year apart.

Two Seminole sophomores set new school standards in the field events. George Frank became the best discus thrower in FSU track history with a heave of 168' 5-1/2", and Bill Jackson responded to the

pressure of being the only Seminole entry in the pole vault by breaking Don Pharis's record with a leap of 15' 1/2".

The Seminoles reset both dual meet relay marks. The 440-yard relay team of Doug Brown, Greg Kaufman, Steve Lewis, and Andy Guy became the first Seminole quartet to run under 41 seconds. Their official time of :40.9 was recorded in the Florida Relays.

The mile relay team composed of Greg Kaufman, Randy Stow, Steve Oulman, and Mike Kelly erased one of the most prestigious records on the board. The former record was established by Jack Terwilliger, Doyle Ruff, Mike Conley, and Jim Casteel during the golden year of 1958. The new record holders bettered the old record by nine-tenths of a second with a 3:13.5 clocking. The record was made more remarkable by the fact that the regular anchorman, Mike Link, was sick and could not run (Kaufman, 1975).

1970

The 1970 squad appeared to be very strong. Coach Mike Long, aided by assistant coaches Darryl Guthrie and James Long, had enjoyed tremendous success in 1969 with an experienced, yet tenderaged team. The 1969 campaign was to have been a rebuilding year; instead, the Seminoles developed very rapidly and became a power in southern track circles.

Nineteen lettermen, including five school record holders, were returning for the 1970 season (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1970). The record-holders were Ken Misner (two- and three-mile runs), Mike Link (quarter-mile), Bill Jackson (pole vault), Steve Oulman

(half mile), and George Frank (discus). The 1970 team possessed balance and if each man performed up to his capabilities, the Seminole would be without a weak event.

Ken Misner and Doug Brown headed a strong array of footracers. Misner had already earned all-America honors in cross-country during the fall of 1969. After a strong sixth place finish in the Seventh Annual USTFF Championships, Brown was recognized as one of the South's best sprinters.

The field events boasted the most powerful contingent ever assembled at Florida State University. School record holders Bill Jackson and George Frank were the most prominent. With his jump of 15' 1/2", Jackson had become the first Seminole to vault over 15 feet. The hard working junior was rapidly improving and his prospects for the future were excellent.

The home-grown George Frank had been a very pleasant surprise in 1969. The talents of the Tallahasseean coupled with those of John Snyder, Dave Barton, and Chuck Crowder gave the Seminoles unprecedented depth in the weight events.

The schedule loomed as strong as the Tribe, with the University of Tennessee, the University of Florida, Florida A & M University, the University of Alabama, Auburn University, and Southern Illinois University appearing on the schedule. Big meet competition came in the form of the Coliseum, Florida, and Carolina Relays, and the Federation Championships in Houston, Texas (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1970).

One problem facing the Tribe was shared by many Americans. Runaway inflation was wreaking havoc with the financial underpinning

of FSU's track program. Moderate increases in the budget (Athletic Office Budget File, 1969-1970) could not keep pace with the rapidly inflating cost of living. The cost of living index rose six and five-tenths points during the fiscal year 1969-1970 (U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1975).

The Seminoles opened their indoor season with a triangular meet in Knoxville against the University of Tennessee and Western Kentucky University on February 7. The Tribe did not fare well as Tennessee won the competition handily with 73 points while Western Kentucky edged FSU by one point 39 to 38 (Tallahassee Democrat, 8 February 1970).

The flat 176-yard tartan track of Stokely Fieldhouse (Long, L.S., 1976) did not reward the maroon and gold efforts as Ken Misner was the lone Seminole to capture an event. Forced by fieldhouse regulations to run without spikes (Long, L. S., 1976), Misner defeated the best runners of two distance-oriented schools with a fine time of 9:15.4 for two miles.

Misfortune befell the Tribe when Mike Link pulled a hamstring in the 440-yard run. The fourth position in the quarter-mile went vacant and that single point could have moved the Seminoles into a tie for second place. Disaster struck again in the 600-yard run when Steve Oulman was jostled to the point of not being able to finish the race.

The Seminoles traveled to the Federation National Indoor Championships by station wagon (Jackson, 1975) on February 11. The Tribe was unable to place a man in the prestigious meet (Houston Chronicle, 15 February 1970).

The Coliseum Relays on February 27-28 in Montgomery was the third stop on the Seminoles indoor tour. Over the past two years, the Tribe had dominated the relays which had traditionally drawn together the best independent track powers in the South. FSU's 61 total points far-outstripped runner-up Georgia Tech and the other 16 competing schools (Montgomery Advertiser, 29 February 1970).

The field event personnel led the way with three victories of which two were school record performances. Charles Galloway was exceptionally tough as his 49' 1-1/2" effort in the triple jump earned him first place and a new indoor school record. He had bettered the old record by two feet. Competing earlier in the long jump, Galloway bounded a personal best of 23' 11-3/4". Unfortunately, Galloway touched the sand one and one-half inches closer to the board than the winning jump, thereby settling for second place.

Bill Jackson accomplished a Seminole track first with his winning vault of 15' 1". Erasing Phil Edmund's indoor school record, Jackson became the first Seminole to ever vault over 15 feet indoors.

The third Seminole field event man to enter the winner's circle was John Snyder. His winning toss of 52' 5-1/4" was a personal best for the Daytona Beach weightman. Al Williams was the only Seminole to hurl the iron ball further in indoor competition.

Ken Misner and Doug Brown ran very fast but not quite fast enough. Misner became the first Tribe two-miler to break nine minutes in the two-mile. His FSU record setting time of 8:55.9 rendered him no better than second as Gray of Arkansas State ran 8:54.2. Although

bolting to a school record tying :06.3, Doug Brown finished third in the 60-yard dash.

The Seminoles slipped outside for the fifth running of the Jesuit Invitation in Tampa on March 7. The weather made the participants and coaches wish that they were back indoors. The cold winds, storm clouds, and finally driving rain forced the cancellation of the pole vault and held down performances in many events (Tallahassee Democrat, 9 March 1970). However, the Seminoles must have found the weather palatable as the Tribe posted their first victory in the Jesuit classic since the inaugural running of 1966 (FSU Track Office Files, 7 March 1970).

Ken Misner was the standout runner for the Seminoles as he fought the winds for two personal bests. He turned in a tremendous performance in the two-mile by outlasting three Florida runners with an FSU record time of 8:55.5. Misner's victory revenged an earlier defeat to Florida's Joel Parker in the mile run in which Parker had won in 4:10.0 while Misner finished second with a personal record 4:10.8. Misner shared the outstanding athlete of the meet award with his distance running adversary, Joel Parker of the University of Florida.

The Seminoles scored 10 points in the 120-yard high hurdles when football standout, Barry Smith copped the high hurdles in :14.8. He was closely followed by FSU's Roger Peterson and Jimmy Broun.

Charles Galloway led a strong field event performance by taking the long and triple jumps. Galloway mowed down Phil Parker's school record in the triple jump with a 49' 4-1/2" effort. The tall blonde jumper from Atlanta had earlier taken the long jump in 23' 7-1/2".

Freshman Don Wagoner signalled his entry into Seminole track with a 23' 3-1/4" jump for third place in the long jump. Wagoner lost second place by a mere one-quarter inch.

Superb performances by John Snyder in the shot and discus garnered the Tribe eight important points. Snyder hurled the shot a personal record distance of 54' 3-1/2" for first place in the competition. Immediately following his shot put victory, Snyder threw the discus 154' 4", which was far enough for second place.

The final tally showed the Seminoles on top with 102 points as opposed to the University of Florida's 88 markers. Florida A & M was third with 37 points and Edward Waters College trailed in fourth with 18.

The Seminoles won the Florida A & M Relays on March 13-14 in Tallahassee. The NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships were held on the same weekend; however, the Seminoles had no entries in the national meet. The Tribe was unable to generate outstanding performances, but did manage to win five individual events and the distance medley relay. FSU rang up 67 points to top the Florida A & M Rattlers who finished second with 56 points (FSU Track Office Files, 13-14 March 1970).

The Tribe geared up for their confrontation with the Southern Illinois Salukis on March 21 in Tallahassee. Florida State scratched out their first victory ever over their northern rivals. The Tribe exploited an SIU lack of depth in several events to claim a 70 to 66 triumph (FSU Track Office Files, 21 March 1970).

Florida State used the strength of a sweep in the pole vault and first and second place finishes in the 120-yard high hurdles, quarter-mile, and shot put to fashion their win. Bill Jackson topped the pole vault field with a jump of 14' 0", followed by Seminoles Don Fuchs and Pat Barrett. In the high hurdles, Roger Peterson and Barry Smith finished first and second with times of :15.5 and :15.7, respectively.

The quarter-mile was won by Randy Stow in :49.4, chasing him home for second was FSU's Mike Link at :49.5. The best performance of the day was turned in by John Snyder with a victory earning heave of 52' 10" in the shot put as Chuck Crowder finished second at 51' 11-1/2".

The best effort of the meet was a remarkable double by Robinson of SIU. The Saluki runner ignored the nasty weather conditions to force his way to a 4:09.7 track and meet record in the mile run. Robinson doubled back in the three-mile to set a meet record 14:14.2. Ken Misner finished second in both races with times of 4:11.2 and 14:33.3.

Florida State University had two victories in the 27th Annual Florida Relays on March 27 in Gainesville (FSU Track Office Files, 27 March 1970). The Seminoles made up for the scarcity of their victories by the quality of their triumphs. The shuttle hurdle contingent of Barry Smith, John Fuss, Charles Galloway, and Roger Peterson won it all with a school record clocking of :58.1. Ken Misner beat an outstanding field in the two-mile, using a fine effort of 8:56.4 to accomplish the task.

The second dual meet of the year was against the Auburn Tigers on April 4 in Tallahassee. The Seminole victory advantage of 102 to 39

was the largest in the history of the series between the two schools (FSU Track Office Files, 4 April 1970). FSU won 14 of the 17 events, including all of the field events.

Charles Galloway won the long and triple jumps with distances of 23' 4" and 47' 1/2", respectively. John Snyder unleashed his second 54-foot throw of his career to win the shot put at 54' 2-1/2". A personal best of 6' 6" by Jim Sauers was sufficient to win the high jump. Allen Landis had a similar experience when his personal record throw of 195' 1-1/2" was the best in the javelin.

The 100-yard dash was an exciting race. All three top finishers were timed in :09.9. Florida State's Eddie McMillan and Doug Brown were picked first and second with Fuller of Auburn finishing in the show slot.

Randy Stow broke under the 48-second mark for the first time in the quarter-mile with a winning effort of :47.9. Roger Peterson ran a career best in the 120-yard high hurdles, but lost to a man the Seminoles had tried hard to recruit (Long, L.S., 1976). Peterson's time of :14.3 was only one click of the clock behind Paul Richard's winning time of :14.2.

The Volunteers of Tennessee came to Tallahassee on April 13. By the time they had departed, the Seminoles had suffered their first outdoor dual meet defeat of the 1970 season (FSU Track Office Files, 13 April 1970). The Volunteers had seven men rated in the top four nationally in their specialties (Tallahassee Democrat, 12 April 1970). The Tribe set five meet and two track records in the running events.

yet the table was turned in the field competition. FSU managed to capture only one field event out of seven as the Tennessee victory was rooted in their field event supremacy.

Ken Misner established a new track and meet record with a time of 4:09.2 in the mile run. The distance ace was still strong in the three-mile as he dispatched the field with a meet record 14:31.2. Del Ramers became the first Seminole freshman to run under 15 minutes for three miles with his third place clocking of 14:54.5.

The 440-yard relay team composed of Greg Kaufman, Bernie Waxman, Randy Stow, and Eddie McMillan opened the meet with a victory in a track and meet record :41.1. Randy Stow captured the next sprint event, the quarter-mile, in a meet record :48.1. Doug Brown continued the Seminole sprint success with a :09.8 win in the 100-yard dash.

Tennessee broke the meet open with a sweep of all three places in the half-mile with a relatively slow winning time of 1:53.1. The Volunteers duplicated their 880-yard sweep in the 220-yard dash. Three Tennessee sprinters captured all nine points in the 220-yard dash with a winning time of :22.0.

The Florida State losses in the field events were not due to poor performance--Tennessee was just superior. John Snyder lost first place in the shot put when the shot came to earth 53' 3-3/4" from the toeboard. Snyder's throw was just one-quarter inch shorter than Baron of Tennessee's winning throw. Bill Jackson vaulted 15 feet for the second time outdoors and lost. A personal record tying performance of 6' 6" in the high jump by Jim Sauers was two inches under the winning

height. Tennessee had performed well, snaring a 87 to 58 victory over the Seminoles.

The next meet for the Seminoles was the Gulf Coast Five-Way Meet in Gainesville on April 18. The major story for the Tribe was Ken Misner's twin victories in the one- and three-mile runs (FSU Track Office Files, 18 April 1970). Fighting off the determined efforts of four Florida runners, Misner won the mile with a meet record time of 4:06.5. The slender distance runner had just run the second fastest mile in Seminole track history. He proved his stamina by winning the three-mile with a strong time of 14:24.2.

Charles Galloway was the only other FSU man to win an event. The triple jumper topped the three bounders with a fine 47' 6-3/4" effort. Continuing in an erratic performance pattern, Steve Oulman was ready to run and turned out a 1:51.8 half-mile that earned him third place. Oulman's time was the second best he had ever run and ranked third on the Seminole all-time list.

The Tribe collected four additional noteworthy performances in the field events. Allen Landis and Roy Dunn both hurled personal best throws as Seminoles of 196' 0" and 195' 6", respectively, in the javelin. Clearing 15 feet for the second week in a row, Bill Jackson placed third in the pole vault. Jim Sauers popped over 6' 6" to finish second in the high jump.

Florida State was unable to muster enough points to match the front running Florida Gators' total of 79; however, the Tribe's total of 69 points easily outdistanced the University of Alabama for second.

May 1 found Florida State and Florida going head-to-head in dual meet competition. A large Gator crowd witnessed the first Seminole triumph over the University of Florida since 1965 (FSU Track Office Files, 1 May 1970). The Tribe captured 11 of the 17 events while providing many strong nonwinning performances.

Ironman Ken Misner followed up a Tribe win in the 440-yard relay with a sterling 4:09.0 victory in the mile run. Misner was unbeatable in the three mile run; however, the big Seminole surprise was the second place finish by freshman Del Ramers. The former Dunedin distance runner clocked a personal record 14:24.5.

Roger Peterson led a Tribe sweep in the 120-yard high hurdles before a shocked and very quiet partisan crowd (Roberts, 1976). His winning time of :14.5 was closely followed by John Fuss's :14.7 and Barry Smith's :14.9.

In the next two events victories were chalked up by Randy Stow and Doug Brown. Stow equalled his best quarter-mile with a time of :47.9. Doug Brown, the Sarasota junior, claimed the 100-yard dash in :09.7, his best time of the 1970 season.

The momentum shifted drastically in the 880-yard run. Much to the delight of the onlookers, the Florida Gators swept all three places in the half-mile. However, the 440-yard intermediate hurdles quickly changed the mood of the crowd. Sandy Garland told what happened:

The race before the 440-yard intermediates was the half-mile and Florida went 1-2-3. John Fuss was expected to win the 440-yard intermediate hurdles and did. I wasn't expected

to get second, but did. The momentum was ours again and victory was sweet for the team. (Garland, 1975)

Charles Galloway led a determined field event contingent. He topped Florida's highly touted Ron Coleman in the long and triple jumps. The long jump became Galloway's with a jump of 23' 10". With his second 49-foot triple jump of the 1970 season, Galloway won his specialty with a 49' 1/2" effort.

Roy Dunn and Allen Landis took the top two spots in the javelin with their first 200-foot throws in a Seminole uniform. Dunn was first with a superlative toss of 222' 11". Remembering his first and only competitive throw over 200 feet, Allen Landis stated:

My throw did not seem like an exceptional throw. I don't think that the really good "throws" or "jumps" ever seem that way at the time; it just turns out that way. The people I was throwing against were ones I had thrown against before. I ended up with a second place, and beat some guys who had beaten me before. That feat gave me not only satisfaction, but confidence. (Landis, 1975)

The weight throwing events offered the scene for some strong Seminole performances. John Snyder captured the shot put with a throw of 53' 7-1/2". Finding that something extra, Chuck Crowder heaved the shot 52' 1/2" for a personal best and second place. Dave Barton did not win the discus; yet, he had the right to be proud. His second place throw of 159' 6" was a personal record.

After their 87 to 58 victory over the Gators, the Seminoles stopped in the Ponderosa Steak House just outside of Gainesville for the evening meal (Kaufman, 1975). This was the usual pattern when the Tribe had competed in Gainesville. Greg Kaufman, Jim Long, and others altered this pattern somewhat when they slipped off to a Minute Market

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and bought a cigar for each member of the team (Long, J. L., 1976). Coach Mike Long, a man who enjoyed a good cigar, was the last man to board the bus. When he topped the last step and started to turn into his front row seat, Mike Long was faced with a bus load of jubilant cigar-smoking Seminoles. "I did the only thing there was to do," related Mike Long. "I took out a cigar, settled back in my seat, and lit up" (Long, L. S., 1976). Coach Long remembered many green faces appearing a few miles down the road (Long, L. S., 1976).

The Seminoles were riding high after their first win over the University of Florida in five years. On May 9 the Crimson Tide of Alabama had a challenge waiting for the Tribe in Tuscaloosa. The Florida State track team made a quick reentry into reality.

The night before the meet was filled with horseplay and water-fights until the early hours of the morning (Long, J. L., 1976). After the team had boarded the bus for the short ride to the stadium, a short "talk" by Coach Long stressed the point that they were in Tuscaloosa to compete, not socialize (Kaufman, 1975). As usual his short "talk" had an immediate sobering effect. The remainder of the ride was a quiet one (Long, J. L., 1976).

The two schools traded wins throughout the stiff competition (FSU Track Office Files, 9 May 1970). Ken Misner and Del Ramers placed first and second in both the one- and three-mile runs. Randy Stow lost the quarter-mile by two-tenths of a second in :48.0 while Steve Oulman won the half-mile by one-tenth of a second with a 1:52.8 clocking.

Charles Galloway edged the long jump field with a winning leap of 23' 2". His victory margin was a scant one-quarter of an inch. The

scale was balanced when John Snyder's throw of 53' 3-1/2" placed him second in the shot put, just one and one-quarter inch short of the winning throw.

Scoring his first varsity point with a javelin throw of 195' 1" Dennis Rogers finished third behind Phillips of Alabama (221' 3") and FSU's Roy Dunn (212' 0"). Jim Sauers became the best high jumper in Seminole track history with his winning jump of 6' 8".

The Tribe trailed 72 to 68 with only the mile relay left to run. The Alabama team was extremely confident of their mile relay ability as the Seminoles had potential but had not run a time that worried the Crimson Tide (Roberts, 1976). Bernie Waxman related how the crucial relay unfolded:

The day was a typical Tuscaloosa day, hot and muggy. It was an afternoon meet and the firewater was definitely the highlight for FSU in the early afternoon. As the afternoon wore on, the meet looked out of reach for the Seminoles.

As mile relay time approached, Mike Link was still sick sitting next to a little shed, Steve Oulman looked asleep, and Randy Stow and I were discussing how to get out of running the mile relay. The coach came over to inform us of the meet score and that we would be going with our usual mile relay team. Trying to pull themselves together Mike Link and Steve Oulman ambled over to the start. Alabama had run the mile relay at least five seconds faster than we had that year. As the race started, I was hoping we would either get way ahead or way behind, but as it turned out Oulman ran tough and I don't think the two men on the first leg were ever more than two or three yards apart. I ran second. The last thing the coaches told me was "just be competitive" and that was about all I did--I stayed close. Mike Link and I had a super exchange and made up the lead Alabama had gotten. Mike and his man ran side by side the entire quarter. Again our last exchange was good and Randy Stow and his man played see-saw down most of the back straightaway. Then going into the last curve, Randy made his move--he was strong--it was side by side down the final straight, but Randy was just too strong for the Alabama man narrowly winning the race and giving FSU the meet. His best split by a long shot and one of the guttiest races I have ever seen. (Waxman, 1976)

The Seminoles had won a great victory in the mile relay; however, the meet may have been lost if it were not for Assistant Coach Jim Long and his sequence camera. In the high hurdles, Jim Broun had finished second, but had been overlooked by the judges at the finish line. Long had filmed the runners as they had crossed the line. The Seminoles waited 15 seconds for the polaroid film to develop. The picture showed Broun clearly second and, thus, the Seminole protest was upheld.

The Florida State Seminoles met the Rattlers of Florida A & M for the second time on May 15. The result differed little from the first meeting between the two Tallahassee schools in 1969 as Florida State used its overall depth and superior field event strength to completely overwhelm the Rattlers 91 to 42 (FSU Track Office Files, 15 May 1970).

Coach Mike Long held his ace distance runner, Ken Misner, out of the mile in hopes he could achieve an NCAA qualifying time in the three-mile run. Toiling virtually alone, Misner set an FSU, track, and meet record of 13:52.4. His effort was easily under the NCAA qualifying time of 14:00.0 (Long, L. S., 1976). His absence was not noticed in the mile run as Del Ramers won in 4:16.0 and Jack Castner copped second with a 4:22.0 clocking.

Bill Jackson spearheaded a field event effort that was overpowering. The high flying junior soared 15' 7" for a school, track, and meet record.

The FAMU contest was a night meet. I always preferred to jump at night. My vaults in practice had been very good, everything felt easy. I cleared 15 feet "a foot" according to teammate and fellow vaulter Don Fuchs. The meet jumps were

nothing exceptional. I cleared 15 feet easily, but not by "a foot." The bar then went to a record 15' 7" which I cleared on my first vault with some room to spare. My vaults at 16 feet were decent, but I was a little "psyched out" at that height, missing on all three attempts. (Jackson, 1975)

With meet record setting performances, John Snyder and Roy Dunn won their respective events. Snyder copped the shot put with a toss of 53' 3-3/4", while Dunn hurled the javelin 211' 0" for his record. With the second best jump of his Seminole career, Jim Sauer won the high jump at 6' 6-1/4". Dave Barton continued his steady throwing in the discus with a victory toss of 158' 9".

The regular season was completed with only Ken Misner and Charles Galloway qualified for the National USTFF Track and Field Championships in Wichita on June 12-13 and the NCAA Track and Field Championships in Des Moines, Iowa, on June 18-20. Neither man placed in the USTFF Championships; however, Galloway, competing in the decathlon for the first time, made a fine showing by winning two of the ten contested events, finishing tenth overall with 6641 points (FSU Track Office Files, 18-20 June 1970). The point total was a new Seminole record for the decathlon.

Summary. Prior to the start of the season, the FSU track brochure proclaimed, "Florida State University's 1970 track team may be the best in a long line of good ones fielded by the Seminoles" (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1970). The 1970 squad came extremely close to fulfilling the prophecy.

The Seminoles captured the Coliseum Relays and the Jesuit Invitational while finishing second in the Gulf Coast Five-Way Meet. The Tribe posted dual meet victories over Auburn University, the

University of Alabama, the University of Florida, Florida A & M University, and Southern Illinois University. The lone setback came at the hands of the University of Tennessee, 1970 SEC Outdoor Champions (University of Georgia, 1976).

Charles Galloway registered the highest Seminole national finish by placing tenth in the decathlon in the 47th Annual NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships. Earlier in the season, Galloway had established a new FSU standard of 49' 11" in the triple jump.

Junior Ken Misner reset the two- and three-mile school records for the third consecutive year. He moved through the two-mile in 8:54.5. His national qualifying time of 13:52.4 against the Rattlers of FAMU made him the first Seminole three-miler to run under 14 minutes.

Vaulting extremely well throughout the season, Bill Jackson culminated the year with a school record vault of 15' 7" in the last dual meet of the year. Jackson had become the first Seminole to clear 15 feet indoors with his jump of 15' 1" in the Coliseum Relays. Jim Sauers's 6' 8" leap in the high jump was the third school record set in the field events.

The shuttle hurdle team of John Fuss, Barry Smith, Charles Galloway, and Roger Peterson captured first place in the 480-yard shuttle hurdles at the Florida Relays. Their time of :58.1 established a new Seminole mark for the hurdle relay.

1971

The 1971 Seminole track squad had the manpower to be the finest in FSU track history, but to transform ambition into reality, many

small pieces had to fall into place (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1971).

One of the biggest uncertainties was the status of footballers Barry Smith and Eddie McMillan. In the past, both men had played a prominent role in the Tribe's track fortunes but the hiring of a new head football coach at Florida State made the status of the two men in track an unanswerable question. "I can understand perfectly that Coach Larry Jones wants to have everyone out for spring practice," said Mike Long. "He has no argument from me there. But both Barry and Eddie will be important members of our program. If we begin to rely on them, their points will be important in the bigger meets" (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1971).

There were 18 lettermen returning including five school record holders (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1971). The veterans were headed by all-America Ken Misner (distances), George Frank (discus), James Sauers (high jump), Charles Galloway (triple jump and decathlon), and William Jackson (pole vault). The response of these five seniors to another arduous year of training and competition was a key factor in the Seminole success hopes.

One of FSU's top all-time distance runners, Dick Roberts joined the Florida State track coaching staff, consisting of assistant coaches Darryl Guthrie and James Long. Roberts would be the head cross-country coach, assistant track coach, and head recruiter. His flair for recruiting was readily apparent with the signing of four outstanding athletes to FSU grant-in-aids (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1971). The Seminoles' recruiting catch included Bobby Brooks, the fastest prep

miler in Florida high school track history; Joel Garren, class AAAA high school quarter-mile champion; Jim Buck, junior college national javelin champion; and Rudy Falana, the first Florida prep long jumper to leap over 25 feet (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1971).

The Tribe was aided in their recruiting efforts by the addition of \$7,375 to the scholarship fund (Athletic Office Budget File, 1970-1971). Over the years, the scholarship fund had grown, but the ever increasing cost of an education had eroded the value of the scholarship dollar. In 1967, \$14,000 of scholarship monies purchased almost 13 full scholarships (FSU Bulletin, 1967). By 1971, the scholarship fund had grown to \$31,500 (FSU Track Budget, 1971), but its buying power was only slightly over 18 full scholarships (FSU Bulletin, 1971). The actual dollars had more than doubled; yet, only five additional full scholarships were realized.

The opening meet of the new season actually occurred in 1970. The Seminoles began their schedule in Mobile on December 17 in the Senior Bowl Indoor Track Championships. With the fall quarter completed, Coach Mike Long only entered a token squad (Long, L. S., 1976). Despite limited numbers, the Seminoles managed to tie Georgia Tech for second place with 16 points. The Florida Gators ran away from the pack with a total of 41 markers (FSU Track Office Files, 17 December 1970).

Doug Brown led the Seminole effort with a school record setting victory in the 50-yard dash. The Sarasota speedster was clocked in :05.3. The mile and two-mile relay teams collected a pair of

second place finishes. Chuck Crowder's and Bill Jackson's fourth places in the shot put and pole vault, respectively, rounded out the Seminole scoring.

A full contingent of Seminoles swung into action in an All-Comers track meet in Knoxville on January 23 (FSU Track Office Files, 1971). The tartan floor of the Tennessee basketball arena served as a flat 167-yard unbanked indoor track. Tennessee officials did not allow the participants to use spikes in fear of damaging the basketball playing surface (Long, L. S., 1976). These factors combined to make the Tennessee track a difficult surface upon which to run fast times.

Freshman Rudy Falana was not awed by either the facility or the college competition. The Largo long jumper bounded 23' 8" to win his specialty. Fellow freshman, Joel Garren demonstrated curve running prowess beyond expectations in the 440-yard dash (Long, L. S., 1976). This exciting new prospect became the first Seminole to run the quarter-mile under roof in less than 50 seconds. Garren used his speed to establish position and his strength to retain his lead in the late stages of the race. His win in the 440-yard dash was clocked at :49.5.

Junior George Kaiser mastered the difficult track and a strong field to register a 1:59.6 victory in the half-mile. Ken Misner scored the final Seminole victory by topping the two-mile field with a fine time of 9:07.8.

The University of Tennessee was a strong premeet favorite in the mile relay. The Volunteers were the 1970 NCAA indoor mile relay champions and all men returned (Long, L. S., 1976). Tennessee won the race, but not before the Tribe foursome of Rudy Falana, Bernie

Waxman, George Kaiser, and Joel Garren gave the home team all they could handle. Tennessee's margin of victory was a slight three-tenths of a second. Tennessee was clocked in 3:23.5 while the Seminoles finished second at 3:23.8.

The Seminoles traveled to Lexington, Virginia, to compete in the 20th Annual VMI Winter Relays on February 6. At the conclusion of the meet, the Tribe did not have much to show for the long bus ride (FSU Track Office File, 6 February 1971).

FSU set school records in two obscure indoor events. The first was the four-mile relay in which Del Ramers, Bobby Brooks, Jack Wise, and Ken Misner loped to victory in 17:33.4. It was the first time the Seminoles had ever competed in an indoor four-mile relay.

By one-tenth of a second, the shuttle hurdle team of Jim Broun, Charles Galloway, John Fuss, and Barry Smith ran under the existing school record. The Seminoles' clocking of :30.5 tied William and Mary for fifth. This was only the second time a Tribe quartet had attempted the seldom run indoor event.

Eddie McMillan provided the Seminoles with their best performance of the meet with his explosive sprint in the 60-yard dash. McMillan captured the event with a school record clocking of :06.2. Ken Misner ran the second fastest indoor two-mile in Florida State's track history with his second place timing of 9:00.9. Jim Broun recorded his personal best in the 60-yard high hurdles with a third place clocking of :07.4.

Florida State's Rudy Falana developed an undiagnosed fever and had to be admitted to the hospital. Bob Neylan, FSU's trainer, told of his struggle to get the sick athlete to the hospital:

Our motel was out of town--in the middle of nowhere. Our assistant coach, Dick Roberts, came to get me sometime after midnight. I checked Rudy and he was pretty bad. So, when I went to use a phone, the hotel manager had left and the phones were closed. The restaurant was also closed. The only place nearby was a barn and a small house. . . .

I noticed a party at the house and went over to ask to use the phone. . . . the rescue squad eventually came to get Rudy.

Falana had to be put in the hospital with a 104 degree temperature. I spent two more days in the motel on an "expired" credit card. The rescue squad drove us to Roanoke and we flew home. That sure beats 14 hours on the Seminole bus. (Neylan, 1975)

The Seminoles drove to Houston in station wagons (Jackson, 1975) for the National Federation Championships on February 12th. The fast oversized track in the Astrodome aided the Seminoles in establishing new school records in the quarter-mile, 100-yard dash, and mile relay. Joel Garren flashed through the quarter-mile in :47.4 in his preliminary heat before running sixth in the finals at :47.96 (Houston Chronicle, 14 February 1971). In addition to running lead-off on the mile relay, Eddie McMillan ran the only indoor 100-yard dash in FSU track history in :09.6 (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1972), yet, failed to place in the finals (Houston Chronicle, 14 February 1971). Eddie McMillan, Bernie Waxman, Randy Stow, and Joe Garren ran a school record 3:13.3, but despite an unofficial :45.9 anchor leg by Garren (Roberts, 1976), the Tribe failed to place in the mile relay.

Florida State University concluded their team indoor meet schedule with the Coliseum Relays in Montgomery on February 26-27. The Seminoles had dominated the independent division of the relays and

were shooting for their fourth consecutive title. The Tribe managed to win only three events, yet utilized their depth to scramble out a seven-point victory over runner-up Georgia Tech (FSU Track Office Files, 26-27 February 1971).

The 1000-yard run had a "local boy makes good" aspect. FSU's Jack Wise was coming back to Montgomery and wanted to show the home folks that he had been doing well (Wise, 1975). The senior middle distance runner was at his best as a 2:16.5 clocking earned him the top spot. Wise's time was third on the Seminole all-time indoor list. This race was the one that stood out in Wise's mind when he reviewed his running career at Florida State (Wise, 1975).

Ken Misner and George Kaiser set new Florida State standards in nonwinning performances. Senior Ken Misner became the first Tribe miler to run under 4:10 indoors with his third place clocking of 4:09.8. The distance ace was also able to win the two-mile with a time of 9:18.6. George Kaiser had a similar experience in the half-mile when he rewrote the record and still finished behind two junior college runners. Kaiser's time was measured at 1:54.5.

The pole vault was the last remaining event to be contested. Florida State trailed Georgia Tech by two points and desperately needed a strong performance from their vaulters. Bill Jackson recounted how the event unfolded:

The pole vault was an interesting event that put four vaulters from Florida on the winners stand. Jay Young and myself from FSU and Allen McMillen and Ron Fletcher from Seminole Junior College (eventually both went to Florida State). Young and I both vaulted 15' 7" to break the old school record of 15' 1". I won the event by the virtue of fewer misses at 15' 7". McMillan placed third at 15 feet and Fletcher placed

fourth at 14 feet. It probably would have turned into a 3-way competition for first, but the runway was 10 feet too short to accommodate McMillan's run. (Jackson, 1975)

Therefore, the Seminoles scored nine unanswered points to ring up an exciting 45 to 38 triumph over Georgia Tech.

Prior to the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships, the Seminoles were outdoors, participating in the Sixth Annual Jesuit Invitational Championship. FSU was only able to win four events of which two were won by the untiring legs of Ken Misner (FSU Track Office Files, 6 March 1971). The St. Petersburg senior ripped off a 4:08.8 clocking in the mile and added a superb 8:55.5 effort in the two-mile.

Jim Broun led a Tribe sweep in the 120-yard high hurdles as Barry Smith, John Fuss, and Bob Neylan followed him across the finish line. A view into the interesting career of Bob Neylan is provided by his recount of the Jesuit Invitational high hurdle race:

I was working out, running, and still treating pulls, sprains, strains, and giving rubdowns. The clincher came at the Jesuit meet in Tampa. We had qualified all four of us into the 120-yard high hurdle final and Florida had two. But in the semi-final heat, I had pulled a groin muscle, and there was no one but me to treat it. I iced it during lunch and wrapped it before the afternoon finals. It worked because I finished fourth--behind three teammates! Yes, we swept it! My first big thrill--a sweep of the Gators. (Neylan, 1975)

Bruce McCampbell won the fourth Seminole victory with a throw of 165' 8". The senior transfer student was competing in his first meet for the garnet and gold. His throw thrust him into the second spot on the ladder of all-time Seminole discus throwers. The Tribe's triumphs were much too few, however, as the Florida Gators swept to a 125 1/2 to 99 1/2 victory over the second place Seminoles.

Florida State traveled to Detroit on March 12-13 to compete in the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships. The lone Tribe entry was Joel Garren in the quarter-mile (FSU Track Office Files, 12-13 March 1971). The Bradenton quarter-miler placed a nonscoring seventh after having won his preliminary heat in a school record time of :49.2. Had Garren been able to duplicate his preliminary time in the final, he would have moved up four spots in the rankings and earned all-America honors. Garren's time in the final was clocked at :49.9.

While Coach Mike Long was in Detroit with Joel Garren, the Seminoles entered the Florida A & M Relays on an individual basis. A driving rain storm dampened enthusiasm and eliminated eight of the 17 events scheduled on the card (Tallahassee Democrat, 14 March 1971). The Tribe scored a victory in the distance medley relay with the slow time of 10:24.8. No other Tribe entry broke into the victory column.

The Tribe was home on March 20 to battle the Salukis of Southern Illinois. The Carbondale, Illinois, crew boasted a talented array of performers. The Salukis captured first and second places in three events and swept both relays to ring up an 82 to 61 victory (FSU Track Office Files, 20 March 1971).

Joel Garren's victory in the 440-yard dash highlighted the otherwise lackluster Tribe performance. The Seminole quarter-miler overcame SIU's Terry Erikson with a :48.1 clocking.

One of the few remaining records established in 1958 was broken when the javelin thrown by Jim Buck ripped turf at the 229' 4"

mark. Buck's winning throw had bettered Jerry Henderson's school record by one foot and 11 inches.

A Seminole victory resulted when Bruce McCampbell unleashed a personal best throw of 167' 5-1/2" in the discus. These efforts were indicative of the quality necessary for a Seminole victory. Unfortunately, they were in short supply.

Florida State traveled to Gainesville on the following Saturday for the 28th Annual Florida Relays. The Seminole squad set four new school records, yet failed to win an event (FSU Track Office Files, 27 March 1971).

The distance medley team composed of George Kaiser, Randy Stow, Del Ramers, and Ken Misner became the first Seminole contingent to run this race under 10 minutes. Their second place time of 9:51.3 established a new Seminole mark by 14.6 seconds.

Jack Wise and Bobby Brooks joined Ramers and Misner in the four mile relay to spin-out the second Tribe record. Although, the Seminoles finished third, their time of 17:08.1 established a mark that still stood at the time of this writing.

Ken Misner concluded the school record breaking performances in the running events by racing Penn State's Greg Fredericks to the wire before losing by a fleeting one-tenth of a second. Misner was given the time of 8:50.2.

FSU's javelin record was broken for the second time in two consecutive meets when Jim Buck hurled the spear 231' 6" for second place. In the discus, George Frank uncorked his best throw since setting the

school record on May 10, 1968. His effort of 164' 10" earned him fourth place and a great deal of personal satisfaction:

This was satisfying because it was the fifth straight year (including high school) that I had improved at the Florida Relays. I beat a lot of guys who were ahead of me in high school. (Frank, 1975)

John Fuss turned in the second best time of his career in the 440-yard intermediate hurdles, even though the highest place that Fuss could achieve with his :53.2 effort was fifth.

Florida State entered the Seventh Annual Gulf Coast Track and Field Meet on April 17 in Tuscaloosa (Tallahassee Democrat, 18 April 1971). Injuries to freshman Rudy Falana and Joel Garren had left the Seminoles hurting in three events. The Tribe scored only one point in their specialties, the 440- and 220-yard dashes and the long jump. In the 220-yard dash, Joe Garren had the fastest qualifying time of :21.3. Unfortunately, Garren pulled a hamstring in the finals and did not finish the race. The furlong was eventually won in :21.6.

Ken Misner continued to run well in the one and three-mile runs. He won the mile with a sparkling 4:08.8 and dominated the three-mile in 14:18.0. Misner was joined in the winner's circle by John Fuss. The hard working high hurdler took the 120-yard high hurdles in :14.2, a personal best that bettered all previous Seminole high hurdlers except the recently graduated Mike Kelly.

Florida State established two new school standards in the field events without a win. The fact that Bill Jackson lost the pole vault

took little of the luster off the pleasure of being the first Seminole to vault 16 feet. His memory is particularly vivid concerning his jump:

This meet was a good one for the pole vault. With vaulters like Scott Hurley and Mike Cotton from Florida, Tim St. Laurence from Alabama, and exhibitioner Jan Johnson who had recently transferred from Kansas to Alabama. I knew I would have to vault well and I was "up" for the meet. The wind was blowing in our faces and I was concerned at first because I felt a tailing wind would give me a needed boost. My fears were dispelled on my first practice jump when the pole I had been using felt too soft. I switched to a heavier pole and after failing twice on the bar at 15 feet in practice, I decided to wait until the event began. I started at 15 feet, clearing it and 15' 6" easily and the bar was moved to 16' 1". I knew on my first vault, as soon as I pushed off the pole, that I had the height. Another indescribable feeling. (Jackson, 1975)

Jim Buck continued his strong throwing in the javelin by establishing a new school mark. The javelin ended its graceful flight when the tip broke earth 233' 6-1/4" from the foul line. For the third consecutive meet, Jim Buck had broken the school mark in the javelin.

Chuck Crowder unleashed his best throw ever in a garnet and gold uniform. His shot sailed 55' 0" before smashing to the ground. The throw made Crowder the third best shot putter in Seminole track history.

A fifth place finish by John "Snapper" Starnes in the 440-yard intermediate hurdles was a personal triumph. The Tallahassee freshman ran a fine :53.3 effort that only Seminoles Mike Kelly and John Fuss had bettered. Jack Wise was another Tribe athlete who gave his best and only finished fifth. His time of 1:53.1 in the half-mile was a career best.

The final tally showed the University of Florida far out front with 82 1/2 points. Florida State and Alabama tied for second with 55 points apiece. In the last two confrontations between the Seminoles and the Crimson Tide, only one point separated the two schools.

The Tribe traveled with a small squad to the 62th Annual Drake Relays in Des Moines, Iowa, on April 23-24 (FSU Track Office Files, 23-24 April 1971). Ken Misner ran in his first six-mile race and tied for seventh against some of the best amateur runners in the United States. Misner's time of 28:28.0 set a school record for this new event. The race was won by the future 1972 Olympic gold medal winner in the marathon, Frank Shorter.

The highest Seminole finish was obtained by Jim Buck in the javelin with a throw of 206' 9" for sixth place. On the basis of more misses at 15' 6", Bill Jackson was deprived of a tie for sixth place in the pole vault.

The Seminoles reunited as a team on April 30 in Tallahassee. The Seminole effort was given a boost by the return of injured stars Joel Garren and Charles Galloway. The Florida Gators were the victims of a superb all-around performance by the Tribe as the Seminoles captured 11 of the 17 events, running up a staggering 92 to 53 victory (Tallahassee Democrat, 1 May 1971).

The hurdles provided one of the keys to victory. The Tribe shutout the Gators in both hurdle races. The crew of John Fuss, Jim Broun, and "Trainer Bob" Neylan turned the trick in the 120-yard high hurdles. Bob Neylan explained what that race meant to him:

No thrill matched the dual meet 92 to 53 win over Florida at Tallahassee. What a great moment for me. I was third again. Broun and Fuss beat me, in :14.5. I can say that still is my biggest thrill even more than my coaching our high school team to the state championship this year. (Neylan, 1975)

John Fuss led the 440-yard intermediate hurdle contingent to their sweep of the Gators with a time of :53.1. "Snapper" Starnes followed in :54.2 with Jim Broun, never known for great physical condition (Long, L. S., 1976), holding on for third in :55.9.

Several Seminoles closed out their career against the University of Florida with performances typical of their efforts in past Gator-Seminole conflicts. Doug Brown won his third 100-yard dash against the Gators in as many years with a time of :09.8. One Florida sprinter managed to beat him in the 1968 dual meet when Brown was only a freshman. Following an identical pattern, Ken Misner completed the cycle with a convincing victory in the three-mile run. His winning time was 14:01.3.

The presence of Joel Garren erased a Tribe weakness in the 440-yard dash that had developed when the talented freshman was injured in the Florida Relays and reinjured in the Gulf Coast Five-Way Meet. Garren cruised through the quarter-mile in :47.4 to grab the top spot, and then anchored FSU's victorious mile relay.

In the long and triple jumps, Charles Galloway responded to the challenge. Shaking off the effects of chronic leg injuries, Galloway sailed 23' 8" and 47' 2-3/4" to finish first and second, respectively, in the long and triple jumps.

Bruce McCampbell continued his consistent throwing by copping the discus with a throw of 163' 7-1/4". Revenging an earlier loss to Florida's Jim Stites, Jim Buck won the javelin with a throw of 226' 8-1/2". Stites had topped Buck's school record performance of 233' 6" in the Gulf Coast Five-Way Meet by almost four feet.

The psychological edge of the Gators was broken in the 880-yard run. Jack Wise told how it was done:

Coach Mike Long had primed the half-milers for the meet. The outcome was incredible, for Florida had the horses. The Gators must have had six half-milers that had turned in times under 1:51.0. In 1971, the Florida two-mile relay set a world indoor record in the Astrodome. George Kaiser and I were the dominant two for FSU and had only accomplished times in the 1:52.0 category.

All week prior to the race, Coach Long had been saying "the half-mile will make or break us in this meet." I didn't say much about the meet the entire week. All I knew was that O'Keefe was going to run the mile against Misner and if he thought he was going to beat Misner and all of the FSU half-milers, he was definitely going to have to hurt.

Well, O'Keefe beat Misner as we got second and third in the mile. That was a let down, but we were coming through in a few other events. Finally it came time for the half-mile. I don't even remember the first lap or ever hearing the split time for the quarter-mile. All I remember was that with 330 yards to go, I felt great and decided that if O'Keefe had a kick today he was going to have to use it with 330 yards left. I knew when I started my kick that I probably would not be able to hold it although I thought George Kaiser would go with me and pull it out. In a sense, it was a sacrifice on my part, but in actuality it was not. If someone did not take the sting out of O'Keefe's kick in the early part of the race, he could possibly blow us off the track with 110 yards to go.

It had rained the morning of the race and the first lane was soaked. Everyone was running in the second lane, so when we hit the 510 yard mark, I moved by on the inside as fast as I could go. I heard Jeff Galloway, who was announcing the meet, state that Jack Wise had taken the lead. When I heard this, I turned it on. With 50 yards left in the race I began to tie-up--all of a sudden George Kaiser squirted by me--I knew he had it. He never tied up. The Florida runner nipped me out at the line and I got third, but with first and third, I knew we had the meet. The rest of FSU's team was at the

finish line going crazy. Coach Long came up and congratulated both of us. He was smiling. (Wise, 1975)

This was a very satisfying victory for the Seminoles before a home crowd. "I can't pick out a single individual," said Mike Long. "Everyone of our kids came to win. They all did a fine job" (Tallahassee Democrat, 1 May 1971).

Florida State journeyed into Tiger country on May 8 for a fourway affair including Louisiana State, Oklahoma State, Tulane, and the Seminoles. The fray turned into a dog fight between LSU, Oklahoma State, and Florida State. Times and performances were outstanding as the final computations showed LSU with 62 1/2 points, Oklahoma State at 58 1/2, Florida State with 55, while Tulane trailed far behind with six points (FSU Track Office Files, 8 May 1971).

The Seminoles won four events with three of them in the field events. However, the Tribe set two new school records in running events. The last seven school records set by the Seminoles came in nonwinning efforts.

Joel Garren cracked the Seminole record for the quarter-mile run around two curves with a :47.0 clocking. The freshman was shoved into third place by LSU's Lloyd Wills (:46.5) and Oklahoma State's Dennis Schultz (:46.6).

Jim Buck was slightly under his normal form, but still prevailed in the javelin with a throw of 220' 1". With his second best throw of his short career at FSU, Bruce McCampbell won the discus at 167' 2-1/2".

Del Ramers, Jim Broun, and George Kaiser turned in their fastest times in Seminole uniforms. Ramers captured fourth place in the mile with a time of 4:11.6. Broun finished a step behind Jim Bolding of Oklahoma State in the 120-yard high hurdles with a clocking of :14.3. Finishing in fourth, George Kaiser turned the half-mile in 1:52.6.

With the meet riding on the mile relay, Bernie Waxman, Randy Stow, George Sparling, and Joel Garren battled the home town Tigers to the wire before being outleaned at the tape (Tallahassee Democrat, 9 May 1971). Joel Garren came from 10 yards back and lost only by inches to LSU's Lloyd Wills on the anchor leg. FSU clocked a school record 3:13.1 in their valiant effort to pull the meet out of the fire.

The team competition portion of the Florida State track schedule was completed in Baton Rouge, yet many athletes, including individuals not involved in national competition, continued to work out.

Florida State entered the Florida AAU in Gainesville on May 22 (FSU Track Office Files, 22 May 1971). Joel Garren highlighted the Seminole effort with his :47.2 victory in the quarter-mile. His example was followed by Ken Misner who topped the six-mile field with a winning time of 28:28.7.

Jim Broun and Bob Brooks set personal records in the 120-yard high hurdles and the three-mile run, respectively. Broun sailed over the 10 barriers to best the field with a time of :14.2. Brooks established a new freshman mark of 14:20.8 with his second place finish in the three-mile run.

With his best throw since the Florida Relays, George Frank captured the discus with a throw of 164' 0":

My most satisfying win in two years and the day I should have broken my school record. I remember the women's discus preceded and they had a super wind. But as soon as we started the wind absolutely stopped. After my last throw, it started up again. The officials let me throw one more which measured at 172' 3", but didn't count of course. (Frank, 1975)

NCAA-bound Joel Garren and Bill Jackson headed a limited Seminole entry in the Auburn Invitational on May 29. The meet marked the dedication of Auburn's new track facility to Wilbur Hutsell, who had been associated with Auburn track since 1921 (Tallahassee Democrat, 30 May 1971).

Joel Garren ran off with the 440-yard dash title as his race lasted only :47.5 seconds, establishing a new track record. Bill Jackson continued to smooth out his vaulting style in preparation for national competition. Jackson won the pole vault with a track record of 15 feet even.

With an effort of 164' 4", George Frank was second in the discus. The Tallahasseean closed out his Seminole career with his second best throw of the season:

This was my last meet and was really a disappointment because I failed to break my school record after having thrown 175 feet in practice that week. I was learning to compete again and was in great condition, but just ran out of track meets. (Frank, 1975)

The Seminoles gathered 19 points to finish fifth in a field of 12 competing schools.

Seminoles Bill Jackson, Joel Garren, and Ken Misner competed in the National USTFF Championships in Wichita on June 10-12. The

most impressive performance was run by Ken Misner in the three miles where the senior distance runner toured the 12 laps around the track in 13:39.4 for third place and a new school record (Roberts, 1975). Neither Jackson nor Joel Garren were able to place.

The following incident illustrated the hazards facing a pole vaulter trying to travel:

As a pole vaulter, flying was a trying experience. Not many people in a busy airport terminal cared about a guy with two sixteen-foot poles trying to make his way from one flight to another or out of the terminal. Particularly exciting was going through swinging doors, around corners, and up and down escalators. Another problem was getting a flight that could carry the implements of your event.

A particular instance occurred upon leaving Dallas on the way to Wichita to the National USTFF meet in 1971. We had already taken our seats on the plane when the rear entrance was opened and two men walked on carrying my poles. They secured the poles in the aisle and left. About ten minutes later the rear door opened again and they came in and took the poles out. One of the stewardesses came and told me that it was against FAA regulations to have anything in the aisle and assured me that the poles would be put in the cargo bin. I was concerned because the year before my poles had missed a flight only to arrive at the meet after I had passed three times. I took three jumps at a height higher than I wanted to start at and ended up making a long trip for experience. Well, I was sitting there confident that my poles would get to Wichita on the same plane and as we taxied I happened to look out the window and what should I see lying on the runway but my poles. Such are the trials of a traveling pole vaulter. Maybe someday, someone will invent a telescoping vaulting pole that will fit into a suitcase. Until then, air travel will always be interesting. (Jackson, 1975)

Florida State entered Ken Misner, Joel Garren, Bill Jackson, and Charles Galloway in the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships on June 17-19 in Seattle. The Seminoles were able to garner one seventh and one tenth place.

Ascertaining that his talents lay in the longer distances, Ken Misner elected to run the six miles in the NCAA Championship. His

decision resulted in a race that culminated in Misner's last school record in a Seminole uniform. With a time of 27:55.2 (New York Times, 19 June 1971), Misner finished seventh, one and four-tenths of a second under the old NCAA meet record.

Competing in the decathlon, Charles Galloway ran, jumped, and threw his way to a school record point total of 6825. His culminative total placed him tenth in the competition. Neither Jackson nor Garren were able to place.

Summary. The 1971 season had begun with a different goal for the Seminoles. The accent had been placed upon "big" meet performance accompanied with a reduction in dual meets. Florida State ran only two dual meets, defeating the University of Florida 92 to 53 and losing to Southern Illinois University 83 to 61.

Florida State was generally successful in its attempt to develop prowess in large unscored competition. The Seminoles earned more quality finishes in the Florida Relays than any other school (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1972). FSU was equally as successful in the Carolina-Record Relays (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1972). The Tribe copped the Independent Division of the Coliseum Relays for the fourth year in a row. Traditionally, the Coliseum Relays draws together the top independent track powers in the deep South.

Quality individual performances were rampant among the Seminole squad. Ken Misner headed the list with three individual school records and ran anchor on the record setting four-mile relay. Misner lowered the indoor mile record to 4:09.8 and dropped the indoor two-mile mark to 8:43.7. He also established outdoor records of 13:39.4 and

27:55.2 in the three- and six-mile, respectively. The distance running star was joined in the four-mile relay by Jack Wise, Bobby Brooks, and Del Ramers. This quartet became the Virginia Military Institute Winter Relays champions setting a new indoor school record of 17:33.4 and established the outdoor equivalent with a 17:08.1 clocking in the Florida Relays.

Joel Garren, Eddie McMillan, and the mile relay all set new school records on the oversized and very fast Astrodome track in Houston. Garren flashed through the quarter in :47.4 and anchored the mile relay with an unofficial :45.9 (Long, L. S., 1976). In addition to running lead-off on the mile relay, Eddie McMillan ran the only indoor 100-yard dash in FSU track history in :09.6 (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1972). Bernie Waxman and Randy Stow ran the middle legs of the record setting mile relay.

Bill Jackson and Jay Young shared the indoor school record in the pole vault at 15' 7". The two men set the record at the Coliseum Relays with Jackson being judged the winner on the basis of fewer misses at 15' 7". Jackson became the first Seminole to clear 16 feet outdoors in the vault. He sailed over 16' 1" to set his record in the Gulf Coast Five-Way Meet in Tuscaloosa on April 17.

Jim Buck found the Tuscaloosa setting conducive to throwing. The strong junior out of Seminole Junior College hurled the javelin 233' 6", bettering the school record for the third time during the season. Competing in the NCAA Track and Field Championships, Charles Galloway upped his school record total in the decathlon to 6825.

The foursome of George Kaiser, Randy Stow, Del Ramers, and Ken Misner reset the outdoor distance medley record with a 9:51.3 clocking. The mile relay composed of Randy Stow, Bernie Waxman, George Sparling, and Joe Garren set a school record in the four-way meet in Baton Rouge. The Seminoles battled Louisiana State all the way only to be nipped at the tape. The Tribe's time was clocked at 3:13.1.

1972

Continuing the trend away from dual meet competition, the Seminoles' 1972 schedule listed six large relay carnivals and only two dual meets, Southern Illinois University and the University of Florida. Qualified Seminoles were slated to compete in both the indoor and outdoor NCAA Championships (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1972).

Leading the Seminoles in the running events was sophomore Joel Garren. Troubled by hamstring muscle pulls in his freshman year, the Bradenton sprinter ran extremely well when his legs were healthy. The Tribe was very thin in the sprints and injury to Garren would be debilitating. The graduation of John Fuss and Bob Neylan coupled with the unexpected loss of Jim Broun left "Snapper" Starnes as the only letterman in either hurdle races.

Del Ramers and Bob Brooks had the unenviable task of filling the untiring shoes of Ken Misner. The departed distance runner held every school record in events of two miles and longer (FSU Track Brochure Files, Track 1972).

The field events were the strongest in Seminole history. Returning was oft injured, but extremely talented, Rudy Falana to head

the list of strong performers. Jim Buck, school record holder in the javelin, was back for his senior year and was joined by Roy Dunn who had redshirted the 1971 season due to injury (Long, L. S., 1976). Chuck Crowder held the third spot on the all-time Seminole list in the shot put with a throw of 55 feet even.

Bill Jackson, the Seminoles' first 16-foot pole vaulter, had exited via graduation. Jackson's replacement was Allen McMillen who had placed third in the national junior college championship and had a best vault of 15' 9" (Long, T. N., 1975). The only field event that appeared weak on paper was the high jump.

Florida State opened the 1972 indoor season in Mobile on January 12. Points were hard to come by as the Seminoles failed to win a single event (FSU Track Office Files, 12 January 1972). The nine and one-half point total placed the Tribe fifth in the final standings.

Joel Garren paced the Tribe effort with a 1:13.2 clocking in the 600-yard dash. Garren's time was the second best in Seminole history, but only earned him fourth place.

The majority of the Seminole markers came from the talented field event corps. Newcomer Allen McMillen tied for third in the pole vault with Alabamian Jan Johnson at 15' 0". Chuck Crowder delivered his best indoor throw ever with a toss of 53' 2-1/2" in the shot put. His throw was the third best in the meet. Another third place finish was the result of a 23' 7-1/2" long jump by FSU's Rudy Falana.

The Senior Bowl had been held on Wednesday and the following Saturday found the Tribe in Knoxville for a four-way confrontation with Tennessee, Georgia Tech, and Virginia Tech. The final totals

found Tennessee on top with 93 1/2 points, the Seminoles a comfortable second at 63, as Georgia Tech and Virginia Tech trailed with 40 1/2 and 19 points, respectively (FSU Track Office Files, 15 January 1972).

Although winning five of the 12 events, the Seminoles were unable to match the overall power of the Volunteers. Del Ramers led the FSU charge with an upset win in the mile run over a highly touted field. The Dunedin junior registered the third fastest indoor mile time for a Seminole with a clocking of 4:13.7. He copped a fourth in the two-mile with a fine double of 9:24.5.

Bernie Waxman startled a quality field in the 440-yard dash when he streaked to a :51.2 victory. His victims included teammate George Sparling who finished fourth.

Bolting out of the blocks, Eddie McMillan captured the 60-yard dash in :06.3. He was only one-tenth of a second off his school mark. Allen McMillen quickly erased Bill Jackson's name from the record board by muscling over 15' 8" to win the pole vault.

Competing in their third meet in 10 days, the Seminoles entered the Third Annual USTFF Midwest Indoor Track Championships in Columbus, Ohio, on January 22 (FSU Track Office Files, 22 January 1972). Joe Garren found the 220-yard flat rubberized asphalt track to his liking. He was nosed out in the final few yards of the 600-yard dash as his 1:12.2 clocking earned him second place. Garren also anchored the mile relay team of George Sparling, Bernie Waxman, and Rudy Falana. FSU finished third, but their time of 3:20.4 established a new school record for normal sized indoor tracks.

Becoming the first Seminole vaulter to clear 16 feet indoors, Allen McMillen's historic vault measured 16 feet even. McMillen's bid for victory fell four inches shy.

Chuck Crowder's third place earning throw of 53' 6" appeared short in comparison with Jessie Stuart's winning toss of 62' 10-1/2"; however, Crowder's throw gained him second behind Allen Williams as the best indoor shot putter at Florida State. The afternoon collegiate session saw George Kaiser and Ron Fletcher capturing wins for the garnet and gold. Kaiser raced to victory in the half-mile with a time of 1:55.9. His time would have placed him third in the evening invitational race. Fletcher ruled the pole vault in the afternoon fray with a jump of 14' 6".

The team portion of the indoor season came to an end with the Coliseum Relays on February 25-26 in Montgomery (FSU Track Office Files, 25-26 February 1972). The field event personnel were the only Seminoles to win an event. Allen McMillen won the pole vault with a leap of 15' 7". Teammate Ron Fletcher was third with his first 15-foot jump indoors as a Florida Stater.

Continuing his consistent throwing in the shot put, Chuck Crowder tossed the shot 53' 7" to make the likeable Floridian the best independent thrower in the South. The 600-yard dash won more points for the Tribe than any other running event. George Sparling rose to the number three spot on the all-time list with his second place clocking of 1:12.4. He outdistanced Joel Garren who tied for third at 1:13.2 and Robin McEachin who tied for fifth with a time of 1:13.8.

George Kaiser and Jack Wise turned in fine performances in the 880- and 1000-yard runs. Kaiser was third in the half-mile with a time of 1:54.8, only three-tenths of a second off his school record.

Performing before home town fans, Seminole Jack Wise ran his career best 1000-yard time of 2:15.4. The 1971 defending Coliseum Relays champion bettered his previous winning time, yet only finished third. Jack Wise explained what competing before a Montgomery crowd meant to him:

Montgomery is my home town and I personally relate to Montgomery, not in a sense of saying "I am from Montgomery," but in a sense of preparing myself to return and say I'm doing well and I'm going to display my improvement. (Wise, 1975)

Bob Brooks had his best indoor meet of his brief career at Florida State. The St. Petersburg sophomore finished fourth in the mile at 4:13.1, the second best time in FSU history. Brooks completed his double with a personal best of 9:05.7 that earned him third in the two-mile run. The only Seminole to have ever run faster at two miles was Ken Misner. The two-mile relay team raced to a 7:46.9 clocking that earned them the school record and second place.

The Coliseum Relays title rode on the mile relay. Despite a disappointing fourth place finish (3:23.7), the Seminoles held on to a narrow 36 1/2 to 34 win over Georgia Tech. The Tribe had kept their winning streak alive and had now won five Coliseum Relays titles in a row.

The Seminoles competed in the Orlando Invitation on March 4 (Orlando-Sentinel-Star, 5 March 1972). Allen McMillen delivered the most impressive Tribe performance with his winning jump of 16' 0" in

the pole vault. The Tribe also captured the eight-lap and mile relays. The Seminoles' winning efforts were concluded by George Sparling's :51.6 jaunt in the quarter-mile and George Kaiser's 2:00.9 victory in the 880-yard run.

Coach Mike Long took only one man to the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships in Detroit on March 10-11. Allen McMillen performed well; however, he just missed making the finals with a vault of 15' 10" (FSU Track Office Files, 10-11 March 1972).

While McMillen was laboring in Cobo Hall, the Tribe thinclads were participating in the FAMU Relays in Tallahassee. The Seminoles captured 10 events including all four relays (FSU Track Office Files, 11 March 1972). Winners in individual events included Bob Brooks (mile run), Joel Garren (440-yard dash), Chuck Crowder (shot put and discus), Del Ramers (two-mile), and Jim Buck (javelin). The clay track in Bragg Stadium proved difficult to perform on and yielded times that were well below par.

The first outdoor dual meet of the season was against Southern Illinois University on March 18 in Tallahassee. The Seminoles showed flashes of brilliance, yet were unable to measure up in several events. The Tribe fell victim to the Salukis by an 80 to 65 score (FSU Track Office Files, 18 March 1972).

Allen McMillen performed well as the strong vaulter soared 16' 1-1/2" to become the best Seminole pole vaulter ever. He eased by Bill Jackson's school record by one-half inch. Ron Fletcher provided McMillen with stiff competition as he cleared 15' 6" for second place.

Displaying his 1971 form, Jim Buck sailed the javelin 229' 0" to garner first place. Roy Dunn unleashed his second best career throw as a Seminole of 216' 7" for second place.

The biggest surprise of the meet for the Seminoles was Bernard Waxman. In light of Rudy Falana's injury in the FAMU Relays, Waxman volunteered to try the long jump. Without ever practicing the event, Waxman leaped 23' 11" to finish second, missing the top spot by only one inch. The story of how Waxman found his runway checkmarks was fascinating:

One of our long jumpers was Don Wagoner and he marked the beginning of his run with a large "W". I figured since "Waxman" started with a "W" the steps had to work for me. I just charged down the runway and my steps came out perfect at the board. (Waxman, 1976)

The Tribe won the 440-yard relay when the SIU quartet was disqualified. George Kaiser and Bill Weldon won the half-mile and 440-yard intermediate hurdles with times of 1:53.7 and :54.4, respectively, for the two remaining Tribe triumphs in footracing events.

Footballer Eddie McMillan clocked a :09.7 in the 100-yard dash for a second place behind SIU's National AAU Champion Ivory Crockett. George Sparling filled in very well for the injured Joel Garren in the 440-yard dash. The talented sophomore broke 48 seconds for the first time when he finished second in :47.9. However, the Seminoles were unable to find a sprinter for the 220-yard dash as SIU swept all three places.

The big stories for the Seminoles in the 29th Annual Florida Relays on March 24-25 involved Bernard Waxman and Allen McMillen (FSU Track Office Files, 24-25 March 1972). Waxman continued to confound

the coaching staff with his uncanny ability to leap. The Merritt Island senior became the third Seminole long jumper to ever jump over 24 feet when he placed fourth with a 24' 4-1/2" effort. Unfortunately, Waxman pulled a hamstring muscle trying to better his position (Waxman, 1976). Allen McMillen cleared 16 feet for the second consecutive meet when he placed fifth at 16 feet even, as four men tied for first at 16' 6".

The distance medley team ran under the 10-minute mark with a fourth place clocking of 9:59.8. Although the place was not high, it was only the second time a Tribe team had run this event under ten minutes.

The Seminole squad traveled 400 miles by bus to Columbia, South Carolina, for the 10th Annual Carolina State-Record Relays on April 1. The Tribe accomplished little as a team, but the exploits of Allen McMillen and Jim Buck turned the meet into a public relation triumph (FSU Track Office Files, 1 April 1972).

Allen McMillen surmounted the magic 16-foot mark in the pole vault for the third time in as many meets. He set a new Carolina State-Record Relays mark with his vault of 16' 1". Jim Buck captured the javelin with a throw of 217' 5". Even though those were the only performances of merit, the release in the Tallahassee Democrat sports page highlighted the positive aspects of the meet. The general reaction to the article spurred Coach Long to comment:

We have never received so much attention for having accomplished so little as a team. Many strong team efforts have gone relatively unnoticed while one meet record makes our trip a success. I really did not know how to respond to all the congratulations on Monday. (Long, 1976)

Florida State journeyed to Knoxville on April 15 to compete in the Sixth Annual Dogwood Relays. The Tribe track machine was limping on three cylinders. Injuries to Joel Garren and Rudy Falana, coupled with George Kaiser leaving school for personal reasons, left Florida State short of experienced athletes. The results of the Dogwood Relays reflected this deficiency (FSU Track Office Files, 15 April 1972).

Chuck Crowder flipped the shot put 54' 1", his best throw of the 1972 season, for only fifth place. Allen McMillen failed to clear 16 feet for the first time since March 18 and had to settle for third place with a vault of 15' 6".

The most exciting occurrence in an otherwise disappointing meet was the lead-off leg of the 880-yard relay by Jimmy Cofer. Running in an outside lane, Cofer set a torrid early pace. To the amazement of the coaches, the stocky sprinter continued to move in the late stages of the 220. The stopwatches of Mike Long and Dick Roberts had both timed the sophomore in under 20 seconds flat. With Cofer having not placed in a meet during the 1972 season, the FSU coaches felt an error had been committed; second-guessing that the split time had been taken at the wrong stagger mark. However, since Cofer had soundly beaten several quality sprinters, Coach Long was sure he had run very fast, but just how fast will never be known (Long, L. S., 1976). The Seminoles quickly lost their mysterious lead and eventually finished fifth with a time of 1:29.0.

Florida State entered Bayou Country on April 22 to battle Louisiana State University, Mississippi State University, McNeese University, Southwestern Louisiana State University, and Southeastern

Louisiana State University. The Seminoles found the Cajuns to be very demanding hosts. The Tribe had regained the services of Joel Garren and Rudy Falana, yet were only able to finish fourth (FSU Track Office Files, 22 April 1972).

Chuck Crowder in the shot put and Allen McMillen in the pole vault were the only Seminoles to win an event. The competition was fierce, and often outstanding performances failed to win. Crowder had the best throw in the shot put of 52' 3-3/4". McMillen rebounded from his mediocre showing in the Dogwood Relays to set a new FSU record by copping the hotly contested pole vault with a jump of 16' 5".

Two fine efforts in the distance events brought a small return in points. Becoming the second fastest Seminole at three miles, Ramers's 13:58.6 was only enough for second place. Meanwhile, a career best of 4:10.0 in the mile earned Bobby Brooks a single fifth place point. "Snapper" Starnes showed a glimpse of his 1971 form by finishing fourth in the 440-yard intermediate hurdles with a :53.4 clocking.

The Florida-Florida State dual track meet on May 5 in Gainesville was a complete reversal of the 1971 conflict. The Gators dominated the meet by a lopsided 91 1/2 to 53 1/2 score (FSU Track Office Files, 5 May 1972).

The sprinting talents of Joel Garren were displayed in the dashes. Coach Mike Long had gambled his fragile-legged star in the 100- and 220-yard dashes, coming away with :09.7 and :21.2 victories. Garren's time in the furlong tied the school record. By anchoring both relays, Garren brought the Tribe to a :41.0 tie in the quarter-mile relay and victory in the mile relay with a 3:14.9 clocking.

The javelin produced the final Seminole triumph. Jim Buck and Roy Dunn captured the top two spots with throws of 223' 5" and 220' 6", respectively.

The First Annual Southeastern Independent Track and Field Championship was hosted in Tallahassee on May 13. FSU began the championship meet for unaligned schools in the South on the same weekend of the Southeastern Conference Championships. The concept was to declare a southern independent champion.

Baptist College battled the host school fiercely before succumbing to FSU by a 113 to 85 margin with Georgia Tech trailing Baptist College by 17 points (FSU Track Office Files, 13 May 1972). Bolstered by the return of Eddie McMillan from spring football drills and a strong performance in the field events, Florida State captured 10 of the 17 events. Baptist College won six of the remaining seven events with Georgia Tech taking one.

Eddie McMillan made his return noticeable by copping the 100-yard dash in :09.8. Joel Garren completed a seldom seen FSU sweep of the short sprints by winning the 220-yard dash with a :21.3 clocking. The Bradenton junior's time was only one-tenth off Jerry McDaniel's school record.

With the third fastest mile in FSU history, Del Ramers finished second in 4:08.3. A personal best of 14:09.6 by Bobby Brooks gave the Tribe a win in the three-mile over Walton of Georgia Tech, the victor in the mile run at 4:05.7.

The field events were the most prolific point getters for the Seminoles. The often unseen men of track won six of eight events.

Jim Buck topped the javelin with a heave of 226' 11". The spring of Bernie Waxman's legs resulted in a Tribe triumph in the long jump. Although he had not practiced the event recently, Waxman produced a jump of 23' 9-1/2". Coach Long resisted the temptation to "improve" his jumping style and Waxman continued to jump well at meet time (Long, L. S., 1976).

Bill Stinson bounced over the bar at 6' 6" to win the high jump. This effort was the best jump of Stinson's career at Florida State. With a toss of 51' 11-1/4", Chuck Crowder captured the shot put, and then delivered a personal best of 146' 9-1/4" in the discus to finish second.

The pole vault was a profitable event for the Tribe as Allen McMillen led compatriots Ron Fletcher and Keith Ingram with a jump of 15' 6". Fletcher placed second at 15 feet even, while Ingram's personal record 14' 6" was third.

Noting a void of quality high hurdlers, Mark Middleton, a varsity swimmer, approached Coach Long about the possibility of helping out after the varsity swimming season was completed. Middleton came out for track and placed second with a time of :14.9.

Florida State entered the Tom Black Classic on May 20 in Knoxville. The Tribe was paced by victories in the javelin, pole vault, and the 5,000-meter run (Knoxville-News-Sentinel, 21 May 1972). Jim Buck captured the spear throwing event with his heave of 216' 6", and a vault of 16' 0" by Allen McMillen was the best in the pole vault. The Seminoles received a surprising victory in the 5,000-meter run when

Del Ramers defeated highly favored Doug Brown of Tennessee with a time of 14:25.1. Joel Garren finished second in the 200-meter dash, one-tenth of a second behind the winning time of :21.1.

The 10th Annual USTFF Championships in Wichita on May 26-27 produced only one Seminole place. Joel Garren captured fifth place in the furlong with a :21.5 effort.

The NCAA Track and Field Championships on June 1-3 in Eugene, Oregon, was the final competition for the Seminoles. The spirit of the Olympic year enthused the Tribe and inspired the performances of Joe Garren, Del Ramers, and Allen McMillen.

A jump of 16' 0" earned McMillen the number eight spot in the pole vault (FSU Track Office Files, 1-3 June 1972). An inspired performance by Del Ramers in his preliminary heat of the 5,000 meter run earned the Dunedin junior a place in the finals. In the finals, Ramers's time at two miles was below his personal best for that distance (Roberts, 1976), but he still was running in last place. Although finishing last in the finals, Ramers had achieved a personal triumph through extraordinary competitive zeal. Joel Garren was able to advance to the semifinals of the 220-yard dash before narrowly being eliminated (Roberts, 1976).

Summary. Florida State had a good indoor season winning the Coliseum Relays title for the fifth time in five years. In addition to the Relays title, the Tribe thinclads set two new indoor school records. Allen McMillen became the first vaulter at FSU to clear 16 feet indoors. Joel Garren set the other record by turning the quarter-mile, on an oversized track, at the National Federation Championships in :47.3.

Injuries kept the junior speedster from qualifying for the NCAA Indoor Championships.

Florida State's trouble multiplied outdoors. The loss of Eddie McMillan to spring football practice and periodic injuries to Joel Garren decimated the Seminole sprinting corps. The decision of George Kaiser, indoor half-mile record holder, to leave school in midseason left the Tribe vulnerable in the middle distance races. Trouble had also stalked the Seminole long jumpers. In the Florida A & M Relays, Rudy Falana fell prey to knee damage that required corrective surgery that summer (Roberts, 1976). FSU discovered the heretofore latent jumping talents of Bernard Waxman. The senior jumped 23' 11" in his first collegiate attempt in the long jump. The following week in the Florida Relays, he sailed 24' 4-1/2" before pulling a hamstring in an attempt to better his position. Waxman's injury occurred on March 28 and he was unable to return to competition until May 5.

The Seminoles dropped both of their dual meets by losing to Southern Illinois University 85 to 60 and the University of Florida 91 1/2 to 53 1/2. It was only the third losing dual meet season in Mike Long's tenure at FSU and the fifth in the 23-year history of track and field at Florida State.

Florida State had national qualifying performances from Joel Garren, Allen McMillen, and Del Ramers during the outdoor season. McMillen and Ramers placed eighth and twelfth, respectively, in the NCAA championships, while Garren was fifth in the national USTFF championship 220-yard dash.

1973

Florida State University designed its 1973 recruiting program for a smaller squad geared to large meet competition. Rising inflation (U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1975) bit deeper into the track budget as there was no relief from the budgetary cuts enacted in 1972 (Athletic Office Budget File, 1972-1973).

Coach Mike Long consolidated the available scholarship money to enable him to attract the "blue chip" athlete on a full scholarship basis. This decision limited the Seminoles' chances for success on the dual meet level, but opened new horizons on the national scene.

The Tribe was successful in recruiting five quality athletes. Heading the list was Danny Smith, a Bahamian Olympian, who competed as a junior college sprinter-hurdler out of Miami Dade North Community College. Tyrone Frederick, a Miami-Dade North teammate of Smith, was the best middle distance prospect ever inked to an FSU scholarship. The Tribe continued to recruit the junior college athlete by signing Charlie Harris and Randy Hutchinson. Harris was a national junior college all-American in the triple jump, while Hutchinson had a best throw of 238' 0" in the javelin (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1973).

The 1973 Seminoles had the talent to make ripples on the national scene, yet, dual meet competition exposed a depth problem. The schedule was testimony to FSU's new philosophy with its emphasis on relay carnivals and multi-school meets. The University of Florida remained as the sole dual meet on the 1973 schedule.

Florida State began their indoor schedule in Mobile for the Eighth Annual Senior Bowl Indoor Track and Field Championships on January 10. Danny Smith and Tyrone Frederick led a Seminole effort that captured the title. FSU ran up 38 points for a nine-point advantage over the second place Florida Gators (FSU Track Office Files, 10 January 1973). The Tribe's victory was its first in the six-year history of the Senior Bowl meet.

Smith dominated the short sprints by taking the 50-yard dash in :05.4, and bested all of the 50-yard high hurdlers with a school record clocking of :06.3. The short banked board curves were extremely difficult for Frederick to negotiate; yet, after repeatedly stepping off the track (Long, C. M., 1976), he surged down the short finishing straightaway to win the 1,000-yard run. Frederick's time of 2:13.8 was the best ever by a Seminole.

Mike Lee was the third newcomer to herald his arrival on the scene. As a walk-on (Long, C. M., 1976), Lee found that a four-year stretch in the Air Force had not dulled his jumping talents. With three years of eligibility before him, Lee became the FSU indoor school record holder in the high jump with his winning leap of 6' 8".

Uncorking the second best indoor long jump in FSU history, Charlie Harris had to settle for fifth place with his leap of 23'.

On January 25, the Florida State track team boarded the Seminole bus, leaving the warm climate of Florida for the colder state of Ohio. The Seminoles were destined for a showdown with the Buckeyes of Ohio State University. The team spent Thursday night in Knoxville driving the remaining distance to Columbus on Friday (Long, C. M., 1976).

The scratch meeting was held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday. Coach Bob Ekskamp did not disclose any of his team's performances, but did double his best middle distance runner in the 880- and 1000-yard runs opposite Tyrone Frederick. The psychological edge in the meet rode on the outcome of their confrontations (Long, L. S., 1976).

The Seminoles broke out fast with Bob Brooks taking an unexpected 4:13.0 win in the mile run (FSU Track Office Files, 27 January 1973). Joel Garren followed with a fine :49.6 victory in the quarter-mile. Following in second place was Steve Adams with a :50.6 clocking.

Danny Smith tied the school record of :06.2 in winning the 60-yard dash. Finishing third, Charlie Harris clocked a surprising :06.3. The Buckeye crowd of over 1,000 people were stunned as their favorites had yet to win an event (Long, C. M., 1976).

Ohio State was dealt a staggering blow when Tyrone Frederick came off the last curve to overtake Kurtz of OSU to win a strategically run 1,000-yard race in 2:19.8. Winning his second race of the day, Smith easily took the 70-yard high hurdles in :08.4.

The Buckeyes finally won an event by finishing first and second in the 600-yard run. A secondary infection resulting from an untreated blister had removed Wes Koenig, FSU's number one 600-yard man, from the race (Long, C. M., 1976). The meet had suddenly taken on more excitement as the 880-yard run was the next event on the card.

Less than 40 minutes after the 1,000-yard run, Florida State was calling on Tyrone Frederick to cool the Ohio State fire. The OSU gamble failed as Frederick, in a sterling display of courage, duplicated

his stretch drive to nip Burley of Ohio State at the wire. Ohio State's Kurtz finished in third place.

While FSU heroics on the track were unfolding before the fans, the Seminoles were methodically overpowering the Buckeyes in the field events. Charlie Harris won both the long and triple jumps with his 48' 11-1/2" effort in the triple, only two inches shy of Charles Galloway's school record, and a leap of 23' 2" in the long jump.

Osborn Brown and Jeff Nedimyer both captured school records in their victory efforts. Brown easily won the shot put with a throw of 56' 2-1/2". His toss broke Allen Williams's old school mark by one and one-half inches. Nedimyer tied the high jump school record of 6' 8" set earlier in the season by Mike Lee, who finished second in the competition at 6' 6".

An incident in the pole vault illustrated the innate toughness of Keith Ingram. Ingram was FSU's second vaulter behind Allen McMillan, who had set a new Ohio State Fieldhouse record of 16' 4-1/2" in the 1972 Ohio State Invitation Midwest Indoor Championships. A duel was expected between McMillan and OSU's 16-foot vaulter Jim Green (Long, L. S., 1976). While entering the bus wearing sandals, Ingram caught his big toe on a jagged piece of metal. The injury was not serious, but very painful.

While Ingram was warming up for the competition, Coach Curtiss Long asked him if he was going to be able to vault. He replied, "Oh, I'm going to vault. I am just trying to find the best way" (Long, C. M., 1976). When the competition began, the gutty little performer cleared 14 feet. Ingrams' vault loomed very important when the expected

duel between McMillen and Green failed to materialize. McMillen did not clear his opening height of 15' 6", thus moving Ingram into second place behind Green's 16' 1" vault.

After having run key mile relay personnel in several events, Mike Long substituted in the relay for Garren and Frederick. An Ohio State victory narrowed FSU's winning margin to 73 to 58.

Danny Smith traveled to Toronto, Canada, for the Maple Leaf Games on February 4. The quick starting hurdler was going against the best in the world. Smith qualified easily behind Willie Davenport, the 1968 Olympic gold medal winner, in his preliminary heat. "In the finals everything seemed normal," said Smith. "Usually my heart would start to beat fast, but this time I was relaxed. I figured that if I placed third or fourth in this field, it would be a good night" (Tallahassee Democrat, 7 February 1973).

The starting pistol malfunctioned on the first start and the runners were recalled. Smith did not feel that the false start had any detrimental effect on his race. "When the gun fired the second time, I was ready and got off well" (Tallahassee Democrat, 7 February 1973). He did not know when he took the lead, but "knew" he had hit the tape a winner. "I was just coming out of the tunnel after hitting the finish wall when the announcer said something, and the crowd gave a big cheer. I guess it was about my time, but I really didn't know. I was still happy about winning" (Tallahassee Democrat, 7 February 1973). Smith was not to know of his equalling the world record of :05.8 until being interviewed by a television commentator moments later.

"I guess this is just about the greatest accomplishment ever attained by a track athlete at Florida State," exclaimed Mike Long (Tallahassee Democrat, 7 February 1973). Smith had only been running the hurdles for 13 months, as he had been a sprinter at Miami-Dade North Community College. With several good runners ahead of him, Smith explained, "I was just messing around with the hurdles one afternoon when Coach Richardson saw me and came over. He asked me to go back and run them again. I was just hopping over them, but he felt I could run the hurdles" (Tallahassee Democrat, 7 February 1973).

The Seminoles competed in the USTFF Championships in Montgomery on February 9 with moderate success (FSU Track Office Files, 9 February 1973). The format of the Coliseum Relays had been revamped into an invitational meet with no team championship. The Seminoles received winning performances from Danny Smith in the 60-yard high hurdles (:07.1) and Tyrone Frederick in the half-mile (1:53.3). Only five-tenths of a second separated Frederick from a qualifying time for the NCAA Indoor Championships in Detroit.

Second place finishes by Charlie Harris in the triple jump and Jeff Nedimyer in the high jump highlighted the Seminoles' effort in the field events. The remaining Tribe places in the invitation division were thirds by Osborn Brown (shot put) and Allen McMillen in the pole vault, and a fifth place by the mile relay team.

FSU received fine performances from their top competitors in an All-Comers Meet in Knoxville on February 17 (Knoxville News-Sentinel,

17 February 1973). A career best of 1:12.7 by Wes Koenig earned the red-haired runner a fine victory in the 600-yard run. Allen McMillen produced his best indoor vault of the 1973 season with an event winning 16' 4". Tyrone Frederick was the class of the half-mile field with a 1:53.4 clocking. The Seminoles' efforts were concluded with a 3:23.3 triumph in the mile relay.

Coach Mike Long sent Danny Smith, Tyrone Frederick, and Joel Garren to the 1973 Ohio State Invitational Midwest Indoor Championships in Columbus on February 23-24 (FSU Track Office Files, 23-24 February 1973). The trip was designed to give Frederick and Garren an opportunity to meet the qualifying standard for the upcoming NCAA Indoor Championships (Long, L. S., 1976).

Smith, who had previously qualified, copped the 70-yard high hurdles with a national collegiate record tying :08.1 (FSU Track Office Files, 23-24 February 1973). Tyrone Frederick fell off a fast early pace in the 880-yard run and became entangled in traffic during the late stages of the race. His time of 1:53.1 set a new school mark, but missed the NCAA standard by three-tenths of a second. The race was disappointing as he obviously had the ability to qualify, but the subtleties of indoor racing were confusing him (Long, L. S., 1976). Joe Garren failed to make the finals of the quarter-mile with a slow :50.7 in his preliminary race.

The only entries for the Seminoles in the 1973 NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships in Detroit on March 9 and 10 were Danny Smith and Allen McMillen (FSU Track Office Files, 9-10 March 1973).

On the Monday prior to the championships, Danny Smith complained in practice of a slight pain in his left knee. The next day tendonitis had flared-up and Smith was barely able to walk. A cortisone injection was administered that afternoon, and the knee was better on Wednesday when the two Seminoles departed for Detroit. The doctor kept Smith on crutches, but stated that running on the knee would not cause further structural damage. The decision to run would be influenced by the amount of actual physical pain. The final decision to run was left to Danny Smith (Long, C. M., 1976).

The knee was better on Thursday and by race time on Friday, Smith was ready to run. Sweeping through three preliminary races without a loss, the hurdler recorded times of :07.0, :07.1, and :07.1, respectively. In the finals, Smith was out fast, yet world record holder Rodney Milburn was a shade faster. The two finished first and second with Milburn getting the nod at :06.9. Danny Smith became the first Seminole ever to win NCAA indoor all-American honors with his :07.0 clocking. Allen McMillen failed to clear the opening height in the pole vault, thus the four points garnered by Smith in the high hurdles placed the Seminoles 26th in the nation.

While Coach Mike Long was in Detroit with Danny Smith and Allen McMillen, assistant coaches Dick Roberts and Curtiss Long entered the remaining Seminoles in the Florida A & M Relays. Heavy rain on Friday forced the Rattlers to transfer the meet to the Leon High School track. The Seminole performances reflected the change in venue as the hard asphalt surface at Leon High School proved very fast.

Florida State, with its injury problems, stayed away from the sprint races and limited the number of appearances for its quality athletes. The Tribe strategy netted victories in all three relays entered (FSU Track Office Files, 11 March 1973).

The two-mile relay team of Bob Fleming, Wes Koenig, Bob Brooks, and Tyrone Frederick captured an easy victory with a fine early season time of 7:40.0. The sprint medley relay was composed of athletes who did not usually run on relays for the Seminoles. The desire of these four men to win one of the green and gold trophies was illustrated by Jules Sayers making a diving lunge to pass the baton to Bill Weldon. The hard asphalt track extracted its toll in scraped skin when Sayers fell after making the exchange (Long, C. M., 1976). Jim Cunningham ran the quarter-mile leg and handed the stick to Bob Fleming in second place. The Winter Park High School product dogged the anchorman from Morehouse College until the final curve. Moving to the outside, Fleming began his kick that carried him to the tape a winner.

The mile relay trophy is called the "Grandaddy" and was the object of intense interest (Roberts, 1976). The race was never in doubt as Wes Koenig opened up a lead for the Seminoles on the first leg that widened with every man. The men running the remaining legs were Robin McEachin, Joel Garren, and Tyrone Frederick. FSU's 3:14.5 was over four full seconds faster than the second place time.

Osborn Brown copped double victories in the shot put (53' 6-1/2") and discus (157' 11"). The black behemoth drew the open admiration of the attractive FAMU trackettes officiating the weight events (Long, C. M., 1973).

Elation and depression were emotions experienced by Jeff Nedimyer in the high jump. The standards had read 7' 0" before his successful attempt, but when the tape was put to the bar it measured only 6' 10". The freshman from Titusville had a close miss at an accurately measured seven feet, but had to settle for victory and a new school record at 6' 10".

With a fine throw of 222' 5", Randy Hutchinson opened his career at FSU with a victory in the javelin. He outdistanced his fellow thrower Rich Richelderfer, who finished second at 201' 2". Considering that the first three hurdles were not set the proper distance apart (Long, C. M., 1976), Bill Weldon's victorious :54.2 in the 440-yard immediate hurdles was highly commendable.

The Seminoles journeyed to Baton Rouge on March 17 for a five-way meeting with Louisiana State University, Southern Illinois University, Drake University, and the University of Alabama. The Tribe was only one point out of first place with five events remaining when the injury jinxes cropped up again. With Charlie Harris in Tallahassee sidelined by a sprained ankle incurred in a gymnastics class (Long, C. M., 1976), a pulled hamstring suffered by Joel Garren in the 220-yard dash was devastating. When Garren crashed to the track, FSU's hopes of victory fell with him. The ensuing gloom adversely affected the Seminoles as the Tribe scored only four points in the last five events to finish a dismal fourth (FSU Track Office Files, 17 March 1973).

Outstanding performances in the early going had placed the Seminoles in the thick of the battle. Danny Smith won the 120-yard

high hurdles in :14.0, and only one event later placed third in the 100-yard dash with a :09.85 clocking. Unlimbering his arm, Randy Hutchinson hurled the javelin 227' 7" to top all spear throwers. Osborn Brown won the shot put with a throw of 52' 3". Although one of only two men to clear 15' 6", FSU's Allen McMillen finished second in the vault due to more misses at the winning height.

Florida State ventured into competition again on March 30 and 31 in the 30th Annual Florida Relays in Gainesville. The Seminoles set three new school records and tied a fourth (FSU Track Office Files, 30-31 March 1973). The first record came in the sprint medley relay. North Carolina Central was made a heavy prerace favorite on the basis of their two Kenyan Olympians. In the opening 220-yard leg, Danny Smith burned a :20.8 split, handing the baton to Bill Weldon, who covered his furlong in a respectable :21.4. The quarter-mile leg belonged to Joel Garren. The coaching staff held their breath as their gimpy-legged sprinter took the baton. Garren ran a controlled race through the first turn. In the backstretch, he seemed to straighten and then recovered his stride. When he handed the baton to Tyrone Frederick, the Seminoles were stride for stride with North Carolina Central. Robert Ouko, a 1972 member of the Kenyan Olympic silver medal winning mile relay, was Frederick's opponent on the half-mile anchor leg. Frederick seemed to be part of the Kenyan's shadow as they matched strides through a fast first quarter. Ouko accelerated the pace several times trying to shake the tenacious Seminole. The two men charged off the final curve with Frederick drawing even. They battled down the homestretch with neither man giving ground. A photo

finish at the yarn brought a judge's decision in favor of Ouko of North Carolina Central. However, the official splits on the two runners showed Frederick one-tenth of a second faster at 1:48.7. Florida State received the same overall time as the winners of 3:19.4. The Seminoles time erased the school record set in 1958.

Danny Smith exploded from the blocks building a four-yard lead at the end of five hurdles. As he began to tire, Smith's trail leg lost its quickness. Charles Foster of North Carolina Central was relentlessly regaining the lost ground, drawing even by the last hurdle. Foster was clearly ahead as the two men hit the tape, but a desperation lean by Smith earned him the identical time of :13.6 as given to the winner (Long, C. M., 1976).

The two-mile relay won the watches on the second day of the meet. Bob Fleming led-off in 1:54.0, placing the Seminoles in second position, yet ahead of the favored Florida Gators. Bob Brooks and Wes Koenig ran nearly identical races on the second and third legs. Each ran hard in the early stages of his leg, but then a Gator runner would slowly pull ahead in the homestretch before the screaming partisan fans. Tyrone Frederick took the baton five yards behind Gibson of Florida and quickly closed to Gibson's shoulder. The first lap split was a burner--:50.1 on Gibson. Frederick was content to follow until about 300 yards from home. He accelerated to a position along side of Gibson and the two runners briefly surged together before Frederick irresistibly moved by. Slowly opening up an advantage, Frederick was clearly in control at the finish (Long, C. M., 1976). The time of 7:28.2 was a new school record.

Mike Lee carved himself a piece of Jeff Nedimyer's school record with a second place jump of 6' 10". FSU's Steve Smith won the Division II high jump with a leap of 6' 6".

FSU made the difficult trip to Columbia, South Carolina, on April 14 for a triangular meet with South Carolina and Auburn (FSU Track Office Files, 14 April 1973). The Seminoles expected to win the meet, but an over-confident attitude proved fatal (Long, L. S., 1976).

The Seminoles started by winning the top two places in the mile run. Bob Brooks equalled his collegiate best of 4:10.0 to win the event, followed closely by Bob Burr.

Doing yeoman duty, Danny Smith led-off the second placing 440-yard relay, won the 100-yard dash (:09.7) and the 120-yard high hurdles (:14.0), and came in second in the furlong with a time of :22.2.

Rudy Falana always found a way to win against South Carolina. The Largo, Florida, native bounded 23' 3-1/4" to cop the long jump. Uncorking his best career throw of 223' 7", Rich Richelderfer won the javelin. School record holder, Randy Hutchinson, overcame great pain stemming from an elbow injury incurred in the FSU Invitational, to place third with a throw of 201' 0".

Allen McMillen was brilliant in the pole vault. The school record holder had been having an off year; his track record vault of 16' 4-1/4" was a welcome reversal of form.

The Seminoles' early momentum began to falter. Joel Garren had reinjured a hamstring while running the 440-yard leg in the sprint medley relay in Gainesville two weeks prior. With Garren not ready to

run, South Carolina took first and second in the quarter-mile in a relatively slow :48.8.

Coming off two very strong performances in the Florida Relays, Tyrone Frederick followed his custom of kicking late. Frederick passed the leader on the final curve, but in turn was overtaken by Shelley of South Carolina. At this point in the meet, the momentum passed to the Gamecocks of South Carolina (Long, C. M., 1976).

The Seminoles figured to take first and second in the high jump. The first went to Mike Lee at 6' 8"; however, Nedimyer, unable to put it together, failed to place. At the conclusion of the meet, the Seminoles walked slowly off the track accompanied by the jubilant sounds of air horns and cow bells being wielded by the victorious Gamecocks.

On a limited basis, Florida State entered the 64th Annual Drake Relays on April 26 and 27 (FSU Track Office Files, 26-27 April 1973). Assistant Coach Dick Roberts drove Danny Smith, Allen McMillen, Jeff Nedimyer and Mike Lee in a station wagon to Des Moines (Roberts, 1976).

The Seminoles were represented in the box scores by Danny Smith and Allen McMillen. With a time of :14.0, Smith finished third in a high hurdle race run into a stiff wind. World record holder, Rodney Milburn was the winner in :13.5. McMillen cleared 16 feet even, finishing fourth only six inches below the winning height. The long car ride home for Jeff Nedimyer and Mike Lee was compounded by the feelings of frustration and disappointment, as both men failed to clear the opening height in the high jump.

Florida State University hosted the University of Florida in Tallahassee on May 5. The Seminoles faced a serious problem in the half-mile with the status of Tyrone Frederick doubtful after a bout with the German measles (Long, C. M., 1976). The University of Florida was definitely favored to win the meet, but the Seminoles were not mathematically out of the competition (Long, L. S., 1976).

Despite some very gutty individual performances, the overall meet did not unfold favorably for the Tribe. The final score of 82 to 63 was not truly indicative of the closeness of the competition (FSU Track Office Files, 5 May 1973).

Danny Smith was again a performance leader for the Seminoles. Winning the 100-yard dash in :09.6 and the 120-yard high hurdles at :14.1, Smith ran the first leg, in a losing cause, on the quarter-mile relay, and placed third in the furlong. Smith was the only Seminole to win a footrace.

Randy Hutchinson, a fiery competitor, ignored the pulsating pain in his elbow to win the javelin with a throw of 217' 8" (Long, C. M., 1976). He bested teammate, Richelderfer by less than one and one-half feet, as the Tribe copped the top two spots.

Finding his best jump of the season, Rudy Falana won the long jump at 24' 3-3/4" with Charlie Harris leaping a career best of 23' 7-1/2" for second place. Harris added the top spot in the triple jump to his credit at 46' 7-1/2". The all-around competitor had previously taken third in the 100-yard dash and had anchored the 440-yard relay. Jeff Nedimyer and Mike Lee swept the top two positions in the high jump with efforts of 6' 10" and 6' 8", respectively.

The Seminole downfall came in four events in which the Tribe had expected to do well. Tyrone Frederick was unable to shake the weakening effects of the measles and was beaten in a slow 1:54.9. The Seminole vaulters failed to clear an opening height, giving the Florida Gators nine uncontested points.

The 220-yard dash was a dramatic race in which the fortunes of the meet changed hands. The early pace was fast, and coming off the curve Seminoles Joel Garren and Danny Smith were first and second. Five yards from the finish line, the two Seminoles were still holding their position, but were tiring fast. Nate Jenkins of Florida put on a drive for the tape that nipped the tiring tribesmen with all three runners getting a :21.6 clocking. Instead of an eight to one advantage for the Seminoles, the Gators walked away with a five to four split and the keys to victory.

With only the three-mile and the mile relay to be contested, Florida held a 69 to 62 lead over the Seminoles. Bob Brooks set the early pace in the three-mile with two Gators dogging his heels. With less than one lap remaining, DePeiza and Bridges of Florida sprinted by Brooks to win by a comfortable margin. Coach Mike Long removed Joel Garren from the Tribe mile relay after the meet had been decided for fear of reinjuring his leg. Winning the mile relay, the Gators established the final score at 82 to 63.

Florida State hosted the Second Annual Southeastern Independent Track and Field Championships on May 19. The Seminoles were victorious by a narrow 10-point advantage over Baptist College of Charleston, South Carolina (FSU Track Office Files, 19 May 1973).

Danny Smith was a team leader by the virtue of a first in the 120-yard high hurdles (:14.2) a second in the hundred (:09.8), and running lead-off in the second-placing finishing quarter-mile relay. Although edged out in the half-mile, Tyrone Frederick set a new school record of 1:51-1 with his second place finish.

A dramatic upset in the 440-yard intermediate hurdles was made by Mark Herman. The Winter Park freshman was judged the winner in a contested finish with Roger Huckabee of Baptist College. The :52.8 clocking was a personal best for Herman by seven-tenths of a second.

This race would easily be my most memorable from my freshman year. I can clearly remember coming off the turn and running almost even with two other competitors. With three hurdles to go, one runner missed stride and fell. That left only one. We were separated by about four lanes on the track and the race went down to the wire. I felt he had outleaned me but the officials gave me the favor. They even ripped off the other runner by putting him one-tenth of a second back. That race really saved my freshman year which until then was not very sparkling. (Herman, 1976)

The Seminoles were given a sweep of the horizontal jumping events by Rudy Falana's 23' 11-1/2" leap in the long jump and a 49' 0-3/4" effort by Charlie Harris in the triple jump. With the meet completed except for the pole vault, FSU and Baptist College stood tied at 143 points apiece. Seminoles Allen McMillen and Keith Ingram proved equal to the challenge. A 16-foot vault by McMillen won the event over Becker of Furman. Taking third place, Ingram showed his mettle by delivering a 15-foot jump, the best outdoor leap of his career. The best Baptist could muster was a fourth and fifth, giving Florida State a 157 to 147 victory.

Florida State sent two men out to the 11th Annual USTFF Track and Field Championships in Wichita on June 1 and 2. Tyrone Frederick and Rudy Falana responded by bettering the NCAA qualifying standard, earning USTFF all-American honors in the process (FSU Track Office Files, 1-2 June 1973).

Meeting an old friend and rival from Florida Junior College, Frederick convinced Rudolph Griffith of Texas to set the pace for his attempt to qualify for the NCAA Championships. Griffith was good to his word taking an early lead with Frederick on his shoulder. The two men maintained the front two spots until coming off the final curve. Frederick made an attempt to pass; as he swung to the outside a momentary path opened for Lowell of the Chicago Track Club to pass between the two friends. Griffith was able to hold off Lowell's charge, but Frederick had to settle for third (Frederick, 1975). Frederick's time of 1:49.2 was a new school record and the first half-mile ever run by a Seminole under 1:50.0. Rudy Falana rode a strong tail wind to sail 24' 10-1/4" to capture the number four spot in the long jump. His jump was the best of his career at FSU and was just three-fourths of an inch off the school record established by Sidney Gainey in 1966. The 10 points garnered by the two Seminoles ranked the Tribe in a tie for 18th among the best track clubs and university teams in the country.

Florida State had nine athletes qualify for the NCAA Track and Field Championships held in Baton Rouge on June 5-9 (FSU Track Office Files, 5-9 June 1973). This was the largest number of athletes FSU had ever sent to a national track and field meet in the history of the school.

The highest Seminole place was sixteenth by Charlie Harris in the triple jump. Harris leaped 50' 1/2", only one inch off his career best.

Danny Smith was the main Tribe hope for a high national finish. The FSU hurdler broke the Louisiana State University track record with a :13.5 clocking in his preliminary heat. His record stood for five minutes as Rodney Milburn burned a :13.4 in the very next race. The semifinal race proved fatal to Smith's chances for victory. Despite being in position to qualify easily for the finals, Smith began to press in an attempt to hold off a charge being mounted by North Carolina Central's Charles Foster. In the process, Smith clipped the eighth hurdle and hit the ninth barrier knocking himself out of the race (Long, C. M., 1976).

Tyrone Frederick was improving rapidly yet needed a break in the draw of his preliminary heat for an outside chance to place (Long, L. S., 1976). Unfortunately, he drew a strong heat as four men came charging out of the last curve in a pack. With only three runners qualifying for the finals, Frederick finished fourth with a time of 1:49.5 (Long, C. M., 1976).

Jeff Nedimyer and Allen McMillen failed to qualify for the final in the high jump and pole vault with jumps of 6' 6" and 15' 6", respectively. Jumping 23' 11-1/2" in the long jump, Rudy Falana did not progress to the finals. Randy Hutchinson had hoped to find one good throw in his ailing arm to earn his way into the finals. The gutty junior was unable to do so, but managed to throw a very respectable 220' 5". Bob Brooks found the three-mile field very tough.

When the pace quickened during the middle stages of the third mile, Brooks was unable to stay with the leaders finishing twelfth in his heat with a time of 14:04.8.

Summary. Although failing to score at the NCAA Championships, FSU had completed its shift from a dual meet team to a team oriented toward multi-team competition. The number of men qualified for the NCAA Championship attests to the success of the conversion. FSU athletes had set 14 indoor and outdoor school records while winning the Senior Bowl, finishing 24th in the NCAA Indoor Championships, and tying for 18th in the USTFF Outdoor Championships. Three FSU men--Danny Smith, Tyrone Frederick, and Rudy Falana--earned all-American honors.

The performances of individual Seminoles illustrated the quality of athlete attracted to FSU in 1973. Eleven of the 13 school records set or tied were accomplished by athletes not on the 1972 roster. Danny Smith stood out among the Seminole stars as the Bahamian Olympian tied the world record with his :05.8 clocking in the Toronto Maple Leaf Games 50-yard high hurdles. Among those defeated by Smith was Rodney Milburn, the 1972 Olympic 120-yard high hurdles champion (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1974). The finishing touch to his 1973 indoor season was a second place finish in the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships. His :07.0 clocking was a new FSU school record and his second place finish made him the first Seminole to earn indoor NCAA all-America honors.

Displaying national calibre times outdoors, Smith sped to a school record :13.5 clocking in the preliminary heat of the 1973 NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships. In addition, Smith led-off a

school record smashing sprint medley relay team composed of Bill Weldon, Joel Garren, and Tyrone Frederick that registered a 3:19.4 clocking in the Florida Relays. The race was highlighted by a titanic struggle on the anchor leg between Robert Ouko of North Carolina Central and FSU's Tyrone Frederick. North Carolina Central won the race, yet Frederick had the faster half-mile split of 1:48.7.

The 1973 season was a rollercoaster ride for Tyrone Frederick. After setting a school record of 1:53.1 indoors and running his phenomenal split of 1:48.7 in the Florida Relays sprint medley relay, Frederick was beset by middle-of-the-season upsets and the debilitating effects of German measles. He soared to new heights with a 1:49.2 school record clocking in the 10th Annual USTFF Championships in Wichita as his third place finish earned him USTFF all-America honors.

Charlie Harris became the longest indoor triple jumper in Seminole track history, bounding 49' 8-1/2" to break Charles Galloway's old mark of 49' 1-1/2". After suffering a severely injured ankle in a physical education gymnastics class (Long, C. M., 1976), Harris was forced to miss the NCAA Indoor Championships. In the outdoor season, Harris went down to the last meet of the season before meeting the NCAA qualifying standard. The powerful junior became the first FSU triple jumper to break the 50-foot mark with his precedent setting jump of 50' 1-1/2".

The best indoor shot put performance in FSU history came in the All-Comers meet in Knoxville when Osborn Brown hurled the shot 57' 1-3/4". Brown had transferred to FSU from Florida Junior College after the fall quarter. Allen McMillen had an erratic indoor season,

yet was brilliant in the Ohio State Midwest Indoor Championship, setting an Ohio State Fieldhouse record and school record of 16' 4".

Mike Lee and Jeff Nedimyer shared the indoor school record of 6' 9" in the high jump. Nedimyer broke loose from his teammate in the first meet of the outdoor season with a school record setting jump of 6' 10" in the Florida A & M University Relays. Not one to be outdone, Lee tied Nedimyer's record when he cleared 6' 10" in the Florida Relays. At the end of the 1973 campaign, the two jumpers jointly held both the indoor and outdoor high jump record.

Rudy Falana had the best outdoor season of his injury plagued career. The Largo junior had overcome hamstring problems and two knee operations before popping his 24' 10-1/4" jump at the USTFF Championships in Wichita. Finishing fourth in the competition, Falana was the second Seminole to earn USTFF all-American honors.

Improving with each meet of the season, Randy Hutchinson set a FSU javelin mark with a toss of 235' 1". The Sunday morning following the meet, he awoke with a throbbing pain in his elbow. Rest and therapy allowed Hutchinson to continue to compete, but the pain was everpresent.

1974

Florida State University entered into its 26th year of track and field with potentially its best team. Mike Long stated that 1974 "could be an outstanding one for Florida State" (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1974).

During the hard times of inflation (U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1975), FSU had come full cycle in its fight to recruit enough talented athletes to field a competitive dual meet team. Despite not having the squad size to compete with the best, Coach Mike Long had gone back to scheduling dual meets. The logical reasoning deduced that an attractive home schedule was based upon the dual meet; however, the primary recruiting objective remained the talented full scholarship athlete.

The 1974 Florida State track squad had a few weak events, yet a host of talented performers kept the Seminoles competitive with the teams on the schedule. Heading the list of returning lettermen were all-Americans Danny Smith, co-holder of the 50-yard high hurdle world record; Tyrone Frederick, the first Seminole to run under 1:50.0 in the half-mile; and Rudy Falana, who had placed fourth in the National USTFF Outdoor long jump.

Charles Harris teamed with Falana to give the Seminoles unprecedented strength in the long and triple jumps. Harris had become the first Tribe triple jumper to carry further than 50 feet, accomplishing this feat twice in 1973.

A limited amount of available scholarship money allowed the Seminoles to recruit only three new men. FSU invested its money wisely, capturing two widely sought after sprinters on full scholarship grants and a promising freshman javelin thrower on an out-of-state tuition waiver.

Junior college all-American (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1974), Vesco Bradley brought to the Seminoles a wide range of talents.

The slender sprinter had a :09.4 hundred and a :20.8 220-yard dash to his credit. In addition to his obvious value on sprint relays, Bradley had jumped 24' 6" in the long jump.

Tallahasseean Jesse Forbes was the best high school sprinter in the nation in 1973. His credentials included Golden West champion in the 100-yard dash and member of the 1972 national junior Olympic team that competed against West Germany, Poland, and USSR. Forbes had a best time of :09.4 in the 100-yard dash (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1974).

Bill Narozanich was a burly, strong-armed freshman recruited to fill the javelin gap left by Richelderfer's decision not to return to school. Narozanich had potential and figured to give the Seminoles depth in an event subject to sudden injury.

In addition to its three returning all-Americans, FSU had five returning school record-holders. The total contingent manning two school record setting relays was returning intact. The school standard bearers included Mike Lee (high jump), Jeff Nedimyer (high jump), Osborn Brown (shot put), Randy Hutchinson (javelin), Charlie Harris (triple jump), and Joe Garren (440-yard dash).

Florida State's ability to cover every event with at least one good athlete gave the Seminoles good reason to be optimistic. Coach Mike Long qualified the outcome of the season by saying, "it depends a lot on the three "H's". We must stay healthy, hungry, and happy" (FSU Track Brochure File, Track 1974).

Florida State opened the 1974 indoor season by defending their 1973 Senior Bowl title. The meet was held on Wednesday, January 17 in Mobile (FSU Track Office Files, 10 January 1974).

Bob Brooks, Danny Smith, Osborn Brown, and Joel Garren each won one event apiece. Smith copped the 50-yard high hurdles in :06.1. The senior hurdler also finished second in the 50-yard dash behind Auburn's Clifford Outlin. Outlin later won the 1974 NCAA Indoor 60-yard dash (FSU Track Office Files, 8-9 March 1974).

Bob Brooks and Bob Burr finished holding hands in the two-mile. The judges awarded the victory to Brooks, although, both men were clocked in 9:04.9. With a throw of 53' 5-1/2", Brown proved his superiority in the shot put. It was his best toss since March 10, 1973.

Completing the Seminole victory efforts, Joel Garren won the 440-yard dash in :50.6. The quarter-mile was a new event for the Senior Bowl, thus when Garren outlasted Pearlle Harris of Alabama, he became a Senior Bowl record holder (Long, C. M., 1976).

An incident occurred in the 50-yard high hurdles that showed the integrity of Mike Long. Competing in the preliminary race, Jim Broun appeared to finish last. When the names of the six finalists were read, Broun was among the chosen. The high hurdles had concluded the afternoon preliminaries, but Mike Long went directly to the meet referee to explain the situation. With his man not deserving to be in the finals, Long offered to withdraw him if the correct runner could be located. The meet referee explained that there had been no protest

lodged; therefore, as far as the officials were concerned, Jim Broun was in the finals (Long, C. M., 1976).

The finals were run later in the evening with Jim Broun again finishing last. Soon after the race, the results were announced. Broun had been unexplainably picked fourth. Fate had decided Broun deserved better than his running had indicated.

FSU had bused to Mobile on Tuesday and returned to Tallahassee after the meet on Wednesday night. Friday morning saw the Seminoles boarding the bus for Jackson, Mississippi, for the Southeastern USTFF Track and Field Championships (Long, C. M., 1976). The road-weary Seminoles should have been lethargic, yet the traveling proved a tonic as FSU set five new school records and tied another (FSU Track Office Files, 21 January 1974).

Danny Smith roared out of the blocks to annihilate a class field of hurdlers. Smith's time of :06.9 was the fastest time run in the nation by a collegian (Tallahassee Democrat, 22 January 1974).

Following Paul Bannon of Memphis State for two and one-half laps, Bob Burr set sail, blowing to a 8:52.1 victory. Burr's time had been bettered by a Seminole only once in 26 years.

Charlie Harris hit the magic mark of 50 feet even to establish a new indoor school record. Harris finished third behind two of the best triple jumpers in the South. Equalling the Seminole high jump record of 6' 9", Jeff Nedimyer finished third in the high jump as Don Hobson of Alabama won the event at 7' 1/2".

FSU's distance medley team ran to an easy victory with a clocking of 10:00.0, the second fastest time by a Seminole quartet.

Bob Brooks gave a strong performance in the two-mile run finishing third at 9:00.6. Although Osborn Brown only finished fifth, his improvement to 54' 1/2" was a welcome sight to the coaching staff (Long, C. M., 1976).

FSU's mile relay consisting of Joel Garren, Wes Koenig, Tyrone Frederick, and Vesco Bradley raced to victory with Frederick coming from behind to defeat Jackson State, the 1973 NAIA mile relay champions (Tallahassee Democrat, 22 January 1974), in a school record 3:19.1.

The nonscored competition had provided the Seminoles with a competitive atmosphere conducive to running fast times and good field event performances. The Tribe had responded favorably with Danny Smith and Charlie Harris qualifying for the NCAA Indoor Championships (Tallahassee Democrat, 22 January 1974).

FSU packed a full squad on the bus headed for Bloomington, Indiana, for the Third Annual Indiana Relays on February 2. The Seminoles made the long trip worthwhile (FSU Track Office Files, 2 February 1974).

Danny Smith continued to show awesome form by striding through the 70-yard high hurdles in a national collegiate record tying :08.1 (Tallahassee Democrat, 3 February 1974). Vesco Bradley got locked up in a tight battle with Bobby Cox of Indiana in the 440-yard dash. The Hoosier managed to hold-off a stretch drive by Bradley to win in :49.1. Bradley finished second in :49.2, tying Garren's indoor school mark. Missing an opportunity to qualify for the NCAA Indoor Championships, Frederick still managed to tie the FSU half-mile indoor record by

winning the event in a new meet and fieldhouse record of 1:53.1

(Tallahassee Democrat, 3 February 1974).

The Florida State middle distance men were superb. The two-mile relay team of Wes Koenig, Bob Brooks, Bob Burr, and Tyrone Frederick bettered the old school record by 10.5 seconds. Koenig put the Seminoles in the middle of the pack on the first leg. With a split in the 1:51s, Bob Brooks began to move through the maze of men ahead of him. The baton passed to Burr with only Indiana ahead of the Seminoles. Immediately, Burr began to move on the man ahead of him. Dogging his adversary relentlessly, Burr moved by in the late stages of the race, giving Frederick a slight lead. Frederick made a fatal error of setting a slow pace, letting Steve Heidenreich of Indiana close easily. It first appeared that Heidenreich was content to follow, but with one and one-half laps remaining, Heidenreich suddenly spurred by, opening a five-yard lead before the startled Seminole was able to respond. Frederick made a token effort to catch the fleeting Hoosier, but was unable to match Heidenreich's sprint (Long, C. M., 1976). The Seminoles finished second in a school record and NCAA qualifying time of 7:35.8.

The distance medley relay team of Brooks, Bill Weldon, Burr, and Del Ramers was unable to stay competitive during the early stages of the race. Although Burr and Ramers attempted to close, the Tribe finished a well-beaten third behind the winning time of 9:48.8. Rudy Falana placed fourth in the long jump at 23' 7-1/2" while Charlie Harris was finishing a respectable sixth in the triple jump with a leap of 48' 1-1/2".

Ron Fletcher had the best day of his indoor career at FSU. The stylish vaulter cleared a personal best of 15' 7", making two very close jumps at 16' 0". On that particular day, Fletcher was the best of the vaulters.

The Seminoles concluded a successful meet with a second place finish in the mile relay. A fierce battle with Indiana ensued as Bradley's :49.1 anchor leg brought the Tribe home second with a 3:17.9 mark, only four-tenths of a second off the NCAA qualifying standard. The meet had been very gratifying as the Tribe had placed in nine of the 11 events entered.

FSU loaded 12 men into two station wagons for the long journey to Champaign, Illinois. Coach Mike Long had turned the responsibility for the team during the First Annual Illini-USTFF Indoor Classic, on February 22-23, over to his young assistants, Dick Roberts and Curtiss Long.

With snow lightly swirling outside (Long, C. M., 1976), the Seminoles turned in hot times inside Huff Gymnasium (FSU Track Office Files, 22-23 February 1974). Bob Burr turned in a second place finishing 4:07.0 in the mile run, setting a new FSU indoor mark against strong competition. He returned to the track in the two-mile to place third in 8:58.3.

Charlie Harris finished second behind Charles Ehizuelen of Illinois in the triple jump. Harris's disappointment was tempered by his school record performance of 50' 7-1/4".

The attempt to qualify Joel Garren for the NCAA Indoor Championships was one of the prime reasons for the trip. The senior

quarter-miler had not run a qualifying time and the Illinois 260-yard indoor track provided an excellent opportunity to meet the standard. In the open 440-yard dash, Garren fell a heart-breaking two-tenths over the NCAA standard of :49.0. With good position coming off the last curve, the sprinter had faded to fourth in the long homestretch (Long, C. M., 1976). Coach Dick Roberts requested that an official time be kept on Garren on his lead-off leg in the mile relay. Coach Bob Wright of Illinois agreed and had his assistant, Jim Weineke oversee the clocking. Garren ran hard, but was tiring fast coming home. Battling hard, the plucky quarter-miler held on to register a NCAA qualifying time of :49.0.

Florida State University took nine men to the 1974 NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships in Detroit on March 8-9. FSU parlayed a victory by Danny Smith and a fourth place by Tyrone Frederick into a seventh place finish in the national meet (FSU Track Office Files, 8-9 March 1974).

Danny Smith duplicated the exact times he had run in the 1973 NCAA competition. The fleet Smith was rewarded with the NCAA 60-yard high hurdles championship. Smith copped the finals with a blazing :07.0 clocking. Smith's victory made him the first Seminole trackman to ever win an NCAA championship event. The victory also conveyed all-American honors.

Defeating his old friend Rudolph Griffith of Texas for the last qualifying position in the preliminary of the 880-yard run, Frederick advanced into the finals. The 880-yard run finalists ran as a group until the last lap. As the pace began to quicken, Frederick moved

into third place on the backstretch. Entering the final turn, it appeared as if Frederick had the run necessary to win the race. Frederick moved off the curve but his charge faltered only a few strides from home, as a desperate lean by Roger Chadwick of Nebraska nipped him at the wire for third place. Frederick finished in fourth, one place away from all-American honors, with a clocking of 1:52.7.

With an effort of 50' 2-3/4", Charlie Harris finished ninth in the triple jump. Vesco Bradley failed to move out of the preliminaries of the quarter-mile with a time of :50.1. Joel Garren also failed to qualify for the quarter-mile final with a slow time of :51.3. Garren's heat was characterized by an excessive amount of physical contact, eliminating all chances for anyone to run a fast time. The two-mile relay team could not find the magic of the Indiana Relays, as their time of 7:50.1 placed them last in their heat. Jeff Nedimyer failed to make the opening height of the high jump.

The Seminoles' eight point total ranked the Tribe in a tie for seventh. This was the highest national ranking that any FSU track team had ever achieved.

The Seminoles began their outdoor season with their own invitational meet on March 23. The FSU Chevron 440 track was still under construction, forcing the meet to be held on the Godby High School track.

There were no point totals kept in the informal meet. Danny Smith and Charlie Harris turned in the best performances for the Tribe. Smith clocked a respectable :09.7 in his victory in the 100-yard dash. Harris disregarded the hardness of the asphalt runway to triple jump

48' 7". Jeff Nedimyer overcame a lack in facilities to high jump 6' 7".

The FSU track team broke up over the spring quarter break, to regroup on March 29-30 in Gainesville for the Florida Relays. This was the second year this procedure was utilized to accommodate the quarter break. The method seemed to work as the Seminoles were again ready to run (FSU Track Office Files, 29-30 March 1974).

The key man for the Tribe was Danny Smith. The amazing sprinter-hurdler won the 120-yard high hurdles, and launched the victorious 440-yard and sprint medley relays. Smith was out very fast in the high hurdles, slowing before the tape, yet still winning easily in :13.8. The Kearney-Raborn most valuable performer trophy was awarded to Smith in recognition of his outstanding efforts.

Jesse Forbes, a standout sprinter, was making his first appearance as a Seminole. He had been sidelined by a knee operation in December 1973 designed to correct damage suffered in a fall football injury. Forbes was not full-speed, but the other three men on the 440-yard relay wanted him on the anchor leg (Long, L. S., 1976). His recovery had been very closely monitored by the team physician and the team trainer. The pain was still present, but Forbes's knee was deemed ready for its first test in competition.

The preliminaries in the quarter-mile relay saw Tom Whatley of Alabama erase a large Seminole lead by moving by a struggling Forbes on the anchor leg. The first three men, Danny Smith, Vesco Bradley, and Joel Garren vowed to give the courageous Forbes a lead in the finals that could not be overcome. They were good to their word and

with Forbes running well on the second day, the Seminoles grabbed a :40.6 school record setting victory.

Florida State University and the University of Florida battled in the sprint medley relay. The long awaited duel between Florida's talented freshman Wimpy Alexander and Tyrone Frederick proved to be a Seminole delight. Danny Smith and Vesco Bradley ran the furlong legs with Joel Garren in the quarter-mile. Tyrone Frederick was the anchor man in the finishing 880-yard leg. FSU and Florida were very close at the end of three legs with the Gators enjoying a slight advantage. Frederick took the baton behind Alexander, swiftly closing the gap. The Seminole was content to follow Alexander through the first 660 yards, but Frederick challenged for and took the lead at the 220-yard pole on the second lap. Alexander stuck to Frederick around the last turn, but faded in the last 50 yards. The Seminole victory was timed in 3:22.2 (Long, C. M., 1976).

The two-mile relay was another Frederick dominated nightmare for Florida Coach Jimmy Carnes. The Seminoles wanted to stay close to the lead on the first three legs, thus allowing Frederick a shot at the victory. Bobby Brooks, Wes Koenig, and Robert Burr faced the difficult task squarely, running very competitive races to give Frederick his chance. Needing no more, Frederick set a very fast early pace taking the lead. Although contrary to his normal race pattern, the fast early pace coupled with Frederick's strength in the late stages was too much for his opponents. FSU's third relay victory was timed in 7:32.0. The Seminoles were the only school to win three relay victories in the championship division.

Randy Hutchinson's elbow was still the source of considerable pain, yet he was determined to compete. The coaching staff had advised against throwing because the preliminaries were in the morning and the finals in the afternoon. The problem was complicated by the fact that preliminary throws did not count in the finals (Long, L. S., 1976). Defying the odds, Hutchinson threw, placing third with a toss of 222' 11".

With the Florida State track still under construction, the dual meet with Mississippi State was held at Godby High School track on April 13 (FSU Track Office Files, 13 April 1974). The Seminoles started the meet on a discouraging note. The 440-yard relay anchorman, Jesse Forbes dropped the baton about 20 yards from the finish line. The freshman had jammed the tip of the baton into his thigh, thus popping the stick from his hand. However, the rest of the meet belonged to the Tribe, as the Seminoles swept all but one of the remaining 16 events to run up a 104 to 41 triumph.

Vesco Bradley keyed the Seminole assault with victories in the 100- and 220-yard dashes. Bradley and Danny Smith both tied the hundred school record of :09.5 with Bradley receiving a judge's decision. Bradley dominated the furlong in :21.3 to register an easy win.

Disregarding a poor take-off board and an asphalt runway, Rudy Falana rang up a 23' 6-1/2" victory in the long jump. Charlie Harris took the triple jump, under similar conditions, with a jump of 47' 2-1/2". Randy Hutchinson won the javelin with a throw of 221' 11". Overcoming a small landing pit, Jeff Nedimyer jumped 6' 8" to win the high jump.

FSU inaugurated their new eight-lane Chevron 440 track against the Gamecocks of South Carolina on April 20. The track was located on the site of the old facility. The 220-yard straightaway was eliminated, but a chute was kept at both ends allowing the 100-yard dash and the 120-yard high hurdles to be run in either direction. Donations by Richard Wolfe had purchased two customized landing areas for the pole vault and high jump, giving the Seminoles the finest jumping facilities in the South (Long, L. S., 1976). The discus circle was moved to the north end of the infield, so that the throwing sectors ran parallel with the football field eliminating a chance of a legal throw sliding across the pole vault and long jump runways. All runways and jump approach aprons were constructed of Chevron 440, except the javelin runway which remained grass.

The Seminoles were fired-up remembering their embarrassing experience in Columbia in 1973. Motivated by heavy pre-meet publicity, the Tribe was keenly anticipating the competition.

Florida State opened the meet with a very fast :40.7 victory in the 440-yard relay (FSU Track Office Files, 20 April 1974). Danny Smith, Vesco Bradley, Joel Garren, and Jesse Forbes were the men who ran the second fastest quarter-mile relay in the history of Seminole track.

The mile run was an exciting race as Jim Schaeper of South Carolina and Bob Burr clipped of the first three laps in near four-minute mile pace. On the last lap, Schaeper began to kick some 330 yards from the finish line. Unfortunately, Burr let him go some ten yards on the backstretch before closing the gap in the finishing straightaway.

Schaeper's winning time was a sterling 4:00.2, while Burr erased the last untarnished school record set by the talented 1958 team. Burr's second place time of 4:02.4 bettered Mike Conley's old mark of 4:05.7. Bob Brooks led teammates Burr and Del Ramers to a sweep in the three-mile run with a time of 13:57.6.

In the high hurdles, Smith came from behind when South Carolina's Bernie Allen struck the last hurdle falling victim to Smith's finishing kick. Smith's time of :13.8 was a new track record. With only one event intervening his two races, Smith copped the 100-yard dash with a quick :09.6 clocking.

Vesco Bradley won the 220-yard dash with another :21.3 effort. Mike Schelley of South Carolina duplicated his stretch drive of 1973 to nip Tyrone Frederick in the half-mile with a 1:51.1.

The Seminole field eventmen were superb. Jeff Nedimyer became the first Seminole to clear the fascinating seven-foot barrier in the high jump. Bill Roberts, the meet announcer, had directed the crowd's attention to the southeast end of the track, where, in the shadows, Nedimyer was approaching the bar resting at seven feet. His first two attempts were near misses. The sophomore now had only one jump left. He approached the bar, planted his left foot, driving his right knee across his body, leaving the ground in the now familiar Fosbury flop. The bar quivered slightly as Nedimyer settled into the pit. He exploded from the landing area, widely elated, soon to be surrounded by enthusiastic teammates (Long, C. M., 1976).

The moment I had been hoping and praying for. My first time over the magical barrier--seven feet! It was our first

meet on our new track and everybody was fired up. It was a great feeling sailing over that bar at seven feet. I jumped this height with an injury to my left knee that had caused my thigh to shrink one and one-half inches in circumference. (Nedimyer, 1976)

Rudy Falana continued the vendetta against South Carolina with a 1974 best of 24' 9-3/4" in the long jump to win the event. At the conclusion of the long jump competition, he told spectators that "he and Charlie were going to win the long and triple jumps" (Long, C. M., 1976). Harris proved his friend a prophet with a winning jump of 50' 7", establishing a new outdoor school record in the triple jump.

With the best day of his career, Keith Ingram won the pole vault at 15' 10". The Pompano Beach senior had a very near miss at 16' 1", as his dream of a 16-foot remained unfulfilled.

So far, I'm happiest with that jump . . . I was disappointed at not clearing 16' 3" to qualify for the NCAA, but I felt next time I'd have it. I remember the pole felt a little soft so I knew my speed and strength were better and I was ready for a bigger pole. (Ingram, 1976)

As Florida State put Danny Smith on a plane for the Drake Relays in Des Moines, Iowa, the rest of the Seminole track traveling squad boarded the FSU bus bound for Tuscaloosa and the Alabama Invitational Track and Field Meet on April 27 (FSU Track Office Files, 27 April 1974).

Danny Smith defeated the best high hurdlers in the country with a blazing :13.4 victory in the Drake Relays 120-yard invitational high hurdles (Tallahassee Democrat, 28 April 1974). The Bahamian senior was quick out of the blocks and was never headed. Smith's time set a new Seminole school record.

The Seminoles in Tuscaloosa had trouble emerging from the doldrums created by the oppressive Alabama sun. Running in the mile, instead of his usual 880-yard run, Frederick finished second in 4:10.4. Mark Herman emerged victorious in the 440-yard intermediate hurdles with a personal best time of :52.7.

An interesting sidelight occurred in the half-mile. Ben Vaught was scheduled to run in the second heat of the 880-yard run. Just prior to the race, Vaught was sitting in the stands beside assistant coach Curtiss Long. Asked if he was to run the half-mile, Vaught replied, "I'm in the second heat" (Long, C. M., 1976). There was no second heat as the two races had been combined at the starting line due to a number of contestants dropping out of the competition.

Coach Mike Long was unhappy when learning of Vaught's failure to enter the race. It had always been a policy at FSU that after the athletes were given the meet information, the responsibility for being ready at race time was a personal obligation. Long was not interested in Vaught just making the trip to see the meet, so he entered him in the three-mile run. Finishing with a high-stepping sprint, Vaught placed fourth with a time of 16:40.2.

Henry Reshard was a hard working freshman quarter-miler. on this day, Reshard received some reward for his diligent practice. The good natured runner finished third in the open 440, and recorded a personal record :48.3 split in the mile relay.

The Seminoles rode the bus down to Gainesville on May 4 for the 19th renewal of the annual battle with the Florida Gators. A violent thunderstorm rolled over Percy Beard Track just prior to the start of

the 440-yard relay. The sky pictured an evil omen for the Seminoles as the Gators eventually won 12 of the 17 events, scoring upsets in three key events (FSU Track Office Files, 4 May 1974).

Florida opened the meet with a startling upset in the 440-yard relay. The Gators put together excellent exchanges and came away with a meet record time of :40.5. The Seminoles had been handicapped by the absence of anchorman Jesse Forbes. His knee had failed to strengthen, forcing a decision to forego further competition for the remainder of the 1974 season. On the anchor leg of the relay, Danny Smith was overtaking Beaufort Brown of Florida in awesome fashion, but ran out of real estate with the University of Florida holding on for a one-tenth of a second triumph.

For the second consecutive year, FSU's Tyrone Frederick was ill for the Florida dual meet. The middle distance star started coming down with the flu the night before the meet. Frederick ran the mile in the hope of covering both the mile and 880-yard runs. Frederick competed hard in the mile, but only managed to finish third. When Frederick was unable to recover after the mile, Coach Long did not enter him in the 880-yard run. FSU's gamble was lost as the Gators swept all three places in the half-mile (Long, L. S., 1976).

Danny Smith ran an easy race in the 120-yard high hurdles, winning in a meet record :13.9. Jim Broun provided the Seminoles with their first moments of joy by capturing second at :14.6. The University of Florida countered with a sweep of first and second places in the 440-yard dash. The 100-yard dash added fuel to Florida's competitive fire. Florida's Nate Jenkins streaked to an early lead and despite

being run down hard, held on for a narrow victory. The first three places all had the same time of :09.8 with Vesco Bradley and Danny Smith finishing second and third, respectively, for the Seminoles.

The best single performance of the meet was turned in by Steve Ott of Florida. In the high jump, Ott cleared 6' 10" on his first try, with Seminole Jeff Nedimyer needing two attempts before clearing this height. Behind on misses, Nedimyer had to jump seven feet to have any chance of winning. Both men failed on their first attempts at 7' 1/4" and Nedimyer missed his second attempt. Ott electrified the crowd by skimming over the bar on his second jump (Long, C. M., 1976). Jeff Nedimyer gathered himself for his final effort. The jump was an excellent try, but having barely grazed the bar, it fell from the standard. The win was Ott's first outdoor victory over Nedimyer.

The FSU vaulter failed to make a height against the University of Florida for the second year in a row. The stormy weather offered mitigating circumstances, yet Florida had one man equal to the challenge.

Rudy Falana and Charles Harris gathered two of the five Seminole victories. Falana copped the long jump with a leap of 24' 4-3/4" while Harris finished second at 22' 8-3/4". Harris won the triple jump with a leap of 48' 7-3/4" with Falana third at 45' 8".

Vesco Bradley was untouchable in the furlong with an NCAA qualifying time of :21.0. His mark also broke the school record of :21.2 formerly held by Jerry McDaniel.

Del Ramers, Bob Burr, and Bob Brooks started off in the three-mile with a chant of "Cogswell's Turn" emanating from a group of

spectators in the stands. Cogswell DePieza was the Florida three-miler and the chant reflected Florida almost total domination of the competition. However, in this small microcosm of the meet, the Seminoles were superior. Del Ramers separated himself from DePieza at the two and one-half-mile mark. Then Burr passed the slowly fading Gator with one lap left. Brooks roared passed DePieza in the homestretch before a silent crowd. Ramers's winning time was 13:59.7 (Long, C. M., 1976).

The Seminoles' next competition was Louisiana State in Baton Rouge on May 11. The Tribe received outstanding efforts from Vesco Bradley and Danny Smith, but were unable to match LSU's overall team strength. At the end of the day, the Tigers owned an 81 to 64 victory over the Seminoles (Baton Rouge Sunday Advocate, 12 May 1974).

FSU made the 440-yard relay an easy victory when Danny Smith gave Vesco Bradley a four-yard advantage after the opening leg. The Tribe was clocked in an NCAA qualifying time of :40.9. Bradley went on to be a four-time winner by taking both dashes and the long jump. In the hundred, Bradley established an early lead and won in :09.5, followed by teammate Danny Smith in :09.6. Bradley added the 220-yard dash by taking the lead from the gun, finishing five yards ahead of Tiger Greg Stephens with a :21.1 effort. Bradley won the long jump on his sixth attempt by taking off in back of the board, and traversing 24' 11" for victory and a share of the school record.

In the 120-yard high hurdles, LSU's Larry Shipp was off the blocks fast and enjoyed an early lead. Danny Smith pulled even with Shipp over the last hurdle and won the footrace to the tape by a chest.

Shipp owned the fastest time in the world with a wind-aided :13.1. The wind for Smith's :13.4 school record was a legal 3.5 mph.

Florida State hosted the Southeastern Championships on May 18. The Seminoles controlled the meet from the outset, running up a 172 to 82 advantage over runner-up Baptist College (FSU Track Office Files, 18 May 1974). The pattern for the meet was established early as Del Ramers, running the third fastest mile by a Seminole and a personal best of 4:06.5, led a Tribe sweep of the top three places in the mile run. Bob Brooks topped the three-mile with a 13:58.0 as Bob Burr was second and Ramers finished fourth.

Tyrone Frederick was able to outlast the two Brown brothers from South Carolina with his best time for the 1974 season of 1:49.6. Danny Smith defeated Bernie Allen with a stretch drive in the 120-yard high hurdles with a new track record time of :13.8.

Jeff Nedimyer, having never lost the high jump in a home meet, continued his winning ways with a leap of 6' 9". Osborn Brown was the best of the shot putters with a heave of 51' 3", closing out a productive career at Florida State. Also competing in his last home track meet, Rudy Falana won the long jump with a leap of 23' 9".

The Seminoles arrived in Knoxville for the Smoky Mountain All-Comers meet on May 24 with a selected entry. Outstanding performances were turned in by Tyrone Frederick, Bob Burr, and Mark Herman. Frederick charged home in the half-mile to narrowly miss winning the race, but in the process set a new school record of 1:49.0. Running under the old school record for the mile for the second time, Burr

placed second with a very competitive 4:04.5 clocking. Mark Herman was very pleased with his :52.9 victory in the 440-yard immediate hurdles:

My sophomore year was one of quality as I ran good times throughout the whole year. My average time for my best nine meets during 1974 was :53.2 of which six were firsts, two were seconds, and one sixth in the Florida Relays. My most memorable race was probably the All-Comers meet at Knoxville. Until then, I had run good times, but had not run the race making stride all the way. It marked the first time I finished strong. I beat one decent runner and my time of :52.9 was disappointing but I had gone the whole distance comfortably. (Herman, 1976)

Florida State sent two men to the 12th Annual USTFF Championships on May 31 and June 1. Tyrone Frederick ran an outstanding race in the 880-yard run. The Seminole middle distance runner tied the FSU record with a fourth place finishing 1:49.0 (FSU Track Office Files, 1 June 1974).

Unleashing his best jump of his track career, Charlie Harris finished third with a mark of 51' 8-1/4". The Seminoles 10-point total ranked the Tribe in a tie for 12th among the country's best track clubs and university track teams.

Ron Fletcher made the trip to the USTFF Outdoor Championships on his own money, as the Tribe budget was depleted. He was in search of the elusive 16-foot pole vault. Knowing that his last opportunity was before him, Fletcher wanted to take his final fling. Vaulting well, Fletcher cleared 15' 3" on his first attempt. Unfortunately, he was unable to make 15' 9", bringing his vaulting career to an end.

The Seminoles took eight men to the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Austin on June 6-8. Danny Smith captured all six of the Tribe's points with his third place clocking of :13.6 in

the 120-yard high hurdles (FSU Track Office Files, 6-8 June 1974). The Seminoles received outstanding performances from Vesco Bradley, Charlie Harris, and Tyrone Frederick. Six-hundredths of a second separated Bradley from a berth in the finals of the 220-yard dash as he clocked a school record setting :20.88 in his semifinal heat. Frederick was another semifinalist but his 1:49.5 clocking in the 880-yard run was not quite fast enough to make the final 12 runners. Harris was competitive in the triple jump with his leap of 50' 8", yet was unable to make the finals. Jeff Nedimyer, Bob Brooks, Rudy Falana, and Bob Burr were unable to advance out of the preliminary competition.

Summary. Florida State University celebrated their 26th anniversary of track and field with an awesome assault on the record books. The 1974 Seminoles were the most prolific record setters in the history of the university. The Tribe established 15 new school marks while tying two others. Nine of the 15 records were set indoors with the remaining six and two ties established outdoors.

Danny Smith led the parade of Seminole indoor record breakings by establishing one new mark and tying another. Smith sped to a :06.9 clocking in the 60-yard high hurdles. His time was the fastest clocking in the country by a collegiate hurdler. The 1972 Bahamian Olympian held a share of the world record in the 50-yard high hurdles, and owned part of the collegiate 60- and 70-yard high hurdle records. Smith was the 1974 NCAA Indoor 60-yard high hurdle champion, earning all-American honors with a :07.0 clocking.

Tyrone Frederick broke his own indoor school mark of 1:53.1 in the half-mile with a flashy 1:52.7 clocking in the Montgomery USTFF

Championships and tied that mark with his fourth place time in the NCAA Indoor Championships. Frederick failed to make NCAA all-American by only one-tenth of a second as the top three finishers in each event during the NCAA Championships are awarded all-America certificates.

Robert Burr set a new school indoor record in the one mile run. After having run in the shadows of Ken Misner while in high school, Burr rose up and erased Misner's name from the FSU record board with his 4:07.0 clocking in the Illini-USTFF classic. Continuing to improve in the triple jump, Charlie Harris bounded 50' 7-1/4" to up his own school mark. The Seminole triple jumper finished a nonscoring ninth in the 1974 NCAA Indoor triple jump.

Vesco Bradley had the honor of breaking Joel Garren's old quarter-mile mark of :49.2 with a :49.0 clocking. Jeff Nedimyer wrestled the high jump title from teammate Mike Lee with an NCAA qualifying jump of 6' 11".

Florida State set new school marks in two of the three relays normally run indoors. The two-mile relay time turned in by Wes Koenig, Bob Brooks, Bob Burr, and Tyrone Frederick was under the old record by almost 11 seconds. The rapid foursome was timed in 7:35.8 in the First Annual Indiana Relays. The mile relay team of Joel Garren, Koenig, Frederick, and Vesco Bradley swept to a new school record of 3:17.9 in the Indiana Relays.

Turning to the outdoor season, FSU did not relinquish their motivation for excellence. Danny Smith again headed the list as the powerful hurdler twice turned in clockings of :13.4. He first sped to a lightning fast :31.4 victory in the Drake Relay and later upset

Larry Shipp of LSU in a dual meet at Baton Rouge with an identical clocking. Smith also tied the existing school record of :09.5 in the 100-yard dash. The :40.6 440-yard relay record run was launched by Smith, followed by Vesco Bradley, Joel Garren, and Jesse Forbes.

Vesco Bradley shared or set three school records during the 1974 season. The slender sprinter set an FSU standard in the furlong with a :20.88 clocking in the semifinal heat of the NCAA 220-yard dash. In addition, Bradley joined Al Cato, Ken White, and Danny Smith as co-holders of the 100-yard dash school mark at :09.5 and leaped 24' 11" in the long jump to tie Sidney Gainey's school record. Tyrone Frederick and Charlie Harris had outstanding performances in the 12th Annual USTFF Outdoor Championships. Frederick ran the second best half-mile of his life, running two-tenths of a second off his school record with a 1:49.2. His fourth place finish made him an USTFF all-American for the second consecutive year. Harris leaped 51' 8-1/4" in the triple jump to better his own school standard. Capturing third place, Harris's jump earned him USTFF all-American honors.

Bob Burr erased one of the most prestigious school records from the board. Mike Conley was considered by his contemporaries as the best athlete on a talent-laden 1958 squad. His mile record of 4:05.7 had survived for 16 years before falling under the spikes of Bob Burr. Burr's time was recorded at 4:02.4. In the Smoky Mountain All-Comers meet, Burr ran under Conley's old mark for a second time with a 4:04.5 clocking.

Jeff Nedimyer became the first Seminole high jumper to clear the magic seven-foot barrier. His feat came under the lights against the

University of South Carolina. It was fitting that he could redeem his poor showing against the same Gamecocks in 1973 in this fitting manner.

With the conclusion of the 1974 season, this study comes to an end. As the track team rises from the ashes of the previous season to renew itself each fall, it is hoped that future chroniclers will pick up the narrative thread at more or less regular intervals in a continuation of the recording of the history of track and field at Florida State University.