

FSU Drops 60-56 Thriller

SEMINOLES GO ON ROAD

Leave for Tilt In Savannah

By FRED PETTJOHN

Georgia State's Blue Tide basketballers battled their way back from the brink of a decisive defeat and eked out a 60-56 decision over a fighting Florida State University five last night in a photo finish that left a slim crowd of 500 dog-tired and disappointed.

The eagle-eyed Georgia five, trailing 55-47 and apparently hopelessly beaten, suddenly caught fire in the final minutes and swept through the tiring Seminole defense to rack up their ninth victory of the season against a pair of setbacks.

Left for Savannah

For the Seminoles, who left this morning for tomorrow night's tilt with the Savannah branch of the University of Georgia, last night's defeat was a heartbreaker.

Coach Donald Loucks' spirited cager had carried the battle to the taller, more experienced Tide five all night. And until the Tide began to roll in the closing stages of the game the Seminoles had carved out a clear margin of superiority.

With big Bill Kratzert, who tossed in 23 points from his newly-assigned pivot post, standing out as the hub of the scoring wheel, Florida State flashed its most impressive offense of the season. And the garnet and gold performance gave promise of better things to come out on the West campus.

Kratzert Hot

Kratzert, taking machine-like passes from Ralph Chaudron and Ronald Nettles, who stood out as a very neat pair of playmakers until Nettles' five fouls brought about his departure, fed the net and his teammates successfully all night.

Little Jim Pavy, whose early buckets got FSU off to a flying start, took runnerup scoring honors for the Seminoles with 14 points.

Frank Bagley, a rangy six-foot senior sharpshooter who clicked for 17 points in his substitute scoring role led the Blue Tide offense, with Tom Dykes, veteran pivotman grabbing second honors with 11.

Ironically enough, however, it was Red Prosser's only point of the evening that sent the Seminoles reeling to their third straight defeat. The husky defensive ace dropped through a foul shot that broke a 56-56 deadlock in the fleeting seconds of the game. Pushing their advantage to the limit the Tide quickly added three insurance points when Jim Connor flipped in a double-decker and a foul shot a shade before the final buzzer sounded.

With Pavy clicking on his first three tosses from the field FSU jumped away to an early 8-2 lead that startled the confident visitors and prompted a flood of Tide substitutes.

Fast Break

The blue and white cagers, with Dykes and Bagley clicking on a whirlwind break that left the

Seminole chugging up the floor all alone, regained their poise and staged their first rally. And they tied up the count at 14-all before Kratzert, Dickson and Pavy carved out a 22-21 halftime lead.

Coming back after intermission the Seminoles ripped the cord with regularity and built up margins of 41-33, 45-36 and 53-47 before the dike broke and the Tide swept home ahead.

Hampered in the final minutes by the loss of Nettles and Dickson who, with Dykes of Georgia, fouled out, the Seminoles passed up several opportunities to regain their lost lead. Bad passes finally meant the difference.

Box score:

F S U	fg	ft	tp	Georgia	fg	ft	tp
Kratzert, f	5	7	23	Reeves, f	2	3	7
Pavy, f	6	2	14	Bagley, f	6	5	17
McCrary, c	2	3	7	Connor, f	3	2	8
Dickson, c	3	1	7	Eanes, f	0	0	0
Nettles, g	0	0	0	Lindsey, f	0	0	0
Wyman, g	0	0	0	Dykes, c	4	1	11
Chaudron, g	1	3	3	Bowen, c	0	0	0
Maxwell, g	0	0	0	M. Connor, g	1	2	8
				Prosser, g	0	1	1
				Adams, g	0	0	0
				Wireman, g	3	0	8

Totals 20 16 56 Totals 22 16 60

Score at halftime: FSU 29, Georgia 21.

Officials: Referee Brown, Umpire Wagner, Timer Shores, Scorer Williamson.

Free throws missed: Kratzert 5, Pavy 2, McCrary, Dickson, Nettles 2, Chaudron, Reeves, Bagley 2, J. Connor 3, Dykes 4, M. Connor, Prosser 2.