

Seminoles Seek To Snap Loss String

By FRED PETTJOHN

The Florida State University cagers will return to action tonight at 8 p. m. in the West Campus gym when they tangle with Stetson University in a Dixie conference tilt that marks another renewal of the colorful intra-state rivalry between the two schools.

Coach Bud Kennedy's Seminole quintet, back in their home gym after a disappointing invasion of Tennessee that saw them drop successive decisions to Lambuth, Union and Southwestern, will be seeking to break their losing streak at the expense of the Central Florida quintet.

Prior to the unsuccessful holiday junket the Seminoles had opened their 1948-49 slate by racing to four straight wins over Mississippi college, Southern college and Troy state.

Clemmons Back Home

The Hatters, coached by Big Ben Clemmons, former Leon high and University of Florida three-sport star who is remembered as one of the greatest athletes developed in this area, are opening a three-game tour tonight against the Indians.

Following tonight's tilt the Hatters will move over into Mississippi where they meet Mississippi college and Millsaps before returning home to play the Seminoles in the second game of the home and home series.

The Seminoles, hampered by the loss of Bill Kratzert and crippled by the absence of Tom McLaughlin and Bob Pence during the holiday games, are expected to be back near peak strength against the Hatters according to Kennedy.

Kratzert, who was ruled ineligible at a recent conference meeting, is still lost to the team. But McLaughlin and Pence, who were unable to join the squad in Tennessee, will both be in uniform tonight. Kennedy indicated early today that he expected to start McLaughlin and Lee Benjamin at the forwards, Art Adams at center and Jim Pavy and Orlando "Whitey" Wyman at the guards.

Adams Hampered

Adams received an ankle injury on the Tennessee tour that will probably prevent him from going all the way against the Hatters, but he is slated to start.

The Stetson squad has also suffered difficulties lately, losing one promising performer because of scholastic difficulties, but with veteran scoring stars George Everett and Jordan Maynard available the Hatters pack plenty of punch.

Larry Bottoms, former Daytona Beach Mainland high star who was a top performer in last year's Northeast conference tourney, has seen considerable action for the Hatters this year and will probably be in the lineup against the Indians tonight.

The Hatters are scheduled to arrive in the city around noon today.

Tonight's tilt will mark the third cage meeting between the two quintets since intercollegiate athletics were adopted at the Seminole school.

The Hatters won the opener on their home floor last season, while the Seminoles took a thrill-packed triumph in the second game at the West Campus gym.

DICK KENDALL PACES INDIANS

Indiana Boy Pours In 21 Points

By FRED PETTIBOHN

The Florida State University Seminoles rode the unerring aim of Dick Kendall's sharpshooting to a 49-40 triumph over Stetson University in an unexciting, unextraordinary Dixie conference cage tilt witnessed by an estimated crowd of 1,070 fans in the West Campus gym last night.

Kendall, a husky football flanker from Shelbyville, Ind., appearing in a substitutes role, provided most of the limited thrills and action as he poured 10 field goals and a foul toss through the net to dominate the Indian offense.

Swinging into action midway in the first half Kendall clicked with his first three shots from the field before missing a long one from near center court. And his late spurt gave the Indians a 19-14 edge at halftime.

Hatters Take Lead

Coach Ben Clemons' Hatters, fairly docile throughout the sluggish first half, roared out after intermission and shot into a 24-20 lead. But Kendall hit another hot hand at that point and again shipped in three double deckers before missing to tie the count at 26-all.

From that point Coach Bud Kennedy's eagles pulled steadily away as Kendall, aided by Bill Weigle and Tom McLaughlin, sifted through the Hatter defense to pile up the victory margin.

The victory was FSU's fifth of the season against three defeats, and it was their fourth loop triumph of the year against only one loss. It also marked the Seminoles seventh straight win on their home court in a string that dates back to the final three games of the 1947-48 season.

All of FSU's losses this year were absorbed on a three-day Christmas tour through Tennessee.

Both quintets showed the effect

FSU	fg	ft	tp	STETSON	fg	ft	tp
L. Benjamin	5	1	1	E. Benjamin	5	2	4
McLaughlin	3	1	1	Sakin	0	1	1
Adams	0	0	2	McCully	2	0	4
Kendall	10	1	21	Bottom	3	4	10
Ferry	0	2	2	Breeritt	1	1	3
Wyman	0	1	1	Peterson	1	1	3
Weigle	1	1	2	Margard	3	0	4
Nettles	0	0	0	Samson	1	0	2
				O'Loone	0	1	1

Totals	26	9	49	Totals	15	10	40
Officials: Boel and Wyman							
Halftime score: FSU 19, Stetson 14							
Free throws missed: 1 Benjamin							
Weigle, McLaughlin 4, E. Benjamin							
McCully, Bottom 1, Peterson, Samson							
0, O'Loone 2							

at the holidays last night, as their near-misses indicated the layoff had dulled the sharp scoring edges of their aim and the pace wore heavily on both squads.

Both teams employed slow, deliberate tactics that further dulled the tempo of the pace.

The Hatters spotted the Seminoles most of the height under the boards, but still managed to control the rebounds. Until Ronald Nettles came in late in the fourth period to take the ball off the boards repeatedly the Seminoles had constantly lost possession of the ball.

Free Throws Hurt

The Hatters had no Kendall, and they failed to display the potential scoring power of the Indians but had they caged a decent percentage of their charity tosses they could have enjoyed a lead at halftime and might have made a tight tilt out of the game.

In the first half the Central Floridians dropped only four of 17 free throws through the net and during the evening caged only 10 out of 27.

Larry Bottom, former Daytona Beach Mainland high star topped the Hatter scorers with 10 points and played an aggressive floor game.

Little Lee Benjamin turned in a good floor game and caged seven points in the opening half to aid the Seminole cause in the early stages. And Weigle and McLaughlin both picked up the slack in the second half when they found the range after being held scoreless from the field in the first 20 minutes of play.

Myron Samson, Stetson guard who missed six straight foul tosses, contributed the most spectacular shot of the night with a long bucket from just inside the center line. But when he tried to duplicate he broke the light over the Hatter basket and provided additional eloquence at that end.

Kennedy offered to trade goals with the Hatters, but Ben Clemons refused the offer.