

Seminoles Upset Mercer 57-45 To Maintain Perfect Home Mark

By FRED F. PETTIGRUE

Remember boxing promoter Mike Jacobs' deathless phrase "I shoulda' stood in bed?"

Well the Florida State University Seminole basketball team should have "stood" at home this season.

On the road the Indians have been singularly unsuccessful. They have lost six straight games without registering a single victory. Some of the setbacks have been administered by healthy margins, too.

But at home it's a different story. At home the Seminoles are as hard to handle as a balky mule. They are sharp, full of scrap, and they are unbeaten.

Last night Coach Bud Kennedy's cagers registered their fifth, and biggest, triumph of the season on the friendly West campus court when they upset a heavily favored Mercer Bear quintet 57-45 before 650 noisy fans.

Second Half Drive

The victory, which was achieved with a determined second half drive, pulled FSU's record up to five wins and six defeats. And, as we said before all the wins have been at home, and all the losses on the road.

The setback was the second of the season for Mercer, who had previously knocked over five foes while bowing only to Georgia, and the defeat was decisive. The Seminoles ran the Bears into the ground in the last 10 minutes of play and were pulling steadily away at the final whistle.

Benjamin Hot

Led by little Lee Benjamin, hawk-eyed scoring star, FSU maintained the upper hand throughout most of the tilt. Benjamin, pumping in one-handers from outside the circle with monotonous regularity, piled up 18 points to pace the scoring for the

| FSU | | | | Mercer | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|----|-----|---------------|----|----|-----|
| | fg | ft | pts | | fg | ft | pts |
| Kendall, f. | 5 | 1 | 11 | Wilkes, f. | 2 | 12 | 16 |
| Dickson, f. | 3 | 1 | 7 | Webb, f. | 2 | 3 | 7 |
| Benjamin, f. | 9 | 0 | 18 | Reeder, f. | 2 | 0 | 4 |
| Probst, f. | 0 | 0 | 0 | Clement, c. | 3 | 0 | 6 |
| McLaughlin, c. | 5 | 0 | 10 | Kinsaul, c. | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Weigel, g. | 2 | 5 | 9 | Dobbins, g. | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Fence, f. | 1 | 0 | 2 | Casarell, g. | 3 | 3 | 9 |
| Edmiston, f. | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| TOTALS | 25 | 7 | 57 | TOTALS | 12 | 21 | 45 |
| Referee: Brown. | | | | Umpire: Love. | | | |
| Score at halftime: FSU 28, Mercer 25. | | | | | | | |

evening and overshadow the efforts of Glenn Wilkes, heralded Bruin offensive star.

Wilkes, who had a 20-point per game scoring average, was limited to two field goals, but dropped in 12 out of 13 foul tosses for a 16 point total.

The Bear ace, who appeared to be favoring an injured leg, was smothered in and around the basket by the alert Indian defenders who seldom let him get away for a clear crack at the hoop.

Supporting Races

Dick Kendall with 11 points and Tom McLaughlin with 10 were Benjamin's chief scoring supporters. McLaughlin was also responsible for most of the blanket that was thrown around Wilkes. Bill Weigel's nine points were spaced out at intervals when they were needed the most, and substitute Larry Dickson came in late in both halves and slammed in three vital field goals and a foul toss.

FSU, off and running at the opening whistle, jumped out in front 6-2 on a bucket by McLaughlin and a pair of double-deckers by Benjamin. The Indians maintained their early edge until late in the first half when

Tampa Trips Gator Five

TAMPA, (P) — Tampa's best postwar basketball team scored the university's first victory over Florida since 1941 last night. The Tampa five ran up an early lead and held off Florida's second-half rally, winning 62-50.

At halftime Tampa led, 35-17. Florida trailed 40-22 when Hans Taenzler and Hank Cornell found the range and narrowed the gap. Taenzler was high scorer with 20 points and Cornell had 15. Florida's Julian Miller was out of action with a severe cold.

Tampa's balanced offense was led by Harry Bryan and George Montz with 13 points each.

In a preliminary, Tampa Jayvees defeated the Florida freshmen, 41-39.

Reeder's bucket gave the Bears a brief 21-20 lead.

A closing flurry by Dickson, McLaughlin and Weigel gave the Indians a 28-25 margin at the half.

Mercer shook off FSU's early second half spurt and forged in front 33-31, their biggest lead of the night, but FSU started to roll.

Kendall's field goal and Weigel's foul shot gave the Seminoles a 37-35 edge and set the stage for Benjamin. Little Lee hit three quickies to give FSU a 43-38 margin and they kept moving away from there on out.