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Indians Play Chocs For Third Place

By FRED P PETTIJONN

The top-seeded Mercer Bears and the dogged Florida Southern. College Mocs will meet tonight at 8:45 for the championship of the Disie Conference in the finals of the three-ony loop tourney at the FSU West Campus sym.

The Georgia-Florida finale was set up last night when the Moss scored a mild 68-56 upset victory over the second-seeded Florida. State Seminoles, and the high-powered Brums rolled to an 80-52 trhumph over Mississippi College in a pair of semi-final tills.

FSU and Mississippi will open tonight's card at 7 with a consolation game for third place in the tourney-standings.

Southern, which had won its way into the semi-finals with a 54-53 win over Howard College in the opening round, had to come from behind again last night to get past Coach Bud Kennedy's Indian eagers in a ball game that was much closer than the score indicates.

Pegg Again

Rocky Pean click in the Southcin guard, whose had shot in the final 15 seconds had cased the Moes by Howard, was again the inan who haded the Seminoles to the wad.

With the Mers fractife 52-50 on Joe Zovern's long shot. Proc sparked Southern's closing drive with nine points in the final eight minutes of play. He hit three times from the field and three times from the free throw line to build up a safe markin for the south Florida guintet.

Pegg had enjoyed a previous hot streak at the outset of the game, when his five outek points of the Moes out in front 6-1 in the early minutes.

In between those two scoring flurics Pegg picked up four other points to give him an 18-point total that topped the Southern attack.

Forwards Chuck Terry and Capt Gene Robbins played stellar supporting roles to the little Moc. guard. Terry rolled in 15 points and Robbins 15.

Lose Two Aces . .

FSU, which had a seven-game winning streak snapped last night of in bowing, to Southern for the withird time this season, suffered a vione-two punch that they couldn't survive when forward Lee Benjamin went out at the 10-minute if mark with a split-lip and guard if Ted Hewitt fouled out with his a club out in front 40-37. They put up a stubborn battle in the clossing minutes as sub Larry Dickson scored eight vital points, but were a outmanned in the race down to the wire.

The Seminoles had bounced let back to wrest the lead away from let the Mocs after the early flurry, and with Big Tom McLaughlin dunking in a stream of one-handers led up to those last eight min-C stream.

McLaughlin piled in 20 points to to take scoring hono!s for the tilt, and he was a power under a both boards.

Bears Follow Form

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Mercer's victory over Mississippi
College followed the form charts
t as the smooth Bear five jumped
out in front to a quick 8-0 edge
and kept pouring on the oil to roll
t up a 41-19 margin at halftime.

Sparked by big Ray Stration, who hit for 20 points after the intermission, the Chocs gave the Bears a battle in the second half,

but the damage was done.

Stratton had 28 points for the evening to take scoring honors away from Bruin are Glenn Wilkes, the smooth-as-silk scoring leader and floorman of the Beats. Wilkes, who, will be gunning for his 600th point of the season against the Mocs tonight, had 25 points against the Chocs.

Including last night's game. Wilkes had scored \$91 points in 24 games this leason. Glenn Cassell-followed Wilkes in

Clenn Cassell followed Wilkes in the scoring table with 16 points.

Howard took a 83-36 victory over Millaps yesterday afternoon for the consolation championship anions teams beaten in the open-ing round.

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