

DETERMINED FSU RALLY EDGES LOYOLA, 87-84

Erases 13-Point Deficit Near End As Overflow Crowd Views Thriller

A fierce rally in the last seven minutes overhauled a 13-point Loyola University lead and enabled Florida State's Seminoles to puncture a four-year Wolfpack jinx, 87-84, in a spine-tingling basketball game last night.

Governor LeRoy Collins was among an overflow audience of 1,000 at Florida High gym as FSU racked up its 14th straight home victory.

It was the greatest comeback triumph in FSU cage history.

SWEET REVENGE

The outcome was a sweet measure of revenge for Bud Kennedy's Seminoles. They had never beaten the New Orleans Jesuits in seven previous attempts, and had fallen to Loyola by six points in the Crescent City last Saturday night.

FSU now has a remarkable 18-3 record, with a regular season-ending game at Miami to play Friday night and the NAIA tournament ahead here Monday and Tuesday.

Last night's tension-packed struggle was another "iron-man" job by FSU's "solid six." Forward Rick Benson and Dick Artmeier went all the way, as did guards Ham Wernke and Jimmy Oler. Centers Gary Wold and Bobby Williams shared the pivot.

It was the fastest game ever

seen here. Both teams used lightning fast breaks and the pace was terrific.

THE DIFFERENCE

Florida State won the game because of two factors—they outshot Loyola from the free throw line, 33-10, and had things their way only after Loyola's All-America center candidate, Eddie Galvin, fouled out with seven minutes left.

Loyola bills Galvin as a court magician and he was all of that. The frail (6-5, 175 pounds) Chicago senior largely controlled the backboards and set up basket after basket with "blind" passes to his teammates. He bagged 24 points on tip-ins and whirling layups before leaving.

Oler and Wernke sparked the FSU offense with 24 points each, and Benson contributed 19 valuable points. Centers Wold and Williams, who improve with every game, helped turn the tide in the last minutes by hogging almost every stray shot.

A tight Wolfpack defense hurried FSU's shots at the outset and the Wolfpack rolled to a 22-14 lead after 10 minutes. The complexion changed rapidly as Wernke and Oler warmed up and the Seminoles pulled ahead, 40-30, with three minutes left in the half.

MARGIN SLICED

Four points apiece by Galvin and Tom Rouzan offset two free throws by Artmeier and FSU's halftime margin was sliced to 42-38.

The score was tied three times early in the second half before Galvin and Dick Vavrick started ringing the bell to shove Loyola ahead, 72-59, with seven minutes left.

That's when Galvin fouled Wernke for his fifth personal and Loyola's offense folded. A 25-foot push shot by Oler gave the Seminoles the lead again with 2:50 remaining. Wernke flipped in a layup after a nice feed from Oler to make it 84-81. Rouzan dropped a free throw, Oler matched that, then Loyola's Bob O'Donnell meshed a 15-foot jump shot to cut it to 85-84.

FSU went into a deep freeze and Loyola's Mat Baer stopped it by bumping Wernke. With 44 seconds showing on the clock, Ham canned both free throws for the final 87-84 count. A last-second layup by Rouzan rolled off the rim as the game ended.

LOYOLA		FG	FT	PF	TP
Baer, f	.....	1	0	4	2
Rouzan, f	.....	5	3	3	13
Vavrick, f-c	.....	8	2	3	18
Lorio, f	.....	1	1	3	3
Galvin, c	.....	11	2	5	24
O'Donnell, g	.....	5	2	1	12
Conrad, g	.....	4	0	3	8
Reynoir, g	.....	2	0	3	4
Totals		37	10	25	84
FSU		FG	FT	PF	TP
Artmeier, f	.....	2	2	3	6
Benson, f	.....	6	7	1	19
Wold, c	.....	1	4	0	6
Williams, c	.....	3	2	3	8
Wernke, g	.....	8	8	0	24
Oler, g	.....	7	10	2	24
Totals *		27	33	9	87
Halftime score: Florida State 42, Loyola 38.					

Free throws missed: Loyola—Rouzan 2, Vavrick, Galvin, Conrad. FSU—Artmeier, Benson, Williams, Wernke 6, Oler 2.