

Special to the Democrat

OKLAHOMA CITY—Oklahoma City's red-hot Chiefs celebrated the opening of their new field house by hitting nearly 53 per cent of their shots for a 103-75 basketball victory over Florida State here yesterday afternoon.

A capacity crowd of 3,500 watched Abe Lemons' Chiefs — the nation's 14th-ranked team — build up a commanding halftime margin and coast to their 15th triumph in the unusual afternoon collegiate scrap. Oklahoma City has been beaten only twice this season.

TRADE LEADS

The teams traded leads early in the game before Oklahoma City found the range and stacked up a 52-23 lead at intermission. The traveling Seminoles — who didn't arrive here until 2:30 a.m. Saturday after a delayed plane trip — pumped in 52 points in the last half. But it wasn't enough to overhaul the sharp-shooting Chiefs.

Florida State's Hugh Durham, the nation's ninth leading major-college scorer, was checked closely by OCU's Bud Sahmaunt in the first half, bagging only six points in the first 20 minutes. But he came back to hit 14 more after intermission to wind up as FSU's high scorer with 20.

TEN STRAIGHT

Hitting 10 straight free throws without a miss, Durham's average dipped slightly to 28.9 points through 15 games.

Seminole guard Don Bates maintained his 19.5 average with 19 points. OCU had four men in double figures, with Ed McGraw dunking 23 and Fred Moses 26. McGraw hit an amazing total of 14 field goals in 17 attempts.

As a team, OCU earned 44 of 54 shots from the floor for a 81.4 reading. FSU matched 28 of 71 for a 39.4 percentage.

It was the first game of a two-game road swing for Bud Kennedy's Tribe when they leave Genesee in Shreveport, La., Monday night.

Florida State (6-0) returns to Tallahassee Tuesday. The Seminoles entertain Loyola of New Orleans at home next Saturday.

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