

"I've got a secret to tell you," Bobby Lovell told Coach Bud Kennedy last night. "I talked to the ball tonight like Sam Snead says to do when you play golf."

Evidently, Lovell muttered the right words nine times from the field

and six from the foul line.

He spear-headed Ken-

nedey's FSU basketball-

ers to an 81-57 opening win

over Valdosta State last

night before

3,200 fans in Lovell

gym.

The senior guard assumed

command of the FSU zone of-

fense from the outset, setting

up plays, passing off deftly to

cutting teammates and bagging

his medium-range jumpers

that were made possible when

the Seminoles speedily passed

and cut. He scored 24 points.

FSU looked sluggish in the

first half despite a 36 - 24 lead.

Time after time smaller Val-



Lovell

dosta State players would out-

wrestle FSU for the ball. But

soon the jitters disappeared and

the Seminoles displayed form

that looks promising for the fu-

ture.

Coach Kennedy, who experi-

enced his 17th opening night

here, was elated with the per-

formance although he let it be

"It was a typical first half in your first ball game," Kennedy said quietly. "We weren't as aggressive as I thought we might be at first but we soon got untracked and started scrambling. Our rebounding wasn't too good either at the start but it was about what we anticipated."

Kennedy was particularly pleased with the generalship of Lovell, along with the rebounding of center Gary Schull.

"I thought Bob did an outstanding job," Kennedy said. "He carried out our game plan exactly as we had set it up."

Schull, the big 6 - 5 center whom Kennedy considers one of the best cagers in the South, hauled down 20 errant shots and

contributed 11 points. He got three buckets on tip-in.

"Gary did a good job for us on the boards," Kennedy went on. "He's been bothered by a cold all week and he's just plain pooped now."

Ron Malmen, the frosh scoring leader of a year ago, was second on the Seminole scoring chart with 13. He canned four of his fielders from deep in the corner against the collapsing Valdosta zone defense.

"Ron played a fine game even though he couldn't jump very well," Kennedy informed. "He's still bothered by that bad ankle that kept him out of practice a couple of weeks ago."

Kennedy says Schull and Malmen both will have to be in top shape if the Seminoles hope to get on the boards with VMI Thursday night, Auburn and Alabama on the road over the weekend and height-laden Florida here next Wednesday night.

Valdosta State, unbeaten in

of two outings before last night, was pretty much out of the ball game after the first half although the Rebels did manage to close the Tribe margin to 63-53 with 5:05 remaining.

The Rebels lost their scoring punch midway in the second half via five fouls. Guard Bobby Ritch was saddled with four fouls at halftime and garnered his fifth with 2:50 to go. Forward Letson Plant, a former North Miami prep cager, left 41 seconds later with FSU sporting a 58-44 lead.

Plant was the key. The Rebels' biggest man at 6-4, his job was to handle the ball out front and keep Schull away from the basket. It worked a few times but FSU did a fine job of stuffing off and clogging up the middle that could aptly be termed "Sweaty Lane" after the steady stream of players that landed on their backs there.

Forty-eight infractions were

with 19 and 18 points respectively.

Dunn was high for aggressive Chipola with 17 tallies. Jerry Hill added 13.

CHIPOLA				FSU FROSH			
	FG	FT	TP		FG	FT	TP
Hill	5	3-6	11	Ross	1	2-2	4
Henderson	4	0-1	2	Stilwell	2	0-0	4
Knop	3	1-1	11	Forkey	3	3-5	19
Dunn	6	4-8	11	Stewart	9	0-1	18
Mikell	4	3-3	11	Lytle	2	2-4	7
Conner	2	0-0	4	Pries	0	0-0	0
Wright	0	1-2	1	Ellis	4	0-1	8
Sora	2	2-2	0	Sparks	3	0-0	6
Totals	32	15-27	71	Totals	20	8-13	66
Halttime: Chipola 26, FSU Frosh 25.							
Total Fouls—FSU 12, Chipola 12.							

29 VALDOSTA				FG	FT	REB	P	P	T	P
Vick				1-5	3-3	3	3	3		
Plant				3-13	2-3	3	5	8		
Terry				6-10	2-3	4	4	14		
Ritch				5-10	0-0	5	5	10		
Johnson				2-4	3-5	5	5	9		
Hodges				3-4	1-2	1	3	7		
Fike				0-2	0-0	0	0	0		
Weitman				0-1	0-1	0	0	0		
McFarland				0-0	0-0	0	0	0		
Bates				0-0	2-3	0	0	2		
Fortner				0-0	0-2	0	1	0		
Lamphier				0-0	0-0	0	0	0		
Traylor				0-0	2-2	0	1	2		
Team								9		
Totals				20-51	17-24	39	27	57		
FLA. STATE				FG	FT	REB	P	P	T	P
Peacock				4-14	1-2	5	5	9		
Malmen				6-13	1-2	3	3	13		
Schull				3-12	5-6	20	2	11		
Lovell				9-20	6-7	6	1	24		
Gonzalez				3-10	4-4	4	2	10		
Phillips				0-2	0-1	4	1	0		
Leakey				1-1	0-0	0	0	2		
Fairchild				4-7	4-7	4	4	12		
Murphy				0-2	0-0	1	3	0		
Team								7		
Totals				30-81	21-29	54	21	81		
Valdosta					24		33	57		
Fla. State					36		45	81		

committed with the Seminoles early 21 times and the visitors 27. A majority were on "player-control" fouls, or what is commonly known as charging. Four of Ritch's were of that variety in drives while Plant racked up three in the charging column. It was the crafty Lovell who was the crafty Lovell who jumped in front on Ritch twice and Plant once to draw fouls.

Coach Rufus Ashworth's defense was as successful as Ken-ny's attack. The FSU frosh were bounced 11-4 by Chipola College.

The frosh pulled within a 58-53 with 1:25 left in the game but three fouls by the visitors and a 20-10 run by the Rebels sealed the game.