

# Seminoles In 86-79 Triumph

By **BOB BLANKENSHIP**  
Executive Sports Editor

It was somewhat of a mystery to Coach Hugh Durham, whose Florida State Seminoles played well enough in spurts Saturday night in Tully Gym to knockoff Houston, 86-79.

"I don't know," he said in pondering the way in which the Seminoles went about it. "It's nice to win with 25 turnovers, and, when you turn it over 25 times and win, you've got to be doing something right."

"I guess," he added, "our defense played well."

"But, anytime you beat Houston," he said, "I guess you've got to be happy."

The Seminoles, ranked No. 12 in the country, blew one lead after another, got a boost from their fans and hung on at the end.

And, that was enough to impress Houston Coach Guy Lewis.

"We knew Florida State had a fine club, and nothing happened out there tonight to change our mind," he said. "They are some quick, particularly the point men. Both of them are exceptionally disciplined to be as quick as they are. FSU's quickness told the story."

The story wasn't told until the final minute, when time and a 13-point lead appeared to be safe at last.

FSU had led by seven in the first half, broke from a 37-37 intermission deadlock for a 12-point margin and then had to spurt again for a 13-point advantage before being happy to settle for the final seven-point margin.

The Seminoles, in a rather surprising move, won the game inside where Reggie Royals and Lawrence McCray scored 20 points apiece and Rowland Garrett hit for another 16.

That was considerable more than the Cougars, whose record dipped to 8-5, got from their heralded inside troops. Dwight Davis did toss in a game-high 22 points and fouled out with a little over six minutes left. But Steve Newsome got only 11 and Dwight Jones only eight.

"It sure is nice to beat big people," beamed McCray, who was stretched out on a training table with an ice-pack on a bruised hip.

In foul trouble and forced

into along first-half stint on the bench, the 6-11 sophomore responded with 14 of his points in the second half.

Before that it was Royals.

"Reggie carried us in the first half," noted Durham in reference to the 6-10 junior's 16 first-half points.

"I just try to play my best all the time," he nodded. "It would have been better ... but the cramps."

Royals had to leave the game in the late stages, helped from the floor in some pain.

The Seminoles got their first seven-point lead half way through a slow first half, and trailed by four when they got the boost from the crowd to make it even at intermission.

"The crowd helped us a lot," Durham noted. "They got us seven points."

Durham was recounting the incident when the official called the pep band drummer down for an impromptu session during play. It irradiated the fans into a standing, hand-clapping session of their own and the Cougars came unglued and promptly turned the ball over three straight times and the Seminoles converted seven points out of it.

"You've got to give Houston a lot of credit," Durham also noted. "They kept there poise most of the night and this is not an easy place to play."

The Cougars did turn the ball over 29 times for the evening, and Coach Lewis thought that was mostly because of the FSU defense.

"Their defense is as good as any we've faced this year," he said.

The second half was the Seminoles all the way, even if it was shaky at times, after McCray broke a 39-deadlock a minute and half after intermission.

And, it was mostly McCray and Garrett, who scored all of his 16 points in the second half, that took it upon themselves to get the job done.

It was two goals by Garrett that got the Seminoles started on their first break away. It was McCray and Garrett again when the Cougars got to within four after a 12-point deficit, and, then in the end, it was Greg Samuels who hit three key free throws in the final 72 seconds after Houston pulled to within seven and then five.

The Seminoles, checked with 37 first half points, pumped in a more realistic 49 after intermission while improving their shooting percentage from 37.8 to 55.9. For the game it was 46.5.

Houston never did recover from a 39.5 first half shooting, and settled for 39.3 for the game.

The rebounding was far one-sided in the Cougars' favor, 58-42, and Durham noted it as one of the Seminoles' weak points.

"We're just a couple of things away from being a great team," he said. "We're an outstanding team now, but we've got to get more consistency in our rebounding... at times we do a great job."

"Too," he said "being

ranked No. 12, we're in the process of learning to play when everyone is gunning for us."

South Alabama will be the next group to come gunning for the Seminoles, Wednesday night in Tully Gym.

HOUSTON						
	FG	FT	RB	Asst.	PF	TP
Bonney	1-4	2-3	6	1	0	4
Jones	3-11	2-3	11	0	3	8
Willis	3-5	0-0	2	3	3	6
Davis	10-17	2-5	12	3	5	22
Newsome	4-16	3-8	10	6	3	11
Hosfer	0-1	1-1	2	0	1	1
Brown	1-8	0-0	2	2	4	2
Knight	1-2	0-0	1	0	1	2
Hayes	7-14	1-3	6	3	5	15
Edwards	3-6	2-2	6	0	1	8
TEAM			6			
TOTALS	33-84	13-25	64	18	26	79

FLORIDA STATE						
	FG	FT	RB	Asst.	PF	TP
Samuel	3-11	6-8	6	5	1	12
Garrett	6-10	4-7	7	7	3	16
Royals	8-15	4-5	14	3	2	20
King	4-17	0-3	5	6	3	8
McCray	9-13	2-2	6	0	3	20
Harris	2-4	2-4	4	1	4	6
Cole	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
Petty	1-1	2-2	0	2	3	4
Gay	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
TEAM			6			
TOTALS	33-71	20-31	48	24	19	86

Houston	37	42-79
Florida St.	37	49-86

Officials: Winter; Johnson, Crowd: 4000.