

Seminoles rest shaky NIT case

Special to the Democrat

DAYTON, Ohio — Florida State's basketball team rested its case for a possible NIT bid in unconvincing fashion here Saturday night, dropping its final regular-season game 95-81 to Dayton University.

Bids to the National Invitational Tournament are due to be passed out today and any hope the Seminoles may have had going into last night's game were severely diminished with the loss.

Florida State closed out its season with a 21-6 record while the Flyers assured themselves of a winning season by improving their record to 14-12 with one game remaining.

In rolling up the victory, Dayton scored up more points than any other club this season against a Seminole defense that had yielded but 67 points per outing going in.

Most of the damage was administered by Dayton's Johnny Davis who, before it was all over had single-handedly taken apart the Seminoles with 35 points to the delight of the 10,700 fans at the Dayton Arena.

Davis, a junior from Detroit, led the Flyers to a 42-38 halftime advantage. The Seminoles led throughout most of the early going, and managed to build as much as a four-point lead, 27-23 with just over nine minutes remaining.

But in the second half, Florida State was no match for the tough Flyer outfit that quickly jumped to a 10-point lead in the first five minutes of the second half and stretched that lead to as many as 18 at one point.

The Flyers hit an amazing 63.2 per cent of their shots on the night against the shoddy Tribe defense.

"That was by far our worst defensive performance of the year," said FSU Coach Hugh Durham. "Davis scored 35 points and that's just too many for one guy to score."

Davis, a speedy 6-1 guard, hit 12 of 19 shots from the floor. Last week he pumped in 38 points against Notre Dame in a losing cause. He was averaging 21 points coming into the game.

"We sat around at Southwestern Louisiana waiting for an NCAA bid that didn't come," said Durham, "and then we started feeling sorry for ourselves.

"I'm not saying that we didn't have

right to feel sorry for ourselves, but it sure didn't help us in preparing for Dayton. We just weren't ready to play," he said. "That's all there is to it."

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Dayton 95 FSU 81

Florida State	FG	FT	R	A	PF	TP
Thompson	4-10	5-6	7	1	2	13
Davis	10-12	0-0	7	7	2	20
Grady	2-4	0-2	1	2	1	4
Bvrd	2-7	0-0	3	5	4	6
Warren	2-8	1-2	2	1	2	5
Harris	1-7	1-2	2	1	3	3
Perkins	1-2	0-0	0	1	1	2
Allen	9-14	0-0	3	0	4	18
Smith	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
Smalls	5-8	0-0	0	1	2	10
Totals	37-72	7-12	26	19	21	81
Dayton						
Giddings	4-6	0-0	16	7	2	8
Padson	5-12	4-8	7	4	1	14
Wells	3-5	0-0	4	0	4	6
Moulton	3-5	2-2	0	1	3	8
Davis	12-19	11-12	1	6	1	35
Harris	2-2	2-2	0	1	0	6
Eckert	7-8	2-2	5	0	1	16
Klawonn	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	0
Brannen	0-0	2-2	0	0	0	2
Ross	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0
Lee	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
Fredericks	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
Totals	36-57	23-28	40	20	12	95
Team						4
FSU						38-63-81
Dayton						42-53-95