

## FSU Tramples Troy 40-0 with

# Sheer Power Display

## Opening Win Is 13th In Row for Seminoles

By FRED P. PETTIJOHN

Florida State University opened its 1951 football campaign in much the same fashion that it rumbled unbeaten through its last 12 games in 1949 and 1950, bowling hapless Troy State over 40-0 with another display of superior manpower and the Seminoles' old sheer power.

With one eye cocked on its date next Friday with Miami and on the Hurricane scouts who were in the stands, the Seminoles struck almost strictly to straight football in rolling up their 13th consecutive victory.

### OLD VICTORY PRESCRIPTION

The crowd of 8,459 which sat through the opener in Doak S. Campbell Stadium were treated to cool, windy weather and another of Dr. Don Veller's old victory prescriptions of pounding at the middle and cashing in on the breaks.

The Indians followed the formula almost to the letter, scoring twice in the first period on short, sharp plunges by Mike Sellers, adding another score in the second quarter on a two-yard burst by big Ronald King and tacking on three more TDs in a long, hectic third period.

The Seminoles struck through the airlines for their first score after the intermission, Nelson Italiano passing to Bob Whitmer for 19 yards to set the score up, and then hitting the ex-Perdue end with a 14-yard payoff pitch.

Two breaks, one a recovered fumble on the Troy 33 and the other a pass interception on the Wave 27, paved the way for the final two touchdowns.

Dick Turk got TD number five, bowling four yards through the middle. King got number six—and the fifth scored by Seminole fullbacks—a few minutes later when he leaped over center from the five and sprawled into the end zone.

Ernie Huggett converted after the first three TDs, missed two, then came back and tacked on the 40th point after King's final scoring leap.

### WAVE HELPLESS

While the Seminole attack was grinding out 238 yards along the ground and picking up 137 through the airlines, the Indian defense was methodically tearing Troy's split-T attack apart.

The Indian line, which Veller says holds the key to his team's chances this year, hawked the ball carriers to the extent that the Wave wound up with a total of minus 16 yards running and 24 plus passing for a net gain of only eight yards all night.

The Wave, though outmanned badly, never quit as it absorbed the worst beating of the five year series between the two schools. Tonight's score surpassed the 36-6 triumph the Wave enjoyed back in 1947 when it thumped FSU's first modern grid team on a gloomy Thanksgiving afternoon.

Troy, which picked up only six first downs while the Seminoles were amassing 18, got over into Florida State territory just four times—and never penetrated past the 40-yard line.

The Alabama eleven got to the 45 with the aid of a penalty in the second period, and to the 41, 47 and 45 against the Indian reserves in the final frame.

### ITALIANO BIG GAINER

While he was shut out in the scoring tables, Nelson Italiano, the running-passing tailback, turned in the longest run of the night. Breaking over his right tackle and cutting back, Italiano raced 64 yards to the six-inch line to set up the second score. In all Italiano gained a total of 83 yards running and 88 passing to top the attack.

The Indians also got a beautiful 48-yard twisting run out of

"Presto" Preston Bradley that set up the second period score.

The win wasn't all happiness and light for the Indians, however. They lost the services of Roy Thompson, flashy right half-back who is expected to team with Italiano and Sellers in forming another smooth Veller attack, in the first period with a knee injury. The Wrightsville, Ga., boy, went to the dressing room after teaming with Sellers in setting up big Mike's scoring blast from the two. It was not known last night whether the injury would be serious enough to sideline him next Friday night or not.

#### FIRST QUARTER

The Seminoles wasted little time taking over the offensive, forcing Troy to punt on the fourth down after the kickoff. The Seminoles, with Italiano shaking loose for 20 around right end and Sellers punishing the inside, crunched to the 9. A bad pass from center set them back to the 29 and eventually stalled the drive that had reached the three on a couple of sharp passes to Campbell by Italiano and Sellers.

Troy's breathing spell was a short one, however. Tommy Brown took Sam Williams' punt from the 33 to the 30 and the Seminoles went to war. With Thompson slashing at the weak side and Sellers bombing the middle, FSU punched to the two and Sellers spun over the middle for the TD. Huggett converted and it was 7-0. With 3:56 left Troy took the kickoff and sped to the 47 before bogging down and FSU was working from its own 25 as the quarter ended.

#### SECOND QUARTER

After sparring for the first seven minutes of the second period, the Seminoles struck suddenly for their second score. Putting the ball in play on their own 34 after Sam Williams' punt, FSU sent Italiano knifing at the tackles. The strong Tampa boy got two on his first carry, then slammed over the right side, cut back and went all the way to the mouth of the goal before Beck shoved him out of bounds six inches away from paydirt. It was easy for Sellers from there as the big fullback burst over on the first crack. Huggins converted again and it was 14-0.

Late in the period the Seminoles' lightning struck again, with another long run setting up the TD. This time it was Preston Brad-

ley on a beautiful twisting 48-yard gallop to the 15. A fumble and a penalty set the drive back, but Italiano's 23-yard shot to Fiveash carried to the two, and King crashed over from there on the third try with less than a minute remaining in the half. Huggins made it 21-0.

Seconds later the Indians missed another TD when a penalty nullified Tommy Brown's 45-yard scoring dash with an intercepted pass.

#### THIRD QUARTER

Missing no tricks, the Seminoles cashed in on a couple of quick breaks to pile up the score early in the third period. The first break came on a handoff which the Wave fumbled on a punt return. Whitmer flopped on the leather on the 33 and the Indians took to the air. Italiano threw a 18-yard strike to Whitmer which the big end took on the six and carried over. Huggett finally missed and it was 27-0.

One minute later Dawkins nabbed a Troy aerial on the 27, and the Indians were off to the races again. Fiveash and Turk tugged the leather to the four and Turk boomed over center from there to up the ante to 33-0. Huggett, in a rut now, missed again.

Veller flooded the field with reserves and the two teams seasawed scorelessly for 10 minutes before the Indian third string put together a 50-yard scoring march. Folsom, running outside and passing to Bridges, worked the ball to the five and King dived over for the counter. Huggett got back on the beam again and split the uprights to make it 40-0.

#### FOURTH QUARTER

Troy maintaining possession of the ball, worked up to its own 48 in one drive then made its deepest penetration of the night to FSU's 41 after regaining the ball on downs on FSU's 46.

The Seminole reserves stiffened, stopped the Wave and then made a threat of their own only to have it nullified by a penalty. Graham raced 49 yards to the Wave nine, on a play wiped out by a backfield-in-motion infraction, neither team got anywhere after that, though Troy twice more

moved over into FSU territory, going to 47 once and to the 45 on another occasion before time ran out.

# STATISTICS

|                   | TROY | FSU  |
|-------------------|------|------|
| First downs       | 8    | 18   |
| Carried rushing   | 38   | 58   |
| Net gain rushing  | 18   | 238  |
| Attempted passing | 17   | 26   |
| Completed         | 8    | 10   |
| Had intercepted   | 2    | 1    |
| Net gain passing  | 24   | 137  |
| Punts             | 8    | 8    |
| Punts blocked     | 0    | 0    |
| Punting average   | 32.4 | 37.7 |
| Fumbles lost      | 2    | 1    |
| Yards penalized   | 32   | 90   |

## Score by periods:

|               |   |    |    |   |    |
|---------------|---|----|----|---|----|
| Troy          | 0 | 0  | 0  | 0 | 0  |
| Florida State | 7 | 14 | 19 | 0 | 40 |

## Florida State scoring: touchdowns—

Sellers (2), King (2), Turk (1), Whitmer (1). Conversions—Huggett (4).

## INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

### TROY—

Running: Williams, 1 for 8 yards; Odenheimer, 2 for 3; Beck, 7 for 4. Passing: Harrell, 15 attempted, 8 completed, 2 intercepted for 24 yards.

### FLORIDA STATE—

Running: Italiano, 8 for 83 yards; Bradley, 4 for 52; Fiveash, 9 for 20; Bringger, 2 for 31. Passing: Italiano, 9 attempted, 4 completed for 88 yards; Folsom, 5 attempted, 3 completed for 24; Fiveash, 8 attempted, 2 completed, 1 intercepted for 3 yards.