

'Payoff' Passing Featured In Final FSU Statistics

Fourteen TDs Came Via Air As Swantic Threw For Six

By BILL McGROTHA
Democrat Sports Editor

Perhaps the most unusual feature in a final tabulation of Florida State football statistics for the 10-game season is the payoff passing of quarterback Len Swantic.

The senior from Columbus, Ga., saw little action until the last three games.

But Swantic ended the season with more touchdown passes than any other FSU quarterback. He threw for six touchdowns. Which is a little phenomenal in view of the fact he passed only 33 times, completing 19. His average total was 233.

And Swantic had no passes intercepted.

FANCY THROWING

Lee Corso wound up with five touchdown pitches, completing 32 of 59 for 369. He had five intercepted. Ted Rodrigue hit on 20 of 34 for 239 yards and three TDs, with three throws falling into enemy hands.

With Swantic, Rodrigue and Corso all above the .500 percentage-completion mark, FSU had a much better passing game than last year. Fourteen TDs came via air in 1956 compared to three in 1955.

That total of 14 wasn't far from the 19 that gave FSU a national lead in touchdown passes for the 1954 season.

If halfback Bobby Renn had not suffered injuries in the Georgia game he might have busted the FSU one - season rushing record set by Buddy Strauss with 747 yards in 1949. As it was, Renn ended with a net of 596 yards in 105 carries for a 5.6 average.

METTS, CORSO 'EVEN'

Only Corso and halfback Buck Metts came close to the work-horse role of Renn. Corso carried 88 times for a net of 356 and a 4.0 average. Metts ended with the same average, 4.0, on 328 yards for 81 trips.

Halfbacks Billy Odom, Billy

Weaver and Stan Dobosz ran with the ball just about the same number of times. Odom averaged 4.7 for 38 runs, Weaver 4.5 for 32, Dobosz 4.3 for 33.

One oddity in the figures was that FSU's offense yardage total of 2,687 was just about even with opponents, who totalled 2,639.

Though opponents managed more pass interceptions than the Seminoles, 11 to 7, FSU's pass defense must have been outstanding in the clutch. The Seminoles yielded but two touchdowns via passes. On the other hand, opponents got 16 running, compared to 12 for FSU. Opponents out - rushed FSU, 1,827 to 1,727, but FSU had a pass-yardage margin, 960 to 812.

KEY CATCHERS

A variety of pass receivers helped FSU's throwing game. End Ronald Schomburger and fullback Joe Holt caught 16 apiece. End Bob Nellums and halfback Buck Metts grabbed 12 each. Nellums emerged as leading scorer on the squad with 31 points—on five pass receptions for touchdowns and one extra point.

Renn was one point behind in the scoring column with 30 points. He got three TDs running, caught passes for two more. Metts got more TDs running than any other back, four. Holt scored 18 points, on three pass catches. Corso also scored three times, all on runs.

Corso's three touchdowns running and his passing for five more made him the most "productive" back.

Renn ended with a punting average of 39.3, compared to Metts' 33.4. Metts punted 26 times, four more than Renn.

FSU FIGURES

FSU		FOES
105	First downs, rush	95
45	First downs, pass	33
6	First downs, penalty	6
156	Total first downs	134
1727	Yards rushing	1827
960	Yards passing	812
2687	Total Net Yards	2639
151	Passes attempted	123
82	Passes completed	61
7	Passes intercepted by	11
56	Number punts	56
34.5	Punting average	32.5
15	Fumbles lost	17
69	Number penalties	58
687	Yards Penalized	599
14	Touchdowns, pass	2
12	Touchdowns, run	16
0	Field goals	1
0	Safeties	0
22	Extra Points	11
178	Total Points	116

RUSHING

	Runs	Gain	Loss	Net	Avg.
Renn	105	614	18	596	5.6
Odom	33	169	13	156	4.7
Weaver	32	152	8	144	4.5
Dobosz	33	148	6	142	4.3
Corso	88	514	158	356	4.0
Metts	81	351	23	328	4.0
Prinzi	15	61	7	54	3.6
Holt	7	21	0	21	3.0
Barnes	1	3	0	3	3.0
Johnson	5	12	0	12	2.2
Minton	2	3	5	-2	-1.0
Swantic	25	37	71	-34	-1.4
Rodrique	14	34	76	-42	-3.0
Bisbee	2	1	8	-7	-3.5

PASSING

	Att.	Cmp.	Int.	Yds.	TD
Corso	59	32	5	369	5
Rodrique	34	20	3	239	2
Swantic	33	19	0	233	6
Prinzi	22	9	3	98	1
Renn	2	2	0	21	0
Metts	1	0	0	0	0

PASS RECEIVING

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Schomburger	16	140	8.7	0
Holt	16	140	8.7	3
Nellums	12	182	15.2	5
Metts	12	158	13.2	0
Renn	5	60	12.0	2
Odom	4	38	9.5	0
Bisbee	4	68	17.0	4
Johnson	3	52	17.1	1
Corso	3	46	15.1	0
Philp	3	27	9.0	1
Arnold	1	17	17.0	1
Minton	1	11	11.0	0
Battaglia	1	13	13.0	0
Minton	1	11	11.0	0
Dobosz	1	8	8.0	0

PASS INTERCEPTIONS

	No.	Yds.	TD
Corso	2	14	0
Renn	2	37	1
Swantle	2	24	0
Metts	1	40	1

PUNTING

	No.	Yds.	Avg.
Renn	22	861	39.3
Metts	26	862	33.4
Henderson	3	93	31.0
Dobosz	1	45	45.0
Rodrique	2	42	21.0
Weaver	1	34	34.0

PUNT RETURNS

	No.	Yds.	Avg.
Corso	7	102	14.4
Metts	6	71	11.5
Odom	3	19	6.1
Renn	3	20	6.2
Dobosz	2	29	10.5
Pacifico	1	36	36.0
Holt	1	8	8.0
Schomburger	1	7	7.0
Prinzi	1	5	5.0

KICKOFF RETURNS

	No.	Yds.	Avg.
Odom	8	147	18.3
Metts	6	116	19.2
Corso	5	73	14.3
Renn	2	27	13.1
Schomburger	2	26	13.0
Holt	1	11	11.0
Dobosz	1	25	25.0
Weaver	1	4	4.0

SCORING

	TD	EPA	EP	FG	TP
Nellums	5	2	1	0	31
Renn	5	0	0	0	30
Metts	4	0	0	0	24
Corso	3	3	3	0	21
Sheppard	0	19	18	0	18
Holt	3	0	0	0	18

(Weaver, Bisbee, Prinzi, Arnold, Johnson and Philp scored 1 TD each.)