

ATHENS, Ga., May 6 (AP)—Folks who pick the favorites were a bit red-faced today as the "big three" of the 18th Southern Intercollegiate golf tournament trailed co-leaders Johnny Pott of Louisiana State and Mason Rudolph of Memphis State by seven strokes.

Defending champion Hillman Robbins of Memphis State, Rex Baxter of Houston and Doug Sanders of Florida, the pre-tournament choices, all took 74s in yesterday's first round in the field of 148 college golf stars.

Robbins was the big favorite in view of his victory here last year—when he fired a record 66 in the final round—and his high position the two previous years. Baxter, a Walker Cup alternate, holder of the Mexican Amateur crown and a former USGA junior champ, and Doug Sanders, former National Jaycee junior champ and two-time Southeastern amateur titlist, were expected to furnish him the tough-

est competition.

But this trio couldn't master the 6,741-yard Athens Country Club course with its 36-36-72 par, while Pott and Rudolph made it their playground.

The pace-setters fired identical scores of 32-35-67, just one stroke shy of Robbins' record round.

Only one member of Florida State's seven-man contingent cracked par. Bobby Dunn, freshman ace from Camilla, Ga., fired a 34-37-71, four strokes off the pace.

Freshman Dink Wise shot a sparkling 32 over the first nine, but blew to a 45 coming in for a 77 total.

Other FSU scores:

Jack Veghte 38-38-76; Mel Fleischer 36-40-76; Bunk Berry, 39-38-77; Norrie Wright, 39-38-77; Dick Hauff, 39-40-79.

ATHENS, Ga. (AP)—Lester Kelly, Georgia's golf captain, is where he wanted to be today—out front by three strokes in the Southern Intercollegiate golf tournament. And Florida won the championship of the SEC by grabbing the tourney's team title yesterday.

With 36 holes ahead of him in today's finals, his lead was by no means safe. Johnny Pott of Louisiana State, who dropped from his torrid opening 67 to a par 72 yesterday, was his closest challenger.

Two strokes further back was Mason Rudolph of Memphis State, co-leader with Pott after the first round. He had a 74 yesterday. Two others still in striking distance were Florida aces Pat Schwab and Dave Ragan at 142. The Gator duo carded a pair of 71s.

The steady sub-par shooting of Schwab and Ragan enabled Florida to capture the team championship with a four-man total after 36 holes of 575—one under par. This automatically made the Gators the Southeastern Conference champs also. The SEC team and individual titles are settled in this tournament annually.

Louisiana State, helped to an eight-stroke lead by Pott's fine opening round, dropped to second place in the team competition with a 577. Georgia was next at 579 and then came the University of Houston and North Texas State at 589. LSU was the defending team champion.

Florida State's Mel Fleischer registered the day's second best round with a two-under-par 70, but the Seminole shot a 76 in the opening round for a total of 146 heading into the final 36 holes.

Other Seminole scores: Bobby Dunn, 71-78—149; Bunk Berry 77-73—150; Dick Hauff, 19-71—150; Jack Veghte, 76-75—151; Norrie Wright, 77-81—158; Stan Ziobrowski, 74-86—160; Dink Wise, 77-84—161.

Special to The Democrat

ATHENS, May 7—Bobby Dunn fired a 67—which tied the tourney low—in his last round today to alone carry FSU's banner among the leaders in the Southern Intercollegiate golf tournament here.

Dunn had a 72-hole total of 294 to rank 12th. Lester Kelly of Georgia won the title with a 281 total, seven strokes better than Johnny Pott of LSU.