

Seminole Netters In Local Tourney

Lex Wood, who is now a permanent non-playing coach for Florida State's tennis team, today takes his youngsters against the best men's competition Tallahassee can offer.

It's called the City of Tallahassee Invitational, and FSU's varsity players will meet a team of the leading amateurs in the city, including state Junior Veteran champion, Andy Payton.

Singles play begins at 3. Payton, an accounting professor at Florida State, will play Paul de Zeeuw, the sophomore star who, like Wood, is a native of South Africa.

Payton won the Florida Junior Veteran ages (35-45) last year and is said to be the favorite for this year's nationals. Payton is a former collegiate Big Ten champ.

Other entries for the opposition are Bill Thompson, last year's city champion, Bob Spivey, and John Cotton, a Tallahassee lawyer who has only one arm.

Wood's Florida State team will use the competition to prepare for Saturday's match with Florida here.

The Seminoles have won three recent matches by a combined 29-0 score, and hold a sea-

son record of 3-1. Three straight wins came over N. E. Missouri State Teachers, 8-0, Valdosta State, 9-0, and the St. Petersburg Tennis Club, 12-0.

The Valdosta State match, played inside at Valdosta because of cold weather, saw de Zeeuw and junior Steve Guse of Little Rock, Ark., emerge as a solid number one doubles team. They whipped Valdosta's Tom Anderson and Tom Milner, 6-3, 6-4.

Two days later in St. Petersburg, Wood's team ran into a strong contingent of local amateurs and came off with a surprising victory.