

FSU Drops Thriller to Erskine

SEMINOLES BOW 47-45

End Tour Tonight Against Wofford

(Special to The Democrat)

DUE WEST, SC—The Florida State University Seminoles, still seeking to snap their prolonged losing string, staged a brilliant second half rally last night only to see it fall short in the final seconds as they bowed to Erskine college in a 47-45 thriller.

The Seminoles, embroiled in a nine-game losing string, hit twice from the field in the closing seconds, but an off-balance Erskine shot, sandwiched between the two FSU goals, protected the Fleet's margin and allowed them to eke out their triumph.

Futile Drive

Jim Pavy, steady FSU floorman dropped a set shot in from the side and Ernest Williams scored on a layup in the final futile drive.

The Seminoles will wind up their trip in Spartanburg, SC, against the Wofford College Terriers in a return tilt between the two teams. In the opener Wofford copped a tight 48-45 decision.

Coach Don Loucks' cagers, off to a slow start, trailed 14-5 after the opening minutes and appeared on the verge of a rout before they pulled themselves together and began the long battle back uphill.

Clicking in the closing minutes of the first half the Seminoles reduced the Erskine edge to 25-19 at halftime.

Coming out after the intermission FSU immediately took possession of the play and staged a prolonged drive that enabled them to knot the count at 30-all, and then forge ahead 34-30.

Davidson Hot

With Les Davidson, set shot artist, hitting a hot streak Erskine bounded back on the strength of four straight baskets from the field and went into the lead 38-34.

Erskine inched their edge up to six points several times late in the second period, but FSU overcame each spurt and kept themselves back in the ball game until their final drive fell short.

Davidson, Erskine ace, topped the scorers with 18 points.

Lanky Larry Duckson, FSU's early-season scoring leader, paced the Garnet and Gold quintet with 15 points.

Ralph Chaudron, Seminole playmaker, turned in a sparkling floor game for the Florida five.

ERSKINE (47)	fg	ft	pf	tp
Davidson, f	7	4	4	18
Brady, f	1	1	0	3
Shelton, f	1	0	3	2
Selerno, f	3	1	0	5
Padgett, c	5	0	1	10
Lowery, g	1	1	0	3
Lauricella, g	2	0	3	4
Carr, g	1	0	1	2

Totals	30	7	11	47
FLORIDA STATE (45)	fg	ft	pf	tp
Kratzert, f	3	0	0	6
Hilamen, f	1	0	3	2
Wyman, f	1	0	0	2
Nettles, f	0	1	2	1
Williams, c	2	2	4	6
Dickson, c	5	5	2	15
Pavy, g	3	0	2	6
Chaudron, g	3	1	0	7
Totals	18	9	12	45

Halftime score: Erskine 25, Fla St 19.
Free throws missed: Kratzert 2, Davidson 3, Padgett, Lowery 2, Selerno 2.