

By PAT HOGAN

Special to the Democrat

LEXINGTON, Ky.—Senior All-America candidate Johnny Cox lost a shooting war to Kentuckian Hugh Durham, but managed to pull Kentucky's jittery sophomores together for a 91-68 season-opening basketball triumph over Florida State here last night.

A tense crowd of 11,450, awed by an early Seminole lead, relaxed as Adolph (The Baron) Rupp's defending national champs caught fire for their 31st consecutive opening-night triumph.

#### UNEXPECTED ANGLE

The 23-point margin was just about what was expected. But the manner in which Coach Bud Kennedy's youngsters went about their underdog role wasn't.

They came out like they were in the same ring with the Seminole freshmen, grabbing a 6-1 advantage and not relinquishing it until Kentucky took over, 15-14, after a "What's going on?" time out after seven minutes.

The Seminoles trailed by only five points, 29-34, at intermission, and were still in it at 52-47 with 10 minutes left.

That's when Cox, only starting returnee from last year's NCAA kings, took over.

#### HE CUTS LOOSE

Shooting like his supper depended on it, and rebounding as if he were after the only basketball left on earth, the 6-4, Hazard, Ky., smoothie pumped in a dozen points over a brief span and the Wildcats won going away.

Until that stage, Durham and junior transfer Don Bates had baffled the Kentucky defense with enough baskets to cause the Baron to rush in fresh subs with instructions to "foul those guys. Don't let 'em shoot."

Surely, Durham has never been so magnificent. Returning "home", the 5-11 Louisville, Ky., guard wowed the audience with 30 points, 15 in each half.

Despite rustling among the largest crowd any of the Seminoles had ever played before, team captain Durham canned 14 straight free shots before his 15th charity throw cozed off the rim in the waning minutes.

#### BATES HOT, TOO

Bates' debut as a Seminole was spectacular. The six-foot junior from Jasper, Ind., who came to PSU via Chapola Junior College, led Seminole rebounders with 11, and closed with 19 points, 16 of them in a first-half splurge.

The two guards — Durham and Bates — accounted for 49 of State's 68 points, 31 of the 34 first-half points.

Cox wound up with 27 points, but his major contribution came on the boards. He hogged 24 rebounds, a near record, with most of them coming after FSU center Dan Boltz was dismissed with five personal fouls just after intermission.

Looking toward his fifth national crown, Rupp unveiled a benchful of sophomores, but of all the highly-touted first-nighters, only Dick Parsons, a 5-10 soph from Yancey, Ky., looked like championship material.

#### THE DIFFERENCE

Parsons and Cox, who played all but the last two-and-a-half minutes, kept the Cats from suffering red faces.

The Seminoles left for the return trip to Tallahassee early this morning, were scheduled to arrive by chartered bus around midnight. They meet Furman at home Saturday night.

**DOUBLE DRIBBLES:** The Barons seemed as excited about Florida State's third bowl trip (Blue Grass) as he did the opening-night staging of his 29th Kentucky basketball team. Rupp's current record: Won 585, lost 103. . . . Among the court-siders, The Hugh Durhams of Louisville, Ky., the Dan Boltz

of Quincy, Ill., and Don Bates' lovely mother and sister from Jasper, Ind.

The sparkling-looking warmup Jackets the Wildcats are sporting this season will cause a lot of comment. It's the first time so much has appeared on the back of a jacket. Kentucky NCAA champs, '48-'49-'51-'58. . . . Someone asked Rupp about this type of advertisement. Said Adolph: "Why shouldn't we advertise? The New York Yankees and the Milwaukee Braves certainly advertise that they're national champs. Why shouldn't we?"

FLORIDA STATE	FG	FT	PF	TF
Tinsley (F)	2-7	0-2	5	4
Litky (F)	4-13	0-5	3	14
Boltz (C)	0-1	1-1	5	1
Bates (G)	3-24	3-5	1	19
Durham (G)	2-21	14-15	2	30
Savage (F)	0-3	0-2	3	0
Richter (C)	0-0	0-1	0	0
Archer (C)	0-0	0-0	0	0
Woodward (G)	0-0	0-0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>22-68</b>	<b>24-34</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>68</b>

KENTUCKY	FG	FT	PF	TF
Cox (F)	12-24	3-5	4	27
Slusher (F)	2-14	4-5	1	8
Mills (C)	6-13	2-10	4	20
Cohen (G)	1-4	1-3	4	2
Parsons (G)	4-13	1-2	1	9
Jennings (C)	2-6	0-1	3	4
Coffman (G)	3-5	0-0	2	0
Johnson (F)	1-1	0-0	0	0
Dardeen (F)	0-1	0-0	0	0
Hughes (F)	2-2	0-0	0	4
Robinson (G)	0-0	0-0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>37-94</b>	<b>17-28</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>91</b>

Score by halves:

Florida State	34	34	68
Kentucky	30	61	91