



In cynical 1953 there was one thing that just about all good Seminole boosters could enjoy and yell for: an oldtime, muscle-jarring football game. And when trigger-armed passers started pitching the ball to rivet-eyed backs and glue-fingered ends, the crowd never seemed to tire of uncoiling from their seats and gasping with suspense until somebody or nobody caught it.

# FOOTBALL

ONCE UPON A TIME— In the Seminole camp the fires were barely burning. Squatting in front of their teepees, the Indians brooded by the firelight.

Then a guy strolled in and said that a new football chief had joined the tribe. The football chief's name was Nugent. He was the new boss who had new ideas about how to win on the gridiron.

Trying to smother thoughts of last year's season (lost 8, won 1, tied 1), the Seminoles sat back and shrewdly watched the new Nugent.

What did he have to work with? Pigskin players like Tommy Brown, Curt Campbell, Vic Szczepanik, Earl O'Neal, Mac Huey, and Nelson Italiano were all gone. And they weren't easily replaced.

Coach Nugent was rough on the players. He got rid of a lot of dead wood and added a lot of new life in the form of freshmen flashes just out of high school. He brought in some junior college transfers. There were only a few veterans left. But Nugent booted a few more of last year's holdovers, keeping only the best.

The Indians watched, and they wondered.

Next: the tricky "T" formation was put into use. And Nugent had his own invention of deception: the "I" formation.

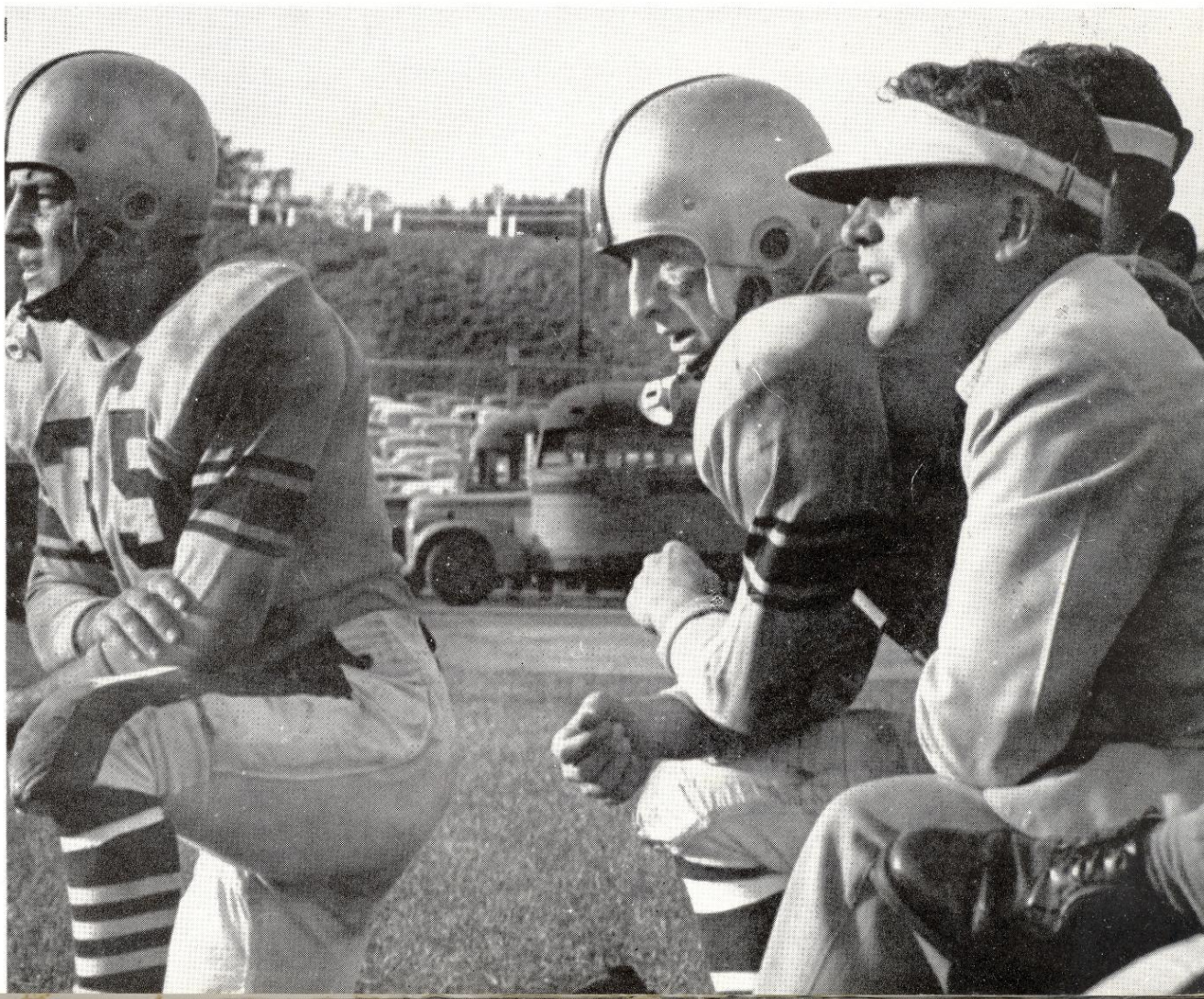
It was to be a year of young'uns, fewer players, and different tactics. The coaches hunted for a quarterback. They hunted for iron men who could stand up under the battering and bruising, for the two platoon was no more.

A man in a magazine said: "These Seminoles, poking around the Florida wilderness a long time, seem on the verge of bursting into the open. . . . They are big and tough but will be seriously hobbled by inexperience."

Coach Nugent was optimistic. He was out to do all he could to have a good season.

Somewhere a band was playing, directed by a master teacher of marches named Manley Whitcomb.

Bossman Tom Nugent and some of his boys watch from the sidelines as FSU tomahawks an opponent. A lot of folks hope Nugent is the man who will make the Indians a football titan. Those same folks seem to forget that Rome was not built in a day.





He hula-hipped in and around four or five of the monsters. Then all at once he was boxed in and he knew that the dumping time had come again.

Florida State's play-busting specialists tackled for keeps: those silent, unsung heroes of the gridiron called linemen. In the picture below, Steve Kalenich and a friend prepare a campus visitor for a tumble.



Boys were added to the cheering squad to give the sick spirit a shot in the arm.

And all the Indians eagerly watched.

**THE OLD STORY**— The first football contest was against the University of Miami. The Seminoles knew that the Miami team would be a hard nut to crack.

Florida State tried to bamboozle the Miami bunch. They almost did it, too. But Miami also knew how to bamboozle, and the Hurricanes did it up good. The Seminoles got scalped 27-0.

Lee Corso, Harry Massey, Bobby Fiveash, Bob Crenshaw, and Jimmy Lee Taylor got their names in the papers as the Seminole stars. For the whole green FSU squad it was a start, and not such a bad one at that.

Many Florida Staters were optimistic. The rest of the year surely wouldn't be as bad as the Miami game.

**GLORY, GLORY**— When the Seminoles went out on the turf of Campbell Stadium to play the University of Louisville, few dreamed it would be such a killing. Florida State throttled the Kentuckians 59-0. Last year the Louisville bunch had licked the Indians but good. Revenge was sweet.

Everybody had a chance to make a touchdown. Bobby Fiveash ran hell-for-leather for three scores. Squat Stan Dobosz got two. Lee Corso, Billy Graham, Junior Metts, and Carl Grenn got one each.

The FSU line put on a show of wheel-horse reliability on the offense and bone-rattling tackles on the defense. A backfieldful of rabbit-quick runners and bull's-eye passers kept the Indians in Louisville territory continually.

Confuse and conquer was the order of the night. They did it.

Then the sound of Texas boots was heard.

**CHEWED CIGAR**— They were big. They blocked for keeps, and they had a crew of backs who knew how to operate some nifty plays. They were Abilene Christian from out of the miraculous land of Texas.

Florida State was upended by Abilene Christian 20-7. The Seminoles scored first. But the Christians seemed to have the Almighty on their side. It was a bludgeoning, hatcheting game, and when it was over the Seminoles had been corraled by 13 points. Florida State's only



He could have been on the swimming team. They say drowning is soft and easy. But he went ahead and became a bouncer at Campbell Stadium. And those roughneck children on that field were bad to him more than once.

They went through them like a gamma ray through a cream puff. They won. Afterwards was the happy time. They celebrated and frowned and worried about the next Saturday.



score was made by a Massey-to-Fiveash pass.

After the Louisville victory the week before, the defeat left some of the fans feeling like a thoroughly chewed cigar.

**NEVER SAY DIE** — The Seminole footballers hit the road and went out a little west to match wits with Louisiana Tech. The FSU team had a hard time getting started. At the end of the third quarter the Indians were behind 26-7.

Then the Seminoles started galloping over, around, and into the Louisiana boys, with Al Mackowiecki, Buddy Bryant, John Griner, Stan Dobosz, and Leonard Swantic. With about seven minutes left in the game the Seminoles had pulled up a bit: the score stood 26-21 in favor of the Tech team. But it wasn't enough. Louisiana Tech scored again and broke the Indians' back by 11 points, 32-21.

**KEYDET KILLERS**— It was about half way through the season when the Florida State Indians played the Virginia Military Institute Keydets in football. This was one game Tom Nugent really wanted to win. And the Indians did what their coach said.

The Seminoles tomahawked V.M.I. 12-7. Harry Massey, John Griner, Junior Metts, Billy Graham, and Buddy Bryant were the hatchet men who moved the ball behind the FSU line of iron men.

**NO BIG GUNS**— With their eyes on a possible bowl bid, powerhouse football-killer Mississippi Southern slew FSU's Seminoles 21-0. The Southerners did not have the complete service of their injury-plagued backfield big guns, but they dumped FSU anyway.

Florida State threatened to score continually. But they just did not have the razzle-dazzle to tally. Maybe next year. . . .

**SMALL PUFF**— The seventh game of the year was against the Purple Hurricanes of Furman. The Seminole Indian tribe knocked a lot of wind out of the Hurricanes and by the close of the contest Furman was only a small puff. Huff or puff, the South Carolina boys came out on top. Score: 14-7.

Florida State's touchdown was made by Harry Massey. Seminole fans hoped the loss was not the start of a series of losses. It was not.

**HOMECOMING: BINGO** — Florida State sat on the hat. The Stetson Hatters tried hard to win. But no go.



Ball, ball, who's got the ball? Looky there: he's got it. He ran faster. Too late. Ugh! Now he knew what a toothpaste tube felt like.



Straining, pile-driving, Mr. Taylor squirmed down the field. He hoped that the friendly fellow who draped his arms about his middle was just trying to count his ribs and was not going to be one of those last-ditch tacklers.



The second half begins. Joe Holt, Bobby Fiveash, Harry Massey, and Jerry Jacobs make like dangerous and full-of-fight bruisers, while Steve Kalenich is bathed in suaveness. This combination of emotions helped puzzle the foe and a lot of time gave the Staters a victory.

The Seminoles won by a seven-point margin. The score: 13-6. The Hatters just could not overcome FSU's murderous line. Even Stetson's John Imgrund, a part-time basketballer as well as a fine footballer, could not pass his team to victory.

And the 13-6 score was sweet music to Nugent's boys.

**WOLFPACK TAMED**— North Carolina State's Wolfpack growled into town with the intention of upsetting the Seminoles' teepees.

The Indians barked at the Wolfpack. The Indians tamed the Wolfpack. The Indians walked off with the football game with ten points to spare, 23-13.

The FSU gridironers had really started to hit the victory trail.

They hit the road for Tampa, Florida.

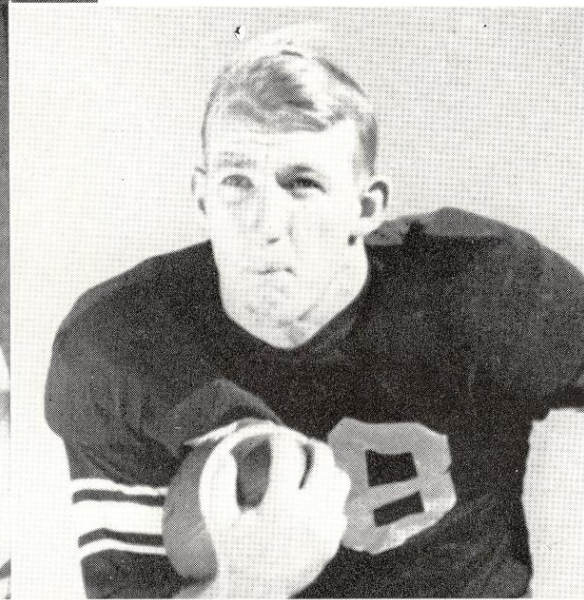
**TOUCHE' TO TAMPA**— The college at Tampa has always given FSU football heroes a hard time.

The FSU-Tampa game of 1953 was lopsided. Florida State's hopped-up team snuffed Tampa's chance to be a winner on the football field by a 41-6 score.

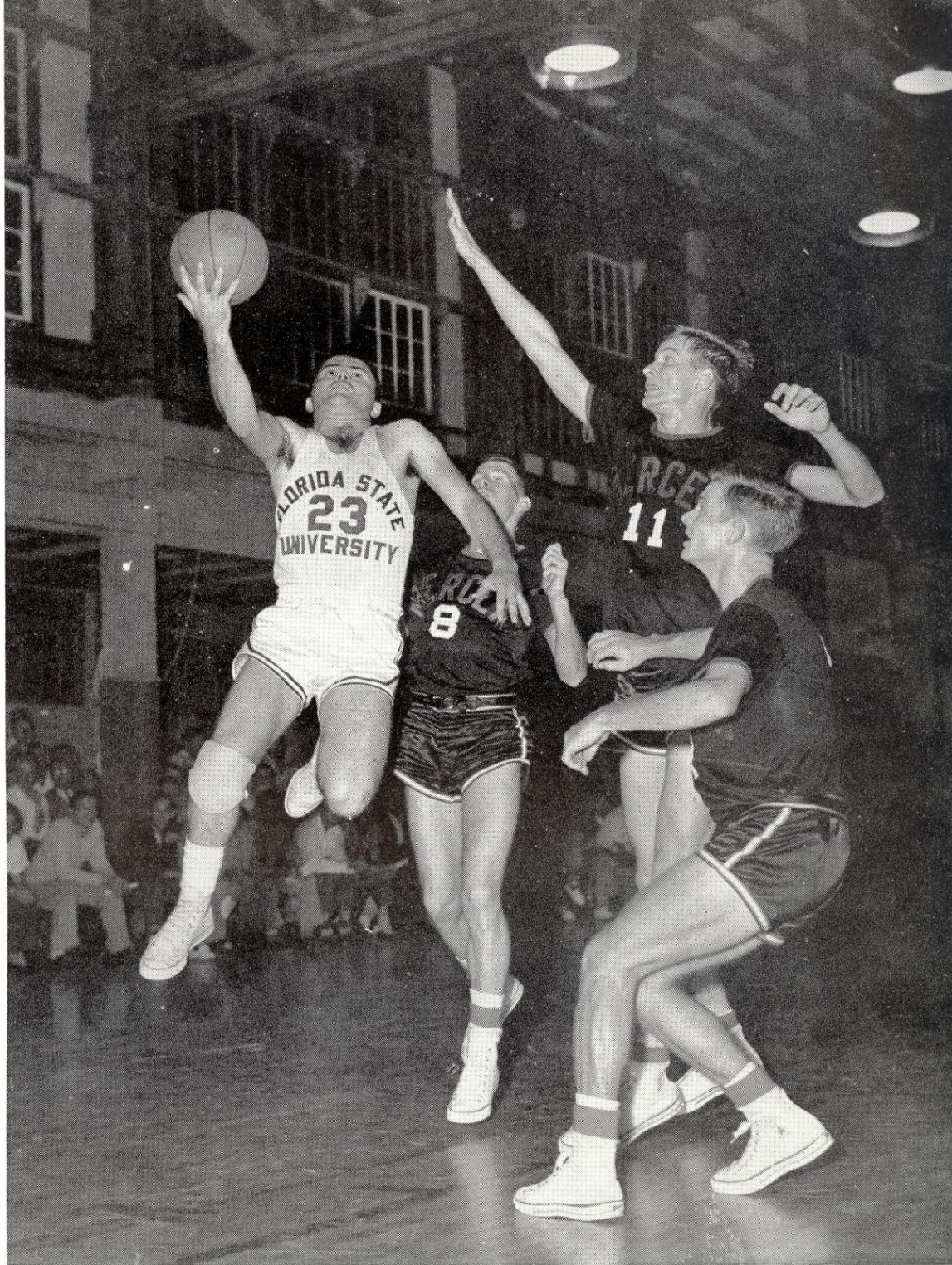
And so, Florida State ended its football activities under new boss Tom Nugent with a good, well-earned even-split record. Nobody had need to gripe . . . yet. But, then, there's next year. . . .



There were times when Seminole passes bombed the bungling enemy. But for the most part, the keynote of the year's offensive attack was sleight-of-hand quarterbacking and foxy, flashy churning by the FSU backs. The Seminoles got away with only a handful of long runs. It was the steady jabs of the scatbacks and the triphammering of the line plungers that picked up the yardage and the touchdowns. The best of the runners, and possibly the best back in the state, was blond-headed Bobby Fiveash: without him FSU would have had rougher times. When the season closed down, the fans uttered a collective grunt of assent: it had been a pretty fair showing for a bunch of green players under a new coach. Things were looking up for next fall.



Basket-maker Jim Oler puts on a one-man show in outclassing three befuddled Mercer defenders of the two-points-a-try goal. Oler teamed with Ham Wernke and Jerry Westhafer to lead in the scoring brackets.



## BASKETBALL

Coach Kennedy's basketball boys did a right fair job in 1953-54. Florida State's courtmasters took on teams from all over the South — Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas, plus several Florida teams.

When it came to winning, FSU had a good time beating Florida Southern. The Seminoles had two of their highest scoring games against the dribblers from Lakeland. Florida State won by 99-71 and by 98-80.

The Indians lost, too. Loyola of New Orleans was one of the toughest teams to keep up with. The FSU basketballers winced under Loyola 88-72. Mississippi State conquered FSU 87-75, and that hurt.

Coach Kennedy has little by little changed the State basketball teams to a-bit-better-than-last-year each season.

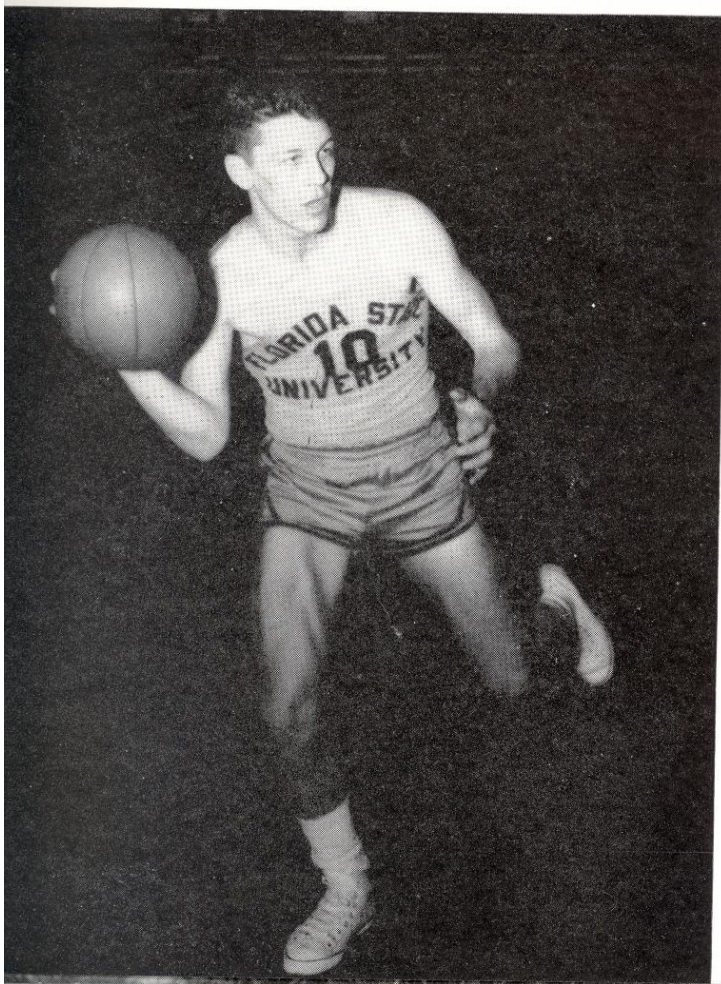
Ham Wernke, Jim Oler, and Jerry Westhafer were the honor men for the year. Wernke was named honorable-mention on the Helms Foundation All-American lists. And he made All-State. Oler placed on the second team of the All-State slate. Westhafer made the third team of the All-State crew.





For these boys the season increased from fast and furious to breathless and breakneck. For the fans was the hope that the sometimes-hot-and-sometimes-cold Seminole basketeers would be encouraged to be perpetually hot in preparation for the future games at the planned new gymnasium. Bottom row

(l. to r.): Tom Burst, Dick Artmeier, Jimmy Oler, Tom Dellahan, Tommy Nisalki, Wayne Patton. Top row (l. to r.): Coach Bud Kennedy, Trainer Fred Hoover, Ham Wernke, Preacher Reeves, Jerry Westhaver, Rick Benson, Gary Wold, Duane Gordon, Ed Wurshack, and Coach Mike Long.



Ham Wernke (left) was the high point man for FSU's court team. Always a top-notch ball handler and a dead-eyed shot, Wernke was picked to fill a slot on the All-State team and on one All-American honorable-mention team.

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
VARSITY BASKETBALL  
SCHEDULE - 1953-54

Opponent	Site
Mississippi State	State College, Miss.
Mercer	Tallahassee
Georgia Teachers	Tallahassee
Fort Jackson (exhibition)	Tallahassee
Jacksonville (Ala.)	
State Teachers	Tallahassee
Stetson	Tallahassee
Spring Hill	Tallahassee
Tampa	Tallahassee
Loyola (New Orleans)	Tallahassee
Miami	Miami
Rollins	Winter Park
Tampa	Tampa
Florida Southern	Lakeland
Stetson	DeLand
Rollins	Tallahassee
Florida Southern	Tallahassee
Mercer	Macon, Ga.
Miami	Tallahassee
Loyola (New Orleans)	New Orleans
Georgia Teachers	Collegeboro, Ga.
Arkansas State	Tallahassee



# VOLLEYBALL

Stripe-tied Coach Bill Odeneal is shown above with a collection of some of the best slamming, spiking volleyballers in the country. Pictured left to right, kneeling: Harold Stone, Ray Johnson, Wallace Cox, Stan Humphries, and Jack Mergens; left to right, standing: Bernie McCann, Joel Carter, Len Kaczmarek, Phil Slaton, and Howard Gould.

Volleyball is neglected by a lot of folks around FSU.

Those folks are missing one of the best, fastest-moving sports ever devised. And with capable Bill Odeneal coaching, FSU has been on the high road in the volleyball field for a long time.

The Seminole volleyball squad won the Florida AAU title for the fifth time in six years of competition. They won the Southern Collegiate title and the Mid-South Open meet.

Howard Gould was the star for the Indian netmen. He won national mention for the third year's running.

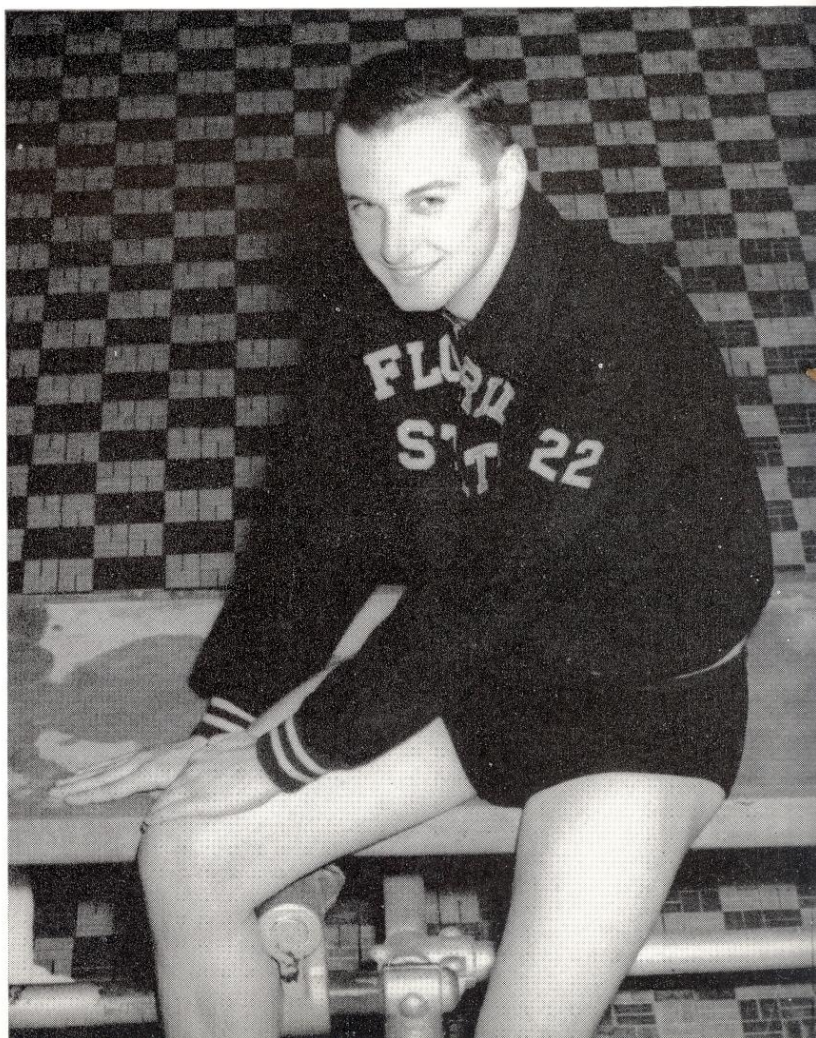
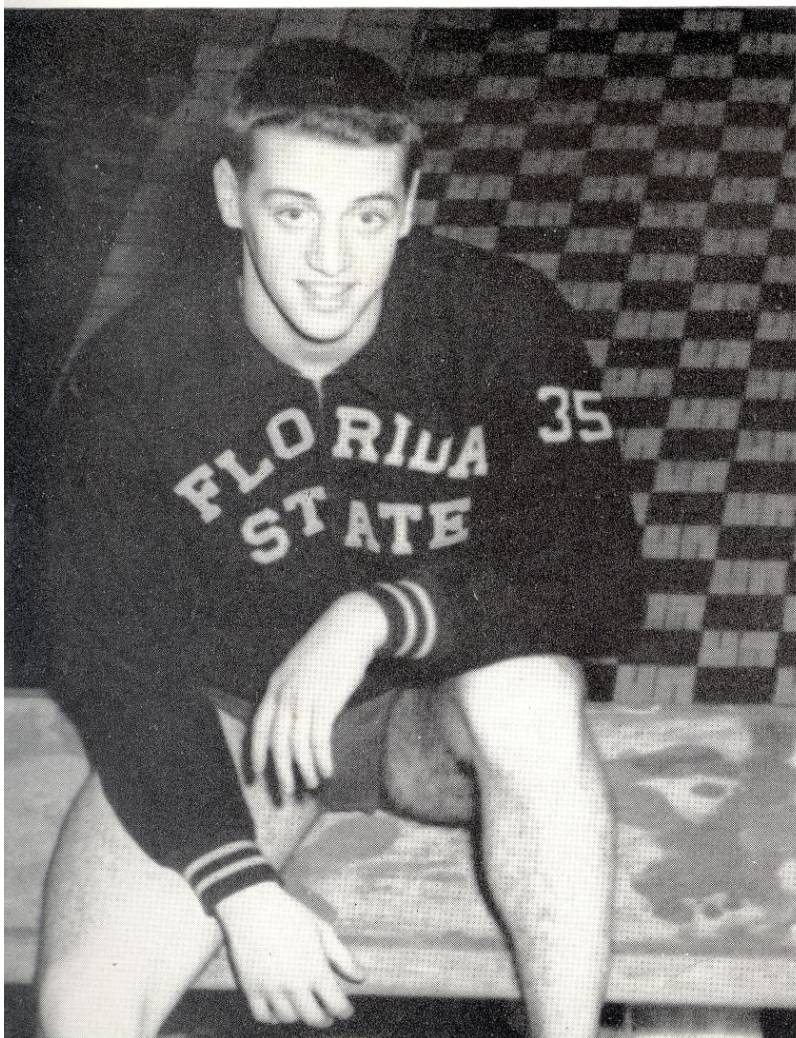
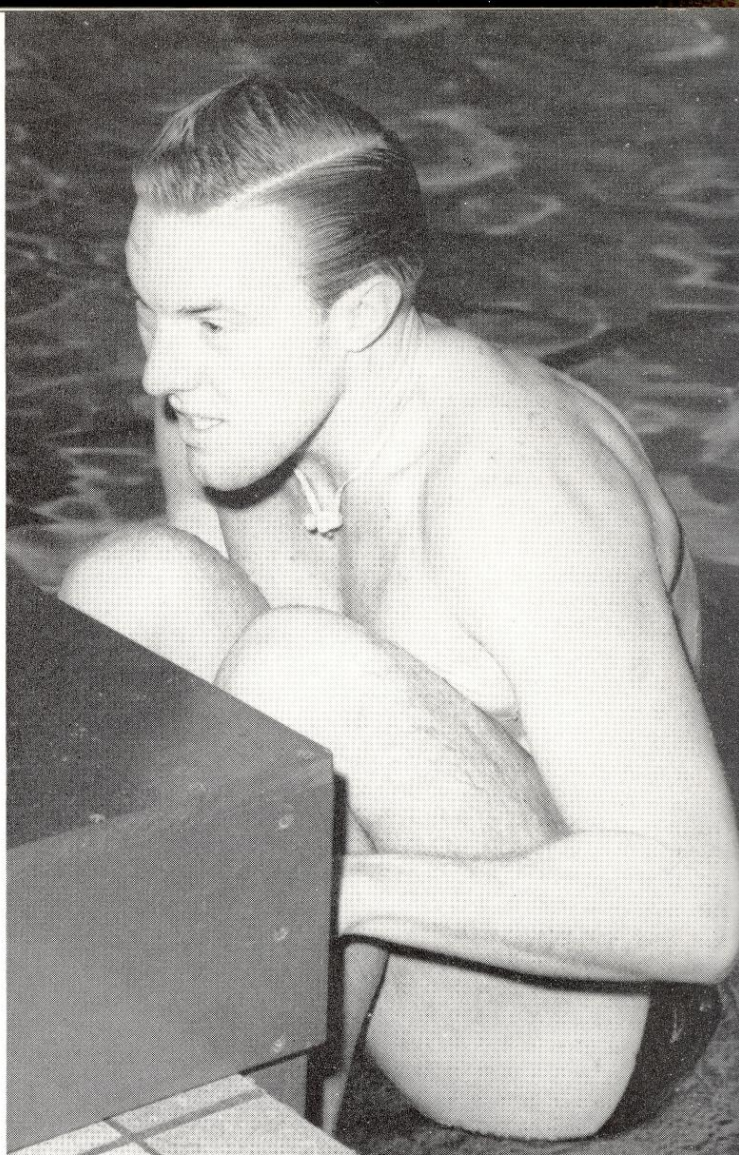
# SWIMMING

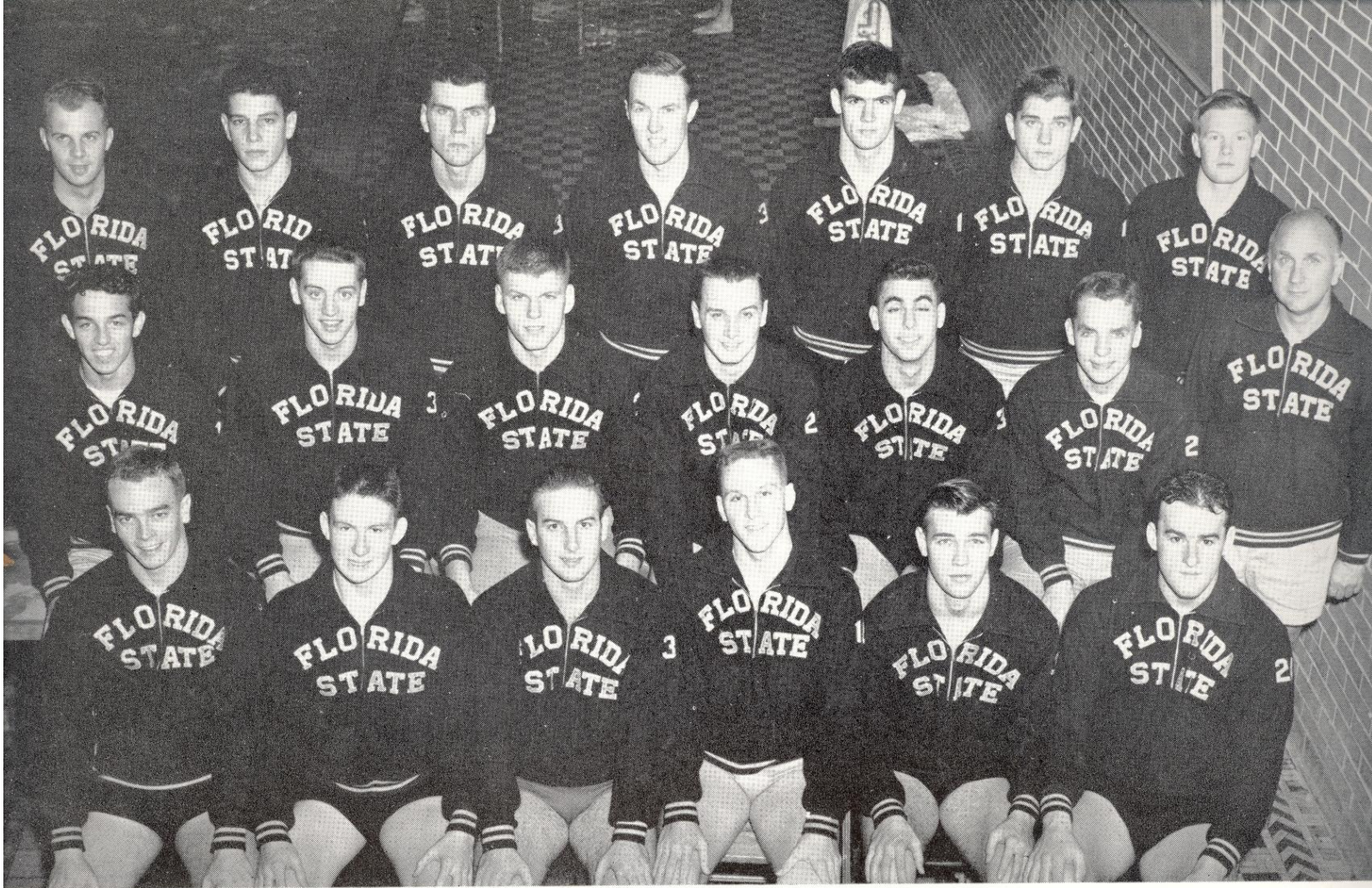
His nick-name is "Bim."

Each year Bim puts out a darn-good swimming team for Florida State. The Seminole tankmen have become the scourge of the Southland. Last year the Seminole swimmers were unbeatable. This past year Coach Bim Stults did the trick again: unbeatable.

Stults' swimmers and divers splashed ten teams from five states out of pools at Tallahassee and elsewhere. The Seminoles were graceful, accurate, and record-breaking. And by the time the season was over, the FSU fishmen had won all kinds of acclaim. Ernie Stock was one of these: he made All-American and he deserved it.

When the man with the camera came to get their pictures, the almost-naked-'cept-for-pants boys posed obligingly. A cross section of the Seminole swimmers found three as representative of FSU's best: George Cooper (upper right), looking like the perfectionist he is, Mike Tschirret (lower left), who helped drown more than enough opponents, and George Hirshberger (lower right), the boy with the splashless style. Other "fish" named Julian, Bailey, Rhoton, and Stock made like hungry sharks to the point that few foes even came near beating them in meets anywhere.





This is FSU's champion-of-champions bunch. First row, left to right: Jim Julian, Charlie Crowe, Bob Spalding, Larry Beaty, Ron Twitty, and Bob Valcavek; second row, left to right: Pinky La Rosa, Mike Tschirret, Ernie Stock, George Hirsh-

berger, Joel Lurie, Bob Granger, and Coach Stults; third row, left to right: Don Cooper, Bob Lease, Norm Shipley, George Cooper, Steve Bailey, Bob Stuke, and Dick Rhoton.

This boy was a master of the butterfly. Graceful, yet fast-stroking, All-American Ernie Stock (below) splashes his way up and down the FSU pool on his daily afternoon jaunt.



# TENNIS

The tennis-racquet swingers at Florida State went into the 1954 season with seven returning lettermen and one new coach. On top of that, the FSU tennis courtiers had a tougher-than-tough schedule, with top-bracket teams like Georgia Tech, Rollins, Georgia, and Miami scattered along the way.

Keith Pitchford was his name. And he was the new tennis man. An Arkansas native, Pitchford coached his boys through the hard season and came out with a respectable record for a first-year man.

Opponents faced during the year: Tampa, Miami, Florida Southern, Rollins, Stetson, Mercer, Emory, Davidson, Georgia Tech, Louisiana State, Georgia, and Concordia.

Florida State's tennis tacticians combined nerveless self-control, cannon-ball services, and smart court placing to make short work of their collegiate tennis rivals and come out at the end of the season with a not-too-bad record. Pictured left to right with court czar Keith Pitchford, kneeling: Don Wylly, Scootsie Crowther, and Tom Morgan; standing: Jack Eagan, Tom Cundy, Hal Schaus, and Dave Kennedy.





# GOLF

Don Veller's clubbers made a name for themselves in '54. Dr. Veller's group of slam-bang hitters and precise putters exhibited flawless form all season—even in matches played in golfawful weather. The picture above does not contain three of FSU's better golfers: Jimmy James, Mel Fleisher, and Randy Church. Pictured left to right, front row: Dr. Don Veller, Bunk Berry, Jack Veghte, Ken Peterson, and Bob Shuman; back row: Gus James, Neil La Bar, Vernon Edgar, and Tom Hall. Sighting in a course for the little white ball to roll on so it will plop into the cup, Jack Veghte (below) is a simple study and example of the concentration and exactness that is necessary in order to have par-cracking form. It takes more than booming drives to win at golf. And the FSU linksmen usually had that something to win.

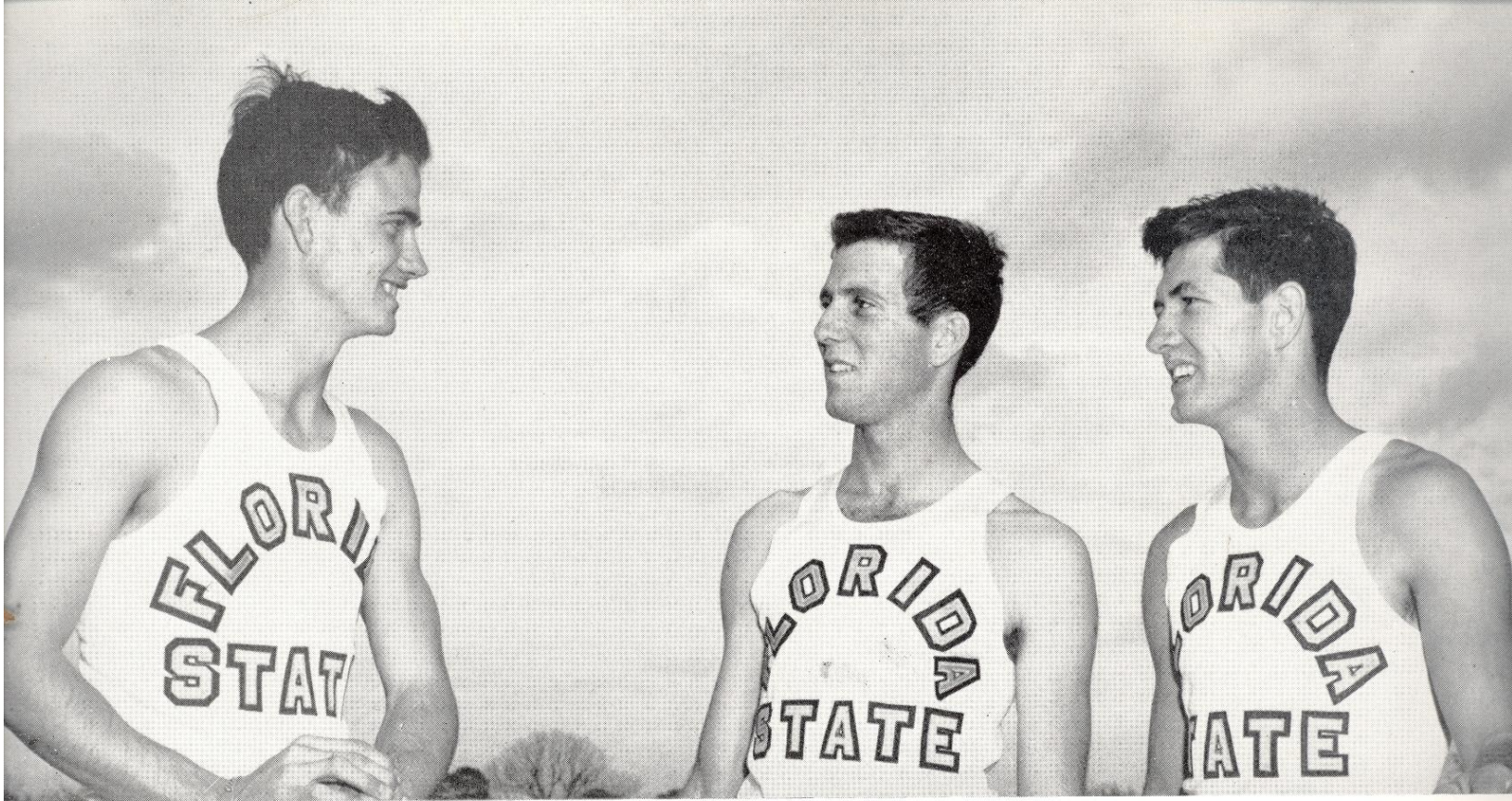


# TRACK

Conditioning, conditioning, practice, practice. It gets hot out at West campus in the springtime. And the boys plugging repetitiously around the track grind themselves into honor-winning form in spite of the merciless sun. The picture below looks hot. Carlos Fraundorfer seems to be melting away

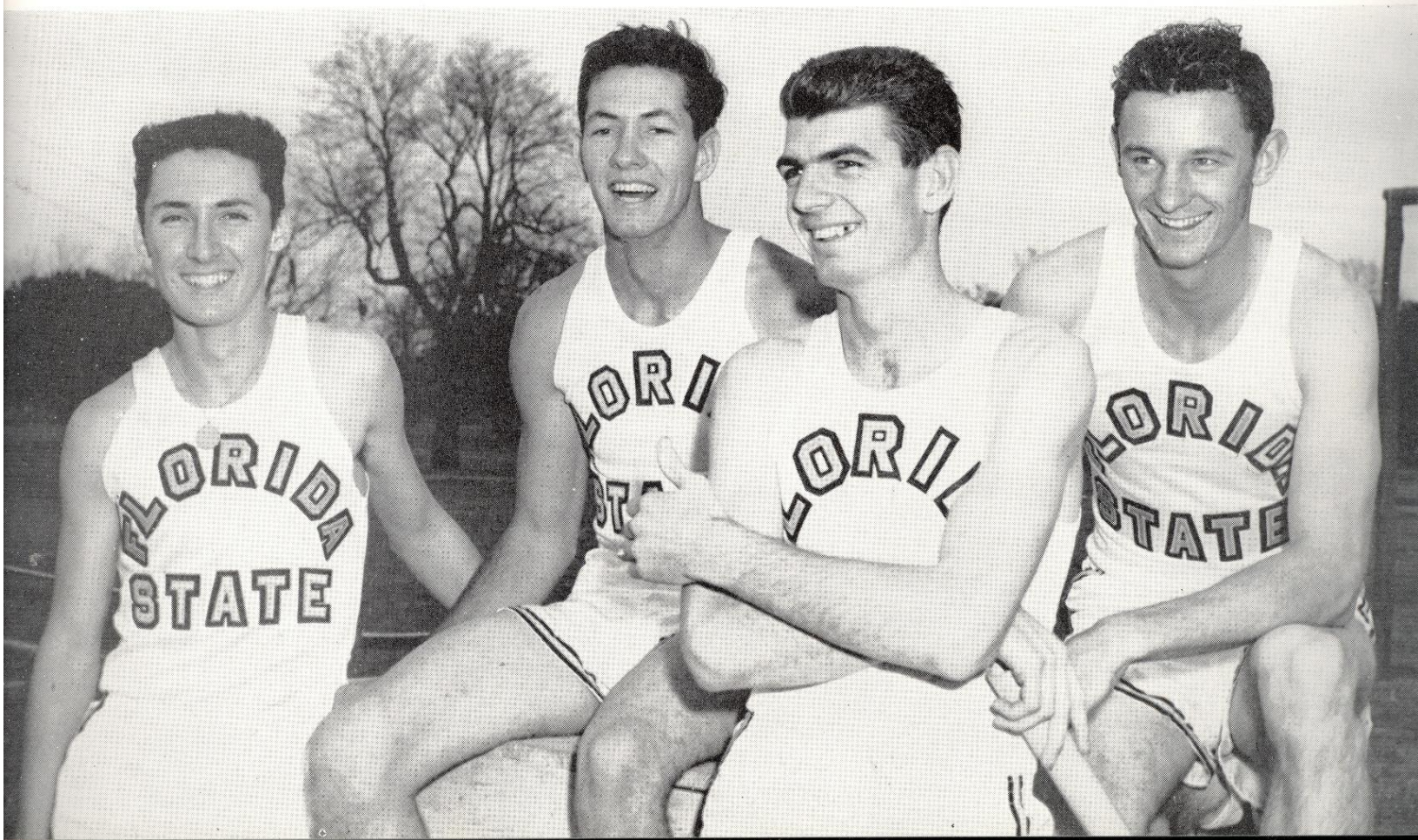
after putting the last traces of energy behind the throw of his old cannon ball. But it is the over-and-over chunking of Fraundorfer and the grueling trotting of the distance runners and the fleet-footed dashmen that has helped to make the Seminoles terrors on the track.





Pictured above are hurdlers Joe Davis, Tenney Brown, and Charlie Watson.

The laughing boys below have the job of making turtles and snails look silly. They make up a thing called a mile-relay team. Left to right are Lawrence Hountha, Charlie Watson, Jim Casteel, and Frank Bright. The watchful eye of Coach Ken Miller molds these and the other track men into unbreakable shape that brings victory equally as exciting and crucial as in the days of the first Olympiad.





# BASEBALL

He was probably the only college baseball pitcher in the world with sideburns.

He was tall and cool and a real mound magician.

He heaved a curve in toward Ashley, the catcher. The ball smacked into Ashley's mitt with a leathery thunk. Ashley nonchalantly threw it back and he casually reached out and caught it.

He stroked his whiskery face and sought out Atwood with his eyes. Atwood was going through the motions of pitching over by the fence. But he was probably thinking more about Gerald McBoing-Boing than Baseball.

He glanced behind him and saw Cooter and Campbell and Twomey expertly making double plays and triple plays against an imaginary enemy.

On his right, Coach Matherly was giving some advice or cain to Mann, Moore, and Hudson.

Further on there was a group "playing" catch.

The whole bunch was a sharp-looking crew.

He pitched a slow-ball and Ashley calmly snatched it in. He rested for a minute in the blazing sunshine. He scratched his sideburns and thought of Fair Ferrell: nice, nice.



The four best? They are all pitchers. Left to right: Jim Atwood, Forrest Brown, Ham Wernke, and Max Long.



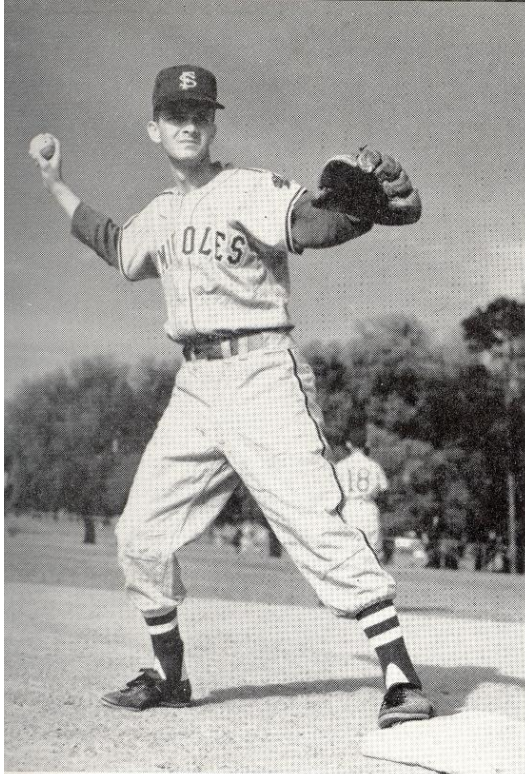
Coach Matherly gives his diamond demons a lecture of experience on how to out-baseball the opposing baseballers.

He caught Ashley's return throw. He felt tired. Maybe he was studying too much. He would up and speed-balled it in.

Baseball was harder to play than it looked. But it was fun. He knew that baseball was beginning to nudge football in the ribs for popularity at FSU. It was time the joint stopped being a one-sport school anyway. . . .



The team of experts: first row, left to right: Cooter Mills, Gary Ashley, Bob Bondi, Bob Wynn, Ken Boyce, and Billy Campbell; second row, left to right: Ham Wernke, Rock Hudson, Lou Jansen, Tony Auitable, Carlee Hendrix, and Glayden Schafer; third row, left to right: George Hehemann, Tom Moore, Max Long, Jim Atwood, Forrest Brown, Fred Twomey, and Ed Mann.



Second baseman Billy Campbell.

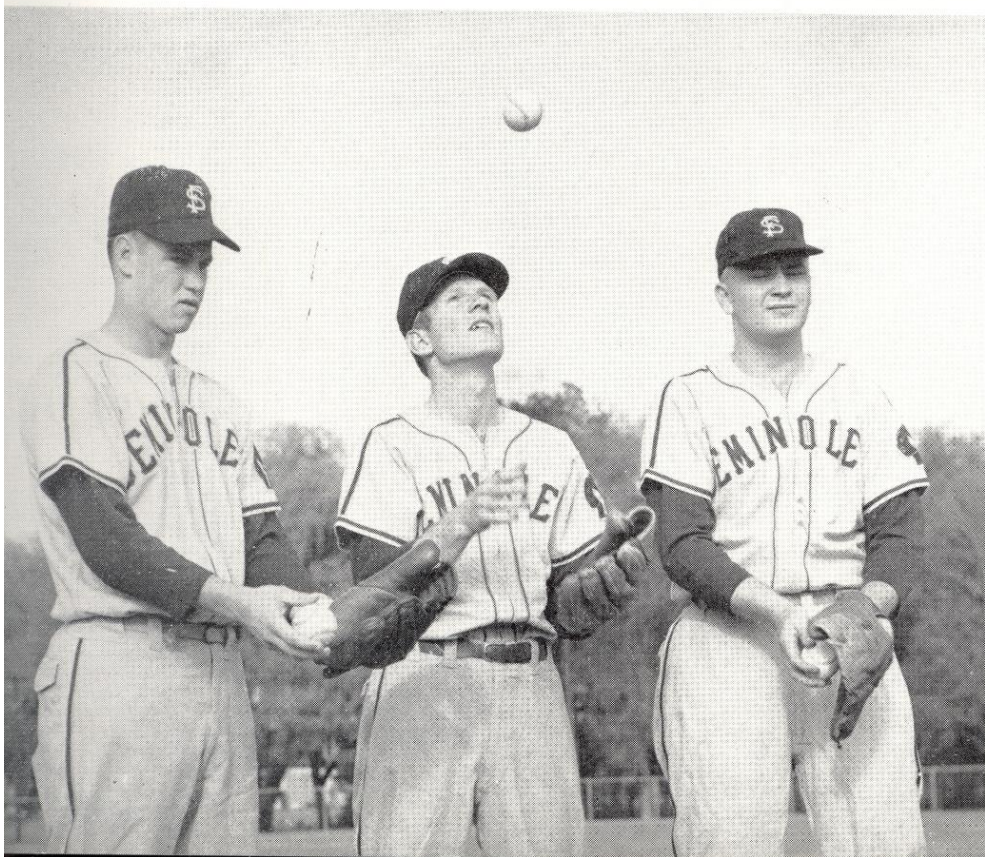


Catcher Gary Ashley.



Third baseman Carlee Hendrix.

First baseman Ed Mann, and outfielders Bob Hudson and Tom Moore.



Shortstop Cooter Mills.





Action in one of the Georgia games. The Seminoles clouted into their porous infield and outfield, pitched them dead, and ran the bases like men illegally escaping with the kitty from a poker game.

First baseman Fred Twomey.





COACH HARTLEY PRICE

For the fifth consecutive year Coach Hartley Price has led the outstanding Florida State gym team to victory. The 1953-54 season saw the Seminoles bring home their twentieth team championship in seven straight wins, including their unprecedented upset over the famed Swedish Olympic team.

Georgia Tech was the first to fall before the Seminole onslaught, and from there on the rest was easy. The Pricemen swept to victory in the Alabama Invitational meet, retained their crown in the Southern Intercollegiate Gymnastics League and the Florida AAU, and delivered death-blows to the Universities of Syracuse and Minnesota.

And the team was further honored by having its outstanding coach receive national recognition by being appointed a Senior member of the 1956 Olympic Games Committee for the sport of gymnastics. Dr. Price previously served on the 1940 and 1952 committees, and is famous throughout the country for coaching two NCAA and NAAU teams in addition to organizing his nationally known Gymkana troupe.

# GYMNASTICS



Florida State  
Gymkana  
Team

## ALL-TIME RECORD

### Florida State University National Individual Champions

BILL ROETZHEIM — US Team against Czechoslovakia, 1947; US Olympic Team, 1948; National AAU All Around Champion, 1949-50; US Team against Japan, 1950; Represented US in Pan-American Olympic Games, 1951; NCAA All Around, 1951; All-American All Around, 1951; US Olympic Team, 1952; National AAU Side Horse, 1953. Bill Roetzheim was FSU's most outstanding gymnast from 1950-53, and this is only a thumbnail sketch of his many National and International titles.

JACK MILES — NAAU flying rings, 1951.

DICK GUTTING — NCAA trampoline, 1952; NAAU 1953.

JACK SHARP — NCAA flying rings, 1952.

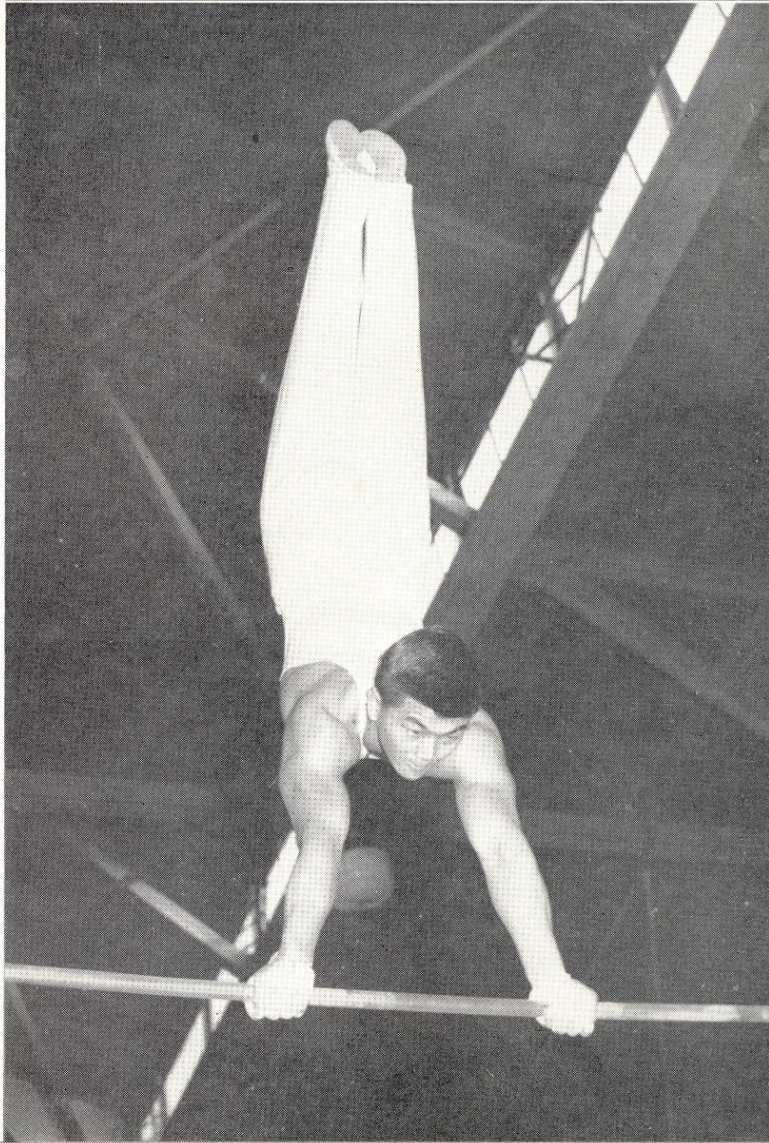
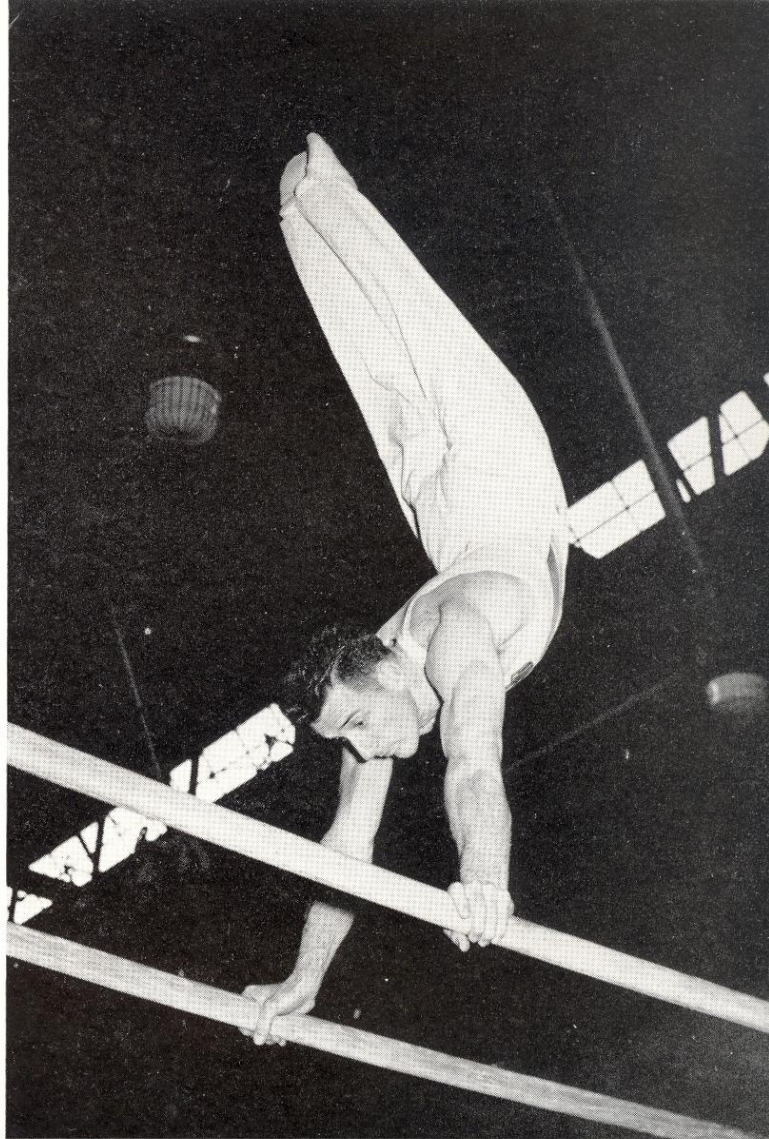
GENE RABBITT — NAAU side horse, 1952.

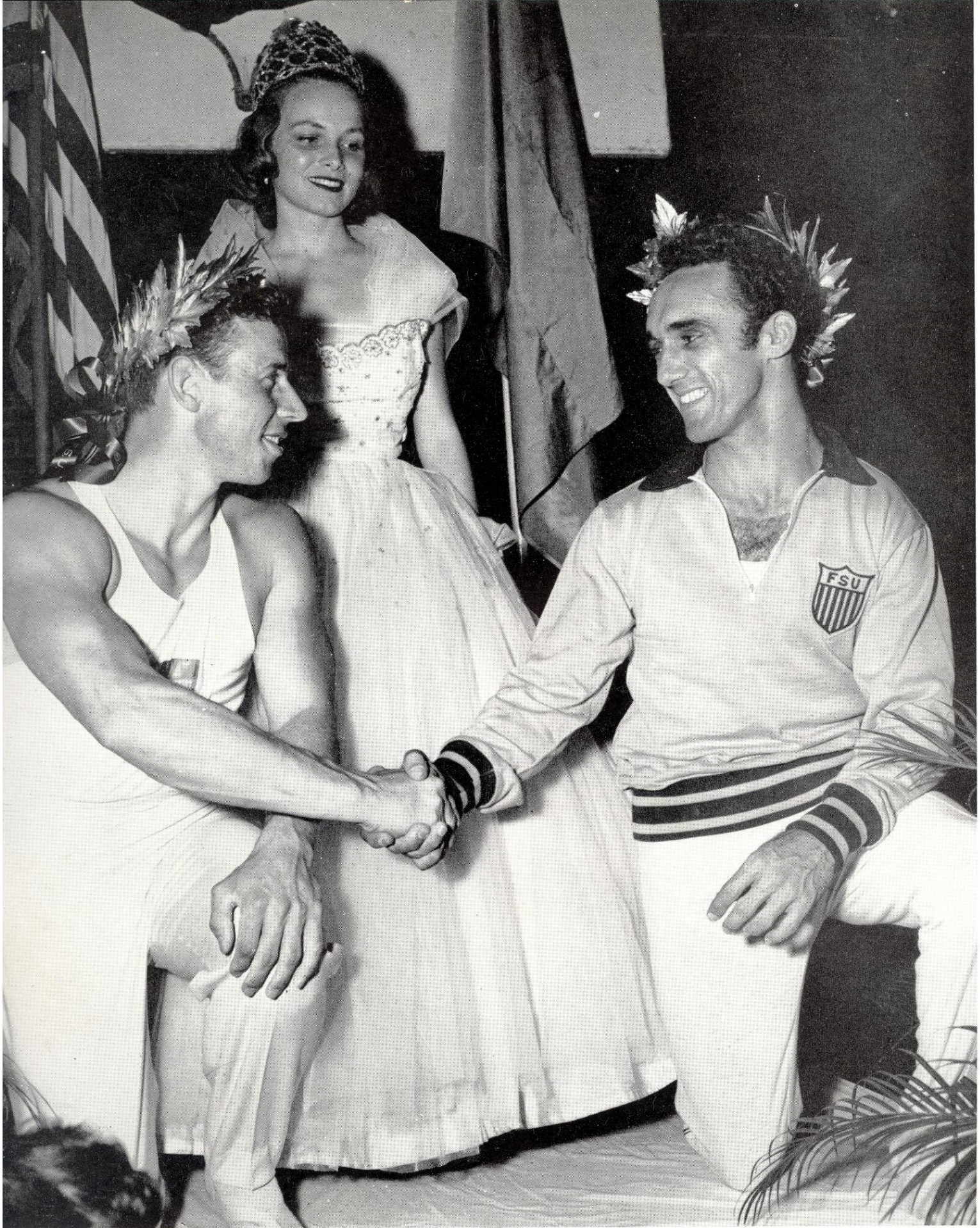
DON HOLDER — NAAU club swinging, 1953.

Top Right — Don Holder

Below — Joe Regna

Bottom Right — Jim Tanaka





Rafeal Lecuona, best all-around Gymkana gymnast, congratulates Sweden's best all-around, Anders Lindh. Gymkana Queen Anita Wall presented the champions with their Olympic victory crowns.

# F. S. GYMKANA DEFEATS SWEDISH NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Florida State's Gymkana troupe recorded its greatest triumph of the season by defeating the world famous Swedish Olympic team. By defeating the Swedish team Dr. Price and his squad made gymnastics history, and drew the eyes of the United States to Tallahassee.

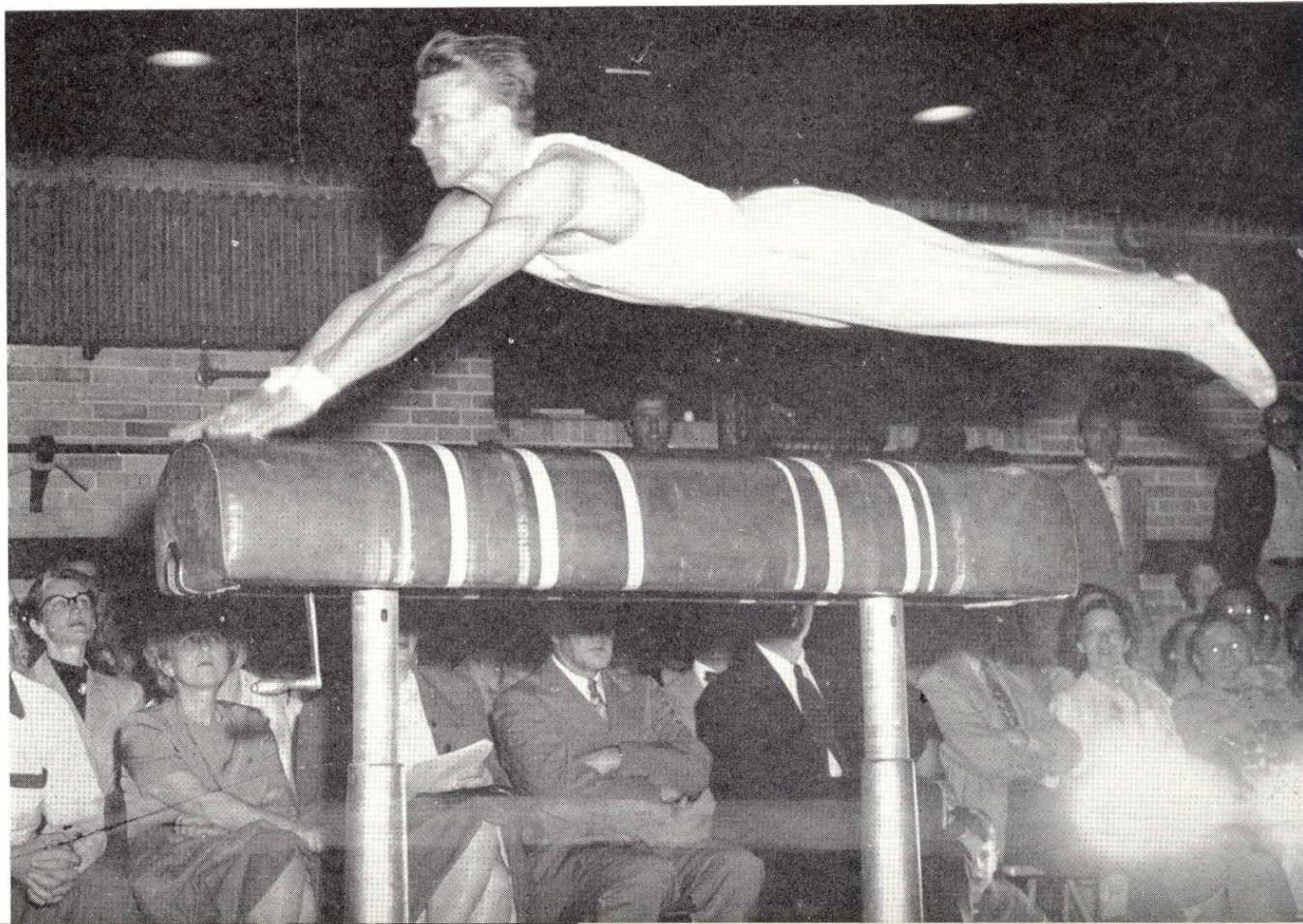
The Swedes, completing a 35-meet tour of the United States, defeated all comers, including defending NCAA champions Penn State, the powerful U. S. Military Academy and highly regarded Illinois, one of the "Big Ten" in gymnastics. But then they ran up against Florida State and were handed a 50½ to 45½ trouncing.

The meet proved a breath-taking event with the Swedish team leading down to the very last

moment. Although the Gymkana team scored five first place wins out of six, the Swedes consistently placed second and third to retain the lead throughout the meet. Joe Taylor on the still rings proved to be the "straw that broke the camel's back" and cinched the victory for the Seminoles in the last event of the meet. But every man on the team gave his all that night and proved himself a hero in the eyes of Florida State University and the entire United States.

Rafeal Lecouna received the Olympic laurel crown as the best all-around Gymkana gymnast, sharing the honors with Sweden's best all-around, Anders Lindh. Don Holder was the top individual scorer for FSU.

One of Sweden's finest on the long horse.







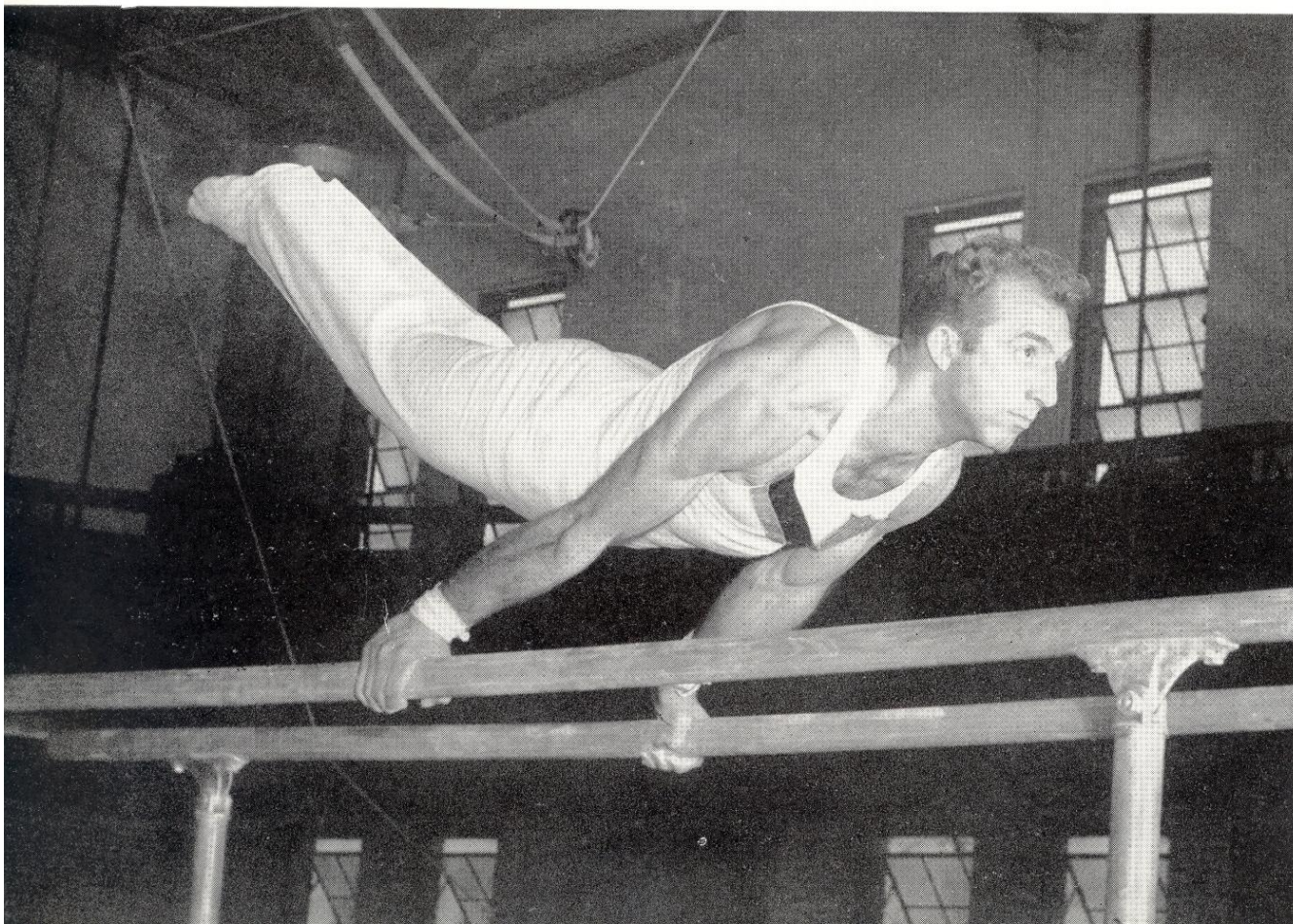
Carmine Regna's hour of triumph.

FSU gymnasts succeeded in retaining their hard-won Southern Intercollegiate Gymnastics League crown for the third consecutive year. 1951 gave the Seminoles their first victory in this meet, and the 1954 win put another feather in their headdress.

Jack Miles stole the free exercise title from last year's champs Don Holder and Pat Signorelli, and also was the team's high scorer with three first place wins and two second place wins. Don Holder took second with two firsts and two seconds. Highest score of any event was compiled by Florida State's Jim Fadigan with a total of 276 points on trampoline.

FSU rode the victory train against the University of Syracuse with Don Holder taking a first on the side horse and sharing first place with Pat Signorelli on the parallel bars. Jack Miles stepped into the winners spotlight on both horizontal bars and flying rings.

Pat Signorelli on the parallel bars.



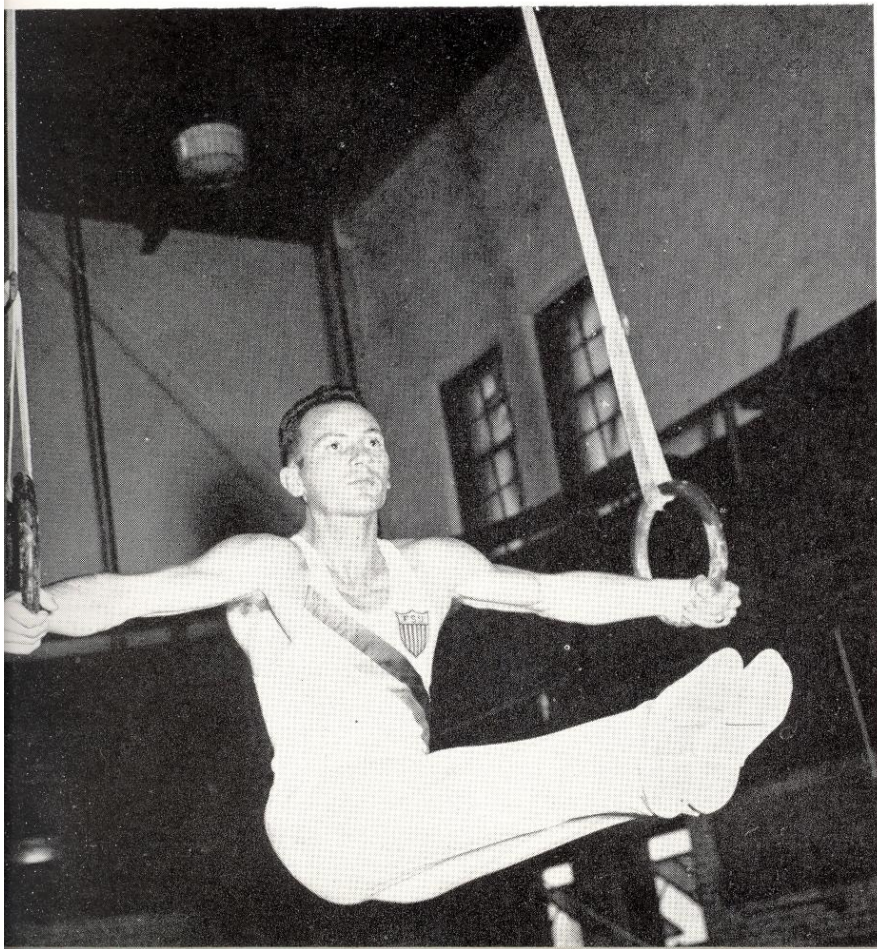


Dick Ireland



Jack Miles

Joe Taylor



The Seminoles were again victorious this year in the Florida AAU meet, and kept the crown they have held for the past five years. Florida State gymnasts took the first five places out of the six-event meet with Don Holder winning the top title.

Rafeal Lecuona, the 1952 captain of the Cuban Olympics team and now an outstanding member of the Florida State Gymkana, took second, with Jack Miles taking third place. Dick Ireland won the Florida AAU trampoline championship for the first time in this meet, and NCAA and NAAU trampoline champ Dick Gutting tied with Larry Weston for first in the tumbling event.

The Seminoles took the University of Minnesota in their stride and brought home a 50½ to 44½ victory. Dick Ireland cinched the win in this meet on the trampoline by out-jumping the Minnesota contender to take first, which cinched the meet for FSU.