

Although we were known as a football powerhouse, by no means were we a "one-sport school." Nor did we settle for second best. In fact, for the eighth year in a row, the football team won a major bowl game, the basketball team advanced to the "Elite 8" of the NCAA tournament, surpassing last year's Sweet 16 appearance. No other school in history has achieved this feat in these three sports for two consecutive years. The Lady Seminole softball team also made it to the World Series for the fourth consecutive year.

But there's more to Florida State athletics than the high profile sports and scholarship athletes. Club teams, supported by the student members, traveled to other schools and competed as well. For example, the women's rugby club established themselves as one of the nation's best. Intramurals gave all students the opportunity for recreation and competition in a variety of sports. So, whether you had a starting position on a Seminole team, or a member of an intramural squad, or were one of the tomahawk-choppin', die-hard fans who packed Doak Campbell, Dick Howser, or the Civic Center, the Florida State University athletic tradition gave you *something to build on*.



Second basemen Lisa Davidson prepares to field a ball against Georgia Tech. Photo by Lisa Collard.



The Lady Seminole swim team members take their mark against Georgia Tech and the University of North Carolina. The team finished 6-5 overall with a fourth place finish in the Atlantic Coast Conference. *Photo by Steve Stiber.*

C

ONFERENCE CALL

*Coach
Bowden
and
the
Tribe
say
"Hello"
to the
ACC
com-
peti-
tion*

*By
Joanna
Sparkman*

What a difference one year makes. In August 1991, the Florida State Seminoles headed into the season as everyone's number one team. Go to August 1992. The Tribe started as high as #2 in some polls, as low as #9 in others. But it wasn't the polls causing the excitement for the team, it was their debut in the Atlantic Coast Conference, and the expectation that they would win the ACC title.

Was Coach Bobby Bowden grateful for having the #1 pressure off his shoulders? "We can certainly live without it. Being number one just makes things more difficult. I try not to worry about the polls before and during the season, because the Jan. 2 poll is the only one that matters," Bowden said.

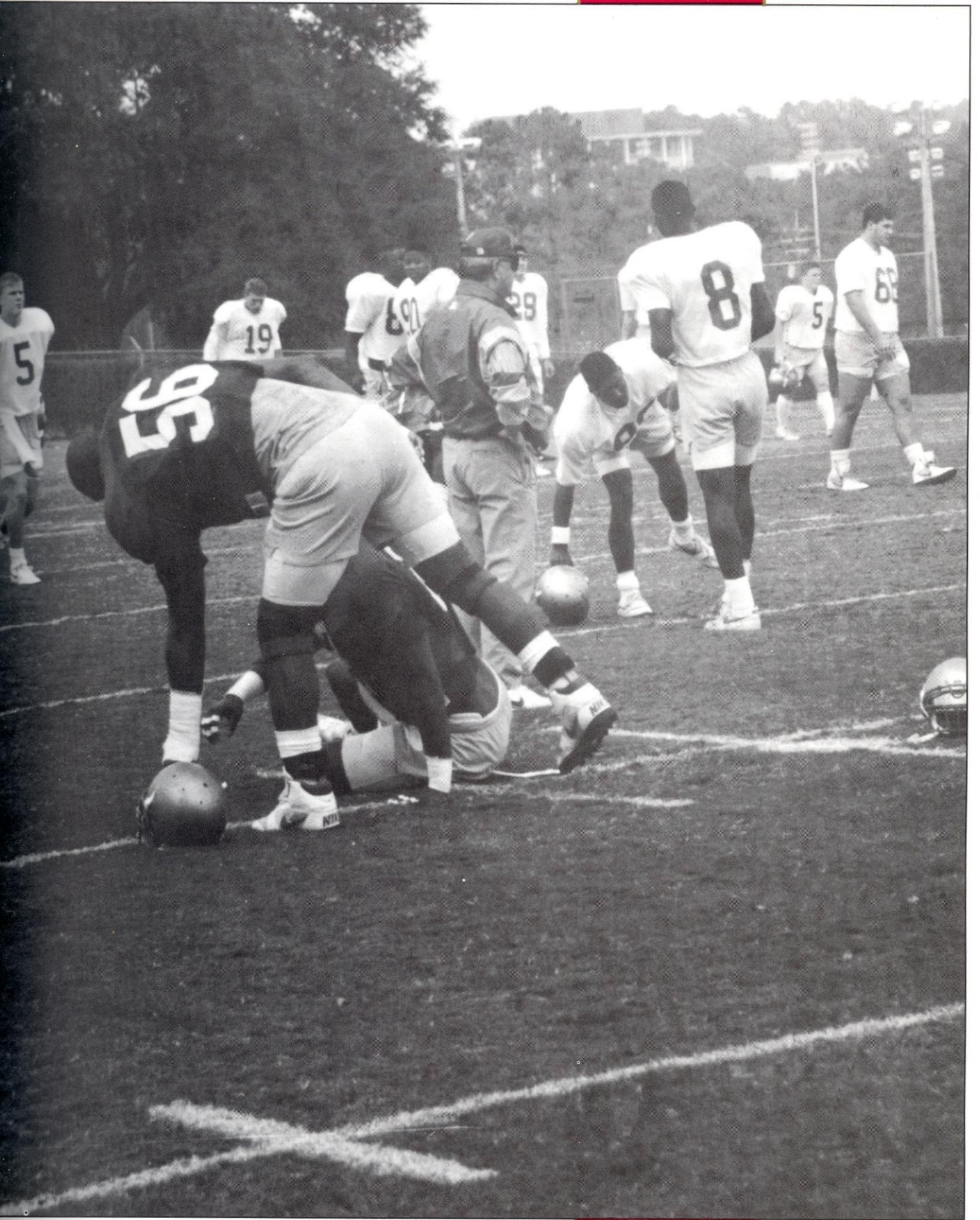
The team faced a full ACC schedule, starting with Duke at home and

traveling to Clemson's Death Valley the following Saturday. Spectators called the Florida State-Clemson matchup as the key ACC game of the season. However, Bowden wasn't underestimating the other ACC teams. "We face N.C. State the week after Clemson and that will be a tough game. All of the teams in the league are improving. We could get beat if we don't stay focused." In addition to the ACC schools, the Tribe also faced the traditional rivals Miami and Florida, both of whom also started the season ranked in the top 10.

Although they were just as talented, this team had a different look from the previous season. Junior two-sport standout Charlie Ward took over as starting quarterback. Linebacker Marvin Jones was a pre-season All-American candidate. Fans expected to see quite a bit

of the past years freshmen stars, Derrick Brooks and Marquette Smith. Smith, however, decided to redshirt this season. According to Bowden, "Marquette wanted to attend graduate school and wants to have his scholarship available for that." Bowden was also pleased with the new freshman class, which included quarterback Danny Kanell and wide receiver Tamarick Vanover, who were both expected to play this season.

Another new aspect of Seminole football was the construction of the new University Center. This would enclose the south end zone of Doak Campbell stadium and increase capacity to 70,000. Although the entire project would take about four years, one of the immediate benefits was a new hi-tech scoreboard, the biggest in the state.



Caught in the Middle

Head coach Bobby Bowden takes advantage of his view from the center of the practice field as the players work in their designated groups. Bowden usually watched over the entire practice while the assistant coaches worked with the positions. Photo by Richard Griffith.

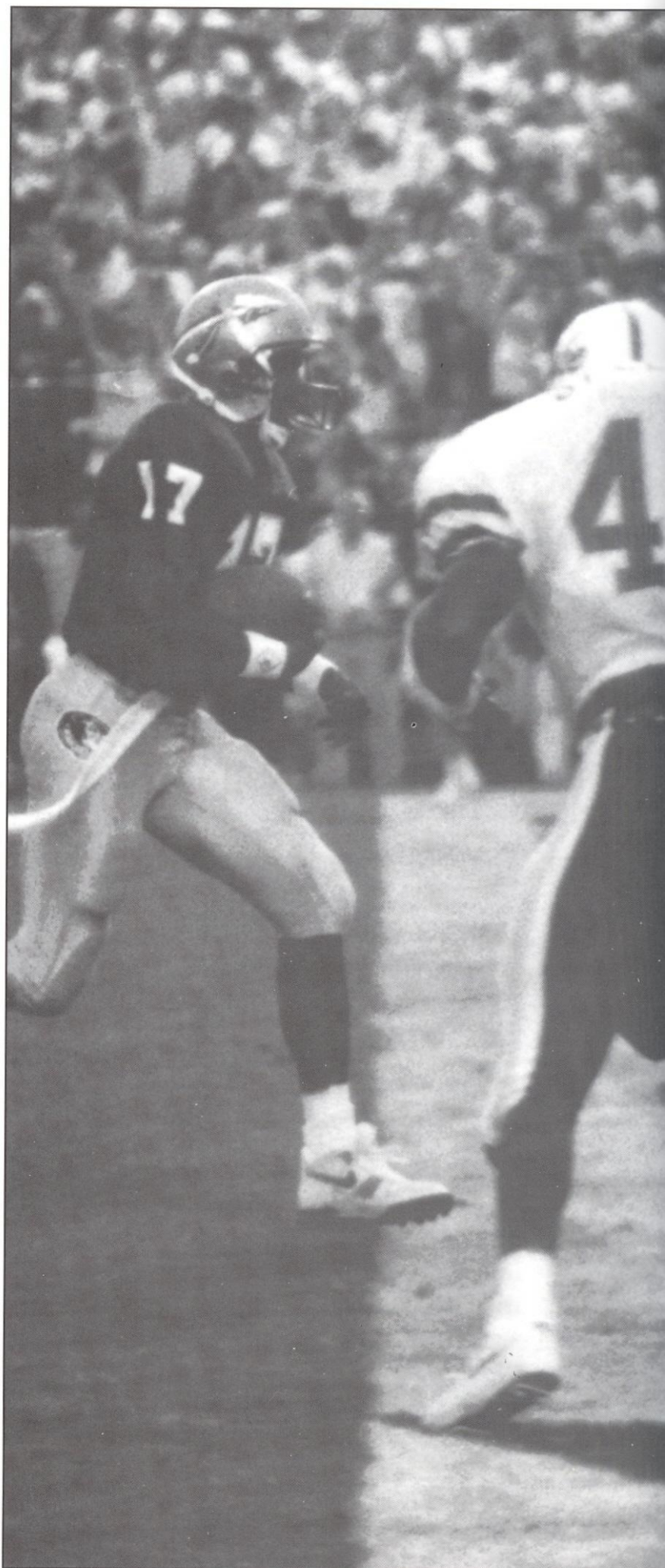
FSU 48
Duke 21

In a history-making debut, the Seminoles started their ACC play with a victory over the Duke Blue Devils. However, the quality and consistency of play left many fans questioning the team's ability. Coach Bowden said, "Inconsistency and penalties (16 for 118 yards) were our biggest problems. But there were bright spots. Marvin Jones and Leon Fowler emerged as defensive leaders. Jones led the team in tackles and Fowler had two interceptions, including a 95-yard return for a touchdown. Kicker Dan Mowrey went 2-3 on field goals. In his debut at QB, Charlie Ward went 17-33 for 269 yards passing, 4 TD's, 4 interceptions, and was the team's second-leading rusher.

"I haven't had an interception returned for a touchdown since high school. This one I was enjoying at about the 50, hoping no one was going to catch me." -Leon Fowler, *vs. Duke*

FSU 24
Clemson 20

The first test of the season came at Clemson's Death Valley. This game was an important conference battle, with Clemson as the defending ACC champs. The defense lived up to its reputation and managed to hold the Tigers to 20 points. The Florida State offense struggled however, as Charlie Ward threw four interceptions. Freshman Dan Kanell replaced him, but the substitution didn't last. Down 17-20 in the final minutes, Ward took the offense 77 yards into the endzone, throwing 5 passes to 4 different receivers, making the final score 24-20. Seminole fans who made the trip to Clemson rushed the field as players grabbed chunks of turf for the "sod tradition."



MAKING THE GRADE

Senior inside linebacker Ken Alexander realizes the importance of student in "student-athlete"

*By
Dody
Perry*

Not only did Ken Alexander lead the defense on the field, he led the team with a 3.3 grade point average in the classroom. As a senior in academics, Alexander reached to be the best at whatever task he attempted.

After taking the SAT exam, Alexander thought it

was extremely biased for the Afro-American minority, so he set out to devise a plan to help better prepare the young adults. He and his sister, Leslie, began a SAT preparation course for minority students in her church in the summer. The six week prep course was a strategic tactic to help students with the wording of the questions in a language that the student could understand. The course was also planned to instill confidence within the student.

"Without confidence it is hard to accomplish anything," Alexander said.

Alexander told the success story of a football player at Reagan High School who saw a great improvement on his test score after completing the prep course.

"Michael Belle called to thank me for the prep course because his score improved 200 points on the math section and 350 on the English section. This

made me feel like I had accomplished the goal I had set out for," Alexander said.

This SAT prep course earned Alexander the Toyota Leadership Award which was based on academic excellence and achievements.

"A lot of people ask you, 'Well, you are doing all this and you are doing all that, how can you not have a big head?'" Alexander said. "Coming from a family of thirteen, with seven brothers and six sisters, you get credit for what you do. If you save the world, they say 'OK, good, you saved the world.' Then you're back to the same Ken Alexander before you saved the world."

Organizing his schedule around football, fun and finals, Alexander applied a fundamental concept taught by his mom.

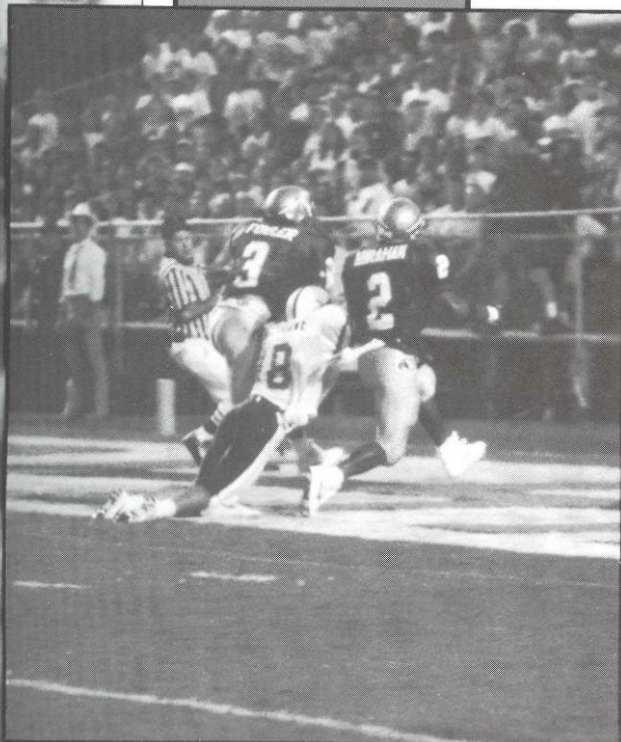
"If I have a paper to write and I have been invited to a party, I must write half of the paper. Then I let myself go to the party," Alexander said. "But I come home early so I can finish the rest of the paper."

When Alexander thought of a hero, ideal or role model it was always the same person — his mom.

"I have the most respect for my mom because she raised 13 kids by herself. She has had to go through a lot and she has always come out on top." Alexander said. "When I am on the field and I see four guys coming at me and I know I've got to make a hole, I just think back on my mom, because I know there is nothing that I can go through that my mom has not had to go through and she has always persevered. So I can make the tackle and overcome any obstacle because of my mom."

Game-Winning Play

Freshman center Clay Shiver prepares to hike the ball to Charlie Ward during the game at Clemson University during the final offensive drive of the Seminoles. It was on this play that the Tribe scored the winning touchdown, coming from behind to beat Clemson 24-20. *Photo by Ryals Lee.*

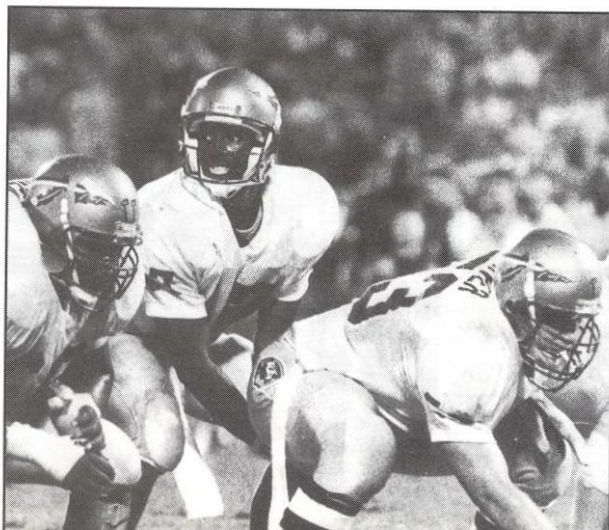


Mind if We join You?

Free safety Leon Fowler and cornerback Clifton Abraham escort Blue Devil Brad Breedlove into the endzone, preventing a Duke touchdown. The Seminole defense was rated one of the nation's best. *Photo by Robert Parker.*

Quarterback Sneak

Junior Charlie Ward runs the ball into the endzone for a Seminole touchdown as Duke defenders unsuccessfully try to stop him. This game was Ward's first collegiate start. *Photo by Robert Parker.*



1ST YEAR WONDER

Kick-offs became touchdowns when true freshman Tamarick Vanover was on the return

Not many freshman got the chance to make an impact during their first season of college football, especially at a football powerhouse such as Florida State. If freshman were not redshirted, they usually spent their first season behind the upperclassmen on the depth chart. Every once in a while, however, a freshman came along that wowed everyone. Lawrence Dawsey was one of those; Marvin Jones did it in 1990; and 1992 was the season for Tamarick Vanover.

Florida State almost did not get the talented Tamarick. Both the Seminoles and Miami heavily recruited the Leon High standout. He did not decide until the morning of signing day, and even signed his letter of intent with Florida State wearing a Miami baseball cap.

Tamarick's best memory of the season was his first start versus N.C. State. With five minutes left in the first half, Charlie Ward had not completed a pass. Then the Ward-Vanover connection hit. Vanover caught three passes in a row, including a 60-yard bomb for a touchdown, his first in college. "Charlie came into the huddle at the beginning of the series and said, 'Fellas, it's time to go.' I said to myself, if we can complete one pass we'll get rolling. Charlie began to look for me and I was just catching the ball," Vanover said.

In the weeks following the N.C. State game, Vanover's exposure increased. Against Wake Forest and Miami, he returned his first two college kickoffs for touchdowns, running 96 yards against the Demon Deacons and 94 yards against the Hurricanes. The Florida Gators obviously did not take warning as they kicked off to him twice and watched him

Stretching Out

With N.C. State defenders Loren Pinkney (97) and Dewayne Washington (20) in hot pursuit, tailback Sean Jackson stretches to gain a couple more yards and the first down. Jackson had 101 yards on 12 carries for the day. *Photo by Ryalo Lee.*

run 80 and 76 yards.

Vanover credits fellow receiver Shannon Baker and receivers coach John Eason as his greatest influences in football. "Coach Eason takes time with his players to get to know them. I had already known Shannon for a couple of years and when I came to school here, he showed me the ropes."

When you are a receiver on a team that boasts other great receivers such as Baker, Kevin Knox, Kez McCorvey and Matt Frier, how do you handle competition among teammates? Vanover said, "I really don't think about the competition, it just makes me work harder."

The freshman was remembered when post-season honors were handed out. He was awarded the ACC Rookie of the Year and *Football News* Freshman of the Year titles. He was named an All-American Kick Returner by two sources and was ACC Rookie of the Week five times.

Vanover knew how hard it was to choose a college, so what would he tell recruits trying to make that same difficult decision? "I would tell them about the success we had with the shotgun this past season, remind them that we ranked higher than Florida and Miami and that next season we're playing to win it all."



*By
Joanna
Sparkman*



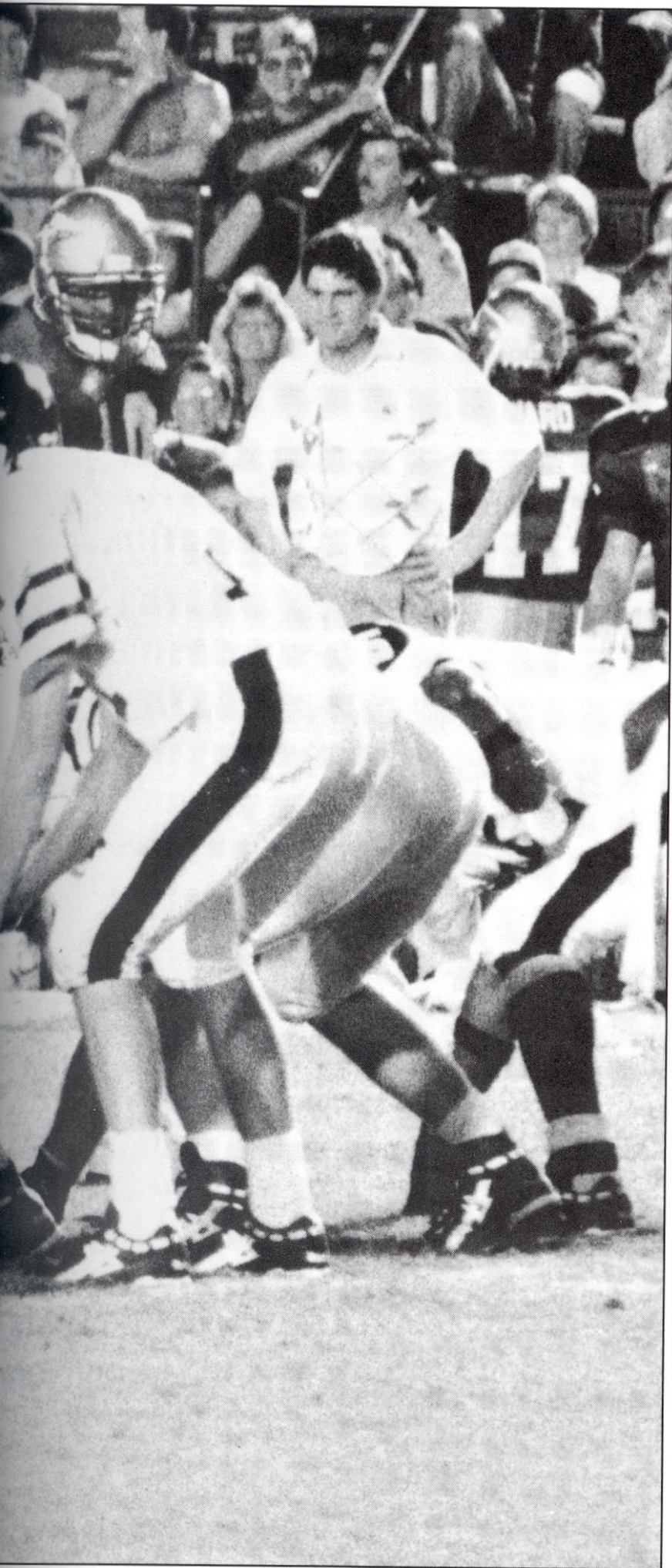
Flying High

Cornerback Corey Sawyer jumps up to snag an interception over N.C. State receiver Adrian Hill. Freshman Devin Bush (11) comes to Sawyer's assistance. Because of his great leaping catches, Sawyer had no return yards on any of his three interceptions of the day. *Photo by Ryalo Lee.*

"Eye"ing the QB

Running backs coach Billy Sexton and sophomore line-backer Derrick Brooks keep a close eye on Wake Forest quarterback Keith West as he prepares to take the snap. The Seminole defense allowed the Demon Deacons only one touchdown for the game. *Photo by Richard Griffin.*





FSU 34

N.C. State 13

For the second ACC road trip of the season, the Tribe faced the Wolfpack in Raleigh. The offense struggled early as Charlie Ward had zero completions with five minutes left to go in the first half. But he hit the next seven of eight for 150 yards. Tamarick Vanover started the Seminole scoring with a 60-yard reception for a TD. Shannon Baker also caught two passes for touchdowns. Tailbacks Sean Jackson and Tiger McMillon had good games, rushing for 101 and 92 yards. It was McMillon's first career start. Dan Mowrey kicked a career best 42-yard field goal, and Corey Sawyer intercepted three passes, tying an FSU record. The defense held N.C. State to two field goals and one TD.

FSU 35

Wake Forest 7

Moms and Dads came out for the annual Parents Weekend as the Seminoles hosted the Demon Deacons. The highly favored Tribe saw the receivers and rushers improve their stats. Despite fumbling the ball four times, the offense managed to rack up points against the Wake defense. Charlie Ward celebrated his first interception-free game by throwing for 240 yards and 1 TD. Freshman Tamarick Vanover emerged as the player to beat, scoring on a 96-yard kickoff return. The kicking game struggled as Dan Mowrey missed two field goals and John Wimberly averaged 33.2 yards on punts. However, coach Bowden said, "I was pretty pleased...except for some penalties and inconsistency."

"I've put pressure on myself to make the big plays. Today, I didn't worry about it. If the defense can't score, I'll be glad to get it to the offense-and they can score."-Corey Sawyer, on his 3 interceptions vs. N.C. State

FSU 16
Miami 19

"Going into that game we knew it would be tough. We were as prepared as last year," Bobby Bowden said.

The #3 Seminoles traveled to the Orange Bowl to face the #2 Miami Hurricanes. Haunted by the 16-17 heartwrenching loss last season, history repeated itself with a last-second kick that went wide right.

On the kickoff, Tamarick Vanover ran 94 yards to a touchdown and a 7-0 lead. The game stayed close and at halftime the score was tied at 10-10.

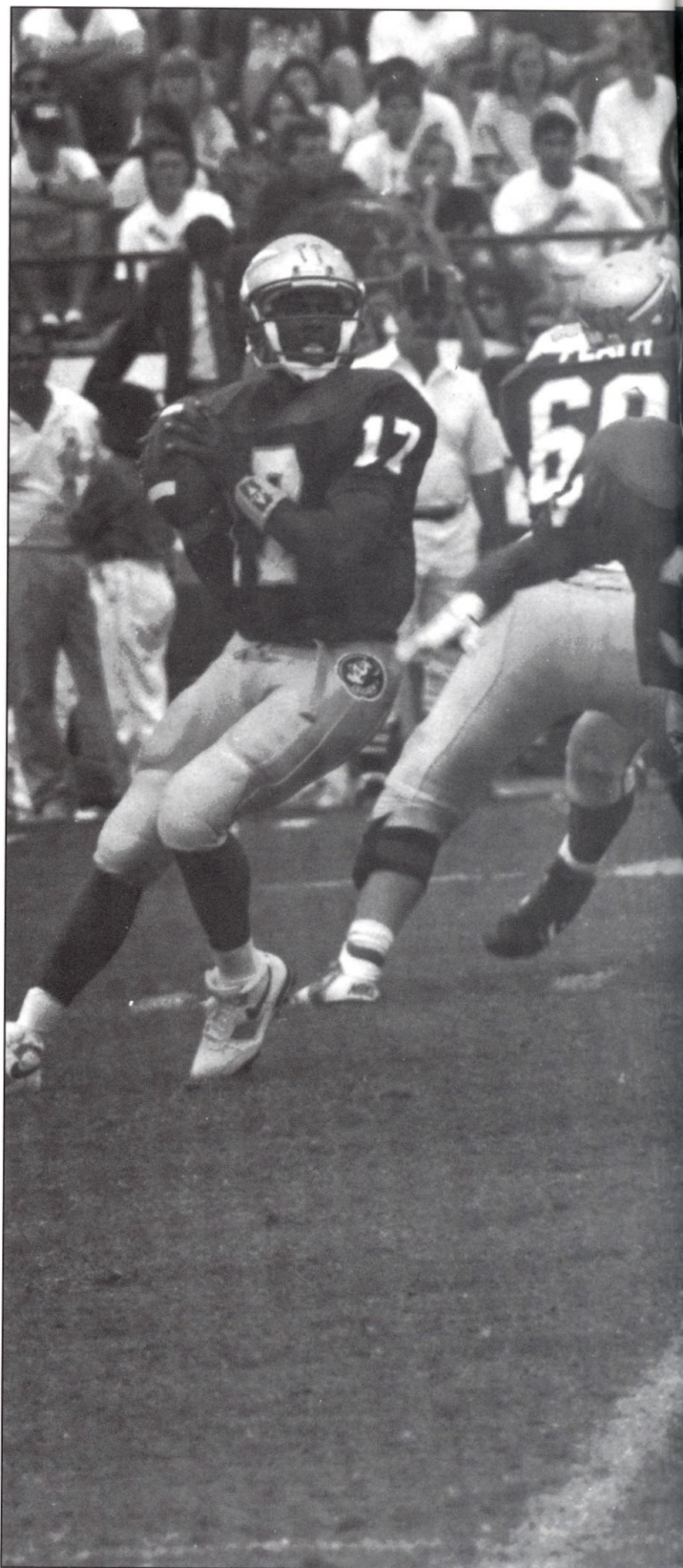
Mowrey connected on two field goals in the second half. Miami responded with a TD to lead 17-16. With 1:58 left, the Seminoles moved the ball within field goal range and held their breath as Mowrey's field goal sailed wide right.

FSU 36
UNC 13

The post-Miami blues tested the team as they took on ACC foe North Carolina. After struggling in previous games with the new one-back offense, Bowden returned to the two-back set. This improved the running game as they rushed for 189 yards, 76 by Sean Jackson.

Since Charlie Ward had trouble passing, freshman Dan Kanell came in at QB. Kanell got the offense close enough for Dan Mowrey to kick a 37-yard field goal. Sean Jackson, a former high school quarterback, also got into the action when he threw 46-yard pass to Tamarick Vanover. Corey Sawyer also had a 74-yard punt return for a touchdown. Coming up with the needed win, the Tribe improved to 5-0 in the conference.

"All the conditions were right; the hold was fine, the field placement was good, the snap was good. I just didn't do it. It was a mistake. Unfortunately it cost us the tie." - Dan Mowrey, vs. Miami



NO PAIN, NO GAIN

Ankle, shoulder and knee injuries were just part of the game for center Robbie Baker

*By
Debbie
Cassidy*

Some people did not understand why grown men would willingly participate in such a violent sport as football. Athletes and sports enthusiasts stated it was the "love of the game." Others believed it to be stupidity. Center Robbie Baker, an expert on this particular question, claimed it was a little of

both.

A fifth-year senior, Baker had more opportunities to think about that question than he cared to recall. Baker played football for nine years with no injuries before coming to college. However, by the end of his fifth season, Baker had undergone six surgeries. Four were for his right shoulder and one was for his right ankle. The surgery that blemished Baker's final season was on his knee.

Baker's left knee was injured during a two-day practice in early August. Initially, Baker and the team doctor chose to work with the knee and hoped time would heal it.

When he made it back for the third game against Clemson, it appeared the prognosis had been correct.

Unfortunately, appearances were deceiving. During the game, the knee continuously swelled up and was hit. The next weekend, instead of playing in the N.C. State game, Baker was in surgery to

remove a bone chip, shave the knee cap down and take out pinched tissue. Incredibly, he was back playing just two weeks later.

"I had no choice, it was my last season. It was a combination of stubbornness, stupidity and love of the game," Baker said.

However there was more involved than physical pain. After the 1991 season, Baker had the final surgery to reconstruct his right shoulder. After working for months to get the shoulder as strong as it had been, the knee injury was traumatic. "I worked so hard to get back and then all of a sudden to have everything taken away, it killed me mentally," Baker said.

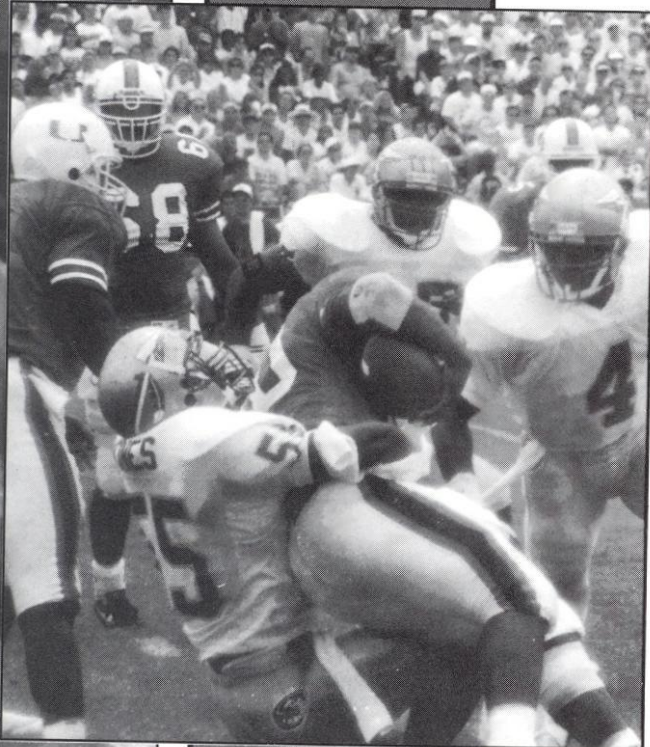
But once again injuries could not keep Baker from playing football. As proven by the number of times he had returned from surgeries and by playing the entire 1991 season injured, the combination of the love for the game and "stupidity" went a long way in overcoming setbacks. After the knee surgery, Baker's goal was to play in the Miami game, an unlikely possibility considering he had just two weeks to gain the strength in his knee back. However, nothing made Baker forget the pain like "the big game" and he was cleared to play.

"In all reality, I should have waited. I did not even know how strong my knee was for that game because I was afraid they would not allow me to play. I had made up my mind that playing Miami was something I had to do," Baker said.

Some thought coming back so soon was irrational or stupid. Others, though, saw and appreciated the reasoning behind Robbie Baker's actions...simply the love of the game.

Squaring Off

Tight end Lonnie Johnson faces off against Tarheel line-backer Johnathan Perry. The Seminoles racked up 359 yards of total offense against North Carolina, a game that many thought would be tough because it was the week after the Miami loss. *Photo by Bryan Eber.*

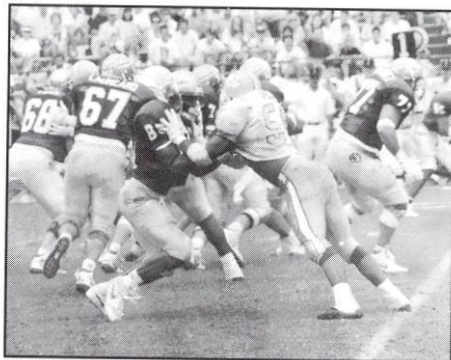


All-American Tackle

Marvin Jones puts to a halt any gain by the Miami offense as Corey Fuller (4) gets ready to help. Jones had nine tackles against Miami. *Photo by Chris McKay.*

In the Pocket

As the offensive line keeps North Carolina defenders away from Charlie Ward, the quarterback looks for a receiver downfield. Ward was sacked only once during the game for a four-yard loss. *Photo by Bryan Eber.*



BEHIND THE SCENES

Walk-ons rarely saw the spotlight, but were an important part of the Seminole football team

Football included the glory of cheering fans, the road trips to away games, the hard work in practice and lots of hits, bruises and pain; but then one considered those football players went to school on full scholarship.

However, this was not the case for all football players. Some students came to Florida State to walk-on and tried out for a position on the team. This did not necessarily mean that they would have a chance to play, but most were willing to strive for their shot at glory.

The walk-on players were just like regular students. They paid for their own room, board, tuition and books as well as physicals in order to play and insurance in case they got hurt. They also did not get to travel to all the road games. But they worked just as hard as the scholarship players, if not harder, because they had something to prove. If they worked hard and showed improvement, sometimes walk-ons were offered scholarships. Through hard hits on defense, smooth catches on offense and fast feet on both, they had to prove that they deserved a chance to be in the "show."

Why would someone work so hard for no glory? It seemed like a large sacrifice for something which Webster described as "a game played between two teams on a rectangular field, having two goal posts at each end, whose object is to get the ball over a goal line or between goal post by running, passing or kicking."

For the players, both walk-on and scholarship, however, football was much more.

"To me, football is a contact sport. To play requires an athlete to be in top

physical condition. It takes motivation, dedication and a love for the sport to be successful," Todd Fordham, freshman offensive tackle scholarship player, said.

For a walk-on player who had to try out to make the team, football meant no less. Those special players had such a love for the sport, it did not matter that they paid for school. What did matter was that they might get a chance to play in front of 66,000+ people.

"Football is a stress reliever. You can't think of anything else while you are out there or you'll get hurt," sophomore outside linebacker David Walker said. "As a scholarship player you have a better chance at playing and all of us walk-on players are always hoping for a scholarship. But I am playing for the fun of it. If it stopped being fun I'd quit, scholarship or not."

The football players, both walk-on and scholarship, were both working toward the same goal...winning football games.

"I respect all walk-on players. Being a scholarship player I go to school free, live free, eat free and get benefits that they don't receive. The scholarship players have more of a chance to prove themselves," Larry Fleming, split guard, said.

First, Grab the Ball...

As tight end Lonnie Johnson and tackle Marvin Ferrell help prevent any Georgia Tech defenders from coming through the line, Charlie Ward hands the ball off to sophomore tailback Tiger McMillon. *Photo by Robert Parker.*



*By
Dody
Perry*



Next, Run With It...

In this picture taken immediately after the photo to the left, Tiger McMillon rushes with the ball downfield as Georgia Tech defenders Marlon Williams (5) and Coleman Rudolph (92) fail to stop him. McMillon gained nine yards on the

Jump Ball

In the final ACC game of the season against the University of Virginia, Tamarick Vanover reaches to catch a 27-yard pass for a touchdown during the second quarter. This score moved the Seminoles ahead of the Cavaliers, 7-3. *Photo by Ryals Lee.*



FSU 29
Georgia Tech 24

The Seminoles traveled to Atlanta and faced a tough Yellow Jacket team as they led only 7-6 at halftime.

Tech came out strong in the second half and scored 17 unanswered points. Then the offense staged their greatest comeback of the season. Ward's receivers completed four passes in a row, and scored on a 1-yard run by William Floyd. GT responded with another field goal. Ward scored on a run to come within 4 points of tying. With 3:16 left in the game, Corey Sawyer recovered Dan Mowrey's onside kick to give the Tribe one last chance to win, and Kez McCorvey scored a touchdown. When Tech got the ball back, FSU added insult to the comeback by sacking Shawn Jones in the endzone for a safety and 2 more points.

FSU 13
Virginia 3

The Seminoles grabbed their first ACC football title as they defeated Virginia up in Charlottesville. Largely a defensive effort, the team played without the injured Marvin Jones and held the Cavalier defense to 195 yards and snagged two interceptions. Kez McCorvey led the offense with 138 yards rushing, and touchdowns were scored by Charlie Ward (16-yard run) and Tamarick Vanover (27-yard pass).

The win assured the Tribe of a New Year's Day bowl game. The players also got to make good on another deal. In August, running back coach Billy Sexton promised that if they won the ACC, he would let them shave his head. So after the game, in the locker room, Coach Sexton got a bald new look.

"My main goal was the ACC championship because it is history. Forever I will be able to say I was part of the first team at FSU to win the ACC." -John Flath

FSU 69
Maryland 21

A record number of fans saw the battle with the Terrapins. Due to the endzone expansion, Doak Campbell's capacity increased, and 64,127 attended the game.

Charlie Ward started the scoring with an 8-yard run, his fifth rushing touchdown of the season. In the first half, FSU scored every time they had the ball.

Ward ended the day 26-37 for passing, 6 rushes for 83 yards, and 5 TD's total, earning him Sports Illustrated Offensive Player of the Week. Clyde Allen, back-up tailback, scored 2 touchdowns and had the AT&T Long Distance Run of the Week with an 84-yarder.

The defense held the Terrapins to 21 points as Zack Crockett got a sack. Strangely, no turnovers occurred the entire game.

FSU 70
Tulane 7

The Tribe ran onto the field donning new garnet pants donated by Burt Reynolds. Reynolds, along with former NFL star Walter Payton attended the game.

FSU, favored by 41 points, dominated early. They led 35-0 after the first quarter, with 5 different players scoring touchdowns. Two key plays in the first half were Clifton Abraham's blocked punt which he ran in for a touchdown and a reverse on a kickoff return which Shannon Baker took 90 yards for another TD.

William Floyd and Lonnie Johnson scored the remaining points in the second half, on a 1-yard run and a 12-yard pass. Johnson, in celebration, spiked the ball over the goalpost and received a fifteen yard penalty. Backups handled the rest of the game and got some playing time.

"The important thing is to keep us situated and in the hunt for the national championship. To get votes we must dominate." -John Davis, before Tulane



MARVIN MOVES ON

After enormous success as a Seminole, Marvin Jones plans to tackle the NFL

*By
Nancy
Floyd*

The end of the season also marked the end of an illustrious college career for junior linebacker Marvin Jones.

"There's no question, Marvin is unique. In my honest opinion, he is the best linebacker in America," linebackers coach Wally Burnham said. "Some guys look through you, like kids do to teachers in the classroom. Marvin soaks up everything like a sponge. It may be something I've said 100 times, yet Marvin listens every time."

Jones ranked seventh on the school's all-time list with 369 tackles in three seasons. Jones was only 18 when he earned the starting linebacker job and the nickname "Shadetree" (because the heat overwhelmed him the first day of practice). With a 4.5 second 40-yard dash and 38.5 inch vertical leap (a team best), it was clear why he started every game but one.

Straight out of Miami Northwestern High, Jones set a Seminole

record for freshmen with 133 tackles. "As a freshmen, I was more of a wildman. I probably could've had 180 tackles had I played under control," Jones said.

Jones developed a great deal since that season. In 1991, he finished with 75 solo tackles, 125 overall. His junior year, he led the team with 111 tackles, despite a severe ankle strain during the season.

Jones captured the Lombardi Award, given to the country's top lineman. "I wish I could break this into 11 pieces and give one to each of my teammates," Jones said. "You can't be a great linebacker without great lineman." Jones also received the Butkus award, given annually to college football's premier linebacker. He placed fourth in the Heisman race, was The Sporting News Player of the Year and one of two players to repeat as consensus All-Americans.

"I like to get big hits because it changes an opponent's mind. You put a big hit on a guy early in a game, and let him know, 'this is how it's going to be all day,' and he might as well put on an FSU jersey. He's ours," Jones said.

Against UF running back Errict Rhett, Jones said, "He got around me early and said something like he can't be stopped. But see, I was still a little rusty. I got some WD-40, warmed up and turned out his lights. He doesn't know, but I eat running backs with ketchup."

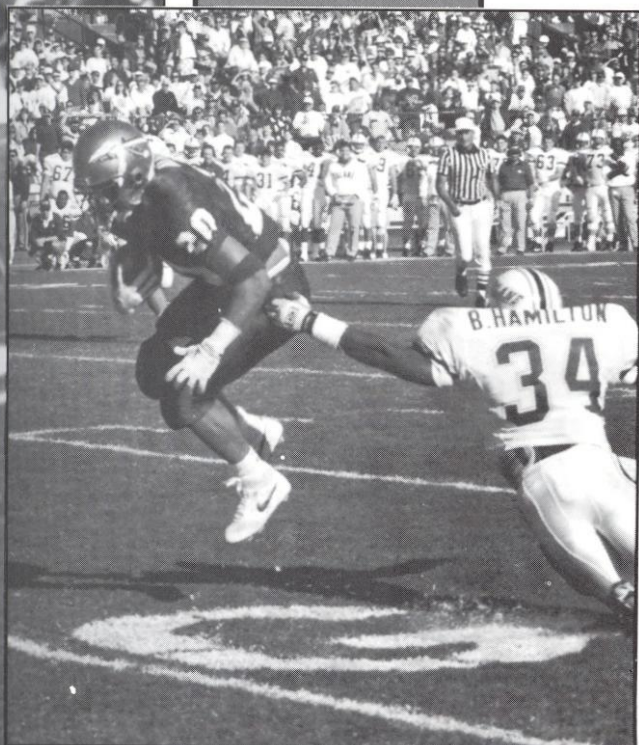
Jones was influenced by his older brother Fred, a former FSU football player. "He's very supportive," Jones said. "He's like a father figure. We talk constantly, he's an irreplaceable person."

After the Orange Bowl, Jones declared his eligibility for the NFL draft. With his impressive record, Jones was almost assured of a first round pick.

"When I first got here, I thought he'd be up on himself but then I got to know him," inside linebacker Henri Crockett said. "He always took extra time to help me. He even wanted the freshmen to hang with him. He has proven himself on the college level, it's time for him to prove himself in the pros."

One of Many TD's

The Seminole's last ACC game of the season against the Maryland Terrapins proved to be a one-sided, high-scoring battle. Here, William Floyd scores six of the team's 69 points, while teammate Robbie Baker helps block.



Going Airborne

After catching a four-yard pass from Ward, tailback Clyde Allen leaps into the endzone between Tulane defenders, one of 10 touchdowns scored by the offense during the game. In addition to the TD, Allen had 41 yards rushing. *Photo by Rand Hill.*

Offering Congrats

Tailback Sean Jackson celebrates with wide receiver Shannon Baker after Baker ran back a kickoff 90 yards for a touchdown. Because of a knee injury, Jackson did not play against Tulane. *Photo by Robert Parker.*



BEST IN THE BOWLS

Once again, the Seminoles prove that they may be the country's best team in post-season

Jan. 2: "You know, Florida State may be the best team in the country right now." This became a familiar statement as the Seminoles ranked #2 in the polls, extending their streak of top-4 finishes to six years. They finished behind Alabama, who upset Miami in the Sugar Bowl. Miami, the only tarnish on the Tribe's 11-1 record, ranked #3.

No one could argue the Seminoles' post-season success. The team remained undefeated in bowl games since 1982. With the Orange Bowl win over Nebraska, they possessed a winner's trophy from every major bowl except the Rose. A fifth-year senior won 53 of 61 games, five bowls, and finished every season during his career ranked in the nation's top four.

While players, coaches, and fans were pleased with the season, some expressed frustration at always coming close to a national championship. Without Miami on the schedule, the team would have won every game in 1987, '88 and '92. Charlie Ward said, "Take Miami off our schedule, we're undefeated. But we're not going to do that."

The ACC championship highlighted the season. The Tribe tore through all conference opponents in their first ACC season. This included come-from-behind victories at Clemson and Georgia Tech and convincing home wins over Duke, Wake Forest, and Maryland.

Once again, Seminoles garnered many honors and awards. The most celebrated player, junior linebacker Marvin Jones, won the Lombardi and Butkus awards, was Sporting News Player of the Year, a two-time consensus All-American and

finished fourth in the Heisman race. Not a surprise, Jones headed for the NFL. Quarterback Charlie Ward overcame a slow start and became ACC Player of the Year and sixth in Heisman voting. His name came up often as a front-runner for next year's trophy.

Freshman Tamarick Vanover made headlines by returning his first two kickoffs for TDs, earning All-American status in addition to Football News and ACC Rookie of the Year titles.

Other honorees included Derrick Brooks, Patrick McNeil, and Corey Sawyer, who were named to the sophomore All-American team. Defensive tackle Dan Footman won the Brian Piccolo Award for the ACC's most courageous player. Footman sustained a serious knee injury, underwent reconstructive surgery, and had 65 tackles for the season.

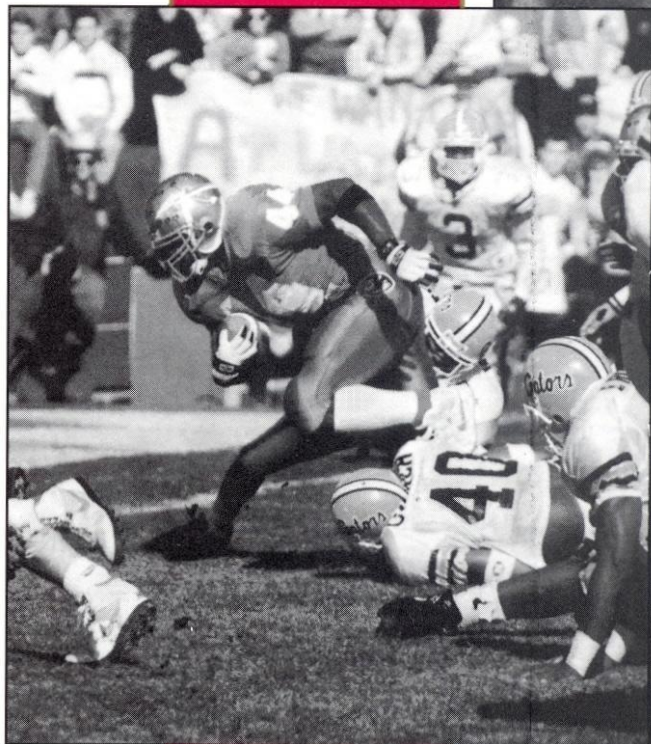
Finishing the season with such a flourish, speculations started early about next season. Many put the Seminoles as preseason #1, and why not? Most top players returned, and the Tribe recruited one of the nation's best freshman classes. They could prove it with wins in their tough schedule: the ACC, in-state foes Miami and Florida, and Notre Dame.

Nowhere to Run

Gator tailback Errict Rhett finds his run cut short by the All-American, Lombardi, and Butkus award winner Marvin Jones. With 11 tackles, Jones led a Seminole defense that allowed UF only 41 yards rushing. *Photo by Rand Hill.*



*By
Joanna
Sparkman*

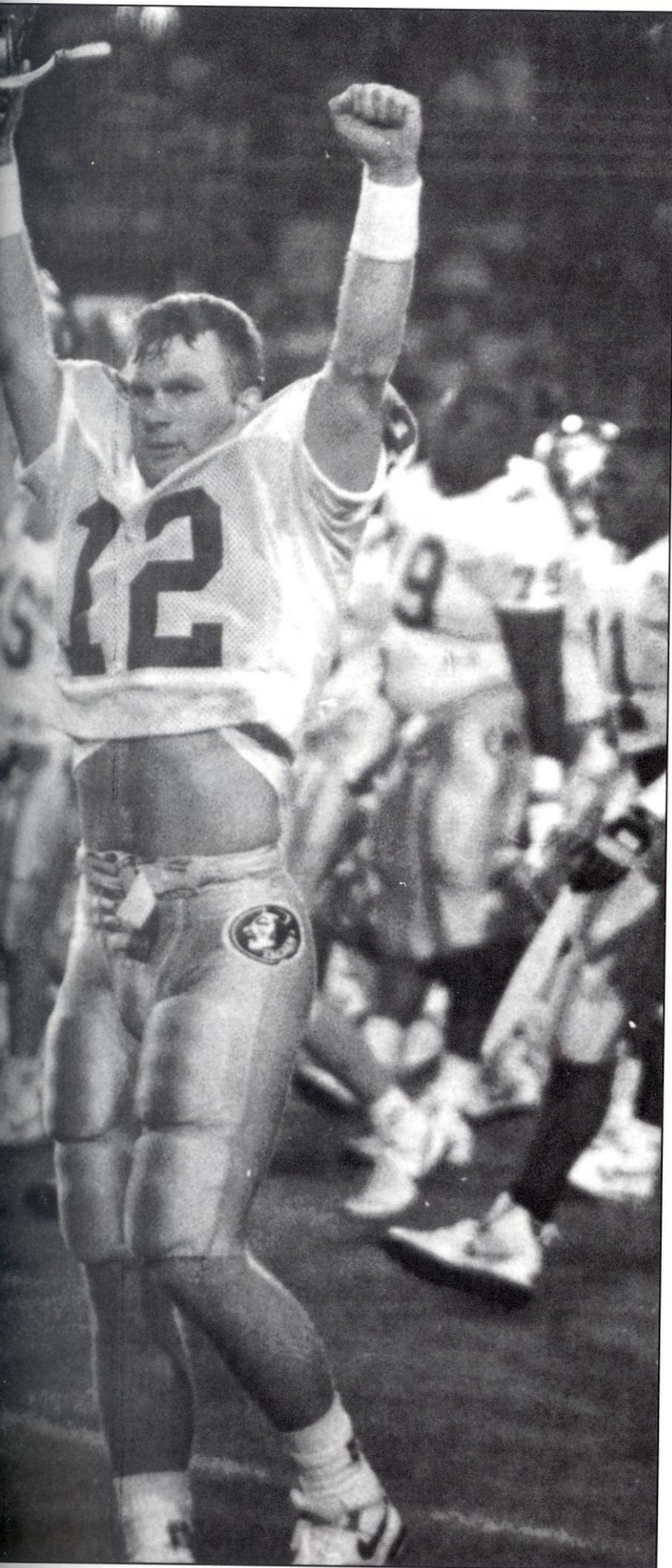


Bustin' a Move

Fullback William Floyd breaks through the Gator defense to score another touchdown. Floyd scored the Seminoles last two touchdowns of the game, with runs of 1 and 4 yards. *Photo by Robert Parker.*

V-I-C-T-O-R-Y

Junior wide receiver Matt Frier celebrates the Seminoles' victory over the Nebraska Cornhuskers in the Orange Bowl. With the exception of the Rose Bowl, the Seminoles have won every New Year's Day bowl title. *Photo by Robert Parker.*



FSU 45
Florida 24

Probably the best argument for the shotgun offense this season, the Seminoles demolished the Florida Gators. The Tribe gained 471 yards, 278 coming in the first half. Passing accounted for 331 yards, as Ward completed 27 of 47 attempts and no sacks. On the receiving end, Kevin Knox had a stellar day, catching 11 passes for 123 yards. Along with 70 yards rushing, Ward broke the single-season record for offense with 3,151 yards.

In an ironic twist, Seminole fans and players found themselves rooting for the Gators, who played Alabama in the SEC championship game the next week. A UF win would set up a rematch between the Seminoles and Miami for the national championship.

FSU 27
Nebraska 14

The Seminoles returned to the site of their only loss: Miami's Orange Bowl. But this time, they shot-gunned to victory over Nebraska in the bowl game. With a majority-FSU crowd of 57,324 watching, Charlie Ward passed for 215 yards, (16 of 31 attempts), earning MVP honors. Over half of the 436 offensive yards came from rushes. Sean Jackson had 101 yards and one TD. Mowrey avenged his last Orange Bowl visit with field goals of 40 and 24 yards. Sterling Palmer and Clifton Abraham led the defense with six tackles each.

Although torrential rain and the 1-2 Sugar Bowl match-up prevented a record-breaking Orange Bowl, the game went down in the books as FSU's eighth straight bowl win.

"I'm thankful that we are playing our best at the end of the season. Do I think we're the best? We're probably pretty darned close to it." -Coach Bobby Bowden

S

ET TO IMPROVE

*The
Lady
'Noles
bumped,
set
and
spiked
all the
way to
the
NCAA
tour-
na-
ment*

*By
Joanna
Sparkman*

Improvement = Success. According to the Lady Seminole volleyball squad, this equation held true. Breaking school records, boosting individual stats, high finishes in tournaments and winning more games than not were some highlights of a season of great improvement. In addition to success, improvement resulted in many honors as well.

The volleyball season began with the Gator Invitational in Gainesville. The Lady 'Noles finished second behind the Gators. The team played in four other regular season tournaments, winning their own Florida State Classic, the South Florida Invitational in Tampa, and the Hofstra Invitational in Hempsted, New York. They placed third in the Golden Dome Classic at Notre Dame. With a 24-6 regular season record, the squad arrived at the ACC Tournament tied with Duke atop the conference. After defeating Virginia and Maryland in the first rounds, the team lost a five-game heartbreaker

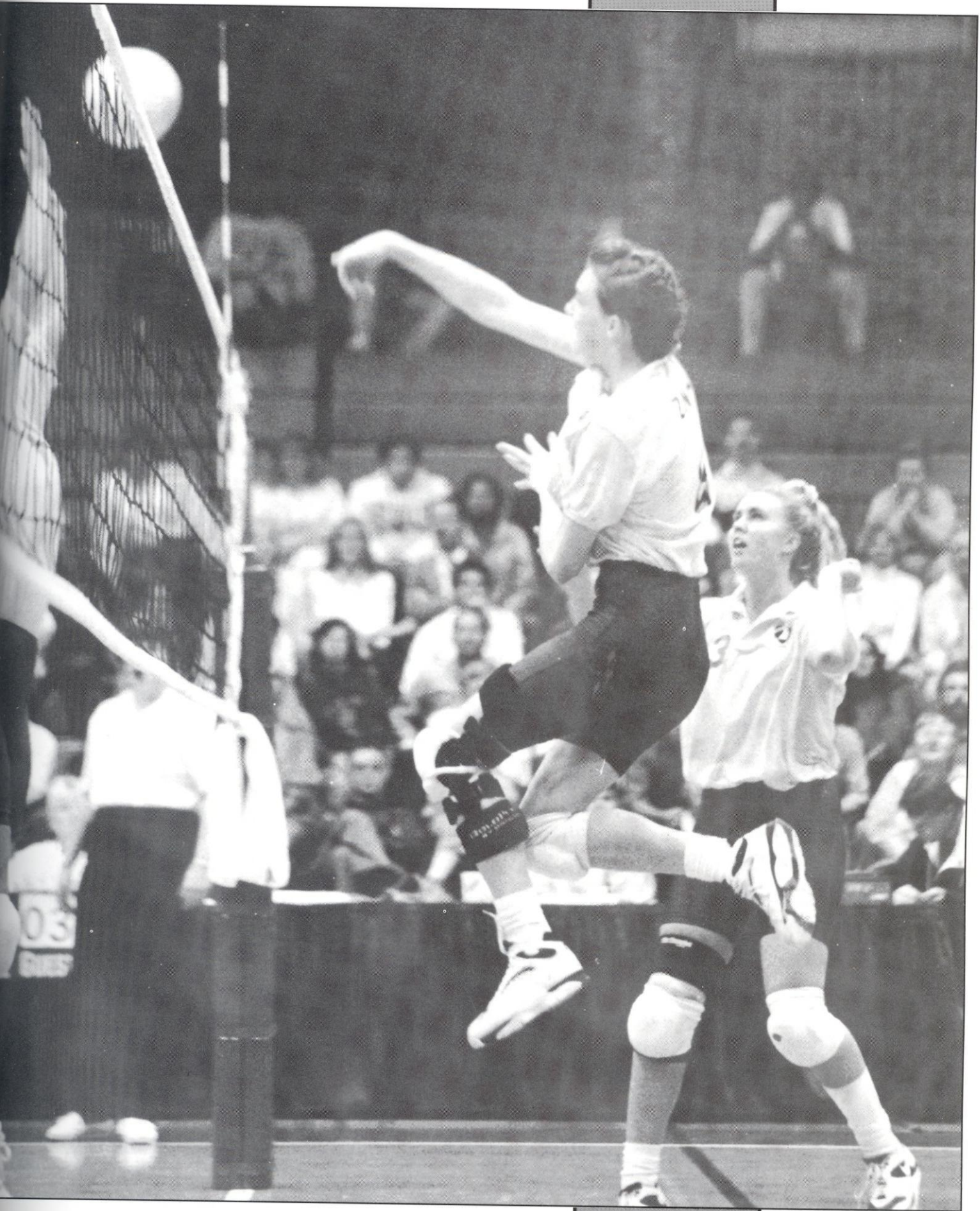
against the Blue Devils in the championship match. But they were not through yet. They received an invitation to the NCAA Tournament and played UF in the first round. Ironically, Florida State's season ended just as it began, with a loss at the hands of the Lady Gators. The Seminoles' 26-8 record was definitely a marked improvement over the 16-15 record of 1991. It did not go unnoticed. They finished the season ranked 8th in the South Region.

Two seniors played instrumental roles in the squad's success. Bianca Stevens finished a four-year career with honors as she was named to the All-Tournament Team at the Golden Dome Classic, the Hofstra Invitational, and the ACC Tournament. She was also listed on the All-ACC team for the season. Sherry Cowling, a transfer student, played only one season for FSU but made her name known during that time. She was on the All-Tournament teams at UF, USF,

Hofstra, and ACC, and also made the All-ACC team. Academically, she scored high, appearing on the GTE All-America volleyball third team.

There were not just seniors in the spotlight, however. Sophomore Luiza Ramos was MVP at both the USF and Hofstra Invitationals, and made the All-Tournament teams at UF, Notre Dame and the ACC. Ramos also made 2nd-team All-ACC. Junior Vicki Zinkil, whose name already appeared in the record books, improved her standings by moving to second in all-time solo blocks, fourth all-time in block assists and fifth in career total blocks. Head Coach Cecile Reynaud received the honor of ACC Coach of the Year.

Team statistics also improved. In 1991, the record of matches played at Tully Gym was 8-7. This season they improved that home record to 11-2. In five-game matches, the team advanced from a 1-8 record in 1991 to 5-3 in the 1992 season.



Caught in Mid-Air

During a home match at Tully Gym, junior middle hitter Vicki Zinkil leaps to hit the ball over to the opposing team. The Lady Seminole squad posted an 11-2 record in matches played at Tully.
Photo courtesy of Sports Information.

Lady 'Noles place 2nd in ACC

"They have worked hard. Now they will get a chance to show what they can do." Coach Cecile Reynaud said of her volleyball team before the Atlantic Coast Conference post-season tournament.

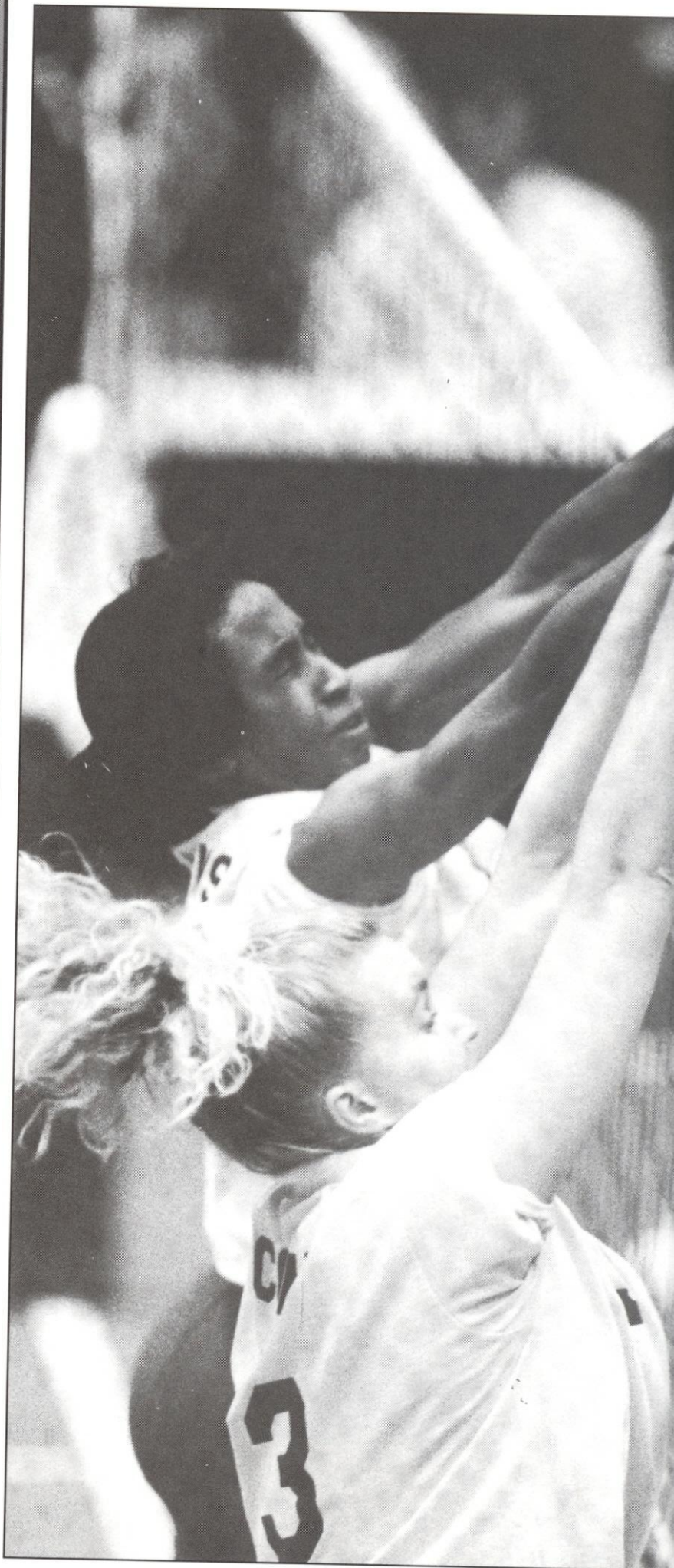
With a 6-1 conference record, they entered the tournament seeded second behind Duke. The Blue Devils had the same record, but gained the top position by defeating the Lady Seminoles during the season.

The squad's first game was an easy defeat over the Virginia Cavaliers in three games: 15-7, 15-3, 15-4. In the semifinals they faced Maryland. A five-game, come-from-behind win over the Terrapins set up the 1-2 championship match against Duke.

After falling 9-15 in the first game, the Seminoles took the next two, but then dropped the last two sets with identical 11-15 scores. Luiza Ramos and Deanna Bosschaert had career-high numbers of kills, with 23 and 26 respectively. Bosschaert also had a career-high 62 attacks, while Sherry Cowling chalked up 74 assists.

Based on their strong showing in the tournament, Cowling, Ramos, and Bianca Stevens were named to the All-Tournament team. Reynaud received ACC Coach of the Year honors.

"The ACC tournament was a highlight of our season. The championship match (against Duke) was a great game, and it was a great experience to make it to the finals." -Adria Ciraco



RETURNING HOME

Sherry Cowling returns to Florida and experiences a successful senior year as a Seminole

*By
Nancy
Floyd*

Realizing that the student portion of the "student-athlete" was just as important as the latter portion, Sherry Cowling, a talented setter for the volleyball team, left Syracuse University.

"Overall the program changed and lost sight of what a student-athlete was,"

Cowling said. "You need a good balance because there are not too many careers in volleyball if you sacrifice your education."

Feeling strongly on this matter, the Miami native returned home to Florida. She then enrolled in the Florida International University and assisted in coaching the school's volleyball team. It was there that Cowling recaptured her love of volleyball.

"I didn't touch a volleyball for six months after I left Syracuse, I never thought I'd want to play again," Cowling said. "Through working with the FIU team, I found the joy that I had lost."

When Cowling moved to Tallahassee and transferred to the University, she did so with no intentions of playing volleyball. She had grown up a Seminole fan and liked the idea of being closer to home and warm weather.

Her career at the University began as a walk-on, which was a difficult

transition for Cowling. At Syracuse she had been named the Most Valuable Player as a freshman and by her junior year she was the team captain, the leader in assists, a Regional All-American and a selection for the Olympic Festival silver medal volleyball squad.

"I decided to work as hard as I could, I wanted to do it," Cowling said about joining the Lady Seminole squad, which was what Head Coach Cecile Reynaud felt set her apart.

"Anything we are doing, Sherry pushes herself absolutely as hard as she can push," Reynaud said.

"At first we were skeptical, because she was coming in as a senior. But she fit right in to the team and made a good impact, both attitude-wise and on the court," teammate Adria Ciraco said,

In one short season, Cowling proved to be an asset to the women's volleyball team. She was named to the second team All-South Region and finished second on the University's single season assist charts. Cowling was also named to the All-Tournament teams at the Gator Invitational, South Florida Invitational, and Hofstra Invitational.

In the ACC Tournament, Cowling's performance placed her on the All-Tournament team, and she was also named to the All-ACC team for the season.

Her academic emphasis and achievements did not go unnoticed either. GTE Corporation named her to the All-America Volleyball third team for the entire nation. Cowling graduated in May with a degree in economics and business.

High Five

Deanna Bosschaert, Sherry Cowling, Jen McCall, and Luiza Ramos celebrate a good play and encourage each other on the court. The team members became very close friends during their time at FSU. *Photo courtesy of Sports Information.*



Keeping the Lead

With the score 12-6 and the Lady Seminoles in the lead, sophomore Deanna Bosschaert makes sure the ball stays on the opponent's side. Bosschaert, a native of Canada, was an outside hitter for the team. *Photo courtesy of Sports Information.*

A Teammate Effort

Teammates Bianca Stevens and Jen McCall work together at the net to block a shot. Stevens, a senior, and McCall, a junior, were both leaders on the team. *Photo courtesy of Sports Information.*



S

SEMINOLE SPIRIT

By
Beth
Kemmer

Florida State's spirit squads enjoyed another year of work, fun, and recognition

The Seminole football and basketball teams were not the only ones who racked up the frequent flyer miles. In January the cheerleaders traveled to compete in the National Collegiate Cheerleading Championship in Dallas, Texas, while the Golden Girls performed in a December halftime show in Japan.

For the 18-member cheerleading squad, it was the first time in three years they were able to make the trip to the National Championship. Their efforts paid off as they placed fourth in the nation, their highest finish ever. This was quite an accomplishment considering the teams that placed above them had all placed first in past years.

The squad remained on the go, performing at the Orange Bowl in Miami, the basketball game against the University of

Florida in Tallahassee and the NCCC competition in Dallas, all in one week.

Senior member Nicole Batchelor attributed their success to their determination.

"We knew we were good and we didn't want any odds to keep us from being the best," she said.

While the cheerleaders prepared for nationals, the Golden Girls were preparing for their own show. Invited to perform based on a videotaped performance, the Golden Girls packed it up and headed to Japan to perform in the Coca-Cola Classic football game.

Although not a competition, the Golden Girls' performance meant just as much as they were chosen out of various dance teams nationally.

Dancer Marcy Kislia said her favorite part of the trip was how respected they were because of their

dancing ability.

"They thought we were stars," she said.

The Golden Girls have existed for over ten years. They have grown to 14 girls that perform at basketball games, competitions, rush parties, philanthropy projects and community activities.

The University's cheerleaders have also been around for many years doing their best to rouse the spirit of Seminoles everywhere. A coed team, the squad practiced long hours to strut their stuff at all football and men's basketball games, as well as charity benefits and alumni gatherings.

Batchelor said her favorite part of her 3 year experience as a varsity cheerleader was the pride.

"It is such a high to be part of our athletic program," she said. *-cont-*



Enjoying the Victory

After the Georgia Tech game, Varsity cheerleaders Nicole Batchelor, Susar McPherson, Monica Ovide, Stephanie George, Jennifer Skelton, and Joni Gibson celebrate the win with quarterback Charlie Ward. *Photo by Ryals Lee.*

*The Spirit
Leader's Leader*

“The thing I've enjoyed most about cheering for FSU is being a part of the great sports teams, and traveling to the Orange Bowl and the NCAA Tournament. It was a pretty good year, finishing #2 in football and making it to the Final 8 in basketball.” -

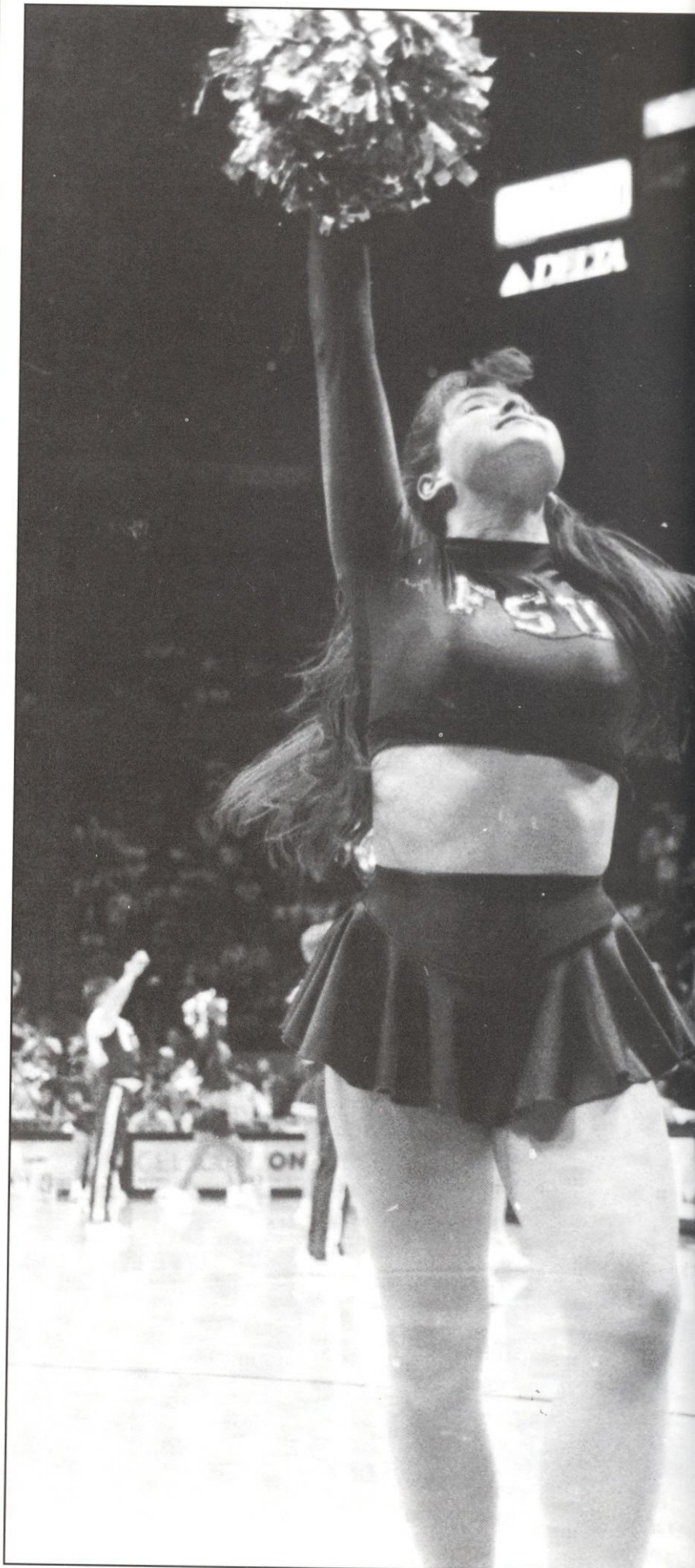
Victor Saab

“FSU is a great school with a strong tradition. Although it is a big school, it has a small school feeling, and the people are great.” This was how Andy McNeil would describe Florida State to a prospective student.

McNeil served as the University's Spirit Coordinator. This meant he was in charge of the Varsity and J.V. cheerleaders, the Golden Girls and the Batgirls. He organized all tryouts, practices, clinics and travel arrangements for all three squads throughout the football, basketball and baseball seasons.

McNeil, who cheered for Florida State himself, interviewed for the job after graduating with a degree in marketing in 1990. He worked out of the school's Sports Marketing department.

Whether it was any of the three major sports or the women's sports, the best part of McNeil's job was, “Helping support Seminole athletics.”



By
Beth
Kemmer

SEMINOLE SPIRIT, CON'T

Trips to Dallas and Japan were rewards for the Cheerleaders' and Golden Girls' success

As for the practice and physical endurance, Batchelor said it was all worth it. She believed this to be the best and most diverse squad ever at the University. She said the biggest sacrifice was missing so much school.

"It is like having a 35-hour a week job, including practice, game time, travel, alumni and charitable appearances," Batchelor said.

Along with the varsity squad, there existed a 14-member junior varsity squad. This team performed as the "Lady Seminole Squad" at women's volleyball and basketball games. Members were able to move up or down between the junior varsity and varsity squads depending on various factors affecting performances and responsibilities.

Each of the three groups held try outs annually. Cheerleaders hosted theirs for the varsity in the Spring

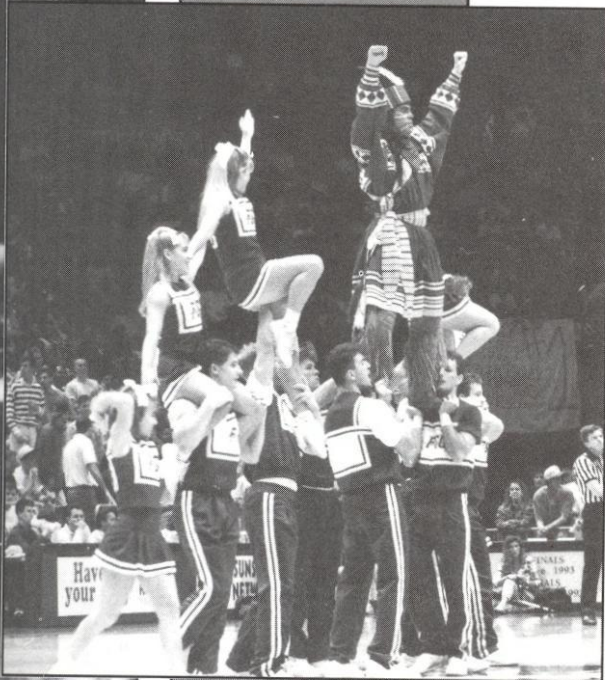
and the junior varsity in the Fall. Golden Girls try outs consisted of a two day clinic in May. The first day, participants were taught a dance routine and the fight song. The actual try out consisted of those two activities in addition to kicks, turns and splits.

The three groups did, on occasion, combine their efforts. The biggest example of this was a combination routine performed at the Homecoming Pow Wow. They attended the same summer camp and practice times were similar. Kislia believed the two groups got along well and complemented each other in performance, with both groups looking forward to more throughout the year. Andy McNeil coached the two cheerleading squads, while also advising the Golden Girls and Bat Girls.

"They work together when needed but each have separate jobs," he said.

Halftime Happenings'

The 14-member Golden Girls dance squad performs another award-winning halftime show. The squad traveled to Japan to perform in the halftime show of a football game and also competed at the National Championships. *Photo by Steve Stiber.*



Lifting Spirits High

During a timeout in a basketball game, the cheerleaders and Seminole mascot perform a pyramid for the crowd. The cheerleaders cheered at every home game and also traveled to tournaments. *Photo by Steve Stiber.*

Dazzling the Crowd

The Golden Girls performed spirit dances during timeouts and were the halftime entertainment during all the men's basketball games. Here, Jennifer Bechtol shows her Seminole spirit to the crowd. *Photo by Lisa Collard.*



C

COURT MASTERS

The basketball teams faced tough competition, especially in the ACC

*By
Joanna
Sparkman*

ACC season number two. What could Florida State expect from its basketball teams? The Lady Seminoles hoped to improve on the 8-8 conference record from last season. The men's team had high hopes for a conference championship after finishing second in the regular season and third in the post-season tournament.

As the Seminoles prepared for the competition, both teams looked to seniors for leadership. Women's coach Marynell Meadors relied on the experience of Chantelle Dishman, Tia Paschal and Danielle Ryan and they did not disappoint her. Unfortunately, Dishman injured her knee twice and was out for most of the season, so she did not get to play up to her potential. But both Paschal and Ryan proved to be excellent leaders. Paschal earned MVP honors at the Dial Soap Classic Tournament and made the

all-tournament team at the Oakland Tribune Classic. She broke numerous school records and at the end of the season was named to the All-ACC first team. Ryan made the all-tournament teams at the both the Dial Soap and Oakland Tribune Classics. She excelled in the classroom as well, being named ACC Scholar-Athlete of the Week and a GTE Academic All-American. Both seniors had games in which they scored over 30 points, Paschal with three and Ryan with one.

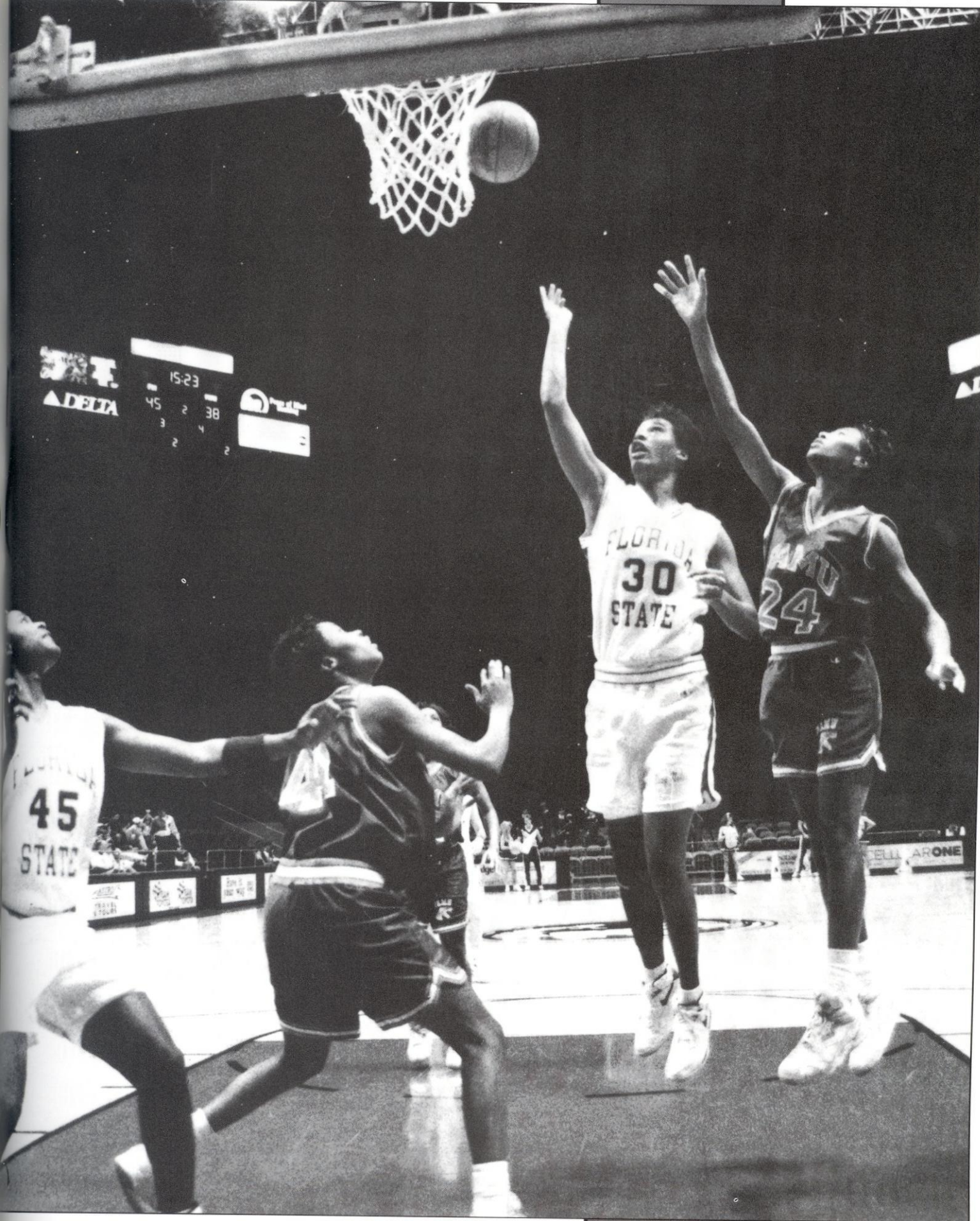
The Lady Seminoles competed in two tournaments during the season and did well. They won the Dial Classic at home and were runners-up in the Oakland Tribune Classic in California. As a team, they broke the record for the most three-pointers in a season.

Coach Kennedy also looked to three seniors who showed themselves to be some of the greatest basketball players in

school history, Sam Cassell, Rodney Dobard, and Doug Edwards. Kennedy also had a full arsenal of athletes in addition to the big three, including last season's Rookie of the Year Bob Sura, team leader Charlie Ward, experienced seniors Lorenzo Hands and Byron Wells and talented new freshmen Derrick Carroll, Maurice Robinson, Scott Shepherd.

Sam Cassell, Doug Edwards, and Bob Sura earned spots on the All-ACC second team. All three made their marks in scoring. Edwards scored in double figures 84 out of 91 games during his career, Cassell 62 out of 66, and Sura 54 out of 65 games. This season Dobard broke the record of the most games played as a Seminole with 122.

The men's team was plagued with injuries throughout the season, but still managed to capture second place in the ACC and go all the way to the final eight in the NCAA.



City Rivalry

At the Civic Center, the Lady Seminoles take on cross-town rival Florida A & M. Senior forward Tia Paschal attempts a lay-up as Lady Rattlers defenders and Seminole Ursula Woods (45) get ready to rebound. Florida State won the game 79-58. Photo by John Cawley.

Basketball team attacks Top 25

From mid-December to mid-January, it was not a good idea to be a Top 25 team and to play the Lady Seminoles. Chances were, you got beat. The women hoopsters convincingly defeated 5 of 6 ranked opponents during that month.

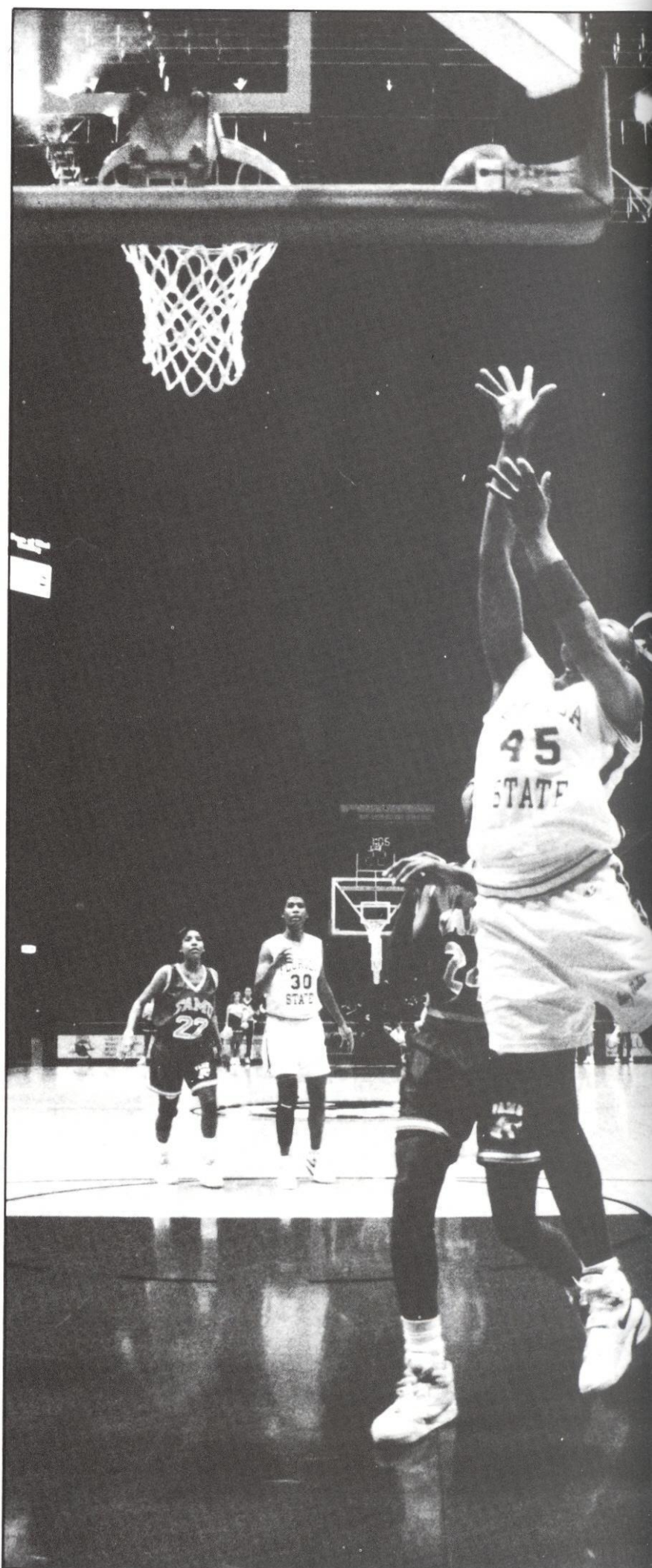
It all started with a road win over 16th-ranked University of Miami. In the Oakland Tribune Classic just before Christmas, they defeated Tennessee Tech, the #23 team. Ironically, head coach Marynell Meadors had recently been inducted into the Tennessee Tech Hall of Fame for starting and coaching their basketball program for 16 years.

The team's next three wins were not only over ranked teams, but ACC opponents as well. They defeated UNC (#15) and Georgia Tech (#23) both on the road.

But the win Meadors called "the biggest in school history" came against the Maryland Terrapins, ranked #3 in the nation, by a score of 68-61.

Even with the big wins, the Lady 'Noles failed to rank in the Top 25 themselves. Losses to unranked teams and injuries contributed to this fact. But the women's basketball team still made their name known around the country.

"This season our team had a lot of obstacles, but we were able to overcome them. One of the highlights of our season, though, was beating #3 ranked Maryland at home." -Allison Percy



STARTING YOUNG

Tia Paschal learned at a young age how to play basketball "with the boys"

*By
Dody
Perry*

Tia Paschal was known and respected on any court on campus. Whether one was at Tully Gym or the Leach Center, she was amazing to watch.

Paschal, the 6-foot-1 senior from Thomson, Georgia, was the most versatile player in the history of women's basketball at FSU. She could play on the inside or outside. She had speed, endurance and strength to defend against the toughest opponent.

Paschal broke two school records, one for the most steals in a season and another for the most points in a game against 15th-ranked North Carolina. Paschal scored 38 points to lead the team in 85-66 upset.

"I had no idea the school record was 37 points in a game. It was a big surprise when the team told me I had broken the record," Paschal said. "It was my night. Everything I put up went in and 38 went in."

North Carolina's Hatchell remembered Paschal's most memorable game against them. "She was unreal that day," Hatchell said. (Paschal also had 11 rebounds, four steals and shut down one of UNC's leading scorers. "She was inside, she was

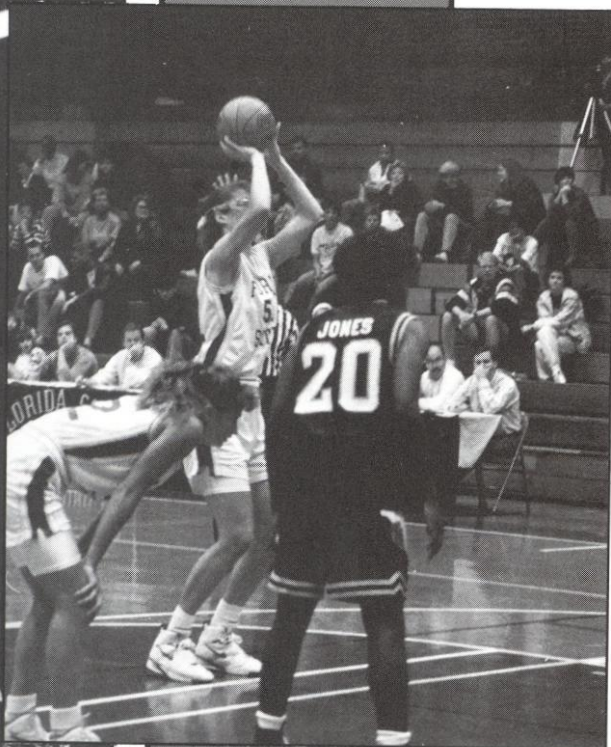
outside, she posted up, she rebounded, she brought the ball down the floor, she blocked shots, she made steals-she was all world that day and we couldn't do anything to stop her."

Playing basketball was not always easy for Paschal. There was a time when she would go to the park with her sister to play with the guys and neither she nor her sister were picked to be on the teams. "I was small, skinny and could not get the ball. So the boys did not want me to play," Paschal remembers. "I used to practice with a bicycle rim and a piece of wood hung up on a pole. As I got older and the guys saw I could play, they started picking me to be on their team."

Paschal did not stop playing ball with the guys when she got to college. Her attitude was that playing with the guys taught speed, strength and helped rid fear of the big girls because she would keep body contact with the boys. "I played at Leach with guys during the off season, they make you more aggressive," Paschal said. "Their attitude is 'if you can't play, stay off the court.'"

Paschal wants to play professional women's basketball in Europe. Then she wants to play in the 1996 Olympics. If her knees last that long she will have reached her ultimate goal in basketball.

Paschal majored in criminology. After basketball, she hoped to have a job as an undercover cop working in narcotics to give the youth of America a better chance by helping to rid the streets of drugs.

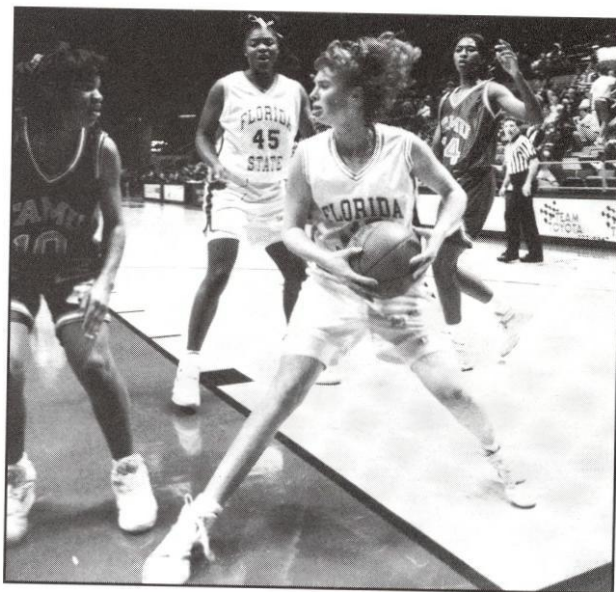


At the Line

Junior center Mary Berryhill shoots a free throw during a home game against ACC rival Clemson in February. The 6'6 Berryhill broke her hand in November and was out for several games. Photo by Lisa Collard.

Leaps and Rebounds

Ursula Woods, a transfer from Emmanuel Junior College in Georgia, attempts a two point goal against Florida A & M. Woods was the high rebounder of the game with 11. Photo by John Cawley.



Searching for a Shot

Senior Danielle Ryan catches a pass and looks for an opening to shoot. Ryan was one of the top shooters on the team, with a .515 field goal percentage, .422 percentage on three pointers, and sank 80% of her free throws. Photo by John Cawley.

TAKING HITS

*The men's basketball team took a licking,
but kept on ticking*

Everything pointed toward a spectacular season for the men's basketball team. With all the starters returning from a Sweet 16 team, combined with a talented freshman class, the Seminole fans dared to expect a Final Four appearance. Then, the season began...

It started in the opening minutes of the very first game, versus Siena in the preseason NIT tournament. Guard Chuck Graham went down with a knee injury. He sustained ligament damage and underwent surgery, ending his season. Graham took a medical redshirt to save his final season for 1993-94.

One down, who was next? Andre Reid broke his hand when it was slammed in a car door, ending his season as well. Doug Edwards broke his finger in the warmups before a game against Maryland-Baltimore County on Dec. 28, but was only out for two games.

All these injuries occurred before the team started ACC competition in January. In addition to the nagging absences of key players in the first part of the season, the team was also without Charlie Ward, who was quarterbacking the football team. They started strong in the ACC after he joined the team. Then against Georgia Tech, Ward went down with a dislocated shoulder, the same shoulder he injured in the 1992 NCAA Tournament.

How many more to go?

Freshman Jonathan Kerner, a reserve center, missed nine games because of mononucleosis.

Another freshman, guard Derrick

Carroll, who gained the starting position when Ward went down, broke his left foot in early February and missed five games.

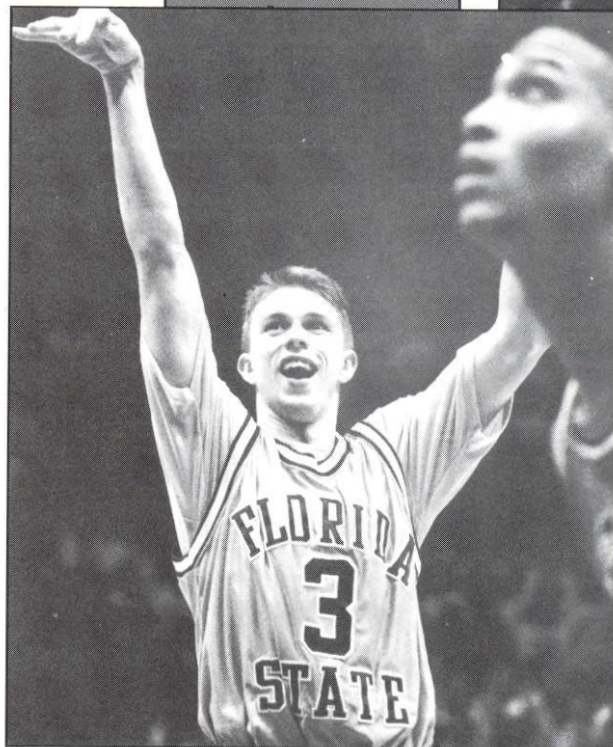
Ironically, this was season #13 for head coach Pat Kennedy. "I don't know what I did this summer, but it must have been horrible. I never had injuries like this in my 13 years of coaching. It's catching up with me in one year," Kennedy said.

It was not just injuries, however. Bob Sura and Doug Edwards were both suspended for one game for missing classes. They missed an ACC matchup versus N.C. State in Raleigh.

However, the situation finally started to improve. Kerner returned for the N.C. State game, and contributed to a 72-71 victory. Ward returned where he left off - against Georgia Tech-fitted with a special brace for his shoulder. Carroll also returned for that game, which the Seminoles won and clinched second place in the ACC.

By March Madness, Kennedy had all his players back injury-free. The casualties did have a good side. It gave younger players, such as Scott Shepherd and Maurice Robinson early experience. And ultimately, that experience would benefit in future seasons.

*By
Joanna
Sparkman*



It's a "Sura" shot

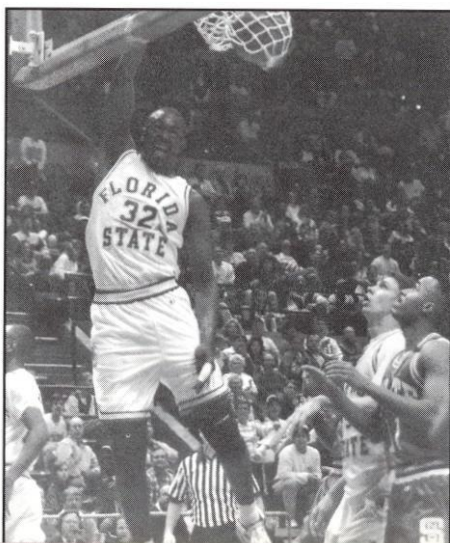
Sophomore Bob Sura smiles as he watches his free throw sink into the basket. Virginia's Yuri Barnes, who committed the foul against Sura, anticipates the rebound. *Photo by Steve Stiber*

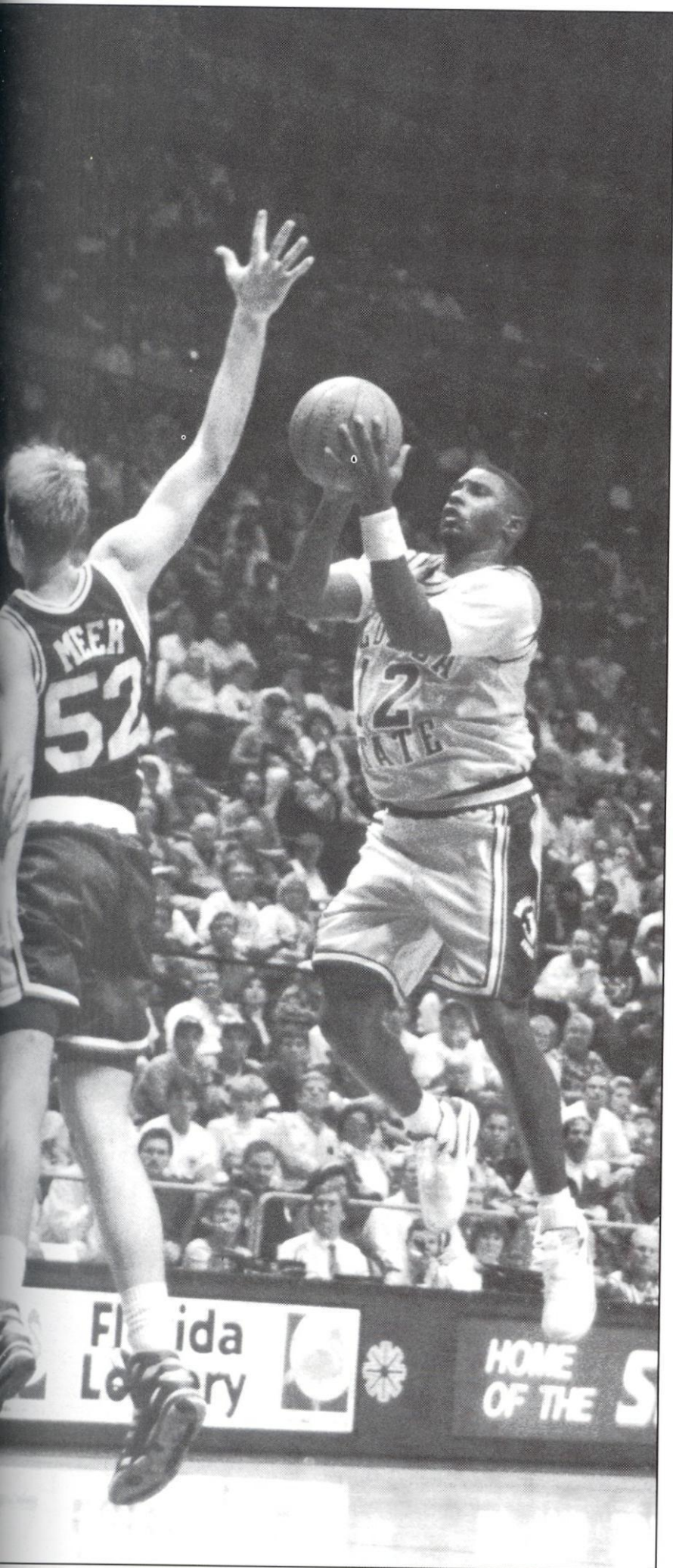
Jump Shot

Duke defenders Meer and Lang attempt to block point guard Charlie Ward's leaping shot. This game was one of the season's most exciting, as the Seminoles beat the defending national champs in overtime. *Photo by Steve Stiber.*

Not Slowing Down

Even while recovering from a broken finger, Doug Edwards slam dunks the ball against N.C. State, as the Seminoles win 70-54. Edwards broke his finger two weeks before this game, one of the many injuries that the Seminoles experienced this season. *Photo by Steve Stiber.*





FSU 89
Duke 88

It seemed an unlikely possibility. FSU, who had fallen out of the AP Top 25, hosting Duke, ranked #6 and the two-time defending national champions. However, the 13,333 fans that packed the Civic Center saw one of the most exciting games of the season. The lead changed hands 15 times during the game and twice FSU battled back from double-digit deficits to tie the score. In the closing seconds of regulation, with the score tied at 80, Charlie Ward knocked the ball loose from Duke's Grant Hill to prevent any more scoring and to advance to overtime.

The lead continued to go back and forth in OT, but with 7 seconds left, and the score 88-86 in Duke's favor, Byron Wells, a reserve forward, became FSU's hero. His three-point shot bounced off the rim and then sank in for the Seminole win, called the "greatest win" by FSU coach Pat Kennedy.

"We worked seven years for this. I think for Florida State University basketball, with the Final Four of '72, it was our greatest moment," Kennedy said.

Although Wells was the overtime hero, it was a team effort that produced the win. Doug Edwards led the team with 21 points and 12 rebounds before fouling out late in the second half. Bob Sura and Rodney Dobard both had 16 points, while Sam Cassell scored 15 and held Thomas Hill to only 5. Charlie Ward scored 11, while Wells finished with 10.

"We were too exhausted to try to go to a second OT and I thought our best shot was to win it with three. I thought it was the best effort of any team I've ever had. It was truly a special effort."-Pat Kennedy, vs. Duke

Successful Seniors Make an Impact

Impact players are usually those with the most experience and that proved to be the case for the men's basketball team. Three seniors provided leadership and skill throughout the season. Collectively, the seniors accounted for 56 of the team's 86.2 points a game and 60 percent of the rebounds.

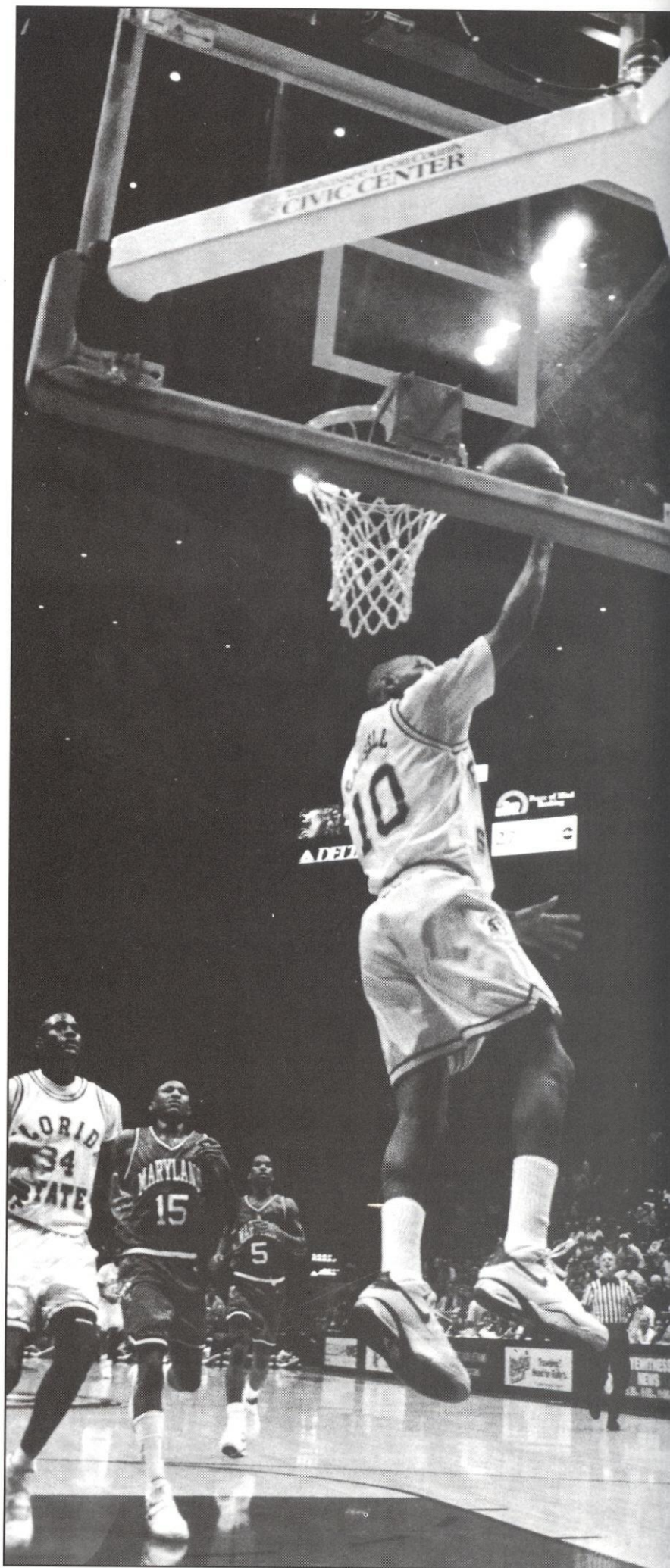
Cassell, from Baltimore, Maryland, started all 35 games for the Seminoles. He spent many games in the point guard position when Charlie Ward was out. His most stunning statistic occurred during the NCAA Tournament, when he shot 9 of 9 from three-point range in the first two games, setting a tournament record.

Dobard broke records himself this season. During his FSU career he played 122 games, four more than the previous record-holder. When Dobard scored 12 or more points, the team posted a 37-4 mark, proving that he was one of the most dependable players on the team.

Edwards showed his stuff both in scoring and rebounding, having double figures for both in several games this season. He was the first player in school history to score at least 1,500 points, 700 rebounds and 200 assists.

These players enjoyed remarkable careers and it would be tough to replace them in the next season.

"Our goal definitely was to get to the national championship. I would say we had a good season, but not a great one simply because we thought we were capable of the Final Four." - *Scott Shepherd*



AN ELITE GROUP

The Seminoles bounce back from the ACC Tournament to a strong showing in the NCAA

By
*Joanna
Sparkman*

After battling through another season the the Atlantic Coast Conference, the men's basketball team prepared for the postseason ACC and NCAA Tournaments. They finished the regular season with a 24-9 record, 12-5 in the conference, capturing the second place spot. They swept Wake Forest, Maryland, N.C. State, Clemson and Georgia Tech and split games with Duke and Virginia.

The team traveled to Charlotte, NC, for the f o u r - d a y A C C Tournament in March. As the #2 seed they faced seventh-seeded Clemson in the first game. In what was a surprise to just about everyone, Clemson sent the Seminoles back to Tallahassee with a 87-75 loss. This was despite a spectacular performance by the senior Doug Edwards, who had team highs in scoring, rebounding and assisting.

Even with that much-too-short trip to Charlotte, the Seminoles became the

#3 seed in the Southeast Region of the NCAA Tournament. This meant they would play the first two rounds in Orlando, virtually in their own backyard.

The first game was against Evansville. Was another big upset at hand? Not this time. The Seminoles regained the

confidence they seemed to have lost and easily defeated the the Aces 82-70. In the second round they faced Tulane and it was the same story, only to a greater degree, as they won 94-63. Sam Cassell's shooting came alive in these two games as he scored 18 points versus Evansville and 31 against Tulane. He also went 9 of 9 in three-point shooting, an NCAA record.

With these wins, the team had advanced to the Sweet 16, repeating last season's performance. In the next game they met Western Kentucky, a team that had upset the #2 seed, Seton Hall. Called a "Cinderella team," WKU took the team to overtime before the Seminoles pulled off the win, 81-78. Turnovers and low free-throw shooting played a big part in the Seminoles struggle, but in key situations, several members of the team stepped up and made the big plays.

The region final pitted Florida State against Kentucky, the #1 seed. The Wildcats ended the Seminoles NCAA trip with a 106-81 victory. The Tribe kept it close in the first half, gaining the lead at one point in the first half. Doug Edwards, despite fouling out late in both games, played his final two games as a Seminole in style as he provided 19 points against Western Kentucky and 15 against Kentucky.

Although they experienced ups and downs in post-season tournament play, the Seminoles had nothing to be ashamed of. Finishing second place in the regular-season ACC and advancing to the "Elite 8" of the NCAA Tournament proved the Seminoles were one of the premier college basketball teams in America.

Ready to Rebound

While awaiting a free throw shot, senior Byron Wells prepares to box out Derrick Hicks of Wake Forest. Florida State won the high-scoring ACC matchup, 111-94. *Photo by Steve Stiber.*



Slam!

The Seminoles started off the season with the pre-season NIT Tournament. In the second game against Iowa State, Rodney Dobard does his specialty, a slam dunk. They won the game and advanced to the semifinals in New York City. *Photo by Lance Rothstein*

Up for Two

Senior Sam Cassell goes for a layup as Maryland defenders lag behind. Cassell scored 18 points as the Seminoles blew away the Terrapins, 105-85. *Photo by John Cawley.*



AQUATIC ACTS

The swimming and diving teams kept their heads above the water with winning seasons

*By
Martin
Young*

The men's and women's swimming and diving teams gave solid performances at the Atlantic Coast Conference Championships. Both placed fourth in the highly competitive ACC improving on their fifth place finish in 1992. Head Coach Terry Maul, in his 18th season at the helm of the swimming teams, has guided 32 All-Americans and led the program to an overall record of 174-94-2.

"This was the best performance I've had in all my years of coaching," Maul said.

Four Seminoles swam to first place finishes. Freshmen Helen Jepson and Robert Braknis and sophomores Dora Bralic and Ignacio Merino captured individual ACC titles. Being underclassmen, these individuals would provide a strong nucleus for the upcoming seasons.

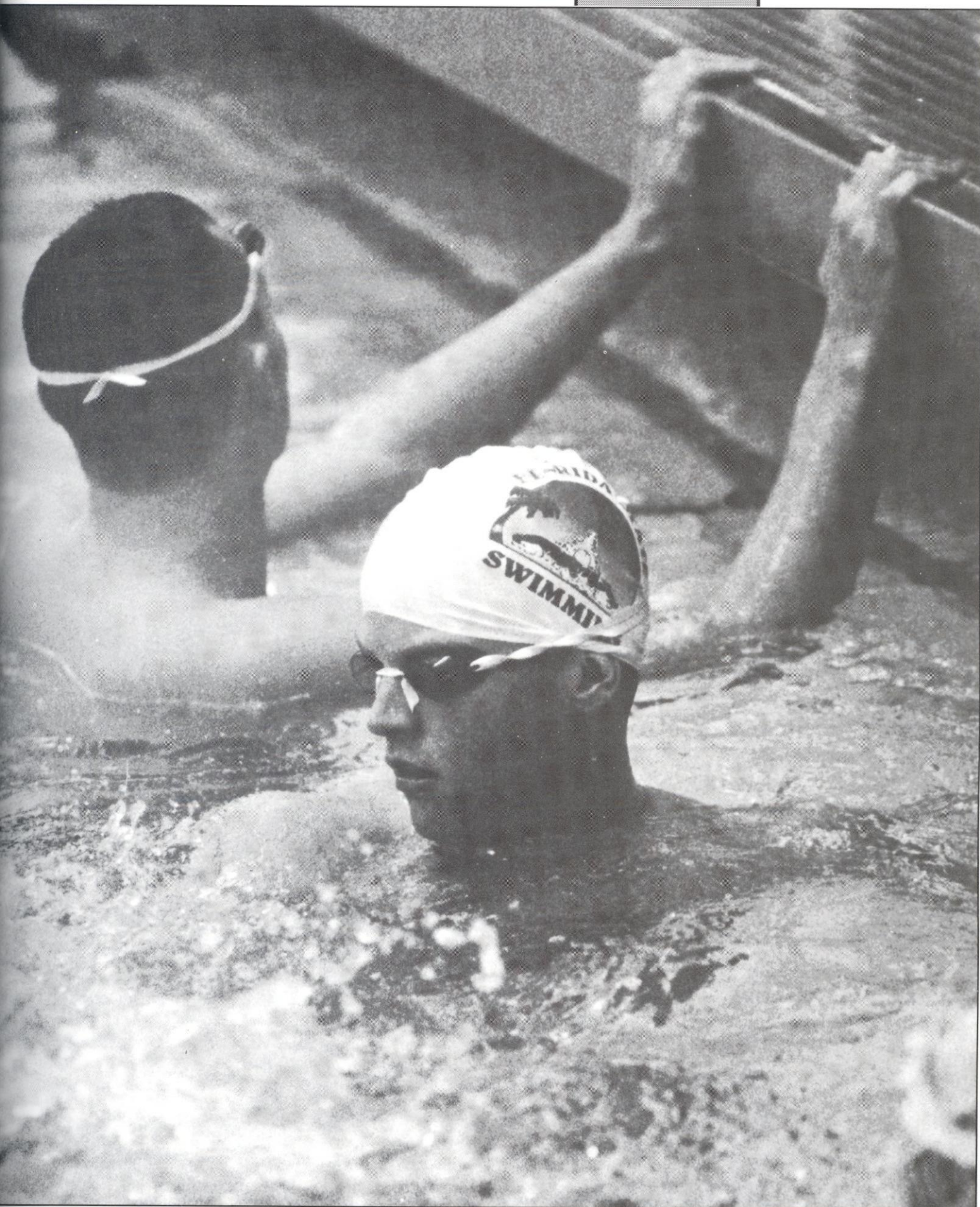
During the regular season the men posted a 8-4 record and the women closed the season strong

after a shaky start with 6 wins, 5 losses. The swimmers also set nine new school records. Senior Kiki Steinberg broke a pair of records at the Seminole Winter Invitational; the 100 backstroke record and her own record in the 200 back. At the ACC Championships Ignacio Merino broke three school records in the 100 and 200 butterfly and 200 breaststroke. Robert Braknis shattered two marks in the 100 and 200 backstroke, and Helen Jepson set the 200 fly record. The men's relay team of Braknis, Merino, Greg Miller, and Jose' Gutierrez broke the 400 medley relay with a time of 3:19.44.

The performances of Braknis, Merino, and Jepson qualified them for the NCAA Championship meet held in March in Minneapolis. This meet brought together the top collegiate swimmers in the country. "It was a real honor to swim in such a prestigious meet," Jepson said.

Florida State would host the ACC Championships next season. "It will bring much excitement and enthusiasm to the swimming program next year hosting the conference meet here in Tallahassee," Nada Cenanovik from Ontario, Canada said. "We have a chance to further advance in the conference and make a strong showing in our home pool," Julie Peluso said.

The men's team graduated three seniors; Cory Hyrnyk, diver Rob Caicedo, and team co-captain John Bates. The women's team lost a few more, with Missy Connolly, Suzie Gunn, Meghan Henning, Valerie Moore, diver Shelly King, and team co-captain Kiki Steinberg all departing. "We have met at a crossroads," Coach Maul said. With the addition of new signees and the continued training and growth of the underclassmen, the Seminoles could be a fierce competitor for the ACC title in the future.



Taking a Breather

After finishing some warm-up laps, freshman Robert Braknis and senior Cory Hrynyk rest a moment at one end of the pool and observe the competition. Braknis swam the sprint freestyle and backstroke, while Hrynyk swam the breaststroke. *Photo by Steve Stiber.*

Freshman swims to Minneapolis

Freshman Helen Jepson dove head first into the Seminole swimming program and did not look back. Few student athletes achieve the success she had in just her first year of collegiate competition.

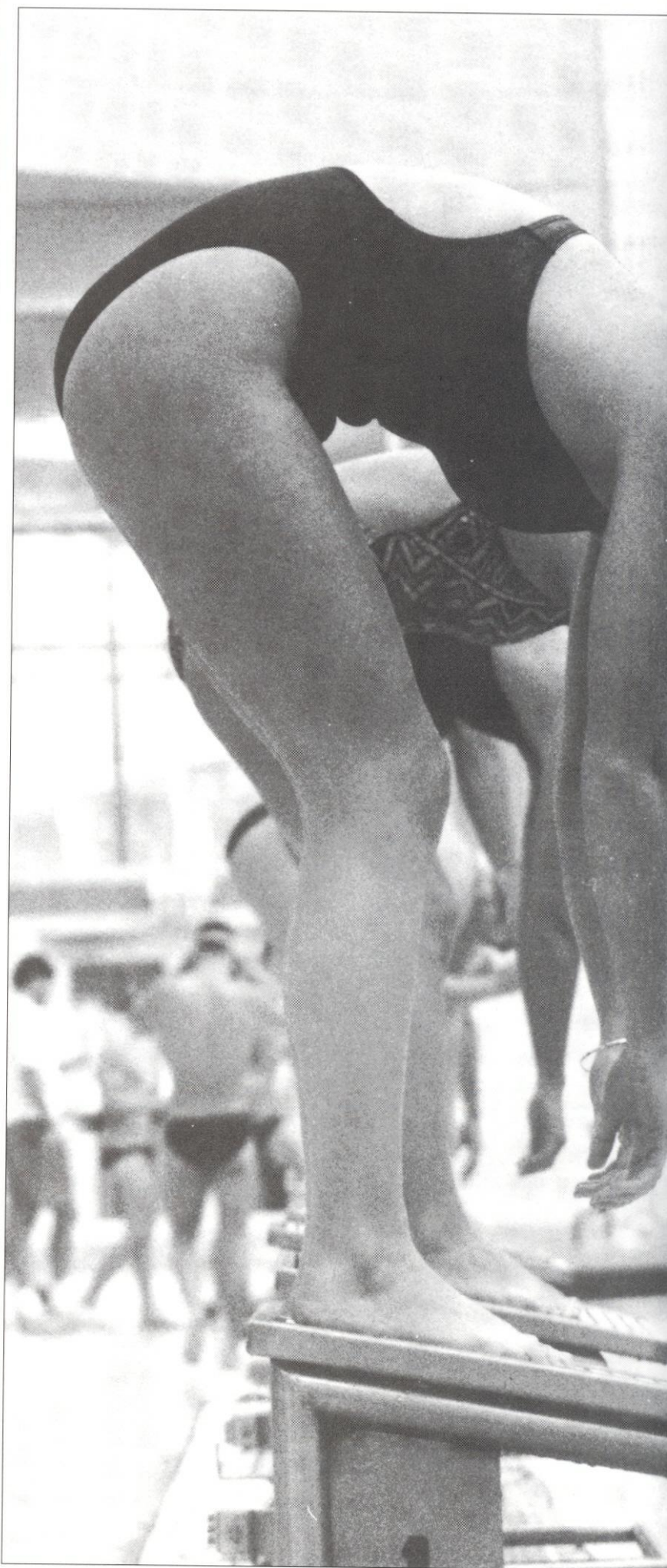
Hailing from the United Kingdom, Jepson barely missed competing in the 1992 Barcelona Olympics for her home country. She made up for it in the United States, however.

During a swim meet against Clemson during the season, Jepson placed first in two events, the 1000 freestyle and the 200 butterfly as she helped lead the Lady Seminoles to victory, 155-87. At the ACC Championships, she also won the 200 butterfly, setting a new school record in the process. Because of her success, Jepson was named to the All-ACC team.

Helen was the only representative for the Lady Seminole squad at college aquatics most prestigious event, the N C A A Championships. She competed in the 100 and 200 butterfly.

Although she did not score in the top 16 in those events at the championships, "it was a real honor to swim in such a prestigious meet," Jepson said.

"The women's team overcame a lot of crossroads, but we ended up pulling through it all and wound up fourth in the ACC Championships" -
Nada Cenanovic'



FOREIGN AFFAIRS

International athletes bring their aquatic talents to Seminole territory

By
*Joanna
Sparkman*

Riyeka, Croatia. The United Kingdom. Brazil. Sydney, Australia. Varde, Denmark. Mexico City and Pedregal, Mexico. Quito-Victoria, Ecuador. Ontario, Quebec and Vancouver, Canada. Sounds like a pretty extensive world tour, doesn't it? Actually these were the countries from which the international members of the swimming and diving teams originated. The women's team had four foreign athletes: Dora Bralic', Nada Cenanovic', Helen Jepson and Claudia Wilson. On the men's team John Bates, Thomas Bendixen, Robert Braknis, Rolando Galindo, Pablo Garcia, Jose Gutierrez, Ignacio Merino, Greg Miller and Alfonso Reims migrated from foreign lands.

Many of these athletes came to the United States to get their college education and to train in exceptional facilities. The state of Florida, with its warm climate, was also the number one choice for swimmers, as indicated by the number of international swimmers and divers at the state universities that offer a swimming program.

Back in their home countries, many of the swimmers achieved recognition before they came to college. Dora Bralic'

held the Yugoslavian record in the 100 breaststroke and 400 freestyle relay. Claudia Wilson competed in the South American Championships for Brazil and had a second and third place finish. She also took first place in the 400 IM at the Brazil Open. John Bates was a regional finalist in Australia. Thomas Bendixen was the Danish junior record holder in the 4 x 100 medley and freestyle relays. The United States' neighbors both north and south placed members on the Seminole squad. For Canada, Robert Braknis won the 50 free at the Canadian Nationals and Greg Miller was a finalist in the 200 fly and 100 backstroke at the Canadian World Finals. Miller also competed on the Provincial Youth Team for the Western Canada Games. For Mexico, Rolando Galindo placed second in the 200 breaststroke at the Mexican Nationals and third at the Central American Games. Ignacio Merino was a national qualifier for the 100 and 200 butterfly in Ecuador.

Why did such great numbers of international athletes come to the United States? "There are more opportunities here for them to compete. In European countries they don't compete on the collegiate level. There are also more educational opportunities for them in the U.S. Coaches at Florida State did not travel abroad to actively recruit these athletes, although some other schools may have done this," assistant swim coach Don Gibb said.

"International students definitely make an impact. They are usually in the top group of swimmers," Coach Gibb said.

Get Set...Go!

At the sound of the gun, a Lady Seminole leaps into the water with a Clemson swimmer in the next lane. This race occurred during the Seminole Winter Invitational, in which Auburn, Florida Atlantic and the University of Tampa also participated. The Lady Seminoles won the meet. *Photo by Bryan Eber.*

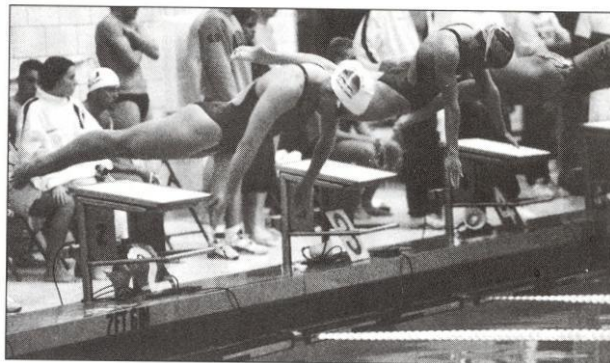


Dive Right In

During the FSU Spring Invitational, freshman diver Anne-Carol Castello performs a dive in the pike position. The Seminole swimming and diving teams hosted the meet at the Leach Center. *Photo by Steve Stiber.*

On Your Mark...

In lane one, a Seminole swimmer positions herself at the starting block as she waits for the gun to begin the race. *Photo by Steve Stiber.*



SETTING GOALS

Swimmer Ignacio Merino has achieved success, but continues to set his goals higher

Ignacio Merino began swimming at the age of 6 in his hometown in Quito-Victoria, Ecuador. There he developed a strong interest in swimming and began his lifelong relationship with the sport. In Ecuador he qualified for the national team in the 100 and 200 butterfly. After graduating from high school, he came to the United States to train. Before attending the University he spent a year in Americus, Georgia taking classes and training four hours a day. Ignacio had scholarship offers from other schools throughout the country including the University of Arizona and Louisiana State but chose FSU because of the excellent sport facilities, warm climate, friendly atmosphere and opportunity to improve his times.

Ignacio had little trouble making the transition from club swimming to swimming in the competitive Atlantic Coast Conference. During his freshman year he missed the NCAA qualifying time in the 200 breaststroke by only half a second. As a sophomore, Merino was the top returning scorer for the season. He also broke three school records in the 200 butterfly (1:47:29), 100 butterfly (48.64 sec), and 200 breaststroke. Merino earned a spot on the All-ACC team at the end of the season, one of six Seminoles who were selected. He was also one of only two swimmers on the men's team to compete in the prestigious NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships held in Indianapolis in the spring.

Some of Ignacio's future goals included becoming an All-American swimmer

which required placing in the Top 8 at the NCAA championships. With the help of his leadership, he also wanted to "bring the whole Florida State swimming team to a new level of competitiveness. I would like to have the team place higher in the conference meet and beat our archrivals North Carolina and North Carolina State."

"We have everything here at this school to take us to that new level," Merino said, referring to the newly purchased equipment, weightroom, Leach Center and the quality of the swimmers already here in the program.

After swimming Ignacio planned to graduate with a bachelor's degree in Economics and possibly go on to graduate school, continuing at FSU. Another ambition of Merino's was to stay in Tallahassee and help coach the team after graduation. He felt that swimming had a bright future on the national level and he hoped to be a part of it.

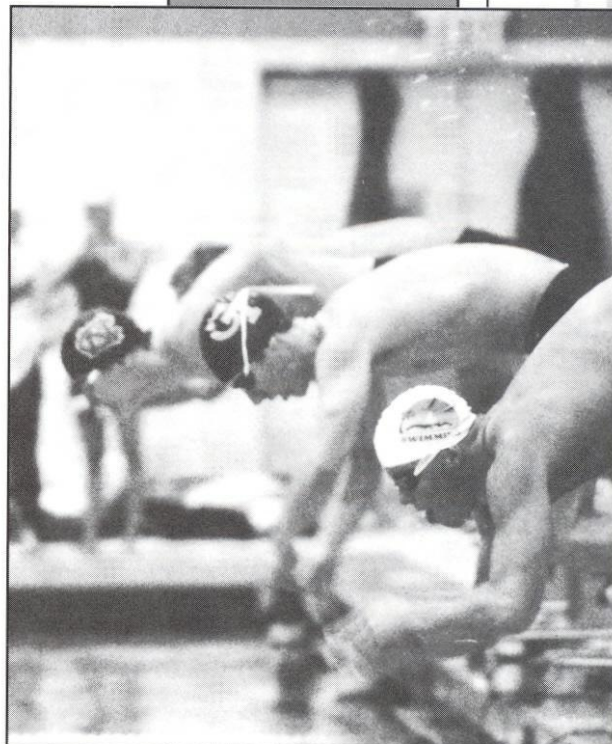
"Swimming has helped me learn about myself as well as develop a competitive relationship with the others around me, especially the members of the team," Ignacio said.

Photo Finish

Neck and neck, swimmers from the University of Miami and Florida State strive to finish first in the race, while swimmers in the outside lanes are a few strokes behind. *Photo by Bryan Eber.*



*By
Martin
Young*

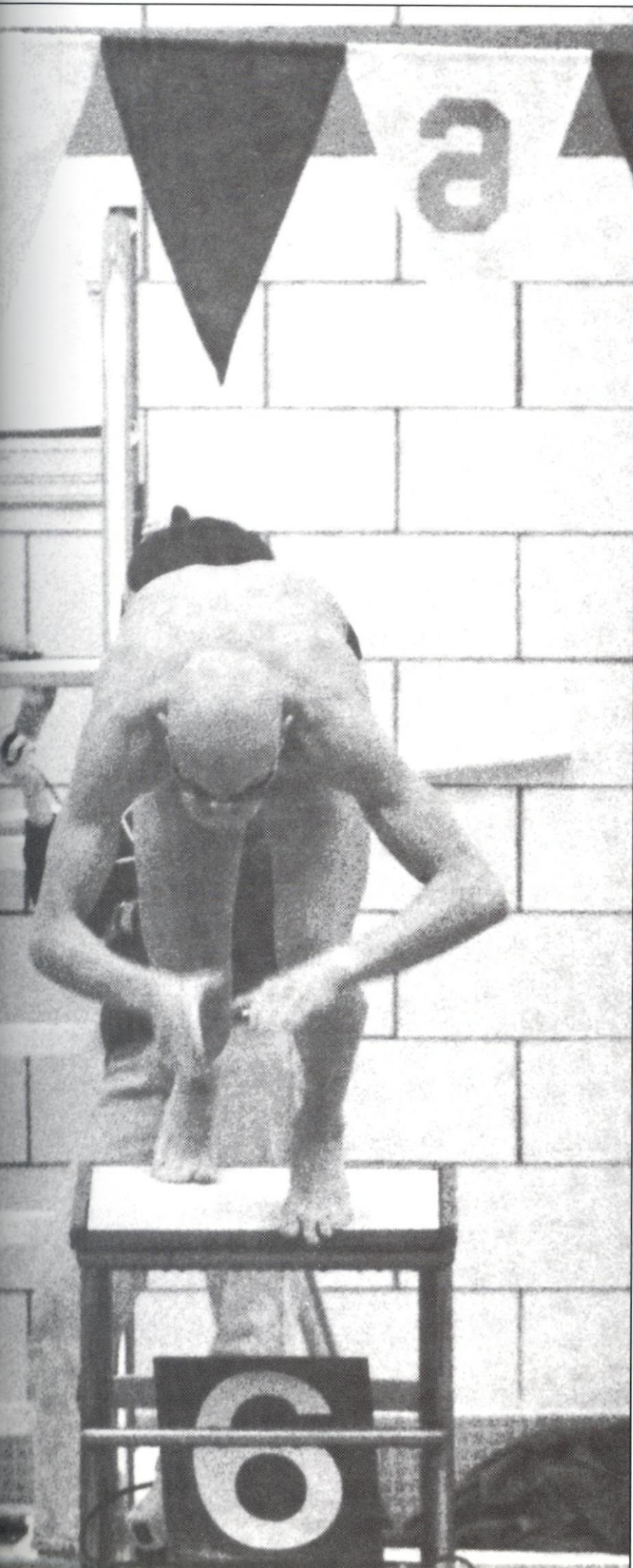


ACC Rivalries

Swimmers from North Carolina, Georgia Tech and Florida State dive into the pool at the start of a race. The Seminoles hosted a meet for these two ACC opponents in February. *Photo by Steve Stiber.*

Head First

A Seminole swimmer in lane six starts a race. These athletes trained not only in the pool, but with weight training and conditioning exercises, such as running the stadium steps. This high-intensive training improved their strokes and times. *Photo by Steve Stiber.*



Former Gator Joins the Tribe

The Florida State men's swimming team welcomed a new assistant coach this season, Donald Gibb. Gibb, a 1985 graduate from the University of Florida, was the top assistant for the Gator swimming team for five seasons before coming to Seminole territory. While competing in college, Gibb was the SEC champion in the 100-yard freestyle in 1982 and placed seventh in the same event at the 1983 NCAA championships. He was also a member of the 400-yard relay team that placed first in the NCAA's and clinched the national title for Florida in 1983.

At Florida State, Gibb hopes to bring some of that same enthusiasm and excitement that he experienced as a swimmer and assistant coach at UF.

Junior Dan Wegner, a freestyle swimmer, said, "Coach Gibb has been very helpful to the entire team, but his work with the sprinters has especially helped."

"The training is very hard. For many members of the team it was their first time in this type of training. Our main goal is to get the best times. Placing isn't as important as improving our times."-*Dan Wegner*

B

ASES LOADED

With young talent all over the field, the Seminoles once again chalked up the wins

By Joanna Sparkman

Big victories, surprising sweeps, individual standouts, all added to the prestige that Seminole baseball garnered over the years. The team compiled a 39-15 record during the regular season. However, it was individual statistics and a very young team that made this season special and gave head coach Mike Martin nothing but optimism for upcoming seasons.

The team started the season with a seven game win streak before facing the first real test against Cal-State Fullerton. The Titans ended the Seminoles' College World Series quest the season before. The team defeated Cal-State in the first game but dropped the next two.

Florida's state schools all had successful baseball programs, so March started with a bang when the Seminoles swept a four

game series over the Florida Gators. In April, the team also swept Miami at home and beat the Hurricanes once down in Miami. In the tough Atlantic Coast Conference, the Seminoles compiled a 14-9 record. No ACC team swept Florida State during the season.

The team experienced a roller coaster ride through the weekly polls. They started ranked as high as #10 in the Collegiate Baseball poll, but Baseball America ignored them. However, that publication did award them their highest ranking of the season, #2, during April when the team had a 31-7 record. They ended the regular season ranked as high as #9.

Several individuals stood out during the season. Sophomore pitcher Paul Wilson captured ACC Pitcher of the Week honors three times, and had the conference's lowest ERA, 1.48, with a 10-3 record. Freshman Jonathan Johnson boasted a 7-1

record with a 1.69 ERA, second in the ACC. Catcher Mike Martin, Jr. was named ACC Player of the Week in March by hitting .375 during a four game streak, with a home run and five RBI's. At the end of the season he threw out seven of nine base stealers. Freshman first baseman Doug Mientkiewicz was one of the top hitters for the team and league. Freshman Mickey Lopez, senior Ty Mueller, and junior Mike Schmitz also had high batting averages.

Coach Mike Martin celebrated his 1,000th game and his 750th win during the season. Martin accumulated a 754-254-3 record.

The Seminoles headed into the post-season ACC Tournament in Greenville, South Carolina seeded number three. After that tournament, the NCAA Regional was the only obstacle remaining between the Seminoles and another trip to the College World Series.



On the Run

First baseman Doug Mientkiewicz tags the Clemson runner after an attempted steal. In the first series the Seminoles lost 7-6, but regained their momentum and edged past the Tigers 4-3 in the second. *Photo by Robert Parker.*

Gators Swept Off Their Feet

Florida's college baseball teams have a tradition rich with success. So one team dominating another was a rare event. The Seminoles did just that early in the season, over the 16th-ranked Florida Gators, sweeping a four-game series.

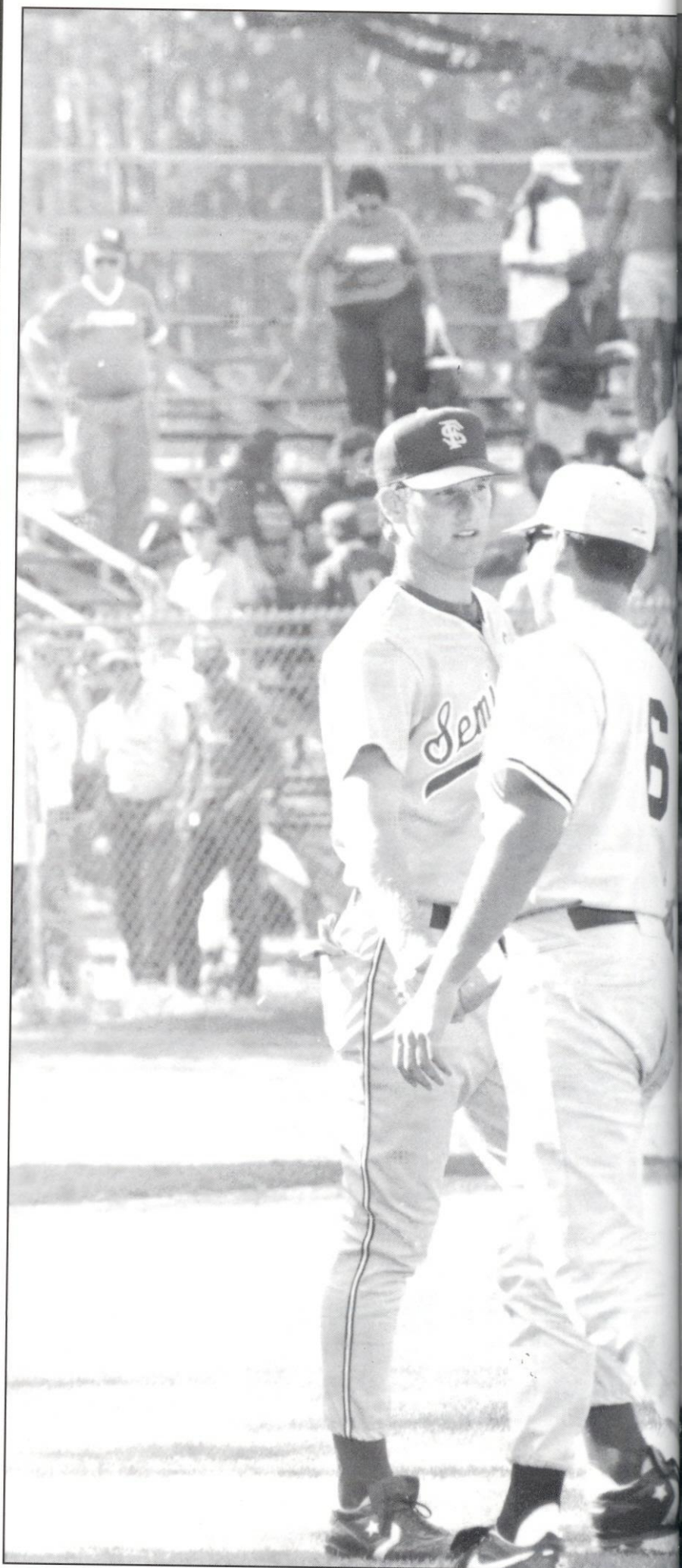
The first two games took place in Tallahassee. Sophomore Paul Wilson pitched a career-best game as the #23 Seminoles won 2-0. It was the first shutout Florida had in 40 games, the last time also at the hands of the Seminoles. Both teams scored more runs in the second game, with the Tribe again on top 9-3. Freshman Doug Mientkiewicz hit a two-run double which took Florida's talented pitcher, Marc Valdes, out of the game.

The attention shifted to Gainesville for the final two games. Freshman Jonathan Johnson pitched six innings, allowing two runs as the team won the third game, 4-2. Relievers Charlie Cruz and Philip Olson allowed no hits in the final three innings. In the last game, the Gators virtually clinched the Seminole sweep by committing seven errors, five in one inning. Junior Bryan Harris concluded the series with strong pitching, allowing three runs in six innings. The team won 8-4.

"We're playing real well. We're starting to come together as a team," coach Mike Martin said.

"Adjusting to Division I baseball as a high school athlete was difficult. I feel that my confidence played a big factor in my adjustment to perform well. After I realized I could play with the big boys in Division I, I began to play at my best."

-Mickey Lopez



NEW BALLGAME

A crop of freshmen bring talent and enthusiasm to a traditional powerhouse

*By
Candice
Case*

The major league draft and graduation took key talent from the Seminole baseball team. Pitching was a big concern, as the Seminoles lost their top three pitchers. This posed difficulties to a team who based their philosophy on pitching and defense.

"I don't think we've had a year where we've lost our entire starting rotation and as many position players as we've lost. I don't remember having to start over like this," head coach Mike Martin said.

The team recruited 18 new players, including 12 freshmen. This troubled some because the team was young and inexperienced in playing together. Baseball America did not even rank the team in the preseason top 25. But not everyone felt that being such a young group would hamper the University's ability to field a winning team. Collegiate Baseball Magazine rated the 1992 recruiting class as America's best and ACC coaches picked the Tribe to win the league.

"This is the most impressive class I can remember. Recruiting coordinator Jamey Shoupe did an outstanding job," Martin said. Twelve of the 18 had been drafted during their career.

Second basemen Chad Sheffer was

drafted in the fourth round. "I didn't think I was ready to jump into pro baseball. I'm definitely glad I came here," Sheffer said. "The coaches really push me. I've learned so much in every single game and practice."

Martin described Doug Mientkiewicz as the "most impressive player in preseason workouts." In fact, he started on opening day over senior Kevin McCray.

Mientkiewicz was a twelfth round selection by the Toronto Blue Jays and almost signed with them. "I would've gone except for the fact that I would have been going from Westminster where we were in the spotlight to the minor leagues where you're just another number," Mientkiewicz said. "I wanted three or four more years in the spotlight. You don't get that in the minors. You're just another kid."

Pitcher Jonathan Johnson was another freshman starter. Like many of his teammates, he was drafted but opted to play for FSU. "I knew we were losing a lot of talent but I knew there were a lot of us freshman signing and I was excited about coming," Johnson said.

The newcomers were excited to join a team that has gone to the World Series five times in the last seven years.

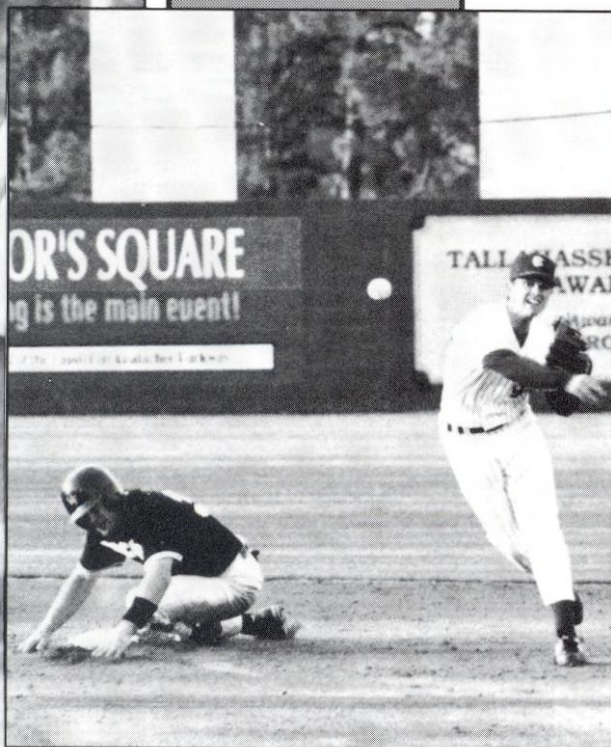
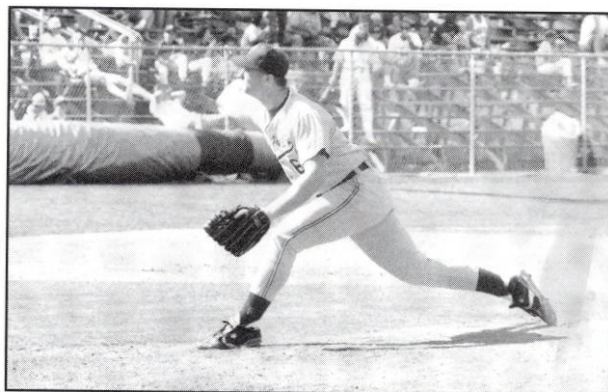
"We have so much talent and if we don't win the College World Series this year, it'll be our sophomore and junior year," Johnson said.

"I want another ring and I want to make Omaha every year I'm here," Mientkiewicz said.

"I want it all," Sheffer said.

Rock and Fire

Righthander Philip Olson, a freshman, releases a curve ball to a Miami batter. Olson was one of eighteen new players to join the baseball team. *Photo by Steve Stiber.*



Double Play

After fielding the ball and making one out, shortstop Link Jarrett turns to throw to first base for the double play. Jarrett, a junior, played almost every game, starting regularly since his freshman season. *Photo by Steve Stiber.*

One Down, Two to Go

Freshman Danny Kanell shakes the hand of a University of Miami player after the Seminoles defeated the Hurricanes, the first of a three-game sweep. Kanell was one of many two-sport Seminoles, as he played backup quarterback for the football team. *Photo by Steve Stiber.*

DIAMOND WARS

*Baseball competition got tough as the
Seminoles advanced in the ACC and NCAA*

An active postseason had become a trademark for the Seminole baseball team, usually including a trip to the College World Series. But stiff competition and tough games kept the young team from returning to the CWS in Omaha, Nebraska.

The team started the ACC Tournament as the #3 seed and played their first game against Clemson. It seemed as if Clemson held a curse over the Seminoles as they lost to the Tigers for the eighth time in nine meetings.

But the Seminoles finally got the ball rolling in the double elimination tournament with an 11-2 win over Virginia. During that game Coach Mike Martin learned that Florida State was awarded a host site for the NCAA tournament, hosting the six-team East Regional.

"I must admit, that news was a tremendous lift for me mentally," Martin said.

The Seminoles continued their winning ways with a victory over Georgia Tech and finally over Clemson. The Noles played N.C. State in the semifinal, but the ACC Tobacco Road ended there as the Wolfpack won and advanced to the championship game against Clemson. Clemson took the ACC title.

Florida State returned home for the regional tournament, the final step to the CWS. The top seed, Long Beach State, ranked among the nation's elite, and the Noles started off with state rival, the University of South Florida. The team rallied in the seventh inning with

three runs to beat the Bulls 4-2. Third-seeded Notre Dame was the next opponent and the Seminoles soundly defeated them 7-3. Senior Ty Mueller shone in front of the home crowd as he hit a grand slam and also threw out the game-winning run.

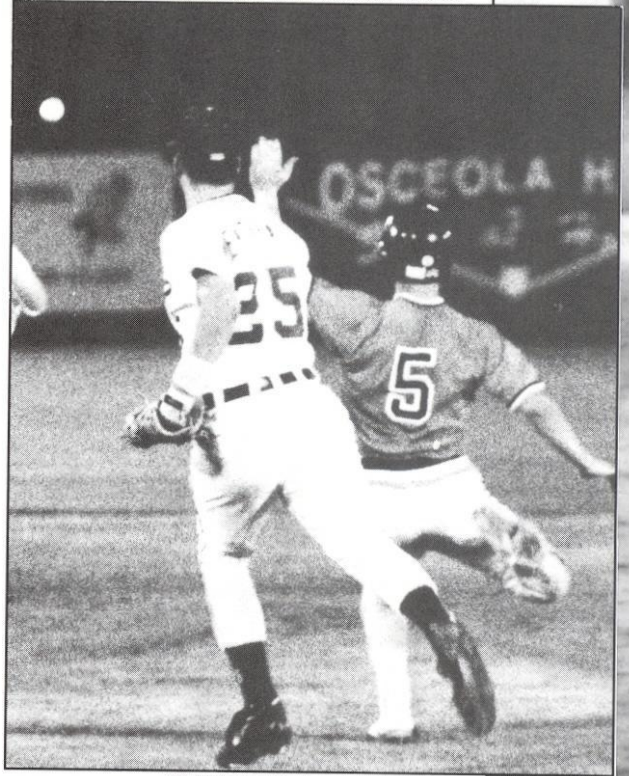
The third day proved to be a long one for the Seminoles. In the first game, Long Beach State beat the team 4-1. After several rain delays, Florida State finally started the next battle, an elimination game with Notre Dame at 10:05 p.m. Three hours later, the Seminoles came up short and were eliminated with a 4-3 loss.

"I've been here for five years, and it's hard to believe it's over," Mueller, one of the only two senior starters, said as the team played the final game of the season at Dick Howser Stadium.

However, the future looked bright with only five players finishing their college careers. The majority of the team would be back in 1994 to try advancing even further in post season play.

"This team is so young that only good things are in store for these guys," Mueller said.

*By
Joanna
Sparkman*



Tag Team

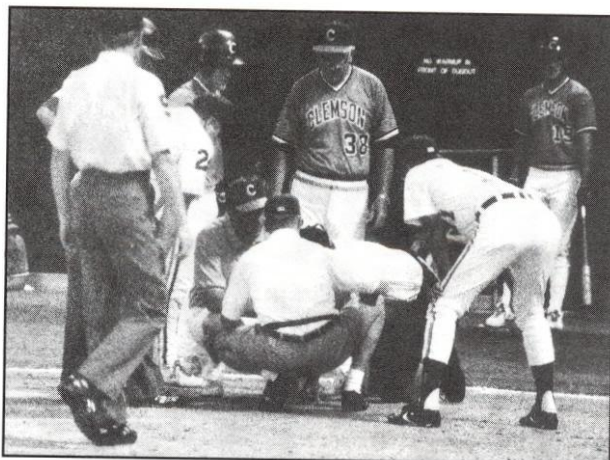
Seminoles Doug Mientkiewicz and Chad Sheffer chase a Clemson runner between the bases. Sheffer tagged the runner before he advanced to second. *Photo by Robert Parker.*

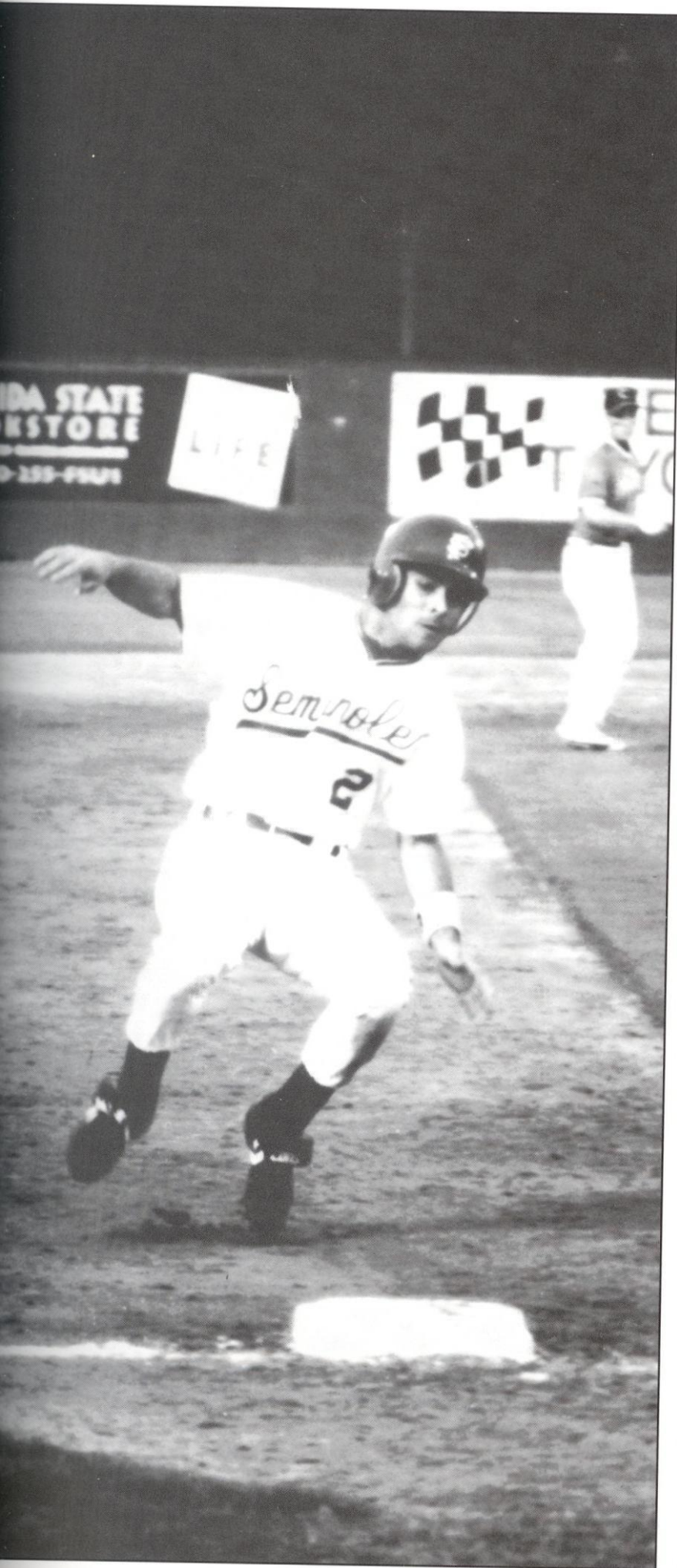
Approaching Fast

Runner Mickey Lopez prepares to slide into third after his hit. Lopez scored which narrowed the score to 3-2. The Seminoles went on to beat Clemson 4-3. *Photo by Robert Parker.*

Fallen Soldier

Clemson coaches and officials rush to the side of an injured player. After the delay, the player regained his composure and finished the game. *Photo by Robert Parker.*





Seminoles Calm the 'Canes

Florida State earned the right to claim "state champs" in baseball. After sweeping Florida earlier in the season, the Seminoles shut down the Miami Hurricanes in a three-game weekend series played at Dick Howser Stadium.

Paul Wilson pitched the first game, a 7-0 shutout. The score went 1-0 all the way until the eighth inning, when designated hitter Mike Schmitz opened a six run rally with a solo homer. Wilson pitched a complete five-hitter, backed up by defensive plays from the Seminole infield. His record improved to 8-2.

Miami's frustrations continued in game two. After scoring a run in the fourth inning, the Hurricanes fell apart, starting with the head coach's ejection over a controversial call. Eight was the magic number, as freshman pitcher Jonathan Johnson struck out eight in as many innings, and the Seminole batters drove in eight runs.

The sweep became complete Sunday afternoon as the Seminoles defeated the 'Canes 6-2. Mickey Lopez's single brought in two runs to start a four run rally in the fourth. John Wasdin pitched 7 ²/₃ innings, striking out nine and giving up two runs. John Nadeau came in for the save.

Coach Martin described the series as "a monumental feat. You just don't sweep Miami."

Florida State, ranked #6 before the series, jumped four notches to the #2 spot after the sweep.

"Beating Miami and UF four times each were highlights of our season. But our goal is to go back to the World Series and try to win it all. That's our goal every year." - Charlie Cruz

D

DIAMOND CHAMPS

The softball team shutout the competition and rewrote the record books

*By
Joanna
Sparkman*

It did not matter what aspect of the game one looked at when he studied the Florida State softball team, because the Lady Seminoles had it all. Batting averages, home runs, stolen bases, strikeouts, shutouts, the list went on and on. Coach Graf's team boasted dominating players that at each position played their game well. And when they got together as a team, well, they usually could not be stopped.

Much to their opponent's dismay, all the factors resulted in havoc for the other teams. The Seminoles compiled a 49-6 record before heading to the NCAA Regionals. The Regionals was the first step on the team's quest for another trip to the College World Series. They outscored their opponents 304-38 with 36 shutouts.

Five of the team's six losses occurred during tournaments, but they also added three tourney titles

under the belt. They won their own Lady Seminole Invitational tournament, the UNC Invitational, and the Atlantic Coast Conference Championships. They also won the consolation bracket of the Pony Invitational in Fullerton, California, a tournament featuring most of the nation's top 10 teams.

Because of their domination on all sides of the diamond, the Lady Seminoles were definitely not a one-person team. The point was proved further by the variety of names that showed up on the all-tournament teams. Catcher Leslie Adams was MVP of the Seminole Invitational with Leslie Barton, Marla Looper, and Susan Buttery joining her as honorees. Toni Gutierrez, a pitcher, was MVP of the UNC Invitational, and Leslie Barton, Lisa Davidson, and Shamalene Wilson made the all-tournament

team.

Several members of the team showed up in the Florida State record books as well. Susan Buttery, the top hitter with a .393 batting average, was first on the list in At Bats, Runs, and Hits categories. Senior outfielder Leslie Barton was number one in stolen bases with 63 and RBI's with 128. Senior Gutierrez appeared in the top four of each pitching category and was in striking distance of the top spot in shutouts and earned run average.

Coach Graf, a Florida State graduate, finished her fifteenth season as head coach for the team, compiling a 702-161-4 record (an .814 winning percentage). For the second year in a row, Graf received the ACC Coach of the Year honor.

Heading into post-season tournament play, the Lady Seminoles ranked #6 in the NCAA poll and #1 in the South Region.



Bunt and Run

Outfielder Susan Buttery, a senior, takes off running as she bunts the ball. In her four years on the softball team, Buttery held many spots in the FSU record book: 1st for number at bats (723), 1st for number of runs (162), and also for number of hits (251). *Photo by Lisa Collard.*

Lady Noles Repeat as ACC Champs

The Lady Seminole softball team won their second consecutive ACC title by rebounding to defeat Virginia twice after losing to them earlier. Playing four straight games, the 'Noles opened with the 1-0 loss, the first time they had been held scoreless in 44 games. The next opponent was Georgia Tech whom FSU beat earlier in the double-elimination tournament. They eliminated the Lady Yellow Jackets, 12-0. The Seminoles once again faced Virginia, and needed to win two over them to claim the ACC title.

The first game went 0-0 for eleven innings. Then pinch hitter Heather Feltmann hit a two-run homer which won the game. In the championship game the team gathered many hits, with pitcher Toni Gutierrez slamming a two-run homer to seal the victory, 4-2. The win was a landmark in that it was head coach JoAnne Graf's 700th win at Florida State. Second baseman Lisa Davidson was named tournament MVP, with teammates Susan Buttery, Leslie Barton, Heather Conway, Marla Looper and Gutierrez joining her on the All-Tournament team. Graf was named ACC Coach of the Year and Shamalene Wilson was named ACC Freshman of the Year.

After winning the ACC, the Lady 'Noles set their sights on the NCAA Regionals and the College World Series.

"We have had a great season because we were the repeat champions of every tournament that we won last year. I would say the highlight was repeating as ACC Champs. Another ring!"
-Laurie Shepherd



TERRIFIC TRIO

Talented pitching staff divides up the duties and hurls the Lady 'Noles to victory

*By
Joanna
Sparkman*

Most collegiate softball coaches would be extremely grateful to have one pitcher with an almost perfect record and an Earned Run Average in the nation's elite. A coach would have to thank his or her lucky stars if they had another pitcher with eleven shutouts and was the ACC

pitcher to fill the starting rotation.

Marla Looper, a junior college transfer from Crowder College in Missouri, fit the bill. The Oklahoma City native was MVP of the Junior College Nationals and an All-American in that same division.

The trio lived up to the expectations, and then some. Prior to the NCAA Regionals, Gutierrez, the lone senior of the group, had a .39 ERA (seventh in the nation), a 15-4 record, and eleven shutouts. Looper posted a 18-1 record, the nation's #3 ERA of .29, and thirteen shutouts. Aase, a junior, broke the NCAA record in 1992 which was previously 36 wins without a loss. She extended the streak to 50 before losing a game in April. She compiled a 16-1 record, .52 ERA (ranked #10 nationally) and pitched twelve shutouts.

The three of them together set another NCAA record: 124 2/3 scoreless innings in a row. This streak started Feb. 20 and was snapped on March 19. During this time they shut out opponents in 17 games.

How did the "terrific trio" feel about splitting the pitching duties three ways instead of two? "Marla's definitely been an asset to the team," Aase said. "Last year, it was game after game after game. Now, there's more time to concentrate on other things."

Looper said, "The fact that there are three of us in the rotation gives us the opportunity to rest more, which allows us to be fresher for each game."

And it was no question that the coaches were definitely pleased with the results. "It's a luxury to have three pitchers that good," pitching coach Connie Clark said.

Strike!

Senior pitcher Toni Gutierrez hurls a fastball with the hope of striking out the opposing team's batter. Gutierrez was one of the most successful pitchers in Florida State softball history. *Photo by Lisa Collard.*

Player of the Year her junior year. But wait, there's more! Add to that duo another pitcher who holds the NCAA record for the nation's longest winning streak of 50 games. Soundstoo good to be true? Well, Lady Seminole softball coach JoAnne Graf had a pitching staff that other coaches dreamed about with Marla Looper, Toni Gutierrez, and Rebecca Aase.

"I wouldn't trade these three pitchers for any three in the country," Coach Graf said.

When any of "these three" were on the mound, the softball team racked up a 49-6 record before the NCAA Regionals. But success did not come easy.

In the 1992 season, Gutierrez and Aase split the playing time. Gutierrez threw 285 1/3 innings, while Aase pitched for 204 2/3 innings. They racked up a remarkable 63-9 record, but it was a heavy load for just two of them, so Coach Graf searched for another talented



Strategy Session

In the top of the sixth inning, Susan Buttery, Laurie Shepherd, Lisa Davidson, Toni Gutierrez and Heather Conway gather on the mound before the next play. Here they discussed their strategy and encouraged each other. *Photo by Lisa Collard.*

Ready for the Out

Senior Heather Conway, playing first base, stands ready for the ball as she anticipates tagging the runner out. Conway was one of six Lady Seminoles named to the ACC All-Tournament team. *Photo by Lisa Collard.*



J

UMPING THE GUN

*Seminole
speedsters
ran,
jumped,
and
threw
them-
selves
into
glory*

*By
Joanna
Sparkman*

A young but experienced troupe took to the track for the Seminole track and field teams. On the men's side, the team was led by pole vaulter Jeff Bray, Jonathon Carter and Kevin Ansley on sprints, distance runner Trey Culbertson, Ryan Carson on shotput and discus, and Kelsey Nash and Kevin Crist on jumps. Head coach Terry Long looked forward to the talents of Philip Riley, a standout juco transfer, also a football signee. Unfortunately, Riley battled a injury for most of the season, but still qualified for the NCAA Championships.

1992 All-Americans Sheryl Covington, Trinetta Johnson and Patrice Verdun led the women's team. All-American Karla Severs broke her foot and could not compete during most of the season. Other returners included Cathy Erickson and Kim

Stephens on throws, distance runner Tracy Pepoon, and Indy Henry on jumps.

The track and field season consisted of two schedules, an indoor schedule from January to March and outdoor meets from March to June. During indoors, the men's team placed third at the ACC Championships, and took four individuals to the NCAA's: Bray, Ansley, Carter, and Riley. At the ACC, Bray equaled his conference pole vault record of 18 feet, 6.5 inches, and Kevin Crist won the high jump. On the women's side, Trinetta Johnson also set an ACC record by leaping 21 feet, 2 inches in the long jump. Covington qualified for the NCAA's by running season-best times in the 55 and 200 meter dashes.

Outdoors, the Seminoles had strong showings with many first place finishes. At the Florida Relays both men's 4x100 and 4x400

teams took first, and sophomore Felicia Evans won the women's triple jump. Mark Anderson won the shotput at the FSU relays. At the Don Kirby Invitational in New Mexico, Tim Franklin won the 400m hurdles with a season-best time, Covington won two races, Peggy Armand won the high hurdles and Indy Henry took the high jump. Johnson captured first in long jump at the Run-Tex Invitational in Austin, Texas.

As a team, the best performance came at the Spring Classic held at Mike Long Track. Both men and women finished first, the men with ten first place finishes and the women with eleven. Both teams finished fourth at the ACC outdoor championships and looked forward to sending several team members to the NCAA and TAC championships that took place in June.



Down the Stretch

All-American Patrice Verdun (48) races toward the finish line at the ACC Championships. Verdun, a senior, competed in the 100 and 200 meter dashes, and also ran in the 4x400 relay. Photo courtesy of Sports Information.

*Dynamic Duo
Races to Na-
tional Honors*

To opposing teams, they meant double trouble, one on the track and the other on the field. They were Sheryl Covington and Trinetta Johnson, ACC Champs and All-Americans.

Covington, a junior from Winter Haven, Florida, ran the 55, 100, 200, and 400 meter dashes. She took first place in the 55-meter event at the Northern Arizona Invitational and was the ACC Champion in that event. She sped to first in the 100-meter dash twice, and four times in her most successful event, the 200-meters. She also won the 400 at the Springtime Invitational held at Mike Long Track.

Johnson's event was the long jump. The senior from Detroit, Michigan won the event several times during the indoor and outdoor seasons, including both ACC Championships. During the indoor competition, she set an ACC indoor long jump record with a distance of 21 feet, 2 inches. At the outdoor meet she bettered that mark by jumping 21 feet, 6 inches..

Both Covington and Johnson qualified for the NCAA Championships in June and looked forward to the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta.

"The track and field team has a family atmosphere. Workouts are long and hard, but it's worth it. Your coaches and teammates are supportive and always there to cheer you on." -

Petena Moultrie



V AULTING HIGHER

Jeff Bray vaulted into success on the track and in the classroom, but he isn't through yet

*By
Adam
Feldman*

The men's track and field team was blessed with one of the nation's top pole vaulters. Jeff Bray had the highest collegiate jump in the country two weeks before the NCAA Championships. While a Seminole, Bray broke several records including the school record and ACC record of 18 feet, 6.5 inches.

The two-time All-American rubbed elbows with some of the best while gaining world class status as a pole vaulter. During a competition in Europe, Bray roomed with the 1992 Olympic silver medalist from Russia. "Europe was a completely different experience," said Bray, who planned to return to Europe later in the season. "It gave me experience against someone who has jumped 19 feet, so I've learned not to worry about other people and to concentrate on myself."

Bray discovered the pole vault, one of the most difficult track and field events, in the sixth grade

while residing in Texas. "They took us outside and tried everybody at different events," Bray recalled. He jumped seven feet in the sixth grade and joined a traveling team. In eighth grade his family moved to Oklahoma where he met one of the most prominent high school track

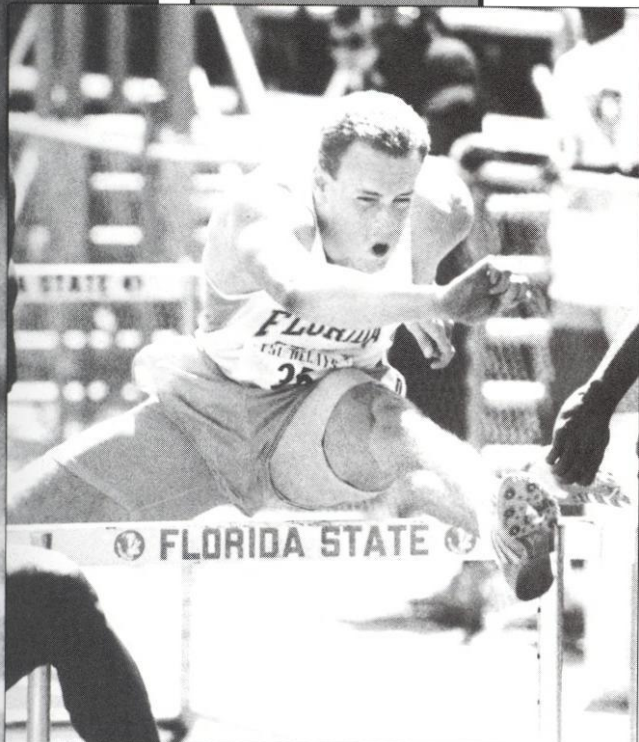
coaches in the country. Bray vaulted 17 feet, 7 inches in high school—his highest at the time.

One positive aspect of the season was that he stayed healthy. Injuries plagued Bray in the past. A stress fracture caused Bray to just miss a spot on the 1992 Olympic team. "It was really depressing," Bray said. "I didn't want to talk to anybody. I just wanted to crawl into a hole."

Since then Bray bounced back. Tough ACC competition spurred him to do better. "In big meets I jump the extra few inches to win." Bray handled the pressure well and excelled all season because of it. At a meet in Gainesville Bray beat out the favorite to win nationals in May. That was where he had the highest collegiate jump of the year. "It's a confidence booster to beat a favorite like that," Bray said. "That was one of the highlights of the year."

Another highlight of Bray's college career was a 3.5 GPA. Bray, a physical education major, planned to pursue a master's degree in Sports Administration or Exercise Psychology, hoping to become a college coach. "Track has taught me responsibility and good work habits," Bray said. His rigorous schedule and competition prepared him for life after pole vaulting.

Bray saw himself clearing 19 feet in the near future, peaking at the perfect time for nationals and TAC's in Oregon where he hoped to make the World team. The 1996 Olympics were also in the future as well. Hard work and dedication made Jeff Bray one of the nation's best in collegiate track and field.

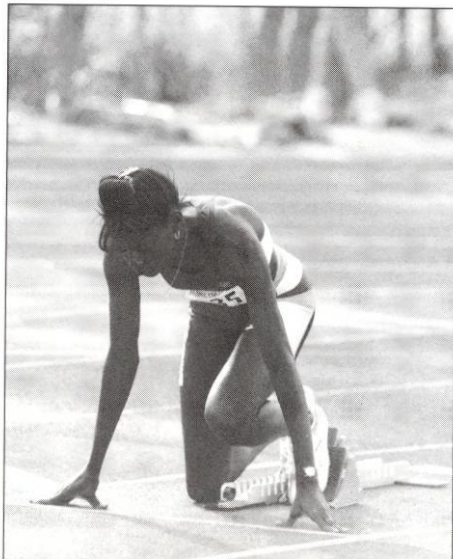


Clearing the Hurdles

Senior Darren Nutt strives to the finish line during a race at the annual FSU relays meet. Nutt participated in the 110 and 400 meter high hurdles. *Photo courtesy of Sports Information.*

Two-Sport Star

Baton in hand, junior Corey Fuller comes around the corner in the 4x100 meter relay. Fuller, also a cornerback on the football team, was one of several two-sport athletes at the University. *Photo courtesy of Sports Information.*



Champion's Stance

Ready to go, Sheryl Covington gets into position for another race. Covington had great success as a Seminole, capturing first place in the ACC in the 55, 100, and 200 meter sprints. *Photo courtesy of Sports Information.*



C

OMING UP TO PAR

*The
golf
teams
finished
high in
the
collegiate
tour*

*By
Joanna
Sparkman*

The men's golf team went from as low as 65th in the nation to breaking into the Top 20 before the regional tournament, with returning starters Bobby Cochran, Christian Raynor and three newcomers Keith Rick, Jason Williams and Ryan Perna.

The men participated in three tournaments during the fall, ending with a second place finish at the Florida Intercollegiate Championships. During the spring they placed in the top six in five of seven tournaments. One highlight of the spring occurred at the Southeastern Collegiate Invitational, where the men putted to first place. It was their first title in two years. The team placed second at the Florida Southern/Imperia Lakes Golf Classic, the site where senior Bobby Cochran won the individual title.

Cochran was not the only achiever, however. Christian Raynor played solid with two top ten finishes. In the fall, Keith

Rick was named to the All-State team and finished in the top five at the Florida Intercollegiate. Ryan Perna had a second place finish at the state Intercollegiate, third at the Gator Invitational and third at the Southeastern. Jason Williams struggled in the fall, but finished ninth at the Queen's Harbor Intercollegiate to capture his first Top Ten as a Seminole.

The men's golf team struggled in the ACC Championships, placing eighth. But all five starters returned, giving them a experienced group to work with in the future.

The women's team started strong in the fall, placing in the top five in three tournaments. They placed fifth in the Lady Seminole Invitational, fifth in the Duke Fall Invitational and third in the Beacon Woods/USF Invitational. In the Duke tournament, the team finished only one stroke shy of fourth place.

The spring season consisted of five

tournaments, the ACC and NCAA Tournaments. In the Lady Gator Invitational the team placed fifth. Ranked #24 in the nation, they headed to California for the San Jose State /Jostens Invitational, where they placed eighth. The team brought home second place from the LSU/Fairwood Invitational, and third from the Ryder/Florida Golf Championships held in Miami. Junior Maria Castelucci had the low score for the team, finishing fourth. In the ACC Championships, the Lady Seminoles finished fourth. Kelly Pittman placed sixth individually.

To receive an bid to the NCAA Tournament, a team had to finish the season as one of the top eight teams in their region. The Lady Seminoles competed in the NCAA East Regional Championships in mid-May and their performance there would indicate if they moved on to the national finals.



Second in the State

After teeing off, Ryan Perna looks down the fairway to see where the ball lands. Perna placed second at the Florida Intercollegiate Golf Championships held in Lakeland in November. *Photo courtesy of Sports Information.*

Cochran Captures Tourney Title

From Cordova, Tennessee, Bobby Cochran came to Florida State and made quite an impact on the men's golf team. In the spring, he captured his first career victory at the Florida Southern/Imperia Lakes Golf Classic in Lakeland. It was the first individual title won by a Seminole since 1989. Cochran shot a 68-69-70, three strokes below the second place finisher. The men's team captured second place in that tournament.

But Cochran, a senior finance major, was not a one-tournament wonder. He played consistently and finished high all season long. In the fall, he placed tenth at the Dixie Intercollegiate and seventh at the Florida Intercollegiate. He placed third in the Augusta/Cleveland Classic and broke a course record along the way. In the second round of that tournament, he shot a 65, which was a second round low for the Classic. He finished ninth at the Southeastern Intercollegiate Invitational, where Florida State took home the team title. Cochran also finished eighteenth at the ACC Championships, the highest finish for a Seminole.

"All five players on this team can win a tournament at any given week. Our motto for this year was 'Take It Deep' and if we all do this at the same time I feel we can run away with a tournament"-Ryan Perna



FEAR & AWAY

Canadian-born golfer showcases her ability both in Canada and in the United States

By
Andy Jackson
& **Alison Warner**

As a young child, senior Marie-Josée' Rouleau could never have imagined herself as a Florida State golfer or the winner of the 1992 Canadian Amateur National Championship.

The Canadian-born golfer scored 73 on each of her first three rounds, then shot four consecutive birdies to score a course record 68 and took the win.

That win gave Rouleau the opportunity to represent British Columbia, Canada in the World Amateur Team Championship. The Canadian team placed tenth in that tournament. Rouleau said of the experience, "It was a great feeling to represent my country."

Rouleau also received the Score Award, given to the best amateur golfer in Canada.

Until the age of thirteen when she began to become interested in golf, she only envisioned her future as a swimmer because that was her sport at that age. Her parents had a lot to do with Rouleau's sudden interest in golf, and living on a golf

course provided an excellent opportunity to learn and develop the sport.

The times changed from her days as a curious young girl eager to try a new sport into days having an Amateur National Championship under her belt. Rouleau, a

marketing major, transferred to Florida State from Lamar University in Texas. She transferred to FSU to be closer to her parents, who have a home in Florida, and because she felt this school had high standards both in athletics and academics. She herself exemplified those standards, as she was named to the All-ACC golf team.

"Florida State has one of the nicest school spirits that I've seen around," Rouleau said.

Time on the golf course for her was not spent just working on the mechanics of her swing, it is a time when she can "escape from everyday problems," and can spend time thinking of self-set goals. Though she approaches golf with a relaxed attitude, her ability and leadership on the golf team is evident. Leadership to Rouleau is not telling someone what to do, but rather setting an example. "My teammates look up to me and respect me," Rouleau said.

Women's golf coach Debbie Miles-Dillman approaches golf with the same attitude as Rouleau by being more of an emotional supporter than a technical coach. This was a positive aspect of their relationship and was what influenced Rouleau to be that type of leader.

Marie-Josée' Rouleau, a senior, planned to keep golfing as an amateur and eventually join the professional ranks. After graduation, she also planned to spend time with her boyfriend of two years, Stephen Noteboom. Noteboom, from the Netherlands, graduated from Florida State the year before and was competing on the professional tennis tour.

Athletic & Academic

FSU's "ACC Scholar-Athlete of the Year," Kelly Pittman, watches her shot during a tournament in the spring. Pittman carried a 3.7 GPA while majoring in Marketing Communications. *Photo courtesy of Sports Information.*

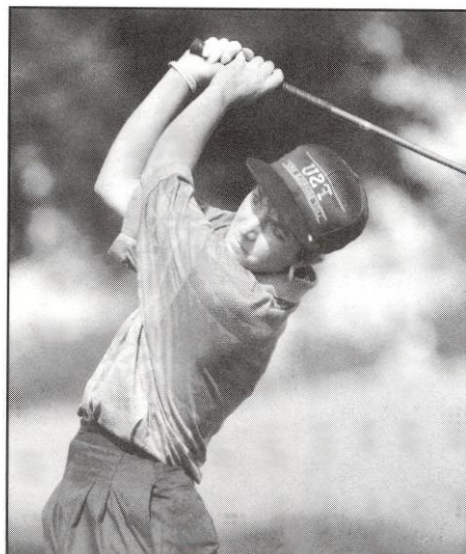


Title Winner

Senior Bobby Cochran keeps a close eye on his ball as it heads down the fairway. Cochran was the only Seminole to win an individual title this season, and the first since 1989. *Photo courtesy of Sports Information.*

Multinational Golfer

Marie-Josée' Rouleau, a native of Canada, was one of the Lady Seminoles' top golfers. She also competed for her home country on the World Team Championship. *Photo courtesy of Sports Information.*



MAKING A RACKET

The tennis tradition at Florida State continued to develop and improve

*By
Joanna
Sparkman*

Both men's and women's tennis teams faced stiff competition, in and out of the conference, and once again had successful seasons.

The outlook for the Lady Seminole tennis team could only have been described as bright. With one senior, a core group of juniors, and a talented crop of freshman, head coach Alice Reen was understandably optimistic about the season.

Juniors Audra Brannon and Laura Randmaa excelled in the fall, earning regional and national rankings both individually and as a doubles team.

In the spring, the Lady Seminoles compiled a 12-8 record, 5-2 in the ACC. They faced eight Top 25 teams and defeated two, North Carolina and Virginia. Juniors Brannon, Randmaa, Jenny Graf, and Jennifer Hyde brought the most experience to the team. Freshmen Bresha Byrd and Elke Juul contributed at the #3-#6 singles spots. The #1 doubles team of

Brannon/Randmaa compiled a 15-3 record, while the #2 team of Graf/Hyde went 11-5.

As in the fall, Audra Brannon emerged as the player to beat on the Florida State tennis circuit. During the season she was 61st in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) rankings. She also won the ITA Regional Arthur Ashe award based on sportsmanship and character.

The men's tennis team also had a core group of talented athletes returning. Junior Ken McKenzie, sophomore Brian Stanton, and lone senior Rick Jacob played the #1-#3 singles spots and also the #1-2 doubles teams along with freshman Jason White.

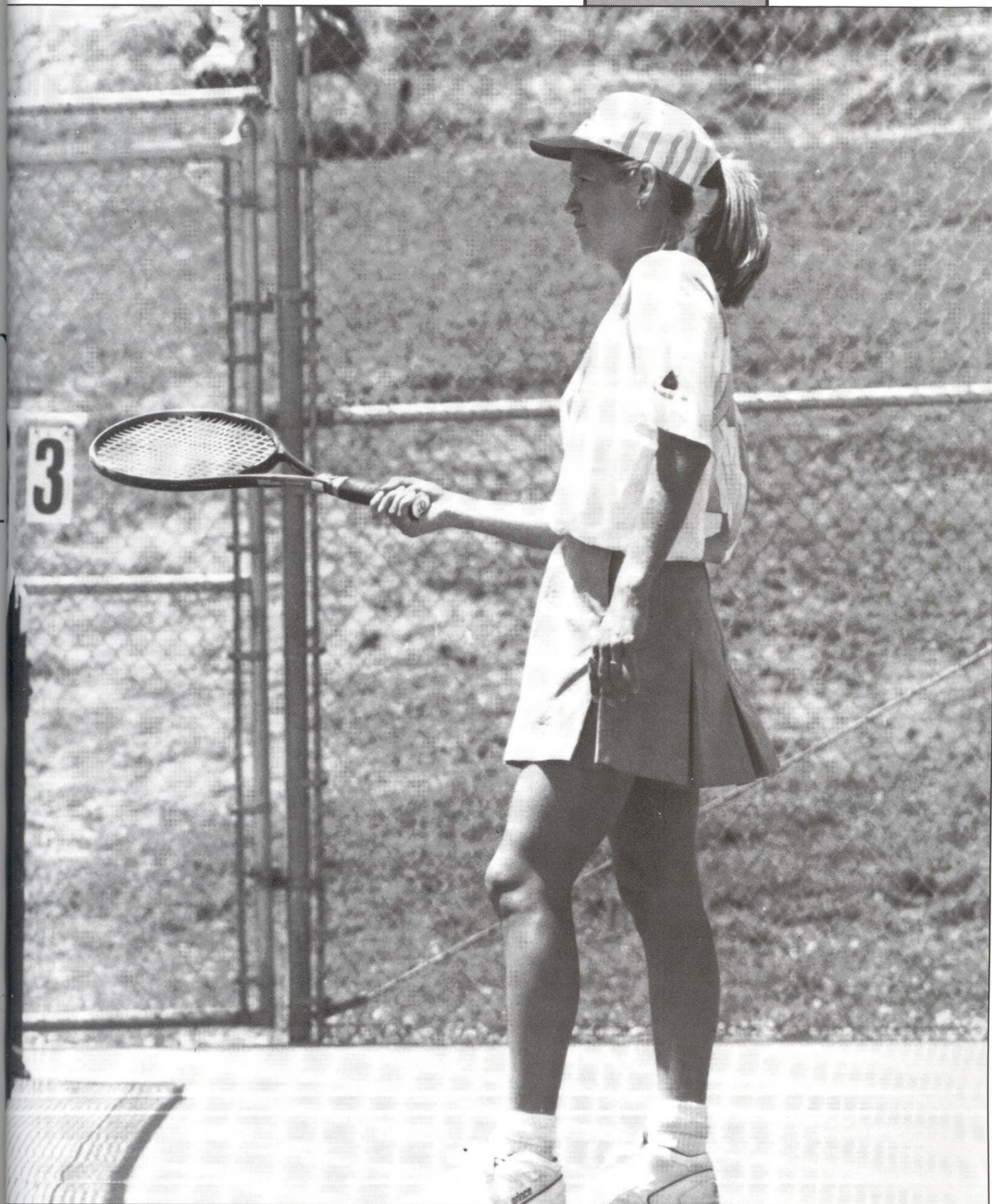
The men's started the fall with a bang at the Seminole Fall Classic. McKenzie won the singles competition, while Stanton and Jacob took the doubles title.

During spring, the men's team won the first

six matches and finished 16-7, 6-2 in the ACC. They defeated two ranked opponents—Clemson and Miami. In addition to the returners, junior Dean Erlich, transfer Drew Kirkley and Art Martinez, and freshmen White, Adam Baron, and Scott Schuhriemann all saw playing time in singles and doubles matches.

Heading into the ACC Championships, both men's and women's teams were seeded third, and both followed the same route through the tournament. The men defeated Clemson in the first round 5-2, while the women edged UNC 5-4. The men then lost to the #2 UNC in the semifinals, while the women's competition ended with Clemson. Both teams finished third as expected.

Three Seminoles made the All-ACC team: Audra Brannon, Laura Randmaa, and Brian Stanton. Brannon continued her season with a berth in the NCAA Championships in May.



Eyeing the Opponent

Junior Laura Randmaa takes a moment during warmups to observe her competition. The transfer student from LSU and Canada native played the #2 singles, compiling a 19-10 record. *Photo by Steve Stiber.*

New Home for the Tennis Teams

The popularity and talent level of the tennis program at Florida State rose significantly within the past few years. To support that growth, the tennis teams needed bigger and better facilities. Construction started on a new state-of-the-art tennis center to house both the men's and women's teams. The center featured 12 lighted courts, a 1,300 seat stadium, coaches' offices and locker rooms.

"It will probably be the most functional facility in the country because it was designed for collegiate tennis," men's coach Dave Barron said.

The facility was named the Scott Speicher Tennis Center. Lieutenant Commander Michael Scott Speicher was the first American killed in Operation Desert Storm. Since he graduated from Florida State, the University chose to honor and remember Speicher by naming the new tennis facilities after him.

Construction on the center was not completed until the summer. So the tennis teams played all their home matches at Tom Brown Park.

"The highlights of our season definitely included finishing third place in the ACC Championships. Also, it was great beating the University of Miami. We haven't done that in eight or ten years."-Ken McKenzie



GOLDEN G.P.A.'S

Tennis teams and individual players take top GPA awards at Golden Torch Gala

*By
Adam
Feldman*

Both the men's and women's tennis teams racked up the honors on the court as well as off. They came up big at the second annual Golden Torch Gala held in November. The black tie affair honored Seminole athletes who maintained high grades while participating in varsity athletics. The highlights of the evening's awards presentation were the awards for the Outstanding Scholar-Athletes of the Year. Tennis players Amy Hanby and Hiro Takata took the Gala's top honors with the highest male and female GPA's among 350 athletes. Each of the tennis teams boasted the highest GPA's of all the university's sports teams with the women's GPA being a 3.06 and the men's a 3.01. The men's team had a tradition to uphold. It was the second time they had earned this prestigious honor in as many years. They also had the highest GPA for four years prior to the Gala.

Hanby and Takata both led their teams by example. Hanby's teammates voted her to receive the 110 Percent award for her commitment and determination to her team and the sport. She also excelled in Florida State's College of Education, posting a 3.94 GPA. Takata, a psychology major had a

perfect 4.0 grade point average.

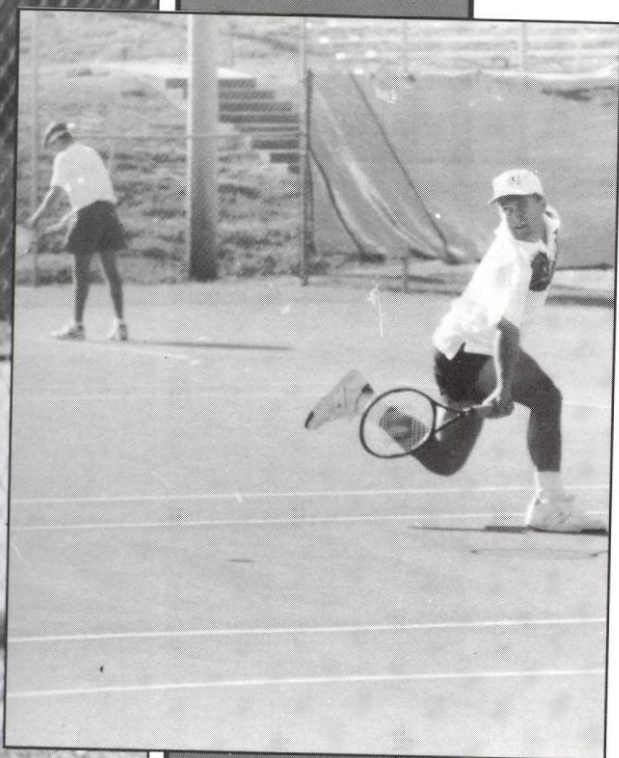
For the tennis program, academics were the priority. School came first. Tennis second. Women's tennis coach Alice Reen said, "One of the first priorities I try to instill when an athlete comes to FSU is the need to strive for academic excellence. Their accomplishments in the classroom are a genuine concern for me and a responsibility that I gladly accept." She had some help. Seminole athletes were the beneficiaries of one of the nation's premier academic support systems. A full time staff assisted incoming student-athletes and helped them adjust to college life. They continued to aid them throughout their academic careers. In addition to the support staff, all athletes had access to a study hall very conducive to learning. Free tutors were also available.

Men's tennis coach Dave Barron was proud of his team's accomplishments on and off the court. He believed there was a strong correlation between tennis and other aspects of student life. If things are going bad off the court it will affect the athlete's performance. "It's pretty evident that these guys take their academics just as serious as their athletics," he said. "It's something I want to see accomplished by these student-athletes year in and year out—success in their class work."

"Academics has always been our highest team goal," Coach Reen said. Both men's and women's tennis teams' perseverance showed how a group could be the epitome of both scholars and athletes.

Guarding His Court

Several freshmen made an immediate impact on both men's and women's teams. Jason White played at #5 and #6 singles, and also on the #2 doubles team with Ken McKenzie. *Photo by Steve Stiber.*



Backhand Pose

Senior Rick Jacobs returns the ball using a backhand stroke. Jacobs played #1 doubles with Brian Stanton, finishing with 6-3 record for the season. *Photo by Steve Stiber.*

Reaching High

The #6 singles player, freshman Sandi Ecclestone, reaches up to hit the ball back to her opponent during a home match. Due to the construction of the Scott Speicher Tennis Center, all home matches were played at Tom Brown Park. *Photo by Steve Stiber.*

