

FSU Real Handful; Auburn Wins 13-7

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AUBURN, Ala., Nov. 24—Fired by the sizzling runs of Bobby Renn, Florida State rose up on this cold Saturday afternoon to give Auburn's touted Tigers all the football they could handle before finally yielding, 13-7.

Hobbled by injuries to several players after last week's 20-19 victory over Mississippi Southern, the Seminoles had been doped to lose by two touchdowns or more.

But those odds must have been tabulated without reckoning for the sophomore talents of Renn. The swift halfback outdistanced Auburn's heralded running pair of Tommy Lorino and Bobby Hoppe at their own high-yardage game.

RENN TOTALS 104

Renn totalled 104 yards—all but eight of the FSU net of 112 rushing—in 22 carries. Hoppe got 90 in 13 and Lorino 69 in nine.

That was just part of an inspired individual effort. Renn completed the only pass he threw, for 17 yards. Twice he quick-kicked, for 47 and 61 yards. Highlight of an ace defensive performance was his interception of an Auburn pass in the end zone.

Save for a bitter-bad break after Auburn's first touchdown, this might have been the Seminoles' first triumph over a Southeastern Conference team.

ODOM IN COLLISION

Billy Odom, the speedy senior from Mt. Dora, gathered in the Auburn kickoff on his four-yard line, and 10,000 shivering fans will testify that he would have

gone 96 yards for a touchdown had he not collided with a teammate, center Troy Barnes. In the clear at the Auburn 34, with not a Tiger in front of him, Odom ran head-on into Barnes, who had turned around to lend a hand with the blocking. Odom was nearly kayoed by the impact.

Auburn unleashed an accurate passing attack in the first half, bringing eight completions in 12 tosses for 154 yards and a touchdown that provided a 7-0 lead at the midway point. The score came with about six minutes to go in the second quarter when end Red Phillips caught a short strike from quarterback Howell Tubbs and went the distance, a 62-yard play. It was one of a half-dozen passes that All-American candidate Phillips bagged for 128 yards.

TWO COMPLETIONS

Though Auburn's aerial functioned not nearly as well in the last half—netting but two completions—the Tigers moved in front, 13-0, in the third quarter. A 40-yard drive was climaxed by

Jim Walsh's 3-yard plunge.

FSU fought back for its touchdown with eight minutes remaining in the contest. Renn's running and Len Swantic's passing spurred a 65-yard march. Swantic passed eight yards to fullback Joe Holt for the six points. It was Swantic's sixth TD throw of the year. He completed six of 12 for the day, running his season's total to 19 of 33.

TURN BALL OVER

After that, the Seminoles got their eager mitts on the ball only once more, when Renn intercepted a Tubbs' pass in the end zone with little more than three minutes to go. But the Tribe could move no farther than its 20 before turning the ball over to Auburn.

In the second quarter, FSU had ground out a first down on the Auburn seven. The Tigers stiffened, and Johnny Sheppard's fourth-down kick for a field goal was wide.

For Auburn, it was a 15th straight triumph at home.

Auburn, with Alabama still ahead, now owns a 6-3 record. FSU ended its fourth non-losing campaign under Coach Tom Nugent on a 5-4-1 note.

Lee Corso, despite his painful hip injury, was able to provide Swantic with some relief at quarterback. Though he wasn't up to his familiar tricky style, his service permitted Renn to remain at halfback. Because of Corso's injury, Renn had been pressed into duty as a quarterback in practice last week.

SCHOMBURGER AT BEST

Among FSU troops who carried injuries of varying degree were end Ronald Schomburger and guard Al Pacifico, both with bum knees. Despite being slowed a bit, Schomburger was at his defensive best.

Pacifico was a leader in opening holes through the middle of the Auburn line, where the going was supposed to be exceedingly rough. Renn got all of his yardage up the middle and off tackle as FSU avoided its usual wide stuff in respect of Auburn's fine corps of ends.

Of course, FSU ends Bob Nelums and Bob Fountain played not at all because of knee injuries.

Though Auburn's offensive yardage total of 464—with 287 rushing—was impressive, time after time the Tigers found FSU rough when it counted most. The Seminoles intercepted two passes, recovered one fumble—while never losing the ball themselves by these routes.

Auburn, which missed one field goal effort from the 25, had one touchdown called back on a penalty and a 39-yard pass play to the FSU two also erased by an infraction. The Tigers were saddled with 90 yards in penalties, versus 30 for the Seminoles.

PASSES FAIL

Auburn's initial charge after the opening kickoff was checked when passes failed to click down around the FSU 40. Next time the Tigers had a chance they probed all the way to the FSU 10, on Tubbs' passing to Phillips and the running of Hoppe and Lorino. Holding penalties helped bog the Plainsmen.

On their first try with the ball, the Seminoles rambled on the rushes of Renn and the keep-running of Swantic up to their 49. Renn then dashed to the Tiger 41 but a holding penalty erased it. After FSU was again penalized 15 for the same reason, Renn

quick-kicked 47 yards to the Auburn 34.

The Tigers pounded to the FSU 31 as the first quarter ended but again got stymied by a penalty. Lorino's punt was a weak one into the wind, four yards to the 27.

SEMINOLES DRIVE

From there, consuming almost seven minutes of the second quarter, FSU drove 66 yards to the Auburn seven. Pass interference rulings on two Swantic passes contributed. Renn passed to Ron Schomburger for 17 yards on a surprise play for one big lick. From the Auburn 22, Renn tore losses for 15 to the seven and a first down.

The Tigers bowed-up sharply. Renn lost a yard. A Swantic pass to Ham Bisbee was beaten down by Tubbs. Bisbee might have gotten loose on an end-around but didn't, gained only a yard back to the seven. Johnny Sheppard came in to try his point-kicking toe on a field-goal effort. It was wide to the right. A brisk and tricky wind might have been a factor.

Auburn took over at its 20 after that, and in five plays had a touchdown. Tubbs got one. Hoppe squirmed through for 15 to the 36. Lorino whacked out two to the 38. Thereupon, Tubbs shot a short pass to Phillips seven yards away at the 45, and the talented end angled for the sidelines and went the route as a panting Buck Metts tried vainly to catch him. Tubbs converted for 7-0.

ODOM HITS BARNES

The very next play broke FSU hearts. Odom grabbed the kickoff on the four, started slowly, picked up speed about the 20 as a route unfolded before him. Then at the 34, with absolutely no Plainsmen between him and a touchdown, he ran smack into the arms of Barnes, who had turned and was going the other way, with blocking in mind. He blocked the wrong man for a tragic error.

But the bad turn apparently took no steam out of the Seminoles. Corso passed 18 yards to Bisbee at the Auburn 48. FSU moved on to a first down at the 38 on a short Corso pass to Schomburger. Auburn called a halt, however, and Metts punted to the 20.

With four minutes to go before halftime, the Tigers threw frantically. Jerry Sanson grabbed a 13-yard bullet and Phillips got two for 17 and 10. Pretty soon the Tigers were at the FSU 10.

SCORE NULLIFIED

Tubbs found Sansom all by his lonesome in the end zone and pitched for an apparent touchdown. But Auburn was detected holding and was set back to the 25. Fourth down, and Billy Atkins went for a field goal. It was wide. Corso caught it and barely escaped the end zone before getting tackled as the first half ran out.

It was midway the third period before Auburn was able to extend that 7-0 margin. Hard running by Walsh and Hoppe had made one deep penetration into FSU territory. Hoppe, on a 24-yard romp, dropped the ball trying to cut back and Swantic recovered at the FSU 20.

After a punt, Auburn drove 49 yards and scored. A 10-yard pass, Tubbs to Sansom, started it. Walsh, Hoppe and Tubbs led a running charge that brought a first down at the six. On third down, Walsh cracked over from the three to notch his first touchdown ever for Auburn. Tubbs' point kick missed, leaving it 13-0.

A little later Auburn had a long pass play, Jimmy Cook to Pat Meagher, nullified by a penalty. It would have been a 39-yard gain to the two. Then Swantic intercepted a Cook throw at the FSU 42.

61-YARD PUNT

Swantic couldn't get his passes away and Renn quick-kicked 61 yards to the Auburn six. It was a stunning bit of strategy that paved an FSU touchdown, for

Auburn had to punt back after moving up to its 23.

FSU pounded 65 yards in 11 plays. Renn got the first 18 in two runs. Swantic passed to Metts for 12, to Holt for 10 at the 25. After losing four, Swantic threw to Metts again, this time at the 17. Metts smashed the middle for a first down at the 11. Metts added three more. Then Swantic passed over the middle to Holt on the goal line, and he was in for the score. Sheppard converted for 13-7 with 7:52 left in the game. It was Sheppard's 18th extra point in 19 attempts.

Thoroughly aroused now, the Tigers whipped downfield to the FSU 12. Lorino got away for a 35-yard sprint in leading the drive. In two running bids from the 12, Auburn netted nothing and when Tubbs passed Renn intercepted in the end zone and returned to the five.

Metts and Renn cut out a first-down path to the 19. There FSU's last chance slipped away. On fourth down at the 17, Swantic tried a final futile pass with the clock showing 1:08 to go. Auburn took over but got no further than the 13 before the minutes ran out.

Florida State _____ 0 0 0 7-7
Auburn _____ 0 7 6 0-13

Florida State scoring: Touchdown, Holt (8, pass from Swantic). Conversion, Sheppard.

Auburn scoring: Touchdowns, Phillips (67, pass, run from Tubbs); Walsh (3, plunge). Conversion, Tubbs.

THE LINEUPS:

FLORIDA STATE

Left end—Schomburger

Left tackles—Mussellman, Thomas

Left guards—Baggett, Elliott

Centers—Barnes, Leonard

Right guards—Pacifico, McGee

Right tackles—Boyer, Craig, Graham

Right end—Bisbee

Quarterbacks—Corso, Rodrique, Swantic

Left halfbacks—Renn, Dobosz

Right halfbacks—Metts, Odom

Fullbacks—Holt, Johnson

AUBURN

Left ends—Elliott, Wilson

Left tackles—Warren, Austin

Left guards—Danjean, Larussa, Weekley

Centers—Ricketts, Johns, Strain

Right guards—Maxime, Baker

Right tackles—Terry, Wester

Right ends—Phillips, Sansom, Simmons

Quarterbacks—Tubbs, Cook

Left halfbacks—Lorino, Preis Meagher

Right halfbacks—Hoppe, Kitchens

Fullbacks—Walsh, Atkins

The Yardstick

	FSU	Auburn
First Downs	16	20
Rushing Yardage	112	287
Passing Yardage	76	177
Passes	8-16	10-16
Passes Intercepted By	2	0
Punts	7-38.1	3-22.7
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Yards Penalized	30	90

Individual statistics

AUBURN

Rushing—	No.	Net	Avg.
Hoppe	13	90	6.9
Lorino	9	69	7.7
Walsh	13	59	4.6
Receiving—	No.	Yds.	TD
Phillips	6	128	1
Passing—	A.	C.	Yds.
Tubbs	15	10	177

FLORIDA STATE

Rushing—	No.	Net	Avg.
Renn	22	104	4.9
Metts	3	16	5.3
Dobosz	5	16	3.2
Receiving—	No.	Yds.	TD
Metts	2	24	0
Holt	2	3	1
Passing—	A.	C.	Yds.
Swantic	12	6	49