

Building up an early lead they never lost, Florida State University's basketballers downed Mississippi Southern 81-72 here last night.

Riding the high scoring of their two hot-shot guards, sophomore Hugh Durham and senior Bobby Waits, the Seminoles built a 34-26 halftime margin and coasted with a 10 or 12-point margin most of the second half.

It was Waits' deadly foul shooting which kept the winners alive during the first half as the 6-0 senior from Jacksonville dropped 19 of 11 charity tosses and four field goals to leave the floor at halftime with 18 points.

CAREER HIGH

He added 14 more in the second half to gain the night's top scoring honors with 32 points, his personal career high equaled earlier this year against Rollins.

Durham, who leads the team in scoring with 427 points and a 20.3 average, added 23.

Mainly on Waits' accuracy, the Seminoles won the game from the free throw line. The visiting Southerners made just two free throws for their night's work as against 21 for FSU.

At that, there were only 28 fouls called in the game, 20 of them against the visitors, who fired 35 successful field goals to the Tribe's 30.

IN SECESSION

Waits hit all of his free throws in succession, missing the first and last one he attempted.

The contest started slow as both teams fumbled the ball frequently and the Seminoles held only a 13-10 margin with 10 minutes gone.

The Tribe used six straight points, four by Waits, two by Durham, to gain their 34-26 halftime margin and shortly thereafter bolted ahead a 54-42 to salt away

their sixth triumph in the last eight games.

Outrebounding the winners heavily, 77-52, the Southerners got off 101 shots compared to FSU's 73, but the Seminoles had a 40% shooting average while Southern hit on only 34.6%.

It was the seventh win against 14 losses for FSU, which downed Rollins 96-79 here Saturday night, and the 13th loss against 10 wins for Southern, which lost to Miami 85-78 Saturday.

Wednesday night, the Seminoles host their jinx team, Loyola of New Orleans, with the frosh engaging Junior College in a 6 p.m. preliminary.

MISS. SOUTHERN		FG	FT	PF	TP
Boothe, f		4	2-0	4	8
Chandler, f		1	2-2	2	4
Hatten, f		1	0-0	0	2
Armstrong, f		0	0-0	1	0
Kinney, c		2	4-0	2	10
Kddy, g		2	0-0	2	10
Youngblood, g		2	1-0	2	4
Milstead, g		1	0-0	4	2
Kea, g		10	0-0	2	20
Totals		25	9-2	20	72
FLORIDA STATE		FG	FT	PF	TP
Strom, f		5	2-1	1	11
Ward, f		5	1-0	2	10
Westhafer, f		1	0-0	0	2
B. Williams, c		0	0-0	0	0
Casteel, c		1	3-1	4	3
Gregory, c		0	0-0	0	0
Durham, g		3	11-7	1	23
Watts, g		10	14-12	0	22
Garcia, g		0	0-0	0	0
J. Williams, g		0	0-0	0	0
Twomey, g		0	0-0	0	0
Totals		30	27-21	8	81
Mississippi Southern		26	44	72	
Florida State		34	47	81	