

The law of averages finally caught up with Florida State's basketball team last night.

The Seminoles, who have dropped four games this year by three points or less, defeated the University of Miami, 71-70, on two free throws by sophomore Jim Savage.

Savage dropped the free throw,

his only two points of the night, with 1:13 left, to provide FSU with its sixth win against eight losses. The loss left Miami with a 6-7 mark.

The freethrows gave the Seminoles a 71-68 lead, but Miami guard Joe Munley dropped a set shot with 59 seconds left to close the gap to a point.

MUFF CHANCE

Both Larry Strom and Jim Liteky missed opportunities at the foul line to give the Seminoles added insurance. Miami got the ball with eight seconds remaining and called a time out but Munley missed a layup at the buzzer which would have given Miami the victory.

The lead changed hands six times in the final 10 minutes and the score was tied on 10 occasions during the second half.

Buckets by Gene Stage and Ed Morris gave Miami a 4-0 margin at the outset, but after that the Hurricanes never led in the first half, and FSU left the floor with a 36-32 edge.

The 'Canes tied the score for the first time at 3:17 of the second half on a set by Stage, 36-38. A free throw by Stage with 9:17 left in the game gave Miami the lead for the first time in the second half, 38-32.

LEAD SEE-SAWS

From that point, the lead saw-sawed back and forth until the finish, keeping a crowd of 3,200, largest of the season, on the edge of their seats.

Junior guard Hugh Durham of FSU was the game's high scorer with 20 points. Seminole forward Burt Decker hit 19. Stage was high for the visitors with 18.

Though Miami hit better from the field than FSU the Tribe got off more shots which proved the margin of victory. The 'Canes dropped 25 of 37 for a 70 showing. FSU 27 of 54 for a 71 mark.

With center Dan Bolls leading the way with 22 the Tribe won the battle of rebounds, 32-28. Bolls out-rebounded Miami's seven-foot center Dick Berghoff, 22-12.

The Seminoles now take a 12-day layoff before resuming action Jan. 31, against West Virginia, No. 1 team in the nation, at Morgantown, W. Va.

Florida State's freshmen evened their record at 2-2 in the preliminary contest by beating Georgia Southwestern, 58-70. Charles Tinsley had 23 to lead the Baby Seminoles.

MIAMI	FG	FT	PP
Morris	3	2-3	1
Burdette	1	2-4	1
Leidy	2	1-3	4
Berryhoff	1	1-4	1
Musley	1	0-2	1
Stacy	7	2-3	1
Conkran	2	0-2	0
Rankin	1	1-1	1
Talbot	2	1-1	1

TOTALS	FG	FT	PP
FLORIDA STATE	25	10-20	20
Strom	1	0-0	1
Dalton	1	0-0	1
Boyle	2	0-0	2
Litely	1	0-0	1
Dorian	1	0-0	1
Gardner	0	0-0	0
Wendover	1	0-0	1
Garland	2	0-0	2
Savage	1	0-0	1

MIAMI	FG	FT	PP
Strom	1	0-0	1
Dalton	1	0-0	1
Boyle	2	0-0	2
Litely	1	0-0	1
Dorian	1	0-0	1
Gardner	0	0-0	0
Wendover	1	0-0	1
Garland	2	0-0	2
Savage	1	0-0	1