

Florida State's basketball team had some hope of evening its record at 4-4 here tonight after a big effort against Auburn's unbeaten Tigers here last night.

The Seminoles lost a double-overtime thriller to Auburn 77-70.

Richmond, a 72-56 loser to Alabama on Thursday, is the opposition tonight at 7:45. The Spiders have a rather unpredictable background. Though Alabama beat them decisively, Virginia Tech, one of the nation's top-ranked teams, squeezed by 76-68. Top Richmond players are John Telepo, high-scoring forward, and Danny Higgins, playmaking team captain.

Auburn had much trouble with the Seminoles in extending its season mark to 6-0.

Little trouble had been expected. Auburn had dealt FSU an 18-points setback at Auburn earlier, and the Seminoles had recently lost for the season two seniors, Faurest Coggle and Dale Ricketts, due to injuries.

But the Seminoles got together for their best effort of the campaign.

It looked bad at the beginning as Auburn quickly built a 10-points lead, at 17-7.

FSU bounced back and it was a 35-35 deadlock at the half. After that neither team enjoyed more than a 3-point lead until Auburn pulled away in the second overtime.

FSU trailed 64-63 with a couple of minutes to play in regulation time. Then Wally Dale, a playmaking spark all evening, hit a fielder that brought a 65-64 lead. Jerry Shirley, who played a top all-around game, added a free throw to make it 66-64.

With 1:20 to go, Auburn's Billy

Tinker stepped to the foul line for two free throws. He missed both. But Layton Johns, the team's big (6-7) senior star, grabbed the rebound as Tinkers missed his second and dropped it in to bring a 66-66 tie.

And that was the way the two went into the first overtime.

Pete Rogers then put FSU ahead 68-66, but Johns replied with a 2-pointer for another tie, forcing a second overtime.

Auburn's Larry Chapman pulled down the tipoff and dribbled in to score. He was fouled, and sank his free throw for a 3-points Tigers lead.

Charley Long then hit one from the field for FSU, narrowing things to 71-70. But Auburn broke loose on baskets by John Blackwell, Johns and Chapman, and the Seminoles could find the range no more.

Two teams were rarely hotter. Auburn hit 33 of 46 field-goal attempts for a sensational 71.7 per cent. FSU poured in 29 of 47 for 61.7 per cent.

Rebounding was about even, Auburn getting 21, FSU 20.

Blackwell was Auburn's top scorer with 19. Chapman had 16, Johns 14 and Larry Cart 13.

Shirley had turned in a big job of guarding Johns and they waged a rebounding duel, with

AUBURN		FG	FT	Reb	pf	tp
Chapman	3-6	4-4	1-1	4	4	16
Blackwell	10-7	6-5	3-3	3	3	19
Johns	8-7	1-0	11-2	14		
Cart	10-6	1-1	0-3	13		
Kirkland	4-3	1-0	3-1	6		
Tinker	4-3	2-1	1-0	7		
Newton	1-1	0-0	2-2	2		
Guy	0-0	0-0	0-0	0		
TOTALS		44-33	16-11	21	15	77
FSU		FG	FT	Reb	pf	tp
Long	10-9	4-1	4-4	19		
Huge	6-3	0-0	0-2	6		
KK	2-0	0-0	0-1	0		
Reeves	1-0	1-0	1-0	0		
Shirley	7-6	2-1	2-1	13		
Dale	12-5	2-2	4-4	12		
Rogers	9-6	9-8	3-3	20		
TOTALS		47-29	18-12	20	15	70
Auburn		35	31	2	9-77	
FSU		35	31	2	2-70	

Johns pulling down 11 and Shirley eight. Going into the last two minutes of regulation time, Johns had just eight points for the evening.

Shirley, hitting six of seven field shots, had 13 points.

FSU's scoring leader was Rogers. He had 20, with eight coming on free throws. Long had a peak game, sinking nine of 10 field-goal tries and getting 19 points.

Dale, starting for the first time and looking like a real spark with his superior floor game, racked 12 points.