Seminoles survive threat from surprising St. Joseph's

By George Maselli Democrat staff writer

seph's Hawks of Philadelphia, the ambitious basketball program of the Atlantic Ten Conference.

This was the St. Joseph's College Monks of the 430-student, Division III school from North Windham, Me. Where is North basketball, Windham, you ask? Just north of South Windham.

But the Monks, expected to be simple fodder, put a scare into a breather between North Carolina Florida State before the Seminoles walked away 88-72 on Monday nasty Wednesday when South night at the civic center. It could Florida comes to town. The followhave been an upset for the ages, ing four opponents are Louisville one of those Chaminade-over-Vir- here Saturday night and then

ginia-and Ralph Sampson numbers.

But before we get too rough on No, this was not the St. Jo- the Seminoles - and some of the surprisingly large crowd of 3,276 did - let us consider a few facts:

· FSU was coming off a hardfought loss Saturday in Miami. The opponent was the North Carolina Tar Heels, royalty in college

· This was FSU's first home game since Dec. 18.

 This one was supposed to be and a stretch of schedule that gets games at Virginia Tech, North Carolina State and Memphis State.

· And, really, who can get up for a team nicknamed the Monks?

The Seminoles could not. However, they improved their record to 7-3. St. Joseph's, finishing an 0-3 trip to the state that included losses to the Florida Institute of Technology, Stetson and FSU, is 8-5

Emerging from a whooping St. Joseph's dressing room after the game, Coach Rick Simonds wore a broad grin. "We've got no scholarships," he said. "If we had a couple of scholarship players, we might have been all right today.

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