

Florida State's basketballers caught fire in the last half last night to blast Rollins College, 96-79, as hot-shot sophomore guard Hugh Durham scored 27 points.

With Durham, forward Larry Strom and guard Bobby Waits firing the surge, the Seminoles battled back from a 54-45 half-time deficit to even their FIBC mark at 4-4.

The victory was the Tribe's sixth against 14 losses, and left the losers with a 5-20 record. Rollins is fifth in the conference with a 2-7 slate.

NEVER HEADED AGAIN

The Seminoles went ahead for the first time in the second half with 12:40 remaining on a set shot by Waits and were never headed after that.

Coneil Bud Kennedy's charges quickly built a 72-63 margin

and the Tars never came close the rest of the way in.

Durham's scoring boosted his season's total to 404, giving him an average of 20.2 points a game, but the biggest surprise was Strom, a 6-6 Jacksonville Junior College transfer who had his biggest point night of the season with 25.

The big forward hit 10 of 18 shots from the field, scoring frequently on the drive after feeds from Durham who played an outstanding floor game in addition to his scoring feats.

BEZEMER SHOWS WAY

The Seminoles led 24-20 after 10 minutes of play, but the visitors caught up and grabbed the lead with 6:20 left in the half on two free throws by high-scoring center Dick Bezemer, 34-33.

After that, Rollins poured it on steadily until the half, with Bezemer and guards Gary Gabhard and Boyd Coffie doing most of the scoring.

However, the Tribesmen hit nine points in a row shortly after the half started to close the gap to 60-58, then with Waits and Durham scoring freely pulled away to win going away.

It was their fifth success in the last seven games after a disappointing start which saw them win just one of 13.

GET MORE SHOTS

Though the visitors hit 44% of their shots from the field as compared to 39.8% for the Seminoles, the Tribe consistently out-rebounded their opponents in the second half and got off 91 shots as compared to only 75 for Rollins.

Besides Durham's 27, and Strom's 25, Waita hit 19 for the Seminoles while Coffle with 22 and Bezemer with 19 led the Tars in a losing cause.

Tomorrow the Seminoles meet a highly-touted Mississippi Southern team on the home court then host Loyola of New Orleans Wednesday night.

ROLLINS	FG	FT	TP
Ruggles, f	5	0-0	10
Schuder, f	4	4-2	10
Fantuzzi, f	1	0-0	2
Bezemer, c	6	9-7	19
Lawler, c	1	0-0	2
Gabbard, g	0	0-0	12
Coffle, g	9	7-4	22
Martindale, g	0	0-0	0
Farmer, g	1	0-0	2
Mellwain, g	0	0-0	0

Totals 33 20-13 70

FLORIDA STATE	FG	FT	TP
Strom, f	10	5-5	25
Ward, f	4	1-0	8
Westhafer, f	0	0-0	0
B. Williams, c	4	0-0	8
Gregory, c	2	0-0	4
Durham, g	9	11-9	27
Waita, g	7	6-5	19
Garcia, g	0	0-0	0
J. Williams, g	0	0-0	0
Casteel, g	0	0-0	0

Totals 36 30-24 76

Halftime: Rollins 34, Florida State 45