

JACKSONVILLE—Florida State's puzzling basketball team couldn't pull off a second straight storybook finish here last night, so the Seminoles will watch tonight's second round of Gator Bowl action from the plush seats of Jacksonville's new coliseum.

Georgia's Bulldogs, an old tournament nemesis for the Seminoles, handed FSU that unhappy fate, 62-56, after staving off a last-minute rally by Dandy Dave Fedor.

FLORIDA WINS

Florida's Gators moved into the second round with an 82-63 thrashing of Jacksonville University in the opener of the 10th Gator Bowl basketball affair. Florida is paired against Navy and Georgia tangles with Georgia Tech tonight. The Seminoles are out of it.

Ironically, Georgia held off a late Seminole rush here a year ago in the championship game and won by three points.

The Bulldogs almost didn't make it last night, though, because of some magnificent clutch work by Fedor, the 6-6 junior who won most valuable player honors here last year.

Fedor scored FSU's last eight points, four in rapid-fire sequence after Georgia had stacked up a seemingly safe lead of six points with a little more than a minute left. Fedor's final basket pared Georgia's lead to two points with 46 seconds left, but four Georgia free throws—two with only two seconds showing on the clock—padded the final margin to six points.

"That Fedor is great," said a jubilant Georgia coach, Red Lawson. "I'm glad we don't have to

meet him again until February."

The teams meet in a regular-season game at Athens Feb. 16.

NO. 1 SCORER

Fedor finished as the game's high scorer with 20 points and hauled down 18 rebounds, same number of rebounds picked off by Georgia center John Johnson. It was the 34th straight game in which Fedor scored double figures. He got 14 of his 20 points after intermission.

Fedor didn't get much support. Guard Dale Ricketts scored nine points and Rufus Ahsworth came off the bench to supply nine points in a fine showing.

Ray Swain, FSU's junior center who entered the game with a 56.8 shooting percentage and a 15.8 scoring average, was checked with seven points and hit only three of 13 shots from the field.

John Johnson and Allen Johnson (no relation) led Georgia as four Bulldog starters scored double figures. John Johnson had 16 points, most of them on tip-ins, and Allan Johnson hit 13, including six long-distance field goals.

FSU Coach Bud Kennedy, whose teams had won nine of 14 previous games with Georgia, was disappointed.

"We just weren't aggressive enough," Kennedy said. "Some of our boys showed definite effects of our eight-day layoff."

NOT ENOUGH

The Seminoles had overcome a 10-point deficit in the final four minutes for a 65-64 victory over Clemson in their last start on Dec. 19. Trailing Georgia by as much as eight points, the Seminoles had a crowd of 5,539 Gator Bowl first-nighters thinking they might make another dramatic comeback. It wasn't in the cards.

The Johnson boys got the Bulldogs off to a 3-0 start and Allan Johnson's 12-footer from the side gave Georgia a 12-7 edge with six minutes gone. John Johnson's tip-in gave Georgia another five-point margin at 16-11.

The Seminoles speeded up the action and fast-break layups by Cotton and Ricketts and a follow shot by Fedor pulled FSU within a point at 20-19. Swain slipped under for an easy layup and the Tribe enjoyed its first lead, 21-20. Fedor whirled and hit a hook shot for a three-point FSU advantage.

Then the Bulldogs came to life. John Johnson's tip-in and a pair of baskets each by Allan Johnson and Phil Simpson sent Georgia into the dressing room with a 30-24 halftime lead.

The Bulldogs moved eight points out front early in the second half. But Ashworth made a three-point play and Fedor made a tremendous follow shot to put FSU ahead for the second time, 37-36, with 13:39 to play.

It was tied four times over the next four minutes. Then Georgia's Pat Casey snapped a 44-44 deadlock and the Bulldogs never trailed again.

CLUTCH WORK

Fedor's clutch shooting in the closing minutes brought the crowd to its feet, but the Seminoles couldn't manage the tying basket after pulling within two points in the final minute.

The loss leaves FSU, which next meets Loyola of New Orleans, Tennessee at Knoxville on Dec. 4, with a 4-5 record.

A free-for-all featured Florida's victory over Jax U. It came with a little more than a minute to play.

It took nearly a dozen policemen to stop the scrap. After the game everyone shook hands.

Jacksonville, shooting for basketball prominence, at one time in the first half led Florida by nine points. But Florida's experience and savvy pulled the Gators ahead 35-31 at halftime and Jacksonville saw its hopes of a big upset fade in the second half.

A foul late in the game touched off the fist fight. When it was apparent the referees were unable to stop it, policemen quickly rushed on the court and pulled the players apart.

MANY FOULS

Eddie Cone of Jacksonville was banned from the game but it made no difference to the outcome since JU already had lost four players on fouls. A total of 59 were whistled in the game — 35 of them against Jacksonville.

JU's Jim Kirkland was high scorer of the night with 24 points but Florida had better balance—Cliff Luyk with 17 points, Bobby Shiver and Lou Merchant with 16 each.

FLA. STATE	FG	FT	PF	TP
Fedor	9-22	2-3	3	20
Long	1-5	0-0	3	2
Swain	3-13	1-2	2	7
Ricketts	3-8	2-0	2	9
Cotton	3-8	0-0	1	6
Coogler	0-2	0-0	1	0
Davis	1-8	1-3	1	3
Ashworth	3-7	3-3	1	9
Totals	23-71	10-17	16	50
GEORGIA	FG	FT	PF	TP
Simpson	5-6	1-2	4	11
Casper	3-8	4-4	3	10
J. Johnson	7-10	2-4	9	10
Kelser	1-7	0-1	1	2
A. Johnson	6-13	1-3	2	13
Clark	2-5	3-4	0	7
Adamek	1-1	1-3	3	2
Totals	25-56	12-23	15	60
Florida State			24-32	50
Georgia			30-32	60

Attendance: 5,530.