

VALDOSTA — Seminole senior forward Long took command in the final three minutes to spark the Tribe to basketball victory over Valdosta State 61-55 Tuesday night.

With 2:30 left on the clock, the Tribe was leading by a tight 35-34. Long scored all the rest of FSU's points. He started his scoring spree with a jumper.

With 2:00 left Wally Summers retaliated for the Rebels with a field goal. The game was scoreless until Long pocketed another jumper with 35 seconds remaining.

Rebel Preston Hodges' free throw and jump shot narrowed things to 57-54. The Seminoles from the ball until Long was fouled with 15 seconds to go. His free throw was good.

Chuck Bonovitch bucketed a field goal, bringing the Rebels within two points of the lead.

Driving in for a layup, Long was fouled in the process of making it good. Nine seconds remained on the clock when he ended the night's scoring with his free throw.

Long registered nine field goals and eight free throws to lead FSU's efforts with 26 points for the evening.

It was the second defeat of the season at FSU hands for the Rebels, who stand 13-7 now. Coach Bud Kennedy's cagers are 12-4.

The Seminoles were down 24-22 at halftime after a ragged beginning. Tribe cagers threw the ball away 10 times in the first two quarters. They hit only 10 of 26 tries from the floor.

After the lead switched hands

several times in the third quarter's opening minutes, FSU went ahead for good when Pete Rogers pumped in a jumper with 9:30 left in the game. Long followed with a jumper, made it 42-40.

FSU led by slim margins until Pete Rogers and Long swished the nets on consecutive field goals, making the score 53-47. Rogers was FSU's No. 2 scorer for the night with 14.

Hodges' jumper boosted the Rebels within four points and that's where Long began his final flurry of baskets.

Leading the Valdosta scorers were Bonovitch and Summers with 13 and 12, respectively.

The Seminoles had a 37-34 margin in rebounds. Rogers led the Tribe under the backboards with 10. Long and Cal Hoge scored nine each. Hodges' seven was Valdosta's top.

The Seminoles scored on 47 per cent from the floor, Valdosta on 48. From the foul line, FSU scored on 80.1 per cent of its tries. Valdosta hit on 57 per cent.

FSU's next game is at Tallahassee against Motson Saturday night.

FSU	fg	ft	reb	pt	tp
Long	9-14	2-3	9	2	20
Mingo	2-4	0-0	3	1	4
Reeves	0-0	1-2	4	2	1
Shirley	2-8	0-0	7	0	4
Gonzalez	4-8	0-0	6	1	8
Levell	1-3	0-0	7	1	2
Dale	0-1	2-2	2	2	2
Rogers	6-15	2-3	10	1	14

TOTALS 24-51 13-5 57 10 64

VALDOSTA	fg	ft	reb	pt	tp
Perry	4-6	1-3	2	2	9
Summers	5-15	2-3	3	4	12
Hodges	4-7	0-0	0	1	8
Bonovitch	8-14	1-1	4	2	12
McCully	1-3	4-5	3	3	0
Ritch	4-5	0-4	4	1	8

TOTALS 24-50 8-14 24 14 39

Halftime: Valdosta 24, FSU 22.