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Special to the Democrat

TAMPA — Florida State's basketball team faces unbeaten Auburn tonight for the championship of the first annual Tampa Holiday Tournament.

The Seminoles fought off a determined rally by winless Virginia Military Institute last night and won 65-64. Auburn, down 11 points at halftime, came back to defeat Columbia 76-75 in an overtime game.

Auburn and FSU tangle at about 9:15 tonight, following the consolation match between Columbia and VMI.

Florida State, now 5-2 for the year, led by 13 points at one time, but Charley Schmaus and Robin Porter kept pecking away for VMI, now 0-7.

VMI tied the game at 62-62 with two minutes to play.

After a free throw missed, Bill Peacock tipped in the rebound for the Seminoles, giving them a lead that they held until the end.

Gary Schull led FSU throughout. He racked 20 points and pulled down 14 rebounds. Controlling the boards was a significant factor for Florida State. The Seminoles grabbed 52 rebounds to scrappy VMI's 34.

Peacock and guard Darrel Stewart, back in action despite a knee injury, had 11 points apiece for the Tribe.

FSU was generally "off" in accuracy, both from the field and at the free-throw line. The Seminoles put in 13 of 23 free throws, 22 of 64 floor shots.

FSU held a 38-30 halftime lead.

Overshadowed in height, Auburn relied on the outside shooting of Jimmy Montgomery, the inside work of Lee DeFore, and the ball-hawking of Tommy Fibbe and Bobby Buisson to finally down Columbia.

The regulation game ended

67-67. DeFore made two foul shots at the buzzer for the Auburn victory.

Columbia's big sophomore center, 7-foot David Newmark, led scorers with 27 points. DeFore had 25 for Auburn and Montgomery 20.

Auburn is now 5-0. Columbia 5-2.

VMI		* G F R R P F T P			
	Atter	2 8	5 4	4 3 4	
	Hartung	1 7	0 0	5 2 2	
	Kemper	3 9	0 7	2 4 6	
	Porter	7 12	5 5	4 4 19	
	Schmaus	5 17	8 10	4 3 10	
	Cooper	1 1	0 0	0 0 2	
	Gupton	0 1	0 2	0 3 0	
	Powers	2 4	2 2	7 4 8	
	Brack	0 0	0 0	0 0 0	
	Team			6	
	Totals	22 54	20 26	34 21 64	
FLORIDA ST.		* G F R R P F T P			
	Schall	7 13	7 3	14 2 26	
	Pearce	5 15	1 3	8 4 31	
	Danford	2 7	0 1	4 3 4	
	Little	2 0	1 7	0 7 6	
	Stewart	6 17	3 5	3 4 11	
	Murphy	1 1	0 2	1 0 2	
	Phillips	2 6	5 7	5 3 9	
	Glenn	1 2	0 0	2 1 2	
	Biggs	0 0	0 0	0 0 0	
	Bloodworth	0 0	0 0	0 0 0	
	Team			15	
	Totals	24 64	13 23	52 19 43	
	VMI			30 14 64	
	FSU			38 27 45	
AUBURN		COLUMBIA			
	G F T		G F T		
Mitney	6 8 20	Reiser	1 0 2		
Mullap	1 1 1	Allen	2 2 2		
DeFore	8 7 8	Newmark	9 6 10		
Brisson	3 1 1	Harms	1 0 1		
Howell	2 0 0	Elsinger	11 2 4		
Quick	3 2 3	Hoffman	1 0 0		
Walker	0 0 0	Dema	4 0 0		
Fatchorn	1 0 0				
Fible	3 1 1				
Totals	28 26 23 76	Totals	31 12 26 75		
Auburn		30	28	9 74	
Columbia		44	23	8 75	
Fouled out—none.					
Total fouls—Auburn 17, Columbia 19.					
Attendance 2,000.					