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A better basketball team—offensively and overall, if not defensively—Florida's Gators cut out a 74-65 triumph over Florida State here last night.

All evening long, the Gators knew right where that basket was, and found it. They hit a hot 52 per cent of their floor shots, 28 of 54, and a solid 75 per cent of their free throws, 18 of 26.

And in the last 9½ minutes, Florida put on a cool defensive show of its own, limiting FSU to a mere four field goals, three of which were by Bill Peacock from far out in the final three minutes and 10 seconds.

FSU sank only 17 of 30 foul-line shots, a poor 57 per cent. Had the Seminoles matched Florida's 75 per cent, it wouldn't have been enough.

From the field FSU hit a better-than-average 45 per cent.

Florida was a 75-62 winner earlier in Gainesville and was favored in this one, but to a packed house of 5,000 it had the early look of an upset. FSU jumped away fast, led 18-10 at one point.

But Florida went in front for good at 21-20. It was 35-24 at the half.

Florida's strong, confident squad boosted its record to 8-4. FSU, now 2-6, next plays at Jacksonville U. on Monday.

The Seminoles' sparkling senior Gary Schull was the outstanding man on the floor. He poured in 25 points, nabbed a game-high 14 rebounds.

Rebounding was even, 37 apiece. So was fouling, 25 each.

The Gators came up with a more balanced contribution. Gary Keller, the 6-9 junior, got loose late and led UF scoring with 18 points. Gary McElroy, a sophomore, put in 15 and another soph, David Miller, 14.

Peacock had 14 FSU points, Jim Lytle 10.

With Schull getting FSU's first five points and eight of the first 10, the Seminoles leaped to a 5-1 advantage, then 18-10. Schull came up with a pair of 3-point plays during the game.

Then Miller threw in eight quick points and sent the Gators in front for the first time at 19-18.

Lytle's jumper gave FSU its last lead at 20-19.

Whereupon, Keller got a layup and McElroy four quick points.

The Seminoles went four minutes without a field goal along about there, but rallied, on two pointers by Ron Malmen, Peacock and Schull to trim the UF lead to one at halftime.

McElroy's 3-point play put Florida ahead 44-39 soon after intermission and Keller's hook shoot boosted it to 46-39 as the game was delayed for a few minutes by Referee Shorty Long's temporary illness.

Florida moved to a 57-47 advantage, and FSU forged a determined comeback.

Lytle put in two quick field goals and Schull a pair of free throws to make it 57-53. But Skip Higley and McElroy connected for 61-53. Schull

got a layup for 61-55 with 8:08 to play.

And that layup was the last fielder for FSU until 3:10 remained in the game.

With Keller getting free, Florida pushed its lead to 69-57.

Peacock terminated the drought with 3:10 to go, added

two more fielders but FSU never got closer than it was at the end. Florida's biggest lead of the night was 74-61.

McElroy fouled out with 8:42 remaining, and Higley joined him at 5:22. FSU's Darrel Stewart also fouled out, at 2:52.

Florida freshmen won the preliminary easily, led 36-25 at halftime, breezed on to a 78-59 triumph.

It was the Baby Gators' 10th straight success, without a loss. FSU freshmen are now 4-4.

Kurt Feazel led UF yearlings with 22 points. Andy Owens got 16. But top scorer Neal Walk, a 6-10 fellow averaging 26.2 points per going in, managed only 10, fouled out late. Florida hit an impressive 53 per cent of its floor shots, 29 out of 55, FSU only 31 per cent, on 24 of 78.

As usual, Jeff Hogan led the Baby Seminoles, getting 21 points.

UF freshmen controlled the boards, with 49 rebounds to FSU's 41, and capitalised at the foul line, sinking 20 of 27 versus FSU's 11 of 14.

FLORIDA		FG	FT	RB	PF	TP	
Keller	7-10	4-8	9	4	10		
Miller	6-8	2-2	4	3	14		
Ramsey	3-5	2-3	4	2	6		
Winkler	3-7	0-1	2	3	6		
Higley	3-4	1-3	1	5	3		
Morton	3-4	4-4	5	3	8		
McElroy	4-11	3-3	8	5	13		
Holmes	1-3	0-0	0	0	2		
McHenry	1-7	0-0	1	0	3		
Team							
TOTALS	28-54	18-24	37	25	74		
FLORIDA STATE		FG	FT	RB	PF	TP	
Schull	7-13	1-16	14	4	25		
Peacock	7-11	0-0	2	2	14		
Higgs	0-1	0-0	1	4	0		
Lytle	4-12	2-4	2	2	10		
Stewart	1-2	0-0	1	3	2		
Mahmen	3-5	0-1	1	2	6		
Gilzes	0-1	0-1	0	0	0		
Phillips	1-5	4-6	11	4	4		
Murphy	1-2	0-0	1	0	2		
Doyle	0-1	0-0	1	1	0		
Team							
TOTALS	24-53	17-30	37	25	45		
FLORIDA							
FLORIDA STATE							
UF FROSH	FG	FT	RB	PF	TP		
Newkirk	1	2	2	0	3		
Feazel	9	4	22	3	2		
Owens	5	4	14	9	21		
Walk	5	0	10	3	0		
Horlander	3	2	13	6	13		
Walsh	7	1	15	8	1		
Hickland	0	0	0	2	5		
Team							
TOTALS	29	20	74	34	59		
FLORIDA FROSH							
FSU FROSH							