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Lady Seminoles fall in Metro tourney

Special to the Democrat
NEW ORLEANS — Florida State's Lady Seminoles faltered down the stretch Thursday afternoon and dropped a 70-60 decision to Tulane in the opening round of the Metro Conference women's basketball tournament.

Florida State trailed by just two, 56-54, with 5:18 to play, but Tulane went on a tear and outscored the Lady Seminoles 14-6 the

rest of the way to win easily.

The loss puts Florida State out of the running for the conference championship, but the Lady Seminoles will continue to play in the tournament's consolation bracket.

Depending on the outcome of Thursday's late games (Virginia Tech vs. Louisville and St. Louis vs. Cincinnati), FSU's next action will be either today or Saturday.

Top-seeded Memphis State had a first-

round bye.

Against Tulane, Florida State never led, though the Lady Seminoles stayed close

throughout the contest.

After turning the ball over their first five trips down the floor, the Lady Seminoles battled back to tie the score 12-12 with just over 11 minutes to play in the first half.

Tulane then surged to an eight-point ad-

vantage, but again FSU closed the gap, scoring the last five points of the half to trail by just two, 35-33, at intermission.

The last time Florida State tied the score was at 37-37 on a layup by Laine Lasseter with 18:12 left in the game.

Tulane scored the next three points and

stayed on top the rest of the way

The loss dropped the Lady Seminoles to 10-13

Tulane is now 8-11.

Florida State committed 37 turnovers, 19 in the first half.

Sue Galkantas led the Lady Seminoles

with 17 points and had a game-high nine rebounds. Lisa Foglio added 13 and Lasseter finished with 12.

FLORIDA STATE (60) O'Neal 2 0-1 4, Lasseter 6 0-2 12, Foglio 3 7-8 13, Galkantas 8 1-2 17, Stokes 3 0-0 6, Harper 0 0-0 0, Oliver 1 0-0 2, Gray 3 0-0 6, Marnie 0 0-0 0. Totals 26 8-14 60. TULANE (70)

Owens 4 2-2 10, Fuqua 7 0-0 14, Toujouse 11 0-0 22, Johnson 23-47, Williams 20-04, Towry 20-04, Kimch 1 1-13, Heiderer 0 0-0 0, Tupper 1 4-6 6. Totals 30 10-13

Haiftime score — Tulane 35, Florida State 33, Total fouls — Fiorida State 18, Tulane 17, Technical fouls none. Fouled out - Stokes (FSU).