

AUBURN, Ala. — Florida State clamped a stout defense on high-scoring Auburn here last night and threw a king-size scare into the unbeaten Plainsmen before bowing from the free-throw line, 62-58.

It was the fourth straight success for Coach Joel Hayes' Southeastern Conference hopefuls and the most heartbreaking of four tough road losses for the Seminoles.

MEET ALABAMA

Coach Bud Kennedy's Tribe moves on to Tuscaloosa today where they meet Alabama's Crimson Tide in a Monday night game.

A spirited crowd of 2,500 watched the surprising Seminoles hold the Tigers to their lowest point total of the season. Auburn had won its three previous games by margins of 26, 26, and 47 points, scoring 104 points in its last outing.

It looked like a major upset in the making for the first 12 minutes or so. After a John Richter tipin tied it for the Seminoles at 6-6, FSU spurted to six-point leads at 18-12 and 20-14.

The Tigers finally climbed into a 25-24 lead with 5 minutes left in the first half and left at intermission with an uncomfortable 34-32 margin.

EIGHT POINTS

Auburn built its advantage to eight points with four minutes gone in the second half, but the Seminoles wouldn't quit. A lay-up by sophomore guard Tim Edney of Montgomery pulled the Seminoles within three points with 1:10 left.

Auburn's David Vaughn, the game's high scorer with 22 points, hit to give Auburn a 61-56 lead. Then FSU guard Jack Davis cashed in two free throws with 13 seconds to go. It was 61-58 when Vaughn was fouled at the final buzzer. He made his free throw to give Auburn a hard-earned four-point decision.

"This is the finest team I have had the privilege of working with," said a perspiring Kennedy after the game. "They did a great job. I can't single anyone out. They all played well."

EARNED PLAUDETS

The Seminoles earned plaudets from the crowd for their tight defensive tactics. They used a collapsing defense around the basket to force Auburn outside.

Dave Fedor, FSU's promising 6-6 soph forward, played under a handicap almost all the way. The soft-shooting Zephyrhills product collected three fouls in the first three minutes and played the second half with four fouls before leaving the game on personals with 2:29 left.

Fedor had 14 points and nine rebounds, Soph Rufus Ashworth of Coral Gables had 13 points. Richter bagged 12 and Edney 10.

FSU outshot Auburn from the floor, 21-20. But the Tigers made good on 22 of 33 free throws while the Seminoles were canning 16 of 20 charity shots. The Seminoles drew 24 fouls while Auburn was assessed with 13 personals.

Richter led FSU rebounders with 11 as Auburn won the rebound battle, 46-41.

The Seminoles get another crack crack at Auburn in their home opener in Tallahassee Dec. 28.

	fg	ft	pf	tp
FLORIDA STATE				
Ashworth	6-17	1-1	1	13
Fedor	4-10	6-7	5	14
Richter	5-17	2-4	4	12
Savage	2-7	0-0	3	4
Davis	0-1	3-4	3	3
Swain	1-2	0-0	3	2
Edney	1-3	4-4	4	10
Smith	0-0	4-8	1	9
TOTALS	21-39	16-28	24	38
AUBURN				
Fibbe	5-12	3-6	3	13
Vaughan	8-19	6-8	4	22
Groover	2-10	5-6	1	9
Gibbert	3-7	4-8	1	10
McManus	2-5	2-3	3	6
Ross	0-1	2-2	1	2
TOTALS	20-54	22-33	13	62