ATLANTA — Applying a full-court defensive press all the way, Georgia Tech's strong basketball team scooted by Florida State 70-55 here Saturday night.

"That's what beat us", said Hugh Durham, FSU's Assistant Coach. And it was. The press forced FSU into many mistakes and the Seminoles were far off their normal shuffling game.

Except for the early minutes, FSU was never in it. Tech lead 42-26 at half time, once for 27 points in front.

For 6,917 partisan fans in beautiful Alexander Coliseum, it was reassurance that Tech does indeed have a fine team. The Yellowjackets had won 11 straight before losing their first, at Mississippi State on Monday night on their last outing. Tech was ranked seventh in the nation nationally in this weeks Associated Press Poll.

Now 9-8 for the season, FSU rests until Wednesday when it meets Florida in Gainesville.

Charlie Long sparked FSU's efforts, as he has regularly of late. He was the game's high scorer with 17 points. Tech's ballanced attack was spured by 6-1 Phil Eidson, with fourteen.

Contrary to advanced notices, Tech was neither particularly big nor brawney. Four men on the roster go above 200 lbs. Only three stand taller than 6-3. That would be Jim Caldwell, 6-9, Allan Nass, 6-6, and Mike Tomasovich, 6-4½.

FSU was lead 2-1 at the offset, s Tech then danced ahead 9-4 be- ju fore Cal Huge and Long hit 2pointers that lifted FSU within 9-8 range. On Long's ten-footer FSU tied it seconds later.

Then Tech got away. Soon it was 19-11, then 27-13.

Seven points in a two-minute span by Pete Gunzalez brought FSU to within nine points, at 31-22. But Tech spurted again just before the half to take a 16 point lead into the dressing room.

FSU, which had hit 32.3 percent of its first half shots versus. Tech's 39 percent, was cold cold cold with the beginning of the final portion.

There was a span of five minutes when FSU made not a point and Tech sprinted to its biggest lead, 6-1 to 34.

Thereafter, FSU rallied sharply and played its best ball but was never closer than 15 points.

Tech outrebounded FSU, 52-37, bagged 27 of 72 field-goal tries

for 37.5 per cent. FSU neeted 23 of 58 for 39.7 per cent.

Jerry Shirley was No. 2 scorer for FSU with 10 points. For Tech, Ron Scharf got 12, while Caldwell and 5-9 John Herbert, 11 apiece.

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