

Special to the Democrat

STATESBORO, Ga. — Georgia Southern jumped on previously unbeaten Craig Skok for three runs in the first inning Saturday night — all unearned — and went on to down Florida State 4-3 for a split of the season's four-game series.

Southern topped off its scoring with another unearned run in the fifth that proved to be the deciding run as Florida State could never really get going against tough Herbie Hutson.

Hutson struck out 11 Seminoles to register his sixth victory in seven decisions. Skok now owns a 5-1 mark.

Southern got things going in the first inning on a base on balls to Althon Griffin. Terry

Webb grounded to shortstop, but second baseman Dick Gold dropped the throw at second base, then booted the ball into centerfield and Griffin moved to third.

Monte Tillman followed with a double scoring Griffin, and Roddy Michelle drew another base on balls to load the bases. Pete Whitfield lofted a sacrifice fly to centerfield scoring Webb and shoving Tillman to third.

Ron Cawthon then grounded to second, but Gold couldn't

find the handle for his second error of the inning and Tillman scampered home with the third Southern run.

The Seminoles got one of the runs back in the third after two men were out without the aid of a hit. Walt Sumner, Dave Moates and Gold all drew walks and Hutson uncorked a wild pitch allowing Sumner to score.

After Southern made it 4-1 on a pair of singles and another error, the Tribe scored

once in both the seventh and eighth.

With the Seminoles held to only three hits off the tough

Hutson going into the seventh, Moates lined a base hit after two men were out. He went to second when the Southern centerfielder threw the ball in behind him, then scored on Gold's single.

Back-to-back doubles by Dick Nichols and Mike English in the eighth accounted for the other Seminole run.

Florida State had a scoring opportunity in the sixth when

Mike Easom was hit by a pitch and Nichols doubled, putting runners on second and third and just one out. But, Hutson settled down and fanned English and Jim Gurzynski to get out of the inning.

The Seminoles, now 34-10, play at home next Friday and Saturday night against South Alabama, which is coached by former Chicago White Sox manager Eddie Stanky.

Georgia Southern finished its season with a 20-15 record.

FLA. STATE		GA. SOUTHERN	
	ab r h		ab r h
Sumner cf	4 1 1	Wilkes cf	4 0 0
Moates lf	4 1 1	Griffin 2b	3 1 0
Gold 2b	4 0 2	Webb rf	4 1 0
Schnute pr	0 0 0	Tillman 1b	3 2 2
Hogan ss	5 0 0	Michelle lf	3 0 1
Easom 3b	3 0 0	Whitfield ss	3 0 1
Nichols rf	4 1 2	Cawthon 3b	3 0 1
English c	4 0 2	Lunch c	3 0 0
Gurzynski 1b	4 0 0	Hutson p	3 0 1
Skok p	2 0 0		
Matthews ph	1 0 0		
Ferguson p	0 0 0		
Gromak ph	1 0 0		
Slade p	0 0 0		
Totals	36 3 7	Totals	29 4 6

Fla. State 001 000 110.—3
 Ga. Southern 300 010 00x—4

E.—Whitfield, Gold 2, Cawthon, Michelle, Moates. RBI—Tillman, Whitfield, Michelle, Gold, English. PO-A FSU 24, Ga. Southern 27-5, LOB FSU 10, Ga. Southern 4.

2B—Tillman, Nichols 2, English, Cawthon. S—Lynch, SF—Whitfield.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Skok (L 5-1)	6	5	4	0	4	7
Ferguson	1	0	0	0	0	1
Slade	1	1	0	0	0	1
Hutson (W 6-1)	9	8	3	3	3	11

—HBP—By Hutson (Easom). WP—Hutson. T—2.32. A—200.