

Seminoles Fall 9-3 to Auburn

AUBURN, Ala. — Florida State's baseball team got word it had been selected to play in the District III playoffs for the 13th year before it took the field to play Auburn yesterday, but the Tigers were totally unimpressed as they pounded out a 9-3 victory over the Seminoles.

The loss, which dropped the Tribe's record to 40-19, was the second straight one-sided setback and was Auburn's second victory in three games with the Seminoles this year. The two split a pair of games in Tallahassee early in the year, and they'll play a fourth game today.

The Seminoles, playing under much pressure the past several weeks in anticipation of the playoff bid, had an obvious letdown against the Tigers, committing five errors, allowing Auburn to steal seven bases and giving up six unearned runs.

The Tigers jumped on top in the bottom of the first inning with a pair of runs and never trailed, although the Seminoles got within one with a run in the fourth.

Johnny Simmons led off for the Tigers with a base hit on losing pitcher Dave Price's first pitch and Joe Haefner followed with a base on balls. The two then pulled a double steal to put two runners in scoring position with no outs.

Andy Merchant bounced one to Dave Nichols at shortstop and he held the runners where they were and fired to first. But the throw was wild and Simmons scored anyway. Haefner, however, was thrown out trying to go to third.

Merchant promptly stole second and Dave Blodget followed with a base hit sending the runner to third before Bill Cameron ripped the third Auburn single of the inning to score him.

Rick Snyder and Herb Sikes got the Seminoles untracked in the fourth with base hits, Snyder taking third on the second one, and scoring on an infield out.

But Auburn got the run back in the fifth on a single by Merchant, a double by Bill Cameron and a throwing error from the out-field, then broke the game open with five runs in the seventh.

Simmons and Haefner again started things for the Tigers with back-to-back singles and a double steal. After an infield out failed to move them, a wild pitch allowed Simmons to trot home and Haefner to take third from where he shortly scored on Blodget's sacrifice fly to centerfield.

The Seminoles appeared to

be over the worse of it, with two out and nobody on base. But it didn't work out that way as the Tigers sent seven more men to the plate and scored three more runs.

Bill Cameron hit a roller down the third base line which was fielded by Denny Williams. But first baseman Herb Sikes dropped Williams' throw.

Cameron stole second and scored on Greg Butler's base hit.

Coach Jack Stallings decided Price had worked long enough and brought in Randy Guemple to try and stop Auburn, but Butler quickly stole second and scored on Nichols' throwing error on an infield bouncer.

Tim Hulsey bunted the ball

in front of the plate, but catcher Tim Sherrill fell down fielding it and the play went for a base hit, runners now on first and second. Guemple then walked pitcher Jack VanYpren and Simmons to force in the final run of the inning.

The Seminoles got two runs in the eighth thanks to an error and a wild pitch.

FSU				AUBURN			
	AB	R	H		AB	R	H
Wilms 3b	4	0	0	Simmons, rf	4	2	2
Rosa 2b	5	0	1	Haefner, cf	4	1	1
Snyder rf	5	1	2	Mer'ant, c	4	3	1
Sikes, 1b	4	0	1	Blodget, 1b	4	0	2
LiBr'di, cf	4	1	1	Cam'on, lf	4	1	2
Sher'll, c	4	1	2	Butler, 2b	5	1	1
Gailey, lf	4	0	0	Hall, 3b	4	1	0
Bank'on, pr-1f	0	0	0	Hulsey, ss	3	0	2
Nichols, ss	3	0	0	Van'en, p	2	0	0
Price, p	2	0	0	Handley, p	0	0	0
Guemple, p	0	0	0				
Roatche, ph	1	0	0				
Frank, p	0	0	0				
TOTALS	36	3	7	TOTALS	34	9	11
FSU				000	100	020—	3
Auburn				200	010	51x—	9

E — Nichols 2, Williams, Snyder, Sikes, Simmons, Blodget, Butler. LOB— FSU 10, Auburn 10. 2b — Cameron, LiBrandi. RBI — Simmons, Blodget, Cameron 2, Butler, LiBrandi. SB — Simmons 2, Haefner 2, Merchant, Cameron, Butler. S — Hulsey. SF — Blodget, Cameron.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Price (L, 4-3)	62-3	10	7	3	2	0
Guemple	1-3	1	1	1	0	2
Frank	1	0	1	0	1	1
VanY'n (w, 5-6)	71-3	7	3	1	4	4
Handley	12-3	0	0	0	0	3

WP — Handley, Price 2. PB — Sherrill. U — Milliken, Smith. T — 2:14. A 150.