

GASTONIA, N. C. — A pair of tough Tigers will clash tonight for the NCAA District 3 baseball title tonight. Both soundly clawed a stunned Florida State nine Saturday.

Auburn and Clemson are the finalists this season, after whipping the Seminoles 13-3 and 6-4 respectively.

The Tribe opened tournament play on Friday with a 5-3 victory over Clemson, but the Tigers bounced back and beat West Virginia 5-0 to earn following the Tribe's loss in the winners bracket game with Auburn.

Clemson did not waste any time in letting the Seminoles know it was ready.

Two - time All - America Rusty Adkins laced one of starter Marv Stringellow's first pitches deep to left-center. Centerfielder Roy Mewbourne appeared to be ready to catch the ball, but at the last moment he turned the wrong way and it fell in for a triple.

After an aborted squeeze play left Adkins on third with one out, the Tigers could do no wrong. Gary Helms tried to duck away from a high inside pitch, and ended up lining an "excuse me" single to left, scoring Adkins.

Buster Smith followed with a single, sending Helms to sec-

ond. Both runners advanced when catcher Ed Yarnell's attempted pickoff throw bounced off the second-base bag into centerfield.

Mike McCall lined a soft single to center scoring Helms, but Mewbourne's throw held Smith to third.

Howard Sharmon walked to load the bases, and Stringellow appeared out of trouble when Ed Barbary forced Smith at home. Ron Zupa worked the Seminole lefty for a walk, however, and McCall scored.

Pitcher Nelson Gibson followed with a two-run single, driving in two more runs, and knocking Stringellow from the mound.

Adkins, batting for the second time in the inning, was safe when first baseman Mike Easom couldn't outrun him to the bag from the hole between first and second.

Zupa attempted to score on the play however, and Easom cut him down at the plate to end the inning.

The Seminoles, who were down by a wide margin before coming to bat for the second time in the day, were able to counter with one run in the bottom of the inning.

Bob Canty opened with a single, was forced at second by Mike Easom. John Mason and Tom Whitaker worked Gibson for walks to lead the bases, before Dick Gold forced Easom at home.

Mason got the Tribe's first tally on a wild pitch. Mewbourne, who had hit safely in his first seven trips of the

playoffs, bounced out to end the inning.

Sophomore Mike Reibling handcuffed the Tigers for his seven-inning performance. A double by Gibson, and a third-strike pitch that bounced up the first base line brought one run off of him.

In all Reibling struck out 14 Tigers, including getting Adkins on strikes twice. It was the first time the three-time All-Atlantic Coast Conference second baseman had struck out twice in the same game in his career.

The Seminoles scored twice to narrow the lead in the fifth. After Easom was safe on a fielder's choice, he went to third on a double by Mason.

The first sacker scored on a fielder's choice when the throw to the plate was late.

Mason scored when third baseman McCall booted Dick Gold's high chopper.

Pete Meyers was credited with the pitching victory after allowing only an unearned run in the two and a third innings he worked.

The run came in the seventh when Whitaker led off with a double, went to third on McCall's second error, and scored on a sacrifice fly by Mewbourne.

FLORIDA STATE CLEMSON

	ab	r	h		ab	r	h
Canty 3b	3	0	1	Adkins 2b	5	1	2
Easom 1b	3	1	1	Waters cf	5	0	0
Mason H	4	2	1	Helms ss	5	1	1
Whitaker rf	4	1	2	Smith lf	5	0	1
Gold 2b	5	0	1	McCall 3b	4	1	3
Mewbourne cf	3	0	0	Sharman rf	3	1	0
Hagan ss	4	0	0	Barbary c	4	1	0
Vincent ph	1	0	0	Zupx 1b	3	0	0
Yarnell c	2	0	0	Gibson p	2	1	2
Spooner ph	1	0	0	Meyers p	1	0	0
Stringfellow p	0	0	0	Watson p	1	0	0
Reibling p	3	0	0				
Duchak ph	0	0	0				
Totals	33	4	6	Totals	38	6	9

Clemson	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	6	9	2
Florida State	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	4	4	2

RBI—Hill, McCall, Zupx, Gibson 2, Whitaker, Mewbourne. E—Yarnell, McCall 2, Whitaker. DP—Clemson 2. LOB—Clemson 7. FSU 12. 2—Gibson, Mason, Easom, Whitaker. 3—Adkins, SB—McCall. SF—Mewbourne.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Gibson	4	4	3	3	5	3
Meyers (W, 4-2)	2	1	3	1	1	2
Watson	2	2	3	1	0	1
Stringfellow (L, 2-4)	2	3	6	5	5	2
Reibling	7	1	3	4	1	1
Helms	1	0	0	0	0	1

HBP—By Watson (Duchak). WP—Reibling, Gibson. T—2:42.