

Special to the Democrat

AUBURN, Ala. — Auburn's Tigers added insult to injury Monday as they jumped on four Florida State errors and slapped out 10 hits for a 7-4 victory at Plainsman Park.

For the Seminoles, who just before leaving for the ballpark received word of being passed over for their fifth consecutive district III at-large bid, it was a doubly disappointing day.

Auburn's Tommy Cason, a speedy outfielder from South Georgia Junior College, and catcher Andy Merchant did the bulk of the damage in the Tigers' win. Between the two they had five hits, scored four runs and drove in two others, accounting for six of the Plainsmen's seven.

Craig Skok was the starter and loser for the Tribe. The senior lefthander lost his second game after five straight wins despite the fact that he gave up only one earned run out of five that crossed the plate.

The Tigers took the lead in the third on singles by Cason, rightfielder Ray Tidwell and third baseman Larry Blakeney. With two on and two out, Blakeney lined a single into left which eluded Tribe outfielder Dave Moates allowing both runners to score.

FSU cut the lead in half in the top of the fourth with three consecutive two-out singles. Jeff Hogan started things off with a sharp hit to right-center.

Mike Easom followed with a line-drive single that skipped off Auburn first baseman Frank Baldasare's glove. Dick Nichols then beat out an infield roller, sending Hogan home with a run.

The Tigers got the run back in their half of the inning. Shortstop John Shafer singled and went to third on a single by Merchant. The All-SEC infielder scored moments later when Merchant stole second and catcher Mike English's throw slipped through the infield.

The Seminoles battled back to tie things up in the sixth. Again with two outs they started a rally.

Gold walked and went to second on Hogan's second hit of the day. Easom then walked loading the bases. Shafer took a base hit away from Nichols with a back-handed stab behind second base, but then threw the ball away flipping to second baseman Russ Walker on the attempted force of Easom.

The error allowed both Gold and Hogan to score.

The Tigers were not to be denied however. Merchant and Cason led off the home half of the seventh with singles. An error by Hogan loaded the bases with one out.

Walker then grounded to Hogan again, who flipped to Gold at second for the force. His relay to first, however, was wide of the bag and eluded first baseman Jim Gurzynski allowing two runs to score.

The Seminoles battled back with a run in the eighth to

come within one. Hogan walked and again went to third as Eason singled. Nichols followed with a single to center sending Hogan home.

Cason put the game out of reach in the bottom of the eighth, however, with a two-run triple to put Auburn on top by three.

John Ferguson, who had replaced Skok in the seventh, walked leadoff man Baldasare. A sacrifice moved Baldasare to second and lefty Mike Reibling came on to face the next three lefthanded hitters. The little southpaw got Shafer on strikes, but then walked Merchant.

He appeared to be out of the inning, however, as he got two quick strikes on Cason. The hard-hitting centerfielder, who played his first game of the year against lefthanded pitching, did not give up though as he laced the next pitch deep to rightfield for a triple.

Rick Eisenacher, who went the distance to pick up his sixth win of the season, gave up just six hits and struck out 11 Seminoles.

The two teams will wind up the series this afternoon at 3:30 (CST).

FLORIDA STATE				AUBURN			
	ab	r	h		ab	r	h
Sumner cf	4	0	0	Tidwell rf	4	1	1
Moates lf	5	0	0	Walker 2b	3	0	0
Gold 2b	2	1	0	Blakeney 3b	3	0	1
Hogan ss	3	3	2	Baldasare lb	3	1	1
Eason 3b	3	0	2	Womack lf	3	0	1
Nichols rf	4	0	2	Shafer ss	4	1	1
English c	4	0	0	Merchant c	3	2	2
G'zynski lb	3	0	0	Cason cf	4	2	3
Kasimier lb	1	0	0	Eisenacher p	4	0	0
Skok p	3	0	0				
Ferguson p	0	0	0				
Reibling p	0	0	0				
Matthews ph	1	0	0				
TOTALS	33	4	6	TOTALS	31	7	10
FSU					0	0	0
Auburn					1	0	2
E — Moates, English, Shafer 2, Hogan, Gold. RBI — Blakeney 2, Walker, Cason 2. LOB — FSU 7, Auburn 4.					2	2	x—7
3B — Cason. SB — Baldasare, Merchant. S — Somack.							
				IP	H	R	E
Skok (L, 5-2)				6	1	3	9
Ferguson				1	0	1	1
Reibling				2	3	1	1
Eisenacher (W, 6-3) 9				6	4	2	5
T — 2:18. A — 300.							