STATESBORO, Ga. — Florida State's leadoff hitter scored a run in the first inning and freshman Marty Rice made it hold up as the Seminoles took an important 1-0 baseball victory over Georgia Southern Friday night.

The two teams battle again tonight at 7:30 in the finale of a series which could mean a lot in FSU's bid for a District

III playoff berth.

Rice shook off first-inning trouble himself and hurled a three-hitter to run his season record to 9-2. The former Leon High righthander gave way to relief specialist Mac Scarce in the ninth inning and the hard-throwing lefty quickly struck out three men.

Florida State got on the scoreboard when Dave Nichols led off with a booming double to the centerfield wall, advanced to third on a passed ball by catcher Bruce Johnson, and scored on Ron Cash's infield grounder.

Johnson was one of four second stringers starting for Southern, after a dozen players, including the quartet of starters, were suspended Thursday for disciplinary reasons.

The Seminoles had several other opportunities, but couldn't take advantage. In the eighth inning FSU had a runner on third base when, after one out, Larry Cocks and Cash hit back-to-back singles. They both tried to take extra bases on Cash's single, Cocks making it to third, but Cash getting cut down at second for

## FLA. STATE GA. SOUTHERN abrh abrh Nichols ss 4 1 1 Wells 1b 3 0 1 Cocks 2b 4 0 1 Williams 2b 4 0 1 Cash If 4 0 1 McMurian cf 4 0 0 Sferaht c 4 0 2 Mangascle rf 3 0 0 Sikes 3b 4 0 1 Johnson c 4 0 0 Doria rf 3 0 1 Winchester 3b 4 0 0 Kasimier 1b 4 0 0 Hembergr If 3 0 0 Gromek cf 3 0 1 Moening ss 3 0 1 Rice p 2 0 0 Young p 300 Totals 32 1 8 **Totals** 31 0 3 Florida State 100000000-1 Georgia Southern 000 000 000 00 E-Cocks. PO-A-FSU 27-10, Ga.

E—Cocks. PO-A—FSU 27-10, Ga. Southern 27-11. DP—Ga. Southern. 1 LOB—FSU 6, Ga. Southern 8. RBI—Cash.

2B—Nichols, Williams, Saferight. SB—Doria.

IP. H R ER BB SO Rice (W, 9-2) 8 3 0 0 3 5 Mac Scarce 0 1 0 0 1 Kyle Young (L, 6-3) 9 8 1 WP-Rice. PB-Johnson. U-Jiles, Forehand. T-2:15. A-500.

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the second out. Catcher Harry Saferight then ripped a long drive to right which was pulled down by another of the Southern subs for the third out.

Florida State also put runners on second base in the second, third and fourth innings against loser Kyle Young, who went the distance for Southern.

The Georgia team had runners at second and third with no outs in the bottom of the first, but Rice worked out of the jam by fanning a batter and getting the next two to bounce back to the mound.

Southern runners also reached second base in the sixth, seventh and ninth innings.

Florida State's record is now 36-14, with wins in nine of its last 11 games.