FSU battles into baseball finals

By BOB COHN

Florida State moved into today's finals of the Metro Conference baseball tournament Saturday, beating Tulane and Virginia Tech at Seminole Field.

The Seminoles (44-9) must take two games from Memphis State today to win the tourney. The first game is set for 2:15 p.m. at Seminole Field. If FSU wins, a second game will follow.

Memphis State stayed unbeaten in the tournament with a 14-5 rout of Virginia Tech on Saturday afternoon.

FSU, after beating Tulane 12-5 and eliminating the Green Wave, beat Tech 13-6 Saturday night. The Hokies had defeated the Seminoles Friday night to shove FSU into the loser's bracket.

The Seminoles turned it around Saturday night, however, jumping to a big lead and surviving a brief Virginia Tech rally in the ninth.



The Hokies came up four runs in the last of the ninth, but FSU senior Dick Wiggins held on for a complete game, pushing his record to 8-2.

Liopel Martinez scored four runs for the Seminoles, reaching base six times on a double and five walks. Mike Fuentes helped out with three runs batted in.

Virginia Tech's first two runs came on a two-run homer by Franklin Stubbs in the fourth inning. Hokie starter John Patton (4-1) was the loser.

In the Seminoles' first game Saturday, Fuentes hit his

17th homer of the season, and 33rd of his career at FSU, breaking the old record held by Terry Kennedy.

The two-run shot in the fourth inning was Fuentes'

11th homer in his last 11 games.

Rick Hatcher pitched a complete game for FSU, despite allowing 12 hits. But the junior right-hander kept them well scattered, and never gave up more than one run

Tulane catcher Sam Dozier hit into double plays with two men on base in the first, and again in the third, to help

Hatcher's cause.

The Seminoles, on the other hand, scored their runs in bunches. Four in the first knocked out Tulane starter Mike Maack after he had pitched just two-thirds of an inning. Three runs in the fourth off reliever John Perret and four more the next inning off Perret and Scott Murphy gave Hatcher a comfortable 11-3 lead after five innings.

Maack had entered the game with a 6-2 record, but

Tulane was getting thin with pitchers. Joe Pursell left Thursday's game against Louisville after three innings with a shoulder injury, and Maack had pitched six innings

Frank Wills and Billy Kampen both extended themselves with more than seven innings of work apiece for

Tulane Friday.

FSU jumped all over Maack. A walk and two singles loaded the bases in the first inning, then Craig Ramse and Jack Emerick singled for two runs. Ken Huff walked with the bases loaded for another and Rick Figueredo singled in the fourth run of the inning.

Figuerdo, the freshman third baseman, also doubled and tripled. The triple in the fifth followed a triple by Ken Huff. Both hits were misplayed by Tulane's outfielders.

Shortstop Don DeLoach had three singles and scored

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three runs for the Seminoles, and catcher Craig Ramsey had a pair of hits.

Tulane's Billy Hrapmann hit a solo homer in the second inning and later drove in another run with a sacrifice fly. Karl Scheurmann had three hits for the Green Wave, which ended its season with a 29-12 record.

Memphis State also took advantage of Virginia Tech's lack of pitching depth, rapping out 15 hits against three Hokies' pitchers.

Gary Williams hit a three-run homer in the first inning as MSU scored five in all off Tech starter Tom De-Long. Williams also had two doubles and a total of five runs batted in.

Dave Anderson doubled, homered and drove in four runs for the Tigers, 31-13 on the season.

Blair Gilbert was the winner, pitching a complete game. He allowed 10 hits and five runs.

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Smith (by Wiggins). W Sieve. T — 2:53.	P — Patton 2, Chellis,