

FSU softball team reaches Region finals

LAFAYETTE, La. — It was business as usual for the Florida State Lady Seminoles softball team on Saturday. Coach Joanne Graf's squad claimed two victories and advanced to the finals of the NCAA Region VII Tournament.

After claiming a 1-0, 10-inning victory over Southwestern Louisiana in the tournament opener, FSU blanked Nevada-Las Vegas 4-0 in the evening finale.

FSU, which improved to 62-7, will meet Southwestern Louisiana today at 2 p.m. for the right to advance to the World Series. Southwestern Louisiana must defeat FSU twice to advance.

"I really like Lafayette," said Graf, whose club is 8-0 at Lady Cajun Park. "I am real pleased with the way we played today and I am looking forward to the tough battle with USL tomorrow."

Pitcher Rebecca Aase improved her record to 28-0 and extended her string of victories to 36 with a four-hit shutout against UNLV, while Susan Buttery led FSU with two hits, including a double.

FSU scored the game's only run against Southwestern Louisiana when Lisa Davidson hit a Kyla Hall fastball to the center-field wall scoring Tina Getherall from first base. Getherall was running for catcher Leslie Adams, who singled to lead off the inning.

"I was trying to bunt, but that did not work and coach gave me the go ahead," Davidson said. "I was swinging at everything and I was just fortunate that she came right down the middle."

Toni Gutierrez collected the first-game win, allowing only four hits while striking out five.