

By JIM CHITWOOD

Democrat Sports Writer

Florida State's NCAA tournament-bound baseball team solved the pesky problem of the University of Florida Saturday as the Seminoles swept both ends of a doubleheader 1-0 and 9-4 at Seminole Field.

Beaten three times previously by UF, Florida State pulled out all the stops and closed its regular season with the pair of wins over the state arch rival.

The victories pushed the Seminoles record to 42-7-1, most wins ever by a Seminole team, as FSU heads to Gastonia this week for the NCAA District 3 tourney. Florida ends its season 27-17.

While there were many heroes for the Tribe, Dick Nichols, the slugging second baseman, was perhaps the happiest. The Jacksonville ace broke out of a mild slump in Saturday's nightcap with two hits.

Nichols' second hit set a new FSU record of 75 hits in a single season. The old mark of 74 was set in 1966 by Gary Sprague.

But Nichols really got carried away after the hit. He promptly stole second, then third and then home for the Seminoles' ninth run of the contest.

Florida State spotted the Gators a 1-0 first-inning lead, then roared back with a 13-hit attack which thoroughly stunned the hapless UF troops.

In the first, UF's Leon Bloodworth led off with a single to center. After Fred Bretz struck out, Will Harmon bounced back to pitcher Pat Osburn whose throw to second glanced off the glove of Greg Gromek and trickled into centerfield.

Bloodworth went to third on the miscue and Harmon advanced to second moments later on a wild pitch by Osburn. Tony Dobies tapped an infield grounder scoring Bloodworth before Rod Wright grounded out to short to end the frame.

The Seminoles tied it 1-1 in the second when Ron Cash led off with a double off the rightfield fence. Larry Cocks grounded to second sending Cash on to third.

Harry Saferight's chopper to second was bobbled allowing Cash to score. Greg Gromek then singled to center, but Doug Kasimier flied to right and Osburn bounced back to the pitcher to muffle a Tribe threat.

Osburn got in trouble in the third when the Gators loaded the bases with two out but escaped without harm when Wright fanned.

In the fourth, Florida State got rolling when Cocks walked, went to second on a pass ball and advanced to third on Saferight's infield ground out. Gromek drew a walk before Gator starter Wayne Rogers was relieved by lefty Larry Sheffield.

Kasimier quickly made Sheffield feel unwelcome as he lined a single to right bringing home Cocks and Gromek to make it 3-1 FSU.

The Seminoles came up with two more runs in the fifth, Schnute and John Grubb cracked back-to-back singles. A wild pitch put Tribe runners at second and third before Cash dropped a single into left-centerfield scoring both runners.

Trailing 5-1, Florida capitalized on three straight

walks by Osburn which loaded the bases. With two out, Bloodworth tapped a soft liner to center for two tallies.

The Gators once more loaded the bases when FSU's reliever, Al Cleveland, walked pinch-hitter Nick DeVirgilis. But righthander Mike Slade came in to put out the fire getting Harmon to strike out.

Ahead 5-3, the Seminoles

quickly put some distance between them and the Gators with a three-run explosion in the sixth.

Gromek started the inning with a base hit to right, however, Kasimier's fielder's choice forced Gromek at second. Slade walked and Nichols followed with a fading single to short leftfield.

With the bases loaded, Schnute collected his fourth hit of the evening, a liner off pitcher Rod Macon's foot to score Kasimier and kept the bases packed. Grubb drew a base on balls that walked in another Tribe score and Cash ripped an infield chopper to second bringing in Nichols.

With one out in the bottom of the eighth, Nichols banged out his 75th hit this season, stole second and went to third on an error by the UF shortstop.

Schnute was hit by a pitch, but got caught in a rundown trying to steal second which saw Nichols beat a throw to plate for the final FSU run.

Florida tried to rally in the ninth and got one unearned run when Bill Seagraves came home on a Seminole error.

Osburn, who went five and two-thirds innings, was credited with the win and upped his record to 10-2. Rogers (8-5) took the loss although four other Gator hurlers saw relief action, including Tom Seybold who pitched 10 innings in UF's afternoon loss.

| FLORIDA | | | FLORIDA STATE | | |
|-----------------|----|-----|---------------|----|------|
| | ab | r h | | ab | r h |
| Bloodworth 2b | 5 | 1 2 | Nichols 2b | 4 | 2 2 |
| Bretz 1b | 3 | 0 0 | Schnute cf | 4 | 1 4 |
| DiVirgilis ph | 0 | 0 0 | Grubb rf | 4 | 1 2 |
| Seagraves ph | 0 | 1 0 | Cash 3b | 4 | 1 2 |
| Harman c | 4 | 0 2 | Cocks lf | 4 | 1 0 |
| Dobies cf | 3 | 0 0 | Saferight c | 4 | 0 0 |
| Wright lf-rf-3b | 5 | 0 0 | Gromek ss | 3 | 1 2 |
| Gruber rf | 2 | 1 0 | Kasimier 1b | 4 | 1 1 |
| Vidal 1b | 2 | 0 0 | Osburn p | 2 | 0 0 |
| Scarburgh 3b | 2 | 1 0 | Cleveland p | 0 | 0 0 |
| Hurst ph-3b-ss | 1 | 0 0 | Slade p | 0 | 1 0 |
| Baker ph | 1 | 0 0 | Vasquez ph | 1 | 0 0 |
| Blankship ss | 2 | 0 0 | Scarce p | 0 | 0 0 |
| Kieszek ph-rf | 1 | 0 0 | | | |
| Rogers p | 1 | 0 1 | | | |
| Sheffield p | 1 | 0 0 | | | |
| Flad ph | 1 | 0 0 | | | |
| Macon p | 0 | 0 0 | | | |
| Seybold p | 0 | 0 0 | | | |
| Pickren p | 1 | 0 0 | | | |
| Totals | 35 | 4 6 | Totals | 33 | 9 13 |

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E—Gromek 2, Bloodworth, Blanken-
ship, Hurst, Saferight, PO-A — UF
24-15, FSU 27-7. DO — UF 1, LOB —
UF 10, FSU 8.

2B—Cash. RBI — Dobies, Saferight,
Kasimier 2, Cash 3, Schnute, Grubb.

SB — Kasimier, Nichols 2, Grubb.

| | IP | H | R | ER | BB | SO |
|---|-------|---|---|----|----|----|
| Rogers (L 8-5) | 3 1-3 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Sheffield | 1 2-3 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Macon | 1-3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| Saybold | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Pickren | 2 2-3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Osburn (W 10-2) | 5 2-3 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 9 |
| Cleveland | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Slade | 2 1-3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Scarce | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| HBP — By Slade (Dobies). By Pick- ren Schnute). WP — Osburn 3, Shef- field. PB — Harman, Saferight. T— 0 2:54. A—3,600. Series attendance: 9,000 | | | | | | |