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Gators sweep two from sloppy FSU

By ROBERT MASHBURN

Democrat sports writer

Florida State's smooth-running baseball machine suddenly coughed and sputtered Monday, and arch-rival Florida took advantage of it to sweep a day-night doubleheader at Seminole Field.

The Gators pounded out an 8-3 victory in the afternoon game, then waited around long enough for the Seminoles to beat themselves 2-1 in the nightean

"You can't win if you don't execute," said FSU assistant coach Mike Martin, who was in charge most of the second game after head coach Woody Woodward was tossed out in the third inning. "And today, we just didn't execute."

Florida State looked nothing like the club that had outscored the opposition 25-3 in rolling up a 3-0 record to start the season. Then too, the Gators (now 7-1) looked nothing like the team the Seminoles had won seven of eight from in the last two seasons.

The Seminoles made six errors in the two games, and only four of the Gators' 10 runs were earned.

The biggest victim of the Seminoles' shoddy play was sophomore Mike Bretz, who pitched nine strong innings only to lose the night game.

Now 1-1 on the season, Bretz gave up seven hits — all singles while walking only one and striking out nine.

But he gave up the winning run in the eighth when rightfielder Bruce Huff bumped into the wall and dropped a two-out fly ball with a Gator runner on first.

The Seminoles also had their chances at the plate, but a squeeze play failed in the seventh and a sacrifice backfired in the ninth.

Florida State scored a run in the first when Carlos Lezcano tripled and scored on an infield error. Florida tied it up in the third when John Cortese singled, moved to third on two wild pitches, and scored on Roger Holt's sacrifice fly. In the first game, FSU starter Brooks Carey was tagged for seven runs — three of them earned. The Gators came up with three runs in the fifth and then again in the seventh to put the game away.

Florida State's first run came on a Terry Kennedy home run in the second. In the fifth, Chip Bifano drove in Dave Mobley with an infield out and Lezcano followed with a single to score Bob Benda.

The Seminoles don't play again until Sunday when they travel to Valdosta for a single game with Valdosta State. Then they're off again until the next Thursday when Kentucky comes in for a doubleheader.

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