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FSU tops Gators again

By BOB COHN

Democrat sports write

There has been a feeling that Florida State's Seminoles absolutely refuse to lose a baseball game at home.

Thursday's victory over the University of Florida at Seminole Field should help confirm that suspicion. The Seminoles came back three times, finally scoring two runs in the bottom of the ninth to win 9-8.

Not even 18 Gator hits could keep

the home team down.

That gives the Seminoles 28 straight at home. They haven't lost in the 'friendly confines' since opening day against Tulane, and they apparently have no intention of doing so again.

Centerfielder Mark Gilbert, who wanted to eclipse the Seminoles' single season record for stolen bases, but didn't, found another way to make his afternoon memorable.

With one down and FSU trailing 8-7 in the bottom of the ninth, Gilbert bounced a bases-loaded single over a drawn-in infield, scoring the winning runs.

PITCHER RAY Fox, recently relegated to the bullpen by Coach Woody Woodward, earned his fifth victory against two losses with some nifty relief work.

After Florida's Rob Teegarden singled off Seminole reliever Kevin Brooks to open the ninth, the senior southpaw came in to throw a doubleplay ball to pinch-hitter Walt Darty, then got the next batter, Randy Morris, to ground out.

Brooks was also effective, coming on for reliever Ken Fischer with two down and one on in the sixth.

Brooks got the third out, and shut the Gators off until Fox entered the game in the ninth.

If you were wondering what happened to Seminole starter Jim Riley, he had what Woodward called "the worst game he's pitched for us this year."

The usually steady junior righthander was shelled for five runs in just two and two-thirds innings before giving way to Fischer in the third

"Riley just didn't have it today," said Woodward.

FOR THAT matter neither did Gator starter Ron Crum. Taking the mound with a 7-0 record and 1.68 ERA, Crum also lasted 'til the third

inning, allowing five Seminole runs himself.

Florida took a 5-1 lead into the bottom of that wild third inning, but the Seminoles fought back with four runs to tie.

Catcher Blane McDonald struck the big blow, a two-run single to make it 5-4, and designated hitter Kevin Rigby tied the game by scoring Ronnie Traylor on an infield out.

The Gators scored a single run in the fifth and two in the sixth off. Fischer for an 8-5 lead. Teegarden, who had four hits and three RBI on the day, hit a two-run single in the sixth to put Florida up by three.

But then the Seminoles started to go to work. Leftfielder Traylor doubled leading off the seventh, moved to third on an infield out, then scored on first baseman Don Milner's sacrifice fly, cutting the Gator lead to 8-6.

In the eighth, the Seminoles pulled to 8-7 on a Bob Benda double, his fourth hit, a wild pitch and second baseman Craig Patterson's sacrifice fly to right.

And then the ninth inning. McDonald led off by working Gator reliever David Livingston for a walk, and Milner did the same.

With both teams standing, along with much of the crowd, Rigby laid down a honey of a bunt, sacrificing himself, but putting the winning runs on second and third.

Goodbye Livingston, hello Kerry Kellogg. Bruce Huff, who was shaken up in the fourth when he crashed into up in the fourth when he crashed into the rightfield wall, was due to bat, but Woodward reached into his bag of tricks, and pulled out pinch-hitter Brooks Carey.

Carey, the winning pitcher the night before, and a decent hitter, was intentionally walked by Kellogg, loading the bases for Gilbert.

Florida	Flo	rida	a St	ate	17.00	-201
AB R H B				AB	RH	BI
Watkins cf 5 0 1 0	Gill	bert	tcf		5 1 3	3 2
McDonald If 4 2 3 2	Ber	nda	SS		5 2	10
Brantley 2b 5 1 2 0	Pat	ter	son	2b	4 1	1 2
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Teegarden rf 5 1 4 3	Tra	ylo	rlf			1 6
Xiques dh 4 1 1 0	Mc	Do	nald	C	3 1 2	2 2
Darty ph 1000	Mil (ner	16		4 1	1 0
Morris 3b 4 1 2 2			dh		4 0	11
Glass 3b 0 0 0 0	Hu	ffrf	1	- 1	40	0 0
Hallss 2120	Car	rey	ph	50	00	0 0
Sullivan c 4 0 1 1	Sch	i'ch	nk p	r	000	0 0
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garden. HR - F. A Rigby. SF - Patters Crum	AcDor on, Mi IP 21/3 51/3	H 7	R 5	Mc ER 4	BB 1	so 1 5
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