

Gators rip FSU in 16-3 slugfest

By BOB COHN
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GAINESVILLE — Good pitching, the old baseball axiom tells us, beats good hitting.

Then what of bad pitching?

The answer to that question was provided Friday afternoon at Perry Field as the Florida Gators, a bunch of very good hitters, battered Florida State into submission, 16-3.

The fiasco meant a split of the two-game set for the Seminoles. FSU, behind the deft work of pitcher Dick Wiggins, held the potent Gators at bay in a 4-3 win Thursday.

The 'Noles (5-3) try again tonight with a 7:30 game against St. Leo (WGLF 104-FM) at Seminole Field.

FSU actually led in the game Friday, 1-0, on Don Milner's solo homer in the second. But the floodgates opened in the fourth on Seminole starter Rick Holloway (1-2) to sweep him off the mound.

The senior righthander faced eight batters in the frame, seven of whom reached base after Tony Stevens led off hitting a long out to center. When FSU Coach Dick Howser finally removed Holloway, four runs had crossed the plate. More would follow.

The Gators loaded the bases on two singles and a walk, then Holloway hurt himself by pitching four straight balls to Steve Minicone, the Gators' ninth hitter in their batting order.

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This would be more than enough for Florida winner Pete Teixeira (2-1), but the Gators added one more in the sixth, three in the seventh and two in the eighth.

Teixeira, the acknowledged ace of the Gators' staff, had rocky going early, but stranded eight Seminoles on the bases over the first five innings, surrendering no runs except Milner's poke.

He was touched for two useless FSU runs in the ninth, after retiring twelve straight hitters.

For Holloway, it was a day of frustrations.

"You can only get by with a fastball for so long," he said, "and I didn't have anything else. I couldn't get my curve over. I've got to come up with an off-speed pitch I can throw for a strike."

Howser, whose staff has given up 14 and 16 runs in two of the Seminoles' first eight games, admitted the relief pitching is causing some worry.

"I'm not disappointed in the starting pitching," Howser said, "but when you play clubs like this, you need someone to come in and shut the door. I'm looking for someone to come out

of the bullpen, but so far I haven't seen it."

Third baseman David Mobley, who struck out three times, best captured the moment. "Baseball," he said, "is not an easy game."

The second out came when Jim Watkins hit a sacrifice fly for the second Florida run, but then Holloway gave up a two-run double to Larry Hall, and a walk to Rob Teegarden.

Exit Holloway with the score 4-1. Sophomore Rick Hatcher came in, faced four batters and couldn't get an out. After Chuck Sandberg walked to re-load the bases, Stevens and David Banes hit consecutive singles just past the reach of second baseman Craig Patterson. The Gators led 7-1.

Banes' hit was his second of the inning. Big deal, said Bob Adamson, who completed the same trick by lining a double over the head of centerfielder Mike Fuentes for two more Gator runs.

Adamson entered the game hitting .222. After going 3-for-4 against FSU, his average is a more robust .290.

The final run of the inning scored when Marc Sullivan singled Adamson home. Joe Nichols came on to pitch for the Seminoles, and retired Minicone on a hard liner to right.

The fourth inning in brief for the Gators: 10 runs, 7 hits, 14 batters to the plate.

FLORIDA STATE					FLORIDA				
	AB	R	H	BI		AB	R	H	BI
Schimchak rf	5	0	1	1	Watkins cf	3	0	0	2
DeLoach ss	4	0	0	0	Hall ss	6	2	3	2
Patterson 2b	5	0	1	0	Teegarden rf	4	1	1	0
Milner 1b	4	1	2	1	Sandberg 1b	5	1	2	2
Fuentes cf	3	0	1	0	Stevens dh	4	1	2	2
Mobley 3b	4	0	0	0	Emerson ph	1	0	0	0
Traylor lf	3	1	0	0	Banes lf	4	3	3	2
Led'fer dh-p	1	1	0	0	Maniotis lf	0	0	0	0
Ramsey c	3	0	1	1	Adamson 3b	4	3	3	2
Totals	32	3	6	3	Morris 3b	0	0	0	0
					Sullivan c	3	2	2	1
					Minicone 2b	3	2	0	2
					Marlowe 2b	0	0	0	0
					Totals	38	16	16	15

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E — DeLoach 3, Adamson, Teegarden,
 Marlowe. 2B — Ramsey, Hall Adamson. HR
 — Milner. SF — Watkins 2. SB — Watkins.
 LOB — FSU 10, Florida 12. DP — FSU 2,
 Florida 1

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Holloway (L, 1-2)	3 ² / ₃	4	6	6	5	3
Hatcher	0	4	4	4	1	0
Nichols	2 ¹ / ₃	6	4	4	2	0
Ledbetter	2	3	2	2	1	1
Teixeira (W, 2-1)	9	6	3	3	6	7

PB — Ramsey. WP — Nichols, Teixeira.
 A — 1,630.