

Gators slam Seminoles with 5 HRs

By GERALD ENSLEY
Democrat sportswriter

It might be appropriate to consider renaming Seminole Field. Something along the order of Gopher Ball City or, borrowing from the Atlanta Braves, the Launching Pad.

Thursday night, before a season-high crowd of 2,410, the immaculately groomed, modestly sized field yielded seven home runs, including a record-setting five by the Florida Gators in their 12-9 victory over Florida State.

Coupled with a pair of round-trippers by the Seminoles, the teams tied an FSU record for home runs by both teams in a game.

Florida is 17-8. FSU slipped to 26-12.

Even without the bevy of home runs, there was a whole lot of hitting going on. After combining for 25 hits the previous night, the teams lashed 27 Thursday, 10 for extra bases.

Florida, which never trailed in the contest, scored all its runs on homers — the most in one game in Florida history. Breaking out in a rash in the second and third innings, the Gators claimed a 9-5 lead on two grand slams (another Florida record) and a solo shot.

After FSU had tied the score 9-9 in the seventh, Florida got a two-run blast and another solo homer to complete its scoring.

"It's a known fact that Seminole Field is a hitter's ball park," said FSU coach Mike Martin. "Of course, when the pitchers throw the ball up high, that's (home runs) going to happen."

With four FSU pitchers failing to hold the Gators, Martin clearly was not overjoyed with his mound staff.

"Obviously, we know we've got some work to do," said Martin of his pitchers, who granted Florida 13 hits. "I'm certainly concerned with our pitching."

"But I was very impressed with Jay (Keeler). Clem (Freeman) . . . well, Clem had a bad outing."

Freeman, the starter, retired the side in the first inning before running into trouble in the second. A walk and two singles preceded a grand slam by second baseman Dennis Foster that bounced Freeman from the mound.

David Smalley came on to pitch and, after getting the first out of the inning, served up a solo home run to Ron Cardieri for a 5-0 Florida lead.

Despite allowing a grand slam to Glenn Carpenter in the third, Smalley survived until the fourth inning, when he was relieved by Keeler.

FSU picked up three runs in its half

of the second, including two on a double by Mark Barineau. The Seminoles added two more in the third, including Mark Lacy's sixth home run of the season, a solo shot that boosted his hitting streak to 16 games.

Florida held that 9-5 lead until the sixth inning. Keeler (2-3), effectively moving his 91-mph fastball around, worked out of a bases-loaded jam in the fifth and a two-on jam in the sixth. He matched his longest outing of the year by pitching five innings.

"That (fifth and sixth innings) could have been the turning point of the game," Florida coach Jay Bergman said. "In this park, anything can happen."

For a brief moment, it appeared that the anything would be FSU. One-out singles by Barineau and Craig Ramsey, plus an error by shortstop Steve Lombardozzi, loaded the bases for FSU in the sixth. A sacrifice fly by Don DeLoach and a single by Mike Fuentes brought in two runs before Lacy grounded out to end the inning.

FSU came right back in the next inning with two runs to tie the score, one on Joe Licata's one-out home run. Mike Yastrzemski followed with a single to left, and one out and a wild pitch later, came home on pinch-hitter Chris Cawthon's single to right.

Then, in the game's most exciting play, Lionel Martinez squeezed a line-drive single over Jim Yonker's head

at second. With Cawthon running on the hit, Florida right fielder Ken Schimchak charged the ball. Schimchak, a former FSU outfielder who transferred to Florida after ex-FSU coach Dick Howser dropped him from the team, first fumbled the ball, causing Martin to wave Cawthon home.

But Schimchak recovered and drilled the ball to catcher Cardieri. The throw was high, but Cardieri tagged a diving Cawthon on the heel, and the FSU scoring, despite vehement protest by Cawthon, was ended.

"I thought he got (tagged) him," agreed Martin. "You've got to take the catcher out on that play. It was a base-running mistake."

FLORIDA

	ab	r	h	bi
McGraw lf	5	0	2	0
Lmbrdzzi ss	3	0	0	0
Schimchak rf	3	2	0	0
Henley 3b	4	1	1	0
Falcone 1b	5	3	3	2
Floyd dh	4	2	2	0
Foster 2b	2	1	1	4
Yonker 2b	3	0	0	0
Carpenter cf	4	2	2	5
Cardieri c	5	1	2	1
Totals	38	12	13	12

FLORIDA STATE

	ab	r	h	bi
Martinez 2b	4	0	2	1
DeLoach ss	4	0	0	1
Fuentes cf	5	0	1	1
Lacy dh	4	1	2	1
Ledbetter 1b	5	1	0	0
Licata lf	4	3	3	1
Ystrzmski rf	5	1	2	1
Barineau ss	5	2	2	2
Ramsey c	2	1	1	0
Cawthon ph	1	0	1	1
Dowell c	0	0	0	0
Huff ph	1	0	0	0
Totals	40	9	14	9

Florida 054 000 021-12

Florida State 032 002 200-9

E—Lombardozzi 2, Schimchak, Martinez, Keeler. DP—Florida 1, Florida State 1. LOB—Florida 7, Florida State 8. 2B—Licata 2, Barineau. HR—Falcone (9), Foster (3), Carpenter 2 (4), Cardieri (2), Lacy (6), Licata (9). SB—Floyd. SF—DeLoach.

IP H R ER BB SO

Florida

McClellan	7 1/3	11	9	7	3	2
Bombard (W, 4-1)	1 2/3	3	0	0	1	2

Florida State

Freeman	1	4	4	4	1	1
Smalley	2	4	5	5	3	2
Keeler (L, 2-3)	5	4	2	2	3	3
Shouppe	1	1	1	1	0	1

WP—Bombard. HBP—by Smalley (Schimchak). T—3:49. A—2,410.