SU baseball team loses first of season

By George Maselli

MIAMI - Baseball reality slammed the Florida State Seminoles square in the chops Saturday night. Just one night after an exhilarating and rare victory here, FSU was crushed 15-4 Saturday night with 4,868 watching at Mark Light Scadium. The loss was the Seminoles' first after opening with 12 straight victories. Their

chances for a No.-1 ranking are probably gone for now, but they will have a chance to pull it together in the series finale today at FSU's second-best season start ever

PSO's second-best season start ever ended in a game of weird bounces and pitfalls, much as it has in recent years here. Depending on your point of view, Mi-ami's four-run rally in the third was either Hurricane opportunism at its best, a gift from the heavens or horrendous Seminole luck.

No matter. The fact is that Miami got four in the third inning and one in the fourth without hitting a ball out of the infield.

infield. The damage in the third was accom-plished with five high infield bouncers off the Mark Light Stadium artificial turf. Four of those went for hits and one for an error on shortstop Bien Figueroa. Mix in two stolen bases - including a steal of home on the back end of a double-steal attempt in which FSU, in total confusion,

allowed the original stealer to retreat safe-ly to first. Seminole starter Mike Loynd, the vic-tim of all the bizarre bounces, was lifted at that point, as much for not covering first on the steal-play rundown as for his victors.

pitching. One did, however, get the feeling from the start that it was not going to be Loynd's evening. His first pitch of the game was taken through a crosswind and over the right field wall by Calvin James.

Miami

Florida State

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Miami added another run in the inning on a walk and two singles to make it 2-1. FSU scored one in the first on singles by Jose Marzan, Frank Fazzini and Tom-my Zoeller. Marzan's hit extended his hit-ting streak to 13 games. The Seminoles had other shots at Mi-ami starter Dan Davies, a junk-balling lefty. They had two on and none out in the fourth and got nothing. They had the bases

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loaded and one out in the fifth, but Davies got Fazzini and Zoeller on short flies

Heralded freshman righthander Al Ashmont relieved Loynd in the third, his first appearance of the season after being stalled with a sore arm.

He allowed a run in the fourth, but again it was chintzy. It scored on a walk, a stolen base, an infield out and a - what else? - highhopper that baffled backpeddling Luis Alicea at second. Mike Fiore beat the throw to first base as a run scored to make it 7-1.

"The turf was really good to us tonight," said smiling Miami re-liever Ric Raether, who added the final blow by striking out two with the bases loaded in the eighth. Then in his first college at-bat, in the bottom of the eighth, he hit a two-run homer off reliever Pete Brown.

"It was important for us to win tonight," Raether said. "FSU was undefeated, but we did it for ourselves, the pride factor." In the sixth inning, Ashmont

and then Steve Gelmine let it get totally out of hand. With one out, Ashmont walked two straight batters and was gone.

Gelmine came in and walked the bases loaded. A strikeout later, Jon Leake rapped his third hit of the night for two runs. Gelmine wild-pitched in another run, walked another and then gave up a two-run double to freshman Frank Dominguez that bloated the score at 12-1

"I think tomorrow is going to be a big game," said FSU Coach Mike Martin. "We'll see if this club that's been playing good all year can bounce back from getting drubbed.

"I will never gripe over how runs are scored. Both teams play under the same conditions. We'll just give the ball to (freshman pitcher) Richie Lewis tomorrow and see what happens."

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