

Bifano hit wins 5-4 for FSU

By WAYNE HOGAN
Democrat Sports Writer

Tiny Chip Bifano, who sat quietly and watched as three of his teammates hit towering home runs, stole the show with a clutch two-out single in the bottom of the ninth inning to give Florida State a 5-4 victory over Columbus College Wednesday at Seminole Field.

The Seminoles, now 6-0 on the season, were scheduled to meet Georgia Southwestern this afternoon in a double-header beginning at 3:30 on the home field.

With the bases loaded and the score tied 4-4 in the pressure-packed ninth inning, Bifano laced a two-strike fastball up the middle scoring shortstop Jeff Hardy and keeping the Seminole's unbeaten string alive.

The loss was the first of the season for Columbus College, a club that whipped Southeastern Conference power Vanderbilt twice last week. It also broke an eight-game winning streak by Cougar starting pitcher Greg Marschand, who won his last seven games of the 1975 season.

A lively crowd of 1,206 fans watched in the warm sunshine of Seminole Field as Florida State unleashed a barrage of home runs early off Marschand and gave every indication that it was going to be a runaway.

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RIGHTFIELDER Terry Kennedy drilled the first of the three solo shots in the second inning. The big sophomore took Marschand's fastball 370 feet to the opposite field to give FSU a 1-0 lead.

Catcher Rick McGlone hit a tremendous drive over the left-centerfield fence in the third and Hardy cleared the pine trees in right field with his fourth-inning blow.

The 3-0 lead was short-lived, however, as the visitors got to FSU starter Bob Mayer for three runs in the fifth.

A pair of walks sandwiched around an error by Hardy loaded the bases with nobody out. First baseman Mike O'Brien promptly drilled a three-run double to deep left-center to tie the score.

The Seminoles got the lead right back, however, in the home half of the fifth when Jim McArdle came up with a clutch two-out single scoring Bifano from second base. Bifano had singled with two outs and stolen second.

The pesky visitors came back to tie the score again in the seventh inning.

Bill Chester led off the inning with a ringing double off the right field fence. That chased Mayer, who had developed a blister on his pitching hand, and brought on lefty Brooks Carey.

Designated hitter Gary Hall greeted Carey by slapping his first pitch for a ground-rule double to left scoring Chester.

After that Carey was masterful.

From that point, he retired seven of the last eight batters he faced, the only exception coming on a fielding error in the ninth. Five of the outs came on strikeouts.

Hardy was the silent star of the game, banging out four hits in as many trips.

"Our confidence level is really high right now," said a pleased FSU Coach Woody Woodward.

FSU 5 Columbus 4

Columbus	ab	r	h	FSU	ab	r	h
Horne, ss	4	0	0	Bifano, 2b	4	1	2
Brooks, rf	4	0	0	McArdle, lf	4	0	1
Franklin, 2b	4	0	2	Bonilla, 3b	4	0	0
L'ders, lf	4	0	0	K'n'dy, rf	4	1	1
Chester, c	3	2	1	C'ter, dh	4	0	0
H'ris, pr	0	0	0	Hardy, ss	4	2	4
Hall, dh	3	1	1	L'cano, cf	3	0	0
Brown, 3b	2	1	0	M'G'e, c	4	1	1
O'B'n, lb	3	0	1	Curry, lb	2	0	1
D'itri, cf	3	0	0	Huff, rf	0	0	0
M'h'd, p	0	0	0	Mayer, p	0	0	0
Wright, p	0	0	0	Carey, p	0	0	0

TOTALS	26	4	5	TOTALS	33	5	10
Columbus				000	030	100	—4
FSU				011	110	001	—5

Two outs when winning run scored.

E — Brown, Demitri, Bonilla, Hardy; DP — EOL — 1, FSU — 1; LOB — Col. 3, FSU 4; RBI — O'Brien (3), Hall, Bifano, McArdle, Kennedy, Hardy, McGlone; 2B — Franklin, Chester, Hall, O'Brien; HR — Kennedy (3), McGlone (1), Hardy (2); SB — Bifano, McArdle, Hard.

IP H R ER BB SO

Marschand, L(1-1)	8	2/3	9	5	5	3	1
Wright		1/3	3	0	0	0	0
Mayer		6	4	4	3	4	3
Carey, W(2-0)	3	1	0	0	0	0	5

T-207, U-Shaw, Dirks, Att. — 1,236.