

FSU downs Gators 5-1

By BOB COHN

Democrat sports writer

The scene at the pitcher's mound told the story: The Florida State baseball team was joyfully mobbing pitcher Brooks Carey following the Seminoles' 5-1 win over Florida Wednesday night at Seminole Field.

Carey had just gone the distance for his 10th victory of the season, but what made his latest conquest so sweet was that it came directly after the senior lefthander was shellacked by the University of Nevada at Las Vegas last Thursday.

That game, a 16-4 laughter, got the Seminoles started on the road trip they'd love to forget. Three more losses to the Hustlin' Rebels followed and no one was quite sure how FSU would handle the rest of the schedule.

Carey and his mates, though, provided an inkling against a tough Gator team. The Seminoles, now 35-11, played close to flawless baseball, executing the right moves as if stepping out of a textbook. Oh, it's good to be home again.

"There's no doubt the club was embarrassed in Las Vegas," said Seminole coach Woody Woodward. "My concern was that they'd come back and try too hard. But they did the things they had to do. They fielded the ball, the easy plays and the tough plays. They played the way they are capable of."

No one performed more up to his ability than Carey. He scattered just seven hits but more importantly, he got tough when he had to, retiring the last nine batters he faced, and 13 of the final 14.

The senior lefthander from Key West was struggling a bit up to the sixth inning, surrendering a fifth-inning Gator run on two doubles, and pitching out of trouble before that.

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But the Gators tied it up in the fifth when centerfielder Jim Watkins doubled off Carey to drive in Randy Morris. Watkins apparently isn't aware of the success Carey has enjoyed this year, as he went three for four in the game.

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"I was a little down, and I was getting tired in the fifth," said Carey. "But then I just decided to gut it up. I wasn't going to give in. I wanted to throw real well and show people I wasn't in any kind of slump."

"This erases our four losses in Las Vegas. We came back and played ball like I knew we could."

To do it, the Seminoles had to contend with Gator pitcher Pete Teixeira, maybe the best they have, and one who Woodward calls, "an exceptionally good collegiate pitcher."

Teixeira came into the contest brandishing a 7-1 mark, a 1.97 earned run average and a no-hitter in his last

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ding, the Seminoles were not about to leave their 27-game home winning streak out in the cold.

Shortstop Bob Benda led off the bottom of the sixth with a double and moved to third on second baseman Craig Patterson's fly to deep right.

Then Mobley, who so enjoys hitting at Seminole Field, sent an 0-2 pitch up the middle for a single, scoring Benda with the tie-breaking run.

"I guess I feel more relaxed at home," said Mobley, who batted a paltry three for fourteen with no runs batted in at Vegas. "My mind is just right and I feel more comfortable."

Another Seminole who's more comfortable is Don Milner. Stepping

in at first for Mobley, the junior went two for four, with a towering two-run homer that wrapped things up in the eighth.

Milner's single in the seventh started the Seminoles to their third run, scored when rightfielder Bruce Huff, on base with two down, came in on centerfielder Mark Gilbert's perfect bunt single.

Gilbert, the speedy senior who was a pitcher in a prior baseball life, subsequently entered the FSU record books by stealing his 39th base of the year.

That steal, Gilbert's second of the game, ties him with Randy Davidson, who set the mark in 1975.

Gilbert gets a chance to claim the record for his very own in a matinee rematch with Florida today at 3:30.

Jim Riley (5-4, 2.24 ERA) goes for the Seminoles. His mound opponent for the Gators (28-11), the champs of the Eastern Division of the Southeastern Conference, will be Ron Crum. Crum has been nothing less than sensational, compiling a 7-0 record and a 1.68 ERA.

Florida State					Florida				
AB	R	H	B	I	AB	R	H	B	I
Gilbert cf	4	0	1	1	Watkins cf	4	0	3	1
Benda ss	3	1	1	0	McDonald lf	4	0	1	0
Pat'son 2b	4	0	1	0	Brantley 2b	4	0	0	0
Mobley 3b	4	1	2	2	Adeimy 1b	4	0	0	0
Traylor lf	4	0	0	0	Teegarden rf	4	0	1	0
Tice pr-lf	0	1	0	0	Darty dh	3	0	1	0
McDonald c	4	0	0	0	Reger pr	0	0	0	0
Milner 1b	4	1	2	2	Minicone dh	1	0	0	0
Rigby dh	4	0	1	0	Morris 3b	2	1	1	0
Huff rf	3	1	1	0	Hall ss	3	0	1	0
Totals	34	5	8	5	Sullivan c	3	0	0	0
					Totals	32	1	7	1

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E — Gilbert, Morris, Brantley, Sullivan 2.
LOB — UF 6, FSU 5. 2B — Benda, Morris, Watkins. HR — Mobley, Milner. SB — Gilbert 2, Huff, Watkins. S — Morris.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Teixeira (L, 7-2)	8	8	5	4	0	6
Carey (W, 10-1)	9	7	1	1	0	7

HBP — Benda (by Teixeira). A — 900 (est.) Time — 2:15.