

Florida State wins in the rain for No. 40

By BOB COHN

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The Florida State baseball Seminoles seem to have this thing about rain lately.

After going through their first 48 games with just three rainouts, FSU was washed out of a game with Florida on Monday, and won their 'miracle comeback' over Mercer in a drizzle Wednesday.

On Saturday, the Seminoles got seven innings in against Georgia Southern at Seminole Field before rain halted play for good with FSU ahead 9-3.

That made it an official game, and it also made it victory number 40 on the season for the Seminoles. The teams have a doubleheader scheduled for today at 2 p.m. at Seminole Field, weather permitting.

If today's games are rained out, the Seminoles' 1978 regular season will more than likely end.

There is little chance that the games will be made up, with the Metro 7 tournament starting here on Thursday.

If the season is indeed over, it's only fitting that pitcher Brooks Carey be the one to top it off, and help FSU reach the select 40-win club. He also tied a team record, one that could fall in the upcoming games.

IN WINNING number 12 of the year against just one loss, Carey pitched a complete game for twelfth time, tying the record set by Danny O'Brien in 1975. It took O'Brien, though, 17 starts to do it, while Carey did it in 13. The senior lefthander should get a few more chances to break the mark.

"It was a good one to get," Carey said of his latest triumph. "It means a lot to me that I've been able to complete so many games. It shows something."

It shows that, if nothing else, the Seminoles have at least one reliable-pitcher capable of beating any team at any time.

The Seminoles, however, do have other weapons. One of their most productive offensive performers this year, shortstop Bob Benda, hit a

three-run homer in the fourth to present Carey with a 7-0 lead.

Benda, who hit a sacrifice fly earlier, drove in four runs, and now has 56 for the year. That puts him eight short of the FSU RBI record set by Terry Kennedy in 1976.

Kevin Rigby, who drove in two

runs as the rain was falling in the seventh, added three hits for the Seminoles. The sophomore designated hitter has now gone eight for 25 since coach Woody Woodward made him a regular following the 0-4 trip to Las Vegas.

RIGBY HAD played only sporadically before the Vegas trip, mostly at infield positions. Now batting .380 on the season, he said he doesn't mind not playing the field.

"I think hitting is the best part of the game," Rigby said. And besides, he added, "everyone out there on the field are the ones who should be. I don't think I should beat anyone out (of a fielding position)."

The Seminoles got out to a 3-0 lead in the second. Leftfielder Ronnie Traylor reached base on an error, and catcher Blane McDonald doubled, putting runners on second and third.

Then the Seminoles got a break, when Eagles' catcher Tom Kuzniacki, trying to pick Traylor off third, hit the runner in the foot with the

throw, and the ball bounded into leftfield. Both Traylor and McDonald scored.

AFTER A walk to first baseman Don Milner, a Rigby single and Bruce Huff's fielder's choice, centerfielder Mark Gilbert doubled Huff home to make it 3-0. Benda followed with his RBI fly to close the scoring.

Benda's fifth homer of the year made it 7-0 in the fourth. The Eagles came back with a single run off Carey in the fifth, and two more in the sixth on shortstop Terry Mixon's home run.

Rigby's two-run single in the seventh made it 9-3. The rain then caused a 35-minute delay, after which time the game was called.

Florida St

	AB	R	H	BI
Gilbert cf	2	1	2	1
Benda ss	2	1	1	4
Patterson 2b	4	0	1	0
Mobley 3b	4	0	0	0
Traylor lf	3	1	0	0
Fuentes pr	0	1	0	0
McDonald c	3	2	1	0
Milner 1b	2	0	1	0
Rigby dh	4	2	3	2
Huff rf	3	0	0	0

Totals 27 9 7

Ga Southern

000 021 0-3

Fla St

040 300 2-9

E — Mobley, Traylor, Aguayo, Kuzniacki. LOB — GS 7, FSU 6. 2B — Gilbert, McDonald, Kuzniacki. HR — Benda, Mixon. SF — Benda. SB — Gilbert.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Willis (L, 6-3)	4	6	7	6	3	2
Stendel	2½	3	2	2	0	3
Rodriguez	½	0	0	0	0	0
Carey (W, 12-1)	7	9	3	3	1	5

A — 417.

Ga. Southern

	AB	R	H	BI
Gray rf	4	0	2	0
Childress cf	4	0	0	0
Mathews 3b	4	0	0	0
Mixon ss	4	1	2	1
Aguayo 2b	2	0	1	0
Strucker 1b	3	0	1	0
Mendez dh	3	1	2	1
Rum lf	2	0	0	0
Kuz'nki c	4	1	1	0
Totals	31	3	9	2