

Red-hot FSU beats W. Kentucky and Jacksonville

By BOB COHN

Democrat sports writer

Daytime, nighttime, all week, in fact, Florida State is playing great baseball.

Two more wins came Saturday, a 14-4 laughter at the expense of Western Kentucky in the afternoon, and an 8-3 win over strong Jacksonville under the lights.

Thus ends the string of five straight doubleheaders with a resulting eight wins in a row, nine out of the 10 games and 11 of the last 12. FSU is 16-4 and in that old area of baseball land known as the "groove."

There is only one game today, as the 'Noles play Jacksonville at 2 at Seminole Field. Rick Holloway (2-2) pitches for FSU.

"Our defense has been good, we're getting timely hitting and the pitching has just been great," FSU Coach Dick Howser said. "I think these guys realize they're now a good club. They've beaten some quality teams."

One of those would be the Dolphins, who came to town brandishing a 10-5 mark, put together after the team started 0-4. Included in the victories was a 6-0 shutout of Miami, ranked No. 1 by a national publication.

The man responsible for that was senior Mike Pustay, a hard-throwing righthander from New Jersey with a 2-0 record.

Pustay, pitching against the Seminoles, impressed Howser enough for the coach to

call him "the best pitcher we've faced all year."

Coincidentally, those were the same words Jacksonville Coach Tom Bradley used to describe Dick Wiggins, the Seminoles' pitcher.

The difference is that FSU's groove is wider than the Dolphins'. The Seminoles used the big hit to drive Pustay from the game, while Wiggins mastered his opponents through the ninth, when he fanned the last three hitters.

Big bop number-one came from Bruce Huff, leading off in the bottom of the first. The senior who loves to hit 'em where they ain't,

hit a Pustay pitch down the third-base line for a double.

It became more than that when leftfielder Chris Mauldin had a terrible time trying to field the ball. By the time he got a grip on the situation, Huff had crossed the plate.

"I rounded second, looked up and saw him running after the ball," said Huff, who had two hits and walked three times. "I made up my mind to go to third. About three-quarters of the way there, he was still running after it. Then 11 (third-base coach Mike Martin) waved me on."

Pustay got over that shock until another error unravelled him. With two out in the fourth and Doug Casey on first, shortstop Paul

Runge misplayed Jack Emerick's grounder.

Now there were runners on first and second and Pustay was still on the mound instead of in the safe confines of his dugout. Jeff Ledbetter was up, and he wasted no time in sending a Pustay pitch over the rightfield wall, on a reconnaissance flight over the FSU campus.

That was home run number five and RBI's 17, 18, and 19 for the fabulous freshman from Clearwater, batting .343 in his rookie season.

Remarkably, he has now surpassed the home run total of his senior year in high school.

"But I got a lot of curve balls then," he said, "and not very many fastballs. The more
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fastballs they throw me, the better I hit. I don't hit the junk pitchers."

Four more runs crossed the plate on one swing of Don "Meatloaf" Milner's bat. Hitting in the seventh with the bases loaded, he smashed a triple off the wall in left-center, clearing the bases, then scored when Mauldin again bobbled the ball.

Wiggins (4-0) meanwhile, sailed through his third straight complete game, giving up just one earned run and striking out 11.

In the afternoon, FSU took batting practice before and during the game, banging 18 hits in the romp over the Hilltoppers.

Ken Schimchak had the biggest day with three hits, including a three-run homer, four runs batted in and a great catch in rightfield.

Craig Patterson, Don DeLoach and Jack Emerick also had three hits, as Ken Smith pitched 5½ innings to get his first win.

Rick Hatcher finished up, allowing no runs on just two hits.

Florida State

AB R H BI

Schimchak rf 6 2 3 4

DeLoach ss 4 1 3 2

Culpepper ss 2 0 1 0

Patterson 2b 5 1 3 0

Fuentes cf 4 1 1 0

K.Huff lf 0 0 0 0

Mobley 3b-1b 5 2 1 1

Emerick dh 4 1 3 2

Tice ph 1 0 0 0

Milner 1b 3 2 0 0

Casey 3b 0 0 0 0

Ramsey c 3 2 2 2

Bartlett ph-c 1 0 0 0

Gagnon lf-cf 4 2 1 1

Totals 41 14 18 13

W. Kentucky

AB R H BI

McThenny lf 4 1 0 0

Fox 3b 3 1 0 0

Green c 3 0 0 0

Zarate c 1 0 0 0

Williams 1b 4 1 2 0

Phillips cf 3 1 0 2

Hathcock dh 3 0 0 1

Despoux lf 3 0 1 1

Rocco ss 4 0 3 0

Stuart pr 0 0 0 0

Carlisle 2b 3 0 1 0

Totals 32 4 7 4

Western Kentucky

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Florida State

022 064 00x — 14

E — Despoux, Phillips 2, Green, Becker, Mobley. 2B — Emerick 2. HR — Schimchak. SB — Patterson, DeLoach, Fuentes, Ramsey.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Glasscock (L, 0-3)	3	7	4	4	1	0
Becker	1 1/3	3	5	5	4	0
Varnadoe	1 2/3	7	5	5	2	1
Mason	2	1	0	0	1	5
Smith (W, 1-0)	5 2/3	5	4	1	2	3
Hatcher	3 1/3	2	0	0	0	0

Save — Hatcher. WP — Becker, Varnadoe, Mason 2, Smith. Balk — Glasscock. A — 470.

Jacksonville

AB R H BI

Krupa 2b 3 0 1 0

Albano 2b 0 0 0 0

Runge ss 3 0 1 1

Maisch ss 0 0 0 0

Gaedele cf 2 0 0 0

Dowdy ph-cf 2 0 0 0

Cromwell 1b 4 1 2 0

Mauldin lf 3 1 1 0

Greenstein dh 3 0 0 0

Schifano rf 4 1 1 0

Parkisin c 3 0 1 0

Foderaro c 1 0 0 0

Sheetz 3b 3 0 0 0

Totals 30 3 8 1

Florida State

AB R H BI

B.Huff rf 2 2 2 0

DeLoach ss 4 1 1 0

Patterson 2b 2 1 0 0

Milner 1b 3 1 1 3

Fuentes cf 4 0 0 0

Casey 3b 3 1 1 0

Traylor lf 4 0 1 0

Emerick c 4 1 1 0

Ledbetter dh 4 1 1 3

Totals 30 8 8 6

Jacksonville

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Florida State

100 300 40x — 8

E — Mauldin 2, Runge, Casey. 2B — Mauldin, B.Huff, Emerick. 3B — Milner. HR — Ledbetter. SB — B.Huff. S — Runge. LOB — Jacksonville 6, FSU 6. DP — Jacksonville 2, FSU 1.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Pustay (L, 2-1)	6 1/3	7	8	3	6	5
Parton	1 2/3	1	0	0	1	3
Wiggins (W, 4-0)	9	8	3	1	2	11

WP — Pustay, Parton, Wiggins. HBP — Milner (by Pustay). A — 763.