

Forfeit snaps FSU win streak

Special to the Democrat

TROY, Ala. — Florida State's baseball team fell one game short of the school record for consecutive victories Tuesday when an umpire forfeited the Seminoles' game against Troy State in the sixth inning.

The Seminoles, who had won 20 straight, came back to win the second game of the doubleheader 12-3. Now 39-6, Florida State returns to Seminole Field tonight for a 7:30 game against Valdosta State.

Umpire Jack Garner awarded Tuesday's first game to Troy State after ejecting FSU Coach Mike Martin and demanding that he leave the field.

Martin said the Seminoles have protested the game

and will contact the NCAA protest committee in Riverside, Calif., today. If the protest is upheld, said Martin, "to keep the streak alive, we would come back up here to finish the game."

Martin gave this account of what happened:

Trailing 5-2 in the sixth inning, the Seminoles loaded the bases with none out. Jeff Ledbetter hit a ground ball to second base and the runner on first, Jim Weaver, barreled into shortstop Jack Tinkler to prevent him from completing a double play.

"The base umpire called Weaver out, then signaled that Ledbetter was safe at first," Martin said. "A run crossed and it was 5-3.

"Then the plate umpire (Garner) came running out toward second base, saying, 'That's an illegal slide — the batter's out.'"

Garner cited a new collegiate rule that gives the umpire authority to call the batter out if he believes the base runner was unnecessarily violent sliding into a base.

"He made a call from 120 feet away — it's not even his call to make — while the base umpire (Bobby Cooper) was only 15 feet away and didn't make the call," Martin said.

"He refused to come out and look at Weaver's slide marks. They clearly showed it was a perfectly legitimate slide. That's when I started getting hot."

With Martin arguing vehemently, Garner threw him

out of the game and gave him two minutes to leave the field.

"It couldn't have been more than 15 seconds," Martin said. "I was walking off the field when I stopped and threw dirt on home plate. That's when he forfeited the game."

Said Garner:

"He called me three or four names and I threw him out. Then he put dirt on the plate. We don't take that kind of stuff around here."

Said Martin:

"I called him a homer and a sorry umpire — if that's calling a man names, then I guess I'm guilty. But I've

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never seen anything like it. He went out to try to talk the umpire into playing, but the man simply refused.

"I was given a directive — to be off the field in two minutes — and I was complying with that.

"He came up to me afterward and said, 'You have a class team and you're a class coach.' I said if that's the case, why did you forfeit the game?"

"He said, 'I made a decision and I have to stand by it.' Every time I asked him about the two minutes, he didn't have an answer.

"It's just a very, very unfortunate thing. I just hope the protest is upheld, for the sake of the players and the streak."

Before the sixth inning, the Trojans, 24-8 and ranked fifth in Division II, had built their lead with home runs from P.J. Hansen and Mark Lee. FSU's Ken Fischer suffered the loss, his first of the season after six straight victories.

In the second game, the Seminoles erupted for six runs in the third to erase a 2-0 Trojan lead. Catcher Craig Ramsey had the big hit, a three-run homer.

Junior Ed Schneider pitched a complete game, allowing one earned run, to stretch his record to 8-0.

First game

| FLORIDA STATE | | | | | TROY STATE | | | | |
|---------------|----|---|---|----|----------------|-----|-----|----|----|
| | ab | r | h | bi | | ab | r | h | bi |
| Martinez 2b | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | Phillips lf | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Tebbetts ss | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | Bouchellon c | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Fuentes cf | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Hansen cf | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Weaver lf | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | Pelliccione 1b | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ledbetter 1b | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Lee dh | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| DeLoach dh | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Tinkler ss | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Ramsey c | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Griffen rf | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cullen rf | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Bruckner 2b | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Howser 3b | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Ostertag 3b | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Totals | 18 | 3 | 4 | 2 | Totals | 24 | 5 | 8 | 5 |
| Florida State | | | | | | 010 | 002 | -3 | |
| Troy State | | | | | | 012 | 11x | -5 | |

Game forfeited to Troy State in sixth

E — Tebbetts, Fischer. DP — Troy State
 1. LOB — Florida State 2, Troy State 6. 2B —
 Ostertag. HR — DeLoach (3), Hansen (6),
 Lee (2). SB — Martinez, Tinkler, Ostertag.

| | IP | H | R | ER | BB | SO |
|------------------|----|---|---|----|----|----|
| Florida State | | | | | | |
| Fischer (L, 6-1) | 5 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| Troy State | | | | | | |
| Murphy (W, 2-3) | 5½ | 4 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| T — 1:37. | | | | | | |

Second game

| FLORIDA STATE | | | | | TROY STATE | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|---------------|----|---|---|----|
| | ab | r | h | bi | | ab | r | h | bi |
| Martinez 2b | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Phillips lf | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Tebbetts ss | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Williams lf | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Fuentes cf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 0 | Rolfes rf | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Weaver lf | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | Hansen cf | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Ledbetter 1b | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Pellicione 1b | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| DeLoach dh | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | Lee dh | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Huff dh | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | Tinkler ss | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Ramsey c | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | McDaniels 2b | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ystrzmski rf | 4 | 2 | 3 | 2 | Royce c | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Howser 3b | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | Bouchellon c | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 33 | 12 | 12 | 9 | Ostertag 3b | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Florida State | | | | | Totals | 30 | 3 | 6 | 2 |
| Troy State | | | | | | | | | |

E — Tebbetts, Yastrzemski, Schneider 2, Tinkler, Royce, Ostertag, Tolbert 2. LOB — Florida State 9, Troy State 3. 2B — Martinez, Yastrzemski 2, Williams, Pellicione, Ostertag. 3B — Howser. HR — Ramsey (4). SB — Huff, Ramsey. SF — Ledbetter.

| | IP | H | R | ER | BB | SO |
|--------------------|-------|---|---|----|----|----|
| Florida State | | | | | | |
| Schneider (W, 8-0) | 7 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| Troy State | | | | | | |
| Tolbert (L, 4-1) | 2 1/3 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| Lowery | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Cox | 2 2/3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Molinski | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

HBP — Huff (by Cox). WP — Cox 2. U — Garner, Cooper. T — 2:22. A — 216.