

Seminoles outslug Jackson State 12-11

By GERALD ENSLEY
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Florida State escaped with a 12-11 victory over pesky Jackson State Monday in a ripping slugfest at Seminole Field.

The teams combined for 28 hits and seven errors.

Behind 12-7 going into the ninth, Jackson State scored four runs, three of them with two outs, before Bobby Buchanan grounded out with the tying run on second base.

The Seminoles committed four errors and, as has been the case so many times this season, most came at crucial times. All but two of Jackson State's runs were unearned.

"I look at errors like a batting slump, or

like interceptions or turnovers in football and basketball," said FSU coach Mike Martin. "But if a kid stays down (on the ball), and stays mechanically sound, then you just hope that he comes out of it."

FSU, 21-9, has committed 63 errors this season as it dubiously chases the school record of 123 set by the 1972 team.

Jackson State, 18-6, committed three errors Monday, but the Tigers' misplays were not as critical. Ten of Florida State's runs were earned.

Though Jackson State needed a three-run error by FSU's Eddie Howser to close the gap, Jackson State displayed a strong-hitting club. The Tigers collected 11 hits, including two

home runs by second baseman Curtis Ford.

"We can hit with anybody," said Jackson State coach Robert Braddy, who is four victories away from the 300-mark in his eight year career. "It was not a typical example of how to play defense."

"It's good to play the so-called giants of college baseball. It'll give our program the type of exposure nationally that we deserve."

Jackson State claimed the early lead as Ford clubbed a three-run homer in the top of the second. FSU picked up a run in its half of the inning before Jackson State pushed the margin to 4-1 in the third. Charles Epperson, who was credited with a triple when his line drive was misjudged by center fielder Mike

Fuentes, scored when second baseman Lionel Martinez' relay throw from shallow center escaped third baseman Rick Figueredo.

FSU exploded for six runs in its half of the third to take a 7-4 lead. Sending 11 batters to the plate, the Seminoles picked up two runs on Jeff Ledbetter's 12th home run of the season and three more on Mike Yastrzemski's second homer of the year.

Jackson State roared right back in the fourth. Mike King led off with a double to right and went to third on Buchanan's fly out to center. Consecutive errors by Martinez and Figueredo scored King and put runners on second and third. The runner from third

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scored on an infield hit by Mike Cain and the tying run crossed on Tim Foster's ground ball to shortstop Don DeLoach.

FSU went on top 8-7 in the sixth on a one-out single by DeLoach and a two-out double by Ledbetter. FSU added four runs in the seventh on three singles and a two-run double by Martinez.

In the ninth, FSU reliever Jamie Shouppe, who came in for winner Ken Fischer (2-1) in the seventh, ran into trouble. After setting down five straight batters, Shouppe gave up a leadoff homer to Ford to open the inning.

He struck out Cain and Foster before giving up a single to Larry McNutt. Shouppe then loaded the bases by walking Charles Epperson and hitting David Warren on the hip.

Then came the major miscue. Designated hitter Mike King stroked a grounder to Howser, who had replaced Figueredo at third in the ninth. Howser fumbled the grounder, then threw the ball away at first, allowing all three runners to score. With King at second, Shouppe induced Buchanan to ground to Martinez for the final out.

"Jamie only got hurt when he hit that batter after getting an 0-2 count," said Martin of Shouppe, who picked up his third save of the season. "That was his only bad pitch."

"I thought Fischer did OK. His loca-

tion wasn't as good as it should be, but I was pleased with his performance."

FSU will play Cleveland State today at 3:30 before taking off for six games against Georgia schools (Georgia, Georgia State and Valdosta State). FSU next plays at home April 1 against Florida.

JACKSON STATE					FLORIDA STATE				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Cain ss	5	0	1	1	Martinez 2b	4	2	3	2
Foster cf	5	0	1	1	DeLoach ss	5	1	2	0
McNutt 1b	5	1	3	0	Barineau ss	0	0	0	0
Elterson 3b	4	1	2	0	Fuentes cf	5	1	0	0
Bradford pr	0	1	0	0	Ledbetter dh	4	1	2	3
Warren lf	4	1	1	0	Lacy 1b	4	2	3	0
Braddy pr	0	1	0	0	Cawthon 1b	1	0	0	0
M. King dh	5	1	1	0	Licata lf	4	2	3	1
Webb rf	1	0	0	0	Huff lf	1	0	0	0
Buchanan rf	4	0	0	0	Yastrzemski rf	4	1	2	3
R. King c	3	2	0	0	Cullen rf	0	0	0	0
Ford 2b	4	3	2	4	Ramsey c	4	1	1	0
					Figueredo 3b	3	1	1	1
					Howser 3b	0	0	0	0
Totals	40	11	11	6	Totals	39	12	17	10

Jackson State 031 300 004 — 11
Florida State 016 001 40x — 12

E — Epperson, Cain, McNutt, Martinez 2, Figueredo, Howser. DP — Jackson State 2, Florida State 2. LOB — Jackson State 5, Florida State 8. 2B — Warren, M. King, Martinez, Ledbetter, Lacy, Licata. 3B — Epperson. HR — Ford 2 (3), Ledbetter (12), Yastrzemski (2).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Jackson State						
LaFrance (L,4-1)	5 2/3	13	8	7	3	3
Henry	2 1/3	4	4	3	2	1
Florida State						
Fischer (W,2-1)	6	9	7	3	1	5
Shouppe (S,3)	3	2	4	1	1	5

HBP — by Shouppe (Warren). WP — Henry 3. PB — R. King, Ramsey. T — 2:50. A — 257.