

Hilltoppers rough up FSU 10-6

By George Maselli
Democrat staff writer

In a home such as Seminole Stadium, with its reach-out-and-touch-someone right field wall, Florida State often lives by the home run. Tuesday night, the Seminoles died by it.

The Western Kentucky Hilltoppers belted five home runs and beat the Seminoles 10-6 with 1,243 watching at Seminole Stadium.

Florida State, 22-7, plays Samford tonight. Western Kentucky, a member of the Sun Belt Conference, is 9-3.

The two teams combined for eight home runs in the game, seven over the handy short wall in right.

"Oooh, that short porch in right," said Western Kentucky second baseman Brien Blakely, who hit two home runs Tuesday night to double his output of 1984. "I love it. You have to learn how to use the ballpark to your advantage."

"That's the way this park is," said FSU Coach Mike Martin, whose team was out-hit 15-7.

The Seminoles jumped out to a 4-0 lead in the third inning. With two out, Western Kentucky starting pitcher Larry Shikles got into two-out trouble by walking Eric Mangham and hitting Luis Alicea with a pitch. Bien Figueroa followed with a run-scoring single, and then Frank Fazzini hit a three-run homer to right.

The Hilltoppers got a run back in the fourth on a solo homer by Mike Roy. They added two more in the fifth with the help of an error by FSU second baseman Luis Alicea, who dropped a pop up.

"We gave them a couple of runs, and then they got their confidence up and started hacking," said Martin.

Most of their damage came in the seventh against FSU starter Mike Loynd, after the Seminoles went up 5-3 on a solo homer by Mangham. Rob Tomberlin slugged a two-run homer to right to tie the score at 5-5, and John Clem followed with a solo homer to make it 6-5 and knock out Loynd.

Loynd, 5-2, had a curious game. He struck out nine, all of them in the first four innings. He seemed to lose it suddenly, not fanning any more in the fifth, sixth and seventh.

"Mike made a few mistakes and they went out of the ballpark," said Martin. "That's what you live with here."

Reliever Pete Brown was touched for a two-run homer by Blakely to cap the five-run rally. Blakely also hit a roughly 320-foot solo shot to right in the ninth off Kevin Smith, the fourth FSU pitcher of the night.

"You throw a slider on the outside corner and the guy reaches out ... It's ridiculous," said Smith.

Western starter Larry Shikles, 4-0, went the distance, yielding only seven hits. He held on late, when most visiting pitchers fade from excitement and intimidation.

He set FSU down in order in the seventh and eighth. FSU's Keith Kidd hit a solo homer — to where else? — right in the ninth, but that was the only charge the Seminoles could make at Shikles. Kidd, a bright spot of a dark FSU night, also made a spectacular diving catch in the sixth inning.

But Shikles was the story on a home-run night.

"He was one of the best we've seen this year," said Martin.

"I'd say I was on," the right-hander said. "We wanted to show that we are a good ballclub. We've probably got the best team in our region — Tennessee, Kentucky and Indiana."

| W. Kentucky | | | | | Florida St. | | | | |
|--------------|----|---|---|----|-------------|----|---|---|----|
| | ab | r | h | bi | | ab | r | h | bi |
| Strijek,ss | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | Alicea,2b | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Tomberlin,3b | 5 | 2 | 2 | 3 | Figueroa,ss | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Clem,rf | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | Fazzini,lf | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Roy,1b | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 | Zoeller,dh | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|----|----|----|----|------------|----|---|---|---|
| Logic,c | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 | Jones,1b | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Blakely,2b | 5 | 2 | 3 | 3 | Marzan,3b | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Daniel,dh | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Kidd,rf | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Inghram,cf | 5 | 0 | 2 | 0 | Fulton,c | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Galan,lf | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Mangham,cf | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Totals | 42 | 10 | 15 | 10 | Kosco,ph | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | Totals | 33 | 6 | 7 | 6 |

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|---|----|----|---|
| W. Kentucky | 000 | 120 | 511 | — | 10 | 15 | 0 |
| Florida St. | 004 | 010 | 001 | — | 6 | 7 | 1 |

E—Alicea. DP—FSU 1. 2B—Logic, Alicea. 3B—Roy. HR—Fazzini, Roy (4), Mangham (7), Tomberlin (6), Kidd (5), Clem (6), Blakely 2 (4). SB—Clem, Kidd, Strijek.

| | IP | H | R | ER | BB | SO |
|-----------------|-------|---|---|----|----|----|
| W. Kentucky | | | | | | |
| Shikles, W(4-0) | 9 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 1 | 4 |
| Florida St. | | | | | | |
| Loynd, L(5-2) | 6 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 9 |
| Brown | 1 2/3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Thomas | 1/3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Smith | 1 1/3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |

HBP—Alicea (Shikles). T—2:54. A—1243.