

Seminoles hang on to avoid a Pitt fall

By David Whitley
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Usually by the time the ninth inning rolls around at Seminole Stadium, the only ones left are the participants and the diehards. Everybody stayed put Wednesday night.

Florida State held off a suddenly resilient Pittsburgh team 9-7 before 813 fans who had to stay until the very last out before they could leave happy. The win improved the Seminoles' record to 26-10 and completed a three-game sweep of the Panthers, who left Tallahassee 0-3 but gained a little respect on Wednesday night after being punished 18-2 the night before.

Pittsburgh just wouldn't die as it

fought back from 6-1 and 8-5 deficits and eventually had the go-ahead run on base in the top of the ninth. Then, with two out and the bases loaded, shortstop Greg Lamanti stroked a line drive to FSU third baseman Jose Marzan, who made a jumping stab that averted the possible Seminole disaster.

"If that ball's not caught, it would have gone all the way to the corner and we would have been down one run," said FSU Coach Mike Martin. "It's a crazy game."

Tuesday night's was loonier than most. For six innings it was a pitching duel between Pittsburgh's Rich Gavran and FSU's Doug Little. Then unearned runs turned it into a scoring duel.

FSU's biggest break of the night

came in the sixth. Pittsburgh had scraped out a 2-1 lead on a home run and RBI single by catcher Chris Jelic. The lead looked safe with the way Gavran was mixing up his pitches and confusing FSU hitters. That all began to change with one out, though.

Designated hitter Vince Calandra laid down a bunt that Gavran fielded cleanly but then threw past first base. By the time the ball was tracked down, Calandra was on third base and the complexion of the game had changed permanently.

Gavran, who was starting his first game of the year, suddenly looked tired and Marzan doubled to the leftfield corner. Second baseman Ed Bodnor then booted Paul Sorrento's grounder, allow-

ing Marzan to score. That gave FSU the lead. Barry Blackwell followed with a walk, then Keith Kidd doubled Mangham home. Blackwell scored on a sacrifice fly by Luis Alicea and Kidd capped the inning by stealing home.

"That's this ballpark; it's a hitters' ballpark," Kidd said of the game evolving from a fast-paced pitching show into a drawn-out run parade. "(Gavran) was keeping people off balance. The kid pitched a heckuva ballgame."

All he had to show for it though was an 0-1 record. The winner was Doug Little, 7-1, who allowed six hits in 6 2/3 innings. He was lifted in the sixth when Pittsburgh scored three times to cut the FSU lead to 6-5. The telling blow was a

See FSU, 3D

two-run double by rightfielder Tom Horew, who had three hits on the night.

FSU added two more in the seventh off reliever Keith Shuster, who provided little relief in his three innings of work. The runs came on solo home runs by Frank Fazzini and Calandra. Blackwell also had a solo shot in the second inning.

But Pittsburgh came right back in the eighth against FSU reliever Richie Lewis. A walk and two single loaded the bases with one out, then Bodnor hit a sharp grounder to third that Marzan booted, allowing one run to score. Ray Revak relieved Lewis and shut down the Panther rally. He got first baseman Dave Westwood to bounce into a forceout, and Horew then hit into a fielder's choice.

FSU added its final run in the eighth on a single by Kidd, who advanced to second on a fielder's choice and then scored when Westwood threw wildly to Shuster, who was trying to cover first on Bien Figueroa's grounder.

As it turned out, the run wasn't needed, though nobody could be

sure at the time with the way things were going.

"I thought when we got up by five runs that the game was over," said Martin. "They just kept scrapping and coming back. If it hadn't have been for a couple of plays that they didn't make, it would have been a different ballgame."

FSU's next game is Saturday at Southern Mississippi.

Pittsburgh					Florida State				
ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi	
Bodnar, 2b	5	1	0	1	Alicea, 2b	4	0	1	1
D. Westwood, 1b	4	1	0	1	Figueroa, ss	3	0	0	0
Horew, rf	5	1	3	2	Fazzini, lf	5	1	1	1
Jelic, c	5	1	2	2	Zoeller, 1b	2	0	0	0
Lohman, lf	4	0	0	0	Calandra, dh	3	2	1	1
DiBucci, dhh	4	0	0	0	Marzan, 3b	3	1	2	1
Lamanti, ss	4	1	1	0	Sorrento, rf	3	0	0	0
Murray, 3b	5	2	3	0	Blackwell, c	3	2	1	1
Stennett, cf	4	0	1	0	Kidd, rf	4	2	2	1
Faught, pr	0	0	0	0	Jones, 1b	1	0	0	0
Totals	40	7	10	6	Mangham, cf	1	1	0	0
					Totals	32	9	8	6

Pittsburgh	010 010 320	— 7 10 3
Florida State	010 005 21x	— 9 8 3

E—Alicea, Gavran, Bodnar, Kidd, Marzan, D. Westwood. LOB—Pittsburgh 11, FSU 7. 2B—Marzan, Kidd, Horew. HR—Jelic (1), Blackwell (3), Fazzini (12), Calandra (7). SB—Stennett, Marzan 2, Alicea, Kidd, Mangham. SF—Alicea.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Pittsburgh						
Gavran, L (0-1)	6	4	6	1	6	4
Shuster	3	4	3	2	1	0
Florida State						
Little, W (7-1)	6 2/3	6	5	3	3	6
Lewis	2 2/3	2	2	1	1	1
Revak, S (1)	1 2/3	2	0	0	1	1

PB—Blackwell. T—2:51. A—813.