

Blackwell, FSU bomb Jacksonville

By George Maselli
Democrat staff writer

For a guy who just had a good month in one day, Florida State catcher Barry Blackwell was rather low-key Thursday. The strains of a losing streak remained, even after the Seminoles had beaten Jacksonville 19-8.

When a player hits three home runs, a single and a double, drives in seven runs and picks a crucial runner off third base, you might expect some unrestrained glee.

But there was little euphoria among any of the Seminoles. Satisfaction was more the order of the day after they overcame an early deficit to beat the Dolphins.

"I haven't had a reason to call home in a while," said Blackwell, a freshman from New Providence, N.J. "I'm going to call home tonight."

The victory snapped a four-game losing streak for the Seminoles, 33-15. They host Tulane for a three-game Metro Conference series with a single game tonight and a doubleheader Saturday. The Dolphins, who won here Wednesday night, are 25-17.

Blackwell

"We hope that little streak is over," said FSU Coach Mike Martin, who like his players had been feeling the strain. "This was a big ballgame for us. People will look at the final score and not realize that we were behind by five runs in the fourth inning."

In most ways, the game was typical of so many others at Seminole Stadium. There were seven home runs hit and seven pitchers used. As it turned out, the Dolphins were deserving victims. Their pitchers issued 12 walks and their fielders made four errors.

But the recent Seminole woes certainly extended through the first 3½ innings. The Dolphins hit FSU starter Al Ashmont for six runs before he was knocked out in the fourth inning. It looked worse when reliever Ray Revak gave up a three-run homer in that fourth.

The Seminoles, however, got what they had been needing lately — a comeback victory. Revak, 2-3, kept things basically in control for four innings to make it possible.

A solo homer by Blackwell, four straight walks and a two-run single by Tommy Zoeller produced four runs in the fourth.

That was merely a preliminary to the seven-run fifth. Blackwell's homer, his fifth of the season, started it all. Clutch two-out hits by Jose Marzan, Blackwell and Eric Mangham capped the rally.

Jacksonville, leading 7-6 in the top of the fifth, had runners on second and third and one out. When Jeff Kennedy wandered a step too far off the bag, Blackwell nailed him with a quick throw. The Seminoles proceeded to take command after that.

Blackwell's three-run homer in the seventh and a solo shot by Frank Fazzini and a double by Blackwell in the eighth were the other Seminole highlights of a long game.

"Barry Blackwell just put on a show," said Martin. "He's one of the strongest kids we've had here."

Blackwell wasn't beaming a smile, but one almost broke loose from Martin.

"I was impressed with the way we went out there and did a job," Martin said. "Our guys have made a vow to play as hard as they can for every out and every inning for the rest of the year."

Jacksonville					Florida State				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
T.Meucci,lf	5	1	2	3	Alicea,2b	5	2	2	0
Carr,2b	1	0	0	0	Figueroa,ss	4	2	0	0
S.Meucci,2b	2	0	0	0	Fazzini,lf	5	2	2	2
Martello,c	0	0	0	0	Zoeller,1b	4	1	2	3
Kennedy,1b	5	1	2	2	Jones,1b	1	0	0	0
Marabel,cf	4	2	1	0	Sorrento,rf	2	2	1	0
Ballard,rf	4	0	0	0	Kidd,rf	1	1	0	0
Pruett,3b	4	2	3	2	Calandra,dh	4	0	0	0
Palermo,dh	5	1	2	1	Saxner,dh	1	1	1	0
Hennessy,ss	4	2	2	1	Marzan,3b	4	1	1	2
Godfrey,c	4	0	1	0	Eppley,ph	1	0	0	0
Chrstophr,2b	1	0	0	0	Pacetti,3b	1	1	0	0
					Blackwell,c	5	3	5	7
					Mangham,cf	4	2	3	2
Totals	39	9	13	9	Totals	42	18	17	16

Jacksonville	110	511	000	—	9	13	4
Florida State	011	470	32x	—	18	17	1

E—Pruett, Hennessy 2, Ballard, Alicea.
DP—Jacksonville 1. LOB—Jacksonville 9,
FSU 12. 2B—Blackwell. HR—Kennedy (7),
Pruett (9), T.Meucci (4), Blackwell 3 (6),
Fazzini (16). SB—Alicea, Sorrento, Marabel.
S—Ballard.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Jacksonville						
Thompson	3½	5	6	5	5	1
Subik, L(0-4)	1½	6	7	7	4	2
Rono	1½	3	3	2	1	0
Nelson	1½	3	2	2	2	3
Florida State						
Ashmont	3½	4	6	6	3	2
Revak, W(2-3)	4½	8	3	3	1	2
Thomas	1	1	0	0	1	0

T—3:23. A—513.