

FSU tops Sunblazers in spite of its injuries

Florida State's baseball team is like a Cadillac with only two tires. But it just keeps on chugging down the road.

Despite suffering yet another rash of injuries, the Seminoles came from behind to clip Florida International 12-10 in a marathon baseball game Sunday afternoon at Seminole Stadium.

FSU, currently sitting atop the Collegiate Baseball-ESPN poll, improved to 16-2, while the Sunblazers dropped to 9-9.

It was a unusual game, with massive personnel changes that followed an injury to third baseman Chad McClellan in the third inning, ejections of Florida International center fielder Ken Adderley and then his coach, Danny Price, and a parade of pitchers displayed by both teams.

Once again, with their backs to the wall, the Seminoles came through in the clutch, scoring four runs in the eighth to erase a 10-8 deficit and put the Sunblazers on the defensive. Tough pitching in the last two innings by short reliever Mike Lee, who picked up his first win of the year, backed up FSU's late offensive charge.

Injuries have drained the FSU lineup to such an extent that Coach Mike Martin really isn't sure who he's going to use when the Seminoles face Samford today at 3:30 p.m.

McClellan took a shot to the lips in the third inning when he tried to field a hard-hit grounder by Andre Lambros. He may miss a few days, according to Martin. But there is much more.

Out of action, for various periods of time, are third baseman Bar-

ry Blackwell (groin), outfielder Keith Kidd (flu) and designated hitter Tommy Zoeller (back). All three are starters. Add to that players injured earlier in the year: starting outfielder Deion Sanders (ankle), pitchers Paul Thomas (shoulder) and Al Ashmont (elbow).

"We are down to our last nine players, and this is the first time that I've been coaching that this has happened," said Martin. "We're at the point now where we're playing with a patched-up lineup. But it's a credit the way the team's hanging in."

Several of the injured, including Thomas and Kidd, will be returning sometime this week, according to Martin.

McClellan's injury in the third threw Martin's lineup into chaos. Jose Marzan was brought over from first, Craig Saxner moved from left field — a new position for the reserve catcher — over to first, and freshman Greg Clayborne came into the game in left.

FSU still was able to build on a 4-3 lead in the bottom half of the third inning on a three-run homer by Paul Sorrento that cleared the Screened Porch in right.

Florida International closed the gap to 7-4 in the fourth on an RBI single by Nelson Caraballo, then picked two more in the fifth, forcing Martin to pull starter Richie Lewis, whose fastballs were getting tagged all over the place by Sunblazer batters.

Reliever Steve Kovensky had his problems, too, serving up three more runs in the sixth that gave the Sunblazers a 9-7 lead.

That was followed by a heated altercation between Sunblazer coach Price and home-plate umpire

Bruce Ravan who ejected Adderley for what Price said were his "mannerisms" at the plate. After several seconds of intense discussion, Ravan ejected Price, who had to be restrained at one point before finally leaving for the bullpen.

After the Sunblazers went scoreless in the seventh, FSU picked up a run in the bottom of the inning to cut the lead to 9-8. But Florida International came right back in the eighth with a run of its own.

Down by two going into the bottom of the eighth, the Seminoles went to work. Luis Alicea led off with a single to left, and Figueroa drew a walk. Ed Fulton then scored Alicea with a single to right. Sorrento followed with another RBI single to tie the score at 10. After Steve Taddeo walked and Craig Saxner struck out, Eric Mangham hit a two-run single to give FSU the lead.

Florida International					Florida State				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Adderley,cf	5	2	3	0	Marzan,1b	6	1	1	1
Pineda,dh	1	0	0	0	Alicea,2b	4	1	1	0
Olea,ss	6	1	2	2	Figueroa,ss	4	2	2	0
Lambros,1b	5	2	2	0	Fulton,c	4	2	2	1
Gonzales,dh	4	0	1	0	Sorrento,rf	3	4	2	4
Moore,pr	0	1	0	0	Taddeo,dh	3	1	1	1
Duarte,ph	0	1	0	0	Saxner,lf-1b	4	1	1	1
Krzeminski3b	4	2	2	4	Mangham,cf	3	0	3	2
Fair,2b	4	1	0	0	McClellan,3b	1	0	0	1
Ferradas,rf	4	0	1	2	Clayborne,lf	3	0	1	0
Taylor,lf-rf	4	1	2	0					
Caraballo,c	4	0	2	1					
Totals	42	10	16	9	Totals	35	12	14	11

Florida International	300	123	010-10
Florida State	043	000	14x-12

E—Kavensky, Saxner. DP—FIU 2. LOB—FIU 13, FSU 10. 2B—Figueroa, Taddeo, Saxner, Gonzales, Taylor, Ferradas, Krzeminski. HR—Krzeminski (2), Marzan (1), Sorrento (4), Olea (1). SB—Adderley, Fulton, Sorrento. CS—Mangham. SH—Krzeminski. SF—Krzeminski.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Florida International						
Garcia	2	6	5	5	1	0
Moushon	3	3	2	2	6	3
Cook (L 1-1)	2	3	4	4	3	1
Deal	1	2	1	1	1	1

Florida State						
Lewis	5	12	8	8	2	5
Kovensky	2½	3	2	1	4	4
Lee (W 1-0)	1½	1	0	0	0	1

T—3:40. A—1903.