

FSU's Lewis strikes out 20

By George Maselli
Democrat staff writer

When Richie Lewis or Mike Loynd are on the mound, the boisterous Seminole Stadium group known as the Animals has started a new Florida State tradition. For each strikeout, they hang a "K" over the wall near the visitors' dugout.

One problem. They didn't bring enough signs to the ballpark Thursday night. Richie Lewis abused the Jacksonville Dolphins, striking out 20 in a 9-2 Seminole victory with 2,187 disbelieving fans watching.

The 20 was believed to be the second-highest total in FSU baseball history, second only to the stunning 25 strikeouts posted by Tony Avitable in 1957 against Furman. Lewis reclaimed the team strikeout lead from

“He just had an awesome game. What can you do when a guy's got stuff like that?”

— Jacksonville's Scott Marabell

Loynd, the other half of the hottest strikeouts tandem in FSU history. Loynd fanned 13 Central Florida hitters Wednesday night to run his total to 103 in 70 innings. Lewis, a sophomore from Muncie, Ind., now has fanned 116 in 70½ innings.

“They better start making some more signs, man,” said the smiling Lewis, who raised his record to 8-1. He was reached for just five hits and five walks. The two runs came on a towering home run by Scott Marabell

that gave the Dolphins a brief 2-0 lead in the first inning.

“He just had an awesome game,” said Marabell, who set a Jacksonville record by hitting safely in his 22nd straight game before striking out his last three times up. “What can you do when a guy's got stuff like that?”

Lewis, who struck out the side in the first, fourth and seventh innings, said he struggled in the first three innings. “I couldn't get my breaking ball over and my fastball was riding high,” he said. “They were both going good after the fourth. I felt I could throw either one for a strike.”

Thanks to his teammates, who continue to grind out runs, Lewis had little to worry about but his strikeout totals. After Bien Figueroa beat out an infield

single with two outs in the bottom of the first, Paul Sorrento hombed a home-run to right-center to tie the game. Sorrento has been killing the ball, hitting shots that look like golf balls crushed off a tee. It was his 10th home run to tie him for the team lead with Jose Marzan and Ed Fulton.

“You know, so many times people forget that we had a two-run deficit until Paul Sorrento picks us up with that home run,” said FSU coach Mike Martin, a happy man with his team running its record to 36-5.

The Seminoles broke it open in the third on a rally begun with a bunt single by Luis Alicea and highlighted by Barry Blackwell's two-run double to left. They added two more in the fourth and two more in the

See FSU, 5D

fifth. Blackwell led the offense with three RBIs.

The Dolphins, now 21-14, hit Lewis hard the first two innings. In the second, John Vuz and then Fred Story ripped singles through the middle that had Lewis ducking out of the way. But from then on, it was over as Lewis' nasty curveball that breaks late, wide and down set up his fastball.

JACKSONVILLE					FLORIDA STATE				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Barefoot,ss	4	0	0	0	Marzan,1b	5	1	1	1
Ballard,lf	0	1	0	0	Alicea,2b	4	1	1	0
Marabell,cf	4	1	1	2	Figueroa,ss	3	1	1	2
Kennedy,1b	3	0	0	0	Sorrento,rf	2	2	1	2
Ferlin,dh	3	0	0	0	Fulton,c	3	2	0	0
Donahue,rf	3	0	0	0	Taddeo,dh	4	0	3	0
Vuz,c	3	0	1	0	Blackwell,3b	4	1	2	3
Story,3b	2	0	1	0	Clayborne,lf	4	0	1	1
Carr,2b	4	0	1	0	Mangham,cf	4	1	1	0
Rodriguez,1b	1	0	1	0	McClellan,3b	0	0	0	0
DiRienzo,ph	1	0	0	0					
Semper,rf	1	0	0	0					
Godfrey,3b	2	0	0	0					
Totals	31	2	5	2	Totals	33	9	11	9

Jacksonville	200	000	000—2
Florida State	203	220	00x—9

E—Donahue, Ausanio. DP—Jacksonville 1, FSU 1. LOB—Jacksonville 7, FSU 4. 2B—Clayborne, Blackwell, Mangham. HR—Marabell (7), Sorrento (10). SB—Alicea, Sorrento. SF—Figueroa.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Jacksonville						
Stanford L, 5-4	3	9	7	6	2	0
Ausanio	4	2	2	0	1	1
Thompson	1	0	0	0	0	0
Florida State						
Lewis W, 8-1	9	5	2	2	5	20

Sanford pitched to two batters in the 4th.

WP—Stanford. T—2:30. A—2,187.