

Fernandez pitches Miami to 8-1 win

By David Lee Simmons

Democrat staff writer

He didn't wear a cape, and didn't leap any tall buildings.

But even though Alex Fernandez may not have been the Superman he's been billed as — at least not Saturday — he was good enough to shut FSU down. The freshman struck out 10 and walked three as the Hurricanes coasted past FSU 8-1 before 5,160 at Dick Howser Stadium.

That tied up this three-game series at one apiece, with the two finishing it up today at 1 p.m.

FSU (31-10), ranked No. 12 in Baseball America and No. 15 in the Collegiate Baseball-ESPN poll, saw a nine-game winning streak end. Miami (26-11), ranked No. 11 in both polls, avoided its first five-game losing streak since 1966.

Fernandez overcame a shaky first inning, which produced nothing for FSU, and got out of only one major jam to improve to

8-1. The former first-round pro draft pick scattered eight hits.

FSU didn't get a baserunner past first base between the fourth and ninth innings.

FSU's starter Tim Nedin, inconsistent all year, was scheduled for a bad outing after posting his first complete game in a 6-2 win over Southern Mississippi last week. The lefthander made good in the first inning, giving up a single and an RBI triple, hitting one batter and walking another. He also threw two wild pitches, one scoring Will Vespe, before Martin pulled him with one out.

Brad Gregory came in and struck out the next two batters, but the Seminoles were already faced with a 2-0 deficit and the prospect of facing Fernandez.

Seemingly about as erratic as Nedin — at least early on — Fernandez walked the first two batters before getting the first visit from Hurricane coach Ron Fraser. Bob Reboin, starting at first for an ill Brad Parker, reached first on a fielding error to load the bases.

But Pedro Grifol, the Miami native facing his old childhood friend, bounced into a

double play. Buddy Cribb struck out looking to end FSU's biggest threat.

Miami responded with another run in the top of the second, with Joe Trujillo reaching on a bunt and going to second on Gregory's throw over Reboin's head and scoring on Will Vespe's single up the middle.

FSU had another chance in the second when Reboin singled and Grifol doubled with two out, but Cribb struck out again — looking. The Seminoles' lone run off Fernandez came in the fourth when Dean Harrison singled, moved over to third on two groundouts and scored on Brian Gilliland's infield single.

Gregory did a blue-collar job in middle relief, shutting the Hurricanes down until John Viera led off the sixth by slamming the first pitch over the right-field screen. Trujillo singled, and went to second on a sacrifice bunt. A walk later, and Gregory was gone, bringing in Matt Dunbar, who has been surprisingly erratic this season.

Miami opened the game up when Henry Hernandez blasted a two-run shot off Scott Steinitz, who had come in for Dunbar. Steinitz earlier allowed to runners to score on a wild pitch, and another on a stolen base when Grifol apparently failed to call time out and Dulom scored.

Today, FSU will start righthander Clyde Keller, who is undefeated in his four starts this season with three complete games.

MIAMI					FLORIDA STATE				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Trujillo, 2b	3	2	3	0	Bevis, 2b	4	0	1	0
Noriega, ss	1	0	0	0	Ronan, cf	3	0	0	0
Santgro, ss/2b	3	0	0	0	Reboin, 1b	3	0	1	0
Vespe, rf	3	2	2	2	Grifol, c	4	0	1	0
Dulom, 3b	4	1	1	0	Cribb, dh	4	0	0	0
Fernndz, dh/p	0	0	0	0	Harrison, rf	3	1	1	0
Tosar, dh	3	1	1	0	Bargas, 3b	3	0	1	0
Flores, c	2	0	0	0	Tamayo, lf	3	0	1	0
Hirsch, c	3	0	1	0	Perez, ph	1	0	1	0
Sharts, 1b	1	0	0	0	Gilliland, ss	3	0	1	1
Hernandez, 1b	3	1	2	2	Dannunzio, ph	1	0	0	0
Borges, lf	2	0	0	0	Nedin, p	0	0	0	0
Hinde, lf	3	0	1	0	Gregory, p	0	0	0	0
Viera, cf	4	1	1	1	Dunbar, p	0	0	0	0
DiMarc, lf	0	0	0	0	Steinitz, p	0	0	0	0
Totals	35	8	12	5	Totals	32	1	8	1

Miami 210 001 004—8
Florida State 000 100 000—1

E—Dulom, Gregory 2, Trujillo, DP—Miami 2.
Left—Miami 9, FSU 9. 2B—Grifol, Hinde.
Dulom, 3B—Vespe, HR—Viera (2), Hernandez
(2). SB—Trujillo, Fernandez, Tosar 2, Dulom.
CS—Trujillo, Harrison, SH—Reboin, Santangelo.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Miami						
Fernandez W, 8-1	9	8	1	1	4	10
Florida State						
Nedin L, 5-4	½	2	2	2	1	0
Gregory	5	6	2	2	3	6
Dunbar	3	3	3	3	2	3
Steinitz ½	1	1	1	0	1	

WP—Nedin 2, Steinitz. BK—Dunbar. HBP—
Dulom (by Nedin), Santangelo (by Gregory).
T—3:13. A—5,160.