

# Miami puts the Seminoles away 7-3

By David Lee Simmons  
Democrat staff writer

CORAL GABLES — Florida State is still waiting to kick its final stretch into gear.

The Seminoles dropped a 7-3 decision to top-ranked Miami Friday night before 6,482 at Mark Light Stadium.

Playing much as it had two days earlier against Florida International, FSU suffered from poor defense and missed scoring opportunities.

The Seminoles, 40-12 with eight regular-season games remaining, committed

four errors, including two during a two-run Miami first inning. Meanwhile, the visitors did little with the meager scoring chances given them by starting pitcher Oscar Munoz.

FSU, ranked No. 6 by Collegiate Baseball-ESPN and No. 9 by Baseball America, lost its second straight game.

Miami improved to 46-6 on the year. The two teams continue their three-game series tonight at 7:30.

"We'll just have to bounce back," said FSU coach Mike Martin, who was forced to coach third base for the first time in five years because assistant coach Chip Baker

had the flu. Martin held up Allen Bevis on a crucial play in the sixth, forcing Bevis into a rundown.

"There's nothing wrong with this ball club," Martin continued. "I'm not the least bit down, or discouraged. There's a lot of baseball left."

But for FSU to be successful during these final games, something must change.

The Seminoles have committed seven errors over the past two games, and Friday they stranded runners in scoring position in the sixth, seventh and eighth innings. They did score two runs during an eighth-inning rally, before reliever Todd

Bush struck out Chris Brock with two outs.

That gave Bush his ninth save, preserving a win for Munoz (14-0), who leads Division I in victories.

FSU starter Gar Finnvoold (11-3) was hurt more by FSU's defense than by his own pitching. Finnvoold, who played for Palm Beach Junior College, allowed a season-high six walks and eight hits in his 6-plus innings.

It was Finnvoold's first loss since a 9-1 loss to Arizona State on March 31.

"You don't like to see those errors. I guess it's something we've just got to work on," said Finnvoold, who is winless in two

starts here. "Sure, I'd like to be 2-0 (here), but it's not something I'm going to lose any sleep over."

FSU is now 1-5 against teams ranked in the Top 10, while Miami is 7-1.

"To be honest, that (record) doesn't mean a thing," Martin said, "because we've got a chance to come back and win (today)."

Trouble started early for Finnvoold and FSU, spotting the Hurricanes two runs in an ugly first inning. Orlando Palmeiro led off with a single followed by Greg Erick-

Please see MIAMI, 3D

son's fielder's choice grounder.

Erickson stole second, went to third on Pete Grifol's throw in the dirt to second, then scored on Finnvoold's wild pitch.

The bases were loaded on two walks and a fielding error by Rocky Rau. Juan Flores' sacrifice fly to center scored Fabregas from third to put Miami up, 2-0.

Finnvoold struck out the side in the second, then served up a lead-off homer to Fabregas in the third. He loaded the bases again, but got John Farrell to fly out to center to minimize the damage.

FSU finally scored in the sixth thanks to two players with Miami connections. Catcher Pete Grifol, a Miami Columbus High graduate, led off with a double and went to third on Eddie Perez's sacrifice bunt down the first-base line.

Up stepped John Marc Tamayo, who transferred from Miami after his freshman year. Tamayo, starting for third baseman Rob Bargas

(who had the flu), poked a single to left to score Grifol.

That cut Miami's lead to 3-1.

FSU threatened again in the sixth, but couldn't do anything after getting two runners to third. Bevis led off with a single and went to second on Munoz's wild pitch.

With one out, Brad Parker singled to center. Martin initially waved Bevis home, but then he held Bevis as he went two-thirds of the way down the base line.

By then, centerfielder Orlando Palmeiro's throw was heading home. Bevis stumbled as he tried to reverse field, and was easily caught in a rundown.

"I was digging hard for the plate trying to score, and I looked up and saw (Martin) waving me in," said Bevis, whose 12-game hitting streak ended. "At first he did ... and then he held me up. He was kinda far down (the line), but I don't think that mattered."

Said Martin: "It was a situation with me not being out there all the time, and was just an error in communication."

Miami unloaded on FSU in the seventh, scoring four runs to chase Finnvoold for a 7-1 lead.

FSU rallied in the eighth, scoring two runs off reliever Elliot

Cianchini. In came Bush, who gave up a sacrifice fly to Eddie Perez and a walk to Tamayo before striking out Chris Brock.

FSU will pitch righthander Brad Gregory (0-1, 11 saves, 1.44 ERA), making his first of the season. Miami will counter with righthander Greg Knowles (10-2, 2.23), who has a lifetime ERA of 18.32 against FSU.

FLORIDA STATE					MIAMI				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Bevis 2b	3	1	0	0	Palmeiro cf	5	1	2	0
Ronan lf	3	1	0	0	Erickson ss	5	2	1	1
Parker dh	4	0	1	0	Fabregas 3b	3	3	2	1
Roberts cf	4	0	2	1	Mora lf	3	0	2	1
Grifol c	4	1	1	0	Johnson 1b	4	0	1	0
Perez 1b	2	0	1	1	Flores c	2	0	1	2
Tamayo 3b	3	0	2	1	Robinson rf	4	0	1	1
Brock rf	4	0	0	0	Farrell dh	3	0	0	0
Rau ss	2	0	0	0	Tosar 2b	3	0	0	0
Cribb ph	1	0	0	0	DiMare lf	0	1	0	0
Gilliland ss	1	0	0	0	Hirsch ph	1	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>

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Miami	201	000	40x	—	7	10	2

E—Grifol, Rau, Fabregas, Finnvoid, Johnson, Brock. DP—Miami 1. LOB—FSU 8, Miami 10. 2B—Grifol. 3B—Fabregas. HR—Fabregas (6). SB—Erickson 2 (28), Johnson (2), DiMare 2 (20). CS—Ronan, Tamayo, Tosar. SH—Perez. SF—Flores, Perez.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
<b>Florida State</b>						
Finnvoid L,11-3	6	8	7	6	6	5
Nedeau	0.1	1	0	0	0	0
Dunbar	1.2	1	0	0	1	1
<b>Miami</b>						
Munoz W,14-0	6.1	6	1	1	2	2
Day	0.2	0	0	0	0	0
Clanchini	0.1	1	2	2	2	0
Bush S,9	1.2	0	0	0	1	1

WP—Finnvoid, Munoz. T—3:10. A—6,482.