

# Georgia Tech gets best of Wilson, Florida State

*The Seminoles' ace has another rough game against the No. 3 Yellow Jackets, who win 6-2.*

**By Steve Ellis**  
DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

As the nation's top college baseball prospect, Paul Wilson is not just another pitcher.

Just don't try convincing Georgia Tech, which for a second straight time proved Wilson is both hittable and beatable Saturday night.

Georgia Tech rocked Wilson (10-3) for a season-high 11 hits, including a homer in each of the first two innings, to even the season series with a 6-2 victory over No. 2 Florida State at Howser Stadium.

"I felt good coming in but I tried to beat a great offensive team with a fastball that I wasn't spotting," Wilson said. "If you can't spot it, they will hit it."

"I'll see 'em in the (ACC) tournament, maybe the (NCAA)

regional."

Georgia Tech (34-10), which handed Wilson a 10-3 loss last season, is the only team to collect at least five runs against Wilson in his three-season college career.

While Wilson struggled with his fastball and slider, Georgia Tech starter Al Gogolin (9-2) held FSU to just five hits in 7½ innings. Georgia Tech's bullpen, including Maclay graduate Tucker Barr, squelched two late-inning comeback tries by the Seminoles.

FSU (40-12 overall, 10-3 ACC), will seek to solidify its second-place position in the league tonight at 7. Phil Olson (5-2, 1.55) will get the start.

Wilson, who gave up eight hits in his only meeting against Georgia Tech last season, got into trouble on his first pitch.

Nomar Garciaparra, another top 25 prospect and Georgia Tech's leading hitter, drove a fastball over the center-field wall.

**Please see FSU, 13B**

Garciaparra would be Wilson's nemesis all game as he ripped three hits and scored twice.

"He threw a slider and I was just sitting back," Garciaparra said. "He's a great pitcher, we know that. Sometimes when you face a pitcher that good, you try to step it up a notch."

"From where I looked, it didn't seem like (Wilson) was his old self."

With Joe McIlvaine, the New York Mets' executive vice president of baseball operations among the 4,949 watching, Wilson opened the second inning by giving up yet another homer. Scott Byers' towering blast over the right-field screen put Georgia Tech ahead 2-1.

Wilson continued to struggle with his slider in the third inning as the Yellow Jackets added two runs on two hits.

"He's got a great fastball but people don't realize he sets it up with his slider," FSU catcher Mike Martin, Jr. said. "That left him with just one pitch (in the early innings)."

After FSU cut the lead to 4-2 in the fourth inning, Georgia Tech had one big inning left in the seventh.

In one of this season's stranger at-bats, Georgia Tech expanded its lead to 6-2 in the seventh when Jay

Payton hit what appeared to be a three-run homer off Wilson. But Payton overran teammate Jason Varitek by a step heading to second, was called out, and was credited with a single.

"I thought that he threw a good fastball up and in against Payton," FSU coach Mike Martin said. "Payton just muscled it out of there. The first couple of innings Wilson didn't have really good command (of his slider), but by the middle innings I thought he was pitching good."

"You should lose anytime you give up 14 hits, have only five hits and make two errors. I thought we had a chance at the end if somebody hits it off the screen."

FSU stranded two runners in both the eighth and ninth innings.

Georgia Tech					Florida State				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Gccprra ss	5	2	3	1	Lopez 2b	4	1	1	0
McIntyre 2b	4	1	2	0	Jarrett ss	4	0	0	0
Varitek c	4	1	2	1	Mntkwcz 1b	4	0	1	1
Payton cf	5	0	2	2	Weaver dh	4	1	1	0
Byers 1b	4	1	2	1	Martin c	4	0	2	0
Hensley 3b	5	0	1	0	Hodges rf	4	0	0	1
Smith lf	4	0	0	0	Morris lf	2	0	0	0
Ritter lf	0	0	0	0	Schroeffel cf	2	0	0	0
Sorrow dh	3	0	1	0	Buttery lf	2	0	0	0
Saler rf	4	1	1	0	Bell ph	1	0	0	0
					Nedeau lf	1	0	0	0
					Niles 3b	1	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Georgia Tech</b>					<b>112</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Florida State</b>					<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2</b>

E—Mientkiewicz, Gogolin, Byers, Niles.  
DP—Georgia Tech 1, FSU 2. LOB—Georgia Tech 9, FSU 9. 2B—Lopez, Martin, Sorrow.  
HR—Garciaparra (9), Byers (7). CS—McIntyre.  
SF—McIntyre.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
<b>Georgia Tech</b>						
Gogolin W, 9-2	7 1/3	5	2	1	2	8
Barr	2/3	0	0	0	0	1
Myers	1	0	0	0	2	1
<b>Florida State</b>						
Wilson L, 10-3	6 2/3	11	6	4	2	6
Cruz	2 1/3	3	0	0	1	3

HBP—By Gogolin (Niles). U—Waller (HP).  
Hodgkin (1B), Sebastian (3B). T—2:40. A—4,949.