

Rice, Seminoles Turn Back A&M, Look to Weekend

Florida State's baseball team continued to fit the pieces back together Wednesday night as the Seminoles pounced on Florida A&M 9-2 behind the tough pitching and big hitting of Marty Rice.

It was the second straight strong showing for the Tribe which is bracing for an invasion by South Alabama's number one ranked Jaguars Saturday and Sunday. The seventh rated Seminoles will meet Coach Eddie Stanky's club in a day-night doubleheader Saturday and a single afternoon contest Sunday.

Wednesday night, Rice stole the spotlight, pitching a five hitter, walking just three and striking out 12. The Tallahassee sophomore went the distance for the sixth time this season and picked up his 10th win against just one loss for the year.

★ ★ ★

THE GAME was a reversal of last week's wild 12-10 FSU win in which a dozen errors were made and the lead switched hands several times in the late innings.

Florida State was in complete control of the game Wednesday, going in front in the second on a two-run double by Rice, who had three hits for the night.

Rick Snyder, who had gotten the first of three singles, and Ken Doria who walked scored on the play.

In the fourth the Tribe

stretched the margin with another pair of runs on a home-run by catcher Dan Roatche.

The Rattlers closed the gap to three in the fifth when Ernest Barron beat out an infield single and William Franklin followed with a triple to left-center.

With pitcher Tommy Holt at the plate, the Rattlers tried to squeeze Franklin home, but twice Holt fouled the pitch off. Rice then picked the runner off third and got Holt to bounce back to the mound.

Doria stroked a bases loaded single to drive in two more runs in the bottom of the fifth as the Seminole lead increased to 6-1.

A double by Herb Sikes and

Tim Sherrill's single plated a single run in the sixth.

Sherrill led off the eighth with his fifth home run of the year, a towering drive that traveled 375-feet to left field.

After two outs in the same inning, three straight singles loaded the bases for the Seminoles and Roger Smith drew a walk to force in the Tribe's final tally.

FAMU picked up its second score in the ninth, when Richard Evans beat out an infield hit, stole second and third and scored on an infield out.

It was a good tune up for the Seminoles who played without the services of outfielders John LiBrandi and Randy Gailey. LiBrandi missed the game because of a bout with the flu and Gailey was given a rest after aggravating an old leg injury earlier in the week.

Both are expected to be back for the South Alabama series.

Florida State is now 26-10 for the year, while FAMU's record dropped to 8-9. The Rattlers will travel to Tuskegee, Saturday, for their next game.

Fla. A&M	ab r h	Fla. State	ab r h
Strong ss	3 0 0	Williams 3b	4 0 1
Bell 1b	4 0 0	Rosa ss	4 0 2
Robinson cf	4 0 0	Smith pr-ss	0 0 0
Evans c	3 1 1	Nichols 1b	4 0 0
Aaron 2b	3 0 1	Sikes lf	4 1 1
Brunson ph	1 0 0	Sherrill, 1b	5 2 2
Barron rf	3 1 1	Snyder cf-rf	5 3 3
Franklin 3b	3 0 1	Roatche c	3 1 1
McCue lf	3 0 1	Doria rf-1b	3 2 2
Nicholson p	0 0 0	Rice p	5 0 3
Collier ph	1 0 0		
Holt p	2 0 0		
Gable p	0 0 0		
TOTALS	32 2 5	TOTALS	37 9 15

Florida A&M 000 010 001—2
Florida State 020 221 02x—9

E—Bell, Aaron. DP—FAMU 2. LOB—FAMU 5, FSU 16. 2B—Rice Sikes. 3B—Franklin. HR—Roatche (3), Sherrill (5) RBI—Rice 2, Roatche 2, Franklin, Doria 2, Sherrill 2, Smith, Brunson. SB—Evans 3, Snyder, Aaron.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Nicholson (L, 5-2)	2	2	2	2	2	1
Holt	4 2-3	9	5	4	8	0
Gable	1 1-3	4	2	2	1	2
Rice (W, 10-1)	9	5	2	2	3	12

WP—Rice. PB—Evans. U—Wood, Hopkins. T—2:57. A—1,500.