

Gators Dealt 3rd Straight Loss

DICKINSON—Coach Bill Ford's Dickinson Gators were blanked for the third week in a row as at Gator Stadium last Friday evening they were shut-out by the West Columbia Roughnecks, 6-0.

The victory was far from a deserved one for the visitors who had only 4 first downs, 45 yards rushing, and 38 yards passing in the entire game.

As in the opener against Angleton, the Gators had their problems keeping the ball.

Three pass interceptions and three fumble recoveries by the Roughnecks stopped Dickinson drives and helped set up the lopsided tally of the night.

In the opening quarter, the Gators started at their own

49 and moved to the Roughneck 25 before a pass interception halted progress.

On the second play of the second period, Dickinson linebacker George Broussard pounced on a loose ball at the Roughneck 47.

However, it took only two more plays before the Gators coughed the pig-skin back via another fumble.

Following a punt, the Gators drove from the Dickinson 32 to the West Columbia 20 before running out of downs. The big play was a 23-yard burst up the middle by wingback David Ford.

The Gator defense forced the visitors to quick kick to the Gator 36. Three plays later, quarterback Ken Ward

launched a 41-yard aerial to end Lewis Little who caught the ball on his finger-tips and strided down to the Roughneck 11.

Mike Robinson gained three and Malin picked up about 5 more, but a holding penalty and another fumble gave the ball to the Roughnecks at their own thirteen.

The rugged Dickinson defense forced a punting situation with less than 30 seconds left in the first half.

Once again the Gators got their signals crossed on whether to return the punt. The ball was touched or fumbled, West Columbia got it, and a 15-yard penalty against Dickinson capped off the mass confusion. A field goal attempt

from the Gator 27 with 0:01 to go was wide so the half ended, 0-0.

Mid-way in the third quarter, the Roughnecks grabbed off another errant Gator pass and were in business on the Gator 35.

It took 5 plays, one being a 20 yard pass, before halfback Wayne Raasch swept left end for the TD. The pass for points fell incomplete, but the damage was done.

The Gators took the kick-off and marched to the West Columbia 34 before another pass was picked off.

Early in the 4th quarter, Dickinson had a 57-yard drive snuffed out by another fumble at the West Columbia 23.

Four plays later, the Gators

took over following a punt on the Roughneck 44. Dickinson then started their final drive.

With 1:37 to go in the game and facing a 4th down situation, Ward picked up 3 yards and the first at the WC 19.

Ward hit a pair of 2-yard passes to Selden Malin and Little with 1:06 remaining. An intentionally grounding the ball penalty on the next play brought up a 4th and 14 situation with 0:44 left. A screen pass to Malin was a bit tall and West Columbia easily ran out the clock to take their second win in three decisions.

Joe Gordon, spring batting instructor for the California Angels, has signed a contract to scout for the team.