

Stallings Is Spoiled

FSU 'Flops' To Victory

By BOB BLANKENSHIP
Executive Sports Editor

Jack Stallings is spoiled, through and through.

The Florida State baseball coach admitted as much yesterday afternoon — right after his Seminoles "struggled" through a 14-7 victory over Virginia at Seminole Field.

"If we hadn't played so well in the early games..." he trailed off, scuffling his spikes

into the red clay... "I wouldn't expect so much now."

Stallings, like most Seminole fans, can't get the 12-0 start out of his mind. That's when the Seminoles played like world beaters and built dreams of grandeur.

Now Stallings is saying things like: "I don't guess we have anyone with a killer instinct on this club."

He was referring specifically about the fact the Seminoles jumped out to an 11-0 lead after three innings yesterday, "then just flopped around."

However, Stallings said he was beginning to live with the situation. Said even he might take a more positive approach and at least hope for the return of the good ole days of a month ago.

"If you didn't know we could play better," he offered, "you'd be tickled to death to be 21-6 and playing like this..."

"But, there in the fourth and fifth innings we played like a bunch of old women...that's what is so irritating about the whole thing..."

"I'm just going to start thinking positively and maybe

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we'll start playing better again..."

If Stallings thinks he's got problems, then Virginia Coach Jim West would be totally unsympathetic.

For the second day in a row, he had trouble finding a pitcher who could get the ball over the plate.

Just like Tuesday night's game when the Seminoles walked around the bases for an early lead en route to an 8-4 win, walks were the undoing for the Virginians again.

Starter Dave LaCross didn't retire a Seminole, giving up a single right in the middle of four walks before being yanked after 22 pitches, only four of which were strikes.

Reliever Brian Hilburn didn't have much better luck. He faced 16 Seminole batters in the second and third innings after being saved by a double play in the first.

By then the Seminoles had rapped him for eight hits and a like number of runs for the 11-0 lead and were so content with the accomplishment they scored only three more runs the rest of the afternoon — mixing walks, errors and misjudged fly balls and Ken Doria's two-run double to score in the sixth.

Meanwhile, Seminole starter Dave Fernald, who cranked up and threw 106 pitches in only four and a third innings, was being hit hard.

He finally lost his control completely in the fifth, and walked six, three of them with the bases loaded and in rapid order.

In all fairness, the seven runs he gave up were not all his fault. Two errors, after two were out in the fifth had as much to do with the situation as anything. As a matter of fact, only one of the runs he surrendered was earned.

Still, Stallings had to call on Dave Price to check the pesky Virginians.

"He came in and did a heck of a job," Stallings noted.

Price, picking up his third victory against one defeat, blanked the visitors on one hit over the last four innings. He struck out six.

Hitting also had a few bright spots. Dave Nichols lashed two hits, one a triple, and Rick Snyder and Fernald had two hits each. Herb Sikes and Doria each had a double and Tom Rosa drove in three runs, one on a bases-loaded walk.

The Seminoles play at Valdosta this afternoon at 3:30, launching a five-game road trip that'll take them to Jacksonville and Georgia Southern over the weekend.

Virginia	ab r h Fla. St.	ab r h
Marvin 2b	4 0 1 Bankston lf	3 2 1
Dan lf	5 0 0 Nichols 2b	4 3 2
Shall ss	4 0 1 Williams 2b	1 0 0
Sroba cf	4 2 2 Snyder cf	4 2 2
Bratt rf	4 2 0 Sikes 3b	3 1 1
White lb	5 1 1 Colzie pr	0 1 0
J. Williams 3b	3 1 2 Price p	1 0 0
Bracht c	2 1 0 LiBrandt rf	4 1 1
Berstein c	2 0 0 Doria lb	2 1 1
LaCross p	0 0 0 Rosa ss	5 1 1
Hilburn p	2 0 0 Smith ss	0 0 0
C. Williams ph	0 0 0 Roatche c	4 1 1
Temple p	1 0 1 Cone c	1 0 0
	Fernald p	2 1 2
	Guemple p	0 0 0
	Huff ph-3b	2 0 0

TOTALS 36 7 8 TOTALS 4 14 12

Virginia	000 250 000—7
Fla. St.	326 030 00x—14

E—Hall, Sroba, White, Hilburn, Temple 2, Nichols, Sikes; DP—Virginia 5, FSU 1; 2B—Snyder, Sikes, Doria; JB—Nichols; RBI—Marvin, Bratt, J. Williams, Bernstein, Temple, Bankston 2, Nichols, Snyder, Sikes 2, LiBrandt, Doria, Rosa 3; SB—Nichols, Snyder; S—Fernald, SF—Bankston; LOB—Virginia 9, FSU 9.

WP—Hilburn, Temple, Fernald, Guemple; U—Mauck, Martin; PB—Bracht 2, Cone.

T—2:42

A—500

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
LaCross (L 0-2)	0	1	3	3	4	0
Hilburn	4	9	7	7	3	1
Temple	4	2	4	2	3	4
Fernald	4 2-3	7	7	1	6	4
Guemple	1-3	0	0	0	1	0
Price (W 3-1)	4	1	0	0	2	6