

# Tribe Scrambles To a 7-4 Victory

Special to The Democrat

AUBURN — Florida State University gave a little further indication here yesterday that it's baseball team was, indeed, back in the groove.

Down 3-0, the Seminoles rocketed from behind, scrambled a bit, then wound up a sometimes stormy game by cutting off a ninth-inning Auburn rally for a 7-4 victory.

It completed a highly successful road trip in which the Seminoles won three of five games — two of three at South Alabama before the two-game split here.

It boosted FSU record to 41-19 with only the traditional season - ending series with Florida remaining before the District tournament.

The Seminoles visit Gainesville for single games Friday and Saturday then return to Tallahassee for three games with the Gators the following weekend.

It was a case of picking themselves up here yesterday while clobbering three Auburn pitchers for 13 hits in a game in which Coach Jack Stallings was ejected in the seventh inning for "discussing" a called

strike with the umpire.

As it turned out, the game had been decided by then, even though a lot of things happened before the final out.

The most significant, as far as the Seminoles were concerned, was the three putouts by third baseman Denny Williams, including an unassisted double play with the bases loaded, in the bottom of the ninth.

His efforts, among other things, earned Mike Scarce a save in relief of winning pitcher Bill Fuller, who hiked

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his record to 9-5 after weathering an early Auburn storm.

The Seminoles also padded their 5-4 lead with a pair of runs in the ninth to somewhat ease the pressure of the Auburn counter - attack.

FSU had gotten its insurance runs on a pair of walks, a wild pitch, a throwing error and a second wild pitch by third Auburn hurdler Tim Handley.

But, what turned out to be the clincher for the Seminoles came in the fourth when Rick Snyder singled home Fuller, who had lashed his second double of the day, to break a 4-4 deadlock.

Auburn had gotten off to a 3-0 lead in the first inning when two walks, a two-run homer by Dave Blodget and a run - scoring single by Greg Butler rocked Fuller into a deep hole.

However, he helped dig himself out by lashing his ground - rule double in the second to scored Jeff Bankston, who had walked.

After Auburn upped its lead to 4-1 with a bunt single, a throwing error by Fuller and Johnny Simmons' run - scoring single in the bottom of the second, the Seminoles deadlocked

it with a three - spot in the third.

After two were out, Tim Sherrill and John LiBrandi singled and Dave Nichols walked to set up the rally. Bankston promptly delivered a two-run single, and, after a wild pitch, Skip Cone singled home Nichols, but Bankston was thrown out at the plate trying to score from second on the play.

Then after Snyder's big single in the fourth, the game settled into a pitcher's duel between Fuller and second Auburn hurler George Wheeler until things started to pop in the ninth.

Fuller had allowed only four base runners from the second inning until the ninth when Simmons and Joe Haefner opened with back - to - back singles to bring on Scarce in relief. An infield single by Andy Merchant loaded the bases before Williams flagged down Blodget steaming line drive and stepped on third for the DP. However, Billy Cameron singled to reload the bases, before Williams scooped up Wayne Hall's bouncer and stepped on the bag for a force out to end the game.

FLA STATE		AUBURN	
	ab r h		ab r h
Williams 3b	4 1 1	Simmons rf	5 0 4
Rosa 2b	3 1 1	Hafner cf	4 0 1
Snyder rf	4 0 1	Merchant c	4 1 1
Sherrill 1b	5 1 3	Blodget 1b	5 1 1
LiBrandi cf	4 1 2	Cammron lf	4 1 1
Nichols ss-2b	3 1 0	Butler 2b	4 0 1
Bankston lf	4 1 1	Hall 3b	4 0 0
Cone c	3 0 2	Hulsey ss	3 1 2
Fuller p	4 1 2	Jones pr	0 0 0
Scarce p	0 0 0	Lawrence p	0 0 0
		Wheeler p	2 0 0
		Daily ph	1 0 0
		Handley p	0 0 0
TOTALS	34 7 13	TOTALS	36 4 11

Florida St. 013 100 002—7  
Auburn 310 000 000—4

E — Hall, Fuller, Bankston. DP —  
FSU 1. LOB — FSU 9, Auburn 11. 2B  
Fuller 2, Simmons. HR — Blodget. RBI  
—Blodget 2, Butler 1, Simmons 1, Fuller,  
1, Bankston 2, Cone 1, Snyder 1. SB —  
Cammron. S — Nichols.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Fuller (W, 9-5)	8	9	4	4	5	3
Scarce	1	2	0	0	0	0
Lawrence (L, 5-2)	3	9	5	5	2	1
Wheeler	5	3	0	0	1	4
Handley	1	2	2	2	2	0

HBP by Lawrence (Cone) by Fuller  
(Hulsey). WP Lawrence, Handley 2. U —  
Milligan, Langston. T 2:21. A 4:15.