

Seminole bats come alive to catch Clemson, 9-8

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There are easy ways to win baseball games. Then there's the Florida State way.

The strategy includes spotting the opposition a few runs by allowing a few shots into the trees. Then the Seminoles strap on their armor and get down to what it's all about — scoring more runs than the other guy.

Saturday against Clemson, last year's NCAA Atlantic Regional champion, the Seminoles once again proved it's not when you

score the runs but that you score the runs.

Trailing 8-2, Florida State rallied for seven runs in the sixth inning to turn back the Tigers 9-8 before 1,553 fans at Seminole Field.

Held to only two hits in the first five innings, the Seminoles retaliated in the sixth by shelling three Tiger pitchers for seven runs on seven hits, including three for extra bases. The barrage — aided by a breeze that sent a few baseballs further than they deserved to go — saw eight consecutive Seminoles reach

base, with the first seven scoring. FSU sent 11 men to the plate during the outburst.

"You just never know in this ball park," Florida State coach Mike Martin said through a wide grin. "You just can't count a team out."

The Seminoles not only benefited from their comfortable surroundings, but also from their bullpen. Junior right-hander Tim Phillips pitched 5½ innings of near masterful relief to gain his first victory of the season. Rick Hatcher, making his fifth appearance in seven

games, earned the save.

The victory was Florida State's fifth straight after a season-opening doubleheader loss to Georgia Southern.

There were several outstanding Seminole performances Saturday, including two hits and two runs batted in by both Don DeLoach and Mike Yastrzemski. But the man of the day was Phillips.

The Godby High graduate was called on with one out in the top of the third and the Seminoles down 6-2. Phillips had looked on in

the bullpen while Clemson tore into FSU starter Ken Fischer for three home runs, one a grand slam by Frank Russ in the second inning.

Martin was appreciative of Phillips' performance.

"Tim gave us today what we have to have," said Martin, who understands that his pitcher sometimes has to battle himself. "Tim is not a nervous kid; he's just so anxious. He really wants to do well and he tries awful

hard."

Not many of the Seminoles seemed to be trying "awful hard" until the sixth inning. Until then, the only offense Florida State could muster came off the bat of Yastrzemski, who hit an opposite field two-run homer off Clemson starter Jeff Gilbert.

But in the sixth the Seminoles finally awoke from their slumber.

Lionel Martinez led off with a walk from reliever Alan Armour and moved to second on a balk. DeLoach followed with a double that hit the right field wall in the air, scoring Martinez. After a walk by Mike Fuentes and a single by Jeff Ledbetter led the bases, the Tigers switched pitchers.

The move backfired.

In an attempt to pick DeLoach off third, reliever Tim Rice threw the ball over the head of third baseman Craig Roberson. DeLoach and Fuentes scored as the ball bounced down the right field line. Florida State's Chris Cawthon followed the wild pitch with a towering triple to center off Rice to score Ledbetter and send Rice back to the bench. Cawthon was the only hitter Rice faced.

Joe Licata drove in Cawthon with the Seminoles' fifth run of the inning on a single off yet another Tiger reliever, Glenn Martin. Licata moved to second on a wild pitch and scored later on a single by catcher Craig Ramsey.

Ramsey scored the winning run on a two-out single by DeLoach.

CLEMSON					FLORIDA STATE				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Russ 2b	5	1	1	4	Martinez 2b	4	1	1	0
Key dh	4	1	2	1	DeLoach ss	4	1	2	2
Guin 1b	5	0	1	0	Fuentes cf	3	1	1	0
Gallagher rf	5	0	0	0	Ledbetter 1b	3	1	1	0
Brier c	4	2	2	1	Cawthon dh	3	2	1	1
Fulton lf	3	0	0	0	Licata lf	4	1	1	1
Wilson lf	1	0	0	0	Ystrzmski rf	3	2	2	2
Roberson 3b	3	1	2	1	Figueredo 3b	4	0	0	0
Mahoney 3b	1	0	0	0	Ramsey c	4	0	1	1
Powers ss	3	2	3	0					
Sexton cf	2	1	1	0					
Pauling cf	1	0	0	0					
Totals	37	8	12	7	Totals	32	9	10	7

Clemson 141 002 000 — 8

Florida State 020 007 00x — 9

E — Armour. DP — Clemson 1. LOB — Clemson 6, Florida State 4. 2B — Sexton, Fuentes, DeLoach, Martinez. 3B — Cawthon. HR — Russ, Key, Brier, Roberson, Yastrezemski (2).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Clemson						
Gilbert	3	1	2	2	1	1
Armour	2	3	1	1	3	1
Rice	0	1	3	3	0	0
Martin (L, 0-1)	1	4	3	2	0	0
Mallon	2	1	0	0	1	0
Florida State						
Fischer	2 1/3	4	6	6	3	2
Phillips (W, 1-0)	5 2/3	8	2	2	1	3
Hatcher (S, 2)	1	0	0	0	0	0

WP — Phillips, Martin. PB — Brier. Balk — Gilbert. T — 2:54. A — 1,553.