

Fazzini, FSU blast Tigers 7-2

By George Maselli
 Democrat staff writer

There is both good and bad news for Florida State baseball fans about the big-stick season Frank Fazzini is putting together.

The good news is that Fazzini crunched his 24th and 25th home runs of the season, knocked in his 87th through 90th runs and raised his average to .426 while leading the Seminoles to a 7-2 victory Sunday over Memphis State in FSU's final regular-season game at Seminole Stadium.

The bad news? FSU fans have to hope the pros scouts aren't noticing those gaudy stats. The slugging junior from Belleville, N.J., doesn't want to talk about it much while the season is still at a crucial stage. But he concedes that a nice signing bonus would be tough to turn down after the pros have their draft in June.

No one would be happier about his departure than Seminole opponents.

"Fazzini is a class college ballplayer. When you make a mistake to him, you're hurt, hurt bad," said Memphis State Coach Bobby Kilpatrick, whose 28-8 Tigers are dueling FSU for favorable seeding for the Metro Tournament that will be played here May 9-12.

Fazzini's two-run homer in the sixth broke up a rare scoreless duel in Seminole Stadium between FSU's Mike Loynd and Memphis State's freshman Forest Nabors. The sun-cooked crowd of 1,543 loved it.

Then in the seventh, as the Seminoles were breaking it open with five runs, Fazzini hammered another.

"I set a goal for this year to hit .400. I didn't think I'd get there so early and sustain it the way I have," said Fazzini, who reached that level three weeks into the season and hasn't slipped below since.

Fazzini had a rare day at the ballpark Saturday night. He was held hitless in both games of a double-header that FSU and Memphis State split. He went into Saturday with a 13-game hitting streak, one of many he's put together this season.

"I had a bad night. I was sluggish. My hands weren't quick at all," he said. "I was just tired. We had the rain delay and we were putting the tarp on and taking it off. I got some rest last night and I felt good again today."

Mike Loynd was apparently feeling good, as well. Using his assortment of breaking balls, Loynd worked a no-hitter into the sixth inning. Steve Scott hit a bouncer down the left-field line for a double to break that up.

Loynd, 10-3, lost his shutout when Wayne Thompson hit a long home run to left in the seventh. Loynd, who struck out seven, was unable to finish when the Tigers loaded the bases with none out in the ninth inning. Ray Revak pitched out of it with the help of a double play.

"I thought Mike pitched well. He was concerned that he couldn't go nine (innings), but that's what a bullpen is for," said FSU Coach Mike Martin, whose 44-18 team will spend this week taking final exams before going to Atlanta to play tough Georgia Tech next Sunday and Monday. "Frank Fazzini showed again that there is no question that he's an All-American."

Memphis St.	ab	r	h	bi	Florida St.	ab	r	h	bi
Scott,3b	4	0	1	0	Alicea,2b	4	2	1	1
Moss,ss	3	0	0	0	Figueroa,ss	3	0	1	1
Dulin,2b	4	0	0	0	Fazzini,lf	4	2	2	4
Covington,lf	3	1	1	0	Sorrento,rf	2	0	0	0
Thompson,c	4	1	2	1	Mangham,cf	0	0	0	0
Peel,rf	4	0	2	0	Zoeller,dh	2	0	0	0
Burr,1b	3	0	0	0	Kosco,dh	1	0	0	0
Nowell,ph	0	0	0	0	Saxner,dh	1	0	0	0
Acuff,ph	1	0	0	1	Jones,1b	4	0	1	0
King,dh	4	0	0	0	Blackwell,3b	2	0	0	0
Hammett,cf	3	0	0	0	Pacetti,pr	0	1	0	0
					Calandra,3b	1	0	1	0
					Fulton,c	3	1	1	0
					Kidd,cf	3	1	0	0
Totals	33	2	6	2	Totals	30	7	7	6

Memphis St.	000	000	101	—	2	6	2
Florida St.	000	002	50x	—	7	7	1

E—Thompson, Moss, Fulton. DP—FSU 1. LOB—FSU 5, Mem. St. 6. 2B—Fulton, Scott, Peel. HR—Fazzini, 2 (25), Thompson (8). SB—Alicea, Sorrento. SH—Kidd. SF—Figueroa.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Memphis St.						
Nabors, L(5-2)	5 1/3	5	2	2	1	4
Stansberry	2 2/3	0	3	1	1	1
Cummings	1 1/3	1	2	0	0	0
Norris	1 2/3	1	0	0	0	0
Florida St.						
Loynd, W(10-3)	8	6	2	2	2	7
Revak	1	0	0	0	0	0

HBP—Blackwell (Stansberry), Sorrento (Cummings). T—2:55. A—1,543.