

Tulane snatches victory away from Seminoles

Special to the Democrat

NEW ORLEANS — Ron Marigny raced home from first on Barry Blackwell's throwing error in the bottom of the ninth inning to give Tulane University a 9-8 college-baseball win over Florida State on Sunday afternoon.

The win lifted the Green Wave to 36-20 on the season and snapped a five-game losing streak. Florida State went to 50-19 on the year — suffering its first loss in nine games.

The Seminoles took an 8-7 lead into the bottom of the ninth. But Gerald Williams opened with a single. FSU pitcher Richie Lewis struck out Gary Desjardins and got Lou Deiley on a ground out. Lewis then walked Marigny on four pitches to bring Billy Rapp to the plate. Rapp slapped Lewis' first

pitch to third, where Blackwell fielded the ball cleanly, but threw wide of first baseman Jimmy Jones. Williams scored easily, and when Jones failed to pick the ball off the fence in foul territory, Marigny scored also.

"This has been a great trip, but it doesn't make this loss any easier to accept," FSU head coach Mike Martin said. "We make that play we win the game — simple as that. Richie Lewis was outstanding and certainly didn't deserve a loss."

Florida State fell behind early in the game as Seminole starter Al Ashmont issued three walks and a hit batter to start the bottom of the first. FSU reliever Ray Revak then gave up a double, a walk and a single and the Seminoles trailed 5-2.

See FSU, 4D

The Seminoles chipped away, scoring a run in the second and fourth, before taking an 8-6 lead in the fifth with a five-run inning. Paul Sorrento led off the inning with a clean single, before Jones doubled off the right-field wall. Ed Fulton walked to load the bases and Vince Calandra's long fly to center scored Sorrento.

FSU reliever Revak gave up a lone run in the fifth to close the gap to 8-7 before Lewis came in to strike out Rapp with runners on the corners and two out.

Lewis continued to be effective, pitching four innings of scoreless relief before giving up the unearned runs in the ninth to take the loss and fall to 9-6.

Kevin Mmahat settled down to pitch four innings of scoreless relief himself and raise his record to 6-3.

"Mmahat played a key role," Martin added. "I thought he was outstanding after the fifth. He kept us totally off balance with his off speed curve."

FSU, which clinched the Metro South Division on Saturday, returns to action Thursday — playing Louisville in the first round of the conference tournament. Tulane opens the tournament with Virginia Tech.

Florida State					Tulane				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Alicea,2b	4	1	1	0	Marigny,ss	4	2	1	1
Figueroa,ss	3	1	1	1	Rapp,cf	5	2	1	0
Fazzini,lf	5	0	1	0	Wagner,cf	4	1	3	1
Sorrento,rf	4	1	1	0	Spann,3b-1b	4	1	1	1
Jones,1b	4	1	1	1	Lefort,2b	3	1	1	3
Fulton,c	3	1	0	0	Rivette,dh	5	0	1	0
Calandra,3b	1	0	0	1	Reich,1b	1	0	0	0
Blackwell,3b	2	0	0	0	Williams,3b	3	2	2	0
Kosco,dh	2	2	1	0	Desjardins,lf	4	0	1	0
Zoeller,dh	2	1	1	3	Deiley,c	5	0	1	0
Mangham,cf	3	0	1	0					
Totals	33	8	8	6	Totals	38	9	12	6
Florida State					210	140	000	—	8 8 4
Tulane					510	010	002	—	9 12 2

E—Fazzini, Figueroa, Little, Deiley, Blackwell 2. DP—FSU 1, Tulane 1. LOB—FSU 8, Tulane 12. 2B—Lefort, Wagner, Jones. HR—Zoeller (6). SB—Figueroa, Zoeller. SH—Lefort. SF—Jones, Calandra.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Florida State						
Ashmont	0	0	4	4	3	0
Revak	4 ² / ₃	8	3	3	2	1
Lewis, L(9-6)	4	4	2	0	2	4
Tulane						
Borgatti	1	1	2	2	2	0
Little	3	4	4	3	3	1
Mmahat, W(6-3)	5	3	2	2	3	7

WP—Revak, Borgatti. HBP—Marigny (Ashmont). T—3:12. A—793.