

# FSU overcomes the blahs to beat Samford 9-6

By David Whitley  
Democrat staff writer

The weather was overcast and threatening. So was Florida State's baseball game with Samford on Tuesday. FSU played the overcast part. There was some good, some bad, but mostly it was a low-pressure malaise that hampered the Seminoles. Samford used those blahs and some strong hitting to stay within threatening distance until FSU finally put it away 9-6.

The win improved FSU's record to 6-1, while Samford fell to 0-1. They'll go at it again today at 3:30.

The rays of sun for FSU were provided by Jose Marzan, who had four RBIs, Paul Sorrento, who hit a home run over the Screened Porch (the new fence in right field), and Eric Mangham, who led

the Seminoles on a base-stealing holiday.

Most of the clouds came from the pitching, which was touched for 11 hits, including four doubles. In all, it was the kind of game you're just happy to get away from with a win.

"When you first start the season, everybody's intensity level is way up. It narrows down once the season gets under way," said reliever Mike Lee, who came on in the ninth to shut down the Bulldogs. "The intensity of the players before the game wasn't what it was before. Everybody was kind of quiet, there wasn't a lot of yelling in the lockerroom. But, we pulled it out."

Lee's performance was a welcome sight to the 845 fans at Seminole Stadium, which had seen Samford come back from an 8-1 deficit after six innings. It

could have been a much closer game if not for a couple of key plays that went FSU's way.

In the second inning with the game tied 1-1, Samford had the bases loaded with one out. FSU starter Chris Pollack whirled and picked off Samford catcher Ty Payne at second base. "He was one pitch away from being out of the ballgame," Coach Mike Martin said of Pollack, who eventually won to even his record at 1-1.

Pollack was struggling in the next inning when Samford's Ed Banks hit into a controversial double play to end the inning. Banks beat the throw to first, but the umpire ruled that second baseman Luis Alicea had been interfered with by Samford's Ed Scott while trying to turn the double play.

The play not only cost Samford at

least one run, but also its coach, J.T. Haywood, who was thrown out of the game for arguing the call.

"I didn't use profanity," said Haywood, whose ejection was his first in a four-year collegiate coaching career. "He ejected me for waving my hand at him and telling him he was pitiful."

While Haywood enjoyed the rest of the game from the right-field bleachers, the Seminoles persecuted Payne, Samford's catcher. They stole eight bases, including two by Deion Sanders, two by Marzan and three by Mangham.

Mangham stole two in the ninth after drawing a walk. He then scored on a single by Marzan to give FSU an insurance run that Lee never needed. It was just the kind of manufactured run that

See BASEBALL, 4C

FSU is counting on getting a lot of this year.

"They got a lot of hits, but they were not really damaging. The doubles were a result of a wet outfield. But they're a very aggressive team, better than the one last year. Everybody seems to be better than they were last year," said Martin.

"We've got a lot of work to do. I didn't see the fire out there today that I've seen in the past. I don't know what it was. We can't play without a lot of enthusiasm. We're not that good."

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
<b>Samford</b>						
Sims (L 0-1)	6	9	8	6	4	1
Silas	2	1	1	1	3	0
<b>Florida State</b>						
Pollack (W 1-1)	5	6	1	1	2	5
Kovensky	2	3	3	3	1	3
Thomas	1	2	2	2	1	0
Lee (S 1)	1	0	0	0	0	1
WP—Sims. T—2:35. A—845.						

SAMFORD					FLORIDA STATE				
ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi	
Parker,cf	5	1	2	1	Sanders,cf	2	2	0	1
Vaughan,ss	5	0	0	0	Marzan,lb	5	0	2	4
Cowart,rf	5	0	3	2	Alicea,2b	4	0	1	2
Scott,dh	5	0	1	0	Fulton,c	2	0	0	0
Banks,lb	4	1	1	0	Figueroa,ss	3	0	1	0

Lyons,lf	4	0	1	0	Sorrento,rf	3	1	1	1
Payne,c	1	2	0	0	Zoeller,dh	4	2	3	0
Hamilton,3b	4	1	1	1	Blackwell,3b	4	2	2	1
Vaughn,2b	3	1	2	1	Mangham,lf	0	2	0	0
					Kidd,rf	0	0	0	0
					Saxner,c	1	0	0	0
					Taddeo,rf	0	0	0	0
					McClellan,2b	1	0	0	0
Totals	36	6	11	5	Totals	29	9	10	9
Samford	010 000 320—6								
Florida State	110 402 01x—9								

E—Fulton, Marzan, Payne, Parker, Vaughan, Banks. DP—Samford 1, FSU 1. LOB—Samford 7, FSU 7. 2B—Zoeller, Blackwell, Parker, Hamilton, Vaughn. HR—Sorrento (2). SB—Sanders 2, Mangham 3, Marzan 2, Taddeo. S—Mangham 2. SF—Alicea.