

Jacksonville holds off Florida State rally 10-9

By David Whitley
Democrat staff writer

If you're a fan of comebacks, fly balls, flying insects or Paul Sorrento, Friday night's game at Seminole Stadium was meant for you.

The one thing it didn't have — the one thing most of the 2,408 who showed up came to see — was a Florida State win.

The Seminoles rallied from a seven-run deficit in the seventh inning, but finally fell 10-9 to Jacksonville. The Dolphins joined Grambling as the only two teams to beat FSU at home in 30 games this season.

FSU dropped to 36-6 overall. Jacksonville improved to 22-14.

"We just fell too far behind at the start," said right

fielder Sorrento. "But we played good ball at the end. We battled. We just came up short."

Sorrento shouldn't be taking the loss personally. He made two great catches and capped his night by leading off the ninth with a home run. The fans were primed for the finishing touches of a comeback, but Jacksonville's Mike Dirienzo bore down and got FSU's next three batters out in order to end the game.

Doug Little (6-3) took the loss for FSU. The senior was mauled for 10 runs in 4½ innings as the Dolphins took a 10-3 lead after six innings. FSU came back with five in the bottom of the seventh, highlighted by a pinch-hit, three-run home run by Steve Taddeo.

Matt Miller, a deceptively effective lefthander, had FSU's hitters mixed up for much of the game. He gave up only two hits in six innings to improve his record to

5-1. He had control problems, issuing seven walks, but he also had the Seminoles popping every third or fourth pitch up.

"We had 10 popouts in the first five innings," said Coach Mike Martin. "The guy was keeping the ball up and we were not real disciplined at that point in the ballgame. We were swinging at pitches out of the strike zone."

Pop fouls weren't the only thing falling in the stands, though. A flock of strange-looking insects also dropped by the Stadium. It wasn't an infestation, but shrieks of disgusted young women became common as the bugs landed in the last couple of innings.

Maybe they'll be gone by tonight at 7 when FSU

See FSU, 3D

meets a challenging 31-6 Tulane team.

"It's not going to get any easier," said Martin. "They're coming in here to do a number on us."

JACKSONVILLE					FLORIDA STATE				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Christophr,dh2	1	0	1		Marzan,1b	4	1	1	
Ferlin,1b	1	0	0		Alicea,2b	4	2	2	
Barefoot,ss	4	0	1		Figueroa,ss	4	0	1	
Marabell,cf	5	0	0		Sorrento,rf	3	2	1	
Ballard,lf	3	1	2		Saxner,dh	2	0	0	
DiRienzo,1b	5	1	1		Taddeo,dh	2	1	1	
Rodriguez,3b	4	2	1		Fulton,3b	3	0	0	
Storey,3b	0	0	0		Blackwell,c	5	0	1	
Carr,2b	5	2	3		Clayborne,lf	3	1	0	
Vuz,c	5	2	3		Mangham,cf	2	2	0	
Semper,rf	5	1	2						
Totals	39	10	13	8	Totals	32	9	7	7
Jacksonville					032	131	000	—	10
Florida State					003	000	501	—	0

E—Clayborne, Vuz, Figueroa, LOB—
Jacksonville 9, FSU 7. 2B—Ballard,
Marzan, Blackwell. HR—Carr (3), DiRienzo
(2), Taddeo (1), Sorrento (11). SB—
Barefoot, Sorrento, Figueroa, Semper.
SF—Figueroa.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Jacksonville						
Miller W, 5-1	6	2	4	3	7	5
Kennedy	1/3	3	4	4	2	0
Kozlowski	2/3	1	0	0	0	0
DiRienzo S, 1	2	1	1	1	0	3
Florida State						
Little L, 6-3	4 1/3	10	9	7	5	5
Porcelli	3	2	1	1	2	0
Kovensky	1 2/3	1	0	0	0	3

Miller pitched to one batter in the 7th.
T—3:19. A—2,408.