

Third-ranked FSU guns down No. 2 Clemson

Reliever Morgan shuts down the Tigers, Martin homers in the 5-2 win

By Steve Ellis
DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

Mike Martin Jr. could get used to this new role as a game winner.

The Florida State catcher's solo homer in the seventh inning produced the deciding run in a rare 5-2 FSU victory against No. 2 Clemson on Friday night before 3,119 at Dick Howser Stadium.

Freshman designated hitter

Jeremy Salazar, replacing the injured Adam Fautot, sealed the victory with a two-run homer off a curve ball later in the seventh inning.

Junior Scooby Morgan, who lost his bid to become the fourth starter earlier this season, picked up his first win by shutting out Clemson on five hits in 5½ innings. Morgan replaced FSU ace Jonathan Johnson, who strained his left ham-

TODAY'S GAME

■ No. 2 Clemson (39-5) at No. 3 FSU (35-9), 7 p.m. **Radio:** WNLS (1270 FM), 6:45 p.m.

string in the fourth inning.

"This is fun just to be able to help the team," Martin said. "To hit a home run to break a tie, that is

big. I took a gamble he was going to throw fast ball on the first pitch and he did.

"When I first hit it, I said, 'Stay fair, stay fair.'"

Martin has been in a horrendous hitting slump most of his senior season, but this marked the second time in six games he homered to drive in the winning run. He knocked out Miami 3-2 in the series finale in Tallahassee nearly

two weeks ago.

The No. 3 Seminoles (35-9, 9-3 in ACC) are now 5-11 against Clemson since joining the league in 1992. The Tigers (39-5, 17-2) remain atop the ACC with FSU two losses back.

David Yocum (7-1) faces Mark Watson (7-0) today at 7 p.m.

The victory snapped the eight-game winning streak of Clemson

Please see FSU, 3C

FSU:

From 1C

starter Jason Dawsey (8-2). Friday night also marked the first ACC series opener Clemson coach Jack Leggett has lost in two seasons with the Tigers.

"It is important to get that one but it really doesn't mean anything," FSU coach Mike Martin Sr. said. "Clemson basically needs to win one game of three to clinch the league.

"It was big for us to win the first one the way we did. (Morgan) did a very good job."

Thanks in part to Morgan, the game mostly lived up to its billing as a pitcher's duel, despite the early departure of Johnson.

Martin Sr. said Johnson would be out five to 10 days, which means he'll probably miss the Maryland series next weekend. Johnson gave up just two hits in 3½ innings. One of those hits was a game-tying homer by Matt LeCroy in the fourth inning.

With the help of several big defensive plays, Morgan shut down the nation's No. 9 team in scoring.

"I was thinking I would get one inning or so," Morgan said. "I just

went out there and took my time. My slider wasn't working as well as I wanted it to, but my fast ball was hitting location.

"(Clemson) is a great hitting ball club."

Dawsey had his own brush with injury when he put a bare hand on Doug Mientkiewicz' liner up the middle in the sixth inning. He remained in the game.

FSU got to Dawsey early when Scott Zech singled into right field to score Randy Hodges in the first inning. Mientkiewicz put the Seminoles ahead 2-0 with a sacrifice fly two innings later.

Clemson					Florida St.				
ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi	
Monahan cf	5	0	2	0	Lopez 2b	4	0	2	0
Rhodes cf	2	0	0	0	Hodges rf	2	1	0	1
Robinson rf	3	0	2	0	Mientkiewicz 1b	3	0	0	0
Miller 1b	4	0	1	0	Zech 3b	4	0	1	1
Burnham lf	2	1	0	0	Morris lf	3	0	0	0
LeCoy dh	4	1	1	2	Martin c	3	1	1	1
Duffie c	3	0	0	0	Nedea cf	2	1	1	0
Galloway 3b	3	0	0	0	Salazar dh	3	1	1	2
Brizek ss	4	0	1	0	Bedeaux ss	2	1	0	0
Livingston 2b	4	0	1	0					
Totals	34	2	8	2	Totals	26	5	6	5
Clemson					000	200	000	—2	
Florida St.					101	000	30x	—5	

E—Morgan. DP—Clemson 2, Florida St. 1. LOB—Clemson 9, Florida St. 2. 3B—Miller. HR—LeCoy, Martin, Salazar. CS—Lopez. SF—Hodges.

		IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Clemson							
Dawsey L, 8-2		6½	6	5	5	3	4
Matz		1½	0	0	0	1	2
Florida St.							
Johnson		3½	3	2	2	2	3
Morgan W, 1-1		5½	5	0	0	1	3

WP—Dawsey. HBP—Galloway by Johnson. U—Cox, Alexander, Black, T—2:24, A—3,119.