

FSU takes over No. 1 and sweeps Maryland

The Seminoles also remain in the hunt for their first regular-season ACC title.

DEMOCRAT STAFF REPORT
COLLEGE PARK, Md.

Florida State started defending its new No. 1 ranking by taking both games of a doubleheader against Maryland, 7-1 and 1-0, for a sweep of the three-game series.

With the victories, FSU (40-9, 14-3) sweeps its third Atlantic Coast Conference series this season and keeps its hopes alive in claiming its first regular-season ACC title. The Seminoles need to sweep their remaining conference series with Georgia Tech and North Carolina if they are to overtake Clemson.

The Tigers (20-4) concluded their regular-season conference play by sweeping Georgia Tech over the weekend.

Scooby Morgan, making his first start of the season in the second game, came within one out of

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becoming the first FSU pitcher since Jerry Nielsen in 1988 to throw a no-hitter. But a two-out single up the middle in the seventh inning spoiled the bid.

FSU scored the game's only run in the second inning when Mickey Lopez singled home Jeremy Morris.

Morgan (2-1) walked the bases loaded in the first before settling down to strike out six.

FSU first baseman Doug Mientkiewicz's streak of reaching base in 63 straight games come to an end after going 0 for 3 in the second game. He had kept the streak alive with a ninth-inning double in Game 1.

The Seminoles relied on clutch pitching, solid defense, timely hits and a little luck in sweeping the

Please see FSU, 5C

The game stayed 1-0 until the bottom of the ninth, when Milton, just two outs away from a no-hitter, gave up a sharp single to left-center by Randy Hodges. A passed ball by catcher Brandt Childs moved Hodges to second. Hodges then stole third on the next pitch. With one-out and the tying run at third, Maryland coach Tom Bradley

FSU starting pitcher Charlie Cruz pitched out of jams in every inning before giving way to Chuck Howell with two on and one out in the sixth. Howell promptly threw a wild pitch, putting runners on second and third. He settled down to

WP—Choate, Cruz 2, Howell, Kunst 3
Milton, PB—Childs, HBP—Childs by Howell
Hodges by Kunst, U—Woodal, Sebastian
Hodgin, T—3:10, A—212.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Florida St.						
Morgan W.2-1	7	1	0	0	3	4
Maryland						
Baker L.3-9	7	5	1	1	2	2

PB—Clemente. HBP—Marciano by Morgan.
 U—Sebastian. Woodal. Hodgin. T—1:34. A—212