

Seminoles wear out Delaware

With the 27-6 win Friday, FSU needs one win today to play on Sunday for a berth in the College World Series.

By Steve Ellis
DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

The chant swept through a Dick Howser Stadium crowd gone giddy over another home-run derby.

"J.D. who! J.D. who!" they yelled as Matt Diaz hit his 17th home run to tie a record for Florida State freshmen held by several former Seminoles, including 1997 All-American J.D. Drew.

A reference to Paul Sorrento or Frank Fazzini, FSU sluggers from the 1980s who share the record, would have been more appropriate. FSU baseball definitely has that '80s feel of power to it in the NCAA Atlantic II Regional.

The No. 1-seeded Seminoles

ripped six homers, including two by catcher Jeremy Salazar, to easily kick Delaware 27-6 on Friday. The impressive display followed Thursday night's three home runs in a 10-7 victory over Liberty.

"That's a little more offense than we have seen all year," coach Mike Martin said. "You never figure that you are going to score 10 runs, let alone 27."

No FSU team has scored as

Please see FSU, 5D

ATLANTIC II REGIONAL

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

- Auburn 3, Liberty 2
- FSU 27, Delaware 6
- Oklahoma 9, Rutgers 7

TODAY'S GAMES

- FSU vs. Oklahoma, 11 a.m.
- Auburn vs. Rutgers, 3 p.m.
- Rutgers-Auburn winner vs. FSU-Oklahoma loser, 7 p.m.

FSU:

From 10

many runs in an NCAA postseason game as the Seminoles did on Friday. That covers 184 games.

FSU (51-18) advanced to a winner's-bracket game at 11 a.m. today against Oklahoma, a 9-7 winner over Rutgers on Friday night. FSU will start Wes Crawford (8-3, 3.15). Jared Hoerman (7-4, 4.66) will start for Oklahoma.

FSU defeated Western Kentucky 19-7 in a 1980 regional for its previous best run production in postseason. The most runs scored by FSU in any game is 36. That came in a 36-7 win over Georgia State in 1992.

No. 3-seeded Delaware began the home run derby in the first inning on Friday. A three-run blast

by Kevin Mench, Collegiate Baseball's player of the year, had FSU fans second-guessing Martin's decision to start Chris Chavez.

A leaping catch by Brian Cox against the right-centerfield wall robbed Frank DiMaggio of a home run and prevented Delaware from taking a 5-0 lead.

"I believe when Coxie caught that ball and then two innings later ... we got two runs, that was all very big," Martin said.

FSU cut the lead to 3-2 in the second inning to help Chavez (8-4) calm down at about the time Delaware starter Chris Frey (8-2) unraveled. The bulk of FSU's scoring and its homers came in a 10-run third inning. FSU added five runs in the fifth.

"When you have a 10-run inning like they did, it leads to the wheels coming off." Delaware coach Bob

Hannah said, "We are embarrassed that we weren't more competitive today. I thought we would be."

The damage done to Delaware (43-19) was extensive. In addition to Salazar's two homers and Diaz' record-tying shot, Cox hit a grand slam. Jose Zabala and George Otero added homers.

"We have done a lot right all year," Martin said. "There are no excuses, no excuses, with this team. Cox has been hurt (with a bad back) for 15 games and he hasn't said one word about it. Cox has carried us most of the season."

Florida State	27
Delaware	6

DEL (43-10)					FSU (51-18)				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Ardizzone 2b	5	1	0	0	Badeaux 2b	5	3	0	2
Eyman II	5	2	2	1	Zabala 3b	4	4	2	4
Mench rf	4	2	2	4	Cox cf	6	4	6	8

Pulito 1b	4	11	5	Kelly pr/cf	0	10	0
Duffie cf	4	0	2	Salazar c	3	2	4
DiMaggio 3b	3	0	1	Klosterman c	2	1	1
Trivitts dh	3	0	0	Henderson dh	2	2	0
McSherry c	2	0	1	Mayfield dh	2	1	2
Simpson c	1	0	0	Diaz, M. rf	4	3	3
Kooleve ss	3	0	2	McCauley rf	2	0	0
Koolevsky dh	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Frey p	0	0	0	Woodward 1b	2	0	0
Mullin p	0	0	0	Jernigan if	4	1	2
Sage p	0	0	0	Otero if	1	2	1
Romond p	0	0	0	Groves ss	4	2	0
				Chavez p	0	0	0
				Diaz, Z. p	0	0	0
					4	2	2
Totals	35	4	11	Totals	44	27	27

Delaware	300	611	100—6
Florida St.	02(10)	060	18x—37

E—DiMaggio (11), Eymann (2), McSherry (8), Puccio (12), Groves (21). DP—DEL 1, FSU 3. LOB—DEL 5, FSU 4. 2B—Kooipove (7), Cox (25), Diaz, M. 3(14), Groves (17), Klosterman (4), Mayfield (2). HR—Eymann (15), Mench (233), Cox (16), Diaz, M. (17), Otero (2), Salazar 2(17), Zabala (2). SB—Duffie 2(12), Jernigan (10). SH—Salazar (2). SF—Henderson (2).

DEL	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Frev L 8-2	2½	10	12	12	4	4
Mullin	1½	3	6	3	2	1
Sage	2½	7	8	6	1	2
Romond	1	1	1	0	1	0
FSU						
Chavez W 8-4	5½	10	5	4	1	1
Diaz Z.	2½	1	1	1	2	2
Ginn	1	0	0	0	0	1
WP—Mullin	2(10)					
(Zabala) U—Yeast, Lostaglio, Pacheco,						
Kiernan, T—2.49 A—2.748						