

Gators swamp sloppy Seminoles

By George Maselli
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GAINESVILLE — Playing every bit as erratically as the weather blowing through here, the Florida State baseball team added another poor act to its 1985 road show.

This one was a sloppy 6-1 loss to the Florida Gators on a rainy, drab Saturday with a small gathering of 804 watching at Perry Field.

The audience was split in its allegiance, and one could only feel sympathy for the many FSU fans who made the trek to see this. The Seminoles could manage only five hits off Florida pitcher Jeff Fischer, made three errors and had their third man picked off first base in the two games here.

To make it even worse, the game was twice delayed by rain.

The loss, hard on the heels of a 3-2 decision on chilly Friday night, was

FSU's fifth in its last nine games. It made FSU's road record 5-6; the Seminoles are 23-10 overall.

FSU, ranked No. 6, will likely drop out of sight in the new ESPN-Collegiate Baseball poll. The Gators, rated No. 12 in the same poll, are 21-5. They visit Tallahassee for a 2 p.m. game today to complete the three-game series.

"We still have a young club out there with freshman pitchers and catchers," said FSU Coach Mike Martin, consider-

ably calmer than he was after Friday night's loss.

Though no one on the FSU side was making the obvious excuse, the team looked tired and often listless. It has a right to be. This was its 17th game in the past 15 days. There are no scheduled off-days until Thursday.

The Gators have played just 11 times over the same span, and they looked

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more alive and in tune with the universe. They pitched and swung the bats better, too.

The fatigue factor, however, was not reflected in the FSU pitching, just as happened Friday night when Doug Little threw a strong game. Starter Mike Loynd, 5-3, pitched well into the sixth. Ray Revak continued to throw impressively in his new role as short reliever.

But none of FSU's four pitchers got much help from their friends wearing gloves.

"We're just not making the plays," said FSU pitching coach Mike McLeod, who has realigned his bullpen with Revak and Richie Lewis the projected stoppers. "We're making our pitchers struggle."

He was right, of course. With the skies threatening to wash this game away, Florida scrounged the first run of the day in the bottom of the fourth. FSU-killer Scott Ruskin doubled, went to third on a passed ball and scored on a sacrifice fly by Felix Martinez.

There was some debate over the play. Right fielder Paul Sorrento made a brilliant diving catch on it in foul territory, but Ruskin scored easily.

Florida Coach Joe Arnold said he thought Sorrento should have let it drop, especially with the skies so threatening, making the run even more important.

Martin said Sorrento made the correct play.

"You can't assume it's going to be a five-inning game," Martin said.

It went nine, despite delays in the second and fourth innings.

That play looked awfully big until the sixth. While Luis Alicea dribbled one to right for FSU's first hit off Fischer in the top of the

sixth, Florida made it 2-0 in the bottom of the inning.

It scored when left fielder Frank Fazzini misjudged a Ruskin line drive into a double.

The Gators broke it open in the seventh with three runs. A bloop single, a misplayed line drive for an error by FSU center fielder Eric Mangham and a triple over Mangham's head by light-hitting Andre Weihs did the damage.

The Seminoles scored their only run in the eighth on a solo homer by Jose Marzan, his first of the season. Their frustration reached a peak when in the ninth inning, when they loaded the bases only to surrender when Marzan rolled into a double play.

"We can forget talking about Omaha and everything else, and just play consistent baseball," said Martin. "You can rest assured the Top 20 is gone. We've just got to get this club in a position to take off."

Florida St.	ab r h bi	Florida	ab r h bi
Alicea,2b	4 0 1 0	Lusader,rf	4 0 0 1
Figueroa,ss	4 0 0 0	Lmbrdzzi,ss	3 1 1 0
Fazzini,lf	4 0 2 0	Stanley,1b	3 1 0 0
Jones,1b	4 0 1 0	Ruskin,cf	4 1 4 1
Calandra,dh	2 0 0 0	Martinez,lf	3 0 0 1
Zoeller,dh	2 0 0 0	Clemo,3b	3 0 0 0
Sorrento,rf	3 0 0 0	Touma,2b	3 1 1 0
Marzan,3b	4 1 1 1	Hammond,dh	3 0 0 0
Fulton,c	2 0 0 0	Alou,pr	0 1 0 0
Kosco,ph	1 0 0 0	Weihs,c	3 1 1 1
Blackwell,c	0 0 0 0	Totals	29 6 7 4
Mangham,cf	1 0 0 0		
Totals	31 1 5 1		

Florida St. 000 000 010 — 1 5 3
 Florida 000 101 31x — 6 7 1

E—Clemo, Jones, Mangham. DP—FSU
 2, Florida 2. LOB—FSU 6, Florida 3. 2B—
 Ruskin (2). 3B—Weihs. HR—Marzan (1).
 SB—Ruskin (2), Clemo, Weihs. SF—
 Martinez.

Florida St.	IP H R ER BB SO
Loynd, L(5-3)	5 1/3 4 2 1 2 2
Brown	1 2 3 1 0 0
Gelmine	2 1 1 1 1 0
Revak	1 0 0 0 0 1
Florida	
Fischer, W(5-2)	9 5 1 1 3 2

PB—Fulton. T—3:39. A—804.