

## Resurgent Sanders helps FSU ice South Florida

**By George Maselli**  
Democrat staff writer

When Florida State returned home from Gainesville this week, Deion Sanders just about decided to give up on baseball. At the plate, he was lunging, especially at left-handed curveballs, and missing badly. Unfamiliar with failure in anything athletic, Sanders was unhappy.

"I was frustrated and about ready to hang things up," said Sanders, the fresh-

man football sensation who instead hit a home run, singled twice and drove in two runs to lead Florida State past South Florida 9-3 on a wintry Saturday at Seminole Stadium with 3,117 huddled fans watching.

The work of Sanders, a two-run homer by catcher Ed Fulton and four innings of shutout relief by Mike Loynd helped FSU to its 11th straight victory. It also helped cement its No. 1 ranking in the Collegiate Baseball-ESPN poll.

The Bulls, who play here again today at 2, are 11-3. They did not play this day like a seventh-ranked team.

Sanders' frustration was intensified when he opened the FSU first inning against left-hander Jon Alexander by striking out for a team-leading 10th time. Alexander struck out the side in the first.

South Florida took a 1-0 lead in the third when Seminole starter Chris Pollock had control problems. Steve Ko-

vensky took over and got through to the fifth allowing two more runs. But by then the Seminoles had a 6-3 lead.

Sanders tied the game in the third when he lined one over the screen in right. The Seminoles, who had only six homers in their first 12 games, broke it open in the fourth. Fulton smashed one over the Screened Porch in right with Luis Alica aboard to put FSU ahead to

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stay. It got sloppy after that when a walk, a throwing error, a hit batsman and a botched double-play ball led to three more Seminole runs.

Run-scoring hits by Sanders and Marzan in the sixth made it 8-3. FSU could have had more, but a wild run-down on an aborted double steal led to Sanders being tagged out. South Florida coach Eddie Cardieri wound up being ejected for arguing that both Marzan and Sanders were tagged out on the play.

Loynd pitched out of a two-on, none-out jam in the eighth with two strikeouts. That was South Florida's only run at Loynd, who entered to start the sixth inning. He allowed just one hit, walked three and struck out seven on mostly breaking stuff. The three FSU pitchers combined for 16 strikeouts.

• Besides the victory, the most important development of the day for the Seminoles had to be the return of confidence for Sanders. A serious lack of team depth and Sanders' star-quality ability make the center fielder a vital member of FSU's first top-ranked baseball team since the 1970s.

"I was really disappointed with my performance," said Sanders, who entered the game with a .267 batting average and 11 stolen bases in 15 attempts. "I wanted to work more on my schoolwork. It was a lot of things. It was a moment of frustration."

"I worked with Coach (Rod) Delmonico and it helped. If I keep staying back on the ball, I'll be a lot better batter. Right now, I feel like I've accomplished something."

South Florida					Florida State				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Pike,cf	4	1	0	0	Sanders,cf	5	2	3	2
Rush,ss	4	0	0	0	Marzan,1b	4	0	2	2
Eiland,dh	2	1	2	1	Figueroa,ss	5	0	2	1
Waggoner,dh	1	0	0	0	Zoeller,dh	2	0	0	0
S.Hemond,c	3	1	0	0	Saxner,ph	1	0	0	0
W.Hemond,1	4	0	1	0	Alicea,2b	4	1	2	0
Swabek,lf	4	0	0	0	Fulton,c	3	1	1	2
Munoz,3b	3	0	0	1	Clayborne,pr	0	0	0	0
Hogue,2b	1	0	0	0	McClellan,3b	0	0	0	0
Trumball,rf	2	0	1	0	Blackwell,3b	2	2	0	0
Bullard,2b	2	0	0	0	Kidd,rf	3	1	0	0
Taylor,3b	1	0	0	0	Mangham,lf	3	2	1	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>
South Florida					001 020 000— 3				
Florida State					001 502 01x— 9				

E—Alexander, Bullard, McClellan.  
DP—USF 1. LOB—USF 13, FSU 6. 2B—  
Marzan. HR—Sanders (1), Fulton (2). SB—  
Trumbull, Pike, Eiland, Alicea, Mangham.  
C5—Zoeller, Mangham. SH—Bullard, Kidd.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
<b>South Florida</b>						
Alexander (L 2-1)	5	6	7	4	3	8
Boden	3	5	2	2	1	1
<b>Florida State</b>						
Pollack	2 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>3</sub>	2	1	1	4	5
Kovensky (W 3-0)	2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub>	1	2	2	3	4
Loynd	4	1	0	0	3	7

T—3:31. A—3:117.