

# FSU rallies past Hurricanes 5-4

## Pitchers' duel settled in ninth

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What has happened to Seminole Field?

It used to be a hitters' paradise. Routine fly balls to right field instantly turned Punch-and-Judy hitters into home-run kings. Final scores looked more like teams were scoring touchdowns than runs.

No pitcher was safe at Florida State's home park — until this past weekend.

Playing low-scoring baseball for the second straight day, Florida State rallied to defeat Miami 5-4 Sunday before 1,804 spectators. The victory avenged a 3-2 loss to the Hurricanes Saturday night and set up a rubber match tonight at 7:30.

If tonight's game is anything like the first two, fans and players will be left with no fingernails. Sunday, for the second straight day, a pitcher's duel came down to the final inning.

Sure, it's exciting baseball. But with teams as potent as the 11th-ranked Seminoles (44-19) and second-ranked Hurricanes (48-6) playing in a launching pad like Seminole Field, one almost feels cheated that more runs weren't scored.

"These are certainly two unusual games for Seminole Field," Florida State coach Mike Martin said. "For two teams to be shut down like this, you have to give a lot of credit to the pitching staffs."

"But there's still one game left in this series. And you never know what's going to happen at this place."

That's why nobody left early Sunday, even though Florida State entered the ninth inning with a 4-2 cushion and starting pitcher Tim Phillips showed no signs of cracking.

The Hurricanes mounted one last fight.

Sam Sorce led off with a single to left and scored moments later on Mike Pagliarulo's double to deep center. That sent Phillips, who had held Miami to eight hits, to the bench in favor of Jay Keeler.

Keeler began impressively, striking out pinch-hitter Doug Shields on three pitches. After walking pinch-hitter Norm Kirkpatrick, Keeler yielded a single to Bill Wrona that scored Pagliarulo with the tying run. With runners at first and third, Keeler retired Mike Kutner and Scott Parsons on grounders to end the rally.

"I was pleased with the way we came back," Miami coach Ron Fraser said. "But we usually come back and win."

Not Sunday.

Florida State, which had lost to Miami in four previous meetings this season, scored the winning run in the bottom of the ninth on what Martin called "just a routine ninth-inning rally for us."

Don DeLoach opened with a single to right off Sorce, who replaced starter Jeff Morrison in the eighth inning. After Mike Fuentes, who collected three hits, went down swinging for the first out, Joe Licata popped up to right field. The ball appeared to be a routine out, but right fielder Scott Parsons lost the ball in the sun. Licata was safe at first and DeLoach moved to third.

"I blew it," said Parsons. "The sun was a factor, but this is college baseball. That shouldn't happen here. I just blew it."

Martin figured his team was due. "It's about time we got one of those breaks to go our way," Martin said. "It's

unfortunate that Miami has to lose a game that way — but that's baseball."

Left-hander Danny Smith was summoned from the bullpen to face Jeff Ledbetter, who responded with a sacrifice fly to deep right to score DeLoach.

"I was just trying to hit the ball up the middle," Ledbetter said. "When I hit it, I thought it had a chance to go out of here. But that's OK; I'll take the sacrifice fly any day."

Keeler (5-4) got the victory, while Sorce (4-2) suffered the loss.

The loss easily could have been Morrison's. The senior left-hander, who had won 10 straight games before losing to Biscayne College last Tuesday, struggled with his control.

That was a not a problem for Phillips. The junior right-hander walked only four and retired 10 straight batters in one stretch.

"I didn't surprise myself in the least," Phillips said. "Miami is just another team. They hit the ball well, not great. That's not the best team I've ever pitched against."

Phillips frustrated Miami batters by keeping his pitches low in the strike zone.

"He did a good job against us," Fraser said. "He kept the ball down and we kept beating it into the ground." Fifteen of Miami's 27 outs came on grounders to the infield.

"That's what I have to do to be effective," Phillips said. "I'm not going to overpower anybody. If I don't keep the ball low, I'm nowhere."

Phillips seemed to be going nowhere in the first inning, when he yielded two runs on a walk, an error and two singles.

But Florida State quickly got back in the game, reaching Morrison for three runs in the bottom of the first. Morrison aided the spurt by walking three batters, including Mark Lacy with the bases loaded. Chris Cawthon doubled to right to drive in FSU's other two runs.

Florida State's fourth run came in the fifth inning on a leadoff home run by Lionel Martinez.

The victory provided a big boost for the Seminoles. Until Sunday, Miami was the only team on their schedule that they had not beaten.

"Today's victory just reassures us that we can play with anybody in the country," Martin said. "We needed that."

MIAMI					FLORIDA STATE				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Wrona ss	5	0	3	1	Martinez 2b	3	2	2	1
Kutner lf	1	0	0	0	DeLoach ss	5	2	2	0
Parsons rf	5	1	1	0	Fuentes cf	4	1	3	0
Castro c	4	1	1	0	Licata lf	5	0	2	0
DeJesus 1b	4	0	2	1	Ledbetter 1b	3	0	0	1
James dh	3	0	0	0	Lacy dh	2	0	0	1
Sorce dh-p	1	1	1	0	Cawthon rf	3	0	1	2
Pagliarulo 3b	4	1	1	1	Ystrzmski rf	1	0	0	0
Williams 2b	2	0	0	0	Figueredo 3b	4	0	0	0
Shields cf	1	0	0	0	Ramsey c	4	0	1	0
Gill cf	3	0	0	0					
Kilpatrick ph	0	0	0	0					
Totals	33	4	9	3	Totals	34	5	11	5

Miami 200 000 002-4

Florida State 300 010 001-5

E—DeLoach, Wrona. DP—Miami 1, Florida State 1. LOB—Miami 8, Florida State 10. 2B—Cawthon, Pagliarulo. HR—Martinez (5). S—Kutner. SF—Ledbetter.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
<b>Miami</b>						
Morrison	7	9	4	4	6	5
Sorce (L, 4-2)	1 1/3	2	1	1	0	3
Smith	1/3	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Florida State</b>						
Phillips	8	8	4	2	4	5
Keeler (W, 5-4)	1	1	0	0	1	1

Balk—Morrison. T—2:43. A—1,804.