

FSU breezes to Memphis State sweep

By George Maselli
Democrat staff writer

It was such a casual kind of day that Mike Loynd stepped out of the dugout in the seventh inning to do a "N-O-L-E-S" cheer with the showman of the Section B Animals, Mongo. After much prodding, Coach Mike Martin did his own rendition complete with body motions after the game.

When you are cruising along the way the top-ranked Florida State Seminoles are, you can afford to kick back in your last home game of the regular season and enjoy. Loynd breezed through six innings of four-hit, shutout ball and FSU went on to beat Memphis State 7-1 Sunday afternoon with 2,127 watching at Seminole Stadium.

"I figured it was our last game and Mongo just talked me into it," said Loynd, now a sterling 13-1. "I just figured it would be fun."

The way Loynd has dominated on the mound most of this season, the game was basically gone for Memphis State in the first inning. With a bunt single by Jose Marzan setting it up, the Seminoles scored three with Luis Alicea's double, singles by Bien Figueroa and Eric Mangham, and an error.

FSU stretched it to 4-0 when Mangham singled, stole his team-leading 33rd base, was sacrificed to third and

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scored on another error. Since the Seminoles with a doubleheader sweep Saturday night had clinched the Metro Conference regular-season title and secured a first-round tournament bye, there was no pressure.

Alicea played at designated hitter anyway, despite a pulled leg muscle and went 3-for-3 and raised his team-leading average to .411. But maybe the best story of the day was freshman Chad McClellan hitting his first collegiate home run, a two-run job to left in the fifth inning. He is not noted for his slugging.

Leading 7-0 and having been lifted after six innings to get Doug Little and Steve Kovensky some work, Loynd was relaxed enough to do his cheering in the seventh. The visiting Tigers could have taken it as something of a slap, but they couldn't say much. They produced a grand total of seven hits, including Rodney Bright's solo homer against Little in the seventh, and four errors. Then they

had an 11-hour bus ride home ahead of them and a convincing three-game sweep behind them.

"You hate to come down here against guys of this caliber and not really show what you can do," said Tiger catcher Aubrey King. "They have a more sound team than they've had in the past."

When you think sound baseball, you think of pitching and defense first. The Seminoles did not make an error Sunday.

And pitching? Loynd, Little and Kovensky combined on the seven-hitter for 12 strikeouts and just two walks. Little, who worked the seventh and eighth innings, struck out two. FSU's all-time winningest pitcher, Little set the school record for career strikeouts with 346.

FSU pitching has been remarkable most of the season with a walk-strikeout ratio of 190-515. A 2-1 strikeout-to-walk ratio is considered big stuff.

"I think we're playing really well," said FSU pitching coach Mike McLeod. "This is about the best shape we've ever been in for starting pitching. We're a little weak in the bullpen because of an injury (Mike Lee, elbow), but with our starters, it may not be a problem."

"If our pitching keeps on like this, I don't see too many people beating us. I feel real good. You have to when you're 46-8."

See FSU, 8D

Memphis State					Florida State				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Scott,2b	4	0	1	0	Marzan,1b	4	1	2	0
Moss,ss	4	0	0	0	Sorrento,rf	5	0	1	0
Thomson,1b-c	3	0	0	0	Alicea,dh	3	1	3	1
Peel,rf	4	0	0	0	Figueroa,ss	5	1	2	0
Marable,lf	4	0	2	0	Mangham,cf	5	1	2	1
Acuff,dh	4	0	2	0	Fulton,c	4	1	1	1
Hammitt,cf	3	0	0	0	Clayborne,lf	2	0	0	0
Bright,3b	4	1	1	1	Blackwell,3b	4	0	0	0
Burr,1b	1	0	0	0	McClellan,2b	4	1	1	2
Morris,ph	1	0	0	0	Taddeo,dh	1	1	0	0
King,c	2	0	1	0	Kidd,rf	1	0	0	0
Totals	34	1	7	1	Totals	38	7	12	5

Memphis State	000	000	100-	1
Florida State	301	021	00x-	7

E—Moss (2), Scott (2), DP—none.
LOB—MSU 8, FSU 11. 2B—Alicea, Acuff,
Scott, Marzan, Marable. HR—McClellan
(1), Bright (7). SB—Marzan (27,28),
Clayborne (5), Mangham (33). SH—
Clayborne.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Memphis State						
Covington (L 4-2)	4	9	4	2	1	3
Gallo	2	3	3	1	0	1
Logan	2	0	0	0	1	0
Florida State						
Loynd (W 13-1)	6	4	0	0	2	8
Little	2	3	1	1	0	2
Kovensky	1	0	0	0	0	2

T—2:53. A—2:27.