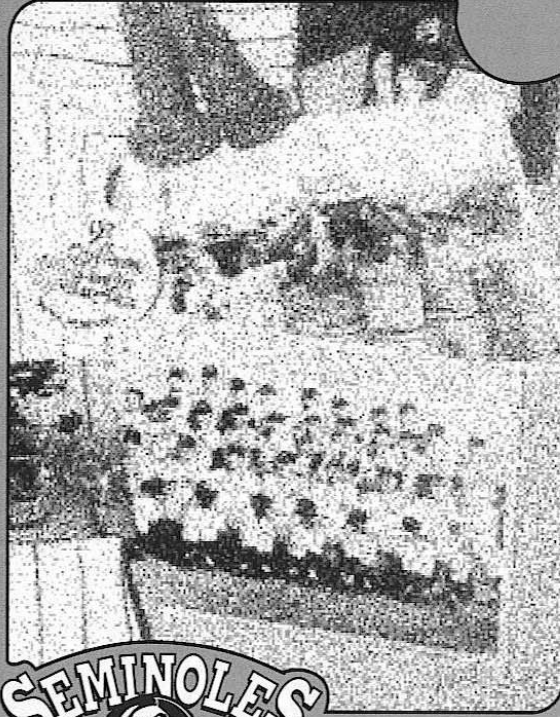


FLORIDA STATE



SEMINOLES



C · O · A · C · H · E · S

## HEAD COACH MIKE MARTIN

# A Love Affair With FSU Baseball

By Steve Humphries

**F**eb. 24, 1980. The Florida State baseball team is 0-2 on the season and trailing rival Miami late in the game. Mike Martin is starting to pull players and contemplating his dubious start as FSU's rookie head coach.

"I remember taking four starters out of the ball game," he recalls, the excitement of that day still in his voice. "I mean, it's

the seventh inning, 8-2, and we're on the carpet. We're not really doing a whole lot."

Worse yet, Miami is using Neal Heaton in relief. Heaton, now a pitcher with the National League's Pittsburgh Pirates, was the starter who had one-hit the 'Noles two days before. But today FSU fights back.

"I just feel that if you go out, work as hard as you can, put everything in God's hands, and accept everything that comes your way, good and bad, good things are going to happen."



Entering his 13th season as the Florida State head coach, Mike Martin owns the fifth-best winning percentage among active Division I coaches with a .751 mark.

"When we took all our players out, they took a couple out," Martin remembers vividly. "Then we started rallying and I'm down at third base saying to myself, 'You stupid idiot. You dumb imbecile.' We don't have anybody in there that I'd like in the lineup."

"And then all of a sudden, Mike Yastrzemski hits a three-run homer in the top of the ninth and we win 9-8...I've still got the ball, and I've certainly still got all the memories."

That exciting three-run shot gave Mike Martin his first win as a head coach — and set the stage for one outstanding career.

In just 12 seasons, the 47-year-old coach has won 665 games and guided FSU to 11 Metro Conference championships (FSU moves into the Atlantic Coast Conference this season), 12 consecutive NCAA Regional appearances and five trips to the College World Series.

Never has a Martin team won fewer than 50 games in a season, a truly remarkable feat, and his .751 winning percentage makes him one of the winningest coaches in the game. That amazing pace gave him 500 and 600 victories faster than any coach in college history.

"I just feel that if you go out, work as hard as you can, put everything in God's hands, and accept everything that comes your way, good and bad, good things are going to happen," says Martin, a deeply religious man in all aspects of his life. "Because



Known as "11" to his team and staff, Martin is involved in coaching every aspect of the Seminole team.

if bad things come your way, you're going to accept them and turn them into positives."

Martin also gives credit for his success to his assistant coaches, the support of fans, alumni and university administrators and FSU's outstanding baseball tradition. But there is a side to the man known simply by his number, "11," that may tell you more about his success than anything else — an unquenchable desire to win.

That desire began when Martin would spend entire summer days in a park near his Charlotte, N.C. home playing in any ball game he could find.

"All I wanted to do, from the time I was seven years old, was play baseball," he says. "I also played horseshoes, badminton, volleyball, and of course, football and basketball. I thrived on competition. It made me tick. To this day, that's what keeps me going."

In his teens, Martin learned to love basketball and thought that might be his ticket to a college scholarship. Instead, his hot bat and trusty glove earned him a baseball scholarship to Wingate (N.C.)

Junior College.

Though he did start as a guard on the Wingate basketball team, it was baseball in which Martin excelled. In both 1963 and 1964, the promising young centerfielder earned a spot as a Junior College All-American.

In 1964, he married his high school sweetheart and, while on his honeymoon, stopped to talk with FSU baseball coach Fred Hatfield and to check out the facilities. Immediately, he knew he wanted to play Seminole baseball.

So after the honeymoon, he and new wife Carol returned to Charlotte, loaded up the smallest U-Haul available and moved to Tallahassee.

"I'll never forget coming out of Tully Gym and walking on to that field and playing catch that first day," he says. "I was on cloud nine. I remember telling myself, 'I'm gonna start on this ballclub. I don't care what it takes.' With the good Lord's help, I did."

Martin was good. Batting third in the lineup, he was hitting .325 with 27 hits in 83 trips to the plate, four home runs and 17 runs batted in. But 22 games into that 1965 season, his desire to win prompted him to heroics that may have changed his life forever.

"We were at Clemson," he recalls. "We went into extra innings and I took a pitch on purpose. I let it hit me. Whump! The ball didn't ricochet, it just dropped straight down."

When Martin got to first, he couldn't turn his wrist. First base coach Ernie Lanford told him to shrug it off. Moments later, Martin slid into second in a failed attempt to break up a double play, and the inning was over.

"I went to Hatfield and said, 'Coach, I hate to goldbrick, but I can't get my glove on.' I mean, I had bunted a ball off my chin once, then eaten egg sandwiches and soup for three weeks. You were not going to get me out of the lineup."

But Hatfield pulled Martin and put in Roy Mewbourne, now the head coach at Vanderbilt. Ironically, Mewbourne would make the error to cost FSU the game Martin had taken the hit to save.

"I went to the doctor," Martin continues, "and he said my wrist was broken. I remember walking across the Clemson campus crying like a baby. My season was over."

The next season, though, Martin was even more successful at

## MARTIN'S CAREER COACHING RECORD

YEAR	SCHOOL	W- L-T	PCT.
1980	Florida State	51-12-0	.809
1981	Florida State	56-23-0	.709
1982	Florida State	56-17-1	.764
1983	Florida State	55-18-1	.750
1984	Florida State	55-29-0	.655
1985	Florida State	59-23-0	.720
1986	Florida State	61-13-0	.824
1987	Florida State	55-18-0	.753
1988	Florida State	50-18-1	.732
1989	Florida State	54-18-0	.750
1990	Florida State	57-15-0	.792
1991	Florida State	*56-15-0	.789
<b>TOTALS (12 years)</b>		<b>665-219-3</b>	<b>.751</b>

\*Includes forfeit loss

## MARTIN AS A PLAYER AT FLORIDA STATE

YEAR	GAMES	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	AVG
1965	22	83	18	27	1	2	4	17	.325
1966*	52	185	42	68	7	5	4	45	.373
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>.354</b>

\*Named to the All-District Team

the plate, batting .373 with 45 RBI in 185 at bats. But his wrist was never the same. He would later play professionally in the Detroit Tigers and New York Mets organizations, and room with pitching great Nolan Ryan on the road in 1967, but he couldn't claw his way out of Class A ball.

Today he sounds almost thankful for the pitch that cut short his playing days.

"That was God's way of showing he had something else planned for me," Martin says now. "I couldn't understand it back then. Now I do. I wouldn't change a thing from that day forward."

After three years as a pro, Martin returned to Tallahassee and coached baseball and basketball on the prep and college levels. In 1974 he became a part-time assistant under Florida State baseball coach Woody Woodward, earning \$2,000 a year, while working full time as a

junior high school physical education teacher to support his wife and two children, Mary Beth and Mike Jr. Melanie would be born later.

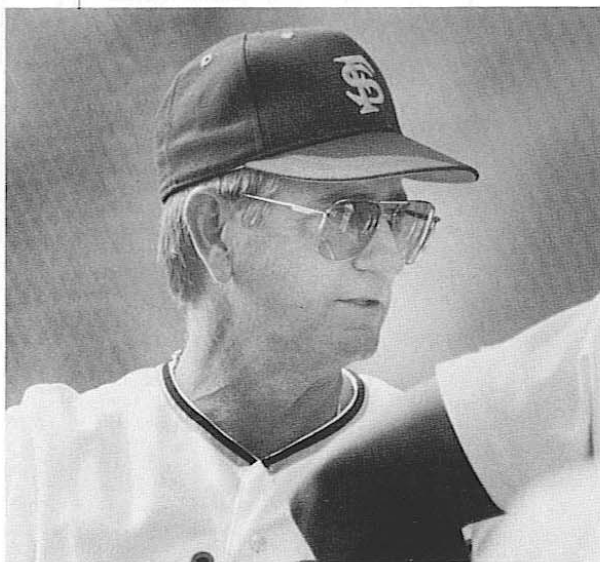
"After three years of that," he recalls, "I went to Woody and said, 'I can't do this anymore. I'm going to get a high school coaching job or look for something in pro ball.'"

Things then began to happen quickly. Woodward hired Martin as FSU's first full-time assistant baseball coach in 1978. The next year Woodward moved to the Cincinnati Reds, leaving Martin to coach under Dick Howser. After only one season, Howser became manager of the New York Yankees, and Martin took over as head coach.

## WINNINGEST ACTIVE COACHES BY PERCENTAGE

(Minimum 200 Victories)

NO.	COACH.SCHOOL	WON	LOST	TIED	PCT.
1.	Cliff Gustafson, Texas	1,202	276	2	.813
2.	Mark Jackson, Pittsburgh	306	83	1	.786
3.	Gary Ward, Oklahoma State	719	223	1	.763
4.	Gene Stephenson, Wichita State	792	248	3	.761
5.	Mike Martin, Florida State	665	219	3	.751
6.	Ron Fraser, Miami (Fla.)	1,216	428	9	.738
7.	Mark Johnson, Texas A&M	325	123	1	.724
8.	Jim Brock, Arizona State	977	378	0	.721
9.	Joe Arnold, Florida	633	245	2	.720
10.	Skip Bertman, Louisiana State	380	149	0	.718



Mike Martin's association with Florida State baseball dates back to 1964, when he originally came to FSU as a junior centerfielder, and includes stints as a part-time and as a full-time assistant coach.

He started fast, winning more than eight out of every 10 games that first season, and hasn't really slowed since. He says he has learned something about baseball every season — about strategy, about how to get the most out of each team.

But perhaps most importantly, Martin says, he has learned to understand and, he hopes, to motivate people. Baseball, he says, is an individual sport played by a team.

"Baseball is so mentally tough on athletes," he says. "Nobody who hasn't played knows what it's like to be 0-for-eight and come to the plate in the eighth inning, bases loaded, one run behind and a sidearm reliever on the mound. And you look out and all you see is people, you don't see any green grass. And you say, 'My gosh, where am I going to hit this baseball?'"

Sometimes, Martin says, he has to make a player understand what playing as a team is about, to tell a man who batted third in high school that he has to bat eighth at Florida State, to convince a pitcher bent on a strikeout to throw balls in certain situations.

Martin says the key is honesty. Any player can come into his office for a confidential talk about anything. Barry Blackwell, a 1985 *Sporting News* Freshman All-American, did just that.

"Barry came in, sat down and proceeded to tell me he should be catching instead of Ed Fulton," says Martin. "That he was as good as Fulton, that pitchers would rather throw to him, that he could help the team more than he could at third base, and on and on.

"He got through and I said, 'Barry, you know you're right, you should catch more. But if you were sitting where I'm sitting and you wanted the best ballclub, you know that Ed Fulton has

to be in the lineup. And there's nobody else on our team who can play third base and do what you can do with the bat. And if we put you behind the plate, Ed Fulton doesn't play."

"And Blackwell looked at me, and his lip was quivering, and he was mad and he said, 'I *knew* you were going to convince me that I should be the third baseman.' We had a great year that year."

The Mike Martin team style of baseball has not hurt his players either. He has coached 20 All-Americans and 49 All-Metro Conference selections. Two players, Mike Fuentes (1981) and Mike Loynd (1986), won the Golden Spikes Award, given by the U.S. Baseball Federation to the top amateur player in the country. And an unbelievable 55 Martin proteges have signed pro contracts.

The only thing missing from Martin's illustrious career is the elusive national championship.

He dreams of taking his staff into a hotel room to reflect on the season and tell them that "tomorrow we play for all of it." And if his career ended today...

"I'd be disappointed that we'd never won one," he says after a long pause. "I'd be satisfied that I'd done everything I could to keep Florida State moving upward, that we were moving men in the right direction. But I still want to win one bad."

Ten years ago, Martin might have given a different answer.

"When I started as head coach in 1980, I didn't have the Lord first," he says. "Winning the national championship was an obsession. It consumed me. I've thrown ice bags off walls because of a certain pitch."

"In 1986, I turned my life over totally to the Lord, and there is a difference. I'm still the same competitor, but I don't have to act that way anymore."

Today, Martin sometimes speaks at churches and is active in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He also is a popular speaker at athletic organizations in the state and around the country.

But the man who once sold programs to get into FSU football games has one true passion, which quickly becomes evident.

"I love to coach baseball and I've had a 27-year love affair with Florida State University," he says.

"There's no doubt, it's a love affair. I've seen a lot of changes in those 27 years, but I don't guess I've ever been happier."

## ABOUT MIKE MARTIN

**BORN:** February 12, 1944 in Charlotte, N.C.

**HIGH SCHOOL:** Garringer High, Charlotte, N.C.

**ALMA MATER, YEAR:** Florida State, 1966

**COLLEGIATE BASEBALL EXPERIENCE:**  
1965-66, Florida State — Centerfield;  
1963-64, Wingate Junior College — Centerfield

**HONORS:** 1966 All-District selection; 1963-64 JC All-American

**WIFE:** The former Carol Dellinger

**CHILDREN:** Mary Beth (22), Mike Jr. (19), Melanie (16)

**HEAD COACHING HONORS:** 1980 Florida Diamond Club Coach of the Year; 1986 Florida Diamond Club Coach of the Year; 1986 Atlantic District Coach of the Year; 1987 Florida Diamond Club Coach of the Year; 1987 Atlantic District Coach of the Year; Six-Time Metro Conference Coach of the Year

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS AT FSU:

- Ranks fifth nationally among active Division I baseball coaches with a .7514 winning percentage
- His string of 12 straight 50-plus win seasons at FSU is unmatched
- Led Florida State to 12 consecutive NCAA Regional appearances, extending FSU's streak of regional bids to 14, the second-longest string in Division I
- His Seminole teams have made four trips to the College World Series in the past six seasons ('86, '87, '89, '91) and five appearances overall
- Has coached 20 All-Americans, 50 All-Conference selections, 56 players who signed professional contracts and two Golden Spikes Award winners

**MARTIN MILESTONES:** First Win — Florida State 9, Miami 8 (Feb. 24, 1980); 100th Win — Florida State 5, Valdosta State 3 (April 27, 1981); 200th Win — Florida State 8, Georgia Southern 1 (April 20, 1983); 300th Win — Florida State 17, Southern Miss 6 (March 23, 1985); 400th Win — Florida State 8, Samford 7 (February 18, 1987); 500th Win — Florida State 8, Arizona State 3 (February 5, 1989); 600th Win — Florida State 4, Cincinnati 1 (May 13, 1990)



*A native of Charlotte, N.C., Martin has taken five Florida State teams to the College World Series. His teams have made four trips to Omaha in the past six seasons.*

# ASSISTANT COACHES

## CHIP BAKER ASSISTANT COACH

The senior member of the Seminole assistant coaching corps, Chip Baker enters his eighth season as a member of the Florida State baseball coaching staff in 1992. Baker fills many important roles, including that of third base coach, for the FSU program. He also tutors the Seminole backstops, a position which has seen extremely consistent play since Baker's arrival.

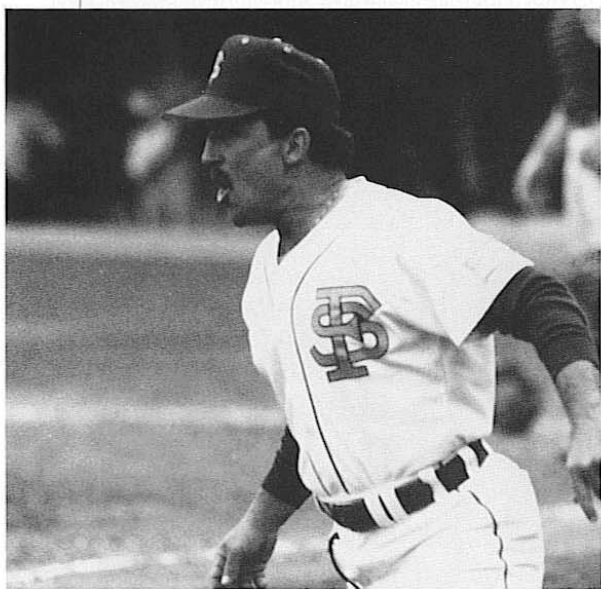


A former assistant at Virginia Tech and Georgia Tech, Baker is one of college baseball's premiere catching instructors. During his tenure at Florida State, he has coached All-Americans Ed Fulton, Barry Blackwell, Marc Ronan and Pedro Grifol. All have advanced to careers in professional baseball. Last

year, Grifol became FSU's first first-team All-America catcher since Terry Kennedy in 1976.

In addition to his on-field assignments, Baker has numerous responsibilities in the everyday management of the baseball program. For example, he coordinates all the Seminoles' travel plans, and directs the purchase of equipment. When Florida State is on the road, Baker serves as travel coordinator.

During the summer, Baker is the director of the Mike Martin Baseball Schools and the highly successful Seminole Advanced Baseball School. It is one of the most popular baseball



North Carolina native Chip Baker serves as the Seminole third base coach in addition to his work coaching the FSU backstops.

camp in the country and last summer drew campers from 27 states. In the past eight years, over 25 former campers have gone on to wear a Seminole uniform; several have advanced to the major leagues.

Baker is a popular speaker who has addressed Seminole Booster clubs and civic organizations around the state. He works closely with Tallahassee area youth organizations, and has organized clinics for Tallahassee Babe Ruth and little leagues. He has been on the staff of national and regional baseball clinics.

A 34-year-old native of North Carolina, Baker is the author of articles for *Scholastic Coach* and *Collegiate Baseball*, primarily on the subject of catching. He has been the photographer for many of those articles.

A 1980 graduate of High Point College in North Carolina, Baker led the Panthers to four Carolina Conference championships. He was a member of the High Point team that finished second at the 1979 NAIA World Series.

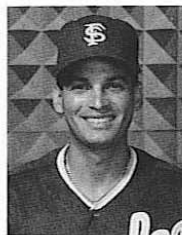
After completing his bachelor's degree in physical education at High Point, Baker earned a master's degree in motor behavior at Virginia Tech, where he began his collegiate coaching career.

Baker is married to the former Julie Larson, a member of FSU's softball team from 1985-88 who owns the Florida State records for strikeouts. The two were married last May between games of a doubleheader at Dick Howser Stadium.

## LAZARO COLLAZO PITCHING COACH

The newest addition to the Florida State coaching staff is Lazaro "Lazer" Collazo, who will tutor the Seminole pitching crew in 1992. Collazo took over for Brian Rhees, who will coach the FSU outfielders in 1992.

Collazo is no stranger to collegiate coaching as he arrived at Florida State this summer from the University of Miami. For the

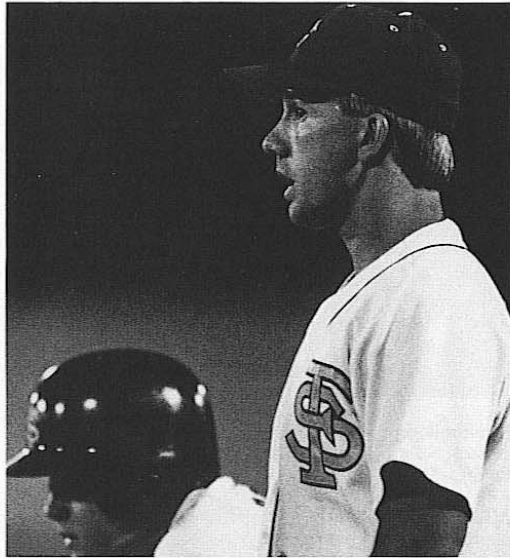


past six years, he learned coaching techniques there under college baseball coaching legend Ron Fraser. Collazo served as an assistant pitching coach for the Hurricanes last season after paying his dues as a graduate assistant for two years and a volunteer assistant for two years.

A walk-on at Miami in 1985, Collazo pitched 9.2 innings over eight games and posted a 2.79 ERA. His career as a Hurricane was highlighted by serving as a support player on UM's 1985 national championship team.

Outside of collegiate coaching, Collazo directed Miami's National Baseball Congress entry at the NBC World Series from 1987-1989. In 1987, Collazo's Lazers finished with a 32-3 record and a 16th place finish out of 41 teams. In 1988, Collazo's team had similar results, placing 17th with a 31-11 record.

As a youth league coach in Miami and at the University of Miami, Collazo coached some of the premier pitchers in Major League Baseball. His students have included Alex Fernandez of the Chicago White Sox, Oscar Muñoz of the Cleveland



*The Tribe's top relief pitcher in 1981 and '82, Jamey Shouppe returned to his alma mater as head recruiter and first base coach in 1990.*

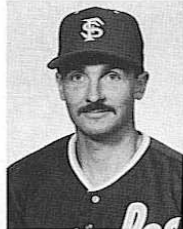
Indians and Joe Grahe of the California Angels. Last year, Collazo gained national attention when he helped Hall of Famer Jim Palmer make a comeback attempt.

As pitching coach for Florida State, Collazo will be responsible for the development of a relatively young pitching staff. With the 1990 draft claiming three Seminole pitchers, he will be looking to fill the gaps in the FSU pitching rotation. He now directs a group that has been a strength of the team over the past five years.

Collazo graduated from the University of Miami in 1988 with a degree in psychology. A native of Miami, Lazer married the former Barbara Marrero in 1990. They have an infant son, Michael Daniel.

## BRIAN RHEES ASSISTANT COACH

After a successful season directing the Florida State pitching corps in 1991, Brian Rhees' duties on the Seminole coaching staff have drastically changed, and increased, for 1992. When Assistant Coach Steve Winterling left FSU to become head coach at Pasco-Hernando Community College last season, Rhees took over many of his responsibilities.



This year, Rhees coaches the Seminole outfielders and assists FSU Head Coach Mike Martin in working with the Seminole hitters. In addition, Rhees handles many administrative chores, including overseeing the academic progress of baseball student-athletes and supervising the upkeep of the playing field at Dick

Howser Stadium.

Rhees joined the Florida State baseball staff last year after one season as pitching coach at Southern Mississippi. Rhees helped the 1990 edition of the Golden Eagles to NCAA regional competition for the first time in school history.

Southern Miss was just one coaching stop on Rhees' coaching itinerary in seven years since graduating from Chico (Calif.) State University in 1984. During his career, the former Chico State star has made coaching stops at Lassen (Calif.) Junior College, the University of South Alabama, University of Southwestern Louisiana and Porterville (Calif.) Junior College.

In two seasons at Lassen JC, Rhees helped the team to its first-ever conference championship in 1988 and a second place finish in 1989. While at South Alabama, the Jaguars finished first in the Sun Belt Conference and second in the 1987 NCAA Atlantic Regional. He earned his master's degree in exercise physiology while working with the USA squad that season.

Rhees attended Chico State in 1983 and '84 and graduated with a bachelor's degree in physical education. During those two seasons, Rhees worked as an assistant coach at Durham High School in Chico, Calif.

Prior to completing his baseball career, Rhees was a two-year letterman at Santa Rosa Junior College in California. A native of Eugene, Ore., he graduated from Redlands High School where he was a two-year letterwinner in baseball and basketball and a three-year letterman in football.

Rhees, 31, is married to the former Glenda Wiley of Lafayette, La.

## JAMEY SHOUPPE ASSISTANT COACH

Jamey Shouppe, a successful relief pitcher for Florida State in 1981 and '82, enters his third season as a Tribe assistant coach in 1992. Shouppe rejoined the Seminoles in January of 1990 and immediately began his duties as head recruiter for the Florida State baseball program.



The majority of the players on the 1992 Seminole roster were recruited and signed by Shouppe, and the list includes some of the top junior college and high school talent in the Southeast. With six of last year's top players signing professional contracts, Shouppe was under pressure to sign quality replacements for that group. He answered the pressure by bringing in 12 new players to don the Garnet and Gold in 1992.

In addition to the crucial position of chief recruiter for the Seminole baseball team, Shouppe fills several other roles with the squad, both in the administrative and on-field areas. He serves as the first base coach for FSU during games and is the liaison between the coaches and the Seminole game operations staff.

Shouppe, 31, compiled a 10-4 record with 10 saves during his two seasons with the Tribe. A southpaw, he was Florida State's top relief pitcher in both 1981 and '82, and at one time held the FSU record for appearances in a season with 31 his senior year. In all, he appeared in 60 games for Florida State. Shouppe had a career earned run average of 3.78 and struck out 122 in 126.1 innings of work. In 1982, he was named to the Metro Conference All-Tournament team.

A native of Chattahoochee, Fla., Shoupe came to FSU after playing junior college baseball at George Wallace Junior College in Dothan, Ala. As a pitcher and an outfielder, he earned all-conference, all-state and all-region awards in each of his seasons at Wallace.

Following his senior season at Florida State, Shoupe was drafted by the Houston Astros. He played three seasons in the Astros organization, at the A and AA levels, before retiring from the sport in 1985.

Shoupe earned his bachelor's degree in physical education from FSU, and held various coaching and teaching positions in Florida prior to returning to Florida State in 1990. He earned his master's degree from Nova University in Ft. Lauderdale, and currently teaches several classes in the physical education department at Florida State in addition to his coaching assignment. He has worked as director of the Mike Martin Baseball School, 6-9 age division, for the past six years.

Shoupe and his wife, former FSU cheerleader Karen Hall, have a son, Jake (4) and a daughter, Kasey, born in November.

## GUY GALLAGHER EQUIPMENT & CLUBHOUSE MANAGER

Guy Gallagher has been an important behind-the-scenes member of the Florida State baseball program for the past seven seasons, since 1985. This is his second year as a full-time staff member. Gallagher completed his undergraduate degree in physical education in December of 1990.



Gallagher has a multitude of daily responsibilities throughout the season, and throughout the year. He assists Chip Baker with the ordering of all equipment used by the Seminoles and is charged with maintaining that equipment. When Florida State is on the road, Gallagher coordinates the transfer of luggage and equipment for the team.

He also undertakes various other projects as assigned by the coaches, which often includes assisting at practice in different drills. He spends countless hours at Dick Howser Stadium around the year. Gallagher, whose input helped make the FSU clubhouse and lockerroom facilities the best in the nation, has been charged with managing the day-to-day upkeep of that area.

A native of St. James, N.Y., Gallagher attended Smithtown East High School before coming to Florida State. He gained a love of baseball and of all sports there from his father, a teacher and high school baseball coach for 25 years.



SHANE BURROUGHS  
TRAINER



IVA KILGORE  
SECRETARY

## TRENT JACKSON GRADUATE ASSISTANT

Trent Jackson begins his first season at Florida State in 1992 as a graduate assistant for the Seminole baseball team.



Prior to his arrival at FSU this summer, Jackson was a student equipment manager for four years at the University of Alabama. He will use that experience to assist Guy Gallagher in the maintenance and upkeep of all equipment at Florida State. His duties also include setting up the field for practices and games throughout the playing and practice seasons. He will assist Gallagher in the management of the FSU clubhouse and lockerroom area.

Jackson played baseball on the junior college level in Mississippi, where he was named to the all-state team his sophomore year. He is a native of Crystal Springs, Miss.

Jackson received his degree in physical education from Alabama in the spring of 1991 and is currently working on his master's degree in Athletic Administration at FSU.

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