

# Seminoles



## Mike Martin Field at Dick Howser Stadium

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**DOUG MIENTKIEWICZ**  
Kansas City Royals' First Baseman





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## Mike Martin Field at

# DICK HOWSER STADIUM

**DICK HOWSER STADIUM HAS TAKEN ITS PLACE** as one of the top collegiate baseball facilities in the country after a two-year, \$12 million dollar project was completed in 2004. Located on the campus of Florida State University, the stadium has provided over two million fans with the feeling of having "the best seat in the house" to watch the finest in college baseball action. On April 2, 2005 Florida State University dedicated the field at Dick Howser to current head coach Mike Martin. Florida State's skipper for the last 27 years now coaches on the diamond bearing his name, Mike Martin Field at Dick Howser Stadium.



Dick Howser

Florida State's players and coaches enjoy the convenience and luxury of a clubhouse and locker room currently located behind the Seminole dugout. The Griffin Family Clubhouse was moved to the first base side for the 2004 season as the construction process was completed. The main locker room was described by former Seminole and 2004 World Series Champion Doug Mientkiewicz as being "better than 95% of the big league clubhouses" he has seen. The locker room contains a

personalized wooden locker for each player, a separate locker room for the Seminole coaches and trainers, and a video area where FSU players and coaches can watch film.

The stadium also houses all of the baseball offices. The coaches' offices look over the stadium behind home plate. There is also a weight room and training area adjacent to the clubhouse. Each of the areas were expanded and improved during the renovation process.

There are on-going efforts to keep Dick Howser Stadium one of the top facilities in college baseball. Truly a "player's ballpark," the stadium has had many upgrades even since the \$12 million renovation completed less than two years ago. In 2005 fans will enjoy an upgraded \$50,000 sound system and they will also notice an enhanced exterior brick facade as the outfield walls now match the exterior grandstand of the stadium.

Dick Howser Stadium, named after the late Kansas City Royals and Florida State manager who was also Florida State's first-ever baseball All-American, is a showcase befitting one of the top collegiate teams in the nation. From the beautifully-manicured playing surface to the chairback seats, Howser Stadium is one of the best places in the country to watch a game.

Stadium capacity increased to 6,700 as additional seats were added during the two-year construction process. Florida State annually ranks in the top 15 nationally in attendance. In 2005, Florida State baseball fans shattered the schools records for total and average attendance ranking seventh in

the nation in both categories. In 1994, the one-millionth fan walked through the gates of Howser Stadium in only its 12th season of operation and this past season total attendance reached more than two million. Since the 1983 opening, FSU has averaged over 2,500 fans per game.

No school in the ACC drew more total fans or more fans per game last season than Florida State. The Seminole faithful set the standard for all others in the conference as more than 100,000 FSU fans have attended games at Dick Howser Stadium six times in the last seven years and no ACC school has drawn more fans this decade than Florida State.

Seminole fans are simply the best and most knowledgeable in college baseball. Although they live and die with their Seminoles, the FSU faithful are known nationwide for their sportsmanship and appreciation of good baseball — by both teams. Fans, along with the stadium and a professional game operation, are a large reason that Mike Martin Field at Dick Howser Stadium has been chosen as an NCAA Regional Tournament site 21 times in 23 years since its opening in 1983. Dick Howser Stadium has also been host to five Super Regionals in the seven years since the new postseason format was adopted.

The stadium was dedicated in honor of Dick Howser in March of 1988 prior to an exhibition game between Florida State and the Kansas City Royals, two of Howser's former teams. As part of the stadium dedication, Kansas City all-stars George Brett and Bo Jackson helped unveil a new \$150,000 matrix scoreboard and a bronze bust of Howser. While the bust of Howser still stands in Haggard Baseball Plaza, the matrix scoreboard was replaced in January 2004 with a new \$800,000 video board. The state-of-the-art scoreboard provides lineups, statistics and replays throughout the game and stands 40 feet high and 70 feet wide.

Mike Martin Field at Dick Howser Stadium has come a long way in the last two decades. Old Seminole Field was christened Seminole Stadium March 28, 1983, after a one million dollar renovation was completed on the park. Wooden

### Stadium Quick Facts

Capacity .....	6,700
Dimensions .....	320' right - 400' center - 340' left
Height of Wall .....	10'
Height of Right Field Screen .....	30'
Playing Surface .....	Natural Grass (Bermuda)
Opening Day .....	March 29, 1983
First Game Result .....	FSU 5, LSU 15
First FSU Win .....	FSU 10, LSU 5 (3/30/83)
First Day Crowd .....	1,305
First Run .....	Tommy Zoeller (FSU)
First Hit .....	Zoeller, single to left
First RBI .....	Danny Dawell (FSU), single to score Zoeller
First Batter .....	John Morse (LSU)
First Putout .....	Rick Figueredo (FSU), 5-3 putout on Morse
First Assist .....	Mark Barineau (FSU) on Morse grounder
First Double .....	Ronnie Corbett (LSU), sixth inning
First Triple .....	Ronnie Corbett (LSU), eighth inning
First Home Run .....	Rick Figueredo (FSU), fifth inning
FSU in Dick Howser Stadium .....	725-140-1 (.838)

# Seminole



bleachers were replaced with a two-tier concrete grandstand seating 2,500. Modern concession areas, restrooms and a press box complete with separate booths for radio and television broadcasts were also added.

The playing surface dimensions measure 320 feet to right field, 400 feet to center and 340 feet to left. Prior to the 1986 season, a screen was added to the top of the right field wall, increasing in five-foot increments from 20 feet in the power alley to 30 feet in right field — giving a unique effect.

The playing field itself is also often compared to that of a major league park. FSU grounds chief Brian Donaway and his crew, oversee the everyday upkeep of the playing surface and surroundings, spending hours on the field year-round. The dedication and hard work of Justin Wilmot (field supervisor) were rewarded in the fall of 2001, when Dick Howser Stadium was named the best collegiate baseball field in the country. Often taken for granted, the grounds crew gives Mike Martin Field at Dick Howser Stadium a playing field unsurpassed by any collegiate team in the nation.

The beautiful home of Florida State's baseball Seminoles, from the Mike Loynd Tradition Room, the Griffin Family Clubhouse to the top-notch playing field and overall family atmosphere, is indeed a fitting tribute to one of FSU's greatest alumni, Dick Howser.

## MIKE LOYND TRADITION ROOM

The Mike Loynd "Tradition Room", underneath the first base stands, holds an attractive showcase which tells the story

## Top 20 Dick Howser Crowds

NO	OPPONENT	DATE	ATTENDANCE
1.	Texas	6/8/03	6,524
2.	Auburn	6/4/05	6,398
3.	Florida	3/30/05	6,393
4.	Miami	4/10/04	6,387
5.	Miami	4/17/04	6,328
6.	Miami	4/11/86	6,145
7.	Texas	6/9/03	6,138
8.	Miami	4/26/03	6,056
9.	Miami	4/13/91	6,039
10.	Miami	4/12/91	6,032
11.	Army	6/3/05	6,025
12.	Miami	4/9/04	6,013
13.	Miami	4/11/92	5,945
14.	VMI	1/31/04	5,882
15.	Miami	4/14/90	5,877
16.	Miami	4/14/91	5,740
17.	Florida	4/21/04	5,685
18.	Miami	4/8/94	5,524
19.	Florida	3/5/94	5,486
20.	Florida	3/9/91	5,450

of the great players, award-winners and tremendous FSU teams of the past. Trophies and plaques depicting Florida State's baseball success through the years adorn the walls. It also provides a comfortable lounge area adjacent to the FSU clubhouse.

Separate wall displays, attractively back-lit, Florida State All-Americans, former Seminoles in FSU's 18 College World Series teams and 16 cc championships. Another wall is lined with FSU's tournament and conference championship trophy replicas of the Golden Spikes Awards of Mike L. Fuentes and J.D. Drew.

The Mike Loynd Tradition Room, built through generous donation of former Florida State All-American Mike Loynd, serves as a showcase for the great tradition of Florida State baseball.

## THE GRIFFIN FAMILY CLUBHOUSE

Former Seminole first team All-American and Toronto Blue Jay John-Ford Griffin grew up in a Gold home. Both his father, Bill, and mother, Carolyn, are FSU. So did his two sisters. So it seems appropriate one of the greatest Seminole baseball players, along with his entire family, have their names adorning the Seminole Clubhouse. Out of appreciation to the family for a generous gift when the school was renovating Dick Howser Stadium, FSU named one of the nation's top locker rooms in honor of the family as the Griffin Family Clubhouse.

The clubhouse is one of the most impressive with personalized wooden lockers, a big screen state-of-the-art sound system and every comfort future Seminoles could ever ask for.

"Phenomenal," was the first word that came from former Seminole and current Kansas City Royal Mientkiewicz first toured the Griffin Family Clubhouse when he walked into the clubhouse for the first time and I better than 95% of the big league clubhouses." "I was at Fenway when we won the World Championship and it was about the size of this room. If it's not the best in college baseball. To me this is the best and this is the best place to play."

## Season Home Attendance Totals

(Since opening of stadium in 1983)

YEAR	DATES	TOTAL	AVERAGE
1983 <sup>^</sup>	30*	57,575	1,919
1984	51*	72,518	1,422
1985	58*	103,552	1,785
1986	45*	118,897	2,642
1987	43*	86,209	2,005
1988	46*	86,628	1,884
1989	46*	87,240	1,896
1990	40	106,081	2,652
1991	40*	109,549	2,739
1992	41*	90,278	2,202
1993	40*	80,757	2,019
1994	42*	106,352	2,532
1995	35*	85,137	2,432
1996	36	72,382	2,010
1997	38*	98,622	2,595
1998	32*	62,128	1,941
1999	40*	102,931	2,573
2000	41*	114,651	2,796
2001	37*	91,520	2,474
2002	44*	129,013	2,932
2003	40*	131,223	3,281
2004	35*	115,680	3,305
2005	37*	167,602	4,529
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>907</b>	<b>2,276,525</b>	<b>2,510</b>

<sup>^</sup>Stadium opened in middle of 1983 season.

\*Includes NCAA Regional & Super Regional games.

**BOLD** indicates FSU single-season record

## 2005 Totals

(Includes Tournaments/Postseason)

	DATES	TOTAL	AVERAGE
Home	37	167,602	4,529
Away	33	119,082	3,608
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>286,685</b>	<b>4,095</b>