



**WE ARE THE
SEMINOLES**

FLORIDA'S SEMINOLES: THE UNCONQUERED PEOPLE

By Barry Ray, FSU Office of News and Public Affairs

As a people, few have prevailed over more trying circumstances than the Seminole Indians of Florida. Over the course of almost two centuries, Florida's Seminoles endured three wars with the U.S. government, resisted numerous efforts to relocate them to federal reservations in the West, and ultimately made their home in one of the world's most inhospitable environments, the Florida Everglades. That they have not only survived, but thrived — all while maintaining their fierce independence and rich culture — is a tribute to their courage and perseverance. This is their story.

Long before European explorers ever visited the area now known as Florida, native peoples had been living here for thousands of years. In fact, as many as 100,000 members of four Indian nations — the Apalachee, the Tequesta, the Timucua and the Calusa — were living in highly organized settlements throughout the peninsula when the Spanish first arrived in 1513.

The native peoples' lack of resistance to smallpox, yellow fever and other "European" diseases, as well as later slaving raids from the English colonies of Georgia and South Carolina, eventually decimated their numbers. By the mid-18th century, the Indian nations of Florida had ceased to exist.

In their place, groups of Indians from a confederation of tribes collectively referred to as the Lower Creeks began moving into Florida from Alabama and Georgia. They had been pushed out of their former homes by the encroachment of white settlers, as well as by conflicts with other tribes. It was around this time that the name "Seminoles" first appeared; there are several possible explanations as to its origins.

When the first English speakers began arriving in Florida in 1763, they found many Creeks living as *yat'siminoli*, or "free people," across the northern part of the Florida peninsula. ("Yat'siminoli" was a term used in the Mikisúki, or Miccosukee, language, which still is spoken today.) The settlers may have simply ignored the Indians' separate tribal affiliations and called them all Seminolies, or Seminoles.

Others believe that the Seminole name comes from the Spanish word *cimarron*, meaning "wild men" or "unconquered." The Indians may have been given this name because they had escaped from slavery in the English-controlled colonies to the north.

With the end of the American Revolutionary War in 1784, English-speaking settlers began moving southward in ever greater numbers, buying or seizing land from the native inhabitants. By 1813, some of the Creek tribes in Alabama rose up against the white settlers and the Indian tribes that supported them. This conflict, known as the Creek War of 1813-14, proved disastrous to all of the tribes. U.S. troops led by Gen. Andrew Jackson crushed the uprising and forced a treaty on the Creeks that took more than 2 million acres of land from them. Several thousand Creek warriors and their families migrated south into Spanish Florida, where they and the Seminoles increased their resistance to white settlement.

In 1814, such conflicts escalated into the first of three Seminole wars. Over the next four years, Jackson illegally entered Spanish Florida numerous times to burn Seminole villages and kill resistance leaders.

With the end of the First Seminole War in 1818, many Indians moved further into Florida. By 1820, the year before Spanish Florida became a U.S. territory, there were at least 5,000 Seminoles, Creeks and Mikisúki people living here. However, a series of federal treaties failed to protect their rights and, in 1835, war broke out again.

The Second Seminole War (1835-42) proved to be the longest, most costly, and the last of the U.S. wars of Indian removal fought east of the Mississippi River. It also would be the first guerilla-style war faced by U.S. troops. Led by the fierce warrior Osceola, the Seminoles were aided by runaway slaves, who received protection from their allies in return for a portion of the agricultural staples that they grew. These so-called "Black Seminoles" also had a reputation as fierce fighters, and were equally determined to preserve their freedom.

The fighting ended in a stalemate in 1842, and an uneasy peace lasted for 14 years. In 1856, however, Seminole leader Billy Bowlegs and his followers were provoked by U.S. soldiers. They retaliated, and the ensuing series of skirmishes became known as the Third Seminole War (1856-58).

When U.S. troops once more withdrew — again with no treaty or victory — the Seminole Wars finally ended. All told, more than 3,000 Seminoles had been forcibly removed from Florida to the Western territories of Arkansas and Oklahoma. As few as 300 remained in Florida, and they took refuge within the dense swamps of the Everglades. However, their place in history was assured as the only American Indian tribe never to have signed a peace treaty with the U.S. government.

From the 1920s onward, as the development boom exploded in South Florida, the Seminoles lost more and more of their hunting lands to tourists and settlers. They became agricultural workers in the vegetable fields of South Florida, and also ran tourist attractions, wearing their col-

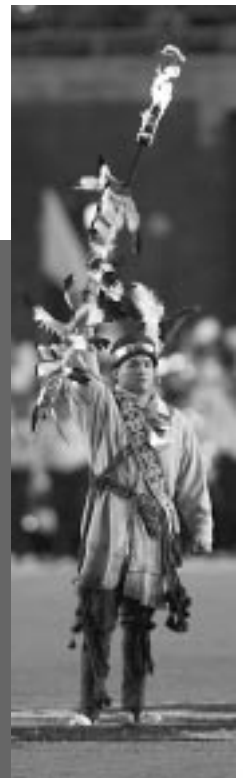


orful patchwork clothing, producing souvenirs and wrestling alligators.

On Aug. 21, 1957, the Seminole Tribe of Florida was established through a majority vote of Florida's Seminole Indians. This vote gave the Seminoles federal recognition as a self-governing tribe with a constitutional form of government. The Seminole Tribe of Florida now has almost 3,000 members living on five reservations across the peninsula at Hollywood, Big Cypress, Brighton, Immokalee and Tampa.

The Seminoles work hard to be economically independent. Tourism and gaming profits pay for infrastructure and schools on their reservations, while citrus groves, cattle agriculture, aircraft production, tobacco sales, land leases and aquaculture are other significant sources of revenue.

Having persevered through two centuries of adversity, the Seminole Indians of Florida have earned the right to call themselves "the unconquered people." Their indomitable spirit is one that Florida State University proudly seeks to emulate in all of its endeavors. ■



The Symbol: Seminoles

Florida State would play two games in 1947 before students demanded the school acquire a symbol. While details conflict, most believe the account of a poll of the student body is accurate. The Florida Flambeau reported that Seminoles had won by 110 votes over Statesmen. The rest of the top contenders (in order) were Rebels, Tarpons, Fighting Warriors and Crackers.

In the 1950s, a pair of students dressed in Native American costumes and joined the cheerleaders on the field which eventually evolved into the majestic symbol of Osceola and Renegade that FSU now enjoys. Today, the Seminole Indian Tribe participates in many campus activities.

Florida State University is proud of its longstanding cooperative relationship with the Seminole Tribe of Florida. The Seminole people have suffered many hardships and injustices, but they have remained brave, dignified and proud. The Seminoles are unconquered. They symbolize what we hope will be the traits of all of our graduates, including our student-athletes.

Media Info

Season Preview

The Coaches

The Team

Season Review

This Is FSU

Record Book

Our Facilities

This Is Tallahassee

MEN'S GOLF

Media Information

Sports Information Office



CHUCK WALSH

The Florida State Sports Information Office is located on the second floor of the Coyle Moore Athletics Center. Chuck Walsh works with the men's golf team and is always happy to provide up-to-date information about the Seminoles. The most complete information on the team as well as pictures, feature story ideas and statistics are always available by contacting the Sports Information Office.

Interview Policy

All Florida State golfers and head coach Trey Jones are available for interviews with accredited members of the media throughout the season. All interview requests should be made through Chuck Walsh in the Sports Information Office. Player interviews can be conducted before practice and as class schedules permit. Golfers' home phone numbers will not be provided to the media. Head coach Trey Jones can be contacted in his office week-day mornings when his team is not traveling at (850) 644-7289.

World Wide Web

The media and general public can also obtain information on all of Florida State University sports programs through the official Athletic Department web page in the World Wide Web. The address is <http://www.seminoles.com>. For more information on the site contact the Florida State Sports Information Office.

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2007-08 Florida State Men's Golf Quick Facts

Name of School Florida State University
 City/Zip Tallahassee, Fla. 32316
 Founded 1851
 Enrollment 38,553
 Symbol Seminoles
 School colors Garnet (202C) and Gold (7403C)
 Home Course Don A. Veller Seminole Golf Course
 Yards/Par 7,132/73
 Golf Course Phone (850) 644-2582
 Affiliation NCAA Division I
 Conference Atlantic Coast
 President Dr. T.K. Wetherell
 Alma Mater/Year Florida State University/1967
 Athletics Director Dave Hart, Jr.
 Alma Mater/Year University of Alabama/1971
 Athletic Department Administrator Bernie Waxman
 Athletic Department Phone (850) 644-1403
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DR. T.K. WETHERELL
President



DAVE HART, JR.
Athletics Director

Sports Information Quick Facts

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ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics at The Florida State University shall be to produce National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I programs for men and women that are characterized by excellence. In addition, the Department strives to be recognized as a campus leader in terms of its ethics, non-discrimination, and unquestioned fiscal integrity.

Excellence in intercollegiate athletics programs is determined by academic achievement and the development of character, maturity and a sense of fair play in athletic competition. It, moreover, engenders support for the University among its constituent groups including students, faculty, alumni, and friends at the local, state and national levels. In striving to become a leader among our peers, The Department subscribes fully to the philosophy and regulations set forth by the National Collegiate Athletic Association and operates within the fiscal regulations and non-discriminatory procedures established by the Florida State University Board of Regents and the Florida Legislature.

It is the explicit philosophy of the Department that our student-athletes will be strongly encouraged and supported in their endeavors to progress toward a degree while simultaneously participating in an intercollegiate athletic program whose environment is consistent with the highest standards of academic scholarship, sportsmanship, ethics, and institutional loyalty.

Finally, the decisions and priorities of the Department should always focus on our student-athletes — first, as individuals; second, as students; and third, as athletes.

CREDITS

Editors: Sara Young, Chuck Walsh
 Photography: Ryals Lee and the FSU Photo Lab, Ross Obley, J.C. Ridley
 Design: CWaters Designs, Quincy, FL
 Printing: Durra-Print, Inc., Tallahassee, FL

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FLORIDA STATE

2007-08 Roster

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Record Book

Our Facilities

This Is Tallahassee



Front Row (L to R): Assistant Coach Chris Malloy, Matthew Savage, Song Jeon, Cameron Knight, Nicholas Smith, Jonas Blixt; Back Row (L to R): Bradley Ruch, Drew Kittleson, Tommy Rymer, Seath Lauer, James Byrd, Head Coach Trey Jones

NAME	HEIGHT	SWINGS	CLASS	HOMETOWN/LAST SCHOOL
Jonas Blixt	5-11	Right	Sr.	Hammaro, Sweden/Tingvalla Gymnasiet
James Byrd	6-1	Right	Fr.	Windermere, Fla./Olympia High School
Song Jeon	5-8	Right	Sr.	Seoul, South Korea/St. Johns Lutheran (Ocala, Fla.)
Drew Kittleson	6-2	Right	Fr.	Scottsdale, Ariz./Pinnacle
Cameron Knight	5-9	Right	So.	Wesley Chapel, Fla./Wesley Chapel
Seath Lauer	6-4	Right	So.	Huntington, Ind./Huntington North
Bradley Ruch	6-0	Right	RS-Sr.	Louisville, Ky./St. Xavier
Tommy Rymer	6-3	Right	Sr. ..	Hastings, Minn./Pendleton School (Fla.)/University of Texas
Matthew Savage	5-10	Right	Jr.	Louisville, Ky./St. Xavier
Nicholas Smith	5-11	Right	Jr.	Ocala, Fla./Bellevue

HEAD COACH: Trey Jones (North Alabama, 1991)
 ASSISTANT COACH: Chris Malloy (Ole Miss, 2001)

TOP RETURNERS/STROKE AVERAGE: Jonas Blixt/72.24
 Matthew Savage/72.92

2006-07 ACC Academic Honor Roll

Jonas Blixt
 Torstein Nevestad
 Matthew Savage

2006-07 Best Finishes

Gator Invitational 2nd of 14
 Shoal Creek Intercollegiate 3rd of 15
 Seminole Intercollegiate 3rd of 15
 Linger Longer Invitational 3rd of 15

2006-07 ACC Finish

T4th of 11 Uwharrie Point, N.C.

2006-07 NCAA East Regional Finish

5th of 27

2006-07 NCAA Championship

T13th of 30

Seminoles By Class

Freshman (2): James Byrd, Drew Kittleson
 Sophomores (2): Cameron Knight, Seath Lauer
 Juniors (2): Matthew Savage, Nicholas Smith
 Seniors (4): Jonas Blixt, Song Jeon, Bradley Ruch,
 Tommy Rymer

Seminoles By State/Country

Arizona (1): Drew Kittleson
 Florida (3): Cameron Knight, Nicholas Smith, James Byrd
 Indiana (1): Seath Lauer
 Kentucky (2): Bradley Ruch, Matthew Savage
 Minnesota (1): Tommy Rymer
 Sweden (1): Jonas Blixt
 South Korea (1): Song Jeon