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Media Guide Credits

The 2004 Seminole Soccer Media Guide is a publication of the Florida State University Sports Information Office. Written and edited by Elliott Finebloom, editing and research assistance by Jason Leturmy, Michael Smoose and Josh Weber. Designed by CWaters Designs, Quincy, Fla. Photography by FSU Photo Lab, Shane Lardinois, Ross Obley, Ryals Lee, Larry Novey, US Soccer and Tom Casazza. Printing by Durra-Print.

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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 athletic programs is determined by academic achievement; and the development of character, maturity, and a sense of fair play in athletic programs. It, moreover, engenders support for the University among its many 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 Trustees 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.



SOCCER QUICK FACTS

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 Tallahassee, FL 32306
 Athletic Website www.seminoles.com
 Conference Website www.theacc.com

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Location Tallahassee, FL
 Symbol Seminoles
 Colors Garnet and Gold
 Enrollment 37,328
 President T.K. Wetherell
 Athletic Director Dave Hart, Jr.
 Senior Assoc. Athletic Director/SWA Kim Record
 Conference Atlantic Coast Conference
 National Affiliation (Division) D1
 Home Field/Capacity Seminole Soccer Complex/1,500
 Head Coach Patrick Baker (6th season)
 Alma Mater Otterbein College (1989)
 Record at School 68-41-8 (.615 in 5 seasons)
 Career Coaching Record 165-99-17 (.617 in 16 years)
 Assistant Coaches Robin Confer (2nd season)
 Rob Thompson (2nd season)

TEAM INFORMATION

2003 Overall Record 17-81
 2003 Conference Record/Finish 4-2-1 / second
 2003 Postseason Final Four/L 2-0 UConn
 Final 2003 Ranking 4th NSCAA
 5th SoccerBuzz
 5th SoccerTimes.com
 6th Soccer America
 Starters R/L 9/2
 Letterwinners R/L 18/2
 Top returnees Camie Bybee, SR, MF
 Katie Beal, SR, D
 Jez Ratliff, SR, MF
 Leah Galegos, JR, F
 Julia Schnugg, SO, F
 Top newcomers Libby Gianeskis, Tarpon Springs, FL
 Holly Peltzer, Lake Mary, FL
 Armani Rice, Parker, CO
 Melissa Samokishyn, Aurora, CO
 Sage Sizemore, Cape Coral, FL



2003 LEADER BOARD

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Points | Leah Gallegos 39 (18G 3A) |
| Goals | Leah Gallegos 18 Goals |
| GWG | Leah Gallegos 7 Goals |
| Assists | Amber Tollefson 11 Assists |
| Shots | Leah Gallegos 109 Shots |
| SOG | Leah Gallegos 60 SOG |
| Mins | Joy McKenzie 2044:48 Mins |
| GAA | Joy McKenzie 0.92 GAA |
| Saves | Joy McKenzie 78 Saves |
| Wins | Joy McKenzie 15 Wins |
| Shutouts | Joy McKenzie 7 Shutouts |

**Bold denotes a returning player*

LEADING RETURNERS

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Points | Leah Gallegos 39 Points (18G 3A) |
| | Camie Bybee 22 Points (8G 6A) |
| | Julia Schnugg 22 Points (6G 10A) |
| Goals | Leah Gallegos 18 Goals |
| | Camie Bybee 8 Goals |
| GWG | Leah Gallegos 7 GWG |
| Assists | Julia Schnugg 10 Assists |
| | Jez Ratliff 7 Assists |
| | Katie Beal 7 Assists |
| Shots | Leah Gallegos 109 Shots |
| | Camie Bybee 73 Shots |
| SOG | Leah Gallegos 60 SOG |
| | Camie Bybee 35 SOG |
| Mins | Joy McKenzie 2044:48 |
| | Kerry York 352:11 |
| GAA | Joy McKenzie 0.92 GAA |
| | Kerry York 1.79 GAA |
| Saves | Joy McKenzie 78 Saves |
| | Kerry York 12 Saves |
| Wins | Joy McKenzie 15 Wins |
| Shutouts | Joy McKenzie 7 Shutouts |



Media Info

2004 ROSTERS

NUMERICAL ROSTER

| | | | | | |
|----|---------------------|----|------|------|---------------------------------------|
| 0 | Ali Mims | GK | 5-10 | R-SO | Ponte Vedra Beach, FL/Nease |
| 1 | Kerry York | GK | 5-10 | SR | Millersville, MD/Severna Park |
| 2 | India Trotter | MF | 5-8 | SO | Ft. Lauderdale, FL/St. Thomas Aquinas |
| 3 | Teresa Rivera | D | 5-4 | JR | Parkland, FL/Marjory Stoneman Douglas |
| 4 | Rachel McDowell | MF | 5-4 | SO | Lakewood, CO/Wheat Ridge |
| 5 | Jez Ratliff | MF | 5-4 | SR | Norman, OK/Norman |
| 6 | Julia Schnugg | F | 5-5 | SO | Alamo, CA/Monte Vista |
| 7 | Sarah Rosseau | MF | 5-9 | R-SO | Marco Island, FL/St. John Neuman |
| 8 | Alli Ferreri | F | 5-3 | JR | Coral Springs, FL/St. Thomas Aquinas |
| 9 | Melissa Samokishyn | D | 5-3 | FR | Aurora, CO/Chatfield Senior |
| 10 | Kelly Rowland | D | 5-7 | SO | Wallingford, PA/Strath Haven |
| 11 | Sage Sizemore | MF | 5-6 | FR | Cape Coral, FL/Mariner |
| 12 | Libby Gianceskis | D | 5-5 | FR | Tarpon Springs, FL/Tarpon Springs |
| 13 | Leah Gallegos | F | 5-7 | JR | Los Angeles, CA/Franklin |
| 14 | Armani Rice | MF | 5-8 | FR | Parker, CO/Smoky Hill |
| 15 | Camie Bybee | MF | 5-5 | SR | Oklahoma City, OK/Putnam City |
| 16 | Holly Peltzer | F | 5-5 | FR | Lake Mary, FL/Lake Mary |
| 17 | Marion Cagle | D | 5-2 | SR | Tallahassee, FL/Leon |
| 18 | Joy McKenzie | GK | 5-8 | SR | Houston, TX/Cy-Fair |
| 20 | Katie Beal | D | 5-7 | SR | Alexandria, VA/West Potomac |
| 22 | Toby Ranck | MF | 5-4 | SO | Wayne, PA/Radnor |
| 23 | Jordan Bryant | MF | 5-5 | FR | Tallahassee, FL/Chiles |
| 25 | Colette Swensen | MF | 5-5 | SO | Davie, FL/ St. Thomas Aquinas |
| 27 | Helena Mastrogianis | MF | 5-7 | FR | Washington, MI/Bishop Foley |
| 28 | Jessica Vaccaro | GK | 5-6 | FR | Miami, FL/Miami Killian |
| 29 | Janet Burke | F | 5-3 | SR | Fayetteville, GA/Starrs Mill |

Head Coach Patrick Baker • 6th Season
Assistant Coaches Robin Confer • 2nd Season; Rob Thompson • 2nd Season
Team Manager Kristin Boyce • 1st Season

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

| | | |
|----|---------------------|----|
| 20 | Katie Beal | D |
| 23 | Jordan Bryant | MF |
| 29 | Janet Burke | F |
| 15 | Camie Bybee | MF |
| 17 | Marion Cagle | D |
| 8 | Alli Ferreri | F |
| 13 | Leah Gallegos | F |
| 12 | Libby Gianceskis | D |
| 27 | Helena Mastrogianis | MF |
| 4 | Rachel McDowell | MF |
| 18 | Joy McKenzie | GK |
| 0 | Ali Mims | GK |
| 16 | Holly Peltzer | F |
| 22 | Toby Ranck | MF |
| 5 | Jez Ratliff | MF |
| 14 | Armani Rice | MF |
| 3 | Teresa Rivera | D |
| 7 | Sarah Rosseau | MF |
| 10 | Kelly Rowland | D |
| 9 | Melissa Samokishyn | D |
| 6 | Julia Schnugg | F |
| 11 | Sage Sizemore | MF |
| 25 | Colette Swensen | MF |
| 2 | India Trotter | MF |
| 28 | Jessica Vaccaro | GK |
| 1 | Kerry York | GK |

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Alli Ferreri fur-air-E
Leah Gallegos Lee-a guy-A-gos
Libby Gianceskis Gee-a-ness-kiss
Helena Mastrogianis Hel-A-na mastro-genis
Sarah Rosseau Raw-so
Melissa Samokishyn sam-O-key-shin
Jessica Vaccaro va-kero



POSITION BREAKDOWN

Goalkeepers (4) – Joy McKenzie (SR), Ali Mims (R-SO), Jessica Vaccaro (FR) and Kerry York (SR)

Defenders (6) – Katie Beal (SR), Marion Cagle (SR), Libby Gianceskis (FR), Kelly Rowland (SO), Melissa Samokishyn (FR) and Teresa Rivera (JR)

Midfielders (11) –Jordan Bryant (FR), Camie Bybee (SR), Helena Mastrogianis (FR), Rachel McDowell (FR), Toby Ranck (SO), Jez Ratliff (SR), Armani Rice (FR), Sarah Rosseau (R-SO), Sage Sizemore (FR), Colette Swensen (SO) and India Trotter (SO)

Forwards (5) – Janet Burke (SR), Alli Ferreri (JR), Leah Gallegos (JR), Holly Peltzer (FR) and Julia Schnugg (SO)



2004 PHOTO ROSTER



#0 Ali Mims
Goalkeeper • R-SO
Ponte Vedra Bch, FL



#1 Kerry York
Goalkeeper • SR
Millersville, MD



#2 India Trotter
Midfielder • SO
Ft. Lauderdale, FL



#3 Teresa Rivera
Defender • JR
Parkland, FL



#4 Rachel McDowell
Midfielder • SO
Lakewood, CO



#5 Jez Ratliff
Midfielder • SR
Norman, OK



#6 Julia Schnugg
Forward • SO
Alamo, CA



#7 Sarah Rosseau
Midfielder • R-SO
Marco Island, FL



#8 Alli Ferreri
Forward • JR
Coral Springs, FL



#9 Melissa Samokishyn
Defender • FR
Aurora, CO



#10 Kelly Rowland
Defender • SO
Wallingford, PA



#11 Sage Sizemore
Midfielder • FR
Cape Coral, FL



#12 Libby Gianeskis
Defender • FR
Tarpon Springs, FL



#13 Leah Gallegos
Forward • JR
Los Angeles, CA



#14 Armani Rice
Midfielder • FR
Parker, CO



#15 Camee Bybee
Midfielder • SR
Oklahoma City, OK



#16 Holly Peltzer
Forward • FR
Lake Mary, FL



#17 Marion Cagle
Defender • SR
Tallahassee, FL



#18 Joy McKenzie
Goalkeeper • SR
Houston, TX



#20 Katie Beal
Defender • SR
Alexandria, VA



#22 Toby Ranck
Midfielder • SO
Wayne, PA



#23 Jordan Bryant
Midfielder • FR
Tallahassee, FL



#25 Colette Swensen
Midfielder • SO
Davie, FL



#27 Helena Mastrogianis
Midfielder • FR
Washington, MI



#28 Jessica Vaccaro
Goalkeeper • FR
Miami, FL



#29 Janet Burke
Forward • SR
Fayetteville, GA



Media Info

MEDIA INFORMATION

A NOTE TO THE MEDIA

Assistant sports information director Elliott Finebloom of the Florida State Sports Information Office is ready to assist you with any questions or requests concerning the 2004 Seminole soccer program, media guide, coaches and student-athletes. Please do not hesitate to contact Elliott Finebloom with any requests. You can call him in the office at (850) 644-5656 or reach him via email at efineblm@mail.fsu.edu. Fax requests can be sent to (850) 644-3820 and any written correspondence should be sent to Florida State Sports Information, 226 University Center D107, Tallahassee, Fla., 32306.

PLAYER AND COACHES INTERVIEWS

All player and coach interviews must be arranged through the Florida State Sports Information Office. Player's home phone numbers and cell phone number will not be given to members of the media. Players and coaches should not be called directly under any circumstances.

HOW TO COVER THE SEMINOLES

Members of the media will be provided with media guides, weekly releases and game notes. Updated individual and team stats will be available immediately following every match and game stories with a box score will be emailed, faxed and posted to the official athletic department website at www.seminoles.com. If you would like to be included on an email or fax release list, please contact Elliott Finebloom. Media do not need to request press passes for regular season home matches and seating will be provided for any media covering FSU soccer games. Credential requests and passes are required if Florida State hosts any NCAA Tournament matches. Home matches are played at the Seminole Soccer Complex (1,500). The stadium is located just south of the FSU football practice fields off of Stadium Drive.



For the first time ever, all 13 FSU home soccer matches will be broadcast live and will be available to fans free of charge exclusively at Seminoles.com. The Internet radio broadcast is just one of two ways fans can follow the Tribe live on the World Wide Web. For the fifth straight year live stats will also be available so fans can watch the action unfold

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |
| DR. T.K. WETHERELL FSU President | DAVE HART, JR. Athletics Director | KIM RECORD Senior Associate Director of Athletics | ELLIOTT FINEBLOOM Assistant SID/ Soccer Contact |
|  |  |  |  |
| ROB WILSON Assistant AD for Media & PR | TINA THOMAS Sr. Associate SID/ Women's Basketball | CHUCK WALSH Associate SID/ Men's Basketball | JEFF PURINTON Assistant SID/ Football |



and get immediate updates when goals are scored. Seminoles.com is also your only source for detailed pre-game and post-game information on Florida State soccer. All the game stories, updated stats, weekly releases, photo galleries

and Seminole soccer news is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on the web so be sure to make Seminoles.com your first stop for all your Florida State soccer information.



2004 SEASON OUTLOOK

General Outlook For 2004

- Florida State returns 10 players who started in the 2003 College Cup versus Connecticut
- This is the most experienced team head coach Patrick Baker has ever had entering a season.
- Every returning player that is fighting for a starting spot has started at least one game in her career and has played in the NCAA Tournament.

BAKER'S TAKE: We are excited about the potential for what this upcoming season could hold more than any other year. Our program has enjoyed regular season and postseason success but nothing like we experienced last year. We only graduated two players from 2003 so a lot of people feel we stand a good chance to repeat our performance.

We will try to recreate the same formula we have every year, win more games than we lose in the conference and avoid North Carolina for as long as we can in the ACC Tournament. If we do that and perform outside of the conference, we stand a great shot of being invited to the NCAA Tournament. We feel with our facility and fan base, we have the opportunity to receive a higher seed and be able to stay at home a little longer than we have in the past. We saw how much that meant last year around the country to the host institutions. We know what it takes now to get to the final four and it won't be an easy task to get back. Outside of North

Carolina, many teams that have been to the College Cup one year have a difficult time getting back.

BURNING QUESTION: How confident do you feel about this team entering the 2004 season?

"I feel really confident that this team has an opportunity to be extremely successful. We lost two key seniors but we have all worked hard in the off-season to do our part to compensate for the loss. If we are able to stay healthy and play like a team, I think this group can continue to build on the success we have experienced the last four years."

— Marion Cagle

Dealing With Expectations

- Florida State enters the 2004 season with the highest preseason ranking ever in the ACC Preseason Coaches' Poll
- The Seminoles have been to four straight NCAA Tournaments and three Sweet 16's.
- FSU finished 2003 setting a record for the highest ranking in program history in ever soccer poll.

BAKER'S TAKE: To be honest I really won't address that much with this group. We are still trying to earn respect within the state of Florida, within the south region and on the national scene. We will not be a big-headed type of team. The level of success has been achieved through

2004 Preseason ACC Women's Soccer Poll

| School | 2003 Record |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1. North Carolina (8) | 27-0-0 (7-0-0) |
| 2. Florida State | 17-8-1 (4-2-1) |
| 3. Virginia (1) | 12-5-4 (3-3-1) |
| 4. Clemson (1) | 11-7-2 (4-3-0) |
| 5. Duke | 14-7-1 (4-3-0) |
| 6. Maryland | 11-8-2 (2-5-0) |
| 7. Wake Forest | 4610-7-3 (1-4-2) |
| 8. NC State | 289-9-1 (1-6-0) |
| 9. Virginia Tech | 229-9-0 *(2-4-0) |
| 10. Miami | 179-9-1 *(3-4-0) |

* denotes Big East conference record in 2003

hard work, fitness, dedication and attention to detail. Those are the pillars of our program. On top of that the talent level continues to get better. Not only with the players we are bringing in, but also the way our current players are developing. Hopefully that combination will allow us to have another great year.

BURNING QUESTION: How hard will it be to play with the expectations that are surrounding this team in 2004?

"Every year I have been at Florida State there have been high expectations and it has taken a lot of work to live up to those expectations. I don't think this team knows anything different than striving to reach the lofty expectations we set for ourselves within the program. The bar is set very high due to our success last season but our goals are achievable. We have a great group of players and we are already working hard to reach those goals."

— Jez Ratliff

Soccer Buzz Preseason Top 5

- 1) North Carolina
- 2) Notre Dame
- 3) Santa Clara
- 4) Texas A&M
- 5) Florida State

Offense

- For the first time in school history, the Seminoles enter a season with three of the top five career goal scorers returning.
- All four of FSU's top point producers from 2003 are back in 2004.
- Florida State's offense set new single season records for goals and points in 2003.
- FSU returns three players who have 50 or more career points for the first time in program history.

BAKER'S TAKE: We have never struggled to create chances and score goals. Returning Camie (Bybee), Leah (Gallegos) and Julia (Schnugg) makes us very dangerous going forward. I felt like Leah and Julia became one of the best one-two attacking combinations at the end of last season. A lot was made of some other duos but if you look at the way they played off one another and with one another, they were exceptional. Accompanying those





Media Info

three players will be Jez Ratliff who has steadily put points on the board for three years, those four players will be called upon to create a lot for us in the final third. They have been doing that for a number of years already and we just need them to remain consistent at a high level. The return of Janet Burke and Alli Ferreri along with the arrival of Holly Peltzer will add a number of different options throughout the year.

BURNING QUESTION: Why did the combination of Leah Gallegos and Julia Schnugg work so well up top for FSU in 2003?

"I think Julia is such a talented player and what she brings to the field is totally opposite of what I bring to the game. She has incredible pace and makes great runs. Julia has a way of always finding an open space in the opposing team's defense. I am more of a player that likes to collect the ball and make plays so those contrasting styles work well together. We also read each other very well. Because our games are so contrasting I think we compliment one another."

— Leah Gallegos

Midfield

- Camie Bybee and Jez Ratliff have started in the Seminole midfield for three straight years together. They are only the second and third players ever to record double-digit points as a freshman, sophomore and a junior at FSU.
- India Trotter returns to the FSU midfield after being named an honorable mention All-American by Soccer Times. She is only the second FSU freshman to ever garner an All-American honors.

BAKER'S TAKE: I really like what this group of players could become. The way India (Trotter) was playing at the end of her freshman year was worth a player and a half. She was extending herself and expanding her game to new heights. It minimized a lot of other team's strengths and we played off one another. Then you throw in the talents of Jez Ratliff as a wide player who gets better and better every year — wow. As a freshman people thought Jez was just a fast player but she has become so much more for us. The interesting thing will be to see what options we have on that left side since four-year starter Amber Tollefson has graduated. We could slide Jez to the left and open a spot on the right but either way it is going to be very competitive. That goes for the central midfield as well. We have Toby Ranck, Rachel McDowell, Sage Sizemore, Sarah Rosseau, Helena Mastrogianis and Jordan Bryant and that will make us much more dynamic and give us more depth than we have ever had in all four midfield positions.

BURNING QUESTION: How difficult will it be to replace Amber Tollefson in the midfield?

"Amber was a key part of what we did in the midfield the last four years and it will not be easy to replace her. She was

the hardest worker on our team and a great leader to not only the team but to the midfielders as well. You always miss great players. On the positive side three starters from last year's group are back and there is a lot of familiarity there. I think we will adjust and I am confident in the group of players who have been training and working hard to step in and try to fill Amber's shoes. Somebody has to step up and I know my teammates are ready to accept that challenge."

— Camie Bybee

Defense

- Last year FSU set records for the fewest goals allowed in a season and the fewest ACC goals allowed in a season.
- The five goals FSU allowed in ACC play were the third-fewest ever allowed through an entire ACC season by any school in conference history.

BAKER'S TAKE: It is a testament to Kristin Boyce, she played in half our conference games last year and still made All-ACC first team. That is not an easy player to replace. After she scored the game-winner at Clemson, her career came to an end. Teresa Rivera stepped in and played well in her absence through the College Cup. The team achieved the level it did last year because of our defense. There were some great individual stories — Marion Cagle a two-year reserve who shines as a junior. Unheralded freshman Kelly Rowland becomes the personality in the back and achieves All-American status. And last but not least, junior Katie Beal became the vocal leader and played at such a high level all year. Her ability to defend, organize and serve makes her invaluable to us. Also to go through the spring without Amber and Boyce and achieve the level of success that we did made us as a staff feel like we can become a better team in time.

Team defending is where we have to start again if we want to repeat our success. If you remember, at the start of 2003 we were giving up two goals a game. We can ill afford to have that happen again. With the return of Beal and Rowland in the back, the interior of our defense will be strong. Both of them are so talented in their own ways. Katie is a great organizer and puts herself in great positions. Kelly is an unbelievable athlete who continues to improve each day. With Marion (Cagle) and Teresa (Rivera) returning as our outside backs — the experience will be there. We also have freshmen Libby Gianekis and Melissa Samokishyn, two young ladies that could come in and make an impact there as well.

BURNING QUESTION: What is it going to take for this group to repeat the performance of last season defensively?

"If we want to repeat what we did last season collectively the defense is going to have to work even harder this year. We will need to put in a lot of work. Another key element is camaraderie. We all worked so well together on the field last year in part because we were so close off the field. We know each others strengths and weak-



nesses and that will give us an advantage going into this season since we return all four defenders who started in the College Cup."

— Katie Beal

Goalkeepers

- Returning starter Joy McKenzie set single season records for GAA, wins, consecutive shutouts and consecutive shutout minutes at FSU while garnering second team all-region honors from SoccerBuzz and third team all-region honors from the NSCAA.
- McKenzie lead the ACC in shutouts in conference games and had the lowest GAA of any keeper in ACC play.
- With the return of Ali Mims and Kerry York recovering from chronic injuries, Florida State has three keepers on the roster who have all started an ACC regular season game and played in the NCAA Tournament.

BAKER'S TAKE: If you are looking at a collection of three goalkeepers on any one team, I would be very hard pressed to see anyone in the country that has three goalkeepers as talented as ours. Because you are talking about three players that have not only started games in the ACC but also achieved a great level of success. Joy (McKenzie) needless to say achieved the most success this past year with not only individual and team records that were shattered but also she really elevated her game and level of confidence. With Kerry (York) coming back and Ali (Mims) back, it just gives us some really great options. It will be interesting to see how that position unfolds in the preseason. Of all the positions on our team, that will be the most competitive. Whoever is starting should feel very good because they will have beaten out two very good goalkeepers. At the same time, if anything happens to our starter, we have two very able keepers with collegiate experience waiting in the wings.



BURNING QUESTION: With the return of Ali Mims, how good is this current group of Seminole goalkeepers?

"Overall we have a very good group of goalkeepers, potentially one of the best groups in the country. It's great to have Ali back in the mix after two years out with a serious injury. She performed very well on our spring tour to Australia and is working extremely hard to get back to full fitness. Joy had a tremendous season last year and I still think she has more to offer."

Kerry pushed Joy all the way last season and put in some very good performances even though she had some injuries to combat. We will certainly have good competition for the starting job with Joy and Kerry entering their senior years and Ali back with us."

— Assistant Coach Rob Thompson

The Role of This Year's Freshmen

- Five members of the 2004 freshman class are from Florida, two are from Colorado and one is from Michigan.
- Jordan Bryant is the first player from Tallahassee's Chiles High School to ever play soccer at Florida State.

BAKER'S TAKE: In my opinion a lot of people are under estimating this class. It is a good class and there's potentially three or four that will make a run at starting positions. If they do, it just means we are that much better and deeper with an experienced player on the bench. At the same time, if they aren't able to make an immediate impact it is understandable when you return 10 players who started versus UConn in the final four. We lost some players in the recruiting process last year because they saw so little room to possibly see significant minutes as a freshman. If this class comes in healthy and fit, they will have a great opportunity to play right away. We are very excited about Libby Gianceski, a left footed player who is tenacious on the defense and has great speed. Melissa Samokishyn provides a great defensive presence and is a wonderful player out of Colorado. In the midfield Sage Sizemore and Armani Rice are going to make contributions and add a great deal of athleticism. Armani can run at people, beat people and she serves a great ball. Sage is very good technically and tactically — an impact playmaker for us. According to goalkeeper coach Rob Thompson, Jessica Vaccaro is a very hard-working and determined young goalkeeper who has enjoyed some success at the high school and club level in the Miami area. He thinks her role this year will be to work as hard as she can in training to develop her own game.

BURNING QUESTION: Why do you think the 2004 freshman class will surprise people around the country?

"They will surprise people because when we recruited these athletes we saw that each of them had a special quality that could fit into the needs of the team. They are a blue-collar class willing to work hard to make themselves and the team better. Having this mentality in training will not only help them, but it will make

the environment even more competitive, and thus improve the depth of the team."

— Assistant Coach Robin Confer

2004 Schedule

- Florida State is 15-1-3 all-time at home on Friday nights under Patrick Baker. Included in those 15 wins are victories over six ranked teams.
- FSU is undefeated at home on a Friday night when more than 1000 fans come to the Seminole Soccer Complex. On seven such occasions, the Tribe is a perfect 7-0-0.
- FSU will only travel outside the state of Florida on just three occasions in 2004.

BAKER'S TAKE: We have another challenging regular season schedule both in and out of conference and with the additional teams in the ACC it will have a new look and a new feel. It is going to be an interesting conference season. We are excited about the way the schedule has unfolded for us with 13 home games. The great home support we get combined with the great teams coming to Tallahassee this year, it has the potential to be a record-breaking year as far as fan support goes.

With so many talented players and such a special senior class, having all of these games at our complex with the wonderful crowd support, could make for a banner year. We have an unbelievable home record on Friday nights. North Carolina has never been to Tallahassee on a Friday night since I have been here. Having that setting where the best program in our sport comes into our stadium on a Friday night with an unbelievable atmosphere it is going to be special. We have other tremendous teams coming in on Friday nights like Clemson, Wake Forest, Virginia, Florida and Arizona State. Not to mention some tough Sunday afternoon games. I like the rhythm of the schedule with Friday and Sunday games. We will be able to take Mondays off and have good training sessions Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Then you add in the fact that we only have to leave the state on three occasions the entire year and that is fantastic. The only in state road trip is to Miami and FAU the first weekend of September. Not traveling much is going to help because we feel we can do so much more for our players here at home.

BURNING QUESTION: How hard is it going to be to play on the road considering the team only has four road trips all season long?

"With all the games at home it is really exciting for us to play in front of our great crowds but it means we have to be very focused the few times we travel away from home. Coach Baker and our entire staff will do a great job of preparing us for those road contests. We all know how important it is to play well on the road and it will be up to us as players to prepare physically and mentally for those challenges."

— Julia Schnugg

The New ACC

- The last time the ACC women's soccer conference expanded was in 1995 when Florida State played its first season of collegiate soccer.

BAKER'S TAKE: We have always played Miami but opening the ACC schedule with them just three games into the season will be different. Playing at their place is always a challenge so we need to be prepared and be ready for a conference game so early on. The interesting thing about Virginia Tech is that we played them two years ago but outside that game there is not a lot of familiarity there. With those two schools coming in and the addition of Boston College in 2005, the conference becomes stronger, more diverse and extremely competitive. Expansion is great for the conference and will allow for increased exposure. The addition of better players and more quality coaches ultimately makes us all better.

BURNING QUESTION: How hard is it going to be to play two more ACC games this year than you normally play?

"Every year the ACC is a tough conference but this year even more so. Having to play nine games within the country's top soccer conference is going to be that much more difficult for us but everyone in the conference will be going through the same rigors. On the plus side it is a great opportunity to play more NCAA Tournament caliber teams within the ACC. It can only better prepare us for the ACC Tournament and NCAA's. It will be a challenge but I think we will be ready for it."

— Joy McKenzie

