

2002 Season Review

Seminoles in the News

Marier rules the ninth

FSU left fielder homers, makes game-saving catch

By Larry Munroe



The Florida State softball team (top) captured its fourth NCAA title by defeating UCLA 2-1 in the final round of the Women's College World Series at the end of the season.

Florida State 2
UCLA 1

Stopping Stuart's walk

FSU tries to shift lineup, make foes pitch to top hitter

By Bob Lawrence



Florida State's offense was on the line as Stuart (left) got a chance to hit against the game's best pitcher, Steve ...

Georgia Tech, traditionally ranked higher than FSU in the nation, moved back on the list from 10 to 15 in the final week of the poll. And the Seminoles were ranked 11th. There is a good reason for that. The Seminoles' offense has been ...

FSU shocks UCLA



Baseball thrives in ACC

With rebuilt parks, better talent, league gaining an SEC

By Steve Little

Finding a way to win



Seminoles ready for Series fight

UCLA knocked FSU out of 1999 WCWS

By Bob Lawrence



Florida State, which had to dig deep to win its way to the Women's College World Series, has the best chance to win the 2002 WCWS ...

Seminoles win three to reach Women's CWS

Malerich pitches 21 innings, gets three victories

By Bob Lawrence

2002 NCAA WOMEN'S COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

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OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

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2002 Season Review

The 2002 season of Seminole softball was arguably the greatest in the school's 18 years of fast pitch competition. Other FSU squads have had more wins or posted better team statistics but only one ever went as deep into the College World Series as the 2002 team and that 1990 team didn't face a schedule as tough as the one played by the 2002 squad.

Florida State played 25 games against ranked teams last year and 24 games against teams that finished in the final poll of the season. The Tribe recorded victories over No. 5 UCLA, No. 6 Nebraska, No. 8 Oklahoma, No. 11 DePaul, No. 14 Washington, No. 16 Texas, No. 18 Georgia Tech and No. 25 Florida Atlantic.

One of the highlights of 2002 was how Florida State advanced to its sixth World Series. After a tough loss to Georgia Tech in the second-round of the NCAA Tallahassee Regional, FSU had to fight its way through the loser's bracket. The Garnet and Gold was prepared to start its run on Saturday until rain forced a delay in postseason play leaving the Seminoles with the daunting task of winning three straight games on Sunday if they wanted to keep their World Series dreams alive.

The Seminoles, for the second time in three years, did what seemed impossible and won three games in a single day in a high-pressure situation. In 2000, it was three straight wins to capture the school's eighth ACC Championship. This time it was for a trip to the 2002 Women's College World Series in Oklahoma City, OK.

- No team at Florida State in the 2001-2002 academic year finished its season ranked higher or made it deeper into the postseason than the FSU softball team.
- The 2002 season marked the third time since FSU switched to fast pitch softball that the Seminoles have finished ranked in the top 5. Florida State was also the only non-Pac 10 team to finish the year ranked in the top 5 in the nation.
- When FSU downed No. 1 UCLA in the first game of the WCWS, it marked just the second time the Bruins lost an opening round game in 18 trips to the WCWS.

Three Decades of Coaches

Florida State head coach Dr. JoAnne Graf is only one of three coaches to lead a team to the Women's College World Series in each of the past three decades. Coach Graf led the Seminoles to their first ever WCWS in 1987. Florida State appeared in four straight World Series in the 90's and made their first appearance of the new millennium this year. Arizona head coach Mike Candrea and UCLA head coach Sue Enquist are the only other coaches to match this same feat.

Top 25 Wins in 2002

#4 Florida State 1	#16 Texas 0
#4 Florida State 1	#8 Oklahoma 0
#4 Florida State 11	#11 DePaul 5
#4 Florida State 3	#14 Washington 2
#4 Florida State 3	#25 FAU 2
#4 Florida State 7	#18 Georgia Tech 3
#4 Florida State 4	#18 Georgia Tech 2
#4 Florida State 3	#18 Georgia Tech 2
#4 Florida State 6	#18 Georgia Tech 1
#4 Florida State 2	#5 UCLA 1 (9)
#4 Florida State 4	#6 Nebraska 3

Final NFCA Top 25 Poll

School	Record	Pts.	Last Wk
1. California (27)	56-19	675	5
2. Arizona	55-12	648	2
3. Arizona State	46-20	608	4
4. Florida State	55-20	597	21
5. UCLA	55-9	555	1
6. Nebraska	50-14	540	7
7. Michigan	50-11	501	11
8. Oklahoma	49-16	494	13
9. LSU	56-11	453	3
10. CS Fullerton	53-13	415	9
11. DePaul	50-11	387	16
12. S. Carolina	46-20	366	NR
13. Ohio State	55-14	343	20
14. Washington	41-16	300	6
15. Stanford	44-20	263	8
16. Texas	50-13	242	10
17. Fresno State	50-20	235	14
18. Georgia Tech	52-18	208	NR
19. Notre Dame	44-16	177	NR
20. Pacific	43-17	145	17
21. Texas A&M	40-18	138	23
22. Georgia	59-17	118	25
23. UMass	53-13	94	NR
24. Oregon State	40-25	77	15
25. Florida Atlantic	62-13	71	12

Others Receiving Votes: Louisiana-Lafayette 49, Chattanooga 25, Iowa 15, Baylor 4.



FSU head coach JoAnne Graf and UCLA head coach Sue Enquist are two of only three coaches to lead a team to the WCWS in three decades.

Arm of Steel

Entering championship Sunday at the 2002 NCAA Division I Tallahassee Softball Regional, the Seminoles were prepared to do whatever it took to win the three games they needed to advance to their sixth College World Series, even if it meant riding Leslie Malerich's arm to do so. Malerich pitched in all three games for the Seminoles and picked up all three victories. It was the second time in Malerich's career that she won three games in one day. The first time it happened was during the 2000 ACC Championship when Malerich earned victories against Maryland and Virginia twice to bring home the ACC Championship and Tournament MVP honors for the Seminoles. In the regional, Malerich pitched in 21 innings allowing only two earned runs, while striking out 12 batters. She threw a total of 320 pitches to 82 batters scattering 24 hits as she downed UTC and then helped the Seminoles complete a sweep of Georgia Tech.

When FSU made its first WCWS appearance in nine years, Malerich once again carried the squad. She pitched 28 of 34 innings for Florida

State in Oklahoma City and recorded wins over then-No. 1 and top-seeded UCLA allowing just one run in nine innings. She allowed just one run again over seven innings in a 1-0 loss to eventual National Champion Cal. Malerich was strong again in picking up her second WCWS win and sending FSU into the semi-finals as she pitched the Tribe past No. 7 Nebraska.

With all four of Malerich's pitching performance's broadcast live on ESPN2, she showed the softball world what she was made of as she became just the second pitcher in FSU history to ever win two games in a year at the WCWS and only two other pitchers in the eight-team field won more games in Oklahoma City than did Malerich. The All-World Series team member ended up throwing 791 pitches over eight days as she went 5-2 in NCAA Tournament play.

The Dance Card

When the NCAA announced its 2002 Tournament field, Seminole softball followers probably felt there were quite a few familiar faces in the dance and they were right. Fifteen of FSU's 2002 opponents played in regionals around the country. The Tribe had 12 wins in 2002 versus those 15 schools including three wins over No. 1 seeds and one win over a No. 2 seed. They defeated Region Two's No. 2 seed DePaul and No. 4 seed Princeton, Region Four's No. 1 seed Texas and No. 2 seed Oklahoma and Region Six's No. 1 seed Washington. In their own region, FSU finished regional play 8-4 versus their opponents with wins over No. 1 seed FAU, No. 4 seed Auburn and No. 5 seed Georgia Tech.



Brandi Stuart was just the second Seminole ever invited to Team USA National Team Camp.

Miss USA

Team USA National Camp invitee Brandi Stuart had a spectacular season in her third campaign wearing the Garnet and Gold. She was amongst the leaders in the ACC in runs scored (58) and triples (7) and was third in batting average at .413 in the regular season. Stuart stole a career-high 50 bases in 55 attempts, which was good for second overall in the conference. She slugged a career best .698 with 50 singles, seven doubles, seven triples and 10 home runs. Her 10 home runs tied a team high for homers in a season and she now has 17 for her career. She is the only player in FSU history to appear on the career leaders list for runs, hits, doubles, home runs, RBIs and steals. Stuart finished the regular season with a career batting average of .368, which is the highest career batting average in FSU softball history. With her outstanding play, Stuart became just the second FSU player to ever be invited to a USA National Team Camp.



Brandi Stuart was the fourth FSU softball player to be named an NFCA first team All-American.

All Everything

If being in Oklahoma City for the College World Series wasn't exciting enough, things got just a little sweeter for Brandi Stuart at the WCWS banquet. The junior was named an NFCA/Louisville 1st team All-American and was the only second baseman on the 1st team. It was Stuart's first-ever selection as a Louisville Slugger/NFCA All-American and she became just the fourth Seminole softball player to ever make it on to the 1st team and just the second junior ever.

Schedule of Strength

The 2002 Florida State Softball team played one of its toughest regular season schedules in recent memory. On top of playing 13 games versus teams ranked at the end of the regular season, Florida State played 71% of its 66 regular season games versus teams with winning records. Seminole regular season opponents posted a .607 winning percentage last year and FSU played three games against teams with 60 or more wins, two games versus teams with 50 or more wins and 19 games versus teams with 40 or more wins. FSU went 13-11 in those contests, which is a .541 winning percentage versus the toughest competition on their schedule. The Garnet and Gold played more games against teams with 40, 50 and 60 wins than they did against team's with a sub .500 record. The Seminoles lost only four games to teams that weren't ranked at one point in 2002 and lost to just one team with a sub-.500 record. The combined record of the teams that beat FSU last season was 702-318 (.688). If you remove the two losses to Texas Tech from the Troy Cox Classic, the teams that recorded the other 12 wins over Florida State had a record of 676-238 for a gaudy .740 winning percentage.

Tough Enough

The 2002 season brought with it a lot of challenges for FSU softball but none more daunting than the schedule. The Garnet and Gold played 24 games versus teams in the final NFCA/USA Today poll and one other team (Mississippi State) who was ranked. The Tribe recorded wins over three top 10 teams, five top 15 teams and eight top 25 teams. The Seminoles played 15 top 25 opponents and 12 of the top 16. Overall, FSU won 11 games against top 25 opponents.

Once Bitten Twice Shy

Of the 18 teams Florida State played more than once in 2002, only two schools had an edge in the series. The Garnet and Gold had a .500 or better record versus 16 of those teams, which includes NCAA Tournament teams like No. 1 seed Texas (1-1), No. 4 seed Washington (1-1), Tallahassee Regional opponent Auburn (2-0) and No. 18 Georgia Tech (4-2).

Powerful

Senior Kimmy Carter must have been taking her vitamins because she demonstrated surprising power at the plate in 2002. The co-captain came into the season with four career home runs but in 2002




Season Review

she set a single season high with three. She also set a personal best with 53 RBIs. She established a new single season record for RBIs in 2002 and eclipsed her previous season best RBI total by a whopping 20 runs batted in. She also set a new personal best with a .407 slugging percentage.

RBI Queen

In game two of the Tallahassee Regional championship against Georgia Tech, Kimmy Carter blasted a two out, three-RBI double to left field to clinch the victory for the Seminoles. With those three runs batted in, Carter became the all-time RBI leader in Florida State history with 133. She wasn't done yet though as she added to her career record with three more at the College World Series beating out Leslie Barton by five with 136 in her career.

Regular Season Titles

	Florida State	9
	N. Carolina	2
	Maryland	1

The Only One

Florida State has finished as the ACC regular season champion nine times in 11 years. They finished tied for first place with Maryland in 1999. FSU has finished no lower than second place in the regular season in that 11-year span. On top of that, the Seminoles are the only team in ACC history to finish the regular season with a perfect record. They accomplished this feat three times going 4-0 in 1993, 6-0 in 1995, and 6-0 in 2002.

Turning Point

There is no doubt that the Seminoles gained a lot of confidence when they traveled to Fullerton for the prestigious Kia Classic tournament. Few people outside of Tallahassee were expecting the Tribe to make much of a splash on the west coast. The tournament featured nine ranked teams, including the last two national champions, and FSU was in one of two, four-team pools that featured three ranked opponents. It is safe to say the Garnet and Gold opened some eyes and proved that east coast teams can also play ball by advancing to the final four. Florida State, which was winless in six games versus ranked teams in Tallahassee, downed three top 15 teams in three days. The Seminoles beat then No. 6 Oklahoma, No. 14 DePaul and got a measure of revenge when they beat No. 13 Washington to go to the tournament semi-finals. To put in perspective just how well FSU did, they advanced further into championship play than No. 2 Arizona, No. 6 Oklahoma, No. 10 Fresno State, No. 13 Washington, No. 14 DePaul and No. 18 Louisiana-Lafayette. The Seminoles only two losses came against the Kia champion (Cal State Fullerton) and runner-up (Texas).








The Seminoles made it to the semi-finals of the prestigious Kia Classic at Cal State Fullerton last season.

The benefit of that trip out west was immeasurable when you look at what the Seminoles did during the regular season after the Kia. Florida State left Fullerton with a respectable 25-10 record and .714 winning percentage but after the trip they went 23-4 and posted an amazing .852 winning percentage. Included in that amazing stretch was a 10-game win streak that wasn't broken until the final game of 2002 regular season against then-10th-ranked FAU. Florida State hit .323 as a team over that stretch, belted 21 home runs, 13 triples, knocked in 133 RBIs and slugged an incredible .481. Seven everyday starters hit .290 or above during the run with five hitting .300 or above and Brandi Stuart hitting .446. FSU pitchers did their part also in posting a 1.41 ERA and a strikeout to walk ratio of almost 3 to 1. FSU outscored its opponents 148-57 in the final 27 contests of the regular season.

All-FSU

When ACC honors were announced at the 2002 ACC Banquet, FSU once again illustrated its stranglehold on the annual postseason conference awards. For the seventh time in 11 years, the Florida State softball team placed more players on the All-ACC team than any other school. The Seminoles, who won their ninth regular season title in 2002, placed four players on the 2002 squad. It was the eighth time in 11 years that FSU had placed at least four players on the All-ACC team. Senior Leslie Malerich and junior Brandi Stuart were each named to their third consecutive team while sophomore Jessica van der Linden was voted on for the second straight year. Van der Linden is the first Seminole to ever garner conference honors as a freshman and sophomore despite the fact the Florida State has had a league-leading 51 selections in 11 seasons. Senior Kimmy Carter made her first-ever appearance as the Seminoles made up one-third of the 12-member team. The Tribe's four selections marked the eighth time in 11 years that they had either led the conference or tied for the conference lead in All-Conference selections. Florida State has now placed an ACC record 39% of the 131 All-ACC selections.

All-ACC Selections

	Florida State	51
	North Carolina	28
	Virginia	26
	Georgia Tech	16
	Maryland	12

Prolific

The Seminoles had the most amazing HR hitting season in team history with 33 last year. The previous record of 23 was set 10 years ago by the 1992 squad that ended the season in the College World Series just as the 2002 squad did. Few would have imagined that when the 2001 senior class and their eight homers left, that last year's squad would obliterate the nine-year old record. FSU broke the all-time record for home runs in a season in game one versus Georgia Tech in the regular season and it came from a pretty unlikely source. Junior college transfer Shundra Colzie led off the game by taking a 2-2 pitch over the left field fence for her fourth HR of the year and FSU's 24th of the season. The Seminoles added to their all-time mark when Brandi Stuart tied the record for homers in a single season with her 10th of the year. The Seminoles' last two homers came at the WCWS and were big ones as one won a game in the 9th versus UCLA and another tied a game versus Arizona.

The Launching Pad

Now that Atlanta Fulton County Stadium has been replaced by Turner Field, a case can be made that the Al Bishop Softball Complex may be the new "Launching Pad" as far as FSU is concerned. The Seminole

softball team entered the 2002 Buzz Classic at the Al Bishop Complex with 10 home runs through 38 games. In the six games played at Al Bishop, FSU equaled their season total with 10 in a weekend. The Seminoles set a new season-high with three HR's in a game versus Princeton and they had multi-home run games versus Campbell, UNC-Greensboro and UCF. The Garnet and Gold also had a home run versus Troy State and ended up homering in five of their six games at the Buzz. After knocking in four HR's herself at the Buzz, junior Brandi Stuart had ten on the season and tied the single season record. The second baseman hit more home runs last season than she had in her previous two seasons combined (7).

Mo'ing...Mo'ing...Gone

After leading the nation in home runs in 1999 as a junior college player and then setting the pace for FSU in her first season with the team as a junior, you couldn't help but wonder if senior Monique Marier was suffering a power outage early on in 2002. The outfielder had hit just two four-baggers in 47 games after hitting six as in her first season. Boy did that change. The senior finished the year on a tear by hitting seven of her nine dongs in the last 28 games and she hit seven of FSU's last 11 homers including the game-winner at the College World Series versus No. 1 seed UCLA.

Even Mo Impressive

Senior Monique Marier had a huge week as FSU went 3-1 versus rivals UF and UNC. The senior outfielder hit .385, slugged 1.000, had two doubles, two home runs, scored two runs, knocked in six RBIs and made a game-saving catch while crashing into the outfield wall in the top of the seventh to clinch the sweep of UNC. She also had the game-winning RBI in the eighth inning of the first meeting between the Seminoles and Tar Heels.

No. 1 and No. 2

Two of the main reasons FSU set the single-season homerun record in 2002 were Brandi Stuart and Monique Marier. The two combined to hit 19 of the 33 HR's the Seminoles launched last season. No pair of slugger's in Seminole softball history have ever combined to hit more home runs in a single season than Stuart and Marier. Stuart tied the all-time single season home run record with 10 in 2002 while Marier hit the second most homers ever in a single season with nine.

Almost Half

Senior Kimmy Carter and junior Brandi Stuart were two of the most important cogs that drove the Seminole softball machine and that fact was never more evident than when you add up game-winning RBIs. Between the two, Carter and Stuart combined for 20 game-winning RBIs, which accounted for more than a third of FSU's 2002 victories.

On the Hunt

Freshman Casey Hunter had limited opportunities her freshman season as she learned from one of FSU's greatest pitchers in Leslie Malerich and former-ACC Rookie of the Year Jessica van der Linden but the Illinois native really showed something in a relief appearance versus Florida. With FSU trailing after two innings, Hunter made a relief appearance and was masterful. She one-hit the Gators over five innings while issuing just two walks and fanning seven batters. Hunter struck out the side in the fourth and retired UF in order in three of her five innings. The outing was a big confidence boost for the freshman who will be counted this year.

No More Sophomore Slump

Jessica van der Linden's overall improvement from a stellar rookie campaign to her sophomore season was remarkable when you look at her numbers through 45 games in 2001 and 2002. Even though she started almost the exact number of games both years (44 in 2001 compared to 45 in 2002) and had fewer at bats at the same point in 2002 (127) than she did in 2001 (131), the super soph's numbers were up in almost every area. She hit 34 percentage points higher

(.339 compared to .305), she had 10 doubles compared to eight, she slugged 45 percentage points higher (.472 compared to .427), she scored seven more runs (23 versus 17 in 2001) and she drew seven more walks. She also hit the first home run of her career in 2002. If you combine those numbers with her improved stats on the mound, it is easy to see why she was one of the most valuable Seminoles in 2002.

Making a Case

With every record she broke, it got harder and harder to argue that Leslie Malerich isn't the greatest pitcher in FSU softball history. Every game out, it seemed that Malerich knocked down another longstanding FSU record. On April 6, she notched her 20th win and became the first FSU pitcher ever to win 20+ games in three seasons. She set perhaps the biggest record Thursday, March 28 in a 2-1 win over Florida A&M. The complete game three-hitter gave Malerich the 91st win of her career and made her the all-time winningest pitcher in the 24-year history of Florida State softball. It was the third all-time record she broke in 2002.

In her first start of the season versus the Rattlerettes, February 27, Malerich made the 136th appearance of her FSU career. That moved her past ex-teammate Jennifer White-Stokes and into first place. The Merrillville, IN native broke another all-time record in the process of recording one of her biggest wins of the 2002 season. At the Kia Klassic, Malerich broke the all-time innings pitched record against No. 6 Oklahoma in a 1-0 shutout victory. She moved past Debbie DeJohn and into first place with her complete game win. She is the only pitcher in FSU history to pitch 800 or more innings in a career.

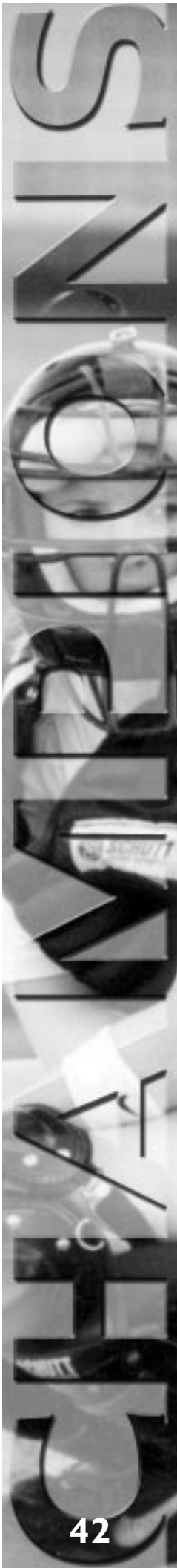
Near Perfection

It was hard to ask any more of pitchers Leslie Malerich and Jessica van der Linden than what they did at the Buzz Classic. The two starters combined for a 0.41 ERA while allowing just three earned runs in 51.1 innings. Malerich was nearly untouchable as she went 2-1 with a 0.29 ERA in 24.1 innings. She struck out 25 batters and issued just seven walks. Opposing hitters batted just .167 versus the senior. Van der Linden was equally as impressive. Her ERA of 0.52 was a shade higher but she went 3-1. She pitched 27.0 innings and struck out 33 batters. Opponents hit just .173 off of her.

Like a Brock

Once of the most pleasant surprises of the 2002 season had to be third baseman Becky Brock. The senior was penciled in as a defensive replacement for freshman starter Bryttani Lindheim when the 2002 campaign began but as she started to produce at the plate, it become harder and harder to keep her out of the line-up. With her start versus FAMU April 6th, Brock surpassed her total starts from 2001 and her four RBIs in 2002 were also a single-season high. Her 94 at bats and 19 hits were the most of her career. She also surpassed her run total from 2001 with 12 and most amazingly, she struck out just seven times all year.





15 Years in the Making

In its 18-3, five-inning win over Florida A&M, the Seminoles retired one of the oldest records in the FSU history books. The 18 runs the Garnet and Gold scored were the most since 1987 when FSU beat FAMU 17-0. That record covered 959 games. The Seminoles looked like they were going to break the record for margin of victory, which was also set in that 17-0 win but fell just a few runs shy as the Rattlerettes fought back to post a few late inning runs.

Shun-derful

Junior college transfer Shundra Colzie was one of the biggest surprises of the second half of the season for Florida State. The outfielder hit .250 with no HR's and two RBIs over the first 24 games of the year. Albeit, that was good enough for the fourth highest batting average on the team but is nothing compared to what she did over the next 28 games. Colzie hit .366 (the third highest average on the team), scored 18 runs, had a double, three triples and three home runs and knocked in eight RBIs. She slugged .592 compared to .250 in the first half of the season. Colzie also hit safely in her last seven games of the streak and in 21 of her last 26 games. She led the ACC with a .545 conference batting average.

Steal of the Century

Junior Brandi Stuart became just the third player in Florida State softball history to steal 100 bases in her career when she swiped her first base of the Kia Classic versus Rutgers. The Cerritos, CA native was able to break the century mark in front of family and friends in Fullerton making the weekend even more special. The second baseman made Tribe fans forget about All-American Serita Brooks' prowess on the base paths. Brooks owns three NCAA steals records from her two seasons at Florida State but Stuart has already surpassed her career mark. The second baseman has 126 career swipes, which is good enough for third all-time. She is 60 shy of becoming the most prolific base stealer in Seminole history. The record is a long shot but, as Florida State fans know by now, you can never underestimate what Brandi Stuart is capable of on the softball diamond.

What More Could You Want

It was hard to ask anything more of Jessica van der Linden than what she did in two losses to Texas Tech at the Troy Cox Classic. The sophomore dominated the eventual champions on the mound and at the plate. Van der Linden hit .571 with two doubles and she slugged .857 against the Red Raiders. She was on base almost 63% of the time and she scored two runs. She then started the would-be championship game, which was her first start since her perfect game versus Dayton. The Cerritos, CA native pitched brilliantly in holding the Red Raiders without a hit for 5.1 innings increasing her streak to 13 innings without allowing a hit.

Slammin'

After not launching a single grand slam in 116 games dating back to middle of the 2000 season, FSU had a plethora in just two weeks. Before the 2002 season, the last grand slam an FSU batter hit was April 5, 2000 when Brandi Stuart's capped a comeback win over the rival Gators in Tallahassee. The streak was broken by an unlikely source out at the Troy Cox Classic Tournament when first baseman Beth Wade blasted a grand slam versus Dayton sending the first pitch she saw over the left field fence. It was not only the first homer of her career but it was also her first-ever RBI. FSU didn't have to wait another 116 games to get its next slam as Stuart launched the second of her career just four games after Wade's. For the 2002 season, FSU finished with three grand slams.

None in Six

The Seminole pitching staff had quite a week at the Troy Cox Classic. Not only did Jessica van der Linden throw a perfect game and go 15.1 innings without allowing a hit but the whole staff was on somewhat of a roll. After allowing just two earned runs to Texas Tech in the first game of the Troy Cox Classic, FSU pitchers did not allow an earned run in their next six outings. They went 41.1 innings without giving up an earned run and the staff saw its ERA shrink from 1.65 to 1.11. Included in that stretch were three shutouts, a two-hitter, two one-hitters, a perfect game and 56 strikeouts. They also walked just 12 batters in that six game stretch and didn't allow a single extra base hit.

Hitting in E Major

Sophomore Elisa Vasquez (know as 'E' to her teammates) blew-up at the Seminole Challenge and rebounded from a tough 0-for-7 start to raise her average 316 percentage points. The Hesperia, CA native turned things around by going 6-for-12 with a double and three RBIs versus top competition. She slugged .583 for the tourney, drew two walks, had an on base percentage of .533 and had a perfect fielding percentage (1.000) starting at catcher and first. She led the team with a .571 average with runners on and an even more impressive .667 average with runners in scoring position. She also hit .600 when batting with two outs in an inning and advanced runners successfully over 66% of the time.

Brandi was Buzzing

In a doubleheader against Maine and then at the Buzz Classic, junior All-American Brandi Stuart was a force. The second baseman from Cerritos, CA hit .414 for the week and slugged .862 while leading Florida State in nine major offensive categories as the Seminoles went 6-2. Stuart led the team in home runs (4), RBIs (9), batting average (.414) and slugging percentage (.862) to just name a few. She hit as many home runs (4) as she had in all 38 games leading up to the week.

In the Seminoles first game of a doubleheader versus Maine, Stuart's double in the third was part of a four-run explosion that buried the Black Bears. The Cerritos native was just warming up though and she exploded for a career weekend at the 2002 Buzz Classic. In six games, Stuart hit .500, slugged 1.045, drove in nine RBIs, hit four home runs and had a perfect fielding percentage of 1.000. She had the game-winning hit in the first versus Campbell when her RBI single gave FSU a 1-0 lead they would never relinquish. Went a perfect 3-for-3 in FSU's next game versus UNCG. She won the game for FSU again against the Spartans when her two-run home run put FSU up 3-0. She went on to single in the third and the fifth while stealing two bases. Stuart homered again and scored two more runs in a 5-1 win over NCAA Tournament participant Princeton.

As the Seminoles moved into single-elimination, championship bracket play against UCF, Stuart once again had a huge game. She homered for the third time in four games, drove in another run with a single in the first and stole her fourth base in four tries for the tournament. In a quarterfinal loss to Troy State, Stuart single-handedly kept FSU in the game. After the Trojans took a 3-0 lead, Stuart took a 3-2 pitch and cranked a line drive home run to deep center bringing Florida State within a run at 3-2.

Heavy Lumber

Florida State was hot at the plate in conference play during the 2002 regular season batting .340 in six games. FSU had five players in the top 10 in batting and were led by senior Kimmy Carter, who hit .579 with 11 hits in 19 at-bats. Junior Brandi Stuart hit .429, collecting six hits in only 14 plate appearances.

FSU'S Week-by-Week Rankings

	PRE	F20	F27	M6	M13	M20	M27	A3	A10	A17	A24	M1	M8	F
RANK	15	17	18	22	22	22	20	21	21	20	21	21	21	4

2002 NCAA Regional

Three-A-Days

Win three games in one afternoon and you get to go to the Women's College World Series. That was the daunting task facing the Seminole softball team when they arrived at the park on the final day of the 2002 NCAA Tallahassee Regional and they did just that. Florida State completed its improbable run to the school's sixth World Series by downing No. 18 Georgia Tech 6-1 in the final game at the 2002 NCAA Regional tournament. The win was FSU's second of the day over the Yellow Jackets.

After rain washed away Saturday's action at the regional, the Tribe were left with the task of beating a Chattanooga team that beat No. 1 seed Florida Atlantic twice to eliminate the Owls from the tournament. Then if they were able to get past UTC, the Seminoles would have to defeat Georgia Tech in back-to-back games to make it to Oklahoma City. Florida State and the Mocs played to a scoreless tie through seven and a half innings. In the bottom of the eighth, FSU loaded the bases with one down bringing up all-everything second baseman Brandi Stuart. The first-team All-American got her signals crossed and missed on a squeeze bunt attempt leaving Shandra Colzie caught off of third as she was running on the play. Chattanooga threw to third but the ball was dropped allowing Colzie to come home with the game-winner.

The win advanced the Seminoles to their third consecutive NCAA Regional championship game and for the third year Florida State needed to take two games to reach the World Series. The Seminoles and Yellow Jackets split four games during the season with Tech downing the Seminoles in the ACC Tournament and NCAA Tournament. The Garnet and Gold entered the seventh inning with a 2-0 lead over the Jackets before GT rallied to tie the game and send the contest into extra innings. After coming within one strike of advancing to the WCWS in 2001, FSU was just two outs away from forcing a decisive game in 2002. The Tribe rallied though and Monique Marier's RBI double in the ninth won FSU's second extra-innings game of the day. After playing 17 innings in two games on championship Sunday in order to just force a final game, FSU had enough of the close game and blew the doors off the Ramblin' Wreck in the championship. The Seminoles built a 3-0 lead through the first three frames and just as Tech looked as if they were back in the game after getting a run in the top of the fifth, FSU added three more in the bottom of the frame to advance to the program's sixth College World Series. Leslie Malerich, the Regional's Most Outstanding Player, recorded all three wins for FSU as she threw 320 pitches and had an ERA of just 0.67.

Big Hit

Outfielder Monique Marier's 2002 postseason was highlighted by big plays like her 9th-inning home run versus UCLA and her game-saving catch to preserve the win over the Bruins. But her penchant for the big hit in the NCAA Tournament began in the first game of the 2002 Tallahassee Regional. After Auburn took a one-run lead in the top of the fourth, Marier didn't wait long to get FSU back into the game. With two outs and runners on second and third, Marier's two-RBI single proved to be the game-winning hit and the first of many in the NCAA postseason.

That Close

Probably one of the great untold stories of the 2002 NCAA Tallahassee Regional was FSU's first game of the final day versus UTC. The Mocs were the Cinderella team of the tournament knocking out No. 1 seed FAU who came into the regional with more than 60 wins. The game between the Tribe and Mocs was rained out Saturday and re-scheduled for early Sunday. The contest went to extra innings tied 0-0. In the bottom of the eighth, senior pinch hitter Jackie Hirschfeld singled to lead the inning off. Shandra Colzie pinch ran for her and moved over to third on a walk to Tatiana George and a bunt single by twin sister Shundra Colzie. The Seminoles looked to end the game on a squeeze bunt by the signals got crossed and Shandra was caught off third with the catcher holding the ball. An errant throw allowed the junior to come home with the game-winning run. If the Seminoles didn't get that one, they would never have had the opportunity to win two more games that day and advance to the school's sixth WCWS. Hirschfeld's key pinch hit and Colzie's smart base running were two of the biggest plays of the day.

Oh That Stings

The rivalry between Georgia Tech and Florida State has been building for years. Despite the Seminoles' dominance in the ACC, the Yellow Jackets have been the most successful ACC school versus the Tribe in conference play. Florida State has lost only five conference contests over the last four seasons and three have come at the hands of the Yellow Jackets. In 2002, FSU swept the regular season series for the first time in three years but Georgia Tech came back and knocked FSU into the loser's bracket at both the ACC Tournament and 2002 NCAA Tallahassee Regional. As play entered the final day at the NCAA regional, Tech knew that FSU would not only have to beat UTC but they would then have to turn around that day and sweep two games from the Jackets. After beating the Seminoles by a combined score of 9-0 in their last two meetings, Florida State got a measure of revenge and stung the Yellow Jackets at the Tallahassee Regional on championship Sunday. The Seminoles needed extra innings, for the second game in-a-row, to get past Tech and force a deciding game for the region's WCWS berth. In that final contest, the Seminoles downed the Jackets 6-1 ending Georgia Tech's bid for the program's first World Series and sending FSU to its 6th.



Shandra Colzie crossed the plate with the game-winning run in the bottom of the eighth versus UTC.



SILVER MOMENTS



11 in a Row

The 1996 Florida State Seminole softball team was the 11th consecutive JoAnne Graf led squad to make it to the NCAA postseason. That streak from 1986-1996 is the sixth longest in the history of Division I softball and tied for the longest streak by any team not in California. Overall, FSU has been to 15 NCAA Regionals in the last 17 years, which is the fifth most by any school in NCAA DI history.

2002 WCWS

Women's College World Series



Monique Marier's game-winning homer (above) and game-saving catch (below) in the ninth were two of the biggest moments in FSU's run to the WCWS semi-finals.



Game One: FSU 2 UCLA 1 (9)

Game Notes:

- The win over UCLA was the first ever for Florida State and marked just the second time the Bruins ever lost in the opening round of the WCWS in 18 appearances. It was also FSU's first-ever win over a No. 1 team and first-ever WCWS win over the tournament's top seed.
- Junior first team All-American Brandi Stuart recorded four of the first six putouts of the game for FSU and then set a personal best when she record no. 7 as she tagged out a would-be Bruin base stealer in the sixth inning.
- Shundra Colzie got two of FSU's four hits off UCLA All-American Keira Goerl. She is the first FSU player in more than 10 years to record two hits in a game versus UCLA.

The Ninth

Senior Monique Marier had a big ninth inning to say the least. The outfielder's two-out, two-strike home run in the top of the frame ended up being the difference in the monumental upset of No. 1 UCLA. Despite hitting seven of FSU's last 11 HR's, it was her first homer in more than a month. It was also her third game-winning RBI over the previous four games, three of which were elimination games and the fourth was in the WCWS. She then cemented the win in the bottom of the ninth as her diving grab in the outfield ended the game while UCLA runners on second and third raced home.

Not in a Grue-man

UCLA senior Stacey Nuveman came into the 2002 Women's

College World Series with a list of accolades as long as some of the 90 career home runs she had hit. The Pac-10 Athlete of the Year set the all-time mark for career homers in 2002 and she finished the season slugging over 1.000 for the second year in her career, which was another NCAA first. Considering those numbers, it is amazing how well Seminole starter Leslie Malerich did in FSU's 2-1 win. The right-hander held the Bruin catcher hitless for just the 13th time in 65 games. Although the UCLA slugger did draw two walks, she barely got the ball out of the infield as she popped up to shallow center field and grounded out in two opportunities.

That Doesn't Happen Often

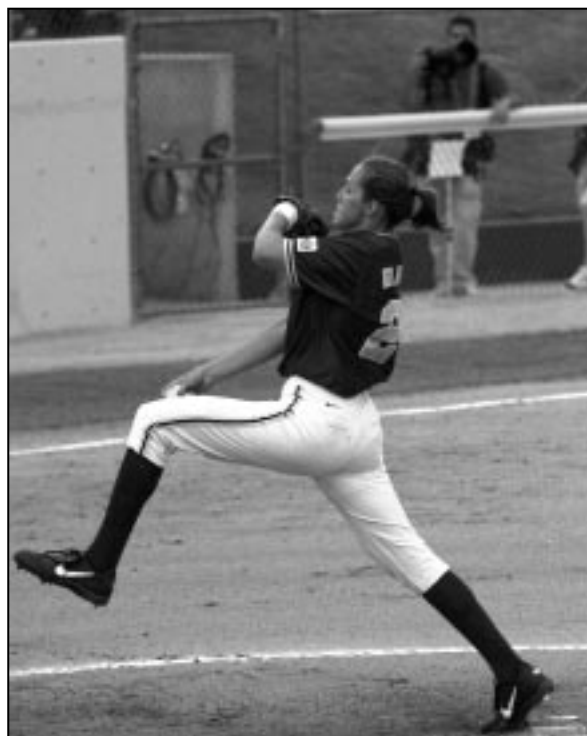
When Monique Marier blasted a two-out, game-winning home run in the top of the ninth off UCLA ace Keira Goerl, she joined an elite group. The Clearwater, Fla. native hit just the sixth round-tripper of the year off the NCAA Regional MOP in 799 at bats. Goerl, who entered the game with a 0.50 ERA, allowed just one home run every 45 innings on average in 2002 on top of setting a UCLA record with six no-hitters (tied with Lisa Fernandez).

That Doesn't Happen Often Part II

When ACC member Florida State downed Pac-10 power UCLA 2-1 in nine innings, the Seminoles became just the fourth non-Pac-10 team to down the Bruins in the last 130 games. UCLA went a perfect 45-0 against schools outside of the Pac-10 in 2002 and before the loss to the Seminoles the Bruins came into the College World Series 36-4 in games versus non-conference foes in the tournament. The Seminoles are also the first Atlantic Coast Conference school to ever down the mighty Bruins.

One in Nine, Not Bad

Senior Leslie Malerich was masterful in limiting No. 1 UCLA to just one run in nine innings. The Bruins entered the 2002 WCWS averaging 5.75 runs a game but were limited to just six hits. It was just the 16th time in 2002 that UCLA had been held to six hits or less in a game. The victory was the fifth consecutive win in the postseason for FSU's ace and came on the heels of the final day of NCAA Regionals when she recorded three wins in one day.



Leslie Malerich continued to roll in the postseason as she held the Bruins to almost five runs less than their average in the 2002 WCWS opening game.

Game Two: Cal 1 FSU 0

Game Notes:

- The Seminoles became just the second team to ever start twins in a Women's College World Series game as both Shundra and Shandra Colzie appeared in the starting line-up.
- Leslie Malerich's 12-inning scoreless streak at the WCWS came to an end in the top of the fifth inning versus Cal on a home run by Chelsea Spencer. The HR was only the second one allowed by Malerich in over 60 innings of work in the postseason.
- First team All-American Brandi Stuart was the only Seminole to reach World Series Most Outstanding Player Jocelyn Forest for a hit in the 1-0 loss as she recorded two singles. Stuart's effort wasn't surprising considering her past success versus Cal. In four meetings with the Golden Bears, the junior hit .500 going 6-for-12 with two doubles and an RBI. Stuart's two-hit performance is so amazing considering that Forest one-hit both Arizona State and Arizona in the World Series. For the tournament, Stuart recorded two of the nine hits the Cal hurler allowed.
- Florida State's 1-0 loss to Cal marks the sixth consecutive time that a game between these two teams had been decided by only one run and the fourth time that the Seminoles lost 1-0. In 2000, the Golden Bears defeated the Seminoles twice by the score of 1-0. Then in 2001, Florida State went 1-2 versus Cal at the NCAA Regional in Tallahassee. FSU lost game one 1-0. They bounced back and took game two 2-1, and then fell once more to the Golden Bears by the score of 3-2 in 10 innings.

Gotta be Good in the Low Post

Despite the loss to Cal in a winner's bracket game, senior hurler Leslie Malerich continued to be a dominant force in the NCAA Tournament and her ERA in the postseason was remarkably low. Malerich's loss to the Golden Bears was her first in NCAA play in 2002 but she still had a sparkling ERA of 0.73 in seven Regional and College World Series games. She pitched 48 of FSU's 53 innings and allowed just five earned runs.

300 Club

With her seven innings of work against Cal, Malerich pitched 303.1 innings in 2002. It was the second time in her illustrious career that the Merrillville, IN native has surpassed 300 innings in one season. As a sophomore in 2000, she became just the second player in Florida State history to throw 300 or more innings with 323. She is the first pitcher in Seminole history to ever pitch over 300 innings twice in a career.

First Team All-American for a Reason

Cerritos, CA native Brandi Stuart had a monster season that culminated in a trip to the Women's College World Series and her selection as a first team NFCA All-American. She showed that her selection was no fluke with her play at the WCWS. After the Cal game, Stuart was leading Florida State in average (.429), hits (3), runs (1), slugging percentage (.429) and stolen bases (1). She was hitting 20 percentage points higher against the country's best pitchers in Oklahoma City than she did in the regular season and ACC Tournament when she batted .409. In the NCAA



Brandi Stuart continued her hot hitting in the World Series, leading FSU in almost every offensive category.

Regionals and WCWS, Stuart once again led FSU in average (.333), runs (3), hits (6), doubles (1), slugging percentage (.389), walks (6), on base percentage (.500) and steals (2). Teams were also pitching around Stuart as she had drawn four intentional walks and six walks overall. The only time she got a pitch to hit with runners in scoring position, she laced an RBI double into the left field corner against Georgia Tech in a must-win situation on the final day of Regional play. She had also hit .500 when she came up to the plate with two outs on the board.

Game Three: FSU 4 Nebraska 3

Game Notes:

- In the three WCWS games, the Seminoles had collected 12 hits with Brandi Stuart owning four of them. Her double was only the third extra base hit for Florida State in the World Series and was the 27th of her career, moving her into a tie for third all-time with Lisa Davidson.
- In the fifth inning with the bases covered in garnet and gold, Kimmy Carter came through yet again for the Seminoles, taking a 1-1 offering through the gap between third and short off Cornhusker relief pitcher Leigh Ann Walker. It was the second time in the postseason that Carter has stepped up to the plate with the base loaded and connected for the Seminoles. In the NCAA regional championship game, Carter tripled with the bases loaded knocking in three RBIs and helping FSU to a 6-1 victory over Georgia Tech.
- Jessica van der Linden recorded her first hit of the 2002 WCWS with a sharp single off the glove of pitcher Peaches James in the fourth. Then van der Linden came through once again in the fifth inning as

Women's College World Series

she doubled to left field driving in Kimmy Carter for her first RBI of the College World Series. Van der Linden's double was her team leading 14th of the season. She has accumulated 28 for her career moving her to 3rd all-time in the Seminole record books.

- Coming into the game against the Cornhuskers, the Seminoles had only managed to get two hits off Nebraska pitcher Leigh Ann Walker when she faced

the Garnet and Gold seemed to find their swing. Florida State doubled its WCWS batting average against Nebraska by hitting 111 points higher in that game than they did in their previous two World Series games. Five Seminoles recorded at least one hit versus the Huskers compared to just one getting a hit versus Cal and only three collecting a base knock against No. 1 UCLA and Keira Gorel. The Tribe tripled its RBI total and had twice as many extra base hits as Brandi Stuart and Jessica van der Linden each recorded doubles. Florida State also scored twice as many runs than they had against UCLA and Cal when they totaled two in 16 innings. FSU also equaled their hit total from the week with six against the Cornhuskers.

Heart of a Champion

In seven days dating back to the final day of action at the 2002 NCAA Tallahassee Regional, Leslie Malerich threw 704 pitches. That equates to her pitching a complete game every day for seven straight days. She had pitched 55 innings over that stretch and posted a 6-1 record. She had pitched 310.1 innings up to that point and moved into second on FSU's All-Time list for innings pitched in a season.

That's a Whole Lot of Wins

The Seminoles had more wins than Cal (54), Arizona (54) and Arizona State (46) heading into the semi-finals of the 2002 WCWS. The semi-final match-up between the Wildcats and Seminoles featured the two teams with the most wins remaining in the WCWS as the squads had combined for 109 victories in 2002. When the Tribe secured win No. 55 against Nebraska, it marked the sixth time in program history that a Seminole team had amassed 55 or more wins.

Triple-Double

When the Seminole softball team traveled to Fullerton, CA for the prestigious Kia Klassic, it marked the only time in 2002 that they had defeated three ranked teams in one week. The Seminoles came close to duplicating that feat when they downed No. 1 UCLA and No. 7 Nebraska at the WCWS. It did mark the first time they defeated two top 10 teams in a span of a three-day period.

What Doesn't Fit in the Following Group?

Semi-final games at the 2002 WCWS had a common theme and it wasn't hard to figure out what it was. Cal, Arizona and Arizona State all play ball in the Pac-10 but there was one party crasher and that was Florida State. The little ACC school that could, was the only team on the opening day of the Women's College World Series to defeat a Pac-10 team and it wasn't just any team. The win over UCLA was a victory over the top-seed in the 2002 tournament but also a win over the top-ranked team in the entire nation.

Semi-Final: Arizona 6 FSU 2 (11)

Game Notes:

- The semi-final featuring Florida State and Arizona showcased two of the winningest all-time coaches (by victories) in last year's College World Series. With her 55 victories in 2002, Seminole head coach Dr. JoAnne Graf has accumulated 949 career NCAA victories. She is followed closely behind by Arizona head coach Mike Candrea, who added 55 wins in 2002 to run his total to 926 for his career.



Jessica van der Linden went 2 for 4 with an RBI in FSU's win over Nebraska.

FSU back in 2001 at the Seminole Softball Complex in Tallahassee, Fla. In the fifth inning, the Seminoles equaled that total when Kimmy Carter and Jessica van der Linden singled and doubled to left, respectively. For the game, FSU recorded six total hits off the Huskers with four coming against starter Peaches James.

- The Seminoles eliminated Nebraska from the post-season for the second time in program history. The first came in 1995 when FSU downed the Big Red 6-2 in Tuscon, AZ.
- Although the Seminoles did not face Nebraska in 2002, they fared pretty well against other schools in the Big 12 winning 4 of 7 games. First, they defeated Kansas and nationally ranked Texas at the Sunshine Classic in Tallahassee back in March. Next, they went on to defeat Iowa State 7-0 and then nipped 2002 WCWS participant Oklahoma 1-0 at the Kia Klassic.

Hey, Those Are Our Bats

Against a Nebraska team that had held the Seminoles to two runs or less in five games dating back to 1995,

First Start, Big Stage

Skyla Cox made her first collegiate start out in the field for Florida State versus Arizona in the semi-finals of the Women's College World Series in a nationally televised game. Her father, Braves manager Bobby Cox, routinely snuck into the clubhouse to watch his daughter on ESPN2 since the Braves were in season. Cox made her first ever start for the Seminoles in 2002 against Pittsburgh as the designated player.

All That They Could Handle

Florida State became the first team to score a run off Arizona pitcher Jennie Finch in 18 innings of work in the WCWS. Dating back to last year's College World Series, Finch had not allowed a run in three games. The run also broke Finch's string of three consecutive 1-0 victories in the WCWS. With the run in the third, it also marked the first time that Arizona had trailed all tournament. Florida State forced Finch to throw 196 pitches in the semi-final before the Cats advanced in 11 innings.

A Finch in Hand

Coming into the semi-finals, Arizona pitcher Jennie Finch had allowed only four hits in two games through 15 innings of work. In the third inning against the Seminoles, she gave up three hits leading to the first run of the game for Florida State. Then in the fifth inning, the Seminoles picked up another hit, a Shundra Colzie home run, matching the most Finch had given up to that point in the tournament. Florida State's five hits were the most Finch had allowed the entire series. Finch also set a tournament high in walks against the Seminoles with five. In the two previous games combined, Finch allowed only three free passes to Nebraska and Arizona State.



Shundra Colzie's home run in the fifth inning was her first of the Women's College World Series

Colzie-ing Up to Finch

Shundra Colzie's home run in the fifth inning was her first of the Women's College World Series. It was also the first extra base hit given up by Arizona pitcher Jennie Finch in last year's tournament. It was the first home run given up by Finch since May 10, 2002 at UCLA in a 4-2 loss to the Bruins. Overall, Colzie went 2-for-5 against Finch, and improved to 4-for-9 against the nation's two best pitchers in Keira Goerl and Finch.

2002 Overall Statistics

Record: 55-20 Home: 25-7 Away: 7-0 Neutral: 23-13 ACC: 6-0

Player	AVG	GP	GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB	ATT	PO	A	E	FLD%
29 Brandi Stuart	.391	75	75	207	63	81	9	7	10	45	134	.647	49	1	35	0	.508	1	6	54	58	186	112	15	.952
99 Jess van der Lind	.336	75	75	214	38	72	14	5	1	35	99	.463	37	4	23	0	.435	5	9	0	2	54	60	4	.966
19 Shundra Colzie	.297	64	54	158	37	47	1	3	5	14	69	.437	28	4	37	0	.416	0	7	13	16	35	2	4	.902
8 Kimmy Carter	.289	75	75	204	26	59	5	5	3	53	83	.407	30	1	34	0	.380	2	15	7	8	279	39	4	.988
4 Monique Marier	.251	69	69	199	15	50	11	0	9	41	88	.442	10	0	42	1	.286	1	8	1	1	41	2	3	.935
33 Tatiana George	.242	71	69	207	39	50	8	2	2	20	68	.329	20	4	34	0	.319	1	13	4	4	81	102	22	.893
20 Shandra Colzie	.239	63	50	142	27	34	1	0	0	5	35	.246	6	3	27	0	.285	0	11	7	10	8	0	3	.727
9 Elisa Vasquez	.225	62	54	151	12	34	2	1	0	15	38	.252	10	0	24	0	.272	1	11	1	1	315	15	8	.976
11 Beth Wade	.205	61	57	156	10	32	3	0	3	16	44	.282	15	0	50	0	.273	1	5	0	1	344	26	9	.976
2 Becky Brock	.202	62	49	94	12	19	2	0	0	4	21	.223	2	2	7	0	.235	0	4	0	1	57	123	10	.947
37 Bryttani Lindheim	.171	45	42	76	5	13	0	0	0	1	13	.171	12	0	7	0	.284	0	8	0	0	41	54	9	.913
3 Julie Jordan	.163	25	16	49	2	8	0	0	0	1	8	.163	2	2	21	0	.226	0	2	0	0	96	10	0	1.000
24 Jackie Hirschfeld	.318	31	0	22	3	7	0	0	0	4	7	.318	12	2	5	0	.583	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	1.000
14 Robyn Larson	.182	21	7	22	4	4	2	0	0	0	6	.273	1	0	8	0	.217	0	2	0	0	15	15	1	.968
6 Skyla Cox	.167	44	2	12	16	2	0	0	0	0	2	.167	0	0	6	0	.167	0	0	1	2	6	0	0	1.000
23 Leslie Malerich	.000	57	44	13	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	3	0	8	0	.188	0	1	0	0	22	70	2	.979
7 Casey Hunter	.000	13	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	1.000
L Armstrong	.000	7	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	.000
Totals	.266	75	75	1928	312	512	58	23	33	254	715	.371	237	23	368	1	.351	12	102	89	105	1583	637	94	.959
Opponents	.206	75	75	1937	165	399	58	6	19	141	526	.272	210	26	475	2	.291	11	55	63	85	1513	716	110	.953

LOB - Team (487), Opp (501). DPs turned - Team (23), Opp (25).

Player	ERA	W	L	APP	GS	CG	SHO	CBO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	AB	B/Avg	WP	HBP	BK	SFA	SHA
23 Leslie Malerich	1.38	35	14	55	42	36	12	3	4	315.1	244	88	62	115	255	39	4	13	1143	.213	7	16	0	5	37
99 Jess van der Lind	1.43	16	6	32	31	16	4	0	1	175.2	128	65	36	69	175	13	2	6	662	.193	8	8	0	5	17
7 Casey Hunter	2.10	4	0	11	2	1	0	3	2	36.2	27	12	11	26	45	6	0	0	132	.205	3	2	0	1	1
Totals	1.43	55	20	75	75	53	19	3	7	527.2	399	165	108	210	475	58	6	19	1937	.206	18	26	0	11	55
Opponents	3.14	20	55	75	75	37	7	2	2	504.1	512	311	226	237	368	58	23	33	1928	.266	34	23	2	12	102

PB - Team (17), E Vasquez 7, Kimmy Carter 6, Julie Jordan 4, Opp (18). Pickoffs - Team (9), Kimmy Carter 8, E Vasquez 1, Opp (6). Hitting minimums - 14 Games 30 AB

Game by Game

Results for FSU Softball 2002

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	FSU r-h-e	OPP r-h-e	Pitcher of record	Notes
2/3	Georgia Southern	W	7-0	7-9-2	0-1-3	Malerich (W 1-0)	FSU opens with 5 new starters
2/3	Georgia Southern	W	4-0	4-7-0	0-2-0	van der Linden (W 1-0)	FSU sweeps DH opener for 17th time in 23 yrs
2/5	at Mercer	W	2-0	2-5-0	0-2-1	Malerich (W 2-0)	Stuart hits first HR of the season
2/5	at Mercer	W	2-1	2-5-1	1-2-2	van der Linden (W 2-0)	FSU wins 20th straight over Mercer
2/8	! Florida Atlantic	L	2-4	2-6-2	4-5-2	van der Linden (L 2-1)	Seminoles leave 12 runners on base
2/8	! vs No. 9 Washington	L	4-6	4-6-3	6-6-1	Malerich (L 2-1)	Game tied 4-4 in the sixth
2/9	! No. 22 South Carolina	L	0-4	0-6-0	4-5-2	Malerich (L 2-2)	FSU strands 10 base runners
2/9	! vs Louisville	W	4-1	4-6-2	1-2-5	van der Linden (W 3-1)	van der Linden K's 10 batters
2/15	@ vs No. 15 Georgia	L	2-3	2-2-0	3-8-0	Malerich (L 2-3)	Marier blasts 2-run HR
2/15	@ vs Syracuse	W	6-3	6-6-0	3-7-3	Hunter (W 1-0)	Hunter get first win of her career
2/16	@ Penn State	W	4-0	4-6-0	0-3-3	Malerich (W 3-3)	Marier 2 for 3 with 2 RBIs
2/16	@ Maryland	W	2-1	2-5-0	1-3-1	van der Linden (W 4-1)	George's 7th-inning double wins the game
2/17	@ St Johns	W	8-3	8-11-0	3-9-3	Hunter (W 2-0)	Carter knocks in 3 RBIs
2/22	\$ vs Texas Tech	L	1-4 (8)	1-7-1	4-8-1	Malerich (L 3-4)	Tech gets 3 runs in top of the 8th
2/22	\$ vs New Mexico State	W	5-0	5-8-4	0-2-1	van der Linden (W 5-1)	Stuart knocks in 4 runs in first 2 at bats
2/23	\$ vs Dayton	W	5-0	5-12-0	0-0-0	van der Linden (W 6-1)	van der Linden pitches first perfect game at FSU
2/23	\$ at New Mexico State	W	1-0	1-2-2	0-1-1	Malerich (W 4-4)	Graf breaks NFCA all-time wins record
2/24	\$ vs Dayton	W	12-0 (5)	12-11-0	0-1-4	Malerich (W 5-4)	Wade hits first career grand slam
2/24	\$ vs Texas Tech	L	7-8 (9)	7-11-6	8-6-1	Malerich (L 5-5)	FSU gives up 6 unearned runs
2/27	at Florida A&M	W	7-3	7-4-4	3-7-2	Malerich (W 6-5)	Sixth straight game without an earned run for FSU pitchers
3/1	% Kansas	W	5-4	5-7-6	4-6-1	Malerich (W 7-5)	FSU comes back from 4-0 deficit
3/3	% vs Texas	W	1-0	1-3-1	0-4-1	Malerich (W 8-5)	Malerich extends her scoreless streak to 13 2/3 inn.
3/3	% No. 22 Mississippi State	L	0-2	0-4-1	2-5-0	van der Linden (L 6-2)	van der Linden allows just 1 earned run
3/6	Pittsburgh	W	7-0	7-7-0	0-2-1	Malerich (W 9-5)	Stuart blasts grand slam
3/8	^ Middle Tennessee	W	2-1 (10)	2-7-1	1-6-0	Malerich (W 10-5)	Carter's bases loaded walk in 10th wins the game
3/8	^ vs Iowa State	W	7-0	7-6-1	0-4-2	Malerich (W 11-5)	Malerich wins sixth in a row
3/9	^ vs AUBURN	W	5-4	5-6-3	4-7-2	Malerich (W 12-5)	FSU scores 4 runs in bottom of the 7th
3/9	^ No. 8 Michigan	L	0-1	0-5-0	1-5-0	Malerich (L 12-6)	Malerich allows just 5 hits and 1 earned run
3/9	^ vs UMass	L	2-3	2-5-1	3-7-1	Malerich (L 12-7)	George records FSU's lone RBI on the day
3/11	Southern Illinois	W	2-1	2-2-1	1-4-2	Malerich (W 13-7)	Malerich pitcher of record in last 10 FSU wins
3/14	# vs No. 6 Oklahoma	W	1-0	1-4-2	0-3-1	Malerich (W 14-7)	Brock knocks in her first game-winning RBI of 2002
3/14	# vs Rutgers	W	5-1	5-7-3	1-5-0	Hunter (W 3-0)	Seminoles get RBIs from 4 different players
3/15	# vs No. 9 Cal St Fullerton	L	1-8	1-7-3	8-13-0	van der Linden (L 7-3)	FSU finishes 2nd in Kia Klassic pool play
3/15	# vs No. 14 Depaul	W	11-5	11-14-0	5-8-5	Malerich (W 15-7)	FSU sets season-highs for at bats, RBIs and hits
3/16	# vs No. 13 Washington	W	3-2	3-9-3	2-6-1	Malerich (W 16-7)	Seminoles down 3rd ranked foe in three days
3/17	# vs Texas	L	2-4	2-2-0	4-9-2	Malerich (L 16-8)	FSU falls in semi-finals of Kia Klassic
3/20	Maine	W	6-2	6-9-0	2-5-2	Hunter (W 3-0)	van der Linden and Hunter allow just 5 hits
3/20	Maine	W	1-0	1-6-0	0-4-1	Malerich (W 17-8)	van der Linden 4 for 6 with 2 RBIs in DH
3/22	& vs Campbell	W	8-0 (5)	8-11-0	0-2-2	van der Linden (W 8-3)	van der Linden pitches 6th 2-hitter of the year
3/22	& vs UNC-Greensboro	W	3-1	3-7-0	1-3-1	Malerich (W 18-8)	Seminoles hit two first inning homers
3/23	& vs Princeton	W	5-1	5-8-0	1-6-1	van der Linden (W 9-3)	FSU sets season high with three homers
3/23	& vs Ohio State	L	1-2 (11)	1-5-2	2-6-3	Malerich (L 18-9)	FSU falls 1 strike short of winning in the 9th
3/23	& vs UCF	W	10-2 (6)	10-13-1	2-2-2	van der Linden (W 10-3)	FSU and UCF meet for the first time ever
3/24	& vs Troy State	L	2-4	2-4-5	4-7-0	van der Linden (L 10-4)	Seminoles hit 10 HRs at Buzz Classic
3/28	at Florida A&M	W	2-1	2-6-2	1-3-1	Malerich (W 19-9)	George 3 for 4 with game-winning RBI
4/6	Florida A&M	W	6-0	6-8-0	0-1-2	Malerich (W 20-9)	Malerich first in 24 years to win 20 three times
4/6	Florida A&M	W	18-3 (5)	18-16-1	3-4-5	van der Lind (W 11-4)	FSU scores most runs in program history
4/11	UAB	W	9-0 (5)	9-9-1	0-3-2	Malerich (W 21-9)	Malerich records 9th shutout of 2002
4/11	UAB	W	5-3	5-7-1	3-9-4	van der Linden (W 12-4)	van der Linden gets 2 triples and 2 RBIs
4/13	* Georgia Tech	W	7-3	7-9-0	3-4-1	Malerich (W 22-9)	Tech falls short of perfect ACC record with loss
4/13	* Georgia Tech	W	4-2	4-5-1	2-4-0	van der Linden (W 13-4)	van der Linden matches win total from freshman year
4/17	Florida	L	1-7	1-4-2	7-7-0	Malerich (L 22-10)	Hunter shuts out Gators in five innings of work
4/17	Florida	W	6-1	6-10-1	1-5-1	van der Linden (W 14-4)	5th DH split between UF and FSU in 6 meetings
4/20	* North Carolina	W	7-6 (8)	7-13-2	6-11-2	Malerich (W 23-10)	FSU stages 2 comebacks to get win over UNC
4/20	* North Carolina	W	9-5	9-10-1	5-6-1	Malerich (W 24-10)	Seminoles rally from 5-4 deficit in 6th inning
4/28	Jacksonville State	W	3-0	3-9-1	0-5-1	Malerich (W 25-10)	Malerich gets all three batters on called strikes in 1st
4/28	Jacksonville State	W	6-1	6-9-0	1-6-0	van der Linden (W 15-4)	van der Linden sets season high with 13 K's
4/30	* at Virginia	W	4-0	4-6-1	0-8-3	Malerich (W 26-10)	Malerich out duels ACC Player of the Year Dennis
4/30	* at Virginia	W	6-3	6-11-1	3-6-1	van der Linden (W 16-4)	FSU clinches 9th regular season ACC title in 11 years
5/4	Troy State	W	7-2	7-8-1	2-4-1	Malerich (W 27-10)	Malerich rings up win 99 of her career
5/4	Troy State	W	9-1 (6)	9-12-1	1-3-1	van der Linden (W 17-4)	10th straight win over regionally ranked opponent
5/7	No. 10 Florida Atlantic	W	3-2	3-8-0	2-4-2	Malerich (W 28-10)	Seminoles win 17th in last 18 games and 10th in a row
5/7	No. 10 Florida Atlantic	L	0-5	0-4-1	5-11-1	van der Linden (L 17-5)	Wade records two of FSU's 4 hits
5/10	+ vs North Carolina	W	3-2	3-7-0	2-7-1	Malerich (W 29-10)	Suicide squeeze in bottom of 7th wins the game for FSU
5/11	+ Georgia Tech	L	0-2	0-4-2	2-7-0	Malerich (L 29-11)	Sallinger limits FSU to just three hits
5/11	+ vs North Carolina	L	2-5	2-3-0	5-9-1	Malerich (L 29-12)	FSU not in ACC Championship for 1st time in 12 years
5/16	> vs Auburn	W	2-1	2-4-0	1-6-1	Malerich (W 30-12)	FSU opens NCAA's with a win for third straight year
5/17	> vs Georgia Tech	L	0-7	0-3-3	7-8-0	van der Linden (L 16-6)	Tribe's first-ever meeting with ACC team in NCAA's
5/19	> vs Chattanooga	W	1-0 (8)	1-5-2	0-6-1	Malerich (W 31-12)	FSU stays alive on 8th inning bases loaded error
5/19	> vs Georgia Tech	W	3-2 (9)	3-5-1	2-15-2	Malerich (W 32-12)	Marier records 2nd game-winning hit of NCAA's
5/19	> vs Georgia Tech	W	6-1	6-7-1	1-3-1	Malerich (W 33-12)	Seminoles win 3rd game in one day to go to WCWS
5/23	/ vs No. 1 UCLA	W	2-1 (9)	2-4-2	1-6-3	Malerich (W 34-12)	Marier's HR and diving catch in 9th upset No. 1 UCLA
5/24	/ vs No. 5 Cal	L	0-1	0-2-1	1-5-0	Malerich (L 34-13)	FSU shutout for just the 7th time in 66 games
5/26	/ vs No. 6 Nebraska	W	4-3	4-6-0	3-5-3	Malerich (W 35-13)	Tribe advances to semi-finals for 1st time since 1990
5/26	/ vs No. 2 Arizona	L	2-6 (11)	2-5-3	6-9-1	Malerich (L 35-14)	FSU first team in 5 WCWS to score twice versus the Cats

* = Conference game ! = Seminole Challenge @ = Seminole Classic \$ = Troy Cox Classic (NMSU)

% = Sunshine Classic ^ = Seminole Invitational # = Kia Klassic & = Buzz Classic

+ = ACC Tournament > = NCAA Tournament / = World Series () extra inning game