FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

SPORTS INFORMATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FLORIDA STATE CONCLUDES SWEEP OF DUKE, 9-7, IN BASEBALL

TALLAHASSEE, FL -- No. 6 Florida State (37-8, 15-0 aCC) broke open a one-run game with a three-run inside-the-park home run by second baseman Scott Zech in the seventh inning as the Seminoles defeated Duke (32-12, 7-10 ACC), 9-7, in front of 3,511 fans at Dick Howser Stadium.

The Seminoles are now 15-0 in ACC play, two wins away from tying the ACC's best start record of 17-0 set by Clemson in 1988.

A pair of RBI-singles by centerfielder J.D. Drew and first baseman Geoff Sprague gave the Seminoles a 2-0 lead in the first inning, but Duke retaliated in the top of the second with a two-run double by designated-hitter Adam Geis to the tie the score. An RBI-single by third baseman Jeff Becker in the third inning gave the Blue Devils a 3-2 lead.

Florida State scored two runs as Sprague tripled and then scored on third baseman Adam Faurot's basehit. Faurot stole second and third base and then scored on a sacrafice fly by pitcher Scooby Morgan to take a 4-3 advantage.

The Seminoles widened their lead as Zech drove in three runs on an inside-the-park home run that Duke centerfielder Mike King dove for but could not reach. The ball rolled to the centerfield wall as Zech rounded the bases for FSU's first inside-the-park home run since Chris Brock did it on April 8, 1992, against Florida in Tallahassee.

Left-hander Scooby Morgan (7-1) earned the win despite giving up six runs on seven hits and four walks. Duke right-hander Teddy Sullivan (1-1) took the loss allowing four runs on five hits. FSU closer Chuck Howell picked up his third save of the season in relief.

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E-Maulchnik, Drew, Faurot. DP-FSU 1. LOB-DU 7, FSU 6.

2B-Becker, Geis, Maluchnik, Badeaux. 3B-Sprague. HR-Zech (6).

Winner-Morgan 7-1. Loser-Sullivan 1-1. Save-Howell (3). Sullivan, Darwin (4), Fishburn (8) and Maluchnik. Morgan, Chavez (8), Diaz (8), Howell (8) and Klosterman. Howell and Salazar (9).

Florida State baseball team picks another way to win game

The Seminoles use an inside-the-park home run and seven stolen bases to hold off Duke.

By Steve Ellis DEMOGRAT STAFF WRITER

Florida State has dominated the Atlantic Coast Conference this season by winning about every way possible.

After winning ugly Saturday, FSU went the way of the unusual Sunday in edging Duke 9-7 before 3.511 at Howser Stadium.

SPRING SPORTS

FSU men's golf team finishes fourth at ACC Tournament. 3B

Scott Zech's inside-the-park home run in the sixth inning provided FSU with enough runs to survive a generally rough outing by the bullpen. Chris Brock was the last Seminole to hit an inside-thepark homer, against Florida in April 1992.

The Seminoles also had a season-high seven steals. "He was slow to the plate," Zech said of Duke starter Teddy Sullivan's delivery. "Everybody had the green light."

FSU needed four pitchers, including starter Scooby Morgan (7-1), in attempt to squelch a Blue Devil rally that produced four runs in the eighth inning. Chuck Howell finally ended Duke's final threat but not before FSU pitchers gave up two walks and three hits and allowed Duke to narrow the gap to 8-7. PSU scored a run in its half of the eighth inning.

The sweep gives No. 8 FSU (37-8) a 15-0 record in the ACC and

puts the Seminoles just two games shy of the league mark for best start. Clemson, which is four games behind in second place, opened the 1988 season with 17 consecutive wins. FSU will try to sweep its sixth ACC opponent this weekend when it hosts Georgia Tech.

"Today's game, we just used our speed to win," FSU coach Mike Martin said. "We put ourselves in a position to score runs... but Duke just kept coming. The poise and composure of this ball club was evident today."

The Seminoles did most of their damage early in chasing starter Sullivan (1-1) in the fourth inning. Adam Faurot hit an RBI single and Scooby Morgan had a sacrifice fly to give FSU a 4-3 lead after four innings. Sullivan gave up five hits and four runs in 34/2 innings.

PSU took a 2-0 lead on RBI singles by J.D. Drew and and Geoff Sprague in the first inning. Duke designated hitter Adam Geis tied the game in the second with a tworun double down the left-field line. The Blue Devils grabbed their only lead on Jeff Becker's two-out single

Please see FSU, 6B

in the third inning.

In addition to two errors, the low point for FSU was the relief work of Chris Chavez, who gave up a hit and run in just four pitches of relief for Morgan. Morgan allowed six runs on seven hits in seven innings. He departed in the eighth after loading the bases with no outs.

Howell, the third FSU reliever Sunday, continues to look good in his new role as closer. Howell earned his second save of the season.

"Chavez looked to be a little tentative," Martin said. "He's got such good stuff. Chuck I thought was poised. I was very comfortable with him on the mound."

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