FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FEBRUARY 26, 2000

NO. 1 FLORIDA STATE DOWNS FLORIDA 6-2

Tallahassee, FL – Top-ranked Florida State (12-2) picked up a 6-2 victory over Florida (6-6) in front of a sellout crowd of 5,039 at Dick Howser Stadium. FSU RHP Jon McDonald had his best outing of the season, going 6.2 innings without giving up a run on six hits while striking out five and walking four.

The Seminoles got on the board first with a run in the bottom of the second inning. First baseman Ryan Barthelemy started things off with a single down the left field line. Barthelemy then moved to second on a Karl Jernigan walk. Left fielder Mike Futrell then laid down a bunt to move the runners to second and third. Shortstop Brett Groves picked up the RBI with a single up the middle.

In the bottom of the sixth, FSU gave McDonald a little breathing room with four runs to make it 5-0. Second baseman Marshall McDougall advanced to second on an error by UF right fielder Tim Olson, Barthelemy singled and Jernigan was hit by a pitch to load the bases. Futrell's fly ball to right resulted in a collision between Olson and second baseman Mark Kiger, allowing McDougall to tag up on the play. Groves' double scored Barthelemy, and Pichi Balet followed with a two-run double to score Jernigan and Groves.

The Tribe added a run in the seventh when Right fielder Chris Smith singled and scored on designated hitter John-Ford Griffin's double to right center.

The Gators got on the board with two runs eighth to make it 6-2. Olson doubled to left before pinch hitter Ryan Shealy homered to left center for UF's only scoring of the afternoon.

LHP Daniel Hodges and RHP Chris Whidden worked the final 2.1 innings of relief for the Seminoles. Hodges gave up the two runs, but did strike out designated hitter Aaron Davidson with the bases loaded with two outs in the top of the seventh after replacing McDonald.

UF starter Jay Belflower took the loss, working 5.1 innings and giving up five runs (four earned) on nine hits.

Smith (3-for-4), Griffin (2-for-4), Barthelemy (3-for-4) and Groves (2-for-4) led FSU offensively.

The two teams meet again Sunday at 2:00 p.m. with RHP Mike Ziegler (3-0) throwing for FSU and LHP Craig Mosher (0-1) on the mound for UF. Florida State will be attempting to sweep the four-game series for the first time since 1993.

UF 000 000 020 2 8 1 FSU 010 004 10x 6 12 2

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The Automated ScoreBook Florida at Florida State Feb 26, 2000 at Tallahassee, FL (Dick Howser)

Florida 2 (12-2)	Florida State 6 (6-6)								
Name (Pos) AB R H RBI BB SO PO A	Name (Pos)		AB	R	H RBI	BB	S0	PO	A
Mark Kiger 2b	Chris Smith rf John-Ford Griffin dh Marshall McDougall 2b. Ryan Barthelemy 1b Karl Jernigan cf Mike Futrell lf Brett Groves ss Scott Boyd 3b Pichi Balet ph Bobby Spano pr/3b Blair McCaleb c Jon McDonald p Chris Whidden p		4 4 2 2 4 2 1 1 3 0 0	0 1 2 1 0 0 0 0 0 0	2 1 0 0 3 0 0 0 1 1 2 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 3 11 3 1 0 0 0 8 1	0 6 1 0 0 3 1 0 1 1 1 0 0
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Score by innings: R H E The da 000 000 020 - 2 8 1 F Ja State 010 004 10 - 6 12 2 E - Olson; Groves; C. Whidden. DP - Gators 3; Seminoles 2. LOB - Gators 12; Seminoles 5. 2B - Olson; Siegel; Griffin(6); Barthelemy(3); Groves(5). HR - Shealy. SB - Keene; Siegel. SH - Futrell. SF - Futrell.									
Florida IP H R ER BB SO AB BF	Florida State	IP	H	R	ER	BB	S0	AB	BF
Jay Belflower 5.1 9 5 4 1 1 21 25 Ken Birch 2.2 3 1 1 0 2 10 10	Jon McDonald Daniel Hodges Chris Whidden	1.1	6 2 0	0 2 0		4 1 1	5 2 2	6	29 7 5
Win - McDonald 4-0. Loss - Belflower 1-1. Save - None. HBP - by Belflower (Jernigan). Umpires - Home:Jeff Head 1st:Mark Chapman 3rd:Tim Clougherty Start: 2:10 Time: 2:42 Attendance: 5039									