FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 12, 2000

Halliday Powers No. 1 FSU Past Jacksonville in Bottom of the Ninth

Tallahassee, FL – The top-ranked Seminoles (36-5) won in their final at bat for the third time in four games as John Halliday hit a two-run home run in the bottom of the ninth to lead FSU to a 7-5 win over Jacksonville (25-14) as 1,462 fans looked on at Dick Howser Stadium.

With two outs and the score tied 5-5 in the bottom of the ninth, Brett Groves drew a walk and designated hitter John Halliday belted a 2-2 pitch over the right field fence to give FSU its sixth consecutive win and 17th straight victory over JU. The Seminoles came back to beat Miami in Friday night's game 14-13 in the bottom of the 17th inning and broke a 4-4 tie in the bottom of the ninth to take Sunday's game 5-4 from the Hurricanes.

Jacksonville's Troy Veleber singled and came around to score a run on a passed ball in the top of the first inning to give the Dolphins an early 1-0 lead.

FSU answered in the bottom half of the inning when Chris Smith singled, moved to third on John-Ford Griffin's double and scored on Marshall McDougall's sacrifice fly to left.

The Seminoles got a two-out rally going in the second inning, scoring two runs to take a 3-1 lead. Griffin plated Bobby Spano with a single to right center and McDougall knocked in Smith with a base hit to left.

After neither team could manage a run over the next four innings, the Dolphins broke out for four in the top of the seventh to take a 5-3 advantage. Dale Johnson and Josh Hurrell led off with back-to-back singles and Veleber followed with a double to right. Johnson scored and Hurrell came home on FSU right fielder Clint Thigpen's fielding error. After John Vollstedt reached on a bunt single, Chad Oliva singled to left to score Veleber. Vollstedt stole third and then scored the fourth run of the inning on catcher Blair McCaleb's throwing error.

FSU got two runs back in the bottom of the seventh. Thigpen walked, Groves singled and Halliday followed with an RBI-single up the middle. Groves then scored to tie the game when McCaleb grounded into a double play.

Griffin extended his career-long hitting streak to 23 games as he went 3-for-4 on the night. Chris Smith also extended his hitting streak (12 games). Halliday (2-for-5) and Spano (2-for-3) had multi-hit games for the Tribe.

Nick Whidden (2-1) picked up the win relief, working 3.0 scoreless innings and giving up just two hits. Matt Lynch had a quality start for FSU, but did not figure into the decision. Lynch went 5.2 innings and allowed one unearned run on five hits while striking out five and walking two.

Josh Daws (3-1) took the loss for JU after giving up four earned runs in 2.2 innings on four hits, including the deciding home run by Halliday.

The Seminoles travel to Coral Gables to face No. 17 Miami this weekend. Friday's 7:00 p.m. game will be televised at 10:30 p.m. (tape delay) by SportsChannel. Saturday's 7:00 p.m. game will be carried live by SportsChannel and Sunday's 1:00 p.m. game will not be televised.

JU 100 000 400 5 11 0 FSU 120 000 202 7 12 2

The Automated ScoreBook Jacksonville at Florida State Apr 12, 2000 at Tallahassee, FL (Dick Howser)

Jacksonville 5 (25-14)

Florida State 7 (36-5)

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(Pos) AB R H RBI BB SO PO A	Name (Pos) AB R H RBI BB SO PO A
Troy Veleber cf	Chris Smith rf/cf
Josh Daws p	Totals 33 7 12 6 9 6 27 9
Jácksonville 100 000 400 - 5 11 0 Florida State 120 000 202 - 7 12 2	
Note: 2 outs, 0 runner(s) LOB when the game ended. E - Thigpen; McCaleb. DP - Dolphins 2. LOB - Dolphins 7; Seminoles 10. 2B - Veleber; Catto; Griffin(15). HR - Halliday(3). SB - Veleber 2; Vollstedt; Groves(24). CS - Barthelemy. SF - McDougall.	
Jacksonville IP H R ER BB SO AB BF	Florida State IP H R ER BB SO AB BF
Bryan Williams 5.2 8 3 3 6 3 22 29 Casey Shumaker 0.1 0 0 0 1 1 1 2 Josh Daws 2.2 4 4 4 2 2 10 12	Matt Lynch 5.2 5 1 0 2 5 22 24 Robby Read 0.1 4 4 4 0 0 5 5 Nick Whidden 3.0 2 0 0 0 5 10 10

Win - N. Whidden 2-1. Loss - Daws 3-1. Save - None.

WP - Williams; Lynch 2. PB - Futrell. Umpires - Home:Bruce Ravan 1st:Landon Davis 3rd:Joe Correia

Start: 6:15 Time: 3:10 Attendance: 1462

Game Notes:

John-Ford Griffin extends hitting streak to 23 games. Chris Smith extends hitting streak to 12 games. Read faced 4 batters in the 7th.