FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FEBRUARY 5, 2000

FLORIDA STATE BASEBALL LOSES FIRST GAME OF THE SEASON Seminoles Fall To Arizona State 15-9

Tempe, AZ - No. 5 Florida State (4-1) suffered its first loss of the season as No. 22 Arizona State (8-1) took advantage of a big fifth inning to win 15-9 in front of 4,023 at Packard Stadium. The Sun Devils scored seven runs in the bottom of the fifth inning after FSU had taken a 9-5 lead with four runs in the top of the fifth.

"It was just an old fashioned whipping," said head coach Mike Martin. "We made mistakes and Arizona State took advantage of them. We were up 9-5 and let them back in the game. They were the better ball club today and they deserved to win. You can't make the mistakes we made and expect to win against a team like that."

The Seminoles took the early lead with a pair of runs in the top of the first. With two outs, first baseman Ryan Barthelemy hit a home run to right with designated hitter John-Ford Griffin aboard.

Arizona State answered in the bottom of the third inning with five runs (four earned) off starter Blair Varnes. Designated hitter Brendan Hines started things off with a two-run homer to left to tie the score. The Sun Devils batted around in the inning, scoring three more runs off three hits, one walk, one hit-by-pitch, and an error.

In the top of the fourth, right fielder Chris Smith made it 5-5 with his second home run of the season. Smith's three-run blast over the right field fence scored second baseman Marshall McDougall and third baseman Pichi Balet.

FSU made it 9-5 with a four-spot in the top of the fifth. Shortstop Brett Groves singled, advanced to third on a failed pick-off attempt, and scored on Griffin's base hit to right. Balet then knocked in three runs with a bases loaded double to left-center.

In the bottom of the fifth, ASU again batted around and took the lead with seven runs on six singles, one walk and an error. LHP Chris Ginn replaced Varnes, who did not retire a batter in the fifth. The Sun Devils added to the 12-9 lead with three more in the sixth to complete the scoring.

Varnes (0-1) took the loss for the Tribe, giving up 10 runs (8 earned) on eight hits in 4.0 innings. LHP Will Waldrip (2-0) got the win in relief for the Sun Devils after working 2/3 of an inning and allowing one hit.

McDougall, Griffin and Balet led FSU at the plate with a pair of hits each. McDougall and Griffin scored two runs each while Balet picked up three RBI.

"We've got to do a better job of limiting our mistakes tomorrow," said Martin. "We'll have to learn from what happened today and put forth our best effort in Sunday's game."

The two teams will play the third and final game of the series Sunday at 3:00 p.m. EST. RHP Mike Ziegler (1-0, 1.50 ERA) will get the start for FSU.

FSU 200 340 000 9 10 2 ASU 050 073 00x 15 14 2

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The Automated ScoreBook Florida State at Arizona State Feb 5, 2000 at Tempe, AZ (Packard)

Arizona State 15 (8-1)

Pos)	AB	R	H R	BI	BB	S0	PO	Å	Name (Pos)	AB	R	H	RBI	Bi	B SO	PO	A
Brett Groves ss John-Ford Griffin dh/rf Clint Thigpen rf Marshall McDougall 2b Ryan Barthelemy 1b Scott Boyd ph Pichi Balet 3b Bobby Spano 3b. Chris Smith rf/p Karl Jernigan cf Mike Futrell 1f. Chris Hart c Blair McCaleb c Blair Varnes p Chris Ginn p Nick Whidden p	4 1 5 3 1 3 1 4 4 3 3 1 0 0	2 0 2 2 0 1 0 0 0 0	2 0 1 0 2 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 2 0 3 0 3 0	0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0	2 3 7 0 1 0 0 1 2 6 2	0	Jonah Martin rf	. 5 . 5 . 6 . 5 . 2 . 3 . 0	0 1 2 3 2 2 3 1 0	1 2 2 3 2 2 1 0 0	1 3 0 3 2 1 0	(((((0 1 1 2 0 0 2 0 0 2 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 3 0 0 0 0 0 0		0
Totals Score by innings:	38	9 1	10		2 H		24	7	Totals	. 39	15	14	13	1	6 7	27	10
Florida State 200 340 000 - 9 10 2 Arizona State 050 073 00 - 15 14 2 E - McDougall; Spano; Phelps; Pennington. LOB - Seminoles 4; Sun Devils 11. 2B - Balet. HR - Barthelemy; Smith; Hines 2. SH - Wyrick.																	
Florida State IP	H		ER				AB	BF	Arizona State IF	Н	I	R]	ER	BB	S0	AB	BF
Blair Varnes	9	10			1	3	0	25 13 1 1	Chad Pennington 4.1 Will Waldrip 0.2 Bric Doble 4.0	1	(9 0 0	8 0 0	1 0 1	4 0 2	21 3 14	3

Win - Waldrip 2-0. Loss - Varnes 0-1. Save - None.

WP - Smith; Ginn 3.

HBP - by Varnes (Martin); by Ginn (Martin); by N. Whidden (Myers); by Smith (Hines).

Umpires - Home: Kevin Daugherty 1st: Steve Williamson 3rd: Jeff Jenkins

Start: 1:06 Time: 3:07 Attendance: 4023

Varnes faced 5 batters in the 5th.

N. Whidden faced I batter in the 6th.