FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FEBRUARY 27, 2000

NO. 1 FLORIDA STATE EDGES FLORIDA 8-7 IN THE BOTTOM OF NINTH Seminoles Sweep Four-Game Series for the First Time Since 1993

Tallahassee, FL – After going hitless in his last nine at bats, Florida State second baseman Marshall McDougall knocked in two runs in the bottom of the ninth to give the top-ranked Seminoles an 8-7 victory over Florida in front of 2,001 fans at Dick Howser Stadium. FSU improved to 13-2 on the year and UF fell to 6-7. The start of the game was delayed one hour and began at 3:00 p.m. due to morning rains.

"This game shows what this ball club is capable of doing," said head coach Mike Martin. "We came back after being down five and then coming back again in the bottom of the ninth. It was a fun baseball game and it was a big win for us the way we came back to win it."

With the Gators holding a 7-6 lead going into the bottom of the ninth, Seminole center fielder Karl Jernigan got things going with a double to left center. Designated hitter John-Ford Griffin then reached on an error by UF third baseman Ryan Raburn, who had just moved from center field to third, to put runners at first and third. McDougall promptly ripped the first pitch he saw off the screen in right center to score Jernigan and Griffin for the game-winning double, his eighth two-base hit of the season.

The Gators jumped out to an early lead with five runs in the top of the second inning. Designated hitter Aaron Davidson singled to left field to score right fielder Matt Goss with two outs. Kurt Keene then cleared the bases with a double to right field. The fifth run of the inning came when first baseman Jason Dill knocked in Keene with a single to left.

FSU's lone run in the bottom of the third inning turned out to be a costly one. Catcher Chris Hart reached first on a fielder's choice with two outs, colliding with UF catcher Tony Socarras on a play at the plate after a Jernigan double to left. Hart scored, but fractured the tibia in his left leg in the process. Coach Martin made an announcement following the game after speaking with team doctors that Hart would not return this season.

In the bottom of the fourth, FSU picked up four runs to pull even with UF at 5-5. McDougall led off the inning with a walk and first baseman Ryan Barthelemy followed with his sixth home run of the season. Shortstop Brett Groves reached on a bunt single and right fielder Chris Smith singled to right to put runners on the corners. Third baseman Pichi Balet plated Groves and Smith to tie the game with a double to right center.

The Seminoles took the lead for the first time in the bottom of the seventh. Jernigan doubled to right center and Griffin walked with both advancing a base on a wild pitch. Left fielder Mike Futrell recorded his 19th RBI of the season when Jernigan scored on his sacrifice fly ball in foul territory.

UF tied it up with a run in the eighth when pinch hitter Matt Heath doubled home Socarras. FSU saved another run from scoring when McDougall took a relay from Smith and nailed Raburn at home with a strike to Blair McCaleb (Hart's replacement), who held on after another collision at the plate.

The Gators then took the lead with another run in the top of the ninth. Davidson reached base on an error and stole second before scoring on a Keene single. Jernigan struck out the final UF batter of the inning to earn his first career win as a Seminole.

FSU starter Mike Ziegler (3-0) did not figure into the decision after working 6.0 innings, allowing five runs and striking out eight. UF reliever Joey Simon, who went 1.2 innings, took the loss after giving up the deciding runs (one earned) in the bottom of the ninth.

The Seminoles return to action with a two-game home series with Charleston Southern on Tuesday (2/29) and Wednesday (3/1) at Dick Howser Stadium. Both games will start at 3:30 p.m.

UF 050 000 011 7 13 1 FSU 001 400 102 8 10 2

The Automated ScoreBook Florida at Florida State Feb 27, 2000 at Tallahassee, FL (Dick Howser)

(13-2)	Florida State 8 (6-7)						
Name (Pos) AB R H RBI BB SO PO A	Name (Pos)	AB	R I	H RBI	BB :	SO P	0 A
Matt Siegel If	Karl Jernigan cf/p	4 4 3 2 4 4 3 . 0 1 . 0 . 0	1 1 1 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	1 0 1 2 1 2 1 1 1 1 0 1 0 1 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0	0 1 1 0 0 1 2 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0	5 0 1 0 0 2 0 1 0 2 0 0 5 1 0 0
Totals 38 7 13 7 2 13 24 8	Totals	33	8 1	0 8	4	5 2	7 10
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Note: None out, I runner(s) LOB when the game ended. E - Raburn; Barthelemy; Balet. DP - Gators 1; Seminoles 1. LOB - Gators 7; Seminoles 7. 2B - Keene; Socarras; Heath; Jernigan 3(3); McDougall(8); Balet(5). HR - Barthelemy(6).							
SB - Davidson; Keene; Dill; Goss. CS - Dill; Socarras. SF - Futrell.							
Florida IP H R ER BB SO AB BE	Rlorida State IP	H	R	ER 1	BB S	0 A	B BF
Jeff Cardozo 3.0 3 1 1 2 4 12 14 Joey Simon 1.2 2 2 1 0 1 7 8	Mike Ziegler	2 1 1	1 1 0	5 1 0 0	1 0 0	2 1 2	6 28 5 6 3 3 3 1
Win - Jernigan 1-0. Loss - Simon 1-2. Save - None. WP - Cardozo; DiBlasi. HBP - by Ziegler (Siegel); by Mosher (Futrell). Umpires - Home:Mark Chapman 1st:Tim Clougherty 3rd:Jeff Head Start: 3:03 Time: 3:13 Attendance: 2011	,						
Game Notes:							

Chris Hart suffered a fractured tibia in the bottom of the third. Florida's Jason Dill was ejected in the top of the ninth. N. Whidden faced 1 batter in the 9th.