FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 21, 2000

MIKE ZIEGLER SHUTS OUT GEORGIA TECH, FSU WINS 6-0

Tallahassee, FL – It was a Good Friday for Seminole starter Mike Ziegler. The junior recorded FSU's first complete game shutout of the season in leading No. 2 Florida State (38-7, 10-3 ACC) to a 6-0 victory over No. 6 Georgia Tech (33-9, 13-3 ACC) in front of 3,659 fans at Dick Howser Stadium. From the bottom of the third to the top of the eighth, Ziegler retired 16 consecutive Yellow Jacket batters. Ziegler's shutout was the first for an FSU pitcher since Wes Crawford blanked NC State 9-0 on March 6, 1998.

Ziegler improved his record to 8-2 on the year with the victory, allowing just four hits on the night. He struck out seven and walked only one.

The loss snapped the Yellow Jackets' 15-game winning streak, their longest since 1992. Georgia Tech still holds the top spot in the ACC standings with FSU second.

Ziegler's teammates gave him all he would need for the victory with a run in the bottom of the second inning. Chris Smith doubled to right center and Blair McCaleb walked before Mike Futrell came through with an RBI-single to right center.

In the bottom of the fourth, McCaleb and Futrell upped FSU's lead to 4-0 with back-to-back homers. McCaleb's home run to left scored Ryan Barthelemy, who earlier reached on a walk. Futrell's solo shot was his first home run since he hit one against Stanford on February 12 (36 games).

The Seminoles tacked on two more in the fifth to make it 6-0. Karl Jernigan knocked in a run with a single to left and McCaleb picked up his third RBI of the night when he drew a bases loaded walk.

Although Jernigan did have an RBI-single, he received the most applause for his play in center field. The junior did his part to insure the shutout as he twice robbed Georgia Tech hitters of extra base hits with leaping, on-the-run grabs against the wall in right center.

Left-hander Cory Vance (8-2) suffered the loss for Georgia Tech, giving up six earned runs in 4.2 innings.

McDougall extended his hitting streak to 13 games with a 2-for-3 outing. Futrell (2-for-3) was the only other Seminole to have more than one hit.

The two hour, 13 minute contest was FSU's quickest of the season. Ziegler also pitched FSU's second-fastest game, a January 30th win over Western Kentucky (2:15).

FSU right-hander Blair Varnes (7-1) will face Georgia Tech righty Rhett Parrott (5-2) Saturday at 7:00 p.m. The game will be televised live by Sunshine Network.

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The Automated ScoreBook Georgia Tech at Florida State Apr 21, 2000 at Tallahassee, FL (Dick Howser)

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Game Notes:

First complete game shutout by an FSU pitcher this season. McDougall extends hitting streak to 13 games.