FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARCH 3, 2001

FLORIDA STATE BASEBALL RECORDS FIFTH STRAIGHT VICTORY Seminoles top Michigan State, 10-5, and improve to 8-5 on the season

Tallahassee, Fla. – No. 19 Florida State (8-5) won its fifth straight game, 10-5 over Michigan State (0-4), as 1,649 looked on at Dick Howser Stadium. FSU left-hander Daniel Hodges won his first decision of the year and struck out a career-high seven batters in five innings of relief.

Michigan State jumped out to an early 3-0 lead in the top of the first inning. Bob Malek singled home Brett Wattles, who had led off the game with a double. Brady Burrill knocked in run number two with a ground ball to third and Scott Koerber scored Malek with a single to right.

FSU took the lead with four runs of their own in the bottom of the second. Mike Futrell, Chris Hart and Brett Groves led off the inning with three straight walks to load the bases. Bryan Zech plated Futrell and Hart with a double to right field. John-Ford Griffin knocked in Groves with a sacrifice fly to left and Ryan Barthelemy's single scored Zech to make it 4-3.

The Seminoles went up 5-3 with Tony Richie's RBI-single in the third.

MSU got one back when Chris McCuiston doubled and scored on Jared Koutnik's double in the top of the fourth.

Griffin pushed FSU's lead to 6-4 with a solo home run to left to start the fourth inning. The home run, his second in as many days and third of the year, extended his hitting streak to nine games.

FSU tacked on four insurance runs in the sixth to go up 10-4. Barthelemy knocked in one run with a single and Futrell got an RBI when he was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded. Hart then followed with a two-run single to center.

The Spartans added one in the top of the ninth to make the final score 10-5.

FSU starter Matt Lynch (1-1) worked four innings, allowing four runs on nine hits. Lynch struck out six and walked two before giving way to Hodges. In five innings, Hodges allowed one run on just two hits and did not walk a batter while recording seven strikeouts. MSU starter Jon Huizinga (0-1) took the loss after allowing six runs (five earned) in three innings.

Barthelemy (3-for-5) and Zech (2-for-4) had multi-hit games for the Tribe.

The final game of the three-game series is Sunday at 1:00 p.m. with RHP Robby Read (2-2) scheduled to start for FSU.

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The Automated ScoreBook Michigan State at Florida State Mar 03, 2001 at Tallahassee, Fla. (Dick Howser)

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Start: 2:02 pm Time: 3:00 Attendance: 1649

John-Ford Griffin extends hitting streak to nine games. Daniel Hodges struck out a career-high seven batters. Huizinga faced 1 batter in the 4th.

Game Notes: