FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DATE: February 20, 2001

CONTACT: Elliott Finebloom (850) 644-5656

SEMINOLES COMPLETE SWEEP WITH 8-0 WIN OVER MERCER BEARS

No. 17 FSU has now won seven straight series dating back to 2000.

Tallahassee, FL — The Seminole pitching staff continued their dominance Tuesday evening as they recorded their eighth shutout of the 2001 season and lowered their team ERA to 0.66 in a 8-0 win over Mercer University (3-5). Leslie Malerich gave up just two hits and struck out four batters on her way to her sixth consecutive win of the season and the No. 17 Seminoles won their ninth game in a row to improve to 13-1 on the season.

"It felt really good to get a shutout and help my team despite the fact I still feel a little off on the mound," said Malerich. "I felt good that we were able to shut down a good team and close the door when we had a lead."

Jessica van der Linden, who pitched a complete game shutout in the first game of the doubleheader, had a big night at the plate and in left field for the Seminoles. The freshman went three for four at the plate with three RBI's including two doubles and a triple. Her two-RBI triple in the second inning staked the Noles to a 4-0 lead and walk-off double in the fifth gave the Seminoles the 8-0 win.

"I haven't played outfield in quite awhile and I missed it," said van der Linden. "I haven't really been hitting consistently this season so it felt great to finally get some consistency with my bat."

Senior Robyn Gauger also had a big night for FSU going two for two with four RBI's. Natalie Bennett added an RBI for the Seminoles in the second inning and freshman Leah Armstrong contributed with a two for three night at the plate and a run scored.

Florida State travels to Boca Raton, FL this weekend for the Florida Atlantic/Worth Invitational where they will face the University of Illinois, Florida A&M, Florida Atlantic and the Maryland Terrapins. Seminole softball fans can get up-to-date information on the Seminoles while they are on the road at www.seminoles.com. Florida State returns home Friday, March 2 for the 2001 Seminole Challenge featuring Northwestern University, Central Michigan and Ball State. Admission is free and games will be going on all weekend long.

--30--

Mercer University at Florida State (Game 2) Feb 20, 2001 at Tallahassee, FL (Seminole Softball Co)

Mercer University 0 (3-5)

Florida State 8 (13-1)

Player	AΒ									Player				RBI			-		LOB
unifer Dolan of										Jess van der Linden lf									1
Christine Hall rf	2	¢	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	Staci Brandon dp	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Erin Jalbert 2b	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	Kimmy Carter rf	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Nikki Bowey **	1	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	Brandi Stuart 2b	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	٥
Stacy Nagel 3b	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	Skyla Cox 2b	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Crystal Pardue c	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	2	Natalie Bennett ss	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Krsti Montgomery 1b	2	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	1	Robyn Gauger 1b	2	1	2	4	1	0	3	0	0
Chris Mattice p	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	Elisa Velasco c	3	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	2
Melissa Lett 1f	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	Becky Brock 3b	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1.	0
										Jackie Hirschfeld 3b	1	0	0	0	Ô	0	0	0	0
										Leah Armstrong of	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
										Leslie Malerich p	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Totals	17	0	2	0	1	4	14	6	3	Totals,	20	8	9	8	6	2	15	3	6
Score by Innings				. E															

Mercer University... 000 00 - 0 2 2
Florida State..... 250 01 - 8 9 2

Note: 2 outs, 2 runners LOB when the game ended.

E - Nagel; Mattice; Elisa Velaso; Becky Brock, LOB - Bears 3; Seminoles 6. 2B - Jessica van 2. 3B - Jessica van 8B - Kimmy Carter; Brandi Stuar.

rcer University	IP	H	R	ER	BB	so	AΒ	BF	Florida State	IP	Ħ	R :	er !	88	50	λB	BF
Chris Mattice	4.2	9	8	3	6	2	20	28	Leslie Malerich	5.0	2	0	٥	1	4	17	18

Win - Leslie Maler (6-0). Loss - Mattice (). Save - None.

WP - Mattice.

Umpires - Home:Ron Graham 1st:Ken Hayes Start: 5:00 pm Time: 1:40 Attendance: 117

Game: 2202001B