



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

SPORTS INFORMATION



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: March 28, 2001

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16TH-RANKED FLORIDA STATE SOFTBALL MOVES TO 32-5 ON THE SEASON WITH 7-0 WIN OVER FAMU

Gauger's three-RBI triple and a combined shutout from Malerich and White-Stokes propel FSU to eighth straight win.

Tallahassee, FL -- After a weeklong layoff, the No. 16 Florida State softball team returned to action Wednesday night against cross-town rival FAMU. The last meeting between the teams was a come back, thriller won in the bottom of the seventh inning by the Rattlerettes for just their fifth win in 66 tries against the Seminoles. Florida State (32-5) opened up a big lead over FAMU (12-28) just like it did March 6 but this time the Seminoles held on for the win by a score of 7-0. Leslie Malerich picked up her first win since March 4 and moved to 11-2 on the season while senior Robyn Gauger picked up her 10th RBI of the year against Florida A&M as the Noles captured their eighth straight victory.

"I wasn't sure what to expect tonight since we have only played two games in the last 10 days," said head coach Dr. JoAnne Graf. "I was happy we were able to come out and put up three runs right away in the bottom of the first inning and then our pitching staff held up the rest of the way. It was great to see Leslie back out on the mound and I hope we can keep our momentum going as we head into conference play this weekend."

The Seminoles started the game off in a big way in the bottom of the first inning. Serita Brooks, who came into Wednesday's game hitting .400 over the her last 10 games, opened the Florida State half of the inning with a shot to left field that cruised past a drawn in FAMU outfield and rolled almost all the way to the wall. The triple was the first extra base hit for Brooks against Florida A&M this season and set the table for a big inning. After Kimmy Carter struck out swinging, Jessica van der Linden singled to right field scoring Brooks and putting FSU up 1-0. Brandi Stuart then reached safely on a bunt and van der Linden came around to score on the play after two Florida A&M errors in the field. Stuart, who ended up on second due to the errors, then stole third and scored the Noles third run when Jennifer White-Stokes singled to right field.

Florida State continued to build on its lead in the third inning when van der Linden singled to center field with one out gone in the bottom of the inning. The freshman from Cerritos, CA went 3 for 3 on the evening with two runs and an RBI while playing in right field for FSU. Brandi Stuart then drew a walk and was followed by White-Stokes second single of the game. The senior pitcher/designated player from Tuttle, OK also went 3 for 3 Wednesday and scored a run and knocked in an RBI. That set was then stage for Rattlerette-killer Robyn Gauger. Coming into Wednesday night's game, Gauger was hitting .667 and slugging 1.333 against FAMU. She had hit a double, a triple and a home run and recorded seven RBI's in nine at bats. With the bases loaded Wednesday night, Gauger smacked a triple to right center scoring three runs and giving her 10 RBI's against Florida A&M this season.

Malerich and White-Stokes shut down FAMU the rest of the night and picked up the Noles 20th shutout of the 2001 season. Malerich, who started and pitched four innings, allowed just two hits, struck out four batters and walked just one in picking up her 11th victory of the season. The victory was the 57th in her two-plus year career at Florida State. White-Stokes relieved Malerich in the fifth and allowed no hits, struck out two batters and walked one in her team-leading 18th appearance of the season.

The Seminoles embark on their longest and most trying road trip of the season Friday, which will keep FSU away from the Seminole Softball Complex until they meet the Rattlerettes again April 17. Florida State will travel to Atlanta where it will open up conference play Saturday, March 31 with a doubleheader at Georgia Tech. FSU will then face regional-rival Georgia State Sunday before heading to Chapel Hill, NC the weekend after.

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The Automated ScoreBook
 Florida A&M at Florida State
 Mar 28, 2001 at Tallahassee, FL (Seminole Softball Co)

Florida A&M 0 (12-28)

Florida State 7 (32-5)

(Pos)	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	PO	A
Tonya Minick lf.....	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Kimberly Saunders cf.....	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
LaCharee McBurrows ph.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Raven Rushton 3b.....	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
Tiya Hines dp.....	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Jerika Mobley ss.....	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Meyla Hooker 1b.....	3	0	0	0	0	2	7	2
Natalie Mathews 2b.....	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	3
Javetta Dryer ph.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nkese Reed rf.....	3	0	0	0	0	1	2	0
Shakaye Peters c.....	2	0	0	0	0	0	6	0
Tenyse Tasby p.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Totals.....	24	0	2	0	2	6	18	9

Score by innings:	R	H	E
Florida A&M	000	000	0 - 0 2 2
Florida State	304	000	- 7 10 1

E - Mathews; Peters; Stuart.
 LOB - Rattlerettes 5; Seminoles 4.
 3B - Brooks; Gauger.
 C Mobley; Stuart.
 S Brooks; Gauger; Velasco. SF - Marier.

Florida A&M	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	AB	BF
Tenyse Tasby.....	6.0	10	7	6	1	6	24	29

Win - Malerich 11-2. Loss - Tasby 8-12. Save - None.
 WP - Malerich 2.
 Umpires - Home:Dwayne Manning 2nd:Ron Graham
 Start: 6:00 pm Time: 1:30 Attendance: 232

Name (Pos)	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	PO	A
Serita Brooks cf.....	3	1	1	0	0	2	1	0
Kimmy Carter c.....	4	0	0	0	0	2	6	0
Jessica van der Lind rf...	3	2	3	1	0	0	4	0
Brandi Stuart 2b.....	2	2	1	0	1	0	1	1
Jen White-Stokes dp/p.....	3	1	3	1	0	0	1	0
Skyla Cox pr.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robyn Gauger 1b.....	2	1	1	3	0	1	4	0
Beth Wade 1b.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Monique Marier lf.....	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Elisa Velasco lf.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Natalie Bennett ss.....	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Staci Brandon 3b.....	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Becky Brock 3b.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leslie Malerich p/dp.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Totals.....	24	7	10	6	1	6	21	5

Florida State	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	AB	BF
Leslie Malerich.....	4.0	2	0	0	1	4	15	16
Jen White-Stokes....	3.0	0	0	0	1	2	9	10