FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DATE: April 28, 2001

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SEMINOLES TAKE FIRST GAME OVER ACC/SASA RIVAL VIRGINIA 8-0 IN FIVE INNINGS Seventeenth-ranked FSU uses walk-off home run by Marier in the bottom of the fifth to move to 48-7.

Tallahassee, FL. – The 17^{th} -ranked Florida State softball team made a statement Saturday in game one of a doubleheader against second-place Virginia as the Seminoles (48-7, 6-1) used four extra base hits and a complete game shutout by Leslie Malerich (19-2) to down the Cavaliers (49-14, 5-4) 8-0 in five innings. The win moves the Seminoles one step closer to wrapping up an automatic bid in the Southern Atlantic Softball Alliance as they now hold a two and a half game advantage in the loss column over second-place North Carolina.

"I was really happy with the way our kids played today," said head coach Dr. JoAnne Graf. "Coming into today's game, I knew both teams had the ability to score runs but you have to give Leslie a lot of credit for shutting down Virginia's potent offense."

Florida State drew first blood in the bottom of the first inning when they utilized a two-out rally to take a I-O lead. After Virginia's Kristen Dennis (17-6) retired the first two Seminole batters, freshman Jessica van der Linden drew a walk and Robyn Gauger hit a 219-foot double to deep center scoring van der Linden with FSU's first run. The RBI was the 31st on the season for the senior from St. Marks, FL.

The Seminoles got on the board again in the third when Staci Brandon led off the inning with a double to right center and Serita Brooks got on via a bunt. Kimmy Carter then singled to left center driving in Brandon with FSU's second run of the game. After a van der Linden out, Gauger once again came up big for Florida State as she tripled to right center bringing in her 32nd and 33rd RBI of the season and extending FSU to a 4-0 lead.

The score remained 4-0 as the game entered the bottom of the fifth and van der Linden started the Seminole's half of the frame when she was hit by a pitch by new UVa hurler Jessica Edwards. After Gauger reached on a fielder's choice, Brandi Stuart drew a walk and Jen White-Stokes also reached on a fielder's choice advancing Gauger to third. Monique Marier then launched her fifth homer of the season to give FSU an 8-0 walk-off win. The home run gives Marier a team-leading 37 RBI on the season.

The win marked the 10th shutout and 19th complete game of the season for junior Malerich. She lowered her ERA to just 0.71 and gave up just four hits, one walk and struck out one batter on the day. The Seminoles will complete their doubleheader with the Cavaliers at 3:25 p.m. this afternoon at the Seminole Softball Complex. All games at the Seminole Softball Complex are free to the public and additional information on today's game and upcoming games is available on-line at www.seminoles.com.

NOTE: Today's doubleheader will be shown tape-delayed on the Sunshine Network Sunday, April 29, 2001. The first game will air at 12:00 p.m. with the second game airing at 10:00 p.m. --30--

The Automated ScoreBook

Virginia at Florida State (Game 1)

Apr 28, 2001 at Tallahassee, FL (Seminole Softball Co)

Virginia 0 (49-14,4-3 ACC)

Florida State 8 (48-7,4-1 ACC)

.yer				RBI	ВВ	so	PO	A	LO	В	Player	AB	R	H	RBI	вв	so	PO	A	LOB
Young rf					0	0	0	0		0	Serita Brooks cf	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
McCabe cf	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	0		2	Kimmy Carter c	3	1	1	1	0	1	2	1	1
Rojas 3b	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	1		0	Jess van der Linden rf	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Dennis p/dp	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1		1	Robyn Gauger 1b	3	1	2	3	0	0	7	1	0
Field ss	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	0		0	Brandi Stuart 2b	2	0	0	0	1	1	4	2	1
Owings 1b	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	0		2	Jen White-Stokes dp	3	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	1
Sherman dp	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	Monique Marier lf	3	1	2	3	0	0	2	0	0
Edwards p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	Skyla Cox pr	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bumler 2b	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	3		0	Natalie Bennett ss	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0
Weinberg lf	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	Staci Brandon 3b	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gore c	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1		0	Leslie Malerich p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Totals	18	0	4	0	1	1	14	6		5	Totals	21	8	9	7	2	4	15	11	3
Score by Innings		R	. н	E																
Virginia 000 (
Florida State 103	13 -	8	9	1																

Note: 2 outs, 0 runners LOB when the game ended.

E - Gore(4); Bennett(4). DP - Seminoles 1. LOB - Cavaliers 5; Seminoles 3. 2B - Gauger(6); Brandon(2). 3B - Gauger(3). HR - Marier(5). HBP - van der Lind. SH - Bumler; Bennett(10). SB - Brooks 2(39). CS - Young.

<u>rginia</u>	IP	H	R	ER	BB	so	AE	E	3F	Florida State	IP	н	R	ER	BB	sc) AI	B BF
Dennis	4.0	8	5	4	1	4	18	2	20	Leslie Malerich	5.0	4	0	0	1	. 1	. 16	3 20
Edwards	0.2	1	3	3	1	0	3	}	5									

Win - Malerich (19-2). Loss - Dennis (17-6). Save - None.

HB - Edwards.

Umpires - Home:Dwayne Henry 1st:Gary Smith Start: 1:00 pm Time: 1:40 Attendance: 423

Game: 4282001