FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DATE: March 14, 2002

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NO. 22 FSU SOFTBALL DOWNS SOUTHERN ILLINOIS 2-1

Senior hurler matches season high with nine strikeouts and retires the side in order four times.

TALIAHASSEE, Fla. – The 22nd-ranked Seminole softball team got another strong performance from senior pitcher Leslie Malerich on the mound and used two Saluki miscues to down Southern Illinois (II-8) 2-1 at the Seminole Softball Complex Monday. Saluki starter Amy Harre (5-4) limited FSU (21-9) to just two hits on the night but was matched throughout the game by Malerich (I3-7).

Malerich has been on a roll for FSU as of late. The senior All-American has been the winning pitcher in the last 10 victories for the Tribe and has allowed just six earned runs in the last 87 innings she has pitched. Versus Southern Illinois Monday night, Malerich matched her season high for strikeouts with nine while giving up just one walk. She also retired the side in order in four of the game's seven innings.

Things got started for FSU offensively when all-everything second baseman Brandi Stuart led-off the second inning with a walk. After Kimmy Carter sacrificed Stuart to second, the junior stole third and came home to score when nobody covered third on the throw down. The stolen base was Stuart's team-leading 27th of the year and the total is just three shy of matching the 30 bases she stole in 70 games as a sophomore.

The Seminoles extended their lead to 2-0 in the third when Becky Brock singled to right field to start the inning. Shundra Colzie followed her by singling to left field advancing Brock to second. The single by Colzie was her fifth hit in the past four games. Tatiana George then lined out but in SIU's attempt to turn a double play, the shortstop overthrew first allowing Brock to come home with FSU's second run of the game.

Southern Illinois got back in the game in the top of fifth when Adie Viefhaus's RBI single scored Karrie Fortman to narrow the Seminoles' lead to 2-lbut Malerich was too much down the stretch as she retired eight straight hitters after the Southern Illinois run.

Florida State will next be in action when they travel to Fullerton, CA to take part in the prestigious KIA Classic. Florida State opens the tournament against No. 9 Oklahoma Thursday, October 14 at 2:00 p.m. EST. They then face Rutgers immediately following that game at 4:00 p.m. The Garnet and Gold finishes pool play Friday, March 15 versus No. II Cal State Fullerton at 6:00 p.m. EST. Live stats will be available for Friday's game versus the Titans. For more information, please visit our official athletic website at www.seminoles.com.

--FSU Sports Information--

No. 22 Florida State Softball Southern Illinois at Florida State

Mar 11, 2002 at Tallahassee, Fla (Seminole Softball)

Southern Illinois 1 (11-8)

Florida State 2 (21-9)

	AB				ВВ	so	PO	A	LO	В	Player	λВ	R	H	RBI	BB	so	PO	λ	LC
A. Viefhaus ss					0	0	2	2		0	Shundra Colzie rf	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	
Saafir 2b	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	4		0	Tatiana George lf	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
Damico cf	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0		2	Jess van der Linden cf	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Preek dh	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	0		0	Brandi Stuart 2b	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	
Kloess pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	Kimmy Carter c	1	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	
Jordan lf	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	ı	0	Elisa Velasco 1b	2	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	
H. Viefhaus 3b	3	0	1	0	0	1	1	3		1	Bryttani Lindheim ss	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	
ortman c	3	1	0	0	0	2	3	1		0	Becky Brock 3b	2	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	
Guenther 1b	3	0	0	0	0	1	11	0	ı	2	Shandra Colzie dh	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
Moore rf	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	ı	0	Leslie Malerich p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	
Harre p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3		0										
rotals	26	1	4	1	1	9	18	13		5	Totals	19	2	2	0	1	3	21	7	
Score by Innings			R	н	E															
Southern Illinois 000																				
Southern IIIInols 000	OTO	· -	. т	*	4															

E - A. Viefhaus 2; Becky Brock(5). LOB - Salukis 5; Seminoles 1. SH - Kimmy Carter(8). SB - B Stuart(27); Sha Colzie(7). CS - Sha Colzie(3).

Southern Illinois	IP	H	R	ER	вв	so	AB	BF	Florida State	IP	H	R	ER	вв	so	AB	BF
На	6.0	2	2	1	1	3	19	21	Leslie Malerich	7.0	4	1	0	1	9	26	27

Win - L Malerich (13-7). Loss - Harre (5-4). Save - None.

Umpires - Home:Gary Smith 2nd:Todd Stupski

Start: 6:07 pm Time: 1:31 Attendance: 119

Game: 3112002 Game notes:

FSU leads the all-time series 4-2.