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FSU SOFTBALL EXPLODES FOR NINE RUNS IN SHUTOUT OF UAB

Malerich cruises to 21st win of the year and Marier knocks in four RBIs in the win.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Despite five days off after an 18-3 drubbing of Florida A&M last week, the FSU softball team's bats seemed to be as hot as ever. The 21st-ranked Seminoles scored nine runs on nine hits to take game one of a Thursday doubleheader 9-0 from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (27-14-0). The win improved FSU to 35-13-0 on the year.

All-American Leslie Malerich (21-9) allowed just three hits in recording her ninth shutout of the season and Monique Marier led the way offensively with four RBIs including a three-run home run. Sophomore Beth Wade added her second home run of the season and All-American candidate Brandi Stuart had an RBI triple in the Seminoles' fourth consecutive win.

Florida State broke in front of the Blazers in the bottom of the second. Marier started things off with her one-out single to right field. After UAB starter Megan Stephenson (9-7) recorded the second out of the inning on her first strikeout of the game, senior Becky Brock legged out an infield single to short moving Marier to second. Both runners moved up a base on a passed ball which brought up number nine hitter Shandra Colzie. Colzie sent another ball to short but as UAB attempted to tag out Brock between second and third, Marier came around to score the game's first run.

The Tribe added to its lead in the third inning when Tatiana George recorded her second hit of the game by tripling off of the top of the left field fence. Jessica van der Linden then sent a deep fly to center allowing George to tag up and score. The sacrifice fly was van der Linden's third of the season and gave her 20 or more RBIs for the second season in a row. The Seminoles added to their lead when Shundra Colzie, who had walked prior to van der Linden's sac, advanced to second on an errant pick-off attempt and then came around to score when she stole third and came home when the throw down to third sailed into left field. The Seminoles threatened to add to the 3-0 lead as Brandi Stuart and Kimmy Carter drew back-to-back walks bringing up Marier. The senior was already 1-for-1 with a run scored and added to that by blasting the first pitch she saw from relief pitcher Kelli Thompson over the left field fence. The three RBIs improved Marier's total to 21 on the season and improved her home run total to three for the year. With the bases clear, Beth Wade followed Marier by taking the second pitch she saw over the left field fence for her second career home run of the 2002 season. The back-to-back blasts moved FSU into a 7-0 lead.

The Seminoles weren't done yet as they added to their lead again in the fourth. Van der Linden led things off by singling up the middle and came around to score when Stuart knocked in her 33 RBI of the year by tripling to left center. After a Carter walk, Marier knocked in her fourth RBI of the game on a fielder's choice putting FSU up 9-0.

The Seminoles finish up the twin bill versus the Blazers tonight at 7:00 p.m. Florida State is next in action Saturday, April 13 when they open conference play against Georgia Tech at 1:30 p.m. The Yellow Jackets come to Tallahassee with a perfect 6-0 record in conference play and will look to finish up a perfect regular season in conference. The doubleheader will be broadcast by the Sunshine Network at

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6:00 p.m. that evening. There is no admission charge for all regular season games at the Seminole Softball Complex. For more information on Seminole softball, please visit our official athletic website at www.seminoles.com.

--FSU Sports Information--

No. 21 Florida State Sortball

Alabama-Birmingham at Florida State (Game 1)

Apr 11, 2002 at Tallahassee, FL (Seminole Softball)

Alabama-Birmingham 0 (27-14)

Florida State 9 (35-13)

~ _ _	AB										Player					BB				
Candice Hithe ss										0	Tatiana George ss									
Cliffanie Engram lf										0	Robyn Larson ss	0	0	0	0	Đ	0	0	0	0
Beth Mullins 2b										0	Shundra Colzie rf	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Kelli Thompson dp										0	Jess van der Linden cf	1	1	1	1.	1	0	0	0	8
Aimee Vaughn 3b							1			2	Skyla Cox rf	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kai Paul 1b						1	. 2	0)	0	Brandi Stuart 2b	2	2	1	1	1	0	3	0	1
Amanda Ellis C							. 1			0	Kimmy Carter c	1	1	0	0	2	6	5	1	0
Kristin Stanfill rf	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	0)	0	Monique Marier lf	3	2	2	4	Đ	0	0	0	0
Emily Scarbrough cf						1	. 2	0)	0	Beth Wade 1b	3	1	1	1	0	1	3	0	0
Kerri Foster ph										1	Becky Brock 3b	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	0
Megan Stephenson p							0			0	Jackie Hirschfeld ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
- "											Shandra Colzie dp	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
											Leslie Malerich p	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	0
Totals	18	0	3	0	0	5	12	4	ı	3	Totals	18	9	9	8	5	1	15	4	5
Score by Innings		_		(E																
Alabama-Birmingham 600																				
Florida State 016	2 X -	. 9	9	3 1	i															

E - Ellis 2(9); Malerich(2). LOB - Blazers 3; Seminoles 5. 3B - George(2); Stuart(4). HR - Marier(3); Wade(2). HBP - Sha Colzie. SH - Shu Colzie(3). SF - van der Lind(3). SB - Shu Colzie(10). CS - Hithe(4).

abama-Birmingham	ΙP	H	R	ER	BB	so	A	Br	NP	Florida State	ΙP	H	R	E R	BB	SO	AB B	æ	ИP
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Megan Stephenson	2.0	4	2	1	1	1	8	10	49	Leslie Malerich	5.0	3	0	0	0	5	18 1	18	64
Kelli Thompson	2.0	5	7	7	4	0	1.0	16	54										

Win - Malerich (21-9). Loss - Stephenson (9-7). Save - None.

HB - Thompson. PB - Ellis 2(11). Inherited runners/scored: Thompson 1/1.

Umpires - Home:Duine Henry 2nd:Ken Hayes Start: 5:31 pm Time: 1:22 Attendance: 78

Game: livegame
Game notes:

First-ever meeting between UAB and Florida State.