



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

SPORTS INFORMATION



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RAMSEY'S SEVENTH-INNING BOMB SINKS NO. 21 SOFTBALL'S TITLE HOPES

Seminoles now sit and wait to hear if they are invited to the 2002 NCAA Tournament.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. -- For just the first time in 12 years of ACC softball there will be a championship game played that doesn't involve Florida State. The 21st-ranked Seminoles (49-17) dropped a heart-breaker as Kelly Ramsey's three-run, walk-off home run in the bottom of the seventh ended the Seminoles shot at their ninth ACC crown. The loss was FSU's first-ever in an ACC Championship held in Tallahassee to a team other than Virginia and it sent defending champion North Carolina (34-29) into the title game to face Georgia Tech tomorrow at 12:00 at the Seminole Softball Complex.

Playing as the visiting team in their home park, FSU jumped on top of the Heels due to a costly two-out error in the top of the first. Shundra Colzie started the rally off with a one-out walk and she advanced to second on a wild pitch. After All-American candidate Brandi Stuart drew her tournament-leading seventh walk, she advanced to second and Colzie moved to third on another wild pitch from UNC starter Shannon Walsh (14-15). The Heels looked to be out of the inning on a Kimmy Carter grounder to short but an errant throw allowed Colzie and Stuart to score putting Florida State up 2-0.

The Tribe held on to a 2-0 advantage as the game headed into the bottom of third. The Heels Tiffany Tolleson reached via a bunt single and was sacrificed to second by Rosie Gustavson. Quinn Porter then drew a walk but Tolleson was caught trying to steal and seemed to have been tagged out on a run down between second and third. After Florida State put the tag on Tolleson, the umpire ruled she was interfered with and was awarded third base. Natalie Anter was then intentionally walked by sophomore Jessica van der Linden to load the bases with one out but the southpaw came back and retired the next two hitters to end the Heel threat.

North Carolina did however come back and get on the board in the bottom of the fourth as Dionne Streete's one-out RBI triple scored Brandi Griffin. Streete then came around to tie the game on a squeeze play as Tolleson laid down a perfect bunt and FSU couldn't put the tag on at home. The play was reminiscent of the squeeze that won the game for Florida State against UNC the night before.

The teams remained deadlocked as the game moved into the bottom of the sixth and North Carolina looked to take the lead off new pitcher Leslie Malerich (29-11). The Tar Heels put together back-to-back one-out singles before a fielder's choice out at third and an infield pop up ended the threat.

In the top of the seventh, the Garnet and Gold got a lead-off walk by catcher Elisa Velasco who was pinch run for by Skyla Cox. The speedy sophomore moved to second and then third on two more wild pitches from Walsh who had four in the game. Malerich then drew a walk to put runners on first and third with no one down and lead-off hitter Tatiana George stepping up to the plate. Walsh got George to foul out to the catcher on the first pitch and then got Shundra Colzie on a shallow pop to second setting the stage for van der Linden to come through with two outs. Walsh once again induced a pop up, this one to short as the Seminoles stranded their 25th and 26th base runners of the tournament.



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Carolina started the bottom of the seventh with a lead-off single through the left side of the infield bringing UNC's single-season home run record holder to the plate. Anter, who has 14 home runs in 2002, drew a walk which brought up the ACC Championships leading hitter Ramsey. The senior from Del Mar, CA sent a 2-1 pitch deep over the wall in left field to keep North Carolina in the tournament to defend its conference title.

Florida State will now wait to hear its NCAA Tournament fate Sunday at 9:00 p.m. when the NCAA Selection Committee announces seedings and host sites on ESPNNews. The Seminoles have been to the NCAA Regional finals the last two seasons and will look to lock up the schools 15th appearance since 1996. Please visit our official athletic website at www.seminoles.com for more information on Seminole softball.

--FSU Sports Information--

Florida State vs North Carolina
May 11, 2002 at Tallahassee, FL (Seminole Softball)

Florida State 2 (49-17)

North Carolina 5 (34-29)

Player	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	PO	A	LOB
Tatiana George ss.....	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1
Shundra Colzie cf/rf.....	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Jess van der Linden p/cf.....	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Brandi Stuart 2b.....	1	1	0	0	2	0	3	2	1
Kimmy Carter rf.....	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Leslie Malerich p.....	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Monique Marier lf.....	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Beth Wade 1b.....	3	0	1	0	0	1	6	0	0
Elisa Velasco c.....	2	0	1	0	1	1	4	0	0
Skyla Cox pr.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shandra Colzie dp.....	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Becky Brock 3b.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	5	0
Totals.....	25	2	3	0	5	4	18	9	7

Score by Innings

Florida State.....	200	000	0 - 2	3	0
North Carolina.....	000	200	3 - 5	9	1

E - Ramsey(7). DP - Seminoles 1. LOB - Seminoles 7; Tar Heels 9. 3B - Streete(2). HR - Ramsey(3). SH - Gustavson(12). SB - Stuart(52).

Player	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	PO	A	LOB
Tiffany Tolleson cf.....	4	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
Rosie Gustavson rf.....	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Quinn Porter lf.....	3	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1
Natalie Anter c.....	1	1	1	0	3	0	5	0	0
Natashalyn Snipes pr....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kelly Ramsey 1b.....	4	1	1	3	0	0	7	0	2
Sarah Young pr.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shannon Walsh p.....	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	3
Jessica Young 3b.....	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0
Brandi Griffin dp.....	3	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0
Lauren Parker pr.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dionne Streete ss.....	3	1	2	1	0	1	5	1	1
Emily Price 2b/pr.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Totals.....	26	5	9	5	5	3	21	7	9

Florida State	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	AB	BF	NP
Jess van der Linden.....	5.0	5	2	2	4	3	19	24	85
Leslie Malerich.....	1.0	4	3	3	1	0	7	8	27

North Carolina	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	AB	BF	NP
Shannon Walsh.....	7.0	3	2	0	5	4	25	30	107

Win - Walsh (14-15). Loss - Malerich (29-12). Save - None.

WP - Walsh 4(14). Inherited runners/scored: Malerich 1/0.

Umpires - Home:Debbie Barens 1st:Lori Bish 3rd:Christina Drumm

Start: 7:23 pm Time: 1:10 Attendance: 312

Game: ACCT7

Game notes:

North Carolina defends its championship versus Georgia Tech tomorrow.

Malerich faced 3 batters in the 7th.