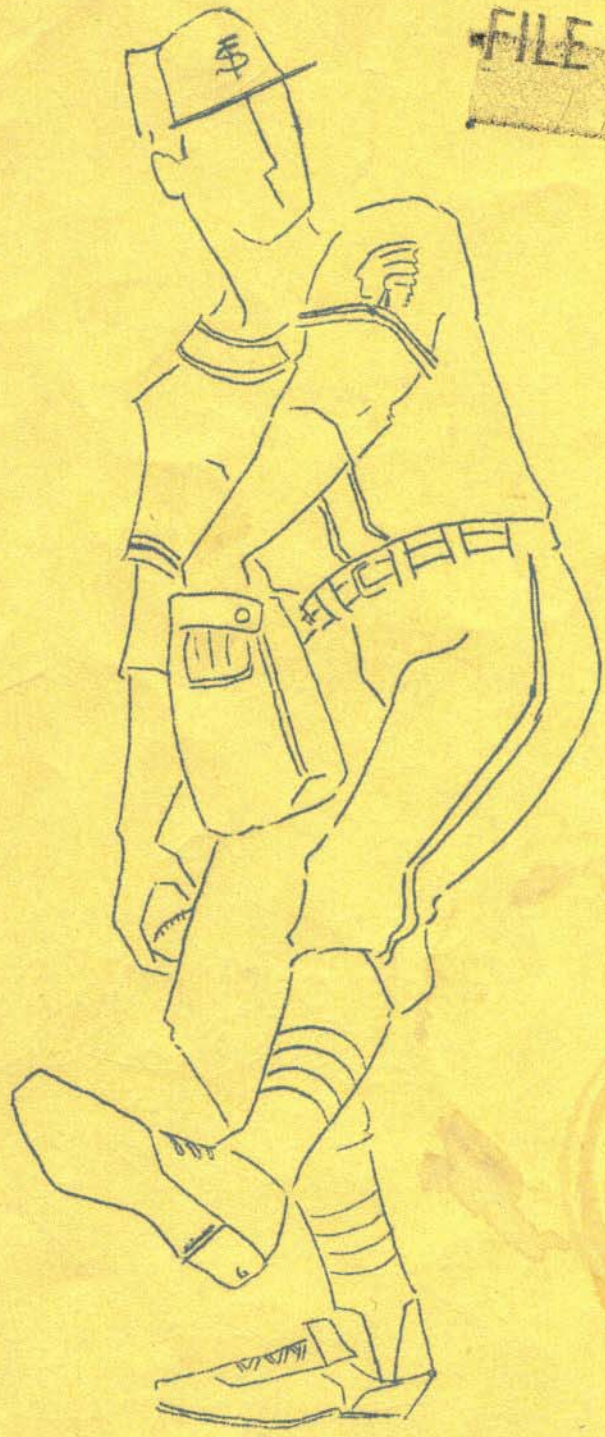


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FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

TALLAHASSEE

NCAA TOURNAMENT PRESS BOOK



FLORIDA STATE

1959 BASEBALL HANDBOOK

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

1959 BASEBALL TOURNAMENT HANDBOOK

FLORIDA STATE AT A GLANCE

LOCATION.....	Tallahassee
PRESIDENT.....	Dr. Robert M. Strozier
ENROLLMENT.....	7,500 (Coeducational)
COLORS.....	Garnet and Gold
NICKNAME.....	Seminoles
DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS.....	Perry Moss
BASEBALL COACH.....	Danny Litwhiler
ASSISTANT BASEBALL COACH.....	Ronald Melton
TRAINER.....	Don Fauls
SPORTS PUBLICITY DIRECTOR.....	Pat Hogan

A SHORT LOOK AT THE SEASON

GAMES WON.....	20
GAMES LOST.....	9
TEAM BATTING AVERAGE.....	.289
TOTAL FSU RUNS.....	202
TOTAL OPPONENTS RUNS.....	111
NUMBER SHUTOUTS.....	3
TIMES FSU SHUTOUT.....	0
LEADING PITCHER.....	Frank Davis (7-2)
LEADING HITTER.....	Bob Clem (.461)

SEMINOLE SMOKE SIGNALS

Four is a big number for Florida State's 1959 baseball team. With only four lettermen back this year, the Seminoles won 20 games for the fourth straight season and will be making their fourth consecutive appearance in the four-team NCAA District 3 playoffs. Florida State closed its regular season with four triumphs and have four regulars hitting over .300.

The Seminoles swept through the 1957 District 3 playoffs to gain the College World Series at Omaha, where they lost to Penn State and Connecticut.

Coach Danny Litwhiler will lose only one senior from Florida State's regular tournament lineup--team captain Dale Koch who shifted from third base to shortstop late this season. Ten members of FSU's 22-player tournament squad are sophomores, nine are juniors, only three are seniors. Fourteen of the 22 played high school baseball in Florida. Four are from Georgia, two from New Jersey, and one each from Virginia and Wisconsin.

Of the Tribe's top five hitters, four are sophomores. Soph second baseman Bob Clem of Atlanta set individual records with 41 hits and a .461 batting average. The former single-season highs of 38 hits and a .422 batting average were set in 1956 by two-year All-America shortstop Dick Howser, who graduated last year. Soph third baseman Jack Dull (.327) drove in a record 34 runs and was the slugging leader with four doubles and five home runs. Junior rightfielder Neil Martin (.356) numbered 12 extra-base hits among his 31 hits and drew a record number of walks (34). Sophomore outfielders Doug Walker and John King hit .333 and .305, respectively.

Florida State's pitchers had a combined earned run average of 2.47 with sophomore Frank Davis (7-2) posting a 1.60 ERA and soph Jim Daniel (3-1) turning in a 1.54 ERA.

COACH DANNY LITWHILER

On a warm, sunny day at St. Petersburg's Al Lang Field last January, former professional baseball greats from all corners of the nation gathered for the fourth annual Old Timers' game.

It was a scoreless duel until the bottom of the sixth inning, when a husky National League standout of bygone days strode to the plate. He was Florida State's Danny Litwhiler, who promptly settled the issue with a booming home run out of the park.

The game-winning smash was typical of Litwhiler's determination, as a player and as a teacher.

Danny has been described as one of the most imaginative and dynamic coaches in college baseball. When he came to Florida State five years ago it was his expressed desire to put the Seminoles out front in the collegiate baseball scramble.

In five seasons, his Seminoles have won 104 games while losing only 36, appearing in four District playoffs and one College World Series. It adds up to a .743 percentage, a championship reading in anybody's league.

There was an extra measure of success during the 1957 and 1958 seasons. One of Litwhiler's prodigies, a 145-pound shortstop Dick Howser of West Palm Beach, was named to the NCAA's first-team All-America squad both years. Twelve players from the 1958 Seminole roster have signed with major league clubs.

Litwhiler has the perfect background to be a good baseball coach. He built up a vast storehouse of ideas during his major league playing days with the St. Louis Cardinals, Philadelphia Phillies, Cincinnati Reds, and the old Boston Braves.

Danny went down in the books for several outstanding performances before retiring as an active player in 1950. He batted safely in 21 straight games in his first major league season. He belted a home run in every National League park in 1941.

In 1942 he became the first major leaguer to play a complete errorless season. He handled 317 chances in 151 games that year and over a period of two years set a record of playing 187 consecutive games without an error.

(more)

2-Litwhiler

The glove Litwhiler used in that string was retired in baseball's Hall of Fame.

In 1942 and 1943 he tied a National League record for the most years--two--leading in fielding percentage by an outfielder appearing in 100 or more games.

Litwhiler, 42, was born in Ringtown, Pa., and is a graduate of Bloomsburg (Pa.) State Teachers College.

After retiring as an active player, Danny coached Cincinnati in 1951 and has managed minor league clubs at Fargo, N.D., Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Jamestown, N.Y., and Duluth, Minn.

#####

ASSISTANT COACH RONALD MELTON

A former standout catcher for the Seminoles (1949-52), Ronald Melton is thoroughly familiar with the diamond sport at Florida State. He's been guiding Seminole baseball players since 1955, when he came back to his alma mater as assistant baseball coach and assistant athletic business manager.

"Ronnie" was born in Alabama but is a long-time resident of Tallahassee.

#####

TRAINER DON FAULS

Don Fauls, a native of Ithaca, N.Y., came to Florida State in 1954 and has done an outstanding job easing Seminole aches and pains. Fauls graduated from Ithaca College in 1948 with a degree in physio-therapy.

Don served as trainer of the Greensboro, N.C., Patriots of the Carolina Baseball League before joining the St. Louis Cardinals chain as a trainer at Omaha, Neb. He came to Florida State three years later.

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FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

1959 VARSITY BASEBALL ROSTER

<u>No.</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POS.</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>HT.</u>	<u>WT.</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>HOMETOWN</u>
8	Jim Daniel	P	R	R	20	6-3	185	So.	Atlanta, Ga.
9	Henry Ross	C	L	R	20	5-8	160	So.	Tarpon Springs, Fla.
10	Neil Martin	RF	L	L	20	5-6	155	Jr.	St. Petersburg, Fla.
12	Gene McCormick	OF-IF	L	R	23	5-9	150	Jr.	Miami, Fla.
14	Rick Madison	P	R	R	20	6-1	170	So.	Atlanta, Ga.
15	Ray Bazzell	CF	R	R	24	5-8	151	Jr.	Lynnhaven, Fla.
16	Al Zyla	P	R	R	21	6-4	195	Sr.	Garfield, N.J.
17	Bob Clem	2B	L	R	19	6-0	175	So.	Atlanta, Ga.
18	Jack Dull	3B-SS	R	R	19	6-0	175	So.	Tallahassee, Fla.
19	Dale Koch (capt.)	SS-3B	R	R	20	5-10	165	Sr.	Clearwater, Fla.
21	Jerry Hohne	P	R	R	20	6-5	170	Jr.	St. Augustine, Fla.
22	Frank Davis	P	R	R	20	6-0	170	So.	Miami, Fla.
23	John King	LF	R	R	19	5-9	165	So.	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.
24	Ron Fraser	P	R	R	22	6-0	170	Sr.	Nutley, N.J.
25	Ernie Lanford	SS	R	R	20	5-11	153	Jr.	Shellman, Ga.
26	Bill Westendick	C	R	R	21	6-0	193	Jr.	Tallahassee, Fla.
27	Carl Nelson	P	R	R	20	6-0	195	Jr.	Daytona Beach, Fla.
28	Doug Walker	OF-1B	L	L	19	6-2	180	So.	Fairfax, Va.
29	Dave Buss	CF	R	R	19	6-0	170	Jr.	Marshfield, Wisc.
30	Charlie Rodgers	1B	L	R	20	6-3	175	Jr.	Ft. Meyers, Fla.
31	John Slaton	LF	L	R	19	6-1	183	So.	Coral Gables, Fla.
33	Don Wanicka	RF	R	R	20	6-1	180	So.	Ft. Meyers, Fla.

COACH--DANNY LITWHILER (No. 1)

TRAINER--DON FAULS

ASSISTANT COACH--RONALD MELTON

MANAGER--ROGER LORENZE

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

1959 BASEBALL STATISTICS

(Won 20 Lost 9)

(Regular Season -- Won 20, Lost 5)

BATTING

<u>PLAYER.</u> <u>POS.</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>AB</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>2B</u>	<u>3B</u>	<u>HR</u>	<u>TB</u>	<u>SB</u>	<u>BB</u>	<u>SO</u>	<u>RBI</u>	<u>AVG.</u>
Bob Clem, 2b	22	89	31	41	6	2	0	51	10	13	17	14	.461
Neil Martin, rf	26	87	26	31	7	3	2	50	3	34	16	10	.356
Doug Walker, of-lb	16	39	10	13	1	0	0	14	1	12	4	7	.333
Jack Dull, 3b-ss	25	98	26	32	4	0	5	51	4	15	15	34	.327
John King, lf	20	59	7	18	1	0	0	19	3	8	4	7	.305
Dale Koch, ss-3b	25	93	15	27	3	0	0	30	1	17	5	26	.290
Ernie Lanford, ss	14	25	3	7	0	0	0	7	0	4	5	2	.280
Ray Bazzell, cf	25	77	13	21	5	0	0	26	3	20	11	10	.273
Bill Westendick, c	26	81	18	21	4	0	3	34	3	21	16	18	.259
Charlie Rodgers, lb	26	100	26	25	3	2	2	38	0	15	17	21	.250
Bob Wanicka, rf	10	16	2	3	0	0	0	3	0	1	3	2	.188
Hank Ross, c	8	12	0	2	1	0	0	3	0	4	3	0	.167
Dave Buss, cf	16	26	4	4	0	0	0	4	1	4	2	2	.154
Frank Davis, p	11	28	5	3	0	0	0	3	1	7	11	2	.107
Jerry Hohne, p	11	10	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	5	0	.100
Carl Nelson, p	8	13	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	0	.077
Others	--	51	11	11	3	0	1	17	1	3	7	10	.216

FSU TOTALS	*26	904	202	261	38	7	13	352	31	179	144	165	.289
OPPONENTS	26	887	111	190	23	3	2	225	17	90	179	83	.214

PITCHING

<u>PLAYER</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>CG</u>	<u>IP</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>ER</u>	<u>ERA</u>	<u>BB</u>	<u>SO</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>PCT.</u>
Rick Madison	1	0	2	1	0	0	0.00	3	0	0	0	.000
Don Axon	1	0	2/3	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	.000
Jim Daniel	5	2	35	24	12	6	1.54	9	32	3	1	.750
Frank Davis	11	5	78 2/3	69	23	14	1.60	15	64	7	2	.778
Carl Nelson	8	1	38 1/3	20	16	8	1.88	20	30	2	1	.667
Ron Fraser	6	2	33	33	23	13	3.55	14	20	4	1	.800
Jerry Hohne	11	1	37 2/3	33	27	15	3.58	27	31	1	4	.200
Doug Walker	1	0	11/3	1	2	1	6.92	1	0	0	0	.000
Al Zyla	5	0	62/3	9	8	7	9.41	1	2	0	0	.000

FSU TOTALS	*26	11	2331/3	190	111	64	2.47	90	179	17	9	.654
OPPONENTS	26	6	226	261	202	163	6.49	179	144	9	17	.346

*--Camp Lejeune games not included in individual statistics.

1959 RESULTS

14	Camp Lejeune	4
11	Camp Lejeune	3
10	Camp Lejeune	8
8	Auburn	4
11	Auburn	3
1	Georgia	4
16	Georgia	4
17	Stetson	0
21	Stetson	12
9	North Carolina	11
16	Illinois	9
8	Florida	7
5	Michigan State	2
3	Duke	6
2	Western Michigan	3
5	Duke	1
2	Western Michigan	0
11	Michigan	0
2	Michigan State	8
3	Florida	6
7	Florida	9
1	Florida Southern	2
7	Georgia Teachers	1
19	Tampa	1
4	Georgia Teachers	5
8	Georgia	2
4	Georgia	2
4	Auburn	3
8	Auburn	6

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY1959 BASEBALL STATISTICS
(Won 20 Lost 9)FIELDING

<u>PLAYER</u>	<u>PO</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>PCT.</u>
Bazzell, cf	44	11	0	1.000
Martin, rf	25	4	0	1.000
Rodgers, lb	214	14	7	.970
Buss, cf	16	2	1	.947
Westendick, c	180	11	11	.946
Davis, p	2	21	2	.920
King, lf	26	2	3	.903
Ross, c	18	0	2	.900
Clem, 2b	48	55	12	.896
Dull, 3b-ss	45	59	14	.881
Hohne, p	0	6	1	.857
Walker, of-lb	19	4	4	.852
Koch, ss-3b	27	55	15	.845
Wanicka, rf	4	1	1	.833
Lanford, ss	20	20	10	.800
Nelson, p	1	8	3	.750
Others	11	21	3	.914
<hr/>				
FSU TOTALS	700	294	89	.918
OPPONENTS	678	257	61	.944

MEET THE SEMINOLES

PITCHERS

- 8 Jim Daniel....sophomore.....20....from Atlanta, Ga.....a lanky righthander who combined spring football practice and baseball and still notched a 3-1 record....team-leading earned run average of 1.54.
- 22 Frank Davis....sophomore.....20....from Miami, Fla.....winningest pitcher of the staff.... compiled 7-2 record with an ERA of 1.60....has sharp control....struck out 60 and walked only 15 in 79 innings....is always poised, especially for a soph....has good move to first.
- 24 Ron Fraser....senior.....22....from Nutley, N. J.....a veteran righthander....recovered from arm trouble to notch four wins....struck out 20 in 33 innings....one of only three seniors on club.
- 21 Jerry Hohne....junior.....20....from St. Augustine, Fla.....used mostly in relief, but can start....a big man at 6-5 and delivers from around the third base side....only won one game but posted an ERA of 3.58.

MEET THE SEMINOLES

PITCHERS

- 14 Rick Madison....sophomore.....20....from Atlanta, Ga.....used sparingly during the season
- 8 Jim Daniel....sophomore.....20....from Atlanta, Ga.....a lanky righthander who combined spring football practice and baseball and still notched a 3-1 record....team-leading earned run average of 1.54.
- 27 Carl Nelson....junior.....20....from Daytona Beach, Fla.....nicknamed Duni, he got off to a slow start this season....2-1 record not a true indication of his stuff....good earned run average, 1.88....especially tough when men are on base....good curve.... compiled 7-2 record with an ERA of 1.60....has sharp control....struck out 60 and walked only 15 in 79 innings....is always poised, especially for a soph....has good move to first.
- 22 Frank Davis....sophomore.....20....from Miami, Fla.....winningest pitcher of the staff.... compiled 7-2 record with an ERA of 1.60....has sharp control....struck out 60 and walked only 15 in 79 innings....is always poised, especially for a soph....has good move to first.
- 16 Al Zyla....senior.....21....from Garfield, N. J.....strong righty, 6-4, 195 pounds....first, pitched only 6 2/3 innings but appeared in five games....had no decisions.
- 24 Ron Fraser....senior.....22....from Nutley, N. J.....a veteran righthander....recovered from arm trouble to notch four wins....
- 9 Henry Ross....sophomore.....20....from Tarpon Springs, Fla.....good No. 2 man behind the plate....used sparingly this season but is being counted on in the future....potentially
- 21 Jerry Hohne....junior.....20....from St. Augustine, Fla.....used mostly in relief, but can start....a big man at 6-5 and delivers from around the third base side....only won one game but posted an ERA of 3.58.

CATCHERS

(MORE)

MEET THE SEMINOLES

PITCHERS

MEET THE SEMINOLES (Contd)

26 Bill Westendick....junior....21....from Tallahassee, Fla.....has been No. 1 receiver since middle of sophomore year....hits long ball, second in club home run production....not hitting as well as expected, second on 1958 club with .352 average.

INFIELDERS

17 Bob Clem....sophomore....19....from Atlanta, Ga.....leading hitter on the club with .461 average, one of the best marks in the nation....led team in hits, 41, tied for total base leadership with 51....has plenty of speed....stole 10 bases.

18 Jack Dull....sophomore....19....from Tallahassee, Fla.....set club RBI record with 34....hit 5 homers to lead team....tied for total base leadership with 51....has made move from shortstop to third successfully....late-season surge brought average to .327.

19 Dale Koch....senior....20....from Clearwater, Fla.....team captain and only senior in starting lineup....dangerous with men on base....second straight year of driving in 26 runs....a good pair of hands....playing better since moving to shortstop.

25 Ernie Lanford....junior....20....from Shellman, Ga.....best second line infielder....sub-par season afield unusual....covers a lot of ground at short....being counted on next year.

30 Charlie Rodgers....junior....20....from Jacksonville, Fla.....hit only .250 this season but raised average 70 points in last month....capable of hitting long ball....went five for five in last game of last year's playoff....counted on by Litwhiler for repeat performance.

28 Doug Walker....sophomore....19....from Fairfax, Va.....hit .333 in 16 games this season....plays both first base and outfield....

(MORE)

MEET THE SEMINOLES (Contd)

OUTFIELDERS

- 15 Ray Bazzell....junior....24....from Lynnhaven, Fla.....steady performer, played errorless ball in 25 games....covers a lot of ground in center....good bunter....runs bases well.... fair hitter, .273.
- 29 Dave Buss....junior....19....from Marshfield, Wis.....has strong arm....wears glasses.... can hit better than .154 average indicates.
- 23 John King....sophomore....19....from Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.....broke into starting lineup in mid-season and remained there....played consistent ball....fourth in club batting with .305 average.
- 10 Neil Martin....junior....20....from St. Petersburg, Fla.....team sparkplug....second in batting with .356 average, led club in doubles (7) and triples (3)....collected 50 total bases....set club walk record with 34....has good strong arm....cut down four runners trying to advance this season.
- 12 Gene McCormick....junior....23....from Miami, Fla.....called one of best pinch hitters in college baseball by Litwhiler....combined football and baseball this spring.
- 31 John Slaton....sophomore....19....from Coral Gables, Fla.....also combind football and baseball....used mostly as pinch hitter....capable of hitting long ball.
- 33 Don Wanicka....sophomore....20....from Ft. Myers, Fla.....lends depth to the outfield.... being counted on in the future....good size with power.