FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## No. 2 Florida State Uses Six-Run Seventh to Down VMI, 10-3
## Stephen Drew, who went hitless in the first two games, had two hits and three RBI

**February 2, 2003**

**St. Petersburg, Fla.** – No. 2 Florida State (3-0) broke a 3-3 tie with six runs in the bottom of the seventh and went on to defeat VMI (0-3) by a final score of 10-3 in front of 1,452 fans at Florida Power Park. Blake Balkcom's two-run single in the seventh turned out to be the game-winner. Freshman Mark Sauls picked up his first career victory after working four scoreless innings of relief. Sauls allowed just one hit with three strikeouts and no walks.

"I was proud of the way we battled back today," said head coach Mike Martin. "They (VMI) are a very good ball club. Stephen's double was a big hit. You knew he would get it going. I thought our pitching staff did a real good job in the series. I don't think our relievers gave up a single run this weekend."

VMI took advantage of a pair of Seminole errors to take a 3-0 lead in the first inning. Matt Smith reached on an error to lead off the game, stole second and advanced to third when the throw went into center field. Brandon Massenburg knocked him in with a single to right with the infield in. Justin Briggs and Elliott Erbe added RBI-singles to complete the scoring.

Florida State got one run back in the bottom of the fourth when Jerrod Brown walked, moved to third on Blake Balkcom's double, and scored from third on a balk.

In the top of the bottom of the sixth, Stephen Drew tied the game with a double to left. The double, which broke an 0-for-10 slump to start the season, knocked in Derrick Smith and Bryan Zech with two outs.

"It felt good to get that first hit out of the way," said Drew. "It was one of those things where I was hitting the ball hard, but just hitting it right at people. It wasn't something I was worried about. I still have a little work to do to get my average back up."

The Seminoles finally took control with six runs in the bottom of the seventh. Eddy Martinez-Esteve and Tony Richie singled to start the inning and moved up a base on Brown's sacrifice bunt. Balkcom then came through with a two-run single to give FSU its first lead of the game at 5-3. Bryan Zech and Tony McQuade added RBI-singles while Drew knocked in his third run of the game with a triple.

FSU added one more in the eighth when Daniel Wardell tripled and scored on Kevin Richmond's sacrifice fly.

The Seminoles travel to Stanford next weekend for a three-game series. The home opener is February 14th against Evansville.

--www.seminoles.com--

The Automated ScoreBook

VMI vs Florida State

Feb 02, 2003 at St. Petersburg, FL (Florida Power Park)

VMI 3 (0-3)

| Player | AB | R | H | RBI | BB | SO | PO | A | LOB |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Matt Smith 2b | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Jason Annis ph | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Brandon Massenburg dh | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mike Maleski ph | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kelly Sweppenhiser 3b | 5 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Justin Briggs c | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 1 |
| Allan Wimmer lf | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| B.T. Good ss | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Elliott Erbe rf | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| J.R. Royston rf | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Jon Hadra 1b | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 2 |
| Jon Wade ph/1b | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Chris Brooks cf | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| Jimmy Thoms p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Richard Litwin p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| J.J. Hollenbeck p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Jeff DeMara p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 35 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 13 | 24 | 4 | 9 |

Florida State 10 (3-0)

| Player | AB | R | H | RBI | BB | SO | PO | A | LOB |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stephen Drew ss | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| Tony McQuade cf | 5 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Eddy Martinez-Esteve 3b | 5 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Tony Richie c | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 0 | 2 |
| Aaron Cheesman ph/c | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Jerrod Brown 1b | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 0 | 1 |
| Daniel Wardell ph/1b | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Derrick Smith lf | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kevin Richmond ph/2b | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Blake Balkcom rf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Chris Hart dh | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bryan Zech 2b | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| Brandon Manasa lf | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Trent Peterson p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mark Sauls p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Matt DiBlasi p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 37 | 10 | 14 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 27 | 9 | 9 |

| Score by Innings | | R | H | E |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| VMI | 300 000 000 | 3 | 6 | 2 |
| Florida State | 000 102 61X | 10 | 14 | 3 |

E - Sweppenhiser; Wimmer; Mart.-Estev(2); Richie(2); Balkcom(1). LOB - Keydets 9; Seminoles 9. 2B - Drew(1); McQuade(1); Mart.-Estev(1); Balkcom(1). 3B - Drew(1); Wardell(1). HBP - Brooks. SH - Brown(1). SF - Richmond(1). SB - Smith 2; Massenburg; Hadra.

| VMI | IP | H | R | ER | BB | SO | AB | BF |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jimmy Thoms | 3.0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 14 |
| Richard Litwin | 3.0 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 13 | 15 |
| J.J. Hollenbeck | 1.0 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 10 |
| Jeff DeMara | 1.0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 4 |

| Florida State | IP | H | R | ER | BB | SO | AB | BF |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Trent Peterson | 4.0 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 18 | 22 |
| Mark Sauls | 4.0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 14 | 14 |
| Matt DiBlasi | 1.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 |

Win - Mark Sauls (1-0). Loss - Hollenbeck (0-1). Save - None.

WP - Thoms. HB - Peterson. BK - Litwin.

Umpires - Home:Landon Davis 1st:Al Davis 3rd:Bruce Ravan

Start: 1:30 Time: 2:56 Attendance: 1452

Game: VMI3

Thoms faced 1 batter in the 4th.