



GREAT MOMENTS IN FSU BASEBALL



BUSTER POSEY left a lasting impression on Florida State Baseball following his junior season in 2008. The Leesburg, Ga., native won every major Player of the Year award while earning consensus first team All-American accolades. He led the nation in six offensive categories and became just the fourth student-athlete in ACC history to capture baseball's version of the triple crown as he led the league in batting average (.463), home runs (26) and RBI (93). His .463 batting average was the highest recorded in a single-season in Seminole baseball history. Posey's work continued in the classroom as he was honored as the Academic All-American of the Year by CoSIDA, just the second Seminole student-athlete to receive such an honor. In the 2008 MLB First Year Player Draft, Posey was chosen fifth overall by the San Francisco Giants.



Heading into the 2008 season, the Seminoles were in search of a leadoff batter. What they found was a freshman center fielder from Gainesville, Fla., to fill that void. **TYLER HOLT** made the most of his opportunity and he ranked among the national leaders in walks (2nd) and walks per game (6th). But what was most impressive was that Holt reached base in every regular season game, a streak that reached 55 consecutive games. The streak fell two games shy of the school record 57 games set by Shane Robinson over two seasons (2004-05). Holt's streak is the longest recorded in a single-season at FSU.

FSU Baseball: An Elite Program

Success is synonymous with Florida State Baseball. In 17 of the last 21 seasons, the Seminoles have claimed the regular season title or finished with the best record in the Atlantic Coast Conference, won the ACC Tournament title or advanced to the College World Series in Omaha, Neb. Pretty impressive for a school that has the most wins in Division I since 2000 (594) and the second highest winning percentage (.730) of all-time in Division I history.

May 31, 2009 will go down as a historic day in Florida State baseball history not only for the magnitude of the game but for the results accomplished on the field. With a berth to the NCAA Super Regional on the line, Florida State put forth a record performance setting four school records and five NCAA Tournament records in a 37-6 victory over Ohio State. FSU set school records for runs (37), hits (38), doubles (15) and total bases (66), while the four above mentioned records plus the 51 combined hits by both schools set NCAA Tournament single-game records. The Seminoles also tied a school record for RBI (34) in a game and most combined runs by two teams with 43. **STEPHEN CARDULLO** also made history finishing the game 7-for-9 with five runs and five RBI. He tied the school record for hits and at-bats, while his seven hits and nine at-bats were the most in an NCAA Tournament game. The junior shortstop tallied 12 total bases recording a triple, three doubles and three singles.

SHANE ROBINSON was a terror on the base paths his entire career but it wasn't until the 2006 ACC Tournament that he cemented his name atop the career steals list at FSU. With five steals at the ACC Tournament, Robinson took over first place all-time at Florida State with 99 in his career. The All-American was 32-for-36 in 2006 stealing bases. In 2005, the center fielder swiped 13 bases before he was thrown out for the first time. He then stole 27 consecutive bases at one point during the year, surpassing his previous streak of 19 in a row as a freshman in 2004. Then in 2006, he stole 11 straight before being caught for the first time. Robinson's average was 34 steals a year, which he came just two shy of reaching in 2006. The junior did however get the one steal he needed in the NCAA Athens Regional becoming the first Seminole to swipe 100 bases in school history.

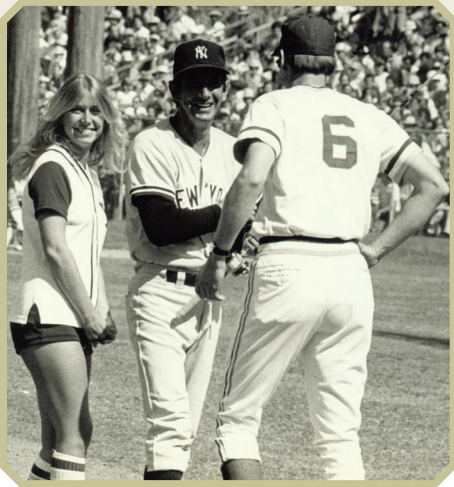


MARSHALL MCDUGALL hits six homeruns in a game versus Maryland, May 9, 1999. In the 26-2 FSU win, McDougall set NCAA records for home runs in game, RBIs in a game (16) and total bases with 25.



JD. DREW was the king of college baseball in 1997. The first Team Consensus All-American rewrote college baseball history as he became the first Division I player to ever hit 30 home runs and steal 30 bases in a season. He was named baseball player of the year by Baseball America, Collegiate Baseball and The Sporting News on top of receiving the Dick Howser Award, which was given out by the American Baseball Coaches Association. Drew's season was capped off when he won the Golden Spikes Award as the nation's top amateur baseball player.

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Manager **BILLY MARTIN** brought the defending World Champion New York Yankees to Tallahassee April 5, 1978 to face-off with the Seminoles. The team was led by 1977 World Series **MVP REGGIE JACKSON**, Lou Pinella, Thurman Munson, Bucky Dent, Catfish Hunter and Ron Guidry to name just a few of the Yankee stars. The Yankees have visited Tallahassee on two occasions and they aren't the only major league team to come to town. George Brett and the Kansas City Royals came to town in 1988 to honor the late Dick Howser as the stadium was named after the Seminole coach and Major League manager.

In 1956 Seminole pitcher **TONY AVITABLE** struck out 24 batters for FSU in a win over Furman. The Seminoles recorded 25 strikeouts in that game, one short of the NCAA record.



All-American **PAUL WILSON** made FSU history in 1994 when he became the only Seminole ever drafted No. 1 overall in a professional sport draft. The right-handed pitcher was the first player selected in the draft by the New York Mets. Wilson is one of 18 Florida State players drafted in the first round of the MLB Draft.



The 1982 season was a special one for Seminole **JEFF LEDBETTER**. The senior set NCAA records for home runs in a season (42), home runs in a career (97), home runs in game (4), RBIs in a career (346), total bases in a season (273) and total bases in a career (704). He also set an NCAA record with a .875 slugging percentage. Ledbetter went on to be named The Sporting News' Player of the Year.

Seminole great **MIKE LOYND** led Florida State to a 61-13 record in 1986 when he went 20-3 on the hill. The hurler struck out 223 batters and became the 10th recipient of the Golden Spikes Award as the best amateur baseball player in America. Loynd is of four Golden Spikes Award winners from Florida State (Mike Fuentes 1981; J.D. Drew, 1997; Buster Posey, 2008), which is the most won by any school in the history of the award.



DEION SANDERS had a stellar football career at Florida State and went on to play in both the NFL and Major Leagues. Not only is Sanders the only athlete ever to play in a Super Bowl and a World Series, he made headlines in 1992 when on October 11 Sanders played for the Falcons in Miami and then took a charter flight to Pittsburgh for a playoff game that night. Pulling double duty was nothing new for Sanders. In 1987, the three-sport star won a Metro Conference Championship in the 400M Relay and then turned around and delivered the game-winning hit in the Metro Conference Championship game that evening.

Tallahassee has been the starting point for more than 150 **FUTURE MAJOR LEAGUERS**. Florida State Seminoles have been No. 1 picks overall, taken in the first round and won World Series Championships. Former FSU baseball players have been on the receiving end of the Gold Glove Award, named both American League and National League All-Stars, winners of the All-Star MVP and Rookie of the Year honors and even manager of a World Series Champion.

DICK HOWSER became the first ever All-American in Florida State history in 1957. A shortstop with the Kansas City Royals in 1961, Howser was named MLB Rookie of the Year by The Sporting News. As a major league manager, Howser won three pennants and a World Series Championship. His No. 34 jersey was retired at Florida State in 1976. In 2008, Howser was inducted into the National College Baseball Hall of Fame.



World Series Champion **DOUG MIENTKIEWICZ** is in select company. The former Gold Glove winner is one of only five players in USA Baseball history to win both a gold medal and a World Series Championship. In 2000, Mientkiewicz hit a game-winning grand slam in the preliminaries versus Korea and then propelled the US into the gold medal game with a walk-off, solo home run in the bottom of the ninth versus the Koreans again.

OMAHA has become a home away from home for the Florida State baseball program. The Seminoles have reached college baseball's promise land 20 times in program history. Only five teams in the history of the sport have made it to the College World Series more times than FSU. The Garnet and Gold rank in the top 10 all-time in CWS history for games played (66) and victories (26).

Head coach **MIKE MARTIN** has established himself as one of the greatest coaches ever in the collegiate game during his 32-year tenure at Florida State. On top of leading FSU to 32 consecutive NCAA Regionals and to 14 College World Series, Martin stacks up among the best coaches ever in terms of wins and winning percentage. The Hall of Fame coach is just one of three coaches in Division I history to eclipse 1,600 career victories. Martin sits second all-time among active Division I coaches in winning percentage and third in wins.

Florida State first fielded an intercollegiate baseball program in 1948, and since that very first team took the field, no Seminole baseball squad has ever posted a losing record – a streak of 64 straight winning seasons. The **1948 TEAM** defeated Troy State in the final game of the season to finish the year with a 9-8 record.

