

Seminole Softball

Volume 3, Issue 2

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The Catch 22



Helloooooo 'Nole Fans!! Mallory Borden here, and I am ready to bring YOU the news personally, right here in this little section I am given. Season is RIGHT around the corner and honestly, I can't believe how quick it has come. I guess I should be used to it since this is my second go around of a Senior season haha :) (For those that do not know, last year was supposed to be my last season but due to an injury, I opted for a medical red shirt). The team is super excited to get the season going, and we keep working at it during practice. Stephen F. Austin is our first opponent, and we are ready to step up this year and show not only you, but the rest of the nation what FSU Softball is really about. We want that back to back ACC Championship, and we want to make that post season run

for the TITLE! But that is far in the future, and we are taking one game at a time. To bring you into our little softball minds, we have the mindset of a "one pitch warrior" mentality, and we will take that all the way to the last pitch in OKC. One pitch at a time is the only way to get there.

Anyway, this wonderful newsletter is brought to you by the TRIBE members. What is the "TRIBE" you may ask? Well, we are considered the leadership group of the team. We meet once a week with Coach Alameda and discuss community service, the team, and organize this amazing newsletter. You may also ask, who is this "we" I keep mentioning? Well, each year Coach Alameda asks the team to vote on two people from each

class to represent. The team has chosen the following: Freshmen Bailey Schinella and Lacey Waldrop, Sophomores Celeste Gomez and Kelly Hensley, Juniors Kirstin Austin, Morgan Bullock, and Tiffani Brown (we will let them slide with three), and last but not least, your Senior class. This one was a tough choice but came down to Shayla Jackson and myself (just kidding, if you know your Seniors, you realize we are the only two so it was a given). As a group, we want to bring you a newsletter that gives just a little insight about our team and the different things that make us just so awesome! So, if you are interested to learn more, which I'm sure you are with much excitement, just flip this page over and read on....

By: Mallory Borden #22

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On the War Path

Hello Seminole fans,
As you all know we are preparing to kick off the 2012 softball season on February 10, 2012! I hope you all are preparing just as much as we are. It is going to be a GREAT season! I



wanted to give you all an inside scoop as to what has been going on in Seminole softball's world. We have been working really hard on the field everyday and, of course, hard off the field in the community. We are busting our butts in the weight room, to hit many more doubles, triples, and home

runs! We are conditioning hard with the intent to give you all a show on the base paths. We are training hard here to prepare for battle everyday as we suit up to take on the Lumberjacks from Stephen F. Austin University. We hope to see you support us as we bring in the season 'Nole' style!

By: Tiffani Brown #6

There is Always a Beginning

John Cross is one of our enthusiastic booster members and is actually the founder of our booster club. Around his college days he started watching softball and getting to know more about women's athletics. What got him wanting to support women's athletics? Actually it was two people, Jan Wells and Billy Jones. He met both of these wonderful women 14 years ago, and they taught him

how much women's athletics were neglected compared to men's athletics. He loved supporting female athletes because he enjoyed the opportunity to be involved with the teams, meet the coaches, and he felt the women seemed to be more approachable than men. From the time he began the booster club until now, he has

"Without some of the dugout club members, like John, everything we have now would not exist."

seen the growth of the social involvement and reunions which allow everyone to get to know each other, as well as new members. Without him, everything that we have now when it comes to the growing booster club would not exist. We really appreciate everything that he and the other boosters have done to make what we have possible.

By: Celeste Gomez #00



New Uniforms

Hey Seminoles! We are counting down the days until the season and we are more excited than ever. Not only have we been working our booties off, but we have some pretty sweet new uniforms this year. Last year we added the classic pin-stripe to our battle attire, and this year it is even better. Since we already had a garnet, white, and pin-stripe



set we decided to add a grey and black uniform to our options. The grey top has garnet stitching and as our team says "It looks SICK." The black top also has garnet stitching and gold numbers and looks fierce with two dark colors. Now, we too can have a "black-out" game where our amazing fans come out dressed in black to support us as we take down our opponents. The

grey and black uniform tops are just like our garnet and white tops, however, these two uniforms add the intimidation factor. We love our new uniforms and cannot wait to put them to good use. Before we know it these brand new uniforms will have blood, sweat, and tears upon them. Just like Coach A always says, "When you look good you play good."

By: Maddie O'Brien #7

Meet Our Managers: Peter Suarez

Interview by: Kelly Hensley #23

What is your favorite part about being a manager?

My favorite part about being a manager is being able to be around sports and help the team however possible. For me, it is that feeling of being a part of something that is bigger than me.

Why did you decide to be a manager?

I decided to become a manager because I enjoy sports and wanted to get involved with FSU athletics.

Why did you pick softball?

I chose softball because I thought it was a great program to get involved with especially after attending some great games last

year at Joanne Graf Field and seeing the wonderful facility.

What is your favorite part of practice?

My favorite part of practice would have to be fielding softballs during batting practice.

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Alumni Spotlight: Darby Cottle – Veazey

Interview by: Lacey Waldrop #13



When you were attending FSU, what was your favorite place on campus? Truthfully, my favorite place on campus was the softball field. I could never get enough.

Did you ever have any pre-game rituals or anything you

always took on the road for away games? Believe it or not, our team's pre-game ritual was a mini-circus.

We would form two lines (similar to a dance line) and different people would come through juggling, tumbling, flipping etc.....

What was your favorite memory from your four years of FSU softball? It would have to be the 2 National Titles. Picture this.....you're on the field celebrating with your teammates after the final game and you look around to see.....THERE'S NO ONE ELSE TO BEAT! It doesn't get much better than that!

There is obviously a difference in the slow pitch game you played in your years at FSU and the fast

pitch game we partake in now, but exactly how big of a difference do you think the change made in the atmosphere and other aspects of the game? I have ultimate respect for the game of fast pitch and wish I could have had the opportunity to play it. I did, however, coach my daughter's fast pitch team for five years when she was playing high school and travel ball. I loved playing shortstop during the slow pitch era, but given the chance to be a fast pitch player, I think I would have wanted to be a pitcher or catcher.

Alumni Spotlight: Darby Cottle – Veazey

What advice would you give the team as well as younger players about success and how to reach their ultimate goals? Nothing takes the place of hard work. God gives you the ability to play, it's up to you to develop it. Practice with purpose and play with passion. Play every game as if it were your last, leaving it all on the field. You owe it to yourself and your teammates. This kind of mentality will breed success and

help you accomplish team and individual goals.

Being a national champion yourself, what are some things you feel any team needs to do to prepare themselves to win a national championship title. Not only do you have to have talent and skill, but you have to have team chemistry and heart! You have to work so hard that you feel like

you DESERVE to win it all. Coach Vince Lombardi said, "Winning is not everything, but making the effort to win is." Take it to 'em Lady Noles! I'm proud of you."

Meet Our Managers: Peter Suarez cont...

What is your biggest slow pitch highlight?

I have not really played much slow pitch but my highlight would have to be last semester when I hit an opposite field triple with the bases loaded during intramurals.

Who are you most excited to see us play?

I am most excited to see the team face SEC competition at LSU and at home against Florida. Another intriguing matchup I am looking forward to is the rematch of last year's ACC Championship that is going to be televised.

What is your major/plans for after college?

My major is Sport Management and minor in Business. After college, I plan to enter graduate school.

Meet Our Managers: Adam Benvenisty

Interview by: Bailey Schinella #27

Where are you from?

I grew up in New York, but now live in Cooper City, in South Florida

What year are you?

I am a Sophomore

What is your major?

I am majoring in Accounting

Why did you choose the manager position for softball?

I wanted to be a manager for softball, because ever since I can remember I have always enjoyed being on a baseball/softball field. As a freshman I had Eric Frey as my suitemate and he would al-

ways tell me how much fun he had as a softball manager before moving on to basketball. He would take me to the cages at softball, and we sat down with Coach Alameda a couple of times, and I would go with him to games, so I just took a liking to the whole atmosphere, and decided that it would be an excellent experience.

What is your favorite part of our practices?

If I said my favorite part of practice was shagging all of the home run balls, then I would be lying. But the most enjoyable part of practice for me, is being able to learn and watch the game from a whole new perspective, and being able to learn what I did not know before.

How is your slow pitch team doing?

I play intramural softball, and was not able to play in the Fall because of miscommunication with the IM office, so I coached, but I am coming back and probably pitching in the spring.

Fun fact! :)

I joined the Zeta Beta Tau(ZBT) fraternity in the fall, and am now brothers with my father.

Where do you see yourself in ten years?

In ten years I see myself as a successful business man, in a job that I enjoy going to.

A Helping Hand



Giving back to the community is a big part within our Seminole softball family. Not only do we strive for excellence in the classroom and on

the field, but we also strive for excellence in our community as well. Last year as a whole our team recorded almost 1,000

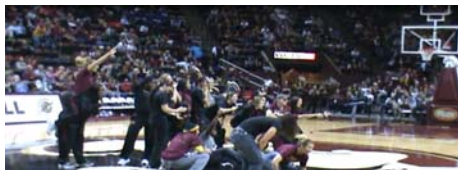
hours of community service, coming in second with the most hours in Women's sports at Florida State for the school year of 2010-2011. Last fall our very own Tiffani Brown, Kirstin Austin and Jessica Nori all made the monthly top athletes for the most hours recorded during the fall 2011. As of February 1st, Kirstin Austin is in the lead for recording the most hours on our team and making the top five women's chart for Seminole Service Hours. As a whole, our team is in 3rd out of all 20

teams, recording almost 600 hours and we're not stopping there! Over the course of the season we will continue to impact the community.

"It is the greatest of all mistakes to do nothing because you can only do little-do what you can." -Sydney Smith

By: Shayla Jackson #14

Just Dance



And 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 and 1.

That's right your Seminole softball team busted a couple of moves at the halftime show for Men's Basketball against Maryland. We knew that we were going to have to do something for promotion. Ms. Tiffani Brown had the bright idea of doing a dance. Slowly but surely the idea grew on our strength and conditioning

coach, Caitlin Quinn, who danced throughout her entire life and still does a cool dance move now and then. Luckily Coach Quinn is an awesome choreographer as well. So with hard work she came up with an easy yet entertaining flash mob dance for a decently rhythmic team. I will be honest, not everyone was enthusiastic

about the project but we are a team so we all did what we had to in order for our promotion to look good. Let me just say we rocked the house. I definitely did not expect a standing ovation but that is what we received. It took a ton of hard work but it was well worth it.

By: Morgan Bullock #21

Meet Our Managers: Jin Yong

Interview by: Kirstin Austin #33

Jin began working as a manager for us this past fall and has been an amazing supporter of our program. I had the chance to learn more about him and some of his interests (outside of FSU softball of course!).

Where are you from and what school did you attend for your undergraduate degree?

I am originally from Seoul, Korea but I did my undergraduate work at University of Michigan Ann Arbor (Econ Major).

What made you want to get your graduate degree from FSU and what are you studying?

I am studying Sports Management and I

was advised from Professors, friends and the Internet for a good school of sport management and FSU was one of them. I decided to come to FSU because I heard the program here is good and the athletic department is strong. Studying, learning and experiencing sport management graduate school at FSU will be a stepping stone for my future career to enter the MLB field. My dream is to work with one of the MLB teams.

Do you have any hobbies?

My hobbies are playing sports, watching movies and reading the Bible.

What is the coolest thing about where you're from?

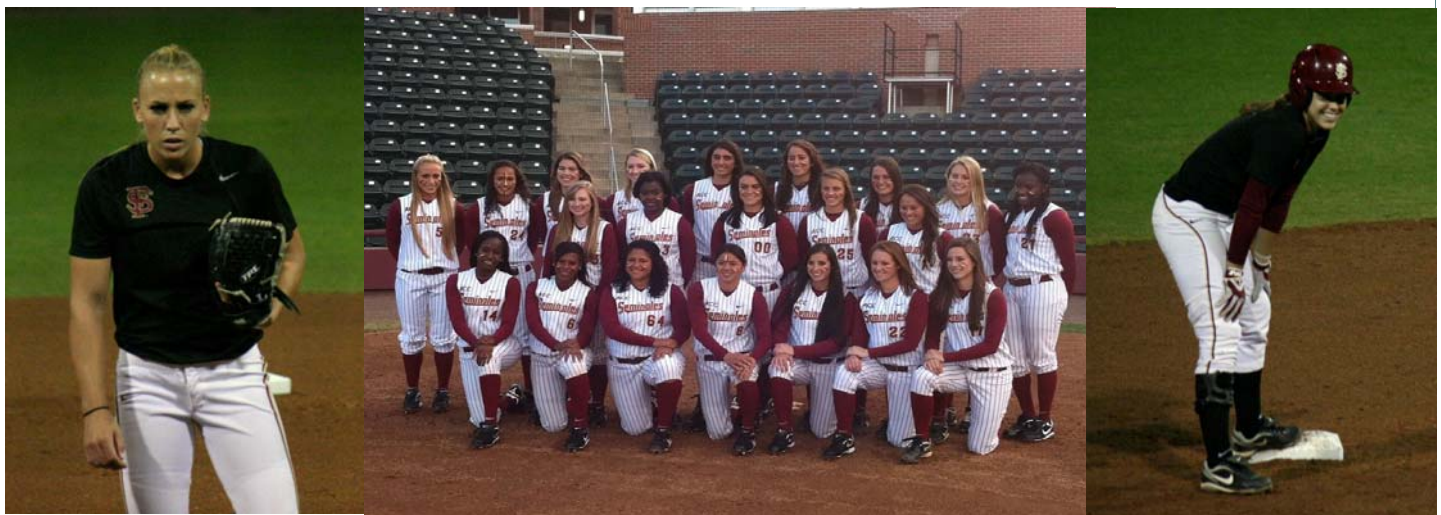
Seoul, Korea has fancy Information Technology and my city is very urban with many things nearby you; which is convenient.

How many siblings do you have?

One older sister.

Did you play any sports when you were growing up?

Yes, I was a swimmer from age 3 to 13 and also from 16-18. I played rugby for my high school varsity team in New Zealand.



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