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SEPTEMBER 5, 1998

LADY SEMINOLE VOLLEYBALL DEFEATS FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL AND NORTHERN IOWA TO WIN FSU CLASSIC

TALLAHASSEE, FL -- The Florida State women's volleyball team downed Florida International and Northern Iowa Saturday to win the FSU Classic presented by the Tallahassee Democrat. The Lady Seminoles (3-0) swept FIU (0-3) 15-10, 15-9, 15-5 to open the day's play, but needed a decisive, fifth game to defeat Northern Iowa (2-1) in the nightcap in front of 472 fans in Tully Gymnasium, 15-11, 15-5, 8-15, 12-15-12.

Florida State trailed early against Northern Iowa but rallied behind a strong effort from All-Tournament Teamer Aisha Thornton. Thornton blasted five kills and tallied three blocks to lead FSU to a 15-11 victory in game one. She helped carry the FSU momentum through game two, a 15-5 Lady Seminole win.

"Aisha had some key blocks tonight that were very intimidating," said FSU head coach Dr. Cecile Reynaud following the match.

Northern Iowa capitalized on sluggish play by FSU to bounce back and win games three and four to force the fifth and final game. The Lady Seminoles, however, went on the offensive with impressive kills from Thornton, Holly Schneider, and Jennifer Werrick to capture the game and the match 15-12.

Senior setter Fiona Bolten tallied 55 assists and 19 digs in FSU's five-game victory over UNI enroute to Classic MVP honors. Thornton totaled 20 kills and 7 blocks in the win while fellow All-Tournament Team member Schneider added 17 kills and 14 digs. Werrick also tallied a double-double with 14 kills and 20 digs.

In the Lady Seminoles' three-game sweep of FIU, Schneider blasted 13 kills and All-Tournament Teamer Susan Hawks added four blocks.

Southeastern Louisiana (1-2) split a pair of afternoon matches in the day's other action. Northern Iowa defeated the Lady Lions 15-9, 15-5, 15-5, but SLU rebounded to down Florida International 15-0, 16-18, 18-16, 15-6.

Florida State and Northern Iowa split the Classic's individual honors. UNI's Kerri Eich, Shannon Perry, Jeni Schneckloth, and Holly VanHofwegen joined FSU's Hawks, Schneider, and Thornton on the All-Tournament Team. FSU's Bolten was named Classic MVP.

The Lady Seminoles return to action Tuesday night when Florida State hosts Central Florida at 7 p.m. in Tully Gymnasium.

1 -.370 2 -.136 

3 -.350 4 -

5 -

Florida International University vs. Florida State University

DATE: Sep 5, 1998 ATTENDANCE: 205 LOM: 1:13 REFEREES: Kim Wahlberg, Crystal Lewis