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14th-RANKED FSU ADVANCES TO SWEET 16 WITH 2-1 WIN OVER GATORS Seminole soccer defeats Florida again and will now head to Clemson.

GAINESVILLE, Fla. – The Florida State Seminoles (14-7-2) continued their record-breaking season Sunday as they advanced to the Sweet 16 of the 2000 NCAA Soccer Championships with a 2-1 victory over the 11th-ranked Florida Gators (16-8). The Seminoles will now head to No. 5 Clemson Friday, November 17 for a 7:00 p.m. rematch with the Tigers.

"This was just unbelievable," said head coach Patrick Baker. "This is so exciting. To have come to Gainesville last year and been soundly beaten and then have people thinking it would be a cakewalk for Florida today with their full compliment of players, its just amazing to advance and get past the Gators for the second time this season."

Florida State got off to a quick start when senior Rachael Watkin scored her fifth goal of the season in the game's sixth minute off of a cross from sophomore Cindy Schofield. The sequence started when freshman Summer Corum took on two defenders, beat them and set Schofield up for a dangerous cross to Watkin. Schofield beat the keeper with the cross and Watkin tucked the ball into the net.

"We knew the first 20 minutes were going to be crucial," said Watkin. "Last year we were down 2-0 after 10 minutes so it was important for us to get off to a good start this time. I think the goal set the tone for the entire game."

The SEC-champion Gators wasted no time in responding to the FSU goal when freshman Robin Fulton took advantage of a loose ball in the Seminoles box and put a shot past FSU keeper Sarah Crawford. The goal, just a minute and a half after the Florida State's first score, reminded many of the first match when FSU responded to the Gator's first goal in 24 seconds.

The game remained tied 1-1 through the rest of the first half with Florida out-shooting Florida State 6-3 but both teams only placed one shot on goal. Neither team took a corner in the first 45 minutes and both keepers finished the half with two saves.

The Seminoles put the pressure back on Florida when they reclaimed the lead just 2:58 into the second half. Freshman Amber Tollefson fed a ball to junior Marte Vik Edvardsen who sent a high cross through the Florida box and freshman Summer Corum rocketed a volley past the UF keeper. The goal gave FSU their second lead of the game and only their third-ever lead against the Gators.

"It was just an awesome feeling," said Corum. "I am so excited. It's overwhelming. I would never of dreamed I would hit the game-winning goal that sends us to the Sweet 16."

Florida began to play more players up-front as time wound down on their season. The Gators managed 10 shots against the Seminoles in the second half and created a few dangerous opportunities. Crawford, co-captain and the only FSU's keeper to ever play every minute of every game, came up big for Florida State all afternoon long and smothered a dangerous rebound in the 66th minute to help preserve the Florida State lead.

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"Florida brought it all day long and we were able to answer all of their challenges," said Crawford. "Our defense was awesome and they played the best game of the year today. Everyone of our defenders was just awesome today."

The win marks just the second time that Florida State has defeated the Gators and both wins came this season. The Gators have now been eliminated in the second round of the NCAA tournament twice since winning the national championship in 1998.

"This was a tough loss," said Florida head coach Becky Burleigh. "I think we are better than this. FSU played well and deserved to win. This certainly was not the way we wanted to end our season."

The Seminoles now move on to the Sweet 16 where they will face a team they've already played once this season for the fifth time. The Seminoles and Tigers met September 10 in Tallahassee with Clemson scoring a game-winning goal with 1:30 on the clock. Clemson's 3-2 win was one of only two home losses for FSU this season. The match will mark the fourth time two ACC foes will play in the 2000 NCAA Soccer Championships.

"Our team plays in the best conference in the country and it's like playing in the NCAA Tournament every week," said Baker. "We got our biggest road win ever today and I would never of thought we would have achieved so much so quickly this season."

The Seminoles will return to practice Tuesday, November 14. Due to a short workweek for FSU, coach Baker and requested players will meet with the media Tuesday at 3:00 p.m. at the Seminole Soccer Complex. Please contact Elliott Finebloom at the Florida State Sports Information Department (850) 644-5656 beginning Monday morning to request specific players. --30--

Soccer Box Score (Final) Florida State Soccer

Florida State vs Florida (Nov 12, 2000 at GAINESVILLE, FL)

| Florida State (14-7-2) vs. Florida (16-8-0) e: Nov 12, 2000 Attendance: 1763 Weather: | Goals by Period 1 2 Tot |
|---|---|
| Florida State Pos. ## Player Sh SOG G A | Florida Pos. ## Player Sh SOG G A |
| GK 1 Sarah Crawford | GK 1 Jordan Kellgren |
| Florida State ## Player MIN GA Saves | Florida ## Player MIN GA Saves |
| Sarah Crawford 90:00 1 6 | 1 Jordan Kellgren 90:00 2 2 TM TEAM 0:00 0 1 |
| Shots by Period 1 2 Tot | Saves by Period 1 2 Tot |
| Florida State 3 5 - 8 Florida 6 10 - 16 | Florida State 2 4 - 6 Florida 2 0 - 2 |
| Corner Kicks 1 2 Tot | Fouls 1 2 Tot |
| Florida State 0 1 - 1 Florida 0 2 - 2 | Florida State 8 7 - 15 Florida 8 5 - 13 |
| SCORING SUMMARY: GOAL Time Team ## Goal Scorer | Assists |
| 1. 4:55 FSU 20 Rachael Watkin 2. 6:29 UF 17 Robin Fulton | 11 Cindy Schofield/13 Summer Corum Unassisted 8 Marte Vik Edvardsen |
| CAUTIONS AND EJECTIONS: | |
| Officials: Referee: Tim Bower; Asst. Referee: Michael Stephens; Klaus Steafe; Alt. Official: George Banica; Offsides: Florida State 1, Florida 1. | |

Referee signature