



# FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

## DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS



### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**URL:** <http://www.fansonly.com/schools/fsu/sports/w-tennis/recaps/021504aaa.html>

### FSU Women's Tennis Loses Heartbreaker to No. 32 Alabama

*After winning six straight contests, No. 54 FSU drops match to No. 32 Alabama by a score of 5-2.*

**Tallahassee** – The No. 54 Florida State women's tennis (6-1) team lost its first match of season to No. 32 Alabama (1-2) by a score of 5-2 in Tuscaloosa on Sunday afternoon.

FSU began the afternoon with the doubles area, dropping all three matches for the first time this year. At the number one position, junior **Mihaela Moldovan** (Bucharest, Romania/Emil Racovita) and rookie **Roxanne Clarke** (Cape Town, South Africa/Clapham) lost to Alabama's Robin Stephenson and Ashley Bentley, 8-3. Newcomer **Lindsay Deason** (St.Petersburg, FL/Boca Raton Prep) and senior **Anca Dumitrescu** (Bucharest, Romania/VCU) fought Nathalie Kopelle and Melissa Minor at the two spot, losing 8-5 allowing Alabama to secure the doubles point. Senior tandem **Christina Denny** (Canton, Ohio/Bradenton Academy) and **Brooke Cordell** (Soddy Daisy, TN/Tennessee) lost the third match of the day to Millie Begovic and Mari Muller, 8-3.

In singles, the Seminoles could not overcome the loss in doubles at the number one and three spots. Dumitrescu, sitting at No. 63 in the country, could not overcome Alabama's Stephenson, losing 6-2, 6-1. Denny, who had not been down all season, lost to Bentley, 6-2, 6-1.

Posting one of two wins on the afternoon, No. 79 Moldovan won the first match 6-4 and was down 5-2 in the second set before losing the set 6-4. In the tiebreaker, the reigning NCAA South Region Rookie of the Year, held the lead 4-2 and went on to win 6-4 at the number two singles position. At the number five position, Clarke recorded the other point for FSU, winning the first match 6-4. The freshman was down in the second set 4-1 before forcing a third set tiebreaker with the 3-6 loss. Clarke went up 5-0 in the set eventually finishing the match 6-4, 3-6, 6-1.

Deason lost to Begovic, after winning the first set, 6-4. The final tally was 4-6, 6-4, 7-5 to secure the win for Alabama. Sophomore **Alina Mihailescu** (Constanta, Romania/Mircea cel Batran) was defeated in two sets by Muller, 6-3, 6-4.

The match connected current Alabama head coach Jenny Mainz with a very familiar FSU program. Mainz was an assistant coach with the Seminoles from 1993-95.

The Tribe will head to Gainesville, FL to play No. 1 Florida on Wednesday, February 18, 2004. The match is a 5:00 p.m. start.

#### Results

##### No. 32 Alabama 5, No. 54 Florida State 2

##### Doubles

- No. 1 Robin Stephenson/Ashley Bentley (UA) d. Mihaela Moldovan/Roxanne Clarke (FSU), 8-3
- No. 2 Nathalie Kopelle/Melissa Minor (UA) d. Lindsay Deason/Anca Dumitrescu (FSU), 8-5
- No. 3 Millie Begovic/Mari Muller (UA) d. Christina Denny/Brooke Cordell (FSU), 8-3

##### Singles

- No. 1 Robin Stephenson (UA) d. Anca Dumitrescu (FSU), 6-2, 6-1
- No. 2 Mihaela Moldovan (FSU) d. Nathalie Koppelle (UA) 6-4, 4-6, 6-4
- No. 3 Ashley Bentley (UA) d. Christina Denny (FSU), 6-2, 6-1
- No. 4 Millie Begovic (UA) d. Lindsay Deason (FSU), 6-4, 2-6, 7-5
- No. 5 Roxanne Clarke (FSU) d. Melissa Minor (UA), 6-4, 3-6, 6-1
- No. 6 Mari Muller (UA) d. Alina Mihailescu (FSU), 6-3, 6-4

- [www.seminoles.com](http://www.seminoles.com) -

# 2004 University of Alabama Women's Tennis

Hank Crisp Indoor Center - Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Sunday, February 15 - Noon

Match Score:

Alabama      Florida State

5	2
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Doubles:

Position	Match	Score		Winner
		UA	FSU	
No. 1	Robin Stephenson/Ashley Bentley (UA) vs. Mihaela Moldovan/Roxanne Clarke (FSU)	8	3	UA
No. 2	Nathalie Kopelle/Melissa Minor (UA) vs. Lindsay Deason/Anca Dumitrescu (FSU)	8	5	UA
No. 3	Millie Begovic/Mari Muller (UA) vs. Christina Denny/Brooke Cordell (FSU)	8	3	UA

Singles:

Position	Match	Set 1		Set 2		Set 3		Winn.
		UA	FSU	UA	FSU	UA	FSU	
No. 1	Robin Stephenson (UA) vs. No. 63 Anca Dumitrescu (FSU)	6	2	6	1			UA
No. 2	Nathalie Koppelle (UA) vs. No. 79 Mihaela Moldovan (FSU)	4	6	6	4	4	6	FSU
No. 3	Ashley Bentley (UA) vs. Christina Denny (FSU)	6	2	6	1			UA
No. 4	Millie Begovic (UA) vs. Lindsay Deason (FSU)	4	6	6	2	7	5	UA
No. 5	Melissa Minor (UA) vs. Roxanne Clarke (FSU)	4	6	6	3	1	6	FSU
No. 6	Mari Muller (UA) vs. Alina Mihailescu (FSU)	6	3	6	4			UA