FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FEBRUARY 15, 2002

Seminoles Lose A Heartbreaker To Auburn 4-3

Balbuena, Dumitrescu and Fish tally the only wins for the Seminoles.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – The Seminoles lost a close match to the Auburn Tigers Friday afternoon. The Seminoles move to 5-3 on the season, while the Tigers remain undefeated with a 4-0 record.

In doubles action, the Seminoles and Tigers split the first two doubles matches, which left the decision of the doubles point up to the no. 3 doubles match. Freshman Lauren Walker and Amberly Tantee lost to Liz Sauerborn and Sarah Suitor of Auburn in a tiebreaker, handing the doubles point to Auburn. The tandem of seniors Jessica Balbuena and Alida Gallovits won the only double match for the Seminoles at the no. 1 position.

In singles, the Seminoles won their first point when sophomore Anca Dumitrescu won her match with Katia Illarionova, 6-2, 6-1. Soon after, Balbuena, playing at the no. 4 position, won her singles dual with Carolina Mourer, 6-2, 6-2. The Seminoles forced the next four singles matches into a third set, but were only able to come away with one win. Unfortunately when freshman Meredith Fish took the last contest of the afternoon from Auburn's Liz Sauerborn (4-6, 6-2, 6-4), the match had already been decided in Auburn's favor.

The Seminoles return to action Wednesday, February 20th when the Seminoles travel to Gainesville to take on the no. 5 Gators, the first three-match road stint. The Gators enter the match 1-0 on the season. The Seminoles return home on March 1st to take on the Maimi Hurricanes.

Florida State: 3 Auburn: 4

SINGLES:

No. 1 Anca Dumitrescu (FSU) def. Katia Illarionova (AU) 6-2, 6-2

No. 2 Carolina Ramirez (AU) def. Alida Gallovits (FSU) 6-4, 1-6, 6-2

No. 3 Petra Bercik (AU) def. Christina Denny (FSU) 6-2, 6-7 (4), 6-3

No. 4 Jessica Balbuena (FSU) def. Carolina Mourer (AU) 6-2, 6-2

No. 5 Sarah Suitor (AU) def. Amberly Tantee (FSU) 6-3, 3-6, 6-3

No 6 Meredith Fish (FSU) def. Liz Sauerborn (AU) 4-6, 6-2, 6-4

DOUBLES:

No. 1 Balbuena/Gallovits (FSU) def. Illarionova/Mourer (AU) 8-5

No. 2 Bercik/Ramirez (AU) def. Denny/Dumitrescu (FSU) 8-0

No. 3 Sauerborn/Suitor (AU) def. Tantee/Walker (FSU) 9-7 (1)

www.seminoles.com