FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 4, 1998

LADY SEMINOLE VOLLEYBALL WINS OPENER IN FSU CLASSIC

TALLAHASSEE, FL -- The Florida State women's volleyball team began its 1998 season with a victory tonight as the Lady Seminoles (1-0) defeated Southeastern Louisiana (0-1) 15-7, 15-11, 15-5 on the opening night of the FSU Classic presented by the Tallahassee Democrat in front of 623 fans at Tully Gymnasium.

Middle hitters Aisha Thornton and Susan Hawks led a potent offensive attack for FSU. Thornton ended the night with a team-high 14 kills. Hawks led the Lady Seminoles with an .538 hitting percentage off eight kills. Sophomore hitters Jennifer Werrick and Kate Hemlepp posed threats on the outside with 11 kills and 8 kills, respectively.

As a team, Florida State out hit Southeastern Louisiana .327 to .115. The Lady Seminoles also posted six service aces, four by Hawks.

In the first match of the night, Northern Iowa downed Florida International in three games, 15-9, 15-10, 15-9.

The Florida State Classic concludes Saturday with four matches. FSU meets FIU at 12 Noon; Northern Iowa and Southeastern Louisiana battle at 2 p.m.; SLU and FIU square off at 5 p.m.; and Florida State faces Northern Iowa in the Classic finale at 7 p.m. All matches are played in Tully Gymnasium on the campus of Florida State. Admission is free.

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> DATE: Sep 4, 1998 ATTENDANCE: 623 LOM: 1:27 RFFFRFFS: Crystal Lewis. Kim Wahlberg

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