

**2003 NCAA TOURNAMENT
UF VS. GEORGIA SOUTHERN
DECEMBER 4, 2003
POSTGAME QUOTES**

Florida Head Coach Mary Wise

"I have become a huge fan of the job Kerry Messersmith is doing. "They have a great system, they play with so much emotion." "I think it is a great way to play volleyball and my hat is off to the job they did."

"They key was what we could do against number 22 Martina, she was hitting .350 on the season. Could we keep her under .200 - that was the goal and the players really shot that one down."

"This was a great opening night of the tournament to come away with a 3-0 victory."

"It is about the player's on the court, not about the coaches on the sideline."

Florida Middle Blocker Sherri Williams

"There is a quick turn around and we have been preparing all week for them."

Florida Outside Hitter Jane Collymore

"We have worked hard this whole year to have the opportunity to play at home ad we are happy to be here."

Georgia Southern Head Coach Kerry Messersmith

"We're just real excited to be here. To be able to play such a great team as Florida was a real, real exciting thing for us in terms of our program. It was definitely the first time that the Georgia Southern volleyball program played a team as top-notch as Florida. For our kids, they fought hard. Our kids tend to play with a great deal of emotion and energy, and I think they did a great job tonight."

"It was real hard. Sunday, of course, when we were watching the show, the kids were so high from winning the conference tournament. In a way, (when we found out we were playing Florida) it felt like we got kicked in the stomach. What we did was tell the kids to go out and play hard and play with emotion just like they have all year long. I don't think that a team like ours can prepare. There's just such a difference in the talent, such a huge difference. That was tough."

Georgia Southern Outside Hitter Martina Veiglova

"I think that there is a big difference between our team and their team. I think we played hard and enjoyed it. I'm proud of our team and I know all the other girls are proud of the way we played. It's hard to go and beat a team like Florida, but I think we did our best. We pushed everything we had and played with emotion and enjoyed it and had fun. I think that was the most important thing."

2003 NCAA Tournament
Georgia Southern vs. No. 3 Florida
Dec. 4, 2003
Postmatch Notes

Florida Notes (32-1)

- * Florida won its 31st straight match in three games

- * Florida has now won 94 straight games dating back to Aug. 23, 2003 when the Gators dropped one game to then-No. 15 Kansas State.

- * Florida will appear in the second round of the NCAA Tournament for the 13th straight season.

- * Florida improved to 35-13 all-time in the NCAA Tournament and 28-2 at home in the NCAA Tournament and 27-2 at home under head coach Mary Wise.

- * Florida hit .427 in the match - the highest hitting percentage for the Gators since they hit .429 against Kentucky on Oct. 24.

- * Florida won the first ever meeting against Georgia Southern.

- * Florida's hitting percentage of .429 was the second-highest in NCAA Tournament history for the Gators. The best mark was a .440 clip against Central Florida last season.

- * Aury Cruz reached double figures in kills for the 29th time in 33 matches this season, while Jane Collymore accomplished the feat for the 22nd time and Sherri Williams hit double-digits for the 15th time.

- * Sherri Williams hit over .700 for the sixth time this season after picking up 14 kills in 17 attacks.

- * Florida improved to 34-12 all-time in the NCAA Tournament under head coach Mary Wise.

Georgia Southern Notes (27-10)

- * Georgia Southern's 19-game winning streak was snapped.

- * Georgia Southern fell to 0-2 all-time in the NCAA Tournament.

- * Georgia Southern fell to 0-11 all-time against SEC schools.

- * The loss in straight games was the third for Georgia Southern this season (Rutgers, UCF).