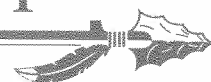




FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FLORIDA STATE MEN'S TENNIS WINS THE TIGHT MATCHES TO BEAT UCF 5-2

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Sparked by a strong home court advantage, the 36th-ranked Florida State University men's tennis team prevailed 5-2 over #75 Central Florida on Saturday (February 7). All four of the final matches went to a third set with the Seminoles taking three of them for the victory.

The win improves Florida State to 3-2 on the year and moves fifth-year head coach **Dwayne Hultquist** past FSU Hall of Famer **Don Loucks** into fifth-place all-time with 54 victories. The Seminoles also stay a perfect 9-0 against the Golden Knights.

Florida State got the momentum early when it took the doubles point. Using four breaks, **Mat Cloer** (Brevard, N.C.) and **Jonathas Sucupira** (Sao Paulo, Brazil) cruised to an 8-0 victory at No. 2 over Paul Ramy and Rhett Rosen. Fifteenth-ranked **Jeff Groslimond** (Atlanta, Ga.) and **Chris Westerhof** (Durban, South Africa) won the last five games to take their No. 1 match 8-2 over Joel Allen and Simon Jaeger. UCF's only doubles victory came at No. 3 where Catalin Brado and Ener Gursoy battled back from 6-1 to win 8-6 over **Jarrold Owen** (Vero Beach, Fla.) and **Chip Webb** (Chattanooga, Tenn.).

After winning the first set 6-1, Cloer did not have to complete the second to pick up his tenth victory of the year as Gursoy retired because of an injury. With the win, Cloer became just the ninth player in school history to win 70 career singles matches.

"It was very evident in the first few games that Mat was going to win," Hultquist said. "I think Mat is starting to play well. He's starting to get himself in good shape. He's controlling points and is always going to be a tough guy to beat."

UCF got its first point of the afternoon in the number six singles match. Rosen posted a 6-3, 6-2 victory over Owen to get the Golden Knights on the board. The Knights' second point came at No. 2 where Brado rallied after dropping the first set to come back and beat Sucupira 2-6, 6-2, 6-3 to even the match at two apiece.

Florida State regained the lead when Westerhof took his No. 5 singles match over Ramy. The sophomore took control in the third set to win 6-4, 3-6, 6-1. Closing out the match was Groslimond at No. 3. After Groslimond pulled ahead 5-1 in the third set, Allen rallied to tie the match at 5-5. The Seminole sophomore came back with a break then held his serve to win the match 4-6, 6-4, 7-5 and give FSU the victory.

"To me, Jeff really stepped up. He lost the first set, came back, showed some emotion and really got us going again," Hultquist said. "Jeff got an early lead in the third and I think that gave us some momentum. I thought we had the momentum after the first sets. Chris has lost some tough ones lately, but he played under control and did what we needed him to do."

The final match went to Florida State as Webb rallied after dropping the second set to win the match in a tiebreaker 6-4, 1-6, 7-6 (5).

The Seminoles are back in action on Sunday (February 8) when they play host to No. 61 Texas Tech at 1 p.m. at the Scott Speicher Tennis Center.

Box Score

Doubles

No. 1: #15 Jeff Groslimond / Chris Westerhof (FSU) d. Joel Allen / Simon Jaeger (UCF) 8-2

No. 2: Mat Cloer / Jonathas Sucupira (FSU) d. Paul Ramy / Rhett Rosen (UCF) 8-0

No. 3: Catalin Brado / Ener Gursoy (UCF) d. Jarrold Owen / Chip Webb (FSU) 8-6

Singles

No. 1: #29 Mat Cloer (FSU) d. #100 Ener Gursoy (UCF) 6-1, 3-1 (ret)

No. 2: Catalin Brado (UCF) d. Jonathas Sucupira (FSU) 2-6, 6-2, 6-3

No. 3: Jeff Groslimond (FSU) d. Joel Allen (UCF) 4-6, 6-4, 7-5

No. 4: Chip Webb (FSU) d. Simon Jaeger (UCF) 7-6 6-4, 1-6, 7-6 (5)

No. 5: Chris Westerhof (FSU) d. Paul Ramy (UCF) 6-4, 3-6, 6-1

No. 6: Rhett Rosen (UCF) d. Jarrold Owen (FSU) 6-3, 6-2