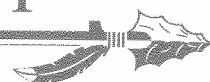




FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INSTATE BATTLE GOES TO THE SEMINOLES AS MEN'S TENNIS UPSETS MIAMI

CORAL GABLES, Fla. – So far this year it has been close, but no cigar for the Florida State University men's tennis team when it came to playing higher ranked teams. In their five losses to ranked opponents, the Seminoles had dropped four by a tally of 4-3, but the Tribe reversed the tables by beating No. 32 Miami by that identical score on Friday (March 12).

With the victory #45 Florida State improves to 8-5 on the season while posting its third victory over a ranked team. It is also the second-straight triumph over the Hurricanes, who lost for the first time this season, as the Seminoles have won three of the last four meetings.

"It was a good win for us," FSU net boss **Dwayne Hultquist** said. "They were undefeated coming in and they had beaten some good teams. Our guys are ready to get off the road and now we have six of our last eight at home and we should get some good crowds and our guys are going to be focused for some tough tennis."

Florida State took the momentum early as it won the doubles point. From there all the Seminoles had to do was split the six singles matches and they would walk away with the victory and they did just that.

A pair of 8-4 decisions in the first two doubles slots got the Tribe on the board first. The No. 22 tandem of **Jeff Groslimond** (Atlanta, Ga.) and **Chris Westerhof** (Durban, South Africa) triumphed at No. 1 over Paul Krebs and Colin Purcell. That same score gave **Mat Cloer** (Brevard, N.C.) and **Jonathas Sucupira** (Sao Paulo, Brazil) a win at No. 2 versus P.J. Passalacqua and Jeremiah Fuller. UM's only doubles win came at No. 3 where Eric Hechtman and John Hoyes beat **Chip Webb** (Chattanooga, Tenn.) and **Joe Bassett** (Monticello, Fla.).

The Seminoles got a free point to start singles as Passalacqua had to default in his No. 6 match against **J.P. Bounassar** (Maringa Parana, Brazil). Miami picked up a point when Purcell down Webb 6-1, 6-0 at No. 4. Answering for Florida State was Westerhof as he came out on the winning end a 6-2, 6-0 decision against Fuller. Closing out the match was Sucupira at No. 2 as he posted a 6-1, 6-4 triumph over Hoyes.

"We were fortunate to get the default to start singles," Hultquist added. "I thought the key to the match was doubles and then Jonathas played really well in singles. He really took control of the match. Chris continued to play well and got off the court quickly."

With the team outcome already decided, Miami pulled within a point as it won the last two matches. Purcell prevailed 6-1, 6-0 over Westerhof and Hechtman upset #20 Cloer 6-4, 4-6, 1-0 (7).

Florida State returns home to the Scott Speicher Tennis Center for its next four matches starting Monday (March 15) in a 2 p.m. bout versus North Carolina State.

Box Score

Singles

1. Eric Hechtman (UM) def. #20 Matt Cloer (FSU), 6-4, 4-6, (10-7)
 2. Jonathas Sucupira (FSU) def. John Hoyes (UM), 6-1, 6-4
 3. Tim Krebs (UM) def. Jeff Groslimond (FSU), 6-3, 6-2
 4. Colin Purcell (UM) def. Chip Webb (FSU), 6-1, 6-0
 5. Chris Westerhof (FSU) def. Jeremiah Fuller (UM), 6-2, 6-0
 6. J.P. Bounassar (FSU) def. P.J. Passalacqua (UM), default
- Order of finish: 6, 4, 5, 2, 3, 1

Doubles

1. #22 Groslimond/ Westerhof (FSU) d. Krebs/ Purcell (UM), 8-4
 2. Cloer/ Sucupira (FSU) d. Passalacqua/Jeremiah Fuller (UM), 8-4
 3. Hechtman/ Hoyes (UM) d. Webb/ Bassett (FSU), 8-6
- Order of finish: 1, 2, 3