



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UPSET BID FALLS SHORT AS SEMINOLES MEN'S TENNIS FALLS 5-2 TO #5 ILLINOIS

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. - What started out as the makings of a potential upset quickly turned south for the Florida State University tennis team. The Seminoles took the first point off fifth-ranked Illinois, but the Illini bounced back to win five singles matches on their way to a 5-2 win over the No. 41 Seminoles.

For Florida State it was their first loss of the season as they dropped on 3-1 on the year. Illinois remains undefeated at 2-0. The Fighting Illini improved their home winning streak to 35 matches--and its tenth-straight home opener - at the Atkins Tennis Center.

Early in the evening it looked like it might be the Seminoles' night as it came away with the doubles points. Getting the first triumph was the No. 32 tandem of Jeff Groslimond (Atlanta, Ga.) and Chris Westerhof (Durban, South Africa) at No. 2 as they beat Dabir and Anderson 8-6.

Illinois pulled even in the double matches when Evan Zeder and Monte Tucker took down Jonathas Sucupira (Sao Paulo, Brazil) and Sam Chang (Young-Ming, Taiwan) 8-6 at number three doubles. The match came down to match at number one. Pulling off the upset was the tandem of Mat Cloer (Brevard, N.C.) and Ytai Abougzir (Boca Raton, Fla.) as they took down the No. 4 tandem of Ryler DeHeart and GD Jones 9-8.

Given recent history, the Seminoles appeared to be in a good position to come away with the team victory. Last season Florida State was 9-4 when it took the doubles point and 3-0 this year. Unfortunately that trend did not continue as Illinois rallied to win the first five singles matches.

Picking up Illinois's first win was Anderson at number four as he took down Westerhof 6-2, 6-2. The second triumph by the Illini came at number five as Tuck beat Sucupira 6-3, 6-3. Posting the third singles win was No. 42 Jones with a 6-3, 6-2 victory over Abougzir at number two. Rounding out the match was second-ranked DeHeart as he beat Cloer 6-3, 7-6.

Wrapping up the team victory for Illinois was Ruben Gonzalez as he took down Chang 6-3, 6-3 during the number six match. Florida State got its second point when 91st-ranked Groslimond beat #118 Dabir when Dabir defaulted in the second set.

The Seminoles continue their road trip with a match against No. 34 Notre Dame on Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

#5 Illinois 5, #41 Florida State 2

Box Score:

Singles:

- No. 1: Mat Cloer (FSU) vs. #2 Ryler DeHeart (UI) 6-3, 7-6
- No. 2: #42 GD Jones (UI) d. Ytai Abougzir (FSU) 6-3, 6-2
- No. 3: #91 Jeff Groslimond (FSU) d. #118 Pramond Dabir (UI) 6-7 (7), 2-1 (def)
- No. 4: Kevin Anderson (UI) d. Chris Westerhof (FSU) 6-2, 6-2
- No. 5: Monte Tucker (UI) d. Jonathas Sucupira (FSU) 6-3, 6-3
- No. 6: Ruben Gonzalez (UI) d. Sam Chang (FSU) 6-3, 6-3

Doubles:

- No. 1: Cloer/Abougzir (FSU) d. #4 DeHeart/Jones (UI) 9-8 (4)
- No. 2: #32 Groslimond/Westerhof (FSU) d. Dabir/Anderson (UI) 8-6
- No. 3: Zeder/Tucker (UI) d. Sucupira/Chang (FSU)