



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS



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FLORIDA STATE MEN'S TENNIS GETS ACC ROAD UPSET 4-3 OVER NO. 25 WAKE FOREST

WINSTON SALEM, N.C. – Going into the dual match season, Florida State University men's tennis coach **Dwayne Hultquist** talked about the increased depth on the team and how matches the Seminoles lost last year should go their way in 2005. That depth was the difference on Friday (March 25) as No. 27 FSU beat its third Top 25 team of the year with a 4-3 win over No. 25 Wake Forest.

The victory over the Demon Deacons improved the Tribe's record to 12-5 on the year – equaling the third-highest win total during Hultquist's tenure – and 3-1 in the Atlantic Coast Conference. Wake Forest was handed just its third loss of the season as it fell to 11-3 and 3-1 in the league.

"Wake Forest has had a great year and we fell pretty good to come out of here with a victory," Hultquist said. "After doubles we had the momentum and it looked like we were going to sweep them, but then they got the momentum back from us and it came down to the last match."

Just as it has done in 15 of the previous 16 matches, the Seminoles started the contest by winning the doubles point. The No. 39 tandem of **Mat Cloer** (Brevard, N.C.) and **Ytai Abougzir** (Boca Raton, Fla.) were the first ones off the court as they prevailed 8-4 over Derrick Spice and Marius Adamski at number two.

Wrapping up the point was the Tribe's #26 duo of **Jeff Groslimond** (Atlanta, Ga.) and **Chris Westerhof** (Durban, South Africa). The junior tandem produced an 8-6 victory at number one against Brett Ross and Andrew Hamar. Wake Forest's only win in doubles came at number three as Todd Paul and Joe Bates beat **Sam Chang** (Young-Ming, Taiwan) and **Chip Webb** (Chattanooga, Tenn.) 8-3.

As the singles matches started, Florida State quickly put itself just one point away from victory. The first player off the court was Chang as he came through with a 6-4, 6-3 triumph at number five over Adamski. Putting the Seminoles' up 3-0 was Cloer as he rolled to a 6-3, 6-2 win over Spice at number one.

The tide started to turn to WFU's side as they rattled off three-straight wins, including a pair of three-set victories. WFU's first point came when No. 82 Paul held off set point against Abougzir at number two before going on to a 7-5, 6-4 win. After winning the first set 6-1, Groslimond dropped the next two 7-5, 6-1 to Ross at number three. Evening the match was No. 79 Hamar as he pulled through with a 2-6, 6-4, 6-4 win over Westerhof.

With the match all tied up at three points apiece, the team victory would be decided at number six between Webb and Laron Strauss. Last one's to begin because the Wake Forest complex only has five courts, Webb started off strong by winning the first set 6-3. Strauss rallied in the second stanza and was up 5-3 before Webb mounted a comeback that saw him win four-straight games for the 7-5 triumph.

"There was a lot of pressure on Chip and he responded well," Hultquist noted. "He was very aggressive and came to the net a lot and I think that was the difference in the match. Their guy was more of baseline player and Chip controlled the tempo the match by coming to the net a lot."

Florida State continues its conference road trip with a 1 p.m. bout on Sunday (March 27) against fourth-ranked Duke.

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No. 27 Florida State 4, No. 25 Wake Forest 3

Box Score

Singles:

- No. 1: #26 Mat Cloer (FSU) d. Derrick Spice (WFU) 6-3, 6-2
- No. 2: #82 Todd Paul (WFU) d. Ytai Abougzir (FSU) 7-5, 6-4
- No. 3: Brett Ross (WFU) d. Jeff Groslimond (FSU) 1-6, 7-5, 6-1
- No. 4: #79 Andrew Hamar (WFU) d. Chris Westehof (FSU) 2-6, 6-4, 6-4
- No. 5: Sam Chang (FSU) d. Marius Adamski (FSU) 6-4, 6-3
- No. 6: Chip Webb (FSU) d. Laron Strauss (WFU) 6-3, 7-5

Order of Finish: 5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6

Doubles

- No. 1: #27 Groslimond/Westerhof (FSU) d. Ross/Hamar (WFU) 8-6
- No. 2: #39 Cloer/Abougzir (FSU) d. Adamski/Spice (WFU) 8-4
- No. 3: Bates/Paul (WFU) d. Chang/Webb (FSU) 8-3.

Order of Finish: 2, 1, 3