

FSU, Memphis State share first-round lead

By PAUL C. SMITH

Democrat sportswriter

The last thing Florida State tennis coach Randy Jobson wanted to do was go into the Metro Conference tournament with an inexperienced team.

But when Seminoles Robert Burgess and Hernan Luque took the court for their No. 3 doubles match Thursday, they nearly had to introduce themselves.

After playing 33 matches this season with other partners, Burgess and Luque teamed up for the first time and beat Memphis State's duo of Scott Hale and Jeff Gray 6-0, 6-2 to guide the FSU men's team into a first-day tie with the Tigers for the tournament lead.

The FSU women's team won all of its singles and doubles matches to take a commanding first-round lead over Tulane. The Lady Seminoles collected 16 points to 12 for Tulane and 10 each for Memphis State and Louisville. Virginia Tech has nine points and Cincinnati has three.

Jobson recently had to rearrange the Seminoles' playing slots because Darryl Weiner was dropped from the team for disciplinary reasons. In singles, Peter Prinos took over the No. 4 position and in doubles, Jobson paired Burgess and Luque because they play similar games.

"They're both quick and cover the whole court well," Jobson said. "I wasn't sure how they would play together but they seemed to get along just fine."

Burgess and Luque criss-crossed the court, returning nearly every shot and easily wearing down the Tiger duo.

"We decided to go out there and just play basic, straight doubles," Burgess said. "We hit good, solid strokes and played the smart shots, but we were never sure we had it won because we were playing Memphis State."

Memphis State has won each of the five Metro tennis championships. Last year, FSU took an early lead but the Tigers came back with finalists in

eight of the nine divisions to win easily. FSU edged Virginia Tech for second.

The Seminoles won all their singles matches Thursday and, with wins at Nos. 1 and 3 doubles, had a chance to take another first-round lead. But Prinos and Jack Heiss dropped a three-set match at No. 2 doubles.

"The win at No. 3 (doubles) sure helps balance out the loss at No. 2," Jobson said. "And I think it reflects the depth we have this year."

Depth is important in the tournament because each win in the championship bracket, whether it be at No. 1 or No. 6, is worth two points. Each win in the consolation bracket is worth one point.

FSU and Memphis State are tied with 12 points and Virginia Tech and Tulane have eight points. The Seminoles and Tigers meet in three matches today. At No. 2 singles, Luque faces last year's No. 4 champion Steve Mansour. At No. 6 singles, Seminole Kevin Green meets Hale. At No. 1 doubles, FSU's Marco Abilhoa and John McLean play Keith Begley and Cliff Jones.

For the Lady Seminoles, Suzanne Doumar, Penne Nieporte, Lisa Ehrigott and Kristin Getz won in straight sets, while Cheryl Cordes had a bye and Gigi Boesch disposed of Louisville's Meg Peavy in three sets, 6-1, 3-6, 6-3. Each of the three doubles teams also breezed through in straight sets.

"Everyone played well today," FSU coach Ann Davis said. "What we need to do now is put a perfect end to our season by winning every division."

In the men's and women's tournaments today, championship-round singles matches start at 9 a.m., the consolation singles start at noon, the championship doubles begin at 3 and the consolation doubles begin at 4:30 p.m. The men play at the Tully Gym courts, and the women play at the Montgomery Gym courts.

First-round results

Men's singles

No. 1 — Blount (St. Louis) d. Alvarez (Louis.) 6-4, 6-2; Abilhoa (FSU) d. Channel (Va. Tech) 6-2, 6-4; Bagley (Memphis) d. McCormick (Cin.) 6-3, 6-3.

No. 2 — Potter (Va. Tech) d. Porter (Cin.) 7-5, 6-0; Luque (FSU) d. Molinari (St. Louis) 7-6, 6-2.

No. 3 — Jones (Memphis) d. Dorenfeld (Va. Tech) 6-4, 2-6, 6-1; Lehman (Tulane) d. Schlatly (St. Louis) 6-2, 6-2; McLean (FSU) d. Balzer (Cin.) 6-3, 6-2.

No. 4 — McDonald (Tulane) d. Rantham (Va. Tech) 6-3, 3-6, 7-5; Prinos (FSU) d. Anastopoulos (Louis.) 6-3, 6-4; Nicholson (Memphis) d. Howell (St. Louis) 7-6, 4-6, 6-0.

No. 5 — Clark (Va. Tech) d. Andrews (St. Louis) 6-4, 6-1; Desatnick (Tulane) d. Uhlir (Cin.) 6-3, 6-3.

No. 6 — Hale (Memphis) d. Harbuck (Tulane) 6-3, 6-4; Hornbager (St. Louis) d. Selzer (Cin.) 7-6, 6-5.

Men's doubles

No. 1 — Abilhoa-McLean (FSU) d. McCormick-Balzer (Cin.) 6-2, 4-6, 6-1; Jones-Begley (Memphis) d. Channel-Dorenfeld (Va. Tech) 6-3, 6-3; Lehman-Gunn (Tulane) d. Molinari-Andrews (St. Louis) 6-2, 6-3.

No. 2 — Mansour-Nicholson (Memphis) d. Ingard-McDonald (Tulane) 7-5, 6-3; Porter-Zwelling (Cin.) d. Heiss-Prinos (FSU) 6-6, 7-6, 6-3.

No. 3 — Rantham-Clark (Va. Tech) d. Wales-Morris (Tulane) 3-6, 6-1, 6-2; Burgess-Luque (FSU) d. Hale-Gray (Memphis) 6-0, 6-2.

Womens Singles

No. 1 — Weber (Louis.) d. Cowling (Cin.) 6-0, 7-6; Doumar (FSU) d. Bookmyer (St. Louis) 6-3, 6-1; Tector (Va. Tech) d. Seamans (Memphis) 6-2, 1-6, 6-2.

No. 2 — Amdur (Tulane) d. Smith (St. Louis) 6-3, 6-2; Fink (Va. Tech) d. Hawkins (St. Louis) 6-3, 7-6; Nieporte (FSU) d. Sturm (Memphis) 6-2, 7-6.

No. 3 — Dunn (Tulane) d. Smith (St. Louis) 6-3, 6-2; Boesch (FSU) d. Peavy (Louis.) 6-1, 3-6, 6-3; Chilcott (Memphis) d. Zwilling (Cin.) 6-4, 6-1.

No. 4 — Ehrhoff (FSU) d. Oatts (Va. Tech) 6-1, 6-3; Wood (Memphis) d. Pulley (St. Louis) 6-0, 6-2; Meirer (Tulane) d. Zaeh (Cin.) 6-0, 6-3.

No. 5 — Jones (Va. Tech) d. Dowlatt (Cin.) 6-1, 6-1; Wickum (Memphis) d. Trubowitz (Tulane) 6-0, 6-3; Beery (Louis.) d. Deppe (St. Louis) 6-1, 6-4.

No. 6 — Ramsey (Louis.) d. Jones (Va. Tech) 6-0, 7-6; Getz (FSU) d. Guiler (Tulane) 6-0, 6-1; Descenzo (Cin.) d. Hemann (St. Louis) 7-5, 6-2.

Women's Doubles

No. 1 — Tulane d. Virginia Tech; Chicott-Sturm (Louis.) d. Memphis State; Cordes-Boesch (FSU) d. Cincinnati 6-1, 6-1.

No. 2 — Nieporte-Doumar (FSU) d. Tulane 6-4, 6-3; Louisville d. Cincinnati 6-2, 6-1; Tector-Winchester (Va. Tech) d. St. Louis 7-6, 6-2.

No. 3 — Tulane d. Virginia Tech; Wickum-Seamans (Memphis) d. Louisville 6-2, 6-0; Ehrhoff-Getz (FSU) d. St. Louis 6-0, 6-1.

FSU's Suzanne Doumar, Penne Nieporte, Gigi Boesch, Lisa Ehrhoff and Kristin Getz whipped through their singles matches with straight-set wins. Cordes-Boesch, Nieporte-Doumar and Getz-Ehrhoff ran through their doubles matches with straight-set wins. Women's championship finals start Sunday morning at 10.

"We played really well for the second day in a row," FSU coach Ann Davis said. "I think all our girls want to win the individual titles pretty badly. I just hope the day off doesn't hurt."

For the men, every singles player but Hernan Luque advanced to the final. The No. 3 doubles team also advanced to the final, and the No. 1 doubles team already has wrapped up the title.

From the Tallahassee Democrat
May 16, 1981
Page 24

FSU men surprise, take lead

By PAUL C. SMITH
Democrat sportswriter

The Florida State men's and women's tennis teams are halfway to their goal of collecting their first Metro Conference titles.

The men's team won five of six semifinal singles matches and two of three doubles matches Friday at the Tully Gym courts to take an eight-point lead over Memphis State after two days of the four-day tournament.

The Lady Seminoles cruised through all six semifinal singles matches and the three semifinal doubles matches with wins at the Montgomery courts for a 15-point lead over Memphis State. If they hold the position, they will win the first Metro tournament for women.

With the clean sweep, all Lady Seminoles have the day off today. Only consolation matches are scheduled at the Tully courts.

FSU's No. 1 team of Marco Abilhoa and John McLean has been declared champion by default. Tulane's Tom Lehman and Robbie Guinn had qualified for the final but must return to New Orleans for graduation.

After the second round last year, only two FSU singles players and one doubles team had reached the finals.

"We are pretty much in the driver's seat," FSU coach Randy Jobson said. "We're not going to get overconfident, though. We know what Memphis State can do, and they still have the chance."

Seminole teams poised to grab double victory

By PAUL C. SMITH
Democrat sportswriter

Florida State's men's and women's tennis teams are aiming for milestones today.

The Lady Seminoles are hoping not only to become the first FSU women's team to win the Metro Conference title, but to do it by winning every match.

All nine Lady Seminole entries are in today's finals. The FSU women have collected the maximum 36 points and hold a 10-point lead over Memphis State, 12 points over Louisville and 14 points over Tulane.

The Lady Seminoles have six singles finalists playing this morning at 10 and three doubles finalists playing at 3 p.m. All women's and men's matches are scheduled for the Tully Gym courts.

The FSU men, who hold a six-point lead, have a chance to become the first team besides Memphis State to win the title. The Tigers have won each of the five years of the tournament with FSU finishing second twice.

MEN

Singles — Marco Abilio (FSU) d. Lee Blount (St. Louis) 6-2, 6-4; Keith Begley (Memphis State) d. Robbie Guinn (Tulane) 6-2, 6-2.

Karl Ingard (Tulane) d. John Potter (Virginia Tech) 6-4, 6-4; Steve Mansour (Memphis State) d. Hernan Luque (FSU) 7-6, 4-6, 6-1.

Cliff Jones (Memphis State) d. Tom Lehman (Tulane) 6-3, 6-4; John McLean (FSU) d. Glen Brown (Louisville) 6-3, 6-0.

Peter Prinos (FSU) d. Dick McDonald (Tulane) 6-4, 7-6; David Nicholson (Memphis State) d. Rick Zwelling (Cincinnati) 6-2, 6-1.

Kimbo Clark (Virginia Tech) d. Jeff Gray (Memphis State) 5-7, 6-4, 6-0; Robert Burgess (FSU) d. Lloyd Desatnick (Tulane) 6-3, 6-3.

Kevin Green (FSU) d. Scott Hale (Memphis State) 4-6, 7-5, 6-2; Bob Taylor (Virginia Tech) d. Bill Hornbarger (St. Louis) 6-0, 7-5.

Doubles — Florida State d. Memphis State 6-3, 6-3; Tulane d. Louisville 7-5, 7-5.

Blount-Hornbarger (St. Louis) d. Mansour-Nicholson (Memphis State) 6-4, 6-1; Potter-Taylor (Virginia Tech) d. Cincinnati 7-5, 6-2.

Virginia Tech d. St. Louis 6-4, 6-2; Florida State d. Cincinnati 6-0, 6-3.

WOMEN

Singles — Suzanne Doumar (FSU) d. Danelle Weber (Louisville) 6-3, 6-2; Annette Tector (Virginia Tech) d. Donna Burns (Tulane) 6-3, 6-2.

Libby Amdur (Tulane) d. Andrea Fink (Virginia Tech) 6-1, 6-4; Penne Nieporte (FSU) d. Karen Gay (Cincinnati) 6-3, 6-0.

Gigi Boesch (FSU) d. Jana Dunn (Tulane) 6-0, 6-1; Debbie Chilcott (Memphis State) d. Lori Winchester (Virginia Tech) 6-3, 6-1.

Lisa Ehrgott (FSU) d. Robyn Wood (Memphis State) 6-3, 6-3; Kate Ramser (Louisville) d. Meg Meurer (Tulane) 6-2, 6-0.

Anne Jones (Virginia Tech) d. Renee Wickum (Memphis State) 2-6, 6-1, 6-3; Cheryl Cordes (FSU) d. Nancy Beery (Louisville) 6-0, 6-1.

Kristin Getz (FSU) d. Kathy Ramsey (Louisville) 6-1, 6-1; Jennifer Jones (Memphis State) d. Manine Descenzo (Cincinnati) 6-1, 7-5.

Doubles — Memphis State d. Tulane by default; Cordes-Boesch (FSU) d. St. Louis 6-0, 6-1.

Nieporte-Doumar (FSU) d. Louisville 7-5, 6-3; Virginia Tech d. Memphis State 6-7, 6-2, 6-0.

Memphis State d. Tulane 6-4, 6-0; Getz-Ehrgott (FSU) d. Zwelling-Dascenzo (Cincinnati) 6-3, 6-2.

To clinch the title, the men need only to win three of their six finals matches or two of the three head-to-head matches with the Tigers.

Playing in the singles finals for the men today at noon are No. 1 Marco Abilhoa, No. 3 John McLean, No. 4 Peter Prinos, No. 5 Robert Burgess and No. 6 Kevin Green. Abilhoa, McLean and Prinos are paired against Memphis State players.

Abilhoa meets Keith Begley, who won the No. 3 singles title last year with a three-set win over Virginia Tech's John Potter. McLean, who was the singles champion at No. 2 last year, faces Cliff Jones, who lost in the finals at No. 5 last year to FSU's Steve Layton, who has since graduated. Prinos plays David Nicholson, a freshman from London.

In the doubles finals at 3 p.m., Burgess and Hernan Luque are matched against Virginia Tech's Kimbo Clark and John Ranthum at No. 3. The Seminole No. 1 team of Abilhoa-McLean already has won the championship because Tulane's Tom Lehman and Robbie Guinn defaulted to return to New Orleans for graduation.

Memphis State coach Tom Buford concedes FSU has the depth this year to win it all.

"This season has been tough for us because we don't have the players up and down the line that we are used to having," Buford said. "FSU is a little deeper this year than last, and we're not as deep. That's all there is to it."

Buford added he always turns his back to the scoreboard while tournaments are in progress.

"If somebody comes up to me and says 'You've won it,' I'll say thank

you and shake their hand," Buford said. "If they don't, I'll pick up my equipment and go home."

The Tigers picked up four points Saturday in the consolation finals and FSU added two. For Memphis State, the No. 1 doubles team of Jones and Begley beat Hokies Dean Channell and Jerry Dorenfeld 6-2, 7-5 for the title. The Tigers' No. 3 doubles team of Scott Hale and Jeff Gray beat Tulane's Mark Wales and Bill Morris for another point.

Luque, who lost in the quarterfinals at No. 2 singles, ripped through the consolation bracket to win the title with a 6-2, 6-4 win over John Potter of Virginia Tech. Luque scored FSU's only points in the consolations. The Seminole team of Prinos and Jack Heiss lost to Tulane's Karl Ingard and Dickie McDonald 7-6, 6-1 in the final at No. 2 doubles.

"We know what we have to do to win," FSU coach Randy Jobson said. "We've done the important thing so far and that's get into the finals. Now we've got to prove that we deserve to win the title."

"After the good play we've had, it'll be a big disappointment if we don't win it all."

✓ ✓ ✓

At 1:45 p.m., the Tully Gym courts will be dedicated as the Donald Loucks courts, for the coach who led FSU in the 1950s. Many former Seminole tennis players will be on hand for the ceremony.

Men

Team scores: Florida State 35, Memphis State 29, Virginia Tech 25, Tulane 23, St. Louis 8, Cincinnati 7, Louisville 0.

Singles — Bill McCormick (UC) d. Robbie Gunn (Tul) 6-4, 2-6, 7-5; Hernan Luque (FSU) d. John Potter (VT) 6-2, 6-4.

Tom Lehman (Tul) d. Mike Schiafly (SLU) 6-7, 6-3, 6-2; Jon Ranthum (VT) d. Dick MacDonald (Tul) 6-4, 7-6.

Lloyd Desatnick (Tul) d. Jeff Gray (MSU) 7-6, 7-6; Bill Hornbarger (SLU) d. Rick Seltzer (UC) 3-6, 6-1, 6-3.

Doubles — Cliff Jones-Keith Begley (MSU) d. Dean Channell-Jerry Dorenfeld (VT) 6-2, 7-5; Karl Ingard-Dick MacDonald (Tul) d. Jack Heiss-Peter Prinos (FSU) 7-6, 6-1; Scott Hale-Jeff Gray (MSU) d. Mark Wales-Bill Morris (Tul) 2-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Women

Team scores: Florida State 36, Memphis State 26, Louisville 24, Tulane 22, Virginia Tech 19, Cincinnati 5, St. Louis 1.

Singles — Stacy Seamans (MSU) d. Kathy Couling (UC) 6-2, 5-7, 6-4; Andrea Fink (VT) d. Debbie Giroux (UL) 6-1, 6-0.

Meg Peavy (UL) d. Jana Dunn (Tul) by default; Becky Oattes (VT) d. Robyn Wood (MSU) 6-3, 6-2. Renee Wickum (MSU) d. Amy Trubowitz (Tul) 6-1, 6-2; Kate Ramsey (UL) d. Dana Galler (Tul) 6-2, 6-2.

Doubles — Peavy-Giroux (UL) d. Couling-Shari Zaeh (UC) 6-0, 6-2; Trubowitz-Libby Amdur (Tul) d. Dana Hawkins-Barbara Smith (SLU) 6-1, 6-0; Galler-Meg Meurer (Tul) d. Nancy Beery-Ramsey 6-3, 6-4.

From the Tallahassee Democrat
May 18, 1981
Page 15

FSU men, women sweep tennis crowns

By PAUL C. SMITH

Democrat sportswriter

When the favorites were named for each of the five Metro Conference spring sports titles last week, the Florida State men's tennis team felt left out. Because it was.

Sunday, Marco Abilhoa, Hernan Luque, John McLean, Peter Prinos, Robert Burgess and Kevin Green proved with little difficulty that they belong to the elite club of FSU conference champions.

The Seminoles won titles at Nos. 1, 5 and 6 singles and Nos. 1 and 3 doubles to deprive Memphis State of the conference title for the first time since the tournament began in 1976.

FSU finished with 43 points to Memphis State's 35.

With the coveted trophy in their grasp, the Seminoles no longer have to hang their heads in the chow line at the athletic dorm. No more ribbing from the golfers, track stars and baseball players about not being able to win the big one.

"Last week, everybody was saying we (FSU) should mop up in every sport ... except tennis," said Green, a

against eventual No. 2 singles winner Penne Nieporte.

The other five Lady Seminoles lost an average of only 2.3 games per set as FSU rolled up 54 points and more than doubled the score of its nearest competitor, Memphis State.

"It was a lot of fun," said No. 6 player Kristin Getz. "Winning that way gives you a lot of confidence to go into the next season with."

"It was a good way to end a good season," said Davis. "We've been taking a beating from the Florida schools all year. It's nice to just sit back and have control for once."

"We could have easily slipped up and not won every match. But the girls pulled together and really worked at it."

Going into the final round, the FSU men needed two victories in their three matches against Memphis State, or three wins overall, to clinch the title. FSU coach Randy Jobson said he wasn't sure how most of the singles matches would turn out, but he was counting on a victory from No. 3 John McLean because McLean had won the No. 2 title in 1980.

But McLean lost a 6-2, 7-5 decision to Memphis State's Cliff Jones, and it appeared to be a long afternoon for the men in the garnet shorts.

"After I won the first set, I looked around and everybody else was down (losing the first set)," Green said.

Green became FSU's first winner with a 6-2, 6-2 decision over Bob Taylor of Virginia Tech.

senior. "We've waited a long time for this."

The FSU women's tennis team didn't have to wait long for its first Metro Conference title, but it may be a while before the Lady Seminoles win it again.

FSU was near-perfect in the finals Sunday, winning all six singles and three doubles titles while dropping only one set.

Because of a conflict between the AIAW and NCAA, however, coach Ann Davis said the FSU women would not be allowed to compete in the Metro tournament next year. The conflict stems from the fact that the Seminoles will retain AIAW membership in 1982 while the other conference schools will join the NCAA.

"It looks like we'll just be watching next year," Davis said. "It'll be kind of strange having the matches here and not being able to play."

The other six women's teams shouldn't have shown up Sunday. None scored a point, and only Tulane's Libby Amdur took a set from FSU, a 7-5 gem to open her match

"Once I got up, I was very confident and I started hitting the ball harder to get the match over quicker," Green said. "My big hurdle was beating the guy from Memphis State (Scott Hale) in the first round. After that it was pretty easy."

No. 4 Prinos was the next off the court, but he suffered a 6-3, 7-5 loss and was no help in the scoring.

While Abilhoa and Memphis State's Keith Begley worked through their third set, Burgess finished off Virginia Tech's Kimbo Clark 3-6, 6-2, 6-1 to clinch at least a tie.

"It was the hottest day and toughest match of the year," Burgess said. "With the shots he (Clark) was making in the first set, he could have beaten Jimmy Connors."

"But I was playing him wrong. I was chipping the ball to him and he was nailing it. Before the second set, Hernan (Luque) told me to start hitting it harder, and that did it. He ran out of gas in the third set."

With Abilhoa representing the winning points, the Seminoles gathered at

No. 1 court and cheered the Brazilian to a 6-0 win in the third set. With the clinching stroke, five FSU players hopped the fence, interrupted a match on Court 2 and mobbed Abilhoa.

"I knew I'd have to win for us to get the title," Abilhoa said. "The trick was to get him (Begley) to lose confidence."

The game changed for Abilhoa when he opened a can of fresh balls for the third set.

"I had a number of chances to put him away in the second set but lost," Abilhoa said. "The ball was getting light, losing its fuzz, and I couldn't control it."

"When I got the new balls, I kept playing aggressively and the shots stayed in."

MEN

Team scores — Florida State 43, Memphis State 35, Virginia Tech 25, Tulane 23, St. Louis 8, Cincinnati 7, Louisville 0.

Singles

No. 1 — Marco Abilhoa (FSU) d. Keith Begley (MSU) 6-3, 5-7, 6-0.

No. 2 — Steve Mansour (MSU) d. Karl Ingard (Tul) 5-7, 7-5, 6-2.

No. 3 — Cliff Jones (MSU) d. John McLean (FSU) 6-2, 7-5.

No. 4 — David Nicholson (MSU) d. Peter Prinos (FSU) 6-3, 7-5.

No. 5 — Robert Burgess (FSU) d. Kimbo Clark (VT) 3-6, 6-2, 6-1.

No. 6 — Kevin Green (FSU) d. Bob Taylor (VT) 6-2, 6-2.

Doubles

No. 1 — FSU won by default.

No. 2 — Mansour-Nicholson (MSU) d. John Potter-Taylor (VT) 6-4, 6-4.

No. 3 — Burgess-Hernan Luque (FSU) d. Jon Ranthum-Clark (VT) 1-6, 6-3, 6-1.

WOMEN

Team scores — Florida State 54, Memphis State 26, Louisville 24, Tulane 22, Virginia Tech 19, Cincinnati 5, St. Louis 1.

Singles

No. 1 — Suzanne Doumar (FSU) d. Annette Tector (VT) 6-1, 6-3.

No. 2 — Penne Nieporte (FSU) d. Libby Amdur (Tul) 5-7, 6-3, 7-5.

No. 3 — Gigi Boesch (FSU) d. Debbie Chilcott (MSU) 6-4, 6-2.

No. 4 — Lisa Ehrgott (FSU) d. Kate Ramser (UL) 7-5, 6-1.

No. 5 — Cheryl Cordes (FSU) d. Anne Jones (VT) 6-4, 6-4.

No. 6 — Kristin Gets (FSU) d. Jennier Jones (MSU) 7-5, 6-0.

Doubles

No. 1 — Cordes-Boesch (FSU) d. Chilcott-Wendy Sturm (MSU) 6-1, 6-3.

No. 2 — Nieporte-Doumar (FSU) d. Tector-Lori Winchester (VT) 6-1, 6-3.

No. 3 — Getz-Ehrgott (FSU) d. Renee Wickum-Stacey Seamans (MSU) 6-3, 7-5.