



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 18, 2003

SEVEN VICTORIES FOR FLORIDA STATE HIGHLIGHTS DAY ONE OF SEMINOLE FALL CLASSIC

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Usually the first match of the year doesn't have much significance, especially when you're trying to shake the cobwebs loose from the off-season. That wasn't the case for the Florida State University men's tennis team as a neighborhood rivalry is how it got it 2003-04 season underway. The hosts took seven matches off Florida A&M University on Thursday (September 18) during the opening day of the Seminole Fall Classic.

"At times we played well today and there were other times where we could have closed some matches out," FSU head coach **Dwayne Hultquist** said. "We got out of it what we needed to and that was being able to play against competition other than ourselves. Some of Florida A&M's guys' played really well. They are much improved team."

After running out to a quick lead in his match, **Chip Webb** (Chattanooga, Tenn. / Naples) lost the second set and had to come back in a third-set tiebreaker to win his bout with Frank Green. Webb was up 8-6 in the super tiebreaker, but found then himself down 9-8 and facing match point. The junior battled back to win the tiebreaker 11-9 and take the match 6-2, 6-7, 1-0 (11-9)

For the first five games of the first set, **Jeff Groslimond's** (Atlanta, Ga. / Riverwood) was only up one game on Zurah Zhvania. From there the sophomore only surrendered two more games the entire match as he went on to win 6-3, 6-1.

Playing in his first collegiate tennis tournament, rookie **Jonathas Sucupira** (Sao Palo, Brazil / Colegio Megga) had the quickest match of the day as he disposed of FAMU's Jarrell Williams 6-0, 6-2. Fellow freshman countryman **Joao Paulo Bounassar** (Maringa Parana, Brazil / Colegio Marista) also picked up a 6-1, 6-0 victory over Errol Tshabe in his Florida State debut.

"It was good to see our two freshmen get a pair of convincing victories," Hultquist added. "Until they line up against a different opponent you don't know how they are going to do. Overall we played well as a team, but we have some areas we have to improve."

Unfortunately for the hosts they dropped two of the three matches that went the distance. Senior **Jarrold Owen** (Vero Beach, Fla.) battled back from a first set loss, but he couldn't hold on as Yves Sinson won 7-3 in the tiebreaker for the 6-4, 1-6, 7-6 victory. After seeing both ends of a 7-5 decision, sophomore **Chris Westerhof** (Durban, South Africa / Crawford College), fell 10-8 in the super tiebreaker as he lost 5-7, 7-5, 0-1 to the Rattlers' Pfungwa Mahefu.

Florida State started the season off to a strong by taking the first three doubles matches. Webb and Sucupira made quick work of Tshabe and Williams, 8-2. The duo of Westerhof and Groslimond took an 8-5 decision over Mahefu and Green. After falling behind 4-1, Owen and senior **Joe Bassett** (Moticello, Fla. / Aucilla Christen Academy) came back to win 8-5 over Sinson and Zyania. For Bassett it was his first match in two years after a knee injury his sophomore season kept him out of the line-up.

The tournament continues on Friday (September 19) with four teams in action. Joining the Seminoles and the Rattlers will be Middle Tennessee State and Nebraska. First serve is set for 5 p.m.

Seminole Fall Classic Box Score

Singles

Pfungwa Mahefu (FAMU) d. Chris Westerhof (FSU) 5-7, 7-5, 1-0 (10-8)
Jeff Groslimond (FSU) d. Zurah Zhvania (FAMU) 6-3, 6-1
Yves Sinson (FAMU) d. Jarrod Owen (FSU) 6-4, 1-6, 7-6
Chip Webb (FSU) d. Frank Green (FAMU) 6-2, 6-7, 1-0 (11-9)
Jonathas Sucupira (FSU) d. Jarrell Williams (FAMU) 6-0, 6-2
Joao Paulo Bounassar (FSU) d. Errol Tshabe (FAMU) 6-1, 6-0

Doubles

Chris Westerhof / Jeff Groslimond (FSU) d. Pfungwa Mahefu / Frank Green (FAMU) 8-5
Jarrod Owen / Joe Bassett (FSU) d. Yves Sinson / Zurah Zhvania (FAMU) 8-5.
Chip Webb / Jonathas Sucupira (FSU) d. Errol Tshabe / Jarrell Williams (FAMU) 8-2

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September 19, 2003

FLORIDA STATE MEN'S TENNIS STUMBLES ON SECOND DAY OF SEMINOLE FALL CLASSIC

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Following a long off-season, not all the rust has been knocked off the Florida State University men's tennis team. After a strong showing to open the year, the host struggled a little bit on Friday (September 19) during the second day of the Seminole Fall Classic. Florida State only managed a pair of victories in nine matches against Middle Tennessee State.

Things appeared to get off on a good note when the doubles tandem of **Jeff Groslimond** (Atlanta, Ga. / Riverwood) and **Chris Westerhof** (Durban, South Africa / Crawford College) produced a 9-8 victory over the Blue Raiders' Rishan Kuruppu and Andreas Siljestrom.

Unfortunately that was the only match the Seminoles pulled off during the doubles competition. The senior combination of **Jarrold Owen** (Vero Beach, Fla.) and **Joe Bassett** (Monticello, Fla. / Aucilla Christen Academy) had a chance to serve for the match, but instead went down 9-7 to Kirk Jackson and Trevor Short. MTSU's duo of Brandon Allan and Kai Schledorn were in charge the whole time as they beat **Chip Webb** (Chattanooga, Tenn. / Naples) and **Jonathas Sucupira** (Sao Paulo, Brazil / Colegio Megga) 8-2.

Florida State could not swing the momentum back in its favor during singles as the Blue Raiders took five of the six matches. The lone win for the Seminoles came from Webb as he picked up his second victory in as many days. The junior produced a straight-sets 6-2, 6-4 victory over Kuruppu.

The sophomore Westerhof took the first set in his match with Schledorn 6-4, but lost by that same margin in the second before dropping the super tiebreaker 10-7. Unforced errors cost Groslimond a 6-1, 6-4 defeat at the hands of Jackson.

After a close defeat in the first set, Owen only won one more game as he lost 6-4, 6-1 to Anant Sitaram. Bassett almost pushed his match to a third set tiebreaker, but Allen got the best of him 6-0, 7-6. Away from competition against Middle Tennessee State, **Joao Paolo Bounassar** (Maringa Parana, Brazil / Colegio Marista) defeated Nebraska's Tanner Gates 6-0, 6-2.

Day three of the Seminole Fall Classic begins at 9 a.m. on Saturday with both the Seminoles and Blue Raiders in action, along with Florida A&M and Nebraska.

Seminole Fall Classic Box Score

Doubles

Jeff Groslimond / Chris Westerhof (FSU) d. Rishan Kuruppu / Andreas Siljestrom (MTS) 9-8

Kirk Jackson / Trevor Short (MTS) d. Joe Bassett / Jarrod Owen (FSU) 9-7

Brandon Allan / Kai Schledorn (MTS) d. Chip Webb / Jonathas Sucupira 8-2

Singles

Kirk Jackson (MTS) d. Jeff Groslimond (FSU) 6-1, 6-4

Kai Schledorn (MTS) d. Chris Westerhof (FSU) 4-6, 6-4, 1-0 (10-7)

Andreas Siljestrom (MTS) d. Jonathas Sucupira (FSU) 6-1, 6-4

Chip Webb (FSU) d. Rishan Kuruppu (MTS) 6-2, 6-4

Anant Sitaram (MTS) d. Jarrod Owen (FSU) 6-4, 6-1

Brandon Allan (MTS) d. Joe Bassett (FSU) 6-0, 7-6

Joao Paolo Bounassar (FSU) d. Tanner Gates (NEB) 6-0, 6-2



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September 20, 2003

FSU MEN'S TENNIS SWEEPS ALL TEN MATCHES ON DAY THREE OF SEMINOLE FALL CLASSIC

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Through the first three days of the fall season, the Florida State University men's team play has been similar to the flight of a yo-yo; up one match, down the next. On Saturday (Sept. 20), FSU found itself on the upswing as it took all ten matches during the third day of the Seminole Fall Classic.

"We did some nice things this weekend, but we still have a lot of work to do," FSU head coach **Dwayne Hultquist** said. "We still have a ways to go in doubles. It's early in the year and some of our guys haven't played a lot during the last month so we're getting our conditioning back. These matches in the heat will help us get ready for the rest of the fall."

After dropping seven of nine bouts on Friday to Middle Tennessee State, the Seminoles were in control the entire day against Nebraska. Florida State only dropped one set the entire contest during singles play. **Chip Webb** (Chattanooga, Tenn. / Naples) won his third singles match of the tournament with a 7-5, 6-2 victory over Joerg Barthel.

Sophomore **Jeff Groslimond** (Atlanta, Ga. / Riverwood) came through with a 6-0, 6-2 triumph versus Joel Reckewey. Classmate **Chris Westerhof** (Durban, South Africa / Crawford College) took his match to a second-set tiebreaker before winning 6-1, 7-6 (8-6) against Jeff Nabity.

Even though he dropped Florida State's lone set of the day, **Jonathas Sucupira** (Sao Paulo, Brazil / Colegio Megga) pulled off a 5-7, 6-0, 6-1 victory over Jose Rivera. Staying undefeated in singles was **Joao Paolo Bounassar** (Maringa Parana, Brazil / Colegio Marista) as he took down Justin Junck 6-2, 6-1. **Jarrood Owen** (Vero Beach Fla.) posted a 6-2, 6-2 triumph over Ryan Jay. In a one-set match, **Joe Bassett** (Monticello, Fla. / Aucilla Christen Academy) defeated Tanner Gates 6-3.

Taking their third doubles bout of the weekend, Groslimond and Westerhof cruised to an 8-1 victory over the Barthel-Rivera pairing. After falling behind 3-1, the duo of Webb and Owen prevailed 8-4 over Junck and Reckewey while the Brazilian tandem of Sucupira and Bounassar won an 8-6 decision versus Jay and Nabity.

"I was real pleased with Chip's performance. He gave us a big lift with his three singles victories," Hultquist added. "Jeff and Chris seemed to pick up where they left off last year in doubles with three wins and it was good to see JP (Bounassar) start his career with two wins."

The Seminole will take two weeks off before getting back into action at the Icy Hot/ITA All-American Championships. Prequalifying rounds begin October 3 in Chapel Hill, N.C.

Seminole Fall Classic Box Score

Doubles

Jeff Groslimond / Chris Westerhof (FSU) d. Joerg Barthel / Jose Rivera (NEB) 8-1

Jarrood Owen / Chip Webb (FSU) d. Justin Junck / Joel Reckewey (NEB) 8-4

Jonathas Sucupira / Joao Paolo Bounassar (FSU) d. Ryan Jay / Jeff Nabity (NEB) 8-6

Singles

Chip Webb (FSU) v. Joerg Barthel (NEB) 7-5, 6-2

Jeff Groslimond (FSU) v. Joel Reckewey (NEB) 6-0, 6-2

Chris Westerhof (FSU) v. Jeff Nabity (NEB) 6-1, 7-6 (8-6)

Jonathas Sucupira (FSU) v. Jose Rivera (NEB) 5-7, 6-0, 6-1

Joao Paolo Bounassar (FSU) v. Justin Junck (NEB) 6-2, 6-1

Jarrood Owen (FSU) v. Ryan Jay (NEB) 6-2, 6-2

Joe Bassett (FSU) d. Tanner Gates (NEB) 6-3

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