



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Michael Smoose (850) 644-4836

FSU MEN'S TENNIS OPENS DUAL MATCH PLAY WITH 6-1 VICTORY OVER STETSON

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – One of the main concerns of Florida State University men's tennis coach **Dwayne Hultquist** was how the time off would affect his 32nd-ranked team. While the Seminoles had to shake the rust off a little bit, once they did they came out firing as FSU cruised to a 6-1 victory over Stetson University in the dual match opener for both teams on Monday (January 19).

"We have to have a higher level of concentration and keep our intensity up," Hultquist said. "It's easy to do it during one set in practice, but now we have to do during the entire length of the match. The intensity was there during doubles, but it wasn't during the early part of singles."

A prime example of Hultquist's concerns was shown at No. 1 singles by **Mat Cloer** (Brevard, N.C.) The No. 29 player in the country found himself down 4-2 in the first set, but he fought back to take the match 7-5, 6-1 over Vittorio Fratta at No. 1 singles. Playing like he was in midseason form, freshman **Jonathas Sucupira** (Sao Paulo, Brazil) made quick work of Christian Moe at No. 2 in his 6-0, 6-2 victory.

After dropping the first set of his No. 5 match 6-2, **Chris Westerhof** (Durban, South Africa) completely reversed gears. The sophomore proceeded to win the next nine games, taking the second set 6-0 while building a 3-0 advantage in the third. From there he won three more games to take final set 6-2 and win the match over Mario Alberto Cayo.

While it will go down as a 6-3, 6-1 win over Reid Stubbs at the No. 6 spot, the victory was very important to senior **Jarrod Owen** (Vero Beach, Fla.) Hampered by injuries last year, the win was his first since the spring of 2002. Junior **Chip Webb** (Chattanooga, Tenn.) picked up his first victory of the year when he posted a 6-3, 6-4 triumph against Thomas Bross at No. 4. Stetson's only victory of the day came when Birger Soiland defeated **Jeff Groslimond** (Atlanta, Ga.) 6-3, 7-6 (7) at the number three spot.

"Jonathas dominated his guy and I was real pleased with how Jarrod and Joe played considering they haven't play that much over the last year or so," Hultquist added. "We have the talent to be very good, but we have to play a lot better than we did today."

Florida State got the afternoon off on the right foot when it took all three doubles matches. Ranked 15th in the country, the Groslimond/Westerhof duo beat Fratta and Bross 8-2. At No. 2, Cloer and Sucupira did them one better as they beat Cayo and Moe 8-1. That same score at No. 3 produced a victory for Webb and **Joe Bassett** (Monticello, Fla.) over Soiland and Brian Coyle.

The Seminoles get back onto the court Thursday (January 22) when it plays host to San Diego. First serve with the No. 42 Toreros is scheduled for 4 p.m. at the Scott Speicher Tennis Center.

Box Score

Final Score: Florida State 6, Stetson 1

Singles:

- No. 1 Mat Cloer (FSU) d. Vittorio Fratta (STET) 7-5, 6-1
- No. 2 Jonathas Sucupira (FSU) d. Christian Moe (STET) 6-0, 6-2
- No. 3 Birger Soiland (STET) d. Jeff Groslimond (FSU) 6-3, 7-6 (7)
- No. 4 Chip Webb (FSU) d. Thomas Bross (STET) 6-3, 6-4
- No. 5 Chris Westerhof (FSU) d. Mario Alberto Cayo (STET) 2-6, 6-0, 6-2
- No. 6 Jarrod Owen (FSU) d. Reid Stubbs (STET) 6-3, 6-1

Doubles

- No. 1 Groslimond/Westerhof (FSU) d. Fratta/Bross (STET) 8-2
- No. 2 Cloer/Sucupira (FSU) d. Cayo/ Moe (STET) 8-1
- No. 3 Webb/Joe Bassett (FSU) d. Brian Coyle/Soiland (STET) 8-1