



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FSU MEN'S TENNIS GETS BACK ON WINNING TRACK WITH 5-2 VICTORY OVER PRINCETON

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. —Having dropped two tough matches to ranked opponents, the Florida State University men's tennis team was looking to get back into the win column. With one of the toughest schedules in the country, the Seminoles knew that it wouldn't be an easy task, but they evened their record at 2-2 by beating Princeton 5-2 on Saturday (January 31).

"Princeton is very even all the way through its line-up and has a lot of good players, but our guys seemed to step it up a notch when they needed it," FSU head coach **Dwayne Hultquist** said. "Both teams competed hard and there were some well played matches."

FSU's strongest suit this year has been doubles and that provided the Seminoles with their first point of the day. After breaking at three all and then again at 5-3, the 15th-ranked Florida State duo of **Jeff Groslimond** (Atlanta, Ga.) and **Chris Westerhof** (Durban, South Africa) produced an 8-5 victory against Darius Crayton and Daniel Friedman. Princeton took No. 3 doubles as Hans Plukas and Andrew Lieu beat **Jarrold Owen** (Vero Beach, Fla.) and **Joe Bassett** (Monticello, Fla.) 8-3.

The closet doubles match came at number two between the Seminoles' **Mat Cloer** (Brevard, N.C.) and **Jonathas Sucupira** (Sao Paulo, Brazil) and Stratha Saengsuwarn and Tim Kofol from Princeton. The two teams exchanged a pair of breaks before Princeton held twice and FSU once. At 6-6, the Seminole held Cloer's serve, then broke to win the match 8-6.

Florida State quickly took a 2-0 advantage when Cloer, ranked 29th in the country, breezed past Crayton 6-0, 6-3 at No. 1 doubles. Following a tough 7-5 victory in the first set, two breaks within the first four games gave Sucupira the advantage he needed to take the second set and his No. 2 match 6-3 over Friedman.

Providing the decisive point was Groslimond at the third singles spot. He picked up a 6-2, 6-3 triumph against Lieu. The Seminoles got their final singles victory from **Chip Webb** (Chattanooga, Tenn.) as he produced a 6-4, 5-7, 6-1 over David Gopstein at No. 4.

"I thought Jonathas did a great job in doubles," Hultquist noted. "He brought a lot of energy to match and I thought that was key. Jeff had a lot of intensity in his single match and I thought that was going to be an important match for us. He jumped on the guy right away and didn't let up."

The Tigers to victories came at No. 5 and 6 singles. Plukas rallied to beat Westerhof 6-4, 2-6, 6-4 at No. 5. The final match had Shannon Morales beating **Joao Paolo Bounassar** (Maringa Parana, Brazil) 7-5, 6-3.

Florida State is off until next Saturday (February 8) when it plays host to Central Florida at 1 p.m. at the Scott Speicher Tennis Center.

Box Score

Doubles:

- No. 1: #15 Jeff Groslimond / Chris Westerhof (FSU) d. Darius Crayton / Daniel Friedman (PU) 8-5
- No. 2: Mat Cloer / Jonathas Sucupira (FSU) d. Stratha Saengsuwarn / Tim Kofol (PU) 8-6
- No. 3: Hans Plukas / Andrew Lieu (PU) d. Joe Bassett / Jarrod Owen (FSU)

Singles:

- No. 1: #29 Mat Cloer (FSU) d. Darius Crayton (PU) 6-0, 6-3
- No. 2: Jonathas Sucupira (FSU) d. Daniel Friedman (PU) 7-5, 6-3
- No. 3: Jeff Groslimond (FSU) d. Andrew Lieu (PU) 6-2, 6-3
- No. 4: Chip Webb (FSU) def. vs. David Gopstein (PU) 6-4, 5-7, 6-1
- No. 5: Hans Plukas (PU) d. Chris Westerhof (FSU) 6-4, 2-6, 6-4
- No. 6: Shannon Morales (PU) d. Joao Paolo Bounassar (FSU) 7-5, 6-3