

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS



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CONFERENCE SEASON ENDS FOR FSU MEN'S TENNIS WITH 5-2 LOSS TO #14 NORTH CAROLINA

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – As it demonstrated with a victory over number four Duke, when the Florida State University men's tennis is healthy, it can play when the best teams in the country. But for the last four matches the Seminoles have been without a main part of their line-up and it cost them again as they fell 5-2 to 14th-ranked North Carolina on Saturday (April 10).

With the loss, the No. 33 Seminoles drop their fourth match in a row as they fall to an even 10-10 on the season with a 3-5 mark in the Atlantic Coast Conference. The victory gives the Tar Heels at least a share of the regular season ACC title as they finish at 7-1 and 20-4 overall.

"It was a hard-fought match," FSU net boss **Dwayne Hultquist** said. "They're a very good team that is right on the edge of the top ten. Even though we are banged up, we were right there with them. I'm disappointed about the loss, but happy with how we competed."

Down 2-0 in the team match after **Joe Bassett** (Monticello, Fla.) lost 7-6 (4), 6-0 at number five to Geoff Boy, the Seminoles got their first point of the day at number two. Moved up to the second position due to an injury to **Jonathas Sucupira** (Sao Paulo, Brazil), **Chris Westerhof** (Durban, South Africa) bounced back from a 6-3 loss in the first set to beat Andy Metzler 6-2.

An upset at number one singles put North Carolina one point away from clinching the team victory. Thirty-second-ranked Nick Monroe rallied to win 12 of the last 14 games as he beat #18 **Mat Cloer** (Brevard, N.C.) 4-6, 6-1, 6-1. That left FSU needing to win all three of the remaining singles matches in order to take the match.

Getting the Seminoles back within a point was **Jeff Groslimond** (Atlanta, Ga.) as he scored a victory at number three. After winning the first set 7-6 (5), the sophomore held at 4-4 then broke to win 6-4 over Derek Porter. North Carolina ended any shot at an upset as Brad Pomeroy came back from down a set to win 3-6, 6-2, 6-3 over **Joao Paolo Bounassar** (Maringa Parana, Brazil). Rounding out the match was a 4-6, 6-2, 6-3 win by Raian Luchini over **Chip Webb** (Chattanooga, Tenn.) at number four.

"Before he was injured, Jonathas had won nine matches in a row, including a pair over top 15 players so he was becoming someone we counted on each match," Hultquist added. "He's also helped us in doubles so it hurts to not have him out there."

North Carolina started the afternoon by winning the doubles point. The thirteenth-ranked tandem of Monroe and Boyd took down 19th-ranked Groslimond and Westerhof. The Tar Heels secured the first point when Jonathan Janda and Luchici beat Webb and Bassett 9-7. Florida State got its only win in doubles when Cloer and Sucupira took down Metzler and Pomeroy 9-8 (5) at number two.

Florida State closes out the regular season on Monday (April 12) when it plays host to #35 Notre Dame in a 2 p.m. bout at the Scott Speicher Tennis Center.

Box Score

#14 North Carolina 5, #33 Florida State 2

Doubles

- 1. #13 Monroe / Boyd (UNC) d. #19 Westerhof / Groslimond (FSU) 8-3
- 2. Cloer / Jonathas Sucupira (FSU) Metzler / Pomeroy (UNC) 9-8 (5)
- 3. Jonathan Janda / Luchici (UNC) d. Webb / Bassett (FSU) 9-7

Order of finish: 1, 2, 3

Singles

- 1. #32 Nick Monroe (UNC) d. #18 Mat Cloer (FSU) 3-6, 6-1, 6-1
- 2. Chris Westerhof (FSU) d. Andy Metzler (UNC) 3-6, 6-2, 6-2
- 3. Jeff Groslimond (FSU) d. Derek Porter (UNC) 7-6 (5), 6-4
- 4. Raian Luchici (UNC) d. Chip Webb (FSU) 6-4, 2-6, 6-3 5. Geoff Boyd (UNC) d. Joe Bassett (FSU) 7-6 (4), 6-0
- 6. Brad Pomeroy (UNC) d. Joao Paolo Bounassar (FSU) 3-6, 6-2, 6-3

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