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SEMINOLE MEN'S TENNIS REBOUNDS FOR 4-3 VICTORY OVER NO. 24 NORTH CAROLINA

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. – Less than 24 hours after being upset in its Atlantic Coast Conference opener, the Florida State University men's tennis team pulled off an upset of its own. The 30th-ranked Seminoles posted their second win over a Top 25 team in two weeks as they beat No. 24 North Carolina 4-3 on Sunday (March 6).

Florida State has now won its last two matches in Chapel Hill as the victory improved its overall record to 7-4, while evening the Seminoles' conference record at 1-1. The Tar Heels suffered their first league loss of the year, dropping them to 1-1 with a 10-3 mark on the year.

Running its streak to 10-of-11 matches, the Seminoles opened the contest by taking the doubles point. Florida State had the early advantage as the No. 57 team in the country, **Jeff Groslimond** (Atlanta, Ga.) and **Chris Westerhof** (Durban, South Africa), rolled to an 8-3 victory against Sebastian Guejman and David Stone at number two. North Carolina answered as No. 17 Brad Pomeroy and Geoff Boyd defeated FSU's No. 28 **Mat Cloer** (Brevard, N.C.) and **Ytai Abougzir** (Boca Raton, Fla.) 8-6 during the first match.

The outcome of the doubles point – and ultimately the match – came down to number three doubles. After playing to all even at 8-8, the Florida State tandem of **Jonathas Sucupira** (Sao Paulo, Brazil) and **Sam Chang** (Young-Ming, Taiwan) prevailed 8-6 in the tiebreaker to win their bout 9-8 (6) over Jonathan Janda and Ryan Luchici.

The doubles point would be the determining factor in the match as the teams split the six singles matches. Evening the match at one point was Guejman as he produced a 6-2, 6-2 win over Chang at number six. However, by the time the Tar Heels won their next point, Florida State had the team victory in hand.

Giving the Seminoles a lead they would never relinquish was Abougzir at number three singles. The sophomore rolled to a 6-3, 6-4 straight-set victory over Boyd. Winning his sixth match of the week was Groslimond as he moved up to number two to beat Pomeroy 1-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Matching Groslimond for six wins on the week was his doubles partner Westerhof. The junior rallied for his second three-set triumph in as many days, taking down Derek Porter 3-6, 6-1, 6-3 to secure the team victory.

North Carolina won its second point when Sucupira retired tied at 1-1 during the third set of his number five match with Benjamin Carlotti after they split the first two sets 6-2 and 7-6 (5). After the team victory had been decided, Luchici beat No. 17 Cloer 7-5, 6-4, 7-6 (4) at number one.

Up next for the Seminoles is the prestigious Blue Gray Classic in Montgomery, Ala. Fifteen of the 16 teams in the field are ranked in the latest ITA poll with four top 30 teams. The four-day event begins Thursday.

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No. 30 Florida State 4, No. 24 North Carolina 3

Box Score

Singles

No. 1: Raian Luchici (UNC) d. #17 Mat Cloer (FSU) 7-5, 6-4, 7-6 (4)

No. 2: #89 Jeff Groslimond (FSU) d. Brad Pomeroy (UNC) 1-6, 6-4, 6-4

No. 3: Ytai Abougzir (FSU) d. Geoff Boyd (UNC) 6-3, 6-4

No. 4: Chris Westerhof (FSU) d. Derek Porter (UNC) 3-6, 6-1, 6-3

No. 5: Benjamin Carlotti (UNC) d. Jonathas Sucupira (FSU) 6-2, 6-7 (5), 1-1 (Retire)

No. 6: Sebastian Guejman (UNC) d. Sam Chang (FSU) 6-2, 6-2

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

Doubles

No. 1: #17 Boyd/Pomeroy (UNC) d. #29 Cloer Abougzir 8-6

No. 2: #57 Groslimond/Westerhof (FSU) d. Guejman/David Stone (UNC) 8-3

No. 3: Sucupira/Chang (FSU) d. Jonathan Janda / Luchici (UNC) 9-8 (6)

Order of Finish: 2, 1, 3