



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NO. 44 TEXAS A&M CORPUS CHRISTI STEALS 4-3 VICTORY FROM FSU MEN'S TENNIS AT BLUE GRAY

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – As a team that was ranked in the 40's and knocked off a pair of top 25 teams, the Florida State University men's tennis team knew how tough its second-round match of the Blue Gray Classic would be against No. 44 Texas A&M – Corpus Christi. The No. 24 Seminoles had the tables turned on them as they were upset by the Islanders 4-3 on Friday (March 11).

The Islanders won the first match up between the two schools to improve to 5-5 on the year. The loss dropped Florida State to 8-5.

"It was really windy today and we didn't adjust to it. They did a great job of adjusting to the win and that was kind of the key to the match," FSU head coach Dwayne Hultquist said. "They jumped on us in four of the first six sets and were able to finish us off."

Florida State has perhaps the best doubles line-up in the country and it showed once again as the Seminoles took the opening point. Winning their 12th point in 13 matches gave the Tribe the best doubles winning percentage in the country (92.3 percent) and tied them with LSU for the most doubles wins in the nation.

One of the keys for the Seminoles has been their ability to get wins from all three spots in the line-up. Rolling to their eighth win a row and 12th of 13 during dual matches, the No. 60 tandem of **Jeff Groslimond** (Atlanta, Ga.) and **Chris Westerhof** (Durban, South Africa) scored an 8-3 win at number one over Jeremy Bladin and Maxime Godin-Maresches.

Giving Florida State the first point of the morning was the number three duo of **Jonathas Sucupira** (Sao Paulo, Brazil) and **Sam Chang** (Young-Ming, Taiwan) as they won by the same score, 8-3, against Raul Morant-Rivas and Oscar Roman. With the doubles point secure, the number two match between FSU's **Mat Cloer** (Brevard, N.C.) and **Ytai Abougzir** (Boca Raton, Fla.) and the Islanders' Goncalo Figueiredo and Andrey Kumanstov was abandoned.

Unfortunately that would be the last point the Seminoles would win for a while as the Islanders quickly jumped out to a 3-1 lead. Abougzir couldn't manage to take a game off Morant-Rivas at number two as he lost 6-0, 6-0. Cloer didn't fair much better in his number one match with Bladin, losing 6-0, 6-3. Texas A&M Corpus-Christi stood one point away from victory when Godin-Maresches beat Sucupira 6-2, 6-2 at number five.

"I'm really proud of the way that Jeff and Sam played in singles," Hultquist added. "The doubles did really well again, but we need to get more consistency out of singles."

Getting the Seminoles back in the match was a pair of victories at number six and four. Picking FSU's first singles win of the day was Chang with his 6-1, 6-2 defeat of David Plasencia at the six spot. Tying the match at three apiece was Westerhof as he posted his eighth win in a row with a 6-1, 7-5 defeat of Figueiredo. The team match came down to number three where Kumanstov prevailed 6-3, 6-4 over Groslimond.

FSU continues play at the Blue Gray Classic on Saturday when they take on Fresno State at 10 a.m.

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No. 44 Texas A&M-Corpus Christi 4 No. 24 Florida State 3

Box Score

Singles

No. 1: Jeremy Bladin (TAMCC) d. #83 Mat Cloer (FSU) 6-0, 6-3

No. 2: Raul Morant-Rivas (TAMCC) d. Ytai Abougzir (FSU) 6-0, 6-0

No. 3: Andrey Kumanstov (TAMCC) d. Jeff Groslimond (FSU) 6-3, 6-4

No. 4: Chris Westerhof (FSU) d. Goncalo Figueiredo (TAMCC) 6-1, 7-5

No. 5: Maxime Godin-Maresches (TAMCC) d. Jonathas Sucupira (FSU) 6-2, 6-2

No. 6: Sam Chang (FSU) d. David Plasencia (TAMCC) 6-1, 6-2

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

Doubles

No. 1: #60 Groslimond/Westerhof (FSU) Blandin/Godin-Maresches (TAMCC) 8-3

No. 2: #42 Cloer/Abougzir (FSU) Figueiredo/Kumanstov (TAMCC) (Abandoned)

No. 3: Sucupira/Chang (FSU) Morant-Rivas/Roman (TAMCC) 8-3

Order of Finish: 1, 3