

Men's Tennis Rolls Past South Florida, 5-2

Seminoles win first dual of a three-match road swing.

March 6, 2006

TAMPA, Fla. - With temperatures soaring, the Seminoles sizzled Monday afternoon against USF, cashing in five straight singles victories at court Nos. 2-6 as the FSU men's tennis team rolled to a 5-2 win. The match was the first of a three-match road swing for Florida State and improved the Seminoles to 6-6 on the season. The Bulls dipped to 1-4 overall.

"I was a little concern because I thought we should have won the doubles point," said Florida State head coach Dwayne Hultquist. "We were dominating and they came back and won. We were at breaks at one and three and ended up losing both of those.

"So, we came out strong in singles right away, especially at Nos. 3-6. Then the turning point of the match in some ways was when Jonathas Sucupira came back and won the first set after being down 5-2. I was proud that our players never gave up and put forth a strong effort until the end."

The play of Sucupira, a junior from Sao Paulo, Brazil, was outstanding at No. 2 singles as he recorded his first dual singles victory of the season in front of his family against the Bulls' Fredy Barton. Sucupira missed four straight weeks with a hand fracture and he made a strong statement for his first win, defeating Barton 7-5, 4-6, 1-0(8).

After losing the doubles point, FSU sophomore Sam Chang picked up the first team point for the Seminoles by beating Mark Jaeger 6-4, 6-1 at No. 3 singles. Freshmen Maciek Sykut and Chris Cloer quickly followed their teammate, registering decisive wins at Nos. 5 and 6 against Dillion Brozyna (6-1, 6-0) and Mark Gattiker (6-3, 6-4).

The Seminoles clinched the winning team point at court No. 4 when senior Chris Westerhof cruised to a 6-2, 7-5 victory over Juan Baragan. Team play could have been halted but Sucupira decided to finish off Barton for the fifth and final point.

In doubles action, Seminole freshmen Andrew Bailey and Sykut dominated the Brozyna/Jaeger pair, 8-3.

After the match, Florida State scurried to the airport as tilts with Rice and Texas A&M are scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday.

Florida State (6-6, 0-1 ACC) vs. South Florida (1-4)
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Score: FSU 5, USF 2

Doubles

1. Britzen/Barton (USF) def. **Abougzir/Westerhof (FSU)** 8-6
 2. **Bailey/Sykut (FSU)** def. Brozyna/Jaeger (USF) 8-3
 3. Baragan/Gattiker (USF) def. **Chang/Sucupira (FSU)** 8-6
- Order: 2, 3, 1

Singles

1. Britzen (USF) def. **Abougzir(FSU)** 6-3, 6-1
 2. **Sucupira (FSU)** def. Barton (USF) 7-5, 4-6, 1-0(8)
 3. **Chang (FSU)** def. Jaeger (USF) 6-4, 6-1
 4. ***Westerhof (FSU)** def. Baragan (USF) 6-2, 7-5
 5. **Sykut (FSU)** def. Brozyna (USF) 6-1, 6-0
 6. **Cloer (FSU)** def. Gattiker (USF) 6-3, 6-4
- Order: 3, 6, 5, 1, *4, 2