

ASU Women's Tennis Splits Weekend Matches

Written by :Paul Blascovich
Monday, 30 January 2012 07:59

Over the weekend, Appalachian State women's tennis traveled to Greenbrier Resort to a pair of neutral site matches against Liberty and James Madison. The Mountaineers began the weekend with a

4-3 win over Liberty on Saturday evening. In doubles, Appalachian's Jennifer Ansari and Ellie Linsell were successful at the top position, netting an 8-6 win, but the Flames were victorious at No. 2 and No. 3, giving Liberty the doubles point.

Linsell kept her momentum going, taking the No. 1 match, 6-3, 7-6 (7-3). Ansari was also successful and rebounded from a tough second set to win 6-1, 0-6, 6-4.

Liberty's No. 3 and No. 4 players earned wins, giving the Flames a 3-2 lead and forcing the Mountaineers to win the final two matches to take the match.

In the end, Mountaineer Gabby Gabriel was successful at No. 5, and ASU's Kim-Lea Dinh came through at No. 6, both winning by identical 6-3, 6-3 margins to give the Mountaineers their second-straight win.

Appalachian State continued the weekend with a match against James Madison on Sunday. Ansari and Linsell maintained their perfect record in doubles and in singles play, helping the Mountaineers to pick up two match points.

In the end, James Madison proved to be too much for the Mountaineers, who incurred their first loss of the season, 5-2.

Appalachian will next travel to face Virginia Tech on Sun., Feb. 5 at 12 p.m.

Appalachian State 4, Liberty 3 Jan 28, 2012 at White Sulphur Springs, W.Va. (Greenbrier Resort)

Singles competition

1. Ellie Linsell (ASU) def. Cameron Richard (LIB) 6-3, 7-6 (7-3)
2. Jennifer Ansari (ASU) def. Allie Sheeran (LIB) 6-1, 0-6, 6-4
3. Brittany Yang (LIB) def. Jessica Thaggard (ASU) 6-3, 3-6, 6-4
4. Rebekah Jenkins (LIB) def. Gabriela Celi (ASU) 6-4, 6-2
5. Gabby Gabriel (ASU) def. Carol Lobel (LIB) 6-3, 6-3

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6. Kim-Lea Dinh (ASU) def. Nicola Wellman (LIB) 6-3, 6-3

Doubles competition

1. Jennifer Ansari/Ellie Linsell (ASU) def. Brittany Yang/Cameron Richard (LIB) 8-6
2. Rebekah Jenkins/Allie Sheeran (LIB) def. Blakeley Bean/Gisela Fernandez (ASU) 8-6
3. Carol Lobel/Nicola Wellman (LIB) def. Kim-Lea Dinh/Jessica Thaggard (ASU) 8-2

James Madison 5, Appalachian State 2
Jan 29, 2012 at White Sulphur Springs, W.Va.

Singles competition

1. Ellie Linsell (ASU) def. Kinsey Pate (JMU) 7-6 (7-3), 4-6, 7-6 (8-6)
2. Jennifer Ansari (ASU) def. Jacqueline Palmucci (JMU) 0-6, 6-4, 6-4
3. Michelle Nguyen (JMU) def. Jessica Thaggard (ASU) 6-3, 6-4
4. Megan Douglass (JMU) def. Gabriela Celi (ASU) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3
5. Katherine Bulling (JMU) def. Gabby Gabriel (ASU) 6-3, 6-2
6. Ruxandra Andriescu (JMU) def. Kim-Lea Dinh (ASU) 6-2, 6-2

Doubles competition

1. Jennifer Ansari/Ellie Linsell (ASU) def. Kinsey Pate/Taylor Pinchoff (JMU) 8-2
2. Michelle Nguyen/Katherine Bulling (JMU) def. Blakeley Bean/Gisela Fernandez (ASU) 8-1
3. Megan Douglass/Jacqueline Palmucci (JMU) def. Gabby Gabriel/Gabriela Celi (ASU) 8-4

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ASU Men Rally for 4-3 Win over UNCA

After falling behind, 3-1, Appalachian State University men's tennis went on to win three-straight singles matches and put away a 4-3 victory over UNC Asheville at Deer Valley Racquet Club on Sunday. The Mountaineers (1-2) earned their first win of the season in front of a rowdy home crowd, while the Bulldogs (0-2) left still seeking a victory in 2012.

"We played a few bad games in doubles," observed head coach Bob Lake, "and some of those mistakes crept into our singles play. Asheville's top three are tough, and Phil [Kloc] did a great job keeping us alive. Our bottom three guys showed just how strong our entire lineup is."

In doubles action, Appalachian's No. 3 pair of Steve Karendal (Kernersville, N.C./Lees-McRae) and Andrew McKinnon (Mooresville, N.C./Lake Norman) trailed 4-5 before taking control of the match and winning four straight games to capture an 8-5 win.

UNC Asheville's No. 2 pair of Tom Rees and Adrien Langeard cruised to an 8-4 win, and ASU's top doubles pair, Philip Kloc (Melbourne, Australia/Mentone Grammar) and Alain Humblet (Montreal, Quebec/DE Mortagne), lost a 6-8 heartbreaker.

In singles, Kloc rebounded with a 6-3, 6-4 victory in the No. 2 spot, while Humblet was downed by a tough UNCA opponent, 4-6, 3-6.

At No. 1 singles, ASU's Alex Markov (Pernik, Bulgaria/Hawaii Pacific) took his opponent to three sets but was eventually bettered by UNCA's Adrien Langeard, 6-1, 4-6, 6-2. After the first trio of singles matches, the Bulldogs led 3-1 and stood just one point from clinching the match.

In the second wave of singles, Karendal dominated his match at No. 5, shutting out his opponent 6-0, 6-0 and energizing the nearly 100 fans who crowded into the gallery.

Appalachian's Sebastien King (Montreal, Quebec/George Vanier) won his first set at No. 4, and held his own serve throughout the second. UNCA's Tom Rees kept level and the combatants faced off in the day's only tiebreaker. Though Rees won the showdown, 7-5, King triumphed in the match with a 6-4, 6-7 (5-7), 6-4 win, leveling the team score at 3-3.

In the decisive match, ASU's Matt Saltsgaver (Winter Park, Fla./Lake Norman) took the first set handily but wavered in the second. With the match on the line, Saltsgaver pulled through en route to a 6-3, 3-6, 6-3 win, clinching Appalachian's 4-3 win.

The Mountaineers have a lengthy break before their next match, when they play host to East Carolina on Sat., Feb. 18 at 1 p.m. The venue of the match will be determined and announced in the weeks prior to the contest.

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Appalachian State 4, UNC Asheville 3 **Jan 29, 2012 at Boone, N.C. (Deer Valley Racquet Club)**

Singles competition

1. LANGEARD, Adrien (UNCA) def. Alex Markov (ASU) 6-1, 4-6, 6-2
2. Philip Kloc (ASU) def. WAISSEN, Matt (UNCA) 6-3, 6-4
3. BROBECK, Jonas (UNCA) def. Alain Humblet (ASU) 6-4, 6-3
4. Sebastien King (ASU) def. REES, Thomas (UNCA) 6-4, 6-7 (5-7), 6-4
5. Steve Karendal (ASU) def. MATTHEWS, Ryan (UNCA) 6-0, 6-0
6. Matt Saltsgaver (ASU) def. SCHUBEL, John (UNCA) 6-3, 3-6, 6-3

Doubles competition

1. WAISSEN, Matt/BROBECK, Jonas (UNCA) def. Philip Kloc/Alain Humblet (ASU) 8-6
2. REES, Thomas/LANGEARD, Adrien (UNCA) def. Alex Markov/Sebastien King (ASU) 8-4
3. Steve Karendal/Andrew McKinnon (ASU) def. SCHUBEL, John/CONATY, Pete (UNCA) 8-5

Match Notes

UNC Asheville 0-2

Appalachian State 1-2

Order of finish: Doubles (3,2,1); Singles (2,3,1,5,4,6)

Kloc/Humblet ranked No. 8 in Carolina region.

EXH: Carson Greve (ASU) vs. Pete Conaty (UNCA)

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