

ASU Men's Tennis Slips at Charlotte

Written by Paul Blascovich
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Coming off a pair of wins to conclude spring break, Appalachian State University men's tennis faltered against Charlotte, falling, 3-4, in non-conference action at Halton-Wagner Tennis Complex on

Wednesday. The Mountaineers (6-5) look to rebound with a series of five-straight Southern Conference matches, while Charlotte (12-6) picks up a win in its final scheduled home match. In doubles action, Mountaineer senior Philip Kloc (Melbourne, Australia/Mentone Grammar) and sophomore Sebastien King (Montreal, Quebec/George Vanier) paired for an 8-5 win in the No. 1 spot, while seniors Alain Humblet (Montreal, Quebec/DE Mortagne) and Alex Markov (Pernik, Bulgaria/Hawai'i Pacific) followed with an 8-6 victory at No. 2 to clinch the doubles point. Charlotte won the No. 3 match, 8-6.

In singles, Markov dominated his No. 1 match, cruising to a 6-3, 6-0 victory. After dropping his first set, Humblet rebounded to take a three-set thriller, putting the Apps within one point of winning the match.

The 49ers regained momentum with a 6-4, 6-4 win at No. 4 singles. In the No. 6 slot, ASU's Matt Saltsgaver (Winter Park, Fla./Winter Park) forced a tiebreaker in the first set but his opponent Nate Shanok took control in the second for a 7-6(7-4), 6-0 point.

In the No. 2 match, Kloc evened the match with a second-set win but could not keep up in the decisive set, falling 4-6, 7-5, 6-1 to give the 49ers their third point for a 3-3 deadlock.

Charlotte's advantage came by way of a win at No. 5, as Appalachian's Steve Karendal (Kernersville, N.C./Lees-McRae) was forced to retire, falling 3-6, 6-4, 3-4.

The Mountaineers' schedule next continues with a Friday trip to league opponent Georgia Southern at 1 p.m.

Appalachian Women's Tennis Falls at Furman

In the team's first match after spring break, Appalachian State University women's tennis fell to Southern Conference opponent Furman, 0-7, at Mickel Tennis Center on Wednesday. The

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Mountaineers (9-5, 2-2 SoCon) even out their SoCon record, while the 2011 SoCon Tournament finalist Paladins (7-7, 2-0 SoCon) remain undefeated in league play.

In doubles action, Furman quickly jumped out to a big lead at No. 3 doubles, and took the match 8-1. At No. 2, Appalachian seniors Gisela Fernandez (Guadalajara, Mexico/TEC Monterrey) and Gabriela Celi (Orlando, Fla./Lake Howell) managed to pick up five games, but FU clinched the doubles point, 8-5. Furman's control of the No. 1 doubles match never wavered, going the Paladins' way, 8-4.

In singles action, FU's Katherine Oudin won her seventh-straight match with a 6-0, 6-2 win in the No. 3 match. Furman's Michele Stanford made quick work of her No. 2 match with a 6-0, 6-2 victory, giving the Paladins a 3-0 lead.

Furman's match-clinching point came at No. 5 singles, as Alex Moreno-Kaste took the match, 6-2, 6-2. The Paladins kept up the momentum and eventually took all six singles matches. Across the other three matches, no Mountaineer secured more than four games over the two-sets, as the Paladins completed the full sweep of the match. The Mountaineers look to bounce back with a trip to non-conference opponent UNC Wilmington on Sunday at noon.