

ASU Men's Tennis Drops Season Opener

Written by Ryan Bower

Monday, 20 January 2014 08:08

Appalachian State University men's tennis opened its 2014 campaign with a 5-2 loss at No. 44 UNC Wilmington on Sunday at The Bird Cage.

The Mountaineers (0-1) picked up two wins in doubles play to jump out to a 1-0 lead over the nationally-ranked Seahawks (1-0), but suffered five losses in singles play as UNC Wilmington snagged victories at No. 1, No. 3, No. 4, No. 5 and No. 6 singles.

Both squads began the day with the round of doubles competition with Appalachian's top squad of Zach Bost/Sebastien King grabbing a 6-4 win at the No. 1 spot. The No. 2 team of Oliver Casey/Daniel Hoang also picked up a 6-4 win while the Mountaineers' No. 3 tandem of Jack Maddocks/Steve Lake suffered a 6-0 loss.

In singles action, King dropped his match at the No. 1 spot by a 6-5, 6-1 final to UNCW's Sam Williams, but Casey was able to come away with a hard-fought 6-4, 6-5 win over Pedro Mol at No. 2 singles.

UNCW's Zach Hublitz was a winner over Bost by a 6-4, 6-1 final at the No. 3 spot while Hoang suffered a 6-5, 6-4 loss at No. 4 and Matt Saltsgaver dropped a 6-1, 6-0 decision to the Seahawk's Karan Salwan.

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The match of the day came at the No. 5 spot as Maddocks, a true freshman who joined the Mountaineers just prior to the start of the semester, rallied from a loss in the first and picked up a second-set win, but ultimately fell by a final of 6-3, 2-6, 6-2.

Appalachian State returns home for matches against Lees-McRae (Feb. 2) and UNC Asheville (Feb. 16) before embarking on a stretch of 12-straight away from Boone. Each of the next two matches are slated for a 1 p.m. start at Deer Valley Racquet Club.