

ASU Womens' Tennis Drops Heartbreaker to Elon

Written by Ryan Bower

Wednesday, 02 April 2014 10:09

Appalachian State University women's tennis jumped out to an early lead, but could not hang on in a 4-3 loss to Southern Conference rival Elon on Tuesday

at the Appalachian Tennis Courts.

The Mountaineers (5-15, 1-6 SoCon) raced out to an early 3-1 lead in their first home outdoor match of the year, but the Phoenix (10-6, 4-1) stormed back to win four-of-six singles matches, including a three-set thriller in the deciding match at the No. 5 spot.

Appalachian seized the momentum early by taking the doubles point thanks to a win at No. 2 doubles by the duo of Clare Cox/McKayla Zupan (8-6) and a victory at No. 3 from Brianna Armellino/Megan Mullen (8-5).

The Mountaineers nearly pulled off the three-match sweep in doubles play, but its top team of Gabrielle Wreder/Mackenzie LaSure fell in a tiebreaker by an 8-7 (7-3) final.

In singles play, the Phoenix evened the match at 1-1 after picking up a win at the No. 4 spot, but Appalachian answered back as Cox won her contest at No. 1 (6-2, 7-5) and Wreder dispatched

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her opponent at No. 3 (7-5, 6-2) to give the Mountaineers a 3-1 lead.

Elon responded with straight-set wins at No. 2 and No. 6 to make it 3-3. In the deciding match at No. 5 singles, App State's Jessica Thaggard fell 6-1 in the first set, but rallied with a 6-2 second-set win to send the match to a decisive third set.

In a thrilling final set, Maria Camara Ruiz was able to score the win by a 6-4 final and give the Phoenix the match victory.

Appalachian State returns to action on Saturday at Wofford at 3 p.m. before playing host to Western Carolina on Sunday at 2:30 p.m. at the Appalachian Tennis Courts.

Elon University 4, Appalachian State 3

Apr 01, 2014 at Boone, N.C. (Appalachian Tennis Courts)

Singles competition

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1. Clare Cox (APP) def. Jordan Johnston (ELON) 6-2, 7-5
2. Frida Jansaker (ELON) def. Mackenzie LaSure (APP) 6-3, 6-4
3. Gabrielle Wreder (APP) def. Barbora Lazarova (ELON) 7-5, 6-2
4. Bryn Khoury (ELON) def. Brianna Armellino (APP) 6-2, 6-2
5. Maria Camara Ruiz (ELON) def. Jessica Thaggard (APP) 6-1, 2-6, 6-4
6. Taylor Casey (ELON) def. Megan Mullen (APP) 7-6 (7-2), 6-1

Doubles competition

1. Jordan Johnston/Barbora Lazarova (ELON) def. Gabrielle Wreder/Mackenzie LaSure (APP) 8-7 (7-3)
2. Clare Cox/McKayla Zupan (APP) def. Maria Camara Ruiz/Frida Jansaker (ELON) 8-6
3. Brianna Armellino/Megan Mullen (APP) def. Bryn Khoury/Taylor Casey (ELON) 8-5

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Match Notes

Elon University 10-6, 4-1 SoCon

Appalachian State 5-15, 1-6 SoCon

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

Official: Mary Stang T-4:38 A-81