

Rams dominate during wins over West Virginia State Univ.

The Winston-Salem State men's tennis team snapped a four-game skid in defeating Division-II opponent, West Virginia State University 7-0 April 3. The Rams showcased the perfect effort with competitive performances in both singles and doubles action.



LATASHA MILES
SPORTS EDITOR

Junior Brian Coxton ignited the Rams with near flawless 6-0, 6-1 wins over Nick Anderson.

"He [Anderson] was more of a defensive player," said Charles Schoderbek, Rams head

coach.

"He was a pretty good defender, but didn't have much offense. Brian overpowered him [Anderson] a little bit."

Junior Ian Hunter faced a tougher challenge against WVSU's Andrew Barr, eventually defeating him 6-3, 6-4. Junior Maximilian Glodde had a similar match as Hunter's, when facing James Walling. Glodde prevailed with a 6-4, 6-3 win.

Senior Troy Moore distanced himself from the competition with his 6-1, 6-2 victory over Derek

Thaxton. Sophomore Joab Odera's first match resulted in a 7-6 tie-breaker win, and his second match resulted in a more comfortable 6-1 triumph.

The Rams final match in singles play netted a 6-1, 6-2 win for senior Antentor Hinton over Jason Thaxton.

The Rams continued with the authority displayed in singles matches by also sweeping the Yellow Jackets in all sets of doubles actions.

Coxton and Hunter teamed up with an 8-1 defeat over Anderson and Barr.

"We [Coxton and Hunter] really worked together throughout that match," Coxton said.

"We kept serving pretty easily. It was great rallying by my partner, Ian Hunter. That might have been the best we played all year."

Senior Troy Moore and freshman Mason King lost a close 9-8 match to Brian Wooten and James Walling. However, Hinton and Odera responded, closing out doubles action with an 8-1 win over Jason Thaxton and Derek Thaxton.

The Rams improved to their second win of the season, dropping the Yellow Jackets to a 4-4 record.

Freshmen lead way victory for Lady Rams

In Lady Rams action, WSSU was able to also maintain control from beginning to end, with two underclassmen establishing the momentum.

Freshman Sloane Holmes defeated Brittany Craig 6-3, 6-1, followed by a 6-2, 6-2 victory from freshman Kayla Carter over Teddi Russell.

Freshman Johanna Nunez had the strongest win of the day in singles turning in 6-1, 6-0 wins over Erika Acosta.

"I was consistent hitting the ball and I kept my feet moving," Nunez said.

"I had a lot of power with my serves, especially hitting them hard in the corners. I aced the ball and she was unable to hit the ball back to me."

Freshman Kalin Jarvis was forced into a tiebreaker, after being dropped 6-2 by WVSU's Eben Russell. Jarvis retaliated with triumphant 6-2, 10-7 performances.

Freshman Chelsea Chatman closed out the singles matches with 6-3, 6-2 wins over Meghan Stewart.

In doubles, Holmes and Locklear began with a victory over Russell and Acosta 9-7.

Carter and Jarvis prevailed 8-6 defeating Russell and Craig.

Bowlin and Stewart of WVSU surpassed Chatman and Nunez in an 8-6 match; however the Lady Rams won the point because of victories in two of the three matches in doubles.

"I used some reverse psychology and told them that if they didn't come prepared, they would be embarrassed," Schoderbek said.

"I think that they [WSSU] came prepared and saw that they could win, and they could win, and that motivated them even more. Both teams really hung in there, but they [WSSU] remained focused and came out with the victory."

The Lady Rams advanced to five wins on the season, and WVSU fell to a 3-4 record.

"I think that they [WSSU] came prepared and saw that little bit of it [the victories] was due to the level of competition," Schoderbek said.

"They're [WVSU] Division II. We're pretty strong in Division II."



Awarded to Antentor Hinton

LaTasha Miles
SPORTS EDITOR

Antentor Hinton, from Asheville, N.C. is a senior on the Rams tennis team. The former student of Roberson High School is a dominant right-hand player. Hinton is a biology major.

Rams head coach Charles Schoderbek selected him recipient of the Coach's Game Ball.

During the win over West Virginia State University April 3, Hinton defeated his competition in singles action 6-1, 6-2. Hinton also combined with teammate Joab Odera to win in doubles action 8-1.

"He was much more aggressive in the match than he has been in the past," Schoderbek said.

"He is one of the ones who will stay out there all day, and keep trying to get it back. That day he was hitting the ball aggressively on offense and getting his points."

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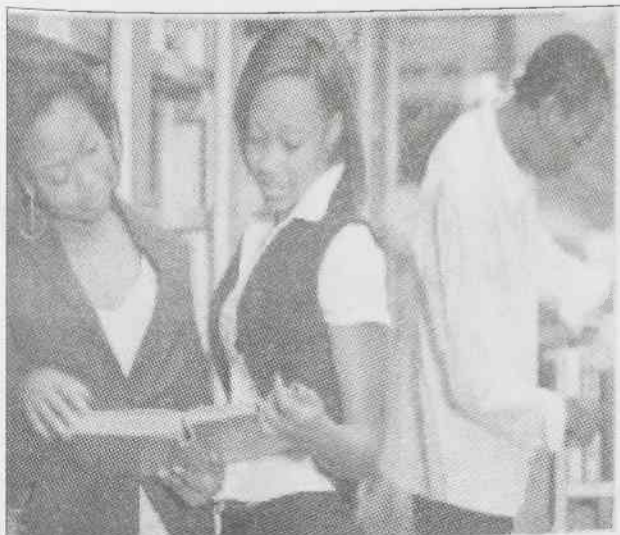
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