

2006 NCAA Division I
 Women's Tennis Championships
 First Round
 Ring Tennis Complex * Gainesville, Florida



#40 South Florida vs. #32 Maryland
 Coach Agustin Moreno Coach Martin Novak
 Date Friday, May 12, 2006

Doubles	SOUTH FLORIDA	vs	MARYLAND	Winner	LOM	Score
No. 1 -	Gabriela Duch & Neyssa Etienne (9)		Ramona But & Marianne Baker (11)	Maryland	:49	8-3
No. 2 -	Liz Cruz & Iciri Rai		Jennifer Dent & Brooke Rogers	USF*	1:02	8-3
No. 3 -	Luisa Obando & Courtney Vernon		Julia Graca & Neda Mihneva	USF	:48	8-1
Singles	SOUTH FLORIDA		MARYLAND	Winner		Score
No. 1 -	Neyssa Etienne (70)		Ramona But (33)	USF*	1:17	6-3, 6-2
No. 2 -	Courtney Vernon (60)		Marianne Baker (89)	USF	1:00	6-2, 6-1
No. 3 -	Liz Cruz (90)		Veronika Subertova	DNF		USF led 6-3, 5-3
No. 4 -	Gabriela Duch		Jennifer Dent	USF	1:05	6-2, 6-0
No. 5 -	Iciri Rai		Neda Mihneva	DNF		UM led 6-2, 2-2
No. 6 -	Luisa Obando		Julia Graca	DNF		USF led 6-3, 5-1
Final Score	South Florida 4		Maryland 0	* Clinched victory		Attendance: 233
				LOM = Length of Match		

Records: South Florida: 17-5 Maryland: 12-12 Order of Finish: Doubles – 3-1-2; Singles – 2, 4, 1

Match Notes:

USF advances to NCAA Second Round and faces Florida on Saturday at 1 p.m. ... The win was USF's 12th in its last 14 matches...It was the third straight victory for USF by a score of 4-0...Courtney Vernon improved to 18-0 in singles dual matches...It was USF's seventh win against a ranked opponent this season.



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Post Match Recap & Quotes

South Florida 4, Maryland 0
Recap

No. 40 South Florida joined the University of Florida in the second round of the NCAA Women's Tennis Championships, with a methodical 4-0 victory over No. 32 Maryland. The win was USF's 12th in its last 14 matches.

USF (17-5) grabbed the doubles point with victories in the No. 2 and No. 3 positions, setting the tone for the match. Luisa Obando and Courtney Vernon easily dispatched Julia Graca and Neda Mihneva in the No. 3 spot. After an 8-3 victory from Maryland's (12-12) top pair of Ramona But and Marianne Baker, the doubles point was settled when South Florida's No. 2 tandem of Liz Cruz and Iciri Ray took an 8-3 decision over Jennifer Dent and Brooke Rogers.

As the squads moved to singles, Vernon gave the Bulls a 2-0 advantage after taking a 6-2, 6-1 decision over Baker in a match-up of No. 2 singles. The win moved Vernon to a perfect 18-0 in singles dual matches on the year.

Minutes later Gabriela Duch put the Bulls on the cusp of victory with a 6-2, 6-0 win over Dent in No. 4 singles. Neyssa Etienne clinched the victory for USF with a 6-2, 6-2 win over But in No. 1 singles.

USF advanced to take on Florida on Saturday afternoon at 1 p.m., with the winner set to advance to the Round of 16 in Palo Alto, Calif., on Thursday, May 18. Florida took a 4-1 decision over USF on Feb. 8 in Gainesville.

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Final Score: South Florida 4, Maryland 0

Doubles

No. 1 Ramona But & Marianne Baker (11), Maryland, def. Gabriela Duch & Neyssa Etienne (9), USF 8-3
No. 2 Liz Cruz & Iciri Rai, USF, def. Jennifer Dent & Brooke Rogers, Maryland, 8-3*
No. 3 Luisa Obando & Courtney Vernon, USF, def. Julia Graca & Neda Mihneva, Maryland, 8-1

Singles

No. 1 Neyssa Etienne (70), USF def. Ramona But (33), Maryland, 6-3, 6-2*
No. 2 Courtney Vernon (60), USF def. Marianne Baker (89), Maryland, 6-2, 6-1
No. 3 Liz Cruz (90), USF led Veronika Subertova, Maryland, 6-3, 5-3 DNF
No. 4 Gabriela Duch, USF def. Jennifer Dent, Maryland, 6-2, 6-0
No. 5 Neda Mihneva, Maryland led Iciri Rai, USF 6-2, 2-2 DNF
No. 6 Luisa Obando, USF led Julia Graca, Maryland 6-3, 5-1 DNF

*clinching doubles/dual match point

Order of Finish: Doubles 3, 1, 2; Singles 2,4,1



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South Florida

Head Coach Agustin Moreno

"I think we competed well. We have played on these courts before and we like them. Physically, and I think that also goes with Florida, we are better than many teams. Now, it is even tougher with the weather."

On whether he expected an easy win against Maryland...

"I really didn't know them [Maryland] that well. I thought that we were favored even though we're not ranked ahead of them. I thought that it was going to be a little tougher match."

On what it will take to beat Florida in Saturday's second round...

"Last time we played them, it was close. We went to three sets on many courts. I think that it is just a matter of competing well. They are a tough team – they are always tough – but I think we are also tough. We have played them in doubles and beaten them a couple of times, and we have won a couple of singles matches against them in tournaments. It is going to be a tough match."

Neyssa Etienne, Senior

"I think it is amazing. It has been a while since our team has been in the NCAAs and this is my first time in the tournament with the team. I am really happy with the result today. We all played really well."

On facing Florida in Saturday's second round...

"We played them early in the season and lost. Tomorrow we are ready for them and we are going to do all that we can to win. Everyone has been good and everyone has the potential to win, so we are just going to go out there and do our best."

Maryland

Head Coach Martin Novak

"Our goal was to make the NCAA tournament this year and we did. After that, there are no easy opponents, but we played well today. I think a lot of the outcome had to do with how they (USF) played. We had four seniors on our team and I'm proud with what they have done in NCAA tournament two years in a row now."

Romona But, Senior

"We played a tough team. The weather was not an advantage for us because it is hot here and we only had one day to practice. I think all of us were a little tired and heavy on the court."