

2006 SEC Women's Tennis Championship  
**FIRST ROUND**  
 Linder Stadium at Ring Tennis Complex  
 Gainesville, Florida



	South Carolina (No. 8 Seed)	vs.	Ole Miss (No. 9 Seed)
<b>Date</b>	Thursday, April 20		
<b>Coach</b>	Arlo Elkins	<b>Coach</b>	Mark Beyers

Doubles	South Carolina	vs	Ole Miss	Winner	Score (match length)
No. 1 -	Gira Schofield Natasa Vuckovic		Ilona Somers Virginia Tomatis	UM	8-6 (1:02)
No. 2 -	Christyn Lucas Miranda Gutierrez		Nika Koukhartchouk Kseniia Tokarieva	UM*	8-6 (1:17)
No. 3 -	Megan McGavock Justine Walsh		Carlin Cochran Preethi Subramanian	USC	8-2 (1:00)
<b>Singles</b>					
No. 1 -	Gira Schofield (51)		Kseniia Tokarieva (110)	USC	6-1, 6-1 (1:05)
No. 2 -	Natasa Vuckovic		Ilona Somers	USC*	7-5, 6-4 (2:13)
No. 3 -	Christyn Lucas		Nika Koukhartchouk	DNF	3-6, 6-4, 2-1 USC ahead
No. 4 -	Miranda Gutierrez		Preethi Subramanian	USC	6-3, 7-6 (8-6) (2:10)
No. 5 -	Megan McGavock		Virginia Tomatis	USC	6-4, 6-3 (1:12)
No. 6 -	Justine Walsh		Mimi Renaudin	DNF	3-6, 6-6 Mississippi ahead 1-0
<b>Final Score</b>	South Carolina 4		Ole Miss 1	* Clinched victory	

**Match Notes:** Records: South Carolina 12-9 (4-7 SEC)      Ole Miss 11-9 (4-7 SEC)  
 Order of Finish: Doubles -3, 1, 2      Singles - 1, 5, 4, 2

Winner advances to play No. 1 seed Florida in quarterfinal round at 10 a.m. on Friday ... USC defeated Mississippi for the third straight time ... Gira Schofield improved to 14-7 at the No. 1 position this season ... Match ended with on-court temperature of 97 degrees



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## **Post Match Recap & Quotes**

### **Recap**

After dropping the doubles point, No. 8 seed South Carolina rebounded to defeat No. 9 seed Mississippi 4-1 in Southeastern Conference Women's Tennis Tournament first round action on Thursday at the Ring Tennis Complex.

Mississippi earned the doubles point after a comeback win over South Carolina in the No. 2 doubles match. The Rebel team of Nika Koukhartchouk and Kseniia Tokarieva rallied from a 6-5 deficit after a controversial service call shifted momentum. Mississippi won the match 8-6. The Rebel's No. 1 team of Ilona Somers and Virginia Tomatis held on to defeat South Carolina's Gira Schofield and Natasa Vuckovic 8-6.

South Carolina rebounded by sweeping the singles matches. Co-SEC Freshman of the Year Gira Schofield defeated Kseniia Tokarieva easily 6-1, 6-1 to draw the Gamecocks even. Natasa Vuckovic completed the comeback for South Carolina by defeating Ilona Somers 7-5, 6-4 in the No. 2 singles match.

### **Quotes**

#### **South Carolina**

##### **Head Coach Arlo Elkins**

"We have some injuries. We have been struggling in the doubles, I don't know the last time we won the doubles point. We know that we basically have to win the match without the doubles point. I thought we played well in the singles. There was a controversy with the officials at the end of the doubles' matches and we could have folded. But I thought we came back and fought really hard in the singles. It was hot out there today. Fortunately, I think we weathered the heat a little better than they did."

"Do we have a big task ahead of us tomorrow, yes. Is it an impossible task? I don't think so. We're going into it with the idea that we're going to have fun and we'll see what happens."

##### **Megan McGavock, Sophomore**

"Justine (Walsh) and I haven't been playing together that long. It was one of our first doubles victories. I felt like I played pretty well today. We played Florida about a week and a half ago. We lost but all of the matches were really close. I think it'll be a good match."

#### **Mississippi**

##### **Head Coach Mark Beyers**

"There were a lot of close matches today that we could have won. Every time we were ahead 4-3 we let them come back, but they were really close sets. I don't think the heat was an issue today. We were fortunate to have some heat during practice on Monday and Tuesday. It wasn't as much of an issue as not being able to close out those close sets."

##### **Kseniia Tokarieva, Freshman**

"I didn't play my best today and I feel really bad. It was bad for me because I have a tough time playing when it is really hot. Gina Schofield is a really good player. She attacked every ball and played very well."