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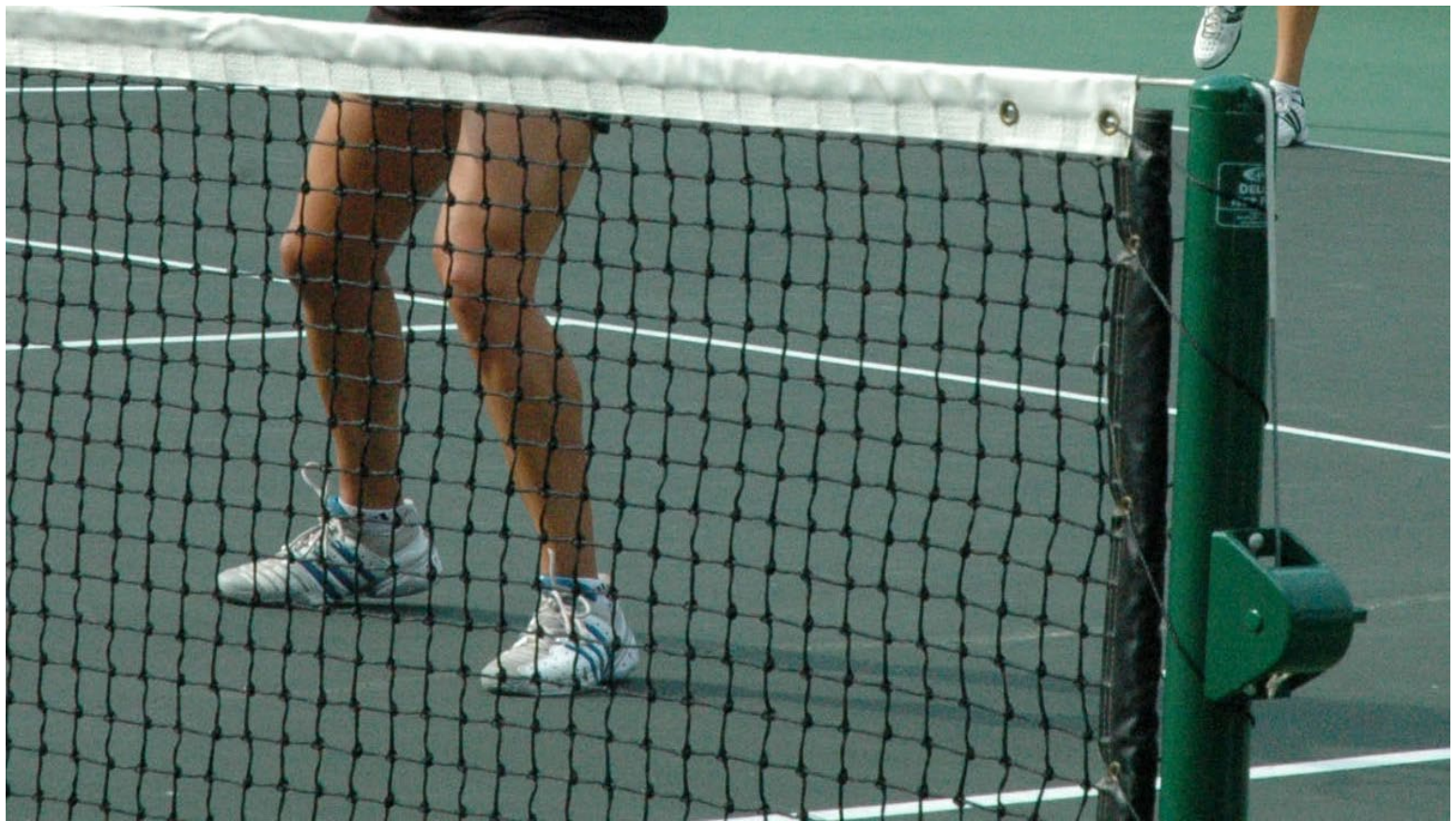
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TENNIS



Tennis Teams With Fine First Day In Two Tournaments





Posted: Oct 10, 2008

OXFORD, Miss. & WINTER PARK, Fla. - The Armstrong Atlantic State men's and women's tennis teams enjoyed a solid first day of competition at a pair of tournaments across the Southeast on Friday.

Three members of the AASU women's squad are competing at the Ole Miss Fall Classic in Oxford, Miss., and the trio combined to go 4-1 in Friday's action. In doubles action, **Martina Beckmann** and **Alida Muller-Wehlau** picked up two wins in the A Draw, defeating Dangond and Israel of Louisiana-Lafayette, 8-6, and then knocking off No. 2 seed Airpetian and Lukomskaya of Arkansas, 8-3.

In singles, Muller-Wehlau won her first-round B Draw singles match over Katie Welch of South Alabama, 6-1, 6-2. Beckmann, meanwhile, won her first-round C Draw singles match with a 6-1, 6-0 win over Rebecca van den Houte of Arkansas-Little Rock. The only casualty of the day was Sona Novakova, who lost to No. 2 seeded Michaela Babicova of South Alabama, 6-2, 6-4, in the A Draw singles.

Meanwhile, three men's and three women's players are in Winter Park, Fla., for the C.L. Varner Invitational, hosted by Rollins College.

The men were 2-1 in singles play, all in the A Draw. Second-seeded Tim Johannsen defeated Pablo Seijo of Rollins, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2, while fourth-seeded Rafael Array knocked off Eugene Dolgovikh of Central Florida, 6-3, 6-4. Paul Fitzgerald fell to fifth-seeded Tarek Ben Soltane of Central Florida, 6-4, 6-3.

The women, meanwhile, went 5-1 in singles play. Sixth-seeded Gabriella Kovacs defeated Isa Ohlinger of Central Florida, 6-1, 6-3, and Lauren Pfeiffer of Florida Gulf Coast, 6-1, 6-1, to advance to the quarterfinals of the A Draw. Alisa Kagukina won her first-round A Draw match, defeating Edita Kulichova of Nova Southeastern, 6-0, 6-3, but lost to top-seed Jenny Frisell of Central Florida, 4-6, 7-5, 6-0, in the second round.

In the B Draw, Kathleen Henry defeated Laime Contreras of Barry, 6-0, 6-1, and Nora Baertschi of Florida Southern, 6-0, 6-2, to advance to the quarterfinals.

Both of AASU's doubles teams received byes on Friday as the top seed - Kagukina and Henry for the women and Array and Johannsen for the men.

Play continues in both tournaments beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday.



ARMSTRONG STATE UNIVERSITY

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