

Winterbottom lifts Braves over Hurricanes

By Matt Smith
Sports Editor

UNCP freshman Mia Winterbottom led the Braves' tennis team to a 5-4 comeback victory March 14 over Georgia Southwestern at UNCP Varsity Tennis Courts after the Braves fell into an early 4-1 hole.

Winterbottom's three-set win in No. 2 singles led the Braves to victory, as the freshman bested Georgia Southwestern's Mollie McGowan 7-5, 4-6, 6-3 in the game's deciding match.

The Braves racked up an early 2-1 deficit in the contest between the Hurricanes, dropping two doubles matches to start the match.

McGary falls

The Hurricanes' duo of Ledy Cuellar and Lauren Grogan bested the UNCP tandem of Jenna McGary and Janna Oxendine 8-2 to pick up Georgia Southwestern's first win of the day.

The Braves would get back on track in No. 2 doubles, as the Black and Gold team of Meredith Pierson and Winterbottom took an 8-5 win over Georgia Southwestern's Katie Adamson and Monica Osam. The Hurricanes would retake the lead in No. 3 doubles, as the Braves' team of

Christian Minnick and Maricel Quintero-Priteo fell 5-6 to McGowan and Melinda Vansant.

Georgia Southwestern would strengthened their lead in the next two contests, as McGary fell in No. 1 singles action to Cuellar 6-3, 6-0 and Pierson dropped the Braves' No. 3 singles match 6-1, 6-0 to Grogan. The Hurricanes would take a 4-1 lead into the final four games, but the Black and Gold battled back to take the next four matches and the win.

Oxendine wins

In No. 5 singles, Oxendine downed Vansant 6-2, 6-0 before Minnick picked up her seventh win of the season with a 6-3, 6-1 victory over Adamson.

Quintero-Prieto tied the team score at 4-4 after a 6-2, 5-7, 6-2 win over Osam.

Winterbottom closed out the match with her victory in No. 2 doubles for the team win.

The victory moved the Braves' record to 5-8 on the season and gave the team their first conference win of 2010.

The Braves will next be in action March 20 as they travel to Montevallo to face the Falcons in Peach Belt Conference action.



UNCP freshman Mia Winterbottom slams a shot back to her opponent. Winterbottom won the Braves' deciding game against the Hurricanes. Photo by Matt Smith



Jenna McGary returns a shot back across the court. Photo by Matt Smith

Braves down Indiana, Seton Hill

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The loss broke the Black and Gold's two game winning streak making the Braves record go to 3-6 on the season. The win made the fifth in a row for the Tornados and improved their record to 5-2 on the season.

The lone team point for the Black and Gold came from No. 1 doubles team of McGary and Oxendine winning 8-6.

Other than the lone win, the Braves looked sluggish. As a team no one was able to pick up even one set in either doubles or singles.

Upper Iowa

The Black and Gold were able to finish the week up strong topping the Peacocks of Upper Iowa 7-2 March 10, in

Hilton Head.

The win put the Braves back on track making their record go to 4-7 on the season. The loss was just the second in the last 10 games making their record 10-3 on the season.

The Black and Gold started off well winning two of three doubles matches. McGary and Oxendine took No. 1 doubles 8-3 and Minnick and Quintero took No. 3 doubles by the score of 8-5.

The Braves also dominated singles play winning five of six matches. The usually dominate McGary was the lone Brave losing in singles play.

However, the other five singles matches were won in an overpowering manner with no one giving up a set.

2010 Tennis Statistics Team Leaders

Singles Results

Jenna McGary	5-5
Christian Minnick	7-6
Janna Oxendine	7-6
Meredith Pierson	4-9
Maricel Quintero	6-7
Beverly Vause	0-3
Mia Winterbottom	4-9

Doubles Results

Jenna McGary	4-6
Christian Minnick	3-10
Janna Oxendine	4-9
Meredith Pierson	3-10
Maricel Quintero	4-9
Beverly Vause	0-3
Mia Winterbottom	2-11

Team Results

Complete Record: 5-8

Home Record: 2-4

Away Record: 0-3

Conference Record: 1-4

Region Record: 2-6