



2016 SEC Women's Tennis Notebook

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Alabama

Alabama (4-17) will take on Missouri in the first round of play at the 2016 Southeastern Conference Women's Tennis Tournament on Wednesday at 10 a.m. CT. In the regular season meeting, the Tigers edged the Crimson Tide, 4-3, in Columbia after winning the doubles point and singles matches on courts two, five and six. That was one of six 4-3 losses in conference play for the Tide. Junior Erin Routliffe led the team with nine singles victories in SEC play, which included eight straight spanning nearly one month of action. Freshman Andie Daniell leads the team overall with 20 wins in her rookie season, nine of which have come against ranked opponents.

Arkansas

The No. 32 Arkansas women's tennis team will begin action at the Southeastern Conference Tournament Thursday in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, meeting No. 21 Mississippi State in second round match. Match time between the Razorbacks (16-12, 5-8) and Bulldogs (16-7, 7-6) is set for 10 a.m. CDT at the LSU Tennis Complex. Arkansas and Mississippi State last met Saturday in Fayetteville, where the Bulldogs won a 5-2 decision during the regular-season finale for both teams. Arkansas is 9-5 in matches away from home this season. In the latest Oracle/ITA singles rankings, senior Yuliya Lysa checked in at a career-best No. 21. In doubles, Lysa and her partner junior Shannon Hudson jumped five spots to No. 42.

Auburn

No. 12 Auburn women's tennis split the weekend with a pair of top-20 opponents, falling to No. 6 Vanderbilt 4-3 on Friday and defeating No. 20 Kentucky on Sunday. Improving to 21-6 (9-4 SEC), the Tigers clinched the fourth seed in the SEC Tournament, which is the highest in program history. Sophomore No. 25 Andie Dikosavljevic was named SEC Player of the Week on Monday after picking up two wins over ranked opponents in singles. She now has 11 wins over ranked opponents on the season. Auburn will begin play in the SEC Tournament on Friday.

Florida

The No. 3 University of Florida women's tennis team clinched the outright 2016 SEC Regular Season Championship with their 4-0 sweep of No. 4 Georgia on Friday night in Athens. The title is the program's 29th and 11th under the direction of head coach Roland Thornqvist. Florida swept the Tennessee Volunteers on Sunday afternoon for the program's 24th undefeated run in SEC regular season play. The Gators are the No. 1 seed in the SEC Tournament in Baton Rouge and will play the winner of LSU and Kentucky on Friday at 3 p.m. ET.

Georgia

Coming off a 1-1 weekend to close the season, the Georgia Bulldogs enter Baton Rouge ranked fourth in the nation and holding on to the No. 3 seed in the SEC Tournament. UGA is led by sophomore Ellen Perez, who completed an undefeated season on the top singles court in conference play with an 11-0 record. Georgia will open its tournament play against either Missouri, Alabama or Texas A&M, three schools that the Bulldogs defeated in the regular season. In his 31st season as the leader of the program, head coach Jeff Wallace is in search of his seventh SEC Tournament crown.

Kentucky

Kentucky has posted a 17-8 record this season, going 6-7 in the Southeastern Conference. The 17 wins tie the third-most in head coach Carlos Drada's tenure. The Wildcats matched last year's SEC record, which was the best winning percent-age within the league since the 2008 campaign. Kentucky's No. 1 doubles pairing of Mami Adachi and Aldila Sutjiadi are currently ranked No. 1 in the latest ITA/Oracle rankings. The two are on a 15-match winning streak and swept the Southeastern Conference with a record of 11-0. In the fall, Adachi and Sutjiadi went to the finals of two national championships, finishing runner-up in both the Oracle/ITA Masters and the ITA/USTA National Indoor Intercollegiate Championships. Kentucky has taken on 14 teams that rank in the current top 50 of the ITA rankings, including nine in the top 25 and four in the top 10.

LSU

No. 20 LSU moved to 17-10 overall and 6-7 in conference play after dropping the regular season finale to Texas A&M. The Lady Tigers earned the eight seed and will take on ninth-seeded Kentucky at 2 p.m. Thursday. The winner will move on to face top-seeded Florida at 2 p.m. Friday. Junior Abby Owens leads the team with 11 conference wins. Owens is one of four players with double digit conference wins this season.

Ole Miss

Ole Miss went 4-1 last week to close out the regular season. The Rebels defeated Arkansas State twice by a 4-0 score and then won at Arkansas 4-2 before dropping a 4-3 decision at Missouri. Four of the Rebels losses this year have been 4-3. The Rebels are ranked No. 40 in the latest ITA Oracle Rankings. Sophomore Arianne Hartono is ranked No. 29 in singles. She leads the team with a 20-11 overall record, 13-5 in dual matches. She finished 6-5 in the SEC at No. 1 singles. Natalie Suk is ranked No. 84 and Mai El Kamash is ranked No. 103. In doubles, Hartono and El Kamash are ranked No. 27. The Rebels begin play in the SEC Tournament Wednesday at 10 a.m. vs. Tennessee.

Mississippi State

To close out regular season conference play, the 21st-ranked Mississippi State women's tennis team (16-7, 7-6 SEC) won both of its matches against No. 65 Missouri and No. 29 Arkansas. On Thursday, the Bulldogs downed the Tigers 4-1. Following on Saturday MSU ousted the Razorbacks 5-2 to win its fourth straight match before heading into the tournament. With Saturday's victory, Greenan moved into a tie for second in all-time career coaching victories for MSU women's tennis, matching Andy Jackson's 68 wins from 1985-89. The team is back in action on Thursday when they face No. 32 Arkansas at 10 a.m., as they begin play at the SEC Tournament, after a first-round bye.

Missouri

No. 65 Mizzou Tennis opens the 2016 SEC Tournament with a first round matchup against No. 61 Alabama. Earlier this season, Mizzou defeated Alabama at home, 4-3, on March 20. In each of the last two seasons, Mizzou has advanced to the second round of the SEC Tournament with wins over Arkansas. Mizzou closed out the regular season on Saturday with a 4-3 win over No. 40 Ole Miss. Senior Kelli Hine (New Braunfels, Texas) earned two wins on the day in her final match at the Mizzou Tennis Complex, including a straight sets singles win over No. 80 Natalie Yuk. Junior Bea Machado Santos (Lisbon, Portugal) earned her sixth win over a ranked opponent this season in the win over the Rebels, knocking off No. 22 Arianna Hartono in three sets. With the win, Santos jumped up nine spots in the Oracle/ITA Tennis Singles Rankings, moving up to No. 53.

South Carolina

No. 11 South Carolina women's tennis split a pair of matches on the road last weekend, earning a 7-0 sweep of Tennessee before falling at Georgia. Junior Brigit Folland became just the fourth Gamecock to earn nine SEC singles wins after her third and fourth straight wins this weekend. The Gamecocks head into the SEC Tournament as the No. 5-seed after winning nine SEC battles, tying a program high, and earning its highest SEC finish (T4) since 2007. The team's first match of the tournament will take place Thursday at 2 p.m. CT against the winner of Tennessee and Ole Miss.

Tennessee

The Tennessee women's tennis team (8-16, 1-13 SEC) were shut out in both of their matches this past weekend, losing to No. 11 South Carolina, 7-0, and No. 4 Florida, 4-0, at Barksdale Stadium. The Vols finished the regular season with one ranked singles player (No. 66 Sadie Hammond) and one ranked doubles team (No. 79 Hammond/Repic). UT will be back in action Wednesday for the first round of the SEC Tournament at the LSU Tennis Complex in Baton Rouge, where they will face 40th-ranked Ole Miss at 11 a.m. Eastern time.

Texas A&M

No. 18 Texas A&M (15-9, 7-6 SEC) wrapped up the regular season with a 4-0 victory over then-No. 18 LSU to finish in a tie for sixth place with Mississippi State in the conference standings. The Aggies are the No. 6 seed in the SEC Tournament and will take on the winner between No. 11 seed Missouri and No. 14 seed Alabama on Thursday at 10 a.m. at the LSU Tennis Complex in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. A&M defeated Missouri, 7-0, and Alabama, 4-1, during the regular season. Junior Saska Gavrilovska enters the tournament ranked a career-high No. 25 in the ITA singles rankings. Junior Rutuja Bhosale, who is riding a team-high four match win streak, including three wins against higher-ranked opponents, jumped from 105 to No. 74, her highest singles ranking since the 2015 fall preseason rankings. In doubles, Rachel Pierson and Eva Paalma are No. 31, and Bhosale and Mamalat are No. 72 and enter the tournament riding a team-best six match winning streak.

Vanderbilt

The No. 5 Vanderbilt women's tennis team capped off the regular season going undefeated at home. The Commodores pulled out a 4-3 victory over No. 12 Auburn with Courtney Colton clinching the victory. On Sunday, the 'Dores defeated No. 62 Alabama 6-1 on senior day. Fernanda Contreras was named SEC Freshman of the week. With an 11-2 SEC record, the Commodores enter the SEC tournament as the No. 2 seed sitting behind the regular season champion Florida Gators. UGA earned the third seed after falling to UF on Friday.