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WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / January 16, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Bryan Fyalkowski

[Head Coach Greg Davis Interview](#)

LADY TOPPERS BEGIN 2022 CAMPAIGN AT BELLARMINE ON MLK DAY

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — WKU Tennis start its 2022 spring season on Monday, January 17, as the Lady Toppers travel to Bellarmine for their first dual match of the year. Doubles play at the Eddie Weber Tennis Complex will begin at 12 noon CT.

“Bellarmine is a very improved team and we’re going to have our hands full right out of the gate,” head coach Greg Davis said. “The great part about our team is we have a lot of options. It’s going to be lineup by committee and our depth is definitely going to be a strong point this year.”

WKU is 7-0 all-time against Bellarmine, with the first matchup a 7-0 victory in 2006 and the most recent being a 7-0 win in 2021. The Knights had an undefeated 9-0 dual match record in 2020 before the remainder of the season was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, they made the jump to NCAA Division I and the Atlantic Sun Conference and proceeded to go 0-17. Bellarmine previously competed in Division II and the Great Lakes Athletic Conference.

The Knights were supposed to begin their 2022 season on Sunday, January 16 at Kentucky, but it was postponed due to predicted inclement weather.

In three fall events – the Samford Round Robin, Butler Invitational and UC/Pam Whitehead Invitational – WKU went 26-22 overall in singles play and posted a 10-12 record in doubles. The Lady Toppers will return to organized team practices after New Year's in preparation for the spring season.

WKU finished the 2021 spring campaign with a 7-14 overall record. The Lady Toppers capped the season with five victories in the team's final nine matches, which included a three-match win streak during that stretch. The team returns four letterwinners – Laura Bernardos, Alexis Cramer, Samantha Martinez and Cora-Lynn von Dungern – to go along with newcomers Sofia Blanco, Paola Cortez, Rachel Hermanova, Taylor Shaw and Mariana Zegada.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / January 17, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Bryan Fyalkowski

LADY TOPPERS BEAT BELLARMINE, 5-2, TO START 2022 SEASON

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — WKU Tennis began its 2022 campaign with a 5-2 victory at Bellarmine on Monday afternoon. The Lady Toppers improved to 8-0 all-time against the Knights, including wins in back-to-back seasons.

WKU got off to a quick 1-0 start by winning the doubles point. The No. 1 pair of Paola Cortez and Cora-Lynn von Dungern took a 6-2 decision, then the No. 3 duo of Sofia Blanco and Mariana Zegada clinched the opening point with a 6-4 victory. The Lady Toppers started just where they left off from the 2021 season, when they won 14 doubles points in 21 matches.

After Laura Bernardos began singles play with a 6-4, 6-0 win at the No. 2 spot to give WKU a 2-0 lead, Bellarmine bounced back. The hosts won the next two decisions at the No. 1 and No. 3 spots to knot the score at 2-2.

The bottom of the Lady Toppers' lineup showcased its depth, as the No. 4, 5 and 6 singles results all went to the visitors. Taylor Shaw, Rachel Hermanova and Samantha Martinez all posted straight-set wins to give WKU the 5-2 team win. The freshman Hermanova secured the match-clinching point.

"I thought the team played well. Bellarmine has a much-improved team and we knew going into this match that it wouldn't be easy," head coach Greg Davis said. "Our freshmen – Sofia, Rachel and Mariana – did a great job in their first college match."

The Lady Toppers' next six matches over the next four weeks will be in Bowling Green, starting with a matchup against UT Martin on Sunday, January 23. WKU and the Skyhawks will begin play at 2 p.m.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 2,1,3,4,5,6)

- 1: Ekaterina Tikhonko (BU) def. Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) 7-6, 6-4, 1-0 (3)
- 2: Laura Bernardos (WKU) def. Rose Pastoret (BU) 6-4, 6-0
- 3: Madison Devillez (BU) def. Paola Cortez (WKU) 4-6, 6-4, 6-4
- 4: Taylor Shaw (WKU) def. Ashley Jonathan (BU) 6-2, 6-0
- 5: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Channing Varnum (BU) 6-0, 6-1
- 6: Samantha Martinez (WKU) def. Maja Kozerski (BU) 6-0, 6-2

Doubles (Order of finish 1,3)

- 1: Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) def. Devillez/Pastoret (BU) 6-2
- 2: Tikhonko/Varnum (BU) vs. Bernardos/Martinez (WKU) 5-3, unfinished
- 3: Blanco/Zegada (WKU) def. Jonathan/Kozerski (BU) 6-4

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / January 29, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Bryan Fyalkowski

LADY TOPPERS CONTINUE PLAY WITH SUNDAY DOUBLEHEADER

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continues its 2022 spring season on Sunday, January 30, as the team hosts the Lipscomb Bisons and UT Martin Skyhawks for a doubleheader. Doubles play at the Michael O. Buchanan Park tennis facility will begin at 1 p.m. against Lipscomb and 6 p.m. against UT Martin.

WKU is 13-13 all-time against Lipscomb, with the first matchup taking place in 2001. The sides have gone back-and-forth over the past 21 years, both winning half of the 26 matches. Last season, the Lady Toppers visited Lipscomb in Nashville where the Bisons took the dual match, 4-2.

Lipscomb had a dual match record of 3-8 in 2020 before the remainder of the season was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, they held a record of 10-9, losing in the second round of the Atlantic Sun Conference Tournament to North Florida, 4-0.

The Bisons faced Tarleton State on Friday and lost by a score of 5-2 in their first dual match of the regular season.

The Hilltoppers are 5-2 all-time against UT Martin, with the first matchup taking place in 1981. Prior to their matchup last season, the sides had not met since 1991. Last March, WKU swept the Skyhawks, 7-0, marking their first home match win in over four years.

UT Martin had a dual match record of 1-9 in 2020 before the remainder of the season was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, they held a record of 2-15, with both wins coming in Ohio Valley Conference play.

The Skyhawks hosted back-to-back dual matches against Missouri in September, dropping both matches 7-0 and 5-0. Following that, UT Martin competed in a few tournaments throughout the Southern Region, including the Austin Peay Fall Tournament, the North Alabama Fall Tournament, and the ITA Ohio Valley Regionals.

WKU has started its season 1-0 in dual matches with a win at Bellarmine on January 17. The Lady Toppers were scheduled for a rematch against the Knights last weekend on January 24 in Bowling Green, but it was canceled.

LADY TOPPER TENNIS COLLECTS TWO WINS ON SUNDAY, MOVES TO 3-0

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continued its 2022 campaign with two wins on Sunday against the Lipscomb Bisons and the UT Martin Skyhawks.

"We wanted to get everyone some match play and we were able to be successful doing that today," head coach Greg Davis said. "We are happy to be 3-0 but we have a great deal of work ahead this week to get ready for Austin Peay on Saturday."

The Lady Toppers' next four matches over the next two weeks will be in Bowling Green, continuing with matchups against Austin Peay on Saturday, February 5 and IUPUI on Sunday February 6. WKU and the Governors will begin play at 1 p.m.

Lipscomb Recap

WKU got off to a 1-0 start by winning the doubles point. The No. 1 duo of Paola Cortez and Cora-Lynn von Dungern took a 6-2 decision, then the No. 3 pair of Sofia Blanco and Mariana Zegada clinched the doubles point with a 6-2 victory, as well.

The Lady Toppers continued their success from doubles play to singles play with two wins in a row coming from Paola Cortez (6-2, 6-0) and Laura Bernardos (6-2, 6-0), to take a commanding 3-0 lead. The Bisons answered, winning at the No. 1 spot, but Rachel Hermanova clinched the match for WKU winning at the No. 5 spot, 7-6, 6-2. With the Lady Toppers winning 4-1, the rest of the singles matches were played out. The final two results finished in Lipscomb's favor, winning at the No. 4 and No. 6 spots, to make the final tally, 4-3.

"Really proud of this team. We have all had great respect for Lipscomb and they have had our number for the past three years," head coach Greg Davis said. "Laura And Paola played exceptional in singles today, as well as freshman Rachel Hermanova, who clinched the match at five."

Final Results vs. Lipscomb

Singles (Order of finish: 3,2,1,5,6,4)

- 1: Sasha Dobranos (LIP) def. Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) 6-2, 6-1
- 2: Laura Bernardos (WKU) def. Kate Popova (LIP) 6-2, 6-2
- 3: Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Anja Trbeznik (LIP) 6-2, 6-0
- 4: Liza Diachenko (LIP) def. Taylor Shaw (WKU) 6-4, 1-6, 7-6 (2)
- 5: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Maddox Bandy (LIP) 7-6 (2), 6-2
- 6: Eleanor Chapman (LIP) def. Samantha Martinez (WKU) 3-6, 6-1, 6-0

Doubles (Order of finish 1,3)

- 1: Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) def. Dobranos/Diachenko (LIP) 6-2
- 2: Bernardos/Martinez (WKU) vs. Bandy/Popova (LIP) 4-5, unfinished
- 3: Blanco/Zegada (WKU) def. Trbeznik/Howard (LIP) 6-2

UT Martin Recap

WKU won the doubles point for the third straight match. This time, the No. 3 duo of Sofia Blanco and Mariana Zegada started off strong for the Lady Toppers, winning 6-2. Once again, the No. 1 pair of Cora-Lynn von

Dungern and Paola Cortez took care of business to secure the doubles point going into singles play.

In singles play, the Lady Toppers just needed three matches to go their way to secure the victory against the Skyhawks and they did just that. Cora-Lynn von Dungern added another point at the No. 1 spot, winning 6-4, 6-3, then No. 5 Rachel Hermanova won 6-1, 6-3 in her singles matchup. The match was capped off by way of Alexis Cramer at No. 6, winning 6-3, 6-2 to give the WKU the sweep, beating the Skyhawks, 4-0.

"We were able to finish off the day 2-0 after some very strong singles play at one, five, and six," head coach Greg Davis said. "I thought winning the doubles points were very pivotal in today's victories."

Final Results vs. UT Martin

Singles (Order of finish: 1,5,6)

- 1: Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) def Amelia Campbell (UTM) 6-4, 6-3
- 2: Laura Bernardos (WKU) vs. Jule Streif (UTM) 4-6, 6-4, unfinished
- 3: Paola Cortez (WKU) vs. Sina Albersmeier (UTM) 7-6 (2), 3-3, unfinished
- 4: Taylor Shaw (WKU) vs. Aziza Aubin (UTM) 2-6, 6-2, 1-4- unfinished
- 5: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Mizuki Sakurai (UTM) 6-1, 6-3
- 6: Alexis Cramer (WKU) def. Jillian Niedzialowski (UTM) 6-3, 6-2

Doubles (Order of finish 3,1,2)

- 1: Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) def. Dobranos/Diachenko (LIP) 6-2
- 2: Bernardos/Martinez (WKU) vs. Bandy/Popova (LIP) 4-5, unfinished
- 3: Blanco/Zegada (WKU) def. Trbeznik/Howard (LIP) 6-2

**WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / February 5, 2022
TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd**

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continues its 2022 spring season on Sunday, February 6, as the squad hosts the IUPUI Jaguars. Doubles play at the Michael O. Buchanon Park tennis facility will begin at 1 p.m.

The Lady Toppers are coming off back-to-back wins in a doubleheader last Sunday, January 30 against the Lipscomb Bisons, 4-3 and the UT Martin Skyhawks, 5-0.

“We were really happy with those victories,” head coach Greg Davis said. “I thought we played extremely hard and competed well in most of the spots. The big challenge is trying to come back in that second match after a big win. As a coach, you always guard against a drop off that next match and our next match was an hour and a half away, so we were really pleased with how we played.”

WKU is 2-4 all-time against IUPUI, with the first match taking place in 2001. The Lady Toppers won the first meeting, 5-2 in Clarksville, Tenn. The sides would go on to face off four more times in the next five years, with the Jaguars winning all four matches. In 2020, WKU won the first dual match between the two teams since 2006, 5-2 in Indianapolis, Ind.

IUPUI had a dual match record of 1-11 in 2020 before the remainder of the season was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, they held a record of 2-12, with both wins coming against the DePauw Tigers.

The Jaguars have a 1-6 record after losing to Middle Tennessee on Friday afternoon by a score of 7-0. They will come to The Hill for their third match in three days after playing at Belmont on Saturday evening.

WKU has started its season 3-0 in dual matches with a win at Bellarmine on January 17 and both wins from last weekend’s doubleheader. The Lady Toppers were scheduled for a home match against Austin Peay on Saturday, February 5, but it has been moved to Friday, March 4.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / February 6, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

LADY TOPPERS SWEEP IUPUI; TIE BEST START IN PROGRAM HISTORY

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis recorded a 7-0 sweep of the IUPUI Jaguars on Sunday to move 4-0 on the season, tying their best start in program history. This is only the third time the Lady Toppers have started 4-0, with the last two coming in 2009-10 and 2006-07.

“I give our team credit. We played well. We played focused. Everybody had a role in the win today. Extremely proud of the team.” head coach Greg Davis said. “We have three very tough matches next week. It is going to be a very challenging weekend for us coming up.”

WKU Tennis will play three matches in three days next weekend, starting on Friday, Feb. 11 when they host Northern Kentucky at 6:30 p.m. On Saturday, Feb. 12, Samford will visit The Hill, with doubles matches starting at 1 p.m. Then, on Sunday, Feb. 13, the team will hit the road for a match up against Kentucky in Lexington, Ky. Home matches on Friday and Saturday will be played at the Michael O. Buchanan tennis facility.

WKU started off hot and never looked back, winning the doubles point. Sofia Blanco and Mariana Zegada were the first to finish on Court 2, winning in convincing fashion, 6-0, to give WKU the early edge. Laura Bernardos and Samantha Martinez then clinched the doubles point with a 6-2 victory. Only two doubles matches were played due to injury issues within the IUPUI program.

Going into singles play, the Lady Toppers had already claimed a 3-0 lead, winning by default due to more injuries at the No. 5 and No. 6 spots for IUPUI. Cora-Lynn von Dungern had the early 5-1 edge in the first set when her opponent then had to retire the match due to injury, clinching the victory for WKU. The final three matches were played out, all going in favor of the Lady Toppers, who never dropped a set throughout the match. Rachel Hermanova extended the lead, winning 6-2, 6-3 at the No. 3 spot. Alexis Cramer followed right behind her, recording a 6-1, 6-2 victory at No.4. Paola Cortez also won in straight sets at the No. 2 slot, 6-2, 6-3, giving WKU a 7-0 sweep.

“Again, our depth really helped us, and I was able to play eight players today. One of the things we really wanted to do in the early part of the year was get everyone in some matches. Get us some experience, so that would help us the longer we go throughout the season.” head coach Greg Davis said. Everybody stepped up in both doubles and singles today. As a coach, and an IUPUI grad, you are always happy to beat your alma-mater.”

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 6,5,1,3,4,2)

- 1: Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) def. Christina Stankovic (IUPUI) 5-1, retirement (injury)
- 2: Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Meghan Bernard (IUPUI) 6-2, 6-3
- 3: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Samantha Hayward (IUPUI) 6-2, 6-3
- 4: Alexis Cramer (WKU) def. Marta Krakowski (IUPUI) 6-1, 6-2
- 5: Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. Diya Matta (IUPUI) by default (injury)
- 6: Samantha Martinez (WKU) def. No player (IUPUI) by default (injury)

Doubles (Order of finish: 3,2,1)

- 1: Bernardos/Martinez (WKU) def. Bernard/Hayward (IUPUI) 6-2
- 2: Blanco/Zegada (WKU) vs. Bandy/Popova (IUPUI) 6-0
- 3: Hermanova/Cramer (WKU) def. No player (IUPUI) by default

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / February 9, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

THREE MATCHES IN THREE DAYS UPCOMING FOR WKU TENNIS

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis has a busy weekend on the schedule with three matches in three days. The Lady Toppers host Northern Kentucky on Friday, Feb. 11 and Samford on Saturday, Feb. 12, then on Sunday, Feb. 13 the team will travel to Lexington to match up against Kentucky.

Doubles play at the Michael O. Buchanon Park tennis facility will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Friday and 1 p.m. on Saturday. In Lexington, play will begin at 3 p.m. CT.

The Lady Toppers are coming off a 7-0 sweep against IUPUI this past Sunday, Feb. 6. With the win, WKU has started 4-0 for the first time since the 2009-10 season.

WKU is 2-4 all-time against NKU, with the first match taking place in 2007. The Lady Toppers won the first meeting in Bowling Green by a score of 6-1, then pulled out another 6-1 victory in Crestview Hills in 2013. The sides would go on to face off four more times over the next eight years, with the Norse winning all four matches.

NKU had a dual match record of 7-6 in 2021, besting WKU in their first match of the season. In 2022, the Norse hold a record of 1-2, with their only win coming against Thomas More, 7-0.

The Lady Toppers have only one prior matchup with Samford, coming in the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic season. The Bulldogs won the match, 4-1, in Birmingham.

Samford had a dual match record of 14-11 in 2021, losing in the first round of the Southern Conference Tournament. In 2022, they hold a record of 2-3, with wins coming against Alabama State and North Alabama.

WKU will face Kentucky for the third time in program history this Sunday. WKU traveled to Lexington in 2019 and 2021, dropping both matches.

Last season, Kentucky held an overall record of 16-9, losing in the second round of the NCAA Tournament to California. In 2022, the Wildcats are off to a perfect 6-0 start, coming off a doubleheader sweep of Southeast Missouri State on January 23.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / February 12, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

LADY TOPPERS FALL TO SAMFORD 4-3 ON SATURDAY

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis suffered their first loss of the 2022 campaign losing 4-3 to Samford on Saturday, bringing their record to 5-1 on the season.

“The doubles point was crucial. I thought we had to win the doubles point to win the match. We were in position to, it just got away from us.” head coach Greg Davis said. “Tomorrow, we play Kentucky. They are always in the top 25, top 30 in the country. It will be a challenge, but we are looking forward to it. We are excited to make that trip and have a chance to play one of the best teams in the country.”

WKU Tennis will finish off the weekend against Kentucky in Lexington, Ky. tomorrow at 3 p.m. CT.

The Lady Toppers lost the doubles point for the first time this season, dropping two of three matches. Samford took the first decision on Court 3, but the Lady Toppers responded with Cora-Lynn von Dungern and Paola Cortez who stayed perfect as a doubles duo this season, winning 7-6 (4). The final doubles match ended in a tiebreaker, with Samford winning 7-6 (3) to get the doubles point.

Looking to even the match in singles play, Laura Bernardos stayed hot. She was the first to finish at the No. 2 spot, winning 6-4, 6-4 and improving her singles record to 4-0 on the season. Following this, the Bulldogs would win at the No. 3, No. 1, and No. 6 slots, taking the 4-1 lead and securing the victory. The final two matches were played out, both ending in super tiebreakers. Rachel Hermanova also continued her unbeaten streak, winning 6-4, 3-6, (10-8) and improving to 6-0 on the season. The final match to finish saw Taylor Shaw prevail, winning 4-6, 7-6 (5), (10-8) getting her second singles match victory of the season.

“They are a great team. We had not been in a 4-3 match all season. Today we were.” coach Davis said. “I give Samford credit. They had to make the plays to win it. It was a very difficult match. There was not going to be one easy match on the court, in doubles or singles today.”

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 2,3,1,6,5,4)

- 1: Rouxanne Janse Van Rensburg (SAM) def. Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) 6-4, 7-6 (6)
- 2: Laura Bernardos (WKU) def. Sofia Zaprianov (SAM) 6-4, 6-4
- 3: Samantha Nanere (SAM) def. Paola Cortez (WKU) 7-5, 6-4
- 4: Taylor Shaw (WKU) def. Ally Hayduk (SAM) 4-6, 7-6 (5), (10-8) (super tiebreaker)
- 5: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Olivia Jablonski (SAM) 6-4, 3-6, (10-8) (super tiebreaker)
- 6: Lindsay Song (SAM) def. Alexis Cramer (WKU) 7-5, 6-3

Doubles (Order of finish 1,3,2)

- 1: von Dungern/Cortez (WKU) def. Van Rensburg/Lopez (SAM) 7-6 (4)
- 2: Jablonski/Song (SAM) def. Bernardos/Martinez (WKU) 7-6 (3)
- 3: Zaprianov/Nanere (SAM) def. Blanco/Zegada (WKU) 6-3

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / February 11, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

WKU BESTS NKU FOR BEST START IN D1 PROGRAM HISTORY

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continued their historical start to the 2022 campaign with a 5-2 win against NKU on Friday to improve to 5-0 on the season, marking the best start in program Division 1 history.

“Very happy to have the record. To be the first team since WKU has been Division 1 in the early 80s to start 5-0,” head coach Greg Davis said. “Samford is going to be very difficult. They are a really good team. They will be the toughest team we’ve faced all year, so we have a big challenge ahead of us tomorrow.”

WKU Tennis will play two more matches this weekend, taking the courts tomorrow against Samford at 1 p.m. Then, On Sunday, Feb. 13, the team will hit the road for a match up against Kentucky in Lexington, Ky. Tomorrow’s home match will be played at the Michael O. Buchanan tennis facility.

The Lady Toppers won the doubles point for the fifth consecutive match. Laura Bernardos and Samantha Martinez finished first on Court 2, winning in, 6-0, to give WKU the early edge. Cora-Lynn von Dungern and Paola Cortez then clinched the doubles point with a 6-1 victory on Court 1. Sofia Blanco and Mariana Zegada were leading 5-3 on Court 3 and did not finish.

With the early 1-0 lead, the Lady Toppers looked to extend it going into singles play. Laura Bernardos was able to do so, finishing first of the six matches, winning 6-0, 6-2 at the No. 2 spot. Rachel Hermanova soon followed that up with a win of her own, 6-0, 6-3, on Court 5. Alexis Cramer was able to clinch the match for WKU winning, 6-2, 6-4 at No. 6. With the match already decided, the rest of the singles matches were played out. NKU clinched their first point of the match, winning in three sets at the No. 1 spot. Paola Cortez gave WKU their fifth point, in a hard fought match, winning, 7-5, 5-7, 10-7. The third set was a super tiebreaker due to the match already being decided. NKU then claimed their second point at the No. 4 slot in another three set match.

“It was a great team win. That is one of those teams that has beaten us three times in a row and I thought this was our best doubles performance of the year,” head coach Greg Davis said. “We came out in doubles and we were up 4-0 on three courts. I think that made a big difference We were very decisive in our doubles play.”

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 2,5,6,1,3,4)

- 1: Maria Koo (NKU) def. Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) 3-6, 6-2, 6-4
- 2: Laura Bernardos (WKU) def. Elizabeth Rozin (NKU) 6-0, 6-2
- 3: Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Laura Grau (NKU) 5-7, 7-5, 10-7 (super tiebreaker)
- 4: Sylvia Gray (NKU) def. Taylor Shaw (WKU) 2-6, 6-4, 7-6 (3)
- 5: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Ananya Kothakota (NKU) 6-0, 6-3
- 6: Alexis Cramer (WKU) def. Dani Rosenberger (NKU) 6-2, 6-4

Doubles (Order of finish 2,1,DNF)

- 1: von Dungern/Cortez (WKU) def. Koo/Grau (NKU) 6-1
- 2: Bernardos/Martinez (WKU) vs. Tanelova/Rosenberger (NKU) 6-0
- 3: Blanco/Zegada (WKU) vs. Rozin/Gray (NKU) 5-3, unfinished

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / February 12, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

WKU DEFEATED BY KENTUCKY ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis lost their second straight match of the 2022 campaign losing 4-0 to Kentucky on Sunday, bringing their record to 5-2 on the season.

The Lady Toppers lost the doubles point for just the second time this season, dropping two of three matches 6-1 and 6-2. The Court 1 match went unfinished. In singles play, the Lady Toppers dropped three straight singles matches, giving Kentucky the 4-0 victory. The rest of the singles matches went unfinished.

“Kentucky showed why they are a top 25 team.” head coach Greg Davis said. “Very deep, very consistent. I thought we competed well against one of the top teams in the country.”

WKU returns to play on Saturday, Feb. 19 with a home match against Ball State and then face North Alabama the next day on Feb. 20, at home as well. The Cardinals have a 3-1 record, while the Lions are 0-8 thus far.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 3,4,2)

- 1: Carlota Molina (UK) vs. Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) 6-3, unfinished
- 2: Carla Girbau (UK) def. Laura Bernardos (WKU) 6-2, 6-2
- 3: Fiona Arrese (UK) def. Taylor Shaw (WKU) 6-2, 6-1
- 4: Florencia Urrutia (UK) def. Rachel Hermanova (WKU) 6-4, 6-1
- 5: Alexis Cramer (WKU) vs. Lidia Gonzalez (UK) unfinished
- 6: Sofia Blanco (WKU) vs. Maiaken Morante (UK) unfinished

Doubles (Order of finish 3,2,DNF)

- 1: von Dungern/Cortez (WKU) vs. Arrese/Urrutia (UK) unfinished
- 2: Girbau/Eades (UK) def. Bernardos/Martinez (WKU) 6-2
- 3: Molina/Gonzalez (UK) def. Blanco/Zegada (WKU) 6-1

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / February 18, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

LADY TOPPER TENNIS SET TO FACE BALL STATE, NORTH ALABAMA THIS WEEKEND

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continues its busy home match schedule this weekend. The Lady Toppers host Ball State on Saturday, Feb. 19 and North Alabama on Sunday, Feb. 20.

Doubles play at the Michael O. Buchanon Park tennis facility will begin at 1 p.m. on both days.

Last weekend, the Lady Toppers became the first team in program Division 1 history to start a season 5-0, beating NKU, 5-2 on Friday. WKU has since lost two straight matches. Losing to Samford in a hard fought fought on Saturday, 4-3, and losing to Kentucky on Sunday, 4-0.

WKU is 1-7 all-time against Ball State, with the first match taking place in 1991. The Lady Toppers beat the Cardinals for the first time in 2018, 4-3 in Muncie, Ind. The sides would go on to face off three more times in the next three years, with Ball State winning all three matches.

Ball State had a dual match record of 10-2 in 2020 before the remainder of the season was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, they held a record of 22-4, losing to Vanderbilt in the NCAA Tournament, 4-0.

The Cardinals have a 3-1 record after beating Oakland last Saturday by a score of 6-1. They will come to The Hill for the first time since 2002.

The Lady Toppers are 7-8 all-time against North Alabama, with the first match taking place in 2005. WKU won the last matchup, last season, 5-2 in Florence, Ala.

North Alabama had a dual match record of 6-9 in 2020 before the rest of the season was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, they held a record of 6-14, losing to Lipscomb in the Atlantic Sun Conference Tournament, 4-0.

The Lions have a 0-9 record after falling to Troy last Wednesday by a score of 4-3. They will face WKU in Bowling Green for the first time since 2019.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / February 19, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

WKU DOWNED BY BALL STATE; HERMANOVA WINS IN STRAIGHT SETS

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis was defeated by Ball State by a score of 5-2 on Saturday afternoon at the Michael O. Buchanon tennis facility.

The Lady Toppers lost the doubles point for just the third time this season, dropping two of the three matches. The Cardinals went on to win the first three singles matches, giving them the 4-0 lead, and clinching the win. The rest of the matches were played out, with two of the final three singles matches going in favor of the Lady Toppers, making the final score, 5-2.

“They were 22-4 in the MAC last year. We were with them punch-for-punch today. Beating teams like this, you just have to be put in that situation over and over again. I think this will help us the rest of the year.” head coach Greg Davis said. “We will come back tomorrow and play a tough North Alabama team. We have played them every year I have been here. It has been a knock-down, drag-out every time. It is not going to be easy. We are happy because it is at 1 p.m. and it is our first match outside tomorrow at our facility, so we are looking forward to a good competition.”

Ball State took both decisions at the No. 1 and No. 2 spots of the doubles matches. The No. 3 pair of Sofia Blanco and Samantha Martinez held the lead, 5-3, before the match was deemed unfinished. After dropping the No. 3, No. 4, and No. 6 singles matches, Rachel Hermanova put the Lady Toppers on the board, winning in straight sets at the No. 5 slot, 6-3, 6-4. She improved to a team-best, 7-1 on the season. Following that, Laura Bernardos won at the No. 2 spots, also in straight sets, 6-4, 6-3, improving to 5-1 in singles matches.

WKU fell to 5-3 on the campaign, while Ball State improves to 4-1 overall.

WKU returns to play tomorrow, Sunday, Feb. 20 with a home match against North Alabama. This will be the first home outdoors match of the spring season for the Lady Toppers and will be played at the WKU Tennis Complex on south campus.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 3,4,6,5,2,1)

- 1: Emma Peeler (BSU) def. Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) 6-3, 3-6, (10-8) (super tiebreaker)
- 2: Laura Bernardos (WKU) def. Jessica Braun (BSU) 6-4, 6-3
- 3: Mariya Polishchuk (BSU) def. Paola Cortez (WKU) 6-0, 6-0
- 4: Amy Kaplan (BSU) def. Taylor Shaw (WKU) 6-2, 6-0
- 5: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Hannah Davies (BSU) 6-3, 6-4
- 6: Elena Malykh (BSU) def. Sofia Blanco (WKU) 6-2, 6-1

Doubles (Order of finish 2,1,DNF)

- 1: Polishchuk/Peeler (BSU) def. von Dungern/Cortez (WKU) 6-3
- 2: Kaplan/Davies (BSU) def. Bernardos/Zegada (WKU) 6-0
- 3: Blanco/Martinez (WKU) vs. Lukacs/Braun (WKU) 5-3, unfinished

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / February 20, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

LADY TOPPERS ROLL OVER NORTH ALABAMA; IMPROVE TO 6-3

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis defeated North Alabama by a score of 5-2 on Sunday afternoon at the WKU Tennis Complex.

“For this being our first match outside and considering that we had only played outside two or three times all year, I thought the effort and everything was pretty good today.” head coach Greg Davis said. “The conditions were not great. Anytime you have a 20 mile per hour wind, you are not going to play your best. It all comes down to who manages the conditions the best, and I think we did a good job of that.”

WKU is now 8-8 all-time against the Lions, winning the last two meetings.

The Lady Toppers won the doubles point for the sixth time this season, winning on Court 1 and Court 3. The No. 3 duo of Sofia Blanco and Samantha Martinez finished first on Court 3, winning 6-3. WKU was able to clinch the doubles point shortly after, with the No. 1 pair of Cora-Lynn von Dungern and Paola Cortez taking the victory, 6-1 on Court 1. They improve to a team-best, 6-1 in doubles play.

Entering singles play with the 1-0 lead, the Lady Toppers continued stellar play, starting at the No. 1 spot. Cora-Lynn von Dungern won the first set 6-1, when her opponent had to retire due to injury. Taylor Shaw followed that up, winning the decision at No. 5, 6-2, 6-0. Alexis Cramer was then able to secure the win for WKU winning, 6-1, 6-2, at the No. 6 spot. She improves to 4-1 overall in singles matches.

Leading 4-0, the last three singles matches were played out. North Alabama won at the No. 2 position in a third-set super tiebreaker to get on the board. Then at No. 4, Rachel Hermanova finished by winning a third-set super tiebreaker of her own. She improves to a team-best, 8-1 in singles play. The final match of the day went in favor of the Lions, winning another third-set super tiebreaker at the No. 3 slot. This made the final score, 5-2, getting the Lady Toppers back in the win column.

“We fought hard at every position today. I thought that made a difference. It was good to see our doubles play really well today.” coach Davis said. “I thought we played some of the best doubles that we have played all year, today. We kind of kept that momentum going into singles. Once we got up 3-0, I think that helped us a lot, it took a lot of pressure off. It was a big difference in us being victorious today.”

WKU improved to 6-3 on the season, while North Alabama fell to 0-10 thus far.

WKU returns to play next weekend with a doubleheader on Sunday, Feb. 27 with home matches against UT Chattanooga at 1 p.m. and Tennessee State at 6 p.m. The weather conditions will determine where the matches will be played.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 1,5,6,2,4,3)

- 1: Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) def. Payton Andrews (UNA) 6-1, default (injury)
- 2: Sydney Flesch (UNA) def. Laura Bernardos (WKU) 3-6, 6-4, (10-5) (super tiebreaker)
- 3: Juliette Talieu (UNA) def. Paola Cortez (WKU) 7-6, 4-6, (10-8) (super tiebreaker)
- 4: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Gabriella Cevallos (UNA) 3-6, 6-3, (10-7) (super tiebreaker)
- 5: Taylor Shaw (WKU) def. Lee Taylor Bishop (UNA) 6-2, 6-0
- 6: Alexis Cramer (WKU) def. Nicole Reilly (UNA) 6-1, 6-2

Doubles (Order of finish 3,1,DNF)

- 1: von Dungern/Cortez (WKU) def. Flesch/Talieu (UNA) 6-1
- 2: Bernardos/Hermanova (WKU) vs. Andrews/Cevallos (UNA) 4-3, unfinished
- 3: Blanco/Martinez (WKU) def. Bishop/Loubser (UNA) 6-3

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / February 26, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

WKU TENNIS HOSTS DOUBLEHEADER ON SUNDAY

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continues the 2022 spring campaign this weekend. The Lady Toppers host a doubleheader on Sunday, Feb. 27 against UT Chattanooga and Tennessee State.

Doubles play, outdoors, at the WKU Tennis Complex will begin at 1 p.m. against UT Chattanooga and 6 p.m. against Tennessee State.

“These are two teams that we have not seen for a while. UT Chattanooga, when we have played them, they have had our number, unfortunately.” head coach Greg Davis said. “They are very well coached and deep, so as you look out onto the court, six singles, three doubles, it is just going to be a knock-down, drag-out. There are not going to be any easy matches.”

Last weekend, WKU played two home matches against Ball State and North Alabama. The Lady Toppers lost to the Cardinals on Saturday, 5-2. They were able to get back on track on Sunday, beating the Lions, 5-2 in their first outdoors match of the season.

WKU is 2-7 all-time against UT Chattanooga, playing for the first time in 1982. The Lady Toppers beat the Mocs for the first time in program history, 4-2 in Bowling Green. WKU took the victory, again, the following year beating UT Chattanooga, 4-1, in Chattanooga. Last season, the Lady Toppers visited the Mocs in Chattanooga, losing the dual match, 5-2.

UT Chattanooga had a dual match record of 8-5 in 2020 before the remainder of the season was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, they held a record of 9-9, going 2-5 in Southern Conference play.

The Mocs have a 5-4 record after beating Montreat College last Thursday by a score of 4-2.

The Lady Toppers are 27-1 all-time against Tennessee State. The sides faced off last in the 2020 season that was shortened due to the COVID-19 pandemic. WKU won the match in Nashville, 4-0.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / February 27, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

LADY TOPPERS CLAIM TWO WINS ON SUNDAY; IMPROVE TO 8-3

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continued its 2022 campaign with two wins on Sunday against the UT Chattanooga Mocs and the Tennessee State Tigers.

The Lady Toppers have a full weekend of home matches next weekend in Bowling Green, with matchups against Austin Peay on Friday, March 4, SIU Edwardsville on Saturday, March 5, and Belmont on Sunday, March 6. WKU and the Governors will begin play at 7 p.m. on Friday night.

UT Chattanooga Recap

WKU got off to a 1-0 start by winning the doubles point. After losing at the No. 2 position, the Hilltoppers bounced back. The No. 3 pair of Sofia Blanco and Samantha Martinez evened the score by winning on Court 3, 6-4. The No. 1 duo of Paola Cortez and Cora-Lynn von Dungern then clinched the doubles point on Court 1, winning 6-3.

Going into singles play, the Mocs were able to tie the score 1-1 after winning at the No. 4 spot. Laura Bernardos put the Tops back in the lead winning 6-3, 6-1 on Court 2. UT Chattanooga responded, winning at the No. 5 spot and tying the match 2-2. Paola Cortez took care of business at No. 3, taking the three-set match, 6-1, 4-6, 6-4, giving WKU the 3-2 edge. Cora-Lynn von Dungern was able to clinch the match at No. 1, winning in three sets, 6-3, 2-6, 6-4. Having the victory already in hand, the final match was played out, going in favor of the Mocs, making the final score, 4-3.

“What a great college tennis match. We had to fight very hard against a really good UT Chattanooga team. It is really rare to get three wins at one, two, and three to win a match. Those are the three toughest opponents you are going up against,” head coach Greg Davis said. “For us to pull this out and win at the top three positions, while being down in the third in two of those matches, it was a great effort by the team.”

Final Results vs. UT Chattanooga

Singles (Order of finish: 4,2,5,3,1,6)

- 1: Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) def. Nicole Abel (UTC) 6-3, 2-6, 6-4
- 2: Laura Bernardos (WKU) def. Jessie Young (UTC) 6-3, 6-1
- 3: Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Caroline Gibbens (UTC) 6-1, 4-6, 6-4
- 4: Emma Van Hee (UTC) def. Rachel Hermanova (WKU) 6-2, 6-0
- 5: Callie Billman (UTC) def. Taylor Shaw (WKU) 6-4, 6-1
- 6: Coco Bosman (UTC) def. Alexis Cramer (WKU) 4-6, 6-2, 6-2

Doubles (Order of finish 2,3,1)

- 1: Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) def. Billman/Young (UTC) 6-3
- 2: Van Hee/Bosman (UTC) def. Bernardos/Hermanova (WKU) 6-1
- 3: Blanco/Martinez (WKU) def. Abel/Gibbens (UTC) 6-4

Tennessee State Recap

The Lady Toppers won the doubles point for the third straight match. Making them 8-0 when they win the doubles point. There were only two doubles matches played, giving WKU the victory at No. 3 winning by

default. Only needing one more win to clinch the point, the No. 2 pair of Laura Bernardos and Rachel Hermanova won their match, 6-0, taking the early advantage.

In singles play, the Lady Toppers just needed to win two matches to secure the victory against the Tigers, due to Sofia Blanco getting the victory at the No. 6 spot by default. Taylor Shaw and Alexis Cramer swept at the No. 4 and No. 5 positions, both winning 6-0, 6-0. With WKU having already won the match, the rest of the matches went in favor of the Tops. Laura Bernardos took the decision in the No. 1 slot, 6-1, 6-1. Paola Cortez won at No. 2, 6-0, 6-1. Rachel Hermanova gave WKU the 7-0 sweep, winning 6-0, 7-6 (1) at the No. 3 spot.

“We played well in our second match of the day. Today, we played well in both matches. The second match is always where conditioning comes in to play and we passed the test,” Davis said. “The team is very happy to be 8-3, but we know we have a challenge ahead of us this week with three tough opponents Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.”

Final Results vs. Tennessee State

Singles (Order of finish: 6,4,5,1,2,3)

- 1: Laura Bernardos (WKU) def Daniela Koleva (TSU) 6-1, 6-1
- 2: Paola Cortez (WKU) vs. Naomi Von Bose (TSU) 6-0, 6-1
- 3: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) vs. Franka Sindicic (TSU) 6-0, 7-6 (1)
- 4: Taylor Shaw (WKU) vs. Mckhia McCrary (TSU) 6-0, 6-0
- 5: Alexis Cramer (WKU) def. Presley Hall (TSU) 6-0, 6-0
- 6: Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. No player (TSU) by default

Doubles (Order of finish 3,2,DNF)

- 1: Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) vs. Koleva/Sindicic (TSU) 2-3, unfinished
- 2: Bernardos/Martinez (WKU) def. Von Bose/Hall (TSU) 6-0
- 3: Blanco/Martinez (WKU) def. No player (TSU) by default

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / March 3, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

[Head coach Greg Davis Interview](#)

WKU TENNIS READY FOR BUSY WEEKEND AT HOME

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continues the 2022 season this weekend. The Lady Toppers host three matches in three days, starting on Friday, March 4 against Austin Peay, continuing on Saturday, March 5 against SIU Edwardsville, and finishing on Sunday, March 6, against Belmont.

Doubles play, outdoors, at the WKU Tennis Complex will begin at 6:30 p.m. against Austin Peay, 1 p.m. against SIU Edwardsville, and 1 p.m. against Belmont. Location could alternate to the Michael O. Buchanan tennis facility depending on weather.

“Three tough ones. Like Coach Stansbury always says, the biggest game is always the next one. We are not looking past Austin Peay. That is a team that has had our number since I have been here. A very deep team.” head coach Greg Davis said. “We are looking forward to the opportunity. We look at all of these matches as opportunities to get better as a team.”

Last weekend, WKU played a doubleheader against UT Chattanooga and Tennessee State. The Lady Toppers won both matches on Sunday to improve to 8-3, beating the Mocs, 4-3, and sweeping the Tigers, 7-0.

WKU is 29-11 all-time against Austin Peay, playing for the first time in 1981. The Lady Toppers won the first ever meeting between the programs, 8-1 in Clarksville, and would go on to win the next seven matches against the Governors. The sides faced off last year, with the Tops losing the dual match, 6-1 in Clarksville.

Austin Peay has started the 2022 season 0-5 and is coming off a 4-1 loss to Kentucky in Lexington.

The Lady Toppers are 0-1 all-time against SIU Edwardsville, losing the only matchup between the programs, 4-2, in Edwardsville in 2011. The Cougars are a perfect 9-0 on the 2022 season after beating Bradley 4-2, last Friday.

They will visit The Hill for the first time in program history on Saturday.

WKU is 10–17 all-time against Belmont, playing the Bruins for the first time in 1998. The Lady Toppers won four of the first five meetings between the two programs. The last time the sides met was in the 2020 season that was shortened due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Bruins took the win, 4-0 in Clarksville.

Belmont holds a record of 5-4 after losing to Vanderbilt last Sunday by a score of 7-0.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / March 4, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

LADY TOPPERS WIN DOUBLES POINT; LOSE TO AUSTIN PEAY 4-3

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continued its 2022 season Friday night against the Austin Peay Governors. The Lady Toppers fell, 4-3, after winning the doubles point.

WKU got off to a hot start by winning the doubles point. The No. 1 duo of Cora-Lynn von Dungern and Paola Cortez won their match on Court 1, 6-3. They improve to a team-high, 8-1 in doubles on the year. The Governors responded, winning on Court 2, 6-1. In the No. 3 spot, Sofia Blanco and Samantha Martinez were able to clinch the first point for the Lady Toppers, winning 7-5 in an exciting finish to give WKU the early lead.

The Governors answered going into singles play. They were able to tie the match at 1-1 after winning at No. 4, 6-3, 6-1. Rachel Hermanova was able to reclaim the lead for the Lady Toppers, securing the 6-3, 6-1 victory at the No. 5 spot. She gets her 10th singles win in 12 matches, a team-high.

Austin Peay was able to win back-to-back matches at No. 6 and No. 3, winning both in straight sets, taking the lead for the first time, 3-2. At No. 1, it came down to a third set, where the Governors were able to claim the match-clinching point, winning, 4-6, 6-1, 6-2. Laura Bernardos finished just after, winning in straight sets, 6-4, 6-4. She improves to 8-2 in singles on the year. This made the final score, 4-3, going in favor of Austin Peay.

“Really, really tough match. This is our fourth 4-3 match of the year. I give credit to Austin Peay. They have always been a tough, worthy opponent. We have always kind of struggled in the past. This is the best match, by far, that we have played against them since I have been at Western,” head coach Greg Davis said. “They came out very intense in singles after we won the doubles point. We did a tremendous job in doubles. This is the first time all year that we have won the doubles point but lost the match. We were 8-0 coming in after we have won the doubles point. They had to win four singles matches, and they came in here and did that.”

The Lady Toppers continue their spring campaign tomorrow in Bowling Green, with a matchup against SIU Edwardsville on Saturday, March 5, and on Sunday, March 6 against Belmont. Both matches have a 1 p.m. start time and will be played at the WKU Tennis Complex. The location could alternate to the Michael O. Buchanon tennis facility depending on weather.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 4,5,6,3,2,1)

- 1: Denise Torrealba (APSU) def. Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) 4-6, 6-1, 2-6
- 2: Laura Bernardos (WKU) def. Jana Leder (APSU) 6-4, 6-4
- 3: Martina Paladini-Jennings (APSU) def. Paola Cortez (WKU) 6-4, 6-2
- 4: Aleks Topalovic (APSU) def. Taylor Shaw (WKU) 6-3, 6-1
- 5: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Honoka Nakanishi (APSU) 6-3, 6-1
- 6: Yu-Hua Cheng (APSU) def. Alexis Cramer (WKU) 6-3, 6-1

Doubles (Order of finish 1,2,3)

- 1: Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) def. Topalovic/Leder (APSU) 6-3
- 2: Nakanishi/Torrealba (APSU) def. Bernardos/Hermanova (WKU) 6-1
- 3: Blanco/Martinez (WKU) def. Paladini-Jennings/Cheng (APSU) 7-5

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / March 5, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

WKU UPSETS UNDEFEATED SIU EDWARDSVILLE 4-1

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continued its 2022 season Saturday afternoon with a 4-1 win against the undefeated SIU Edwardsville Cougars.

The Lady Toppers won the doubles point for the fifth consecutive match. The No. 3 duo of Sofia Blanco and Samantha Martinez finished their match first, winning 6-1 to give the Tops the early edge. The pair is undefeated on the season winning five consecutive doubles matches.

The Cougars responded, winning at No. 2, winning 6-3. The final doubles match went in favor of WKU, with the No.1 team of Cora-Lynn von Dungern and Paola Cortez winning a 7-6 (6) tiebreaker to give the Lady Toppers the 1-0 lead.

The success continued for the Tops in singles play. At No. 5, Taylor Shaw took care of business, taking her match in straight sets, 6-1, 6-1. Paola Cortez followed that up with a victory of her own, winning 6-1, 6-2 to give WKU a commanding 3-0 lead. She improves to 6-5 in singles on the year.

SIU Edwardsville answered, winning in straight sets at No. 6, giving them its first point of the match. In the end, it was Rachel Hermanova winning 6-4, 6-4 to secure the victory for the Lady Toppers at No. 5. She improves to, a team-best, 11-2 on the season. The final two matches were not played out, making the final score, 4-1.

“I thought the team played well. SIU Edwardsville was ranked 75 in the country in the previous pole last week and came in 9-0 on the season.” head coach Greg Davis said. “I’m very proud of the team for responding after a very tough match on Friday.”

The Lady Toppers continue the spring campaign tomorrow in Bowling Green, with a matchup against Belmont on Sunday, March 6. The match will begin at 1 p.m. and will be played indoors at the Michael O. Buchanon tennis facility.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 5,3,6,4)

- 1: Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) vs. Jordan Schifano (SIUE) 7-6 (6), 1-2, unfinished
- 2: Laura Bernardos (WKU) vs. Jill Lambrechts (SIUE) 6-4, 4-1, unfinished
- 3: Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Vanessa Reinicke (SIUE) 6-1, 6-2
- 4: Taylor Shaw (WKU) def. Fabiola Perez (SIUE) 6-4, 6-4
- 5: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Amber Hochstatter (SIUE) 6-1, 6-1
- 6: Nicole Gomez (SIUE) def. Alexis Cramer (WKU) 6-2, 6-2

Doubles (Order of finish 3,2,1)

- 1: Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) def. Thibault/Lambrechts (SIUE) 7-6 (4)
- 2: Schifano/Reinicke (SIUE) def. Bernardos/Zegada (WKU) 6-3
- 3: Blanco/Martinez (WKU) def. Vizcardo/Sporing (SIUE) 6-1

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / March 6, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

LADY TOPPERS DEFEAT BRUINS; REACH DOUBLE-DIGIT WINS

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continued its 2022 season Sunday afternoon with a 6-1 win against the Belmont Bruins to improve to 10-4 on the year and get to double-digit wins for the first time since 2017.

The Lady Toppers won the doubles point for the sixth consecutive match. On Court 1, the elite duo of Cora-Lynn von Dungern and Paola Cortez won 6-2, improving to 10-1 on the year and winning their fifth consecutive match.

The Bruins were able to even the score, taking the victory on Court 3, but the Tops were able to take the early lead with Laura Bernardos and Mariana Zegada getting their first victory as a pair on the season, winning 6-2 on Court 2.

Up 1-0 going into singles play, the Lady Toppers were able to win five of six singles matches to secure the victory over the Bruins.

Belmont evened the score at 1-1 after winning in the No. 5 position in straight sets. It was all WKU following that Rachel Hermanova won her 12th match of the season winning in straight sets, 6-1, 6-4. Paola Cortez also took care of business in straight sets, 6-4, 6-4 at No. 3, improving to 7-5 on the campaign. At the No. 6 spot, Sofia Blanco won her first singles match of her career, winning in straight sets, 6-4, 6-4.

Up 4-1, with the victory already secured, the final two matches were played out.

Cora-Lynn von Dungern got the fifth point for the Tops, winning a super tiebreaker after splitting the first two sets, 10-6 at the No. 1 slot. The No. 2 player Laura Bernardos followed that up with a thrilling three-set win after dropping the opening set, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4. This made the final outcome 6-1, in favor of the Lady Toppers.

"I thought we played really well. If there is one match I thought would be our toughest of the weekend, I thought it was going to be with Belmont." head coach Greg Davis said. "After playing outdoors the last two day, coming in here indoors today against a tremendous team, it was just a great effort. What really helped us was that we got some good production from two of our doubles today. I also thought one through six we fought really hard today. This is the best I have had a team play in my four years here."

The Lady Toppers continue the spring campaign next weekend in Bowling Green, with a matchup against Murray State on Saturday, March 12. The match will begin at 1 p.m, while the location is undetermined as of now.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 5,4,3,6,1,2)

- 1: Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) def. Gina Feistel (BU) 6-4, 5-7, 10-6 (super tiebreaker)
- 2: Laura Bernardos (WKU) def. Somer Henry (BU) 4-6, 6-3, 6-4
- 3: Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Abi Solomon (BU) 6-4, 6-4
- 4: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Anastasiya Zholdakova (BU) 6-1, 6-4
- 5: Peyton Lee (BU) def. Taylor Shaw (WKU) 6-3, 6-1
- 6: Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. Meredith Roberts (BU) 6-4, 6-4

Doubles (Order of finish 1,3,2)

- 1: Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) def. Feistel/Roberts (BU) 6-2
- 2: Bernardos/Zegada (WKU) def. Henry/Lee (BU) 6-2
- 3: Zholdakova/Solomon (BU) def. Blanco/Martinez (WKU) 6-3

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / March 11, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

Head coach Davis Interview

WKU TENNIS LOOKS TO CONTINUE MOMENTUM AGAINST MURRAY STATE

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continues the 2022 season this weekend on Saturday, March 12 against Murray State.

Doubles play, indoors, at the Michael O. Buchanon tennis facility will begin at 1 p.m.

“Murray State is always tough. It is 4-3 every year. It always seems to come down to the last match.” head coach Greg Davis said. “We expect another very difficult match with a very worthy opponent in Murray State this weekend.”

Last weekend, WKU played three matches in three days against Austin Peay, SIU Edwardsville, and Belmont. The Lady Toppers lost Friday night to the Governors before winning back-to-back matches on Saturday and Sunday to finish the weekend 2-1. The Lady Toppers improved to 10-4 on the season, reaching double-digit wins for the first time since 2017.

WKU is 4-17 all-time against Murray State, playing for the first time in 1974. The sides have faced off at Murray for the past two seasons. Before the 2020 season was cut short due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Lady Toppers were able to take victory against the Racers, 4-3. That win marked back-to-back wins against Murray State for WKU going back to the 2016 season.

Last year, the Racers got the upper hand on the Lady Toppers, winning the very close dual match, 4-3. This will be the first time Murray State has visited The Hill since 2011.

In the 2021 season, the Racers finished 8-10, losing to Austin Peay in the OVC Tournament semifinals, 4-0. WKU visited Murray State last year, losing 4-3 in a very close dual match.

The Racers have started the 2022 season 5-5 and are coming off a 5-2 loss at Cincinnati.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / March 12, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

VON DUNGERN BREAKS CAREER DOUBLES WINS RECORD; LADY TOPPERS FALL TO RACERS 5-2

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continued its 2022 season Saturday afternoon, losing to Murray State, 5-2. The Lady Toppers move to 10-5 on the year while the Racers improve to 6-5.

The Lady Toppers won the doubles point for the seventh consecutive match. On Court 1, the elite duo of Cora-Lynn von Dungern and Paola Cortez won 6-1, improving to 11-1 on the year and winning their six consecutive doubles match.

von Dungern got her 32nd doubles win of her career, breaking the record for most doubles wins at WKU in a career previously held by Lisa Friess. From 2017-2019, Friess held a doubles record of 31-23, while von Dungern improved to 32-11 in her career as a Hilltopper.

On Court 3, Sofia Blanco and Samantha Martinez were able to secure the early lead for WKU, winning 6-4, clinching the doubles point for the Lady Toppers. The No. 2 doubles match went unfinished with the Racers up 5-4.

Up 1-0 going into singles play, WKU was not able to carry over its success from doubles play, losing five of six singles matches. After losing in straight sets at No. 1 and No. 2, Rachel Hermanova was able to even the score at 2-2 for the Lady Toppers, winning 6-3, 6-2. She improves to a team-best 13-2 on the year.

The Racers took the final three singles matches to give them the 5-2 victory against WKU.

“Murray State came out in singles and really took control of the match, winning four of the six first sets. I give them a ton of credit, they came in and really out played us to earn the victory.” head coach Greg Davis said. “Rachel Hermanova played another great match at four and we played well in doubles. The team and I were very happy for Cora becoming the top doubles winner of all-time in WKU history.”

The Lady Toppers continue the spring campaign this week on the road. They play their first conference matchup when they head to Birmingham to face off against UAB on Monday, March 14. They continue the road trip heading to Alabama State on Wednesday, March 16, and Alabama A&M on Thursday, March 17. All three matches will begin at 1 p.m.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 1,2,4,3,5,6)

- 1: Stasya Sharapova (MSU) def. Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) 6-3, 6-1
- 2: Sarah Bureau (MSU) def. Laura Bernardos (WKU) 6-1, 6-2
- 3: Annika Pschorr (MSU) def. Paola Cortez (WKU) 6-4, 6-4
- 4: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Natalie Slezakova (MSU) 6-3, 6-2
- 5: Gabrielle Geolier (MSU) def. Taylor Shaw (WKU) 6-0, 7-6 (6)
- 6: Jordi Font Montero (MSU) def. Sofia Blanco (WKU) 5-7, 7-6 (6), 10-6 (super tiebreaker)

Doubles (Order of finish 1,3)

- 1: Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) def. Geolier/Slezakova (MSU) 6-1
- 2: Bernardos/Zegada (WKU) vs. Sharapova/Pschorr (MSU) 4-5, unfinished
- 3: Blanco/Martinez (WKU) def. Bureau/Kreugel (MSU) 6-4

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / March 14, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

WKU TENNIS LOOKS AHEAD TO THREE MATCH ROAD TRIP

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continues the 2022 season this week playing three matches in four days, starting on Monday, March 14 at UAB, continuing on Wednesday, March 16 at Alabama State, and finishing on Thursday, March 17 at Alabama A&M.

All three matches will begin at 1 p.m.

Last weekend, WKU lost at home to Murray State, 5-2, after winning the doubles point. The Lady Toppers fell to 10-5 on the campaign.

Cora-Lynn von Dungern broke the record for doubles wins in a career at WKU, passing Lisa Friess. She improved to 32-11 in her career.

WKU is 1-6 all-time against UAB, playing for the first time in 1986. The Lady Toppers got their first win against the Blazers in 2018 in Birmingham, winning 4-1. This will be the first of three Conference USA matches of the season for WKU. UAB comes into the match with a record of 8-5, losing their last match to Kennesaw State, 5-2.

Last year, the Blazers took the victory against the Lady Toppers, winning the dual match, 4-2. They finished the season 14-7, losing to Old Dominion in the Conference USA quarterfinals, 4-0.

WKU is an undefeated 7-0 against Alabama State. The sides have not faced off since 2012, where the Lady Toppers won by a 7-0 sweep in Montgomery.

The Hornets have a record of 5-5 on the year, beating Southern by a 4-0 sweep on Sunday, March 13. They finished with a 9-7 record last year, losing to Florida State in the NCAA Tournament, 4-0.

The Lady Toppers have an all-time record of 8-1 against Alabama A&M. Last year, the squads faced off for the first time in seven years in Huntsville. WKU was able to get the 6-1 win, giving them a 7-match win streak against the Bulldogs.

Alabama A&M has posted a record of 5-8 thus far this season, coming off a 4-3 win at Alcorn State on Sunday, March 13. They finished the 2021 season with a 5-7 record, losing to Alabama State in the SWAC semifinals, 4-0.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / March 14, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

LADY TOPPERS FALL TO BLAZERS IN FIRST C-USA MATCHUP OF THE SEASON

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continued its 2022 season Monday afternoon, losing to UAB, 6-1. The Lady Toppers move to 10-6 on the year while the Racers improve to 9-5.

The Lady Toppers had won the doubles point for seven consecutive matches until today. The Blazers took victories on Courts 2 and 3 of the doubles matches, giving them the early 1-0 lead.

Going into singles play, UAB was able to clinch three wins in a row at No. 6, No. 2, and No. 5 in straight sets to give them a commanding 4-0 lead and the dual match win.

With the match already decided, the final three matches were played out.

The Blazers also took the decisions on Court 1 and Court 4, giving them the 6-0 advantage. Then, Paola Cortez was able to get WKU on the board, winning in a super tiebreaker for the third set, 6-7 (6), 6-2, 10-4. This made the final score 6-1, in favor of UAB.

“I thought we competed very well in doubles today. They just came up with one more point here and there to take the doubles point.” head coach Greg Davis said. “In singles, Paola had a very good win at three and Rachel had a very tough three set match with a very experienced player from UAB.”

The Lady Toppers continue the spring campaign this week on the road. They head to Alabama State on Wednesday, March 16, and finish the road trip at Alabama A&M on Thursday, March 17. Both matches will begin at 1 p.m.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 6,2,5,1,4,3)

- 1: Adela Wasserbauerova (UAB) def. Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) 6-4, 7-6 (7)
- 2: Sydney Clarke (UAB) def. Laura Bernardos (WKU) 6-3, 6-4
- 3: Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Mackenzie White (UAB) 6-7 (6), 6-2, 10-4 (super tiebreaker)
- 4: Jana Hecking (UAB) def. Rachel Hermanova (WKU) 4-6, 7-5, 10-7 (super tiebreaker)
- 5: Vanessa Mellynychuk (UAB) def. Alexis Cramer (WKU) 7-5, 6-0
- 6: Maggie White (UAB) def. Sofia Blanco (WKU) 6-0, 6-3

Doubles (Order of finish 3,2)

- 1: Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) vs. Clarke/White (UAB) 6-6, unfinished
- 2: Wasserbauerova/White (UAB) def. Bernardos/Zegada (WKU) 7-5
- 3: Mellynychuk/Ratkic (UAB) def. Blanco/Martinez (WKU) 6-3

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / March 16, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

WKU TENNIS GETS BACK ON TRACK WITH SWEEP OF ALABAMA STATE

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continued its 2022 season Wednesday afternoon with a win against the Alabama State Hornets in Montgomery. The Lady Toppers improved to 11-6 on the season while Alabama State moved to 7-6.

After dropping the doubles point on Monday, WKU got back in rhythm on Wednesday, taking the early 1-0 lead.

The No. 3 duo of Sofia Blanco and Samantha Martinez swept their match on Court 3, while the No. 2 pair of Laura Bernardos and Mariana Zegada clinched the first point by a score of 6-1. The match on Court 1 went unfinished.

Into singles play, the Lady Toppers were able to end it shortly, winning three consecutive matches to in straight sets to win the match.

At No. 2, Laura Bernardos finished first. She won 6-0, 6-1 only dropping one game in two sets. She gets her 10th win of the season, and becomes the second Lady Topper to reach double-digit wins this season. Samantha Martinez finished soon after at the No. 6 spot, getting her second singles win of the year, 6-2, 6-4. The last match to finish was on Court 3. Paola Cortez secured the victory for WKU, winning 6-3, 6-2. Cortez improves to 9-6 in singles on the campaign.

With the match already decided, the final three matches went unfinished.

“I thought we played very decisive in doubles, which was good to see.” head coach Greg Davis said. “In singles, we played very well in many of our first sets, which put a tremendous amount of pressure on Alabama State.”

The Lady Toppers finish their three-match road trip tomorrow afternoon, Thursday, March 17 for a matchup at Alabama A&M in Huntsville. The match will begin at 1 p.m.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 2,6,3)

- 1: Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) vs. Sahra Bouchaala (ALST) 7-6 (0), 1-1, unfinished
- 2: Laura Bernardos (WKU) def. Anja Hribljan (ALST) 6-0, 6-1
- 3: Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Lizaveta Demchenko (ALST) 6-3, 6-1
- 4: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) vs. Francesca Duca (ALST) 7-6 (4), 5-0, unfinished
- 5: Alexis Cramer (WKU) vs. Timothee Legaud (ALST) 3-6, 3-5, unfinished
- 6: Samantha Martinez (WKU) def. Ana Tarbujaru (ALST) 6-2, 6-4

Doubles (Order of finish 3,2)

- 1: Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) vs. Tarbujaru/Demchenko (ALST) 4-3, unfinished
- 2: Bernardos/Zegada (WKU) def. Velec/Bouchaala (ALST) 6-1
- 3: Blanco/Martinez (WKU) def. Hribljan/Legaud (ALST) 6-0

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / March 17, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

LADY TOPPER TENNIS FINISHES ROAP TRIP WITH WIN OVER ALABAMA A&M

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continued its 2022 season Wednesday afternoon with a win against the Alabama A&M Bulldogs in Huntsville to finish off its road trip. The Lady Toppers improved to 12-6 on the season while Alabama A&M moved to 5-10.

WKU took an early 1-0 lead after winning the doubles point.

The No. 3 duo of Sofia Blanco and Samantha Martinez swept their match on Court 3 for the second straight day, while the No. 1 pair of Cora-Lynn von Dungern and Paola Cortez secured the first point by a score of 6-1. The match on Court 2 went unfinished with Laura Bernardos and Mariana Zegada up, 5-2.

In singles play, The Lady Toppers won five of six matches to win the match.

Sofia Blanco was the first to finish at No. 6, only dropping one game in two sets, winning 6-0, 6-1. At the No. 4 spot, Rachel Hermanova took the victory for the second straight day, 6-2, 6-3. She improves to a team-best 14-2 on the year. Laura Bernardos claimed the win on Court 2 due to her opponent retiring due to injury. She was ahead 6-2, 5-0 at the time. This clinched the win for the Lady Toppers, ahead 4-0.

The final three matches were played out.

Paula Cortez won her 10th singles match of the year, also winning in straight sets 6-2, 6-2. She becomes the third player this season to get double-digit wins. At No. 5, Samantha Martinez took the decision, winning 6-2, 6-3. This put WKU up 6-0 on the scoreboard. The Court one match went to a super tiebreaker for the third set, that went in favor of the Bulldogs, winning 7-6 (4), 2-6, 13-11. This made the final score 6-1.

“It was a good win today. I thought we played some of the best doubles of the year today.” head coach Greg Davis said. “In singles, we won five first sets which is very important when playing on the road.”

WKU will play a home match on Saturday afternoon, March 19 for a matchup against Eastern Illinois in Bowling Green. The match will begin at 1 p.m. and will be played at the WKU Tennis Complex.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 6,4,2,3,5,1)

- 1: Jasmine Boyd (AAM) vs. Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) 7-6 (4), 2-6, 13-11 (super tiebreaker)
- 2: Laura Bernardos (WKU) def. Deja Brown (AAM) 6-0, 6-1
- 3: Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Camila Ruiz Diaz (AAM) 6-3, 6-1
- 4: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) vs. Ximena Duarte Ramirez (AAM) 7-6 (4). 5-0, unfinished
- 5: Alexis Cramer (WKU) vs. India Woods (AAM) 3-6, 3-5, unfinished
- 6: Samantha Martinez (WKU) def. Kennedy Ward (AAM) 6-2, 6-4

Doubles (Order of finish 3,1)

- 1: Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) def. Boyd/Ward (AAM) 6-1
- 2: Duarte Ramirez/Ruiz Diaz (AAM) def. Bernardos/Zegada (WKU) 2-5
- 3: Blanco/Martinez (WKU) def. Brown/Woods (AAM) 6-0

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / March 18, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

WKU TENNIS FINISHES BUSY WEEK WITH HOME MATCH AGAINST EASTERN ILLINOIS

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continues the 2022 season this Saturday, March 19 at home against Eastern Illinois.

The match will be played at the WKU Tennis Complex and will begin at 1 p.m.

This week, the Lady Toppers had a three-match road trip in the state of Alabama. On Monday, March 14, they faced off against UAB for their first conference match of the season, losing 6-1 to the Blazers in Birmingham.

Following the loss on Monday, WKU bounced back. On Wednesday, the Lady Toppers swept Alabama State 4-0 in Montgomery. They continued momentum into Thursday's match, winning 6-1 at Alabama A&M in Huntsville. They finished the road trip 2-1 and improve to 12-6 on the campaign.

WKU is 1-0 all-time against Eastern Illinois, playing for the only time in 1986. The Lady Toppers took that match by a 7-2 decision in Murray. This will be the first time the Panthers will visit The Hill in program history.

Eastern Illinois comes into the match with a record of 2-11. They are coming off a 7-0 win last Saturday, March 12 against Depauw.

The Panthers finished 4-13 in the 2021 season and 5-8 in the 2020 season that was shortened due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / March 19, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

LADY TOPPERS SWEEP EASTERN ILLINOIS; MOVE TO 13-6

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continued its 2022 season Saturday afternoon sweeping the Eastern Illinois Panthers at home. The Lady Toppers improved to 13-6 on the season while Eastern Illinois moved to 2-12.

WKU got the lead early by winning the doubles point.

The No. 3 duo of Sofia Blanco and Samantha Martinez won their third match in a row, winning 6-2 to give the Tops an early edge. Cora-Lynn von Dungern and Paola Cortez took the decision on Court 1, also winning 6-2. This marks their 13th doubles win in 14 matches this season.

Up 1-0 going into singles play, the Lady Toppers played perfect the rest of the way.

Sofia Blanco finished first on Court 6, only dropping one game in two sets, winning 6-1, 6-0. The Freshman improved to 6-3 on the year. At No. 5, Samantha Martinez was flawless throughout the match, winning 6-0, 6-0. This marks three singles wins in a row for Martinez, all in straight sets. Paola Cortez was able to clinch the win for WKU, winning 6-2, 6-2 at No. 2. Cortez is undefeated at the No. 2 spot for the Lady Toppers this season and improved to 11-6 overall.

Up 4-0, the final three matches were played out.

Rachel Hermanova continued her stellar season, winning in straight sets, 6-4, 6-1 at the No. 3 position. This puts her overall record at 15-3, making it the first time a Lady Topper has won 15 singles matches in a season since Nina Kostava did it in 2000-01. Following that, Taylor Shaw won at No. 4 in straight sets, 6-2, 6-3. Up 6-0, Laura Bernardos was the last to finish playing at No. 1. The match went to a super tiebreaker for the third set after they split the first two sets. They each needed more than 10 points each to decide the tiebreaker, ultimately with Laura Bernardos coming out victorious, taking the match, 6-2, 2-6, 16-14. A great finish to a great team performance.

“I thought we played really well considering the conditions today. It was cold, cloudy, a lot of wind. We talked about it coming in, whoever can manage the conditions the best, would end up being the victor.” head coach Greg Davis said. “We played really well. We emphasized getting off to a good start in doubles. We also came out and won six first sets in singles, which set the tone for the rest of the match. Really happy with the performance of the team on a tough day, condition wise.”

WKU will play on the road next weekend in Indianapolis. On Friday, March 25, the Lady Toppers will visit Butler, starting at 10 a.m. Eastern Time. On Saturday, March 26, they will face off against Illinois-Chicago in Indianapolis, also starting at 10 a.m.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 6,5,2,3,4,1)

- 1: Laura Bernardos (WKU) vs. Rachel Papavasiliopoulos (EIU) 6-2, 2-6, 16-14 (super tiebreaker)
- 2: Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Elizaveta Bukraba-Ulanova (EIU) 6-2, 6-2
- 3: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Christine Gouws (EIU) 6-4, 6-1
- 4: Taylor Shaw (WKU) vs. Addison Brown (EIU) 6-2, 6-3
- 5: Samantha Martinez (WKU) def. Brittany Steven (EIU) 6-0, 6-0
- 6: Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. Lauren Ellis (EIU) 6-0, 6-1

Doubles (Order of finish 3,1)

- 1: Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) def. Brown/Gouws (EIU) 6-2
- 2: Bernardos/Zegada (WKU) vs. Ellis/Papavasiliopoulos (EIU) 5-2, unfinished
- 3: Blanco/Martinez (WKU) def. Steven/Bukraba-Ulanova (EIU) 6-2

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / March 24, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

WKU TENNIS HEADS TO INDIANAPOLIS FOR TWO MATCH ROAD TRIP

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continues the 2022 season this Friday, March 25 on the road at Butler and Saturday, March 26 against Illinois-Chicago.

Both matches will be played at Butler in Indianapolis and will begin at 10 a.m. ET.

Last weekend, the Lady Toppers hosted a home match against Eastern Illinois on Saturday, March 19. WKU picked up win number 13 on the season, beating the Panthers by a 7-0 sweep.

The Lady Toppers are 3-0 all-time against Butler, playing for the first time in 2017. WKU took the decision by sweeping the Bulldogs, 7-0 in Nashville, Tenn. The sides have faced off in each of the last two seasons, both matches going in favor of the Tops.

Butler comes into this matchup with a 5-11 record overall. They are coming off a 4-2 victory against St. Louis at home. Last season, the Bulldogs finished with a record of 6-10, losing to Depaul in the Big East quarterfinals, 4-0.

This will be the first ever dual match between WKU and Illinois-Chicago. The Flames come into the match with an overall record of 8-3, coming off a victory last Thursday against Western Michigan, winning 4-3.

UIC had a record of 19-6 last year, winning the Horizon League Championship, 4-2, against Youngstown State. Their season came to an end against No. 15 Ohio State in the NCAA Tournament, 4-0.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / March 25, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

LADY TOPPERS WIN DOUBLES POINT; LOSE TO BUTLER 4-3

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continued its 2022 season Friday morning. The Lady Toppers fell to the Butler Bulldogs by a score of 4-3 in Indianapolis. The Lady Toppers move to 13-7 on the season while Butler improved to 6-11.

WKU got the lead early by winning the doubles point.

The No. 1 duo of Cora-Lynn von Dungern and Paola Cortez won their ninth match in a row, 6-1. They improve to 14-1 overall on the campaign. The Lady Toppers were able to clinch the first point after the No. 3 pair of Samantha Martinez and Sofia Blanco took their doubles match, 6-3. They improve to 9-2 overall on the year.

Up 1-0 going into singles play, the Lady Toppers dropped four of the six singles matches.

Rachel Hermanova continued her hot streak, winning in straight sets at No. 4, 6-2, 6-3. She improves to a team-best 16-3 on the season. The Bulldogs picked up four wins in a row following that at No. 1, No. 3, No. 2, and No. 5 to take the lead and clinch the match, 4-2.

With the match already decided, the final match was played out. Sofia Blanco was able to get another point for the Tops, winning 6-0, 6-0 on Court 6.

“It was a tough college tennis match. Butler really deserves a great deal of credit for how they played today.” head coach Greg Davis said. “We got the doubles point and we just were not able to sustain in singles when the match got close.”

WKU will play tomorrow, March 26 in Indianapolis against Illinois-Chicago. The match will begin at 10 a.m. ET and will be played in the Butler Bubble.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 4,1,3,2,5,6)

- 1: Natalie Boesing (BU) def. Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) 6-3, 7-5
- 2: Delaney Schurhamer (BU) def. Laura Bernardos (WKU) 2-6, 6-3, 6-2
- 3: Norah Balthazor (BU) def. Paola Cortez (BU) 6-2, 2-6, 6-4
- 4: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Katie Beavin (BU) 6-2, 6-3
- 5: Emma Beavin (BU) def. Alexis Cramer (WKU) 6-1, 6-1
- 6: Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. Hallie Leblebajian (BU) 6-0, 6-0

Doubles (Order of finish 1,3)

- 1: Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) def. Boesing/Schurhamer (BU) 6-1
- 2: Bruetting/Balthazor (BU) vs. Bernardos/Zegada (WKU) 4-2, unfinished
- 3: Blanco/Martinez (WKU) def. White/Leblebajian (BU) 6-3

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / March 26, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

WKU TENNIS CONCLUDES ROAD TRIP WITH LOSS TO ILLINOIS-CHICAGO

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continued its 2022 season Saturday morning. The Lady Toppers fell to the Illinois Chicago Flames by a score of 4-2 in Indianapolis. The Lady Toppers move to 13-8 on the season while UIC improved to 9-3.

WKU lost the doubles point for the first time since playing C-USA opponent, UAB.

The Flames took both matches on Court 1 and Court 2. Winning 6-4 on Court 1 and 6-3 on Court 2. The match on Court 3 went unfinished.

Going into singles play, the Tops were able to even the score as soon as it started. Alexis Cramer claimed the win on Court 6 by default. WKU continued momentum, taking the lead by winning on Court 4. Samantha Martinez held the lead, 6-0, 3-0, when her opponent retired due to injury. This gave WKU the 2-1 edge.

The next three matches to finish went in favor of UIC, giving them the dual match win. The match on court 3 went unfinished.

“We played a really good match today. I can see why UIC plays in the NCAA tournament every year. They are a very deep and talented team.” head coach Greg Davis said. “I thought we did everything we could to get back in the match. I was very proud of the freshman and how they competed.”

WKU continues its season next weekend on the road at Dayton on Saturday, April 2. The match will begin at 1 p.m. ET.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 6,4,1,2,5)

- 1: Agnes Gustafsson (UIC) def. Paola Cortez (WKU) 6-4, 7-5
- 2: Tamara Malazonia (UIC) def. Rachel Hermanova (WKU) 7-5, 4-6, 6-1
- 3: Dominika Hrabalova (UIC) vs. Sofia Blanco (WKU) 6-7 (5), 6-4, 2-3, unfinished
- 4: Samantha Martinez (WKU) def. Marina Hermanny (UIC) 6-0, 3-0, retirement
- 5: Lea Forste-Dinell (UIC) def. Mariana Zegada (WKU) 6-4, 6-3
- 6: Alexis Cramer (WKU) def. No Player (UIC) by default

Doubles (Order of finish 2,1)

- 1: Gustafsson/Jover (UIC) def. Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) 6-4
- 2: Malazonia/Hrabalova (UIC) def. Blanco/Martinez (WKU) 6-3
- 3: Hermanny/Forste-Dinell (UIC) vs. Hermanova/Zegada (WKU) 4-3, unfinished

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / April 1, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

LADY TOPPER TENNIS SET FOR SATURDAY DOUBLEHEADER AT DAYTON

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continues the 2022 season this Saturday, April 1 with a doubleheader on the road at Dayton.

Both matches will be played at Dayton in Ohio and will begin at 2:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. ET.

Last weekend, the Lady Toppers traveled to Indianapolis to take on the Butler Bulldogs and the Illinois-Chicago Flames.

WKU dropped Friday's match against Butler, 4-3 after winning the doubles point. The Tops also fell on Saturday to the Flames, losing 4-2. Last weekend's matches brought them to 13-8 on the year.

The Lady Toppers are 2-0 all-time against Dayton, playing for the first time in 2019. WKU claimed the win 5-2 at Dayton. The two sides did not meet in the 2020 season that was shortened due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, they faced off again at Dayton, ending in another victory for the Lady Toppers, taking the dual match, 6-1.

Dayton comes into this matchup with a 9-8 overall record. They are coming off a 5-2 victory against Duquesne on the road in Pittsburgh. Last season, the Flyers finished with a record of 5-14, losing to Duquesne in the first round of the Atlantic 10 tournament, 4-0.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / April 2, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

WKU TENNIS CLAIMS BEST RECORD SINCE 1985 WITH DOUBLEHEADER SWEEP

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continued its 2022 season Saturday afternoon with a doubleheader against the Dayton Flyers.

The Lady Toppers won both dual matches against Dayton to improve 15-8 on the campaign. The second win of the doubleheader marks the best record in program history since 1985 and the second-best record ever in WKU Women's Tennis history.

First Match Recap

WKU lost the doubles point, marking the first time they have lost the doubles point in a winning effort this season.

The Flyers took victory on Court 1 and Court 3 to take the early lead. The Court 2 match went unfinished.

Going into singles, the Tops needed to win four of six matches to get the win, and they did just that. Cora-Lynn von Dungern was able to tie the match after winning in straight sets, 6-0, 6-2 at the No. 1 spot. Dayton reclaimed the lead 2-1 after winning on Court 5, but that was the last point they would win for the rest of the match. Laura Bernardos tied the match at two also winning in straight sets, 6-2, 6-3 at the No. 2 position. She improves to 13-5 on the season, the second most on the team. Paola Cortez followed that up with a win at No. 3 to give the Lady Toppers the lead winning 6-4, 7-5. She improves to 12-8 in singles play this year. Then at No. 6, Samantha Martinez clinched the win for WKU, winning 7-5, 6-3.

The Court 4 match went unfinished, making the final score, 4-2, in favor of the Lady Toppers.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 1,5,2,3,6)

- 1: Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) def. Erica Wojcikiewicz (DAY) 6-0, 6-2
- 2: Laura Bernardos (WKU) def. Elizabeth Hamilton (DAY) 6-2, 6-3
- 3: Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Neena Katauskas (DAY) 6-4, 7-5
- 4: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) vs. Laura Greb (DAY) 7-6 (6), 4-1, unfinished
- 5: Sarah DeMarco (DAY) def. Sofia Blanco (WKU) 6-2, 6-1
- 6: Samantha Martinez (WKU) def. Claire Ghidotti (DAY) 7-5, 6-3

Doubles (Order of finish 3,1)

- 1: Wojcikiewicz/Greb (DAY) def. Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) 6-4
- 2: Bernardos/Zegada (WKU) vs. Hamilton/Mitchell (DAY) 3-4, unfinished
- 3: Katauskas/DeMarco (DAY) def. Blanco/Martinez (WKU) 6-1

Second Match Recap

In the second match of the day, WKU was able to take the early lead winning the doubles point.

Sofia Blanco and Samantha Martinez won on Court 3, 6-2, and Cora-Lynn von Dungern and Paola Cortez won 7-5 on Court 1 to take the early advantage going into singles play. The No. 3 duo improves to 10-4 on the season, good for second best on the team. The No. 1 pair moves to a team-best, 15-3 this season.

Up 1-0, the Lady Toppers needed just three matches to go their way this time to get the win, opposed to match one.

Sofia Blanco won at No. 5 in straight sets to go up 2-0, winning 6-2, 6-3. She improves to 5-3 in singles on the season. Cora-Lynn von Dungern claimed her second win of the day at the No. 1 slot, winning 6-4, 6-3. Paola Cortez also got her second singles win on the day, winning 6-4, 6-2 and clinching the win for the Lady Toppers.

The remaining three matches went unfinished, giving the Tops the 4-0 victory.

“We came in wanting to get our momentum back for the season and we were able to do just that today. This was a great effort by the team - we knew the doubles point was critical in the second match and that gave us the momentum we needed.” head coach Greg Davis said. “To have 15 wins and to be only the second WKU women’s tennis team in school history to achieve that is an honor and speaks volumes about the team and the culture we are building.”

WKU continues its season next weekend at home against Middle Tennessee on Saturday, April 9 and against Saint Louis on Sunday, April 10. Saturday’s match will begin at 1:30 p.m. and Sunday’s match will begin at 11 a.m. Location of each match will depend upon weather conditions.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 5,1,3)

- 1: Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) def. Elizabeth Hamilton (DAY) 6-4, 6-3
- 2: Laura Bernardos (WKU) vs. Erica Wojcikiewicz (DAY) 6-4, 3-6, 1-0, unfinished
- 3: Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Laura Greb (DAY) 6-4, 6-2
- 4: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) vs. Neena Katauskas (DAY) 6-4, 1-6, 2-0, unfinished
- 5: Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. Jordan Mitchell (DAY) 6-2, 6-3
- 6: Samantha Martinez (WKU) vs. Natalie Stanton (DAY) 6-4, 5-2, unfinished

Doubles (Order of finish 3,1)

- 1: Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) def. Hamilton/Greb (DAY) 7-5
- 2: Bernardos/Zegada (WKU) vs. Katauskas/Ghidotti (DAY) 5-5, unfinished
- 3: Blanco/Martinez (WKU) def. Wojcikiewicz/Stanton (DAY) 6-2

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / April 8, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

LADY TOPPER TENNIS BACK HOME FOR FINAL TWO HOME MATCHES

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis will play its final two home matches of the 2022 season this weekend on Saturday, April 9 against Middle Tennessee and Sunday, April 10 against Saint Louis.

Saturday's match will begin at 1:30 p.m. CT, while Sunday's match will start at 11 a.m. CT. Both matches will be played at the WKU Tennis Complex. Senior Day festivities will begin at 9:45 a.m. before Sunday's match.

Last weekend, the Lady Toppers traveled to Dayton, Ohio for a doubleheader against the Dayton Flyers.

WKU claimed wins in both matches, winning 4-2 in the first match and 4-0 in the second. These two wins brought the Tops to 15-8 on the campaign, giving them the second-best record in program history and the most wins in a season since 1985.

The Lady Toppers are 1-12 all-time against Middle Tennessee, playing for the first time in 2007. WKU beat the Blue Raiders in 2017, winning 5-0 in Murfreesboro. Middle Tennessee took victory in the last matchup between the sides, winning 7-0 also in Murfreesboro.

The Blue Raiders come into this matchup with a 9-12 overall record. They are coming off a 4-1 loss against Cincinnati in Huntington. Last season, Middle Tennessee finished with a record of 11-12, losing in the second round of the Conference USA Tournament to Rice, 4-0.

This will be just the second Conference USA match of the season for the Lady Toppers and the fifth for the Blue Raiders. This also marks the first time they will visit The Hill in program history.

WKU has never faced Saint Louis in the history of the program. The Billikens come into the match with an overall record of 10-6, coming off a loss to Illinois State on March 30, losing 5-2.

Last season, Saint Louis finished with a record of 7-7, losing in the second round of the Atlantic 10 Conference Tournament to Rhode Island, 4-3.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / April 9, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

WKU TENNIS BEATS MIDDLE TENNESSEE FOR THE SECOND TIME IN PROGRAM HISTORY

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis continued its 2022 season Saturday afternoon with a Conference USA match against the Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders.

The Lady Toppers defeated the Blue Raiders at home on Saturday to improve 16-8 on the campaign. This win marks the first conference win for the Tops this season. WKU currently holds the second most conference wins of all the teams in Conference USA.

The doubles point came down to the wire after WKU won the match on Court 1 and Middle Tennessee claimed the match on Court 2. The No. 1 pair of Cora-Lynn von Dungern and Paola Cortez took care of business for the 16th time this season, winning 6-2 and improving to 16-3 on the year. After Middle Tennessee won the Court 2 match, the Court 3 match went to a tiebreaker. The No. 3 duo of Sofia Blanco and Samantha Martinez won an exhilarating, back-and-forth match that needed extra tiebreaker points to be decided, winning 7-6 (7) to give the Lady Toppers the early 1-0 lead.

Going into singles, WKU only needed three wins to claim the match and they did just that.

Cora-Lynn von Dungern was the first to finish, winning on Court 1, 6-1, 6-0. This was her third straight win, all coming in straight sets. Her doubles partner, Paola Cortez followed up her performance with a straight set win on Court 3, winning 6-1, 6-2. She improved to 14-8 on the season, good for the second-best singles record on the team. Down 3-0, the Blue Raiders made up some ground, winning on Court 6 and Court 4, both in straight sets. This made the score 3-2. To give the Lady Toppers the win, Sofia Blanco took the victory on Court 5, 6-4, 6-1. She recorded her sixth singles win in 10 matches on the season. This win gave WKU its fourth point, to clinch the match.

The final match to finish was on Court 2, going in favor of the Blue Raiders. This made the final score 4-3.

“That is probably one of our biggest wins, by far since I have been here. Middle is a good team. They had a good win over Ball State earlier this year. They had a very good win beating Samford, 6-1. I mentioned to the team yesterday that doubles is going to be the key.” head coach Greg Davis said. “We did a really good job getting up 5-2 on all three courts in doubles. We were in a tough spot at three and we pulled it out. I thought Sam and Sofia did a great job keeping their composure and helping us get that doubles point. Singles wise, we had tremendous effort from Cora, Paola and then Sofia to clinch it at five. Really proud of the team. This is going to help us with our seeding at the conference tournament in a couple weeks. We are hoping to have a big crowd for senior day, starting with our ceremony tomorrow at 9:45 a.m.”

WKU finishes its home schedule tomorrow against Saint Louis on Sunday, April 10. The match will begin at 11 a.m. with senior day festivities beginning at 9:45 a.m. and will be played at the WKU Tennis Complex on South Campus.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 1,3,6,4,5,2)

- 1: Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) def. Lee Barnard (METSU) 6-1, 6-0
- 2: Muskan Gupta (METSU) def. Laura Bernardos (WKU) 6-4, 6-4
- 3: Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Love-Star Alexis (METSU) 6-1, 6-2
- 4: Zani Barnard (METSU) def. Rachel Hermanova (WKU) 6-4, 6-3
- 5: Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. Noelle Mauro (METSU) 6-4, 6-1
- 6: Lilly-Sophie Schmidt (METSU) def. Samantha Martinez (WKU) 6-2, 6-1

Doubles (Order of finish 1,2,3)

- 1: Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) def. Barnard/Mauro (METSU) 6-2
- 2: Barnard/Alexis (METSU) def. Bernardos/Zegada (WKU) 7-5
- 3: Blanco/Martinez (WKU) def. Swarbrick/Gupta (METSU) 7-6 (7)

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / April 10, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

LADY TOPPER TENNIS DEFEATS SAINT LOUIS ON SENIOR DAY

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis finished its 2022 home schedule on Sunday afternoon with a match against the Saint Louis Billikens.

The Lady Toppers defeated the Billikens at home on Sunday to improve 17-8 on the campaign. This completes the best home record in program history with a record of 12-4 in Bowling Green.

WKU took the early edge after winning the doubles point. The No. 3 duo of Sofia Blanco and Samantha Martinez finished first of the three matches, winning 6-2. They improved to 12-4 in doubles on the year, good for second-best on the team behind the No. 1 doubles pair of Cora-Lynn von Dungern and Paola Cortez. Following that, Laura Bernardos and Mariana Zegada took care of business on Court 2, winning 6-4 to give the Lady Toppers the early 1-0 lead. They get their third doubles win on the season.

In singles, WKU won five of six matches to take the match.

Rachel Hermanova was first to finish at the No. 4 spot winning in straight sets, 6-4, 6-1. She improved to a team-best, 17-5 on the season. On Court 3, Paola Cortez also got the win in straight sets, 7-5, 6-0. She is now 15-8 this season in singles with the second most wins behind Hermanova. Sofia Blanco was able to clinch the match-deciding point for the second straight day, winning 3-6, 6-2, 6-4 to earn the fourth point for the Lady Toppers.

Down 4-0, the Billikens were able to secure their first and only point of the match, winning on Court 1. The final two matches went in favor of WKU with Mariana Zegada earning her first singles win of her collegiate career at the No. 6 position, winning 6-4, 4-6, 6-2 and Laura Bernardos winning on Court 2, 6-4, 5-7, 6-3 to get the Tops the 6-1 victory.

“I thought that was one of our best performances of the year today. I mean the freshman really stepped up for us. I am really happy for them. Sofia clinched the match again, but Rachel and Mariana helped out a great deal. I could not be happier with the play of the team.” head coach Greg Davis said. “We wanted to send the seniors home with a victory today and we did just that. Next week we have a very, very difficult match at Marshall which is never an easy place to go to. They are a very talented team and a tough place to go into and play. They are very well coached and a deep roster, but we are playing our best tennis of the year at the right time, so I could not be more pleased with the team right now.”

WKU will conclude the regular season next weekend on Saturday, April 16 against Marshall. The match will begin at 1 p.m. and will be played in Huntington on Marshall’s campus.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 4,3,5,1,6,2)

- 1: Norhan Hesham (SLU) def. Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) 4-6, 6-2, 6-4
- 2: Laura Bernardos (WKU) def. Elizabeth Mintusova (SLU) 6-4, 5-7, 6-3
- 3: Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Mariona Perez (SLU) 7-5, 6-0
- 4: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Lucija Faj (SLU) 6-4, 6-1
- 5: Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. Jessica Stefan (SLU) 3-6, 6-2, 6-4
- 6: Mariana Zegada (WKU) def. Mya Spencer (SLU) 6-4, 4-6, 6-2

Doubles (Order of finish 3,2)

- 1: Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) vs. Perez/Mintusova (SLU) 5-6, unfinished
- 2: Bernardos/Zegada (WKU) def. Faj/Hesham (SLU) 6-4
- 3: Blanco/Martinez (WKU) def. Barlow/Spencer (SLU) 6-2

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / April 15, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

WKU TENNIS TENNIS TO WRAP UP REGULAR SEASON AT MARSHALL

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis will play its final regular season match of the 2022 season this weekend on Saturday, April 16 at Marshall.

Saturday's match will begin at 1 p.m. and will be played at the Brian David Fox Tennis Center, marking the first time WKU will visit Huntington in program history.

Last weekend, the Lady Toppers played their final two home matches of the season.

On Saturday, WKU faced Middle Tennessee for its second Conference USA match of the season. The Tops claimed the win, 4-3, in a hard-fought match to get their first Conference win.

WKU matched up against Saint Louis on Sunday for Senior Day. The Lady Toppers rolled, taking the win, 6-1, over the Billikens. These two wins brought WKU to 17-8 on the season overall, the second best record in the history of the program and the most wins in a season since 1985.

The Lady Toppers are 1-1 all-time against Marshall, playing for the first time in 2017.

Both matchups have been in the Conference USA Tournament with WKU taking the first match in Denton, Texas, 4-3. The Thundering Herd took the win in the most recent match between the sides, beating the Lady Toppers last season in post-season play, 4-0, in the first round of the Conference USA Tournament.

Marshall comes into this matchup with a 11-11 overall record. They are coming off a 6-1 loss on the road against No. 59 VCU. Last season, Middle Tennessee finished with a record of 7-8, losing in the second round of the Conference USA Tournament to FIU, 4-0.

This will be just the third Conference USA match of the season for the Lady Toppers and the fifth for the Thundering Herd.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / April 16, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

WKU TENNIS HAS RECORD-BREAKING DAY AT MARSHALL

HUNTINGTON, W. Va. — WKU Tennis finished the 2022 regular season on Saturday afternoon with a Conference USA road match against the Marshall Thundering Herd.

The Lady Toppers defeated the Thundering Herd on the road on Saturday to improve to 2-1 in conference play and 18-8 overall on the campaign. This marks the first time the Lady Topper Tennis program has had a winning record in conference play since the 2016-17 season.

The 4-3 victory makes it the seventh match of the season decided by one point. WKU has a 4-3 record in those matches.

WKU took the early edge after winning the doubles point. The No. 3 duo of Sofia Blanco and Samantha Martinez finished first of the three matches, winning 6-2. They improved to 13-4 in doubles on the year, good for second-best on the team behind the No. 1 doubles pair of Cora-Lynn von Dungern and Paola Cortez. Following that, Laura Bernardos and Mariana Zegada took the win on Court 2, 6-3 to give the Lady Toppers the early 1-0 lead. They get their fourth doubles win on the season. WKU finishes the regular season 17-3 when they win the doubles point.

In singles, WKU won three of six matches to take the match.

The first three matches in singles play went in favor of Marshall, taking the matches on Court 1, Court 3, and then Court 2. Down 3-1, the Lady Toppers battled back getting three straight wins from three freshman. Sofia Blanco started the comeback, winning in straight sets at No. 5, 7-5, 6-3. Rachel Hermanova was able to tie the match at three, winning 6-2, 7-6 (5). With this win, Hermanova gets her 18th singles win on the year, setting the record for most singles wins in a season, formerly held by Karina Ledaja set back in the 2003-04 season.

With the match evened at three, the Court 6 match was the only match to go to a third set. Mariana Zegada was able to complete the comeback for WKU, winning 6-4, 2-6, 6-1 in a thrilling match to secure the victory.

“It was a great win today. I couldn’t be more proud of the team.” head coach Greg Davis said. “To finish with five straight regular season wins and to come here and have three freshman at four, five, and six pull it out for us was phenomenal.”

With the conclusion of the regular season, the Lady Toppers begin Conference USA Tournament play next Thursday, April 21 in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 1,3,2,5,4,6)

- 1: Emma Vanderheyden (MAR) def. Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) 6-0, 6-3
- 2: Liz Stefancic (MAR) def. Laura Bernardos (WKU) 6-4, 6-4
- 3: Madi Ballow (MAR) def. Paola Cortez (WKU) 6-4, 6-1
- 4: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Jutte Van Hansewyck (MAR) 6-2, 7-6 (5)
- 5: Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. Gabrielle Clairotte (MAR) 7-5, 6-3
- 6: Mariana Zegada (WKU) def. Sophia Hurrion (MAR) 6-4, 2-6, 6-1

Doubles (Order of finish 3,2)

- 1: Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) vs. Vanderheyden/Stefancic (MAR) 4-5, unfinished
- 2: Bernardos/Zegada (WKU) def. Ballow/Hurrion (MAR) 6-3
- 3: Blanco/Martinez (WKU) def. Clairotte/Van Hansewyck (MAR) 6-2

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / April 19, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

LADY TOPPER TENNIS DRAWS UAB IN FIRST ROUND OF 2022 C-USA TOURNAMENT

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis begins its postseason on Thursday, April 21 at the Conference USA Tournament in Murfreesboro, Tenn. The Lady Toppers were given the No. 9 seed, and will play No. 8 seed UAB in the first round at 9 a.m. CT at the Bucks Bouldin Tennis Center.

There will be live stats during the event through CUSA.tv and if inclement weather pushes play indoors, there will be PlaySight camera going.

“UAB is definitely a team we are familiar with having played them earlier in the season,” head coach Greg Davis said. “We are looking forward to a competitive match on Thursday morning in Murfreesboro.”

WKU enters the 2022 C-USA Tournament with a 18-8 overall record and has won its last five matches. UAB, meanwhile, owns a 11-10 mark dropping five of its last seven matches, with the team winning its most recent decision on April 16 at Middle Tennessee, 4-3.

The sides met previously this season, in Birmingham on March 14. That day, The Blazers came out on top, winning 6-1.

If WKU wins, the squad would face No. 1 Old Dominion in the quarterfinal round on Friday, April 22 at 10 a.m. CT.

The Lady Toppers are in the midst of the second-best season in program history. Marking the best record they have had in a season since 1985 (20-8). Last month, Cora-Lynn von Dungern won her 32nd doubles match of her WKU career, breaking the record for most doubles wins in program history, formerly held by Lisa Friess, who posted a 31-23 record in her doubles career. Since then, she has added five more wins, owning a 37-13 career doubles record at WKU.

Rachel Hermanova has already posted the greatest singles season in WKU program history as a Freshman. She won her 18th singles match last weekend at Marshall, passing Karina Ledaja for most singles wins in a season, who held a record of 17-1 back in 2003-04.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / April 21, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

WKU TENNIS SEASON ENDS WITH C-USA LOSS TO UAB

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — The WKU Tennis season came to an end on Thursday afternoon, as UAB defeated the No. 9 seed Lady Toppers by a score of 4-2 in the first round of the 2022 Conference USA Tournament. The No. 8 seeded Blazers will advance to the quarterfinals to face No. 1 seed Old Dominion.

WKU entered the day 17-3 when they win the doubles point, and this one came down to a tiebreaker. The No. 3 duo of Sofia Blanco and Samantha Martinez got the Lady Toppers off to a hot start, taking the match 6-2. They finish 2022 on a five-match winning streak and 14-4 overall as a pair. The two also earned their 18th doubles win each on the campaign, adding to their record broken in the previous match for most doubles wins in a season, previously held by Karina Ledaja (2003-04) and Olga Kosaka (2000-01) who each had 16.

The Court 2 match went in favor of the Blazers, knotting up the score, making the doubles point come down to the match on Court 1.

The No. 1 matchup of Cora-Lynn von Dungern and Paola Cortez against Sydney Clarke and Maggie White was tied at 6-6 and went to a tiebreaker, but UAB took the decision, winning the tiebreaker 7-2 to earn the doubles point.

In singles, the Blazers took a 2-0 lead, following a win on Court 1, but the Lady Toppers fought back, winning back-to-back matches. Rachel Hermanova added to her single-season record, winning her 19th singles match of the season in straight sets, 7-5, 6-2. Laura Bernardos was able to tie the match 2-2 winning in three sets, 5-7, 6-4, 6-1.

UAB won a hard-fought, three set match on Court 3 to take the 3-2 lead. They clinched the match just after winning on Court 6 in straight sets, taking the match, 4-2.

The match lasted a total of 4 hours and 20 minutes, the Lady Toppers longest match of the season.

“We played hard to the last point. UAB is a very good team and very deserving to move on.” head coach Greg Davis said. “Very proud of the team and what they accomplished. 18 wins and 2-1 in Conference USA shows the program is on the rise. The messages from collegiate hall of fame coaches and professionals have been numerous this year and it is great to see how those in the tennis community have noticed the success of the program. It is very humbling.”

WKU concluded the season with a 18-9 overall record, winning nine of its last eleven matches. They finish this season with the second-most wins in program history and most in a season since 1985.

This season brought multiple broken records, starting with Cora-Lynn von Dungern breaking the record for most doubles wins in a career at WKU against Murray State earlier this year. She finishes her WKU career 37-14 in doubles matches. Rachel Hermanova broke the record for singles win in a season last weekend against Marshall. She ends her freshman campaign with a 19-4 singles record. Sofia Blanco and Samantha Martinez each picked up their 17th and 18th doubles wins last weekend and today, breaking the record for most doubles wins in a season, individually. Blanco finishes her first season on The Hill with a doubles record of 18-7, while Martinez finishes her sophomore year 18-6 in doubles. The No. 1 doubles pair of Cora-Lynn von Dungern and Paola Cortez finish the year 16-4 as a doubles duo, the most doubles wins by a pair in a single season in program history.

Final Results

Singles (Order of finish: 1,4,2,3,6)

1: Adela Wasserbauerova (UAB) def. Cora-Lynn von Dungern (WKU) 6-3, 6-0

2: Laura Bernardos (WKU) def. Sydney Clarke (UAB) 5-7, 6-4, 6-1

3: Maggie White (UAB) def. Paola Cortez (WKU) 6-2, 4-6, 7-5

- 4: Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Mackenzie White (UAB) 7-5, 6-2
- 5: Sofia Blanco (WKU) vs. Jane Hecking (UAB) 7-5, 1-6, 5-1, unfinished
- 6: Annalisa Smith (UAB) def. Mariana Zegada (WKU) 6-1, 6-2

Doubles (Order of finish 3,2,1)

- 1: Clarke/White (UAB) def. Cortez/von Dungern (WKU) 7-6 (2)
- 2: White/Wasserbauerova (UAB) def. Bernardos/Zegada (WKU) 6-2
- 3: Blanco/Martinez (WKU) def. Ratkic/Mellynchuk (UAB) 6-2

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / May 4, 2022

TENNIS / Contact: Jack Todd

WKU TENNIS SIGNS TRANSFER SUNSKRITHI DAMERA FOR 2022-23 SEASON

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis head coach Greg Davis announced new acquisition of Sunskrithi Damera for the Lady Toppers' Class of 2022.

"Sunskrithi is someone who will come in and make an impact in our lineup immediately," Davis said.

"She makes our depth better and has a high level of success, not just on the courts but in the classroom as well. We look forward to having her at WKU in the fall."

Damera will play her first year at WKU after transferring from Sam Houston, where she played two seasons for the Bearkats.

In her freshman season, she finished 6-1 in singles, playing at the No. 6 spot. Her clutch play during conference matches helped the Bearkats win their first NCAA Division I regular season conference title. Following the conclusion of the 2021 season, Damera was selected as an ITA Division I Women Scholar-Athlete. To be named an ITA Scholar-Athlete, players must have a grade point average of at least 3.5 (on a 4.00 scale) for the current academic year.

In 2022, she competed at the No. 4, 5 and 6 positions. Following her stellar second year play, she was selected to the All-WAC second team after posting a 3-1 record in conference play and 11-4 record overall.

Damera grew up in Hyderabad, India.

The transfer will join returning players Sofia Blanco, Paola Cortez, Rachel Hermanova, Samantha Martinez and Mariana Zegada to compose the 2021-22 team.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / May 16, 2022

Tennis / Contact: Zach Greenwell, WKU Athletic Communications/Media Relations

Action photos of Hernandez available upon request, with mandatory credit to IU Athletics.

LADY TOPPERS ADD INDIANA TRANSFER SAYDA HERNANDEZ TO ROSTER

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis has added Indiana transfer Sayda Hernandez to the roster for the 2022-23 season, head coach Greg Davis announced Monday.

Hernandez comes to the Hill as a junior after competing for the Hoosiers the last two seasons. The Hilton Head, S.C., native primarily played at the 5-6 spots last year for IU.

“We’re very excited to welcome Sayda to the Hill next fall,” Davis said. “She is an experienced player who had a great deal of playing time in the Big Ten her previous two seasons. Sayda was a five-star recruit whose UTR ranking was around 10.2 coming out of high school, and I feel her best is ahead academically and athletically here at WKU.”

Hernandez was rated a five-star prospect during her prep career and ranked as high as No. 47 in the nation in the 2020 class by tennisrecruiting.net.

She joins fellow incoming transfer Sunskrithi Damera (Sam Houston State) as newcomers for the Lady Toppers next season, along with returners Sofia Blanco, Paola Cortez, Rachel Hermanova, Samantha Martinez and Mariana Zegada.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / July 18, 2022

Tennis / Contact: Zach Greenwell, WKU Athletic Communications/Media Relations

LADY TOPPERS EARN ITA ALL-ACADEMIC TEAM DISTINCTION FOR THIRD STRAIGHT YEAR

TEMPE, Ariz. — WKU Tennis was recently named a 2022 Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) All-Academic Team, marking the third straight season that the Lady Topper program has received the honor.

The Lady Toppers boasted a 3.68 team grade point average over the last year, while six individuals were also designated 2022 Division I Women's Scholar-Athletes due to their performance in the classroom.

"I'm very proud of the team for this recognition, as well as the individual award winners," WKU head coach Greg Davis said. "We have stressed excellence in the classroom from day one at WKU, and the team was a great example of that academically as well as athletically during the 2021-22 school year."

Laura Bernados, Sofia Blanco, Paola Cortez, Cora-Lynn von Dungern, Samantha Martinez and Mariana Zegada were all named Scholar-Athletes for maintaining at least a 3.5 GPA over the 2021-22 academic year.

The Lady Toppers have had 18 total student-athletes honored with this distinction over Davis' last three seasons at the helm alone.

In addition to their academic success, WKU Tennis also excelled on the court in 2022 with its best season in many years. The Lady Toppers finished the regular season 18-9, totaling their second-most wins in a season since 1985.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Wednesday, September 14, 2022

Tennis / Contact: Jack Todd, Assistant Director of Communications/Media Relations

WKU TENNIS OPENS FALL SEASON AT AUSTIN PEAY INVITATIONAL

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. — WKU Tennis begins its fall season at the Austin Peay Invitational this weekend. The Lady Toppers will compete on Friday, September 16 and Sunday, September 18 at the Austin Peay Governors Tennis Courts, with Saturday's matches being played at the Swan Lake Tennis Complex in Clarksville.

The Austin Peay Invitational will pin WKU against players from host Austin Peay, Chattanooga, UT Martin, and Murray State.

WKU is 29-12 all-time against Austin Peay in dual match competition. Last season on March 4, the Governors edged the Lady Toppers by a score of 4-3 at the outdoor courts at the Michael O. Buchanan Tennis Complex. WKU is 3-7 all-time against Chattanooga, with its most recent victory coming last spring, beating the Mocs, 4-3 on February 27. The second match of the day Saturday comes against UT Martin. The Lady Toppers swept UT Martin last January, 4-0 putting them at 5-2 all-time against the Skyhawks. The final match of the weekend is against Murray State. The Racers bested WKU last spring, 5-2 giving the Lady Toppers a 4-18 all-time record against them.

The Austin Peay Invitational schedule, with approximate times, will be as follows:

Day 1 – Friday, September 16 - Austin Peay Governors Tennis Courts

noon vs. Austin Peay

Day 2 – Saturday, September 17 - Swan Lake Tennis Complex

9 a.m. - vs. UT Chattanooga

2 p.m. - vs. UT Martin

Day 3 – Sunday, September 18 - Swan Lake Tennis Complex

9 a.m. - vs. Murray State

This will be the first of two fall tournaments for WKU over the next three weeks.

"I think it is going to be a challenging tournament for us. There are a lot of good teams in this tournament," head coach Greg Davis said. "Many of them we played last year, and they will be on our schedule this year as well. Austin Peay always runs a very difficult tournament. We are anxious to see where the team is at right now. This is going to be a good first test because all of these are quality teams, and it is going to be a challenge. Especially Saturday when you are playing two singles and two doubles outside in 90-degree heat. It is going to give us a good barometer on where we are at right now."

WKU will also play in the Middle Tennessee Invitational in Murfreesboro from October 1-2 for its final action of the fall season.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Monday, September 19, 2022

Tennis / Contact: Jack Todd, Assistant Director of Communications/Media Relations

BLANCO AND ZEGADA HAVE UNBEATEN WEEKEND IN SINGLES AT AUSTIN PEAY INVITATIONAL

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. — The WKU Tennis team completed its first action of the fall season with the conclusion of the Austin Peay Invitational yesterday.

Overall, the team saw 10 singles victories and three doubles wins throughout the weekend.

In singles, Sofia Blanco and Mariana Zegada each completed the weekend 3-0, not dropping a set in any of their matches. Paola Cortez finished the weekend 2-1, winning on Saturday and Sunday in straight sets after dropping her Friday match. Samantha Martinez won her only singles match of the weekend on Friday, winning a tiebreaker 10-7 to take the victory. Rachel Hermanova was able to win in her second singles match of the weekend on Saturday winning in straight sets.

In doubles, Blanco and Martinez got right back to where they left off last season, winning their first doubles match, 6-2. Unfortunately, Martinez could not continue following Friday's play, after getting injured. On day two, the Lady Toppers claimed two doubles wins. Cortez and Hernandez got their first win as a duo, not dropping a game, winning 6-0. Hermanova stepped in for the injured Martinez and played alongside Blanco. They took the win in their match, 6-3.

"Overall, a very good first tournament," said head coach Greg Davis. "We had some outstanding performances out of Paola and Sofia in singles and doubles over the weekend."

Lady Topper Tennis will head to Murfreesboro on October 1-2 to compete in the Middle Tennessee Invitational to conclude play for the fall season.

Weekend Results

Friday

Singles

Denise Torrealba (Austin Peay) def. Paola Cotez (WKU) 6-3, 6-1
Jana Leder (Austin Peay) def. Sayda Hernandez (WKU) 6-1, 6-4
Yu-Hua Cheng (Austin Peay) def. Rachel Hermanova (WKU) 6-4, 2-6, 11-9
Melody Hefti (Austin Peay) def. Sunskrithi Damera (WKU) 6-1, 6-0
Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. Asia Fontana (Austin Peay) 7-6, 6-3
Mariana Zegada (WKU) def. Ayden Kujawa (Austin Peay) 6-1, 6-0
Samantha Martinez (WKU) def. Lusía Melendez (UTC) 4-6, 6-4, 10-7

Doubles

Hefti/Leder (Austin Peay) def. Cortez/Hernandez (WKU) 7-6
Blanco/Martinez (WKU) def. Torrealba/Baranov (Austin Peay) 6-2
Cheng/Lascheck (Austin Peay) def. Damera/Zegada (WKU) 7-5
Billman/Melendez (UTC) def. Hermanova/Font Mentero (WKU/Murray State) 6-4

Saturday

Singles

Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Nicole Abel (UTC) 6-2, 6-2
Caroline Gibbens (UTC) def. Sayda Hernandez (WKU) 6-4, 6-3
Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Coco Bosman (UTC) 6-3, 1-0
Lusia Melendez (UTC) def. Sunskrithi Damera (WKU) 6-4, 0-6, 10-6
Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. Callie Billman (UTC) 7-6, 6-0
Mariana Zegada (WKU) def. Ayden Kujawa (Austin Peay) 6-1, 6-2

Doubles

Cortez/Hernandez (WKU) def. Billman/Gibbens (UTC) 6-0

Blanco/Hermanova (WKU) def. Young/Abel (UTC) 6-3

Bosman/Melendez (UTC) def. Damera/Zegada (WKU) 6-3

Sunday

Singles

Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Natalie Slezakova (Murray State) 6-3, 6-2

Annika Pschorr (Murray State) def. Sayda Hernandez (WKU) 6-4, 6-3

Emma Honore (Murray State) def. Rachel Hermanova (WKU) 6-2, 6-3

Sarah Bureau (Murray State) def. Sunskrithi Damera (WKU) 6-1, 6-2

Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. Jordi Font Mentero (Murray State) 6-1, 6-3

Mariana Zegada (WKU) def. Marit Kreugel (Murray State) 6-4, 6-3

Doubles

Pschorr/Slezakova (Murray State) def. Cortez/Hernandez (WKU) 6-1

Bureau/Honore (Murray State) def. Blanco/Hermanova (WKU) 6-3

Campigotto/Font Mentero (Murray State) def. Damera/Zegada (WKU) 6-2

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Friday, September 30, 2022

Tennis / Contact: Jack Todd, Assistant Director of Communications/Media Relations

LADY TOPPERS WIN 10 OF 11 MATCHES ON FRIDAY

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — WKU Tennis won 10 of its 11 matches today at the Middle Tennessee Invitational.

Singles play began at 1 p.m. CT with five Lady Toppers competing against players from Middle Tennessee, all winning in straight sets.

Paola Cortez won her match 6-2, 7-5. Sayda Hernandez got her first individual win as a Hilltopper, winning 6-4, 7-5. Rachel Hermanova only dropped one game in her match, winning 6-0, 6-1. Sofia Blanco is still undefeated in fall play, winning her match 6-2, 6-1 and Sunskrithi Damera also got her first individual win as a Hilltopper, winning 6-1, 6-3.

In doubles, the Lady Toppers won five of six matches, winning its first five in a row.

The dynamic duo of Sofia Blanco and Samantha Martinez did not drop a game in their only match of the day, winning 6-0 against players from Middle Tennessee. Cortez and Hernandez teamed up to beat a team from Ball State, 6-1 and the pair of returners, Rachel Hermanova and Mariana Zegada also took care of business against Ball State, winning 6-3.

In the 4:30 doubles competition, Martinez and Damera grouped up for the first time and beat a team from Middle Tennessee, 6-1 and Cortez and Hernandez got their second win of the day, beating a pair from Lipscomb, 6-2.

Friday Results

Singles

Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Sana Garakani (MTSU) 6-2, 7-5

Sayda Hernandez (WKU) def. Lilly-Sophie Schmidt (MTSU) 6-4, 7-5

Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Rutuja Chaphalkar (MTSU) 6-0, 6-1

Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. Cara Szilasi (MTSU) 6-1, 6-2

Sunskrithi Damera (WKU) def. Camila Barragan (MTSU) 6-1, 6-3

Doubles

Sofia Blanco/Samantha Martinez (WKU) def. Cara Szilasi/Karen Yibirin (MTSU) 6-0

Paola Cortez/Sayda Hernandez (WKU) def. Amy Kaplan/Emma Peeler (BSU) 6-1

Mariana Zegada/Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Emily Desai/Jacque Pearsall (BSU) 6-3

Samantha Martinez/Sunskrithi Damera (WKU) def. Camila Barragan/Karen Yibirin (MTSU) 6-1

Paola Cortez/Sayda Hernandez (WKU) def. Taisia Yakunina/Alina Cherniaieva (LIP) 6-2

Ella Hazelbaker/Elena Malykh (BSU) def. Mariana Zegada/Rachel Hermanova (WKU) 6-2

"I thought we had a tremendous start to the tournament. Going 10-1 out of the gate was impressive," head coach Greg Davis said. "Tomorrow will be a challenge with two singles matches."

The Lady Toppers will be back in action tomorrow in Murfreesboro with singles play beginning at 9 a.m. CT.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Tennis / Contact: Jack Todd, Assistant Director of Communications/Media Relations

LADY TOPPERS TRAVEL TO MURSFREESBORO TO COMPETE IN MT INVITATIONAL

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — WKU Tennis continues its fall season this weekend, as the Lady Toppers travel down I-65 for the Middle Tennessee Invitational. The three-day event will take place on Friday, September 30, Saturday, October 1, and Sunday October 2.

WKU will compete against players from the host Blue Raiders, Ball State, Bellarmine, Chattanooga, Lipscomb, and North Alabama.

"MTSU is always a tough tournament," head coach Greg Davis said. "They always have very good competition coming in. Not only Middle Tennessee, but other teams. It is going to give us our first look at some conference teams coming up, and we are looking forward to that."

The Lady Toppers matched up against all the teams featured in the Middle Tennessee Invitational last season, winning against five of the six opponents. The Lady Toppers got the better of the Blue Raiders on the back end of last season, winning 4-3 in Bowling Green. Ball State is the only team on the schedule that beat the Lady Toppers last spring, beating WKU 5-2 in Bowling Green. Bellarmine was the first match of the 2022 spring season for the Lady Toppers, who beat the Knights 5-2 last January. WKU hosted Lipscomb for its first home match of the 2022 season, winning 4-3. Chattanooga also visited The Hill last February, losing to the Lady Toppers, 4-3. The weekend prior, WKU hosted North Alabama, winning 5-2 for the second straight year.

In WKU's first action of the fall at the Austin Peay Invitational, the Lady Toppers saw two of its returners go undefeated in singles during the weekend. Sofia Blanco and Mariana Zegada each finished the weekend 3-0 in singles. Paola Cortez finished 2-1 at the No. 1 spot throughout the weekend, winning in singles on Saturday and Sunday. In doubles, the Lady Toppers claimed three doubles wins throughout the weekend. Blanco and Martinez won on Friday against Austin Peay, 6-2. On Saturday, WKU took two more doubles wins, with Cortez and Hernandez not dropping a set, winning 6-0 against Chattanooga. Blanco and Hermanova also won against Chattanooga, 6-3.

"I like the intensity we played with over the weekend," said Davis. "I thought Paola and Sayda did very well in doubles throughout the tournament. Had a really good shot at winning against Austin Peay. In singles, we had a couple of really good performances out of Mariana and Sofia. We definitely had an above average start to the fall."

WKU Tennis has added another fall showing towards the end of October. The Bellarmine Invitational will be played on October 22-23 in Louisville. This will be the last outing for the WKU Tennis squad this year before they start its spring season next January.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Saturday, October 1, 2022

Tennis / Contact: Jack Todd, Assistant Director of Communications/Media Relations

LADY TOPPERS STAY HOT; WIN 8 MATCHES ON SATURDAY

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — WKU Tennis won 8 of its 9 matches today at the Middle Tennessee Invitational.

The first singles competition began at 9 a.m. CT with all seven Lady Toppers competing against players from North Alabama and Middle Tennessee. WKU won six of seven and only dropped one set in the matches they won.

Paola Cortez got the win in her match against a player from North Alabama, 6-1, 6-2. Sayda Hernandez played a hard-fought match, losing a third-set tiebreaker 12-10. Rachel Hermanova won her third-set tiebreaker 10-3 after taking the second set 7-5. Sofia Blanco won in convincing fashion 6-1, 6-2 against another North Alabama player. Sunskrithi Damera only dropped one game in her match, winning 6-1, 6-0. Mariana Zegada got her first singles win of the weekend, winning 6-2, 6-0, as well as Samantha Martinez who won her match 6-1, 6-0.

Three Lady Toppers competed in the 2:30 singles competitions against Lipscomb, with all three coming out victorious.

Blanco remained undefeated, winning 6-0, 6-2. Damera won her third singles match in a row, 6-2, 6-3 and Martinez won her second of the day in a third-set tiebreaker 6-3, 3-6, 10-5.

In doubles, the Lady Toppers competed in just two matches today, winning both of them.

Cortez and Hernandez took down a duo from Middle Tennessee, 6-4 and Zegada and Hermanova took care of business against Middle Tennessee as well, 6-2.

Saturday Results

Singles - 9 a.m.

Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Martina Paladini (UNA) 6-1, 6-2

Valeria San Miguel (UNA) def. Sayda Hernandez (WKU) 6-1, 2-6, 12-10

Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Ann Marija Bukina (UNA) 6-3, 5-7, 10-3

Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. Nicole Reilly (UNA) 6-1, 6-2

Sunskrithi Damera (WKU) def. Cara Szilasi (MTSU) 6-1, 6-0

Mariana Zegada (WKU) def. Camila Barragan (MTSU) 6-2, 6-0

Samantha Martinez (WKU) def. Karen Yibirin (MTSU) 6-1, 6-0

Singles - 2:30 p.m.

Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. Taisia Yakunina (LIP) 6-0, 6-2

Sunskrithi Damera (WKU) def. Emma Zakordoniec (LIP) 6-2, 6-3

Samantha Martinez (WKU) def. Liza Diachenko (LIP) 6-3, 3-6, 10-5

Doubles - 12:30 p.m.

Paola Cortez/Sayda Hernandez (WKU) def. Noelle Mauro/Rutuja Chaphalkar (MTSU) 6-4

Mariana Zegada/Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Karen Yibirin/Cara Szilasi (MTSU) 6-2

"Another great day. I am really proud we backed up the first day with a great performance today," head coach Greg Davis said. "We all know the most important day is the last day. Finishing strong is our goal Sunday."

The Lady Toppers will conclude the Middle Tennessee Invitational tomorrow in Murfreesboro with play beginning at 8 a.m. CT.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Sunday, October 2, 2022

Tennis / Contact: Jack Todd, Assistant Director of Communications/Media Relations

LADY TOPPERS FINISH STRONG AT MT INVITATIONAL

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — WKU Tennis won 7 of its 9 matches on its final day at the Middle Tennessee Invitational.

Singles began at 8 a.m. CT with all seven Lady Toppers competing against players Middle Tennessee, Ball State and Lipscomb. WKU won five of seven matches, totaling 14 wins in singles over the entire weekend.

Sofia Blanco has yet to lose in fall play nor drop a set, winning 6-1, 6-2. Mariana Zegada is also unbeaten in fall competition, winning in straight sets, 6-3, 6-3. Rachel Hermanova won her second third-set tiebreaker of the weekend, 6-3, 2-6, 10-6. Paola Cortez won her fifth match in a row, winning 6-4, 6-2 and Sunskrithi Damera won in straight sets against a player from Lipscomb, 6-3, 7-5.

In doubles, the Lady Toppers competed in just two matches for the second day in a row, winning both of them. This gave the team nine doubles wins over the weekend.

Martinez and Blanco stayed perfect in fall play taking down a pair from Ball State, 6-2 and Damera and Zegada beat a team from Bellarmine, 6-2 as well.

Sunday Results

Singles - 8 a.m.

Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. Karen Yibirin (MTSU) 6-1, 6-2

Mariana Zegada (WKU) def. Camila Barragan (MTSU) 6-3, 6-3

Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Emily Desai (BSU) 6-2, 5-7, 10-8

Jacqueline Pearsall (BSU) def. Sayda Hernandez (WKU) 6-3, 2-6, 10-6

Paolo Cortez (WKU) def. Alina Cherniaieva (LIP) 6-4, 6-2

Sunskrithi Damera (WKU) def. Taisia Yakunina (LIP) 6-3, 7-5

Emma Zakordoniec (LIP) def. Samantha Martinez (WKU) 6-0, 7-5

Doubles - 11 a.m.

Samantha Martinez/Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. Ella Hazelbaker/Jacqueline Pearsall (BSU) 6-2

Sunskrithi Damera/Mariana Zegada (WKU) def. Shu Grosso/Channing Varnum (BELL) 6-2

"It was a very good finish to the tournament. Overall, one of the best performances in the fall we have had since I came to The Hill," head coach Greg Davis said. "We have our last fall tournament coming up at Bellarmine, which will also be a tremendous challenge."

The Lady Toppers will finish out fall play at the Bellarmine Invitational on Saturday, Oct 22 through Sunday, Oct. 23.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Tuesday, October 11, 2022

Tennis / Contact: Jack Todd, Assistant Director of Communications/Media Relations

DAVIS TO BE HONORED AS BENNIE PURCELL COACH OF THE YEAR

BOWLING GREEN, Ky — WKU Tennis head coach Greg Davis will receive the Bennie Purcell Coach of the Year Award at the UTSA Kentucky Awards on Saturday, January 28, 2023, in Louisville.

"It is very humbling to be awarded with the highest coaching honor that the Kentucky USTA gives out on a yearly basis," said Davis. "We have worked very hard in my four years at WKU to improve the program every year. I am very proud of the accomplishments not just on the court, but in the classroom made by the players. We thank our boosters and donors as well as who have helped us with record fundraising in order that we can compete with the best every season."

This recognition follows a record-breaking season that saw WKU Tennis have its most successful run in 35 years, finishing with the second-best record in program history. The Lady Toppers finished 18-9 just two wins shy of the most wins in program history in 1985. The 2021-22 season featured two players break the record for most doubles wins in a season, Sofia Blanco and Samantha Martinez, with 17 apiece, as well as a doubles duo break the record for most doubles win by a pair in Cora-Lynn von Dungern and Paola Cortez, with 16.

Rachel Hermanova set the record for most singles wins by a freshman, winning 18 and von Dungern set the record for most doubles wins in a career, totaling 37.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Thursday, October 20, 2022

Tennis / Contact: Jack Todd, Assistant Director of Communications/Media Relations

WKU TENNIS HEADS TO LOUISVILLE FOR BELLARMINE INVITATIONAL

[Head coach Greg Davis Interview](#)

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — WKU Tennis will conclude its fall season this weekend, as the Lady Toppers travel to Louisville for the Bellarmine Invitational. The two-day event will take place on Saturday, October 22 and Sunday, October 23.

WKU will compete against players from the host Knights, ECU, and Indiana Tech.

"Two teams I know of. Eastern Kentucky starting up their program, I am anxious to see what they have," head coach Greg Davis said. "The coach is going to come in and do a tremendous job. He came in from UT Tyler I believe. We are going to have Bellarmine, who has a really good recruiting class that came in, so we are looking forward to the weekend and getting a lot of matches on Saturday and Sunday."

Last time the Lady Toppers suited up was at the beginning of October at the Middle Tennessee Invitational.

WKU won 28 out of 32 matches with 19 singles wins and 9 doubles wins.

"Middle Tennessee was a very difficult tournament," said Davis. "Very challenging. We had some great performances out of three players. Paola did a tremendous job playing against the best players from all the other teams. Same thing with Sofia, she has had a very good fall. Undefeated in singles and played very good doubles with Samantha Martinez. Mariana (Zegada) is also undefeated for the fall as well in singles."

With this being the last fall action for WKU Tennis, the Lady Toppers will get set for the spring season coming up next year in 2023, starting in January.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Monday, October 24, 2022

Tennis / Contact: Jack Todd, Assistant Director of Communications/Media Relations

LADY TOPPERS CLOSE OUT FALL COMPETITION AT BELLARMINE INVITE

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — WKU Tennis finished up fall play over the weekend at the Bellarmine Invitational.

On Saturday, doubles began at 9 a.m. CT with singles competition following at 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m.

Samantha Martinez and Sofia Blanco got the only doubles win on the day for the Lady Toppers beating a team from ECU, 7-6.

In singles, the 10 a.m. session saw four Hilltoppers get wins.

Paola Cortez won at the No. 1 spot in straight sets. Blanco received the victory due to an injury to her opponent.

Sunskrithi Damera beat an ECU player in straight sets and Samantha Martinez beat her opponent from Indiana Tech in straight sets.

Three Lady Toppers won in the 12:30 slate. Hernandez won in straight sets, Hermanova won a third set tiebreaker, as well as Damera who got her second victory of the day.

At 2 p.m., Mariana Zegada and Samantha Martinez were the only WKU players to suit up. Both defeated Indiana Tech players in straight sets.

On Sunday, two doubles pairs got wins. Cortez and Hernandez defeated an Indiana Tech team, 6-4 and Hermanova and Damera beat another Indiana Tech team, 6-1.

In singles play, WKU did not lose a match and only lost two sets on the day.

Zegada, Martinez, Blanco, Damera and Hermanova all won in straight sets, while Hernandez and Cortez won each of their third-set tiebreakers.

Saturday Results

Doubles - 9 a.m.

Tikhonko/Krylova (BU) def. Cortez/Hernandez (WKU) 6-3

Blanco/Martinez (WKU) def. Parkhomenko/Hernandez (EKU) 7-6(0)

WKU Hermanova/Zegada (WKU) def. Carvalho/Calcatelli (IT) 6-2

Singles - 10 a.m.

Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Sasha Parkhomenko (EKU) 6-4, 6-1

Ekaterina Tikhonko (BU) def. Sayda Hernandez (WKU) 6-4, 2-6, 10-6

Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. Daniela Hernandez (EKU) 5-0 ret. (inj.)

Lailaa Bashir (BU) def. Rachel Hermanova (WKU) 6-1, 7-6(2)

Sunskrithi Damera (WKU) def. Emmeline Polevoi (EKU) 6-0, 6-3

Vendula Krylova (BU) def. Mariana Zegada (WKU) 6-4, 3-6, 10-4

Samantha Martinez (WKU) def. Roshne Arunkumar (IT) 6-3, 6-2

Singles - 12:30 p.m.

Ekaterina Tikhonko (BU) def. Sofia Blanco (WKU) 1-6, 6-3, 10-5

Lailaa Bashir (BU) def. Paola Cortez (WKU) 6-4, 6-4

Sayda Hernandez (WKU) def. Sasha Parkhomenko (EKU) 6-3, 6-3

Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Vendula Krylova (BU) 4-6, 6-2, 10-7

Sunskrithi Damera (WKU) def. Cydney Rogers (BU) 3-6, 6-1, 10-2

Singles - 2 p.m.

Mariana Zegada (WKU) def. Roshne Arunkumar (IT) 6-0, 6-2

Samantha Martinez (WKU) def. Thaina Carvalho (IT) 6-1, 6-4

Sunday Results

Doubles - 9 a.m.

Tikhonko/Krylova (BU) def. Blanco/Martinez (WKU) 7-5

Cortez/Hernandez (WKU) def. Carvalho/Calcatelli (IT) 6-4
Bashir/Rogers (BU) def. Damera/Zegada (WKU) 6-4

Doubles - 10 a.m.

Tikhonko/Bashir (BU) def. Cortez/Hernandez (WKU) 7-5
Kryslova/Rogers (BU) def. Blanco/Martinez (WKU) 6-2
Hermanova/Damera (WKU) def. Arunkumar/Van Der Lee (IT) 6-1

Singles - 11 a.m.

Sayda Hernandez (WKU) def. Vendula Kryslova (BU) 6-3,5-7,13-11
Mariana Zegada (WKU) def. Thaina Carvalho (IT) 6-1,7-5
Samantha Martinez (WKU) def. Rebecca Van Der Lee (IT) 6-1,6-0
Paola Cortez (WKU) def. Ekaterina Tikhonko (BU) 3-6,6-3,10-4
Sofia Blanco (WKU) def. Cydney Rogers (BU) 6-0,6-3
Sunskrithi Damera (WKU) def. Roshne Arunkumar (IT) 6-4,6-3
Rachel Hermanova (WKU) def. Shu Grosso (BU) 6-1,6-3

"I thought we played well this weekend, at times," head coach Greg Davis said. "Our singles certainly was tremendous yesterday, winning all seven singles matches. I think our focus right now is on our conditioning and improving our doubles by the time January comes around."

The Lady Toppers will begin the regular season next year in January 2023.

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Wednesday, November 30, 2022

Tennis / Contact: Jack Todd, Assistant Director of Communications/Media Relations

[Online Schedule](#)

WKU TENNIS ANNOUNCES 2023 SPRING SCHEDULE

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — WKU Tennis has announced its 2023 spring schedule, with a total of 25 dual matches leading up to the Conference USA Championship in Denton, Texas. The Lady Toppers begin the season on January 14 with a road match at Bellarmine.

Of note, the team has 12 home matches and five regular-season C-USA matches on the slate. WKU Tennis will continue to play indoor matches at Warren County's Michael O. Buchanon tennis facility after a successful 2022 campaign that saw the Lady Toppers play a record of 16 home matches. Outdoor matches will be played at the WKU Tennis Complex on south campus. The 2023 season marks the first time in program history that the team will play double-digit home matches in back-to-back seasons.

"I would say this is the most difficult schedule that I have put together since arriving on The Hill," Davis said. "When you look and see Cincinnati and Ball State on the road as well as playing Lipscomb, Belmont, North Texas, UTSA, and Middle Tennessee on their home courts it is going to be a challenge. The home schedule is not any easier when you see UAB, Marshall, UTEP, Murray State, Austin Peay and UT Chattanooga traveling to play us in Bowling Green."

In three fall events – the Austin Peay Invitational, Middle Tennessee Invitational and Bellarmine Invitational – WKU went an outstanding 46-16 overall in singles play and posted a 16-13 record in doubles. The Lady Toppers will return to organized team practices after New Year's in preparation for the spring season.

"I think this has been a really good team to coach and I am really proud of what they accomplished this fall," Davis said. "They are aware of the challenge ahead of us this spring."

WKU finished the 2022 spring campaign with a 18-9 overall record, marking the most wins in a single season since 1985. The Lady Toppers began and finished the regular season winning five matches in a row, a feat the team has not achieved since 2017. The team returns four letterwinners – Sofia Blanco, Paola Cortez, Rachel Hermanova, Samantha Martinez, and Mariana Zegada – to go along with newcomers Sunskrithi Damera and Sayda Hernandez.

2023 WKU Lady Topper Tennis Spring Schedule (times CT)

Jan. 14 at Bellarmine - 3:30 p.m.

Jan. 20 vs. UT Chattanooga - 1 p.m.

Jan. 20 vs. Eastern Kentucky - 6 p.m.

Jan. 21 at Lipscomb - 4 p.m.

Jan. 26 vs. Austin Peay - 2 p.m.

Jan. 29 vs. Western Carolina - 12 p.m.

Jan. 29 vs. Western Illinois - 4 p.m.

Feb. 5 at Belmont - 2 p.m.

Feb. 10 vs. Murray State - 6 p.m.

Feb. 18 at Ball State - 1 p.m.

Feb. 19 at IUPUI - 9 a.m.

Feb. 24 at Northern Kentucky - 7 p.m.

Feb. 25 at Cincinnati - 1:30 p.m.

Mar. 4 at Saint Louis - 4 p.m.

Mar. 5 at SIU Edwardsville - 9 a.m.

Mar. 12 at North Texas* - 1 p.m.

Mar. 13 at UTSA* - 1 p.m.

Mar. 17 vs. Tennessee State - 2 p.m.

Mar. 17 vs. Southern Indiana - 6 p.m.

Mar. 21 at Northern Alabama - 2 p.m.

Mar. 29 vs. Alabama A&M - 1 p.m.

Mar. 31 at Middle Tennessee* - 4 p.m.

Apr. 8 vs. UAB* - 1 p.m.

Apr. 15 vs. UTEP* - 10 a.m.

Apr. 16 vs. Marshall - 1 p.m.

Apr. 20-23 - Conference USA Championship (Denton, Texas)

WKU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Friday, December 16, 2022

Tennis / Contact: Jack Todd, Assistant Director of Communications/Media Relations

FORMER WKU TENNIS PLAYER AND COACH TO BE INDUCTED INTO USTAKY HALL OF FAME

BOWLING GREEN, Ky — Former WKU Tennis player and coach, Katy Strozdzak Tinius, will be inducted into the USTAKY Hall of Fame on Friday, January 27, 2023, in Louisville, Ky.

“To me, it is the highest honor you can get in Kentucky tennis,” said Tinius. “It includes your playing ability, but also what you have done for the community, tennis wise, who and what you may have impacted. I like the fact that I have a lot of junior programs going at the different places that I taught. So, I feel like it is not only getting recognized for playing, but also for the teaching and coaching aspect too.”

Tinius first arrived on The Hill as a player in 1975 known as Katy Strozdzak, as well as the first female to receive an athletic scholarship at WKU. She would go on to become one of the most dominant women’s tennis players in WKU, Ohio Valley Conference (OVC) and Kentucky Women’s Intercollegiate Conference (KWIC) history.

Over the course of her four years (1975-78), Tinius posted a 40-9 record in singles competition, winning four KWIC titles. In 1978, her and Shelly Fredlake were recognized on the OVC All-Conference Team as the number one doubles pair in the conference. In 1988, Tinius was named to the All-Time All-OVC women’s tennis team and 1995 she was inducted into the WKU Athletic Hall of Fame.

After college, Tinius became a certified USPTR Professional Instructor and was hired as the head coach for the WKU Women’s Tennis Team in 1982. Tinius went 16-12 in her two seasons at the helm, including a 12-6 mark in 1983-84 where the Lady Toppers won six matches in a row at one point and totaled six shut-out victories. Her 16 wins is good for the eighth-most wins as a head coach at WKU behind current WKU Tennis head coach, Greg Davis.

“What a great honor,” said Davis. “No one is more deserving in our area than Katy. She has been a true champion. Not just on the court, but in the community.”

Tinius played as an adult tennis player while coaching the Lady Toppers and continued to after her time on The Hill had come to an end. She was ranked as the Kentucky Tennis Association (KTA) No. 1 Women’s Player in 1982, 1984, 1990, and 1991. She was ranked No. 1 in the KTA 35 and over league in singles in 1992 and No. 1 in the KTA mixed open doubles of 1990.

While playing as an adult, Tinius would give lessons through the Bowling Green Parks and Recreation Department. She was the Head Pro at the Bowling Green Country Club and eventually was Head Pro and developed the tennis program for The Club at Olde Stone.

Tinius is not the only member of her family to be a part of WKU Athletics, in fact, every family member in the Tinius family has been an athlete at WKU.

Her husband, Joe, was a member of the 1974 national runner-up WKU cross country team. Her son, Chris, played for the WKU men’s soccer team from 1999 to 2003 and was an assistant coach for the women’s soccer team for seven seasons before becoming the head coach at Bellarmine in 2014. Her daughter, Kelly, was a member of WKU’s inaugural women’s soccer team in 2001 and her youngest son, Casey was a kicker for the WKU football team from 2009-2011.