



2006 Men's Tennis Postseason Newsletter

Coach's Corner - Season Review

The 2006 season for the Clark University Men's Tennis team ended with team's most successful NEWMAC finish since Clark joined the conference. The team placed third overall in the conference and the Cougars hosted their first NEWMAC Championship match. The Cougars avenged an earlier 4-3 loss to Babson with an exciting 4-3 victory. First-year Ben Gross secured the victory with a come-from-behind three-set win at six singles. Gross also became the first Clark men's tennis player to be selected to the NEWMAC All-Conference First Team.

The Cougars continuously improved throughout the season after a rocky start. The team dropped its first three matches against some tough competition while training during Spring Break in Orlando, Florida. Upon returning to Clark, the team dropped its fourth straight match to a solid Brandeis squad followed by a disappointing loss to Bridgewater State. The Cougars then went on to win five of their next eight matches including conference wins over Springfield and Coast Guard.

Although the Cougars will have big shoes to fill from the four graduating senior starters (including team MVP and number one singles player Anuj Ladha), the team still has a bright future ahead. Sophomore Ari Robkin, first-years Adam Bisceglia and Ben Gross and co-captain junior Brian Brown will return to the starting line-up. The Cougars also return first-year players Rocco Li, Phil Loomis, and Ben Voynick who are poised to contribute to next season's success.



2006 Results Overall Record 6-9 NEWMAC 2-3

Home Matches in BOLD at Corash Tennis Courts

March

Mon. 6	vs Averett University (VA)#	L 3-4
Tue. 7	vs Christopher Newport University (VA)#	L 0-7
Wed. 8	vs Ferrum College (VA)#	L 2-4
Sat. 18	at Brandeis University	L 1-6
Fri. 24	at Bridgewater State College	L 2-7
Sat. 25	at Rhode Island College	W 9-0
Thu. 30	vs Western New England College	W 4-3

April

Sat. 1	at Wheaton College*	L 0-7
Sat. 8	vs Springfield College*	W 5-2
Wed. 12	vs MIT*	L 1-6
Sat. 15	at Babson College*	L 3-4
Tue. 18	vs Nichols College	W 9-0
Sat. 22	at United States Coast Guard Academy*	W 4-3
Mon. 24	vs Emerson College	4:00 pm
Thu. 27	vs Babson College	W 4-3
	NEWMAC Quarterfinal	
Sat. 29	at Wheaton College NEWMAC Semifinal	L 0-4

Spring Break (Orlando, FL)

* NEWMAC Match

Postseason Awards

Clark University's first-year Ben Gross was named to the 2006 New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) Men's Tennis All-Conference First Team. Playing at the number six singles position he was 6-0 and overall he was 9-4. In conference he was 4-1. Gross helped the Cougars finish the season 6-9 and advance to the NEWMAC Semifinals for the first time in the history of the program. In a semifinal match against Babson, Gross won the last point of the match at number six singles (2-6, 6-2, 6-1) to lead the Cougars to the semifinals.

Senior Josh Winer received the Dr. Theodore Nicol Sportsmanship Award presented annually to a member of the tennis team who best exemplifies the highest traits of sportsmanship, integrity and camaraderie.

Friends of Clark Men's Tennis has been formed under the umbrella of Friends of Clark Athletics. If you are interested in supporting the tennis program and would like more information, please contact Head Coach Jim Hayes.