

2000-01 UTPA Tennis Weekly Release

Next Match: Men - Jan. 27th vs. Southeastern Louisiana, Houston, Texas;

Women - Jan. 27th vs. Southeastern Louisiana, Houston, Texas

Last Tournament: Men - Jan. 19-21, at Rice Invitational, Houston, Texas; Women - Start of Season

2001 UTPA Men's Tennis Schedule

Spring

Date	Opponent	Time/Score
1/19-21	Rice Invitational	All Day
1/26	at Texas A&M	12 noon
1/27	*SE Louisiana	2 p.m.
2/10	Texas Lutheran	11 a.m.
2/10	Texas A&M-Corpus Christi	3:30 p.m.
2/11	Incarnate Word	2:30 p.m.
2/16	at Rice	2:30 p.m.
2/17	at Texas Southern	12 noon
2/18	at Lamar	11:30 a.m.
2/24	Texas Wesleyan	9 a.m.
2/24	at *UT-Arlington	11:30 a.m.
2/25	New Orleans	10 a.m.
2/27	*Louisiana-Monroe	3 p.m.
3/3	at St. Mary's (Texas)	2 p.m.
3/6	Laredo Community College	4 p.m.
3/9-11	H.E.B. Classic (Corpus Christi)	All Day
3/23	at Memphis	9 a.m.
3/23	Marquette	2 p.m.
3/24	at UT-Martin	9 a.m.
3/24	at Austin Peay State	3 p.m.
3/25	at Western Kentucky	9 a.m.
3/30	Alcorn State	12 noon
3/30	*Lamar	5:30 p.m.
4/5	Centenary	7 p.m.
4/7	UT-San Antonio	4 p.m.
4/14	at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi	2 p.m.
4/19-21	Southland Conference Tourney	All Day

Home Matches in Bold

*Southland Conference Match

2001 UTPA Women's Tennis Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time/Result
1/27	Southeastern Louisiana	2 p.m.
2/2	Missouri	9 a.m.
2/2	Sam Houston State	2 p.m.
2/3	at Southwest Texas State	9 a.m.
2/4	at UT-San Antonio	9:30 a.m.
2/9	Nicholls State	12 noon
2/9	Texas Lutheran	5 p.m.
2/11	Incarnate Word	1 p.m.
2/16	at Rice	1 p.m.
2/17	McNeese State	9 a.m.
2/18	at Lamar	10 a.m.
3/3	St. Mary's (Texas)	2 p.m.
3/6	Laredo Community College	3 p.m.
3/11	Northwestern State	9 a.m.
3/11	Louisiana-Monroe	1:30 p.m.
3/23	at Belmont	2 p.m.
3/24	at UT-Martin	9 a.m.
3/24	at Austin Peay State	3 p.m.
3/25	at Western Kentucky	9 a.m.
3/30	Alcorn State	10 a.m.
3/31	Texas A&M-Corpus Christi	5 p.m.
4/5	Lee College	2 p.m.
4/14	at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi	2 p.m.

Home Matches in Bold



Juan Saiz

Men Open Season at Rice University Indoor: The UTPA men's tennis team opened its 2001 spring campaign at the Houston Metropolitan Racquet Club/Rice Invitational Indoor Tournament. Juan Saiz, playing in Men's Open Singles C, won his first match against Nav Kang of UT-Arlington by a 6-2, 6-3, count. He fell in a tough three-set match against Mithum Murali of Arkansas-Little Rock, 6-7, 6-3, 6-4, in the second round. Also playing in Flight C, Alex Cequea fell to Theron Cole of Abilene Christian, 2-6, 6-2, 6-2. He also fell in the first round of the consolation round, 6-2, 6-0, to Carson Mays of Louisiana-Lafayette. In Singles B, Enrique Bastante was defeated by a 6-4, 6-4, count against Ryan Mauck of Southern Methodist in the first round. The tough luck continued for Bastante as he fell to Will Clinton of the University of Texas, 7-6, 6-3. In doubles play the team of Cequea and Saiz dropped their first match against Bobby Hawkins and Mays of Louisiana-Lafayette, 8-4. They later advanced to the consolation finals of the flight.



Enrique Bastante

Women Close Out Season at College Station: The UT Pan American women's tennis team closed its fall season at the ITA Southwest Regional tournament last weekend held on the campus of Texas A&M University with one player advancing from the first round. The tournament was originally to start on Friday, but due to inclement weather, the tournament started on Saturday. Since the tournament started a day late, the matches were played in pro sets, and the consolation brackets were eliminated. Freshman Julie Fife advanced to round 64 of the tournament due to her first round opponent withdrawing. In the second round, Fife lost



Julie Fife



Eve Nickelson

to Eva Marcial of Texas A&M 8-0. Megan Russell of Southern Methodist University, the number eight seed, 8-1, defeated Maria Fernandez. The number 10 seed Kaysie Smashey from the University of Texas defeated UTPA freshman Celine Merlini by a score of 8-5. Sagnite Garcia lost to Kit Carson from Texas A&M University 8-0. Alana Breen fell to Matilde Toborda of Louisiana-Monroe 8-2. Elisa Bjorkland of UT-El Paso defeated Eve Nickelson by a score of 8-5. In doubles, UTPA's Fernandez and Celine Merlini lost to Marketa Gizova and Lisa Jackson of UT-Arlington 8-3. The duo of Fife and Garcia fell to Marie Stepanova and Jitka Vetrovcova of UT-Arlington 8-1. The tandem of Nickelson and Breen were defeated by Ashely Hedberg and Jessica Roland of Texas A&M, the number two seeded team by a score of 8-2.



Celine Merlini

Merlini Wins Singles Flight One Title: UTPA freshman Celine Merlini of Vevey, Switzerland faced Vinka Rampen of Louisiana-Lafayette in semifinals of flight one, and lost the first set, but battled back to advance to the final by a score of 4-6, 6-3, 6-1. Merlini faced Arina Urathani of Louisiana-Lafayette in the finals. Two weeks ago at the Lady Cardinal Invitational, Merlini faced Urathani in the semifinals and lost by a score of 6-4, 6-3, 6-4. But this time the tables were turned as Merlini soundly defeated Urathani 6-4, 6-2, to capture the flight one singles title.

This release is written by Derek Smolik, UTPA Director of Athletic Media Relations. Call (956) 381-2240 for more information on Bronc Tennis. Check out the Broncs online at: <http://www.panam.edu/athletics>