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WACO, Texas – After losing the doubles point, the Baylor Men's Tennis Team was unable to recapture momentum and defeat No. 15 Arizona on Sunday, losing 4-1.

THE RUNDOWN

Baylor started strong in doubles, leading on all three courts early. The No. 17 pair of Marko Miladinovic and Oskar Brostrom Poulsen fell to No. 64 Cabrera-Bello/Smith, 7-5, while Louis Bowden and Zsombor Velcz secured a 7-5 win on Court Three. However, Arizona clinched the doubles point as No. 80 Devin Badenhorst and Luc Koenig lost a tiebreaker to No. 33 Friend/Padgham on Court One, 7-6.

In singles play, No. 103 Zsombor Velcz delivered a standout performance, upsetting No. 89 Zoran Ludoski with a dominant 6-3, 6-1 victory.

However, the Bears struggled elsewhere. No. 44 Devin Badenhorst battled No. 4 Colton Smith but dropped his first set 7-5. On Court Two, No. 101 Oskar Brostrom Poulsen fell to No. 8 Jay Friend, 6-3, 6-4.

Arizona took control on the lower courts, with Luc Koenig and Louis Bowden both dropping their first sets 6-0. Koenig would fail to rally in his second set, going 6-0, 6-1 on Court Six. Bowden would fight hard in his second set but lose 6-0, 6-4 on Court Five.

With that loss on Court Five, Baylor's fate was sealed as Arizona clinched a 4-1 victory.

Alexandru Chirita led Filip Gustafsson 6-3 in his first set but dropped his set two 6-0. Chririta led 2-0 in his third set but did not finish. Badenhorst's match also went unfinished, 5-7, 4-3.

FROM HEAD COACH MICHAEL WOODSON

"Arizona played tougher than we did. At the end of the day, we had opportunities when we were ahead. I think we maybe were ahead on every single court in doubles. We weren't able to close out the doubles point, which was a bit of a gut punch for us. The way we lost doubles wasn't the way we want to go down. We talked about it between doubles and singles and unfortunately, we just let them get all over us in singles right away on courts you would think we actually had an advantage on. Then it gets hard as a team. They get confident. Their energy was better than ours the entire match and they played like it under pressure. So, credit to them. It was not a particularly close match today."

On rebounding from a difficult loss...

"We got to get up off the canvas. We've lost before, and we're going to probably lose again. We just need to make sure that we're responding in the right ways and trying to grow from every experience we have. This was a tough one. I'm sure the guys feel the same. Fortunately for us we get an opportunity to bounce right back and play again."

WHAT'S NEXT

Baylor hits the road to face a pair of Utah foes next week, traveling to Salt Lake City to face Utah on Thursday before facing BYU on Saturday in Provo. Each match is at 4 p.m. CT.

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