

November 14 - 21, 2009
Atkins Tennis Center - University of Illinois



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Anderson Spoils Upset Bid at JSM Challenger Czerwinski, Nevolo fall in doubles main draw

URBANA, Ill. – Seventh-seeded former Illini Kevin Anderson closed out action Monday at the JSM Challenger at Atkins Tennis Center with a three-set victory over Filip Prpic, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3 in the final match of the night. Anderson will meet the winner of Ryan Harrison/Ricardas Berankis in the second round on Wed.

“I think I played a good first set, but just had a bit of lack of concentration in the second set that cost me, because I had so many break points, but just couldn’t capitalize on them,” Anderson said. “In the third set I got a through a tough first game and then after that I got over a little hump and played a good game to break.”

Qualifying play concluded earlier in the day, with former Illini Ryan Rowe and teammate Ashwin Kumar earning a spot in the doubles main draw with their 4-6, 6-2, 10-8 victory over Trent Aaron and Craig Schwartz in the qualifying final.

In the first round of the doubles main draw, Illini senior Marek Czerwinski and sophomore Dennis Nevolo dropped a heartbreaker to brothers Brian and Dann Battistone, 7-6 (4), 4-6, 10-7.

“I felt like I played kind of soft in the first two sets, so I knew I had to really step it up in the tiebreaker,” Nevolo said. “It was a couple shots here and there and they made some great gets. I feel like we played a great tiebreaker. Besides the mental aspect of playing professionals, it’s not all that different than college. One of the guys had a better serve than most guys do in college, but the top players in college play at a pretty similar level.”

In addition to Anderson, two other seeded players were in action Monday, as No. 5-seed Jesse Levine topped Jesse Witten, 7-6 (6), 6-3 and Jamie Baker upset eighth-seeded Robert Kendrick, 3-6, 6-4, 6-2.

Several UI head coaches also were on hand Monday night to serve as ball runners for the tournament’s highlighted matches.

“Being a ball boy tonight was quite different than I expected,” men’s gymnastics associate head coach Justin Spring said. “I was a little nervous actually. It’s intense being on the field or court of a sport that you are not familiar with, especially when some of the best players in the world are playing.”

Additional information can be found at <http://illinoischallenger.com>.



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Monday's Results

Singles - First Round

[5] J Levine (USA) d J Witten (USA) 76(6) 63
[7] K Anderson (RSA) d F Prpic (SWE) 63 36 63
J Baker (GBR) d [8] R Kendrick (USA) 36 64 62
[WC] B Strobe (USA) d V Spadea (USA) 75 62
T Widom (USA) d M Yani (USA) 51 Retired
R Delgado (PAR) d [WC] R Gonzales (USA) 61 61
M McClune (USA) d A Kuznetsov (USA) 75 64

Doubles - First Round

B Battistone (USA) / D Battistone (USA) d [WC] M Czerwinski (USA) / D Nevolo (USA) 76(4)
46 10-7

Qualifying Singles - Quarterfinals

Qualifying - A Bruges-Davi (ESP) d C Mamiit (PHI) 64 64
Qualifying - R Berankis (LTU) d T Huey (PHI) 61 57 64
Qualifying - B Rehnquist (SWE) d R Bloomfield (GBR) 64 63
Qualifying - K Hensel (AUS) d B Battistone (USA) 76(4) 46 63

Qualifying Doubles - Finals

Qualifying - [1] A Kumar (USA) / R Rowe (USA) d [2] T Aaron (USA) / C Schwartz (USA) 46
62 10-8

Tuesday's Highlighted Matches:

Starting at 12 PM (Court 2)

#6 Somdev Devvarman vs. Bjorn Rehnquist; followed by
Scoville Jenkins vs. Ryan Sweeting; followed by
Kaden Hensel vs. Ryler DeHeart

Not Before 4:00 PM (Court 1)

Arnau Bruges-Davi vs. #3 Michael Russell

Not Before 4:30 PM (Court 2)

#4 Taylor Dent vs. Izak Van Der Merwe

Not Before 6:00 PM (Court 1)

Luka Gregorc vs. #2 Rajeev Ram
Alex Kuznetsov / Jesse Witten vs. Kevin Anderson / Ruben Gonzales



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Not Before 6:30 PM (Court 2)

#3 Kaden Hensel / Adam Hubble vs. Jamie Delgado / John Paul Fruttero

#1 Kevin Kim vs. Dennis Nevolo

