



## 2019 NCAA Championships May 16-25 • Orlando, Fla. • USTA National Campus

### Men's Quarterfinal: Recap and Quotes

#### #4 WAKE FOREST def. #5 VIRGINIA, 4-2

**ORLANDO, Fla.** – Defending NCAA champions Wake Forest completed a comeback victory, epitomized by Borna Gojo's clinching, 4-6, 6-4, 6-1 win on Court 1, to defeat Virginia for the third time this season and reach the Saturday semifinals. The Demon Deacons advanced behind singles wins from Gojo, Bar Botzer, Melios Efstathiou and Siddhant Banthia after dropping a closely contested doubles point.

After straight-sets wins by Banthia (No. 6), Botzer (No. 3) and Efstathiou (No. 5), and a Ryan Goetz victory for UVA at the No. 4 spot, the attention turned to Courts 1 and 2, with the defending champs needing just one more point to seal the victory.

That point nearly came at the No. 2 spot, where Wake Forest junior Petros Chrysochos held a pair of match points against Virginia freshman Brandon Nakashima, at 6-4 in a second-set tiebreak. But after dropping five points in a row to get into that position, Nakashima won four straight to take the tiebreak, 8-6, and send the match to a third set.

Amidst the drama on Court 2, Gojo leveled the No. 1 singles match at one set all against Carl Soderlund. With the No. 2 singles tiebreaker sapping the energy of the crowds, Gojo found an extra burst himself to edge ahead in set three. He would continue to ride that momentum to victory.

To start the match, UVA stole the doubles point, coming from behind twice late at No. 3 doubles to secure the early edge, as Gianni Ross and William Woodall took a 7-5 tiebreaker. After Wake Forest broke serve on a deuce point to go ahead, 5-4, the Demon Deacons could not serve out the match. The defending champs again led early in the tiebreak, but UVA freshman Woodall closed out the match, 7-4, ending match with a pair of strong serves.

## QUOTES

### **Wake Forest Head Coach Tony Bresky:**

#### ***On recovering after losing the doubles point:***

“For us, we never really get that discouraged after losing the dubs. It certainly hasn’t been our best point. We know that, we’re not that concerned about it. I keep telling the guys that it’s going to come when we need it the most. We kind of choose to look at it differently, we feel like it’s a lot of pressure on the other teams to win the doubles, because we’re like, ‘Man if we win the doubles, we go out there, we’re playing for free.’ Then we go out there for singles and the guys battle.”

#### ***On the team mentality & recovering ahead of Saturday’s semifinals:***

“We’ve been through it. It’s the same as last year. When we have a day off after the Round of 16, you know you’ve got to take care of your bodies. Obviously it’s a physical match on some courts but we’re fit, so we take care of our bodies, rest up, relax the rest of the day. It’s nice we got the match got done early. We’ll get a solid practice in tomorrow, work on a few things. Our guys are motivated, they’re ready. They don’t need that much rest and they’ll be ready to battle.”

### **Wake Forest junior Borna Gojo**

#### ***On coming from behind to win at No. 1 singles:***

“He changed his game a little bit from last time, I really struggled to find my rhythm a little bit. The balls kept bouncing really high and I struggled a little bit to find my rhythm and find the contact point that I liked. I don’t think it was a beautiful match from my point of view. I just tried to battle and tried to stay there as long as I could, maybe not even having the win first in my mind, just trying to stay as long as I can out there to help my teammates and eventually try to turn around it somehow.”

#### ***On keeping his focus with when his teammate had match points on the court next to him:***

“That’s what I’ve talked to my coaches about a lot, straight away they’re like “nothing is happening there, nothing is happening there, you’ve got to focus.” And that’s how it is, you have two match points one moment, the other moment they’re gone and where are you? You’ve got to be focused on your court. He [Carl Soderlund] actually had a big miss there and a break point first game, so he got kind of lucky there, then he obviously struggled physically which made the match stop being that competitive. Again, credits to him, it was a great match, he maybe could have finished it in two and everything would be nice for him, but I tried to battle and not let it get to me.”

## Virginia Head Coach Andres Pedroso

### *On the team's effort:*

“As always, they fought until the end. We left nothing on the court. I couldn’t be more proud of these guys; I love them to death. That was the expectation today: just no regrets, leave it all out on the courts, and that’s what we did today. That’s what we’ve done all year, and that’s why they’re a phenomenal team.”