

CELTICS ADVANCE

Kevin Garnett scored 26 points to lead Boston to a sweep of New York in the NBA playoffs/14

The Intelligencer. SPORTS

MONDAY
APRIL 25, 2011

BUSINESS17
COMICS18
CLASSIFIEDS19-24

13

OVAC Tennis Tourney To Be Served This Week

Two champs will be crowned

By **JOSH STROPE**
Staff Writer

WHEELING — Mother Nature hasn't been kind to the baseball and softball, but rain or shine, the OVAC Tennis Tournament will go on as scheduled, starting today at 12:30 p.m.

West Liberty University will play host to the annual event, but in case of rain, could be moved to the Wheeling Park Bubble.

This season will have a different feel to the event as for the first time, two champions will be crowned.

With the recent addition of big schools like Parkersburg South (the defending champion in both boys' and girls'), first-year participants Morgantown, and University, champions will be crowned for Class AAAA and Class AAA-A.

Second-place winners will be awarded in Class AAAA, but only a first-place for the smaller group.

Like in previous years,

though, there will be an overall winner, no matter of class.

Otherwise, the tournament will be the same format with all players in the same field competing against each other.

"It's a pretty level field right now," Wheeling Central coach Peggy Dailer said. "It will certainly be a good tournament. There are a lot of good teams from Linsly to Morgantown to Wheeling Park, John Marshall, Brooke.

"We always expect to be

right there as well."

If Parkersburg South plans on repeating, it will have to do so as the underdog.

The Patriots have just three ranked players on the boys' side — third-seeded Josh Wise at No. 1 Singles, fourth-seeded Andres Sanchez at No. 2 Singles and top-ranked Joe Holland at No. 3 Singles. Sanchez and Holland are ranked No. 1 at No. 2 doubles.

Olivia Osborne (No. 4, No. 3 Singles) is the lone ranked South player in girls' bracket.

Mike Church's Linsly Cadets have had a solid season and are ranked in every event.

Undefeated Jose Bird (9-0) and Derek Andreini (10-0) are the top seeds in No. 1 and No. 2 Singles, respectively. Alvaro Perezcano (9-1) is the second seed at No. 3 Singles and Marcus Saludes (7-3) is the third seed at No. 4 Singles.

Bird and Andreini are the top seed at No. 1 Doubles, with the teams of Perezcano

Please See OVAC, Page 14



The OVAC Tennis Tournament will take place Monday-Thursday at West Liberty University.

SPORTS



Photo by Josh Strope

Linsly freshman tennis standout Jackie McDermott made a big statement Wednesday by winning the No. 2 Singles championship at the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Tournament at the Wheeling Park Bubble.

Cadets' McDermott Has Arrived

Freshman wins an OVAC tennis title

By **JOSH STROPE**
Staff Writer

WHEELING — Linsly's Jackie McDermott may be new to the prep tennis ranks, but this freshman is wise beyond her years.

She made her first big statement Wednesday during the OVAC Girls' Tennis Tournament at the Wheeling Park Bubble, claiming the No. 2 Singles championship

and helping her Cadets to the Class AAA-A championship.

Morgantown was crowned the Class AAAA and overall champions. Morgantown and Linsly tied with 17 points, but the Mohigans captured the banner by virtue of more champions (three) than the Cadets (one).

One of those champions came Monday during the doubles' portion when the team of Stephanie Arnold and Alissa Sun topped McDermott and her older sister, Morgan, 8-4.

It was a loss that ate at Jackie for the next 48 hours.

"I was really upset set at myself for letting the championship go (Monday)," Jackie said. "My sister and I were the No. 1 seed for the doubles championship, and I really wanted to get it for her. She is a junior and we only have one more year together. I played a good semifinal on Monday, but I didn't feel like I was all there in the final. Mostly nerves.

"I came back (Wednesday)

Please See CADETS, Page 24

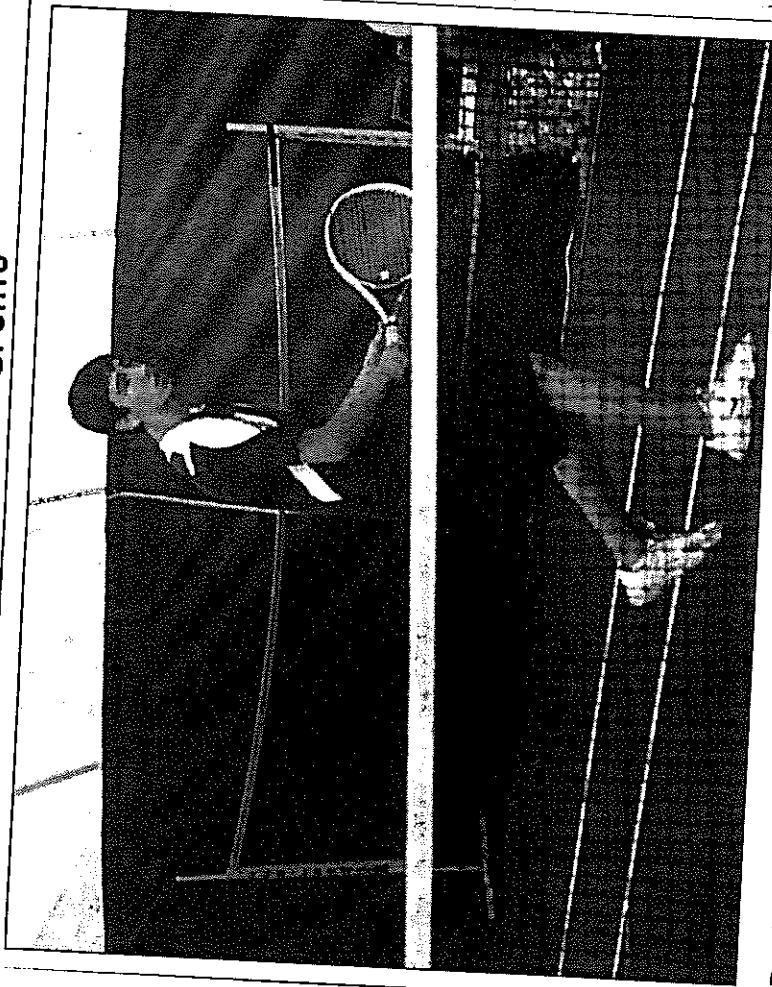


Photo by Josh Strope

Brooke's Michael Palma awaits a shot during a No. 2 Doubles match at the OVAC Tennis Championships on Tuesday in Wheeling.

Cambridge Takes Lead

OVAC Boys' Doubles

The girls' tournament continues today with the singles portion beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Wheeling Park Bubble but good weather could bring the tournament back to West Liberty.

OVAC Tennis Tournament

- Boys' Doubles No. 1
Wise-Galici (Parkersburg South) d. Mayles-McCormick (Wheeling Central) 8-2
- No. 2
Holland-Sanches (Parkersburg South) d. Ruby-Wilkinson (Cambridge), 8-0
- No. 3
Miller-Evancho (Cambridge) d. Wayne-Carey (Brooke) 8-3
- Class AAAA
Cambridge 9, Parkersburg South 8, Brooke 5, University 4, Wheeling Park 2, Zanesville 1, Morgantown 1, John Marshall 1
- Class AAA-A
Linsly 4, Wheeling Central 4, Oak Glen 3, St. Clairsville 1, Weir 1, Madonna 1

WHEELING — Anthony Miller and David Evancho from Cambridge defeated the Brooke team of Derek Wayne and Jackson Carey, 8-3, in the No. 3 Doubles final, helping propel the Bobcats to the front of the Class AAAA pack Tuesday in the OVAC Tennis Tournament.

The tournament was moved to the Wheeling Park Bubble because of rain. Defending champion Parkersburg South claimed a pair of doubles championships in the arms of Josh Wise and Brandon Galici at No. 1 and Joe Holland and Andres Sanches No. 2 to put the Patriots one point back at Cambridge.

Wise and Galici defeated the Wheeling Central team of Jacob Mayles and Neil McCormick, 8-2, and the Maroon Knights earned the lead in the AAA-A standings with city rival Linsly. Oak Glen is 1.5 by one point.

Linsly grabs lead at OVAC tennis

WEST LIBERTY — Newcomer Morgantown claimed two doubles champions in Stephanie Arnold and Alissa Sun (No. 1) and Shannon McCombie and Carol Kostak (No. 2) to earn a tie atop the standings with John Marshall at the OVAC Tennis Tournament.

The Monarchs' team of Mallory Zinn and Alaina Pauley defeated University's Meghan Zerkel and Cassidy Seamon, 9-8 (4) to win the No. 3 Doubles crown.

John Marshall and Morgantown each have eight points, while Wheeling Park trails with six.

Linsly and Weir are tied in the Class AAA-A standing, each with five points. Wheeling Central is right behind with four.

The girls' portion continues at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday with the singles tournament. Action resumes today at 12:30 p.m. with the boys' doubles tournament.



OVAC Girls Team Standings Class AAAA

John Marshall 8, Morgantown 8, Wheeling 6, University 5, Parkersburg South 2, Brooke 1

Class AAA-A

Linsly 5, Weir 5, Wheeling Central 4, Oak Glen 1, St. Clairsville 1

Doubles Championships

No. 1

Arnold-Sun (Morgantown) d. McDermott-McDermott (Linsly), 8-4

No. 2

McCombie-Kostak (Morgantown) d. Howard-Blazer (John Marshall), 8-4

No. 3

Zinn-A. Pauley (John Marshall) d. Zerkel-Seamon (University), 9-8 (4)

OVAC

(Continued from Page 13)

and Senai Tesfagorigis (No. 2 Doubles) and Weston Meade and Zach Marra (No. 3 Doubles) the second seeds.

Brooke's Jackson Carey (16-0) is the top seed at No. 4 Singles, and along with partner Derek Wayne form the top-seeded team at No. 3 Doubles.

The Linsly girls' were the runners-up last season and Coach Dave Riethmiller's squad should be just as formidable this time around.

Jackie McDermott (11-0) is the top seed at No. 2 Singles, while her sister, Morgan, is the third seed at No. 1 Singles. Together they are 11-0 and form the top-ranked No. 1 Doubles squad.

Hannah Soloninka is the third seed at No. 4 Singles and teams with Regan Stein to form the No. 2-ranked No. 2 Doubles squad.

Wheeling Park also brings a strong squad with three-ranked players in the singles tournament — sec-

ond-ranked C.J. Petrini (No. 1), second-ranked Emily Capehart (No. 3), and top-ranked and undefeated Lexi Patterson (No. 4).

Capehart and Patterson are the top-ranked team at No. 2 Doubles.

Morgantown and University will have their presence felt as each boast a top-ranked girls' player in the Mohigans' Stephanie Arnold (No. 1) and the Hawks' Ally Rees (No. 3).

Rounding out the top seeds are the John Marshall pair of Mallory Zinn and Alaina Pauley at No. 3 Doubles.

Action begins today with the girls' doubles tournament, followed Tuesday by the boys' doubles. The tournament concludes Wednesday (girls) and Thursday (boys) with the singles field. The singles tournament begins at 8:30 a.m.

At the conclusion, the Carol Strasser Sportsmanship Award will be awarded.

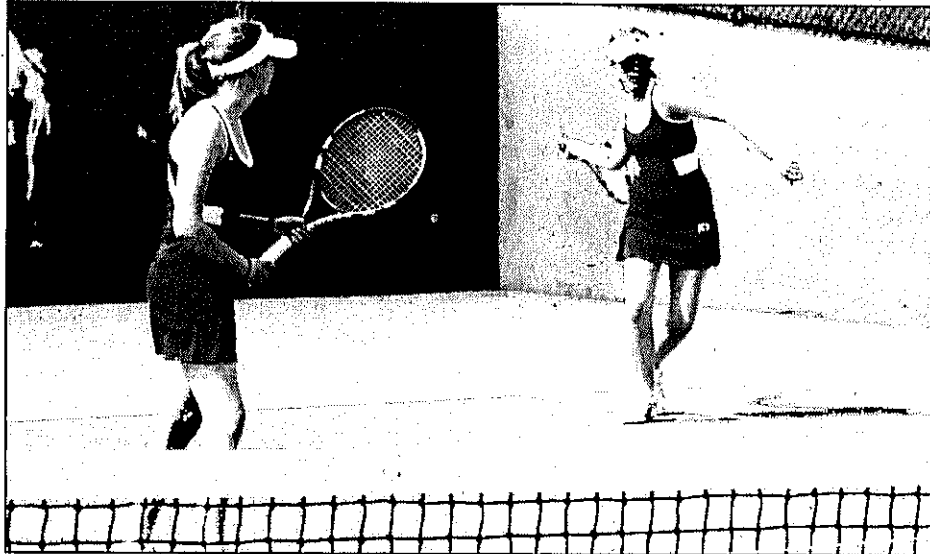


Photo by Josh Stroppe

Wheeling Park's Emily Capehart, right, prepares to strike the ball as teammate Lexi Patterson looks on during OVAC Tennis Tournament action Monday.

Motown, JM Are Tied

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No. 3
Zinn-A. Pauley (John Marshall) d. Zerkel-Seamon (University), 8-8 (4)