Linsly Hoists Hardware At OVAC Boys' Tourney

Cadets win 1-A/4-A title

By KYLE LUTZ Staff Writer WEST LIBERTY

WEST LIBERTY — Unexpected was the word of the day as the OVAC Boys' Tennis Tournament wrapped up Thursday at the tennis courts at West Liberty University. And why wouldn't it be?

It was unexpected Perry Eldredge of Cambridge, an unseeded player who finished first in his bracket. It was unexpected that there was going to be a tie-breaker between Morgantown and Parkersburg South to determine the champions of Class 5-A. And according to Linsly coach Chad Felt, it was unexpected that his Cadets squad held up the hardware for the 1-A/4-A championship.

Linsly won a tie breaker with East Liverpool based on more individual titles won when they both ended with

seven points.

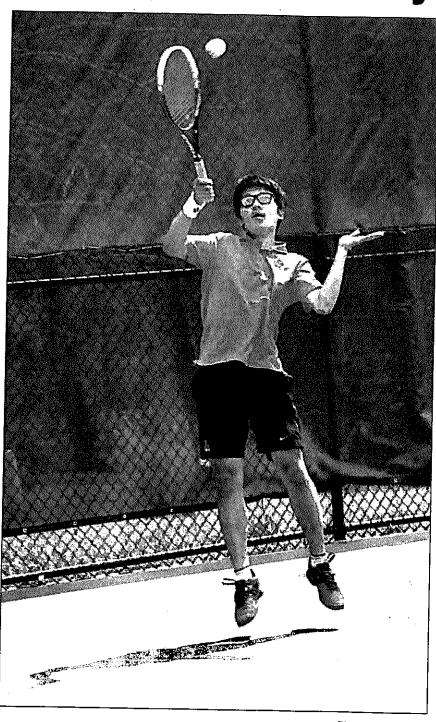
"It's unbelievable and totally unexpected," Felt said.
"The Gods looked down upon us with favor. We had to have a lot of help from other schools and we got lucky. The boys played their hearts out and I'm so proud of their efforts. We had enough wins just to get by."

Although no single Cadet made it to the championship round, the most important victory was the No. 3 doubles team victory of Andy Sui and Jonathan Ghobrial on

Wednesday.

"I was really pleased with the singles play, and just to scratch out a couple more wins to put us in a position to win. This is our last match of

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Linsly's Jimmy Xu jumps for a return during a match at Thursday's OVAC Boys' Tennis Tournament at West Liberty. The Cadets squad won the 1-A/4-A championship.

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the season. I would have to say we ended on a very high note. We are ecstatic. How could you have a better ending, especially for these seniors — Andrew Shin and Jonathan Ghobrial the captains, who really did push us. They were motivated to do some damage and they rose to the occasion."

For the 5-A title, the Mohigans and Patriots battled it out and found themselves in a tie with 18 points. According to OVAC regulations, a tie cannot happen. Criteria was set up if there was a tie breaker.

The first criterion is who had the most champions. Both teams had two champions on the day. Morgantown's Helge Ningel and Steven Wu won in their singles bracket. Parkersburg South, won two doubles titles with the duo of Ben White and Josh Cramlet in No. 1. The No. 3 team of Louis DeQuerol and Alex Herring also claimed the hardware for the Patriots.

The second criterion, was which team had the most finalists.

However, both teams had four. The third criterion in the format says whatever team's No. I doubles went the furthest would be crowned champions. Since Parkersburg South's duo won, they were crowned champions.

"I was proud of them. They all tried their best and did their best. It came down to the wire and we didn't expect to get what we got," Parkersburg South coach Scott Ash said. "We are really proud of them."

Ben White was the only singles player to make it to the finals for Parkersburg South. He lost to Morgantown's Wu.

Wu was one of three Mohigans to play in the final round. While both he and Ningel won, the last match to end was between LaMonte Paine and Eldredge.

Unseeded Eldredge claimed victory. His road to glory wasn't an easy one as he had to face a ranked opponent in three of four rounds.

After his opening round victory, he defeated No. 4 seed Jimmy Xu of Linsly

seed Jimmy Xu of Linsly, No. 1 seed Paraag Gupta of Brooke in the quarterfinals, and Paine, who was the No. 3 seed. Eldredge won, 8-4.

"I was surprised by it," Eldredge said. "Because I was unseeded. It was a busy day. I came in and no one thought I could win. I guess I just wanted it. I said I was going to try to win. The biggest factor is consistency with a lot of players and I practiced a lot of consistency in these matches."

Also winning in the No.

2 bracket was Sam Valenzuela. He defeated Brendan Ryan of St. Clairsville.

A special moment was included during the awards ceremony as the Carol Strasser Sportsmanship Award was announced.

At the beginning of the day, multiple coaches went up to OVAC Tennis Director George Frazier and told him the award should be given to the parents of Chase Crow in honor of him. Crow was a Weir High School player that was tragically killed in an ATV accident a few weeks

ago.

"I think you saw a great movement of solidarity amongst all the teams because of the award that came out," Frazier said.

"We had a moment of silence Tuesday morning to recognize that and I think it was really appreciated by the players of Weirton, but all the players that had an association with him."



RED FLAGS GALORE

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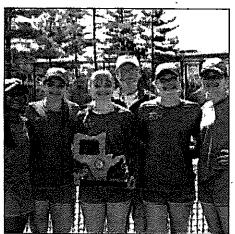


Photo by Dorsey Kindler Morgantown High School swept the girls' singles portion of the OVAC Tennis Tournament on Wednesday.

Mohigans Flex Muscle

Linsly finishes runner-up in all 4 matches, wins 1A-4A

By DORSEY KINDLER Staff Writer

WEST LIBERTY — Morgantown High School dominated the OVAC Tennis Tournament in girls' singles Wednesday afternoon and were crowned OVAC 5-A champ by accumulating 28 of a possible 28 points. The school captured the titles for No. 1 singles, No. 2 singles, No. 3 singles and No. 4 singles — knocking off Linsly in each instance.

"The Morgantown High girls demonstrated a dominating performance by winning all four singles categories," OVAC Tennis points, Bro each, and la lready won all three doubles categories on point each.

Monday, so they had a clean sweep in this year's OVAC tournament."

Linsly captured the Class 1-A/4-A championship with 17 points, followed by Oak Glen with seven and Madonna with three.

Morgantown's Abby Rosiello defeated Linsly's Amika Ekinem, 8-1, at No. 1. The Mohigans' Lexie Rosiello knocked off the Cadets' Sheridan White, 8-5, at No. 2.

In No. 3, Morgantown's Sydney Kacik defeated Linsly's Madison Helmick, 8-3, And Morgantown's Lily McKnight defeated Linsly's Rachel Robinette, 8-0, at No. 4.

Runner-up in the 5-A division with 16 points was University, followed by Parkersburg South and Wheeling Park with seven points, Brooke and John Marshall six points each, and Indian Creek and St. Clairsville 1 point each.

Cisar Is First To No. 1,000

MIDDLEBOURNE — Chase Miller struck out six for Magnolia (5-12) and hit a double to make coach Dave Cisar the first OVAC coach to win 1,000 career games when combining football and baseball.

Derrick Blain had two hits and two RBI for the Blue Eagles while Brandon Mason and Joe Ledergerber both drove in runs and Zach Haught had two hits and two RBI.

Jordan Baker pitched a complete game for Tyler Consolidated (9-11) while Dylan Roberts, Austin Thompson, and Colby Lash all batted in a run.