

North-Central To Battle For H/W Championship

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It is hardly surprising that the Hunterdon/Warren Tennis Tournament is being dominated by Hunterdon Central and North Hunterdon, as the Devils advanced all five positions in Saturday's semifinals, while the Lions have four potential winners at Voorhees High School.

The two teams will go head-to-head this Saturday at the Courtside Racquet Club at 5 p.m. for the team title as well as the five individual crowns.

North's four winners were all top seeds and advanced in straight sets -- Dave Teres defeated Voorhees' Arnav Jindia 6-0, 6-0 at first singles; Matt Stine dropped P'burg's Gordon Morrisette 6-0, 6-1; Steve Pisano defeated P'burg's Alex Krohg 6-1, 6-0; and the first doubles team of Jon Zalaznick and Chris Dimindo took down Warren Hills' Ian Bensco and Kyri Torunidis.

"I feel good about our showing," said North coach Gerry Dodge. "We are matched with Central and we should be able to do well."

North's second doubles team of Ryan Mahoney and Kevin Ma lost to Central's Brian Duffy and Kyle Conover 7-5, 6-2. "We had an issue there," said Dodge. "David Caronia didn't play and we had to replace him after a quick challenge match. Ryan and Kevin played well, but they didn't have the experience of playing together."

Adding to the excitement of the week is the second regular season dual match between the teams as Central will be at North this afternoon.

In the H/W semis, Central's Ty Ebner, Brandt Switzler and Jake Cafaro advanced in straight sets; as did the doubles teams of Matt Kleinman and Keith Knutzen, and Duffy and Conover over Mahoney and Ma 7-5, 6-2.

Ebner wore down Warren Hills' Nate Baure 7-5, 6-0; Switzler was too much for Warren Hills David Brickel 6-1, 6-0; Cafaro handled Warren Hills' Leandro Iglesias 6-0, 6-1; and Kleinman and Knutzen took down Voorhees' Ted Groben and Tim Oliu. Cafaro, subbing for Matt Yanuzzi, was impressive.

"We did well, but North has the advantage over us right now," said Central coach Ken Garay. "They have already beaten us at three positions and whoever wins three wins the tournament.

"Right now both doubles teams are playing very well and I expect the first doubles match with North to be very close."

The final slot in the finals belongs to Voorhees Brian Mahoney and Will

Kilgannon, who took down Warren Hills' Cody Slack and Adam Shuler in three sets 4-6, 6-2, 7-6 (7).

It was a repeat of the dual meet match-up 24 hours earlier as Mahoney and Kilgannon prevailed, 2-6, 6-2, 6-1.

"In their third set of the Hunterdon/Warren, they had to come from behind 2-5 to get the tiebreaker," said coach John Armagost. The Vike duo then took the tiebreaker to advance.

"I am pleased to see they are playing very well together," said Armagost.

In dual meet action, Hunterdon Central advanced through the first round of the state tournament, defeating Colts Neck, 4-1.

"I was worried about that match, especially after getting lost and having a two-hour bus ride," said Garay. "But the guys were psyched and played very well."

The Devils were slated to play Hillsborough twice this week, first in a scheduled dual and then in the Central Jersey Group 4 quarterfinals.

North Hunterdon earned a first round bye in North Jersey 2 Group 4 and was scheduled to meet Franklin Township at press time. Franklin knocked off the Lions last week in the regular season in a good match-up, 3-2.

CJ Group 4

Hunt. Central 4, Colts Neck 1

1st Singles: Ty Ebner, HC, def. Charlie Yang 6-3, 6-2.

2nd Singles: Dylon Sullivan, CN, def. Brandt Switzler 6-1, 6-4.

3rd Singles: Jake Cafaro, HC, def. Mike Winderman 6-4, 6-2.

1st Doubles: Matt Kleinman and Keith Knutzen, HC, def. and Stephen Daniels 7-5, 6-3.

2nd Doubles: Kyle Conover and Brian Duffy, HC, def. Terry Kuo and Kyle Spaulding 6-4, 6-4.

Regular Season

Watchung H. 4, North Hunt. 1

1st Singles: Dave Teres, NH, def. Erik Claussen 6-2, 4-6, 6-3.

2nd Singles: Justin Homilda, W, def. Matt Stine 7-5, 6-4.

3rd Singles: Chad Tabikh, W, def. John Zalaznick 6-1, 6-0.

1st Doubles: AJ Bova and Brian Nguyen, W, def. and Kevin Ma 7-5, 6-3.

2nd Doubles: Zach Lerner and Michael Millman, W, def. Miguel Rosas and Ryan Mahoney 6-1, 6-3.

Montgomery 5, Hunt. Cent. 0

1st Singles: Mike Goldman, M, def. Ty Ebner 6-3, 6-3.

2nd Singles: Vincent Chang, M, def. Brandt Switzler 6-0, 6-0.

3rd Singles: Mitchell Ren, M, def. Jake Cafaro 6-1, 6-1.

1st Doubles: Nate Seto and Justin Chang, M, def. Matt Kleinman and Keith Knutzen 6-1, 6-1.

2nd Doubles: Shehab Saad and Mish Milihanic, M, def. Brian Duffy and Kyle Conover 6-3, 4-6.

Warren Hills 4, Voorhees 1

1st Singles: Nate Bauer, WH, def. Arnav Jindia 6-3, 6-4.

2nd Singles: David Brickel, WH, def. Blake Reilly 6-0, 6-1.

3rd Singles: Leandro Iglesias, WH, def. Paul Vitale 6-4, 0-6, 7-6 (7-3).

1st Doubles: Ian Bensco and Kyri Torunidis, WH, def. and Tim Oliu 6-4, 6-3.

2nd Doubles: Will Kilgannon and Brian Mahoney, V, def. Adam Shuler and Cody Slack 2-6, 6-2, 6-1.

Hunt. Central 4, Madison 1

1st Singles: Ty Ebner, HC, def. Jonathan Russo 6-3, 6-3.

2nd Singles: Alec Wang, M, def. Brandt Switzler 5-4 (ret.).

3rd Singles: Jake Cafaro, HC, def. Brian Williams 6-1, 6-0.

1st Doubles: Matt Kleinman and Keith Knutzen, HC, def. Henry Smith and Gabe vanderwalle 6-4, 6-1.

2nd Doubles: Brian Duffy and Kyle Conover, HC, def. Vincent Wu and Patrick Connor 6-0, 6-1.

North Hunt. 5, Immaculata 0

1st Singles: Dave Teres, NH, def. Matt Giles 6-2, 6-7 (5-7), 6-0.

2nd Singles: Matt Stine, NH, def. Kevin Reid 6-0, 6-2.

3rd Singles: David Caronia, NH, def. Ryan Sylvestre 6-3, 6-2.

1st Doubles: John Zalaznick and Chris DiMino, NH, def. Sean Hannan and Mike Muzinic 6-3, 7-6 (7-3).

2nd Doubles: Ryan Mahoney and Kevin Ma, NH def. Mike Longo and John Roche 6-1, 6-0.

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