

Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Monday, June 1, 2009

INDIVIDUALS AND DOUBLES TEAMS TO COMPETE FOR STATE TITLES

**Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association
Divisions 1 & 2 Boys Individual
Tennis Championships
Thursday-Saturday, June 4-6, 2009
Nielsen Tennis Stadium, Madison, Wis.**

THE MEET: The Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association Boys Individual Tennis Championships will be held Thursday through Saturday, June 4-6 at the Nielsen Tennis Stadium on the University of Wisconsin campus in Madison, Wis. Action will begin at 2 p.m. Thursday and at 8:30 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Ticket prices are \$6 per session.

THE SCHEDULE:

Thursday, June 4

2 p.m. First round matches

Friday, June 5

8:30 a.m. Action through Quarterfinals

Saturday, June 6

8:30 a.m. Consolation Semifinals

9 a.m. Championship Semifinals

10 a.m. Fifth-place matches

11 a.m. Third-place matches

11:30 a.m. Championship matches

ON THE AIR: A 30-minute highlight program of the 2009 Boys State Individual Tennis Championship Tournament will air on FSN Wisconsin July 17 at 9:30 p.m.

LAST YEAR: Billy Bertha of Marquette captured the Division 1 singles title by defeating defending champion and teammate Nelson Vick 6-0, 2-6, 7-6 (1) in the championship match. In Division 1 doubles play, third-seeded Brant Vogt and Tony LoCoCo of Homestead defeated Sean Cunningham and Bobby Brooks of Neenah 6-4, 6-4 in the championship match. Top-seeded Nick Buckley of University School defeated defending champion and second-seed Michael Koval of Notre Dame in the championship match 6-4, 6-3 to earn the Division 2 singles crown. In Division 2 doubles play, the top-seeded tandem of Ryan

Stewart and Sam Walker of University School captured the title with a 6-4, 6-3 victory over the third-seeded duo of Phil Kuenzi and Ben Wachholz of Roncalli in the final.

DIVISION 1 SINGLES OUTLOOK: Defending champion Billy Bertha of Marquette, a senior, is undefeated heading into the State Tournament this weekend at 22-0 and is the logical top seed. He finished fourth in 2007. Junior Nelson Vick, Bertha's teammate, also hasn't lost a match (13-0) since falling to Bertha in the title match last year. He won the State title in 2007 as a freshman. Junior Drew Lied of Brookfield East is the third seed with his 16-4 record this season. He finished fourth last year after advancing to the third round of the State Tournament in 2007 before being defeated. Sophomore Jack Larsen of Whitefish Bay finished fifth last season and is seeded fourth entering the tournament with a record of 22-4. Senior Andrew Bayliss of Sheboygan North is seeded sixth with a 28-1 record after placing third at State last season. Freshman Alex Jesse of Homestead was awarded the fifth seed. He has posted a 22-5 mark this season. Seniors Connor Gilmore of Madison East and Tyler Johnson of West Bend East round out the top eight seeds at seventh and eighth, respectively. Gilmore enters the tournament with an 18-2 record, and Johnson has compiled a 19-1 tally this season. There are three undefeated players in the field this year. In addition to Vick and Bertha, senior Rayn Denu of Brookfield Central has yet to lose a match this year with a 27-0 record.

DIVISION 1 DOUBLES OUTLOOK: Senior Adam Benjamin and junior Joe Gambucci of West Bend East were awarded the top seed in the doubles bracket by posting a 19-1 record this season. They advanced to the quarterfinals last year before falling to the eventual runner-up. Senior Cameron Mikkelson and junior Connor Peck of Homestead are seeded second with a record of 25-2. They are one of three Homestead duos to qualify. The third seed was awarded to the tandem of junior Ethan Niquet and Alex Sykes of Marquette. They have compiled a 14-2 mark leading up to the State Tournament. Sykes was one-half the duo that advanced to the third round a year ago. Seniors Jon Olson and Matt Sova are seeded fourth with a 23-5 record. They qualified as a tandem last season but were defeated in the first round. Junior Bryce Toburen and sen-

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ior Jake Bodner of Homestead are seeded fifth with a 23-2 record. Toburen qualified with a different partner last season and won two matches before being ousted from title contention. The sixth seed is the senior duo of Ricky Wiegand and Conor Doyle of Brookfield Central with a 26-2 record, and juniors Bobby Brooks and Joshua Hopfensperger of Neenah are seeded seventh with a 19-9 record. Brooks was one-half the tandem that placed runner-up last year. The three undefeated doubles teams in the competition are senior Mac Mulcahy and sophomore Jack Porritt of Marquette at 27-0, seniors Matt Soyka and Phil Berce of Racine Case at 21-0 and seniors Zach Graham and Elliot O'Neal of Stevens Point at 9-0.

DIVISION 2 SINGLES OUTLOOK: Senior Nick Buckley of University School is back to defend his title as the top seed, entering the tournament with a 23-2 tally this season. He is one of three University School individual competitors in the tournament. Sophomore Aidan Koross of Kohler is the the #2 seed in the bracket after compiling a 16-1 record this season. The third seed was awarded to senior Jesse Hardacre of Racine St. Catherine's for the second consecutive year. He has placed fifth at State the last two seasons and enters the tournament this year with a 19-4 record. Sophomore Rishi Karri of University School is the fourth seed with a 21-3 mark this season. Senior Charlie Reinertsen of Kohler is seeded fifth after placing sixth last year and compiling a 16-1 mark so far this season. Junior Cassian Utrie of Xavier finished fourth last season and is seeded eighth this year with an 18-5 record.

DIVISION 2 DOUBLES OUTLOOK: Seniors Ryan Stewart and John Rissell of the University School comprise the top-seeded doubles team in Division 2 this year with a 19-5 record. Stewart is one-half the duo that won the State championship last year and finished fifth in 2007. Senior Patrick Lagman and sophomore Austin Papenthien of

Edgewood are the #2 seed with a 17-0 record. They are only undefeated tandem in the bracket. Lagman qualified and won one match at State last season with a different partner. Senior Nick Acosta and sophomore Cameron Fiebig of Xavier bring their 17-3 record into the tournament as the #3 seed. Acosta teamed with a different partner last year to finish sixth. Seniors Colin Johnson and Michael Knabel of Kohler are the fourth seed after placing third last year and compiling a 20-4 record this season. The Roncalli tandem of junior Phil Kuenzi and senior Ben Wachholz return to State after finishing runner-up last season. They were given the #6 seed this year with a 19-4 record.

NEED THE BRACKETS?: Brackets and qualifiers are available on the WIAA Web site. Locate the boys tennis homepage and the State Meet option for the respective information at <http://www.wiaawi.org/index.php?id=257>

NEED CREDENTIALS?: Media Credential requests for the 2009 WIAA Boys Individual Tennis Championships must be requested by submitting the request from the Media Center of the WIAA Web site or by completing and faxing the form located in the WIAA Spring Media Guide to Joan Gralla by noon June 3. Credentials will be available for pick-up upon arrival at Nielsen Tennis Stadium.

NEED RESULTS?: Rosters and records of teams in the State tournament are available on the WIAA Web site at www.wiaawi.org by accessing the State Tournament page of the boys tennis homepage. Results will only be available on the Web site at <http://www.wiaawi.org/index.php?id=400>.

WILSON IS OFFICIAL BALL OF THE WIAA: Wilson is the official ball and tennis supplier of the WIAA boys and girls Sectional and State Tennis Tournaments through the 2010 seasons.