

GAME SUMMARY

DATE OF GAME: 3/20/09

SPORT: Men's Tennis

TEAM RECORD: 2-2

OPPONENT: Montgomery College, Rockville (Rockville, MD)

SCORE: 6-3

WIN/LOSE: CCRI Wins

LEAD STORY #1: CCRI traveled to Rockville, MD to take on the Montgomery College Knights in the final match of the 2009 Spring Break trip with a full complement of players available to play. CCRI, looking to even their season record at 2-2, faced off against last year's National runner-ups...a tall task indeed. Doubles started the day with CCRI's sophomore Alex Cavanagh (Middletown, RI) and returning sophomore Nathan York (Smithfield, RI) in first doubles facing Farid Vatan and Henry Gjoni – freshman Michael Wilbur and freshman Daniel Rivard (both of Scituate, RI) in second doubles facing Nelson Chen and Kevin Hsu – and returning sophomore Christopher Izzo (Warwick, RI) and freshman Ryan Lavoie (Coventry, RI) in third doubles actually received a default as one of the Rockville players arrived late after flying back in to town that afternoon from a family trip. Cavanagh and York cruised to an 8-2 result. Wilbur and Rivard also cruised, to an identical score of 8-2. Izzo and Lavoie recorded the 1-0 default.

LEAD STORY #2: The Knights needed just two of the six singles positions to carry the match. Rockville, however showed their mettle early, taking a lead in 5 of the 6 matches. Alex Cavanagh faced off against Neal Shenk, who arrived late to the match, but in time for first singles, jumped out to an early break and never looked back and cruised to an easy 6-1, 6-2 victory. Nate York faced 2008 All-American Farid Vatan in second singles and took the match the distance for three thrilling sets, before finally succumbing 7-5, 4-6, 6-3. Mike Wilbur took the court against Albanian Henry Gjoni in third singles and responded with his first singles win of the 2009 campaign 7-5, 6-4. Dan Rivard, still looking for his first singles win of the year, was thwarted by Kevin Hsu in fourth singles, dropping the match 6-2, 6-1. James Lachance took to the court in fifth singles, against Nick Dunstan and battled to a 6-4, 7-5 loss. Chris Izzo took the court in sixth singles looking to continue his winning form against Nelson Chen and defeated him easily 6-2, 6-0. Ryan.

LEAD STORY #3: The match against last year's #2 place Knights from Montgomery Rockville was not without its drama or its controversy. In an early-season matchup with both schools finishing their spring break, some of the conditions were not necessarily

ideal for tennis. Taking the courts with a balmy (um, no) 40° and a whipping wind, both teams showed some errors that we will not see at the end of the season if we both make it to Nationals. There was also the fact the #6 singles Nelson Chen for MRC didn't really know how to keep score, so CCRI's Chris Izzo had to keep correcting him and telling him what to court to play form. For all that, Chen showed some decent shot-making ability and Izzo did well to keep his focus and defeat the less-experienced Chen. #2 singles was the match of the day – going three sets, with a lines-person called to the court late in the first set, score corrections, score reversals and more. Neither competitor backed down at all, showing they were truly deserving of the moniker “Knights”, battling to the finish. All-in-all it was a fair match that either competitor could have won and neither one deserved to lose.

COACHES COMMENTS: This was a terrific win to even our record going in to the remainder of our season. Four great matches that could have had the Knights coming out 3-1 or just as easily 0-4, have put us on track for the next few weeks and our more northern campaigns. The guys showed that they could battle the elements as well as our opponents. We look forward to our next match against perennially strong Suffolk Community College of Selden, NY (Long Island).