GAME SUMMARY

DATE OF GAME: 4/25/09

SPORT: Men’s Tennis

TEAM RECORD: 6-2

OPPONENT: Herkimer CCC, Utica, NY

SCORE: 8-1

WIN/LOSE: CCRI Wins

LEAD STORY #1: CCRI traveled to Region III to take on the Herkimer County Community College Generals in Utica, NY. The Knights were looking to continue their recent form and hoping to extend their match win streak to 6 in a row. Region III starts with singles, and the Knights took to the courts and secured the match prior to the doubles taking the courts. Once again, the Knights weren’t satisfied with the singles positions. The first doubles pair of Alex Cavanagh (Middletown, RI) and Nate York (Smithfield, RI) had the toughest challenge, but prevailed to continue their perfect season. Both second doubles and third doubles prevailed as well, securing an 8-1 overall victory. With the win the Knights improve their season record to 6-2.

LEAD STORY #2: The Community College of Rhode Island took to the courts against the Herkimer County Community College Generals in the eighth match of the Knights 2009 season. The earlier reports of the strength of the top two players for the Generals was right on. Alexander Cavanagh (Middletown, RI) faced off against Corey Zoutman in first singles. Zoutman, a favorite for the region III tournament, had just come off a couple of great regional victories and was looking to continue his form. Cavanagh, who hasn’t lost since a 3-set singles defeat in the second match of the season, also didn’t want to give anything away. Zoutman grabbed the early advantage and raced out to a 6-1 first-set victory. Cavanagh battled back to even the match with a 7-5 second-set success. The two battled, trading breaks of serve throughout the third before Cavanagh was ultimately able to defeat Zoutman, 1-6, 7-5, 6-4. Nathan York (Smithfield, RI) posted a fairly easy first-set win and then overcame a 3-0 deficit in the second to secure a 6-2, 6-4 second-singles win over Kazuyuki Matsunaga. Michael Wilbur (Scituate, RI) faced Hiroki Yatake in third singles, dispatching him with a score of 6-4, 6-3. Daniel Rivard (Scituate, RI) got back to his winning ways, defeating Ron Costanza 6-0, 6-2. Fifth singles produced the lone defeat on the day, as James Lachance (Cranston, RI) battled before falling to Mike Carcione 6-7 (7-5), 6-2, 6-3. Christopher Izzo (Warwick, RI) clinched sixth singles, defeating Ron Fox 6-1, 6-2 to complete the singles. Ryan Lavoie (Coventry, RI) participated in exhibition singles, falling 8-4 in a pro-set contest to Tue
Galardo in a match that saw Lavoie battle back from 5-1 down to 5-4, before ultimately running out of steam.

Cavanagh teamed up with York in first doubles, defeating Zoutman and Matsunaga, 8-6 to hold on to their perfect 8-0 record. Wilbur and Rivard teamed up in second doubles to defeat Yatake and Costanza 8-4. Lachance and Izzo teamed up to defeat Fox and Corey Green 8-2 in third doubles.

LEAD STORY #3: The ITA JuCo Men’s division III #1 ranked first singles team of Alexander Cavanagh and Nathan York continued their quest for perfection, dispatching the Generals first doubles team in a contest of breaks of serve that saw the Knights broken early and trailing as late as 4-5 on Herkimer’s serve. The Knights, however, were able to regroup under York’s experience and Cavanagh’s on court calm and leadership, to win four of the last five games. They served for the match at 7-5, but York, who served on the more difficult side, was broken on a no-ad, deuce point – in no-ad (no advantage) scoring, the winner is the first to four points – at 3-3 the receivers pick the court of return and the point is winner take all. At 7-6, though, Herkimer’s Zoutman had to switch to the more difficult side to serve (because of a difficult sun), and was easily broken by the Knights 4-1. The victory secured the match 8-6, and preserved Cavanagh and York’s unbeaten record.

COACHES COMMENTS: This was a solid victory to continue our recent momentum – and to post our sixth straight victory after opening the season 0-2. The guys showed that they plan to keep up their recent form. We look forward to our next, and final regular season match, against Mohawk Valley Community College in Utica, NY, Sunday, April 26th.