GAME SUMMARY

DATE OF GAME: 3/26/10

SPORT: Coed Tennis

TEAM RECORD: 3-1

OPPONENT: Nassau Community College

SCORE: 9-0

WIN/LOSE: CCRI Wins

LEAD STORY #1: CCRI traveled to face the Lions of Nassau Community College and secured a third consecutive victory – this time a 9-0 shutout. Alex Cavanagh (Middletown, RI) defeated Bryan Kallenberg in first singles 2-6, 7-6, 6-4. Timothy Steere (Glocester, RI) defeated Ryan Musalo in second singles, 6-3, 6-4 in one of only 3 matches that went the minimum 2 sets. Cooper Gillis (Barrington, RI) dispatched Jeff Freeman in third singles by a score of 6-3, 6-3. Daniel Rivard (Scituate, RI) battled to a 6-3, 2-6, 6-4 fourth singles victory over Dave Wurtzel. Fifth singles featured Matt Beatrice (Peacedale, RI) outlasting Chris Rocha in fifth singles 6-2, 4-6, 7-6(3). Sixth singles featured Philip Vieira (Portsmouth, RI) getting into winning ways, dispatching Mike Arena 6-1, 6-3. In exhibition seventh singles, Ashley Llewellyn (North Attleboro, MA) dropped a heartbreaker to Evan Burke 9-7 in a pro-set that saw Burke purposely hit Llewellyn unnecessarily at least twice. In exhibition eighth singles, Mohammed Kattan (Cranston, RI) defeated Henrique O’Hara 8-4. Gillis teamed up with Steere in first doubles, defeating Kallenberg and Musalo, 6-1, 1-6, 6-2. Beatrice and Rivard teamed up in second doubles and battled to a 2-6, 7-5, 6-2 defeat of Freeman and Wurtzel. Third doubles completed the sweep as Llewellyn and Vieira defeated Burke and O’Hara by a score of 2-6, 6-3, 7-5. In exhibition fourth doubles, Ryan Lavoie (Coventry, RI) paired up with Kattan and fell to Rocha and Arena 1-6, 6-1, 7-6(3).

LEAD STORY #2: Six out of the nine matches against Nassau Community College went to three sets – and they all had compelling story lines. The first singles match between Alex Cavanagh (Middletown, RI) and Bryan Kallenberg had no shortage of drama. Cavanagh awoke with a knot in his right thigh muscle. Feeling that the exercise of the match would work it out, he took to the courts any way. It was evident, however, from the beginning that Cavanagh had little of his customary mobility – a key to his serve-and-volley game. He was able to hold his first service game, but then lost ten of the next twelve games to drop the first set 2-6 and dig himself a 1-4 hole in the second. Kallenberg seemed to tighten up a bit at that point and Cavanagh, still obviously hobbled, took every advantage to capture the second set 7-5 and level the match. Kallenberg, showing a clear lack of sportsmanship, drilled back long serves as he called
them out, repeatedly questioned Cavanagh’s calls, and even went into a fist-pumping, hopping self-psych-up display shouting "C’mon" to himself no less than seven times…after a Cavanagh double-fault! Cavanagh was (as always) unfazed by the Nassau #1’s antics, and calmly jumped out to a two-break lead in the third before surrendering one of the breaks back on his way to a 6-4 third-set victory. In fourth and fifth singles, Dan Rivard (Scituate, RI) and Matt Beatrice (Peacedale, RI) cruised to relatively easy 6-3 and 6-2 first-set victories over Dave Wurtzel and Chris Rocha respectively. Then both surrendered the second set to their opponents, two and four respectively. Rivard managed a break in his third-set victory to close out his fourth singles match 6-3, 2-6, 6-4. Rocha managed an early break in the third to go up 3-2, then Beatrice broke back to get to 4-3, but then Rocha broke back to even the third set at four-all. The pair remained on serve to the end of the set where a tiebreak was needed to determine the final outcome. Beatrice jumped out to an early 4-2 lead and didn’t look back, securing the tiebreak 7-3 and with it the third set and the match. This was, once again, the fifth and deciding point to be secured. After Cavanagh completed his first singles marvel, the doubles took to the courts with nothing to play for but pride. There was no lack of pride, however on either side of the courts as all four positions – one through three and exhibition fourth doubles – all went the three set distance, with exhibition doubles also needing a 3rd-set tiebreak to decide it. Cooper Gillis (Barrington, RI) moved up to first with Timothy Steere (Glocester, RI) as Cavanagh clearly wasn’t able to work out the issue with his leg in singles. In a clear see-saw battle, the Knights took the first set 6-1, dropped the second 1-6, and then stormed back to take the third 6-2 over Kallenberg and Ryan Musalo. In second doubles, Beatrice moved up to fill in for Gillis and broke his own personal record set the day before as he and Rivard found themselves down a set 2-6 and down 1-5 in the second…then proceeded to reel off 11-straight games – eclipsing Beatrice’s mark of 10 straight the day before – to capture the second set 7-5 and, eventually the third, 6-2 over Wurtzel and Jeff Freeman. Third doubles also had its ups and downs as Ashley Llewellyn (North Attleboro, MA) and Philip Vieira (Portsmouth, RI) teamed up for the second time in as many days, starting out slowly again, but with a better result today as they outlasted Evan Burke and Henrique O’Hara, 2-6, 6-3, 7-5. Exhibition doubles also featured a lop-sided, see-saw battle that neither side wanted to lose as Mohammed Kattan (Cranston, RI) and Ryan Lavoie (Coventry, RI) faced off against Rocha and Mike Arena. The Knights easily carried the first set, 6-1. They then surrendered the second is a mirror 1-6 set. The final set took a tiebreak to decide it at six all in the third, with the Lions mauling the Knights, 7-3 in the tiebreak and snatching the match victory. All-in-all, the coaches of both teams felt the ebb and flow of emotions as the six three-set matches (actually seven including exhibition doubles) truly could have meant victory for either team.

LEAD STORY #3: CCRI notches third consecutive victory of the 2010 season – and first shutout. Capturing all nine points, the Knights slayed the Lions of Nassau Community College. Six of the nine went to three sets and one of those went to a third-set tiebreak. CCRI persevered in all six to carry the day 9-0. The shutout marks the second in as many attempts versus the Lions, following an identical 9-0 shutout of the Lions last season. This one was far more hotly contested, but the same end result is all the sweeter for it.
COACHES COMMENTS: "Notching our first 9-0 shutout of the 2010 season was just icing on the cake compared to the battle and effort our players gave out there today. Following up the 7-2 victory over the Harford CC Owls with this victory, puts us on a 3-match winning streak and a great wave of momentum. We look forward to our next match as we travel to Suffolk County, Long Island to take on Suffolk Community College." said head coach Deb Panzica.