



Birmingham's Roger Blackburn, 15, is one of the most promising junior tennis players in the state. He recently pulled off a major upset by winning the Court House Mens' Open.

Area netter wins tournament

Roger Blackburn, a 15-year-old junior player from Birmingham, who recently won the Court House Racquet Club's Mens' Open Tournament, reached the 16th-round of the Western Closed Invitational before retiring to Ed Nagel of West Bloomfield.

Blackburn won the first set 7-6 and was leading 4-2 before having to retire because of severe leg cramps. Nagel lost in the quarterfinals of the main draw to Moe Kruger from Illinois, 7-5, 4-6, 6-3. Nagel then

reached the finals of the consolation, bowing to Peter Kolaric, also of Illinois, 6-1, 6-0.

Nagel was ranked first in boys 14-and-under age group in Southeastern Michigan in 1978, as well as fourth in the Western States.

Blackburn had reached the quarterfinals after a series of victories. He defeated Toledo's Gary Burkhardt in the first round 6-3, 6-1. In the second round Blackburn defeated Chip Bagley of Bloomfield Hills 6-2, 5-0 (retired). Bagley is currently ranked

fifth in the Southeastern Michigan 16-and-under age group and 38th in the Western States.

In the third round Blackburn defeated Gary Knight from Grosse Pointe by the scores of 6-2, 6-1.

In the consolation event, Blackburn was scheduled to play the third seed Eric Korita from Chicago, but due to earlier injuries, Korita defaulted. This automatically moved Blackburn into 11th place in overall placement in the 16-and-under age group.

Players earning positions within the top 15 placements are entitled to qualify for the nationals held in Kalamazoo in August. In addition, three alternates also are chosen in the event that any of the top 15 players are unable to play in the nationals.

Blackburn is scheduled to play in Nashville, Tenn., in the National Claycourt Championship from July 22 through July 29 and in the nationals held in Kalamazoo from Aug. 4 through Aug. 12.

Lynch sluggers split pair of twin bills

Birmingham Lynch and Sons was an even 500 for its four-game weekend series, winning two and losing two.

Lynch and Sons beat Troy Desmond 5-4 on Sunday, beat West Bloomfield 8-0 on Monday, lost to Roseville 7-6 on Saturday, and lost to Grosse Pointe 4-3 on Sunday.

Troy Desmond jump out to a 3-0 lead in the second inning. Bill Pilgram, Ron Paradosky and Gene Gaudino sparked the uprising with successive hits.

Troy got a fourth run when Tom Murphy singled, stole second and

came home on a single by Bob Robb.

TROY PITCHER Pilgram held Lynch and Sons scoreless until the sixth inning. He started the sixth by walking two batters, then giving up singles to Sunde, Damien

DiPillo, Hillborn, Jim Maertens, and a double to Craig Cindler as Lynch and Sons scored four times in the sixth to tie the game.

The Birmingham team won it in the seventh, leading the bases with none out for Tom Dieters

The Birmingham squad fell behind early against Roseville on Saturday as pitcher Tim Birtas walked three and allowed one hit in the first inning, giving Roseville a 3-0 lead.

Lynch and Sons came back in the third inning with four runs of its own. Mark Hillborn started the inning with a single, advanced on an error and came home on Buster Sunde's double. Tom Dieters walked and a squeeze bunt by Craig Cindler brought home another run.

Singles by Scott Lasser and Kris Kuhn ended the scoring for Lynch.

Lynch and Sons got two more runs in the sixth, but they were a little late — Roseville scored four times in the fourth for a lead it never relinquished.

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