

Converse tennis champions honored

More and more manufacturers of tennis equipment are sponsoring tennis tournaments for the unranked players who compete in local tournaments.

It seems to be the thing to do this spring and summer.

One of these companies is Converse, you know the tennis shoe people. The company is sponsoring the 1980 Converse Classic, the largest grassroots singles tournament in the United States for both men and women.

The country is being divided into sections, and within each section there are a number of qualifying tournaments. Semifinalists in each of the qualifying tournaments have

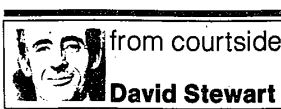
the opportunity to compete in the sectional championships.

The winners of each section receive \$400, and qualify for national competition. The national winner receives \$700, and the runner-up receives \$300.

Semifinalists and quarterfinalists in the sectional tournaments and the third and fourth-place finishers in the national event all receive cash prizes, as well.

RECENTLY, THE Michigan Converse Championships were held at the Franklin Racquet Club in Franklin Village.

In the women's event, the four semifinalists were CASSIE PLU-



from courtside
David Stewart

YMERS (Troy), MEGAN FOSTER (Southfield), KAREN SIGLER (Warren) and EVA LUCIDO (Grosse Pointe).

In the men's division, the four semifinalists were DAVID RASMUSSEN (Union Lake), TOM KOOPSON (Toledo, Ohio), CEGIL NORTH (Ann Arbor) and MICKEY

SCHMIDT (Monroe).

The semifinalists will all compete in the Western Sectional Championships in Cleveland, Ohio, on June 6-9.

In the women's singles division round of 16 players, Judy Stiff (Royal Oak) defeated Kathy Kaasman (Mt. Clemens) 7-5, 6-2; Karen Sigler (Warren) defeated Nancy Gels (East Detroit) 6-2, 6-1; Megan Foster (Southfield) de-

feated Shari Fiere (Rochester) 6-0, 6-3; Marlene Ellis (Oak Park) defeated Paulene Hardin (Birmingham) 1-6, 6-3, 6-2; Cassie Plummer (Troy) defeated Denise Sherwood (Taylor) 6-3, 6-2; Sue Ralston (Mt. Clemens) defeated Becky Backman (St. Clair Shores) 6-1, 6-2; Billy Randolph (Farmington Hills) defeated Kathleen Fischer (Birmingham) 6-2, 6-1; and Eva Lucido (Grosse Pointe) defeated Cynthia Plakard (Royal Oak) 6-0, 6-0.

In the quarterfinals, Sigler defeated Stiff, 7-5, 6-3; Foster defeated Ellis, 6-0, 6-1; Plummer defeated Backman, 6-2, 6-3; Lucido defeated Randolph 6-2, 6-0.

The men's round of 32 players saw Cecil North (Ann Arbor) defeat Brett Perelman (Monroe) 6-1, 6-3; Rick Oppenlander (Portage) defeat Roger Gussert (Toledo) 7-5, 6-2; Carlos de Caba (Canton) defeat Jim Elam (Bloomfield Hills) 6-2, 6-4; Donald Parrish (Detroit) defeat Peter Duda Jr. (Livonia) 6-3, 6-2; Mike Schmidt (Monroe) defeat James Asher (East Lansing) 5-6, 6-4, 7-6 (5-2); Marc Kiraly (Mayfield Heights) defeat Bob Egan (Detroit) 6-4, 6-2; Joe Felice (Bloomfield Hills) defeat Alvin Williams (Detroit) 7-6, 6-4; Ken Corba (Bloomfield Hills) defeat Shawn Gussert (Toledo) 7-6, 6-4, 6-0.

Darrell Mitchell (Detroit) defeated Rick Trawinski (Detroit) 6-1, 7-5; Tom Koopson (Toledo) defeated Ben Pado (Warren) 6-1, 6-2; Mark Tomlinson (Livonia) defeated Bob Berger (Crawson) 6-0, 6-2; Steve Goff (Farmington)

defeated Marco Lorenzetti (Bloomfield Hills) 6-2, 6-1; Mircea Morariu (Birmingham) defeated Otto Huesten Jr. (Belle Creek) 6-1, 6-2; Steve Horn (Birmingham) defeated Todd Lawrie (Ann Arbor) 5-6, 6-1, 6-4; Bud Adams (Troy) defeated Brian Novella (Monroe) 6-4, 7-6 (5-2); David Rasmussen (Union Lake) defeated Marc Scalan (Mt. Clemens) 6-0, 6-0.

In the round of 16, North defeated Oppenlander, 6-1, 6-0; de Caba defeated Parrish, 7-6, 7-5; Schmidt defeated Kiraly, 6-0, 6-4; Foster defeated Corba, 5-7, 6-2, 6-4; Koopson defeated Mitchell, 6-0, 6-2; Goff defeated Tomlinson, 6-4, 6-2; Horn defeated Morariu 6-4, 6-3; Rasmussen defeated Adams 6-3, 6-2.

The quarterfinals saw North defeat de Cu-

baa, 6-1, 5-7, 6-0; Schmidt defeated Felice 6-1, 6-7 (6-3); 6-4; Koopson defeated Goff, 7-5, 6-4, 6-2; Rasmussen defeated Horn, 6-3, 6-2.

This is the first of the grassroots tournaments for the summer season. There are others planned where only club players can enter. One tournament offers a trip to Florida to the winners of a mixed doubles championship. Another offers a trip to Monaco for the winners.

Tennis on the local level is exploding with tournaments for everyone who seeks competition.

Spartan kickers stay flawless

Livonia Stevenson has a good girls' soccer team. In fact, Stevenson has one of the best teams in the state, if not the nation.

The Spartans have won all 12 of their games this season. What is most impressive is the fashion in which they have done so. Stevenson has out-scored its opponents 73-0.

Friday, the Spartans whipped Farmington 4-0. Julie Smith scored two goals, Rossana Veri one and Patty Der-

ney one.

Two days earlier, Stevenson annihilated Farmington Harrison 9-0.

That is an almost unbelievable score in a sport where three goals is a lot in any one game.

Everyone gets into the act for the Spartans. Norene Divens, who has coached the team to a 36-1-0 record during the past three seasons, said that all her players have seen action in every game except one this year.

Listen to Divens talk about her players:

"Number one, they want to win. Number two, it seems there are always one or two people if some girls get down, they pick them up. Number three, we have a lot of leaders and right now, it's important to them that they don't allow anyone to score.

"I never allow my girls to say we're number one until the season is over." Divens continued. "I try to hold them down that way so they don't get carried away with themselves."

Divens uses what is probably one of the most unusual coaching techniques in the area.

"Every girl writes her observations after every game as to how they played as a team and how they played as an individual," said Divens.

The coach then meets confidentially with every player prior to the next game to go over the written observations.

Stevenson's offensive and defensive exploits are both exceptional. Divens said that she doesn't perceive any added pressure to keep the opponents off the scoreboard through the entire campaign.

"We keep wondering when it's going to happen," she said. "We decided we're not going to worry about it." Divens readily admits that she has a talented crew. "My toughest job now is to keep them motivated, keep them up," she said.

How does the coach accomplish that? "We do something different every week. Last night (a couple of weeks ago), we listened to music," said Divens.

"We do have a very, very strong team. We have some good depth on the bench again this year. We have a very strong halfback line (midfield players)," Divens said. Cindy Berry, Maureen Harrington and Sue Firestone.

Divens also praised her fullbacks (mainly defensive players) — Barb Gormley, Margi Strom and Maureen Donnelly — and her forwards, including such players as Joanne Poho, Amy Lang, Rossana Veri and Jill Johnson. Lisa Cluett, who also plays as a striker, Cathy Marchio and Strom have all tended goal.

And, since only five of the 18 are seniors, the winning ways should continue for several seasons to come.

FHS trackmen triumph

(Continued from Page 1D)

RU's Steve Ollar won the long jump (17-9/4) and teammates Tom Babits won the pole vault (12-0).

Waterford Mott whipped Farmington Harrison, 74-59, in a Western State League meet last Wednesday. Harrison is 1-6 overall and 1-3 in the WSL.

Sterling Herrman won the 120 high hurdles (15.9), Steve Staffeld won the 100 (10.5), Brad Senko won the 800 (2:09.5), Ken Kopko won the 220 (23.9) and Cliff Norton won the pole vault (13-0).

Harrison's 880 relay (Steve Sweeney, Staffeld, Norton and Kopko) won in 1:38.8. The Hawks' mile relay (Don Gully, Sean Deen, Shanbon and Kopko) won in 3:40.7.

On Tuesday afternoon, May 20, Farmington will participate in the Inter Lakes League meet at Milford Lakeland, and Harrison will run at Livonia Churchill.

On Wednesday, North Farmington will run in the Northwest Suburban League meet at Livonia Franklin.

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Published May 19, 1980

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