

Indiana High School Athletic Association

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Blake Ress, Commissioner

October 22, 2005

CENTER GROVE SWEEPS SINGLES AND DOUBLES TITLES

♦ ♦ ♦ Center Grove became the second school in IHSAA history to capture both crowns at the IHSAA Singles and Doubles Finals on Saturday at Park Tudor School in Indianapolis. ♦ Coach Ivan Smith ♦'s Trojans join only North Central (Indianapolis) in that exclusive category, with North Central sweeping the titles in 1995-96.

♦ ♦ ♦ Center Grove senior Christian Nikou completed a 25-1 campaign with a 6-0, 6-4 triumph over defending champion Steven Myers of Heritage Christian (24-4) to become the third singles champion in school history. ♦ Nikou joins Jarrod Epkey (2003) and Bryan Smith (1990, 1992) as Center Grove players who have captured singles titles. ♦ Nikou also kept Myers from becoming the first repeat champion since Rick Witsken in 1988 and from joining Smith, Witsken, and North Central ♦'s David McCallum (1984, 1985) as two-time winners. ♦ South Bend Adams ♦ Paul Koscielski is the only three-time winner in tournament history (1981, 1982, 1983).

♦ ♦ ♦ Nikou raced to a 6-0, 3-0 lead against Myers, before the defending champion rallied to with 5-4 in the second set. ♦ But, Nikou regrouped to win the next game to prevail.

♦ ♦ ♦ Nikou reached the final with a 6-0, 6-3 victory against senior David Kovas (16-3) on Saturday morning, while Myers outlasted Fort Wayne South Side sophomore Derek Carpenter (24-5) in a marathon match that lasted two hours and thirty-five minutes, 5-7, 6-3, 6-2.

♦ ♦ ♦ In doubles, Center Grove sophomores Matt Smith and Zane Smith became the third duo in school history to win the state doubles championship with a 6-3, 6-4 triumph over Joby Bacher and Phil Luke of West Lafayette. ♦ Smith and Smith join Joe Epkey-John Stone (1999) and Andy Baker-Chad Stone (1997) as Trojans doubles pairs who earned state titles. ♦

♦ ♦ ♦ Smith and Smith finished 25-4. ♦ In the final, they broke serve at 2-1 in the first set and added a break later on their way to 6-3. ♦ The Center Grove tandem broke twice early in the second set for a 5-1 lead, withstanding a West Lafayette rally that pulled the Red Devils to within 5-4, before closing out the match.

♦ ♦ ♦ Smith and Smith had defeated Eric Doerr and Mark Metheny of Terre Haute South (18-9) on Saturday morning, 6-3, 6-0. ♦ Bacher and Luke (26-4) won a two-hour match against Brebeuf Jesuit seniors Scott Beeler and Jonathan Plump (22-3) on Saturday morning, 1-6, 7-5, 6-3.

2005-06 IHSAA Boys Singles & Doubles Tennis State Tournament Series



STATE FINALS

When: Friday, October 21 with one doubles match at 10 a.m. and the afternoon session at 2 p.m.;
Saturday, October 22 with the morning session at 10 a.m. and the afternoon session at 2 p.m.

Admission: Free

Where: Park Tudor School, 7200 N. College Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46240 | [School Website](#) | [Driving Directions](#)

Note: Won-loss records indicate regular season record followed by post-season tournament record.

26th Annual Singles Tournament

Finals, Sat. 2 p.m.

Christian Nikou (12), **Center Grove** (16-1, 9-0) d. Steven Myers (12), **Heritage Christian** (17-3, 7-1), 6-0, 6-4.

Consolation, Sat. 2 p.m.

David Kovas (12), **South Bend Adams** (9-2, 7-1) d. Derek Carpenter (10), **Fort Wayne South Side** (18-3, 6-2), 6-4, 6-1.

Semifinals, Sat. 10 a.m.

Christian Nikou (12), **Center Grove** (16-1, 8-0) d. David Kovas (12), **South Bend Adams** (9-2, 6-1), 6-0, 6-3.
Steven Myers (12), **Heritage Christian** (17-3, 7-0) d. Derek Carpenter (10), **Fort Wayne South Side** (18-3, 6-1), 5-7, 6-3, 6-2.

Quarterfinals, Fri. 2 p.m.

Due to rain, matches moved to Five Seasons Sports Country Club, 1300 E. 96th Street, Indpls.

Christian Nikou (12), **Center Grove** (16-1, 7-0), bye.
David Kovas (12), **South Bend Adams** (9-2, 6-0) d. Thiago Franco (11), **Hauser** (11-0, 4-1), 6-4, 6-7 (7), 6-3

Steven Myers (12), **Heritage Christian** (17-3, 6-0) d. Hunter Schouweiler (11), **Fort Wayne Canterbury** (17-2, 4-1), 6-1, 6-3.

Derek Carpenter (10), **Fort Wayne South Side** (18-3, 6-0), bye.

16th Annual Doubles Tournament

Finals, Sat. 2 p.m.

Matt Smith (10)/Zane Smith (10), **Center Grove** (15-4, 10-0) d. Joby Bacher (10)/Phil Luke (12), **West Lafayette** (16-3, 10-1), 6-3, 6-4.

Consolation, Sat. 2 p.m.

Scott Beeler (12)/Jonathan Plump (12), **Brebeuf Jesuit** (14-2, 8-1) d. Eric Doerr (12)/Mark Metheny (12), **Terre Haute South** (10-7, 8-2), 6-0, 6-3.

Semifinals, Sat. 10 a.m.

Joby Bacher (10)/Phil Luke (12), **West Lafayette** (16-3, 10-0) d. Scott Beeler (12)/Jonathan Plump (12), **Brebeuf Jesuit** (14-2, 7-1), 1-6, 7-5, 6-3.

Matt Smith (10)/Zane Smith (10), **Center Grove** (15-4, 9-0) d. Eric Doerr (12)/Mark Metheny (12), **Terre Haute South** (10-7, 8-1), 6-3, 6-0.

Quarterfinals, Fri. 2 p.m.

Due to rain, matches moved to Five Seasons Sports Country Club, 1300 E. 96th Street, Indpls.

Joby Bacher (10)/Phil Luke (12), **West Lafayette** (16-3, 9-0), d. Josh Beguin (11)/Jacob Palmer (11), **Plymouth** (17-3, 7-1), 6-3, 6-0.

Scott Beeler (12)/Jonathan Plump (12), **Brebeuf Jesuit** (14-2, 7-0) d. Corey Kozachenko (12)/Greg Larson (12), **LaPorte** (13-0, 5-1), 6-1, 6-0.

Eric Doerr (12)/Mark Metheny (12), **Terre Haute South** (10-7, 8-0) d. Randy Evans (12)/Tyler Rigby (12), **Jay County** (15-3, 7-1), 6-3, 6-1.

Matt Smith (10)/Zane Smith (10), **Center Grove** (15-4, 8-0) d. Peter Davis (12)/Robert Mumme (12), **Heritage Christian** (19-1, 6-1), 6-3, 7-6(5).

First Round, Fri. 10 a.m.

Due to rain, match moved to Five Seasons Sports Country Club, 1300 E. 96th Street, Indpls.

Josh Beguin (11)/Jacob Palmer (11), **Plymouth** (17-3, 7-0) d. Kyle Rodden (11)/Patrick Sweets (12), **Providence** (15-0, 5-1), 7-6(5), 6-3.