

## Cup Team Success

Wisconsin's Best Achieve multiple successes at the Cup Team Tournaments.

### **Coach Frank Barnes 12's**

Congratulations to the 12's on a fantastic 3<sup>rd</sup> place achievement. Special congratulations to Sam Klein, winner of the Sportsmanship Award.



### **Coach Daniel Bickett 14's**

Congratulations Noah Viste, recipient of the Sportsmanship Award.

Notes from Coach Bickett:

The 14's District Cup team returned to Purdue for yet another year of terrific competition in 2017. This was my fifth year coaching the team, and I was happy to be joined by my assistant Alex Mory.

Our Team was ranked 6th entering the tournament meaning we would have an uphill battle to reach the medal round. We started off the tournament on Friday vs. Northern Indiana. After doubles we took a 2-1 lead, and never relinquished it in singles taking the match 6-3. The team was tired, but persevered in a match that suspended and quickly resumed indoors due to rain. Again Wisconsin lead 2-1 after doubles, and despite the change in scenery pulled out 4 of the 6 singles matches to win 6-3. After those wins we turned our attention to the toughest two teams we would face in the tournament Ohio Valley and Chicago.

On Saturday our first match was against the 3rd seeded team from Ohio Valley. This time our doubles success did not carry over, and we trailed 2-1 heading into singles. In the singles matches we were only able to take one of the 6

singles matches, but it certainly wasn't for lack of effort. After that loss the team looked to bounce back vs. the 2nd seed team from Chicago. Our doubles struggles continued as we trailed 1-2 heading into singles. This time though we were able to get 3 of the singles matches, but that still put us short 4-5. After a tough day of matches we looked to return to the hotel to lick our wounds and bounce back the next morning against Northeastern Michigan.

Even with a shot at the medal round out of reach the Wisconsin team continued to fight and play some of their best tennis of the tournament. Trailing 1-2 after doubles the Wisconsin team played some inspired singles winning 5 of the 6 matches to win 6-3. Overall, the team finished the tournament with a winning record of 3-2, good enough for a 6th place finish.

Outside of the team success there were some strong individual accomplishments that I'd like to take the time to accomplish. Noah Viste was the boy's sportsmanship award winner, and Bojanna Pozder finished a perfect 6-0 in singles and doubles.



#### **Coach Kara Amundson 18's Girls (Baird Cup)**

Congratulations Emily Luetschwager, recipient of the USTA Midwest Section Helen Shockley Award, for the highest standards of tennis accomplishments, character, conduct, sportsmanship and amateurism. Emily received this prestigious award at Marion Wood Baird Opening Ceremonies

Congratulations Claire Czerwonka, winner of the USTA Midwest Section Senior Scholarship/Marion Wood Baird Achievement Award for leadership skills and education/excellence in the classroom off the court and tennis accomplishments on the court.

Notes from Coach Amundson:



For the girls 18s, we had a great group of individuals. On the first night at the Welcome Banquet, Wisconsin's own Emily Leutchwager won the sportsmanship award for the district (first pic). She has great accomplishments on and off the court (being valedictorian of her class, winning state twice, volunteering) and it was such an honor.

The following day we started the tournament (second pic). First round, we played against NE Ohio. We ended up losing 1-6 but a lot of great fight was shown against this tough team. Following that match, on the same day, we played Northern Michigan and won 7-0.

The following day, we played Chicago. Five of their players were top 20 in the standings list but we were able to give them a battle. Even though we lost 0-7, I was impressed and saw a couple of our players play the match of their life.

Later that evening was the social (third pic is big cookie from the social), where they were to announce a couple awards for the tournament. Claire Czerwonka ended up winning the Achievement Award (4th pic) which goes to a graduating senior for their accomplishments on and off the court.

On Sunday, we played our last match and ended up losing a close one to Northern Indiana 3-4. The deciding match came down to a tiebreaker and I think its safe to say we left everything we had on the court that day.

I would say it was a great weekend of tennis :) Thank you for letting me coach this year. This group was a special group and it was an experience I very much enjoyed.



**Coach Dan Oliver 18's Boys**

