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Championship Sunday Field Set: Top Seeds Advance to NEC Tennis Finals

West Windsor, NJ -- On a sun-soaked, near 80 degree day, there was little in the way of drama in the semifinal round of the 2015 NEC Tennis Championships with the higher seeds all moving on to the finals in impressive fashion. In fact the most compelling story heading into Championship Sunday may be whether or not the Bryant men's and women's squads can both leave West Windsor, NJ in possession of some hardware. The Bryant men will face Fairleigh Dickinson in the men's title match for a third straight year, while the Bulldog women will take on top-seeded LIU Brooklyn. The Championship for the 15th straight year is being contested at the sprawling Mercer County Tennis Center.

Making their 13th consecutive semifinal appearance, LIU Brooklyn cleared a significant hurdle in pursuit of its third NEC title and first since the 2010 tourney with a 4-2 win over fifth seeded Fairleigh Dickinson. The top-seeded Blackbirds dethroned the three-time defending champion Knights with a pair of key singles performances. At the #2 flight, sophomore **Marine Dans (Waterloo, Belgium/Institu de Mot Couvreur)** earned a 6-4, 6-4 decision to clinch the victory, while senior **Nancy Zonneveld (Frankfurt, Germany/European School)** posted a 6-3, 6-3 win at the #5 spot. The Blackbirds, who won the doubles point, also took the #6 singles flight by default.

In just its third year competing in the postseason, the Bryant women are heading to the finals for the first time. The second seeded Bulldogs claimed a 4-1 win over third seeded Saint Francis U, a team that also came into the tourney with first-time title match aspirations. Bryant won the doubles point, and received a strong performance from #1 singles player **Ryan Brown (Austin, TX/Lake Travis)** with the sophomore recording a 6-3, 6-3 victory. Sophomore **Marion Bouillin (San Diego, CA/Torrey Pines)** won 6-3, 6-4 at #2 singles and freshman **Ashanti Campfield (Stratford, CT/Bunnell)** came away with a 6-2, 6-4 win at the #5 position.

Looking to defend their NEC crown, the top-seeded Bryant men were in top form in a 4-0 win over a rising Wagner team that was seeded fifth in the field. After claiming the doubles point, the Bulldogs dominated in the lower half of the singles bracket with sophomore **Oliver Welsh (San Diego, CA/Laurel Springs)** posting a 6-0, 6-1 win at #4 singles, junior **Max Vogt (Fair Oaks, CA/Granite Bay)** recording a 6-0, 6-2 triumph at the #5 flight and freshman **Jorge Ortiz-Garcia (Trujillo Alto, Puerto Rico)** securing a 6-1, 6-2 victory at the #6 spot. The #1 flight match between freshman phenoms Bryant's **Matt Kuhar (Smithfield, RI/Smithfield)** and Wagner's **Michal Rolski (Kielczow, Poland/Oak Meadow (VT))** proved inconclusive. Rolski won the first set, 6-2, and Kuhar was up 4-2 in the second when play was stopped.

Fairleigh Dickinson is back in the NEC final for the fourth straight year following a 4-0 win over third-seeded Saint Francis U. The second-seeded Knights rang up straight set singles wins from a trio of sophomores on the heels of taking the doubles point. **Jacob Whalley (Wirral, England/Caldy Grange Grammar School)** won 6-1, 6-1 at #2, **Gonzalo Quintana (Guayaquil, Ecuador/Colegio Particular Pert)** posted a 6-1, 6-2 victory at #4 and **Arnaud Valentin (Ridgefield, CT/Ridgefield)** was a 6-3, 6-0 winner at the #6 position. The Knights won it all in 2012 and 2013.

FDU and Bryant have met in each of the last two NEC men's finals, both of which were instant classics. The Knights won 4-3 in 2013, with the Bulldogs returning the favor last year, also winning by a 4-3 final score.

The women will lead off Championship Sunday at 9:00 am with the men's final set to go off at 1:00 pm. The winners of the three-day tournament will go on to represent the NEC in the upcoming NCAA Championships.

2015 NEC Tennis Championships at Mercer County Tennis Center, West Windsor, NJ

Friday, April 17

Women's Quarterfinals

- #1 LIU Brooklyn 4, #8 St. Francis Brooklyn 1
- #2 Bryant 4, #7 Wagner 0
- #3 Saint Francis U 4, #6 Mount St. Mary's 1
- #5 Fairleigh Dickinson 4, #4 Sacred Heart 3

Men's Quarterfinals

- #2 Fairleigh Dickinson 4, #7 St. Francis Brooklyn 0
- #3 Saint Francis U 4, #6 Sacred Heart 0
- #5 Wagner 4, #4 Mount St. Mary's 0

Saturday, April 18

Women's Semifinal Matches

- #1 LIU Brooklyn 4, #5 Fairleigh Dickinson 2
- #2 Bryant 4, #3 Saint Francis U 1

Men's Semifinal Matches

- #1 Bryant 4, #5 Wagner 0
- #2 Fairleigh Dickinson 4, #3 Saint Francis U 0

Sunday, April 19

Women's Championship Match (9:00 am)

- #1 LIU Brooklyn vs. #2 Bryant

Men's Championship Match (1:00 pm)

- #1 Bryant vs. #2 Fairleigh Dickinson



2015 Northeast Conference Men's & Women's Tennis Championships

April 17-19

at Mercer County Tennis Center, West Windsor, NJ

Women's Semifinal Matches

April 18

Match #8

#1 LIU Brooklyn 4, #5 Fairleigh Dickinson 2

Singles

1. LOUWERS, Sanne (LIU) vs. CHIS, Nicole (FDU) 4-6, 3-2, unfinished
2. DANS, Marine (LIU) def. PASRICHA, Shreya (FDU) 6-4, 6-4
3. CASTANY, Gisela (FDU) def. KOENIGSFELDT, Caroli (LIU) 6-0, 6-4
4. KRACHOK, Mariya (FDU) def. WAGENER, Isabella (LIU) 6-0, 6-2
5. ZONNEVELD, Nancy (LIU) def. BRYANT, Alex (FDU) 6-3, 6-3
6. THOMPSON, Brittany (LIU) def. No player (FDU), by default

Doubles

1. LOUWERS/DANS (LIU) def. KRACHOK/CASTANY (FDU) 8-4
2. CHIS/PASRICHA (FDU) def. KOENIGSFELDT/ZONNEVELD (LIU) 8-3
3. WAGENER/THOMPSON (LIU) def. No player/No player (FDU), by default

Match #9

#2 Bryant 4, #3 Saint Francis U 1

Singles

1. BROWN, Ryan (BRY) def. PANIZZA, Rafaela (SFU) 6-3, 6-3
2. BOUILLIN, Marion (BRY) def. PATEL, Shivani (SFU) 6-3, 6-4
3. SJOBERG, Linnea (BRY) vs. SACHS, Alex (SFU) 6-0, 4-6, 3-5, unfinished
4. JENTZ, Brittini (SFU) def. LEONARD, Briana (BRY) 6-4, 6-3
5. CAMPFIELD, Ashanti (BRY) def. JASSO, Lucy (SFU) 6-2, 6-4
6. BIRD, Rosie (BRY) vs. GRYCKIEWICZ, Dani (SFU) 3-6, 6-1, 2-5, unfinished

Doubles

1. BOUILLIN/BROWN (BRY) def. PANIZZA/PATEL (SFU) 8-2
2. BIRD/CAMPFIELD (BRY) def. GRYCKIEWICZ/SACHS (SFU) 8-0
3. LEONARD/SJOBERG (BRY) vs. JASSO/JENTZ (SFU) 6-4, unfinished

Men's Semifinal Matches

April 18

Match #10

#1 Bryant 4, #5 Wagner 0

Singles

1. KUCHAR, Matt (BRY) vs. ROLSKI, Michal (WC) 2-6, 4-2, unfinished
2. MORRIS, Zachary (BRY) vs. KHAN, Ryan (WC) 6-4, 2-0, unfinished
3. LORENZ, Luke (BRY) vs. ALANIS, Juan (WC) 6-2, 4-3, unfinished
4. WELSH, Oliver (BRY) def. WANG, Allen (WC) 6-0, 6-1
5. VOGT, Max (BRY) def. BOYD, Charlton (WC) 6-0, 6-2
6. ORTIZ-GARCIA, Jorge (BRY) def. MOSTYN-KOLB, Jakob (WC) 6-1, 6-2

Doubles

1. KUCHAR/KLIGER, Joshua (BRY) vs. ROLSKI/ALANIS (WC) 5-6, unfinished
2. ARGUELLO, Ernesto/MORRIS (BRY) def. KHAN/BOYD (WC) 8-5
3. WELSH/LORENZ (BRY) def. WANG/MOSTYN-KOLB (WC) 8-3

Match #11

#2 Fairleigh Dickinson 4, #3 Saint Francis U 0

Singles

1. BERZINS, Arvis (FDU) vs. GERVAIS, Washi (SFU) 6-4, 5-1, unfinished
2. WHALLEY, Jacob (FDU) def. TICO, Rodrigo (SFU) 6-1, 6-1
3. CHAN, Adam (FDU) vs. DYLAN FOO-KUNE, Alec (SFU) 4-6, 0-2, unfinished
4. QUINTANA, Gonzalo (FDU) def. JIMENEZ, Chris (SFU) 6-1, 6-2
5. GARNEL, Diogo (FDU) vs. AYUSKI, Plamen (SFU) 6-1, 4-3, unfinished
6. VALENTIN, Arnaud (FDU) def. CERDAN, Eli (SFU) 6-3, 6-0

Doubles

1. BERZINS/WHALLEY (FDU) def. GERVAIS/TICO (SFU) 8-1
2. QUINTANA/VALENTIN (FDU) vs. JIMENEZ/CARVAJAL, Sergio (SFU) 4-7, unfinished
3. CHAN/GARNEL (FDU) def. BARTER, Lawson/DYLAN FOO-KUNE, Alec (SFU) 8-4