

White/Waszak Turn Tide to 3-2 Win

AP Wire

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Phil White lit up like a Christmas tree in a tough, close second set to lead his partnership to a win which took the whole team to a 3 to 2 win over a very tough Amy Yee team this evening on Court 17 in front of the glass. Everyone else had finished their games and little did Phil and Steve know that the team score stood at a precarious 2 to 2 standoff. But even if they would have know about the team score it wouldn't have mattered for these wily veterans whose combined age is somewhere north of 127! The way they played their second set spelled doom with a capital D for the Amy Yee SMACK team. All was going well until the good doctor lost his serve for the first time all day in the middle of the second set falling into a dreaded but fortunately temporary slump. Not to worry. Phil White remained absolutely rock solid as he led their partnership out of a 4-4 deadlock to finally win the second set 7-5 when one measly unforced error finished the last game and the match for the hard working Amy Yee SMACK team of Rick "The Giant" Eberhardt and Brian "Scraggly" MacDuff. These guys were young, tall and had very big serves all of which distinguished them from Phil and Steve. The problem was those big serves often didn't go



Nice job, Phil



Spectators thought we needed a viewing gallery

in. And that's a big problem. They were trying to overpower the older guys but it didn't work as they frequently came in much too far behind weak approach shots and got lobbed to death in a manner that would have warmed the heart of Mark "Lobmeister" Rowley.

Phil's service game was "on" today and that made it a very long day indeed for his erstwhile Amy Yee SMACK opponents. Since they didn't know what the match score was, Steve and Phil wondered why there were so many people who stayed to watch their match right up until the end. Their cumulative attendance record to date was some-



Phil after one beer only

thing south of one which is zero for those of you in Rio Linda. But this evening the partisan crowd sure got their money's worth. They were so partisan, in fact, that Steve said it was like playing OSU in Columbus! Looking back on the match it must be admitted that Steve's lobs were very effective. After the match Steve said, "They accused me of being a human backboard. I thought they only had backboards in basketball. But I guess in this sport that's a compliment. I think." Consistency does seem to be a big part of his otherwise meager game. But I digress. Here's how it the whole match went down.

Singles Matches

S1 Dave Dederer played his match way over on court 19 where there was no possibility of viewing the match from the fishbowl viewing area we have by the Pro Shop. But I won't mention that fact. Dave went down 6-2, 6-1 in a match that seemed much closer than that. Ironically he lost to an STC member who was playing for Amy Yee. The member's initials are Don Manning. Hmm.

Mike Slade will undoubtedly explain this personnel anomalie someday to us all.

S2 Andrew Russin was able to overcome his grandson, er, I mean his worthy opponent, Eli Sanders, 7-6, 7-6. That's 26 total full games for those of you in Rio Linda. That's a lot of singles for these two die hards! And Andrew did feel a little like Bruce Willis after Eli worked him over on Court 18.

Eli's girl friend in the fishbowl viewing area shared the fact that they had just finished a half marathon last week together. Andrew felt like he finished a full marathon today! Andrew's legally registered, weaponized backhand stood him in good stead today against Eli who seemed to be able to run down everything.

Doubles Matches

D1 Mike Slade and Scott "Thor" Lindblad played some of their finest tennis to date taking down Brendan



Thor and Slade warm-up

Mengan and Greg Jammers in straight sets 6-2, 6-3. They were fortunately playing on Court 17 right up against the glass so the Amy Yee SMACK fans could get a first hand taste of some of the pace on

Thor's forehands. Mike's frequent "team talks" kept Thor settled into the game and contributed mightily to their impressive win.

D2 John Walter, MD and George Textor fought hard in their match but fell to their opponents, Gil White and Alen Chen, 6-4, 6-1. Gil, we learned after the match, has two kids ages 9 months and three years old. John and George's children are considerably older. But fortunately Gil and Alen were not too young to guzzle down some of the free STC beer that flowed in mass quantities after their match.



George and Gil warm-up

some of the pace on

D3 Steve Waszak and Phil White as we have seen worked long and hard to come out on top winning 6-2, 7-5 in a great match that took entertainment levels on the indoor courts at the STC to a new high and I do not exaggerate. It's just too bad most of the crowd, if not all, came from Amy Yee. They would score a point - applause. We would score a point - silence. Go figure! But I must admit that the win and the beer quickly took the pain away.

Our team is now 5 and 1 in season play and Slade says we are actually in first place tonight!

The After Match

The team was understandably elated with its performance again this week. It was a real cliff hanger with White/Waszak pulling it out in the end to the delight of their STC teammates and the dismay of the Amy Yee SMACK team contingent. But after about six or seven pitchers of beer everyone seemed really happy to have played and the re-telling of the matches became more fictional with every beer consumed. What really is the nature of the line, (excuse the expression), between tennis fact and tennis fiction, nea, tennis legend? The serves go in and the serves go out. The lobs drop in and the lobs drop out. What matters is the fun we all have in between these nerve shattering events. And we all had fun this evening at the STC in the 3.5 Men's USTA Doubles match that we all were fortunate enough to be a part of.



Hard to view tennis on our indoor courts



What beer? I was drinking my usual Diet Coke

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