

STC falls to Sammamish 4-1

AP Wire

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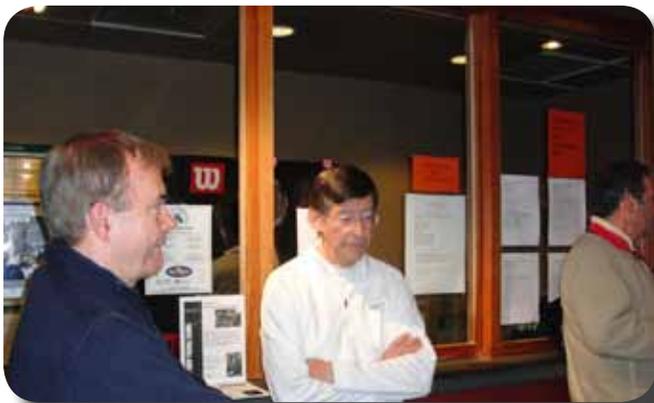
PACIFIC NORTHWEST

A round of applause should go to the stalwart teammates who made the ultimate sacrifice to show up and play on this holiday weekend. So many players on the team



Dave Magee, Scott Lindblad, Scott Whelan and Mark Rowley before the match

were AWOL this weekend that the roster was in danger of being unfilled. However, several of our erstwhile teammates stepped up at the last minute to help us out and special thanks goes to



Mark Rowley and Paul Reed before the match

Dave Magee, Scott Whelan and Paul Reed for covering out team in its moment of need. Here's how it went down way over in Issaquah which is where the Sammamish Club calls it home.

Singles Matches

S1 Dave Dederer went out in the first round of play to battle it out with his young opponent James Chen. They played on a middle court so it was difficult to tell what was going on because Sammamish



Scott Lindblad, Phil Weatherill and Paul Reed at Sammamish

Club has the same court viewing situation that we have. Dave fought hard but went down 6-1, 6-4.

Even though Sammamish had four indoor courts the



A curlew on the left and an owl in the center Videos of George are at end of this newsletter

team there had only reserved two courts so most of us watch the S1 and D3 matches for a long time before we played. One wonders why the Sammamish Club could not have reserved four courts for USTA

tennis competition considering what a contribution the USTA leagues make to tennis in general. But I digress

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S2 Paul Reed should be given an extra round of applause for not only coming in as a replacement on the roster but also for being the only one to win a match



Paul Reed was our sole winner at S1 in our Sammamish Club match

against Sammamish. He worked his match flawlessly and won in straight sets against the worthy Alex Coffey 6-3, 6-4. Although Paul had given it his best he was feeling

Doubles Matches

D1 Phil Weatherill and Scott "Thor" Lindblad played a very tough match against their opponents Russ Decare and John Evryan losing the first set 3-6 then winning the second set 6-4. They took their match to a heartbreaking tie breaker but lost it 10-8 which shows how close this match really was. The two STC players were able to recover their composure after two really cold beers presented to them by their opponents

D2 Mark Rowley and Steve Waszak, MD were disappointed to lose to their opponents Kamyar Nikzad and Thomas Hei but had the consolation of knowing that they won 8 games during the match and that more than doubled the number of games they won in their last match. The game scores were 6-4, 6-4 so it was close and almost went into a tie breaker. With the knowledge that they are no longer on suicide watch and with two cool beers under their belts Mark and Steve were ready for a good Memorial Day weekend despite their loss.



Another tennis viewing torture chamber like we have at the STC over at Sammamish Club

D3 Scott Whelan and Dave Magee were two guys who answered the teams distress signal for substitute players when half the team went AWOL for the holiday. AWOL players might consider buying these guys a beer in the Players Lounge the next time they see them. Scott and Dave fought hard on the far court where no one could tell what was going on - just like back home at the STC. They lost their first set 4-6 but came back to win their second set 6-4. They dropped the tie breaker and their match but it was a close fought dual. We didn't see them after the match because they both had to get home for holiday obligations with their families but I think they may have grabbed a couple of those cold beers before they left



which took the sting out of their loss. Our whole team thanks these guys for coming through in the clutch for us.

The After Match

Cold beer for medicinal purposes only

Our team is now 4 and 4 in league play
The team was under-

standably disappointed with the loss this week but overall the team played well, no one got blown out and we won one match and took two others to tie breakers while playing at an away facility. And I have to hand it to the Sammamish Club. They provided the coldest beer and the best wine we have had all season and they were a great group of guys to compete with. They had just as much trouble fielding a team as we did which led a number of players to remark that scheduling

a match on a holiday weekend may not be the best thing for the USTA to do. Who knows? It was another great USTA Men's 3.5 Doubles match that we were all fortunate enough to be a part of. Having said that could you please pass that pitcher of beer over here, for medicinal purposes only, of course.



Hey, Mark, come on - we're not on suicide watch anymore. We won 8 games for heaven's sake!

Memorial Day Weekend

It was a tough dose we all took at Sammamish this weekend but the fine beer, elegant wine and great competition more than made up for it.

It looks to this stringer that Sammamish Club could use a viewing gallery as much as we do at the STC but they have no place to put one over there. We, however, have plenty of space down the middle of our courts to put ours. And with the Pro Shop renovation project conveniently at hand we should all bring pressure to bear on our club leadership to get our viewing



Medicinal beer, clinically exhibited in judicious doses, heals virtually all tennis wounds

gallery put up as an integral part of that project this year. A few of you are wondering what's up with this week.

It was great going over there to the match and playing with all of you and you did a great job despite the loss. Have a great holiday and we'll see you all for our next match with Stanwood which is so far north of the STC they will probably arrive riding reindeer!



While waiting for courts to open up one of our players who wears a black and white warm up suit but whose name will not be mentioned showed Phil and Paul on his laptop how to download certain types of digital material from the Internet which sounded somewhat outside the bounds of the normal operations of the copyright law but then what do I know about copyright law and furthermore, your honor, I was too far away to hear exactly what they were talking about . . .

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