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SPORTS NEWS RELEASE

from Cedarville College Yellow Jackets

SPORTS INFORMATION
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12 May, 1985

For immediate release:

MURDOCH GARNERS 14th DISTRICT IN A ROW

Cedarville College men's tennis coach Murray Murdoch is getting used to taking his squad to Kansas City for the NAIA Nationals in late May each year. He and his netters will be making the trip once again as the Yellow Jackets won the NAIA District 22 championship for the 14th consecutive season. The tournament got underway on Thursday at the Cedarville campus courts and concluded Saturday with the host Jackets scoring 18 points followed by Wilmington with 14, Bluffton 13, Malone 13, Mt. Vernon 7, and Walsh 7.

The team championship may belong to Cedarville, but the individual titles are owned by Wilmington. The Quakers Olle Sundell breezed to the singles championship which culminated in a 6-2, 6-3 victory over Cedarville's Gary Coiro in the finals. Sundell lost only nine games in five matches which were all straight set wins.

Sundell teamed up with Rick Ridder to win the doubles crown. The tandem did not lose a set and knocked off Hugo Sandberg and Tony Mullet of Bluffton in the finals 6-4, 7-6.

Murdoch's club got such well-rounded play that resulted in big wins that the Jackets wrapped up first place a day early on Friday. "Once we clinched the title we had a bit of a letdown," remarked Murdoch. "But it was one of the finest team efforts we've ever had in this tournament. It was not as close as we expected."

One of the upsets was administered by Thurman Payton. After winning his opening

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match 6-1, 6-0, Payton surprised fifth seed Tony Mullet of Bluffton 6-0, 4-6, 6-3. Bruce Richards, who normally plays number five for Murdoch, won his second match of the tournament in a 1-6, 6-2, 7-6 shocker over eighth seed Mike Lillo of Malone.

Frank Terkelsen and Kevin Crawford each won one match apiece and Coiro took four prior to losing to Sundell. Coiro lost a mere seven games in those four wins and he wiped out the fourth and sixth seeds en route. Coiro and Sundell were co-seeded number one and placed in separate brackets.

The only Cedarville doubles team to win was that of Coiro and Payton. The Jackets top duo swept two opponents in straight sets before Wilmington's Sundell and Ridder downed them 6-0, 6-1 in the semi-finals.

Walsh College won the women's tournament for its first district title. The Cavaliers scored 14 points while Bluffton had 11, Cedarville 8, and Malone 7.

Tracy Turner was the only Lady Jacket to win two singles matches. She defeated Janice Bruner of Bluffton (7-5, 6-3) and Sue Parker of Malone (6-1, 7-6) before losing 6-0, 6-1 to Malone's Mia Comeriato. The only other singles winners for Cedarville were Roge' Lash and Lee Austin.

The Jackets doubles team of Dawn Reehl and Laura Wuestner made it to the semi-finals before being eliminated. The pair's wins came against Bluffton's Mary Habegger and Myrna Flory (4-6, 6-2, 6-4), and Walsh's Sue McDonald and Tracy Hay (3-6, 7-5, 6-4).

Paula Battista of Walsh was the singles champion in a 4-6, 6-0, 6-2 win over Mia Comeriato of Malone. The doubles title went to Bluffton's Beth Crates and Margaret Fisher who defeated Mia and Paula Battista of Walsh 6-2, 0-6, 6-2.

Any player that makes it to the semi-finals in either singles or doubles makes the all-district team. Following are the 1985 men's and women's All-NAIA District 22 tennis teams:

NAIA District 22 Tennis
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MEN

Olle Sundell (Wilmington)

Hugo Sandberg (Bluffton)

Rick Ridder (Wilmington)

Tony Mullet (Bluffton)

Brian Cureton (Malone)

Thurman Payton (Cedarville)

Mike Lillo (Malone)

Gary Coiro (Cedarville)

WOMEN

Paula Battista (Walsh)

Beth Crates (Bluffton)

Mia Battista (Walsh)

Margaret Fisher (Bluffton)

Mia Comeriato (Malone)

Dawn Reehl (Cedarville)

Michele Williams (Malone)

Laura Wuestner (Cedarville)