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Ross beats SJCC

BY JOHN CLEVINGER

News-Messenger correspondent

Before the season started, Fremont Ross tennis coach Lisa Wolfe expected lots of close matches.

On Thursday afternoon, the Little Giants (2-2) exceeded her expectation with a 4-1 victory over St. Joseph Central Catholic (3-4).

"I'm very proud of our first and second singles today. Chris (Wobser) and Matt (Barbour) have a lot of court experience as seniors and we knew it would be important to get points out of Malcolm (Leake) and Ricky (Ramirez)," said Wolfe.

Freshmen Malcolm Leake earned a victory over SJCC's Chris Wobser in two sets 6-2, 6-2.

"I just wanted to be consistent today and play the ball, not my opponent," Leake said. "I think a lot of the time, people think about the match too much and make mistakes. I just like to go out and play."

Ricky Ramirez picked up a point for Ross with his victory over Matt Barbour with a score of 6-1, 6-1.

"I'm happy with the effort our players put forth today," said SJCC coach Scott Knisely. "I told them before the match today that we finally got some nice weather and to go out and have fun and enjoy it."

"We didn't play as well as we wanted to today," said Barbour. "The wind and the highway makes it a bit of a challenge, but we just need to come out next time and play better."

Derek Dickman earned the only win for the Streaks with a win over Ross' Jacob Garlock with scores of 7-5, 6-3.

"Our doubles teams did a nice job for us today," Wolfe said. "I'm extremely proud of the second doubles team of Jordan Martin and Tim Cheek. They were down early, but didn't give up and got a point for us."

Martin and Cheek defeated Sam Hossler and John Koeing in three sets, 2-6, 6-4, 6-0.

The first singles team of Jason Rexroth and Michael Pickerel defeated SJCC's Tyler Cleveland and Paul Wendt in two sets by the scores of 6-1, 6-4.

"We just wanted to be aggressive, but consistent at the same time," said Pickerel. "We lost composure a little and let them come back in the second set, but Jason and I pulled it back together and finished out the match."

"Scorewise we didn't play so well, but I'm proud that we stayed competitive all day," Knisley said. "We have a big tournament coming up this weekend and we just have to get back to practice and continue to get better."

"We have the Fremont doubles tournament this weekend, which is a nice change of pace for our singles players in the fact that they get to play doubles for a change," Wolfe said. "We also have a couple GBC matches coming up next week and those are the most important to us. We just have to remember to focus on the whole schedule this season."



Fremont Ross's Malcolm Leake returns a ball during a tennis match Thursday against St. Joseph Central Catholic. (Greg Burr | Submitted photo)