

1992 Ann Arbor City Tennis Tournament in *The Ann Arbor News*

Ripley defends Adult Open title

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Maybe next year the organizers of the Ann Arbor Adult Closed Tennis Tournament will give away a desk as a prize for winning the finals.

Paul Ripley could use one.

Ripley, a second-year tennis player at Ball State, doesn't have anywhere to put the desk clock he won in this year's tournament or the pen and pencil set he won last year.

Ripley, a 1991 Pioneer graduate and former state champion, defended his men's AA singles title with a 6-4, 6-3 victory over Bill Godfrey Sunday at Burns Park. Ripley, the top seed in the top men's division this year, was unseeded in his debut in this event last year.

"Last year was definitely a lot tougher," said Ripley, who defeated Godfrey in the semifinals before downing Chris Trumbull in the finals. "I



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Kathy VanDeWege, who here returns a shot, won the AA singles over Betsy Mehaffie on Sunday and then teamed with Mehaffie to win the AA doubles in the Ann Arbor Adult Closed Tennis Tournament.

Newborn baby slices into Godfrey's rest time

feel that I've improved a lot and I feel more confident. Last year I wasn't expected to win.

"It feels great. Anytime you win a tournament you should feel happy. And to play as good as I did the last few days, I feel good about it."

Godfrey, 33, who won the top singles division in 1981 and '89, noticed an improvement in Ripley.

"He's just in great shape and hitting the ball great," said Godfrey, a former No. 1 singles player at Pioneer and member of Michigan's 1982 Big Ten championship team.

"You have to be in shape to win this tournament. I feel I'm in shape. I just needed a day or two to rest in between matches."

Godfrey, who played a singles and doubles semifinal match Saturday as well as a singles and doubles final Sunday, was only able to get two to three hours of sleep Saturday night because of his newborn.

"But that's no excuse," he said. "I could've carved my way out of the hole if I dug hard today and got a little bit of luck."

"I'm at that stage where I have to accept the weaknesses that come with other responsibilities (three children)."

Here are highlights from other division finals:

MEN'S AA DOUBLES: Jon Restuccia may have had a new partner in Peter Osler, but the result was identical to last year when he won the division with Tim Madden.

The opponents were also the same as Restuccia and Osler defeated Bill Godfrey and Eric Johnson, 6-4, 3-6 and 6-3.

Restuccia and Osler made quite a

pair. Both Huron graduates, Restuccia (1981) was a No. 3 singles and No. 1 doubles player at Wisconsin, ending his career in 1986 while Osler (1974) was a Big Ten champion at Michigan in No. 5 singles and No. 3 doubles as a senior in 1979.

WOMEN'S AA DOUBLES AND SINGLES: Kathy VanDeWege and Betsy Mehaffie teamed up to win the women's doubles division over Kristina Glusac and Jeanie Hayes 6-0 and 6-1 before tangling with each other in a three-set women's AA singles match.

After losing the first set 6-1, VanDeWege came back to defeat Mehaffie 6-4 and 6-1 by mixing cross-court shots with heaters down the lines.

"This is the best match I've played in singles or doubles," VanDeWege, 34, said. "I was able to hit some ground strokes and step in and get Betsy on the defensive. She has such a good cross-court backhand, and I knew I was in good shape when my backhand started beating her."

MEN'S B DOUBLES: Bud VanDeWege and Tom Baughman's Cinderella run came to an end at the hands of Mel Krapko and Dan Rudgers, who defeated the duo 6-3, 4-6 and 6-3.

VanDeWege and Baughman had come back from first-set losses twice earlier in the tournament. They made another run in the third set of the final after being down 5-0.

MEN'S 40+ DOUBLES: Tom Pullen won his sixth straight 40+ doubles title, his third with Jim Burdelski, in defeating Claude Wilcox and Jack Knowles 6-4 and 6-2.