

Couple savors grand opening in doubles

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■ After nearly a decade of trying, the Morans, Ross and Peggy, cruise beyond the opening round of city tennis event.

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► Ann Arbor Mixed Doubles results, D2

It took eight years, but Ross and Peggy Moran finally won their opening match in the Ann Arbor Husband and Wife Mixed Doubles Tennis Tournament.

The duo slipped by Bradley and Patricia Geller, 6-0, 6-4, Saturday before scoring an upset of top-seeded Dave and Allison Arscott, 6-4, 6-3.

"The law of averages was on our side," said Ross, who was able to land many of his first serves. "We've never won. I don't know how to be interviewed."

The Morans advanced to today's

semifinals against Bob and Cheryl Grant, set for 10 a.m. at Burns Park. In the other semi, second-seeded Jim and Paula Burdelski will play Larry and Ellen Joynt.

"I don't think there is a dominant team," Ross said. "But, the Burdelskis are pretty tough."

In the open mixed doubles tournament, held concurrently with the husband and wife tourney on Pioneer's courts, No. 1 seeded Beau Toy and Allison Schlonsky advanced to play fourth-seeded Kristina Hentschel and Mark Bisard and second-seeded Eric Pinaud and Kristina Glusac will face No. 3 Martin Topliss and Jodi Brewer. Both semifinals also will be at 10 a.m. today at Burns Park.

Fifteen teams from the two fields

were eliminated Saturday as 11 teams competed in the husband and wife division and 12 teams played in the open division.

Beth Pierce and Mark Horneffer lost in the open division. The two players, who are residents at the University of Michigan Hospital, are to be married in December.

They said they would consider entering the husband and wife division next year.

Both of them had late hours the night before on post-call duty. They lost to Pinaud (a Huron Valley Tennis Club instructor) and Glusac (a No. 1 singles player at Sweet Briar College, Va., last spring). The scores were 6-1 and 6-4.

"We have a better shot in the husband and wife division," Horneffer said. He added, "It would've been a whole different story," if they hadn't stayed up late.

"It would've been one less excuse, that's all."

Horneffer and Pierce did win their opening match, topping Dale Greiner and Kathy Green, 6-1, 7-5.

The wind dominated the action, playing havoc with many shots and altering strategy.

"It always seems on these courts it's really windy," said Glusac, a 1988 Greenhills graduate. "Everyone was affected by it."

The breezes also bothered Craig Ross, who played in the husband and wife division with Sue Stindt.

"Anything up in the air was hard to track," said Ross, who was competing in the tourney for the first time.

"The Burdelskis killed us with lobs, while we flayed at Phil Niekro knuckle balls. They were tournament tough and we're tournament novices."



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