

THE ANN ARBOR NEWS

Smillie Still City Tennis Titlist

Seven Champions Crowned

By Steve Blatt

Seven newly-crowned champions and a large, enthusiastic gallery will long remember yesterday's final round of play of the City Adult Tennis Tournament.

The serves were deep, the volleys crisp, the groundstrokes solid and the competition intense in what was generally felt to be one of the finest overall displays ever seen in the city tournament.

The long final day was highlighted by exciting three-set matches in men's singles and

doubles in which the defending champs retained their titles, but only after playing hard for every game.

When 1966 (and now 1967) champ George Smillie took the court in the morning to play John Brummet, the state C-D high school titlist, memories of Smillie's crushing 6-0, 6-0 final round victory last year were recalled. But any notions of a repeat performance were quickly dispelled as Brummet broke Smillie's service in the first game. Smillie came back in the next game to break Brummet's

serve, and the battle was on.

Smillie was not in his best form as he began the match. He looked a bit sluggish and not as precise as he has been in the past. Brummet, however, was at the top of his game, hitting the ball on the rise and charging the net aggressively.

Brummet's aggressiveness paid off as Smillie had three set points on him with the score 5-4. The high school champ came on strong, hitting his service deep and looping in his fine two-handed backhands to take the game.

With the score knotted at 7-7, Brummet broke Smillie's serve for the fourth time to win the first set, 9-7.

Obviously happy with his opening set performance, Brummet appeared to let up, and the champ jumped to a quick, 3-0 game lead. Although Brummet fought back to trail 3-4, Smillie had the momentum and the placements to take the second set, 6-3.

With the score at 3-3 in the final set, Smillie's poise and ability became very much apparent. He broke Brummet's service, then took his own in the next game with some fine shots down the sidelines and suddenly had a 5-3 lead.

Brummet had fought hard all morning, and he came back to take his serve and narrow the gap to one game, just as he had in the first set. But this time, Smillie took no chances, and blasted across the final shots about two hours after he had hit the first, to take the match 7-9, 6-3, 6-4.

After a brief rest, Smillie and Brummet were at it again, but this time on the same side playing against the defending doubles team of Frank Whitehouse and William Brown.

The first set clearly belonged to the Whitehouse-Brown team, as Brummet and Smillie seemed to be recovering their strength from their singles marathon. There were several fine points, but too many mistakes by Brummet and his partner cost them the set, 6-3.

A more relaxed and refreshed pair of challengers faced Whitehouse and Brown in the second set, and evened the match at a set apiece with a 7-5 victory, marked by some sharp volleying and incredible "gets" by both teams.

No fewer than five times in the last set it appeared that one or the other team had the match. Brummet and Smillie took the first two games, but Whitehouse and Brown came back with the next three. Then Brummet and Smillie won again. With the pressure on, Frank Whitehouse demonstrated some of the net play which has made him a perennial power in city tournaments. On several occasions he anticipated a shot by Smillie or Brummet and raced cross-court to put the point away at net.

With the score tied at 6-6, Whitehouse and Brown decided that the time had come. They took the next two games, the set and the match, 6-3, 5-7, 8-6.

The women's singles final between Karen Knowles and Connie Carpenter also featured some fine points and headsup play, but Miss Knowles was never in any real difficulty, taking the title by scores of 6-1, 6-2. The blond swinger hit her groundstrokes hard and deep and kept Mrs. Carpenter busy in the backcourt.



How It's Done

George Smillie demonstrates he knows all the angles on winning volleys as he returns a backhand shot to John Brummet in yesterday's match to decide the city tennis champion. Smillie's victory came in three tense sets, 7-9, 6-3, 6-4.



KAREN KNOWLES



CARMEN LANE



GEORGE SMILLIE



FRANK WHITEHOUSE



DICK NIXON



WILLIAM BROWN

City Champions

Ann Arbor's 1967 City Tennis Tournament was one of the best ever in skill and intensity and these six netters were titlists after the eight-day competition. Karen Knowles won in women's singles and teamed with Dick Nixon for the mixed doubles crown. Carmen Lane and Louise Stanley (not shown) are the winners in women's doubles. George Smillie is the men's singles champ and Frank Whitehouse and William Brown teamed for the championship in men's doubles.

New women's doubles champs Louise Stanley and Carmen Lane made a minimum of errors in their match with Ada Herbert and Emily Kennedy, winning 6-4, 6-1. After a hard-fought first set, which Mrs. Stanley and Mrs. Lane came from behind to win, Mrs. Herbert and Mrs. Kennedy started making mistakes, particularly at the net.

The Stanley-Lane team seemed to sense they had the opposition on the run, and they began to pour it on with deep lobs and sharp angle volleys. Mrs. Herbert and Mrs. Kennedy salvaged a game at 5-6, but then Mrs. Lane took her service and the title.

In the mixed doubles championship, Dick Nixon and singles champ Karen Knowles also came from behind in the first set to win 6-4, 6-1 over Frank Whitehouse and Louise Stanley. The net play of Whitehouse and Nixon and the backcourt shots of Miss Knowles and Mrs. Stanley made the match enjoyable for the loyal fans who had stayed at the courts for nearly seven hours.

Here are the results of Saturday's semi-final and Sunday's final round matches:

SEMI-FINALS

Men's Singles
George Smillie def. David Kern, 6-4, 7-5;
John Brummet def. William Brown, 6-3, 5-7.

Men's Doubles

George Smillie-John Brummet def. Gary Lane-Louise Stanley, 6-3, 6-1; Frank Whitehouse-William Brown def. Jim Martin Sr.-Joe Martin Jr., 6-3, 6-1.

Women's Singles

Karen Knowles def. Lynn Groves, 6-4, 6-4; Connie Carpenter def. Ann Moore, 6-4, 6-4.

Women's Doubles

Louise Stanley-Carmen Lane def. Connie Carpenter-Julie Owens, 6-3, 7-6; Ada Herbert-Emily Kennedy def. Kathy Schurz-Gary Brown, 6-3, 6-3.

Mixed Doubles

Dick Nixon-Karen Knowles def. Gary Lane-Carmen Lane, 6-2, 6-4; Frank Whitehouse-Louise Stanley def. Jerome Johnson-Lynn Groves, 6-3, 6-1.

Finals

Men's Singles
George Smillie def. John Brummet, 7-9, 6-3, 6-4.

Men's Doubles

Frank Whitehouse-William Brown def. George Smillie-John Brummet, 6-3, 3-7, 6-4.

Women's Singles

Karen Knowles def. Connie Carpenter, 6-1, 6-2.

Women's Doubles

Louise Stanley-Carmen Lane def. Ada Herbert-Emily Kennedy, 6-4, 6-1.

Mixed Doubles

Dick Nixon-Karen Knowles def. Frank Whitehouse-Louise Stanley, 6-4, 6-1.