

WELDON OPEN TENNIS TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Monday, 01 July 2013 10:20

Former NCAA national singles runner-up Austen Childs edged top-seeded Beck Pennington 7-5, 6-4 to capture the singles championship Sunday in the W.A. Weldon Open Tennis Tournament at Gorin Park.

For Childs, the tourney's number-two seed, the victory avenged a three-set loss to Pennington in the semifinals of last year's Weldon tournament. Pennington, a former Greenwood standout and Kentucky high school state champion, is a sophomore-to-be at the University of Kentucky.

"Both players played at the top of their game," tournament director Terry Bunnell said. "Austen Childs was able to move it up several notches to pull out the victory."

Childs did not drop a set en route to the singles championship.

In doubles, Childs and his former University of Louisville teammate Viktor Maksimcuk captured their third consecutive Weldon title, defeating Pennington and Chad True 6-4, 6-2 in the final of the Jim Moody Doubles Classic.

"(Childs and Maksimcuk) have played together for a number of years, and it shows," Bunnell said. "They communicate well, and they just complement each other's game."

Overall, there were 14 entries in the Weldon singles draw and seven teams in doubles.

"We had our largest number of players in a number of years," Bunnell said. "The talent continues to be outstanding. We were fortunate to have that quality of players come and be in our community."

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Gustavo Echeverria was presented with the Jack T. Goodman Sportsmanship Award.