

Linn-Mar boys capture 2A state tennis title

Written by Metro Sports Report

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ANKENY - There was no doubt this time. No real suspense, either.

The Linn-Mar Lions ended Iowa City West's three-year reign as the Class 2A boys state tennis champion with a convincing 5-2 victory over the Lions in Ankeny on Tuesday in the state finals.

When the Lions beat Iowa City West during the regular season, the final score was 5-4 and it came down to some close calls in the doubles matches.

That victory by Linn-Mar snapped Iowa City West's 68-match winning streak in dual meets.

This time, Linn-Mar grabbed a 4-2 lead in singles competition and clinched the state title with a 6-1, 6-3 victory by the No. 3 doubles team of Ben Myers and Shane Skvor.

Myers, Skvor, Kyle Brendes and Lucas Huffman won their singles matches for the Lions against Iowa City West in the No. 3, No. 4, No. 5 and No. 6 spots. That set the stage for Myers and Skvor to clinch the meet in doubles with their straight-set victory.

Teammates Jiung Jung and David DiLeo of Iowa City West, who faced each other for the state singles title Saturday, won their singles matches Tuesday against Linn-Mar. Jung rallied to defeat Tim Paulson, 2-6, 6-3, 6-2, at No. 1 singles and DiLeo topped Trevor McCann, 6-2, 6-1, in the No. 2 spot.

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The rest of the meet belonged to Linn-Mar, making them the 2015 champions.

Linn-Mar defeated Fort Dodge, 5-2, in the semifinals Tuesday. Paulson, Skvor, Brendes and Huffman won their singles matches against the Dodgers.

Meyers and Skvor clinched the victory with a 6-0, 6-2 verdict at No. 3 doubles.

The matches at No. 1 doubles and No. 2 doubles were not finished in either meet. Once Linn-Mar scored five points, both meets were over.

The top-ranked Lions finished the season with a 19-0 record and won their first state title since 1988.

STATE FINALS

Linn-Mar 5, Iowa City West 2

Singles

1. Jiung Jung (ICW) def. Tim Paulson, 2-6, 6-3, 6-2
2. David DiLeo (ICW) def. Trevor McCann, 6-2, 6-1
3. Ben Myers (LM) def. Cole Schneider, 6-2, 6-3

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4. Shane Skvor (LM) def. Brad DiLeo, 6-3, 6-0

5. Kyle Brendes (LM) def. Ryan Smith, 6-2, 6-2

6. Lucas Huffman (LM) def. Quinn Dawson, 6-1, 6-1

Doubles

3. Myers/Skvor (LM) def. B.DiLeo/Yai Abramoff, 6-1, 6-3

STATE SEMIFINALS

Linn-Mar 5, Fort Dodge 2

Singles

1. Paulson (LM) def. Brian Murman, 4-6, 6-2, 6-1

2. Jon Bowser (FD) def. McCann, 7-5, 6-2

3. Caleb Hendrickson (FD) def. Myers, 6-0, 6-2

4. Skvor (LM) def. Rob Leigh, 6-0, 6-3

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5. Brendes (LM) def. Ben Ahlers, 6-0, 6-1

6. Huffman (LM) def. Steve Liao, 6-1, 6-0

Doubles

3. Myers/Skvor (LM) def. Ahlers/Liao, 6-0, 6-2