

By ROY ALLEN

- Seward assistant athletic director

Despite missing their No. 1 player for the weekend, the 10th ranked Seward County Lady Saints did quite well as they competed against a pair of four year colleges on Saturday. The Lady Saints first took aim at Ottawa University, downing the Braves 6-3 before falling in a tight 5-4 decision that came down to a third set tiebreak against Bethany later in the day.

Seward got off to a quick start against Ottawa as Katuska Adarmes and Leticia Monteiro teamed up to take down Madleine Belew and Danica Good 8-3 in No. 1 doubles to put the Lady Saints on the board with a 1-0 lead. Kurstie Zepeda and Kathryn Roohan followed suit for Seward at No. 2 doubles, dropping Michelle Westernman and Ellea Agnew by a matching 8-3 score to put the Lady Saints up 2-0. Seward had to give the Lady Braves a point at No. 3 doubles, but still led the match 2-1 as the teams headed to singles play.

The match was quickly tied at 2-2 as Seward was again forced to give up a point at No. 6 singles with a default and an 8-0 win for Ottawa at No. 5 singles made it 3-2 in favor of the Lady Braves. Seward got their own 8-0 win at No. 2 singles as Monteiro blanked Westernman to tie the match at 3. Zepeda wasted no time in dispatching of Konisha Peterson 8-1 in No. 3 singles to give the Lady Saints the lead back 4-3 and Roohan sealed the match for Seward with an 8-5 win over Agnew in No. 4 play to make it 5-3. In a good battle in No. 1 singles Adarmes was able to come out on top of Belew 9-7 to get the Lady Saints another point and put the finishing touches on a 6-3 Seward win.

No. 10 SEWARD COUNTY/ OTTAWA MATCH RESULTS

Next up the Lady Saints took on a red hot Bethany team that had lost just one time on the season and had won seven straight matches going into their dual with Seward. The Lady Saints didn't seem to care much about the Swedes accomplishments on paper as once again

the Seward doubles teams took care of business by the same scores as Adarmes and Monteiro won 8-2 in No. 1 doubles just to see their teammates Zepeda and Roohan do the same in No. 2 doubles to give the Lady Saints a 2-1 lead.

Bethany quickly fought back, taking a default point at No. 6 and a 6-1, 6-0 win at No. 5 to take their first lead of the match 3-2. Seward tied the match at 3 with a 6-2, 6-1 win from Roohan at No. 4 singles over Kittey Edwards and the Lady Saints took the lead back as Adarmes had no problem with Kjerstyn Hansen at No. 1 singles, earning a 6-0, 6-3 win to put Seward up 4-3.

Bethany tied things up with a 6-4, 6-1 win in No. 2 singles and setup the drama as all eyes were on the No. 3 singles battle with the match on the line. The Swedes Olivia Fabrizius won her first set over the Lady Saints Kurstie Zepeda 7-5, but Seward's scrapper fought back with a 6-0 win in the second set to force the match into a third set tiebreak. After a delay between the second and third sets, Zepeda lost her momentum and Fabrizius took advantage, going on to win the tiebreak in blowout fashion 10-2 to take the point and give Bethany the 5-4 win.

NO.10 SEWARD COUNTY/BETHANY MATCH RESULTS

The Lady Saints see their overall record move to 3-6 with the 1-1 trip. Next up for Seward is a pair of Region VI dates as they battle Hesston on Friday followed by a marquee matchup against No. 6 Johnson County on Saturday.