

Kernersville's McDaniel joins Demons at All-American Team Invitational

Kernersville's Nick McDaniel is one of eight players for a Reynolds tennis team competing in the All-American Team Tennis High School Invitational in Newport Beach, CA.

The Reynolds team left for the tournament on Wednesday and McDaniel is the No. 6 seed for the Demons. Reynolds is currently the No. 1 ranked Class 4-A team in the state. The tournament started on

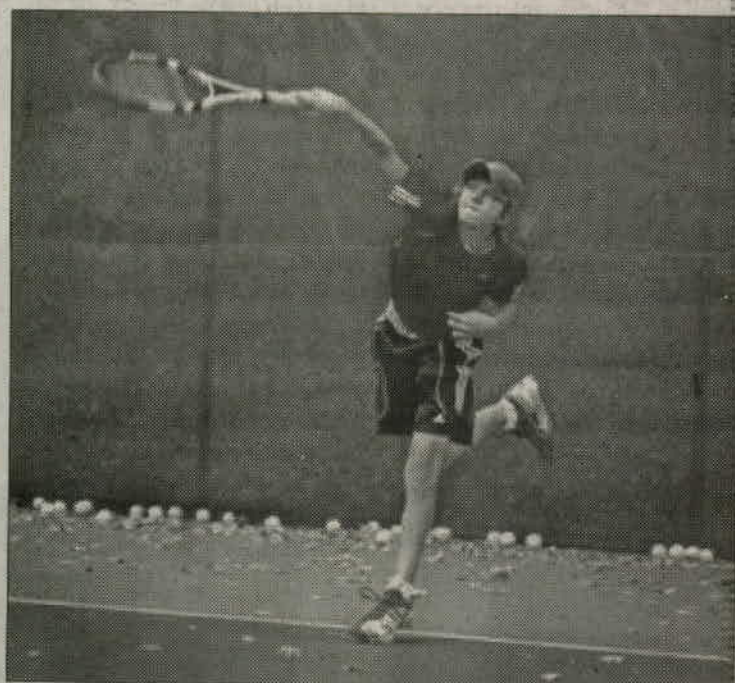
Friday and will conclude today.

"Two years ago there was a school from South Carolina in the tournament and the director asked him if there were any schools in the east that he knew were strong. We got invited last year and finished fourth. Right on the spot he asked us to come back because we were returning all of our starters," said Reynolds head coach Brad Fisher. "It is absolutely the toughest high school competition. The kids in California can play year round. It is 78 or over and sunny all the time in Newport Beach and we only have a few weeks where we can get ready to play. They have national caliber teams in the tournament and all of the teams have blue chip All-Americans. Last year we took seven players and one of our guys got injured in the first set of the first game. This year we are taking eight players to be sure."

McDaniel has excelled in his age bracket in local, regional, state and tournaments for the Southeast area of the United States. On most high school teams he would be a starter or possibly a No. 1 seed. For the top ranked Demons this season that is not the case.

But according to Fisher, McDaniel will play as a much higher seed next year and has a bright future in the sport.

"He's a No. 6 seed for us right now. Our No. 1 seed, Robbie Mudge, has signed with N.C. State and he is a blue chip All-American. Parker Chang (the No. 2 seed) signed with the University of Washington St. Louis. Dylan Segur (the No. 3 seed) signed with Liberty University. Chad Hoskins (the No. 4 seed) is a college level player and Dale Settermann (the No. 5 seed) signed to play with Salisbury University in Maryland. Nick, Jack Riazzi and Paul Yamane are going on the trip with us also. Nick is a freshman and he is playing doubles for us and he plays some singles. We are viewing Nick and Jack as our hot shots to replace the guys when they graduate, so we try to give them as much action as we can now knowing they will be big contributors in the future. Nick is very consistent, and as a player that is good. A lot of guys want to hit winners and get the point over with, but he is consistent and has great shot selection," said Fisher.



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