

Pearson Ford; Women's Midwest

Kielbowicz takes men's title; Cecil tops top seed for women's championship

Fourth-seeded Joel Kielbowicz of Scottsdale, Arizona, won the men's singles title in the final Pearson Ford Open to be held at the Indianapolis Tennis Center. Kielbowicz topped unseeded Wil Lofgren, 6-3, 6-1. He came back a half hour later to also claim the doubles championship, with Jon Tragardh, defeating Rick Witsken and Matt Schiller, 6-3, 7-5. On the women's side, in the Midwest Open final, unseeded Kara Cecil of Plant City, Florida, claimed the championship with a 6-2, 7-5 win over top-seeded Ashley Murdock. Like her male counterpart, Cecil also doubled up by winning the doubles title, with Christina Keesey, by defeating Murdock and Paulina Bigos, 7-6, 7-5. Both tournaments were part of the Midwest Open Series, which has been patterned after the highly-successful US Open Series. The Midwest has linked three existing and well-established tennis tournaments within the Midwest Section to provide Open Men and Open Women division players an opportunity to earn prize money plus earn points from each tournament with the top eight point winner for men and women advancing to the Midwest Open Series Championships event to be played in conjunction with the ATP Championships in Cincinnati, Ohio. For all of the results, check www.indytennis.iupui.edu. (6-26-10)



News report misses mark on Tennis Center

WRTV-6 News sent a new reporter to check out the final Pearson Ford Open to be played at the Indianapolis Tennis Center, and he totally missed the mark, somehow trying to relate the very low attendance for the men's final to the lack of support - or need - for the Tennis Center. IUPUI announced last spring that the entire facility, including the six indoor courts, will be closed on August 5. Even though he was told twice by the publisher of Indianapolis Tennis Magazine that the Pearson Ford traditionally doesn't draw much of a crowd, he still dwelled on it in both his online story and his video report. You can check both out here:

<http://www.theindychannel.com/sports/24062343/detail.html>

Even though IUPUI Chancellor Charles Bantz has said the closing and demolition are a "done deal", we feel there is still room for a compromise that will allow the Indianapolis tennis community to keep the indoor facility and seven remaining outdoor courts while still appealing to the university's need for additional parking and access to the new nearby Cultural Trail as well as the NCAA's supposed need for a prominent entrance to its new expanded headquarters (*which appears to be driving the indoor court closing*). We would encourage you to contact both Chancellor Bantz and new NCAA Chief Executive Mark Emmert and encourage them to reconsider the closing and demolition. We feel too much emphasis has been placed on the loss of the Indianapolis Tennis Championships, and decision makers did not accurately take into account the many other functions the Tennis Center hosts.