

Streak busters

South Bend St. Joe's knocks off Columbus North in girls' team final; first non-local champ since 2001.

Teams from the Indianapolis metro area have dominated the girls' high school state finals, winning 12 of the last 13 titles, as well as the last eight. But that streak came to a crashing halt last Saturday as South Bend St. Joseph's took the team title with a 5-0 win over Columbus North. With the semi-final and final matches moved indoors to Five Seasons Sports Club due to weather, the Indians first defeated Center Grove, 4-1, in one semi-final to set up the showdown with Columbus, which edged Terre Haute South by a 3-2 count. St. Joe's doubles teams were first off the court to give the Indians an early 2-0 edge, but all three singles courts went to third sets - and all of which were won by St. Joe's. Alaina Roberts at No. 1 singles clinched the championship with a 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 win over Caroline Hedrick. Defending champion Carmel, which came into the finals ranked second with an 18-1 record, fell to No. 10 Columbus North, 3-2, in Friday's quarterfinals.

State Finals results:

South Bend St. Joseph's def. **Zionsville**, 4-1

Center Grove def. Yorktown 4-1

Columbus North def. **Carmel**, 3-2

Terre Haute South def. Highland, 3-2

South Bend St. Joseph's def. **Center Grove**, 5-0

Columbus North def. Terre Haute South, 3-2

Final: South Bend St. Joseph's def. Columbus North, 5-0

(6-7-10)