

Senior Mead to lead LHS netters through 4A schedule

By Mike Gilmore
Tiller Sports

LARNED – Larned senior D.J. Mead leads the Larned boys’ tennis team as they make the jump back from Class 3A to Class 4A tennis in 2017.

Last year, Mead earned a berth at the state tournament hosted by Wichita Collegiate, one of a quartet of Indians to do so. As a squad, the Indian netters finished third as a team at the Meade regional, while Scott City and Hoisington battled for the regional title.

At No. 1 singles, Larned’s Mead, who this spring signed a letter of intent to play tennis at Ottawa University, compiled a record of 16-4 at No. 1 singles through a fourth-place finish at regionals.

Meanwhile, LHS freshman Dalton Penka captured sixth place at regionals for a record of 22-6 heading to the state tournament. In doubles, juniors Caden Limon and Kobe Kraisinger battled through three hard-fought regional matches to head to state at 14-13.

Rainy weather wiped out the team’s season-opening junior varsity meet on Tuesday and threatened the varsity boys’ opener Thursday in Hoisington. The Indian netters are scheduled to travel to Ellsworth for a varsity invitational next Tuesday. They are in Larned for the home opener on April 11.



Larned’s 2016 state tennis qualifiers



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