



2010 New Ulm High School Girl's Tennis Season Schedule and Results



A collection of articles and photos gathered by New Ulm Sports Central from New Ulm Journal, NUSC, other newspapers, plus team and school resources to create a composite personal sport scrapbook for participating athletes.

Challenges await Eagles

By Karla Deutschmann Journal Sports Write

NEW ULM - As the New Ulm Eagles girls start out their tennis season, the team will be facing some new challenges as well as the coach.

New coach Jenna Vogel came from Staples, where she played high school tennis and also played for St. Cloud State University. She then came to New Ulm to coach the 2010 girls team.

A big change for the Eagles this season is adjusting to a new coach and her coaching styles.

"I think having a new coach is always an adjustment period," Vogel said. "Being a player, I think I can relate to the players a lot more and what they are going through. When the school found out about my experience, they thought I would be a good person for the position. Being out of college and tennis fresh in my mind, coaching just kind of landed in my lap. As a coach, I am glad I have this challenge."

Returning tennis player, senior Hannah Stark, is competing for the No. 1 singles spot this season against junior Emily Steinman. Stark has played tennis since eighth grade and has always been practicing in the offseason to improve on her game. She also plays with her dad for something fun to do together and to keep practicing.

"I like to play a lot in the offseason because that's when you get your most improvement, especially in the summer being it's the season right before our season," Stark said. "I really want to be more encouraging to my teammates, cheering them on and playing with a more positive attitude. We need to have fun while playing."

Stark enjoys playing singles because she doesn't want to blame another teammate for making a mistake or worrying about another player picking up after her and taking a hit if it's close to both players.

"I like to have complete control over the whole game and not to rely on someone else," Stark said. "If I make a mistake it's my own fault. I like to hit the ball every time. When you play doubles, you don't know if it's going to be on your side or your partner's side."

Vogel coming in as a new coach is also adjusting to the players and the players' playing styles. She set some new goals for herself, but also goals for the team as well hoping to improve a lot from last season.

"Everything is about the team for me, working together, setting goals teamwise and individually as well, but also accomplishing them goals," she said. "I want the girls to work as a team, play their best, and have fun," Vogel said. "I have a competitive edge and I want to get as far as we can. Going into the season, we know we are the underdogs, but we are hoping to pull through it and beat some of the conference teams."

Stark isn't just the only player adjusting to a new coach and changes this year, the whole team is. The Eagles tennis team graduated five seniors from last season's varsity team including the No. 1 doubles player Leah Nelsen, and the No. 2 doubles players Anna Laitinen and her partner Whitney Mielke. Also gone are Trisha Johnson and foreign exchange student Wiebke Neuhaus.

"We lost quite a bit of seniors and a couple players to injuries, so it's a new fresh team not with just a new coach, but also with girls," Stark said.



Staff photo by Steve Muscatello
Senior Hannah Stark is a senior for the New Ulm Tennis team this fall.



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Back this year are five returning players. Stark and Steinman are competing for the top two singles spots and the rest of the singles lineup will take shape after them.

For doubles spots, returning are Erin Rubie, Kelsey Preisinger and Kara Hendrickson. The doubles and singles spots have not yet been set and there will be many changes throughout the season for doubles along with the No. 3 and No. 4 spots for the singles.

"We have the potential," Vogel said. "We have a lot of young players full of energy and have talent, hopefully the seniors step up for leadership and help guide the other girls throughout the season. There is just a lot going on with trying to decide who I want in the top spots."

Vogel is doing competing matches with the players for the top spots, but she is not sure who she wants out there yet.

River Valley opens with win

POSTED August 25, 2010 New Ulm Journal

By Jeremy Behnke Journal Sports Editor

NEW ULM - After being paired together in last year's section tennis tournament during the playoffs, River Valley's Bridget Mathiowetz and Shelley Roiger spent most of the summer practicing together and thinking they'd be paired together this year for the Wildcats.

On Tuesday, the senior duo played at No.1 doubles for the Wildcats, and their experience playing together showed in a 7-5, 6-3 win over Kara Hendrickson and Erin Rubie.

That helped the Wildcats open the season with a 5-2 win over the Eagles.

Mathiowetz said the extra practice over the summer seemed to pay off.

"We practice three times a week during the summer," she said. "We would play doubles and singles against each other."

The two got off to a strong start, jumping out to an early 3-1 advantage. But the New Ulm duo came back before Mathiowetz and Roiger won the first set 7-5.

They played much stronger in the second set and cruised to the 6-3 win.

"We try to have a big serve and return it as much as possible so we can put the pressure on the opponent," Mathiowetz said.

In what was probably the match of the day, River Valley's Stef Havemeier defeated Emily Steinman 6-4, 1-6, 7-6 (9-7). Steinman was up 4-1 in the first set and it appeared she was going to win, but Havemeier stormed back to take the set and the early advantage.

Steinman evened things up before Havemeier closed the door finally in the third set.

At second singles, Hannah Stark of New Ulm claimed a 7-5, 6-2 victory over Melissa Tauer. River Valley's Amanda Goblirsch picked up a 6-1, 6-1 win at No. 3 singles and New Ulm's Rachel Strandmark won 6-3, 2-6, 6-3 at No. 4 singles.

At No. 2 doubles, Becky Roiger and Kallie Smith of River Valley won 6-3, 6-3 over New Ulm's Laura Albrecht and Jessica Albrecht. River Valley completed the doubles sweep at No. 3 with a 6-2, 6-2 win by Erica Crooker and Larissa Krebs, who defeated Hannah Mangan and Hannah Jakel.



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River Valley 5, New Ulm 2 Singles

- #1: Stefanie Havemeier (12), River Valley, def. Emily Steinman (11), New Ulm, 6-4, 1-6, 7-6 (9-7).
- #2: Hannah Stark (12), New Ulm, def. Melissa Tauer (12), River Valley, 7-5, 6-2.
- #3: Amanda Goblirsch (11), River Valley, def. Kelsey Preisinger (11), New Ulm, 6-1, 6-1.
- #4: Rachel Strandmark (9), New Ulm, def. Brenna Davidson (12), River Valley, 6-3, 2-6, 6-3.

Doubles

- #1: Bridget Mathiowetz (12) & Shelley Roiger (12), River Valley, def. Kara Hendrickson (12) & Erin Rubie (11), 7-5, 6-3.
- #2: Becky Roiger (10) & Kallie Smith (10), River Valley, def. Laura Albrecht (10) & Jessica Albrecht (12), 6-3, 6-3.
- #3: Erica Crooker (11) & Larissa Krebs (11), River Valley, def. Hannah Mangen (9) & Hannah Jakel (10)



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Redwood Valley downs Eagles

POSTED August 27, 2010

By Karla Deutschmann — Journal Sports Writer

NEW ULM - Emily Steinman wasn't going to let this one slip away.

In Tuesday's match-up against River Valley's Stef Havemeier, Steinman had a 4-1 lead in the first set but eventually lost the match.

On Thursday, against Redwood Valley, Steinman built a big lead and kept it as she beat Katie Ellingworth 6-2, 6-2.

Unfortunately, Steinman was one of the few bright spots on the day for the Eagles as Redwood Valley won the nonconference match 5-2.

Staff photo by Steve Muscatello
New Ulm's Emily Steinman returns a volley during her No. 2 singles match against Redwood Valley Thursday in New Ulm. For more photos of this event, go to cu.nujournal.com

won 7-6 (8-6), 6-3.

"After Tuesday's game, I knew I had to prepare myself physically and mentally," Steinman said. "I felt pretty good about my game, and my strokes are a lot better than Tuesday's match. I hope I can keep going from here now and keep my head in the game."

At No. 3 Singles, New Ulm's Hannah Jakel took Abby Schmidt to a tie-breaker. Schmidt held a 3-1 advantage when Jakel fought back to tie it up but couldn't hang on as Schmidt

At No. 1 singles, New Ulm's Hannah Stark went into a tie-breaker but couldn't pull it out as she was defeated by Katheen Perry 7-6 (7-5), 6-1.

The Eagles' other win came at No. 4 singles as Rachel Strandmark beat Sophie Humbort 7-6 (7-4), 6-2.

At No. 1 doubles Kara Hendrickson and Kelsey Preisinger were defeated by Redwood Valley's Morgan Tholkes and Tiffany Raddatz 6-0, 6-0.

Redwood Valley's Julie Anderson and Callie Hanson took a win over New Ulm's Laura Albrecht and Erin Rubie at No. 2 doubles winning 6-1, 6-3.

The Cardinals finished the sweep in doubles play with a victory at No. 3 doubles as Brandi Amberg and Madison Tholkes beat Marissa Johnson and Jessica Albrecht 6-0, 6-0.

Redwood Valley 5, New Ulm 2

Thursday, August 27, 2010

Singles

1: Kathleen Perry (12), RV, def. Hannah Stark (12), NU, 7-6 (7-5), 6-1. 2: Emily Steinman (11), NU, def. Katie Ellingworth (11), RV, 6-2, 6-2. 3: Abby Schmidt (10), RV, def. Hannah Jakel (10), NU, 7-6(8-6), 6-3.
4: Rachel Strandmark (9), NU, def. Sophie Humbort (11), RV, 7-6 (7-4), 6-2.

Doubles

1: Morgan Tholkes (12) & Tiffany Raddatz (12), RV, def. Kara Hendrickson (12) & Kelsey Preisinger (11), NU, 6-0, 6-0. 2: Julie Anderson (11) & Callie Hanson (10), RV, def. Laura Albrecht (10) & Erin Rubie (11), NU, 6-1, 6-3. 3: Brandi Amberg (12) & Madison Tholkes (10), RV, def. Jessica Albrecht (12) & Marissa Johnson (10), NU, 6-0, 6-0.



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New Ulm splits triangular

POSTED August 31, 2010 New Ulm Journal

By Michael Gasset — Journal Sports Writer

NEW ULM - Playing singles is new to Hannah Jakel.

The New Ulm sophomore played doubles last year and played No. 3 doubles in the first match of the season. She just recently moved to singles play and has had to get used to playing tennis on her own.

She is starting to get the hang of it. In her third match of the young season, Jakel picked up her first win as she beat Lucy Villagomez of Albert Lea in the second match of a triangular 6-0, 6-3.

"I've never really played singles before," she said. "It's really fun. It's hard, it's different than doubles but it's really fun."

New Ulm lost the first match to Marshall 5-2 but the Eagles picked up their first win on the season as they beat Albert Lea 5-2 in the nightcap.

Jakel lost her first match of the day 4-6, 6-2, 10-8 to Marshall's Maddie Schoepfoerster at No. 3 singles. She was glad to be able to rebound in the second match, where she played fourth singles.

"It was really cool especially after the first match today, I didn't play so well," she said. "This second match, I felt a lot better and I played a lot better."

Between matches she said she drank plenty of cool water and relaxed in the shade. That helped her in the second match.

"I was just focused," Jakel said. "I just had to focus and concentrate on every shot."

It was hot Monday with temperatures reaching into the 90s. And if contending with the heat wasn't enough, there was a strong wind at times too.

"It was really hot today," Jakel said. "The wind was kind of off and on but it was kind of hard to deal with."

Emily Steinman earned two wins on the day. She beat Jenna Gannott of Marshall 6-4, 5-7, (10-5) playing No. 2 singles. She then beat Albert Lea's Michelle Hartmann 6-3, 6-3 at No. 1 singles.

Rachel Strandmark had two wins also. She defeated Jessica Tubbs of Marshall 6-0, 6-3 and Albert Lea's Chelsea Petersen 6-3, 2-6, (11-9).

Marshall 5, New Ulm 2

Singles: #1: Brooke Lauwagie(10), Marshall, def. Hannah Stark (12), NU, 6-2, 6-3.
#2: Emily Steinman (11), NU, def. Jenna Gannott (9), Marshall, 6-4, 5-7, (10-5). #3: Maddie Schoepfoerster (10), Marshall, def. Hannah Jakel (10), NU, 4-6, 6-2, (10-8). #4: Rachel Strandmark (9), NU, def. Jessica Tubbs (11), 6-0, 6-3.

Doubles: #1: Maggie Roy (10) & Lizzy Hansen (12), Marshall, def. Kara Hendrickson (12) & Kelsey Preisinger (11), NU, 6-0, 7-5. #2: Tavia Buysse (12) & Julie Grover (12), Marshall, def. Laura Albrecht (10) & Erin Rubie (11), NU, 6-1, 6-4. #3: Hannah Meyer (10) & Brittany Soupir (9), Marshall, def. Jessica Albrecht (12) & Marissa Johnson (10), NU, 6-1, 6-3.



Staff photo by Steve Muscatello
New Ulm's Kara Hendrickson returns a volley during number one doubles action against Albert Lea Monday. For more photos of this event, go to cu.nujournal.com



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New Ulm 5, Albert Lea 2

Singles: #1: Emily Steinman (11), NU, def. Michelle Hartmann (11), AL, 6-3, 6-3. **#2:** Hannah Stark (12), NU, def. Ashley Gilbertson (12), AL, 6-1, 6-0. **#3:** Rachel Strandmark (9), NU, def. Chelsea Petersen (11), AL, 6-3, 2-6, (11-9). **#4:** Hannah Jakel (10), NU, def. Lucy Villagomez (12), AL, 6-0, 6-3.

Doubles: #1: Kara Hendrickson (12) & Kelsey Preisinger (11), NU, def. Alissa Allison (12) & Megan Gilbertson (10), AL, 7-6 (7-2), 6-4. **#2:** Ashley Petersen (12) & Kayla Swee (12), AL, def. Laura Albrecht (10) & Erin Rubie (11), NU, 6-2, 6-3. **#3:** Karlee Anderson (11) & Kelsey Lenhart (11), AL, def. Marissa Johnson (10) & Jessica Albrecht (12), NU, 6-4, 6-2.