

13

seniors in 2013

MEMORIES IN MIND

"I missed varsity tennis last year, and it has been truly one of my favorite parts of high school. I really gotten to know and love everyone on the team. Coach Eber and Coach Conle included."



byrn rathgeber, 12

HARD WORK

"When training Westlake, we do things I never thought I could do. It's the heart, persistence and teamwork that defined the varsity tennis team. The people on this team are some of the greatest people I've ever met, and it has been an honor to play with them."



megan hahn, 12

ON THE COURT

"Being a senior is memorable. We all got to play with each other, and it's a great experience to get to know one another, and everybody supports each other. It's pretty cool."



sam boll, 12

LIFE LESSONS

"Being a leader on this team this year has been a great experience for me. I plan to use what I've learned in college tennis next year."



allie carlisle, 12

FORGING A FAMILY

"I was only on the team for two years, but I think those two years were the best of my tennis career because we spent so much time together. They became like my second family."



abby bowling, 12

on the offensive
With his sights on a victory over Lake Travis, sophomore Charles Tan hits a forehand on Oct. 11. "It was vengeance for when we lost to them earlier in the season," Tan said.

share a smile
Senior Allie Carlisle and freshman Hannah Sutton grin over their success on Oct. 16. "My favorite thing about tennis is how relaxing, yet exciting, it is," Sutton said.



great expectations

The varsity tennis team loses the opportunity to go to state by one match

This year was going to be a game changer. With 13 seniors, each determined to make their last year the most fulfilling, it was destined to be a success.

The fall season began on a high note with 14 wins. Following a mid-season loss to rival Lake Travis, the team bounced back with several wins and managed to get its revenge by beating Lake Travis 10-8 in the District Finals. The Chaps entered the Regional Tournament in Tyler with a stellar 19-1 record.

"Going into Regionals, we were favored to win," senior Raina Kishan said. "We were confident that our hard work was finally going to pay off."

On the morning of Oct. 27, the team beat Westwood and began preparing to play against Plano West in the Regional Finals.

"Before the finals, my nerves were out of control," senior Clayton Nicss said. "But I had a lot of confidence in my team."

The Chaps started off strong against the Wolves. At 9-4 in the finals, the team was leading by six matches when things started to go wrong. They lost the next six matches and ended up losing to Plano West by one match.

"We would never again have a team as good as this one and to lose 10-9... it broke my heart," sophomore Fernanda Contreras said. "I think I may have cried all the way back to Austin."

Though it was a devastating end, the Chaps finished the season with an impressive 22-2 record.

"Our fall season was successful because of the camaraderie and leadership from our 13 seniors," senior Ian Kocher said. "I'll never forget this team."



CROSS COURT

1 Free glad to hit the ball, senior Clayton Nicss runs to return a shot from his Bowie opponent on Oct. 16. "Playing for this team is one of the best experiences I've had," Nicss said.

2 Ready to play, senior Mandala Hipson begins to serve against an opponent on Oct. 16. This was the semifinal match for the District Championship.

3 With extreme concentration, senior Raina Kishan plays in the second match of the season against Cedar Park on Aug. 30. "This year our girls were exceptionally talented," Kishan said. "We won 19-0 against Cedar Park."



winner's stance

1 Senior Ian Kocher battles against his Bowie opponent on Oct. 16. "It was an important match," Kocher said, "because without our Bowie win, we would've never been able to play Lake Travis for the district title."

2 Slcing his racket through the air, junior Elliot Labovitz serves on Sept. 7 during the team's first match against Bowie.

3 Double-teaming, sophomores Andrew Laycock and Anahit Kndakonda play on Feb. 15 against Round Rock.



some more

Together forever
players bond over 10 years of tennis with each other

"We've cant describe how wonderful it has been playing with these three for so long. We've become our big family, and I love them all to death."
Casey Simmons, 12

"I've known them since I was like 3 feet tall, and they're my best friends. It was really nice to join the team with them."
Clayton Nicss, 10

"They were my best friends even when I had glasses and a bowl cut. They've kept me motivated for 10 years, and they mean more than anything to me."
Mandala Hipson, 12

"Playing with them has been a blast. Having those three as best friends has been great."
Clayton Nicss, 12