

# Tennis team battles inexperience, weather

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After losing last year to the pandemic, it's been a bit of a struggle for the Cloquet-Esko-Carlton boys tennis team early in the season. The Lumberjacks are 0-5 in matches so far and lost a pair of matches last week to Hermantown and Grand Rapids.

"We are an inexperienced team," said CEC coach Derek Johnson. "We have a lot of new guys on the roster after not having a season due to Covid last year."

The boys team has just two returners — Adam Blesener and Ethan Doty — from two years ago who have varsity experience.

Against Hermantown, the 'Jacks fell 6-1 with their lone win coming at No. 4 singles when Ethan Lavan of CEC defeated Ben Kangas 6-3, 6-1.

At No. 1 singles, the Hawks' Ethan Hallgren won 3-6, 7-6, 11-9 over Logan Beck of CEC. At No. 2 singles, Her-

mantown's Chase Sams downed Blesener 6-3, 6-3. Henry Hynes of Hermantown took No. 3 singles by beating CEC's Ethan Doty 6-0, 6-3.

The Hawks swept CEC in doubles competition. It all started at No. 1 doubles with Zam Plante and Aaron Evjen downing the CEC duo of Jonah Bryan-Nikko and Ty Wolter 6-2, 6-1. At No. 2 doubles the Hermantown duo of Sam Swenson and Max Plante defeated CEC's Tyler Leppi and TJ Sabyan in a shutout 6-0, 6-0. The Hawks No. 3 doubles team of George Peterson and Ely Young defeated Max Sundquist and Joey Bender 6-1, 7-5.

Earlier in the week the Lumberjacks fell 6-1 to the Grand Rapids Thunderhawks. CEC's lone win again came at No. 4 singles when Ethan Doty defeated Joe Suther of Grand Rapids 6-2, 6-4.

At No. 1 singles, Wyatt Simonson of Grand Rapids beat CEC's Logan Beck 6-0, 6-1. Grand Rapids senior Alex Frimanslund took No. 2 singles

by beating CEC's Ethan Lavan 6-4, 3-6, 10-7. At No. 3 singles, CEC's Adam Blesener fell 3-6, 6-3, 6-3 to Blake Henrickson of Grand Rapids.

In doubles play the CEC No. 1 team of Tyler Leppi and Jonah Bryan-Nikko were beaten 6-0, 6-2 by Luc Dulong and Blayne Mortenson. At No. 2 doubles, the 'Jacks team of Max Sundquist and Joey Bender were beat by Zachary Lagergren and Caiden MacLean 6-1, 6-2. At No. 3 doubles, the CEC team of Sam Bailey and Marco Zegan were beaten by Jens Kahdahl and Dylan Henrichsen 6-2, 6-2.

"Our young guys, such as seventh-graders Ethan Lavan and Joey Bender, and eighth-graders Max Sundquist and Marco Zegan, have been a nice spark to our team," said Johnson. "They have been very coachable and very excited to learn the game. Each match we are taking the positives from them and learning from the mistakes we make on court."



Cloquet tennis seventh-grader Ethan Lavan hits a backhand shot during his match in Thursday's meet with Hermantown. Lavan had the sole win against Hermantown at No. 4 singles when he defeated Ben Kangas 6-3, 6-1. Photo by Dave Harwig / Pine Knot News

# Border Battle teams announced

Although the traditional Border Battle All Star basketball game was canceled this year due to Covid issues, organizers still selected 10 senior basketball players from area schools to represent Minnesota for the 2021 DAYBA Border Battle roster.

Carlton County basketball would have been well represented had the 13th annual Border Battle All-Star basketball game been played between the Minnesota and Wisconsin All-Stars.

The list for the boys team included Cloquet's Adam Schneider, Esko's Riley Fischer and two seniors from Moose Lake, Brady Watrin and Mason Olson.

Esko's Breanna Stark was the only Carlton County girls player named to the Minnesota girls list.

The annual Border Battle is sponsored by Duluth Amateur Basketball Association.

## ALL-CONFERENCE SELECTIONS

### LUMBERJACKS HOCKEY:

**Girls**  
Second team:  
Dana Jones  
Tenley Stewart

**Boys**  
Second team:  
Logan Dushkin  
Cade Anderson  
Zach Tyman

### CLOQUET BASKETBALL:

**Girls**  
First Team:  
Maddie Young  
Second Team:  
Alexa Snesrud

**Boys**  
First Team:  
Adam Schneider  
Second Team:  
Conner Barney  
Alec Turnbull

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Fri. April 30	Noon	Baseball	MLWR vs Virginia @ Superior..	WMOZ 106.9 FM
Mon. May 3	4:30 PM	Softball	Cloquet vs Virginia .....	WKLK 96.5 FM
Mon. May 3	4:30 PM	Softball	MLWR vs Eveleth-Gilbert.....	WMOZ 106.9 FM
Tues. May 4	4:00 PM	Baseball	MLWR vs Two Harbors.....	WMOZ 106.9 FM
Thurs. May 6	4:30 PM	Softball	Cloquet vs Proctor.....	WKLK 96.5 FM
Fri. May 7	4:30 PM	Softball	MLWR vs Virginia.....	WMOZ 106.9 FM

**All games are livestreamed at NorthwoodsRadio.com**



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**April 30 7:10 pm vs Kansas City**

**May 1 1:10 pm vs Kansas City**

**May 2 12:00 pm Inside Twins**

**May 2 1:10 pm vs Kansas City**

**May 3, 4 & 5 6:40 pm vs Texas Rangers**

**May 6 12:10 pm vs Texas Rangers**

**May 7 6:10 pm @ Detroit Tigers**

**THE PRE-GAME SHOW starts 40 minutes prior to the first pitch.**