

Schlonsky repays favor with victory

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■ As payment for help in physics, Allison Schlonsky teams up with Beau Toy to win Open Division title at Mixed Doubles Tennis Tournament.

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NEWS SPECIAL WRITER

Allison Schlonsky owed Beau Toy a favor for tutoring her through physics at the University of Michigan.

So Toy, an oncology resident at the U-M hospital and former physics teacher, asked Schlonsky to be his partner in the Ann Arbor Mixed Doubles Tennis Tournament.

Although the two had never hit together until a week before the tourney, they were given the top seed of 12 entries. The duo didn't disappoint the seeding committee, defeating third-seeded Martin Topliss and Jodi Brewer, 6-4, 6-3 to win the Open division Sunday at Burns Park.

The two weren't perfect — such as when Toy called Schlonsky off of a sure overhead kill that was clearly on her side — but their styles complemented each other well.

At 6-foot-4½, Toy is an intimidating player at the net with a lightning quick serve. Schlonsky, a left-hander who will be a junior this fall on the U-M tennis team, is quick on her feet with a strong two-handed backhand.

"Traditionally, I don't play with a woman as strong as Allison," said Toy, a No. 1 singles and doubles player at the University of California at Davis in 1983. "Our serves weren't effective, but we just rolled in service returns."

"They just overpowered us," Topliss said.

In the semifinals, Toy and Schlonsky defeated fourth-seeded Mark Bisard and Kristina Hentschel, 6-2, 6-0, and Topliss and Brewer defeated second-seeded Eric Pinaud and Kristina Glusac, 5-7, 6-3, 6-2.

HUSBAND AND WIFE DOUBLES: Jim and Paula Burdelski captured their second title in 17 years of competition in the Husband and Wife division of the mixed doubles event.

The Burdelskis, second seeds, defeated Ross and Peggy Moran, 6-2, 6-4, winning for the first time since 1988.

"It was a good road to the finals," said Ross, who along with Peggy advanced to the final for the first time in eight years. "I was disappointed right after the match, but now I realize we did well.

"You have to beat them. They're not going to give you points. You have to put the ball away."

Jim praised Peggy's backhand service return, which caused him to alter his serve.

"That's the best I've seen," Jim said. "It forced me to serve down the middle and that's hard for a lefty. As a result, I was broken a couple times. It was more intimidating for me to serve against Peggy than it was Ross."

DEADLINE REMINDER: Ann Arbor school district residents interested in playing in the Ann Arbor Closed singles and doubles tournament are reminded that the deadline for entry is July 6 at 4:30 p.m. For information, call 994-2300, ext. 334.



NEWS PHOTO • JEFF HOLT

Beau Toy (above) and Allison Schlonsky teamed up to beat Martin Topliss and Jodi Brewer, 6-4, 6-3, to win the Open Division.