

Tennis

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play in the final set led to a 6-1, 5-7, 6-2 victory, punching Marion's ticket to the sectional final in the process.

"He got back to hitting confident shots and confident approach shots. That is the Alex I know that can play," Porter said. "He put more pressure on Jackson in the third set and took the match to Jackson instead of Jackson taking it to Alex. I think that was the difference in the third set. He had a different mindset, and I'm really proud of him for that."

While the Argylls' season came to an end on Wednesday, Pitt had nothing but great things to say about his kids.

"We could have easily fallen apart and gone to the wayside when we had some close first sets, but to see the energy and the love for each other...it was great to see," Pitt said.

Their dedication to the game of tennis led the boys' program to new heights this season, and the play of his seniors, particularly Evans, Gilman, and Manwell was a big reason why.

"I remember when we started our middle school program years ago, our No. 1 and 2 singles players were Nick Evans and Jackson Manwell," Pitt said. "To see the evolvement of not just those two but the others from this class...words can't express."

In the other semifinal, Mississinewa recorded their 15th win of the season, easily dispatching of the Blackford Bruins to set up a rematch with Marion in the championship match. The Indians lost a total of two games, as John Oliver, Hayden Rowley, and the team of Ryan Scott and Riley Fuqua each swept the competition at No. 1 singles, No. 3 singles, and No. 1 doubles, respectively.

"We took care of business tonight," Mississinewa Head Coach Bruce Fleming said. "I

think the kids were focused a little more on tomorrow, you could see that. But it was nice to play a match before we play one of these two teams."

The first time that Marion and Mississinewa played this year, the Giants earned a 3-2 victory, but whenever these two teams get together, it is always a war, and Friday night will not be any different.

"I am glad we were battle tested tonight going into that match tomorrow," Porter said. "We are in battle mode right now. They'll be ready to go."

"I know whoever wins this sectional is going to earn it," Fleming added. "We are going to have to face a good team. We just have to make sure we are physically ready. These kids are excited about the opportunity. We feel that if we play well [Friday,] we can compete for the championship. We have faith in our abilities that we can do it."

Local sports schedule

Times and dates subject to change

Wednesday, Oct. 7
3 pm—WV—Indiana Wesleyan University @ Bethel University
5 pm—BS—Delta @ Eastbrook/Yorktown (Sectional 24 Semifinal - TBD)
5 pm—BT—Regional Championships (TBD)
5:30 pm—BS—Sectional 5 Semifinal (TBD)
7 pm—BS—Sectional 21 Semifinal (TBD)
7 pm—WV—Taylor University @ Grace College



Thursday, Oct. 8
5 pm—GS—Marion @ Bellmont (Sectional 23 Semifinal—Norwell)
5 pm—GS—Sectional 21 Semifinal (TBD)
7 pm—GS—Blackford @ Eastbrook (Sectional 39 Semifinal - Blackford)
7 pm—MS—Indiana Wesleyan University @ Spring Arbor University
7:30 pm—GV—Eastbrook @ Marion
7:30 pm—GV—Elwood @ Madison-Grant
7:30 pm—GV—Frankton @ Mississinewa
7:30 pm—GV—Blackford @ Oak Hill

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coming the No. 1 goalkeeper, Anthony has been a major part of the Panthers' success this year, elevating Eastbrook to one of the top teams in Grant County all season.

"He's done well for us," Hallis said of Anthony. "I am glad that we were able to get him to play those minutes this year."

The Panthers finished the season with a 13-2-1 record, and they will

begin sectional play against Yorktown on Monday at 6:00 pm.

"We have to keep our heads up, that's the big thing," Hallis said. "We have to go and get rest, and just be ready for Monday. To look at this season and what it's been, and to have this record, I think it's a big thing for these guys. We just have to keep our head up and go."

302 East Fourth St. • Marion, IN 46952

 **Suzy Shaffer**
TIRE & AUTO CARE
Marion
Owner

-Contact Suzy, Brian, or Cecil-
765-664-6460
mariontire@bestoneofmarion.com

Salt can do many things

Matthew 5:13

When Jesus began His earthly ministry, the message He presented to the people was in vast contrast to the Jewish Law. His message was one of grace, which was much easier to

follow. It was attainable. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus preached the greatest sermon of all time. The sermon was the "Sermon on the Mount," found in chapters 5-7 of Matthew. He began the sermon with a list of Beatitudes which are a pattern for committed Christian living. He was trying to help His followers form their own identity in Christ.

He told them, "Ye are the salt of the earth, but if the salt have lost its savor, with what shall it be salted? It is thereafter good for nothing, but to cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men" (Matthew 5:13). What was He telling them? The message was simple, He wanted them to know that they were the 'salt of the earth,' but what did that mean to them? It is obvious that we all can identify with salt because of its many diverse uses. He was directing His teaching to the elect of God, the believers.

As a believer in Christ, we must understand we have been placed here for more than our own sake. We have been chosen by Him (John 15:16) so we might display the beauty of Divine living. There are many things that salt is used for, such as purification. We have been called to be the purification of society. This was the great calling of the Disciples of Christ. The holiness of living is used so others will



JUST A THOUGHT

Rev. Tom Mansbarger



Tom Mansbarger is senior pastor of Grace Community Church. He offers free counseling. Reach him at 765. 517. 1187.

see the things of God.

1. Salt is intended as a seasoning. There is nothing that tastes better than eating a fresh tomato out of the garden with the assistance of a salt shaker. Salt is almost like the icing on the cake, it brings out the true flavor. Jesus wants us to understand that we are called to provide the seasoning for all mankind. Christians are the agents that must season a lost and dying world that doesn't know what it needs.

2. Salt is intended to preserve. In Bible times it was used to put on meat and other food to preserve them and provide a longer shelf-life. It was used to keep food from spoiling.


3. Salt also has a consuming power. It can be sharp, biting, and aggres-


sive. Laid on a wound, it is painful. It has been used for centuries as a healing agent. Recently, while in a Bible study, I was asking people to share all the uses of salt. One lady spoke up and said it kills slugs. Such an interesting fact that I had to share it with you!


When Jesus presented this interesting thought, He wanted His followers to understand what they had to offer was much needed. It was very useful and it needed to be used to the fullest extent. Many people live an entire lifetime needing just a little pinch of something different, but they can never quite get there. They can never figure out that mysterious missing ingredient.


You may be wondering, where do we fit in? You may be the missing ingredient that someone needs today. It is an exciting thought to know Jesus has equipped us with just the right seasoning that can and will fulfill what is lacking in others. Let's all begin to put our resources (salt) to good use and make this world a better place. Somebody really needs us.

The Rev. Tom Mansbarger is senior pastor at Grace Community Church. He offers free counseling. Reach him at 765-517-1187 or tom@graceccmarion.org.


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