

Hometown product Kim Lash: Tennis on collegiate level is dog eat dog From Page B1

competition. "But now that I've learned what it's like to play in the ACC, I think I can get better."

Kim finished the 1983-84 season with a 23-17 overall record. More importantly, she found out in her rookie season that conference matches are for keeps. In fact, their stiff competitive nature caused her the most problems as a freshman.

"It's dog eat dog out there," she says. "Your opponents are nice to you off the court, but, once the matches begin, everyone is out there for themselves."

"You can't talk to your opponent on the court," she says. "They might hit a good shot, but you never say 'good shot' because, if you do, it gives your opponent an edge."

"Because the players are so good, you can't make errors. They are not going to give you anything. If you expect them to give you something, you're dead meat."

Kim also learned that if she is to rare well against ACC rivals, she has to make some adjustments in her game.

"You have to stay cool, no matter what the situation is," she says. "It's important to be consistent. You also have to use everything you have to beat an opponent."

"The players in the ACC are all very experienced," Kim says. "You have to set up your shots and not be intimidated."

Another area Kim says she's working on is preparing herself mentally for her opponents.

"I've got to have more confidence," she says. "I

know there are players that I can beat, but I've got to reach a point where I feel I can beat anyone. I don't want to have an arrogant attitude because there are a lot of players that I've come up against who are arrogant. I just need to think that I can play with anyone that is across the net from me."

When she arrived in Atlanta last fall, the only person Kim knew was her tennis coach. After being there a little more than a week, she was still cautious about trying to make friends.

A shy, introverted youngster, Kim soon found that she had to open up a little if she was to find a social life.

"After a while, I saw that if I didn't make any friends I would be lost," she says. "I couldn't just sit there and make excuses for not having anything to do."

As she began to explore the social life at Georgia Tech, Kim started to feel comfortable in the urban Atlanta setting.

"The social life in Atlanta is great," says Kim. "People there are really open and nice. There's always something to do and someone to talk to."

Kim got so caught up in her social life that her grades slipped a little before she realized what was happening to her. Headstrong and determined, she swiftly rearranged her priorities.

"The academics at Georgia Tech are hard," she says. "You have to study your butt off. At first, I forgot what I came there for. I told myself, 'If you want to stay and play tennis, the academics have to come first. It's not a matter of what I want to do

but what I have to do."

By the time the academic year was over, Kim and her parents could see the changes she had made as an individual.

"The longest Kim had ever been away from home was two weeks," says her father, Coach David Lash, who admits his daughter grew up in a sheltered environment. "In the summer, I would send her away for a couple of days to a tennis camp or something, but she had never been away from home over a long period of time."

"I think by her going away to college, she has started to really come into her own as a person," adds Lash, who retired from coaching when Kim

was 10 years old. "It was a blessing in disguise because now she is starting to develop her own identity and personality."

"Being 19 years after the rest of the family (Lash's next oldest child is 37), Kim has always tried to live up to my expectations," Lash says. "She does a lot of things just because it's what she thinks her daddy wants."

To a certain extent, Kim agrees.

"My father is the driving force behind me playing tennis," she says. "He's the one who always encouraged me to do my best. When I first saw him teaching tennis when I was a little girl, it looked like fun and I decided that was what I wanted to do."

NCAA might scrap playoffs From Page B1

momentum in the wake of the Supreme Court's recent decision regarding college football TV rights.

Florida A&M, the University of Central Florida and Georgia Southern had begun preliminary talks concerning forming a conference of predominantly white and predominantly black schools.

However, now that the Supreme Court's ruling has made it almost impossible for smaller schools to appear on television, several of the schools that were interested in forming the league have lost interest, sources say.

The league was to have included schools from Florida, Georgia

This And That

ORLANDO, Fla. -- Grambling State football Coach Eddie Robinson recently testified before Congress on how the Supreme Court's recent TV decision will harm smaller schools. Robinson, by the way, recently signed a two-year contract to do promotional work for Coca-Cola....

Former Alabama State standout football players Michael Madison and Roger Pritchard have been hired by the school as assistant coaches....

Alabama State Sports Information Director Charles L. Smith has resigned to become an assistant at Rice University....

Alcorn State sports publicist Lonza Hardy, rumored to have been planning to leave, has decided to stay put. So has Florida A&M's Alvin Hollins.

While some conferences are still struggling to put preseason football information together, the ambitious Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association already has basketball information ready to distribute....

Now that Florida A&M President Walter Smith has resigned, the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference is thinking of trying to talk the Rattlers into returning to the league....

Officials at Delaware State College say they are willing to play a football game in Philadelphia every year if this season's game with South Carolina State in Philly is well-attended....

Tennessee State has asked the Tennessee Legislature to build a new, 30,000-seat football stadium on the TSU campus.

Garber / Lash From Page B1

Hansforth, who plays on the Satellite Professional Tour as part of the New Zealand team, had been resting in Winston-Salem and had not played competitively for more than six weeks.

"I practiced with Lucioni for the last couple of days before I entered the tournament," said Hansforth. "I felt a little funny on some of my shots because I hadn't played for such a long time. Although the competition wasn't as good as some I've faced, I think it was a good tournament."

"I got a little tired in the second set," Hansforth said of his 1-6 thumping by Lucioni. "But in the third set everything sort of started to come back."

Due to the growing success of the tournament, Upshaw said, the Greater Winston Kiwanis are considering expanding the event.

"Once you reach a certain plateau, you have to expand to make it better," said Upshaw. "We're thinking of maybe having doubles next year to increase the participation."

Also, Upshaw said the tournament came off without any major problems thanks to dedicated volunteer workers.

"I'd like to thank all the members of the Greater Winston Kiwanis," said Upshaw. "In particular, I'd like to give special thanks to Will Jenkins and Larry Anthony. Without those two it would have been very difficult."

"I would also like to thank Coach (David) Lash," said Upshaw. "He's a real problem-solver. Whenever you put on a tournament of this type, you're going to have some minor problems and Coach is always around to help."



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