

By EARL WATT

• Leader & Times

Liberal had the home court advantage Monday during the Western Athletic Conference tennis tournament, but it wasn't enough to move Liberal up the standings. The Redskins finished fifth at the tournament and will now prepare for the regional tournament.

Great Bend dominated the WAC and scored 16 points to earn first. Garden City took second with 12 points.



The three remaining schools were grouped closely at the bottom of the standings. Dodge City finished third with five points, Hays was fourth with four points, and Liberal was last with three points.

"We had a wonderful tournament. Facilities were great," Liberal coach Bret Irby said. "We didn't fare as well as we would have liked. The kids competed hard. We still have a ways to go. We will get 'em next time."

Friday at Ark City, and that will wrap up our season.

Individual Results:

No. 1 Singles — Joseph Cotto left it all on the courts diving for balls and has the scars on his legs to show for it. He went 1-3 on the day defeating Hays in his last match.

No. 2 Singles — Mitchell Irby started off slowly but played hard and defeated Hays in his last match going 1-3 on the day.

No. 1 Doubles — Angel Hernandez/Buddy Buchanan won their first match against Dodge City in an exciting tie-breaker winning 8-7 (5). Then they dropped the next three matches.

No. 2 Doubles — Payton Grant/Sergio Borjas went 0-4 on the day but picked up valuable experience.

Coach of the Year Honors went to Great Bend Coach Shannon Schartz.

WAC Player of the Year went to Great Bend's Nick Moyers.

The Redskins travel to Arkansas City for Regionals Friday.