

By ROY ALLEN

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With the top seeds coming out to play on Day 2 of the 2014 NJCAA National Tournament, the Seward County Lady Saints saw their placing in the tournament drop on Monday, falling from a fourth place tie to 17th place with three days left in the tournament.



The Lady Saints top player, sixth seeded Paula Lopez, continued to battle through a leg injury in No. 1 singles, but showed little ill effect from the problem, downing North Central Texas' Georgie Gosen 6-2, 6-3 to move on to the quarterfinal round of the tournament. Today Lopez will get her stiffest test of the tournament to date as she squares off with third seeded Niriantsa Rasolomalala from Georgia Perimeter in the first match of the day. A win would all but assure Lopez of a 2014 All-American selection.

The other half of the Lady Saints Argentinian duo, Paula Coyos continued to roll in No. 2 singles in what head coach Jerry Thor called her best tennis of the season. The fifth seeded Coyos breezed to another win Monday, downing Rachel Farmer of Snead State 6-1, 6-0 to earn her way into the round of eight. In two matches, Coyos has now outscored her opponents 24 games to 1. Her quarterfinal matchup today will come against Olivia Erlandsson of St. Petersburg who is coming off of an upset win over fourth seeded Shawnee-Ann Brelsford of Seminole State.

After coming off of a big win on Sunday, Kathryn Roohan had a tough round Monday against second seeded Ashleigh De Wet of Tyler in the second round, falling 6-1, 6-2 to end her tournament in ninth place.

In the consolation bracket at No. 5 singles, Seward County sent Naomie Bukassa to the court. Bukassa struggled early and paid for it, losing 8-3 to Kindra Holliday of Eastern Arizona to bring

her 2014 National Tournament appearance to a close in ninth place.

In the No. 1 doubles bracket Seward's Lopez and Coyos continued to roll on Monday. The second seeded duo breezed to another win, this time blowing away Gosen and Rodriguez from North Central Texas 6-0, 6-1 to move on to the quarterfinals. Today in the quarters, the Lady Saints will take on a pair who has been just as dominant in the tournament in seventh seeded Anghelscu and Rasolomalala of St. Petersburg.

After sitting in fourth place after the first day of the tournament, the Lady Saints drop to 17th after Monday's action as top seeded teams took the court following first round byes. Seward checks in with 11 points, 1.5 points in front of 18th place Seminole State and 1 point behind Pima and Snead State who are tied for 15th. The tournament host, Tyler is undefeated thus far in the tournament and leads the way with 27 points while Cowley leads the way for the Jayhawk Conference as they are in sixth place with 21 points.