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## *Kenston Athletes Place at State Tournaments*

By Dan Murray

It was quite a weekend for Kenston athletes at the state tennis and golf championships held in Columbus last month.

The Bombers' sister act of Victoria and Mandy Marchant brought home a third place from the Division I state tennis tournament, the best ever state finish for the Kenston program. Standout senior golfer Nicki Henry closed out a memorable career with a fifth place finish in the Division I girls' state golf tournament.

Victoria Marchant, a senior, and sister Mandy, a sophomore, made a return trip to Columbus for the second straight season. The sectional champs won their third place match on the second day of competition with a 6-0, 6-3 domination of Lauren Ghidotti and Katie Shepherd of Columbus Bishop Watterson.

That win took the sting out of a 6-4, 6-3 setback to Dublin Jerome's Lauren Bellinger and Sarah Stein in the semifinals held at Hillard Davidson.

In the first day of competition held at Ohio State University, the Marchants opened up with a 6-2, 6-3 victory over Annie Sabo and Maggie Egan of Cincinnati Ursuline. The Bomber duo then bested Morgan and Sydney Delp of Toledo Central Catholic 6-3, 2-6, 6-2 to move into the semifinals.

Meanwhile, just up the street at the Ohio State University Gray Course, Kenston's Henry got off to a hot start at the state golf tourney as she carded a round of 35 for her first nine holes on the par-70 course. She finished the first 18-hole round with a score of 75, five shots out of first place.

Henry finished up the 36-hole event on Saturday with a round of 78, good for a fifth place tie to earn All-Ohio First Team Honors. That was an improvement over her 10th place finish at state last year.

Henry, the Chagrin Valley Conference MVP, qualified for the state tournament with a round of 79 at the Division I District event at the Legends of Massillon. Kenston finished eighth out of 12 teams at the tournament, getting scores of 87 by Kelly Poe, 90 from Tess Ferguson and 97 by Ali Read.

Henry will continue her golfing career at Eastern Kentucky next fall. She holds several school records for individual scoring and helped the Bombers to an unbeaten season in her final season of play this year.