

"Our mental game was both the greatest strength and weakness. When we weren't mentally tough, the scorecards showed it, but when we were strong, we were unstoppable."

—Junior Lynn Marten

Girls' Varsity Tennis

5 wins, 7 losses

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| St. Johns | 1-7 |
| Haslett | 6-1 |
| Jackson | 3-5 |
| DeWitt | 3-5 |
| Everett | 8-0 |
| Sexton | 5-3 |
| Eastern | 6-2 |
| Waverly | 3-5 |
| LCC | 1-6 |
| East Lansing | 0-8 |
| Mason | 3-4 |
| Grand Ledge | 8-0 |
| CAC | 3rd |
| Regionals | 3rd |

All-CAC

2nd Place Medalists

Shanna Somers
Lindsey Wilcox
Sara Gleason

Girls' JV Tennis

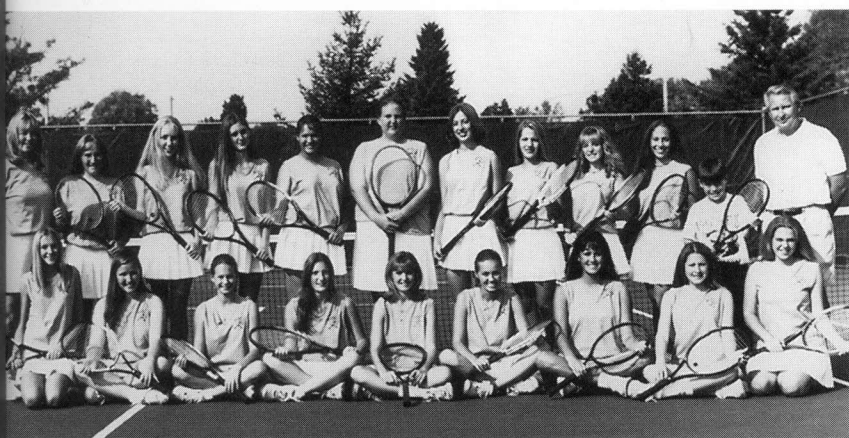
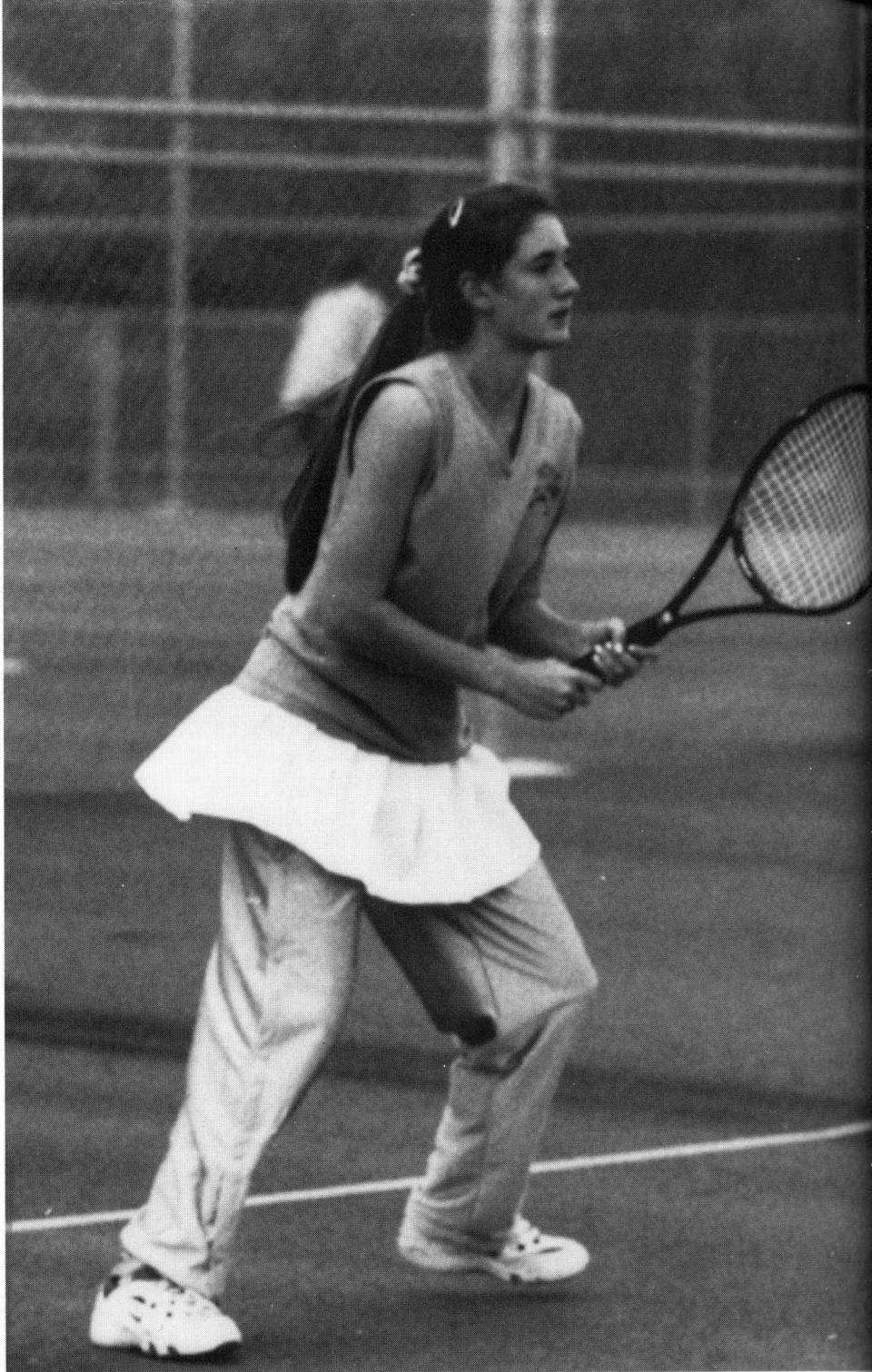
11 wins, 2 losses

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| Haslett | 7-1 |
| DeWitt | 6-2 |
| Okemos | 1-8 |
| Mason | 5-3, 5-3 |
| Sexton | 8-0 |
| St. Johns | 5-3 |
| Waverly | 6-2 |
| East Lansing | 0-8 |
| Portland | 4-4 (7-6) |
| Eaton Rapids | 7-1 |
| Grand Ledge | 6-2 |

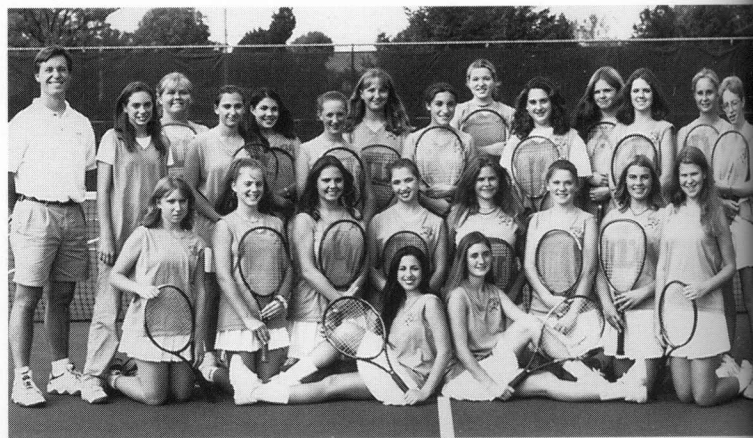
Roll
with
the
Punches

I'll Get It!

Getting ready to hit the ball in a Varsity match against Grand Ledge is sophomore Rachel Warner.



Girls' Varsity Tennis Team: Top Row: Coach P. Somers, J. Warncke, L. Martin, R. Warner, L. Harris, L. Wilcox, K. Sohn, S. Mapes, E. Tepastte, J. Sanchez, J. Troisi, Coach Douglas. Bottom Row: S. Gleason, J. Hedrick, A. Grondin, M. Foster, S. McClane, J. Swan, J. Heeg, L. Cook, and S. Somers.



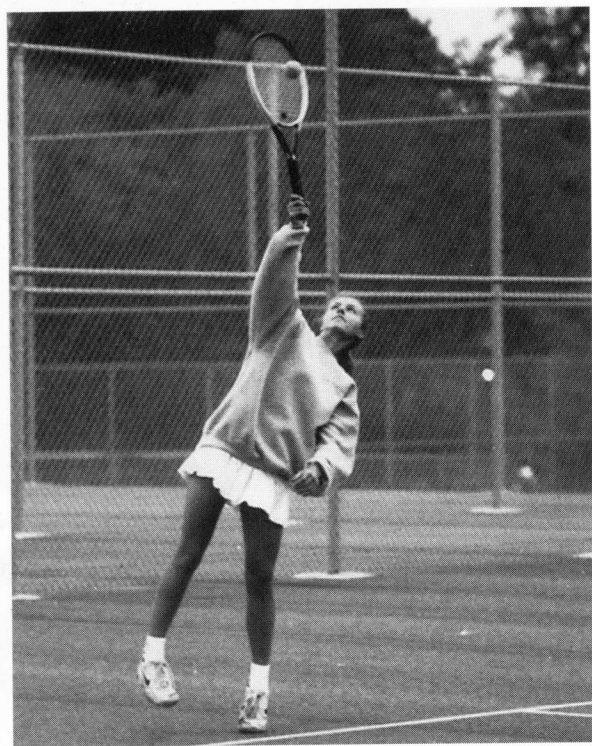
Girls' JV Tennis Team: Top Row: Coach S. Garrison, J. Hill, E. Viele, M. Warner, M. Swanson, A. Dykman, S. Dionese, J. Lindley, S. Switzer, K. Schoenfelder, C. Moon, N. Steer, and L. Stafford. Bottom Row: M. Suckow, B. Cain, J. Balzer, J. Cook, and B. Parrish. Front: A. Lanis and R. Warner.

Hanging Together

Eating bagels after winning their match with Grand Ledge are seniors Jessica Swan and Sonya McClane.

Nice Shot!

Serving the ball at Grand Ledge is senior Jessica Swan. The girls won the match 8-0.



Take Action

Team Faces Challenge to Improve

Getting a wake up call when they lost three of their first four matches and placed last in the Holt Invitational, the Girls Varsity Tennis team took stock quickly. With only seven returning seniors, they had their work cut out rebuilding the team, improving skills and coming together as a group. From the disappointing start they worked themselves up to a 4-3 conference record, a 5-7 overall record and a 3rd place finish in the CAC.

Junior Lynn Marten commented, "I think we had a pretty tough season, but we all improved as time went on and grew closer as a team." Junior Jennifer Warncke added, "The invitational was exciting because it was my first real match. I think we all learned a lot of things that day even though our rank at the end didn't show it."

There was a lot of work to do from the beginning and the girls got busy. At practices teammates could see people improving as the weeks passed. Junior Katie Sohn explained, "I thought more about playing my game than winning. I could see that my strokes and serves were getting better every match." Lynn Marten added, "I improved as a doubles player. Sara Mapes and I were both singles players last year,

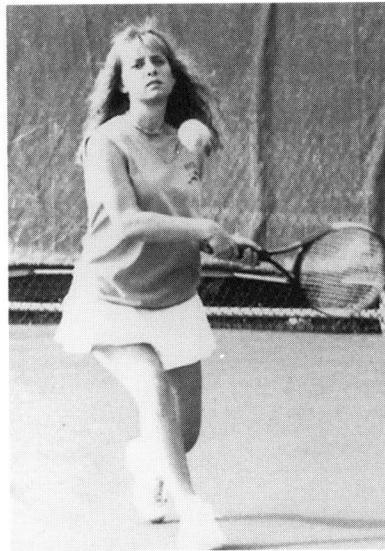
and we came together to form a very strong doubles team."

Strengths and weaknesses were evident. "I think our mental game was both the greatest strength and weakness. When we weren't mentally tough, the scorecards showed it, but when we were strong, we were unstoppable," assessed Lynn.

Many players agreed friendship was high on the team and a positive factor. They helped each other not to get down when difficulties cropped up. And many humorous incidents bonded the group, including the windy Mason Heeg's bedroom to wake her for CAC's, and the secret pals that made signs and gave gifts to pump teammates up. Even bagels were cited as an important contributor to the team's success.

For many players, it was exciting watching the later games of the season. "Jessica Swan and Megan Foster were our number one doubles team. They worked very well together and provided the most exciting games and sets," observed Katie Sohn. "As a group we were also more enthusiastic and win-oriented." Lynn Marten concluded, "We all loved the game to start with, and having each other there everyday made the season so much fun."

—Sonya McClane



Backhand

Returning the ball in a practice session is junior Erin Tepasste.

All Smiles!

Riding home from the last Varsity tennis match with Grand Ledge are senior Jessica Heeg, junior Erin Tepasste, seniors Amy Groundin, Jessica Swan, and Sonya McClane. The smiles were about their 8-0 victory over the Comets.