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Women's doubles tennis team looking to claim another National Championship for SDCC

(Santee, Ca) San Diego Christian College Men's and Women's Tennis Team hosted the 2019 ITA NAIA Regional Championships this weekend at the Riviera Oaks Resort and Racquet Club in Ramona, Ca. The ITA Tournament serves as a qualifier for the ITA Cup Nationals Tournament next month in Rome, Georgia on October 17th – 20th.

Both the men's and women's teams took the ITA Regionals Title in doubles. Sarah Urbanek and Nadine Geschke won their third straight Regionals Doubles Title and Nick Nienhaus and Chris Papa also took the ITA Regional title. Both doubles teams qualified for the ITA Cup Nationals Tournament.

Last year Urbanek and Geschke made history at San Diego Christian College by winning the ITA Cup Nationals Tournament in doubles. They were the first women's team to take home a national championship for SDCC.

"It's such a competitive field and it's almost unheard of to be a part of it," Jim Bodor, Head Coach for the men's and women's tennis teams, said. "Sarah and Nadine were the first national champions that we've had at the college. They are great, competitive athletes."

In addition to winning the men's doubles, Nick Nienhaus also won the men's singles. He cruised to the finals and competed against No.1 seed and doubles partner Papa, defeating him in the only 3-set match by the two in the tournament. During the singles women's play, No.1 seed Urbanek was looking to make it to the finals before she had to retire in the semifinal match against fellow teammate and No. 4 seed Angela Rinaldi. Rinaldi was leading 6-1, 1-0 before Urbanek retired. In the championship match, Rinaldi dropped the match 6-2, 6-1 against No. 3 seed Erin Wilson.

Rinaldi and other SDCC teammates who played in the regional tournament still have a shot at an at-large bid into the national tournament.

Bodor is very excited about this year's team and its potential. The SDCC men's and women's tennis teams are not only talented, but also very entertaining to watch, according to Bodor.

"We are excited for what the future holds for this program. It's a young team, mostly freshman, so we'll have a few years together as a team," Bodor said. "I invite the community to come out and support our teams. They are a big hitting, entertaining bunch to watch."

For or more information, or interview requests, please contact Karla Rivera at (619) 913-8462 or via email at karla.alatorre@sdcc.edu.