

## 2013-14 Men's Tennis Season in Review

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**Buckeye Tandem Reaches Final:** Ohio State's **Peter Kobelt** and **Kevin Metka** reached the championship match of the NCAA Doubles Championship at the Georgia State Tennis Complex in Athens, Ga. In a contest that featured tiebreakers to decide all three sets, the Buckeye duo fell to No. 2 seed Hunter Reese and Mikelis Libietis (3), 7-6 (6) on Monday, May 26. For more on Big Ten student-athletes in the NCAA Singles & Doubles Championships, click [here](#) and [here](#).

**Teams in the Tournament:** Illinois, Michigan, Northwestern, Ohio State, Penn State and Purdue represented the Big Ten at the NCAA Championship, marking the 10th consecutive season that the conference boasted six teams in the tournament field. The Nittany Lions won their first-round contest while the Illini reached the quarterfinals. The Buckeyes advanced to the national quarterfinals. Click [here](#) and [here](#) for more on Big Ten teams in the NCAA Tournament.

**Seven Standouts Named All-Americans:** Seven Big Ten standouts earned All-America status, the ITA announced on June 5. Illinois led all men's programs with three All-Americans, both **Jared Hiltzik** and **Farris Gosea** earned singles laurels while **Tim Kopinski** and **Ross Guignon** garnered accolades in doubles. Minnesota's **Leandro Hernandez** earned singles All-American after reaching the Round of 16 at the NCAA Championships. Ohio State added a pair of honorees as the national runner-up tandem. **Kevin Metka** earned All-America status in doubles. Kobelt also was named a singles All-American, making him one of just seven men's tennis players to be named All-American in both singles and doubles this season. He is now a four-time All-American, having achieved the same feat last season. Click here for more information.

**National Team Indoor Champs:** Ohio State captured its first ITA National Team Indoor Championship title with an impressive performance on Monday, April 21, over eventual 2014 NCAA Champion USC. The Buckeyes defeated four top-25 teams, including two top-five programs, en route to the national indoor title. **Peter Kobelt** was named the Most Outstanding Player of the event, becoming the first Buckeye to receive the honor. Click [here](#) and [here](#) for more information.

**Tournament Titans:** Top-seeded Ohio State won the 2014 Big Ten Men's Tennis Tournament title on Sunday, April 27, after earning a 4-2 win over second-seeded Penn State to claim the tournament crown and earn the conference's automatic berth to the NCAA Championship. The Buckeyes won the doubles point and an early 1-0 lead in the singles point. The match was tied, 2-2, following the first three singles matches as Illinois was victorious at the No. 1 and 2 singles positions and Penn State won the 3 singles. The decisive points for the Buckeyes came at the No. 5 and 6 singles positions. Click [here](#) for more on the Big Ten Tournament.

**And the Awards Go To:** The Big Ten men's tennis All-Conference teams and individual awards were announced on Thursday, April 24, at the Big Ten Tournament. **Farris Gosea** was named Big Ten Athlete of the Year, Northwestern's **Sam Shropshire** earned Freshman of the Year honors and Ohio State's **Ty Tucker** earned Year laurels. For more on the Big Ten's honorees, click [here](#).

**Nine is Fine:** Ohio State clinched the outright Big Ten Championship on Friday, April 18, after earning a 7-0 victory over Iowa. The conference title marked the 10th outright title and 13<sup>th</sup> overall in program history. The Buckeyes finished the regular season with a record of 11-0 in Big Ten play and 27-3 overall. Click [here](#) to read more about the Big Ten title.

**In the Polls:** Nine Big Ten teams, 14 singles players and 10 doubles pairs were included in the final ITA College Tennis Rankings, released on May 27 (teams and doubles). Following its run to the NCAA quarterfinals, Ohio State claimed the No. 5 spot. Illinois (No. 11) and Penn State (No. 24) joined Ohio State in the top 50. Northwestern (No. 33), Michigan (No. 39) and Purdue (No. 42) in the top 50. Minnesota checked in at No. 54, with Michigan State (No. 62) and Indiana (No. 65). Ohio State's **Peter Kobelt** led all conference singles players at No. 8, with Illini teammates **Jared Hiltzik** (No. 12) and **Farris Gosea** (No. 20) joining him in the top 50. **Kevin Metka** and doubles partner **Kevin Metka** checked in at No. 2 in the doubles rankings, with Illinois' **Tim Kopinski** and **Ross Guignon** following at No. 6. Full rankings are available [here](#).