

Local tennis duo heading to Nationals

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Nicholas Mercante and Luke Perricone, both 9 and from Mt. Juliet, will be heading to Memphis, Feb. 14 to play at the 2014 U.S. National Indoor Championships. Since 1975, the U.S. National Indoor Tennis Championships have brought the sports brightest stars to Memphis including Jimmy Connors, John McEnroe, Andre Agassi, Pete Sampras, Andy Roddick, Chris Evert, Martina Navratilova, Jennifer Capriati, Lindsay Davenport, and Maria Sharapova.

Nicholas and Luke are highly ranked in the state in the USTA 10 and under division and are also doubles partners. They earned the honor to play in the Summer Circuit Master Finals Championship by being the two top point earners in the 2013 Summer Circuit Series and will represent Middle Tennessee in the tournament.

Their coach, Dell Pride, is the Head Coach of Fisk University and also Mt. Juliet Christian Academy (MJCA). They train at Charlie Daniels Park with Coach Pride and also attend his clinics and summer camps offered at the park.

Nicholas attends Stoner Creek Elementary as a third grader and Luke attends Lakeview Elementary as a fourth grader. They are also active in other sports in the community.