

Eastern Section National Open Playoffs Winners

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Flushing, N.Y.'s Nikita Kryvonos won the Men's Singles Division over Max Wennakoski

For the third straight year, Flushing's Nikita Kryvonos won the men's singles tournament. He downed second-seeded Max Wennakoski 6-1, 3-6, 6-1 to win the section and book his spot in the national playoffs in August.

"I started well and was pretty confident in the beginning. I think from the baseline when I was hitting my aggressive shots and going for my shots he was missing more," said Kryvonos. "In the second set, I got a little tight and started making some more errors and he got more confident. In the third, I refocused and started going for my shots again. That was the difference."

Kryvonos has come up just short in the national tournament the last couple of years, but hopes that the third time is the charm.

"Right now, I just need to stay healthy and play more matches, that's the main thing," he said. "It's more about mental consistency for me. I think if I play more matches and work on my mental strength I'll be good. I feel good physically and I'm hitting the ball well now, feeling good physically. This is my third time winning this tournament so hopefully this time I can go all the way. I live 20 minutes from [the National Tennis Center] so this is my court, it would be amazing to play here [in the U.S. Open]."

In what was probably the tightest match of the day, Daniel Cochrane & Phillip Simmonds won the men's doubles division with a 7-5, 7-6(6) victory over Gary Kushnerovic & Keith Kessler.