

## HOWARD TAKES HER FINAL SHOT

FORMER GODWIN ACE HAS ONE MORE CHANCE TO DEFEAT FLEISHMAN

[City Edition]

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### Document Text

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### STATE TENNIS

Later this month, Lindsey Howard will be heading to the University of Michigan, where she'll play tennis for the Wolverines.

At 5:30 p.m. today, the former Mills Godwin High ace will give the local folks a final look at her game when she challenges top- seeded - and seemingly unbeatable - Nataly Fleishman of Norfolk in the women's singles final of the SunTrust State Tennis Championships.

This is Howard's third appearance in the title match in four years, and she's still looking for her first state crown. Wouldn't this be the perfect time to display all of her talents and knock off Fleishman, who's seeking her third title in four years?

"Yeah, it would be nice, but . . ." she said, her voice trailing off as she remembered her 6-1, 6-0 loss to Fleishman in the final of the State Clay Court Championships last month at Salisbury Country Club. "Hopefully, it will be a little better than Salisbury."

If Howard, the No. 2 seed, plays the way she did yesterday in beating fourth-seeded Julie Kaczmarek 6-0, 6-2 in the semifinals at Raintree Swim and Racquet Club, she might have a chance. Her accurate and deep ground strokes allowed her to dominate most of the match.

"I'm just going out and try and have fun," said Howard, who won the first six games before Kaczmarek could get on the board.

Fleishman was actually tested by third-seeded Rachel Gale before prevailing 6-2, 6-1. The defending champion hadn't lost a game in her first two matches. Gale tried to come to the net against Fleishman, but wasn't able to put away enough volleys.

Howard will stay back and pound away with her ground strokes, hoping Fleishman will eventually make an error.

"She plays a different game than what I'm used to," Howard said. "She mixes it up and tries not to let you play your game. She wears you out. It should be fun playing her."

The men return to the court today for the semifinals at 5 p.m. Second-seeded Somdev Devvarman, the University of Virginia's No. 2 player, faces Pertti Viskari, while No. 3 David Emery meets Richmonder Charles Einwick. The final is tomorrow at 11 a.m.

### YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Women's singles - Semifinals: Nataly Fleishman d. Rachel Gale 6- 2, 6-1; Lindsey Howard d. Julie Kaczmarek 6-0, 6-2.

Men's doubles - Semifinals: Joe Cappellino-Clint Greene d. Ryan Mostrom-Randy Loden 6-3, 7-6 (7-4); Scott and Sean Steinour d. Ed Butterworth-Richard Razzetti 7-6 (8-6), 6-2.

Mixed doubles: Fleishman-Scott Steinour d. Margie Walsh-Sean Steinour 6-2, 6-1.

### TODAY'S SCHEDULE

Men's singles - 5 p.m., semifinals, Charles Einwick vs. David Emery; Somdev Devvarman vs. Pertti Viskari.

Women's singles - 5:30 p.m., final, Fleishman vs. Howard.

Men's doubles - 6:45 p.m., final, Cappellino-Greene vs. Scott and Sean Steinour.

Women's doubles - 7 p.m., final, Fleishman-Gale vs. Howard-Kate Harrington.

### [Illustration]

PHOTO

Credit: Times-Dispatch Staff Writer

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**Abstract** (Document Summary)

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Women's singles - Semifinals: Nataly Fleishman d. Rachel Gale 6- 2, 6-1; Lindsey Howard d. Julie Kaczmarek 6-0, 6-2.

Women's doubles - 7 p.m., final, Fleishman-Gale vs. Howard-Kate Harrington.

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