

# Knights pass endurance test

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Just when Alyssa Sorenson thought she had maxed out on energy, she found a much needed second wind.

The overexertion was well worth it.

The Central Catholic sophomore defeated Harrison's Kate Sutton in a four-hour marathon match 6-4, 6-7 (3), 7-5 to seal a sectional championship for the Knights. CC defeated the Raiders 3-2 after losing to them 4-1 in the regular season.

"I had nothing left," Sorenson said. "When we went into the third set, I was sitting and shaking because I was so tired. I had to eat a banana and drink a whole bottle of Gatorade just to get something in me to keep going."

Sorenson redeemed herself for a regular-season loss to Sutton and helped CC win its second sectional title and first since 2006.



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Harrison also was aiming for its second sectional title.

"When the fans look, they say, 'Well you beat them 4-1, you should win,'" Raiders coach George Adeyemi said. "We coaches know it's harder than that. The regular season doesn't mean anything."

Almost simultaneously, Harrison's No. 2 doubles team of Sandy Lauter and Jenny Blackburn and CC's No. 1 doubles team of Hali Reifenrath and Sarah Penix won in two sets, tying the score 1-1.

Ann Yaacoub put the Knights up 2-1 after upsetting Kemi Adeyemi at No. 1 singles. Yaacoub lost to Adeyemi 6-1, 6-0 during the regular season, but scored the

three-set victory on Saturday.

"My coach told me to bring out her weaknesses instead of me making the errors," Yaacoub said. "I had to force her to make errors on her backhand."

Katie Sly's three-set win at No. 2 singles knotted the match 2-2 and set up Sorenson's heroics.

It was a welcome atmosphere for the Knights' No. 3 singles player.

"I've had that pressure before and I actually kind of like that pressure," Sorenson said. "It keeps me motivated."

In order to overcome Sutton, Sorenson had to change her style.

Usually an overpowering player who plays a fast-paced style, Sorenson decided to keep the ball in play until she found a favored chance to fire a winning shot.

"It was harder for me because I am not a consistent player, at least



**Yaacoub**

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not as consistent as other players, especially Kate, who is an amazing player," Sorenson said. "I knew I had to wait for my shot and take that shot. Other than that, I had to use top spin and just keep getting it back."

Central Catholic advances to play North Montgomery (15-0), which won the Crawfordsville Sectional by defeating the host Athenians 5-0.

Though Yaacoub's win allowed Sorenson the chance to seal the sectional, the CC senior knew who the player of the match was.

"Alyssa did a fantastic job," Yaacoub said. "Honestly, Katie (Bougy) and I couldn't ask for a better senior present. This is all we wanted."