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Cornell Freshman Enjoys First TMS College Table Tennis Championships

Cornell freshman Nick Coyle showed no fear at the 2014 TMS College Table Tennis Championships.

After all, Nick was playing in his native Pennsylvania. The tournament in Monroeville is about a three-hour drive from his home in Glenside, Pa. near Philadelphia.

Nick got in as a wild card singles player in the NCTTA's Great Lakes Regional. The Pennsylvanian did well there and punched his ticket to the three-day tourney near Pittsburgh. The pings of balls flying around the vast facility at the Club and continuous live streaming didn't bother the Ivy League teen-ager one bit. NCTTA commentators doing the live feed spoke about the dynamics of big matches all morning long as players from schools around the USA and Canada brought their "A" games to the table.

Watching Nick fight for every point was his father, Michael Coyle, who drove him to the tourney and will make the return trip to the Ithaca, New York campus.

A general contractor, Michael Coyle bought the family a table when Nick was a ten-year-old. Years of competition with younger siblings followed at their home in the Keystone State and Nick was definitely hooked.

Why is Nick so passionate about table tennis and pushing his game to compete against the very best?

"Table tennis utilizes hand eye coordination," Nick said. "I enjoy reacting."

In his first two matches, Coyle won one and lost one. That's not a bad start for this NCTTA rookie. He defeated one ranked player with a rating of about 1660. Obviously, Nick won't be the 2014 NCTTA singles champ, but he's really here looking to improve his game when he will be a Cornell sophomore next season.

"This is really cool," Nick said when looking over the lineup of more than 250 collegiate players. "It's

nice to represent Cornell.”

Nick isn't the only one representing the Big Red. Cornell's women's team is solid with players like Connie Chen of Dallas, Kai Lin Tan of Malaysia, Wen Ting Li of Guangzhou, China and Yishuo Yang of Beijing, China.

Nick's got ambitions beyond the table tennis courts. He's a civil engineering major at Cornell and has a bright future ahead.

The 2014 TMS College Table Tennis Championships is hosted by the [National Collegiate Table Tennis Association](#) and the Visit Monroeville and is one of the most competitive table tennis tournaments in North America featuring 6 events: Men's and Women's Singles and Doubles, and Men's/Coed Teams, Women's Teams. The event is sponsored by TMS International, Newgy Industries, Butterfly.

Players and spectators alike will enjoy a jam-packed weekend of table tennis at the [2014 College Table Tennis Championships](#). The event starts Friday April 4th and continues to Sunday April 6th at the Club Sport and Health in Monroeville, Pennsylvania.

About NCTTA

The National Collegiate Table Tennis Association (NCTTA) is a non-profit organization established exclusively for promoting the sport of table tennis at the college level. As the national governing body for college table tennis in the United States and Canada, NCTTA organizes intercollegiate competition throughout North America. www.nctta.org

About USA Table Tennis

Headquartered in Colorado Springs, USATT is the national organizing body for table tennis in the United States, serving 9,000+ members and nearly 300 clubs. USATT sanctions 200+ events a year including the US Open and US Nationals. USATT is affiliated with the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF), as well as the United States Olympic Committee (USOC). www.usatt.org & tabletennis.teamusa.org

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