

Kwan, Falcons sweep Girls CIF again

Torrey Pines takes singles and doubles third straight year

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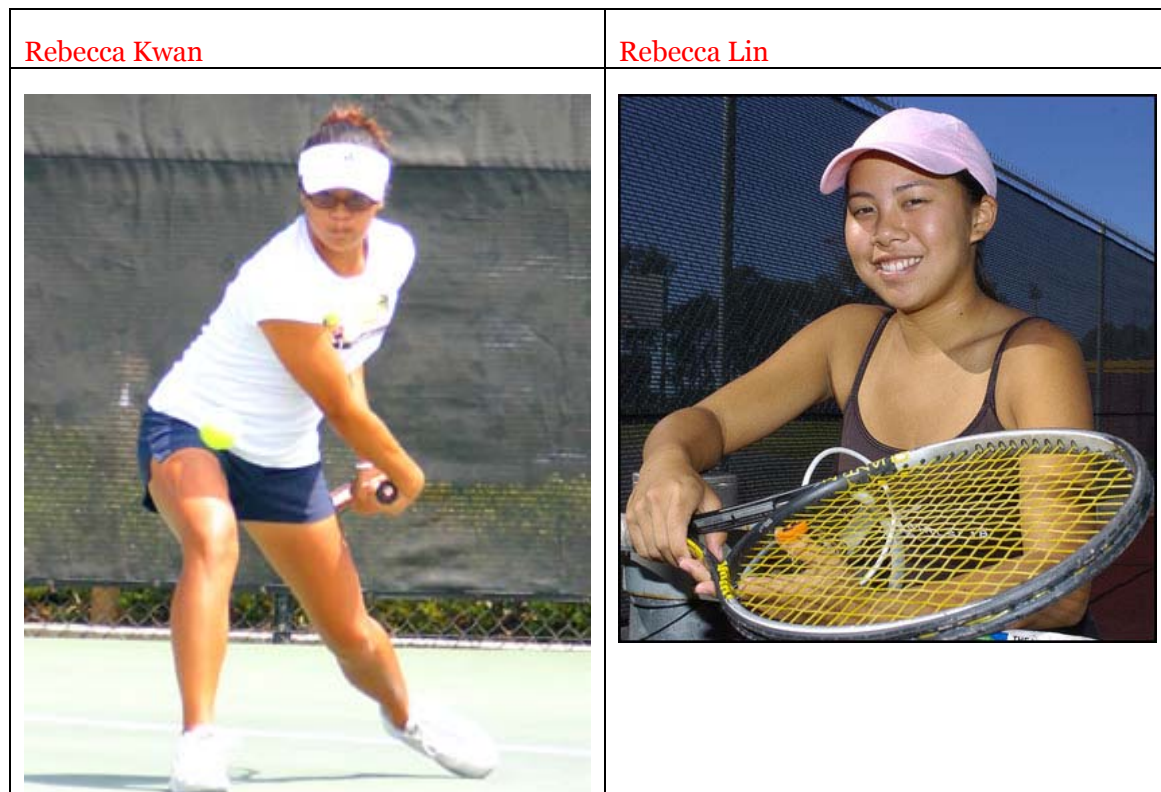
After a year away from high school tennis, **Rebecca Kwan** figured her return to the Torrey Pines girls team would be special this season. She was right.

For starters, Kwan said, it was great just to be back with her teammates. Then she helped the Falcons win their 16th straight section team title, and to top it off, she won the individual singles title yesterday at the [Barnes Tennis Center](#).

REBECCA KWAN

Torrey Pines, Junior

Ranked No. 32 nationally in the 16-and-under singles category, Kwan has a solid all-around game.



Kwan, seeded third, topped fourth-seeded **Kim Haynes** of Cathedral Catholic 6-1, 6-3 to complete a Torrey Pines sweep of the two individual titles for the third straight year.

Haynes reached the final by ousting two-time defending champion **Rebecca Lin** of Torrey Pines 3-6, 6-3, 6-3. Kwan advanced with a 6-3, 6-4 victory over second-seeded Nadia Abdala of Eastlake, who competed in the tournament despite a wrist injury that affected her usual two-handed stroke.

Earlier, the Falcons' top-seeded doubles team of **Justine Perl** and **Remi Martin** topped Eastlake's Maria Raygada and Angelique Corpuz 6-1, 6-7 (2-7), 6-4.

Justine Perl, who made her fourth final appearance, became the first player to win three doubles championships. She collaborated with three different partners during her title run, starting with Kwan in 2003.

Kwan said she decided at the last moment a year ago to concentrate on junior tennis during the fall. Then she felt the time was right to return to the Falcons this year.

"I thought, 'Oh, it's my junior year. Maybe it would be fun,' " Kwan said. "High school tennis is prestigious, but I didn't go for that part. It's just fun."

Before the semifinals, **Kwan and Haynes** warmed up together, and each responded with an upset victory. The two friends drilled separately yesterday, but each brought a familiarity of the other's game to the match.

Kwan played a steady baseline game, while Haynes produced more spectacular shots but also more unforced errors.

"You've got to hand it to Rebecca," said Haynes, a junior who reached the quarterfinals a year ago. "She played a great match. She stuck to her game plan. She hardly missed any shots."

Kwan best demonstrated her resiliency in the second set when she overcame four game points to break serve, then held for a 4-2 lead.

"I hate making errors," Kwan said, "so I don't even think about not missing."

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Perl had a part in denying a bid by La Jolla's Lisa Shin for a third doubles title two years ago. This time, she accomplished that feat as she and Martin withstood a comeback bid by their second-seeded opponents.

"Every time, it feels so good (to win)," Perl said. "Remi and I had so much good chemistry. I loved playing with her."

Martin, a sophomore who played singles last season, was teamed with Perl by Falcons coach Anne Meigs for most of the season in anticipation of another title quest.

"When I learned that I could play with Justine, I was ecstatic," Martin said. "I knew that we could play really well together."

To close the match, the Torrey Pines team took the final three games, including the last two at love.

"Oh, man, we were in our own world (at the end)," Perl said. "We gave it our all. We had to because those girls were not making it easy for us."

Raygada, a junior, and Corpuz, a sophomore, bounced back from their first-set loss to take a hard-fought second set that lasted 1 hour, 10 minutes in a match that went 2:32.

In the second-set tiebreaker, the 5-foot Corpuz turned in two strong volleys in a row to establish a 4-0 lead. In the third set, Eastlake took a 4-3 lead on a winning halfcourt placement by Raygada.

"We had to lift our game and be aggressive," Perl said. "We did, and that's what won it for us."

Raygada and Corpuz played singles much of the season, helping the Titans win the Mesa League title.