Bissell loses both matches at national tennis tourney

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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Robi Bissell, representing the University of Montana, was eliminated in the early stages of last weekend's Women's National Tennis Tournament in Auburn, Alabama.

Bissell, who graduated from UM this past spring, was defeated in the first round by Linda Mitchell, 6-1, 6-2. Mitchell, from California State-San Francisco, lost out in the third round of the tourney.

After drawing a bye in the first round of the feed-in consolation bracket, Bissell was ousted by Kit Thomas, 6-0, 6-3. Thomas, representing California State-Northridge, was beaten in the quarter finals of the feed-in consolation bracket.

Bissell, a Billings native, will remain in the South for the summer and enter several other United States Lawn Tennis Association tournaments.

The national tournament, the largest in the past fifteen years, drew 118 participants from 47 colleges in 25 different states and Mexico.

The tournament singles winner was Janice Metcalf of the University of Redlands in California. Metcalf is currently seeded 17th by the USLTA. Non-collegian Billie Jean King is the USLTA's number one player.

The team title was won by Trinity University with 20 points. UCLA finished second with 15½ points.

The women's national tournament, which rotates every two years, will be held on the campus of Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, Michigan, next year.

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