

Thursday 17 November, 2011

JP Smith- athlete of the year!

Tennis Townsville recently received an update from the University of Tennessee, USA where Tennis Townsville local, John-Patrick Smith made big headlines and it's something that the club wanted to share with the local Community.

John-Patrick Smith was honoured as 2011 SEC (South Eastern Conference) Athlete of the Year during the first quarter of the Tennessee Football game, which is played in one of the top five largest stadiums in college sports. This award was voted on by all the schools in the conference and given to one athlete across all sports. JP beat out some amazing athletes to get the award, including some of top football, basketball and baseball players in the USA.



JP recently graduated from Tennessee as one of the most successful players to ever step on the college tennis courts. He became the second player in the history of the sport to earn All-America honours in singles and doubles all four years of his career, not to mention he was also named SEC player of the year as a junior and senior.

Born in Townsville, JP started playing tennis at the age of 10 years. He started his coaching with Tennis Townsville's head coach, Wayne

Hannah who provided him with guidance over the years.

JP was a member of the training squads at Tennis Townsville and did training with Wayne every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday keeping him very busy. JP attended Townsville Grammar School which made it very convenient for him to go next door to Tennis Townsville and have a hit on the courts.

Wayne is extremely proud of JP! He said, "It's great for the juniors at Tennis Townsville to have a role model. When they see how well JP is doing, they realize that they too can accomplish this with hard work and training."

Wayne coaches the Pickerings DMG training squad at Tennis Townsville, which is designed for the junior tournament players who want to improve their national ranking.

JP Smith will return to Townsville in December for a summer of intense training at Tennis Townsville!

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For further information visit
www.tennistownsville.org

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