Thursday was tennis night—IN AMERICA! An old rivalry would again be played out on the recently revived court at the Tennis & Racquet Club in Boston. I’m sure the 2014 World Championship is still haunting Camden Riviere. Would he avenge his loss to Rob Fahey? Or would the Tassie get the best of the young man?

From the first game of the match, it was tough to tell which way it would go. After several deuces and some lengthy points, Cam emerged with the initial advantage. Both players had some difficulty with targets in the next game, but Cam feathered a ball in to beat chase last gallery and take the second game. Cam took the next three games by winning 12 points in a row. A tennis turkey! He quickly closed out the set 6/0.

Cam ran up the score in the next set 3/0 before Rob finally won the tenth game. One could see that Cam wanted to give up nothing. In the next game, Cam’s masterful anticipation allowed him to block three straight shots to the grille and take that and the next two games. Set to Cam 6/1. In the Hamlen Room, the club manager could be heard complaining that the players were screwing up the club’s bar revenue. The match had gone barely 40 minutes at that point.

In the third set Cam raced ahead 2/0, probably thinking this one was in the “bag.” But, Bag had different plans. Perhaps he heard Tom’s complaints? After some blistering points it was tied up 3/3. Cam had let Rob back into the match. Rob clawed his way back, dominating the service end and hitting more targets earlier in the points. Cam defended two set points, but Rob took it down 6/4. Now we had a match!

Early in the fourth it was clear that both players were anxious to get off to a quick start, and the level of tennis went through the roof. Just as in the last set Cam came out blazing, taking the first two games. The players then split the next two games. With Cam up 3/1, he exhibited more confidence than he had in the third set. After several deuces and some tremendous chase attacks, Rob took the next game. It was now 2/3. In the sixth game, Cam hit a difficult shot and yelled out “focus!” In the next couple games Cam could also be heard yelling “come on!” after a key point. His emoting must have helped because he found himself up 40/0 and ahead 5/3. Three set points to Cam. Rob beautifully defended the first one but Cam could not be stopped. He took the last game and the match.

This win gave him his 4th US Open title and a 2014/15 season Grand Slam! It was a great one to watch with a few twists and turns. It also exemplified how mental court tennis is. God knows neither player lacks ability. It was a contest of wills, with Camden starting strong, eventually looking dejected and then gaining the will to win again.

On Friday, we had a slightly smaller but more boisterous crowd for the doubles final of last year’s winners, Americans Cam and Tim Chisholm versus amateur Kieran Booth and Chicago’s Steve Virgona.

The first set played out similar to the following two sets. The Americans came out ahead in the first couple games. Then Steve and Kieran fought for a couple games to tie it up at 2-2. Then Tim and Cam started hitting some laser forces at Kieran--perhaps a bit stronger than he is used to. The States went ahead winning the first set 6/2.

The next set saw the teams go 1/1, when Steve started to hit the net more often. He was getting frustrated, muttering to himself that he was missing easy shots. Kieran started defending the force a bit better and brought his team to 2/3. But then Tim started to hit a few more main wall dedans service returns for quick points. The Americans took the second set 6/2.

The third set again started in a 1/1 tie. And again Tim and Cam ran up to 3/1. Something must have gone off in Steve because he started to absolutely rip the ball. Mainwalls, straight forces, body shots—he just tore through the ball. Nonetheless, Cam and Tim went up 5/3. In the next game, the teams were tied up at deuce when Cam served two unreturnable serves to take the set and the match.

This victory was their third in a row, and their fourth overall, at the US Open. Cam and Tim seem pretty unstoppable, but with World Doubles coming up at Tuxedo starting in late May. Will the Americans finally defeat the Aussies? Or will Rob and Steve maintain their doubles dominance. Go to Tuxedo to find out!