

# colorado | tennis

summer 12

Year 37, Issue 3

The Official Publication of Tennis Lovers

Est. 1976



Your guide to the  
86th Annual National  
Public Parks Tennis  
Championships, coming  
to Denver in July



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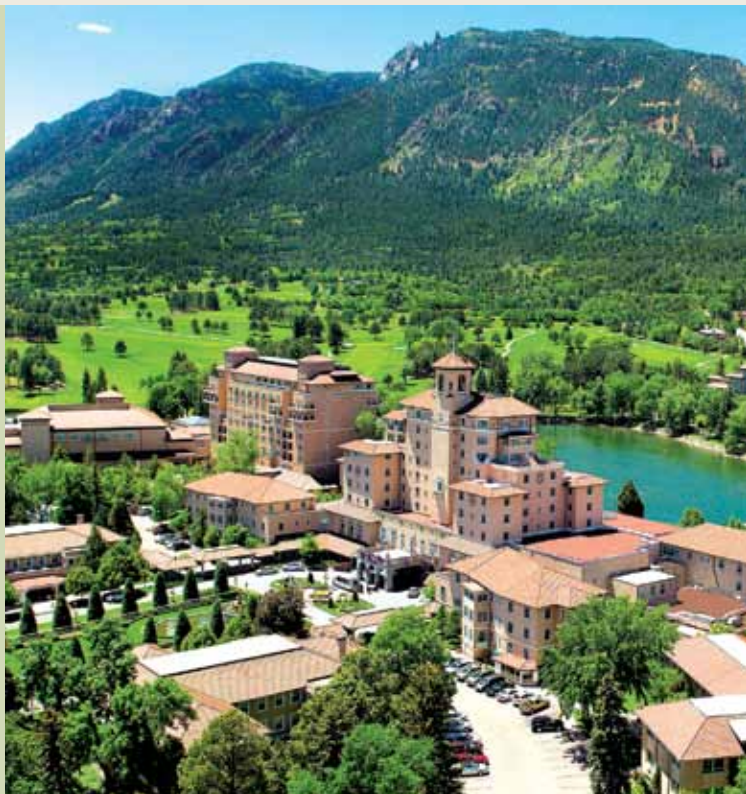


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# summer 2012

# colorado | tennis

## FEATURES

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Public parks have long played a vital role in the tradition of American tennis. From Pancho Gonzales to James Blake; Billie Jean King to Chris Evert, the careers of many great tennis professionals began in one of the thousands of public parks that dot the American landscape. These venues not only offer great exposure to tennis, but also create an environment as diverse as America's population, offering a unique playing experience unequalled anywhere else in the tennis community.

From July 21-29, Denver will play host to the National Public Parks Tennis Championships. Go play!



## HIGHFIVE

### 16 H5.12

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About USTA Colorado and contact information

## About COLORADO TENNIS

COLORADO TENNIS (USPS #013-371) is the official publication of USTA Colorado, a District of the United States Tennis Association. It is published quarterly (March, June, September & December), plus a special keeper issue in February – THE BIG BOOK OF COLORADO TENNIS.

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## COLORADO TENNIS Editor

Kurt Desautels, Phone: 303/695-4116 x203

Email: kurt@coloradotennis.com

## Advertising

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### TOURNAMENT TENNIS

Sanctioned tournament play is wrongly thought to be for "serious competitors only." But in Colorado, there is a tournament for every level player, novice to expert. And with more than 175 events featuring divisions for kids under 10 to seniors 90 and up, there's no age limit for having fun.

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# THECOVERSTORY

## DENVER READY TO SERVE AND VOLLEY FOR 2012 NATIONAL PUBLIC PARKS TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

ROLLING OUT THE RED CARPET FOR VISITORS TO THE AREA

STORY BY  
JAY L. CLARK



**WHAT:**  
**86TH ANNUAL NATIONAL PUBLIC PARKS  
TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**WHEN:**  
**JULY 21-29, 2012**

**WHERE:**  
**GATES TENNIS CENTER  
DENVER CITY PARK**

**WHO:**  
**JUNIORS, ADULT, SENIORS  
WHEELCHAIR, ADAPTIVE, ABLE-BODIED**

**HOW:**  
**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN, GET INFO AT  
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**T**he stakes are high: the player in the forecourt slowly bounces the ball, wipes sweat from his brow and eyes his opponent across the net in preparation for serving match point; winning this point would mean taking his place in the USTA record book forever as a National Champion.

No, this is not a scene from the upcoming US Open in Flushing Meadows in Queens, New York. This is a potential reality for the hundreds of players of all different abilities who will be competing at the upcoming National Public Parks Tennis Championships (NPPTC) in Denver, July 21-29. An annual staple across the country since 1923, the National Public Parks Tennis Championship will be making its first ever stop in Denver. And like every champion from every division since 1923, the USTA will forever list all of the winners in its annual records.

"This tournament has served countless purposes and has made a positive impact where it has gone," said Hollis Smith, a tennis enthusiast from California who has been involved with the NPPTC since 1964. "We have seen in most cities that whenever you can have a national championship like this, it brings attention to facilities and helps cities build their tennis programs."

Public parks have long played a vital role in the tradition of American tennis. From Pancho Gonzales to James Blake; Billie Jean King to Chris Evert, the careers of many great tennis professionals began in one of the thousands of public parks that dot the American landscape.

These venues not only offer great exposure to tennis, but also create an environment as diverse as America's population, offering a unique playing experience unequalled anywhere else in the tennis community.



This spirit of grassroots tennis continues with the NPPTC. Sponsored by the National Public Parks Tennis Association, the event brings together recreational and competitive tennis players from across the country in a celebration of community tennis.

The USTA awarded Denver as host of the 2012 NPPTC back in 2009 after a competitive bid process that was led by Denver Parks & Recreation and the Colorado District of the USTA. Denver will host the NPPTC at two of the finest tennis facilities in the City, the Gates Tennis Center and the Denver City Park tennis courts. The Daniels Fund also stepped up to support the event's success in Denver.

While the term "National Championship" may sound intimidating, the fact is that the NPPTC is open to players of all ages and ability levels, providing the chance for players who carry a 5.0 rating—or even players who have just picked up a racquet—to enjoy a national tournament experience and experience Denver in the summertime.

"Denver and our citizens embrace an athletic, active culture and we are thrilled to host the NPPTC," said Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock. "This national championship will bring players and spectators from all across this great country right here to Denver. And this competition will help shine a spotlight on our vibrant, world-class city during the summer months."

"From highly ranked amateurs to recreational players, the 2012 National Public Parks Tennis Championships offers competitors the opportunity to play in an esteemed national event," said Linda Childers, president and CEO of the Daniels Fund. "We are delighted to help sponsor this event which, as a self-officiated sport, also promotes values such as honesty, courtesy, sportsmanship and integrity."

In 1922, tennis was still a relatively young sport and Dwight Filley Davis, an army veteran and former member of the Harvard tennis team, was elected the Vice President of the US National Lawn Tennis Association. Having already established an international tennis competition in 1900—now known as the Davis Cup—Davis was determined to create a municipal championship series as a way to promote a healthier lifestyle, thus the NPPTC was born. St. Louis hosted the first NPPTC back in 1923, and featured just men. The first women's division competed in 1930.

Today's NPPTC features divisions for adults (singles, doubles, mixed doubles), families, juniors, wheelchair players and adaptive players. Also, the 2012 NPPTC will host a **PLAY DAY** for kids on July 22, which will serve as a great introduction to the game. Players who sign up to play in this year's NPPTC also have the opportunity to experience the magic of a sunny Denver summer as their registration package includes a ticket to a Colorado Rockies game at magnificent **COORS FIELD**, a ticket to the incredible **DENVER ZOO**, discounts at different Denver merchants and free membership for the week at all Denver Recreation Centers. All registered players are also invited to an Olympic-themed player party and award presentation.

Some of the awards the National Public Parks Tennis Association will bestow include:

- The Dwight Davis National Public Parks Cup (established in 2001) to a member city for its Outstanding Contribution to the development and support of tennis programs.
- The Hollis Smith Lifetime Achievement Award (established in 2001), presented by the NPPTA annually to recognize an individual who has been an outstanding advocate of the NPPTA and NPPTC, and who has promoted the organization and its events to the various public park agencies and facilities across the country. The awardees to date include Hollis Smith and Billie Jean King.
- The Gerald Perry Junior Sportsmanship Award (established in 2001), named after a great Missouri Valley Tennis champion and presented by the Gerald Perry family.
- The Eugene L. Scott Renaissance Award (established in 2006) is presented each year in the memory of NPPTC supporter Eugene Scott to a national/international tennis champion who demonstrates excellence in promoting and developing the sport of tennis in public parks. The award is presented annually at the National Public Parks Tennis Championships. The past recipients include Gene Scott (posthumously) in 2006, Chris Evert in 2007, Chanda Rubin (2008) and Stan Smith (2009), Butch Buchholz (2010) and David Wheaton (2011). The 2012 recipient will be Colorado's own tennis legend Martina Navratilova.

**Organizing all the logistics** to host a national event has been a cooperative effort beyond just Denver Parks & Recreation and USTA Colorado, it has taken a large volunteer commitment from Denver tennis enthusiasts. Arranging for registrations, court time, referees, sponsors, host hotels and player amenities has taken a monster team effort that will all pay off when the first ball is in the air on July 21. While the majority of the playing field for the tournament will be local players, tournament organizers still expect a good contingent of non-Colorado players to travel to Denver.

"In the tennis world, this is a huge national event, and we are thrilled to host it and showcase Denver," said Denver Parks & Recreation's CityWide Sports Supervisor John Martinez, who is also serving as local Co-Chair of the NPPTC. "Our city is a world-class destination and it also has some premiere facilities to host this high level of tennis tournament play."

After being involved with the NPPTC for nearly 50 years, Hollis Smith stresses that players will take two invaluable assets from participating in the NPPTC: friendships and memories.

"One of the great parts of this tournament is that anywhere you go in America, like Denver, you can really enjoy yourself for a week. I have made lifelong friends and know a lot of people around the country because of this tournament being in different cities. The National Public Parks Tennis Championships have greatly enriched my life," Smith said. Then laughing out loud, he added, "Of course the best memories of tournaments are from the ones where you win." ♻️



## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**July 21-24**

**Sanctioned Junior Tournament**

**10U, 12U, 14U, 16U, 18U singles & doubles**

**July 23-25**

**Adaptive Tournament**

**singles (7/23), doubles (7/24),  
unified doubles (7/25)**

**July 25-29**

**Sanctioned Family, Open, NTRP, Age Division Tournament**  
**singles, doubles & mixed**

**July 27-29**

**Sanctioned Wheelchair Tournament**  
**singles & doubles**

## PLAYER DAYS

**July 21-29**

**Free membership to all 28 Denver recreation centers**

**July 22, 9am-12pm**

**Free Tennis for Kids Play Day & Pizza Party**  
**Gates Tennis Center**

**July 22, 1-6pm**

**Adaptive Tennis Certification Workshop**  
**Mullen High School (free with pre-registration)**

**July 23**

**Denver Zoo Day (free admission for players)**

**July 25, 5-8pm**

**Player Party**  
**Pulaski Park/Gates Tennis Center**  
**(free admission for players, paid guests welcome)**

**July 27, 6:40pm**

**Colorado Rockies vs Cincinnati Reds**  
**Coors Field (free admission for players)**

**For information, visit**  
**DENVERGOV.ORG/RECREATION**



# Save the Date!

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## The 86th Annual **National Public Parks Tennis Championships**

**July 21 - 29, 2012 at Gates Tennis Center and Denver City Park**

Go to [www.denvergov.org/recreation](http://www.denvergov.org/recreation) for more information.

### **Juniors - July 21-24**

Boys and Girls Singles and Doubles

### **Family - July 24-25**

Husband/Wife, Father/Son, Father/Daughter,  
Mother/Daughter, Mother/Son

### **Adaptive Tennis - July 23-25**

Adult and Junior singles, doubles, unified doubles.  
USTA membership not required. For Info and rating  
forms contact Vicky Matarazzo at  
[vickymomof5@hotmail.com](mailto:vickymomof5@hotmail.com).

### **Wheelchair - July 27-29**

Men and Women Singles and Doubles  
(Open, A and B) Junior Open Singles

### **Adults - July 25-29**

Age Divisions: Men and Women Singles,  
Doubles and Mixed (Open-hard courts)

NTRP Divisions: Men and Women Singles,  
Doubles and Mixed (NTRP Rating 3.0, 3.5,  
4.0, and 4.5)

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**QUESTION/ANSWER with USTA Texas Regional Executive Director Ken McAllister on the importance of tennis in public parks, the growth of the game and what it means be a part of this 86-year-old grass roots tradition in tennis.**

**Can you give a little back story on the history of tennis in public parks?**

The first National Public Park Tennis Championships were held in St. Louis in 1923 at what is now the Dwight Davis Tennis Center, named after the founder of the Davis Cup and President of the USNLTA, who was from St. Louis. It was sponsored by the USTA, then called the United States National Lawn Tennis Association. It was men only until 1930, when a women's draw was introduced. For many years, the winners of those draws were automatically invited to play in the US Nationals until it became the US Open in 1968. In 1948, when the NPPTC was hosted in Los Angeles, junior draws were introduced. The first African American to win was in that same year and was the well-known Oscar Johnson, later recognized by the International Tennis Hall of Fame. Age division events were added in 1959. Up until sometime in the 1990s, players qualified to play in the national event by winning their local events played at public parks. We are currently being assisted by Active.com to revive that tradition while keeping the event open to all who wish to play.

**How does it feel to be part of such an historic event as the Public Parks National Championship?**

As a player who grew up playing only on public courts, it presents a good feeling of being part of a larger and historic picture of tennis for the average Joe. Of course, the truth that many of the greatest players—Chris Evert, Billie Jean King, etc.—also grew up on public courts adds to the credibility.

**Can you capture in words the experience of being at the Championship?**

What is the atmosphere like? The atmosphere is more down home than dramatic. Although there are many nationally ranked players entered, all of us are in a public park setting, and it is frankly very relaxing.

**What role do public parks play for young tennis players looking to learn the sport?**

Although affordability and open access are two obvious pluses for youngsters learning at public centers, the mix of skill levels, backgrounds, and athletes allow for an atmosphere of growth. The key here is whether the parks will hire professionals to bring in the programming and teachers such as our last venue, the Jimmy Evert Tennis Center in Fort Lauderdale, does. When that happens, the opportunity is greater than it is in the private sector.

**What do public parks represent to the growth of tennis?**

The mere statistical fact that 80% of all tennis is played on public facilities points to the obvious decisions that all of us in the industry should focus efforts where the players are. Although our mindset is that this is the bastion of recreational tennis, we can't forget that this is where the great Australian players of the 50's and 60's were discovered. This is where the athletes, currently being skimmed away by soccer, baseball, or football, can also have a shot at trying tennis. I predict that QuickStart Tennis will find its home in public parks and school courts.

**What kind of diversity among players does the Championship feature?**

This may be the greatest feature of the NPPTC. This is where the great players and contributors from the American Tennis Association (the black national tennis organization) came from. I suspect that the NPPTC has the greatest racial diversity of all national tournaments. This is not because other events are closed, but it is because of the very nature that folks using the public venues better reflect the color of America. We have also advocated for offering wheelchair tennis events when possible as these events are most often offered at public tennis facilities.

**The number of unique entries into the event is growing. Care to guesstimate the reason for this?**

Number one, tennis itself is on a general surge throughout the country. We are the fastest growing traditional sport in the US over the past 5 years. Secondly, our Board has been working more closely with Tennis in the Parks, the USTA, and the Sections to get the publicity out over the past few years. Thirdly, it did not hurt to have the National Tennis Center host the event in 2006, which spotlighted the NPPTC to many who had not heard of it.



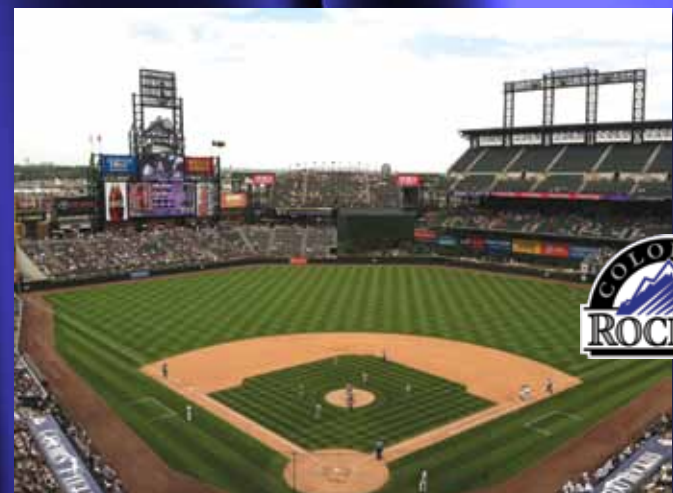
**July 22, 9am-12pm  
Free Tennis for Kids Play Day & Pizza Party  
Gates Tennis Center**



**July 23  
Denver Zoo Day  
(free admission for players)**



**July 27, 6:40pm  
Colorado Rockies vs Cincinnati Reds  
Coors Field (free admission for players)**





# THEBUZZ

## NOUNS IN THE NEWS

PEOPLE, PLACES & THINGS DOING THIS, THAT AND THE OTHER.

### USTA partnering with PTR, Special Olympics for free clinic

The USTA (national office) is teaming up with the Professional Tennis Registry (PTR) and Special Olympics Colorado to conduct a free Adaptive Tennis Certification Workshop in conjunction with the National Public Parks Tennis Championships on Sunday, July 22 from 1-6pm at Mullen High School. The workshop is open to all coaches, teachers and volunteers regardless of experience level in Special Olympics or Adaptive Tennis.

Elements of the Certification Workshop:

- Communication and organization skills for the coach
- Structure and content of tennis lessons
- Serve, rally and score as quickly as possible
- Information for working with Special Olympics athletes
- Skills and games for Special Olympics athletes

Contact Jenny Chase to reserve your space at 720/359-3122 or [jc@specialolympics.org](mailto:jc@specialolympics.org). The registration deadline is June 30.

### USTA Pro Circuit event coming to CAC Inverness

Colorado Athletic Club at Inverness has been selected to host a USTA Pro Women's Tennis Tournament to be held the first week of July 2012. Sixty top-ranked professional women are expected to compete for the \$50,000 purse and the professional ranking points that go with it. A 32-draw pre-qualifying tournament (June 28-30, \$50 entry) will be held with the qualifying draw to start Sunday, July 1. The pre-qualifying event is open to all players, visit the Inverness website [coloradoathleticclubs.com/inverness](http://coloradoathleticclubs.com/inverness) for additional details. For additional information related to sponsorship or volunteer opportunities, please contact Lee Elliott at [lelliott@wellbridge.com](mailto:lelliott@wellbridge.com).



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### Former CU Coach Smarr inducted into ITA Hall of Fame

**Ron Smarr**, the legendary tennis coach who brought Colorado its first Big Eight title, has been inducted into the ITA Men's College Tennis Hall of Fame. Smarr, the nation's winningest coach with more than 870 career wins, took over the CU Men's Tennis program in 1988 and led the squad to the 1993 Big Eight Conference Championship. He was twice named Region V Coach of the Year before leaving CU for Rice University in 1998.

### Price doubles up at National Women's 65/75/85 Indoors

**Rita Price** hoofed her way to another pair of national championship titles at the Midtown Tennis Club in Overland Park, KS. The 85 year-old stormed her way to her 12th and 13th gold balls to go along with the 24 silver and 19 bronze balls she's amassed in her playing career. In addition to her USTA National hardware, Price has also nabbed a pair of gold and silver medals in the ITF World Senior Games.

### Colorado players enjoy home cooking as Meadow Creek hosts National Women's 40s/50s Indoors

Grand Junction's **Susan Wright** feasted on the competition at the USTA National Women's 40/50 Indoor Championships, capturing both the 50s singles and doubles championship (with partner Mary Dailey), while **Shannon Cross** (Aurora) earned a bronze ball in the 50d.

Recently transplanted (from Montana), **Ginger Phillips** earned a silver ball in 40s singles competition, while Denver's **Rhona**

**Kaczmarczyk** captured the 40s doubles gold ball. Arvada duo **Kathy Anselmo** and **Kim Greason** picked up the 40d bronze while **Kimberly Davis** and **Lori Kiser**, both of Colorado Springs, placed fourth.

### USTA Colorado will feature the 10 and Under Tennis SportCourt at Olympics Watch Party in Colorado Springs on July 27

USTA Colorado is partnering with Colorado Springs Sports Corporation and the City of Colorado Springs to celebrate the opening of the 2012 Olympic Games with a big bash in downtown Colorado Springs on Friday, July 27. This free event takes place at Tejon Street and Colorado Avenue, in front of the US Olympic Committee's offices. A 15-by-27-foot, high-definition video screen will broadcast a live feed of the opening ceremony from the London Games. Festivities are scheduled to start at 4pm with performances on two stages, an autograph session featuring Olympians, a synthetic ice rink, USTA Colorado's 10 and Under Tennis SportCourt, a children's play area, interactive sport activities and demonstrations by gymnasts and a BMX stunt team. A fireworks show will cap the party at 10pm after an Olympic cauldron is lit by retired figure skater Kristi Yamaguchi and her husband, Bret Hedican, a former hockey player. Mayor Steve Bach says he hopes to create the same kind of celebration as a large New Year's Eve party or Super Bowl. The 10 and Under Tennis Sport Court was also featured at the People's Pedal Party to kick-off the 2011 US Pro Cycling Challenge.

### Warren resigns, USTA Intermountain seeking new Exec Director

After a little more than a year as executive director of the Intermountain Section, **Matthew Warren** has stepped down to fill the same position at the Pacific Northwest Section. While his stint as our Section's director was short, much was accomplished with our Section and its Districts during his tenure. As Matthew had previously held a District (Idaho) executive director position, he was well-versed in our Section's operations and familiar with our strengths (and weaknesses) and able to work with the Section and District leadership (boards and staffs) to chart a new course for our overall operations. Several of the most significant accomplishments made by our leadership (Section and District) during his tenure include:

- Implemented a new strategic plan for the Section—ratified and adopted by each of the six Districts;
- Empowered the District offices (seen as the 'delivery' system of USTA programs and services in the six-state region);
- Allocated new restricted money for 10 and Under Tennis and Diversity/Inclusion to the Districts;
- Developed a budget which reflects the Section's core values;
- Restructured the staff and committees according to the Section's strategic priorities;
- Hired a third TSR (USTA Nevada);
- Implemented a streamlined internal communications and reporting system;
- Developed the Monthly Metrics Report and Bi-weekly Operations Report; and
- Cultivated a culture of inclusion, innovation and accountability.

The Section has appointed a search committee that will begin the process of hiring a successor. A solid foundation exists for a new executive director as many of the proposed changes and the adoption of new policies and systems have been implemented based on the new strategic plan. All of us at USTA Colorado want to thank Matthew for his efforts and leadership. We wish him success in the Northwest and with all of his endeavors.

### Jamestown, CO receives USTA National grant

USTA National has announced that the town of Jamestown, CO has been selected to receive \$13,500 in USTA Facility Grant funds. The grant endeavors to assist communities leveraging their tennis facilities to promote lifelong healthy activities and improve their programming by advancing the latest tennis innovation

### Adult League Department Seeking Input

Each year, USTA Colorado receives input and suggestions from players as to how to make our league programs more efficient and enjoyable. Traditionally, that information has been compiled and handed over to its Adult Programs Committee, but beginning this summer, some parts of the state will have optional forums to bring league players together and hear what they think about various topics. Heading up the forums will be selected ambassadors who will serve on the League Advisory Council. Each ambassador will run the meetings in their area of the state, and will then collect the information received from captains and players at the meetings and provide it to the Adult Programs Committee and the USTA Colorado League Department staff.

The League Ambassadors are **Eileen Pero** (Denver-Metro), **Sylvia Henderson** (Boulder/Longmont), **Val Hecker** (Northern Colorado) and **Kathy Hinckley** (Southern Colorado).

In the coming weeks, we will be sending out information about meetings that are sched-



uled in an Adult League *Alert!* email. If you are not signed up to receive these free emails, go to [COLORADOTENNIS.com](http://COLORADOTENNIS.com) and click on the *BLAST!* logo on the left side of the screen. There will be a limited number of people who will be able to attend each meeting, so make sure you RSVP promptly when the meeting is announced.

### Breaking the Barriers exhibit earns honors

USTA Colorado's **Breaking the Barriers** project was selected by The International Academy of Visual Arts to receive the 2012 Communicator Award of Distinction in two categories: Marketing/Promotions – Special Event and Public Relations/Communications – Special Event Plan. The 18th Annual Communicator Awards is the largest and most competitive awards program honoring the creative excellence for communications professionals from across the US and around the world. The Communicator Awards are judged and overseen by the International Academy of the Visual Art, a 550+ member organization of leading professionals from various disciplines of the visual arts dedicated to embracing progress and the evolving nature of traditional and interactive media. The annual competition honors the best in advertising, corporate communications, public relations and identity work for print, video, interactive and audio.

Debuting in April 2011, the Breaking the Barriers exhibit at the Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library drew nearly 10,000 visitors, which featured a timeline of African Americans in tennis, dating from the 1800s to Arthur Ashe's historical 1975 Wimbledon win. The award-winning project included school outreach with guided tours, an oral history lecture series, a portrait series of local tennis pioneers, and an original documentary short, *Crossing the Net: Denver City Park and The Black Tennis Experience*.

### USTA Colorado establishes new committees and is accepting applications for members

USTA Colorado has established two new standing committees—the Communications Committee and the Sponsorship Committee. USTA Colorado has not established new committees for quite some time and the additions reflect the organization's commitment to growth. The Communications Committee was formed to address and direct how USTA Colorado communicates with its membership and the entire Colorado community. The way in which organizations communicate has changed rapidly over the past several years and

this newly established committee will work to keep USTA Colorado ahead of the curve as it relates to these efforts. Currently, existing communications pieces are being reviewed and recommendation for any changes and enhancements to existing efforts will be made to the board of directors for consideration. The Sponsorship Committee is tasked to develop strategies for securing new sponsors for the organization. Tennis continues to grow in Colorado and there are a number of sponsor opportunities available within most areas of operation including adult and junior leagues, player development, school tennis, diversity and community development, just to name a few. Through partnerships, sponsors gain valuable access to the tennis community, and sponsor dollars help to enhance existing programming and allow USTA Colorado to grow in areas like community development, diversity and school tennis. To learn more, contact Lisa Schaefer <[lisa@coloradotennis.com](mailto:lisa@coloradotennis.com)>.

### USTA Colorado partnering with 5th Gear Kids

Engaging and empowering 5th graders to make healthy decisions regarding food and physical activity through understanding energy balance is the mission of **5th Gear Kids**, and USTA Colorado is proud to be one of the first community partners with this health initiative. 5th Gear Kids is a program funded by the Colorado Health Foundation to support



the collaborative efforts between Colorado Center for Health and Wellness at the Anschutz Medical Campus, Children's Hospital Colorado Foundation, Cherry Creek School District and Aurora Public Schools. Through this program, 5th graders will learn the science of energy balance: to balance fun physical activity with nutritious power-packed food choices. USTA Colorado is working with Cherry Creek School District and Aurora Public Schools to introduce all elementary students to the sport of tennis through PE and providing more play

opportunities through Kids Tennis Clubs and local recreation programs. During the 2012-13 school year, 5th Gear Kids in these districts will be able to earn points that will be redeemed for prizes by participating in any of the five 5th Gear Kids Tennis Play Days being offered at geographically diverse locations across the school districts. Visit [5THGEARKIDS.org](http://5THGEARKIDS.org) or contact Kristy Jenkins <[schools@coloradotennis.com](mailto:schools@coloradotennis.com)> to learn more or to help at one of the Play Days during the school year.

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# 10ANDUNDER

IT'S A WHOLE NEW BALLGAME FOR KIDS!

PEOPLE, PLACES & THINGS DOING THIS, THAT AND THE OTHER.



Photo courtesy of Cindy MacMaster

## SmashZone a hit at Taste of Fort Collins

The USTA SmashZone, the premiere fan interactive attraction at the US Open, made a stop at the Taste of Fort Collins this year. SmashZone is on a 30-week nationwide tour promoting youth participation and local involvement into the game of tennis. With a 53-foot interactive trailer that anchors up to four kid-sized tennis courts, the mobile experience utilizes a play format known as 10 and Under Tennis. Designed for kids ages 10 and younger, SmashZone offers an experience into the game on smaller courts using kid-sized racquets along with lower compression balls. SmashZone also offers interactive fun with a green screen photo opportunity on the cover of Tennis Magazine, virtual tennis gaming by Nintendo, touch screen kiosks, and more.

Taste of Fort Collins is a Northern Colorado

Tradition—a community celebration with family-friendly activities that are perfect for Northern Coloradans' active lifestyles. TFC benefits Special Olympics Larimer County and Kiwanis Club International. This two-day festival offers attendees food from local and national restaurants, entertainment from regionally and internationally acclaimed musicians, and an eclectic display of fine artisans work as well as the region's best crafters.



## Play-Day-Palooza

Looking for a way to introduce your kids to tennis so that they beg for more? Find your nearest Play Day at 10ANDUNDERTENNIS.com

and give your kids the gift of a lifetime: the sport for a lifetime!

There are dozens of remaining Play Days on the Colorado schedule, at locations across the state.

## Adopt A Court grants still available for public facilities

As of June, more than \$2,000 has been awarded to public tennis facilities for supplemental blended line funding through USTA Colorado's **Adopt A Court** grants, meaning that there is still more than \$2,000 available on a first-come, first-served basis for public facilities looking to add blended lines to their tennis courts. Apply online at [COLORADOTENNIS.com](http://COLORADOTENNIS.com) (click COMMUNITY).

## Colorado facilities embracing 10 and Under Tennis initiative

The momentum behind the national 10 and Under Tennis initiative is gaining strength as numerous Colorado facilities have adapted or created a kid-friendly environment on their courts and in their programming.

The four new permanent 36-foot courts at **Gates Tennis Center** (right) will be ready for play by the 4th of July, while two of the state's largest private clubs, **Colorado Athletic Clubs Inverness** and **Monaco**, are in the process of finishing the addition of blended lines to many of their courts. While creating the infrastructure is a vital component of the 10 and Under initiative, equally important is recruiting kids to the game utilizing the new kid-friendly format, and according to recent numbers, it appears that the Intermountain Section is one of the nation's top performers in terms of offering Play Days and other opportunities for kids to learn the sport, ranking third among all Sections as of June 1.



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# INDUSTRY NEWS

## TENNIS NEWS FROM AROUND THE NATION

### PAC Releases Data on Sports, Fitness Participation

Efforts to engage children in physical activities and sports—including tennis—are starting to have an effect on America's youngest generation, according to a new study released by the Physical Activity Council (PAC), a partnership of major trade associations in the sports, fitness and leisure industries.

Inactivity among children ages 6 to 12 declined slightly from 4.6 million youngsters in 2010 to 4.5 million in 2011; inactivity among ages 13 to 17 remained fairly flat. While figures specific to tennis are unavailable at this time, promotions for 10 and Under Tennis, which uses equipment and courts sized for kids, together with a push for tennis in school physical education programs, may be helping to keep youngsters active. A big consumer push for 10 and Under Tennis, which includes a partnership with the Nickelodeon TV network, was launched in February and will continue through 2012.

The news isn't so good for adults ages 18 and older: those not participating in any of the 119 physical activities measured continued to increase, from 58.7 million in 2010 to 60 million in 2011. Overall, the study shows that 68.1 million Americans ages 6 and older, or 23.9% of the U.S. population, were completely inactive in 2011. That's an increase of 1.1 million from 2010; however, the rate of increase has slowed slightly from previous years. According to the study, there are 217 million Americans ages 6 and up who do participate in at least one sport or activity measured.

In racquet sports, the "core" participation rate, measuring those who participate on a regular or frequent basis, increased 1%, to about 7% of the total population. The racquet sports category was the only one to see an increase in the core participation rate. Tennis still holds a commanding lead among traditional sports in the percentage growth in participation since 2000, according to data from the Physical Activity Council. In fact, tennis is the only traditional sport to have a positive growth rate overall from 2000 to 2011.

However, the "total" participation rate for racquet sports declined 2%, to 12% of the total population. This followed a decline overall in sports, fitness and related physical activities.

According to the study, most US states have an inactivity rate of over 18.8%. Mississippi has the highest rate of inactivity, with nearly 32% of the population not participating in one or

more high calorie-burning activities, defined as any activity where the participant can work up a sweat. That's followed by West Virginia, Louisiana, New Mexico, Tennessee, New York, Florida, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Utah has the highest rate of physical activity with almost 62% of the population participating in calorie-burning activities. Idaho follows close behind, then New Hampshire, Colorado, Minnesota, Virginia, Wisconsin, Nevada, Oregon and Illinois.

The same study also measured spending trends in 2011 compared to 2010. In that period, for "tennis memberships/fees", .8% spent more, 5.4% spent the same, and 1.4% spent less, with 92.4% not spending at all in the category. Of those who did spend for tennis memberships/fees, 18.4% spent less and 10.5% spent more than in 2010.

### Senate passes PEP funding

In efforts to reverse the increases in obesity and inactive Americans, the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association (SGMA) has been leading the way in supporting and promoting two important pieces of legislation: the Carol M. White Physical Education Program (PEP) and the Personal Health Investment Today Act (PHIT). The PEP bill is a federal grant program that has provided nearly \$800 million in funding to local school districts and community-based organizations to provide quality physical education. The PHIT Act would make physical activity more affordable by allowing Americans to deduct or be reimbursed with pre-tax dollars for expenses related to physical activities, such as health club costs, sports equipment, even tennis fees.

The SGMA and supporters of physical education are applauding the US Senate Appropriations Committee for taking a stand for physical education in schools. The committee approved \$78.693 million for the Carol M. White Physical Education (PEP) Program in the U.S. Department of Education budget. The PEP Bill, founded by SGMA, funds a competitive grant program to give school districts and community-based organizations resources to provide students with quality, innovative physical education. With access to PEP grants, school districts are able to cultivate future generations of active Americans through innovative physical education programs. The bill now awaits full consideration by the US Senate.



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# OUTREACH

CYTF: MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY



Through the lifetime sport of tennis, the Colorado Youth Tennis Foundation promotes the physical, emotional and social development of ALL youth to aspire to become active, productive and responsible citizens.

## Affiliated events raise money for CYTF

**Meadow Creek Tennis & Fitness** donated proceeds from its spring golf tournament at Lakewood Country Club to the Colorado Youth Tennis Foundation. A second golf tournament is slated for August 27 at Hiwan Country Club, where proceeds will once again benefit the Foundation (see right).

**Colorado Athletic Club Monaco** hosted a doubles clinic to benefit the CYTF. Eileen Pero and Diane Selke conducted the event that raised nearly \$1,000. To learn more about hosting an affiliated event for the CYTF, please contact Lisa Schaefer <lisa@coloradotennis.com>.

## Dollars at Work

With assistance from USTA Colorado diversity dollars, the Colorado Youth Tennis Foundation, provided program grants to 19 Colorado organizations running programs for kids in need at their first disbursement meeting of 2012. Additionally, 21 youngsters received special need individual player scholarships to help pursue tennis opportunities. Nearly \$20,000 has been disbursed so far in 2012. Tennis teaches skills that can be taken off the court and into life. Through scholarships and grants, the CYTF will positively impact the lives of thousands of kids through tennis this year.

## Volunteer Applications Being Accepted

The Colorado Youth Tennis Foundation is accepting applications from supporters who are interested in serving on one of the organization's numerous volunteer committees. The fundraising arm of USTA Colorado, the CYTF raises money and then disburses those dollars to youngsters and programs through its scholarships and grants program. For committee descriptions and to apply visit [COLORADOTENNIS.com](http://COLORADOTENNIS.com).

**Hiwan Golf Club  
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prizes, lunch and dinner!**

**Proceeds benefit  
the CYTF.**

**For more information, visit  
[MEADOWCREEKTENNIS.com](http://MEADOWCREEKTENNIS.com)**



Congratulations and thank you to the **Poudre High School Tennis Team**, the 2012 Firls High School Racquets For All collection champions. Pictured are team captain **Jessica Addington**, coach **Laura Ecton** and captain **Kwynn Ecton**. Find out more about the 2012 Challenge at [FACEBOOK.com/RACQUETSFORALL](http://FACEBOOK.com/RACQUETSFORALL).

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# HIGHFIVE

PROFILES BY  
KATIE NEWELL

For the past 36 years, Colorado Tennis (née High Bounce in 1976) has been bringing you profiles of local players, coaches, administrators and anyone else in the Colorado tennis community who shares their passion for the sport with others.

In each issue, we are profiling five individuals who deserve recognition for their efforts and accomplishments. As always, some you will know, while others will be fresh names and faces. We encourage readers to help us recognize others who they think deserve special recognition. Email Kurt Desautels <kurt@coloradotennis.com> with your comments or suggestions.



**F**or Victor Hugo Jimenez, tennis isn't just about sending a ball from one side of the court to the other, it's about sending a child from one side of life to another—from one with limited hope to one rich with opportunity.

Growing up in the rainforests of Costa Rica, only a handful of wealthy kids had access to the few available tennis courts and in essence to a better life. Lucky to have friends who introduced him to the sport, Hugo quickly became a strong player. With those skills came the knowledge that tennis could open doors. As a result, Hugo became deeply committed to bringing as many other young people as possible into the world of tennis.

Hugo met his eventual wife, Brenda in the Peace Corps. They came to Colorado where Hugo discovered that there was a large population of kids in this state who could benefit from tennis, just as he did. He set about trying to find ways to offer free tennis clinics and camps to youth in underserved areas. It became his mission. "It's all about opportunity and ultimately getting them to college," Hugo explains.

Opening that door for kids can steer them away from a discouraging trend he's seeing in the community, from drug and alcohol problems to a general lack of regard for themselves, and those around them. "There is a lack of respect," Hugo explains, hoping that the chance at college scholarships can help change that reality.

Hugo has been involved in USTA Colorado's Star Search program (with Denver Parks & Recreation) and the Denver Urban Youth Tennis Academy. He's also a USTA School Tennis Clinician, promoting tennis in schools K-12, at 9News Health Fairs, Summer Institute USTA Training, and Diversity-TennisFest Series, just to name a few. He's a private tennis instructor and is passionately involved in adaptive tennis, as well. Excited about working with "the little guys," he's a QuickStart instructor and was a published author for Mini Tennis in the USPTA Intermountaineer and Colorado Tennis newspaper.

Educating himself in all aspects of the game by obtaining multiple professional memberships, taking several professional courses, attending conventions and workshops helped earn Hugo the USPTA Intermountain Star Award in February 2010. He was part of the USTA Colorado "Vive tu Juego" TV Commercial with kids at the Ricardo Flores Magon Academy in 2009.

Tennis has opened up more than professional opportunities for Hugo. He's also very grateful for the "wonderful" friendships he's made with other instructors and professionals who share his commitment to helping others.

Hugo will be busy this July, conducting clinics and workshops at the 86th Annual National Public Parks Tennis Championships, which are coming to Gates Tennis Center and Denver City Parks (see covery story). If you are interested in volunteering to help Hugo and his mentor in adaptive tennis, Vicky Matarazzo, with adaptive tennis or some of the camps or clinics at the Championships, please call him at 720/244-3477 or Vicky at 303/887-6056. ♻️



Photo by Kristy Jenkins/USTA Colorado



Photo courtesy of Diane Wolverton

## DIANE WOLVERTON

**O**ver the last 22 years coaching tennis at Northglenn High School, Diane Wolverton has seen things change. In the early years, it was she who was doing the learning as she absorbed the ins and outs of the game, coaching techniques, strategy, etc., as she worked with some of the top players who had been in the club system playing at a national level. She'd even attend their private coaching lessons to learn everything she could.

Two decades later, Diane coaches a variety of kids, some of whom have never picked up a racquet before coming out for the Northglenn Tennis Team. Not fazed at all, she says she doesn't care if they've never played tennis and encourages their participation. She knows it's about much more than winning or losing on the court.

Diane is also Chair of the CHSAA Tennis Committee, Tournament Director for the CHSAA High School State Tennis Championships and the President for Tennis for the Colorado High School Coaches Association. In addition, she's been instrumental in the formation of the All-State Team. In order to become an All State Player, athletes must be nominated by their coach, have played at the state level, and be well-rounded on and off the court.

Diane now teaches English at Horizon High School, having started out teaching elementary and middle school students which she thoroughly enjoyed. "It's wonderful teaching at the high school level," Diane explains, adding that "you get to see an immediate impact of your efforts." She's especially proud of the online learning she's involved in and is grateful that it helped 15 students graduate on time this year, who wouldn't have had the opportunity to do so, otherwise.

Being a high school tennis coach involved with players new to the sport has been rewarding. "Tennis for these kids brings a sense of family and a safe place for these kids to be," she said. Making it clear to the parents that she demands the players attend practice is "something the kids definitely appreciate," knowing that otherwise they may have to take care of siblings or have other responsibilities. This gives them the chance to be kids for a while. She also knows that it helps them say "No to drugs and thugs!" to have a place to go every day after school.

If Diane could change one thing, it would be that coaches could get more training and opportunities to attend clinics, workshops, etc. Knowing in this age of technology that it should be possible to reach more coaches, she's hoping that bringing more support in that arena will get more kids off the street and onto the tennis courts where they will have a chance to thrive. ♻️



**N**icole Kalhorn was only a year and a half old when she picked up a tennis racquet, trying to keep up with older siblings, Simone (now on the pro tour) and Ashton (playing at Bradley University). Vying for the attention to have a few balls tossed her way, her desire to keep up and excel has created one of the top junior players in the state. She's well rounded both on and off the court, and has an upbeat, positive attitude that propels her towards success in all aspects of her life.

These days before a match, you might find Nicole jamming to Flux Pavilion on her iPod, but you will most definitely find a



Photo by Kurt Desautels/USTA Colorado

## NICOLE KALHORN

She volunteers at PetSmart to help with animal adoptions. Her favorite subject in school is biology. When asked about potential careers in addition to tennis Nicole says, "I really like marine biology!" 🌊

player who knows the game of tennis better than most. Having watched her siblings play at high levels in her formative years and even now getting some additional strategy and technical help from them, she has a strong understanding of what it takes mentally and physically to come out on top.

She's also very realistic and grounded when it comes to the success side of the game. "At first I got tied up in the rankings side of the game," Nicole explains, "but then I realized it wasn't what mattered." Now she says that she really doesn't feel any pressure and truly enjoys being on the court.

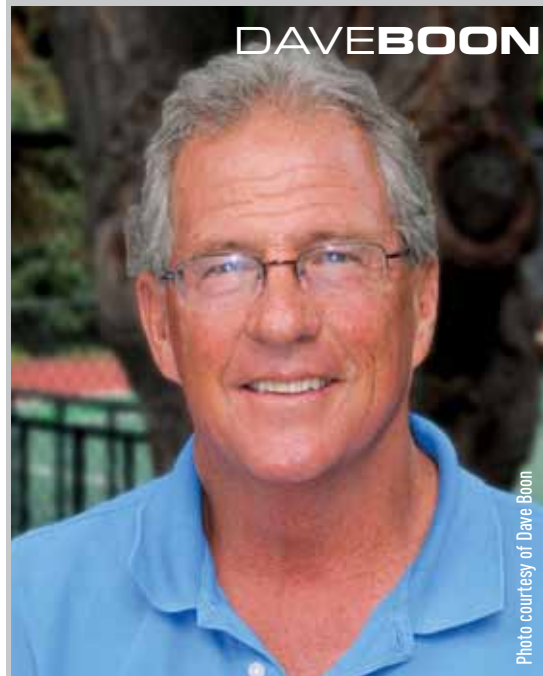
Taught to play by a single mother and psychologist, Tasha, Nicole also benefitted from being the third child and was taught with a more laid-back approach. "With Nicole, I really didn't care about the results," Tasha explains, which translated into less pressure and more fun. Tasha has instilled in her three children that "Winning is when you can lose a match and still feel like a winner." It's a philosophy that has produced three great netters with outstanding sportsmanship.

Going into her sophomore year at Pine Creek High School, Nicole has a short term goal of winning the 5A state title, after reaching the finals this year. She has a longer term goal of playing at the D1 level, favoring Syracuse and Pepperdine currently. Beyond that, she really isn't sure just yet.

Off the court, Nicole won't tell you, but she's an A student, and loves to be part of the Screamin' Eagles Club and French National Honor Society.

**I**f you know the name Dave Boon, it's probably because of one of two games he's passionate about—the game of tennis, and the game of life. And if you speak with Dave you'll quickly understand that unique circumstances have created a man on a mission, both on and off the tennis court.

In regards to the game of tennis, Dave's contributions to the tennis community are extensive. A teaching professional for 30-plus years, Dave is a member of both the USPTA and the PTR, and has coached six state high school champions in two



DAVE BOON

Photo courtesy of Dave Boon

states and three NCAA champions. He has received numerous awards, including the USPTA National Star Award in 2008 for his contributions to "at risk" youth and innovative grass roots tennis programming. In addition, he received the 2007 and 2008 USPTA Intermountain Star Award, and the 2007 USTA Colorado Arthur Ashe Award. Dave is the Executive Director of the First Service Fort Collins NJTL at Larimer Country (a part of the local Boys and Girls Club), he's the Executive Director of USTA Wyoming, and he is a USTA National Trainer at Rec Coaches Workshops as well as 10 and Under Tennis Workshops.

But it's the second game—the game of life that gives Dave what he describes as his strong sense of "urgency." Five years ago, Dave, his wife, June, and a family friend survived a horrific event when a Class IV avalanche crushed their car, rolled them the length of a football field and left them buried alive upside down. Their miracle survival was highlighted on The Today Show, CNN, MSNBC, USA Today and Oprah. This extraordinary experience directed Dave to write a book for teens entitled, *My Wish: Don't Get Swept Away As a Teen*. He wrote the book for one reason—to inspire young people to discover their gifts in life and become happy and healthy people, not letting themselves get swept away by peer pressure, drugs and alcohol, or negative associations.

"It kills me to see anybody, especially kids, not reach their full potential and not have a chance in life," Dave explains when asked about the large amount of time he spends on and off the courts helping others. Having himself played at Florida Atlanta University, he is especially fond of teaching the the under-10 netters. "I just love teaching them. I really do," he says. He also loves empowering others, particularly other professionals, so that they can rally to the same cause.

Described by many as having contagious enthusiasm, Dave's a passionate public speaker in addition to writing books and teaching tennis. He lives every day like it could be his last. "You never know when you're going to leave this world, and for that reason I am compelled to get things done now," Dave explains.

When asked what he'd like to read on his tombstone someday he said it would be just four words: "I made a difference."

If you want to find out more about Dave's incredibly story, or volunteer to help in Dave's mission to bring young people to the sport of tennis, visit [www.daveboon.com](http://www.daveboon.com). 🌊

**B**rought to a tennis court as a six year-old by his uncle, Pueblo-born Beau Fresquez didn't just find a sport he was going to excel at, he found the path that would guide his young adult life.

Through Tennis Mania and the interaction with Phil Betancourt, Beau not only developed the technical skills to play top junior tennis, he developed an interest in instruction, getting his first coaching job at age 11.

A former high school standout, Beau finished in the top 4 three times at State. Of that experience that included a teammate exchange student from Switzerland he says, "We were a solid team and I enjoyed the high level of competition." He went on to play at CSU-Pueblo, experiencing the pressure and rigor of college-level tennis, and "ultimately loving my college experience and the school."

Graduating in 2010 with a Bachelors Degree in Exercise Science, Health Promotion & Recreation, Beau already has a director position working with the city and feels grateful that he's already contributing to his passion, youth development.

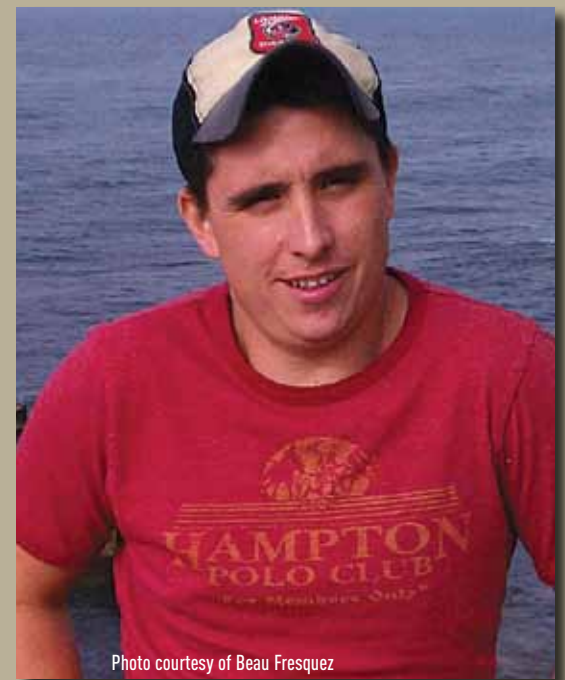


Photo courtesy of Beau Fresquez

## BEAU FRESQUEZ

On the court, Beau has volunteered with Star Search, which gives young athletes with limited financial means a chance to play tennis. He still works with the players on the college team, even though he sometimes misses being on the competitive side himself. "It's a chance to pay-it-forward for me," he explains, "because I got that chance myself and want others to experience that, as well."

Recently, Beau won the Open Singles and Open Doubles (with Ryan Joyce) at the Rocky Mountain Open, the only Gay and Lesbian Tennis Alliance (GLTA) event in the region, a tournament now in its fifth year. Beau had won the singles in 2008 and 2009, as well. The event was sponsored by D.A.T.E. (Denver Area Tennis Enthusiasts), the premiere Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender tennis group in the metro Denver area.

"The tournament gets a pretty strong draw," he explains of his interest in the event, which is the 4th largest of the master's series.

Working for years in the non-profit sector, as well, has given Beau a strong desire to bring his talents to the community. "I think it's really important to give back," he says. Continuing on his path of youth development and staying active in the nonprofit sector are passions for Beau. Finding his path young has been a gift. 🌊



# SPOTLIGHT

## OLYMPIC MOVEMENT

WE ASK WHAT IT TAKES TO COACH AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF INTERNATIONAL TEAM COMPETITION

STORY BY  
TOM FASANO

**S**cott Davidoff is known as one of the nicest men in professional tennis.

Davidoff, 40, the former University of Colorado player/head coach who is the head coach for India in the 2012 Summer Olympics, is spreading his love of tennis around the world, and he loves every minute of it.

"If that's what people think of me, then I definitely appreciate it," said Davidoff of how others view him. "Growing up in the South, it goes back to my parents. My father worked a lot when I was growing up, and I was a top junior in the US growing up since I was 9, so my mom traveled a lot with me. My parents brought me up well. I'm a pretty humble person and I'm not someone who is out for myself. I want the best for my players and for Colorado as well. Colorado is home for me. I've been there 20 years since I went to college there in 1990, and just love what tennis in Colorado has to offer—the friendships and the opportunity there. I enjoy and love what I do, and relationships are a big part of me."

Davidoff, who still calls Boulder his home, has experienced a lot of success during his playing and coaching



days. A Big 8 Conference standout singles player for the Buffs from 1990-94 and one of the youngest Division I head coaches at the age of 25, Davidoff coached the men's team from 1997-2002 and ranks fifth in all-time victories at CU with 57. He was a member of a Buffs team that went 84-33 during his playing career which included an NCAA Tournament appearance in 1993, and he also played professionally for a few years before returning to Boulder to coach.

But being able to soak in the Olympics experience in Beijing, China, when he coached the India Olympics tennis team in 2008, is something Davidoff will never forget.

"For me, walking into the stadium in the Beijing Olympics into the Bird's Nest, even though I'm not Indian and I'm an American, carrying the Indian flag and working with the Indians for so many years was maybe the best experience of my life," said Davidoff in a telephone interview. "Not only being around the Indian tennis team and working with them, but you're around every top athlete in the world in every sport at that moment. Just talking about it definitely gives me goose bumps remembering walking into that stadium, being a part of it and staying in the village for the two weeks was an experience of a lifetime."

Davidoff ranks coaching in the Olympics right up there with coaching in the Grand Slam tournaments, and he's looking forward to what the London Olympics Games (July 27-August 12) has to offer.

"With the Chinese and their Olympics, it was something

unique. I know in London they'll do something special as well. Just being a part of that scenario and the Olympic dream, we're lucky tennis is in the Olympics and it has been in the recent times. It goes up there with my players winning the French Open the last two years and winning Grand Slams," he said. "Even maybe more so because you're around every top athlete in the world and it's just an unbelievable feeling that you don't experience maybe once in a lifetime if you're lucky."

Davidoff has worked with and coached Indian standouts Leander Paes, Mahesh Bhupathi, Rohan Bopanna and Sania Mirza since 2006.

"We're very close to having three Indian play-



**Davidoff has parlayed a successful junior and collegiate record into a career as an elite coach at both the WTA/ATP Tour level and at the Olympic level.**

**He currently coaches the World No. 1 doubles team, two-time defending French Open champions Max Mirnyi and Daniel Nestor, who also captured the ATP Masters in Shanghai 2011.**

ers close to top 10 in the world in doubles," Davidoff said. "This is the first year ever they're having mixed doubles at the Olympics. Mahesh and Sania won the Australian Open mixed doubles a couple of years ago (and are fresh off a 2012 French Open championship). Whoever she pairs with, Mahesh or Leander, it will be a good pairing for the Olympics for the mixed doubles."

How does an American who grew up in Tennessee, moved to South Florida to attend a tennis academy in high school and now lives in Boulder end up as India's Olympic tennis coach?

Davidoff had been coaching on the ATP/WTA Tour for about four years before he began working with Bhupathi some six years ago. With Bhupathi's influence, Davidoff began developing young Indian players at camps and academies across the country. "We hire the coaches in place and travel with them and try to create opportunities for them that they can travel the world and have the best coaching," Davidoff said. "We stay in contact with the coaches to see how they're doing continuously on a daily

basis for them."

It was Davidoff's commitment to—and ability to connect with—players at every level that ultimately led him to the Olympic coaching position, something he says is a great opportunity.

"It's almost where you have to coach them and work them to sometimes hold back because they're so determined and disciplined," Davidoff said. "It's great to be with an athlete like that or a person that is driven, but you also have to make sure you manage them to where they don't do too much. It's a great problem to have because they are so professional at what they do. They are the top athletes in the world, and they want to be the best. It's a good problem to have, but you just have to manage their time, and make sure they're peaking at the right time. Of course, for tennis the Grand Slams are the bigger events for us where you want to make sure they peak, and now this year being the Olympics is a huge opportunity for them. One of their goals is to medal. It's unique because it's only three weeks after Wimbledon."



All photos courtesy of Scott Davidoff



**Davidoff's relationship with Indian tennis star Mahesh Bhupathi isn't just an on-court thing. He was the best man in Bhupathi's wedding to Lara Dutta in 2011.**

as far as preparing off the court and conditioning and on the court what they're working toward. Also, there is the mental aspect which is probably one of the most important that as a coach you're there and you believe in them and they know you're in their corner during the ups and downs."

The Tour is also year round.

"There is no offseason. It's one of the most unique Tours. It's 11 months and we play every week almost, so there are a lot of momentum changes," he said.

Davidoff said he's always willing to ask for advice.

"Being young, I try to pick the brains of the older coaches out here and the players in locker rooms like a John McEnroe that we get to hang around sometimes. I've learned a lot from them as well," Davidoff said. "I feel lucky that when I'm in the locker room around them that I can pick their brains and sometimes get some ideas. They're definitely not afraid of talking about themselves or their past. They enjoy it and it's helped me progress as a coach."

Practice during the day and massages and acupuncture every night make for a busy day.

"I think with the technology today and how physical tennis has gotten with Nadal, Federer and Djokovic and Murray and all these players and the females as well, it's a physical sport and the recovery process is probably one of the most important as far as how they diet and what they're doing in the evenings after the matches," Davidoff said. "It's a long day."

Traveling the world with his players for 26 weeks out of the year makes for some interesting stops along the way.

"It is a dream. I tell the players that for us and for them it's work," Davidoff said. "We go to these wonderful places, and we're there for work. A lot of them don't take time to enjoy where we're at. Life is so short and I tell them to try and experience a few minutes a day or an hour a day and go see the Vatican or go to the Eiffel Tower and do something cultural. It's not just tennis. It's important because it gets them away from tennis a little bit. We're definitely blessed on the tennis tour. We're in Australia with the Australian Open. We're in Europe. We go to Shanghai in China. We hit some incredible spots and see different cultures."

Davidoff has accomplished a lot in the coaching world at such a young age.

"I feel blessed. I had a good junior career in tennis and then on the Tour and have great relationships with the players and agents and coaches, and have been blessed with the players I've had on the Tour the last 10 years," Davidoff said. "Even at CU, it was a great experience. To be where I've been already and have coached like four or five Grand Slam champions and coach in the Olympics, I have been extremely blessed. I love what I do, and I sometimes pinch myself because it's been a blessing." 🙏

Davidoff said the schedule this year is condensed with the French Open, Wimbledon and the Olympics within two months of each another. The Olympics tennis competition will be held on the grass courts of Wimbledon

"You have three humungous events that you've got to make sure that they're rested and peaked at that time," he said.

Davidoff said winning Grand Slams is the ultimate goal for players, but the Olympics has become a huge priority.

"They're not playing for money. They're playing for their country," Davidoff said. "It's very high up there. With most of them, an Olympic medal would be a dream just like a Grand Slam title at Wimbledon. It would be one of their top goals, if not the top."

As a coach to the pros, Davidoff said he has to be a combination of everything. He also coaches two-time French Open doubles champions Max Mirnyi of Belarus and Daniel Nestor of Canada who are ranked No. 1 in the world and who also won the Year-End Championships in 2011.

"You have to be an excellent communicator, someone that has a good relationship with that team or that person that you're with," he said. "There is the strategy like any sport. Especially tennis, you help them work on strategies against other players, and also strategy

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# PROFILE

## SILENCE HAS A SOUND

DENVER'S LORI FRISHER BECAME THE WORLD'S FIRST ESTEEM HEARING IMPLANT RECIPIENT. NOW SHE'S SHARING HER EMOTIONAL STORY.

STORY BY  
CARY BRADING

**I**magine the challenge of playing a match where you couldn't hear out calls, the distinctively different sounds of a sliced serve versus a flat serve, or even when your opponent calls out the score. Imagine, too, that you are so self-conscious about your inability to hear that you purposefully hide your disability from your opponent. You nod politely when you think you should, do your best to read their lips during changeovers and even cover up your hearing aids, which tend not to work effectively during heavy workouts due to sweat.

While many of us equate hearing loss with aging, more than 20 million Americans under the age of 65 have some difficulty hearing, and experts see that number climbing steadily. For tennis players, this infirmity can cause dizziness, loss of balance and great difficulty hearing the normal sounds all players take for granted. Just picking up a ball can cause dizziness, and many seniors with hearing loss complain they cannot walk in a straight line nor look over their heads, as when hitting a spin serve.

Denver's Lori Frisher knows all about coping with hearing loss. She's been experiencing it since she was a toddler born. Now 39, Lori is hearing the sounds of tennis in a new way, thanks to becoming the first person in the world with a cochlear implant to receive a ground-breaking new invisible hearing aid called an Esteem Implant. Her story brings fresh hope to all people who have a hearing disability.

**When curly haired Lori** of Dix Hills, New York was 7 years old, she looked forward all year to her family's annual trip to the US Open Tennis Tournament at Flushing Meadows. She loved to see all the players, especially Jennifer Capriati, Monica Seles, Martina Navratilova, Jimmy Connors and her favorite all time player Andre Agassi. Lori, suffering from a moderate to severe hearing loss, craved to be courtside and down near the action, but for more practical reasons than most tennis fans. Lori could not hear the sounds that all tennis fans take for granted, such as the ball striking the racquet or the score being called.

On both sides of her family hearing loss had been an issue as well. She used hearing aids in both ears, learned to read lips at an early age turning her father's face toward her so she could read his lips to understand what was being said. Her regular speech therapy in elementary school and both private tutoring at home helped her keep up with the mainstream educational environment. As helpful as the hearing aids were, her disability would only worsen over time. She was first diagnosed with bi-lateral moderate hearing loss at age 3, and from then on she had to wear two hearing aids for the next 27 years.

Lori had played tennis from an early age, honing her skills at the backyard court of her cousin and tennis professional Steve Weingard. She also attended lessons and summer camp at Woodbury Tennis Club (Long Island), Welby Van Horn Tennis Academy, and the Port Washington Tennis Academy—which, according to Lori had the best chocolate chip cookies on the planet!

It was no surprise then that Lori loved to watch tennis at the US Open—travelling with her family; the excitement of seeing her tennis idols and the movie stars; getting down courtside to take in all the action; adding to her growing list of player autographs.

Lori could track her favorite players, and not only in the stadium courts but also on the outside practice courts where she could watch them all in person. She was always determined to get as many autographs as possible, as she had a "just do it attitude" that would thread through her entire life experience.

One day at the Open, Lori was ensconced in a side practice court seat watching idol Jimmy Connors, as charismatic a player ever in the history of tennis, pounding his two-fisted backhand with power and precision, when he suddenly stopped and turned, and looking right at Lori, with a devilish grin, told her to "shut up!" All Lori could do was smile and say "Oh, sorry." Apparently, Lori had been talking in an animated and loud enough voice to annoy the mercurial Connors—people with hearing loss cannot hear nor regulate their own vocal volume—and well, that was just Jimmy.

Her hearing loss proved to be especially difficult for her as she reached the higher levels of junior play. As Lori relates, "Most of the time I didn't know what the score was, and I would think I only needed to win, say two points to win this game, and when I did do that, my opponent was often standing at the net gesturing to me to come to the net. Often the score was different than I imagined." This ambiguity led Lori to constantly "second guess" the score. Lori was not able to hear the score, although she could herself call the score. Sometimes the batteries in her hearing aids would fail from too much sweat, so she would often just "Drift off into her own little world."

When coaching was available it was also a burden on her. Her coach had a strong Hawaiian and Japanese background and when he spoke Lori had great difficulty reading his lips. The court screens also prevented her from seeing his lip movements. For a time her



Photo by of Michael Paul/Special to Colorado Tennis

dad assisted her by signaling in the score from the stands, and he would bring her Evian water and point to his eye reminding her to keep the "Eye of the Tiger."

Lori played both high school and collegiate tennis, quite an accomplishment for someone with a severe hearing loss. When she enrolled at Half Hollow Hills High School she played 4 singles and doubles, but improved every season, ending at No. 1 doubles, No. 2 singles her senior year, and a third place at state in doubles. She also played varsity soccer and basketball. Lori also taught tennis, mostly to junior players. She recalls that her hearing loss was "made fun of" in class. Some of the young players would talk behind her back, mimicking her different sounding voice. They would ask her, "Why do you talk like that? You sound like you are wearing a retainer." She would explain to them about her hearing loss and hearing aids, and some would say, "Cool, where can I get one!"

She continued to receive tutoring, speech therapy, and graduated with honors.

Lori walked on at the University of Hartford (Rochester Institute of Technology also asked her to play for them) without an offer of a scholarship. In her first collegiate singles challenge she defeated the No. 4 singles varsity player and she was offered an athletic and academic scholarship her sophomore year. In addition to her academic demands she



## LORI'S STORY

Lori's emotional story has been chronicled by various local media outlets, including an Emmy award winning story last fall on KWGN Channel 2, and in the November 2011 issue of 5280 magazine.

continued to have private tutoring to assist her in keeping up with grades.

She had the honor to be elected commencement speaker at the University of Hartford's graduation ceremony, delivering her speech to an audience of 8,000 people and earning her a standing ovation from her graduating class. Lori adds, "Up to this point in time I was the first student with a disability—a Division I athlete as well—to be afforded such an honor. This was a major milestone, and an opportunity to go public and thank those teachers, coaches, friends, colleagues and family for their support for a hearing-impaired student and athlete. It was a turning point to realize how people were affected by my advocacy to share with others that many have been an instrumental part of my life and have turned my limitations into beautiful privileges."

After 30 years of living with hearing loss, and two third-stage cancer treatments (1998 and 2005) Lori qualified for a Cochlear implant (Cochlear is a global company whose headquarters are here in Centennial, CO). Unfortunately for Lori, the resulting cancer treatments further affected her hearing loss, reducing it by 30%. In late 2010, Lori qualified for the world's first invisible hearing implant, the Esteem, developed by Minnesota-based Envoy Medical. Esteem is the first fully-implantable hearing device intended to alleviate moderate to severe sensorineural hearing loss. According to Envoy CEO Patrick Spearman, "We are to hearing what Lasik is to vision."

The four-hour surgery to implant the \$30,000 device was performed in San Jose, CA in late November 2010 and the healing process lasted nine weeks. The Esteem and Cochlear implant are two separate devices and the two mesh sound together similar to what the reader would know as "stereo sound." The two devices therefore provide alleviation of competing sounds. The Cochlear is an electrical signal that provides a softer sound than would be available with traditional hearing aids.

After surgery, Lori experienced a miraculous awakening to sounds that she never heard her entire life. It is best described as a "wave of sound" both wonderful and amazing.

She heard for the first time the sound of running water, the ball hitting the ground and the racquet, the sound of a kiss, the crunch when eating a French fry, her sister calling her from another room, ambulance sirens from a distance, splashing when diving in a pool, birds chirping, her dog panting, a ball "popping" out of a ball machine, and conversations in the back seat of the car.



## THE GROWING NUMBER OF AMERICANS WITH AN "INVISIBLE DISABILITY"

Audiology experts agree that hearing loss in the United States is increasing at an alarming rate. The number of Americans age 3 and older with some form of hearing disorder has more than doubled since 1971. (National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders)

More than 400,000 Coloradans are hard of hearing—meaning they have some degree of auditory capability with or without a hearing aid—while 42,000 have profound hearing loss. Of these, almost 8% are under the age of 18

**Here in Colorado, nearly 200 babies are born with significant hearing loss each year, making it the most common congenital defect in the state.**

Studies have linked significant untreated hearing loss with mental-health problems such as depression and anxiety. Those with untreated mild hearing loss have twice the chance of developing Alzheimer's or dementia as normally hearing people, and the untreated moderately hard-of-hearing have five times the chance.

Lori has the ability to speak, listen and understand at the same time as well as opening up her world of communication. The emotional impact of hearing so many of the sounds some would say are annoying is a godsend to Lori, something she appreciates each and every day. She has weathered the storm of a hearing disability well, kept smiling, and has stuck to her "make the most of it" attitude. Lori will always still strive to be the best she can be.

As an Invisible Disabilities Association Ambassador, she is currently sharing her life challenging experiences both in the corporate and non-profit sectors through speaking engagements. She is represented by Brooks International Speakers Bureau here in Denver. She is active as a volunteer in her community, with the Cancer League of Colorado, Global Down Syndrome Foundation, US Paralympics, Sertoma and the Listen Foundation, to name a few. Recently, she spoke at the Developmental Pathways Organization benefit about the importance of hiring people with disabilities. Lori also stays connected with the game of tennis, teaching it in her Cherry Creek community and playing competitively as well. Imagine what heights her game will reach now that she has all the tools to succeed.

Lori is grateful for each and every opportunity she has, and invites anyone who is interested in sharing their story or helping others achieve their dreams to reach out to her at her website <<http://lorifrisher.com>>. ☺

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# JUNIOR COMPETITION

## Colorado players give dominant performances at Intermountain Summer Sectional

**T**he 2012 Intermountain Summer Sectional Championships, which ran June 9-14, proved to be a fairly profitable event for Salt Lake City hotels and restaurants, as Colorado players extended their reservations in order to be around for all the finals they were playing in.

Despite the lack of home cooking, Colorado players feasted on the competition at this annual event, which took place outside the state this year after two consecutive years here. Dominant performances were turned in at virtually every age division. In addition to capturing three individual titles (G12s, B12s, B16s), Colorado players won gold in two Girls doubles divisions (G12d, G16d) and swept the Boys doubles divisions as well as placing two other Coloradans in the finals of B14d and B16d.

Colorado boys were particularly dominant this year, winning six of the eight divisions and capturing 13 of the 24 players singles medals.

Of the 16 championship events played at the event, Colorado came home with nine titles, and nearly half of the 64 overall medals awarded at the tournament.

USTA Colorado Player Development Director Jason Colter was quick to point out Colorado's incredibly strong performances in the B16s division, where our boys nearly swept the top 6 positions. "The 16s pretty much dominated the courts," he said, "and our boys were almost unbeatable in doubles."

Colter also pointed to the G18s division, where 14 year-old **Rebecca Weissmann** finished second and 13 year-old **Samantha Martinelli** finished 4th. Martinelli, who enter the draw unseeded, scored the upset win of the tournament by defeating Kimberley Yee of Nevada, the nation's No. 3 ranked player.

Congratulations goes out to Colorado's 2012 Intermountain Sectional Champions **Anshika Singh** (G12s, G12d) and **Gabrielle Schuck** (G16d), **Tom Melville** (B12s, B12d), **Casey Ross** (B14d), **Luke Lorenz** (B16s, B16d), **Ignatius Castelino** (B16d), **Hayden Sabatka** (B18d) and **Matt Sayre** (B18d).

## INTERMOUNTAIN SUMMER SECTIONAL RESULTS/COLORADO

### GIRLS

**Girls 12 Singles:** Anshika Singh (1st), Morgan Hall (3rd), Tamy Katthain (4th)

**Girls 14 Singles:** Ashley Lahey (2nd), Tate Schroeder (4th), Jessica Aragon (5th)

**Girls 16 Singles:** Gabrielle Schuck (2nd), Kalyssa Hall (3rd)

**Girls 18 Singles:** Rebecca Weissmann (2nd), Samantha Martinelli (4th)

**Girls 12 Doubles:** Anshika Singh (1st)

**Girls 16 Doubles:** Gabrielle Schuck (1st)

### BOYS

**Boys 12 Singles:** Tom Melville (1st), Nicholas Lorenz (2nd), Brett Finan (6th)

**Boys 14 Singles:** Ethan Hillis (2nd), Willie Gold (3rd), Alec Leddon (4th), Casey Ross (5th)

**Boys 16 Singles:** Luke Lorenz (1st), Jesse Ruder-Hook (2nd), Spencer Lang (4th), Zachary Fryer (5th), Connor McPherson (6th)

**Boys 18 Singles:** David Mitchell (5th)

**Boys 18 Doubles:** Hayden Sabatka/Matt Sayre (1st)

**Boys 16 Doubles:** Ignatius Castelino/Luke Lorenz (1st), Jessie Ruder-Hook (2nd)

**Boys 14 Doubles:** Casey Ross (1st), Willie Gold/Alec Leddon (2nd)

**Boys 12 Doubles:** Tom Melville (1st)



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# PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

## PROFILE THYSELF

### TENNISRECRUITING.NET IS AN INVALUABLE TOOL FOR ALL JUNIOR PLAYERS SEEKING TO PLAY COLLEGE TENNIS

Many junior players lose out on the chance to participate in collegiate tennis. Over the years, Colorado Tennis has published numerous articles in an effort to help players understand the many variables involved in finding the right college tennis program, but we are frequently asked by parents what more they can do. Beginning with this issue, Colorado Tennis newspaper has teamed up with **TennisRecruiting.net** to provide Colorado players, parents and coaches with the latest college recruit rankings and college commitments, as well as any additional information that will help our young players achieve their dreams of playing on a collegiate tennis team.

TennisRecruiting.net is the premier website for competitive junior tennis, offering articles, rankings, and networking features for players interested in playing college tennis. The site ranks players by graduation year for direct comparison of players who will be compet-

ing for scholarships. More than 150,000 junior players already have free profile pages at TennisRecruiting.net, and more than 950 college coaches use the website to identify future recruits, making it the online home for tennis players and college coaches alike.

All players who have competed in a high-level USTA or ITF tournament have free profile pages at <http://www.tennisrecruiting.net/player.asp>. Give college coaches the information they need—high school and career highlights, schools of interest, articles, and more. Updating your profile is quick and easy. Create a free account, link it to your profile, and then confirm and update your information. The three easy steps are listed here: <http://www.tennisrecruiting.net/about/GettingStarted.asp>. TennisRecruiting.net keeps track of coach visits to player profiles, and they make that information available to you. After you link your free account to your profile, see how many coaches have checked you out.



**TENNISRECRUITING.NET**

CLASS	RANK	PLAYER	HOMETOWN	CLASS	RANK	PLAYER	HOMETOWN
<b>GIRLS</b>							
2012	59	Erin Gebes	Littleton (MARQUETTE)	2016	852	Tara Edwards	Littleton
2012	140	Jessika Mozia	Littleton (MINNESOTA)	2016	906	Allison Smith	Parker
2012	327	Monica Li	Boulder (CAL TECH)	2016	995	Erin O'Shaughnessy	Denver
2012	393	Lindsey Pond	Denver	2016	1148	Madeline Bove	Castle Rock
2012	395	Caroline Hobbs	Boulder (SKIDMORE)	2017	8	Samantha Martinelli	Denver
2012	403	Cara Cromwell	Fort Collins	2017	34	Ashley Lahey	Boulder
2012	500	Jennifer Weissmann	Loveland (CSU)	2017	100	Madison Gallegos	Aurora
2012	521	Christi Valicenti	Sboat Spgs (LAKE FOREST)	2017	253	Jessica Aragon	Fort Collins
2012	623	Paris Hogan	Boulder	2017	336	Alex Pessoa	Denver
2012	651	Michelle Phillips	Westminster	2017	361	Casey Zhong	Highlands Ranch
2012	708	Alyssa Xeduz	Highlands Ranch	2017	437	Grace Koza	Littleton
2012	714	Toni Alvarez	Pueblo	2017	460	Sadie Moseley	Denver
2012	721	Stephanie Giltner	Broomfield	2017	466	Shawnea Pagat	Fort Collins
2012	722	Andrea Brush	Loveland (ALLEGHENY)	2017	558	Stephanie Broussard	Colorado Springs
2012	726	Hannah Gregory	Loveland	2017	572	Sara Schoenbeck	Pueblo West
2012	775	Mayanka Kumar	Centennial (WELLESLEY)	2017	651	Maeve Kearney	Englewood
2012	779	Shannon Galligan	Loveland	2017	826	Natalie Hagan	Lone Tree
2012	794	Brooke Williams	Lone Tree	2017	887	Claire Cox	Parker
				2017	916	Madison Wolfe	Monument
2013	189	Meagan Monaghan	Denver	2017	1002	Natalie Bronsdon	Highlands Ranch
2013	302	Kelli Woodman	Denver	2017	1043	Maleeha Chowdhury	Highlands Ranch
2013	326	Jordan Appel	Cherry Hills Village				
2013	339	Kathleen Kuosman	Superior	2018	99	Amber Shen	Broomfield
2013	481	Elizabeth Fryberger	Littleton	2018	203	Anshika Singh	Greenwood Village
2013	504	Shelby Cerkovnik	Highlands Ranch	2018	310	Julia Berggren	Evergreen
2013	505	Callie Morlock	Golden	2018	324	Emily Dush	Fort Collins
2013	546	Jessee Clauson	Boulder	2018	341	Heather Volls	Colorado Springs
2013	576	Lauran Renjard	Colorado Springs	2018	359	Tamara Katthain	Steamboat Springs
2013	627	Morgan Blanco	Denver	2018	371	Seraphin Castelino	Superior
2013	630	Morgan Cohen	Centennial	2018	376	Micha Handler	Englewood
2013	737	Aimee Basinski	Grand Jct	2018	392	Tatum Burger	Steamboat Springs
2013	755	Rachel Grubbs	Steamboat Springs	2018	401	Emily Strande	Centennial
2013	817	Julie Berlinger	Englewood	2018	423	Mariela Hollines	Englewood
2013	892	Sarah French	Fort Collins	2018	455	Ky Ecton	Fort Collins
2013	932	Madison Porter	Parker	2018	463	Allison Murphy	Centennial
2013	1038	Alexandra Purfield	Arvada				
2013	1064	Reagan Simons	Colorado Springs	<b>BOYS</b>			
2013	1124	Shanti vanVuuren	Boulder	2012	319	James Swiggart	Sboat Spgs (IDAHO ST)
2013	1145	Julia Beckley	Fort Collins	2012	401	Bryan Mehall	Snowmass (CMSCRIPPS)
2013	1170	Erica Dodson	Castle Rock	2012	407	Michael Ogez	Longmont
2013	1175	Angelika Buczynski	Highlands Ranch	2012	480	Max Roder	Steamboat Springs
				2012	492	Jake Sheldon	Parker (UNCOLORADO)
2014	68	Mira Ruder-Hook	Denver	2012	575	Kyle Schuster	Denver
2014	214	Alexa Brandt	Broomfield	2012	603	Jaron Belcher	Boulder
2014	279	Alex Middleton	Columbine Valley	2012	615	Kateb Harmon	Loveland
2014	290	Eva-Lou Edwards	Bayfield	2012	620	Taylor Macres	Westminster
2014	357	Kathryn Hall	Greenwood Village	2012	630	Travis Kimsey	CO Springs (WESTMONT)
2014	431	Bria Smith	Denver	2012	638	Eliot Guin	Denver
2014	625	Rachael Schepher	Greenwood Village	2012	687	Luke Ledebur	Grand Junction
2014	638	Katie Li	Louisville	2012	791	Jesse Kreger	Fort Collins
2014	758	Katharine Kirby	Thornton	2012	892	Julian Melcer	Boulder
2014	769	Erin Mulshine	Longmont	2012	1066	Boulton Brynteson	Greeley
2014	861	Natalia Dellavalle	Denver	2012	1094	Darius Ebrahimi	Littleton
2014	917	Kayl Ecton	Fort Collins	2012	1117	Tyler Brasel	Greenwood Village
2014	920	Glenna Gee-Taylor	Louisville	2012	1166	Zach Kusick	Westminster (SIMPSON)
2014	1083	Abby Johnson	Highlands Ranch	2012	1232	Ryan Howarth	Boulder
2014	1119	Kristen Jensen	Colorado Springs	2012	1248	Kaden Strand	Fort Collins
2014	1147	Laura Burdick	Highlands Ranch	2012	1252	Chad Wachsmann	Parker
				2012	1267	Spencer Anderson	Centennial
2015	113	Nicole Kathorn	Colorado Springs	2012	1326	Jordan Zaeske	Westminster
2015	140	Gabrielle Schuck	Colorado Springs				
2015	371	Alexandra Weil	Highlands Ranch	2013	129	Hayden Sabatka	Lone Tree
2015	405	Caroline Kelly	Highlands Ranch	2013	140	Harrison Lang	Longmont
2015	467	Payton Fielding	Crested Butte	2013	245	Matt Sayre	Denver
2015	812	Andrea Motley	Fort Collins	2013	421	Spencer Weinberg	Grand Junction
2015	849	Carla Dallmann	Avon	2013	443	Stephen Moore	Colorado Springs
2015	874	Julia Mannino	Greenwood Village	2013	507	Hayden Cramer	Colorado Springs
2015	1072	Kaitlyn Motley	Fort Collins	2013	513	Joseph Diaz	Loveland
2015	1126	Madeline Whitmore	Highlands Ranch	2013	555	Jonathan Kaufman	Centennial
2015	1270	Lyndsey Stewart	Longmont	2013	586	Daniel Steinhauer	Greenwood Village
				2013	652	William Fielding	Crested Butte
2016	11	Rebecca Weissmann	Loveland	2013	676	Hunter Lacouture	Franktown
2016	102	Kalyssa Hall	Colorado Springs	2013	683	William Son	Aurora
2016	200	Tate Schroeder	Highlands Ranch	2013	691	Brandon Nachbar	Colorado Springs
2016	356	Gloria Son	Aurora	2013	702	Justin Nguyen	Superior
2016	377	Caroline Kawula	Cherry Hills Village	2013	728	Tanner Trace	Fort Collins
2016	492	Daniela Adamczyk	Colorado Springs	2013	759	Andrew Venner	Colorado Springs
2016	524	Jessica Metz	Colorado Springs	2013	981	Samuel Buffington	Fort Collins
2016	539	Kristen Kirby	Thornton	2013	1049	Taylor Landstrom	Fort Collins
2016	600	Natalie Munson	Longmont	2013	1058	Kevin Chen	Boulder
2016	658	Shwetha Prabakar	Colorado Springs	2013	1101	Connor Petrou	Centennial

CLASS	RANK	PLAYER	HOMETOWN	CLASS	RANK	PLAYER	HOMETOWN
2013	1110	Danny Kaprielian	Englewood	2015	1688	Jameson Lumpkin	Loveland
2013	1118	Jack Shanahan	Superior	2016	108	William Gold	Denver
2013	1148	Howie Hill	Colorado Springs	2016	190	Casey Ross	Littleton
2013	1155	Ashton Blair	Denver	2016	262	Alec Leddon	Boulder
2013	1208	Adam Berry	Fort Collins	2016	290	Allen Fu	Longmont
2013	1275	Owen Davis	Colorado Springs	2016	386	Jackson Hawk	Boulder
2013	1341	Matthew Golub	Evergreen	2016	460	Chanon Penvari	Aurora
2013	1347	Austin Kohlman	Centennial	2016	468	Kevin Adams	Englewood
2013	1480	Tucker Ellsworth	Denver	2016	550	Max Petrak	Golden
2013	1483	Carson Smith	Longmont	2016	648	Alec Zirkelbach	Boulder
2013	1509	Colin Green	Edwards	2016	698	Colton Hill	Colorado Springs
2013	1533	Daniel Wright	Superior	2016	711	John Simpson	Littleton
2013	1705	Mac Howell	Pueblo	2016	728	Cutter Esson	Boulder
2013	1750	Christopher Sterling	Lone Tree	2016	768	Jake Becker	Centennial
2013	1839	Matthew Stern	Longmont	2016	769	Erin Norwood	Denver
				2016	826	Vamsi Senthilvel	Highlands Ranch
2014	245	Zachary Fryer	Highlands Ranch	2016	865	Pedro Fernandez-delValle	Greenwood Village
2014	285	Jesse Ruder-Hook	Denver	2016	897	Blake Parsons	Denver
2014	410	Galen Arney	Boulder	2016	978	Ben Blea	Littleton
2014	427	Vignesh Senthilvel	Highlands Ranch	2016	994	Ram Vuppala	Denver
2014	877	John Koza	Littleton	2016	1044	Drew Parsons	Denver
2014	901	Brock DeHaven	Boulder	2016	1088	Spencer Clauson	Boulder
2014	920	Heitor Adegas	Fort Collins	2016	1110	Jacob Maxwell	Parker
2014	942	Eric Kwiatkowski	Parker	2016	1291	Nathan Lazarus	Boulder
2014	1028	Hunter Sullivan	Fort Collins	2016	1320	Cole Smith	Boulder
2014	1033	David Rosencrans	Aurora	2016	1373	Davis Meyer	Castle Rock
2014	1111	Michael Rosencrans	Aurora	2016	1546	Derek Wright	Superior
2014	1143	Adam Rivera	Littleton				
2014	1154	Benjamin Schlichting	Denver	2017	90	Ethan Hillis	Centennial
2014	1158	Derek Lakowske	Boulder	2017	246	Draden Hoover	Aurora
2014	1187	Zachary Inman	Colorado Springs	2017	338	Kai Smith	Denver
2014	1237	Matthew Jacobberger	Colorado Springs	2017	344	Ben Antonsen	Highlands Ranch
2014	1386	Matthew Matsuyama	Castle Rock	2017	483	Frederick Edwards	Bayfield
2014	1388	Jason Ferry	Lafayette	2017	533	Stefan Orton-Urbina	Colorado Springs
2014	1396	Canyon Hill	Colorado Springs	2017	716	Bryce Viorst	Denver
2014	1469	Ryan Beyer	Denver	2017	728	Stefan Hein	Littleton
2014	1479	Noah Grolnick	Longmont	2017	766	Dillon Leasure	Carbondale
2014	1483	TJ Ascough	Fort Collins	2017	804	Aaron Weil	Highlands Ranch
2014	1533	Matthew Flanigan	Westminster	2017	913	Patrick Ross	Littleton
2014	1673	Jason Krbec	Fort Collins	2017	986	Erich Nuss	Castle Rock
2014	1686	Dakota Burns	Pueblo	2017	998	Matthew Chavez	Mead
2014	1699	Griffin Kosonocky	Fort Collins	2017	1005	Coulten Davis	Colorado Springs
2014	1746	Ethan Anderson	Boulder	2017	1073	Niko Hereford	Denver
2014	1772	Casey Krammer	Greeley	2017	1124	Daniel Pearson	Longmont
				2017	1137	Dylan Zumar	Aurora
2015	19	David Mitchell	Castle Rock	2017	1255	Joshua Fields	Franktown
2015	122	Spencer Lang	Longmont	2017	1294	Cameron McGregor	Littleton
2015	251	Ignatius Castelino	Superior	2017	1296	Tom Hudson	Golden
2015	283	Fletcher Kerr	Denver				
2015	353	Connor McPherson	Centennial	2018	114	Brett Finan	Broomfield
2015	573	Tommy Mason	Boulder	2018	165	Joshua King	Englewood
2015	798	Noah Reiss	Littleton	2018	237	Tom Melville	Boulder
2015	800	Teller Hoskins	Centennial	2018	242	Kasper Smith	Boulder
2015	802	Andrew Pollack	Louisville	2018	274	Mitchell Johnson	Cherry Hills Village
2015	910	Harshil Dwivedi	Greenwood Village	2018	341	Charlie Franks	Denver
2015	930	Lucas Martin	Fort Collins	2018	358	Jack Moldenhauer	Denver
2015	956	Jacob Fell	Longmont	2018	518	Patrick Seby	Denver
2015	969	Maxwell Weiner	Fort Collins	2018	554	James Hunsinger	Fort Collins
2015	985	Joseph Adducci	Colorado Springs	2018	615	Benjamin Murray	Englewood
2015	987	William Hobbs	Boulder	2018	680	Iljiah Bailey	Centennial
2015	1043	Benjamin Paddor					



## MARKET THYSELF

### RECRUITING VIDEOS ARE KEY MARKETING COMPONENTS FOR COLLEGE COACHES

STORY BY  
ALEX DAVYDOV

**Y**ou are having a successful high school tennis career and are shifting your sights to college. You've heard that recruited athletes are 48% more likely to be accepted than the average college applicant. Now you're facing the big question: "How do I make the step from high school hopeful to college recruit?"

With so many things to think about as you plan for college, it is easy to feel intimidated or lost. The good news is that the recruiting process can help guide you through your college search, while giving you a distinct advantage over non student-athletes. The first step is to arm yourself with a great recruit video. It is helpful to think of your recruit video as your resume in a job search. It's your first and often only chance to make a good impression. A great recruit video can be the difference between being accepted or denied admission to your favorite university.

Peak Your Game, LLC is a Denver-based company that specializes in creating tennis recruit videos. They consult with college coaches and recruiting experts to take the guesswork out of the process for you. Here is the basic framework that Peak Your Game recommends using for your video:

*About the Author: Alex Davydov is the owner and founder of Peak Your Game, LLC. He is a Tennis Professional at the Colorado Athletic Club Monaco where he works with many junior players to prepare for collegiate-level tennis.*

### RECRUIT VIDEO GUIDELINES

#### • Introduction (30 seconds-1 minute)

- \* Speak directly into the camera
- \* Clearly state your name and hometown (don't feel pressure to "perform" here, the best introduction is relaxed, and begins and ends with a smile)

#### • Strokes Showcase (1-2 minutes)

- \* Give coaches an up-close look at each of your strokes
- \* Show "live ball" hitting (no feeding)
- \* Exhibit clean footwork and consistent technique

#### • Point Play (3-6 minutes)

- \* Make sure the entire court is in clear view
- \* Show full points only (no partial points, or "highlight reel" shots)
- \* Select a variety of offensive and defensive points
- \* Display court coverage, shot selection, and tactical patterns
- \* If you have a big strength, make sure to show it here
- \* Never, ever whine or sulk—body language counts!

#### • Coach's Interview (optional)

When a coach raves about your work ethic and determination, it can be a huge plus for you. It could also take away from the focus of the video. If you decide to include a coach's interview, it must be short, positive, and honest.

Whether you plan to create your own recruit video or to hire a company that specializes in the field to take care of it for you, get started this summer. It will be great to have tennis coaches as your personal advocates when you apply to your favorite schools!

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- 2-Make a strong first impression on coaches
- 3-Make the tennis coach your advocate during the admissions process

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# PREP COMPETITION

REDEMPTION THE THEME AT THE 2012 COLORADO STATE HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS



## SWEET REDEMPTION:

Colorado Academy's Jessika Mozia rebounded from her quarterfinal loss to Denver South's Meagan Monaghan last year to take the 4A No. 1 singles title.

Photo courtesy of Chris McLean/Pueblo Chieftain

## 4A REPORT/CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN LAPS THE FIELD

The opportunity to overtake Cheyenne Mountain in the team standings ended almost before it began at the Colorado High School 4A State Championships, as the Indians occupied every final match from No. 2 singles through No. 4 doubles to clinch their 4th consecutive team title, the program's 17th in its history. **Coach Dave Adams** lost only two players from last year's state champion squad. Cheyenne Mountain swept the doubles championships and picked up another title at No. 2 singles to lap the field, racking up a total of 88 points to second place finisher D'Evelyn's 38 points. Kent Denver was third with 34 points.

**Meagan Monaghan**, Denver South High School's surprise 2011 state champion at No. 1 singles, returned to the final this year looking to upend Colorado Academy's **Jessika Mozia** for the second year in a row. But after a thrilling semifinal victory over D'Evelyn's **Erin Gebes** 4-6, 6-2, 7-6 (4), Mozia seemed to hit the match in full stride, dominating Monaghan 6-1, 6-2 for her second state championship title. Mozia won the 4A title as a sophomore in 2010.

"I had a goal ever since I lost in the (state) quarterfinals last year to Meagan to come back my senior year and win state," said Mozia, who will play at the University of Minnesota this fall.

## CLASS 4A RESULTS

**TEAM SCORES:** Cheyenne Mountain 88, D'Evelyn 38, Kent Denver 34, Thompson Valley 23, Regis 21, St. Mary's Academy 21, Colorado Academy 20, Denver South 14, Niwot 12, Broomfield 8, Pueblo Central 7, Holy Family 6, Longmont 6, Valor Christian 4, Berthoud 4, Mullen 3, Eaton 2, Pueblo West 2, Aspen 2, Peak to Peak 1, Golden 1, Centaurus 1.

## INDIVIDUAL RESULTS:

**No. 1 Singles:** (Championship) Jessika Mozia, Colorado Academy def. Meagan Monaghan, Denver South, 6-1, 6-2. (Third Place) Erin Gebes, D'Evelyn, def. Lauren Renjard, Cheyenne Mountain, 6-1, 6-1.

**No. 2 Singles:** (Championship) Payton Fielding, Cheyenne Mountain def. Loren Koszowski, St. Mary's Academy, 3-6, 6-1, 6-1. (Third Place) Haley Chrico, Regis Jesuit def. Hannah Gregory, Thompson Valley, 6-1, 6-7 (3), 7-6 (1).

**No. 3 Singles:** (Championship) Delaney Nalen, Kent Denver def. Kristen Sullivan, Cheyenne Mountain, 7-5, 6-4. (Third Place) Melissa Davis, D'Evelyn def. Brooke Trevithick, Pueblo Central, 4-6, 6-3, 6-0.

**No. 1 Doubles:** (Championship) Frances Adams-Caroline Kingo, Cheyenne Mountain def. Emily Erickson-Samantha Sheets, Thompson Valley, 6-3, 6-1. (Third Place) Kirby Brisch-Lilly Iacino, Regis Jesuit def. Rachel Haas-Elaina Villanueva, St. Mary's Academy, 6-3, 6-4.

**No. 2 Doubles:** (Championship) Shelby Gilles-Laura Walden, Cheyenne Mountain def. Jordan Cadman-Lauren Willoughby, D'Evelyn, 6-4, 6-4. (Third Place) Sophia Hsiao-Elizabeth Smedley, Kent Denver def. Michele Midanier-Marisa Eafanti, Broomfield, 6-4, 7-5.

**No. 3 Doubles:** (Championship) Lainey O'Neal-Katie Stagnaro, Cheyenne Mountain def. Madeline Booth-Olivia Dansky, Kent Denver, 6-3, 6-2. (Third Place) Abby Lydens-Mallory Seemann, D'Evelyn def. Julianne Greco-Aria Nguyen, Holy Family, 6-2, 6-3.

**No. 4 Doubles:** (Championship) Caroline Fitzhugh-Alison Lynch, Cheyenne Mountain def. Maura Derr-Isabelle Stafford, Niwot, 4-6, 7-6 (5), 6-3. (Third Place) Rebeka Cowley-Ashley Wright, Longmont def. Elle Satterwaite-Jamie Young, Berthoud, 6-1, 6-4.



Photo by Kurt Desautels/USTA Colorado

**FIRST AT LAST:**

Rebounding from a tough match in last year's final, Cherry Creek's Kelli Woodman shed her perennial runner-up status to become the Queen of 5A.

**5A REPORT/BRUINS STAVE OFF UPSET, GET NO. 30**

After a pair of runner-up finishes in 2010 and 2011—including a notable loss in last year's final to Loveland's **Jennifer Weissman**, despite enjoying a match point, leading 5-2 and up 40-30—**Kelly Woodman** refused to play second-fiddle any longer. Playing confident tennis, Woodman held off a second-set push by Pine Creek freshman **Nicole Kalthorn** to earn her first high school title, 6-2, 7-5, and helped propel Cherry Creek to its 30th team crown despite a fierce challenge by the ladies of Fairview.

Entering the tournament, Cherry Creek looked like they may not be able to hoist the team trophy for the first time since 1996, having lost a dual match earlier in the season to Cheyenne Mountain and later finishing third in an invitational to both Cheyenne Mountain and Fairview. As the tournament progressed, it was clearly coming down to the wire, as both Creek and Fairview advanced players to the finals of five individual championships, facing off in three title matches.

The Knights put the pressure on, winning four individual titles—at No. 2 and No. 3 singles, as well as No. 1 and No. 2 doubles. Cherry Creek responded with titles at No. 1 singles and No. 3 and No. 4 doubles. The Bruins managed to earn top-3 points at every position, while an early loss at No. 3 doubles proved devastating for Fairview's overall title hopes. When the final ball was struck, Cherry Creek had hung on to a slim 7-point margin, a single point less than they beat Fairview by a year ago. With the team victory secured, Cherry Creek has now run its overall team crowns to 30, 16 in a row and 22 out of the last 24.

**CLASS 5A RESULTS**

**TEAM SCORES:** Cherry Creek 83, Fairview 76, Denver East 36, Poudre 25, Fossil Ridge 22, Loveland 18, Pine Creek 16, Chatfield 9, Lakewood 7, Heritage 6, Arapahoe 4, Rocky Mountain 3, Ft. Collins 3, Dakota Ridge 3, Central (G.J.) 2, Mountain Vista 2, Mountain Range 2, Castle View 1, Fruita Monument 1, Grand Junction 1, Highlands Ranch 1, Littleton 1, Monarch 1, Ponderosa 1, Ralston Valley 1.

**INDIVIDUAL RESULTS:**

**No. 1 Singles:** (Championship) Kelli Woodman, Cherry Creek def. Nicole Kalthorn, Pine Creek, 6-2, 7-5. (Third Place) Jennifer Weissman, Loveland def. Monica Li, Fairview, 6-1, 6-0.

**No. 2 Singles:** (Championship) Katie Kuosman, Fairview def. Morgan Blanco, Denver East, 6-3, 6-3. (Third Place) Lindsey Pond, Cherry Creek def. Madi Mamaghani, Chatfield, 6-3, 6-1.

**No. 3 Singles:** (Championship) Katie Li, Fairview def. Natalia Dellavalle, Denver East, 6-3, 6-4. (Third Place) Morgan Cohen, Cherry Creek def. Sierra Crumbaker, Poudre, 6-1, 6-0.

**No. 1 Doubles:** (Championship) Paris Hogan-Megan Thayer, Fairview def. Madeline Berstein-Rachael Scheper, Cherry Creek, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4. (Third Place) Lauren Rhoda-Nicole Newell, Fossil Ridge def. Sarah Clinkenbeard-Kim Weissman, Loveland, 6-4, 6-1.

**No. 2 Doubles:** (Championship) Hayley Young-Jessee Clauson, Fairview def. Julie Berlinger-Madeline Roberts, Cherry Creek, 7-5, 7-6 (2). (Third Place) Casey Rhine-Ally Williams, Denver East def. Jessica Addington-Milica Notaros, Poudre, 7-6 (1), 7-6 (4).

**No. 3 Doubles:** (Championship) Mariah Smith-Mia Hoover, Cherry Creek def. Lauren Petersen-Jordan Powers, Poudre, 6-4, 6-4. (Third Place) Sasha Harrison-Paige Stockton, Lakewood def. Sam Penhale-Emma Wiley, Fossil Ridge, 1-6, 7-6 (9), 7-6 (8).

**No. 4 Doubles:** (Championship) Chole Theobald-Julia Mannino, Cherry Creek def. Sonia Ghosh-Hannah Embree, Fairview, 6-4, 6-7 (4), 7-5. (Third Place) Allannah Gates-Emma Schilling, Heritage def. Taylor Teopke-Shannon Wong, Fossil Ridge, 6-2, 6-1.

**Blanford-Green to become Nebraska Exec Director**

**Rhonda Blanford-Green**, a fixture at the Colorado High School Activities Association for the past 16 years, has been hired as the executive director of the Nebraska School Activities Association.

This is a sort of homecoming for Blanford-Green, a three-sport athlete (volleyball, cheer, and track and field) at Aurora Central who still holds school records in the 100m, 200m 100h, and long jump. She went on to the University of Nebraska and was an undefeated Big

8 champion in the indoor and outdoor hurdles and an 11-time All-American. Following her Nebraska career, she was a member and team captain for several US teams that competed internationally.

She has coached cross country and track and field at the University of Wyoming, Aurora Central and Eaglecrest High School. She is currently the chair of the National Federation of High School Associations (NFHS) Citizenship and Equity Committee and NFHS Spirit Committee. She has also served on the Track and Field Committee. She is recognized nationally for her commitment to education in the areas of spirit, equity, and student participation. Blanford-Green was the first minority administrator hired to the CHSAA staff and she is the first female African-American Executive Director in the nation.

"My tenure at the Colorado High School Activities Association has prepared me to take on this new and exciting challenge. I will miss my colleagues, our member schools and the student participants, but am looking forward to this new role," Blanford-Green said. Blanford-Green will start at the NSAA on July 1.



# YOURGAME

## CHALK TALK (A SLICE BY ANY OTHER NAME....)

**S**o many great articles and books have been written about all the different aspects of this game we love. Ever since the game began, great players and great coaches have loved to share their opinions on what they feel will really help you to play your best tennis.

The saying goes that everyone has an opinion, so when asked to write this article I decided to take this opportunity to share some of mine on some little things that I think make big differences.

When I was a kid in Indiana without a club or a coach and trying to figure out this game with the help of my Dad, I was really baffled by how I was supposed to hit a "slice" serve as well as a "slice" backhand. Same word must mean same direction of spin right? Wrong. I wish there was some video of the serve I was trying to hit. That's why I have always called it a sidespin serve and an underspin backhand. Clear description of what you are trying to make the ball do is better to me.

Everyone refers to a shot as a "down the line" but yet no tennis pro anywhere will tell you to aim your shots for the line. However you've had that same pro tell you to hit your shot "down the line". Confused? I was. Therefore, "down the side" has always made more sense to me. Play your shot to the outside third of the court and make your opponent hit the ball to beat you.

Just a little insert here on another terminology issue I have. Tennis "pros" teach people how to hit balls. Tennis "coaches" teach people how to play the game. The world is full of tennis pros but there are not that many tennis coaches around. Many people use those words interchangeably. When searching for a pro to help you improve make sure you are clear about what you want from them.

*We asked our Team Colorado coaches to draw up a short game plan that will help players of all ages and abilities make the most of their next match. This is the second article in the Team Colorado Chalk Talk series.*

Now on to a couple things that may help you to perform better in your next match.

When driving to go play tennis on a hot Colorado day, roll down the windows in your car and turn off the air conditioner. What? Yes you read it correctly. Your car is somewhere around 68 degrees and lets say it is 85 outside. That means it will be around 100 or so on the court and we humans just aren't built to take that kind of temperature change and feel good about it. Getting out of the car and stepping on to the court just doesn't give us enough time to adjust.

Before you are on the court go for a jog and get your body started. Then do a series of dynamic movement stretches that duplicate the tennis movements that you will do on the court. There are many examples available online to give you ideas. However do not do old-fashioned static stretches. These have been proven to decrease muscle performance for up to 30 minutes. Save the static stretches for after the match.

Now you are on court and you are warming up with your opponent. My advice to players here is to "run the warm-up". Take charge right from the start and that might just set the tone for the entire match. How do you accomplish this? Be the first to go to the net to take volleys and overheads. You be the one who suggests it is time to take serves. Spin your racquet for the choice are some examples. And then continue this take charge attitude by you being the one who changes the score on the post throughout the match. It makes a difference to be the leader.

Remember that you can not control the outcome of a match, but you can control how you prepare for it and manage it and that just might help you perform better during it. 🙏



**RANDY ROSS**  
TEAM COLORADO SITE DIRECTOR

*Randy is a USPTA P1 professional and the Head Coach at Kent Denver High School.*

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# THEBIGCHAIR

## STATE OF THE DISTRICT

NEWS FROM USTA COLORADO HEADQUARTERS

FRITZ GARGER  
USTA COLORADO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

One of the facets that makes the game of tennis so meaningful is the people who are involved with it. That's obviously true of most everything and certainly I've been involved in any number of sports and in each case I've met some truly remarkable people. There is no doubt in my mind, however, that tennis and all its aspects (recreational, competitive, volunteerism, staff, etc.) brings some amazing people together.

I could go on (and on) about our staff and the characteristics they embody—which I've witnessed time and again over the years. We have a real quality group of people working to promote this sport throughout the state. And I could go on (and on) about our Committee members and our Boards—for both organizations (USTA Colorado and the Colorado Youth Tennis Foundation). But I will highlight albeit in a cursory way (as I cannot do them justice with these words/this column)—two of our USTA Colorado Board members.

The first is Brett Haberstick and one reason I'm mentioning him is the fact that all of us can take any number of things for granted—like our lives, the lives of our loved ones, and our property. And yet that is exactly what Brett is working so hard to preserve and protect—right now. Brett has a PhD and is a research associate at the University of Colorado's Epidemiology Laboratory's Institute for Behavioral Genetics. But in addition to that, he is the Sunshine Fire Protection District Fire Chief in the foothills west of Boulder where he lives. He has been called and has volunteered his services at any number of forest fires across the state (and perhaps outside Colorado as well). I don't know all there is to know about Brett—he is a very humble and unassuming person. This segment is not intended to provide a biography of him. It is intended to provide a snapshot for our Colorado tennis community of the kinds of people involved with our association. Currently Brett is working the High Park Fire as the incident command spokesman. I have seen him providing updates to reporters on television as well as being quoted in newspapers. Throughout the past couple of weeks, including during my drive back from Salt Lake City, my thoughts and prayers were with those affected by these fires—including those who risk their own lives to protect others, their loved ones and their property. In a world that can be so self-centered and "me-oriented", we can all learn a lot from those who perpetually give and never ask for

anything in return. Brett is one of those people and we are fortunate to have him associated and so involved in our organization.

Another person who is incredibly giving is our board president, Taryn Archer. Try to keep up with her—it's difficult if not impossible! I could not do justice in describing even a fraction of what she does and what she means to our community (the Colorado community as well as our tennis community). She is constantly reaching out to people in need—and yet that's not the way she sees these folks or how she would characterize them. Taryn has the very real gift of being able to see the gifts that others possess as well—and she takes the time to reach out to them. From her work at the SAME Café to her efforts with one of our inner-city high school tennis teams (and everything in between), Taryn also embodies a desire to help and work with others—even when she's limited by the number of hours in a day! Her efforts have been instrumental with our outreach and in the operation and leadership of our association overall. As with Brett, we are fortunate to have Taryn on our Board and as our president.

As I noted earlier, I could highlight the efforts (and the character) of so many people in our association (staff, committee, board members and others). And perhaps I'll take the time to shine a light on others in future columns. It's certainly worth taking some time to recognize them for their many amazing attributes, else our tennis community may never know of the effort, compassion and dedication of its Association's leaders.

There is much we want to accomplish via this sport of tennis—to provide opportunities for any and all people to experience the sport, to provide exercise and wellness components to the lives of all interested—the young and not-so-young (juniors and seniors), and to provide competitive outlets and recreational opportunities so people can challenge themselves and others. We at USTA Colorado and the Colorado Youth Tennis Foundation have a lot of quality people involved who make a difference for tennis and for our community in general. Thanks to all who support our missions and who work to benefit others—so that they might enjoy this game of and for a lifetime.

Best wishes for a wonderful and healthy summer! ☺

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**USTA Colorado is also seeking nominations for its Annual Awards. The deadline for nominations are September 15, a form is online.**





# THE LAST WORD

## SHARING STORIES WITH SOCIAL MEDIA

THE TASK: CREATING AN ONLINE COMMUNITY THAT RESEMBLES REAL-LIFE

KURT DESATUELS  
EDITOR, COLORADO TENNIS

I'm not one to toot my own horn—well, actually, I am exactly the one to toot my own horn—but I wanted to share something with all of you.

This publication marks the 72nd issue of Colorado Tennis that has been printed since I became Editor back in February of 2000. Seventy-two. Not that I'm counting.

You may now return to your regular programming....

### Stay connected

Back in February, USTA Colorado's board of directors gave final approval to launch our social media effort. As modest as they are, both our Facebook and Twitter feeds have been slowly gaining in both number of followers and in strength of content.

As the demand for more social content continues to rise, we will continue to devote more energy to those information streams.

And you can help. We invite community tennis associations, high school teams, college teams, junior players and their parents, league captains and players...in short, EVERYONE in the tennis community to share your highs and lows with us through Facebook and Twitter. We'd love to hear from you.

Got a great tennis-themed photograph? Post it on our wall! Got a super story to share? Tag us on Twitter.

Social media works best when we create the type of virtual community that resembles our community in real-life.

 <http://facebook.com/ustacolorado>

 <http://twitter.com/ustacolorado>

### Fall issue of Colorado Tennis

The fall issue of Colorado Tennis newspaper is scheduled to publish in September. Any and all editorial submissions must be received by August 20, and all advertising reservations must be made by the same date. Final ads must be received by August 31.

Free subscriptions are available, contact the Editor <[kurt@coloradotennis.com](mailto:kurt@coloradotennis.com)>.

### Find us on the web

Forget your copy of Colorado Tennis at home? Fear not! Visit [COLORADOTENNIS.com](http://COLORADOTENNIS.com) and click on NEWS for current and back issues of the Official Publication of Tennis Lovers.

All issues are available as downloads, and all 2011 and newer issues are available as online publications, suitable for laptop, desktop or tablet viewing.

Coming to [COLORADOTENNIS.com](http://COLORADOTENNIS.com) in the not-too-distant future will be a complete history of Colorado Tennis newspaper, starting with the first issue of HighBOUNCE back in 1976. It's a lengthy project, but USTA Colorado is committed to bringing all 37 years of this publication to you. No final time frame has been set, but I'm hoping to have it done before I reach 100 issues...which is certainly a lot less challenging than writing press releases with fewer than 140 characters.

See you on Facebook and Twitter, or right back here in September.



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### STAFF LISTING

#### Administration:

**FRITZ GARGER**  
Executive Director, USTA CO/CYTF  
x204 fritz@coloradotennis.com

**ANITA COOPER**  
Administrative Assistant  
x200 anita@coloradotennis.com

**THERESA DICKSON**  
Accountant  
x208 theresaf@coloradotennis.com

#### Leagues:

**DAN LEWIS**  
Junior Leagues Director  
x207 dan@coloradotennis.com

**JASON ROGERS**  
Adult League Programs Director, IT Coordinator  
x202 jason.rogers@coloradotennis.com

**KAILEY JONAS**  
Adult League Coordinator  
x206 kailey@coloradotennis.com

**TAYLOR MCKINLEY**  
Adult League Coordinator  
x210 taylor@coloradotennis.com

**JARRET SUTPHIN**  
Adult League Coordinator  
x225 jarret@coloradotennis.com

#### Community/Grassroots Tennis:

**KRISTY HARRIS**  
Community Development Director  
x300 kristy@coloradotennis.com

**KRISTY JENKINS**  
USTA School Tennis Coordinator  
x301 schools@coloradotennis.com

#### Sponsorship/Development:

**LISA SCHAEFER**  
Associate Executive Director, USTA CO/CYTF  
x201 lisa@coloradotennis.com

#### Competitive Tennis/Player Development:

**JASON COLTER**  
Player Development & Tournaments Director  
x205 jason@coloradotennis.com

#### Marketing/Diversity:

**PAULA MCCLAIN**  
Marketing & Diversity Director  
x220 paula@coloradotennis.com

#### Publications:

**KURT DESAUTELS**  
Communications & Publications Director  
x203 kurt@coloradotennis.com

#### Information Technology:

**GARY GOFF**  
Information Technology & Technical Support Director  
x303 support@coloradotennis.com



photo by Kurt Desautels



### USTA COLORADO

**BACK ROW:** Dan Lewis, Fritz Garger, Paula McClain, Kurt Desautels, Jason Colter.  
**FRONT ROW:** Kailey Jonas, Lisa Schaefer, Taylor McKinley, Jarret Sutphin, Kristy Harris, Anita Cooper, Jason Rogers.

### 2012 USTA COLORADO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### ABOUT USTA COLORADO

Founded in 1955, USTA Colorado is a district affiliate of the United States Tennis Association, and the governing body of tennis in Colorado. Its mission is to promote and develop the growth of tennis in Colorado, coordinating recreational and competitive tennis opportunities for players of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. A not-for-profit organization, USTA Colorado invests 100% of its resources into growing the game.

We provide grants to organizations that want to introduce tennis to their communities and we offer scholarships to junior players who seek to take their game to the next level. We coordinate adult league play for more than 31,000 players across the state, and offer programs for junior players of all ages and abilities. Our sanctioned tournament schedule offers more than 10 events this year, including opportunities for wheelchair athletes.

We are in the parks. We are in recreation centers and in private clubs. We are in schools helping physical education teachers introduce our kids to a game that they can play for a lifetime, keeping them fit and healthy. We believe that fundamental tennis principles like sportsmanship, hard work and personal responsibility translate into every area of life. Through tennis we are helping people realize their potential both on and off the court.

We are more than 22,000 members strong, but our scope is not confined to those players alone. We represent the nearly 500,000 tennis players in our state, providing information and opportunities to play for each and every one of them. We reach out to all players, including those of diverse cultural backgrounds, mentally and physically challenged athletes, and under-served communities. Diversity & Inclusion is a strategic priority for USTA Colorado and one of our core values.

We invite you to find out more about the lifetime sport of tennis. We will help you find a court, find a program, find a league or find a team. We will help you put the FUN back in FITNESS. So whether you want to learn to play tennis, get back into the sport, or just find more opportunities to play the game, we're here to help.

**GRASSROOTS TENNIS IS OUR GAME.  
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