


COLORADO TENNIS

Year 34, Issue 5

The Official Publication Of Tennis Lovers

Est. 1976

WINTER 2009



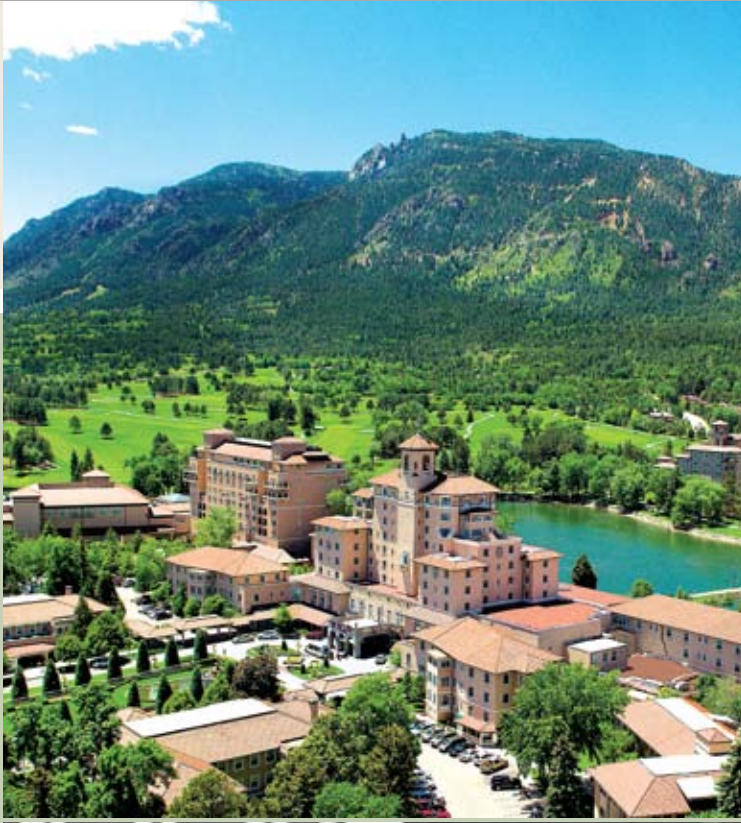
COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME

TENTH *Anniversary*
2000-2009



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February 26 - 28	3.5	
March 12 - 14	2.5 – 3.0	

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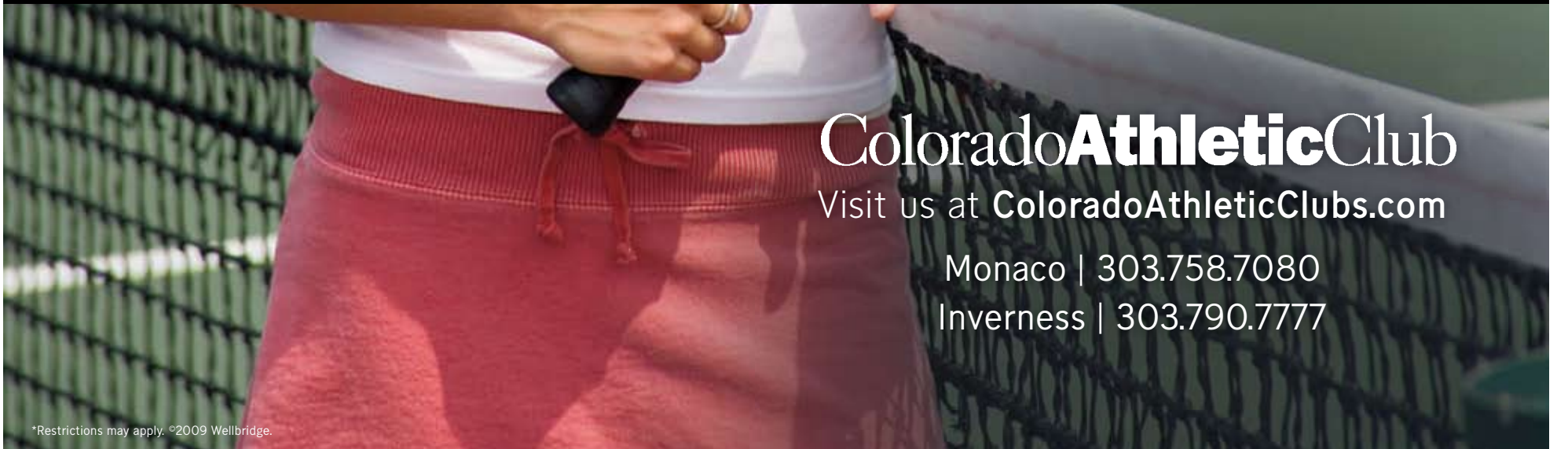
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coverstory


A DECADE OF CELEBRATING COLORADO'S RICH TENNIS HISTORY

Nine years ago, on a cold and snowy night in Denver, the spotlights at Magness Arena on the University of Denver campus shone brightly on the first class of individuals to be named to the Colorado Tennis Hall of Fame.

More than 5,000 tennis fans witnessed the presentation, which came on the front end of the MS Tennis Classic exhibition match between Monica Seles and Lindsay Davenport.

Colorado has a rich tradition of tennis throughout the years, and the Hall of Fame provides a vehicle for due recognition for Colorado players, coaches, benefactors and administrators for their contributions to tennis. The goal of the Colorado Tennis Hall of Fame is to honor individuals who have made outstanding contributions to tennis in Colorado.

On the eve of the Hall of Fame celebrating the induction of its 10th class, USTA Colorado is excited to announce that in just a few short months, the Colorado Tennis Hall of Fame will debut its new permanent home at Gates Tennis Center.



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
TENTH *Anniversary*
2000-2009

profiles

NOW INTRODUCING....

THE TENTH CLASS OF INDUCTEES INTO THE COLORADO TENNIS HALL OF FAME

CHESTER HARRIS

The eldest of three children, Chester was born in Austin, TX in 1897. He moved to Denver in 1935, where he began working at a wide variety of jobs to provide for his family.

But it was through tennis that he made a discernable mark on the community. An avid tennis lover and true advocate of the game, Mr. Harris (as he was known to everyone) was a fixture at Denver's City Park for decades. He introduced numerous people to tennis, and was a powerful force in bringing minorities into game.

Living only a few blocks away from City Park, Mr. Harris set up a

miniature tennis court at his house where he would teach students shot-making and tennis strategy. He had the knowledge to help players of all abilities advance their skills, from rank beginners to the top tournament players. A master strategist, Mr. Harris would dissect the sport on a chalkboard in his home to help his students better understand tennis strategy. He is also well remembered for his tennis axioms, especially, "There is no right way to do the wrong thing," and "If you hate to lose in tennis, don't play."

Mr. Harris was affiliated with the YMCA, Manual High School and many other youth tennis groups, including the Youth Tennis Foundation, the Youth Education Activities of Denver Opportunity Program, the Presidents Council on Youth Opportunity operated by Metropolitan State College, as well as being an active member of City Park Racquet Club.

Selfless in the gifts of

his time and his talents, Mr. Harris received his compensation in seeing the growth of the sport in his community, as well as watching his students improve their game. He taught more than tennis. He wanted to develop good human beings, able to articulate and to concentrate in the classroom. He taught his students to be good citizens, many of whom have passed along these lessons to future players. His influence has helped bring new generations to the sport, and introduce players of diverse backgrounds to tennis long after his death.

A year after his death in 1991, the City Park Racquet Club renamed its premier event, the Chester Harris City Park Open, in his honor. The event celebrated its 18th anniversary in 2009, the year of his induction into the Colorado Tennis Hall of Fame. ☺



CHESTER HARRIS


CLASS OF 2009



PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE
**COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME GALA**
AND COLORADO TENNIS
ANNUAL AWARDS CELEBRATION

We will honor the 2009 class of
Hall of Fame inductees and the
Colorado Tennis Annual Award recipients
whose contributions have enriched
the sport of tennis in Colorado.

JANUARY 29, 2010
MARRIOTT
DENVER TECH CENTER

Event proceeds benefit the
Colorado Youth Tennis Foundation

For ticket information or
to register for the Gala, please visit

COLORADOTENNIS.com.

DID YOU KNOW?

Proceeds from the Colorado Tennis Hall Of Fame Gala go to the Colorado Youth Tennis Foundation, a non-profit fundraising arm of USTA Colorado which provides financial assistance to juniors and junior programs, giving youngsters the opportunity to learn and play the lifetime sport of tennis.



Total number of people who have attended a Colorado Tennis Hall Of Fame Gala:.....**3,500**

Total amount of money raised for the Colorado Youth Tennis Foundation:.....**\$205,000**

VERNON JOHN

Born in Illinois in 1916, Vernon and his family moved to Colorado in the 1920s. He attended South High School in Denver, and became a highly regarded junior player.

At the age of 17, Vernon captured the 1933 Cheyenne Mountain Invitational singles title. One of the top tournaments in the country at the time, the event drew top players from around the nation. En route to the title, Vernon beat Californian Jack Tidball, the 1933 National Intercollegiate singles champion.

A crafty and powerful left-hander, Vernon was the No. 13-ranked player in the nation his first year in the 18s (No. 6 in doubles), rising to No. 7 (No. 5 in doubles) in his final year in the division.

In 1934, Vernon became the youngest man to win the Denver City Open Men's Singles title. He won it again the following year, taking the doubles title as well (with Harmon Clow)

Vernon attended the University of Southern California, earning intercollegiate rankings in both doubles (No. 7 in 1935) and in singles (No. 2 in 1936). He was a finalist at the National Intercollegiate Championships held at Northwestern University, losing to Ernest Sutter of Tulane in three tight sets.

He would go on to compete at the 1936 US National Clay Court Championships, held at the River Forest Tennis Club in Illinois losing to eventual champion Bobby Riggs 6-4, 7-5, 6-4 in the semifinals. Despite the loss, John would go on to beat Riggs several times in future sanctioned events.

Colorado Tennis Hall of Fame inductee Sam Milstein believed Vernon to be the best player ever to come out of Colorado. The two frequently practiced against each other, but because Vernon was so good, Sam was allowed to hit into the doubles alleys.

He passed away in San Mateo, CA, in 1987. ☹️



VERNON JOHN



COLORADO TENNIS HALL OF FAME (SEE PAGE 10)

2000: Carol Baily, John Benson, Jack Cella, Carter & Lena Elliott, Phyllis Lockwood, Sam & Sid Milstein, Margaret Rogers Phipps

2001: Joan Birkland, Sherrie Pruitt Farris, E.L. (Elmer) Griffey, Tom Keach, Jim Landin, Jeff Salzenstein, Kathleen Winegardner

2002: Anne Dyde, Rosemary Fri, Stephanie Hagan, James Loehr, Dorothy Mauk, M.H. "Bud" Robineau, Jake Warde

2003: Edwin "Ned" Crow, Irwin Hoffman, Dan Luna, Mike, Gene & Maurice Reidy, Karen Sather

2004: Adolph "Ade" Butler, Carolyn Roberts Byrne, Richard Gugat, Fay Shwayder, Joseph Thompson

2005: Miko Ando, Arnold Brown, Chet Murphy, Jeanette Paddock, Willa Wolcott Condon

2006: Bruce Avery, Willard Douglas Corley & Willard Douglas Corley, Jr., Don Harker, Carlene Petersen, Bill Wright

2007: Tariq Abdul-Hamid, Ned Cooney, Sandra Elliott, Roald Flater, Andrea Jaeger

2008: Paula Coulter, Charlie Gates, Jr., Allen Kiel, Katie Koontz, Jeff Loehr

2009: Chester Harris, Vernon John, Rhona Kaczmarczyk, Jack TerBorg, Becky Varnum Bucolo

BECKY VARNUM BUCOLO

A native Coloradan and the youngest of four children in a tennis-playing family, Becky's father introduced the family to tennis in 1983 at the Country Club of Colorado in Colorado Springs. Becky began playing at age 5, and by the age of 13 was already showing real promise. She won the USTA Colorado Margaret Rogers Phipps Award in 1992. A year later, her family was named the recipient of the Carter and Lena Elliott Family Award.

Coached by Rich Hillway, Dennis Ralston, and John Fielding, Becky became the first-ever Colorado prep tennis player to win four consecutive No. 1 singles titles. During her high school career at Cheyenne Mountain, Becky was a perfect 68-0, never losing a single set.

The top-ranked player in the Intermountain Section in G16 and G18, Becky was ranked as high as No. 18 in the country in the 18s division.

She was named as a Sportswoman of Colorado three times (1994, 1996, 1998), earning automatic induction into the Sportswomen of Colorado Hall of Fame in 1998.

A member of the National Honor Society, she attended Notre Dame and in her first season competing

earned the title of Big East Rookie of the Year (1998). By 2001, Becky was ranked No. 8 in the country in doubles, earning All American accolades. She was voted to be team captain in 2002.

Becky returned to competitive tennis in 2006, winning the Kia Amateur Open in Chicago to be the female US representative at the Australian Amateur Open, where she finished 4th. ☹️



BECKY VARNUM BUCOLO



JACK TERBORG

A native of Grand Rapids, Michigan, Jack TerBorg was about 10 years old when his family moved to Japan in the late 1930s. As World War II moved into the Pacific theater, the TerBorgs fled Japan aboard the last American ship to safely leave Japan. Jack and his family relocated to Lamar, CO where interpreters were needed for service at Camp Amache, a Japanese internment camp outside of Granada, CO.

Jack discovered tennis when his family moved to a house across the street from Washington Park in Denver. With the park's tennis courts in view, Jack would play with anyone who showed up. With no formal coach, Jack's game developed through these impromptu playing sessions, including hitting with Chuck

Samson, a finalist at the National Intercollegiate Championships (he lost to Pancho Segura).

After three perfect seasons (1945-47) at No. 1 singles at South High School, Jack received a scholarship to the University of Southern California where he played his freshman and sophomore years.

He transferred from USC to Denver University where he completed his undergraduate work and later law school. The DU team captured the Skyline Conference championship for two consecutive years behind No. 1 singles player Clayton Benham, Jack at No. 2, fellow Colorado Tennis Hall of Famer Irwin Hoffman at No. 3 and Alvie Willis at No. 4.

In 1955, Jack married Germaine Robineau, the daughter of Colorado Tennis Association founder Bud Robineau.

A prolific champion, Jack won 6 major Colorado singles titles



JACK TERBORG



CLASS OF 2009

– two Denver City Opens (1958, 1962), two Colorado State Opens (1961, 1962) and two Intermountain Sectional Championships (1954, 1961). He also amassed 9 doubles championships, including 8 Denver City Open doubles titles in 12 years (1950, 1952, 1955-8, 1960-61) and the 1954 Colorado State Open doubles title. 🏆

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AND SEE HOW IT CHANGES THEIR WORLD.**

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JANUARY 4-25, 2010

RHONA KACZMARCZYK

Born in 1965 in Dublin, Ireland, Rhona Howett started playing tennis at 8 years-old, and competing in tournaments at 9. Tennis was a family affair for the Howetts. Her parents and siblings all played with their friends at the local club, so it was an easy fit for young Rhona to go along with them.

At 10, her talents were acknowledged, and she was selected for special coaching on a team that traveled around Europe playing international tournaments during breaks from school. By the time Rhona was 15, she was representing her country at the Federation Cup. She would represent Ireland at four Federation



RHONA KACZMARCZYK



CLASS OF 2009

Cups (Japan, Switzerland, Czech Republic and Canada). A national champion at every junior age group, she was Ireland's top-ranked player at age 16.

After a six-month career on the WTA Pro Tour, Rhona opted to attend college in the United States. She spent one year at Oklahoma State University before transferring to Texas Christian University where she graduated with a double major in Spanish and Dietetics.

Rhona has been a consistent challenger at the championship level here in Colorado, amassing more than 11 singles and doubles titles at the Denver City Open, Colorado State Open and Intermountain Championships. In 1996, Rhona won the singles and doubles titles at both the Denver City Open and Intermountain Championships. She dominated the State Open in 1997-8, winning both the singles and doubles titles in each of those years. In 2006, at the age of 41, Rhona pulled off the rare singles/doubles sweep again at the Denver City Open. That same year, Rhona also captured the USTA National Women's 40 Indoor Championships and earned the USTA Colorado Joan Birkland Award as the state's top female player.

A perennially top-ranked player in the Intermountain Section, she was named a Colorado Sportswoman in 1999. Rhona has also represented the US on several occasions at the ITF World Team Championships and in individual competition.

A USTA High Performance Coach, Rhona has been a long-time coach with Team Colorado. She has spent the last 13 years as a tennis professional at Greenwood Athletic & Tennis Club. 🏆



COLORADO TENNIS HALL OF FAME

Hall of Fame biographies are available at COLORADOTENNIS.com



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2005

**MIKO
ANDO**
PLAYER



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2006

**BRUCE
AVERY**
UMPIRE



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2007

**TARIQ
ABDUL-HAMID**
COACH/MENTOR



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2000

**CAROL
BAILY**
PLAYER



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2000

**JOHN
BENSON**
PLAYER



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2001

**JOAN
BIRKLAND**
PLAYER



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2005

**ARNIE
BROWN**
COACH



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2004

**ADE
BUTLER**
UMPIRE



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2004

**CAROLINE ROBERTS
BYRNE**
PLAYER



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2000

**JACK
CELLA**
PLAYER



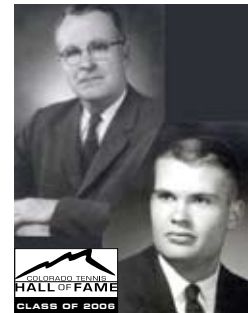
COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2007

**NED
COONEY**
UMPIRE



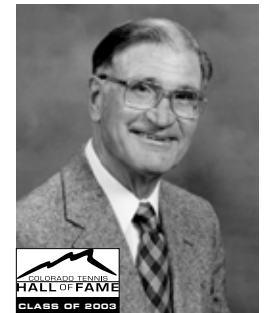
COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2008

**PAULA
COULTER**
PLAYER



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2008

**W.D. & W.D. JR.
CORLEY**
PLAYERS/ADMINISTRATORS



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2003

**NED
CROW**
PLAYER/ADMINISTRATOR



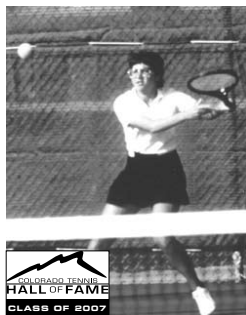
COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2008

**ANN
DYDE**
PLAYER



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2000

**CARTER & LENA
ELLIOTT**
ADVOCATES/ADMINISTRATORS



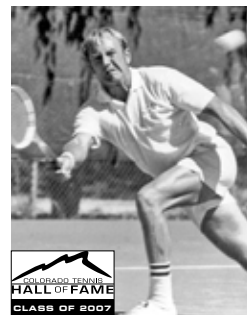
COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2007

**SANDRA
ELLIOTT**
PLAYER



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2001

**SHERRIE
FARRIS**
PLAYER



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2007

**ROALD
FLATER**
PLAYER



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2002

**ROSEMARY
FRI**
PLAYER/COACH



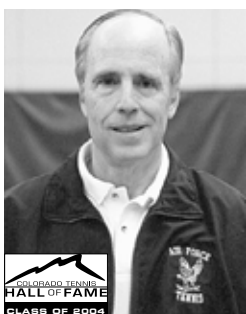
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HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2008

**CHARLES
GATES, JR.**
BENEFACTOR



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2001

**E.L.
GRIFFEY**
ADMINISTRATOR



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2004

**RICH
GUGAT**
COACH



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2002

**STEPHANIE
HAGAN**
PLAYER



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2006

**DON
HARKER**
PLAYER



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2003

**IRWIN
HOFFMAN**
COACH/MENTOR



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2007

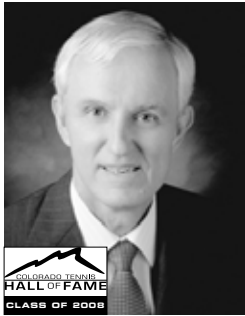
**ANDREA
JAEGER**
PLAYER/HUMANITARIAN



COLORADO TENNIS
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2001

**TOM
KEACH**
PLAYER

TENTH Anniversary
2000-2009



ALLEN KIEL
ADVOCATE



KATIE KOONTZ
PLAYER



JIM LANDIN
PLAYER



PHYLISS LOCKWOOD
PLAYER/COACH



JEFF LOEHR
PLAYER



JIM LOEHR
INNOVATOR



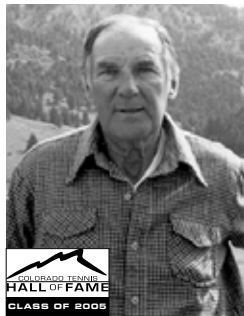
DAN LUNA
PLAYER



DOROTHY MAUK
JOURNALIST



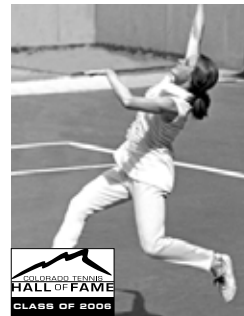
SAM & SID MILSTEIN
PLAYERS/INNOVATORS



CHET MURPHY
COACH



JEANETTE PADDOCK
PLAYER



CARLENE PETERSEN
PLAYER



MIKE, GENE & MAURICE REIDY
PLAYERS/ADMINISTRATORS



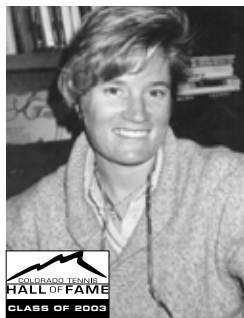
BUD ROBINEAU
ADVOCATE/ADMINISTRATOR



MARGARET ROGERS PHIPPS
BENEFACTOR



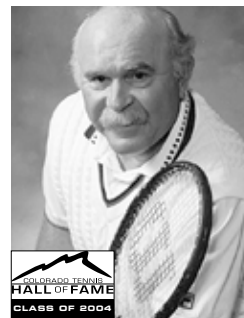
JEFF SALZENSTEIN
PLAYER



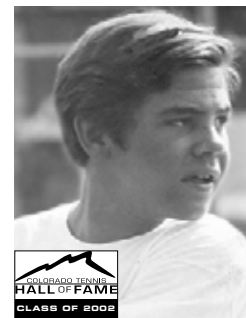
KAREN SATHER
PLAYER



FAY SCHWYDER
PLAYER



JOE THOMPSON
COACH/ADMINISTRATOR



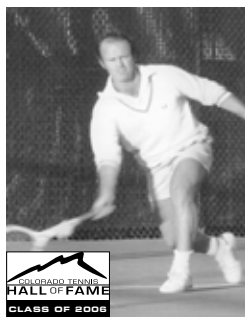
JAKE WARDE
PLAYER



KATHLEEN WINEGARDNER
PLAYER



WILLA WOLCOTT CONDON
PLAYER



BILL WRIGHT
PLAYER/COACH

41 COLORADO TENNIS HALL OF FAME

Gates Tennis Center will be the new permanent home of the Colorado Tennis Hall of Fame. The new exhibit will be completed in 2010, and will reside on the west wall on the first floor. Look for an announcement on the Grand Opening of the new permanent exhibit in the next issue of Colorado Tennis.

USTA COLORADO 2009 ANNUAL AWARDS

Each year, USTA Colorado hosts the Colorado Tennis Hall of Fame Gala & Colorado Tennis Annual Awards Celebration. In addition to the formal induction ceremony for the incoming class of the Hall of Fame, USTA Colorado recognizes those players, coaches, administrators, volunteers and facilities who have made significant contributions to tennis over the course of the past year. The nomination period for the Annual Awards concludes in September of each year.

Bud Robineau Award

VICKY MATARAZZO (Lakewood)

A long-time high school coach and USTA School Tennis Clinician, Vicky is the volunteer tennis director for Special Olympics Colorado, coaching athletes with physical and intellectual disabilities while training Special Olympics coaches. She also regularly volunteers on the adaptive court at Arthur Ashe Kids Day.

Clyde Rogers Award

MIKE SHELLMAN (Aurora)

An NTRP Verifier, USTA Umpire and tournament director, and long-time tennis instructor/administrator at South Suburban and Highlands Ranch, Mike also serves on the USTA Colorado Adult Recreation and Tournament Committees.

Sam & Sid Milstein Award

GENE WILKEN (Fort Collins)

Gene picked up his first racquet at the age of 10, and in 2009, he swept the M80 singles and doubles titles at the Colorado State Open.

Jody Riser Knudsen Award

SONIA SCHWARTZ (Arvada)

Sonia was key to the success of the USTA Colorado Diversity TennisFest Series, bringing tennis to diverse populations at Colorado's largest ethnic festivals.

Fay & Dorothy Shwayder Award

JANICE AOKI (Littleton)

Janice ends the year ranked No. 1 in Colorado in the Women's 65s division. In 2008 and again in 2009, she won the singles championships at both the Denver City Open and the Colorado State Open.

Richard Hillway Award

KENT DENVER SCHOOL (Englewood)

Kent Denver won its second consecutive Colorado Boys' High School State 4A Team Championship (fifth title in school history), sweeping every title match it played.

Ade Butler Award

PATRICK ZURASKI (Colorado Springs)

An active official at all levels of events, Patrick joined the CTUA in 2001 and has served on its board of directors since 2006, as secretary and treasurer.

Rosemary Fri Award

KRISTA DAMICO (Parker)

A junior standout ranked nationally as high as No. 6 in the country, Krista continued her success in college, where as a freshman at the University of Texas she competed in the top three singles and top two doubles positions.

Margaret Rogers Phipps Award

NICOLE KALHORN (Colorado Springs)

Nicole earned a top-20 Intermountain ranking in 2009, capturing several tournaments at the state level. A member of the Team Colorado Select Squad, she won her first 12s title at the age of 10.

Jack Cella Award

CASEY MACMASTER (Fort Collins)

A senior at Rocky Mountain High School, Casey capped back-to-back perfect seasons with his second 5A high school singles championship, earning him Player of the Year honors and a spot on the All Colorado Boys' Tennis Team.

Jim & Anne Dyde Award

SAMMIE WATSON (Denver)

One of Intermountain's top ranked players, Sammie plays No. 1 singles at Kent Denver, winning consecutive 4A Singles Championships. She was named Colorado High School Player of the Year for 2008-2009 by The Denver Post.

Carter & Lena Elliott Family Award

THE YOUNG FAMILY (Colorado Springs)

Rich has served on the board of directors of USTA Colorado for 10 years, while Pennie, Matt and Brad began Stars Tennis, a student-led summer instructional program for under-served kids in Colorado Springs.

Arthur Ashe Award

ART RIMANDO (Denver)

Art has been the Berkeley Park tennis coordinator for more than 15 years, helping to grow tennis in that highly diverse community. A USTA Colorado board member, Art chairs the Diversity Oversight Committee.

Jim Landin Award

CLANCY SHIELDS (Grand Junction)

Clancy began the local tournament season with a win at the Elam Classic, followed by doubles victories at both the Elam and the Men's Safeway Open, a pro-caliber event. He was also a finalist at the Denver City Open.

Dorothy Mauk Award

ANDY ZODIN (Lakewood)

Andy is host of "In the Tennis Zone", a weekly radio show that features tennis coverage of the local tennis scene, as well as interviews with some of the sport's most iconic figures, including Billie Jean King and Rod Laver.

Joan Birkland Award

LAUREN STRASBURGER (Denver)

A former Colorado State University standout, Lauren won the Boulder Open and reached the quarterfinals at the Denver City and Colorado State Open.

E.L. Griffey Award

ARVADA TENNIS CENTER-APEX P&R (Arvada)

Consistently ranked among the top five facilities in the state for league participation, Arvada Tennis Center is home to many events and programs including sanctioned tournaments, coaches trainings and wheelchair tennis.

Willa Wolcott Condon Award

CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL (CO Springs)

The Cheyenne Mountain High School tennis team capped off their 2009 season winning the 4A Girls' High School Team Championship, bringing home individual state titles at the No. 3 singles and No. 2 and 4 doubles positions.

Mike, Gene & Maurice Reidy Award

ALEX CLINKENBEARD (Loveland)

A two-time finalist from Loveland High School at the 5A High School championships, Alex was the team captain. He is a stellar student and volunteer.

Charlie & Ira Brown Award

STEPHANIE SCHWARTZ (Arvada)

A frequent competitor in tournaments, leagues and on her high school tennis team, Stephanie organizes and teaches at fundraising tennis camps, also coaching a middle school tennis team in an under-served neighborhood.

John Hough Award

LUKE LORENZ (Colorado Springs)

Luke won the Boys' 12s singles and doubles at the ITA Memorial Day Circuit, also capturing the doubles at the Easter Circuit. A member of the Team Colorado Select Squad, Luke has been recognized for his work ethic and leadership.

Jerry & Lillian Brawer Award

JOHN VCELKA (Highlands Ranch)

An avid wheelchair player and member of the Colorado Wheelchair Tennis Foundation board, John works to provide tennis opportunities for wheelchair athletes. He competes in events statewide, enjoying consistent results.

Phyllis Lockwood Award

BRITTAN SUTPHIN (Lakewood)

The No. 1 singles player at Wheat Ridge High School, Brittan received Jeffco Player of the Year honors in 2009. After a near-death experience, she has made it her mission to place AEDs in all Colorado schools and sports facilities.

Vernon John Award

CLANCY SHIELDS (Grand Junction)

In 2009, Clancy was named WAC Player of the Year, leading Boise State to the NCAA team championships. He also received the ITA/Rafael Osuna Sportsmanship Award for character, academics and tennis accomplishments.

MALE HIGH SCHOOL PLAYER
Jack Cella Award

FEMALE HIGH SCHOOL PLAYER
Jim & Anne Dyde Award

MALE COLLEGE PLAYER
Vernon John Award

FEMALE COLLEGE PLAYER
Rosemary Fri Award

MALE PLAYER
Jim Landin Award

FEMALE PLAYER
Joan Birkland Award

SENIOR MALE PLAYER
Sam & Sid Milstein Award

SENIOR FEMALE PLAYER
Fay & Dorothy Shwayder Award

UMPIRE
Ade Butler Award

WHEELCHAIR PLAYER
Jerry & Lillian Brawer Award

BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL TEAM
Richard Hillway Award

GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL TEAM
Willa Wolcott Condon Award

ORGANIZATION
E.L. Griffey Award

FAMILY
Carter & Lena Elliott Family Award

VOLUNTEER
Jody Riser Knudsen Award

MEDIA EXCELLENCE
Dorothy Mauk Award

GIRLS' SPORTSMANSHIP (UNDER 14)
Margaret Rogers Phipps Award

BOYS' SPORTSMANSHIP (UNDER 14)
John Hough Award

GIRLS' SPORTSMANSHIP (15-18 YRS)
Phyllis Lockwood Award

BOYS' SPORTSMANSHIP (15-18 YRS)
Mike, Gene & Maurice Reidy Award

JUNIOR SPORTSMANSHIP (PARK & REC)
Charlie & Ira Brown Award

CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNDER-SERVED PLAYERS
Arthur Ashe Award

SERVICE TO RECREATIONAL PLAYERS
Clyde Rogers Award

SERVICE TO TENNIS COMMUNITY
Bud Robineau Award

spotlight

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE COLORADO YOUTH TENNIS FOUNDATION

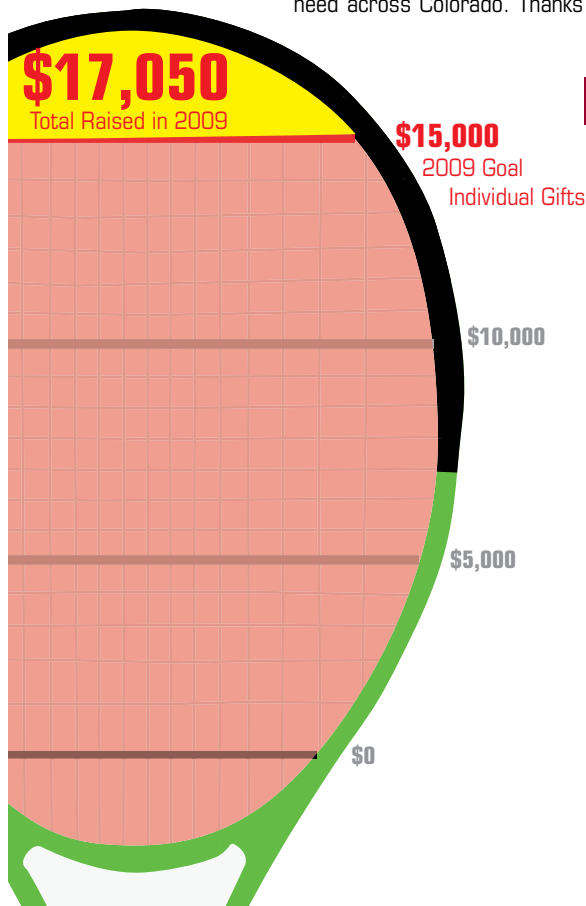
The Colorado Youth Tennis Foundation raises money through our two premier events – the Colorado Tennis Hall of Fame Gala and the ever-popular Punk Relic Charity Tournament, as well as through donations from foundations, corporations and individuals.

In 2009, the CYTF's goal was to raise \$15,000 in individual gifts to help us provide tennis opportunities to kids in need across Colorado. Thanks to your generos-

ity, the CYTF exceeded its goal, making sure that all kids who have an interest have a chance to play tennis.

To make a gift – big or small, visit our website at COLORADOTENNIS.com and click on the CYTF logo. Your gift will be acknowledged in the next issue of Colorado Tennis newspaper.

If you are aware of corporations who might be interested in sponsoring one of our events please contact us at 303/695-4116 x 201.



HELP US CHANGE THE WORLD

Thank you to the following CYTF donors (September-November 2009):

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
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WE'RE CHANGING THE WORLD.

ONE PLAYER AT A TIME.

We live in a time when the issues facing the health and focus of youngsters are pressing and significant. Childhood obesity is prevalent in communities throughout our state, and our kids are tested daily with decisions surrounding drugs, gangs and other potentially life changing choices that may have a profound effect on their future.

Tennis is much more than just a healthy activity that promotes physical fitness. It fosters decision-making skills and instills self-confidence, sportsmanship and teamwork. It extends beyond the boundaries of age, color and economic background.

Tennis provides a place for youngsters to make new acquaintances and strengthen existing relationships with family and friends. It teaches the importance of physical, emotional and mental fitness; of making good choices; and developing good character.

We envision communities where all kids are introduced to tennis in their schools, where they are given the opportunity to then get involved in after-school programs in elementary, middle school and high school.

We believe tennis gives kids the tools to learn, compete and win in life – through proper practice, dedication, knowledge and respect.

We need to focus on the future and make sound investments in the lives of our youth. Through tennis scholarships and grants, the Colorado Youth Tennis Foundation is reaching out to kids of all ages and backgrounds in the hope that kids receive the many benefits of the sport.

To learn more about the CYTF Scholarships and Grants program, or to help us change the world, one player at a time, please visit COLORADOTENNIS.com.

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Colorado Youth Tennis Foundation



buzzbuzz

Air Force's Gidley earns national recognition

The United States Tennis Association (USTA) and the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) have named US Air Force Academy Head Women's Tennis Coach **Kim Gidley** the national winner of the USTA/ITA Community Outreach Award. She will be honored by the ITA and the USTA on Saturday, December 19 at the ITA Coaches Convention at the Naples Grande Resort and Spa in Naples, Fla., during the ITA Welcoming and Awards Banquet.

The USTA/ITA Community Outreach Award honors an ITA coach for significant contributions in developing community-based tennis programs through community centers, schools, parks, community tennis associations, inner city, suburban or rural programs.

Gidley, who is also the award winner for the USTA/Intermountain Section, is in her 14th season as a tennis coach and in her 12th as Head Coach of the US Air Force Academy's women's tennis program. Gidley has made promoting tennis within the Colorado Springs community a priority in her time at USAFA. Some of the many accomplishments that Gidley can be credited with include programs designed for the local youth. "Girl Scout Badge for Tennis" allows girl scouts to earn a badge by taking part in a workshop put on by the players that teaches them the history of the game while learning how to serve and keep score. "Kids Force" is an after-school program in its eighth year, that is designed to teach kids the game of tennis while keeping them off the streets. The "TESSA Pro/Am" is great opportunity for kids and participants of all ages to team up in an event that serves as a social mixer with the community. Speaking of "Servicing the Community", this is a program that was recently started in which each team member has a pledge sheet for sponsors to make charitable donations for each ace they hit during the season.

Gidley has dedicated so much time and effort to boost the interests and the economy of the Colorado Springs area by hosting eight or nine tennis events each year including: the USAFA Fall Invite, USAFA Intramural Championships, the Air Force Sports and USTA Leadership Camps, the ITA Rocky Mountain Summer Circuit, USTA Campus Showdowns as well as the USTA West Zone Team Championships. All the while, Gidley serves as the Course Director for tennis at Air Force as well a USPTA instructor at the USPTA Intermountain Convention each February.

Colorado players earn hardware at World Senior Games

Several Coloradans earned hardware at the 2009 Huntsman World Senior Games in St. George, UT. The games welcome players ages 50+ in dozens of sports. Congratulations to the following Colorado players who earned medals at this year's event:

OPEN DIVISION

Men's Doubles 60 - 64

Silver, Steve Cookson, Lakewood

Men's Singles 70-74

Bronze, Mike Cullinane, Colorado Springs

Men's Singles 75-79

Bronze, Wayne Odom, South Fork

Mixed Doubles 60-64

Bronze, Steve Cookson, Denver

Bronze, Linda Massey, Centennial

CHALLENGER DIVISION

Men's Doubles 65-69

Bronze, Richard Campbell, Littleton

Bronze, Andrew Geiss, Littleton

Women's Doubles 60 - 64

Silver, Lucy Cookson, Lakewood

Silver, Linda Massey, Centennial

Mixed 60 - 64

Gold, Richard Campbell, Littleton

Mixed 75-79

Bronze, Al Throckmorton, Englewood

Colorado players squash the competition at the Great Pumpkin

Colorado players carved out some strong results at the 2009 Great Pumpkin Junior Sectional Championships in Las Vegas, sending 12 players to championship matches in their respective divisions and coming home with a combined five singles and doubles titles.

On the boys' side, Ashton Kalthorn (Colorado Springs) nearly completed a sweep, defeating Devin Lane (UT) 7-5, 6-1 to win the B18 singles championship, but falling in the doubles

NOUNS IN THE NEWS

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

final (with Tyler Frost (MT) to Lane and Patrick Kawka (NV) 8-2. Matt Sayre (Denver) matched Kalthorn in the B16 division, capturing the singles championship 6-4, 6-2 over Yannik Mahlangu (NV), and falling in the doubles final (with Mahlangu) 8-5 to Scott Bohne (UT) and Jamey Swiggart (Steamboat Springs).

Colorado girls had an equally successful campaign, as Alexandra Leatu (Littleton) and Erin Gebes both reached the finals of their respective divisions (G18 and G16). The G18 doubles final was nearly an all-Colorado affair, as Leatu and Natalie Dunn (Fort Collins) defeated Mary Anne MacFarlane (UT) and Caroline Schnell (Greenwood Village) 8-5 for the title. Mira Rudder-Hook (Denver) partnered with Raquel Lopez (NV) to bring home the G14 doubles championship, while Ashley Lahey (Boulder) fell in three sets to Taylor Calton (UT) in the G12 singles final.



Price nabs first ITF World Championship

Rita Price (Aurora, CO) claimed the first World Championship singles title of her career as she defeated Briton Betty Howard 6-1 6-4 in the final of the International Tennis Federation Super-Senior World Championships (W80s), held November 9-15 in Perth, Australia.

Unseeded, Rita upset the odds by defeating number one seed Elsie Crowe (AUS) 6-2 6-4 to reach the final.

The ITF Super-Seniors World Individual Championships offers singles and doubles events for both men and women as well as a consolation draw for singles first match losers.

The ITF Super-Seniors World Individual Championships is the highest ranked tournament on the ITF Seniors circuit for players in the Super-Seniors age categories of 60+, 65+, 70+, 75+ and 80+ and for men only 85+.

Price narrowly missed the golden double, falling in the W80d final to the top-seed pair Jutta Apel and Elsie Crowe.

USTA Colorado assembles Marketing Committee

In an effort to further promote the growth of tennis in our state, USTA Colorado has assembled a Marketing Committee to identify and target specific opportunities to expand our reach in 2010 and beyond. Paula McClain, the Director of Marketing/Diversity, will be the primary staff liaison, along with Kurt Desautels, the Director of Communications/Publications. The immediate goal is to identify a "short list" of marketing needs to address during the first two years and identify a high impact marketing campaign that cuts across all departments.

The committee members are:

Abel Corral – Abel is an account executive for Aztec America Colorado at KMGH-TV, an ABC network-affiliate offering the largest Spanish-language programming in the world.

Laila Mahmud – Laila is an associate publicist at Starz Entertainment, where she is responsible for coordinating numerous public relations and marketing efforts.

Rachel Morley – Rachel is the co-owner of BIG CIRCLE little square, an integrated marketing company. She brings more than 20 years of experience in event planning, marketing program development and copy writing.

James Selak – James is the owner and principal of ZEBRA DESIGN, a Denver-based firm focused on Brand Identity Systems, Promotional Literature, and Training Program Materials.

Heidi Westgaard – Heidi is a buyer at The Sports Authority and has experience in merchandising, marketing, market research and analysis and forecasting of trends and industry.

Tournament players encouraged to review results online

USTA Colorado Player Development/Competitive Tennis Director Jason Colter reminds tournament players that it is important to review player records in order to make sure that the current standings are accurate prior to the end of the calendar year. Review points carefully

and make sure that you are receiving the correct amount of points for each round played. Refer to page 36 of the 2009 BIG BOOK OF COLORADO TENNIS for a point breakdown. Also a reminder of the following:

NTRP Singles/Doubles

Players accumulating a minimum of 150 points during the calendar year will earn a numerical ranking. Only a player's three best results at Colorado Sanctioned events will count towards a year-end ranking.

Seniors/Championship/Family Doubles

Players accumulating a minimum of 100 points during the calendar year will earn a numerical ranking (two best results will apply to ranking).

Junior Satellite

Players accumulating a minimum of 150 points during the calendar year will earn a numerical ranking (three best results will apply to ranking).

Junior Championship

Players accumulating a minimum of 200 points during the calendar year will earn a numerical ranking (five best results will apply to ranking).

Tentative 2009 Rankings available soon

All Colorado tournament rankings (tentative) will be posted online at COLORADOTENNIS.com no later than January 5, 2010. Not all divisions conclude at the same time, so some will appear later than others. Computer standings will once again be used for all rankings, and any player wanting to appeal the computer-generated results must do so in writing via mail to USTA/CO Ranking Committee, 3300 E Bayaud Ave, Suite 201 Denver, CO 80209 or email to JASON@coloradotennis.com. All appeals must be submitted by 5pm on January 26, 2010. The ranking committee will review all submitted appeals received by the deadline, to determine the final rankings, which will be published in the upcoming 2010 Big Book of Colorado Tennis. That publication will mail in early February 2010.

2009 Year-end NTRP ratings now available

The USTA has published players' 2009 year-end NTRP ratings. To look up your rating, go to Find a Rating on TennisLink and input your USTA number in the top box. If you are interested in appealing your rating, please follow the procedure detailed below. You can also visit our NTRP page at COLORADOTENNIS.com for more information on the NTRP system.

This year, significant changes were made to the NTRP system which has resulted in a significant increase in players moving up in the ratings. For more, please see the sidebar.

Procedure for NTRP Appeals

In early 2008, the USTA unveiled a new procedure for the appeal process. The Automated Appeal in TennisLink allows players to appeal their rating online and find out automatically if their appeal has been granted or denied. All players filing a year-end appeal must follow this procedure. Please do not submit year-end appeals to the USTA Colorado office. For more information or questions about NTRP ratings and appeals, please see the NTRP section at COLORADOTENNIS.com.

Facility Coordinator meetings set

The USTA Colorado Adult League Department kicks off the 2010 league season with four Denver Metro area Facility Coordinator meetings scheduled in January. It is mandatory for each facility coordinator to attend one of the meetings.

Dates and times are as follows:

Wednesday, January 13 @ 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, January 14 @ 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, January 19 @ 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 23 @ 10:00 a.m.

All meetings will take place at the USTA Colorado office at Gates Tennis Center. Please RSVP to Kailey Jonas (kailey@coloradotennis.com) regarding the date you plan to attend.

Never miss another deadline

USTA Colorado wants to make sure you never miss another league or tournament registration deadline. Visit COLORADOTENNIS.com and click on the **MASTER CALENDAR** graphic where you can customize the program information you need. Stop navigating the sea of adult and junior league dates without a compass. Let us customize your season and take the stress out of managing your tennis calendar.

COLORADO TENNIS returns in March

Got a story or a photo to share with the Colorado tennis community? Submit your ideas for the winter issue of COLORADO TENNIS, which will arrive at your doorstep in March. The deadline to get your story/photo submitted is February 16. Send it to editor@coloradotennis.com.

MOVIN'-ON-UP

According to the USTA, "The year end 2009 NTRP ratings will reflect a nationwide movement in which a higher percentage of players will move upward this year. This reflects the concerns of the National Oversight Group, the Observers (Verifiers), charged with protecting the integrity of our NTRP levels as defined below. It was also the clear consensus of many others including staff, volunteers, team captains and players that the system is in need of adjustment as too many players were above the NTRP level they were playing at."

The USTA also cited a "growing disconnect" between the standards set forth for the Self-Rating guidelines and the actual characteristics of players at various levels, as well as players who had been allowed for many years to appeal their year-end ratings downward.

The USTA believes that rating adjustments are necessary to protect the integrity of the NTRP and insure that the vast majority of all league players will have competitive matches.

"Of the 300,000+ league players nationally, more than 90,000 will be seeing movement in their NTRP rating that should coincide with their appropriate skills. With almost a third of the players seeing movement, please know that if you are in this group, you will not be alone. We recognize that there may be initial concerns and questions, but we believe rating adjustments are necessary to protect the integrity of the NTRP and insure that the vast majority of all league players will have competitive matches."

WHO'S MOVING....

The following is a nationwide breakdown of players who are moving up/down:

2009 LEVEL	TOTAL PLAYERS	PLAYERS UP	NO CHANGE	PLAYERS DOWN
2.5	19,352	9,762	9,590	0
3.0	82,803	35,133	45,067	2,603
3.5	121,270	36,381	83,456	1,433
4.0	66,717	11,200	54,250	1,267
4.5	18,605	1,333	16,307	965
5.0	2,698	128	2,135	435
5.5	143	1	64	78

Source: USTA.com





Parker Squad Reaches USTA Junior Team Tennis National Championships

After winning the 18-and-Under division of the Junior Team Tennis Sectional Qualifier at Gates Tennis Center this past July, the Parker Tennis squad followed up its win with another sensational performance, capturing the Intermountain Sectional Championship and earning a berth at the 2009 USTA JTT National Championships, October 30-November 1, in Mobile, AL.

Coached by Barry Riddle, the Town of Parker's tennis director and head coach of the Legend High School tennis teams, the Parker netters finished the Championships in 8th place, this despite a dramatic disadvantage in both age and experience. The Parker squad averages 15 years old and is comprised of predominantly high school freshmen and sophomores. Many other teams attending the Championship bring 17- and 18-year-olds who now play in college.

Legend High Schoolers Madison Porter, Jake Sheldon, Luke Whalen and Chad Waschmann all play for Riddle and the Titans.

Brynn Wheeler of Parker (Valor Christian), Greg Buttenmiller of Boulder (Monarch High School), Katya Golyenko of Lone Tree and Rachel Scheper of Greenwood Village (both from Cherry Creek High School) are all players Riddle knows from the local tennis scene.

"They were all chosen because they are good solid players and great kids," Riddle said.

The event itself was a spectacle, says Riddle. At a site with 60 tennis courts, replete with National Championship signage and banners and press, it was hard not to notice that this event was noticeably different than the Qualifier and event the Sectional.



Parker vs. Puerto Rico: (Top left) – Chad Waschmann and Jake Sheldon (both on left); Brynn Wheeler and Katya Golyenko (both on left); Madison Porter (on left)

"It was much more official," said Riddle. "The competition was very good and much older, better than they see in local tournaments and their high school seasons."

While finishing in the top half of all the teams who came to the National Championship is a mighty accomplishment for a first-year team, the experience in a pressurized environment of a national championship tournament against older, stronger and more mature competition will help all of the players immensely, says Riddle.

"They played as individuals and as team members, playing for themselves and their teammates," he said.

"They played in a format where every game counted toward the end results. All of these situations will make them better players both physically and mentally as they approach summer tournaments and their high school seasons."

The team already has plans to stay together and trying again next year, with a goal to finish in the top three at nationals.

"We finished eighth but were only a few games short of finishing in the top four, barring an injury to our best female player [Brynn Wheeler], we surely would have finished in the top three," Riddle said. "USTA Intermountain and USTA Colorado were extremely helpful in giving our team the support we needed to be successful." 🏆



Pinehurst nabs 4th Place at USTA Mixed Nationals

The Pinehurst Mixed 5.0 squad became the first-ever Pinehurst Country Club representative at a National League Championship, finishing 4th at the USTA Mixed 5.0 National Championships in Tucson, AZ.

Despite losing its first match of the tournament to a team from Mississippi, the PCC team, captained by Kori White, rebounded against Pennsylvania, setting up a do-or-die battle against the undefeated Puerto Rican squad. The match came down to a third-set tiebreak at No. 3, which Kimberly & Bill Creedon eventually won to clinch the team match victory, 2-1. The win moved Pinehurst into second place in their division, giving them a berth in the semifinal round.



In the semifinals, Pinehurst dropped all three matches to the Southern representative from Louisiana. And despite several tight matches in the third-fourth place round, Pinehurst couldn't solve the wild card entry from Puerto Rico, losing 3-0 and finishing the tournament with an outstanding 4th Place result.

Congratulations to the following players: Kori (Captain) & Randy White, Kimberly & Bill Creedon, Annette & Bo Apperson, and Jane & Douglas Carlson. Team members Gail & Peter Fritzingler were unable to attend the National Championships.

Meanwhile, back at The Ranch...



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Tournament season doesn't have to end when the snow flies.

- Northern Extreme, BGsd 18/16, December 31, 2009-January 5, 2010 – TL#257230010
- Ranch Indoor Open, MWsdMXd 35-75, February 16-21, 2010 – TL#257230310

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The Ranch

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Tennis Participation hits 30 million, a 25-year high

Studies by the USTA and TIA confirm that tennis participation in the United States topped 30 million players for the first time in more than two decades. The annual phone survey of 6,000 Americans showed that tennis participation grew in all age groups under the age of 50 and within all ethnicities. With 30.1 million people hitting the courts, tennis participation has grown 12% over 2008 and climbed 25% since 2003. The survey is conducted annually by the Taylor Research Group on behalf of the Tennis Industry Association (TIA) and the USTA.

New players comprised 7.1 million of the total, and the majority of tennis players consider themselves "regular players" (14.8 million). Though 15 of the 17 USTA sections were affected by record rainfall in the spring, total play occasions surpassed 560 million for only the second time in more than 20 years. The greatest percentage growth in participation was in players 12-17 which grew from 15.7% of the total participants in 2008 to 20.5% of the participants in 2009.

"The USTA continues to work closely with the entire tennis industry to grow our game, and we are extremely gratified that our collective efforts have generated such strong growth," said Lucy Garvin, USTA President and Chairman of the Board. "We continue to strive to make tennis easier to learn and more fun to play, and this commitment has led to millions of more Americans playing the game. I am proud of our network of sections, states/districts, and community programs who have worked so hard to increase participation."

"Over the past several years, we've strived to make the game more accessible, particularly at parks and schools across the country," said Kurt Kamperman, Chief Executive, Community Tennis, USTA. "Combine this with the health benefits of tennis, and you get surging interest in the sport."

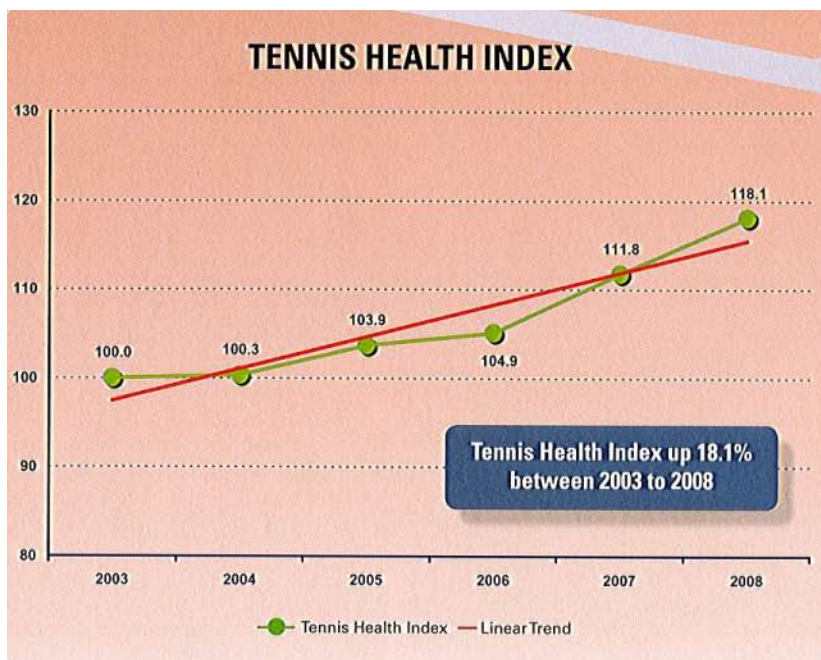
"The TIA (industry) and the USTA have been focused on growing participation since the mid '90s and this is the result of a consistent and sustained effort that is now paying dividends," said TIA President Jon Muir. "Our ongoing challenge is to continue to build our frequent player base, the economic lifeline for the sport."



Celebrating a 25-year high

Tennis participation has topped the 30 million mark here in the US, the first time in more than two decades. Since 2000, tennis participation has grown by more than 40%, outdistancing every other traditional sport.

Thanks to all of you, tennis continues to thrive. Now don't just sit there patting yourself on the back, go play!



The TIA/USTA survey results include:

- Total participation broke the 30 million mark in 2009 (a 12% increase to 30.1 million, against 26.9 million in 2008).
- New players reached 7.1 million (up 19.5% from 5.9 million in 2008).
- Regular Players, those playing 4 to 20 times per year, increased 26% to 14.8 million players in 2009.
- Participation in 2009 is up in every major ethnic group, but especially among African Americans (+19%) and Hispanics (+32%)
- Age groups comprising the greatest percentage of players are:
 - o 12-17 years at 20.5% of the total (more than 6 million players)
 - o 18-24 years at 18.4% of the total (more than 5.5 million players)
 - o 6-11 years at 16.25% of the total (4.9 million players)
- Tennis is doing a better job at retention with continuing players up 6.3% to 16 million
- Former players rejoining to the game is up for the third year in a row, with nearly 7 million coming back to tennis

The TIA/USTA results compare favorably to other recent research released from industry organizations over the past 12 months. In the 2009 Sports and Fitness Participation Report conducted by the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association (SGMA), results showed tennis was the only traditional sport to enjoy growth in grassroots participation.

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HIGH FIVE

For the past three decades, *COLORADO TENNIS* (née *High Bounce* in 1977) 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 the Fall 2009 issue, we debuted **HIGHFIVE (H5.01)**, a set of five profiles on individuals who deserve recognition for their efforts and accomplishments. As always, some you will know, while others will be fresh names and faces.

As always, we encourage readers to help us recognize others who they think deserve special recognition. Email Kurt Desautels, at EDITOR@COLORADOTENNIS.com with your suggestions.

ONE



Story by
DENNIS HUSPENI

Karen Brandner knew the power of tennis from a young age.

But she vividly witnessed the power of the sport to create friendships when she attended the memorial for her father Jerry Hughes, a longtime fixture on the Colorado Springs tennis scene.

"It was heart-warming to see at his memorial all the people he touched in 45 years of tennis," said Brandner, director of The Broadmoor's tennis program. "It underscored how tennis has been such a huge part of my life – growing up, (Wasson) high school, (The University of Denver) college – and all the friendships I've developed through the sport."

Brandner took over as the resort's director three years ago after work-

ing 12 years as an assistant to popular former director Dennis Ralston.

Though it can be easy to get caught up in the glitz and glamour of Colorado's top-rated resort, Brandner has continued to stay grounded by bringing tennis to area youth – especially the less fortunate ones.

In 1998, Brandner was instrumental in founding the Pikes Peak Community Tennis Association.

"It's a really rewarding program – we put racquets and balls into the hands of hundreds of kids who could not afford to play tennis," she said. "It's always important to reach out to the community, whether it is to kids or anyone less fortunate."

Though Brandner, a past president of the PPCTA, is no longer directly involved with the association, she always is looking out for its next fundraiser.

"Next year, we're going to bring back the wood racquet tournament in honor of Jack Kramer with the proceeds going to the Pikes Peak Community Tennis Association," Brandner said.

This summer, she helped organize the Broadmoor's first Rally for the Cure tennis event to raise awareness for the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation: "It was fun to see women, and men, come together for a cause they are really passionate about and a sport they're passionate about. The combination was magic!"

It may sound corny to those who don't know the game, but Brandner sees it as more than a diversion.

"Tennis is kind of a microcosm of life," she said. "The structure of the match and moving on, even within the game, set, match and tournament – you work your way through the ranks. It really does develop all the skills for life: character; sportsmanship, tenacity and just that ability to stick to something." 🎾

Story by
LINDA SARGENT WEGNER

A senior at Kent Denver, 18-year-old James Martinez has



a special appreciation for tennis. Fresh off a 4A high school number 1 doubles championship and team title, he acknowledges, "Tennis has allowed me the opportunity to meet a lot of people who have made a difference in my life. I am a student and tennis player at Kent because of the connections I made through tennis."

When James was 10 years-old, his basketball coach, Tobias Ortegon, encouraged him to play tennis. As it turns out, James' grandfather, Kelly Lovato, had taught Ortegon how to play tennis years ago in the Denver Parks and Recreation system.

James' first reaction was less than enthusiastic at the time, but he soon realized how special tennis was. With Ortegon as his skills coach all these years, and his grandfather taking on the role of mental coach, personal nutritionist and chauffer, James has had a tremendous support system.

"Tobias is like an uncle to me, and my grandfather has done so much to provide a good foundation for me," James says.

From the time he was introduced to tennis, James participated in the Denver Parks and Recreation tennis programs. He now volunteers, under the guidance of Ortegon, at the DPR tennis carnivals to work with the kids who attend and want to learn the game of tennis.

Ortegon shares, "I truly believe it takes a whole community involvement to instill the values for success

next page





HIGH FIVE



JAMES MARTINEZ

continued from previous page

which (for James) started with his family, being raised by his grandparents, being involved in the tennis programs at La Alma Recreation Center and most importantly being an honor student throughout his education."

With deep understanding of his tennis path, James states, "I realize that I am where I am today because others gave their time. I want to do the same for other kids."

James future is bright. Next year he plans to attend college, although he hasn't decided where. Having made the honor roll at Kent all four years, he is hoping for an academic and athletic opportunity. ♻️



FRANK ADAMS

Story by
TOM FASANO

Frank Adams grew up more than 1,500 miles from Denver, coming into the game through the National Junior Tennis league in Philadelphia. The experience made him the man he is today.



That man is one whose passion is providing an opportunity to people who would have a hard time getting a break otherwise.

"The important thing is that everything matters," said Adams, the head teaching pro at Highlands Ranch Tennis Pavilion.

"Jack Lewis, who was the (Colorado Tennis Association) president back around 1992 or so

when I got involved, knew that I wanted to become involved as a volunteer," Adams said. "The first committee that he placed me on was the diversity committee which was brand new to the USTA and to the Intermountain Tennis Association."

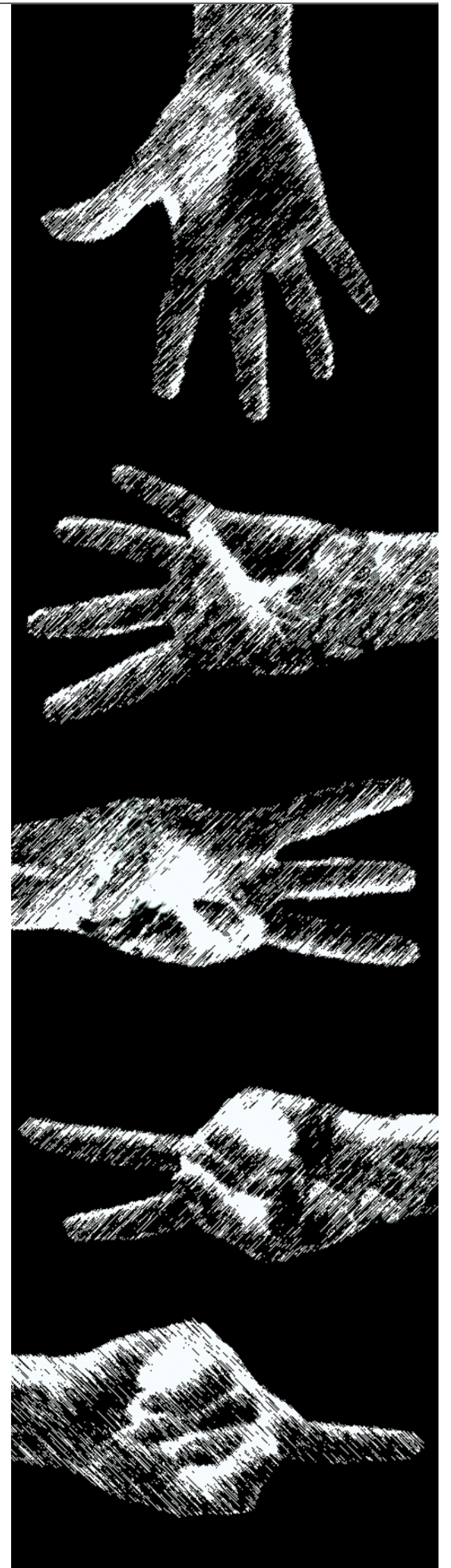
Adams said he cares about trying to include all those people who may have not had an entry into tennis in the past. "So we're talking about African American, Asian American, Hispanics and also the Native American community," Adams said. "I do feel strongly that everyone should have equal opportunities in everything."

Adams is also a wheelchair tennis coach for the Colorado Wheelchair Tennis Foundation, and a trainer for both the USTA Recreational Coaches Workshop and Recreational QuickStart Tennis Training Workshop.

"I think that's part of why I feel strongly about wheelchair tennis and Special Olympics," he said. "These are areas that may go unnoticed because, frankly, they're just not profitable. It's easier to reach out to the masses and other more lucrative events, but there are those whose numbers are really small that if someone doesn't really care about them then no one else might be motivated to make sure that they have the same opportunities I have."

It's all about fairness to Adams, who has been named a USTA Magazine Grass Roots Hero and the CWTF Pro of the Year, also earning the CTA's Arthur Ashe Award and the Intermountain Tennis Association's Volunteer of the Year among other honors.

"I was lucky enough to come into the game through the NJTL where all I did was show up at the tennis court. I never paid for a lesson as a kid," Adams said. "There was always an adult there looking to guide me. I had that easy entry, and as I traveled and I grew older, I realized that it wasn't provided for other people. I think if you're given stuff, you have a greater responsibility to return those things that you're given and try to give back. I'm lucky that USTA Colorado has been a conduit for me to help out with other programs." ♻️



next page



Paula Wolff knows how to get net results in more ways than one. Youth development is a huge passion for Wolff, a native of Wheaton, Ill., who has lived in Denver for 10 years.

For the last three years – half as the program director and then as executive director – Wolff has been a part of Net Results (NETRESULTSONLINE.org), a Colorado nonprofit organization started in 1993 by Prilla O’Connell that introduces tennis to kids who don’t have access to tennis and empowers those kids through tennis.

“We reach culturally diverse and low-income students, and we run after-school and summer-camp programs that both involve tennis,” Wolff said. “We also have an educational component, a tutoring

Story by
TOM FASANO

component where we do homework help, life skills, some literacy, nutrition education so that we’re helping our kids not only learn the great sport of tennis but also giving them positive role models that they need to be successful.”

Wolff, 35, said Net Results serves nearly 300 kids a year in north-east and northwest Denver.

“It’s really rewarding. Every day I’m reminded by the kids and their stories and how resilient they are in their lives,” Wolff said. “I feel blessed that I have an opportunity to impact these really amazing youth.”



PAULA WOLFF

The after-school program serves kids from fourth- to eighth-graders, and the summer-camp program serves kids a little bit younger as well as some kids in high school. There is no cost for the after-school program and just \$10 for the summer-camp program. Net Results survives through grant funding, individual donors, support from USTA Colorado and the Colorado Youth Tennis Foundation, and others such as the Daniels Fund, Anschutz Family Foundation and The Denver Foundation.

The elementary schools involved in Net Results are Ashley, Philips, Valdez and Florida Pitt Waller. The middle schools are Hill, Skinner, Smiley, Wheat Ridge and Cole, which is a K-8 school.

Sellah Kyambalesa, 18, of Denver is one of the success stories from Net Results. Sellah started in the program when she was 8 and is now an assistant coach at Ashley Elementary School. A graduate of East High School in 2009, Sellah plans to start college at the University of New Mexico in January and looks at Net Results as a positive program in her life.

“It inspired me for my major right now. I’m thinking of getting a bachelor’s of arts in social work because I’ve seen a lot of people benefit from programs such as Net Results and other programs like it,” Sellah said.

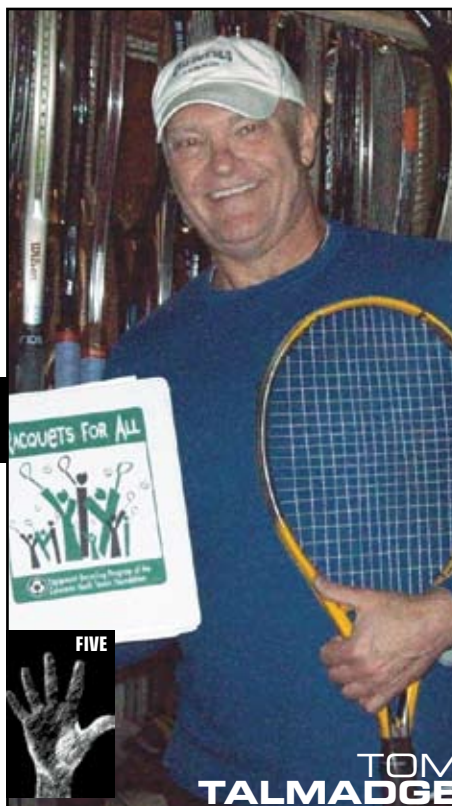
Sellah credits Wolff with keeping the program strong. “Without her, all of this probably wouldn’t be as successful as it is,” Sellah said. “She works really hard to make things possible.”



Tom Talmadge came to tennis a bit later in life than many of us. It wasn’t until his employer, the Colorado Department of Transportation, held a tennis tournament that he was exposed to it. To his surprise, Talmadge realized that not only was he quite good at it (he won the beginners division), but that it was also a great social sport. And like many others netters here in Colorado, he found that he was passionate about spreading his joy of tennis to others – especially kids. He passed down the love of the sport to his wife and their two children, and since then, hundreds of kids throughout Colorado.

Story by
KATIE NEWELL

Since retiring, Talmadge has become more involved in the sport. He currently sits on the Board of Trustees for the Colorado Youth Tennis Foundation (CYTF). In 2008, he and a few others joined David Van Liere to implement the Racquets For All program, an equipment recycling effort that collects, assesses, refurbishes and distributes tennis racquets, tennis balls and other tennis equipment to individuals and organizations lacking access throughout the state of Colorado. Talmadge personally delivers equipment to individuals and organizations in need.



TOM TALMADGE

“The reason I got into it was really for the kids,” he explains. “As you get older, you understand things more and you see what a great time these underprivileged kids can have on the court. You know what a great alternative it is for them.”

To date, the RFA has collected 570 racquets, and distributed 303 of them. They have grown from having three participating facilities in 2008 to 26 in 2009. After losing their storage facility, Talmadge turned in his basement into the RFA headquarters, keeping the hundreds of racquets and literally thousands of balls organized and ready for new homes.

“The intent is to focus on anyone who can’t afford tennis equipment,” he explains. And they’ve also been able to get string donations, grips, bags, and even stringers willing to donate their time.

Talmadge encourages players to donate their dusty old racquets and tennis balls to RFA. And for anyone interested in getting involved, he is actively seeking volunteers to help bring the RFA program statewide. Volunteers can help spread the word about the program, interact with tennis clubs and outdoor facilities to help collect the equipment, and help get the information into schools and sporting good companies.

For more information on the Racquets For All program, please visit COLORADOTENNIS.com.

THE **BIG** BOOK OF COLORADO **TENNIS** 2010

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INTERMOUNTAIN
COLORADO

juniorcomp

Team Colorado sets rosters for 2009-2010 season

Team Colorado has completed the selection process for the 2009-10 season, naming 15 boys and nine girls to the 12s Squad, and 14 boys and six girls to the Devo Squad. The 12s Squad remains under the direction of coach Carey Brading, while the Devo Squad will be again directed by coach Randy Ross. Other Team Colorado coaches include Simona Bruetting, Becky Bucolo, Leslie Davis, Mary Lynn Garger, Mike Humphrey, Rhona Kaczmarczyk, Miikka Keronen, Cory Ross and Gay West.

Team Colorado is an elite junior training program designed to enhance the performance of the state's top players at Sectional and National tournaments. As a supplemental program, Team Colorado provides training opportunities above and beyond those received in a player's existing personal program. While each player's primary development takes place with his/her respective personal coach, the training regimen put together by Team Colorado is designed to supplement one's individual workout program.

Bringing Colorado's most talented 12-and-under players together to practice and train with one another under the guidance of the state's top coaches and professionals will significantly benefit our players as they push each other to new heights. The stronger the practicing partners and coaching staff, the better our players will become. This translates into better results at sectional and national tournaments for our team.

New for 2009-10, the Team Colorado program introduces the Select Squad, designed for those players aging out of the Team Colorado program in an effort to help them to continue on the competitive path in a team atmosphere. Selection was through an invitation-only process for players 14 and under. The squad will conduct workouts on hard courts, and follow the USTA High Performance recommendation of working out on the clay courts at Flying Horse Club in Colorado Springs.

For more information on the Team Colorado program, please visit COLORADOTENNIS.com and click on the JUNIORS tab.

TEAM COLORADO ELITE JUNIOR TENNIS 2009-2010

12s SQUAD

2009/10 ROSTER

Boys

Kevin Adams
Brett Finan
Nicholas Finan
Willie Gold
Teller Hoskins
Joshua King
Tom Melville
Davis Meyer
Sam Meyer
Erich Nuss
Chanon Penvari
John Simpson
Christian Slupe
Preston Slupe
Maximilian Wild

Girls

Jessica Aragon
Haley Chirico
Audrey Deguerrera
Grace Koza
Kendall Junker
Jessica Metz
Alex Pessoa
Emma Schilling
Alexandra Weil

DEVO SQUAD

2009/10 ROSTER

Boys

Victor Berggen
Devin Ehrlich
Cutter Esson
Kosta Garger
Daniel Guiot
Jackson Hawk
Richter Jordaan
David Kijak
Nick Lorenz
Jacob Maxwell
Nikolai McFall
Ben Paddor
Daniel Pearson
Aaron Weil

Girls

Maeve Kearney
Jessica Murphy
Jane Selindh
Amber Shen
Emily Strande
Anna Waller

SELECT SQUAD

2009/10 ROSTER

Boys

Ryker Brown
Luke Lorenz
Connor McPherson
Casey Ross

Girls

Kalyssa Hall
Shannon Hickey
Caroline Kelly
Nicole Kalhorn
Delaney Nalen



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2009 BOYS HIGH SCHOOL STATE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS



ALEXCLINKENBEARD
Photo by Kurt Desautels, USTA Colorado

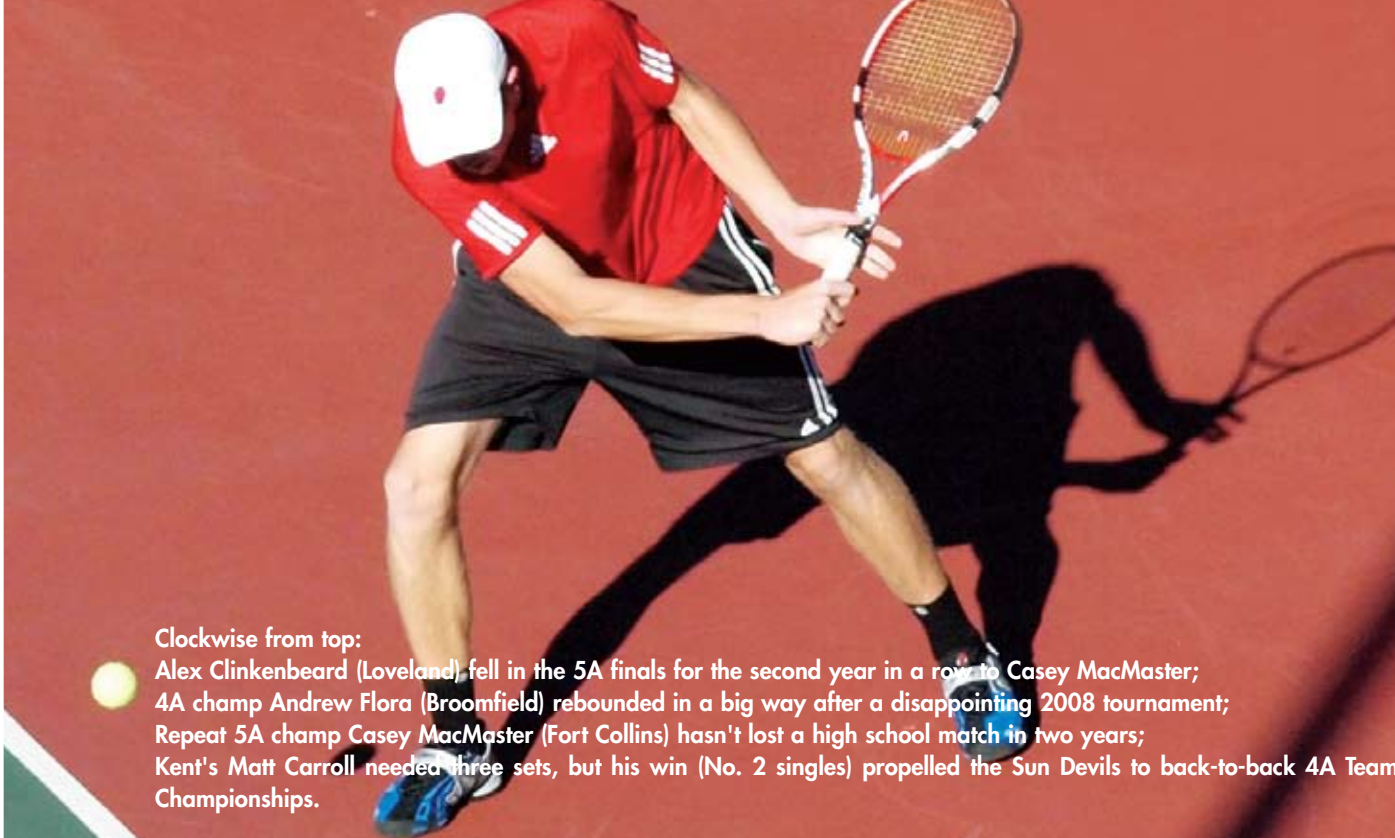


MATTCARROLL
Photo courtesy of Chris McLean, Pueblo Chieftain



ANDREWFLORA
Photo courtesy of Chris McLean, Pueblo Chieftain

CASEYMACMASTER
Photo by Kurt Desautels, USTA Colorado



MACMASTER REPEATS, FLORA FLOURISHES, CREEK STAYS HOLDS ON, & KENT RALLIES AT THE 2009 STATE HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Casey MacMaster proved he's the top prep player in the state with his second consecutive undefeated season en route to the 5A singles championship. His win over Alex Clinkenbeard was a carbon copy of his 2008 title, when the same two met in the finals. In 5A team action, Cherry Creek needed the win in the finals of No. 2 doubles to hang on against Regis who were looking to dethrone the Bruins. With the three-set victory, Creek held on, 72-69, and record their 36th state boys tennis team title in 38 years.

Broomfield's Andrew Flora overcame a late start due to transfer protocol and ran the table in 4A action. Kent Denver was the team to beat in 4A. Entering the final day of competition, the Sun Devils needed to win all five of their championship matches to repeat as state champions, and that's just what they did.

For a complete prep tennis wrap-up, please visit DENVERPOST.com/PREPS. 📷

Clockwise from top:

Alex Clinkenbeard (Loveland) fell in the 5A finals for the second year in a row to Casey MacMaster; 4A champ Andrew Flora (Broomfield) rebounded in a big way after a disappointing 2008 tournament; Repeat 5A champ Casey MacMaster (Fort Collins) hasn't lost a high school match in two years; Kent's Matt Carroll needed three sets, but his win (No. 2 singles) propelled the Sun Devils to back-to-back 4A Team Championships.

league tennis

SALUTING OUR FAVORITE CAPTAINS

It's that time of year again. A time we've all arrived at, a very special place.

Spiritually, ecumenically, grammatically.

Ok, we couldn't resist a little Cap'n Jack. Savvy?

Adult league season has come and gone, and while we're just a few short months away from registration time, USTA Colorado would like to pay tribute to the numerous league captains who have helped make the USTA Colorado Adult League Tennis Series one of the best in the nation. We know how hard they've worked, and we'd like to thank them by recognizing each one of our more than 2,000 captains.



Why is the
RUM
always
GONE?

If you would like to become a league captain, please contact your facility coordinator or Kailey Jonas, USTA Colorado Adult League Coordinator, at kailey@coloradotennis.com.

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Susan Aird
Beverly Avis
Mary Balakas
Bill Bassett
Sheryl Beaton
Frank Bennett
Wade Blacketer
Barbara Blehm
Lenora Bohren
David Bondurant
Cheryl Caldwell
Richard Campbell
Kristin Cazer
Cynthia Cederberg
Nancy Chandler
Debra Cirillo
Ghods Daneshbod-S
Becky Dickson
Greg Drake
Penny Dumas
Jerry Eddy
Louis Elster
Wayne Fleischauer
Lori Foglia
Marlene Frankel
Kathleen Frankenberg
Andrew Geiss
Gail Givens
Judy Gober
Michele Gosselin
Ileana Gross

Adolph Grundman
Michael Hall
Gail Hamilton
Ronald Hamilton
Dane Hammond
Judy Hankins
Douglas Hanze
Robert Hartley
Jack Herbertson
Lee Hoag
Sara Hoff
Barbara Hofmockel
Diane Holmberg
Nancy Hong
Ralph Howard
Sean Hudelson
Janet Hunsaker
Sandra Iglehart
John Irvine
Andy James
Robyn Jensen
James Jewell
Steve Johns
Kendor Jones
Greg Kading
Cindy Keith
Michael Kelly
Joe Kern
Gene King
Dennis Knopf
Steve Koenecke
Sarah Landmark
Diana Larson
Phyllis Larson
Warren Lawson

Mary LeSueur
Sandra Lucero Jacquez
Shelley Lundh
Barbara Lutz
Cindy Maddox
Bob Magnani
Kathy Magnani
David Malmquist
Cynthia Manley
Elli Manzo
Leonard Martinez
Marylou Martinez
Marilyn McKeon
Christine McKinlay
Thomas McLoughlin
James McPherson
Lori McPherson
Judy Mickelson
Sandy Miller
Kelly Miller-Taylor
Judy Mohr
Jody Mumaugh
Kathleen Murphy
Susan Nakano
Cerise Nehf
Jackie Nelsen
Rita Oser
Kristen Padberg
Jeanette Palizzi
Eileen Pero
Dee Perry
Ron Petersen
Eric Pierson
Janet Polkinghorne
Mary Prassa

Pamela Press
Maria Ray
Erwin Reschke
Michael Reynolds
Art Rimando
Rick Roach
Douglas Roberts
Patricia Robertson
Robyn Roggensack
Carolyn Rohrig
Dave Rosenberg
Sharon Santa
J. Wayne Satterfield
Ann Schnell
Matt Schwartz
Kathy Scott
Roger Sebenik
Maurice Skibba
Ann Smerud
Carol Smith-Sanchez
Chris Snow
Alice Soderman
Lewis Sowell
Paul Steiner
Craig Stromberg
Terry Taylor
Mona Tell
Darlene Tennant
Connie Tucker
Susan Valero
Gale Van Ort
Igor Vayshenker
Lloyd Warsing
Colleen Weaverling
Pam Wenaas

EIGHT-YEAR CAPTAINS*

Michelle Arend
Linda Backus
Bill Baldaccini
Connie Banta
Debra Bengel
Jeanette Bol
Denise Boselli
Patti Bowman
Janice Bradley
Judy Brand
Darien Brinkman
Lisa Bull
Deborah Cavness
Pat Cervera
Gaynell Colaric
Mark Creek
Jerome Cross
Beth Day
Gary Dickson
Vivian Downing
John Driesbach
James Eck
Candy Edwards
Erin Egglund

Lori Ellingson
John Elmer
Michelle Esmailli
Suzy Farrell
Dennis Ferraro
Nancy Forsey
Martin Gaeth
James Gagnepain
Julie Gall
Virginia Gamble
Melissa Griese
Vincent Harris
Hana Hartman
Sally Hassett
Leslie Hauschildt
Valerie Hecker
Carolee Himel
Marilyn Howe
Nancy Huffman
Rebecca Jaros
Geoffrey Johns
Susan Johnson
Bruce Karlberg
Cheri Kimble
Amy Kirsch
Richard Kostecki
William Krieg
Rick Lannon
Ann Larson
Lance Larson
Christine Layne
Carolina Lechuga
Brooke Leer
Jack Lehr
Elizabeth Leutwyler

Debi McPhee
Diane McVicker
Thomas Midanier
Candee Minear
Mario Montealegre
Pamela Moss
Mary Mucilli
Michael Mucilli
Jennifer Nieto
Ed Olinek
Jean Orton
Roger Overbey
Nancy Pflughoeft
Amy Phillips
Elizabeth Pike
John Potyondy
Robert Preer
Mary Ryan
Ron Salazar
Adelino Sanchez
Susie Saul
Hanne Schauer
Dawn Selindh
Bob Shearer
Marie Sherrill
Jennifer Shopland
Brad Smith
David Smith
Don Smith
Peggy Solinsky
Bill Speck
Carrie Stewart
Daniel Sunada
Tommie Tennison
Judy Tersteeg

SEVEN-YEAR CAPTAINS*

Cynthia Adams
Mary Anderson
Patricia Apted
William Asiano
Denise Basse
Diane Bell
Robert Biro
Bradley Bischoff
Norman Black
Walter Boggs
David Bowman
Cynthia Boyd
Barbara Bundy

Janine Burke
Jane Burnham
Daniel Burns
Michael Carey
Jim Casart
Jerry Cerkovnik
Jeffrey Ceurvorst
Jim Chapel
Aaron Clay
Eddie Veniegas
Larry Walling
Mark Webster
Marilyn Weinstein
Debbe Welsh
Johnelle Winne
Muriel Wrede
Marilee Yorchak
Gary Yost
Janet Young
Andy Zodin

Donna Glover
Trudy Grassens
Patricia Haas
Marsha Hansard
Susan Hartley
Paige Hayes
Michelle Hendershott
Karla Henkart
Debbie Herring
Stephanie Hiett
Nancy Holst
Andrea Horan
Maura Houston
Juliet Hubbell
Mike Huddleston
Patti Huddleston
Ann Hunt
Jackie Jones
Adam Kahn
Nancy Kennedy
Kent Kruse
Janet Lane
Ellen Laubhan
Lucien Layne
Maggie Leiman
Linda Levy
Mary Logan
Janice Luttrell
Suzy Magill
Joseph Mark
Orrin McCausland
Denise McFarlin
Janet McKinley
Roger Mead
Anne Means

* Years of service beginning in 2001. Although we have numerous captains that have been leading their teams for 10, 15 or even 20+ years, we only began tracking this information in 2001.

David Milholm
Greg Miller
Michelle Miller
Carol Nappholz
Bernard Pacini
Kathleen Parisi
Rhonda Patston
Richard Pond
Febra Pope
Terry Poynter
Carolyn Prior
Marietta Reagan
Debra Reiss
Kirsten Roeber
Polly Rothberg
Peg Rowe
Gerald Russell
Cheryl Scheck
William Schwartz
Robert Shopneck
Nanna Smith
Lynne Spence
Robert Straeb
Teresa Sutherland
Marlene Swartz
Kristy Thomas
Sally Van Der Kamp
Marilyn Vaughn
Flo Wagner
Sue Williamson
David Winslow
Michael Winters
Gregory Wright
Gary Wussow

SIX-YEAR CAPTAINS*

Patricia Ackerman
Terri Albright
John Alexson
Barbara Bacon
Roxanne Bader
Carol Barela
Nancy Barrs
Diane Bischoff
Eleanor Blandin
Lonnie Blilie
Jim Bodkin
Gene Boyd
Timmy Bromell
Julie Brown
James Brundige
Dawn Cantwell
Barbara Chadwick
Lisa Christie
Donna Coates
Wendy Cody
Dottie Colton
Lindy Conter
Brenda Craft
Gary Dani
Jean Darst
Elizabeth Davison
Herbert Dehaas
David Doessel
Billy Downs
Patricia Dudley
Catherine Dunbar
Mariane Erickson
Barbara Fair
Mack Fair
Virginia Ferraro
Richard Fetter
Kenneth Fisher
Stephanie Fix
Renee Fleisher
Krisi Flom

Brian Ford
Juli Gage-Macdonald
Steve Gardner
Chrestine Gerhards
Lyle Giegling
Mark Gosselin
Beth Grace
Karen Gross
Kathi Harr
Tanya Harrington
Nancy Hauser
Greg Hecker
Marcia Henry
Dinah Hess
Judy Holthus
Deborah Hughes
Donald Jacobs
Ellen Javernick
Joann Johnson
Donna Jones
Mona Jones
Kim Kerk
Brian Kerr
Sandy Lang
Judith Laursen
Keith MacLeod
Linda Maisonneuve
Jan Maretech
Diane Marion
Maurice Marks
Tony Matthews
Carolyn May
Shirley McAllister
Kristi McCauley
Dan McGlothlin
Debbie McGough
Jon McKenzie
Thomas McKenzie
Tim McWhite
Mary Melville
Bernadette Mendoza
Frances Micka
Mike Mohrman
Lauren Montgomery
Kent Mueller
Ellen Muller
David Myers
Joan Nagel
Mary T Nickerson
Carrie Ochitwa
Stephen Olt
Sudy Opsahl
Madhavan Parthasarathy
Jared Petersen
Joseph Pologar
Andy Potter
Nancy Progar
Guy Radcliffe
Lee Ramirez
Dan Raykovitz
Brian Reiss
Betsy Robinson
Cathleen Robinson
Benjamin Roeber
Herschel Ross
William Ross
Gayle Rullo
David Russell
Philip Sachs
Jennifer Seifert
Karla Simons
Kristine Smith
Stephanie Stavri
Tim Steinhelber
Debbie Stevenson
Judith Sutton

Beverly Tellis
Fred Todd
Gary Tucker
Shireen Updegraff
Kathleen Viglianco
Carolyn Wallisch
Jana Warwick
Daniel Washburne
Jonathan Watkin
Beth Watson
Paul Whipple
Grace Whitmer
Gary Williams
Jill Williams
Dee Woodcock
Curtis Wyeno

FIVE-YEAR CAPTAINS*

Teresa Adsit
Jeffrey Andersen
Kathy Appel
Janie Arnold
Kathryn Arroyo
Peggy Aswell-May
Darlene Bessette
Amanda Billow
baylor bland
David Bol
Nancy Borg
Susan Brown
Mary Buchanan
Teresa Buckley
Loretta Burns
Robin Cann
Claudia Cardozo
Jeffrey Carroll
Elizabeth Cerrone
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Katherine Demong
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Bobbi Dorgan
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Sharon Dutton
Gloria Eafanti
Karen Eagleton
Angela Edsall
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Bruce Eldredge
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Susanna Finger
Donald Finks
Steven Flaniken
Shelley Flood
Kevin Geiss
Pam Gelwick
Mary Jo George
Jeff Gerber
Susan Globe
Carl Goldberg
Ben Granger

Barbara Greco
Cindy Green
Lorrie Grillo
Katherine Gwathmey
Stuart Habermehl
Marilyn Hall
Dirk Hanket
Peggy Harms
Karen Harmsen
Julie Hart
Kathi Hinckley
Toni Hipp
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Jane Lundwall
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Larry Luttrell
Leslie Madsen
PJ Mahanke
Meng Manichanh
Stan Manzanaras
Dennis Martin
Susan Martin
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Sandy McGregor
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Sharon Robertson
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Gerald Seguin
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Nick Sharp
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MILLION PLAY



More than 30 million tennis players took to the court in 2009* as the sport continues to grow and thrive in the United States.

* According to The Taylor Group's Annual Study on Tennis Participation



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NEWS FROM USTA COLORADO HEADQUARTERS
STATE OF THE DISTRICT

BY FRITZ GARGER, USTA COLORADO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Happy Holidays! Thanks to everyone who played a role in another successful year for tennis in Colorado. From the players (league, tournament, events and training camps), coaches and teaching professionals to the facility owners, general managers, coordinators, committees and board members – everyone who got involved added to the success of our sport in some way, shape or form. Thank you!

The economic climate was – and still is – difficult for many and yet hopefully the sport of tennis provided a much needed and deserved diversion for some and continued to provide all those involved with an excellent means of fitness and the opportunity for camaraderie with teammates and new acquaintances.

Participation continued to increase in virtually all areas of programming – a trend that is mirrored nationwide and yet our numbers in some segments exceed industry growth averages – all of which are a testament to the health of our sport in Colorado. It is also a testament to all those involved in the delivery of tennis – in public and private settings/facilities.

And speaking of facilities, our association and administration is facing the very real concern that the growth in the number of courts is not keeping up with the increase in player participation. That is why you'll see our association working to address this challenge with more creative programming as well as a concerted effort to influence local communities, municipalities and developers to renovate existing courts and to build new ones – so we can meet this established trend of growth and greater demand for courts and court time. If we don't address these challenges in the near term, we will do a real disservice to those involved in the sport decades down the road. It is not a time to be complacent and it is not a time to rely solely on what has been done in the past. It is a time for new ideas and for more creativity; and it is a time to reach out to community leaders and organizers to make sure more tennis infrastructure is built to support the demand for our sport. While the impetus and follow-through in court construction and maintenance needs to be locally-driven and community-centered, our office and association can play a meaningful role in assisting your town or community's efforts. Please contact us with your ideas, suggestions or if you want our assistance.

Shifting gears to another area of concern for many players – in this case, league players and the 2010 ratings. If you haven't noticed or heard, USTA National has modified/adjusted their method of calculating ratings for the 2010 season. The adjustments affect players nationwide with the result being that many more players, than is typically the case, will be moved up a level. This is across the board (2.5s becoming 3.0s; 3.0s moving up to 3.5; 3.5s joining the ranks of the 4.0s; 4.0s up to 4.5; and 4.5s up to the 5.0 level). Players are thus likely to face many of the same players – as well as a few new faces – at the higher NTRP level. Please visit our website for more detailed information, including the statistics that illustrate the specific numbers of players who moved up and down relative to various ratings. And before you panic about being moved up – take a deep breath (or two) and know that you are not alone – many other players in your NTRP level in 2009 are also being moved up in 2010.

In closing, I want to extend congratulations to all our annual award recipients and our Class of 2009 Hall of Fame inductees. All of you have done a lot for tennis in Colorado. We look forward to celebrating your achievements and contributions at the upcoming Colorado Tennis Hall of Fame Gala (see our cover story for all the details, including a listing of the recipients and inductees).

Take care and best wishes for the New Year! 🍷



Your Guide to Understanding the USTA MEMBERSHIP DUES INCREASE

Q. I heard something about a dues increase – please explain?

A. The USTA has not raised dues in 4 years. The modest dues increase, which averages 5%, is necessary to help offset growing operational, postage and printing costs, but more importantly, to continue to provide great benefits, programs and services to our members.

Q. Why is a membership dues increase necessary? I heard the US Open was the most successful ever so why are new costs being passed on to members?

A. We have grown the membership program to continue to provide more opportunities for participation and more benefits in the last decade. Since that time, the rising costs of providing benefits and services have been absorbed entirely by the USTA. USTA membership remains a great value – for instance, the increase for an adult one-year membership is only \$2.00. That's less than 17 cents a month!

Q. When does the increase take effect?

A. The increase is effective January 1, 2010. The new rates take effect upon renewal of your current membership. You will receive your renewal notice about two months before your membership is due to expire. When you renew, we encourage you to upgrade your membership to a 3 or 5-year term. You can take advantage of significant discounts and lock in the rate for a longer period with the added convenience of renewing only every 3 or 5 years.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	CURRENT DUES	NEW DUES (AFTER JANUARY 1, 2010)
Junior, 1 Year	\$18	\$19
Junior, 3 Year	\$48	\$52
Junior, 5 Year	\$72	\$76
Adult, 1 Year	\$40	\$42
Adult, 3 Year	\$110	\$115
Adult, 5 Year	\$160	\$168
Family, 1 Year	\$65	\$68
Family, 3 Year	\$175	\$184
Family, 5 Year	\$260	\$272
Life Membership	\$750	\$750

Q. I'm a lifetime member. Will the dues increase affect me?

A. Thank you for your support as a Lifetime Member! Because you have already paid your life member dues, there is no impact to you. For new life members, there will be no increase in 2010.

Q. Is there someone I can contact with other questions about my membership?

A. USTA Member Services can help you with all other membership questions. Feel free to call the Member Service Center at 1-800-990-USTA (8782) between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m. Eastern time Monday through Saturday and 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern time on Sunday, or email questions to: MEMBERSERVICES@USTA.COM.

the last word

I'm a huge fan of professional tennis. My earliest recollection of tennis stems from a World Team Tennis match I saw with my parents. The Buffalo/Toronto Royals took on the Philadelphia Freedoms in May of 1974 at Memorial Auditorium in Buffalo. Billie Jean, v. Wendy Overton, Tom Okker v. Fred Stolle. Good stuff, really. I was 5.

My appreciation of pro tennis grew during the Boom. Connors, Borg, McEnroe, Goolagong, Evert, Navratilova. On a daily basis, I emulated my favorite players while pummeling the garage door with tennis balls. At some point, I started to hit the ball hard enough that my parents banished me from the driveway. From then on, I did my best impersonations against the wall outside the cafeteria at Hamilton Junior High in southeast Denver.

Back then, professional tennis was the fuel that kept the boom booming. Fans lived and died with the daily reports from the summer slam circuit. Pro tennis was a spectacle to behold, full of drama and passion. Sure we saw McEnroe and Nastase and Connors throw tantrums, but for some reason they seemed superficial. Aberrant behavior, to be sure, but somehow forgivable in the context of the sport.

Fast forward to 2009. The sport of tennis is at a 25-year high in participation, having grown at the astronomical pace of 43% in the last decade. Kids who would have turned automatically to T-Ball or Youth Soccer are discovering the game in droves, and a whole generation of players is returning to the sport they gave up to raise their families. It's the second boom, and it's a great story. So is the return of moms like Kim Clijsters and Lindsay Davenport. Roger winning his 15th Slam. A new rival emerging in Juan Del Potro. Good stuff!

But the tennis news making headlines today in media outlets across the country, and the world, say little about this renaissance. Instead, we are treated to Players Behaving Badly – Serena's now infamous outburst that resulted in a record \$82,000 fine, and Andre's tell-all autobiography about his liberal use of methamphetamines and mullet toupées. Lately, pro tennis has taken up the *succès de scandale* mantra: there's no such thing as bad publicity. It's as though our top stars are desperately trying to one-up each other in the race to see who can imitate Paris Hilton.

And then there's this strange saga of a young Belgian superstar in the making, Yanina

PRO TENNIS AND THE TABLOIDS

IS THERE REALLY SUCH A THING AS BAD PUBLICITY?, OR IS IT JUST BAD?

BY KURT DESAUTELS, COLORADO TENNIS EDITOR

Wickmayer, who exploded onto the tennis scene this summer with a fantastic run to the US Open semifinals. So what did Wickmayer do to invoke the wrath of the Flemish anti-doping council in Belgium? She tested positive for doping? *Nope, not even close.* She's suspected of doping? *Guess again.*

Wickmayer has been banned for one year – A YEAR! – for technical violations related to doping control. The nuts and bolts is, she failed to file a change of address form. Wickmayer never actually missed a doping control test, she just didn't file the proper paperwork to let doping authorities know she moved. To use a baseball analogy, she was called out on strikes despite seeing only a single pitch. Google it, it's quite the soap opera. The real reason this is a story at all is because she's being held accountable for the transgressions of Andre, Serena and others who have made pro tennis an easy target for the tabloids. How Serena Williams can lambaste, even threaten, a tennis umpire and draw a fine, while an inexperienced 20 year-old can draw a year's suspension for failing to fill out the correct change of address form can only be described as *collateral damage*.

So what's the point of all this? Ever since Serena's explosion, and Andre's implosion, I've been asked by all my non-tennis playing friends what I think of Andre's admission of drug use? Should Serena be banned from tennis? My response is that as a sport, tennis teaches valuable life lessons about sportsmanship, respect, integrity and self-reliance, and that for every news headline about a pro player behaving badly, there are millions of untold stories of everyday players who do good things for their communities. These are the people worth talking about, I say, and these are the stories I believe in telling. That's why I'm so excited about our HIGHFIVE series (page 18), which focuses on ordinary people doing extraordinary and inspirational things. Check them out. These are the stories worth telling.

Corrections

Due to a production error, the photo caption for the Celebrating Diversity Tennisfest (Fall 2009) was not visible. Thanks to Mike Blanchette for the fine photos. In our HIGHFIVE series (H5.01 in Fall 2009), it was incorrectly reported that Andy Zodin's serve could still reach triple digits. It should have read double digits. We apologize for the error. ☺

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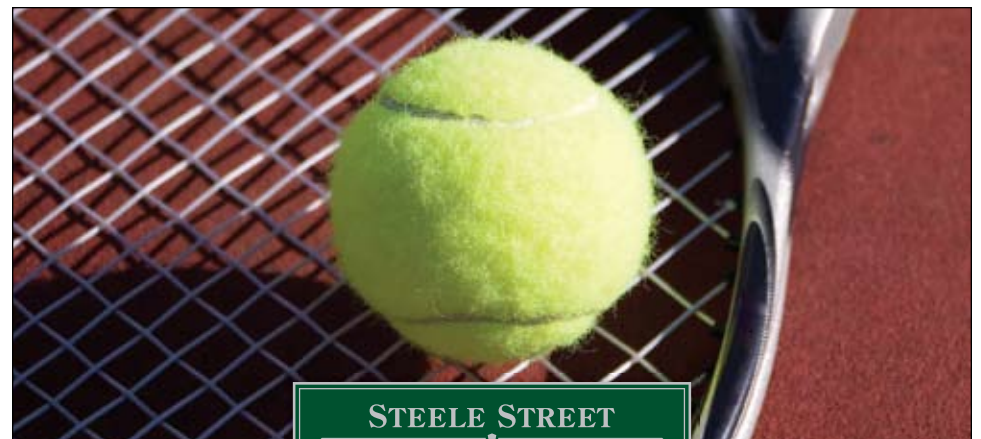
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BACK ROW: Dan Lewis, Lisa Schaefer, Kristy Harris, Anita Cooper, Taylor McKinley, Jason Rogers.
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IT'S YOUR GAME™

ABOUT USTA COLORADO

A District of the United States Tennis Association, USTA Colorado is the governing body of tennis in our state. We are one of six districts in the Intermountain Section, which also includes Idaho, Montana, Utah, Wyoming and Nevada.

Founded in 1955, USTA Colorado's mission is to grow tennis in our state. We do this in a number of ways. We provide grants to public and private groups who want to introduce tennis to their communities. We offer scholarships to players who seek to take their game to the next level. We coordinate adult league play for 25,000 participants across Colorado, and offer many recreational programs for junior players of all ages and abilities. We reach out to players of diverse cultural backgrounds, to mentally and physically challenged athletes, and to under-privileged communities across the state. Our sanctioned tournament schedule lists more than 150 events in 2009 for players of all ages and abilities, 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 are 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. Our publications reach out to players around Colorado and in neighboring states. We strive to make tennis available to anyone who is interested in our sport – all ages, all abilities, all backgrounds.

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.

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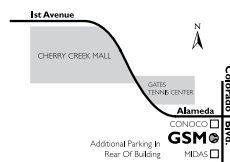
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