



## TENNIS COACHES BRIAN BARKER AND MARK BEY HONORED BY USOC

### Dr. Ann Lebedeff Recognized for Scientific Contribution to Coaching Education

**WHITE PLAINS, N.Y., March 8, 2006** -- The USTA today announced that three members of the tennis community were honored with national awards as part of the USOC Coaching Recognition Program. Brian Barker of Monroe, Conn., was named National Coach of the Year for his work with James Blake in 2005 and Mark Bey of Skokie, Ill., the founder and director of CARE Academy, was named Developmental Coach of the Year. In addition, the USOC honored Dr. Ann Lebedeff of Temecula, Calif., with the "Doc" Counsilman Science Award for her contributions in the areas of nutrition and exercise physiology.

Barker, who has been Blake's personal coach since 1991, helped the touring pro return from an injury-plagued 2004 season to finish 2005 ranked in the top 25 in the world. In April 2005, Blake was outside the top 200, then won consecutive USTA Pro Circuit events in Tunica, Miss., and Forest Hills, N.Y., and from there reached consecutive ATP finals in August, winning New Haven, posted his best Grand Slam result with a quarterfinal finish at the US Open, won his second ATP title of the year in Stockholm, and rejoined the U.S. Davis Cup team.

Bey's CARE Academy is a developmental program geared towards after-school training with aspiring Division I college and pro players. Of the 92 players Bey coached in 2005, 52 held USTA National rankings, including No. 1 Boys' 16s, Dennis Nevelo, the most of any academy in the country. In 2005, Bey guided 16 players to their first national rankings, and his players won over 60 titles, including eight national championships and ten sportsmanship awards.

Dr. Lebedeff has incorporated her degrees in nutrition and exercise physiology into her coaching and teaching. She is Associate Professor of Physical Education and Athletics and Head Women's Tennis Coach at Pomona College. Her coaching career began at the University of Arizona in 1977-1985, where she was honored as the Western Collegiate Coach of the Year in 1985. After earning her doctorate, she continued her career at Cal Poly Pomona from 1989-1998. Dr. Lebedeff won three NCAA Coach of the Year Awards (1990, 1992, 2001), and was named NCAA Coach of the Decade for Division II Women's Tennis (1990s).

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The USTA is the national governing body for the sport of tennis in the U.S. and the leader in promoting and developing the growth of tennis at every level -- from local communities to the highest level of the professional game. It owns and operates the US Open, the largest annually attended sporting event in the world, and launched the US Open Series linking 10 summer tournaments to the US Open. In addition, it owns the 94 Pro Circuit events throughout the U.S., and selects the teams for the Davis Cup, Fed Cup, Olympic and Paralympic Games. A not-for-profit organization with 665,000 members, it invests 100% of its proceeds in growing the game. For more information on the USTA, log on to [usta.com](http://usta.com).

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