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BY ROBERT RUBEL  
 PRESIDENT, USTA TEXAS



**Sportsmanship**

If I was to define sportsmanship, it might be “I know it when I see it”. However a much better definition I found in Wikipedia.

Sportsmanship is conformance to the rules, spirit, and etiquette of sport. More grandly, it may be considered the ethos of sport. It is interesting that the motivation for sport is often

an elusive element. Sportsmanship expresses an aspiration or ethos that the activity will be enjoyed for its own sake, with proper consideration for fairness, ethics, respect, and a sense of fellowship with one’s competitors. Being a “good sport” involves being a “good winner” as well as being a “good loser”. Often the pressures of competition, individual achievement, or introduction of technology can seem to work against enjoyment by participants. As a result, sportsmanship may be contrasted with gamesmanship.

Stephen Potter cites the origin of gamesmanship to be a tennis match in which he and the philosopher C. E. M. Joad competed against two younger and fitter men who were outplaying them fairly comfortably. On returning a serve, Joad hit the ball straight into the back-netting twelve feet behind the back-line. While the opponents were preparing for the next serve Joad queried whether the ball had landed in, or out. Being young, polite university students, their opponents offered to replay the point, but Joad declined. Because they were young and polite, the slight suggestion by Joad that their etiquette and sportsmanship was in question was extremely off-putting. Potter and Joad went on to win the match.

It is unfortunate that the origin of gamesmanship was a tennis match. While most of us recognize sportsmanship when we see it, I don’t believe that is the case with gamesmanship. I believe there is still a lot of confusion as to what gamesmanship really is. If you constantly question the other persons’ calls, suggest a let be played when you were not “sure” if it was out, or feign injury, then this is gamesmanship. Most, if not all USTA sanctioned tournaments and leagues are non-officiated matches. What does that mean to all of us that play? The opponent gets each and every benefit of doubt, no matter what.

I believe Texas section members have a high regard for sportsmanship. The “Know the Rules” for juniors and adults are updated each year on the USTA Texas web site to help our players. You can download the Friend at Court, a 317 page compendium all things tennis from the USTA web site, [www.usta.com](http://www.usta.com), then click on “About Us” which is at the very bottom of the page. We can all be good sports; the challenge is to be a great sport. Thank you for helping grow Texas tennis.

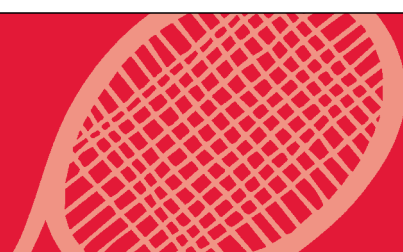
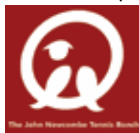


TEXAS SECTION

# Kenny Mc's corner

BY KEN McALLISTER  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, USTA TEXAS SECTION

Presented by:



December 2009



## Growing Up 2

The following is an update of an article I wrote in February of 2002. At that time, Ashley was a top 14 and under player. I have also given some extra attention for parents now that I have more grandchildren. Perhaps I could have renamed this "Growing Up and Personal Responsibility".

As I was cleaning out some of my old files during the Christmas holidays, I ran across a thank you note from Ashley Weinhold. It was thanking the Texas Section for supplying caps for our 12 and under players who represented us in Oklahoma City for the summer national rally. Ashley is now a professional tennis player and highly respected for her work ethic and determination. As I looked through more of the thank you notes that I kept in a file, I noted that a high majority of them were currently playing and usually highly ranked now but were not necessarily well known at the time. I believe strongly that there is a strong link in the character that it takes to write a thank you note to an unknown person and to have a winning attitude.

For forty-four years I have watched Texas players grow through tennis. The character traits that are developed serve them well away from the courts as much as on them. I also believe that the special attitude subtly (or not so subtly) aided by Texas caps is the addition that we have in Texas. We are mutually proud when one of ours wins, and mutually embarrassed when one of ours displays poor character. We have no apology for supporting this group method to help a child develop into a better person.

A few years ago, I gave a speech at a high school banquet for its tennis team. It was in one of our smaller cities. I said that I believe that it is no coincidence that so many of our country's leaders come from small towns. It is that double-edged sword that irritates the small-town youth in the fact that everybody knows everybody else's business in a smaller city. One cannot even get a traffic ticket without everybody knowing about it. Ah, but the great side of it is that a young person growing up there has a sense of accountability that the anonymous city youngster does not have. He or she may not like it, but it is a strong preparation for the future. It does not mean that everyone grows up wonderful. It only means that they have one extra incredible tool.

This accountability must be supported by the parents. I personally believe that the parent, not a village, raises a child. When parents try to protect or deny personal responsibility of their young player, it is mostly detrimental to the child. It is the worst message to give a child who displays poor sportsmanship or cheats to then come to their defense and allow them to blame others. Besides getting a reputation such that the "village" wants to raise him, it will poorly equip him for the future steps toward adulthood.

Tennis is a small community. It is almost impossible to be anonymous. We are accountable and often all by ourselves. Some drop out, many are stressed, but the character personified by the simple deed of Ashley Weinhold and many others shows a piece of the character that we build with our sport. Add to that a large portion of Texas pride!

DECEMBER  
2009

## Three Teams Garner Early National Success

In the first two weekends of action at the USTA League Tennis National Championships, Texas grabbed three awards (5.0 Men-second, 4.0 Men-third and 2.5 Ladies-third).

The men's team from Houston, representing the USTA Texas, finished second at the USTA League 5.0 Adult National Championships held at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden in Indian Wells, Calif.

The Houston team lost to a team from Greensboro, N.C., 2-1 in the Championship match. Earlier in the day, the Houston team defeated a team from Jacksonville, Fla., 2-1 in the semifinals. They advanced this far by winning their round-robin flight contested Friday and Saturday.

The team is captained by Red Benzon and features Brian Smith, Otis Sadler, Brian Montez, Jason Pieters, David Wanja and Sean Straley and plays at the Copperfield Racquet and Health Club.

The top four teams in order of finish are: Southern (Greensboro, N.C.), Texas, Florida (Jacksonville) and New England (Weymouth, Mass.).

The men's team from Dallas, finished third at the USTA League 4.0 Adult National Championships held at the Darling Tennis Center in Las Vegas.

The Dallas team defeated a team from Fort Lauderdale, Fla., 3-2 in the Third Place match. Earlier in the day, the Dallas team lost to a team from Long Island, N.Y., 4-1 in the semifinals. They advanced this far by winning their round-robin flight contested Friday and Saturday.

The team is captained by Bob Somabut (Garland) and features Jarad Kemp (Frisco), Douglas Smith (Plano), Keith Robinson (Plano), Chad Carlquist (Allen), Mark Shaw (Highland Village), Vince Kingsley (Rockwall), Steve Kemp (Plano) Steven Brouer (Plano), Patrick Taillat (Frisco), Craig Weymer (McKinney), Jeromie Ryan (Wylie), Dencil Johnson (Allen), Bin Nguyen (Plano), Vinh Tran (Carrollton), Tim Newman (Rockwall) and Jimmy Fenn (Flower Mound) and plays at the High Point Tennis Center in Plano. They were actually a wild card team at Sectionals, but came away with the title and berth to Nationals.

The top four teams in order of finish are: Long Island (Eastern), Little Rock, Ark. (Southern), Dallas and Fort Lauderdale (Florida).

The women's team from Tyler, representing Northeast Texas, finished third at the USTA League 2.5 Adult National Championships held at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden in Indian Wells, Calif. from Oct. 9 to Oct. 11.

The Tyler team defeated a team from Oakland, Calif., 2-1 in the Third Place match. Earlier in the day, the Tyler team lost to a team from Tulsa, Okla., 2-1 in the semifinals. They advanced this far by winning their round-robin flight contested Friday and Saturday.

The team is captained by William Rohrer and features Kelli Craft Armstrong, Rebecca Robinson, Karen Minton, Lynette Ogletree, Barbra Stone, Courtney Yearty and Kelly Ann Reed and plays at the Hollytree Country Club in Tyler, Tex.

The top four teams in order of finish are: Missouri Valley, Caribbean, Texas and Northern California.



(Photo: Jen Pottmeiser/USTA)

**Tyler 2.5 Ladies**  
Rebecca Robinson, Lynette Ogletree, Barbra Stone, Kelly Ann Reed, Kelli Armstrong, Courtney Yearty and Karen Minton.



**Dallas 4.0 Men**  
*Kneeling:* Dencil Johnson, Steven Brouer, Jimmy Fenn  
*Standing:* Chad Carlquist, Steve Kemp, Jeromie Ryan, Doug Smith, Patrick Taillat, Vince Kingsley, Captain Bob Somabut, Mark Shaw, Jarad Kemp, Tim Newman, Keith Robinson, Vinh Tran, Craig Weymer, Bin Nguyen.



**Houston 5.0 Men**  
Brian Montez, Sean Straley, David Wanja, Brian Smith, Jason Pieters, Otis Sadler and Red Benzon, Captain.

## Eight Senior Teams Earn Trips to Nationals

The 2009 USTA Texas Senior League Championships were held September 18-20 in Tyler with eight teams earning their ticket to Nationals.

San Antonio captured the 3.0 Ladies division, sneaking past Northeast Texas, 2-1 in the championship round. Both teams had previously finished round robin play undefeated. The San Antonio team was captained by Cindy Clark and played out of the Alamo Heights Tennis Center. The team included: Judy Genova, Sun Tal Miller, Kathlin Jauregui, Betty Hennessy, Sandy Ash, Jeanette Freiling, Carol Jean O'Brien, Bette Marie Paese, Olga Lora, Suzie Walker, Karen Lockhart and Laura Johnson.

In Ladies' 3.5 action, the qualifying team from the Valley edged Houston, 2-1, to gain the championship. The Valley, captain by Margarita Taino and representing the Brownsville Tennis Center, got past San Antonio 2-1 in the semifinals, while Houston blanked Austin 3-0. Members of the Valley team included: Irma Perez, Chayo Zolezzi, Lourdes Bolado, Rocio De La Garza, Carmen Del Angel, Lety Rivera, Martha Martinez, Delia Rivera and Mirtha Herrera.

Not Dead Yet of Austin won the Ladies' 4.0 championship with a narrow 2-1 victory over Northeast Texas. In the semifinals, NYD defeated Dallas, 3-0, while Northeast Texas topped Valley, 2-1. NYD plays out of the Pharr Tennis Center and was captained by Holly Chacona. Team members included: Cynthia Knox, Brenda Latta, Sandy Arico, Brenda Hoffman, Patsy Downs, Susan Bennett, Mary Anne Clement, Paula Smith, Ruth Ryan, Louise Johnston and Nancy Sutton.

Dallas came away with the Ladies 4.5 title by the narrowest of margins over Houston. The two teams tied with a record of 4-1, but Dallas was awarded the title with 12 total lines won, despite a 2-1 lost to the Houstonians in round robin play. Kenni Driver was captin of the Dallas squad that played out of Greenhill. The team included: Kenni Driver, Phillippa Nierling, Paula McLeod, Katie Wylie, Kathy Langer, Jill Gill, Marilyn Lookadoo, Eileen Flaherty, Donna Schoettmer, Barbara

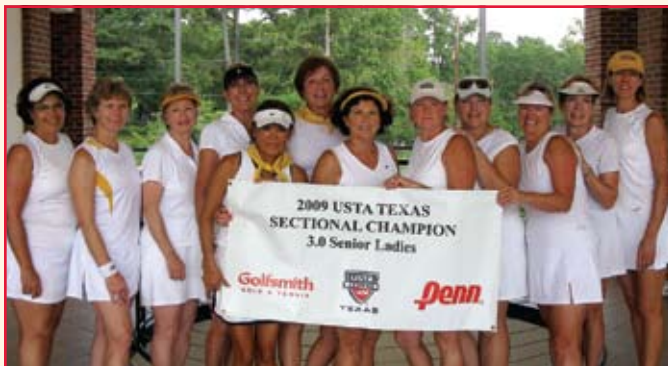
Valente, Janet Brock, Laura Worsham, Judy Webb, Virginia Skelly and Lori Plum.

Bob Bender's Dallas team won the Men's 3.0 division, going undefeated in a round robin over Fort Worth and San Antonio. Team members were: Joseph Stockrahm, Edmund Patschull, Rene Alejandro Cuevas, Daryl Barth, Gary Schneider, Juan Hidalgo, Ken Vichyastit and Prakash Kagal. The team plays out of High Point Tennis Center.

Austin's 3.5 Men swept San Antonio, 3-0, to win the title. Austin had edged Dallas, 2-1 in the semifinals, while San Antonio slipped past Wild Dallas, 2-1. Austin, which played out of Pharr Tennis Center, was captained by Chuck Cazzola and included: Steve Costello, Craig Cox, Rickey Hall, Wesley Banner, Steve Cotton, Armand Gonsoulin, Jack Maxwell, Mark Sweeney, Jose Rodela, Wayne Smith, Joe Osborn and Mark Guling.

The Men's 4.0 championship went to Fort Worth, who earned the title after a close 2-1 victory over Dallas. Fort Worth had bested Corpus Christi, 2-1, in the semifinals, while Dallas topped Houston, 2-1 to get to the championship final. Fort Worth, or The Old Gang, as they were known, played out of TCU and was captained by Bud Thames. The team included: Ford Roberson, Jeff Moore, Bill Stetzer, Mike Fincher, Frank Carpenter, Kent Harris, Stephen Osborn, Mark Henderson, Steve Campbell and Bruce Alford.

Houston captured the hotly contested Men's 4.5 title. Houston, Dallas and San Antonio all tied with three matches and eight individual lines, but Houston took the title based on fewest sets lost - 9. "The Attackers" from Houston were captained by Ron Fisher and based out of the Westheimer Indoor Tennis and Fitness Center. The team included: James Rombeau, Hugh Burris, Daniel Courson, Matthew Khourie, James Boles, John Beckworth, William Fields Galtney, Davis Chang, Eddy Blanton, James Timmins, Dwight Edwards, Billy Fisher, Tim Purcell, Graham Whaling, Aaron Wayne O'Neal, Fred Lummis and Thomas Connell.



Ladies 3.0 Champions - San Antonio



Ladies 4.0 Champions - Austin



Ladies 3.5 Champions -Valley



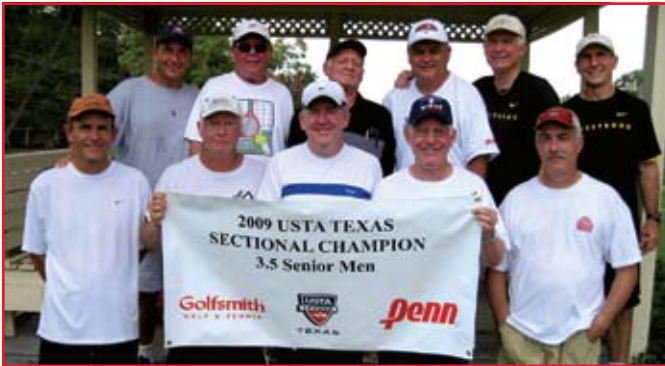
Ladies 4.5 Champions - Dallas



Mens 3.0 Champions - Dallas



Mens 4.0 Champions - Fort Worth



Mens 3.5 Champions - Austin



Mens 4.5 Champions - Houston

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## Four Capture Titles at USTA Texas Mixed Doubles Championships

The 2009 USTA Texas Mixed Doubles League Championships were held October 2-4 in Corpus Christi with winner declared in four divisions.

In the 6.0 division, Amarillo, captained by Sean Kelly, took an all West Texas showdown, as they defeated San Angelo, 2-1 for the title. Both teams had raced through their respective round robins to reach the final.

Holli Heap and Brian Narvid won at #1 doubles for San Angelo over Robert Taliaferro and Lupe Kelley, 64 46 10, but Amarillo swept lines 2 and 3. Darby Norman and Theresa Jubang defeated Tobin Lefler and Brandi Vincent at line two, 61 61. At line three, Dewayne and Hilary Gray rallied for a 67 63 10 win over Michael Nehls and Lora Narvid.

In 7.0 action, Michael Tran's Houston team edged Dallas, 2-1 for the championship. Houston got past Northeast Texas, 2-1 in the semifinals, while Dallas beat Waco, 2-1.

In the championship round, it was Houston's Tony Le and Nancy Nguyen sneaking past Stephen Bennett and Darby Jolly of Dallas, 75 76 at #1 doubles. At line two, Eddie and Simone Hill of Dallas topped Houston's James and Merita Rice, 63 57 10. Chad Luhan

and Lindsay Jaffee of Houston defeated Brandon Myers and Rebecca Gwyer of Dallas, 63 64.

Valley took the 8.0 title with a narrow 2-1 win over Fort Worth. Fort Worth had swept Austin, 3-0, in the semifinals, while Valley, captained by Tyrone Powers, edged Amarillo, 2-1.

At line one, the Valley's Drexel Visarra and Maya Garcia defeated Fort Worth's Phy Pham and Jenna Dinh, 63 64. Fort Worth's Edward Leija and Laura Eshelman topped Jesse Lucio and Cassie Goodell of the Valley, 62 62, at line two. On line three, Robert Garcia and Martha Valdez of the Valley beat Todd Feldman Huey Koay of Houston, 62 75.

Rafael Omana's Fort Worth team swept Houston in the 9.0 mixed final, 3-0. Both team squeaked out of round robin play with 3-1 records to advance to the championship.

Omana and Margery Berry defeated Monty and Heidi Lindloff, 62 75 at #1 doubles. Brad Ibbott and Cherrie Hamilton beat Burke Marold and Julie Tolbert 62 62 at line #2. At line #3, Ricardo Omana and Cynthia Llewellyn topped Philippe Arnold and Emma McDougall, 63 46 10.



6.0 Champions - Amarillo



7.0 Champions - Houston



6.0 Runners up - San Angelo



7.0 Runners up - Dallas



8.0 Champions - Valley



9.0 Champions - Fort Worth



8.0 Runners up - Fort Worth



9.0 Runners up - Houston



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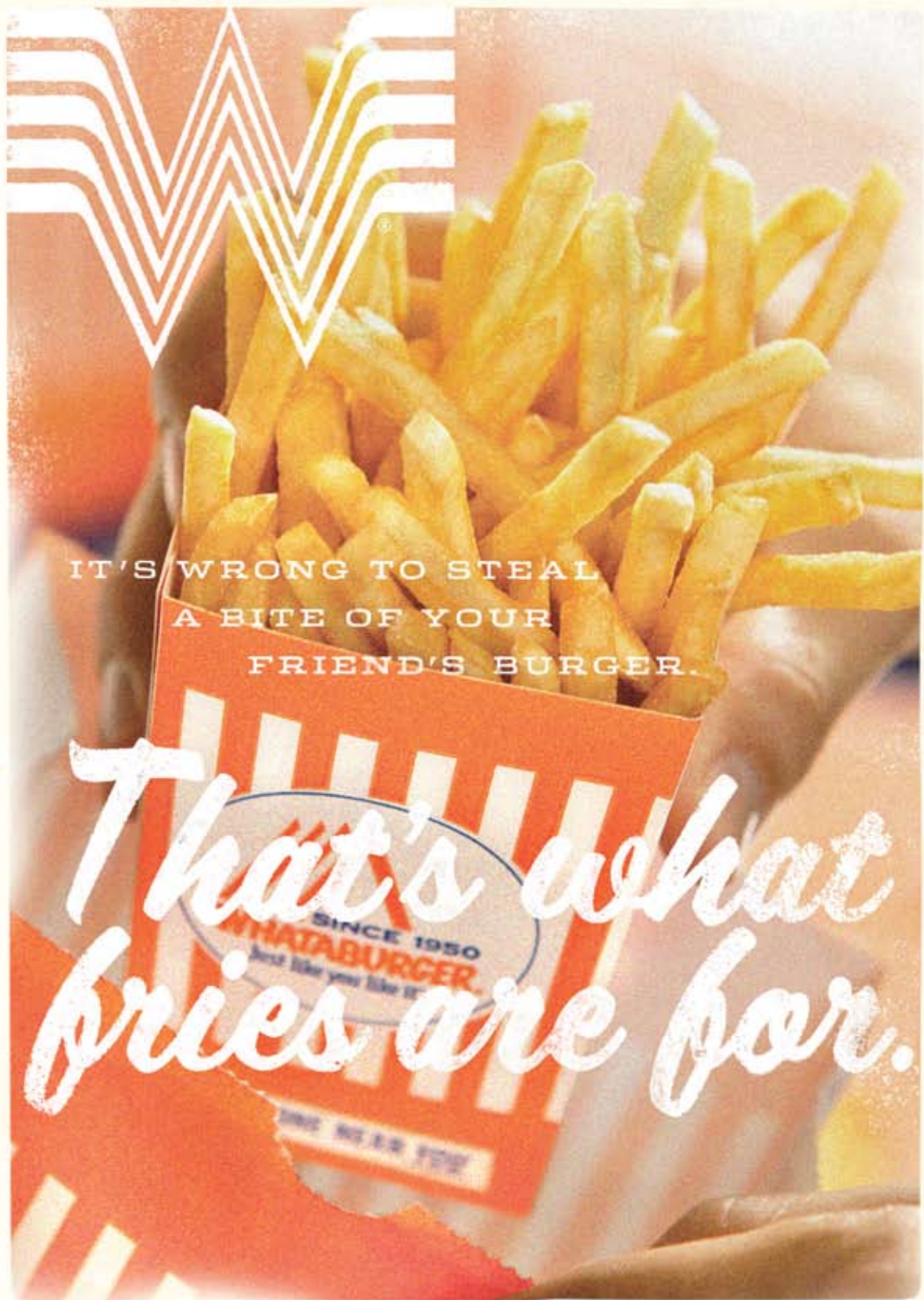


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# Texas Year in Photos



december 2009



# Texans

## at the US Open

**T**exans were again well represented at the 2009 US open this year in New York. Aside from the big-name stars, like Andy Roddick of Austin and Liezel Huber of Houston, several juniors, a bunch of officials and a mother-daughter combination made it to the grand stage.

The junior tournament had some great representation, as Mitchell Krueger, Shane Vinsant and Harry Fowler all played. Krueger fell in the qualifying to Austria's Tristan-Samuel Weissborn, 6-3, 6-3. Fowler fell to Slovakia's Josef Kovalik, 6-4, 7-6 in the first round. Vinsant also fell in the first round to Suk-Young Jeong of South Korea, 6-1, 6-1.

Former USTA Texas Director of Competitive Tennis and current Texas A&M Director of Tennis Operations, Kevin O'Shea assisted in running the junior tournament desk.

In the men's singles, Roddick reached the third round before falling in the epic five-setter to John Isner in a tiebreak.

Liezel Huber and her partner Cara Black, the defending champions, fell in the women's doubles finals to the Williams sisters. Huber also teamed with Mahesh Bhupathi to reach the mixed doubles semifinals.



**Andy Roddick**



**Shane Vinsant**



**Harry Fowler**



**Liezel Huber**



**Mitchell Krueger**

## Texas Officials in the Big Apple

The US Open also provides an opportunity for some of Texas' best officials to work a Grand Slam event. Congratulations to all of these Texans who worked in New York.

**Lee Ann Bain**

**Susan Burns**

**Eliza Cotner**

**Ray Delcastillo**

**Carrie Hinueber**

**Beatrice Hummel**

**Alaine Hutson**

**Kevin Labor**

**Jeremy Morrison**

**Kathy O'Conner**

**Gail Pennington**

**Sammie Poulsen**

**Seande Pulley**

**Jim Robinson**

**Margaret Smith**

**Richard Soukup**

**Duane Stewart**

**Susan Wertenberger**

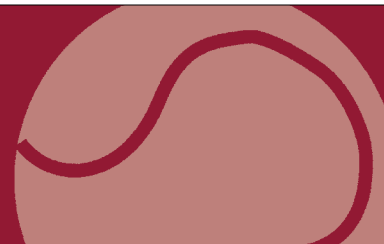
In addition, Roz Tuerk and Sue Pranke were court assistants, with Roger Pennington doing chairs.



### Mother-Daughter Champions Recognized in NY

Houstonians Emily Schaefer and her mother, Bambi Schuette, were honored at the USTA Awards Banquet held at the Grant Hyatt on September 8 in New York City for capturing the Golden Slam in 2008. Schaefer and Schuette won Mother-Daughter national championships on all four surfaces during the calendar year: Indoor, Hard, Clay and Grass.

# 2009 Texas NJTL Regional Rally



## Houston

The Houston Regional Rally was hosted by Houston Tennis Association at Memorial Park Tennis Center. With 188 participants, the teams were divided into QuickStart, 13 and Under Beginner, 13 and Under Intermediate, and 14 and Up. Teams battled it out for the title of Regional Rally champion in their respective age groups. After play, participants were treated to a viewing of Ice Age in 3D. Results from the Rally are below:

### Quick Start

**1st Place:** Little Aces  
**2nd Place:** Angels

### 13 & Under Intermediate

**1st Place:** Netters  
**2nd Place:** Infinity

### 13 & Under Beginner

**1st Place:** Little Z's  
**2nd Place:** Fire Bunnyz

### 14 & Up

**1st Place:** All Courters  
**2nd Place:** Sea Eagle

## Dallas

Dallas Tennis Association hosted its rally at Samuell-Grand Tennis Center. 276 participants came out to take part in the rally. The teams were divided into QuickStart, 13 and Under Beginner, 14 and Up Beginner, and 14 and Up intermediate. At the conclusion of play participants headed to the pool where they swam, ate pizza, and mingled. Results from the Dallas Rally are below:

### Quick Start

**1st Place:** Victory Meadows  
**2nd Place:** Dallas Pals

### 13 & Under Beginner

**1st Place:** Dumas Black  
**2nd Place:** Dallas Starts

### 14 & Under Beginner

**1st Place:** Dallas Hotshots  
**2nd Place:** Dallas Rangers

### 14 & Up Intermediate

**1st Place:** Dallas Jammers  
**2nd Place:** CVTA

Thank you to organizers, volunteers, parents, and everyone who made these two events possible!

## Texans Earn Arthur Ashe Art and Essay Contest Awards

To help commemorate the legacy of humanitarian and tennis great Arthur Ashe, USTA/NJTL sponsors an annual essay and art contest asking entrants to respond to the quote "From what we get, we make a living; what we give, however, makes a life." 10 National essay winners receive an all-expense paid trip to New York to be guests at Arthur Ashe Kids' Day, a daylong festival of kids' tennis activities that includes interactive games, musical entertainment and free clinics.

Two participants in the Dallas Tennis Association NJTL program were awarded the top National prize for their essay submissions. Jacob Kim of Dallas won the Boys 10 & Under division, while John Wilson IV of Red Oak took top honors for the Boys 12 & Under division. In the art contest, Kelly Echeta of Houston received the top prize for the Boys 10 & Under division.

### A full list of winners from USTA Texas is listed below:

Division	Gender	Name	NJTL	City
10	Male	Jacob Kim	Dallas Tennis Assoc.	Dallas
10	Female	Katelynn Hernandez	Houston Tennis Assoc.	Houston
12	Male	John Wilson IV	Dallas Tennis Assoc.	Red Oak
12	Female	Brittany Echeta	Houston Tennis Assoc.	Houston
14	Male	Nathan Radke	Dallas Tennis Assoc.	Duncanville
14	Female	Olivia Rawlinson	Dallas Tennis Assoc.	Duncanville
16	Male	Reginald Walker Jr.	Houston Tennis Assoc.	Houston
16	Female	Harmony McGlothlin	Dallas Tennis Assoc.	Mansfield
18	Male	Ramon Ramos	Dallas Tennis Assoc.	Dallas
18	Female	Samaria Mouton	Zina Garrison Tennis	Houston

Congratulations to all of our 2009 winners!

## NJTL Regional Tennis Leadership Camp



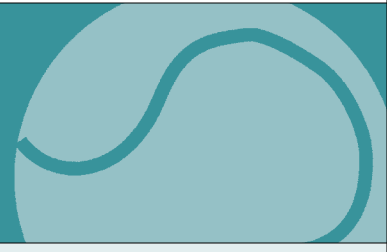
USTA Texas hosted the 2009 NJTL Texas Regional Leadership Camp on August 6-9 at the University of Texas at Austin. Twenty campers from USTA Texas, USTA Southern, and USTA Southwest enjoyed tennis along with educational and social activities. Each participant was nominated by their respective NJTL chapter leader based on their leadership skills, dedication, and academic success. The goal of the NJTL- RTLC is to offer outstanding NJTL participants the opportunity to take part in a memorable and life lasting tennis, educational, and social experience. The camp was provided at no cost to its participants.

After tennis drills in the morning, the campers experienced Barton Springs pool, Putt-Putt miniature golf, a tour of the State Capitol, and the IMAX at the Texas State History Museum. Michael Center, the University of Texas Head Men's Tennis Coach, spoke to the group about leadership and the importance of setting an example to others both on and off the court. Camp counselors Bert Cole, Sarah Lancaster, Stephen Salazar, Luis Valdez, and Christine Wehrli provided on-court instruction.

USTA Texas would like to thank the participants, counselors, and volunteers for making this year's camp a success.



# USTA Texas and US Paralympic Team Join Forces



**O**n September 18, the USTA Texas teamed up with the United States Paralympic National Team and Brooke Army Medical Center to offer a tennis camp to wounded veterans. The camp was held at the Austin High tennis courts and featured several well known coaches, including Mike Haynes and current world #1 paralympic player, Dave Wagner.

The event was the brainchild of Wendy Gumbert Mendoza, a coach with the US Paralympic Team. About sixty athletes participated in the camp that also included track and field events, as well as rowing instruction in addition to tennis.

"The goal of the camp was to introduce a wide range of activities and sports to current and former military soldiers," said Todd Carlson, the Adaptive and Wheelchair Tennis Coordinator for USTA Texas. "We hope to open their eyes to various sports they can continue to play."

Instruction was given to small groups for each event, divided into two hour blocks. Players rotated between the disciplines and clearly enjoyed the exercise on a gorgeous Fall day.

"It was one of the most fulfilling experiences I've had on a tennis court, added Carlson. "I never thought I would have ever been able to have an 11-ball rally with a person with only a prosthetic arm. I was inspired and look forward to us getting involved with more clinics like these in the future."

