

scta news

Southern California Tennis Association

DECEMBER 2004

The Real Johnson

Mark Winters

"There are, in every age, new errors to be rectified and new prejudices to be opposed."

-Samuel Johnson

From an historical standpoint, some very famous people have carried the name Johnson. Andrew and Lyndon Baines were the 17th and 36th presidents of the United States. Richard served as vice president in the 1830's. Gerald White and James Weldon were noted authors as were Eyvind of Sweden and the oft quoted Samuel of Great Britain. Eastman was a painter and Sir William, a British government administrator in America's Colonial days.

A collection of Johnsons have made an impact on and around the courts. Wallace, described in Bud Collins' "The Ultimate Tennis Encyclopedia" as a "chop and slice artist"; was a finalist to Bill Tilden at the 1921 US National Championships. Walter, a Lynchburg, Virginia physician, is storied for his efforts in the African American tennis community, serving as a patron for future stars such as Althea Gibson and Arthur Ashe. Melissa, a British college student working at Wimbledon, earned renown for her flash-dash across Centre Court prior to the start of the 1996 men's final between Richard Krajicek and Mal'vai Washington. There is even a Franklin R. Johnson, who is a member of the Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame. But, the Franklin R. Johnson of the moment is a Southern California product who will be the 48th president of the United States Tennis Association in January.

Frank (which he prefers) Johnson grew up in San Diego, where he attended St. Augustine High School. An outstanding jun-

ior player; he doubled, winning the National Boy's 15 Hard Court Championships, singles and the doubles with Gil White, in 1951. Two years later, he doubled again, capturing the National Boy's 18 Hard Court singles and doubles with Brooke Grant.



Frank Johnson played at UCLA and was a member of the NCAA winning team.

"I had just started to play tennis," said Allen Fox, a member of the Southern California Tennis Association Board of Directors. "He came to Arizona and won the Junior Open. He had an interesting game that was very aggressive. He hit the ball hard and looked so good. He was a Southern California star. At the time, he was the best player I had ever seen. When I moved to Los Angeles and began practicing at UCLA, I would see him. Over the years, when we have been together, I remind him of the match he played destroying a guy named Russell at the Junior Open."

At UCLA, where he majored in accounting, Johnson played for the legendary J.D. Morgan, lettering from 1956 through '58.

The '56 team earned the ultimate prize; the NCAA team championship. "One of the outstanding collegiate doubles players in the nation" according to Morgan, he helped the Bruins win three consecutive Pacific Coast Conference titles. As a senior, Johnson was co-chairman of "Project India"; (one of only 14 students selected from the school's 16,000 enrollment), a summer goodwill tour of the country.

Norm Perry, owner of NJP Sports, attended UCLA and Johnson was his Beta Theta Pi pledge master. "Our fraternity was heavy on tennis and basketball players," Perry recalled. "My brother Bob had been in the fraternity. In those days you joined a fraternity if you wanted to have a

social life in college. Frank was a good pledge master. He was well organized and always got us to activities on time. When I heard he became the

USTA president, I e-mailed him saying, 'you never know what the job of being a pledge master will lead to.'

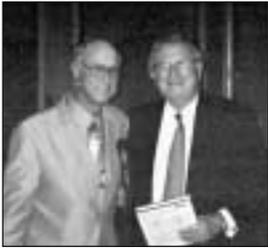
Perry, who was a teammate of Fox, added, "the NCAA penalized UCLA for football infractions for three years. The school couldn't participate in the NCAA Championships, so the tennis team couldn't defend the title won when Frank was a sophomore." Perry continued, "when he was in the 15s, everyone liked to watch him play, particularly when his opponent was Jon

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The Real Johnson

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Johnson was Norm Perry's pledge master.

Douglas. Jon was a great all-around athlete, but Frank was his nemesis. He had a lot of trouble with his game. Frank always seemed to have a smile on his face when he played."

Having earned his MBA at UCLA, Johnson worked at Price Waterhouse LLP, an international accounting firm, for 36 years. In time, he became Managing Partner of the company's Entertainment Industry division. For 21 years, he was responsible for Academy Award balloting.

Though business kept him counting, Johnson was still able to find time to play an active role in tennis. He served as president of the Southern California Tennis Association in the mid-'90s. He is also the chairman of the Mercedes-Benz Cup Tournament Committee. On the USTA level, before serving as a Director-at-Large Board member and most recently, as first vice president, he chaired the Budget and Investment Committees. He has also been the Secretary-Treasurer and a member of the International, Finance, Audit and Evaluation, and Olympic Committees.

Former SCTA president, Jack Kramer said of his appointment, "I think it's great. For the second time in our history, we have a president from Southern California. It takes a man with a lot of time and a lot of ambition to realize the position. We should be very proud having him take the lead on the national level."

Throughout his time in tennis, Johnson has heeded Samuel Johnson's advise, "a man, Sir, should keep his friendship in constant repair."

R.S. Oliver, the first USTA president, was elected in 1881. Since Oliver's election, only one other individual from the section has held the prestigious office. The



(left) Johnson, with SCTA Board Members Jim Nelson, Jim Bisch (who hosted the Riviera Tennis Club gathering), and president Bill Rombeau.

(below) Executive Director Henry Talbert and Board Member Roy Aaron had a chance to visit with the USTA president elect.



Honorable Robert Kelleher, a 2000 International Tennis Hall of Fame inductee who is a US District Court Judge, served 1967-68. Under his aggressive leadership Open tennis became reality.

"Traditionally, over the years, becoming the Secretary-Treasurer was a blind alley," said Kelleher, who is also a former SCTA president. "Looking back, there were countless individuals who held the position and went no further. Not until recently did being treasurer lead to more."

Kelleher continued, "as Secretary-Treasurer, he made an impression. During that period the organization had financial difficulties. He made a presentation, which as a CPA he was well equipped to do, and

that got him launched."

On his watch, Johnson, as he told a gathering hosted by SCTA vice president Jim Bisch, at Riviera Tennis Club, plans to make use of his tennis experiences. "We have to try to find ways to get more people to play tennis," he said. "I'm a public parks guy. I grew up playing at Morley Field. The public parks will be a major part of my emphasis. We have seen an enormous increase in the number of Hispanics playing tennis, but we need to do more to penetrate that community. We have to find ways to make a difference. We need to concentrate more money on promoting League Tennis, and contrary to what has been written, we do not intend to make a major reduction in the number of USTA committees."

Johnson thanked those on hand for the support they have provided. He singled out SCTA president Bill Rombeau saying, "he was my key advisor. Because my election was contested, he said it would get worse before it would get better. Anne (his wife) and I will try to make a difference. There is an awful lot to accomplish."

Kelleher, who was at the gathering, as was Kramer, offered, "he is a very decent, pleasant man who has been successful in everything he has done."

The words of Samuel Johnson: "Few things are impossible to diligence and skill. Great works are performed not by strength, but perseverance" put Frank Johnson into perspective.



Mercedes-Benz Cup tournament director Bob Kramer spent time with Johnson at "Youth vs. Experience."

"For the second time in our history, we have a president from Southern California."

As Good As It Gets

Mark Winters



Though it was some time ago, it should not be forgotten that the US Open set new standards for attendance (631,000 to be exact) and for the number of television viewers. The final round performance of Roger Federer, a masterful 6-0, 7-6, 6-0 *pièce de résistance* against Lleyton Hewitt, and Svetlana Kuznetsova's practically nerveless 6-3, 7-5 triumph over countrywoman Elena Dementieva, brought an exceptional tournament to a memorable close. Memorable, not only for the two-weeks of match after match shotmaking, but also for the take-your-breath-away presence exhibited in the comments by the two Russian women, one of whom was 22-years-old and the other 19, at the award ceremony.

The US Open set new standards for attendance and for the number of television viewers.

From an historic standpoint, the results were "can't be overlooked" noteworthy. With the win, Federer became the first player since Mats Wilander in 1988 (and Jimmy Connors in 1974) to claim three of a year's four Grand Slam trophies. What's more, Federer's ninth tournament title in '04 keeps his record perfect in major finals, 4-0. Beside becoming the first Russian to win the US Open, Kuznetsova, the teenage champion, is the third of her countrywomen to win a major this year. Four different woman have claimed a Grand Slam tournament victory in 2004.

Note also must be made of Sargis Sargsian, the NCAA singles winner at Arizona State University in 1995, who put on a marathon, with more than 10 hours of on court performances, winning epic five set



Alexa Glatch

contests against Nicolas Massu of Chile (in a tournament second longest, 5 hour 9 minute, contest time) and Paul-Henri Mathieu of France. The personable Armenian lost to Andre Agassi in the fourth round. Sargsian, who has a host of friends in the Glendale/Burbank area, first played Agassi, who is a close pal, in the final of the Burbank Challenger in 1997.

The excellence didn't stop there. The legendary Jack Kramer was a US Open Court of Champions inductee, along with Margaret Court, John McEnroe and Stephanie Graf. Lindsay Davenport, having amassed a 22 match, four tournament win streak during the summer, was slowed by a leg injury and hobbled to a 1-6 6-2 6-4 semi-final loss to Kuznetsova. As a result, Amelie Mauresmo, a quarterfinalist to Dementieva, became the first French player to earn the No. 1 ranking in Women's Tennis Association history.

Kuznetsova's hope for a trophy double was dashed by Virginia Ruano Pascual of Spain/Paola Suarez of Argentina who handed her and Elena Likhovtseva of Russia a 6-4 7-5 final round defeat. Bob Bryan, who won the mixed title in 2003 with Katarina Srebotnik of Slovenia, made it two for two, pairing with Vera Zvonareva, another Russian, to down the Aussie tandem of Alicia Molik/Todd Woodbridge 6-3 6-4.

Angela Haynes, who made her Grand



Vania King



Jessica Nguyen

Slam tournament debut at the 2003 US Open, took full advantage of the fact that she was again given a wild card. Though ranked No. 185 (and having but a single WTA career victory), the "Compton Comet" slipped past Tatiana Perebiynis of the Ukraine 6-7, 6-1, 7-6 to set the stage for an electrifying 6-2, 6-3 victory over veteran Maggie Maleeva of Bulgaria. The bandana wearing lefthander's magic wasn't flowing in her third round encounter with Francesca Schiavone of Italy and she was dismissed 6-3, 7-6. Still, her success moved Haynes to No. 132 in the rankings.

Cecil Mamiit and Glenn Weiner both played the men's qualifying. Mamiit lost in the first round, but Weiner, who qualified at Wimbledon, Newport and Mercedes-Benz Cup, reached the final round where Paul Goldstein handed him a 6-3, 6-2 loss.

On the women's side, Meilen Tu and Abigail Spears, plus a collection of USTA wild-
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As Good As It Gets

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cards, including Sarah Fansler, Alexa Glatch, Jessica Nguyen and Vania King, participated in the qualifying. Spears and the 15-year-old Glatch were the only players to move into the second round. Though Glatch lost her next match, Spears had the goods, scoring a victory, then a decisive 6-3, 6-1 decision over Dominika Nociarova of Slovakia, that set up the former UCLA player's Grand Slam tournament debut.

The San Diegian came up a shot or two short against Silvia Farina Elia. The Italian had too much experience and escaped with a 3-6, 6-2, 6-4 first round triumph.

Juniors from the section have always used the Open to bring out the obvious: the best young players come from Southern California. Locals dominated the event from the beginning. Billy Martin won the inaugural Boy's championship in 1973 and captured the title again in '74. Howard Schoenfeld was the '75 champion. Scott Davis and the late Michael Falberg had back-to-back victories in '79 and '80. Tim Trigueiro was the '85 winner. In 1992, Lindsay Davenport won the Girl's singles and the doubles with Nicole London. Meilen Tu, in a final that is still being discussed, defeated Martina Hingis in '94.

Junior doubles has also showcased local talents. Jonathan Canter and Darren Yates earned trophies with partners from out of the section in 1982 and '85. Bob and Mike Bryan were the '96 champions. Kimberly Po was a two-time Girl's doubles winner in 1987 and '88 (with the same non-SoCal partner). After winning with Davenport in '92, London was the trophy winner again in '93 (with a junior from another section). In 1997, it was Marissa Irvin/Alexandra Stevenson's turn.



Sam Querrey

This year, Southern Californians didn't enjoy Irvin/Stevenson-like title success in either singles or doubles. Sam Querrey, making his first Grand Slam appearance, was the best of the lot reaching the quarterfinals where he was defeated in his third three set match in a row, by Andrew Murray 2-6, 7-6, 6-1. Murray went on to win the tournament, becoming the first

junior from Great Britain to do so.

Glatch, King (who qualified) and Nguyen (SCTA's 2002 Junior Player Of The Year), were victorious in first round encounters, but came up short in their second contests. Fansler was defeated in her initial Grand Slam junior experience.

Looking back, this year's US Open was a magnificent spectacle. A captivating, enthralling tennis exposé that featured the game's current and about to be stars in a setting second to none.



Sarah Fansler

(Editor's Note: Abigail Spears played even better following the Open reaching the semifinal in Seoul and final at Quebec City as a qualifier which resulted in a career high No. 92 ranking.)



Justin Gimelstob, along with the honoree's family, took part in the ITA Achievement Award ceremony for Dr. George Fareed.

Still Playing

Each News issue attempts to call attention to Southern California Tennis Association programs and individuals. Of particular interest are performers who spent time in the section developing their games. In the September publication, Marissa Irvin, Kevin Kim, Marcin Matkowski and Glenn Weiner were featured. Attention was called to their spring successes because in the pro game's big picture, these sorts of players are often overlooked.

It is interesting to note that as the December News went to press each of these players was on the way to bringing their best year as a pro to a close.

Irvin collected a summer trifecta, qualifying at Stanford, Los Angeles and San Diego. She did it again prior to the US Open at New Haven. Winning Albuquerque, an International Tennis Federation Pro Circuit event, pushed her ranking into the top 80.

Kim won the Challenger at Andora and Burbank, and was a finalist at Tiburon, a semifinalist at College Station and a quarterfinalist at Aptos. An even better result was at Beijing where he defeated Juan Carlos Ferrero, No. 11 in the Entry System, 6-4, 6-4.

Matkowski, playing with Marius Fyrstenberg, achieved his "reason for leaving UCLA" goal, by earning a spot in Olympic tennis representing Poland. The duo also reached the semifinals at Pozan and Palermo, a quarterfinal at the Kremlin Cup, along with scoring a Davis Cup win over Italy. With those successes, Matkowski's doubles ranking moved into the top 50.

Weiner battled in the Challengers, winning the Keys Gate Open doubles title. He also surprised Mark Philippoussis, the No. 4 seed, 3-6 6-4 6-4, in the first round at Shanghai.

NAMES IN THE NEWS

Julie Thorpe, a 14-year-old from Palm Desert, was one of the 10 Arthur Ashe Essay Contest Award winners who received a trip to the US Open. **Dennis Lajola**, who trains at West Coast Training Center in Carson, and **Elizabeth Plotkin** were two of the elite juniors from California who participated in the 16 elite player, six day, annual adidas Tennis Training and Conditioning Kamp (aTTaCK) at the Saddlebrook Resort in Tampa, Florida, held in conjunction with the USTA, ATP and WTA. **Bradley Klahn** and **Andy Magee** were two of the six juniors invited to participate in the Davis Cup Training Camp held during the US/Belarus tie. **Alexa Glatch** was a member of the three player team representing the US in the Junior Federation Cup final in Barcelona, Spain. **Vania King** was the Girl's 18 National Championships Sportsmanship Award winner. **Bob Perry**, who won the inaugural Auckland Championships, will be honored at the tournament's 50th Anniversary Celebration in January. **Pierre Batton** earned the First District Youth Leadership Award and was named Player Of The Year by the "Long Beach Press Telegram". **Mike and Lindsey Nelson** were the National Father & Daughter Grass Court Championships winners. Men's tennis coach **Paul Settles** received one of the 32 USA Team Tennis Grants to initiate an intramural program at Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Colleges. **Sergiu Boerica** was named assistant women's tennis coach at Loyola Marymount University. **Lola Ajilore** has become the assistant at West Coast Training Center in Carson. **Sean Berman** won the Boy's 11 "Little Mo" Nationals and **Dorothy Tang** received the Sportsmanship Award. **William J. Kellogg** will chair the USTA Davis Cup Committee.

MERCEDES-BENZ CUP

Haas And Kiefer To Return Roddick Also Set To Appear

Popular German star Tommy Haas will return to defend his title at the 79th annual Mercedes-Benz Cup, presented by Countrywide, July 22-31, 2005 at the Los Angeles Tennis Center – UCLA.

Other leading players making early commitments to the tournament are 2004 finalist Nicolas Kiefer, American standouts James Blake, Mardy Fish, Taylor Dent, Robby Ginepri, Vince Spadea, along with former world No. 1 Andy Roddick, Bob and Mike Bryan, as well as Thai star, Paradorn Srichaphan and US Open semifinalist Joachim Johansson of Sweden.

Haas, who defeated three-time Los Angeles champion and top-seeded Andre Agassi in the quarterfinals, turned back Kiefer 7-6, 6-4 in the final. The victory was his second of the year and highlighted a comeback from shoulder surgeries that had sidelined him for 14 months. It was the first all-German final on the ATP Tour since 1994. Haas became the third German to win the Mercedes-Benz Cup, joining Boris Becker (1994) and Michael Stich (1995). The Bryans won their second Mercedes-Benz Cup doubles title, defeating Australians Wayne Arthurs and Paul Hanley, 6-3, 7-6.



Tommy Haas

The 78th edition of the Mercedes-Benz Cup, which enjoyed 80,174 total attendance, provided a collection of upsets. No seeded player advanced to the semifinals. It was just the second time in the Open Era (since 1968) that the tournament's final match featured two unseeded players. The other was 1973. Haas was only the second unseeded champion of the tournament in the Open Era, joining Jimmy Connors from 1973. It marked just the 10th time in the long history of the tournament that the championship match did not feature a pair of seeded players. Eight of the finals featured one seeded player.

As always, a highlight of tournament week was "Gibson/Baldwin Night at the Net" Monday, July 12, which featured the Bryans, Fish and Mark Philippoussis, along with celebrities Danny Aiello, Jillian Barberie, Dr. Phil, Paul Rodriguez, John Salley, Jon Lovitz, Mathew St. Patrick, Kaley Cuoco, Fred Willard, Daisy Fuentes, Wilson Phillips, Ben Arthur and Hayley Westenra.

The Mercedes-Benz Cup marked the first men's event in the new US Open Series, an historic breakthrough for the sport that links 10 summer hard-court tournaments to the US Open, creating a cohesive, six-week summer tennis season for ATP and WTA Tour professional tournaments in North America.

Proceeds from the Mercedes-Benz Cup, held in conjunction with UCLA, benefit the programs of the Southern California Tennis Association and UCLA. For information about tickets, call (310) 824-1010 or visit online at www.mercedes-benzcup.com

HIGH PERFORMANCE

K-Swiss — Another Classic

Martha Katsufakis



The 24th K-Swiss Grand Prix Masters Championships was held at Whittier Narrows Tennis Center, featuring the top eight point winners in the Boys and Girls 10-18 age divisions.

During the summer, players from across the section, along with those from Arizona, Australia, Connecticut, Hong Kong, Nevada, New Jersey and New York, concentrated on securing points to earn a spot in the Masters Championships draws.

This year, four players achieved the rare distinction, becoming members of the 1,000 Point Club. Joseph DiGiulio earned 1,340 points in the Boy's 12 play. Hailey Hogan collected 1,020 points in Girl's 12 competition. Robby Diamond also picked up 1,020 points, as did Alvaro Sanchez, in the Boy's 16 division. Sanchez's success is even more impressive since it was the second year in a row that he was a 1,000 Point Club member.

The Masters Championships ran a back draw and awarded trophies to sixth place.

K-Swiss provided T-shirts for all the participants. Treatment of this sort brought about "I try hard to earn points so that I can be invited"; "I look forward to it because it's really fun"; and "this is my favorite tournament of the year"; comments.

Those behind the tournaments, along with those behind the scenes, are indebted to K-Swiss for sponsoring a circuit that provides so many with opportunities to compete. A special thanks is also extended to Eric Stephens for hosting the Masters Championships.

Results: (There is no photo of Boy's 10 – Alex Scheinmann d. Nikko Madregallejo 6-3, 6-3.)



BOY'S 18
Zac Tsai d. Brett Levin 6-2, 4-6, 6-2



BOY'S 12
Sean Levesque d. Joseph DiGiulio 7-5, 6-0



GIRL'S 12
Sarah Blair d. Elena Najera 6-1, 6-3



BOY'S 16
Derick Mitre d. Andre Dome 7-6, 7-5



GIRL'S 18
Desiree Stone d. Colleen Mullarkey 6-2, 6-4



GIRL'S 12
Sarah Blair d. Elena Najera 6-1, 6-3



BOY'S 14
Torsten Keil-Long d. Parker Rhodes 6-4, 6-1



GIRL'S 16
Jordan Dockendorf d. Anna Chkhikvishvili 6-2, 3-6, 6-4



GIRL'S 10
Kristen Hibbs d. Preethika Venugopal 6-2, 6-2

HIGH PERFORMANCE

Darren Potkey

Sun-Splashed Masters



The Central Coast Grand Prix Masters Championships took place on a sun-splashed weekend in beautiful Santa Barbara. After almost 100 exciting hard fought matches, 10 champions were crowned.

Jordan Dockendorf deserves special mention because she won the Girl's 16 event and was the Grand Prix points standings leader, with a total of 550. Cathy Ann Simon of the Santa Barbara Tennis Patrons, and Cathy Carpenter of the City of Santa Barbara, along with all the tournament directors, earned praise for their support of the circuit.

Results:



GIRL'S 16

Jordan Dockendorf d. Keba Baird 6-3, 6-2



BOY'S 18

Christopher Ho d. Ryan Shelven 6-2, 4-6, 6-4



BOY'S 12

Alex Johnson d. Spencer Simon 6-1, 2-6, 6-2



GIRL'S 14

Kelly Hart d. Chloe Bellomy 6-1, 6-3



BOY'S 16

Taylor Chavez Goggin d. Andre Dome 6-1, 2-6, 6-2



BOY'S 10

Stefan Menichella d. Miles Seemann 6-3, 6-4



GIRL'S 12

Della Taylor d. Krystal Hansard 6-0, 6-2



BOY'S 14

Gregory Punsalan d. Billy Grokenberger 6-0, 6-3



GIRL'S 18

Maria Malec d. Vijan Delosreyes 6-2, 6-0



GIRL'S 10

Denise Poltavski d. Elle Taylor 6-4, 6-4

"First Serve" Winners



Mater Dei was all smiles.

West Torrance and Mater Dei won the 4th "First Serve" Girls High School Team Tournament. Twenty-five teams participated in the events staged at West Torrance High School and Orange Coast College. West Torrance, the host school, which is coached by Patty Yoo, slipped past Vivian Webb, coached by Daren Starnes, to earn its third consecutive "First Serve", 4-2. At Orange Coast College, Mater Dei, coached by Marian Danse, overcame a determined El Dorado squad, coached by John Cyrus, for its first team championship, by the same 4-2 score.

The tournament is a collaborative effort of Southern California Tennis Association/Wilson Sporting Goods/Clif-Southern Section. The goal of the event is to provide novel competitive opportunities for high school tennis players.

Darian Chappell of Wilson Sporting Goods, along with Janice Maran of Orange Coast College are extended a "thank you" for their continued support of the event. The Boys "First Serve" High School Team Tournament will be played next March. For more information regarding the event, contact Tiffany Geller at (310) 208-3838 Ext. 232 or Geller@scta.usta.com

National Successes

During the summer, juniors from the section enjoyed National Championships successes as the following list brings out:

Eric Riley – Boy's 18 National Clay Court doubles winner

Sam Querrey – Boy's 16 National Hard Court singles winner

Boy's 16 National Hard Court doubles winner

Boy's 16 National Clay Court doubles winner

Boy's 16 National Clay Court singles finalist

Mike DeCoster – Boy's 12 National Clay Court doubles finalist

Riza Zalameda – Girl's 18 National Hard Court doubles winner

Alexa Glatch – Girl's 18 National Hard Court doubles finalist

Hilary Barte – Girl's 16 National Hard Court doubles winner

Lyndsay Kinstler – Girl's 16 National Hard Court doubles finalist

Brittany Augustine – Girl's 14 National Hard Court singles finalist

Jordaan Sanford – Girl's 12 National Hard Court doubles finalist



Sam Querrey, Blake Muller, Kaes Van't Hof, Lee Singer, Carsten Ball and Shan Sondhu, along with coach Barry Horowitz, claimed the Junior Davis Cup trophy.



Under Dave McKinney's leadership, Michael McClune, Mike Gurman, Jason Jung, Steven Forman, Julie Chao, McCall Jones, Lyndsay Kinstler and Claire Rietsch dominated Intersectional 16s play.

Coachella Valley Grand Prix

Because the K-Swiss Summer and Central Coast Grand Prix circuits have been so successful, there will now be a Coachella Valley Grand Prix that will provide juniors with more competitive opportunities. Points will be awarded based on an individual's results in each tournament. At the end of the season, a Grand Prix Masters Championships will be held involving the top players in each division.

The following events are part of the new Coachella Valley Grand Prix:

- Palm Valley Junior Championships - December 4-5, 11-12
- The Lodge at Rancho Mirage Junior Championships - December 21-23
- 11th Indian Wells Tennis Gardens Junior Classic - January 8-9, 15-16
- 13th Palm Springs Junior Tournament at Riviera Resort - February 19-21
- 7th Monterey Country Club Junior Classic - April 9-10, 16-17
- Desert Princess Junior Tournament - April 23-24, April 30-May 1
- Plaza Racquet Club Junior Championships - May 7-8, 14-15
- Coachella Valley Grand Prix Masters - October or November 2005 at a site to be determined.

For information about the Coachella Valley Grand Prix, contact Darren Potkey at (310) 208-3838 Ext. 222.

GRANTS

Tennis & Education Foundation Grants

Annually, the USTA Tennis & Education Foundation offers the following scholarships:

- The College Education Scholarship
- The MassMutual Scholarship Award
- The Dwight F. Davis Memorial Scholarship
- The Dwight Mosley Scholarship Award
- The Eve Kraft Education & College Scholarship
- The College Textbook Scholarship

All applications must be completed in full and sent to the Southern California Tennis Association (PO Box 240015; Los Angeles, CA 90024-9115) and postmarked by **February 4, 2005** to be considered.

For information about the scholarships contact Melanie Bischoff at (310) 208-3838 Ext. 239.

Multicultural Grants

The USTA is offering the following Multicultural grants:

1. Excellence Program Grant
2. Individual Player Grant for National Competition & Training
3. Community Outreach Grant

Deadline to submit applications is **December 31, 2004**

Contact Ronita Elder at (310) 208-3838 Ext. 248 for details.

Seminars Score

Mark Winters

The annual fall College & University Seminars, which are designed to help players, parents and coaches increase their understanding of the tennis scholarship process, enjoyed record attendance, (along with close to 100 telephone inquiries from across the country). Beginning in late September and continuing through October, 11 sessions were offered free of charge. People from around the section, as well as those from as far away as Harvard, Massachusetts; Mountain City, Texas; Eagan, Minnesota; Phoenix, Arizona and San Francisco, California, learned more about what it takes for a competitor to move into the intercollegiate ranks.

The Seminars will also be held in the spring of 2005. For information about site locations, or if your organization would like to host one of the gatherings, call Mark Winters at (310) 208-3838 Ext. 231.



The turnout in Westlake was impressive.



James Davis and his mother, Alicia Rhoades came from Phoenix. His grandfather, Bob Hazard, also attended.



Matthew Stith, Chaz Hedrick, Elliot Markowitz and John Hernandez attended the Santa Barbara presentation.



Lyndsay Haack and Kelly Griffith were part of the group at Steve Futchko's.



Tom Schull traveled to UCLA from Minnesota, and Don Clark, along with his son Evan, made a trip from New York.



Melanie Peitzke, Lindsay Penner and Chloe Belomy learned a lot.



Roxanne and Sierra Ellison were at Newport Beach.



Jennifer and Sally Nowland traveled from Texas.



Baldwin and Joanna Leong made a 7-hour round trip drive from Fremont.

AAF Is Year-Round

Arlene Barco

Having just completed its October – November session, the Amateur Athletic Foundation/National Junior Tennis League is gearing up to start the January-February Year-Round program. Originally held at only five sites in the section, it now takes place at 35 locations involving more than 2,500 youngsters. Special Activity Days bring each of the Year-Round offerings to a close.



For information about the Year-Round program beginning in January or AAF/NJTL summer instruction for those between the ages of 7 and 17, contact Arlene Barco at (310) 208-3838 Ext. 234.



Special Activity Days are very special.



AAF/NJTL serves it up Year-Round.



The Community Development Workshop was wonderfully successful not only because of the number of people who attended, but also because of the rich array of topics covered in the presentations made by people such as Tom Fey, Barbara Fackel and Jason Jamison. The highlight of the day was the motivational speech given by keynote speaker Pam Shriver.

USTA SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SECTION

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A Six-Year Wait

Alyssa DeVore

For the first time since 1997, Southern California defeated Northern California in the Team Tennis for Youth battle for the Gar Glenney Cup. During the two-day event, held at the Los Angeles Tennis Center, the 18's, 14's and 12's divisions each played four boy's and girl's singles; two boy's and girl's doubles; and four mixed doubles matches. A total of 48 matches were contested with SoCal winning 510 games while NorCal amassed 440. The "Hollywood Party" was the off-court highlight of the Cup. Team coaches were Carolyn Bernhardt and Mark McCampbell.



Participants included:

BOY'S 18 – Oxnard Tennis Center - Callen Fraychineaud, Viet Ly, Robert Zacks, Marcus Robas, Blake Rowan and Gianpaolo Russo.

GIRL'S 18 – Seaciff Tennis Club - Ana Cottle, Jennifer Heumann, Kelly Wong and Lauren Pascoe.

BOY'S & GIRL'S 14 – Oxnard Tennis Center - Matthew Stith, Chris Alvarez, Chapman Chan, Billy Grokenberger, Marissa Ward, Zoe Miller, Candace Scholler, Sarah Zook and Whitney Ranger. Mark McCampbell coached.

BOY'S & GIRL'S 12 – San Diego "Westwooders" - Elena Najera, Wileen Chiu, Sarah Weng, Lucas Premuda, Melinda Chu, Samantha Chu, Cameron Bernhardt, Tom Pham and Tyler Pham.

Giving Back

Mark Winters



The Los Angeles Unified School District's Beyond The Bell Branch hosted "Lights On! Afterschool" at Birmingham High School saluting the 4,000 youngsters from more than 20 school agencies who participate in Afterschool activities.



According to Dave McKinney, the spirited organizer of the 6th Bob & Mike's Tennis Extravaganza, "the Bryan brothers have always given back to the sport of tennis in a very big way, by helping raise money for local tennis. This year the Ventura County Junior Tennis Association (VCJTA) benefited. Bob and Mike spent the day at Spanish Hills Country Club, in Camarillo, where they grew up playing junior and high school tennis, before going off to Stanford and the pro tour."

Pro and celebrity matches, along with a wine tasting, highlighted the day. "Nearly 500 tennis enthusiasts and wine connoisseurs enjoyed a terrific match," said McKinney, who is director of tennis at Spanish Hills. "Bob and Mike played Brian Wilson and Justin Bower winning 8-5. Joanna Garcia, WB's star of 'The Reba Show', and Kaley Cuoco, who is featured on '8 Simple Rules', were next up, playing with the brothers."

McKinney continued, "the wine tasting was a hit thanks to eight special selections offered by the California Wine Club, our title sponsor for the second year in a row. Wayne Bryan, who is always an integral part of any Bryan activity, served as the Extravaganza master of ceremonies and kept everyone entertained. The entire event was covered by the Tennis Channel and those in attendance can't wait to see the show."

Junior clinics were part of the Extravaganza package. "The day started early for Bob and Mike as they hosted two junior clinics," McCampbell said. "The first was held at Spanish Hills. Local teaching pros Gary Victor, Keith Hinds, Tracie Currie, Hans Romer, Brian Giffin, Chad Colby, Nancy Garrison and Mila Horak, as well as Wilson rep Darian Chappell helped out. The second clinic took place at the Oxnard Tennis Center, involving local high school players. Roy Encarnation, Matt Simpson, Nido Nitohansia, Nathan Willingham and Zibu Ncube played an important part in making everything work. The participants in both clinics enjoyed the chance to meet the Bryan's and get some valuable tips to help their games. They also enjoyed having a chance to win prizes provided by adidas, Oakley and Wilson Sporting Goods."

A Team Tennis Tournament, involving two men and two women squads sponsored by Ventura County business and corporations, competing in three different divisions brought the day to a close.

Merlot Division (Open Division)

WINNER – Cal State Northridge (sponsored by Morin Lemon Ranch) Team members: Craig Cigarelli, Kanykey Koichumanova, Yuyu Myinttu and Gary Victor

Cabernet Division (4.0 Division)

WINNER – AACode

Team members: Kellie Becker, Rick Becker, Chris Goldie and Renee Whitlock

Chardonnay Division (3.5 Division)

WINNER – Hiepler and Heipler
Team members: Blake Barcus, Curtis Barlow, Kaitlin McBride and Tammy Wu

Participation increases in the Extravaganza every year. The Bryans "never forgetting their past and the people who helped them" are the reason. According to McKinney, "proceeds from the event will help the VCJTA provide local youngsters with programs and tournaments. The organization also arranges trips to pro and college matches and gives underprivileged youngsters an opportunity to learn and enjoy the sport of a lifetime."

The 7th Bob & Mike's Tennis Extravaganza is tentatively set for October 1st next year. Dave McKinney is the contact at (805) 388-5000.

NTRP Grand Prix Point Standings

(submitted by Annette Buck)

MEN'S 5.5

Efrain Morales	860
Michael Chang	760
Rogério Coutinho	460
Roberto Gallegos	440
Lowell Crook	420

MEN'S 4.5

Arnie Darini	1410
Geoffrey Rauen	1160
Alexander Heil	1050
Keith Barksdale	1020
Kouros Zavar	760

MEN'S 3.5

Gerard Del Rosario	1260
Ken Govers	740
Bill Vance	660
Enrique Dondonay	640
Oscar Ledesma	620

WOMEN'S 5.5

Nessa Heubach	60
Jessie Ritchie	60

WOMEN'S 4.5

Katie Sweeney	520
Sunny Kim	500
Rita Leung	400
Vicki Peterson	390
Annette Howell	360

WOMEN'S 3.5

Joanne Herbert	800
Elena McCorkle	740
Dana Tavelman	640
Bridgette Williams	470
Karin Bruinsma	440

Living Up To Its Mission

Becky Edles-Rye

The mission of the Orange County Community Tennis Association (OCCTA) is the promotion of tennis through programs and events in the Orange County area.



At the end of October, OCCTA conducted "Let's Just Play Day" at St. Anne's School in Santa Ana and 300 children participated. Launched in 2003, "Let's Just Play" is part of Nickelodeon's national grassroots effort to help youngsters become more physically active. The program also helps youngsters develop a healthy lifestyle. St. Anne School is one of several OCCTA "Tennis After School" (TAS) programs that focus on this project.

A three year series of Junior Pre-Satellite Summer Tennis Circuit tournaments concluded with over 50 contestants participating in an event at the Nellie Gail Tennis Club. Luis Garcia won the Boy's 14 division and Adrian Garcia (not related) was a finalist in his half of the High School draw. Both are part of the "Disney GOALS" program involving ice hockey players who are honing their tennis skills through a partnership with the OCCTA. The Pre-Satellite series was so well received, a new program will take place between January and March next year.

Denis Moss, an original OCCTA board member, conducted the inaugural Orange County Community Tennis Foundation round robin fundraiser this past summer. The proceeds will help defray the organization's operational costs, and subsidize TAS programs and clinics focusing on the ethnically diverse school children in the urban areas of Orange County. The feedback on the fundraiser has been positive, prompting planning for another in 2005.

"Senior Sirs" and "The Ladies Evening Doubles League" (LEDL) are thriving. Los Caballeros Racquet is in first place in the "Senior Sirs" standings with a 23-9 record. The Racquet Club of Irvine (RCI) is second with a 21-7 record. Others participating are: Coto Golf & Racquet, Dana

Hills Tennis Center, Laguna Woods #1, Lake Forest Sun & Sail, Los Cab #1, Mission Tennis Center, Old Ranch Tennis Club and Viejo Tennis Center.

LEDL Division 1 (4.5 - 4.0) standings find RCI in first with a 5-0 record; Nellie Gail is next at 4-0-1; and Mission Viejo Tennis Club is third with a 4-2-0 record. Also involved in the race are: Dove Canyon, Lake Forest Sun & Sail, Mission Viejo Tennis Club and The Club at Laguna Niguel #1 & #2.

In Division 2 (4.0 - 3.5) action, Mission Viejo Tennis Club is in first with a 5-0 record; Dana Hills Tennis Center is second with a 3-2-1 record. Other participants include: Canyon Crest #1 & #2, Kite Hill, Lake Forest Beach & Tennis Club, Lake Forest Sun & Sail, Mission Viejo Country Club and Rancho Santa Margarita.



The Men's 7.0 team was a winner.



OCCTA gets youngsters involved.

Community Tennis Rocks

Mark Winters

The section is full of people devoted to introducing the game to the masses. Ralph Williams and Iris Van Sciver are just two of the hundreds of standouts. Los Angeles/Inglewood is their area of concentration.

Over the summer they were involved managing Amateur Athletic Foundation/National Junior Tennis League and the Williams Rock'em Sock'em Tennis Camp. They also organized Saturday Family Tennis, along with classes for seniors, who are 60 and over.

There is a Girl's tennis team at Bell Gardens for the first time in 14 years.

While these are impressive accomplishments, there is more to add to the list. Their efforts in After School Tennis and re-establishing the girl's team at Bell Gardens High School after a 14 year absence, cannot be overlooked.

It's always revealing to find out about those participating in recreational tennis programs. Thirteen-year-old Ivan Velasquez and 14-year-old Jessica Sinclair have benefited from Williams/Van Sciver efforts. Velasquez is very bright and has used tennis to channel his energy. Sinclair's guardian brought her to summer lessons and she has grown to "love tennis".

Walter Salvari, his wife, Juanita, son Robert and daughter Kathy, have been part of Saturday Family Tennis since it began. He first picked up a racquet at 43, asking if it was possible for someone his age to learn how to play. Being from Peru, where only the elite were involved in the sport, Salvari had always hoped to take up the game. Now, he is doing so with his family.

TAY's Start

Carmen Hill

Thanks to a Southern California Tennis Association "Growth Plan" Grant, Portals' Transitional Age Youth (TAY) initiated an 8-week session of free tennis lessons this fall.

The kick off took place on October 22nd at Shatto Recreation Center in downtown Los Angeles. Members of TAY's program team, (Nancy Jefferson, Madeline Lee, Yen Richardson, and Jim and Scotty Turner), decked out in tennis shoes provided by K-Swiss and tennis togs and rackets donated by the SCTA, helped with the organization. Ralph Williams, (who is teaching the lessons



Portals' provides an opening. (Carmen Hill second from right, back row.)

which run through mid-December), handled things on court.

The TAY-tennis partnership fits well with Portals' psychosocial rehabilitation philosophy. The game offers those in the program a number of positive benefits that include: Experiencing "success" through sports; Positive social interaction; Increasing self-esteem and self-confidence, leading to greater independence and quality of life; Good exercise and improvement of overall fitness, flexibility, strength and weight control.

INTERCOLLEGIATE TENNIS

Fall Play

Mark Winters

In the 17 Wilson/Intercollegiate Tennis Association Regional Championships held across the country, players from the area were outstanding. Singles winners and finalists, along with the doubles champions, advanced to the ITA National Indoor Championships.

KC Corkery and Stanford teammate Sam Warburg won the Northwest Regional doubles at Berkeley. UCLA was the Regional story at Malibu, as Ben Kohlloeffel captured the singles with a 6-1, 6-1 victory over Armando Carrascosa of San Diego State. Alberto Francis and Kris Kwinta of UCLA claimed the



Ben Kohlloeffel



UC San Diego coach Eric Steidlmayer with Brent Molden and Bryan Swatt.

Regional singles finalist.

The Small College Wilson/ITA Regional Champions also showcased performers at schools in the section. Brent Molden/Bryan Swatt of University of California San Diego triumphed in doubles at Regional Championships held at their school, then finished 7th at ITA National Small College Championships at Ft. Myers, Florida.

Sandra Montez of Redlands won the Women's Division III Regional Championships singles title at Claremont-Mudd-Scripps. Jeannine Liang/Lauren Drew, who played for the host university, took home the doubles title.

Point Loma Nazarene's familiarity and solid play helped Ashley Strimple of Point Loma Nazarene win the Women's NAIA West Regional at her home courts.

Two players stole the Community College show at the Wilson/ITA Southern California Championships at Grossmont College. Bryan Newell of Saddleback swept the men's singles and doubles with Brian Valpraiso. Michelle Esquivel of Santa Ana copied Newell, taking the women's singles and doubles titles with Jessica Rice.



Riza Zalameda

doubles title.

Three freshman made impressive women's debuts in the fall. In an all-frosh contest Riza Zalameda of UCLA topped Lindsey Nelson of USC 6-3, 6-4 in the West Regional singles final at Barnes Tennis Center. She also won the doubles with Daniela Bercek. Nicole Leimbach, another USC freshman, scored back-to-back quarterfinal successes at Riviera/ITA All-American Championships and at San Diego. Susanna Lingman of Harvard was a Northeast

District Dishes

Lesley Waite



Following Dodo Cheney's spectacular induction in the International Tennis Hall of Fame in August, Pat Canning Todd of Rancho Santa Fe has been nominated as a Master Player candidate for the same honor; the highest achievement in the sport for 2005.

The 76th San Diego District Tennis Championships, held at Balboa Tennis Club, didn't have trombone players, or 110 cornets, but at the end of the 60 divisions competition, a lot of people were celebrating in the winner's circle. Open singles champions were San Diego State netter Armando Carrasco and Dominika Dieskova from University of Oregon. Jim Watters won the 80 singles.

The Men's 4.5 team from the La Jolla Tennis Club, after winning the USA Senior League Sectional Championships, earned a spot in the National Championships in Palm Springs. Captained by Scott Farr, who also serves as the president of the club, the team included Rick Evans, Andy Harrison, Jim Johnson, Harold Krasner, Bob Perry, Clark Rorbach, Jay Schiller, Richard Singer, Rich Tear, Donny Thompson and John Wright. In the desert, LJTC's fate came down to two third set tiebreakers. Though they lost the contests, members of the team agreed that the competition and the national experience were wonderful.

The USA League Tennis program in the District includes the USA Adult, Senior and Combo Mixed Doubles Leagues, plus the SCTA Fall Men's Doubles and "Girls' Nite Out" Leagues. The four leagues wrapped up 2004 with 2,449 players, representing 270 teams, participating. As impressive as San Diego's 20th year of fielding teams was, 2005 promises to be even better; judging by the 16% increase in the 'early start' Fall leagues that have just finished play. The ease of computer registration and self-rating, along with the fact scoring and standings can all be found online, makes participating in league competition a snap. For information about USA League Tennis call (858) 755-8110.



The La Jolla Tennis Club team had a memorable season.

"Family Tennis Day", one of San Diego's most popular tennis events, will hold court at the Escondido Sports and Fitness Club, Sunday January 9th, from 10 am to 1 pm. Everyone in the family is invited to take part in the free tennis activities. Call Danny Mendoza at (760) 580-1690 for details.

Winter in San Diego is ideal for tennis, particularly USA Team Tennis for Adults. Play begins in December and continues through February. Teams are currently being formed. The World Team Tennis-like competition is aimed at beginning and intermediate players who are interested in having fun, meeting new people and improving their level of fitness.

"Drop In Tennis" has new clinics in Escondido, Oceanside, Chula Vista, Encanto, San Diego and Carmel Valley. This free introduction to tennis is designed for beginners.

Gail Benzler, San Diego's community tennis coordinator, can provide more information about "Family Tennis Day", USA Team Tennis for Adults and "Drop In Tennis". She can be contacted at (760) 809-8437.

Determined Athletes

Kerry Blum



Standing up seemed a little awkward for those watching the players, from 17 countries, competed at the Barnes Tennis Center, for the sixth consecutive year, in the Quickie U.S. Open National Wheelchair Championship. The tournament, which is

one of the most prestigious sporting events in the world, encompassed four different competitions – the Open, Junior, Mixed Doubles and Senior Doubles and Mixed Doubles Championships. Celebrating its 25th anniversary, 115 male and 35 female competitors participated in the tournament.

Rick Draney, chairman of the event, suffered a spinal-cord injury, at 19, in an automobile accident. Now in his 40's, he remembers "looking for something to do." When he was introduced to wheelchair tennis, he became hooked on the sport.

The tournament was composed of different divisions based on playing ability and the extent of the disability. Quadriplegic, meant no use of legs and limited use of arms; paraplegic applied to the loss of use of the lower body. The tennis rules were the same, with the exception that two bounces were permitted, including service returns.

Watching the matches, it was clear that disabled did not mean unable. Incredible creativity and determination were evident throughout the events. A hand taped to a racquet was a common sight among those in the quadriplegic division. Not only did a bottle cap attached to a player's foot to hold the ball before kicking it up for a serve catch everyone's attention, it had them questioning their own ability to make an accurate ball toss and hit a good serve.

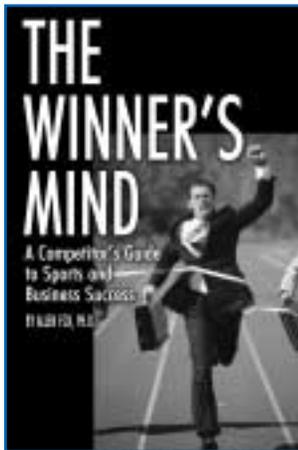
Some wheelchair competitors have limited ability to walk. Unfortunately, issues such as amputation, along with degenerative bone or nerve conditions, forced these individuals to compete in a wheelchair. Many of these athletes also enter able-bodied tournaments. In these situations, they get two bounces. Wheelchair players have superior upper body strength and conditioning. Continued integration of wheelchair and able-bodied players is part of the game's future in Southern California.

Wheelchair tennis, a competitive outlet for the disabled on a worldwide basis, is offered at the Barnes Center on Thursday evenings. Players of all ages and abilities are welcome. For more information, call (619)221-9000.

Something For Everyone

Cheryl Jones

Looking for another holiday gift? The choice might be a little easier after reading the following reviews of tennis books on the market.



The Winner's Mind

By Allen Fox

Allen Fox has done it again. *The Winner's Mind* is a winner, just as were his previous books, *If I'm The Better Player, Why Can't I Win?*, and *Think to Win*. Fox is entertaining, enlightening and he clearly knows what it takes. Readers will see, through many interesting and easy to understand examples, just what it takes to be a winner – on the court, in business dealings or with life in general.

This is not solely a book about tennis. Fox uses examples from history, psychology and life that will help all of us understand how we can become champions not only on the court, but in business as well as day to day human interaction. He draws on his own experience as well as the expertise of educators, psychologists and historians to point out just how and why individuals succeed in activities encountered every day.

We all know people who seem to have the Midas touch. They are the champions – the winners. Those people are successful, not because they are born winners, but because they choose a route that leads

them where they want to go, whether it is playing three sets on the court and winning a championship, or being successful in a chosen profession. Fox lets us look at the psychological makeup of winners throughout history. There isn't a big secret to success that will be revealed at the end of the book. Yes, there is a bit of psychology involved, but it isn't a mystery. There is no ambiguity in Fox's glimpse into what makes for success. He shows us how to look at all factors involved; then he teaches us how to push away anything that may cloud the outcome.

Fox uses individuals who have been successful in a myriad of ventures to make his points, as he shows the way to success. Tennis players and fans alike will be able to identify with his examples that are real people, whether they are from the past, such as Alexander the Great or people who live among us, like Jon Douglas, who was a very successful tennis player and later became a real estate mogul. It is not a pie in the sky kind of book, but an examination and dissection of the fundamentals that makeup a winner. Anyone will be able to look at themselves and assemble a package that will make them better players, better people and better at life on every level.

Whether you want to improve your game or improve your business acumen, there will be something in Fox's wonderfully entertaining book that will help sort out just how to become more successful. *The Winner's Mind* is a must read for anyone who is out to improve who they are and how they greet the world every day.

The Kid from Courage

By Ron Berman

Looking for a holiday gift for that adolescent in your life? Young people will enjoy reading of the exploits of Bryan Berry from Courage, Kansas. *The Kid from Courage* is a welcome



change from the run of the mill tennis books that gather dust on forgotten shelves of book stores and homes alike. The story is uplifting, interesting and most of all, readable.

Berman introduces us to Bryan, a genuine kid, with a believable life. It is the tale of a fourteen year old's forays into the world of junior tennis. Any youngster who reads at fifth grade level will find this book captivating.

I was impressed with the discipline and perseverance that is gently inserted into the story without being preachy. For example, we see Bryan participating in tournaments, but he always remembers that he must keep up with his school work. Time spent waiting between matches is used for homework.

A connection comes about between an oldster, Henry Johnson, who takes an interest in Bryan, and it is credible. There is a bond that links the two of them – youth and experience – which is believable and sincere. Homilies are subtle, but seem real and practical. A theme, "courage is not being afraid to lose," wends its way through the story; not in a moralizing way, but in an "actions speak louder than words" kind of way.

Bryan is *The Kid from Courage* on many fronts. Just as life is many faceted, Bryan appears to have a real life. He has a family, yearns to be popular, and isn't perfect, much as most adolescents. His exploits in the tennis arena are not over done and the suspense is carefully dolled out.

(continued on next page)

BOOK REVIEWS

(continued from previous page)

Parents who are home schooling their children will enjoy the book, because there are thoughtful questions about each chapter, testing comprehension and the story's connection to their lives. Whether or not the book is read for pleasure or for school credit, *The Kid from Courage*, fills a niche that has been sorely neglected.

Before the book is wrapped, steal a peak. Many names familiar to those who grew up playing in Southern California, appear among the opponents Bryan must face along his way to Kalamazoo. Berman's homag  to friend, Joel Drucker, becomes Joe Drucker, Bryan's first opponent at Kalamazoo. (Drucker, characterized as a wiry left hander, has written his own homag , to his hero Jimmy Connors, which follows.)



Jimmy Connors Saved My Life

By Joel Drucker

Some reviewers have said, "Who is Joel Drucker; and how could he claim that Jimmy Connors saved his life?" Does it matter who he is? He could be any of us. Lives need continuity and that is what Jimmy Connors provided Joel Drucker.

His infatuation with Connors is a bit of hero worship; a spot of school boy naivet ; and a dash reality. But, when all is said and done, the reader will understand why Drucker feels the way he does. Woven through his own existence, Connors becomes a larger than life fixture in the way The Beatles became a touchstone to many of us who came of age in the sixties and sev-

enties. A big difference is that Joel Drucker came to know Connors.

Drucker's deeply personal saga is peppered with remembrances of his hero, Connors. The book is interesting and introspective. It is an author's tale of survival chronicled alongside an enigma/celebrity most of us think we remember well. Drucker remembers him better. He takes us through his own coming of age, reviewing the exploits of one of tennis' all time heroes. As Mary Carillo says in her superb introduction, "Whether you like the son of a bitch or you hate him, the fact is that Jimmy Connors is the most important tennis player of the last 50 years."

Jimmy Connors Saved My Life is a wonderful chronology of Connors' rise and fall and rise once again career. Long after it seemed as if he were down for the count, Drucker willed him to come back again. Connors returns and so does Drucker.

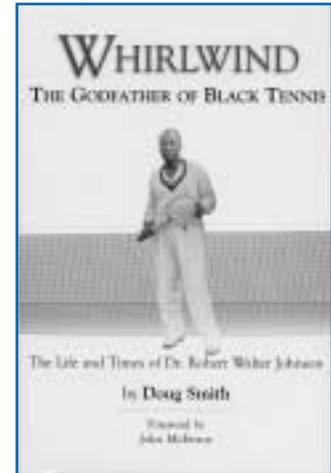
Brentwood native, Joel Drucker graduated from University of California at Berkeley. *Jimmy Connors Saved My Life* is his first book. He provides articles for many well known tennis publications on a regular basis. He knows and loves the game of tennis and it is very apparent in his respectful ode to Connors. Drucker's story is much like a woven piece of cloth. The warp, the long fibers that run the length of the piece, are Drucker. The weft, those short fibers that move over and under the warp are Connors. The result is a tangible account that is interesting and complete.

Whirlwind

By Doug Smith

Doug Smith was for many years the tennis correspondent for USA Today. He has written a labor of love about his hero, Robert Walter "Whirlwind" Johnson. Johnson is likely best known as a mentor to Althea Gibson and Arthur Ashe. What isn't so well known is that he spent his life being a "whirlwind" of a man, in most everything he did.

Smith tackles this former college football star who became not only a well respected physician in Lynchburg, Virginia, but a guide to countless African-American youngsters who were trying to make it in a world that was not accommodating at all to Blacks.



Existing in the world as it was as recently as the sixties was exasperating for Black athletes. Dr. Johnson helped make the playing field a little more level by working with African-American tennis players with promise. He did not promise them that it would be easy and he didn't make it so. He worked with youngsters in every facet of their lives to help them go on the court and have the goods that would help them win anywhere, not just in the American Tennis Association, which was a tennis version of a separate but equal venue. The ATA, of which Johnson was a founding member, addressed the fact that tennis was a predominately white sport, and it afforded Blacks an avenue to showcase their tennis abilities.

Smith's book is an interesting look at the segregation of America and how it affected nearly everything that individuals Black and Caucasian alike took part in. History happens in this book. No one bothered to tell Dr. Johnson that anything was impossible. He saw a need for places for Black youngsters to really learn the nuances of the game and he opened his home to them. The wealth that he had wasn't just in dollars and cents; it was in caring, prodding and pushing to get what he wanted.

Dr. Johnson isn't portrayed as a saint who abandons everything else in his life to be a tutor to the great. Smith shows us his shortcomings, (and he did have many), alongside his unrelenting quest for his goal of showcasing the athletic abilities and talents of his young African-American prot g s. *Whirlwind* is a lovely surprise, filled with history, hard work and most of all hope. It will be a welcome addition to the tennis section of anyone's library.

RESULTS

118th Southern California Open Sectional Championships

48th Southern California Intercollegiate Championships

MEN'S SINGLES

Noah Newman d. Aaron Yovan
6-3, 6-4

WOMEN'S SINGLES

Martina Nejedly d. Ashley Hedberg
6-1, 6-0

MEN'S DOUBLES

John Nguyen/Brett Van Linge d. David Nguyen/Andy Roland
(Coin toss)

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

Hedberg/Lindsey Hedberg d. Jennifer Lyons/Julie Shapiro
2-6, 6-4, 6-2

MIXED DOUBLES

Kate Jolson/Yovan d. Ashley Hedberg/Sam Webster
6-4, 6-4

FATHER-SON DOUBLES

Jack Gerber/Ramsey Gerber d. Russell Miller/Wesley Miller
Default

FATHER-DAUGHTER DOUBLES

Doug Mathews/Ilissa Mathews d. John Distad/Sarah Distad
6-2, 6-2



Brett Van Linge and John Nguyen



Ashley and Lindsey Hedberg



Jack and Ramsey Gerber



Doug and Ilissa Mathews



(left)
Luben Pampoulov of UCLA (right)
d. Luigi D'Agord of Alabama
7-5, 6-2

(bottom)
Kris Kwinta/Alberto Francis of UCLA (right) d. Ryusuke Kashiwabara/Brian Morton of UCI
8-6



Noah Newman



Martina Nejedly

Quickie National US Open Wheelchair Championships

(Southern California players only)

MEN'S SINGLES -

Second Draw
Tom Ayala d. Marty Anderson
6-4, 6-4

MEN'S SINGLES -

Second Draw Consolation
Todd Hanover d. David Jenkins
7-6, 6-2

MEN'S DOUBLES -

Second Draw
Ayala/Hanover d. Anderson/Joseph Babakanian
6-1, 6-1

MIXED DOUBLES -

Main Draw
Karin Korb/Michael Weise d. Beth Arnoult/Richard Julian
6-3, 7-5

WOMEN'S A SINGLES

Gina Jalbert d. Austin Tisdell
4-6, 6-2, 6-2

WOMEN'S A DOUBLES

Jalbert/Tisdell d. Kelly Birdwell/Vicki Tueros
6-2, 6-2

QUAD A SINGLES

Greg Hasterok d. Mike Wheaton
6-2, 2-6, 6-2

QUAD A DOUBLES

Hasterok/David Van Cleave d. Jack Hermosillo/Wheaton
6-4, 7-5

JUNIOR A SINGLES

Malcom Wright d. Ian Pierson
6-0

JUNIOR A DOUBLES

Dana Mathewson/Pierson d. Marco Lopez/Wright
3-1

SENIOR B/C DOUBLES

Tim Kelley/Richard St Denis d. Jerry Newman/Danny Quintana
4-6, 6-0, 1-0

RESULTS

Southern California League Sectional Championships



Men's 5.0 winners - Coachella Valley



Women's 5.0 winners - Orange County



Men's 3.0 winners - San Fernando Valley



Men's 4.5 winners - Ventura



Women's 4.5 winners - San Gabriel Valley



Women's 3.0 winners - San Fernando Valley



Men's 4.0 winners - Orange County



Women's 4.0 winners - San Fernando Valley



Men's 2.5 winners - San Fernando Valley



Men's 3.5 winners - Orange County



Women's 3.5 winners - San Gabriel Valley



Women's 2.5 winners - San Fernando Valley

RESULTS

Southern California Senior Sectional Championships

(Men's 3.5 winners – Orange County photo was damaged)



Men's 4.5 winners - San Diego



Women's 4.5 winners - Orange County



Women's 4.0 winners - Orange County



Men's 4.0 winners - San Fernando Valley



Women's 3.5 winners - Orange County



Men's 3.0 winners - Inland Empire



Women's 3.0 winners - San Gabriel Valley



The USTA is poised to offer a new Master Liability/Accident Insurance Program for Community Tennis Associations (CTA's). Coverage provides \$2 million Commercial General Liability; Additional Insureds extending to facility owners and lessors; Hired, Non-owned Auto Liability and \$25,000 Accident Medical. The key is the insurance protects the CTA in on-court and off-court related activities and events.

Annual premiums will be in the hundreds of dollars range. To qualify, a CTA must be a Member Organization; Registered as a Community Tennis Association and be a Non-Profit Organization, incorporated in the State of California. Currently registered CTA's will receive notices regarding enrollment. All others should contact

Melanie Bischoff at (310) 208-3838 Ext. 239.

The Southern California Tennis Association and USTA offer an array of cash and equipment grants. Some of the grants are listed on page 9. Check the SCTA website www.scta.usta.com for more information.

The SCTA Speaker's Bureau offers a diverse collection of individuals who can talk about a variety of topics at luncheons, dinners and activities. The College & University Scholarship Program provides detailed information relating to pursuing a tennis scholarship. USA School Tennis holds assemblies, and many other programs offer clinics. The point I am making is that the SCTA is a rich resource that is yours to use.

The happiest of holiday seasons to all!

Henry A. Talbert – Executive Director

IN MEMORIAM

Robin Hippenstiel

Raised in San Bernardino, he was the oldest of four tennis playing brothers all of whom distinguished themselves in sectional and national play. A decorated Air Force veteran, he thoroughly enjoyed time spent on the courts. Whether it was partnering with the likes of Bobby Riggs, Verne Hughes or Merwin Miller or representing the US in events such as the Britannia Cup, Hippenstiel's passion was evident. When he passed away in October, the game lost a dear friend.

Esme Pearson

A long time Virginia resident who moved to San Diego when her husband retired, Esme Pearson made an impact on players and parents with her caring officiating style. Known for her impartiality, hard work and love of the game, she played an active role in the San Diego Umpires Association working the National Girl's 16,

National Boy's 14 Open and National Father & Daughter Championships. Because she was such an extraordinary individual, in January, the 35th San Diego Junior Singles Tournament will be renamed in her honor.

Bill Roberson

San Marino and Minneapolis raised, Bill Roberson attended The Webb School and USC. He was an outstanding player whose racquets took him all over the world competing in major championships. He captained the first tennis team sent to India. Among his travel acquaintances were Prince Rainier, King Gustav of Sweden, Gottfried Von Cramm, Barbara Woolworth Hutton and Charlie Farrell. Roberson was a member of the Los Angeles Tennis Club for 72 years where he played almost daily. A gracious and generous gentleman, he will be remembered, as his obituary in the Los Angeles Times pointed out, for "his love for the Game of Life and Tennis."

Eleese Thornton

Eleese Thornton was a pioneering African-American who taught herself to play a game that would become her passion, in 1937. An American Tennis Association champion in various age groups over the years, Thornton was a national gold ball winner in 1980. She added a silver ball to her impressive trophy collection in 1990. Off court, she enjoyed similar success founding R & T Tours, a travel company, with lifelong friend Jean Richardson. In 1953, she organized the University Tennis Club, a group whose members were predominately women interested in promoting tennis locally. She was also active in the Harvard Park tennis programs. Thornton, who played competitively into her early 90s, served as a mentor for hundreds of youngsters during her career. A wonderful raconteur, she loved to talk about her tennis experiences and travel – the two joys of her life.

UCLA

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