

USPTA

October 2007

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DIVISION

Volume 18, Number 3

Important information from the board

This is the first newsletter that is being e-mailed to you. The board has decided to print one issue per calendar year. The newsletter will now be sent via e-mail to all division members and continue to be posted on the NorCal home page on their Web site. Please update your e-mail information with the national office as soon as possible. Please log into the members only section of the USPTA Web site and update your information in the Member Profile section. If you do not have access to the Internet, please contact one of the board members and request a paper copy be mailed to you.

NorCal USPTA Fall Conference

November 4-5, 2007

100 years of instruction: From then and now

The Inn at Spanish Bay™ Pebble Beach

2700 Seventeen Mile Drive
Pebble Beach, CA 93953



Sunday, November 4

Changing strokes for 40 years

Michael Friedman

The evolution of fun - Fun then to fun now - On court games, drills and strategies to have a good time.

Marc Moran

Large group games for recreational and competitive players.

Todd Dissly

Recycled drills for juniors

Scott Borowiak

A brief digital video history of everything

John Yandell

Cocktail reception

Shane's Irish Pub



Monday, November 5

How to get today's youth into the game of tennis

Rachel Blum

An honest lesson

Henry Kamakana

What I did then and what I do now!

Chris Bradley

Golf at Spanish Bay

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Other Info

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These rates are effective only until

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Directions to La Playa Hotel:
101 South to 156 West (Monterey exit) 156
becomes Hwy 1, Travel on Hwy 1 South -
and turn right on Ocean Ave - then turn left
on Camino Real - Hotel is on corner of
Camino Real and Eighth.



Golf

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by noon on Friday, November 3, 2007



President's Message

by Paul Garron

I just got back from our *USPTA World Convention at Saddlebrook Resort*. I really enjoy meeting other pros from all over the United States, what a unique networking opportunity. *New* this year were seminars that covered the areas that you work in: country clubs, resorts, commercial clubs and parks and included roundtable discussions. We had over 40 USPTA Northern California Pros participating!

Fifteen to thirty pros, developmental coaches and high school coaches had the opportunity during the summer to learn through our new "Take A Break, Educate" *Specialty Course Series*. We appreciate **Mark Fairchilds** and **John Yandell** for taking time out of their busy schedules to speak to us. Special thanks to **Rosie Bareis** for being our Education Chairperson and organizing these workshops.

Please take advantage of our new USPTA member benefit of free subscription to *www.tennisplayer.net*. There are incredible articles and videos of many different pros' strokes.

If you have done any tennis fund-raising in your community, let's record it through *USPTA Lessons For Life™*. Your fundraiser may be tournaments, pro-ams, auctions, black-tie dinners and clinics. *Lessons For Life™* is celebrated in October but can take place throughout the year. Please contact **Rich Sotelo** at *tennispro0507@yahoo.com* or fill out the form at our Fall Conference.

Our *2007 Fall Conference* will be held at Spanish Bay on November 4-5. Go to *www.norcaluspta.com* to printout the 2007 Fall Conference brochure or register online. **Marc Moran** and **Dale Miller** have been working hard putting this conference together. We are looking for bids for the 2008 Fall Conference. If you and your club are interested in hosting the conference, please contact **Margie Peterman** at *ncuspta@sbcglobal.net*.

The new *2007/2008 USPTA Junior Circuit* has started in Contra Costa and Solano/Napa. Pros interested in having their students participate can click on our Junior

Circuit tab on *www.norcaluspta.com*. **John Sharpe** is looking for two more tournament sites in the South Bay to form a *2008 Junior Circuit*. Contact Junior Circuit Chairman, **John Sharpe**, at *Sharpejs@comcast.net* or meet with him at our Fall Conference.

Thank you for supporting **USPTA Northern California** and participating in many of our activities during this past year. I am proud of our Northern California pros and the support that you give our division.

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World Conference at Saddlebrook Resort ❖ Tampa, Florida

The World Conference at Saddlebrook Resort held from September 17 - 22 was very well attended by Northern California pros. Participation was exceptional as we also had three of our professionals presenting seminars as well as a participant in the seminar contest.

NorCal has a reputation for having outstanding pros who are also great speakers. On Tuesday, September 18, **Helle Viragh** (head pro at Scott Valley Tennis Club in Mill Valley) presented her "Dynamite Doubles" and **Michael Friedman** (director of tennis at Millennium Sports Club Rancho Solano in Fairfield) presented "Footwork, focus and flow." On Wednesday, September 18, **John Yandell** (director of Advanced Tennis Research and founder of Tennisplayer.net) presented a Specialty Course titled "The essentials of shot making."

Michael Fitzgerald represented NorCal in the seminar contest with "Tennis Player's Nutrition Assessment Tool." Too bad he did not win the contest. If anyone would like to know more about this assessment tool, please contact Mike at fitzgerald@smccd.net.

And the inimitable **Rosie Bareis** represented NorCal in the USPTA National Feeding Shoot-Out Contest. Rosie also helped several mornings by conducting Cardio Tennis classes for the attendees.



During the Awards Breakfast, three of our pros were recognized for earning educational points for ten years straight. They were **Rosie Bareis**, Mark Fairchilds and Michael Friedman and the super achiever, **Ken DeHart** won the award for the most educational points.

For the NorCal dinner held on Tuesday, we had a wonderful buffet and sat outside enjoying the pleasant evening air in Florida. We were joined by our friends from Hawaii - **Cathy Nicoloff** and Ron **Romano** as well as Dr. Martin Baroch from Switzerland.

If you couldn't make the World Conference this year, you missed a great time. The alligators, turtles, herons, etc. were out on the grounds of Saddlebrook. At the Executive committee meeting, **Harry Gilbert** took over the gavel from **Ron Woods** and will be the president for 2008 - 2009 and our own **Mark Fairchilds** is now a Vice-President.

Northern California Attendees

Frank Allam
Paul Allam
Rosie Bareis
Daniel Barrie
Mike Bauer
Brian Berry
Thomas Brinkhoff
Heidi Carman
Ken DeHart
Todd Edwards
Mark Fairchilds
Michael Fitzgerald
Michael Friedman

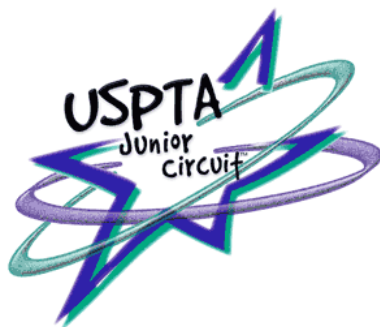
Paul Garron
Jeanne Guanzon
Rod Heckleman
Dan Hiddleson
Alvin Hom
Susan Leo
Sam Levy
Sidney Newcomb
Janet Pack
Kenny Pack
Margie Peterman
Malcolm Ridenour
David Robinson

Bow Rodgers
Rod Saludo
Mark Shaban
Steve Shaw
Zeke Straw
Vinivius Vieira
Helle Viragh
Hal Wagner
John Yandell
Bryden Yemm
George Yuen
Carrie Zarraonandia

Help! Help! Help!

We need help from all USPTA NorCal Pros and Development Coaches with inviting **High School Coaches** (public and private) to our **2008 NorCal Division Convention and High School Workshop**. If you have contact with any High School Coach, please send their name and e-mail address to CherryLSilva@Silva@norcal.usta.com.





NorCal Junior Circuit will be starting in the Fall for the Contra Costa and Solano/Napa Counties. The Junior Circuits are for juniors that just starting to compete in tournaments or are losing in the early rounds of USTA NorCal tournaments. Please check our web site at: www.norcaluspta.com and click the Junior Circuit tab. If you want to have a Junior Circuit in your area for 2008, please contact John Sharpe at Sharpejsd@comcast.net.

Solano/Napa Counties

10/13/07 – 10/14/07 Millennium Sports Club Vacaville
10/27/07 - 10/28/07 Napa Valley Community College
11/09/07 – 11/11/07 Stonegate Country Club

4/18/08 - 4/19/08 Millennium Sports Club Rancho Solano
5/3/08 - 5/4/08 Napa Valley Community College
5/9/08 - 5/10/08 Green Valley Country Club

Contra Costa County

10/19/07 – 10/21/07 Rancho Colorados/Moraga Valley
11/09/07 – 11/11/07 Orindawoods Tennis Club
11/30/07 – 12/2/07 Sleepy Hollow Tennis & Swim

3/7/08 - 3/8/08 Diablo Country Club
3/21/08 - 3/22/08 Lafayette Tennis Club
4/18/08 - 4/19/08 Crow Canyon Country Club
5/16/08 - 5/17/08 Blackhawk Country Club

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Regional News



East Bay

Nigel Pugh

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dccnigel@sbcglobal.net

It's September 5, Roddick is playing Federer; Federer wins the first; and it's 6-5 Roddick in the second. It's important to reflect on our role in the sport and how it's necessary to continue education of how the game is evolving and what better way than to see the pro do it, this is where it's at!

There is a great organization called Rally For The Cure that **Dale Miller** and ClubSport Valley Vista are partnering up with in hosting a breast cancer awareness event. The Rally For The Cure Foundation makes it very simple to host the event as they will supply each club with goodie bags for all participants, a first place prize, posters and balloons. ClubSport Valley Vista is holding its event on October 16. You can call the Rally For The Cure office at (800)-327-6811 for a registration kit. Dale also reports that he was able to bring

Ben Price, Rhonda Gibbs, Ernesto Aguirre and Terry Jones to the Claremont for **John Yandell's** Visual Tennis Specialty Course at the Claremont Hotel and Resort. He mentioned that it was a fantastic way to learn and bond as a team.

ClubSport Pleasanton also joined in the specialty course with four staff attending the continuing education with John Yandell at the Claremont in August. There was lots of good information we could use and apply immediately. We're looking forward to regular junior exchanges with the other ClubSport facilities as part of our new Junior Tennis College program at all facilities. Lots of teams for fall and Ball seasons as well as nine USTA mixed and senior teams. We welcome USPTA pro **Josh Uran** to our facility.

I have rounded out the Fall Conference line up of speakers and it is very strong with seminars on a lifetime of work from pros like **Chris Bradley, Todd Dissly, Henry Kamakana, John Yandell** and more. Everyone should be able to get something great out of the Fall Conference.

Diablo Country Club has introduced a tournament training program for USTA Challenger and Open junior players this fall and the number of participants are out of control. As part of the program, kids have the option to take part in conditioning at Velocity Performance Training. Fall also brings record numbers to our women's and men's program.

The Contra Costa Junior tournaments that have run for 21 successful years have now been rolled in with the new USPTA Junior Circuit. These one-weekend tournaments are for the less experienced tournament player. The paper schedules and entry forms have been replaced by the Internet - go to www.norcaluspta.com, click on Junior Circuit or go directly with usptajuniorcircuit.com. Make sure your juniors and junior parents read the rules before signing up.

Rancho Colorados Club, under the direction of John Sharpe, had a very successful summer. John experimented with one-week clinic session (instead of two) and had everyone sign up online for the clinics with

continued on page 12

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Ivan Ljubicic,
ATP No. 5*
*ATP Ranking, Jan. 2007



❖ REGIONAL NEWS ❖



South Bay

Todd Dissly
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tdizz@lgta.net

I hope everyone had a fantastic summer! It is such a great time to be a tennis pro. Our sport is growing faster and faster. Every time a Grand Slam event is on TV, the courts fill up with players. Here is an update of what some of the OUTSTANDING PROS in the South Bay are up to...

San Jose Swim & Racquet Club

This years **Ken DeHart's** summer Junior Team at SJSRC won the Boy's 12s with an undefeated season and the Boy's 18s were undefeated in the Silver Division. They had lots of practice matches with Yerba Buena's 18s team and with **USPTA Pro Rodney Kop's** team at Almaden Swim & Racquet Club. Congratulations to Eric Johnson who won the National Boy's 14's in Los Angeles as an unseeded player.

The SJSRC Junior Club Championships were held in August and had about 30 entries (two divisions of 10-and-under, three divisions of 12-14s and a 16-and-under division).

Get one of the USPTA's best selling DVDs on the "20 Best Games for Strategy and Tactics" by USPTA Master Professional **Ken DeHart** as well as a completely new handout of "New 20 Best Games for Strategy and Tactics" for \$20, contact Ken at kendehart@aol.com.

SJSRC had an End of Summer Jamboree and Awards Party for all the kids and parents involved in the summer program. Each player received a certificate for playing on the team and special awards were given out for outstanding hustle, attitude and team spirit.

They took a group to watch the Sacramento Capitals play the Newport team on Lindsay Davenport night and were treated royally by Wayne Bryan and his staff. Ken said, "We will definitely do that again!!"

SJSRC held their annual Wooden Racquet Tennis Social with white tennis balls, mostly all white clothes and wood racquets from Ken's 2000 wooden racquet collection. They had strawberries and whipped cream with wine and a display of old time tennis books, trophies and tennis memorabilia.

San Jose Swim & Racquet competed in the Dirtmaster Clay Court League put together by **USPTA Pro Paul Allam** of Pacific Athletic Club and Pat Hanssen from Lee Corp. It featured men's doubles, ladies doubles and mixed doubles. All matches were played at Menlo CC, Menlo Circus and the Olympic Club featuring eight game pro sets and lots of FUN on the dirt!!

Tennis professionals **Ken DeHart**, Reno Davenport, Al Juodikis and **Barry Poole** became certified testers and administrators for "The Grips Program." This unique program created by two tennis pros from Riveria Country Club in Los Angeles has an 11-step program for evaluating a tennis student's skill levels. Each of the 11 colors, white through black - like in martial arts, comes with a complete book of skills and drills as well as a written and skills test for the students to progress to the next level.

The students operate through a secure Website that allows them to study online, take preparation tests and talk to other students in the Grips Program with parental approval. The students can also go online to find other students in the Grips Program who match their practice needs, ie. left-handed player with kick serve or big right-handed forehand and heavy sliced backhand to schedule practice times for upcoming matches or improving their own skills. If you would like more information contact Aaron Fox or Craig Cignarelli at (310)-424-7828. Check out the program at www.gripsprogram.com.

Reno Davenport is offering a comprehensive course in Double Match Play that comes with your personal notebook and study guide for all level players on Monday evenings from 6-7:30 p.m. for four weeks at a cost of \$80. This program is one to the most complete, easy to use formats I have seen offered in my years of attending USPTA Divisional Conferences and USPTA World Conferences. This program is open to players and teaching pros.

RS Tennis Academy - **USPTA Pro Riaz Shivji**: Congratulations to RS Academy G12s, G15s, B12s, B15s, and B18s on a very successful summer USTA league season. B12s and B15s made it to Sectional Playoffs

from August 27-September 2. Age divisions are M/W 35-85.

Fremont Hills welcomes new pro: JJ Whitlinger has joined the staff working full time as an associate pro. **USPTA Pro Jim McLennan** is continuing to experiment with a teaching method he learned from Townsend Gilbert known as exploration and guided discovery - which totally changes the relationship between teacher and student - an excellent resource for this material is *Coaching for Performance* by John Whitmore.

USPTA Pro Wendy Grover is coaching at Stevenson School in Pebble Beach. She has a busy schedule with their regular matches with some tougher out of the area matches. They are all about sportsmanship and etiquette and Wendy always reminds the girls about being ambassadors to the sport. Wendy took some of her middle school students up to the Capitals in Sacramento this summer where they got to watch some great tennis and meet the great BJK!!!! Wendy also teaches at the Gardiner's Tennis Resort in Carmel Valley and which will be celebrating the 50th year there. Guest tennis pro will be Ken Rosewall!!!

Seventh Annual Mr. PeeWee Benefit ~ Friday, September 28 and Saturday, September 29, 2007. Held at the Pacific Athletic Club in Redwood Shores, this award-winning event has raised over \$430,000 for the Greater Bay Area Make-A-Wish Foundation in the last six years. As a result of the generous support of the local community, club members, guests and event sponsors, organizers are anticipating that this will be their best year to date.

On Friday evening, guests will enjoy gourmet food and wine, wonderful music, a celebrity emcee, and a chance to connect with this special charity through the heartwarming story of this year's VIP Wish Kid Jericho Rajninger. Jericho, who had bravely battled Leukemia for years, very unselfishly wished for a robot to be built which could deliver medication to other kids suffering from Leukemia at San Francisco's UCSF Hospital. The \$100,000 dollar robot in the design of a train named the "JR Railroad" was commissioned through Make-A-Wish Foundation earlier this year.



❖ REGIONAL NEWS ❖

South Bay Cont.

The Pro-Am Tennis Tournament on Saturday will feature fast hitting action with former tennis legends such as Alex O'Brien, Scott Davis, David Pate, Rick Leach, Johnathon Stark, Wayne Ferreira, Don Johnson, Ross Case and Erik Van Dillen.

For more event information and to order tickets for the Black Tie Dinner, visit www.mrpeewebenefit.com or contact USPTA Pro Paul Allam at (650)-544-7285 or e-mail: pallam@pacclub.com Sponsorship opportunities are also available and auction prizes are greatly appreciated.

Courtside Club: The boy's & girl's 15s teams won the USTA Gar Glenney Cup over teams from So Cal at St. Mary's College. These teams are coached by **USPTA Pro Tim Sunderland**. It is the 48th Nor Cal team championship and 28th State title for the Courtside Juniors.

Courtside raised over \$8,000 for the South Bay Smash Wheelchair Tennis Program. **USPTA Pro Mark Roberts**, who is now the tennis director over at the Decathlon Club (sister club to Courtside), was the founder of this event which has now raised over \$40,000 for the organization.

MORGANHILL TENNIS IS ALIVE!! Jennifer Yoder is coaching Live Oak high school girls, and running the Morgan Hill program. **USPTA Pro Chris Yoder** is running the Ridgemark program, and is organizing some non-sanctioned novice/challenger one-day tournaments for juniors. The dates will be Sept 22, Oct. 13 and Nov. 10. The tournaments will run on Saturdays at 8:00. If interested, contact Chris Yoder (yoder10s@charter.net) for more info/registration. Deadline is the Thursday before each tourney. The tournaments will be played in Hollister at Ridgemark and Sanbenito High School. Chris and Jennifer also participated in the South Bay Junior Cup. They brought seven players from Hollister and had a great weekend!!

USPTA Pro Andy Haraders' Summer Camp at Palo Alto High School proved to be a lot of fun and was booming with an additional 10th week on the PAUSD calendar. A 20-foot banner placed on El Camino Blvd. with

Andy's Website on it (andystenniscamp.com) generated more business than he could have imagined - an inexpensive, simple form of advertising. Currently, Andy is planning the 2nd annual Paly Invitational Girls' Tournament to take place on September 28-29 at Palo Alto and Gunn High Schools. Also, looking forward to a successful girls high school season.

Los Gatos Tennis Academy welcomes **USPTA Pro Jason Maki** to the team!! For the past 15 years, Maki has helped the tennis community grow in Humboldt County, starting from the rebuilt and impressive Arcata High teams, to those he provided with lessons on his own through both the Maki Indoor Tennis Club in Eureka and the Park and Recreation program in Arcata. But that is all about to change as he received word a few days ago he was hired to partake in the prestigious Los Gatos Tennis Academy. To read full story http://www.times-standard.com/ci_6572052?source=most_viewed.

USPTA Junior Cup Series - I am looking for multiple sites and tournament directors to host a NEW Junior Cup Series. We start either in September or October and end in middle of May 2008. Each area will have 2 to 4 tourneys per season (fall/spring) with a Tournament of Champions for their own region in the middle of May and then the Champions Cup on June 2, 2008 at Stanford. For more information call Todd Dissly at (408) 746-3685 or tdizz@lgt.net



Monterey Bay

Gay Finch
(831)662-0726
gayfinch@aol.com

Bill Quario of Pebble Beach reports that after 13 weeks of summer camp they are looking forward to the fall season where they will be hosting two more Nike adult camps in September and October. In October, Tracy Austin will be at Pebble Beach to conduct a clinic for the UBS group. The last two events for the year will take place in November - a Turkey Playoff and a Holiday Social.

Brian Cory of Carmel Valley Athletic Club reports that the Junior Tennis Academy

Program was highly successful. Kids attended from all over NorCal and from as far away as Idaho and Minnesota. They started their after-school program September 4.

Susan Reader and Steve Proulx from the Carmel Valley Tennis Camp report that they enjoyed a terrific summer - their ninth in Carmel Valley. They were featured as the top residential camp in the July issue of San Francisco Magazine. They now have six courts and had 54 campers this past summer. Susan and Steve express their appreciation to the many NorCal USPTA Professionals for their support.

Wendy Grover of Stevenson School reports that the Lady Pirates started their season on August 22, and expect to have a very strong team this season. They have been invited to the California Girls' High School Championship tournament on Sept. 7-8. With over 80 schools participating, it's a great way to kick-off the season.

Christin Ferlito announced that she will be on an extended maternity leave from Seascapes Sports Club. Her baby boy is expected after the new year.

Tina Romeka reports that Meadowbrook Swim and Racquet Club will host the Meadowbrook Open tournament on Sept. 14-16.

Scott Krueger of Chamisal will be tournament director for a senior national tournament on Sept. 24-30, the first time for an event of this caliber in the Monterey Bay area.

I would like to recognize the following pros who are coaching girls' high school tennis in our area: Megan Goudarzi (Harbor), **Jon Tarr** (Pajaro Valley), Steve Striffler (Monta Vista Christian), **Wendy Grover** (Stevenson), **Julie Forrest** (Santa Catalina), **Vince LaRocca** (Monterey) and **Bill Scott** (Selinas).

I have retired from coaching, but have continued with my summer camp this past summer as well as coaching two USTA teams, and will continue conducting weekly Cardio Tennis classes at Rio Del Mar and monthly clinics at Pajaro Dunes.



❖ REGIONAL NEWS ❖



Reno/Tahoe

Christy Funk
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c.funk@sbcglobal.net

Hello from sometimes this summer smoky Reno/Tahoe. This summer early on was a bit challenging due to the smoky conditions, however, we had a great season in the area.

Reno Tennis Center under the direction of **Andres Durandequi** of Alpine Tennis is excited to announce that the City of Reno will be starting a re-construction project at the Reno Tennis Center in September. The City of Reno has committed to re-doing four courts per year. The project consists of post-tension concrete overlays. Andres reports record numbers of juniors on the courts and looks forward to a great fall with his junior programs.

Spanish Springs Tennis Club increased their junior program this summer by again doubling the numbers. Their instructors have or are becoming USPTA Pros and will continue with their on-court education as

they look to the USPTA conferences in 2007 and 2008.

Washoe 'Kidz' Tennis who are all Recreational Coach certificated are working hard to get at least ten schools with in-school and after-school tennis for the 2007 – 2008 season.

Kyle Horvath of High Sierra Tennis Management Company had a very busy season at both locations Zephyr Cove, Nevada tennis complex through Douglas County Parks & Recreation and Carson City's Centennial Park. Lauren Hulse from Ferris State University has plans to return next summer to Carson City.

John Ebie reported that the July 15 Sunday Jamboree at Reno High School was a huge success. "We had girls from Reed, Wooster, McQueen, Reno and Spanish Springs. The coaches got to mix and match players all before the regular season with a total 23 girls. It was great preseason 3.5 hours of tennis." John also wanted everyone to know that, "As head coach, I have three

goals to 1) go undefeated in the regular season; 2) win Northern Nevada Zone; and 3) try to beat Las Vegas for the State title. Last year Reno High School did the first two but came up a bit short against Las Vegas."

John also reports as project lead on the new NorCal Website project, John says that the new Website went live August 8. He asks that everyone please visit the new site and forward suggestions to him at tennisreno@aol.com. John sends a special thanks to **Paul Garron** for his vision and dedication to the project and to the project team of John Sharpe, **Mike Galli** and Gary Wong.

Jason Kedzierski has had a very busy summer. He has committed himself to working with juniors who have a true passion for the game. Jason says, "The many hours of hard work have produced some great results, and has truly taken a few of my juniors to the next level." Wesley Reimer and Jeffrey Mullen have been hitting the NorCal circuit week in and week out with Jason. Jason says "That is the key to success and fulfilling one's potential as

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❖ REGIONAL NEWS ❖

Reno/Tahoe Cont.

a player.” Both Wes and Jeff recently played in the Moraga, California, Stead Open and made it to the quarterfinals. In addition to his commitment with Reno’s top juniors, Jason is also teaching out of the Caughlin Club, where he teaches both adults and children of all abilities.

John Matulak at Lakeridge Tennis Club will again host the LTC & Morgan Stanley Woods & Whites Benefit Tournament to help the Renoun Medical Center Children’s Unit. This event is scheduled for September 15 with wood racquets being mandatory.

Zeke Straw of Northstar Tennis Center has had a very busy summer. Northstar Tennis Center hosted **John Ebie** and 12 kids from the Reno Tennis Center on July 14 as part of an inter-club youth exchange. Also 20 kids and adults from Northstar Tennis Center participated in the Reno/Tahoe WTT Sacramento Capitals bus trip on July 21 that was organized by USPTA/USTA **Christy Funk**. The kids were excited to have a special

clinic given by Wayne Bryan and to be able to hit on the Sacramento Capitals multi-colored tennis court.

Sally Shaw, a recreational coach, is very excited to become part of this newsletter and reports that her new Washoe County Tennis Program for kids and adults is a wonderful program. She started teaching at Ellen’s Park in South Reno in early April 2007. It is now late July and she has close to 20 kids registered between the ages of 8 and 11. The kids summer tennis camp has really been fun for them and for Sally. Sally says, “When they start going back to school there will be an after school program for them at Ellen’s Park. Some of the games they love are wipe-out, Champs and Chumps, and Dungeons.”

Hug High School for its second year hosted the *USTA Recreational Coaches workshop*. **USPTA NorCal President and USTA Norcal Recreational Coach Trainer Paul Garron** was the presenter. The workshop was held on Saturday, August

25 and participants came from Northern California and the Reno/Tahoe areas.

MEFIYI, a USTA organization headed by JoJo Townsell in the Minden/Gardnerville area, provided weekly summer tennis programs for youth ages 5-16. There was an average of 21 children per week that participated throughout the series over the summer. They also combined other sport programs to encourage youth to participate and established other extra curricular interests. These sports included soccer, football, volleyball and baseball/softball instruction. This organization works with the Douglas County Parks & Recreation to provide tennis in their area. Both MEFIYI and Douglas County Parks & Recreations are already planning with **Christy Funk**, USTA Eastern Sierra Community Tennis Coordinator, to expand the tennis opportunities in the Douglas County area for 2008.

continued on page 12



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Regional News



Fresno

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The school year has begun and everyone's racquets seem to be in full swing! Oh my...that was awful. But really, that's the way it's been here in Fresno. The Fresno City Championships was played Labor Day weekend at Sierra Sport and Racquet Club with record prize money on the line. Brian Juinio, Fresno State's assistant tennis coach, won the Men's Open Division for the seventh year in a row and collected \$2,000 for his efforts. Showing similar consistency, determination and fierce competitiveness, Jelena Pandzic, former Fresno State and Fresno Pacific University player and now pro tour player, won the Women's Open Division for the fifth year in a row. She collected a tidy sum of \$1,600. Tournament Director John Haug (Sierra's director of tennis) did a tremendous job of organizing the tournament and securing the sponsors for the unique prize-money tournament.

Dan Gamel Health and Racquet Club was recently sold and the new owners have not only renamed the facility to HQuest Health and Racquet Club, they are making the focus of the club primarily tennis! Soon, they will be converting the indoor basketball courts to indoor tennis courts – the only indoor tennis courts in the San Joaquin Valley.

Head Pro **Mike Pearson** (USPTA Pro 1) and staff **Joe Estacio** (USPTA Pro 2), Ty Ferdinandson, and Eric Grotmeyer (who will be working on his USPTA certification soon) will be offering indoor tennis lessons every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday all day long. There will be instruction for adults and children in clinic format, with four modified courts being used at the same time. Mike is very excited about the opportunity to be able to teach year-round, without regard to the extreme heat or cold, rain or fog. No more lesson cancellations!

HQuest currently has eight USTA teams competing in local leagues and enjoying the fellowship of other tennis enthusiasts. Their senior ladies team came up one set

short of making it to the nationals in the last league...losing a third set 5-7. It'll happen, Mike...now with those indoor courts...those ladies will have them filled all the time.

Coby Roberts (USPTA 1) at Copper River Country Club reports that they've been very busy hosting several tournaments: USTA NorCal Copper River Junior Tennis Championship, Copper River Easter Championship, Central Valley Junior Tennis Championship, the USTA Senior Sectionals and the Memorial Day Junior Open, and most recently, the Junior City Championships Labor Day weekend.

The highlight of the spring was the Junior Exchange on May 12-13 between approximately 60 male and female juniors from Copper River, Courtside in Los Gatos (**Tim Sunderland**) and Modesto Racquet Club (**Mark Fairchilds**). Coby said that the kids had a great time and that the competition was terrific. They hope to make this an annual event.

In addition to the Fresno City Championships at Sierra Sport and Racquet Club, John Haug just finished the Boys' National 12 tournament with a draw of 64. The tournament was exciting to watch. It's great to see kids from around the country play at such a high level and encourage spectators to kick their game up a notch.

Sierra currently has 10 USTA teams competing in the local leagues, including two up and coming 2.5 teams...one each, men's and women's. Besides the USTA leagues, the Monday night ladies' league is getting started for the fall and the Tuesday night men's league is bigger and badder than ever. It's amazing how many people are clamoring for court space!

How about me? I finished my assignment at the high school where I taught and coached for the past three years. I ended on a positive note, having been voted Co-Coach of the Year for both the girls' and boys' seasons this year. This school is one with challenges, where kids learn how to play when they come to high school. The kids become mine for a few hours each day and remain in my heart for a lifetime. It has been fulfilling and rewarding. I always learn from

the kids I teach and coach and am richer for the experiences. My new assignment is at San Joaquin Memorial High School in Fresno. I'm teaching physical education and coaching the girls' and boys' tennis teams. These athletes are much more privileged, most having had private and clinic lessons for years. What a wonderful, new, and challenging experience for me! We're fortunate to have **Mark Van Ornum** (Pro 2) as my Assistant/JV coach for the team. His expertise will be invaluable. I look forward to learning from and working with him.

Due to teaching and coaching responsibilities, I was not able to attend the World Conference this year. When I got the job, I mentioned that I'd like to go...but I guess the idea didn't fly very well. Everyone have a little extra fun for me! Hope to see you at Pebble Beach and Stanford.



Central Valley

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Summertime tennis was fantastic for 2007. The weather was great with only a few days of triple digits. Again, for the 45th year, tennis at the Modesto Open was excellent. At the Modesto Open, I had the pleasure of introducing the players for the semis and finals. It doesn't happen very often that I get a chance to introduce two men's doubles teams where all four players have won "gold balls", a total of 27 between them. NorCal USPTA Pros **Rick Kepler** (9) and **Mark Fairchilds** (7) accounted for 16 of the 27 gold balls. McEnroe and Collins eat your hearts out!

Turlock Racquet Club head pro **Jack Schneider** won the Del Rio Country Club grass court mixed doubles tourney in July. **Bill Weber** is preparing to host the first annual Turlock County Junior Tournament in September.

Del Rio head pro **Mark Weir**'s grass court tournament focused on the mixed doubles event this year. Then Mark, for the 30th straight year, took his juniors on tour to the Northwest to Oregon for a long week of tennis. Next up at Del Rio is a Junior Challenger and then the Charity Tournament

❖ REGIONAL NEWS ❖

Central Valley Cont.

for the children's crisis center, called "Swing for the Kids".

Modesto Racquet Club pro **Mark Fairchilds**, started the summer with a seminar at the Claremont Resort and Spa in Berkeley, which was well attended by Northern California USPTA Pros. Then summer clinics began and he hosted over 80 juniors in the ninth annual NorCal Junior Cup tournament.

Cuyler Leger, teaching pro at Copper River in Fresno, came to Modesto with his juniors for a mixer. Modesto Racquet Club's **Brian Heiser** helped Mark run many tournaments and took time to take his juniors to Reno, stopping off in Sacramento and Rocklin for mixers and also to attend a Capitals Team Tennis match. Modesto ended the summer taking six teams of juniors to Fresno for the playoffs. The girls' 12 team lost in the finals to Alpine Hills, coached by **Chris Bradley**.

See you in Feb. 4th at the NCUSPTA Fall Conference at Spanish Bay in Pebble Beach.



Sacramento

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Back to regular schedule! In some ways it is nice to get back into the regular routine.

Frank Gaillard from Auburn is still going strong after his bout with illness. He is still on the court teaching and conducting classes for both adults and juniors. This summer he had a few USTA Junior Teams that kept him busy.

Henry Guerra is still teaching a bit at the Laguna Creek Racquet Club in Elk Grove. Beside his teaching he has taken on a new project. He launched a new business – swimming pool services. His business, "Serenity Pool Service" provides pool services to the Galt, Rancho Murieta, Elk Grove and the Harold area. He can be reached at (916)-803-4210 or via e-mail serenitypoolservice@comcast.net

Former Sacramento Area Community Tennis president **Steve Schulman** is enjoying life

between England and the States. Steve teaches part-time at a club in London during the school year and a few hours a week in Rocklin, California during the summer months. His wife works in England and his daughter works in the SF area. Trying to spend time with the two most important people in his life and maintain his career as a teaching pro requires the right temperament and job. Looks like Steve has found a happy balance.

How about the Pro Circuit players who played the Futures in the Sacramento area and competed at the U.S Open? Wow, who could believe it, John Isner who won the Shingle Springs and Scoville Jenkins who won the Loomis Event both lost to Roger Federer at this year's US Open. Here is a little bit of info on the upcoming star John Isner.

Isner had a great college career at the University of Georgia from 2003 to 2007. As a freshman, he was runner-up for the NCAA doubles title before winning it as a sophomore. He led Georgia to the status of team runner-up in the NCAA championship in 2006 before leading them to the championship in 2007. With Isner at the No. 1 singles position and playing doubles, Georgia lost just one match in his final two years. Isner spent most of 2007 ranked No. 1 in NCAA singles play, finishing No. 2 behind NCAA singles champion Somdev Devvarman of the University of Virginia. Isner began his professional career in earnest in the summer of 2007. With a world ranking of No. 839, he needed wild card entries into the main draws of every tournament, even at the Futures level (YES HE WAS A WILD CARD at the SHINGLE SPRINGS) He won his first tournament of the summer, the USA F14 Futures (Shingle Springs), beating the top three seeds along the way. Then, after first round losses in a Challenger-level and an ATP-level tournament, he beat five top-300 players and 3 seeds to win the Lexington challenger in July to improve his ranking to No. 416 after just one month.

At the following week's tournament at the Legg Mason Tennis Classic in Washington, D.C., Fernando Gonzalez's late withdrawal freed up a wild card spot, which was given

at the last minute to Isner. Isner took full advantage of his good fortune, recording his first-ever wins over top-100 players. He won third-set tiebreakers on 5 consecutive days, beating No. 73 Tim Henman, No. 47 Benjamin Becker, No. 189 qualifier Wayne Odesnik, No. 12 Tommy Haas, and No. 54 Gael Monfils, to reach the final. He fell 6-4, 7-6 to Andy Roddick in the final, but his incredible week raised his ranking to No. 193 in the world after just six weeks as a pro.

His Washington success earned him Wild Card entries into three more ATP tournaments: the Masters Series event in Cincinnati a week later; New Haven, and the US Open. He lost in the first round in Cincinnati to quarterfinalist No. 15 David Ferrer. The following week in New Haven, he beat No. 49 Becker a second time before falling to Ferrer for the second week in a row.

In his US Open debut he defeated the 26th-seeded player, former quarterfinalist Jarkko Nieminen, 6(4)-7, 7-6(4), 7-6(5), 6-4, firing 34 aces along the way. He proceeded to win his second round match vs. Rik De Voest 6-3, 6-3, 7-6(4), before losing in the third round to Roger Federer 6-7(4), 6-2, 6-4, 6-2. Isner aaced Federer 18 times, and finished with 66 aces for the tournament.

Andy Webb is staying busy with his line from Dunlop, Kirshenbaum strings and Balle De Match apparel. He travels all over Northern CA with his line. If you need to contact Andy call him at (916)-834-2514.



John Isner



❖ Regional News ❖

East Bay Cont. from page 5

the Leagues For Fun program. The use of the Internet was so much easier to control, that all fall clinics now have online sign ups. Rancho is also starting a ladies ladder in which players can have several partners. The Leagues For Fun program allows us to use this format. With several partners, ladies don't feel like they are stuck with just one partner. Our teams have expanded to the point where we feel the need to have a better understanding of who are the top doubles players, and who to move up to the next level. I'd like to hear from some other pros on how you counter the fall soccer, basketball and baseball schedules. We had 96 juniors in our summer team program, and this fall has been tough getting them into tennis programs - "Johnny has fall soccer two days per week and basketball two days" is the typical response. Any ideas?

Reno/Tahoe Cont. from pg. 9

The Biggest Little Tennis Association (BLTA) who provides tournaments, school programs and scholarships to youth has announced their annual fundraiser *The Reno/Tahoe Tennis Hall of Fame* will be held on November 16. Featured keynote speaker this year is **Jeff Greenwald**, of "Fearless Tenni". Tickets can be obtained by contacting event coordinator, Christy Funk at c.funk@sbcglobal.net. Information regarding the event can be found at www.BLTA.USTA.com. Congratulations to Bob Phelps of the Boys & Girls Club of Western Nevada. He will be the 2007 Reno / Tahoe Tennis Hall of Fame inductee.

Not having a sufficient number of USPTA certified persons for all of the developing programs in the Reno/Tahoe area has been a concern of mine for some time. I recently starting a USPTA Training Class with the help of **Bob Deller**. Hopes are that these individuals, with their training, will test for their professional levels in late 2007 or early 2008. Good luck **Kristen Ratto, Jan Carson, Michelle McKibbin and Jesse Valdez**.

Weakest Dink Competition



All USPTA NorCal Pros that pre-book their **2008 Pro Penn Tennis Balls** order will have an opportunity to be one of the sixteen pros chosen to participate in the "**HEAD/Penn Weakest Dink Competition**" at our **2008 USPTA NorCal Division Convention on Saturday, February 9th**. The winner of this competition will receive one ticket to the Pacific Life Open and one case of Pro Penn Tennis Balls.



Nominations for 2008 Board of Officers

The Nominating Committee of the USPTA NorCal Division is soliciting candidates for the 2008 Board of Officers. If you or anyone you know would like to serve, please submit their names to Margie Peterman at 2299 Ogden Sannazor Drive, Tracy, CA 95377 no later than October 30, 2007.



❖ REGIONAL NEWS ❖



North Bay

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Marin County is becoming the hot bed for some pretty impressive pro events. This month, the Tiburon Peninsula Club was host to the Hennessy Funds Alumnia Legends Cup, featuring an exhibition match between Pete Sampras and rising star Sam Querrey. In addition, the event featured the Pac 10's historic tennis power-house's top players spanning the past four decades playing against one another. Sixteen alumni tennis players plus one current collegiate player from four Pac 10 universities (USC, STANFORD, CAL, UCLA) were selected to represent their generation and alma mater.

From UCLA Justin Gimelstob led the Bruins and from USC Rick Leach was the Trojan captain. From Stanford Paul Goldstein was the Cardinal leader, and from Cal Steve Devries led the Bears. The event brought in close to 2,000 spectators and they were treated to some outstanding tennis. Sampras was up to the challenge of the 19-year-old Querrey, and barely lost in a close, well played match, 6-4, 6-7 (2), 10-6. Congratulations and thanks to TPC Tennis Director **Steve Jackson** for bringing this great event to Marin!

The next big event is the Esurance Tennis Classic at the Harpoint Racquet Club in Mill Valley, October 12-14. This great event raises funds for the Harbor Point Charitable Foundation, which provides funding for non-profit organizations that increase the quality of life for Bay Area Children through education, health care, and social enrichment programs. They have raised over \$140,000 to date and some of their contributions have gone to the: To Celebrate Life Breast Cancer Foundation; Youth Tennis Advantage; and most recently, the US TOO Prostate Cancer Education & Support Network.

This tennis classic will feature former stars Lindsay Davenport and Todd Martin, along with Mary Joe Fernandez, Conchita Martinez, Jana Novotna, the Jensen Brothers (Luke and Murphy) and Jeff Tarango. In addition, the Stanford and Cal Berkeley women's tennis teams will be

playing and the entire event will be emceed by the legendary Bud Collins who was recently signed by ESPN as a tennis analyst.

Changing hats, again! Rolling Hills loss is Rafael Racquet Club's gain. Chris Horne, who came to Rolling Hills almost a year ago as their new GM, has taken the job of the General Manager at the Rafael Racquet Club. Chris, who helped lead the Tiburon Peninsula Club to greater heights, did the same thing for Rolling Hills in his short stint, and will now lend his talents to the good folks at RRC. **Lisa Berg**, the RRC tennis director is all smiles with this recent announcement and is looking forward to working with Chris.

TPC's loss! The Tiburon Peninsula Club is losing two prominent fixtures. Director of tennis **Steve Jackson** has recently resigned and will be doing some specialized work on his own, with many of the top players in Marin County and beyond. Steve had been instrumental in building one of the best, top-flight junior programs in the Bay area and has a long list of highly ranked juniors who he has worked with and helped propel to the top of the junior rankings list.

TPC has also lost Head Tennis Professional Brandon Coupe, who has taken the job of the assistant men's coach at Stanford. Brandon had also been at TPC for many years and helped Steve Jackson make that program what it was. Both of these great coaches will be sorely missed as they have made great contributions to the area. We wish them the best in their new endeavors!

Up at the Wikiup Racquet Club in Santa Rosa, Steve Fischer is the new head pro, replacing Laurent Lecellier, who is now full time at Rolling Hills. Congratulations to Steve and good luck in your new job!

Speaking of **Laurent Lecellier**, congratulations to him and his entire staff of volunteers at Rolling Hills for putting on the USTA National Girl's 18s Team Championships (Fed Cup). It was a great week of exciting tennis with 16 teams from throughout the United States all here in Marin County. Rolling Hills was very crowded with spectators each day and the response from the entire community was so

enthusiastic that the USTA wants to come back to Rolling Hills again. RHC Tennis Director **Jay Potter** stated that, "The USTA was very impressed by the hospitality that we showed them and all of the support by the local community. We had players and families adopting teams, and some came with big signs to help root them on. They definitely want to come back again next year and we're happy to accommodate them."

The summer was a busy one for Marin and Sonoma County juniors as they had a wealth of local North Bay Junior Tennis Association (NBJTA) and USTA tournaments to choose from. Summer kicked off with the NBJTA Ross Valley Junior Championships hosted by **Jim Bedilion**. The local NBJTA circuit then went to San Rafael where **Anne Zarranonandia** hosted the annual Riley Hurd/San Rafael City Championships. **Chris Oakes** and **Wayne Street** from the Petaluma Valley Athletic Club were next as they hosted the PVAC Junior Championships. In September, **Erik Johansson** from the Canon Tennis Club will host the Canon TC Junior Championships while **Jason Beardlee**, from the Santa Rosa Park and Recreation Department, will stage the Santa Rosa City Championships.

All of these local NBJTA events have been well received and have been great in promoting tennis on the grassroots level. The NBJTA finals, for both singles and doubles, will be held in late October and early November at San Marin High School and conducted by **Jay Potter** from Rolling Hills and San Marin.

For the more experienced players, San Marin High School held two USTA Junior Tournaments this summer, run by **Jay Potter**, head coach for the girls at San Marin High, and by Birdie Petrini, the head coach at Novato High. The tournaments were fund raisers for the tennis programs at both schools and they had a great turnout in both of them. Jay and Birdie will also be helping to run the Annual men's and women's doubles Challenge at Rolling Hills in October. The tournament helps raise thousands of dollars for their programs. Marin County had a very good showing at the USTA Junior Team Tennis Sectional Championships in Fresno this past summer.

❖ REGIONAL NEWS ❖

North Bay Cont

Both the Girls 15s and 18s teams from Rolling Hills made it to the finals. **Jay Potter** coached the 18s team while assistant pro **Tony Delario** took the reins for the 15s squad. The Boys 15s team, coached by head pro **Pauline Hanson**, stumbled in the first round, but then regrouped and won every remaining match to take the Boys 15s consolations. And speaking of Pauline, she coached the Women's 3.5a Adult League team, which made it to the districts and narrowly lost to the eventual district and sectional champion Orange Park. Just a few points here or there, and they could of been heading to the nationals. Good job Pauline and remember, there's always next year!

Up at Sonoma State, Head Men's Coach **Steve Cunningham** is all smiles as he finally got his front six courts redone the right way and now has a facility that he can boast of and attract many good players to. Word must have gotten around quick because this year already he has such a good crop of players he's had to cut a few that would of made his line-up last year. Steve will be hosting a family tournament and a USTA Junior Tournament this fall as part of his fund raising campaign to improve his program.

A pair of sixes! **Geoff Martinez**, one of the USPTA teaching Pros at the Rafael Racquet Club and the head girl's coach at the Marin Academy has been playing well on the senior circuit. Geoff made it to the Finals of the Marin Senior Championships in June before losing to **Wendall Pierce** in the Men's 50s Division. He also lost in the finals of the USTA National Grass Court Championships in August. Geoff is currently ranked No. 6 in Northern California and No. 6 Nationally in the Men's 50s. Congratulations Geoff!

Wishing everyone a great Fall season and Happy Hitting!



San Francisco

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Olympic Club Assistant Tennis Pro and Former University of San Francisco Alum c/o '03 **Sean Dizon** traveled to New York with Former Cal Berkeley player and current WTA Tour player Raquel Kops-Jones c/o '04 to the US Open as her traveling coach in the qualifying tournament. Raquel won two matches by beating girls from Slovenia and China before falling in the last round of qualifying in two tightly contested sets to Tatiana Perebijnis of the Ukraine. That was the farthest Raquel had made it in any Grand Slam event. Hopefully next year she will be able to make the main draw of a Grand Slam. Sean was also a hitting partner for the Bank of the West Classic at Stanford and WTA Tour. He hit with Anna Chakvetadze, Tatiana Golovin, and Maria Kiril.

On August 18-19, **John Yandell** taught an interesting course titled, "Teaching Visual Tennis" at the Claremont Resort in Berkeley. John says "We covered the variations in the pro game on all the strokes. Really enjoyed my weekend at the Claremont with Rosie's students on Saturday and having the chance to teach the specialty course on Sunday morning. I'm impressed that 30 of



Newsletter Information

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❖ Testing Schedule ❖

- * November 2 - 3 Pebble Beach, CA
- * December 3 - 4 San Francisco, CA

❖ Dates That Rate ❖

- * October 2007 Lessons for Life™
- * Nov 3, 2007 Board Meeting - Spanish Bay
- * Nov 4 - 5, 2007 Fall Conference - Spanish Bay



Welcome New Members



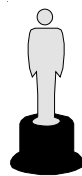
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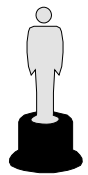
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Awards Nominations



Another year has passed and it is time to nominate and honor USPTA NorCal members who have distinguished themselves both on and off the court. Their contributions to tennis, their community and to the USPTA have made them role models for all of us to follow.

To start the process, please nominate a pro in your region. You may nominate someone in any or all of the various categories, so that we can honor their hard work and devotion to the sport of tennis. You may check the categories on www.norcaluspta.com.

Please submit your nominations to Paul Garron at (707) 864-0660 or e-mail him at pjgarron@aol.com.