



# Senior Tennis Times

Newsletter of the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.

December  
2009

## Eric Butorac's Minnesota Tennis Challenge

Rochester native and world-class tennis professional Eric Butorac will host the first annual Minnesota Tennis Challenge Saturday, December 5, at the Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center. In addition to Butorac, other touring players including Justin Gimelstob, Rajeev Ram, Somdev Devvarman, Bethanie Mattek-Sands and Julie Ditty will participate in this fundraiser benefitting the Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center, St. Paul Urban Tennis and the Rochester Boys and Girls Club. Former Wimbledon semifinalist David Wheaton and newly retired Gustavus Adolphus men's tennis coach Steve Wilkinson will serve as captains, and 11-year-old standouts Jessie Aney and Ingrid Neel of Rochester will also participate.

The players will compete in a World Team Tennis style exhibition starting at 5:00 p.m. followed by an adult-only cocktail reception with the players from 8-10 p.m. Kids will be invited to participate in an on-court clinic in the back bubble or watch movies upstairs during that time. Tickets are \$100 for adults and \$40 for juniors.

For more information about the event, see "Latest club news" on our website [www.seniortennismn.com](http://www.seniortennismn.com).

## Jack Dow tournament

This great event will be held May 3-6, 2010. The information and signup is already available on our website. Format has changed from previous years—check it out!

It's important that the ranking we have for you is accurate. Your skill level changes as you play, practice, and get older, so you should honestly evaluate yourself to be sure your ranking makes sense relative to others in Senior Tennis. If you plan to enter the Dow tournament, understand that you **cannot play below the ranking given in the March, 2010 Roster**. You can change your ranking when you renew, or by sending an email or calling your newsletter editor: [dsommer7@usewireless.com](mailto:dsommer7@usewireless.com), 612-276-1313.



## Tennis Events

By Bob Busch

### 2009 Pro Highlights

**Melanie Oudin**, a 17-year-old player from Georgia, upset Jelena Jankovic at Wimbledon and Maria Sharapova and Nadia Petrova at the US Open. Oudin lost to Caroline Wozniacki in the US Open quarter finals, and Wozniacki eventually lost to Kim Clijsters. With quick feet and the word "believe" printed on her shoes, young Oudin hustled after every ball and returned most with hard skidding ground strokes. Her mental toughness and personal pride could propel her into a position of leadership in US women's tennis.

**Kim Clijsters**, the full-time mother who was out of competitive tennis for two years, won the US Open women's championship. After coming out of retirement and playing only 2 tournaments, she held the US Open Championship trophy with her 18-month-old daughter Jada. Clijsters defeated Caroline

*(Tennis events—continued on page 3)*

## What? Still procrastinating?

Yes, **hundreds** of you have not sent in your renewal! If you don't do it **soon**, your membership will cease at the end of this month. Not a happy New Year's present, eh? **Do it now!** If you've already lost the renewal we mailed to you, get a new renewal form on our website: [www.seniortennismn.com](http://www.seniortennismn.com), click Membership. Or call Ronnae Wagner 952-938-5785.

### Upcoming Events

#### January Tennis Mixer

Saturday, January 16, 2010, 6:00-9:00 PM

[PublicIndoorTennis.com](http://PublicIndoorTennis.com)

Details and signup on page 5. Spring Lake Park is a convenient location for those of you in northern suburbs

#### Gopher Tennis Mixer

Sunday, February 14, 2010, 3:30 to 6:00 PM

Baseline Tennis Center, U of M

Details and signup on page 7.

## Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.

A nonprofit corporation, P.O. Box 5525  
Hopkins, MN 55343  
On the web: [www.seniortennismn.com](http://www.seniortennismn.com)

### Senior Tennis Times

The Senior Tennis Times is published ten times annually by and for the members of the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.  
Club Founder: Jack Dow

### Board of Directors

President: Charlie Robbins.....952-934-0209

Vice President: Rod Johnson.....763-588-2107

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#### Renewing Members:

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#### Minneapolis tennis schedules:

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#### Tournaments director:

Mark Mudra.....952-833-1469

Paul Joyce .....952-927-8782

Steve McCue.....651-216-8029

Shirley Pratt.....651-291-1493

### Other positions

Advisor: Mary Kaminski.....612-781-3271

#### St. Paul tennis schedules:

Thue Rasmussen.....651-917-0075

#### Director of Training: Roger Boyer

Ass't Director: Percy Hughes ....612-866-1102

Percy's email: [percychjr@msn.com](mailto:percychjr@msn.com)

### Newsletter Editor and Webmaster

David Sommer

3657 17th Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55407-2805

Phone: 612-276-1313

David's email: [dsommer7@usiwireless.com](mailto:dsommer7@usiwireless.com)

### Advertising

Send by email or USPS to the newsletter editor by the 15th of the month for publication the following month. **Please send all payments to the newsletter editor.**

Ad rates (first month/additional months):

Full page (7.5x10).....\$110/90

Half page (7.5x4.9) .....85/65

Quarter page (3.7x4.9).....60/40

Eighth page (3.7x2.4) .....40/25

4-line ad (members only).....10

2-line ad (members only) First three months: free, then \$5/issue.

Strip ads: \$40 first two inches; \$12 each additional inch.

### Membership information changes, newsletter delivery problems, etc.,

can be made by writing Senior Tennis Players Club, P.O. Box 5525, Hopkins, MN 55343 or email to Ronnae Wagner: [howard5326@aol.com](mailto:howard5326@aol.com)

Membership total: 1523

December 2009,

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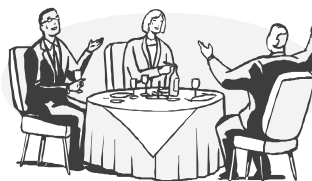


## Hooray! It's May!

friends.

### By Shirley Pratt

Well, not quite. It won't be long, and then it will be STPC's annual spring luncheon! On that occasion we will honor our hard-working Captains. We also will award the Jack Dow trophy to one of our members for dedicated service for our great organization. A program and a good time is promised for all. Come and mingle with your tennis



elves will be around—they will have already retreated to the North Pole. Please call if you have a little time to share. You know, we are a band of volunteers! You may call me and leave a message at 651-291-1493. Thank You!

## Tai Chi anyone?

### By Andrew Hong

Are there any members who are interested in Tai Chi exercise? I would like to start a group who may be interested in this Chinese ancient art. I am not a teacher, just an interested beginner. Maybe someone in the club can help to

start, teach and exchange ideas.

This is a good balance to tennis.

Interested?

Please email me

at [andrewhong@aol.com](mailto:andrewhong@aol.com). Thank you.



*As a non-profit organization, the Senior Tennis Players Club gratefully accepts donations, memorials and estate gifts.*



### Mission Statement

The primary purpose of the STPC is to provide tennis playing opportunities to people 50 and older for their mental, physical, and social well-being; and to support the growth of tennis.

### Newsletter Submissions

To help make the newsletter as correct as possible, please submit all items in writing only, by mail or email. The deadline is the 17th of the month for publication the following month. All material submitted for publication is subject to editing. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope if you want materials returned.

**Send your submissions to:** David Sommer, 3657 17th Avenue S, Minneapolis, MN 55407-2805.

Email: [dsommer7@usiwireless.com](mailto:dsommer7@usiwireless.com).

Opinions expressed in articles or letters are those of the author, and do not necessarily represent views of the newsletter editor or the Board or officers of STPC.

(Tennis events—continued from page 1)

Wozniacki, a 19-year-old playing in her first major final.

**Juan Martin del Potro**, the 20-year-old Argentine, defeated Roger Federer to win his first major, the US Open Men's Championship. His deep, powerful ground strokes from behind the baseline seemed to grow more powerful as the match progressed.

### **Butorac Wins In Thailand**

Eric Butorac of Rochester and doubles partner Rajeev Ram won the doubles championship in the Thailand Open. Butorac is hosting the first annual Minnesota Tennis Challenge on December 5 at the Fred Wells Tennis and Education Center in St. Paul. In addition to Butorac, five other touring players will participate in this fundraiser for the Fred Wells Tennis and Education Center, St Paul Urban Tennis and the Rochester Boys and Girls Club. Tickets are \$100 for adults and \$40 for juniors. For more information or to order tickets please visit [www.ebmntc.com](http://www.ebmntc.com).

### **High School Girls Tournament**

Edina won their 28<sup>th</sup> state girl's tennis title and extended their consecutive streak to 13 class AA championships. The Hornets dominated their opponents with a 6-1 win over Rochester Mayo, 5-2 over Minnetonka and 6-1 over Elk River in the championship match.

Preseason favorite in Class A, Mounds Park Academy defeated Waseca 6-1 in the final to win their second championship in three years. Waseca surprised Rochester Lourdes in the semi-final with a 4-3 win. Lourdes won 11 of the past 12 Class A titles.

Aria Lambert, a Minnetonka junior, defeated sophomore Kelsey Frechette of Rochester Century 6-3, 6-3 to win her second consecutive Class AA singles title in the individual championships. In the doubles final Maddie Buxton and Mekenna Borg of Eden Prairie defeated Mary Ellen Donovan and Jory Kircher of Rochester Century 6-1, 6-4.

In Class A Singles, Providence Academy sophomore, Elena Sullivan defeated Courtney Rust of Rochester Lourdes 6-2, 6-4. In the doubles championship Amber Washington and Katie Roach of Mounds Park Academy defeated Emily Alper and Sunny Tang of Breck 6-1, 6-3. It was the fourth consecutive doubles championship for Washington, a sophomore. Washington won her first title as a 7<sup>th</sup> grader in 2006.

### **Lee Wins Division III Title**

Andrew Lee, an Eden Prairie senior at Middlebury College, won the Intercollegiate Tennis Association

Division III national doubles championship played in Mobile, Alabama in October. Lee and his partner Andrew Thomson defeated the #1 seeded team from Emory 6-1, 2-6, 7-6(5).

### **Doll Recognized For Community Service**

Ellen Doll will receive the 2009 Wolfenson/Ratner Community Service Award. This USTA Northern annual award recognizes the significant contributions Doll made in connection with her work developing community-based tennis programs. She lead the charge in Minneapolis working with city leaders, park officials, neighborhood organization and the USTA in rebuilding 20 tennis courts at four sites. The Support The Courts Foundation, which she founded, raised almost \$1,000,000 to support the courts projects. Those courts are used by high schools, InnerCity Tennis and the general public. Doll currently serves on the Board of Directors of USTA Northern, the Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center, the Minneapolis Parks Foundation and is a member of the USTA National Tennis in the Parks Committee.

### **Memories of Jim Gremmels**

Jim Gremmels, a distinguished professor of English at the University of Minnesota Morris, died September 25 at the age of 82. Jim was a basketball star at Augustana in Sioux Falls and an avid tennis player. For years Jim and his family directed a popular summer tournament in Glenwood, Minnesota. He was also a long-time participant and financial supporter of the InnerCity Tennis Clay Court Tournament.

## **Want ads**

These two-liner want ads are available to all STPC members. Your ad is free for three issues. After that, there is a charge of \$5 per publication.



**Interested in Head racquets & clothing?** Consult Percy Hughes 612-866-1102 for what's best for you.

**Expert Racquet service.** Fred Jurewicz 952-496-1018 (H); 612-250-3185. *10% STPC discount.*

**Handyman:** Get that To-Do list taken care of. Basic repairs and maintenance. Friendly, affordable and flexible. SW Metro area. Bob Thompson, 952-929-0844 / [rthompson123@gmail.com](mailto:rthompson123@gmail.com).

**Bike carrier: Thule Roadway 4-Bike Rear Hitch Rack.** \$80 or BO. Compare REI: \$240. 612-276-1313.

(Want ads—continued on page 4)

**●● STPC lessons and drills—all levels ●●**

Some court locations are subject to change during the season. No reservations necessary.

Location	Day	Time	Skill	Cost	Instructor	Phone
<b>Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center</b> 4005 Nicollet Ave S Minneapolis 612-825-6844	Mon	10:00-11:00 "Owies" <b>Suspended!</b>	All	\$7.50	Dilcia Pederson Call for info on resumption!	612-824-6099
		1:30-3:00 PM	All	\$5.00	Dilcia Pederson Duncan Welty	612-824-6099 952-933-8592
	Thu	8:30-10:00AM	All	\$5.00	Percy Hughes	612-866-1102
					Duncan Welty	952-933-8592
					Paul Stormo	952-944-6286
	<b>Fred Wells Tennis and Education Center.</b> 100 Federal Drive, Minneapolis	Tue	11:00-12:30	All	\$5.00	Tony Rodriguez
<b>Williston Fitness &amp; Sports</b> 14509 Minnetonka Drive Minnetonka 952-939-8370	Wed	5:30-7:00PM	All	\$5.00	Duane Ryman	612-865-9517
<b>PublicIndoorTennis.Com</b> 7833 Highway 65 N.E. Spring Lake Park, MN 55432	Fri	1:00-2:30 PM	All	\$5.00	Tony Larson	303-808-7809

**Free or low-cost lessons\*** are offered as part of your STPC membership. New members are encouraged to take advantage of them.

\* Lessons are free during outdoor season; they cost \$5 when indoor (to pay for court time). You may continue taking lessons as long as you are a member of the club.

**●● Private Club Drills Open to STPC Members ●●**

Location	Day	Cost	Time	Information
<b>Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center</b> 4005 Nicollet Ave S, Minneapolis	Tue Thu	\$8.00	9:00-10:00 AM	612-825-6844 Call for reservation.
<b>Williston Center</b> , 14509 Minnetonka Drive, Minnetonka, MN 55345. Call 952-939-8370 to reserve. Members may call 1 week in advance; non-members 4 days in advance. All classes are \$8 members; \$10 non-members.	Mon	\$8/\$10	3:00-4:00 PM	Senior Clinic 2.0-2.5 (starts January 4, 2010)
	Wed	\$8/\$10	8:00-9:00 AM	Senior Clinic 3.0-3.5
	Fri	\$8/\$10	8:00-9:00 AM	Senior "Focused Play & Critique" 3.0-3.5

*(Want ads—continued from page 3)*

**For sale: Condo** heaven, relaxing view, ready-to-move-in top-floor 2 BR 2 BA New Brighton. 612-781-3271.

**For Rent: 2 BR upper duplex**, garage. 1 block from Lake of Isles. On bus. Available now. 612-377-1352

**For Sale: 3BR 2.5BA townhome**, end unit, lake view, new carpet, dbl gar, pool, tennis. Andy 763-571-3740

**Rent Villages FL.** Activities for everyone. 2BR 2BA gar. \$1000/mo & up. Avl Dec, May on. 952-935-5670.

**Great unique tennis jewelry**—Saworski crystal tennis ball pendant, earrings, in birthstone colors. Reasonably priced. Exclusive at Mike Lynne's tennis shop. Miracle Mile. [www.mltennis.com](http://www.mltennis.com).

# January Tennis Mixer

## PublicIndoorTennis.com at Spring Lake Park

**Mixed doubles. Rotating partners. 32 players only! You do not need to bring a partner.**

**Time: Saturday January 16, 6:00-9:00 PM. Play one 90 minute session (either 6:00-7:30 or 7:30-9:00).**

**Place: PublicIndoorTennis.com—see directions below.**

**Cost: \$13/person. Guests welcome.**

**Light snack food and beverages. Bring your own water bottle.**

**Limited to first 32 who sign up. No refund for no-shows.**

**You will be notified as to the time you are scheduled to play. Questions? Call Carol Brant 612-627-0464 or Marv Schneider 952-975-1895.**

**From the North:** U.S. Highway 10 to Highway 65 South. Take a left on 81st Avenue. Take a quick right at Buchanan Street (you will see the dome straight ahead of you once you get on Buchanan). Take a right on 79th avenue. Take a left on Highway 65 service road.

**From the West:** Interstate 694 to Highway 65 North. Take a right on Osborne Road. Take a quick left on the service road (follow service road *around* Biff's to dome).

**From the East:** Interstate 694 to U.S. Highway 10. U.S. Highway 10 to County 10. County 10 to Highway 65 South. Take a left on 81st Avenue. Take a quick right at Buchanan Street (you will see the dome straight ahead of you once you get on Buchanan). Take a right on 79th avenue. Take a left on Highway 65 service road.

**From the South:** Interstate 694 to Highway 65 North to Osborne Road - take right. Take a quick left on the service road (follow service road *around* Biff's to dome).

### January Tennis Mixer Reservation Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Skill Level:  2.5    3.0    3.5    4.0

Send check, payable to STPC, and this form by **January 11** to:  
Carol Brant 110 Bank St. S.E. #1403 Minneapolis, MN 55414

All players must sign the Release Form below:

#### RELEASE FORM

I agree that any participation by me in the activities of, or sponsored by, the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc. (STPC), a non-profit organization, including, but without limitation, activities such as tennis lessons, clinics, drills, rating sessions, camps, trips, playing in or attending tennis games, tournaments, groups or social events, shall be at my sole risk; and I hereby release and hold harmless STPC and its officers, directors, members, employees, agents, tennis pros, tennis clubs, courts and facilities used or licensed by STPC, and all independent contactors with STPC (all being "Associated Others") for all claims of damage, whether due to injuries to person or property; to any direction, conduct, scheduling or claimed discrimination, nonfeasance or malfeasance, or otherwise, arising out of, or occurring in connection with, any such activities or conduct of STPC or such Associated Others.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# SAVE THE DATE

## Tennis Festival of the North

April 9-11, 2010

Eden Prairie High School

Eden Prairie, Minnesota



TENNIS FESTIVAL  
OF THE NORTH

## There is something for everyone!

On-court and off-court sessions, outstanding speakers, Vendor Fair, equipment demos, team play, player exhibitions, prizes and much, much more!

*Fun for the entire family!*

For more information, visit

[www.tennisfestivalofthenorth.com](http://www.tennisfestivalofthenorth.com)

in the coming weeks!

## Tennericks

By David Brink

A while back you [newsletter editor] indicated that some tennis poetry might be welcome. The thought occurred to me that almost everyone enjoys a limerick and a lot enjoy writing them. So we might start a Tennericks tradition or even competition. I attach three humble examples as starters. **Editor comment:** *I agree! And why not taiku (tennis haiku), tonnets (tennis sonnets)... We've had some wonderful poetry in this newsletter—I'd like to see more. Get going, you creative people!*

A tennis instructor named Bob  
Whose favorite stroke was the lob  
Hit balls so darn high  
They stuck in the sky  
And he was out of a job.

There once was a Senior named Polly  
Who was trying to learn Serve-and-Volley.  
So she hit a big serve  
And volleyed with verve  
And got a new rating, by Golly!

There was an old player named Chase  
Who claimed he'd served up an ace.  
When she called the ball out  
He jumped the net, despite gout,  
But, sadly, fell flat on his face.

## Parkway Cooperative of Burnsville *Independent Living for People 55 and Over*

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115 E. Burnsville Parkway  
Burnsville, MN 55337



# Gopher tennis mixer

Sunday, February 14, 2010  
3:30 to 6:00 PM  
Baseline Tennis Center, U of M  
1815 4th St. S.E.



This **FREE** event is hosted by the Men's and Women's Gopher tennis teams! Meet and play with these student-athletes. Schedule:

3:30 PM. Registration begins

4:00 PM. Group of 30 seniors, three per court with one Gopher. (We're using all 10 courts.) Other 30 enjoy snacks and conversation with Gopher players in the stands.

4:45 PM. Second group of 30 seniors go on courts.

5:30 PM. Exhibition play on two courts by Gopher players.

Only **first 60** registrations will be accepted. **Sign up, be there!**

**Parking:** There is a lot behind Baseline, on 5th St. Also meter parking on 5th St. If those are full, use the ramp at 4th St. and 17th Ave.

Please detach and mail in this registration form.

## Gopher Tennis Mixer

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Rating \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Rating \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

I agree that any participation by me in the activities of, or sponsored by, the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc. (STPC), a nonprofit organization, including, but without limitation, activities such as tennis lessons, clinics, drills, rating sessions, camps, trips, playing in or attending tennis games, tournaments, groups or social events, shall be at my sole risk; and I hereby release and hold harmless STPC and its officers, directors, members, employees, agents, tennis pros, tennis clubs, courts and facilities used or licensed by STPC, and all independent contactors with STPC (all being "Associated Others") for all claims of damage, whether due to injuries to person or property; to any direction, conduct, scheduling or claimed discrimination, nonfeasance or malfeasance, or otherwise, arising out of, or occurring in connection with, any such activities or conduct of STPC or such Associated Others.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No cost, but you must mail this form **by January 17** to:  
Mark Mudra • 5008 Nob Hill Drive • Edina, MN 55439 • 952-833-1469



Senior Tennis Times  
P.O. Box 5525  
Hopkins, MN 55343

December 2009

Nonprofit  
Organization  
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PAID  
Minneapolis, MN  
Permit No. 3270

## TWICE THE MEMBERSHIP! TWICE THE FUN!

Join both STPC and USTA Northern and SAVE!

You have the opportunity to join both the USTA  
and the STPC for ONLY \$50 (regular price \$65).\*

Enjoy the great benefits of both organizations including free lessons by certified teaching professionals, social tennis parties, tennis magazines, discounts to tennis retailers and restaurants, opportunities to purchase tickets to the US Open and other events before the general public and much more.

\* Current members  
of both organizations  
are not eligible  
for this offer.

To register, please contact Sandy Smith at  
[ssmith@northern.usta.com](mailto:ssmith@northern.usta.com) or at (952) 358-3288.



## REGISTER FOR SUPER SENIOR (60+) USTA LEAGUES!

Registration is going on NOW for USTA Northern Super Senior (60+) Leagues. Leagues run January 11-April 19. Minimum roster deadline is December 18, 2009.



For more information, contact Tyler Krumholz at  
[krumholz@northern.usta.com](mailto:krumholz@northern.usta.com) or at (952) 358-3287.

6.0 Super Sr. Men - *TBD	8.0 Super Sr. Men - Wednesday
6.0 Super Sr. Women - *TBD	8.0 Super Sr. Women - Wednesday
7.0 Super Sr. Men - Tuesday	9.0 Super Sr. Men - *TBD
7.0 Super Sr. Women - Monday	9.0 Super Sr. Women - *TBD

\*league based on enough registered players.