

Senior Tennis

# TIMES

## Marianne Davidson and Jim Friend Win Jack Dow Classic

The Jack Dow Tennis Classic, to honor our founder, Jack Dow, was held July 15 at the Woodbury Elementary School. Thirty-two present and former students of Virginia Morgan's Woodbury classes attended. Four courts, 16 wooden racquets and 2 balls to a court were used. There were four rounds of tennis with a 5-game pro set format.

High scorer of the women was Marianne Davidson; high scorer of the men was Jim Friend. Winner of a ProKennex racquet, donated by GinGer's Racquet & Stringing, was Bob Rediske. There were drawings for 12 small prizes, donated by Virginia Morgan, and the ProKennex rep, Gary Stevenson, donated sweatbands and wristbands for everyone.

Roni LeRoy and Marianne Davidson took pictures, players brought snack food, drinks and lawn chairs. The weather was perfect and under the shade trees, the players reminisced and renewed friendships. A reporter from the Woodbury Bulletin took many pictures and plans an article in the newspaper.

The trophies, donated by Virginia Morgan, were held high over the winners' heads as they paraded before the spectators and accepted applause, - very much like the champions at Wimbledon. A trophy was presented to Jack Dow in appreciation of the club. He wasn't there, but Virginia talked with him.

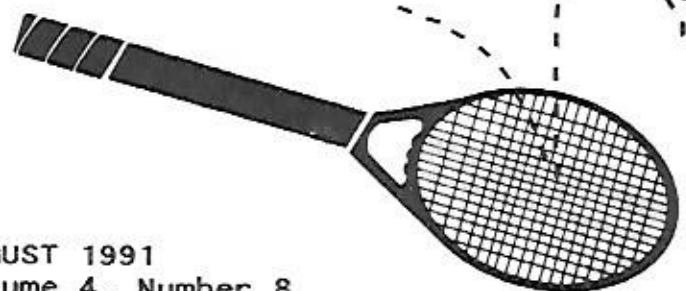
## The Coming Indoor Season

It's time to start planning for the next indoor tennis season which starts in October, some in the second half of September. The September SENIOR TENNIS TIMES will publish the 1991-92 schedule. Captains, please notify Dick Pratt of any changes as soon as possible (433-3583).

Captains are a vital link in this whole procedure. During the indoor season, if we have many people who want to play but not enough captains, we can't play. Someone has to be responsible for a group committed to play at a club. Volunteer to be a captain. Bob Western (735-5761) needs to know where, when (day and time), and number of courts needed to make arrangements for the courts.

The tennis clubs give us special rates during the day when most working people are unavailable to play. Without knowing these specifics along with how many people for whom to provide, we can't make arrangements.

Dick Pratt



# FACILITIES: WHAT'S HAPPENING

## by Bob Western

### GREENWAY ATHLETIC CLUB

Same as last year, but because of no shows last year, would like two months' prepayment. A few spoil it for a lot.

### MEDALIST CLUB

Nothing definite yet. We won't know until September.

### NICOLLET TENNIS CENTER

All o.k. On Saturdays and Sundays, the cost will be increased to \$12 per court hour. More court time is available.

### NORTHLAND FITNESS CENTER

O.k. for what we had, and more courts are available.

### WHITE BEAR RACQUET & SWIM CLUB

We have three courts instead of four in the afternoon.

### INTERESTED IN PLAYING AT WHITE BEAR CLUB?

A free tennis and breakfast will be held on Thursday, September 12, courtesy of the White Bear Racquet & Swim Club. There will be tennis from 7:00-9:00 a.m. followed by breakfast. You will be given information on their early-bird, night-owl tennis program, limited to 20 people. RSVP Bob Western by September 1, 835-5761.

### WILLISTON CLUB

There is mention of our losing one court, with no further explanation. I have been promised an answer later.

### TEAMTENNIS TOURNAMENT

Openings are available for regulars and subs in TeamTennis at the White Bear Tennis Club on 8 Tuesdays starting October 1 through November 19 from 7:00 to 9:00 a.m. The cost is \$5.00. Call Frank Beutel, 426-2440.

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### WOODDALE RECREATION CENTER

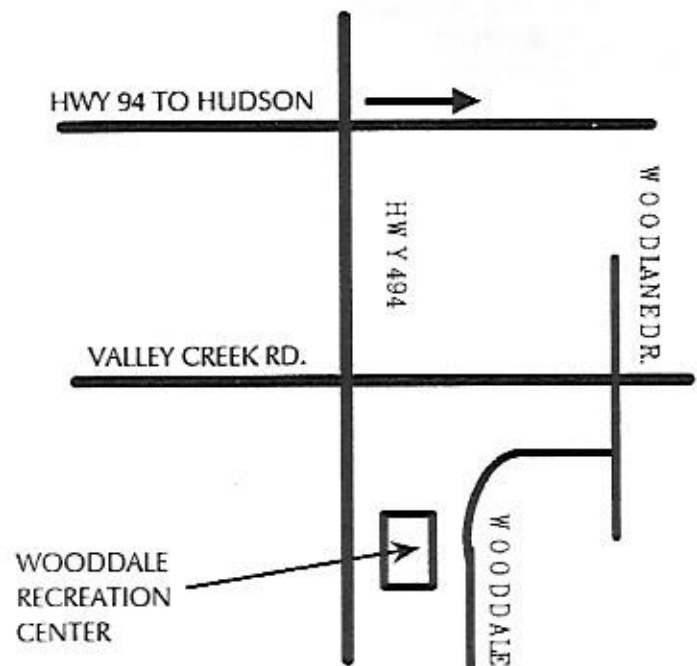
October 14, 1991 - April 17, 1992

Mondays - 9:00-11:00 am  
Wednesdays - 9:00-11:00 am  
Fridays - 9:00-11:00 am

4 courts - \$4.80

Please let me know what day and/or days you will commit as a regular player. Please inform me the days you might be available as a substitute.

Frank Beutel, 426-2440



# TENNIS TIPS by Percy Hughes

## BACKHAND RETURN OF SERVE

The mechanics of your backhand stroke change for the return of serve. Because the time you have is reduced due to the high speed of the serve, you must shorten your preparation to have a firm, well timed stroke.

Now it's not turn, loop, racquet back. The loop has to be eliminated. Quickly take your racquet back as you turn, drop the racquethead down close to knee level with the butt pointed at the oncoming ball. Now you are prepared to make contact out front, weight forward for an excellent backhand return of serve.

## RACQUET CARE

Your racquet is an important and expensive piece of equipment. I have a list of do's and don't's in giving it TLC. Here's the list:

1. Storing--keep it out of extreme heat and cold. Storing it in a car is a real no-no, summer or winter.
2. Hit only tennis balls!
3. Replace your worn grip. Your grasp becomes less secure, consequently your shots will become less powerful and accurate. You can add an overwrap to your existing grip one time. An overwrap is inexpensive, and any of our pros would be happy to overwrap for you.
4. Have your instructor inspect your racquet from time to time. Parts such as grommet strips and bumper guards do wear out as well as your strings.
5. Keep your racquet in its cover. It protects your strings and grip from moisture, humidity and the sun's ultra-violet rays. Your pet dog might have an interest in the handle. Sprinkle talc or baby powder inside the cover from time to time. This will keep the inside dry.
6. If possible, having a second racquet is very sensible, alternating their use.
7. Keep your racquet with you when traveling public transportation. Only you for sure will give it TLC.

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## Twelve Unwritten Rules of Good Courtmanship

The first Unwritten Rule of Good Courtmanship was published in the July SENIOR TENNIS TIMES. To continue--

### 2) KNOW THE RULES

To avoid embarrassment to yourself and to those with whom you play, learn and know the official rules of the game. While you do not need to know all the finer points involved in the rules, you should learn the basic ones.

### 3) DRESS THE PART

The color of your outfit should not be important, but it should be comfortable and neat. What you wear on the court marks you as right for the occasion. In other words, look your best.

### 4) MEET YOUR MATCH

Everyone enjoys tennis more if opponents are at least somewhere near the same level of playing ability. If you consider yourself among the better players in your group, it is good practice to invite a match with a lesser opponent now and then.

Watch for more next month--

## Dick Gehring, High-Powered Executive, Serves As Role Model for Humanitarian Endeavors

Dick Gehring, 67, would be the first to vehemently deny he's making a huge sacrifice as Chairman of the Board of the national Alzheimer's Foundation these past several years. Contrastingly, he's contributed his indefatigable talents as organizer and fund-raiser for the fledgling organization centered in Chicago with no thought about personal economics. All expenses he incurs in the pursuit of his farflung duties come directly out of his own pocket. Among other things, that also includes flying his own four-passenger plane to Board meetings in Chicago and commercial flights around the country.

Despite obstacles along the way in his busy life, Gehring exemplifies the unselfish heart and purpose for living in light of a drama constantly at hand. His wife, the former Kathryn Brown of Minneapolis, was stricken with Alzheimer's disease at the unlikely age of 49. Her condition was diagnosed as an organic brain disorder marked by a progressive deterioration of intellectual faculties. She has been in a private nursing home since 1975.

Born in Minneapolis, Gehring graduated from Washburn High School. He was appointed to the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis where he became a classmate of former STPC president, Joe Stoutenburgh; Mike Leddick, currently Project Director of the Minneapolis Convention Center, and a peanut farmer from Georgia who later became President of the United States, Jimmy Carter. A week after graduation Gehring married Kathryn Brown and immediately embarked on several months of sea duty. As a new Ensign, he was assigned to the Leonard F. Mason, a destroyer. This ship plied between China, Hawaii and Caribbean outposts for three years--his obligatory term of service.

A year after his honorable discharge, Gehring was recalled for two years of duty during the Korean conflict. He was promoted to Lieutenant Senior Grade and assigned to the Combat Information Center. Shortly after getting out of the Navy, he went to work for Electric Machinery Mfg.

Co. in Minneapolis. Meanwhile he was attending night school at the University of Minnesota, completing a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1955 and nearly attaining a Master's degree in Business Administration. Answering an ad placed by the Univac Corporation for a Parts Department manager, he won the position and a start of a brilliant business career.

With Univac for 30 years in the defense area, Gehring went through the corporate hierarchy from Executive Vice President to President of the Univac Division of Sperry Corporation. With 65,000 employees in 33 countries, the firm racked up a phenomenal record of four billion dollars in yearly sales for several years under his direction. He took early retirement at age 59 to enjoy his family swelled by three boys, one now married and supplying two grandchildren.

Seeking information on Alzheimer's disease after Kathryn's unfortunate circumstance, Gehring researched the country only to find there was no specific treatment nor cure available. It was then he plunged wholeheartedly into what now represents his impassioned activity with the Foundation's long-range goals. Vigorously he lobbied Congress for much needed funds, citing the billions spent on cancer, heart and the comparatively new AIDS problems. Although his group has made tremendous progress after an uncertain start (300 million dollars allocated in the past several years), Gehring stresses it's not nearly enough, based on the growing prevalence of the depressing disease.

"The terrible economic drain on families with an Alzheimer's sufferer is frightening," Gehring states. "A solution is still miles away; action is urgently required to alleviate family finances," he emphasizes. Currently the Alzheimer's Foundation Board raises 30% of the budget through donations and contributions by prominent people in America as well as the average citizen. Without their support, Gehring stresses goals would be impossible to meet.

Continued on next page



To Richard Gehring  
With best wishes,

Ronald Reagan

Continued from last page  
Dick Gehring

The accompanying photograph recounts an incident in the White House Oval Room not too long ago. Accompanied by Jasmin Aga Khan, Gehring visited with then President Ronald Reagan to offer thanks for the government's support to the Foundation. The president remarked to Mrs. Khan: "I knew your mother (the late actress Rita Hayworth who recently died from Alzheimer's disease) and you're prettier than she was." The President then turned to Gehring and declared: "I'm the first President old enough to really worry about Alzheimer's."

After retiring from Univac, Gehring took up tennis in 1983. In 1987 current STPC treasurer, Joyce Maul, signed him up as a member. He joined 80 others on Jack Dow's Wimbledon excursion and was smitten with the friendliness and enthusiasm of the STPC netters. He's been to Naples, Florida four times for the STPC winter camp. He plays doubles regularly at the Northwest

Racquet Club. His warmth and gregariousness both on and off the courts is contagious.

Model railroading is Gehring's hobby, and his private collection consists of 100 locomotives and 500 cars dispersed in three rooms of his home. His main ambition in life is to take the best 10 train rides in the world. To date he's made it to six, and soon will be embarking on seven to Australia with a grandson, 12.

Gehring's main philosophy centers around health. "Health is everything," he exclaims energetically. "Playing STPC tennis has helped me meet wonderful people and renew old acquaintances. I like to be active and keep in shape." His optimistic approach to the future is that "life is wonderful and we should live it with concern for others and faith in ourselves."

This, then, is Dick Gehring, a caring and sharing human being!

-Norm Diamond

# STPC Participation in Senior Olympics

Our beloved Tennis Club fostered 22 participants for the SENIOR OLYMPIC GAMES held at Syracuse, New York June 26-July 2, a part of 90 Minnesotans participating in events ranging from table tennis to horseshoes. Some of the states sent delegations of over 200 participants. 1007 tennis players performed !!

Among our more successful members were Don Bratt and Glen Gullikson who made it to the quarterfinals.

Most Minnesotans were fortunate to stay in the same hotel which afforded us a large lobby with cafe tables and free coffee and pastries. It was fun just being a part of the lively group, sharing in success and disappointment, cheering each other on, managing transport problems and sharing the social events that were offered us.

Syracuse welcomed us with open arms and massive publicity by the press and tv media. I think one of my greatest moments came when we were driving to an event with six people in the car. We stopped a pedestrian and asked for directions to the courts. He obliged and then hesitatingly leaned over and looked in the car. "Say, are you people with the Senior Olympics?" he asked. When we replied affirmatively, he said "Well gosh.....I'm.....honored!" We smiled and drove off chuckling.....and, feeling pretty darn good!

Following is a list of the people from our club that attended, and may God help me if I left someone OUT! Irma Bong, Don Bratt, Lucille Bryant, Lois Bunday, Ned Bunday, Len Christensen, Gene Gibson, Glen Gullikson, Ed Holzhacker, Roger Kneisl, Matt Little, Bess Marmas, Cliff McMinn,

Valentina Popel, Betty Swanson, Chuck Supplee, Lois Thompson and Ethel Trebil.

Al Faulkner was with us to participate in table tennis and did very well until he butted heads with a medal winner from the previous Olympics. I suffered the same experience!

Although I was unable to talk to everyone in attendance, I believe that the majority of us enjoyed the event and had a good time. Albeit some of the playing facilities were very substandard and the events were scattered all over (which made it hard to watch everything), it's a great experience and I surely recommend it.

Jeff Stottlemeyer from the Parks and Recreation Department of Bloomington put in many long hours getting the Minnesota group together--he did a fine job of organization. He says that ESPN was there and will have a showing sometime in the future...watch for it!

To participate in these games you must first qualify. The qualification spots in Minnesota are at Duluth and Bloomington where they run qualifying games in each even-numbered year. The games are held in every odd-numbered year. The one coming up in 1993 will be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and so you can qualify in 1992 at the Bloomington Senior Sports-A-Rama games that year. Call Jeff for complete information. Competition is set up by 5-year age increments. Minneapolis is in the running for the 1995 Senior Olympics.....

Ned Bunday

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COPY DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS AUGUST 20, 1991

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Congratulations, **DARLYNE MAGNUSON**, for having completed twelve lessons.

New members, if you have completed twelve lessons, be sure to tell your instructor.

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## A BIZARRE TALE OF POETIC REINCARNATION

This past February 12 the Social Security Administration declared STPC member, Owen Moore, officially dead. It so happened Moore was playing tennis in Tucson on the date of his supposed demise. In the abstract sense, Moore didn't realize he had passed away until he received a notice from his bank informing him of same. It followed his bank had returned Moore's March 1 Social Security check to the U. S. Treasury. It happens even if you're only allegedly deceased. The plot thickens.

Moore meanwhile called his bank to assert he was alive. He also reported to his medical insurance people only to find out his policy had been canceled. Assuring them he was breathing nicely, some wheels began to be set in motion.

On March 22, his "widow" Eunice received a letter from the SSA requiring her to repay government benefits received following Owen's declared departure. Miraculously the SSA moved swiftly, reinstating Moore's benefits on April 7 after ascertaining his identity. The venerable Dave Moore of WCCO-TV got wind of his namesake's freak experience and sent his news crew to interview the SSA. It was explained to them that they received their death information from morticians and supposedly one had goofed and entered the incorrect Social Security number on the death certificate. The WCCO story aired on April 19.

Shortly thereafter, our reincarnated hero had his medical insurance reinstated. Ironically in the entire mixup, Eunice still owes \$50 to the medical insurance people. Stand by for further developments!

Norm Diamond

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-PAID AD-

## Reservations for Brunch Only Still Open

Reservations filled up fast for the popular Sunday Tennis Brunch at The Flagship on August 11. However, if you'd like to join us for the brunch only, there's still time to send in your reservation. The brunch only is \$12, and it follows two hours of tennis which starts at 7:00 a.m.

Your check is your reservation. Make check payable to Ethel Trebil and mail it right away to Ethel Trebil, 5250 Villa Way, #121, Edina, MN 55436. Ethel's numbers are 926-0978 or 1-274-3195.

Join us for fun, good fellowship and elegant brunching!

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-PAID ADS-

# LEARN TENNIS

## 1991 SUMMER SCHEDULE FOR BEGINNER LESSONS AND DRILLS

### BRECK SCHOOL

123 Ottawa Ave N, Minneapolis

Mon 5:30- 7:00 pm  
Wed 5:30- 7:00 pm

### Instructors

Connie Custodio 824-2569  
Ernie Greene 488-6359

### WOLFE PARK

W 36th St off #100, Saint Louis Park

Thurs, To Labor Day 8:30-10:00 am

\*Assisted ably by Paul Stormo, our newest certified instructor

### Instructors

Percy Hughes\* 545-7696  
Ginny Owens \* 546-9666  
944-6286

### WOODBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (Same as last year)

1425 School Drive, Woodbury

Mon 6:00- 7:30 pm

### Instructor

Virginia Morgan 459-6059



## Virginia Morgan Plans STPC Booth for Senior Options Expo

The Senior Tennis Players Club will be one of the 350 exhibitors at the Seventh Annual Senior Options Expo. Senior Options, the Midwest's largest expo of resources to enrich the lifestyles of adults age 50 and older, celebrates "A World of Options," Friday and Saturday, October 11 and 12, at the new Minneapolis Convention Center. The Expo is a program of the Minnesota Senior Federation.

If you have never attended, mark the dates on your calendar and plan on hours of fun, entertainment and education. And count on visiting the STPC booth. Virginia Morgan, coordinator, is making plans for a lively booth. For ticket information, call the Senior Federation at 645-0261.

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A NOTE FROM YOUR EDITOR....I read with keen interest the article in the August 1991 issue of TENNIS entitled "TENNIS' Top 50 U. S. Tennis Cities." There was an up-close look at the No. 1 City with the best balance of criteria for home-town tennis players--Saint Cloud, Minnesota. There were a few paragraphs on nine more cities and then, rounding out the top 50 in alphabetical order, were 40 more top tennis cities, including "Minneapolis, Minnesota, considered by many to have the best indoor facilities in the country."



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1664 Bellows  
West Saint Paul, MN 55118

1991-92

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