

DOWN THE LINE

At the April directors' meeting, Holger Christiansen was elected President for 1992-93. Mona Mae Zarling was elected Senior Vice President, Bernice Hanson was elected Treasurer and John Stecklein was elected Secretary. Sue Larson was appointed Vice President of Activities, and Jerry Lund was appointed Vice President of Facilities.

Since my last report, Ethel Trebil resigned from the Board and vacated her assignment of Vice President, Activities. Bob Metcalf was selected to fill her vacancy on the Board as Director. I thank Ethel for her contribution during her short period on the Board. Bob Metcalf's presence on the Board is a welcome addition. In the past he has assisted in formulating financial statements for the use of the directors.

I congratulate the officers and wish them well. Your Board is in good hands with exceptional leadership.

This is my last report as your President. The past year has been fulfilling and rewarding. It has been my pleasure to serve. I look forward to filling out my tenure for the next year as a Director. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Board for their excellent work, cooperation and assistance during my tenure as President.

Bob Curran

OUTDOOR COURTS

A tentative schedule for courts available outdoors appears in this *TIMES*. Courts used without reservations or permits are subject to the rules specified by the community, the park board, the recreation director or whoever is in charge of the courts. Captains, if you have any comments or questions, call Dick Pratt at 433-3583.

Outdoor summer play and lessons are free.

Everyone's cooperation is necessary to assist the captains in their programs. A 40-minute or 30-minute time period is usually set for changing partners and courts so members get to know and play with more members. Select the location, the date and the time that suits you best, show up, and have a great outdoor season playing tennis!

If you have any questions, call the appropriate captain shown in the schedule.

Dick Pratt

EVERYONE'S INVITED

Come celebrate the United States Professional Tennis Association's Tennis Across America Day with a morning of stroke drills for players of all levels. Mark your calendar for Thursday, May 7, at Wolfe Park in Saint Louis Park from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. The entire teaching staff will be there to conduct the drills. Everyone is welcome!

1992 Schedule for Outdoor Courts

LOCATION	DAY	TIME	CAPTAIN(S)	PHONE
AUGSBURG PARK 72nd and Blaisdell Richfield	Mon - Fri	8 - 10 am	Florence Habegger	869-7918
BROOKLYN CENTER SENIOR HIGH 6500 Humboldt Ave N Brooklyn Center	Tues	9 - 11 am	CAPTAIN NEEDED	
	Thurs	9 - 11 am	CAPTAIN NEEDED	
BROOKVIEW PARK Hwy 55 & Winnetka Golden Valley	Sat	9 - 11 am	Joyce Hautman Mary McNeil	545-4051 545-7142
CITY CENTER COURTS Chanhassen Starting May 15	Fri	8:30 - 10:30 am	Barb & Craig Freeman	474-8070
COMO PARK Horton Ave near Lexington St. Paul Starting May 4	Mon - Wed	9 - 11 am	Lenore Patneaude	644-4208
DONALDSON PARK 75th & Humboldt S, Richfield Starting June 5 (See Washington Park for May)	Mon, Wed, Fri	8 - 10 am	Chad Sharkey Cliff Northfield	866-7682 869-1859
	Tues	8 - 10 am	Elvin Kolstad	869-7277
DRED SCOTT PARK W. Old Shakopee Rd & Ferry Bridge Rd May 4 to Sept 20	Mon - Fri	8 - 10 am	Lois & Paul Lokensgard Chuck Supplee	831-1171 888-0551

1992 Schedule for Outdoor Courts

LOCATION	DAY	TIME	CAPTAIN(S)	PHONE
EDINA SENIOR HIGH 6754 Valley View Road Edina	Tues	6 - 8 pm	CAPTAIN NEEDED	544-0511 725-2017 or 831-8514 544-0551 537-1843 544-0551
	Thurs	6 - 8 pm	Jim Bernstein Charlie Kiefer	
	Sat	4 - 6 pm	Jim Bernstein Al Holter	
	Sun	4 - 6 pm	Jim Bernstein	
FRIDLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL Betw Central & University, Fridley Starting June 2	Tues & Thurs	9 - 11 am	Bob Metcalf	571-3596
LAKEWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE #120 betw 694 & Co Rd E White Bear Lake	Mon - Fri Starting April 15	4 - 6 pm	Frank Beutel	426-2440
	Mon Starting May 4	4 - 5 pm	Mary LeClair	
LONE LAKE PARK Shady Oak n of Bren Rd Eden Prairie April 29 - September 27	Mon - Fri	8 - 10 am	Laurene Wastvedt Angie Jepson	935-2369 933-1133
NORTH VALLEY PARK Inver Grove Heights	Mon, Wed, Fri	9 - 11 am	Dorne Davis	457-3940
SUNRISE COMMUNITY CENTER Cedar & Cranbrook White Bear Lake Starting April 15	Mon - Fri	9 - 11 am	Frank Beutel	426-2440

1992 Schedule for Outdoor Courts

LOCATION	DAY	TIME	CAPTAIN(S)	PHONE
VALLEY PARK Marie, east of Lexington Mendota Heights	Tues	7:30 - 9 am	Dot Guenther	687-0246
	Wed, Thurs	7:30 - 9 am	Nancy Karasov	452-3172
VALLEY VIEW PARK 90th between Nicollet & Portland, Bloomington Starting May 4	Mon - Fri	7 - 10 am	Cliff McMinn	888-4989
WASHINGTON PARK 77th & 17th S, Richfield May 1 - June 5 ONLY	Mon, Wed, Fri	8 - 10 am	Chad Sharkey Cliff Northfield Elvin Kolstad	866-7682 869-1859 869-7277
	Tues	8 - 10 am		
WOLFE PARK W 36th St off #100 Saint Louis Park	Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri	8 - 11 am	CAPTAIN NEEDED	
WOODBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 1425 School Drive, Woodbury May 4 - September 30	Mon, Wed, Fri	9 - 11 am	Garland Davis	735-5691

LEARN TENNIS: 1992 Summer Schedule for Beginner Lessons and Drills

LOCATION	DAY	TIME	INSTRUCTOR	PHONE
WOLFE PARK W 36th St off #100 Saint Louis Park Starting May 7	Thurs	8:30 - 10 am	Percy Hughes Ginny Owens Paul Stormo	545-7696 546-9666 944-6286
WOODBURY ELEMENTARY 1425 School Dr Woodbury	Mon, beg May 4	6:00-7:30 pm	Virginia Morgan Cathy Morgan Virginia Morgan	459-6059 690-5204 459-6059
	Thurs, beg May 7	9:30-11 am		

TENNIS TIPS By Ginny Owens

Returning Wide Shots With Control

When we are forced to run to shots hit wide to our forehand or backhand, we often think of only getting to the ball, but when we reach the contact area, we are forced to hurry our swing because the racquet isn't in the correct hitting position. Concentrate not only on reaching the ball but taking your racquet back as you move to the ball. Try pointing your racquet in the direction you're running to start the racquet moving backward so it will be in position to swing forward to the contact point.

A good drill for coordinating this racquet movement and footwork is to start at the center of the base line

and have someone feed you a ball wide to your forehand. As you move quickly to the ball, concentrate on moving your racquet back early. After hitting the ball, shuffle back to the center mark on the base line and repeat the drill, only this time have the feeder hit the ball wide to your backhand.

This drill will help the coordination of both your footwork and back swing, resulting in a smooth, steady swing for better control.

NICK PAPPAS RECEIVES AWARD

Nick Pappas was awarded the Jack Dow Senior Achievement Award at the annual meeting of the Northwestern Tennis Association in January. He's the first person to have the distinction of receiving both the Ward Burton Award in Junior Development in Tennis (1971) and the Senior Achievement Award. Congratulations, Nick!

VP Sue Larson To Unveil Exciting Activities Soon

Since her recent appointment to the STPC Board, Sue Larson, Vice President Activities, has been putting together an ambitious program for the upcoming season, to be announced shortly in the *Times*. Although plans are not quite finalized by the Board, members are in for a series of stimulating events. Keep tuned.

STPC Financial Statement

The 1991 financial statement is available to members wishing a copy. Send your request with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the treasurer:

Bernice Hanson
120 Windsor Court
New Brighton, MN 55112

The Latest STPC Head Count!

The membership as of
April 20, 1992 is

1,371

Bulletin Board

GENUINE SENIORS LEAGUE OPEN TO MORE PLAYERS

There's plenty of room for more players in the Genuine Seniors League (GSL). Regular players, regular subs and general subs for the entire league are needed. So, if you want to play in a competitive league (players range from about 3.0 to 4.0) and are available Wednesday mornings during the summer, call **Dick Pratt at 433-3583** or **Al Uhl at 644-9810**. GSL is not quite as competitive as USTA Seniors tennis with a national tourney in the offing, but the league does keep score and standings. Teams led by Dick Pratt and George Sample tied for first place last year.

The league has been open to players 55 and over, but this year will accept 50-year-olds and older. Over 70s are also welcome and are urged to sign up because the league is considering adding teams and developing into two divisions, one for older players and one for younger. The meetings between the teams consist of four doubles matches.

GRADUATION



Congratulations to **MIYO BERGER, DAVE CHEENEY, JIM FRIEND, CATHERINE MEYER** and **PAT WILLIAMSON**, the latest grads completing twelve lessons.

Note to new students: Are you notifying your instructor after twelve lessons? If not, please do so.

ROGER BOYER TO START DRILLS

Roger Boyer will be conducting his regular senior summer drills at the Minnetonka Country Club,

1-1/2 miles north of Excelsior on County Road 19. There are three sessions on the scheduled Sunday mornings: 8 - 9:30; 9:30 - 11; and 11 - 12:30. Following are the dates of the drills: May 31, June 14, June 28, July 12, July 26, August 9, August 23 and September 13.

The coffeepot is always on. For more information, call Roger at **470-0246**.

Dred Scott Park Mixed Doubles Play

Lois and Paul Lokensgard will be at Dred Scott Park on Tuesdays and Fridays from 8 to 10 am promoting mixed doubles play. Questions? Call them at 831-1171.

WE WISH MANDY A SPEEDY RECOVERY

Past President Mandy Johnson had a kidney transplant in April, and although the latest report is that she is struggling, she is getting along. Mandy loved the many cards she received and extends a sincere "thank you" to you all.

YOUR OPINION CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Northwest Airlines have decreased the cost of many of their fares, and at the same time have increased the cost of coupon deals to seniors. One of our members spoke with a representative of Northwest and was told that phone calls objecting to these increases "make a difference and they will react to them." So, Northwest customers, if you would like to voice your opinion, the department to call is Public Relations and their number is **726-2040**.

USTA SENIOR TENNIS LEAGUE

If you are over 50, a member of the USTA and you have a current NTRP rating, you can join the United States Tennis Association Senior Tennis League!

The League begins around July 6, 1992, and continues until September 4. The format is for 3 doubles matches to be played weekly at locations throughout the Twin Cities area.

You don't have a current NTRP rating? If you live in the Minneapolis area, Percy Hughes and a USTA rating representative can rate you. Saint Paul area residents can be rated by Cathy Morgan and a USTA rating representative. The dates for the rating sessions will be determined later. (There will be one rating session on Thursday, May 14, at Wolfe Park from 8:30 to 10 am.)

USTA Senior Tennis League information meetings will be held at Nicollet Tennis Center on May 18 at 1 pm and again on May 26 at 7 pm. **Charlie Peterson (471-9524)** and **Sandy Abramson (698-2840)** are the league coordinators. People who have volunteered to be team captains should have their player rosters ready to hand in by June 15.

If you are interested in participating, fill in the form below and send it to:

NWTA
5525 Cedar Lake Road
Saint Louis Park, MN 55416
Attention: Liz
(phone 546-0709)

PLEASE PRINT!

Name: _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Would you be willing to be a captain? _____

HOLGER CHRISTIANSEN ELECTED PRESIDENT IN LANDSLIDE VICTORY; BUSH AND CLINTON GLUM



In a stunning victory mandated by the Electoral College of the STPC Board of Directors, Holger Christiansen was unanimously elected president. In what some experienced politicians described as an "Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe" calculated maneuver in a smoke-filled room, Christiansen was "railroaded" into the coveted leadership of the largest senior tennis club in the country. When questioned by leading reporters and broadcasters about the overwhelming margin of victory posted by Christiansen, President George Bush stated: "I guess I was too prudent and complacent, but Barbara and Millie join me in wishing him the best." Democratic Party front runner Bill Clinton vowed: "I will be back aggressively in the next election to do battle at any cost." Clinton now plans to take care of several unfulfilled "affairs."

A *Time* magazine executive leaked the information that his staff was preparing a cover story on Christiansen following the STPC Annual Meeting on May 1. Christiansen was quoted by the Star Tribune on its editorial page recently as "winning the election with the help of the Scandinavian Mafia." This charge has not been substantiated, but several I-teams are allegedly working on it. Now that we've determined Holger has a great sense of humor, let's get on with his background!

The Danish ethic is synonymous with the words industrious, compassionate, family-oriented and integrity. It was in that rarefied atmosphere Holger Christiansen came into the world in Slayton, Minnesota on September 28, 1926. Both parents came from Denmark and settled near the sleepy town to become dairy farmers - later dairy processors.

At Slayton High School from where he graduated, you might know Holger was captain of both the football and basketball teams plus class president for two years. He went on to graduate from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, where he was a sports announcer for both the college and commercial radio stations. In 1950 he returned to Slayton to join his father and brother in the dairy processing business. He ran the gamut as a home delivery milkman and ice hauler for a spell. Holger was a volunteer fireman, was on Slayton's City Council, and began to develop an interest in city management.

Following his instincts to get more education, he sold his share of the family business to his brother in 1962. He enrolled at the University of Minnesota and in over a year earned an M.A. degree in Public Administration. It was the beginning of a love affair with the U of M that lasted for 26 years until his retirement in 1989. Christiansen began his tour of duty at the U of M as Athletic Finance and Facilities Coordinator. Within the framework of the U's

athletic department, four separate entities existed; e.g., men's and women's athletics, physical education and the recreational programs. That meant four different directors to report to on a merry-go-round basis.

In 1985, after 22 years of juggling the various departmental systems of the athletic department, he was promoted to the position of Associate Director of Men's Athletics under the leadership of Paul Giel, Athletic Director. In a highly publicized media circus, Giel was removed as Athletic Director and Christiansen was appointed interim A.D. When Rick Bay descended on the scene in 1988, Christiansen returned to his previous post for one year and then retired.

During World War II he served stateside in the U. S. Navy, subsequently receiving an appointment to the Naval Academy. Although now it seems humorous, he was denied entrance because of an unwanted front plate. While horsing around in the boys' locker room at Slayton High, a shotput was tossed to him in fun. Someone behind him nudged him as he was trying to catch it, his head went forward and he lost his three front teeth. Just think, he could have become an admiral!

In the true Danish tradition, Christiansen married a woman named Dagny from Ray, North Dakota, and with her raised five wonderful children, all college graduates. The parental bonus: nine delightful Danes!

In 1989 Christiansen joined the STPC sporting a 3.5 rating. "It was the opportunity to play tennis with people I might never have met," he emphasized. For the past eight years he has owned a family tennis court (which gives him an edge) and plays regularly.

His philosophy of life is simple and direct: "No matter how you think life treats you, other people may have it worse. Do your best and, most importantly, teach what's right and wrong." His own great sense of humor has been transmitted to

the entire Christiansen family, which in itself is a worthy accomplishment.

Travel is an important part of the Christiansen agenda and ten trips to Mexico top the list. The other itineraries include most of Europe, Alaska and even whitewater-rafting in Costa Rica. Along with his hobbies of tennis, bridge, reading and coin collecting, Christiansen is an avid Gopher fan of football, basketball and hockey. He's a classical music lover who attends the Minnesota Opera and Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra coffee concerts. His family has inherited their love for music from their mother because "they all live to sing."

It would be only fair to give Jerry Brown, the Moonbeam Party presidential candidate, a chance for some parting words about Christiansen. "He's a cosmic personality in the universe, a shining star of Cygnus illuminating the galaxy with his own rays." You can take that into space, Holger!

Norm Diamond



RATING CATEGORIES REVISITED

The March *Senior Tennis Times* included a membership roster and, for the first time, the playing level of each member. If you looked at the ratings, you probably shook your head and laughed or cried, especially if you found someone you know plays better than you and their rating is less than yours, or vice versa. Some of us have overestimated our ability, and some have underestimated our ability. The intention of showing the level of play is to help members locate others who play at the same level. We need to revise many of the ratings in order to accomplish this. I hope the following will help:

Guidelines to Follow in Self-Rating

- A. Read all categories carefully, then rate yourself. Be certain that you qualify on all points of all preceding categories as well as those in the classification in which you place yourself.

- B. If any phase of your game fails to meet the standards set in a given category, you are not eligible for that rating and must review the preceding categories until you find that rating which best describes your abilities and level of play.
- C. Try to think in qualitative terms regarding your own level of skill. Your limitations or game weaknesses should be compared to our general membership; not solely with your regular group partners.
- D. If you are uncertain between two ratings, it would generally be preferable that you place yourself in the lower category.

If you have any questions, our STPC instructors will be happy to assist you.

RATING CATEGORIES

1.0	BEGINNER	This player is just starting to play tennis or has limited playing experience and is working primarily on getting the ball over the net; may have some knowledge of scoring, but is not familiar with basic positions and procedures for doubles play.
1.5	BEGINNER	This player has more experience than the above player, and can keep score.
2.0	INTERMEDIATE	This player can place shots with moderate success; has achieved stroke dependability and direction on shots within reach, including forehand and backhand volleys, but lacks some control when trying for power; seldom double faults on serves.
2.5	INTERMEDIATE	This player has achieved more stroke dependability and shot control than the above player.

- 3.0 ADVANCED This player has begun to master the use of power and spins; has sound footwork; can control the depth of shots and has the ability to use a variety of shots, including lobs, overheads, approach shots and volleys; is able to place the first serve with power and accuracy and serve and volley with some success; is seldom out of position in a doubles game.
- 3.5 ADVANCED This player can execute most of the above strokes better than the 3.0 player.
- 4.0 EXPERT This player can execute all strokes offensively and defensively with power and/or consistency; can hit dependable shots under pressure; has good shot anticipation; can regularly hit winners or force errors off short balls; successfully executes lobs, drop shots, half volleys and overhead smashes most of the time; can hit winners or force errors with both first and second serves. Return of serve can be an offensive weapon.
- 4.5 EXPERT This player has mastered most of the above skills.
- 5.0 WORLD CLASS
 SENIOR PLAYER This player has mastered all of the above skills and is an experienced tournament competitor.

Corrections should be made as soon as possible by calling Dick Pratt at 433-3583 or sending him a note to 12080 Lakamaga Trail, Marine on St. Croix, MN 55047. Dick will make the corrections on his copy of the roster and forward the information to Mary Kaminski for entry into the computer. His corrected roster and the updated information in the computer will make the ratings more useful throughout the year, and next year's roster will be much more meaningful. Thanks.

Dick Pratt (433-3583)

In Memoriam

We extend sympathy to long-time member Rose Tombers of Minnetonka on the death of her husband, James, on April 2, one week after his 68th birthday. He will be missed by Rose, their sons, Nick, John and Mike, daughters-in-law, and grandsons, Darrin and Jason.

Dr. Edward G. Wagner, 68, of Anoka died of a heart attack on March 25 while playing tennis with Pete Robinson's group at Northland in Bloomington. He is survived by his wife, Virginia, and five daughters.

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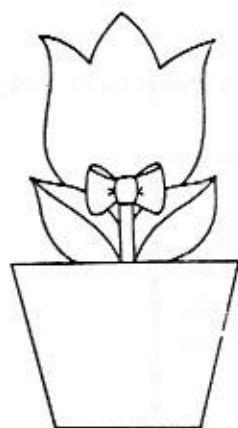
Tennis 1993
World Tennis Center
Naples, Florida

We hope to see old friends from previous
World Tennis Center jaunts, and look forward
to having newcomers join us this year!

There will be lots of good tennis, organized
mixers, and other social activities. Watch
for more specific information soon.

Any questions or comments? Call or write:

Don Bratt
6181 Kerry Lane
Fridley, MN 55432
(612) 571-6762



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1992 - 1993

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