Newsletter of the Senior Tennis Players Club

Volume 6, Number 8

August 1993

# STPC Sweeps Honors at Minnesota Senior Olympics

STPC members had a very successful time at the Minnesota Senior Olympics, held in Duluth July 15–17. Playing on courts at the University of Minnesota, Duluth, the College of St. Scholastica, and the Madison School, over 50 of our members won the majority of medals in Men's Singles and Doubles, Women's Singles and Doubles, and Mixed Doubles.

The event was kicked off with a brunch on Thursday, July 15, where world-famous Minnesota marathoner Dick Beardsley and the Mayor of Duluth spoke. The weather for the three days was fine, if a bit cool, making for great tennis playing.

The Olympics wound up on the 17th with a banquet at Spirit Mountain. In between these two convivial events, here's how our members did:

#### Men's Singles:

| 55-59 1st | Kearney Frantsen |
|-----------|------------------|
| 60-64 3rd | Ted Shuler       |
| 65-69 2nd | Howard Rasmussen |
| 70-74 1st | Ken Kinney       |
| 75-79 1st | Sam King         |
| 2nd       | Len Brawerman    |

#### Women's Singles:

| 60-64 | 1st | . Ada Nuhn     |
|-------|-----|----------------|
| 65-69 | 1st | Connie Metcalf |
|       | 2nd | Lois Bunday    |
| 70-74 | 2nd | Betty Swanson  |

#### Men's Doubles:

| 60-64 . |            | Kearney Frantsen, Ed        |
|---------|------------|-----------------------------|
|         | Holzhacker |                             |
| 65-69.  | . 1st      | . Don Bratt, Glen Gullikson |
| 2nd     | 2nd        | . Ted Shuler                |
|         | 3rd        | Dick Pratt, John Stecklein  |
|         | . 1st      | . John Kelehan              |
|         | 2nd        | . Sam King, Al Nuhn         |
|         | 3rd        | Mel Baken, Phil Briant      |

### Women's Doubles

| 60-64 | 1st | Irma Bong, Mary Wenz           |
|-------|-----|--------------------------------|
|       | 2nd | Dorothy Ayres, Darlene Moynagh |
|       | 3rd | Vivian Bratt, Ada Nuhn         |
| 65-69 | 1st | Lois Bunday                    |
|       | 2nd | Connic Metcalf, Betty Western  |
|       | 3rd | Dee Kelchan, Marilyn Thorne    |
| 70-74 | 1st | Betty Swanson, Lois Thompson   |
|       | 2nd | Jean Kelly, Lorraine McDaniel  |
|       |     |                                |

#### Mixed Doubles:

| 1 | Ked D | oubles. |                                 |
|---|-------|---------|---------------------------------|
|   | 55-59 | 1st     | Ed Holzhacker, Grace Schneider  |
|   |       | 2nd     | Darlene Moynagh, Chuck Slocum   |
|   | 60-64 | 1st     | Ken Kinney, Elsebeth Kozar      |
|   |       | 2nd     | Mary Johnson                    |
|   |       | 3rd     | Ruth Aase                       |
|   | 65-69 | 2nd     | Don Bratt, Vivian Bratt         |
|   |       | 3rd     | Connic Metcalf, Gerald Stalwick |
|   | 70-74 | 1st     | Bruce Clarke                    |
|   |       | 2nd     | Dee Kelehan, John Kelehan       |
|   |       | 3rd     | Betty Swanson, Lee Warner       |
|   |       |         |                                 |

What a fantastic performance! Our congratulations go to everyone who participated and made the Senior Olympics such a success.

## STPC President Knows His Spelling

STPC President, John Stecklein, placed third in the 3rd Annual Senior Citizens Regional Spelling Bee on June 14. John won the Ramsey County Spelling Bee, and went on to represent the county in the 7-county competition held at the Richfield Community Center. The competition went nearly two hours, and John eliminated 11 other competitors before being bested.

The winner was Edith Zehnder of West St. Paul. Congratulations, John!





STPC Presents a Fall Blockbuster Social Event...

# Tennis Wear and Gear Luncheon

Presenting the latest in tennis clothing and equipment

# When

Tuesday, September 21, 1993 Social Hour ..... Noon

Luncheon ...... 12:30 P.M.

Show ...... 1:30 P.M.

Wilhore.

Minnesota Valley Country Club

6300 Auto Club Road

Bloomington, Minnesota

# The Excitement

Tennis clothing and equipment by Northwest Racquet, Swim & Health Club —Wear presentation by Marilyn Thorne and Norm Diamond—

—Gear presentation by Roger Boyer—

—Gifts for all, discounts, door prizes—

—Personalized music by Connie Metcalf—

## Wear and Gear Modeled by STPC Members

Irma Bong

David Brink Ned Bunday

Donna Catlin

Holger Christiansen

Bob Curran

Joyce Hermann

Ed Holzhacker

Percy Hughes Mary Kaminski

Jean Kelly

Addie Levin

Matt Little

Donna Lucker

B.J. Norgaard

Jackie Rouillard John Stecklein

Chuck Supplee

Laurene Wastvedt

Bob Western

—detach and mail—

Mail this form and your check for \$12 each per reservation-made payable to Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc. to:

Reservations Limited Guests Welcome

MARILYN ERICKSON 10295 SCARBOROUGH RD BLOOMINGTON, MN 55437 Deadline: Sept 10 Guests Welcome

| Name(s) |  |
|---------|--|
| Address |  |

# of Reservations \_\_\_\_\_ Phone

# Winter Tennis Parties

We are scheduling tennis parties for the winter months at various racquet clubs around the Twin Cities. The dates and locations for three of the parties have been finalized and are listed below.

We're planning at least three additional parties, which will be listed in the Senior Tennis Times when the dates are finalized.

If you have any questions or comments call Frank McCabe at 633-6319.

Where and When

Look in this issue of the Senior Tennis Times for Details and Reservation Form:

Moore Lake Racquet Club October 23, 1993 September, 1993

Northwest Racquet Club November 13, 1993 October, 1993

98th St. Racquet Club January 8, 1994 November, 1993

# The Decathlon Club

is now taking reservations for Senior P.C.T. Our well-lighted and soft-cushioned courts provide for an enjoyable tennis season.

The "Green Strip" provides a comfortable social gathering place before or after a tennis game.

Also, check out the Senior Membership that allows all the amenities of a club that *you* would ask for—spacious locker rooms, pool, saunas and social social social.

The benefit? Live a longer, more healthy life with tennis and club activities!



# Baseline

by John Stecklein, STPC President

My invitation in the last Senior Tennis Times for suggestions or comments relevant to the two committees that were recently appointed brought in a few comments. Unfortunately, they were either phone messages or anonymous replies. Replies in writing are better because they can more accurately be conveyed to the Board, and signed letters give us the opportunity to follow up for more information, or to address grievances directly (if a grievance is stated). Your confidentiality will be respected if requested, of course. Your continued input is desired, however, no matter how it is communicated.

The response to my request for volun-

teers was not as successful. Out of more than 1,300 members I had hoped for a few responses. However, as of this late date in July, I haven't received even one.

Perhaps more specific information about the kinds of activities you might become involved in will help. Some of the special committees I will be proposing to the Board are:

- a long range planning committee
- a committee to investigate monogrammed tennis accessories
- a committee to advise the newsletter editor
- a committee to consider special Club-sponsored tournaments

We have an immediate need for a member CPA who would be willing to volunteer limited service to the Club, to do the annual audit and assist in submitting the one or two forms to the State and the IRS that are required from nonprofit organizations annually. Such help would be greatly appreciated. Please call me if you are a member CPA (or if you know one) who would be willing to help the Club.

Finally, at the end of this year we will be needing a new treasurer, secretary, public relations director, and perhaps other Board officers because of normal turnover and resignations. Members who are interested in these positions or any other aspect of Board operation are encouraged to make their interest known to me (along with their relevant experience, if any), preferably in writing, so we can plan ahead knowing what resources are available.

Thanks to all of you who are interested in an effective and well-run Club.



## End of Summer Party

Darlene Moynagh announces that there will be an End of Summer Tennis Party on Wednesday, August 25, at 3M Tartan Park in Lake Elmo. Non-tennis playing guests are welcome!

There will be tennis from 8 A.M. to noon, with lunch at 12:30 P.M.. Bring some food to share, your own utensils, and cards, board games, or other entertaining stuff.

Darlene is looking for donated prizes-here's your chance to recycle those old trophies! There will be a \$2 charge for balls and beverages, which will be collected at the courts. Enter at 3M Tartan Park Picnic and Sports area. The party goes on, rain or shine!

of STPC since 1982.

Please RSVP Darlene Moynagh at 436-8927.

## STPC Member Now Queen Jeanne

Jeanne Jeffords, STPC member, was crowned Senior Queen of the Aquatennial on July 20, in a ceremony at the Lutheran Brotherhood Auditorium downtown.

Jeanne will represent the Aquatennial during 1993–94, after this year's royalty's reign is over. Look for her in the Aquatennial Parade next year, and give her a big congratulatory wave!

## Congratulations



The latest STPC member to complete twelve lessons is:

Jim Keegan

Remember, notify your instructor when you've completed twelve lessons.

## Chris Matteson Paints for the Governor

Chris Matteson was invited by Governor Arne Carlson's 1006 Committee to create a painting in the gardens of the Governor's Residence. The final framed painting, White Tulips, was just sold to the highest bidder at the first annual benefit at the Governor's Residence this summer. It was the first time an artist had created a painting in the governor's gardens. Chris has been a member

# Tennis Tips

### from Ginny Owens

Eyes on the ball, not on your opponent. How frustrating it is to set up for our next shot and then completely blow it, easy as it could have been!

Often we are tempted to peek at our opponent after he has hit the ball to see where he is, what he's doing, and where we're going to place our shot. In doing this, we take our eyes off the oncoming ball, so even if we know where our opponent is, we don't know where the ball is, consequently missing our shot.

To help overcome this tendency to peek, try pretending your opponent is invisible and there is no one across the net to watch. This may help you concentrate on only the ball, resulting in a higher percentage of good shot executions.

## Wooddale Winter Tennis Schedules Set

Bob Western reports that the STPC Wooddale Program Committee has completed the lottery and player placement. The captains will be calling players to let them know when their court times are. Due to the number of people wanting to play, players are allotted one session a week, in the mornings. (Six people were dropped from the lottery, because they were not STPC members.)

We have three courts from 8 A.M. to noon on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Play periods will be 8–10 A.M. and 10 A.M.–noon, like last year.

The committee has also arranged for afternoon court time on three courts from 1–3 P.M. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. If you are interested in playing in the afternoon, call Paul Leonhart at 739-3690.

The members of the Wooddale Program Committee are:

| Bob Western   | 735-5761 |
|---------------|----------|
| Paul Leonhart | 739-3690 |
| Ed Jandl      | 731-5410 |
| Gordon Strand | 777-6813 |
| Bob Hinz      | 771-4480 |
| Bill Michalko | 777-9576 |

Direct any questions, comments, complaints or whatever to any committee member. They tried to be as fair as possible with the reduced court space, so please be kind!





## Indoor Lessons At Nicollet Start

Indoor lessons begin at the Nicollet Tennis Center on Thursday, September 16, from 8:30-10 A.M. Percy Hughes and Ginny Owens are the instructors. The Nicollet Tennis Center is located at 4005 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis.

## Correction to Wolfe Park Schedule

There is a correction of the court times at Wolfe Park on Mondays and Wednesdays. The correct time of play is 9-11 A.M., not 8-11 A.M. Our apologies for any confusion this might have caused.

#### Spaces Still Available for Hilton Head Tennis Vacation

Sea Pines, Hilton Head, SC. Oct 7--17; 10 nights, \$435/ person. Incl deluxe condo, bike, welcome dinner, 2 hr+ tennis, 26 courts, low country dinner, Conners tournament tickets Sat-Sun. Call Marilyn Thorne at 471-9813.



# Octogenarian Will Tatam is Lake Harriet Jogging King and STPC Tennis Phenomenon

By Norm Diamond

About the time you pore over this saga, Willard Tatam will have reached his 81st birthday-September 8, to be exact. His name connotes the stern protagonist of a Gothic novel by Henry James or one of the Brontë sisters. But there the similarity ends and by contrast you have a physical fitness enthusiast who considers only two jogs around Lake Harriet barely

sufficient to satisfy his exercise needs.

Tatam's only other athletic pursuit is tennis which he plays with considerable left-handed skill and abandon. He's no pushover opponent on the court who wants you to hit the ball directly to him (veteran actor Edward Everett Horton was noted for having opponents drop shots he could return without moving). Just because Tatam is over 80, beware of smugly

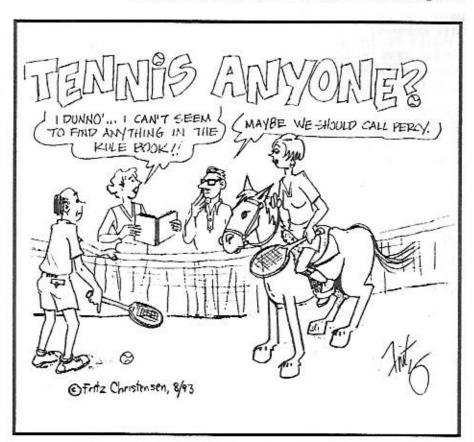
chopping a sure winner close to the net thinking you've made an easy score. Out of nowhere a clone of Methuselah comes charging like a Bengal tiger chasing a water buffalo, scoops up the ball and chops a sure winner return. Tatam is as fast as a cheetah in heat and the end result is that you're a victim of his blinding speed.

A Minneapolis West High graduate, Will's only interest in sports was in track. In his sophomore year he won a silver medal while placing second in a statewide high school cross-country track meet. That was it until 1927, at the tender age of 15, he began the improbable and barely known art of jogging around Lake Harriet. He was light-years ahead of his time and future jogging faddists who populate the paths today. Onlookers would wonder who "that crazy kid" was loning his way around the Lake Harriet environs. Today they say "that crazy old guy" running day in and out, in foul or fair weather. Tatam, a self-admitted loner, pays no heed to the madding crowd and can remain a purist in the sense he's a Twin

Cities pioneer jogger. Very few runners can match his record. Perhaps there's a niche for him in the Guinness Book of Records.

While attending high school and some college, Tatam worked for Adolph Andersen Cleaners as a delivery man-later switching to National Battery Service in St. Paul for one year. He began the University of Minnesota right out of high school and went there off and on. Not wanting to bury himself in education solely, he worked and took night courses for U of M credits. Not realizing how his credits towards graduation were stacking up, he was shocked one day to receive an important phone call. "This is the University of Minnesota," the caller advised. "You have enough credits to graduate and if you'll send us a check for \$15, you can graduate with the class tomorrow night." It was 1936 and with it came a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration.

Tatam loves to recall how he was blessed with the second highest draft number prior to the United States' entry into World Was II. Starting in 1940, he served one year in the infantry and later was accepted in Officer's Candidate School of Medical Administration in Abilene, Texas. He became a 90-day wonder second lieutenant assigned to the 92nd Evacuation Hospital at Rice, California. In June, 1943, Tatam's outfit prepared for a January 1944 assignment to Australia (500 miles north of Brisbane), a staging point for combat operations. The station, which took care of the wounded, was a scene right out



### Dance Around the World Travel Club and Royal Cruise Line Presents 1994 Cruises

Join me for a great winter cruise aboard the magnificent Golden Odyssey next March. We have blocked space for our group on three 7-day sailings from New Orleans to Cozumel, Mexico; Georgetown, Grand Cayman; and Ocho Rios, Jamaica. Then we'll wrap up the winter with a special cruise from New Orleans to Acapulco through the spectacular Panama Canal. Join us for 1, 2, 3 or all four of these great cruises aboard one of my favorite ships, the Golden Odyssey. Tennis will be arranged at some ports.

Early Bird Fares for New Orleans/Mayan Carribean start at \$1,399 including air Panama Canal starts at \$2,295 including air

### Cruise Night

Sept 30—Mark your calendar Greenfield Apartments 920 Feltl Court, Hopkins Please call and reserve your space. For information on the club or brochures please call or write: Jeanne Jeffords 1030 Feltl Ct, #138 Hopkins, MN 55343 612-932-9929

of MASH. Like officers and noncoms spying on nurses with binoculars, bars, golfing and diamondball—in Tatam's words "a wonderful station." Within the nine months, Tatam was promoted to adjutant and his outfit transferred to the Philippines. Just prior to the planned invasion of Japan, Tatam's outfit was shipped home through Seattle. After five years of service, he was honorably discharged at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin.

After the war, Tatam went back to work at Andersen Cleaners and in 1960 bought the place. Eight years later he merged Andersen's with the present Edina Cleaners. Back on March 29, 1952, Tatam married the former Jean Brodbeck who had worked in Munich, Germany, from 1948–50 as chief welfare officer in the Munich Resettlement Center. A longtime social worker, Jean recently retired. The Tatam's first child, Patricia, was born in November, 1953, while son Willard II (Bill) came along in September 1955. So far there are no grandchildren but four dogs are in the family.

In 1970, Tatam resumed running and tennis, joining a group that played at Southdale Tennis Club in Edina and Lilydale in St. Paul. He joined the STPC at its inception and served on the board for a year. "Getting involved with different groups and meeting people who enjoy tennis is a real plus for seniors," Tatam emphasizes.

The Tatams recently moved to a new condo in Bloomington after selling one of the most interesting homes in South Minneapolis overlooking Morgan Park. Built in 1917, the home has attracted hundreds of people since February, 1952, when Tatam bought the place before marrying Jean. In the beginning, Tatam's hobby became gardening—mostly vegetables because he didn't like flowers. He did, however, have 25 rose bushes which daughter Patricia tended lovingly. When people would start knocking on the door of the Tatam house and asking if it could be for sale, Tatam cited there was only one bathroom. That scared off anyone with children fast.

A brief philosophy Tatam lives by is this: "In any negative situation, I try to make the best of it." Shy by nature, he is no retiring wallflower when it comes to politics, economics, state of the nation and bigotry. An independent voter, he thinks Bill Clinton should be given a chance because his ideas are so good. Laughingly he told me that "Peoria's School Board should be sued because they graduated Ronald Reagan."

Tatam sold Edina Cleaners to a family in 1977 and hasn't looked back since. He and Jean travel—to Europe several times, to all 50 states, and to Florida and California for special vacations. With jogging and tennis, Tatam has a full plate and a zest for living. Do you want to live a full and interesting life? The answer is simple. Just imitate... Tatam!



### Policy Statement for New Members Lessons/Members Drills

The Senior Tennis Players Club was organized to provide senior citizens with the opportunity to learn and play the game of tennis and to benefit from the camaraderie and social interchange that goes so well with the game. As an integral part of the educational function of the organization, the Club offers New Members Lessons and Drills for all members, on a space-available basis. When people complete 12 New Member lessons, they are awarded certificates of accomplishment, but they may continue to participate in the drills. The following paragraphs are intended to codify the guidelines and practices involved in providing these lessons and drills:

- Lessons and drills are intended primarily for those individuals who are just taking up the game of tennis, but are appropriate also for those who have not been able to play tennis for a long time, or who simply feel a need to improve their game.
- 2. Because considerable disparity in ability among the players may cause some to feel out of place, the New Members Lessons/Members Drills shall be organized in such a way that players will be classified into two groups: Stage 1 and Stage 2. The Stage 1 group will be those who have not completed their 12 lessons, or who have an STPC rating of 2.0 or lower. The Stage 2 group will be comprised of all other persons, i.e., those with a rating of 2.5 or higher.
  - When two courts are used, Stage 1 and 2 groups will be assigned to separate courts, if the number of participants in each group is 15 or more.
- The Instructor will decide when a player should be advanced from Stage 1 to Stage 2.
- Although the lessons taught by the different instructors should cover the same material, the specific lesson plans and procedures should be based on the judgment of the individual instructors.

- The Senior Tennis Players Club will pay for the instructors, but during the Indoor Season participants will be expected to pay a modest amount to defray costs of court time. Court time during the Outdoor Season will customarily be free.
- Instructors for the New Members Lessons must be certified (USPTA or USPTR).
- Instructors will encourage students to find groups to play with in addition to the lessons, and help them identify captains to contact to arrange such play.
- Each instructor will be permitted to teach only one New Members Lesson/Member Drill session per week paid for by the STPC. No new STPC-sponsored sessions can be established without the advance approval of the Board of the STPC. The Board must also approve the credentials of any proposed new instructor.
- An average minimum number of 15 participants will be required in order to offer and continue a New Members lesson/Members Drill session.
- 10. There shall be a single Director of Lessons and Drills to supervise all such STPC activities in the Twin Cities area. The Director shall be responsible for coordinating the several classes, recommending new sessions, certifying the instructors, and holding meetings periodically with the instructors to discuss plans and problems. The Director will also serve as the channel to the Board, to bring to its attention concerns of the instructors, recommendations for improvement, and information about the state of the New Members Lessons/Members Drills program. To serve these functions, the Director should attend all Board meetings.

Submitted 7/27/93 by the Beginners Lessons Policy Committee: Emily Day, Percy Hughes, Matt Little, Virginia Morgan, John Stecklein.

## 1993 Summer Schedule for Beginner Lessons and Drills

| Location  | Day   | Time                   | Instructor                  | Phone                |
|---|-------|------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Breck School<br>123 Ottawa Ave N                            | Mon   | 5:30-7 P.M. (6/21-9/?) | Connie Custodio             | 824-2569             |
| Minneapolis   | Wed   | 5;30-7 P.M. (6/16-9/?) | Ernie Greene                | 488-6359             |
| Wolfe Park<br>W 36th St. off #100<br>Saint Louis Park       | Thurs | 8:30-10 A.M.           | Percy Hughes<br>Ginny Owens | 545-7696<br>546-9666 |
| Woodbury Elementary<br>1425 School Dr.<br>Woodbury          | Mon   | 6–7:30 P.M.            | Virginia Morgan             | 459-6059             |
| NOTE: Thursday session cancelled due to lack of attendance. |       |                        |                             |                      |



The STPC membership count as of July 20, 1993 is 1,367.

The deadline for submitting articles and news items for the August issue of the *Times* is 8/20/93.

### Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.

A Nonprofit Corporation 1988 North Wheeler Street Saint Paul, MN 55113 612-644-8304.

#### Senior Tennis Times

The Senior Tennis Times is published monthly by and for the members of the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.

### Editor

Nancy E. Kaminski 3300 East Gate Road Saint Anthony, MN 55418-2545 612-781-3271

### 1993-1994 Board of Directors

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|--|------------|
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