



# TIMES

Newsletter  
of the Senior  
Tennis Players Club

Volume 7, Number 4

April 1994

## Recognition for Two Helpful Gentlemen

Paul Stormo and Dick Pratt were honored recently for all the help they give to Senior Tennis. Paul, one of our certified teaching pros, assists at lessons on a regular basis without pay. Paul is paid only by the pros he replaces. Dick, along-time STPC member, attends most of the club's lessons, helps the pros, and is often used as a role model for the class to watch on all strokes.

In recognition of their efforts, the Northland drill group gave Paul and Dick a plaque. Ernie Greene presented the plaque, which reads "With sincere appreciation for your dedication and service to the Northland Senior Tennis gang."

Thanks for all your help, Paul and Dick!



## Mandy Johnson Honored Posthumously

At the 1994 Northwestern Tennis Association annual meeting, the Jack Dow Senior Development Award was given posthumously to Mandy Johnson, for her contributions to the Senior Tennis Players Club as past president.

## Announcing STPC Team Tennis!

The proposed STPC Summer League will have six teams, to play each other twice during the summer. Each team will play one each men's singles, men's doubles, women's singles, women's doubles, and mixed doubles match. Each match will count one point, for a total team score of 5 points.

Each team will consist of four men and four women regulars, and one man and one woman substitute. No person will play more than one match, in order to prevent any one expert player from dominating the team results. (This limitation will also eliminate the delay often caused when individuals have to play two matches at the same time or too close together to permit any rest between matches.)

We'll look for playing sites that will permit playing at least three matches simultaneously. Courts might be reserved so that spectators and/or team players could play some tennis after the matches have finished.

We'll match teams to provide equalized competition. For example, team members might need ratings of 2.5 to 3.5 to compete. For doubles, the total of the partners' ratings might not be permitted to exceed 6.0 or 6.5. (These conditions are merely suggested as targets, and may be changed after we know who is interested.) Each team will have a captain to coordinate play.

Matches will be single pro-sets, with the first team reaching 8 games the winner. A 12-point tiebreaker will be used if the score reaches 7-7. If play starts at 9 a.m., and allowing for 15 minutes per match, 5 matches will be completed by about 11 a.m. (Morning matches are preferred because it's cooler.) Play will begin in early June.

For more information call Charles Peterson at 471-9524 or Jim Erler at 471-9750. If you are interested in participating, fill in the form below and mail it to Charles Peterson, 3665 Lyric Ave, Wayata, MN 55391, as soon as possible. If you have already called in to indicate your interest, Charles or Jim will contact you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Rating \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ I prefer: doubles \_\_\_ singles \_\_\_ mixed dbls \_\_\_

*If you want to play doubles, and have a partner in mind, complete this about your partner:*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Rating \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be a team captain? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_



# BASELINE

BY JOHN STECKLEIN, STPC PRESIDENT

**T**he months speed by so fast; my year as your president is scheduled to end as of April. (New officers will be announced at the Annual Meeting on April 29.) This pivotal time encourages me to stop and take a look to see what has been accomplished in the past year.

My initial impression last spring was that there was a shortage of playing opportunities for members, particularly those who came from the St. Paul area. Since little specific information was available about the numbers and home locations of members, a demographic map was prepared. The map gave us a better idea of the dispersal of our membership and the distribution of playing sites throughout the Twin Cities area. This information caused me to feel that the club was doing a good job of providing playing opportunities for most parts of the Twin Cities.

Nevertheless, we were able to obtain three more playing sites in the Minneapolis area, ranging from the Flagship Tennis Club in the south, to Nicollet Tennis Center, and to Northland Fitness Center North. The early morning play at Flagship and the new drill and play sessions at Northland North have been very popular, according to my information. Attendance at the drop-in sessions at Nicollet have fluctuated a bit.

We were also successful in getting two new early morning playing opportunities at the White Bear Lake Tennis Club, and a new afternoon session at Wooddale to replace one that we lost in midseason at White Bear. Attendance has been good and very faithful at the Wednesday early morning sessions, but only one-third of

the spaces have been filled at the Thursday early morning sessions. We are still hoping that attendance will increase in the Thursday morning group there. Some openings at other sites have also been advertised in the newsletter, so opportunities are available.

In counterpoint, the sudden midseason loss of one court at Northland South made it necessary to relocate the three groups that were playing there. Thanks to the good will of the Nicollet Tennis Center, the teams were able to find playing time there.

A major accomplishment that clarified some uncertainties about the beginners lessons and drills was the Policy Statement for Newcomers Lessons and Drills that was issued in midsummer. A recent decrease in participation in these sessions is worrisome. If it continues, we may need to reexamine if we need these sessions. The Board will be keeping an eye on the attendance figures.

One small negative note that I wish I did not have to mention is that there is a small number of individuals (some might call them freeloaders) who continually attempt to avoid paying their annual dues. Sample excuses are that they forgot, they already pay dues to another club, or they don't think they should have to pay for a full year. Others take advantage of a captain's lack of attention or inadequate record keeping to slip through the crevices between paying and playing.

This has been a problem over the years, and the Board is making every effort to weed out the nonpayers. The Board would be grateful for your assistance in identify-

ing such people and encouraging them to pay their fair share toward the cost of services provided by the club. All people who benefit from the playing opportunities developed and maintained by the club's volunteers should expect to pay their share of the club's expenses.

We had a successful series of tennis parties, and a very enjoyable dinner dance. A consistent level of attendance is critical, however, and such events may be dropped if the demand does not seem to be there.

The inauguration of the Boleer Tennis Clinic gives us an additional drill to supplement the Annual Christmas Clinic put on by Roger Boyer. Both were well attended.

We were successful in reducing the newsletter's operating costs by \$2,000. Membership rose to over 1,300, and new members are being added continually.

Another note of progress is the Board's current action to revise the bylaws, to bring them up to date. The revisions should be finished by May, and our operating guidelines will be clarified.

The award to the club as the Outstanding Organization of 1993, made by the Northwestern Tennis Association, was a very nice final positive note for the year. I thank you for your interest, your encouragement, and your continued support in our efforts to improve STPC.



# **It's Round-Up Time Again!**

**polish up those dancin' cowboy boots**

## ***Annual Meeting, Friday, April 29***

*Reservations  
due by April 20!*

VFW Hall Golden Valley  
7775 Medicine Lake Rd.  
(Medicine & Winnetka)

6 p.m. Happy Hour (Cash Bar)  
6-7 p.m. Free Caricatures!  
7 p.m. Buffet Dinner  
8 p.m. Business Meeting

8:30-11 p.m. Line Dancing  
with Rea Brown

*Only \$14 per person  
call your friends and fill a table*

Send check payable to STPC to:

Connie Metcalf  
860 W Moore Lake Drive  
Fridley, MN 55432

*Costumes are welcome!*





# c o u r t n e w s

## A note to all outdoor tennis captains

Please contact Charlie Peterson at 471-9524 as soon as possible with any changes from last year's outdoor schedule. We plan on printing the 1994 outdoor schedule in the next *Times*.

A reminder to all Captains, *and this is an important one*: check the new roster and make sure that all your players are members. If a player is not listed in the roster, it means that they didn't pay their dues. Courts have been reserved for members only. As a captain, it's your responsibility to monitor the players, and your cooperation will diminish the occasional complaints that non-members are playing.

## Hit 'N Giggle update

We would like to have four teams to play on Wednesdays from 9-11 a.m. at two different locations. If you will captain a team, or if you will play on a team, please call Shirley Pratt at 433-3583. We plan to start by June 1.

## Special offer for Golden Agers

The Golden Agers play at Nicollet Tennis Center for one hour from 2 to 3 p.m. on Tuesdays. They can accept only six more players (the first six of those eligible) to join them. Call Dick Pratt, 433-3583.

## New members, this is for your information

The outdoor playing season (in most cases) starts in May and goes on through the summer until October. It isn't as structured as the indoor playing season, and it's a great time to start playing regularly with a group. And what a great time to get to know more of our members! So, look over the schedule next month,

select a location convenient for you, a time and day of the week that suits you, pack your balls and racquet, visor or cap, sunglasses, a bottle of water, sunscreen, and just show up. Seek out the captain, introduce yourself, and join the others on the courts. There are no fees for summer play. And that's how easy it is!

## A note from Dick Pratt

New responsibilities have made it necessary for Dick Pratt to discontinue his captaincies for both the indoor and outdoor seasons. New captains will be needed as follows:

### The 1994 outdoor season

- Fridley High School courts, Mondays and Wednesdays, 9 am to 11 am

### 1994-95 indoor season:

- Nicollet Tennis Center, Mondays 11 am to 1 pm, Wednesdays, 3 pm to 5 pm
- Wooddale Recreation Center, Fridays, 1 pm to 3 pm.

New captains can call Dick at 433-3583 for the names and phone numbers of all regulars and substitutes for each of the groups involved.

## Sports-O-Rama

A Sports-O-Rama will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, May 10-11, in Fargo, ND. This is a qualifying tournament for the 1995 Senior Olympics in San Antonio, Texas. There will be men's and women's singles and doubles (no mixed doubles). For more information, call Ed Holzacker, 890-5963, Sam King, 227-1458, Chuck Slocum, 941-4059, or Chuck Supplee, 888-0551.

## USTA/NWTA league tennis for seniors

The USTA/NWTA League Tennis for Seniors will start July 5, 1994 and run

through the month of August, with league winners advancing to Sectional Championships in September and National Championships the last part of September and the first part of October.

Levels are 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, and 4.5. Requirements for playing are:

- You must be at least 50 any time during the calendar year
- USTA member
- NTRP rating (there are scheduled rating clinics with a "special" senior rating clinic on May 17).

This is "team tennis" — the format is 3 doubles matches—the matches are once a week on a specific day for each level. If you would like more information, please call the MATCHLINE, 333-6030.

## Schedule Changes

New session at Northland North: Fridays, 1-3 p.m. until the end of April. Levels 3.0-3.5, men and women. Captain, Bob Metcalf, 571-3596.

Correction to the Williston-Sagedahl Wednesday session: Bill Storie's phone number should be 428-2052.

Add to Williston-Sagedahl schedule: Tuesdays, 8-9:30 a.m. Levels 2.5-3.0, men. Captain, Henry Lofquist, 476-4543.

Correction to Decathlon: Wednesday, 10-noon, Levels 2.0-2.5, men and women. Captain, Vic Erdmann, 922-0158.

## Mark Your Calendar!

The USPTA Across America Day is Thursday, May 12. Everyone is invited. Complete information will be in the May issue of the *Times*.



# Tennis Tips

by Percy Hughes

**O**utdoor tennis time is here once again! Also, a couple of our old friends are back with us — the sun and the wind. They are two factors we have to deal with constantly when playing outdoors. A visor or cap and sunglasses will help your vision and protect your eyes when facing into the sun. I think it's very wise for us to have something on our heads on sunny and hot days. When hitting into the wind, it's safe to swing a little harder — your hit isn't as likely to go long. Using top spin with the wind behind you will give you a safer but aggressive shot.

Hot and sunny days can be dangerous. Drinking water will generally prevent body overheating and sunstroke. I've always been more concerned with the safety of my students rather than the learning process. Teaching is the easy part, but predicting accidents is the hard part.

All of our instructors give footwork drills — please pay attention! Falls for us most likely will cause a sprain or fracture. Have you ever thought of using your racquet as a cane? Think about it. I watched much of the Lipton tournament. A player was running laterally to his racquet side, got caught wrong-footed and lost his balance. He literally used his racquet for a split second as if it were a cane. Doing so, he prevented a bad spill — even for a young person. What's more important to us — a scratch on our racquet frame or a fractured wrist, fingers, ankles, head injuries, etc. Think about it! I'll have more information for you soon.

Have wonderful safe tennis!




## In Memoriam

We extend our deepest sympathy to Glen Gullikson in the recent loss of his wife.

STPC extends sympathy to Jack and Shirley Zumberge, whose son, Scott Andrew, died November 27th. Jack and Shirley are active STPC members, and Shirley is a captain at Northland on Thursdays.

Dr. Richard Lien, 84, of Saint Paul, died suddenly March 23. A pediatrician for more than 50 years, he was working the day before he died. Dr. Lien played tennis until a few months ago.



### Congratulations


The latest STPC members to complete twelve lessons are:

**Jack Lindeman, Nancy Lindeman,  
Virginia Russell, Katie Sample, Velma Warder**

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

Want to earn a higher interest rate on your CD or savings? Or pay less Income Tax currently? Or do both? Safely! Call Gordon Schleicher, 922-3642.



## Michael Lynne's TENNIS SHOP



*Where you can get it all!  
Friendly service while you shop for  
top name brands in tennis apparel and racquets:*

*Babolat, Boast, Colmar, Cycle, Daryn  
Designs, Diadora, Donnay, Dunlop, Ellesse, Fancy Pants,  
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Le Coq Sportif, Lily's of Beverly Hills, Nike, Prince, Sergio  
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# 1994 Senior Tennis Camp Registration

The Senior Tennis Camp at River Falls, Wisconsin, will again be held in five sessions in July and August. The session fees include room and most meals, coaching, workshops, station drills, and organized or individual play under the professional leadership of USTPA coaches Connie Custodio, Lois Nordman, and Ernie Greene.

In addition to tennis the River Falls campus offers volleyball, horseshoes, bocci ball, billiards, plus hiking and biking trails for your enjoyment. River Falls is also the summer practice home of the Kansas City Chiefs, which makes for some added excitement for interested fans.

Session prices are based on double occupancy. There is a \$3 surcharge per night for a single room. Air conditioning costs \$3.50 extra a day per room.

**Registration is limited: we recommend you sign up early!**

**How to register:** On the form below, please indicate which session(s) you will attend, preference for single or double occupancy and air conditioning.

Send this registration form and a check payable to Senior Tennis Camp in the amount of \$50 per person, as a down payment, to:

**Chuck Supplee (612-888-0551)**  
 5144 Balmoral Ln  
 Bloomington, MN 55437

**Ginny Heinzen (612-933-1613)**  
 4746 Barbara Dr  
 Minnetonka, MN 55343

**Note:** a 25% service fee on the down payment will be retained if you cancel after May 1, 1994. A 25% service fee on the full amount will be retained if you cancel after July 1, 1994.

Name #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Name #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Session</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Cost Each</u>	<u>Double</u>	<u>Single</u>	<u>Air Conditioning</u>
1	July 25-28	4	\$205	_____	_____	_____
2	July 29-31	3	\$155	_____	_____	_____
<del>3</del>	<del>Aug 1-4</del>	<del>4</del>	<del>\$205</del>	_____	filled	_____
4	Aug 5-7	3	\$155	_____	_____	_____
5	Aug 8-12	5	\$245	_____	_____	_____

## Waiver and Indemnity Agreement

Acceptance of my entry in these events is without responsibility of any kind by Senior Tennis Camp. I do hereby for and on behalf of myself and my heirs and legal representatives release and forever discharge the Senior Tennis Camp and Staff from any and all claims, demands and injuries, howsoever arising, and all such claims are hereby waived and released, and I covenant not to sue.

In agreement: signature \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

signature \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

*Play...Instruction...Lunch...*

*The John Bolger  
Memorial  
Tennis Clinic*

Nicollet Tennis Center  
39th and Nicollet Ave S

**May 10, 1994, 9 a.m.–noon**

*refreshments provided by Bolger Creative Printing*

—Sign up now—

Cost: \$10 per person

reservations close May 4, 1994

send your check and reservation to:

Dick Gehring  
8044 Pennsylvania Rd  
Bloomington, MN 55438

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Skill Level:

Advanced \_\_\_\_\_

Inermediate \_\_\_\_\_

Beginner \_\_\_\_\_

**Come  
Join Us!**



## membership count

The STPC membership count as of March 20, 1994 is 1,157.

## deadline for stories

The deadline for stories for the May 1994 *Senior Tennis Times* is April 15, 1994.

Note to contributors: the Editor is going on a vacation (first in two years!) April 23 – May 1. In order to get out the May issue, *everything must be submitted early!!*



**Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.**  
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**Senior Tennis Times**

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**Address Correction Requested**

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