Newsletter of the Senior Tennis Players Club

Volume 7, Number 5

May 1994

## It's time for outdoor tennis — summer schedule in this issue!

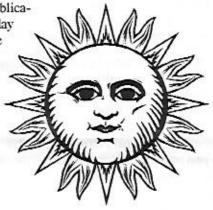
tentative schedule for courts available outdoors appears in this issue of the *Times*. Remember, courts used without reserva tions or permits are subject to the rules specified by the community, the park board, the recreation director or whoever is in charge of them.

The schedule is the most up-to-date information available at the time of publication. Schedules that have been verified have a little checkmark next to the day of the week — you can be pretty sure those are correct! We will print the schedule again in the next issue. Check that for changes or corrections.

If there are captains indicated in the schedule, please call them for more information about the court you're interested in. Tell them you'll be there. If there is no captain listed, come along anyway — and let's start something!

#### A reminder for indoor and outdoor captains

Please remind all your spring and summer tennis comrades that they must be paid-up members in order to play at the times reserved for STPC. If you need application forms, please call Char Hall, VP-Membership, at 474-5873.



# Sign up for some genuine tennis

Scheduled matches for the fifth season of play in the Genuine Seniors League will begin in early June. Six teams are planning to compete, several of which could use regular players. All the teams could use substitutes. In addition, the league would like to expand to eight teams.

Genuine Seniors team action consists of four doubles matches between pairs of ranked ability, ranging from about 4.0 players in first doubles positions to about 3.0 in fourth doubles positions. With a few scheduling variations, the matches are played outdoors on Wednesday mornings at 9 a.m. Some of the teams also hold weekly practice sessions, usually on Monday mornings.

The league is competitive in the sense that all scores are recorded and a league standings is kept. Double round robin play continues until about Labor Day; there is no playoff. A team captained by Jim Curran was the Genuine Seniors team champion last year.

Other teams will be captained by: Bob Eidem (571-7943), playing at Fridley High School; Firman Alexander (423-6859), playing in Burnsville; Ed Holzhacker (890-5963) and Joell Anderson (881-5510), playing at Fridley Middle School; and Dick Anderson (738-2520) and Larry Bordsen (781-3289), playing at Columbia Heights High School. Jim Curran's team plays its home meetings at Kenwood early and late in the season and at Richfield High in midsummer (Curran's phone is 377-8509).

Players interested in forming a new team should call Al Uhl at 644-9810.

Inside: details on signing up for the **Senior Sport O' Rama** in June and the **1994 Aquatennial Senior Tennis Tournament** in July!



## BASELINE

## BY JOHN STECKLEIN. STPC PRESIDENT

am going to devote this column to acknowledgment of the many services provided by the outgoing officers of the Board: Holger Christiansen, Bernice Hanson, Mary Kaminski, Percy Hughes, and Jerry Lund. Their intelligent contributions to the good of the Senior Tennis Players Club, conscientious consideration of the activities and programs developed by the Board, and their faithful attendance at Board meetings throughout their tenure, are all evidences of important ingredients critical to the successful operation of a volunteer-based operation like our Club. Several served extended terms—beyond the regular three-year period—at the behest of the Board.

HOLGER CHRISTIANSEN As President, Holger's strong guidance carried the Board through a number of sensitive problems—ranging from personnel to interpersonal relationships to a budget shortage—during his tenure. His thoughtful presentation of issues, quiet counsel, and good judgment led to sound Board decisions. Special mention should be made of his willingness to take on the duties of Secretary after completing his successful term as President. The high quality of the Board minutes this past year was further evidence of the caliber of service provided by this gentleman. His strong presence will be sorely missed.

MARY KAMINSKI Mary Kaminski has had a long tenure on the Board, most of which she served faithfully and well as originator and Editor of the Senior Tennis Times, as we know it today. During her editorship, the newsletter grew, developed an identity, and provided the Club with a source of information, identification, and a coherence in its activities. She often provided the Board with a historical perspective that was invaluable during its deliberations. The combination of her background knowledge and experience, her insight, and her fearlessness in making tough decisions made her a potent Board member. With Mary's departure, another stalwart leaves the fold.

BERNICE HANSON Bernice Hanson has provided heroic service to the Club through her dedicated attention to its fiscal operation and supervision of its financial resources. From her attention to detail required by the process of receiving, tabulating, and depositing annual dues, to the disbursement of funds, to her periodic reports of the Club's income and expense picture, to her participation in preparation of the annual proposed budget, she has demonstrated a steady hand and a complete command of the situation. As a Board member her comments were incisive, and her decisions were well thought out. People with her kind of devotion and willingness to provide assistance in any way are indeed difficult to find. The Board has been fortunate in finding a worthy successor, but Bernice will also be missed.

**PERCY HUGHES** Percy Hughes, too, has served as a Director of the Board for many years. Although his tenure as Director is up, we will not lose his services because he will continue to meet with the Board under his new title as Coordinator of Lessons. His function will be essentially the same, perhaps with more planning

responsibility, but continuity will be facilitated without the formality of having to vote through an extension of tenure each year after an initial term as a Director. Nevertheless, we acknowledge his conscientious attention to the supervision, development, and maintenance of the Newcomers Lessons and Drills aspect of our tennis programs.

JERRY LUND Jerry Lund is completing his third year as VP for Facilities, a difficult and sometimes frustrating job. During his tenure a number of new facilities have become available, and a reasonably good balance has been achieved between availability of facilities in relation to the nuclei of memberships in the St. Paul and Minneapolis areas. The network of playing sites enhanced by his efforts will provide the Club with a strong base upon which to build even more playing opportunities in the coming years.

DICK PRATT Although Dick Pratt completed his tenure on the Board a year ago, it behooves me to include his name in my compilation of individuals deserving of the Club's strong commendations. due to his recent announcement that he was bowing out of "captaining" to enable him to be involved in other pursuits. Dick served for several years as a Vice President for Tennis Programs and as a captain for various playing groups and teams during both the indoor and the summer playing periods. He paid careful attention to detail, was unendingly willing to devote large chunks of time to make certain that all playing sessions went well, that courts were consistently filled as intended, that captains were available where needed, and that those captains could function effectively. This kind of dedication and loyalty to the Club make a tough act to follow, but indicate that volunteers can really make or break an operation like ours. We wish Dick well with his new-found free time and want him to know that his services have been greatly appreciated and will be sorely missed.



#### Roger Boyer Named Executive Director of Minneapolis Urban Tennis

The multicultural youth tennis program that operated in 21 urban Minneapolis neighborhoods in 1993, serving 1300 boys and girls, has appointed one of the leading pros and tennis teachers in this part of the country to head up its staff.

Roger Boyer, former board member of the NWTA and longtime clinician of the Tennis and Life clinics and camps is taking over the directorship for this coming summer season.

Roger brings administrative skill, teaching experience and, more importantly, dedication to help the lives of at-risk and disadvantaged youngsters by bringing them into the wholesome sport of tennis, where they can learn life skills while having healthy, risk-free recreation.

Roger is expected to lift the program to new levels of quality. His goal is to increase program participation 20% by adding three new inner city locations, while continuing to develop existing sites.

#### Senior Sport O' Rama

The Senior Sport O' Rama is a friendly competition open to all seniors. It starts on Thursday evening, June 16, with a fun walk and opening ceremonies at Normandale Lake in Bloomington, and continues through Friday, June 24. This yearly event is underwritten by the city of Bloomington, with the cooperation of Richfield, Edina and Eden Prairie and the aid of local businesses.

The Sport O' Rama offers sixteen different sports, among them basketball, bocceball, golf, tennis, and bowling. You may enter more than one sport, schedule permitting. Last year more than 100 tennis players participated.

Three of our tennis players are on the steering committee. They are Lois Bunday (831-7677), Chuck Supplee (888-0551), and Jim Tornoe (941-9145).

You can get registration blanks by calling Jeff Stottlemyer at 887-9604, ext. 390. Hope to see many of you at the Sport O' Rama!

### Have Racquet, Will Travel!

bout 20 tennis players are in Fargo, North Dakota for the Sports Classic, headed by Ed Holzhacker and Chuck Supplee. A date to put on your calendar: July 12 through July 16, for the Minnesota Senior Olympics. Last year over 50 senior tennis players from the Twin Cities enjoyed Duluth and the Games.

#### USTPA Tennis Across America Day

n Thursday, May 12, everybody's invited to Wolfe Park for a morning of free tennis and fun. Come celebrate the annual United States Professional Tennis Association's Tennis Across America Day with stroke drills for players of all levels. The time for the fun is 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Percy Hughes is the host pro, and Roger Boyer and the entire teaching staff will be there to conduct the drills. It's always fun, and everyone is welcome — bring along your tennis friends, even if they're not members of STPC.



#### Congratulations

The latest STPC members to complete twelve lessons are:

Bob Cripe, Virginia Vining, Frank Wilcox, Mitzie Wilcox, Lew Workman

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

## In Memoriam

Jinny McWethy, 76, of Edina died April 14 of cancer. She was active in STPC; she was best known as the cofounder and past president of the North Star Ski Touring Club. Our deepest sympathy is extended to her daughter, Janet Armstrong, her son, James, her three sisters, especially Barbara Perry, an STPC member.

Georgia Chapman, 75, of Richfield, diesd suddenly of a heart attack on April 17. A longtime piano and organ teacher, she accompanied soloists at several STPC annual meetings. She had played the organ at a church in Apple Valley the day of her death. Our sympathy goes out to her husband, Harvey, also a club member, and to their son and daughter.



### Thank You, Senior Volunteers

by Tim Harrigan, Tennis and Life Coordinator, NWTA

he Northwestern Tennis Association is deeply indebted to the Senior Tennis Players Club for their enthusiastic support of the 1994 Tennis and Life Clinic. The Clinic was a big success and much of the credit goes to the large contingent of senior volunteers who helped make this year's event one of the best clinics ever. We received many compliments about how smoothly the clinic went and how considerate and friendly the volunteers were.

Special thanks go to Percy Hughes and Ginny Owens for their role in recruiting and coordinating the senior volunteers. Following is a list of senior club members who volunteered at the Tennis and Life Clinic:

Chuck Beshears, Bruce Clarke, Aldean Cummings, Marilyn Cuneo, Jim Erler, Mary Erler, Pat Grames, Marilou Holte, Percy Hughes, Helen Jackson, Jim McCue, Peter Meyerhoff, Virginia Morgan, Maria Mueller, Ginny Owens, Nick Pappas, Dick Pratt, Shirley Pratt, Ray Ranallo, Grace Schneider, Esther Shivers, John Stecklein, Paul Stormo, Ronnac Wagner, Betty Western.

Thanks again for all your help.

#### A Note of Appreciation

en Brawerman has been active for many years with the STPC lessons program. This popular gentleman, musi cian and tennis player/teacher has been the principal oboeist in the Normandale Community College Band for ten years.

When summer break comes, you'll find Lenny with his tennis racquet and hopper of balls, assisting your club pros with lessons at Wolfe Park.

Len is a very capable instructor and a pleasure to work with.

Our club is fortunate to have him as a member and teaching assistant.

Thanks, Lenny!

#### Talent Search

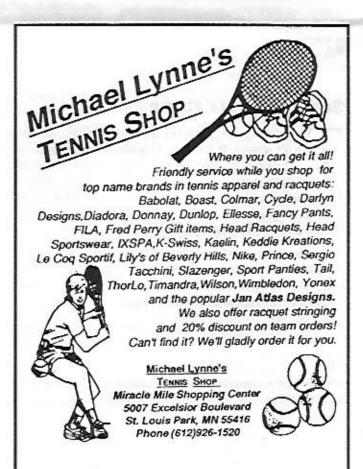
We're looking for a female Flagship Club member who would be willing to be a captain, starting the next indoor season (Fall '94). Call Chuck Slocum at 941-4059.

## Hit 'N Giggle

mportant announcement to all ladies who are interested in the Hit 'N Giggle League: The first meeting of the league is at Brookview Courts in Brookview Park, Highway 55 and Winnetka, on Wednesday, May 18, at 9 a.m. Schedules and information will be ready — we'll play and form teams. League play starts on Wednesday, June 1.

If you can't come, please call Shirley Pratt at 433-3583. Leave your name and phone and indicate that you want to be included.





## TENNIS TIPS by Virginia Morgan

Ted Smith knows all the official tennis rules. Call him at 925-4133 if you have some rules questions. He's the answer man!

Beat the heat! When playing outside in the summer, don't forget to bring a towel, sunscreen, a visor or sunglasses, and water.

All players should know where all three balls are at all times and send them to the server. The player furthest away should send them first. (Observe the ball boys—they toss to the server on one bounce!)

Copy the pros: On return of serve, they give a little jump and split step or go step—step—step, as the server is about to serve, which gives them momentum and balance so they can go in either direction to return the serve. Usually, when returning a forehand groundstroke, they will step on the right foot rather than the left foot as they stroke the ball.

Observe the pros: When serving, the left arm is fully extended on the ball toss and the face is looking up. Watch Becker and Sampras: they lift their left toe at the beginning of their serve (which puts their weight on the right foot). Just as in golf, pitching baseballs, or passing footballs, the player's weight shifts. Practice serving: Accumulate a bucket of balls and go to an empty court:

- See how many balls you can get in the forchand service court.
- Set targets in that court and serve a bucket of balls at each target.
- 3. Serve a bucket mixing up their placement.
- 4. As you get consistent, go for power.
- 5. Repeat 1,2, and 3 in the backhand service court.

Practice on a backboard or windowless building: Put a piece of tape on the board for a target. Stand about 12 feet away and only hit forehands. After you get 10 without missing, do the same with the backhand. Go for accuracy, changing grips. Keep your racquet parallel with the ground. If the ball is low, bend at the knees instead of bending at the wrist or hips. Then alternate between your forehand and backhand. Try to get 20 placed without missing.

Later on, try rallying on a backboard. Get a partner and take turns hitting the return. You could keep score for fun!

## 1994 Minneapolis Aquatennial

## **Senior Tennis Tournament**

Doubles Format Trophies and prizes will be presented Wednesday, July 20, 1994 9 a.m. – noon Nicollet Tennis Center 4005 Nicollet Avenue

Refreshments will be served. Event supported by the Nicollet Tennis Center.

## Senior Tennis Tournament Registration Form

Deadline is July 8, 1994. Registration fee: \$8.00

Name	
Address	
Phone	

For more information, call 663-6189. Mail registration and check to **Joan Hansen**, 150 S 5th St, Suite 2710, Minneapolis, MN 55402.

## Update on Team Tennis '94

It is still too early to report with certainty the nature and extent of interest shown in Team Tennis for this summer. However, preliminary responses seem to indicate the following:

- 1. There has been little interest shown in playing singles.
- Concern about: amount of playing time; location of team courts; vacations interfering with team play, and length of season.

As indicated in the early articles, nothing is fixed as yet; we are waiting to determine who is interested and what their characteristics are. So, based on the preliminary responses, several alternatives suggest themselves:

- 1. Do not play singles. Play, instead, two sets of men's doubles, two sets of women's doubles, and two sets of mixed doubles. Players may play two matches, if numbers permit. Each team would play two matches in each competition. If three courts can be obtained, all six matches could be completed in about two hours. If six teams are developed, the season would be 10 weeks long, or could be split into two 5-week seasons. If only enough people sign up to make 3 or 4 teams, the season would be only four or 6 weeks long.
- Have smaller teams, four members in each: two men and two women. Play would consist of one men's doubles, one women's doubles, and one mixed doubles. Length of season would be determined by the number of teams.
- If enough players sign up, two team levels could be used: one would consist of players with ratings of 3.0 or above; the other
  of players with ratings of 2.0-2.5. We would then have two leagues operating independently.
- We will attempt to obtain courts distributed through the Twin City area. Current respondents come from Dayton to Bloomington, Maplewood to Edina, and Orono to St. Croix.

If you want some team playing experience, associating with both men and women team members, send in the form printed in the April newsletter as soon as possible, or call Charles Peterson or Jim Erler. Assuming an adequate response, details will be worked out about the middle of May so that play can begin during the first two weeks of June.



## 1994 Schedule for Outdoor Courts (rev. 4/15/94)

Location	Day	Time	Captain(s)	Phone
Augsburg Park 72nd and Blaisdell Richfield Courts not available on 5/17-18, 5/31, 6/13-15, 6/20-24, 7/29	Mon–Fri√	8-10 A.M., 5/2-6/10 7:30-9 A.M., 6/16-8/8 8-10 A.M., 8/11-9/30	Florence Habegger Marge Mercer	869-7918 866-8933
Bell Courts at the Water Tower Old Wayzata Blvd and Minnetonka Ave Wayzata	Wed	4-6 P.M.	Marilyn Thorne	471-9813
Brooklyn Center Senior High 6500 Humboldt Ave N Brooklyn Center	Tues, Thurs	8:30-10:30 A.M.	Captains needed	ortica selement
Brookview Park Hwy 55 & Winnetka Golden Valley	Sat	9–11 A.M.	Joyce Hautman Mary McNeil	545-4051 545-7142
City Center Courts Chanhassen	Fri	8:30-10:30 A.M.	Barb & Craig Freeman	474-8070
Corno Park Horton Ave near Lexington St. Paul	Mon, Wed✓	7–9 A.M. 9–11 A.M.	Lenore Patneaude	644-4208
Donaldson Park 75th & Humboldt S, Richfield Dates: 6/6-9/30 (Do not play week of 7/25)	Mon, Wed, Fri√	7:30–10 A.M.	Chad Sharkey Cliff Northfield	866-7682 884-6617
Dred Scott Park W. Old Shakopee Rd & Ferry Bridge Rd	Mon-Fri	8–10 A.M.	Lois & Paul Lokensgard Chuck Supplee	831-1171 844-8848
Edgewood Middle School 5100 Edgewood Drive Moundsview	Mon–Fri	9 A.Mnoon	Captains needed: call Dick Pratt at 433-3583	
Edina Senior High 6754 Valley View Road Edina	Tues Thurs Sat Sun	6–8 P.M. 6–8 P.M. 4–6 P.M. 4–6 P.M.	Jack Reynolds Jim Bernstein Al Hotter Jack Reynolds	831-5080 544-0511 537-1843 831-5080
Fridley Commons 61st and 7th Ave Northwest corner Dates: starts 5/3	Tues, Thurs✓	9–11 A.M.	Bob Metcalf	571-3596
Lone Lake Park Shady Oak N of Bren Rd Eden Prairie	Mon-Fri	8–10 A.M.	Chuck Beshear Paul Weinreis	938-3694 935-9463
North Valley Park Inver Grove Heights	Mon, Wed, Fri	9-11 A.M.	Dorne Davis	457-3940
Oakdale Tennis Courts 15th St and Hadley Oakdale	Mon-Fri Sat-Sun	8–10 A.M. 9–11 A.M.	Bob Western Roni LeRoy	735-5761 738-9565 (h) 733-4442 (w)

Note: a ✓ next to a day of the week means that session's info should be correct.

## 1994 Schedule for Outdoor Courts

Location	Day	Time	Captain(s)	Phone
St. Anthony Central Park Silver Lake Rd. & 33rd St. Anthony starting May 26	Thurs✓	9–11 A.M.	Mary Kaminski	781-3271
South Campus Co Rd E & McKnight White Bear Lake Dates: 6/13-8/26	Daily~	8–10 A.M.	Bob Hinz	771-4480
Sunrise School Cedar & Cedarbrook White Bear Lake Dates. 5/1-6/10	Daily✓	8–11 A.M.	Bob Hinz	735-5761
3M Tartan Park 20th St. N, btwn Cty Rd 17 & Cty Rd 15, Lake Elmo enter at picnic & sports area. In case of rain or wet courts, play indoors at Wooddale Tennis Club Date: starts 5/2.	Mon, Wed, Fri√	8–10 A.M.	Bob Wrobel	738-2290
Valley Park Marie, east of Victoria Mendota Heights	Mon–Fri√	7:30-9 A.M.	Dot Guenther Nancy Karasov	457-4682 452-3172
Valley View Park 90th between Nicollet & Portland, Bloomington	Mon–Fri	7–10 A M.	Cliff McMinn	888-4989
Washington Park 77th and 17th S Richfield Dates: 5/2-6/3 (don't play on 6/1)	Mon, Wed, Fri√	7:30-10 A.M.	Cliff Northfield Chad Sharkey	884-6617 866-7682
Nolfe Park N 36th St off #100 Saint Louis Park	Tues, Fri√ Mon, Wed√ Sat√	9–11 A.M. 9–11 A.M. 9–11 A.M.	Laverne Wilger Bob Torbert LaVerne Wilger	929-8120 374-4288 929-8120

## 1994 Summer Schedule for Beginner Lessons and Drills

Location	Day	Time	Instructor	Phone
Wolfe Park W 36th St. off #100 Saint Louis Park	Thursv starts 5/12	8.30-10 A.M.	Percy Hughes Ginny Owens	545-7696 546-9666
Woodbury Elementary 1425 School Dr. Woodbury	Tues√ starts 5/17	6–7:30 P.M.	Virginia Morgan	459-6059

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#### Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.

A Nonprofit Corporation 1988 North Wheeler St. 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.

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#### Address Correction Requested

May 1994



