

Senior Tennis TIMES

NEWSLETTER OF THE SENIOR TENNIS PLAYERS CLUB, INC.

JUNE 1996

JACK DOW SENIOR TENNIS TOURNAMENT AND ROUND ROBIN

**Aug. 19-23: Women's,
Men's and Mixed Doubles,
Northwest 98th Street
Club**

by Carol Hall

Have you registered to play? Emily Day has. Emily, a 2.0 player, is eager to participate in the women's round robin match.

"It's the fun and companionship that I'll enjoy, she said. "It doesn't matter a hoot who wins!"

Tournament Director Ernie Greene hopes more 2.5 and below players will follow Emily's lead and

enter. Ernie is making it easy as well as fun. Playing round robin, it isn't necessary to find a doubles partner: players will be paired off by officials and rotated after each game. Individual scores will be kept and trophies awarded to winners who have the highest total score.

Barb and Jack Groth, Martha Schlader and Earl Hall also have entered the tournament. All rated 3.0 and above, they will follow single elimination rules and enter and play with the same partner throughout.

The Groths also are participating in two events apiece. They will be partners for mixed doubles. Barb will pair off with Martha for the women's doubles and Jack with Earl for the men's doubles.

Winners in each event will be the pair winning two out of three games. Playoffs for all events are scheduled the last two days of the tournament.

The only prerequisite for tournament participation is a current official rating. If you have never been rated by an STPC pro or the USTA, or were rated more than two years ago, plan to attend a rating session. They will be held at Wolfe Park in St. Louis Park from 9-11 a.m. on the following dates: Thursday, June 20; Saturday, July 13; Saturday, August 3 and Saturday, August 10.

In addition, rating sessions have been scheduled in St. Paul at Como Park, Wednesday, June 19, 11:30

a.m. and Woodbury High School, Wednesday, June 12 and Wednesday, June 26, 10:30 a.m.

NOTE: If you have been rated within the last two years by a club pro or the USTA, you need not be rated again.

Additional rating sessions will be conducted for River Falls, WI Senior Tennis Camp participants who plan to enter the tournament. (Cutoff date is August 12, the final registration day.)

STPC pros Ernie Greene, Percy Hughes and Lois Nordman will serve as "raters."

In addition, Ernie will conduct a tournament orientation clinic Thursday, July 18 at Wolfe Park at 10 a.m. Anyone wanting a rundown of tournament rules and procedures is encouraged to attend. Ernie will be on hand to answer your questions.

"I'm really looking forward to the tournament. I think it'll be a lot of fun," Barb Groth said. "We're hoping for a big turnout."

A tournament entry form, with complete rules, is on page 3. It is to be mailed to: STPC, PO Box 16163, St. Louis Park, MN, 55416.

Join Emily, Barb, Jack, Martha and Earl. Help make it a big turnout! ■

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 15 Vision-Tennis
Clinic with Michael Zosel,
Nicollet Tennis Center

July 20 Grandparent-
Grandchild Tennis Event,
Valleyview Courts,
Bloomington

August 19-23 Jack Dow
Annual Senior Tennis Tourna-
ment and Round Robin,
Northwest 98th Street Racquet
Club

2ND ANNUAL CAPTAINS' DINNER PARTY

by Phil Steinberg

On May 14 it was wet and dreary outside. But inside the Club House at the beautiful Olympic Hills Golf Club in Eden Prairie it was cozy and cheerful. 167 members and spouses helped celebrate STPC's 2nd Annual Captains' Dinner Party, a gala affair chaired by Chuck Slocum and assisted by a great committee. His helpers were Mary Ann Moran, Jack Wallin, Marcia Hinitz and Grayce and Leonard Aberle.

Name tags, beautifully calligraphed by Marcia Hinitz, awaited guests as they arrived. The social hour was enhanced by Jack Wallin's delightful piano music. The buffet that followed was typical of Olympic Hill's outstanding cuisine.

A brief but interesting meeting was started off with a warm welcome by Mary Ann Moran who introduced our president, Sue Larson. In her inevitable way, Sue let us know that STPC is one of the Twin Cities' best kept secrets. "Where else can anyone find a more enjoyable way of keeping out of the graveyard?" she asked. "Our tennis playing is competitive," she added, "but very friendly and well organized." Then Sue, herself a captain, let the other captains know how much she appreciated all they are doing.

Chuck Slocum informed us that we now have over 60 communities offering us hundreds of excellent places to play tennis. Like Sue, he

too voiced his praise for our captains.

The next speaker was our Senior Vice President, Matthew Little. In his usual elegant manner, Matthew cleverly told us that our most capable President, Sue Larson, was expendable. She could be replaced; but what could not be replaced was our fantastic staff of captains. "Without them we are dead in the water," Matthew said. "They are more valuable than our President." He most assuredly convinced everyone present. As chairman of the First Annual Jack Dow Tournament, he challenged every captain to make sure all their players sign up for the tournament.

We are most fortunate that all our parties and functions are so very successful. We are apt to think they happen all by themselves. But they do not. They are the result of chair people and committee members who work long and hard to see that everything runs smoothly down to the smallest detail. This is exemplified by Jackie Rouillard and the remarkable job her committee did at our Annual Meeting and Social. We are certainly indebted to people like Jackie and Chuck and all other generous volunteers.

The 2nd Annual Captains' Dinner stressed the fact that our captains are the most vital part of our organization. Our able pros are essential, but without our captains we could take the word "tennis" out of our title. Our captains are the dedicated souls that work diligently to keep us on the courts. In essence, the Captains' Annual Dinner is an appreciation party. We appreciate everything the captains do, and we

offer them a hearty "Thank you!"

The dinner party was capped off with the presentation of several appropriate and useful door prizes. ■

NOMINATIONS FOR THE JACK DOW TRAVELING TROPHY SOUGHT

The Jack Dow Traveling Trophy will be awarded annually to an STPC member who has shown dedication, enthusiasm and service. This is not a popularity contest!

The recipient will be selected based on the following considerations:

- taking a leadership role, such as captain, board member or volunteer;
- showing a spirit of enthusiasm and productivity;
- having a creative and imaginative attitude;
- showing a dedication to increasing the participation in and membership of STPC;
- promoting sportsmanship.

All STPC members are encouraged to send in their nominations for this honor. Please fill out the form below and mail before July 15 to Emily Day, 7340 Clinton Ave S, Richfield, MN 55423. ■

Tournament Rules

Eligibility

The Jack Dow Tennis Tournament is open to all members of STPC in good standing who have been rated by an STPC instructor. (Rating sessions will be held May 16, June 20, July 13, and August 3 and 10 at Wolfe Park from 9-11 a.m.)

Number of Events

A player may enter a total of 2 events.

Entry Fee

The fee is \$3 per event. No refunds will be given after the entry deadline.

Deadline

Entries must be postmarked on or before August 12, 1996.

Matches

- **2.5 level or below:** Round robin men's, women's and mixed doubles.
- **3.0 or above:** Men's, women's and mixed doubles played in the singles-elimination format, with the best of 2 out of 3 sets.

A 12 point tiebreaker will be used for all matches. The 15 minute default rule will be enforced.

Draw

The draw will be held at noon, August 14, at Wolfe Park. *Note:* The tournament committee reserves the right to decline any entry before or after the draw has been made.

Schedule

Play starts promptly at 2 p.m. each day.

- Aug. 19 All players 3.0 and over; women 2.5 and below round robins
- Aug. 20 Men 2.5 and below round robins
- Aug. 21 Mixed doubles, all ratings
- Aug. 22-23 Playoffs

Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc. Jack Dow Annual Senior Tennis Tournament and Round Robin Tournament Entry Form

- Door prizes to lucky number holders • Refreshments
- Trophies awarded to all event winners

Two players may use this form to register.

If you don't have a doubles partner, the committee will match you with someone.

	Name	Rating	Phone No.
Men's Doubles	1.		
	2.		
Women's Doubles	1.		
	2.		
Mixed Doubles	1.		
	2.		

Waiver must be signed by contestant: As a condition to my entering this tournament, I agree to participate at my own risk in the activities of the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc., which may include tennis lessons, clinics, weekly scheduled tennis, social events and any scheduled tennis trips or extra activities. Further, I waive and release the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc., a nonprofit organization, and its officers and members providing services on behalf of the Club, and all claims for damages due to injuries that I may incur as a result of my participation in any of these events.

Player 1 Signature _____ Date _____

Player 2 Signature _____ Date _____

Mail this form to: Senior Tennis Players Club, PO Box 16163, Saint Louis Park MN 55416

JOHN BOLGER TENNIS CLINIC AND LUNCHEON A GREAT SUCCESS

On Tuesday, May 21, 82 STPC members attended the Fourth Annual John Bolger Tennis Clinic and Luncheon at the Nicollet Tennis Center in Minneapolis.

Ron Liddiard's precise planning accounted for the smoothness of the clinic as everyone moved through three hours of drills and play. Roger Boyer and his team of pros made the event an education for the eager attendants.

Gen Bolger, who treated for the sumptuous lunch, was there and greeted all. She said she was "thrilled to see the enthusiasm and the happy STPC people." Gen, we love you, too, and thank you. ■

ARTHUR ASHE WEEK DRILLS

Percy Hughes announces that there will be free public drills held on June 25 at the Northwest 98th Street Club. These drills, starting at 1:30 p.m., are part of the week-long Arthur Ashe Tennis Fest. Jack Roach is one of the co-hosts for the Tennis Fest week. ■

IRMA BONG WINS GOLD

STPC member Irma Bong won three gold medals in swimming at the United States Senior Olympics qualifying site in Fargo, North Dakota May 7-8.

She qualifies for the National Senior Olympics, which will be held in Tucson, Arizona in May 1997.

Way to go, Irma! ■

AUGUST 6 IS PERCY HUGHES DAY IN RIVER FALLS!

It was 10 years ago that Percy Hughes, Ginny Owens, Virginia Morgan and Connie Custodio helped organize the first senior Tennis Camp at Mankato with the Minnesota Vikings. After four years at Mankato, the camp expanded and moved to River Falls with the Kansas City Chiefs.

This is only one of the many good things that Percy has helped—therefore it is very fitting that we call August 6 "Percy Hughes Day" at River Falls, Wisconsin.

Those desiring to come for part of the day—to eat at the 4:30 p.m. buffet and the 6 p.m. program, call Chuck Supplee at 888-0551 for reservations and cost. ■

MORE TENNIS COURTS AVAILABLE IN MINNETONKA

The City of Minnetonka has earmarked two more courts for our use this summer in addition to those we have been using at Lone Lake and at Central Park in Hopkins.

These courts are located in Gro-Tonka Park, which is just north of Minnetonka Boulevard on Shores Boulevard (east of Hwy. 101 and Groveland School). Court hours are 8-10 A.M., Monday through Friday.

We urge you to take advantage of this opportunity. Call Dick Lidstone at 941-4724 or Lloyd Layton at 476-1298 if you have any questions. ■

To the Members and Board of Directors of STPC:

Your generous gift to InnerCity Tennis and the tennis programs we sponsor is most appreciated.

Your support will help us expand the number of youngsters we serve and provide them an opportunity to experience the fun of tennis and learn the valuable lessons of life it teaches.

My sincere thank you.

Roger Boyer
Executive Director
InnerCity Tennis

Note: The STPC Board voted to donate \$1,000 to Minneapolis and Saint Paul InnerCity Tennis.

back by popular demand...
Vision-Tennis Clinic
with Michael Zosel

Saturday, June 15, Nicollet Tennis Center

\$10 per person
Reservations due by June 10

Sign up for the Vision-Tennis Clinic, presented by nationally-recognized writer and speaker Michael Zosel, the author of *Vision-Tennis*. STPC's Director of Training, Percy Hughes, will assist.

Michael will explain and demonstrate the visual, auditory and physical components that will help you improve your tennis.

- Tap into the exciting dynamics of playing "in the zone". Learn how to get "in the zone" and how to stay there.
- Improve your anticipation skills.
- Manage your time between points like a pro.
- Develop mental techniques for all your strokes and when your score is love-40.

Vision-Tennis Clinic

Yes!

Send this reservation form with your check for \$10 per person, made out to STPC, to:

Mary Wenz
 1296 Charlton St
 West St. Paul, MN 55118

For more information, call Mary at 457-5347.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Check time preferred: 7:30 a.m. warmup, 8-10 a.m. clinic, 10 a.m. snacks

10 a.m. warmup/snacks, 10:30-12:30 p.m. clinic

Captains' Corner by Chuck Slocum

The captains' dinner was well attended (167 people came) and enjoyed by all. The facilities, arrangements and dinner, arranged by Mary Ann Moran with assistance from Jim Tornoe, were top notch. The committee of Sue Larson, Mary Ann Moran, Jack Wallin and Chuck Slocum deservedly were pleased with the results.

Dick Lidstone was introduced and will succeed me as Director of Facilities and Tennis Programs next April. Until then, Dick will assist me and prepare the indoor schedule for this coming fall.

Letters will be going out to each facility to ascertain the availability of indoor courts, times, etc. We'll also be writing letters of thanks to past captains (we're assuming they will be willing to continue as captains next fall).

We are planning a seminar sometime in late summer targeted at new captains. However, any and all captains will be welcome! More details will be published in upcoming issues of the Times.

Have a good summer! ■

UPDATE ON 1996 STPC TEAMTENNIS

The captains of the teams for '96 TeamTennis met on May 17 to plan for the TeamTennis matches this summer. As reported in the May Times, the teams will be divided into

two divisions—North and South. Each division will have four teams of 8 regular players and 4 alternates, equally divided between men and women. Players with ratings between 2.5 and 4.0 have been recruited, and care has been taken to make the teams as equally competitive as possible.

Each team will play a home and home set of matches consisting of two men's doubles, two women's doubles and four mixed doubles within their divisions. That is, each team will play each other team within each division twice over a six-week season. Following those matches, each team in the North division will play one team in the South division in a home and home series, making an eight-week tourney season.

After these interdivision matches, the two teams in each division with the highest total tourney scores will play the other division in a seeded playoff series.

A TeamTennis championship match will then be played between the two winners of the playoff series. These semifinal and final playoffs will extend the season by one week, making the TeamTennis tourney

nine weeks long. Play is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, June 11 and the final championship matches will be played on August 6. All matches will be played on Tuesday mornings, from 9-11 a.m. Matches are usually completed within that two hour span, and in the past, have almost never gone beyond 12 noon, even with tight matches. Pro-set scoring procedures were outlined in the article in the May issue of the Times.

STPC members are encouraged to attend the matches, especially the championships. The playing site for the championship matches will be announced in the July Times.

When you read this the teams should be set, but if you would like to participate either as a regular or alternate please call John Connelly, TeamTennis Supervisor, at 771-2664, to inquire about possible openings.

Detailed instructions for reaching the playing sites will be distributed to TeamTennis participants by the team captains. ■

1996 TeamTennis:

North Division

- Fairview Community Center, Roseville
- Irondale High School

Captains

Grace Dahlbeck ... 488-7386
Deni Sahr 483-8880
George Farr 473-5112
Glen Gullikson 784-4539

South Division

- St. Louis Park Junior High School
- Wolfe Park, Saint Louis Park
- Macalester or St. Catherine College vicinity, St. Paul

Captains

Carol Curry 920-2222
Janice Hagen 941-4789
Jack Wallin 457-2266
Roy Rincon 724-4623

Ad In by Sue Larson, President

News about STPC is all good! Just like my balls that my opponents call out.

First, the Annual Meeting on April 24, coordinated by Jackie Rouillard and her committee, was really a class event. Jackie is to be commended for her many creative ideas (including the colorful centerpieces), the well organized reception area and the selection of an appropriate place for Senior Tennis Players.

The Captains' Dinner, under the leadership of Chuck Slocum and coordinated by Mary Ann Moran, certainly honored our many captains and their mates. I recommend when Chuck Slocum or Dick Lidstone calls you about being a captain you say "yes" immediately.

Now for summer activities. Wow! They are endless and full of good points.

Do try to attend the STPC board meeting on Wednesday, June 12 at the Lenox Senior Center in Saint Louis Park. Never a dull meeting at board meetings—in fact, it's cheaper and as entertaining as any movie. The starting time is 1 P.M. If I know you're attending, I might even brew up some coffee.

TeamTennis: Well, the two Johns—Connelly and Stecklein—are presenting an even better organized and structured program this season. If you want to substitute please call either John.

The Vision-Tennis Clinic with Michael Zosel at the Nicollet Tennis Center could well be a sellout so get your reservation to Mary Wenz soon.

Remember the Grandparent-Grandchild Round Robin on July 20. Two of our star organizers are working to make this second year even better than last year.

Now about the Jack Dow Annual Senior Tennis Tournament and Round Robin, running from August 19-23—well, Ernie Greene tells me registrations are already higher than the total registrations for last year. For those of you who need a partner—like I do—please call Ernie and he will provide help. (The truth is, my tennis for the last six weeks has been at an all-time low and my various former friends have selected others as their partner, so I am going to need help from Ernie.)

Membership continues to build but there's still space for your friends. Call Mary Earl McKinsey for applications, or better yet, have your friends call her at 934-8106. Grayce Aberle will line up the new member with a mentor.

I continue to be proud of this group of tennis players, who pass me by with great down-the-line shots and respond to our well-planned events. Thanks. ■

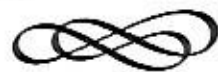


*Jack Dow had a vision to
cure senior's ills:*

*Play tennis and throw
away your pills.*

*Jack did so himself, felt fine
And lived to see eighty-nine.*

*Echo our leader, bring
friends into the fold,
To improve health and
forget the word "old".*



Second Annual Grandparent-Grandchild Round Robin

Saturday—July 20—8 A.M. to noon
Valley View Courts
90th & Portland—Bloomington

Here's an opportunity for you to play tennis with your grandchild, share time together and most of all have fun together! Lee Warner and Firmin Alexander, event coordinators, are planning a fun round robin event.

Only \$2.50 per person! The deadline for reservations is July 15. Send your reservation form and your check, payable to STPC, to

**Lee Warner, 5541 Aldrich Dr,
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430**

For more information, call Lee at 560-0384
or Firmin at 423-6851.

Yes!

Send this reservation form with your check for \$2.50 per person, made out to STPC, to:

**Lee Warner
5541 Aldrich Dr
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430**

Your name _____

Phone number _____

Grandchild's name _____

Grandchild's age _____

Captain's Profiles

by George Erickson

Chad Sharkey

Although Chad Sharkey played a bit of tennis as a teenager, he never really got into it until he retired from Northern States Power Company and joined Senior Tennis around 1988. Now, he captains four courts in Richfield every summer, enjoying the camaraderie with his players, who, according to Chad, are "really good about getting subs."

Chad's early years were spent in New Jersey and Maryland, but when World War II came along, the Navy decided to send him to boot camp at Lake Seneca, an inland New York lake where he was told to "be on the watch for submarines." Not finding any, Chad decided to become a hospital corpsman, which is how he finally arrived in Minneapolis. Later, married with two children, he returned to Maryland, which couldn't hold him, and the Sharkeys moved back to Minnesota, where Chad found work as a production manager in Honeywell's aeronautical division.

When I asked Chad what advice he might offer to those beginning the game, he thought for a while then said, "Well, I have to admit, I never did this myself, though I should have, but I'd advise people to go to the drills and learn enough to understand the game. They'll have more fun and play better tennis."

Chad, who has a son, a daughter and grandchildren in the Twin Cities area, has volunteered his time

at a food shelf and at an Opportunity Workshop, has been active in politics, and has coached Little League baseball and softball. In addition to playing tennis, being a handyman and a flower gardener, Chad enjoys harmonizing with friends in the Richfield Silver Notes. It's a busy life, but someone has to do it.

Bob Torbert

At 82, Bob Torbert is the most senior captain that I've interviewed—and sharp, too. Bob says he started playing tennis "about fifteen years ago, maybe twenty," beginning on the clay courts that used to be located near the Walker Art Center. Now, he captains a six-court summer league at St. Louis Park's Wolfe Park courts. (Bob made sure to mention that LaVerne Wilger and others give him a lot of help.)

Bob's parents must have inspired the name "The Rolling Stones," for Bob had lived in Bird Island, Renville, Glencoe, Hutchinson and Litchfield before he graduated from high school. After two years in engineering at the University of Minnesota, Bob found college too expensive and went to work at Armour's power plant in South St. Paul, which led to five years as a boiler and power plant inspector for a Minnesota insurance company.

Although married with two children, Bob entered the Navy during World War II and ended up

at Guam and Saipan. According to Bob, "I was lucky in that by the time I got there, things were pretty well done." Returning to the Twin Cities, Bob began a thirty-five year career with Northern States Power that continued until he retired.

On "his" courts, Bob tries hard to promote sportsmanship, which greatly increases the fun of the game. "If we run into players who want to argue line calls, they can play with someone else," says Bob. "The game goes great when players simply stick to the rules."

Bob's advice to seniors thinking of taking up tennis is to "get with it. Get started. As soon as you do, you'll love it. Bat around a few balls and you'll get interested."

Somehow, Bob managed to maneuver several of his relatives into living near San Diego, where he spends three months each winter. When he returns, he has two "children" to keep an eye on in the Twin Cities area, which one would think would be enough after years of Boy Scout Mastering and helping the Red Cross.

Nevertheless, Bob's "rolling stone" past still shows, for according to Bob, he's "turned playboy, playing tennis in the morning, bicycling in the afternoon, and dancing." (till dawn, Bob?). Wow! I can hardly wait to turn 82! ■

BIG NAME BRANDS ..AT LOW TENNIS PRICES!

Adidas, Babolat, Balle de Match, Boast, Cycle, Darlyn Designs, Dunlop, Ellesse, Fancy Pants, Fred Perry, Gift Items, Hanasport, Head Racquets, Head Sports Wear, IXSPA, K-Swiss, Kaelln, LeCoq Sportif, Lily's of Beverly Hills, Little Miss Tennis, Nike, Penn, Prince, Sergio Tacchini, Sport Panties, Tail, Thor-Lo, Videos, Wilson, Wimbledon, Volkl, Yonex and much more....and furthermore, if you don't find it, we will special order it for you!

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Two-Liner Want Ads

These free two-liner want ads are available to all STPC members. If you would like to place a free ad, call or write the editor, Nancy Kaminski. Your ad can only be about 100 spaces long, so be brief!

PUERTO VALLARTA: Ocean-front estate, 5-bedrooms/private baths. Tennis, pool, cook, maid. \$3200/wk. 935-4578.

For Rent: Paris apartment, furnished, sleeps 3, rent weekly, excellent address. Bev, 925-5369.

For Sale: Wedding dress/veil, orig \$600. 1995, white, size 16, detach train. Never altered or worn. Best offer. 788-4325.

For Sale: Set of Ben Hogan Princess golf clubs and bag. \$75. 781-3271.

For Sale: Electric stove. Call Mary, 545-7142.

For Sale: Beautiful red classic '91 Firebird T-top. No winters, 28M, loaded. Perfect, CD player. \$12K. Dan, 777-7283.

Love Stories

by Norm Diamond

RIC ROBLES IS CLASSIC EXAMPLE OF MAN'S HUMANITY TO MANKIND

Hispanic memo: Distinguido hombre de negocios avido jugador de tenis. Una entrevista con mi amigo Ricardo "Ric" Robles. Translation: Distinguished businessman and avid tennis player. An interview with my friend, Ricardo "Ric" Robles.

Scene of interview: Northwest Tennis Club some six weeks ago. Robles and I are schmoozing in a quiet corner of the club. Our conversation begins to take on a series of coincidences after the usual "when and where were you from? high school attended? family background? Answers: March 21, 1926—Panama City, Panama—their high school—surrounded by prominent and active political family who want their son to become a lawyer.

Robles' last year in high school was equivalent to one year in college. As luck would have it, he was awarded an International Institute of Education college scholarship to the frozen tundra of Carleton College in Northfield. Coincidence No. 1: three of our four offspring graduated from that venerable institution!

Speaking only Spanish, Robles headed for summer classes to learn English at New York State's permanent Chautauqua show. Then it was freezingly on to Carleton where



Ric Robles

Robles picked up more English through Carleton's Spanish department.

To this day his English is impeccable although Spanish and Portuguese helped to mold his business career. It took him only three years to graduate from Carleton with a Bachelor of Arts degree, no doubt hastened by his desire to escape the frigid weather.

About 15 minutes into our interview session, Robles excused himself because he spotted his friend, Sally Friedell. "Just want to say hello and give her a hug," he told me. I countered by saying Sally has been our friend since college days and I would like to do likewise. The deeds were consummated and there you have Coincidence No. 2.

Back to bantering I asked Robles innocently if he knew our friends, Marguerite and Mark Kim? With an astonished look he retorted, "They are one of our best friends and we vacation together often." Coincidence No. 3. The plot thickens.

During Robles' senior year, the Cargill Company sent their representatives to Northfield to interview prospective employees. He was not interested, medical school being his first priority. No medical school spaces were available so reluctantly Robles had a preliminary conference to see if he were interested in becoming a trainee in Cargill's executive training program. Not quite swayed, he was invited by Cargill to spend an all-expenses-paid week at the Radisson Hotel in Minneapolis to think it over. That did it!

A six-man Cargill team interviewed Robles at the main office. Julius Hendel, a brilliant agricultural economist destined to become Cargill's top executive, was the first interviewer. He liked the fact Robles wanted some economic or business post in the company, hastened the interview and hired him on the spot. Hendel happened to be a long-term friend of our family. Coincidence No. 4!

For training, Cargill dispatched Robles to various posts throughout the world—grain centers, shipping sites, banking locations, finance institutions, product development centers, marketing areas—to learn

all aspects of the business firsthand. In between he served two years with the U S Army Medical Corps during the Korean conflict, elevated to Sergeant in only eight months. Meanwhile, Cargill was picking up the difference between his army and working pay.

On May 26, 1951, Robles married the former Johanna Sienko from the metropolis of Milaca. Also a Cargill employee, Jo met Ric his first day on the job. Her first impression of Ric: he's the Latin lover type and not my tumbler of tequila. But when Ric began his Cargill travels, Jo was always at his side. Just a few weeks ago they celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary.

Cargill had not yet tapped the Latin American market and Robles was named to head the marketing team. He was on his way to rounding out 44 years with the firm, the only position he's ever held. In 1986, he was named President of Cargill's Pan American Department. Currently he's a Consultant on International Trade and Investment with emphasis on Mexico, Venezuela, Chile, NAFTA and international finance. Though retired, he represents Cargill on the Board of Latin America Agribusiness Devpt. (is a past Chairman); Director and past Chairman of MEDA, Metropolitan Economic Dept. Assn.; Chairman Int'l Amigos de Las Americas Nat'l Advisory Board; Director Minn. Int'l Center; President Frescoes for Assisi; Mentor Minn. 100; Director Minn. Orchestral Assn. and several other groups in other states.

Prodded by Chuck Slocum, Robles joined the STPC in 1993 and formed a group of tennis-playing

aficionados. He credits wife Jo (a tennis nut) "for making me exercise, keeping me alive, raising our wonderful three children, supporting me through the good and bad and tolerating 29 years overseas." Robles cites tennis as a perfect exercise, mental attitude stimulator and the place to meet congenial people and make new friends.

The Robles philosophy: your limitations are self-imposed; you can reach as high as you set your sights; many people helped you to reach your goals so give back to your community; and the American dream can be reached with hard work and a belief in yourself. Hobbies are tennis, photography, travel and music (he built a music room and house around his 5000 record collection). His state-of-the-art equipment is lovingly called "my psychiatrist in residence". After countless hemispheric travels, he's planning a return to the Far East in 1997.

Hasta la vista! ■

NOTE!

The deadline for articles and ads for the August *Times* is moved up to July 14 from July 20.

The editor is going to the Olympics in Atlanta so she has to get the August *Times* out early.

Thanks for your cooperation! ■

TENNIS AND BIKE EVENT

Darlene Moynagh is organizing a tennis and bike event in Lanesboro, Minnesota from June 11-13. Come camp in the city park, or stay at a bed-and-breakfast, go bike riding on the Root River Bike Trail, and play tennis.

If you're interested in coming along, call Darlene Moynagh at 436-8927. ■

IN MEMORIAM

Our sympathies are extended to STPC members Jim and Dick Lidstone on the death of their mother, Wanda Lidstone, 97, who died April 27.

Tim Gullikson, 44, nephew of STPC member Glen Gullikson, died May 3 of brain cancer. Tim coached Pete Sampras to the No. 1 ranking after a playing career with his twin brother, Tom. ■

NO EXCUSES!

by Larry Hunter

Tennis players as a whole are a very neurotic group. Everybody wants a competitive game—which means that in an even match you will lose as many points as you will win. Why is it then that after every mistake we often feel we have to offer an explanation to our partner, our opponents, or even ourselves as to why an error was made? The only excuse any player needs for missing a shot is that he/she is a member of the human race. Once you have accepted this fact, you are off the hook forever, and you don't have to bore your partner and opponents about any of the following:

- I'm not used to my new racquet.
- These strings just don't feel right.
- I'm a little sore today.
- It's too cold and it takes me a long time to warm up.
- I didn't get my grip changed for that shot.
- I played too much yesterday.
- I haven't been playing enough lately.
- My mind is just not in the game.
- I just ate two donuts...

I could list excuses forever but I think you get the picture. As for excuses about equipment—it's a poor craftsman that blames his tools. As for the sun, wind, clouds, cold, etc., it's the same for all players. As for the injuries, if you are stepping on the court you are proclaiming that you are ready to play; rest your sore knee, shoulder, etc., if that's what it really needs. As

for any other excuses about watching the ball, not following through, not concentrating, etc., nobody cares!

Some players even start with the excuses before they play. Just go out there and play the game. We've all done the excuse routine—myself included. My New Year's resolution for 1996 is simply this: "No excuses!"

On a related subject, and also under the "tell it like it is" category, the absolute worst excuse you can ever make is to blame a loss or a poor showing on your opponent's style of play.

When someone says "I can't play with so-and-so because he/she doesn't have any pace on their shots", what they probably are saying is that so-and-so is more patient and consistent and "I lose my cool and make unforced errors first."

When someone says "so-and-so lobs too much", what they really mean is that their opponents caught onto the fact that they have a weak overhead. In doubles you want your opponents to lob—that means the lobbers are on defense and the team ready to hit the overhead smash is in control of the point.

When someone says "John Doe only hits junk—I don't want to play that game", what they really mean is that John Doe has mastered the use of spins, which are very effective, and they can't handle it.

My final point before I stop preaching is this—there is no such thing as junk. Strokes, volleys, serves, etc., are not to be classified

as good or bad, they are either effective or ineffective. There is no spin or trick shot that is illegal, so next time you play with somebody who hits a tricky spin shot for a winner, don't make a comment about junk, tell them what a great shot they just made.

Reprinted from Volley News, newsletter of the Deep Canyon Tennis Club, Jan/Feb 1996. ■

A NOTE OF APOLOGY FROM THE EDITOR

by Nancy Kaminski

I wish to apologize for a mistake I made in last month's issue of the *Times*. I announced that Lorraine Dickman's husband Tom had passed away.

Well, as I found out, not only is Lorraine's husband alive and well, his name is Don, not Tom (If you're going to make a mistake, do it thoroughly...).

I sincerely hope that this error didn't cause any distress to Lorraine, Don or any of their friends. I'm sorry. ■

*Tell tennis friends of STPC
 If early risers they be
 Indoor courts aplenty
 are ours at seven
 And to early risers,
 seven is heaven!*

1996 SCHEDULE FOR OUTDOOR COURTS

98th Street Racquet, Swim & Health Club

1001 W 98th St, Bloomington, 884-1612.

5 courts every day, 7 A.M.-closing. Anyone can act as Captain. Restricted to Bloomington residents. You must show your driver's license. There are no guest fees; you must pay court fees depending on the number of players. Note: subject to previous reservations.

Armitage Park

56th & Penn Ave S, Minneapolis.

Mon 8-10 A.M. Nancy Lindemann 823-0304

Augsburg Park

72nd and Blaisdell, Richfield, 5/1-10/1

Mon-Fri 7:30-9:30 A.M. Lorraine McDaniel 869-7392
 Ruth Aase 941-7116

Bell Courts at the Water Tower

Old Highway 12 and Minnetonka St, Wayzata

Wed 9-11 A.M. Marilyn Thorne 471-9813

Brooklyn Center High School

65th & Humboldt Ave. N, Brooklyn Center

Tues, Thurs 8:30-10:30 A.M. Bernard Ackerson 537-5061

Brookview Park

Highway 55 and Winnetka Ave, Golden Valley

Sat 8-10 A.M. Joyce Hautman 545-4051

Christian Park

69th and Bloomington Ave, Richfield, 5/3-9/20

Mon, Wed, Fri 7:30-10 A.M. Chad Sharkey 866-7682
 Cliff Northfield 884-6617

City Center Courts

Chanhassen

Fri 8:30-10:30 A.M. John Goulett, Jr. 455-4165
 Marlyn Goulett 445-4165

College of St. Catherine

Randolph and Fairview, St. Paul. Courts are south of O'Shaughnessy Auditorium

Fri 6-8 P.M. Connie Waterous 229-2122 or 291-1610 (eve)

Como Park

Horton Ave near Lexington, St. Paul.

Mon, Wed 7-11 A.M. Roy Rincon 724-4623

Dred Scott Park

W. Old Shakopee Rd & Ferry Bridge Rd, Bloomington

Mon 8:30-10:30 A.M. Bunnie Johnston 884-1732
 Tues 8:30-10:30 A.M. John Herbst 881-4246
 Thurs 8:30-10:30 A.M. Ruth Aase 941-7116
 Fri 8:30-10:30 A.M. Chuck Supplee 888-0551

Edina Community Center

16700 Valley View Road, Edina

Lessons available, 6/10-8/16

Edina Senior High

6754 Valley View Road, Edina. Need Tuesday & Thursday participants

Tues	6-8 P.M.	Jack Reynolds	831-5080
Thurs	6-8 P.M.	Jim Bernstein	544-0511
Sat	4-6 P.M.	Al Holter	537-1843
Sun	4-6 P.M.	Jack Reynolds	831-5080

Fridley Commons

62nd and 7th Ave, Northwest corner

Tues, Thurs	9-11 A.M.	Bob Metcalf	571-3596
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Gro-Tonka Park

North of Minnetonka Blvd on Shores Blvd (east of 101 and Groveland School), Minnetonka

Mon-Fri	8-10 A.M.	Dick Lidstone	941-4724
		Lloyd Layton	476-1298

Lone Lake Park

Shady Oak N of Bren Rd, Eden Prairie

Mon-Fri	8-10 A.M.	Paul Weinreis	935-9463
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Normandale College

96th St & France Ave, Bloomington

Wed	9-11 A.M.	Chuck Supplee	844-8848
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North Valley Park

Inver Grove Heights

Mon, Wed, Fri	9-11 A.M.	Dorne Davis	457-3940
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Parker's Lake

North off County Road 6, Plymouth

Sat	8-10 A.M.	Al Nuhn	473-4790
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Shawnee Park

6515 Scheel Drive, Woodbury, near 494 & Valley Creek

Mon, Wed, Fri	10:00-12:00 A.M.	Captains needed	
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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.

Mon, Wed, Fri	8-10 A.M.	Darlene Moynagh	436-8927
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Skillman Courts

South on Cleveland, left on Skillman, Roseville

Tues, Thurs	8-10 A.M.	Helen Stecklein	644-8304
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Valley Park

Marie, east of Victoria, Mendota Heights

Mon	7:30-9 A.M.	Dot Guenther	457-4682
Tues	7:30-9 A.M.	Bunny Dougherty	454-1353
		Nancy Karasov	452-3172
Wed	7:30-9 A.M.	Dorothy Greig	689-9139
Thurs	7:30-9 A.M.	Dot Guenther	457-4682
Fri	7:30-9 A.M.	Lee Williams	452-0152

Valley View Park

90th between Nicollet & Portland, Bloomington

Mon, Tues, Fri	7:30-9:30 A.M.	Jerry and Gigi Stangler	897-0811
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White Bear High School South Campus

City. Rd. E. & McKnight, White Bear Lake. 5/1-6/14 at Lakewood Community College

Mon-Sun	8-10 A.M.	Betty Livingston	777-9723
Wed	6-8 P.M.	Shirley Kresko	770-1272

Wolfe Park

W 36th St off #100, Saint Louis Park

Mon	9-11 A.M.	Aldean Cummings	474-1731
Tues, Fri	9-11 A.M.	LaVerne Wilger	929-8120
Wed	9-11 A.M.	Bob Torbert	374-4288
Sat	9-11 A.M.	LaVerne Wilger	929-8120

1996 SUMMER SCHEDULE FOR BEGINNER LESSONS AND DRILLS (INCLUDES INTERMEDIATE DRILLS)

Breck School

123 Ottawa Ave N, just east of Hwy 100 & Glenwood Pkwy, Golden Valley. Starts when school is out. Note: At Lyons Park, Glenwood & Harold St. Golden Valley.

Mon	5:30-7 P.M.	Connie Custodio	824-2569
Wed	5:30-7 P.M.	Ernie Greene	488-6359

Wolfe Park

W 36th St. off #100, Saint Louis Park. One court for intermediate drills.

Thurs	8:30-10 A.M.	Percy Hughes	545-7696
		Paul Stormo	553-1112

Woodbury Senior High

2665 Woodland Drive, Woodbury.

Wed.	9-10.30 A.M., 3.0 and up	Lois Nordman	735-6214
	6-7:30 P.M., 2.5 or lower		

Private Club Drills Open to STPC Members

Decathlon Athletic Club

7800 Cedar Ave S, Bloomington. \$5.00 court fee

Tues, Wed	10-11 am, M/W, 3.5-4.0	Brian Christensen	854-0322
	9-10 am, M/W, 3.0		

New members are welcome to take 12 (or more) lessons. After 12 lessons you will receive a free can of balls, a certificate of accomplishment and congratulations from the STPC president. *You must notify the instructor when you have completed 12 lessons!* The lessons are offered free, as part of your membership.

Members are encouraged to attend lessons and drills at any time. If your game needs improvement, here is your opportunity.

Skill rating: If you need to know your skill rating, attend one of the lessons/drills and ask the instructor to rate you. If you have any questions, call the instructor.

If there are any errors or omissions in this schedule, please call Chuck Slocum at 941-4059 with your corrections.

TENNIS ANYONE?

DO YOU MATT, AND DO YOU
LUCILLE, PROMISE TO **LOVE**
LOVE, HONOR AND OBEY...



♥♥ INSPIRED BY THE DECATHLON CLUB
COURT-SIDE WEDDING OF MATTHEW
LITTLE AND LUCILLE BRYANT ON
SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1996.

John STPC

There's Still Room!

***River Falls Tennis Camp at the
University of Wisconsin at River Falls
July 29-August 16***

There are still openings for the last four camps.
Send your check for \$50 down payment to:

Ginny Heinzen
4746 Barbara Drive
Minnetonka MN 55343
612-933-1613



Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.

A nonprofit corporation. P.O. Box 16163, Minneapolis, MN 55416. Voice mailbox at 612-659-6398.

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 Rd., Saint Anthony, MN 55418-2545, 612-781-3271 or 612-672-6882.

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Contributing Cartoonist	Fritz Christensen

Advertising

Send camera-ready art and payment to the editor by the 20th of the month for publication the following month. We can create an ad for you for a \$10 fee. Ad rates are:

full page (7 x 9 in)	\$100
half page (7 x 4½ in)	\$75
quarter page (3½ x 4½ in)	\$50
eighth page (3½ x 2¼ in)	\$30
classified ad (members only, max. 4 lines)	\$15
2-line ad (members only, 50 spaces/line)	free

Publication Deadline

Submit articles to the editor by the 20th of the month for publication the following month. All material submitted for publication is subject to editing.

Address Corrections

Please notify the Editor with any address corrections.

STPC Membership

As of May 1996, STPC membership totaled 1,466.
June 1996: Volume 9, Number 6

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3300 East Gate Rd.
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Address Correction Requested

June 1996

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