



NORTHERN

NORTHERN EXPOSURE

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MAGAZINE

2016 YEARBOOK

100

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2016 Yearbook

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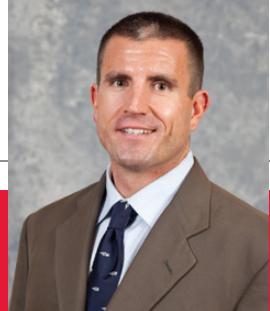
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We Are NORTHERN!

We Are Northern! The Section's rally cry for 2015 was perfect, as USTA Northern proved it is small, but mighty. The Section was guided by its core values of accountability, commitment and teamwork, inclusiveness, integrity and service and strategic priorities of Adult/ Senior Opportunities, Youth/ Junior Opportunities, Community Tennis and People/ Resources/Structure.

Life Time Fitness founder and CEO **Bahram Akradi** (Minnetonka, Minn.) was named *Tennis Industry* magazine's Person the Year and junior player **Jessie Aney** (Rochester, Minn.) was named the 2015 Bill Talbert National Junior Sportsmanship Award winner. **InnerCity Tennis** (Minneapolis, Minn.) was named the 2015 National CTA of the Year, **Tennis Industry**'s CTA of the Year and was one of 13 facilities honored with the USTA National Outstanding Facility Award. USTA League player **Dale Chilton** (South St. Paul, Minn.) was one of three people featured in the USTA's "Find Yourself in the Game" campaign and the Section inducted **Bill Babcock** (London, England), **Fred Budde** (Eagan, Minn.), the late **John Mueller** (Minneapolis, Minn.) and **Steve Paulsen** (Apple Valley, Minn.) into the USTA Northern Hall of Fame.

Northern also saw the Champions Tour make a stop in Minneapolis and **James Blake** come to Sioux Falls, S.D., helping celebrate the grand opening of Huether Family Match Pointe. The Twin Cities' **55 and Over Men's 6.0 team** won the USTA League National Championship and **Darren Iverson** (Faribault, Minn.) set the *Guinness World Records* (2015) for most consecutive matches played at 35. **Suzie Heideman** of Woodbury, Minn., was named to the USTA National No-Cut All-Star team and was named the Professional Tennis Registry's National High School Coach of the Year and **Ron Jacobus** (Lakeville, Minn.), **Vyasachar Mohan** (Maplewood, Minn.) and **Jan Schreier** (Minnetonka, Minn.) officiated at the US Open.

USTA Northern junior players also made their mark nationally as **Ingrid Neel** (Rochester, Minn.) played in the Wimbledon Girls Championship before coming back to the United States and winning the Girls 18s National Hardcourt doubles title earning a spot in the main draw of women's doubles at the 2015 US Open (she won her first-round match). Neel also played in the Girls US Open event and won two professional doubles titles in 2015. Aney was also named the Girls Sportsmanship winner at the US Clay Court championships and the USTA Spring Team Championships and **Hunter Heck** (New Brighton, Minn.) won both the 12s singles and doubles title at the Easter Bowl and was ranked #1 in the country in Boys 12s doubles. The **Edina High School girls** continued their dominance as they won their record setting 19th straight team title, while there was a new boys champion crowned in North Dakota as **Fargo South** defeated **Grand Forks Red River** and ended their 17-year run. Northern also represented at Junior Team Tennis Nationals as **Hastings (Minn.)** won the 14U Intermediate Team Spirit/Sportsmanship Award and **Colby Zak** was the overall winner of the 14U Intermediate Boys Sportsmanship Award. **Life Time Fitness – Bloomington South** also was named the Team Spirit/Sportsmanship Award winner in the 18 Advanced tournament.

Section-wide, junior tournaments saw over 3,000 unique players participate in 2015. The Section also ran two Team USA Camps and

four Early Development Camps, in addition to six Competition Training Centers. Over 200 Play Days were conducted in the Section, as well as five entry-level Level 8 events.

Team tennis continues to grow in the Section as almost 2,600 players registered for Junior Team Tennis and 283 teams competed. North Dakota saw a dramatic increase in JTT as it added two program seasons and unique participation was up 118%. For his efforts in ND, **Oliver Summers** was named the 2015 JTT Organizer of the Year. On the college level, the **University of Minnesota** finished second at the 2015 Tennis on Campus National Championships after winning its 12th consecutive USTA Northern Tennis on Campus title.

Over 11,300 players competed in USTA Northern Leagues, the highest number of players in the past five years. There was also a 7% increase in participation in the Twin Cities. USTA Northern put special emphasis on young adults in 2015, offering low-cost mixers, leagues and drop-in events. The Section worked with Twin Cities' Park and Rec programs to deliver tennis opportunities to beginning adult players and the Matchline program placed more than 760 people on USTA League teams.

USTA Northern had over 4,800 adult tournament registrations, and for the first-time, held the Men's 65 & Over Category I National Indoor Championships at Eden Prairie Life Time Athletic in August. Over 65 people participated in the event and **David Nash** (Bloomington, Minn.) won the doubles gold ball.

Membership within the Section stayed steady at 11,500 people and over 230 organizational members. The Section also developed a new volunteer database and created a Premier Provider Program which had five inaugural honorees including the **University of Minnesota Baseline Tennis Center** (Minneapolis, Minn.), **Courts Plus Community Tennis** (Fargo, N.D.), **YMCA Indoor Tennis Center** (Eau Claire, Wis.), **Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center** (St. Paul, Minn.) and the **Sioux Falls Tennis Association** (Sioux Falls, S.D.).

The Section and USTA National provided over \$150,000 of support to organizations and individuals, including \$23,000 in Community Tennis grants, \$4,700 for blended lines, \$12,400 in Equipment Grants, over \$96,000 in Facility Assistance Funding and \$33,000 in youth scholarships. USTA Northern and the Northern Tennis Foundation also entered into an exciting partnership with Youthprise, launching the Urban Youth Tennis & Education initiative. Youthprise has pledged a match of \$125,000 to kickstart this campaign, and the USTA Foundation signed on as the first cornerstone supporter with a \$50,000 contribution.

Although 2015 was a banner year, we are not done yet as there are many new opportunities on the agenda in 2016 including the Rally the Family initiative; a bigger presence on social media, especially on Instagram, and more one-day events for all age groups and ability levels.

We hope to see you on the courts!

Mike Goldammer



The year 2015 was BIG for USTA Northern. A survey by the Tennis Industry Association looked at the growth of tennis across the United States and the Northern Section showed more growth over a two-year period than any other USTA Section. A heartfelt thanks goes out to the many volunteers, junior and adult players, providers, officials and the USTA Northern staff for creating the right environment in making this happen.

This emergence reflects our mission which is "To promote and develop the growth of tennis" by focusing our time and resources on the strategic priorities established by the board and staff over the past two years. It also represents many new people "finding themselves in the game!"

Let's take a look back on some of the events which helped grow participation last year:

US Open Northern Section Qualifier – We had the highest participation ever for this event with USTA Northern members winning every championship, including **Alexis Nelson** who won the women's singles, women's doubles and mixed doubles titles.

National Senior Tennis Games – The University of Minnesota's Baseline Tennis Center hosted this event which was played for the first time in the Northern Section. Over 900 players participated in the two-week event and was the largest tournament ever hosted by the Baseline Tennis Center. Amazing!

National Public Parks Tournament – Sioux Falls, S.D., held the National Public Parks Championships for the first time at the many incredible park facilities it boasts.

Men's 65+ Category I National Championships – First the first time in 20 years, Eden Prairie Life Time Athletic hosted a USTA Category 1 tournament for men 65 and over. Participation soared from the previous year's event and our own **David Nash** won the gold ball in doubles.

Aquatennial Tennis Classic – USTA Northern and the downtown community helped celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Aquatennial Tennis Classic.

Champions Series – The Champions Series returned to Minneapolis in 2015 as **John McEnroe, Andy Roddick, James Blake and Michael Chang** played to a large crowd at the Target Center.

Young Adult Leagues, Mixers and Drop-In Play – USTA Northern made special efforts to bridge the gap with the young adult group by developing low-cost leagues, mixers and drop-in play events around the Twin Cities. Many of these players went on to join USTA Leagues and play in adult tournaments.

Beginning Adult Park and Rec Programs – USTA Northern worked with the Minneapolis, Burnsville and Apple Valley Park and Rec Departments to deliver beginning adult programming.

Level 8 Tournaments and Play Days – Looking for more non-lesson play opportunities for junior players, the Section encouraged providers to offer organized Play Days and entry-level tournaments for both members and non-members.

40 and Over Mixed Doubles – We offered a new non-advancing League opportunity for our adults with 40 and Over Mixed Doubles.

Social Media – If you follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube or visit www.northern.usta.com, you noticed an increase in activity as the USTA Northern staff and Section members were posting from the thousands of events they attend throughout the year.

Off the court, we also had the opportunity to meet many tennis players and supporters throughout the Section. We assisted with the Grand

Opening of the Huether Family Tennis Center – a beautiful new indoor facility in Sioux Falls. Over 500 people from the community came out to tour the new facility and participate in clinics with former ATP professional and special guest **James Blake**.

We also had a number of national award winners and national champions, a world record holder, a league player featured in the USTA's national "Find Yourself in The Game" campaign during the US Open and a special visit from the Director of the Grand Slam Tennis Board, **Bill Babcock**, as he was one of four people inducted into the USTA Northern Hall of Fame in October.

Yes, we are proud of our accomplishments, but we are not done looking for ways to grow tennis in our Section. A recently formed committee is looking at putting together travel packages to major tennis events for large groups and teams to travel and play. The construction of the new USTA National Campus in central Florida with over 100 courts and a variety of surfaces, including grass, clay and hard courts promises to be a perfect destination for Northern members – especially mid-winter! We also have big plans to Rally The Family at the tennis courts, run a number of one-day and modified events, as well as continue to increase our presence on social media in 2016.

I hope you continue to "find yourself in the game" in 2016 and I encourage you to invite your friends to participate in the sport of a lifetime full of fun, fitness and friends!

WE ARE NORTHERN!

Kathy Lundberg,
USTA Northern President



WHY DO OUR CAMPERS KEEP COMING BACK?

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- Best tennis camp in Minnesota! StarTribune
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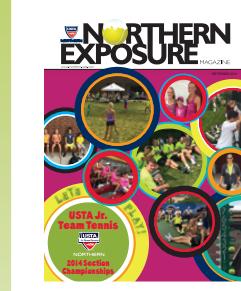
usta northern membership has its advantages



Membership helps promote tennis development in USTA Northern as a portion of all membership fees go to USTA Programs including League Tennis, Junior Tournaments, Junior Team Tennis, Grants & Scholarships, Community Tennis and much more.

what do i get with my usta northern membership?

- Opportunity to participate in USTA Northern Programs and Tournaments including Leagues, Adult and Junior Sanctioned Tournaments and Junior Team Tennis
- Publications including *Northern Exposure*, *SMASH*, *Bounce* and *Tennis* magazines
- Advanced and discounted tickets to USTA events such as the US Open, Davis Cup, Fed Cup, the US Open Series, BNP Paribas Classic and local special events
- Invitations to exclusive member-only events
- Discounts on tennis apparel & equipment
- Other discounted benefits through Active.com
- Much, much more...



adult/senior opportunities

USTA LEAGUE TENNIS – USTA League Tennis is the largest recreational tennis league in the country and one of USTA Northern's flagship programs. Annually, over 4,000 unique people play League Tennis within USTA Northern.

TOURNAMENTS – USTA Northern offers a number of adult tournaments for players of all ages and ability levels. The Section is committed to encouraging more people to play tournaments by providing alternative play opportunities such as the Swingle & Mingle Mixed Doubles series.

RECREATIONAL PLAY – Encompassing a wide spectrum including beginners and occasional players.

youth/junior opportunities

10 & UNDER TENNIS – 10 & Under Tennis sizes the game down for age and ability level by having kids play on shorter courts, with smaller racquets and slower, lower-bouncing balls. Kids experience success much faster thus encouraging them to stay with the sport.

SCHOOLS – USTA Northern provides training, equipment grants and opportunities to introduce students to tennis in physical education classes and organized out-of-school-time programs (i.e. – Kids Tennis Clubs) for all K-12 schools.

JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS – USTA Junior Team Tennis (JTT) is the largest youth tennis program in the country, helping girls and boys ages 6 to 18 get in the game and play as part of a team. The emphasis is on skill development, fun, teamwork and friendly competition. Almost 3,000 players participated in USTA Northern JTT in 2014.

JUNIOR TOURNAMENTS/HIGH PERFORMANCE – USTA Northern is committed to the development of players to be champions at all levels by offering a year-round schedule of junior tournaments. Play opportunities are either by skill level or age division and spread geographically throughout the Section. There are also opportunities for higher level players to further develop their game through national tournaments, training centers and much more. Over 4,700 unique players competed in USTA Northern Junior Tournaments in 2014.

We Are N

USTA Northern is a non-profit 501 (c) offices of the United States Tennis Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dak



our mission

To promote and develop the growth of tennis



USTA NO STRATEGIC

14%

20%



COMMITMENT & TEAMWORK

ACCOUNTABILITY

INCLUSI

USTA Northern Core Values consist of the organization. While go Core Values serv

Northern!

(3) organization, one of 17 Section Tennis Association (USTA) serving Minnesota and Northwestern Wisconsin.



our vision

To provide opportunities by making tennis accessible to all



NORTHERN PRIORITIES



constitute the fundamental beliefs
als present a clear direction,
e as our compass.

STAFFING — USTA Northern has a full-time staff, who perform the day-to-day operations of the Section, while also relying heavily on its volunteer Board of Directors, Committee members and others who serve the organization in various capacities.

northern tennis foundation

“Serving Up Love” is the mantra for the Northern Tennis Foundation (NTF), operating as a part of the USTA Northern Section. The Foundation provides resources and financial assistance in supporting young people in need from all cultural and ethnic backgrounds who have the dreams, goals and desire to succeed both on and off the court. By supporting the Northern Tennis Foundation, your tax-deductible contributions open the doors to a brighter future for kids who need financial help to be successful.

volunteer with usta northern

Are you passionate about tennis and interested in giving back to the game you love? USTA Northern has a rich history of dedicated volunteers, all of whom share the same fundamental drive that gives them the passion to volunteer: they all love tennis. Prior volunteer experience is not required! To fill out a volunteer form, visit www.northern.usta.com under “About Us.”

stay connected to usta northern

USTA Northern is here for you! Have a question about anything “tennis” in our Section? USTA Northern can help.

USTA NORTHERN

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community tennis

INFRASTRUCTURE & DELIVERY SYSTEM — USTA Northern supports facilities, coaches, teaching professionals and local organizers through on- and off-court trainings, resources and strong collaborations.

GRANTS/SCHOLARSHIPS — USTA Northern provides a wide variety of financial assistance and opportunities through individual player scholarships and organizational grants for program support and facility improvements.

COMMUNITY TENNIS ASSOCIATIONS — Community Tennis Associations (CTAs) are any incorporated, geographically defined, not-for-profit and volunteer-based organizations that support or provide programs which promote and develop the growth of tennis.

NATIONAL JUNIOR TENNIS AND LEARNING (NJTL) — NJTL is a network of local chapters which provide free or low-cost tennis, education and life skills programming.

people/resources/structure

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION — Diversity & Inclusion is a priority for USTA Northern. Diversity allows us to touch “all of our Section” and Inclusion allows “all of our Section” to touch us.

FISCAL — Fiscal responsibility is a priority for the Section as we strive for solid financial footing in both daily management and long-term strategic planning of the organization.

MARKETING/OUTREACH — USTA Northern uses different media (social, electronic, print) in promoting tennis and increasing awareness of USTA Northern programs.



BOARD OF Directors

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Front Row (L to R): Vanessa Sexton, Christine Nickels, Kelley Okerman, Nancy Lundberg, James Poehler, Kristi Bushinski





ORGANIZATION MEMBERS

A abc123 LLC
Aberdeen Community Tennis Association
Aberdeen Parks Recreation Forestry Department
Aitkin Community Tennis Association
Alexandria Area Tennis
Altoona Middle School
Altoona Parks and Recreation
American Indian Magnet School
Anoka Hennepin Community Education
Anoka Ramsey Athletic Association

B Barron Community
Bemidji Area Tennis Association
Benjamin E Mays IB World School
BHM Community Education
Bismarck Mandan Tennis Association
Bismarck Parks and Recreation
Black Hills Tennis Association
Bloomington Parks and Recreation
Brainerd Community Education
Brookings Tennis Club
Buffalo Tennis Association
Burnsville YMCA

C C & H Sport Surfaces Inc.
Cardinal Tennis Association
Casselton Parks and Recreation
Central Cass Public School
Central High School
Central Minnesota Community Tennis
Chahinkapa Park
Chanhassen High School
Choice Health and Fitness
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City of Eden Prairie Parks and Recreation
City of La Crescent Minnesota
City of River Falls
City of Rollingstone
City of Silver Bay Park and Rec Department
City of Spicer
City of Volga Park and Recreation
Cohasset Elementary
Cook County Tennis Association
Courts Plus Fitness Center
Cretin-Derham Hall High School
Crookston Parks and Recreation
Crookston Tennis Association
Crosslake Parks and Recreation
Crystal Recreation

D Dayton's Bluff Achievement Plus
Dickinson Parks & Recreation
District 742 Community Education
Dreams in Motion
Duluth Friends Of Tennis, Inc.

E East Middle School
East Ridge Raptor Youth Tennis
Eastview Athletic Association
Eau Claire Parks & Recreation
Eau Claire YMCA Tennis Center

Edina Country Club
Edina High School Girls Tennis
Edina Parks and Recreation Department
Ellsworth Community School District

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Falcon Heights Parks and Recreation
Faribault High School
Farmington Parks and Recreation Department
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FM Tennis Patrons
Foley Tennis Association
Friends of the Masonic Cancer Center

G Gautier Community School
GLASS MN Rallies
Glencoe Silver Lake School District
Golden Valley Country Club
Great Lakes Tennis
Great LIFE Woodlake Athletic Club
Greater Mankato Community Tennis Association

H H Town Tennis Association
Harding High School
Harrisburg Community Tennis Association
Harrisburg High School
Hastings Community Tennis Association
Huether Family Match Pointe
Humboldt High School
Huron Parks and Recreation Department
Huron Tennis Association

I InnerCity Tennis Foundation
ISD 197
ISD 2753

J Jackson Elementary School
Jamestown Parks and Recreation
Jefferson High School Boys Tennis Boosters
John Paul II Catholic School

K Kids Team Tennis LLC

L Lakes Area Racquet Sports
Lakeville North Boys Tennis Booster Club

Lakeville South High School
Lakeville Tennis Association
Le Sueur-Henderson High School
Life Time Athletic -St. Louis Park
Life Time Athletic - White Bear Lake
Life Time Athletic - Eden Prairie
Life Time Fitness - Bloomington South
Life Time Fitness - Crosstown
Life Time Fitness - Fridley
Life Time Fitness - Lakeville
Life Time Fitness - Oakdale Village
Linwood Monroe Art Plus

M MACCRAY Public School
Madison Tennis Association

2015 ORGANIZATION Members

(as of December 31, 2015)

Mandan Parks and Recreation
Maple Grove Crimson Tennis Association
Marcy Open School
Mayville State University
Medina Golf and Country Club
Menomonie High School
Milbank Area Community Tennis Assn
Minnetonka Community Education
Minnetonka Tennis Club
Minot Area Tennis Association
Mission Township Tennis
Mitchell Parks and Recreation
MLK Tennis Buffs
Montevideo Community Education
Mora High School
Mounds View High School
MSHSTCA

N New Brighton Parks and Recreation
New Hope YMCA
New Ulm Tennis Association
North Dakota Tennis Association
North Metro Tennis Association
North Middle School
Northfield Public Schools
Northfield Tennis Association
Nycessot Tennis

O Oak Grove Middle School
Obama Elementary
Orono Community Education
Owatonna Parks and Recreation
Owatonna Tennis Association

P Park Avenue Freedom School
Park Rapids Tennis Association
Perham Area Tennis Association
Pierre Tennis Association
Pine City Community Tennis Association
Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department
Prior Lake High School/Middle Schools
PublicIndoorTennis.com

R RAHS
Rapid City Recreation Division
Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center
Riverview Westside School
Robbinsdale-Cooper High School
Rochester Athletic Club
Rochester Tennis Connection
Rosemount Area Athletic Association
Rosemount Parks and Recreation
Roseville Park and Recreation

S Salvation Army Eastside
Shoreview Parks Recreation
Sibley Area Community Tennis
Sibley East Tennis

Sioux Falls Tennis Association
Sleepy High School
South Middle School
South St. Paul High School
Spearfish Tennis Association
St. James Tennis Association
St. Louis Park Recreation Athletics
St. Michael Albertville
St. Paul Indoor Tennis
St. Paul Johnson High School
St. Paul Tennis Club
St. Paul Urban Tennis Program
St. Peter Tennis Association
Sturgis Tennis Association
Swanson Tennis Center

T Tennis and Life Camps
Tennis Center of the Black Hills
Tennis In Mankato
TENNIS WEST Ltd.
3m Tennis League
Thief River Falls Parks & Recreation Department
Town and Country Club
Transformation Athletics
Twin City Jewish Community Tennis Association
Twin City Tennis Camps

U University of Minnesota-Baseline TC
University of Sioux Falls
USC Elementary
USTA Northern

V Vadnais Heights Parks and Recreation
Valley City Parks & Recreation District
Valley City State University
Valley City Tennis Association

W Waseca Community Education
Waseca Community Tennis Association
Washburn Tennis Association
Washington Technology Magnet
Watertown Tennis Association
West Fargo Parks & Recreation
Williston Fitness Center
Williston Parks & Recreation
Willmar Community Education & Recreation
Winona Area Tennis Association
Woodbury Senior High School

Y Yankton Tennis Association
YMCA Coon Rapids
YWCA of St. Paul



CONGRATULATIONS 2015 Award Winners



Congratulations to Jessie Aney of Rochester, Minn., who was named one of two national winners of the USTA Bill Talbert Junior Sportsmanship Award given to a junior player who exemplifies the finest qualities of sportsmanship in tournament play and the finest traditions of the great sportspersons of tennis past and present. Aney and co-recipient Star Makarome of Wesley Chapel, Fla., were honored at the International Tennis Hall of Fame in Newport, R.I., in July, but Aney was unable to attend the ceremonies because she was still playing in the USTA National Clay Court Championships in Memphis, Tenn. Aney and Makarome were recognized again on September 7 at the USTA Awards Breakfast at the USTA Semiannual Meeting in New York City during the US Open.

"This is such an awesome award and I am really honored to receive it," Aney said. "Sportsmanship is a big deal for me when I am on the tennis court. Honestly, is the most important thing when I am playing a match. You always want to be a good person while you compete as your character stays with you forever. I would never sacrifice good sportsmanship just to win a match."

Aney, who is a freshman at the University of North Carolina, is the top-ranked 18-year-old in USTA Northern and currently ranks ninth nationally. Aney earned a bronze ball at the 2014 National Clay Courts and won the consolation championship this year. She also represented USTA Northern at the 2015 US Open National Playoffs in women's doubles with **Alexis Nelson** (St. Paul, Minn.). In 2014, Aney also competed at the US Open National Qualifier in women's singles, and in 2012 in mixed doubles. The past two years, she won a gold ball, going undefeated, at the USTA Spring Team Championships.

She has won numerous USTA Northern Section singles and doubles

titles and was a bronze ball winner at the 2010 USTA Winter Nationals. In 2012, she won the Minnesota Class AA girls doubles championships with her sister, **Katie**, and in 2011, the Class AA singles title as an eighth grader. In 2015, she led her high school boys tennis team to a third-place finish at the state tournament where she was undefeated at the #1 singles position.

In 2010, Aney became the first girl to win the *Sports Illustrated* SportsKid of the Year award. She also is one of the best girls hockey players in the country. She was the top scorer in Minnesota high school hockey last season and was invited to attend the USA Hockey National Camp to try out for the USA National team before deciding to concentrate fully on tennis. She is also an accomplished pianist and is an active member of her church.

Aney has won a number of national sportsmanship awards over the years including being named the Girls 18s winner at the National Clay Court Championships in 2015. She also won the Girls 16s Intersections and 18s National Clay Courts award in 2013, and in 2012, she won the 14s National Clay Courts Sportsmanship award. Aney was also the 2014 winner of the USTA Northern Jerry Noyce Sportsmanship Award.

To sum up Aney's incredible sportsmanship after playing a national tournament last summer in California, tournament referee **Bonnie Middlebrook** wrote this to the USTA Northern office about her.

"Jessie Aney is a superstar in my book. I had a lump in my throat as I spoke to her after the match expressing my amazement at her poise, maturity and demeanor. I do not know if I will ever meet this young lady again, but it was important to me that I acknowledge her sportsmanship in some way as I have never written a letter like this about any player who I have seen."



InnerCity Tennis

NAMED 2015 USTA CTA of the Year



InnerCity Tennis is honored at the 2015 USTA Tennis Development Workshop. (l to r): Former tennis great and USTA Foundation Chairman James Blake, ICT Executive Director John Wheaton, ICT Director of Education Song Thao and USTA National Chairman of the Board/President/CEO Katrina Adams.

The USTA selected the **InnerCity Tennis Foundation** of Minneapolis as the 2015 Community Tennis Association of the Year. The organization was honored at an awards banquet involving more than 600 community tennis leaders during the annual USTA Tennis Development Workshop, November 5-7, at the Sheraton San Diego in San Diego, Calif.

InnerCity Tennis becomes the first organization in USTA Northern history to receive the USTA National CTA of the Year Award as 2015 has been a banner year for the group. They were also named *Tennis Industry* magazine's Community Tennis Association of the Year as part of its Champions of Tennis Issue in January and was one of 13 facilities nationally to receive the USTA Outstanding Facility Award in September. The home of InnerCity Tennis, the Reed Sweatt Family Tennis Center in Minneapolis, also underwent a complete renovation with new bubbles, lights, courts, nets, air conditioning, offices, pro shop and reception area, while celebrating its new Best Buy 21st Century Classroom in July.

The InnerCity Tennis Foundation, founded in 1952, was designed to help young people with limited means to thrive physically, emotionally and socially through an involvement in tennis. More than 60 years later, the program is still going strong, serving nearly 4,000 youngsters with free and low-cost programming. Programming ranges from summer

tennis at 23 parks across Minneapolis to free indoor programming in the winter, both onsite and in the Minneapolis schools. Recently the program has expanded its focus to serve the entire community after purchasing the Reed Sweatt Family Tennis Center, which averages more than 3,500 adult and junior check-ins each week. InnerCity Tennis depends on nearly 250 volunteers who spent approximately 2,750 hours on projects both on and off the court in 2014.

"The InnerCity Foundation in Minneapolis defines what it means to be a great CTA," said **Kurt Kamperman**, USTA Chief Executive of Community Tennis. "For more than six decades the tennis community in the Twin Cities has worked tirelessly to introduce children to tennis. We are proud to honor the organization's leaders and many volunteers with this well-deserved award."

"We see tennis as a vehicle to not only develop good players, but good individuals as well," said **John Wheaton**, Executive Director of the InnerCity Tennis Foundation.

The USTA CTA of the Year Award was established in 2002 to honor a CTA for outstanding service in growing and developing the sport of tennis in its community. The award recipient is selected from 17 nominees, one from each of the USTA sections, by a panel of USTA Community Tennis Association Development Committee members.



Reed Sweatt Named USTA Outstanding Facility



The USTA announced that the Reed Sweatt Family Tennis Center in Minneapolis is one of 13 winners in its 34th annual USTA Facility Awards Program, which recognizes excellence in the construction and/or renovation of tennis facilities throughout the country. Representatives from the Reed Sweatt Family Tennis Center were honored September 6 at the USTA Semiannual Meeting at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York City.

Reed Sweatt Family Tennis Center is home to an inspiring spectrum of diverse players from children to players in their late 90's. The facility welcomes some 3,500 players through its revolving doors each week with 1,210 court hours logged. Nestled in Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, part of the number one public park system in the nation, the Reed Sweatt Family Tennis Center supports free and low-cost programming to help unleash the potential of under-resourced youth.

Reed Sweatt Family Tennis Center is named in honor of the ICT founders **Lachlan Reed** and **Harold Sweatt** who created InnerCity Tennis in 1952 to provide opportunities for urban youth to thrive and prosper within the lifetime sport of tennis.

"Great tennis facilities like the Reed Sweatt Family Tennis Center help us grow the game at the grassroots level, and we are proud to recognize them for their ongoing impact on the sport of tennis," said **Kurt Kamperman**, Chief Executive, Community Tennis, USTA. "Reed Sweatt Family Tennis Center has embraced many of our tennis initiatives and kept the sport at the forefront of their community each year."

To be considered for an award, facilities must be under the jurisdiction of a parks and recreation department, an educational institution, a non-profit corporation, or be a private or commercially owned and operated facility that offer both USTA and public programming designed to help grow tennis.

Facilities were judged upon the following criteria: overall layout and adaptation to site; excellence of court surface and lights; ease of maintenance; accommodations for players, spectators and press/officials; aesthetics; graphics (including the use of signs and landscaping); amenities such as casual seating for spectators, food services and social areas; and the facilities' participation in USTA programs.

Nominated facilities were voted upon in the following categories: Public Courts that are either small tennis center with 2-10 courts or large tennis centers with 11 or more courts; Education Institutions; and Private Facilities that support the USTA and other "growth of the game" program open to the public.

All 2015 award winners received a wall plaque and an all-weather sign, which can be mounted at the facility. Certificates of award were made available to park and recreation departments, schools, and those professionals responsible for the design, construction, and maintenance of the facility. In addition, a one-year complimentary membership to the USTA was awarded to each winning facility.





6.0 55 & OVER MEN

WIN

NATIONALS



Congratulations to the 6.0 55 & Over men's team from the Twin Cities, captained by **Eric Narvaez** and **Peter Haan**, who won the 2015 USTA League Tennis National Championships October 25 in Surprise, Ariz., after defeating Northern California 2-1 in the finals.

After finishing fourth with match point on their racquets twice in 2014, the Northern team logically seemed like a favorite heading into this year's tournament, but not so according to Narvaez as they only returned three people to the roster from that team, and two of those players, **Richard Branstner** and **Mark Duthoy** did not travel due to injuries. Not only did the injury bug hit Northern, but they lost another team member, **Don Crofut**, to his 50th high school class reunion that weekend, and Narvaez, who was recovering from hip replacement surgery in early August, was playing in the men's 40 & Over 3.5 Nationals in Tucson, Ariz., (about 100 miles down Highway 10) that same weekend, leaving them with seven active players. Finally, **Terry Kiriha** had just returned from Europe and feared that jet lag from that journey would hinder his play.

"We practiced outside every Saturday at St. Paul Academy, St. Catherine's and Macalester the past several months working on strategy, position and consistency," Narvaez said. "Our goal was to get to Sunday, but with all the injuries and our small roster, it seemed a bit lofty to be able to accomplish this."

Although undermanned, Northern won its round-robin flight 3-0, not losing an individual match on Friday and Saturday. Northern opened the tournament with a 3-0 win over Southern, followed by sweeps of Eastern and Missouri Valley. In the semifinals on Sunday, Northern remained undefeated taking out Texas, 3-0, setting up the title match against Northern California, who had won the championship in 2013 with many of the same players currently on its 2015 roster.

Against Nor Cal, the Northern team of **Bob Brose** and **George**

Kimball won at #1 doubles 6-0, 6-3, while the #2 team of Narvaez and **Terry Sheehy** lost a tough third-set match tiebreaker after taking the first set 6-3, setting up the deciding match at #3 doubles. In that match, **Francois Nguyen** and **Eric Saugen** had won the first set 6-0 and were leading 4-1 in the second before the Northern California twosome took a bathroom break. The Nor Cal duo changed up their strategy after the break, lobbing the Northern duo over and over again and taking the second set 7-5, sending it to a 10-point match tiebreaker for the championship.

In the match tiebreaker, Northern California raced out to an early lead, having multiple match points at 9-10 and 10-11 before Nguyen and Saugen fought back to even. Finally, with Northern up 12-11, Nguyen hit a great serve and Saugen, who is six-foot-three and was a volleyball star in his younger days, put an overhead away bouncing the ball over the fence and landing on the court behind them, giving Northern the hard-fought 2-1 victory.

"I was so stunned, I did not realize it was over until about 15 spectators ran onto the court giving us high fives," Nguyen said. "It was a spectacular scene!"

The win marked USTA Northern's first USTA League championship since Narvaez and **Boy Toy's** 3.5 Senior team won the crown in 2012, and with everything seemingly working against them, the championship was a big surprise.

"Honestly, it is amazing to me that we did so well this year," Narvaez said. "I did not expect it, nor did the rest of the team."

"It was such a thrilling and memorable experience," Nguyen said. "I've always been involved with my kids' tennis, but never experienced anything like this myself. Not just having the national title, but the way we won it. Our team was not that strong, but we had the chemistry and strong will to win and we achieved it. It made it such a sweet and great feeling that I will carry with me for the rest of my life."



Francois Nguyen celebrates match point giving Northern the championship.

Congratulations

NORTH & SOUTH DAKOTA

Halls of Fame Inductees

HALL OF FAME



Jerry Caulfield and Jerry Lyon Become Eighth and Ninth Members of ND Hall of Fame

Congratulations to **Jerry Caulfield** of Fargo, N.D., and **Jerry Lyon** of Minot, N.D., who were inducted into the North Dakota Tennis Hall of Fame on Saturday, Aug. 1, at the Tom O'Leary Courts in Bismarck, N.D.

Caulfield has worked as a tennis teaching professional at Courts Plus Community Fitness in Fargo for over 40 years. A former North Dakota state doubles champion, Caulfield has also coached numerous North Dakota state champions and sectionally-ranked junior players in his illustrious career. An accomplished player himself, Caulfield has been ranked in USTA Northern many times and is a multiple champion of the Red River and North Dakota Adult Closed Championships.

Caulfield has also given back to the sport by starting the Red River Tennis Patrons Community Tennis Association in Fargo, as well as working with Special Olympics and volunteering countless hours in bringing new players to the game. He has worked with the United States Tennis Association Northern Section on a number of council and committees, including the Hall of Fame Committee in 2013-14. He was also named the United States Professional Tennis Association's (USPTA) Northern Section Pro of the Year.

"Jerry has been active in promoting North Dakota tennis since the 60s," nominator **Oliver Summers** said. "He has helped raise the profile of tennis in North Dakota and is one of the sport's biggest fans and supporters in the state."

Lyon has served as head coach of the boys and girls teams at Minot High School the past 33 years. During that time, he has amassed a record of 778-221 in dual competition, won eight state team championships, 13 runner-up finishes and 29 West Regional

titles. He has been in the Final Four of the North Dakota state tournament 35 times and the West Region on 57 occasions. He has coached over 200 All-Conference athletes, 60 All-State honorees, three All-Americans and

23 North Dakota state champions in his career. He has been named the North Dakota Coach of the Year seven times (1978, 1980, 1981, 1988, 1990, 2004, 2008) and Region 6 Coach of the Year three times (1986, 1992, 1995). He earned National Coach of the Year honors in 1998 and entered the National Coaches Hall of Fame in 2012. In 1999, he was named the United States Professional Tennis Registry's (USPTR) Coach of the Year and in part of the North Dakota Coaches Hall of Fame (2002) and the Minot High School Hall of Fame (2013).

"Mista Lyon" as he was affectionately called by those he taught both on and off the court served as an eighth grade math teacher at Memorial Middle School at Minot Air Force Base until he retired in 2013. He also was a tennis teaching professional at the Minot Indoor Tennis Club during that time and was the first-ever gold medalist at the inaugural North Dakota Prairie Rose Games Open Division in 1987 – the highlight of his personal playing career. He also won silver in doubles that year with **Bob Cordova**.



Jerry Caulfield and Jerry Lyon

Randy Kochenderfer and Tom Line Inducted Into SD Hall of Fame



The late **Randy Kochenderfer** and fellow Sioux Falls native **Tom Line** were inducted into the South Dakota Tennis Hall of Fame on Sunday, July 26, at McKennan Park tennis complex in Sioux Falls prior to the Asfora/Clayton South Dakota Adult Open.

Kochenderfer, who died in 1993 at the age of 40, was a prominent prep player for Sioux Falls Lincoln and Augustana College, winning the North Central Conference singles championship in 1975. Kochenderfer and Billy Clayton led the 1971 Sioux Falls Lincoln High School team

singles championship in 1959. He played Division I tennis for Iowa State. After college, Line was a Naval officer, and while serving, went to the all-Navy tennis finals three times. With son **Scott**, Line reached the Father/Son Doubles Championship played at the National Tennis Center in Flushing, N.Y.

The 2015 South Dakota Achievement Award goes to the **Paul and Kari Richardson Family**, now of Ballwin, Mo. With Aberdeen and Sioux Falls roots, Paul was a tennis teaching professional, while Kari was a former University of Minnesota standout. They led the way as daughters **Elyse**, **Laura** and **Emily** became top players in USTA Missouri Valley.



The Paul and Kari Richardson Family is the recipient of the 2015 South Dakota Tennis Achievement Award.

to an undefeated season and the state championship.

Line, now of Tavares, Fla., made his mark at Washington High School in Sioux Falls, winning four state doubles titles, along with the state



THE 2015 USTA Northern *Hall of Fame Class*

USTA Northern inducted four new members into its Hall of Fame on Friday, Oct. 2, at The Minneapolis Club including Director of the Grand Slam Board **Bill Babcock** (originally of Minneapolis, Minn., and now of London, England); standout player and volunteer **Fred Budde** (Eagan, Minn.); player, coach and volunteer **John Mueller** (Minneapolis, Minn.), who was inducted posthumously; and high school coaching legend **Steve Paulsen** (Apple Valley, Minn.).

Bill Babcock

Currently the Director of the Grand Slam Tennis Board and living in London, England, Bill Babcock was the #1 singles player for Washburn High School in Minneapolis and played Division I tennis at Harvard. He went on to play Pro Circuits in Europe, South America, Asia and Australia, while still playing in local tournaments in the Twin Cities.

A USPTA professional since 1972, Babcock earned his law degree from the University of California-Hastings in San Francisco and went on to work with Oppenheimer Law Firm in Minneapolis. During that time, he was a teaching professional at Interlachen Country Club (1968-79) in Edina, Minn., worked on various committees for USTA Northern and was the Vice President of the organization in 1985.

It was then that Babcock accepted his first international position with the Men's Professional Tennis Council in New York City. Next, he was hired by the International Tennis Federation (ITF) in 1989 and later became Executive Director of the Davis Cup and Men's Tennis before overseeing all professional tournaments, in addition to serving as Administrator of the Grand Slam Committee. In 2011, he became Director of the Grand Slam Board and currently represents the Grand Slams on the ITF's Tennis Anti-Doping Programme and is the Grand Slam Professional Tennis Integrity Officer on the Tennis Anti-Corruption Programme.

His tennis resume is broad and robust as he has either been involved or currently works with a variety of aspects of the game including Grand Slam Rules, Regulations and Code of Conduct, Davis Cup, Rules of Tennis, Men's Future's Tournaments, ITF Circuit Rules, Regulations and Code of Conduct, Grand Slam legal contracts with the IFT, ATP, WTA and other third parties, the Grand Slam and Tennis Masters Cups, the Grand Slam Development Fund and Grand Slam Trademark registration and enforcement.



Sixteen Hall of Famers attended the 2015 ceremony including: (Back Row l to r) – Bill Babcock, Tom Boice, Jack Roach, David Yorks, David Mathews, Marcia Bach, Dick Riley, Fred Budde, Tom Muller (representing his late brother John Mueller), Steve Paulsen and Greg Lappin. (Front Row l to r) – Steve Champlin, Margie Champlin, Sue Gregor, Bob Larson and Ron York.

Fred Budde

Fred Budde of Eagan, Minn., is one of the most accomplished players to come out of USTA Northern amassing 57 #1 sectional rankings – the most of any player in the history of the Section. A high school (1974) and junior college state champion (1976-77) with partner **Kelly Tritz**, Budde went on to play Division I tennis at Iowa State. He was inducted in to the Riverland Community College Hall of Fame in 2003.

Budde has achieved success at every level including eight national championships and numerous top-20 national rankings. He was ranked #1 in 25 singles and doubles in USTA Southern

Alabama and has been ranked #1 in USTA Northern in Open, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 55. He also was #5 in the country in 55 doubles in 2012. He has won 37 Section championships over the years and is a five-time Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic champion and six-time National Public Parks champion.

Originally from Austin, Minn., Budde has captained over 20 USTA League Tennis teams and has played on one or more league teams every year since 1985. His team won the 5.0 National Championships in 1996, and he captained the 35 Intersectional team to the National Championship in 1997.

Also an avid volunteer with USTA Northern, Budde contributed on court as a youth and then served on the Adult Tournament Committee for 10 years. He was the mastermind behind the computerization of tournaments for the Section and modeling tournaments after the USTA National format. He also assisted in determining tournament play grievances, fundraising for tournament play and modifying the economic model for the sanctioning of USTA Northern Tournaments.

Budde has also grown tennis in the community locally as he was



Congratulations to the 2015 USTA Northern Hall of Fame Class including the late-John Mueller (represented by his brother Tom), Steve Paulsen, Fred Budde and Bill Babcock.

a volunteer tennis instructor for the Eastview Athletic Association in Apple Valley, Minn., and volunteered as a middle school and high school assistant coach. He has worked with InnerCity Tennis and Saint Paul Urban Tennis and has raised numerous dollars for children's cancer research as part of the Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic.

John Mueller

John Mueller was inducted posthumously after passing away on January 9, 2014, after a long battle with diabetes. Mueller, who started playing tennis at the age of 8, played number one singles at Augsburg College in Minneapolis, before serving in the Army and then coming back to play in the top spot at St. Cloud State University in St. Cloud, Minn.

Mueller started his teaching career as the Tennis Director at Golden Valley Country Club over 40 years ago, and later served as a Tennis Pro and Tennis Director for the Northwest Athletic Clubs. He also was the boys and girls tennis coach at Armstrong High School in Robbinsdale, Minn.

He took tremendous pride in being the unofficial historian for USTA Northern, spending countless hours researching tennis players from the Section. He was a three-time chair of the Hall of Fame Committee and responsible for inducting a long-list of deserving male and female tennis players from around the Section into the Hall.

He served honorably in the Vietnam War as a member of the Military Police in Thailand. While overseas, he taught and played tennis on the military base.

He also had a special love for fishing and hunting, especially with his family near Park Rapids, Minn. After Mueller's passing, an anonymous donor made a \$5,000 donation in his memory to the Park Rapids Community Tennis Association. The CTA is continuing his legacy by helping fund the boys high school tennis team, running summer leagues and starting recreational programs for players from lower income neighborhoods and those with special needs.

Steve Paulsen

Steve Paulsen of Apple Valley, Minn., is arguably the best girls high school tennis coach, not only in Minnesota, but United States history. Currently the head coach at Edina High School in Edina, Minn., Paulsen has led the Hornet girls to a national record 19 consecutive Minnesota state team titles (1997-current) and has lost only four team matches during that time. He was named the National High School Coach of the Year in 2007 and has coached numerous Minnesota singles and doubles champions including **Whitney Taney**, who was named the 2007 National Senior Girls Tennis Player of the Year. Paulsen also coached boys high school tennis at Edina where he led the Hornets to three state titles and at Eastview High School in Apple Valley.

An outstanding player, Paulsen played college tennis for St. Olaf College, advancing to the NCAA Division III Championships three times and earning All-America honors in 1984. He was a two-time team Most Valuable Player and was inducted into the St. Olaf Hall of Fame in 2000 and the Northfield Hall of Fame in 2015. He also has been ranked #1 in USTA Northern numerous times in men's doubles and was a member of the 35 Intersectional Team that won the National Championship in 1997. He is also a past winner of the Pine Tree Tennis Classic.

Paulsen, a USPTA professional, has also given back to the game in a number of ways including presenting at the Minnesota High School Coaches Association clinics, Tennis & Life Camps and other teaching workshops. He has worked with Special Olympics and currently works with a number of other non-profits including InnerCity Tennis, the Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center and Saint Paul Urban Tennis. He has coached numerous USTA League Tennis teams and USTA High Performance Junior Groups and currently is Director of Tennis at Interlachen Country Club and a teaching professional at Life Time Fitness – Lakeville. He also recorded of a DVD about coaching high school tennis in 2007. He was named the USPTA Coach of the Year in 1992.



JUNIORS

Boys' 18 Singles: Nick Beaty d. Jackson Allen 64 64
Boys' 16 Singles: Jake Kuhlman d. Kaleb Dobbs 75, 46, 61
Boys' 14 Singles: Hunter Heck d. Gavin Young 61 62
Boys' 12 Singles: Sujit Chepuri d. Christo Alex 63 64

Boys' 18 Doubles: Nick Beaty-Jesse Sprinkel d. Jackson Allen – Aaron Goodman 86
Boys' 16 Doubles: Ben Ingbar-Jake Kuhlman d. Carter Mason - Ben van der Sman 84
Boys' 14 Doubles: Hunter Heck – Joe Mairs d. Gavin Young – Maxim Zagrebelyn 83
Boys' 12 Doubles: Sujit Chepuri – George Nottley d. Luke Little – Kevin Thomas 84

Girls' 18 Singles: Alexis Nelson d. Jessie Aney 75 62
Girls' 16 Singles: Sophia Reddy d. Isabella Lambert 60 61
Girls' 14 Singles: Monterey Knewton def. Nicole Snehzko 61 61
Girls' 12 Singles: Aili Hietala d. Arlina Shen 62 61

Girls' 18 Doubles: Jessie Aney – Alexis Nelson d. Hayley Haakenstad – Caitlyn Merzbacher 81
Girls' 16 Doubles: Savanna Crowell – Grace Goble d. Isabella Lambert/Sophia Reddy 85
Girls' 14 Doubles: Monterey Knewton – Cecelia Obetz d. Delaney Schlerhamer – Nicole Snehzko 97
Girls' 12 Doubles: Aili Hietala – Arlina Shen d. Nore Heinitz – Karin Young 98(2)

ADULTS

Men's Open Singles (Clay): Mohanad Al Houni d. Jeffrey Adolf 64 46 64
Men's Open Singles (Hard): Tony Larson d. Toby Boyer 62 75
Men's 40 Singles (Hard): Scott Larsen d. Christopher Michaelson 75 62
Men's 50 Singles (Clay): Brian Biernat d. Richard Klein 63 64
Men's 60 Singles (Clay): John Shannon d. Bruce Westrum 63 60
Men's 60 Singles (Hard): Jack Olwell d. Bruce Westrum 60 63
Men's 65 Singles (Clay): Dave Spilseth d. Lee Nagel 62 61
Men's 70 Singles (Hard): Douglas Brandt d. Bob Busch 76(6) 63
Men's 75 Singles (Clay): Bob Busch d. William Robertson 60 46 10
Men's 80 Singles (Clay): Robert Tengdin d. Richard Wright 63 64

Men's Open Doubles (Clay): Drew Fernelius–Joey Richards d. Eric Gleason–Adam Gustad 76 75
Men's Open Doubles (Hard): Jackson Allen–Toby Boyer d. Nicholas Beaty–Jesse Sprinkel 63 64
Men's 55 Doubles (Hard): Brian Biernat–Timothy Butorac d. Fred Budde–David Pettengill 64 64
Men's 60 Doubles (Clay): Thomas Boice–John Shannon d. Richard Mandt–Bruce Westrum 60 60
Men's 70 Doubles (Hard): Bob Busch–Tom Fridinger d. Jerry Artz–William Robertson 63 26 [10-5]
Men's 75 Doubles (Clay): Bob Busch–Tom Fridinger d. Frederick Gobel–Richard Mills 46 62 10



Toby Boyer and Jackson Allen won the 2015 Men's Open Hard Court Section Championship.

Women's Open Singles (Hard): Alexis Nelson d. Jessie Aney 64 62

Women's Open Doubles (Hard): Jessie Aney–Alexis Nelson d. Hayley Haakenstad–Caitlyn Merzbacher 62 64

Men's 3.0 Singles (Clay): Hans Felten d. Kellan Baker 64 61
Men's 3.0 Singles (Hard): Hans Felten d. Dan Thompson 64 16 [10-6]

Men's 3.5 Singles (Clay): Eric Bonde d. Nicholas Warner 26 63 62
Men's 3.5 Singles (Hard): Richard Pearce d. Carter Bayne 60 76(8)

Men's 4.0 Singles (Clay): Brandon Kuether d. Robert Hank 63 75


Men's 4.0 Singles (Hard): Jason Ostrowski d. Robert Hank 63 63
Men's 4.5 Singles (Clay): Pablo Eguez d. Cary Freeman 62 63
Men's 4.5 Singles (Hard): Paul Bates d. Pablo Eguez 16 62 [10-8]

Men's Combined 8.0 Doubles (Clay): Timothy Magnuson–Dan Westerhaus d. Brandon Kuether–Matthew Seracki 64 75
Men's Combined 8.0 Doubles (Hard): Shuman Lee–James Rick d. Sam Theisen–Ken Theisen 64 75

Women's 3.0 Singles (Clay): Karen Knapp d. Beth Leaf 61 46 61
Women's 3.5 Singles (Clay): Kim Wolson d. Linda Valentine 64 61
Women's 4.0 Singles (Clay): Kelly Lechowski d. Virginia Kuberski 64 62
Women's 4.0 Singles (Hard): Mia Robillos d. Virginia Kuberski 64 64

Women's Combined 6.0 Doubles (Clay): Barb Brown–Michele Fredrickson d. Cathleen Cachat–Anne Vournakis 75 36 75

Women's Combined 7.0 Doubles (Clay): Nikki Piersak–Linette Ramsay d. Jennifer Flanigan–Jennifer Bartz 61 36 [10-8]

Mixed Open Doubles (Hard): Tony Larson–Alexis Nelson d. Jessie Aney–Toby Boyer 63 62
Mixed Combined 7.0 Doubles (Clay): Casey Peter–Anna Swanson d. Virginia Kuberski–Craig Kuberski 61 57 64

Father Son Doubles (Clay): Daniel Richards–Joey Richards d. Aaron Goodman–David Goodman 60 63

Parent Child Doubles (Clay): Daniel Brown–Ginger Valentine d. Stacey Douville–Grant Douville 60 61



2015 Award Winners



Albert Teeter
Adult Sportsmanship Award
Chris Bushaw (Rochester, Minn.)



Jerry Noyce Junior Sportsmanship Award
Boys: Mark Johnson (Hudson, Wis.);
Girls: Izabella Edin (Staples, Minn.)



Family of the Year
The Cantine Family: Larry, Loretta, Kevin, Greg and Scott
(Milbank, S.D.)



Bob Larson Media Excellence Award
Matt Holsen – KELOLAND – TV
(Sioux Falls, S.D.)



Rocky Rockwell
Grassroots Official Award
Dennis Hayden (St. Paul, Minn.)



Jack Dow
Adult Development Award
Jeanne Ewen (Apple Valley, Minn.)



No-Cut Coach of the
Year All-Star Team Award:
Suzie Heideman
(Woodbury, Minn.)



Ward C. Burton
Junior Development Award
Kevin Whipple
(Minneapolis, Minn.)



Junior Team Tennis
Organizer of the Year:
Oliver Summers (Fargo, N.D.)



Wolfenson/Ratner
Community Service Award
Joyce Gavino (Minneapolis, Minn.) – Second from left



USTA Northern Ace Award
Kristi Bushinski (Woodbury, Minn.)



Frank Voigt Pro of the Year Award:
Justin Jennings (Hopkins, Minn.)



Member Organization of the Year Award
Hastings Tennis Association (Hastings, Minn.)



Awards and Honors

Darren Iverson Breaks Tennis World Record



Congratulations to Darren Iverson of Montgomery, Minn., who braved the rain and cold on May 29-30 in setting a Guinness World Record for most consecutive tennis matches played at 35. Iverson, who is the girls tennis coach at local Faribault High School, broke the existing record of 33 set by Jerome Lacorte in Hong Kong in November of 2014. Iverson started his record attempt at 7 a.m. Friday in the pouring rain, and finally broke

the record with the sun setting behind him at 7:30 Saturday evening when he played former Faribault player Dat Truong in his 34th match. He played one additional match for good measure before finally calling it quits surrounded by his family and friends. Per Guinness rules, Iverson played 35 different opponents in the best of three tiebreak sets with 90 seconds rest on changeovers and two minutes between sets. He then had one minute between the end of a match and the start of another and did receive "a couple" of bathroom/ change of attire breaks. His record was approved by Guinness in September, only to be broken 5 days later.

Suzie Heideman Named To National No-Cut All-Star Team

Congratulations to Suzie Heideman (Woodbury, Minn.) of East Ridge High School who was named to the 2015 USTA No-Cut Coach All-Star Team, recognizing 12 exceptional middle and high school coaches throughout the nation who implement a "no-cut" policy which welcomes all interested students to be a part of their school's tennis team. The East Ridge High School team received a \$500 grant from USTA National for their tennis program.

Heideman was selected from a group of finalists from USTA Northern including Chad Anderson, formerly of West Fargo and now at Sheyenne High School; Jenny Arnfelt, Shakopee High School; Wendy Hastings, Menomonie High School; Jason Olson, Rapid City Stevens High School; Steve Tacl, Rochester Lourdes High School and Koua Yang, Harding High School. The finalists all received a case of balls from USTA Northern.

Three Coaches Receive USPTA Specialty Degrees

USTA Northern's Pat Colbert, Baseline Tennis Center's John Pratt and Carleton College women's head coach Luciano Battaglini all earned their USPTA Specialists in Competitive Player Development degrees.

ITA Creates Steve Wilkinson Sportsmanship Award

The Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) created the Steve Wilkinson Team Sportsmanship Award dedicated to the memory of Steve Wilkinson, long-time Gustavus Adolphus men's head tennis coach and founder of Tennis & Life Camps in September. The award is presented

annually to the team that has displayed exceptional sportsmanship, character and ethical conduct in the true spirit of competition and college tennis during the ITA Division III National Men's Team Indoor Championship. Trinity (TX) was the winner of the inaugural award.

Greg Lappin Named 2015 PTR Member of the Year for Minnesota

USTA Northern Hall of Famer Greg Lappin (Chaska, Minn.) was named the 2015 PTR Member of the Year for the state of Minnesota. This award is presented to a PTR member who has shown dedication and diligence in promoting and supporting tennis and PTR.

Bryan Biever and Mike Vidmar Named USPTA 45 and Over Doubles Team of Year

Bryan Biever (St. Paul, Minn.) and USTA Northern Board Member Mike Vidmar (St. Paul, Minn.) were named the USPTA 45 and Over Doubles Team of the Year!

Special Events

French Open Champion Luke Jensen Does Clinics Around The Section

Former French Open doubles champion Luke Jensen did a number of clinics around USTA Northern in January at the Eau Claire Indoor YMCA (Jan. 14), West Hills in Owatonna (Jan. 15), Fred Wells Tennis & Education in St. Paul (Jan. 16), Fitness Evolution in Sartell (Jan. 18) and Courts Plus Community Fitness in Fargo (Jan. 20). Jensen won the French Open Men's Doubles in 1993 and was a Grand Slam finalist at the US and French Opens for mixed doubles.

James Blake Celebrates Grand Opening Of Huether Family Match Pointe In Sioux Falls

Tennis great James Blake helped celebrate the grand opening of the new Huether Family Match Pointe in Sioux Falls, S.D., on Saturday, April 25. Blake participated in a VIP breakfast, conducted youth clinics with USTA National Director of USTA Coach Education Kirk Anderson, did a question and answer session for all kids and adults in attendance and then played singles and doubles exhibition matches.



Andy Roddick Wins Powershare Series In Minneapolis; Member Appreciation Success

Andy Roddick continued his domination of the 2015 PowerShares Series by defeating John McEnroe 6-4 in the one-set championship match April 29 at the Target Center in Minneapolis. In the semifinals, Roddick beat Michael Chang 6-2 and McEnroe took out James Blake 6-4.

Also prior to the event, over 100 people enjoyed food, drink and a special appearance from Blake at the FREE USTA Northern Member Appreciation Event.

Patrick McEnroe and Team USA Staff Visit Northern Section

Patrick McEnroe and the Team USA staff visited USTA Northern on May 1 to talk about junior high performance and developing the next US Open Champion. Board, staff and many high performance coaches in the Section were in attendance.



Junior Tennis Highlights

USTA Northern Hosts First Early Development Camps As Part Of Team USA Program

USTA Northern, in conjunction with USTA Player Development, played host to its first Team USA Early Development Players and Coaches Camps in March and April at Life Time Fitness - Lakeville. The Coaches Camp was run by USTA National's Director of Early Development Camps **Alanna Broderick** and featured 30 of the best coaches in USTA Northern, focusing specifically on Orange Ball and 60' Court Tennis and the Youth Pathway.

In April, 19 kids attended the first Early Development Camp which hopes to develop and execute a player development pathway that helps identify, train and develop a continuous wave of fundamentally sound young tennis players from ages 8-13. Junior participating in the first camp included **Emanuall Alex** (Arden Hills, Minn.), **Ella Berg** (Elk River, Minn.), **Tej Bhagra** (Rochester, Minn.), **David Coyle** (North Oaks, Minn.), **Conor Cruse** (Rapid City, S.D.), **C. William Fleming** (White Bear Lake, Minn.), **Marshall Gordon** (Farmington, Minn.), **Ronan Hartwig** (Sioux Falls, S.D.), **Zoya Hasan** (Edina, Minn.), **Noah Hong** (Minneapolis, Minn.), **Nandini Iyer** (Rochester, Minn.), **Hadi Kalaaji** (Rochester, Minn.), **Caleb Kennel** (Rochester, Minn.), **Drew Lindstrom** (Rosemount, Minn.), **Quinn Martini** (Minnetonka, Minn.), **Molly Miller** (Bloomington, Minn.), **Brandon Pham** (Woodbury, Minn.), **Sofia Reuter** (Minneapolis, Minn.), **Alicia Simonson** (Plymouth, Minn.) and **Thomas Wickersham** (Wayzata, Minn.).

Section Hosts Sectional Training Camp

The following players participated at the 2015 Team USA Section Camp at Life Time Fitness – Lakeville in April including **Aili Hietala** (Duluth, Minn.), **Nore Heinitz** (Duluth, Minn.), **Karin Young** (Apple Valley, Minn.), **Zoe Adkins** (Maple Grove, Minn.), **Matt Fullerton** (Edina, Minn.), **Sujit Chepuri** (Minneapolis, Minn.), **Christo Alex** (Arden Hills, Minn.), **Kevin Turlington** (Rochester, Minn.), **Gage Gohl** (Sioux Falls, S.D.), **Bjorn Swenson** (North Oaks, Minn.), **Kevin Thomas** (Minnetonka, Minn.), **Vunissa Vu** (Maplewood, Minn.), **Julia Baber** (Rochester, Minn.), **Paige Sargent** (Rochester, Minn.), **James Yousef** (Sioux Falls, S.D.), **Tyler Plank** (Sioux Falls, S.D.), **Ojas Bhagra** (Rochester, Minn.), **Eddie Revenig** (Minneapolis, Minn.), **Nolan Ranger** (Edina, Minn.), **Tygen Goldammer** (Rosemount, Minn.), **Reegan Mullaney** (Edina, Minn.), **Alyson Jay** (Edina, Minn.) and **Amanda Diao** (Blaine, Minn.). The coaches for the weekend were **Steve Tacl** (Rochester, Minn.), **Jenna Kuhlman** (Farmington, Minn.), **Glenn Allsop** (Hopkins, Minn.), **Danny Kantar** (Minneapolis, Minn.), **Kevin Plank** (Sioux Falls, S.D.), **Mark Muntifering** (St. Cloud, Minn.), **Craig Gordon** (Farmington, Minn.) and **Pat Klett** (Chanhassen, Minn.).

Players and Coaches Attend Team USA Regional Training Camp

The following USTA Northern players participated in the Team USA Regional Camp in Tulsa, Okla., in August including **Christo Alex** (Arden Hills, Minn.), **Sujit Chepuri** (Minneapolis, Minn.), **Tygen Goldammer** (Rosemount, Minn.), **Aili Hietala** (Duluth, Minn.), **Allyson Jay** (Edina, Minn.), **Nolan Ranger** (Edina, Minn.), **Bjorn Swenson** (Minneapolis, Minn.) and **Karin Young** (Apple Valley, Minn.) and coaches **Danny Kantar** (Minneapolis, Minn.), **Glenn Allsop** (Hopkins, Minn.) and **Dana Young** (Apple Valley, Minn.).

Duluth's Aili Hietala Wins Regional Camp Award

Aili Hietala (Duluth, Minn.) won the Competitor's Award at the Team USA Regional Camp in Tulsa, Okla., in August.

Edina High School Girls Win Minnesota Milestone Award



The Edina High School Girls Tennis Program in Edina, Minn., was honored with the Minnesota Milestone Award February 4, in conjunction with the 29th Annual National Girls and Women in Sports Day – a nationwide celebration recognizing the accomplishments of individuals in the promotion and advancement of girls' and women's sports. Edina went on to win its 19th straight Minnesota Girls AA State Championship in October.

Hunter Heck Wins Winter Nationals, Easter Bowl and Ranked #1



What a great year 2015 was for **Hunter Heck** (New Brighton, Minn.) as he won the 12s doubles Winter Nationals in January, followed by the Boys 14s Closed Regional in Lakeville, Minn., both the singles and doubles at the prestigious national Easter Bowl Championships in Indian Wells, Calif., in April, the Boys 14s National Selection Tournament in Elm Grove, Wis., and was ranked #1 in the country in Boys 12s Doubles and #5 in singles.

Jessie Aney Wins Spring Team Nationals & Girls Sportsmanship Award

Congratulations to **Jessie Aney** (Rochester, Minn.) who was part of the gold-ball winning Angels team at the USTA Spring Nationals in Mobile, Ala., and won the overall Girls Sportsmanship Award. Aney also won a gold ball in 18s doubles at Winter Nationals in 2014 and won the 2015 USTA National Bill Talbert Junior Sportsmanship Award and the National Clay Courts Sportsmanship Award.



Ingrid Neel Plays Wimbledon, US Open and Wins Pro Tournaments



Ingrid Neel (Rochester, Minn.) had a stellar year playing in both the Wimbledon and US Open juniors singles and doubles draw. She also played in the main doubles draw of the US Open where she and partner Alicia Black won their first-round match defeating Danka Kovinic and Yulia Putintseva 3-6, 6-2, 6-2, before falling to seventh seeded Andrea Hlavackova and Lucie Hradecka of the Czech Republic 6-3, 4-6, 6-1. Neel also won two professional tournaments (Gainesville and Orlando), in addition to the Girls 18s National Hardcourt Doubles title and the Eddie Herr Girls 18s Doubles Championship.

Bjorn Swenson Wins Engagement Award

Bjorn Swenson (North Oaks, Minn.), was named the Engagement Award winner at the Team USA Section Training Camp at Life Time Fitness – Lakeville in April.



Adult Tennis Highlights

Dan James And Jon Rydberg Lead US Men's Wheelchair Team At World Team Cup

The U.S. men's wheelchair team, led by coach Dan James (St. Paul, Minn.) and Jon Rydberg (Woodbury, Minn.) finished 11th at the 2015 BNP Paribas World Team Cup in Antalya, Turkey. The World Team Cup is the ITF's flagship wheelchair tennis event, often referred to as the Davis/Fed Cup of wheelchair tennis.

David Nash Leads USA To Third-Place Finish At Super Senior Championships

David Nash (Bloomington, Minn.) represented the United States on the Jack Crawford Cup team that placed third at the ITF World Super Senior Championships in Umag, Croatia.

Dusty Boyer Wins US Open Missouri Valley Singles and Mixed Doubles Qualifier

Dusty Boyer (Ham Lake, Minn.) defeated Alex Brown 6-7, 6-4, 6-2 in the men's singles final of the US Open Missouri Valley Sectional Qualifying tennis tournament in Prairie Village, Kan. Boyer also partnered with Julia Schiller in winning the mixed doubles title.

Alexis Nelson Wins Three Titles At US Open Northern Qualifier



Alexis Nelson (St. Paul, Minn.) won the women's singles, doubles and mixed doubles championship at the 2015 US Open Northern Section Qualifier at the Baseline Tennis Center.

Nelson defeated Jessie Aney (Rochester, Minn.) 6-4, 6-2 in the singles finals. Nelson then teamed with Aney to beat Hayley Haakenstad (Chanhassen, Minn.) and Caitlyn Merzbacher (Eden Prairie, Minn.) in the women's doubles final 6-2, 6-4. She completed the trifecta when she and Tony Larson (Fridley, Minn.) took out Aney and Toby Boyer (Ham Lake, Minn.) in the mixed doubles final 6-3, 6-2.

University of Minnesota sophomore Felix Corwin (Elm Grove, Wis.) won the men's single title, defeating three-time champion Larson 6-3, 7-6 (5). In men's doubles, the team of Boyer and Jackson Allen (Shakopee, Minn.) defeated Nick Beatty (Wayzata, Minn.) and Jesse Sprinkel (Minneapolis, Minn.) 6-3, 6-4.

Tony Larson Wins USPTA Indoor Nationals

For the fifth time in six years, Tony Larson (Fridley, Minn.) won the men's open singles division at the \$5,000 United States Professional Tennis Association (USPTA) Indoor Championships at the Racquet Club of Memphis in Memphis, Tenn. Larson (right) defeated Thiago Barbosa of Glendale, Ariz., 7-6, 6-0 to win the division for the first time since winning four consecutive men's open singles titles between 2010-13. This year's victory gives Larson a sixth overall singles title in all divisions, in addition to his eight doubles titles in the USPTA Surface Championship series.





Felix Corwin Advances To Semifinals At US Open National Qualifier

Felix Corwin (Elm Grove, Minn.) advanced to the semifinals before falling to former ATP Tour pro **Jesse Witten** 6-1, 6-3 at the US Open National Qualifier in New Haven, Conn. Corwin won two matches before losing to Witten. **Tony Larson** (Fridley, Minn.) lost in the first round when he had to retire due to injury. **Dusty Boyer** (Ham Lake, Minn.) also lost in the first round to **Josh Hagar** in a third-set tiebreaker 2-6, 6-3, 7-6 (5). **Alexis Nelson** (St. Paul, Minn.) fell in the quarterfinals of the women's singles draw. Nelson and partner **Jessie Aney** (Rochester, Minn.) lost to **Alexandra Anhelescu** and **Carolina Price** in the first round of women's doubles 6-4, 6-4 and in men's doubles, the Northern team of **Nick Beaty** (Wayzata, Minn.) and **Jesse Sprinkel** (Minneapolis, Minn.) lost to **Joseph Haig** and **Benjamin Tso** 6-2, 6-3. In mixed doubles, Nelson and Larson opened against Boyer and **Julia Schiller**, falling 6-2, 7-6 (8). Boyer and Schiller then lost a heartbreaker in the second to **Gail Brodsky** and **Brian Wilson** 7-5, 2-6, 10-7.

University of Minnesota Hosts Senior Games

The University of Minnesota's Baseline Tennis Center hosted the 2015 National Senior Tennis Games in July. Over 720 athletes participated in tennis and featured draws in men's and women's singles, doubles and mixed doubles in the following age ranges: 50-54; 55-59; 60-63; 65-69; 70-74; 75-79; 80-84; 85-90 and 90-94.

The men's 65-69 doubles team of **Tim Burke** (Minneapolis, Minn.) and **Dave Mathews** (Edina, Minn.) took home gold defeating **Jim Bauersfeld** and **Jack Johnson** of Kansas 6-1, 6-4. Burke also earned silver medal honors in the 65-69 singles, falling to Johnson 5-7, 6-4, 1-0 (7) in the finals.

In women's 50-54 doubles, the team of **Robin Coverdale** (White Bear Lake, Minn.) and **Elyse Rabinowitz** (Minneapolis, Minn.) beat **Katie Resch** (St. Paul, Minn.) and **Susan Rudd** (St. Paul, Minn.) 6-3, 4-6, 1-0 (5) in the finals. Also, the team of **Barb Brunjes** (St. Paul, Minn.) and **Angie Fischels** (St. Louis Park, Minn.) was fourth, losing in the bronze medal match 6-4, 6-4 to **Sandra Newman** and **Shari Sternberg** of Maryland.

The team of **Carol Lindow** (Prior Lake, Minn.) and **Jane Schroeder** (Northfield, Minn.) won the 60-64 women's doubles gold medal defeating **Linda Kirk** and **Marie Rinaldi** of Connecticut and Maryland, respectively, 6-3, 4-2. The duo of **Cindy Idelkope** (Minneapolis, Minn.) and **Susan Stedman** (Minneapolis, Minn.) won the bronze with a 7-5, 6-4 victory over **Cathie Hopkins** and **Lois McKinley** of Kansas City.

USTA Northern Hall of Famer **Cammy Johnson** (Excelsior, Minn.) and her partner **Susan Furtney** (Apple Valley, Minn.) won the gold in the 65-69 women's doubles, defeating **Hedy Brandt** and **Hiroyo Fisher** of Maryland and New Hampshire, respectively, 6-4, 6-2. Johnson also took silver in 70-74 singles falling to **Karen Barry** of California in the finals 6-3, 2-6, 1-0 (7).

Erna Van Wyk of Edina, Minn., won the gold in women's 75-79 singles defeating **Irma DeMarzo** of New Jersey 6-0, 6-0, in the finals.

The men's doubles team of **Merle Bryan** (Inver Grove Heights, Minn.) and **Rodney Smith** (Minneapolis, Minn.) won the silver medal in the 70-74 division, losing to **Jonathan Bortner** and **Barry Shollenberger** of Florida 6-7 (5), 7-6 (5), 13-11.

Bob Busch and USTA Northern Hall of Fame **Tom Fridinger** (White Bear Lake, Minn.) won bronze in the men's 75-79 doubles, winning the third place match over **Dick Mackey** and **Ronald Nelson**, both of White Bear Lake, Minn. 6-1, 6-0. **Robert Tengdin** of Minneapolis also won a bronze in the men's 85-89 doubles. **Calvin Schadel** of Minneapolis also

won bronze in men's 85-89 singles and **Ruby Rott** (St. Paul, Minn.) took bronze in the women's 80-84 singles as she beat **Fran Allison** of North Carolina 6-0, 6-1.

Rott and partner **Patricia Dahlman** (White Bear Lake, Minn.) were fourth in 80-84 doubles and in women's 70-74 doubles, **Sheila Bjore** (Plymouth, Minn.) and **Carol Rothe** (Edina, Minn.) took fourth.

Aquatennial Tennis Classic Celebrates Its 20th Anniversary

Congratulations to **Alexis Nelson** (St. Paul, Minn.) and **Toby Boyer** (Ham Lake, Minn.), who won the singles championships at the 20th Aquatennial Tennis Classic July 13-24 at Canadian Pacific Plaza in downtown Minneapolis.

Nelson won her second straight Aquatennial title defeating **Diana Bukajeva** (Lake Elmo, Minn.) 6-3, 1-6, 1-0 (6) in the finals. Boyer became the youngest winner of the men's singles title when he defeated **Nelson Vick** (Stillwater, Minn.) 6-3, 4-6, 1-0 (8) in the finals. Both took home \$750 for their victories.

The doubles team of **Andres Osorio** (St. Paul, Minn.) and **Sion Wilkins** (Maple Grove, Minn.) won their third Aquatennial men's doubles title with a 6-3, 0-6, 1-0 (11) victory over Vick and **Tony Larson** (Fridley, Minn.). Osorio and Wilkins also won the title in 2012 and 2013 and split \$600 between them. In mixed doubles, the duo of **Nick Crossley** (Rochester, Minn.) and **Alexa Palen** (Rochester, Minn.) won their first Aquatennial mixed doubles title with a 4-6, 6-4, 1-0 (0) victory over Bukajeva and **Justen Seim** (Lake Elmo, Minn.). Crossley and Palen also split \$600 between them.

The 2015 tournament was supported by **USTA Northern**, Champion Sponsors **Dorsey & Whitney LLP**, **Hempel**, **Implex's Qwikcast.tv**, **LifeTime Fitness**, **Van Clemens and Company** and **Sport Court North Minnesota** and Advantage Sponsors **Baseline Tennis Center**, **Los Osuna Blue Agave Spirits** and **Take Care Chiropractic** and was an official associated event of the Minneapolis Aquatennial.

Sioux Falls Hosts National Public Parks Tournament

The City of Sioux Falls, S.D., played host to the 2015 National Public Parks Championships

July 23-26. The event included open, age group, NTRP and a junior tournament at different locations around Sioux Falls and Brandon, S.D.

In the men's open singles, **Ben Mullis** (Urbandale, Iowa) defeated **Zach Northey** (Lincoln, Neb.) when Northey had to retire due to injury before the start of the third set. Mullis also won the open doubles title with partner **Austin Grundy** (Sioux City, Iowa) over **Scott Slezak** (Omaha, Neb.) and **James McManus** (Waterloo, Iowa) 7-6 (4), 6-2. In the women's open, top-seeded **Ruth Seaborne** (Iowa City, Iowa) defeated **Allison Falkin** (Omaha, Neb.) 6-2, 6-1. The team of **Emily** and **Kari Richardson** (Ballwin, Mo.) won the women's open doubles over **Morgan** and **Sidney Brower** (Sioux Falls, S.D.) 2-6, 6-0, 7-6 (5). In mixed doubles, Mullis and Seabrooke defeated **Jessa Richards** and **Joey Richards** (Eden Prairie, Minn.) 6-1, 7-5.

Many USTA Northern members also won the age group, NTRP and junior tournament divisions. For complete results, visit www.sfta.net.

Eric Butorac Wins Eugene L. Scott Renaissance Award

Eric Butorac (Rochester, Minn.) was the 2015 winner of the Eugene L. Scott Renaissance Award, presented each year to a national/international tennis champion who demonstrates excellence in promoting and developing the sport of tennis in public parks and characterizes the ideals of public parks tennis. The award was created



in 2006 by Bill Mountford in the memory of Gene Scott, who was a great supporter of the National Public Parks Tennis Championships. Butorac was honored on July 24 during the Players Party at the 2015 National Public Parks Championships in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic Raises over \$300,000 For Children's Hospitals

The 2015 Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic raised over \$300,000 for Children's Hospitals of Minnesota and specifically pediatric cancer research. **Imke Reimers** (Boston, Mass.) won her fifth Pine Tree, this time with former Gopher **Mathieu Froment** (Minneapolis, Minn.) in the Open, while **Tory Borovsky** (Northfield, Minn.) and **Gordon Reid** (Eden Prairie, Minn.) won the Masters and **Felicia Raschiatore** (Excelsior, Minn.) and **Mike Olson** (Ham Lake, Minn.) won the Grand Masters. The Sportsmanship Award was also named after former Gustavus Coach **Steve Wilkinson** and went to **Katie Resch** (St. Paul, Minn.).

David Nash Wins 65+ Gold Ball At Eden Prairie Life Time Athletic



David Nash (Bloomington, Minn.) won a gold ball in doubles at the 65+ Category I National Indoor Championships August 11-16 at Eden Prairie Life Time Athletic. Nash (right) and partner **Richard Johnson** (Ballwin, Mo.) defeated fourth seed **Padg Bolton** (Monroe, La.) and **Michael Beautyman** (Flourtown, Pa.) in the finals 6-2, 6-4. Congratulations also go out to **Brian Cheney** (Chandler, Ariz.) who won his 89th career gold ball with a 6-1, 6-2 win over **Doug Ruffin** (Helena, Mon.) in the singles finals.

Tom Boice (Wayzata, Minn.) and **Dick Nelson** (Hopkins, Minn.) won the consolation doubles championships after receiving a walkover in the finals.

David Nash and Alexis Nelson Represent United States at Avory Cup

David Nash (Bloomington, Minn.) and **Alexis Nelson** (St. Paul, Minn.) helped the United States defeat Great Britain in the 2015 Avory Cup 38-21 in Charleston, S.C. Nelson, who was the youngest person to

ever play in the Avory Cup, played Open Singles and won both singles matches before losing her final match in mixed doubles. Nash won both matches he played - with **Larry Turville** (men's doubles) and **Carolyn Nichols** (mixed).

Community Tennis, Grants & Awards

Three Awarded USTA Foundation College Scholarships

Congratulations to **Kelly Reger** (Edina, Minn.) and **Peter Minton** (Eau Claire, Wis.) who were selected to receive the USTA Foundation's Dwight F. Davis Memorial Scholarship. The award is granted to two high school seniors who have performed with distinction and have actively participated in extracurricular activities, community service and an organized tennis program. Both Reger and Minton received \$10,000. Also, **Lisa Anderson** (Aitkin, Minn.) is the winner of USTA Foundation College Education Scholarship which awards an \$8,000 scholarship.

ICT Opens Best Buy 21st Century Classroom

InnerCity Tennis celebrated the ribbon cutting of its new Best Buy 21st Century Classroom on July 9 at the Reed Sweatt Family Tennis Center in Minneapolis. ICT is moving forward in connecting information education and computer literacy with the youth they serve and recognized Best Buy with a demonstration of the USTA's Academic Creative Engagement program by ICT Education manager **Song Thao**, followed by a Science of Tennis presentation by **Rodrigo Molina**.

USTA Northern Hosts NJTL Regional Workshop

USTA Northern and the Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center played host to an NJTL Regional Workshop May 1-3. There was a 10U clinic followed by an introduction to the Academic Creative Engagement curriculum, and more on- and off-court sessions. Over 30 people attended the different activities throughout the weekend.

Four Schools Selected For Adopt-A-Team Campaign

The Northern Tennis Foundation selected four different schools as part of its Adopt-A-Team fundraising opportunity. The recipients were **Columbia Heights** (Minn.) **High School**, **Fridley** (Minn.) **High School**, **Harding High School** in St. Paul, Minn., and **Humboldt High School**, also in St. Paul. Each school received \$1,000 to help off-set expenses for its varsity tennis program.

USTA Northern Partners With Youthprise For Urban Youth Tennis & Education Campaign

USTA Northern and Youthprise have joined forces to break down barriers to participation, expand no- and low-cost play opportunities, enhance the incorporation of academics and art, build confidence, resilience and grit in young people, and provide safe spaces with caring adults who are invested in mentoring and keeping youth on a path to success with its Urban Youth Tennis & Education Campaign. Youthprise has pledged a match of \$125,000 to kick-start this campaign, and the USTA Foundation has signed on to be the first cornerstone supporter with a \$50,000 contribution.

Five Named USTA Northern Premier Providers

Congratulations to the following tennis facilities and organizations for being named to the USTA Northern's inaugural Premier Provider list for 2015: **Sioux Falls Tennis Association** (Sioux Falls, S.D.); **Eau Claire YMCA Indoor Tennis Center** (Eau Claire, Wis.); **Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center** (St. Paul, Minn.); **Courts Plus Community Fitness** (Fariboro, N.D.) and **Baseline Tennis Center-University of Minnesota** (Minneapolis, Minn.).



Menards Family Gives Money For New Tennis Facility In Eau Claire

The Menards Family in Eau Claire is donating a new eight-court tennis center to the Eau Claire YMCA. The new facility will be constructed on land currently owned by the Eau Claire YMCA just west of the entrance to Carson Park on Menomonie Street and will replace the current five-court L.E. Phillips Tennis Center that opened in 1972.



InnerCity Tennis, Fred Wells and Saint Paul Urban Tennis Receive Capacity Grants

The USTA Foundation, the national charitable organization of the USTA, awarded \$741,500 in grants at the end of 2014 – both program grants and capacity building grants – to 44 organizations nationwide, including InnerCity Tennis in Minneapolis, the Fred Wells Tennis and Education Center and St. Paul Urban Tennis in St. Paul. All were recognized for their efforts in providing tennis and education to under-resourced youth

and individuals with disabilities, as well those organizations with a need for program infrastructure support.

2016 Community Tennis Grants Recipients

- \$1,950 to Altoona Middle School to purchase green dot balls for all of the area middle school programs for use in practice and competition.
- \$1,500 to Johnson Senior High School to support the purchase of basic equipment needs and t-shirts for the tennis program.
- \$1,000 to InnerCity Tennis for the addition of Summer Funtastic Camps and programming with Bdote Learning Center at Brackett Park.
- \$750 to Aberdeen Community Tennis Association to support pursuit of 501c3 tax-exempt status with the IRS.
- \$3,000 to Fred Wells Tennis and Education Center to support implementation of a new 10 week tennis and education curriculum.
- \$3,000 to Menomonie Area Schools to support a three-year middle school tennis sustainability plan.
- \$1,215 to Hastings Tennis Association for creation of a new web site.
- \$1,000 to Hastings Tennis Association to support new adult tennis programming in 2016.
- \$750 to Black Hills Tennis Association to support new Play Days.
- \$600 to Park Rapids Tennis Association to support free tennis programming for under-resourced youth and

adults.

- \$1,000 to the Black Hills Tennis Association (Rapid City, S.D.) to support marketing efforts for free Play Day events.
- \$1,500 to Huether Family Match Pointe (Sioux Falls, S.D.) to start a new early childhood tennis program in partnership with Volunteers of America.
- \$500 to Owatonna Tennis Association (Owatonna, Minn.) to support a five-week adult group lesson program.
- \$1,200 to St. Paul Urban Tennis (St. Paul, Minn.) to support sending a full-time staff member to the National Tennis Development Workshop.
- \$1,000 to South Dakota School of Mines and Technology (Rapid City, S.D.) to start a new Tennis on Campus program.

2015 Adopt-A-Court Facility Grant Recipients

- \$10,000 to Harrisburg High School for the construction of new tennis courts and addition of school sponsored tennis teams.
- \$10,000 to Cook County Tennis Association for reconstruction of tennis courts.
- \$7,500 to the City of Barron for reconstruction of tennis courts.
- \$5,000 to Buffalo Hanover Montrose Community Education for the construction of permanent 36' courts.
- \$3,606 to Wahpeton Park Board to resurface tennis courts at Chanhinkapa Park.
- \$1,520.94 to St. James High School for tennis court amenities.



2015 High School Tennis Facility Grants (\$500 each):

- Robbinsdale Cooper (Minn.) High School
- Rapid City Central (S.D.) High School
- Aitkin (Minn.) High School
- Brainerd (Minn.) High School
- Faribault (Minn.) High School
- Harding (St. Paul, Minn.) High School
- Montevideo (Minn.) High School
- Sleepy Eye (Minn.) High School
- St. Paul Washington (Minn.) High School
- Coon Rapids (Minn.) High School
- Menomonie (Wis.) High School
- Fridley (Minn.) High School





Christian Ruas (l) and Austin Lehman

CHRISTIAN RUAS Wins NATIONAL Arthur Ashe Essay Contest

Christian Ruas of Minneapolis, Minn., and the Fred Wells Tennis and Education Center in St. Paul, Minn., was named a national winner of the 2015 USTA Foundation's Arthur Ashe Essay Contest for the Boys 18s division. Ruas received an all-expense paid trip for him and a guest to New York City where they attended the 2015 Arthur Ashe Kids Day on August 28, as well as toured New York City and were honored at a luncheon with former New York City Mayor David Dinkins.

This year's contest focused on one of the co-founders of National Junior Tennis & Learning program, **Charlie Pasarell**, and asked the question, "Who is a local NJTL hero in your community that resembles what Mr. Pasarell has done through NJTL?" Here is Ruas' winning essay:

"Athletes should not only be skilled at their sport, but also be willing to give their all to help others in that sport. Whether that be children who wanted to begin playing that sport or helping a whole community, or even a whole nation or the entire world. These traits of an athlete have never been better exemplified than by the Puerto Rican tennis player Charlies Pasarell. Pasarell was not only gifted, winning many tournaments, but also being one of the founders of the NJTL, whose goal is to help children not only succeed on the

court but also in life. The person I feel shares traits with Pasarell is my coach from Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center, **Austin Lehman**.

Austin is not only a skilled tennis player, but he is one of the best coaches I have ever had. He has been there for me the past nine years. He is one of my biggest inspirations and I aspire to become at least half as good as coach as he is. Throughout the years, he has made me a better player and better person. Not only is he an incredible coach, he is also not afraid to try new things and create new activities for his athletes.

Austin created a new leadership program called Boys Leadership Team. As the name suggests, we are taught leadership skills that we can take with us for the rest of our lives. Not only do we do things related to tennis, but Austin also branched out and brought amazing spoken-word artists to teach the members of boys' leadership about spoken word. It was an incredible experience, and it raised my respect for Austin to a whole new level.

Austin is truly someone I respect and admire. He is kind, fun and just about everything about him is good. He is always smiling and energetic. He is my choice for local NJTL hero, and I do not think anyone else deserves the honor more than him."

The 2015 USTA Northern Arthur Ashe Essay Contest Winners

Congratulations to the following National Junior Tennis & Learning players who were named winners of the 2015 USTA Northern Arthur Ashe Essay Contest. They, like Ruas, were all eligible for the National contest and received a plaque for winning.

AGE	NAME	CITY	STATE	NJTL
B10	Luke Hawkins	Minneapolis	MN	InnerCity Tennis
G10	Maggie Kelleher	Minneapolis	MN	InnerCity Tennis
B12	Yuxuan Qian	Sioux Falls	SD	Sioux Falls Tennis Association
G12	Danica Hubers	Sioux Falls	SD	Sioux Falls Tennis Association
B14	Angel Aquilar	St. Paul	MN	Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center
G14	Sarena Horng	Minneapolis	MN	Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center
B16	Demetrius Lewis	Minneapolis	MN	Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center
G16	Hartun Fassan	Minneapolis	MN	Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center
B18	Christian Ruas	Minneapolis	MN	Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center



SECTION CHAMPIONSHIPS AND SPORTSMANSHIP WINNERS

18 and Under

Life Time Fitness Bloomington South won both the Advanced and Intermediate Divisions at the 18U JTT Section Championships. In the advanced division, BLS defeated the **Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center** 34-23. Members of the winning team included Anna Letto, Ben Erickson, Chase Roseth, David Lu, Jacob Smith, Jacob Toffler, Lexi Lehman, Malini Wijesignhe, Petro Alex, Raghu Inturi and Savanna Crowell and head coach Spencer Jones.

In the intermediate draw, BLS defeated **Fargo** 39-30 by winning boys singles and all three doubles positions. Members of the winning team were Christina Lu, Davis Olson, Derek Davis, Frank Kelly, Harrison Tuttle, Isabelle Ouyang, Michelle Ip, Preston Olson Tanya Ramesh and head coach Bruce Gullikson.



LifeTime Fitness - Bloomington South
18 Advanced Champions



Mark Johnson (Fred Wells)
18 Adv. Boys Sportsmanship Award



Taylor Tarolly (St. Cloud)
18 Adv. Girls Sportsmanship Award



Sebastian O'Donnell
18 Int. Boys Sportsmanship Award

14 and Under

LifeTime Fitness - Bloomington South claimed their third consecutive 14U Advanced JTT Section Championship and **Hastings** won its first-ever Intermediate title. LifeTime-BLS defeated **LifeTime Fitness - Fridley** in the finals 27-19 after winning both singles, girls doubles and mixed doubles. Members of the winning team included Charlotte Bowles, Eesha Varma, Hunter Roseth, Jessica Ip, Max Hall, Michael Cao, Nicolette Keller, Nisal Niyanage, Sonya Ramesh, Tharun Inturi and is coached by Spencer Jones.

Hastings took out perennial power **GreatLife Woodlake GOAT** of Sioux Falls 22-19 in the final match. Hastings took a big lead 12-2 after the boys and girls singles and held on in doubles for the victory. Members of the Hastings team included Amy Roach, Anna Linder, Cody Zak, Carson Konrad, Emily Beyer, Eric Howd, Lauren Jolley, Maelie Martin and Sam Kelly.



Hastings Blue
14 Intermediate Champions



LifeTime Fitness - Bloomington South
14 Advanced Champions



(From L to R):
Colby Zak
(Hastings),
Max Hall (LifeTime - BLS), McKenna Vogel (Mandan)
14s Sportsmanship
Winners

PAES (Edina H.S.) won the Advanced silver title with a 40-14 win over **Buffalo**, while **St. Cloud** defeated the **Life Time Bloomington South Avengers** in the consolation championship 31-27. **St. Cloud White** won the Silver crown in the intermediate division defeating **Shakopee** 35-32. **Foley** won the Titanium title 32-23 over **Woodbury** and **Life Time Fitness-Fridley** beat **GreatLife Woodlake Slice Girls** of Sioux Falls 32-27.

Mark Johnson of the **Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center** won his second consecutive 18s Advanced Sportsmanship Award, while **St. Cloud's Taylor Tarolly** won the Girls Advanced Award. **Woodbury's Regan Dolezal** was the Intermediate Girls winner, while **Sebastian O'Donnell** of **Fargo** won the boys award.



InnerCity Tennis won the Advanced Silver Flight championship after beating **Longview (Duluth)** 26-14. In the Intermediate Division, **Woodbury** beat the **Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center** 28-13 for the silver title.

Great Life Woodlake Tree won the Advanced Gold Consolation match 27-15 over **Fred Wells**, while **Delano** won the Titanium Intermediate bracket crown with a 27-26 win over **Minnetonka Tennis Club**.

Bloomington South and **Hastings** also claimed Sportsmanship Award winners as **Max Hall** of BLS won the Advanced Boys award and **Colby Zak** the Intermediate Boys award. **McKenna Vogel** of Mandan won the Girls Intermediate award and **Ava Leonard** of GreatLife Woodlake Tree won the Advanced.



12 and Under

Congratulations to St. Paul Urban Tennis who won the 12U Advanced title and Life Time Fitness – White Bear Lake who took home the Gold championship in the 12U Intermediate tournament.

St. Paul Urban Tennis defeated Life Time Fitness - St. Louis Park 24-15 in the finals. Members of the team included Anjili Lo, Elliot Van Dyke, Emerson Ellington, Jack Sweeney, Riley Eddins, Ryan Sweeney, Surena Vu and Vunnisa Vu. GreatLife Woodlake from Sioux Falls won the Silver title defeating Life Time Fitness - Fridley and InnerCity Tennis in round-robin play 45 total games won to 33 and 26.

Life Time - White Bear defeated Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center in the finals 21-15. Members of the White Bear team included Annika Munson, Anthony Scheglowksi, Dylan Pham, Emma Sun, Emmanuel Alex, Mariana Meger, Parth Awade and Reagan Coyle.

The Hibbing Spinners won the Silver Bracket defeating Fred Wells 21-17. Members of the team were Abigail Sullivan, Drew Anderson, Jared Delich, Lydia Delich, Mary Skorich and Tristen Babich.

Life Time Fitness-Fridley defeated Shakopee in the Titanium finals 24-11. The Fridley team consisted of Andrew Dumbauld, Carys Quesnell, Grace Kalan, Griffin Steiniger, Joey Lyngdal, Michael Sipahimalani, Paige Colson and Sofia Vasquez.

Winners of the Sportsmanship awards included Griffin Steiniger and Grace Kalan from Life Time Fitness – Fridley in the Intermediate division and Ashwika Thotakura from Life Time Fitness – Bloomington South and Riley Eddins, who won for the second straight year, from St. Paul Urban Tennis in the Advanced division.

10 and Under

At the 10 U event, Life Time Fitness – White Bear Lake won the Advanced Division, while Twin City Tennis Camp Blue took home first place, followed by South St. Paul White and White Bear Yacht Club in the Intermediate event.



St. Paul Urban Tennis - 12s Advanced Champions



Riley Eddins (St. Paul Urban) and Ashwika Thotakura (Life Time Fitness – BLS) 12s Adv. Sportsmanship Award

Griffin Steiniger (LTF-Fridley) and Grace Kalan (LTF-Fridley) 12 Int. Sportsmanship Award



Twin City Tennis Camp Blue - 10 Intermediate Champion

NORTHERN WINS THREE SPORTSMANSHIP AWARDS AT NATIONALS



Hastings' Colby Zak was the overall Boys Sportsmanship winner.

14 and Under Nationals

LifeTime Fitness – Bloomington South placed 12th in the Advanced division and Hastings 12th in the Intermediate tournament at the 2015 USTA 14U Junior Team Tennis National Championships in Cayce, S.C. Hastings also won the overall Team Spirit Award, while player Colby Zak (left) was named the Boys Overall Sportsmanship Award winner. Bloomington South was also honored with the Best Sign Award.

Bloomington South finished third in its round robin flight with 113 total games won. Southern was first with 162 games, followed by Midwest with 150, Northern and Middle States (103). In the team matches, Northern lost to Southern 60-24, Middle States 50-43 and Midwest 55-39. In bracket play, Northern fell to Mid-Atlantic 46-39 and Middle States 48-46 in the 11th-place match. Southern defeated Eastern 40-29 for the overall title.

Hastings finished third in its round-robin flight with 84 total games

won. Middle States was first with 171 total games, followed Caribbean (159), Northern and Southwest (69). In bracket play, Hastings lost Northern California 49-38 and then to Pacific Northwest 45-43 in the 11th-place match. Middle States defeated New England for the title 49-41.

18 and Under Nationals

Life Time Fitness – Bloomington South was ninth in the Advanced division and 10th in the Intermediate Division in Cayce, S.C. The Advanced Team also was given the overall Team Spirit Award. Bloomington South Advanced finished third in its flight with 105 points. Texas was first with 178 total games, followed by New England with 121, Northern and Middle States with 69. BLS then defeated Caribbean in the 40-39 after winning a match tiebreaker when the two teams finished tied at 39-39. Northern then defeated Midwest 51-33 in the ninth-place match.

The Intermediate team finished third in its round robin flight with 120 total games won. Middle States was first with 175 games, followed by Caribbean with 134, Northern and Texas with 52. Northern then beat Pacific Northwest 56-33 and then lost to Northern California 58-43 in the ninth-place match.



Congratulations to the University of Minnesota who earned runner-up honors at the 2015 Tennis on Campus National Championships in Cary, N.C. The second-place finish marked the best-ever showing by a USTA Northern team at the Tennis on Campus Nationals.

Minnesota won six matches before finally falling to defending National Champions Cal-Berkeley 28-17 in the finals. The two teams traded wins early with Cal jumping out to a 6-2 win in men's doubles before Minnesota answered with a 6-4 victory in men's singles. In women's doubles, Berkeley broke a 2-all tie by claiming four consecutive games to widen the lead to 16-10 heading into women's singles. Cal took the singles 6-3, putting the champs up 22-13 heading into the final match.

For the Golden Gophers, 2015 was the year in which they finally broke through and made their first Tennis On Campus Gold Bracket appearance after more than a dozen attempts.

Minnesota went undefeated in Pool Play beating Carnegie Mellon, Gonzaga and Boston College to earn a spot in the Gold Bracket. Once there, Minnesota opened play defeating the University of Miami 28-16. The Gophers then took out Texas A&M, who had four Tennis On Campus National Championships on their resume, 22-21, before beating North Carolina in the semifinals 23-19. For the season, Minnesota finished with a 40-1 dual-match record.

Members of the Minnesota A roster included Jeff Adolf, Omar Shahed, Daniel Cooper, Kelsey Frechette, Laura Cattaneo, Giselle Beebe, Salam Bachour, Sofia Terzic, Hanna Mache and Rumeal Setts.

"We don't necessarily have a championship caliber team," said team captain Adolf after the match. "This year all the stars kind of aligned. We had a really great team this year. We fought for every match in the Gold bracket and had a lot of really close ones."

Carleton College was making its second appearance at the Tennis on Campus National Championships and placed 60th. In Pool Play, Carleton lost to Virginia, Stanford and Illinois falling into the Copper Bracket. Once there, Carleton lost to Tennessee 25-20, then defeated Lamar University 26-13 and then lost to Sam Houston State in the 11th-place match 26-13.

Members of the Carleton team included Zach Walsh, Rachel Moore, Lalangi Marasinghe, Justin Grossman, Gabby Chen and Avi Moorthy.



The team is coached by Kevin Rust, captained by Jeffrey Adolf (Gr.) and made up of Salam Bachour (So.), Giselle Beebe (Fr.), Laura Cattaneo (Fr.), Daniel Cooper (Gr.), Kelsey Frechette (Jr.), Omar Shahed (Jr.) and Sofia Terzic (Fr.).

SKI-U-MAH!

MINNESOTA FINISHES SECOND AT TENNIS ON CAMPUS NATIONALS



Carleton College made its second-ever appearance at TOC Nationals.

Minnesota Wins 12th Straight TOC Championship

The University of Minnesota A won its 12th consecutive Tennis On Campus Section Championship defeating Minnesota B 30-10 in the finals.

Minnesota A took a commanding 12-5 lead after doubles and 18-5 lead after women's singles and never looked back. The team of Laura Cattaneo and Giselle Beebe defeated B's Meera Damodaran and Carly Hayes 6-5 before the men's doubles team of Jeff Adolf and Omar Shahed beat Sandrato Andriasamy and Sebastian Adesoro 6-0. Minnesota A's Kelsey Frechette then took out Allison Mamsten 6-0 before Daniel Cooper beat Adesoro 6-5 in men's singles. In mixed doubles, Adolf and Frechette beat Catherine Haugen and Andriasamy 6-0.

Carleton College A also advanced to TOC Nationals with its third-place finish after defeating Valley City State 30-11. Carleton came out fast, leading 12-3 after doubles and 18-4 after women's singles. **North Dakota A** won the Silver title over Minnesota-Duluth 28-11, while **Carleton B** took home the Bronze flight championship 27-19 over South Dakota.

Gustavus Adolphus A was named the Team Spirit winner for the weekend.



Gustavus Named 2015 TOC Club of the Year



Growing from only 12 members at the start of 2014, to 27 by the Section Championships, and hosting two events were the tip of the iceberg for the 2015 USTA Northern Tennis On Campus Club of the Year

- Gustavus Adolphus College.

The Gustavus program, led by club president **Mark Meier**, has become a well-known and respected club on campus this year after making it a priority to have a presence at all student information fairs and gatherings. It is also a No-Cut program, meaning any student who wishes to be a part of the fun, can and will be on the team. Current team members are strongly encouraged to bring friends to practices and social outings in hopes they might one day become members of the team as well.

"Our program is an incredible place for students to play tennis and enjoy the community feel of students playing a sport they are passionate about, while encouraging each other to improve," junior **Hannah Jakel** wrote in her nomination of the team.

While improving the quality of players on their roster with some former varsity and even state high school participants this year, practices are now more efficient and productive, not only helping the team improve on specific skills, but also become better overall players, while still having fun.

"I have vastly improved this year under the direction of members who are of a higher skill level," Jakel said. "I appreciate how willing and patient everyone is to share their knowledge with other members of the team as there is no discrimination between skill sets."

Gustavus hosted its first two Invitations in school history this year - a fall event in September and a warm-up event for the 2015 Section Championships. Showing its progress as an up-and-coming program, Gustavus was sixth overall with 130 points during the Fall Campus Series. The Gusties also fielded two teams at the Tennis On Campus Section Championships in March, where they had one team each in the Gold and Silver Brackets.

The team has also improved its communications efforts this year staying connected through Facebook, e-mail and text, and is involved in many social activities from planning meals to group bonding after practices. There is no member excluded from these events.

"The level of closeness is a unique experience exclusive to club tennis here on campus," Jakel said. "It is one of my favorite activities to be a part of here at Gustavus."

Mark Meier Named TOC Leader of the Year

A sign of a good leader is that he has a presence about him when he enters a room. Gustavus Adolphus Tennis on Campus Club President **Mark Meier** is no exception. Always wearing the Gustavus flag on his back at every tournament, with some gold and black face paint to complete the look, Meier has brought pride and unparalleled success back to the Gusties' TOC program.

This year, 15 new members - who are all freshman and sophomores - joined the team, doubling the size of the roster. Almost all of the players have competed at the varsity level in high school and some have even participated at the state tournament. Even with this influx of talent, he still adopted a No-Cut policy meaning that anyone who is interested in being a part of the team can, and will get to, play. And just to show he is all about what is best for each individual player over the team, Meier encouraged two of his stronger players to try out for the nationally-ranked Gustavus men's varsity program - a selfless move on his part when trying to build a competitive program.

He also encourages sportsmanship and reminds the team about having a positive attitude and representing Gustavus with the highest of class. Both Gustavus teams won the Team Spirit Award at Section Championships.

Meier has spent countless hours working on the program since becoming president in September including recruiting, fundraising, making travel plans, arranging transportation and communicating with his team and other club leaders both at Gustavus and within USTA Northern. His hard work has paid off as Gustavus was named the 2015 USTA Northern Tennis on Campus Club of the Year as well.

"Our president is a leader of both spirit and passion for the sport," junior **Hannah Jakel** said. "His encouragement and coaching pushes the team to be the best they can be. From wearing the Gustavus flag at all of our tournaments and chanting our school cheer before every match, to individual advice on our technique and motivation, he has done wonders for the members of our program."





NATIONAL RANKINGS

Boys 18s

Nick Beaty	Wayzata, Minn.	70
Jackson Allen	Shakopee, Minn.	86

Boys 16s

Jackson Allen	Shakopee, Minn.	39
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Boys 14s

Hunter Heck	New Brighton, Minn.	14
Joe Mairs	Edina, Minn.	100

Boys 12s

Hunter Heck	New Brighton, Minn.	73
Gavin Young	Apple Valley, Minn.	100

Girls 18s

Jessie Aney	Rochester, Minn.	12
Alexis Nelson	St. Paul, Minn.	14

Girls 16s

Sophia Reddy	Edina, Minn.	57
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Girls 12s

Karin Young	Apple Valley, Minn.	65
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USTA NORTHERN RANKINGS

Boys 18s Combined Rankings

1 Nicholas Beaty	Wayzata, MN
2 Jackson Allen	Shakopee, MN
3 Kaleb Dobbs	Sioux Falls, SD
4 Alexander Exsted	Savage, MN
5 Charlie Adkins	Maple Grove, MN
6 Gregory Wischer	Grand Forks, ND
7 Logan Barr	Sioux Falls, SD
8 Nikita Snezhko	Plymouth, MN
9 Jake Trondson	Vadnais Heights, MN
10 Aaron Goodman	Minneapolis, MN
11 Jake Kuhlman	Grand Forks, ND
12 Rajadurai Arul	Shakopee, MN
13 Brady Kenyon	Grand Forks, ND
14 Samuel Hochberger	Maple Grove, MN
15 Ben van der Sman	Woodbury, MN
16 Sahil Chhugani	Rochester, MN
17 Jayden Hodgson	Champlin, MN
18 David Youngs	Fargo, ND
19 Elliot C Hartwig	Sioux Falls, SD
20 Chase Roseth	Lakeville, MN

Boys 16s Combined Rankings

1 Kaleb Dobbs	Sioux Falls, SD
2 Ben Ingbar	Minneapolis, MN
3 Nikita Snezhko	Plymouth, MN
4 Ben van der Sman	Woodbury, MN
5 Jack Barker	Minneapolis, MN
6 Alexander Exsted	Savage, MN
7 Sebastian Vile	Rochester, MN
8 Chase Roseth	Lakeville, MN
9 Davis Lawley	Fargo, ND
10 Conner Olsen	Orono, MN
11 Petro Alex	Arden Hills, MN
12 Benjamin Wheaton	Excelsior, MN

13 Sam Dobbs

14 Sean Kelly

15 Elias Ramirez

16 Varun Iyer

17 Wil McDowell

18 Hunter Roseth

19 Ryan Frost

20 Arjun Choudhry

Sioux Falls, SD

Lakeville, MN

Woodbury, MN

Rochester, MN

Sioux Falls, SD

Lakeville, MN

Eden Prairie, MN

Sioux Falls, SD

18 Taylor Tarrolly

19 Izabella Edin

20 Madison Fenske

Saint Cloud, MN

Staples, MN

Rapid City, SD

Girls 16s Combined Rankings

1 Sophia Reddy	Eden Prairie, MN
2 Isabella Lambert	Wayzata, MN
3 Savanna Crowell	Savage, MN
4 Zoe Klass-Warch	Saint Paul, MN
5 Meagan Brown	Becker, MN
6 Libby Rickeman	Wayzata, MN
7 Kylie Mullaney	Edina, MN
8 Francesca Trella	Eden Prairie, MN
9 Olivia Paradise	Saint Paul, MN
10 Natalie Lorentz	St Louis Park, MN
11 Allison Brzezinski	Eagan, MN
12 Samantha Nichols	Saint Paul, MN
13 Lainey Axell	Plymouth, MN
14 Lauren Ferg	Eagan, MN
15 Taylor Kopfer	Eagan, MN
16 Grace Goble	Rapid City, SD
17 Taylor Jackson	Savage, MN
18 Madeline Suk	Minnetonka, MN
19 Eesha Varma	Eagan, MN
20 Monterey Knewton	Fargo, ND

Girls 14s Combined Rankings

1 Delaney Schurhamer	Woodbury, MN
2 Lauren Ferg	Eagan, MN
3 Karin Young	Apple Valley, MN
4 Monterey Knewton	Fargo, ND
5 Nicole Snezhko	Plymouth, MN
6 Madeline Suk	Minnetonka, MN
7 Arlina Shen	Eden Prairie, MN
8 Nore Ann Heinitz	Duluth, MN
9 Aili Hietala	Duluth, MN
10 Cecilia Obetz	Minneapolis, MN
11 Ellen Puzak	Minneapolis, MN
12 Isabelle Exsted	Savage, MN
13 Rachel Kelly	Minnetonka, MN
14 Nicole Copeland	Edina, MN
15 Alexandra Welty	Wayzata, MN
16 Shay Callaway	Duluth, MN
17 Ava Leonard	Saint Paul, SD
18 Johana Brower	Saint Paul, SD
19 Alexandria Von TerschPohrer	Minneapolis, MN
20 Charlotte Bowles	Prior Lake, MN

Girls 12s Combined Rankings

1 Karin Young	Apple Valley, MN
2 Nore Ann Heinitz	Duluth, MN
3 Aili Hietala	Duluth, MN
4 Zoe Adkins	Maple Grove, MN
5 Vunnisa Vu	Maplewood, MN
6 Nicole Ridenour	Minneapolis, MN
7 Tiannah Gu	West Fargo, ND
8 Annika Elvestrom	Wayzata, MN
9 Johana Brower	Saint Paul, SD
10 Annika Munson	Stillwater, MN
11 Reegan Mullaney	Edina, MN
12 Paige Sargent	Rochester, MN
13 Lillian Langhus	Golden Valley, MN
14 Julia Baber	Rochester, MN
15 Brooke Kallas	Medina, MN
16 Nicola Santoni	Minneapolis, MN
17 Isabella Suk	Minnetonka, MN
18 Ashwika Thotakura	Eden Prairie, MN
19 Ingrid Smith	Edina, MN
20 Elise Dobbs	Saint Paul, SD



The following criteria was used in determining the 2015 USTA Northern tournament rankings:

- All points earned in sanctioned tournaments in the 12-month period will be included in the points total
- In Men's Open Singles, players must play a minimum of four tournaments to be ranked;
- In all other divisions, two tournaments are required;
- In any division where there was only one tournament available, that tournament will be used for a ranking (with an asterisk noting such);
- Any division where all players listed on the ranking list have only played one event, those players will be included in the Year-End Ranking (with an asterisk noting such);
- The cutoff point for yearbook listing will be determined by space limitations.

SECTION

Men's Open Singles

1 Jeffrey Adolf Minneapolis, MN

Men's 35 Singles

1 Paul Thibedeau West Fargo, ND

Men's 40 Singles*

1 Scott Larsen Maple Grove, MN

Men's 45 Singles

1 Jason Thiner Fargo, ND

Men's 50 Singles*

1 Brian Biernat Woodbury, MN

Men's 55 Singles*

1 Bruce Westrum Austin, MN

Men's 60 Singles

1 John Shannon Orono, MN

Men's 65 Singles

1 Lee Nagel Wahpeton, ND

Men's 70 Singles

1 Bob Busch Edina, MN

Men's 75 Singles

1 Bob Busch Edina, MN

NTRP Men's 3.0 Singles

1 Hans Felten Brooklyn Center, MN
2 Kellan Baker Minneapolis, MN

NTRP Men's 3.5 Singles

1 Dan Thompson Saint Paul, MN
2 Michael Streater Sunfish Lake, MN
3 Eric Bonde Minnetonka, MN

NTRP Men's 4.0 Singles

1 Robert Hank Cedar, MN
2 Brandon Kuether Fridley, MN

NTRP Men's 4.5 Singles

1 Pablo Eguez Maple Grove, MN
2 Greg Nations Minneapolis, MN

Men's Open Doubles

1 Adam Gustad Fargo, ND
Eric Gleason Saint Paul, MN
2 Jeffrey Adolf Minneapolis, MN
Andrew Ray Minneapolis, MN

Men's 35 Doubles*

1 Paul Thibedeau West Fargo, ND
Jason Thiner Fargo, ND
1 Kevin Allan Mandan, ND
Rodney Morasch Bismarck, ND
1 John Pratt Minneapolis, MN
Kamran Ahrar Lakeville, MN

Men's 45 Doubles*

1 Paul Thibedeau West Fargo, ND
Chris Toussaint Excelsior, MN



Jeff Adolf finished ranked No. 1 in the Section in Men's Open Singles.

Men's 55 Doubles*

1 Timothy Butorac Rochester, MN
Brian Biernat Woodbury, MN

Men's 60 Doubles*

1 John Shannon Orono, MN
Thomas Boice Wayzata, MN

Men's 70 Doubles*

1 Bob Busch Edina, MN
Tom Fridinger White Bear Lake, MN

Men's 75 Doubles

1 Daniel Pennington Brooklyn Park, MN
Michael Nelson Brooklyn Center, MN

NTRP Combined Men's 7.0 Doubles

1 Gautam Erande Eden Prairie, MN
Andrew Pettus Anderson, SC
2 Derek Brown Osseo, MN
Kyle Syverson Elk River, MN

NTRP Combined Men's 8.0 Doubles

1 Timothy Magnuson Blaine, MN
Dan Westerhaus Minneapolis, MN
2 Matthew Seracki Ham Lake, MN
Brandon Kuether Fridley, MN

NTRP Combined Men's 9.0 Doubles*

1 Matt Johnson Sioux Falls, SD
Thomas Krueger Sioux Falls, SD

Women's Open Singles

1 Alexis Nelson Saint Paul, MN
2 Diana Bukajeva Lake Elmo, MN

Women's 35 Singles*

1 Becky Carlson Moorhead, MN

NTRP Women's 3.0 Singles

1 Beth Leaf Brooklyn Center, MN

NTRP Women's 3.5 Singles

1 Pam Boorsma Minneapolis, MN

**NTRP Women's 4.0 Singles**

1 Virginia Kuberski	Saint Paul, MN
2 Mia Robillos	Minneapolis, MN
3 Kelly Lechowski	Mankato, MN

NTRP Women's 4.5 Singles*

1 Brenda Troiani	Maple Grove, MN
2 Carmen O'Neill	Huron, SD

Women's Open Doubles

1 Olivia Keelin	Fargo, ND
Andrea Rognlien	Fargo, ND

Women's 35 Doubles*

1 Carolyn Kramer	Moorhead, MN
Angela Summers	Fargo, ND

NTRP Combined Women's 6.0 Doubles

1 Jennifer Kelly	Minnetonka, MN
Jill Kohler	Plymouth, MN

NTRP Combined Women's 7.0 Doubles*

1 Nikki Piersak	Savage, MN
Linette Ramsay	Lakeville, MN

NTRP Combined Women's 8.0 Doubles

1 Linda Valentine	Delano, MN
Ginger Valentine	Delano, MN

NTRP Combined Women's 9.0 Doubles*

1 Victoria Bravo	Minneapolis, MN
Susan Marshalla	Excelsior, MN

Mixed Open Doubles

1 Alexis Nelson	Saint Paul, MN
Tony Larson	Fridley, MN
1 Jaden Wirrenga	Bismarck, ND
Alicia Beck	Bismarck, ND

NTRP Combined Mixed 7.0 Doubles

1 Casey Peter	Otsego, MN
Anna Swanson	Minneapolis, MN
2 Craig Kuberski	Saint Paul, MN
Virginia Kuberski	Saint Paul, MN
3 Beth Leaf	Brooklyn Center, MN
Robert Hank	Cedar, MN
4 Brian Reidinger	Maple Plain, MN
Dawn Reidinger	Maple Plain, MN

*Diana Bukajeva was ranked just behind Alexis Nelson in Women's Open Singles***NTRP Combined Mixed 8.0 Doubles**

1 Elizabeth Schaeffer	Anoka, MN
David Cross	Minneapolis, MN
2 Corinne Hoffmann	Plymouth, MN
Dennis Labajo	Farmington, MN

NTRP Combined Mixed 9.0 Doubles*

1 Carmen O'Neill	Huron, SD
Michael Knigge	Huron, SD

NATIONAL**Men's 35 Singles**

Eric Gleason	St. Paul, MN
Justin Baker	Minneapolis, MN

Men's 40 Singles

Scott Larsen	Maple Grove, MN
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Men's 55 Singles

Glenn Britzius	Eden Prairie, MN
Brian Biernat	Woodbury, MN

Men's 55 Individual Doubles

Glenn Britzius	Eden Prairie, MN
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Men's 65 Singles

Lee Nagel	Wahpeton, ND
Dave Spilseth	Wayzata, MN
Dick Nelson	Hopkins, MN
Ron York	Eagan, MN
Dan Halvorsen	Sunfish Lake, MN

Men's 65 Individual Doubles

David Nash	Bloomington, MN
Tim Burke	Minneapolis, MN
David Mathews	Minneapolis, MN
Dick Nelson	Hopkins, MN
Thomas Boice	Wayzata, MN
Rick Schultz	Eagan, MN
Ron York	Eagan, MN
Dan Halvorsen	Sunfish Lake, MN
George Carlyle	Chanhassen, MN

Men's 65 Team Doubles

David Nash	Bloomington, MN
Tim Burke	Minneapolis, MN
David Mathews	Minneapolis, MN
Dick Nelson	Hopkins, MN
Thomas Boice	Wayzata, MN
Ron York	Eagan, MN
Dan Halvorsen	Sunfish Lake, MN

Family Father-Son Doubles

Christopher Johnson	White Bear Lake, MN
Van Johnson	White Bear Lake, MN
Kent Stadium	Saint Paul, MN
Peter Stadium	Minneapolis, MN

Family Super Senior Father-Son Doubles

David Lundmark	Duluth, MN
Matt Lundmark	Minneapolis, MN

Family Grandfather-Grandson Doubles

Tom Fridinger	White Bear Lake, MN
Evan Fridinger	Woodbury, MN

*David Nash was fourth nationally in Men's 65 Team Doubles and 18th in Individual Doubles.*



LEAGUE SECTION CHAMPIONS

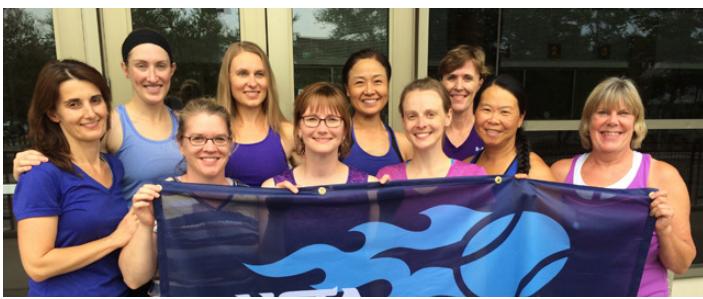
18 & Over Adult



18 & Over 2.5 Women: Rochester Athletic Club captained by **Cynthia Betz**



18 & Over 3.0 Men: Life Time Fitness Bloomington South captained by **Carter Bayne**



18 & Over 3.0 Women: Rochester Tennis Connection captained by **Amy Czaplewski & Claire Schreiber**



18 & Over 3.5 Men: Baseline Tennis Center captained by **Mike Torres & Morgan White**



18 & Over 3.5 Women: Life Time Athletic Eden Prairie captained by **Megan Ecker & Patti Clifton**



18 & Over 4.0 Men: Life Time Fitness Bloomington South captained by **Joe Abraham**



18 & Over 4.0 Women: Life Time Athletic White Bear captained by **Karen Wick & Patrice Meger**



18 & Over 4.5 Men: Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center captained by **David Warden**



18 & Over 4.5 Women: Life Time Athletic St. Louis Park captained by **Kris Paul**



18 & Over 5.0 Men: Golden Valley's Wesley Park captained by **Alex Krol**

LEAGUE SECTION CHAMPIONS



40 & Over Adult



40 & Over 3.5 Men: St. Paul Academy High School captained by **Eric Narvaez & Brad Struve**



40 & Over 3.0 Women: Minnetonka Tennis Club captained by **Stacey Douville**



40 & Over 4.0 Men: Life Time Athletic Oakdale Village captained by **Bryan Steelman & Jim Kappas**



40 & Over 3.5 Women: Rochester Athletic Club captained by **Pam Thompson & Cathy Nathan**



40 & Over 4.5+ Men: Life Time Fitness Bloomington South captained by **Bruce Gullikson**



40 & Over 4.0 Women: InnerCity Tennis captained by **Julie Whitaker & Kerry Reiling**



40 & Over 4.5+ Women: Life Time Athletic St. Louis Park captained by **Kris Paul**



LEAGUE SECTION CHAMPIONS

18 & Over Mixed



18 & Over 6.0 Mixed: Rochester Athletic Club captained by **Tim Kaufmann**

40 & Over Mixed



40 & Over 6.0 Mixed: St. Paul Academy High School captained by **Carl Bigby**



18 & Over 7.0 Mixed: Life Time Bloomington South captained by **Gautam Erande**



40 & Over 7.0 Mixed: Baseline Tennis Center captained by **Mary Benson & Doug Ailup**



18 & Over 8.0 Mixed: Life Time Athletic St. Louis Park captained by **Patrice Meger & Mike Padilla**



40 & Over 8.0 Mixed: Inner City Tennis captained by **Dana Beck**



18 & Over 9.0 Mixed: Twin Cities captained by **Greg Garrity & Elizabeth Hurlburt**



40 & Over 9.0 Mixed: Lifetime Fitness Bloomington South captained by **Greg Garrity**



55 & Over Men & Women



55 & Over 6.0 Women: Twin Cities captained by Julie Wasser and Alice Olson Reuter



55 & Over 6.0 Men: Twin Cities captained by Eric Narvaez



55 & Over 7.0 Men: Twin Cities captained by Eric Narvaez



55 & Over 7.0 Women: Twin Cities captained by Carol Thies



55 & Over 8.0 Men: Twin Cities captained by Paul Dalton



55 & Over 8.0 Women: Twin Cities captained by Mary Rolston & Carol Seaberg



55 & Over 9.0 Men: Twin Cities captained by Fred Budde



LEAGUE SECTION CHAMPIONS

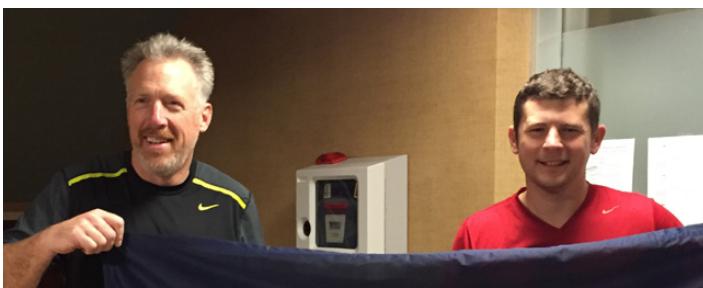
ONE Doubles Champions



3.0 Women: Amy Czaplewski, Claire Schreiber (Rochester)



4.0 Men: Neal Gambaiani, Mit Chareundy, Will Joynes (Twin Cities)



3.0 Men: Jason Laniusz, David Stanley (Rochester)



4.5 Women: Suzie Heideman, Jacqueline Dutot, Molly Breunig (Twin Cities)



3.5 Women: Betty Swiston, Elizabeth Erickson, Brenda Geisler (Washburn)



4.5 Men: Neil Radermacher, Dipu Rahman, Derek Grove (Twin Cities)



3.5 Men: Eric Narvaez, Dan Whalen, Bill Sommers, Jeremy Bates (Twin Cities)



4.0 Women: Molly Peterson, Lea Favor, Jennifer Heitzman (Twin Cities)

Other teams who won Section Championships, but photos not available:

40 & Over 3.0 Men:

Rochester Athletic Club captained by Dan Jerghiuta

55 & Over 9.0 Women:

Twin Cities captained by Jessica Hering

65 & Over 6.0 Men:

Twin Cities captained by Eric Narvaez

65 & Over 7.0 Men:

Twin Cities captained by Eric Narvaez & Leon Narvaez

65 & Over 8.0 Men:

Twin Cities captained by Rick Schultz & John Weddle

65 & Over 7.0 Women:

Twin Cities captained by Carol Thies & Molly McShane

65 & Over 8.0 Women:

Twin Cities captained by Sue Stedman & Barb Witcraft



Charlie Boone Minneapolis, Minn., 88

A USTA Northern Hall of Famer and avid tennis player, **Charlie Boone** was the voice of morning radio in Minnesota for over 40 years as part of the Boone & Erickson show on WCCO Radio. He was an active volunteer with USTA Northern until his death and was always the first media member to talk about tennis on air. He played tennis daily at the Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center in St. Paul well into his late 80s until pulmonary fibrosis prevented him from taking the court. He was inducted into the USTA Northern Hall of Fame in 2001 and hosted many USTA Northern banquets and special events.

Boone served on the Board at the Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center and was a great advocate for growing the game of tennis. He was instrumental in establishing the foundation at FWTEC.



Steve Wilkinson St. Peter, Minn., 73

Steve Wilkinson, longtime men's tennis coach at Gustavus Adolphus College, founder of Tennis and Life Camps and USTA Northern Hall of Famer, passed away at the age of 73 after courageously living with cancer for nearly seven years.

Wilkinson spent 39 years (1971-2009) at the helm of the Gustavus men's tennis program. His teams compiled 929 wins overall, the most victories in the history of collegiate men's tennis. Wilkinson's squads won two NCAA Division III titles (1980 and 1982) as well as 35 Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) titles. His teams compiled an overall record of 929-278 (.769) and an MIAC mark of 334-1 (.997). In addition, his players claimed six national doubles titles, and four national singles titles. He coached 46 players to 87 ITA All-America honors, 103 players to 226 All-Conference honors, and five CoSIDA Academic All-Americans. He was named NAIA National Coach of the Year twice (1974 and 1984) and Intercollegiate Tennis Association Division III Coach of the Year three times (1982, 2001, and 2003).

Along with his wife, **Barbara**, Wilkinson founded Tennis and Life Camps in 1977. For more than 35 years, the couple impacted generations of tennis enthusiasts by dedicating their lives to improving tennis performance of youth and adults and teaching life skills that can be used on and off the court. The Wilkinsons gifted Tennis and Life Camps to the College in 2010, ensuring that the camp's legacy will be felt at Gustavus for decades to come. Steve and Barb also created an endowed position at Gustavus in sports ethics and men's tennis, which is currently held by head men's tennis coach **Tommy Valentini**.

Wilkinson also played a key role in the fundraising and construction of the Gustavus tennis facilities, which are considered to be among the finest in the nation.

Wilkinson was an outstanding player in his own right. He played No. 1 singles at the University of Iowa and was one of the best players in the Big Ten. After college, Wilkinson played competitive tennis for many years and was ranked No. 1 in the United States in the 45, 50, 55 and 60-and-over divisions. He represented the United States in the Dubler Cup, Perry Cup and Austria Cup competitions, winning the world championship in Montevideo, Uruguay in 1989 and finishing second in Berlin, Germany, in 1992.

Wilkinson was involved in numerous national tennis organizations, serving on the executive committees of the United States Professional Tennis Association (USPTA), the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA), and the United States Tennis Association (USTA). He was inducted into the U.S. Professional Tennis Association's Hall of Fame,

the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's Hall of Fame, the Gustavus Athletics Hall of Fame, the USTA Missouri Valley Hall of Fame, the Northern Tennis Association Hall of Fame, and the Iowa Tennis Hall of Fame. He received the International Tennis Hall of Fame's Tennis Educational Merit Award and The Lifetime Achievement Award from the University of Iowa. The ITA and the Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic both renamed Sportsmanship Awards after Wilkinson in 2015.



Percy Hughes Minneapolis, Minn., 93

Percy Hughes did not start working with tennis until he was well into his 60s. Among his many contributions was serving as the first teacher of the Twin Cities Senior Tennis Players Club, which is the largest organized group of senior tennis players in the United States. After becoming a USPTA certified teaching professional well into his 60s, Hughes taught weekly lessons for the Senior Tennis Players Club for over 20 years, while

also organizing tennis tournaments and social outings for the group.

Enduring three hip surgeries himself, one of Hughes' greatest offerings was teaching senior players how to work with their existing bodies and showing them how to deal with the limitations they have. This allowed seniors the opportunity to play the game longer.

Hughes was inducted into the Senior Tennis Players Club Hall of Fame in 1989, and the USTA Northern Hall of Fame in 2003. He was the 1988 and 2004 recipient of the USTA Northern Jack Dow Senior Development Award and was the winner of the USTA National Senior Service Award in 2007. He also wrote a monthly column called *Percy's Tennis Rhythms* for Senior Tennis Times.

Besides his tennis contributions, Percy was a national jazz legend, having his own band called the Ellington Echoes. He played with such jazz greats as **Duke Ellington** and **Count Basie**. He was also a member of both the Minnesota Jazz and Minnesota Music Halls of Fame.





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