

#### texas section



#### The President's Advantage

DR. ALFREDO TREVINO PRESIDENT, USTA TEXAS

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#### **Annual USTA meeting**

he annual USTA meeting held in Naples, Fla. on April 1-4, 2011, was very enlightening. USTA President **Jon Vegosen's** theme was announced as "Tennis - The Sport of Opportunity," and the meeting buzz word was "10 and Under," referring of course to the 10 and Under initiative being so heavily supported by the USTA. This year, \$8 million will be spent on the initiative. Every committee it seems will carry a charge to make the 10 and Under initiative successful from membership to player development.

From April 15 until Dec. 31, 2011, USTA will award a free one year membership to children 10 and under who have never been USTA members before. They will receive four issues of **Bounce** magazine and all the other privileges of membership such as participation in USTA Jr. Team tennis and sanctioned tournaments. The hope is that the 10 and under population will start participating in competition at an early age. Another benefit would be the potential of communicating with heretofore non-members and making them realize the value and great opportunity afforded by membership. After one year of the free membership the USTA is looking at a possible discounted membership for these age groups. They feel that those who can not afford memberships might be helped by foundations already in place. The pitch for these free USTA memberships will be given initially to providers already running programs to help bolster the number of participants. We have only 20,000 children playing 10 and Under competitive tennis while there are over 2 million in this age group playing soccer. The USTA definitely wants more young children in the sport.

The USTA is dead serious in providing and supporting the pathway of 10 and Under participation starting in the schools with physical education and after school, club driven, play occasions to Jr. Team Tennis using QuickStart format to tournaments and culminating in Tennis on Campus programs and USTA leagues. Another past obstacle has been removed regarding Jr. Team Tennis. The T-shirt previously mandatory will be optional to players. This will make it affordable to many more players.

The "Lets Move" initiative supported by first lady **Michelle Obama** endorsing the QuickStart tennis format for 10 and Under as a great source for exercise also was announced at the Annual Meeting. Playing tennis is the perfect way to get the 60 minutes of exercise per day, five days a week proposed by the "Lets Move" initiative. The positive health benefits of tennis plus added bonus of learning a lifetime sport was an easy sell to the first lady who is interested in fighting obesity and sedentary lifestyles with activities for children that promote movement and active lifestyles. No doubt, her timely support will help convince hundreds of thousands of parents and children that tennis is the sport that will help provide those needs. The USTA expects a groundswell of new participants in the 10 and Under age group.

One challenge the USTA will have is providing infrastructure for the QuickStart format sanctioned tournaments that will begin in 2012. This year money to paint blended lines on existing facilities is available on a "matching fund " basis. The challenge is the money. There have been over 1,800 requests for blended lines and QuickStart small court construction in the first three months that the USTA will have to go on a "as long as money is available" basis.

Many high profile coaches who were previously skeptical are coming on board to teaching the 10 and Under group with the QuickStart format. This is very essential to the formula. Only when this format is finally accepted by all coaches, pros, providers and parents will play on small courts with age friendly equipment be considered 'real tennis'. When this happens watch out ... our sport will be played everywhere ... it will be the sport of opportunity for the masses. Aside from the opportunity to rub shoulders and interact with some of the most creative, dedicated, passionate volunteers and staff from all over the USTA, the meeting also emphasized fun and good food!

Our Texas Section tennis team captained by **Steve Cobb** and **Tosha Smith** placed third in the Section Tennis Shootout and I gained three pounds eating and watching the action. Also **Jim Courier** agreed to pose with me for a photo. It was indeed a great meeting!



#### Get a FREE 1-year USTA 10 and Under Junior Membership!

Membership benefits include access to:

- USTA Junior Tournaments
- USTA Jr. Team Tennis

\*New members only. Offer expires 12/31/11



www.usta.com/Membership/free\_usta\_10\_and\_under\_junior\_membership\_offer/

#### Kenny Mc's Corner

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, USTA TEXAS Presented by:



#### **More Texas Brags**

f you did not know that the **Davis Cup** was in Texas on July 8-10 at the **Frank Erwin Center** in Austin, we welcome you out from under your rock. Not only are people from all over the world, attending the over 16,000 person venue where the United States will play Spain, but hundreds of volunteers doing transportation, hospitality, and events surrounding the event.

Young and old from every economic and diverse corner of Central Texas and beyond will contribute and enjoy this rare event. It is only the fifth time that Texas has hosted Davis Cup. The prior times were in Houston versus Mexico in 1936, Dallas versus Mexico in 1965, Fort Worth versus Switzerland in 1992, and Houston versus Spain in 2002. You should be getting this issue of TennisLife just about the time the event is played. So we are hoping for the American

Which leads me into the brag: The USTA, with approval from the International Tennis Federation, made the selection of Austin as the site for this Davis Cup Tie. Much of that reason was the solid tennis infrastructure in Austin lead by the Capital Area Tennis Association. CATA is one of our 18 Qualified Community Tennis Associations of the CTA Expansion Plan started in 2007. In fact, CATA was one of the model CTA's to be emulated in the plan. They are an "Umbrella" CTA who are the central delivery system for tennis in the area. With income from the assets of the USTA Leagues, sanctioned USTA Tournaments, and Junior Team Tennis among other things, they are able to grow and support tennis in the community. With a full board, committees, and many quality volunteers, they are also an advocacy group for improving facilities and programs that serve a diverse and ever growing healthy group of tennis players,

The bottom line is that the Davis Cup opportunity displays a prime example of why the Texas Section has encouraged the CTA Expansion Plan in Austin and 17 other communities in Texas. The progress toward its goals has been hugely positive, though not without its challenges. Each community has had its own history of development, and each has been taking steps toward becoming the tennis service organization for its players and facilities. Just like Austin, when opportunity knocks, our 18 communities will be more than ready to open the door. The other 17 communities of whom I speak are Abilene, Amarillo, Brazos Valley, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Fort Worth-Arlington-NETT-FWPTA, Houston, Laredo, Northeast Texas, Rio Grande Valley, San Angelo, San Antonio, South Plains, Southeast Texas, Waco, West Texas, and Wichita Falls.

Dig deeper and we find other CTA's in the smaller communities who support the larger ones in some cases like Fort Stockton, Jacksonville, and Parker County or work on their own like Dumas, Mason, Rockdale, and others. These are the wonderful parts of the Texas Tennis world.



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#### **GENERAL**

#### **Fort Worth CTA's fund** website for local news, information

What happens when a community is disappointed with limited tennis news that only focused on big named national professional players? They do what most Texans do they got together and created their own.



ack in March, local Community Tennis Associations in the Fort Worth area came together to fund a website dedicated to local tennis. Not the huge Dallas metro area, but just Fort Worth and its surrounding communities.



Lisa Kilborn has a blog titled Lisa's Tennis Talk at www.tennisfortworth.com

The four main CTA's in the area, the Arlington Tennis Association, Fort Worth Professional Tennis Association, Fort Worth Tennis Association and North East **Tarrant Tennis** came together, formed an oversight group, voted to fund the website and hired Lisa Jordan Kilborn a professional writer to develop content. All this with

one goal in mind, to enhance awareness of tennis in the area and make the information easy to find. A true grassroots project and the birth of www.tennisfortworth.com.

"This is a credit to the strong tennis community in this area," said Kilborn, a former tennis columnist with The Dallas Morning News and Fort Worth Star-Telegram. "We provide the community with a master calendar, an area to post sign-up sheets and flyers, weekly blogs and a place to view pictures of children and leaguers that you personally know, and are friends with in the Fort Worth area."

She has a blog titled Lisa's Tennis Talk about tennis interests and the going-on's in the Fort Worth area. Her recent blogs include how tennis legend Dennis Ralston is teaching at a benefit at Southlake Tennis Center for a shelter focused on ending domestic violence. Other topics include a trio of sisters in the area who live near tennis courts who always find excuses to practice, and local results from players at different tournaments.

The website is very colorful and is designed to be very interactive. It lists local, private and public tennis facilities with links to maps. Kilborn stated that most tennis websites are dedicated to top professionals and

are not personal and the area needed a place to post local schedules and clinic

information.

CTA's are non-profit volunteer based associations that focus on promoting and coordinating community tennis programs, USTA Texas leagues and guides how USTA league funds flow back into the community through Junior, Adult and 10 and under QuickStart programs. These programs are highlighted in the sites

"Because of USTA, I probably use the word QuickStart about 20 times a day," Kilborn said jokingly. "Our area is always participating in state tournaments and sending teams to Nationals regularly. This is not only just promoting the sport locally, we are representing the state."

This creation satisfies a void that was felt in the Fort Worth tennis community. It is used as an avenue to showcase tennis in the area and it makes the community comfortable with bragging about itself.

#### **Growth continues** for USTA Texas membership

The USTA Texas Section is continuing to grow in its membership numbers, reaching a record high 54,757 members last May along with 651 organizational members. The section's adult and junior membership numbers continue to grow.





# USTA Texas holds ball person tryouts for Davis Cup

eens from around the state came out for the USTA Texas / Davis Cup open ball person try-out. Applicants ranging from ages 14-21 ran the paces, and participated in skill and timing drills to battle for the 22 spots and 15 alternate positions for the USA vs. Spain, July 8-10 Davis Cup tie in Austin. A list of the ball persons selected can be found on the **Capital Area Tennis Association** website at **www.austintennis.org**. Thank you to all the applicants, parents and volunteers for supporting the try-outs.



Texas teens rolled balls to targets and were timed in drills, as they tried out for the 22 positions and 15 alternate spots as ball persons for the 2011 Davis Cup tie between USA and Spain. The tie was played at the Frank Erwin Center, July 8-10 in Austin.

#### Sponsorship makes Texas section licensed products available

STA Texas announces a partnership with LoveAll™, a Texas based licensed design and apparel retailer, to sponsor, expand and include high-quality official USTA Texas tennis licensed products.

LoveAll, founded in 2009 by two stay-at-home mom's that play competitive league tennis, **Kim Cleary** and **Shelia Bishop**, was started when they felt compelled to fill a need to create trendy and fashionable apparel to wear on and off the court.

"We are delighted to be able to partner with a company who has the same passion, love and respect for tennis as we do," said **Stephanie Arena**, USTA Texas Director of Marketing.

USTA Texas products and other tennis apparel can be found at http://loveall.com.

"Because we play competitively, have intimate knowledge of the game and play at every opportunity, we are inspired to create new and fresh designs made with functional fabrics," said Cleary, LoveAll co-founder.

LoveAll products can be found at many top retailing catalogs and online. Along with USTA Texas, LoveAll has produced and sold shirts for Bank of the West Classic at Stanford University, DFW Hilton Grapevine Texas Tennis Open, Family Circle Cup in Charleston, S.C., River Oaks Men Clay Court Championships in Houston, Westwood Senior Tournament in Austin, at WTA venues and in Canada.

LoveAll's Fight Like A Girl shirt has been used for several tournaments benefiting Breast Cancer research including Serve Up a Cure in Houston and is a provider for the Rally for the Cure event at the Broadmoor in Colorado. They have also produced shirts for the launch of WTA's new campaign, Strong is Beautiful in Rome.

## PTR, USTA Texas Instructing Wheelchair Tennis Workshop

rofessional Tennis Registry (PTR) in conjunction with USTA Texas, held an Instructing Wheelchair Tennis Workshop at Circle C Tennis Center in Austin. Instructing Wheelchair Tennis gives tennis teachers the opportunity to learn from a wheelchair to better understand mobility and weight transfer issues.

The workshop was conducted by PTR Clinician and Tester, **Geoff Norton**, former coach of the USA World Cup Team. The host was PTR Master Professional and Circle C Director of Tennis, **Fernando Velasco**. The workshop was organized by USTA Texas Wheelchair Coordinator, **Taylor Helfeldt**. Several USTA Texas TSRs participated in the April 29 workshop, including **Cindy Benzon**, **Sam Jones**, **Amanda Knight** and **Katy Rogers**.

The attendees enjoyed a special treat when surprise guest, International Tennis Hall of Famer **Dennis Ralston**, with his recent prosthetic, joined them for lunch and shared his story. PTR's next Instructing Wheelchair Tennis Workshop with be held Sept. 18 in Hilton Head Island, SC.

### New faces at

USTA Texas welcomed new additions to its staff with the hiring of St. Edwards University grad Nick Arnold as a Junior Competitive Coordinator, Sam Jones as a Tennis Service Representative for Waco, Austin and San Antonio, and Nichole Williams, a Texas A&M graduate as Community Development Support Staff for NJTL/Schools Coordinator and Diversity. The section also recently hired Amanda Randle, a Texas Tech graduate as Community Development Support Staff for 10 and under/Advocacy Coordinator, and Southern University alum Derick Hackett as Communications Manager. Katy Rogers is now the Tennis Service Representative for South Texas.

PTR in conjunction with USTA Texas, held a Instructing Wheelchair Tennis Workshop to give tennis teachers the opportunity to learn and better understand mobility and weight transfer issues.





## Tennis Clinic part of Kid-netics Games

n May, USTA Texas participated in the second annual Kid-netics Games at **St. Marks School of Texas** in Dallas, that coordinated multi-sport events, including wheelchair tennis clinic for kids 5-18 who are wheelchair bound, severely disabled or have physical impairments.

The game is an annual weekend of athletic events for school aged students with impairments such as amputations, spinal cord injuries, and cerebral palsy. It provided an opportunity to develop friendships, network with other families and gain the knowledge of the sport.

Kinesiology professors and students from **Southern Methodist University**, **Texas Christian University**, **Texas Wesleyan University** and **Texas Woman's University** coordinated the event.

Along with learning the basic rules and strokes of wheelchair tennis from athletes who have competed or currently compete in the sport, the participants are exposed to basketball, soccer and track. **Dallas Wheelchair Tennis Association** volunteers

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A variety of vendors who serve the needs of the wheelchair community were on hand along with USTA Texas, the Region 10 Education Service Center and At Home Health Care who supported the event. It was an awesome event enjoyed by all.





## Challenger of Dallas delights fans to world-class tennis, raises funds for charities

#### **USTA Pro Circuit Stop**

he 13th Annual YP Challenger of Dallas, hosted by the T Bar M Racquet Club once again provided Texas Tennis fans a great opportunity to see some of the world's best ATP pros up close. The event also provided a show case for the next generation of American hopefuls and was a feature on ESPN as an incredible diving back hand by **Michael Yani** made the Top 10 shots of the day.

The YP Challenger has also become a great fundraiser for charity as sponsors YP.com, Baylor Sport Care, Brinkmann, and the Bernon Family Foundation made it possible to raise \$50,000 for local charities. The **Dallas Tennis Association** helped organize a Deaf Children's Tennis Clinic, a Latino Tennis Clinic and a citywide tennis festival for over 200 participants.

Wheelchair tennis was highlighted with an exhibition and wheelchair champion **Randy Snow** was inducted into the Challenger Hall of Fame posthumously.

The final saw **Alex Bogomolov Jr.** (USA) come out on top, winning the YP Challenger of Dallas singles title. The aggressive Bogomolov faced **Rainer Schuettler** (Germany), an Australian Open finalist in 2003 and former No.5 player in the world. The two hard-hitters slugged it out, with Bogomolov defeating Schuettler 7-6 (5), 6-3.

Bogomolov defeated the tournament's No.2 seed **Michael Russell** in the second round as well as Australians **Greg Jones** and **Matt Ebden** in the third and fourth rounds.

The tournament also featured two young American future stars in **Ryan Harrison** and **Jack Sock**, both reaching the quarterfinals before falling due to injuries.

On the doubles side, **Scott Lipsky** and **Rajeev Ram** headed into the finals looking for their third consecutive ATP doubles title of 2011 after winning at San Jose, Calif. and Delray Beach, Fla. Germans **Bjorn Phau** and **Dustin Brown** tried to disrupt that streak, but the serve of Ram coupled with the polished play of Lipsky was more than they could handle as Ram and Lipsky remained undefeated in 2011, winning in straight sets, 7-6 (3), 6-4.

Dirk Nowitzki of the current NBA champion Dallas Mavericks, a 10-time NBA All-Star, four-time All NBA first team selection and the 2011 NBA Finals MVP, showed off his tennis skills during the semifinals of the YP Challenger of Dallas. The 7-footer came to watch fellow countryman Ranier Schuettler. Afterwards Nowitzki took the court himself, showcasing a big forehand. The 2006-07 NBA MVP grew up playing tennis in Germany and stills enjoys playing the game during his NBA offseason.

CREDIT: All photos by Melchior DiGiacomo and Tessa Kolodny

The YP.com Challenger of Dallas and the Dallas Tennis Association hosted three junior clinics with more than 200 participants.





#### **JUNIORS**



## 2011-12 Texas Tennis and Education Foundation Scholarship recipients

he USTA Texas Awards Committee has announced the names of the 2011-12 **Texas Tennis and Education Foundation Scholarship** recipients. Each recipient has been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship for their college education during the school year 2011-12.

"Over the past 30 years, Texas Tennis and Education has given over 300 scholarships to exceptional high school graduates in need of financial help to college," said **Ken McAllister**, USTA Texas Executive Director. "The high quality of these young people combined with a love of tennis insures a future contributing and healthy citizen. The 2011 recipients clearly fit that description." Congratulations!

#### **NORTHWEST**

Aidee Avila (Seminole)
Trevor Chilton (Lubbock)
Jose Casjen Rico (Grapevine)

#### **NORTHEAST**

**Brittany Stevens** (Kaufman) 2011 Ben T. Ball Scholarship

Andrea Rojas (Whitney)

Garrett Thompson (Teague)

#### **SOUTHWEST**

**Taylor Shamshiri** (Dripping Springs)

Navin Ratnayake (Pflugerville)

Felicity Delgado (Universal City)

Sylvia Butanda (Rancho Viejo)

2011 Marti Rodriguez Memorial Scholarship

**Javier Zapata** (Zapata)

Harold Green Memorial Scholarship

Melanie Blanquiz (San Antonio)

#### **SOUTHEAST**

Nuryasmin Yusri (Houston) Kasidy Hayes (Orange) Taylor Nguyen (Beaumont)

### 2011 Camp Scholarship Recipients

STA Texas is pleased to announce the **2011 Summer** Camp Scholarship recipients that will attend various tennis camps across the state, in our week long scholarship program. This program is open to all Texas section members 18 years of age and under, who will not be immediately entering college in the fall.



WHATABURGER is a proud sponsor of the Summer Camp Scholarship and NJTL.

The 20 scholarship winners are listed below by name, hometown and are matched with a camp at **Austin Tennis Academy, Baylor University, John Newcombe Tennis Ranch & Academy, Nike** camp in Denton, **Texas A&M University,** or at the **University of Texas.** Congratulations and we hope all of you enjoy tennis camp and continue to love the game!

Cassidy Andrews (Madisonville), ATA camp Ryley Cooper (Junction), UT camp Dominique Everett (McKenney), Newks camp Summer Harris-Jones (Katy), Newks camp Trinity Kalmecki (Lewisville), Nike camp Jinjie Ling (Houston), UT camp Juan Madrigal (Stafford), A&M camp James Massey (Sugarland), A&M camp Thomas Mayer (Austin), UT camp Lori McDuffie (Lewisville), Newks camp Omarr Montgomery (Austin), Baylor camp Basil Post (Red Oak), Baylor camp Daniel Pousset (Kyle), ATA camp Dillion Seals (Kirbyville), Newks camp Jacy Smith (Bryan), A&M camp lan Trowbridge (Austin), Baylor camp Jered Wilson (Red Oak), Nike camp Joshua Wilson (Red Oak), Nike camp Miha Valencic (Coffeyville), Nike camp Zane Zezulka (Kyle), ATA camp

#### **Texans Krueger, Vinsant reach French Open Junior Boys Finals**



Michell Krueger

exans **Mitchell Krueger** and **Shane Vinsant** advanced to the Finals in Juniors Boys' Doubles at the French Open with 6-2, 6-2 quarter final victory, but in a heart breaker, Spain's Martinavarr and Baena defeated the Texas duo in the Finals at Roland-Garros 5-7, 7-6 (5), 1-0 (5).

Krueger is a native of Aledo, Texas and Vinsant is a native of Keller, Texas.

In Boy's Singles Vinsant was defeated in the second round to Bulgaria's Yaraslau Shyla 6-1, 7-5 while Krueger suffered the same round fate to Austria's **Dominic Thiem** 6-3, 6-3. Thiem was defeated by American **Bjorn Fratangelo** from Pittsburg 6-3, 3-6, 8-6 in the Juniors Boy's Finals.

Congratulations to Mitchell and Shane for representing Texas and the U.S. in the juniors of the 2011 French Open.



Shane Vinsant

IT'S NOT

DR A BURGER LOVER TO EAT A CHICKEN SANDWICH.

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#### COLLEGIATE

## Wesbrook, Park recognized as Lamar Legends

#### Tennis student-athletes honored

n May, at its annual All-Sports Banquet, Lamar University athletics honored **Ron Wesbrook** who guided the men's tennis program for more than 20 years and **Pat Park** who spent more than a quarter of a century coaching women's tennis, basketball, softball and golf.

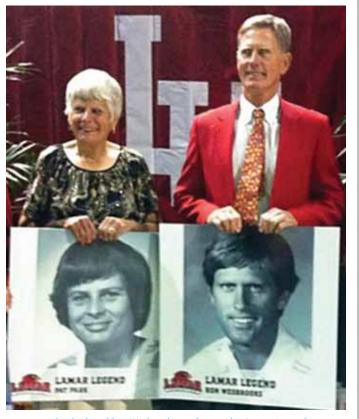
Wesbrook earned Southland Conference Coach of the Year honors four times and still serves as director of operations for LU tennis. He guided the Cardinals to four straight SLC team titles from 1973-76 and is a longtime USTA Texas volunteer and supporter.

"Ron Wesbrook characterizes a legend for the Texas tennis family as well as for Lamar University," says **Ken McAllister**, USTA Texas Executive Director. "We congratulate Ron for his recognition and simultaneously thank him for contributing to the positive image of tennis for all of us."

LU student-athlete **Mariaryeni Gutierrez** shared the Female Senior Athlete of the Year honor. Gutierrez is a four-year letterwinner from San Antonio, Venezuela and is one of the most decorated female tennis players in school history. She was



Mariryeni Gutierrez was named the Southland Conference's Student-Athlete of the Year for the second consecutive season.



Pat Park and Ron Wesbrook were honored as Lamar Legends at the Lamar University All-Sports Banquet.

#### Texas A&M wins first ever NCAA National Championship in tennis

Austin Krajicek and Jeff Dadamo became the first ever Texas A&M national champions in tennis winning the 2011 NCAA Doubles Championship by defeating the host Stanford doubles team of Bradley Klahn and Ryan Thacher, 7-6 (4), 6-3, at the Taube Family Tennis Center at Stanford on Memorial Day.



named the SLC Student-Athlete of the Year consecutive seasons for 2010 and 2011, and was the conferences Women's Tennis Player of the Year in 2010.

In her career at Lamar, she collected an 83-5 overall record in singles play, 40-4 in conference play and 65-20 record in doubles. To top it off, she was named to the Capital One Academic All-District 6 second team by the College Sports Information Directors of America, has a 3.78 grade-point average in kinesiology and went 20-1, and 10-1 in conference matches as the teams No. 1 singles player for the Cardinals this season.

Joining Gutierrez on the SLC 2011 All-Academic Women's Tennis team are teammates **Kaltrina Harbuzi** (4.0 in political science) and first-team conference selection going 21-1 at No.

2 singles and **Diana Mendez** (3.87 in management) a first-team all-conference selection going 20-0 at No. 5 singles.

Other Texas collegiate members on the SLC Women's Tennis All-Academic Team include UT Arlington's **Daiana Negreanu** and **Maria Martinez-Romero** both in broadcast journalism, and earning second-team honors was Stephen F. Austin's **Meaghan Ocanas** (4.0 in kinesiology from Rowlett) and **Alina Shazhko** (3.83 in biochemistry)

Lamar honored senior **Diego Snyder** a product of New Braunfels High School and from Lima, Peru, as its men's tennis athlete of the year. Snyder earned first-team all-conference honors in doubles this year, and was named to the second-team at No. 6 singles.



#### LEAGUE





#### San Antonio team wins Super Seniors National

#### Houston team finishes third

n the final contest of the USTA Super Senior League National Championships at the Surprise Tennis and Racquet Complex, in Surprise, Ariz., our Texas Section women's team from San Antonio downed the Eastern squad of Goshen, NY, 2-1 to win the 7.0 Super Senior Ladies Championship.

"We were proud to represent Texas and we made it known," said **Kathy Horan**. "We went with only seven ladies; five of us played in all six matches. I am still sore."



Houston team that finished third at the 9.0 Super Senior Ladies Championship.

Congrats to Sydney Burton, Ellie Garcia, Ellen Gunn, Kathy Horan, Robin Johnson, Vickie White and Kathy Willis (Captain) for bringing the championship banner to Texas.



San Antonio team that won the 7.0 Super Senior Ladies Championship

'This was not my first trip to a national tournament, but this was the best," said Horan. "It was hot, dry and windy, conditions a bit tough at times, but we are a bunch of grinders!"

The Texas 9.0 Women's Championship team from Houston finished in third place at Nationals. Congratulations to Sue Bramlette, Mindy Herrick, Claudia Hudson, Candy Kyle, Hilary Marold, Ann Moore and Rox Ann Schazenbach

Texas joins Florida, Midwest and Southern sections to form inaugural tournament



STA Texas is one of four United States Tennis Association sections that collaborated to form a new tournament, the Sectional Senior Team Challenge Cup, to play at the Western Tennis & Fitness Club, in Cincinnati, Nov. 4-5, 2011.

The USTA Texas section team will compete against USTA Florida. USTA Midwest and USTA Southern. Each will draw from top senior talent in their section, including players with national titles and players that have represented their country in International Tennis Federation competitions. In three age brackets – 55s, 60s and 65s - restricted to one age group, the teams will face off on indoor hardcourts, and will compete in three singles and two doubles

Patterned after the USTA National Men's Intersectional Team Tournament that was discontinued after play in 2010, Texas aims to relinquish the hold that USTA Southern has on the event, winning 11 of the last 13 National Men's Intersectional Team Tournaments. Held in Arlington, last year Texas finished in second place sweeping the doubles matches but losing all three singles matches to Southern.

USTA Midwest will sanction this year's tournament. Future tournaments will be hosted by Southern in 2012, Texas in 2013 and Florida in 2014. The USTA Adult Competition Committee will monitor the field in this inaugural cup to determine if the tournament will be a candidate for the national system of "points per round" in the future.

Jerry Thomas is the 2011 Texas sectional team captain.





he 31st Annual Texas Open was held at Oak Creek Tennis Center in Carrollton, Texas. The weather was fantastic for the event that ran May 12-15, but the tennis was even better!

**Stephen Welch** from Southlake, Texas claimed the Men's Open Singles Title. He went on to partner with San Antonian **Hunter Groce** in Men's Open Doubles. The pair won the Doubles Title in convincing fashion losing only one game in the final.

**Malcolm Wright**, a member of the Movin' Mavs Wheelchair Basketball Team at UT Arlington, took home the Men's C Singles title.

**Kate Stuteville** from Colleyville, Texas went undefeated in the Ladies' A Singles division claiming the Ladies' Title.

In other results, Waco's **Jody Lawhead** made it to the Men's A Singles Finals where he met **Anthony Meadows**- defending US Open Champion in Men's A Singles.

Texans **Jeff Sale** and **D.W. Green** claimed the consolation titles in Men's A Singles and Men's B Singles respectively.

TOP: Adam Kellerman returns a serve in his match at the Texas Open Wheelchair Championship.

BOTTOM: Kate Stuteville serves a ball on her way to claiming the ladies' title.



## Arlington team wins 8.0 Senior Mixed Doubles crown at National Invitational

he Texas squad from the **Arlington Tennis Center** didn't drop a match the entire weekend and used back-to-back 2-1 wins in the semifinals over the Florida and Middle States teams to claim the USTA 8.0 Senior Mixed Doubles crown at the National Invitational Championships held in Surprise, Ariz..

The Texas teams, from the Arlington Tennis Center were represented by **Bob Barrie**, **Martha Benson**, **Skip Butler**, **Cheryl Halpern**, **Susan Hull**, Captain **Bill Stetzer** and **Gina Tallant**.

Fifty teams from across the nation participated including teams from USTA Caribbean and New England. The event was plagued by three rain delays that wiped out the morning and late afternoon matches on Saturday and early Sunday and was delayed for about 10-hours and switched to a modified scoring system after the sky cleared.

8.0 Mixed Doubles champions from Arlington, Texas. From left to right - Gina Tallant, Cheryl Halpern, Skip Butler, Susan Hull, Bill Stetzer, Martha Benson and Bob Barrie.

Photo courtesy Jeff Sikes / USTA Southwest



