



ALL USTA tournaments will use this format beginning Jan. 1, 2012



TEXAS



january / february 2012



The President's Advantage

DR. ALFREDO TREVINO
PRESIDENT, USTA TEXAS

Presented by:
texasennishotels.com 



Your Support is so Valuable

I want to thank all the Texas Section Volunteers, Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs, Management and Executive Committee members, the Austin based staff, our Tennis Service Representatives, and our Executive Director for all your support, patience, and guidance for all you have done to grow tennis in our Texas Section. Everybody's effort has been very productive as our end of year "numbers" for membership and participation have been very positive, some in record territory. We have been one of the fastest growing Sections in the United States Tennis Association (USTA) this year thanks to all of you.

This year may all of you remember to:

Sing in the shower – Treat everyone you meet like you want to be treated – Watch a sunrise at least once a year – Leave the toilet seat in the down position – Never refuse homemade brownies – Strive for excellence not perfection – Plant a tree on your birthday – Learn

three clean jokes – Return borrowed cars with the gas tank full – Compliment three people everyday – Never waste an opportunity to tell someone you love them – Leave everything a little better than you found it – Keep it simple – Think big thoughts but always relish small pleasures – Become the most positive and enthusiastic person you know – Floss your teeth – Ask for a raise when you think you have earned it – Be forgiving of yourself and others – Over tip breakfast waitresses – Say "thank you" a lot – Say "please" a lot also – Avoid negative people – Buy whatever kids are selling on card tables in their front yard – Wear polished shoes – Remember other people's birthdays – Commit yourself to constant improvement – Carry jumper cables in your trunk – Have a firm handshake – Send valentine cards and sign them "from someone who thinks you are terrific" – Look people in the eye – Be the first to say "Hello" – Use the good silver – Return all things you borrow – Make new friends but don't

forget to cherish your old ones – Keep secrets – Plant new flowers in the spring – Always accept an outstretched hand – Stop blaming others – Take responsibility for every area of your life – Wave to the kids on school buses – Be there when people need you – Don't expect life to be fair – Never underestimate the power of love – Live your life as an exclamation not an explanation – Never be afraid to say "I made a mistake" – Don't be afraid to say "I don't know" – Compliment even small improvements – Always keep your promises...no matter what – Rekindle old friendships – Count your blessings – Call your mother – and lastly, Be sure to self nominate yourselves to serve on committees for the next term.

(Thanks to an Anonymous wise writer for most of the above).


FREE 1-YEAR 10 AND UNDER JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

Until December 31, 2012, kids 10 and under, new to the USTA, can receive a FREE 1-Year Junior Membership – a \$20 value!






NOW IT'S EASIER THAN EVER for kids to get in the game.

New rules. Kid-sized racquets. Slower, lower-bouncing balls. No courts necessary. Kids can play anywhere, anytime, at any level.

Your USTA Membership will include:

- Bounce, a quarterly newsletter for 10 and Under
- Eligibility to participate in USTA Junior Tournaments*
- Eligibility to participate in USTA Jr. Team Tennis*

TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS LIMITED-TIME OFFER:

- Visit www.tryusta.com/juniorfree
- Call 1-800-990-8782
- Or complete this form and mail to address below

MUST USE SOURCE CODE
10UJRFREE
FOR THIS OFFER

Offer Expires:
December 31, 2012

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT 10 & UNDER TENNIS GO TO
10ANDUNDERTENNIS.COM

No purchase necessary. Offer open only to U.S. residents and applies only to new 10 and Under 1-Year Junior Membership (regular price: \$20). Individual must be aged 10 or under at time of enrollment to qualify. Other qualifications apply. *Fees may apply for tournament and League participation. Terms of membership and benefits subject to change in the USTA's sole discretion. USTA Membership is not transferable. Offer expires 11/30/12. Visit www.tryusta.com/juniorfree or call 1-800-990-8782 for complete terms and conditions and enrollment instructions. Individuals (and their parent/legal guardian(s)) must agree to adhere to the Constitution, Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the USTA (available on www.usta.com). ©2011 United States Tennis Association Incorporated. All rights reserved.

Source Code: 10UJRFREE

Kenny Mc's Corner

BY KEN MCALLISTER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, USTA TEXAS

Presented by:



USTA Texas Staff 512-443-1334 Office

Executive Director
Ken McAllister x201 kmcallister@texas.usta.com

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT

Director of Administration
Rhonda Lindsey x204 rlindsey@texas.usta.com
Office Manager / Awards Coordinator
Pam Jaeger x216 pjaeger@texas.usta.com
Controller
Larry Eichenbaum x222 leichenbaum@texas.usta.com

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Director of Community Development
Mike Carter x207 mcarter@texas.usta.com
Assist. Director Community Development / CTAs / Tennis On Campus
Todd Carlson x208 tcarlson@texas.usta.com
Junior Team Tennis Coordinator
Eric Clay x212 eclay@texas.usta.com
Community Development Support Staff/10 and Under Tennis
Albert Suarez x215 asuarez@texas.usta.com
Community Development Support Staff / Wheelchair Coordinator
Taylor Helfeldt x219 thelfeldt@texas.usta.com
Community Development Support Staff / NJTL Coordinator / Diversity
Nichole Williams x218 nwilliams@texas.usta.com
Tennis Service Representative - Fort Worth / North Central Region
Laura Gilbert lgilbert@texas.usta.com
Tennis Service Representative - Houston / Southeast Region
Cindy Benzon cbenzon@texas.usta.com
Tennis Service Representative - Panhandle / West Texas
Amanda Randle arandle@texas.usta.com
Tennis Service Representative - Dallas / Northeast Region
Robyn Readicker readicker@texas.usta.com
Tennis Service Representative - Waco / Austin / San Antonio
Carrie Hale chale@texas.usta.com
Tennis Service Representative - South Texas
Katy Rogers kr Rogers@texas.usta.com

COMPETITIVE DEPARTMENT

Director of Competitive Tennis
Steve Cobb x210 scobb@texas.usta.com
Adult & Senior Competitive Coordinator
Nancy Perkins x217 nperkins@texas.usta.com
Section League Coordinator
Tosha Smith x231 tsmith@texas.usta.com
Junior Competitive Coordinator
Melissa Chambers x220 mchambers@texas.usta.com
Junior Competitive Coordinator
Paige Schumacher x211 pschumacher@texas.usta.com
Junior Competitive Coordinator
Nick Arnold x209 narnold@texas.usta.com
NTRP/Assistant League Coordinator
Todd Reed x232 treed@texas.usta.com
Field Staff - 10 and Under
Amanda Shaw ashaw@texas.usta.com

MARKETING DEPARTMENT

Director of Marketing
Stephanie Arena x206 sarena@texas.usta.com
Communications Manager
Derick Hackett x202 dhackett@texas.usta.com

What's True and What's Not True

American tennis is declining. Because U.S. tennis professionals do not have as many players in the top 20 as in previous years, it may be assumed that tennis play in the U.S. is also on the decline. The opposite seems to be true.

Statistics show tennis to be easily the fastest growing traditional sport in the country over the past 10 years. We topped 30 million players last year and have stayed steady around the 29 million mark since. Check it out on the Tennis Industry Association's website and it shows tennis at just under 50-percent growth while the nearest competitor is closer to 5-percent. Ninety-percent of the traditional sports are down over the same period.

With the advent of 10 and Under Tennis, these numbers are likely to grow larger. The question will be whether the U.S. will begin to produce the top players again. My intuition says that America will be back as we have been in the past in between British, Australian, Swedish, German, and the current Spanish dominance in the sport.

NTRP (National Tennis Rating Program) is ruining tennis. The USTA's largest program is Adult League Tennis, and that program began its huge growth with the NTRP system first used 30 years ago. For 30 years it has been constantly criticized and for 30 years Adult League Tennis has grown without a single declining year. Like all rating and ranking programs, its purity is dependent on three things: 1) all players having a lengthy record, 2) all players playing many different opponents for comparison, and 3) all players trying their best in every match.

The system works best in professional tennis and tournament tennis, especially juniors, because the players play close to the same number of matches and generally do their best in every match. Because of its accuracy in comparison to other alternatives, the USTA is considering using it as a universal rating system for all players at all levels. What is true is that the players who manipulate ratings by deliberately losing some matches seriously hurt the system for the rest of us. While we have imposed sanctions on many of these players, many others continue to get away with it.

Sportsmanship is on the decline in tennis. I will always maintain that tennis is one of the greatest teachers of sportsmanship because of the fact that 99-percent of our matches are not officiated. Do we have cheaters, low-life poor sports, and bad actors? Yes, and we all know who they are within the group of players in our league or age group. They are the reason we do have a requirement of officials as well as just helping honest players make the correct calls.

We also realize that the larger that our numbers are, the more likely we are to have more bad sports. Our pros and teachers should continue teaching values and sportsmanship within the tennis training. In the meantime, Texas has had a program where experienced tennis persons have been given the power to show up anonymously at matches and report all bad sportsmanship to authorities, separate from the officials. Many players have received disciplinary points due to this program. Statistically, we do not know if there is a decline in sportsmanship, but we realize that it continues to be our responsibility to keep it at a minimum. Never hesitate to report this activity – even if we cannot act on it, we can keep files to identify recurring behavior.

If you have comments or questions, always know you are invited to contact me at kmcallister@texas.usta.com.

GENERAL

New Information on USTA Texas 10 and Under Website

Take a look at the USTA Texas 10 and Under website with now more information for parents, organizers and kids. Join a Texas Kids' Tennis Club, find online tennis games for kids, and discover what USTA Texas Playdays are all about at www.texas.usta.com/10_and_under_tennis/

Tournament Schedule Released for 2012

The 2012 edition of the USTA Texas Tournament Schedule has been released. Each active USTA Texas member household will receive a copy of the publication. The book also contains other valuable resources including: Tournament schedules for all levels, Know the Rules for Juniors, Adults, Seniors and Super Seniors; ZAT, CMZ and SuperCMZ regulations, point charts and the Bylaws, Constitution and Tournament Regulations for USTA Texas. An electronic version of the publication can be found at www.texas.usta.com. Updates, date changes or changes to individual tournaments can be found on TennisLink throughout the year.

Texas Tennis Hall of Fame Class of 2011

The 2011 inductees to the Texas Tennis Hall of Fame include Jim Chaffin of Dallas, Quinn Connelley (deceased), former tennis coach at Rice University, Dick Landenberger of Dallas who represented the U.S. in the World Championships and Ron Woods director of the Corpus Christi Country Club for 31 years. The Induction Gala was held at the Texas Sports Hall of Fame in Waco, on Oct. 15. Biographies and a photo gallery of the ceremony can be found at www.texas.usta.com/chaffin_connelley_landenberger_and_woods_enter_texas_tennis_hall_of_fame/



Members of 2011
Texas Tennis Hall of Fame

2012 Officials Certification Schools

The 2012 USTA Texas Officials Certification School list and registration is now available at www.texas.usta.com/Officials/certification_schools/. All new or re-certifying officials must take and pass the online test before coming to the class. For more information about becoming a USTA Texas tennis official contact Nick Arnold at USTA Texas at (512) 443-1334 ext. 209 or at narnold@texas.usta.com.

Hale joins staff as TSR for Waco, Austin, San Antonio

Carrie Hale is the newest member of the USTA Texas staff and is now serving as the Community Development Tennis Service Representative for Waco, Austin and the San Antonio area. Carrie is a native of Dallas and played tennis at Midwestern State in Wichita Falls earning a degree in biology. Carrie can be reached at chale@texas.usta.com.



Carrie Hale

Three Texas facilities recognized by USTA

The USTA announced the winners of its 30th annual USTA Facility Awards Program, that included three Texas facilities, Kiest Park (Dallas), Wagon Wheel Tennis Center (Coppell) and Southlake Tennis Center (Southlake), which recognizes excellence in the construction and/or renovation of tennis facilities throughout the country. Each facility was honored at the USTA Semi Annual meeting during the meeting of the Technical Committee on Sept. 4 at the Grand Hyatt in New York City.

New USTA Texas Section Magazine in 2012

USTA Texas will be publishing a new section magazine beginning in early 2012, for all of our current members. This will replace the TennisLife publication. We are excited about the new layouts, designs and features that will take place in the new publication. Electronic copies of previous copies of TennisLife and future USTA Texas magazine issues can be found at www.texas.usta.com/news_multimedia/magazine/

Share your experiences at My Tennis Story

Do you have tennis news or a tennis story you want to tell? The My Tennis Story link at www.texas.usta.com is the place to tell the world about your big ZAT or National Open win. Did your team just win the league title or have you reached a big milestone in your tennis career? These are excellent examples of what we are looking for. To submit your story to the USTA Texas website email Derick Hackett at dhackett@texas.usta.com. Please send stories as Word attachments and attach all pictures as JPGs. Submissions and pictures are subject to cropping and editing. Thanks and we look forward to sharing your story.



LEAGUE

Presented by: **Golfsmith®**
GOLF & TENNIS

Eight Senior Teams Earn Trips to Nationals

The 2011 USTA Texas Senior League Championships held in Tyler, Texas from Sept. 16-18 crowning champions in the Men's and Ladies 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 divisions.

North Houston went undefeated with a perfect 3-0 record on their way to the 2011 Texas 3.0 Senior Ladies Section Championship. The team captained by Barbara Ohara includes Cynthia Bausch, Dawn Byrne, Donna Fisher, Maria Hernandez, Kathy Hollis, Roxanne Jay, Elizabeth Smith, Carol Romeis and Kerry Orth.

Dallas defeated Northeast Texas 2-1 to win the 2011 Texas 3.5 Senior Ladies Section Championship after downing Waco in the Semifinals 3-0. The team captained by Edna Ground includes Paula Blair, Francoise Carnal, Carole George, Jane Goodell, Jane Gilpin, Kathleen Jacobson, Anita Landenberger, Sandra McCravy, Anita Ott, Angelyn Pierson, Vickie Risinger, Priscilla Sives, Rosalind Smith, Judy Sullivan, Constance Tenbrink, and Cindy Wisdom.

Austin defeated Houston 2-1 to win the 2011 Texas 4.0 Senior Ladies Championship after defeating San Antonio 2-1 in the semifinals. Houston defeated North Houston to reach the finals. The Austin team captained by Sharon Coudert includes Patty Ails, Anne Blackwood, Ann Foley, Zoe King, Tina Matthews, Lynn Longwill, Joany Price, Lynn Priess, Cheryl Robertson, Vicki Rogers, Connie Scharbauer, Karen Shields, Rosemarie Smith, Lynda Valseca and Martha Ware.

Dallas defeated Houston 2-1 to win the 2011 Texas 4.5 Senior Ladies Championship. The team captained by Kay Tully includes

Susan Baten, Sharon Chapple, Lillian Cobb, Teal Lang, Dione Lineberry, Lynn Mangus, Paula McLeod, Sylvia Morris, Dee Nicholson, Kay Schoonover, Lee Villalobos, Laura Worsham, Katie Wylie and Carol Young.

Northeast Texas won the 2011 Texas 3.0 Senior Men's Championship with a 2-1 record. The team captained by Charles Wilcox includes Cliff Adams, Paul Latta, James Lowden, Rick Neel, John Raasoch, Larry Walker and Greg White.

Dallas defeated San Antonio 3-0 to win the 2011 Texas 3.5 Senior Men's Championship. The team captained by Robert Bender includes Rene Cuevas, Robert Garrity, Joseph Hevey, Patrick Jameson, Tom Kienzien, Mark Myers, Bo McNurlen, Frank Timmins and Donald Vincent.

Fort Worth defeated Corpus Christi 2-1 to win the 2011 Texas 4.0 Senior Men's Championship. The team captained by James McBurney includes Scott Brown, Skip Butler, Frank Carpenter, Wayne Downhour, Raul Espinoza, Mike Fincher, Jack Griffin, George Heil, Walter Idol, Charlie Koenig, Steven Miller, Steven Osborn, and Bill Stetzer.

Houston defeated Dallas 2-1 to win the 2011 Texas 4.5 Senior Men's Championship. The team captained by Mitch Creekmore and Paul Peacock includes Allan Boss, Carlos Perez, Tim Purcell, Leland Putterman, William Richter, Stephen Riner, Nicholas Stephens, Craig Smyser and Arlo Van Denover.

Listed and pictured are the winning teams from each division.



2011 3.0 Senior Ladies Champions – North Houston



2011 3.0 Senior Men's Champions – Northeast Texas



2011 3.5 Senior Ladies Champions – Dallas



2011 3.5 Senior Men's Champions – Dallas



2011 4.0 Senior Ladies Champions – Austin



2011 4.0 Senior Men's Champions - Fort Worth



2011 4.5 Senior Ladies Champions - Dallas



2011 4.5 Senior Men's Champions - Houston

Love All[®]

Order your USTA Texas products today at
www.loveall.com

UNIQUELY DESIGNED APPAREL



USTA Texas Crown 2011 Combo League Champions

The USTA Texas Combo League Championships were held from October 14-16, in Waco, Texas and crowned champions in the Ladies 5.5, 6.5, 7.5, 8.5 and Men's 7.5, 8.5 divisions.

NETX went undefeated with a perfect 4-0 record on their way to the 2011 Texas Section Combo 5.5 Ladies Championship. The team captained by Dessa Loving includes Kerry Cinti, Angie Daughtry, Karen Fisher, Jayme Fitzpatrick, Kim Holley, Robin Hunt, Karen Minton, Meridith Twaddell, Kelli Tyrrell and Allison Woodard. Greater Fort Worth came in second with a 3-1 record.

Austin defeated Dallas 3-0 to win the 2011 Texas Section Combo 6.5 Ladies Championship after downing Amarillo in the Semifinals 2-1. The team captained by Susan Pyle includes Lise Connell, Tiffany Esquivel, Naomi Harmon, Julie Leavell, Melanie Ludick, Jennifer Martin and Pam Perez. Dallas defeated Wild Dallas in the Semifinals before falling to Austin.

Amarillo defeated Dallas 2-1 to win the 2011 Texas Section Combo 7.5 Ladies Championship after defeating Austin 2-1 in the semifinals. Dallas defeated Wild Austin 2-1 to reach the finals. The Amarillo team captained by Lisa Rhodes includes Shelby Hicks, Helen Hudson,

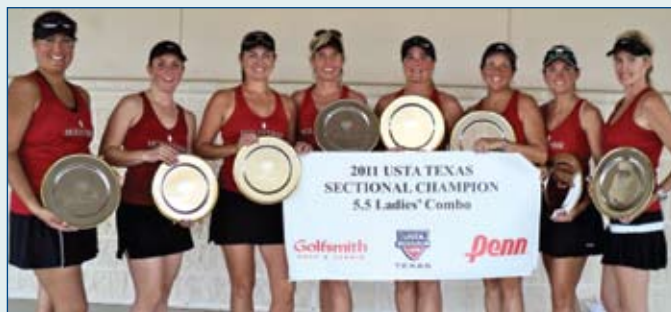
Cami Miller, Laura Ness, Tatum Peoples and Carol Yirak.

San Antonio defeated Houston 2-1 to win the 2011 Texas Section Combo 8.5 Ladies Championship. Both teams entered the Championship match with perfect 4-0 recording winning their flights. The San Antonio team captained by Becki Wortham includes Evonne Allerkamp, Nonie Burton, Tammy Crawford, Nadia De La Pena, Martina Meritz, Elizabeth Ojeda, Mary Reeder, Jenny Reeves and Carol Robalin.

Dallas defeated Fort Worth 3-0 to win the 2011 Texas Section Combo 7.5 Men's Championship. The team captained by Christopher Caceres includes Miguel Alvarez, Jason Canaday, Ron Corcoran, Glenn Flora, Roderick Gauvin, Eric Gordon, Ramon Golen, Ramiro Gutierrez, Chase Hardin, Roger Feifsnyder and Mike Zackary.

San Antonio went undefeated with a perfect 3-0 record to win the 2011 Texas Section Combo 8.5 Men's Championship. The team captained by Joe Mallen includes Eurique Beltran, Tim Collier, Armando Hernandez, Raul Moreno, Miguel Rivas, Tony Sifuentes, Jose Uribe and Ronnie Valle.

Listed and pictured are the winning teams from each division.



2011 Combo Ladies 5.5 Champions – Northeast Texas



2011 Combo Ladies 6.5 Champions – Austin



2011 Combo Ladies 7.5 Champions – Amarillo



2011 Combo Ladies 8.5 Champions – San Antonio



2011 Combo Men's 7.5 Champions – Dallas



2011 Combo Men's 8.5 Champions – San Antonio

NOTE: USTA Texas results of league, senior, adult and junior teams that placed at nationals along with 2011 USTA Texas Fall Ladies Lonestar, Super Senior Plus, 40 & Over Championships will appear in the Yearbook issue of the section magazine in early 2012.



USTA League is improving its structure to enhance your playing experience starting with the 2013 Championship Season. Under the new structure, the USTA League will have two divisions – Adult and Mixed. The Adult Division is broken down into 18 & Over, 40 & Over and 55 & Over and the Mixed will be 18 & Over. For more information on this new structure logon to usta.com/league

What exactly is changing?

Previously, the USTA League was divided into Adult (18 & Over), Senior (50 & Over), Super Senior (60 & Over) and Mixed (18 & Over). The Adult Division was singles and doubles, while the Senior, Super Senior and Mixed were played as solely doubles matches.

The new structure will have just two divisions—Adult and Mixed. The Adult Division will be composed of 18 & Over, 40 & Over, and 55 & Over; the 18 & Over and the 40 & Over will feature both singles and doubles, while the 55 & Over will be solely doubles. The Mixed Division remains, competing in 18 & Over as before.

As before, participants will continue to compete at their NTRP level for each category.

Are the new Leagues in addition to the existing Leagues?

No. The previous League structure is being replaced with the new age realignment structure as per the divisions and age groupings detailed at right.

Why did the USTA make this change?

The decision to change the structure was made to better distribute USTA League participants among the three age categories—previously, the vast majority of USTA League participants fell in the “Adult” category (18 & Over), with far fewer in the “Senior” (50 & Over) and “Super Senior” (60 & Over) categories—and to better align participants with players their own age.

Existing data research, player surveys and player focus groups clearly indicated a need for age restructuring in order to provide more and better play opportunities, both for competitive and social reasons. Under the old model, players were of the same ability but not necessarily of the same playing style or fitness level. The restructuring guarantees more frequency of play opportunities at more appropriate age divisions.

What are the benefits of making this change?

Research indicates that age restructuring should provide the majority of players with additional play opportunities and produce more competitive match play, which will result in more accurate ratings. The changes also allow players to play in more homogenous groupings should they so choose. (That is, older players will retain the option of playing in the younger age levels while now also having a group reserved for those closer to their age.)



Join a USTA Texas league today! To find more league schedules, local coordinators info, ratings, regulations and championships go to www.texas.usta.com under Adult Tennis and USTA Leagues.

COMMUNITY

Community Development Dishes Out Awards at Workshop

The USTA Texas, Community Development department announced the 2011 Community Development Awards winners at the CD Awards Dinner and Halloween Tennis Ball, held Oct. 29, 2011 in Austin. The workshop themed "Exponential Tennis – Today. Tomorrow. Together." is geared towards growing the game of tennis through fellow advocates, Community Tennis Associations, service organizations, schools, parks and recreation departments and other community leaders. It featured presentations and educational sessions by **Gary Avischious, Denise Castelli, Richard Chang, Marry Beth Harrington Robin Jones, Mando Rayo** and ended with an address by Tennis Hall of Famer **Dennis Ralston**.

Pictures of the awards, programs and sessions can be found at www.texas.usta.com/news_multimedia/photos/2011-usta-texas-community-development-awards/. Congratulations to this years award winners listed below.

NO-CUT COACH OF THE YEAR
 P.E. SPECIALIST OF THE YEAR
 JTT ROOKIE COORDINATORS
 NJTL COORDINATOR OF THE YEAR
 NJTL CHAPTER OF THE YEAR
 EXPANSION COMMUNITY TENNIS ASSOCIATION
 REVITALIZED COMMUNITY TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Cindy Abel-Sanchez (Irving, Texas)
 Brad Morrison (Amarillo, Texas)
 Cecy Abboud (Laredo, Texas) David Stovall (Beaumont, Texas)
 Julie Beckham (Abilene, Texas)
 Central Texas Tennis Association
 Dallas Tennis Association
 Lago Vista Tennis Association



WHATABURGER AWARD WINNERS:

10 AND UNDER PROGRAM
 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Bobby Castillo (Greenville Y Tennis Program)
 Terry Sweet (Corpus Christi, Texas)

Houston Based Reading Aces Wins TAPE Award



Participants of the Reading Aces program.

Readng Aces has received the prestigious Texas Association of Partners in Education (TAPE) Gold/Crystal Award that recognizes the achievement of organizations as a leader in developing innovative partnerships. Reading Aces, in conjunction with the NJTL, and in partnership with the Houston Tennis Association, is an after-school reading program designed to help at-risk children between the ages of 6-12 improve their reading and literacy skills. The program promotes strong literacy skills and works to improve oral reading in elementary school children and emphasizes the importance and benefits of community service, while promoting the power of one-on-one oral reading.

When Lamar High School honors student and USTA Texas Girls' 18 Super Champ, Brette Machiorlette approached the HTA – NJTL about adding an oral reading program called "Reading Aces" to several neighborhood tennis sites, it was a perfect match.

Gradually, Brette recruited more high school mentors to adopt park sites and read orally with children. The program has grown from one site and a handful of mentors to nine sites with over 60 teenage mentors and over 250 elementary readers. Since 2009, high school volunteers carry books and snacks to Houston parks and elementary schools and experience the magic of volunteerism and shoulder-to-shoulder oral reading.

"I never thought that Reading Aces could make such a huge impact on the community. I definitely use the life skills I learned playing competitive tennis in helping me grow Reading Aces," added Brette. He also wanted to encourage more of his tennis peers to take off one day from tennis to participate in the program.

For more information go to www.readingaces.org or call (713) 803-1112.

10 AND UNDER



10 and Under Rule Changes Take Effect Jan. 1

The United States Tennis Association (USTA) announced that on Jan. 1, 2012 the rules of tennis officially will be changed and require that 10 and Under Tennis tournaments be played utilizing smaller, lighter racquets and lower-bouncing balls on smaller courts. The change was adopted by the USTA in the summer of 2010.

This rule change signifies the emergence of 10 and Under Tennis

as an integral part of the development of young players. The scaled-down equipment and smaller courts better allow kids to rally and play the game earlier in their development, and increase the likelihood that they will return to the court and continue to improve while having fun doing it.

For more information on 10 and Under Tennis in Texas go to www.texas.usta.com/10_and_under_tennis/ or contact **Albert Suarez** of USTA Texas (Community Development Department) at asuarez@texas.usta.com and for 10 and Under competition information (Competitive Department) contact **Amanda Shaw** of USTA Texas at shaw@texas.usta.com.

Davis Cup Ceremony Opens Permanent 10 and Under courts in Austin

The Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) hosted an official grand opening ceremony on Oct. 22, at the Austin Tennis Center to open eight permanent and four blended lined 10 and Under tennis courts as part of the U.S. Davis Cup Legacy project. As part of the tradition of the U.S. Davis Cup tie by USTA (United States Tennis Association) to bequeath the host city with a legacy project for the community in remembrance of the event.

Estimated at over \$40,000, the project converted two courts at the Austin Tennis Center into eight permanent 36-foot 10 and Under Tennis courts. Four other courts received blended lines making them 60-foot 10 and Under Tennis courts. These conversions will further promote 10 and Under Tennis, and develop youth tennis in the city and in Texas.

"USTA Texas thanks the USTA and the Davis Cup Committee for the permanent Legacy from the 2011 Davis Cup at Austin Tennis Center that will benefit 10 and under youngsters in Austin for years to come," said **Ken McAllister**, Executive Director of USTA Texas. "That is a real living legacy."

The Davis Cup by BNP Paribas Quarterfinal between the United States and Spain was held in Austin at the Frank Erwin Center from July 8-10. A capacity crowd of 16,269 attended each of the three-days of tennis totaling 48,807, which is the second highest attendance mark in U.S. Davis Cup history behind the 1990 World Group Final against Australia in St. Petersburg, Fla. (50,962).



Davis Cup Legacy Project courts opens in Texas. Photo by D. Hackett / USTA Texas.

Mini Mo Successful with 10 and Under Tournament

A total of 96 players age's five to 10 participated in the 2nd Annual "Mini Mo" Tournament held by the Maureen Connolly Brinker Tennis Foundation at the Arlington Tennis Center (Arlington, Texas) in early October of this year.

Officials at the tournament raved about how great it was to see junior tennis booming again primarily due to the new 'kid friendly' court sizes and low compression balls. Tennis has been made much easier for kids to learn to play and have greater success by using the 10 and Under tennis program and its QuickStart format.

Boys & Girls Club dedicates "Dream Courts"

The Boys and Girls Club of the Austin Area, with the aid of a \$10,000 United States Tennis Association grant, unveiled six new 10 and Under tennis courts in a ribbon cutting on October at the South Austin Club in Austin.

The surface is specially designed to include two playing surfaces that can be used for both basketball and for 10 and Under Tennis courts. The 10 and Under tennis program is designed to use modified tennis equipment, court sizes and training techniques using the QuickStart format, better suited for kids to learn and enjoy the game.

In attendance was **Carol Welder**, USTA Board of Directors; State Representative **Mark Strama** (District 50); Basketball Hall of Famer **Nancy Lieberman**; **David Porter**, Glimmer of Hope Foundation and representatives of the Austin Toros (NBA Development League).

Along with the USTA grant, the "Dream Court" was completed with donations from the Nancy Lieberman Foundation, Manifest Foundation, Sport Court and the Boys and Girls Club, working together to help young boys and girls. For more information about 10 and Under tennis in Texas go to www.texas.usta.com/10_and_under_tennis/ or contact **Albert Suarez** at asuarez@texas.usta.com.

Basketball Hall of Famer Nancy Lieberman plays tennis with youngsters at the dedication of the "Dream Courts," at the Boys and Girls Club of the Austin Area. With the aid of a \$10,000 USTA grant and support from the Lieberman Foundation and others, six new 10 and Under tennis courts were unveiled, along with basketball courts. Photo by D. Hackett / USTA Texas.



Bush Tennis Center in Midland breaks ground

Former president **George W. Bush** and his wife, first lady **Laura Bush**, visited Midland, Texas in November to dedicate the Bush Tennis Center in front of over 300 in attendance. The construction is divided into projects.

Project one will include 18 full-size courts, a lighted center court for matches and eight 10 and Under courts and QuickStart courts meant for teaching children, Executive Director **Luis Valdez** said. Completion of project one is expected in the fall of 2012, though some courts will be open and ready for use by the spring. The center is the first facility in West Texas to offer permanent 36-foot courts for 10 and Under Tennis.

The Bush Tennis Center is located in northwest Midland on Briarwood Avenue (W County Road 60), just west of the intersection with Holiday Hill Road. More information can be found at www.midlandtenniscenter.org.

USTA Texas Executive Director, Ken McAllister, greets the attendees at the Bush Tennis Center in Midland. Sitting behind McAllister is former president George W. Bush and former first lady Laura Bush. Photo by Amanda Randle / USTA Texas.



In Texas, anyone can play tennis.

From the 2.5 Lone Star League to Davis Cup, Texas tennis players make the best teammates!

Play for fun, play to win, play to make a difference.

Thank you for being a member of USTA Texas.

Your membership matters. Texas Tennis Matters.

See how you are making a difference. Visit **TexasTennisMatters.com**

TEXAS TENNIS
MATTERS



www.TexasTennisMatters.com

WHEELCHAIR / ADAPTIVE

Wimbledon Champion Dennis Ralston at OPT Adaptive Tennis Clinic 2011

Players with prosthetics aids and wheelchairs had the opportunity to receive tennis instruction from tennis former Wimbledon champion **Dennis Ralston**, and Master Professional Fernando Velasco at the 2011 OPT Adaptive Tennis Clinic held in south Austin at the Circle C Tennis Club in October.

Players ranging in age from seven to 75 years old participated in the third consecutive event that addressed the special needs and allows players to become acquainted with "the game of a lifetime," tennis. The event was sponsored by **Aaron Foreman**, owner of "Orthotic and Prosthetic Technologies of Austin."

Ralston was the No. 1 ranked men's tennis player in the U.S. in the 1960s winning 27 national singles and doubles titles. In 1966 he won the French Open Doubles title and in that same year he was the singles runner-up at Wimbledon. He won the U.S. National Championships in 1961 and 1963-64, along with a Wimbledon Doubles title in 1960. He was a member of the US Davis Cup team from 1960-66 and was the Davis Cup coach from 1968-72. He took over as the Davis Cup captain from 1972-75. He later went on to coach **Chris Evert**, **Yannick Noah** and **Gabriella Sabatini** then served as the coach at Southern Methodist University for over a decade. He was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 1987.

Ralston had his left leg amputated nine inches below the knee after incurring problems with staph infections, causing Osteomyelitis, an acute or chronic bone marrow infection. He now wears a prosthetic leg and continues to teach tennis while making inspiring appearances to promote tennis for players with physical challenges.

More photos of the Adaptive Clinic can be found at www.texas.usta.com/photos/landing/ then clicking the Adaptive Tennis Clinic photo gallery on page 2.



Dennis Ralston with a participant at the 2011 OPT Adaptive Tennis Clinic.

Highest Paralympics Order Awarded to Randy Snow

The International Paralympics Committee (IPC) will award the late **Randy Snow** a four-time Paralympian, Wheelchair Tennis superstar and three-time Paralympics medalist and devoted member of the International Tennis Federation (ITF), with the Paralympics Order - the highest tribute a person connected with the Paralympics Movement may achieve.

Snow, a native of Terrell, Texas, provided an immense contribution to the sport of Wheelchair Tennis as both a coach and player ambassador on numerous projects for the ITF in Bolivia, Brazil, El Salvador and Thailand. He was a Paralympics and Olympic medalist himself, and was a 10-time US Open Wheelchair Tennis champion.

Snow passed away on Nov. 19, 2009, while in El Salvador running Wheelchair Tennis clinics and workshops for the ITF. Snow was a state-ranked tennis player as a teenager, but at the age of 16, was crushed by a 1,000-pound bale of hay, leaving him paralyzed from the waist down. He was the first Paralympian to be inducted into the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame in July of 2004.

Stephen Welch leads Americans at ParaPan Am Games

The United States Wheelchair Tennis Team finished competition at the 2011 Parapan American Games in November with Texas native **Stephen Welch** winning a Bronze in the Men's Singles and Gold in Men's Doubles with teammate **Jon Rydberg**. Welch, a native of Southlake, Texas played **Robinson Mendez** of Chile for the bronze medal in Men's Singles.



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

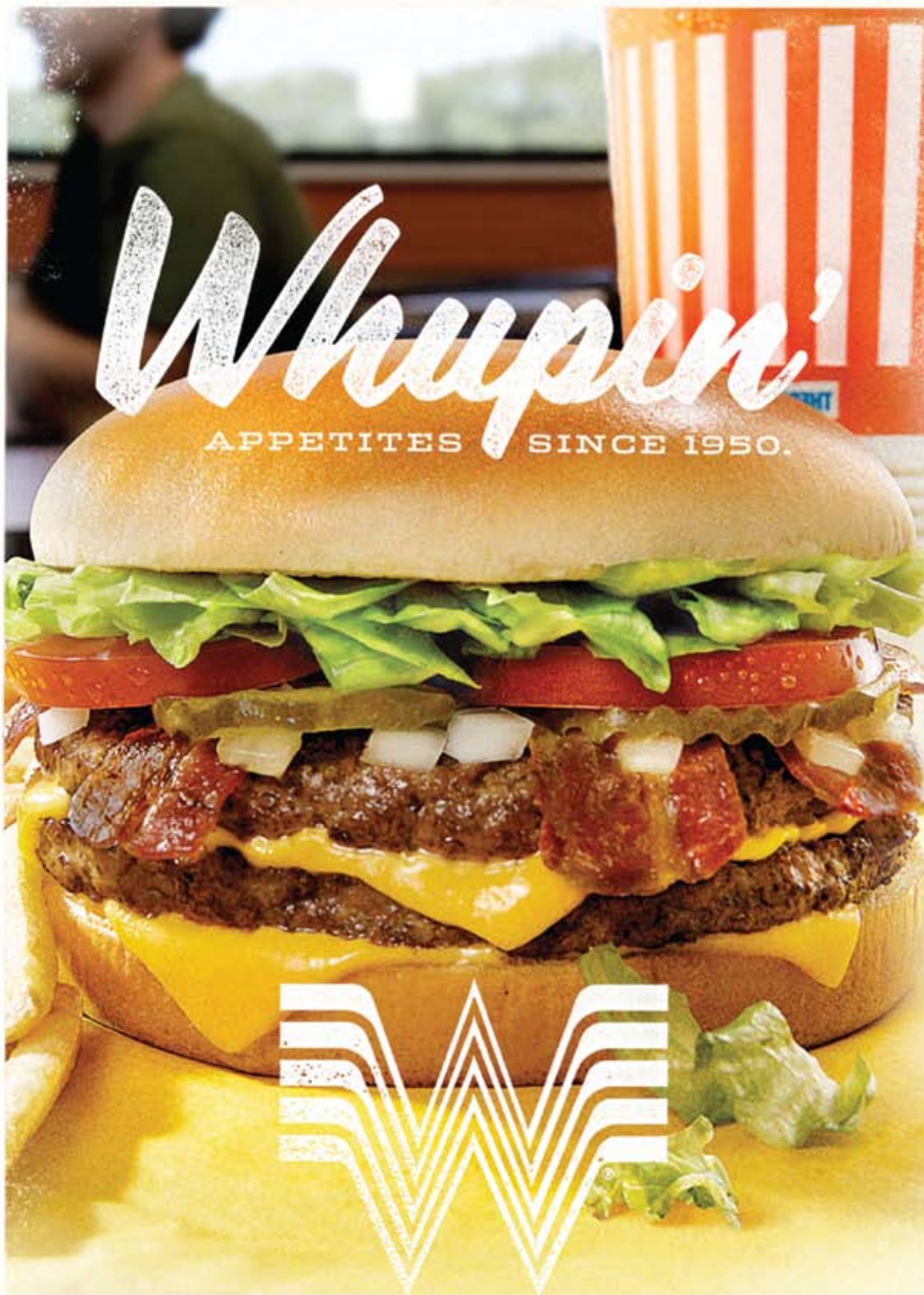
Membership benefits include access to:

- 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/





WHATABURGER.

PROUD SPONSOR OF THE USTA TEXAS SECTION

JUNIORS

A 2011 NJT Sportsmanship award went to Sidney Riley, a Dallas native from USTA Texas. She received one week of training at the Evert Academy. - Photo courtesy of Phil Cello / NJT



Riley Wins Sportsmanship Award, Texans Play at Nike Jr. Tour USA Masters

Congratulations to **Sidney Riley** from Dallas, Texas for winning the Sportsmanship Award at the Nike Junior Tour USA Masters Sept. 16-18, at the Evert Tennis Academy in Boca Raton, Fla.. The award comes with one week of training at the Evert Academy.

Riley was defeated in the Semifinals of the Girls 14 Singles Division falling to **Ally Miller-Krraslinikov** (Fla.) 6-2, 6-3. Riley advanced to the semis by winning her Quarterfinal match 6-3, 7-5 over **Francesca Dilozenzo** (Ohio) and winning her round of 16 match with a 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 win over No. 1 seeded **Chloe Ouellet-Pizer** (NC). Riley opened the tournament with a 7-5, 6-3 loss to No. 3 seeded **Jessica Ho** (Pa.)

The Nike Junior Tour (NJT) is a worldwide series of junior singles tournaments for Boys and Girls in the 12 and 14 age groups. There are currently 34 countries participating in the NJT, representing over 60,000 players. Former NJT International Masters participants include **Rafael Nadal**, **Juan Martin Del Potro** and **Tomas Berdych**.

Other Texas participants include **Anna Bright** of Fort Worth (G12s); **Campbell Erwin** (B12s) from Olmos Park; and **Emanuel Llamas** (B14s) from El Paso. Erwin and Llamas were eliminated in the round of 16. Bright the No. 3 seed lost her opening match 6-4, 7-5 but eventually advanced, winning her round of 16 match 6-2, 6-1; Quarterfinal 6-4, 6-2 and then losing her Semifinals match to No. 2 seeded **Ryan Peus** 6-7, 7-5, 6-0.

JTT Fall Championships (New Braunfels & Waco)

The 2011 USTA Texas Fall JTT Sectionals held in New Braunfels and Waco, Texas from Nov. 18-20.

Winners from teams that played in Waco include in the Fall JTT Sectional 18 Adv. Division, First place: **NETT**; Runner Up: **Abilene**, Third place: **Houston** and Fourth place: Lubbock. The 18 Adv. Sportsmanship awards went to **Alex Gilbert** of Dallas (Girls) and **Parker Wynn** of NETT (Boys).

In the Fall JTT 14 Adv. Division, First place: **NETT**; Runner Up: **Houston**; Third place: **Austin** and Fourth place: **Dallas**. The 14 Adv.

Sportsmanship awards went to **Victoria Gilbert** of Dallas (Girls) and Jonathan Johnson of Amarillo (Boys).

Winners who played in New Braunfels, from the 18U Int., 14U Int., 14U Beg., and 12 Int. divisions are pictured below. Other Fall JTT Sectional pictures of runner ups and more from New Braunfels can be found at www.texas.usta.com, under News & Multimedia, in the photo gallery called 2011 Fall JTT Sectionals Champions (New Braunfels)



HOUSTON – 2011 Fall JTT Sectional 18U Int. Champions.



Adam Copp of San Antonio - 18U Int. Sportsmanship Award winner.



CORPUS CHRISTI – 2011 Fall JTT Sectional 14U Int. Champions.



AUSTIN – 2011 Fall JTT Sectional 14U Beg. Champions.



HOUSTON – 2011 Fall JTT Sectional 12U Int. Champions.



Bella Crawford of Houston - 14U Int. Sportsmanship Award winner.



Hanna Vog of San Antonio - Spring Branch -
14U Beg. Sportsmanship Award winner



Coleman Bond from NETT - 14U Beg. Sportsmanship Award winner.

COLLEGIATE

Spirit, Energy Galore at Tennis On Campus Event

What happens when students gather from 13 Texas colleges and universities that make up 40 different teams at a USTA Texas Tennis On Campus event in College Station, with popular songs playing on the speaker system during play?

You get people doing the "Wobble" line dance during match play, bouncing tennis balls in makeshift cone baskets between matches, using their palms and feet to play tennis on the 10 and Under display net and of course pizza galore for everyone. That is the spirit and energy that is produced by students playing tennis to further school rivalries, get plenty of exercise and to take a break from the hectic study and class schedules at their respective schools.

This is achieved through the USTA Tennis On Campus program designed to provide college students with recreational competition through club tennis teams, intramural leagues and physical education classes.

"It makes you completely forget about the school work for the weekend," said Carrie Lidsky from University of Texas at San Antonio. "We get to go from San Antonio to Austin, to College Station, to

Houston; there is a tournament in Lubbock and Waco also."

Participants at the Oct. 1, College Station event hosted by Texas A&M also included Baylor, Lone Star College – CyFair, Sam Houston State, Stephen F. Austin, Southern Methodists, Texas Tech, West Texas A&M, University of North Texas, University of St. Thomas, University of Texas at Austin, University of Texas at San Antonio and Victoria College.

The team names also represent a sign of the times and school spirit such as A&M's – Like a G6, Do It Big, Team Sexy and Never Say Never; Baylor's – Nayyydeene, Tan Facil, Party Bus and Beach Body; SFA's – Purple Haze, Wood Choppers and Jacks; other notable names included UNT's – Talons, Texas Tech's – Masked Riders, Matadors and Guns Up! and the traditional names for UTSA's – Road Runners, SMU's – Blue, UT's – Hook'em and Bevo.

The USTA Texas video from the event can be found on our YouTube page at www.youtube.com/USTATexas or by going directly to <http://youtu.be/jgahebQ94M0>

Participants at the USTA Texas Tennis On Campus event held on Oct. 1, 2011 at Texas A&M. Forty teams from 13 colleges and university participated. - Photo by D. Hackett / USTA Texas



**Get aboard the
USTA Texas
Social Media
Bandwagon**

www.facebook.com/ustatexas
www.youtube.com/ustatexas
www.twitter.com/ustatexas