



www.usta.texas.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>17 <i>League Restructure</i> <i>Sr. Mixed Results</i> <i>League Area Championships</i></p> <p>18 <i>USTA Texas News and Notes</i></p> <p>20 <i>Texas US Open Sectional Roundup</i></p> <p>21 <i>Player Profile: Meet Bayo Philips</i></p> <p>22 <i>NJTL Ashe Contest Winner</i> <i>USTA Serves Scholarships Winners</i> <i>JTT Spring Sectionals</i></p> | <p>23 <i>Krueger Reaches Jr. Wimbledon Semis</i> <i>Hagar Honored</i> <i>Back-To-Back: Texas Jr. Davis Cup Team</i> <i>All Texas Final at Zone Team Championships</i> <i>Texas Third at Intersectional 16s</i></p> <p>24 <i>Special Olympics & Adaptive Tennis</i> <i>Lubbock Host Camp</i> <i>Texas 10 Essay & Art Winners</i> <i>Tennis at Dwarf Games</i></p> <p>25 <i>Competitive Corner: Volleying</i></p> <p>26 <i>Kenny Mc's Corner: Bow Shots</i></p> <p>26 <i>Presidents Message: Transition Time</i> <i>USTA Texas Staff Directory</i></p> |
|--|---|

Leagues Age Restructure Streamlines Divisions for 2013

USTA Texas, staying in sync the new guidelines set nationally by the United States Tennis Association for Leagues age divisions, has restructured and streamlined its age divisions for Leagues that are effective for the 2013 National Championships.

The primary reason for the initiative is to allow for additional frequency of play with more meaningful age distributions along with the age confusion of the previous division titles.

Nationally the USTA will have just two league divisions – Adult and Mixed. The Adult Division is broken down into 18 & Over, 40 & Over and 55 & Over while the Mixed Doubles Division will currently consist of 18 &

| NEW USTA TEXAS 2013 LEAGUE STRUCTURE | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| ADULT DIVISION | ADULT 18 & OVER 2 - Singles; 3 - Doubles (3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5) 1 - Singles; 2 - Doubles (Open, 2.5, 5.0+) |
| | ADULT 40 & OVER 2 - Singles; 3 - Doubles (3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5+) |
| | ADULT 55 & OVER 3 - Doubles (6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0) |
| | ADULT 65 & OVER 3 - Doubles (6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0) |
| MIXED DIVISION | MIXED 18 & OVER 3 - Doubles (2.5, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0) |
| | MIXED 40 & OVER 3 - Doubles (6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0) |
| | MIXED 55 & OVER 3 - Doubles (6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0) |

USTA Texas Sectional USTA National Championship or Invitations
For more information about USTA Texas Leagues go to www.texas.usta.com

Over and 40 & Over. The Texas section will offer an Adults 65 & Over league and Mixed 55 & Over league.

Gone are the terms Senior and Super Senior and now ages are classified as Adults 18 & over, Adults 40 & Over and Adults 55 & Over. The restructuring will take effect in January 2013.

"This is less confusing terminology now that it is defined as Adult divisions with the age parameters," said Tosha Smith, USTA Texas Leagues Coordinator. "It will also allow for additional play opportunities, more competitive matches and better groupings of teams."

Adult Leagues are for men and women 18 years of age or older, with

championship layers, culminating in a National Championship.

NTRP levels for 18 & Over League Type are Open, 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, and 5.0+.

NTRP Levels for 40 & Over League Type are 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and 4.5+.

Team match format is two singles matches and three doubles matches. Open, 2.5 and 5.0 NTRP levels play one singles match and two doubles matches.

NTRP Levels for 55 & Over League Type are 6.0, 7.0, 8.0

and 9.0.

Team match format for 55 & Over League Type is three doubles matches. Sections are encouraged to add a 65 or 70 & Over league so now USTA Texas will offer an Adults 65 & Over league.

Mixed Doubles Leagues are for men and women 18 & Over and 40 & Over with championship layers culminating in a National Championship. Team match format is three doubles matches. NTRP levels are 2.5, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0 and 10.0. USTA Texas will offer a Mixed 55 & Over league sectional.

For more information about USTA Texas Leagues go to www.texas.usta.com/adult_tennis/usta_leagues/homenews/

Dallas, Fort Worth Teams Take Senior Mixed Doubles

Results from the 2012 USTA Texas Senior Mixed Doubles Sectionals in Corpus Christi from June 8-10 for the 7.0, 8.0 and 9.0 levels include winners from Fort Worth and Dallas, who received an invite to represent Texas at the National Invitational in the spring of 2013. Fort Worth defeated Abilene 2-1 to win 7.0, Fort Worth defeated Austin 2-1 to win 8.0 and Dallas defeated Midland and Houston to take the 9.0 division at the USTA Texas Senior Mixed Doubles Sectionals.

Abilene, Laredo Win USTA Texas Leagues Qualifying Area Championships

The 3.5 ladies team from Laredo and the 4.0 team from Abilene advanced to the USTA



Ladies 4.0 – Abilene



Ladies 3.5 – Laredo

Texas League Sectionals with victories at the 2012 Adult Qualifying Tournament / Area Championships held July 6-8 in Abilene, Texas at the Rose Park Tennis Center. This was the qualifying tournament for teams from cities who do not have a league for advancement to sectionals or from cities with a total USTA Adult League participation of less than 250 players.



TEXAS SECTION TRAVEL RATES

Hotels.com CALL 1-800-370-1748 OR
GO TO WWW.TEXASTENNISHOTELS.COM



USTA TEXAS NEWS & NOTES

USTA Texas Accepting Committee Applications

If you are interested in serving on a USTA Texas Committee during the 2013 – 2014 term, you must complete our online Volunteer Application available on our website from Aug. 1 – Sept. 17, 2012. Applications can be completed at www.texas.usta.com. Then click: About Us, Volunteers then Volunteer Application. USTA Texas President **Dr. Alfredo Trevino** and incoming President **Dan Barta** will be working with an Advisory Group in assigning volunteers to serve on the 2013 – 2014 committees. All applicants will receive notification by mail once the committee members have been appointed. This notice will be mailed in early December. If you have any questions please email **Rhonda Lindsey** at rlindsey@texas.usta.com.

USTA Texas Announce 2013-14 Officers

USTA Texas is proud to announce the 2013-14 Officers, as nominated by the Nominating Committee and elected by the Executive Committee, on June 24 at the 2012 Semi-Annual Meeting in Laredo, Texas. The Officers will take position on Jan. 1, 2013 and are elected for a two-year term. Officers include **Dan Barta**, President; **Kathleen Wu**, Vice-President Recreational Tennis; **Frank Kelly**, Vice-President Administration; **Ron Woods**, Vice-President Competitive; **Tom Hunt**, Treasurer; **Sally Brown**, Secretary; **Dr. Alfredo Trevino**, USTA Delegate; and **Robert Rubel**, Chair Nominating Committee.

Community Development Workshop Set for Oct. 26-28

Registration information is now available for the 2012 USTA Texas Community Development Workshop, in Horseshoe Bay, Texas from Oct. 26-28. The workshop is featuring Grand Slam and TV personality **Luke Jensen** along with educational sessions that will help you grow your programs, CTA's and your facilities. We will also have the Halloween Costume Ball, the CTA Shootout Tournament and the Advocacy Specialty Course. For more information go to www.texas.usta.com and click on the Workshop logo.



Fort Worth CTAs Join to Form GFWTC

The four largest Community Tennis Associ-

ations representing the expanded Fort Worth Texas area have named their organization the **Greater Fort Worth Tennis Coalition** (GFWTC) to serve as its governing body for leagues, youth, adult senior and mixed for Denton, Hood, Johnson, Parker and Tarrant counties. The four CTAs that make up the board of the GFWTC umbrella include the Arlington Tennis Association (ATA), Fort Worth Professional Tennis Association (FWPTA), Fort Worth Tennis Association (FWTA) and the North East Tarrant Tennis Association (NETT). This newly named CTA also serves Keller Alliance Tennis Charter (KATCH), Parker County Tennis Association (PCTA) and Midlothian Tennis Association (MTA).

Texas Teams take Second, Third at 14s Zonal's in Arlington

Team Texas was defeated by Florida in the Championship match to claim second place at the 2012 USTA Boys & Girls' 14 Zone Team Championships at the Arlington Tennis Center in Arlington, July 25-29. Four teams represented Texas. Along with a second place finish, teams from Texas took third place and fifth against teams from Florida, Caribbean, Missouri Valley and Southwest.

Texas Falls to Florida After Taking 5-1 Lead at 16s Zone Team Championships

In the finals, Team Texas was up 5-1 but eventually lost to Florida 10-8 at the 2012 USTA Boys' and Girls' 16 Zone Team Championships at the Waco Regional Tennis & Fitness Center in Waco, July 25-29. Other Texas teams collected third, fourth and fifth place as the four Texas teams competed against Florida, Northern and Pacific Northwest.

Langer to Compete in Senior World Team Championships

The USTA announced that **Kathy Langer** from Rockwell, Texas will represent the United States at the 32nd ITF Super Seniors World Team Championships. The nation's top men and women tennis players in age groups 60 to 80 will compete against teams from over 30 countries. The Championships will be held in Croatia at sites in the cities of Umag and Novigard from Sept. 10-15, 2012. Up to 1,000 athletes are expected to participate.



Kathy Langer

Tennis Promoted at NAACP Convention

The **Houston Tennis Association** (HTA) with USTA Texas promoted tennis as a lifestyle and as a health & wellness option to participants and attendees at the 103rd Annual National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Convention held in Houston, Texas from July 7 – 10. Along with an information booth, an 10 and Under court was set up on the exhibit floor. Tennis was played by almost 350 individuals that stopped at the booth to receive tennis information.

Snow Inducted Into International Tennis Hall of Fame

Wheelchair Tennis great and three-time Paralympics medalist **Randy Snow** was inducted posthumously into the International Tennis Hall of Fame on July 14 as part of the 2012 class. The Terrell, Texas native was the first of five inductees and was inducted by his father, Tom, who gave the induction speech and accepted the enshrinement certificate in Randy's memory. Snow was inducted alongside former world No. 1 and three-time French Open champion **Gustavo "Guga" Kuerten**, former world No. 1, Olympic gold medalist and three-time Grand Slam champion **Jennifer Capriati**, Spanish tennis great and US Open champion **Manuel Orantes**, and tennis industry promoter and innovator **Mike Davies**.

USTA Texas Mourns Loss of Ryan Whittington

It is with great sorrow that USTA Texas acknowledges the loss of a family member when **Jarrett Ryan Whittington** died in an auto accident on Sunday, July 1, in Austin. Whittington, 25 was a part-time employee at USTA Texas, and was a 2010 graduate of Texas State University with degrees in mass communication and geography. Read more from a "Tribute to a Fallen Teammate" at <http://bit.ly/NMAPuh>.



Ryan Whittington

Former USTA Texas President Lee Hamilton Passes

It is with deep regret that USTA Texas acknowledges the loss of longtime supporter and former section president **David Lee Hamilton**, who passed away due to complications from cancer on June 16. Known to friends and family as "Lee," he was president of USTA Texas from 1999-2000 and had served as the United States Tennis Association's Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer since 2003. He is survived by his wife Molly, of 53 years.



Lee Hamilton



Love-All.



WHATABURGER IS A PROUD SUPPORTER OF THE USTA TEXAS



Wiegand Wins Texas Men's US Open Sectional

Jon Wiegand, the former University of Texas player and current Longhorn Network television color analyst, wanted to get back to playing competitive tennis on a regular basis. To do this he eyeballed the Men's 2012 US Open Sectional Qualifying Tournament to see if he could eventually play his way into the US Open.

His return and goals turned out to be promising because in the finals on Saturday, June 23 at the Arlington Tennis Center, he defeated defending champion **Artem Baradach**, 2-6, 6-1, 7-6 (2). Wiegand will represent the Texas Section at the 2012 US Open Men's Singles National Playoffs in New Haven, Conn., from Aug. 17-20, which is played in conjunction with the New Haven Open at Yale. He will compete against the other USTA section winners



Jon Wiegand, Men's Singles Champion – 2012 Texas US Open Sectional Qualifying Tournament. Photo by D. Hackett / USTA Texas.

to advance and play for a wild card into the 2012 US Open.

"I have a lot of burnt orange in my blood, but I am a Texan through-and-through and I am excited to go up there and carry the Lone Star banner," said Wiegand.

16-year old Peggy Porter Wins Texas US Open Women's Tournament

Peggy Porter, a 16-year old Dallas native defeated **Elena Kordolaimi** 3-6, 6-0, 6-2 at the women's 2012 US Open Sectional Qualifying Tournament, held at the Arlington Tennis Center. Porter will be the Texas Section representative at the US Open National Playoffs Women's Championships held Aug. 17-20 in New Haven, Conn.

"The beginning was rough, but I got it going," said Porter about losing her first set of the tournament 3-6 to Kordolaimi. "It was a battle. A long match. When you finish, you feel invincible. Like you can do anything."



Peggy Porter, Women's Singles Champion – 2012 Texas US Open Sectional Qualifying Tournament. Photo by D. Hackett / USTA Texas.

Adams Family Defends Texas US Open Mixed Titles

For the second consecutive year, **Samantha** and **Harrison Adams** will represent Texas at the US Open National Playoffs Mixed Doubles Championships held Aug. 22-25. They earned this honor by winning the mixed doubles title at the Texas US Open Sectional Qualifying Tournament held on Saturday, June 23 at the Arlington Tennis Center.

They defeated the team of **Peggy Porter** from Dallas and **Josh Hagar** of Austin, 4-6, 6-2, 1-0(5). Harrison, 18, and his sister Samantha, 20, are from New Braunfels. She is current member of the Texas Tech women's tennis team. The winner of the US Open National Playoffs Mixed Doubles Championship go directly into the US Open main draw.



Samantha and Harrison Adams, Mixed Doubles Champions – 2012 Texas US Open Sectional Qualifying Tournament. Photo by D. Hackett / USTA Texas.

PROFESSIONAL TENNIS MANAGEMENT

Preparing Tomorrow's Teaching Professionals Today



- First accredited tennis teaching curriculum in the world (since 1974)
- Two options: Certificate of Proficiency; Associate degree in Applied Science
- USPTA approved curriculum
- Guaranteed success in job placement
- Students from more than 35 states and 20 countries have trained at TJC
- Nicknamed Tennis Tech

Kimm Ketelsen
903-510-2473
kket@tjc.edu

www.tjc.edu



**TYLER
JUNIOR
COLLEGE**

Tyler Junior College gives equal consideration to all applicants for admission, employment and participation in its programs and activities without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, marital status, disability, veteran status or limited English proficiency (LEP). Tyler Junior College respects the legal rights of each person to work and learn in an environment that is free from unlawful sexual discrimination including sexual harassment and sexual violence.

Meet Bayo Philips: Joy & Respect

BY D. HACKETT /
USTA TEXAS

When describing the personality and mannerisms of 17-year old Houston native **Bayo Philips**, a recipient of a 2012 USTA Texas Diversity and Inclusion Grant, the reoccurring word that is used is “respectful.”

Umpires, his mother and other players have described the 6-foot-4 highly ranked junior tennis player, with a powerful forehand and serve, as a gentleman on and off the court. He still recognizes everyone older than himself with “yes sir” or “yes ma’am”. Bayo describes himself as a laid back, non-trash talker who lets his play speak for itself. He mentioned that he only gets upset at himself and sees no need to throw his racquet in disgust.

His name, pronounced “bye-you,” is Yoruba and means “Joy is Found.” His father, **Abraham Philips**, from Lagos, Nigeria, and his mother, **Bea Philips** met, as under-graduates at Grambling State University. Bea (Washington) was a member of the Tigers women’s basketball team from 1985-87 and Abraham, who played for his country, was continuing his education in the states on a tennis scholarship.

“Now my mom is the biggest trash talker that I know,” said Bayo laughingly. “She is the biggest part of all that I do and what I am. If I make it, she will be the first person that I take care of with a house or something.”

Bayo said that he can’t remember a time in his life when

he was not playing tennis. His mother said when he was old enough to, his dad, who is a tennis instructor, placed a racquet in his hands, and the rest is history. She said that he picked up the sport with ease and started playing through the USTA at the age of nine, in

tournament in late May. He won a three-set thriller in the Boys 18 A Singles final and teamed with **Mac Roy** of Austin to claim the Boys 18 A Doubles championship. Earlier that same month Bayo reached the doubles finals of the USTA National Open. He also finished in the round of 32

be that old person that plays tennis all the time and will continue to pray and get closer to God.”

His favorite professional tennis athlete is **Roger Federer**.

“His smoothness, demeanor and calmness, especially when he is losing are what I like about Federer,” said Bayo. “He is a one-hander (backhand) like me.”

Bayo also said that he is a fan of **Lebron James** (NBA), **Lionel Messi** (soccer) and **Rory McIlroy** (golf). His other interests include listening to music and watching movies. Some of his favorite musical artist includes **Aaliyah, Beyonce, D’Angelo, Etta James, Jay Z, Tank, Justin Timberlake** and **Luther Vandross**. He loves all of the Batman movies but one of his favorite actresses is **Sanaa Lathan**. He estimates that that he has seen Love and Basketball about 13 times.

His mother Bea said that Bayo is a great impressionist and that once you get to know him, he is such a character. He can mock and imitate anyone, especially her, though she doesn’t recommend asking him to sing, saying that he loves to sing but can’t “at all.”

“I just want him to experience life,” said Bea. “I am so proud to watch him and how he interacts with people. He loves tennis! I want him to do the best with all that God has given him and to be successful playing the game he loves.”

Bayo is winning matches and playing hard while treating everyone the way he wants to be treated, with joy and with the utmost respect.



Bayo Philips, 17 from Houston, Texas. Photo by D. Hackett / USTA Texas

2003. He quickly rose through the ranks to Super Champ level.

Currently, as of July 24, Bayo is ranked No. 1 in the Texas section Super Champs Boys 18’s, just a head of **Miguel Alda** of Round Rock and **Andrew Korinek** of Mansfield. As of July 26, Bayo is ranked No. 59 nationally in Boys 18 (Combined) behind other Texas natives **Mitchell Krueger** (No. 3) of Aledo; **Charles Boyce** (No. 16) of Cedar Hill; **Grant Solomon** (No. 28) of Dallas; **Nicholas Naumann** (No. 29) of The Woodlands; and **Hunter Johnson** (No. 54) of New Braunfels.

Recently Bayo had an exceptional showing at the 2012 HTA Houston Open Super Champ Junior Major Zone

at the USTA Boys’ 18 and 16 National Clay Court Championships in Delray Beach, Fla. Bayo has a younger brother, **Quashi (Ayo)**, who plays Super Champs as well.

One of Bayo’s academic goals is to go to college and study broadcasting. He said that he loves history and language arts. He has a long term plan to eventually write a book and start his own foundation to fight cancer and honor his grandmother who died from it.

“I like to win. It makes me feel good inside. Tennis gives me a confidence and a joy from success and knowing hard work pays off.” said Bayo. “I would like to play beyond college or on the Pro Circuit, but if that doesn’t work out then I will just



Houston Native Halle Brazda Wins NJTL Ashe Contest

The United States Tennis Association announced the 14 national winners of the 14th annual NJTL Arthur Ashe Essay & Art Contest, which includes **Halle Brazda**, a 14 year old native of Houston. The recipients, ages 18 years old and younger, were selected from 1,810 submissions earlier this year. Each winner will receive a New York City travel package from August 24-26.

To enter the contest, children were asked to write an essay of 350 words or less, or create an art piece, responding to a specific question around Arthur Ashe and his great accomplishments. This year's question – "If Arthur Ashe were alive today, what do you think would give him hope?" A USTA sub-committee selected the winning essays from over 1,100



Halle Brazda

submitted based on their knowledge of Arthur Ashe, message clarity, and writing style. The winning art pieces, which included over 700 submissions, were also selected based on their knowledge of Arthur Ashe and creativity.

Brazda, a 14-year old ninth grader at The Kinkaid School, from the Houston Tennis Association NJTL Chapter, submitted an essay that focused on an Arthur Ashe quote that she used in her yearbook "Success is a journey, not a destination," and how she uses hope and inspiration in her own charitable organization "Halle's Hits" that help collect donated racquets through the HTA NJTL program.

Founded in 1969 by **Arthur Ashe**, along with **Charlie Pasarell** and **Sheridan Snyder**, the USTA/National Junior Tennis &

Learning (NJTL) network is a nation-wide group of more than 660 non-profit youth-development organizations that provide free or low cost tennis, education and life

skills programming to more than 250,000 children each year. Celebrating its 43rd anniversary this year, NJTL is one of the USTA's largest community-based offerings.



AUSTIN – 14U Advanced Champions



AUSTIN – 18U Advanced Champions

Austin Tennis Dream Teams Sweep 14U & 18U Advanced at JTT Spring Sectionals

The 2012 Texas Jr. Team Tennis Spring Sectionals Championships were held in San Antonio, Texas from June 15-17 for the 14 U Advanced and 18 U Advanced Divisions. The Austin Tennis Academy Dream Teams won the 14 & Under Advanced and the 18 & Under Advanced titles.

Three Texans Awarded USTA Serves Scholarships

USTA Serves, the National Charitable Foundation of the United States Tennis Association, announced that Mirabeau B. Lamar High School senior **Brette Machiorelette** of Houston, has been named a recipient of a \$10,000 Rosalind Walter Scholarship.

Machiorelette is a well-rounded scholar-athlete who has excelled in and out of the classroom. She has shown outstanding leadership qualities by creating Reading Aces, a city-wide 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization that promotes literacy among at-risk elementary students in Houston community centers. The program recruits, trains and utilizes high school students as mentors. In 2012, she received the Texas Association of Partners in Education (TAPE) Gold Award for her work.

USTA Serves also announce that three Texas high school students were awarded either an \$8,000 College Educational Scholarship or a \$1,000 College Textbook Scholarship. The \$8,000 scholarship is awarded over four

years to students entering a two- or four-year college or university. The following Texas students are among the scholarship winners from across the nation:

Lacy Blake, Argyle, Texas – Argyle High School
Samantha Martinez, Houston – Michael E. DeBaakey High School

A USTA Serves College Textbook Scholarship which provides a one-time award of \$1,000 to assist students in purchasing textbooks or supplies was awarded to **Andres Tajonar** of Mission, Texas. Andres attends Sharyland High School.

The honorees were selected from applicants throughout the country on the basis of their commitment to academic success, to their local community and to their participation in tennis. An objective of USTA Serves is to encourage America's youth to pursue their goals and highest dreams by succeeding in school and becoming responsible citizens.

LoveAll Loves USTA Texas!

View our complete line of Uniquely Designed Apparel at

www.loveall.com

love the Game!

Texas Native Reaches Junior Wimbledon Semifinals

Mitchell Krueger a native of Aledo, Texas was defeated in the semifinals 5-7, 7-6(3), 6-3 by eventual champion **Filip Peliwo** of Canada at the 2012 Junior Championships at Wimbledon from June 30- July 8.

Krueger, the only American boys' singles player to advance

beyond the third round, was one of nine boys and eight girls of the United States that was accepted into the main draw and the qualifying draw at the 2012 Junior Championships at Wimbledon at The All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club in London.

Krueger, 18, is the highest-ranked American boy at No. 7 in the ITF World Junior Rankings. This year, he reached the boys' semifinals at Roland Garros and won the doubles title at the Easter Bowl with **Alexios Halebian**, 18, who was the Easter Bowl singles runner-up.



Mitchell Krueger. Photo courtesy of John Buckle / ATLTC

Hagar Honored with Sportsmanship Award

Paying tribute to some of the greatest legends of tennis during the Hall of Fame Induction, the International Tennis Hall of Fame also honored USTA junior tennis players, that included **Josh Hagar** of Austin, Texas, with the Bill



Josh Hagar with Hall of Famer Stan Smith. Photo courtesy of the International Tennis Hall of Fame.

Talbert Junior Sportsmanship Awards in recognition of their consistent display of outstanding sportsmanship.

The awards were presented by Hall of Famers **Stan Smith** and **Donald Dell** on Saturday, July 14 at the Chubb Hall of Fame Luncheon, just prior to the Class of 2012 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, which honored **Jennifer Capriati**, **Gustavo Kuerten**, **Manuel Orantes**, **Mike**

Davies, and tennis wheelchair legend **Randy Snow** from Texas.

Hagar has been an active player and leader in the USTA Texas section for many years. He received the Sportsmanship Award at the USTA National Open in 2006, and has been recognized with numerous sectional sportsmanship awards over the years, including the Clarence Mabry Sportsmanship Award in 2008, 2009, and 2010. Hagar recently graduated from the Austin Tennis Academy, where he was very involved in mentoring the younger students in the school and in the tennis program. In addition to his success and leadership on the tennis court, Hagar is very involved with various philanthropic works. He founded the Playing for Glimmer Campaign in 2008, which has raised more than \$300,000 over four years to build 28 water wells, two schools, and four health facilities in rural Ethiopia. Hagar travelled to Ethiopia in 2009 to visit the people who were impacted by these efforts. A school in Ethiopia's Wuhdut village was named after Hagar, in appreciation of his work.

Back-to-Back Titles For Texas Junior Davis Cup Team

The USTA Texas Junior Davis Cup team came from being down 3-1, to the Midwest team and won three consecutive three-set matches for a come-from-behind 4-3 victory for the Boys' 18s National

Championship, in Champaign, Ill., on Tuesday, July 31.

The Texas 18 & Under team, defending its 2011 crown, won its second consecutive Boys 18's title with the victory. The team was coached by **Steve Denton**.

Winning the three critical matches for Texas was **Shane Vinsant** (Keller), **Grant Solomon** (Dallas), and **Harrison Adams** (New Braunfels). The rest of the Texas team included **Charles Boyce** (Cedar Hill), **Andrew Korinek** (Mansfield), **Nicholas Naumann** (The Woodlands), and **Bayo Philips** (Houston).

Congratulations to Team Texas!



Texas Junior Davis Cup Team – 2012 USTA Boys' 18s National Champions.

Texas Team Tied for Third at USTA Intersectional 16's Boys/Girls Team Championships

Because of a rain out, the Team Texas ended tied for third place at the USTA Intersectional 16's Boys/Girls Team Championships held at the Pierremont

Oaks Tennis Club, in Shreveport, La., from July 7-12.

The team defeated Florida 6-3, Northern 6-3 and Southwest 6-3 before falling to Midwest 5-1.

The third-place playoff was rained out, leaving Texas and Southern California tied.

The team consisted of **Will Adkisson** (Hurst), **Peter Leung** (Katy), **Connor Curry** (Wichita Falls), **Xavier Gonzalez** (Houston), **Camila Wesbrooks** (McKinney), **Ellie Zogg** (Dallas), **Caroline Turner** (Dallas) and **Cassandra Vazquez** (Houston), and coached by **David Roditi** (TCU).



Team Texas - Intersectional 16's Boys/Girls Team Championships. Photo courtesy of D. Roditi.

All Texas Final at 12s Zone Team Championships

It was an all-Texas final in the championship match, at the 2012 USTA Boys & Girls 12 Zone

Team Championships, July 25-29 at the Koch Family Tennis Center in Omaha, Neb., as two

of the three Texas teams that were sent to represent our state competed against teams from Intermountain, Missouri Valley and Northern. Team Texas captured first and second place.



One of the three Texas 12s teams in Omaha, Neb., on Day 1, wore black ribbons in honor of Ryan Whittington, a USTA Texas employee who died in an auto accident. The team parents made 36 ribbons the night before opening play for the team.



Special Olympics Highlights Adaptive Tennis Activities

BY C. BENZON / USTA TEXAS

The last three months have been busy for the USTA Texas Adaptive Tennis programming. The USTA Texas Community Development department along with Adaptive committee members **Henry Cox, Joyce Dreslin, Kim Richards, Cheryl Rogers, Kevin Foster** and an awesome group of umpires along with section President **Dr. Alfredo Trevino** worked the State Summer Games of Texas

Special Olympics.

This year had one of the largest number of registered athletes with 123 participants from 19 different delegations throughout the state participate in skills, singles, doubles and unified doubles for two days. Friday started off with skills and singles and the event finished Saturday with skills, doubles and unified doubles and an impromptu dance on the courts, in the stands and anywhere the music could be heard.

USTA Texas Names 10 Section Winners for NJTL Arthur Ashe Essay & Art Contest

The 10 USTA Texas sectional winners for the NJTL Arthur Ashe Essay & Art Contest were selected from hundreds of entries by a USTA Texas sub-committee. The winning essays and art pieces were judged on their knowledge of Arthur Ashe, message clarity and writing style demonstrated.

The 10 Texas winners represented the state entries in the national contest.

USTA Texas is extremely proud of our section and national winner and offer our sincerest congratulations to the section winners listed below by name, hometown, category and age.

Juan Amaya, Houston, Boys Essay, 17-18

Alex Nguyen, Houston, Boys Essay, 15-16

Klarence Remegio, Houston, Boys Essay, 13-14

Edwin Dang, Houston, Boys Essay, 11-12

Bryan Lopez, Houston, Boys Essay, 10 and Under

Samantha Matinez, Houston, Girls Essay, 17-18

Jessica Thompson, Houston, Girls Essay, 15-16

Halle Brazda, Houston, Girls Essay, 13-14

Ruth Ling, Houston, Girls Essay, 11-12

Venessa Mak, Richmond, Texas, Girls Essay, 10 and Under

For more information about NJTL, the Arthur Ashe Essay & Art Contest contact USTA Texas' **Carlos Hernandez** at Hernandez@texas.usta.com or call (512) 443-1334 ext. 215.



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

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

Lubbock Special Olympics Tennis Camp

Everyone had a great time at the Lubbock Special Olympics Tennis Camp and Competition as 21 athletes had help from the Texas Tech University Red Raider women's team and the Tech Tennis on Campus Club Team. An amazing parent and volunteer led the camp - **Terri Marquez**, did a great job and has a heart for these athletes. Thank you all for your support.



Texas Tech women's tennis team member **Samantha Adams** with a Special Olympic athlete in Lubbock, Texas



USTA Texas Intro Tennis at National Dwarf Games

BY C. BENZON / USTA TEXAS

The National Dwarf Games were held in Arlington, Texas this year with athletes competing in track and field, basketball, bocchia, swimming, table tennis, badminton, volleyball and soccer. Tennis may be added to the list as USTA Texas was asked to introduce tennis to the athletes and their families as part of the games for two hours on the first day of competition.

USTA Texas Section staff, **Cindy Benzon** and **Robyn Readicker** along with volunteers **Henry Cox, Vicki Lebeau, Sandra Lindström** and daughter introduced tennis to 12 participants. As a group we were not sure what to expect and what the interest would be but our game plan of using the modified equipment and courts was a great success.

The younger athletes played

on the 36-foot courts with foam and red balls and had 15-inch, 17-inch and 19-inch racquets. The older athletes tried out the 60-foot courts with the orange ball and the green dot ball on the 78-foot court with 23-inch, 25-inch and 27-inch racquets. The athletes ranged in ages from four to 35 and hit balls for two hours until we had to stop them so they could go on to their next sporting event. What was great about this event was that many of the athletes that had never played tennis were able to play points within 20 minutes of practice.

Hopefully the Dwarf Games will now add tennis as one of the sports that they play during their games. We hope that the tennis participants will go back to their cities and start talking to their areas about playing tennis with the modified equipment and courts.



COMPETITIVE CORNER

By Steve Cobb

DIRECTOR OF COMPETITIVE TENNIS - USTA TEXAS



Volleying: Take Your Eyes to the Level of the Ball

Like so many topics discussed in a lesson or coaching session, I wish I had a nickel for every time I've asked this one. When working on the technical aspects of the volley, I usually find the player in a place where I need to ask, *"Will you hold your racket at what is your favorite position to hit a volley? Just freeze in that position."*

The player usually goes to the forehand side or occasionally the backhand – but 99.9% of the time they hold the racket so the sweet spot is at exactly the same height as their eyes. This is no coincidence.

The message here is clear, the easiest volley to hit, and the most effective volley technique, involves adjusting the height of your head and eyes to the level of the ball. I usually follow with *"put your eyes, the ball, and the racquet's sweet spot at the same height- whenever possible."*

It's pretty logical that striking a moving object will be best facilitated by any technique that improves visual connection to the ball. Look at pictures of great volleyers – **Stefan Edberg, Patrick Rafter, Billie Jean King, Martina Navratilova and Roger Federer** –

especially on the lower ball – the one that will put contact somewhere between the waist and head. They will adjust the height of their eyes by using their legs – in order to get the eyes to the level of the ball.

Obviously, it would be tough to get your eyes down to knee level, or even more so above the height of your head, but the simple act of trying to get your eyes CLOSER to the height of the ball will improve both the quality of contact, and the resulting ball placement, speed, etc.

Give it a try. Next time you're looking at a volley around chest high, don't just *"keep your eye on the ball,"* but take your eyes TO the level of the ball. I'm sure the only player that won't enjoy the result is your opponent.



40 YEARS OF
GIVING TENNIS
PLAYERS AN
ADVANTAGE.



THE JOHN NEWCOMBE
TENNIS RANCH



WATCH OUR ACADEMY, CAMP & ADULT TENNIS FILMS!



JUNIOR CAMPS

ALL LEVELS: TOP GUN, SPRING, SUMMER & WINTER CAMPS

YEAR ROUND ACADEMY

SEMESTER, MONTHLY & WEEKLY PROGRAMS.
MODEST SIZE-INDIVIDUALIZED FOCUS. COLLEGE PLACEMENT
ASSISTANCE, COACHES TRAVEL TO TOURNAMENTS.
GENEROUS SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE.

ADULT YEAR ROUND CAMPS

AUSSIE FUN, QUALITY INSTRUCTION, EVENING ENTERTAINMENT,
4:1 RATIO

SUMMER ACADEMY

MULTI-WEEK PROGRAM, OFF-CAMPUS TOURNAMENTS
& COACHING BY ACADEMY PROFESSIONALS.

SPRING BREAK ACADEMY

WORKOUT WITH SCHOOL YEAR ACADEMY STUDENTS

SPORTSMANSHIP

TEAM-FAMILY-TEAM
THE HEART OF WHAT WE TEACH!

NEWKTENNIS.COM | 800.444.6204



SENIOR/SUPER SENIOR MAJOR ZONE NOVEMBER 8-11, 2012



- Senior Men's & Women's Singles & Doubles (35-50)
 - Senior Mixed Doubles (35-50)
- Super Sr. Men's & Women's Singles & Doubles (55-80)
 - Super Sr. Mixed Doubles (55 & 65)
- Mother/Daughter Doubles • Father/Son Doubles

Entry Fee: \$40/singles, \$35/doubles per player, per event - 3 event max

Event Parties: Friday night sizzling fajitas & Saturday night B-B-Q

Format: First match loser sign-up consolation in all events

Entry Deadline: Thursday, October 25, 2012

Tournament ID: 800001912

Tournament Director: Chris Hill, chill@oasistennis.com

Start Of Play: Super Sr. events may begin at 4 pm, Thurs. 11/8

All other events on or after 8 am, Fri. 11/9



Come and experience **ROCKWALL'S PREMIER TENNIS CLUB**

- 22 Lighted Courts
(10 hard, 6 climate controlled, 2 red clay, 4 beach)
- Restaurant & Bar • Pool • Pro Shop • Fitness Center

*Seasonal indoor membership specials and Hilton Hotel
"Stay and Play" family and adult tennis packages available*



www.OASISTENNIS.COM

5757 S. STATE HWY 205 ROCKWALL, TEXAS 75032

972.772.7768



KENNY Mc'S CORNER

By Ken McAllister
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - USTA TEXAS

PRESENTED BY



Bow Shots at Three Changes for USTA

Quick: When you think of the United States Tennis Association, do you think of an organization that stays status quo or one that is constantly changing? There is little doubt that the USTA is always changing. In this article, I will address three of those changes which are happening now. All three have elements of controversy. In each of these, I will provide a bow shot without going into detail. The online discussions have provided more than enough detail. This article's purpose is to explain the process that caused each one to happen. The three changes are:

- 1) the 10 & Under competitive rule change
- 2) the USTA junior competitive changes affecting national events, and
- 3) the League additions of 40 and 55 & Over age divisions.

10 and Under "competition" starts with the soft red ball on a 36' court and progresses through orange and green balls and a 60' court. The stages are defined and to progress through them to the 78' court and yellow balls, a player must either be 12 or play up to this age division. The process has been generally accepted as the right one for the future of tennis in the US. The controversy is that this restricts the exceptional player from moving quickly past these stages.

My bow shot: By restricting the players to the stages insures that every player develops surely and will not harm the prodigies – especially at this young age.

The USTA junior competitive changes have a lot of detail. The best synopsis of the overall emphasis is that the system will now keep players playing more in their own section in order to qualify to go to USTA National events. It hangs its hat on two items. The first is that historically, players develop close to home by playing other players around them constantly. St. Louis in the 50' to 70's and New York in the 70's and 80's are prime examples of this. Secondly, the old system had many uneven matches at national events because of allowing more players into the events. The controversy is that it is too restrictive and keeps more players from being able to reach a dream of getting to Nationals.

My bow shot: It is easier to go play strangers or older players than it is to play the nearby player that you know or have beaten before. Your game improves more by playing tough matches with your ego on the line. Economically, this will save many parents money by keeping players closer to home.

The addition of the 40 & Over and 55 & Over leagues begin next year. For years the distance between playing Adult League and Senior Leagues left many over 40 struggling to

keep up or make the teams. The USTA League Oversight Committee, made up of league volunteers and staff, has studied this for years and put this plan together and chosen 55 as the next age break. The controversy of this change is that every community has the additional burden of restructuring and adding many league teams. There is concern over how to get more captains and how to get more courts to accommodate them. At the same time, the Senior and Super Senior teams are unsure of how they will fit into the changes. Some of this will be addressed later. *Please see the article "2013 League Structure" earlier in this issue giving detailed explanations of this change.*

My bow shot: For years I have heard the complaint that we do not consider ages enough in our league system. This is a major step in the right direction to answer that. After we get through an adjustment period, this will become a routine part of our league play.

The Parting Shot: All three changes were made by USTA volunteers and staff who are themselves part of the activity they are changing. They are educators, tennis professionals, parents, league players, and professional staff. If they do not get it right, they will change it again. They are not ivory tower bureaucrats unless you think that like them, my 4.0 rating and No. 14 ranking in Men's 65 & Over doubles happened behind a desk.



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

Your **FREE** USTA Membership includes:

- Eligible for USTA Junior Tournaments
- Eligible for USTA Jr. Team Tennis
- Annual subscription to *Bounce* newsletter

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



www.tryusta.com/juniorfree or call 1-800-990-8782 and mention code 10UJRFREE



THE PRESIDENT'S ADVANTAGE

By Dr. Alfredo Trevino
PRESIDENT - USTA TEXAS

PRESENTED BY



Transition Time

As we are slowly and positively transitioning our leadership from one term to the next, I want to thank all the Texas Section Volunteers, Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs, Management and Executive Committee members, the Austin based staff, TSR's and our Executive Director for all your support, patience, and guidance and for all you have done to grow tennis in our Texas section during my presidency.

Everybody's efforts have been very productive as our "numbers" on membership and participation have been and continue to be very positive, some in record territory. We continue to be the fastest growing Section in the United States Tennis Association, thanks to all of you. This is also the time to start advising and mentoring our leaders for the next two years. I have started the process, getting our new President, **Dan Barta**, up to speed. I also have sound advice to all section volunteers and staff for the coming year. Keep up the good work AND:

Sing in the shower – Treat everyone you meet like you want to be treated – Watch a sunrise at least once next 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 the 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 (or boots).

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 – Mention to your President how good a job he is doing. Lastly, don't forget to have fun and to enjoy the gift of health every day of the year.

Thanks to an anonymous wise writer for most of the above and again, "Gracias," for all you do to keep us great.



USTA TEXAS STAFF DIRECTORY

USTA Texas
8105 Exchange Drive, Austin, TX 78754
(512) 443-1334 • www.texas.usta.com

Ken McAllister
Executive Director
(512) 443-1334 ext 201
kmcallister@texas.usta.com

ADMINISTRATIVE

Rhonda Lindsey
Director of Administration
(512) 443-1334 ext 204
rlindsey@texas.usta.com

Larry Eichenbaum
Controller
(512) 443-1334 ext 222
leichenbaum@texas.usta.com

Pam Jaeger
Office Manager / Awards Coordinator
(512) 443-1334 ext 216
pjaeger@texas.usta.com

COMPETITIVE

Steve Cobb
Director of Competitive Tennis
(512) 443-1334 ext 210
scobb@texas.usta.com

Nancy Perkins
Adult / Senior Coordinator
(512) 443-1334 ext 217
nperkins@texas.usta.com

Tosha Smith
Leagues Coordinator
(512) 443-1334 ext 231
tsmith@texas.usta.com

Todd Reed
NTRP / Assist. Leagues Coordinator
(512) 443-1334 ext 232
treed@texas.usta.com

Nick Arnold – Junior Coordinator
(512) 443-1334 ext 209
narnold@texas.usta.com

Melissa Chambers
Junior Coordinator
(512) 443-1334 ext 220
mchambers@texas.usta.com

Paige Schumacher
Junior Coordinator
(512) 443-1334 ext 211
pschumacher@texas.usta.com

Amanda Shaw
Field Staff / 10 and Under
ashaw@texas.usta.com

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Mike Carter
Director of Community Development
(512) 443-1334 ext 207
mcarter@texas.usta.com

Todd Carlson – Asst. Dir. of Community Development / CTAs / Tennis On Campus
(512) 443-1334 ext 208
tcarlson@texas.usta.com

Eric Clay – Jr. Team Tennis Coordinator
(512) 443-1334 ext 212
eclay@texas.usta.com

Taylor Helfeldt – CD Support Staff / Schools Coordinator / Wheelchair Coordinator / Grants / Advocacy
(512) 443-1334 ext 219
thelfeldt@texas.usta.com

Carlos Hernandez – Program Support Staff / Diversity & Inclusion / NJTL
(512) 443-1334 ext 215
hernandez@texas.usta.com

Megan Longbotham – CD Support Staff / 10 and Under / Adult Recreation / Special Events
(512) 443-1334 ext 218
mlongbotham@texas.usta.com

Laura Gilbert – Tennis Service Representative / Fort Worth / North Central Region
lgilbert@texas.usta.com

Cindy Benzon – Tennis Service Representative Houston / Southeast Region / Adaptive Tennis Coordinator
cbenzon@texas.usta.com

Amanda Randle – Tennis Service Representative Panhandle / West Texas Region
arandle@texas.usta.com

Robyn Readicker – Tennis Service Representative / Dallas / Northeast Region
readicker@texas.usta.com

Katy Rogers – Tennis Service Representative / South Region
krogers@texas.usta.com

Carrie Hale – Tennis Service Representative / Waco / Austin / San Antonio
chale@texas.usta.com

MARKETING AND MEMBERSHIP

Stephanie Arena – Director of Marketing
(512) 443-1334 ext 206
sarena@texas.usta.com

Derick Hackett – Communications Manager
(512) 443-1334 ext 202
dhackett@texas.usta.com