



THE COURT REPORTER

April 2002

Newsletter of the
Walnut Creek Racquet Club

President's Message

Welcome to Walnut Creek Racquet Club, Inc.



Robert Young

**Summer
Singles
League
Registration
- page 6**

Chris Bown serves
during the 2001 Club
Championships

Inside the Reporter

- 3 Belton Keeps Rolling**
- 4 Men's 4.0 to Sacto**
- 5 Oh, Calcutta!**
- 7 Queen of the Court
Crowned**

Yes, that's right -- we will soon be a non-profit corporation. The paperwork is in and now we are waiting for the government's official word. The Board decided it would be beneficial to become incorporated as a non-profit organization in order to reduce the postage rate for our newsletter. Additionally, we will now be able to offer a tax deduction letter to all who donate items for the Silent Auction at our annual charity event.

Another idea still in the planning stages is to install new bleachers for fans adjacent to Court 1. We will be meeting soon with the City to discuss our proposal. The WCRC will also be considering the purchase of outdoor heaters for club events that run into the evening.

Speaking of club events that run into the evening, look for future announcements about WCRC's own "Team Tennis", to be held this Summer. Nat Bitton, Gwen Yee and Bill Bennett are working on plans for a multi-week event that I am sure will contain some of Nat's signature twists.

On a personal note, I would like to congratulate co-board member Shari Huber's 6.0 team for an undefeated season in the USTA mixed league. I wish her and the team the best on the road to the Nationals, despite the crushing defeat they gave my own team in a much anticipated season-ending match. Wait 'til next year...

See ya on the courts
-Robert

Walnut Creek Racquet Club

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(925) 945-0105 ¥ www.wcrc.net

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NEWS FROM THE TENNIS CENTER



WALNUT CREEK
TENNIS CENTER
1751 HEATHER DRIVE

ALL USTA CAPTAINS

Please be reminded that prior to all home matches played at the Walnut Creek Tennis Center (WCTC), you must supply the Pro Shop staff with the annual court use card numbers or a daily court use fee for all players you are going to play for that particular match. Your cooperation will prevent any match from being interrupted to accomplish this necessity. Thanks in advance to all captains and good luck and much fun for the coming Summer season.

continued on page 3

CALENDAR

APRIL 5-7

WCRC Winter Doubles League
Tournament

MAY 10-11

Calcutta

MAY 15

Summer Singles League Entry Deadline

JUNE 3 - SEPTEMBER 15

Summer Singles League

JUNE 7-9

Club Championships
Mixed Doubles

JUNE 21- AUGUST 9

Summer Team Tennis

AUGUST 10-11 & 17-18

Club Championships
Singles & Doubles

SEPTEMBER 27-30

Summer Singles
League Tournament

NOVEMBER 16

Turkey Tournament

JANUARY 25, 2003

Annual Awards Banquet & Silent Auction

The club's purpose is to promote the game of tennis in Walnut Creek by providing a wide variety of activities (tournaments, league play, clinics and social events) for enthusiasts of all ages and skill levels.

WCRC Donates \$1,750 to Northgate Tennis Teams



WCRC President Robert Young (center) presents a \$1,750 check to Northgate High School varsity tennis team coaches Verna Ogden (left) and Herb Wong (right). Thanks to all the WCRC members who participated in the club's annual Silent Auction on January 19 to help raise the money that was donated to Northgate. The teams plan to purchase metal bleachers so that friends and family can comfortably watch their matches.

News from the WCTC • continued from page 2

WILSON'S NEW RACQUETS - Wilson has recently unveiled three racquets, new versions of the once discontinued 2.7, 4.0, and the 6.2. The WCTC has demonstration models of all three racquets, so come on by and try them out. You will be pleased with the competitive prices.

NEW BENCH - A new bench has been placed on Court 2 for your pleasure and convenience. Hope you all enjoy.

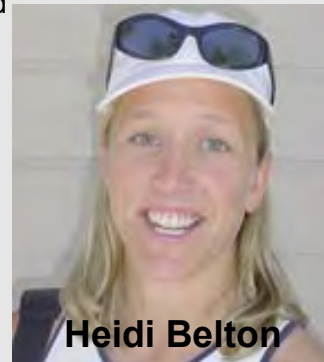
LIGHT PROJECT - The light project has been delayed due to unforeseen circumstances, and the proposed completion date of March 8th has obviously come and gone. Would like to give you a new time period, but have not received one from the City of Walnut Creek to date.

CONGRATULATIONS - The Walnut Creek Tennis Center extends good luck and best wishes to all mixed and senior WCRC teams who have been successful in the playoffs. Keep up the good work and thanks for representing us well.

USTA Tournaments

Belton Keeps On Rolling at 4.0

Proving her recent promotion to 4.0 was no fluke, Walnut Creek's Heidi Belton steamrolled the field at the ClubSport San Ramon NTRP tournament, held at the end of February. While not dropping a set in four matches, she easily dispatched the #1 and #4 seeds in early rounds before beating unseeded Kim Jorgensen in the final, 6-1, 6-4. Belton finished the year #5 in Women's 3.5 in 2001 before getting the obligatory bump by USTANorCal a few short months ago.



Heidi Belton

Like Belton, third-seeded Craig and Clara Kirk of Alamo also posted four straight set wins in Mixed 3.5 Doubles, including a 6-3, 6-1 victory over C.C. & David Holland in the final.

In other action, Heidi teamed with husband Brad in Mixed 4.0 Doubles, but lost a tough three-set final to Bliss and Cummings. In Men's 3.5 Singles, the #15 seeded Brad fought his way through the entire draw before dropping a 6-1, 7-5 decision to Mahadevin Venkatramas in the final.



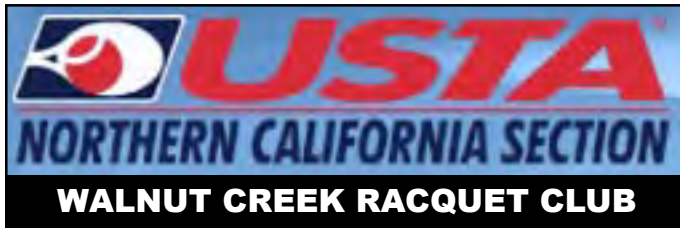
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or e-mail thors10s@astound.net



Playoff Roundup

Senior 4.0 Men Earn Ticket to Sacramento

Jim Farber's Senior Men's 4.0 team won two local playoff matches to advance to Districts, scheduled for April 12-14 at Broadstone Racquet Club in Sacramento. The team posted convincing 3-0 wins against Clubsport Valley Vista and Roundhill to keep their perfect 12-0 record in tact.

Both the Mixed 6.0 and 7.0 teams are also headed to Districts, at Pleasanton Community Park and Harbor Bay in Alameda respectively, on May 17-19.

Shari Huber's Mixed 6.0 squad moved to 17-0 with a 3-0 drubbing of #4 seed Los Medanos in the opening round, then followed it up with a 3-0 win over Big C to extend their season.

Bret Jones's Mixed 7.0 team took care of business with a 3-0 win against Pinole Park in the first round, then a 2-1 victory against Valley Vista on March 24 to advance to districts. Brad and Heidi Belton defeated Angie de Leon/Doug Zlock 6-4, 7-6, while the doubles team of cousins Huber/Greg Lane beat Bob Deinhammer/Susan Roach 6-3, 6-1.

In the "Battle of WCRC" Rita Utz's Senior Women's 3.5 team defeated Dee Karwoski's squad 2-1 in the opening round, with the #1 doubles team of Gisela Hendrickson and Joan Yao rallying to defeat Avis Chaney and Dee Karwoski 6-2, 3-6, 7-6. They followed with a come-from-behind 2-1 win over

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Meadow Swim and Tennis on March 16. Utz's team now travels to Folsom for District play in mid-April.

Don Loeffler's Senior 3.5 Men's team pulled the biggest playoff upset in all of Diablo North in the first round -- they beat previously undefeated and #1 seed Clubsport Valley Vista 2-1. Jay Hoyer and Robert Young gained the decisive point at #2 doubles with a 6-3, 6-7, 7-6 win. The team fell one victory short of districts after dropping a 2-1 decision to Roundhill - each of the team's losses was in three tight sets.

NorCal to Allow Self Rating in 2003?

The USTA has introduced a pilot program in four of its 17 sections - New England, Mid-Atlantic, Texas and Northern - which eliminates the formal verification process for USTA Leagues and allows new players to rate themselves. If successful, every section - including Northern California - will adopt this system in 2003. Here's what it will mean:

- Self-ratings will eliminate the need for official verifiers and verification sessions.
- Self-ratings will apply only to players that do not already have a current established NTRP rating, either through previous league or tournament play. A common misconception is that the self-rating process will apply to everyone - it will NOT.
- Caution to players who self-rate themselves low to "sandbag" - the USTA will pull the trigger a lot faster to disqualify you if you beat players too easily.

women's doubles summer circuit • june 1- september 15

RELAX, have fun, meet new people and practice your skills and strategies with other players/teams of the same level. Once you get the list of players/teams, you set up your own matches at a mutually agreed location and time. Send the registration form to Christy Scrimshaw before the May 15 deadline. Questions? Call Christy Scrimshaw at (925) 254-4677 or e-mail christyluvs10s@hotmail.com Thanks!

Name _____ Level: 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5
 Address: _____ Phone: _____
 Partner: _____
 Address: _____ Phone: _____

You may email the above information or send it by mail to: Christy Scrimshaw 15 Keith Drive Orinda, CA 94563

CALCUTTA ¥ May 10-11 ¥ REGISTER NOW!

Here's your chance to enter the most popular tournament that the WCRC offers each year -- the 2002 Calcutta. Enter early, since the event is limited to the first 32 women and 32 men who register. The format is Mixed Doubles, but you enter individually. You will be paired with a partner by blind draw prior to the tournament and the resultant team given a handicap according to their combined playing abilities. At the Friday night party, you meet your partner and teams are auctioned off to the highest bidder -- either individuals or syndicate. Start times will also be announced on Friday night.

Cost is \$20 per person (covers the Friday night party and Saturday tournament in which you are guaranteed a minimum of two matches). Guests may attend the Friday night party at no charge. Entry deadline is May 3. This is a money tournament, so it is important that you list your current NTRP rating on the registration form below. If you don't have a rating, call us and we can help. If you have any questions or can assist the Tournaments Committee with various aspects of this event, please contact Karen Hirtzel at 362-1585 (hirtzelk@pacbell.net) or Nat Bitton at 798-2064 (windmillnb@aol.com). All tournament participants must be current WCRC members.

2001 Winners: Umeko Nishimura & Dan Danner (Championship Round)

COCKTAIL PARTY

Friday, May 10, 7:00 pm
Heather Farm Homeowners Assn. Clubhouse
1501 Marchbanks Drive, Walnut Creek

CALCUTTA TOURNAMENT

Saturday, May 11, 9:00 am
Walnut Creek Tennis Center
Tournament lasts all day

ENTRY FORM

Name _____

USTA Rating _____

Phone _____

Email _____

No. in your party (including guests at Friday night party) _____

Please make out check (\$20 per person) to WCRC and send with entry form to:

**Karen Hirtzel
494 Freitas Road
Danville, CA 94526**

**Questions: 362-1585
hirtzelk@pacbell.net**



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Less than 1 mile from 680/4 interchange in Martinez

2002 Men's and Women's Summer Singles Leagues

Dates: June 3 - September 15

Entry Fee: \$20 WCRC members
\$30 Non-members

Format: Men's Singles/Women's Singles
15-week league season
(players grouped by NTRP level)

NTRP Levels: Men's 3.5 - 5.5; Women 3.0 - 5.0

Scheduling: 12 scheduled matches to be completed over 15 week season. Players responsible for scheduling own matches. Players will be provided with a listing of all league participants, complete with relevant contact information.

Match Format: Best two-out-of-three set format, 12-point tiebreaker. Both players responsible for bringing balls to match; winner gets unopened can.

Reporting: The winner is responsible for reporting the match score by logging onto www.wcrc.net and entering scores on-line.

Standings: Division standings will be updated on a real time basis as scores are posted electronically.

Tournament: End of season tournament with draw determined by league standings (to be held September 27-30). To qualify for the tournament, players must have completed and reported at least six (6) matches during the league season.

Court Usage: Matches may be played at ANY site mutually agreed upon by opponents. To play matches at the Walnut Creek Tennis Center, both players must have an active Court Usage card or pay the appropriate Daily Use fee.

T-shirt: All participants will receive a T-shirt.

Deadline: May 15, 2002

Payment: Check payable to WCRC

Entry form to: Kent Lindeman
1889 Appia Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Questions: (925) 943-5745 or
jkclindeman@earthlink.net

2002 ENTRY FORM

Full Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Email _____

T-shirt Size M L XL XXL
 Current Rating: 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 5.0

T-shirt Type Regular V-neck* Tank top*

*V-neck and tank top in women's style only

I would like to enter the following division:

- Women's 3.0 Men's 3.5
 Women's 3.5 Men's 4.0
 Women's 4.0 Men's 4.5
 Women's 4.5-5.0 Men's 5.0-5.5

I am a: WCRC Member (\$20)
 Non Member (\$30)

How did you hear about this league?

- WCRC newsletter
 Past Participant
 Read about it in *Inside Tennis*
 Read about it in newspaper
 Other (please list)

How many years have you played in this league?

- 5th year 4th year 3rd year 2nd year 1st year



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NTRP TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE • 2002

May 4-5, 11-12
 JOHN CRAMER MEMORIAL NTRP
 San Leandro Tennis Club, San Leandro, CA
 MW(3.5-4.0)sd, MX(3.5-4.0)d
 Entry deadline: April 22
 TOUCH TONE/TENNIS LINK #500016302

May 4-5, 11-12
 LAKE MERCED 4.5, 5.0, 5.5 NTRP
 San Francisco State Univ, San Francisco, CA
 MW(4.5-5.5)sd, MX(4.5-5.5)d
 Entry deadline: April 22
 TOUCH TONE/TENNIS LINK #500016402

May 25-27
 5TH ANNUAL HARD SUMMER NTRP
 TOURNAMENT
 Bay Trees Tennis Park, Castro Valley, CA
 MW(3.0-5.5)s
 Entry deadline: May 14
 TOUCH TONE/TENNIS LINK #500017502

