

The Philly Board

November 2006

Gossip Corner by Molly Pierce

"Get Well soon"; Achilles injuries have sidelined **Tim Thomas** and **Tom Harrity** [read all about Tom in www.SquashTalk.com - "What's New" link]; **Emmett Miller** – speedy recovery from his surgery; past PSRA President **Jamie Heldring** joins the "Seniors" [Happy Birthday!]; Best wished to **Vijay Chitnis** on his engagement. Congrats to **Leo Pierce** for beating his brother, **Michael** at the **John's Island Invitational**.
Editorial correction: Peter Schreiber's finance's first name is **Vickie**. Our apologies.

USSRA Announces HQ Move from Philadelphia [reprinted from www.SquashTalk.com, "What's New" link of Nov. 03, 2006]



Jeanne Blasberg, Chair of the Board of Directors of the United States Squash Racquets Association ("US Squash"), announced on Friday that the organization will relocate the USSRA headquarters from Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania to New York City, New York by late spring 2007. The Association has begun a search for appropriate office space. The organization also announced that all affected employees will be provided the same employment opportunity with the relocation to New York City. The organization's Bala Cynwyd headquarters had been housed in a building donated to US Squash by the prominent Philadelphian Pierce family.

From a squash standpoint, the move has heightened significance, since Philadelphia had traditionally been the nerve center of squash in the USA for many decades. In the late 70s and 80s, with the advent of public squash in New York, championed by Harry Saint's entrepreneurial Town Squash venture, the center of squash excellence in the US had moved towards New York, and more recently with the emergence of Greenwich CT and Rye NY as hotbeds of junior squash talent, and the high profile Tournament of Champions, New York seems a logical choice.

Blasberg highlighted the benefits of the move to New York City by observing, "New York is the crossroads for businesses and visitors from around the country. New York is also the most international US city and its image aligns well with squash, a sport which is played in 150 countries and is known for its diverse cultural, ethnic, racial and geographic player base."

Blasberg continued, "New York is also headquarters to more media and Fortune 500 companies than any other city, and working with these companies will be critical to our ability to fulfill our mission to promote and develop the sport moving forward. Philadelphia is second to none as an important squash city, and supporter of the Association, and we will work to ensure our support for the local association and community does not miss a step. The city's historical significance in the sport speaks for itself as being the birthplace for squash doubles, the hometown of innumerable national champions, and the host of dozens of national championships over the last century."

Club Profile - FAC

Fairmount Athletic Club will be the newest member club to join the PSRA with an anticipated opening date in March 2007. With 12 singles and 2 hardball doubles courts, FAC will appeal top every squash aficionado in the region, but its state of the art fitness center may be its most attractive feature. Located in King of Prussia, FAC was selected to host the USSRA Sotheby's National Doubles



Tournament on the weekend of March 30-April 2. Visit FAC at www.fairmountathleticclub.com

Women's Squash by Amy Milaneck

In October, Philadelphia sent 27 women to compete in the 2006 Howe Cup, or Women's team Nationals, at the Meadow Mill Athletic Club in Baltimore. There were 5 singles teams (each team consisted of 5 players); 2 A's, 2 B's, 1 C and 1 doubles team. One A team lost a tightly contested finals match, placing them 2nd, and another B team lost a close semi-final match but won their 3rd & 4th playoff match. Thank you to all of the ladies who took time out from school, work, and families. It is a big commitment, but also a great time to watch, learn and play a lot of amazing squash! Boston will be hosting the 2007 Howe Cup in October, so put it on your calendars, and we'll see you again next year!



Your humble team captains, Dawn Gray & Amy Milaneck

Thanks to all who participated: Dani Davis, Amy Milaneck, Dawn Gray, Rina Borremeo, Margeret Rux, Kristin Lange, Ileana Novelo, Jo Wilde, Anna Wallace, Julie Kessler, Arden Saligman, Erica Lacerda, Ann Hatfield, Julie Correlli, Kathy Hughes, Joyce Ferris, Jen Wales, Patti Spackman, Cathy Popovitch, Whitney Davis, Mary Robis, Tiffany Hingley, Penny Soppas, Adele Bassette, and Liz Lambert!

Local Junior Tourneys

Cynwyd Juniors

BU11- Ian Rothweiler over Jay Losty [MCC]
BU15- Brandon McLaughlin [MCC] over Dylan Peter Murray
BU17- Stephen Harrington [GCC] over Danny Greenberg [CYN]
BU19- Adrian Kanza over Stephen Wetherill [CHA]
GU13- Katie Tutrone over Olivia Fiechter [PCK]
GU15- Megan Murray over Skyler Bouchard [WCC]
GU17- Emily Park over Sara Mumanachit [CYN]
GU19- Logan Greer [MCC] over Emily Park

Wilmington Juniors

GU11- Ryan Moyer over Sawyer Chilton [WCC]
GU13- Katie Tutrone over Olivia Fiechter [PCK]
GU15- Sarah Domenick [GCC] over Monica Stone [GCC]
GU17- Aly Kerr over Alexandra Sawin [MCC]
BU13- Michael East over Tyler Odell [MCC]
BU15- Dylan Ward over John Hsu
BU19- Chris Gagnier [MCC] over Billy Abrams

Berwyn Jrs:

GU11- Amanda Beck over Emily Uible
GU13- Tara Harrington [GCC] over Mina Shkarshy
GU15- Libby Eyre [MCC] over Skyler Bouchard [WCC]
GU17- Pia Trikha over Sara Mumanachit [CYN]
GU19- Logan Greer [MCC] over Anne Madiera [MCC]
BU11- Ian Rothweiler over Brandon Welsh [BER]
BU13- Michael East over Barton Mackey [WCC]
BU15- Dylan Ward [PCK] over Sam Conant [PCK]
BU17- David Hilton [GCC] over Hunter Bouchard [WCC]
BU19- Billy Abrams [Reflex] over Stephen Wetherill [CHA]

The Hill School Juniors

GU11- Linnea Hughes [BER] over Meredith Manley
GU13- Tara Harrington [GCC] over Mina Shkarshy
GU17- Elizabeth Chu over Stephanie Jewitt [Greate Bay]
BU19- Keenan Fernandez over Molly Clark
BU13- Lucas Snyder over Josh Hughes [BER]
BU15- Xander Greer [MCC] over Andrew McGuinness [MCC]

[Reflex]

BU19-Ben Feldman [Hill] over Jamie Rufe [Hill]

Hunter Lott

BU13 Sam Conant [Pck] - winner
BU15 Brandon McLaughlin [MCC]- finalist
BU17 Stephen Harrington [GCC] - finalist
BU19 Todd Harrity [MCC]-winner; Chris Callis [GCC] –finalist

Penn State Closed Jrs.

GU13 Olivia Fiechter (PCK) over Carey Celata (GCC)
GU15. Jessie Hill (BER) over Hilary Gray (CYN)
GU17. Alexandra Sawin (MCC) over Katherine Savage (PCK)
BU13. Alex McCall (PCK) over Randy Beck (PCK)
BU15. Jim Kacergis (BER) over John Steele (MCC)
BU17. Ash Egan (MCC) over Brad Thompson (PCK)
BU19. Ben Lurio (CYN) over Chip Culp (PCK).

Winter leagues ~ Ranking Committee Report by Jodi Law

The following changes were discussed at the Ranking Committee meeting last month that many of you attended, and these new rules will be implemented this season. Please review carefully.

1. Submissions date of rosters will be **Nov 21** (to: jlaw@brynmawr.edu)
2. Prior to **Nov 27** we will get back to you re any non-members on the team.
3. **Dec 1** is the deadline for non-members to join the PSRA or the entire team will be dropped from the league. We will not follow up with the club – it is up to you to make sure they join!!!
4. **Dec 2/3** the Ranking Committee will meet and confirm strength of team [if players have changed] and correct league placement. Any changes will be conveyed to the pros/ reps.



NEW: We will go back to 1 division for each league

A and C will play on Thursday nights
Super B will play on Tuesday night
B will play on Wed night

League play will begin the week of January 8 and continue until March 2, with playoffs running the weeks of March 5-9 and 12-16.

The PSRA Doubles tournament will be played the week of March 19-22 with the finals to be played on **March 23** at the **Merion Cricket Club**.

The final dates for the PSRA Singles tournament will be announced in a later email.



SquashSmarts' Comer - by Steve Gregg

SquashSmarts welcomes two new Board members - **Aaron Walters**, who works as the General Manager of Fairmount Athletic Club. Aaron is a new squash player who played baseball at Temple and looks forward to playing a new sport. **Jocelyn Jones Arnold**, who works in the grants and funding community, and also hopes to learn the sport with the SquashSmarts kids. SquashSmarts also bids farewell to former Exec Direct and Academic Director **Julie Williams**, and welcomes **Tariem Burroughs** as its new Academic

Director. Visit our website for new information about the Lenfest Squash Center and our community calendar of events. Also, please note our **United Way Number: 14586**.

Kudos to the team of SquashSmarts' volunteers who hosted one of the most exciting evenings for Philly Squash this year with the SquashSmarts Gala 2006. Over 300 guests enjoyed 'celebrity' squash, casino gambling, exciting raffle give-aways, a tremendous buffet dinner and camaraderie with good friends as Steve unveiled plans for the new Lenfest Community Center that will sport eight [8] new courts and classrooms for SquashSmart's second Philadelphia location. Construction is well underway with a summer 2007 opening date projected. Read all about the facility at www.SquashTalk.com ["What's New" link of 9.27.06].

"Save the Date" 2007 : The Grand Opening celebration, that will include a full week of great events for the entire Philadelphia community, has been to the first week of September, with the second annual SquashSmarts Gala rescheduled to **Saturday, September 15th** [to avoid conflicts with a USSRA Doubles Gala scheduled for later in the month] Mark your calendars so you don't miss another terrific evening benefiting our community's urban squash program.

Adults and Juniors team together to compete in Philly Doubles tourney

The Philadelphia Squash Racquets Association hosted the fifth PSRA Adult & Junior Doubles Tournament with teams competing from clubs throughout the region. Tournament director **Jim Domenick** reported that the tournament, held at the Germantown Cricket Club and other local venues, attracted junior players from different schools who teamed with some of the top doubles players in the Philly community. In the always highly competitive "A" draw, junior **Chris Callis**, a singles star who recently represented the United States in the 2006 World Junior Men's tournament in New Zealand, teamed with **Alan Grant**, a multiple Canadian and US doubles champion, to capture the 2006 title in three straight games. They defeated **David Hilton**, a junior at the Wm. Penn Charter School, where he plays on the Boy's Varsity team with Callis, and his partner **Adam Hamill**, the Assistant Squash Pro at Germantown Cricket Club who is a recent convert to the game. In the "B" flight, top ranked singles player **Sarah Domenick**, winner of the 2006 USSRA Silver Closed Junior tournament, partnered with **Bill Rux**, who last year advanced to the finals in the tournament with **Andrew McGuinness**, capturing a win in a close five game match. They defeated the father and son duo from the Racquet Club of Philadelphia - **Yves Quintin** and **Charles Loesch-Quintin**. The "C" draw featured a round robin format of new players to the sport. **Jennifer Edson**, who recently won the the World Doubles with tournament co-director **Molly Pierce**, teamed with her son **Adam Edson** who perfected the tight rail over the course of the weekend. The finalists were Philadelphia Cricket Club's **Bill Casey** and son **Liam Casey** who impressed everyone with his skills and tenacity. GCC Head Pro **Doug Whittaker**, who has run the tournament since its inception with PSRA Vice President **Molly Pierce**, also invited players from SquashSmarts, the Philadelphia urban squash program, whose players enjoyed the much larger courts and hardball game, and all expressed interest in playing in future doubles events.

Pros on the Move

Ray Chan-a-sue [Vic Meade] - Ray hails from Calgary, Canada where he held the position of Vice President of High Performance with Squash Canada. His phone number is 302 655-4961.

Dani Davis [Merion] - Dani joins Scott, Imran, Iago and Wendy as part of the Merion Pros staff in late November. Dani, an Australian native, previously worked at The Cnywyd Club

James "Buck" Rogers [GCC] - Buck joins Doug and Adam as part of GCC's staff in late November. Buck, an Australian native, previously worked at The Cynwyd Club.

Rodney Stewart [HVCC] - Rodney has been playing tennis for over 20 years, and enjoyed success as a junior representative and tournament player. He is also an accomplished squash player, and is a level 1 certified squash coach, and certified Club Referee. He continues to be a student of the both the tennis and squash game; spending time researching fundamentals such as biomechanics, psychology, physics and technology.

Barney Tanfield [RCOP] - Barney is a native RCOP player who also competes nationally in court tennis.

Steve Virgona [RCOP] - Steve Virgona is the number 2 ranked court tennis player in the world and is an assistant professional at the Racquet Club of Philadelphia