NIRSA MEMBER BLENDS TENNIS PYRAMID

While Tommy Haas was busy making it happen on the court at the 2006 Countrywide Classic, a US Open Series event held July 24-30 at the Los Angeles Tennis Center on the campus of UCLA, one NIRSA member was busy making it happen off of the court. Mick DeLuca, may not be an avid tennis player himself, but he shows his love for the sport of a lifetime through his hard work at all levels of tennis.

In his job at UCLA, DeLuca and his staff oversee all the athletic facilities on campus. This includes the LA Tennis Center where, not coincidentally, the USTA Southern California Section houses its offices. This unique relationship affords him the opportunity to be intimately involved with the Countrywide Classic; DeLuca sits as a committee member for the ATP tournament, which is chaired by USTA President Franklin Johnson.

Not only involved at the top of the tennis world, though, DeLuca said that he “see[s] the college atmosphere as a great place to promote the blending of the ‘pyramid of sport.’” Stepping down this pyramid from the professional level, it is easy to see what he means. He works closely with the varsity tennis programs on campus, which recently had their men’s #1 singles player, Benjamin Kohlloeffel, named the ITA National Player of the Year. Stepping down the pyramid once more, DeLuca is the current president of NIRSA Services Corporation (NSC), the fundraising arm of NIRSA that manages the NIRSA National Campus Championship Series (NCCS), which includes the USTA Campus Championship. At this level, he works tirelessly for top collegiate recreational tennis players across the country. His recreational tennis team at UCLA secured a first-place finish at the 2006 USTA Southern California Section Campus Championship.

Stepping down the pyramid again, you can find DeLuca and his staff organizing and running numerous intramural programs for college students and tennis camp activities for children out of school in the summer. “We truly embrace tennis on our campus,” said DeLuca.

What is most impressive, however, is how DeLuca has encouraged the blending of these levels. Examples include having the varsity programs donate equipment to the recreational programs and utilizing student interns majoring in recreational sports at the Countrywide Classic. The tennis community is lucky to have such an outstanding leader as Mick DeLuca working in the key roles that he does. He has definitely raised the bar for everyone involved with tennis on college campuses.
NEW NAME, SAME GAME

The USA Team Tennis National Campus Championship has a new name: USTA Campus Championship! You will also see this name change reflected by your Section Campus Championships. Below are a few rule changes for the USTA Campus Championship that will help ensure that you are ready for Cary, N.C., next April:

- **Eligibility** – All rostered players must have played in two events representing their team/school in the same academic year and prior to the USTA Campus Championship.
- **Player Limitations** – A rostered player may play in only two sets per match, whether as a starter or a substitute (excluding the Supertiebreaker).
- **Bid System** – Automatic bids distributed to each of the 17 USTA Sections will be distributed in the following manner:
  - Section hosts a Section Campus Championship = 1 bid
  - Section Campus Championship hosts 6-10 unique schools = 2 bids
  - Section Campus Championship hosts 11-15 unique schools = 3 bids
  - “B” teams do not count toward unique schools total
  - 2 teams from 1 school may not secure more than 1 automatic bid for that school
  - Bid distribution will be based on previous year’s Section Campus Championship unique schools totals

**Selection Priority for USTA Campus Championship:**
1. Section automatic bid winners
2. Schools that played in Section Campus Championship
3. At-large/first come, first serve (must have played at least two prior matches)

WHEELCHAIR INCLUSION

As the academic year begins and your club starts recruiting new members, the Tennis On Campus program wants to refresh your awareness of wheelchair inclusion in tennis. Wheelchair tennis is one of the fastest growing and most challenging of all wheelchair sports. The rules are the same as in stand-up tennis, except the wheelchair player is allowed two bounces of the ball. As many of the participants at the 2006 USA Team Tennis National Campus Championship learned from the able-bodied wheelchair tennis competition and wheelchair tennis exhibition match, it is difficult to master the skills of tennis while maintaining agile mobility in a wheelchair. Reach out to your university’s Office for Students with Disabilities and make inclusion a priority for your club today!

NEW TENNIS ON CAMPUS MARKETING MATERIALS

The Tennis On Campus program has brand new customizable marketing materials available on CD now! This CD includes individually customizable flyers, postcards, posters and other support materials to make promoting your club tennis team or other recreational tennis program a breeze. To get your hands on the hottest Tennis On Campus promotional materials around, contact your USTA Section Collegiate Coordinator.
DRILL OF THE MONTH: “OLYMPICS”

This drill for a large group of players has been provided by Peter Smith, varsity men’s coach at the University of Southern California. Smith has coached three different schools to Top 5 national rankings during his career and led USC to the 2004 NCAA semifinals.

It can be very challenging to keep a large group of players on a court busy, happy and productive. Everyone loves to play games, but the key is to make them useful. If you have 10 people on the court, typically the only thing you can do is work on doubles or variations of doubles. The drill that team members, campers and everyone I have ever worked with loves is a game we call “Olympics.” You pair everyone up into groups of two and put one team on a side by themselves. They are the “champions” until they get knocked off. Everyone else is on the other side waiting against the fence for their turn to challenge the champions. If one of the challenging teams wins two points in a row then they replace the champions. This can be done with a coach feeding balls in or the pairs challenging the champions starting the rally with a feed of their own. I like to make this very high energy by putting some music on and getting everyone running when they win, lose or get replaced.

It is even more fun if you have a group of 40 and can use four or five courts. In this situation, have everyone keep track of every point they win (no matter what side they are on) and at the end of a song the team with the most points moves up a court and the team with the least points moves down a court. To mix it up even more, you can change the way the games are played. For example, you can say the challenger can only win a point at the net, have the champions start each point at the net, disallow winners, or you are out if you hit the ball into the net. Be creative and you’ll have fun while being productive!

2006/2007 CALENDAR

USTA Campus Championship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USTA Campus Championship</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Host Site</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USTA Campus Championship</td>
<td>April 26-28, 2007</td>
<td>Cary Tennis Center, Cary, North Carolina</td>
<td><a href="mailto:valerie@nirsa.org">valerie@nirsa.org</a></td>
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</table>

USTA Section Campus Championships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USTA Section</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Host Site</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caribbean</td>
<td>February 24-25, 2007</td>
<td>Centro de Tennis Honda</td>
<td><a href="mailto:martinez@cta.usta.com">martinez@cta.usta.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern</td>
<td>February 17-18, 2007</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td><a href="mailto:schnitzer@eta.usta.com">schnitzer@eta.usta.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>February 17-18, 2007</td>
<td>Florida Gulf Coast University</td>
<td><a href="mailto:manning@florida.usta.com">manning@florida.usta.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hawaii Pacific</td>
<td>February 3-4, 2007*</td>
<td>University of Hawaii, Manoa</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kurosu@hawaii.usta.com">kurosu@hawaii.usta.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle States</td>
<td>October 28-29, 2006</td>
<td>Lehigh University</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bkisthardt@msn.com">bkisthardt@msn.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>February 23-25, 2007*</td>
<td>University of Wisconsin</td>
<td><a href="mailto:steve@midwest.usta.com">steve@midwest.usta.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>New England</td>
<td>February/March, 2007*</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td><a href="mailto:liteplo@newengland.usta.com">liteplo@newengland.usta.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Northern</td>
<td>February 3-4, 2007</td>
<td>Swanson Tennis Center</td>
<td><a href="mailto:egart@northern.usta.com">egart@northern.usta.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Northern California</td>
<td>November 4-5, 2006</td>
<td>Stanford University</td>
<td><a href="mailto:somers@norcal.usta.com">somers@norcal.usta.com</a></td>
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<td>Southern</td>
<td>March 31-April 1, 2007*</td>
<td>Chattanooga, Tennessee</td>
<td><a href="mailto:smithsta@earthlink.net">smithsta@earthlink.net</a></td>
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<td>Southern California</td>
<td>February 10-11, 2007</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lmlan@scta.usta.com">lmlan@scta.usta.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>March 9-11, 2007</td>
<td>McFarlin Tennis Center</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tcarlson@texas.usta.com">tcarlson@texas.usta.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Tentative Event Dates
The 2006 Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) All-Star team hosted by the USTA will be honored at a private luncheon on Aug. 26 at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in conjunction with Arthur Ashe Kids’ Day.

This 23rd edition of the ITA Collegiate All-Star Team includes the nation’s top-ranked men’s and women’s tennis players at the NCAA Divisions I, II and III, NAIA and NJCAA levels, as well as champions from the 2005 ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Championships and 2006 NCAA Championships.

This year’s women’s all-stars are: Melissa Applebaum of Miami (Fla.), Emily Applegate of Washington & Lee (Va.), Suzi Babos of California, Alice Barnes of Stanford, Audra Cohen of Miami (Fla.), Luisa Cowper of Armstrong Atlantic State (Ga.), Cristelle Grier of Northwestern, Jelena Pandzic of Fresno Pacific, Alexis Prousis of Northwestern, Marta Simic of Broward Community College (Fla.), Diana Srebrovic of Florida and Anne Yelsey of Stanford.

The men’s all-stars are: Kevin Anderson of Illinois, Andre Begemann of Pepperdine, Will Boe-Wiegaard of Bates (Maine), Luigi D’Agord of Miami (Fla.), Scott Doerner of Pepperdine, Scott Green of Ohio State, Mislav Hizak of Embry-Riddle (Fla.), John Isner of Georgia, Damian Johnson of Temple College (Texas), Benjamin Kohlloeffel of UCLA, Mattias Oddone of Drury (Mo.), Ryan Rowe of Illinois and Ross Wilson of Ohio State.

This year’s recipients of the ITA/Arthur Ashe Leadership and Sportsmanship Award—Megan Moulton-Levy of William & Mary and Jonathan Stokke of Duke—will also be honored at the event. This award, which dates back to 1984, goes to players who have exhibited outstanding sportsmanship and leadership as well as scholastic, extracurricular and tennis achievements.

The ITA Collegiate All-Star Team will be treated by the ITA and USTA to a weekend in New York, highlighted by the Aug. 26 activities at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Flushing Meadows. The ITA All-Stars will be presented their awards during a luncheon in the President’s Suite in Arthur Ashe Stadium prior to the AAKD festivities, and select team members will also participate in an on-court exhibition during the pre-show inside Ashe Stadium. Later in the day the USTA will provide the ITA All-Stars with a behind-the-scenes tour of the US Open and a private reception at the ESPN Zone in Times Square.

BILLIE JEAN KING’S TENNIS TIPS,
COURTESY WTT

Focus—Every Point Counts!

Since the World Team Tennis format uses no-ad scoring, you have to be focused on every point. Every time you get to game point, you should play the point like you would a tiebreaker. First serve in and get your return in play. If you tally up how many game points your team wins and loses at the end of the match, you’ll find the team that wins more game points usually wins the match!