

# COURT MONITOR

December 2006

Michigan High School Tennis Coaches Association Newsletter

Volume 98, Issue 3

## U of M Law Professor Richard Friedman to act on behalf of MHSTeCA in MHSAA lawsuit



The MHSTeCA has accepted legal representation in the Gender Equity lawsuit from U of M Law Professor Richard Friedman. Mr. Friedman's daughter is a freshman on Ann Arbor Huron's tennis team. He is willing to help the MHSTeCA and tennis by representing the interests of his daughter in the lawsuit. Mr. Friedman has agreed to provide this assistance without fee. The only request is for the MHSTeCA to help finance the inherent costs of filing the briefs. The MHSTeCA Board of Directors

has unanimously agreed to help with these expenses. A special fund is being set up to assist Mr. Friedman with the cost of printing, postage and travel. Contributions for this fund are needed. To donate to this fund send a check made out to the **MHSTeCA** and send it to **Tiger Teusink, 52 E. 30<sup>th</sup> St., Holland MI 49423**. Be sure to put the words "**Lawsuit Contribution**" somewhere on the check.

## All-State Academic Awards decline in 2006

MHSTeCA All-State Academic awards have declined in 2006. As of November 11, 81 out of 368 (22%) schools have qualified for the award. In 2005 34% of the girls teams received the award.

To be eligible for the award the regional team GPA must be 3.25 or above. Freshmen and exchange students are not counted in the average.

If your team qualifies for the All-State Academic there is still time to apply. Go to [www.mhsteca.org](http://www.mhsteca.org) to download a form. Contact Karen Langs with any questions.

## 2006 Girls' Coaches of the Year Selected

The MHSTeCA Board of Directors met November 11th in Okemos and selected four to be honored as MHSTeCA Coach of the Year.

### Division 1

Jeff Miner Brighton

### Division 2

Dave Sukup Forest Hills Northern

### Division 3

Jen Aldrich Allegan

### Division 4

Joe Gentle North Muskegon

To learn more about these outstanding coaches go to [www.mhsteca.org](http://www.mhsteca.org).



## Success continues for Finals Seed Committee

The State Finals Seed Committee continued their success in 2006. The committee had a 96% accuracy rate. Of the 32 champions, 18 were number one seeds, 7 were number two seeds, 6 were number three seeds, and only one was unseeded. Lexi Rice from Richland Gull Lake won the number two singles in Division Three as an unseeded player.

The Committee hit the jackpot at the number two doubles flight. They got all the top seeds to the semi's and all number one seeds were state champions.

### Past Results:

2006	96%
2005	94%
2004	90%
2003	84%

Kudos should be given to all those teams across the state that travel great lengths for weekend tournaments. This cross state travel helps the seed committee.

## Nykerk Nets 800th Victory



This past fall Larry Nykerk registered his 800th victory in dual meets and tournaments. The long time Traverse City coach was featured in the local paper. To read the article go to the following link. <http://www.record-eagle.com/2006/oct/03tennis.htm>

## Detroit and Chicago Tennis Clinics gearing up for coaches

Mark your calendars. The annual tennis clinics in Chicago and Detroit are fast approaching. The Chicago dates are Jan 26 and 27, 2007 at the Lincolnshire Marriott. Detroit will be Feb. 9 and 10, 2007 at the Troy Marriott. Watch your school mailboxes for information. The list of speakers is still being compiled. Bob Woods address has changed. His new address is **Bob Woods, 32 Mossy Oak Trail, Jackson, TN 38305-8585**. The phone number is the same 731-427-6104. **Bob asks that you please inform your business office of the new address.** He still receives registrations that are being mailed to his old St. Clair Shores address.

## Female Pros Coming to Midland

The 19th annual Dow Corning Tennis Classic is coming to the Midland Community Tennis Center. The dates are February 4 - 11, 2007. This is an excellent opportunity for your players to see up and coming female pro players. Top stars have played the Dow Corning Tennis Classic including, Maria Sharapova, Anastasia Myskina, Mary Pierce, and Justin Henin-Hardenne: all Grand Slam winners. On Saturday, February 3rd, the tennis center offers a free on-court event for high school players. For information about attending the high school event or viewing matches, contact Nancy Brissette at: [nbrissette@hotmail.com](mailto:nbrissette@hotmail.com)

## High School Tennis Coach No-Cut Recognition and Support

The USTA wants to recognize all high school tennis coaches who implement a no-cut policy. These coaches play a critical role in our sport by allowing young players the opportunity to be part of a team. They experience the greatest element of high school sports – the opportunity to participate on a team with their friends representing their school.

Every coach who registers as a no-cut coach is mailed a certificate, letter and subscription to Racquet Sports Industry magazine and letters of recognition and press release templates are sent to the school principal and athletic director. Each year two representatives are selected from this group for special recognition at the USTA Tennis Teachers' Conference and receive tickets to the opening session of the U.S. Open.

For those coaches who want to implement a no-cut policy, but have questions or obstacles, an advisory team of experienced coaches are available to offer advice at [highschool@usta.com](mailto:highschool@usta.com). Answers to [frequently asked questions](#) and links to other coaching resources are also available. For additional support to implement or expand an existing no-cut tennis team contact the section school tennis coordinators (can be found at "Find your section" on [www.usta.com](http://www.usta.com)).

### No-Cut Coach Program Highlights:

658 coaches registered by 9/28/06 from 47 states

No-cut coaches report working with 25,600 tennis players on the teams they represent

The USTA appreciates all of the extra work that goes into keeping additional players on your team.

The new high school no-cut coach registration form is coming soon! For those coaches who want to sign up now this link is still active for your convenience:

[Click here for the No-Cut High School Coach Application](#)

[Click here for more information and to contact the High School Advisory Team!](#)

# Passing Shots

## Holiday Greetings!

As we approach the holidays, it's time to enjoy the off season with friends and family. It's also time to reflect on the past season and prepare for the upcoming one. I'm sure your 2006 seasons were successful for your student athletes regardless of their record.

Congratulations to all of the recent state champions. Congratulations also to the Regional and State Coaches of the Year, Assistant Coaches of the Year and Distinguished Service Award winners. Your efforts represent the hard work and dedication to high school tennis that is reflected by coaches throughout our state.

As we prepare ourselves for our upcoming seasons, we look forward to our Detroit Tennis Workshop February 9 and 10. It will be a great time to freshen up on our sport and reunite with good friends. I look forward to seeing you there.

The MHSTeCA Board of directors were enthusiastic in accepting the services of U of M Professor and Attorney Rich Friedman. He has offered, without reimbursement for his time, to take up our cause to have the Boys' and Girls' tennis seasons remain unchanged. I hope you can rally your teams and parents to contribute to help cover his expenses. Donations should be sent to our treasurer Tiger Teusink.

This is my last "Passing Shots" as I will be completing my two year term as your president. I enjoyed representing you and appreciated your support. I'm glad to report that the MHSTeCA will be in very good hands as I turn over the office to Nancy Brissette on February 10. I know our organization, with your help, will continue raise the level of Michigan high school tennis under her leadership.

**Tom Leyrer**  
MHSTeCA President  
Jenison High School

## Allegan Tennis Honored

For the first time in the 20 years that the Allegan County News has been naming an All-County team, the team is made up entirely of players from one team—Allegan's! It was quite an honor to have all 12 girls named to this team. The Tigers were also one flight short of sweeping the Wolverine Conference tournament (our 2S lost in the finals to Lexi Rice of Gull Lake—who eventually became an unseeded state champion). Congratulations to Coach Jen Aldrich, also named MHSTeCA COY.



Allegan Coaches Jen Aldrich (left) and assistant Jennifer Conrad. Photo courtesy of Allegan High Web page.

Photos Wanted: Send any tennis photos to [braves10s@charter.net](mailto:braves10s@charter.net)



## Sue Selke Named USTA Midwest Tennis Service Representative

I am proud to introduce myself, Sue Selke, as the Tennis Service Representative (TSR) for the United States Tennis Association (USTA)/Midwest Section servicing Michigan. Prior to accepting the TSR position with the USTA, I was a certified USPTA teaching professional (30 years), a volunteer for the USTA District, Sectional and National level for over 25 years and have conducted numerous clinics to grow the game of tennis at the Recreational level.

As a TSR, my goal is to help increase participation in tennis by promoting, developing and servicing tennis programs through the establishment of strong relationships with schools, park and recreations, tennis coaches, tennis facilities, industry organizations and other non-tennis entities. I am here to assist in any way to help grow the sport of tennis.

One of my goals as a TSR is to develop a better relationship between the USTA and the Michigan High School tennis coaches. I have had the opportunity to meet some of you already and discuss different ways we can grow tennis in your communities. The USTA offers many programs and grants that are valuable for tennis coaches. I would like to have an opportunity to meet with you individually or as a group to discuss the programs and grants. I am based out of Lansing and would like to set up a time and date to come by and meet with you. Please feel free to contact me at the information below to set up a meeting.

Let's grow tennis together!

Sue Selke  
TSR for the State of Michigan  
(317) 333-3558  
[sue@midwest.usta.com](mailto:sue@midwest.usta.com)  
517-484-2534 – fax  
[www.midwest.usta.com](http://www.midwest.usta.com)

Left: Gladstone's Shanoon Lee and Sam Bizeau celebrate their UP Championship. They were also named to the All-State Team.