



INNER CITY TENNIS



kid speed

# 2008

## ANNUAL NEWSLETTER



news inside





## It's All Smiles in NE Minneapolis

ICT has been conducting Kidspeed programming for one hundred K-5 children at the Learning for Leadership Charter School in NE Minneapolis.

The Learning for Leadership Charter School is a K-10 school in Northeast Minneapolis that educates 170 students. InnerCity Tennis has been conducting Kidspeed programming for its youngest students, grades K-5.

On a typical week, ICT will send three staff and two volunteers to the school to conduct programming on Wednesday morning in the gym.

The gym is far from having the glow of the “perfect school basketball gym,” but it has worked well for ICT’s programming. “As long as we have a space to use, we can have a great time with the kids...our stations will work in just about any area,” said Chris Babekuhl, ICT program delivery specialist.

The feedback we have gotten from the school’s staff thus far has been almost 100% positive.

“It’s a wonderful program,” said Stephanie Dess, Learning for Leadership Director. “The kids and teachers love it, there is always so much laughing and learning going on in there.”

And the program has been a hit with kids of ALL abilities.

“We have a couple of autistic /special needs kids that are enjoying the program just as much [as the kids without disabilities]. Your organization is very aware of what child development is,” said Dess.

Special education teacher Susan Sammaha commented, “It has been great muscle building and socialization practice for David (special education student). Each week, he keeps getting better and better at the games. I really like all the different choices you provide for the kids, the running, hitting, aiming – it’s great.”

With the success that the 2007-2008 pilot year is having, the Learnings for Leadership Charter School looks to be a lock for the ICT ‘08-’09 winter schedule as well.



ICT’s staff works with several classes at the Learning for Leadership Charter School. Kids come in and out of the gym every half hour.



Boston Scientific World Team Tennis Captain Mathan Krishnappan gave new racquets to Executive Director Roger Boyer this winter.

### WORLD TEAM TENNIS CHAMPS DONATE RACQUETS

A brand new box of tennis racquets was given to ICT this winter by a Boston Scientific corporate tennis team. The team received the racquets for winning the 4.5 corporate division of the National World Team Tennis Tournament held in Indian Wells, California. Each division winner was tasked with distributing racquets to needy children in their home region.

WTT Recreational Leagues run year-round at public parks, tennis clubs, schools, college campuses, military bases, corporations, camps, residential communities and tennis facilities in more than 1,000 U.S. Cities. The fun, fast-paced format features co-ed teams competing in six sets—men’s and women’s doubles, men’s and women’s singles and mixed doubles. Every game counts toward the team’s final score.

The six person team from Boston Scientific was comprised of Mathan Krishnappan, John Leehy, Eric Mokolke, Amy Lamparske, Tanya Kvam and Cammie Day.

## 2007 NUMBERS

**4,771** Total number of kids we worked with

**3,538** Kids in sustained programs  
(a sustained program is 21 or more sessions)

**9,087** Volunteer hours given to ICT programs

**Thank you sponsors! Thank you volunteers!**

### OUTREACH PROGRAMS INCREASE

This winter we have been very busy looking for volunteers and hiring staff to handle all the requests we have had for our programs. If you are interested in volunteering, we can use you! Contact Dilcia today at 612-824-6099!

We have been working with more young kids now than ever before. Our outreach partners are:

#### Fraser Head Start • Tue (10:00-11:30)

These 3-5 year olds are located in North Mpls. We continue to see improvement in their skill development; at this point they need little to no help from the coaches.

#### W.I.S.E. Charter School • Tue (3:00-4:30)

This North Mpls. program has many African American kids ages 5-7. They have tremendous energy - which we allow them to release by running through our Kidspeed stations.

#### Learning for Leadership Charter • Wed (9:30 - 11:30)

The staff and kids are very positive. As we come in the door we are greeted by smiles and hugs. We work with 5-10 year olds at this Northeast Minneapolis school.

#### McKnight Head Start • Thurs (10:00-11:30)

These 3-5 year olds speak minimal English so we rely heavily on demonstration to teach basic athletic skills. It is located in South Mpls. - close to the tennis center.

#### Golden Eagle (American Indian Center) • Thurs (5-6:30)

These 5-8 year old kids have had a lot of fun at the tennis center this year - and in doing so - have subtly learned about respect, listening and following directions.

#### Colin Powell Learning Center • Friday (3:00-4:00)

These kids are a little older (8-12) and are a diverse South Mpls. group: Mexican, African-American and Somali. We have focused on teamwork games with this group.



Our coaches have worked (and played) with the American Indian Center kids to subtly teach respect, listening and following directions.

# Dr. Lachlan Reed

## InnerCity Tennis Founder remembered

Arthur Lachlan Reed departed to join his Maker on November 8, 2007, following a brief illness at his home in Palm Beach, Fla., at the age of 90. His dear wife of 63 years, Martha Sweatt Reed, preceded him in death in 2005.

Married on September 3, 1942, he and Martha lived on beautiful Brackett's Point on Lake Minnetonka in Wayzata, Minn., before spending their winters at Martha's family estate, 'Windansea,' in Palm Beach beginning in 1980. During their remarkable union, they produced six children: Bill (Jennifer) of Big Sky, Mont., granddaughter Alexandra; Lach, of Bel Air, Calif.; Mark (Karen) of Wayzata, Minn.; Aida Luce (Rob) of Burlington, Vt., grandchildren Jessica, Sam and Elena; Harold (Kate) of North Palm Beach, Fla., granddaughters Lisa, Marni, Emily, and Kelly; and Ian (Kira) of Sherman Oaks, Calif., grandchildren, India and Ashton. Lach is also survived by a brother, Howard (Shafiga) of West Palm Beach, Fla., and numerous cousins in the U.S., Canada, and Scotland.

He was born on March 22, 1917, in Smyrna, Turkey, while it was under the Ottoman Empire. He came to the United States early for secondary and post-graduate education, followed by marriage, service in WW II, and a lengthy career as educator, business entrepreneur and philanthropist. His recently completed autobiography is entitled "Lucky Lach." After graduation from Andover and Yale, he earned distinction as Yale's Mellon Fellow to Clare College, Cambridge, England. Shortly after, he served in the U.S. Navy as Lt. Commander, including four years of service with the Chief of Naval Operations and two years with U.S. Ambassador to England, Anthony Biddle. He was also accredited to the European Governments in Exile as Flag Lt. to Adm. John Wilkes COMLANCRABU in Normandy, and as U.S. Naval Liaison Officer, Commander of the French Antilles Operation.

Following the War, Lach worked for Honeywell, taught English at Andover, and served as Headmaster of Northrop Collegiate School in Minneapolis. He also spent three years in the Eisenhower Administration as Special Assistant in the Executive Branch. While at Honeywell, he was particularly proud of his accomplishments while managing the automated devices company's highly-technical Special Sensors division. After leaving Honeywell, he went on to found three successful computer sciences technology firms, one of which, International Timesharing, was sold to the company that is now Sprint. Lach's keen interest in education led to his co-founding three schools: Minnesota's Outward Bound School; London's Victoria

College; and Dynamy, Inc., in Worcester, Mass. Before his death, he cited his co-founding of InnerCity Tennis (originally Northwestern Tennis Patrons) as perhaps his most satisfying accomplishment. Devoted to helping youth build character, competence and commitment for personal and community improvement, ICT has expanded now to a second chapter in the Palm Beaches. Together, these two programs enroll approximately 5,000 children.

In the 1980s and 90s, Lach headed Physicians For Peace, leading volunteer medical missions of doctors and nurses who operated and lectured in Egypt, Syria, Palestine, Turkey, Yemen, and elsewhere.

Active all his life in athletics, Lach was an accomplished tennis and squash player. In later years, he devoted himself to golf, enjoying many rounds with family and friends

at Woodhill CC in Wayzata, The Everglades Club in Palm Beach, and Seminole Golf Club in Juno. He was also a member of The Brook Club, NYC, and the Bath & Tennis Club, Palm Beach. Lach took special pride in his membership in the Elizabethan Club at Yale, Commander of the Order of St. John Hospitaler of Jerusalem, and his earning of the Ellis Island Congressional Award.

During his many winter seasons in Palm Beach, Lach was an active supporter of the Palm Beach Civic Association, the Palm Beach Preservation Foundation, and The Society of Four Arts. Given his Scottish heritage, he was also a proud supporter of the National Trust of Scotland. He is a past or present trustee of the Harold W. Sweatt Foundation; American

University of Cairo; International College, Beirut; Fisk University, Nashville; William Smith College, Otswego, NY; AmidEast; ANERA; Americans for Middle East Understanding; and InnerCity Tennis Foundation. He is also trustee emeritus of the Mark Bristol American Hospital, Istanbul.

In their last years, both Lach and Martha enjoyed the companionship and care of Lucy Sarti, who gave of herself wholeheartedly, with warmth and humor. Her family members also contributed hugely to their welfare. The family is also indebted to Dr. Barry Lerner, nurse Sheila, and others at the Hospice of Palm Beach County for their unflinching care and concern.

Memorials preferred to InnerCity Tennis, 4005 Nicollet Ave So., Minneapolis, MN 55409.



# The 2007 Minneapolis Northside Initiative

## A Special Outreach Program - in a Rough Neighborhood - is a Wonderful Success



The kids and staff of ICT's Northside Initiative are pictured with their new Kidspeed T-shirts in North Commons Park on the last day of the '07 summer program. ICT plans to run an expanded program in North Minneapolis this summer.

The 2007 Kidspeed Minneapolis Northside Initiative literally ended with a bang. An early morning gunshot in the neighborhood required kids to be escorted off of North Commons Park for a period of time. Nonetheless, after police and instructors deemed the area safe, the season ending party resumed. The party was comprised of games on the tennis courts and a grill out. Each child was given a Kidspeed T-shirt for completing the summer program.

Kidspeed Northside Director Jose Williamson spoke about the impact the program made on the northside.

"This [the Northside Initiative] was about bridging the gap in the community and giving kids an opportunity to break down stereotypes and perceptions that may have been forced upon them, as well as self-perceived."

"Kidspeed opens up the opportunity for you to see growth in children, instantly. Kids may begin a game, the ring toss, obstacle course or whatever it is, and be not so good, maybe even terrible at it. After practicing, they start to see some progress and start to get better and then oh what a world that opens to kids when they realize, oh I can do this. I am capable of trying something, learning, and becoming good at it."

The local North Community YMCA staff, who brought their children to the summer program, praised the organization of the Kidspeed program.

One staff member commented, "The program was structured; everything was set up and ready to go."

When the kids came in, they had no option but to compete, they had no option to sit out. They had to do it, and when they did they felt good."



The "disco toss" helps kids develop a proper back hand motion for tennis.

In addition to the kids having a good time, the Northside staff involved also enjoyed their summer experience.

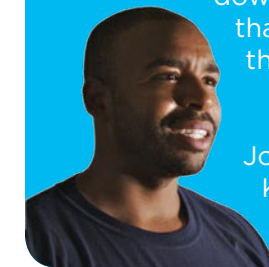
"This program shows kids a different path for what they do when they get older, not just growing up and going on the streets. It was definitely something new, a new experience for everyone. I will be back for sure next year," said Tarrig Ahmad Nakumbe, a 15 yr. old instructor from Brooklyn Park.

The success of the 2007 Northside Initiative has paved the way for a bigger 2008 Initiative. This summer, in addition to conducting programs at Folwell and North Commons Parks, we will be also be using a third park on the northside, newly renovated Webber Park.

This Initiative was made possible by grants from the USTA Community Tennis Association and the McKnight Foundation.

## ICT VOICES

"This was about bridging the gap in the community and giving kids an opportunity to break down stereotypes and perceptions that may have been forced upon them, as well as self-perceived."



José Williamson  
Kidspeed Northside Director

# ICT's summer tennis courts get some help

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Ellen Doll taught herself to play tennis on the public courts of St. Cloud, beginning a lifelong infatuation with the game. When the facilities in her Kenwood neighborhood deteriorated into a pitted, pockmarked mess, she discovered there were other skills she could learn on her own.

Doll, 50, had no experience as a fundraiser, grant writer or public speaker. She tackled all three roles in creating a model partnership between the private and public sectors that raised \$404,000 to bring her beloved neighborhood courts back to life. Her love for tennis now runs hand in hand with a newfound commitment to helping others enjoy the game, as her "Support The Courts" group works to refurbish facilities in needier communities.

Most people who play on Minneapolis' decaying courts wish someone would

do something about them. Doll skipped the wishing and got straight to the action, gathering grants from the U.S. Tennis Association, \$25,000 from a neighborhood cocktail party and public funds from neighborhood associations and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

"It broke my heart to see these faded tennis courts in the middle of this beautiful neighborhood," Doll said. "Even though they were deteriorating rapidly, people were still lined up to play. This is such a great neighborhood, I knew we would find a way."

The effort didn't end in Doll's backyard. Her group is continuing to raise money to renovate courts in Webber Park, Powderhorn Park and Pershing Park, areas that are less affluent but just as hungry for recreational opportunities. The targeted courts are used by youth programs, including InnerCity Tennis.

"This really means a lot to us," said Roger Boyer, executive director of InnerCity Tennis. "In the past eight to 10 years, we've had to close locations because the courts became unsafe. We're trying to bring tennis to more and more kids, and if we had to pay for courts, it would be impossible. It's great to have this help."

At a time when public money is being directed toward temples for athletes who often demonstrate lawlessness and greed, Doll and her supporters stand as a model for funding the sports facilities that matter most.

Already, they have raised half the \$500,000 needed to renovate the other 14 courts. "Every step of the way, I was confident this was going to happen," Doll said. "There was always someone I could call on for help. It's amazing to see what people can do when everyone gets involved."

## 2008 SUMMER PROGRAM INFO

### INSTRUCTION, GAMES & COMPETITION

- June 17 - July 20, M-F. All kids ages six to seventeen are welcome.
- Registration is on June 17th @ the seventeen Minneapolis parks listed to the right. NO PRE-REGISTRATION.
- The fee for the program is \$45. Those unable to pay receive a scholarship.
- An end of the season tournament will take place @ RSFTC on July 19 & 20.
- Questions?  
Contact Dilcia @ 612-824-6099

### PARKS

- armatage
- bryn mawr
- hiawatha
- kenwood
- king
- lynden hills
- lyndale farmstead
- lynnhurst
- matthews
- mcræ
- morgan
- nokomis
- northeast
- pearl
- powderhorn
- tower hill
- webber



RSFTC Board Member Ellen Doll has fund raised to help improve the quality of Minneapolis public tennis courts.

# Parents Comment about our Saturday Program

Our Saturday program runs on 21 weekends throughout the school year. The program engages five generations of people: pre-schoolers, elementary kids, teenagers, parents and grandparents - and everyone is having a blast!



*"This is certainly the BEST program I have ever run across. The girls get excellent instruction and have a lot of adult supervision. They are learning a life-long sport and getting into the habits that build a healthy life. I can tell that the adult volunteers really care about these kids! I have already told many friends about this program."*

-Karen Hill



*"Wow! The entire experience has been FANTASTIC for both kids! I can see the skill building each week improves! The volunteers are extraordinary! They are so kind and affirming as well as being great teachers! This is also such a great place for kids to get positive feedback from people of different ages - kids & adults - thank you! thank you, thank you!"*

-Anonymous

*"For several years, people at RSFTC have suggested I take my kids to your Saturday program. Well, a few weeks ago I did. My children (3 & 6) had a wonderful time. And as a parent, I loved the conscious effort to encourage good sportsmanship, exercise & fun. The organization of the volunteers was amazing. What an impressive program. Thank you for reaching out to such a diverse population. Keep up the great work."*

-Sarah Dobis



*"Both kids love the program, and so do we parents! Our kids especially enjoy saying thank you and giving high fives to the coaches, who are so enthusiastic and friendly. Thank you so much for this program, and thanks especially to the many people committed to making it work!"*

Joy Aarsvold-Missel

*"She absolutely LOVES Kidspeed! If it were offered more often we would be there every time. Last week when we were snowed in she was upset (almost crying) that we couldn't come. Thank you so much for your time, effort, energy and commitment to my child and the other Kidspeed Participants."*

-Lisl von Steinbergs / Ervine Douglas



## Save the Date - October 18th

This year, our Annual Fundraiser will be held October 18th at ICT's home, the Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center. Please join us for a memorable evening as we celebrate the joy, energy and success of our early childhood programs. Continue to check our website ([www.innercitytennis.org](http://www.innercitytennis.org)) for details as they become available.

Thank you to our key 2007 sponsors: Peter & Susan Ahn (VIA Restaurant), American Dairy Queen, Briggs and Morgan, Cargill, Carlson Family Foundation, Cub Foods/SUPERVALU, Deloitte and Touche LLP, Dorsey and Whitney LLP, Elaine Carlson, Fredrikson and Byron Foundation, Frito Lay, Gage Marketing Group, Hubbard Broadcasting Foundation, IMG/Nick Bollettieri Tennis Academy, Kraft, Lindquist & Vennum PLLP, Marquette Financial Companies, Morgan Stanley, Pepsi Co., Radisson Hotels, Unilever, United Health Group, Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., Wheelock Whitney, John & Jann Wilcox.

**InnerCity Tennis** is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization located in Minneapolis, Minnesota that has 56 years of experience linking character, self esteem building and physical and nutrition education with inner-city youth.

## ICT/KIDSPEED 101

**Kidspeed** is the method ICT uses to help young children subtly build feelings of confidence, hope, and a “can do” attitude. It utilizes physical and athletic skill development stations that - most simply put - make learning fun! Kidspeed creates a nurturing, fast-paced, educational environment. Kids rotate from station to station in quick seven minute intervals trying their hand at a variety of physical and athletic skills. There is a tremendous variety from station to station, but all the stations are designed so that they can be mastered with the proper coaching and practice. Our goal is to have kids leave saying, **“I had fun, I was good at it,”** and **“I want to do it again!”**

**INNERCITY TENNIS**  
**4005 Nicollet Avenue S.**  
**Minneapolis, MN 55409**

**DONATE ONLINE**  
**[www.innercitytennis.org](http://www.innercitytennis.org)**

**VOLUNTEER**  
**Call Dilcia @ 612.824.6099**

**2007 WAS A WONDERFUL YEAR FOR OUR PROGRAM...AND WE WANT TO DO EVEN MORE IN 2008. WE AT ICT BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO ENRICH MANY CHILDREN’S LIVES WITH OUR PROGRAMMING AND WOULD LIKE TO REACH AS MANY KIDS AS WE CAN.**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP TO EXPAND OUR PROGRAMS - JUST \$200 WILL SPONSOR A CHILD IN OUR KIDSPEED PROGRAM FOR AN ENTIRE YEAR - AND JUST 2 HOURS OF VOLUNTEER TIME CAN HELP US RUN A PROGRAM MORE EFFICIENTLY. YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE! DONATE OR VOLUNTEER TODAY!**

## OUR LEARNINGS FOR LEADERSHIP CURRICULUM

