



The Match

Spring 2021

www.mtef.com



Game On!

Asst. DA Anthony Jackson Selected as Ball's Honorary Chair

If you're looking for a way to get back to some semblance of normal, mark your calendars for Saturday, Nov. 6!

With Covid hopefully kicked to the curb, the annual MTEF Tennis Ball will be back with all the usual frills and flourishes – live and silent auctions, a sumptuous gourmet dinner, a video featuring foundation programming and participants as well as after-dinner musical entertainment.

Under the theme *Game On*, the 22nd edition will kick off at 6 p.m. at the Italian Community Center, 631 E. Chicago St.

Headlining the event as honorary chair will be Milwaukee County Assistant District Attorney Anthony Jackson, who has a lifelong association with tennis.

A Milwaukee native, Jackson was an outstanding member of the Nicolet High School boys' tennis team from 1996 to 2000, helping the school win the WIAA Boys Team Championship in 1997. The next season, he finished 19th in the nation in Boys 16 & under and second in the Midwest.



Jackson

He also played No. 1 singles for Midwest Intersectional team in 1998-99 season, finished season ranked 53rd in Boys 18 and under and was ranked third in the Midwest. As a sophomore, he participated in USTA Boys 16 & under traveling team.

Following graduation from the Glendale school, Jackson became a member of the University of Michigan Wolverines men's tennis team, securing two 20-game winning seasons during his four years at the Ann Arbor institution. He still plays recreational tennis as well as basketball.

He received his law degree from the Charleston School of Law in Charleston, S.C.

As an ADA, he currently is assigned to the Domestic Violence Unit. He previously served in the General Crimes Unit, which prosecutes – among other things – OWI, assaults and other

misdemeanor offenses.

We're happy to note that Today's TMJ4 sportscaster Lance Allan, who made his rave-worthy debut as *Continued on Page 11*

Serving for Change: New Program Pairs Kids With Pros



Evan King

In November 2020, former World Tennis Association professional Shenay Perry reached out to MTEF about an opportunity for the foundation to become involved in her Serving for Change Project.

The purpose of this new initiative is to connect young student-athletes with mentors from the professional tennis world.

Using contacts and relationships from her previous life on tour, Perry pairs small groups of students with current ATP and WTA professionals. Students and mentors then meet once a week over five to six weeks via Zoom. Although this program only began in July 2020, it already has served more than 70 students with 15 professional tennis mentors volunteering their time, knowledge and expertise.

MTEF Tennis Director Tony Broaden jumped at the chance to be among the first organizations to offer this new and exciting opportunity to MTEF youngsters and was thrilled to learn that MTEF students would be paired with ATP player Evan King.

Six middle school boys from MTEF began working *Continued on Page 10*

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MTEF Officers and Directors

President: Kurt Janavitz

Vice President: Michael Buckholdt

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Assistant Secretary: Kim Kirkpatrick

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Michael Sperling (2012-2014)

Timon Corwin (2014-2016)

Elizabeth Horneffer (2016-2019)

Advisory Board

John Austin, William Henk, Daniel O'Brien

MTEF Staff

Executive Director: Julie Cordero

Tennis Director: Tony Broaden

Education Director: Julia Mercado

Controller: Barbara Franzen



MTEF's annual TEAM Cup tournament, open to boys and girls of all ages and abilities from across the Greater Milwaukee area, will be held from Monday, July 26 through Thursday, July 29 at Merrill Park, 461 N. 35th St.

The event gives young players an opportunity to demonstrate good sportsmanship and gain a better understanding of other people and other communities amidst active use of public green space.

Boys and girls will compete in match play in five divisions — 10 and under, 12s, 14s, 16s and 18s — with first match consolation.

Play will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily, except for Thursday, when trophies will be awarded to winners and consolation winners at 11:30 a.m.

For complete details or registration information, log on to www.mtef.com.

MTEF Is Reaching a Turning Point

To everything... there is a season.

A time to plant... a time to reap.

The Byrds have taught me a lot but this song – *Turn! Turn! Turn!* – often comes up for me, especially in spring. In my time with MTEF, I've helped the organization build its capacity and strength to create more opportunities for our programs and youth to thrive. My time – nearly all of it off-court – has created infrastructure and stability for MTEF to function as a successful business in the non-profit sector.



Julie Cordero
Executive
Director's
Message

We've created an IT system, revamped our website, secured significant program gifts, created a scholarship program, hired a new education director after many years of not being able to afford one and provided one of the first in-person programs for youth after the USTA and Safer at Home mandates ended.

I am passionate about the work we do for MTEF and want to give it my best talents. For MTEF to continue the energy and success it's

gained since 2019, it is time for MTEF to secure a new leader.

Thus, I will transition to the role of MTEF's resource director. This position will improve my capacity to focus on fundraising and resource development for MTEF while continuing to drive the fundraising success and financial stability realized since 2019.

In tandem, MTEF will be strengthened with the addition of a new managing director to lead the organization to a new level of strength with greater emphasis on operations, staff development and public relationships.

This new leader can guide our existing three experts - Miss Julia our excellent education director; Coach Tony, our talented tennis director and me, our resolute resource director – in their efforts to help MTEF reach its greatest potential as an organization.

My work with MTEF truly is only at the beginning. I will continue to further the foundation's mission throughout the search and transition periods for our new leader and continue, as well, to drive MTEF's success in my new role.

While my season as executive director is coming to an end, it still is a time to plant.

Our youth and our programs are who and what will benefit in our time to reap.

Despite Covid, We Kept On Keeping On!



Board member Denny Schackter (right, tan sweater) works with a group of year-round TEAM students.

While numerous organizations offering youth programming were forced to shutter their doors amidst the long-lasting Covid-19 pandemic, MTEF found ways to keep many of our participants engaged in both tennis and enrichment activities during the school year.

Programming was, of course, scaled back and portions of it were virtual. Masks and social distancing measures were incorporated into the in-person offerings.

We thank all involved in helping us keep on keeping on! Here are some of the highlights!

School-Year TEAM

At MTEF, we aim to empower a community of student-athletes to lead successful lives and make a positive impact in their communities.

The TEAM acronym highlights the three-pillar approach we apply to engage with our students on and off the courts.

The T represents the tennis programming, providing participants with a healthy workout and a learning pathway for future growth and development. On the court we teach students the value of hard work, help to install a resilient mindset, encourage independent thinking — all while giving them opportunities to challenge themselves to improve.

Over the past few months we added new and proven teaching methods by incorporating the GreatBase Tennis (GBT) framework into lesson plans to build on the technical and tactical. We also are creatively applying CRAFT principles and language to drills and activities that help to develop complete players.

What are the GBT curriculum and the CRAFT method you might ask?

The GBT curriculum is a systematic approach to tennis instruction based on scientific principles and sound logic to

provide a pathway for development of all levels of players and teachers.

CRAFT is an acronym that comes from our Stryv365 partners, who developed this change process for participants to apply as they face diverse situations. The letters stand for Catch, Relax, Assess, Focus, Think. With this process, we provide our participants with tools to respond to situations and challenges instead of just reacting to them — sometimes in negative ways. Reacting is strictly emotional whereas a response is engineered and applies emotional intelligence.

The E represents education. Education helps us grow and develop. We have been focusing on career exploration and life skills.

The third pillar is the M, which stands for Mentoring. Underlying each experience with youth participants is our commitment to understanding and responding to the changing needs of our youth and building character and life skills needed to thrive!

Come check out what we have been up to either on Facebook or by joining us on court!

Mary Ryan Boys and Girls Club

It's been a blast introducing tennis these past few months to the next generation of players at the Mary Ryan Boys and Girls Club.

During this time, we have covered forehands, backhands, volleys, lobs, serves through game based activities. Most importantly we have discovered how to have fun on a tennis court, facing challenges and building skills as a team.

Don't be surprised if you see these players having fun with their friends and family members out on the tennis courts this summer or in one of our other TEAM programs!

Tennis Director Tony Broaden teaches a trio of youngsters how to serve at the Mary Ryan Boys and Girls Club.



Coping With Covid

MTEF Kept Participants Involved Through Hybrid Programming

The Covid-19 pandemic has had a huge impact on students across the world, including those involved in MTEF programming.



Julia Mercado
Education
Director's
Message

One item that remained the same was having tennis. Many of our parents stated MTEF was the only program where their children were able to participate in sports while being in a safe, socially distanced environment.

MTEF has always created a welcoming environment to create a supportive climate that allows our students to be actively engaged in our program.

Not only did our students enjoy tennis with Coach Tony, they also had a chance to do some career exploration and learn about essential life skills through our enrichment opportunities that take place twice a month via Zoom.

Students took a deep dive into an exploration of potential careers by learning about their interests, abilities, personalities

and aptitudes through career tests.

We also discussed the importance of setting goals in life. Students were able to write short and long term goals since it gives a life direction and boosts one's motivation and self-confidence in wanting to achieve these goals. Setting goals is the first step of turning one's vision of this future into reality.

Lastly, students had the chance to learn about self-esteem and how to identify their positive traits.

Students will keep learning about life skills for the remainder of the school year.

In addition, our students also have the opportunity to have an academic tutor from Marquette University. During their online session, students are able to get homework help, review classroom material, and get academic advice from their knowledgeable tutors.

It also is nice for our MTEF students to talk to Marquette University tutors and see what it takes to be a college student.

This pandemic is not stopping us from excelling academically and on the courts. We are definitely seeing positive results from our MTEF students.

A Life of Lessons

For Broaden, Tennis Has Been Moment by Moment Experience

I want to take this opportunity to share my tennis story and touch on my experience as a coach with MTEF.

My story may not be filled with tales of state qualifying matches or junior tournaments. What it does have is an abundance of moments – moments of growth, friendship, connection, challenges, and triumph.

I don't think I am alone in having these moments as sports have the power to bring people together through competition and develop youth both as athletes and as people.

For someone else it may have been soccer, basketball, swimming, martial arts or something else entirely. For me it was tennis.

I have played this game for as long as I can remember. It started off as a challenging activity that gave my grandpa and me a chance to connect and have fun together. When I think back on the time we spent together playing and watching tennis, my heart always fills with so much joy.

Growing up, my cousin Kiki and I were fortunate enough to continue learning and playing the game at various programs.

We spent so much time together playing and drilling in Milwaukee Recreation programs at Wick and Sherman, with Bob Rush at North Division High School and on Sunday afternoons at Le Club through the Badger Tennis Program. I really enjoyed scrambling for every ball and occasionally going for the \$100 shot from the 10 cent position (and making it... occasionally).

I also was lucky enough to have some awesome coaches who cared for me both as a player and a person, while sharing with me the three secrets to becoming better:

Practice, practice, practice.

Nowadays I spend more time teaching on a court than playing.

From that I have experienced some of the most fulfilling moments.

As coaches we are lucky enough to be in a position to give children a healthy workout, time to be social and build friendships, and an environment to develop and become the best version of themselves.

I am glad to be part of an organization whose members feel strongly about the benefits of tennis. We are fortunate to have members who believe that children, regardless of their background, deserve to feel supported and built up by their environment and feel that they can contribute in a positive way to the lives of others.

I am honored to be alongside a team of character-driven coaches, mentors and community members with MTEF, a true complement to other services and organizations in the city of Milwaukee that are providing positive youth development experiences.



Tony Broaden
Tennis
Director's
Message

A Community Collaboration

MTEF Among Organizations Offering MATC Scholarship

Al Hurvis/ADAMM Education Foundation, Milwaukee Tennis Classic and MTEF are collaborating on a new community outreach scholarship program.

Income from the Hurvis/ADAMM scholarship fund provides scholarship funding for young people from underserved areas to attend Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) with encouragement, but not a requirement, to pursue automotive and health sciences careers.

Milwaukee Tennis Classic promotes the program with the College Fair during the finals on the tournament on Monday, September 20, 2021 as part of Lunch at the Classic.

Julie Cordero represents MTEF on the scholarship selection committee along with representatives from Milwaukee Academy of Sciences, Hmong American Peace Academy, Summit Educational Association, Brown Deer High School and Tenor High School.

Hurvis/ADAMM Chair & CEO, Chas Mulcahy, said: "Hurvis/ADAMM is pleased to collaborate with MTEF and other community organizations with this unique scholarship program



Photo courtesy of MATC

A new scholarship program will help recipients attend MATC and graduate with no student debt.

with MATC. The best part of this is the recipients have the opportunity to earn a two year associate degree with no debt and a job or opportunity to continue higher education."

This new scholarship program combined with other scholarship resources at MATC, including the Promise Program, provides the student with the opportunity to earn a two-year associate degree with no debt and continued education at a four-year university or a family supporting job.

The program also provides participants mentors and potential internships.

Welcome Aboard

Quadracci, Vecera Bring Valuable Skills to MTEF Board

Two new members, Caran Quadracci and Gina Vecera, were elected to the MTEF board of directors at the group's Feb. 18 meeting.

Quadracci, managing partner at MiraMedia3, is an avid tennis enthusiast who competed on the tennis and lacrosse teams at Lawrence University, from which she received a bachelor's degree in political science and government. She subsequently earned a master's in communications and business from Boston University.

She and her husband Joel are longtime supporters of the foundation and its mission as premier sponsors of the annual Tennis Ball, MTEF's largest fundraiser of the year.

Quadracci is working on the tennis ball, recruiting sponsors and auction items.

According to Julie Cordero, MTEF's executive director, Quadracci has a reputation for thinking big and will help drive

the event forward.

Vecera, a Sola Salon owner and manager, earned a bachelor's degree in human development and social policy at Northwestern University and a master's degree in community counseling from the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

She has extensive experience in developing programming for at-risk youth as student leader development counselor at Notre Dame Academy and a student service coordinator at St. John the Baptist school, both in Green Bay.

Vecera, Cordero says, plans to be "hands on" and work directly with the kids as programming returns to a normal.

For now, Vecera and Tony Broaden, MTEF's tennis director, are developing social media plans. In particular they're hoping to start MTEF up on Instagram and connect more to the kids and families.



Quadracci



Vecera

Grants and Gifts

Grants

Charles D Jacobus Family Foundation
Herb Kohl Philanthropies
Krause Family Foundation, Inc.
Milwaukee Public Schools – Community Partnership Program
USTA/Midwest Section
USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education Foundation
Wisconsin Tennis Association

Corporate Gifts

AmazonSmiles Foundation

Government

Small Business Administration

Individual Gifts

Joy Albi
Robert Auxer
Emily & Ray Ballecer
Janet & John Beck
Bob & Teri Bonan
Glenna & Brad Brin
Kristy & Ronald Brooks
Mary Fran Cahill
Francesca & Thomas Carswell
Julie Cordero
Rachel Schneider & Jeffrey Davis
Jennifer Fleck
Anna & George Gaspar
Genie Gengler Charitable Foundation
Jean & Daniel Gilman
Kathy & Clark Gridley
Sharon & Michael Hipp
Peggy Kirkeeng and Mike Sperline
Heidi & Patrick Kohler
Charlene Kordus

Sarah & Michael Kubly
Abbey & Luke LaManna
Jill B. & Patrick Marget
Wendy & John Mikkelsen
Cheryl & John Miller
Sue & Michael Miller
Judith Neal
Jo & Rick O'Connor
Lynn & Frank Parker, Jr.
Mary Ann & Mark Picard
Jodi Ristau
Jyoti & Rajit Saluja
Debbie & Chris Schifano
Robin & John Siehoff
Frank & Kathleen Thometz
Nancy & Carl Trimble
Steve Vitale
Cindy & David Werner
Joanne Williams
Susan & Michael P. Woods
Peggy & Charles Yang

In Memory of Todd MacKay

Dave and Mindy Pelisek

In Honor of Tennis Ball 2020

Karin and Michael Buckholdt
Mary Fran Cahill and Herb Hentzen
Rachel and Timon Corwin
Sarah Cyganiak
Tess and Anwer Dhala
Donna Drosner and Jeff Pink
Maureen and Trevor D'Souza
Andrea and Barclay Ferguson
Susan and David Fondrie
Britt and David R. Frank
Julie Gorens-Winston and James Winston

Beth and Mark Horneffer
Hal Horneffer
Al Hurvis/ADAMM Education Foundation
Kim and David Irwin
Kurt and Kari Janavitz
Kari and Mark Jensen
Patricia Jensen
Martha and John Kendler
Janet and Peter Kim
Susan and Jeff Knutson
Patrick and Kristin Krill
Lisa and Steve Lyons
Cynthia and Mark Mason
Lynn and Terry McCreary
Morgan McCreary
Milwaukee Tennis Classic, Inc.
Chas and Judy Mulcahy
O'Byrne Distribution
Angela Orentas
Adam and Angela Pearson
Caran and Joel Quadracci
Denny Schackter and Patti Lock
Deborah and Christopher Schifano
Rachel Schneider and Jeff Davis
Kate and Will Schoyer
Judith and Robert Scott
Stryv365
Trimble Family Foundation
US Bank
Frederick Vetter
Lisa Winders
The Windhover Foundation
Kay and Richard Yuspeh
Erica and Erik Zipp
Amy and Edward Zosel



Community, connections, caring. Seems like we all could use a little more of these right now.

MTEF will do its part by hosting our second Serve & Connect event on Saturday, May 22 at Sherman Park, 3000 N. Sherman Blvd.

While ongoing Covid restrictions in county parks will limit the scope of this year's event, MTEF looks forward to bringing together Milwaukee police and firefighters with our youth to strengthen relationships in the Sherman Park community.

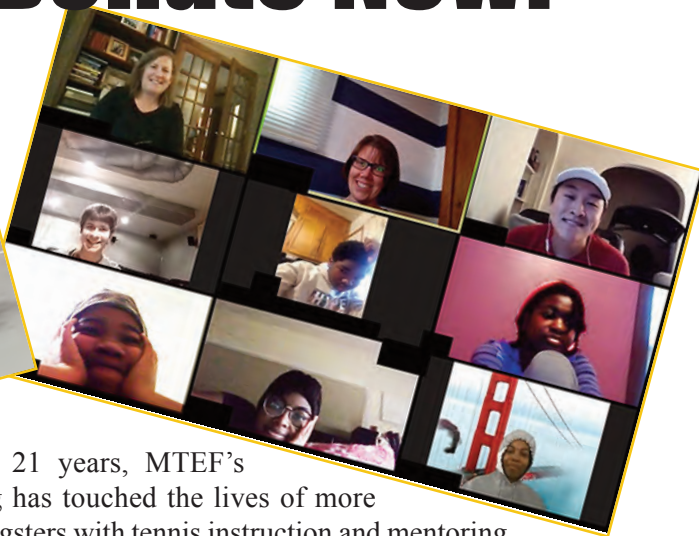
At 9:30 a.m., MTEF families and volunteers are invited to help clean up Sherman Park. With the large area of the park, social distancing should not be a problem.

At 10:30 a.m., MTEF staff and families will hold a celebration to recognize the success and resiliency of our students throughout this most challenging year.

At 11 a.m., MTEF high school students will partner with Milwaukee police and firefighters for an adult-child tournament on the Sherman Park tennis courts. Sports are a terrific vehicle for bringing people together, and the lifelong sport of tennis is a wonderful way for people of all ages to connect. Younger students are invited to participate in games and activities provided by Stryv365's trauma-informed coaches. Fans and members of the Sherman Park community are encouraged to cheer on their favorite team.

Serve & Connect is a national non-profit organization headquartered in South Carolina that fosters relationships between police and communities to create collaborative solutions for safety and resilience.

Be a Friend! Donate Now!



Over the past 21 years, MTEF's programming has touched the lives of more than 40,000 underserved Milwaukee youngsters with tennis instruction and mentoring plus academics, life skills and fitness/nutrition education.

For many years, the USTA Foundation has designated MTEF as a 4-Star NJTL chapter – one of only 25 out of more than 250 in the entire United States. MTEF was recognized as the National NJTL Chapter of the Year in 2006 and the Midwest NJTL Chapter of the Year in 2004, 2005 and 2009 and the national No. 2 First Serve chapter in 2010.

MTEF programs are possible because of the generosity of Friends in our community, like you, who help us sustain and grow our programming. You can make a big difference in a child's life with your gift of any size.

Donations can be made online at mtef.com/donate or mail this form with your check or credit card information. Donors will be recognized in the next issue of *The Match*. Here are some ways you can help:

Sponsorships

- ☐ Summer Programming
 - ☐ Merrill Park
 - ☐ Brown Deer
 - ☐ Sherman Park
- ☐ Year-round High Performance TEAM
- ☐ Newsletter
- ☐ Tutors and Tennis Instructors
 - ☐ Tutors
 - ☐ Tennis Instructors

Area of Greatest Need

☐ Please use my donation wherever it is most needed.

Volunteers

Another way to be a Friend is to donate your time. Projects/areas of need are:

- ☐ IT/Website
- ☐ Data Input/Analysis
- ☐ Committee Interest
- (Tennis Ball, Media, Fundraising, Program etc.)
- ☐ Mentor

To Donate Now

Copy this page. Make your choice(s) from the list above, fill in the information below and mail this page to:

MTEF, 3000 N. Sherman Blvd., Milwaukee, WI 53210. Make checks payable to MTEF.

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Amount: _____
Address: _____ City: _____
State: _____ ZIP code: _____ Email: _____
Credit Card: MasterCard Visa
Number: _____ Expiry: ____/____ Validation: _____ Signature: _____

Or log onto www.mtef.com and click on *Donate* or *Get Involved*. Donations are fully tax-deductible.

Meet Our Kids

Met Our Kids features young people involved in MTEF's year-around TEAM (Tennis, Education and Mentoring) programming.

Naomi Price **Sophomore** **Plus XI High School**



Naomi has been involved with MTEF since January 2020. She is a thoughtful, focused, and patient young lady which shows in her efforts and actions on and off the court!

On the courts, she has been working alongside her teammates to improve her game. Off-court, during recent MTEF enrichment activities, she's been engaging in discussions about what defines her as a person and also exploring various career paths.

What she has enjoyed most about the year-round program thus far has been the atmosphere and people she has spent time with. Her favorite sport to play is tennis because it's fun and she enjoys the different things that can be learned from it!

Apart from tennis and doing her schoolwork, Naomi stays busy with band practices, reading books, and was recently hired for her first job!

Taihdra McKenzie **6th Grade** **St. Margaret Mary**

Taihdra is a kind, artistic student, who also is a critical thinker. Her favorite school subject is history and English language arts since she loves to learn about the past and enjoys developing her writing skills.

In her free time, Taihdra likes to write and paint.

She is taking advantage of all the programs MTEF offers – tennis, enrichment activities and tutoring.

She enjoys everything about MTEF since she can meet people, gets to play tennis and the programming helps her build skills for a future career.

When playing tennis, she is good at forehands and wants to improve on backhands and overhead shots.

When she grows up, her goal is to become a nurse because she is interested in helping people.



Got an Auction Item?



A backyard barbeque, a Yeti cooler of craft beers, a lottery tree full of scratch-off lottery tickets and wine baskets are only a few of the things already on the wish list for the committee charged with making the silent auction at MTEF's 22nd Annual Tennis Ball a resounding success!

Gift certificates for gourmet restaurants, tickets to the theater and musical or sporting events also have proved popular in the past.

Donations also are being sought for the wine pull. All bottles donated must be valued at \$35 or more.

To donate auction items or wine, please contact Julie Cordero at jcordero@mt ef.com.

MTEF Students Excel in Black History Month Contest



Kastenmeier

When the word came in that the Midwest Tennis and Education Foundation was holding a sectionwide Black History Month contest across its member NJTL chapters, MTEF's education and tennis directors — Julia Mercado and Tony Broaden — quickly adapted their lesson plans to incorporate the event.

In the competition, youngsters were asked to respond in one of five categories about Black history.

Seven of MTEF's TEAM participants took up the challenge. In the end, Ben Kastenmeier was deemed a category winner and received a \$20 Visa gift certificate.

Because MTEF had the most entries of any of the Midwest Section's NJTL chapters, the non-winners each were awarded a \$10 gift certificate as a special surprise.

Here are MTEF's participants' entries as written:

Why do people encourage diversity in schools and workplaces?

I believe that people encourage diversity in schools and workplaces to help the next generation be in a place where everyone is different in their own way. It's also encouraged so that people can be around others that have a different backstory or even a different lifestyle. A kid who grows up going to a very diverse school will make friends with someone of a different race or ethnicity. This kid will also grow up respecting, admiring, and learning about his friends' heritage. In the end this kid will come out of school having an open mind about his or her peers in the future, who's heritage could be different than his or her own.

-Ben Kastenmeier, 14

Students need to work and get there brain going and be smarter and just have fun learning everyone needs a chance to learn things as a kid.

-Jasmine Waters, 12

Who are some famous African American figures today who make a difference?

There are a lot of famous African Americans but I know one of the most important is Ruby Bridges. Ruby Bridges is a civil rights activist. She is also the first African-American child to end the policy at all white William Frantz Elementary school in Louisiana. Ruby Bridges changed education so other African-American children can go to school with others. She even created a foundation called the Ruby Bridges Foundation which helped out her cause.

-Lola Lenhart, 12

If you wanted to protest an unfair law to help other people, what would you do?

If I wanted to protest a unfair law I would march then make a speech. So to prepare I would work on my vocabulary and spelling. Then practice with my friends and parents. So thats how I would protest a unfair law.

-Mariah Moore, 10

The most inspirational story I've learned during Black History Month is...

Dr. Martin Luther King

-Charly Heu, 10

The most inspirational story I learned during black history month is Rosa parks. She stood up by sitting down even though she will go to jail and still do the right thing. WOW

ps [she is very, very, very brave.]

-Yuhshyia Langebartels, 10

The most inspirational story I have learned during Black history month is the creation of the Underground Railroad. Harriet Tubman was the most conductor of the Underground Railroad, a network of secret routes from the south to the North that allowed enslaved African-Americans to escape into free states. She dedicated her life to helping and freeing enslaved people to which she showed her resolve by putting herself at risk. The Underground Railroad was also developed due to the efforts of abolitionists and farmers in safe houses which emphasizes that during hard times, we should always work together to overcome it.

-Israel Akinsanya, 17

Goal Setting Vital Part of New Program

From Page 1 with King in December.

In the first session, players developed a connection with him as they reflected on their unique and shared experiences through tennis and life.

Over the next two sessions, they learned about the importance of setting short-term SMART goals for on- and off-court practices. They also explored new strategies to help stay focused on their goals and even had a chance to show King how they were applying these new strategies and having fun on the courts.

SMART is an acronym that stands for specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, time-based.

The intent is to go from a goal of “I want to win every tennis match” to “By May, I will focus on my ball toss and only swinging at the good ones to achieve 50% of first-serves in.”

Now our students are looking into the future, connecting their short- and long-term goals as they imagine where they will be five

years from now.

What’s next? Well, that’s for our kids to decide!

King grew up playing tennis in Chicago. Following an outstanding junior career, he joined the University of Michigan tennis team where he was a three-time ITA All American (2011, 2012, 2013), a two-time Big 10 Athlete of the Year (2012, 2013), and a four-time All-Big Ten (2010, 2011, 2012, 2013) player.

King graduated in 2013 and has been playing professional tennis for the past eight years. He climbed to an ATP singles ranking of No. 185 in April 2018 and ATP doubles ranking of No. 113 in February 2020.

As he continues to work hard and improve his game, Evan King carves out time for mentoring youth who share his love for the sport.

MTEF is extremely grateful to King for sharing his time and experiences with our foundation.

How SMART Goals Work



Josiah

MTEF participant Josiah Jacobs wanted to create a SMART goal surrounding his on-court decision making, because, according to Tennis Director Tony Broaden, “He has a tendency to rip balls from anywhere in the court, going for the \$100 shot from the 10¢ position.” Specifically, his goal was to put himself in better position to hit his shots and to play points neutrally, especially when close to the baseline or when on the run.

To help achieve this goal, he created some guidelines to help focus his time on-court.

The first guideline Josiah and Broaden set was to practice the one-two-three rally cadence, which can help players use their time effectively during a point by applying a rhythm to the rally.

When the opponent hits the ball, Josiah says to himself, “one,” which is his cue to split step. When the ball bounces on his side of the court,

he says to himself, “two.”

Between saying one and two, Josiah focuses on moving into position and being on balance by the time the ball lands.

On “three,” his focus is on making contact with the ball. In addition, Josiah also imagines that, when he strikes the ball, his target is a two-story window above the net. This can help him make less errors into the net.

The third guideline is the phrase “when in doubt, find the middle! This applies to both his target on the other side of the net as well as his recovery position.

For the remainder of the indoor season Josiah plans to write these guidelines in his journal so they are fresh in his mind for every practice. At the end of the season he and Broaden will re-evaluate his habits with skills testing and decide on what steps to take moving forward.

Where Are They Now? Catching Up With TEAM Alums

Michelle Spicer first joined MTEF as a student athlete when she was 8 years old.

When asked about the impact MTEF has had on her life, Spicer said: “This program helped me develop a better understanding of tennis and is one of the reasons I am still playing tennis today. Not only did it help me develop tennis skills and fundamentals but it helped a lot with my studies. They really made sure that we knew we were student-athletes.”

When asked about fond memories she had of MTEF, she spoke highly of her experiences at the Mayor’s Cup tournaments in the summer

Spicer also recalls when a group of MTEF

students traveled to the Western & Southern Open in Cincinnati, where she got to see different professional players practice and play.

Growing up in the program, she felt the players and coaches were like another family since they spent every weekend and then the whole summer together.

To players currently in the program, Spicer had this advice: “Take advantage of the opportunities that the program can bring you and embrace the lessons that they are teaching you.”

Currently a student-athlete at UW-Oshkosh, Spicer, a junior, is on track to graduate with degree in kinesiology in May 2022.



Spicer

Student Gives Back by Sharing Service Project

MTEF is honored that Israel Akinsanya has chosen to partner with Tennis Director Tony Broaden to promote social and life-skills development through the sport of tennis!

At Rufus King International High School, where he is a senior, Akinsanya and his peers are encouraged to explore opportunities for personal and interpersonal development through experiential learning. A core element of this curriculum is the CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service) program. In service of their community, students are asked to reflect on areas of their life that they are passionate about and to consider opportunities from which they can grow and make a difference.

When asked why he wanted to do a service project with tennis and MTEF Akinsanya explained, "Tennis is a sport that has positively affected me and because of the program, especially during the summer, I not only grew as a player but as a person.

"I feel like through tennis I have learned many values and skills that can benefit me in other areas of life, he continued. "Because of this, I hoped to share my experiences and maybe help the younger generation build these skills so that they can apply them when facing adverse conditions. I wanted to do this project with MTEF to be an active and positive impact in the community that MTEF has created, and that I am a part of."



Akinsanya

With this purpose in mind, Akinsanya reflected on important life skills that are reinforced through tennis and planned open dialogues with TEAM Ace participants. Akinsanya along with our players and coaches then had opportunities to share their unique and shared experiences with various skills and values such as accountability, teamwork, determination, and perseverance.

Team Ace participants then used tennis activities to create an opportunity to experience, build, and reinforce these skills by applying strategies shared during the group huddle. At the end of the activities, time is spent reflecting on the experience and how

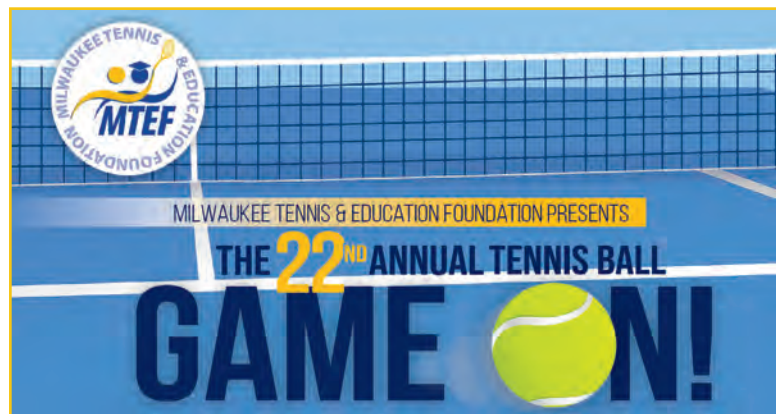
each participant felt during the activity applying the skill.

"I think this has been a very positive and rewarding experience for Israel, the kids, and myself as well," said Broaden

But don't take it just from Broaden!

Here's what participant Maurice Terry had to say about the experience thus far: "It's good seeing someone from the program come talk to us.

"I think it's good for him to step out of his comfort zone and share his experience and to let us do that too. Some of my favorite activities so far have been the *Three Lives Challenge* and the *Hannah Montana drill*. They helped us with teamwork, accountability and staying positive even when we make mistakes."



Sponsorships, Auction Items Needed for Tennis Ball

From Page 1 emcee/auctioneer at the 2019 Tennis Ball, will reprise the role this year.

A native of Rice Lake, Allan has been a familiar face to TMJ4 viewers for more than two decades. He was named the Wisconsin Sportscaster of the Year in 2012 and 2005 by the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association.

The highly regarded Bartolotta Restaurant Group will provide the sure-to-be-delicious hors d'oeuvres and beverages that get the festivities off and running as well as the multi-course dinner.

You can't have a proper Ball without dancing! Music will be provided by Part Time Models, a quartet which plays what it describes as "an eclectic mix of classic rock, blues, alternative rock, reconfigured pop hits with an occasional trip

to hip-hop."

Working hard to bring it all together are members of the Tennis Ball committee. Board members Timon Corwin, Beth Horneffer, Kurt Janavitz, Mark Jensen, Morgan McCreary, Denny Schackter, Chris Schifano, Gina Vecera, and Caran Quadracci. Joining them are Jody Keller, Patti Lock and Diane Veenendaal.

Corporate and individual sponsorships are available at prices ranging from \$500 to \$10,000. Single tickets are priced at \$150. For detailed information or to purchase sponsorships or tickets, log on to www.mtef.com and find the 2021 Tennis Ball under *Events*.

MTEF also is seeking auction items and cash donations to purchase items. Donations of either can be made via the same page.



Allan

Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation
Attn: Julie Cordero
3000 N. Sherman Blvd.
Milwaukee, WI 53210

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Happenings

Subject to Change

May 19: Enrichment session with Miss Julia on Zoom (final session of the season).

May 21: TEAM Tennis at Wick Field, 4929 W. Vliet St. (final session of the season).

May 22: Serve & Connect Day, Sherman Park., 3000 N. Sherman Blvd. 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

June 7 - July 23: Adult lessons with Milwaukee Recreation. Multiple locations across Milwaukee. For details or to register, visit mtef.com/adult-tennis.

June 14 - July 23: Summer TEAM Tennis.

Merrill Park, 461 N. 35th St.

Mondays-Fridays. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Register through Milwaukee Recreation.

Brown Deer, 8060 N. 60th St., Brown Deer.

Mondays-Fridays. 9 a.m. - noon.

Register through Brown Deer Recreation.

Additional partnership with Mary Ryan Boys & Girls Club.

July 26 - 29: MTEF TEAM Cup Junior Tournament, Merrill Park. All day. Finals and consolation finals, trophy presentation and picnic on final day.

Nov. 6: 22nd Annual MTEF Tennis Ball. Italian Community Center, 631 E. Chicago St. 6 p.m. - midnight.

For more information, please check our website,
www.mtef.com



Ensure the future
of tennis, education and mentoring
for Milwaukee's youth by naming the
Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation
(EIN: 39-1317061) in your will or estate plan.

To learn more,
contact your financial advisor.