



# passing shots.....

A weekly serving of tennis news from Tennis New Zealand.

16 June 2005

Feedback: [passingshots@tennisnz.com](mailto:passingshots@tennisnz.com)  
[www.tennisnz.com](http://www.tennisnz.com)

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### Kiwis Overseas

**Mark Nielsen** (pictured) has won both his first round singles and doubles matches at the **US\$10,000 Futures** at Kusatsu, Japan.

Nielsen defeated local wildcard Masayoshi Tomita **6-1 6-2** and now faces a Japanese qualifier in the second round. In doubles Nielsen and American David Martin beat a local combination in straight sets.

**Rubin Statham** again struck a seed in the first round of the tournament. Statham was beaten by eighth seed, Atsuo Ogawa **6-4 7-5**.

**Oliver Statham** was defeated in the second round of qualifying, while the Statham's together lost in the doubles qualifying.

**Marina Erakovic** is getting ready to play juniors at **Wimbledon** with some build-up matches about to get underway. Last year the Aucklander won the **singles title** at the **Gerry Weber** tournament in Germany, made the final of the singles and won the doubles at **Roehampton** and then reached the third round of singles at **Wimbledon** and the final of the doubles. Expect to see more good results from the 17-year-old who has a current world junior ranking of **9** but has been as high as **No.5**. In the senior WTA rankings Erakovic has risen from **269** to a new career high of **240**. This is after she started the year with no ranking at all.

After a quarter-final appearance last week **GD Jones** had to retire hurt in the first round of the **Mens Futures** in Auburn, California.

**William Ward** lost **4-6 6-2 6-4** to fifth seed **Luka Gregorc** (Slovenia) in the second round of qualifying at the same event.

### Junior Kiwis Making Their Mark

**Katherine Westbury** has taken out the **2005 Wollongong Junior Open** without dropping a set. Unseeded Westbury stormed through to the finals where she defeated fourth seed Courtenay Cooper (NSW) **6-3 6-2**.

**Sacha Jones** has struck a first round win at the **Raquette D'or, Mohammedia** ITF tournament in Morocco this week. Jones easily beat Latvian Trina Slapeka **6-2 6-1**.

**Ellen Barry** also experienced first round success at the **13th International Junior Tournament** in Frankfurt, Germany. Barry defeated Ellen Linsenbolz (GER) in a hard fought three setter **3-6 6-4 6-3** then went onto battle top Australian Junior Olivia Lukaszewicz. Although defeated in this second round match Barry is happy with her performance and gained further experience on the clay surface.

### Team McLachlan

Brothers **Riki** and **Ben McLachlan** have both made their mark in California this week. Riki won the 14s boys singles at the **Anaheim Junior Open**, beating hometown player Ali Makmalchi **6-4 6-1**, who had beaten Ben in the semi finals.

The kiwi boys then teamed up to beat Californian pair Yushi Ayabe and Eric Barnard **6-3 6-2**.

Riki and Ben also performed well in last months **Quiksilver Junior Champs** at Newport Beach, California. Riki made it through to the fourth round (128 draw) with an excellent **7-6 7-6** win over fifth seed Christopher Freeman of California. While Ben reached the semi finals of the consolation draw.

### New Zealand Hosts French Coach

This week **New Zealand** has played host to a Paris-based tennis coach, **Laurent Chiambretto** who is on a six month mission to explore different methods of tennis coaching and administration worldwide. **Chiambretto** has already visited Argentina and Chile and plans to continue to Australia, Vietnam, China and Mali. His trip is being supported by the **Paris League** tennis with the hope of studying the international evolution of coaching methods around the world. He will then report back to French authorities with his findings and perhaps the ITF will also use his research for further development of the game.

So far **Chiambretto** is highly impressed with North Harbour coach, **Kevin Woolcott** and his **"progressive methods using technology and his innovations."**

The French coach says that young players in **South America** concentrate more than any he has seen in the world mainly because they are poor and want to earn money from a professional career. In **New Zealand** the juniors concentrate quite well, but not as much as South America, but more than France. However he says our coaching is better as is the coach-to-player ratio.



### Davis Cup



**New Zealand's next Davis Cup Tie** is going to hit off on **15th-17th July** at the **MORE FM Tennis Park**.

Their opponents for the tie are **Kuwait** so get along and show your support for the Kiwis.

Tickets are available from **MORE FM Tennis Park**, Oteha Valley Road Extension, Albany. Or contact **Tennis North Harbour** Ph: 09 414 5530 ext 701 Email: [tennisnh@ihug.co.nz](mailto:tennisnh@ihug.co.nz)

To keep up with the latest details check out [www.tennisnz.com](http://www.tennisnz.com) Watch this space for more details next week.

### US Scholarships

For those players who are interested in attending college in the US, **TennisNZ** currently has various scholarships available.

Contact [info@tennisnz.com](mailto:info@tennisnz.com) for more information.

### Tournament Calendar

**Auckland Tennis July Tournament**  
9-13 July  
Vodafone Tennis Centre, Glen Innes, Auckland  
Ph (09)528 3925  
[www.aucklandtennis.co.nz](http://www.aucklandtennis.co.nz)

**National Indoor Championships 14/u**  
10-14 July  
Edgar Sports Centre, Portsmouth Drive, Dunedin  
(09) 528 5428  
[www.tennisnz.com](http://www.tennisnz.com)

**National Indoor Championships 16/u**  
13-16 July  
Edgar Sports Centre, Portsmouth Drive, Dunedin  
(09) 528 5428  
[www.tennisnz.com](http://www.tennisnz.com)

**NZ Funds IC Trans-Tasman Cup 2005**  
15, 16, 17 October  
Melbourne, Australia

**Tennis NZ Annual General Meeting**  
23 July  
1.30 pm  
Brentwood Hotel, Kemp Street, Kilmirnie Wellington

**Wanganui Tennis Club 125th Reunion**  
21-23 January 2006 (Wellington Anniversary Weekend)  
[reunion@wanganuitennis.co.nz](mailto:reunion@wanganuitennis.co.nz)  
Reunion, PO Box 162, Wanganui

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