

Contact: Laurie Staton
General Manager / Media Contact
Salt Lake Swimming & Tennis Club
Phone: 801-706-8421 C
Email: laurie@thetennisclub.org

#1 Seed Rick Leach advances in national 45s tennis tourney

Utahn Rod Horton defeated by Georgian Troy Goers in USTA National Men's 45s Indoor Championship

SALT LAKE CITY (November 9, 2010) – #1-ranked U.S. Men's 45s player, Rick Leach, of Newport Beach, CA, advanced in the USTA National Men's 45s Indoor Championship Tournament 6–3, 6–1 against Mike Lamb of Cumming, GA. Leach won the Australian Open, Wimbledon, and the U.S. Open in Doubles in the 1990's.

All but two of the seeded players advanced Tuesday at the tournament, held at the Salt Lake Swimming & Tennis Club. Mario Tabares (#2) defeated Raymond Krueger, of New York, NY, 6–1, 6–0; Thomas Kong (#4), of Ventura, CA, defeated Utah native Martin Rothfels, of Sacramento, CA, 6–2, 6–3; Kelly Ward (#5), of League City, TX, defeated Kyle Permut, of Great Neck, NY, 6–2, 6–3; Willie Alumbaugh (#6), of Leawood, KS, lost to Bogdan Badiu, of Naples, FL, 6–4, 7–6 (6); Gilbert Schuerholz (#7), of Luthvle Timon, MD, advanced after defeating Utah native Roger Greene, of Cincinnati, OH, 6–2, 7–6 (5); and Salt Lake's Rod Horton (#8) lost to Troy Goers, of Rosewall, GA, 6–2, 6–3. Though unseeded Joey Johnson of North Salt Lake pushed Andy Stoner (#3), of Cave Creek, AZ, to 3 sets, Stoner pulled out a victory—after being down match point in the third set—taking the match 6–4, 4–6, 7–5.

If the seeds hold and Leach (#1) and Tabares (#2) meet in the finals on Friday, there could be matchup of 2 powerhouse players who have met each other in previous matches this year. Tabares is currently ranked #4 in the USTA for Men's 45s. He won the National 45s Grass Championships—defeating Leach in the Finals, and was a finalist at the National 45s Clay Championships—losing to Leach in the Finals.

Doubles play begins Tuesday afternoon, with Rick Leach and doubles partner Greg Washer attempting to repeat last years' championship result. Match play continues at the Salt Lake Swimming & Tennis Club through Friday, November 12, 2010.

Tournament results will be posted daily on the Salt Lake Swimming & Tennis Club website, www.thetennisclub.org. For information about viewing matches, contact the Club at 801-487-3206 or lan@thetennisclub.org.

#

The tournament is being played at the Salt Lake Swimming & Tennis Club.