



# VAN DER MEER TENNIS ACADEMY

## MAY, 2020 NEWSLETTER



### END OF THE ACADEMY YEAR 2019/2020

**Dennis & Pat  
Van der Meer**  
*Founders*

**Brian DeVilliers**  
*Academy Director*

**Katie Ruth**  
*Head Pro  
Director of Fitness*

**Elizma Nortje**  
*Head Pro  
Mental Training Director*

**Nick Grafton**  
*Academy Coach  
Athletic Trainer*

**Yonas Gebre**  
*Academy Coach  
Head Stringer*

**Haris Poric  
Becca Richison  
Tyler Pyle  
Martin Gonzalez  
Lauren Strasburger**  
*Academy Coaches*

**Sally Droop**  
*Quickstart Instructor*

**Melissa Marchetta**  
*Head of Housing*

This has been quite a year! It was the first year VDM Academy started without our legendary Founder, Dennis Van der Meer since its inception in 1985. Although Dennis has not been able to be present day to day since 2011, his strength and courage have been inspirational to all of us. He will never be forgotten, as long as our coaches who were lucky enough to be trained personally by him carry on his tradition of excellence, by training new coaches the values of VDM.

Fall and most of winter proceeded normally, then in March life changed abruptly! Coronavirus impacted every aspect of normal life. The COVID 19 Pandemic brought about rapid change in everyone's routines, causing fear and vast shortages in supplies, certain foods and equipment, and social distancing measures. Tennis tournaments ceased, and in many cases, tennis practice stopped as well. Here at VDM, we were able to keep going, as we had the foresight to start implementing safety procedures immediately. We have stayed healthy, and have kept practicing these COVID 19 measures vigilantly.

We are grateful for a healthy staff, students, and VDM Family unit. We hope and pray for a cure, and vaccine sooner rather than later, and that everyone will stay vigilant and safe. Our lives have adjusted to the "New Normal" but we hope for even better days to come. We must always try to learn from adversity; as tennis players we are competitors at heart. Players become successful by formulating a plan to win a match, and constantly adjusting it as needed. Positive attitude carries us through, lifts our spirits and makes everything possible.



### JUNIOR SUMMER CAMPS — TAKE IT TO THE NEXT LEVEL

Van Der Meer has an awesome, safe summer in store for you. We are taking extra precautions - temperature scanning, hand sanitizers on each court, social distancing measures in effect.

Let our legendary coaches raise your game with great instruction, and lots of match play on hard and clay surfaces. Relax at the beach, one block from the courts on your day off. Covered and indoor courts in case of rain. Visit our website for more information:

<http://vandermeertennis.com/junior-summer-tennis-camps/>



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HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC 1.800.845.6138



[WWW.VDMACADEMY.COM](http://WWW.VDMACADEMY.COM)

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/VDMTENNISACADEMY](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/VDMTENNISACADEMY)



## CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES



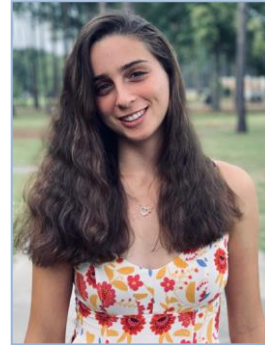
**SCOUT MATTHEWS**  
GOING TO PLAY FOR  
EASTERN WASHINGTON



**JOHN FRENCH**  
GOING TO PLAY FOR  
RPI



**SOPHIA MARCHETTA**  
GOING TO PLAY FOR  
LIMESTONE



**VALERIE DROOP**  
GRADUATING FROM  
SCAD



**JACQUELINE PELLETIER**  
GRADUATING FROM  
UNIV. OF ALABAMA

## VDM ACADEMY YEAR END AWARDS



**BELLE KUHNERT**  
DVDM SPIRIT AWARD



**MATT MAGGIACOMO**  
DVDM SPIRIT AWARD



**CHERYSH HENRY**  
FITNESS STAR



**MORGAN WOODSON**  
FITNESS STAR



**MIA ROETS**  
MOST IMPROVED PLAYER



**NAHOM TEFERA**  
MOST IMPROVED PLAYER



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