

New Set of Stars Rising

BY DOUGLAS HOCHMUTH

A new tide of SoCal stars are sweeping the national leaderboards and La Mesa's **Siem Woldeab** leads the pack. A first-generation American, Woldeab holds an outstanding 76.5% win rate on the year after playing 68 matches and reaching No. 1 in Boys' 18. With a 4.6 GPA and an outstanding work ethic, Woldeab had his pick when it came to collegiate commitments. After being courted by California stalwarts like Stanford, USC, and UCLA, a three-day trip to Texas ended in a letter of commitment to the Longhorns.

In the No. 2 spot nationally is San Diego's **Brandon Nakashima**, who trounced his way to the USTA International Spring Championships without dropping a set. Nakashima won his first pro tourney in Laguna Nigel over a tough field.

Newport Beach's **Maxwell McKennon** had a great year, narrowly losing in the Boys' 16 Easter Bowl Final. A lefty who takes a big cut at the ball, McKennon is a top college prospect for the class of 2020.

Woodland Hills' **Katrina Scott** was chosen to represent USA in the finals of the ITF World Junior Tennis Competition held in the Czech Republic. A great showing saw Scott win 4 of 5 matches. Former junior team members include Sloane Stephens and Lindsay Davenport.

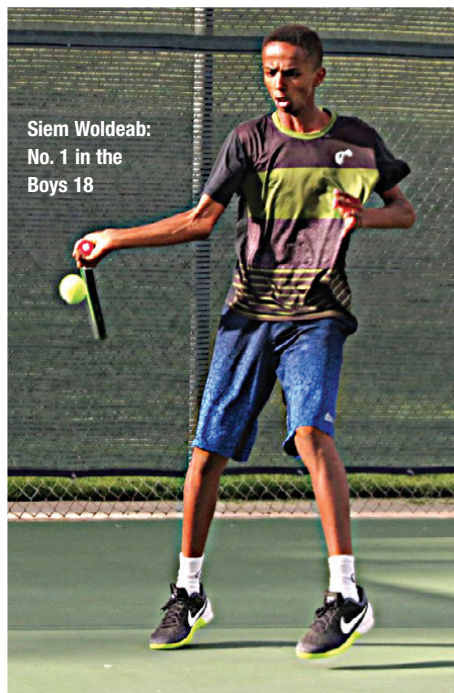
San Marino's **Anessa Lee** played calm and controlled in the Girls' 16 Easter Bowl final, gliding to victory. It was her third singles final for the year. Anessa holds the No. 1 spot in Girls' 16 as well as No. 45 in Girls' 18.

Just behind Anessa in the Girls' 16 is Newport Beach's **Leyden Games**, who has two titles on the year with 74 matches played. Leyden played in Girls' 16 and 18 divisions, putting up impressive wins in both columns despite being 15.

SoCal's top junior in Girls' 18 is Yale-bound **Rena Lin**. The Northridge native went 21-6 on the year with one title.

At No. 9 in Girls' 14, San Diego's **Katherine Hui** played a remarkable 63 matches this year, winning 50 of them.

Redondo Beach's **Taylor Johnson** committed to UCLA. Early on, Johnson had a host of greats around her, including Billie



Siem Woldeab:
No. 1 in the
Boys 18

Jean King, Rosie Casals, and now the head coach of the Bruins, Stella Sampras Webster.

Torrance's **Aidan Mayo** continued to feed off last year's experience playing for team USA at Le Petits As in France. This year saw him play in Ecuador, Colombia, Costa Rica, Germany and the Netherlands.

Altadena's **Tristan Boyer** reached a career high of eight in the ITF junior rankings. Tristan made it to the Boys' 18 Easter Bowl final but lost a close contest to fellow Californian **Jenson Brooksby**.

Cerritos' **Govind Nanda**, a future UCLA Bruin, teamed up with Texan **Trey Hilderbrand** to take the Easter Bowl doubles title. Nanda has

played on junior Davis Cup and is excited to bring his team experience to the fore for one of California's premier DI squads.

In Boys' 18, SoCal has 12 top-100 players: **Siem Woldeab**, No. 1, **Brandon Nakashima**, No. 2, **Tristan Boyer**, No. 8, **Govind Nanda**, No. 9, **Jacob Bullard**, No. 14, **Eric hahn**, No. 22, **Stefan Dostanic**, No. 32, **Emilio Nava**, No. 56, **Omni Kumar**, No. 62, **Jack Pulliam**, No. 66, **Jake Sands**, No. 71, and **Maxwell McKennon**, No. 74.

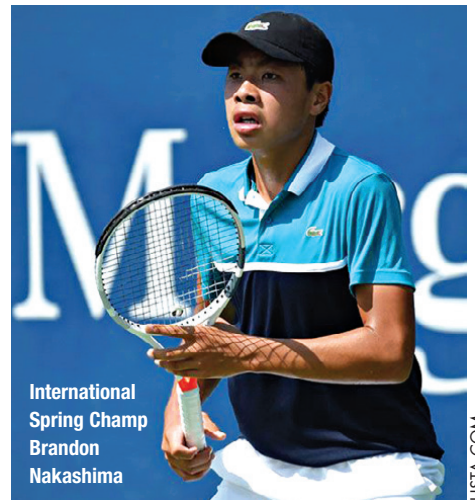
In Boys' 16, SoCal has 10 top-100 players: **Maxwell McKennon**, No. 1, **Aidan Mayo**, No. 26, **Alexander Petrov**, No. 34, **Aditya Gupta**, No. 35, **Daniel Zhou**, No. 45, **Timothy Li**, No. 52, **Emilio Nava**, No. 55, **Tristian Sarap**, No. 81, **Nadim Motaghedi**, No. 90, and **Takeyasu Sekiguchi**, No. 91.

In Boys' 14, SoCal has 13 top-100 players: **Kyle Kang**, No. 16, **Sebastian Gorzny**, No. 21, **Hudson Rivera**, No. 29, **Learner Tien**, No. 47, **Masato Perera**, No. 48, **Chase Thompson**, No. 53, **Ethan Schiffman**, No. 54, **Lucas Coriaty**, No. 60, **Rithvik Krishna**, No. 72, **Dylan Charlap**, No. 73, **Martin Mazev**, No. 87, and **Rohan Murali**, No. 96.

In Girls' 18, SoCal has 10 top-100 players: **Rena Lin**, No. 32, **Anessa Lee**, No. 45, **Jenna DeFalco**, No. 47, **Eryn Cayetano**, No. 66, **Maia Sung**, No. 71, **Charlotte Cha-**



Yale-bound Rena Lin



International
Spring Champ
Brandon
Nakashima

vatipon, No. 74, **Elizabeth Goldsmith**, No. 79, **Haley Giavara**, No. 84, **Leyden Games**, No. 88, and **Katherine Nguyen**, No. 94.

In Girls' 16, SoCal has 11 top-100 players: **Anessa Lee**, No. 10, **Leyden Games**, No. 19, **Rebecca Lynn**, No. 35, **Kimberly Hance**, No. 41, **Katrina Scott**, No. 43, **Justine Dondonay**, No. 52, **Jenna DeFalco**, No. 53, **Anne Lutkemeyer**, No. 58, **Jordyn McBride**, No. 83, **Calissa Dellabarca**, No. 95, and **Charlotte Chavatipon**, No. 98.

In Girls' 14, SoCal has 13 top-100 players: **Katherine Hui**, No. 9, **Tsehay Driscoll**, No. 20, **Rebecca Lynn**, No. 24, **Katrina Scott**, No. 30, **Anne Lutkemeyer**, No. 45, **Katie Codd**, No. 49, **Kaila Barksdale**, No. 52, and **Liza Tankimovich**, No. 59

Unless noted all ranking are national and based on the combined points of the year through November 20, 2018.