



Rockford hosts midwest Wheelchair Tennis Championships

(Rockford, July 24, 2005, 6:09 p.m.) It's drawing people to West Michigan from all around the world.

This year's Midwest Indoor Tennis Wheelchair Championships wrapped up in Rockford Sunday. Organizers say they had a record 72 entrants from 15 states and three countries.

Participants competed for \$9,000 in prize money, made possible from a sponsorship by Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital.

Organizers say the tournament is a chance for athletes to come out and prove themselves.

"Tennis is tennis," said Tournament Director Lynn Bender. "The net's the same length, the court's the same size. They want to compete just like abled-body players and that's why tennis is the fastest growing wheelchair sport in the country."

The Rockford event is one of the largest indoor wheelchair tournaments in the midwest.



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