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Contract Administrator Bassar "Base" Richardson and Engineer Thomas Traylor, back row, at left, plan to lead Metro's Tennis Team through this year's thrilling Bunny Bowl event. The team came in fourth in the 2009 Bunny Bowl Tournament.

Metro Tennis Team Ready for Bunny Bowl 2010

(April 8, 2010) They may not be Wimbledon bound, but Metro's own tennis team will see if a year's worth of practice will pay off as the team competes in the 2010 Bunny Bowl Tournament in El Monte.

And even if they don't come in first, "everybody's a winner" when they play sports, says Bunny Bowl Organizer Daphne Delores.

"Now is the time to demonstrate our polished skills and show the world what we are made of," said Metro Contract Administrator Bassar "Base" Richardson, who pairs with Metro Engineer Thomas Traylor, to lead the team.

Encouraging his team with a spirited discourse that sounds as if it was plucked from Shakespeare's *Henry V*, Richardson encourages his players to "sharpen your swords and shine your shields because the battle for the Kings Royal Tennis Trophy will be held."

The Bunny Bowl event has been held for 29 years as a "fun" social event and that when it was started players were actually encouraged to participate in costume, Delores explains.

Dressing up isn't encouraged anymore. "It's just to get people into the

atmosphere of enjoying tennis” she said.

The public is invited to watch the tournament play on 11 courts with the first serve scheduled for 3pm, Sunday April 11 at the Whittier Narrows Tennis Center, 1201 Potrero Ave. in El Monte.

Those taking on Metro this year include teams from Boeing, JPL-Caltech, Northrop Grumman, and So. Cal Edison.



Metro team roster includes:

Singles:

- Patrick Astredo
- George Branch
- Martin Manssourian
- Russell Higgins

Doubles:

- Alan Gee - Richard Bonino
- Al Martinez - Mark Mahoney
- Don Seawell - Ruben Madrid
- Base Richardson - Don Riley
- Steve Moya - Mike Lopez\
- Thomas Traylor - Ray Robinson

--from Laura Kloth