Newsletter

Vol. 18 No. 4 July, 2001 USRA

From The President

I was recently looking back through a couple of my old president's articles, one from May 1998 and one from January 1999. I was surprised to find that both the articles started with the phrase "Another one bites the dust". The May article was referring to the racquetball season biting the dust and the January 1999 referred to the year biting the dust. I was looking at these articles to find inspiration for this article. Instead of inspiration, I found redundancy! I guess I need to look elsewhere for inspiration.

I found two recent events that can provide inspiration. The first event, a sad one, is the death of Sue Carow. Many of us who have been around racquetball for awhile knew Sue to be a racquetball gym-rat and a fierce competitor. Sue was one of the pioneers on the original pro racquetball tour in the late 70's and early 80's. Many of us in Illinois learned a lot from competing against Sue. Just ask Chris Evon, Cheryl Gudinas and Colleen (Shields) Johnson, to name a few. She always "looked" pretty easy to beat – until you got on the court with her. She never gave up and she usually won. Sue was the ISRA's first inductee into Illinois Racquetball's Hall of Fame in April 2000.

In addition to racquetball, Sue loved a good party and her children. She was enthusiastic about both. The ISRA extends our condolences to Sue's children. Although Sue is gone, the inspiration she gave many of us to work harder and to excel at racquetball lives on in our games.

The second inspirational event was the USRA National Singles which were held in Houston, Texas over Memorial Day weekend. Cheryl Gudinas is once again the reigning Women's Open National Champion. Congratulations, Cheryl! In addition to Cheryl, 12 other Illinois players came home with medals. Some of those include Watmora Casey (2nd in Men's 40 + A/B), Cheryl Kirk (2^{nd} in Women's 45 + A/B), Leo Klimaitis (2^{nd} in Men's 50 + A/B) and John O'Donnell, Jr. (3^{rd} in Men's 70+). Please see Cheryl Kirk's article further back in the newsletter for full details.

I'm sure those who attended Nationals came back inspired by the play they saw there. The rest of us now need to get inspired and practice up over the summer so we don't get left in the dust when the next racquetball season starts!

Have a great summer...

Laurel



Tres Amigos (Julie Vincent, Janet Christie and Martha Huske) celebrate Cinco de Mayo at the USRA Regionals (Bloomingdale).

Regional Results will appear in the next issue.

Inside This Issue...

From the President page 1

The Kid Has Game page 2

National Singles Racquetball Championships pages 4-8

Travel League
Wrap Uppage 9

2001/2002 Travel League Captain's Meeting page 9

2001 ISRA Newsletter Advertising Rates page 9

Women's Daytime Doubles
Popular in Western
Suburbspage 10

USRA Competitive License Application page 10

Negrete takes over the IRT!page 11

ISRA 2001-2002 Tournament Calendar.....page 12

ISRA Officer and Board
Member Election
Heldpage 14

Racquetball Challenge
Courtspage 14



ILLINDIS STATE RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT Laurel Davis - Hinsdale

VICE-PRESIDENT Tom Griffith - Lisle

SECRETARY Judith Young - Lisle

TREASURER Rich Clay - Libertyville

ZONE VICE-PRESIDENTS
Carol Bastien - Vergennes (South)
Jim Jeffers - Peoria (Central)
Lynne Weisbart - Northbrook (North)
Doug Halverson - Westchester (West)

GOVERNING BOARD
Mike Davern - Naperville
T.J. Ferro - Naperville
Jim Gaw - Elmhurst
Pam Grace - Wheaton
Peggy Hartmann - Naperville
Cheryl Kirk - Naperville
Bill Lyman - Berwyn
Geoff Peters - Chicago
Cary Slade - Naperville
Steve Stone - Champaign
Tom Utterback - Orland Park

AUXILIARY BOARD
Rob Ayres - Plainfield
Patrice Calvi - Richton Park
Jeff Grace - Wheaton
Dale Johnson - Schaumburg
Jordan Kahn - Buffalo Grove
Kit Lawson - Naperville
Gail Parzygnat - Elgin
Bev Powell - Lovington

JUNIOR AUXILIARY BOARD Krystal Csuk - Naperville Andy Hawthorne - Champaign

ISRA NEWSLETTER STAFF Mike Davern - Editor Cheryl Kirk - Associate Editor Geoff Peters - Associate Editor

The ISRA Newsletter is published in January, March, May, July, September and November, and is the official publication of the Illinois State Racquetball Association (I.S.R.A). All rights reserved. Copyright 2001. Reproduction in whole or in part of any text, photograph or illustration without written permission from the I.S.R.A. is strictly prohibited. Changes of address, "Letters to the Editor", photographs and editorial contributions should be sent to: Editor, ISRA Newsletter, 704 Sherwood Court, Naperville, IL 60565 (630) 579-8611. Ad rates available upon request.

Typesetting by: TypaGraphics Printing by: Tyler Press, Inc.

The Kid Has Game

By Harry Hitzeman, Daily Herald Staff Writer

Brandon Ritschard played all kinds of sports - soccer, football, baseball and basketball - but he was always bored.

The 13-year-old Glen Ellyn youth found his niche after he received a racquetball set and membership to the B.R. Ryall YMCA in Glen Ellyn as a Christmas gift in 1999. Now, about 16 months after his first lesson, Ritschard is beating players who have been playing the sport longer than he's been alive.

"It's his passion," says Brandon's mother, Julie. "He would rather do this and do (weekend) tournaments and hit the road. He just loves it, so we let him go with it. As long as it doesn't interfere with school, he's good to go."

For Ritschard, a seventh-grader at Hadley Junior High School in Glen Ellyn, the thought of taking on an opponent one-on-one makes his competitive juices flow. "I love to win. I don't like to lose, and it's a lot of fun, too," he responds when asked what he likes most about the game.

And the worst part? The 5-foot-I-inch, 100-pound Ritschard, who has collided with many larger foes - both figuratively and literally - is quick to respond. "Losing," says the honor roll student. "I don't like to lose, especially when I can beat the person and I play badly. That just kills me."

After several months of lessons at the YMCA, the coach called Ritschard's father, Fred, to tell him about his son's progress and budding talent. More hard work followed, with Ritschard practicing up to two hours a day, five days a week for 10 total hours. His hard work paid off, as he landed a sponsorship from Head, a maker of racquets and other equipment.

He competed in tournaments in and around Illinois, eventually accumulating enough points to rank 13th in his age group for the U.S. Racquetball Association.

This summer, he's looking forward to tournaments as far away as Denver, Colo., where he will likely improve his ranking. Aside from attending college and becoming a veterinarian, Ritschard hopes to compete in the Olympic Games.

Some people believe racquetball will be-



(L to R) Brandon Ritsehard, Mike Davern, Jell Novak

come an Olympic-sanctioned event by 2008.

Ritschard's supporters also hope he will be an inspiration to younger kids interested in the sport. Tom Griffith, one of Ritschard's coaches, points to several factors that make him successful. "He's got a large amount of determination, tenacity, whatever you want to call it. He also has a skill level that's really polished," Griffith says. "He's a sportsman out there. Plus, he's a great kid."

Ritschard's hard work and dedication is evident in a recent practice session with Griffith. Ritschard, a lefty, is skillfully darting shots so they bounce on his right side, away from Griffith. Next, he's looping returns off the ceiling to negate a good serve by Griffith. Or he's strategically using the corners so the quick caroms make for an easy "kill."

Ritschard, who also is in the gifted program in Glen Ellyn Elementary District 41, says understanding math and the court's angles helps him play the game. Along with the two pre-match habits: get there early and. "I always like to drink water, or hydrate, as my mom says." So much for that Gatorade endorsement.

Dave Negrete, owner of The Athletic Club of Bloomingdale who also coaches Ritschard, said another reason he excels is because the sport isn't forced on him. Negrete should know: He's a former top-ranked professional racquetball player himself.

Has Matt Brown, a 40-year-old regular at The Bloomingdale Athletic Club, one of the two sites where Ritschard practices, ever beaten him in a match? Brown shrugs and smiles. "He's pretty good," Brown says in a classic understatement. "He's got a great sense of the game. He hits great shots. He's a cool head."

POWERTONEPIUS

National Singles Racquetball Championships

"The Finals", Houston, Texas, May 23-28, 2001



Bill Lyman warming up...

"Illinois has always been one of the biggest supporters of the USRA. We're appreciative of the participation from Illinois players at the USRA tournaments". So said Jim Hiser, USRA Associate Executive Director and National Singles Tournament Director. And participate we did! With 31 players entered, Illinois ranked third behind Texas (147) and California (38) — last year we were fourth. Team Illinois (21 men and 10 women), posted some nice results (see below).

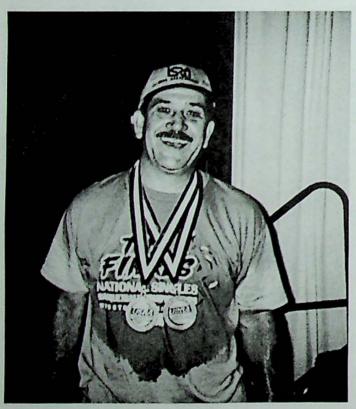
The Downtown Houston YMCA hosted this event for the 19th consecutive year; 650 individuals comprised 1,150 entries in 65 divisions (age, skill, and combined age/skill).

Cheryl Gudinas (IL) earned her third consecutive Women's Open title with a win over Jackie Paraiso (CA); scores were 7-15, 15-9, 11-8. Jack Huczek (MI), 18, became the youngest player in racquetball history to win the Men's Open by defeating Rocky Carson (CA) 15-11, 15-6.

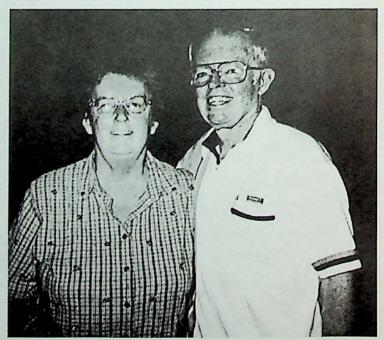
Off-the-court highlights of this tournament included nightly activities at the Hyatt Regency Houston. Survivor Evening (Thursday) netted Illinois yet another honor: Janet Christie and George Smuckel brought home a win in the Twist Contest; way to go, guys! Casino Night (Friday), the Fiesta Awards Banquet on Saturday, and Sunday's Karaoke Night provided opportunities for camaraderie among tournament players and their guests from across the U.S.

Awards on Saturday night included: Cheryl Gudinas, Female Athlete of the Year; Rocky Carson, Male Athlete of the Year; Agatha Falso, Peggy Steding Award (age division); Tim Hansen, Bud Muehleisen Award (age division); Caryn McKinney, Hall of Fame Inductee; and Chris Coy, John Halverson Fair Play Award.

For those of you who are contemplating a trip to Houston in 2002, here are some pro's and con's (my editorial opinions only!) of the event. Pro's: One site for all competition makes it easier to catch the matches of friends (and competitors in your divisions!); the Hyatt Regency is walking distance from the YMCA and boasts nice rooms at \$78/ night, a pool, and a central gathering area (aka the bar); you'll enjoy supporting your fellow Illinoisans and, for those who have attended before, renewing friendships with those you have met in prior years; a great windbreaker jacket replaced the traditional tournament shirt this year. Con's: A lot of construction downtown made for a dusty walk (maybe it'll be done by next year?); courts 18 and 21 (ask anyone who attended for details); the USRA did not provide meals on site this year (except bagels and fruit at



Ray Meisner Men's C - Fourth Place Mens' 50+ C/D - Third Place



The Champaign Connection! John O'Donnell, Jr. (Men's 70 - 3rd Place) and his wife, Arlene.

breakfast); the beverages are very expensive at the Hyatt (BYOB!).

Realize that as prestigious as the Nationals are on the annual tournament calendar, there is no "rarefied air" in Houston. In other words, I feel that our Illinois tournaments are every bit as competitive as The Finals, sometimes more so; anyone who's comfortable playing tournaments in Illinois will be just fine in Houston.

To play in Houston, one needs only to compete in the USRA Regionals. Then, mark your calendar for next Memorial Day weekend (May 22-27, 2002). Let's give California some competition for that number two slot...



Cheryl Kirk & Goach/Husland Kit Lawson Women's 45+ A/B - Second Place

Congratulations and thanks to all of the players who represented Illinois this year!

-Cheryl Kirk

Team Illinois Results

(13 Illinois players earned 16 medals)

Watmora Casey, 2nd, Men's 40+A/B
Janet Christie, 3rd, Women's 45+C/D
Don Davis, 1st cons., Men's 60+A/B
Joe DeRoche, 1st cons., Men's 35+C/D
Cheryl Gudinas, 1st, Women's Open
Cheryl Kirk, 2nd, Women's 45+A/B
Leo Klimaitis, 2nd, Men's 50+A/B
Michelle Lexow, 3rd, Women's D
Gregg Mandell, 4th, Men's 40+A/B
Karen Marzano, 1st, Women's 30+C/D; 2nd, Women's C
John Mason, 1st, Men's 40+C/D; 3rd, Men's 35+C/D
Ray Meisner, 3rd, Men's 50+C/D; 4th, Men's C
John O'Donnell, 3rd, Men's 70+



Joe DeRoche Men's 35+ C/D -1st Place Consolation



Leo Klimaitis (Men's 50+ A/B - Second Place), his wife, Sue, and Eugene Coyle

Team Illinois_

* Denotes Top Finisher (Quarter Finals or Higher)

Cathy Bertucci, Women's A; Women's 30+A/B

Watmora Casey, Men's 35+A/B; *Men's 40+A/B

Janet Christie, Women's D; *Women's 45+C/D

Eugene Coyle, *Men's 25+; Men's 30+

Don Davis, Men's 60+; *Men's 60+A/B

Joe DeRoche, *Men's D; Men's 35+C/D

TJ Ferro, Men's 45+; Men's 50+

Cheryl Gudinas, *Women's Open

Lynn Hiorns, Women's B; *Women's 30+A/B

Cheryl Kirk, *Women's B; *Women's 45+A/B

Leo Klimaitis, Men's 50+; *Men's 50+A/B

Michelle Lexow, *Women's D; Women's 24-/25+C/D

Joey Logan, Men's 30+

Bill Lyman, Men's 35+; Men's 40+

Gregg Mandell, *Men's 40+A/B; Men's 45+

Karen Marzano, *Women's C; *Women's 30+C/D

John Mason, *Men's 35+C/D; *Men's 40+C/D

Ray Meisner, *Men's C; *Men's 50+C/D

Horace Miller, Men's 50+; *Men's 55+

David Negrete, Men's 35+; Men's 40+

Dennis Negrete, Men's 30+; *Men's 30+A/B

Bruce Nelson, Men's 50+

John O'Donnell, Jr., *Men's 70+

Geoff Peters, Men's 45+; *Men's 45+A/B

George Smuckel, Men's D; *Men's 55+C/D

Pat Taylor, Men's A; Men's 60+

Ron Yonkee, Men's 50+A/B; Men's 55+

More from the USRA National Singles



Michelle Lexow Women's D - Third Place



John Mason Men's 40+ G/D - First Place Men's 35+ G/D - Third Place

Karen Marzano Women's 30+ G/D - First Place Women's G - Second Place



Dennis Negrete, George Smuckel, Ray "I may be getting older, but I'll never grow up!" Meisner



Watmora Casey Men's 40+ A/B - Second Place

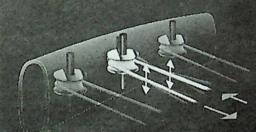
In Racquetball



Technically engineered Rollers take the place of conventional grommets in a racquet head.

Rollers allow the strings to move 31.5% more than conventional grommets. The net result ---

Maximum Energy Transfer.



Vertical String Movement
The force of the ball results in increased trampoline effect of the stringbed.



pulley motion.

Cliff Swain, 5-Time Pro World Champion.

Derek Robinson, #6 Ranked on the IRT™ Pro Tour.



Length: 22 inches Weight: 175 grams Head Size: 107sq. inches Balance: Head Heavy

ROLLERS 195

Length: 22 inches Weight: 195 grams Head Size: 107sq. inches

www.wilsonsports.com





More from the USRA National Singles



Hugh Hiorns, Lynn Hiorns Yeazell, T.J. Ferro, Kit Lawson



Ron Yonkee, John Mason, Ray Meisner



Eugene Coyle - the pause that refreshes!



Negrete Fans: Cathy Bertucci, & Lynn Hirons Yeazell, Hugh Hiorns, Karen Marzano

Travel League Wrap Up

Another very successful ISRA Travel League wrapped up its season with a party at the Glass Court in Lombard this past April 20th. Over 100 Travel Team participants were treated to doubles competition awards, and prizes galore from our sponsors. Everyone went home tired and loaded with prizes.

For those not familiar with the Travel League, the Illinois State Racquetball Association, its host clubs and such manufacturers as Ektelon, HEAD, E-Force, Penn and Wilson all contribute to provide increased competition for the benefit of ISRA members

The league simulates tournament play through a variety of methods. First, the level of competition is top notch. Each week your team will face some of the best players from 21 of the top clubs in the Chicagoland area, no matter what your level. Second, each player is part of a 12-member team. Each week, 5 players represent the team in three singles and one doubles match. Racquetball is, for the most part, an individual sport. You play for yourself or your doubles partner. However, in Travel Team play, a poor performance affects the whole team and this tends to bring out the best in both you and your competitor. Lastly, the differential in points between you and your opponent is key to booking a team win. In tournament play, your goal is to win the match. Winning 15-14 is just a good as 15-1. (Although the later is always preferred.) In Travel Team play, your goal is not only to score as many points as possible but you must also try to limit your opponent to as few points as possible. A 15-14 win is nice, but 15-1 or

15-0 is the goal. This means that each point is significant as it might make the difference in an overall team win, even though your own match might be a losing effort.

This year we had 39 teams with well over 400 ISRA members participating. This is by far the largest league of its kind in the country. League winners were recognized at the Glass Court party, an appropriate setting since the Glass Court teams won several divisions. The winners of the 2000/2001 Travel League are shown below:

Men's Open: Glass Court Women's Open: Glass Court Men's A/B: Edens Women's A/B: NaperOlympic Men's C: Athletic Club of

Bloomingdale

Congratulations to all of the winners.

The Travel League captain's meeting for next year's season, will be held at the Glass Court in Lombard on Tuesday, August 21st at 7:00pm. Please have at least one player in attendance. This is your time to make suggestions and improvements for next year. We expect the league to grow again this year, with more teams and more clubs involved.

Lastly, the ISRA board would like to thank Pam Grace and Liz Molitor for putting in the time and effort in organizing the league. Imagine putting together a schedule that has 5 divisions with 39 teams playing on four





consecutive nights at 21 different clubs over an 18-week season. That's a ton of racquet-ball and lots of work putting it all together. If you are interesting in playing for a team or getting your club involved, contact Pam at 630-462-0244. We look forward to seeing all of you next year.

-Mike Davern

72001/2002 Travel League Eaptain's Meeting

7:00pm August 21st, 2001

GLASS COURT SWIM AND FITNESS, LOMBARD, ILLINOIS 630-629-3390

The Travel League captain's meeting for next year's season, will be held at the Glass Court in Lombard on Tuesday, August 21st at 7:00pm. Please have at least one player in attendance. This is your time to make suggestions and improvements for next year.

2001 ISRA Newsletter Advertising Rates

GUIDELINES:

- The ISRA Board of Directors has established a formal policy of not allowing advertisements to include product pricing.
- All ads are assumed to be camera ready. They can be accepted electronically in .tif, .pcx, or .ppt formats.
- If ads are run for the entire season, AND payment is received with the first issue, the sixth ad is
- These rates are in effect until December 30, 2001.
- · Ad deadlines are as follows:

9/01/01 11/01/01 Article/Releases Due 8/10/01 10/12/01 Stuffers/Inserts Due

8/17/01

 All stuffer/inserts are to be received by: Laura Kreiner, 2307 Arrow Street, Carpentersville, Illinois 60110.

· Ad rates:

Full page: \$300/issue. Half page: \$175/issue.

Quarter page: \$100/issue.Other sizes quoted on a case by case basis.

· For any questions or submission:

Mike Davern, 704 Sherwood Court, Naperville, IL 60565 (630) 579-861 I

Women's Daytime Doubles Popular in Western Suburbs

The suburban Women's Doubles League recently completed its 2001 season. This popular daytime league is held each year at The Glass Court in Lombard and is enjoyed by women's doubles teams from many area clubs.

The league (established in 1993) begins each spring after the completion of the ISRA Travel Team season. It draws 10-14 teams for eight weeks of spirited competition. Matches are played on Monday mornings

and skill levels range from B to Open. Awards are given at the various levels of play and everyone has a lot of fun!

The league format is unique in that the first five weeks are round robin play at mixed levels, allowing



Teammates Martha Huske and Julie Vincent with this year's Doubles Champions Cheryl Cizek and Carole Lisson.



Left to Right: Back Row - Kay Walz, Ghar Borre, Debbie Windisch, Liz Janda. Middle Row - Diane Reilly, Darlene Ulery, Patti Drendel, Sharilyn Pope, Sharon Gunningham. Fron Row - Peg Hollingsworth, Diane Baltscheit, Patti Moser, Cheryl Sansosti.

weaker teams to gain experience playing against stronger teams. Then, scores from the round robin play are used to establish definite skill level divisions for strong competitive play during the remaining weeks. The season

ends with an awards luncheon and a big prize raffle.

This year's Women's Doubles League is over, but it will be held again next spring at The Glass Court. If you and your partner are interested in participating next year or want more information, contact Judi Turnbull at The Glass Court Swim & Fitness Club, (630) 629-3390.

- Judi Turnbull

771/
United States Recipietted Association

Send to:

ISRA

COMPETITIVE LICENSE APPLICATION

NAME	
ADDRESS	
CITY	STATE/ZIP
TELEPHONE (Home)	(Business)
BIRTHDATE	
	\$20.00
Junior competitor	
Junior competitor (without RACQUETBALL Mag	gazine)
Tax-deductible donation	\$\$
Total enclosed	\$
Tournament	Representative

2291 Shannondale Rd. Libertyville, IL 60048

> Member Sport, U.S. Olympic Committee

Negrete takes over the IRT!!!

Big changes are happening to the International Racquetball Tour and to Illinois own, Dave Negrete, owner of the Athletic Club of Bloomingdale.

The International Racquetball Tour (IRT) recently announced its plan to convert its operations to a 50 l (c)(3) not-for-profit entity, managed by a seven-member Board of Directors. Former commissioner Hank Marcus, now acting President of the IRT, will hold a seat on that board, along with the top two tour players (currently Sudsy Monchik and Cliff Swain). A third player, currently Derek Robinson and two outside representatives, Eric Muller and Leo Klimaitis (of Illinois) round out the board. The Tour also appointed Dave Negrete as its new Tour Commissioner.

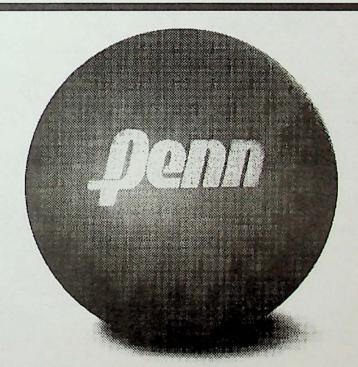
Tour players always say that they enjoyed coming to the Halloween Pro Stop at Bloomingdale each October. Now they get the opportunity to work with Dave more closely. Dave and the IRT have some big plans but will unveil them in due course. "I'm really excited about the opportunity," said Negrete "the players are looking



Dave Negrete, newly-appointed IRT Commissioner, holds court in Houston.

forward to a new format and we're looking to expand by about three to five tournaments next season." Of course, the Halloween Pro Stop will be even bigger and better

in Illinois and the Negrete Open/WIRT Pro Stop looks to come back to Bloomingdale next year. Stay tuned for further developments as the season nears.



AMERICA'S #1 SELLING BALL.

Charlie Bachman

216 N. Hale Street • Palatine, IL 60067 (847) 776-7366 • FAX (847) 776-7317



2001-2002 TOURNAMENT

CALENDAR

Call Geoff Peters (773) 935-9685 to add your listing.

Although the tour dates have not been officially set as of yet, the 2001/2002 schedule of events would line up with the following weekends. Plan your season accordingly, although check the ISRA website and the official 2001/2002 schedule coming out next issue. For now here is the lineup.

July 27-29 10th Annual Summerfest Glass Court Swim & Fitness

Lombard Doug Halverson 630-629-3390

October 3-7
34th U.S. National Doubles

Las Vegas, NV Jim Hiser (719) 635-5396

October 12-14 17th Annual Masters

Athletic Club at Bloomingdale Rich Clay (847) 918-7407

October 19-21 B.R. Ryall YMCA Fall Open B.R. Ryall YMCA

B.R. Ryall YMCA Glen Ellyn Sean Nelson (630) 858-0100

October 25-28
Halloween Classic PRO-AM

Athletic Club at Bloomingdale Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577

November 2-4 The Southlake Fall Open

The Southlake Club Kathy Logic (847) 949-8180

November 8-11 Glass Court Turkey Shoot

Glass Court Swim & Fitness Lombard Doug Halverson (630) 629-3390 November 14-18 6th Annual Hilton Hotels U.S. Open

Memphis, Tennessee Jim Hiser (719) 635-5396

December 2
Wilson Women's Classic

Athletic Club at Bloomingdale Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577

December 7-9 Wilson Holiday Classic

Oak Park Athletic Club Bill Lyman (708) 848-5200

January 10-14
Revie Sorey E-FORCE
Celebrity Classic
Athletic Club of Bloomingdale

Athletic Club of Bloomingdale Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577

> January 19 Doubles Tune-Up

The Southlake Club Kathy Logic (847) 949-8180

January 25-27
ILLINOIS STATE DOUBLES

Glass Court Swim & Fitness Lombard Tom Griffith (630) 629-3390

February 1-3 B.R. Ryall YMCA Winter Classic

B.R. Ryall YMCA Glen Ellyn Sean Nelson (630) 858-0100

February 8-10 St. Valentines Day Massacre Athletic Club at Bloomingdale

Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577 February 15-7
7th Annual Olympic Open
Palos Olympic

Palos Olympic Tom Utterback (708) 974-1900

February 21-24 30th ISRA STATE SINGLES

Athletic Club at Bloomingdale Laurel Davis (630) 893-9577

> March 7-10 Shamrock Shootout

Glass Court Swim & Fitness Lombard Doug Halverson (630) 629-3390

March 15-17 Edens March Madness

Edens Athletic Club Cindy Flores (773) 286-6700

March 21-24 Negrete Women's Pro Stop

Athletic Club of Bloomingdale Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577

> April 26-28 Illini Classic

The Fitness Center Champaign (217) 356-1616

May 3-5 Ektelon/USRA REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Athletic Club of Bloomingdale Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577

May 23-27 Ektelon/USRA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

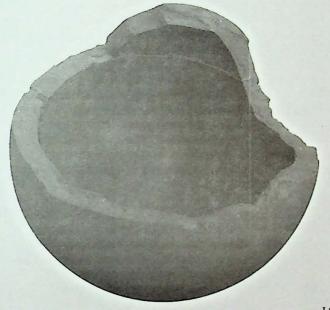
Downtown YMCA Jim Hiser (719) 635-5396

sponsored by



BREAK YOUR OPPONENT'S SPIRIT

TOO.





It's all about total domination. The power to out-muscle combined with the drive to out-hustle. How do you conquer the courts using both? With Ektelon's full line of racquets, gloves, shoes, balls and goggles. Ektelon. The #1 brand in racquetball.

PLAY_{WITH} FIRE



1.800.4.EKTELON

WWW.EKTELON.COM



Board Members Tom Utterlack, Pam Grace, and Rich Clay

ISRA Officer and Board Member Election Held_

The ISRA Board held its Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 20, 2001, at the National City Bank office in Oak Brook. As with all ISRA meetings, this meeting was open to the membership.

Per the ISRA bylaws, if there are no opposing nominations to the original slate, the Nominating Committee's slate is to be accepted automatically. May 31 was the deadline for notification of opposing nominations; none were received.

The Officer and Governing Board Member slates accepted for two-year terms are as follows:

Officers: Laurel Davis, President; Judy Young, Secretary; Jim Jeffers, Central Zone VP; and Lynne Weisbart, North Zone VP.

Governing Board Members: Mike Davern, T.J. Ferro, Pam Grace, Geoff Peters, and Tom Utterback. The remaining board members will stand for election when their two year term ends next year.

The Nominating Committee (Tom Griffith, Chair) wishes to thank these returning officers and board members for their continuing service to the ISRA and to the sport of racquetball.

Remember, any ISRA member who wishes to help improve the quality of racquetball in Illinois is welcome to join the Auxiliary Board. Please contact any member of the ISRA Board for further information.

Signed, The Nominating Committee

Racquetball Challenge Courts

Bloomingdale Challenge Court 630-893-9577

Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. \$6.00

Glass Court Challenge Court 630-629-3390

Wednesday 6 - 9 p.m. and Saturday 9-1 la.m. \$6.00

Oak Park Athletic Club 708-848-5200

Wednesdays 4-7 and Saturday 12-3 p.m. \$8.00

Palos Olympic Health & Racquet Club 708-974-1900

Friday 6 - 8:30 p.m.

\$5.00

Southlake Challenge Court 847-949-8180

Saturday 10 a.m. - Noon \$10.00 for ISRA Members (with membership card)

World Gym, Palatine (formerly Charlie Club) 847-991-9300

Tuesday 7-10 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m.- Noon \$5.00

Sunset Racquetball & Fitness Center, Geneva

630-232-7867

Saturday 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. Members: \$2 Non-Members: 5



Illinois State Racquetball Association

c/o Mike Davern 704 Sherwood Ct. Naperville, IL 60565 Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Elgin, Illinois PERMIT NO. 74



Cheryl Kirk 1064 Sylvan Circle Naperville IL 60540