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# USRA Newsletter

*The Official Publication of the Illinois State Racquetball Association*

*Vol. 20 No.6  
November/December 2003*

*plus*



*Terri Graham and Chris Evon:  
Double Medals at National Doubles!....page 7*

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# From The President

Have you ever been confronted with a situation and wished you could just pretend it didn't exist? Or, maybe something happened and you wished that you would wake up and find out it was just a dream?

That's the kind of situation I recently experienced in my role as ISRA president. I was out of town during the final weekend of July, during the Summerfest Tournament at Glass Court. Upon returning, I found my voice mail full of messages concerning an incident that occurred during the tournament. It seems that some physical contact occurred during a semifinal open match, contact that was allegedly NOT part of regular play.

Boy! I wished I could have erased those messages or heard a later message saying it was "April Fool's!". Instead, I had to review the USRA rules regarding "Due Process" and start the formal process for handling disciplinary issues. The ISRA, by virtue of its affiliation with the USRA, is subject to the United States Olympic Committee's (USOC) rules regarding discipline and due process. When an incident occurs at a tournament, the disciplinary process *must* be invoked by the governing organization, regardless of whether or not the alleged "victim" files a formal complaint.

So, what does the process entail? It is very structured, and designed to ensure that the person charged in the incident receives a fair and impartial hearing. First, the USRA is notified of the incident and the impending disciplinary hearing. Then a Grievance Committee must be formed. The Committee is comprised of ISRA members and includes a Chairperson and an odd number of people who listen to testimony and determine if and what discipline will be handed down. Notification must be sent to the accused via certified mail at least 30 days prior to the hearing date. Care must be taken to ensure that the hearing will be fair and impartial. The composition of the grievance committee is critical. The individuals serving on the committee must not be predisposed to think of the player being charged either positively or negatively. The Executive Committee of the ISRA Board spent many hours discussing the composition of this

committee in an effort to ensure that diverse views were represented and that the individuals serving would be impartial.

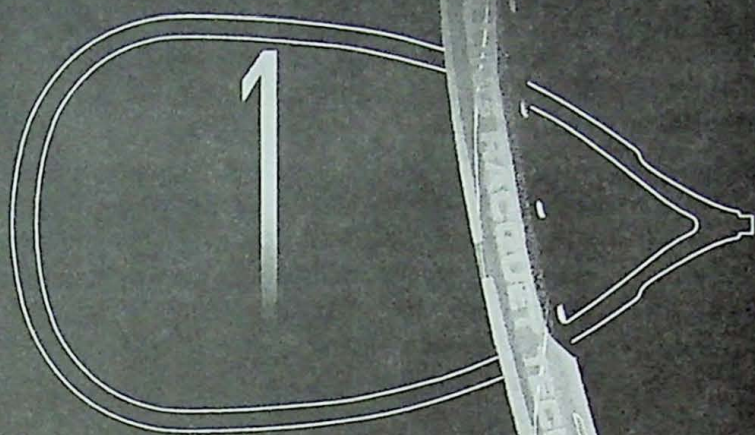
A hearing is held, structured similarly to a jury trial. The Grievance Committee Chairperson conducts the hearing, testimony is heard, witnesses are cross-examined, and the Grievance Committee comes to a conclusion; if appropriate, a penalty is decided upon. Prior to this hearing we consulted an attorney to ensure we were following proper procedure. We also hired a court reporter to ensure that events were recorded accurately and impartially.

I'm sure you're wondering what happened. The Grievance Committee spent several long hours hearing and discussing the testimony and recommended, among other things, that Eugene Coyle be suspended from competitive play for a full year, then placed on permanent probation. They read their decision and the hearing was adjourned. But, it's not over yet. Eugene had 30 days in which to appeal the sanctions to the USRA National Rules Committee, and he did so just before we went to press with this issue. During the appeal process, he may continue to participate in sanctioned events just as any other ISRA/USRA member. When the USRA hears his appeal and renders a final decision, the results will be published in the ISRA newsletter and tournament directors will be notified if the decision impacts them. We expect that this will happen sometime before the end of November.

*continued on page 4*



# THE POWER OF THREE



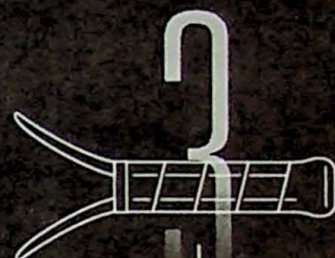
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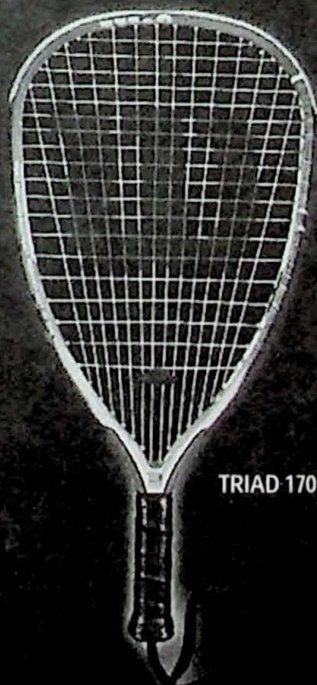
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## **From The President**

*continued from page 2*

Now you can understand why I would have liked to erase my messages. The racquetball community is small and close-knit. The members consider each other to be family and everyone is passionate about our sport. Having to protect the integrity of the game by disciplining one of our family members is difficult, but it is the right thing to do. Serving on the Grievance Committee is not the same as jury duty. When you serve on a jury, you don't know the accused or the witnesses. Everyone present at this hearing knew each other well. The ISRA and the USRA are volunteer organizations. A great deal of time and energy was expended by many volunteers to ensure a fair hearing. Monetary resources are limited, but funds were sacrificed to hire a court reporter.

Although this was an unpleasant experience, I was proud of how it was handled. Everyone involved in the hearing took

their responsibilities seriously. The Grievance Committee members accepted their duty without complaint. Individuals who witnessed the incident were willing to testify, whether by phone or in person. I would like to thank them all publicly here (you know who you are).

As we get into the heart of the tournament season, I would like to request three things of our ISRA membership:

1) Don't speculate about the Grievance Committee. It is not important who sat in on the hearing, and they will not discuss the proceedings. We have promised them that we will not publish their names, and I have assured them that nobody needs to know what happened in their closed meeting. None of us needs to know any more than the ultimate result.

2) Please don't ever put your ISRA family members through this. When you are on the court, remember why you're there.

We all want good, fair competition and we want to have fun.

3) Understand that this has been a difficult process for all involved. When all is said and done, the USRA will either uphold, adjust or overturn the Grievance Committee's recommendation regarding Eugene. Whatever the result, the ISRA, USRA and Eugene have handled this professionally and appropriately. The result will be, frankly, whatever the result is when the USRA completes the appeal process. Rehashing it will only divert attention from the competition, camaraderie and joy of the sport. Let's not fall into that trap!

I know this has been lengthy, but the topic is important. We'll publish the outcome on the website and in the next newsletter. Until then, focus on having a great season playing this sport we all love so much.

*Laurel*

## **Central Illinois Tournament Calendar 2003 - 2004 Season**

**December 6**

**Springfield Invitational One  
Day Tournament**

Springfield Racquet & Fitness  
Karin, Bob, Steve  
(217) 787-2460

**January 3**

**One Day Doubles Tournament**

Forum Fitness (Rantoul)  
David Litman

**January 17**

**Quad Cities Open Singles**

North Scott Fitness  
(Eldridge, IA)  
Brad Flack, Dave Herzog  
(563) 285-9561

**January 23-25**

**4 Seasons**

4 Seasons (Bloomington)  
Kelly, Kelley (309) 663-2022

**January 31**

**Tournament at the Club**

Fitness Club (Springfield)  
Tony Marquez (217) 787-1111

**February 13-15**

**President's Day**

Image Health And Fitness  
(Decatur)  
Larry Boyer (217) 424-9925

**March 5-7**

**Landmark Invitational**  
Landmark Racquet Club  
(Peoria)

Terry, Kurt, Mike  
(309) 685-8200

**March 19-21**

**St. Patty's Open**

Springfield Racquet & Fitness  
Karin, Bob, Steve  
(217) 787-2460

**March 27**

**Quad Cities Open Doubles**  
North Scott Fitness (Eldridge, IA)  
Brad Flack, Dave Herzog  
(563) 285-9561

**August 21**

**"Splat N Spash"**

Springfield Racquet & Fitness  
Karin, Bob, Steve  
(217) 787-2460

Questions, corrections or additions? Please call  
Larry Boyer (217) 864-4862; boyins@fgi.net  
Geoff Peters (773) 251-4413; Petersgeoff@hotmail.com

# 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Dog Days Open

The Southlake Club, Mundelein, IL  
August 23, 2003

Picture this: a gorgeous August afternoon...a racquet stringer on the front landing doubling as a greeter...the tournament director cooking lunch outside on the grill...what??? Yep, Geoff Peters was everywhere (even cooking) and with the help of his friendly staff (Mel, Tina, Sam, Mary, and Juan) plus a few Ektelon volunteers (Howie Robins, John Puccio and yours truly), all went smoothly throughout the day. Sponsor restaurant El Barrio provided the sides; there was plenty to eat – should one really waddle out of a sporting competition?

Juniors were well-represented – they mixed it up in their own group and also invaded the men's ranks. Congratulations to Chris Muruato who played something like eight or nine matches and came out on top in both the Juniors and Men's C!

Only one incident interrupted the idyllic aura of the day. Joan Vande Kieft is tough – she ran into a racquet with her nose, took a quick trip to the local ER for an x-ray, then came back to watch matches and enjoy dinner with the rest of us. We like tough women! And speaking of women we like...best wishes to Tina Hernandez as she relocates to the Northeastern US – our loss is definitely their gain!

To cap it off, this one-day tournament was easy on the drive time for those of us who live an hour or more away. All in all, a most enjoyable day.

—Cheryl Kirk

## Division/# entered 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Semifinals

### Men's Open (7)

Bill Lyman; Eugene Coyle;  
William Lattner, Bob Clar

### Men's A (7)

Pat Taylor; Jeff Grace; John Anaya,

John Puccio

### Men's B (8)

Joe Waller; John Geatros; Jon Soike, Mark Foster; 1<sup>st</sup> Consolation — Joey Limonciello

### Men's C (10)

Chris Muruato; Gerry Kudanian; Jim Abrahams, Geoff Goldblatt



*Big Day for Chris Muruato!*

### Women's A (6)

Lori Good; Pam Grace; Tina Hernandez, Joan Vande Kieft

### Women's B (4)

Cheryl Kirk; Lola Markus; Pauline Kelly; Erin Egan

### Men's O/A Doubles (5)

TG Venkateshwaran/Mitch Becker; Jeff Grace/John Anaya; John Puccio/Steve Jungmann; Waylon Adams/Rodrigo Diaz; Joe Gill/Karen Thurlow

### Men's B Doubles (6)

Joe Waller/Jim Wehrli; Waylon Adams/Rodrigo Diaz; Mike Antonoff, Sr./Zac Antonoff, Mike Antonoff, Jr./Joey Limonciello

### Women's A/B Doubles (4)

Lynne Weisbart/Cheryl Kirk; Erin Egan/Lori Good; Pauline Kelly/Lola Markus; Pam Grace/Joan Vande Kieft



*The Women — (L to R) Vande Kieft, Markus, Kelly, Hernandez, Good, Thurlow, Kirk and Weisbart (not pictured: Egan and Grace)*



*Tres Amigos Joe Waller, Steve Jungmann, and John Puccio*

### Juniors – Boys 16 & Under (4)

Chris Muruato; Mike Antonoff; Kevin Schulz; Zac Antonoff

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# Landmark No Frills/Fall Warm-Up

Peoria, Illinois — October 3-5, 2003

The Landmark Fall Warm-Up was a great way to start the season in Central Illinois. Players from Illinois and Iowa enjoyed great competition, hospitality, and fun. The definite highlight of this tournament was a surprise celebration for Andy Hawthorne's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday. Complete with family, friends, a belly dancer (!) and a Men's Open win, Andy had quite the weekend. We've seen Andy grow from the junior ranks at Champaign's Fitness Center into a great national competitor. Landmark wishes him the very best this season.

—Terry Sutton

## Results

Division: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>; 1<sup>st</sup> Consolation

**Men's Open:** Andy Hawthorne, Greg

Hasty II, Tony Marquez

**Men's A:** Robert Paulsen, Brian Andresen;

Sieg Hoppe

**Men's B:** Kevin Eick, Greg Nelson; Bruno Tschannen

**Men's C:** Bruno Tschannen, Kenny Smith; Tom Hearnley

**Men's 40+ Open/A:** Greg Hasty, Sr., Bill Gray; Bruce Nelson

**Men's 40+ B/C:** Kevin Eick, Jon Soike; Bill Cutter

**Men's 50+:** Greg Hasty, Sr., Dennis Healy; Gary Humphrey

**Women's A/B:** Kristin Coulter, Janis Russell; Debi Ramos (3<sup>rd</sup>)

**Women's C:** Jenni Morgan, Missy Moses, Debi Ramos (3<sup>rd</sup>)

**Juniors (13 + under):** Kyle Sutton, Spencer Graves, Dylan Shoemaker (3<sup>rd</sup>)

**Men's Open Doubles:** Tony Marquez/Rob Hartman, Mike Vicary/Pat Armstrong; Bill Gray/Kurt Mankle

**Men's A Doubles:** Mick Secory/Rob Paulsen, Jim Maroon/Dan Curless; Brian Andresen/Randy Puebla

**Men's B/C Doubles:** Don Gall/Doug Gordon, Jim York/Manny Hernandez; Kenny Smith/Matt Kaag

**Mixed Doubles:** Dan Curless/Julie Rogy; Kurt Mankle/Becky Gerig; Pam Schubach/John Snarr



(Editor's Note: In talking with Terry at press time, she related exciting news coming out of the Legends Tour in St. Louis: Jake Sutton placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the Juniors 18 & Under and Greg Hasty, Sr. placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the Men's 55+. Congrats to Jake and Greg – and thanks for representing Illinois so well!)

## 2003 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, .jpg or .pdf formats.
- If ads are run for the entire season, **AND** payment is received with the first issue, the sixth ad is **FREE!**
- These rates are in effect until December 30, 2003.
- Ad deadlines are as follows:

| Issue Mail Date | Articles/Releases Due | Stuffers/Inserts Due |
|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1/6/04          | 12/05/03              | 12/12/03             |
| 3/1/04          | 2/6/04                | 2/13/04              |

- All stuffers/inserts are to be received by: Laura Kreiner, 2307 Arrow Street, Carpentersville, Illinois 60110.
- Ad rates:  
Full page: \$250/issue. Half page: \$150/issue.  
Quarter page: \$75/issue. Other sizes quoted on a case by case basis.
- For any questions or submission:

Cheryl Kirk, 1064 Sylvan Circle, Naperville, IL 60540  
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[www.illinoisracquetball.com](http://www.illinoisracquetball.com)

# 2003 USRA 36th National Doubles Championships

October 1-5, 2003

Presented by Penn Racquet Sports

The Northwest Athletic Club in Minneapolis — a beautiful facility with 14 courts (2 with stadium viewing) — once again hosted National Doubles. With the leaves just starting to turn and lots of sun (vs. miserable weather last year), it was a really nice weekend for a tournament. The turnout was lower than expected, with 439 players signing up for the event; a record 801 was posted two years ago in Las Vegas. Next year's location, Tempe, Arizona, promises to draw more participants; it will appeal to many who want to experience that last bit of warmth before the winter months.

Team Illinois had 19 players in attendance (12 men and 7 women: five more than last year!) who partnered with each other and with 9 players from other states. Adrian Martinez, Howard Weisbart, and Chris Evon's mom were among those who cheered on Team Illinois competitors.

We were statistically strong, with 6 of our 24 team entries winning gold or silver medals:

## Gold:

Men's C —

Juan Martinez/Juan Martinez III (MO)

Men's 70+ —

John O'Donnell, Jr./Don Alt (OH)

Women's 40+ —

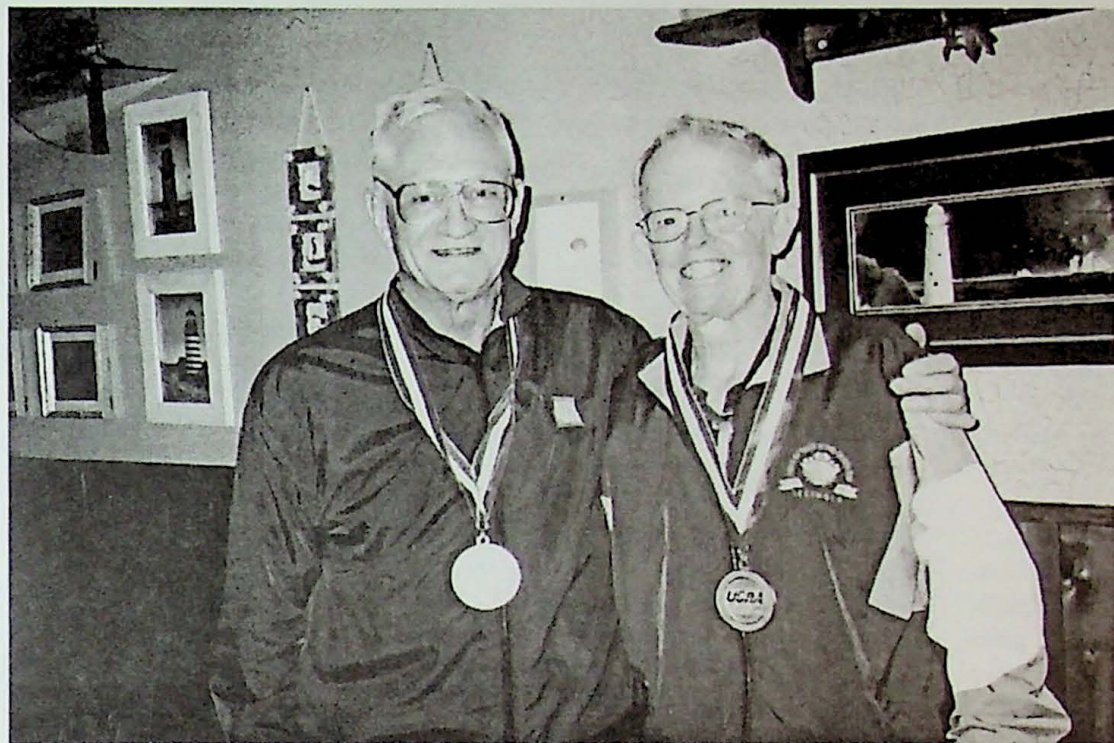
Chris Evon/Terri Graham

Women's 50+ —

Nancy Kronenfeld/Terry Rogers (CA)



Brenda White upped the "cool" factor in Minnesota



Men's 70+ Gold — Don Alt and John O'Donnell, Jr. did it again!

## Silver:

Women's 35+ —

Chris Evon/Terri Graham

Women's 45+B —

Lynne Weisbart/  
Cheryl Kirk

The "pro's" of the event greatly outnumbered the "con's": great camaraderie and fair play; \$10 for referees; great shirt (black polar fleece pullover); matches on time or early; thrilling rallies and competition. Only two aspects reduced the sum total of a great experience: one tournament control staff member needs to work harder on her customer relations skills; and then there's the hospitality issue. Having recently

*continued on  
next page*



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## National Doubles

continued from previous page

experienced firsthand how hospitality (if not carefully done) can wreck any chance of breaking even, there still exists the necessity of getting food into the mouths of hungry tournament players. Although no-charge hospitality was lacking (as it usually is at USRA tournaments), food was available for a price, which was an improvement over last year. What do we think about hospitality for a price (an oxymoron?). This debate could go on for years...



Cubs fans at the National Doubles: Howard & Lynne Weisbart, Kit Lawson, Mike Mahon

Gregg Mandell/Dave Olson  
Men's 45/55 + C: Warren Larson/  
Mike Mahon: 5th  
Men's 50 +:  
Gregg Mandell/Dave Olson  
Men's 70 +: John O'Donnell, Jr./  
Don Alt (OH): 1st

**Women's Open:**  
Cheryl Gudinas/  
Kristen Walsh (UT): 3rd  
**Women's B:**  
Cheryl Kirk/Lynne Weisbart  
**Women's 35 +:** Chris Evon/  
Terri Graham: 2nd  
**Women's 40 +:** Chris Evon/  
Terri Graham: 1st  
**Women's 45 + B:** Lynne  
Weisbart/Cheryl Kirk: 2nd  
**Women's 50 +:** Nancy  
Kronenfeld/Terry Rogers  
(CA): 1st; Brenda White/  
Debbie Chaney (IN): 4th

**Mixed Open:** Cheryl  
Gudinas/ Brian Fredenberg

(TX): 4th  
**Mixed B/C:** Lynne Weisbart/Tom Curran  
(OH); Cheryl Kirk/Mike Mahon



Lynne Weisbart, Nancy Kronenfeld and California pal Terry Rogers

**Mixed 35 +:** Terri Graham/Bill Lyman: 3rd  
**Mixed 40 +:** Chris Evon/Bill Lyman: 4th  
**Mixed 50 +:** Nancy Kronenfeld/Dave  
Olson: 4th; Brenda White/Bill Welaj (NJ): QF

Constructive input notwithstanding, a sincere thank you goes out from Team Illinois to the USRA staff members for their hard work in organizing and executing a most enjoyable tournament.

— Cheryl Kirk

## Illinois Results:

**Men's C:** Juan Martinez /Juan Martinez III  
(MO): 1st; Fred Conforti/Michael Conforti:  
QF; Mike Mahon/Kit Lawson: QF  
**Men's 35 + A:** Tom Horton/Rick Mundrane:  
QF  
**Men's 40 +:**  
Bill Lyman/Bobby Haab (CT); Tom Horton/  
Rick Mundrane  
**Men's 45 +:**



Martinez X 2 = Gold!

## Edens Fall Classic

Edens Athletic Club  
October 10-12, 2003

Autumn in the air and splat shots on the courts, with the weather still holding and the Cubs captivating their fans, our Fall Classic participation came in line with 2002's tourney, including even a couple of new participants – bigger draws to come for sure! We had players representing Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Iowa. Wisconsin seemed to be the big winner of the weekend, with Joe Klibowitz taking the Open Division and Juan Nieves winning the A's.

Adrian Beltramino was "cat-like" all weekend and ran his way to success in the B division. The C's ended up being very competitive with ¾ of the matches going to tiebreakers. Marty Joyce ended up the victor against persistent JTI member Geoff Goldblatt. Karen Thurlow dazzled the crowds with victories in the Women's A/B and Mixed Doubles.

All was great with competition, entertainment and of course our good ole Edens hospitality. With Red Bull and Gale Street ribs supplying energy, I'm sure the players could have hit all night. Watching the Cubs and talking racquetball was a good way to end our Saturday. Thanks to all who supported the tourney and here's

hoping those who missed will join us in the spring for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Edens March Madness.

Grip it...rip it...roll it...see ya on the courts!

— Joe Gill

## Results

Division/# Entered  
First; Second; Semifinals

**Men's Open (6):** Joe Klibowitz (WI); Jorge Ortiz; John Bryk, Brent Huff  
**Men's A (12):** Juan Nieves (WI); Jim Schavocky; John Beaulieu, Angel Khamis  
**Men's B (10):** Adrian Beltramino; Steve Saeks; Mike Bernstein, Ray Shimizu  
**Men's C (12):** Martin Joyce; Geoff Goldblatt; Joey Limonciello, Leon Vasberg  
**Men's D (6):** Mark Stevenson; Kevin Schulz; Ken Yahiro, Chris Muruato  
**Men's 55 + (2):** Pat Taylor; Dean Snyder

**Women's A/B (3):** Karen Thurlow; Tina Hernandez; Carolyn Watkins

**Men's A/B Doubles (3):** John Anaya/Ray Shimizu; Will Kazmier/Blair Wagner; Geoff Goldblatt/Steve Brady

**Mixed Open Doubles (3):** Karen Thurlow/ Joe Gill; Carolyn Watkins/Dick Goldblatt; Tina Hernandez/Geoff Peters

# 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Seniors/Masters

October 18-19, 2003

Naper Olympic Health Club

Oh, the pressure of it all! This tournament has been Rich Clay's baby for many years – and I can honestly say I now appreciate him more than ever for his expertise. The round robin format has everyone playing everyone else, which makes putting together the up-front logistics both an art and science. Rich thankfully helped out this rookie tournament director by staying up until the wee hours of Thursday morning to put "the grid" together, i.e. the schedule of which divisions would be playing at what times – and it's a lot more complicated than it sounds.

Players came from not only Illinois, but also Wisconsin, Iowa and Nevada (thanks to Terry Wagner's "dual citizenship"). With a turnout slightly higher than last year, about 275 matches were played between 10 am Saturday and 4 pm Sunday. (Players compete against everyone else in their division, two games to

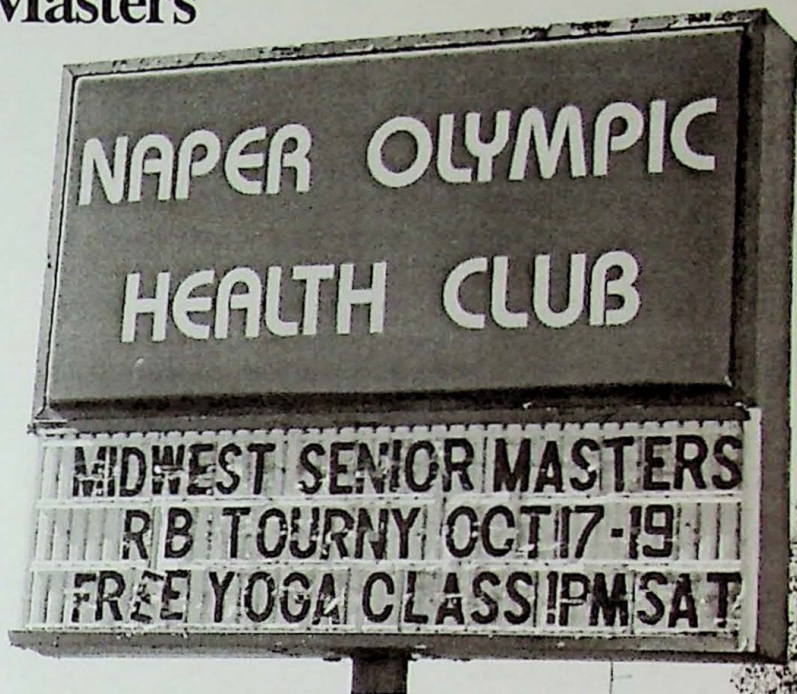
Owner Dave Gebraski, Rich Gebraski, and the Naper Olympic staff were great partners throughout the weekend. Rich Gebraski complimented the players and the volunteers, commenting that he rarely had to pick up towels or trash – everyone was respectful and pitched in to keep the club looking good.

Players enjoyed a wide array of food and beverages, thanks to sponsors B&A

Beverage, Inc. (representing RC Cola); Cub Foods; Entenmann's; Frito-Lay; Keebler; Little Debbie; Nabisco; and the Little Italian Restaurant.

And the volunteers! As a tournament director, you get a fabulous view of how special our racquetball community really is. From working tournament control and check-in, to making a run for ice, to baking cupcakes, to assisting with loading and unloading supplies, and on and on...

I had more offers of help than I had things for people to do! Thanks to Rich Clay, TJ Ferro, Jim Wehrli, Kit Lawson, Lynn Yeazell, Geoff Peters, Kathy Dunham, Mike Mahon, Deb Szechowycz, Andre Szechowycz, Lori Good, Joan Vande Kieft, Pam Grace, Patrice Calvi, Bill Williamson, Chuck Snyders, Trevor Snyders, David Kramer, Wayne Lorenz,



Harrison Estep, and Janet Eminger (the cupcake queen!).

Jim Wehrli used his connections to facilitate an article about the tournament in the Daily Herald – great exposure for our sport. And a special note of thanks to Glass Court – Diane and Joe DeArmas offered to personally pitch in at the tournament desk; Dan Jaskier and Brian McNally contributed items ranging from an Igloo cooler to the draw sheets and scorecards.

Last but not least, sincere thanks go out to all who participated – check out the results below.

—Cheryl Kirk

## Results

### Division; Place

#### Men's 35 + Advanced

1. Eugene Coyle
2. William Lattner
3. Cary Slade
4. Joe Gill
5. John Bryk
6. Keith Kareiva
7. Eric Battaglia

#### Men's 35 + Intermediate

1. Juan Martinez
2. Scott Zagurski
3. Grant Macuba
4. Dave Saldivar
5. David Kramer
6. Arnel Harting



Liz Molitor and Nancy Schum swept Women's 35's, 40's and 45's!

eleven points each. A bonus of three points is added for each game won and the winner is determined by total points.)

This was the first tournament held at Naper Olympic since 1986, reason being that the club's nine courts are glassed in up above. The self-referee format, however, made for the perfect marriage.

continued on next page

**Midwest Seniors/Masters**  
continued from previous page

**Men's 40+ Advanced**

1. Dave Milazzo
2. Chuck Snyders
3. Brian Castillo
4. Andy Romano
5. Mark Vanderveen
6. Tim Shoemaker (IA)
7. Kevin Yeazell

**Men's 40+ Intermediate**

1. Jim Wehrli
2. Wayne Lorenz
3. George Nonas
4. Tom Corr
5. Mike Moran
6. Mike White
7. Dean Marquez
8. Harrison Estep

**Men's 45+ Advanced**

1. Dave Milazzo
2. Chuck Snyders
3. Brian Castillo
4. Tim Shoemaker (IA)
5. Kevin Yeazell

**Men's 45+ Intermediate**

1. George Nonas
2. Jim Wehrli
3. Harrison Estep
4. Tom Corr
5. Mike White

**Men's 50+ Advanced**

1. Gregg Mandell
2. TJ Ferro
3. Dennis McKee
4. Frank Milazzo
5. Leo Klimaitis
6. John Usmial
7. Jim Elliott
8. Larry Schum
9. Horace Miller

**Men's 50+ Intermediate**

1. Steve Saeks
2. Ernesto Tan
3. Sal Oliver
4. Andre Szechowycz
5. Larry Baloun
6. Don Hayden
7. Jerry Oehler
8. John Burke
9. George Smuckel
10. Keith Brown (injury forfeit)

**Men's 55+ Advanced**

1. Leo Klimaitis
2. Dennis McKee
3. John Usmial
4. Larry Schum

**Men's 55+ Intermediate**

1. Ernesto Tan
2. Sal Oliver
3. Jerry Oehler
4. John Burke
5. George Smuckel

**Men's 60+ Advanced**

1. Pat Taylor
2. Harold (Bill) Williamson
3. Ed Olah
4. John O'Donnell, Jr.
5. Ron Yonkee (injury forfeit)

**Men's 60+ Intermediate**

1. Elliott Papermaster (WI)
2. Alberto Palacios
3. John Ramsay
4. Mel Nelson
5. Al Basile
6. Mike Oester
7. Ken Yahiro

8. Terry Wagner

**Men's 65+ Advanced**

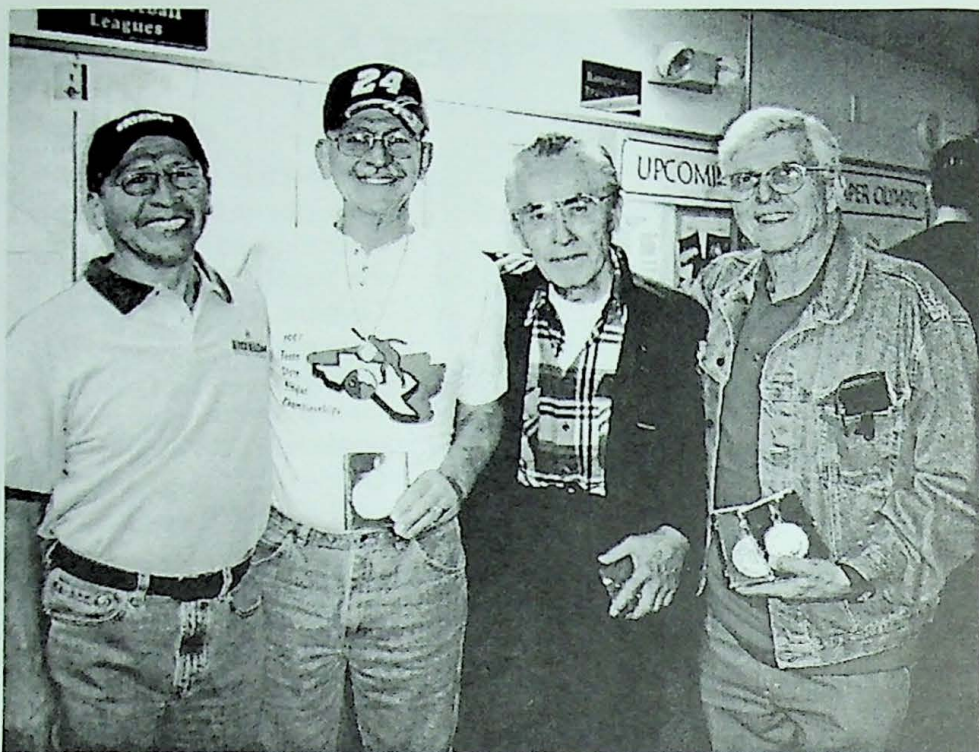
1. Harold (Bill) Williamson
2. Ed Olah
3. John O'Donnell, Jr.

**Men's 65+ Intermediate**

1. John Ramsay
2. Mel Nelson
3. Ken Yahiro
4. Terry Wagner

**Men's 70+ Advanced**

1. Ed Olah
2. John O'Donnell, Jr.



Medalists Alberto Palacios, John Ramsay, Ken Yahiro and Mel Nelson

**Men's 70+ Intermediate**

1. Mel Nelson
2. Ken Yahiro
3. Terry Wagner



Bill Williamson took gold and silver back to Champaign!

**Men's 75+ Intermediate**

1. Ken Yahiro

**Women's 35+ Advanced**

1. Liz Molitor
2. Nancy Schum
3. Jill Wells
4. Brenda White
5. Kathy Dunham
6. Janet Eminger
7. Patrice Calvi
8. Martha Huske

**Women's 35+ Intermediate**

1. Joan Vande Kieft
2. Lori Good
3. Cheryl Kirk
4. Karen Thurlow
5. Pam Grace
6. Deb Szechowycz
7. Janet Christie
8. Lynne Weisbart

**Women's 40+ Advanced**

1. Liz Molitor
2. Nancy Schum
3. Kathy Dunham
4. Brenda White
5. Patrice Calvi
6. Martha Huske

**Women's 45+ Advanced**

1. Liz Molitor
2. Nancy Schum
3. Kathy Dunham
4. Brenda White
5. Martha Huske

**Women's 45+ Intermediate**

1. Joan Vande Kieft
2. Cheryl Kirk
3. Pam Grace
4. Deb Szechowycz
5. Janet Christie
6. Lynne Weisbart

**Women's 50+ Advanced**

1. Kathy Dunham
2. Brenda White

**Women's 50+ Intermediate**

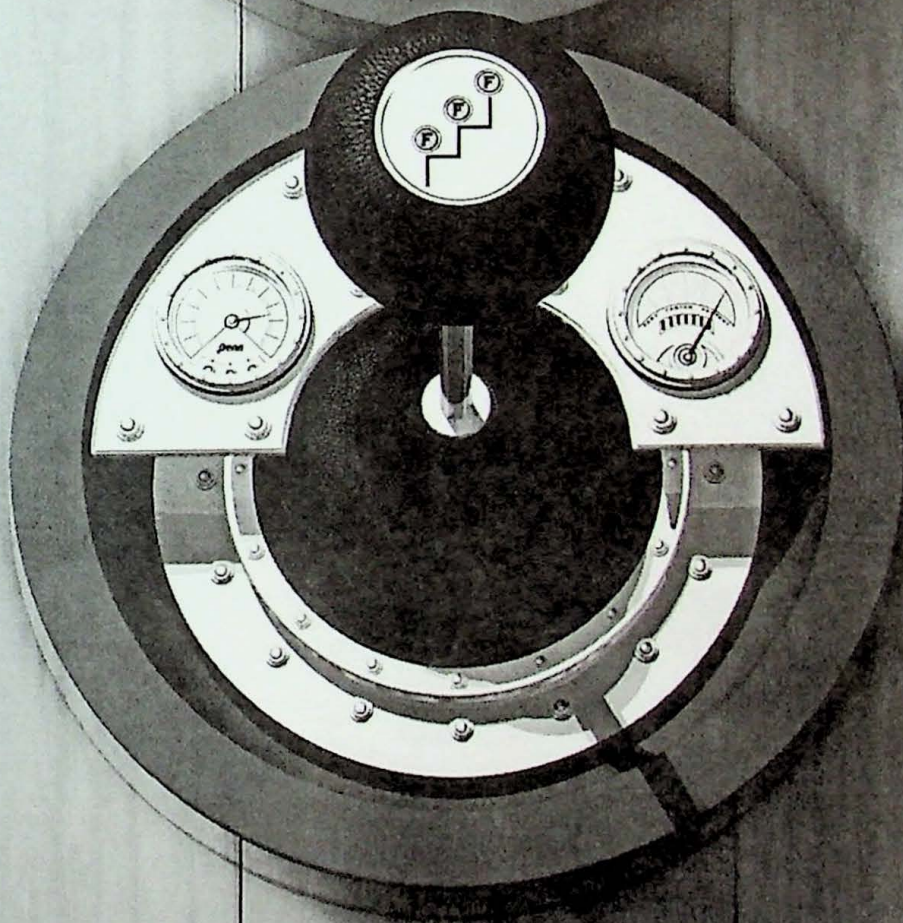
1. Joan Vande Kieft
2. Lynne Weisbart
3. Pam Grace



Naper's own Ed Olah kept a couple of medals close to home

# Speed?

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# A Quick Trip to a Neighboring Sport... with Rich Clay's dad!

On October 18, 2003, Frank E. Clay was inducted into the Illinois Bowling Hall of Fame. Frank is the father of Rich Clay, ISRA Executive Board Member and Treasurer.

Frank began his bowling career in 1945 in youth leagues, and he is still active, currently bowling in three leagues. His bowling averages of 199-206 are astonishing for two reasons. First, these are outstanding accomplishments for both amateurs and pros, especially before recent changes in lanes and equipment that spiked averages even higher. Second, at 73 years old, Frank shows no signs of slowing down. He bowled a perfect 300 game in 1980 and has logged two games of 299 and two of 298. His highest three-game series is 770. Frank has been active in tournament competition over these many years. His accomplishments include being a member of the Illinois State tournament first place scratch team in 1974 and 1975, the only team to win scratch team titles two consecutive years; state doubles champion in 1968; and he has bowled in 49

consecutive ABC National tournaments, a feat few have achieved.

Clay explains, "Bowling has been a major part of my life for over 50 years and I have enjoyed the rivalries and especially the lasting friendships that I've developed from this wonderful sport. Bowling with and against some of the top notch bowlers was inspiring. They taught me good sportsmanship, teamwork and fair play."

Clay has set two goals for himself. One is to bowl in his 50th

consecutive ABC tournament in Reno, Nevada in 2004 and the other is to eventually knock down a total of 100,000 pins at the ABC!

We wish Frank "Good Luck and Good Bowling!"

*Editor's Note: Guess Rich hasn't cornered the market on athletics in the Clay family! Many thanks to Cindy (Clay) Crouse for this article.*



## Bits & Pieces

★ The ISRA website is undergoing some behind-the-scenes renovation, to be unveiled soon. Thanks to Leo Klimaitis and Diane Bunker for their contributions – we look forward to a bright new look in the coming year!

★ Laurel Davis, Geoff Peters and Cheryl Kirk represented the ISRA in September at The Summit in the Rockies. Among subjects discussed were the USRA's future marketing plans, a new ranking system, and the construction of a traveling portable court to be used for promoting racquetball. Laurel will provide details in the January 2004 newsletter.

★ Racquetball open player Todd Sauerbrun excels in *another* sport, too (football)! The *Chicago Tribune* reported in September that Todd signed a record-breaking five-year contract extension with the Panthers. Good luck, Todd, and see you on the courts in the off-season!

★ Congratulations to Lynn and Kevin Yeazell (and big brother Zach) on the birth of Justin Alan Yeazell, who arrived on September 8 weighing in at 8 pounds 15 ounces. Everyone is doing just fine – just a little sleep-deprived at present!

*Editor's Note: Members, if you have items you'd like to see mentioned in the newsletter, please send them to [cherylkkirk@aol.com](mailto:cherylkkirk@aol.com).*

# USRA

United States Racquetball Association

## COMPETITIVE LICENSE APPLICATION

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RACQUETBALL Magazine subscription only ..... \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_

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Tournament \_\_\_\_\_ Representative \_\_\_\_\_

All memberships are for one year, and include a subscription to RACQUETBALL Magazine (six times/year) and the Illinois Newsletter (six times/year).



# KICK IT UP!

**NFS Men's Tour 3/4**

**NFS Men's Tour Mid**

**NFS Women's Pro Tour Mid**

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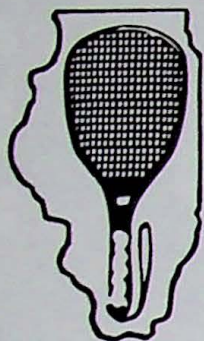
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## 2003-2004 TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

For updates or edits to the ISRA Tournament Calendar,  
please contact Geoff Peters at (773) 251-4413  
or at [Petersgeoff@Hotmail.com](mailto:Petersgeoff@Hotmail.com)

**November 19-23**

**Choice Hotels 8th U.S. Open**  
The Racquet Club, Memphis, TN  
Doug Ganim (719) 635-5396  
**SANCTIONED**

**December 6**

**Wilson One Day Women's**  
TBD  
Dave Negrete (630) 430-1478  
**SANCTIONED**

**December 17-21**

**Pro Kennex IRF 15th World Juniors**  
Orlando, FL  
Heather Fender (719) 635-5396  
**SANCTIONED \***

**January 15-18**

**Revie Sorey Celebrity Classic**  
The Chalet, Willow Springs  
Anita Efron (708) 474-2440  
**SANCTIONED \***

**January 16-18**

**WSMA 16th Senior/Masters**  
Royal Athletic Club, Burlingame, CA  
Terry Rogers (650) 349-9533  
**SANCTIONED**

**January 23-24**

**Ed Lembitz Memorial Open**  
B.R. Ryall YMCA, Glen Ellyn  
Sean Nelson (630) 858-0100  
**SANCTIONED \***

**January 31**

**One Day Doubles Tune-up**  
The Southlake Club, Mundelein  
Bob Croft (847) 949-8180  
**SANCTIONED**

**February 6-8**

**ISRA State Doubles Championships**  
The Glass Court Swim and Fitness,  
Lombard  
Laurel Davis (630) 325-6410  
**SANCTIONED**

**February 13-15**

**St. Valentine's Day Massacre**  
Location TBD  
Dave Negrete (630) 430-1478  
**SANCTIONED**

**February 20-22**

**9th Annual Palos Olympic Open**  
Palos Olympic Health and Fitness  
Keith Kareiva (708) 444-0051  
**SANCTIONED**

**March 4-7**

**Wilson 17th US High School  
Championships**  
Portland, OR  
Heather Fender (719) 635-5396  
**SANCTIONED \***

**March TBD**

**Negrete Open**  
Location TBD  
Dave Negrete (630) 430-1478  
**SANCTIONED**

**March 11-14**

**Shamrock Shootout**  
The Glass Court Swim and Fitness,  
Lombard  
Doug Halverson (630) 629-3390  
**SANCTIONED**

**March 19-21**

**Edens March Madness**  
Edens Athletic Club, Chicago  
Joe Gill (773) 286-6700  
**SANCTIONED \***

**March 27-28**

**ISRA Junior State Singles and Doubles**  
Landmark Racquet Club, Peoria  
Chuck Snyders (630) 969-4545  
Terry Sutton (309) 685-8360  
**SANCTIONED \***

**April 1-4**

**ISRA State Singles**  
The Chalet, Willow Springs  
Geoff Peters (773) 251-4413  
**SANCTIONED**

**April TBD**

**E-Force Intercollegiate Championships**  
Location TBD  
Heather Fender (719) 635-5396  
**SANCTIONED \***

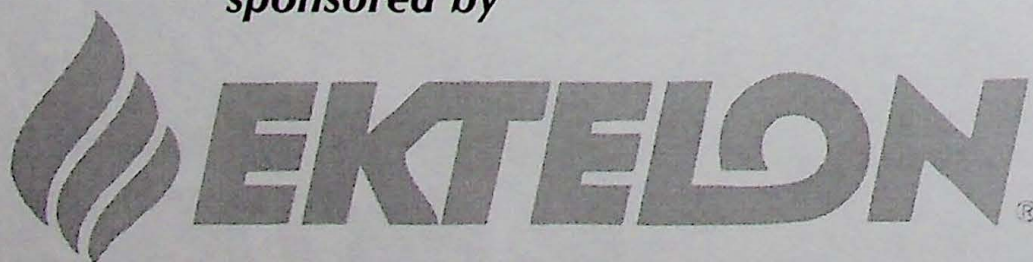
**April 15-18**

**Ektelon USRA Regional Championships**  
The Glass Court Swim & Fitness,  
Lombard  
Geoff Peters (773) 251-4413  
**SANCTIONED**

**May 26-31**

**37th Ektelon USRA National  
Championships**  
Downtown YMCA, Houston Tx  
Heather Fender (719) 635-5396  
**SANCTIONED**

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**847-359-5098**  
Palatine, IL  
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8-10 p.m.  
Saturday 8 a.m. - Noon  
\$15 One-Day Guest Pass

**Edens Athletic Club**  
**773-286-6700**  
Saturdays 12-3 p.m.  
\$8 for ISRA members  
(with membership card)

**The Glass Court  
Swim & Fitness**  
**630-629-3390**  
Saturdays 7 a.m. - Noon  
\$6.00

**Landmark Health  
& Racquetball**  
**309-685-8200**  
Peoria, IL  
First & Third  
Fridays of Month  
6-8 p.m.  
\$5.00

**Oak Park YMCA**  
**708-383-5200**  
Wed. 7-8 p.m., Thurs. 2-4 p.m.,  
Sat 8-10 a.m.  
Free to Y members, \$9 for non-  
members

**Palos Olympic Health  
& Racquet Club**  
**708-974-1900**  
Thursdays 6 - 8:30 p.m.  
\$5.00

**The Southlake Club**  
**847-949-8180**  
Saturdays  
10 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
\$10.00 for ISRA members  
(with membership card)

**Sunset Racquetball  
& Fitness Center**  
**630-232-7867**  
Geneva, IL  
Saturdays 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.  
Members: \$2  
Non-Members: \$5

**Lakeshore Athletic Club -  
Downtown**  
**312-644-4880**  
Chicago, IL  
Mondays & Wednesdays  
5:30 - 9:30 p.m.  
Members free,  
Non-Members \$12

To add your club to this list, contact:

**Lynne Weisbart**  
**847-732-7245**



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