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Volume 18, Number 4 July - August 2005

Racquetball's Greatest Accomplishment?



Plus:

National Singles

Junior Olympics

Chris Coy

2005-2006 IRT Schedule

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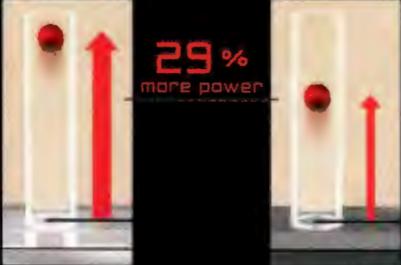
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Mission Statement

USA Racquetball (USAR) is the National Governing Body for the sport of racquetball, recognized by the U.S. Olympic Committee and is committed to excellence and service to our members. We provide opportunities for members and enthusiasts to actively participate in the sport, through sanctioning of events, administration of programs and development of competitive teams.

Vision Statement

To provide racquetball opportunities in the sport of racquetball for all levels of participation through:

Objectives:

- **MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT** - USAR values its members and will strive to provide the best possible member services at all levels.
- **MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT** - USAR believes that racquetball is a lifetime endeavor and the benefits of health, recreation, and competition should be available to everyone. USAR will strive to expand its membership in order to share these benefits with as many players and supporters as possible.
- **PROMOTION OF THE SPORT** - in order to sustain a strong player base USAR will promote the numerous benefits of participation through mass marketing efforts.
- **COMPETITIVE SUCCESS** - USAR strives to maintain America's position as the number one racquetball nation in the world. Success at the elite levels has a positive influence on every other facet of our sport.
- **SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS** - USAR values its relationship with sponsors and will continue to maximize benefits and exposure.

FEATURES



Chris Coy

Chris Coy's story from hardship to opportunity. A story of inspiration.



US Junior Olympics

Over 260 players compete for U.S. team positions on both the Esprit and junior teams.



U.S. National Singles

Highlights of age group, skill and open division competition.



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The screenshot shows a news article titled "RACQUETBALL PARTICIPATION FIGURES FOR 2004 INDICATE 13.8 % INCREASE". The article states that participation in racquetball for 2004 was up 13.8% compared to 2003. It also mentions increases in Badminton up 8.2%, Squash down 38.7%, Tennis up 5.4%, and Pickleball up 11.1%.

CONTRIBUTORS

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Rick Bond - Sport Graphics

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Geoff Thomsen

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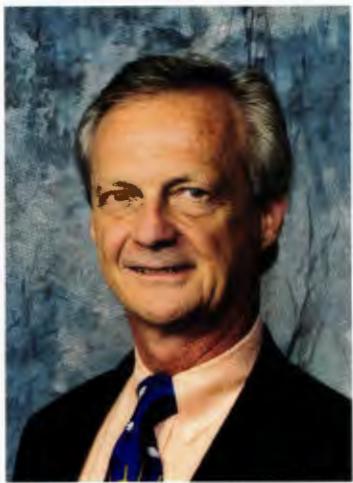
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FROM THE TOP

James Hiser, Ph.D.

USAR Executive Director



With each nationals comes the everlasting question of "why do the pros play in Houston?" Although the word "amateur" was removed from our name years ago, many people still refer to the event as the amateur nationals. The word

was removed from our name in response to removal of the word from the International Federation's regulations and rule books. According to the Amateur Sports Act the national governing bodies of any sport cannot make eligibility rules that are more restrictive than the International Federation. Since the International Federation no longer defines a professional or amateur athlete and promotes open competition, USA Racquetball must allow open competition in their qualifying events.

Many still ask, "Why do the pros even want to play the event?" Two players, the top women's and men's pros, have indicated the reason they play is simple - they enjoy the event. Not only do these players enjoy playing in front of enthusiastic, supportive fans they also enjoy being part of the US Team and being part of an event that celebrates their participation and support of their countries' only national team. Also, some players receive bonus funds from their sponsors for making the team and/or winning in Houston.

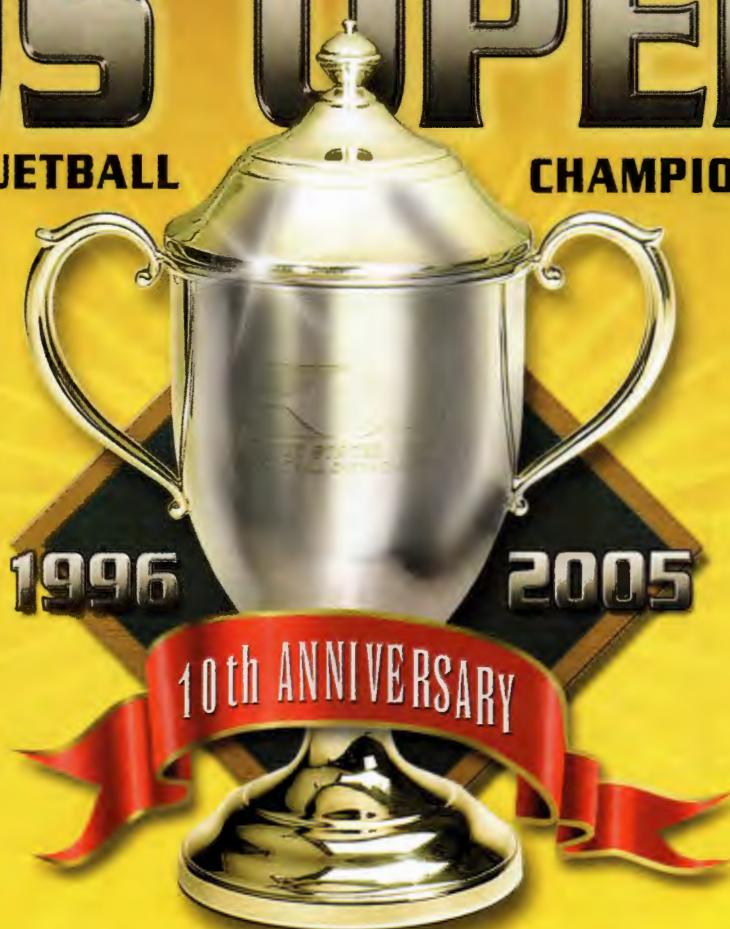
For the "pros" that have not qualified for the team prior to the event, a team position is important for both bonus funds and health insurance coverage. Some of these players are not covered by any insurance thus the US Team insurance is critical for their families.

Certain people have suggested that the IRT restrict their players from playing. Is this fair? Should a player be restricted from qualifying for bonus monies and benefits that are greater in many cases than any regular scheduled tour event? Should a player be restricted from representing their country in international competition? Unfortunately, our sport is not in a position to compensate our top athletes as other professional athletes. Thus our athletes need to compete in order to receive certain benefits and funds not available in any other event.

So is there any solution to what some perceive as a problem? Perhaps! Would a separate US Team qualifying division and a separate open division (no top 8 pro's permitted) resolve the problem? Would this create a division for a true "amateur" champion, or would this division only be an elevated elite division with most players still competing in the US Team division as their first division and also competing in their age bracket division as their second division? Would this separation be possible in the much smaller women's open division?

The answers are not simple. The players must be provided the opportunity to compete and earn the benefits offered. Continual evaluation of the process continues to assure that all parties - the players, USA Racquetball, the IRT and LPRA - receive the benefits and recognition they deserve from this event.

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» **BY RANDY STAFFORD, PRESIDENT, USAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

What's Next

This summer we will be hard at work achieving a few important goals for racquetball. These goals will be a high priority and need to be accomplished for our association to continue its path of recovery.

First and most important, our relationship with our state associations must be improved. The entire foundation of racquetball and its future rely on our state associations and the volunteers that give their time and effort. No longer can we assume that the state associations will continue to ceaselessly work from their heart without improved support from the national organization. We must have the correct programs and personnel to help achieve their goals and work together so we can ride the renewed wave of racquetball interest. Our main focus this summer will be to complete our new programs.

The next priority is our membership. Right now we are working on several new membership levels. These restructured levels will be studied and administered if they seem to be of value to racquetball players. Being studied are three new levels that could be of great benefit. First is a family membership where moms or dads are members, and the kids play for free or pay a reduced rate to be a member. Next is a new club membership for someone that may play in only one tournament a year at their club. This person may pay a reduced membership fee and receive one magazine. If they play in another sanctioned event, they would have to upgrade to a full membership. Last is a new e-membership for players that never play in any tournaments. As we know there are millions of players that just play and have fun, never enter tournaments and do not know about our association. This level is for them and they would receive a newly created e-magazine detailing all that is going on with racquetball. This would connect them to our sport, and the cost is free.

All of these new ideas are being studied and will be available, if approved, very soon. I believe we need new levels of memberships to attract every level of player. We need to be connected to them so we can keep them interested and participating in our sport long into the future.

We also have other areas that are in need of improvement. For instance, we need more juniors and more time spent on developing high school and collegiate racquetball. We have to understand the future of our sport lies with the kids and we must refocus our efforts this way. Last, we must bring unity to our sport! This will be a main focus this year. If all the various areas of the sport including USAR, IRT, IRF, LPRA, WOR and Legends work together we can accomplish some great things.

Each of these areas is important and is going to be addressed and worked on so that we can move our sport forward. There is so much going on within our sport that while this window of opportunity is before us, we must seize it and develop it. Part of our mission statement says, "USAR.....is committed to excellence and service to our members". I promise to hold all of us responsible to this statement while we continue to work for our association.

Randy Stafford

Players Helping Players Since January 1st, 2005

General Recognition

Pro Level

Sue & Leo Klimaitis - \$50,000

Open Level

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Doug Ganim - \$10,000

Geoff Peters - \$10,000

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Elite Level

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Lance Gilliam - \$2,000

Robert Gilliam - \$1,000

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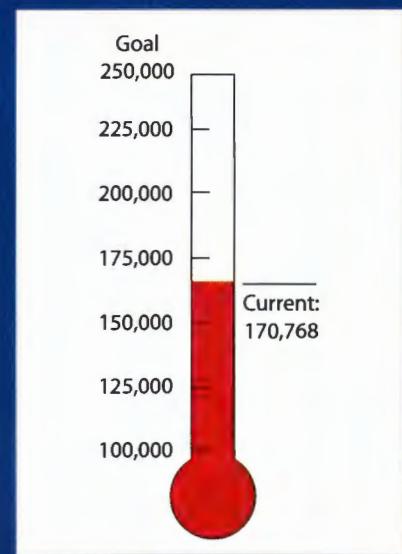
Michael Jones

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Christopher Lawson

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Racquetball's Greatest Accomplishment?

The 2005 Junior Olympic Championships culminated in what may be the greatest achievement ever within our sport. Chris Coy, who could officially qualify as a Paralympic athlete, won the Boys' 18 division thus qualifying for a position on the US Junior Team.

Although the United States Olympic Committee could only remember 2 similar situations (athletes in track and field and swimming) in which a Paralympic athlete won the National Championship, they thought neither athlete had won their nationals.

Chris's accomplishments are truly amazing. At 3 years of age he lost part of his leg and entire left foot due to a bacterial infection. At 6 he started playing racquetball and entered and won his first tournament at age 8. "I knew I could be good when I beat everyone in that tournament," quoted Chris. Thanks to Hank Riehner and the National Shriners organization Chris received assistance with his prosthetic leg and foot. This assistance was a tremendous relief for his parents and also helped Chris receive a prosthetic that could be fit to his racquetball needs.

Although Chris received no formal lessons, he attributes his racquetball knowledge to Randal Burton with whom he played every Saturday morning at 9 am. "I really like the game because you can play it all year round, at anytime," states Chris who would always be found at his mom and dad's club practicing at all hours of the day.

Chris's goal is to win the 2005 Junior World Championships. Although he realizes he is an underdog, it is just another challenge for the determined Coy. When asked "what is his strength?" he surprisingly responded "it's his quickness, yes quickness". Chris has also acknowledged that he has worked extensively on his drive serve and that it is perhaps his greatest offensive weapon.



Racquetball may never see another accomplishment of this magnitude. Although other paralympic athletes have been successful in able-bodied sports, few if any have had a disability as extensive as Chris's and never one that effected peak performance to such a great extent. Imagine a swimmer with one arm or a runner with one leg - that is complimentary to Chris's situation.

Chris's attitude toward life and racquetball is the key to his success. He is positive and optimistic and actually looks forward to the challenges placed upon him. Perhaps all of us could learn something from this great athlete.

"I knew I could be good when I beat everyone in that tournament"

2005 Junior Olympic Championships

Presented by:



THE VENUE

Without question, the premier athletic facility in the U.S. (22,000 members and a 7 year waiting list) the Multnomah Athletic Club once again graciously hosted the Junior Olympics. The on-site presence of a professional-type baseball stadium along with every other club amenity you could imagine resulted in plenty of extra activities for both parents and players. With over 750 matches, the event also used a second club, the Lloyd Athletic Club. The combination of two great facilities provided excellent venues for this year's event.

STATISTICS

Thirty-one states represented - 262 players - top four states with most competitors were Oregon, California, Ohio and Washington - Massachusetts with only six players places 4th overall in team scoring - over 750 total matches - 14 consecutive team titles for Oregon.

ESPRIT DIVISIONS (12, 10, 8)

The excellent junior development programs in both Oregon and Ohio resulted in Oregon players medaling in every esprit division and Ohio in 4 out of the eight. Although the 6 year olds are not officially esprit divisions, these divisions always seem to produce some of the most exhilarating matches. Charismatic "Ralphie" Grillone from Boston and Erika Manillia from Colorado won these divisions. Perhaps the most outstanding performances in these divisions were by Joseph Lee (B12) from Louisiana and Elizabeth Brenner (G12) from Oregon. These two athletes dominated their respective final opponents and qualified to represent the U.S. at the Junior Worlds in December.

JUNIOR TEAM DIVISIONS (18, 16, 14)

For the first time in eleven years, Oregon did not place a player in the finals of the team divisions. Oregon was still able to equal their normal number of players on the U.S. Team due to outstanding doubles performances but no Oregon player will be representing the U.S. in singles. Kelly Fisher's improvement and victory in the 18's was a reflection of the hard work she put in over the last year. Jose Rojas (16) and Ismael Aldana (14) again took home the gold for California and should be strong contenders for the gold at the World Championship. Although the Key sisters from Arizona played well they both lost in the finals to Kara Mazur (16) and Sheryl (14) Ohio respectively. Both Kara and Sheryl had outstanding tournaments.

FUTURE STARS

Jose Rojas (14) - outstanding talent, great work ethic, already medium Open player

Joseph Lee (12) - never say die attitude, fighter, great shotter

Elizabeth Brenner (12) - dominating, powerful, when will she stop growing?

Lily Berry (12) - great mechanics, positive attitude, great competitor

PROGRAMS

Giant Rebound - California - after losing numerous juniors and struggling for the past 8 years have developed a strong program for the future thanks to Jodi Nance, Kari McDonough, and John Ellis.

Outstanding - Ohio, Oregon - continue to produce great talent with great coaching and leadership

On the Rise - Vermont, Massachusetts - watch out next year!!

BOY'S JUNIOR TEAM ROSTER

18's - C. Coy (OK) / M. Keddie (MA)

16's - I. Aldana (CA) / A. Crockett (AL)

14's - J. Rojas (CA) / D. Lavelly (OH)

GIRL'S JUNIOR TEAM ROSTER

18's K. Fisher (OH) / S. Hettesheimer (OH)

16's K. Mazur (CT) / M. Key (AZ)

14's S. Lotts (OH) / D. Key (AZ)

DOUBLES - BOYS

18's - A. Herrera (CO) / J. Torres (KS)

16's - I. Aldana (CA) / J. Rojas (CA)

14's - D. Lavelly (OH) / C. McGuffey (OH)

DOUBLES - GIRLS

18's K. Ferguson (OR) / A. Leggett (OR)

16's S. Ingelsby (OR) / B. Leggett (OR)

14's E. Brenner (OR) / C. Chisholm (OR)

BOY'S ESPRIT TEAM ROSTER

12's - J. Lee (OK) / M. Rojas (CA)

10's - S. Reid (OR) / J. Lindsay (OR)

8's - S. Shoemaker (OH) / K. Ulliman (OH)

GIRL'S ESPRIT TEAM ROSTER

12's E. Brenner (OR) / L. Berry (OH)

10's A. Lavelly (OH) / E. Vargas (CO)

DOUBLES

12's - J. Lee (CA) / D. Reid (OR)

10's - A. Manilla (OR) / S. Reid (OR)

12's E. Brenner (OR) / C. Chisholm (OR)

10's K. Henderson (OR) / J. Lindsay (OR)

Event Sponsor:



2005 Junior Olympic Championships Results

Boys' 10 Singles -- Finals

Sam Reid, Medford, OR d. John Lindsay, Oregon City, OR 14-15;15-8;11-6

Boys' 10 Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Ryan Coates, Springboro, OH d. Doug Brenner, Portland, OR 15-13;15-10

Boys' 10 Doubles -- Finals

Adam Manilla - Sam Reid d. Doug Brenner - John Lindsay 13-15;15-7;11-4

Boys' 10 Doubles -- 3-4 Playoff

Conlon Berry - Mathew Wray d. Spencer Shoemaker - Kyle Ulliman 14-15;15-14;11-3

Boys' 12 Singles -- Finals

Joseph Lee, Baton Rouge, LA d. Marco Rojas, Stockton, CA 15-6;15-4

Boys' 12 Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Jose Diaz, Stockton, CA d. Jade Hemiller, Watertown, SD 15-4;15-5

Boys' 12 Doubles -- Finals

Joseph Lee - Dylan Reid d. Jose Diaz - Marco Rojas 15-11;15-10

Boys' 12 Doubles -- 3-4 Playoff

Charles Boyle - Joshua Hungerford d. DJ Ganim - Brad Schoenberry 15-4;15-8

Boys' 14 Singles -- Finals

Jose Rojas, Stockton, CA d. Danny Lavelle, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 15-8;15-4

Boys' 14 Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Taylor McDermott, Dallas, TX d. Brad Kirch, Syracuse, NY 15-6;15-8

Boys' 14 Doubles -- Finals

Danny Lavelle - Chad McGuffey d. Jake Bredenbeck - Taylor Knuth 15-11;15-14

Boys' 14 Doubles -- 3-4 Playoff

John Sanderson - Billy Wainwright d. John-Craig Chisholm - Brad Kirch 15-5;13-15;11-4

Boys' 16 Singles -- Finals

Ismael Aldana, Stockton, CA d. Allan Crockett, Birmingham, AL 15-12;13-15;11-6

Boys' 16 Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Brandon Callihan, Surprise, AZ d. Jerome Jackson, Morwood, MA 15-14;13-15;11-5

Boys' 16 Doubles -- Finals

Ismael Aldana - Jose Rojas d. Tripp Isley - Richard Siedzik 15-13;15-12

Boys' 16 Doubles -- 3-4 Playoff

Jansen Allen - Taylor McDermott d. Jerome Jackson - Chad LaForest 15-3;15-1

Boys' 18 Singles -- Finals

Chris Coy, Elk City, OK d. Mike Keddie, Manchester, NH 15-12;15-9

Boys' 18 Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Darrel Miller, Union Grove, WI d. Charlie Pratt, Portland, OR 15-14;9-15;11-9

Boys' 18 Doubles -- Finals

Anthony Herrera - Jared Torres d. Charlie Pratt - Jordan Walters 15-13;15-1

Boys' 18 Doubles -- 3-4 Playoff

Zachary Apperson - Allan Crockett d. Chris Coy - Mike Keddie Def (ns)

Boys' 8 Singles -- Finals

Spencer Shoemaker, Findley, OH d. Kyle Ulliman, Westerville, OH 9-15;15-9;11-5

Boys' 8 Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Thomas Thorndike, Medford, OR d. Matt McAdam, Englewood, CO 14-15;15-12;11-8

Girls' 12 Singles -- Finals

Elizabeth Brenner, Portland, OR d. Lily Berry, Columbus, OH 15-7;15-11

Girls' 12 Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Samantha Rosado, Meriden, CT d. Devon Pimentelli, San Bruno, CA 15-6;15-4

Girls' 14/12/10 Doubles -- Finals

Elizabeth Brenner - Courtney Chisholm d. Danielle Key - Emma Northcote 15-7;15-5

Girls' 14/12/10 Doubles -- 3-4 Playoff

Monique Horyza - Aubrey O'Brien d. Victoria Fladstol - Hallee Hungerford 15-0;15-0

Girls' 14 Singles -- Finals

Sheryl Lotts, Bedford, OH d. Danielle Key, Gilbert, AZ 15-6;15-2

Girls' 14 Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Aubrey O'Brien, Auburn, CA d. Kaylea Henderson, Gladstone, OR 15-7;15-4

Girls' 16 Singles -- Finals

Kara Mazur, Avon, CT d. Michelle Key, Gilbert, AZ 15-10;15-11

Girls' 16 Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Shannon Inglesby, Portland, OR d. Brittany Legget, Klamath Falls, OR 15-9;4-15;11-9

Girls' 16 Doubles -- Finals

Shannon Inglesby - Brittany Legget d. Holly Hettesheimer - Sharon Jackson 15-10;15-7

Girls' 16 Doubles -- 3-4 Playoff

Kara Mazur - Samantha McGuffey d. Jennifer Fenton - Michelle Key 15-9;15-9

Girls' 18 Singles -- Finals

Kelley Fisher, Canton, OH d. Sarah Hettesheimer, Cincinnati, OH 15-2;15-9

Girls' 18 Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Ashley Legget, Klamath Falls, OR d. Katie Ferguson, Portland, OR 15-10;12-15;11-2

Girls' 18 Doubles -- Round Robin 1

Dianne Meyer - Sarah Moyle d. Kimberly Hamlin - Rachel Peterson 15-11;15-4

Katie Ferguson - Ashley Legget d. Kimberly Hamlin - Rachel Peterson 15-10;15-3

Katie Ferguson - Ashley Legget d. Dianne Meyer - Sarah Moyle 15-7;15-5

Girls' 8 Singles -- Finals

Elizabeth Vargas, Aurora, CO d. Jessica Varner, Baton Rouge, LA 15-0;15-6

Girls' 8 Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Jasmine Aldana, Stockton, CA d. Alicia Fladstol, Eagle Point, OR 15-5;15-7

Mixed 18 Doubles -- Finals

Sarah Moyle - Scott Rieders d. Zachary Apperson - Samantha McGuffey 15-8;15-7

Mixed 18 Doubles -- 3-4 Playoff

Kelley Fisher - Drew Tolard d. Sarah Hettesheimer - Jordan Walters 15-11;15-4

Mixed 16 Doubles -- Finals

Allan Crockett - Michelle Key d. Kara Mazur - Richard Siedzik 15-14;15-9

Mixed 16 Doubles -- 3-4 Playoff

Ismael Aldana - Shannon Inglesby d. Jennifer Fenton - Jacob Hultkins 15-7;15-9

Mixed 14 Doubles -- Finals

Taylor Knuth - Sheryl Lotts d. Danielle Key - Billy Wainwright 15-14;15-6

Mixed 14 Doubles -- 3-4 Playoff

Brianna Ho - Connor Wicknick d. Matt Gillette - Kaylea Henderson 15-8;15-11

Boys' 8 Multi-Bounce -- Finals

Ryan Francis, Litchfield, NH d. Esteban Diaz, Stockton, CA 11-4;11-1

Boys' 8 Multi-Bounce -- 3-4 Playoff

Thomas Thorndike, Medford, OR d. Anthony Vargas, Aurora, CO 11-1;11-3

Girls' 8 Multi-Bounce -- Finals

Jessica Varner, Baton Rouge, LA d. Krystle Boyle, Beaverton, OR 11-9;11-8

Girls' 8 Multi-Bounce -- 3-4 Playoff

Erika Manilla, Centennial, CO d. Ashley O'Brien, Auburn, CA 11-5;1103

Boys' 18 Singles Red -- Finals

Phil Mathews, Columbia, IL d. Michael Phillips, Rapid City, SD 15-13;15-43

Boys' 18 Singles Red -- 3-4 Playoff

Brandon Callihan, Surprise, AZ d. Stone Conroy, Danville, VT 15-9;15-1

Boys' 18 Blue Singles -- Finals

Anthony Martin, West Jordan, UT d. Ryan Meyer, Elk Grove, CA 15-4;15-13

Boys' 18 Blue Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Tony Teach, Beaverton, OR d. Christopher Edwards, Meriden, CT 6-15;15-7;11-9

Boys' 18 White Singles -- Finals

Vicente Uriostegui, Columbus, OH d. Will Davis, Valdosta, GA 15-9;15-5

Boys' 18 White Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Brian Zundel, Portland, OR d. Alex Savory, Gresham, OR Def (ns)

Boys' 16 Red Singles -- Finals

Jordan Powers, Mukwonago, WI d. Joey Limoncello, Mundelein, IL 11-15;15-8;11-7

Boys' 16 Red Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Wade Collins, Bellingham, WA d. Tim Ho, Bellingham, WA 15-11;15-10

Boys' 16 Blue Singles -- Finals

Kamran Masood, West Linn, OR d. Grant Stalley, Beaverton, OR 15-3;15-5

Boys' 16 Blue Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Geoffrey Goldblatt, Chicago, IL d. Ben Spooner, Manakin Sabot, VA 8-15;15-0;11-10

Boys' 16 White Singles -- Finals

Arash Afshar, Salem, OR d. Tony Buckley, North Mankato, MN 12-15;15-14;11-5

Boys' 16 White Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Greg Giordano, Hilton Head Island, SC d. Jamie Wray, Huron, OH 15-7;15-7

Boys' 14 Red Singles -- Finals

John Sanderson, Park City, UT d. Mauricio Zelada, Beltsville, MD 15-13;9-15;11-7

Boys' 14 Red Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Jake Bredenbeck, St. Croix, MN d. Tyler Lanman, Danville, CA 15-4;15-3

Boys' 14 Blue Singles -- Finals

Ryan Ingram, Kannapolis, NC d. Caleb Dale, Helena, MT 15-6;15-6

Boys' 14 Blue Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Chad McGuffey, Cincinnati, OH d. Patrick Newman, Woodland, CA Def (ns)

Boys' 14 White Singles -- Finals

Jonathan Garcia, Stockton, CA d. Dan Lerow, Bradenton, FL Def (ns)

Boys' 14 White Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Cody Alsup, Vacaville, CA d. Matt Gillette, Salem, OR 15-11;15-5

Boys' 12 Red Singles -- Finals
Brad Schopieray, Swartz Creek, MI d. Ryan Coates, Springboro, OH Def (ns)

Boys' 12 Red Singles -- 3-4 Playoff
Zach Gibbons, Scottsdale, AZ d. Maxwell Rompa, Portland, OR 15-7;15-3

Boys' 12 Blue Singles -- Finals
Charles Boyle, Beaverton, OR d. Samuel Allen, St. Johnsbay, VT 15-4;15-14

Boys' 12 Blue Singles -- 3-4 Playoff
Daniel Ring, Elko, MN d. DJ Ganim, Westerville, OH Def (ns)

Boys' 12 White Singles -- Finals
Alex Guzman, Stockton, CA d. Zachary Brancato, Pleasanton, CA 15-11;15-10

Boys' 12 White Singles -- 3-4 Playoff
Kevin Catron, Sun River, MT d. Abraham Guzman, Stockton, CA 15-1;15-8

Boys' 10 Red Singles -- Finals
Zach Pellowski, Pahsade, CO d. Sam Bredenbeck, St. Croix, MN 15-3;15-8

Boys' 10 Red Singles -- 3-4 Playoff
Braxton Anderson, Lynden, WA d. Triston Guthrie, Bellingham, WA 15-4;15-0

Boys' 10 Blue Singles -- Finals
Jasper Jackson, Anchorage, AK d. Jeffrey Locke, Portland, OR 15-12;15-4

Boys' 10 Blue Singles -- 3-4 Playoff
Bobby Sehrrosa, Pleasanton, CA d. Robert Hemphill, Fosters, AL 15-8;15-5

Boys' 10 White Singles -- Finals
Trevor Deason, Whittman, AZ d. Steven Boyle, Beaverton, OR 15-1;15-5

Boys' 10 White Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Eric Lotts, Bedford, OH d. Jeremy Smith, Blaine, WA Def (ns)

Boys' 8 Red Singles -- Finals
Sam Bredenbeck, St. Croix, MN d. Anthony Vargas, Aurora, CO 15-7;15-6

Boys' 8 Red Singles -- 3-4 Playoff
Deryk Wray, Huron, OH d. Michael Blackshaw, Bothell, WA 15-0;15-3

Boys' 8 Red Multi-Bounce -- Finals
Tyzany Hudson, Baton Rouge, LA d. Duryk Wray, Huron, OH 3-15;15-6;11-5

Boys' 8 Red Multi-Bounce -- 3-4 Playoff
Daryl Wainwright, West Linn, OR d. Tyler Walker, Baton Rouge, LA 11-1;11-5

Boys' 8 Blue Multi-Bounce -- Finals
Ralph C. Grilione Jr., Brockton, MA d. Daniel Rojas, Stockton, CA 15-2;15-2

Boys' 8 Blue Multi-Bounce -- 3-4 Playoff
Michael Blackshaw, Bothell, WA d. Jacob Poppino, Milwaukee, OR 9-11;11-10;9-5

Girls' 18 Red Singles -- Finals
Sarah Moyle, Beaverton, OR d. Kimberly Hamlin, Salem, OR 15-4;15-11

Girls' 18 Red Singles -- 3-4 Playoff

Rachel Peterson, Salem, OR d. Shanae Taylor, Shelbyville, IN Def (ns)

Girls' 16 Red Singles -- Finals
Laura Davis, Beaverton, OR d. Teresa Diaz, Stockton, CA 8-15;15-3;11-6

Girls' 16 Red Singles -- 3-4 Playoff
Emily Melgaard, Coeur d'Alene, ID d. Shanae Taylor, Shelbyville, IN 15-7;15-6

Girls' 16 Blue Singles -- Finals
Sharon Jackson, Shelbyville, IN d. Samantha McGuffey, Cincinnati, OH 15-9;15-8

Girls' 16 Blue Singles -- 3-4 Playoff
Holly Hetteshelmer, Cincinnati, OH d. Jennifer Fenton, Overland Park, KS 15-14;2-15;11-9

Girls' 16 White Singles -- Finals
Annie Tzaneva, Portland, OR d. Elizabeth Falkenstein, Portland, OR 15-8;13-15;11-6

Girls' 16 White Singles -- 3-4 Playoff
Lauren Patalano, Warwick, RI d. Sarah Crawford, Bellingham, WA 15-10;15-12

Girls' 14 Red Singles -- Finals
Christine Maduell, Beaverton, OR d. Emma Northcott, Tualatin, OR 15-6;15-13

Girls' 14 Red Singles -- 3-4 Playoff
Janelle Stalley, Beaverton, OR d. Kyra Klopp, Folsom, CA 15-3;15-3

Girls' 14 Blue Singles -- Finals
Jacquelyn Gallo, Waynesboro, PA d. Amie Catron, Sun River, MT 15-4;15-6

Girls' 14 Blue Singles -- 3-4 Playoff
Brianna Ho, Bellingham, WA d. Sydney Prescott, Milwaukee, OR 15-1;15-3

Girls' 12 Red Singles -- Finals
Courtney Chisholm, Marlboro, MA d. Jacquelyn Rosado, Meriden, CT 15-9;15-8

Girls' 12 Red Singles -- 3-4 Playoff
Monique Horyza, Orangevale, CA d. Amanda Lindsay, Oregon City, OR 15-1;15-8

Girls' 8 Red Singles -- Finals
Emily Doty, Lyndonville, VT d. Jasmine Aldana, Stockton, CA 11-5;11-9

Girls' 8 Red Multi-Bounce -- 3-4 Playoff

Ashley Boyle, Beaverton, OR d. Christina Lively, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 11-5;11-4

Boys' 18 Red Doubles -- Finals

Zachary Kemp - Byron Randolph d. Stone Conroy - Samir Hojat 15-11;15-4

Boys' 18 Red Doubles -- 3-4 Playoff

Anthony Martin - Anthony Montanez d. Andrew Clarke - Ryan Williams 15-0;15-4

Boys' 16 Red Doubles -- Finals

Brad Falvey - Jordan Powers d. Eric Atchison - Tony Buckley 15-13;15-11

Boys' 16 Red Doubles -- 3-4 Playoff

Kevin Hernandez - Vlakram Maru d. Matt Bernstein - Jesus Uriostegui 15-7;15-7

Boys' 14 Red Doubles -- Finals

Ryan Ingram - Josh Smith d. Victor Frausto - Tyler Lanman 15-9;15-11

Boys' 14 Red Doubles -- 3-4 Playoff

Cody Atsup - Jonathan Garcia d. Bryce Anderson - Brian Nichols 15-8;15-11

Boys' 12 Red Doubles -- Finals

Jade Hemiller - Daniel Ring d. Samuel Allen - James Hardy 15-5;13-15;11-10

Boys' 12 Red Doubles -- 3-4 Playoff

Zach Gibbons - Michael Rushelsky d. Korey Herman - Josh Hirsch 15-4;15-8

Boys' 10 Red Doubles -- Finals

Logan Nance - Bobby Sehrrosa d. Robert Hemphill - Zach Pellowski 15-10;15-13

Boys' 10 Red Doubles -- 3-4 Playoff

Triston Guthrie - Tyler Herman d. Braxton Anderson - Steven Boyle 15-8;15-6

Girls' 16 Red Doubles -- Finals

Laura Davis - Emily Melgaard d. Elena Baca - Elizabeth Falkenstein 15-4;13-15;11-9

Girls' 14/12/10 Red Doubles -- Finals

Jacquelyn Rosado - Samantha Rosado d. Kaylea Henderson - Amanda Lindsay 15-7;15-9

Mixed 18 Red Doubles -- Finals

Kimberly Hamlin - Byron Randolph d. Andrew Miller - Rachel Peterson 15-14;15-6

Mixed 18 Red Doubles -- 3-4 Playoff

Arash Ashar - Dianne Meyer d. Elizabeth Falkenstein - Brian Zundel 15-12;15-12

Mixed 16 Red Doubles -- Finals

Shane Taylor - Caleb Zinnerer d. Chad LaForest - Lauren Patalano 11-15;15-5;11-7

Mixed 16 Red Doubles -- 3-4 Playoff

Andrew Embry - Emily Melgaard d. Wade Collins - Sarah Crawford 15-4;10-15;11-1

Mixed 14 Red Doubles -- Finals

Jeffrey Fleisch - Jacquelyn Gallo d. Jeremy McGlothlin - Emma Northcott 15-6;15-4

Mixed 14 Red Doubles -- 3-4 Playoff

Annie Catron - Kevin Catron d. Kyra Klopp - Greg Sanders 15-5;15-8

Girls' 18 White Singles -- Finals

Dianne Meyer, McMinnville, OR d. Megan Donnithorne, Salem, OR 15-3;15-3

Final Team Results

1. Oregon 998.5

2. California 511.5

3. Ohio 468.5

4. Massachusetts 212.5

5. Colorado 195

6. Arizona 194

7. Connecticut 180.8

8. Washington 115

9. New Hampshire 114

10. Louisiana 110

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2005 USA RACQUETBALL

The Finals

What makes "The Finals" such a special event? Is it the prestigious awards ceremony honoring the nation's top performers and contributors? Is it the high level of competition in each division? Is it the elegant Hyatt Regency Hotel located only a couple of blocks from the playing venue and a central gathering place for social reunions and end of the day gossip? Or is it the history, 28 years of competition culminating in the nation's most coveted title of national champion?

Most likely the answer is all of the above but what stands out year after year is the large turn out of age groups athletes resulting in what is unquestionably the toughest competition within our sport.

Men's Age Group - Jimmy Lowe began his quest to repeat as age group athlete of the year by winning two of the events most competitive division's, Men's 35 and 40's. Jimmy, known for his unorthodox play (around the world Jimmy) and his exuberant on court antics, played two finals within one hour and 45 minutes of each



Jimmy Lowe:

Male Age Group Athlete of the Year

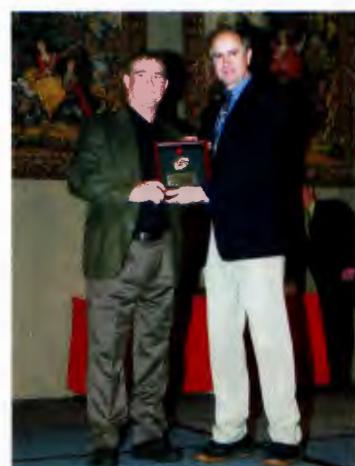
other. In the first match Jimmy survived the return of David Sabelesky (Sable) and squeaked out an 11-9 victory. Although somewhat fatigued Jimmy outlasted Keith Minor in the second final escaping with an 11-10 win. After the match Jimmy's only comments were "every muscle in my body aches- I don't think I'll play tomorrow!"

Another outstanding age group performance was exhibited by Tom Travers who reached the final in both the 45 and 50's. Although the match against Tim Hansen in the Men's 45's finals at times resembled a professional sumo match, both players exhibited great serving and shot making ability. In the end it was Tim's great hands and soft touch in the front court that proved to be the difference as he revenged his loss to Tom in the finals

of the last year's event. Tom's match against injured Ruben Gonzales in the Men's 50 was anticlimactic as Tom's tank was empty.

Tom went through the motions but decided early in the match, that even an injured Ruben was still too tough, allowing Ruben to win two easy games. Tom's day could best be summarized in his

comment to his wife Missy: "Honey, never let me play two divisions again - NEVER!" Missy simply smiled, glared at Tom and quietly responded, "You say that every year, but you'll never learn!"



Peyton Dorsett:
Houston Racquetball Association



Another great performance was by Mickey Bellah in the Men's 60. Mickey has fought from what many thought would be a debilitating disease to finally capture the national title. "I am very satisfied after trying for a lot of years, I have enjoyed playing at nationals but winning is the

ultimate."

"You're never too old" was the motto for the men's 70 draw. Most if not all the players in this division started playing before open division champion Jack Huzcek was even born. These dedicated warriors have a strong camaraderie developed over years of competition. Although they continue to battle and exhibit the competitive nature of all players, the respect these individuals have for each other and the sport itself is evident during every match. Every junior player needs to spend some time with these "older" athletes to learn about the real history of the game.

Dave Snyder stated after winning the division, "This was my first year in the 70+, and I thought it was my best chance for placing well. I have a lot of respect for the athletes in men's 70+. I was really impressed by all my competitors."

Women's Age Group Athletes - The story of the women's age group division was the absence of Debra Tisinger from both the 40 and 45's finals.

ALL NATIONAL SINGLES

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USAR NATIONAL SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

Debbie normally dominates these divisions but an obvious hip injury seemed to affect her performance.

Debbie dominance was exemplified by Linda Moore after her stunning upset of Debbie Tisinger in the semis of the 40's "this is my first time beating Debbie in over 20 attempts, this puts me ahead for my goal which was beating her before I turn 80." In the 40's final Patty Willyward lost to Solanna Taragan. Patty,

who also won the women's elite division, could not handle Solanna's consistent pressure. Malia Bailey, who like Mickey Bellah has fought her way back from a physical setback, absolutely dominated the women's 45 division, never allowing any competitor to earn double figure scores. Malia also pulled an amazing upset in the women's open division by defeating number 7 seed

Adrienne Fisher in the quarter finals.

Lola Marcus, Marquita Molina, Nidia Funes, and Terry Rogers continue to support the event, and maintain a high level of competition in the women's 60 and over division. The enthusiasm and never ending support these ladies continually provide is an inspiration for all.

A major topic of discussion during the event was the lack of female participation. A special women's meeting, organized by Board of Directors member Lorraine Galloway discussed possible solutions, although a number of recommendations were presented, more input is needed. Anyone interested in helping promote ladies racquetball should contact Lorraine.

Women's Open Division - Cheryl Gudinas, as expected, won her sixth national title. Although pushed by doubles partner Kristen Walsh in the semis, Cheryl seemed to be in control throughout most of her matches. The biggest upset in the division was Rhonda Rajsich's loss to Tammy Brown in the quarters. This loss resulted in Rhonda losing her position on the US Team. Rhonda's performance over the past year has been erratic. After winning last

Kristen Walsh: Extended Dive



Jack Huczak: Men's Open Champion

years nationals she lost in the quarters of the worlds and performed inconsistently on the LPRA tour. Unquestionably the most physically talented player on the tour, everyone wonders when her game will become more consistent and she will live up to expectations.

Men's Open - As expected, Jack Huczak and Rocky Carson again reached the finals. What is never known when these double partners compete is the outcome. These players have met in the finals three out of the last four years with each match going to 11-10 and 11-9 tiebreakers.

This year was a sea-saw battle; Jack was behind for 24 straight points before finally catching Rocky at 9-9 in the second game. In the tiebreaker it was Rocky fighting back from a 9-3 deficit to 10-9 before Jack hit an unorthodox off - the back wall splat kill from deep court to capture the victory. Both Jack and Rocky are often asked why they compete at nationals. Their answers are always the same. They enjoy the event, the response and respect exhibited by the fans and most of all they enjoy playing on the US Team and competing for their country.



Andy Hawthorne: One knee kill

Besides Jack and Rocky's match the most outstanding performance in the men's open division was Andy Hawthorne. Andy upset number four seed Mike Guidry in the 16's and recovering John Ellis in the quarters. Andy's unusual one-knee

diving kill shot continually amazed spectators and opponents. Andy has played many tour stops this season, and the experience definitely seemed to help. Doug Ganim prior to the event indicated, "Watch out for this kid- I play him often in Ohio, and he is tough!" Doug's words were prophetic as Andy not only qualified for the US Team but also won the Men's 24 divisions.

USAR NATIONAL SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

Head/Penn Casino Night

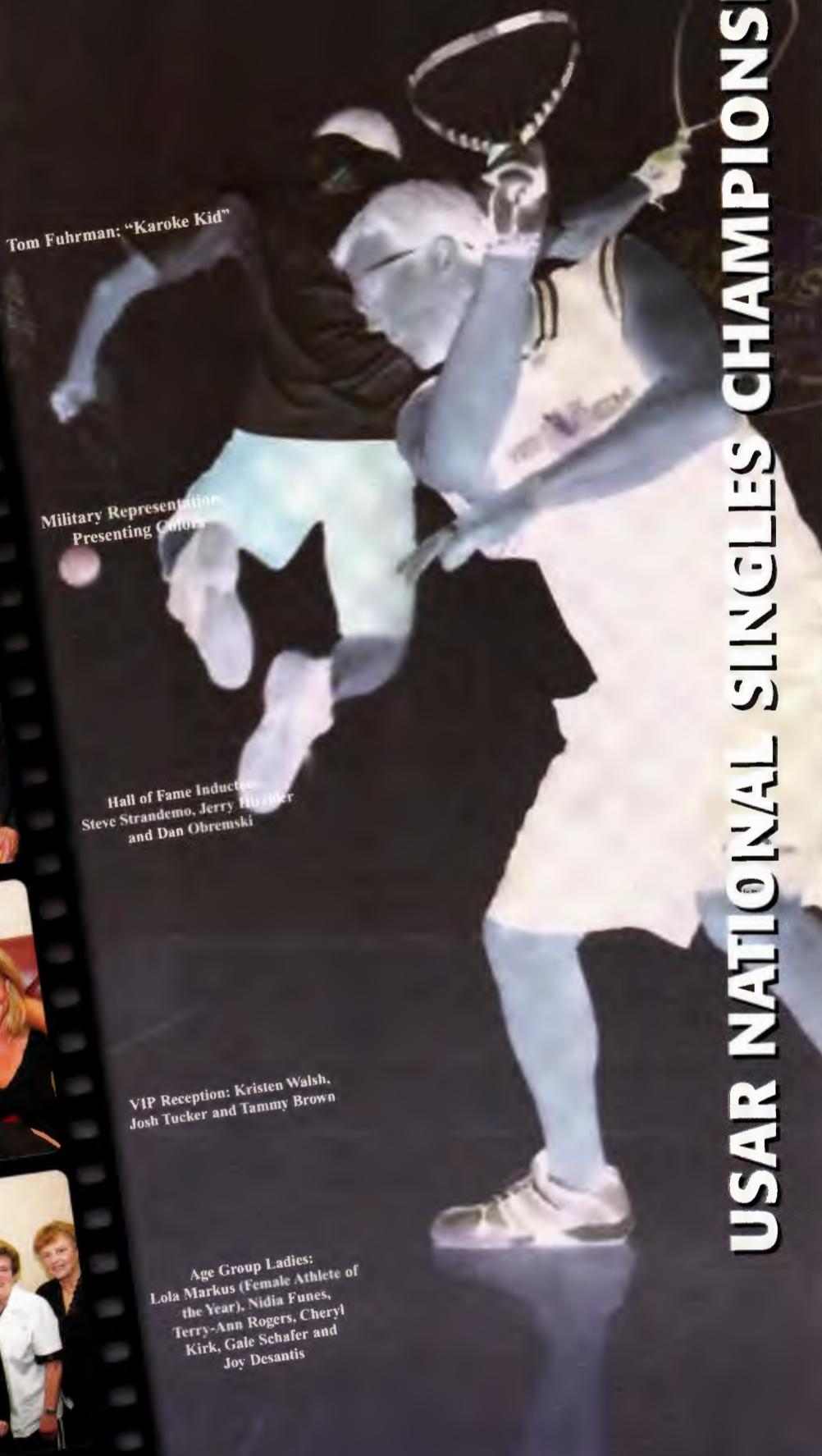
Tom Fuhrman: "Karoke Kid"

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Steve Strandemo, Jerry Buder
and Dan Obremski

VIP Reception: Kristen Walsh,
Josh Tucker and Tammy Brown

Age Group Ladies:
Lola Markus (Female Athlete of
the Year), Nidia Funes,
Terry-Ann Rogers, Cheryl
Kirk, Gale Schafer and
Joy Desantis



2005 USAR NATIONAL SIN

Men's 24 -
1st- Andy Hawthorne, OH
2nd- Chris Coy, OK
3rd- Marcelo Laprea, TX
3rd- Cesar Castro, TX

Men's 24 - A
1st- Aaron Barton, NY
2nd- Phil Mathews, IL
3rd- Bryan Crosser, IA
4th- Joseph Acosta, TX

Men's 24-B
1st- Joseph Lee, LA
2nd- Justin Martucci, AL
3rd- Tom Carrow, MO
4th- Travis Dancy, NC

Men's 24-C
1st- Samir Hojat, TX
2nd- David Lowe, TX
3rd- William Lee, LA
4th- Matt Checots, KS

Men's 25+
1st- Matt Davenport, MO
2nd- James Swift, CA
3rd- Jason Sylvester, NY
3rd- Jason Samora, CA

Men's 25+A
1st- Fabian Mendieta, TX
2nd- Khanh Le, TX
3rd- Jason Hicks, KY
4th- Bronc Hughes, CA

Men's 25+B

Men's 30+
1st- Tom Fuhrmann, AZ
2nd- Brian Fredenberg, TX
3rd- Julio Junki, FL
4th- Raymond Maestas, NM

Men's 30+A
1st- Eddie Pavolski, TX
2nd- Steve Wright, TX
3rd- Ignacio Jaimes, TX
4th- Eric Jubin, TX

Men's 30+B
1st- Sean Surcout, LA
2nd- Dean Cline, IN
3rd- Chris Jorgensen, AZ
4th- Micah Nichols, AR

Men's 30+C
1st- Mark Townsend, TX
2nd- Carter Jaynes, TX

Men's 35+
1st- Jimmy Lowe, HI
2nd- Keith Minor, IL
3rd- John Amatulli, IN
4th- Kory Duarte, AR

Men's 35+A
1st- Kipp Atwell, LA
2nd- Jeffrey Waters, TX
3rd- James Hembree, CA
4th- Mark Davis, FL

Men's 35+B
1st- Bill Pobega, OH
2nd- Cory Goshorn, PA
3rd- Brian Ancheta, OR
4th- Mark Ruiz, TX

Men's 35+C
1st- Chengcheng Li, TX
2nd- Kyle Myers, PA
3rd- Rick Mattheis, MO

Men's 40+
1st- Jimmy Lowe, HI
2nd- David Sabalesky, GA
3rd- Keith Minor, IL
4th- Leonard Mervin, FL

Men's 40+A
1st- Bob Jackson, MS
2nd- Frank Gomila, LA
3rd- Wally Ruiz, PA
4th- Edward Fink, TX

Men's 40+B
1st- Brian Ancheta, OR
2nd- Rudy Olivares, TX
3rd- Gonzalo Castillo, TX
4th- Karl Wendt, TX

Men's 40+C
1st- Fernando Aguirre, TX
2nd- Francisco Martinez, TX
3rd- Carter Jaynes, TX
4th- David Gonzales, CA

Men's 45+
1st- Tim Hansen, FL
2nd- Tom Travers, OH
3rd- Ivan Sanchez, TX
4th- Joe Hassey, NV

Men's 45+A
1st- Frank Gomila, LA
2nd- Watmora Casey, IL
3rd- Robert Frazier, AL
4th- Jim Hillman, IL

Men's 45+B
1st- Thomas Pendleton, MD
2nd- Darryle Watson, TX
3rd- Michael Kaufman, GA
4th- David Michalek, DE

Men's 45+C
1st- Terrance Holt, IN
2nd- Royce Simpson, IL
3rd- Bob Fulton, TX
4th- Ric Johnson, TX

Men's 50+
1st- Ruben Gonzalez, NY
2nd- Tom Travers, OH
3rd- Mark Baron, VA
4th- Darryl Warren, CA

Men's 50+A
1st- William DeLuca, AL
2nd- Robert Frazier, AL
3rd- William Cooper, MD
4th- Wil Rounsville, IL

Men's 50+B
1st- David Gross, TN
2nd- Thomas Curran, OH

Men's 50+C
1st- Larry Hicks, KY
2nd- Michael Jones, TX
3rd- Terrance Holt, IN
4th- Scott Owens, PA

Men's 55+
1st- Russ Montague, PA
2nd- Joe Lee, HI
3rd- David Dennis, AR
4th- Ed Remen- NC

Men's 55+A

Men's 55+B
1st- Lee Mayhew, TX
2nd- Jose Islas, CA
3rd- Jim Maroon, IL

Men's 55+C
1st- Alberto Palacios, IL
2nd- Joseph Bowman, TX
3rd- Michael Jones, TX
4th- George Jackson, TX

Men's 60+
1st- Mickey Bellah, CA
2nd- Tom McKie, TX
3rd- Joe Gellman, NM
4th- Horace Miller, IL

Men's 60+A
1st- Paul Lowe, TX

Men's 60+B
1st- John Bryant, TX
2nd- Leon Stanley, AL
3rd- Peyton Dorsett, TX

Men's 60+C
1st- Hank Estrada, CA
2nd- Richard Gower, MO
3rd- Terry Malloy, TX
4th- Ernesto Segura, TX

Men's 65+
1st- Leland Rients, MN
2nd- Jim McPherson, AR
3rd- Leon Stanley, AL
4th- Michael Jackson, CT

Men's 70+
1st- Dave Snyder, TX
2nd- Don Alt, OH
3rd- Jerry Holly, CA
4th- Rex Benham, AR

Men's 75+
1st- John O'Donnell Jr, IL
2nd- Joe Lambert, TX

Men's 80+
1st- Robert McAdam, TX
2nd- Cam Snowberger, SC

Men's 85+
1st- Cam Snowberger, SC

Men's A
1st- Bobby Ferreira, AZ
2nd- Jansen Allen, TX
3rd- Kipp Atwell, LA
4th- Fabian Mendieta, TX

Men's B
1st- Benson Hall, VA
2nd- Bill Pobega, OH
3rd- Jonathan Clay, NJ
4th- Gonzalo Castillo, TX

Men's C
1st- Chengcheng Li, TX
2nd- Daniel Mullin, MI
3rd- Larry Hicks, KY
4th- Hank Estrada, CA

Men's D
1st- George Parobek, IN
2nd- Venkatesh Natarajan, NH
3rd- Steven Markey, PA
4th- Rick Chong, NY

Men's Elite
1st- Cesar Castro, TX
2nd- Andrew Gross, TN
3rd- Dave Bartscher, TX
4th- Filip Vesely, IN

Men's Open
1st- Jack Huczek, MI
2nd- Rocky Carson, CA
3rd- Jason Thoerner, GA
4th- Andy Hawthorne, OH

Women's 24-
1st- Janel Tisinger, CA
2nd- Adrienne Fisher, AL
3rd- Kelley Fisher, AL

Women's 24-B
1st- Ashley Loyd, TN

Women's 24-C
1st- Haley Rollins, GA

GLE'S RESULTS

Tournament Notes

Women's 25+
1st- Claudine Garcia, TX

Women's 25+A
1st- Paula Saad, MI

Women's 25+B
1st- Tracy Cerovski, OH

Women's 30+
1st- Rachel Gellman, AZ
2nd- Diane Moore, IN
3rd- Holly Remen, NC

Women's 35+
1st- Denise Mock, TX
2nd- Lorraine Galloway, NY
3rd- B.J. Ehrhart-Haab, CT
3rd- Anthnita Dickerson, MI

Women's 35+A
1st- Melody Garno, MI
2nd- Thao Le, VA
3rd- Karen Denu, VA

Women's 35+B
1st- Jaime Clark-Soles, TX
2nd- Lynn Yeazell, IL
3rd- Leila Gray, TX
4th- Joanna Reyes, TX

Women's 35+C
1st- Jody Heming, MD
2nd- Angelita Ward, OK

Women's 40+
1st- Solanna Taragan, CA
2nd- Patty Willyard, TX
3rd- Debra Tisinger, CA
4th- Lorraine Galloway, NY

Women's 40+A
1st- Paula Saad, MI
2nd- Karen Green, MI

Women's 40+B
1st- Joanna Reyes, TX

Women's 45+
1st- Malia Bailey, VA
2nd- Linda Moore, NE
3rd- Chris Evon, IL
4th- Debra Tisinger, CA

Women's 45+B
1st- Cheryl Kirk, IL
2nd- Sharon McNeill, MD
3rd- Sharon Shapiro, NH

Women's 45+C
1st- Janet Christie, IL

Women's 50+
1st- Susan Pfahler, FL
2nd- Sue Goodwin, CA
3rd- Marcia Richards, CO
3rd- Marsha Berry, KY

Women's 50+A
1st- Sue Goodwin, CA

Women's 50+C
1st- Patti Baldrick, OH

Women's 55+
1st- Terry Rogers, CA
2nd- Sharon Huczek, MI

Women's 55+B
1st- Lorna Rose, MI

Women's 60+
1st- Marquita Molina, CA
2nd- Nidia Funes, CA
3rd- CeCe Palaski, NM

Women's 60+A
1st- Marquita Molina, CA

Women's 65+
1st- Marquita Molina, CA

Women's 70+
1st- Lola Markus, IL

Women's A
1st- Michelle Key, AZ
2nd- Sarah Wells-Nelzen, TX

Women's B
1st- Ashley Loyd, TN
2nd- Jaime Clark-Soles, TX
3rd- Sarah Hoffman, IN
4th- Marci Laramee, TN

Women's C
1st- Sarah Sockolof, NJ
2nd- Patti Baldrick, OH
3rd- Jody Heming, MD
4th- Tracie Valentine, MD

Women's D
1st- Kimberly Wilson, TX

Women's Elite
1st- Patty Willyard, TX
2nd- Vivian Gomez, FL
3rd- Genevieve Washington, OH
4th- Jesi Fuller, NM

Women's Open
1st- Cheryl Gudinas, IL
2nd- Kerri Wachtel, OH
3rd- Kristen Walsh, UT
4th- Tammy Brown, ID

Expanded hospitality area receives positive evaluation - High tech visual of players and court assignments also a hit - Mr. Nice Guy, Bobby Jackson wins 45A - Honolulu's favorite Joey Lee's antics proves too much for some but entertaining to others - Penn's Casino night attracts largest crowd ever - Over 450 fans watch men's and women's final - Leo Vasquez exhibits "niche" for a new profession in publications - Chris Coy's "broken foot" drives national rules director Otto Dietrich back to reviewing the rule books- Reduced ladies participation results in numerous round robins with varied opinions - State directors and members meeting attracted largest attendance in five years - Norman Hanks (TX) works behind the scenes resulting in reduced expenses - Families with participating juniors, Lee's (LA), Key's (AZ) go home with gold medals for the kids (Michelle Key first in Women' A and Joseph Lee first in 24B) - Annie Muniz and crew receiving numerous accolades for on-time schedule - Barry Joyner covering his expenses by refereeing and refereeing, refereeing - Andy Hawthorne culminates a great week by proposing to long time girlfriend Tracy Cerveski in the Hyatt Park Bar (she accepted) - Minute Maid signs on as event sponsor.

Propenn

EKTELON

KANE DOMINATES AGAIN!



ENGINEERED FOR SPEED AND POWER

Kane Waselenchuk
#1 Player in the World
Back-to-Back Titles 2004/2005

CONGRATULATIONS TO KANE WASELENCHUK FOR HIS SECOND
CONSECUTIVE YEAR AS THE #1 PLAYER IN THE WORLD!

WHEN KANE SWITCHES TO EKTELON'S NEW O³ RACQUET, IT WILL BE AMAZING
TO WITNESS THE EVEN FASTER RACQUET SPEED HE WILL GENERATE!

EKTelon
PLAY WITH FIRE

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*Based on IRT ranking as of 5/3/05

The End to Another IRT Season



The Players:

As the end comes to the 2004-05 season the IRT witnessed another stellar season from #1 Kane Waselenchuk claiming the first back to back number one year end ranking since Sudsy Monchik. Kane established his dominance this year from the start of the season winning the inaugural event in New Orleans and also winning both Grand Slam events, the Choice Hotels US OPEN and the Motorola IRT Pro Nationals. He won eight of twelve full ranking events, the most of his young career, finishing number one for the second straight season. #2 Jack Huczak quietly had a great season finishing in the finals of eight events, defeating Waselenchuk in Dallas, taking the Players Championship title and finishing the season strong with two events wins in the last three tournaments. The pleasant surprise this season was that of Hall of Famer, #3 Cliff Swain. After a dismal season, Swain regrouped, and it showed in his mental and physical game. He looked and played like the Swain of 10 years ago winning the Stockton and San Diego stops and becoming the crowd favorite at the Choice Hotels US OPEN eventually being defeated in the finals by Waselenchuk. At 38, he showed the racquetball world that the game has not passed him by yet. #4 Jason Mannino, the most entertaining player on the tour, played a solid season but not to his liking. Not reaching a final this season will only make it tougher on his opponents next season as he looks to regain the focus that earned him the number one spot in 2003. Look for Mannino to retool and come back strong next season. #5 Rocky Carson finished 2.5 points behind Mannino for the four spot, and that will be motivation enough to train a little harder this off season. Seven appearances in the semi-finals would be a good year for most, but Carson did not get a final this year, and that should be enough to make Rocky a contender next year. The emergence of #7 Shane Vanderson with two final

appearances this season has established himself as a force in next year's race for the top spot. Shane picked up his game the second half and played up to his potential. #6 Alvaro Beltran had a steady year but seemed to lack the intensity and drive to push to reach the top spot. #8 Mike Guidry may be facing the twilight of his career but still played solid ball all season. We had some great surprises this year with the return of Jason Thoerner full time making his first semi-final appearance of his career in San Diego. It is great to have Jason back as he does double as the tour's head referee. Josh Tucker had a solid year playing some of the most exciting matches of the season. His rocket serve will only get better next season, and maybe lady luck will go his way. The biggest surprise was that of Kyle Veenstra who came out of nowhere and made the quarters of the Milwaukee stop and then shocked the US OPEN crowd by making the quarters there also. Kyle will be on tour full time next year, and he will stir up the pot. The other surprise was Andy Hawthorne as he took advantage of some breaks and made two quarters this season. The tour has some new bright stars coming up to take over where the fading ones have left off. We saw the retirement of one of the sports greatest to play the game, five-time number one, Sudsy Monchik. Sudsy's retirement shocked his fans and the racquetball world. His peers and fans alike will miss him on the IRT. We also wish Derek Robinson well with his retirement of the IRT. Derek will go on and assume a position in racquetball on the business side with Wilson.



The events and future:

Three new events were added to the IRT this season in Casper Wyoming, Milwaukee Wisconsin and Chesapeake Virginia. Nick Mandis in Casper, Trish Beatty in Milwaukee and Corinne Mastronardi in Chesapeake. All three did a fantastic job treating the players and fans to great events. Veteran directors Al Schof, New Orleans John Ellis, Stockton, Diane Bunker, Chicago, Tom Keogh, New York, Brent Avery San Diego, Lorraine Feeney, Boston and Martin McDermott all did outstanding jobs and every year seem to raise the bar a notch on their events. The IRT thanks you and your sponsors for the support. Without you the IRT would not exist. We witnessed another great US OPEN event masterminded by Doug Ganim and the USAR. Every year the event gets bigger and better. Well over one hundred players from around the globe gather to test their skills against the best. The IRT would like to thank all those that make the event possible, especially Choice Hotels for continuing their title sponsorship. We also added our second true grand slam event of the sports history with Motorola becoming our title sponsor of the Motorola IRT Pro Nationals. The addition of this event is the push that the sport needs to bring it to masses. The additional television coverage of this event on the TENNIS CHANNEL will put racquetball on television almost every week of the year. The announcement of Comcast adding THE TENNIS CHANNEL to their lineup will bring the sport into the largest number of homes in the history of the sport. The addition of Motorola and Choice Hotels lends unprecedented credibility

to the popularity of racquetball as a viable marketing tool for corporate America. With these two major companies supporting our sport and the IRT, look for great things to happen in the near future. We are also putting the finishing touches on the new all glass portable court and look to debut it this season which only leads to the excitement of racquetball in the coming years. The introduction of a new ball for the IRT from Penn will also generate a new buzz in the racquetball world.

On a personal note I would like to thank Leo and Sue Klimaitis, Pat and Mary Taylor for their support of the IRT. We could not be where we are without your help. Also thanks to our tour sponsors Ektelon, E-Force, Pro Kennex, Ashaway, Crew West, Racquetball Warehouse, Head Racquet Sports and Penn for their continued support of the professional game. Jim Hiser, Randy Stafford and Doug Ganim, your commitment to the sport should not go unnoticed. The sport is ready for growth, and it will be fueled by the best in the world, the IRT and a close working relationship with the USAR. We look forward to coming back to a city near you next season and look for your continued support of the IRT and USAR.

Dave Negrete
IRT Commissioner

International Racquetball Tour

The Dallas Open Championship

By: Dave Negrete

As the IRT finishes its 2004-05 season without the fanfare of a match for number one like last season, the event in Dallas is still a major title to add to the resume. All the best have assembled here at the Landmark Fitness Club to battle it out for the coveted title. Owner Jack Gian started off the festivities winning the pro-am doubles with partner Jason Mannino and treated the players and sponsors to a first class Mexican buffet after play. Event director Martin McDermott and Club GM Christian Houser have done a great job organizing the tournament and bringing the professionals back to Dallas. This year's event saw a larger men's pro draw and larger crowds as the players had one last event to improve their season ending ranking. A true international presence was felt at the tournament as Hiroshi Shimizu from Japan, Juan Herrera of Colombia, Polo Gutierrez of Mexico, Rodrigo Urzua of Venezuela all made it in to battle with the best.

No real upsets in the early rounds as the top seeds advanced thru to the Quarterfinals.

Quarterfinals

**#2 Jack Huczak Pro Kennex vs.
#5 Jason Mannino Pro Kennex**

No real dramatics here, just plain hard-nosed racquetball. Jack seemed to control most of the match with off speed shots and maintaining center court position. Jason still the best retriever in the sports history made some incredible gets, but it is all Huczak in this one 6, 5, 3.

**#1 Kane Waselenchuk Ektelon vs.
#6 Alvaro Beltran E-Force**

Beltran came to play in this last event of the season, and it showed as he defeated Kane in the first with some well-executed shots 11-6. Kane turned it up a notch the rest of the way battling to a four game victory (6) 4,5,6.

**#3 Cliff Swain Foxwoods Casino vs.
#8 Mike Guidry Pro Kennex**

It was all Swain in this one as his serve was on, and Mike had a tough time with the returns. Swain looked strong and relaxed as he goes on to victory 10,4,4.

**#4 Rocky Carson Head/Penn vs.
#7 Shane Vanderson Head/Penn**

The closest match of the evening witnessed a seesaw battle between these two Head/Penn teammates. Carson had a tough time in the third with his composure, and referee Jason Thoerner and was assessed a few technicals. He regrouped, however, and took game four. Shane's backhand was flawless in the fifth. It was Vanderson in the end advancing to the semi-finals (3), 5, -2, (6), 5.

Semifinals

**#2 Jack Huczak Pro Kennex vs.
#3 Cliff Swain Foxwoods Casino**

A great comeback season by Swain ended abruptly as Huczak dominated this match with little pressure from Cliff. Swain's serve was not on, and Huczak took full advantage of it. Jack jumped ahead early and stayed ahead winning easily 11-4,11-0 and 11-9. Jack will cap off a strong season against the winner of the Waselenchuk/Vanderson match at 6pm.

**#1 Kane Waselenchuk Ektelon vs.
#7 Shane Vanderson Head/Penn**

After sowing up his second straight year-end ranking with his win last night, Kane came in very relaxed. With his mother watching from the back wall, Kane hoped to continue his dominance of the IRT. Vanderson, who is finishing off a tremendous season is making his fifth semi-final appearance and hoping to discover a way to break the armor of Waselenchuk. Kane is just too much as he breezes to his 10th final of the season 3,8,5 to meet a fired up Huczak in the final at noon on Sunday.

The Finals

These two have faced off in six finals this year with Kane victorious in all six. This match would start off a little different for Kane as Jack jumps out to an early two game lead executing every shot and pushing a lackluster Waselenchuk to a two game deficit for the first time this season. Kane would wake up in the third and play the type off ball he has all year to take game three. It was all Huczak in the fourth as he caps off a great season winning the match and his second title of the season.



INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL TOUR SCHEDULE 2005-06 SEASON



AUGUST 25-28
 SEPTEMBER 8-11
 SEPTEMBER 22-25
 OCTOBER 7-9
 OCTOBER 13-16
 OCTOBER 20-23
 OCTOBER 20-23
 OCTOBER 27-30
 NOVEMBER 3-6
 NOVEMBER 16-20
 JANUARY 5-8
 JANUARY 12-15
 JANUARY 19-22
 JANUARY 26-29
 FEBRUARY 9-12
 FEBRUARY 16-19
 FEBRUARY 23-26
 MARCH 2-5
 MARCH 9-12
 MARCH 30-APRIL 2
 APRIL 6-9
 APRIL 26-30

 (Date Pending)

 (Date Pending)
 (Date Pending)

NEW ORLEANS LOUISIANA
 STOCKTON CALIFORNIA
 OPEN DATE
 GRAND RAPIDS MI****
 TORONTO CANADA
 ALBUQUERQUE NM***
 MADISON WI ***
 CHICAGO ILLINOIS
 LONG ISLAND OPEN NY****
 MEMPHIS TENNESSEE
 SACRAMENTO CALIFORNIA****
 ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA
 LONG ISLAND NEW YORK
 CHIHUAHUA MEXICO**
 CHICAGO ILLINOIS****
 SIOUX FALLS SD **
 SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA
 SCHEREVILLE INDIANA****
 COLORADO SPRINGS CO
 BOSTON MASS
 CHESAPEAKE VIRGINIA
 MOTOROLA PRO NATIONALS
 CHICAGO ILLINOIS
 DALLAS TEXAS
 THE PLAYERS CAHAMPIONSHIP
 LAS VEGAS NEVADA
 MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN

Dates and cities subject to change.

Other cities waiting to schedule possible events Greensboro, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Reno

*TIER ONE ** TIER TWO *** TIER THREE **** TIER FOUR*

PRIZE MONEY DETERMINES TIER LEVEL

IRT Season Ending Rankings:



1. Kane Waselenchuk



2. Jack Huczak



3. Cliff Swain



4. Jason Mannino



5. Rocky Carson



6. Alvaro Beltran



7. Shane Vanderson



8. Mike Guidry



9. Derek Robinson



10. Josh Tucker

THE LIONESS

By: Mike Cereira

Christie Van Hees, hailing from Kelowna, British Columbia sits comfortably perched on top of Women's Professional Racquetball. She thrashed former champion Cheryl Guidinas in 3 straight games in the season ending match to claim the title. The outcome was predictable, and the new champ wants more.

Van Hees always felt she would reach the pinnacle and in fact, it is surprising it took this long for her to get there. She came back with a vengeance after stepping away from the game for 2 seasons. She says sheepishly, "I came back for the cash and the glory." Her game is improving, and she has become the game's most consistent performer.

In addition, she wanted to be the one to end the Guidinas Run. These two are not fond of each other. Well, they don't like each other. Okay, take the next step, and you are there. Van Hees stated very clearly, "My goal for the season was to finish number 1. I wanted to play this season without excuses and know I had done everything possible to reach my goal." Toss in the opportunity to end the Guidinas streak, and Christie's nerves started to fray.

She was so nervous the morning of the final match that she called Tim Brasher. Tim is a Legendary Rugger Player from Australia and very close friend. He told her it was okay to be nervous and it was just a sign of how bad she wanted the match. She said, "I was nervous, then I got more nervous, because I was nervous. He calmed me down and said take these nerves and run with them. Champions rise for the big challenges. You're nervous, okay, let's go play."

Also, she was very well prepared. She says, "I trained very hard and was totally ready for the tournament. I ate well, slept well and could not wait to play my matches." She played strong in every match, and her serve was her dominant weapon throughout the tournament.

The serve has helped her become the most feared woman on tour and an excellent frontrunner. She serves huge and adds a very aggressive game style to back it up. The rallies are short, and the pace is fast. Once her serve is established, it is extremely difficult to turn the tide. Virtually impossible!

She loves to play the game and train physically but is surprisingly not into mental training. Her attitude is a throwback considering most of today's athletes have their own Sports Psychologist. "I don't do any mental training. I tried it a couple of different times and found it counter productive." Her head is not in the sand on this issue, and she jokingly said, "I expect to get a ton of phone calls from Sports Psychologists after this article is printed."



and the USRA stepped aside a couple of seasons ago. At this writing, there is a new group heading up the tour. One would hope the first call they made was to the number 1 player and the number 1 most marketable product they have. One would hope!

She remains optimistic about the future of the game and believes strongly in the on-court product. Her goals for the future are clear. "I want to maintain the number 1 ranking and enjoy the competition and the sport. Furthermore, I am going to promote the game like crazy while I am number 1. My swan song will be organizing a World Championship Team from Australia with Captain Heather McKay leading the way." She laughs about the prospect of playing with Heather. Heather is the former number 1 squash and racquetball player in the World but is 64 years old now. Throw in Heather Stupp and you have a bushel basket of World Championships from north of the border!

Rivalries will help fuel her fire. Guidinas had an excellent run but is finally showing signs of age in her game. The chief threats will continue to come from younger players. Van Hees can't wait for next season to start and is excited about the prospects the new season brings.



Also, she has had a wonky shoulder for the past couple of seasons. She forfeited a match she was losing to the talented and mercurial Rhonda Rajsich in the US Open semi final because she fell awkwardly on this shoulder. When pressed about it, "The shoulder is great. It's mine, and I have to live with it and play with it. I don't want to go through surgery, so I exercise it hard. I have done a good job strengthening the muscles that keep it stabilized." She is able to get plenty of rest for the shoulder because the Women's Tour is a little light in the amount of stops.

Christie would dearly love to be the person that brings the women's game back into prominence. Poster child, promoter, marketer, whatever it takes to help the tour return to solid ground. The tour has been in a state of disarray since Jim Hiser

WHO'S #1?

CHRISTIE VAN HEES

BECAME THE #1 RACQUETBALL PLAYER
IN THE WORLD, PLAYING OUR nCODED RACQUET,
nPOWER, AND OUR TITANIUM TOUR RACQUETBALL,
THE OFFICIAL BALL OF THE LPRA TOUR.

OF COURSE, CHRISTIE'S INCREDIBLE
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REGIMEN AND SINGLE-MINDED FOCUS
DIDN'T HURT EITHER.

CONGRATULATIONS CHRISTIE!



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SEPT. 28TH - OCT. 2ND

PRESENTED BY:



CHECK LIST FOR NATIONAL DOUBLES

Host Hotel - The host hotel is only two blocks from playing venue. Great swimming pool, sports bar and restaurant. Also Friday night party at the pool. Since parking is very very limited at the University, we recommend you stay here and walk the short distance to the venue - Hotel Reservations 480-968-3451 or 880/553-1826 Holiday Inn at \$79 per night.

Rental Car - If you want to explore Tempe, we recommend renting from Hertz Official car, the event reservation number is 800-654-2240 reference PC #962102.

Playing Venue - Fourteen all glass back courts with one exhibition court. Great viewing and plenty of space. All panel courts. Lockers and towels limited. ID required for towels.

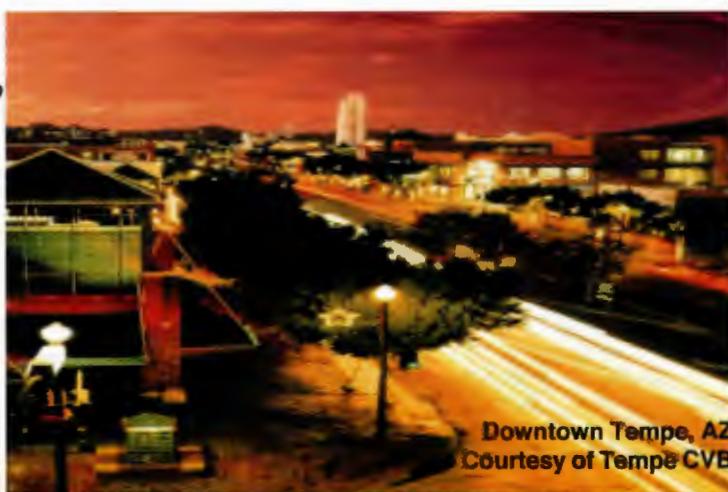
Starting Times - The best place to get starting times is on-line at www.usaracquetball.com after 5 pm on Monday Sept. 26th. All special requests must be indicated on entry forms, but requests cannot be guaranteed.

Tempe - Downtown Tempe is a 5 minute drive from hotel and venue. Plenty of shops and restaurants.

U.S. National Team Qualifier! One year appointments to the U.S. National Team go to finalists in the Men's and Women's Open

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deadline: wednesday, sept. 14



• entry form — please print

Name _____ Gender: M | F

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Phone (Day) _____ (Evening) _____

Email _____

Occupation _____ Employer _____

Birthdate _____ Age _____

Partner _____ Division _____

Partner _____ Division _____

Partner _____ Division _____ *

***A third division must be MIXED ... Please list any pertinent seeding information separately. NOTE: BOTH players must complete, submit and pay for their entry before a team will be placed in the draw.**

WAIVER: I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims that I may have against the USA Racquetball, Head/Penn Racquet Sports, Arizona State University, or their respective agents for any and all injuries. I also acknowledge the potential risk of eye injury during competition, and can certify in writing that my protective eyeguards (including prescription frames/lenses) conform with all standards specified in USA Racquetball Rule 2.5(a). By registering to compete in this event, I consent to be subject to drug testing as administered according to the USAR/USOC guidelines, and release all rights to the use of event photographs in which my image appears.

Participant Signature & Date (Parent/Guardian if entrant is under 18)

REQUIRED SKILL LEVEL VERIFICATION • Please indicate below your eligibility for competition in the skill level you have selected. This information will be verified and re-classification may take place if deemed appropriate by the Tournament Director.

I have been AmPRO certified at this level by:

AmPRO Instructor (name required) _____

I have recently competed in this skill category in my state, and have been approved for participation at a Level Six event by the state director or designated representative shown: _____ (name required).

I competed at this level (but did not win the division title) at the ___ 2004 National Doubles, or the ___ 2004 U.S. OPEN.

CREDIT CARDS: Identify your USA Racquetball MBNA credit card when you charge your entry, and get 10% off your fees. Only MBNA charges receive this discount!

MC/Visa _____ Exp. _____

Signature _____ USA Racquetball Visa? _____



• divisions

Both players on any team must meet all age division requirements and be certified to compete in skill divisions. Players may choose only **one** skill level (A,B,C,D) in any category.

U.S. NATIONAL TEAM QUALIFIER

OPEN Division Qualifier (unrestricted)

Age Divisions Skill Divisions

<input type="checkbox"/> 24-	<input type="checkbox"/> Elite (state open level)
<input type="checkbox"/> 25+	<input type="checkbox"/> A
<input type="checkbox"/> 30+	<input type="checkbox"/> B
<input type="checkbox"/> 35+	<input type="checkbox"/> C
<input type="checkbox"/> 40+	<input type="checkbox"/> D
<input type="checkbox"/> 45+	24- <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 50+	25+ <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 55+	35+ <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 60+	45+ <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 65+	55+ <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 70+	
<input type="checkbox"/> 75+	
<input type="checkbox"/> 80+	
<input type="checkbox"/> 85+	

Mixed Divisions

<input type="checkbox"/> MX Open	<input type="checkbox"/> MX 40+
<input type="checkbox"/> MX Elite	<input type="checkbox"/> MX 45+
<input type="checkbox"/> MX A	<input type="checkbox"/> MX 50+
<input type="checkbox"/> MX B	<input type="checkbox"/> MX 55+
<input type="checkbox"/> MX C	<input type="checkbox"/> MX 60+
<input type="checkbox"/> MX D	<input type="checkbox"/> MX 65+
<input type="checkbox"/> MX 24-	<input type="checkbox"/> MX 70+
<input type="checkbox"/> MX 25+	<input type="checkbox"/> MX 75+
<input type="checkbox"/> MX 30+	<input type="checkbox"/> MX 80+
<input type="checkbox"/> MX 35+	<input type="checkbox"/> MX 85+

FEES & PAYMENT

USAR Membership # _____
 USAR Membership Fee (\$30.00) _____
 First event (\$85.00) _____
 Second event (\$45.00) _____
 Third event (\$45.00) _____
 Late fee (if accepted) (\$20.00) _____
 Telephone/fax entry fee (\$10.00) _____
 Tax deductible donation \$ _____
TOTAL DUE: \$ _____

MAIL COMPLETED ENTRY AND FEES TO:
 USA Racquetball NATIONAL DOUBLES
 •1685 West Uintah Colorado Springs, CO 80904
 ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY
 WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 14 (Postmarked by 09/09)

**PRO DOUBLES**

KEVIN BOOTH
ROB HOFF
MIKE PETERS
GARY MARTIN
ROBERT MARTINEZ
GREG SOLIS
ROBERT SOSTRE
JESUS USTARROZ
JESUS OCANA
FREDDY RAMIREZ

PRO SINGLES

GREG SOLIS
ROCKY CARSON
BRIAN HAWKES
KEVIN BOOTH
DAVE GENEVAY
ROBERT SOSTRE
TIM MCGUIRE
MIKE BEHAR
JESUS OCANA
GREG FREEZE

**FIREBALL**

The Fireball is here! After over a year of testing involving outdoor players & Ektelon the Fireball will be used for all divisions of outdoor play beginning with the WOR Outdoor Championships in July. The Fireball was designed for outdoor play in terms of visibility and toughness to generate maximum playability in hot weather and the rigorous

REGIONALS

Outdoor Legends Win First Ever WOR Regionals

When the inaugural WOR Regionals were scheduled in New York & California, the only thing everyone knew was who the favorites were! Outdoor legends from the two coasts getting their games in top shape for the WOR-Ektelon Outdoor Championships under the perfect weather of June. So as players throughout the country try and get ready for the summer season this tale of two cities was another victory for Brian Hawkes & Robert Sostre. Hawkes, the undisputed king of outdoor and the sport's greatest player tuned his game on the California courts at Golden West College with a 2 game victory over #1 seed Greg Solis. Hawkes won, but both are playing well and are threats to unseat defending champion Rocky Carson. Meanwhile back at Orchard Beach in the Bronx, Sostre brought his dominating 1 wall game out and put on a show winning the singles and teaming with Benny Torres to win the doubles. Sostre and many of the NY guys have been training on 3 wall courts in preparation for the WOR Championships and look to be real threats this year. Back in California the Pro Doubles was one of the most exciting shows as 16 teams battled for seeding in July and after the dust had cleared and the sun gone down the hottest team in outdoor Kevin Booth & Mike Peters won

WOR PRO SINGLES & DOUBLES TOP 10

WOR RANKINGS

The first season of WOR Rankings ends July 7 and the following players are leading their respective divisions point standings and battling to be the first WOR Ranking Champions for the 2004-05 season. Each player accumulates points based on their finish in all WOR sanctioned events.

PRO SINGLES

GREG SOLIS

OPEN SINGLES

RICK VILLAVINCENCIO

A SINGLES

ALLEN KAZEM

B SINGLES

MICKEY GUIDO

MASTERS SINGLES

LIONEL MARTINEZ

JUNIORS SINGLES (18 & under)

BRIAN PINEDA

JUNIORS SINGLES: (12 & under)

SAMUEL BARRERA

PRO DOUBLES:

KEVIN BOOTH

OPEN DOUBLES

BIG ROD FELTON & SCOTT BAUMAN
(Tie)

A DOUBLES

ROBBY JOHNSON

B DOUBLES

RON SEXTON

MASTERS DOUBLES

MARTY HOGAN 955

WOMENS OPEN DOUBLES

MARIE MARTINEZ

MIXED OPEN DOUBLES

MARIE MARTINEZ

JUNIORS DOUBLES

JOSHUA HIRSCH & LUIS QUINONES
(Tie)

their third in a row beating Gabe Medina & Mike Beltran. The biggest upset came in the quarters when the newly formed team of Josh Tucker & Son Nguyen took out #4 seeded Rocky Carson & Rob Hoff. The highlight of the California event was the Juniors draw in which Samuel Barrera beat Garrett Hickman in a great final that had all the pros watching.

NY RESULTS**Men's PRO SINGLES;**

1st place Robert Sostre 2nd Gilbert Carrero

WOMEN'S PRO OPEN WINNERS

MARIA ALDAMUY & MILLIE CANDAL

1st PLACE

PILAR REINOSO & CHRISTINE RODRIGUEZ

3rd PLACE

GLADYS VALDEZ & SONIA BYRNE

4th PLACE**PRO DOUBLES****SEMIFINALS**

CARLOS RODRIGUEZ & PERRY LOPEZ OVER JOSEPH ZELLER & KIM SOOHOO WITH A SCORE OF 21-13

ROBERT SOSTRE & BENNY TORRES OVER RICHARD BERECK & ANTHONY LEONE WITH A SCORE OF 21-12

FINALS

ROBERT SOSTRE & BENNY TORRES OVER CARLOS RODRIGUEZ & PERRY LOPEZ
5th PLACE ELIAS FONTANA / PAUL VALDEZ
6th PLACE CARLOS DeJESUS / FELIX TORRES
7th PLACE RICKIE BERECK / AL JIMENEZ
8th PLACE FRANKIE MEDINA / ALAN RUBIANO
9th PLACE PILAR REINOSO* / ALBERT ZARATE

[MIXED DOUBLES TEAM-GREAT SHOWING]

10th PLACE NARVIN WILSON / JOSEPH BROADEN *

[REPRESENTING CONNECTICUT]

11th PLACE GIL CARRERO / RICHIE JUAN* [REPRESENTING NEW JERSEY]

12th PLACE RAUL NIEVES / BILLY SCOTT* [REPRESENTING CONNECTICUT]

13th PLACE MIKE THOMAS / RODNEY WRIGHT* [REPRESENTING CONNECTICUT]

14th PLACE EDDIE NARANJO / JIMMY LOPEZ

Mixed DOUBLES

1st place Felix Torres & Pilar Reinoso 2nd place Albert Jimenez & Maritza Alicia 3rd place Robert Sostre & Lisa Pagan

CA RESULTS**PRO SINGLES**

1st: Brian Hawkes 2nd: Greg Solis

PRO DOUBLES

1st: Kevin Booth-Mike Peters
2nd: Gabe Medina-Mike Beltran

A/B SINGLES

1st: Willie Tilton 2nd: Tony Berg

JUNIORS

1st: Samuel Barrera 2nd: Garrett Hickman

A/B DOUBLES

1st: Joe Mears-Tim McGuire
2nd: Rick Villavicencio-Tony Berg

MIXED DOUBLES

1st: Kevin Reynolds-Sherri Knecht
2. Jesus Ocana-Debbie Pierce

Hank Marcus

WOR Executive Director



International Scene

The International Racquetball Federation (IRF) is affiliated to the following organizations



International
Olympic
Committee



General
Association
of
International
Sports
Federations



Association of
Recognized
IOC
International
Sports
Federations



International
World Games
Association

IRF International Calendar of Events

Last revised: June 22, 2005

Date	Event	Site	Country
Jul 01-04	2do Torneo Nacional	Bogota	Colombia
July 04-10	National Qualifier Tournament	Guatemala City	Guatemala
Jul 13-16	International NMRA Championships 2005	Canton, OH	USA
July 13-17	Mexican Junior National Championships 2005	Cuauhtemoc	Mexico
Jul 23-30	13th ERF European Championships 2005	Hamburg	Germany
Jul 09-10	National Senior Championships 2005	TBA	Japan
Aug 05-07	Mexican National Masters Championships 2005	Guadalajara	Mexico
Aug 15-28	4to Torneo Nacional Singles	San Jose	Costa Rica
Aug 30-Sep 3	IRF 17th World Senior Championships	Albuquerque, NM	USA
Sep 16-18	1er Torneo Nacional Dobles	Barranquilla	Colombia
Sep 19	5to Torneo Nacional Singles	San Jose	Costa Rica
Sep 30-Oct 2	22nd Hamburg Open	Hamburg	Germany
Sep 28-Oct 2	38th U.S. National Doubles	Tempe, AZ	USA
Oct	Torneo Internacional	Cali	Colombia
Oct 2	2do Torneo New Generation	San Jose	Costa Rica
Oct 08-10	Japan National Singles Championships	Tokyo	Japan
Oct 12-17	Torneo Internacional de Racquetball	Santiag de Cali	Colombia
Oct 15-16	Autumn Open	Zoetermeer	Netherlands
Nov 14-30	6to Torneo Nacional Singles	San Jose	Costa Rica
Nov	Antwerp Open	Antwerp	Belgium
Nov 16-20	The Choice Hotels 10th US OPEN 2005	Memphis, TN	USA
Nov	4th UK Open	Alconbury	England
Dec 01-04	3er Torneo Nacional	Barranquilla	Colombia
Dec 15-21	IRF 17th World Junior Championships	Juarez	Mexico

2005 Junior Worlds to be held in Juarez, Mexico

The contract between the IRF, Mexican Racquetball Racquetball Federation, the Juarez Racquet Club and the Sports Department of the city of Juarez, Mexico, to host the 2005 Junior World Championships in Juarez, has been signed in the brand new 11-court Juarez Racquet Club.

Luke St. Onge (IRF), Enrique Licon (Sports Department Juarez), Miguel Gardea and Raul Gardea (Racquet Club Juarez) attended the meeting on May 19th to finalize everything for a successful World Juniors 2005.

More information on this major IRF event will be available on the IRF website shortly. Check also the next issue of IRF NEWS in October 2005 for more.





ON CAMPUS

Where is Collegiate Racquetball Today?

By Shane Wood

In one simple word.... booming. Currently there are over 100 Colleges/Universities around the United States that have active racquetball programs. However, those are only schools that have programs. I don't believe we've even scratched the surface of the universities that have courts on campus and several students playing on them daily, with no established program. We are not an NCAA sport, nor do we see that happening anywhere in the near future, so to get these programs to participate in Intercollegiate tournaments or events, we have trouble finding facilities that will let us use the courts without a substantial fee. Unfortunately, there is no established budget available for the growth of Collegiate Racquetball, so these fees must be passed on to the students, thus reducing participation. In 2005, Ektelon made a strong push to support and help continue to grow Collegiate Racquetball. With the help of Scott Winters, Joe Garcia, John Ellis, Ryan Rodgers, Jonathan Clay, Shane Wood and the thousands of Team Ektelon players around the country, programs have already started to be formed to promote the formation of racquetball clubs at the Colleges and Universities around the country that have hundred's of recreational players, but no leadership or programs to get them participating at the next level.

As of today, we have four active Collegiate Conferences in the United States. The largest is in the Northeast with over 40 Colleges/Universities showcasing more than 175 student athletes participating in several events annually. There are prizes to the individual and team winners of each event, and trophies are presented to the Conference winners at the end of the year for the top 3 schools in each category (Mens, Womens and Combined Teams) for them to present at their school. There are also active conferences in the Northwest (Utah area) led by Dennis Fisher, head coach of the BYU program and member of the Collegiate Council, the South (Texas area), headed up by Ryan Rodgers, leader of the Ektelon Collegiate Player program, and in the North-central part of the country (Ohio, Indiana area), led by Tim Miller, head coach of the Baldwin-Wallace program and member of the Collegiate Council. If you have any questions on these programs, please contact Shane Wood at the contact information below.

More importantly, in addition to these conferences, we will also have conferences set up in the Southeast, which consists of schools from Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and Tennessee, the South-central, in which schools from Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arkansas and Louisiana can compete against each other, the Far West, which includes Southern California, Arizona, Utah and Nevada, the Northwest with schools from Oregon, Washington, Montana, Idaho and Northern California, the Mid-West, representing Ohio, West Virginia,

Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky and Missouri, the North - Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota and South Dakota and the Mid-west, with schools from Colorado, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Wyoming, etc.). It is clearly possible to put together and be successful, but funding will unfortunately be the number one form of resistance in gathering a full group of schools together.

On a National Level, the National Governing Body, USA Racquetball Association (USAR), is heavily involved and supports the Intercollegiate Racquetball programs. A United States Collegiate National Racquetball event is held every year in March/April and teams at both Division I and Division II levels are represented. Participation at this event has grown a minimum of 15% each of the last three years and this coming year, we are expecting around 400 participants. We have a National Collegiate Council, where we are represented by Jim Hiser, Executive Director of the USAR for all National related decisions. We also have a scholarship program, directed by the USAR, where student athletes that participate in racquetball can apply directly to the USAR for scholarship monies. Since inception, the USAR has given out over \$10,000 in scholarship money to student athletes that are involved in racquetball.

This past year, the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) teamed up with the Colorado State University (CSU) schools and the USAR to develop a program that will allow students participating in the CSU Racquetball Programs to use the facilities and resources that the United States Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs can provide. In addition, CSU has agreed as part of this program to allow non-Colorado state residents attending their schools and involved in racquetball, to pay in-state tuition, providing they fall within the restrictions that has been designated by the USAR.

So, as you can see, if there is one area of Racquetball that is on the fastest and most consistent rise, it is certainly at the collegiate level. We have the help and resources necessary to continue to make this grow, but we need to have continued support from the Colleges and Universities that want to make this great game a major part of their students academic careers.

As always, if anyone has any questions or suggestions on starting a program at a College or University, please contact Shane Wood, Chairman of the USA Collegiate Racquetball Conference at racquetballchamp@hotmail.com or on cell at (508) 479-6597 at any time.

Junior Matters

JUNIOR RACQUETBALL PROGRAM

The enclosed program information is intended to provide an outline for any teacher or certified instructor that is interested in promoting junior racquetball in their area. The program is a gradual progression from one-wall (gymnasium or outdoor) racquetball to a more advanced junior league program. The four levels of junior racquetball development may be applied and used in any participating club or school.

Recommended References:

"Programming for Racquetball" • \$55 for USAR members; \$65 for non-members

A complete 'workbook' for programming your entire racquetball program

"Coaching Racquetball Level One" • \$10 from the USAR

A reference book to inform instructors of liability, safety, and instructional concerns • 25 questions self-test included

"Winning Edge Series - Racquetball" • \$15 from USAR • An instructional guidebook including basic stroke mechanics, conditioning, and a complete USRA rule book

USAR National High School Commissioner

Dan Whitley

Vetta Sports Club - Concord

12320 Old Tesson Road

St. Louis, MO 63128

314/842-6363 ext. 3

USAR Junior Council Chairman

Ed Mazur

48 Knollwood Ln

Avon, CT 06001

860/678-0905 (h)

mazurfin@aol.com

For more information contact:

USA Racquetball Association

1685 West Uintah • Colorado Springs, CO 80904

ph 719-635-5396 • Fax 719-635-0605

Level One

Students	Recreational in-school program - One Wall • Age 6 to 18
Skill Level	No skills, to moderate racquet skills
Facilities	One Wall - 20' x 40', Floor space - 20' x (Gymnasium provides excellent facility)
Equipment	Racquet, racquetball, eye guards, gym shoes
Lesson Plan	Week one - Explain equipment, explain basic rules, show basic grip, allow children to "just play" (45 minutes)
Week two	Show basic forehand stroke; show basic serve (go over service line); to right side of court - show basic return to front wall - Allow students to "play"
Week three	Show basic serve to left side of court - Lob serve which hits high on front wall and is hit just hard enough to go over service line; show basic strategy of returning ball and moving to center of court - Allow students to "play"
Week four	Inform students of '4-wall racquetball' Explain there are games with three and four persons. Allow student to play "7 point games" utilizing basic rules of racquetball Give student's information about clubs; professional side of sport; USRA

Instructor Guidelines

Basic rules of one-wall racquetball, Basic safety and court etiquette
Basics of grip and stroke

Level Two

Students	Recreation Club Program- Four Wall - Age 6 to 18
Skill Level	No skills, to moderate /advanced skills
Facilities	Racquetball courts- outdoor (two wall) or indoor (four wall)
Equipment	Racquet, ball, eye guards, gym shoes
Lesson Plan	Week one - Basics of equipment, safety, (45 minutes) Basic grip and forehand stroke Rules- one bounce for 10 and over- two bounce for 8 and under "Don't worry about floor lines" Let kids play- run around court
Week Two	Instructor "Drop" ball and student hits after first bounce. Instructor "Rallies" with student (either one or two bounce) Teach basics of forehand Let students "Play"
Week Three	Teach basic rules of service Show forehand "Drive" serve (any serve that goes over line to right side) Show basics of return Let students "Rally"- serve and return

Week Four

Show basics of backhand

Instructor drops ball & student hits after/bounce

Show return or serve on backhand side

Allow student to rally

Instructor Guidelines

Provide information on more advanced lessons and interscholastic racquetball. For development of lesson plans beyond Week Four contact your local AmPRO Instructor.

Level Three

Students	Inter school/club Physical education class alternative
Skill Level	No skill, to moderate skill
Facilities	Court or Club within short- traveling distance to school.
Equipment	Racquet, balls, eye guards for all participants

Developmental Plan

- 1) Contact club regarding Non-Prime usage of courts for player class
- 2) Contact school (Athletic Dept/Administration) to arrange off campus Phy-Ed racquetball class.
- 3) Development of an educational (teaching) plan with qualified instructors.

- If the Physical Education teacher is qualified -develop a plan with them- if there is no club/Phys-Ed teacher, than find a qualified individual to teach classes.

Instructor Guidelines

Verify transportation requirements to the club with all parties (school-club-instructors).

Level Four

Students	Inter School/Club Competitive Leagues • Age 6 to 18
Skill Level	Moderate, to Advance level- Primary or Secondary School
Facilities	Clubs willing to contribute "Non-Prime Time"
Equipment	Each student should have own equipment (racquet, glove, years, shoes, shirt & shorts).
Assumption	Students have established skill level/knowledge, which allows them to compete in competitive setting.

Development Plan

- 1) Contact clubs to verify usage
- 2) Contact schools to obtain administrative approval
- 3) Organize volunteer group to assist with organization/events
- 4) Recruit "Key" individuals in each school as liaisons
- 5) Distribute information
- 6) Recruit students

WHAT'S THE CALL?



By OTTO DIETRICH • USA RACQUETBALL NATIONAL RULES COMMISSIONER

Wanda Collins from Bellingham, Washington, asked a question about multibounce rules. She said, in part: *I know that the "Blast Rule" allows the player to cross the short line and continue to pursue the ball all the way to the front wall. But is it true that, just as with the adult one-bounce rules, the player may hit the ball as it comes OFF the front wall? If so, I believe that the rule should be reviewed for these reasons:*

1. The blast rule under multi bounce does not say that the ball is still in play after contacting the front wall and bouncing again on the floor.
2. It teaches the junior to wait much too long to hit the ball and does not present a great passage into the adult rules.
3. It gives the junior a ridiculously unfair advantage in using the 1 and 3 foot lines. They just wait for the ball to bounce so that they can bury it under the 1-foot line.
4. The spirit of the multi bounce rule system was to allow young players who were not physically mature enough to play one bounce successfully to learn the sport early and to have time to set and learn good techniques. This does not seem to enhance that spirit.

For those of you who might not know what the "Blast Rule" is or says, I refer you to Rule 6.2 in the rulebook. Generally, a multibounce player must hit the ball BEFORE it crosses the short line and second time on its way back to the front wall. But, if the ball being returned was one that traveled from the front wall to the back wall on the fly, then the short line limitation is lifted.

The answer to Wanda's question is that in "blast situations", the player IS allowed to wait for the ball to come off the front wall a second time and then hit it as long as the ball is still bouncing. Yes, this is just like the adult rule allowing the ball to be played off of the front wall as long as it is still in play.

"... in "blast situations", the player IS allowed to wait for the ball to come off the front wall a second time and then hit it as long as the ball is still bouncing."

Regarding the points that Wanda raised about the need for a change, (1) the reason the player is allowed to do this is precisely because there is no exception from the adult rule; (2) it actually teaches the player returning the ball the best way to play such a shot and also teaches the player who hit the "blast" that he should try not to give his opponent a set-up like this; (3) the "unfair advantage" was given to him by the person who hit the "blast", and I see no reason to take that away; and finally (4) I agree with you, but the lessons taught by this "blast experience" seems to be a very good way of teaching that actions do have consequences.

By the way, I discussed this with Rex Fisher who thoroughly knows and understands the multibounce rules (having raised two daughters through multibounce to levels of national prominence), and he fully agrees with me that a "blast" can be played off the front wall and that there is no need for a change. Nevertheless, I will raise this issue to USA Racquetball's Junior Council and see if they want to support your call for a proposed change.

Geoff Peters, from Chicago, Illinois, and Ed Garabedian, from West Chester, PA, both brought to my attention a flaw in the procedures for breaking a 3-way tie in a round robin event. This flaw arose only in certain special circumstances, but it was one that seemed to work against a player who actually did better than others who were involved in the tie.

In May, I proposed a procedural change to the Board of Directors. They accepted it and agreed to put the revised procedure into effect immediately. Accordingly, I made the necessary revisions to the on-line version of the rulebook. The only changes made were to paragraph A.6 c of the Competition Policies and Procedures.

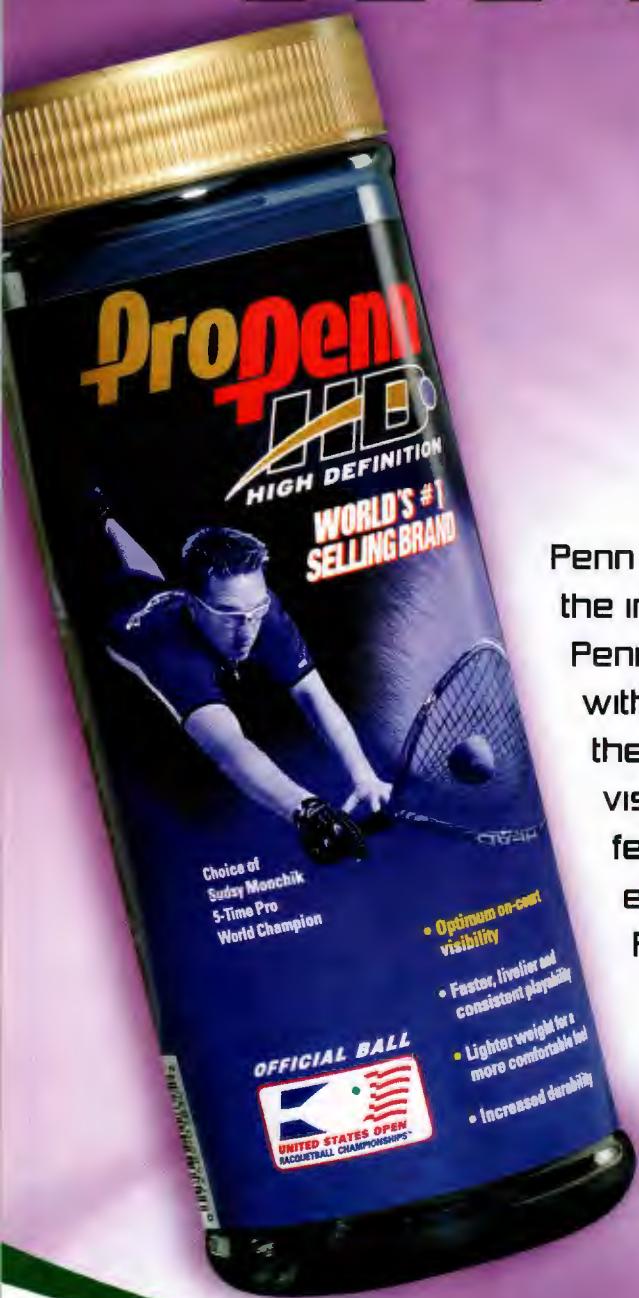
Always "Play by the Rules" and, if you don't have a copy, I encourage you to find and review them on-line at: <http://www.usaracquetball.com/Default.aspx?tabid=839>. Do you have a rules/refereeing question? Be sure to email it to me at ODietrich@usra.org and you might find it featured in an upcoming issue of Racquetball.

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Doubles Champion

Kristen Walsh

2005 Pan American Champion
3-Time National
Intercollegiate Champion



Rocky Carson

2-Time US National Champion
2004 US National Doubles Champion

HEAD's top pros agree, the new Liquidmetal IGS racquets are so powerful they should be illegal.

With Liquidmetal technology now in seven key locations and the addition of our revolutionary new Inner Grommet System (IGS) the new Liquidmetal IGS Series of racquets offer up to 21%* more power with every swing. Check out the new Liquidmetal IGS 165, 175 and 185.


HEAD

*compared to other HEAD racquets

National Masters Racquetball Association

Racquetball Just for Masters

Ages 45+ in 5-Year Age Divisions

The NMRA tournaments welcome all players age 45+ including some players in the over 85 division. With the round-robin format, there is no early elimination - no going home early. Mens & womens singles, doubles and mixed doubles in 5-year age divisions are offered. Sportsmanship is key for Masters players - matches are self-refereed. Since its beginning in 1971, the NMRA has grown to become the largest organization in the world, offering tournaments exclusively for masters' age players.

The tournaments are first-class events. The outstanding club facilities, valuable prizes, on-going buffet, banquet program, lotteries, manufacturer rep's, and AmPRO instruction are all amenities of these tournaments. You may find some of your friends from the USAR, Senior Olympics, and other state and national tournaments. Everyone has a great time! Come join us! Entry forms for NMRA tournaments are available at the NMRA website: www.nmra.info. Tournaments are held in March and July in different parts of the country.

McAdam Becomes 30th Member Inducted into HOF

Bob McAdam of Crowley, Texas has been inducted as the 30th member of the National Masters Racquetball Association International Hall of Fame. McAdam was honored at the recognition banquet held during the summer tournament July 13-16, 2005 at the Hall of Fame Fitness Center, Canton, Ohio. McAdam joins with the twenty nine other inductees previously honored by the NMRA; the largest age group racquetball organization in existence. Over 240 men and women, ages 45 years and older competed in this tournament in both singles and doubles competition. Bob McAdam began playing racquetball at age fifty three, competed in his first national tournament at age seventy three, and now at 84 years of age has won over twenty five gold medals in the NMRA, USA Racquetball, World Senior's and other national tournament tournaments. He has consistently been ranked #1 in his age group on a national competition level since beginning national tournament play. In 2003, Bob McAdam was honored as the USA Racquetball Bud Muehleisen Award winner for Age Group athletes at the Houston, Texas National Singles Tournament. McAdam was a professional physical educator, serving as chair of the department at Illinois

State University. He was a WWII, Navigator, B-17 pilot, shot down and spent ten months in a prison camp. This was followed up by a 40 month stint as Navigator Training commander during the Korean conflict. He has authored a series of books for elementary and middle school readers that focuses on famous sports figures faced with a variety of value choices. Just recently his second set in a series, called

"Play the Game" has been released by the publisher, Bowmar. During his professional career, McAdam served as a college coach in gymnastics, tennis and basketball, coordinated graduate programs in physical education and conducted research in the area of exercise on the learning of simple mental tasks. His graduate degrees are from DePaul University and the University of Illinois.

Bob's wife Grace of fifty eight years of marriage, joined with many of their eight children, and twelve grandchildren to celebrate this honored achievement by the NMRA organization. Matthew, his 10 year old grandchild recently won medals at the 32nd USAR Junior Olympic Championships held June 22-26, 2005 at Portland, Oregon. The NMRA and the 1,500+ members congratulate Bob McAdam on this outstanding achievement.



Ron Pudduck - President, Bob McAdam, Lee Graff, Grace McAdam

MIXERS (SOCIALS)

GET WITH THE PROGRAM



By CONNIE MARTIN

It doesn't matter how many courts you have, you can run 2-4 hour mixers during the morning (your non-workers), afternoon (seniors) and evenings or weekends (adult players of all levels).

- * Mixers are Special Events. Mixers (some people may call them 'Socials') are run for any number of people and/or any level of player.
- * You can mix types of players, however the total number of participants will be dependent on the number of courts and the amount of time available.
- * Mixers can be run for Singles, Doubles or Mixed Doubles play. You can also do a combination of singles and doubles play.
- * You can play one game to 7, 11 or 15 points or play timed matches (10 minutes for each game-who ever is ahead at the end of 10 minutes-wins). You can have a variety of divisions or just one division per night (dependent on time and number of courts).
- * There are many ideas and types of Mixers you can run which are similar in design, yet still so different.

You double the number of people that can participate if you run your Mixers as doubles

Mixers can be run as competitive events, recreational or a combination of both. You can also choose to:

- * include an instructional clinic
- * have kids play kids while parents play parents
(add their wins and losses together)
- * have players play with the same partner for the entire night or have them play with different people each time.
- * if you live in a Metro-area, have the area Clubs take turn hosting mixers
- * you can include (or not include) any or all of the following:
 - shirt
 - balls
 - food (snacks, appetizers, meal, potluck)
 - drinks
 - prizes
 - winners/losers
 - just play ... draw for prizes
 - tickets for drawings ... if you win a game - put two tickets in barrel,
if lose - put one ticket in barrel
 - bring a guest for free (or fee)

APPETIZER-MIXER

CAJUN-MIXER

CHINA-MIXER

GERMA-MIXER

ITALIA-MIXER

MEXI-MIXER

PIZZA MIXER

CASINO MIXER

CHILI MIXER

NACHO MIXER

WESTERN MIXER

EARLYBIRD MIXER

FITNESS MIXER

MIXED UP MIXER

NEW MEMBER MIXER

CRAZY DAYS MIXER

NEW YEARS MIXER

BINGO MIXER

MONDAY WIDOWS MIXER

BUSINESS MIXER

MARDI GRAS MIXER

GOULISH MIXER

HOLIDAY MIXER

HALLOWEEN MIXER

SCHOOLS OUT MIXER

ST. PADDY'S MIXER

TGIF MIXER

SUMMER NIGHTS MIXER

SWEETHEART MIXER

PARENT-CHILD MIXER

MOM'S MIXER

DAD'S MIXER

KID'S MIXER

FAMILY MIXER

STAFF MIXER

TURKEY MIXER

FALL MIXER

RBALL BINGO MIXER

SUPERBOWL

MIXER

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SANTA FLIGHT			
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9. _____	10. _____	11. _____	12. _____
13. _____	14. _____	15. _____	16. _____
17. _____	18. _____	19. _____	20. _____
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"BUILDING YOUR PERFECT GAME"

Fran's HOUSE



Q: WHEN IS THE BEST TIME DURING A GAME TO TAKE A TIME OUT?

A:

Answer: I think all of you at one time or another have seen yourself in one, if not all, of the following situations:

- A It's 10 to 10 in the second game and you've come up to serve 5X without being able to score *or*
- B You just hit a shot you thought was good, and the ref called it a skip ball at a crucial time in the match, and you are furious *or*
- C The crowd is against you, and you have lost your focus *or*
- D You just had a long rally, and you are out of breath *or*
- E Your glove is wet, and the racquet is slipping out of your hand.

People always ask me what they should do in the above situations. My answer every time is always to TAKE A TIME OUT! A time out is a pause in the action.

Just as the strokes, the serve and the return of serve are tools of the game, consider the TIME OUT as another tool in your arsenal of weapons when you enter the court.

I just got back from The US Open and watched a classic semi final match between Cliff Swain and Jack Huzek, and they both used their time out wisely.

Let's take a look:

Example 1: Jack was down 1-7 then came up to serve and scored 3 points in a row to make the score 4-7. Cliff finally gets a side out, and before he got up to serve, he called a time out. He did it to regroup and get refocused. It worked. He went from 7-4 to 10-4. Excellent time out.

Example 2: Jack and Cliff were in the 5th game...the tiebreaker. It was a battle out there as it was back and forth the entire game. At 8-8 Cliff scores 2 big points to make it 10-8, and Jack immediately called a time out hoping to do something to change the momentum and tempo of the game. He came back after the time out and sided Cliff out to get another opportunity to serve and score. He did just that and made it 9-10. A smart time out.

Also during the other semi final match between Rocky Carson and Kane Waselenchuk...Rocky made the best of his time out.

Let's take a look:

Example 3: Rocky lost the 1st game and was down 0-6 in the 2nd and called a time out to get back his concentration and refocus. It worked. He sided Kane out and got the serve back. Excellent choice.

At this point I'd like to share with you several opportunities of when it would be a good time to take a TIME OUT:

- 1. You are physically tired.
- 2. Your shots are not working, and you want to regroup.
- 3. Your game plan is not working, and you want to check it and make adjustments.

- 4. You are too excited and need to calm down and refocus.
- 5. Your opponent is on a roll, and you want to change their momentum.
- 6. You need fluids (water and electrolytes).
- 7. You need to change equipment.
- 8. You are upset with the referees call and need to let it go and focus on the now, not the past.

When the game is over, you should not have ANY time outs remaining, especially if you lost the game... because that means you did not do everything in your power to change the momentum of the match so you could give yourself the best opportunity to win. Remember, there is no point in saving your time outs...they are not redeemable at a later date, nor do they carry over to the next game. If you don't use them, you lose them. So use them every chance you get...THE PROS DO!!!

- 1. Jason Mannino - "I use it to take a break and get a pause in the action because things are not going my way. I look at the problem, evaluate it and try and fix what is wrong."
- 2. Kane Waselenchuk -"I primarily use them to calm me down or change the tempo."
- 3. Christie Van Hees - "I use them to change the tempo of the game or when my shots aren't working ."
- 4. Rhonda Rajsich - "Time outs are critical for me. I use them usually for three main reasons:
 - A. Mentally regroup...evaluate what is going on in the match.
 - B. I like to put a wrench into my opponents momentum...after my opponent scores anywhere from 2-4 points in a row, I take a time out.
 - C. It calms me down from a "BAD" call from the ref."
- 5. Kristen Walsh - "To me a time out is a momentum stopper as well as a chance for me to fix the shots I am missing."

I think this gives you some food for thought about "TIME OUTS". If you look at any other sport like football, baseball, soccer, etc. they use time outs as well. PLEASE, I urge you to give this a try because I know it will make a difference in your game.

Hope to see you at one of my camps for live personal instruction or the next best thing buy our video if you can't make a camp at this time.

 Go to www.FranDavisRacquetball.com for details on both the video and camps.

FOOTWORK FOR THE RETURN SERVE

BY SUDSY MONCHIK



Last issue, May/June 2005, I discussed in detail "The Footwork for the Return of Serve", a critical part of the game.

In this issue, I want to expand upon that and talk about "The Footwork for the Return of Serve Off of a Good Drive Serve". Let's define a "Good Drive Serve". It is when the ball bounces on its 2nd bounce in the back corner and would not be playable off of the back wall. Most players make the #1 mistake of trying to shoot the ball going offensive with a kill or a pass shot, and they wind up skipping the ball. Because the serve is hit so well, generally you do not have the time to get over there and rip an offensive shot. The best return is to get under the ball and pop it up to the ceiling. This brings your opponent back while it gives you time to get back to the middle, regaining good center court position.

Let's take a closer look:



TRICK 1 DOWN AND READY

- Legs spread a little wider than shoulder width apart.
- Knees bent
- Bent slightly at the waist
- Racquet up and ready to go forehand or backhand
- Eyes on the ball

TRICK 2 PIVOT

Pivot your foot on the side that the ball is going to. This opens your hips so you can move in that direction.



We learned in the last issue, May/June 2005, that "The Footwork for the Return of Serve" is critical at ANY level, but especially at the pro level, where the ball could be traveling in excess of 150 mph. "The Footwork for the Return of Serve Off of a Good Drive Serve" is just as important, if not more important, because of the speed and angle of the ball going deep into the back corner. If you do not have the proper footwork to return that serve, you will most likely do one of three things:

- 1) Skip the ball, or
- 2) Hit a weak return that sets your opponent up, or
- 3) Completely miss the return, resulting in an ace serve for your opponent, an easy point.



TRICK 3 CROSSOVER STEP/LUNGE

Crossover Step/Lunge -Push off with the opposite foot
Crossover the pivoted foot with a lunge (a big step)



TRICK 4 SWING/CONTACT POINT

Crossover Step/Lunge -Push off with the opposite foot
Crossover the pivoted foot with a lunge (a big step)



TRICK 5 FOLLOW THROUGH

The racquet head is pointing to the back wall
Chest and belly button is facing the front wall

When I was playing the IRT Pro Tour full time, and now even when I play on the Legends Tour, I had to have the correct “Footwork on the Return of Serve for a Good Drive Serve” as well as all the serves. If I didn't have the proper footwork on the return of serve, I was putting myself on the defense right from the start.

I encourage you to continue to practice good “Footwork on the Return of Serve” and now add “Footwork on the Return of Serve Off of a Good Drive Serve”. At your level, most of your opponents like to use the drive serves more than the lobs, so get good at it so it's not a weakness, rather a strength. By crossing over and lunging as well as extending your hitting arm with your racquet head up, you are able to pop the ball up to the ceiling, the best return off of a good drive serve.

Please I invite you to attend one of the camps with Fran Davis to learn this first hand or in the meantime pick up one of our videos, “Building Your Racquetball Dream House” with Fran, Jason and myself. It has ALL of this in depth in chapter 8.....Return of Serve.

Go to www.FranDavisRacquetball.com for details.

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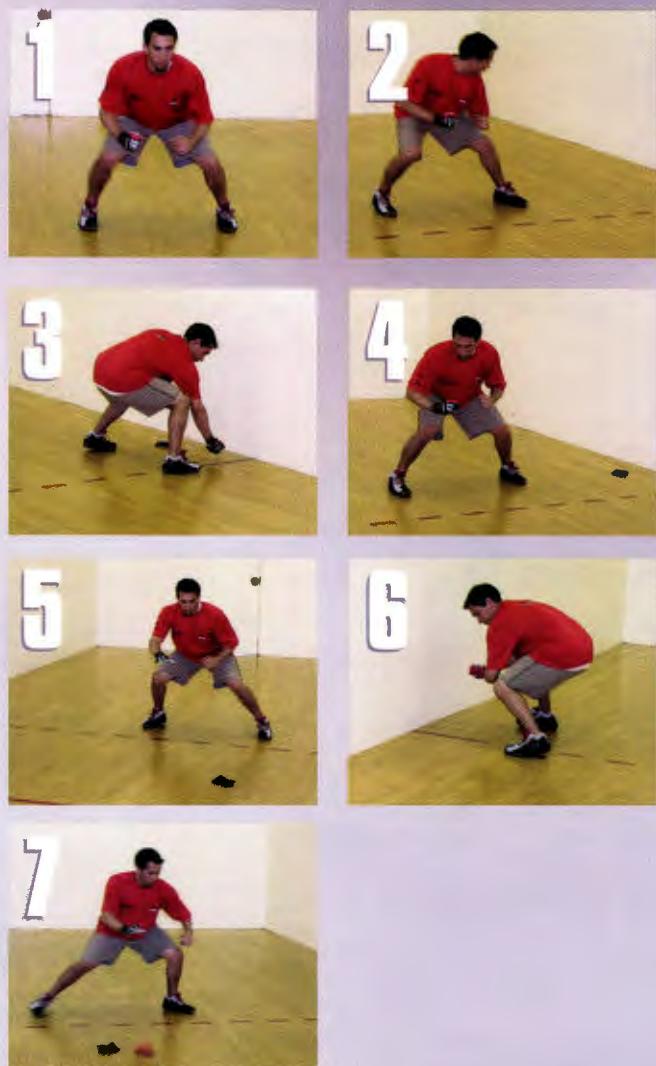


It's July now, and the IRT season is completed as well as the Houston Finals. That means it's time to rest....Not the case!! Summertime is the time to get better. Put in work on your weaknesses to improve for the indoor tournament season in September. I know I have to work hard in all areas to compete with today's young superstars.

One main focus for me is to regain my court speed which I've partially lost from being out of action due to injury. Much of a player's court speed is initiated with their ability to know where the ball is going, understanding the angles of racquetball without having to put much thought into it. But that is only half the battle. You have to be quick to not only get some shots but also be able to get in position to go offensive on the run. Here are three of my favorite on-court speed drills, and I don't even need my racquet. You'll notice that these three drills all emphasize starting from center court position.

1) Side-to-Side Shuffle w/Pivot (photos 1-7):

This drill is very basic but a movement we make all the time in center court during a rally. The emphasis is on moving to a ball on one side than back to the other side for the next shot. Begin in center court about a step behind the encroachment line with two beanbags on the left side and two on the right. Shuffle to one side or the other with a pivot as you approach the bag. As you pivot, drop down into a squat and pick up the beanbag. This motion should be similar to getting low for a shot. Then pivot back into shuffle position and shuffle across center court to the opposite side, and do the same at that beanbag. Same thing as you go side to side to pick up the remaining two bags. Feel free to keep track of your times, and be honest about it!!



2) Front to Back Shuffle w/Pivot (photos 8-15):

Once again, begin this drill in center court. The simulated play is that you're moving your feet to set up for a shot from the backcourt. Set the beanbags up about five feet from the back wall, two on each side. From center court, pivot one way or the other and shuffle back to a spot about a foot behind the beanbag. Transfer your weight from going backwards to now forwards, and shuffle into your squat for the beanbag. Again, the idea is you're getting low for a shot. Pick up the bag, and head to center court. Drop the beanbag and pivot the other direction and repeat the same motion on the opposite side. Repeat both directions and time your results. Visualize moving quickly to set up on a ball so that you have time to hit the smartest shot. This visualization is important to your practice.

SPEED DRILLS FR



3) Blind Beanbag Toss (photos 16-21):

You need some help with this drill, but I guarantee your helpers will get a kick out of this drill. Begin by getting in ready position in center court with one helper in the frontcourt and one helper in the backcourt. Each helper will have two of the beanbags. The drill will start with one of the two helpers sliding a beanbag past you to the corner. If the beanbag comes from the front to the back, then pivot and shuffle to the beanbag with a squat to pick it up. Once you have the bag, turn back and run to center court. Drop the bag. The next beanbag should slide past you at about the same time from the back to front. When the bag is in the frontcourt, sprint to it and squat to pick it up.

Turn towards the center and sprint back to center court or backpedal to center court and be ready for the third beanbag. With this drill you could have 20 beanbags for a real tough test.

Play with these drills to make them your own. Imagine how many different on-court movements you could practice with drills similar to these three. Of course you can use a racquetball or many other objects in place of the beanbags. If you want some specialized ellistyle beanbags that will cost you!! Keep em rollin.....Elli



RACQUETBALL HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS DUE

Nominations for the USA Racquetball Hall of Fame are due November 1, 2005. The Racquetball Hall of Fame is maintained to recognize and honor those athletes and contributors who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in competition, or in the development, leadership and advancement of the sport. The award is based upon years of consistent excellence in one or more of the following areas:

COMPETITOR: In either an amateur or professional field, the person must have influenced other competitors with his or her performance through any or all of the following: high performance standards, sportsmanship and fair play, competitive techniques, persistent and inspirational leadership.

CONTRIBUTOR: The person must have made a significant and noteworthy contribution, which has left a lasting, positive effect on the advancement of the sport. The person's efforts should have been devoted to the sport and organization of racquetball.

NOMINATION CRITERIA: Contributor or Competitor.

1. Age Limit: Candidate must be 40 years of age or older.

2. Contributor: Nominees must have been involved in racquetball at a state, regional, or national's level for a minimum of ten (10) years.

Professional: Professionals may be nominated, once they have been retired from professional tour play for three (3) years or longer.

Amateur: Nominees must have exhibited outstanding performance at the national level in either singles or doubles play over an extended period of time.

3. Eligibility: Staff members or members of the respective IRT/LPRA/USAR Boards of Directors shall not be eligible for nomination until three years following their last employment by one of the above associations.

The person presenting a nomination must obtain and submit a resume and complete a cover letter. This, one page, cover letter should accurately summarize the resume.

If your cover letter and resume is in digital form, you may deliver it by email (hfender@usra.org), if not you can mail your package to:

Racquetball Hall of Fame
Attn: Heather Fender
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Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Please include your name, address, email, phone numbers, etc. in case we need to contact you for any additional information.

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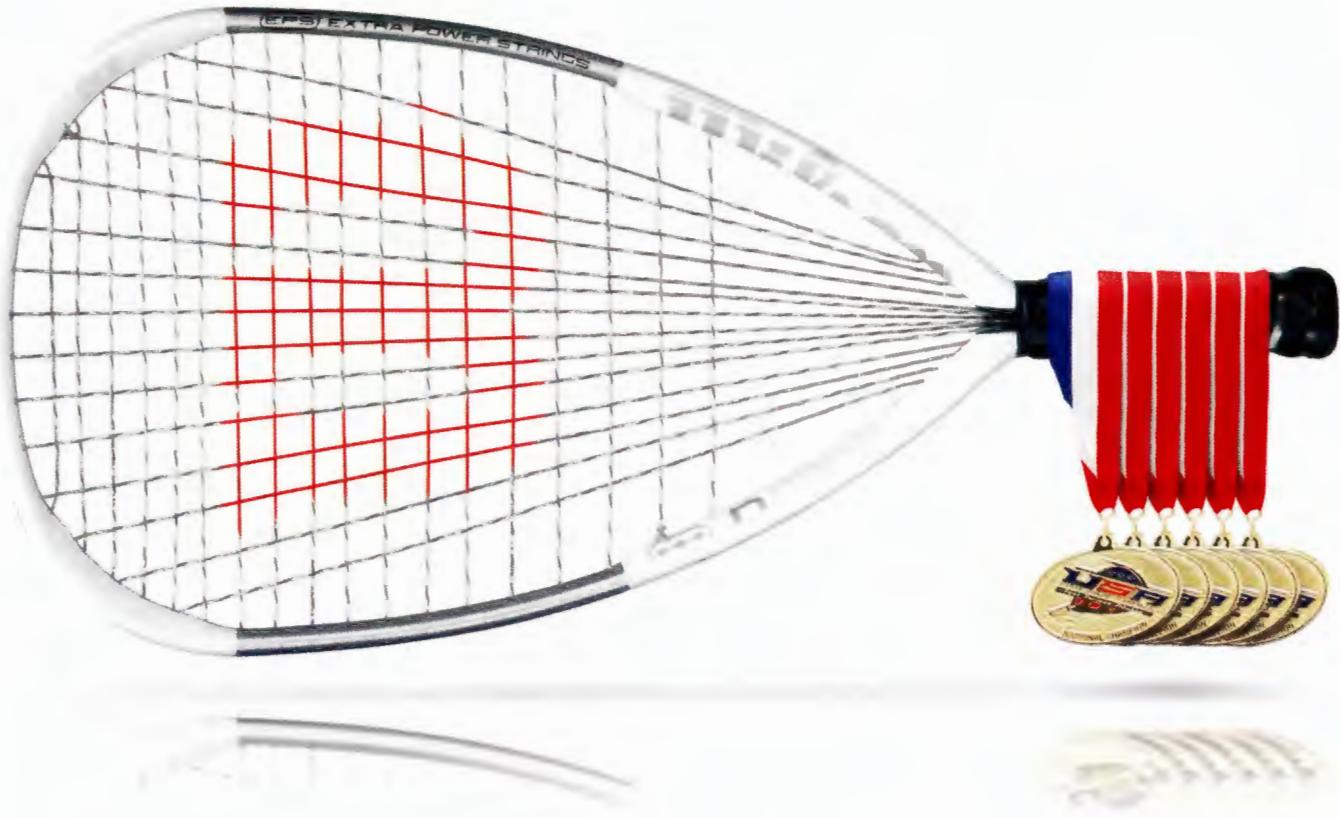


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Sept. 15-18	Orlando, FL
October 2-4	Orlando, FL
October 21-23	Long Island, NY
Nov. 11-13	Greenbrier, NC
December 1-3	Aruba (Caribbean Islands)
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February 10-12	Seattle, WA
February 17-19	Bethesda, MD
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March 17-19	Tampa, FL
March 24-26	Atlanta, GA
April 7-9	TBA
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April 28-29	San Diego, CA
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NATIONAL RANKING UPDATE

The transition to the new skill based ranking system is complete. The new national rankings program has been thoroughly tested and is active. Currently, the rankings for men and women appear at www.usaracquetball.com

Over the summer months, the match results from the last season of events are being entered by the national office. In addition, each state association has also been provided with the program and instructions to enter results if they wish.

While the initial baseline of rankings appeared online for several months, the new match data entered is shifting players up and down the scale. The rankings will prove more and more accurate over time when more events are entered into the system. The more the better!

Our goal is to enter at a minimum the last season state singles championships, all national events, 2005 regionals and as many weekend and one day events as possible for the start of the new season in the Fall of 2005.

Each Tuesday, all match data entered during the previous week will be uploaded to the website and will refresh the men's and women's national rankings.

Additional information and the most Frequently Asked Questions appear in the Rankings Menu under "Ranking Info" at www.usaracquetball.com.

At this time, only singles matches are being entered and because of the unforeseen delays in launching the new program "lapsed" members are not being penalized and maybe added into the rankings without penalty. However, on Sept 1 only "current" members will be successfully ranked upon receipt of the completed draw sheets.

All tournament directors are required to comply with these minimum requirements when hosting a USA Racquetball sanctioned event:

- Pay sanctioning fee
- Submit completed match results at conclusion of event
- Submit an alpha list of their tournament players at conclusion of event
- Submit membership applications and corresponding fees

Also on Sept 1, the R2Sports tournament software will be completed and tournament directors that elect to use this system will be able to automatically incorporate their event match data directly into the ranking system at the conclusion of their events

Additionally, programming efforts have also been launched for users of the Tournament Management System (TMS) to incorporate their event results at the conclusion of the tournament as well.

What's my role as a member?

- Maintain your membership as "current" when you enter a sanctioned event.
- Maintain your original membership number.
- When renewing your membership online, first access your unique member profile.

What hold ups can be expected with entering results from a recent event?

- Non-members and "lapsed" members will create a hindrance for the match data to be properly imported into the ranking database
- Event directors not submitting memberships to the national office in a timely manner
- Event directors not submitting match results and roster of players

Preliminary work has begun to incorporate results from doubles events and is not expected to be ready for testing until the fall of 2006.



USA RACQUETBALL/NATIONAL & IRF/INTERNATIONAL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

2005
AUG.30-SEPT.3
SEPT. 8 - 4
SEPT. 28-OCT.2
NOVEMBER 16-20
DECEMBER 15-21

EVENT
IRF 17th World Senior Racquetball Championships
Summit in the Rockies
38th USAR National Doubles Championships
10th US OPEN Racquetball Championships
IRF 17th World Junior Championships
EVENT
WSMA 17th U.S. Women's Senior/Master Championships
19th USAR National High School Championships
NMRA U.S. Golden Masters Singles/Doubles
34th USAR National Intercollegiate Championships
PARC 19th PAN AM Qualifier
USAR Regional Championships
39th USAR National Singles Championships
33rd USAR Junior Olympic Championships
NMRA International Masters Invitational
High Performance Training Camps
IRF 13th World Championships
IRF 17th World Senior Racquetball Championships
39th USAR National Doubles Championships
11th US OPEN Racquetball Championships
IRF 18th World Junior Championships

LOCATION
Albuquerque, NM
Colorado Springs, CO
Tempe, AZ
Memphis, TN
Juarez, Mexico
LOCATION
Arlington, TX
Portland, OR
Canoga Park, CA
Tempe, AZ
Guatemala City, Guatemala
Nationwide
Houston, TX
Lansing, MI
TBA
Colorado Springs, CO
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
Albuquerque, NM
Tempe, AZ
Memphis, TN
TBA

USA RACQUETBALL SANCTIONED SCHEDULE

AUGUST 05-07
AUGUST 05-07
AUGUST 05-07

AUGUST 05-07
AUGUST 05-07
AUGUST 05-07
AUGUST 12-14
AUGUST 13
AUGUST 20-21
AUGUST 20
AUGUST 26-28
AUGUST 26-28
AUGUST 27
AUGUST 30 - SEPTEMBER 03
SEPTEMBER 02-04
SEPTEMBER 09-11
SEPTEMBER 09-11
SEPTEMBER 09-11
SEPTEMBER 15-18
SEPTEMBER 23-25
SEPTEMBER 23-25
SEPTEMBER 24-25
SEPTEMBER 28
OCTOBER 02
OCTOBER 01
OCTOBER 01-02
OCTOBER 07-09
OCTOBER 07-09
OCTOBER 12-16
OCTOBER 15-16
OCTOBER 21-23
OCTOBER 22
NOVEMBER 02-06
NOVEMBER 04-05
NOVEMBER 12
NOVEMBER 12
NOVEMBER 16-20
DECEMBER 07-11
DECEMBER 10
DECEMBER 17

NCRA STATE DOUBLES @ SPORTSCENTER
POMONA VALLEY OPEN @ THE CLAREMONT CLUB
ROBIOUS SUMMER RB CHAMPIONSHIP @ ROBIOUS SPORTS & FITNESS CTR
STATE GAMES OF INDIANA @ OMNI 41
SUMMER SIZZLER @ TWIN ARBORS ATHLETIC CLUB
4TH ANNU CAPITAL CITY CLASSIC @ KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY
FL STATE DOUBLES @ ORLANDO FITNESS & RACQUET CLUB
TRIPLE CROWN ONE DAY SHOOTOUT @ MAVERICK ATHLETIC CLUB
BEACH PARTY OPEN @ ATHLETIC CLUB OF WINDSOR
DALLAS DOUBLES SERIES 2 @ LANDMARK FITNESS CLUB
SUMMER SUPER SHOT FEST @ BOB SIERRA YMCA
2005 SC STATE DOUBLES @ PINE STREET YMCA
SUMMER SIZZLER GRAND SLAM @ DOWNTOWN HOUSTON YMCA
IRF WORLD SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS @ MIDTOWN SPORTS & WELLNESS
BEST OF TEXAS @ SPECTRUM HEALTH CLUB
FL REGIONAL DOUBLES @ THE BODY MILL
OUTBACK BLAST IT @ THE SPORTS CENTER
TRIPLE CROWN CHAMPIONSHIPS @ MAVERICK ATHLETIC CLUB
TIMBERHILL OPEN @ TIMBERHILL ATHLETIC CLUB
AMERICAN FAMILY FALL OPEN @ AMERICAN FAMILY FITNESS (WEST)
FALL CLASSIC @ DOWD YMCA
DALLAS DOUBLES SERIES 3 @ LANDMARK FITNESS CLUB
38TH USAR NATIONAL DOUBLES @ ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

SHOOTOUT ON THE BRAZOS @ BAYLOR UNIV-MCLAIN STUDENT CTR
2005 FALL KICK OFF @ THE ATHLETIC CLUB
JOSEPH COPPOLA SR. MEM. PRO-AM @ BATH AND RACQUET CLUB
ROCTOBER RACQUETBALL RALLY @ PULSE ATHLETIC CLUB
CAPITAL CITY CHALLENGE @ COURTHOUSE ATHLETIC CLUB
2005 TX STATE SENIORS @ MAVERICK ATHLETIC CLUB
EAST COAST RACQUETBALL CHAMP. @ WILMINGTON ATHLETIC CLUB
DALLAS DOUBLES SERIES 4 @ LANDMARK FITNESS CLUB
SUNSET TURKEY SHOOT @ SUNSET ATHLETIC CLUB
FALL RICE RB SHOOTOUT @ RICE RECREATION CENTER
DALLAS DOUBLES SERIES 5 @ LANDMARK FITNESS CLUB
TURKEY SHOOTOUT @ SPECTRUM HEALTH CLUB
10TH CHOICE HOTELS US OPEN @ THE RACQUET CLUB OF MEMPHIS
BEAVERTON CLASSIC @ GRIFFITH PARK YMCA
MAVERICK ONE DAY SHOOTOUT @ MAVERICK ATHLETIC CLUB
WINTER ROLLOUT @ SPECTRUM HEALTH CLUB

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OH CANADA!



Kane Waselenchuk and Christie Van Hees finished the 2004-2005 Racquetball Season as the number 1 players on their respective pro tours. Two Canadians ruling the roost! What in the name of Charlie Brumfield and Lynn Adams is going on?

How can a country that

could comfortably put the complete racquetball populace on 5 courts produce this type of talent?

The answer is very simple. These 2 were child prodigies and play the game like it is second nature. They both started playing when they were 3 years old, both were introduced to the game by their parents and both fell in love with the game immediately. Racquets were meant to be in their hands.

They see the game in pictures. Ask either one of them to describe a shot or a body or racquet position and you will automatically get a physical demonstration rather than words. Kane, how do you walk up the stairs? He says, "Like this" as he starts to climb. Kane, how do you hit your forehand? He stands up and starts to swing. Christie, what were you thinking when you hit that backhand? "I was blasting it down the line!" Simple.

The second big advantage is confidence. They have seen and heard it all. This occurred when they were just children. They have an innate ability to evaluate their competition very quickly and equally as important know exactly what they can do. They expect to win and to be the best and that attitude certainly helps.

Can these 2 be intimidated? Please! What is more intimidating than a wild slashing C or D player in their mid-30's playing a 70 pound 8 year old? Christie and Kane experienced this,

learned from it and are far beyond any type of tactic that will hinder their play. Talk smack to Kane and you will get no reaction or a wry smile but it won't affect his game. Do the same to Christie and expect a confrontation or more aggressive play. Heard it all and seen it all!

As a fan, it is fun to watch them play. They are enjoying the game and truly love to be on court. They do things we have not seen before and they are improving. Christie is hitting her stride and



will play her best racquetball in the coming seasons and Kane seems to be only entering his prime.

It should be mentioned that these 2 are exceptional athletes and would have excelled in other sports if they had not picked racquetball. Has anybody covered the court like Waselenchuk and had his combination of power and finesse? No! Is Van Hees the best pure shooter the women's game has ever seen? Yes!

Christie and Kane were can't miss players from the start. They grew up playing the game and gained invaluable experience with International Racquetball. Their futures look good. Furthermore, this season promises to be exciting as Kane tries to make it 3 in a row and Christie tries to repeat.

The Inside Scoop

By Mike Ceresia

- 5 Time IRF World Champion
- 11 Time Canadian National Champion

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