



ILLINOIS STATE RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION



STUERTZ WINS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Former ISRA Board President Brian Stuertz has captured the ISRA Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his significant contributions to Illinois racquetball over the past ten years! For those of you who know Brian, this was a well-deserved honor due to the countless hours he has sacrificed to promote the sport and move the organization forward.

Among his accomplishments:

- ISRA Board Member 1988-1994
- ISRA Vice-President 1990-1991
- ISRA President 1991-1994
- Northwestern University Racquetball Coach 1988-1994
- ISRA Newsletter Editor 1991-1993
- Tournament Director/Floor Manager of Illinois State Singles, Revie Sorey Celebrity Classic and the Regional Intercollegiates

In mid-1994, Brian's employer, ADIA, relocated him to the San Francisco area, where he has turned into a workaholic! In addition, he resuscitated his game enough to trounce Geoff Peters four out of five games during Geoff's visit last fall. His family still lives in Arlington Heights, so we have the pleasure of his company at a couple of Chicago tournaments each season. If you see Brian, make sure to congratulate him on this well deserved award!

Past recipients of the Distinguished Service Award are: Tom Street (1978), Bob Troyer (1979), Art Michaely (1980), Gay Kenna (1981), Jim Harper (1982), Jim Cartwright (1983), Alan Shetzer (1984), Clyde Senters (1985), Diane Gabrisko (1986), Geoff Peters (1986), Bill Feigen (1987), Alvin Barasch (1988), Judy Young (1989), Bill Roberts (1990), Al Danielwicz (1991), Bill Piggott (1992), Rich Clay (1993), Dave Negrete (1994), Lori Kaiser (1995).

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ILLINOIS STATE RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The competitive season draws to a close this month as 30 to 50 Illinois players will head to Houston to compete in the AARA National Championships. As we look back at 1995-96, it looks like racquetball, and competitive racquetball, have turned the corner and are experiencing a mini-boom in popularity. A number of tournaments had increased attendance and many fitness facilities remodeled or reopened racquetball courts! Already the ISRA is gearing up for the fall season, and looking toward its membership for help. Here are some of the ways YOU can be a part of it:

- Join a regular league at your home club -- or better yet, get a friend to join with you...
- Teach a kid how to play! Use your old equipment (haven't you been looking for an excuse to buy a new racquet?) to hand down to a junior player.
- Take a lesson! You'd be amazed at the improvement in your game after only one to three lessons with your club pro. (No, don't tell the guys about it -- surprise them!)
- Play with your spouse! It's fun...
- Bring a friend to a tournament -- they'll enjoy it and get hooked, just like you.

Of course, if you *really* want to be involved, the ISRA is looking for volunteers. Specifically, we need people who love our sport, who might be willing to:

- Help out with desktop publishing applications.
- Update our club listings.
- Contribute fitness and racquetball articles.
- Buy advertising (cash, barter, or payment in-kind).
- Sponsor tournaments.
- Help out at tournaments.
- Become certified referees,
- Etc., etc., etc.

Simply put, if you can help, we want to take advantage of your interest and skills!

So don't sit back ALL summer. Work on your backhand and help us to continue the growth of racquetball!

Geoff

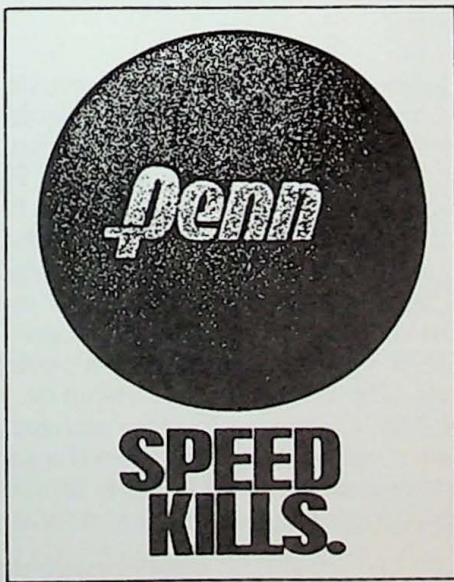
A CASE FOR EYE GUARDS

by Karin McCauley

I have always been a firm believer in wearing eye guards whenever playing racquetball. I make it a point to have them on whenever stepping into the court, even if I'm just hitting the ball around by myself. I know it only takes once for a ball to come off the wall funny and BANG! Blindness for life. My strong belief in eye guard protection saved my eyesight in November, 1995 while participating in tournament play. I served an innocent lob serve to the backhand corner and I turned around to see where and how my opponent was going to receive the serve. The next thing I knew, my eye guards flew off, the left lens popped out, and my nose was bleeding. It happened so fast I really had no idea what had happened. As it turns out, those eye guards that I so firmly trust my eyesight to saved me from blindness. Yes, I may have suffered a bloody nose, a nice tri-colored black eye and cracked glasses, but I'll take the few weeks recovery and the \$30 loss from glasses before I'll settle for no eyesight. That day the ball may have been a mishit, but please learn from my experience and don't let a mishit catch you without your eye guards on. PLEASE, PLEASE WEAR YOUR EYE GUARDS!



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Charlie Bachman, District Sales Manager

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THE JOB THAT ATE MY BRAIN, PART III

by Mary Lyons

"Where's the Beef?" As a long-time tournament director, I often hear players wondering "what has become of my \$40 entry fee?" The following is a complete breakdown of the income and expense related to my latest tournament, the 11th Annual First Coast Classic. Soon you'll understand; there is no beef!

Income: 97 total paid entrants; 74 adults and 23 juniors. Total entry fees collected: \$3,512.

Expenses:

Souvenir shirts: Long-sleeve black shirts printed with three colors. Cost: \$1,138 (approx. \$9 each).

Club rental: JAC generously charges only 10%. Total: \$351.

Referee fees: A \$5 fee is included in the entry fee for each event. This event had 15 round robins and 202 matches were held. Total referee fees: \$1,010.

Food: Some food was generously donated by local sponsors. Total food cost: \$420.69 (not including beer!).

Awards: 96 awards were presented in this event. The awards were attractive acrylic awards and very popular with the players. Total: \$1,103.61.

Miscellaneous: There are always miscellaneous charges, such as paper, copies, club staff, tournament directors.

These costs vary, but can be significant. Total misc. charges: \$185.69.

Total Income	\$3,512.00
Total Expense	4,208.99
Net Loss	\$696.99

Notes: Players across the board want an attractive, quality souvenir shirt, something that they can wear proudly, which demonstrates the quality of the event and our sport. Many tournament directors work hard to produce a quality souvenir for their players. For most tournament players, a shirt is the only thing that they will take home; I believe that it is very important to produce a first-quality shirt for everyone to take home. I know just how important it is to put sponsors' names and logos on souvenir shirts; incorporating the sponsors into the design is not an easy task, but necessary.

Club rental: What's in it for the club? If you had to convince a club owner to host a racquetball tournament, what would your best argument be? 100 to 200 players take over your facility, monopolize your staff, your locker rooms, and generally abuse your club. Many club managers charge \$1,000 to \$3,000 club rental per event.

Referee fees: There is NO GOOD REFEREE SYSTEM! Winners ref penalizes a player who has just won!? Loser ref; they're mad, they really don't care and they are usually tough to find. The paid referee format is most often used, but it is a "break-even" system IF all draws are single elimination draws. From a player's perspective, a single elimination draw is not preferred. Lose once and you are out! Most players prefer a round robin format where every player plays against each of the other players.

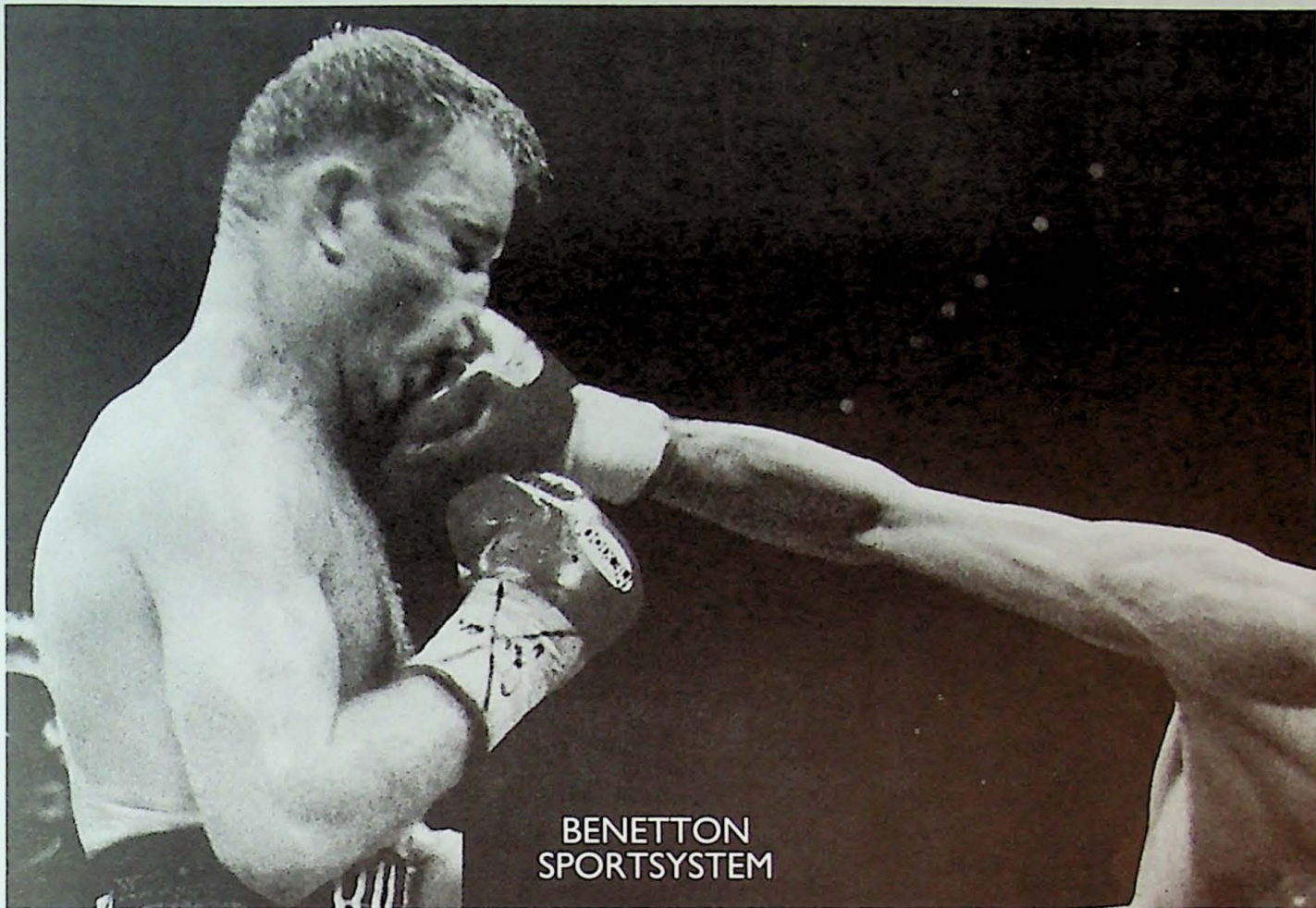
As a tournament director, round robins are a nightmare! Four players produce six matches; a five-player round robin produces ten matches and a net loss of \$25 for the tournament...that's just one event! How many times have you heard a tournament director say, "I need a referee; please help us out"? I guarantee you, tournament directors hate saying it much more than you hate hearing it! And how about those "controversial" players who nobody wants to referee? It's usually not worth the \$5 and it costs the tournament director a great deal more "begging." How often have you seen those "controversial" players helped by refereeing?

Food: The biggest nightmare for every tournament director! Food is very expensive and often a logistical mess. Many facilities do not have a kitchen and must have all food completely prepared and catered in. For many years I have been lucky enough to have a few loyal sponsors like Shoney's and Famous Amos, who help out by providing a meal or some part of a meal. Many tournament directors aren't so lucky. Some clubs have restaurants which prohibit the bringing in of food from the outside even if it's free. Sometimes club food is reasonable, but often it is too expensive. Energy drink, bananas, paper cups, plates, napkins, utensils...all cost dollars. Though tournament directors would love to allow all players' family members and guest to eat tournament meals, it is just not possible, and when explained to them they often get very upset!

Awards: Normally only a small percentage of players actually take home an award, but quality awards are a must. If you've never gone to a trophy shop and checked out the prices, you'll be amazed! Trophies, plaques and medals are expensive! Tournament directors know that they cannot please everyone. Some players like trophies, some like plaques, some like desk pen sets, some like money. When the awards are set out, I always hold my breath to see if players approve and it's always the same...some do and some don't! As for cash...some players (and you know who they are) will sandbag and cheat for a simple plastic trophy; cash only makes the situation worse.

Sponsors: The one factor that can make tournaments financially successful. Unfortunately, it is very difficult to secure big money sponsors or even small local sponsors. There just isn't much money lying around out there for racquetball tournaments. At this time it's fairly easy to get one of the manufacturers to provide balls, scorecards and drawsheets. Beyond that, it's a bit tougher to get products for giveaway or door prizes. With hundreds of events asking for "stuff," the racquetball manufacturers are inundated with requests. Outside the industry it's even tougher. What can we offer a local car dealership or insurance company? And how about the tournament director who has been running tournaments in the same club for several years; sponsor burnout is a real problem! How many times can you ask club members and local

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1996 STATE SINGLES - February 29 - March 3, 1996

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Rich Clay



(19) MEN'S OPEN: 1-J. Negrete, 2-K. Minor, S-E. Coyle, S-D. Negrete. (8) MEN'S AA: 1-F. Bunker, 2-S. Koburi, S-G. Pappas, S-G. Hasty II. (27) MEN'S A: 1-J. Logan, 2-S. Conn, S-N. Curcio, S-H. Spaeth. (31) MEN'S B: 1-D. Baker, 2-J. Holmgard, S-C. Ryan, S-K. Johnson. (26) MEN'S C: 1-C. Slade, 2-J. Riske, S-D. Baker, S-C. Willix. (19) MEN'S D: 1-E. Sierawski, 2-D. Coyner, S-J. Anaya, S-T. McAuliffe. (2) MEN'S N: 1-T. Rosselli, 2-J. Condon. (11) MEN'S 19/25/30+: 1-J. Negrete, 2-E. Coyle, S-T. Utterback, S-K. Minor. (19) MEN'S 35+: 1-B. Lyman, 2-D. Negrete, S-R. Kowalski, S-C. Gill. (7) MEN'S 35+ INT: 1-M. Landiak, 2-J. Matarrese, S-R. Rueger, S-L. Klimaitis. (13) MEN'S 40+: 1-D. Olson, 2-G. Hasty Sr., S-G. Mandell, S-Sutton/Ramspeck. (4) MEN'S 40+ INT: 1-F. Barbara, 2-K. Avery. (9) MEN'S 45+: 1-B. Nelson, 2-H. Grigg, S-H. Miller, S-G. Hasty Sr. (4) MEN'S 45+ INT: 1-J. Koziol, 2-M. Dellagrazie. (8) MEN'S 50+: 1-H. Grigg, 2-H. Miller, S-E. Gruenwald, S-R. Brown. (4) MEN'S 50+ INT: 1-Jan Dennis, 2-P. Stopinski. (4) MEN'S 55+: 1-R. Johnson, 2-P. Taylor. (5) MEN'S 60+: 1-E. Oloh, 2-H. Morrison. (5) MEN'S 65/70/75+: 1-J. O'Donnell, 2-C. Martarano. (8) WOMEN'S O: 1-D. Gates, 2-C. Bastien, S-L. Molitor, S-L. Davis. (3) WOMEN'S AA: 1-B. White, 2-C. Jaskier. (5) WOMEN'S A: 1-A. Schwartz, 2-C. Jaskier. (7) WOMEN'S B: 1-C. Csuk, 2-P. Grace, S-B. Utterback, S-P. Peurrung. (5) WOMEN'S A: 1-A. Schwartz, 2-C. Jaskier. (7) WOMEN'S B: 1-C. Csuk, P. Grace, S-B. Utterback, S-P. Peurrung. (5) WOMEN'S C: 1-K. Csuk, 2-B. Carrington. (4) WOMEN'S D/NOVICE: 1-L. Miller, C. Radloff. (5) WOMEN'S 35+: 1-L. Molitor, 2-L. Davis. (6) WOMEN'S 40/45/50+: 1-B. White, 2-B. Powell. MEN'S C/ D DBLS: 1-D. Flood/J. Gaw, 2-Farrell/Gorski, S-Matton/Lawson, S-Fitzpatrick/Alexandria. MEN'S 35+ DBLS: 1-R. Johnson/E. Gruenwald, 2-B. Lyman/B. Carvallo, S-N. Radloff/R. Cavaliere, S-D. Klopke/J. Jovien. WOMEN'S OPEN/A DBLS: 1-D. Hardek/C. Rogers, 2-C. Lison/R. Ferconio, S-DeArmas/Jaskier, S-Calvi/Williams. WOMEN'S B/C DBLS: 1-S. Miller/Roach, 2-P. Peurrung/B. Utterback, S-Jodas/Klass, S-Urban/Pope. MIXED OPEN DBLS: 1-D. Gates/J. Logan, S-K. Spix/M. Cusano, S-K. Dunham/S. Stopinski, S-J. Carter/D. Carter. MIXED A DBLS: 1-C. Arvia/B. Banks, 2-P. Nativi/P. Calvi. MIXED B/C DBLS: 1-M. Ardior/L. Weisbart, 2-Curtis/Kirk, S-McIntyre/Rogers, S-Gaw/Jaskier.

EKTELON/AARA REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

	CHAMPION	SECOND	THIRD	FOURTH
Men's Open	Kevin Graham	John Amatulli	Jim Ellenberger	Evan Pellowski
19+	Jim Ellenberger	Evan Pellowski	Eugene Coyle	Greg Hasty II
25+	Kevin Graham	John Negrete	Joey Logan	Eugene Coyle
30+	John Negrete	John Amatulli	Rich Clay	Tom Utterback
35+	Dave Negrete	Don Ott	Nick Radloff	Jim Schenck III
40+	Gregg Mandell	Herb Grigg	Jim Luzar	Doug Sutton-Ramspeck
45+	Jim Luzar	Delmer Reed	Bruce Nelson	Jack Nagle
50+	Erhard Gruenwald	Horace Miller	Mike Arnolt	Tom Rearden
55+	Ron Johnson	Don Davis	Jerry Stohman	John Elaisik
60+	Hugh Morrison	Dick Wadewitz	Ed Olah	---
65+	Bert Shulimson	Dick Wadewitz	Curly Noerenberg	John Siewert
70+	John Siewert	---	---	---
Women's Open	Cara Pellowski	Mary Pomeroy	Liz Molitor	Brenda White
25+	Cara Pellowski	Katherine Grill	---	---
30+	Liz Molitor	Mary Pomeroy	---	---
35+	Carole Lisson	Nancy Kronenfeld	Liz Molitor	Gloria Hammer
40+	Carole Lisson	Brenda White	Debbie Chaney	Lynne Weisbart
45+	Linda Miller-Maliff	Kathy Dunham	Bev Powell	---
50+	Karen Yackley	Kathy Dunham	Bev Powell	---
55+	Sue Carow	---	---	---
	CHAMPION	SECOND	SEMI	SEMI
Men's A	Craig Hueffner	John Kundrot	Richard Lizcano	Joe Stellern
Men's B	Tim Vandenakker	Ken Fleck	Craig Citti	John Mattarese
Men's C	Corey Willix	Dan Peterson	Dick Heithoff	Giancarlo Acosta
Men's D	Ray Meisner	Dave Coynar	Timmy Murray	Manuel Rosiles
Novice	Wayne Clason	Nick Bischoff	---	---
Women's A	Carrie Jaskier	Katherine Grill	Katleen Guy	Krystal Csuk
Women's B	Yunhui Cobb	Lynne Weisbart	Leslie Miller	Barb Utterback
Women's C	Leslie Miller	Laura Rosiles	Kathy Radloff	Jennifer Jaskier
Mixed Open	Ott/Hammer	Lopez/Pomeroy	Homa/Pellowski	Utterback/Davis
Mixed A	Brown/Drendel	Vagedes/Rupsis	Peters/Guy	Grill/Thorson
Mixed B	Martin/Csuk	Rieman/Peurring	Martinez/Richardson	---
Men's 30+ Int.	Craig Citti	Tim Vandenakker	Ron Dim	John Mattarese
Men's 40+ Int.	Gene Cromwell	Keith Avery	Dave Molitor	Delmer Reed

THE JOB THAT ATE MY BRAIN continued from page 4

sponsors to help you with your events? You can only go the well so many times.

So why do we do it? Why do we subject ourselves to the abuse of disgruntled tournament players who have no idea what we have put into running a quality event? For the money? (Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!) NO! Because it's an easy job? NO! Because of some socially redeeming value? NO! Because of the love and appreciation of the players? NO! I cannot speak for the many tournament directors around the state and nation, but for me, it's the people. Not all of them, but the few who really do appreciate the hard work that we put into putting on a quality event for them. It's for the game. I love racquetball and have devoted 15 years to promoting it. Contrary to popular belief, I'm not getting rich doing this, and neither is anyone else. I do not know how much longer I can do it, but I do know that something has to change if we expect tournaments to continue as we know them.

MARK OFF THAT DATE!



ISRA STATE DOUBLES
NOVEMBER 8-10TH, 1996

ISRA STATE SINGLES
FEBRUARY 28TH - MARCH 2ND, 1997

AARA REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
APRIL 17TH-20TH, 1997

- Bid packages for both will be released shortly!
- Look for the complete calendar in our Summer and September newsletters!

HOW TO REALLY APPEAL TO WOMEN

by Katherine Grill

It's happened again. Once again a women's division was cancelled due to lack of entrants. What made it even more frustrating was that this was not only a sanctioned tournament, but Regionals, as well. Therefore, in an attempt to bolster female participation in racquetball, I have compiled my own...

TOP TEN WAYS TO GET MORE WOMEN INVOLVED IN RACQUETBALL

10. Celebrity mixed doubles. Suggestions for my partners: Mel Gibson, Tom Cruise, Kevin Sorbo, Adrian Paul.
9. Free Facial with every entry. You guys could get this, too.
8. Tournament food that includes chocolate, chocolate, and oh yeah, chocolate. Quiche, too, just to watch the guys eat it.
7. Awards that include free housekeeping, restaurant meals, and a massage.
6. Sponsored clothing that doesn't make us look like we're wearing bloomers or sackcloth.
5. Access to a major mall between matches. Gift certificates would be a lovely touch. Free stuff would be even better. Sexy, lean, semi-naked hunks to carry our bags would clinch it.
4. The I-AM-NOT-YOUR-MOTHER power. Includes ability to enforce clean-up, penalize whiners, and demand participants take showers.
3. Matches where the men are required to wear make-up, control-top pantyhose, and a bra. High heels optional.
2. Mixed singles where we get to spank any guy we beat. Better yet, we get to spank any guy we want.
1. Towel boys to wipe our brows between points.

BOB'S REVENGE

My coach, Bob Graf, was appalled by the blatantly sexist comments within my top ten list. He therefore compiled his own list, but did thirteen, just to prove he could.

TOP THIRTEEN WAYS TO MAKE RACQUETBALL MORE MACHO

13. Referees get laser guns to enforce rules.
12. Prize money to be paid into round of 64 in all divisions including novice.
11. Macho Man's Avoidable Rule: You get in my way, you die.
10. Celebrity mixed doubles. Suggestions for partners include: Sharon Stone, Pamela Anderson, Jodie Foster, the Miller Light girls.
9. One fist fight per game allowed. Winner gets the serve.
8. Unlimited pizza, beer, and value meal #3 from McDonalds. Oh, wait, that's what we get anyway. Cool.
7. Awards to include...please refer to #8.
6. First person to complain about a call will be shot.
5. No more of this wimpy blue rubber. Balls will be 5 lb. medicine balls.
4. The I-AM-NOT-YOUR-MOTHER power. I like this one, too. For whiner's penalty, see #6.
3. Women required to strap on a 15 lb. beer belly to play.
2. Full contact doubles with female American Gladiators.
1. Lovely young women to admire our rippling muscles between points.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

EVERGREEN December 15-17, 1995

MEN'S OPEN (10): 1-Tim Sweeney, 2-Keith Minor, S-Alex Spaeth, S-Greg Hasty II. MEN'S A (11): 1-Doug Halverson, 2-Keith Raducha, S-T.J. Ferro, S-Kent Hadraba. MEN'S B (16): 1-Keith Kareiva, 2-Ken Fleck, S-Keith Avery, S-Don Walsh. MEN'S C (11): 1-Paul Kolmos, 2-Save Grujich, S-David Lilly, S-Steve Johnstone. MEN'S D (10): 1-Ed Gutierrez, 2-Ron Villalobos, S-David Lilly, S-Michael Rose. MEN'S 35/40+ (6): 1-Bill Lyman, 2-Len Restaino. MEN'S 45/50+ (6): 1-Horace Miller, 2-Greg Hasty. MEN'S A DBLS: 1-Winston Cole/Dan Junis, 2-Doug Halverson/Nick Curcio. MEN'S B DBLS: 1-Kurt Manke/Derek Huff, 2-David Royster/Ken Cook.

ILLINI OPEN January 5, 6, 7, 1996

MEN'S OPEN (9): 1-Bill Lyman, 2-J. Tucker, S-B. Graf, S-S. Horve. MEN'S A (9): 1-K. Brackett, 2-C. Gustafson, S-G. Devolpi, S-S. Juliano. MEN'S B (9): 1-G. Devolpi, 2-F. Lackscheide, S-T. Lester, S-M. Williams. MEN'S C (10): 1-A. Clayton, 2-K. Zwyers, S-F. Lackscheide, S-R. Gates. MEN'S 30+ (4): 1-B. Lyman, 2-B. Elliot. MEN'S 45+ (9): 1-F. Rusch, 2-G. Hasty, S-B. Quisenberry, S-K. Brackett. MEN'S 50+ (4): 1-T. Grayson, 2-B. Locke. MEN'S OPEN DBLS (7): 1-Rusch/Silius, 2-Quisenberry/Horue, S-Ackerman/Day, S-

Ashton/Elliot. MEN'S A DBLS (4): 1-Gibson/Pitcier, 2-Juliano/Bills. MEN'S B/C DBLS (7): 1-Mankle/Huff, 2-Pforr/Williams. WOMEN'S OPEN (3): 1-D. Gates, 2-Hinton. WOMEN'S B (4): 1-Anderson, 2-Kidd. MIXED B/C DBLS (2): 1-Grayson/Jones, 2-Bedillion/Grill.

ELGIN SUPER BOWL January 19-20, 1996

MEN'S OPEN (11): 1-J. Negrete, 2-K. Minor, S-S. Lloyd, S-S. Koburi. MEN'S A (5): 1-N. Radloff, 2-A. Ramirez, S-D. Wheeler. MEN'S B (9): 1-S. Nelson, 2-K. Weiner, S-M. Billingsley, S-Garcia. MEN'S C (8): 1-J. Geatros, 2-M. Billingsley, S-Kern, S-Marasco. MEN'S D (6): 1-Reiser, 2-Vetter. MEN'S OPEN DBLS (7): 1-J. Negrete/K. Minor, 2-K. Klingberg/S. Lloyd.

PALOS OLYMPIC OPEN February 23-25, 1996

MEN'S OPEN (10): 1-D. Negrete, 2-J. Negrete, S-K. Minor, S-E. Coyle. MEN'S AA (4): 1-A. Spaeth, 2-T. Utterback. MEN'S A (15): 1-W. Cole, 2-K. Johnson, S-K. Karieve, S-M. Slater. MEN'S B (8): 1-J. Matarrese, 2-K. Johnson, S-C. Citti, S-O. Maron. MEN'S C (15): 1-R. Ems, 2-A. Masden, S-J. Shermulis, S-L. Brand. MEN'S D (21): 1-J. Makina, 2-J. Desanto, S-M. Galvin, S-L. Brand. MNE'S 35/40+ (7): 1-G. Mandell, 2-L. Restaino. MEN'S 45/50+ (9): 1-J. Silius, 2-H. Miller, S-J.

Nagle, S-E. Gruenwald. WOMEN'S A (7): 1-D. Gates, 2-M. Pomeroy. WOMEN'S B (5): 1-B. Utterback, 2-P. Peurrung.

ILLINI CLASSIC February 23-25, 1996

MEN'S OPEN (14): 1-J. Tucker, 2-G. Hasty II, S-J. McDowell, S-M. Vicory. MEN'S A (16): 1-C. Ryan, B. Ashton, S-S. Gulick, S-S. Juliano. MEN'S B (22): 1-B. Conrad, 2-M. Arbuckle, S-B. Goeppinger, S-A. Immaneni. MEN'S C (9): 1-J. Sutrmanis, 2-M. Rose, S-M. Anastasia, S-L. Larson. MEN'S D/N (7): 1-L. Trejo, 2-J. Whitted, S-K. Welnicki, S-K. Honn. MEN'S 55/65 (4): 1-J. O'Donnell, 2-B. Williamson. MEN'S OPEN DBLS (7): 1-Horve/Quisenberry, 2-Hasty/Vicary. MEN'S A DBLS (7): 1-Huff/Mankle, 2-Mann/Pforr. MEN'S B DBLS (16): 1-Glover/Schwemmer, 2-Conrad/Goeppin, S-Zoellner/Kaufman, S-Ours/Arbuckle. WOMEN'S OPEN/A (3): 1-K. Grill, 2-B. Powell. MIXED OPEN/A DBLS (4): 1-Rogy/Mankle, 2-Graven/Helpenstine.

SHAMROCK SHOOTOUT March 15-17, 1996

MEN'S OPEN (13): 1-M. Johnston, 2-J. Amatulli, S-J. Ellenberger, S-S. Moskwa. MEN'S AA (5): 1-S. Uylarik, 2-G. Pappas. MEN'S A (36): 1-J. Baumgartner, 2-T.J. Ferro, S-K. Ruducha, S-K. Hadraba. MEN'S B (32): 1-J. Holmgard, 2-K. Johnson, S-K. Fleck, S-J. Bronson. MEN'S

C (32): 1-J. Riske, 2-L. Formanski, S-P. Kolmos, S-A. Pavincito. MEN'S D (36): 1-C. Ragsdale, 2-B. Koziar, S-J. Weil, S-R. Tulotson. MEN'S 30/35+ (10): 1-F. Bunker, 2-H. Grigg, S-N. Radloff, S-K. Spix. MEN'S 40+ (7): 1-G. Mandell, 2-Hasty Sr. MEN'S 45/50+ (11): 1-R. Johnson, 2-G. Hasty Sr., S-T.J. Ferro, S-E. Gruenwald. WOMEN'S OPEN (6): 1-D. Gates, 2-L. Molitor, S-C. Lisson, S-R. Fergon. WOMEN'S AA (2): 1-K. Dunham, 2-N. Rocha. WOMEN'S A/B (13): 1-D. Bunker, 2-K. McCauley, S-C. Borre, S-P. Grace. WOMEN'S C (14): 1-L. Miller, 2-K. McCauley. WOMEN'S D (10): 1-C. Radloff, 2-P. Hartmann, S-J. Burzloff, S-A. Lawrence. MEN'S OPEN DBLS (6): 1-Ellenberger/Johnston, 2-Bacher. Grigas. MEN'S A DBLS (11): 1-J. Thorsen/J. Jovien, 2-F. Vath/C. Rupsis, S-N. Curcio/D. Halverson, S-M. Kinkin/B. Dunlap. MEN'S B DBLS (18): 1-L. Peppi/R. Zimmerman, 2-Steans/C. Martin, S-Libby/Ippolito, S-Hannon/Peacock. WOMEN'S C/D (4): 1-S. McIntyre, 2-K. Ferrico. MEN'S OPEN DBLS (7): 1-D. Negrete/K. Minor, 2-E. Coyle/J. Negrete. MEN'S A DBLS: 1-H. Spaeth/F. Barbara, 2-J. Jovien/J. Thorsen. MEN'S C/WOMEN'S B DBLS: 1-J. Shermulis/P. Nelson, 2-R. Viliekis/A. Masden, S-T. Beck/Donna Perez, S-A. Brunner/M. Padavic. MIXED OPEN A DBLS: 1-D. Gates/J. Logan, 2-K. Dunham/L. Restaino. MIXED B/C DBLS: 1-T. Beck/V. Toepper, 2-S. McIntyre/J. Rogers.

ISRA TRAVEL LEAGUE NEWS

Hello to all our four-walled friends!

Travel team has taken its last trip for the season! The league party was held on April 12 at the Glass Court in Lombard. The courts were bulging with doubles play and the scent of Ben Gay filled the air (compliments of Doug Halverson).

Thanks to the generous donations from our sponsors, PENN and EKTELON, everyone was able to leave with a raffle prize. Our excellent sponsors loaded us with bags, gloves, balls, eyeguards, t-shirts, grips, string, towels, coolers -- you name it, we raffled it! Congratulations go to Bob Weber for winning the grand prize -- the EKTELON Fusion racquet (no excuses next year, Bob!). The league would not have been possible if not for the outstanding support of these manufacturers. A special thanks goes out to Ken "Ektelon" Diller, and Charlie "Penn" Bachmann for attending the party and picking up everybody's bar tabs!! (Just kidding.)

Thanks to Diane and Joe DeArmas and Char Borre for hosting another great party. When are you adding another five courts? We'd like to have some singles play next year!

Congratulations to all the division winners and runners up. The winners were presented with collared shirts and plaques; second place teams received special engraved calculators.

We hope everyone had an enjoyable year, and as always, we welcome ideas or suggestions for the upcoming season. The captain's meeting for the 1996-97 year will be held on Tuesday, September 3, 7:30 p.m. at the Glass Court -- mark your calendars NOW!

NEEDED...WANTED...MUST HAVE...FOR NEXT YEAR:

- More Men's C teams -- we know you're out there!
- More Mixed Open/A teams -- this is a fun division; you can always blame your loss on your partner!
- More Women's teams -- ladies, where are you?

If you have any ideas on these subject, give us a call at 708-837-9172. Have a great summer and we will see you in September.

Lori Kaiser & Sara Meline
Travel League Coordinators

FINAL STANDINGS as of March 25, 1996

MEN'S A NORTH DIV.

1. Bloomingdale
2. Woodfield
3. Glass
4. Lattof
5. Hillside
6. Southlake

MEN'S B NORTH DIV.

1. Woodfield
2. Bloomingdale
3. Edens
4. Lehman
5. Logan

MEN'S C DIV.

1. Lattof
2. Centre Court
3. Lemont
4. Courts Plus

WOMEN'S OPEN/ A DIVISION NIGHT

1. Glass I
2. Bloomingdale
3. Edens
4. Tinley Park
5. Glass II

WOMEN'S B DIV.

1. Woodfield
2. Glass II
3. Glass I
4. Naperville
5. Schaumburg

MEN'S A SOUTH DIV.

1. Aurora
2. Bloomingdale
3. Silver Lakes
4. Naperville
5. Glass Court
6. Westmont
7. Chalet

MEN'S B SOUTH DIV.

1. Naperville
2. Richport
3. Courts Plus
4. Wheaton
5. Glass
6. Norris

MIXED OPEN/A DIV.

1. Bloomingdale
2. Westmont
3. Glass Court

WOMEN'S B & BELOW DIV.

1. Glass Court
2. Wheaton
3. Naperville



Penn.

EKTELON

NEWSLETTER QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS



Number returned: 22

Overall quality rating: 4.0

Changes requested:

- More instructional articles/strategy (5)
- Personal info on players/clubs (4)
- Regional event calendars (2)
- Tip of the month (2)
- More pictures (3)
- Articles from top players like Cheryl Gudinas (3)

Average tournaments played last year: 6

Would you like to see more tournaments:

- More (6)
- Less (3)
- Same (8)

Most enjoyable event:

- March Madness, Oak Park (1)
- Illini Open, Champaign (2)
- State Singles, Bloomingdale (3)
- Revie Sorey, Bloomingdale (1)
- State Doubles, Peoria (4)
- World Seniors, Albuquerque (3)
- All Glass Court Tournaments (3)
- Masters, Edens (3)
- Club Events (4)

Biggest gripe about tournaments:

- Seeding/sandbaggers
- Quality of referees
- Not enough women entered
- Not enough Masters (45+++) players entered
- Single elimination
- Price/value of some events

And of course, the winner of the Catalyst racquet:

Timothy J. Habjan of Oak Park

Tune in for future issues to see how we address your concerns!

The Editor

THREE FUNDAMENTALS OF RACQUET SELECTION

by Steve Davis, Director of Research and Development at Ektelon

Choosing the optimum racquet can require time-consuming research. To simplify the process, consider the three fundamental characteristics of racquetball racquets -- power, control and comfort. All racquets offer different amounts of power, control and comfort. It is rare that a single racquet design provides a maximum of all three. Usually one or two characteristics are compromised for the benefit of the third.

POWER is what players usually want first. The power of a racquet is influenced by headsize (bigger=more power), frame stiffness (stiffer=more power), and string pattern (the fewer the strings or more open the pattern=more power). The Ektelon sunburst string pattern, for instance, is more powerful than traditional patterns. Racquet weight also affects power, though this is harder to generalize. A faster or heavier racquet hits the ball faster than a slower or lighter racquet. A trade-off occurs in racquet weight versus racquet speed. You may be able to swing a lighter racquet faster and generate more power, such as on a drive serve where a player seldom has time to set up and swing fast during play. In this case, a heavier racquet would have more power because its mass would compensate for the lack of racquet speed.

CONTROL is very personal and difficult to define. Many

players consider control to be a lack of power, while others describe it as a uniform performance across the entire string plane. The fact is that a stiffer frame with a smaller headsize will provide more control for the harder-swinging player. A frame with more flex and a bigger headsize will provide more control for the finesse player.

COMFORT is not just of value to players who have had an injury. It's as important as power and control, at all times, to all players. Racquets with more flexible frames, bigger headsizes and more open string patterns tend to be more comfortable. The biggest comfort feature of a racquet is an elastomeric interface between the racquet and the player's hand. Dampening the shock and/or vibrations from ball impact before reaching the hand and arm results in greater comfort. With the Ektelon Cushion Response System, the patented thermoplastic rubber handle effectively absorbs shock and vibrations. In addition, the new Vision Grip provides a tackier surface, allowing a player to loosen his/her grip. This increases comfort while letting a player generate greater racquet head speed.

While the faster swing speed of lighter racquets has its benefits, remember, the faster wrist flick with a lighter racquet can cause injuries to the wrist, elbow and shoulder. These injuries often occur when a player changes weight

continued on next page

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Assault Series racquets have already become legends on the court with their lightweight, ultra stiff frames. When these frames are combined with our new, patented **Reverse Sunburst String Pattern**, you've got your hands on some awesome power with superior control. The power and control you need to blow your opponent off the court.

Demo a new Spalding Assault Series racquet from your local pro shop or sporting goods store and experience the new **Reverse Sunburst String Pattern** on our powerful racquets. Then, thank your opponent for a nice match.

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STATE RANKINGS

as of March 29, 1996

1.	California	1,922
2.	Florida	1,276
3.	Texas	1,124
4.	Ohio	1,117
5.	Illinois	1,093
6.	New York	960
7.	Pennsylvania	848
8.	Minnesota	764
9.	Colorado	638
10.	Missouri	621
11.	Washington	539
12.	Indiana	528
13.	New Mexico	528
14.	Wisconsin	526
15.	No. Carolina	512
16.	Virginia	492
17.	Massachusetts	463
18.	Alaska	364
19.	Michigan	360
20.	Maryland/DC	360

FUNDAMENTALS

continued from previous page

distribution in a racquet, resulting in alterations to swing which are unfamiliar to the body. To offset this, lighter racquets are just easier to swing, and this alone may provide comfort.

In summary, remember the three fundamentals of power, control and comfort when choosing your next racquet. Demo a racquet to evaluate its performance. Determine your playing style and decide what's most important to you. Your racquet selection will be more complete and your playing enjoyment maximized.

For more information about Ektelon products and where you can purchase them in Illinois, contact Ken Diller at (708) 307-1519.



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TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

Call Laurel Davis 708-325-6410 to add your listing



The Name of The Game.

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MAY

May 22-27
Ektelon/AARA National Singles
Houston, TX
Margo Daniels (719) 635-5396

May 24-26
AARA National Championships
Downtown YMCA, Houston
Kevin Joyce (719) 635-5390
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JUNE

June 21-26
AARA/Ektelon Junior Nationals
Southridge Athletic Club
Carol Pellowski (414) 421-5770
AARA SANCTIONED

June 22-26
**Ektelon/AARA US Junior
Olympic Championships**
Greenfield, WI
For Info. (719) 635-5396

JULY

July 12-13
Summer Three-Wall
Bloomingdale Sports Complex
Howie Spaeth (708) 893-9577

July 13-14
**Summer Doubles Picnic
Tournament**
Champaign Fitness Center
Bob Graf (217) 356-1616

July 26-28
**3rd Annual Summerfest
Tournament**
Glass Court Swim & Fitness
Diane DeArmas (708) 629-3390
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AUGUST

August 9-17
IRF World Championships
Phoenix, AZ
For Info: (719) 635-5396

August 27-31
**IRF World Senior Racquetball
Championships**
Albuquerque, NM
For Info: (505) 266-8960

OCTOBER NOVEMBER

October 16-20
**Ektelon/AARA
National Doubles**
Site: TBA
Margo Daniels (719) 635-5396

November 13-17
**U.S. Open Racquetball
Championships**
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