



# DOWN THE LINE

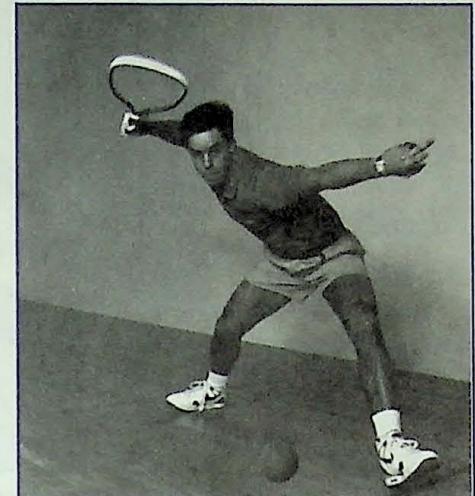
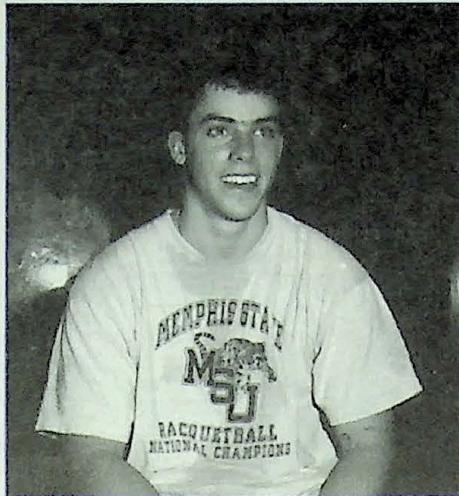
## LOUISIANA RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

**"DEDICATED TO  
PROMOTING THE GAME  
OF RACQUETBALL."**

July 1993

Vol. 15, No.1

The Louisiana Racquetball Association  
3609 Perkins Road, Suite F  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808  
504-346-8657



### The LRA Remembers Lance Nelson Racquetball Champion Dies in Memphis Accident

From Scripps Howard News Service, Memphis, Tenn.

Lance W. Nelson, a former Alexandria, La., resident was killed when the car he was driving struck and killed three teenagers riding bikes along a suburban road in Germantown.

Some police officials said it is possible Nelson simply didn't see the three youths, who were riding westbound in the middle of the westbound lane. Police said a witness who saw the car shortly before the accident, but not at impact, said he did not notice anything unusual about the car.

Officials said it was not unusual for teenagers to be riding bicycles at 11:30 p.m., especially during summer vacation. Police said none of the youths was wearing head protection, and there didn't appear to be any reflectors on the bicycles. To date, no charges have been filed in the case.

Lance began his racquetball career at the age of 12 in 1982. Some of his career victories and highlights include:

1984 LA State Men's A Champion  
1985 Member of the Ektelon Team  
1986 Wins 3rd in DP National Championships  
1991 LA State Men's Open Singles Champion  
1991 LA State Open Doubles Champion  
1991 TN State Open Doubles Champion  
defeating #1 team, Andy Roberts and Quinn Roberts

1991 Silver medal in World Collegiate Championship Singles and Doubles  
1992 Repeats as Silver medalist in Singles and Doubles in World Collegiate Championship  
1992 wins 1st place in American Racquetball National Association, National Intercollegiate Championship

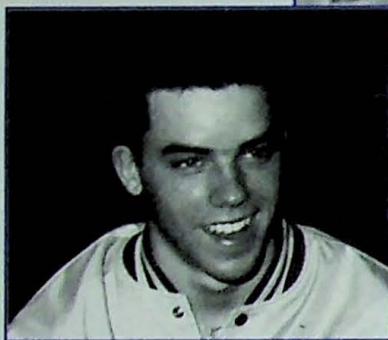
Lance was selected to play for the #1 rated racquetball team in the nation at Memphis State University. For 4 years, he was MSU's Gold and/or Silver medalist World Championship winner in both singles and doubles.

Lance was a 1988 graduate of Holy Savior Menard Central High School, Alexandria, La., and a senior business major at MSU. He is survived by his parents Mr. and Mrs. Ragan K. Nelson of Alexandria, two sisters and a paternal grandmother.

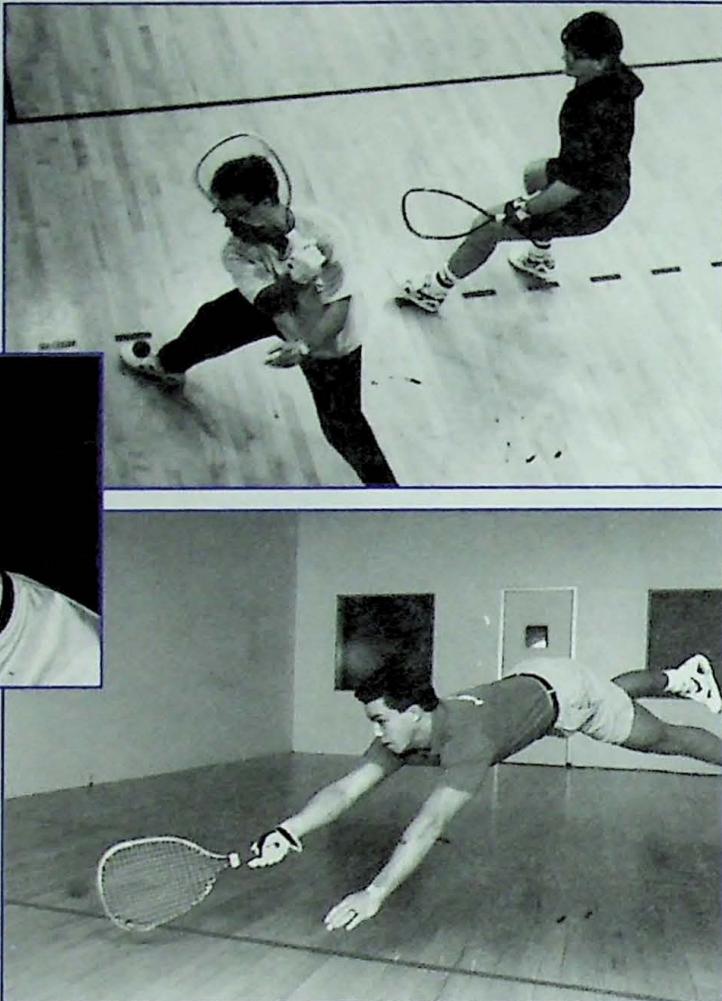
The LRA will remember Lance as a winner on and off the court. "A championship heart comes before a championship player," reflects LRA chairperson Marcia Richards, "and Lance will always be remembered as a good friend with a championship heart who was a great champion of the game."

The LRA has made a \$100.00 contribution to the Lance Nelson Memorial Racquetball Scholarship Fund. More information on contributions found on page 2.

*"Lance was  
a winner . . .*



*. . . on and  
off the court."*



## LRA Announces Organizational Structure

**Marcia Richards,  
Chairperson**

In order to best serve the members of LRA, we have listened to your input over the past several months and announce the following organizational changes for the coming year.

Please feel free to call on any board member with suggestions and ideas for continually improving our racquetball organization.

Again, thank you for your interest and we look forward to a successful year of increased member participation, exciting tournaments and events that we all can enjoy as members of LRA.

**Chairperson**  
Marcia Richards  
11622 Delray, Baton Rouge 70814  
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Contributions to the

### *Lance Nelson Memorial Racquetball Scholarship Fund*

may be sent to  
Memphis State University  
Foundation  
Alumni Center Building  
Memphis, TN 38152

For more information call  
Ms. Rorie Owens  
901-678-4438

# Juniors Work Hard To Achieve Top Rankings

From Times-Picayune reports,  
Margaret Schonberg -  
contributing writer



## Nicholas Laird

Nicholas Laird is the 11 year old son of John and Thea Laird of Covington who ranks first in the state, 11th in the nation, and 6th in the world. Laird played in the International Racquetball Federation World Junior championships in December with more than 200 players representing 10 countries.

"I played well in my first two rounds," Laird said. "I beat the Canadian national champion. But then my performance dropped and I was beaten by Joe Gooden of Texas."

"I'm going to practice and play a lot more because I plan on winning the 12 and under age bracket next time," Laird stated.

Nicholas and David met at Franco's. "Everyone who plays racquetball comes to Franco's on Tuesday and Thursday nights to play round-robin, David said.

David and Nick play in "any tournament we can get our hands on. At least once a month," Nick stated.

But competition is strong, even between the partners. "I'm older and better," David said.

## David Anastasio

David began playing racquetball three years ago after watching his father, Roger, play in tournaments. David, 15 years old, will be a junior at St. Paul's school in Mandeville. He practices three hours a day, four days a week.

David enjoys the odd shots which occur when the ball "bounces funny" and is hard to anticipate where it will go. "I like making comebacks when I'm losing and I really like beating someone older than me who thinks they are just playing a kid," Anastasio says.

"I've set my goals high. I want to play on the world tour someday," Anastasio concludes.

"I'm younger and I'm 10 times better," Nick countered.

"Ron Franco and Brian Lowe, the club racquetball pro, really work with and encourage the kids, John Laird said. Lowe said the boys "seem real dedicated and that's what it's going to take along with a lot of hard work, to reach their goals. They both have a lot of potential."

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## STATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

JUNE 25-27  
WALLBANGER, BATON ROUGE

Women Open  
1st Marcia Richards  
2nd Vicki Garrett  
3rd Shelly Ruiz  
Cons Karen Kattengill

Women A  
1st Pattie Schof  
2nd Janice Owens  
3rd Jan Nick  
Cons Tere Watkins

Women B  
1st Jan Nick

Women C  
1st Carrie Landry  
2nd Nikki Lilley  
3rd Ashley Cooper  
Cons Margie Putnam

Women D  
1st Paige Holstein  
2nd Michelle Creel

Women 25+  
1st Tere Watkins  
2nd Ashley Cooper  
3rd Nicki Lilley  
Cons Janice Owens

Women 35+  
1st Pattie Schof  
2nd Karen Kattengill  
3rd Janice Owens

Men 19+/25+  
1st David Rahn  
2nd John Davis  
3rd John Ledit  
Cons Troy Palsi

Men 35+ A  
1st Rick Chiquelin  
2nd Joe Kadi  
3rd Ken Hood  
Cons Ed Drukeinis

Men 35+ B  
1st James Lilley  
2nd Tim Taylor  
3rd Mike Fusilier  
Cons Bill Fontenot

Men 45+ A  
1st John Pease  
2nd Cyril Hentze  
3rd Gene Ferris  
Cons C.J. Scarpero

Men 45+ B  
1st Joel Markert  
2nd Ken Roberts  
3rd Bob Baudry  
Cons George Bonfanti

Men Open  
1st John Davis  
2nd Steve Rogers  
3rd Brian Lowe  
Cons Rob Schmidt

Men A  
1st Rob Schmidt  
2nd Al Schof  
3rd Cyril Hentze  
Cons Adrian Lahare

Men B  
1st Mark Volterre  
2nd Michael Fusilier  
3rd J.D. Dedeant  
Cons James Lilley

Men C  
1st Kyle Bordelon  
2nd R.J. Tamplain  
3rd Ken Davis  
Cons Parker Ewing

Men D  
1st Reese Purpera  
2nd Blaine Purpera  
3rd Robert Townsend  
Cons Fritz Owens

Men 55+  
1st Bob Baudry  
2nd Fritz Owens



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# AARA Regional Championships

Elmwood Fitness Center hosted this successful championship event on April 23-25. Over 150 players from Louisiana, Texas, Florida and Mississippi participated. A special thanks to Premier Athletic Club and Adrian Lahare, club pro, for providing extra racquetball courts for the overflow of matches.

THANKS to our sponsors: PENN EKTELON SPALDING WILSON  
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## Men Open

1st Brian Lowe  
2nd Charles Pecot

## Men A

1st Mark Bloom  
2nd Lance Landry  
3rd Ted Alvendia  
Cons Jack Long

## Men B

1st Ruben DeSimone  
2nd Jim Diamantides  
3rd Mark Volterre  
Cons Tim Buisson, Sr.

## Men C

1st Dick Armstrong  
2nd David Long  
3rd Nicolas Laird  
Cons Brian Berke

## Men D

1st Scott Landry  
2nd Matt Warren  
3rd Vaughn Schmitt  
Cons David Nieto

## Men 19+

1st Al Schof  
2nd Rory Arcement  
3rd Jamie Arroyave  
Cons David Thille

## Men 25+

1st John Davis  
2nd Chris Ladner  
3rd Tim Kozlowski  
Cons Tim Buisson, Jr.

## Men 30+

1st Byron Williams  
2nd Charles Pecot  
3rd Glenn Bell  
Cons Cornelius Bibbs

## Men 40+

1st Howard Walker  
2nd Dan Davis  
3rd Cornelius Bibbs  
Cons Kenneth Williams

## Men 45+

1st Jay Schuartz  
2nd Marc Auerbach  
3rd Dan Davis  
Cons Tim Buisson, Sr.

## Men 50+

1st Warren Reuther  
2nd Don Childs  
3rd C.J. Scarpero  
Cons Ron Morris

## Women Open

1st Gail Woods  
2nd Joan Slater  
3rd Marcia Richards  
Cons Bridgette Barron

## Women A

1st Jessica Rogers  
2nd Barbara Burger  
3rd Catherine Abueg  
Cons Kathy Petro

## Women B

1st Jan Nick

## Women C

1st Pauline Wenn  
2nd Dee Butler  
3rd Holly Murray  
Cons Deb Imbraguglio

## Women D

1st Holly Murray  
2nd Carrie Landry  
3rd Nicki Lilly

## Women 19+

1st Annie Muniz  
2nd Bridgette Barron

## Women 30+

1st JoAnn Slater  
2nd Marcia Richards

## Women 40+

1st Beverly Hale  
2nd Renee Hebert  
3rd Pattie Schof  
Cons Deb Imbraguglio

## Women 45+

1st Pattie Schof

## Women 50+

1st Renee Hebert

## Women 55+

1st Marilyn Brandt

## Men 55+

1st Bob Baudry  
2nd David Stiles  
3rd Lloyd Brandt  
Cons Tom Tomlinson

## Men 60+

1st Ridland Kiphardt  
2nd Gene Ferris  
3rd B.J. Scott  
Cons Jules Sachs

Congratulations to our  
male and female  
**SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD**  
recipients,  
**MARcia RICHARDS** and  
**JIM DIAMANTIDES**

## Men 65+

1st Richard Davis  
2nd Dale Henry  
3rd Vincent Boudreaus  
Cons Danny Lyons

## Men 75+

1st Danny Lyons

## Junior

## Regional Results

"Team Louisiana" participated in the  
AARA Junior Regional Championships  
in Dallas, Texas. Here's how our guys  
did -- CONGRATULATIONS!

## 18 and under

1st Jeff Bloom

## 18 and under A

1st Jeff Bloom

## 16 and under

1st Mark Bloom  
Cons David Anastasio

## 14 and under

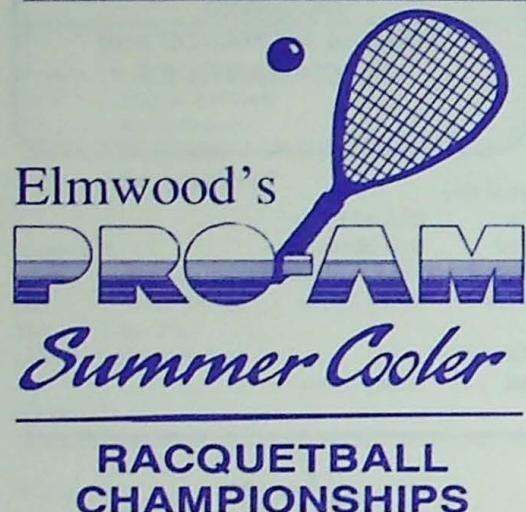
1st Mark Bloom  
Cons Raymond Talamo

## 12 and under

2nd Nicholas Laird



## The Pro-Tour Is Coming to Louisiana



On August 4 - 8 come see the Pro's compete for **\$12,500** in prize money at the Elmwood Fitness Center "Summer Cooler".

IRT clinics will also be available at NO CHARGE for amateur participants. Provided by Ektelon Professionals, the adult clinic is Wednesday, August 4 at 6:30 pm and the junior clinic is Saturday, August 7, at noon.

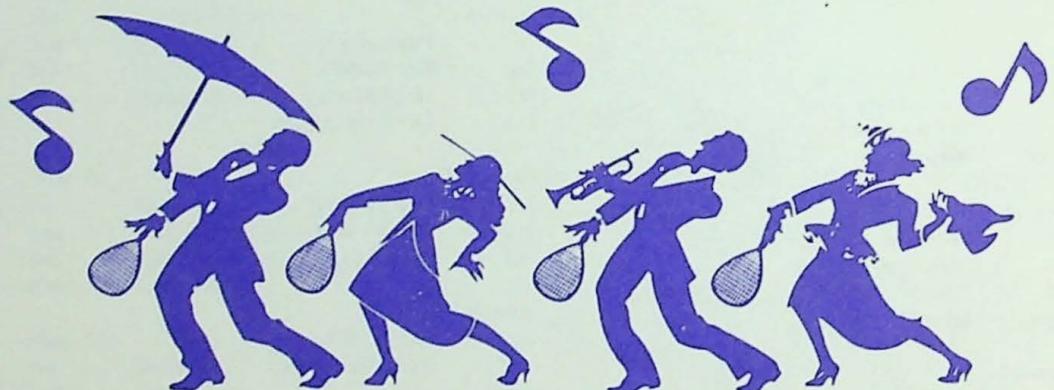
Participate in one or two of the 18 divisions for singles and doubles play. OR just be sure to purchase tickets to see the Pros in action throughout the event. Tickets

range from \$10 - \$20 per day or you can purchase a Four Day Pass good for ALL matches for \$45.

Entry fee for amateurs includes admission to all pro matches. 1st event - \$60; 2nd - event \$20.

Shuttle transportation from The Brent House, the host hotel on Jefferson Highway, to Elmwood will be provided to all pro-am participants. Room rates are just \$49 per night.

For more information please call tournament director Vicki Garrett, 504-733-1600.

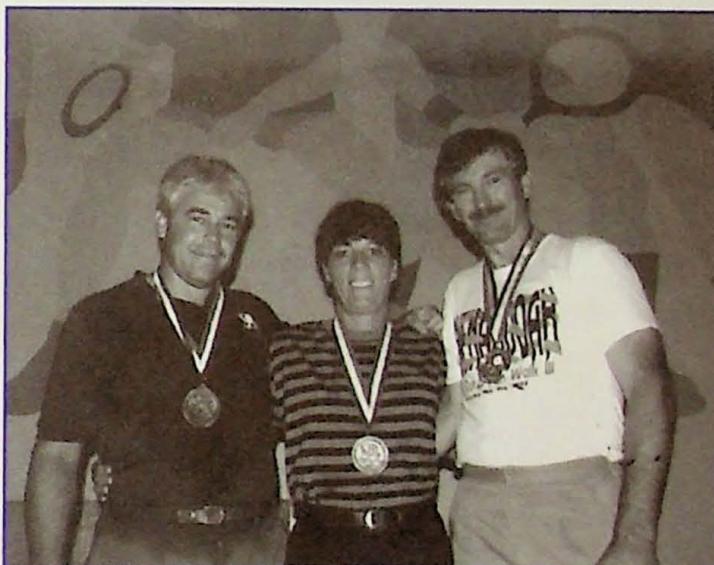


*Drew Kachtik  
Andy Roberts  
Mike Ray  
Tim Doyle*

*Ruben  
Gonzales  
**Mike Yellen**  
*Jack Newman*  
Dave Johnson*

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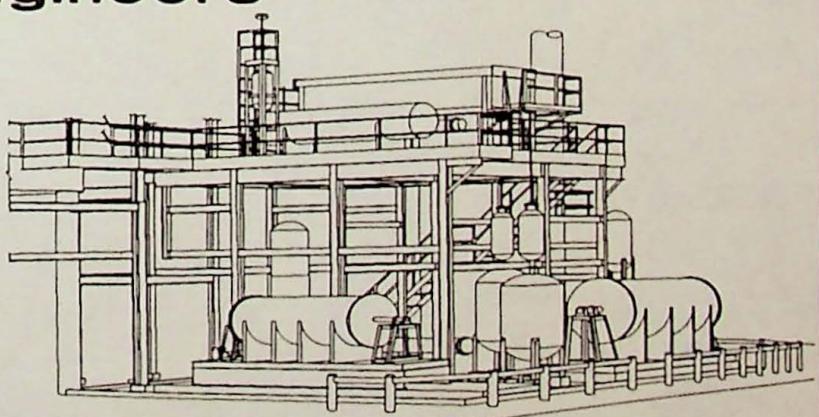


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# CALENDAR

What's Next . . . See You Then!



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The Louisiana Racquetball Association  
3609 Perkins Road, Suite F  
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## August

4 - 8 Elmwood's PRO-AM  
Summer Cooler

4 - 7 U.S. National Golden  
Masters Double Championships,  
Minneapolis, MN

20 - 22 World Gym Summer Tourney  
Terrytown, LA

8 - 10 STATE Doubles  
Franco's, Mandeville

20 - 24 Ektelon U.S. National  
Doubles Championships,  
Phoenix, AZ

TBA STATE Senior Olympic  
qualifier

## September

7 - 11 IRF World Senior Championships,  
Albuquerque, NM

10 - 12 Premier Tournament  
Metairie, LA

24 - 26 Kenner YMCA Tournament  
Kenner, LA

TBA Turkey Shoot  
Elmwood Fitness Center  
Harahan, LA

## October

TBA STATE Senior Olympic  
qualifier

## November

18 - 22 IRF World Junior Championships,  
Jacksonville, FL

## December

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