



From The President

December 13, 2001

Whew! I am exhausted. I did not realize how much energy is required to juggle work, school, and racquetball. But, I have successfully completed my first semester of graduate school – only 3 more to go.

While I have been juggling, the rest of you have been playing racquetball. You have been playing JTI events, travel team and tournaments – both near and far. Many Illinois players traveled to play in National Doubles and in the U.S. Open. And, many players traveled to Illinois to play in the Halloween Classic pro stop and the Turkey Shoot.

It's interesting to hear everyone's views on a racquetball event that you haven't attended. The same event sounds like five different events when described by different people. Some people love the food; some people don't. Some people love the competition; some people complain about the draws. Some people worry about matches running late; others are happy to spend their entire weekend at an event and don't care when they play.

What it comes down to is that individuals have different opinions and they don't always have to agree. What I love about the opinions is that they reflect the passion that the members of our ISRA family have for the game of racquetball. After the events of September 11th, racquetball might not seem very important in the whole scheme of things. But, the passion of our membership says otherwise.

The most important thing is that we are all part of a family.....a great big racquetball family. As members of that family, I hope we will all treat each other with respect, especially when we don't agree. And, I hope that we will all work towards making our events the best they can be...according to everyone's opinion! Please let me know if there is anything I can do.

Please enjoy the holiday season and cherish the time you spend with your family and friends. I wish you all a happy and prosperous 2002, and I hope to get out soon to one of these events I've been hearing so much about!

Laurel

Inside This Issue...

From the President page 1

U.S. Open to appear on ESPN page 2

Winning Ways on the ISRA Tour page 2

Future Racquetball Star page 2

2001 ISRA Players of the Year and 2002 Distinguished Service Awards page 4

Tournament Results: Halloween Classic .. pages 5-6

B.R. Ryall Fall Open pages 6-7

Glass Court Turkey Shoot page 7-9

U.S. Open Attracts Illinois Players pages 9-10

ISRA 2002 Tournament Calendar page 12

Travel Team Update page 14

Racquetball Challenge Courts page 14



ILLINOIS STATE RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT

Laurel Davis - Hinsdale

VICE-PRESIDENT

Tom Griffith - Lisle

SECRETARY

Judith Young - Lisle

TREASURER

Rich Clay - Libertyville

ZONE VICE-PRESIDENTS

Carol Bastien - Vergennes (South)

Jim Jeffers - Peoria (Central)

Lynne Weisbart - Northbrook (North)

Doug Halverson - Westchester (West)

GOVERNING BOARD

Mike Davern - Naperville

T.J. Ferro - Naperville

Jim Gaw - Elmhurst

Pam Grace - Wheaton

Peggy Hartmann - Naperville

Cheryl Kirk - Naperville

Bill Lyman - Berwyn

Geoff Peters - Chicago

Steve Stone - Champaign

Tom Utterback - Orland Park

AUXILIARY BOARD

Rob Ayres - Plainfield

Patrice Calvi - Richton Park

Jeff Grace - Wheaton

Carrie Jaskier - Lemont

Dale Johnson - Schaumburg

Kit Lawson - Naperville

Bev Powell - Lovington

Fred Ritschard - Glen Ellyn

Kevin Yeazell - Naperville

JUNIOR AUXILIARY BOARD

Krystal Csuk - Naperville

Andy Hawthorne - Champaign

ISRA NEWSLETTER STAFF

Mike Davern - Editor

Cheryl Kirk - Associate Editor

Geoff Peters - Associate Editor

Kit Lawson - Photo Editor

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

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

The US OPEN to appear on ESPN

Make sure you set your VCR's for the revised U.S. OPEN Broadcast Date. Televised racquetball has begun to gain momentum on the heels of strong ratings from the 2000 Hilton U.S. OPEN broadcast this past June on ESPN2. In a highly favorable move for the sport, ESPN has announced that the 2001 Hilton U.S. OPEN broadcast will be shifted to the network's flagship channel — ESPN — and will air on **Friday, February 8, 2002 at 12:00 PM C.S.T.** "We are thrilled with the progress we have made with the good folks at ESPN and are very excited about the fantastic date and time for this year's show," stated U.S. OPEN Director Doug Ganim. "In addition, ESPN has called for an immediate meeting to discuss what it will take to get pro racquetball on TV on a more regular basis. We are clearly moving in the right direction," Ganim explained. Do whatever it takes to let your voice be heard. Let ESPN know if you watched and enjoyed their broadcast and want to see more racquetball on TV. Contact ESPN at www.espn.com.

—Geoff Peters

Winning Ways On The ISRA Tour

Congratulations to Dick Heithoff and Ubaldo Melo! As a result of their winning ways, Dick moves up to Men's A after winning two full-draw Men's B events this season. Ubaldo has won several times already this year and is moving up fast in the ISRA rankings. He won both Men's C and Men's D at Summerfest (putting him officially in the Men's C division), and then won the Turkey Shoot Men's B draw (although losing in the finals in Men's C). This win puts Ubaldo officially in the Men's B division. Ubaldo will play Men's A next season, although one more Men's B full draw win this year will place him in Men's A for the balance of the season. Nice moves, gentlemen. Keep on winning!



Future Racquetball Star Zachary Austin Yeazell, born October 31, 2001, with proud parents, Lynn & Kevin

Smarter Racquet. Better Game.

Introducing the world's first intelligent racquets.

#1 Racquetball Brand

www.head.com

Sudsy Monchik

Sudsy Monchik #1

5-time World Champion Sudsy Monchik



2001 ISRA Players of the Year and 2002 Distinguished Service Awards

2001 Male and Female Players of the Year and Most Improved Player Award

Vote for your favorite male and/or female Player of the Year and Most Improved Player using the form below. Please submit a brief comment regarding your selection(s) using the following criteria:

1. Accomplishments
2. Number of years played
3. Sportsmanship
4. Improvement
5. Contribution to the sport of racquetball

Nominees must be USRA/ISRA members and may play at any level. Winners will be chosen by the ISRA Governing Board and will be honored at the 2002 State Singles Championships on April 6, 2002.

Players of the Year — past recipients: Chris Evon, Marshall Waldo (1988); Cheryl Gudinas, Rich Clay (1989); Pat Tarzon, Bill Lyman (1990); Laurel Davis, Ron Johnson (1991); Lola Markus, Bill Lyman (1992); Cheryl Gudinas, Andy Pitock (1993); Cheryl Gudinas, Greg Hasty (1994); Cheryl Gudinas, Horace Miller (1995); Dawn Gates, John Negrete (1996); Krystal Csuk, John O'Donnell, Jr. (1997); Mary Crawford, Greg Hasty, Sr. (1998); Terri Graham, Cary Slade (1999); Cheryl Gudinas, Bill Lyman (2000).

Most Improved Player Award — past recipients: Robert Gates, Jr. (1998); Ben Croft (1999); Diane Bunker (2000).

2002 Distinguished Service Award

Nominations are being accepted for the 2002 ISRA Distinguished Service Award. Criteria for consideration include commitment to the sport of racquetball; quality of service; and accomplishments benefiting the sport and its players. Any ISRA member may make nominations. The winner, chosen by the ISRA Governing Board, will be honored at the 2002 State Singles on April 6, 2002.

Distinguished Service Award — past recipients: 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); Brian Stuertz (1996); Diane DeArmas (1997); T.J. Ferro (1998); Laurel Davis (1999); Rich Clay (2000); Mike Davern (2001).

Act Now: Nominations must be received by February 22, 2002!! Send in a brief note to: Illinois State Racquetball Association, 1064 Sylvan Circle, Naperville, IL 60540; or email your nomination to Cheryl Kirk at cherylkkirk@aol.com. Your nomination should include your name, address, day and evening phone number, the name of the nominee, and the reasons why that person should receive the award.

—Cheryl Kirk

ISRA Players of the Year & Most Improved Player NOMINATION FORM

Male Nominee's Name _____

Female Nominee's Name _____

Most Improved Player's Name _____

Include paragraph regarding your selection(s)
(use separate sheet of paper).

Name of ISRA member initiating nomination (please print):

Phone (day) _____

Phone (night) _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Please return by February 22, 2002 to:

ISRA
c/o Cheryl Kirk
1064 Sylvan Circle
Naperville, IL 60540

or E-mail nomination to: cherylkkirk@aol.com.

Distinguished Service Award NOMINATION FORM

Nominee's Name _____

Nominee's Address _____

Nominee's contributions to the sport of racquetball (use
separate sheet of paper to describe).

Name of ISRA member initiating nomination (please print):

Phone (day) _____

Phone (night) _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Please return by February 22, 2002 to:

ISRA
c/o Cheryl Kirk
1064 Sylvan Circle
Naperville, IL 60540

or E-mail nomination to: cherylkkirk@aol.com.

Tournament Results

**Athletic Club of Bloomingdale
HALLOWEEN CLASSIC
IRT Men's Pro Stop
October 25-28, 2001**

HUGE. That is the only word that comes to mind as I review the weekend. Want two words? Unbelievably huge. A breakthrough weekend for a Canadian. A return to Illinois from a long-missed star. Matches running into early morning hours, just like the old days. Standing room only matches. Players from 24 states and several Canadian providences. Over 230 in the draw. The strongest IRT field of the year. Only the US Open in Memphis or the Nationals can challenge the quality of this draw. The Athletic Club of Bloomingdale Halloween Classic is a big deal. A real big deal and each year it gets bigger and bigger.

Canadian Kane Waselenchuk took a big step forward on his way to IRT stardom. The recent USRA Racquetball magazine cover story asked "Who's Next?" with Sudsy Monchik and Jack Huczek (this tournament's winner of the Men's Open division) on the cover. While Jack continued to show his

stuff, the USRA should have looked farther north to 19-year-old Kane. He displayed incredible talent and skill, tearing through Jason Mannino, Sudsy Monchik and John Ellis. What a run. Other world class competition showed up in the Men's 35+ draw. Top seeds Ruben Gonzalez, Dan Llacera, Woody Clouse and, back to Chicago from a long absence, Marty Hogan, all made it to the quarterfinals. While we all drooled with the thought of seeing Ruben Gonzalez vs. Marty Hogan in the finals, Woody was just too strong for the former 'king of racquetball'. Hogan kept it close, losing 13, 9. He still has that distinctive backswing that goes up way over his head. The 35's came down to a great match between Ruben and Woody, with Ruben still showing top form winning (11), 6, 4.

I must admit to some hero worship. We all should nominate Marty Hogan to be the ambassador of racquetball. He was everywhere, laughing and joking, signing autographs and posing for pictures. Never a cross moment. It was great seeing the current generation of IRT pros with some hero worship of their own. Sudsy even

asked me to send him a copy of the picture I took of the two of them. Amazing. The highlight of my weekend was hanging over a court next to Marty as our two sons went at it for the quarterfinals of the 14 and under. Dads will be dads! We had a ball telling each other how good our kids were. Young Hogan has his dad's backswing. The IRT Pros lined up themselves to give the kids from Junior Team Illinois a special morning as well. Kids lined up for autographs and pictures with their favorite players. It was hard to tell who had bigger smiles on their faces...the pros or the kids.

There were stories galore this weekend. One I remember comes from new Illinois Open player, Bob Morrison. Bob drew second round matches against both Jack Huczek in the Open's and Marty Hogan in the 35's. A day later he was still all grins, as he reported that this was the best time he ever had losing in a tournament. Who can blame him? The WIRT pros were not totally forgotten. Laura Fenton made sure of that. She was all grace, style and incredible

continued on next page

2002 ISRA Newsletter Advertising Rates

GUIDELINES:

- The ISRA Board of Directors has established a formal policy of not allowing advertisements to include **product pricing**.
- All ads are assumed to be camera ready. They can be accepted electronically in .tif, .pcx, or .ppt formats.
- If ads are run for the entire season, **AND** payment is received with the first issue, the sixth ad is **FREE!**
- These rates are in effect until December 30, 2002.
- Ad deadlines are as follows:

Issue Mail Date	Article/Releases Due	Stuffers/Inserts Due
03/01/02	02/08/02	02/18/02
05/01/02	04/12/02	04/19/02
07/01/02	06/14/02	06/21/02

- All stuffer/inserts are to be received by: Laura Kreiner, 2307 Arrow Street, Carpentersville, Illinois 60110.
- Ad rates:
Full page: \$300/issue. Half page: \$175/issue.
Quarter page: \$100/issue. Other sizes quoted on a case by case basis.
- For any questions or submission:

Mike Davern, 704 Sherwood Court, Naperville, IL 60565
(630) 579-8611



1-888-822-2501

NOW OPEN: RACQUETBALL SUPERSTORE

ALL MAJOR BRANDS:

EKTELON WILSON

PRO-KENNEX HEAD

ACTION EYES E-FORCE

SPALDING POWER

**FOR ALL YOUR RACQUETBALL NEEDS
AT DISCOUNT PRICES**

PROFESSIONAL STRINGING BY:

GENE-GENE THE STRING'N MACHINE

1-904-788-7780 1-904-788-7149 24-HR. FAX
2090 S. NOVA RD. #AA10, S. DAYTONA, FL 32119

Halloween Classic continued from previous page

shotmaking on the court both in Men's 35+ (losing to Dan Llacera 8 and 9 in the 16's) and winning Women's Open against Liz Molitor. Tom Utterback and wife Barb got into the spirit of the weekend as the Wicked Witch of the West (Barb) and Tom as Dorothy. Great legs, Tom. Hope you made it out to see the action. If not, here is what you missed: —Mike Davern

Event; First Place; Second Place; Semis

Men's PRO (35)

Kane Waselenchuk, CAN; John Ellis, CAN; Cliff Swain, MA; Sudsy Monchik, NY, Mike Guidry, TX

Men's Open (32)

Jack Huczek, MI; Brian Istace; Shawn Royster, (CA), Brian Pointelin (CO)

Men's AA (7)

Mike Lawrence; George Pappas; Maurice Barros, Devin Canady

Men's A (38)

John Halpin, CN; Tony Sambo; Kevin Johnson, Scott Goudie, MI

Men's B (35)

Dick Heithoff; Tony Roselli; Jason Kennedy, Dave Schoonover

Men's C (22)

Jason Kennedy; Gary Walters; Sid Harshavat, Humberto Sosa

Men's D (17)

Antonio Correa; Bob Littledale; George Smuckel, Tom Reed

Men's 25+ (16)

Bob Clar; Dennis Negrete; Dale Valentine, Cary Slade

Men's 35+ (25)

Ruben Gonzalez, NY; Woody Clouse, CA; Dan Llacera, NY, Marty Hogan, MO

Men's 35+ INT (8)

Al Robledo; Ray Shimizu; Tom Corr, John Soike

Men's 40+ (13)

Mike Anderson, MI; Carl Kisell; Dave Milazzo, Keith Harper

Men's 45+ (12)

Gregg Mandell; Len Restaino; Kevin Yeazell, Horace Miller

Men's 50+ (10)

Bruce Nelson; Ron Marr; Pat Taylor, Horace Miller

Men's 55+ INT (12)

Ron Marr; Dick Heithoff; Ray Meisner, John Koziol

Men's 60+ (4)

John O'Donnell, Jr.; Don Davis; Mike Oester

Women's Open (8)

Laura Fenton, NB; Liz Molitor; Terri Thornton, MN, Diane Bunker

Women's AA (4)

Julie Vincent; Martha Huske; Kathy Dunham, Cathy Bertucci

Women's A (12)

Cathy Bertucci; Karen Green, MI; Lola Markus, Kathy Welker

Women's B/C (6)

Ann Remillard, TX; Janet Christie; Jennifer Bryce, Deb Albigh

Women's 35+ (9)

Diane Bunker; Liz Molitor; Julie Vincent, Terri Thornton, MN

Women's 45+ (8)

Karen Green (MI); Nancy Kronenfeld; Donna Huczek (MI), Martha Huske

Boy's 8 Under (7)

Tony Falcone; Josh Hirsh; Dave Negrete (3rd), Kyle Koburi (4th)

Girl's 10 Under

Julia Negrete; Stephanie Davern

Boy's 12 Under (4th)

Brandon Ritschard; Justin Fleck; Ben Hogan (3rd); Eric Tomek (4th)

Junior's 14 Under (5)

Mike DeGonia; Angel Khamis; Jason Young (3rd); Ben Hogan MO (4th)

Ed Lembitz Memorial Racquetball Tournament

B.R. Ryall YMCA Fall Open

B.R. Ryall YMCA, Glen Ellyn

Event; First Place; Second Place; Semis

Men's Open (10)

Ben Croft; Bob Morrison; Joe Valander, Mike Davern

Men's A (6)

Al Rubiano; Rich Wells; Frank Aquilar, Keith Weiner

Men's B (15)

Dave Schoonover; Vito Rubiano; Ray Shimizu, Frank Aguilar

Men's C (9)

Rick Lukens; Brett Crawley; Rick Falcone, Humberto Sosa

Men's D (10)

Dave Wielgus; Rick Falcone; Phil Mangiaracina, Paul Sexver

Mens Open Doubles (8)

Dan Flood/Ron Calloway; Bob Morrison/Rich Wells; Ben Croft/Bob Croft, Phil Schmitt/Brent Crawley

Mens A Doubles (4)

Al Rubiano/Vito Rubiano; Mike Davern/Sean Nelson; Revie Sorey/Wil Rounsaville, Doug Dvorak/Ellis

Mens B Doubles (4)

Ray Shimizu/Phil Mangiaracina; Jim Camasto/Lambertson; Young/Young, Rick Falcone/Angel Khamis

Girl's 16 Under (2)

Lauren Ritschard; Erin Egan

Girl's 12 Under (1)

Erin Egan

Boy's 16 Under (6)

Brandon Ritschard; Angel Khamis; Justin Fleck; Geoffrey Goldblatt (4th)

Boy's 14 Under (8)

Brandon Ritschard; Angel Khamis; Justin Fleck; Geoffrey Goldblatt (4th)

Boy's 12 Under (5)

Justin Fleck; Geoffrey Goldblatt; Trevor Snyders; Tied for 4th: Peter York, Erik Tomek

Boy's 10 Under (2)

Trevor Snyders; Peter Young

Boy's 8 Under (1)

Peter Young

The Southlake Fall Open November 3-4, 2001

Illinois tournaments continue to grow in size. Consider as evidence the Southlake Fall Open. This one-day event finally broke the 100 mark for entries - a great turnout for a gorgeous Saturday in November. With a record 88 adults and 16 juniors, the courts were full from 9 a.m. until after 11 p.m. at night when Brett Crawley and Antonio Correa finally finished their Men's C final in a remarkably well-played match. They had to hold consolation matches on Sunday morning when 9 brave souls returned for danish, sandwiches - and oh yes- some additional racquetball!! Next time they'll probably have to schedule the finals for Sunday just to ensure that there are enough court hours since the word has gotten around that this event runs on time, has great food and hospitality - and of course offers free soda and 50-cent beers throughout the day. Don't know who did the cooking, but the gang feasted on sandwiches, Italian beef, and Mexican food throughout the afternoon. It's a wonder that some of the players were able to waddle out on the court after lunch for their next round matches! We have to give some extra thanks to Fred Ritschard, Gina Loy and Chuck Snyders who served as chaperones for the juniors for the day.

It was nice to see some old-timers reappear for the day. Joe Gill, Howard Nixon and Jim Valenti reappeared at a sanctioned event for the first time in years - and showed that they have been practicing in the ISRA Travel League and are still competitive! Randy Helm reappeared after 5 years in the military (actually he's still in the military - Navy now) and proved that practicing in an unused room on board a ship will really improve your backhand. Randy will move up quickly if he keeps playing events against quality competition!

The kids had a great time playing among the adults all afternoon. Their enthusiasm was great - and they were constantly looking for an open court to practice on. We hope to see them back at future events!! After all - 7 kids in the 8-and-under Multibounce division says great things for the future....

Club Manager Kathy Logic does it all at this one day event sponsored by El Barrio Restaurant, Michelob and Ektelon. She and her staff (Nikki, Mary, Lynne, Jim and, of course, the ever-present Geoff) made everyone feel welcome all day long. If you're looking for a fun place to play tournaments, challenge court or leagues in the North Suburbs - check out The Southlake Club!!!—
Mike Davern

Event; First Place; Second Place; Semis

Men's Open (7)

John Thorson; Carl Kisill; Raul Ortega, Scott Koburi

Men's A (10)

Raul Ortega; Carl D'Ambrose; Gary Yetman, Luis Monsreal

Men's B (8)

Steve Saeks; Antonio Medina; Steve Jungman, Brian Wachholder

Men's C (16)

Brett Crawley; Antonio Correa; Corey Lewison, John Massard

Men's D (16)

Randy Helm; Antonio Correa; Ron Littledale, Alberto Palacios

Men's Open Doubles (7)

Howard Nixon/Jim Valenti; Joe Gill/Bob Clar; Jordan Kahn/Howard Robins, Carl Kissell/Scott Koburi

Men's A Doubles (4)

Keith Mecklenburg/Ron Calloway; Jon Graditor/Terry Vandermeersch; Geoff Peters/Jeff Grace, Al Ramirez/Richard Schmitt

Men's B Doubles (9)

Gary Yetman/Dan Hastings; Brett Crawley/Ron Littledale; Mike DeGonia/Jerry DeGonia, Dan Doretti/Rick Falcone

Women's A Singles (4)

Pam Grace; Tina Hernandez; Lynne Weisbart, Sheila Harrigan

Women's B (4)

Michelle Moran; Donna Albert; Beth Weiler, Cindy Flores

Mixed B (3)

Steve Jungman/Lynne Weisbart; Henry Broman/Tina Hernandez; Joe Falco/Donna Albert

Junior 8 and Under (7)

Joe White; Adam Ivetic; Nick Loy, Matt Loy

Junior 14 and Under (10)

Mike DeGonia; Brandon Ritschard; Trevor Snyders, Jeff Albert

November 8-11, 2001

Glass Court Turkey Shoot

Glass Court Swim & Fitness, Lombard

Another great tournament at Glass Court! I know that I'm supposed to talk about the quality of play, the depth of the draw and the upsets and challenges...however, I can't get my mind off of the food. I know that it is a problem for me, but time and again at Glass Court tournaments, I find myself enjoying the fruits of the after-court activity as much as the action on the courts. Hats off to tournament director, Doug Halverson, Diane and Joe DeArmas, and their club staff for a great weekend. The holiday season doesn't really start until Glass Court starts it off. Luckily, we don't have to wait a full year for another feast- it's only 1 short month until State Doubles. The action was fast and furious on the courts. The always-tough Chris Wright didn't miss a step in taking out Barry Dixon, Tim Austin and Eugene Coyle in Men's Open. In teaming up with Ben Croft in Open Doubles, Chris and Ben dropped only one game on the way to a big 7, 1 win over Dennis Negrete and Russ Tatar. In the Women's Open, Diane Bunker came up through Kathy Dunham to eliminate first seed Liz Molitor (who earned her first place win in Women's 40+) and then took on Nancy Schum, winning 11,9. No review of this tournament would be complete without the performance of the Illinois juniors. In all, 31 juniors took over the courts Sunday afternoon for a ripping good time of excellent play. Mike DeGonia even stepped out of the junior events making it all the way to the semifinals of Men's D. Thanks to Char Borre for helping organize the event. Congratulations to our Illinois juniors and all who participated. — *Mike Davern*

Event (# Players); First Place; Second Place, Semis

Men's Open (12)

Chris Wright (IN); Eugene Coyle; Tim Austin, Ben Croft

Men's AA (4)

Martin Gonzales; John Graditor; Scott Ross, Mike Kinkin



Patrice Calvi "checks in" Jordan Kahn

Men's A (20)

TG Venkateshwaran; Larry Vena; Ron Calloway, John Moscato

Men's B (25)

Ubaldo Melo; Vito Rubiano; Dan Jaskier, Ray Meisner

Men's C (22)

John Usmial; Ubaldo Melo; Larry Schum, John Soike

Men's D (32)

Brett Denuyl; Chris Kudrna; Al Murry, Mike DeGonia

continued on next page



Glass Court Team Extraordinaire!
*Joe De Armas, Doug Halverson, Mary Ann Kelly,
Don Nessel, Barb Vagedes, Jack Burke*

continued on next page

Turkey Shoot
continued from previous page

Men's Novice (5)

Thomas Morgan; Clark Carey; Michael MacDonald, Chris Snyders

Men's 30/35+ (8)

Eugene Coyle; Dave Negrete; Cary Slade, Tom Utterback

Men's 40+ (8)

Bill Lyman; Carl Kisill; Mike Bogue, Dave Milazzo

Men's 45+ (11)

Winston Cole; Len Restaino; Brian Castillo, Horace Miller

Women's Open (7)

Diane Bunker; Nancy Schum; Liz Molitor, Cathy Bertucci

Women's AA (3)

Julie Vincent; Kathy Dunham; Patrice Calvi

Women's A (6)

Janet Eminger; Cathy Bertucci; Lynne Weisbart, Karen Marzano

Women's B (4)

Karen Marzano; Char Borre; Liz Janda, Dorothy McDavid

Women's C/D (7)

Chris Esposito; Cheryl Sansosti; Pam Snyders, Debbie Bordignon



T.J. Ferro & Bill Lyman
1st: Men's 40+ Doubles
(Bill also won the 40+ Singles!)



Junior Competitors — Ready for Action!

Men's 45+ INT (9)

Len Schultz; Ray Meisner; Calvin Branch, John Massard

Men's 50+ (4)

Gene Cromwell; T.J. Ferro; Pat Taylor, Joe Quirke

Men's 60+ (4)

William Gingold; Ed Olah; John Ramsay, Dan Dallas



Women's Open Champ
Diane Bunker

Russ Tatar/Joey Brownlee; Delmer Reed/Derrick Childress; Ron Callaway/Keith Mecklenburg, Calvin Branch/David Royster

Men's B Doubles (11)

Steve Condon/Grant Macuba; Matt Malcheski/Dave Schoonover; Greg Benjamin/Brad

Stanfield, Dan Peterson/ Joe Wilhelm

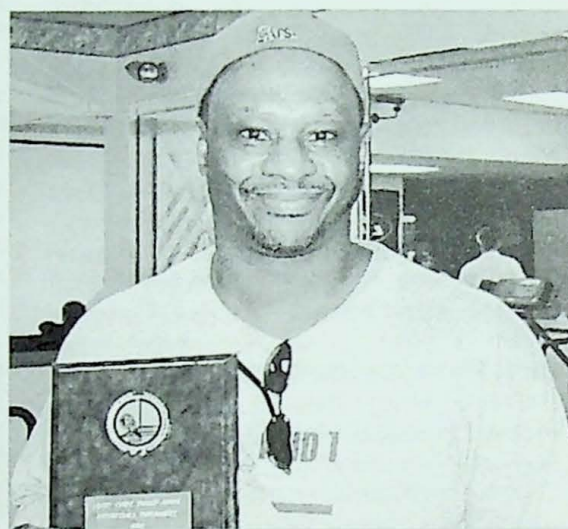
Men's C Doubles (10)

Wayne Grane/ John Usmial; William Helm/ Jon Soike; Bryan Pforr/ John Massard, Todd Allen/Carl LaForest

Men's Open Doubles (9)

Chris Wright (IN)/Ben Croft; Dave Negrete/ Russ Tatar; Carl Kisill/George Pappas, Joey Logan/Tom Utterback

Men's A Doubles (14)



Winston Cole
1st — Men's 45+



Men's C Doubles winners Wayne Grane and John Usmial
with Tournament Director Doug Halverson

continued on next page



Karen Mazzano
takes Women's B!

Maria Johnson; Pam Grace/Marcia Tilley,
Cheryl Kirk/Lynne Weisbart

Mixed Open Doubles (6)

Tom Utterback/Nancy Amaro; Joe Silius/
Patrice Calvi; Maria Johnson/Jeff

**Men's 40+
Doubles (6)**

Bill Lyman/TJ
Ferro; Len
Restaino/Joe
Silius; Jeff
Baumgartner/
Kevin Yeazell,
Horace
Miller/
Winston Cole

**Women's A
Doubles (4)**

Barb
Utterback/
Janet
Eminger;
Patti
Drendel/
Drendel/

Baumgartner, Julie Vincent/Dennis
Negrete

Mixed A/B Doubles (4)

Patti Drendel/Tom Curtis; Geoff
Peters/Char Borre; Cheryl Kirk/
Mike Mahon, Joe Quirke/Dorothy
McDavid

Boy's 18- (2)

Richard DeArmas; Chris Snyders

Boy's 16- (4)

Mike DeGonia; Tad Dallas; Jason
Young, Mario Limonciello

Girls 16- (3)

Lauren Ritschard; Allison Fleck;
Erin Egan

Boy's 14- (7)

Angel Khamis; Brandon Ritschard;
Jeff Novak (3rd); Chris Muruato
(4th)

Girl's 14- (1)

Allison Fleck

Boy's 12- (5)

Justin Fleck; Joey Limonciello; Zak Andonoff
(3rd); Jim White (4th)

Girl's 12- (1)

Erin Egan



Barb Utterback & Janet Eminger
1st — Women's A Doubles

Boy's 10- (8)

Bobby Ryan; Tony Falcone; Trevor Snyders
(3rd); Brett Petricek (4th)

Boy's 8- (1)

Peter Young

U.S. Open Attracts Illinois Players

Well, last year Memphis was unseasonably chilly...no complaints this year, though! Southern hospitality extended to the weather: comfortably warm the entire weekend, to the delight of U.S. and International players alike. At the U.S. Open Racquetball Championships (November 14-18), eleven countries were represented: Argentina, Bahamas, Bolivia, Canada, Dominican Republic, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Puerto Rico, USA, and Venezuela.

Team Illinois showed up in fine fashion, even though tournament attendance was down, as expected (664 vs. 771 last year). Illinois actually contributed four additional players over last year, 33 vs. 29. Of the 68



Dave Negrete, Diane & Frank Bunker, & Kathy Welker

divisions offered, our 25 men and 8 women logged a total of 57 entries in 33 divisions. Twenty-one of the Illinois contingent were top finishers (Quarterfinals or better) in at least one of their divisions (see results on next page).

players a lot to do in between matches: Casino Night, Pub Night, a silent auction benefiting St. Jude's Children's Hospital, and the Party with the Pro's banquet on Saturday evening. Awards, voted on by peers, were announced as follows:

2001 Players of the Year: Cheryl Gudinas, Sudsy Monchik

Sportsmanship Awards: Doreen Fowler, John Ellis

Most Improved Players: Kerri (Stoffregen) Wachtel, Alvaro Beltran



**John Kozioł, Leo & Sue Klimaitis,
& Horace Miller (2nd, Men's 55+)**

Events throughout the tournament gave

continued on next page

U.S. Open
continued from previous page

Rookies of the Year: Rhonda Rajsich, Alvaro Beltran

Since 1996, through the silent auctions and various other initiatives traditionally conducted during the U.S. Open tournament, a total of \$88,075 has been donated to St. Jude's.

In the Pro division finals on Sunday, Kerri (Stoffregen) Wachtel defeated Jackie Paraiso Rice with scores of 15-13, 12-15, 15-11, 15-10. Cliff Swain prevailed over John Ellis, 11-5, 7-11, 10-12, 11-4. These matches were played on the stadium (portable) court. With high bleachers on both sides (seating capacity 1,100), the court's back and right sides are "glass", with video cameras mounted behind the front wall.

Mark your calendar for Friday, February 8, 2002 at 12:00 noon CST to catch U.S. Open matches on ESPN (see press release at <http://www.racqmag.com/racqmag/newsline/news.htm>).

Congratulations to Nancy Kronenfeld and Sid Harshavat for bringing home Gold for Illinois in their respective divisions! Below are Team Illinois results (to get a look at the U.S. Open draw sheets and other particulars, go to www.usra.org).

—Cheryl Kirk

Name: Division(s) (Results)

Cathy Bertucci: Women's A (QF), Women's 24-/25+ A/B (QF) (injury forfeit)
Fred Conforti: Men's D (3rd)
Eugene Coyle: Men's Pro, Men's 30+ (QF), Men's 35+ (SF)
Don Davis: Men's 60+, Men's 55+ A/B
Chris Evon: Women's Pro
Rick Falcone: Men's D, Men's 35+ C/D (3rd)
Cheryl Gudinas: Women's Pro (SF)
Kent Hadraba: Men's 25+ A/B (QF), Men's 30+
Sid Harshavat: Men's C, Men's 25+ C/D (1st)
Rob Hartman: Men's 35+, Men's A
Andy Hawthorne: Men's Open
Kevin Johnson: Men's 35+ A/B, Men's 45+ A/B
Cheryl Kirk: Women's B (2nd), Women's 45/50+ A/B (3rd)
Leo Klimaitis: Men's 45+ A/B, Men's 50+
John Koziol: Men's 45+ A/B, Men's 45+ C/D (QF)
Nancy Kronenfeld: Women's 50+ (1st), Women's 35+ Dbls (w/ Lola Markus)
Kit Lawson: Men's 55+ C/D (QF)
Joey Logan: Men's 30+ (SF)
Bill Lyman: Men's 40+ (3rd), Mixed 40+ Dbls (w/Debbie Chaney, IN) (3rd)
Lola Markus: Women's 60/70/75+ (2nd), Women's 35+ Dbls (w/ Nancy Kronenfeld)
Horace Miller: Men's 50+, Men's 55+ (2nd)
Dave Negrete: Men's 40+ (QF)
John O'Donnell, Jr.: Men's 70+ (3rd)
George Pappas: Men's Open, Men's 35+
Geoff Peters: Men's 45+, Men's 45+ A/B
Jim Rayburn: Men's 45+ C/D (QF), Men's C Dbls (w/B.W. Beasley, TN) (QF)
Scott Reiser: Men's 25+ A/B, Men's 35+ A/B
Rick Reynolds: Men's 35+, Men's 40+
Wil Rounsaville: Men's 45+ A/B
Pat Taylor: Men's 60+ (QF)
Kathy Welker: Women's A, Women's 35+ A/B (QF)
Brenda White: Women's 45+, Women's 35+ Dbls (w/Laura Patterson, MI) (SF)
Kevin Yeazell: Men's A, Men's 45+ A/B (Injury forfeit)



*Our neighbors to the North,
Carl & Debbie Evers*



*Kathy Welker & Cathy Bertucci
courtside, watching the Pros!*



*Nancy Kronenfeld (1st, Women's 50+)
Lola Markus (2nd, Women's 60/70/75+)
with friend Nidia Funes (CA)*

Get updates

on all

Illinois

Happenings.

Check out the

ISRA website

at [http://](http://www.illinoisracquetball.com)

www.illinoisracquetball.com

Thanks to

RC COLA

for its continued
sponsorship of
Illinois Racquetball.

RC COLA is the
Official Soft-Drink Sponsor
of **Illinois State Singles and**
Doubles Tournaments.

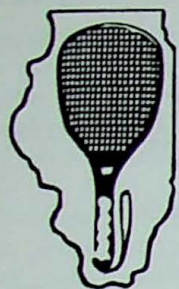
Support Illinois Racquetball.
Drink RC COLA.



AMERICA'S #1 SELLING BALL.

Charlie Bachman

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



ISRA

2002 TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

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

January 10-13, 2002
Reve Sorey Celebrity Racquetball Tournament
World Gym, Palatine (847) 991-9300
SANCTIONED

January 17-20, 2002
Women's Senior/Masters Championship
Players Athletic Club
Diane Courtney (810) 774-6900
SANCTIONED

January 19, 2002
Doubles Tune-Up
The Southlake Club
Kathy Logic (847) 949-8180

January 25-27, 2002
ILLINOIS STATE DOUBLES
Glass Court Swim & Fitness Lombard
Tom Griffith (630) 629-3390
SANCTIONED

February 1-3, 2002
B.R. Ryall YMCA Winter Classic
B.R. Ryall YMCA Glen Ellyn
Sean Nelson (630) 858-0100
SANCTIONED

February 8-10, 2002
7th Annual Olympic Open
Palos Olympic
Tom Utterback (708) 974-1900
SANCTIONED

February 14-17, 2002
St. Valentines Day Massacre LPRA Women's PRO Stop
Athletic Club at Bloomingdale
Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577
SANCTIONED

March 1-3, 2002
Landmark Invitational
Landmark Health & Racquetball Peoria
Terry Sutton (309) 685-8200

March 8-10, 2002
Negrete Open
Athletic Club at Bloomingdale
Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577
SANCTIONED

March 14-17, 2002
Shamrock Shootout
Glass Court Swim & Fitness Lombard
Doug Halverson (630) 629-3390
SANCTIONED

March 22-24, 2002
Edens March Madness
Edens Athletic Club
Cindy Flores (773) 286-6700
SANCTIONED

April 5-7, 2002
ISRA STATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS
Athletic Club at Bloomingdale
Laurel Davis/Dave Negrete
(630) 893-9577
SANCTIONED

April 19-21, 2002
Ektelon/USRA REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
Athletic Club at Bloomingdale
Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577
SANCTIONED

April 26-28, 2002
Illini Classic
The Fitness Center, Champaign
(217) 356-1616
SANCTIONED

May 23-27, 2002
Ektelon/USRA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
Downtown YMCA
Jim Hiser (719) 635-5396
SANCTIONED

sponsored by



USRA

United States Racquetball Association

COMPETITIVE LICENSE APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Send to:

CITY _____ STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE (Home) _____ (Business) _____

BIRTHDATE _____

ISRA
2291 Shannondale Rd.
Libertyville, IL 60048

Member Sport,
U.S. Olympic
Committee

Adult competitor \$30.00

Junior competitor \$15.00

Junior competitor (without RACQUETBALL Magazine) \$10.00

RACQUETBALL Magazine subscription only \$15.00

Tax-deductible donation \$

Total enclosed \$

Tournament _____ Representative _____

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



PLAY Hard. play Wilson.

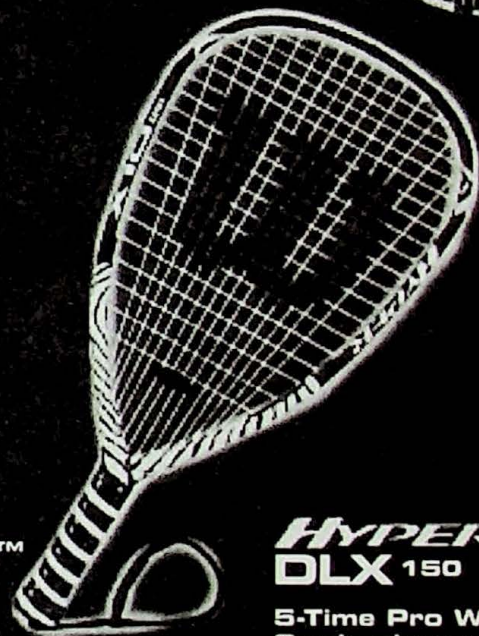


Cliff Swain
5-Time Pro World Champion



ROLLERS 155™

#7 ranked pro player Derek Robinson chooses the Rollers 155. He wants the power with ultimate control and lightning quick maneuverability.



HYPER™ DLX 150

5-Time Pro World Champion Cliff Swain plays with Power Holes technology, engineered at three critical locations in the new Hyper DLX 150. It's all the raw power a person can handle.



Hawkeye

See the ball. See the future. The new Hawkeye is the latest in comfort and protection.



Surge DST™ 02 Mid

DynoSphere Technology reduces weight, improves shock absorption and enhances stability.



Visit us on the web for a free brochure at www.wilsonsports.com

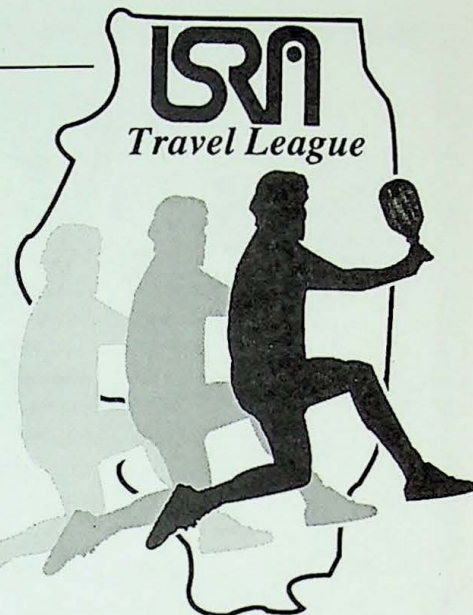
Travel Team Update

With the first half the season already in the books, there are some very interesting races shaping up. For example, the Men's Open/A is in a very close race with Glass Court holding a narrow lead over Naper Olympic. Tinley Park is in a not-too-distant third. The Men's A/B is also being led by Glass Court with the A/C of Bloomingdale right behind and with Naper Olympic in third. The Men's B/C North is being led by the Lattof YMCA with a not-too-comfortable lead over A/C of Bloomingdale. The Edens A/C is in third.

Mens B/C South is being won by Glass

Court so far, with Richport YMCA in second. B. R. Ryall YMCA is in a close third. Glass Court is also winning the Womens Open/A league over Palos Olympic with A/C of Bloomingdale in a close third.

The second half of the season should be quite interesting seeing how close all of the races are. It will be fun to see who pulls it out in the end. Have a great rest of the season and Good Luck! — Pam Grace



Racquetball Challenge Courts

Bloomingdale Challenge Court

630-893-9577

Saturday and Sunday

9 a.m. - 12 p.m. \$6.00

Glass Court Challenge Court

630-629-3390

Saturday 9-11 a.m.

\$6.00

Oak Park Athletic Club

708-848-5200

Wednesdays 4-7 and

Saturday 12-3 p.m. \$8.00

Palos Olympic Health

& Racquet Club

708-974-1900

Thursday 6 - 8:30 p.m. \$5.00

Southlake Challenge Court

847-949-8180

Saturday 10 a.m. - Noon

\$10.00 for ISRA Members
(with membership card)

Landmark Health & Racquetball
Peoria

First & Third Fridays of Month
6 p.m. - 8 p.m. \$5.00

World Gym, Palatine
(formerly Charlie Club)

847-991-9300

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

\$5.00

Sunset Racquetball & Fitness
Center, Geneva

630-232-7867

Saturday 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Members: \$2, Non-Members: \$5

To add your club to this list, contact:
Mike Davern 630-579-8611

Please check www.illinoisracquetball.com for an article and update on Junior Team Illinois!



Illinois State Racquetball Association

c/o Mike Davern

704 Sherwood Ct.

Naperville, IL 60565



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Elgin, Illinois
PERMIT NO. 74



CHERYL KIRK
1064 SYLVAN CIRCLE
NAPERVILLE

122005

IL 60540