

Racquetball Reporter

quarterly publication of the Racquetball Association of Michigan

September 2010

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RAM STATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP RENEWS OLD ACQUAINTANCES THE RACQUETBALL WAY

Twayne M. Howard

Michigan's finest racquetball players made the trip to the Davison Athletic Club to test their skill and vie for the title State Champion. When the weekend was done, Champions were crowned in 36 divisions, and we may even have seen the next step taken by the new guard. Randy Minto and the staff at Davison played the role of host to perfection and our very own Don Schopieray helped wrangle it all into place by being our local expert on the scene. As usual, it couldn't have been done without Tom Blakeslee manning the helm as our Tournament Director and the rest of the RAM Board pitching in.

But now, let's head to the action and start with the Juniors. The Juniors 8 and Under Championship went to Luke Robinson who defeated Kelli Standfast in the Finals. Juerdan Valalrd and Sam Stagrays were the Semi-Finalists.

Cameron Clolinger won the Juniors 10 and Under Championship Unopposed.

Caige Duryea got past Zach D'Almeida to win the 12 and Under Gold. Braeden D'Almeida and Cameron Porritt rounded out the Semis.

Nathan Tucker defeated Richard Bortle to win Gold in the 14 and Under Division

Brad Schopieary won the 16 and Under Championship Unopposed.

Bryan Schopieray took the 18 and Under Championship Unopposed.

Mercedes Arias won her first of what should be many Women's Open Championships by defeating Maureen Price in the Gold Medal Match.

The Women's B/C Championship went to Kelly Bortle after she defeated Kathleen Hoag. Rosemarie Cook and Amanda Sparks were the Semi-Finalists. Maureen Price defeated Sharon Huczek to win the Women's 45+ Open Championship.

The Men's 19+C Gold Medal went to Corey Robins who defeated Dave Stagrays in the Finals. Adam Diehm and Jeffrey Mira were the Semi-Finalists. Jim Therrell defeated James Woolcock to win the Men's 55+ Open Championship.

Lewis Forrest and Tom Blakeslee were the Semi-Finalists. Mike Middleton got past George Goudie to win the Men's 55+A Gold Medal. Paul Amell and Al Montoye fell in the Semis. Gerald Woolum held off Michael Stephens and won the Men's 55+B Division. Keven Keys and Arthur Murphy made it to the Semis.

(cont. on pg. 3)



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Newsletter

The Racquetball Reporter
2471 E. Braden Rd.
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VIEW OF THE PRESIDENT

Twayne M. Howard

WELCOME TO THE 2010-2011

SEASON. Yes, I know we are all thinking of the sunny days of Summer and trying to squeeze the last bit of joy out of the "off season", but you don't want to hold off too long. The Indoor Racquetball Season is around the corner and you don't want to miss a thing. (Do I hear dramatic music in the background? Hmm. Must be me.)

You may notice something different about this Newsletter. Yup, it's a whole new Editor. I would like to thank Dianne Easterling once again for holding that position for the past several years, and bringing the *RACQUETBALL REPORTER* to the level it now enjoys. Thanks Dianne, for your fantastic work and diligence, and for once again stepping into the breach when we needed you.

I would like to introduce your new Editor, Ms. Beth Mullin. Some of you know Beth as Mrs. Dan Mullin, the better half or even three quarters of that equation. I expect this Newsletter to be just another example of her brilliance. Thanks to Beth for all of her upcoming hard work. I look forward to working with her for many years to come.

As is tradition, the Summer edition of the *REPORTER* puts a bow on the last season, and helps introduce the new season. Inside you will find articles on the State Singles, Junior Nationals, Adult Nationals and other articles looking back at a great 2009-2010 season. Looking forward, you will see the 2010-2011 tournament schedule and if you are looking carefully, you will notice some changes.

Your favorites are back and we've added more events. Mr. Scott Sellers is presenting the inaugural LA Fitness

Round Robin Challenge at the LA Fitness in Troy. Scott is working on the details, but knowing Scott, I think you can expect excellence off the court as much as on. In addition to this event, look for a tournament in Mt. Pleasant later in the season. This should provide a nice break from the books for the students and a nice trip to Central Michigan's hot spot for everyone else. I don't want to jinx it, but we have a couple more irons in the fire. Keep checking www.michiganracquetball.net for details.

A year in review would not be complete without a brief commentary on the terrific play by some of our younger players. Let's start on the Ladies side. Due to a number of reasons, the Ladies draws were a bit down last season, but one young lady stepped into the void and at State Singles, took out the undisputed top dog in two games to run to the top of the mountain. Congratulations to Mercedes Arias who brought a welcome breath of fresh air to the Division. Let's see if the rest of the Ladies can respond in the upcoming season and hold Mercedes off for a while longer.

The Men's side saw similar progress. Nathan Tucker continued his climb by winning the Men's B State Championship. That was just a touch point as he climbs the ranks.

Matt Barbuscak continues his rise as well and has made a lot of noise in the A and Elite Divisions. Look for him to have a breakout year.

Following those Juniors up the ranks are Caige Duryea, Zach D'Almeida and Braeden D'Almeida.

(cont. on pg.5)

RAM STATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP RENEWS OLD ACQUAINTANCES THE RACQUETBALL WAY

(cont. from pg. 1)

Gregory McClellan won the Men's 55+C Championship by defeating Terry Streeter in the Finals. John Beranec and Richard Gutowski were the Semi-Finalists.

George Goudie got the Gold in the Men's 60+ Open Championships after defeating Bill Hagedorn in the Finals. Rick Parkhurst and Jim Panasiewicz made it to the Semis.

The Men's 65+ Open Championship featured an oft-seen matchup as Art Murphy defeated Tom Sharum to win the Gold Medal.

David Lund capped a Hall of Fame weekend by defeating David Fuller to win the Men's 70+ Open Championship.

Mike Chambon made it through a tough Men's A Division and defeated Scott Sellers to win the Gold. Ferd Samson and Rick Davenport were the Semi-Finalists.

Nathan Tucker took his last look at the Men's B Division on his way to bigger and better things. He got past Michael Brennan in the Finals to win the Gold. Jeff Simonis and Patrick Langan fell in the Semis.

Myles Kelly made his mark in the C Division after defeating Corey Robinson and taking home the Gold Medal. Dave Stagray and James Hemeway rounded out the Semis.

Bruce Keeling became the Men's D Champion by defeating David Knezek. Jerry Cano and Joshua Zeid made it to the Semis.

Jason Kennedy went for Double-Gold and defeated Nathan Kolderman to win the Men's elite Championship. John Stallmer and Michael Chambon fell just short and lost in the Semis.

The Men's Open Championship offered a tribute to one of the great champions in Michigan Racquetball history. Saturday night, Joel Bonnett was inducted into the RAM Hall of Fame. Sunday, in a tough Final, Joel claimed another title and the Gold Medal by defeating Andrew Price. Andrew has made huge strides this season and defeated two of the toughest players in the State to make the Final. He is going to be a force for years to come. Brandon Cortese and Ryan Covell were the Semi-Finalists.

It was yet another fantastic State Singles tournament weekend. Hosted by one of the great tournament houses in the state and put on by some of the best tournament directors in the country. This event is not to be missed. Make sure you check the schedule and put it on your calendar for next year. I will see you there!

ADVERTISING RATES FOR THE RACQUETBALL REPORTER FOR 2010-2011

The Racquetball Reporter is published three times throughout the year - July, November, and February.. Items to be included in the Racquetball Reporter for the **2010-11** year must be submitted by the following dates:

July 15, 2010 January 12, 2011
October 6, 2011

Advertisement material is subject to approval by the RAM Board of Directors. The prices for advertisement material are:

\$400 - Full page ad to run in all three issues (7"w x 9.5"h)
\$250 - Half page ad to run in all three issues (7"w x 4.75"h)

\$150 - Quarter page ad to run in all three issues (3.5"w x 4.75"h)
\$100 - Club listing for all three issues (3"w x 2"h)

All advertisements must be submitted in camera ready Format in the appropriate size. E-mailed graphics can be accepted in either a **.TIFF** or **.JPG** format. All advertisements will be in black and white for all issues, except the fall issue which will be in full color. Payment must accompany submission of all advertisement material. Information may be mailed to The Racquetball Reporter, 2471 E. Braden Rd., Perry, MI 48872 or sent electronically to hippies23@gmail.com.

MICHIGAN RACQUETBALL HALL OF FAME INDUCTS TWO BRIGHT STARS

Caryn Coyle

March 27, 2010. Davison Racquet and Country Club, Davison, Michigan.

Close to 100 Racquetball players from all corners of Michigan gathered for the Annual State Singles Tournament – AND to celebrate players and tournament directors. A big part of the celebration is the Michigan Hall of Fame Banquet, which was a stirring event again this year.

In addition to rewarding Improved players, Junior players, Outstanding contributors, and Excellent directors/clubs, the golden hour of the evening was the induction of two phenomenal men into the Michigan Racquetball Hall of Fame. These men embody the spirit of competition, sportsmanship, and love of the game that is contagious for anyone standing in their spheres.

Dave Lund, who has been competing in racquetball since picking-up a racquet in 1979, was introduced to the assembled audience by Michigan Racquetball Hall of Fame member Lynn Hahn. Lynn stressed that Dave's appreciation for racquetball has centered on learning, fun, camaraderie, and winning, of course! Dave has won numerous National Tournaments over the decades, and hasn't slowed down yet, doing very well again this year in the National Tournaments in which he competed.



As Dave took the podium, he shared stories of "Milkcrate" Gottlieb (Bill Gottlieb, a Michigan Hall of Fame member) whose backhand is still pretty bad according to Dave, and had to move to Squash in his "declining years". Dave spoke of people he has met; friends he has made and kept; and the continued high quality of life he enjoys – all because of Racquetball. Dave was joined at the Banquet by his lovely wife, Kay, and his brother. Dave expressed his gratitude to his

wife, his family, Pete Ruhala, Duane Russell, Jack (his brother), and the voting committee with the heart and humility that we have all grown accustomed to experiencing---OFF the court.

Joel Bonnett was introduced by his father (an Michigan Hall of Fame member), Ken Bonnett, who spoke with pride and emotion of the son who has grown from small child to man in the world of racquetball. Joel started hanging out with racquetball players when he was 6, tagging along with Dad to tournaments and goofing around on the court.



"Goofing around" turned into learning the game, competing, and a few years later winning World Juniors. Joel attended Memphis State University on a Racquetball Scholarship. Over the years, Joel estimates that he has spent tens of thousands of hours playing thousands of matches. He also related his delight in he and his partner, Bill Sell, winning National Doubles against Jimmy Floyd and his partner, Todd O'Neil. Joel has fond memories of traveling with his Dad to those thousands of matches at various tournaments and has a clear recollection of beating Mike Anderson at the Grand Rapids City Open one year.

Joel thanked his parents for their support, encouragement, and love, and shared with the audience some of the things he has learned playing racquetball:

- Discipline
- Commitment
- Investment
- Accountability
- Patience
- Competitive Spirit

Both Joel and Dave would sum up racquetball as a way of life that teaches much about life. Both epitomize a quote that Joel shared from Ken: "There's no such thing as a big enough lead, never let up when you're ahead; never give up when you're behind".

Congratulations to two very deserving men, who are excellent models for the young players growing into adults in the world of racquetball.

2010-2011 RAM SCHEDULE

Sep 17-19	Traverse City Cherry Splat, Traverse City Athletic Club	Jan 8	BAC Doubles Tournament, Bronson A C, Kalamazoo
Sep 25	Double Vision, Michigan Athletic Club, East Lansing	Jan 21-23	MAC Open, Michigan Athletic Club, Grand Rapids
Oct 2	LA Fitness Round Robin Challenge, LA Fitness, Troy	Feb 11-13	Motor City Rollout, Courtland Athletic Club, Utica
Oct 15-17	West Michigan Open Pro-Am, Michigan Athletic Club, Grand Rapids	Feb 18-20	Mid-East Racquetball Conference (MERC) Collegiate Regional Championship, Davison
Oct 29-31	USA Racquetball Instructor's Program Clinic, Michigan Athletic Club, Grand Rapids	Feb 26-27	Capital Challenge, Michigan Athletic Club, East Lansing
Nov 6-7	Fun Fall Fest, Coliseum Racquet Club, Taylor	Mar 11-13	South West Michigan Racquetball Shootout, Bronson A C, Kalamazoo
Nov 13-14	Spartan Splat, Michigan Athletic Club, East Lansing	Mar 18-20	RAM STATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP, Davison Athletic Club, Davison
Nov 20	Riverview Fall Brawl, Riverview Athletic Club, Grand Rapids	Jun 25-26	Meijer State Games of Michigan, Michigan Athletic Club, Grand Rapids
Dec 3-5	RAM STATE DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP, Total Sports, Mt. Clemens		TBD – Mt. Pleasant and Saginaw

Make sure you check R2Sports.com and MichiganRacquetball.Net for updates
For further Information e-mail President@MichiganRacquetball.Net

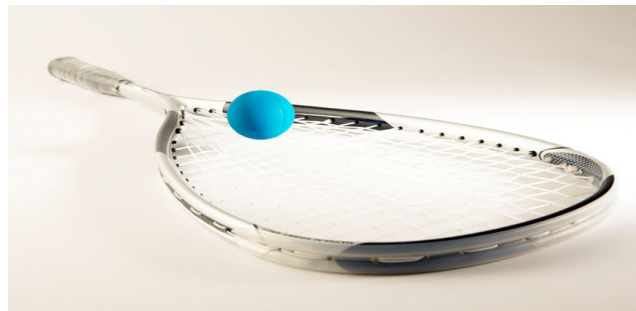
VIEW OF THE PRESIDENT (cont. from pg. 2)

All three compete in the 12 and under division, but they are a threat to anyone in the Men's D or even C Divisions on any day. Look out guys, they are gunning for you.

And, what can I say about these next two "kids"? We've had the pleasure of watching Andrew Price and Brad Schopieray grow and progress since they were little kids. This past season, Brad challenged the best players in the state, even beating a few, and he closed the season with a Bronze Medal Finish and All-American honors at Junior Nationals. Andrew Price has gone from challenging the best players in the state, to being one of the best players in the State. It took a huge effort from Joel Bonnet, one of the best anywhere to keep Andrew from winning State Singles. Andrew and Brad are on a mission, training like there is no tomorrow. Expect them, and the rest of the Juniors to make big noise in the coming months.

If that doesn't wet your appetite for 2010-2011, you may need to check your pulse. As for me, I'm ready to lace 'em up and roll 'em out.

Make sure you check out the RAM Web Page at www.michiganracquetball.net for details on all of these and more. I hope to see you on the courts. Hang on. It's going to be a great season.



Juniors

TEAM MICHIGAN GETS ANOTHER TOP TEN FINISH AT THE JUNIOR OLYMPIC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Don Schopieray

This years Junior Nationals were held at the Recreation center of the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. Over 200 of the nations best junior players showed up to play for national championships and spots on the USA junior team which will defend the world championship this year in Los Angeles.

Michigan had nine players make the trip to Minnesota, Zach and Braeden D'Almedia, and Caige Duryea all played in the boys U12 division where they dominated the red bracket, taking home 1st, 2nd, and 4th. All of these kids were competing in their second go round of national level competition and are getting the hang of things, next year they will be a force to be reckoned with. Nathan Tucker held down the fort in boys U14 and came into the tournament on a hot streak, also in his second Nationals Nathan got a decent seed but ran into heart of the draw in the second round, after losing there he went on to a good run in the blue bracket making the quarter finals. With 25.5 points on the event Nathan was our 4th highest point total and is really getting the hang of how this tournament works. Mercedes Arias had a great week in the girls U16, scoring the 3rd highest point total for the team at 27, Mercedes was also recognized as an All American athlete and finished the week 2nd in doubles, 3rd in mixed doubles, and 4th in singles. Mercedes will no doubt be back to improve on her results next year and is a great asset for our team. Brad Schopieray came to Minnesota on a mission to get to the top of the boys U16 bunch. He was not disappointed, scoring a team leading 54 points Brad finished 3rd in singles earning a spot as an alternate on

the USA team, and was also recognized as an All American as well as being named Junior Sportsman of the year. It was Brads 6th Junior nationals and his experience really showed as the week went on, we are looking for good things from him in the next season. Andrew Price came into the tournament fresh off his first IRT professional win and was seeded 4th in

the boys U18 division, Andrew easily made it to the quarterfinals before losing a heartbreaker to the 5 seed, at 30 points Andrew was the 2nd highest point earner on the team, he teamed up with Brad in doubles and made it to the quarters as well, it was Andrews last Junior nationals and it was certainly his best, the team will miss him for sure. Lucas Arias and Bryan Schopieray came out of semi retirement to also play in their final Junior nationals. Both of these guys have been playing at the college level for the last season and made the trip to Minnesota to have some fun, coincidentally they played their first and last nationals as doubles partners. Both of them played hard but mostly had fun taking in all the things going on at the tournament. Bryan will be off to start his second year at Central Michigan and Lucas will be starting at MSU in the fall. As with Andrew it has been a real blast having them on the team and we wish them all well.

Michigan's total points were 165 which placed us 7th overall, Colorado which had 40 or so kids won the team event. The 5 day format of the tournament is very busy and if it hadn't been for all of the great parents we have in our program it would have been impossible to achieve the success we have, thank you. Also we had Team coach Tom Blakeslee who took a week out of his schedule to make the trip to Minnesota to help with the coaching duties, Tom's years of national level experience proved invaluable in the upper division matches and certainly his help was instrumental in our success, thank you Tom. Next years Tournament will be held in Portland

Oregon and we are starting to plan now, if you would be interested in helping out just drop us a line or see me at any tournament we always welcome the help, and it's really fun too.

See you on the courts,
Don

MERCEDES ARIAS AND BRAD SCHOPIERAY GET ALL AMERICAN RECOGNITION, BRAD GETS JUNIOR SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR

Don Schopieray

The Annual Saturday night banquet was all about recognizing the achievements of the players. Michigan was fortunate enough to have two players that received USAR All American status. Mercedes and Brad were both able to achieve this, reaching the semifinals in their respective divisions, for Mercedes, a former USA Team member; it was her second time receiving this honor.

For Brad it was the third time he has achieved this status, additionally Brad was recognized as the 2010 Junior Sportsmanship winner, this award is given out based on the observations of the voting committee, Brad had two calls during the week that the ref got wrong and turned them over himself. Michigan has a very good reputation and it is good to see the tradition continue, former Team Michigan player Chris Cole received the IOC committee for Fair Play award in 1995 for sportsmanship on the world championship level, these are the things that should make you proud of our Junior players, they all have displayed great attitudes during the week and are having a blast as well.

NOMINATION FOR MICHIGAN RACQUETBALL HALL OF FAME

GOODBYE HOUSTON

Dan Mullin

The Michigan Racquetball Hall of Fame was developed, in 1984, by the Racquetball Association of Michigan (RAM) to honor those recipients who demonstrate outstanding achievement, leadership or contribution to the sport of racquetball in the State of Michigan. The award is based upon YEARS OF CONSISTENT EXCELLENCE in one or more of the following areas:

ABILITY: Through demonstration of exceptional playing skill in state, regional and/or national tournament competition.

LEADERSHIP: Through generous giving of time and talent for the advancement of racquetball in the State of Michigan by running tournaments, conducting leagues, lessons, serving on the state racquetball association and/or other racquetball activities.

CONTRIBUTIONS: Through generous support, including money, facilities, products, etc. for the advancement of racquetball in the State of Michigan.

If you know someone who qualifies (see the Hall of Fame Criteria in the RAM's home page) and that you would like to see in the Hall of Fame please send a letter with their full name, address, phone number (including area code) and a brief description of why you think that person deserves to be in the RAM Hall of Fame to:

RAM Hall of Fame Inductee
321 Village Dr.
Lansing, MI 48911-3760

Also state your name, address and phone number (home & work) in case we have to contact you for additional information

If you have any questions please call Jim Easterling at (517) 887-0459.

The dead line for Hall of Fame Inductee letters is NOVEMBER 14, of each year.



The 43rd National Singles Racquetball Championships were held in Houston, Texas for the last time. A small contingent of seven Michigan racquetball players made the journey to say good bye. Congratulations to **Michael Stephens** for becoming a national champion!

Results were mostly disappointing for the rest in close woulda-coulda moments. Michael Stephens entered into 55+C division and lost to the eventual winner. His second division was 60+C and he was the #1 seed and proved that he should be. The finals were set up against the #2 seed, but only one came out with a national championship title! **Jason Kennedy** made his first trip down to Houston as well as **Brad Schopieray**. Jason played exceptionally well taking out the #1 seed in 30+A but lost to the eventual winner of the division. Jason had a heart breaker loss in A, losing in the tie breaker 11-6. Even though he had losses, he was excited to play on the national level and thought every minute was worth it. Brad Schopieray went down to gain experience for the Junior Nationals and received it. Brad lost in the first round of 24- in a tough 11-10 defeat. However, Brad made up for it in Men's Elite, losing in the semi-finals 11-6, more on that later. **Dan Mullin, Ed Boan, Mark Candy, and Tom Blakeslee** all had early defeats in tie-breakers or to people that eventual made it to the finals in their respective divisions.

Given that I had A LOT of free time on my hands, I was able to watch quite a few matches. One in particular match created a lasting moment. I watched two players go at it for quite some time. Both were quick and hit the ball hard. I have to give a thumbs-up to the ref, who I thought did an excellent job given the circumstances. What was disturbing about the match was the complete opposite way the players handled themselves on the court. The first player was calm and cool during the match, never yelled or screamed, argued with the ref. Yes, some calls were questioned, but when the ref made their call the player accepted the outcome – good or bad. The other player screamed at the ref and their opponent, argued every call, and overall was obnoxious. One player was older and the other was younger. The game was great to watch with low shots, gets, and dives by both players. With such games, it is normal for the audience to applaud when the match is done. The memorable part of the match was when the players exited the court; the loser received a standing ovation from the crowd of about 30 people. It was quiet when the winner exited the court. This is very rare to see. The crowd was applauding how the losing player conducted himself on the court, his court maturity, and his demeanor. You see, it should have been the other way around, because it was the YOUNGER player that showed better sportsmanship during a LOSS! Did I mention that it was during the semi-finals of Elite and the losing (winner in my eyes) player was Brad Schopieray!

National Singles is moving to California, right across the street from Disneyland! Hopefully more from Michigan can make the journey and continue to represent us well. The change in venue will allow new players to make the journey and some will not be able to make it anymore. For the friends that I made in Texas that cannot make it anymore, I say good bye. I look forward to making new friends in California!

RACQUETBALL TAKES CENTER STAGE AT THE INAUGURAL MEIJER STATE GAMES OF MICHIGAN

Twayne Howard

Michigan's racquetball players enjoyed a first class event at the Inaugural Meijer State Games of Michigan. The opening ceremonies were unforgettable, the Saturday night party featuring grilled steak and all the fixings by Chef Carmen and Gold, Silver and Bronze medals were given out in every division with entrants, all presented with the backdrop of an Olympic-style fanfare.

The players on the medal podium beamed as their accomplishments were shouted out to the crowd. Congratulations to all of our Champions!

The Men's Open Championship went to Shannon Kohl after defeating Jason Kennedy and Mike Anderson in round robin fashion. Jason and Mike took the Silver and Bronze medals respectively. Mike Chambon won the tough Men's Elite Division by defeating William Garrow in the Finals. Scott Young returned home to be the A Division Bronze Medalist.

Scott Young won the Gold in the Men's A Division. Bryan Galloway took home the Silver and Mike Malcolm won the Bronze.

Twayne Howard got past Dave Verduyn in a hard fought Men's B Championship to take his first of four medals on the weekend. Dave took the Silver and Jason Carroll took home the Bronze.

The Men's C Gold went to Brandon Zeigler who defeated Silver Medalist Joshua Zeid. James Hemenway won the Bronze.

Joe Reidt returned to tournament play and took the first of his two Gold Medals by winning the Men's D Championship. Steven Crocker won the Silver and Ronnie Matthew won the Bronze. Jason Kennedy continued his progression through the ranks with a Gold Medal in the Men's 30+ Open Division. William Garrow won the Silver Medal

and Twayne Howard took home the Bronze.

Tom Granse claimed the Men's 35+ C Gold after defeating Rudy Varela in the Final. Rudy took the Silver and James Willie Lowe took the Bronze.

Joe Reidt took the Men's 35+D Gold by getting past Silver Medalist Steven Crocker and Bronze Medalist Ronnie Matthew.

Twayne Howard won the Men's 40+ Championship unopposed.

Doubles partners faced off in the Men's 45+A Championship with Paul Kramer taking home the Gold, and a racquet to the elbow from friend and Silver Medalist Attica Mitchell. Rich Westerbrink took home a Bronze medal for his efforts.

Art Murphy earned one of three Gold Medals for winning the Men's 45+B Championship. Dave Verduyn picked up a second Silver Medal and James Hemenway added a second Bronze Medal.

The Men's 45+C Championship went to Rudy Varela who earned the Gold Medal by defeating Silver Medalist James Willie Lowe. Steven Crocker won the Men's 45+D Gold Medal unopposed.

Mike Chambon earned his second Gold Medal of the tournament by defeating Silver Medalist Rick Vrosh and Bronze Medalist Scott Sellers in the round robin Men's 50+ Division.

Ron Compton won the Men's 55+A Gold Medal unopposed.

Mike Stephens won the Gold Medal in the Men's 55+B Division by beating Silver Medalist Ron Compton.

Michael Goodyear won the Men's 65+ Gold Medal unopposed.

Art Murphy defeated Tom Sharum to win the Gold Medal in the Men's 65+ Division.

Saturday the scene was set for doubles. The Open Division was combined with

the A Division and the B Division was combined with the C Division to give the teams more play. Mike Chambon teamed with partner Rick Vrosh to win his third Gold of the tournament and the Men's Open Championship. Jason Kennedy and Scott Sellers earned the Silver Medal before being forced to retire from the match.

Paul Kramer and Attica Mitchell won the Men's A Gold after defeating Silver Medalists Bryan Galloway and Rich Westerbrink in the Finals.

Twayne Howard teamed up with Jason Carroll to win the Gold in the Men's B Division. Josh Zeid and Tom Granse put up a great fight and proudly took home the Silver Medals.

Art Murphy and Tom Sharum won the Men's C Gold Medals after Dan Droski and Sam Adams were forced to skip the Finals but took home the Silver Medals for their efforts.

Saturday night, the party at East Hills, the MAC sister club was another highlight of the weekend. Chef Carmen served up amazing grilled steaks, corn on the cob, red skinned potatoes, veggies and fruit. What a great night to sit, eat and chat with great friends.

We would like to thank our generous sponsors: Meijer, Metro Health, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Citadel Broadcasting, MC Sports, Holland & Saugatuck Lakeshore Attractions, the West Michigan Whitecaps, Gatorade, MVP Fieldhouse, East Kenwood High School, Subway, Swift Printing, Peppino's Sports Lounge, My Way Storage, WBBL FM, the Grand Rapids Griffins and most of all The West Michigan Sports Commission without whom none of this would have been possible. Mark it in your calendars now for June 24-26, 2011 when the Michigan Athletic Club will proudly host the Meijer State Games of Michigan Racquetball Championship. We will see you there.

JOIN THE RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN

Membership Includes:

- *Membership card, USA Racquetball Official Rule Book, travel and equipment discounts
- *USA Racquetball medical, life, and liability insurance at sanctioned events
- *Three issues of the RAM newsletter, THE RACQUETBALL REPORTER
- *Four issues of the USA Racquetball national magazine, RACQUETBALL MAGAZINE
- *RAM sanctioned tournament entry forms mailed to your home
- *Eligibility to play in all sanctioned tournaments and receive national ranking points (except Limited event)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

DATE _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

DATE OF BIRTH ____ / ____ / ____ HOME PHONE _____

WORK PHONE _____

_____ \$50.00 – Adult Competitor

_____ \$25.00 – Junior Competitor (21 and under)

_____ \$125.00 - Adult Competitor for 3 years

_____ \$20.00 - Limited Event

MAIL TO: RAM, 38114 Lakeshore, Harrison Twp, MI 48045

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