



Newsletter

Vol. 18 No. 6
November, 2001

USRA
United States Racquetball Association

From The President

October 16, 2001

I am writing to you today from my classroom on the campus of the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana! In August, I began a graduate study program (and, as a result, missed my deadline for the last newsletter). Thanks to Mike Davern for picking up the slack. School is exciting, invigorating, exhausting and terrifying all at the same time. Much of what makes it exciting, invigorating, etc., etc. is that it is a new experience. It is something different from what I do every day, and a stretch of my comfort zone.

How does this translate to racquetball? I'm not sure if it does....but it does remind me of all of the hard work that the ISRA has done over the summer and fall to make sure that the new racquetball season is exciting, invigorating and a little different for all of you. Many of your board members have spent extra time to make improvements to our programs and events. You'll see new things happening with tournaments and with the junior programs. In fact, the new **Junior Team Illinois** is already up and running.

An initiative we have not concentrated on enough in the past is support at the state level for programs geared to the recreational player. We have some people who have stepped up with ideas to increase our membership with the goal to bring new players to the best game in the world. New players may find the sport to be an invigorating, exciting and scary experience for them. We old-timers may also find those new players to be invigorating, and terrifying, in terms of additional competition. Regardless of the vantage point, change is good and change keeps us all on our toes. **As a first step in this initiative, we are including in this issue a color promotional brochure geared to attracting new racquetball players.** We hope to put this flyer in every facility with racquetball courts in Illinois. Our thanks go out to **Wilson** for sponsoring this effort. We hope that you will see more changes along these lines in the future.

At the national level, the USRA is also making a big change. After approximately 15 years, membership fees will move from \$20 per year to \$30 per year, effective January 2002. Even with this change, racquetball remains one of the United States Olympic Committee sports with the lowest annual membership fee. Of the current \$20 fee, \$7 goes to the state and \$13 to the USRA. Illinois will now get \$10 of the new \$30 fee and the USRA will keep \$20. From your perspective, you get a national magazine, this exceptional newsletter, the ISRA website, sanctioned tournaments, a national ranking system, a state seeding system, the ISRA travel league, national events, insurance while playing in sanctioned events, a new junior team and a dedicated board working for you. That is quite a bargain! And, **you can renew for as many years as you like at the \$20 rate, as long as you do it before January 1, 2002.**

If any of you have ideas for changes or enhancements, please let me know. Gotta get back to class now. I'll see you on the courts soon.

Oskewowwow !

Laurel

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

Illinois Players do well in West Allis

First place winners, Nancy Kronenfeld (Women's 50+) and John O'Donnell, Jr. (Men's 70+) led a team of 5 women and 14 men from Illinois to the National Masters Racquetball tournament in West Allis this past July. Illinois players have been excellent supporters of this organization and our support is going to be duly recognized with an Illinois event later this season. Besides winners Kronenfeld and O'Donnell, 5 other Illinois players took a top 4 finish. Second place spots went to Lola Markus (Women's 65+) and Bruce Nelson (Men's 50+). Margaret Hoff took a fourth in the Women's 55+ singles and Phil Dziuk took third in Men's 75+ (6 in the draw!!!) and a third along with California partner Jim Kennan in Men's 70+ doubles. (Imagine a draw of 6 teams in Men's 70+ doubles!!!) What other sport can keep you playing in your 70's? Amazing. Other Illinois participants include: Elizabeth Anderson and Pauline Kelly on the women's side and Dennis Healy, Bill Gingold, Charlie Naber, Jim Elliot, Leo Klimaitis, Carl Jaeschke, Mike Sims, John Kozail, Jim Patten, Gib Kurtz and John Eliasik. Thanks for showing the Illinois colors and showing us the way to keep playing. Any racquetball players age 45 and better are eligible to participate in a NMRA tournament. Mark your calendar for the NMRA International Masters Invitational this next July 17-20, 2002 in Champaign, Illinois.

— Mike Davern

Central Illinois Racquetball Tournament Calendar

2001 - 2002 SEASON

NOVEMBER

16-17 **Bloomington Doubles;** Bloomington YMCA; Jeff McDowell

DECEMBER

1 **One Day Doubles Tournament;** Springfield Racquet & Fitness; Sara Welch (217) 787-2460

JANUARY

5-7 **One Day Doubles Tournament;** Forum Fitness (Rantoul); David Litman

11-13 **Springfield Invitational;** Springfield Racquet And Fitness; Sara Welch (217) 787-2460

19 **Quad Cities Open Singles;** Moline YMCA; Brad Flack, Jim Elliott (309) 755-0533

FEBRUARY

1-3 **Tournament At The Club;** Fit Club, Springfield; Tony Marquez (217) 787-1111

15-17 **President's Day;** Image Health and Fitness, Decatur; Larry Boyer (217) 424-9925

22-24 **Four Seasons Invitational;** Four Seasons, Bloomington; Bev Schubbe (309) 663-2022

MARCH

1-3 **Landmark Invitational;** Landmark Racquet; Terry Sutton (309) 685-8200

22-24 **St. Pat's Open;** Springfield Racquet And Fitness; Sara Welch (217) 787-2460

30 **Quad Cities Open Doubles;** Moline YMCA; Brad Flack, Jim Elliott (309) 755-0533

Any questions, corrections or additions please call Larry Boyer (217) 864-4862; (217) 864-4836 fax.

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No Frills/Fall Warm-up Tournament

October 5-7, 2001

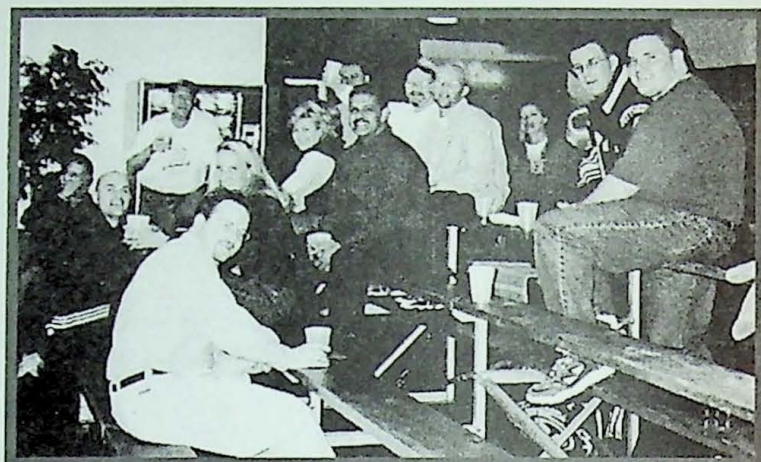
Landmark Racquet and HealthClub
Peoria, Illinois

This year's tournament was a blast! All entrants were fired up and ready to kick-off the tournament season. Tournament directors Kurt Mankle and Mike Vicary, did their usual excellent job running the tournament with some help from our wonderful tournament staff. The control table had all matches running on time and often got things off early. The Landmark hospitality

staff also did an excellent job of feeding tournament participants, although some swore that the effects of the Saturday Taco Bar slowed them down on Sunday!

This year, we were pleased to offer a new junior division. In addition to our regular Juniors (17 & under) division, we offered a Juniors Novice (13 & under) division. A dozen children, ranging in age from 8 to 17, participated in these two divisions. (They had such a good time that we had a hard time getting them off the courts to get the next match going!) Although no longer juniors themselves, Andy Hawthorne, coming back to visit us from Baldwin Wallace College in Ohio, and Greg Hasty II found themselves going at it again in the Men's Open division. Those two are always fun to watch. The Women's open winner, Mo Egizii, was also glad she made the trip up from Springfield. We hope she continues to visit often. Plenty of players came from all over Illinois — from as far south as the St. Louis area to as far west as Iowa. We hope to continue to attract players from all over the state. Thank you to all involved with the success of this weekend. The hard work is always worth it.

—Terry Sutton



The After-Hours Gang



Men's Open Doubles Winners:
Mike Vicary (l) and Mark Thorn (r)



Tournament Director
Kurt Mankle



Men's Open Winner
Andy Hawthorne

Results:

Men's Open

1st Place: Andy Hawthorne- Baldwin Wallace College
2nd Place: Greg Hasty II- Landmark

Men's AA

1st Place: Rob Hartman- Scott A.F.B.

Men's A

1st Place: John Wendtland- Leroy, IL
2nd Place: Brady Mann- Landmark
1st Cons.: Brad Goeppinger- Landmark

Men's B

1st Place: David Herzog- 2 Rivers YMCA
2nd Place: Kipp Bahnsen- Davenport A.C.
1st Cons.: Matt Kaag- Landmark

Men's C

1st Place: Greg Nelson- Univ. of Illinois
2nd Place: Ryan Dotson- 2 Rivers YMCA

1st Cons.: Jim McGrew- Morton

Men's 40+

1st Place: Rick Reynolds- Landmark
2nd Place: K.C. Jones- Davenport A.C.
1st Cons.: Tim Shoemaker- Davenport A.C.

Men's 40+B

1st Place: Jeff Fulks- Bloomington
2nd Place: Ed Fasig- Cedar Rapids, IA
1st Cons.: Mike Brandt- Landmark

Men's 50+

1st Place: Dennis Healy- 2 Rivers YMCA
2nd Place: Bob Schwab- Landmark
3rd Place: Bob McGowan- Landmark

Juniors (17 & under)

1st Place: Jake Sutton- Landmark
2nd Place: Alex Baile- The Edge
3rd Place: Toby Streight- Decatur

Juniors (13 & under)

1st Place: Dustin Streight- Decatur
2nd Place: Kyle Sutton- Landmark
3rd Place: Michael Hinnen- Landmark

Women's Open

1st Place: Mo Egizii- Springfield
2nd Place: Pam Schubach- Landmark
3rd Place: Terry Sutton- Landmark

continued on next page



Landmark Stringer
Brad Goeppinger

Women's B

1st Place: Liz Anderson- Champaign
2nd Place: Trisha Mankle- Landmark
3rd Place: Greta Reynolds- Landmark
Women's C
1st Place: Gail Hoffman- Landmark

2nd Place: Andrea Bailey- Landmark

3rd Place: Debi Ramos- Landmark

Men's Open Doubles

1st Place: Mike Vicary (Landmark)/ MarkThorn (IN)
2nd Place: Pat Armstrong (Landmark)/ JasonRetzlaff (IN)
1st Cons.: Andy Hawthorne (Baldwin)/Pat Murray (IN)

Men's A Doubles

1st Place: John
Wendtland
(Leroy)/Steve
Funk (Decatur)
2nd Place: Brady
Mann/ Brad
Goepfinger
(Landmark)
1st Cons.: Mike
Schrey/Jeff
Rogers (Spring-
field)

Men's B/C Doubles

1st Place: Carl
Bunker/Butch
Caruth (Land-
mark)
2nd Place: Jeff
Fulks/Jeff
Waggoner
(Bloomington)
1st Cons.: Ed

Fasig (IA)/David Angevine (Landmark)

Mixed Doubles

1st Place: Pat Armstrong/Pam Schubach (Landmark)
2nd Place: Kurt Mankle/Terry Sutton (Landmark)
1st Cons: Jerry Jones/Terri Hinton (Decatur)



**Front Row (L-R): Kyle Sutton, Dylan Shoemaker,
Michael McDowell, Dustin Straight
Back Row (L to R): Mike Vicary, Alex Baile,
Jake Sutton, Toby Streight, Terry Sutton**



Pam Schubach

2001-2002 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
01/01/02	12/07/01	12/14/01
03/01/02	02/08/02	02/18/02
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- Ad rates:
Full page: \$300/issue. Half page: \$175/issue.
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- For any questions or submission:

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Junior Team Illinois — "The Fastest Growing Junior Racquetball Team in the Country"

As we reported last issue, the ISRA is beginning a full-court press to attract more Illinois juniors to the game of racquetball. With this in mind, the ISRA has formed JTI (Junior Team Illinois) geared to bring more racquetball activities to Illinois juniors. In JTI's inaugural year, we have arranged for junior camps, challenge courts and 12 junior focus tournaments during the season. Although, we have already had our kick-off meeting/fall training camp at the Athletic Club of Bloomingdale, it is not too late to join the team. In fact, joining is easy! All you have to do is be a member of the ISRA/USRA (\$15 junior membership or \$10 without Racquetball Magazine), play in at least 3 ISRA junior tournaments during the season and attend at least 60% of the once a month clinics and/or practices. Team members must show good sportsmanship, demonstrate exemplary conduct and show respect for all adults, opponents, coaches and staff. Our December event will be a second junior camp, to be held at the Glass Court in Lombard. Cheryl Gudinas, the number one ranked female player in the country, will lead a team of top Illinois trainers in bringing high quality racquetball to Illinois juniors. Check the ISRA website at <http://www.illinoisracquetball.com> for details.

The kids had an excellent time at their first clinic this past September. With Dave and Dennis Negrete as head coaches, several top ISRA players led the kids through skills and drills and left some time for some one on one competition. Assisting Dave on the courts were Char Borre and Jeff Grace from the Glass Courts and Ben and Bob Croft from the Lake Forest Racquetball Club with a radar speed gun to time the kids' forehand shots from deep center court. Mike Davern

and JTI Membership Chairman, Fred Ritschard were also there to help run the event. We even had our very own "Team Mom", Sue Young, in attendance!!!

The table below shows the results from the speed gun drill. The kids were very impressed with the speed shown by JTI Elite Member, Ben Croft. He logged in at 141 miles per hour!!! We will get a chance to see how much faster the pros can hit when they come to Bloomingdale for the Halloween Pro Stop.

NAME, AGE

Ben Croft, 16
Mike DeGonia, 15
Angel Khamis, 13
Jeff Novak, 14
Brandon Ritschard, 13
Tom Molitor, 14
Justin Fleck, 12
Mike Davern, JR, 14
Jason Young, 15
Rusty Reichman, 13
Justin Beal, 14
Charlie Mueller, 12

Radar Speed Test

141 MPH
124
111
109
102
101
92
88
86
82
82
80

Brendan O'Carroll, 13	77
Lauren Ritschard, 16	76
Trevor Snyders, 10	76
Mitch Hundman, 10	75
David Negrete, JR., 7	69
Josh Frost, 13	68
Tony Falcone, 9	63
Julia Negrete, 10	57
Stephanie Davern, 10	55
John Durkacz, 8	55
Peter Young, 7	46

JTI members not attending the camp include Erin Egan, Geoff Glodblatt, Chris Snyders, Eric Tomek, Jason Young. It is not too late to get started with Junior Team Illinois this year. Contact Fred Ritschard at (630) 858-6960 for more information. Come out and support Illinois Junior Racquetball and JTI!!!

— Mike Davern



Junior Team Illinois
September 29, 2001
The Athletic Club of Bloomingdale



Tony Falcone tries his forehand shot under the watchful eye of Dave Negrete at the opening meeting for the 2001-2002 JTI Season.



Dennis Negrete explains a "sackhand follow-through" to the Boys 14 & under JTI team players at the opening meeting for the 2001-2002 season.

2001 Edens Fall Classic Tournament Results

October 6-7, 2001

The Edens Oktoberfest Classic is one of the first tournaments of the year, and, what a great way to ease into the racquetball season! A low-key tournament held on October 6-7, it was great to see all of the old faces and lots of new ones too.

The Edens Athletic Club is located close to the Edens Expressway so it is very convenient for those traveling back and forth to the club. Newly sanctioned, this tournament has not yet attracted the "big guns". That means it's open season for the unexpected. The unexpected this time came in the form of some "young shooters". Although there were not any Junior divisions offered, the three juniors who competed did just fine against the adult competition. Sixteen-year old Ben Croft walked away with the first place in the Men's Open. Thirteen-year old, Brandon Ritschard took first place in Men's D consolation. Finally, Geoff Goldblatt, also thirteen, made it to the quarterfinals in Men's D before he was eliminated. Not a bad showing for three of our Junior Team Illinois (JTI) members!

Actually, JTI was very successful at the tournament in another way as well. The team picked up Geoff as a member on Saturday, along with thirteen year old Erin Egan. Two other members, Lauren Ritschard (injured) and Erik Tomek, were present watching the matches. It's always great to have that kind of support. Thanks to Lauren, Eric and Erin for their efforts!

Probably the neatest highlight of the tournament was watching 2 sets of "father and son" teams. Geoff paired up with his dad, Dick Goldblatt, and competed in the combined B/C division. Then Ben teamed up with his dad, Bob Croft in the Open. All in all, it was fantastic to see 6 of our JTI members involved one way or another at Oktoberfest. Cindy Flores, Tournament Director, did a great job organizing the tournament while Dan Pepin was on top of things as Tournament Coordinator. Look to come back to the Edens Athletic Club later in the season for March Madness on March 22-24. Juniors—especially be on the lookout. Edens has just been added to the Junior Club circuit. That means that a full range of junior divisions will be offered. It is a long season between then and now. Hope you all have fun!!!

—Bob Croft.

Event: First Place; Second Place; Semis

Men's Open (4): Ben Croft; Cary Slade; George Ortiz, Jeff Tottler

Men's A (6): Chris Selvig; John Beaulieu; Jim Gaw, Bryan Shaw (MO)

Men's B (8): John Beaulieu; Steve Sacks; Leo Formanski, Dan Pepin

Men's C (11): Ubaldo Melo; Daniel Whiston; Barry Siegel, Jon Seike

Men's D (10): Rick Falcone; Fred Breitburg; David Welgus, Daniel Whiston

Mens Open Doubles (4): Ben Croft/Bob Croft; Fred Barbara/Bob Weber; Jim Gaw/Chris Selvig, Jeff Tottler/Mike Bernstein

Men's B/C Doubles (4): Rick Falcone/Dan Doretti; Atheefur Papa/Paul Nigensohn; Jerry Paris/Dan Pepin, Richard Goldblatt/Jeffrey Goldblatt

Old Timers Unite!

An unusual get-together occurred this past month at the Oak Park Athletic Club. A group of old-time Chicago racquetball players got together for some court time and socializing.



Pictured here are all State, Regional, or National Champions: Dave Olsen, Erhard Gruenwald, Barry Berger-Hendricks, Dennis McKee, Doug Peterson, Ron Johnson, Bill Lyman and Marshall Waldo.



Bill Lyman, Ken Ratini, Erhard Gruenwald, Barry Berger-Hendricks, Dennis McKee.

TOTAL PLAYERS
801
TOTAL ENTRANTS
1738

LARGEST USRA EVENT
IN HISTORY OF SPORT!!!
- THANK YOU -

The sign says it all...!



**Chris Evon and Bill Lyman
Mixed 40+ Champions!**

Ektelon U.S. National Doubles Championships

Las Vegas Sporting House, Las Vegas, Nevada
October 3-7, 2001

Okay, racquetball fans, check out this equation:

801 players
+ 1738 entries
+ 50 divisions
+ 43 states
= The Largest USRA Event in the History of Racquetball!

Then...

Throw in legends like Marty Hogan, Dave Peck, Ruben Gonzalez, Michelle Gould, and Malia Bailey. Plus, a plethora of pro's: Cheryl Gudinas, Jack Huczek, Jackie Paraiso, Mike Locker, Kersten Hallander, Mike Guidry, Rhonda Rajsich, et al.

It all added up to an exciting tournament in an exciting location (could Las Vegas have been the reason for the great draw?). Concerns were unfounded regarding players dropping out due to the tragic events in September; Tournament Director Jim Hiser said there were only 30 cancellations. Like we've known all along: racquetball players are hard to intimidate!

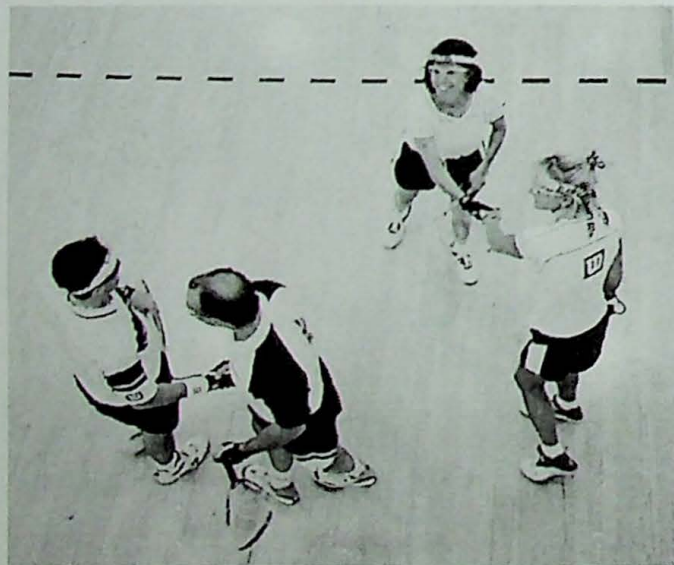
Play began on Wednesday morning and ended late Sunday afternoon with the Open finals matches. In the Men's Open, Ruben Gonzalez/Mike Guidry defeated Dan Llacera/Brian Pointelin with scores of 14-15, 15-6, 11-2. Cheryl Gudinas/Kim Russell took the Women's Open over Malia Bailey/Rhonda Rajsich, 15-4, 15-12. Kristen Walsh/Mitch Williams won the Mixed Open in a decisive tiebreaker, 12-15, 15-2, 11-0, against Jill Trachsel/Mike Locker.

Team Illinois ranked 12th among 43 states, with 18 players competing. Twelve women and six men paired up both with fellow Illinoisans and out-of-state players to form 27 teams in 20 divisions. Each player was allowed to enter up to three divisions (with at least one of the divisions Mixed).

Congratulations to our first place champions from Illinois: Chris Evon/Terri Graham in Women's 35+, Chris Evon/Bill Lyman in Mixed 40+, Lola Markus/Jo Kenyon (FL) in Women's 65+, and above mentioned Cheryl Gudinas with partner Kim Russell (TX) in Women's Open! A notable second place win went to Don Cipriani and his partner Bob Van Zeyl (NJ) in Men's 55+!

Included here are the Illinois players and results. (And if you'd like to take a look at the draw sheets for each division, go to the USRA website at www.usra.org).

—Cheryl Kirk.



**Bill Lyman and Chris Evon
in the Mixed 40 Finals**



**Janet and Randy Christie, Lynne Weisbart, Julie Vincent,
Dave Negrete, Cathy Bertucci, Martha Huske, Donna Heinzl**

Illinois Divisions Played/Results

** denotes Top Finishers

Women's Open

Cheryl Gudinas/Kim Russell (TX): 1st **

Terri Graham/Chris Evon: QF

Women's A

Janet Eminger/Cheryl Kirk: 1st Cons.

Donna Heinzl/Martha Huske

Lynne Weisbart/Julie Vincent

W 25/30

Cathy Bertucci/Julie Vincent

W35

Chris Evon/Terri Graham: 1st **

W 25 A/B

Cathy Bertucci/Janet Eminger

W45/55 A/B

Cheryl Kirk/Lynne Weisbart: 4th **

Donna Heinzl/Martha Huske: QF

W65

Lola Markus/Jo Kenyon (FL): 1st **

Men's 35

Dave Negrete/Bobby Haab (CT)

Rich Clay/Jay Wisthoff (AK)

Men's 40

Bill Lyman/Bobby Haab (CT): QF

Dave Negrete/Robin Dixon (CA)

Men's 55

Don Cipriani/Bob Van Zeyl (NJ): 2nd **

Mixed Open

Cheryl Gudinas/Jack Huczek (MI): 4th **

Dave Negrete/Laura Fenton (KS)

Mixed A

Dennis Negrete/Julie Vincent

Mixed B

Cheryl

Kirk/Kit

Lawson

Mixed

C/D

Janet

Christie/

Kit

Lawson

Mixed 30

Cathy

Bertucci/

Dennis

Negrete

Mixed 35

Terri

Graham/

Bill

Lyman: QF

Mixed 40

Chris Evon/Bill Lyman: 1st **

Mixed 45

Lynne Weisbart/

Tom Curran (OH)

Mixed 55

Lola Markus/

Steve Lavorgna (NJ)

Mixed 60

Lola Markus/

Michael Jackson (CT)



Viva Las Vegas!

Open Finals:

Mens Open

Ruben Gonzalez/Mike Guidry def

Dan Llacera/Brian Pointelin 14-15, 15-6, 11-2

Womens Open

Cheryl Gudinas/Kim Russell def

Malia Bailey/Rhonda Rajsich 15-4, 15-12

Mixed Open

Kristen Walsh/Mitch Williams def

Jill Trachsel/Mike Locker 12-15, 15-2, 11-0



Dave Negrete getting a "tweak" between matches.



Martha Huske, Julie Vincent, Cathy Bertucci
Donna Heinzl, Lynn Weisbart

**Get updates
on all
Illinois
Happenings.**

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

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Athletic Club of Bloomington hosts the 17th Annual Midwest Seniors/Masters

October 12-14, 2001

The competing players are the ones who generally get the recognition and the glory for their performance at any given tournament, but first it's time for this Star to take a bow. Tournament director Rich Clay (also USRA National Rules Commissioner and ISRA Treasurer) has this one down to a science, with a thorough execution of every nuance of the draws, the schedule, the rankings (it gets fairly complicated when divisions are combined, then separated back out), not to mention the customer service complexities. We're talking meticulous organization, the best shirts of the tournament season, fresh fruit, right down to roses for the ladies. If you have any doubts at this point, throw in his perpetually pleasant attitude (okay, one slight lapse, but they deserved it!) and his willingness not only to answer questions but to educate in the process. I give this tournament just about a perfect 10. If you're lucky (!) enough to be aged 35+, don't miss this one next year. Pity the poor souls who are too young to enter! (Note: Along that same theme, Happy Birthday and Congratulations to Eugene Coyle, who turned 35 on October 8, slid right into the Seniors/Masters, and won the Men's 35+ Advanced division, just to prove he still has the knack at his "advanced age".)

Winners down to eight place in order:

Women's 40+ ADV (11)

Liz Molitor
Ellen Somberg
Nancy Schum
Brenda White
Diane Bunker
Andrea Scott

Pam Grace
Lynne Weisbart

Women's 45+ ADV (7)

Brenda White
Andrea Scott
Pam Grace

Barb Utterback
Cheryl Kirk
Lynne Weisbart
Dorothy Che-Menju

Women's 45+ A/B (2)

Cheryl Kirk
Dorothy Che-Menju

Seventy-two players entered (the exact same number as last year). The format in this Level 3 tourney (as with all Seniors/Masters tournaments) is a round robin, two games to 11 against each and every player in your division (no referees). A great racquetball experience, *especially* for the women. Eleven entered — Rich grouped all women into one division, which provided for plenty of play, then broke them back out into their original divisions for rankings, points and medals. (It seemed that Rich was doing a lot of "hollering for his women". Inside joke — you had to be there.)

The men's divisions — all 17 of them, from 35-plus advanced to 70-plus — got the same treatment, giving a combination of challenging competition and plenty of play. Results for all divisions are listed below.

Rich, thanks for a tournament well done — you are part man, part machine, and one of Illinois racquetball's claims to fame — what a blessing for us all.

— Cheryl Kirk

Women's 50+ A/B (1)

Dorothy Che-Menju

Men's 35+ ADV (10)

Eugene Coyle
Carl Evers
Bill Lyman
Bob Wright
Tom Utterback
Watmora Casey
Ron Calloway
George Pappas

Men's 40+ ADV (7)

Bill Lyman
Carl Evers (WI)
Bob Wright (IN)
Watmora Casey
Ron Calloway
Scott Ross
Dave Negrete (Injury Forfeit)

Men's 35+ A/B (8)

Jack Tamplin
Mark Burns
Leo Formanski
Brian Cody
Geogre Gonski
Dan Doretti
Manny Diaz
Matt Brown

Men's 40+ A/B (6)

Leo Formanski
Mark Burns
Brian Cody
Manny Diaz
Dan Doretti
Matt Brown

Men's 45+ ADV (5)

Brian Castillo
Tom Corr
Gary Wetman
Mike Berdell
Jim Schenk (IN) (INJ)

Men's 45+ A/B (6)

Al Robledo
Rajesh Sondhi
Mark Mazza
Bill Hawkins
Gary Muhr
Grey Tomek

Men's 50+ ADV (7)

Dave Olson
Dennis Hesly
T.J. Ferro
Ray Meisner
Leo Klimaitis
Gene Cromwell
Steve Saeks

Men's 50+ A/B (6)

John Koziol
Joe Vallender
Charley Naber
Patrick Boettcher (IN)
Alex Kurczaba
Ken Turek

Men's 55+ ADV

Joe Quike
Pat Taylor
Tom Fehsel
Larry Schum
George Smuckel
Jim Schevers

Men's 55+ A/B (2)

George Smuckel
Jim Schevers

Men's 60+ INT

Manuel Rosiles
Curly Noerenberg
Terry Wagner
Michael Garcia

Men's 60+ (7)

Ron Hutcherson (IN)
John Ramsay
John O'Donnell, Jr.
Bruce Mason
Ed Olah
Al Lund
Robert Beiner

Men's 60+ A/B (6)

Al Murray
William Gingold
Manuel Rosiles
Mike Oester
Len Yahiro
Michael Garcia

Men's 65+ (3)

John O'Donnell
Ed Olah
Robert Reiner

Men's 70+ (2)

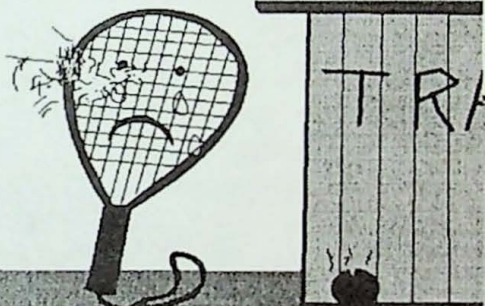
John O'Donnell
Robert Beiner

Men's 70+ A/B (2)

Ken Yahiro
Michael Garcia

Men's 75+ A/B (1)

Ken Yahiro



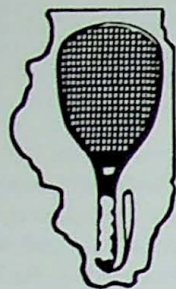
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(708) 444-0051



2001-2002 TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

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

November 3-4

The Southlake Fall Open *

The Southlake Club
Kathy Logic (847) 949-8180
SANCTIONED

November 8-11

Glass Court Turkey Shoot *

Glass Court Swim & Fitness
Lombard
Doug Halverson
(630) 629-3390
SANCTIONED

November 14-18

**6th Annual Hilton Hotels
U.S. Open**

Memphis, Tennessee
Jim Hiser (719) 635-5396
SANCTIONED

December 7-9

Wilson Holiday Classic *

Oak Park Athletic Club
Bill Lyman (708) 848-5200
SANCTIONED

2002

January 10-13

Revie Sorey Celebrity Classic

World Gym, Palatine
Laurel Davis (847) 971-9300
SANCTIONED

January 17-20

**Women's Senior/Masters
Championship**

Players Athletic Club
Warren, MI
Diane Courtney (810) 774-6900
SANCTIONED

January 19

Doubles Tune-Up

The Southlake Club
Kathy Logic (847) 949-8180

January 25-27

ILLINOIS STATE DOUBLES *

Glass Court Swim & Fitness
Lombard
Tom Griffith (630) 629-3390
SANCTIONED

February 1-3

B.R. Ryall YMCA Winter Classic *

B.R. Ryall YMCA
Glen Ellyn
Sean Nelson (630) 858-0100
SANCTIONED

February 8-10

7th Annual Olympic Open

Palos Olympic
Tom Utterback (708) 974-1900
SANCTIONED

February 14-17

St. Valentines Day Massacre

LPRA Women's Pro Stop *
Athletic Club at Bloomingdale
Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577
SANCTIONED

March 8-10

Negrete Open *

Athletic Club at Bloomingdale
Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577
SANCTIONED

March 14-17

Shamrock Shootout *

Glass Court Swim & Fitness
Lombard
Doug Halverson
(630) 629-3390
SANCTIONED

March 22-24

Edens March Madness *

Edens Athletic Club
Cindy Flores (773) 286-6700
SANCTIONED

April 5-7

**30th ISRA STATE SINGLES
CHAMPIONSHIPS ***

Athletic Club at Bloomingdale
Laurel Davis (630) 893-9577
SANCTIONED

April 19-21

**Ektelon/USRA REGIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIPS ***

Athletic Club at Bloomingdale
Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577
SANCTIONED

April 26-28

Illini Classic

Downtown YMCA
The Fitness Center, Champaign
Jason (217) 356-1616
SANCTIONED

May 23-27

**Ektelon/USRA NATIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Downtown YMCA
Jim Hiser (719) 635-5396
SANCTIONED

*** Denotes special Junior
Focus Tournament**

sponsored by



Wilson Women's Classic

Athletic Club of Bloomingdale
September 22, 2001

What more could a racquetball player want on a Saturday in late September?: Gifts! Prizes! Food! Lots of play! ...and, a contribution to a great cause!!

Dave Negrete teamed up with Wilson reps Terri Graham and Chris Evon to provide a

day of fun, exercise and camaraderie for the 31 players who participated in the Women's

Classic. For each of the entries, Dave contributed \$5 to the American Red Cross for relief efforts.



Dave Negrete with WWC participants



Terri Sutton and Barb Utterback



The ones who made it all possible!
Dave Negrete, Terri Graham
and Chris Evon.

With a round robin format of 2 games to 11, everyone got in plenty of racquetball. After a great lunch, prizes donated by Wilson, and recognition of winners, the "gluttons" in the group raced off for some afternoon doubles (great practice for National Doubles the following week!).

Dave, Chris and Terri, thanks for a super day! Thanks also to Pat Negrete and Dennis Negrete for their contributions.

Congratulations to the winner in each division: Terri Graham (Open), Cathy Bertucci (A), Lola Markus (B) and Janet Christie (C). Below are listed the players in each division. Several were playing

in their first tournament; we hope they'll join us on the "tournament circuit" this coming year!

—Cheryl Kirk

C: Debbie Bordinoh, Janet Christie, Carrie Howard, Liz Janda, Carolyn Watkins, Sue Young

B: Dorothy Che-Menju, Peggy Hollingsworth, Cheryl Kirk, Lola Markus, Dorothy McDavid

A: Cathy Bertucci, Janet Eminger, Pam Grace, Margaret Hoff, Terri Sutton, Marcia Tilley, Barb Utterback, Barb Vagedes, Lynne Weisbart, Kathy Welker

Open: Nancy Amaro, Diane Bunker, Laurel Davis, Terri Graham, Martha Huske, Nancy Kronenfeld, Liz Molitor, Nancy Schum, Ellen Somberg, Julie Vincent



Women's C division in full force



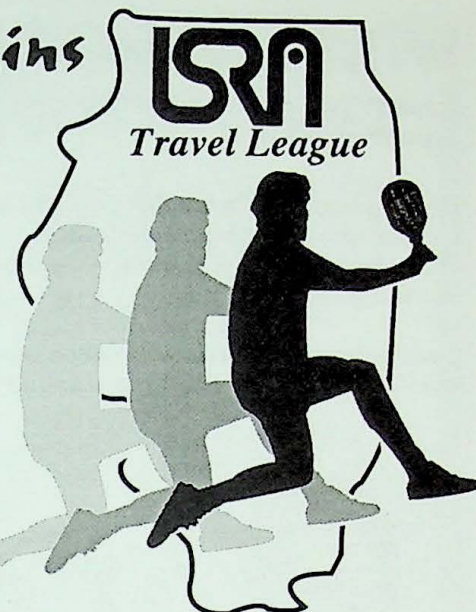
Division Winners Cathy Bertucci, Janet Christie, Lola Markus, and Terri Graham

2000/2001 Travel Team Season Begins

The always hectic fall season got underway in early October with the 2000/2001 Travel Team league. This unique league hosts 34 teams of various levels (Open/A, A/B and B/C) competing against other clubs around the Chicagoland area. No other city in the country has club to club competition at this level. Coming off of a summer of relaxed play, it is quite a shock to step on the court in October, not only wanting to win, but also wanting to win big as total team points determine which team wins the match. Although the league lost a number of women's teams in a daytime league, we are fielding 34 teams this year including a number of new clubs in the Men's divisions.

We hope to continue to bring new clubs and teams to the league, including regaining our momentum in the women's divisions. Please make sure that you renew your ISRA/USRA membership with your Travel Team dues. Membership fees increase from \$20 per year to \$30 year as of January 1, 2002. Once again, we want to thank Ektelon for their continued sponsorship of the ISRA Travel League. Have a great year!

—Pam Grace, Travel Team Coordinator.



Racquetball Challenge Courts

Bloomington 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

Friday 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)

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



Illinois State Racquetball Association

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