



From The President

Ahh! The lazy, hazy... and crazy... days of summer! This is the time of year most of us take our annual breaks from racquetball. As you sit in your lawn chair leafing through this newsletter, you'll see that some of us have NOT slowed down for the summer. Perhaps we can attribute that to the fact that the ISRA membership is a group of overachievers.

Cheryl Gudinas won the Nationals and was awarded USRA's Player of the Year award... how cool is that? Kathy Grill, Illinois' current state Open champ, has published her second novel and is negotiating to sell movie rights to the first. T.J. Ferro keeps building the Juniors program. A large group of ISRA players represented us well in Houston at the USRA Nationals. The pictures inside tell the stories.

The ISRA board has been busy this summer, too. We've wrapped up last season's work and started planning for next season. State Singles and Doubles dates have been set and confirmed, as well as dates for many other tournaments. Check the calendar in this issue. Tom Utterback is hosting the annual ISRA golf outing.

Half of the ISRA governing board positions come up for election each year. Tom Griffith has recently been elected as ISRA Vice President, and Rich Clay has "re-upped" as Treasurer. New members to the board include Peggy Hartmann and Steve Stone. Bill Lyman has rejoined the board after a hiatus. Please welcome them to the team.

Dave Negrete continues to keep himself and his club in the news. Club improvements continue and...NEWS FLASH... Dave will be hosting a WOMEN's Pro/Am event next March. Yippee!

Regardless of whether your summer is lazy or crazy, we look forward to seeing you back on the courts in the fall. Cheers!

Laurel

Full Draw 1999-2000 Tournament Winners

Here are this season's full draw tournament winners. A full draw is a division of 12 in a men's event and 8 in a women's. Mixed doubles move up on 8. Win one full draw tournament and you move up next season. Win twice (or win State's) and you move up with your next event. The only exception is Regionals. Due to the stronger level of competition and the ability to qualify for the Nationals, you get to play Regionals at your initial tournament level.

For tournament players there is no better feeling than accomplishing a long sought after goal. For those moving on up, the challenges get harder, the rewards better. Good luck to all tournament players for the up coming season.

Full Draw Tournament "A" Winners Moving to Open NAME

TOURNAMENT

NEW LEVEL

Ben Croft (2000 Most Improved Player)

Regionals, St. Valentine's and Buehler Open

Also won Men's B at Turkey Shoot and Southlake

Men's Open

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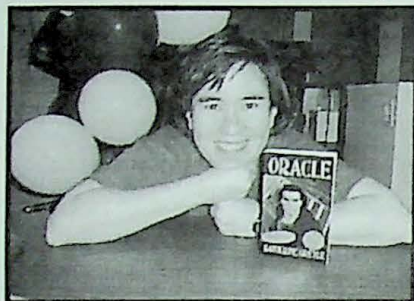
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Kathy Grill, Writing the book on Illinois Racquetball?



I always find it somewhat strange to learn what goes on with racquetball friends and opponents in the real world after the racquets get put in their bag. It is even stranger still to find that a top Illinois player even has a life outside of a racquetball court. This is especially true with the winner of this year's Illinois State Women's Open, Kathy Grill of Champaign. Kathy is a best selling novelist with not one, but two novels under her pen name of Katherine Greyle. If her luck holds out, we might see a made for TV movie or even a feature film made from one or both of her books! Her first book is titled Oracle, which is a romance

novel set in a futuristic/time-travel world where magic, danger and wizards rule. Patricia White from 'Under the Cover Book Reviews' states that "the Oracle is a powerful book, full of conflict, internal and external, and is almost impossible to put down." Great review, which is one of several noted on Amazon.com's site. The book has won several awards, including Best Futuristic and Best of the Best from Prism Reviews. Kathy's second book, Rules for a Lady, is due out in January.

Kathy's real world background includes a Masters' in Screen Writing at University of Southern California. A background which is very helpful with the process that happens after a book gets written. She is currently working with her agent in negotiations for movie rights on both books, a process which she says many enter but few come out of. Still, her second book has entered the "development" phase, which reduces the odds from one in thousands to one in hundreds.

Does Racquetball play any role in her writing success? Surprisingly, Kathy notes many similarities. Both require much patience and practice. While these recent two books have become a success, Kathy noted that Oracle was the 6th or 7th book that she wrote. Dealing with rejection, knowledge that success comes only after hard work is a key. The ability to deal with tough competition; pressure, keeping your cool in dealing with your opponent or publishers and lawyers all help.

With a laugh, Kathy noted that she has not yet worked a racquetball theme into one of her novels, although she did once write a screen play around a racquetball theme. No luck that time. "Maybe sometime in the future," she noted. Still racquetball is an important element in her daily life, as her day job includes running the racquetball program as head racquetball pro at The Fitness Center in Champaign. This dedication helped her best good Chicago area competition, beating Patrice Calvi, Laurel Davis and Liz Molitor at the ISRA State Singles Championships, an accomplishment she ranks up there with the birth of her two daughters and getting published. All in all, Kathy seems to have her eye on the ball and with her determination, who knows where that will lead her?

—Mike Davern.

Kathy's book, Oracle, under pen name Katherine Greyle, Lion-Hearted Publishing, is available at many booksellers, including at www.amazon.com.

Racquetball Websites

ISRA Website: <http://www.illinoisracquetball.com>

Check out the ISRA website for updated tournament information, tournament results, ranking information, and to find out what's happening at Illinois Clubs. Stop in and check it out soon!

USRA Websites: <http://www.racquetball.org> <http://www.usra.org>

Racquetball Magazine Website: <http://www.racqmag.com>

E-Force Racquetball: <http://www.e-force.com>

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Wilson Racquetball: <http://www.wilsonracquetball.com>

Courtesy Sports: <http://www.courtesysports.com>

Gemini Racquetball: <http://www.craiga.home.mindspring.com>

Penn Racquetball: <http://www.pennracquet.com>

National Masters Racquetball Association: www.genesinet.net/users/nmra

IRT/WIRT Pro Tours: www.irt-tour.com

Jordan Kahn's Home Page: <http://members.aol.com/Jordanisra/index.html>

Meet and Play: <http://www.meetandplay.com>

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Full Draw continued (from page 1)

Pontee Dodds
Regionals & State Singles Women's Open
Dennis Negrete
Negrete Open and
Shamrock Shootout Men's Open
Cary Slade (2000 Male Player of the Year)
State Singles and B.R. Ryall YMCA
Cary also won at Palos and Wilson but
neither had full draws. Men's Open
Shannon Kohl (MI)
Revie Sorey Men's Open
Ellen Somberg
Revie Sorey Women's Open
Kurt Mankle
Turkey Shoot Men's Open
Jon Cole
Bloomingdale Halloween Men's Open
Julie Vincent
Bloomingdale Halloween Women's Open
Eric Rieman
Summerfest 1999 Men's Open

Full Draw Tournament "B" Winners Moving to "A"

Martin Gonzalez
Regionals and Revie Sorey Men's A
Keith Mecklenburg
Negrete Open Men's A

Carl DeAmbrose
Shamrock Shootout Men's A
Cathy Radloff
Shamrock Shootout Women's A
Miguel Saavedra
State Singles Men's B Champion
Moved up three levels!!! Won at
Summerfest 1999 Men's D, then won
Men's C at Wilson Classic. Men's A
Dave Coyner
Valentine's Day
Also won Men's C at
BR Ryall Fall Classic Men's A
Brian Johnson
Buehler Open and B. R. Ryall Men's A
Rob Ayres
Wilson Classic Men's A
Jason Brownell
Bloomingdale Halloween Men's A
Leslie Miller
Bloomingdale Halloween Women's A
Ed Gutierrez
Summerfest 1999 Men's A

Full Draw Tournament "C" Winners Moving to "B"

Tony Roselli
Regionals Men's B
John Anaya
Negrete Open Men's B

Kelvin Branch
Shamrock Shootout Men's B
Juan Alcantar
State Singles Men's C Champ and Palos
Men's C
Also won Men's D at Wilson Men's B
Scott Trizzino
Valentine's Open Men's B
Brian Cody
Buehler Open Men's B
Brandon Cortese (MI)
Revie Sorey Men's B
Julie Perkins
Revie Sorey Women's B
Jason Kennedy
Turkey Shoot Men's B
Erik Newman
Southlake Fall Men's B
John Bealieu
Bloomingdale Halloween Men's B
Charlie Naber
Summerfest 1999 Men's B

Full Draw Tournament "D" Winners Moving to "C"

George Bound
Regionals Men's C
Tom Frediani
Negrete Open Men's C

continued on page 10



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2000/2001 ISRA Newsletter Advertising Rates

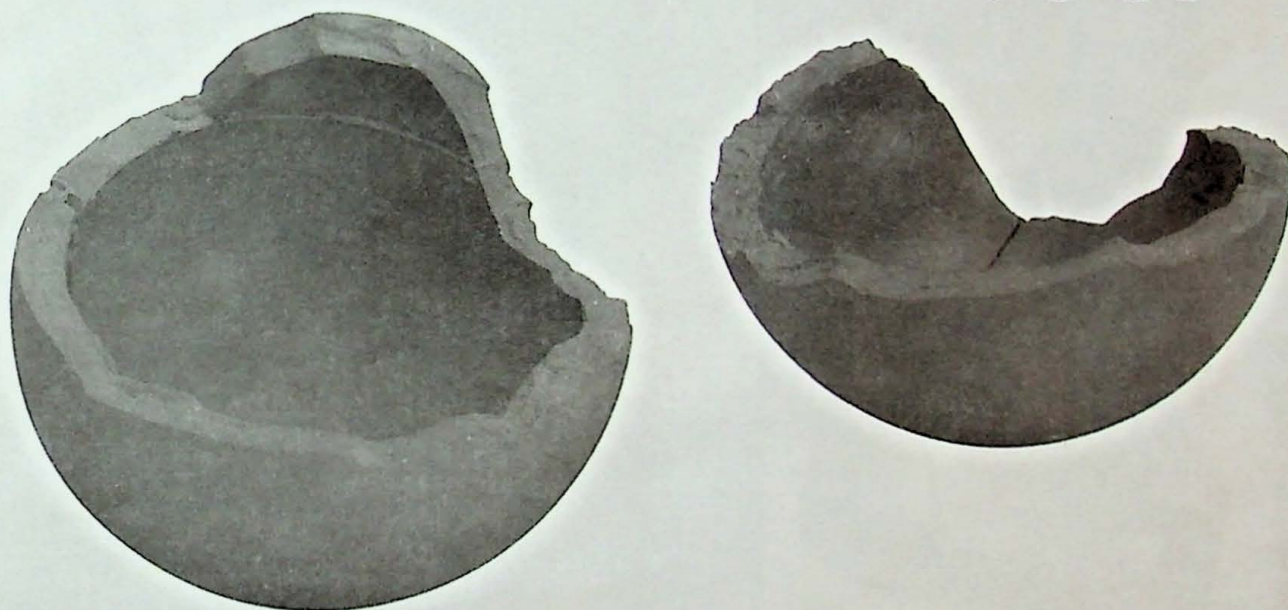
GUIDELINES:

- 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, 2000.
- Ad deadlines are as follows:

Issue	Mail Date	Article/Releases Due	Stuffers/Inserts Due
	9/1/00	8/12/00	8/20/00
	11/1/00	10/12/00	10/20/00
	1/01/01	12/12/00	12/20/00
	3/01/01	2/12/01	2/20/01
	5/01/01	4/12/01	4/20/01
	7/01/01	6/12/01	6/20/01

- 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
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Illinois Players Getting National Exposure



L-R: Len Restaino,
Patrice Galvi,
Joe Silius



Cheryl Kirk, 2nd Women's B with coach/husband
Christopher "Kit" Lawson



Cathy Radloff
3rd Women's B



L-R: Lynn Horns,
Cary Slade,
Christopher Lawson

*Gary Slade,
3rd, Men's
30+ A/B*



*Ronald Yonkee, 1st Men's
55+ A/B with Dennis Negrete*



Lynn Hiorhs, Dave Negrete, Cathy Radloff

*Joe DeRoche, 4th
Men's D, 1st Cons.
Men's 35+ C/D*



Challenge Court Nights

Bloomington Challenge Court
Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. \$6.00

Glass Court Challenge Court
Wednesday 6 - 9 p.m. \$6.00 Saturday 9-11 a.m. \$6.00

Oak Park Athletic Club
Wednesdays 4-7 and Saturday 12-3 p.m. \$8.00

Palos Olympic Health and Racquet Club
Friday 6 - 8:30 p.m. \$5.00

Southlake Challenge Court
Saturday 10 a.m. - Noon \$6.00

Junior Clinic Tour Finishes Strong

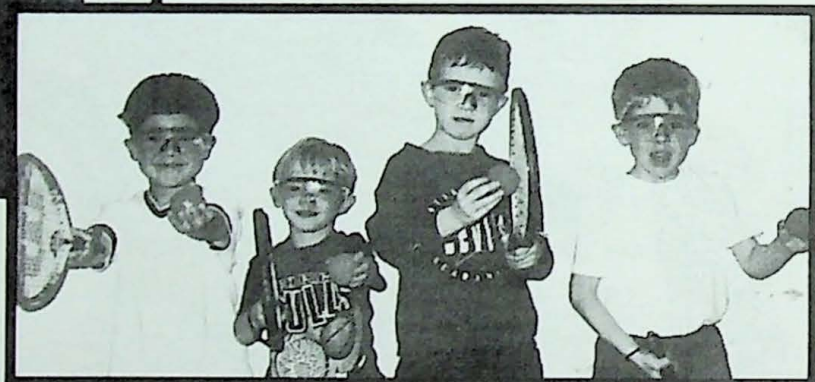
T.J. Ferro, Krystal Csuk and their assistant instructors finished the year up strong with two successful junior clinics at Naper Olympic and at The Fitness Center in Champaign. The Naper Olympic stop was the largest of the year with over 30 kids participating in the free three hour clinic. The kids had a great time with sponsored players, Cary Slade, Mike Davern, Dennis Bishoff, Cheryl Kirk, Rob Ayres and Leon Berryman helping T.J. and Krystal run the clinic. If you haven't had a chance to bring your kids to a Junior Clinic you are really missing an opportunity. While not every clinic is the same, every kid at the Naper Clinic received a free gift from one of the sponsoring racquetball companies (HEAD, Wilson, Ektelon, Penn, and Pro Kennex). Four brand new racquets were even given out. The ISRA also provides free drinks and snacks to all of the kids. Besides the freebies, the kids got some great instruction. Even in as short a time as three hours, the kids learn the basics of the game, court positioning, the serve and work with drills on both the backhand and forehand. Playing age appropriate games is also a highlight of the afternoon. The ISRA board would like to thank T.J. and Krystal for another successful year of Junior Clinics. We hope to continue this fine tradition at various clubs around the state again next year.



T.J. Ferro leads the Junior Clinic at Naper Olympic, March 25, 2000



*Naper Olympic Instructors (from left to right):
Cary Slade, Leon Berryman, T.J. Ferro, Mike Davern,
Krystal Csuk, Dennis Bishoff, Rob Ayres
and Cheryl Kirk*



T.J., teach us!!



*Junior Clinic Participants
Naper Olympic
March 25, 2000*

Playing a Pro

by Mike DeGonia

ed. note. Mike wrote this essay for his 8th grade English class. We don't know for sure if he got an "A" but we sure liked it. Hope you do, too...

I bounced down the stairs at my local racquetball club as I run into one of my racquetball instructors. He said, "Did you know the pros are coming to this club?"

My jaw dropped in surprise. I asked, "Which pros are coming?"

"Cliff Swain and Derek Robinson." (Cliff is currently the #2 player in the world, and Derek is currently #5). Then both of us got into a conversation and went into the locker room to change. I played that night for about four hours, then on the way home I told my dad that the pros were coming up to our club in four days. He was also surprised. After going to school thinking about that the whole time, it was finally the fourth day and I couldn't wait to get off the bus. I walked home as fast as I could to call my dad to see what time we were leaving.

He said with excitement, "around five o'clock." (It was around 3:30) I waited and waited with anxiousness and excitement for that sound of the Ford Diesel to pull up in the driveway. I finally heard the sound of it at about five. I was all excited when Dad walked in the door and said to pack my bag and we'll go. I ran through the kitchen to throw my clothes in my bag as I waited anxiously for my dad to do the same. He came walking through the kitchen as he said, "Do you know why you're bringing your racquetball stuff?"

I asked, "No, why are we?"

He just walked out the door and mumbled, "you'll see when you get there." We drove to the club, (we live about two minutes away) walked through the front door and I ran downstairs to get changed. I did not see the pros anywhere. I bounced back up the stairs and to my surprise, my instructor came up to me and exclaimed, "Do ya wanna meet Derek?"

I excitedly said, "Sure." We walked down the stairs as my instructor said that both of the pros were probably in the locker room getting stretched out to play. I walked in and I saw a towering man, about 6'4". I walked up to him and I looked up almost directly at the ceiling. My instructor introduced me to Derek and I shook his hand. He squeezed my hand pretty hard and I tried to do the same. I was absolutely amazed that I got to meet him in person. At other tournaments I have seen the pros play, and I have also gotten some signatures on racquetballs, but I was never introduced. I barely got out the word "Hi", as he said, "Hi." He said he had to get stretched out to play Cliff, so I ran back upstairs as quickly as I could to tell my dad. He smiled as he put me in front of him with a spot on the top where I was looking down on the bright empty court. I then heard a bag drop outside the court door, then I saw Cliff Swain and Derek Robinson sprint up the stairs to answer questions from the crowd. There were questions like, "What do you eat before you go to play a game?" and "What kind of exercises do you do to stay in shape?" The pros answered all of the questions and then went downstairs to do warm ups.

I saw them hit ceiling shots then hit kill shots. They started hitting the ball so hard, the ball almost sounded like a small, high pitched bell ringing. I looked behind me and I saw people standing on chairs trying to see the pros practice. There were so many people that showed up, the people in the front row had to turn to the side so more people could see. I turned back around and I saw the pros

starting the game. Cliff Swain served the ball as a lob serve and Derek hit a hard and low shot that got Cliff out. The game went up to eleven points, just like a tournament match. It was the tenth point and Cliff served and aced Derek out and Cliff Swain won. Both of them came upstairs to talk with the mid-west representative, Lynn Adams (seven-time women's world champion) of Wilson Racquetball, and she decides that Cliff and Derek should play one more game, and they did. Cliff Swain won, (show off). Both of the pros were going to play three pick up games each. (A pick up game is one in which the pros would play members and visitors from the club). People who wanted to play raised their hands, and I was the first to raise my hand, of course. Lynn of Wilson picked my instructor to play Cliff Swain first, and a visitor to play him second, she scanned around the room as she glance at me and said, "The boy in the back."

I was stunned. My face turned redder than a ripe tomato and butterflies started to fly in my stomach. As both of the pros were going down the stairs, Derek winked at me and gave me a smile as a good luck sign against Cliff. I walked quickly to where I could look down on the court, and to my surprise, my instructor walked in and started to warm up. I watched as Cliff walked in and started to warm up again. The game finally started as Cliff and my instructor cracked a few jokes at each other. My instructor lost. The next "victim" walked into the court and started to warm up. They played a game, and Cliff won again. I scrambled down stairs to see Cliff, Swain. He said, "Hi," are you ready to play?"

I said, "Yeah!" I walked in with my legs shaken' like jello that fell on the floor.

I warmed up and Cliff said, "You can serve." I served a drive serve which is a hard and low shot that has to go past the second line of the serves box before it can bounce, or its short. If it hits the back wall without bouncing, it is called long. My serve was good and Cliff Swain got it with ease as he hit a ceiling shot. I ran back, hit a terrible shot, but it made it to the front wall. (If you hit a shot that hits the floor before hitting the front wall, that is called a skip and I'm serving so it would be side out, and Cliff would serve the ball.) Cliff hit a shot and I killed it hard and low. I got a point! 1-0. I served the ball as a lob serve, which is a high serve that has the same rules as short and long serve. The serve hit off the side wall as Cliff hit it as hard as he could and all that I saw and heard was a high pitched ringing sound and a blur go past me as I look at Cliff as though he had missed it. He went up to the service line and hit a lob serve, as it hit the side wall, it bounced once, then it went way up in the air and I hit a very good kill shot. Cliff got the ball with ease and hit it back to me. I killed the ball again, then he killed it, and I could not get to it. 1-1. He served another lob serve, right on the wall which racquetball players call wall-paper, it hit the back wall and fell straight down. Whiff! I missed it. 2-1. He then served a drive serve. Whiff! I missed another one. 3-1.

Cliff served a lob serve which hit the side wall and I hit it as hard as I possibly could and Cliff got it again. He hit a ceiling shot to me as he anticipated that I would do the same. He guessed wrong. I've practiced this shot a lot, I lined up to pretend to hit a ceiling shot, took a swing like a tennis player would on a serve, and I hit a perfect shot. The ball almost rolled out. Cliff turned around at me, gave me a dirty look and said, "Who hit that?" I just smiled and walked up to the service box where I scored four more points in a row. 5-3. Six more points until I win.

continued on page 12
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Full Draw continued from page 5

Dave Porzel
Shamrock Shootout
Oscar Corona
State Singles Men's D Champ
Jason DeSanto
Palos Olympic Open
Andy Simmons
Valentine's Day
John Wiemhoff
Buehler Open
Troy Barber (IN)
Revie Sorey
Sid Harshavat
Turkey Shoot
Brian Pforr
Bloomingtondale
1998 Summerfest Open

DOUBLES TEAMS ON THE MOVE

The following doubles teams must move up one level based on their winning a full draw tournament division. A full draw doubles division is one with 12 teams for the men, 8 for the women and 8 for the mixed doubles divisions. Players must play at the level of the higher of the two singles divisions.

Full Draw Doubles Winners Moving Up

Carl DeAmbrose/T.G. Venkateshwaran
Shamrock Shootout

Dennis Negrete/Eric Rieman
State Doubles

Won Turkey Shoot & Summerfest 1999 (although less than full draw). Men's Open

Ron Calloway/Joey Brownlee
State Doubles

Julia Perkins/Pat Jennings
State Doubles

Kathy Grill/Jack Cochran
State Doubles

Keith Mecklenburg/Jeff Jovien
Revie Sorey

Delmer Reed/Pontee Dodds
Revie Sorey

Jim Nickerson (IN)/Carol Crossett (IN)
Revie Sorey

Pontee Dodds/Martin Gonzalez
Turkey Shoot

New Division

Men's A

Men's B

Women's Open

Mixed Open

Men's A

Mixed Open

Mixed A Doubles

Mixed Open

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Men's C

Men's C

Men's C

Men's C

Men's C

Men's C

Men's C

Men's C

2000 Illini Classic

April 28-30, 2000

Great spring weather and racquetball sometimes don't mix well in Illinois but those that attended the Illini Classic got great weather and got to see great racquetball as well. We got to see Greg Hasty Jr. and Ben Croft on one glass-backed court going at it in the semifinals of the Men's Open while Tony Marquez and home town favorite, Andy Hawthorne were going at it full blast on the other. What a great end to the season. I saw two players diving at the same time on different courts for similar rollout kills. The Fitness Center has great viewing on its two championship courts. Let's hope they vote to keep it that way. Anyway, the outcome of all of this diving was a great finals pitting Greg against Andy, in what might be Andy's last appearance in Illinois for awhile. Andy is off to college next fall. We hope to get him back soon. He might try to catch a rematch against Greg, who got the better of Andy in a great match. Greg wins 15-10, 15-10. On the women's side, experience wins out again, as Kankakee's Josie Barnett bests Krystal Csuk for the second time this season, this time in a round robin match: 11-5, 11-8, 7-11. I'm sure that this is one rematch that Krystal will be looking for all summer long.

-- Mike Davern

Event, First Place, Second Place

Men's Open (7), Greg Hasty II, Andy Hawthorne

Men's AA (3), Mike Bryce, Kurt Mankle

Men's A (3), Kurt Bauer, Dave Leach

Men's B (5), Charlie Smith, John Dawson

Men's C (7), Doug Richter, Matt Kaag,

Men's D (2), Matt Kaag, Adam Dillows

Men's 30/40+ (11), Rick Reynolds, Mike Davern

Men's 45+ (2), T.J. Ferro, Frank Rusch

Men's 60+ (2), John O'Donnell, Don Davis

Men's 45+, T.J. Ferro, Knut Bauer

Women's Open (3), Josie Barnett, Krystal Csuk

Women's A (7), Marcia Tilley, Shelly Stewart

Men's Open Doubles (3), Andy Hawthorne/Jack Cochran, Greg Hasty II/Rick Reynolds

Men's A Doubles (3), Tim Helpinstine/Randy Asper, Jack Cochran/Joe DeLuce

Mixed Open Doubles (5), Kathy Grill/Mike Bryce, Terry Sutton/Kurt Mankle

Mixed A Doubles (3), Marcia Tilley/Brad Goeppinger, Stephanie Wolf/Randy Asper

The ISRA Board would like to issue a special thanks to:

RC COLA

for their three year product sponsorship of the ISRA State Singles and State Doubles and the ISRA Junior Clinics.

National Singles Racquetball Championships

"The Finals" Houston, TX
May 24-29, 2000

Why would 34 racquetball players from Illinois spend their Memorial Day weekend in hot-and-humid-Houston?

- A. See the Houston Astros play in the new stadium.
- B. Have the chance to wear their favorite Hawaiian shirts.
- C. Place bets on video horseracing, play sports skill games, and sing really bad karaoke.
- D. Compete in "The Finals" singles tournament.

Is "D" your final answer? Rather, "The Finals" IS the answer. And actually, A, B, C, and D were all part of opportunities afforded the 623 tournament participants.

The Downtown Houston YMCA hosted for the 18th straight year, lending 16 courts to continuous play for the over 1,100 entries in a wide range of divisions (age, skill and combined age/skill).

The Saturday evening Awards Dinner was one of the weekend's highlights. The evening started off with Hawaiian entertainment and ended with the awards program:

- Cheryl Gudinas and Adam Karp were respectively named Female and Male Athletes of the year.
- Inducted into the USRA Hall of Fame were Van Dubolsky (long-time USRA contributor/advisor), Jim Winterton (former U.S. National Team Head Coach), and Ruben Gonzalez (accomplished and respected pro tour athlete). Ruben's speech was particularly moving as he described his challenging younger days and credited racquetball for changing the course of his life.

On Monday, an exclusive live internet broadcast of the Men's and Women's Open finals was provided by Ticket2Sports.com. Cheryl Gudinas (IL) defeated Jackie Paraiso (CA) 15-7, 15-13 for the women's top spot. Rocky Carson (CA) dominated Doug Eagle (TX) 15-7, 15-7 to win the men's title. The only other Illinois first was Ron Yonkee in 55+ A/B.



Cheryl Kirk, 2nd, Women's B



Cheryl Gudinas, 1st, Women's Open

Twenty-three men and eleven women from Illinois participated with a total of 60 division entries. Illinois tied for 4th with Ohio for the most players in the tournament (Texas, California and Florida were 1-2-3 respectively).
-- Cheryl Kirk

Illinois top results:

Patrice Calvi – 3rd — Women's 35+ A/B
Joe DeRoche – 4th — Men's D; 1st consolation — Men's 35+ C/D
Chris Evon – 4th — Women's 40+
Cheryl Gudinas – 1st — Women's Open
Cheryl Kirk – 2nd — Women's B
Bridget Kundrot – 4th — Women's C
Joey Logan – 1st consolation — Men's 30+
Horace Miller – 4th — Men's 55+
Cathy Radloff – 3rd — Women's B
Cary Slade – 3rd — Men's 30+ A/B
Lynne Weisbart – 1st consolation — Women's 45+ A/B
Ronald Yonkee – 1st — Men's 55+ A/B

To enter "The Finals", one needs only to compete in the USRA Regionals in April. Then, mark your calendars for next Memorial Day weekend (May 23-28, 2001). It's a great tournament experience; let's set our sights on another record turnout for Illinois next year! Congratulations and thanks to all of the players who represented Illinois in Houston.

The "Illinois 34"

* Denotes "top finisher" (USRA ranking points earned).

Greg Benjamin	Men's B	Men's 25-30+ C/D
Patrice Calvi	Women's A	*Women's 35+ A/B
Rich Clay	Men's 30+	Men's 35+

continued on next page

Nationals continued from previous page

Chris Cotton	Men's A	Men's 25+ A/B
Mary Crawford	Women's 35+	Women's 40+
Don Davis	Men's 60+	*Men's 60+ A/B
Joe DeRoche	*Men's D	Men's 35+ C/D
Chris Evon	*Women's 40+	
Jesus Garcia	Men's D	Men's 25-30+ C/D
Cheryl Gudinas	*Women's Open	
Sid Harshavat	Men's C	*Men's 24- C/D
Lynn Hiorns	Women's B	*Women's 30+ A/B
Michael Kinkin	Men's 30+	
Cheryl Kirk	*Women's B	*Women's 40+ A/B
Bridget Kundrot	*Women's C	*Women's 30-35+ C/D
John Kundrot	Men's Open	Men's 30+
Michelle Lexow	Women's D	*Women's 24-/25+ C/D
Joey Logan	Men's 25+	Men's 30+
Bill Lyman	Men's 35+	Men's 40+
Grant Macuba	Men's C	*Men's 25-30+ C/D
Don Mayberry	Men's C	
Horace Miller	*Men's 50+	*Men's 55+
Carla Moats	Women's D	*Women's 30-35+ C/D
Dave Negrete	*Men's 35+	
Dennis Negrete	Men's A	Men's 30+ A/B
John O'Donnell	*Men's 70+	
Geoff Peters	Men's A	Men's 40+ A/B
Cathy Radloff	*Women's B	*Women's 30+ A/B
Len Restaino	Men's 45+	
Eric Rieman	Men's A	Men's 25+ A/B
Joe Silius	Men's 50+	
Cary Slade	Men's A	*Men's 30+ A/B
Lynne Weisbart	Women's 45+	*Women's 45+ A/B
Ronald Yonkee	*Men's 55+	*Men's 55+ A/B

Playing a Pro continued from page 9

I served another hard drive serve, which was almost was an ace (an ace is where the ball bounces twice really fast after it goes past the short line and the opponent has no chance of hitting it to keep it in play.) Cliff hit a kill shot as hard as he could and I just saw a blur and wondered what happened. Cliff scored two more points on me until I finally hit a good kill shot. 5-5. I scored one more point. 6-5.

As I walked up to the service box I couldn't feel my legs because they were wiggling so much. I served a lob serve, Cliff killed it, but he left it up and I almost dove for it, BAM! I hit a tremendous kill shot and Cliff couldn't get to it. 7-5.

I walked up to the service box and crouched down to serve when Cliff said in a soft tone, "That's it, the game's up to 7 points." My face turned all red. I won, I beat the #2 player in the world (playing at my skill level of course). I walked out the door as I thanked Cliff over and over for the game, I ran upstairs to tell my dad everything. The next day when my dad came home, he got a picture of me and Cliff Swain standing together. My dad said that there was going to be a pro tournament up at a different club and he said to bring the picture with to get autographed. When we finally arrived at the other club, I saw Cliff Swain playing. When he finally got done winning his match, I showed the picture to him and he smiled and leaned over on another chair, signed the picture, and gave it back to me. It said, "MIKE, ALWAYS PLAY HARD, Cliff Swain '99." I will never forget those two days for the rest of my life.

(Great report Mike. If you keep up your writing we certainly will save you a spot the ISRA editorial staff. Keep up the playing and good luck at Junior Nationals this summer in Minneapolis. Send us a note as to how it went.)



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Travel League Update

With the participants of the 1999-2000 season working on improving their game for next year (or rather relaxing at the pool, spa or golf course more likely) Travel League President, Pam Grace and her staff are already hard at work planning for next season. This past year we had 38 teams representing 21 different clubs participate in the League. We have had inquiries from a number of new clubs for next year and we hope that we can expand the roster even further for the 2000-2001 season. The USRA recognized the ISRA as having the longest and most successful travel team league in the country. ISRA President, Laurel Davis, gave an impromptu description of the league at this past year's leadership conference in Colorado Springs and the talk was highlighted on the USRA newsletter that goes out to all racquetball state presidents.

The captain's meeting for the 2000-2001 season will be held on Tuesday, August 29, 2000 at 7:00pm at the Glass Court in Lombard. Any team that wants to participate in the league must (to the extent possible) have a representative present. Please call Pam Grace (630 462 0244) if you cannot attend. We are actively looking to increase participation. Therefore, any team that brings in a new club to participate will receive a reward from the ISRA. The tentative starting date for the league will be the first week of October.

Last year's league had 12 teams in Men's Open/A with 6 teams playing in the South league: Naper Olympic, Silver Lakes, Westmont, Palos Olympic, Campus Fitness and Chalet and 6 in the North league: two teams from Glass Court and Bloomingdale, one team from Schaumburg and Southlake. In the playoffs, the Glass Court #1 team bested Bloomingdale's #1 team in a tight competition. The Women's Open/A had six teams with teams from Tinley Park, Glass Court, Palos Olympic, Naper Olympic and two teams from Bloomingdale. The Glass Court again came out the victor in this division.

The Bloomingdale Men's B team got some measure of revenge over both the Glass Court #1 (which took third) and the Naper Olympic #1 team which came in second. Other Men's B participants came from Wheaton, Norris Center, Edens Athletic Center and the B.R.



Ryall YMCA. Bloomingdale also reached the top with its Women's B team coming out on top over rivals, Naper Olympic, Glass Court and Schaumburg. Lastly, we had the Glass Court Men's C team over Centre Court (by only 14 points over the whole season) along with Wheaton, Richport YMCA, Lemont, Courts Plus and Buehler YMCA. Hope to see you all next year!



COMPETITIVE LICENSE APPLICATION

Send to:

ISRA

2291 Shannondale Rd.
Libertyville, IL 60048

Member Sport,
U.S. Olympic
Committee

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE/ZIP _____
TELEPHONE (Home) _____ (Business) _____
BIRTHDATE _____

Adult competitor	\$20.00
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).





2000 TOURNAMENT

CALENDAR

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

July 14 & 15
Summersplat Outdoor
Three Wall
Athletic Club of Bloomingdale
Dale Johnson (630) 893-9577

July 28-30
Summerfest
Glass Court Swim & Fitness
Doug Halverson
(630) 629-3390
SANCTIONED

September 8-9
State Three Wall Outdoor
Championships
Athletic Club at Bloomingdale
Dennis Negrete
(630) 893-9577

October 4-8
National Doubles
Baltimore, MD
Jim Hiser (719) 635-5396
SANCTIONED

October 13-15
16th Annual Masters
Athletic Club at Bloomingdale
Rich Clay
(847) 918-7407
SANCTIONED

October 20-22
B.R. Ryall Fall Open
B.R. Ryall YMCA, Glen Ellyn
Sean Nelson
(630) 858-0100
SANCTIONED

October 25-29
Halloween Classic
Athletic Club at Bloomingdale
Dave Negrete
(630) 893-9577
SANCTIONED

November 3-4
Southlake Fall Open
The Southlake Club
Kathy Logic
(847) 949-8180
SANCTIONED

November 9-12
Glass Court Turkey Shoot
Glass Court Swim & Fitness,
Lombard
Doug Halverson
(630) 629-3390
SANCTIONED

November 15-19
5th Annual Hilton
Hotels U.S. Open
Memphis, TN
Jim Hiser
(719) 635-5396

December 2
Wilson Women's Classic
Athletic Club at Bloomingdale
Dave Negrete
(630) 893-9577

December 8-9
Wilson Classic
Oak Park Athletic Club
Bill Lyman (708) 848-5200

January 12-14
Revie Sorey E-Force
Celebrity Classic
Nordic Hills Resort
Anita Efron (708) 474-2440
SANCTIONED

January 19-21
Women's Senior/Masters
Baltimore, MD
(410) 655-7958
SANCTIONED

January 19-21
Doubles Tuneup
The Southlake Club
Kathy Logic (847) 949-8180
SANCTIONED

January 26-28
Illinois State Doubles
Location TBD Chicagoland
SANCTIONED

February 2-4
B.R. Ryall Winter
Tournament
B.R. Ryall YMCA, Glen Ellyn
Sean Nelson (630) 858-0100
SANCTIONED

February 9-11
St. Valentines Day Massacre
Athletic Club at Bloomingdale
Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577
SANCTIONED

February 16-18
6th Annual Olympic Open
Palos Olympic
Health & Fitness
Tom Utterback
(708) 974-1900
SANCTIONED

February 22-25
29th ISRA State Singles
Chicagoland TBA
Laurel Davis (630) 325-6410
SANCTIONED

March 2-4
Landmark Inviatioinal
Landmark Health &
Racquetball, Peoria
Terry Sutton (309) 685-8200

March 8-11
Shamrock Shootout
Glass Court Swim & Fitness
Doug Halverson
(630) 629-3390
SANCTIONED

March 17-19
St. Pat's Day Open
Springfield Racquet
& Fitness Center
Sara Welch (217) 787-2460

March 22-25
Negrete Women's Pro Stop
Athletic Club at Bloomingdale
Dave Negrete
(630) 893-9577
SANCTIONED

April 19-21
Ektelon/USRA Regional
Championships
20 sites nationwide
Jim Hiser (719) 635-5396
SANCTIONED

April 27-29
Illini Classic
The Fitness Center,
Champaign
Bob Graf (217) 356-1616
SANCTIONED

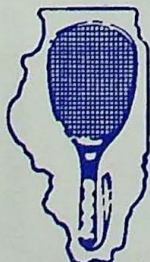
May 4-6
Ektelon/USRA Regionals
Athletic Club of Bloomingdale
Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577
SANCTIONED

May 23-28
Ektelon/USRA National
Championships
Downtown YMCA;
Houston, TX
Jim Hiser (719) 635-5396
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