

The Racquetball Reporter

Winter 1993

Volume III; Issue 6

Quarterly Publication of the Racquetball Association of Michigan

RAM gears up for '93 State Doubles

by W.T. Blakeslee

This issue is focused on getting you to play the RAM STATE DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS scheduled for December 4-5 at the One on One Athletic Club in Ann Arbor. The tournament is always a fun event and designed to make it easy for you to play. There is no Friday play and we are usually done early Saturday evening. We are also giving away FREE SWEAT-SHIRTS! In addition, for those who have first round jitters, we play a modified Olympic format that will guarantee at least two matches. The cost this year is \$50.00 per team/per event and divisions will be limited to 16 entrants. Trophies will be awarded to first and second place winners in all divisions. Semi plaques will be awarded in full divisions only. It really is a nice event, at a nice location and club. Finally, the profit from

the tournament goes to the RAM Board to spend on the association members. Questions regarding the tournament can be directed to either Tom Blakeslee at (313) 468-2787 or Lou Ellen Fecher at (313) 658-8097.

Another rumor I have heard is the anticipated increase in dues for the AARA. It will probably increase to \$25.00 in the near future so my advice is renew now! The only other good news is the Racquetball One series that Ken Bonnett owns is still the only game in town. Please continue to support him. Until next time, Happy Thanksgiving



Michigan Players Ranked Nationally

Joel Bonnett 10th Men's 19+

Jim Hamilton 3rd Men's 25+

Scott Worthy 3rd Men's 30+

Mike Anderson 10th Men's 30+

Scott Worthy 1st Men's 35+

Rick Vanderlind 6th Men's 40+

Stu Hastings 7th Men's 40+

Bob Gravelyn 2nd Men's 45+

Hank Gates 8th Men's 55+

Lynn Hahn 2nd Men's 60+

Karen Green 3rd Women's B

Laura Patterson 5th Women's 35+

Betty Ann Gillilan 6th Women's 45+

Jack Huczek 2nd Boy's 8 & Under

Jack Huczek 1st Boy's 10 & Under

Nicole Steketee 8th Girls 8 & Under

*Provided by Racquetball Magazine
Sept/Oct 1993*

1993 RAM STATE DOUBLES ENTRY ENCLOSED

WOMEN'S SIDE-OUT

by Marta Rubcich

First, let me welcome Julie May to the Women's Committee. Julie's endless enthusiasm for racquetball will certainly contribute to the success of the programs that we establish.

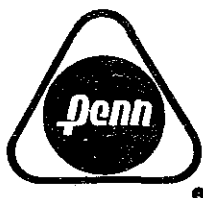
On November 20, RAM will host a Women's Only tournament at the Michigan Athletic Club in Grand Rapids. The tournament will be a one-day round-robin event. This special event is being held to encourage more women to play in tournaments. The tournament will be limited to the first 40 players who sign-up.

Now, I want to ask you to do something for racquetball: invites a friend to play in the next tournament that you go to. Don't wait for our special events for women, encourage your friends to try any of the AARA sanctioned events. If we want more people to participate in tournaments, we need to serve as sales people for our sport. Be a little persistent, your friends will thank you once they have actually been in a tournament.

Congratulations to all the players who participated in the Racquetball One tournament in Petoskey. As a special attraction, those who decided to go shopping or stroll the downtown streets got to experience the first snow of the fall. Next year I'll plan on bringing skis instead of golf clubs.

Finally, congratulations to Chris and Nancy Cole. May you have many years of happiness together.

Side-out.



**PENN
Sponsor of the
1993 RAM STATE DOUBLES**

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Newsletter
The Racquetball Reporter
Sandy Conlen, Editor
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W. I. Blakeslee
Christopher Cole
Marta Rubcich
Lou Ellen Fecher

Ektelon kicks-off championship series

Ektelon, the dominant name in racquetball, and Molly O'Brien, one of the top tournament promoters in the East, have joined forces to create the new Ektelon Championship Racquetball Series for the 1993-94 season. The kick-off tourney is planned October 29-31 at the King George Racquetball Club in Greenbrook, New Jersey. Other tournaments are scheduled at clubs in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland.

"We're really excited about doing this series of tournaments," said O'Brien, who has played racquetball for 12 years and been a member of Team Ektelon for nearly that long. "I think where the most racquetball competition is lacking is in providing championship-quality events. All the tournaments seem the same, with nothing to distinguish them. But working together with Ektelon, we have developed a premiere circuit of racquetball tournaments that offers more to men and women of all playing levels."

Ektelon approached O'Brien to develop the tournament series because of her reputation as an outstanding event and tournament promoter. Her primary focus has been on

racquetball Association (WPRA) — she's currently ranked seventh among the nation's professional women players, and has successfully arranged and coordinated pro stops, clinics and other events for WPRA for many years.

"There was a definite need for something better than the average racquetball tournament to attract grassroots players," noted Ektelon player promotions manager Terri Graham. "We have a tremendous amount of respect for Molly as a tournament promoter, and know this championship series will be successful in her hands," Graham added.

A unique aspect of the championship series is the Ektelon Bonus Pool. "No

other tournament series offers this type of point program incentives," O'Brien explained. For participating in each tournament, players receive 20 points per division entered. Winners add 30 points, finalists add 20 points and semifinalists add 10 points. O'Brien will post everyone's current point standing at each event to spark interest. Prizes including Ektelon t-shirts, gloves, warm-ups, shoes and even new Ektelon RTS series racquets. The man and woman who receive the most Ektelon bonus points will each win a grand prize for travel in the U.S.

"Under the Ektelon prize

Continued on page four

ANN ARBOR WELCOMES AMERICA'S MOST WANTED CAMP

America's Most Wanted Racquetball Camps will be coming to Ann Arbor Michigan on April 23-24. This two-day camp will feature #6 in the world Jack Newman and #4 in the world Ruben Gonzalez. The camp will be held at the One on One Racquetball Club in Ann Arbor. Cost of the camp is only \$199.00 for adults and \$150.00 for juniors. The cost includes: 12 hours of instruction (10:00 am - 4:00 pm Sat./Sun), racquetball instructional video tape (valued at \$19.95), camp shirt, instructional handouts and free admission to an April 22 Friday night Pro Exhibition between Newman and Gonzalez. To sign-up or get more information, call 1-800-ROLLOUT. America's Most Wanted is also selling their state-of-the-art instructional tape for \$19.95 plus shipping and handling (\$4.50). To order the tape you can also call 1-800-ROLLOUT.

Ektelon Championship Series 1993-94 Schedule

October 29-31, 1993

KING GEORGE RACQUETBALL CLUB
Greenbrook, New Jersey

November 12-14, 1993

DIET PEPSI SUPER SERIES #1
MERRITT ATHLETIC CLUB
Salisbury, Maryland

November 19-21, 1993

ALLENTOWN RACQUETBALL CLUB
Allentown, Pennsylvania

December 10-12, 1993

YOGI BERRA'S RACQUETBALL & HEALTH CLUB
Fairfield, New Jersey

December 17-19, 1993

DIET PEPSI SUPER SERIES #2
MERRITT ATHLETIC CLUB
Towson, Maryland

January 14-16, 1994

THE GRAND SLAM
HIGHPOINT ATHLETIC CLUB
Chalfont, Pennsylvania

January 21-23, 1994

THE CLUB AT WOODBRIDGE
Woodbridge, New Jersey

January 28-30, 1994

THE SPORTING CLUB - TYSON'S CORNER
McClean, Virginia (Washington DC area)

February 11-13, 1994*

RACQUET CLUBS OF WARREN
Warren, New Jersey

February 25-27, 1994

DIET PEPSI SUPER SERIES #3
MERRITT ATHLETIC CLUB
Annapolis, Maryland

March 11-13, 1994

TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS
LEMASTER RACQUETBALL & FITNESS
West Chester, Pennsylvania

March 25-27, 1994

AARA EKTOLON ADULT & JUNIOR REGIONAL
HIGHPOINT ATHLETIC CLUB
Chalfont, Pennsylvania

April 8-10, 1994 *

CLASSIC ATHLETIC CLUB
Lyndhurst, New Jersey

April 29-May 1, 1994

DIET PEPSI WPRA NATIONALS/SUPER SERIES #4
MERRITT ATHLETIC CLUB - SECURITY
Baltimore, Maryland

May (date to be announced)*

WESTWOOD RACQUETBALL & NAUTILUS CENTER
Westwood, New Jersey

*Tentative events

Ektelon announces new championship series

Continued from page three

pool concept, participants will be able to reach the second or third level without being top players," O'Brien added. "It will encourage players to play more events and create a positive incentive for players when choosing between tournaments."

O'Brien is also working to develop free racquetball clinics with top pros in conjunction with the Ektelon Championship series. The clinics will be offered at no extra charge as part of the tournament fee.

Article provided compliments of Ektelon.

The Racquetball Association of Michigan

presents the

STATE DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

December 4 & 5, 1993

Site: One on One Athletic Club

2875 Boardwalk Drive, Ann Arbor, MI
313-761-4440

Complimentary SWEATSHIRT!

Guaranteed two matches!

No Friday Play!

Directors: Tom Blakeslee 313-468-2787
Lou Ellen Fecher 313-658-8097

Lodging: Courtyard by Marriot 313-995-5900 \$49.00
Holiday Inn Holidome 313-665-4444 \$60.00

Fees: \$25.00 per person/\$50.00 per team/per event
\$10.00 per person/second event
Non-AARA members add \$15.00

AARA Sanctioned: Yearly AARA membership
required. AARA Rules will prevail. Two games
to 15, tiebreaker to 11.

Olympic Format: Divisions will be limited to 16 entrants. All participants will be guaranteed two matches. First round
losers play for bronze medal. Guaranteed two matches of play.

Trophies and Awards: Trophies will be awarded to first and second place winners in all divisions. Semi plaques will be
awarded in full (draw of 16) divisions only. Each entrant will receive a complimentary SWEATSHIRT.

Starting Times: Play begins Saturday, December 4th. Divisions are limited to draws of 16. Call the club Wednesday,
December 1st after 6:00 p.m. for starting times. NO Friday play.

Referees: Losers must referee or pay \$5.00.

Tournament Ball: PENN Ultra Blue

Entries Must Be Received By November 27, 1993.

Name _____ Partner 1 _____
Address _____ Partner 2 _____
City _____ ZIP _____ Club affiliation _____
Phone - days _____ nights _____ Date of Birth _____

Sweatshirt Size (circle one) M L XL XXL*

*Please enclose \$2.00 additional for XXL

Make Checks Payable to RAM and mail to:

RAM STATE DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

3152 S. HENDERSON RD.

DAVISON, MI 48423

Entry Fee _____

AARA _____

Extra XXL _____

Total Enclosed _____

WAIVER CLAUSE: I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors,
and administrators, waive and release any and all claim for
damages I may have against RAM, the host club, tournament
staff, and their agents, for all injuries suffered by me in
conjunction with my participation in this tournament.

Signature _____

Guardian's Signature _____

(if under 18)

DIVISIONS

circle correct choices (limit two events)

Mens Womens

Open A/B	35B	50A	Mixed Open
A	25+	40A	50B
B	30A	40B	55+
C	30B	45A	60+
D	35A	45B	

Divisions may be combined if less
than 8 teams enter a division.

Alternate Division _____

Join the Racquetball Association of Michigan

Membership includes:

- * Membership card, AARA official rule book, travel and equipment discounts
- * AARA medical, life and liability insurance at sanctioned events
- * Four issues of the RAM newsletter, The Racquetball Reporter
- * Six issues of the AARA national publication, Racquetball Magazine
- * RAM sanctioned tournament entry forms mailed to your home
- * Eligibility to play in all sanctioned tournaments and receive state and national ranking points



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

SUPPORT THE U.S. NATIONAL TEAM
(DONATIONS TAX DEDUCTIBLE)



DATE _____

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP CODE

Date of Birth _____ Home Phone _____ Business Phone _____

CLASS A MEMBER



☐ 1 yr Single \$15 ☐ 2 yr Single \$27 ☐ 5 yr Single \$65 ☐ Out of State \$10

☐ 1st added family member \$13 Name: _____ DOB: _____

☐ Each added family member \$7 Name: _____ DOB: _____

☐ Renewal Name: _____ DOB: _____

☐ Donation \$ _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

The Racquetball
Reporter

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1993 State Doubles Championship Entry Form Enclosed