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ISRA



Newsletter

The Official Publication of the Illinois State Racquetball Association

Vol. 25 No.3
Summer 2007

*Kevin Brylski
Represented the
U.S. Navy and
Team Illinois at
USAR National
Singles*

...see page 7



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From the President

Have you gone through periods in your life when you feel like you're living on the edge? You're not sure whether you can get control or whether you're going to go over the side. Your "edge" could be related to your job, a relationship, money or your weight. We've probably all been there at some point in time.

Financially speaking, the ISRA has spent most of the last year living on the edge. There have been days when the checkbook balance has dipped down to about \$32....and we know there are outstanding bills to be paid. Our organization is (and always has been) one of the strongest in the country so I wonder — where did all the money go?

We spend money on newsletters, Travel League, state tournaments and the golf outing. We get money from memberships, Travel League team fees, tournament sanctioning fees, tournament entry fees, golf outing entry fees and donations. So where did all the money go?

USAR/ISRA memberships cost \$35 per year. Of that \$35, \$25 goes to the national organization and \$10 to the state organization. Currently we have about 600 members so we should have received about \$6,000 over the last year. The problem is in timing. We don't know exactly when that money will be collected. Most of that money goes into paying for the four newsletters we publish each year. We have received many compliments over the last few years about the newsletter. It has been bigger and better. Bigger and better is also more expensive because we pay by the page for printing. A normal newsletter costs about \$1,500 to prepare and send. Hmm — $\$1,500 \times 4 = \$6,000$. That takes care of the membership money!

State tournaments are typically a big source of funds...and sometimes a bigger source of expenses. Tournament income includes entry fees, sponsorship fees and membership fees. Expenses include sanctioning fees, court costs, referee money, souvenirs, awards, hospitality, printing the entry forms and pizza for the volunteers at the Tuesday night draw! There are variables to this equation. You have to order souvenirs and awards without knowing exactly how many people will be in the tournament. We use historical information to take the best guess and try to sell any leftover souvenirs. The goal is to put on a good tournament and to at least break even. The 2007 State Doubles tournament had 143 players of which 84 played a second event and 10

played a third event. Total income from entries and memberships was \$8,250. The total expense (for all of the items listed above) was \$8,872. Ooh — that's not good. That's a loss of \$622 — we just double spent the membership money!

Because it's not comfortable living on the edge, we have been having some recent discussion about how to turn around this situation. I made the following edict to the rest of the board members — "All events must be self-sustaining!" One of the topics was the golf outing, which has historically been run at break even or a slight loss. Along came Dan Flood who suggested we offer hole sponsorships at \$100 each. What a great idea! Who's going to do that? Dan said he would do it and he did. Instead of breaking even or losing money, we made about \$1,000 that can be used to offset some of our other expenses. I want to thank Dan for working with Tom Utterback to make this happen. Dan came in with an idea that none of us had ever considered (duh!) and made it happen.

The Board is dedicated to getting the ISRA off the edge during the upcoming season. Here are the beginnings of the plan to make that happen:

- Print fewer newsletters — maybe two per year. Send additional newsletters to members via e-mail.
- Use historical information to plan better for state tournaments. It might require less extensive hospitality or less expensive souvenirs to make the tournament solvent. Or it might take going out and asking for more donations.
- I've been told that there are people willing to donate. They are just waiting for me to ask. This is your notice that I will be asking!

I hope this provides a better understanding of where your money goes. It's a curious sort of situation to be a banker with a money problem...

Laurel



ISRA Family News

Jaskier/DeArmas Family is Blooming!

Joe and Diane DeArmas, owners of The Glass Court Swim & Fitness, have a lot to celebrate – three more grandchildren have joined their family this spring/summer!



Dan and Kimberly Jaskier welcomed their second daughter, Lauren Margaret, on May 7. Lauren, weighing in at 9 pounds, 7 ounces, joins sister Kaitlyn, age 2 ½.

Howie and Carrie (Jaskier) Spaeth are first-time parents to twin boys, Miles Joseph (6 pounds, 4 ounces) and Benjamin Howard (6 pounds, 14 ounces). They arrived on June 27 and are keeping everyone at their house very busy indeed!



Weisbarts Celebrate New Addition

Ella Hope Weisbart was born to new parents Josh and Vicki Weisbart on Friday, July 6, 2007, at 9:43 p.m. She weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces, and measured 20 1/2 inches long. Grandma Lynne and Grandpa Howie (who will be known as "Bubbie and Zadie") are the proud first-time grandparents to Ella. All of the family is doing great!



Keith Brown Named Ektelon's Top Contributor

Congratulations to Keith Brown on winning Ektelon's Team Member of the Year Award, a designation given annually to only one Team Ektelon player in the United States. Keith was recognized at the Team Ektelon meeting in Houston at National Singles in late May. For his work with demos, clinics, lessons as well as many other contributions to the sport, he was also named Regional Contributor of the Year in both 2004 and 2005.

Also at the Team Ektelon meeting in Houston, it was announced that Lynn Yeazell has been named to the Ektelon Regional Advisor (ERA) position for Illinois and Missouri. She replaces Cheryl Kirk, who has been ERA since 2002. Cheryl has accepted a consulting position as Ektelon's Communications Director.

Meet the Board – Mike Davern

Mike Davern was born and raised on the south side of Chicago. He caught the racquetball bug in the early 80's while in graduate school at the University of Illinois.

"When I moved to Ohio, I realized that there was this whole other world of racquetball tournaments and tournament level players. I caught on with a group of 6 to 8 Open players who occasionally let me play a game with them. Four years later, after losing almost every single game I played against them, I finally starting taking some here and there. I won an A tournament draw when I came back to Illinois and, at age 40 or so, broke into the bottom of the

barrel at the Open level. With age and injuries (two back surgeries and an almost 5-year layoff) that is where I stayed.

"Now fully recovered, I am training and working out, trying to find time to get my game back in gear. I picked up running to allow me to train anywhere and I ran the Chicago Marathon last year. My plans are to run a couple of half-marathons this year."



Mike is a former municipal bond portfolio manager and now travels around the country talking to financial advisors and investors about the economy, interest rates and where the stock and bond markets are headed. His employer, Nuveen Investments, through its charitable foundation, is a proud sponsor of the US Open in Memphis and the IRT Pro Nationals in Schaumburg, supporting both the St. Jude Children's Hospital and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF).

Mike joined Team HEAD while in Ohio and he currently serves as the Regional Marketing Coordinator for HEAD in Illinois. He started the Ohio state association website and did the same when he moved back to Illinois and joined the ISRA Board in 1997. He is also a past editor of the ISRA Newsletter. In recognition of his efforts on behalf of racquetball, Mike received Distinguished Service Awards in both Ohio and Illinois.

His family includes "one fantastic wife (Cheryl) and four unbelievably talented kids, Nina, Michael Jr., Jono, and Stephanie, ranging in age from 16 to 22."

Lost & (Hopefully) Found

Mark Coleman asks that if someone discovers they accidentally picked up an Ektelon 03 White racquet (in the confusion of "lots of stuff" outside the courts) at the Summerfest tournament, could they please give him a call? His number is 630-251-7467.

Motorola Pro Nationals/USAR Regionals

Schaumburg Tennis Plus and Forest View Racquet Club

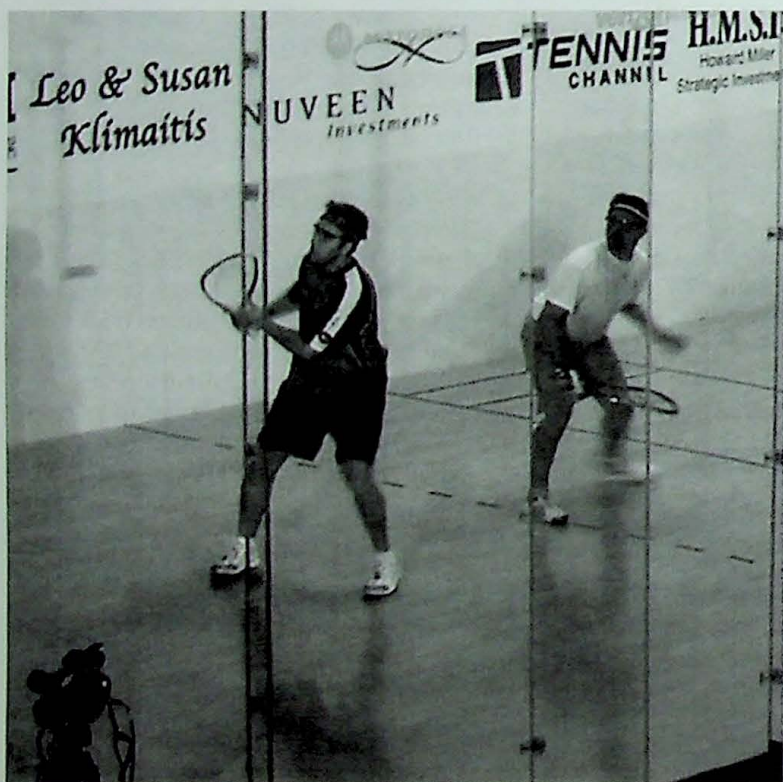
April 25-29, 2007

The sound of racquetball blasts filled the air from Thursday through Sunday as the Schaumburg Tennis Club was electrified with the second visit from the International Racquetball Tour held in conjunction with the USAR Regionals Championships. The amazing show that the touring players, supporting members of the IRT, sponsors, and racquetball fans provided was simply phenomenal. Dave Negrete and lifetime racquetball activist Doug Ganim were at the forefront of this show with energetic pro player introductions and after-match interviews on the portable main event court along with intermission commentary and "rock and roll it out" music that had the crowd on their feet!

Racquetball enthusiasts from coast to coast, as well as Central and South America and Japan, traveled to Chicago to enjoy the festivities and put their games to the test. Whether it was qualifying for the professional draw, winning a regional title, or enjoying the camaraderie that it is unmatched in any sport, racquetball fans and players of all ages were out in force. Veterans of the game like John O'Donnell, Jr., who has promoted our sport for decades, to juniors like 8-year-old Justus Benson who will be the ones to keep our sport alive going into the future, were there to play ball. Pro play-



Champ Jack Huczek addresses the crowd, with (L to R) Dan Aderhold of Motorola, John Suk of Verizon Wireless, Ashley Herr of Motorola, and runner-up Jason Mannino



Motorola Finals: Huczek vs. Mannino

ers walked the crowd and talked to amateurs as if they had been friends for a lifetime. In no other sport will you feel the closeness to the top players in the world like you have in the racquetball world. Local players Ben Croft, Jason Thorener, Juan Herrera and Keith Minor represented Team Illinois in the professional ranks while amateurs from the local area such as Liz Molitor, Dan Malone, and Pete Schmeichel made their presence felt in the amateur ranks.

Beginning in the Round of 16, fans witnessed some of the best racquetball

matches of the year. Ben Croft took a five-game match from big Chris Crowther. Dropping the first and third games, Ben (just back from earning his 4th collegiate title) remained consistent and proved to the fans that he will be a force to be reckoned with for a long time to come. Team Illinois member Jason Thorener was ousted by Javier Moreno in four games and the remainder of the winners in the Round of 16 won their matches in 3 games, including Jack Huczek who disposed of Team Illinois' own Juan Herrera. Other wins came from Shane Vanderson, Alvaro "The Big Cat" Beltran, Rocky Carson, Mitch Williams, and Jason Mannino. Ben Croft's win set up a quarterfinal match with the IRT's #1 player Jack Huczek. Jack's precise shot selection and experience was just too much for the native Illinoisan to overcome in front of his hometown crowd. Shane Vanderson and Alvaro Beltran battled in a match that was one of the most amazing displays of intensity, concentration, and diving exhibitions you'll ever witness. Shane, after dropping the first 2 games of the match, showed his mental toughness by taking the final 3 games with dives and

continued on next page

**Motorola Pro Nationals/
USAR Regionals**
continued from previous page

backhand pinches that were simply incredible. After taking the first game from Rocky Carson, Mitch Williams twisted his ankle and was unable to play at the same level he did in game one. Rocky took three in a row to move on to the semifinals. Javier Moreno had us on the edge of our seats, capturing the first game against Jason Mannino but that is where it ended for him; Jason caught fire and won the next three with ease, leading to four of the top five players in the world in the semifinals battling for the coveted title of the Motorola IRT Pro Nationals Champion.

Rocky Carson and Jason Mannino gave everyone their money's worth with a five-game match full of jaw-dropping dives, strategic shot selection, and sportsmanship. Splitting the first four games led to an 11-10 tiebreaker won by Mannino; game five was without a doubt the most exciting game played this year. Both players diving all over the court produced extended rallies; this, coupled with over-the-head backhand splats from thirty-nine feet, made this match the highlight of the tournament. Rocky and Jason addressed the crowd afterwards with a great deal of appreciation and fervor for the game and our city. The other semi pitted Jack Huzcek against Shane Vanderson in another five-game match highlighted by speed, consistency, and multi-shot rallies. Shane gave Jack all he could handle. After dropping the first 2 games of the match, he took games 3 and 4, setting up what proved

to be another 'breaker that fans would not forget. In game five, Jack showed why he retains the title of "most physically fit player on the tour." While Shane battled fatigue, Jack seemed to be as fresh as he was in game one, winning the fifth game 11-5 and setting up another Huzcek vs. Mannino showdown.

In the finals, Jack and Jason gave the packed stadium a show to be remembered. Although Jason had won twice before on the portable court (at the US Open), this was Jack's day as he achieved his first-ever win on the court and cemented his #1 ranking for the season.

The sponsors of the tournament helped make this a top shelf event. Local leaders/players Leo Klimaitis, Pat Taylor and Keith Minor, as well as many of the top manufacturers all had a part in showing the fans of today and the players of tomorrow that our sport has been officially revived and remains on the upswing. Dave Negrete and Doug Ganim have promised bigger and better things in the future for our sport, and Shawn Royster Productions now features racquetball tournaments being played on the Tennis Channel. It's safe to say that next year's tournament will be bigger and better as more racquetballers turn out to test their games against the best players in the country!

For a complete rundown of results, visit <http://www.usaracquetballevnts.com/results.asp>.

—Kevin Brylski



The Man Behind the Women

USAR Executive Director Jim Hiser with (clockwise from front left) Christie Singleton, Patti Moser, Lynne Weisbart, Julie Vincent, Martha Huske, and Donna Heinzl
Not pictured: Diane Bunker, Karen Denu, Lori Good and Liz Molitor

Pro-Am Doubles at Motorola Pro Nationals

*Email Message by Scott
Fauque on April 25, 2007*

I played in the Pro-Am JDRF charity event this evening and had a blast. Played well except for on the stadium court! Played three games to 9. I had three pro partners: Ben Croft, Shane Vanderson and Jason Mannino. The other amateurs' partners I played against were Jack Huzcek, Ben Croft, and Jason Thoerner. My partners and I won two and lost one at 8-9. Fun stuff. Dave Wielgus and Brian Finley also played and had a great time, judging from the conversation over dinner. The rotation of partners this year was mainly because two of the pros were delayed (Rocky Carson and Cliff Swain). Limited games were because we needed to drive 22 miles to dinner! There was a bus available.

My wife, Milette, and I were getting ready to leave Schaumburg Tennis Plus go to dinner when Jason Mannino asked if I was driving or taking the bus. I said driving and he asked if I had room because he didn't want a 25+ minute ride on the bus. Yep, I had room! So he, Sudsy Monchik and Shane Vanderson rode with us to dinner. After dinner we gave Jason, Sudsy and Woody (Clouse) a ride back to their hotel. That was the highlight of my night. Funny guys talking about "old times," "interesting driving experiences" and many other things. A few legends in my vehicle...not something you get to experience very often!

40th Ektelon USA Racquetball National Singles Championships

May 23-28, 2007

Downtown YMCA, Houston, TX

Tournament Director – Jim Hiser

Mitch Williams and Rhonda Rajsich won the Gold Medals in the U.S. Team Qualifying division at the Ektelon USA Racquetball National Singles Championships in Houston, TX. This was the first for Williams and Rajsich's third. "I am in complete awe," said Williams. "I wanted to have a breakthrough performance and this is the perfect tournament to do it." Rhonda had a very personal motivation for winning this year. "My grandfather passed away last week, so I dedicate this to him and my family," she said.

Men's Qualifying – Mitch Williams def. Shane Vanderson (6, 12)

Women's Qualifying – Rhonda Rajsich def. Cheryl Gudinas (11, 8)

USAR Athlete and Contributor Awards

Male Athlete of the Year Award – Rocky Carson

Female Athlete of the Year Award – Rhonda Rajsich

Peggy Steding Female Age Group Award – Meri Jean Kelley

Bud Muehleisen Male Age Group Award – Tom Travers

Joe Sobek Outstanding Contribution Award – Kelley Beane



David Lilly medals in Houston!



Three Racquetball Legends — Dave Milazzo, Ruben Gonzalez and Frank Milazzo

Presidential Award – Steve Graham

John Halverson Fair Play Award – Ben Marshall

Team Illinois

Nineteen men and five women traveled to Houston this year (exactly the same number as last year). This group earned 10 medals. Additionally, in 13 of the divisions entered (not including the medalists), Team Illinois players attained the quarterfinals or higher.

Illinois Medalists

Gold (4) – Brent Huff, Lola Markus, John O'Donnell, Jr., Pat Taylor

Silver (3) – Cheryl Gudinas-Holmes, Keith Minor (2)

Bronze (1) – Kevin Brylski

Pewter (2) – Brent Huff, David Lilly

Top Finishers (Quarterfinals or better):

13 (+ 10 medalists) = 23

Point of Interest

At the Annual Board of Directors meeting, it was confirmed that Geoff Peters, Tom Curran and Ed Remen were elected to the Board following the Spring vote. This is Geoff's and Tom's second term while Ed joins the Board for the first time.

Proud Moments for Illinois

Perennial gold medalist John O'Donnell, Jr. did not lose a match all weekend!

The Keith Minor vs. Jimmy Lowe matches had Team Illinois (and everybody else) on the edge of their seats. We witnessed some stunning racquetball, arguably the most exciting moments of tournament play. Keith does Illinois proud, both with his outstanding racquetball prowess as well as his grace under pressure (the definition of class).

Dave Milazzo also provided some exciting moments. Dave had the occasion to compete against Ruben Gonzalez in the Men's 50+. While he lost to Ruben 15-8, 15-11, what a fine showing with great memories to boot! Gonzalez went on to win the division, taking the gold medal in a finals match against USA Racquetball Board President Randy Stafford. When asked about his experience, Dave commented, "Playing Ruben? It was the highlight of Nationals for me. We had a lot of laughs with Ruben predicting well before our match how I would do against him in the quarters. We promised to run each other hard with the exception of his crack serve to the right. Ruben vowed 'no gimmees.' He ran me hard, making me earn every point. Really, it was the only tournament match ever that I did not mind losing!"

Probably the most memorable sight of this tournament came during the Saturday night banquet. At the beginning of the festivities,

continued on next page



Another Great Trip to Houston (L to R): Pat Taylor, Watmora Casey, Joey Logan, Lynn Yeazell, Kevin Brylski, and John O'Donnell, Jr.

USAR National Singles

continued from previous page

the military players (most in Air Force blue) were queuing up for the flag ceremony. All of a sudden, as the national anthem began, U.S. Navy Senior Chief Operations Specialist Kevin Brylski, larger than life and singularly impressive in his dress whites, appeared in front of the line. This fine Team Illinois player carried the flag to its resting position on the stage.

Special Event

The USAR Women's Committee hosted Ladies' Night Out on Thursday evening. An exclusive Ruben Gonzalez painting, *Spirit of the Journey*, was unveiled there and the fundraising raffle began that ultimately netted a \$2,800 donation to Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

Team Illinois (Divisions Played)

Kevin Brylski – Men's 30+ (3rd); Men's 35+
Watmora Casey – Men's 45+, M45+A (QF)
Eugene Coyle – Men's 35+ (QF), Men's 40+ (QF)
Ben Croft – Men's Qualifying (QF), Men's Open (QF)
Jerry Fronczak – Men's 45+, Men's 50+
Cheryl Gudinas Holmes – Women's Qualifying (2nd)
Brent Huff – Men's A (4th), Men's 30+A (1st)
Cheryl Kirk – Women's 50+A

Leo Klimaitis – Men's 55+A (QF)

David Lilly – Men's 50+A, Men's 50+B (4th)

Lola Markus – Women's 75+ (1st)

Phil Mathews – Men's Open, Men's 24- (QF)

Dave Milazzo – Men's 45+, Men's 50+ (QF)

Frank Milazzo – Men's 50+, Men's

50+A (QF)

Keith Minor – Men's 35+ (2nd), Men's 40+ (2nd)

Paul Nicotra – Men's A, Men's 40+A

John O'Donnell, Jr. – Men's 75+ (1st)

Geoff Peters – Men's 50+, Men's 50+A

Pete Schmeichel – Men's B (QF), Men's 45+B (QF)

Pat Taylor – Men's 65+ (1st)

Jason Thoerner – Men's Qualifying (QF)

Carolyn Watkins – Women's A, Women's 35+A

Lynn Yeazell – Women's A, Women's 35+A (QF)

Cheerleaders

Keith Brown, Doug Holmes, Susan Klimaitis, Joey Logan, Paul Nicotra, Sr., and Arlene O'Donnell

Next Year...

...will be the celebration commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the Racquetball Hall of Fame. Bring your fanciest duds, sequins and all...this is a huge deal! Master of Ceremonies Shawn Royster vowed he would be attiring himself in a tuxedo, complete with a top hat and cane...

"Finals" Note – news of the demise of the Houston YMCA has been greatly exaggerated...word is that National Singles will be continuing at this site for at least the next three years.

— Cheryl Kirk

For match-by-match results, please log in to www.r2sports.com.



First Day in the Players' Village (L to R): Pete Schmeichel, Paul Nicotra, Sr. and Paul Nicotra, Jr.

ISRA Officer and Board Member Election Held

The ISRA Annual Meeting was held on June 13, 2007, at Glass Court Swim & Fitness. As with all ISRA meetings, this meeting was open to the membership.

Laurel Davis will continue as ISRA President. Rick Seaberg was elected to his first term as Secretary and Pam Schubach joins the Board as Central Zone Vice President. Geoff Peters was re-elected to the position of North Zone Vice President. Four Governing Board members retained their positions for another term: Mike Davern, TJ Ferro, Pam Grace and Tom Utterback.

Not all Officer and Governing Board positions were on this year's slate since the Board operates on a two-year staggered term format to help ensure balance and continuity.

The ISRA Board thanks Larry Boyer of Decatur for his term of service as Central Zone Vice President. We wish him well and hope to see him at future tournaments!

Jonelle Kohoutek, Paul Jepsen and Dan Flood have recently joined the Auxiliary Board. The ISRA continues to welcome volunteers who would like to become more involved in supporting racquetball on the state level. This sort of "apprenticeship" prepares individuals on the aspects of conducting ISRA business and serves as a stepping stone for aspiring governing board members and officers. Any member who would like to lend time and talent in support of the ISRA should contact Laurel Davis (laurelmdavis@comcast.net) or any board member.

— Cheryl Kirk, Chair
ISRA 2007 Nominating Committee

ISRA Travel League Kicks Off New Season

Can you believe it? Another Travel League is getting ready to start. I especially want to thank Liz Molitor for keeping the scores all season and Diane Bunker for posting them to the website every week. Without their dedication, we wouldn't be able to accomplish what we do every year.

Just in case you didn't get the final results, here they are for the 2006-2007 season:

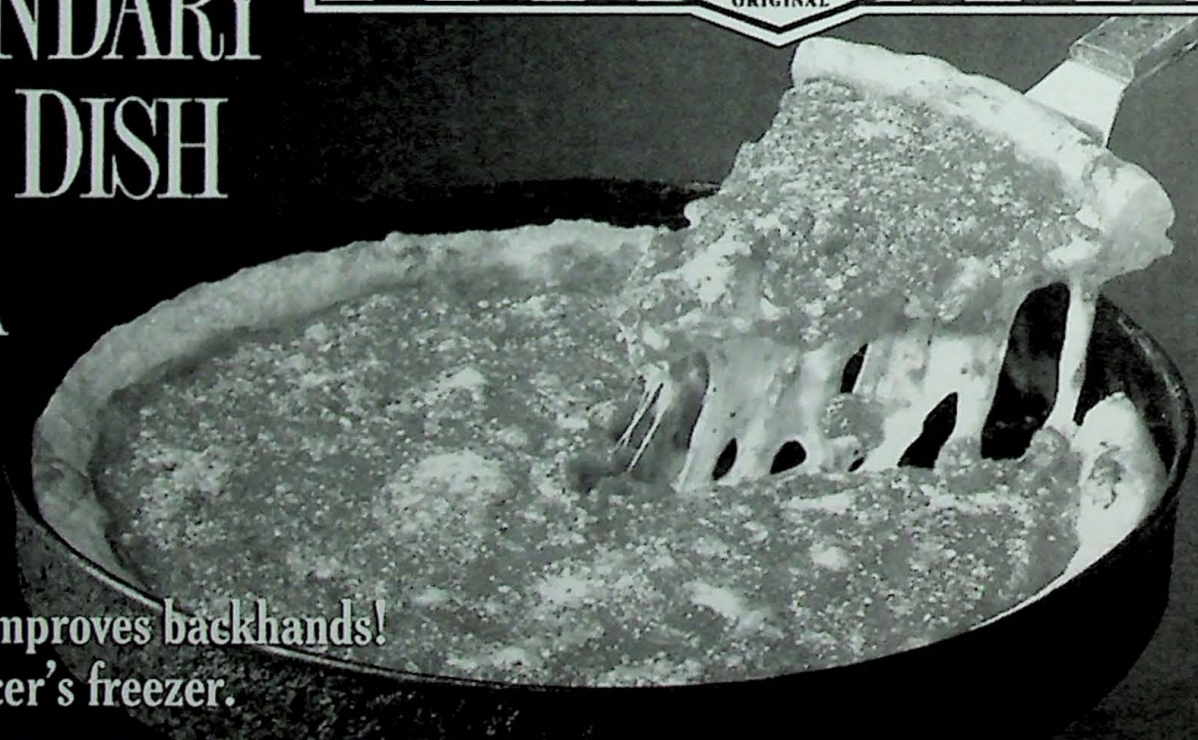
Men's Open Division - Norris Center
Men's Open City - B.R. Ryall YMCA
Men's A/B Division - Glass Court
Men's A/B City - Glass Court
Men's B/C Division - Norris Center
Men's B/C City - Norris Center
Women's Open Division - The Chalet

Hope you're having a great summer...see you at the **Captain's Meeting on August 21 at 7:00 p.m. at Glass Court in Lombard.** Please have someone from your team attend the meeting and if you know of any clubs that would like to have a team, please encourage them to come out as well! Remember, this is where we vote for changes that affect everyone. If you can't make it, call me at 630-424-6035 or e-mail pgrace@cata.info.

Thanks for your participation and let's grow the league bigger than it's ever been!

— Pam Grace, Travel League Coordinator

CHICAGO'S LEGENDARY DEEP DISH PIZZA



**Pizza that improves backhands!
In your grocer's freezer.**

Annual ISRA Golf Outing Scores Record Turn Out

The date changed from last year, but the turnout and weather were the best yet. Eighty (80!) golfers participated in this year's outing held on July 21 at Fox Run Golf Links in Elk Grove Village. There was plenty of sunshine, along with great golf shots, not-so-great golf shots, and were those firecrackers I heard?

The low net team score came from a mixed foursome (you go, girls!) that included Kevin & Lynn Yeazell and Carl & Deb Evers. Longest



Ladies in Pink Motor to Victory!

ISRA Golf Outing Hole Sponsors

Glass Court-Summerfest Tournament
Dan Flood (Realtor)
ISRA
National City Bank
Bluwood
Dallas Corporation
Tyler Medical Service
Kirsten's Danish Bakery
CIBA
E-Force
Wilson
The Southlake Club
Peterson Painting
C. Kirk Consulting
Coyne Financial
Metro Recycling
Ektelon
18 North Restaurant

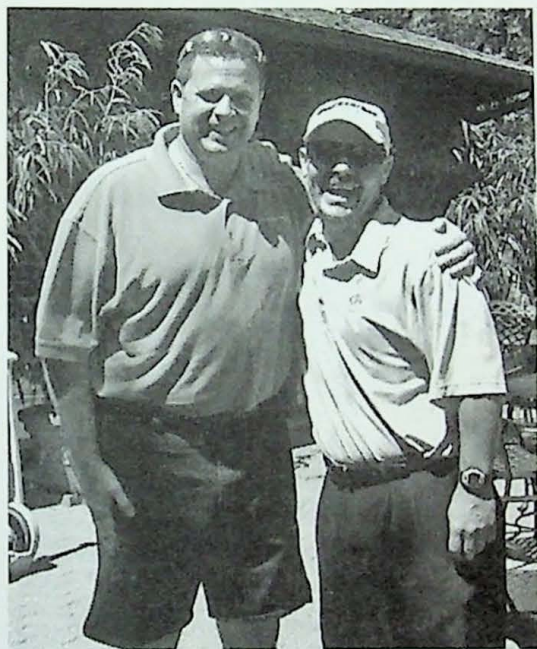
drive for men went to John Moscato and closest to the pin for men champ was Steve Condon. For the women, Janet Christie's foursome in pink took low women's score, with Deb Evers pulling off a double win of longest drive and closest to the pin.

A huge thanks goes out to Dan Flood for all his hard work helping Tom Utterback this year. Their combined efforts resulted in a successful outing for everyone. There were 18 hole sponsors this year, a fantastic live band for the dinner banquet and more raffle prizes than ever. Also, special thanks to Janet Christie, Dennis Negrete and the staff at Fox Run for all their coordination efforts. All you racquetball players (and non-racquetball players)...remember to play this outing next year — Dan and Tom promise it will be even bigger and better than ever!

— Barb Utterback



The Pensive Side of Dennis Negrete?



*Tournament Directors
Dan Flood and Tom Utterback*



*Look-a-Like Golf Buddies
Laurel Davis and Connie Arvia*



Overall Champs Kevin & Lynn Yeazell and Deb & Carl Evers

Movin' On Up — 2007-2008 Season

Racquetball success equates to greater challenges. These individuals won at least one full-draw division in the 2006-2007 season and recently received The Letter notifying them of their new eligibility. Good luck to all in the coming year!

Singles Divisions

Men's A to Men's Open – Richard DeArmas, Brent Huff, Trevor Snyders

Men's B to Men's A – Vince Carvallo, Scott Fauque, Ray Meisner

Men's C to Men's B – Moses Elias, Craig Herman, Dan Malone, Mike Ryan

Men's D to Men's C – Nick Kolliniatis, Michael Odea, Brad Rupsis

Doubles Divisions

Men's A to Men's Open – Frank Ball/Wil Rounsaville, Desmond Slusher/Trevor Snyders

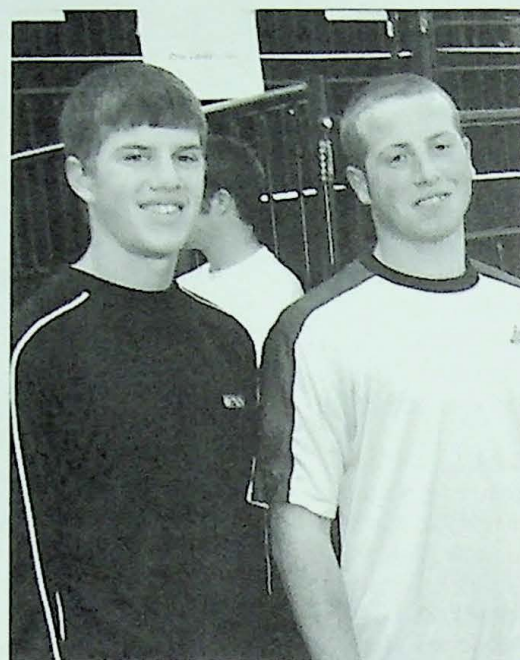
Men's B to Men's A – Brian Andresen (IA)/Jon Soike, Tony Ferruzza/Mike Fornero

Snyders and Goldblatt Represent Illinois at USAR Junior Nationals

In June, Trevor Snyders and Geoff Goldblatt traveled to a very warm Tempe, Arizona to compete in the 2007 US Junior Olympic Racquetball Championships. The Arizona State University Recreation Center hosted the event and by all accounts, it was a resounding success. Trevor said, "Junior Nationals was a great time. The facility was awesome and the tournament couldn't have turned out much better."

Trevor advanced to the semifinals in the Boys 16- Singles before losing to Jose Rojas, the first seed and eventual winner. He placed fourth overall in that division. In the Boys 16- Doubles, Trevor and his partner Miguel Wiggins (NM) placed third. Geoff logged in two very respectable quarterfinal finishes, in the Boys 18- Singles and the Boys 18- Doubles with Kenny Shuman (OH).

As a result of their performance at this tournament as well as their contributions to Team Ektelon over the past several years, both Geoff and Trevor were named to the prestigious Ektelon Junior Elite Team for the coming season. Congratulations to both...it's going to be a great year!



Trevor and Geoff

2007 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, .jpg or .pdf formats.
- These rates are in effect until December 31, 2007.
- Deadlines are as follows:

- **Issue Mail Date:** 11/9/07
- **Articles/Releases Due:** 10/12/07
- **Stuffers/Inserts Due:** 10/19/07

- All stuffers/inserts are to be received by:

Laura Kreiner, 2307 Arrow Street, Carpentersville, Illinois 60110

- Ad rates:

Full page: \$150/issue

Half page: \$75/issue

Quarter page: \$50/issue

Other sizes quoted on a case by case basis

- For any questions or submission:

Joe Silius, jsilius@yahoo.com

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Here's a challenge to:

- ▷ Sponsor ONE NEW player to the sport of racquetball this year. Any age.
- ▷ Take him/her to your club... and teach the game. Stay with them until they can join a league on their own.
- ▷ Just think how good you'll feel when each of us sponsors the players of



www.illinoisracquetball.com



2007-2008

TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

For updates or edits to the ISRA Tournament Calendar, please contact
Geoff Peters at (773) 251-4413 or at Petersgeoff@Hotmail.com

July 27th – 29th

14th Annual Summerfest Open, \$\$
The Glass Court Swim and Fitness,
Lombard
Doug Halverson; (630) 629-3390
SANCTIONED

August 18th – 19th

Fifth Annual Dog Days Open
Southlake Racquet and Fitness,
Mundelein
Cindy Flores-Mocarski; (847) 949-8180
SANCTIONED

August 24th – 25th

3rd Annual Racquet For The Cure
Landmark Health and Fitness, Peoria
(Women and Mixed Doubles)
John Snarr; (309) 685-8360
SANCTIONED

August 29th – September 2nd

19th IRF World Senior Championships
New Mexico Sports and Wellness;
Albuquerque, NM
Gary Mazaroff; (505) 321-1110
SANCTIONED

September 12th – 16th

Motorola IRT World Championships, \$\$
Colorado Springs, CO
Dave Negrete; (630) 430-1478
SANCTIONED

September 26th – 30th

**39th Annual USA Racquetball National
Doubles Championships**
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
Heather Fender; (719) 635-5396
SANCTIONED

September 28th – 30th

**1st Annual Illinois Vest-A-Dog
Racquetball Fundraiser**
Norris Center, St. Charles
Rick Seaberg; (630) 803-1396
SANCTIONED

October 5th – 7th

Fall No Frills/Warm-up Tournament
Landmark Health and Fitness, Peoria
John Snarr; (309) 685-8360
SANCTIONED

October 20th – 21st

Lakeshore Pumpkin Shootout (tentative)
Lakeshore Athletic Club, Chicago
Bob Good; (312) 279-0761
SANCTIONED

November 3rd – 4th

The Southlake Fall Open, \$ (JR)
Southlake Racquet and Fitness, Mundelein
Cindy Flores-Mocarski; (847) 949-8180
SANCTIONED

November 8th – 11th

The Turkey Shoot Open, \$\$
The Glass Court Swim and Fitness, Lombard
Doug Halverson; (630) 629-3390
SANCTIONED

November 14th – 18th

The 13th Annual Choice Hotels US Open, \$\$
The Racquet Club, Memphis, TN
Heather Fender; (719) 635-5396
SANCTIONED

December 2nd

One Day Ladies Tournament
Schaumburg Tennis Plus, Schaumburg
Dave Negrete; (630) 430-1478
SANCTIONED

December 17th – 22nd

IRF World Junior Championships (JR)
Cochabamba, Bolivia
Heather Fender; (719) 635-5396
SANCTIONED

January 11th – 13th

ISRA State Doubles Championships (JR)
Glass Court Swim & Fitness, Lombard
Laurel Davis; (630) 476-6896
SANCTIONED

January 24th – 27th

WS/MRA 19th Annual National Championships
The Athletic Club, Overland Park, KS
Julie Heitkamp; (913) 383-9060
SANCTIONED

January 25th – 27th

Revie Sorey Celebrity Classic, \$\$
Silver Lake Country Club, Orland Park
Anita Efron; (708) 474-2440
SANCTIONED

February 2nd – 3rd

Lake County Open, \$
Southlake Racquet and Fitness, Mundelein
Cindy Flores-Mocarski; (847) 949 – 8180
SANCTIONED

February 8th – 10th

ISRA State Singles Championships (JR)
The Chalet (tentative)
Cheryl Kirk; (630) 215-4242
SANCTIONED

February 13th – 17th

**40th Annual USA Racquetball National
Doubles Championships**
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
Heather Fender; (719) 635-5396
SANCTIONED

February 28th – March 2nd

**20th Wilson National High School
Championships**
Location TBA, (Tentative: St. Louis)
Heather Fender; (719) 635-5396
SANCTIONED

February 29th – March 2nd

March Invitational (JR)
Landmark Health and Fitness, Peoria
John Snarr; (309) 685-8360
SANCTIONED

March 13th – 16th

The Shamrock Shootout, \$\$
The Glass Court Swim and Fitness,
Lombard
Doug Halverson; (630) 629-3390
SANCTIONED

April 5th – 6th

Midwest Seniors/Masters (Tentative)
Location TBD
Cheryl Kirk; (630) 215-4242
SANCTIONED

April 10th – 13th

**USA Racquetball Regional
Championships Weekend**
Various Sites Nationwide
View: www.usaracquetball.org
SANCTIONED

April 23rd – 27th

**Fourth Annual IRT Motorola Pro
Nationals/Chicago USAR Regionals, \$\$**
Schaumburg Tennis Plus, Schaumburg
Dave Negrete; (630) 430-1478
SANCTIONED

May 21st – 26th

**41st USA Racquetball National Singles
Championships**
The Downtown YMCA, Houston, TX
Heather Fender; (719) 635-5396
SANCTIONED

July 25th – 27th

15th Annual Summerfest Open, \$\$
The Glass Court Swim and Fitness,
Lombard
Doug Halverson; (630) 629-3390
SANCTIONED

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JR - Includes Junior Divisions
\$ - Prize Money in Open Divisions
\$\$ - Prize Money in Multiple Divisions

Lend Your Support

Your membership in the ISRA has helped make our organization second to none. Though we strive to make improvements to build and grow the sport for future success, we sometimes struggle to keep our heads above water as an organization. Our focus is not for the purpose of monetary gain but to generate enough funds to give back quality, first-rate programs, tournaments and events we can all be proud to participate in. Our volunteers who donate their time and/or money are greatly appreciated as are those who advertise in this ISRA Newsletter. For as little as \$25 for a business card size ad, we can help get your name out there to let everyone know what you do; for \$150, we can run your ad on a full page. Help Us Help You by getting your ad into the next ISRA newsletter. Many thanks, *Joe Silius*, Advertising Editor

Attention ISRA Members!

In 2008, the ISRA Newsletter will transition to an electronic format. Please take the opportunity now to update your USA Racquetball membership profile, most especially supplying your current email address so you don't miss any issues of this cutting edge publication!

Please follow the steps below to update your profile:

1. Log into www.usra.org
2. Select Membership Login in the upper left hand box
3. Enter your six-digit USAR membership number and password*
4. Update the information in the profile
5. Click on Edit Contact Info
6. Log out

Now, wasn't that easy?

* If you don't know or have misplaced your membership number and/or password, contact Heather Izzett at hizzett@usra.org.

Thanks for taking the time...and be sure to visit www.illinoisracquetball.com for tournament schedule revisions and competition results.



BC/CK 2, JW 0



Send to:

ISRA
603 E. Wilson Ave.
Lombard, IL 60148

Member Sport,
U.S. Olympic
Committee



COMPETITIVE LICENSE APPLICATION

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

Adult competitor \$35.00
 Junior competitor \$20.00
 RACQUETBALL Magazine subscription only \$20.00
 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 (four times/year).

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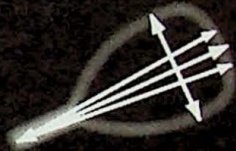
- Increases Stiffness for Blasting Power at Impact
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- Allows Longest Possible Cross-Strings for Increased Stringbed Deflection and Power



**LARGER, STIFFER CYLINDERS
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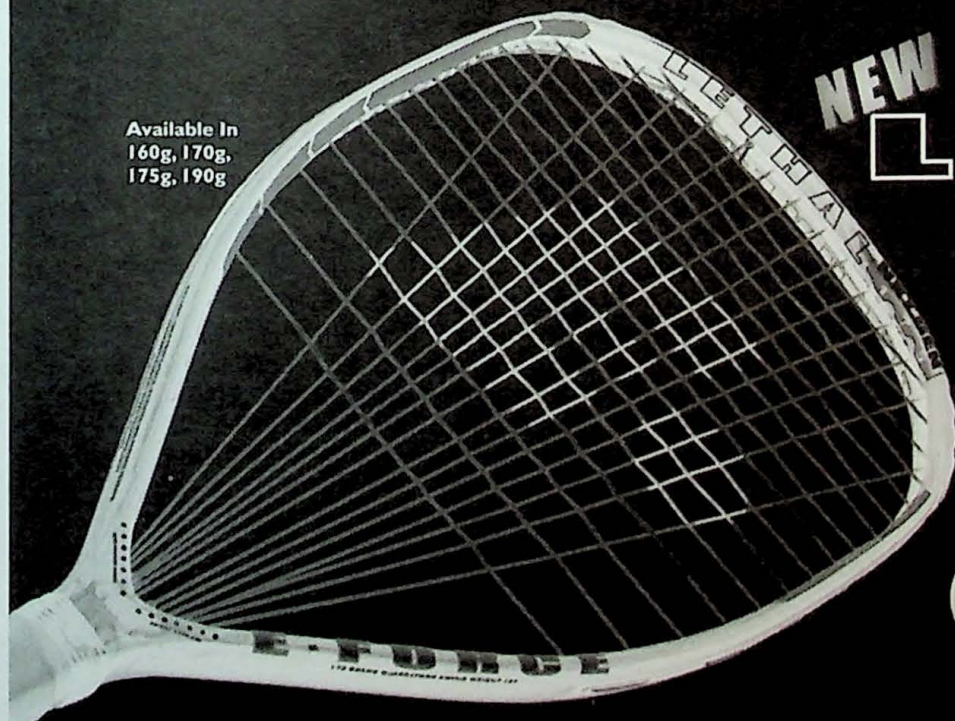
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Racquetball Challenge Courts

Bartlett Health and Fitness

(630) 540-4848

Bartlett, IL

Wednesdays

7:30 - 10:00 p.m.

Saturdays

8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

\$5.00

Buehler YMCA

(847) 359-5098

Palatine, IL

Thursdays 8-10 p.m.

Saturdays 8 a.m. - Noon

\$15 One-Day Guest Pass

Courts Plus

(Elmhurst Park District)

(630) 833-5064

Saturdays

8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Members \$3,

Non-Members \$10

Heritage YMCA

(630) 420-6270

Naperville, IL

Saturdays

8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Members \$4,

Non-Members \$8

Lakeshore Athletic

Club - Downtown

(312) 644-4880

Chicago, IL

Mondays & Wednesdays

5:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Members free,

Non-Members \$12

Landmark Health & Racquetball

(309) 685-8200

Peoria, IL

First & Third Fridays of Month

6-8 p.m.

\$5.00

MultiSports Complex

Melrose Park

708-343-5151

Mondays 7 - 9 p.m.

Members \$5

Non-Members \$7

Norris Rec Center

(630) 377-1405

St. Charles, IL

Tuesdays and Thursdays

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Fridays 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Sundays 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

\$5.00 Members & Non-Members

Schaumburg Park District

(847) 490-2505

Saturday 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Sunday 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Members \$3, Non-Members \$9

Schaumburg Tennis Plus

(630) 430-1478

Women Open/A Players

Wednesdays 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Members \$3, Non-Members \$9

Silver Lake Country Club

(708) 349-6940

Orland Park, IL

Fridays 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Members & Non-Members \$7.00

The Southlake Club

(847) 949-8180

Saturdays 10 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

\$10.00 for ISRA Members

(with membership card)

West Cook YMCA

(708) 383-5200

Wed. 7-8 p.m.,

Thurs. 2-4 p.m.,

Sat 8-10 a.m.

Free to Y Members,

\$9 for Non-Members

To add your club to this list, contact: **Lynne Weisbart (847) 732-7245**



Illinois State Racquetball Association

c/o Cheryl Kirk
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