



WALLPAPER

State News & Membership Updates

The activity at the car wash (the view from my office window) is picking up. This is a sign that Summer is just around the corner and the racquetball season is coming to an end. Of course, there are several events held over the summer months but once the snow melts in our northern states our players emerge to the outdoors.

I am pleased to report that overall regional participation was grand once again. Although all of the regional sites have not reported the final counts, verbal communications with the event directors have been favorable.

Our national events kicked off with the **Wilson National High School Championships** in St. Louis and was followed by the **E-Force Intercollegiate Championships** in Las Vegas. Both events recorded increased participation from previous years.

The **Ektelon National Singles** will be held May 23-28 in Houston, TX

and will be followed by the **HEAD Junior Olympic Championships** June 23-27 in Denver, CO. For those of you planning to attend nationals in Houston a state presidents meeting is planned for Friday at 7 pm.

Aside from the success of our early national events the **LPRAs** stops were also a success boosting women's participation around the country.

Many states have begun taking advantage of obtaining current membership lists and rankings via e-mail. This service is now available to all of our state affiliates. To obtain your state membership lists or rankings electronically please e-mail your request to me at kjoyce@usra.org or **Jeremy Case** jcase@usra.org. If I am here to receive your e-mail, and I check it several times daily, these requests are fulfilled on the same day.

US Racquetball Association

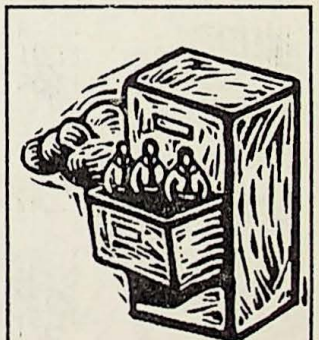
Volume VIII, Issue 2

May 2001

Enclosures:

- ☺ State Schedule
- ☺ State Labels
- ☺ 2001 Sanction Form
- ☺ 1st Quarter Rebates
- ☺ HEAD Junior Olympic Championships Entry Form
- ☺ 2001 Rulebook

Rankings available upon request



"It is a great time to organize your files and catch up on the paperwork."

US Racquetball Association

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2001 Membership Drive

Our state affiliates have all committed to increasing membership nationally and identified a year end goal. Enclosed is the most recent membership figures for your state.

In addition, these event directors weren't shy about signing up new members since Jan. 1:
TX Longhorn Open-Ryan Rodgers-80 new members; FL Regional-Bill Herr-55; GA Southlake Pro-Am -Tony Shawver-49; TX Metroplex Champs-Dan Davis-46; MO State Singles-Shari Coplen-43; WA Northwest Open-Wanda Collins- 40.

1st Quarter 2001 Rebates

The list of first quarter rebate recipients is rather small this period. I am assuming that with the hustle and bustle the last couple months some state newsletters may not have been submitted to the USRA. If you published and mailed a newsletter to your state members in jan/feb/mar and are not listed to receive the first quarter rebate please submit your newsletter to earn those withholdings.

USRA Clothing Line

The USRA has recently launched a new clothing line of merchandise. We recently received approval from the United States Olympic Committee to incorporate the Olympic Rings with the USRA logo. Check out the new clothing in the recent issue of Racquetball Magazine.

Sportsmanship Award

The USRA is seeking nominations for the annual John Halverson Fair Play Award of which we received one nomination to date. If you know of an act of fair play that occurred anywhere please make a nomination by May 14 which includes the names and summary.

USRA Membership Report

	1999	2000	2001
January	17,749	18,642	18,487
February	17,918	18,727	18,394
March	18,096	19,350	18,966
April	18,112	19,065	
May	18,031	18,363	
June	17,621	17,998	
July	17,399	17,953	
August	17,476	18,121	
September	17,717	18,209	
October	18,127	18,468	
November	17,072	18,524	
December	18,612	18,910	

On-Line Memberships

USRA Memberships are now available for purchase on-line through active.com's web site. Since the on-line option became available in January over 350 new members have taken advantage of joining which provides an instant confirmation of joining the USRA. A high percentage of these members are first time members of the USRA and you receive their rebate.

2001 Racquetball Rulebooks

The recent edition of the "official rules of racquetball" has been printed and received. The cost for a single rulebook is \$4; quantities of 11-100 cost \$2 each and over 100 the cost is \$1.

2001 USRA State Membership Year End Goal -

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Goal
SCarolin	271	262	292										315
Idaho	207	223	220										300
Louisiana	183	200	194										300
N Hamp	244	238	255										275
N Jersey	192	202	211										240
Conn	197	181	192										240
Maine	199	204	156										225
Alabama	159	154	150										202
Arkansas	136	133	165										201
Iowa	126	135	123										200
Oklahom	169	172	177										200
Montana	141	141	167										200
Nebraska	145	137	139										200
NDakota	92	95	120										126
Nevada	69	68	74										125
Wyoming	63	65	63										100
Delaware	92	101	95										100
Vermont	81	85	79										100
Miss	62	62	61										100
Kansas	89	89	85										100
R Island	53	46	50										100
SDakota	71	85	120										100
W Va	69	71	74										100
Hawaii	13	11	11										50

Compiled by – Abigail Kilcrease

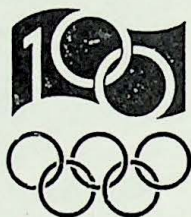
Pan
American *For Immediate Release*
Racquetball *April 26, 2001*
Confederation

Affiliate
of the
International
Racquetball
Federation



United States Sweeps Tournament of the Americas

Colorado Springs, Colo. - The United States National Racquetball Team swept all four major divisions at the 14th Pan American Racquetball Confederation [PARC] Tournament of the Americas held in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, March 7-14. Over seventy-five athletes representing 11 countries in South, Central, and North America participated in the tournament.



In the men's singles, current U.S. National Champion, Rocky Carson (Santa Maria) led the way for the U.S. Team by winning the division. Carson knocked off current world champion, Alvaro Beltran (Tijuana, Mexico), in the semifinals before defeating Canadian national champion, Kane Waselenchuk (Alberta, Canada), for the title. Waselenchuk dashed the prospect of an all U.S. final by defeating Mike Guidry (Carrollton, Tex.) 15-10, 15-13 in the semifinals.

In women's singles, another Canadian stopped the U.S. from having two players in the finals when Josee Grand'Maitre (Quebec, Canada) defeated Kersten Hallander (San Diego, Calif.) in a tiebreaker, 11-15, 15-14, 11-5, to move into the finals against U.S. National Champion Cheryl Gudinas. Gudinas was outstanding in the finals as she took the match, and the title, in straight games of 15-4, 15-6.

Doug Eagle (Houston, Tex.) and Adam Karp (Stockton, Calif.) teamed up to take home the gold medal in men's doubles. They were forced to go to a tiebreaker in the finals against Polo Gutierrez and Gilberto Mejia (Mexico), winning the first game 15-8 but dropping the second 5-15. After regrouping they were able to storm out to an 11-3 win in the deciding game.

The top seeded and current U.S. National Doubles Champions, Laura Fenton (Overland Park, Kan.) and Jackie Paraiso (El Cajon, Calif.), faced Canada's Amanda MacDonald and Karina Odegard (Saskatchewan, Canada) in the finals, after winning by default in their quarterfinal and semifinal matches. Fenton and Paraiso played superb, downing the Canadians in two straight, 15-9, 15-5, to complete the U.S. sweep.

By taking gold in all of the major divisions the U.S. captured its 14th straight PARC Tournament of the Americas Cup, winning it every year since the tournament's inception in 1986. The tournament was not held in 2000 due to civil unrest in the host country of Bolivia.

*For more information contact Ryan John, USRA Media & Public Relations,
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For more racquetball on the Internet, go to www.usra.org or www.racqmag.com.

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UNITED STATES RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

For Immediate Release
April 1, 2001

Baldwin Wallace Captures Division I National Intercollegiate Racquetball Team Championship

University of Texas Earns Women's Title

Las Vegas, Nev. - Baldwin Wallace College in Berea, Ohio captured its first Division I National Intercollegiate Racquetball team title Saturday edging and ending the University of Southern Colorado's bid for four titles in a row. Third place in the team competition went to the University of Texas.

Baldwin Wallace had 12 players earn medals including Shane Vanderson and Kristen Walsh who each won gold medals in the #1 singles spot to earn one year appointments on the U.S. National Team. The Yellow Jackets also earned the men's team title and placed second for the women's team title.

The University of Texas won the overall women's team title ending Brigham Young University shot at a record breaking eight straight women's titles. The Lady Longhorns earned six medals during Saturday's action. Brigham Young placed third in the women's competition behind Texas and Baldwin Wallace, respectively.

Bryant College earned top honors among Division II schools followed by Normandale Community College and Clarkson University.

The player received their awards Saturday evening during a banquet at the Las Vegas Sporting House in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Sporting House also hosted matches along with the Chuck Minker Sports Complex.

Overall Team Title

1. Baldwin Wallace College
2. University of Southern Colorado
3. University of Texas

Men's Team Title

1. Baldwin Wallace College
2. University of Southern Colorado
3. University of Memphis

Women's Team Title

1. University of Texas
2. Baldwin Wallace College
3. Brigham Young University

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*For Immediate Release
March 31, 2001*



USRA National Intercollegiate Singles Champs Crowned *Baldwin Wallace Boasts Both Men's and Women's Champions*

Las Vegas, Nev. - Two Champions were crowned in the gold division of the E-Force 29th USRA National Intercollegiate Racquetball Championships at the Las Vegas Sporting House Saturday, both students of Baldwin Wallace College in Berea, Ohio. Shane Vanderson (Baldwin Wallace) and Kristen Walsh (Baldwin Wallace) have each earned a one-year appointment to the U.S. National Racquetball Team for their wins in the men's and women's gold divisions, respectively.

Vanderson, the number one seed, outfought second seeded Josh Tucker (Missouri Southern State) for the men's gold division championship. He rolled to a win in the first game, jumping out to an 8-1 lead fueled by perfectly executed down-the-line passes that Tucker was unable to retrieve. After a timeout Tucker was able to close the gap, 8-4, but that was all of the scoring he would do in the first game as Vanderson closed it out 15-4. "I felt good at the beginning of the match. I thought about it all last night and I just knew going in that if I got off to a good start then the match would go my way." Stated Vanderson.

The second game was not as easy for Vanderson as Tucker came out focused and rattled off the first five points of the game to take a 5-0 lead. Vanderson then battled back to tie the score at 5 apiece and they would never stray more than two points from each other for the rest of the match. The game featured long rallies with spectacular dives, six score ties, and four lead changes. Eventually Vanderson was able to put the away game, and the match. 15-13.

Vanderson's teammate, Kristen Walsh, the number two seed, was able to upset first seeded Brooke Crawford (Santa Clara) in the women's final to also earn a spot on the U.S. National Racquetball Team. Crawford looked sharp in the first game with a strong serve that led to many aces and weak returns that she put away for points. She started the match with a 9-4 run and after a timeout, Walsh was able to pull within one, making the score 10-9. Again, Crawford's serve kicked in and she was able to close the game 15-9.

Walsh came out more relaxed and determined in the second game, drawing Crawford out of her game to take a 7-2 lead. Crawford did not lie down, however, and forced herself back into it, tying the score at 11-11. The two exchanged points and were tied 12-12 and 13-13 before Walsh was able to squeeze out the last two points she needed to force a tiebreaker.

In the tiebreaker Walsh again took a big lead to start out the game 8-2 but Crawford wouldn't go away, battling back to tie the score at 9-9. The two swapped serves several times then Walsh called a timeout after she scored a side-out. "I went out and talked to my coach, Brian (Pointelin), and he told me to hit her cross-court lob serves to her forehand and hard passes down the right side, that I could do it." Her coach's advice worked, as she was able to roll off the last two points to take the match 11-9.

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UNITED STATES RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

For Immediate Release
March 14, 2001

McKinney Selected for USRA Hall of Fame

Colorado Springs, Colo. – The United States Racquetball Association recently announced that Caryn McKinney, of Decatur, Georgia, will be inducted to the USRA Hall of Fame at the association's annual banquet in May. McKinney was selected for her accomplishments as a pro athlete following a long career spanning more than a decade. Her induction will take place on Saturday, May 26 at ceremonies held in conjunction with the Ektelon 34th U.S. National Singles Championships.

A dominant player on the Women's Pro Racquetball Association (WPRA) Tour throughout the 80's and into the 90's, McKinney consistently placed in the top five of season-ending results. Through that term she reached the semifinals in nearly 50 pro tournaments, winning eight. By capturing the WPRA National Championship in 1989, McKinney finished first in the rankings and was named the tour's Player of the Year.

McKinney's contributions have been just as impressive off the court. Well respected as an instructor and coach, she taught at the Elite Olympic Training Camp for eleven years, longer than any other instructor. She also served on the WPRA Board of Directors for six years, three as its President. In 1985 and 1986 she was the recipient of the WPRA Steding Cup, an award given annually in honor of Peggy Steding to the player who contributes the most to racquetball on and off the court.

McKinney will be the only inductee in this year's class, and will become the 30th person added to the USRA Hall of Fame roster this year.

For more information contact Ryan John, USRA Media & Public Relations, at 719/635-5396 ext. 126 or via e-mail at RJohn@usra.org. For more racquetball on the Internet, go to www.usra.org or www.racqmag.com.



2001 SANCTIONING APPLICATION

Tournament Dates: _____

Tournament Name: _____

Site/Club: _____ **#/Courts** _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Club Website URL: _____

Tournament Director: _____

Telephone: () _____

Email: _____

Each sanctioned event will receive a tournament kit, including: membership applications, results forms, official Rulebooks and state membership lists prior to the event. Amounts may vary according to availability.

Mailing Labels Needed by ... **date:** _____

Mailing Labels Requested ... **specify states:** _____

Membership Lists Requested ... **specify states:** _____

SHIP TO: _____
(if different from above) _____

Notes:

USRA Office Use Only: Posted _____ **Sent** _____

LIABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM

Carrier:

St. Paul Fire & Marine Insurance Company

Policy Term:

01/01/2001-12/31/2002

Covered Activities:

All duly sanctioned events of the insured organization, and all directly supervised activities sponsored by member clubs of the insured organization.

Limits of Insurance:

\$1,000,000 for each occurrence
\$5,000,000 per event Aggregate
\$5,000,000 — Products/Completed Operations Aggregate
\$1,000,000 — Personal Injury and Advertising Injury Aggregate
\$100,000 — Fire Damage Limit (any one fire)
\$ 5,000 — Medical Expense Limit (any one person)

Insured Organization:

United States Racquetball Association

Additional Insureds:

As requested and endorsed, manager or lessors of premises, sponsors, and designated person or organization.

Names of additional insureds requested:

Date

Signature

Authorized USRA Representative



UNITED STATES RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

**For Immediate Release
March 12, 2001**

Intercollegiate National Racquetball Championships head to Las Vegas

Colorado Springs, Colo. -- It will be March madness for college racquetball as the country's top collegiate players head to Las Vegas, Nevada for the **E-Force 29th USRA National Intercollegiate Championships** presented by Penn Racquet Sports, at the Las Vegas Sporting House, March 28 - April 1. The tournament will host more than 200 players, representing over 25 colleges and universities throughout the country. Two appointments to the U.S. National team will be earned by the men's and women's gold division singles champions.

Last year's silver medalist and current 18 and under boys world champion, Shane Vanderson (Baldwin Wallace), hopes to add the intercollegiate title to his list of accomplishments, while Josh Tucker (Missouri Southern State) is expected to challenge Vanderson after finishing in the quarterfinals at last year's event. Also look for Cesar Carrillo (University of Memphis), last year's men's #2 singles gold medal winner, to make a splash as he moves up into the #1 men's singles field.

Brooke Crawford (Santa Clara) will seek her first intercollegiate championship after coming home the silver in last year's competition. She'll be challenged by freshman sensation, Kristen Walsh (Baldwin Wallace). A final between the two could be a repeat match up of the 1999 National High School Championships where Walsh edged Crawford for the title.

With wins at this event, Vanderson and Walsh would join Jack Huczek as the only current players to boast membership on both the U.S. Junior National Team and U.S. Adult National Team.

The University of Southern Colorado will be seeking its fourth straight overall team title, while the Brigham Young University team will be going for its seventh consecutive women's team title. Expected to challenge for the overall title is Baldwin Wallace College, last year's division II team title winners. After ending a six year title drought last year with the men's team title, the University of Memphis is also expected to be in the mix with a strong team.

Matches begin Wednesday, March 28, at the Las Vegas Sporting House, with some matches also being played at the Chuck Minker Sporting Complex. Titles in six singles and three doubles divisions for men and women and three mixed doubles divisions will be up for grabs, in addition to Division I and II men's, women's and overall team titles.

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UNITED STATES RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

*For Immediate Release
March 12, 2001*

John Accepts USRA Media & Public Relations Post

Colorado Springs, Colo. – The United States Racquetball Association announced that effective March 7, Ryan John has joined its staff in Colorado Springs as Media and Public Relations Coordinator in the association's communications department.

Formerly of Massillon, Ohio, John graduated from Massillon Washington High School and attended Kent State University. Prior to joining the USRA, he was active in the sport as a tournament director and a club pro. An avid competitor in his own right, John has competed in three national singles championships, two U.S. Opens, and numerous regional, state, and local tournaments.

In his new position, John will assist in all phases of Public Relations relating to national events, U.S. team athletes, establishing a national press network, directing special programs, and general promotion of the sport. The position also provides a wide range of support to RACQUETBALL Magazine and other USRA publications and media projects.

His first major role with the USRA will be March 28 - April 1, where he will be attending the E-Force USRA National Intercollegiate Championships in Las Vegas, Nevada. There he will be responsible for the daily site management of Media/PR operations for the event.

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2001 Rebate Summary	1 st Qtr. Rebate
Alabama	
Alaska	
Arizona	
Arkansas	
California	\$1,892
Colorado	
Connecticut	
Delaware	
Florida	\$897
Georgia	
Hawaii	
Idaho	\$115
Illinois	\$677
Indiana	\$183
Iowa	
Kansas	
Kentucky	\$328
Louisiana	
Maine	
Maryland/DC	\$513
Mass.	
Michigan	
Minnesota	
Mississippi	
Missouri	
Montana	
Nebraska	

2001 Rebate Summary	1 st Qtr. Rebate
Nevada	
N. Hampshire	\$140
New Jersey	
New Mexico	\$396
New York	
North Carolina	
North Dakota	\$47
Ohio	\$681
Oklahoma	
Oregon (OJRA)	
Oregon (ORA)	\$229
Pennsylvania	
Rhode Island	
South Carolina	
South Dakota	
Tennessee	\$375
Texas	\$1,312
Utah	\$214
Vermont	
Virginia	
Washington	\$282
West Virginia	\$145
Wisconsin	
Wyoming	
Updated on April 27, 2001	