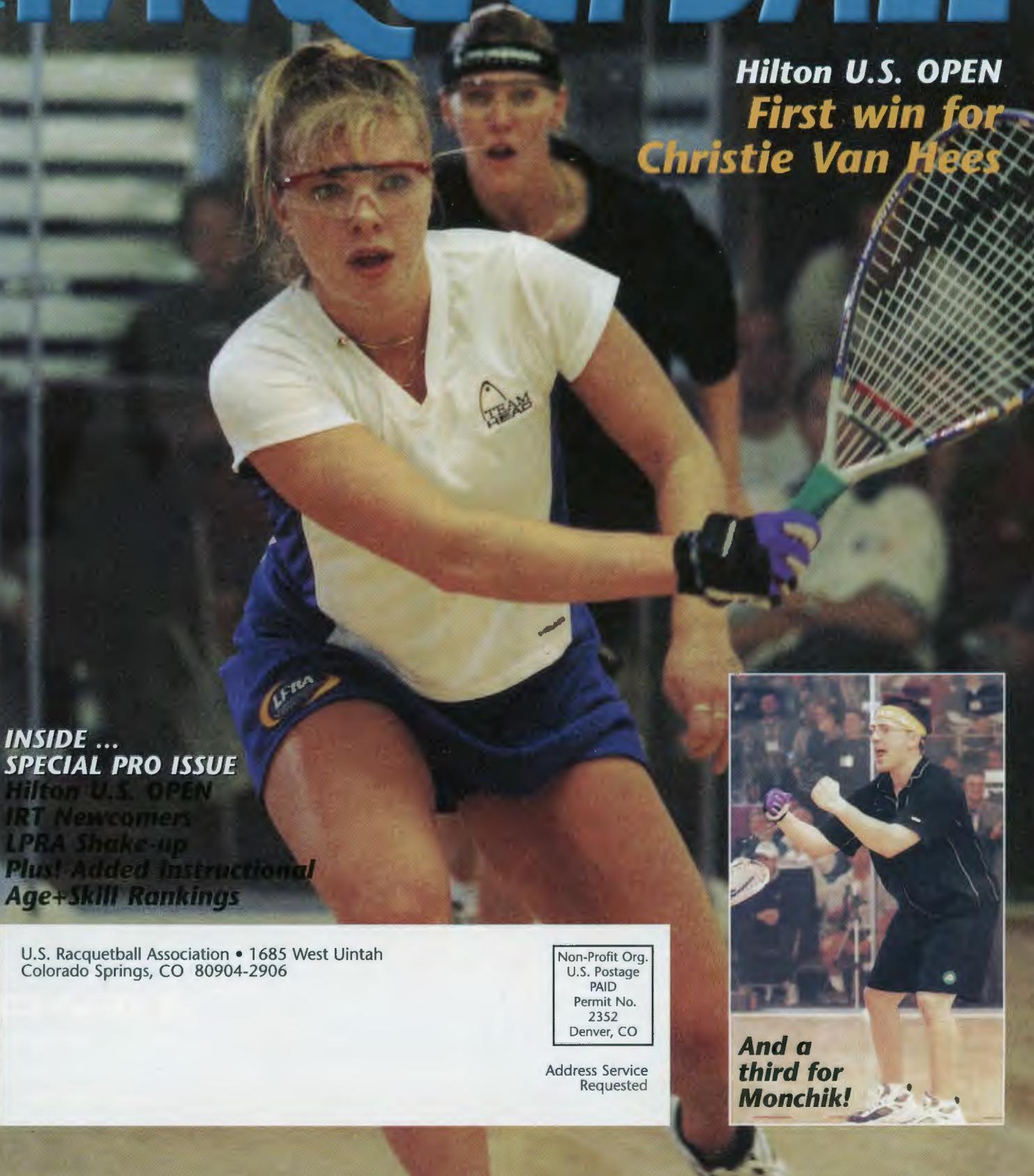


RACQUETBALL

Hilton U.S. OPEN

**First win for
Christie Van Hees**



**INSIDE ...
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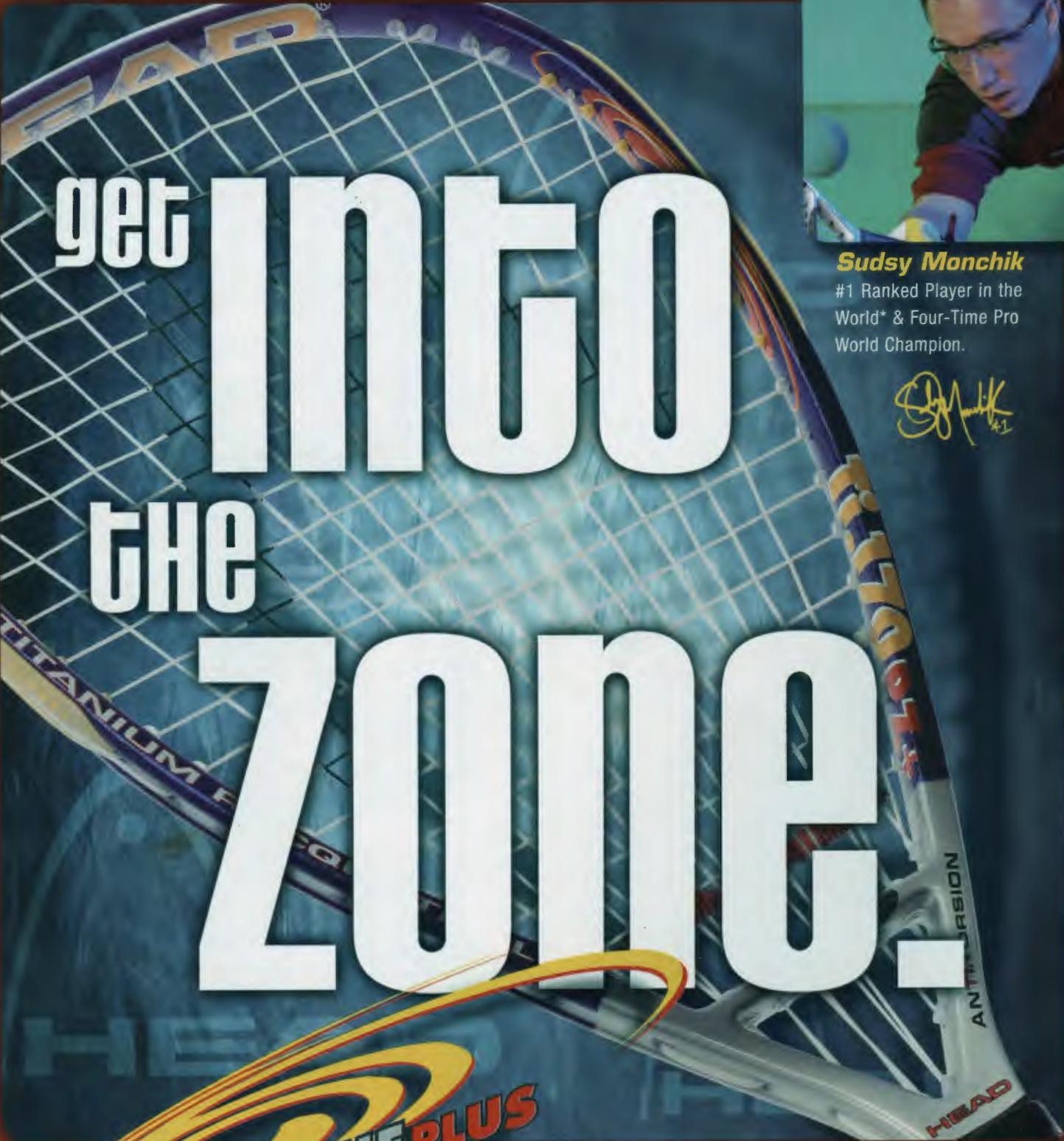
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Volume 12, Number 1
January - February 2001

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... on the cover ... In her first win after three attempts, Christie Van Hees went up against tour rookie Rhonda Rajsich in Memphis. Inset: Sudsy Monchik celebrates his third win. Photos: Vicki Hughes.

... this page ... Cliff Swain and Sudsy Monchik faced off for the third title battle at the Hilton U.S. OPEN. Photo: Mike Boatman.

from the editor

Finally! I surrender ... fully, whole-heartedly and without reservation! With full awareness, I expect to receive — once you've read it through — nothing less than 50% grief and 50% total silent assent (but I'll gladly accept less grief), on

the overall "feel" of this issue. Yes, it's primarily pro coverage of one of our premiere events. Yes, it's overwhelming "female-friendly" in its report-age of the new ladies tour. And yes, (since I'm obviously female) that fact *must* be the reason for the absolutely unheard of gender balance (well, almost) in this issue.



Why all the angst? What has stolen into the forefront of consciousness for RACQUETBALL? That the sport is,

indeed, capable of promoting its high-end athletes on the basis of both their athleticism and marketability? That racquetball players can be attractive, intelligent and hard-working? And that racquetball athletes can stand and be measured against *anyone* — male or female — on *any* turf? Well, yes. Of course. No kidding. It's sensationalism at its finest. We just haven't done it in awhile.

So, along those lines — here's something else sensational. Think "Tiger Woods" ... "Venus Williams" ... "Shaquille O'Neil" ... "Derek Jeter" ... "Curt Warner" ... and oh, say, the entire U.S. Olympic Team. Impressed? Pretty big names, to be sure, but there's another on that list. Among the winners of Sports Illustrated's annual Athlete of the Year awards, presented on December 15, was none other than Oklahoma's Chris Coy as SI's first "Young Sportsman of the Year" for 2000. Grab your socks, people ...

Chris Coy plays racquetball. His appearance on SI's annual award program was nothing less than "sensational." His story, which you'll read in the upcoming March/April issue, is remarkable. As a preview, he's shown below — among his "peers" — after a visit to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis (see page 19).

Every last one of these athletes is exceptionally gifted. And every last one of them is "drop-dead gorgeous" in my book. Sensational? You bet — and well, I just can't find any problem with *that* ... Happy New Year!



L-R: Chris Coy, Cliff Swain, Jackie Paraiso, Sudsy Monchik, Doug Eagle, Kane Waselenchuk, John Ellis. Photo: Vicki Hughes.

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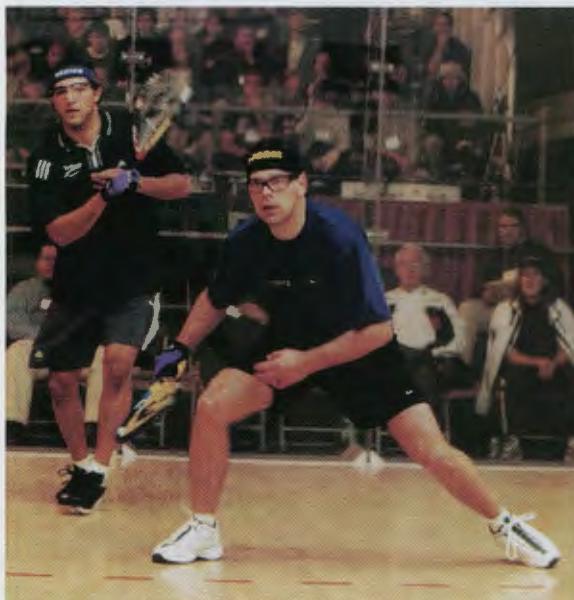
reader forum

Bi-Lingual

I went [to Memphis] as a spectator and enjoyed all the matches very much. The whole production was great, and every day seemed to run very smoothly with very little time lapse between matches on the main court. I also enjoyed talking to some of the vendors at the tourney site.

I would like to get some feedback on a situation I came across during one of the pro matches between Tim Doyle of the U.S. and top Mexican player, Alvaro Beltran. The referee was Javier Moreno. In between a point or sideout, Alvaro asked Javier something (I could not hear what it was). Tim Doyle took exception to what Alvaro said/asked because he said it in his native tongue, Spanish. I think Mr. Doyle wanted Beltran to only speak in English. The ref explained that he was asked a question in Spanish, but had then answered in English.

I took exception to Mr. Doyle's attitude (maybe he should go to a Human Relations class). I don't know what difference it makes in what language you speak to the ref - the match is either won or lost on the court by making good shots. Are there any rules regarding a situation similar to this? How can we promote goodwill with such an attitude?



These were two professional racquetball players, and most of us expect them to act as such.

I feel it is important that we tolerate those from other parts of the world and treat them with respect and courtesy. We need to give racquetball a boost, not a black eye. And one last thing, the outcome of the match was the same in either English or Spanish. Thanks for your time and I'll probably see you all next year in Memphis!

Armando Mayorga • Sonoma, CA

No Whining!

(... or, Refereeing: the thankless job ...)

Unfortunately, there is too much "whining" in racquetball. We are following in the footsteps of basketball, baseball, tennis and football when it comes to the players complaining excessively about calls made by the referee. Players, grow up! You are an embarrassment!

Referee's Credo (... or, basically what referees should say to the players before the match ...) "Players, you can expect two things from me. I will be fair and I will be honest. I can only call what I think

I see. I cannot call what I don't see. If I make a mistake, I am truly sorry. If both of you disagree with my call, I will gladly overrule myself. One of you is going to win and one of you is going to lose. I do not care which of you wins and I do not care which of you loses. In other words, I am not playing favorites. Again, you can expect two things from me: I will be fair and I will be honest. In turn, I expect two things from each of you: I expect you to be fair and I expect you to be honest!"

Solution for eliminating the excessive "whiner" (... or,

the card-carrying outsider ...) In most cases, matches are played without line judges (it's hard enough to find someone to referee, let alone find two other people for each match). When a referee is confronted with an obnoxious, excessive "whiner," the referee will call a time-out. The referee will inform the players that the tournament director or a member of the tournament committee will be called to witness the match.

If the "whiner" continues, the tournament director, member of the tournament committee, or someone designated by the tournament director will show a yellow card (as in soccer and volleyball) to the "whiner." No words need to be spoken. Just show the player the yellow card. If the "whiner" persists, they will be shown a red card. A red card immediately eliminates the "whiner" from the tournament. The referee should not have the authority to show a yellow card or a red card.

Racquetball players, it is time to clean up our act.

Bob Webster • Northport, Alabama

Rankings

Well, where do I start? Rankings! Number 1 through 10: who really is the best? Each earned ranking spot, regardless of its position (#1 or #6), is achieved through lots of hard work by the players. Granted, the number that you are ranked, and 55 cents, will probably get you a cup of coffee just about anywhere.

I know for myself, in the year 2000, I played in 30 racquetball tournaments in the United States and overseas. I won some and I lost some, but I was there and I participated. Those who think they belong higher on the ranking board than myself, or anyone else for that matter, have a lot to learn about the USRA rankings and how the structure works.

Let's use basketball as an example. You shoot at the basket, you score points, you end up with the most points, you

usra regional events 2001

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April 5-8	Orlando Tennis & Racquet Club	Orlando, Florida . . . Bill Herr . . . 407-880-7790 x552
April 19-22	Ozark Sports Club	Fort Smith, Arkansas . . . Dann Swinger . . . 501-646-4022
	Spectrum Club	Canoga Park, California . . . Deb Tisinger . . . 818-884-5034
	Southern Athletic Club	Atlanta, Georgia . . . Ric Crosby . . . 404-923-5400
	Merritt Athletic Club	Baltimore, Maryland . . . Jeff Leon . . . 410-298-8700
	Central Courts	Columbia Heights, Minnesota . . . Dennis Ring . . . 612-920-6652
	Executive Health & Sports Center	Manchester, New Hampshire . . . Kelley Beane . . . 603-759-2729
	Tom Young's Athletic Club	Albuquerque, New Mexico . . . Gary Mazaroff . . . 505-266-8960
	Cascade Athletic Club	Gresham, Oregon . . . Connie Martin . . . 503-665-4142
	Parma Courts	Cleveland, Ohio . . . Doug Ganim . . . 614-890-6073
	Northwest Health & Fitness	Houston, Texas . . . Annie Muniz . . . 713-432-0881
May 3-6	Athletic Club of Bloomingdale	Bloomingdale, Illinois . . . Dave Negrete . . . 630-483-6829

other recognized qualifiers ... for seniors 45 & up

Jan. 19-21	Women's Senior/Master Championships . . .	Canoga Park, California . . . Deb Tisinger . . . 818-884-5034
March 21-24	NMRA Masters Singles/Doubles Championships . . .	Arlington, Texas . . . Ron Pudduck . . . 734-426-8952

[These qualify 45+ entrants ONLY! ... 35+ & 40+ players in the preceding events must still take part in a regional qualifier — from the first group shown above — in order to compete at National Singles].

2001 junior qualifying @ all [level 3] state championships

To become eligible for play in the HEAD 28th U.S. Junior Olympics [June 23-27, 2001], entrants must first compete in any Level 3 State Championship, OR in a recognized junior regional event (not offered in all areas). All players must compete in (not merely enter) the qualifying state or regional event, plus meet all age requirements and other entry stipulations.

Questions? Call 719-635-5396, or go to: www.usra.org

win. In each season's "rankings game" the more tournaments you play — and place in — the more points you earn and the higher on the ranking ladder you will go.

Are the #1 of #6 players on the rankings sheet the best? Maybe not, but they are there because of hard work and lots of mileage to compete in a lot of tournaments around the country. Because a player wins one major tournament like the US Open or the Nationals to earn big ranking points, now is this player the best? *I don't think so!*

Quibble if you must, and say things like "That guy can't beat me!" But guess what, pal? We earned our spot in history by playing in a lot of tournaments (not just the big ones) and working very hard year round.

••• qualifying tipsheet •••

This Sanctioned Event	Qualifies players for:
State Singles Championships	Junior Olympics
Recognized Junior Regional	Junior Olympics
National High Schools	Junior Olympics
National Intercollegiates	National Singles
Regional Qualifiers	National Singles
WSMRA Championship (January) . . .	National Singles [45 & up]
NMRA Championship (March) . . .	National Singles [45 & up]
U.S. Military Championships	National Singles
Alaska/Hawaii residents	exempt from qualifying
Active duty overseas military	exempt from qualifying

Will I ever achieve #1? Maybe! Do I think I am better than most? No! And you should feel the same! Thanks for the ear.

Grant "Spoony" Morrill • Middletown, Pennsylvania

CORRECTION

With apologies to our "elder statemen," the correct World Seniors "Round-Robin Finishes" (page 24, Nov/Dec 2000) for the Men's divisions should have read:

ROUND ROBIN FINISHES (by point standings)

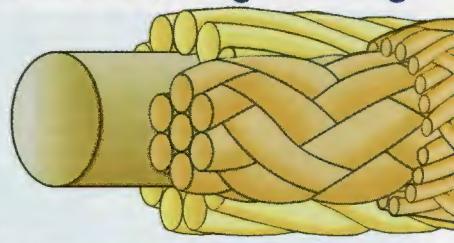
Men's 70+: Joe Lambert (Dallas, Texas) [490 pts] def. Herbert Sampson (San Bernadino, Calif.) [375 pts]
Men's 75+: Dick Kincade (Divide, Colo.) [346 pts] def. Lake Westphal (Sun City West, Ariz.) [340 pts]
Men's 80+: Earl Acuff (Asheville, N.C.) [392 pts] def. Cam Snowberger (Myrtle Beach, S.C.) [317 pts]
Men's 85+: Harry Steinman (Baltimore, Md.) [unchallenged]

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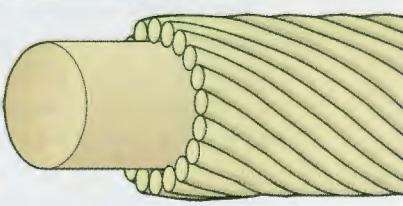
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Monchik nabs a third

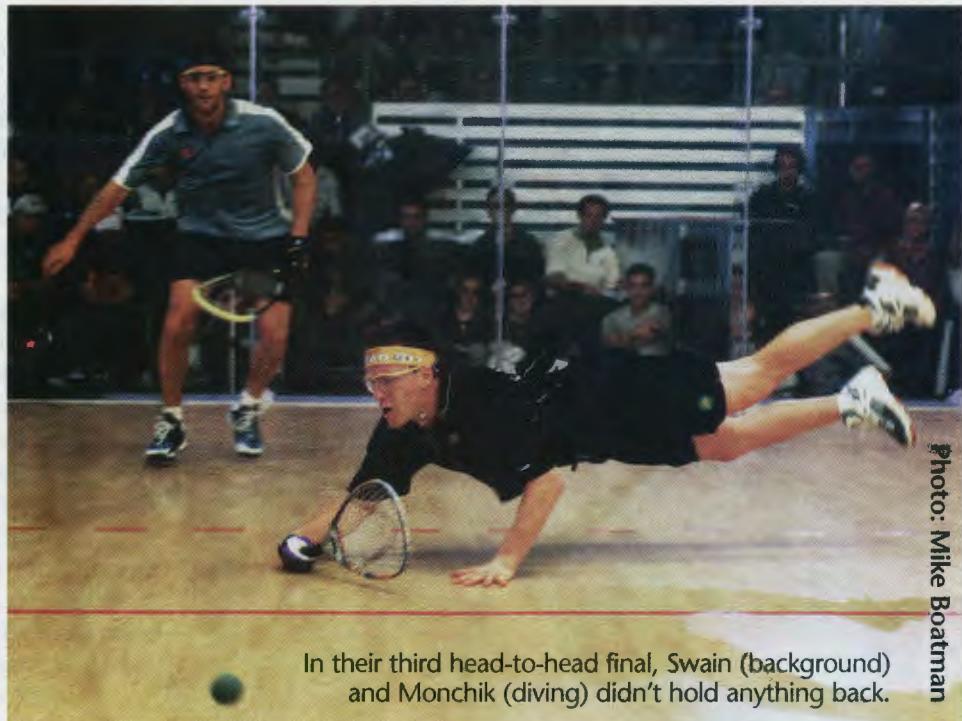
Who's on Fifth?

The 2000 Hilton U.S. OPEN marked the fifth anniversary of a USRA "experiment" that has proven successful by becoming the sport's largest and most prestigious event of this, or any, year since 1996. On the amateur side, the event has consistently grown – this year seeing nearly a 20% jump in participation with over 100 more entrants than the year before. For the pros, either Cliff Swain or Sudsy Monchik has appeared in every final of the event's history, and changes to the women's tour drew record numbers of spectators to the stands just to see what was shaking. Above and beyond the sport itself, fundraisers conducted at the events brought the five-year total of donations to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital to \$76,485.00. In the very broadest scheme of things, it seems that everybody wins in Memphis.

For International Racquetball Tour athletes, would there be yet another showdown between Cliff Swain and Sudsy Monchik? Each had appeared in four out of the five finals, twice before against one another. But even years have been good for Sudsy, and his streak held through yet another long drawn-out advance to a final, past an ever-improving field of challengers.

Qualifiers

Forty-seven players competed in the preliminary qualifying rounds to see who would make it to the main IRT draw, but only the best 16 of them made the cut (and only briefly) before falling to pro tour regulars in the round of 64. Among the players to advance through the qualifying round were Dale Valentine and Kevin Graham (who later went on to win their 25+ and 30+ divisions, respectively), Scott Cullins, Julio Junki, Jesus Gutierrez, Eddie Alberty, Ceasar Carillo, Enrique Esparza, Todd O'Neil, Chris Robinson, Billy Perrone, Brent Walters, John Scargle, Billy Shepley, Andy Babinchack, and Chris Cole.



In their third head-to-head final, Swain (background) and Monchik (diving) didn't hold anything back.

Photo: Mike Boatman

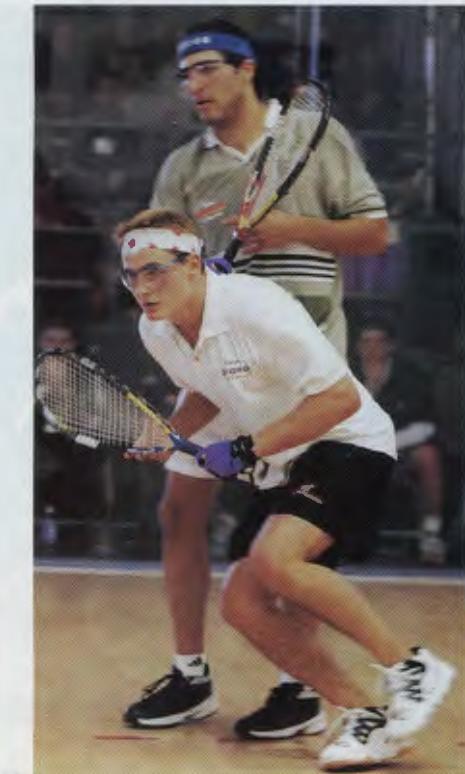
Dale Valentine advanced after a no-show forfeit past former pro tour champion Drew Kachtik (who later arrived to officiate for the pros), while former amateur world champion Chris Cole defeated Brent Hanson after losing in a close first game, 15-13, then taking the next three 11-6, 11-9, 11-4.

Then, in true "international playoffs," top Venezuelan national team player Ralf Reinhardt was defeated by Julio Junki, while Ceasar Carillo defeated Pascal Matla, the number one player from the Netherlands, each in straight games. Carillo plays for the University of Memphis and joined UM teammate Javier Moreno to make it to the IRT's opening round of 64. Todd "Lefty" O'Neil defeated Fabian Parilla 11-9, 11-2, 12-10 before falling in five games to Erin Brannigan.

Advancing out of the round of 64, most of the non-U.S. players settled into the top half of the draw, with Canada's Kane Waselenchuk and Mike Green set to face top seeds, and Mexico's Alvaro Beltran and Luis Bustillos slated for a rematch of national championship competition last spring. Only Brian Istace of Canada fell into the bottom half, to go up against Dan Fowler.

2000 Hilton 5th U.S. OPEN

- Additional material by University of Memphis PRSSA & Event Staff
- Photos by Mike Boatman and Vicki Shaw Hughes



Photos: Vicki Hughes

Above: Waselenchuk (in white) vs. Beltran in the quarterfinal. Far right: Mannino toughs it out after his loss.

It was in that second round of regulation play that the first major upset occurred, when defending champion Jason Mannino was eliminated by southpaw Canadian national team member Kane Waselenchuk of Edmonton, Alberta. Mannino took the first game with ease, 11-3, but the lefty apparently found his groove to capture the next three 11-4, 11-8, 11-8.

It had been scheduled as the first pro match of the day, and had drawn a crowd of only 100 fans, who all sat in shock as Mannino's early lead quickly diminished. At the start of the fourth game, the typically-cocky Mannino began his routine trash-talking in a last-ditch attempt to disrupt Waselenchuk's momentum. But the 19-year-old Canadian simply shot back at the defending champion with a quick wit of his own, before cruising into the sweet sixteen.

"I have been playing this game for 16 years," said Waselenchuk, a two-time Canadian national champion. "Guys like Jason, Cliff and Sudsy are who I have looked up to, and now I know that I can play on their level. I belong here [on the pro tour]."

Not bad for only his second showing on the pro circuit — Waselenchuk had taken top-ranked Swain to a grueling five games in the quarterfinals of the Pro Nationals in Las Vegas last April. Several of the top pro players took notice of the young Canadian even then, including Mannino.

"I anticipated exactly what I got (from Waselenchuk)," Mannino said following the loss. "I knew that I had the toughest match of the day, and it was only the round of 32."

Waselenchuk went up against fourth-ranked Mannino early in the tournament due to his poor ranking on the International Racquetball Tour. His one quarterfinal appearance at the Pro Nationals positioned him at 29th. And the early round loss destroyed any hopes that Mannino had of moving up in the rankings.

"This ruined my whole year. There is no way I can recover from this. I can only move down from this. Moving into the top three is not even an issue anymore."

Later in the evening, Waselenchuk again advanced with an easier straight-game win over #20 seeded Greg Thomas of Bend, Oregon, while his next opponent pulled out his own upset of another top seed in the round of 16.

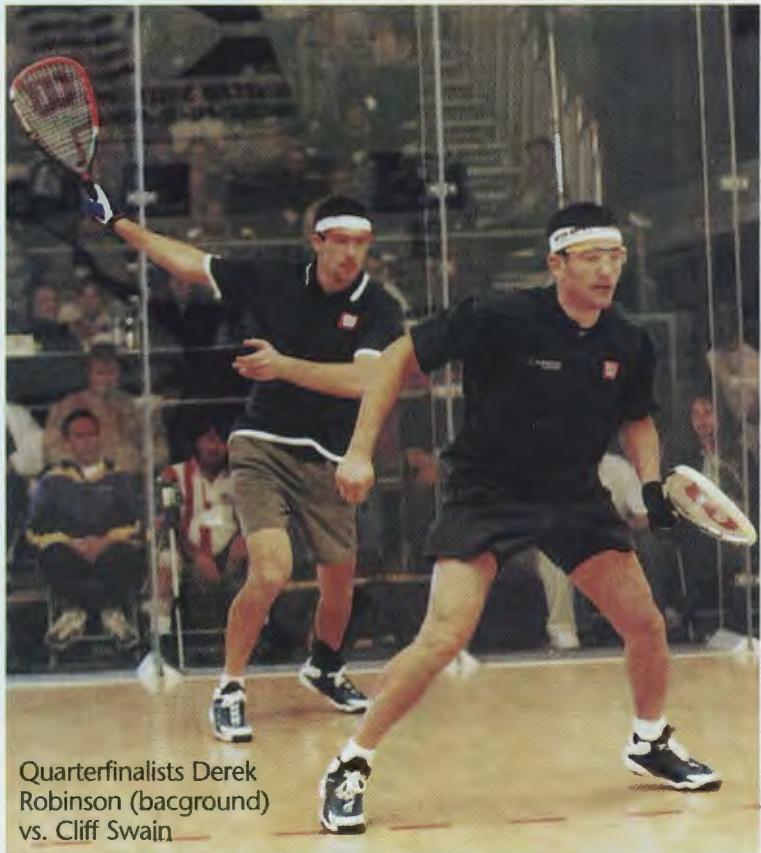
Following a swift straight game win over fellow Mexican team member Luis Bustillos, current amateur world champion Alvaro Beltran seemed bent on another international playoff against Waselenchuk — after he



disposed of No.5 seeded Tim Doyle. Beltran put Doyle on the ropes with game wins of 11-9, 11-7 before Doyle rallied to take the third 11-9. But close play and a bit of controversy only aided Beltran in logging the upset with an 11-9 reply in the fourth.

In their last meeting at the world championships in August, Beltran had gone to a tiebreaker against Waselechuk in the quarterfinals of the individual title round. In Memphis, it seemed that the two wanted to take it down to the wire again. It went to five games – each close – only to end on an out-of-court ball. With Beltran leading 10-8 in the fifth, Waselechuk had tried to keep a rally alive with a too-high around the world shot that bounced right over the side of the right hand glass wall for match point. And how did Kane react to the unexpected game-ender? As it sailed out, he clutched and grimaced to try to coax the ball back into the court, then laughed, and congratulated Alvaro with another big smile for the crowd.

In an earlier minor upset, No.9 Derek Robinson had taken a straight game win over No.8 Adam



Quarterfinalists Derek Robinson (background) vs. Cliff Swain



Jamison of Memphis. They defeated Houston's Doug Eagle and Landon Pilant, a member of the University of Memphis racquetball team. [Shown above, L-R: Eagle, Pilant, Jamison, Carson. Photo: Vicki Hughes]

"It's a whole different game when you play with a pro athlete, than what I'm used to playing," said Pilant, a member of the championship University of Memphis Racquetball Team. "Playing with a pro almost makes you feel like you need to move yourself up to their level."

Although both the pro and amateur players enjoyed the light-hearted competitiveness of the St. Jude Pro-Am, everyone agreed that helping the children of St. Jude is what makes the experience complete. "It is an honor to be able to play the sport I love and help the children of St. Jude," Carson said. "It's always a wonderful feeling to be able to help someone in need, but to help a young child fighting an awful disease is an unbelievable feeling."



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Top (L-R): Ellis vs. Locker quarterfinal.
Bottom: Monchik vs. Locker in their semifinal.

Karp to reach Swain in the quarterfinal, and had handed Cliff his first game loss of the tournament before losing in four. It would be Swain vs. Beltran in the semi.

Non-stop Locker

On the bottom half of the draw, Minnesota's Mike Locker had logged the second in a series of major upsets, with a win over No.3 seeded John Ellis in their quarterfinal. Even more remarkable was that, less than 24 hours prior to that match, Locker had finished a grueling five-game tiebreaker and then lain paralyzed with cramps on the locker room floor of The Racquet Club. After three hours of excruciating pain, he was taken to the emergency room and treated for extreme dehydration.

Locker's earlier round marathon upset of No.6 seeded Mike Guidry had brought on the cramps, which threatened to end his bid for a semi-final berth.

"When I was laying the hospital bed, I thought that the IV would help me, and everything would be fine afterwards," Locker said about his emergency room experience. "When I finally woke up though, everything wasn't fine. [Later] during my warm-up, I turned to a buddy with me and told him that I didn't think I was going to be able to play. But, when the music started to play and they introduced me on the court, the adrenaline suppressed the pain in my calves and everything."

Looking a bit pale and seemingly hesitant to go to full extension on the run, Locker's painstaking attention to the details of his shot-making allowed him to launch a comeback from a 2-0 game deficit and take the upset win over Ellis in another grueling and close five-game struggle.

Familiar Faces

After making fairly quick work of all who stood in their way, No.1 Cliff Swain and No.2 Sudsy Monchik weren't about to let up as they headed toward yet another rematch. Swain knocked off Beltran in the semifinals, 13-11, 11-4, 11-7, while Monchik let Mike Locker stretch it out a bit with a second game win before closing the door, 11-9, 10-12, 12-10, 11-3.

And although it's still early in the season, Swain and Monchik continue to wrestle for the number-one tour ranking, with only few points separating them after each stop. In Memphis, Monchik was also hoping to become the first man in history to win three U.S. OPEN titles. For Swain, the motivation was far more personal. His father, Red, was absent from his first U.S. OPEN due to a serious illness that kept him at home, and he passed away shortly after Cliff's return to Boston. Swain had hoped to win this year's title for his father.

Despite the high-stress, these two remarkable players put forth their best effort with close games of 11-8 and 11-9 going to



Monchik for starters, followed by Swain's single game win in the third with a matching 11-9.

In the forth, an experienced crowd held its breath as the final point approached. Would there be controversy? Would it be decided on a call by referee Drew Kachtik? Would it end on an out-of-court error? With debates still raging from seeming double-bounce pick-ups at match point in prior years, it was an utter relief to see Sudsy Monchik drop in a soft forehand winner for the uncontested game-ender at 11-3.

"Cliff and I have a lot of battles on the court," said Monchik after his win, which will be aired on ESPN2 later this year. "This was just another one of those battles. It went to four games, and could have gone to five."

Swain, was very disappointed in his play. "I overlooked things today, and I don't usually do that," said Swain. "He played solid. I had my chances. It could have gone either way."

And they'll certainly keep at it. At press time, Monchik had just taken another win over Swain in Denver, but still not been able to overtake him in the rankings. But the margin has dropped to below 20 points ...

Contact ESPN2 directly online, to find out the dates and airtimes of the Hilton 5th U.S. OPEN at:
<http://espn.go.com/sitetools/s/contact/lettersespn.html>.





Photo: Mike Boatman

Minor Adjustments

Apparently, they're getting used to it – all those new LPRA scoring, serving, and approach-to-playing changes that have made the women's game so intriguing this season. Some are getting more used to it than others ... and the Hilton U.S. OPEN was the place to name some names.

Prelims

Early on No.6 seeded Lisa Hjelm forfeited her spot in the draw, after succumbing to an injury sustained in the final doubles match at the Albuquerque Pro/Am in September. She had entered the U.S. Open thinking that she might be able to compete, but then re-injured the medial collateral ligament in practice and called in her cancellation just prior to the opening round. She could be out of commission until February or March. Doubles partner, Kari McDonough also appeared on the "no-show" list, allowing Orlando's Lori Lepow to advance into the round of 32 against Doreen Fowler.

Canadian junior Karina Odegard apparently forgot about needing to play in an early qualifying round of 32 match, missed her 10:00 am Wednesday start and was forfeited from the LPRA draw in favor of opponent Dina Moreland. Peggy Stevens, a surgeon from Louisville, Kentucky, also had to drop out – she forfeited after being called into surgery at the last minute!

In the qualifier between High School national champion Adrienne Fisher and Mexico's Joanna Rivera, Fisher triumphed in a marathon two-hour five-game tiebreak, 15-21, 17-21, 21-19, 21-17, 21-19. Up-and-comer Rivera said she felt comfortable about how she played, but errors cost her.

In another barnburner, D.C. newlywed Shannon Feaster-Stewart gave Linda Moore, of Madison, Nebraska a run for her money, with another five game playoff. Feaster narrowly advanced with scores of 21-18, 11-21, 21-15, 12-21, and 23-21 to face the top seed.

2000 Hilton 5th U.S. OPEN

• By Jo Shattuck, UM/PRSSA & event staff
• Photos by Mike Boatman and Vicki Hughes

Rounded Out 32s

Virginia's Michelle Lucas fell to long-time former tour veteran Dina Moreland in four games. In her return to the tour, Alabama's Moreland was unseeded, but her smart play and smarter pinches kept Lucas on the run. Lucas said it was a tough match both ways, adding that that Moreland was "very fair" and "nice to play."

In her first match against qualifier Shannon Feaster-Stewart, Jackie Paraiso advanced in three quick games of 21-15, 21-18, 21-8. Tied at 15 with the defending US OPEN champion at one point, Shannon admitted "You gotta dig deep near the end of each game and I didn't do that."

After winning an easy first game 21-8 against Florida's Lori Lepow, Doreen Fowler dropped the next game 18-21, before going on to win the next two games for the match 21-12 and 21-14. Two five-game brawls marked this round, with Lori-Jane Powell defeating Kerri Stoffregen (all that effort just to face her Canadian teammate Christie Van Hees) in a full set of five close games; while Janet Myers eliminated another Canadian hopeful, Jennifer Saunders, in their marathon tiebreaker.

Chantal Turgeon of Canada started out strong in her match against No. 4 Kersten Hallander. The first game was close, with both playing hard to pull ahead, until Hallander came out on top, 21-19. Hallander then wore Turgeon down in the second and third games with her killer drive serve, to clinch the win, 21-14, 21-8.

"Wow, she was very good," said Hallander. "She was very consistent, smart and aggressive. She didn't stay strong throughout the match, though. When I put the pressure on her, she made a few mistakes."

A bit tougher

In the round of 16, Lori-Jane Powell (foreground, right) met Christie Van Hees for some very clean play in their opening game. Both were shooting well and error-free as they moved to a 19-19 tie. After reaching that mark, thanks to the new scoring system, the game moved at glacial speed. Van Hees took a one-point advantage at 20; Powell scored on the subsequent return. Two rallies later, at game point for Powell, Van Hees left one up in the front court, but Powell skipped the straight-in shot. The final score was an exciting 25-23, with the narrow edge going to Van Hees.

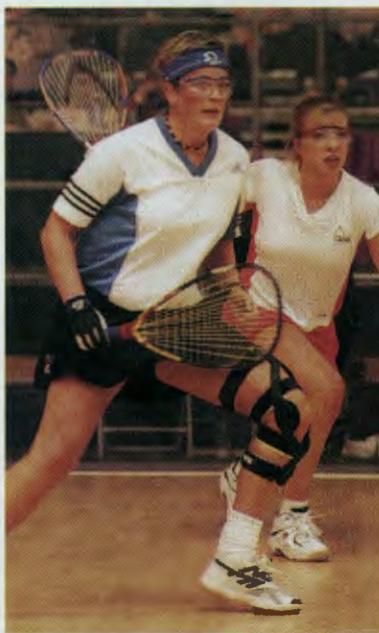


Photo: Vicki Hughes

UM Students Gain Experience

By Jackie Smith

Eleven University of Memphis student worked closely with the players of the 2000 Hilton U.S. OPEN in an internship that provides them with opportunities to generate press releases, and learn a sport-related media relations operation from the inside. In order to participate, the students must be members of the Public Relations Student Society of America, and even though it was a busy time for them, the PRSSA students enjoy working hands-on with professional and amateur players.

"It's hard to juggle everything you are involved in at the moment, but it is only one week and well worth it," said Molly Watkins, president of PRSSA.

Each of the students were assigned several pro and amateur players to "cover" over the course of the week, and were asked to make contact with their athletes in advance to develop a plan to reach hometown media with reports and results. Once they met face-to-face in Memphis, the interns followed each match until their athlete either was eliminated, or won their division.

The program is the brainchild of Dr. Rick Fischer, of the Journalism Department at the University of Memphis, who later commented about this year's program "They are still talking about how it made their writing courses seem so worthwhile. I thought our local projects were relevant, but not compared to what you offer them. They are pumped!" Several students have even expressed an interest in taking up racquetball on their own, and the group received a "starter kit" of racquets, ball and eyeguards in appreciation for all their hard work.

Many thanks to the students who were involved in the internship this year: Adam Badrian (Memphis); Emily Blackwell (Memphis); Katie Flippo (Mountain Home, AR); Amiejo Hreno (Hendersonville); Tilea Lacy (Collierville); Nikita Little (Memphis); Kirsten Marks (Clarksville); Sarah Pinyan (Collierville); Jackie Smith (Germantown); Molly Watkins (Germantown); and Kesha Whitaker (Memphis).

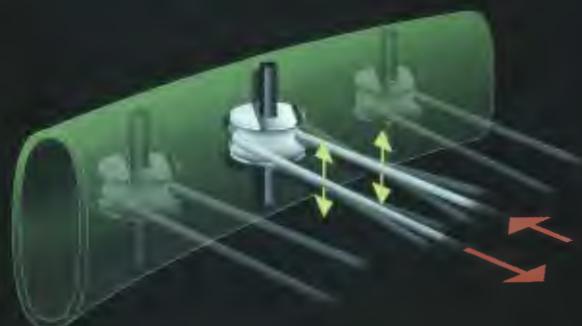
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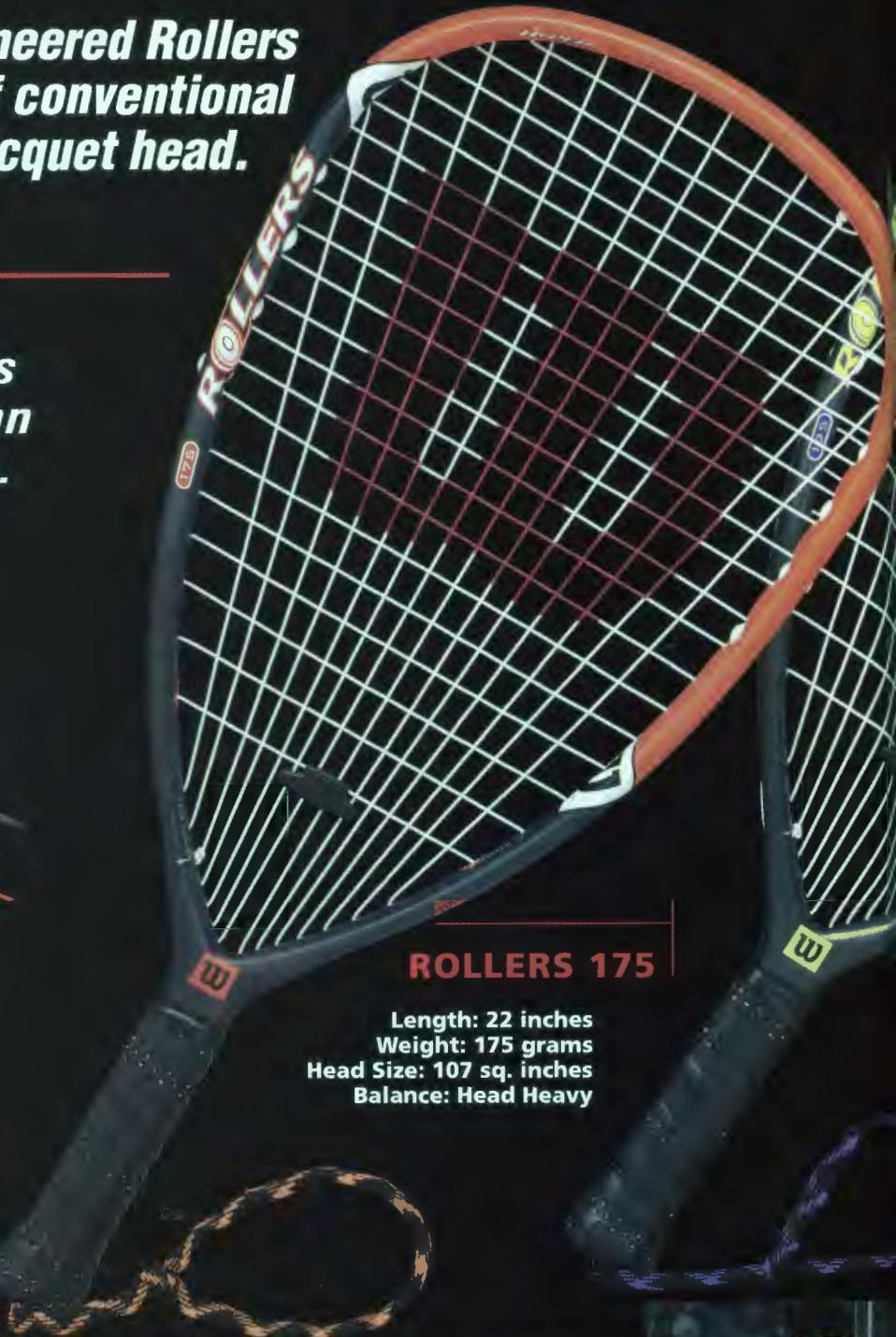
ROLLERS 175

Length: 22 inches

Weight: 175 grams

Head Size: 107 sq. inches

Balance: Head Heavy



Cliff Swain, 5-Time Pro World Champion.

Derek Robinson, #6 Ranked on the IRT™ Pro Tour.

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Phast DST

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Jr. Vents

ROLLERS 195

Length: 22 inches
Weight: 195 grams
Head Size: 107sq. inches
Balance: Head Light

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Conform™



ROLLERS
Power in Motion





Photos: Vicki Hughes

Round of 16 Action. Top, L-R:
Gudinas vs. Walsh. Bottom: Paraiso
(foreground) vs. Shattuck.

Game two started out much the same — at first — before Van Hees' powerful serve return and methodical shooting slowed Powell's initial momentum. Van Hees took that game 21-17 and finished the match by winning the third, 21-14.

On a side court, when LPRA staffer Ed Willis spied the match between seasoned veterans Chris Evon and Janet Myers, he quipped "Is this age division?" Oddly enough, in Myers's first year on the tour in 1990, she'd gone up against Evon in first rounds five times in a row. Somehow, the two hadn't competed against each other for nine years ... until Memphis. The tour's designated "smart player," Myers herself was outsmarted by Evon in three straight of 15, 17, 11. "Chris plays as good now as she did then" recalled Myers about Evon's former tour play, "but it was more fun this time."

Baldwin Wallace undergrad Kristen Walsh of Salt Lake City, Utah felt right at home on the championship court, as she took game one from No.2 seeded Cheryl Gudinas, 21-19. But Gudinas then turned it up a notch, and while the youngster played tough by diving after almost every ball, Walsh lost the next three 16, 14, and 11.

Paraiso continued her winning streak over Denver's Jo Shattuck in straight games, while '99 semifinalist Susana Acosta was upset by unseeded Rhonda Rajsich in four. Kim Machiran and Doreen Fowler couldn't really decide who would win their match until the last three points of the fifth game. But "Fowlers luck" held true (like husband Dan's against Rocky Carson), Doreen fell to Machiran in the tiebreak. The final score: 21-19 in a fifth game nailbiter.

Despite a first game win, Rachel Gellman, of Phoenix, was no match for Kersten Hallander, who went on to win their match in four. The first had been a warm-up for Hallander, as she fell to Gellman, 17-21. After her adrenaline kicked in and she relaxed on the court, Hallander quickly took the second game, 21-11. In the third, Hallander put the pressure on early to take the lead over Gellman and force a 21-17 win. The fourth game sealed Hallander's victory with another hard fought battle that ended in her favor, 21-19.

"I played a good game, but I had a late start," said Hallander. "You can't ease into these matches, not playing your hardest. I was a little tentative at first. You've really got to play good from the start."

This win advanced Hallander into the quarterfinal round to face unseeded Rhonda Rajsich, also of Phoenix, who had upset No.5 Susana Acosta. This pairing was set to be a re-match of the women's Open third place playoff in the 2000 U.S. National Singles Championships, where Hallander had barely managed to defeat Rajsich for the bronze.

"I just played Rhonda in Colorado, and I beat her in three games," said Hallander. "But beating Susana tells me she's playing good, so I'll have to mix up my serves a lot to win."

But that strategy didn't succeed for Hallander in the long run. Although she won the first game of their match, she fell to Rajsich in the following three.

Despite her straight game win over Dina Moreland, Laura Fenton still hoped to improve her performance for a special rematch.

"I didn't feel like I was real sharp, and my backhand was not as strong as I would like it to be," Fenton said. "I played just well enough to win, which is what I wanted to do, but I did feel pretty good with my serves."

Last year, Fenton sustained a back injury that forced her to withdraw from the Open and caused her to miss several important U.S. Team events last season. But it's also shaped her outlook on playing. "I don't care who I play," Fenton said. "I'm privileged just to be playing."

Ironically, Fenton's quarterfinal match-up had her facing the same opponent, Cheryl Gudinas, against whom she had been competing when she was injured last year. Fortunately, the only déjà vu was to be in the outcome, and not in any repeat damage, as Gudinas dropped game three but advanced in four.

A Woman's Work is Never Done

"Unbelievable" was the buzzword in and around the grandstands. Throughout the week fans had gotten a glimpse of some of the best professional racquetball and biggest upsets in the women's game, and the LPRAs quarters and semifinals proved to be no different.

At the close of a long day, the top-two players were ousted, one in a long-standing grudge match and the other in a first-time upset. Top-ranked Jackie Paraiso, two-time defending U.S. OPEN Champion, met her match in unseeded Rhonda Rajsich.

Hilton U.S. OPEN raises over \$75,000 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

In a historic presentation on the portable stadium court after the finals of the 2000 Hilton U.S. OPEN, tournament officials proudly presented a whopping \$76,485.00 check to St. Jude, representing the event's five-year cumulative donation to the hospital. Mr. Dwight Drinkard, Director of Sports Marketing for St. Jude, accepted the check, saying "Thanks to the generous support of racquetball enthusiasts, St. Jude remains a beacon of hope for the children of the world with catastrophic diseases. Your efforts ensure that one day Danny Thomas's dream, 'that no child should die in the dawn of life' will be realized."

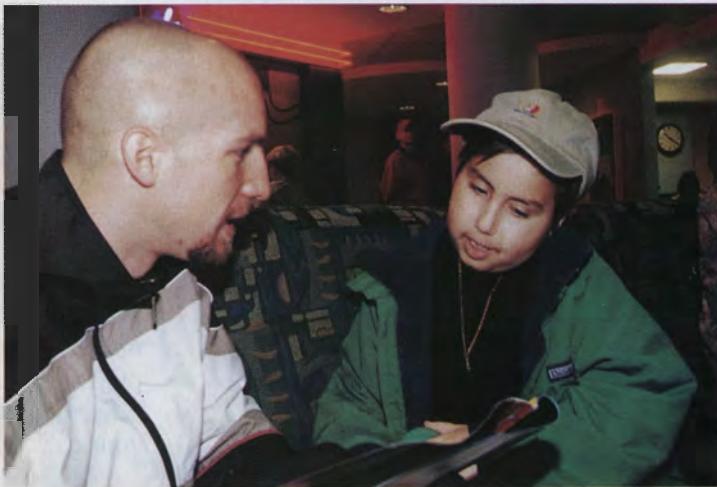


Photo: Vicki Hughes

Each year the Hilton U.S. OPEN raises money for St. Jude with a variety of fundraising events such as the annual pre-event Pro-Am Doubles tourney, Hollywood Casino Night, and a Silent Auction. Event sponsors and industry manufacturers donate thousands of dollars in merchandise to support these events, and several special contributions are made from event supporters such as Hollywood Casino, the Susan Klimitas Foundation, Wilson (with over \$2,000 donated in three years of popcorn sales), and Ektelon (popcorn sales). In addition, tournament participants are invited to donate their referee fees to St. Jude throughout the tournament.

"I am very proud of the job the sport of racquetball has done to step up and support St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. It has been an across the board effort from fans, players, event sponsors, and industry manufacturers" explained Hilton U.S. OPEN Director Doug Ganim. "I am also thrilled that the top pro's take the time to go down to the hospital and visit with some of the children each year. Signing autographs and giving away posters and other gifts really means a lot to the kids".

If you are interested in supporting the Hilton U.S. OPEN's effort to raise money for St. Jude you can contact the USRA at (719) 635-5396. [Pictured: Doug Eagle makes a new friend during the pros site visit to St. Jude. Photo: Vicki Hughes.]



Semi-final Upset. Rajsich (in blue) vs. Paraiso.



The women played two rounds on Saturday, and earlier Rajsich had stated that she had a "narrow line" of concentration when she'd beaten Kersten Hallander in the morning quarterfinals.

Courtside for what many thought was the most exciting match of the day, fans filling the stadium looked on in amazement as the 22-year-old Rajsich bullied past the reigning queen of racquetball, 22-20, 16-21, 21-19, 19-21, 21-17 to reach her first career pro final — at the biggest event of the season.

Rhonda used all of her near six-foot frame to perform diving re-kills of balls that seem to be well out of her reach. Her gets were just unbelievable. At the same time, Jackie seemed to be troubled by her backhand, leaving many down-the-line shots up, and sending even more to the ceiling. The defending champion showed her experience with clear crisp kills and perfect passes when it counted, but it wasn't enough to overcome her younger opponent's agility.

A devastated Paraiso had few words for fans following the match, which ended a streak of finals appearances that spans two years.

"I want a re-count," she quipped in her post-game interview, "... a hand re-count!"

This season marks Rajsich's first full-time appearance on the LPRA tour, which had resulted in her low seeding position going in. From the #44 spot, she battled through three top-12 players before reaching the semifinals. A former-NCAA Division I basketball player for Stephen F. Austin State University, Rajsich sacrificed her senior year in order to play the women's pro tour full time.



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"I've always put racquetball on hold for my basketball career," said Rajsich, who eventually intends to play in the WNBA. "For the first time in my life, I put racquetball first. I have no regrets about not playing basketball this season."

She also acknowledged the crowd for its involvement from the sidelines for her underdog win, citing comebacks in basketball which were fueled by fan support. "It doesn't matter who you want to root for tomorrow, bring it on!" she urged.

On the other side of the draw, Canada's Christie VanHees had toppled her biggest rival on the pro tour, Cheryl Gudinas, in a four-game semifinal to advance to her third consecutive final in Memphis.

Earlier in the day, Van Hees had played veteran Chris Evon in the quarterfinal. Evon played tough to stay close through three games of 21-19, 21-17, 21-13 — even launching two lay-out dives to save game points in games two and three before Van Hees prevailed.

Later Van Hees provided another exciting match against Gudinas, who took the first game 21-16, overcame her slow start in the first and charged past the Canadian 21-15 in the second. Down 20-16 in the third, Van Hees rallied back to win it 22-20, but the best run of points in the match was in the fourth, when Cheryl faced a 7 point deficit at 9-16. She reduced that entire point margin — unanswered — to pull within three at 17-20, when an overturned call at match point kept Gudinas alive.

Referee Kersten Hallander had called a short drive serve to the forehand good, but line judges agreed with the crowd and overturned what would have been the match-winning ace for Van Hees. Gudinas then fought back to 20-20, but lost the final game 23-21.

New and Different

At first glance, it doesn't appear that scoring on every rally would make a big difference in anyone's

game — until you see it played by the ladies pros. Instead of waiting for someone to make their way into the service box, each and every shot counts — for or against either player. The format escalates the level of excitement, and the women in this year's final pushed even these limits.

All-around athlete Rhonda Rajsich and an equally strong and agile Christie Van Hees made full use of their skills to give their spectators something to write home about.

After dropping the first two games, 21-7 and 21-12, Rhonda drove for the hoop in the third to push a narrow 24-22 win on Van Hees and force just one more game. But the effort proved to be too much for the tour rookie, who faded in the fourth to hand a 21-11 victory — and a first Hilton U.S. OPEN title — to Christie Van Hees.

"After three years, I'm just very happy to finally have a U.S. OPEN title next to my name," said VanHees. "It was good to see someone new in the finals. It shows that women's racquetball is really growing."

"I haven't faced off against Christie since we were 14 or 15," said Rajsich. "And she kicked my butt (then). I'm just glad that our second meeting was in the finals of the U.S. OPEN and I can now give her a good game."



Photo: Mike Boatman

FINAL RESULTS Hilton 5th U.S. OPEN
Racquet Club of Memphis: November
15-19, 2000

IRT Men's PRO:.....Suds Monchik,
 Staten Island, NY def. Cliff Swain,
 Braintree, MA 11-8; 11-9; 9-11; 11-3
LPRA Women's PRO: Christie Van
 Hees, BC def. Rhonda Rajsich, Phoenix,
 AZ 21-7; 21-12; 24-22; 21-11

USRA SINGLES DIVISIONS

Men's Open: ..Jack Huczak, Rochester
 Hills, MI def. Brian Istace, Calgary,
 Alberta 15-9; 15-11
Men's 24-.....Andy Hawthorne,
 Champaign, IL def. Brent Walters,
 Greenville, NC 15-6; 15-9
Men's 25+....Dale Valentine, Riverside, CA
 def. Eugene Coyle, Palatine, IL 15-5;
 15-9
Men's 30+....Kevin Graham, Madison, WI
 def. Eric Schoen, Westerville, OH 15-6;
 15-6
Men's 35+....Brad McCunniff, Cedar Falls,
 IA def. Dave Eagle, Vandalia, OH 15-4;
 15-7
Men's 40+....Tim Hansen, Boynton Beach,
 FL def. Dave Eagle, Vandalia, OH 15-5;
 15-5
Men's 45+....Mitt Layton, Jacksonville, FL
 def. Ron Fowler, Decatur, GA 15-6; 15-7
Men's 50+....Mitt Layton, Jacksonville, FL
 def. Denny Vincent, Blacklick, OH 15-
 12; 15-5
Men's 55+....Ed Remen, Apex, NC def.
 Horace Miller, Chicago, IL 15-2; 15-13
Men's 60+....Ron Hutcherson, Warsaw, IN
 def. Bob Webster, Northport, AL 15-2;
 15-12
Men's 65+....Jerry Holly, Stevenson Ranch,
 CA def. Neville Silver, Germantown, TN
 15-7; 15-0
Men's 70+....John O'Donnell, Champaign,
 IL def. Pearce Grove, Williamsburg, VA
 15-1; 15-7
Men's 75+....Dick Kincaide, Divide, CO
 def. Bernard Sand 15-12; 10-15; 11-3
Men's 80+....Earl Acuff, Asheville, NC def.
 Ken Pigeon 15-8, 8-15, 11-4

Men's A: ..Cory Martin, Kenosha, WI
 def. Tadayoshi Kawai, Funabashi-shi,
 Chiba, JP 14-15; 15-6; 11-0
Men's B:Rene Enriquez, Mexico def.
 Humberto Ramos, Mexico 9-15; 15-8;
 11-6
Men's C: ..Drew Toland, Parkin, AR def.
 Troy Barber, Indianapolis, IN 15-7; 15-
 13
Men's D:.....Bryan Shaw, Bel-Nor, MO
 def. Michael Grosse, Gunnison, CO 15-
 12; 15-5
M24- A/B:....Shannon Kohl, Jenison, MI
 def. Cesar Castro, Venezuela 15-7; 15-
 12
M24- C/D:....Drew Toland, Parkin, AR def.
 Mitch Hoffman, Murfreesboro, TN 15-
 4; 15-10
M25+ A/B:Corbin Dirks, Micksville, MC
 def. Sung-Won Lee, San Diego, CA 15-
 10; 15-1
M25+ C/D:....John Halpin, Mystic, CT def.



Women's B: ..Rosario Kelley, Missouri City,
 TX def. Pat Noibonturm, Columbia, TN
 15-14; 15-13

Women's C:..Dyan Anderson, Laurel, MD
 def. Hiromi Iida, Chestnut Ridge, NY
 15-13; 15-14

Women's D: ..Marcelo Moreno, Mexico
 def. Noriko Iida, Chestnut Ridge, NY
 15-5; 15-8

W24- A/B:....Kelley Fisher, Dayton, OH
 def. Eleni Guzman, Mexico 15-10; 15-
 10

W24- C/D: ...Hiromi Iida, Japan def.
 Danielle Jameson, Memphis, TN 15-0;
 15-1

W25+ A/B:...Vivian Gomez, Miami, FL
 def. Nathania Stewart, Doraville, GA
 15-5; 15-11

W25+ C/D:....Emilse Cuartas, Argentina
 def. Joanna Reyes, Corpus Christi, TX
 15-7; 13-15; 11-0

W35+ A/B:Laura Woodbury, Arlington,
 VA def. Bonnie Sanderson, Edgewater, FL
 15-3; 15-2

W45+ A/B:Kay McCarthy, Memphis, TN
 def. Patricia Schof, Kenner, LA 15-10;
 15-9

W45+ C/D:....Jan Stelma, Newbern, NC
 def. Nila Gresham, Denver, CO by forfeit

USRA DOUBLES DIVISIONS

Men's Open: ..Hart Johnson/Shawn Royster
 def. Marcelo Lapera/Ralf Reinhardt 15-
 5; 15-4

Men's A: ..Steven Best/Jackson Burnette
 def. Roberto Cantos/Marco Mijares 15-
 10; 15-14

Men's B: ..Gilberto De Los Rios/Rene
 Enriquez def. Thomas Lundy/Ricardo
 Sanchez by forfeit

Men's C: ..John Cotoia/John Odell def.
 Bruce Adams/Paul Siegerist 15-13; 14-
 15; 11-7

Men's 30+....Scot Consoli/Gordon
 Kirkland def. Tim Hansen/Teddy
 Koukoulis 15-4; 15-8

M30+ A/B:Eddie Barber/Eddy Connor
 def. Edward Dayson/Robert Schulzinger
 15-10, 15-7

Men's 50+....Jim Hiser/Ed Remen def.
 Steve Meltsner/Dominic Palmieri 15-9;
 15-1; 11-10

M50+ A/B: ...Michael Barnes/Kenneth
 Foster def. James Buchanan/Thomas
 Cuddy T 12-15; 15-12; 11-8

Women's A/B: ..Donna Spano/Diane Taylor-
 Whitman def. Elaine Fisher/Debbie
 Ulliman 4-15; 15-14; 11-8

Women's 30+....Stephanie Cobb/Laura
 Patterson def. Katy McCarthy/Joanne
 Pomodoro J 15-5; 15-7

Mixed A/B:....Sandra Gross/David Gross
 def. Donna Cooper/Arturo Barruel 15-
 12; 15-5

Mixed C/D:....Kastle Arturo/Ryan Kofoid
 def. Sharon Noll/Chuck Noll 15-13; 15-
 6

Mixed 30+....Brenda Kyzer/Sandy Tucker
 def. Shari Coplen/Asif Manzoor 15-14;
 14-15; 11-9

Mixed 40+....Debbie Chaney/Bill Lyman
 def. Jean Trimble/Randy Forrest 11-15;
 15-12; 11-1

For daily site reports and online event drawsheets — go to www.racqmag.com | "newsline" | "event coverage"

at last! christie van hees adds elusive title to her credits ...

What's it like to win your first Hilton U.S. OPEN title?

It really tops anything that I have done in the past. This is such a huge tournament, and a long week, and to be able to come out on top really means something. Sometimes it'll just hit me, what I have done, and it give me such a satisfied, relaxing feeling. So if you catch me with a little grin on my face for no apparent reason, chances are that's what I'm thinking about. (That's it, in the photo below ...)

After two years of finishing second, how did you approach this year's final?

Ever heard of the saying "... always the bridesmaid and never the bride ..." well I wasn't going to let that happen again, no matter what! I was just talking about this with a friend. I was so relaxed the hour before I went out on the court, just cracking jokes, laughing and having fun. When I'm in that sort of mind frame, that is when I play my best and my hardest. That feeling is something that just sort of happens too, it's nothing that I can force upon myself. It's safe to say that coming off the win in Colorado Springs did wonders for my confidence level too.

Did you expect a third re-match against Jackie this year?

Well I'd be lying if I didn't say yeah, I thought Jackie would be in the final. And since I had just beaten her in Colorado Springs, I knew what would work. But it's strange because the last time I talked to Rhonda I told her I had a feeling we'd meet up in Memphis. Funny how those things happen.

How did you have to alter your game to play against a relative newcomer like Rhonda?

Rhonda and I used to meet up in the juniors quite a bit, so I believe the last time we played was about ten years ago. I think I had a definite advantage going into the finals with a little more experience on that court, in front of the crowds. Honestly I planned to just go in there, take control and play my game. I didn't get to see the match between Jackie and Rhonda either so that made it a bit tough.

What adjustments did you have to make to get used to the LPRA scoring system?

Seriously I had to make the biggest adjustments to my life off of the court, if I was going to be able to play the way I knew that I could. I just had so much on my plate, with balancing school and training and travelling, after Albuquerque I

decided that things had to change if I was planning on accomplishing what I wanted to do. Let's just say I finally bought a daytimer and have never looked back. And surprisingly enough, I put a halt order on all of the extra-curricular activities.

As far as the new scoring system goes, I've made a few necessary adjustments to my game. Although in retrospect if I would have made the same adjustments to my game with the old scoring system it would have paid off just as much. There really is no letting up though, every point is so important.

Who is your coach at the moment?

Mike Ceresia has always had and will probably always have the biggest influence on me as a coach. He's really been there for me through some crucial wins and there to mop up some horrendous losses, like a coach should be. So here is my shout out "Mike, thanks a mill!" I also can't fail to mention the recent help I have gotten from Todd O'Neil and Michel Gagnon in Colorado Springs and in Memphis. Two great guys.

What's your favorite shot?

I'd have to say anything hit solid and hard by my backhand in the deep part of the court, whether it's a splat, down the line or wide pass.

How do you feel about the state of women's racquetball at mid-season?

I am so impressed with the changes that are being made. We already have 14 tournaments scheduled next season, which is unbelievable. It's the little things that count as well. Jim Hiser treats all of the women with an incredible amount of respect and professionalism and I think that reflects really well on our association.



Photo: Vicki Hughes

Your contract with Head/Penn was just picked up for another three years. How does that feel? Head/Penn has always been really good to me, and I am extremely happy to represent them through 2003 and beyond that if that is the case. There is a good relationship there, and I can't thank them enough for supporting me in every respect. It feels good to be a part of a number one company.

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Profile Tour News



Swain Takes Halloween Classic

By Dick Barton

Cliff Swain once again showed why he is often considered the best in the game, this time with his own brand of "Trick or Treat" at the 2000 Halloween Classic, held Oct. 25-29 at the Athletic Club of Bloomingdale in Illinois. It was East-beats-West as the Boston-based Swain dominated No. 3 ranked Californian John Ellis in the final, as he swept three straight games at the IRT's fifth tour stop of the season. So in the end, it was Swain's goodie-bag that was filled with \$5,000 in top prize money for his efforts. The total pro purse was \$15,000.



The pro matches were the highlight of the weekend, but over 250 amateur players also enjoyed some excellent competition during the four-day event. The tournament is known to have one of the largest draws in the Midwest for men's singles at all levels. It has also earned a reputation as one of the best parties with plenty of food, music, and even a costume contest with cash prizes.

In the pro finals, Swain pulled a few tricks on Ellis, but it was the audience of devoted racquetball fans that were truly treated to some of the finest play seen anywhere. Club Owner Dave Negrete put it best

when he said, "Today, we witnessed some of the best racquetball I have seen in over 20 years. Rarely has a player been so dominant in the late rounds. Cliff was unbeatable today."

Ellis essentially agreed with Negrete's assessment. "Cliff was more ready than me to play today," Ellis told *Racquetball*. "Cliff's serves today were so right on and I simply wasn't returning serve at the level that I am capable of."

Photo: Vicki Hughes

"My semi-final match against Sudsy really took a lot out of me," he said. "So, I was a little tired going into today, but hey, at least I still got to play on Sunday. That's not too bad!"

Ellis added, "I will be playing in a tournament with Cliff and Tim Doyle in Casper (WY) in a few weeks and I hope to have a better showing there."

Swain reached the finals by defeating Ryan Homa, Doyle and Jason Mannino. Ellis got there by dispatching Jack Huczak, Rocky Carson, and Sudsy Monchik.

After the finals match, Swain and Ellis both addressed the audience. Swain exclaimed, "what a way to earn a living! I can't thank Wilson, my other sponsors, and you the fans enough for making all this possible. I love it."

Both Swain and Ellis also thanked Dave and Dennis Negrete for putting on the "best party on the circuit." Swain said he has been coming to the Bloomingdale tournament for nine years and won several times before. "I always love coming here because of Dave and the way he makes the whole thing fun. He lives racquetball and it shows in his tournaments."

The Negrete tournament was voted the best party tournament by *Racquetball* magazine in 1999. And, the party rolls on.

"This is my life and I will keep putting on tournaments like this for as long as there is support," Negrete said. "Even though the major equipment manufacturers don't really support these tournaments in a big way, my local racquetball family steps up and makes this possible. I owe all of them a debt of gratitude."

New Mexico PRO-AM

By Janelle Santillanes & Scott Dunham

The stars were out at the New Mexico Invitational Pro-Am in early October, with the likes of Cliff Swain, Sudsy Monchik, and John Ellis representing the IRT in the desert southwest. These all-time greats alone would of made for an interesting tournament, but when you combine them with pro and amateur players, as well as a few local New Mexicans, you get quite the variety pack. This mixture of different playing styles, personali-



ties, and skill levels produced some great entertainment. It was an opportunity to see the regular pros perform, as well as acknowledging some of the younger talents who are making their way to the top. This tournament had it all: the old, the new, the pretty and a few ugly (plays that is!).

No.5 seeded Adam Karp found the altitude in Albuquerque to be "interesting." When asked if it was giving him problems he replied; "Let's just say it's a little different...you really have to be patient and concentrate on putting the ball down because it's a little tougher up here in the altitude." When asked what his future goals are in racquetball, they're simply put, "to become #1."

Mike Locker agreed with Karp on the altitude issue. He had to make adjustments of his own to compensate for the New Mexico climate since balls tends to move faster in higher altitudes. Locker's future goals in the sport are to be injury free and to play for as long as he can. As far as his game goes, Locker feels the biggest thing he needs to work on at the moment is consistency.

Mike Johnston was happy with his overall performance in the tournament. His plan is to continue to work his way up the ranks. On the altitude issue, this Denver player had no problem here; after all; he trains in this stuff!

Suds Monchik is on a winning streak but we asked the question anyway. "Is there anything in your game that you need to work on?" His reply; "There's always something to work on!" For this tournament it was improving on his mental game as well as his concentration to stay focused. What would Sudsy do if he could no longer play racquetball? His answer on this one was that he would be an actor! Let's see here, Sudsy, "Braveheart" Monchik ... hmm ... that could work!

An elder statesman at 33, Tim Doyle may have lost out to Sudsy Monchik in Albuquerque, but he still has plenty to give to the sport both on and off the court. Doyle, currently working full time with E-Force, keeps busy behind the scenes by helping out in the development of new racquets. Doyle has done a lot for the sport, and plans on continuing these contributions.

Whether it's by playing, promoting or improving the equipment, Doyle certainly is doing a good thing!

Round of 16-ish

The IRT's most recent format places the top eight seeds directly into position in the round of 16 (sparing them a round of 32 match) where they face qualifiers who have advanced into feeder rounds and then played off for the opportunity to challenge a top seed. In Albuquerque, those hopefuls were Mike Johnston (after defeating Brian Pointelin in five games), Derek Robinson over H. Hernandez, Louis Vogel past Kris Odegard in four, Luis Bustillos over Bruce Moore, Alvaro Beltran defeating Erin Brannigan in five, Mike Locker taking out Shawn Royster, Dan Fowler beating Sam Menache and James Mulcock over Greg Thomas.

So with two matches already under their belts, it was no surprise that none of them were able to manage an upset against the top-eight roster. But they held their own, with only one seed advancing in straight games (Monchik over Mulcock), and the remainder taking at least one game each. Vogel stretched his match with Karp to five, and Mexican national team members Alvaro Beltran and Luis Bustillos did the same with Jason Mannino and John Ellis, respectively.

In the following quarterfinal round, No.6 seeded Doyle managed to upset No.3 Jason Mannino in straight games, and Monchik was pushed to a five-game tiebreak by No.7 Mike Guidry. In the top half, No.1 Swain and No.4 Ellis each advanced without a game loss, against Californians Rocky Carson and Adam Karp.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 48



2000-2001 INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL TOUR SCORECARD & SCHEDULE

New Orleans	Cliff Swain def. Sudsy Monchik	10, (9), 4, 7
Stockton	Jason Mannino def. Sudsy Monchik	5, (9), 5, 9
Las Vegas	Swain/Mannino def. Robinson O'Neil	5, 3, 4
Albuquerque	Sudsy Monchik def. John Ellis	4, (7), 4, 1
Chicago	Cliff Swain def. John Ellis	9, 4, 1
Memphis	Sudsy Monchik def. Cliff Swain	8, 9 (9) 3
Denver	Sudsy Monchik def. Cliff Swain	3, 1, 12

2001

February 1-4	Boston, MA	Ridge Athletic Club
February 8-12	Fairfield, NJ	46th Fitness
February 15-19	Minneapolis, MN	Northwest Racquet & Swim Club
March 15-18	Greensboro, NC	TBA
May 2-6	Las Vegas, NV	PRO NATIONALS @ The Sporting House
May 17-20	Modesto, CA	The Court Room
June 1-3	Portland, OR	Tournament of Champions @ Multnomah Athletic Club

• men's tour rankings • scorecard • schedule

INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL TOUR RANKINGS

[Through Denver, 12/12/2000]

Points	Player	Hometown	Last Issue	Last Year
1. 3600	Cliff Swain	Braintree, MA	1	2
2. 3581	Sudsy Monchik	Staten Island, NY	2	1
3. 2946	John Ellis	Stockton, CA	3	3
4. 2440	Jason Mannino	San Diego, CA	4	4
5. 2251	Tim Doyle	San Diego, CA	5	8
6. 2008	Mike Guidry	Carrolton, TX	6	7
7. 1846	Rocky Carson	Santa Maria, CA	7	9
8. 1560	Derek Robinson	Kennewick, WA	9	6
9. 1465	Adam Karp	Stockton, CA	8	5
10. 1424	Mike Locker	Minneapolis, MN	11	12
11. 1332	Dan Fowler	Rockville, MD	10	11
12. 1027	Alvaro Beltran	Chihuahua, Mexico	22	55
13. 896	Louis Vogel	Albuquerque, NM	12	14
14. 883	Luis Bustillos	Chihuahua, Mexico	13	17
15. 686	Erin Brannigan	Sagle, ID	14	23
16. 683	Kane Waselenchuk	Alberta, Canada	30	n/a
17. 581	Greg Thomas	Bend, OR	19	40
18. 573	Jack Huczak	Rochester Hills, MI	25	45
19. 489	Brian Pointelin	Salt Lake City, UT	20	31
20. 468	Ruben Gonzalez	Staten Island, NY	15	18

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2. John Ellis
3. Jason Mannino
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1. Rocky Carson
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- 3T. Kris Odegard



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LPRA SEASON OPENER

By Janelle Santillanes • Photos: Denise A. Frank

In the first LPRA stop of the season, full-time tour rookie Rhonda Rajsich, 22, definitely became the player to watch. Extremely aggressive, she has quick reflexes and is not afraid to dive for the ball. Watching her play, you're sure to see a few surprises, like one of her behind-the-back shots or her many swan dives onto the floor; proving that she's not one to give up easy. Her focus is so intense that she claims to feel no pain during her matches — admitting that she often breaks her pinkie finger diving, yet doesn't realize it until the game is over! Rhonda, who is also a basketball player, has a natural athleticism that gives her the ability to adjust quickly to any game.

Here in Albuquerque, Rhonda lost to Jackie Paraiso in the LPRA's round of 16 and again to Lori Jane Powell in women's open. But in both cases this serious player put on a tough performance. If she learns to master her skills and keeps that hunger alive, she could very well become a serious threat in future tournaments.

A few rounds later, Rhonda watched intently as Jackie Paraiso advanced past Kersten Hallander to reach the final. This was a tough game to witness! It is never entertaining to watch a player beat herself up, as Kersten did after losing steam in her semi.

The first game started out innocently enough, with both players getting in some great shots through long rallies that kept the scores close until Hallander eventually took the 22-20 win. The next three, however, turned into a nightmare for Hallander as she seemed to lose her edge as well as her concentration. For Paraiso, it had to be like taking candy from a baby. Kersten gave up shots and missed the ones she did go for. She tried switching to a backhand serve but it was not enough to pull her out of an apparent rut, and at game point she simply made no attempt to return the ball.

Walking out of the court, even Paraiso urged "Come on Kersten, you could have had that one." To which Hallander replied "It's not worth it, this was just not my game." Game three was more of the same, and a quiet audience seemed to sense Hallander's mood. She was fighting with her own demons out there on the court, and we've all experienced or will experience what she was going through. By game four, her frustration was clearly working against her. She was arguing calls and still not making her shots. The result: Paraiso walked away with the match, three games to one, 20-22, 21-8, 21-4 and 21-9.

Local Picks

Early on, two of New Mexico's top women players, Cyd Evans and Cindy Wittenbrink, gave their picks for the women's pro events. When asked for their favorites, Cyd mentioned Kersten Hallander and Cindy went with Jackie Paraiso. But both also commented that they'd like to see Laura Fenton win. Fenton, still recovering from back surgery, later managed to beat Christie Van Hees to reach Cheryl Gudinas in the semis.

This was a great one to watch, since both players seemed equally matched early on. Gudinas however, soon took the lead and ended up winning in straight games. After the match, Fenton commented that, although she wasn't in any pain, she thought her play had been a little "flat" and that she'd been a bit tired from the previous round. Overall, she kept a positive attitude, making the statement that the fact she was back on the court at all was a privilege. Just shy of qualifying for 40+ play, Fenton acknowledges the changes in her body due to the surgery as well as age, but she's confident that she can make the necessary adjustments to succeed once again. This popular player



Although she kept it under her hat for a few weeks, event champ Cheryl Gudinas had good reason to be chummy with Tim Doyle in Albuquerque. The top-ranked LPRA player later announced, in Memphis, that she had signed with E-Force.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 49

www.ladiesproracquetball.com

Ladies Professional Racquetball Association Rankings

[Through Denver, 12/12/2000]

Points	Player	Hometown	Last Issue	Last Year
1. 305.00	Christie Van Hees	British Columbia, Canada	3	3
2. 252.50	Jackie Paraiso	San Diego, CA	1	1
3. 232.50	Cheryl Gudinas	Lisle, IL	2	2
4. 127.50	Rhonda Rajsich	Phoenix, AZ	29	32
5. 101.30	Laura Fenton	Kansas City, KS	11	19
6. 71.25	Kersten Hallander	San Diego, CA	4	4
7. 46.25	Kim Machiran	Ballwin, MO	8	8
8. 43.75	Susana Acosta	Chihuahua, Mexico	5	5
9. 33.75	Doreen Fowler	Rockville, MD	12	10
10. 31.75	Michelle Lucas	Annandale, VA	7	11
11. 29.75	Lori-Jane Powell	Alberta, Canada	14	12
12. 26.25	Chris Evon	Wheeling, IL	n/a	n/a
13. 23.75	Janet Myers	Charlotte, NC	8	9
14. 19.75	Johanna Shattuck	Denver, CO	20	14
15. 18.75	Kristen Walsh	Berea, OH	21	19
16. 15.00	Josee Grand'Maitre	Quebec, Canada	13	17
17. 12.75	Lourdes Sanders	Fort Collins, CO	15	16
18. 10.00	Jessie Carbajal	Aurora, CO	n/a	n/a
19. 8.75	Angela Burth	Las Vegas, NV	17	15
19. 8.75	Rachel Gellman	Phoenix, AZ	22	22



• women's tour rankings • scorecard • schedule

2000-2001 Ladies Pro Racquetball Association SCORECARD & SCHEDULE

Albuquerque	.....Cheryl Gudinas def. Jackie Paraiso	.....17, 18, 16
Colorado Springs	.....Christie Van Hees def. Jackie Paraiso	.....(15) 21, 19 (18) 14
Memphis	.....Christie Van Hees def. Rhonda Rajsich	.....7, 12 (22) 11
Denver	.....Jackie Paraiso def. Cheryl Gudinas	.....14, 17, 9
2001		
January 18-20	.....Rosarito Beach, Mexico	.....Rosarito Beach Resort
February 2-4	.....Watertown, NY	.....Shapes Fitness Center
March 9-11	.....Arlington, VA	.....Tyson Sport & Health
March 23-25	.....Chicago, IL	.....Athletic Club of Bloomingdale
May 3-6	.....Las Vegas, NV	.....PRO NATIONALS @ The Sporting House
June 1-3	.....Portland, OR	.....Tournament of Champions @ Multnomah Athletic Club
August 3-5	.....San Luis Potosi, MX	.....La Loma SportsComplex

LPRRA events held in conjunction with IRT stops may be scheduled to begin on Thursday and end with finals on Saturday. All others will be played Friday through Sunday.



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1| 2| 3| 4| 5| 6|

7| 8| 9| 10| 11| 12| 13|

USRA Annual Leadership Conference
• Colorado Springs, Colorado

14| 15| 16| 17| 18| 19| 20|

WSMA U.S. Women's Senior/Master [5]
• Canoga Park, California

21| 22| 23| 24| 25| 26| 27|

28| 29| 30| 31|

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february 2001

1| 2| 3|

4| 5| 6| 7| 8| 9| 10|

11| 12| 13| 14| 15| 16| 17|

18| 19| 20| 21| 22| 23| 24|

25| 26| 27| 28|



march 2001

1| 2| 3|

Wilson 14th USRA National High Schools [6] • St. Louis, Missouri

4| 5| 6| 7| 8| 9| 10|

11| 12| 13| 14| 15| 16| 17|

18| 19| 20| 21| 22| 23| 24|

25| 26| 27| 28| 29| 30| 31|

E-Force 29th USRA National Intercollegiates [6] • Las Vegas, Nevada

april 2001

1| 2| 3| 4| 5| 6| 7|

8| 9| 10| 11| 12| 13| 14|

15| 16| 17| 18| 19| 20| 21|

Ektelon USRA Regional Championships [4] • Nationwide

22| 23| 24| 25| 26| 27| 28|

29| 30|



In the last two issues I've covered some pretty advanced shots from my MAGICAL game. Now I really want to go out on a limb and teach you my Magical "Dive." But before I even begin to break down how to execute my safe and effective dive, I want to express some concerns I have about this choice.

First of all, you must understand that diving is always a last resort. If you are in good center court position, as I outlined in detail in the March/April 2000 issue, you should not need to dive very often at all. This move is only used to make a sensational get and save a ball that is, for all intents and purposes, down and irretrievable. Too often I see club players dive unnecessarily because they are truly out of position and they have no other options to keep the rally alive.

Secondly, diving is dangerous if it isn't done correctly. You can injure your stomach, hipbones, knees or knuckles by hitting them on the floor.

Thirdly, diving almost always puts you at a disadvantage since you wind up on the floor and then have to scramble to get back up and return to center court ... when time is of the essence.

So now, if you still choose to dive...let's learn the correct way to perform my MAGICAL DIVE!

Sudsy's Magic Show ... The Dive!

Photos: Kurt Silvershield

TRICK #1: Ready Position

- Good center court position
- Down and ready
- Feet wider than shoulder width apart
- Knees flexed
- Weight on balls of feet ready to push off - definitely not flatfooted
- Body low, catlike, ready to explode to the ball
- Eyes on ball
- Racquet in a relaxed backhand grip, up and ready, wrist cocked



TRICK #2: The Step

- Step forward toward the ball (diving action)
- Body leans way down and over
- Arms back for leverage
- Diving motion begins

TRICK #3: Contact Point

- Racquet is way out in front of you
- Non-hitting arm down and fully supporting your body as you hit
- Eyes on ball

TRICK #4: Contact Point

- Racquet comes through
- Both hands are on the ground - weight bearing ready to push up
- Feet are on the ground - weight bearing ready to push up
- Body sprawled out - barely touching the ground

TRICK #5: Recovery

- Body springs up
- Legs spread, body low
- Racquet up
- Ready to move back into good center court position
- Eyes on ball



There you have it — my Magical Dive. I've given you an effective and safe way to dive if you decide to use this advanced technique in your game. But once again, keep in mind that diving can be dangerous, so be mindful if you choose to do it. It's definitely spectacular looking and a crowd pleaser, but not necessarily the best for your body over time. Take it from me and some of the pros like Jason, Cliff, John, Jackie and Rhonda — our bodies do get beat up. Since we play racquetball for a living, we *do* go above and beyond the call of duty, so to speak, at times.

Remember, with good center court positioning [March/April 2000], you won't have to resort to diving as often and you can save it for the swimming pool ... where it belongs!



Game Plan: Splat Shot

by Lynn Adams and Derek Robinson

Whether you are a veteran

racquetball player or a brand new, wet-behind-the-ears beginner, the unique sound of a splat shot is music to a player's ears. The shot seems to be magical, shooting away from the front wall with that unmistakable sound of power.

The key word on this shot is POWER! If you don't have power, you can't hit a splat shot. You can hit the angle and make a good wide angle pinch shot, but it won't make the famous "splat" sound that everyone craves.



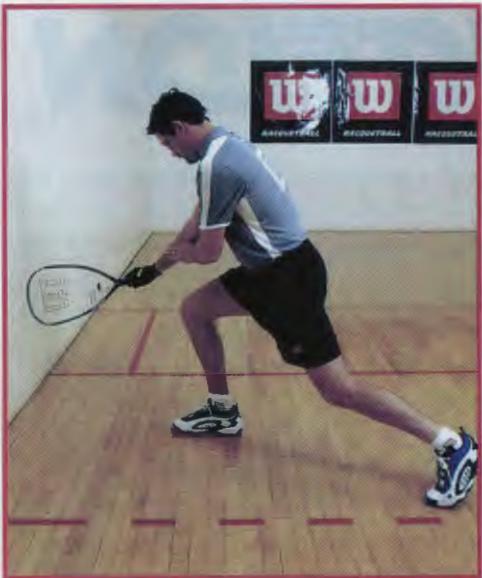
^^ DO

First and foremost, the ball must be close to the sidewall in order to create the angle of a splat shot. A good visual to gauge by is the drive serve line, which is 3 feet away from the side wall. Mentally extend that line all the way back to the back wall. If the ball is inside that 3 foot area, you can create the splat angle.

^^ DON'T >>

If the ball is too far away from the sidewall, you can't hit a splat shot. The angle isn't right and the ball won't compress enough to make that wonderful sound.





<< DO

Approach the ball diagonally from the side. This allows you to aim your racquet face towards the sidewall and to swing through the ball with full power.



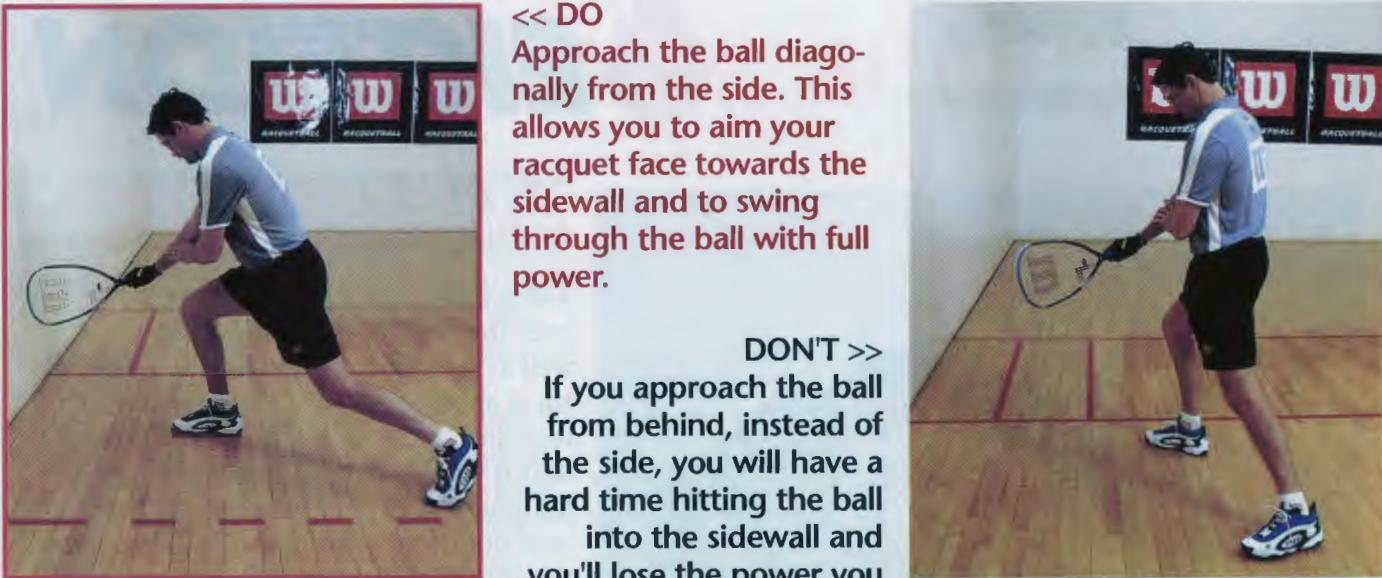
<< DO

Keep the ball away from your body so you have the leverage to create power.



<< DO

Hit the ball into the sidewall a few feet in front of yourself.



DON'T >>

If you approach the ball from behind, instead of the side, you will have a hard time hitting the ball into the sidewall and you'll lose the power you need to create the splat sound.



DON'T >>

Don't jam yourself by getting too close to the ball. You will lose power.



DON'T >>

Don't hit the ball farther up on the sidewall. It will create the wrong angle and the ball will rebound through the center of the court.

And don't forget to
HIT THE BALL HARD!!

Keeping your Balance

By Mike Guidry



There have been numerous articles written over the years about court positioning as well as movement. Although I agree that these are integral parts of your game, there is an important aspect of court coverage that is usually left out of those articles. Maintaining proper balance is as important — if not more so — than good court positioning. Without good balance, you will never be able to move with efficiency and effectiveness.

When you improve your balance, you'll find yourself retrieving many more balls, with a lot less effort. If you watch pros like John Ellis and Sudsy Monchik, you will notice that they always seem to be low to the ground and well balanced. This allows them to get to many shots, on their feet, that other players would have to dive for or wouldn't get at all. The following are some common errors that I see in the average player, along with some suggestions to improve your balance.

Play defense like a guard in basketball • One of the things that I have incorporated into my training schedule over the past few years is basketball. Not only is it a great workout, but I noticed that my movement and balance on the racquetball court began improving the more I played. If you notice how a basketball player plays defense, their center of gravity is always low, with knees bent. The mass of bodyweight is centered over the hips and their feet are a little wider than shoulder width apart. This allows movement in any direction without wasting any effort to regain balance. All sideways movements can be made with shuffle steps.

performance series

On your toes isn't the answer • We often hear that we should always be on our toes when we are waiting for a return or preparing to move for a shot. Unfortunately, that isn't entirely accurate. Once again, if you watch the top pros in their ready positions, they will almost always be in a rather neutral or flat-footed stance. This allows them to make a movement in any direction without having to go from their toes to a stance that allows them to push off efficiently. By starting in a more neutral stance, you save yourself a little bit of time by eliminating a step.

Don't look over your shoulder •

Another common mistake is that players will often stand upright with their chest facing the front wall while they strain their neck to look over their shoulder. Even though they are correct in the sense that they should always be watching the ball, they have themselves so off balance that they will never be able to respond to the shot because they are back on their heels as well as standing straight up. Instead, turn your body at an angle towards the corner from which your opponent is hitting and lower your center of gravity as I described.

Improving your balance is one thing that you can do to improve your court coverage without having to spend hours in the weight room or doing speed drills. You can improve your balance by focusing on some of the things I mentioned above as well as doing a few minutes worth of shuffle drills on the court a couple of times per week. Concentrate on form rather than speed and you will find that your speed will increase over time.

For additional drills to improve your game, go to your local AMPRO certified instructor for more tips.





Head Rules by Fran Davis

Goal Setting

Q:&A...Q&A

I'm so frustrated with myself ... I keep going round and round in circles because I don't know how to set goals for myself in racquetball. Can you please help me?

I can't stress enough how important it is to have goals for yourself not only in general, but in racquetball too, which is a big part of your life.

Here are some quotes that I thought would set the tone:

"A dream is a commitment made in your mind; a goal is a commitment made on paper."

"A man without a goal is like a man without a heart ... for we are goal-setting animals in constant pursuit of our dreams."

After reading these quotes let's really delve into goal-setting because it truly is the only way for us to self-actualize our dreams. But first things first...let's set a few parameters:

Goals must:

- be realistic.
- have a target date.
- be attainable (50/50 chance of success).
- be visualized.
- be in a positive light.
- be believable.

General Time Frame of Goals:

- 0 – 3 months – Immediate
- 3 – 6 months – Short Range
- 6 months – 1 year – Short Term
- 1 – 3 years – Long Range
- 3 – 5 years – Long Term
- 5 + years – Ultimate

Sport Specific Areas:

- Physical Skills
- Mental Skills
- Physical Conditioning – Weights, Aerobic/Anerobic
- Nutritional
- Footwork – Speed, Agility, Plyometrics

Each one of the sports specific areas should have the 1 – 6 general time frame of goals...so basically with the five areas shown, you should have 6 goals for each, which gives you a grand total of 30.

Wow, that's a lot of work you might be thinking. Just keep in mind, all successful people, in all walks of life, not just sport ...

... know who they are, know what they want, and set goals to get there.

... use the process of thinking it, feeling it, believing it and visualizing the end result.

Nothing in life comes easy. I was taught early on you have to work for everything you want...so racquetball is

no different. If you want to be the best you can be and rise to your own potential take these very steps on goal-setting that I've laid out for you.

The best of the best like Sudsy, Cliff, John, Jason and Jackie do it, so follow in their footsteps and you too can make things happen. — www.frandavisracquetball.com



The Comfort Zone ***by Marcy Lynch***

What do you think of as your comfort zone? In relation to racquetball, I think of a comfort zone as a game style that is familiar and has given us a good amount of success. Most of us, in any given match, are playing within our comfort zone. It's a place we've created for ourselves through our

efforts to play at a particular skill level. Would anyone ever choose to go outside of that zone and, if so, why?

The biggest reason to leave what's comfortable is to play at a higher skill level. We all play for different reasons; to get a workout, to have fun, to travel and meet people, to compete. If competition is what excites you, most likely you will want to improve your game. There is no way around change -- or leaving what has become comfortable in order to get to another level of play.

In terms of change, the first place to start is in your grip and stroke mechanics. These two things can be extremely frustrating, but altogether crucial, in setting up good fundamentals. Ask anyone trying to change their grip what the racquet feels like in their hand. It's uncomfortable. But before we begin talking about shot selection and strategy, we must first be able to execute the basics. Execution is totally related to stroke mechanics, and proper stroke mechanics are defined by the grip. In time and with practice, the 'new' will feel natural and the old will not. The mental side of learning a new grip or stroke is choosing the attitude of being 'comfortable' with feeling uncomfortable. By accepting, up front, that you may actually play worse before you play better, you can reduce your expecta-

tions and therefore the frustration associated with change.

Below I've outlined four categories, all of which are places to focus attention in the overall plan to improve. In future articles I will go into each one in more detail.

1. Skill practice. Faulty basics often keep us stuck in bad habits. Find an AmPRO certified instructor and learn the proper stroke mechanics, the execution of offensive and defensive shots and practice them.

2. Physical Training. Cardio workouts, weight training, and footwork drills are all important additions to playing racquetball.

3. Nutrition. We are only as efficient as what we fuel our bodies with. The proper foods give us the energy and stamina to train and practice.

4. Mental Training. This is a crucial piece in the effort to improve. We need to develop the ability to understand and see in our minds, those skills we want to learn and to visualize success.

There's nothing wrong with being 'comfortable' with where we are in our game. The bottom line is to enjoy it. For some, the enjoyment is in the playing, win or lose. For others, improvement is not only exciting, it is what keeps us interested in the game. There is no limit to learning. As long as we are willing to question, there will be answers and ways to improve.

If you enjoy the content of these articles, I invite you to receive my free monthly e-newsletter by sending an e-mail request to Malnutr@aol.com. © Copyright Marcy Lynch 2000.

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photos: Vicki Hughes

Mike Martinez knows they don't take prisoners ... that's why he hired them. At the Hilton U.S. OPEN in Memphis, ProKenex's top-ranked LPRA players got together for this fun photo shoot, and even took it "on the road" to tour the banquet. Racquetball may never be the same! Here's how these "angels" fine-tune their games ...

Laura Fenton (39) • Overland Park, Kansas

Single Mom of Jennifer, 11

Trains: 6x/week, with weights, plyometrics, medicine ball, jumping rope and stretching, court drills. Cross-trains with basketball (can keep up with Rhonda), squash, tennis & rollerblading. Plays racquetball 2x week.

Injuries: Broken ankle, arm, jaw and recent spine surgery last spring. *Rehab:* Chiropractic care, physical & massage therapy.

Strength: My feet - much larger base!

Goal: To become strong and fit again.

Michelle Lucas (33) • Annandale, Virginia

Married, no children

Trains: 2x/week, works on speed, agility, footwork, reaction, weight work in summer.

Cross-trains with indoor hockey (sprints for an hour). Plays hard matches 2-3x week

Injuries: Broke a nail? Took a racquet in the face once, but went on to win the match with a fat lip! *Rehab:* Cut my nails, try to keep my face out of people's backswings.

Strength: Speed & stamina

Goal: Break into the top four.

Jackie Paraiso (34) • San Diego, California

Single Mom of Danielle, 6

Trains: 5x/week, weights and cardio work with elliptical, stairmaster, treadmill. Plays twice a week, and 2-3 days prior to an event. Cross trains playing indoor soccer.

Injuries: Current mis-aligned shoulder

Rehab: Tape, ultrasound, stretching, resistance

Strength: Agility

Goal: Win the rest of the stops, re-take No.1!

Rhonda Rajsich (22) • Phoenix, Arizona

Single

Trains: 6x/week in summer, with weights and personalized cardio & strength training regimens. Cross trains with mountain biking, basketball, swimming. On court 1-2 hours every day, drilling and with practice partner.

Injuries: Often breaks her pinkie diving in matches. *Rehab:* Says "ow," and keeps going.

Strength: Persistence

Goal: Have fun, learn and improve.



Top, R-L: LPRA No.10 Michelle Lucas (Kinetic 15g); No. 5 Laura Fenton (Pure1); No.4 Rhonda Rajsich (Pure1 Light); No.2 Jackie Paraiso (Pure1 Balance).



newdirections

by Luke St. Onge

I'm pleased to announce that – following the Court Club Initiative, the U.S. OPEN, the AmPRO Programming and Court Club Survey – we are now in the fourth phase of the Racquetball Industry Initiative. The industry's major players — E-Force, Ektelon, Head/Penn, ProKennex and Wilson — met during the National Doubles in Baltimore and formally established the Racquetball Industry Council [RIC] as an advisory committee to the USRA designed to promote the sport through grants for development.

In the first of those grant projects, Gary Mazaroff, Director of AmPro, has been given the charge of developing a program that would provide the industry with a baseline of standards for clubs and facilities without an Ampro instructional program. Once base figures in the areas of court utilization, membership per court, and retention of racquetball-versus-fitness members are established, they will become the reference point against which the success of an in-house, full-time AmPRO program will be measured. The next step will be to place an Ampro instructor/programmer in the club for a year, who will work on maximizing court utilization, boosting membership, increasing pro shop sales and cross-developing fitness members into racquetball players as part of their fitness routine.

At the end of the year, the initial baseline figures will be compared against the closing, twelve-month numbers and the results will be tabulated and used in a major

marketing campaign to promote racquetball within the fitness industry. Gary has chosen his hometown of Albuquerque, New Mexico for the "Profits Through Racquetball" research program. Venues will include both private and public clubs, military installations, colleges and universities, plus parks and recreation facilities.

This is a major undertaking, and the entire industry will be asked to participate in the hope of gaining valuable market research that will support all of our goals for racquetball's growth in a new century. Sales figures for 2000 are predicted to be up (reversing a six-year trend), and when we have those final figures in hand, we'll announce them in an upcoming issue. Until then, we would like to thank the RIC and its members for their foresight and support of this critical program. With the RIC officially in place, we now enjoy a smaller version of the Tennis Industry's "Tennis Industry initiative to Grow The Sport." Sharing those same principals — and with all of us working together — success in racquetball's own growth is certain to become a reality.



AmPRO Instructor Certification Clinic Schedule

DATE	HOST CLUB	CITY/STATE	CLINICIAN	CONTACT
January 26-28	Madison Athletic Club	Madison Heights, MI	Dave Watson	918-540-3503
February 2-4	Highpoint Sports & Wellness	Albuquerque, NM	Joe Wittenbrink	505-890-0096
February 9-11	Wimbledon SportsPlex	Memphis, TN	Dave Watson	918-540-3503
February 9-11	Eau Claire Athletic Club	Eau Claire, WI	Carol Pellowski	715-833-2201
February 11-12	L.A. Fitness	Coral Springs, FL	Chris Evon	800-872-7676 x6726
March 2-4	Racquet's Edge	Essex Junction, VT	Jim Winterton	315-426-9204
March 9-11	Ft. Myers Army Base Ath. Complex	Arlington, VA	Gary Mazaroff	505-266-8960
March 12-13	Tyson's Sport & Health	McLean, VA	Gary Mazaroff	505-266-8960
March 19-20	The Maverick Athletic Club	Arlington, TX	Dan Davis	817-275-3348

For more information about conducting an AmPRO Instructor Certification clinic, or about becoming certified, please contact Gary Mazaroff [Director of AmPRO Instructor Certification] at 505/266-8960, email GMazaroff@usra.org.

AmPRO Instructors! Check your online directory listing for accuracy! Follow links from www.usra.org | "AmPRO" | "Instructors" to see if we have your most recent contact information, then email us corrections, if needed!

Klippel wins First Ever IRT/ERT Satellite Event at the Belgian Open

Submitted by William Smith

Martin Klippel of Germany defeated some of the best players in Europe, as well as a current U.S. military champion, to win the inaugural International Racquetball Tour/European Racquetball Tour Satellite Event in Belgium.

Through an agreement with the IRT, the five main ERT events for the 2000–2001 season — Belgian, French, Dutch, German and Irish Open — will offer points under the IRT Satellite system for IRT rankings.

The Men's Pro/Open event drew players from Germany, Holland, France, Ireland and Belgium to this unique event in the beautiful city of Antwerpen. European national team members, as well as military players representing the U.S., were on hand to compete, and after uneventful rounds in the 32's and 16's, the quarterfinals offered one of the best matches of the entire tournament.

Miguel Santiago, reigning U.S. military master's champion, and Scott Creps, former IRT Professional, put on a battle for the ages with Santiago, representing Puerto Rico, coming out on top in five brutal games, (8), 8, 8, (9), 6. Both individuals are currently stationed in Germany with the U.S. Army.

In other quarterfinal action, Christy Slattery (Ireland), Pascal Matla (Holland), and Martin Klippel (Germany) cruised to the semis via straight game wins over Bjorn Jensen (Germany), Mike Mesecke (Germany), and Peter de Jong (Holland), respectively.

In semi-final action, Klippel, with his well-placed lob serves and offensive ceiling balls, patiently defeated Santiago, 9, (8), 7, 10. Matla, in the other semi-final, defeated Slattery in three straight games,

3, 2 and 4. This set up an all-European final with the top spot in the ERT as well as 9 points for the IRT at stake.

The final promised to be a battle to the end as Klippel took the first game 11-8 and Matla won the second game easily 11-3. However, the ever-resilient Klippel, Europe's best young talent and hope for the 2002 World Championships in Paris France, took control and never looked back as he took the final two games 4 and 4.

After the match both Klippel and Matla agreed this was one of the best tournaments to date in Europe and both were looking forward to competing in future IRT/ERT satellite events this season.

In the Women's Pro/Open division, Daphne Wannee of Holland was never really pressed as she won her round robin division and earned her points for the IRT. Kathy Tristmans of Belgium took second place with Nicole McPherson of the United States taking third.

The men's B/C division was won by Bruno Bouillac of France after a forfeit by 15 year-old Daniel Shanahan of Ireland who was injured during his semi-final. In the Men's 35+ division, Creps defeated Bouillac 12 and 4, and the men's 40+ was won by Santiago over Jorg Ludwig of Germany by forfeit.

The Open Doubles division proved a bit of an upset as the Irish team of Slattery and Martin McConnon defeated the team of Bouillac and Creps 9, (14) and 5.

Tournament organizers Pascal Van der Linden and Bart Wouters would like to thank the IRT for their support of this event, along with expressing their appreciation to event sponsors Ashaway and Pro Penn. The next IRT/ERT Satellite event will take place in Paris France at the French Open, January 13–14, 2001.

**Belgian Open 2000 | Antwerp:
November 11-12**

Results courtesy Pascal Matla

Men's Pro/Open: Martin Klippel (Ger) def Pascal Matla (Ned) 8, (3), 4, 4;

Women's Pro/Open: Daphne Wannée (Ned) def. Kathy Tristmans (Bel)

Men's B/C: Bruno Bouillac (Fra) def. Daniel Shanahan (Ire) injury forfeit

Men's 35+: Scott Creps (USA) def Bruno Bouillac (Fra) 12, 4

Men's 40+: Miguel Santiago (Pur) def Jorg Ludwig (Ger) forfeit

Open doubles: Slattery/McConnon (Ire) def Bouillac/Creps (Fra/USA) 9, (14), 5

September 23-24: Giessen, Germany 284th BSB Millennium Shoot Out

Reported by Mike Mesecke

MEN'S OPEN

1. Miguel Santiago (USA)
2. William Smith (USA)
3. Herbert Loth (USA)

MEN'S "B"

1. Rufus Tolbert (USA)
2. Rita Mitchell (USA)
3. Derrick Madison (USA)

MASTERS

1. Ken Joy (USA)
2. Randall McPherson (USA)
3. Herbert Loth (USA)

SENIORS

1. Miguel Santiago (PUR)
2. Ken Joy (USA)
3. Randall McPherson (USA)

WOMEN'S OPEN

1. Rita Mitchell (USA)
2. Petra Kinderman (GER)

Racquetball im Internet:
<http://www.racquetball.de/>

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Terri Graham Promoted

Wilson Racquet Sports recently announced the promotion of Terri Graham to Business Director of the Racquetball and Squash division. Graham, who had been the Marketing Manager for racquetball and squash since 1998, has been working in the industry for 11 years. She began her career with Ektelon in 1989 as Player Promotions Manager where she quickly gained the trust and respect of both the amateur and pro players. In 1994, when Graham left Ektelon to spearhead the new racquetball and squash program at Wilson, many influential players followed.

"Terri has earned this promotion through her years of experience, her invaluable relationships with the key influential people in both sports and her driving desire to always make things better. This is not just Terri's promotion, it is her reward and well-deserved recognition," said Graham's predecessor, Tom Odishoo, Business Director for Pre-Strung rackets.

Graham, an accomplished player in both sports, will now oversee all operations for Wilson Racquetball and Squash. A player since 1980, Graham earned five State Singles titles in her home state of Maine and was then inducted into the Maine Racquetball Hall of Fame in 1997. She was named Illinois Player of the Year this past March, and holds five national doubles titles in racquetball, along with being a three-time squash national skill-level champion.

Ben Simons Tapped

HEAD/Penn Racquet Sports announced its appointment of Ben Simons to the position of Indoor Court Sports Product Manager in November. Simons will be responsible for managing the HEAD Racquetball and Squash Racquet businesses.

A graduate of Ohio State University, Simons joins the company with an extensive background in the racquetball industry. Prior to joining HEAD, Ben was a 10-year open level player, the owner/promoter of a series of racquetball tournaments, Director of Racquetball at the Arizona Athletic Club, and an integral part of the HEAD product play test team.

After a series of interviews in early fall, Simons was tapped for the job and began on November 6, then went directly to Austria for a plant visit and meeting with worldwide sales reps, then flew straight into Memphis to run the Hilton U.S. OPEN event scoreboard. There he was assisted by his new wife of only three weeks, Rocky Rodriguez Simons. In all the rush of the new hire, the couple hadn't formally honeymooned — so Rocky flew in to assist with the graphic projects.

Scott Winters Returns

Mid-September ended a two-year hiatus for Scott Winters, who returned to Prince as Senior Director of Indoor Court Sports (a position he had held with the company from 1994-1998). Winters will resume responsibilities for all product categories for Prince squash and Ektelon racquetball including grassroots marketing programs, developing all sales programs, orchestrating product introductions, overseeing all aspects of inventory management and identifying new market areas for growth.

Scott will also focus on increasing demo days, free clinics, and other game-growing initiatives. The professional transition will keep him in Phoenix for the time being.



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(where his last position with Head Sports had been based). "We're also fortunate to have Andy Roberts in a key role" said Winters "He's going to be a big part of building our new team."

Active.com Brings Sport online

by Maria Kirkpatrick

After a successful debut with online registrations earlier in the fall, the U.S. Racquetball Association further solidified its partnership with Active.com. As part of their sponsorship, Active.com will provide online registration, a full suite of high-end Web-based organization management tools for the USRA and a co-branded online store featuring USRA apparel and merchandise.

The development of internet services positions the USRA as the technological leader in the sport, and Active.com's tools will help event directors manage events online and will enhance the visibility of racquetball nationwide. As the official provider of online registration, Active.com also promises to reduce the paper workload for racquetball coaches and league administrators. Plans are underway to unveil the full service suite to state directors and volunteers at the USRA's annual Leadership Conference in January.

An online racquetball store will also allow players to shop as they read the latest racquetball news and find out where to compete. Official merchandise will include t-shirts, sweats, ball caps and other active wear for the player, who will be able to access the storefront direct from www.usra.org. The arrangement will offer enthusiasts the convenience of online shopping, along with the opportunity to support the national governing body of their sport with their purchases.

"We want to be the one-stop shop online for racquetball enthusiasts," said Dave Alberga, president and chief executive officer, Active.com. "Our partnership with U.S. Racquetball will aid growth and public awareness of the sport."

Benefits for players

In development and planned for release in 2001 will be sanctioned event listings and online membership signups, league and team administration, game and tournament scheduling and online results reporting. Also in the planning stages are "active trainers" that customize a training program to aid a participant in preparation of an upcoming event, community features that encourage players to create online clubs and partic-

ipate in online chats, and message boards for players to post questions and interact with other online athletes.

Benefits for administrators

"The new technology we are bringing to the sport of racquetball will not only increase its visibility and popularity, it will decrease the amount of work required by instructors, coaches and event directors," Alberga said.

Included in the tools for coaches will be: online league and team registration; practice, game and tournament scheduling; venue management; officials scheduling; broadcast e-mail tools, message boards for leagues and teams; online results reporting; team and individual statistics tracking.

For tournament directors, online sign-ups streamline the event registration process by reducing the amount of physical paperwork and providing a single, detailed report of entrants. Plus Active.com's secure server processes credit card payments quickly and provides a printable confirmation report. Additional services will also include: Event management tools that generate detailed reports and statistics, plus download features for tracking results, event history and the ability to print or e-mail data.

Communication tools enhance contact between coaches and players while saving time. Message boards and e-mail enable directed correspondence with a single participant, group or entire database. Active.com's wide distribution network means that events will be publicized to thousands of people. There are more than 300,000 members registered on the Active.com website, with an estimated 800,000 users each. An estimated 4 million page views per month also means increased sponsorship exposure.

How to use Active for Online Registrations

It's easy to register for USRA events online and Active.com representatives are available to assist users with any aspect of the website and its services. National championships are linked direct from the "marquee event" section of www.usra.org or you can visit www.active.com, select racquetball from the "Sports You Do" listing and choose your event. Detailed information will be displayed and a register online link is located at the bottom of the page. Then follow the simple registration steps, and a registration confirmation is sent out immediately. For more information on Active.com, call 888.309.1322.

The semi-final saw yet another upset, as John Ellis took an impressive straight game win over Swain, 11-2, 11-9, 11-3 to reach his first final of the new season. Waiting there was Sudsy Monchik, who had eliminated Doyle in three.

Monchik vs. Ellis

After what had been some tough competition throughout, it came down to Sudsy Monchik and John Ellis. Everyone was prepared for an exciting match, which was evident by how quickly the bleachers were filled with fans waiting in anticipation. Everyone was ready to witness a level of racquetball that most only dream of playing. Speed, power and placement are the names of that game, and both players are capable of all three.

It was humorous to see both Sudsy and John turn to fellow pro Mike Guidry, who was sitting in the stands, when a call did not go their way. Each seemed to plead their case to Guidry first, and then the crowd. Guidry would only smile, bow his head, cover his eyes and claim he saw absolutely nothing. Sudsy even turned to a small boy standing by the glass for his opinion on a call, and the poor kid froze in his tracks like a deer caught in headlights.

Sudsy eventually let the kid off the hook with a wink and a smile. The camaraderie between the players, and their rapport with the fans was refreshing to see in players at this level. Professional athletes in other sports could learn a thing or two here.

The games were tight, the play spectacular, and the fans got what they came for — great racquetball. In the end it was Sudsy who came out on top. The match ended 3-1 in

Sudsy's favor, but Ellis did not go quietly and he made Sudsy fight for every point. Afterward, each gave a gracious speech to the fans, with thanks to their tournament hosts. The fans all applauded loudly in appreciation for the opportunity to have seen such a well-played match. As for me - I look forward to the rematch!

Contrasts in Open

And there were the obvious differences in competitive style between the men and the women. Usually, the men are more aggressive, the speed is faster the power is greater and the egos seem to be — well — more visible! This combination is usually entertaining, but every now and then a refreshing style of game is played and a little touch of class is added to the sport. Such was the case in the Open division match between world champion, 22-year-old Alvaro Beltran and a local New Mexican player, 25-year-old Carlos Juarez. Juarez, who is ranked #1 in New Mexico, was excited about this rare opportunity to play a world champion.

In game one, Juarez looked ready but Beltran took some time to ease into his game. Eventually, Beltran picked up the pace as Juarez started raking in the points. A few calls went against Beltran and although he didn't argue them, Juarez took it upon himself to call a replay. Juarez' wife was in the audience cheering him on and offering advice, but all this local support just wasn't enough to keep Juarez in the game. Beltran kicked into gear, as Juarez seemed to downshift a little. In the tiebreaker, Beltran closed out the match, 15-11, 15-6, 11-8.

After the match Juarez had said that he felt confident going into the games and tried to block out the fact he was playing the world champion. Although the two had

never met before, Juarez thought it might be worthwhile to ask the champ what he should look out for. Surprisingly enough, Beltran told Juarez to keep the ball off the sidewall, an apparent strong suit of Beltran's. These types of niceties were exchanged throughout the game, and when it was all said and done, the two left the court with pats on the back and a hearty handshake.

With just a year left in school, Beltran has put his studies on hold in order to tour on the pro racquetball circuit full time. But he made it clear that he has every intention of completing his degree in international business as well as continuing on with racquetball.

Showing us yet another style was Brian Pointelin in his match with Dan Beaudry. Pointelin is a type of player who has no problem expressing himself on the court, with boisterous comments to his opponent like, "Keep setting me up, I dare you." or "Two easy shots in row, that's amazing."

If it was Pointelin's strategy to intimidate both opponent and ref, it seemed to have worked on Beaudry, who found himself struggling throughout the match. But Pointelin was just as hard on himself as he was on everyone else. He didn't hesitate to comment "Stupidest person on the planet!" after one error, but in the name of fairness, he also directed a few "good shot" praises and "nice point" remarks to his opponent. The end result was that Pointelin took the match 14-15, 15-4, 11-8, and while it was "entertaining" in its own way, consider this a warning: whenever Brian Pointelin is called to a court, direct the youngsters elsewhere. His style of play is certainly not PG-13.

LPRA ... CONTINUED FROM PAGE 30

away to take the game 21-17. In the second, both players turned things up a notch by forcing referee Laura Fenton to decide on some tough calls. Paraiso became more aggressive in taking a dive or two to keep the ball alive, but Gudinas did not let up and finished it off with another win 21-18.

Early in the final game, a return of serve by Paraiso slammed the ball directly into the back of Gudinas's head for an avoidable. Shaking off the hit, Gudinas got more enthusiastic with each point she received, while Paraiso became more frustrated and missed more shots. With victory in sight, Gudinas went after it and put Paraiso away 21-16 to win the season opener!

A disappointed Paraiso commented on the loss by mentioning that her own performance was just not aggressive enough and that Gudinas had played very well. That, plus an injury, which originates in her shoulder and runs all the way down to her wrist, seemed to have an impact on her play. According to Paraiso, it wasn't so much the pain as it was the tightness and the swelling in the joint, which limited her motion. She plans on keeping up with her therapy and does not think it will keep her down for long. There is still a lot of season left to play and she doesn't seem to be worried about future matches. After all, it was two seasons ago that Paraiso had lost in the first tournament but ended up coming back. As the player herself put it; "It's hard to stay up all the time."

Gudinas was thrilled at being back at 100% for this tournament and was very happy with her performance. "It's like a miracle!" she said (in reference to a previous knee injury that had stopped giving her problems), and wondered if New Mexico's dry air had something to do with it. Commenting on the match, Gudinas felt that Paraiso had set her up a lot and that her backhand just wasn't there. A definite plus for Gudinas! On a scale of 1 to 5, she rated herself at 4 fi — obviously enough for her to keep up a strong performance and ultimately win the tournament.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: "What do you think of the new rules?" Cheryl Gudinas jokingly answered this question at the awards ceremony, stating that the LPRA had given the players yet another thing to deal with and something else to think about. This question was asked to players across the board, and the majority responded that they liked it! It definitely was a hot topic since it was the first time the changes were used in regulation tour play. Aside from a little confusion at first, the play-



From the sidelines: LPRA players fill the stands between games (L-R): Lori-Jane Powell, Jackie Paraiso, Michelle Lucas, Lisa Hjelm, Kari McDonough, (front) Angela Burth. Photo: Denise A. Frank.

ers adapted well.

Each player now has five serves to deliver before any sideout; every point counts whether you serve or not; and the games are to 21, instead of 15. Players still have to win by two, and it is the best of five games that determines the match. The word most used in describing the rules was that it is "different." As a player and as a ref, it's going to take some time to get used to. Cyd Evans described it best, saying; "...it keeps you from zoning out and thinking of other things ... like, Are my shorts on right? How's my hair look? Or that's okay, I'll get it back. You can't "get it back," if you make a mistake, you lose a point." From the responses, it looks like the changes are here to stay!

Colorado Springs Hosts the Ladies

Lynmar Classic: November 1-5

When tournament organizer Eddie Meredith heard about the new ladies pro tour, it didn't take him long to decide to turn his long-running Lynmar Classic event into the second stop of the season. With LPRA Commissioner Jim Hiser in offices right there in town, it was simple for the two to "conference" on the project and soon Eddie was out pounding the pavement for sponsors and donors to support the cause. He quickly raised the necessary cash and brought the ladies into the Springs in early November.

In early round play, current and former U.S. Junior Team members logged upsets over higher seeds to advance into a much tougher round of 16. First-time U.S. National Team member Rhonda Rajsich defeated

CONTINUED ON PAGE 52

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LPRA ... CONTINUED FROM PAGE 49

long-time Canadian counterpart Lori-Jane Powell of Calgary, Alberta. Also a former junior national team member, Rajsich dropped the third game of their match before taking her win in four. Later in the day, however, Rajsich was defeated by No.4 seeded Kersten Hallander of San Diego, California, but continued to advance in Mixed Open doubles with pick-up partner John Vohland of Colorado Springs.

Recently awarded the USRA's Junior Athlete of the Year award, tour novice Kristen Walsh also took a win over tour veteran, Angela Burth of Las Vegas, Nevada, in four games. A native of Salt Lake City (now attending college in Berea, Ohio), Walsh lost the second game of her match against Burth. Mom Marianne Walsh was on the sidelines, but only briefly, before taking to a side court to enter her own advance in the Women's Open division with a win over Cindy Tilbury of Denver, 15-11, 15-14.

Long Saturday

After Laura Fenton upset No.4 seeded Kersten Hallander early on Saturday to advance into the semi-final, she then fell at the hands of her doubles partner and No.1 seeded Jackie Paraiso later in the day. Current National Doubles champions, the two are very well acquainted with each other's game styles, and Paraiso made quick work of her co-champion to advance into the final against top Canadian rival Christie Van Hees.

Van Hees defeated fellow Canadian team member Josee Grand'maire in their earlier quarterfinal to go up against No.2 seeded Cheryl Gudinas. At the 1999 Pan American Games, Gudinas had defeated the then-current '98 World Champion Van Hees on a controversial rules call, and most recently snatched Van Hees' world singles crown at the 2000 World Championships in San Luis Potosi, Mexico in August. Since then, Van Hees had only logged one win (for the crucial World Cup team championship round) against Gudinas — until this weekend.

At the first stop of the new LPRA season in Albuquerque just two weeks prior, Van Hees had seen an early exit after being defeated by Laura Fenton. In the Springs, Van Hees' seemed more comfortable with the new format, as she upset her long-time rival Gudinas in straight games.

Rematch Final

In their first meeting since the final of the '99 U.S. OPEN, Van Hees took a five-game tiebreaker

win over Paraiso. Van Hees was thrilled to have finally made a successful transition to the new scoring system.

"It [scoring on every rally] makes you really concentrate on keeping the ball in play until you can end a rally in your favor," said Van Hees. "When your mistakes count against you, you don't take as many risks. It takes some getting used to."

"I really don't like the new scoring," admitted Paraiso — who had also placed second in Albuquerque to Cheryl Gudinas — "If I'm having a good run on serve, it's hard to give it up at the end of your turn and then play defense for five points."

Clearly disappointed in her second finals loss in the new season, Paraiso remained stoic "I want to support the new tour and all the changes that we're experimenting with - but I'd still like to win!"

FINAL RESULTS: LYNMAR CLASSIC LADIES PRO RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

#3 Christie Van Hees (Vancouver, British Columbia) def. #1 Jackie Paraiso (San Diego, California) 15-21, 23-21, 21-19, 18-21, 21-14

PRO/AM Singles Divisions

Men's Open: Woody Clouse (Denver, Colo.) def. Erin Brannigan (Sandpoint, Idaho) 15-14, 15-12
Men's A: Tuve Nycum (Denver, Colo.) def. John Dellinger (Denver, Colo.) 15-3, 15-10
Men's B: Pat Boyle (Colo.Spgs., Colo.) def. Larry Mullen (Colo.Spgs., Colo.) 15-9, 15-9
Men's C: Dana Mahar (New Mexico) def. Duane Lerew (Denver, Colo.) 14-15, 15-13, 11-10
Men's Novice: Dan Chacon (USAFA, Colo.) def. John Arki (USAFA, Colo.) 15-0, 15-4
Men's 45+: Jim Gillhouse (Colo.Spgs., Colo.) def. John Vohland (Colo.Spgs., Colo.) 15-12, 15-12
Women's Open: Susana Acosta (Chihuahua, Mexico) def. Lori Jane Powell (Calgary, Alberta) 8-15, 15-13, 11-7
Women's A: Barb Mehegan (Colo.Spgs., Colo.) def. Diane Pratt (Renton, Wash.) 15-14, 15-11
Women's C: Jennifer Fleming (USAFA, Colo.) def. Petra Allen (Colo.Spgs., Colo.) 15-6, 15-4
Women's Novice: Erin Reynolds (USAFA, Colo.) def. Kristy Youngpeter (USAFA, Colo.) 15-11, 15-12

PRO-AM Doubles Divisions

Men's Open: Jimmy Lowe (Renton, Wash.)/Mike Johnston (Denver, Colo.) def. Woody Clouse/Mark Helton (Denver, Colo.) 15-3, 11-15, 11-4
Men's A: John Dellinger/Tuve Nycum (Denver, Colo.) def. Carl Franklin/Charles George (Denver, Colo.) 11-15, 15-12, 11-4
Men's B: Pat Boyle/Benny Terry (Colo.Spgs., Colo.) def. Dave Jennings/Sammy Payne (Colo.Spgs., Colo.) 15-8, 15-5
Women's Open: Jackie Paraiso (San Diego, Calif.)/Laura Fenton (Kansas City, Kan.) def. Josee Grand'Maire (Longueuil, Quebec)/Lori Jane Powell (Calgary, Alberta) by forfeit
Mixed Open: Rhonda Rajsich (Phoenix, Ariz.)/John Vohland (Colo.Spgs., Colo.) def. Donna Beldring/Bruce Burgess (Denver, Colo.) 15-11, 6-15, 11-9
Mixed A: Loretta Marks/Mark Schnittger (Denver, Colo.) def. Cathy Bender/Richard Kozak (Colo.Spgs., Colo.) 13-15, 15-8, 11-7
Mixed B: Joni Achenbach/Dave Jennings (Colo.Spgs., Colo.) def. Jennifer Fleming/Kerwin Swenson (Colo.Spgs., Colo.) 15-8, 15-11

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2001 WILSON 14th U.S. National High School Championships

WHERE: The Concord Club
St. Louis, Missouri
WHEN: March 1-4

DEADLINE: Friday – February 16
POSTMARKED BY: Tuesday – February 13
DIVISIONS: Team Singles & Doubles
FEES: \$45.00/1st event
\$20.00/2nd event
\$20.00/3rd (mixed doubles only)

STARTING TIMES: Available Wednesday – February 28
@ 314-842-3111
CHECK-IN: Opens Thursday – March 1
PLAY BEGINS: Thursday – March 1
MEMBERSHIP: USRA Membership Required

• LODGING: Holiday Inn - South County Center, 6921 South Lindbergh Blvd. [314-892-3600]. Rate: \$69.00 per night, plus tax, for up to four persons per room. Stipulations: You must make your reservations no later than 02/15, and reference the 14th High School Racquetball Championships to secure the special tournament rate. • GROUND TRANSPORTATION: You must arrange your own ground transportation on arrival at the airport. Shuttle service between the hotel and venue will be available during tournament hours, beginning on Friday at 3:00 pm. • HOSPITALITY: There will be very limited hospitality, so plan accordingly!

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WHERE: The Sporting House
Las Vegas, Nevada
WHEN: March 28 - April 1

DEADLINE: Monday – March 12
POSTMARKED BY: Friday – March 9
DIVISIONS: Team Singles & Doubles
FEES: \$60.00/1st event
\$20.00/2nd event
\$20.00/3rd (mixed doubles only)

STARTING TIMES: Available Monday – March 26
@ 702-733-8999
CHECK-IN: Opens Tuesday – March 27
PLAY BEGINS: Wednesday – March 28
MEMBERSHIP: USRA Membership Required

• LODGING: The Sahara Hotel & Casino, 2535 Las Vegas Boulevard South [800-634-6078]. Rate: \$89.00 per night, plus tax, for up to four persons per room. Stipulations: You must make your reservations no later than 03/14, and reference the 29th Intercollegiate Racquetball Championships to secure the special tournament rate. • GROUND TRANSPORTATION: You must call the hotel in advance to make arrangements for shuttle service (if available) between the airport and the host hotel. • HOSPITALITY: There will be very limited hospitality, so plan accordingly!

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january ...

January 12-14

January 18-21

January 19-21

January 20

January 24-27

January 26-28

January 27-28

Jan. 31 - Feb. 4

february ...

February 1-3

February 1-4

February 2-4

February 3

February 3-4

February 8-11

February 9-10

February 9-11

Build The Arc @ Courts Plus	New Bern, NC	252-633-2221
Cowboy Open @ Oklahoma State University	Stillwater, OK	405-624-3576
Ektelon Racquetball With The Gar @ Bally Matrix Fitness Center	Amherst, NY	716-839-0079
Martha's New Years Open @ Wimbleton Sportsplex	Memphis, TN	901-388-6580
New Jersey State Doubles @ King George Racquet Club [3]	Greenbrook, NJ	732-356-6900
New Years Open Tournament @ Dover Air Force Base	Dover, DE	302-697-6762
Pittsburgh Open @ Oxford Club	Monroeville, PA	412-466-7325
St. Cloud Pro-Am Winter Chiller @ Suburban Racquet & Swim Club	St. Cloud, MN	320-251-3965
Winter Blahs @ Cedardale	Haverhill, MA	978-373-1596
WOW Winterfest @ Work Out West	Greeley, CO	970-330-9691
2nd OJRA Junior Stop @ Courthouse Salem "North"	Salem, OR	503-585-2582
2001 Southlake Pro-Am @ Southlake Athletic Club	Morrow, GA	770-968-1792
5th Low Country Classic @ St. Andrews Family Fitness.	Charleston, SC	843-556-2518
Ice Fog Classic @ Fairbanks Athletic Club	Fairbanks, AK	907-452-6801
Alliance YMCA Open @ Alliance YMCA	Alliance, NE	308-762-2201
Big Chill @ Northwest Fitness	Houston, TX	713-895-8688
Cocoa Classic @ Cocoa Court Club	Hershey, PA	717-540-5111
Conditioning Spa Shoot Out @ Conditioning Spa	Greeley, CO	970-352-0974
Doubles Tune Up @ The Southlake Club	Mundelein, IL	847-949-8180
Hall Of Fame @ Central Courts	Columbia Heights, MN	612-572-0330
Mesabi Daily News @ Supreme Courts	Virginia, MN	218-749-8318
Sunshine Tournament @ Athletic Express	Gaithersburg, MD	301-258-0661
Superbowl Open @ In Shape - West Lane	Stockton, CA	209-472-2100
Tennessee Women's Invitational @ Gallatin Civic Center	Gallatin, TN	615-451-5911
The Mitch Nathanson Classic @ Executive Health & Sports	Manchester, NH	603-641-6116
Winter Classic @ Southridge Athletic Club	Greenfield, WI	414-421-5770
WSMA U.S. Women's Senior/Master Championships [5]	Canoga Park, CA	818-884-5034
2001 - A Racquetball Odyssey @ Summerhill	Rogers, AR	501-238-1204
24 Hour Fitness Open @ 24 Hour Fitness/Courthouse.	Boise, ID	208-377-0040
3rd Annual New York City Pro-Am @ BQE Racquetball Club	Woodside, NY	718-429-8489
Noblesville Junior Tournament @ Noblesville Athletic Club	Noblesville, IN	317-776-0222
Provo Racquetfest @ Provo Recreation Center.	Provo, UT	801-371-6874
Fiberlink Technologies #1 @ Arizona Athletic Club.	Tempe, AZ	480-730-8156
Greenbriar Classic @ Greenbriar Athletic Club	Indianapolis, IN	317-897-5481
Hog Classic @ Omega 40	Ormond Beach, FL	904-672-4044
Illinois State Doubles @ Glass Court Swim & Fitness [3].	Lombard, IL	630-629-3390
Metroplex Championship @ Maverick Athletic Club	Arlington, TX	817-275-3348
Penn State Winter Classic Open @ I M Building	State College, PA	814-861-6804
The Bel-Aire Open @ Nautilus Fitness & Racquet Club	Erie, PA	814-459-3033
The Super Bowl Splat @ Olympus Athletic Club	Northfield, MN	507-645-8007
Meals On Wheels Benefit @ Gold's Gym	DeWitt, NY	315-446-0376
Fearsome Four Doubles @ The Alaska Club Midtown.	Anchorage, AK	907-258-3211

Gold's Gym Downtown Invitational @ Gold's Gym	Ogden, UT	801-399-5861
Foxwood Pro-Am @ Ridge Racquet Club.	Braintree, MA	781-982-6029
B R Ryall Winter Tournament @ B R Ryall YMCA	Glen Ellyn, IL	630-858-0100
Break The Blues @ Racquet's Edge.	Essex Junction, VT	802-879-7734
Delaware State Doubles @ Kirkwood Fitness [3].	Wilmington, DE	302-697-6762
Idaho State Doubles @ Fitness Inc. [3]	Pocatello, ID	208-233-8035
Lance Nelson Memorial @ LSU Recreational Complex	Baton Rouge, LA	504-468-2813
Pro Kennex Super Six #4 @ Southview Athletic Club.	West St. Paul, MN	651-450-1660
Shapes Open @ Shapes Fitness Center	Watertown, NY	315-782-9348
Singles Warm-Up @ Orlando Fitness & Racquet.	Orlando, FL	407-645-3550
Wintergreen Tournament @ Laurel Sport Fitness.	Laurel, MD	410-987-0980
WNY Open @ University Of Buffalo.	Buffalo, NY	716-743-1852
8th Annual Rochester Pro-Am @ Rochester Athletic Club	Rochester, MN	507-282-6000
One Day Singles @ Quad West.	Clearwater, FL	727-535-4901
Icicle Open @ Allentown Racquet Club.	Allentown, PA	610-821-1300
Shelbyville Junior Tournament @ Shelby County Athletic Club	Shelbyville, IN	317-392-3822
New Jersey Pro-Am II @ Classic Athletic Club.	Fairfield, NJ	973-742-8806
23rd Indy Open @ Noblesville Athletic Club	Noblesville, IN	317-255-3321
Decathlon Pro-Am @ Decathlon Athletic Club.	Bloomington, MN	952-854-7171
Kidney Foundation @ Sports Barn	Chattanooga, TN	423-899-2068
Longhorn Open @ University Of Texas	Austin, TX	512-407-9449
NAC Winter Classic @ Northwest Athletic Club	Springdale, AR	501-750-3538
Scottsbluff YMCA Open @ Scottsbluff YMCA	Scottsbluff, NE	308-635-2318

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February 10	St. Valentine's Day Massacre @ Athletic Club - Bloomingdale	Bloomingdale, IL	630-893-9577
	Valentine Double Trouble @ Alpha Racquet Club.	Mechanicsburg, PA	717-540-5111
	Valentine Open @ Downtown Health & Racquet	New Haven, CT	203-248-1869
	Valentines Tourney @ Racket & Fitness Center.	Portland, ME	207-775-6128
	Wyoming State Doubles @ YMCA [3].	Sheridan, WY	307-674-7488
	3rd OJRA Junior Stop @ Lloyd Athletic Club	Portland, OR	503-287-4594
February 10-11	Junior Stop #4 @ Bellingham Athletic Club	Bellingham, WA	360-676-1800
February 13-17	Women's Breast Cancer Charity @ Colorado Athletic Club.	Aurora, CO	877-590-3582
February 15-18	Central NY Championships @ Gold's Gym	DeWitt, NY	315-446-0378
	St. Valentine's Day Massacre @ Redwood Multipurpose Center.	West Valley City, UT	801-974-6923
February 16-18	Aurora City Open @ Colorado Athletic Club.	Aurora, CO	303-696-9313
	Michael Lanning/IRT Pro Stop @ Northwest - Highway 100	Brooklyn Center, MN	952-920-6652
	Mid Winter Classic Doubles @ Fairbanks Athletic Club.	Fairbanks, AK	907-452-6801
	Valentine Shootout @ Courtsouth Athletic Club	Knoxville, TN	865-574-0231
	Adult Open/Junior Regional @ Northwest Fitness	Houston, TX	713-895-8688
	Dead Presidents Tournament @ Merritt Athletic - Security	Baltimore, MD	410-298-8700
	Long Island Winter Classic @ Sunrise Health & Racquet Club	Massapequa, NY	718-429-8489
	N.E.M.R.A. Doubles @ Sturbridge Host Hotel	Sturbridge, MA	603-362-8340
	President's Day Open @ Wisconsin Athletic Club	Waukesha, WI	262-544-4111
	St. Val's Day Massacre @ YMCA	Idaho Falls, ID	208-523-0600
	3rd Annual Cortland Shootout @ Cortland College	Cortland, NY	315-782-1500
	6th Annual Olympic Open @ Palos Olympic	Palos Hills, IL	708-974-1900
	8th Annual Winter Classic @ American Family Fitness	Richmond, VA	804-330-3400
February 21-24	Alaska High School State Champ/Junior Jam @ The Alaska Club East	Anchorage, AK	907-258-3211
February 22-25	Lynmar Open @ Lynmar Athletic	Colorado Springs, CO	719-598-4069
February 23-25	Illinois State Singles @ Athletic Club - Bloomingdale [3]	Bloomingdale, IL	630-325-6410
	Adirondack Open @ Glens Falls Family YMCA	Glens Falls, NY	518-793-3878
	Casey Deer Memorial @ Clarksville Athletic Club	Clarksville, TN	931-645-4313
	End Of Winter Inspirational @ White Bear Athletic Club	White Bear Lake, MN	651-426-1308
	Fiberlink Technologies #2 @ La Camarilla	Phoenix, AZ	480-730-8156
	Grand Island YMCA Open @ Grand Island YMCA	Grand Island, NE	308-384-8181
	Omni 41 Amatulli Open @ Omni 41	Schererville, IN	219-865-6969
	Schultz Classic @ The Sports Center	Fayetteville, NC	910-864-3303
	Silver Bullet Shoot-Out @ Ozark Sports Club	Ft. Smith, AR	501-646-4022
	The Fitness Forum Tournament @ The Fitness Forum	Sanford, ME	207-324-1154
February 24	Sugarloaf Ford @ Winona YMCA	Winona, MN	507-454-8298
Feb. 27 - March 3	Spring Smash @ Marv Jensen Recreation Center	South Jordan, UT	801-253-4404
Feb. 28 - March 3	YMCA Members & Friends @ Colorado Springs YMCA	Colorado Springs, CO	719-471-9790

march ...

March 1-4	Wilson 14th USRA National High School Championships [6].	TBA	719-635-5396
March 2-4	Wilson Doubles @ Center Courts	Columbia Heights, MN	612-572-0330
	Pennsylvania State Singles @ I M Building [3]	State College, PA	412-466-7325
March 2-5	Doubles Only Tournament @ Rollingwood Racquet Club	Fair Oaks, CA	916-988-1727
March 3-5	Connecticut State Singles @ Downtown Health & Racquet [3]	New Haven, CT	203-248-1869
March 8-11	March Madness @ North Jeffco Rec Center	Arvada, CO	303-403-2581
	Shamrock Shootout @ Glass Court Swim & Fitness	Lombard, IL	630-629-3390
March 9-10	Arizona State Singles @ Arizona Athletic Club [3]	Tempe, AZ	480-830-2041
March 9-11	March Madness Open @ Shelby County Athletic Club	Shelbyville, IN	317-861-3687
March 9-11	Delaware State Singles @ Kirkwood Fitness [3]	Wilmington, DE	302-697-6762
	Hot Springs Open @ Hot Springs Health & Fitness	Hot Springs, AR	501-525-4900
March 10-11	Idaho State Singles @ 24 Hour Fitness/Courthouse [3]	Boise, ID	208-377-0040
	Maine State Doubles @ Central Maine Athletic Center [3]	Lewiston, ME	207-786-4820
	Mathison Tire/Kischner Transport @ Supreme Courts	Virginia, MN	218-749-8318
	New York State Singles @ Fishkill Racquetball Club [3]	Fishkill, NY	518-438-3935
	Pirate Country Blast @ Pulse Athletic Club	Greenville, NC	252-756-9175
	Tennessee State Singles @ Downtown YMCA [3]	Nashville, TN	615-895-3679
	Texas State Singles @ Racquetball & Fitness [3]	San Antonio, TX	210-344-8596
	18th Annual UCP Tournament @ Suburban Racquet @ Swim	St. Cloud, MN	320-251-3965
	4th OJRA Junior Stop @ Timberhill Athletic Club	Corvallis, OR	541-757-8559
	Merced Spring Open @ Merced Sports Club	Merced, CA	209-722-3988

• For all sanctioned events [brackets] indicate event level (unmarked = Level 2)

• Please note: USRA memberships are processed by month, not date ... when expiration is shown as 02/00, you must renew your membership in the month of February in order to play in any sanctioned events held that month.

For expanded calendar listings, refer to the online January/February edition of RACQUETBALL
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MEN

Men's OPEN

1. Jack Huczak, MI
2. Rocky Carson, CA
3. Mike Locker, MN
4. Doug Eagle, TX
5. Dan Fowler, MD
6. Jimmy Lowe, WA
7. Todd O'Neil, TX
8. Gared Edmunds, KY
9. Josh Tucker, MO
10. Dan Llacer, DE

Men's A

1. Steve Tillotson, CA
2. Cary Slade, IL
3. Sunny Osagie, AR
4. James Davis, TX
5. Brian Stone, GA
6. Kipp Atwell, LA
7. Chris Brown, MD
8. Ben Croft, IL
9. Victor Zambrano, VA
10. Ryan John, OH

Men's B

1. Michael Wang, TX
2. James Russell, FL
3. John Dill, TX
4. Brandon Cortese, MI
5. Larry Weene, MA
6. Jason Hicks, KY
7. Craig Sparks, AZ
8. Filip Vesely, NV
9. Martin Gonzalez, IL
10. Mike Wiseman, WI

Men's C

1. Chris Coy, OK
2. Reinaldo Rodriguez, FL
3. Mike Gaffney, PA
4. Jim Zimmerer, OH
5. Cam Grundman, MN
6. Harish Chopra, MI
7. Emmanuel Drege, TX
- 8T. Tony Roselli, TN
- 8T. Mike Williamson, TN
10. Grant Macuba, IL

Men's D

1. Ken Newberry, TX
2. Bryan Shaw, MO
3. Jeff Bell, CT
4. Muhammad Jawad, TX
5. Christopher Nichols, AR
6. Joe DeRoche, IL
- 7T. Mike Dolitsky, FL
- 7T. Robert Villanueva, FL
9. Joe Snyders, MD
10. Mike Oakman, AL

Men's Novice

1. Dan LaRochelle, NH
2. Garrett Jordan, TX
3. Matt LaRochelle, NH
- 4T. Francis Aguilera, CA
- 4T. Joey Pack, OH

6. Chris Foster, TX
- 7T. Chris Herrera, NM
- 7T. Louis Lenckus, TX
- 9T. Richard Aguirre, ID
- 9T. Brandon Ritschard, IL

Men's 24+

1. Richard Ross, PA
2. Andy Hawthorne, IL
3. Mitch Williams, NC
4. Kyle Veenstra, WI
5. Jason Bledsoe, FL
6. Javier Moreno, TN
7. Brent Walters, NC
8. Paul Strike, OH
9. Mike Patalano, RI
10. Alvaro Beltran, CA

Men's 25+

1. Brian Pointelin, UT
2. Tim Hardison, SC
3. Mike Dennison, OH
4. Dale Valentine, CA
5. Mike Locker, MN
- 6T. Tom Fuhrmann, TX
- 6T. Ryan Homa, MN
- 6T. Raymond Maestas, NM
9. Jamal Harris, MD
10. Rob DeJesus, AZ

Men's 30+

1. Kevin Graham, WI
- 2T. Don Costleigh, NY
- 2T. John Davis, LA
- 2T. Jim Minkel, TX
5. Jim Frautschi, MN
6. Jody Morris, TX
7. Dana Levy, FL
8. Brad McCunniff, IA
9. Ira Holland, VA
10. Rich Baer, NY

Men's 35+

1. Armando Alonso, FL
2. Dave Watson, OK
3. Dave Negrete, IL
4. Rick Ferrin, CA
- 5T. Dave Eagle, OH
- 5T. Jimmy Lowe, WA
7. Scott Cullins, GA
8. Alan Sheppard, NC
9. David Barnes, RI
10. Lance Gilliam, TX

Men's 40+

- 1T. Dave Eagle, OH
- 1T. Tim Hansen, FL
3. Bill Lyman, IL
4. Greg Hodges, MI
5. Steve Wattz, CA
6. Noel De La Rosa, TX
7. Glenn Leib, PA
8. Joe Thomas, MA
- 9T. Terry Fluharty, FL
- 9T. Lynn Johnson, OK

Men's 45+

1. Jim Luzar, WI
2. Russ Palazzo, CT
3. Gary Mazaroff, NM
4. Ruben Gonzalez, NY
5. Joe Clinton, TX

Men's 24+

6. Darryl Warren, CA
- 7T. Mark Baron, VA
- 7T. Bruce Nelson, IL
- 9T. Mitt Layton, FL
- 9T. Tom Weniger, CA

Men's 50+

- 1T. Mitt Layton, FL
- 1T. Thomas Rall, CA
3. Don Scales, TX
4. Bill Welaj, NJ
5. Dave Warner, MN
6. Joe Silius, IL
7. Horace Miller, IL
8. Don Prater, FL
- 9T. Bert Castelanelli, CA
- 9T. Terry Michnya, MD

Men's 55+

- 1T. Ray Huss, OH
- 1T. Tom McKie, TX
3. Glenn Allen, VA
4. Warren Reuther, LA
5. Ron Yonkee, IL
6. Ron Galbreath, PA
7. Kevin Dorr, MD
8. Mike Winslow, FL
- 9T. Terry Albright, MO
- 9T. Leland Rients, MN

Men's 60+

1. Jim Wilking, UT
2. Ron Hutcherson, IN
3. Jim McPherson, TX
4. Rex Lawler, IN
5. Grant Morrill, PA
6. Charlie Garfinkel, NY
7. Bobby Sanders, OH
8. Leland Rients, MN
9. Ron Adams, CA
10. Lee Graff, OR

Men's 65+

1. Jerry Holly, CA
2. Don Alt, OH
3. Otis Chapman, OH
4. Kenneth Moore, CA
5. Don Maxey, TX
6. Milas Turney, FL
- 7T. Art Johnson, CO
- 7T. Ed Olah, IL
9. Ken Karmel, AR
10. Frank Trask, ME

Men's 70+

1. John O'Donnell, IL
2. Joe Lambert, TX
3. Barney Fresteth, SD
4. Duane Smith, TX
5. Robert Miller, SC
6. Len Kaiser, CA
7. Carl Buschner, MA

8. Mal Roberts, FL
9. Stan Fugate, FL
10. Philip Dziuk, IL

Men's 75+

1. Robert McAdam, TX
- 2T. Earl Acuff, NC
- 2T. Dick Kincade, CO
- 2T. Bill Matotan, NM
- 2T. Bernard Sand, IA
- 2T. Nick Sans, CA
- 2T. J.W. Studak, TX
8. Al Romero, NM
9. Bill Gencarella, CA
10. Robert L. Thompson, FL

Men's 80+

1. Earl Acuff, NC
2. George Spear, FL
3. Cam Snowberger, SC
4. Ben Marshall, TX
- 5T. Hank Richard, NC
- 5T. Charlie Russell, CA
7. Harry Steinman, MD
8. Harvey Greenfield, CA
9. Bill Weinacht, OH

Men's 85+

1. Harry Steinman, MD

WOMEN

Women's OPEN

1. Cheryl Gudinas, IL
2. Denise Mock, TX
3. Aimee Roehler, NJ
4. Kerri Stoffregen, OH
5. Kristen Walsh, OH
6. Kersten Hallander, CA
7. Lourdes Sanders, CO
8. Terri Thornton, MN
9. Susan Pfahler, FL
10. Sara Borland, IA

Women's A

1. Isabel Nagelin, VA
2. Vivian Gomez, FL
3. T.J. Baumbaugh, MD
4. Sandra Adams, TX
- 5T. Sheri Bushay, AR
- 5T. Pontee Dodds, IL
7. Melissa Young, TX
- 8T. Robyn Perrin, TN
- 8T. Karen Roykouff, ME
10. Jean Gordon, MN

Women's B

1. Valerie Willis, NC
2. Catherine Bertucci, IL
3. Cheryl Kirk, IL
4. Rosario Kelley, TX
5. Rhonda Kochis, OK
- 6T. Angela Deltito-Cook, PA
- 6T. Fanny Scargle, FL
8. Janice Kennedy, GA
9. Melanie Bianucci, NC
10. Renee Rubio-Vivian, CA

Women's 24+

- 1T. Kristen Walsh, OH
2. Rhonda Rajsich, AZ
3. Kristen Fritz, VA
- 4T. Brooke Crawford, CA
- 4T. Shannon Feaster-Stewart, MD
- 4T. Adrienne Fisher, OH
- 4T. Janel Tisinger, CA
8. Vallana Perrault, MN
9. Olivia Martinez, TX
10. Megan Bals, NE

Women's 25+

- 1T. Debra Bryant, NC
- 1T. Kim Herold, SC
- 1T. Kerri Stoffregen, OH
4. Cara Pellowski, WI
5. Tina Hagen, CO
- 6T. Jo Shattuck, CO
- 6T. Jen Yokota, MO
- 8T. Kelley Beane, NH
- 8T. Aimee Roehler, NJ
10. Lisa Marie Papp, GA

Women's 30+

1. Michelle Lucas, VA
2. Lorraine Galloway, NY
3. B.J. Ehrhart, CT
- 4T. Debra Bryant, NC
- 4T. Doreen Fowler, MD
6. Micky Richer, CO

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7. Michelle Shewchuk, MN
 8T. Laura Brandt, FL
 8T. Angela Burth, NV
 8T. Grace Hastings, TX

Women's 35+

1. Lorraine Galloway, NY
 2T. B.J. Ehrigg, CT
 2T. Kersten Hallander, CA
 4T. Denise Mock, TX
 4T. Solanna Taragan, CA
 6. Lori Lepow, FL
 7T. Anita Maldonado, NY
 7T. Debra Tisinger, CA
 9T. Pontee Dodds, IL
 9T. Terri Thornton, MN

Women's 40+

1. Debra Tisinger, CA
 2T. Linda Moore, NE
 2T. Roz Petronelli, MA
 4. Sheri Anderson, AZ
 5. Val Shewfelt, UT
 6T. Malia Bailey, VA
 6T. Sallie Benedict, VA
 8. Peggy Stephens, KY
 9. Jodi Paul, PA
 10. Liz Molitor, IL

Women's 45+

1. Susan Pfahler, FL
 2. Joanne Pomodoro, MA
 3. Karen Key, AZ
 4. Jere Luttnar, TX
 5. Marcia Richards, CO
 6. Meena Evans, NC
 7. Jean Trimble, FL
 8. Nan Higgins, NH
 9T. Linda Bentzel, PA
 9T. Laura Patterson, MI

Women's 50+

1. Terry Ann Rogers, CA
 2. Merijean Kelley, CA
 3. Agatha Falso, FL
 4. Sharon Huczak, MI
 5. Mary Jane Welden, DE
 6. Shelley Ogden, OH
 7. Jane Bentley, NM
 8. Linda Neel, OR
 9T. Kathy Dunham, IL
 9T. Sharon Hastings-Welty, OR

Women's 55+

1. Mary Lou Furaus, NM
 2. Sharon Hastings-Welty, OR
 3. CeCe Palaski, CA
 4T. Nidia Funes, CA
 4T. Gerri Stoffregen, OH
 6. Mildred Gwin, NC
 7. Agatha Falso, FL
 8. Jo Kenyon, FL
 9. Marquita Molina, CA
 10. Nancy Kay Butts, WI

Women's 60+

1. Sylvia Sawyer, UT
 2. Jo Kenyon, FL

3. Gloria Piscoran, OR
 4. Mildred Gwin, NC
 5. Jean Tull, VA
 6T. Marian Crawford, NY
 6T. Marquita Molina, CA
 8. Ann Westphal, AZ

Women's 65+

1. Jo Kenyon, FL
 2. Lola Markus, IL
 3. Marilyn Hoagland, MN
 4T. Naomi Eads, MO
 4T. Louise Kiss, NM
 6T. Grace Brickner, CO
 6T. Ruth Zenk, FL

Women's 70+

1T. Mary-Low Acuff, NC
 1T. Reta Harring, WI
 3. Tillie Davies, AZ
 4T. Mary Lou Kackert, NM
 4T. Dorothy Vezetinski, WA

Women's 75+

1. Christine Stephens, TX
 2. Helen Deysher, PA
 3. Beth Keene, TX
 4. Mary-Low Acuff, NC

Women's 80+

1. Mary-Low Acuff, NC
 2. Eleanor Quackenbush, OR

BOYS

Boys' 6 & Under

1. Brandon Waldon, LA
 2T. Grayson Gurney, ID
 2T. Keith McElhany, SD
 2T. Cody Novotny, WI
 2T. Marco Rojas, CA
 6. Tyler Forbus, LA
 7. Zachary Wertz, LA
 8T. Jose Dias, CA
 8T. Parker Dolbin, UT
 8T. Nick Gottsleben, SD

B6- Multi-Bounce

1. Sam Reid, OR
 2. Timothy Lerow, CT
 3T. Marco Rojas, CA
 3T. Kyle Walsh, UT
 6T. Colin Kush, CT
 6T. Alec Gonzales, CA
 6T. Steven Kochis, OK
 6T. Joseph Lee, LA
 6T. Jackson Rogers, NM
 10. Keith McElhany, SD

Boys' 8 & Under

1T. Jake Bredenbeck, MN
 1T. Joseph Lee, LA
 3T. Brad Falvey, WI
 3T. Charlie Locke, OR
 5. Taylor Knoth, OR
 6. Jordan Faith, CO
 7. Jonathan Munoz, TX
 8. Taylor Regier, OR
 9. Rutger Jackson, CO
 10. Calvin Godwin, AR

B8- Multi-Bounce

1. Brad Falvey, WI
 2. Miguel Martinez, AK
 3. Taylor Regier, OR
 4. Sam Reid, OR
 5. Taylor Knoth, OR
 6. Daniel Ring, MN
 7. Matthew Hunter, FL
 8. Daniel Lerow, CT
 9. Ryan Kutner, TX
 10. Dakota Benavidez, NM

Boys' 10-

1. Jose Rojas, CA
 2. Jonathan Doyle, OH
 3. John Sanderson, UT
 4. William Lee, LA
 5. Ismael Aldana, CA
 6. Sean McGrath, IN
 7. Matt Keddie, NH
 8T. Tony Casiano, ID
 8T. Korey Walsh, UT
 10. Daniel Borisov, WA

Boys' 12-

1. Chris Coy, OK
 2T. Allan Crockett, AL
 2T. Andrew Grissom, CA
 4. David Lewis, CO
 5. Nick Arturo, AK
 6. Tripp Isley, NC
 7. John Edwards, WA
 8. Brady Prince, MN
 9. Cam Grundman, MN
 10. Mike Keddie, NH

Boys' 14-

1. Dan Sheppick, OR
 2. Shane Karmelin, GA
 3. Joey Lakowske, OR
 4. Drew Toland, AR
 5. David Key, LA
 6. Charles Pratt, OR
 7. Chris Crockett, AL
 8. Ryan Mimms, KY
 9. Brad Slocum, FL
 10. Devin Drury, WA

Boys' 16-

1. Jack Huczak, MI
 2. Bart Crawford, OR
 3. Michael Lawrence, AL
 4. Clay Burris, FL
 5. Colin Owens, CO
 6T. Paul Carroll, ID
 6T. Josh Epstein, NY

EVENT LEVEL/DESCRIPTION

1 = Closed State Tournament
 2 = Open Tournament
 3 = State Championship
 4 = Regional Championship
 5 = National Invitational
 6 = National Championship

6T. Steven Klaiman, TX
 6T. Nicholas Rowley, AZ
 10. Craig Klein, FL

Boys' 18-

1. Jack Huczak, MI
 2. Zack Miller, CA
 3. Shane Vanderson, OH
 4. Mitch Williams, NC
 5. Stephen Lewis, AZ
 6. Robert Gunther, AK
 7. Dan Beaudry, CO
 8. Jason Kerwood, OR
 9T. Bart Crawford, OR
 9T. Mike Harmon, FL

GIRLS

G6- Multi-Bounce

1. Sierra Adam, CO
 2. Elizabeth Brenner, OR
 3. Katie Faith, CO
 4T. Michaela Christiansen, ID
 4T. Kaitlyn Pacinelli, NM
 6. Blake Plaster, ID

Girl's 8 & Under

1. Kaitlin Inglesby, OR
 2. Nicole Grundman, MN
 3. Tia Smith, OR
 4T. Brooke Bolender, OH
 4T. Brianna Musselman, PA
 4T. Sascha Post, VA
 4T. Wesley Toland, AR
 8. Stephanie Rojas, OR
 9. Stephanie Moyle, OR
 10. Vianna Gutierrez, TX

G8- Multi-Bounce

1. Nicole Grundman, MN
 2. Tristyn Trelease, OR
 3. Kali Gottsleben, SD
 4. Tia Smith, OR
 5. Brianna Ho, WA
 6T. Rebecca Machiran, MO
 6T. Ceara Odell, NM
 8T. Sierra Adam, CO
 8T. Nicole Carrell, WA
 10. Hannah Edwards, WA

Girl's 10-

1. Brittany Legget, OR
 2. Wesley Toland, AR
 3. Sharon Jackson, IN
 4T. Holly Hettesheimer, OH
 4T. Shannon Inglesby, OR

6. Emily Melgaard, ID
 7. Danielle Key, AZ
 8. Shanae Taylor, IN
 9. Taylor Miley, NM
 10. Laura Van Der Veer, OR

Girl's 12-

1. Ashley Willhite, OR
 2. Sarah Hettesheimer, OH
 3. Sarah Moyle, OR
 4. Kara Mazur, CT
 5. Rebeka Kopf, NY
 6. Dannielle Pimental, OR
 7. Michelle Key, AZ
 8. Jenny Epstein, NY
 9. Kelli Anderson, AZ
 10. Liz Taylor, OR

Girl's 14-

1. Adrienne Fisher, OH
 2. Jesi Fuller, NM
 3. Ashley Legget, OR
 4T. Cari Mitlitsky, NY
 4T. Kimberly Walsh, UT
 6. Kelley Fisher, OH
 7. Elise Wilson, CT
 8. Alyson Webb, OH
 9T. Kastle Arturo, AK
 9T. Natalie Starken, WI

Girl's 16-

1. Crystal Winfrey, OH
 2. Janel Tisinger, CA
 3. Cari Mitlitsky, NY
 4T. Erica Beaudry, CO
 4T. Adrienne Fisher, OH
 6. Jenny Cary, OR
 7T. Kelley Fisher, OH
 7T. Linda Knudsen, UT
 9T. Da'Monique Davis, TX
 9T. Mary Sweeney, NY

Girl's 18-

1. Kristen Walsh, OH
 2T. Jenny Cary, OR
 2T. Adrienne Fisher, OH
 4. Nickii Whitney, VT
 5. Krystal Csuk, IL
 6T. Jane Rombach, MO
 6T. Crystal Winfrey, OH
 8. Lauren Deutsch, CA
 9. Kris Alatorre-Martin, VA
 10. Gillian Berrick, CO

	FINISH/POINTS				
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5-8
1 = Closed State Tournament	30	20	15	10	5
2 = Open Tournament	50	30	20	15	10
3 = State Championship	150	100	75	50	25
4 = Regional Championship	250	150	100	75	50
5 = National Invitational	300	200	150	100	75
6 = National Championship	600	400	300	200	100*

*In draws of 48 or more at a national championship, the 9-16th place finishers receive 50 points.

national • age+skill • rankings • national • age+skill • rankings •

national • age+skill • rankings • national • age+skill • rankings •

national • age+skill • rankings • national • age+skill • rankings •

MEN

Men's Elite

1. Mitch Williams, NC
- 2T. Eric Lackscheide, MO
- 2T. Javier Moreno, TN
- 4T. Rob Dejesus, AZ
- 4T. David Ghio, CA
- 4T. Jorge Hirsekorn, FL
- 7T. Kyle Branning, AZ
- 7T. A.J. Lombard Jr., AZ
- 9T. Bryant Matty, AZ
- 9T. Darin Randles, AZ

Men's 24-A/B

- 1T. Cesar Castro, TX
- 1T. Scott Makosiej, NH
3. Shannon Kohl, MI
- 4T. Jackson Burnette, MD
- 4T. Ben Croft, IL
- 4T. Jamie Edwards, TX
- 7T. Roberto Cantos, TX
- 7T. Vincent Creazzo, NY
- 7T. Jason Ganhahl, MO
- 7T. Jesse Keaveny, AK

Men's 24-C/D

1. Chris Coy, OK
2. Kris Robinson, KY
3. Chris Winter, OH
4. Mike Gaffney, PA
- 5T. Amarinder Bedi, TX
- 5T. Drew Toland, AR
7. Brian Arnett, KY
- 8T. Bobby Irby, TX
- 8T. Jeff Parsons, OK
- 8T. Bryan Shaw, MO

Men's 25+A/B

1. Eric Jubin, TX
2. Ryan John, OH
- 3T. Arturo Burriel, TX
- 3T. Marco Mijares, GA
5. Corbin Dirks, NC
- 6T. Kipp Atwell, LA
- 6T. Ray Ferrara, NJ
- 6T. Shane Loveless, TX
- 6T. Cary Slade, IL
10. Steve Graham, MD

Men's 25+C/D

1. Cesar Jimenez, TX
2. Jerry Buchanan, LA
3. Steve Reisser, TN
- 4T. Emmanuel Drege, TX
- 4T. John Halpin, CT
- 6T. Sriman Chennareddy, TX
- 6T. Robert Georgantas, MD
- 6T. Ryan Kinnaman, AR
9. Troy Barber, IN
10. Mike Oakman, AL

Men's 30+A/B

1. Mike Nolen, TX
2. Livingston Denegre-Vaugh, TX
3. Cary Slade, IL
4. Dale Durboraw, OR
- 5T. Chris Baker, MS
- 5T. Glen Childers, TX
- 5T. Marcus Riggins, GA
- 5T. Jeff Waters, TX

Men's 30+C/D

1. Billy Ray, NM
2. Merle Walker, OH
- 3T. Clay Coldwell, TX
- 3T. Twayne Howard, MI
6. Gene Daigle, TX
7. King Diaz, TX

Men's 35+A/B

1. Eduardo Munoz, TX
- 2T. Bill DiGregorio, NJ
- 2T. Dave Peterson, AL
4. Camilo Orellana, TX
5. Gary Mayfield, MO
6. Michael Bryce, IL
- 7T. Robert Merriam, VA
- 7T. Bill Savoy, NC
- 7T. Stan Shaw III, MA
- 7T. Darryl Thompson, TX

Men's 35+C/D

1. Philip Suarez, TX
2. Doug Edwards, TX
3. Greg Hogged, SC
- 4T. Jeff Bell, AZ
- 4T. Jeff Bell, CT
- 6T. Matt Bucher, MD
- 6T. Brian Sanderford, AR
8. Cruz Jimenez, TX
9. Ed Cantu, TX
10. Rick Manzanares, TX

Men's 40+A/B

1. Clinton Allen, OH
2. Ron Fowler, GA
3. Claude Crocker, SC
4. Larry Sharpe, LA
5. Al Robledo, IL
- 6T. Ed Barlow, RI
- 6T. Mark Burns, IL
- 6T. Lewis Forrest, MI
- 6T. Howard Thornton, MN
10. John Geatros, IL

Men's 40+C/D

1. Paul Gomberg, TX
2. Jim Zimmerer, OH
3. Karl Wendt, TX
4. Philip Suarez, TX
- 5T. Terry Marshall, OH
- 5T. Wayne Skinner, LA
- 5T. Dave Slama, AZ
- 5T. Bill Vagas, OH
9. Jeff Birdwell, TX
10. Jimmy Ramos, TX

Men's 45+A/B

1. Bob Talley, AL
2. Bob Frazier, AL
3. Keith Butts, TX
4. Eric Sigel, PA
5. Dave Gross, SD
6. Paul Siegerist, OK
7. Paul Sagherji, TX
- 8T. Mark Casey, MI
- 8T. Bill Wilt, TX
10. Jim Brett, MD

Men's 45+C/D

1. Marc Scher, TX
- 2T. Chris Scott, TX

Men's 30+C/D

4. Randy Williams, TX
4. Larry Hicks, KY
- 5T. Garry Carter, CA
- 5T. Dean Cline, MI
7. Doug Sanders, TX
- 8T. G. Earl Teabout, LA
10. David Bals, NE

Men's 35+A/B

1. Dave Gross, SD
2. Jon Wuerffel, FL
3. David Lorenz, TX
4. Donald Acklin, PA
5. Ric Robles, IL
- 6T. Harvey Brannigan, ID
- 6T. Ed Cortez, TX
- 6T. Norman Hanks, TX
- 6T. Clarence Simmons, LA
- 6T. Joe Vallender, IL

Men's 35+C/D

1. Garry Carter, CA
2. Jerry Williams, TX
3. Marc Scher, TX
4. Frank Kerwick, FL
- 5T. Johnny Bright, TX
- 5T. Peter Kochis, OK
- 5T. Ron Maestas, NM
- 5T. Tom Sikorski, TX

Men's 50+A/B

1. Ron Yonkee, IL
2. Paul Pearce, TX
3. Wayne Toyne, VA
4. Fred Roe, CA
- 5T. Leon Booker, MD
- 5T. Joe Reno, TN
- 7T. M. Brandt Bower, WI
- 7T. Eric McPherson, TX
- 7T. Cliff Meyers, MD
- 7T. Larry Schum, IL

Men's 55+C/D

1. Steve Lavorga, NJ
2. Willie Davenport, VA
3. Paul Abbott, CA
4. Robert Sholly, TX
- 5T. Bob Case, TX
- 5T. Frank Kerwick, FL
- 7T. Bill Dunn, TX
- 7T. Dean Hicks, OK
- 7T. Christopher Lawson, IL
- 7T. Pete Natal Jr., TX

Men's 60+A/B

1. Grant Morrill, PA
2. Bob Baudry, LA
3. John Ramsay, TX
4. Don Davis, IL
5. George Scheffel, MS

Men's 60+C/D

1. Ron McElwee, AL
2. Duane Smith, TX

WOMEN

Women's Elite

1. Adrienne Fisher, OH
- 2T. Jennifer Dering, NY
- 2T. Phyllis Morris, NC
- 2T. Cara Pellowski, WI

Women's 24-A/B

6. Janel Tisinger, CA
6. Rhonda Rajisch, AZ
7. Rachel Gellman, AZ

Women's 24-C/D

1. T.J. Baumbaugh, MD
- 2T. Kelley Fisher, OH
- 2T. Veronica Ramirez, TX
- 4T. Kris Alatorre-Martin, VA
- 4T. Stephanie Bird, OK
- 4T. Danielle Mathieu, MO
- 7T. Cari Miltitsky, NY
- 7T. Sarah Wells-Nelzen, TX

Women's 24-C/D

1. Danielle Mathieu, MO
- 2T. Lauren Barrett, MO
- 2T. Paula Pero, MD
- 2T. Jennifer Snyder, TX
- 5T. Danielle Jameson, TN
- 5T. Michelle Lexow, IL
- 7T. Kayla Whitehead, MO
- 7T. Rebecca Zingman, MD
9. Katie Brewer, OK

Women's 25+A/B

- 1T. Vivian Gomez, FL
- 1T. Esther McNany, CT
- 1T. Nathania Stewart, GA
- 4T. Candi Hostovich, VA
- 4T. Catherine Land, NC
- 4T. Veronica Ramirez, TX
7. Graceanne Kane, NC
- 8T. Stephanie Jones, OK
- 8T. Graceanne Kane, NC
- 8T. Julie Keen, NC

Women's 25+C/D

1. Ramona Vonondera, FL
2. Tish Rodgers, TX
3. Teri Brauer, MD
- 4T. Stephanie Fife, NC
- 4T. Jan Stelma, NC
- 4T. Tracie Valentine, MD
- 7T. Abigail Placke, TX
- 7T. Edith Smith, NC
- 9T. Nila Gresham, CO
- 9T. Cherie Lamb, NC

Women's 30+A/B

1. Catherine Land, NC
2. Lia Sullins, TX
3. Sandra Adams, TX
4. Carla Kinslow, TX
- 5T. Catherine Bertucci, IL
- 5T. Lynn Hiorns, IL
- 5T. Diane Taylor-Whitman, MA
- 5T. Valerie Willis, NC

Women's 30+C/D

1. Caron Chung, VA
2. Bridget Kundrot, MI
3. Carla Moats, IL

Women's 35+A/B

1. Ann Doucette, ME
2. Kelly Goddard, VA
3. Rhonda Kochis, OK
- 4T. Sheri Bushay, AR
- 4T. Patrice Calvi, IL
- 4T. Laura Woodbury, VA
- 7T. Sandy Gross, SD

Women's 40+A/B

1. Isabel Nagelin, VA
2. Sharon Barrett, TX
3. Sandy McCall, TX
- 4T. Donna Cooper, TX
- 4T. Cheryl Kirk, IL
6. Gail Pazygnat, IL
- 7T. Kassi Herr, FL
- 7T. Marsha Kazarosian, MA
- 7T. Farah Lewis, TX
10. Janet Christie, IL

Women's 40+C/D

1. Rosie Gonzalez, TX
2. Cherie Evans, WA
3. Gail Gabrysh, TX
4. Sharon McNeill, MD
5. Chieko Mineo, TX

Women's 45+A/B

1. Sharon Barrett, TX
2. Pattie Schof, LA
3. Donna Cooper, TX
- 4T. Cynthia Huge, CT
- 4T. Kay McCarthy, TN
6. Cathy Stryker, VA
7. Lynne Weisbart, IL
- 8T. Gail Pazygnat, IL
- 8T. Catie Schlick, MO
- 8T. Veronica Yorski, MD

Women's 45+C/D

1. Bonnie Koehne, LA
- 2T. Nila Gresham, CO
- 2T. Jan Stelma, NC
4. Hanifah Shabazz, GA

Women's 50+A/B

1. Cookie Wachtel, OH
2. Pattie Schof, LA
3. Sharon Brockbank, ID
4. Ly Abbott, AK

Women's 50+C/D

1. Jan Stelma, NC

Women's 55+A/B

1. CeCe Palaski, CA
2. Marquita Molina, CA
3. Cookie Wachtel, OH

Women's 60+A/B

1. Sylvia Sawyer, UT

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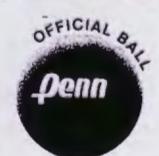
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