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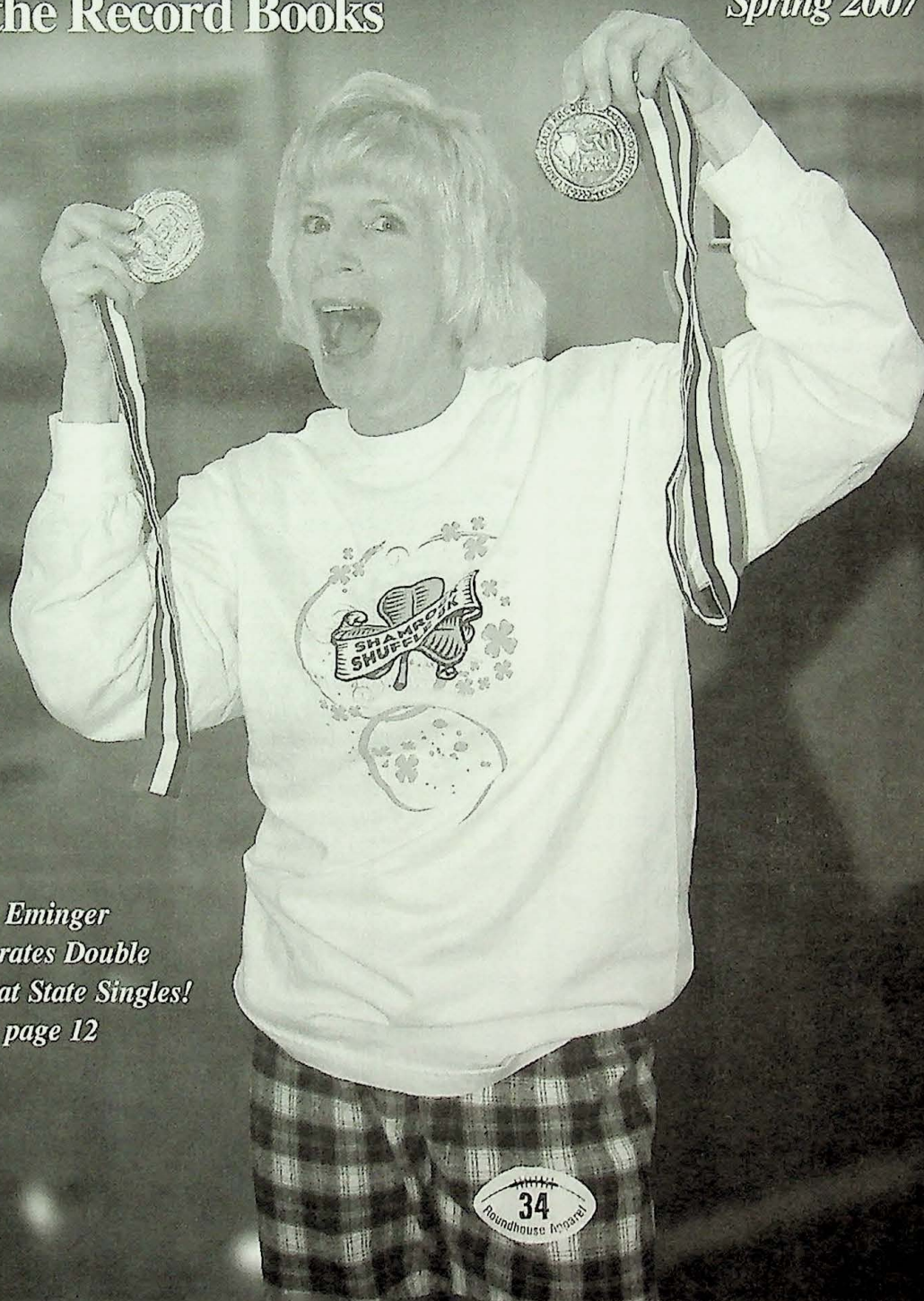


Newsletter

The Official Publication of the Illinois State Racquetball Association

Another ISRA State Singles in the Record Books

*Vol. 25 No.2
Spring 2007*



*Janet Eminger
Celebrates Double
Gold at State Singles!
...see page 12*

ILLINOIS STATE RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

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Typesetting by: TypaGraphics
Printing by: Tyler Press, Inc.

From the President

In September I wrote about the upcoming season and changes we were making that we expected would be improvements for our members. I can't believe how quickly the time has passed since then and that we are already nearing the end of another racquetball season. The only part left of the current season is the Motorola IRT Pro Nationals/USAR Regional Championships and the Nationals in Houston.

As I do at the end of every year in my real job, I thought I'd take this opportunity to do a performance review. My comments are in italics. The arrows indicate whether I think we did a good job, a bad job or something in between. You can probably interpret them pretty easily.

1. "Event" Memberships ↑

A new "event" membership was implemented by USAR this year that allows players to pay a nominal fee to play one event.

Not as many players took advantage of the Event Membership as I anticipated. On the other hand, we had several new players who joined the ISRA right away with a one-year membership and our membership numbers did not drop this year over last year.

2. More Accurate Rankings for Illinois Players →

Geoff Peters used his time and talents to "right size" the USA Racquetball ranking system.

Geoff did spend time reviewing the rankings and submitting changes. His biggest challenge was getting the changes input into the USAR system. We are FINALLY starting to see some improvement in the rankings. That is a result of Geoff's work and the fact that we have entered all of this year's tournament results into the system. Lynn Yeazell has assumed the responsibility of entering results after each tournament and is doing a great job. It will take some more time for the rankings to be truly accurate so please be patient. I have noticed that this is listed as the number one irritant for members of almost every state organization.

3. One-Day Skill Events →

Dave Negrete organized several one-day events.

I don't want to speak for Dave but I believe this was met with mixed results. Some of the events were well attended and players had a great time. I participated in the Women's tournament in December and it was awesome. We had a really good turnout and a lot of play. Others ended up not being held due to a lack of interest. Was it that some divisions were more interested in this format than others? Was it the timing? I'm sure Dave would

be interested in knowing. I thought it was a great idea.

4. State Doubles Tournament ↗

In the spirit of not giving up your entire weekend, the State Doubles tournament was scheduled in such a way that you will have a good idea of when your matches will be played before you enter the tournament.

This was not as easy to do as it sounded in September. We did publish when some of the divisions would be played – particularly Mixed doubles. I heard comments both pro and con. Some people liked knowing. Other people were concerned that they would have to play too many matches in one day and they would not be able to recover in the time between matches. Some people wanted even a more condensed schedule – matches that were back to back to back – in order to really consolidate the time they spent at the tournament.

5. A Relaxed Process for Petitioning to Play in a Lower Division ↓

Have you been out of competitive play for several years due to other commitments or injury? You can now petition to move down by e-mail.

This idea must have been a bust. I did not receive one e-mail request to petition to play in a lower division. Or, maybe everybody feels they are categorized right where they should be!

6. A New Division – Elite, perhaps? ↓

Discussion is underway to add a new division for those of you who have made it to Open... but have been unsuccessful at moving past "AA".

continued on page 18



ISRA Family News — Players Making a Difference



Lola Markus

Lola Hits the Big Time!

ISRA Hall of Famer Lola Markus has been named *Geezer/Jock* magazine's Women's 70 nominee for March/April '07. One nominee is recognized every two months and Lola will be in the running for the annual award at the end of the year. The magazine's website reports, "Markus, a grandmother of six, won every tournament she entered in 2006 in her age group, including United States Racquetball Association and National Masters Racquetball Association events."

"I love the game," she said. "I'm so happy I'm still able to play." Congratulations, Lola! ISRA Members, get ready to support Lola with communication to *Geezer/Jock* as year-end rolls around!

Thanks for the Thanks

Mark Coleman submitted the following after the nomination deadline for Annual Awards had passed. However, his thoughts were greatly appreciated...sharing with you now:

For player awards, I'd like to nominate two male players I really enjoy seeing play and I think that is the ultimate test. I saw them play at Norris in October. Keith won 33-28 and what a match to watch! Their skills on the court are the ones I try to learn from and emulate when I play. As I watched their match, I told another spectator that I was taking notes, to which he replied, "Notes won't help you pal...it's in their DNA." Of course, he is right! These players are Juan Herrera and Keith Minor.

Regarding service awards, my vote(s) would go to all the volunteers at the ISRA and the racquetball clubs who donate their

time and energies to our sport. The ones who organize the tournaments, the ones that stay up late at night posting results on the travel league, and so forth. You all know you are — thanks from the Norris Travel Men's B/C Team.

Team Ektelon Teams Up Off The Court

Imagine watching all your possessions go up in flames as you attempt to comfort your thirteen-year-old daughter, six-year-old son and your wife. Don Dionne and his family lost all of their material goods — clothing, furniture, family photo albums, children's toys — everything he and his wife worked so hard for was gone in an instant, but they are thankful they still have each other. A thirteen-year veteran of the United States Navy stationed at Great Lakes as an instructor at the Engineering Apprenticeship school, Don was amazed how quickly people pulled together to help his family, and Team Ektelon led the way.

A sixteen-year Navy veteran myself, recently transferred to Great Lakes from Norfolk, Virginia to the Operation Specialist Apprenticeship School, I thought I would try and get the local racquetball team involved. I decided to email Cheryl Kirk and ask for help from the Team. She immediately sent an email to Team Ektelon members in the area. The outpouring of kindness was remarkable: What can they use? What do they need? People opened their hearts for this cause. Barb Curran rallied her colleagues at Elmhurst's Bryan Middle School. Jim Wehrli, John Puccio, Carolyn Vazquez, Barry Dixon and others gathered items as well. Couches, desks, televisions, microwaves, dressers, beds, toys, clothes and other items were gathered for the Dionne family.

New to the local racquetball scene and Team Ektelon, I could not be more proud to represent Ektelon and the sport of racquetball with such a wonderful group of people. To be a part of this was incredible — I remember Barb Curran saying, "It feels so good to help."

Thanks to everyone who helped in making the Dionne family feel a little better after such a disaster. Team Ektelon is tops on the court, however, many would agree that this was indeed our biggest win of the season!

— Kevin Brylski

Another Story of Military Assistance

On February 11, ISRA Member and Oak Park Police Sergeant Paul Jepsen was featured in Mary Schmich's *Chicago Tribune*

column in an article entitled, *Gift From Vet Shed's Light on Soldier's Plight*. Paul, a Vietnam veteran, had been contacted by an old high school friend who told him of her son's need for a special rifle light — Kevin Landeck was stationed in Iraq.



Paul Jepsen

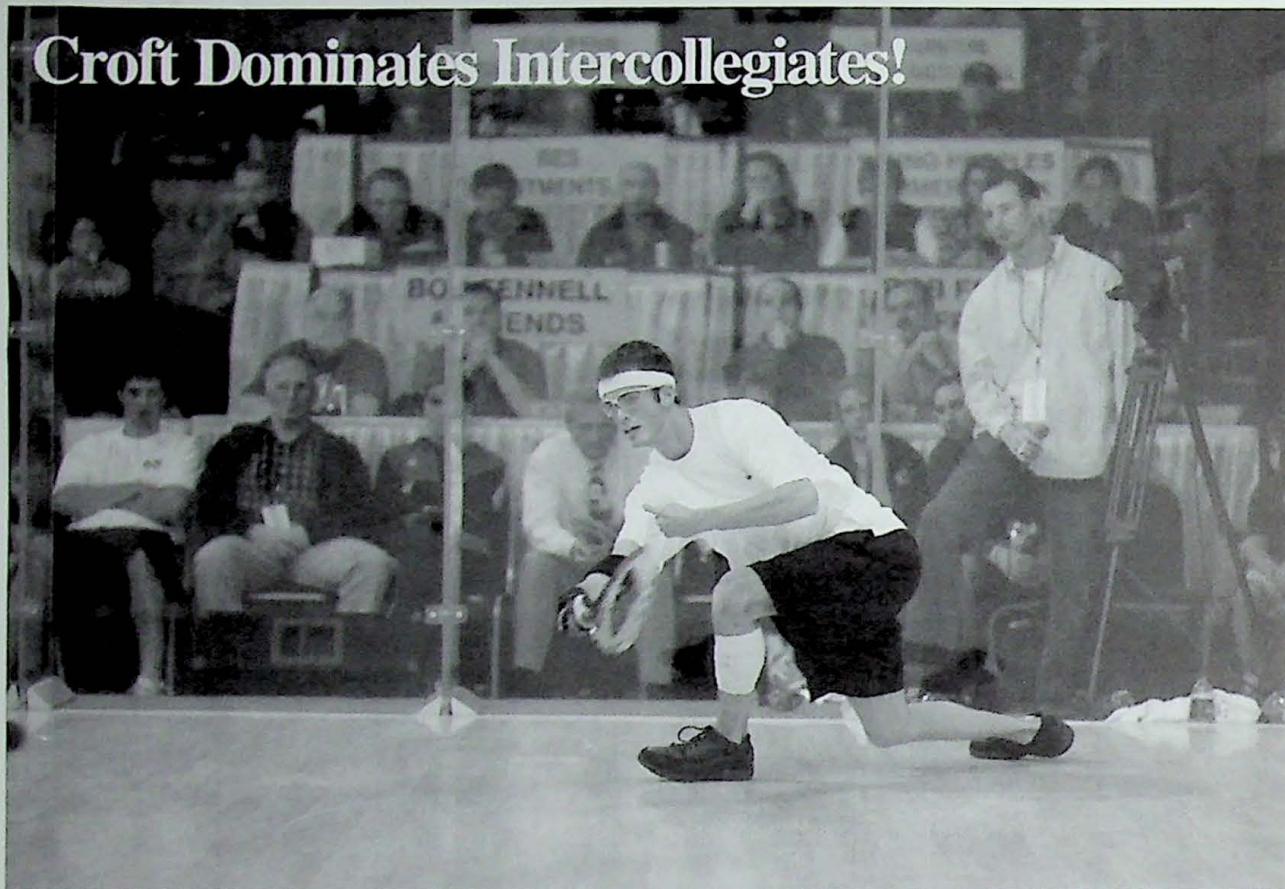
Ms. Schmich reported, "Jepsen had never met Landeck—a 6-foot-2, 26-year-old with reddish hair who loved skiing and roller hockey—but any kid of his old high school friend Vicki's was a friend of his. So was any soldier. It was only natural then that when word got around that Kevin was yearning for a special rifle light, the old soldier made sure the young soldier's wish was granted." "He also understood what it must feel like for Kevin to be trying to do his duty in the pitch dark Iraqi nights, guided only by light from the sky, blind to what is just a few feet ahead. Without a good rifle light, he knew, turning a corner could feel like stepping into a black hole.

"It's something every soldier should have when he's out at night," says Jepsen. "It's something the government isn't popping for."

In a matter of hours, Paul had raised the money to purchase this special light for Kevin's rifle. On February 2, Paul received an email of thanks from Kevin: "I plan on sending something back to you from over here, I will let you know when to look for it. Thank you again, I can't say it enough." In the end, it was not the lack of light that caused Kevin's tragic death from a road bomb, just 8 ½ hours after he sent the email to Paul. The treasured rifle light was gifted to Kevin's best army buddy in Iraq.

continued on next page

Croft Dominates Intercollegiates!



For the third consecutive year, Lake Bluff's Ben Croft led his Colorado State University – Pueblo Men's Team to the Intercollegiate title by winning the Men's #1 Singles Championship. This ties Ben with such notable racquetball players as Jack Huczek (Oakland University), Andy Roberts (Memphis State University), Tammy Brockbank (Boise State University) and Kristen Walsh (Baldwin Wallace/University of Utah) as the only players to win three Intercollegiate Titles at the #1 Singles position. Another Illinois player, Tim Sweeney, remains the only player to take four consecutive Inter-

collegiate Singles Titles when he competed for Southwest Missouri State in 1991–1994. In addition to his Singles titles, Ben has now captured the Men's #1 Doubles title all four years of his collegiate career (two with Chris Barton and two with Mitch Williams) and the CSU-Pueblo men's team has been the top collegiate team in the country all four of those seasons.

In reviewing the Intercollegiate Record Book, Ben is now the most decorated collegiate racquetball player of all time with 7 National Intercollegiate Titles at the #1

Singles or #1 Doubles position. He eclipses Andy Roberts with three singles and two doubles titles. When Ben was asked about his accomplishments as a college athlete, he stated that he was most proud of having been a team member who contributed to his school winning four Men's Titles in a row. There was no mention of his seven individual titles!

Ben is pursuing his degree in Criminal Justice at CSU-Pueblo and expects to graduate in 2008. While completing his degree, Ben will compete as much as possible on the IRT Pro Tour where he is currently having a breakout season. In

2007 alone, he has logged wins against Jason Thoerner, Mitch Williams, Jason Mannino and Shane Vanderson, all of whom are ranked higher than his current #10 position.

As a result of his win, Ben has received another one-year appointment to the U.S. National Team and is eligible to compete for the United States in the 2008 World Championships.

— Geoff Peters

Family News

continued from previous page

Kevin's mom Vicki Landeck works for awareness of the equipment shortages suffered by U.S. soldiers in Iraq and Paul continues to raise money to purchase equipment. If you'd like more information, you may contact him at paulcjepsen@aol.com.

Meet the Board – Pam Grace

Veteran ISRA Board member Pam Grace began playing racquetball in 1985 at the urging of her husband Jeff. Pam and Jeff, residents of Wheaton, have been married 30 years and are the parents of two grown children, a son and a daughter. She became a board member some years ago... "I can't



Pam Grace

remember the exact year, but it was when Brian Stuert was ISRA President." Pam has served as ISRA Travel League coordinator for 12 fun-filled years.

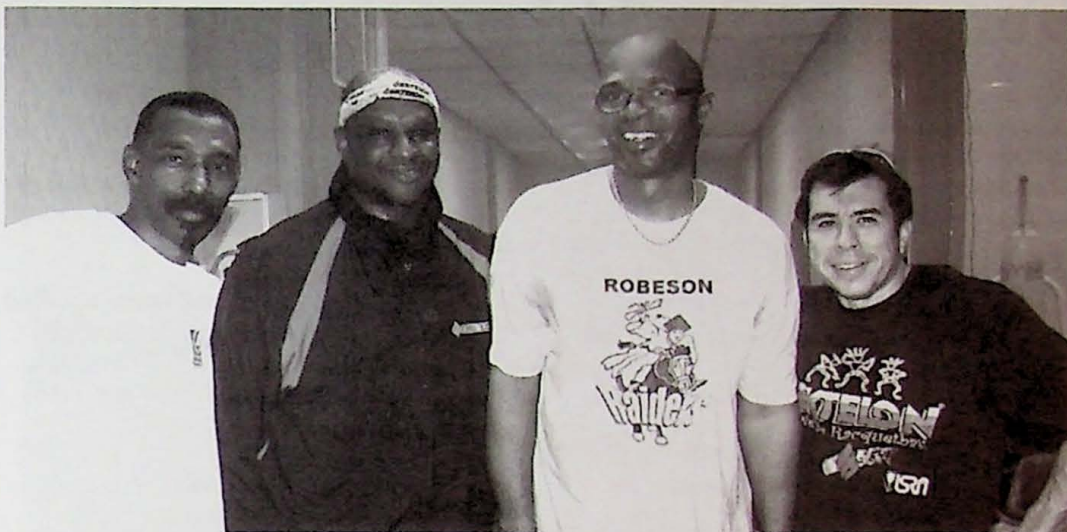
An employee of the Chicago Automobile Trade Association since March 2001, Pam seldom has the opportunity to participate in ISRA State Doubles – "We put on the Chicago Auto Show each February!" When asked about her outside interests, she replied, "I don't know if I have time for hobbies – I guess just racquetball, there's not a lot of time left for anything else!" Spoken like a true die-hard racquetball enthusiast... Pam, thanks for your many contributions to the sport we love!

The Revie Sorey — Here's to 25 Years of Electric Energy!

Did you feel it? There was an electric energy in Orland Park at the Revie Sorey Celebrity Classic at Silver Lakes, January 11th-14th. Players were celebrating the 25th Anniversary of this tournament and the NFC game win by DA BEARS who, by the end of our Sunday racquetball finals, were only one win away from a bid to play in the Super Bowl. This electric energy sent players and spectators running for any radio or television they could find to catch an update on what our Bears were doing. I personally became preoccupied with "the score" and joined Jeff Grace at the tournament control desk to listen to the update in-between my matches (where's the focus, right?). Multitasking not only as the master of the tournament desk but as a sportscaster as well, Jeff gave everyone great updates!

Truly it is the "family" energy that brings us all back each year as we spend time with our families at home, then in January as we spend time with our racquetball family at Revie's tournament. The courtside hospitality, the ladies who spend so much time making sure the players are well-fed all weekend — sun up to sun down — and the vendors who join us to help us improve our appearance and health. After 25 years, it still works and we don't see Revie or Anita slowing down anytime soon.

Players are able to mingle, play chess or dominos, browse the sports stations, join in on the raffle/auction or just chill with friends. We play for a great cause with proceeds going towards the Northwest Indiana Boys and Girls Clubs of America and things



Men's Century Doubles teams — Frank Ball & Winston Cole; Kelvin Branch & Al Robledo

just keep getting better every year. It's okay if you don't do anything all winter, because in January, you know you'll be playing at the Revie Sorey tournament and working off some holiday pounds!

They say it takes a village to raise a child; similarly, it takes a team of people to help coordinate a tournament. To all of the volunteers, our hospitality crew (the ladies), the tournament directors, the committee, Anita Efron and Revie Sorey, we say, "Thank you!" Your efforts help make each year's event so much fun and we look forward to 25 more years at the Revie Sorey Racquetball Tournament — *it's not just an event, it's electric!*

— Carolyn Watkins-Vazquez

Editor's Note — Thanks to six states' worth of participants — Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Florida, Ohio and Michigan. Electric also was the competition, with several winners now compelled to move up one division at the beginning of next season: Brent Huff to Open, Scott Fauque to A's and Mike Ryan to B's!

Results

Division: First; Second; Semifinals

Men's Open (12): Keith Minor; Brian Simpson (IN); Zach Archer, Brad McCuniff (IA)

Men's AA (4): Jorge Ortiz; Ben Fraga; David Kerr, Jr., Brent Huff

Men's A (14): Brent Huff; Trevor Snyders; Keith Kareiva, Richard DeArmas

continued on next page

What Do They Do For a Living?

Ever wonder what ISRA Members do in their day jobs? We can play racquetball with someone for years and never know! Match up the ISRA Member with his/her occupation:

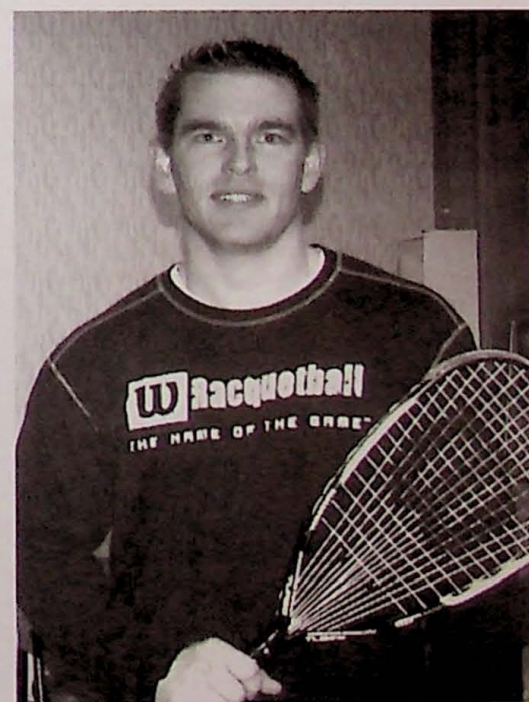
ISRA Member

1. Don Grigas
2. George Pappas
3. Ellen Somberg
4. Mark Coleman
5. Scott Ness
6. Barbara Curran
7. Kevin Massard
8. Dale Willenbrink
9. Andy Pitock
10. John O'Donnell, Jr.
11. Paul Jepsen
12. Mike Hammel

Occupation

- A. Podiatrist
- B. Writer
- C. Fitness trainer and racquetball instructor
- D. "Very" retired
- E. Police sergeant and bakery owner
- F. Physician and restaurant owner
- G. IT Consultant
- H. Student at NIU
- I. Newspaper journalist
- J. 8th grade science teacher
- K. Real estate broker
- L. Clinical psychologist

See answers on page 7.



Brent Huff is Movin' Up to Men's Open!

Brylski and Goldblatt Take One Day Doubles Tune-up at Southlake

Illinois newcomer Kevin Brylski and 17-year-old Geoff Goldblatt combined to take the Men's Open Division at the Southlake Doubles Tune-up on Saturday, February 5th, at The Southlake Club in Mundelein. Tournament Director Cindy Flores-Mocarski had 22 doubles team practicing for the upcoming State Doubles Championships with a full day of racquetball and hospitality. In the Men's Open, Goldblatt and Brylski took out defending State Champions Juan Herrera and George Pappas in the finals, while in the Silver Division, Jorge Ortiz and Brian Berkelhamer bested Tournament Host Geoff Peters and John Thorson for a second time to take the final match and corresponding bragging rights.

In Men's A, the veteran doubles team of Brett Crawley and Rob Littledale went un-

defeated to win the division over Moses Elias and Antonio Vasquez, while in the Men's B bracket, Tony Medina and Mark Rudy defeated Jesus Aguirre and Joe Garay in a tough finals match at the end of a long day.

Jonelle Kohoutek and Scott Fauque traveled up from the western suburbs to dominate the Mixed Doubles on this chilly Saturday as they cooled off Donna Albert and Pete Dyer to win the gold medal!

Everyone got in lots of playing time at Southlake and all of the matches ran on time (or early) all day long. Food was plentiful and nobody went away hungry as they left for the long drive back home! We hope to see you all at the Dog Days Open next

August for our annual summer tournament and barbeque on the lawn!

- Cindy Flores-Mocarski

Results

Division: First; Second; Semifinals

Men's Open Doubles (6): Geoff Goldblatt/Kevin Brylski; George Pappas/Juan Herrera; Mitch Becker/Jim McHale, Jorge Ortiz/Brian Berkelhamer

Men's A Doubles (3): Brett Crawley/Rob Littledale; Moses Elias/Antonio Vasquez; Tony Medina/Mark Rudy

Men's B Doubles (8): Tony Medina/Mark Rudy; Jesus Aguirre/Joe Garay; Brett Crawley/Rob Littledale, Scott Fauque/Jim Wehrli

Mixed B Doubles (4): Jonelle Kohoutek/Scott Fauque; Donna Albert/Pete Dyer; Carolyn Sobacki/Jim Wehrli (3rd)

The Revie Sorey

continued from previous page

Men's B (16): Scott Fauque; Mike Vieni; C.J. Khamis, Platt Hill

Men's C (16): Mike Ryan; Kenny Brown; Benjamin Torres, Dan Musgrove

Men's D (8): Phillip Jones; Kenny Brown; William Gingold, Scott Martin

Men's 30/35 + (8): Brian Simpson (IN); Mike Vicary; Charles Knight (OH), Joey Logan

Men's 40/45 + (9): Lem Rowans; Charles Knight (OH); John Richier, Keith Kareiva

Men's 50 + (10): Jim Hillman; Larry Wackowski; T.J. Ferro, Horace Miller

Men's 55 + (6): Dennis Healy; Bruce Nelson; T.J. Ferro, Horace Miller

Men's 60 + (3): David Kerr, Sr.; Willie McGee; William Gingold

Women's Open (6): Diane Moore (IN); Krystal Csuk; Genevieve Washington (OH), Liz Molitor

Women's AA (4): Ellen Somberg; Janet Eminger; Carolyn Watkins, Lynn Yeazell

Women's A (6): Carolyn Watkins; Bernadette Bland; Pam Grace, Allison Dauer (FL)

Women's B/C (9): Kelly Carson; Julianne Beran; Dolores Bethune, Carrie Howard

Juniors 14 & Under (3): Joey Eminger; Miles Brugh; Robbie Quinn

Men's Open Doubles (8): John Amatulli (IN)/Keith Minor; Adam Taylor (IN)/Ryan Griffin (IN); Joey Logan/Lem Rowans, Brad McCunniff (IA)/Bryan Crosser (IA)

Men's A Doubles (12): Frank Ball/Wil Rounsaville; Brent Huff/Kevin Yeazell; Richard DeArmas/Trevor Snyders, Steve Butler/Mike Vieni



Anita Efron, Tournament Director Jeff Grace, Men's B Champ Scott Fauque and Pam Grace

Men's B Doubles (13): Brian Andresen (IA)/Jon Soike; Greg Benjamin/Pete Schmeichel; Dean Hollowell/Richard Lux, Howell Johnson/Theo Richardson

Men's C Doubles (11): Carl Sick/Tom Vetter; Sal Galvan/Kevin Noone; Wayne Monette (IN)/Steve Speer (IN), George Parobek (IN)/Joe Star (IN)

Men's 50 + Doubles (6): Don Grigas/Jim Hillman; George Kleber/Brion Parrish; Drake Deavours (IN)/Dan Kolodziej (IN), Dennis Healy/Bruce Nelson

Men's Century Doubles (11): Frank Ball/Winston Cole; Kelvin Branch/Al Robledo; George Pappas/Platt Hill, Paul Curran/Bill Pavlovich

Women's Open/A Doubles (4): Renee Roux/ Ellen Somberg; Patrice Calvi/Janet Eminger; Nancy Healy (IN)/Mary Herron (3rd)

Mixed Open Doubles (5): Diane Moore (IN)/Keith Minor; Liz Molitor/John Amatulli (IN); Allison Dauer (FL)/Zach Archer, Gwen English/Glynn Williams

Mixed A Doubles (5): Pat Jennings/Joe Quirke; Bernadette Bland/Rick Seaberg; LynnYeazell/Mike Hammel (3rd)

Mixed B/C Doubles (3): Nancy Healy (IN)/Kevin Berglund (IN); Julianne Beran/Frank Valentino; Carrie Howard/Joe Quirke (3rd)

Mixed Blind Doubles (7): Genevieve Washington (OH)/Charles Knight (OH); Carolyn Watkins/Mark Stevenson; Dolores Bethune/Ken Cook, Carrie Howard/Alfonso Pugh

Senior/Masters Women Go To Disneyland!

18th Annual WS/MRA National Racquetball Championships

Well, not exactly...but the WS/MRA National Tournament was held in Orlando and had the weather been warmer, maybe some women would have ventured away from the grueling round robin tournament to visit Disney World! Women numbering 103 from New York to Washington State arrived at The Orlando Fitness & Racquet Club to compete in the 18th Annual Women's Senior/Masters Tournament from January 25th through January 28th.

Prior to the start of the tournament, entrants participated in "fun" doubles on Thursday afternoon. Wilson Sporting Goods donated items to be raffled off. This year Linda Mojer contributed dozens of Racquet for the Cure t-shirts for the participants. The players were asked to donate to Racquet for the Cure and were entered in the raffle. Thanks to all the generous doubles teams and Wilson Sporting Goods, \$445 was raised for the fight against breast cancer.

The tournament kicked off Friday. Depending on the size of the age group, two or three eleven-point games were played in self-officiated matches. Play-offs started late Saturday afternoon, with semifinals and finals on Sunday morning. A tasty barbeque was cooking out by the pool throughout the tourney. A great banquet was held Saturday night. Nineteen women from Illinois (second in attendance after Florida) ventured down south and played tough. Here are the Team Illinois divisions, participants and finishes:

- 35 + : Renee Roux (2nd)
- 40 + : Barb Curran, Julie Vincent (3rd)
- 45 + : Diane Bunker, Ellen Somberg
- 45 + B: Janet Christie, Cheryl Kirk, Patricia Moser, Joyce Satorius, Lynne Weisbart
- 50 + : Martha Huske, Liz Molitor (QF), Brenda White
- 55 + : Donna Heinzl (QF), Nancy Kronenfeld (QF), Joan Vande Kieft (2nd)
- 60 + : Margaret Hoff
- 65 + : Pauline Kelly
- 75 + : Lola Markus (1st)

So where in the world will the WS/MRA be for the 19th Annual National Championships? Well...hum along with me...We're going to Kansas City...Kansas City here we come! We'll actually be in Overland Park, Kansas, January 25th through January 27th (but you do fly into Kansas City)! For more information on the WS/MRA, check out our website at <http://my.execpc.com/tutsch/WSMRA/main.html> or click on the link on the ISRA website.

— Nancy Kronenfeld



Team Illinois Soaks Up the Sun in Orlando



Ready to Play! Moser, Huske, Heinzl, Vande Kieft, Vincent, Somberg and Roux



Joan and Nancy — Try to Relax, Will Ya?

What Do They Do For a Living?

Answers:

- 1. I, 2. F, 3. L, 4. K,
- 5. H, 6. J, 7. A, 8. B,
- 9. C, 10. D, 11. E, 12. G

Is That in the Rules?

Answers:

- 1. T, 2. F, 3. F, 4. F, 5. T,
- 6. C, 7. B, 8. B, 9. B,
- 10. E

ISRA State Doubles Championships

The Glass Court Swim & Fitness, Lombard, IL
February 9-11, 2007

Tournament Director – Laurel Davis

Diane and Joe DeArmas and the staff of Glass Court Swim & Fitness hosted the ISRA State Doubles in typically fine fashion on this chilly (duh!) weekend in February. Their warm hospitality, no matter what the season, is what racquetball is all about.

In the Men's Open Doubles, the formidable team of Keith Minor and Dave Negrete bested Juan Herrera and George Pappas for the win. The pairings of Desmond Slusher and Trevor Snyders (Men's A) and Tony Ferruzza/Mike Fornero (Men's B) earned tickets to higher divisions by way of their full draw wins. Keith Minor gold-medaled a second time in the 25/35's, this time teaming up with Jim Hillman, who in turn took a silver in the 45's with Don Grigas.

Nancy Kronenfeld and Janet Leet emerged victorious in the Women's Open. When you throw names into the draw like Schubach, White, Amaro, Eminger, Molitor, Davis, Somberg, Vincent (and a few fired-up Open newbies to boot), you realize just what an accomplishment it was...congratulations!

A field of 9 teams in the Mixed Open resulted in a win for the Utterback/Eminger Machine, who bested Geoff Goldblatt and Ellen Somberg in the Final.

Tournament Director Laurel Davis extends her thanks to the volunteers who assisted her in the running of this mid-winter soiree: Doug Brown, Laura Brown, Patrice Calvi, Joey Eminger, TJ Ferro, Cheryl Kirk,



Women's AA Medalists Ellen Somberg & Julie Vincent, Patrice Calvi & Martha Huske

Dave Milazzo, Frank Milazzo, Liz Molitor, Geoff Peters, Rick Seaberg, Joe Silius, Tom Utterback.

—Cheryl Kirk

Results

Division: First; Second; Semifinals

Men's Open Doubles (14): Keith Minor/Dave Negrete; Juan Herrera/George Pappas; Eugene Coyle/Dennis Negrete, Dava Bachar/Bill Lyman

Men's AA Doubles (6): Jim McHale/Kevin Brylski; Barry Dixon/John Thorson; Steve Lloyd/Angelo Moca, Mike Beckman/Mike Bogue

Men's A Doubles (13): Desmond Slusher/Trevor Snyders; Steve Butler/Mike Vieni; Geoff Heekin/Shawn Warner, Tim Brown/Mike Hammel

Men's B Doubles (13): Tony Ferruzza/Mike Fornero; Scott Fauque/Dan Musgrove; Brett Crawley/Rob Littledale, Steve Angelo/Don Kuehn

Men's C Doubles (8): Glen Bero/Steve Kudwa; Brian Lien/Dale Willenbrink; Darren Halligan/Phil Mangiaracina, Mark Coleman/Matt Rowland

Men's 25/35 + (11): Jim Hillman/Keith Minor; Dave Bachar/Bob Morrison; Pat Armstrong/Mike Vicary, Dave Negrete/Dennis Negrete

Men's 45 + (14): Andy Pitock/Steve MacInnis; Don Grigas/Jim Hillman; Bill Lyman/Dave Milazzo, Tony Cosmano/Doug Peterson

Men's 55 + (5): TJ Ferro/Dennis McKee; Dennis Healy/Bruce Nelson; David Olson/Pat Taylor (3rd)

Men's 25/35 + A (4): Dick Heithoff/Chris Liljestrand; Mike Hammel/Kevin Yeazell; Joe DeArmas/Richard DeArmas (3rd)

Men's 35/45/55 + Int. (7): Gene Cromwell/Mike Mahon; Mike Fornero/Rick Lukens; Dan Musgrove/Jim Wehrli, Dan Bertolucci/Wayne Lorenz

continued on next page



Tournament In Control: Dan Flood, Tom Utterback, and Dave Milazzo



Pam Schubach & Mike Vicary came over from Peoria to claim the Mixed AA Silver



*Men's 25/35+ Champs
Heithoff & Liljestrand*



Ferruzza & Fornero take Men's B



Men's Open Champs Minor & Negrete

ISRA State Doubles

continued from previous page

Women's Open (8): Nancy Kronenfeld/Janet Leet; Pam Schubach/Brenda White; Nancy Amaro/Janet Eminger, Laurel Davis/Liz Molito
Women's AA (4): Ellen Somberg/Julie Vincent; Patrice Calvi/Martha Huske
Women's B (2): Jonelle Kohoutek/Carolyn Sobacki; Julianne Beran/Kelly Carson

Mixed Open (9): Tom Utterback/Janet Eminger; Ellen Somberg/Geoff Goldblatt; Barb Curran/John Thorson, Marian Bala/Andy Pitock

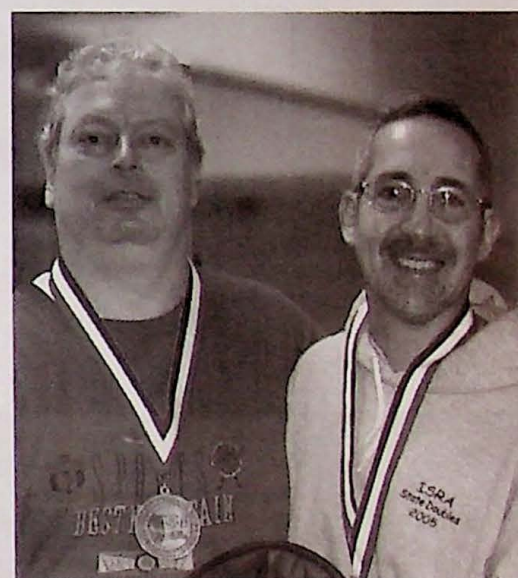
Mixed AA (4): Nancy Amaro/Chuck Snyders; Pam Schubach/Mike Vicary; Liz Molitor/Ted Huddleston, Patrice Calvi/Keith Minor

Mixed A/B (7): Lynn Yeazell/Mike Hammel; Leila Gray/Desmond Slusher; Pat Jennings/Joe Quirke, Cheryl Kirk/Jim Wehrli

Mixed Age (6): Liz Molitor/Dave Milazzo; Julie Vincent/Dave Negrete; Pam Schubach/Gary Steiger, Chuck Snyders/Barb Vagedes



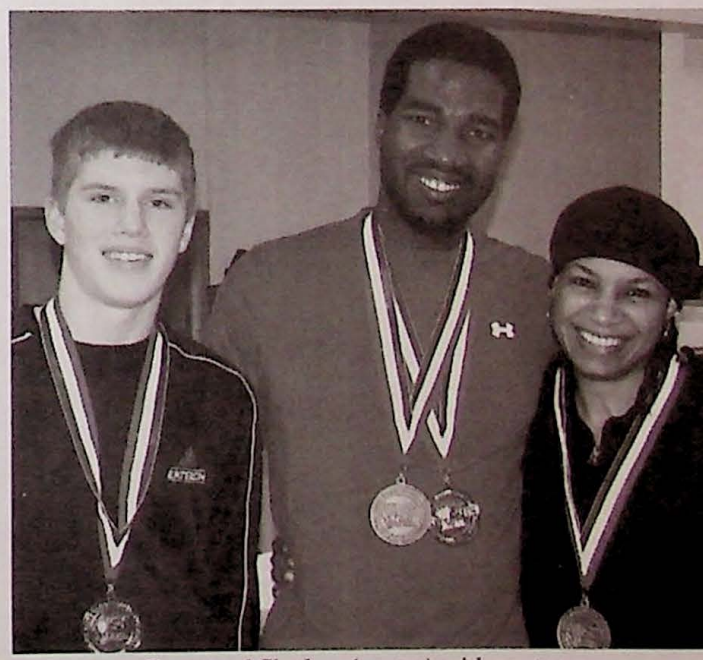
*TJ Ferro, Pete Shesek, and Frank Milazzo —
Wanna Ref?*



*Men's 45+ Silver Medalists
Grigas & Hillman*



*Lynn Yeazell and her Men — doubles partner Mike Hammel,
husband Kevin, sons Justin & Zach*



*Desmond Slusher (center) with partners
Trevor Snyders and (fiancee) Leila Gray*

Racquetball Comes Back to Downtown!



Downtown Crowd (at least for the weekend!) — Cheryl Kirk, John Thorson, Tony Rosselli, Royce Simpson, Cindy Flores-Mocarski, Tournament Director Bob Good, and Keith Brown

After an almost twenty-year absence, Lakeshore-Downtown hosted a state-sanctioned Racquetball tournament on the weekend of February 24, 2007. Over 30 players, one from as far away as St. Louis, braved a severe ice storm to come to the club and enjoy some spirited competition.

Singles and doubles matches played throughout the day on the four courts, with the most exciting games on the glass "stadium" court cheered on by the spectators.

Hospitality was supplied by Burrito Beach and Gatorade throughout the event to keep

the players fresh. Ektelon supplied the racquetballs — the new "Fireball" was used for the first time in an Illinois sanctioned tournament. A big thank you goes out to the sponsors — they helped make this event something special. A particular note of gratitude goes to Lakeshore's Assistant Tourney Coordinators Geoff Peters, Keith Brown and Mary Kloska; their assistance ensured a smooth and well-run tournament.

Because this tournament was such a success for Lakeshore-Downtown, we are now planning more events in the near future. For more details, please call Bob Good at 847-226-8382 or go to our website at www.lsac.com.

— Bob Good, Tournament Director

Results

Division: First; Second; Semifinals

Men's Open/A (8): John Thorson; Tony Rosselli; Randy Weber, Desmond Slusher

Men's C (16): Rick Seaberg; Dan Pacetti; Gerardo Sulic, Gerry Kudanian

Men's Doubles Open/A/B: Desmond Slusher/Frank Ball; David Belfiore/Jason Hayes; Randy Weber/Drew Barker (3rd)

CHICAGO'S LEGENDARY DEEP DISH PIZZA



Available in your grocer's freezer

The 21st Annual Shamrock Shootout

The Glass Court Swim & Fitness, Lombard, IL
March 9-11, 2007
Tournament Director – Doug Halverson

They did it again! That is, Joe and Diane DeArmas maintained their perennial consistent streak of providing excellent hospitality at this popular late-winter tournament — including plenty of green beer and their traditional corned beef and cabbage dinner.

Some 150 racquetball enthusiasts enjoyed this tournament that commenced play on Thursday evening and culminated in the Sunday afternoon Men's Open Final in which Keith Minor defeated Ryan Homa (WI) on the glass court.

Under tournament director Doug Halverson's guidance was the always cordial and efficient Glass Court staff as well as a team of volunteers setting up the draws and working the check-in and tournament control tables. Doug would like to thank all those who helped make the tournament successful. They are Char Borre, Doug Brown, Kenny Brown, Laura Brown, Joey Brownlee, Kevin Brylski, Patrice Calvi, Mike Davern, Joey Eminger, Dan Flood, Geoff Goldblatt, Jeff Grace, Pam Grace, Michelle Halverson, Cheryl Kirk, Paul Jepsen, Grant Macuba, Matt Malcheski, Frank Milazzo, Liz Molitor, Geoff Peters, Eric Rieman, Kathy Ruzycki, Rick Seaberg, Joe Silius, Chuck Snyders, Trevor Snyders,

Tom Utterback, Julie Wielgus, and Lynn Yeazell.

(Note: It was good to see Doug himself playing again after some 18 months on injured reserve, but playing in three divisions necessitated the icing of various sore muscles Sunday afternoon.)

As always, tournaments held at the Glass Court are first class with the facilities and layout beautifully conducive to tournament play. The bar is the social arena where food and beverages may be more meaningful to some than the fare on the court. What better way to relax and celebrate your recent victory or near-victory than to enjoy your favorite cold refreshment and talk about your match? Speaking of matches, check out these results...

— Joe Silius



Dan Malone — In The Money!

Results

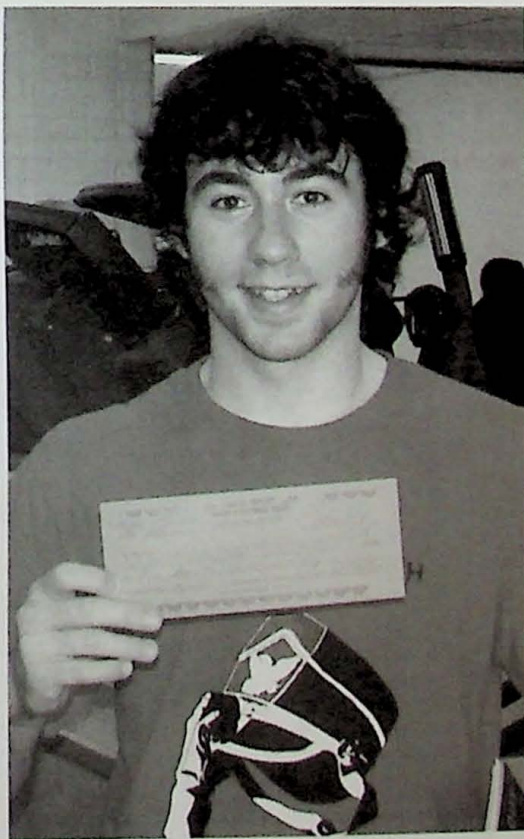
Division: First; Second; Semifinals

Men's Open (6): Keith Minor; Ryan Homa (WI); Geoff Goldblatt, Kevin Brylski

continued on next page



Sweet on & off the court: Frank Valentino and Julianne Beran are engaged!



Men's Novice winner Chris Long



Jeanine Izzo & her favorite fan Steve Holli

ISRA State Singles Championships

The Chalet, Willow Springs
March 30-April 1, 2007
Tournament Director – Cheryl Kirk

There are actually three big stories coming out of this tournament:

#1 — The State Champions and runners-up (see results p. 13). Players numbering 126 competed in this year's event (112 men and 14 women).

#2 — The Awards Banquet featuring Players of the Year, Distinguished Service Award and James B. Dvorak Junior Award winners (see page 14 for coverage).

#3 — The Sponsors and Volunteers who made this a fun and memorable experience for those in #1 and #2.

I was keeping track throughout the tournament of all the people who pitched in by donating their time, money and goods to this event. The list is impressive and heart-warming in equal measure (and please forgive me if even one kind soul is neglected in this recognition). Please join me in looking back several weeks to once more contemplate the outpouring of support that made this tournament director's job so very much easier:

ISRA State Singles Sponsors

The Blarney Stone (Joe Keane)
Kirsten's Danish Bakery (Paul and Kirsten Jepsen)
Lola and Ray Markus
Mi Hacienda (Enrique Rodriguez)
Molitor Athletic Fields (Liz and Dave Molitor)
National City Bank (Laurel Davis)
Motorola IRT Pro Nationals (Dave Negrete)
Racquet Science (Keith Brown)
Roberts Packaging International, Ltd. (Bill Roberts)

ISRA State Singles Volunteers

Patrice Calvi, Michelle Halverson, Geoff Peters, and Lynn Yeazell!

Celestia Boughner, Doug Brown, Laura Brown, Diane Bunker, Janet Christie, Barb Curran, Mike Davern, Joey Eminger, TJ Ferro, Dan Flood, Doug Halverson, Jeanine Izzo, Pam Grace, Jeff Grace,



Bob Dunlap: "Kill shot, please!"

continued on next page

Shamrock Shootout

continued from previous page

Men's AA (2): Zach Archer; Jorge Ortiz

Men's A (9): Trevor Snyders; Chris Liljestrand; Joe Quirke, Richard DeArmas

Men's B (20): Vince Carvallo; Mike Vieni; Harish Chopra (IN), Scott Fauque

Men's C (27): Dan Malone; Sriram Ravindran; Andrew Stoltmann, Art Davis

Men's D (12): Michael Odea; Adam Augustine; Adam Jania, Harry Leonard

Men's Novice (3): Chris Long; Steve Troc; Steven Grundner

Men's 30/40+ (6): Keith Minor; Ryan Homa (WI); Jeff Miller, Lem Rowans

Men's 35+ Int. (4): Gerardo Sulic; Harish Chopra (IN); Leo Formanski (3)

Men's 45+ (8): Carl Evers (WI); Jim Hillman; Jeff Holmgaard, Tony Cosmano

Men's 45+ Int. (7): Dan Malone; Bill Doyle; Scott Martin, Leo Formanski

Men's 50/55+ (7): Frank Milazzo; Bruce Nelson; Bernie Scheer (WI), Kevin Yeazell

Men's 60/65+ (3): John Ramsay; Manuel Rosiles; Herman Sporleder (3rd)

Women's Open/A (6): Lynn Yeazell; Patrice Calvi; Char Borre, Pam Grace

Women's A Dropdown (2): Tammy Wronski; Deb Evers (WI)

Women's B (5): Kelly Carson; Laura Rosiles; Carrie Howard (3rd)

Women's C/D/Novice (3): Jeanine Izzo; Letty Maldonado; Paula Dillon (3rd)

Men's Open Doubles (7): Geoff Goldblatt/Kevin Brylski; Joe Kukielski/Matt Malcheski; Zach

Archer/Jorge Ortiz, Ryan Homa (WI)/Steve Salamone (WI)

Men's A Doubles (7): Matt Malcheski/Chris Liljestrand; Joey

Brownlee/Keith Mecklenburg; Joe

DeArmas/Richard DeArmas, Vince Carvallo/

Joey Limonciello

Men's B Doubles (12):

Scott Fauque/Dean Hamiti; Dan Jaskier/Bill

Switalla; Paul Jepsen/Art Davis, Glen Bero/Steve

Kudwa

Men's C Doubles (6): Bill

Dunham/Dale

Willenbrink; Mike

Szeliga/Eric Uhlig; Ron

Muklewicz/Don Nessel,

Michael Odea/Luke

Scheer (WI)

Men's 40+ Doubles (6):

Andy Pitock/Ted

Huddleston; Tom

Utterback/Doug

Halverson; Carl Evers (WI)/Jim Hillman, Jeff

Grace/Lem Rowans

Women's Open Doubles (3): Julie Vincent/Liz Molitor; Barb Curran/Cheryl Kirk; Nancy

Amaro/Janet Eminger (3rd)

Women's A/B Doubles (3): Nancy Healy (IN)/

Mary Herron; Jonelle Kohoutek/Carolyn

Sobacki; Julianne Beran/Kelly Carson (3rd)



Men's D Champ Michael Odea — "Hey, this is great!"

Mixed Open Doubles (7): Janet Eminger/Tom Utterback; Marian Bala/Andy Pitock; Richard DeArmas/Patrice Calvi, Nancy Amaro/Trevor Snyders

Mixed A Doubles (6): Mike Hammel/Lynn Yeazell; Kevin Berglund (IN)/Nancy Healy (IN); Joey Brownlee/Barb Vagedes, Jeff Grace/Pam Grace

Mixed B/C (5): Jonelle Kohoutek/Dale Willenbrink; Julianne Beran/Frank Valentino; Marcia Warren/Paul Jepsen (3rd)

State Singles

continued from previous page

Kit Lawson, Lola Markus, Ray Markus, Dave Milazzo, Grant Macuba, Jane Macuba, John Puccio, Delmer Reed, Bill Roberts, Tony Rosselli, Kathy Ruzycki, Kim Seaberg, Rick Seaberg, Joe Silius, Chuck Snyders, Tom Utterback, Joan Vande Kieft, Mike Vicary and last but not least, Jim Wehrli!

Referees Who Donated Their \$5 Straight Back to Illinois Juniors!

Eric Battaglia, Tony Cosmano, Gene Cromwell, Randy Ems, TJ Ferro, Leo Formanski, Pam Grace, Brian Hammersley, Platt Hill, Paul Jepsen, C.J. Khamis, Dave Kramer, Dave Milazzo, Joe Quirke, Delmer Reed, Kathy Ruzycki, Joe Silius, Dr. Ernesto Tan, Tom Utterback, Rodrigo Vazquez (and some of these folks donated more than once!)

Thanks to the Players and Just One Request...

To each and every one of the fine players who came out for this tournament, thank you! And contrary to what you might be guessing, the request is *not* that you don't wait until the last minute to get your entries in (although that would really help out a bunch). The request is that each of you latch on to one club player who hasn't yet experienced the joys of tournament play and mentor them into a 2007-2008 tournament!

All the best for a great summer!

— Cheryl Kirk

Results

Division: First; Second; Semifinals

Men's Open (15): Keith Minor; Eugene Coyle; Geoff Goldblatt, Cary Slade

Men's AA (7): Tony Rosselli; Dave Kerr, Jr.; Tom Utterback, Richard DeArmas
Men's A (14): Trevor Snyders; Brent Huff; Oscar Corona, Richard DeArmas
Men's B (21): Vinny Carvallo; Platt Hill; Rick Seaberg, Mike Vieni

Men's C (22): Craig Herman; Sriram Ravindran; Tom Ness, Carlos Merino

Men's D (12): Nick Kolliniatis; Matt Pietrus; Joey Eminger, Enrique Rodriguez

Men's Novice (3): Rick LaFine; Miles Brugh; Budd Simons

Men's 24- (2): Richard DeArmas; Kenny Brown

Men's 25/30 + (3): Jorge Ortiz; Tony Rosselli; Ben Fraga

Men's 35/40 + (9): Keith Minor; Eugene Coyle; Cary Slade, Pat Armstrong

Men's 45/50 + (12): Dave Milazzo; Jim Hillman; Rick Reynolds, Tom Utterback

Men's 55/60 + (10): T.J. Ferro; Dave Olson; Dennis McKee, Dennis Healy

Men's 65/70 + (2): Pat Taylor; Ysmael Padilla

Men's 75/80 + (3): Max Call; Tony Lang; Ken Yahiro

Men's 80 + (2): Tony Lang; Ken Yahiro

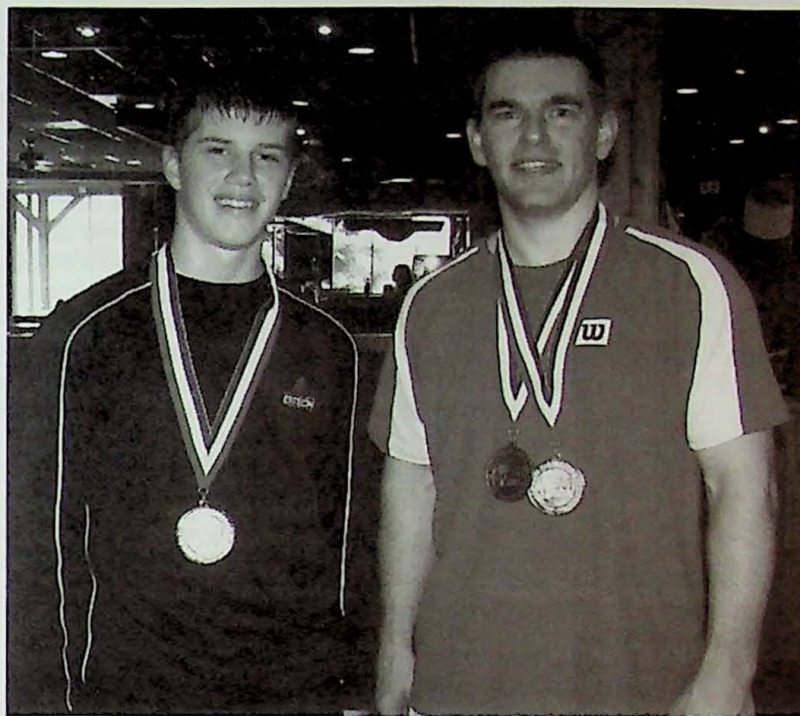
Men's 25/30 + A (3): Brent Huff; John Puccio; Ryan Kessler

Men's 35/40 + Int (7): Sergio Rivera; John Provan; Dan Pacetti, Grant Macuba

Men's 45/50 + A (7): Joe Keane; Patrick Francis; Bob Dunlap, Kevin Yeazell

Men's 45/50 + Int (13): Pete Schmeichel; Rick Seaberg; Dan Malone, Frank Valentino

Men's 55/60 + A (5): Randy Puebla; Jeff Grace; David Kerr, Sr. (3rd)



Trevor Snyders and Brent Huff had a great tournament!

Men's 55/60 + Int (5): Ernesto Tan; Larry Schum; Humberto Medina (3rd)

Men's 65/70 + Int (4): Ed Olah; Don Davis; John Ramsay (3rd)

Women's Open/A (6): Janet Eminger; Diane Bunker; Lynn Yeazell, Bernadette Bland

Women's AA (2): Patrice Calvi; Carolyn Watkins

Women's B (4): Kelly Carson; Julianne Beran; Tammy Wronski (3rd)

Women's D/Novice (3): Jeanine Izzo; Annette Fuller; Melissa Ballate (3rd)

Women's 35/40 + (2): Janet Eminger; Lynn Yeazell

Women's 45 + (2): Diane Bunker; Patrice Calvi

Women's 35-55 + A (3): Bernadette Bland; Pam Grace; Carrie Howard (3rd)

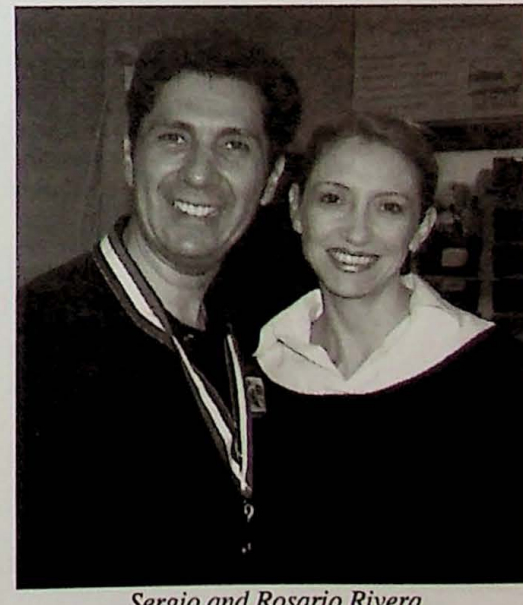
more photos on next page



Sriram Ravindran and wife Jothi



Men's 80+ Champ Tony Lang



Sergio and Rosario Rivera

ISRA Award Recipients and Dvorak Award Winners Announced at Annual Banquet on March 31

Traditionally, ISRA State Singles provides the venue not only for the tournament but also for the ISRA Annual Awards. At the Saturday evening, March 31 banquet, ISRA Awards and the James B. Dvorak Award were presented. Cheryl Kirk, ISRA Vice President and MC of the evening's festivities, presented host club plaques to The Chalet (ISRA State Singles) and Glass Court Swim & Fitness (ISRA State Doubles, held in February). Adrian Mendez, manager of The Chalet, and Joe DeArmas, owner of Glass Court, accepted the plaques to the applause of appreciative banquet guests.

The ISRA Annual Awards recognize the Best of the Best in Illinois racquetball over the previous year. Named below are the award winners and fellow nominees:

2007 ISRA Distinguished Service Award –
Laurel Davis

Fellow Nominees – TJ Ferro,
Michelle Halverson, Tom Utterback

2006 Male Player of the Year –
Keith Minor

Fellow Nominees – Geoff Goldblatt,
Trevor Snyders

2006 Female Player of the Year –
Liz Molitor

Fellow Nominees – Cheryl Gudinas,
Ellen Somberg

2006 Most Improved Player –
Richard DeArmas

Fellow Nominees – Vinny Carvallo, Trevor
Snyders, Mike Vieni, Lynn Yeazell

Thanks to you all for representing us so well! Special mention goes to Richard DeArmas, who delivered his acceptance comments so eloquently: "A huge thank you to my mother and father, Diane and Joe De Armas, for introducing me into this sport and providing me with the necessary club facilities that I needed. Their support and encouragement helped tremendously. I truly love racquetball with all my heart and am so glad I am a part of it. I love the sportsmanship, physical competition, mental strategy, and overall camaraderie that this sport provides. So thank you to everyone who helped bring me to this level and for recognizing me this evening."

The James B. Dvorak Award

Mr. James B. Dvorak was an individual who supported racquetball and especially loved to watch young people play. Through the generosity of the Dvorak family, a scholarship is awarded annually in Mr. Dvorak's memory to a deserving junior player who exhibits high standards in the areas of racquetball accomplishment, sportsmanship, community service and scholastic achievement.

Barry Dixon, President of Junior Team Illinois, presented the awards. For 2006, Trevor Snyders was recognized and Vinny Carvallo was the 2007 recipient. Additionally, Robbie Quinn, a 2007 nominee, received a certificate for his accomplishments.

Mrs. James B. (Charlotte) Dvorak and her son and daughter-in-law Doug and Cathy



*Most Improved Player of the Year
Richard DeArmas*

were on hand to take part in the awards ceremony. The elder Mrs. Dvorak delivered moving comments concerning her husband's appreciation of racquetball in the development of young people. At the end of the program, Geoff Peters made the announcement that the Dvoraks had decided to double the amount of the annual award from \$250 to \$500! The ISRA again extends its sincere thanks to the Dvorak Family for their support of Illinois Juniors.

— Cheryl Kirk

More photos on next page

State Singles continued from previous page



*Max Call Repeats as Men's 75+
State Champion*



Double medalist Diane Bunker



Pooch and Jorge celebrate great results

Notice of Election of ISRA Officers and Board Members

The ISRA Board will hold its Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 13, 2007. As with all ISRA meetings, this meeting is open to the membership. The Annual Meeting is particularly important since all members attending have a vote in the election of the ISRA Board of Directors. If you plan to attend, please contact Cheryl Kirk at cherylkkirk@aol.com for time and location.

Officer and Board positions are staggered two-year terms. This year, the open positions include President, Secretary, two of the four Zone Vice Presidents and four Governing Board member positions.

The Officer slate is:

Laurel Davis for President
Rick Seaberg for Secretary
Pam Schubach for Central Zone VP
Geoff Peters for North Zone VP

The following three individuals are being re-nominated to the Governing Board:

Mike Davern, TJ Ferro, Pam Grace, Tom Utterback

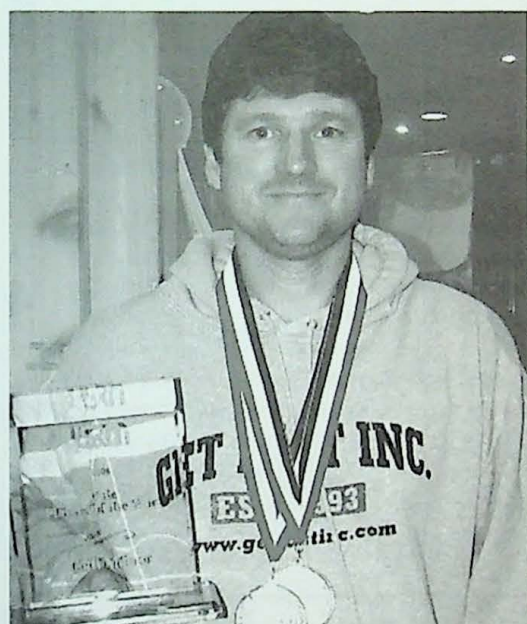
Per the ISRA bylaws, opposing slates and individuals must be nominated in writing and received prior to May 15. If there are

no additional nominations, the Nominating Committee's slate will be accepted automatically. Anyone interested in running for office or a Board position should contact Cheryl Kirk at cherylkkirk@aol.com.

Additionally, any ISRA member who wishes to help improve the quality of racquetball in Illinois is welcome to join the Auxiliary Board. Come out and support Illinois Racquetball!

Signed,
The Nominating Committee
Cheryl Kirk (Chair), Joe Silius
and Michelle Valenti

Annual Awards continued from previous page



Keith Minor is 2006 Male Player of the Year



Lynn Yeazell & The Guys: Most Improved Nominees Vinny Carvallo, Lynn, Mike Vieni and Trevor Snyders



Cathy, Doug and Charlotte Dvorak and ISRA VP Cheryl Kirk congratulate Dvorak Award winners Trevor Snyders and Vinny Carvallo



Female Player of the Year Liz Molitor and Distinguished Service Award recipient Laurel Davis

Is That In The Rules?

By Keith Brown

When people start to play a new activity, one of the first things they need to learn is how to play by the rules. Imagine playing baseball and not knowing what a "ball" or "strike" was or how many outs there are to an inning. Could football be played without knowing about "offside" or "holding" calls? By the same token, we should know the rules of racquetball so we can play fairly and consistently. Many people have learned how to play racquetball from their friends and have accepted what they've been told about the rules. Few people actually take the time to look at the USAR rulebook or to view it online at www.usra.org. Fewer still have become certified referees and can correctly apply the rules. It's tough (and dangerous!) to referee a match when you don't know the rules. Similarly, it's frustrating for players to have a referee who doesn't know the rules and how to correctly apply them. Here's a little test that will challenge your knowledge of the "Official Rules of Racquetball." See how many you can answer without looking them up!

1. The server may not start the service motion until the referee has called the score or 2nd serve. T or F
2. A dead ball serve, such as the ball hitting a wet spot or a designated court hinder, cancels any previous fault serve. T or F
3. A player who makes his or her best effort to get out of the way can't be called for a penalty hinder. T or F
4. A serve that is obviously "long" can be caught and called long before it strikes the back wall. T or F
5. The receiver may not enter the safety zone until the ball either bounces on the floor or crosses the plane of the receiving line. T or F
6. Which of the following contains an action that is not a dead ball hinder?
 - A. Court hinder, body contact
 - B. Ball hits opponent, back swing hinder
 - C. Ball enters court from outside, pushing or shoving
7. If a player hits the ball and his or her vibration dampener flies off and lands on the court, the proper call is?
 - A. Stop, replay the point
 - B. Stop, penalty hinder
 - C. No call
 - D. None of the above
8. Which group below contains a serve that is not an out serve?
 - A. Two consecutive fault serves, touched serve
 - B. Dead ball serve, non front wall serve
 - C. Safety zone violation, front wall crotch serve
 - D. Missed serve attempt, fake serve
 - E. Out of court serve, illegal hit
9. The order of serve in doubles must be followed for?
 - A. One side out
 - B. One game
 - C. One match
 - D. Entire tournament
10. In divisions where one serve is employed, a fault is a side out except?
 - A. When the first serve is a screen
 - B. When the first serve hits the non-serving partner in doubles.
 - C. All screen serves
 - D. Never
 - E. A & B

For answers, see page 7.

If you correctly answered 8 or more, then you know the rules very well and hopefully are refereeing matches!

If you got between 5-7 right, you might want to attend a refereeing clinic or consult someone who is a certified referee.

If you answered only 1-4 correctly, please immediately visit the USA Racquetball website at www.usra.org and study the online rulebook!

Knowing how to play by the rules is everyone's responsibility and it will certainly make the game more enjoyable. Then when you play, you won't have to ask the question, "Is that in the rules?"



Send to:

ISRA
603 E. Wilson Ave.
Lombard, IL 60148

Member Sport,
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Committee



COMPETITIVE LICENSE APPLICATION

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Adult competitor \$35.00
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 RACQUETBALL Magazine subscription only \$20.00
 Tax-deductible donation \$
 Total enclosed \$

Tournament _____ Representative _____

All memberships are for one year, and include a subscription to RACQUETBALL Magazine (six times/year) and the Illinois Newsletter (four times/year).

Lend Your Support

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



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



2007 TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

May 23 – 28

40th USA Racquetball

National Singles Championships

The Downtown YMCA, Houston, TX

Heather Fender; (719) 635-5396

SANCTIONED

July 27 – 29

14th Annual Summerfest Open, JR

The Glass Court Swim and Fitness, Lombard

Doug Halverson; (630) 629-3390

SANCTIONED

2007 ISRA Newsletter Advertising Rates

GUIDELINES:

- The ISRA Board of Directors has established a formal policy of not allowing advertisements to include **product pricing**.
- All ads are assumed to be camera ready. They can be accepted electronically in .tif, .jpg or .pdf formats.
- These rates are in effect until December 31, 2007.
- Deadlines are as follows:

- **Issue Mail Date:** 8/10/07
- **Articles/Releases Due:** 7/13/07
- **Stuffers/Inserts Due:** 7/20/07

- All stuffers/inserts are to be received by:
Laura Kreiner, 2307 Arrow Street, Carpentersville, Illinois 60110
- Ad rates:
Full page: \$150/issue Half page: \$75/issue Quarter page: \$50/issue
Other sizes quoted on a case by case basis
- For any questions or submission:

Joe Silius, jsilius@yahoo.com

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Here's a challenge to:

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



www.illinoisracquetball.com

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(630) 924-0788

Saturdays & Sundays

8:30 a.m. - Noon \$6.00

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Palatine, IL

Thursdays 8-10 p.m.

Saturdays 8 a.m. - Noon

\$15 One-Day Guest Pass

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Saturdays

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Members \$3, Non-Members \$10

Heritage YMCA

(630) 420-6270

Naperville, IL

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

Members \$4, Non-Members \$8

Lakeshore Athletic

Club - Downtown

(312) 644-4880

Chicago, IL

Mondays & Wednesdays 5:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Members free, Non-Members \$12

Landmark Health & Racquetball

(309) 685-8200

Peoria, IL

First & Third Fridays of Month

6-8 p.m. \$5.00

MultiSports Complex

Melrose Park

708-343-5151

Mondays 7 - 9 p.m.

Members \$5 Non-Members \$7

Norris Rec Center

(630) 377-1405

St. Charles, IL

Tuesdays and Thursdays

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

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

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

\$5.00 Members & Non-Members

Schaumburg Park District

(847) 490-2505

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

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

Members \$3, Non-Members \$9

Schaumburg Tennis Plus

(630) 430-1478

Women Open/A Players

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

Members \$3, Non-Members \$9

Silver Lake Country Club

(708) 349-6940

Orland Park, IL

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

Members & Non-Members \$7.00

The Southlake Club

(847) 949-8180

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

\$10.00 for ISRA Members

(with membership card)

West Cook YMCA

(708) 383-5200

Wed. 7-8 p.m.,

Thurs. 2-4 p.m.,

Sat 8-10 a.m.

Free to Y Members,

\$9 for Non-Members

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

From The President continued from page 2

Shame on us! We never got further than discussion on this topic. How do we decide who belongs here? Will players who have quit competing in tournaments come back if this is implemented?

7. Your Other Life ↗

Let others know what you do when you're not on the racquetball court. Joe Silius is soliciting advertising for the ISRA newsletter.

Joe started this process and has begun collecting business cards. He will continue to work on this project. It's an inexpensive way to advertise, support the state organization and let other people know what you do. Hey! Did you know that Angelo Moca is working as an usher at Wrigley Field this summer? It's fun to find out what we do in our "real" lives - see page 5 for a quiz to get us started and see page 17 for a note from Joe.

In addition to ISRA efforts, the national organization created another way for people to qualify to play in the national tournament in Houston. Sanctioned State Singles Championships now serve as National Singles qualifiers. Other qualifiers include:

- Women's Senior Masters Championship (Orlando- Jan '07)
- National Masters Racquetball Association (Portland - Mar '07)
- USAR Regionals Championship Event
- Or, you meet one of the waiver criteria as noted in the recent USAR eNewsletter

I'll be honest - I wish there were more arrows pointing "up." But, I think we have made some progress. Sometimes it just takes longer than we might hope...

Thanks for your support over the last season. Congratulations to all of the ISRA Annual Award winners. Thanks to the board members, auxiliary board members and volunteers who make this all happen. We'll review and establish a new set of goals for next season and keep moving forward!

Have a great summer!

Laurel



Illinois State Racquetball Association

c/o Cheryl Kirk

1064 Sylvan Circle

Naperville, IL 60540

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