

In This Issue...

From The President
2

ISRA Family News
2

Wilson Women's
Classic
3

Notice of Election of
ISRA Officers and
Board Members
3

WSMRA 16th
Seniors/Masters
4

ISRA Junior State
Singles & Doubles
Championships
4-6

Junior Team Illinois
— Rolling Along
7

Croft Repeats at
Junior World
Championships
7

Revie Sorey 23rd
Annual Celebrity
Classic
8-9

"Doubles Vision":
ISRA State Doubles
10-11

Let It Snow, Let It
Snow, Let It Snow!
Southlake One-Day
Doubles
12

2005 ISRA Newsletter
Advertising Rates
12

ISRA Travel League
Doubles Round
Robin & Awards
Banquet
14

ISRA 2005
Tournament Calendar
16

USA Racquetball
Competitive License
Application
16

Racquetball
Challenge Courts
18

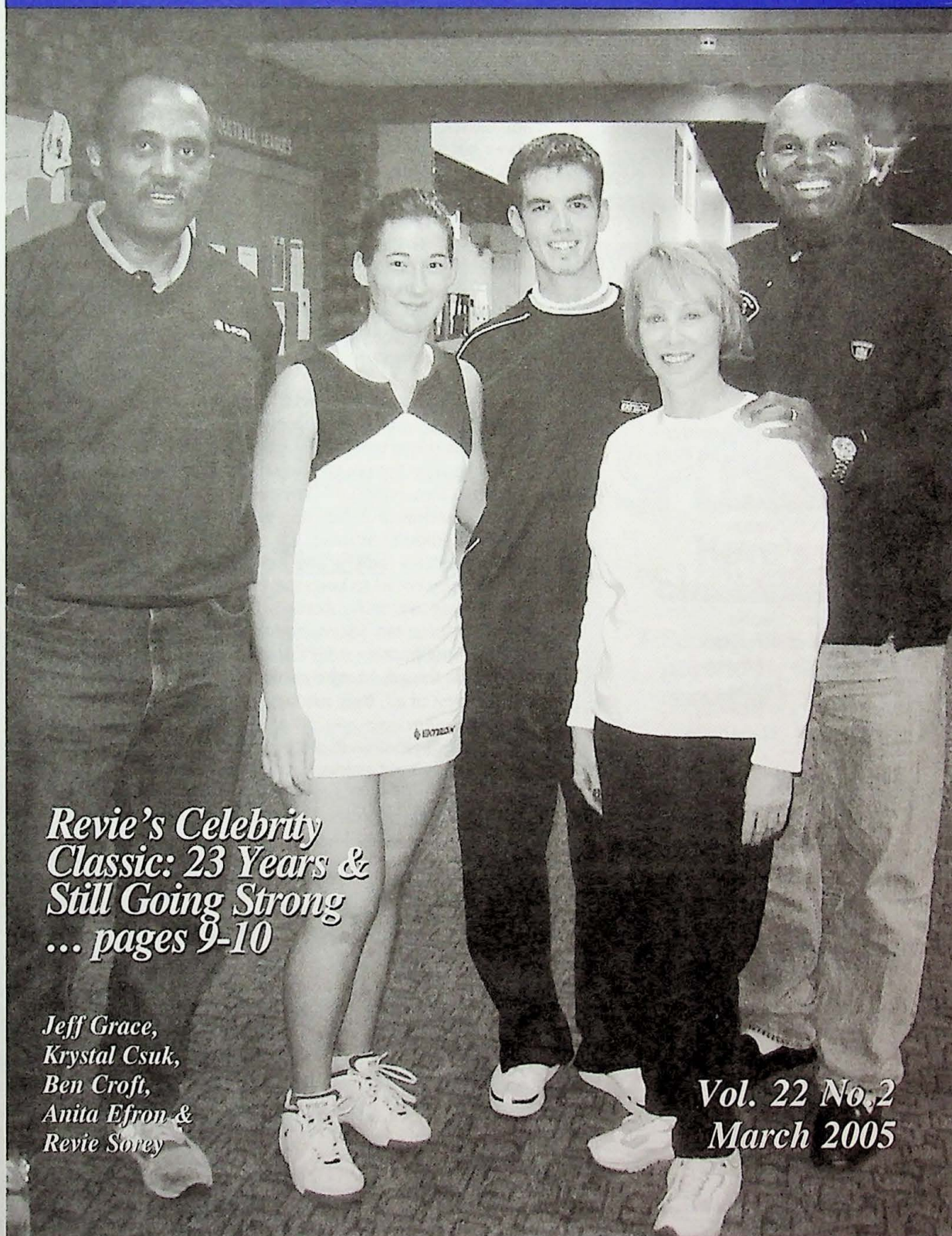
Central Illinois
Tournament Calendar
18

ISRA



Newsletter

The Official Publication of the Illinois State Racquetball Association



*Revie's Celebrity
Classic: 23 Years &
Still Going Strong
... pages 9-10*

*Jeff Grace,
Krystal Csuk,
Ben Croft,
Anita Efron &
Revie Sorey*

*Vol. 22 No. 2
March 2005*

ILLINOIS STATE RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

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From the President

It's the middle of February and we're about halfway through that big racquetball race I described in my last article. The second half of the racquetball season has gotten off to a roaring start, beginning with the ISRA Junior State Singles & Doubles Tournament in January. A group of parents, led by Tournament Directors Chuck Snyders and Cheryl Kirk, put on a great tournament for the kids. Chuck asked me if I would like the opportunity to talk to the players, so, on Saturday morning I went over to the tournament and worked at the desk for a couple of hours. There was a lunch break during which raffle prizes were awarded and thanks were said to the many people who made the tournament possible. That's where I got my chance to address the group.

I was so impressed with what I saw at that tournament that my voice started to crack as I thanked the parents for their involvement and told the kids that they are the future of racquetball. They probably wondered what was wrong with me. I sounded like a dolt!

Watching how the kids in this tournament interacted was so refreshing. When they were assigned to a court, they immediately went and got on the court. They didn't complain if they only got 10 minutes' rest between matches or if they had to wait two hours. They didn't complain if they were asked to referee a match. They helped with whatever they could to keep the tournament running smoothly...some posted scores and some ran Tournament Control. They were polite and respectful to each other and to the adults who made the event possible. Best of all, they just had FUN.

This was racquetball in its purest form: to play, to compete, to enjoy. Hats off to our

junior players and the adults who work with them. Racquetball in Illinois is in very good hands with this group and we can all learn by watching them.

On two other subjects:

· Racquetball recently lost a player who was on the other end of the age spectrum, but found the same joy in racquetball as the kids do. Mary-Low Acuff recently passed away. Mary-Low and her husband Earl made up one of the loveliest couples you could ever meet. After raising eight children, Mary-Low took up racquetball when she was in her 60's. She and Earl traveled all over the country to play in senior events. Mary-Low always had a smile on her face, a smile that will truly be missed. (Read more about Mary-Low in the WSMRA article on page 5.)

· Illinois will be the proud host of the 2005 Motorola Professional National Championships. Dave Negrete is the Tournament Director and will be working with staff from USA Racquetball to put on the event. The Regional Qualifier for the National Singles tournament will be paired with the Pro event, offering amateurs the opportunity to qualify for Nationals while watching some of the best players in the world. See www.illinoisracquetball.com and www.usaracquetball.com for more information.

Laurel



ISRA Family News

Kim and Dan Jaskier are the proud new parents of Kaitlyn, born December 27, 2004. Kaitlyn weighed in at 8.5 pounds and plans (we assume) to follow in her dad's, grandparents', aunts' and uncle's racquetball footsteps in the years to come. Kaitlyn is the lucky granddaughter of Diane and Joe DeArmas.

Brad Goeppinger & Gail Hoffman were married on Friday, January 14, in a quiet

ceremony. They traveled to Cancun for their honeymoon. Brad is a racquetball player and stringer for Landmark. Gail also plays racquetball in women's leagues in Peoria. Both recently competed in the ISRA State Doubles tournament.

Do you have news to share with the racquetball family - perhaps a wedding, graduation, promotion or milestone birthday? Please send information to Cheryl Kirk at cheryllkirk@aol.com.

Wilson Women's Classic

December 11, 2004

Tournament Director – Dave Negrete

The Wilson Women's Classic was held at Schaumburg Tennis Plus and witnessed 30 women, in four divisions, play this annual round robin event. Chris Evon from Wilson has supported the event for five years, supplying balls and prizes and stopping by to greet the ladies at the event. The event had three first-time tournament players, and some players from the past turned up as well. Play began at 9:00 am and was concluded by 3:00 pm with everyone getting to play at least three matches; some played as many as six.

Cathy Tojaga (www.nutritiontrainer.com) supported the event with Starbuck's coffee and Lynn Yeazell (lyeazell@marykay.com) was on hand with Mary Kay products. Dave Negrete and his son David kept the ladies moving from court to court all day.

The Women's Open division was the largest with eleven. Liz Molitor of Glen Ellyn faced off against Madison's Julie Jacobsen and defended her 2003 title. It was great to see Julie back on the court. Liz has been dominating the Women's Open draws for awhile and did so again on that day. Other Open players included Janet Leet, Renee Roux, Julie Vincent, Martha Huske, Mary

White, Nancy Kronenfeld, Diane Bunker, Carole Lisson and Cathy Tojaga.

The Women's "A" division was captured by Park Ridge's Margaret Hoff defeating Donna Heinzl of Palatine. These two are familiar with each other's game; they've met before in Travel League and other events. Margaret had the upper hand this time. Hall of Famer Lola Markus is an inspiration to all — this woman still battles with everyone she plays! Other players included Karen Thurlow, Lori Good, Lynn Yeazell, Dorothy Che-Menju, Pam Grace and Barbara Curran.

The Women's "B" division saw Donna Albert come out on top in her favorite tournament of the year. Winning the Victoria's Secret gift certificate is the main reason her husband encourages her to play this event! She captured the B crown last year and defended her title again this year. Other players in this division included Carrie Howard, Lorena Olsen, Pauline Kelly and Kendra Tutsch.

The Women's "C" was the smallest draw but very competitive all the same. Deb Bordignon took home the first place title

with some great shots, defeating first-time tournament players Tanya Salas, Lynn Guercio and Haley Hendrickson. It was great to see some new women playing and enjoying the ambiance of the tournament. Hopefully we'll see these ladies at future events.

Once again, thanks to Chris Evon and Terri Graham of Wilson Sporting Goods for their continued support of this event; Schaumburg Tennis Plus for hosting the event; my son, David Negrete, for keeping track of scores for over 100 matches; and all the ladies who support this event.

—Dave Negrete

Notice of Election of ISRA Officers and Board Members

The ISRA Board will hold its Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 8, 2005, at the National City Bank office in Oak Brook at 2021 Spring Road, Suite 600 (use the elevator in the southwest corner of the building). As with all ISRA meetings, this meeting is open to the membership; however, this session is particularly important since all members attending have a vote in the election of the ISRA Board of Directors. Officer and Board positions are for staggered two-year terms. This year, the open positions include President, Secretary, two of the four Zone Vice Presidents and five Governing Board member positions.

The Officer slate is:

Laurel Davis for President
Judy Young for Secretary
Jim Jeffers for Central Zone VP
Lynne Weisbart for North Zone VP

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

Mike Davern, TJ Ferro, Pam Grace, Geoff Peters, and Tom Utterback

Per the ISRA bylaws, opposing slates and individuals must be nominated in writing and received prior to May 1. If there are no opposing nominations, the Nominating Committee's slate will be accepted automatically. Anyone interested in running for office or a Board position should contact Laurel Davis at laurel.davis@nationalcity.com or Joe Silius at jsilius@yahoo.com.

Additionally, any ISRA member who wishes to help improve the quality of racquetball in Illinois is welcome to join the Auxiliary Board. Please contact Laurel Davis at the above email address. Come out and support Illinois Racquetball!

Signed,
The Nominating Committee
Joe Silius (Chair), Patrice Calvi, Michelle Halverson, Cheryl Kirk, and Chuck Snyders

It's All in Your
COURT!
Be A
SPONSOR!

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 tomorrow!



www.illinoisracquetball.com

ISRA Junior State Singles & Doubles Championships

January 8-9, 2005

Glass Court Swim & Fitness, Lombard, IL

Tournament Directors: Chuck Snyders and Cheryl Kirk

They came to play, and play they did, each with the heart of a champion. In life, we leave many memories behind, forgotten, but this will not be one of them. For some players this tournament was their first... for others, their last junior tournament as their age sends them to compete with the adults. All made the ISRA Junior State Singles & Doubles Championships the place to experience the toughest competition we've seen in a very long time.

There was opportunity for players to relax between matches. Ping-Pong, bag horse-shoes, radar-gunned racquetball speeds (sponsored by the Lombard Police Department), basketball and swimming (compli-

ments of Glass Court) along with ample seating for family and friends, provided the comfortable atmosphere needed to accommodate the energy exuding from the contenders in this tournament.

The ISRA Junior State Singles & Doubles Championships operates solely on passion for the game. Dedicated parents were assisted by countless others who believe that the future of racquetball lies within the spirit of our youth. Volunteered hours of preparation by parents and coaches; donations of food and prizes by tournament sponsors; words of inspiration spoken by

continued on next page



Chuck Snyders awards Jeremy Dixon his first racquetball trophy

WSMRA 16th Seniors/Masters

Greenbriar Athletic Club — Indianapolis, Indiana

January 14-16, 2005

Every year I get the opportunity to write about this best-attended tournament for women. However this year I write this with a twinge of sadness. Just three weeks after playing in the Women's Seniors/Masters, Mary-Low Acuff died at the age of 85. As quoted in her obituary from Asheville, North Carolina, she was happy if the day was sunny and she was wearing a good pair of Birkenstocks — I can relate! Mary-Low regularly attended our tourney and we will miss her. Mary Low went out swinging.

This year was our 16th year of promoting

Seniors/Masters racquetball for women. The tournament was a round robin format consisting of flights in age groups with more than 8 entrants. The 40+, 45+ and 50+ all had 3 flights and that translated into 24-plus players in each of those age groups. After the round robin play was over, the top 8 women played off as if it were a single elimination tournament.

Here's how the Team Illinois entrants finished up:

Nancy Kronenfeld, Women's 50+ (QF)

Kathleen Ruczyki, Women's 55+ (1st)
Donna Heinzl, Women's 55+ (QF)
Margaret Hoff, Women's 60+ (1st)
Pat Tarzon, Women's 60+ (2nd)
Lola Markus, Women's 70+ (1st)

Also attending from Illinois were Pandora Brown, Diane Bunker, Lori Good, Martha Huske, Pauline Kelly, Renee Roux, Joyce Satorius, Julie Vincent, Lynne Weisbart and Brenda White. Illinois was the most-represented state, boasting 16 entrants this year!

—Nancy Kronenfeld



Sixteen of Illinois' finest women players competed in Indianapolis

**NEXT YEAR THE
TOURNAMENT IS BEING
HELD IN DALLAS, TEXAS ~
JANUARY 27th - 29th, 2006**

**A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR
SENIOR WOMEN ILLINOIS
RACQUETBALL PLAYERS TO
EXPERIENCE A TOURNEY
JUST FOR WOMEN!**

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NANCY KRONENFELD at
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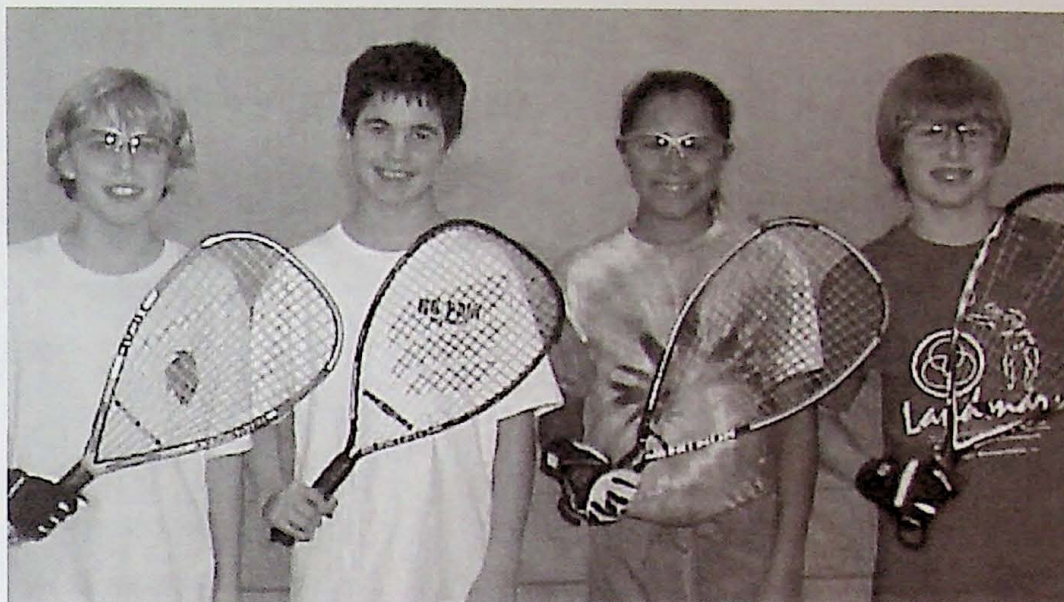
Junior State Singles & Doubles

continued from previous page

ISRA President Laurel Davis and Ben Croft, former Illinois State Junior Champion currently ranked 19th on the Pro Tour; Andy Pitock, guest speaker during Sunday's lunch, educating players on the rules of racquetball; Diane and Joe DeArmas, who support junior racquetball on an unconditional level... thanks to all of you! You are our silent champions.

Come, give us inspiration! Come, see us play! Come, show us what we do not know! Come, play with us! Come to know our names! We are the future of Illinois racquetball:

Mike Antonoff, Zac Antonoff, Chase Bachar, Derek Carter, Kasey Carter, Vince Carvallo, Evan Costello, Jeremy Dixon, Joey Eminger, Geoff Goldblatt,



Friendly foe: Joey Eminger, Colin Lynch, Kasey Carter and Kyle Sutton



Matt "Spidey" Loy takes a time-out

Joey Limonciello, Matt Loy, Nick Loy, Ryan Lynn, Brian Lynch, Colin Lynch, Kevin Lynch, Sean Lynch, Chris Muruato, David Negrete, Gabriel Ortiz, Dan Pacetti, Lauren Pacetti, Mike Peters, Greg Piekos, Matt Pietrus, Jonathan Quinn, Matthew Quinn, Brandon Ritschard, Chris Schubert, Erich Schubert, Kevin Schulz, Ryan Slade, Trevor Snyders, Zach Stimson, Jake Sutton, Kyle Sutton, Patrick Sweetman, Evan Szechowycz, Steven Troc, Rachel Vena, Brian Wagner, Luke White, Nick White, Kelly Woycheese, Gino Wuttke, Katina Wuttke, Mike Wuttke, Jason Young

— Sue Antonoff

Results

Division: 1st; 2nd; Semifinals

Boys 18- (6): Geoff Goldblatt; Jake Sutton; Jason Young, Chris Muruato



Lots of energy was displayed by the Park Ridge Park District team (with Coach Pete Shesek)



***ISRA Junior State Singles & Doubles Championships
Thanks to the Players & the Parents!***

Junior Team Illinois — Rolling Along

As the Junior Team Illinois season continues, our advanced players are busy competing in house leagues, travel leagues and the adult/junior tournaments. JTI Board Members have received many compliments not only on the skills of the advanced players but also on their maturity and sportsmanship both on and off the courts. We're in the process of setting up a league whereby the advanced players compete against adult Open and A players. Drop the JTI a note on our web site (www.juniorteamillinois.org) if you're interested in getting involved.

Our Beginner and Intermediate players are working hard on Tuesdays and Sundays at the BR Ryall YMCA and many competed in the ISRA Junior States Singles & Doubles Tournament and the Chuck Galkin Memorial BR Ryall YMCA Tournament. It's incredible how fast they're grasping the sport of racquetball — we see them improving from one tournament to the next.

Looking Ahead

In the next few weeks, JTI has a lot going on. Many team members will be competing at the Palos Olympic Open, ISRA State Singles and the Amatulli Open at Omni 41 in Indiana. JTI is also working with the Indiana juniors at Omni 41 who will be hosting the 2005 Midlands tournament the weekend of April 8-10, 2005. Good luck to our JTI members in all of these tournaments!

JTI is also putting the finishing touches on the planning of our second annual JTI Lock-In on April 1st at the BR Ryall YMCA. Other events in the planning stages include our next JTI Junior Clinic and our end-of-the-season JTI get-together.

If anyone is interested in working with JTI team members or perhaps knows of a junior who wants to get involved, simply visit www.juniorteamillinois.org and drop us a message.

C-Ya Courtside!

Chuck Snyder
President, Junior Team Illinois

Croft repeats at Junior World Championships

Ben Croft led the USA Junior National Team to a second place finish behind the host Mexican squad at the Junior World Championships in December. This is the second straight gold medal for Ben and, with his silver medal in the Doubles competition with partner Charlie Pratt, it caps off a brilliant junior career. Ben is currently ranked 19th on the Men's IRT Pro Tour and will be one of the local favorites at the Pro Nationals in Schaumburg this April. Ben was coached by his father Bob, as well as National Team Coaches Kelley Beane and #1-ranked Pro Cheryl Gudinas. Below, we have their firsthand accounts of the tournament...

Tourney Tidbits - Bob & Beth Croft

For the very first time outside the United States, the 16th Annual Junior World Championships were held in San Luis Potosi, Mexico. The host club, Los Lomas Sports Facility, is a state-of-the-art athletic complex of over 1,000,000 square feet, with the eight racquetball courts making up just a small portion of the huge facility. There was no difficulty accommodating the almost 400 participants who were trying to fulfill their dreams of capturing the gold. Fifteen different countries including Cuba, Great Britain, Australia, Costa Rica and Venezuela were proudly represented. Newly added to this year's event was an opening ceremony on Thursday that included a spectacular performance by mariachi dancers. Competition ran for the next five days accompanied by huge crowds of spectators. Closing the event was a formal awards presentation followed by a banquet. There was day-by-day newspaper coverage, including color photos. Some key matches were videotaped and will be televised on the Tennis Channel this spring. The club owner and tournament organizers took great efforts to make this

year's Junior Worlds very unique. It's great to see that the spirit of racquetball is very much alive in Mexico!

My Experience - Ben Croft

I tried to prepare myself for what was ahead. I knew I might have to eventually face the top two Mexican players. The possible face-offs could take place in the semis



The Celebration!

and the finals...and they did! I knew it would be tough since Mexico was the host country and the stands were packed with partisan supporters. The Mexican crowd has always been the toughest. This was my last year in the Boys 18's and it was my final junior event. A win would be great! It was amazing to play in front of such a big crowd of up to 400 boisterous spectators. The bleachers were jam-packed, but unfortunately it was mostly loud Mexican supporters. Was I surprised when they booed? Sure I was, but it really tested my focus and concentration (a big thanks to Coach Gudinas for her support). The matches seemed to last forever, but eventually I was able to pull away to the victory...there is nothing finer than Mexican Gold!

To the Junior players in Illinois and Junior Team Illinois (JTI) players: I hope you keep playing and working hard at your game. It would be cool to see you on Junior Team USA. The experience is awesome...good luck to all of you!

Revie Sorey 23rd Annual Celebrity Classic

January 14-16, 2005

The Chalet, Willow Springs

Tournament Director – Jeff Grace

Etched in my mind, reminiscent of Mount Rushmore, are the faces of Revie Sorey, Anita Efron, and Glynn Williams on yet another front cover of the Revie Sorey Celebrity Classic entry flyer. This year's event, held January 14th-16th, was sponsored by E-Force and hosted by The Chalet in Willow Springs, whose spacious, contemporary club exuded the ambiance of a winter vacation resort. With participants coming from ten different states, and as far as California, the spectrum of talent provided some really exciting matches all weekend on the courts as well as off, since chess has been incorporated for those tournament players wanting to test their mental fortitude. Everywhere you looked, an orchestrated team of volunteers, overseen by tournament director Jeff Grace, helped in coordinating check-ins, matches, and referees, and served an abundance of delicious food so graciously provided by the sponsors. Wondering why so many people have come so far for so many years, I couldn't resist asking, "What brings you to Revie's tournament?" Respondents pondered and replied, "Good prize money, good competition, and on my way to the pro stop in New York," said first-timer Juan Herrera of Orange County, CA. "It's tradition, great people, great hospitality..." said Women's Open winner Krystal Csuk (DeKalb, IL). "The competition, a great club, nice to see Revie, it's really a social event..." said Mixed Open Doubles winner Diane Moore

of Griffith, IN.

"The warmth and the friendship of the people and the respect for Revie and the job he does helping kids," replied Men's 45+ winner Greg Hodges (Detroit, MI).

Reflecting on years past, I couldn't help but remember a petite Anita posing between Revie and Glynn, two big men dressed in flamboyant multi-colored tights (yes, *tights*) – it was a real sight to behold. Then there was another year when they wore full-length fur coats; Revie could have made *three* coats for Anita from his XXXL. Oh, the casualties of the cannon forehand Revie bestowed on the likes of a youthful Tim Sweeney that prompted an immediate time-out and the nearly simultaneous sound of a scream and the splat of the ball Revie tried to hit through the back of mixed doubles opponent Patrice Calvi. Ouch!

Back to the present...Saturday night's auction, with Revie at the mike, provided an opportunity for competitive bidding on an array of items which included some one-of-a-kind sports memorabilia, all for a great cause, the Hammond Boys and Girls Club. Sunday's exciting final matches culminated with Ben Croft taking home top honors (and the cash!) in the Men's Open division, while Krystal Csuk did the same in the Women's Open. Krystal was the only repeat singles winner – every other division had a new champ. Quite a surprise for those who may have been expecting trophies, all non-prize money divisions were awarded E-Force choice of racquets for first place and E-Force eyewear for second.

With all the changes throughout the years, the one constant has been the smiles, none bigger than Revie's, whose heart of



Revie Sorey and Big Cat Williams go head-to-head

gold and devotion to kids make this event a perpetual success, year in and year out.

If you had the opportunity to be there, hope to see you again next year, where more than racquetball is on the agenda for all the friends and friends-to-be of the man with the big smile and the bigger heart.

— Joe Silius

Editor's Note: This is Joe Silius's debut as a roving reporter in the ISRA newsletter. For the opportunists among you, grab his autograph now...we expect his journalistic fame to grow in the coming years!



Tournament Director Jeff Grace hands Men's A Champ David Kerr, Jr. his ticket to Men's Open



Women's A winner Barb Curran gets kudos from Revie

Revie Sorey
continued from previous page



Kelly Carter of Bloomington (center) with new buds Joe Silius, Patrice Calvi, Carrie Howard and Pam Grace

Results

Division: First; Second; Semifinals

Men's Open (12): Ben Croft; Brian Simpson (IN); Keith Minor, Andy Hawthorne

Men's AA (4): Filip Vesely (IN); Jorge Ortiz; Ryan Griffin (IN), Pat Murray (IN)

Men's A (12): David Kerr, Jr.; Dave Schoonover; Geoff Goldblatt, Joe Waller

Men's B (10): Rick Seaberg; Chris Caldwell; Juan Martinez, Jim Mecha

Men's C (18): Chris Schubert; Mike Antonoff, Jr.; Darren Halligan, Royce Simpson

Men's D (21): Dave Wielgos; Moses Elias; Aaron Pace, Brendan Talty

Men's 30/35/40+ (9): Brad McCuniff (IA); Angelo Batistatos (IN); Jeff Hotler (IN), David Lockridge

Men's 45+ (6): Greg Hodges (MI); Dave Milazzo; Brian Castillo, Tim Dern

Men's 50+ (9): Gregg Mandell; Horace Miller; Jim Davis (IN), Bruce Nelson

Men's 55+ (3): John Versillo; David Kerr, Sr.; Mark Coleman

Men's 60+ (3): Elliott Papermaster (WI); John Talty, Sr.; Alfonso Pugh (MI)

Women's Open (5): Krystal Csuk; Diane Moore (IN); Genevieve Washington (OH) (3), Janet Eminger (4)

Women's A (10): Barbara Curran; Julia Perkins; Pam Grace, Karen Thurlow

Women's B/C (6): Leila Gray; Julianne Beran; Pamela Trent (IN), Carrie Howard

Men's Open Doubles (12): Keith Minor/Eugene Coyle; Pat Murray (IN)/Andy Hawthorne (OH); Brian Simpson (IN)/Filip Vesely (IN), Mark Thorn (IN)/John Amatulli (IN)

Men's A Doubles (11): Delmer Reed/Tony Gonzalez; Wil Rounsaville/Frank Ball; Jeff Grace/Dave Schoonover, Ron Barton (MI)/Shawn Battle (MI)

Men's B Doubles (10): Rick Seaberg/Juan Martinez; Howard Williams (IN)/David Lilly; Theo Richardson/Howell Johnson, Lee Cherry/Willie McGee

Men's C Doubles (15): Humberto Sosa/Gilberto Hernandez; Royce Simpson/Darryl Earl; Brian Lien/Dale Willenbrink, Sergio Rivera/Gerardo Sulic

Men's 35/40+ Doubles: Pat Armstrong/Jim Freamer (IN); Jeff Hotler (IN)/Frank Ball; Jose Martinez (IN)/Martin Gonzalez, Kelvin Branch/Al Robledo

Men's 50+ Doubles (3): Joe Silius/TJ Ferro; Jim Bono (IN)/Dan Kolodziej (IN); Joe Quirke/Willie McGee

Men's Century Doubles (8): Gregg Mandell/Dave Milazzo; Delmer Reed/Jim Davis (inj ftt); Joe Silius/Glynn Williams, Chuck Snyders/Chuck Rupsis

Women's Doubles (4): Patrice Calvi/Janet Eminger; Genevieve Washington (OH)/Julia Perkins; Laurel Davis/Pam Grace (3), Pamela Trent (IN)/Valerie Willis (NC)

Mixed Open Doubles (6): Diane Moore (IN)/Angelo Batistatos (IN); Mary Herron/Dan Kolodziej (IN); Joe Gill/Karen Thurlow, Julie Popovich (IN)/Drake Deavours (IN)

Mixed A Doubles (7): Desmond Slusher/Leila Gray; Drake Deavours (IN)/Julie Popovich (IN); Jim Freamer (IN)/Kelly Carter, Ron Barton (MI)/Thelma Howard (MI)

Mixed B/C Doubles (5): Joe Quirke/Dorothy McDavid; Carolyn Watkins/Howard Williams (IN); Lee Cherry/Dorothy Che-Menju (3); George Henton/Carrie Howard (4)

Juniors 14 & Under (5): Joey Eminger; Kelly Woycheese; Will Herr (3), Michael Wuttke (4)



Jim Maroon (Peoria) works magic on AND off the court!



Hmm... JTI members contemplate Silent Auction possibilities

"Doubles Vision": ISRA State Doubles

Glass Court Swim & Fitness, Lombard, IL
January 28-30, 2005

Tournament Director — Laurel Davis

Wow, this season is speeding by — State Doubles down, and by the time you read this, State Singles will be in the history books as well. Doubles teams from across the state gathered at Glass Court with the vision of emerging victorious in Illinois in one or more of the 21 divisions offered at this favorite annual tournament.

Dave Bachar and Tom Utterback took Men's Open and the winning team of Liz Molitor and Laurel Davis ended up as Women's Open champs. Tournament veterans Jim Hillman and Ellen Somberg were tops in Mixed Open.

Trevor Snyders (with Richard DeArmas), the team of Chris Schubert and Mike Antonoff, Jr. and Geoff Goldblatt (with Cindy Flores) made JTI proud by coming out on top in Men's B, Men's C and Mixed B/C, respectively.

And what a nice turnout from Central Illinois — Springfield, Decatur, Champaign, Bloomington, Peoria and surrounding areas

Do consider looking at the Central Illinois calendar and making a trip or two next season — these guys have great tournaments and they know how to party!

Tournament Director Laurel Davis thanks the following volunteers who donated their time and expertise to the smooth running of the tournament: Mike Antonoff, Jr., Zac Antonoff, Patrice Calvi, Rich Clay, Mike Davern, Joey Eminger, Jeff Grace, Pam Grace, Lori Good, Doug Halverson, Michelle Halverson, Cheryl Kirk, David Kronenfeld, Nancy Kronenfeld, Matt Loy, Keith Mecklenburg, Liz Molitor, Geoff Peters, Kevin Peters, Eric Rieman, Chris Schubert,

Joe Silius, Chuck Snyders, Pam Snyders, John Thorson, Tom Utterback, Mike Vicary, Lynne Weisbart, and Lynn Yeazell. Additionally, extra special gratitude goes to Laura Morgan Brown and Don Klopke, who don't currently play the sport but who can be depended upon year in and year out to pitch in at tournament control — you are true friends of Illinois racquetball!

TJ Ferro always comes through with donations: tasty treats from Cub Foods, Entenmann's, Hostess, Jay's, Little Debbie, Nabisco help to defray the costs of providing tournament hospitality. National City and Penn are appreciated for the support they provide as well.

Last but not least, sincere thanks to Joe and Diane DeArmas and the staff of The Glass Court Swim & Fitness for making available a superior site and hospitality to warm even the coldest of January days. Thank goodness for you!



Men's Open Champs Dave Bachar and Tom Utterback

Much still to anticipate...Edens March Madness, the Shamrock, the Pro Nationals...on to National Singles...and much warmer weather! Life is good.

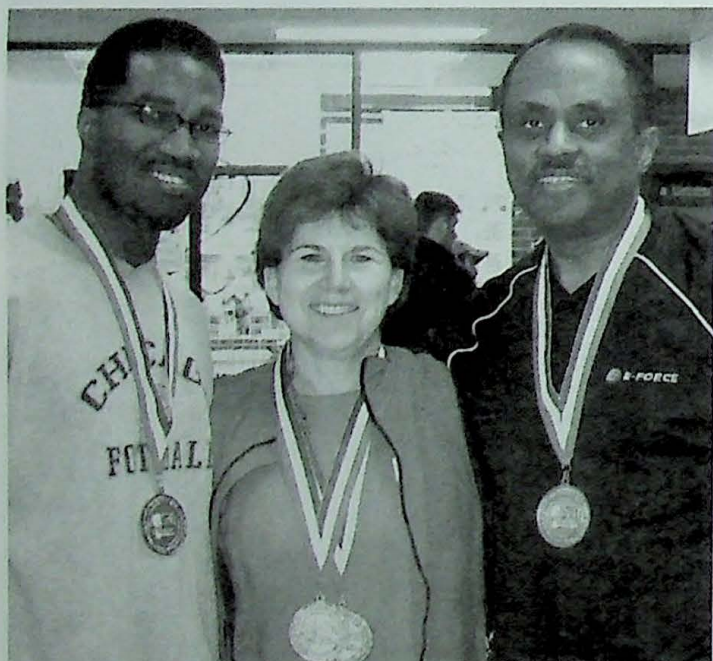
—Cheryl Kirk

Results

Division: First; Second; Semifinals

Men's Open Doubles (11): Dave Bachar/Tom Utterback; Steve Horve/Tony Marquez; Pat Armstrong/Mike Vicary, Eugene Coyle/Joey Logan

continued on next page



Tournament Director Laurel Davis congratulates Men's AA winners Desmond Slusher and Jeff Grace

were nicely represented. They're a fun group of talented players who made the trek to the Chicagoland area to dole out some healthy competition to tournament "regulars." Actually, some are becoming regulars themselves... Terry Sutton, Kurt Mankle, Jim Maroon, Mike Vicary, Pat Armstrong, and Kelly Carter are appearing pretty regularly these days.



Lyman & Milazzo take Men's 45+



The Central Illinois Gang

*Kneeling (L-R): Kurt Mankle, Liz Anderson, Jim Maroon, Kelly Carter
Standing: (L-R): Brenda White, Steve Horve, Don Kuehn, Kyle Sutton, Terry Sutton, Shelley & Tony Marquez, Brad & Gail (Hoffman) Goeppinger, Steve Angelo*

Men's AA Doubles (4): Jeff Grace/Desmond Slusher; Ron Calloway/Matt Malcheski; Mike Bogue/Angelo Moca, John Beaulieu/Geoff Goldblatt

Men's A Doubles (14): Mike Campbell/Tod Dillard; John Puccio/Steve Jungmann; Tim Brown/Raj Sondhi, Joe Kukielski/Matt Malcheski

Men's B Doubles (14): Richard DeArmas/Trevor Snyders; Brett Crawley/Robert Littledale; Greg Benjamin/Pete Schmeichel, Dan Jaskier/Brian McNally

Men's C Doubles (10): Mike Antonoff, Jr./Chris Schubert; Joe Dobrzynski/Mike Hammel; Aaron Pace/Steve Pace, Brian Lien/Dale Willenbrink

Men's 30+ (3): Ron Calloway/Keith Mecklenburg; Doug Halverson/Eric Riemann; Brian Berkelhamer/Dave Lockridge (3)

Men's 35/40+ (8): Dave Bachar/Bill Lyman; Jim Hillman/Chris Caldwell; George Pappas/John Thorson, Pat Armstrong/Mike Vicary

Men's 45+ (8): Dave Milazzo/Bill Lyman; Tony Cosmano/Doug Peterson; Gregg Mandell/Dave Olson, TJ Ferro/Chuck Snyders

Men's 50+ (5): TJ Ferro/Joe Silius; Steve Angelo/Don Kuehn; Winston Cole/Wil Rounsaville (3), Gregg Mandell/Dave Olson

Men's 35+ A (4): Mike Campbell/Tod Dillard; Steve Jungmann/John Puccio; Jim McHale/George Steffens (3), Geoff Heekin/Mike Melber (4)

Men's 30/35+ B/C: Gilberto Hernandez/Humberto Sosa; Geoff Heekin/Mike Melber; Joe Dobrzynski/Mike Hammel (3)

Men's 40/45+ B/C: Tom Lewis/Bob Woycheese; Dean Hollowell/Richard Lux; David Lilly/Howard Williams (3), Juan Martinez/Rick Seaberg (4)

Women's Open (7): Laurel Davis/Liz Molitor; Patrice Calvi/Brenda White; Diane Bunker/Ellen Somberg, Martha Huske/Julie Vincent
Women's AA (3): Nancy Amaro/Janet Eminger; Nancy Kronenfeld/Janet Leet; Lori Good/Pam Grace (3)

Women's A (8): Barbara Curran/Cheryl Kirk; Pandora Brown/Barb Utterback; Kelly Carter/Terry Sutton, Pam Grace/Carolyn Watkins

Women's 40/50+ (3): Patrice Calvi/Janet Eminger; Diane Bunker/Julie Vincent; Martha Huske/Lynne Weisbart (3)

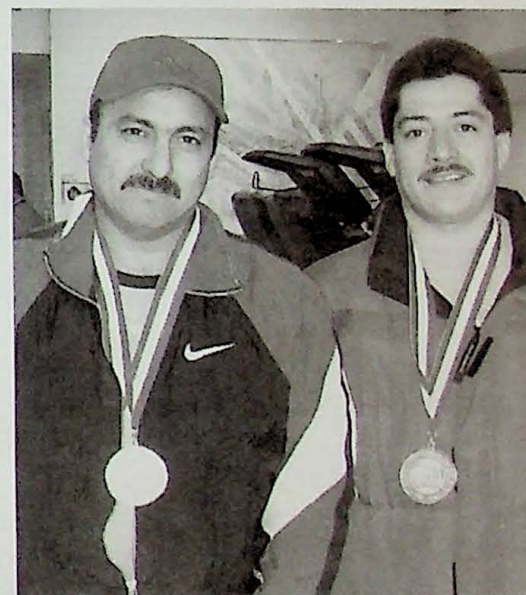
Mixed Open (11): Ellen Somberg/Jim Hillman; Brenda White/Kurt Mankle; Patrice Calvi/Joe Silius, Kelly Carter/Mike Vicary

Mixed AA (4): Laurel Davis/Chuck Snyders; Pandora Brown/Eric Riemann; Shelley Marquez/Tony Marquez, Joe Gill/Karen Thurlow

Mixed A (7): Tom Curtis/Barbara Curran; Kelly Carter/Jim Maroon; Pam Grace/Jeff Grace, Leila Gray/Desmond Slusher

Mixed B/C (4): Cindy Flores/Geoff Goldblatt; Kelly Woycheese/Trevor Snyders; Carolyn Watkins/Howard Williams (3), Gail Goeppinger/Jim Maroon (4)

Mixed Age (7): Liz Molitor/Dave Milazzo; Tom Utterback/Nancy Amaro; Dave Olson/Nancy Kronenfeld, Kurt Mankle/Brenda White



Men's 30/35+ B/C Champs Humberto Sosa and Gilberto Hernandez



*Three Players = Two Winning Teams:
Liz Molitor/Laurel Davis (Women's Open) and
Laurel Davis/Chuck Snyders (Mixed AA)*



*Cindy Flores-Mocarski and Geoff Goldblatt
— Mixed B/C Gold!*



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Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow!

Southlake One-Day Doubles

January 22, 2005

The Southlake Club, Mundelein, IL

Tournament Director — Cindy Flores-Mocarski

Chicago experienced its largest snowfall of the year but the play at the Southlake Doubles Tune-up was hotter than ever! With 40 doubles teams registered, only one player, who plows snow for a living, was unable to make it to Mundelein! The other 50 players braved the storm, and along with Dick Goldblatt (who stepped into the missing player's shoes) made this a very successful tournament. TJ Ferro and John (JT) Thorson took the Men's Open prize money as Steve (Shark) Shaykin, Ray Miller Jr., Carl Jaeschke and Steve Albert played the Iron-Man role with 8 matches each in only 11 hours!! We had another great feast from El Barrios in Diamond Lake and nobody went away hungry! A heart-felt thanks to each player who showed their dedication and true love for the sport of racquetball.

— Cindy Flores-Mocarski

Results

Division: First; Second; Semifinals

Men's Open Doubles (8): TJ Ferro/John Thorson; Jorge Ortiz/John Baumeister; George Steffans/Jim McHale, Mike Ardito/Steve Lloyd

Men's AA Doubles (3): Mitch Becker/Rick Mundrane; John Puccio/Steve Jungmann, Brian Berkelhamer/Paul Berkelhamer (3rd)

Men's A Doubles (7): George Steffans/Jim McHale; Brandon Ritschard/Geoff Goldblatt; Mitch Becker/Mike Ardito, Brett Crawley/Robert Littledale

Men's B Doubles (5): Ray Miller/Steve Shaykin; Dean Hollowell/Richard Lux; Scott Albert/Carl Jaeschke (3), Kevin Schulz/Joey Limonciello (4)

Men's C Doubles (4): Ray Miller/Steve Shaykin; Mark Roberts/Chris Flint; Dick Goldblatt/Mark Bodzinski (3), Nick Barth/Matt Fuentes (4)

Mixed Open/A Doubles (4): Joe Gill/Karen Thurlow; Brian Berkelhamer/Joan Vande Kieft; Jorge Ortiz/Carolyn Watkins (3), Geoff Peters/Laurel Davis (4)

Mixed B Doubles (5): Carl Jaeschke/Donna Albert; Alberto Palacios/Marlin Ortiz; Scott Albert/Sandy Perkins (3), Chris Flint/Beth Weiler (4)

2005 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.
- If ads are run for the entire season, **AND** payment is received with the first issue, the sixth ad is **FREE!**
- These rates are in effect until December 30, 2005.
- Deadlines are as follows:

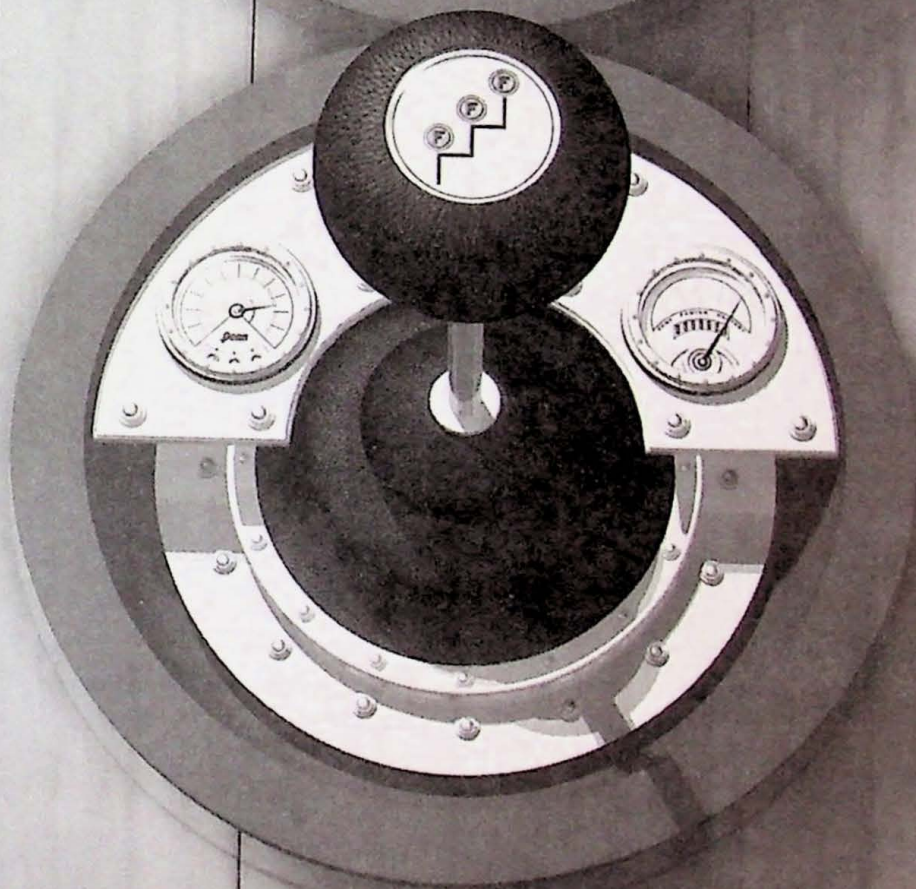
- **Issue Mail Date:** 6/6/05
- **Articles/Releases Due:** 5/6/05
- **Stuffers/Inserts Due:** 5/13/05

- All stuffers/inserts are to be received by: Laura Kreiner, 2307 Arrow Street, Carpentersville, Illinois 60110.
- Ad rates:
Full page: \$250/issue. Half page: \$150/issue.
Quarter page: \$75/issue. Other sizes quoted on a case by case basis.
- For any questions or submission:

Cheryl Kirk, 1064 Sylvan Circle, Naperville, IL 60540
(630) 305-8291

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the half of it.

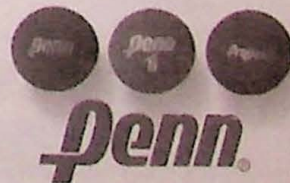


The Ball Matters.



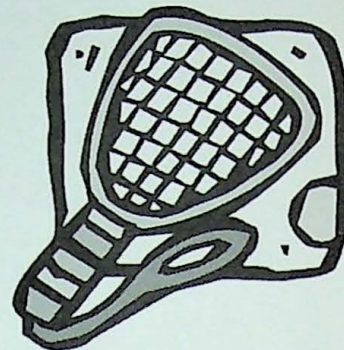
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ISRA Travel League Doubles Round Robin & Awards Banquet



Friday, April 15, 2005

All skill levels invited!

Wind up this travel team season with an evening of great racquetball competition, food, fun and prizes. USRA rules apply.

- ❖ Organized Round Robin play 6:30pm – 8:30pm (check in by 6:15pm)
- ❖ Banquet starts at 8:45pm
- ❖ Awards and Raffle 9:30pm
- ❖ \$12.00 per person
- ❖ Banquet/Raffle/Awards Only — \$7.00 per person

Fill out the entry form below and mail with payment to:

Glass Court Swim & Fitness Club

830 E. Roosevelt Road, Lombard, IL 60148

You may phone in your registration with a credit card: (630) 629-3390
(\$2.00 phone registration fee)

Registration is required for the round robin and awards banquet. Sign up early for round robin play, since space is limited! Please sign up with your doubles partner.

Name _____
Phone H _____ W _____
Partner's Name _____
Phone H _____ W _____

Travel Team Skill Level (Circle Two):

Women's

Men's

Open/A

B/C

Round Robin including awards banquet (\$12.00)	\$ _____
Partner's fee round robin including awards banquet (\$12.00)	\$ _____
Awards Banquet Only/Guest (\$7.00) (Total # for dinner _____)	\$ _____
Phone-in charge (\$2.00)	\$ _____

Total \$ _____

Payment:

Check _____ Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

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2005 TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

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

March 11-13

March Madness

Edens Athletic Club,
Chicago

Joe Gill (773) 286-6700

SANCTIONED *

March 18-20

Shamrock Shootout

The Glass Court Swim
and Fitness

Doug Halverson
(630) 629-3390

SANCTIONED

March 30-April 3

E-Force 33rd Intercollegiate

Championships

Location TBD

Heather Fender

(719) 635-5396

SANCTIONED

April 20-24

Motorola Pro Nationals/USAR

Regional Championships

Schaumburg Tennis Plus

Dave Negrete

(630) 430-1478

SANCTIONED

May 25-30

38th Ektelon USAR National

Championships

Downtown YMCA,

Houston, TX

Heather Fender

(719) 635-5396

SANCTIONED

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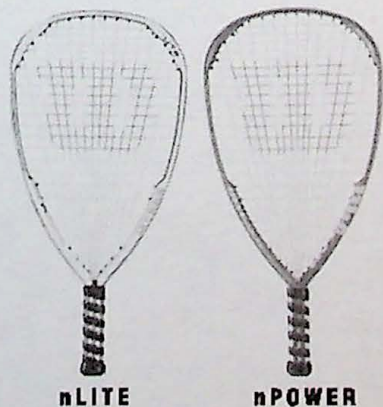
Tournament _____ Representative _____

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





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Bartlett, IL
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7:30 - 10:00 p.m.
Saturdays 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.
\$5.00

**Bloomington Health,
Handball and
Racquetball, Inc.**
(630) 924-0788
Saturdays & Sundays
8:30 a.m. - Noon
\$6.00

Buehler YMCA
(847) 359-5098
Palatine, IL
Thursdays
8-10 p.m.
Saturdays 8 a.m. - Noon
\$15 One-Day
Guest Pass

**Courts Plus
(Elmhurst Park District)**
(630) 833-5064
Saturdays
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Members \$3,
Non-Members \$10

Edens Athletic Club
(773) 286-6700
Saturdays 12-3 p.m.
\$8 for ISRA members
(with membership card)

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

Norridge Rec Center
(630) 377-1405
Norridge, 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
and Non-members

**Palos Olympic Health
& Racquet Club**
(708) 974-1900
Thursdays 6 - 8:30 p.m.
\$12.00

**Schaumburg
Park District**
(847) 884-0678
Saturdays & Sundays
9 a.m. - Noon
\$8 for non-members

Schaumburg Tennis Plus
(630) 430-1478
Women Open/A Players
Fridays
9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Members \$3
Non-Members \$9

**The Glass Court
Swim & Fitness**
(630) 629-3390
Saturdays 7 a.m. - Noon
\$7.00

The Southlake Club
(847) 949-8180
Saturdays
10 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
\$10.00 for
ISRA members
(with membership card)

**Tinley Park Park District
Fitness Center**
(708) 532-8899
Thursdays
5-8 p.m.
Saturdays
Noon - 3 p.m.
Members free
Residents \$8
Non-Residents \$12

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

Central Illinois Tournament Calendar

March 18-20
St. Patty's Open
Springfield Racquet
& Fitness
Karin, Bob, Steve
(217) 787-2460

March 26
Quad Cities
Open Doubles
North Scott Fitness
Brad Flack,
Dave Herzog
Eldridge, IA

*Any Questions,
Corrections or
Additions? Please
Call Larry Boyer
(217) 864-4862
(217) 864-6635 Fax
Boyers@Insightbb.com
or
Geoff Peters
(773) 251-4413;
Petersgeoff@hotmail.com*



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