



Newsletter

Vol. 17 No. 5
September, 2000

USRA
United States Racquetball Association

From The President

In my last article I talked about the "lazy, hazy days of summer". Some of the days may have been hazy, but my summer has been anything but lazy. I have been so busy that I sometimes feel like my head is spinning. I think a return to the normalcy of fall and racquetball will be a welcome relief this year.

The 2000-2001 racquetball season was officially kicked off with the Glass Court's Summerfest tournament in July. The Summerfest is always a great tournament and a great way to ease back into racquetball. In order to continue the season's kick off, this issue is dedicated to the topics of ranking and seeding – and they are definitely not the same thing!

The USRA uses a **ranking** system. Players acquire points based on where they finish in tournaments or other sanctioned events. Points are given for quarter-final, semi-final, second, and first place finishes. Tournaments are also weighted based on type. For instance, a national tournament carries more weight than a regional tournament; a regional tournament has more weight than a state tournament, and so on. This system rewards players for participating in lots of events and placing in the top eight in each of them. The names of the top 10 players in each category appear in *Racquetball Magazine* (as long as their USRA/ISRA membership is current). It's always fun to see your name appear in a national publication...provided it's not the FBI's Most Wanted list! Just a hint – playing in national events will get you on this list the fastest.

The ISRA uses a **seeding** system. Our goal is to ensure that players are placed in the right position in a tournament draw. The first time a player participates in an ISRA sanctioned event, the ISRA system assigns a base point value to the player, based on the skill division for which they are eligible. Every player has a point value in the system. When "Player A" plays "Player B", the system will predict the outcome based on the relative point values of the players. The actual outcome is entered into the system and a new point value is assigned to each player. If the lower player scores more points than the system predicts, they can increase their assigned points even though they didn't win the match. The higher player may also see a reduction in their points because they didn't do as well as they should have.

Player points are used to seed tournament draws. The player with the highest point total is seeded first. Adjustments are sometimes made to ensure that two players from the same club are not playing in the first match or that a player whose point total is inflated does not get seeded improperly. The system does not have the ability to discern between age groups and skill divisions. So, a player who plays predominantly age divisions may have a higher point total than a player who plays Open. We have to use our collective knowledge of the players to ensure proper seeding in a case like that. We also try to make sure that all players are eligible for the division they have entered...and sometimes somebody sneaks into a lower division. We depend on people being honest and playing where they should.

Whew! Now that I've explained all that, here are a couple of other things you should know. All matches played in ISRA sanctioned tournaments for approximately the last **eight** years are entered into the system. You can receive a history of every match you have played by contacting ISRA secretary, Judy Young. The history will provide you

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Bruce Nelson Wins 45+ NMRA Masters

Illinois own, Bruce Nelson, in his 4th attempt in as many years, finally comes over the top and takes the National Masters Racquetball Association's (NMRA) International Masters Racquetball Championships Men's 45+ division, at the US Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs this past July. Bruce, currently ranked fourth in the USRA ranking system in Men's 45+ in Illinois, won all 8 of his matches in the round-robin tournament. Bruce made steady progress over the past several years, going from 6th to 5th in 1997 and 1998, to 2nd last year in Champaign, before coming out on top this year. Those who know Bruce would say that his trip to the top is just a small indication of his character, showing perseverance and endurance as he strives toward a goal.

Competitors in his division came from all over the country, including players from Indiana, Texas, Florida, Arizona and Colorado. In all, over 220 Masters attended the tournament. Players must be at least 45 years old to enter. "I was disappointed with the draw from Illinois players last year when the tournament was held in Champaign," he said. There were more Ohio players in attendance than from our own state." This year saw a few Illinois players making the trip including long-time Illinois players, John O'Donnell, Jr. and Leo Klimaitis, among others. "This is a great tournament," Bruce noted. "It is held in a different facility each year during July. It is well run, with no refs and the matches are spread out over three days, Thursday through Saturday." Next year, he notes, the tournament will be back in our neck of the woods, since it is being held in West Allis, Wisconsin. Illinois players should take notice.

"This tournament is always held in great locations," he says, "but I never saw a finer facility than the US Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. The courts were just as clean as can be and playing at altitude (Colorado Springs sits at 7,200 feet above sea-level) was really something."

Hopefully, Illinois Masters' over 45 will follow Bruce's lead and catch some summertime competition next July. For the rest of us Juniors, we now have something else to look forward to in the summer of our racquetball careers.

--Mike Davern

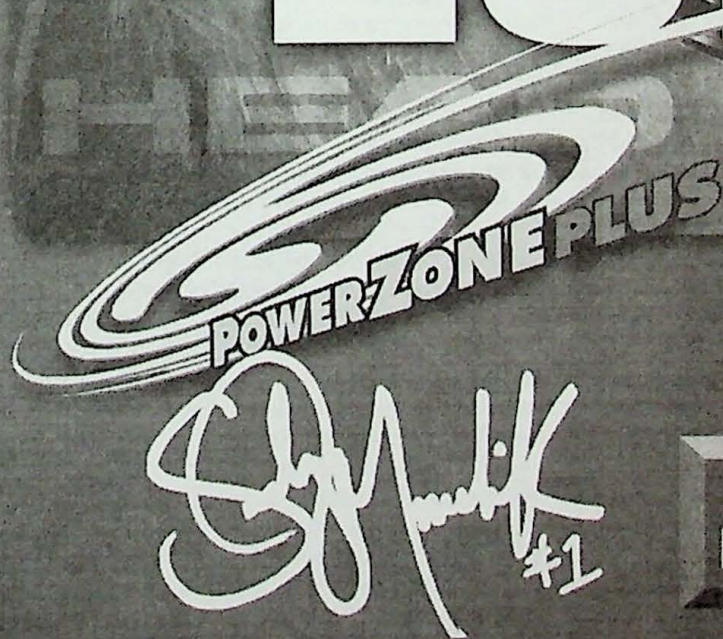
2000/2001 ISRA Newsletter Advertising Rates

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, .pcx, or .ppt 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, 2001.
- Ad deadlines are as follows:

Issue Mail Date	Article/Releases Due	Stuffers/Inserts Due
11/1/00	10/12/00	10/20/00
1/01/01	12/12/00	12/20/00
3/01/01	2/12/01	2/20/01
5/01/01	4/12/01	4/20/01
7/01/01	6/12/01	6/20/01

- All stuffer/inserts are to be received by: Laura Kreiner, 2307 Arrow Street, Carpentersville, Illinois 60110.
- Ad rates:
Full page: \$300/issue. Half page: \$175/issue.
Quarter page: \$100/issue. Other sizes quoted on a case by case basis.
- For any questions or submission:
Mike Davern, 704 Sherwood Court, Naperville, IL 60565
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**TITANIUM
RACQUETBALL**

Klimaitis takes on the World(s)

Let's see if this has ever happened to you: You're a couple of times a week kind of player. You might play in a weekly league during the season. You play in 4 or 5 tournaments a year. If nothing is going on you might sneak out for an early morning weekend match. You like going to the US Open in Memphis, and hanging with the pros when they come to your club for a pro stop once a year. You're not a fanatic or anything. (At least that's what you tell yourself.) Racquetball is just a hobby. Something to do that is fun and challenging. Sounds somewhat familiar?

Now let's say you're leafing through Racquetball Magazine and you realize that a tournament is being held the very next weekend, right when you happen to be in that town on vacation. What a coincidence! Making a quick calculation, you realize right away, there is no way you can play in that tournament and still remain married. No problem, no big deal. There are plenty of other tournaments to play in...but it might be fun to stop in and say "Hi" to the tournament director (a friend) if nothing is going on during the weekend while you're there. There is nothing wrong with that. Right?

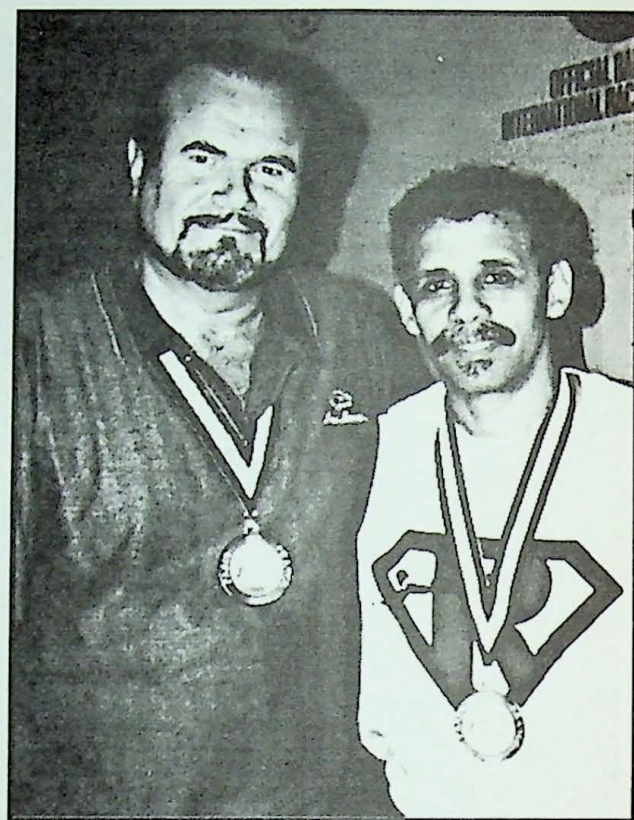
So you call the tournament director and leave a message. All you say is that by luck you happen to be in town and might stop by, could you get a call back with directions to the club. So far so good.

Then your wife takes a message while you are out. "It's Gary Mazaroff", the voice on the other end of the phone says. "I'm the Tournament Director for the World Senior Doubles next weekend in Paris", he says. "Tell Leo, its no problem. We got him in the tournament. Isn't that wonderful." Oops!

Imagine the conversation as you enter the doorway. The looks of loving understanding as you calmly explain that you were only looking for directions. That you were thinking it might be fun to stop by for a few minutes. And you can imagine the bemused look that you might receive as you try to explain that you had no idea there was a racquetball tournament in Paris of all places when you set up this vacation. Of course, you wouldn't think of playing...unless...

Unless, it happens to be the World Senior Doubles and who knows when you might have a chance to play that tournament again. So, after intense negotiations you show up and, as a result, there happen to be two winners that weekend.

The first winner is, of course, your wife, Sue, who has to win the ISRA Spouse of the Year award (note to the ISRA Board: a new award category?) for letting you play while you are in Paris of all places. Second winner: You. Leo Klimaitis. Men's 50+ World Doubles Champion. Happens to be the first World Doubles Championship ever held. A World Champion. Along with your partner, Frank Rios, from Guam, who you just met at the tournament. Not bad for a week long stay in Paris. As it happened, Sue had a great time as well.



**50+ winner Leo Klimaitis with
45+ winner Ruben Gonzalez at the
World Seniors Doubles Championships,
Paris, 2000**

Racquetball Websites

ISRA Website: <http://www.illinoisracquetball.com>

Check out the ISRA website for updated tournament information, tournament results, ranking information, and to find out what's happening at Illinois Clubs. Stop in and check it out soon!

USRA Websites:

<http://www.racquetball.org> <http://www.usra.org>

Racquetball Magazine Website: <http://www.racqmag.com>

E-Force Racquetball: <http://www.e-force.com>

Ektelon Racquetball: <http://www.ektelon.com>

Head Racquetball: <http://www.head.com>

Wilson Racquetball: <http://www.wilsonracquetball.com>

Courtesy Sports: <http://www.courtesysports.com>

Gemini Racquetball: <http://www.craiga.home.mindspring.com>

Penn Racquetball: <http://www.pennracquet.com>

National Masters Racquetball Association:

www.genesinetwork.net/users/nmra

IRT/WIRT Pro Tours: www.irt-tour.com

Jordan Kahn's Home Page:

<http://members.aol.com/jordanisra/index.html>

Meet and Play: <http://www.meetandplay.com>

Leo swears every word of the story is true. Especially the last part. "Playing racquetball overseas is a great feeling. You feel like you are a pioneer. Helping to energize the sport in Europe. Maybe this helps in some small way bring the sport to the Olympic level." To be in the Olympics, a sport has to be played on a worldwide basis. Gary Mazaroff, AmPRO Coordinator and tournament director for the World Singles in Albuquerque and the World Doubles, feels that way as well. "This is an excellent way to bring racquetball overseas. We had participants from 6 countries and everyone had a great time."

What about the time spent playing racquetball when you could be traveling around Europe? "As it turns out," Leo noted, "this is an excellent way to see Europe. The number of contacts that you make is incredible. The schedule is not demanding and leaves plenty of time for fun. You play 2-3 matches per day over a 4 day period, with the matches scheduled back-to-back so that you don't spend the whole day at the club. One night a banquet is held with all of the participants invited." Gary Mazaroff noted that they intend to eventually move the tournament around to different locations but that it will be held next year at the same facility in Paris (the Club Form) April 26-29, 2001. Although 'the old man of racquetball', Ruben Gonzalez, attended the tournament and won the 45's, pro level of play is not required.

So, congratulations to Leo and Sue. They both seem like World Champions to us.

--Mike Davern

2000 ISRA Golf Outing Participants July 8, 2000

Bill Abraham
 John Anaya
 Connie Arvia
 Steve Balducci
 Kim Baumgartner
 Jeff Baumgartner
 Tom Baxa
 Joey Brownlee
 Charlie Brugler
 Ron Calloway
 Julie Carter
 Dale Carter
 Glen Casbourne
 Clyde Senters
 Janet Christie
 Don Cipriani
 Lynn Clay
 Rich Clay
 George Clebber
 Mike Davern
 Laurel Davis
 Jim Davis
 Mike Donovan
 Ann Duchon
 Dan Duchon
 Deb Duquaine
 Harry Eng
 Kim Errico
 Carl Evers
 Jim Gaw
 Karen Gaw
 Steve Geroux
 Tom Griffith
 Doug Halverson
 Joan Harris
 Paul Hinderman
 Jay Humphreys
 Carl Kisill
 Maria Johnson
 Lloyd Johnson

ISRA GOLF OUTING

JULY 8, 2000

Great weather, lots of fun, no broken balls and a surprise guest. Twenty foursomes of multi-talented racquetball players hit the links at the Village Greens Golf Course in Woodridge. Tournament directors, Tom and Barb Utterback, put on quite a show with food, contests and tons of giveaways. Surprise guest, and IRT pro, Andy Roberts in Chicago visiting family, made the hike to the western suburbs to participate. His playing partners were amazed at his driving distances. His drive on 18 had to travel 300+ yards. Looks like power and good technique translates over to both sports.

The team consisting of Bill Abraham, Charlie Brugler, Steve Sivrett and Tom Utterback also had power and good technique, enough to go 14 under par in this "best ball" format to just edge out Bill Rzonca, Jim Moore, Paul Hinderman, Chris Marinas. ISRA President, Laurel Davis, showed her stuff, by sticking an iron shot closet-to-the pin. Kathy Radloff, put her power to work hitting the Longest Drive for the women. Steve Sivrett took the honors for the men.

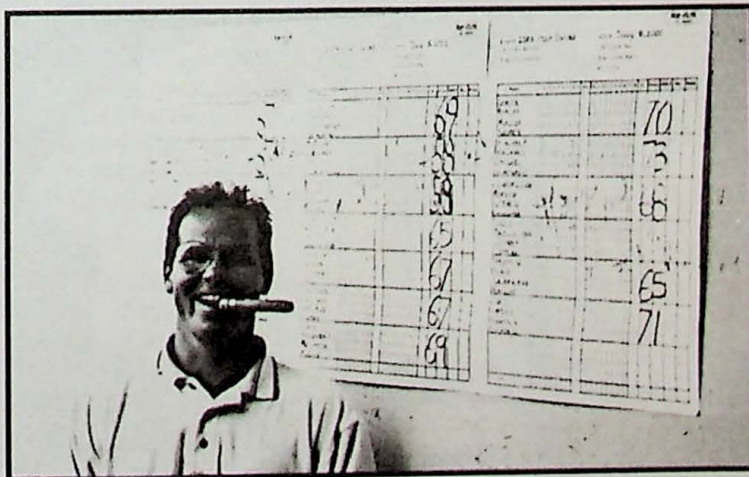
It wasn't just great golf. Participants also got to bring home lots of prizes. Donations were made by the ISRA, Wilson, HEAD, Ekelton, Nuveen Investments, Lucent Technologies, McKernin Exhibits, Peggy Hartman, and Jeff Baumgartner. Special thanks also goes to Rich Clay and Patrice Calvi for assisting with the outing.

We hope to bring out even more players next year, just a few more foursomes and we can request a shotgun start. Watch the ISRA newsletter and website (<http://www.illinoisracquetball.com>) for information on next year's event.



The winning foursome.

*Geoff Peters picking
up his door prize from
Barb Utterback and
Laurel Davis.*



*Tom Utterback
enjoying his
team win.*

*Continued on
next page...*



Andy Roberts,
sticking it close
as Bill Roberts
and Pat Rotunno
look on.



Doubles Partners:
Rich and Lynn Adams-Glady

Cary Slade with the long
birdie attempt.
Tom Griffith tends the pin.



Hosts Tom and
Barb Utterback
along with
Andy Roberts,
who was a
surprise guest.



2000 ISRA Golf Outing Participants July 8, 2000

Brad Jordan
Bill Kuhlman
Sandy Kuhlman
Rene Ledesma
Chris Lewis
Cathy Logic
Chris Marinas
John Matarrese
Keith Mecklenberg
Dave Milazzo
Mark Mobilia
Jim Moore
Steve Morynski
Jim Mueller
Dennis Negrete
John Negrete
George Nonas
Sandy Osman
Larry Paxson
Geoff Peters
Cathy Radloff
Nick Radloff
Pat Rotunno
Eric Rieman
Rick Ricksekker
Andy Roberts
Bill Roberts
Scott Ross
Bill Rzonca
Joe Silius
Steve Sivrett
Cary Slade
Frank Smelarz
George Smuckel
Pete Stopinski
Steve Sulli
Barb Utterback
Tom Utterback
Dylan Wick
Steve Wood

1999/2000 USRA Rankings for Illinois Men Players

These are the USRA rankings for the state of Illinois, taken from all sanctioned tournaments through the 2000 National Championships in Houston. As such these are your official year 2000 National rankings. Remember you get USRA ranking points for each quarterfinal finish and higher. National and Regional tournaments give more ranking points than the State Singles which gives more points than your local state tournaments. However, the more you play (and the better) the more points you get. Simple. Since points are maintained for a rolling 12 month period, some of the ranked players are now playing other brackets. Remember, in Illinois: **NATIONAL RANKING DOES NOT EQUAL SEEDING.** Even the National Singles Championship did not use the national ranking system to seed players. Because it captures the quantity of play (the more you play, the more points you get), as well as quality, it is not a seeding system. A perfect example is Jim Ellenberger's #1 ranking in Men's Open over #2 ranked Tim Sweeney. Tim hasn't played in as many tournaments as Jim, although both do very well in the tournaments that they enter. One or the other usually wins and Tim has beaten Jim every time they have met in the finals. Tim beat Jim in this past year's State Singles, but Jim won Regionals in which Tim didn't play. That cost him points and leaves him ranked second. Tournament Directors would seed Tim ahead of Jim.

SO, what do the national rankings mean? Well, even though these points don't mean anything for seeding, the USRA national ranking system is still a fun way to judge your performance versus others playing in your division or playing in other states. And let's face it...getting a high ranking in the USRA system is a nice recognition, especially if it is high enough to gain top 10 status nationwide. That means you get published in the USRA Magazine. (The top 25 nationally in each division get published on the USRA's Racquetball Magazine website at www.racqmag.htm)

Illinois tournaments are seeded using the Illinois ranking system. This system compares your actual performance versus predicted performance and gives seeding points based on those predictions. You have three main ways to gain points in Illinois: win a match you were expect to lose, win bigger than expected or lose by less than expected and you gain points. You also are awarded bonus points for every ten matches recorded in the system. Quantity counts in Illinois too, but it is not as big a factor as with the National system. You can lose points three ways as well: Lose a match you were expected to win, win by less than expected or lose by more than expected and you lose points. Every point in every match counts in Illinois. If you are getting blown out...keep fighting. It might help your seeding in the next tournament. Winners can still lose points even while winning so you have to play hard no matter what. Anyway, for what it is worth, here are the USRA National Rankings for state of Illinois players:

MEN's OPEN

Not a lot of changes in Men's ranking but the good news is we now have 32 players ranked. Through the first half of the year, only 15 Illinois players had made it to a quarterfinal match and earned ranking points. Players making a move included Andy Hawthorne, who jumped from 9 to 3, but might have trouble moving up any farther as he is off to college in Ohio in the fall. Might get him back for a few weekend tournaments, we'll have to see. Nick Radloff is back from injury and the golf course and moved to 8 on the list after being absent for a number of years. Tim Sweeney is going to have to play Regionals to get past Jim Ellenberger in points, so long as Jim does well at State's and wins Regionals, Tim can't make the move. Obviously he has the game to do it.

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Jim Ellenberger	400	8365	2/3
2	Tim Sweeney	325	8252	3/4
3	Andy Hawthorne	135	210	3/0
4	Dave Negrete	105	765	4/1
5	Eugene Coyle	80	1495	5/0
6	Dale Johnson	75	4163	1/0

7	John Negrete	75	1435	2/0
8	Nick Radloff	75	75	1/0
9	Bill Lyman	50	530	0/1
10	George Pappas	50	185	1/0
11	Barry Dixon	50	75	1/0
T12	Eric Reiman	50	50	1/0
T12	Jon Cole	50	50	1/0
14	Joey Logan	30	30	2/0
15	Keith Minor	25	1070	1/0
16	Doug Halverson	20	225	1/0
17	Tom Utterback	20	195	1/0
18	Mike Davern	20	20	2/0

Men's Open 19-32 (all at 10 points each): Mike Anderson, Mike Bogue, Frank Bunker, Rich Clay, Ben Croft, Mike Goodyear, Kent Hadraba, Greg Hasty II, Mike Kinkin, Scott Ross, Al Rubiano, Cary Slade, Steve Uhlarik.

MEN's A

The turnover coming in Men's A is going to be interesting to watch. Out of the top 10 ranked below, only Al Rubiano, Chris Cotton and Bob Morrison are still playing Men's A!!! The rest have moved on to Men's Open and will be falling off the list over the next 12 months. That leaves a lots of room at the top so we are expecting to see big moves this year, especially from players such as Kevin Johnson, Jim Elliot, Jeff Grace and Keith Avery who are all playing well. Even those further down the list have excellent possibilities, if they get off the stick and start playing more regularly. My money out of that group would be on Chris Selvig and Keith Kareiva who both got game. Lastly, you have some solid B players who have the skills to challenge in the A group. Those would include Martin Gonzalez and Miguel Saavedra, among others. Still, it will be some time before anyone can best Cary Slade's top spot even though he has moved on to Open. Cary almost doubled his points with his high quality of play here in state (winning or taking second in a number of tournaments) and doing well in the Regionals in St. Louis and placing well at Nationals. His point total puts him as the #1 Men's A player in the country!!! Cary did it right. He booked a high quantity of top finishes and went out in style. He quite deserved his Illinois Player of the Year status. The race to take over Cary, Eric Rieman's and Ben Croft's top 3 spots begins now....

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Cary Slade	650	740	3/6
2	Eric Rieman	350	690	2/5
3	Ben Croft	320	320	2/2
4	Dennis Negrete	275	390	3/2
5	Martin Gonzalez	175	175	2/3
6	Chris Cotton	125	175	1/1
7	Al Rubiano	100	225	4/0
8	Kurt Mankle	100	120	2/2
9	John Bartholomey	70	150	2/1
10	Bob Morrison	70	90	2/0
11	Kevin Johnson	65	235	4/0
12	Jim Elliott	50	50	1/0
13	Keith Avery	45	145	3/0
14	Jeff Grace	45	95	3/0
15	Ed Libby	35	35	4/0
16	Mike Davern	30	425	1/0
17	David Leach	30	45	1/0
18	Tony Mangiaracina	30	30	2/0
19	Keith Wiener	25	45	2/0
20	Scott Reiser	25	25	1/0
21	Michael Bryce	20	555	1/0
22	Scott Ross	20	120	2/0
23	Jake Cordona	20	50	1/0
24	Scott Ross	20	120	2/0
25	Keith Kareiva	20	90	2/0
26	Tad Smith	20	20	1/0
27	Dennis Bishoff	15	25	1/0

continued on next page

MEN'S RANKINGS

continued from previous page

T28	Vince Grodzinski	15	15	1/0
T28	Brian Johnson	15	15	1/0

Men's A players #30-41 tied at 10 points: Raul Artega, Ron Calloway, Dan Flood, Leo Formanski, Richard Garris, Ed Gutierrez, Bill Kuhlmann, John Matarrese, Chris Selvig, Ralph Wakerly, Richard Wells, Tim Wendt.

MEN'S B

Wow! We have 61 ranked players in Men's B. That's impressive. However, as with Men's A, we have a wide open field coming into Men's B for the 2000-2001 season. With 4 out of the top 10 (Gonzalez, Ayres, Saavedra, Coyner) and 9 out of the top 20 (Mecklenburg, Gutierrez, Johnson, Cwynar and Brownnewell) on the move up to Men's A, the rankings in this division will go through some rapid turnover. These changes should open the way for frequent tournament players: Dick Heithoff, Ed Libby, Ray Meisner to battle it out for the top spots, among others. You will have to watch out for Dan Pepin and David Royster as well. Both have the skills to challenge.

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Martin Gonzalez	350	485	0/3
2	Rob Ayres	260	310	5/4
3	Dick Heithoff	185	215	3/2
T4	Ed Libby	150	150	3/1
T4	Miguel Saavedra	150	150	0/1
T4	Phil Streater	150	150	0/1
7	David Royster	115	165	0/1
8	Ray Meisner	105	220	1/1
9	Don Mayberry	105	105	0/1
10	Dave Coyner	95	105	3/1
11	Keith Mecklenburg	95	125	4/1
12	Steve Saeks	75	105	1/0
13	Dan Pepin	60	215	0/1
14	Ed Gutierrez	50	250	0/1
T15	Brian Johnson	50	160	0/1
T15	Tim Garvey	50	160	1/0
17	Fred Cwynar	50	115	1/0
18	Jason Brownnewell	50	85	0/1
19	Gene Cromwell	50	80	1/0
20	John O'Donnell	50	65	1/0
T21	Ben Croft	50	50	0/1
T21	Randy Asper	50	50	1/0
T21	Jack Tamplin	50	50	1/1
24	Leo Formanski	40	140	3/0
25	Charles Naber	40	80	1/1
26	Jim Gaw	35	185	2/0
27	Juan Alcantar	35	35	2/0
28	Ray Gata	25	25	1/0
29	Jeff Jovien	20	465	1/0
30	Joey Brownlee	20	265	3/0
T31	Kelvin Branch	20	20	1/0
T31	Joe Keane	20	20	1/0
T31	Dave Schoonover	20	20	1/0
T31	T.G. Venkateshwaran	20	20	1/0

At 15 points: Greg Benjamin, Randy Ems, Dan Flood, Mark Mobilia, Steve Sacks, Richard Wells. At 10 Points: Gary Bass, Cliff Bensen, George Bound, Jim Burns, Lee Cherry, Joe DeMarco, Steve Donarski, Josh Hansford, Sid Harshavat, Mac Ibarra, Wayne Lorenz, Rick Lukens, Luis Monsteal, Ozzie Moran, Jim Mueller, Tom Mueller, Sean Nelson, Paul O'Connell, John Shermulis, Tad Smith, and Art White.

MEN'S C

In Men's C the story is again one of big movement. We have 3 of the top ten that have to move up (Rosselli, Anaya, Alcantar) and three others out of that group already playing some Men's B tournaments (Mayberry, Wells, and Mobilia), there is room galore for lots of movement. Especially when you consider that 5 of the next 10 have also moved up: Coyner, Naber, Beaulieu, Saavedra and Trizzino. Lots and lots of room. Vito Rubiano is one that may take advantage as should Grant Macuba and Bryan Pforr. Time will tell who will be left

standing at next season's end.

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Tony Rosselli	360	360	1/2
2	Grant Macuba	350	520	4/1
3	John Anaya	250	390	2/3
4	Juan Alcantar	200	200	0/2
5	Don Mayberry	195	455	6/1
6	Richard Wells	120	290	2/0
7	Bryan Pforr	90	130	2/1
8	Vito Rubiano	90	90	2/0
9	Mark Mobilia	75	85	1/0
10	Tim Clarke	65	105	2/0
11	Dave Coyner	65	95	1/1
12	Sid Harshavat	65	65	2/1
13	Charles Naber	60	145	1/1
14	Russ Tator	55	55	4/0
15	Kelvin Branch	50	125	0/1
16	Scott Trizzino	50	95	0/1
17	Miguel Saavedra	50	60	0/1
T18	John Beaulieu	50	50	0/1
T18	Don Taylor	50	50	1/0
19	Joe Vallender	40	105	2/0
20	Mike Moran	40	90	1/1
21	Marc Rusinko	35	50	2/0
22	Mike Belvedere	30	30	2/0
23	Luis Monsreal	30	40	0/1
T24	Bob Brennan	30	30	2/0
T24	Steve Kadler	30	30	0/1
T24	Brad Promisel	30	30	0/1
T24	Tod Smith	30	30	0/1
T24	Jessie Ortiz	30	30	0/1
T24	Brad Stanfield	30	30	0/1

At 20 Points (#30-33): Jason Desanto, Mike Ryan, Larry Schum, Wayne Grane. At 15 Points (34-37): Bob Diamond, John Talty, Rick Griffin, Dan Jaskier. At 10 Points (38-63): Gary Bass, Greg Benjamin, George Buenik, Brian Cody, Brett Crawley, Gerald DeGonia, Joe Deroche, Mauricio Fernandez, Dan Freeman, George Gonski, Tony Gonzalez, Mac Ibarra, Rick Lukens, Mike Molan, Scott Morris, Hugh Morrison, Tom Mueller, Mike Padavic, Perry Plarski, Tom Reed, Hebert Rodriguez, Eddie Ruffin, Jim Schevers, Humberto Sosa, and Pete Shesek.

MEN'S D

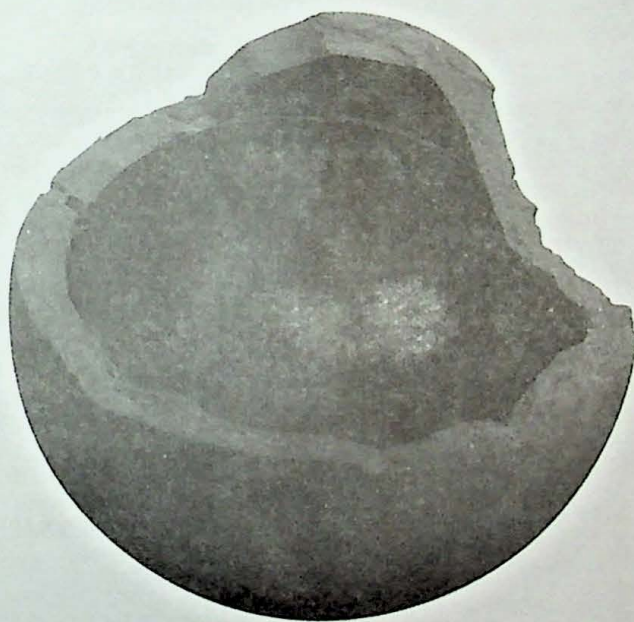
Most of the movement in Men's D was in the bottom half of the first 20 with only 4 of the top 10 (Harshavat, Bound, Corona and Simmons) moving. In contrast, 7 of the next 10 have to move so players will have to put some work in to break high in Men's D. Especially true with Men's D #1 ranking player, Joe DeRoche staying put for now in Men's D. (Or at least he does not have to move up yet.) Dan Opferman and George Smuckel are going to have to work to take his place.

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Joe DeRoche	500	585	3/1
2	Sid Harshavat	350	505	0/2
3	George Bound	310	465	1/2
4	Vito Rubiano	200	200	0/1
5	Dan Opferman	195	265	1/0
6	George Smuckel	175	485	4/0
7	Humberto Sosa	170	380	1/1
8	Joe Sanders	100	110	1/0
9	Oscar Corona	100	100	0/1
T10	Andy Simmons	90	90	1/2
T10	Tom Fediani	90	90	0/1
12	Tom Reed	85	85	1/0
13	Ray Hurley	60	60	2/0
14	Tony Gonzalez	55	85	3/0
15	Jason DeSanto	50	160	0/1
16	Bryan Pforr	50	60	0/1
T17	Juan Alcantar	50	50	0/1
T17	Miguel Saavedra	50	50	0/1
T17	Gary Pescrillo	50	50	1/1

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SPIRIT
TOO.



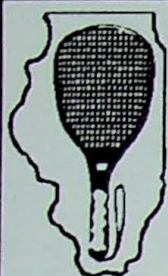
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2000-2001 TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

Call Geoff Peters (773) 935-9685 to add your listing.

September 8-9
State Three Wall Outdoor
Championships
Athletic Club of Bloomingdale
Dennis Negrete (630) 893-9577

October 4-8
National Doubles
Baltimore, MD
Jim Hiser (719) 635-5396
SANCTIONED

October 6-8
Landmark Fall Warm-Up
Landmark Racquet
and Health Club
Terry Sutton (309) 685-8200

October 7-8
Edens Octoberfest
Edens Athletic Club
Cindy Flores (773) 286-6700

October 13-15
16th Annual Masters
Athletic Club at Bloomingdale
Rich Clay (847) 918-7407
SANCTIONED

October 20-22
B.R. Ryall YMCA Fall Open
B.R. Ryall YMCA, Glen Ellyn
Sean Nelson (630) 858-0100
SANCTIONED

October 25-29
Halloween Classic PRO-AM Event
Athletic Club at Bloomingdale,
Bloomingdale
Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577
SANCTIONED

November 3-4
Southlake Fall Open
Southlake Club
Kathy Logic (847) 949-8180
SANCTIONED

November 9-12
Glass Court Turkey Shoot
Glass Court Swim & Fitness, Lombard
Doug Halverson (630) 629-3390
SANCTIONED

November 15-19
5th Annual Hilton Hotels
U.S. Open
Memphis, Tennessee
Jim Hiser (719) 635-5396
SANCTIONED

December 2
Wilson Women's Classic
Athletic Club at Bloomingdale,
Bloomingdale
Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577
SANCTIONED

December 8-9
Wilson Classic
Oak Park Athletic Club
Bill Lyman (708) 848-5200
SANCTIONED

January 12-14
Revie Sorey E-FORCE Celebrity Classic
Location TBD
Anita Efron (708) 474-2440
SANCTIONED

January 19-21
Women's Senior/Masters
~~Baltimore, MD~~ CA
(410) 655-7958
SANCTIONED

January 19-21
Doubles Tune-Up
The Southlake Club
Kathy Logic (847) 949-8180
SANCTIONED

January 26-28
ILLINOIS STATE DOUBLES
Glass Court Swim & Fitness, Lombard
Tom Griffith
SANCTIONED

February 2-4
B.R. Ryall Winter Tournament
B.R. Ryall YMCA, Glenn Ellyn
Sean Nelson (630) 858-0100
SANCTIONED

February 9-11
St. Valentines Day Massacre
Athletic Club at Bloomingdale,
Bloomingdale
Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577
SANCTIONED

February 16-18
6th Annual Olympic Open
Palos Olympic
Tom Utterback (708) 974-1900
SANCTIONED

February 22-25
29th ISRA STATE SINGLES
Athletic Club of Bloomingdale
Laurel Davis
(630) 325-6410
SANCTIONED

March 2-4
Landmark Invitational
Landmark Health &
Racquetball, Peoria
Terry Sutton (309) 685-8200

March 8-11
Shamrock Shootout
Glass Court Swim & Fitness, Lombard
Doug Halverson (630) 629-3390
SANCTIONED

March 16-18
St. Pat's Day Open
Springfield Racquet & Fitness
Sara Welsh (217) 787-2460

March 16-18
Edens March Madness
Edens Athletic Club
Cindy Flores (773) 286-6700
SANCTIONED

March 22-25
Negrete Women's Pro Stop
Athletic Club of Bloomingdale
Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577
SANCTIONED

April 19-21
Ektelon/USRA REGIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIP
20 sites nationwide
Jim Hiser (719) 635-1616
SANCTIONED

April 27-29
Illini Classic
The Fitness Center, Champaign
Bob Graf (217) 356-1616
SANCTIONED

May 4-6
Ektelon/USRA REGIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIPS
Athletic Club of Bloomingdale
Dave Negrete (630) 893-9577
SANCTIONED

May 23-28
Ektelon/USRA NATIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIP
Downtown YMCA
Jim Hiser (719) 635-5396
SANCTIONED

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MEN'S RANKINGS

continued from page 8

T17	Dave Porzel	50	50	0/1
21	Robert Woycheese	40	50	2/0
22	Bob Brennan	30	235	0/1
T23	Dan Freeman	30	30	0/1
T23	John Kavoris	30	30	0/1
25	Ken Zwyers	25	525	2/0
26	John Walsh	25	45	2/0
27	Mike DeGonia	25	35	1/0
T28	Joe Davern	25	25	1/0
T28	Alex Kurczaba	25	25	1/0

At 20 Points: Ed Gutierrez (lefthanded), Bob Johnson, Brian Long, Phil Mangiaracina, Eric Nelson. At 15 Points: James Byrne, Herbert Rodriguez, Doug Wakerly. At 10 Points: David Ball, David Bennett, Keith Brown, Rick Caponigri, Mark Diedrich, Bret Engleburg, Mike Flaherty, Jesus Garcia, Tony Grant, John Mason, James Pacheco, Brad Rupsis, Bill Rzonca, Jim Schevers, and Paul Tomaszewski.

MEN's Novice

You might think that it doesn't make a lot of sense to rank novice players since you can only play one time in this division. However, we do want to recognize those players making the step up from club play and you receive extra points for wins (of course) and depending on the type of tournament (state's and regionals give more points than a normal open tournament). So Novice players, welcome to the big time.

At 50 Points: Arnel Harting, Sam Vargas. At 30 Points: Tad Dallas, Ray Hurley, Steve Rodriguez, Jerry Roloff.

At 20 Points: Ryan Brosseau, Matt William.

At 15-10 Points: Ken Carlton, Seth Moran, Justin Fleck, Brian Reiman.

Men's Age Rankings

Again, some differences with National rankings show up here in the age groupings. It is difficult to run every age group at every tournament due to the lack of court space and in the interest of having full draws for every age bracket. Often age groups are combined and it is hard to award points to the bracket that a participant signed up for. (Example: You sign up for 35+ and only one other player signs up in that age group. Your division gets combined with the 30+ and do to a lack of court space no play-off is offered. The points you get will go into the 30+ division.) We will not be able to solve all problems like this, but an effort will be made to try to improve in this area. Another example is the tradition in Illinois of offering Intermediate divisions in some age brackets, where Intermediate is defined as a B/C level of player. In the National system, there is no B/C division. It is A/B or C/D. Clubs in Illinois do not have the court space to play both divisions and demand has not indicated that full divisions can be filled. Again, we hope to work with tournament directors to improve in this area. Running a tournament is a difficult task and it is hard to accommodate all of the demands. Feedback away from the hustle of the tournament control desk would be very helpful. If you have any comments or suggestions email them to me any I will see that they get to the right person.

MEN's 24 and under A/B

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Ben Croft	250	250	0/1
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MEN's 24 and under C/D

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Sid Harshavat	300	300	0/1
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MEN's 24 and under

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Andy Hawthorne	250	370	0/1
2	Ben Croft	200	200	1/1
3	Greg Hasty II	50	525	0/1
4	Damon Peterson	50	50	0/1

MEN's 25+

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Eugene Coyle	200	2530	0/1
2	Chris Cotton	50	50	1/0
3	Joey Logan	50	400	0/1

MEN's 25+ A/B

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Cary Slade	250	250	1/0
2	Elpidio Corpuz	175	175	1/1
3	Grant Macuba	50	50	1/0

MEN's 25+ C/D

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Grant Macuba	250	250	0/1
2	Greg Benjamin	200	200	1/0

MEN's 30+ A/B

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Cary Slade	300	300	1/0
---	------------	-----	-----	-----

MEN's 30+ C/D

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Grant Macuba	100	100	1/0
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MEN's 30+

Tim Sweeney tied for 9th in Men's 30!!! "It can't be", you say...and you would be right. Tim only played one 30+ Men's event in the past 12 months (at the Negrete Open) and, of course, won. Still, that tournament is only worth 50 points and so Tim sits there tied with Kent Hadabra and Carl Kisill. Tim mainly keeps to Men's Open but Dave Negrete decided to make a full draw in the 30's for this event and that meant that Eugene Coyle had to stand in the back court in the finals knowing that Tim had two rocket serves to give instead of the one he is allowed in Men's Open. Ouch!!!

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Eugene Coyle	410	1035	1/5
2	Joey Logan	320	585	5/3
3	Barry Dixon	125	200	2/0
4	Doug Halverson	110	110	3/0
5	John Negrete	110	1260	1/1
6	Kent Hadabra	85	85	6/0
7	Mike Kinkin	65	5	2/0
8	Tom Utterback	60	1310	1/1
T9	Carl Kisill	50	50	0/1
T9	Tim Sweeney	50	50	0/1
T9	Sean Nelson	50	50	1/0
12	Bob Graf	30	180	0/1
13	John Thorson, Jr.	25	75	1/0
14	Tad Smith	25	25	1/0
15	Keith Minor	20	485	1/0
16	Richard Garris	20	60	1/0
T17	Cary Slade	20	20	2/0
T17	Tim Vandenakker	20	20	1/0

At 10 Points: Craig Citti, Keith Kareiva, Dave Negrete, Gregg Raducha, Lem Rowans.

MEN's 35+ A/B

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Michael Bryce	250	350	0/1
2	Elpidio Corpuz	150	175	1/0
3	Tom Griffith	125	325	2/0
4	Jeff Hopkins	25	25	1/0

MEN's 35+ C/D

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Joad Ballard	150	150	0/1
2	Joe DeRoch	100	175	1/0
3	Don Mayberry	75	150	1/0
4	Manuel Pena	50	150	1/0

continued on next page

MEN'S AGE RANKINGS

continued from previous page

MEN's 35+

This is one tough division. Dave Negrete is the king of the hill and how are you going to kick him off (especially when he owns one of the hills!!!)? There are lots of guys gunning for him, who has the stuff to do it? Tom Utterback took a shot but couldn't get it done. Lem Rowans certainly has got game, as does Keith Minor, coming back to the game after a layoff. My money is on Dave, but you never know....

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Dave Negrete	875	1820	3/4
2	Tom Utterback	315	1225	5/3
3	Lem Rowans	215	430	2/3
4	Dave Milazzo	150	765	0/1
5	Tom Griffith	135	765	0/1
T6	Keith Minor	100	100	0/1
T6	Jon Cole	100	101	1/0
T6	Bob Morrison	100	100	1/0
9	George Pappas	95	220	3/0
10	Brian Castillo	70	310	3/0
11	Horace Miller	30	130	0/1
12	Ron Calloway	25	275	1/0
13	Dan Pepin	25	125	1/0
T14	Rich Clay	25	120	1/0
T14	Scott Ross	25	120	1/0
T14	Chris Selvig	25	120	1/0

At 20 Points: Bob Clar. At 15 Points: Don Grigas, Carl Kisill. At 10 Points: Raul Artega, Jeff Baumgartner, Michael Bryce, Glen Davis, Ron Dim, Kent Hadraba, Al Rubledo, Mitch Slater.

MEN's 40+

There is a new sheriff in town and his name is Lyman...Bill Lyman. With 6 tournaments under his belt as a 40 year old, he has 6 top finishes. I predict it is going to be some time before we find a way to knock this king off the hill. Maybe Steve Sulli has the stuff to do it. We'll see. Otherwise we will have to wait for Dave Negrete to give it a try. Dave, when is the big 4-0? Congrats should also go out to Brian Castillo. He has 7 tournaments in the system over the past 12 months—which ties a record (with Joe Silius) for the highest number of tournament quarterfinal finishes for players in Illinois. Having played Brian many times in tournaments, I can personally attest to his longevity. His 'never say die attitude' serves him well on the court. Now, Brian, if we can only get those young folk playing in the 30's playing like us ol' timers....

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Bill Lyman	580	580	0/6
2	Steve Sulli	325	325	4/2
3	Carl Kisill	230	870	2/2
4	Brian Castillo	180	440	7/1
5	Michael Bryce	180	180	2/1
6	Dave Milazzo	170	845	3/2
7	Mike Pohlman	80	230	1/1
8	Steve Lloyd	75	600	3/0
9	Chuck Synders	70	70	1/1
10	Nick Radloff	60	60	2/0
11	Jim Hillman	50	200	3/0
12	Frank Bunker	45	45	1/0
13	Leon Berryman	35	60	2/0
14	Ron Dim	35	35	2/0
15	Mike Davern	30	105	3/0
16	Tom Griffith	30	30	0/1
17	Horace Miller	25	975	2/0
18	T.J.Ferro	25	300	1/0
19	Al Rubiano	25	95	2/0
T20	Casey Watmora	25	25	1/0
T20	Dave Millazzo	25	25	1/0

At 15 Points: Greg Hasty. At 10 Points: Mike Bogue, Jim Elliott, Keith Harper, Mark Mattos, Angelo Moca, Brian Parrish, Geoff Peters, and Kevin Yeazell.

MEN's 45+

Every time I peek in on a Men's 45+ finals or semifinals match it seems to be Bruce Nelson vs. Horace Miller. Its no wonder since they have 6 finals appearances between them in the past 12 months. Check out Horace's lifetime points at 3,700 only bested by #16 Greg Hasty at an amazing 4,914. Greg fell out of the top group this year due to injury. Hopefully we will see him fully recovered in the upcoming season. Still "the Man" in Men's 45+ is Winston Cole, racking up 330 points in his first full year in the 45's. Long time players Gregg Mandell and Len Restaino round out the top 5. I saw Winston pull out a tight win against Horace in a Men's 45 match, wining, if I remember correctly, by only one in the tie-breaker. This division holds the some of the more interesting match-ups since at any given tournament you know the competition is going to be tight.

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Winston Cole	330	330	0/4
2	Greg Mandell	275	790	1/1
3	Len Restaino	270	490	2/3
4	Bruce Nelson	230	1570	0/3
5	Horace Miller	200	3700	4/1
6	TJ Ferro	190	625	2/2
7	Dan Stephen	100	100	0/1
8	David Olson	75	600	1/0
9	Jim Elliott	75	285	2/0
10	Ken Fleck	75	170	4/0
11	Bob Croft	75	12	1/0
12	Bruce Carver	75	75	1/0
13	John Conrad	65	65	2/0
14	Greg Hasty	50	4914	0/2
15	Gene Cromwell	50	200	1/0
T16	Rick Cavaliere	50	50	1/0
T16	Kevin Johnson	50	50	1/0
T16	Matt Malley	50	50	1/0
19	Mike Padavic	40	40	1/0
20	Herb Gage	30	30	1/0
21	Jeff Grace	25	100	1/0
T22	Angelo Moca	25	25	1/0
T22	Steve Angelo	25	25	1/0

At 20 Points: Bill Patten, Pat Taylor. At 15 Points: Lou Gagliano, Ron Yankee. At 10 Points: Al Birkley, Steve Donarski, George Henton, Leo Klimaitis, Herb Laney, Ray Meisner, Jack Nagel, Wil Rounsaville, Len Schultz.

MEN's 50+

The big question in Men's 50+ is if this is the year that Joe Silius and Horace Miller can keep a healthy Greg Hasty from recovering his customary top spot in this division. Greg's absence most of this past year knocked him from the national rankings. We hope he is fully recovered from his injury. Number 1 ranked, Joe Silius ties the record (along with Brian Castillo) for the most quarterfinal or higher finishes in Illinois. Actually, Joe finished in the semis or higher in each of his starts this past year. Quite an accomplishment!!! That should at least get him a frequent player reward or something...don't you think?

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Joe Silius	650	1385	0/7
2	Horace Miller	550	3510	6/2
3	Greg Hasty	500	2855	1/4
4	Leo Klimaitis	175	390	5/1
5	Joe Quirke	160	545	5/1
6	Herb Grigg	130	580	0/2
7	Ray Meisner	110	110	5/0
8	Delmer Reed	95	145	2/0
9	Pat Taylor	60	1960	0/2
10	Jack Nagel	50	90	3/0
T11	Rick Robles	50	50	3/0
T11	Len Schultz	50	50	1/0
T11	Ed Johnston	50	50	2/0
14	Steve Sacs	35	35	2/0
15	Tom Fehsel	30	445	2/0
16	Mike Goodyear	25	135	1/0
T17	Pete Breskovich	25	25	2/0

T17	Mark Coleman	25	25	1/0
19	Steve Donarski	20	20	1/0

At 10 points: Gene Bartkiewicz, Bill Lancet, Herbert Rodriguez, George Smuckel, Joe Vallender.

MEN's 55+ A/B

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Ron Yankee	600	600	0/1
2	Tom Fehsel	200	1050	0/1
3	Don Davis	100	200	1/0

MEN's 55+

If you had to play Ron Yankee in a match recently, you know why he is sitting on top of the leaderboard. If you take him a little bit for granted, you are dead meat. It will be interesting to see if Ron meets Horace Miller late in a draw. They did not meet in the 55's last season. Maybe former champ, Erhard Gruenwald will be back in form. I know that it has been a long year or two struggling with various injuries. Still dangerous though. Should be interesting.

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Ron Yankee	750	845	1/5
2	Horace Miller	400	400	1/1
3	Erhard Gruenwald	230	230	1/2
4	Pat Taylor	190	1205	2/1
5	Tom Fehsel	100	295	2/1
6	Don Davis	75	980	1/0
7	John Eliasik	75	75	1/0
T8	Rick Brown	50	50	1/0
T8	Marvin Peterson	50	50	1/0
9	John Talty, Sr.	25	335	1/0
10	Mike Oester	25	50	1/0
T11	Al Bowie	25	25	1/0
T11	John Burke	25	25	1/0
T11	John Massard	25	25	1/0
14	Willie McGee	20	20	1/0
15	Luke Donath	15	15	1/0
T16	All tied at 10: Lex Booth, John Bulster, Dan Dallas, Bruce Mason			

MEN's 60+

The power of longevity really shows in these age groups. However, the competition is just as tough. If you find some time at your next tournament, go and check out these competitors. Don Davis is tops here, but the incredible John O'Donnell, Jr. slowly crawls up the leaderboard as the age groups get older. In Illinois, John is tops in Men's 70+ and he currently ranks second nationally. In the Men's 65+ he is also ranked eighth, tied with Illinois Ed Olah. Very impressive. Phillip Dziuk is also ranked nationally, showing up as #2 in the 70's in Illinois and #7 nationally. Congratulation to all of the competitors.

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Don Davis Also #1 60+ A/B	350	555	2/0
2	Bruce Mason	300	300	0/2
3	Manual Rosiles	150	75	0/1
4	Ken Yahiro	100	175	0/1
5	Lee Booth	100	100	2/0
6	John Bolster	75	125	1/0
7	Terry Wagner	75	310	1/0

MEN's 65+

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Ed Olah	400	650	0/2
2	John O'Donnell, Jr.	325	4290	1/1
3	Ken Yahiro	150	1310	0/1
4	Bob Beiner	150	250	1/1
5	Dan Dallas	150	150	0/1
6	Lou Cotton	100	325	1/0
7	Terry Wagner	100	325	0/1
8	Hugh Morrison	75	400	1/0
9	John Bolster	30	380	0/1

MEN's 70+

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	John O'Donnell, Jr.	1200	1200	1/4
2	Philip Dziuk	300	1800	2/0
3	Ken Yahiro	275	1205	2/1
4	John Bolster	150	400	0/1
5	Chuck Martarano	100	575	0/1

Women's Rankings

WOMEN's Open

For Illinois Women, all Open roads lead through Cheryl Gudinas. Touring Pro, National champ past two years, past US Open Champion, Illinois and National Player of the Year, US National Team member...the list can go on and on. Some Illinois women have actually expressed a problem with having such tough competition in their division, but the Men can claim equal problems with Tim Sweeney in Men's Open or having to play Dave Negrete or Bill Lyman in the age groups. Big tournaments bring in even bigger guns (like Mike Locker, for example, from out-of-state) to challenge Tim and that would be the only reason in the past few seasons he hasn't stood in the winner's circle for every tournament he has entered. For some reason, that hasn't affected the size of the Men's draw. Same is true on the Women's side, as the only Illinois tournament that Cheryl lost in the past two years was due to some great play by recently departed (for Cincinnati) Kerri Stoffregen. Every state has their king or queen that is tough to knock off. Cheryl related a story about how it took her years to best the top Illinois competition when she was coming up the ladder. Such is life. Will Krystal Csuk or some other up-and-comer eventually do the same to Cheryl? We hope to see more Illinois women come out and compete, whether it is against Cheryl, Krystal, new state Champ (and best selling author—see July's ISRA newsletter) Kathy Grill or our old favorites, Liz Molitor, Laurel Davis and Chris Evon. (HA!—"old favorites"—that should get some response in the Letters to the Editor column.) Actually, to end on a positive note, the situation in Women's Open is better than it has been in some time. This year we have 24 women with ranking points, versus only 18 last year. Many of the competitors have numerous tournament quarterfinal finishes (or higher), including Kathy Dunham with 6 in all. Let's hope this trend continues.

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Cheryl Gudinas	950	12915	0/4
2	Krystal Csuk	280	815	2/4
3	Katherine Grill	200	310	1/1
4	Liz Molitor	195	1335	3/1
5	Laurel Davis	160	935	2/2
6	Chris Evon	150	450	0/1
7	Brenda White	105	415	3/0
8	Diane Bunker	95	135	3/0
9	Kathy Dunham	75	225	6/0
10	Mary Crawford	75	180	2/0
11	Nancy Rocha	65	145	4/0
12	Ellen Somberg	60	90	1/1
13	Carole Lisson	50	360	0/1
14	Patrice Calvi	35	55	1/0
15	Josie Barnett	30	705	1/0
16	Mary White	30	160	3/0
17	Carrie Jaskier	30	145	3/0
18	Pontee Dodds	30	105	0/1
19	Pam Grace	30	40	3/0
20	Julie Vincent	20	20	1/0

T21-24 All tied at 10pts: Cathy Radloff, Lynne Weisbart, Jill Wells, Ellen Somberg

WOMEN's A

Unlike Men's A, the Women's A division is only going to open up

three spots in the coming season. Luckily for the participants, it is the top three spots. Pontee Dodds, Ellen Somberg and Julie Vincent, were all winners and have moved up to more difficult pastures. This opens the way for some excellent competition between the remaining players in the division. Cathy Radloff, currently ranked #10 has been working on her game, traveling to nationals and gaining lots of experience. Does she have enough to best Nancy Schum and Patrice Calvi? Should be interesting to watch.

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Pontee Dodds	430	430	0/3
2	Ellen Somberg	245	735	2/2
3	Julie Vincent	165	235	2/2
4	Nancy Schum	160	160	2/1
5	Patrice Calvi	155	645	2/0
6	Lynne Weisbart	150	2305	4/1
7	Lynn Hiorns	125	125	4/1
8	Leslie Miller	120	475	2/1
9	Kathy Dunham	100	765	0/1
10	Cathy Radloff	70	120	3/0
11	Martha Huske	45	195	3/0
12	Pam Grace	40	100	3/0
T13	Donna Henzel	30	30	0/1
T13	Kathy Welker	30	30	0/1
T13	Jill Nelson	30	30	0/1
16	Barb Utterback	20	35	2/0
T17	Kathy Logic	20	20	1/0
T17	Gail Parzygnat	20	20	1/0
T17	Jill Wells	20	20	1/0
20	Krystal Csuk	15	165	1/0
21	Brit Schoonover	15	15	1/0

All tied at 22: Diane Bunker, Pandora Brown, Julie Carter, Pam Hepp

WOMEN's B

The ranks of Women's B shows the value of hard work. Certainly, #1 ranked Cathy Radloff has put the effort in, working with Dave Negrete and traveling all the way to Houston to improve her game (with a #3 finish in Women's B at the nationals to show for it). With her, #4 ranked Lynn Hiorns and #9 ranked Leslie Miller already play Women's A in Illinois, the competition is sure to heat up for the top spot in Women's B. Will Cheryl Kirk use her national experience, (#2 in Women's B at the National's) to step up and take over the division, or will one of her challengers at the top of the leaderboard pass her up. Only time, and the 2000-2001 season will tell.

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Catherine Radloff	730	1345	1/4
2	Cheryl Kirk	500	500	4/1
3	Janet Eminger	230	230	0/3
4	Lynn Hiorns	205	225	1/0
5	Pam Grace	150	1505	0/1
6	Char Borre	145	165	2/1
7	Gail Parzygnat	75	115	1/0
8	Jane Klass	70	85	1/1
9	Leslie Miller	50	850	0/1
10	Kathy Welker	50	610	0/1
11	Julia Perkins	50	50	0/1
12	Pam Jacobsen	30	30	0/1
T13	Janet Christie	20	20	1/0
T13	Laura Samela	20	20	2/0
15	Pam Hepp	15	45	1/0
16	Keca Ree	15	15	1/0
17	Jennifer Jaskier	10	245	1/0
T18	Carrie Howard, Dorothy Jackson,			

WOMEN's C

Not as much movement here in Women's C as on the Men's side

which gives the women plenty of time to improve their game. Only Lynn Hiorns and Janet Christie are actively playing in other divisions. What we really need here is more players coming out to the local tournaments. In Illinois, Women's C often doesn't draw enough players to make a full division so the opportunities to move up aren't as great. Competition is just as tough though. So come out and cheer for some great competitors and see if we can get some of these ladies moving on up.

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Lynn Hiorns	300	920	0/1
2	Cheryl Kirk	750	815	0/2
3	Peggy Hartmann	260	475	1/2
4	Liz Janda	115	115	2/0
5	Janet Christie	60	130	0/2
6	Susan Wojnowski	60	75	1/1
7	Janet Eminger	50	80	0/1
T8	Joyce Burzloff	50	50	1/1
T8	Mary DeJournio	50	50	1/0
10	Chris Esposito	30	30	0/1
11	Julianne Vertis	25	25	1/0
12	Laura Guzman	20	20	1/0
13	Gretchen Slusser	15	140	1/0
14	Sara Wilrick	15	15	1/0
15	Pam Douthit	10	70	1/0

WOMEN's D

They say that good things come in small packages...so the good thing here is that we have 14 women ranked in Women's D up by 4 players since last year. As with the Men's side, coming out of Women's D is tough. Different styles of play leads to many long matches and strange match-ups. Hopefully, we will continue to see Women's D as only the starting point.

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Liz Janda	280	300	2/1
2	Michelle Lexow	200	210	2/1
3	Julianne Vrtis	150	150	0/1
4	Carla Moats	130	130	1/0
5	Susan Wojnowski	100	130	0/2
6	Debbie Albigh	75	75	1/0
7	Karen Marzano	50	50	0/1
8	Janet Christie	30	80	0/1
9	Sue Quinlin	25	25	1/0
10	Pam Douthit	20	145	1/0
11	Sheri Kaestner	20	20	1/0
12	Karen Gaw	15	25	1/0
13	Mary Fisher	15	15	1/0
14	Miller Kari	15	15	1/0

WOMEN's Elite (Formerly All-Age)

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Brenda White	300	300	1/0

WOMEN's 25+

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Jennifer Bryce	150	150	0/1
2	Cheryl Gudinas	50	50	0/1

WOMEN's 25+ A/B

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Cathy Radloff	100	60	0/1

WOMEN's 25+ C/D

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Lynn Hiorns	900	900	0/2

WOMEN's 30+

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Brenda White	20	20	1/0
2	Laurel Davis	15	30	1/0
3	Liz Molitor	10	290	1/0
4	Martha Huske	10	10	1/0
T4	Nancy Kronenfeld	10	10	1/0

WOMEN's 35+

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Katherine Grill	325	575	1/2
2	Ellen Somberg	250	605	0/2
3	Pontee Dodds	150	150	0/1
4	Brenda White	100	300	0/1
5	Georgia Russell	100	100	1/0
6	Carole Lisson	75	400	1/0
7	Leslie Miller	50	50	1/0
T8	Gail Parzygnat	25	50	1/0
T8	Barb Utterback	25	50	1/0
T8	Pam Grace	25	50	1/0
11	Diane Bunker	25	25	1/0

WOMEN's 35+ C/D

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Cheryl Kirk	100	100	1/0
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WOMEN's 40+

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Chris Evon	600	1200	0/1
2	Mary Crawford	300	300	1/1
3	Liz Molitor	225	775	1/1
4	Julie Vincent	25	2	1/0

WOMEN's 45+

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Brenda White	500	1900	1/2
2	Laurel Davis	300	475	0/2
3	Nancy Kronenfeld	200	1850	0/1
4	Barb Utterback	150	50	1/1
5	Pam Grace	125	200	2/0
6	Carole Lisson	100	100	0/1

7	Nancy Rocha	100	100	1/0
8	Lynne Weisbart	75	75	1/0
T9	Patrice Calvi	25	25	1/0
T9	Martha Huske	25	25	1/0
T9	Gail Parzygnat	25	25	1/0

WOMEN's 45+ A/B+

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Lynne Weisbart	200	350	0/1
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WOMEN's 50+

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Margaret Hoff	200	2395	0/1
2	Elizabeth Anderson	150	150	1/0
3	Donna Heinzl	100	100	1/0

WOMEN's 55+

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Shirley Crouse	200	200	0/1
2	Margaret Hoff	200	200	0/1

WOMEN's 60+ and 65+

Rank, Player, Last 12 months points, Lifetime Points, Total # of QTR and Finals Reached

1	Lola Markus	200(60+)	1500 (65+) 5850	0/7
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Junior Divisions

The Junior Divisions have some definite room for improvement and help is on the way. Both Bloomingdale and Glass Court are committed to improving the quality of junior competition. Many of the tournaments last year did not have junior divisions or did not run * round robins where USRA points could be awarded. I hope to encourage tournament directors to push this at the other tournament locations next year. Often it is hard to fit junior divisions in a tournament weekend with court space at such a premium. The Glass Court puts their junior divisions on Sunday afternoon, when there is often limited conflict with kids other sports activities. You have to have a tournament director willing to go late on Sunday afternoon, after a full weekend of activity. Often it is tough, but Char Borre does a great job putting on those events and the kids have

continued on next page



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JUNIOR DIVISIONS

continued from previous page

lots of fun. In contrast, Bloomingdale ran some of their events early Sunday morning. Dave Negrete was just great with the kids. My 8 year old daughter showed up at the last minute and he got her and several of the other player's daughters all in a round robin. He even showed my Stephanie how to serve in a quick 5 minute lesson. The kids had a blast and now Stephanie is ranked third in the state!!! (Not bad for not winning a game.) The important part isn't her ranking, of course. What is important is that she enjoyed playing and keeps her racquet and glove by her important dolls in her bedroom. My older son still talks about being ranked #1 in the state of Ohio in his age group when he played a few tournaments there. The kids really do get a kick out of the rankings and with so few playing currently, just coming to play gives them a good rankings. Keep a watch out for letting your kids participate in these activities. Thanks to both the Glass Court and Bloomingdale for having these events. We will publish junior rankings in the newsletter and on the internet and do what we can to push junior racquetball. Congratulation and good luck next year!!!

GIRL'S 8 and under

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Julia Negrete	250	250	0/1

GIRL'S 8 and under Multi-Bounce

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Julia Negrete	400	400	0/2
2	Carly Griffith	100	100	0/1
3	Stephanie Davern	75	75	1/0

GIRL'S 10 and under

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Amanda Grill	250	250	0/1

GIRL'S 12 and under

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Amanda Grill	150	150	0/1

GIRL'S 16 and under

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Krystal Csuk	800	2175	0/2

GIRL'S 18 and under

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Krystal Csuk	250	325	0/1

BOY'S 6 and under MultiBounce

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Kyle Koburi	50	50	0/1
2	Johnny Belvidere	30	30	0/1
3	David Negrete	20	20	1/0
4	Justin Kuhlman	15	15	1/0

BOY'S 8 and under MultiBounce

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Jonny Belvidere	150	150	0/1
2	Kyle Koburi	100	100	0/1
3	Nick White	75	75	1/0
4	David Negrete	50	50	1/0

BOY'S 8 and under

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Dave Negrete	50	50	0/1
2	Jonny Belvedere	20	20	1/0
3	Brian Irwin	15	15	1/0

BOY'S 10 and under

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Justin Fleck	300	450	0/2
2	Kevin Peters	150	350	2/0
3	Nick Calvi	150	150	2/0
4	Sean Cwynar	25	25	1/0

BOY'S 12 and under

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Tom Molitor	150	150	1/1
2	Brandon Ritshcard	25	25	1/0

BOY'S 14 and under

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Ben Croft	150	1075	1/0
2	Tad Dallas	100	200	0/1
3	Mike Degonia	75	250	1/0
4	Joey Calvi	50	50	1/0
T5	Bill Cwynar	25	25	1/0
T5	Jeff Novak	25	25	1/0

BOY'S 16 and under

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Andy Hawthorne	500	575	2/1

BOY'S 18 and under

Rank	Player	Last 12 months points	Lifetime Points	Total # of QTR and Finals Reached
1	Andy Hawthorne	150	575	0/1
2	Ben Croft	150	200	1/1
3	Vito Rubiano	75	75	1/0

FROM THE PRESIDENT *continued from page 1*

with some insight as to how your point total moves with each match played. There is a separate ranking attached to singles and doubles. The system isn't always perfect, but it's pretty good. We review tournament results to see how it holds up. When we see # 1 playing # 2 in the finals of a tournament, we know it's doing the job.

The rankings you see published in this newsletter are USRA rankings. Have fun with them, but don't expect to be seeded based on them. I was once **ranked** 1st in a division for an entire season and ended up **seeded** 8th when I got the to the nationals in Houston.

We've got something for everyone early in the tournament season. The Athletic Club of Bloomingdale will be hosting the male pros, as well as a great amateur draw, at the annual Halloween Classic. Rich Clay will also be holding his annual Master's tournament in October. And, the ISRA Travel League will be in full swing by the first week of October. So, dust off those racquets, forget about that golf swing, and we'll see you all back on the courts !

Laurel



9th Annual Summerfest Tournament Results

July 28-30, 2000

For once the weather did not cooperate but Doug Halverson and the tournament and club staff at Glass Court plowed on anyway with plenty of extra-curricular activity. While the pool did not get used, Doug's promise of no rain after 12:30 held true. Participants received a great barbecue dinner and lots of door prizes. As for the quality of play, it was great to see so many players in mid-season form. Lots of new faces running around as well, some playing even while not in the competition. For example, participants got to watch a glass court match between two National Champions, Cheryl Gudinas (National Women's Open Champ) and Jack Huzek (National 16 year old Champ and US Open Champ), down in Chicago for a wedding. For those actually playing the competition, the glass court saw plenty of excellent matches. A slimmed down Bill Lyman put on quite a display, first winning Men's 30/40+ over Tom Utterback and then losing 11-10 in a tie-breaker against Men's Open champ, Eugene Coyle. Hope we get to see many of the new faces again during the season, as well as all of our old favorites.

Event First Place, Second Place, Semis

Men's Open (13) Eugene Coyle, Bill Lyman, Ryan Homa, WI, Dylan Wick, WI

Men's AA (5) Ben Croft, Eric Rieman, Bob Morrison, Mark Werthman

Men's A (19) Bob Morrison, Kevin Johnson, Carl Weinert, Jim Elliot

Men's B (14) TG Venkateshwaran, Dick Heithoff, Ray Meisner, Gene Cromwell

Men's C (20) Mark Mobilia, Ray Shimizu, Brad Promisel, Joe Star

Men's D (21) Bill Switalla, Dan Opferman, Al Murry, Joe DeRoche

Mens Novice (4) George Parobek, Brandon Ritschard, Adam Bilows, Alex Kurczaba

Men's 30/40+ (12) Bill Lyman, Tom Utterback, Horace Miller, Cary Slade,

Men's 45+ INT (3) Mike Padavic, Gary Muhr, David Johnson, WI

Men's 45/50+ (9) Horace Miller, Joe Silius, Pat Taylor, Len Restaino

Women's Open/A (7) Nancy Schum, Kathy Dunham, Andrea Schwartz, Cathy Radloff

Women's C (9) Janet Eminger, Char Borre, Lynn Hiorns, Cheryl Kirk

Women's D (6) Lynn Houser, Liz Janda, Terry Johnson, WI, Gretchen Maber

Mens Open Doubles (7) Dylan Wick, WI/Ryan Homa, MN, Eugene Coyle/George Pappas, Mark Mattos/Carl Kisell, Lem Rowans/Joey Logan

Mens A Doubles (7) Dick Heithoff/Joe Wilhelm, Jeff Jovien/John Matarrese, Ron Calloway/Joey Brownlee, Carl Weinert/Tim Wendt

Mens B/C Doubles (10) Joe Wilhelm/John Anaya, David Schoonover/Bill Switalia, Dan Jaskier/Matt Malcheski, Ken Springer/Mike Flanerty

Mixed Open Doubles (3) Patrice Calvi/Joe Silius, Krystal Csuk/Geoff Peters, Ken Fleck/Barb Vagedes

Mixed B/C Doubles (4) Cheryl Kirk/Mike Mahon, Janet Eminger/Al Murry, Terry Dawson/Karen Marzano, Liz Janda/Joe Snyders



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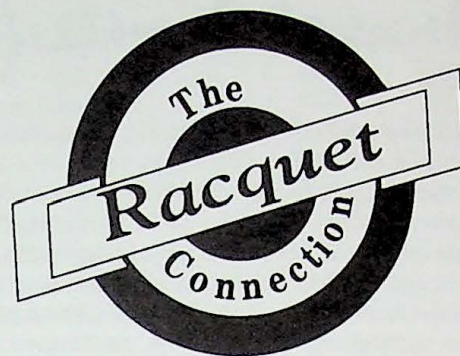
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