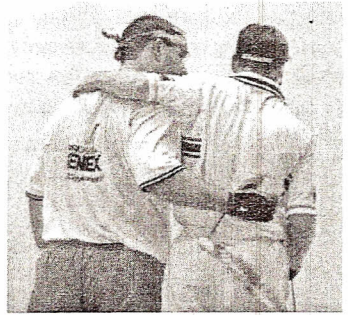
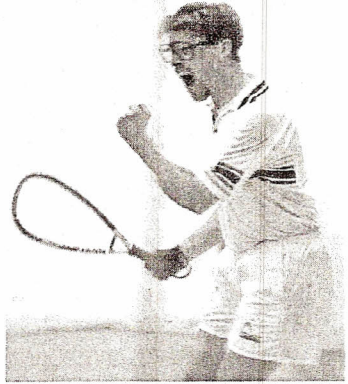


OFF THE WALL

Tournament Results: State Championships

	First Place	Second Place	Third Place
Men's Open	Adam Anderson	Steve Black	Brad Bona
Men's A	Eric Carver	Hyrum LaTurner	Merrill Dibble
Men's B	Bill Yetman	Chris Clift	Raymond Mokiao
Men's C	Courtney Smith	Brent Stock	Craig Young
Men's D	Tim Parker	John Sanderson	Colbey Parker
Men's 25+	Brian Pointelin	Glen Aitken	
Men's 40+	Don Sanderson	Steve Coray	Glen Aitken
Men's 45+	Marcus Dunyon	Dennis Fisher	Alan Jorgensen
Men's 50+	Alan Jorgensen	Doug Douville	Phil Brown
Men's 55+	Glen Pletcher	Chris Segura	Tom Nystrom
Men's 60+	Jim Wilking	Gene Pletcher	
Juniors 14-	John Sanderson	Andrew Gale	Korey Walsh
Juniors 12-	John Sanderson		
Juniors 10-	John Sanderson		
6- Multibounce	Kyle Walsh		
Women's Open	Kristen Walsh	Valorie Woodbury	Sylvia Sawyer
Women's A	Jennifer Lynch	Janette Olsen	Karen Carter
Women's B	Ning Spear	Jodie Ellsworth	Debra Campbell
Women's D	Marsha Judkins	Kim Walsh	Kathleen Sanders
Women's 40+	Val Shewfelt	Carol Hill	
Women's 60+	Sylvia Sawyer		
Juniors 18-	Kristen Walsh		
Juniors 14-	Kim Walsh		



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- Player Profile: Ruth McGovern 10

Mark Your Calendar:

October 18 - 21
Huntsman World Senior Games
 Desert Palms (St. George)
 (435)652-0201

Adam Anderson Wins Sixth Straight Singles Title!

Adam Anderson lived up to his challenge of last year and defended his Open state racquetball title by defeating Steve Black in the finals. This was his sixth straight championship and it was vintage Adam. Playing with the power and speed we have grown to expect, he beat back newly-transplanted Brian Pointelin and then cruised through the finals.

Staying on top has been a little more of a struggle for Adam this year than in previous years. Other Open players have recognized that they need to raise the level of their play to compete with Adam and they have done just that. Just before the state tournament, Adam was beaten by Brad Bona at the Spring Smash. Adam used the loss as a wakeup call and helped him focus more for the State tournament.

Going into the championship tournament, Brad Bona was ranked first, with Adam second. The draw followed form to the semifinals, where Brad played Steve Black and Adam played Brian. Steve looked great and in shape in beating Brad in a game of momentum changes and superior shot making by both players.

In the second semifinal match, the players split the first two games. But in the tie breaker, Adam seemed to turn it up just a little and pull out the win. With Adam's win this year, the challenge is still in place: Who is going to win next year's state championship? Or perhaps, can anyone beat Adam? We have a year to find out.



**1999-2000
 State
 Tourney
 Award
 Winners**

Off The Wall

May, 2000

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There is currently one open spot on the URA Board. Please contact a board member if you would like to get involved at this level!

Submit all 'Letters to the Editor' or any other inquiries to:

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Contributions may be e-mailed to the Editor at: scoray@corayphoto.com.

Please save files without formatting (no tabs, centering, bolding, etc.) in 'text only' format. Call Steve Coray if you need help doing that.

Deadlines for submission of all display advertising, stories and letters are listed below. All advertising must be prepaid. Call for rates and ad specifications.

Sept 2000 issue August 7, 2000
Dec 2000 issue November 6, 2000

URA board meetings are held the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Redwood Recreation Center and are open to anyone with interest in attending. Please contact Enrico Dubach in advance if you have a presentation you would like added to the agenda.

Opening Shots



By Enrico Dubach, URA President

What a busy spring! I've played in six tournaments since the first of the year. They are still as fun as when I started playing tournaments almost fifteen years ago. I also participated in a two-day AmPRO clinic in March. I must tell you, racquetball is alive and well in Utah.

The season ended with a grand finale at the end of March with the State Singles Championships. This year the scenery changed a little as we went down to Orem to crown our state champions. Ryan Walker and Joel Tuailleva did a superb job putting this tournament together and the Orem Fitness Center is a great facility.

What I noticed especially was how many people helped with the tournament. Before the first match on Wednesday, five or six people came just to help get things going. I wish I could remember all their names, but they helped get the tournament off to a running start.

Throughout the week, volunteers helped with all aspects of the tournament. They all deserve a real thank you for helping out. Everyone seemed to have a good time and I saw lots of fair play and fine sportsmanship.

The week ended with the annual Membership Meeting and

State Banquet. After the matches ended, over ninety members attended the bash for some tasty food, fun and the presentation of the year-end awards.

Kristen Walsh won overall Player of the Year. She has done extremely well in national tournaments and is currently ranked number one in the nation in 16 and under.

Here are the rest of the very deserving winners:

Most Improved Male Player **Chris Cliff**
Most Improved Female Player **Jennifer Lynch**
Most Improved Junior Player **Andrew Gale**
Best Referee **John Kitchens**
Best Sportsmanship **Mathew Christensen**
Best Tournament Director **Gene Pletcher**

Congratulations also to **Ruth McGovern** and **Rick Strout**, who were inducted into the Hall of Fame. The two long-time Utah racquetballers received plaques from **Marcus Dunyon** to commemorate their entry into Utah's most prestigious racquetball club. They join **Luzell Wilde** as only the second and third members of the Utah Racquetball Hall of Fame and have both contributed a great deal to Utah racquetball over many years.

I presented the annual President's Award to **Steve Coray**. As you can obviously see with this newsletter, he has helped take our association to another level. The work he does to put together this newsletter is a real gift to our membership. Thanks again, Steve.

While we all ate as much chicken and fixings as we could, we had elections for three openings on the Board. **Marcus Dunyon** and I were re-elected for another term. Thank you for your confidence in us. **Kristen Walsh** will become the newest (and youngest) member of the URA Board. I am sure that having a younger player on the Board will keep us a little more "hip". Let her know what you'd like to see more of and less of during the next racquetball season. Have a great summer, but don't stray too far from the courts!



Results: Traveling League

	(2/3 of Final Score)	(1/3 of Final Score)	
	End of Regular Season	Tournament Results	Final Results
First Place	Marv Jenson (60)	Sports Mall (90)	Sports Mall (67.6)
Second Place	Sports Mall (57)	Redwood (70)	Marv Jensen (61.6)
Third Place	Redwood (50)	Marv Jenson (66)	Redwood (56.8)
Fourth Place	Bountiful Rec (45)	Alta Canyon (40)	Alta Canyon (44.6)
Fifth Place	Alta Canyon (31)	Sports Forum/HAFB (16)	Bountiful Rec (31)
Sixth Place	Sports Forum/HAFB (27)	Bountiful Rec (4)	Sports Forum/HAFB (23.2)
TOURNAMENT	First Place	Second Place	
Men's Upper Singles	Brad Bona (SM)	Jerry Montanez (MJ)	
Men's Middle Singles	Bruce Smith (AC)	Randy Krantz (SM)	
Men's Lower Singles	Pat Conway (SM)	Joe Kalidemis (SM)	
Women's Singles	Meggan Nimori (MJ)	Ruth McGovern (RW)	
Men's Upper Doubles	Buchi/Porter (MJ)	Connor/Barber (SM)	
Men's Lower Doubles	Lopez/Krantz (SM)	Robinson/Chun (SM)	
Mixed Doubles	Montanez/ Nimori (MJ)	Aitken/McGovern (RW)	

USRA Leadership Conference

USRA



By Steve Coray, USRA Board Member

The USRA held its annual Leadership Conference this January. The event brings state representatives from throughout the country to discuss the status of racquetball and determine the direction for the following year. Utah was represented this year by Marcus Dunyon, Marianne Walsh, Gene Rolfe and myself.

Besides all the programming information exchanged, there is a terrific opportunity to meet and learn from other racquetball enthusiasts from all over the country. That we conducted a lot of business that will benefit our

state is of course obvious. What I want to let you know about is how much fun it is to attend the event.

After the first day's sessions conclude, it's tradition to get acquainted over cold beverages and darts at an entertainment establishment just a block away from the dorms on the USOC campus, where we stayed. However, by the end of the weekend, this first night of meeting strangers had become a distant memory. By the time we headed back home to Utah, we had developed a whole new circle of friendships.

With the shy-and-retiring Marcus at the lead, the Utah contingent got in plenty of socializing from networking between sessions, to participating in the just-for-fun racquetball tournament, to visiting over meals at the athletes' cafeteria, to hosting late night hearts games in our dorm room.

From learning, to networking, to socializing, the USRA Leadership Conference is non-stop fun. And there is only one way Utahns can attend - you first have to become a USRA Board Member!



By Marcus Dunyon, USRA V.P.

During the conference, we have the opportunity to meet the staff of the USRA and ask questions concerning everything from rule interpretation, to fund raising, to the financial condition of the national body.

There is a lot of information each year, but I was most interested in learning how other state organizations are run. Most of the states have a Board of Directors similar to that of your USRA.

However, some states have only one or two people trying to make things happen. The job is just too big for such

a small board. Some states host only a state tournament each year and the membership is splintered into small feuding groups. I am proud to say that our state organization is running as smoothly as any organization around.

Other state representatives are amazed to see how many tournaments we have each year. We have been able to show the USRA that we are active and moving consistently forward in promoting racquetball in the state of Utah. They know who we are when we call and who to contact when they have a question. This will make a big difference in our quest to get regional or national tournaments in Salt Lake City in the future.

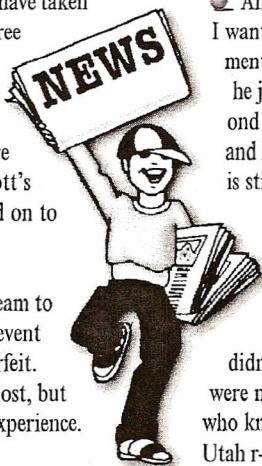
The general feeling from the conference attendees and USRA staff was that Utah racquetball is strong and in good hands. Let me make an important point that the ongoing condition of Utah racquetball is directly related to the membership in Utah, and the quality and involvement of the people who make up that membership. I am proud to be your representative at these conferences and proud of the Association we have all built in the state of Utah.

News and Notes

Several racquetball programmer changes have taken place. **Tony Glavas** has moved over to the Tree House Athletic Club. Pro tour member **Brian Pointelin** has moved to Salt Lake from Denver to take over as pro at the Sports Mall. Visitors to Marv Jenson will have to do without program director Doug Scott's smiling face (and bald head) as he has moved on to bigger and better things.

Sam Boggs recently got a taste of his dream to play professional racquetball. In his first Pro event ever, Sam drew Andy Roberts, who had to forfeit. This put Sam into a money round, where he lost, but played well and had a great tournament experience. Congratulations Sam!

Are you a USRA/USRA member but are not receiving your quarterly issues of *Off The Wall*? Contact **Val Shewfelt** with address corrections at 801-375-8348 or just shoot her an e-mail at: val_shewfelt@stlife.byu.edu.



Another welcomed update from **Chistine McAlpine**:

I wanted to report on my first experience at the Virginia State Singles Championships. The tournament director put me in A's instead of Open, and he claims I signed up for that division, but I think he just made a mistake. Oh, well. Due to my lack of conditioning, it turned out okay. I took second place and lost in the finals to a lady who is supposed to be in Open as well. We had a close match and I probably would have won if I hadn't already played two matches right before. My endurance is still seriously lacking! I had a great time, and have met lots of great racquetball players. The women complain here that the draws are small, and there are about eight in each division. There are usually about three times that many!

There are some things that I have noticed about Virginia racquetball that have impressed me. First of all, the top men are all older compared to young players in Utah. Secondly, the Open men players don't whine and complain like what I've seen in the past. We didn't even have refs for any of the matches, except the men's and women's open finals, and there were no problems. Everyone just plays the game and that's refreshing. Maybe that comes with age, who knows. I don't mean to sound like I'm bagging on Utah racquetball. It's still my home! I wear Utah r-ball shirts as often as possible to show off!

I also think that Utah's newsletter is heads and tails above the sad looking one they have here. Remember that you were going to put me on the mailing list to receive one of those. I could show it off here.

There are lots of leagues and things going on every night around here and I'll see what I can find out about making them work and pass on the info, in case anyone would like to have it. I think the sheer number of people crammed in this area doesn't hurt! I sure wish I could be there for state this year, but it looks like I won't make it. I want a full report! I hope (Utah women's) racquetball doesn't just completely die. Well, write back and let me know what's going on - mc Alpinechristine@hotmail.com.

Christine

Every player is a
winner at the

Huntsman World Senior Games
RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT

Singles & Doubles
October 18-21, 2000
St. George, Utah

**Huntsman World
Senior Games**

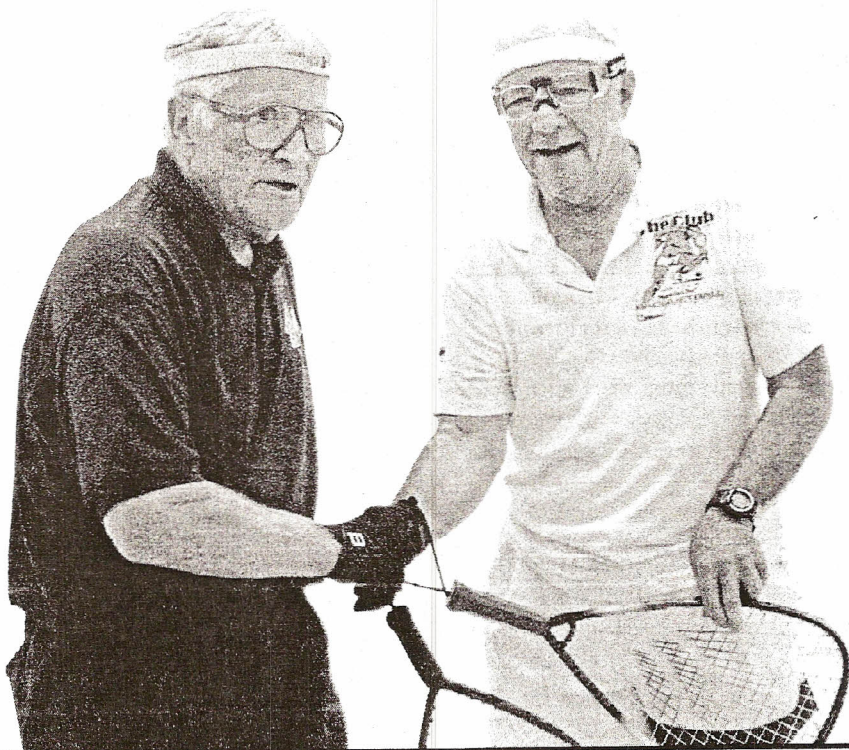
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St George, UT 84770

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OFF THE WALL

AmPRO Clinic: Hard Work, But Worth It



By Enrico Dubach, URA President

In March, I had the pleasure of attending a two-day, information-packed, AmPRO certification seminar, held at the Sports Mall. Clinicians Gary Mazaroff and Jo Shattuck, with a little help from Brian Pointelin, did a super job. I joined 15 fellow racquetballers from throughout Utah at the seminar and was thoroughly amazed with the amount and quality of information Gary presented.

Although I have had little formal instruction, I have developed a pretty good game in my 20 years of playing racquetball. I always read the instructional articles in the national racquetball magazine and try to apply them to my game.

For the last eight years, I have been more involved with coaching juniors and high school teams. The teams did pretty well in spite of me, but I knew my instructional skills needed improvement. So, when Marianne Walsh announced that she was going to coordinate an AmPRO clinic, I thought it would be a good opportunity to learn how to improve my teaching.

While this was my main goal, my fellow classmates attended for a wide range of reasons. Some were parents that wanted to teach their children. BYU's racquetball coach, Dennis Fisher attended, as well as programmers from local clubs. Other participants just wanted to enhance their knowledge and improve their own game.

The certification manual I received prior to the seminar is filled with a wide variety of useful information. From drills and nutrition to marketing, all aspects of racquetball instruction are covered. I especially liked the sample lesson plans for beginner, intermediate, and

advanced players. The programming ideas would help any club improve their leagues and tournaments.

The first day began with learning and practicing various drills. One difficult part was learning how to set up your student. When I play racquetball, I work on not setting up the other player. Then we worked on how to give a private or group lesson properly. We practiced giving lessons to each other and then we discussed the strengths and weaknesses of each lesson.

The day ended with classroom discussion of the rules test and the AmPRO written exam. Your scores from the following three tests determine the certification you receive from AmPRO: rules, AmPRO exam, and hitting/setup skills. These tests are not a piece of cake. I really had to study and put a lot of thought into them.



AmPRO Director and USRA Hall of Famer Gary Mazaroff

On the second day, we reviewed giving lessons and practiced hitting and setup skills. After that we took a break and played a round robin tournament. Then came the part everyone was anticipating with a certain amount of trepidation. We divided into small groups and were graded on our ability to demonstrate certain shots and serves. We then moved into setting up a student in a variety of situations. When we finished, we were all tired, but happy to get through it.

I'm a firm believer that in order for racquetball to grow and prosper, we need strong juniors and high school programs. We also need clubs to hire competent people who can instruct as well as organize leagues and tournaments. I came away from this seminar with the confidence that I can help "give a little back" to this sport that I love. I highly recommend this seminar to anyone who wants to expand his or her knowledge of racquetball.



Attendees of the recent AmPro certification seminar, held at the Sports Mall, learned a great deal about effective racquetball teaching methods. Photos by Marianne Walsh

Tournament Results: Luck of The Heights (CHRC)

	First Place	Second Place	Third Place
Men's Open	Brad Bona	Jerry Montanez	3. Glen Aitken
Men's A	Kristen Walsh	Eric Carver	Not a member
Men's B	Scott Laycock	Bob Pendleton	Zack Bybee
Men's C	Steven Hayward	John Benich	Michael Andrew
Men's D	Dave DeMill	Rod Butler	Colbey Barker
Men's All Age	Alan Jorgensen		
Men's 40+	Steve Coray	Enrico Dubach	Steven Clark
Men's 45+	Marcus Dunyon	Gary Fritzsche	Jim Wilking
Boys 14-	Not a member		
Boys 12-	Dan Christiansen	Jon Dubach	Mike Christiansen
Boys 10-	Korey Walsh		
Women's Open	Sylvia Sawyer	Kim Blake	Val Shewfelt
Women's 40+	Val Shewfelt		
Women's 60+	Sylvia Sawyer		
Girls 14-	Kim Walsh		

Tournament Results: Spring Smash (Marv Jensen Recreation Center)

	First Place	Second Place	Third Place		Place	Team
Singles				Doubles		
Men's Open	Brad Bona	Adam Anderson	Jerry Monatanex	Men's Open	First	Todd North/Tony Glavas
Men's AA	Brian Gill	John Kitchens	Todd North		Second	Paul Ethington/Tom Shearman
Men's A	Not a member	Tyler Nelson	Gene Rolfe		Third	Marcus Dunyon/Randy Krantz
Men's B	Mark Sandoval	Chris Clift	Mike VanVolkenberg	Men's A/B	First	Denis Fisher/Valorie Woodbury
Men's C	Steve Hayward	Ted Danner	Darin VandenBos		Second	Not a member/Not a member
Men's D	Not a member	Curtis Vlam	Not a member		Third	Juan Canals/Spencer Herzog
Men's 45	Rick Strout	Enrico Dubach	Dennis Fisher			
Men's 50	Rob Jackson	Not a member	Jack Healy			
Boys 14	Andrew Gale					
Women's Open	Valorie Woodbury	Sylvia Sawyer	Kim Blake			
Women's 60	Sylvia Sawyer					
Girl's 10	Not a member					

Junior League Signups Underway



By Kristen Walsh, URA Board Member

Now that school is out, are you completely bored and left with nothing to do? Well, it's time for you to sign up for the Junior Summer Racquetball League!

The league is a great way to stay involved this summer and you definitely get your money's worth of playing, fun, and competition. Any and all ability levels are welcome as long as you qualify to play in the junior divisions, which means that you can't be older than 18 on January first. There are divisions for the older kids on down to the six and under division.

Entry forms have been mailed out. If for some reason you didn't receive one, look for some at your club right away because the deadline for sign-ups is May 27th.

The cost of the league includes a clinic, which will be in July, league play, entry fee for the state tour-

namment, and the banquet at the end.

Teams from many different clubs participate, including: Cottonwood Heights, Redwood, Sports Mall, Bountiful Recreation Center, Marv Jensen, and others. A team can be started anywhere if there are six to ten kids that want to play and a willing coach. If you are interested in coaching a team or have any other questions, contact **Ruth McGovern** at the Redwood Recreation Center at 801-887-2940.



Know The Rules: Using Line Judges



By Kristen Walsh, URA Board member

Have you ever been watching a match and the ref made a controversial call? What a silly question, of course you have! There are always calls in a match that someone will disagree with. It seems that spectators all see a rally different from each other. That's what we get for participating in one of the fastest sports in the world!

One way to eliminate bad calls by the referee is to get line judges - three sets of eyes are better than one! Just ask the ref or tournament director for the extra helpers. Everything is appealable, so if you don't agree with a call, appeal away! However, you only get three appeals to use per game.

If you appeal a call (disagree with the ref) and both line judges agree with the ref, then it counts as one appeal used. If one or both line judges disagree with the ref, then it doesn't count against you.

When appealing a call, you have to speak directly to the ref. No arguing with the line judges or spectators - it

won't help and just makes you look bad! The ref will then tell the line judges what you are appealing. That is their cue to give a "thumbs-up" sign if they agree with the ref and a "thumbs-down" sign if they disagree with the ref.

If you make an appeal and both line judges agree with the ref then you obviously saw it wrong (even if you are a know-it-all open player). If one of the line judges agrees with the ref and one disagrees, then the call stands. If one line judge disagrees with the ref and the other didn't see the call, (indicated by holding the palm flat) the rally is re-played. If both line judges disagree with the ref, then the call is overturned.

When used intelligently and carefully, appeals can be very helpful in a tight match. However, just because the ref can now be overturned by line judges doesn't mean you get to whine about every call. You still have the responsibility to demonstrate good sportsmanship on the court. In fact, both players should have enough integrity to call double bounces and other things on themselves so the ref and line judges don't have to.

National High School Championships



By Marianne Walsh, URA Board Member

The High School National Racquetball Tournament was held March 3-5 in St. Louis, Missouri, with a group of 15 players and six parents proudly representing the state of Utah. The team from North Salem High, Oregon, took top overall honors, with 267 points, with Salt Lake's Skyline High coming in second, with 231 points, and Sprague High, of Oregon taking third, with 206 points.

Skyline High of Utah tied with Nerinx Hall High of Mo. for first place in the Girls competition. Adrienne Fisher, of Ohio, upset defending champ Kristen Walsh in a tie-breaker gold medal match. Kristen and April Watson of Skyline teamed up to take first place in girls doubles.

Other Utah action: Skyline's team of Eric Bergin and Pete Jass faired well in doubles competition. Pete also teamed up with Kristen in Mixed Doubles. Cody Christensen played a great doubles match with partner Jared Ostergaard.

In singles, Skyline's David DeMill lost in the second round of the Blue Division to Quang Nguyen. Quang placed third in that division. David Mitchell and Pete Jass both lasted two rounds in the Gold Division, while Dallas George lost to Rob McGovern in the semifinals of the White Division. Rob went on to take second in that division and third in the non-championship doubles with Quang. Linda Knudsen took first place in the White Division and went to the semi-finals of the non-championship mixed doubles with Richie Terry.

Also competing well was Ryan Barbuto, whose whole family was there to cheer him on in his first big tournament. Congratulations to all of these fine young athletes!

The High School program continues to grow and improve each year. A late newsletter contribution, this photo collage shows winners (from back to front) in the White, Red, Blue and Gold Divisions of the Utah High School Racquetball Championships.



Utah Penn Top Ten Rankings (as of April 25, 2000, includes the State Tournament)

MEN'S OPEN

1. BONA, BRAD	365
2. POINTELIN, BRIAN	260
3. ANDERSON, ADAM	245
4. CHRISTENSEN, MATT	195
5. KITCHENS, JOHN	170

MEN'S A

1. CARVER, ERIC	275
2. DOUVILLE, DOUG	190
3. GALE, CHRIS	120
4. NELSON, TYLER	115
5. LATURNER, HYRUM	100

MEN'S B

1. CLIFT, CHRIS	225
2. YETMAN, BILL	150
3. PENDLETON, BOB	120
4. VAN VALKENBURG, M.	110
5. BOGGS, SAMUEL	80

MEN'S C

1. VANDENBOS, DARRIN	160
2. HAYWARD, STEVEN	115
3. STOCK, BRENT	100
4. LAYCOCK, SHANE	90
5. ANDREW, MICHAEL	85

MEN'S D

1. PARKER, TIM	150
1. SANDERSON, JOHN	150
3. THOMAS, BRIAN	100
4. BAKER, COLBEY	95
4. GALE, ANDREW	95

BOY'S 6-

1. WALSH, KYLE	150
2. DOLBIN, PARKER	100

BOY'S 8-

1. SANDERSON, JOHN	565
2. SUDWEEKS, CHRISTIAN	150

BOY'S 10-

1. SANDERSON, JOHN	285
2. WALSH, KOREY	200
3. KNUDSEN, CHRIS	100
4. OLSEN, STEPHEN	50
5. CHRISTIANSEN, MIKE	25
5. SUDWEEKS, CHRISTIAN	25
5. WRIGHT, SHEA	25

BOY'S 12-

1. SANDERSON, JOHN	350
2. GALE, ANDREW	150
3. DUBACH, JONATHAN	105
4. CHRISTIANSEN, DAN	50
4. CHRISTIANSEN, MIKE	50

BOY'S 14-

1. GALE, ANDREW	200
1. SANDERSON, JOHN	200
3. CHRISTIANSEN, DAN	155
4. NGUYEN, QUANG	150
5. TERRY, RICHARD	75
5. WALSH, KOREY	75

BOY'S 16-

1. BURNSIDE, CAMERON	200
2. TERRY, RICHARD	105
3. MITCHELL, DAVID	100
4. CHRISTENSEN, CODY	50
4. SANDBERG, STEPHEN	50

BOY'S 18-

1. MCGOVERN, ROB	225
2. BURNSIDE, CAMERON	150
3. GEORGE, DALLAS	50
4. JASS, PETE	30
4. PRUITT, STEPHEN	30

MEN'S 24-

1. CROZIER, SPENCER	50
2. JENKS, CHAD	30

MEN'S 25+

1. POINTELIN, BRIAN	500
2. NORTH, TODD	150
3. AITKEN, GLEN	100
3. TIMMONS, DAVE	100
5. RIDEOUT, DAN	75

MEN'S 30+

1. TIMMONS, DAVE	150
2. ROLFE, GENE	100
3. SMITH, STEVE	75
4. RIDEOUT, DAN	50
4. SANDERSON, DON	50

MEN'S 35+

1. GALE, CHRIS	150
2. ISAACSON, JIM	100
3. WANDLING, CRAIG	50

MEN'S 40+

1. CORAY, STEVE	400
2. DUBACH, ENRICO	175
3. MOON, LARRY	150
3. SANDERSON, DON	150
5. AITKEN, GLEN	75

MEN'S 45+

1. FISHER, DENNIS	370
2. DUNYON, MARCUS	340
3. ROLFE, GENE	155
4. WILKING, JIM	120
5. CHRISTIANSEN, BARNEY	110

MEN'S 50+

1. DOUVILLE, DOUG	300
2. CORBRIDGE, LYNN	175
3. JORGENSEN, ALAN	150
4. HEALY, JACK	140
5. JACKSON, ROB	125

MEN'S 55+

1. SEGURA, CHRIS	400
2. PLETCHER, GENE	170
3. RIDEOUT, DAN	150
4. BOYD, BUD	80
5. DOILNEY, MIKE	75
5. NYSTROM, TOM	75
5. WILKING, JIM	75

MEN'S 60+

1. WILKING, JIM	800
2. PLETCHER, GENE	120
3. LABELLE, HAL	50
4. MCNABB, ROBERT	30

MEN'S 75+

1. CHILD, J.W.	30
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MEN'S 80+

1. GARDNER, WALTER	50
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WOMEN'S OPEN

1. WALSH, KRISTEN	460
2. BLAKE, KIM	210
3. WOODBURY, VALORIE	180
4. SAWYER, SYLVIA	165
5. SHEWFELT, VAL	125

WOMEN'S A

1. LYNCH, JENNIFER	280
2. OLSEN, JANETTE	150
3. CARTER, KAREN	125
4. WALSH, KRISTEN	60
5. THOMAS, MANDY	50

WOMEN'S B

1. SPEAR, NING	150
2. ELLSWORTH, JODIE	100
3. CAMPBELL, DEBORAH	75
4. BIRCHENOUGH, JENN.	50
4. THOMAS, MANDY	50
4. WATTERSON, KARA	50

WOMEN'S C

1. SMITH, COURTNEY	150
2. HOCH, JAMIE	50
2. MONTANEZ, HEATHER	50
2. PATTEN, KAYE	50
5. LYNCH, JENNIFER	40

WOMEN'S D

1. JUDKINS, MARSHA	150
2. PARKER, DEBBIE	100
2. WALSH, KIMBERLY	100
4. SANDERS, KATHLEEN	75
5. HANLEY, DEE	50

GIRL'S 10-

1. SUDWEEKS, BROOKE	150
2. ETHINGTON, MADDIE	50

GIRL'S 12-

1. WALSH, KIMBERLY	150
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GIRL'S 14-

1. WALSH, KIMBERLY	200
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GIRL'S 16-

1. WALSH, KRISTEN	1050
2. KNUDSEN, LINDA	150

GIRL'S 18-

WALSH, KRISTEN	750
STAHLE, HEATHER	20
KNUDSEN, LINDA	10

GIRL'S 24-

WALSH, KRISTEN	300
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WOMEN'S 40+

SHEWFELT, VAL	625
EGBERT, LAURIE	150
HILL, CAROL	100

WOMEN'S 45+

GUNN, SANDI	50
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WOMEN'S 50+

BRADSHAW, SANDY	50
BRUA, SHIRLEY	30
LAYCOCK, LINDA	20

WOMEN'S 55+

SAWYER, SYLVIA	175
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WOMEN'S 60+

SAWYER, SYLVIA	400
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New Hall of Famers



By Marcus Dunyon, URA V.P.

On behalf of the URA Board of Directors, I am proud to introduce to you only the second and third inductees into the recently created Utah Racquetball Hall of Fame.

Following last year's induction of **Luzell Wilde** are two new, well-deserving members, **Rick Strout** and **Ruth McGovern**.

While it was appropriate to recognize these two standout choices, don't expect frequent inductions in the future. Your Board has been further defining the criteria which will be used for nomination and, believe me, this exclusive club ain't easy to get into.

We will publish the criteria once they have been voted on by the Board, but those rules will ensure that the Utah Racquetball Hall of Fame will be an elite group of people who have made a sustained, outstanding contribution to our sport in Utah.

Being an outstanding player is, by itself, not enough. Contribution to Utah racquetball can also come in the form of coaching, programming, sponsoring or directing tournaments.

This is why Ruth and Rick make such excellent choices for inclusion. They have been running leagues, conducting lessons and organizing and promoting racquetball tournaments since before many of Utah's current open players were even born! They were chosen not so much for how they have played the game, but for how many players have benefitted from their work.

Here's a look at these two outstanding racquetball contributors.

Rick Strout

Rick Strout has been one of the driving forces in Utah racquetball, and has made a lasting impression on many of the top players, as a coach and as a competitor. Perhaps no one has had a wider sphere of involvement in Utah racquetball than Rick. He has run some of the largest tournaments in the state of Utah and has been an ambassador for Utah racquetball throughout the nation.

As a player, Rick has won multiple state championships in Men's Open, 30+, 35+, 40+, Open Doubles and Mixed open Doubles. He won a regional event in the 35+ and was ranked as high as second in the nation in that category. The consummate competitor, Rick has played with a broken arm, two severe knee injuries, two split achilles tendons and a concussion.

As a pro (at the Sports Mall, Metro Sports Mall and the Life Centre), he ran over 200 tournaments, clinics, programs, and leagues. He coached players of all levels for over 20 years, from Evanston, Wyoming to St. George, Utah. With **Steve Coray**, Rick directed "Team Utah", a racquetball skills and conditioning program. He directed the National Doubles in the early 90's and assisted with the Junior Nationals in the mid-90's.

Rick directed the development, production and marketing of the Fin racquet in the late 80's. He has written articles on racquetball for the state and national publications and served on the URA board for 12 years, six as president.

Q Rick, where were you born?

A I was born in Grand Junction, Colorado on a cold winter's night.

Q You were a cheerleader in high school. What were your high school days like?

A I had a lot of fun in high

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Ruth McGovern

Ruth McGovern won the first USRA National Women's Amateur Championship only five years after learning to play racquetball in 1970. She played on the National Racquet Club Pro Tour for about four years, maintaining an eighth place ranking much of that time. Ruth also won a number of California amateur championships during that period.

Living in California at that time and working as a racquetball pro, Ruth ran tournaments in the hotbed of the sport during its explosive growth period. In the first tournament she ever ran, she had 121 entrants . . . in the C division alone!

She and then-husband Michael moved back to SLC in 1979 and ran programs and tournaments at clubs today's young players have probably never even heard of, like The Fountain of Youth, Towne & Country and Sherwood Hills. In 1983, Ruth moved to the Redwood Center and has been promoting the sport there ever since. No other person has had as much impact on junior racquetball in Utah as **Ruth McGovern**.

Q Ruth, how long have you been around the game of racquetball and what have been the biggest changes you have seen?

A I have been involved in racquetball for nearly 30 years and the thing I feel that has changed the most is the equipment. Moreover, it has changed the game from one of strategy, stamina and shot making to one of pure power. I really feel that the game used to be more like chess now it is like checkers. Nevertheless, there is still a place for the people that can think their way through a match.

Q I know that you were a diver in high school. Is that where you developed your love for competition?

A I was swimming at the age of seven in competitions. You would be amazed at how many people playing racquetball started competing as a swimmer.

Q Do your three sons play racquetball?

A Rob, who is going on a mission soon, Thomas, and my youngest, Steve, all play or have played tournaments.

Q What activities do you enjoy when you are not running programs or tournaments?

A I really don't do much. I do enjoy sewing when I get a chance, which isn't often. I have been spending a lot of my time remodeling my house.

Q Who has been the biggest influence in your racquetball game?

A The man was my coach at the Desert Gym and taught me how to play. His name was **Howard Ringwood**, and at the time he was the best player in Utah and was ranked number one in the nation at 35+ age group.

Q Who were some of your contemporaries in racquetball?

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Photo by Steve Coray

Rick Strout (continued)

school, I loved being a cheerleader but I wasn't an athlete. It just shows you that anyone can play racquetball if I can. If they put in enough court time anyone can become a good player.

Q You are a married man so the single ladies are safe, and you have two daughters, give me the names of your significant others.

A My wife's name is Clarise and I have two daughters named Jessica and Jill.

Q Besides racquetball, what else do you enjoy doing?

A I enjoy golf, entertaining, parties, laughing training, fitness and traveling.

Q How long have you been involved with racquetball?

A I started playing in 1976, so it's been 24 years. Really I started playing because I was the Assistant Athletic Director and the racquetball pro at the Sports Mall. Janell Marroitt ran out of time to run leagues. I wanted to play, so I started running leagues myself. Then I went to a camp run by Steve Strandemo, who was one of the best players around at the time and I learned to teach. That is when I started to actually run leagues. It was really because I wanted to compete that I did all of this in the beginning.

Q When did you win your first state championship and what has been your greatest accomplishment so far?

A I'm having a hard time remembering, man I'm old. Let's see, I won my first state singles championship when I was 37 and my second when I was 39. I have also won age division at every level I've competed.

Q Winning a state open championship at the ripe old age of 39 has to be one of your greatest memories. What else

has racquetball been able to give to you over the years?

A My most cherished memories are my friendships, the deep respect we develop for one another. And I love the fact we can play this sport at any age. And of course racquetball has been my career. I feel very fortunate to have been able to make a living playing a game I love.

Q If you could change anything about the game, what would it be?

A I would try and have more corporate involvement in the game, and get more exposure with the media, find a way to make it attractive for the corporate sponsor.

Q Haven't you been able to travel a lot due to your career in racquetball?

A I have traveled to Taipai, Taiwan, to develop the Fin racquet, which was one of the first oversize racquets and one of the first with a built-in vibration dampener. I've been to sporting goods shows all across America. I have taught seminars and have given lessons throughout the western states.

Q How do you want to be remembered by the people you coached, played against, and as a Pro?

A I hope the people I've coached remember me for teaching them aggressive, up beat, high percentage racquetball.

I hope the people I've played against would consider me a tough competitor, giving it my full effort all the times. I wanted them to know that I was never out of the game. And I would like to think that I was thought of as a fair player. And people who looked at me as a Pro, I would hope that they could say I was fun to be around and a positive influence to the players and on the game.

Ruth McGovern (continued)

A Charlie Brumfield, Steve Strandemo, Janell Marriott, and Peggy Steding. I also got to be friends and associate with such legends as Steve Keeley, Jerry Hilecher, Marty Hogan, Shannon Wright and Lynn Adams.

Q In your career as a player, who was your toughest competitor and what has been your biggest accomplishment?

A My toughest competitor was Peggy Steding. She never lost a match in over five years. I felt lucky to even score on her. My biggest accomplishment was winning the national amateur championships in 1975.

Q What places have you had the opportunity to travel to based on racquetball?

A I have traveled throughout the western United States and as far east as St. Louis.

Q When you moved to California, why did you go and what effect did it have on your game?

A I moved to California because there was no real competition in Utah and the club I played at in California had five female players on the Pro tour. Also, it was closer to my sponsor, Eketelon, and cheaper to fly from LAX around the country than living in Utah.

Q You have been especially dedicated to the junior program. Why and where do you see the future of racquetball going? Also during the last three or four years, you have spearheaded the traveling league, which most people who play, love. How did all this come about.

A Years ago Cindy Jones and I saw a need for a junior program when the State Junior tournament was so small. After that, it became a labor of love, kind of. The traveling league started when a bunch of adults became jealous about the success of the junior program and wanted something similar.

Q If you could change anything about the game. What would it be and why?

A I would try and get back some of the comradie that used to be a big part of playing. It used to be that people would play tournaments and then stick around and hang together, get caught up on old friendships and maybe go to dinner. I would really like to see people start to do that again.

Q How would you like to be remembered by your fellow players and by the racquetball community?

A I really don't know. I want players who have played me to see every inch of the court, so I hope they think of me as accomplished player, determined and dedicated to the game. As far as the racquetball community, I hope they remember me as someone who has cared about the opportunity and the experience that the players had at my tournaments. I actually care more about the experience players have than playing myself.

I have known Ruth for well over 15 years and during that time, I have never seen her waiver in her commitment to the game of racquetball. Her tournaments always run smoothly and her food table is certainly legendary. I remember playing Ruth when I first got back into playing again and she tells me that she gave me the doughnut. I don't do remember that, but I remember getting beaten. Ruth still plays and is a force on and off the court. Marcus