

OFF THE WALL

October 1997

A quarterly publication of the Utah Racquetball Association

Volume 9, Number 3

What Do You Think?

by Bryan Bennett, U.R.A. President

The other day I was flipping through my *Racquetball* magazine and I found myself reading the "Letters to the Editor" section. The concerns about longer racquets, faster balls, and various other topics were brought up. It's nice to see U.S.R.A. members voicing their opinions and getting responses. Although the number of letters in each magazine is small compared to the number of U.S.R.A. members, I believe these comments represent the majority. Thankfully, someone takes the time to initiate this correspondence so we can all be better informed.

As a nine-member board representing almost four hundred members, the U.R.A. tries to make changes to accommodate the majority of our members. Our problem is that we don't always know if what we do is what you want, and if we are doing all that you would like us to. For instance, what do you think about these topics:

- Our tournament schedule and how it was chosen.
- The open division one-serve rule. After a year there should be some opinions.
- Our policy on combining divisions (Open/A, A/B, C/D).
- State tournament locations.
- How your officers are elected (a new system was adopted in March).
- Using the green Penn ball versus the blue ball.

We welcome the opportunity to respond to your concerns, comments, and criticisms. We want to administer the U.R.A. in a way that best serves you. Please let us know if you are—or are not—satisfied with your representation. Send your letters to the following address:

Utah Racquetball Association
P.O. Box 711684
Salt Lake City, UT 84171-8684

Thanks for your help!

Off The Wall

Improving Your Game . . . DO YOUR HOMEWORK!

by Scott Boyd, U.R.A. Board Member

An essential part of tournament preparation is being familiar with your opponent. When you're climbing up the ladder from D's to C's, or beyond, it is important to know as much as you can about the strengths and weaknesses of the players you compete against. You never know who may cross your path on the way to the finals. To maximize your success, study your opponent's style and ability. In other words, **DO YOUR HOMEWORK!**

Look for the obvious! Have you ever found yourself entering the court, doing your ritual pre-game ball-blasting, ripping those forehands and backhands against the front wall at speeds you swear were faster than a speeding bullet—and just as deadly. You hit practice ceiling lobs that seem to float and slide off the back wall like warm butter on a hot day. You drill untouchable pinches into the corners and watch them snap and roll with precision. You even rehearse the infamous splat shot that skims lightly off the side wall and splatters so perfectly against the front wall. Now you know that your once round ball will stay shaped like squashed play-dough until you revive it by squeezing it between the hardwood floor and your new Nike's.

You're ready! You're pumped! You're adrenaline is rushing! Sweat is starting to bead on your forehead and your racquet strings are screaming "Let's Get Ready to RRRUMBLE!" You calmly shake your opponent's hand and take your place in your second home, the service box. Your drive serve has been known to be as deadly as an atomic bomb, so why not air it out now and ace the first point. You focus on the front wall, choose your spot, bounce the blue Penn exactly nine times—no more, no less. You turn your head slightly to check your poor, unsuspecting receiver, and mumble to yourself "So long sucker." As you start your swing, the racquet

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Off The Wall

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U.R.A. Board Member

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For Letters to the Editor or any other inquiries, please write to following address:

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Correction

Steve Coray and Sean Lucky took 1st Place in the Men's Open Doubles division at Cottonwood Heights in March 1997. Tom Shearman and Alan Jorgensen took 2nd Place.

TOURNAMENTS

JUNIORS ARE HOT THIS SUMMER!

by Enrico Dubach, U.R.A. Vice President

The Utah State Juniors Championships were held at the Redwood Recreation Center on August 21 through 23. Over fifty boys and girls participated in the three-day event. Ruth McGovern did a great job running the show. On Saturday, after the finals, a pool and barbeque party was held for all the players, parents, and coaches. Burgers and chicken were cooked indoors because of possible rain. But the weather cleared enough to jump in the pool after eating.

Awards were presented to the tournament winners as well as for the Team Junior summer leagues. Notable finishers were: Adam Tueller, first place in the Boy's 16 and 18 year-old divisions. Cameron Burnside took second in the 16's and first in 14 and under. Kristen Walsh played the Boy's divisions and took second in 18's and third in 16 and under. Jason Cardon won the 12's and took third in the 14 and under. Jonathon Dubach won the 10 and under 1- and 2-bounce divisions. Six-year-old John Sanderson took second in the 10 and under 2 bounce division and first in the 8 and under multi-bounce! A complete list of the tournament results follows this article.

For many of the kids, the tournament was the final event of the summer junior's league. Each week during the summer, juniors from seven clubs around the valley met to compete in a team format. On June 24 an All Star Skills Night at the Redwood Center featured Jim Wilking. The kids were able to get great pointers and compete against one of Utah's great players. A referee clinic was held on August 24 by John Yorkey. Questions about rules were covered as well as certification testing. It's amazing how quickly the youngest players learned the finer points of refereeing a match. All of the kids improved their racquetball skills a lot during this summer league. Believe me, many of them will be competing against the adults soon.

Ruth McGovern coordinates the league and, as usual, did a great job. The staff at Redwood Center and Salt Lake Parks and Recreation are appreciated for supporting this great program for our juniors. This league would also not be possible without a lot of work by our coaches and parents.

Chris Segura's UCLR team won first place in the league. Towne & Country, coached by Enrico Dubach, took second. Other participating clubs were Bountiful Rec Center, coached by Sandi Gunn; Sports Mall and Life Center were both coached by Tony Glavas; Cottonwood Heights, coached by Rose Hernandez; and the Redwood Center, coached by Karen Knudsen and Kris Terry.

Division		1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	4th Place
Boy's 18	Gold	Adam Tueller	Kristen Walsh	Samuel Boggs	Rob McGovern
	Blue	Justin Christiansen	George Knudsen		
Boy's 16	Gold	Adam Tueller	Cameron Burnside	Kristen Walsh	
	Blue	Rob McGovern	Tyson Morris		
	Red	Nick Clark	Matt Zwahlen		
Boy's 14	Gold	Cameron Burnside	Cody Christensen	Jason Cardon	Tom McGovern
	Blue	Nicholas Dubach	Chris Cecka	Sergio Bodero	
	Red	Brandon Jones	Ian McAlister	Tyson Morris	Linda Carter
	White	Nathan McCoy	Scott Shaw	Borge Kristensen	
Boy's 12	Gold	Jason Cardon	Steven McGovern	Deven Walker	Eric Boevers
Boy's 10	Gold	Jonathon Dubach	Garid Kristensen	Eric Boevers	
Boy's 10 2 bounce	Gold	Jonathon Dubach	John Sanderson	Andrew Gale	Andy Shearman
Girl's 16	Gold	Viviana Garcia	Sabrina Ortiz	Tehra Christensen	Cheryl Christiansen
Girl's 14	Gold	Linda Carter	Christina Herrera	Luana Ortiz	
Girls's 10 2 bounce	Gold	Jessie Ballard	Bobbi Gunn	Brooke Sudweeks	
Boy's 8 M bounce	Gold	John Sanderson	Korey Walsh	Christopher Carter	Colin Boevers



John Sanderson gets ready for a match during the 1997 Junior Olympics in Baltimore. Photo by Don Sanderson.

1997 Junior Olympic Championships, Baltimore, Maryland, June 21-25

John Sanderson, 1st place in 8 & under multi-bounce (white division) and 3rd place in 6 & under multi-bounce (gold division).

Korey Walsh, 2nd place in 8 & under multi-bounce (white division).

Kristen Walsh, 3rd place in 14 & under Singles (gold division), 2nd in Girl's 14 & under Doubles (gold division / with Jeni Fuller), 3rd in Mixed 14 & under Doubles (gold division / with Joel Worthington).

DO YOUR HOMEWORK! . . . from page 1

makes a quick "swoosh," you drive with your body and power into the swing then crush the ball so hard that you fear that you may have ruptured your opponent's eardrum from the deafening explosion of the ball hitting the front wall. The ball blazes down the lane past the short line, a little long, but it still should be a tough get. As the ball hits the back wall and hops up the alley, you position yourself to put away the return. As you turn and move to your left, the receiver takes one step, following the ball off the short hop, swings, and smashes a forehand roll-out, straight into the front, left corner. "Uh-oh, this dude is a lefty." "Time out, Ref!"

Like I said, **DO YOUR HOMEWORK!**



Winners of the Boy's 18 division (left to right): Kristen Walsh, Adam Tueller, Sam Boggs, Robert McGovern, and Justin Christiansen. Photo by Enrico Dubach.



Winners of the Girls 18 division (left to right): Viviana Garcia, Tehra Christensen, and Cheryl Christiansen. Photo by Enrico Dubach.

Penn Junior Rankings

Boy's 18

- 1 Ben Kartchner
- 2 Nathan Porter
- 3 Cannon Crittendan
- 4 Tyler Watson
- 5 Mike Hadley

Boy's 16

- 1 Adam Tueller
- 2 Brian Retford
- 3 Samuel Boggs
- 4 Tyler Watson
- 5 Rob McGovern
- 6 Matt Zwahlen

Boy's 14

- 1 Cameron Burnside
- 2 Tyson Morris
- 3 Tyler Watson
- 4 Jason Cardon
- 5 Nicholas Dubach
- 6 Nick Watson
- 7 Michael Retford
- 8 Devin Bodily
- 9 Derrick Penman
- 10 Marcus Webb

Boy's 12

- 1 Paul Bennett
- 2 Cris Cecka
- 3 Jason Cardon
- 4 Richard Terry
- 5 Quang Ngyen
- 6 Nathaniel Cranney
- 7 Dustin Cederholm
- 8 Zach Johnson
- 9 Steven McGovern
- 10 Connor Wheeler

Boy's 10

- 1 Stephen Cranney
- 2 Jonathan Dubach
- 3 Paul Bennett
- 4 Andy Shearman
- 5 Andrew Gale

Penn Junior Rankings

Girl's 18

- 1 Kristen Walsh

Girl's 16

- 1 Jennifer Bennett
- 2 Laura Cocaneur

Girl's 14

- 1 Kristen Walsh
- 2 Linda Carter

Girl's 12

- 1 Kimberly Walsh

Girl's 10

- 1 Kimberly Walsh
- 2 Jessie Ballard
- 3 Lindsay Fowler

Boy's 8

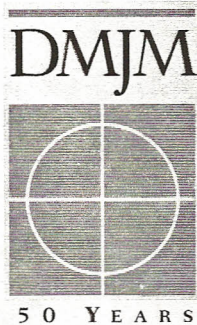
- 1 Korey Walsh

Boy's 8 (multi-bounce)

- 1 Korey Walsh
- 2 John Sanderson

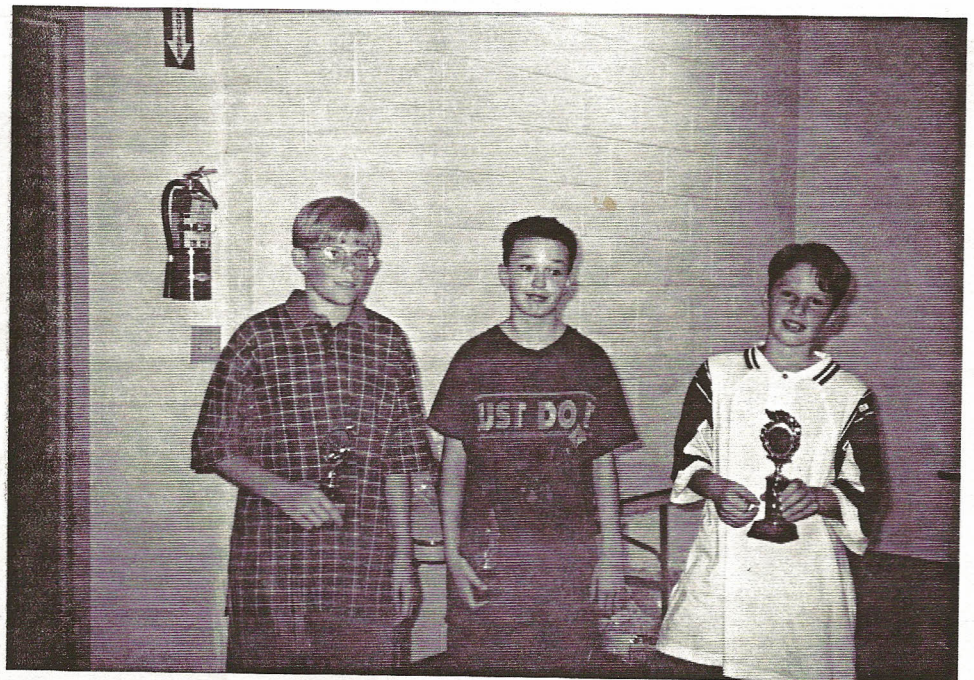


Winners of the Girl's 10 2-bounce division (left to right): Bobbi Gunn and Jessie Ballard. Photo by Enrico Dubach.



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Winners of the Boy's 12 division (left to right): Deven Walker, Steven McGovern, and Jason Cardon. Photo by Enrico Dubach.

Fall Opener at SLCC

by Enrico Dubach, U.R.A. Vice President

The new racquetball facility at the Salt Lake Community College is a great addition to Utah racquetball. Six new glass-backed courts with a complete fitness center and impeccable locker rooms combine to make this a premiere racquetball center. The Fall Opener was held August 28 through 30. This three-day tournament, directed by Chris Johnson, was a great success with over 60 participants. On Saturday, a radar gun was set up to measure ball speed. Players competed to see who could hit the ball the hardest. David Timmons won a racquet by hitting the ball the hardest—a stinging 124 mph! Darla Wenger won the racquet for the ladies by smacking the ball a blistering 96 mph! Thanks to Tony Glavas and Precision Sports for contributing the racquets. Gift certificates for restaurants and sporting goods were given to division winners instead of the usual trophies. Deli sandwiches during the week and bagels on Saturday were just part of the great hospitality. Thanks to Chris's wife, Genny, for all her help with the tournament.

In the Men's Open, Ogden's Rick Corbridge upset number one seed Tony Glavas in the semi-finals. He went on to win the tournament by beating Matt Christensen in the finals on Saturday afternoon. Below are the complete results:

Division	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Men's Open	Rick Corbridge	Matthew Christensen	Jerry Montanez
Men's A	Jerry Bradshaw	Lynn Corbridge	Chris Gale
Men's B	La Chau	James Quent	Darla Wenger
Men's C	Juan Arrietta	Samuel Boggs	Bob Watson
Men's D	Brad Brumbaugh	Bob Watson	Tyler Watson
Men's 35+	Don Sanderson	Enrico Dubach	Marcus Dunyon
Women's A-B-C	Val Shewfelt	Samantha Hinton	Debbie Campbell
Men's Doubles A-B-C	Ethington/Dunyon	Buchi/Rees	Quent/Keene
Mixed Doubles	Worrell/Williams	Corbridge/Campbell	

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Penn Adult Rankings (as of 9/19/97)

Men's Open

- 1 Adam Anderson
- 2 Jerry Montanez
- 3 Tony Glavas
- 4 Sean Lucky
- 5 Craig Ericson
- 6T Matt Christensen
- 6T Larry Moon
- 8 Tom Shearman
- 9 Corbin Carter
- 10 Steve Black
- 11 Rick Corbridge
- 12 Glen Aiken

Men's A

- 1 Don Sanderson
- 2 Sean Widaufer
- 3 Randy Krantz
- 4 Marcus Dunyon
- 5T Chris Gale
- 5T Alan Jorgensen
- 7 Brian Gill
- 8T Greg Baker
- 8T Gene Rolfe
- 10T Paul Ethington
- 10T Adam Tueller

Men's B

- 1 Lee Hanley
- 2 Pat Conway
- 3 Eric Carver
- 4 James Quent
- 5 Brad Ballard
- 6 Curtis Goble
- 7 Richard Lawrence
- 8 Lawrence Trujillo
- 9T Roger Coltharp
- 9T Spencer Crozier
- 9T Randy Judkins
- 9T Shawn Lemons
- 9T Jonathan Ramras
- 9T Mark Van Saun

Men's C

- 1 Scott Boyd
- 2 John Duda
- 3 B. Christiansen
- 4 Eric Gardner
- 5 Bob Pendleton
- 6 Ben Evans
- 7T Bill Beesley
- 7T Eric Carver
- 7T Shaun Hancock

- 7T Mike Meservy
- 7T Greg Wayman

Men's D

- 1 Tadashi Sakashita
- 2 Robert Watson
- 3 Greg Wayman
- 4 Bill Beesley
- 5 Michael Retford
- 6 Steven Wayman
- 7T Samuel Boggs
- 7T Jesse Cervantes
- 7T Matthew Orton
- 7T Keith Peterson

Women's Open

- 1 Marianne Walsh
- 2 Christine McAlpine
- 3 Cherie Barth
- 4 Kristen Walsh
- 5 Val Shewfelt
- 6 Sandee Roach

Women's A

- 1 Val Shewfelt
- 2T Darla Wenger

- 2T Jennifer Bennett
- 4 Sandy Mitchell
- 5 Hope Hendricks

Women's B

- 1 Colleen Keegan
- 2 Lily Yee
- 3T Val Shewfelt
- 3T Valorie Woodbury
- 5 Amanda Mundt
- 6 Laurie Egbert

Women's C

- 1 Michelle Olsen
- 2 Kara Watterson
- 3 Angie Leedy
- 4 Carrie Soderstrom
- 5T Sarah Campbell
- 5T Joan Carman

Women's D

- 1T Samantha Hinton
- 1T Amy Rogers
- 3 M. Smith-Touchard
- 4T Kathy Kiermaier
- 4T Shari McKee



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