

# WISCONSIN RACQUETBALL



## ASSOCIATION

## NEWSLETTER

## Fall 2004

### WRA BOARD

- President ●  
**Trish Elftman**  
pelftman@wi.rr.com
- Vice-President ●  
**Tom Griffith**
- Secretary/Treasurer ●  
**Mike Grot**
- BOARD MEMBERS ●  
**Ryan Graham**  
**Paul Krueger**  
**Bill Schultz**  
**Pat Starcken**
- Newsletter Editor ●  
**Bill Schultz**  
wschultz@mcw.edu

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Get excited folks, we're getting ready for another great season of RACQUETBALL!!

The 2003-2004 Racquetball season saw many great events. The state hosted two national tournaments, Junior Nationals and The National Seniors Masters, while having two successful state tournaments. We started and inducted four players into The Wisconsin Racquetball Hall of Fame. The upcoming racquetball season will continue on a positive as the State will spotlight three Pro-stops, *The Lou Bradley Pro-Am* – Sun Prairie – October 15-17, the *Master Spa Pro-Am* – West Allis, October 28-31 and the *Winter Classic* – Southridge, January 27-30, as well as the usual tournaments held at your favorite club. (A complete list of Tournaments is enclosed) We now have a web site that will keep you up to date with the basics, but in the future will be adding more. Web site – [www.wiracquetball.org](http://www.wiracquetball.org). When you receive this newsletter, you have hopefully wiped off the cobwebs and remembered how to hit a kill shot. Get your friends and family involved with this great game. No matter what the weather is outside, there is always a court waiting to play on. Play leagues at your local club, support the up-coming tournament season and get your partners together for State Doubles at Sun Prairie – November 5-7.

We also saw the departure of an icon for Wisconsin Racquetball. Carol Pellowski and her family moved west to Palisades, Colorado. An opportunity presented itself for the family; they jumped on it and now are residents of Colorado. We will all miss Carol and the family. With the new address, sure hope they don't convert to Bronco fans.

### Prairie Athletic Club to Host 2004 State Doubles

Pack your racquet, shorts and other necessities – but don't forget your dancing shoes because the Prairie Athletic Club (PAC) is hosting the 2004 Wisconsin State Doubles Tournament on November 5-7.

**The state doubles tournament will start at 1 p.m. on Friday, November 5** so be prepared to start your weekend of fun early! If you can start early, it will be appreciated as a large draw is expected and we'd like to start early so we can be done playing by Sunday afternoon. The signup deadline for the tournament will be Monday, November 1. PAC tournaments are typically very well attended, so sign up early.

The Wisconsin Racquetball Association will put together the draw for the tourney, while Paul Krueger will run things once it gets started. Look inside this newsletter for a brochure or contact Paul at the PAC (phone is 608-837-4646 and e-mail is [pl.krueger@prairieathletic.com](mailto:pl.krueger@prairieathletic.com)) for more information.

So what does the PAC have to offer state players? Well, let's go over some of the important club amenities:

- Six racquetball courts, including the glass side wall on court seven, which allows for upwards of 100 spectators to watch the big matches.
- Three full-court basketball courts, three indoor pools and three group exercise studios.
- One huge weight room, one huge cardio room and several smaller rooms with weights and cardio equipment.
- And of significant importance, The Lost Court Sports Bar and Restaurant.

Sun Prairie is located right outside of Madison, a little more than an hour from Milwaukee and about 2-3 hours from Eau Claire, depending on the driver.

### Also In This Issue...

Bradley/Stoltman Sportsmanship Award .....	2
Did You Know? .....	2
Pros Coming to West Allis .....	2
Treasurer's Report .....	2
2004 Wisconsin State Singles Racquetball Championship Results .....	3
Veenstra Wins Badger State Games Racquetball Title .....	4
2004 Badger State Games Racquetball Tourney Results .....	4
Matt Melster .....	4
Hall-of-Fame Ceremony .....	4
2004 National Senior Masters Racquetball Championships Results .....	5
Wisconsin Junior Players Finish 5th in the Nation! .....	6
2004-2005 Wisconsin Racquetball Association Calendar of Events .....	7
Submit Your Racquetball News ...	7
Arm Injury? Play with the Other One .....	8

## Bradley/Stoltmann Sportsmanship Award

One of the highlights of our WRA State Singles Racquetball Tournament is the presentation of the Lou Bradley/Jerry Stoltman Sportsmanship Award. This award has been presented to Wisconsin players who show the true meaning of sportsmanship in the game of racquetball, just as Lou and Jerry did.

This year's recipient was Eric Lindquist from Eau Clair. Eric is an outstanding player, having won many state titles, but more importantly he truly exemplifies all the sports-manship qualities this award honors. We were very pleased to have Rose Stoltmann with us to present this special award to Eric. *Congratulations Eric!*



WRA President Trish Elftman, Lou Bradley/Jerry Stoltmann Sportsmanship Award winner Eric Lindquist and Rose Stoltmann.

## PROS COMING TO WEST ALLIS

Mark your calendar for October 27 – 31, 2004 to see the top racquetball players in the world at the 2004 Master Spa Pro-Am to be held at the Wisconsin Athletic Club – West Allis. Along with the IRT Pro Division there be a full compliment of amateur divisions including money divisions in Men's Open, Women's Open, Men's 35+ Open and Men's Open Doubles.

This will be a great chance to see racquetball at it's best and be part of the excitement of a Pro-Am tournament. For more information contact Trish Beatty, WAC-Waukesha at 262-544-4111.

## Did You Know?

By  
Bill Schultz

Some of you, like me, have known Ivan Bruner for many years, but many of you may not realize what an important role Ivan has played in the growth of racquetball, especially at the Masters level. He began playing paddleball at the Madison YMCA in 1959 and along with some other early racquetball pioneers, began playing racquetball in the late 1960's.

In 1971 Ivan helped organize the National Masters Racquetball Association and served as president for 23 years. Currently there are well over 1,000 members who play in a number of tournaments around the country each year. This organization, for men and women ages 45 and older, held their International Championships this past summer at the Wisconsin Athletic Club-West Allis with over 250 participants.

Those of use who have enjoyed the Supreme Court in Madison over the years know that Ivan founded that club. He has served two terms on the board of directors of United States Racquetball and also served two years as the United States Racquetball Commissioner.

During his many years in racquetball Ivan has won 17 national masters doubles titles and nine international titles. For the majority of those titles he teamed with Chet Howard from Middleton. They won their first national title in 1980.

Ivan says, "The experiences of organizing this group, the many years of participating in tournaments, the many friendships made nationwide, and the championships won have been more fulfilling than I could have ever dreamed. Forty-five years of enjoying this sport has been great."

**Treasurers Report**  
**QUARTERLY BALANCE**  
**AS OF 7/31/04**  
**\$7,060.85**

## 2004 Wisconsin State Singles Racquetball Championships

### March 26-28 – Wisconsin Athletic Club – West Allis

**Mens Open** 1st – Kyle Veenstra – Wausau  
2nd – Jay Wollenberg – Waukesha  
3rd – Dan Hodges – West Allis  
Cons. – Andy Klibowitz – Sussex

**Mens AA** 1st – Brian Forrest – Stevens Point  
2nd – Dave Rowe – Eau Claire  
Cons. – Mike Zimmermann – West Allis

**Mens A** 1st – Juan Niaves – Madison  
2nd – Dave Pucci – Sun Prairie  
3rd – Andy Stanley – Eau Claire  
Cons. – Matt Kopp – Eau Claire

**Mens B** 1st – Jake Reisinger – West Allis  
2nd – Jerry Bryzicki – West Allis  
3rd – Pat Thering – Sun Prairie  
Cons. – Jeff Benson – Sun Prairie

**Mens C** 1st – Jim Wirkus – Pewaukee  
2nd – Jason Helmstadter – Sun Prairie  
Cons. – Drew Brannigan – Green Bay

**Mens D** 1st – Kevin Hendricks – West Allis  
2nd – David Bajkiewicz – Sun Prairie  
Cons. – Joey Salamone – Green Bay

**Mens All Age Open/ A** 1st – Kyle Veenstra – Wausau  
2nd – Matt Stamborski – West Allis  
Cons. – Jerry Albrecht – Waukesha

**Mens All Age B/C** 1st – Jim Sheahan – Milwaukee  
2nd – Jordon Powers – Mukwonago  
3rd – Art Pierce – Pell Lake  
Cons. – Brad Falvey – Madison

**Mens 30+ Open** 1st – Bob Nelson – Stevens Point  
2nd – Darrell Zaleski – Eau Claire  
Cons. – Grant Peterson – West Allis

**Mens 30+B** 1st – Jason Gordon – Sheboygan  
2nd – Jim Sheahan – Milwaukee  
Cons. – Bill Miller – Sun Prairie

**Mens 35+ Open** 1st – Eric Linqvist – Eau Claire  
2nd – Darrell Zaleski – Eau Claire  
Cons. – Steve Sensiba – Waukesha

**Mens 35 +A** 1st – Dave Pucci – Sun Prairie  
2nd – Scott Willan – Sun Prairie  
Cons. – Mike Burie – Sun Prairie

**Mens 35+B** 1st – Jeff Benson – Sun Prairie  
2nd – Patrick Chapman – Racine  
Cons. – Kevin Falvey – Sun Prairie

**Mens 40+Open** 1st – Carl Evers – West Allis  
2nd – Gary Tanko – Stevens Point  
Cons. – Tom Griffith – West Allis

**Mens 45+ A** 1st – Tom Davenport – Eau Claire  
2nd – John Long – Eau Claire  
Cons. – Dave Klibowitz – Sussex

**Mens 45+B** 1st – Gary Sierzchulski – West Allis  
2nd – Jerry Bryzicki – West Allis  
Cons. – Jim Wirkus – Pewaukee

**Mens 50+B** 1st – Al Ryback – Milwaukee  
2nd – Pat Seghers – West Bend  
Cons. – Tom Hoffmann – West Bend

**Mens 50+Open** 1st – Dave Rowe – Eau Claire  
2nd – Jim Luzar – West Allis  
Cons. – Don Gunderson – Stevens Point

**Mens 55+** 1st – Don Gunderson – Stevens Point  
2nd – Gary Gerschke – West Allis  
Cons. – Charlie Waller – Waunakee

**Mens 60+** 1st – Mark Vercel – West Allis  
2nd – George Alexander – Sun Prairie

**Womens Open** 1st – Cara Pellowski – Eau Claire  
2nd – Charlotte Nuemann – West Bend  
Cons. – Trish Elftman – Pewaukee

**Womens A** 1st – Laurie Lucero – Milwaukee  
2nd – Tracie Studinski – Sun Prairie  
Cons. – Deb Evers – West Allis

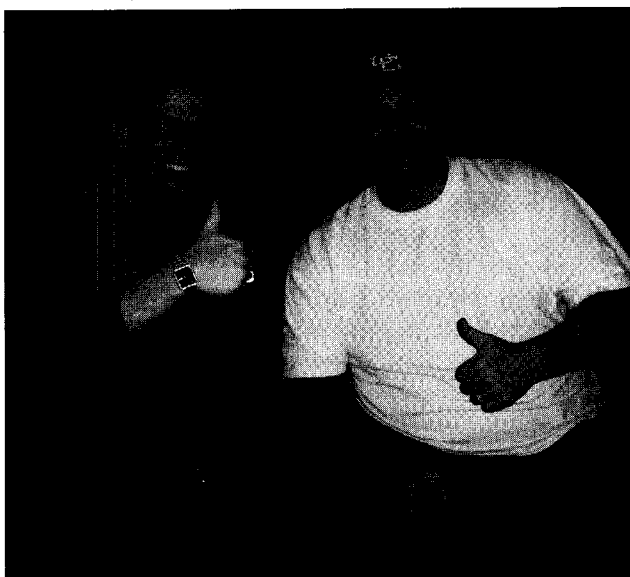
**Womens B** 1st – Kristy Damm – Sun Prairie  
2nd – Pam Larsen – Sun Prairie  
Cons. – Lorena Olson – Janesville

**Womens All Age Open/A** 1st – Kathi Hartl – West Allis  
2nd – Lorraine Krueger – Sun Prairie  
Cons. – Deb Evers – West Allis

**Womens All Age B/C** 1st – Kristy Damm – Sun Prairie  
2nd – Jenny Lee – Sun Prairie

**Womens 35+B** 1st – Lisa Rajkovich – Sun Prairie  
2nd – Pam Larsen – Sun Prairie

**Womens 35+Open** 1st – Linda Covault – Waukesha  
2nd – Susan Mahr – Sun Prairie  
Cons. – Rose Dahl – Oshkosh



Jay Wollenberg and Al Schultz relaxing at the State Singles.

## Veenstra Wins Badger State Games Racquetball Title

Wausau's Kyle Veenstra continued his stranglehold on Wisconsin state racquetball tournaments, cruising to the Men's Open title at the inaugural Badger State Games Racquetball Tournament, hosted by the Prairie Athletic Club (PAC) in Sun Prairie, Wis., Friday and Saturday.

Veenstra, who ended the 2003-04 International Racquetball Tour season as the 40<sup>th</sup> ranked player in the world, is the two-time defending state champion in singles. He has also teamed with Bob Nelson, the 91<sup>st</sup> ranked player in the world, to win the last two state doubles titles.

Paul Krueger, of host PAC, took second in Men's Open, while Nelson walked away with the bronze. Rio's Tom Griffith edged Milwaukee's Carl Evers for the 35+ Open title and PAC's Bob Doeden won the Men's A.

Middleton's Kathleen Johnson won the Women's A title ahead of Milwaukee's Deb Evers. Results from the tournament are listed below.

## 2004 Badger State Games Racquetball Tournament Results

**Men's Open** – 1. Kyle Veenstra; 2. Paul Krueger; 3. Bob Nelson.

**Men's 35+ Open** – 1. Tom Griffith; 2. Carl Evers; 3. Dave Travis.

**Men's 55+ A/B** – 1. Dan Powell; 2. Dennis Gunn; 3. George Alexander.

**Men's A** – 1. Bob Doeden; 2. George Alexander; 3. Roland Beres.

**Men's B** – 1. Chad Bishop; 2. Bill Caparoon; 3. Matt Stengl.

**Men's C** – 1. Matt Stengl; 2. Mike Golding; 3. Kevin Hendricks.

**Men's D** – 1. David Bajkiewicz; 2. Prasad Ginjupalli; 3. Marty Berinhout.

**Women's A** – 1. Kathleen Johnson; 2. Deb Evers; 3. Nicole Buresh.

**Women's B** – 1. Susan Travis; 2. Pam Larsen; 3. Lorena Olson.

## Matt Melster

WRA member Matt Melster was a player on the 2004 USA Racquetball Intercollegiate Division I Men's Championship Team. Matt Played #6 singles and #3 doubles in the 2004 tournament held at Los Cabaleros Racquet Club in Fountain Valley, CA on the weekend of March 25-28, 2004. Matt was undefeated in all eight of his singles and doubles matches. He played doubles with Dan Beaudry of Pueblo, CO.

Matt is currently a sophomore at Colorado State University – Pueblo and is from Waukesha. He's part of the six player men's team coached by Dr. Richard Krinsky. The team also includes the #1 ranked junior player in the country, Ben Croft.

Along with the honor of becoming national champions, the CSU-Pueblo team recently got some additional exciting news. The team will be a part of the training program at the United States Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, CO. The national governing body of racquetball recently agreed to let the team train at the facility throughout the year so it can closely monitor players that could be prospective members of the U.S. Team.

Jim Hiser, Executive Director of United States Racquetball said, "There are a few players down there (CSU-Pueblo) that have the potential to make the U.S. Team in the future. They will train up here once a week and the USOC will draw up guidelines to help develop these players. We will be monitoring these players on an everyday basis."

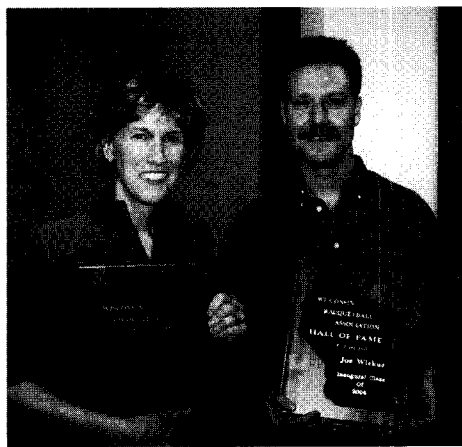
The players the USOC are most interested in are Ben Croft, Charlie Pratt, Jesi Fuller, Matt Melster and Chris Barton.

Congratulations to Matt on the championship and good luck with your training at the Olympic Training Center.

## HALL-OF-FAME CEREMONY

The Wisconsin Racquetball Association held its first Hall-of-Fame induction ceremony at the State Singles tournament at the Wisconsin Athletic Club-West Allis. It was wonderful to have both Julie Jacobsen and Joe Wirkus with us to receive their awards as two of our inaugural class. Unfortunately due to illness, both Bill Schultz, Sr. and Larry Lederman were unable to attend. The sad news is that shortly after the tournament we learned that Larry Lederman died while at his daughter's home in Arizona. We have since presented Bill Schultz with his award and will be sending Larry's award to his daughter.

The WRA board is happy to announce that the Wisconsin Athletic Club - West Allis will be the home to our permanent WRA Hall-of-Fame display.



Julie Jacobsen and Joe Wirkus with their plaques as two of the inaugural members of the WRA Hall-of-Fame.