

Hi Everyone

“Inside Racquetball Newsletter”- Pros, Juniors, Indoors & Outdoors! Hope you enjoy it!

(Written by Brett Elkins-Chair WOR Hall of fame; CNRA Jr Board Member & Author Teach Your Teen to Drive and Stay Alive)

Some great racquetball news but first...

- 1) **Men’s Pros-(S. Dakoka)**- A big annual tour event just “passed” (like that) w/Kane Waselenchuk giving up just 2 points in his first 2 matches. Crowther stuns Rojas & Beltran plays great beating the Rock-Mr. Rocky Carson before losing to Kane 11-6/4/13 (breaker). Markie makes his mark in the 1/4s. Derek Izzi usually “iz” but isn’t this tourney losing 1st round. He “iz” a great guy! In Pro Dubs (yes pro dubs-no one does that anymore right?) Kane W./Jason the Man-ino takes out R. Carson/ J. Rojas in a breaker.
- 2) **Woman’s Pro- (Monterey Mexico)**- At the Paolo Longoria Open (as in “opening” a Cerveza by winning), Paolo of course “caps” off her signature event taking out Rhonda Rajsich in singles but she can’t double down as R Rajsich/Maria “Circus” Vargas win dubs. I haven’t verified this but I was told by a reliable source that Paola is Mexico’s 2nd highest paid woman’s pro athlete & she deserves every penny (I mean peso). Paolo did uncharacteristically lose two games in this tourney (maybe busy smoozing her own event?). Salas & Vargas make semis-no surprise their.
- 3) **From The Man-nino (Jason)- IRT Prez/Ex #1 Pro-** “Brett, Love these emails- [you do-why?] & Happy Holidays Jason!” I love these too Jason (the nice comments) and it’s the main reason I do this besides loving ball & getting the word out. Btw a special thanks to Jason & Andy & Steve L. for running the pro tours & John Scott for his IRT network promoting them. We love it. Also thanks to Steve Covey,” Thanks for all you do to promote RB.” Appreciate the kind words-too kind in fact. I’m stunned can’t believe anyone reads these let alone thanks me. Wow how crazy is that?
- 4) **Racquets w/Funny Names-(from me-oh no or is Ohno with the Winter Olympics coming):**
 - 1) I thought I was buying a trip to Vegas but I bought a “Blackjack” & “Royal Flush” instead. (these are racquet names if you can believe it?)
 - 2) What happens when you buy a racquet called "Problem Child" and it breaks? Can you return it or maybe you just take it to the shrink?
 - 3) I just bought a “Black Window” and it killed me (not my opponent).
 - 4) I just bought Ektelon’s New ESP (as in Extra Sensory Perception). Now, I know first-hand before I play if I should even play the match. “Sorry John, I’m busy Tues & btw you would have beat me anyways. But this Wed I’m free! Gotta get some ESP at a store near you. Do you have ESP. If not Ektelon does! And I have ESP and I still lose but I know that going into

the matches (ok it's me not the racquet-the racquet is really good with a 12 string trampoline affect)

- 5) What happens if you play for Head but get shoulder problems instead. Ok "scratch" that one.

- 5) **Can't "Duck" These Jrs-** Oregon has USA's best JR program w/Rball a state high school sanctioned sport so the Oregon state champs are a big deal for JR rball. The 2014 Oregon champ (usually a precursor to probably winning the High School champs) is none other than Oregon gunslinger "John" Wayne Antoine who wins easily "ducking" all comers. Wayne is no "quack" (boo Brett) & a future top pro. I love his game & no prisoner's approach-done John Wayne style. Due to a great crop of kids his age, he is the best USA player to never make the USA team but has more potential than possibly anyone. Soon it will be Wayne's World-you wait and see. The kids amazing. I told you I have ESP.

- 6) **More Jr Rball-This Time in CA-**It's a little too sunny for rball so this year Scal & Ncal anointed "joint" champions (no not the kind our President says is safer than cigarettes). John Ellis and Debbie Tisinger Moore/Randy ran it w/Brian Dixon being the master of ceremony. **NCAL WINNERS:** J Ellis, J D'Ambrosia, A Rojas (cousins of Jose/Markie), D Wert, V Chauhan & E Perez. **S-CAL WINNERS-**D Elkins w/2 titles in 16 & 14 (could he be mine? No!), I Dunn, L St John, A Rejaei, A Smith. K Varon, Richie Carrilo, P Saraceno, E smith, Ryle Carrilo, C Elkins & M Elkins.

- 7) **"Kickin It" at Religious School-** Our kid's religious school decided to include a deadly martial arts program called Krav Magra so I just had to write our director the following message (whom me never!): "Jessica I'm so happy about having Krav Magra that I'm ready to pick a fight over this one (get it). I can't wait for the kids to be "kickin' it at Religious school but best of all, you can forget about the need for all of those security guards and save the money- let the kids handle security from now on!" Jessica but thanks to you, you just added a whole new meaning to "kickin it" at religious school.

- 8) **Be Paid to Roll it Out- Lifetime Fitness Style?**-Life Time Fitness is the Healthy Way of Life Co & leader in promoting USA racquetball w/courts in 14 states, 142 total courts & 50 Racquetball Coordinators. They need ya so email my friend John Wilinski jwilinski@lifetimefitness.com today. Currently they have these part-time Rball Coordinator Positions: Allen, TX , Castle Creek, IN, Cinco Ranch, TX Columbus, OH (Easton), Denver, CO (Parker) Fridley, MN Garland, TX Minneapolis, MN (MAC); San Antonio, TX ; Schaumburg, IL Sugarland, TX Troy, MI Woodbury, MN . Play, stay and be paid....John come to CA so I can sign up for this great gig-are you kidding me getting paid to play rball-no one does that but for Lifetime Fitness!! Do you pay relocation fees?

- 9) **JR/ADULT PRO ROCKY CARSON RBALL CAMP-**On Sat Feb 23 in Orange County, CA from 10-2, #2 pro Rocky Carson, George Andraos (a certified instructor and part of US JR Olympic staff) & Jr team member Tommy Andraos are having level D/C clinic for adults/Jrs (ie my level)... for

\$100. Curious? call George (get it Curious George ok brett stick to rball) 949 292-9877. 12 spaces very limited.

- 10) What is a Court Grabber?** (no it's not the aggressive guys at an LPRT pro stop)-I kid you not but Rocky Carson is now using "Court Grabbers" (Google it) & he even grabbed #1 w/ them recently. They claim to keep your shoes to the floor for possible better support. Will they grab your opponent too- that is what I want to know! If so they are a "shoe in" for success (get it) ...I know you were "floored" by that one! I'm having fun w/Court Grabbers- a story that has "grabbed" me (just not my wallet). Guys do they work or is a hoax...Be honest! Ill publish it
- 11) THE NEXT ROJAS BROTHERS (part 1)**- Ok Jose Rojas is #4 & brother Markie is #9...So are there any other Rojas' out there who can cause pain w/much to gain. On deck its cousin's Daniel, 15, a top 100 pro & USA team member & his bro Antonio who won Jr. Olympic 10's. Daniel has a patented backhand corner splat-while Antonio (a USA team member) has a patented forehand. Like all Ellis' coached players, they quietly smak talk during matches. Antonio is the biggest smak talker yet at 11 he is backing up the smak big time. Despite the smak, are all classic sportsman's just having fun.
- 12) THE NEXT ROJAS BROTHERS (part 2)** Yep...and the next two Rojas' besides the Rojas may just be the Brendenback brothers or is it "bread in back" (as in winning some cash). First up is Jake "the snake" Brendendback a collegian who almost beat #1 pro Rocky Carson in the 5th set while brother Sam won the USA jr. nationals 16's...Yes the Brendenbacks are baccck!! And yes they will return!!! And they look like rball's equivalency of The Terminators.
- 13) Who Says Racquetball Won't Make you Live Longer-** At an Octgenerian Rball tourney (I think that's a word) called the Men of Oct (w/woman too), 22 ageless men/woman over 80 from 7 states played their "hearts" out. A literal "walk" in the park- 12 participants were over 80 & 3 over 85...the winning prize was a pacemaker (joke guys). And get this, Mike Martin listed his doubles partners as "multiple" (I kid you not). Hank Schone claimed he is a C player-How can he be a "see" player? (Boo) But he is 4597 USRA ranked. Sorry Mike but I doubt you can play at C level...I can probably take you. But you are optimistic which is why you are playing in that great event Anyways, my goal is to win it at 90 & be a champion for many years. Sorry I forgot to report this event earlier but it slipped my memory.
- 14) ATHLETE OF THE YEAR AWARD STOCKON**-Thanks to "Stock-ing or is it Stockton John Ellis, wrote me the following about this great event for rball: "Jose Rojas won the Stockton Athlete of the Year at the annual banquet . He gave a great speech in front of at least 250 people. Deserving of some recognition in the growing email blasts you're doing!! Wonder how many other RB players have been the Athletes of the Year for their city.... twice? I won it as a 12 year old in 1985!! Nobody will ever top that speech!!" John my question to you is how did you win it as a 12 year... for a spelling bee competition? Best Science Project? No but in all seriousness, Jose is a great student/sportsman who represents not only Stockton but CA, USA and the world. Congrats and on your graduation from college-everyone is proud of you!
- 15) The Gift of Rball-** USAR racquetball is asking for all of us to help with a tax deductible and needed contribution which supports the gift of racquetball especially TEAM USA pros and Juniors by giving \$5-\$25 or more to a great cause...[gift to USA Racquetball](#)

Two more closing thoughts

- 1) Congrats to Debbie Tisinger Moore on another Natl/World Championship #101 (See all the woman's senior NMRA results at <http://www.r2sports.com/tourney.asp?TID=11327>)
- 2) I'm very sad to see the historical American Athletic Club in San Diego close due to doubling the rent. The place had a lot of history including that with Charlie Brumfield, David Leon, Chris Crowther and Aaron Embry members etc. It also holds a special place in our hearts having been the club for Jr. State Champs.