

daily schedule of sunday events

8:00am - 10:00am
Breakfast-Bagels Juice
The Players Village

12:00pm - 2:00pm
Lunch Served by
Carrabba's Italian Grill
The Players Villiage

1:00pm
Womens Open Finals
#1 Cheryl Gudinas
vs
#2 Rhonda Rajsich

3:00pm
Mens Open Finals
#1 Jack Huczek
vs
#2 Rocky Carson

8:30pm
Party in the Park Bar-Hyatt

Want to submit news items
or announce a meeting?
Contact Leo Vasquez in
person, by email
[leo@themav.com], or
leave a note at registration.
Nightly deadline: 5:00 pm.

Racquetball Nation

Who will win the mens &
womens open title?

#1 Jack Huczek 62%

#2 Rocky Carson 38%

#1 Cheryl Gudinas 74%

#2 Rhonda Rajsich 26%

Total Votes: 126

What's Your Size?

These are the percentages
of the shirt sizes of all the
players entered in the
tournament. (516)

Small	5.5%
Medium	18.8%
Large	30.1%
X-Large	35.9%
XX-Large	8.1%
XXX-Large	1.6%

Here We Go Again

by Leo R Vasquez

The mens open finals are set, its number one versus number two with a national title on the line. In yesterdays semi-finals the seeds held true to form as defending champion **#1 Jack Huczek** (Rochester, MI) defeated **#5 Shane Vanderson** (Dublin, OH) 15-11, 15-1. Jack has played consistently all week and looks to be the favorite as he attempts to become the first player in the history of the U.S. Nationals to win three consecutive mens open titles. Jack could also tie **Ed Andrews** ('80, '81, '85, '86) who is



Shane Vanderson goes behind his back while Huczek gets vertical.

the only player to have ever won four U.S. National Singles mens open titles.

Standing in the way is **#2 Rocky Carson** (Ladera Ranch, CA) who took out **#3 Jason Thoerner** (Pekin, IL) 15-4, 15-5 in a match that left Thoerner at a loss for words. Carson let his racquet do the all the talking as Carson played a spectacular match. "I felt like I was in the zone today, I've been hitting the ball crisp all week and today was no different", said Carson. "Hopefully you'll see the same thing today."



Carson rips a forehand during his match against Thoerner yesterday

#1 Cheryl Gudinas (Lisle, IL) did all she could to defeat **#4 Tammy Brown** (Boise, ID) 15-9, 12-15, 11-1 to advance to todays final. Cheryl has an impressive record here at the U.S. National Singles, winning five consecutive womens open titles ('99-'03) and then again in '05. She was also a finalist in '04 and looks to become only the second player with at least seven womens open titles. Some say Gudinas is making her mark at this tournament and she looks to make that come true with a win today. **Michelle Gould** is the only other seven time winner.



Tammy sets up a forehand as Cheryl gets some air.

#2 Rhonda Rajsich (Phoenix, AZ) also had a tough time against a scrappy and determined **#3 Kristen Walsh** (Salt Lake City, UT).

These are two of the youngest and hottest players in womens racquetball and these two girls let everyone know by their court play. Walsh gave Rhonda all she wanted by winning the first game 15-14.

"Kristen really brings out the best in me", said Rajsich. But Rhonda was not to be denied as she stormed back and won the second game 15-11, forcing a decisive tie-breaker. "I just go out there and play my best, I think I showed that today", said Rajsich. She went on to win the tie-breaker 11-9 and will attempt to win her second U.S. National Singles title today. Rhonda won this event in '04.



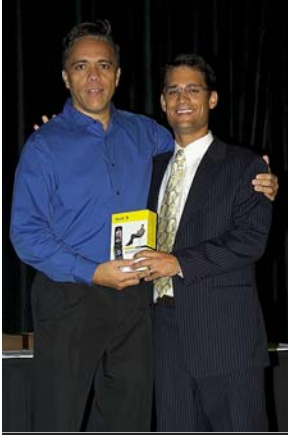
Rhonda has to hit around Kristen in yesterdays semi.

photos: geoff thomsen
www.doubledonut.com

Banquet & Awards Ceremony

The Racquetball Night To Remember Awards Banquet at the Hyatt on Saturday night was standing room only, as racquetball players were treated to a first class menu and live entertainment. **Shawn Royster** hosted the event as awards were given out to athletes of the year, contributors and career achievers. The end of the awards presentation concluded with a Hall of Fame induction ceremony that was second to none.

Shawn, along with his production company, Royster Productions Inc. was responsible for the high-tech video presentations that were played on the giant screens during the ceremony that electrified players with heart throbbing music and fast action shots of great players over the years. Congratulations to all the winners and especially the newly elected Hall of Fame members, **Connie Martin, Susan Pfahler** and **Mary Lyons**.



*Special Recognition
Leo Vasquez*



*Halverson Fair Play
Holly Remen*



*Joe Sobek Contributor
Dave Ellis*



*State Presidents Award
Jeff Zegna*



*Peggy Steding Award
Debbie Tisinger*



*Male Age Group
Jimmy Lowe*



*Athlete of the Year
Cheryl Gudinas*



*Athlete of the Year
Jack Huczek*



*Randy Stafford
Shawn Royster*



*Racquetball's Finest
Service Men & Women*



*Kristen Walsh, Rhonda
Rajsich, Janelle Tisinger*



Connie Martin, Susan Pfahler, Mary Lyons