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Executive Meeting Summary

At the October Executive meeting, many of the ideas submitted from MARA's original meetings were discussed and tasks were assigned to move the organization forward to accomplish some of those goals.

A date for the Spring Charity tournament was set for April 18-20, 2008. A sponsor packet is available. Send an email to MARA.news@comcast.net to request additional information.

The website content and usage continues to expand. We hope that members and others will begin using it and more interaction in the Memphis Racquetball community will be the result.

The officers want to thank everyone for their encouragement, involvement and support over the last few months. IT'S ALL GOOD!

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

**Wednesday
November 7, 2007
6:30 p.m.**



NEWSLETTER NEWS

In this issue, we welcome two new contributors to the Newsletter content: Sadie Hall and Susan Brown. The old saying goes that "Many hands make light work". Their input has added much depth and color to this issue

There were a lot of great ideas put forth in our first meetings. Your assistance and input are coveted. Do you have ideas for articles? Do you have contacts for tournament sponsorships? Can you write, edit, interview, gather information, be a club liaison? Please send your input to MARA.news@comcast.net.



CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?!!!!

The U. S. Open is coming to Memphis and is less than one month away! Does everyone have their entries in? You won't see me on the Stadium Court, but I will be there somewhere, be it on the courts or in the stands.

I hope you have made your plans to be on hand for this exciting event. The official www.choicehotelsusopen.com website is your best source of information from purchasing tickets to viewing information about players, past winners, everything you ever wanted to know about the Open.

Pro-Am Doubles for St Jude Children's Hospital

There may still be some slots to enter the ProAm Doubles which will kickoff the U.S. Open on Tuesday evening Nov. 13th. Your donation of \$325 gets you into the draw until 32 commitments are received. The evening features free food and drink, an autographed racquet from your pro partner, and a complimentary portrait with your pro partner.

If you are interested in participating, call (800) 234-5396 X 0 to register.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

An event like the Open can't be run without the help of volunteers, Tennessee volunteers, that is. Kay McCarthy is expecting your call. She really needs some help; things like registration, posting scores, finding referees for matches, and refreshing food and water supplies.

Since this event spans four facilities, it requires much help to run smoothly. This is a great way to be part of the tournament if you have never participated in the past. Please take some time this year to give back to the sport we love. **Contact Kay McCarthy at 901.270-8972** as soon as you can.

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

2007 WarHawk Open
University of Louisiana
Monroe, LA
October 26-28, 2007
Enter Online
www.r2sports.com/tourney/home.asp?TID=3080&showNavForDirector=YES

Music City Open
Nashville, TN (Downtown YMCA)
November 2-4, 2007
Contact Terry Davis (ultimateracquetball@comcast.net) or (615) 895-3679

2007 Choice Hotels U.S. Open Championships
Memphis, TN
November 14-18, 2007
Entry Deadline is October 31, 2007.
www.usaracquetball.com/Tournaments/EventCalendar/Events/tabid/3342/Default.aspx.

SHOOTOUT & POTLUCK SUCCESS!

WOW! Great participation at the ShootOut! Mike Boatman was on hand to document the fun. See [Page 4](#) for the ShootOut Gallery.

Approximately thirty people stayed and enjoyed the PotLuck meal. We were all too busy eating to take any pictures! But take my word for it; you missed some good stuff. Spaghetti, beef brisket and gravy, homemade lasagna, chicken soup, rice casserole, beanie weenies, fresh rolls...Yum, Yum!

IMPROVE YOUR GAME

Richard Aitken, WellWorX Club Pro and AmPro Certified Racquetball Instructor organizes clinics several times a year to bring players together to work on their skills. He is also available for individual instruction. Contact him at iraitken@hotmail.com.

Travis Woodbury, as part of his internship at WellWorX, is offering weekly skill clinics as well as personalized sports specific training. Signup forms are available on the Racquetball bulletin board at WellWorX. For more information contact Travis at kingofrball@aol.com.

PLAYER PROFILE

By Susan Brown, Court Reporter

Travis Woodbury

DOB: 9/15/84

Hometown: Arlington, VA

Resides: Memphis, TN

Sponsor: Wilson

Racquet: Wilson K Factor

Right-handed

Motto: Grip it and rip it!

Childhood hero: Lance Armstrong

Favorite childhood pro: Cliff Swain



It has been a long time since Memphis has had any bragging rights in the racquetball world, but U of M's Travis Woodbury has his sights set on breaking into the top 16 by the end of this year. He is currently ranked 29 on the International Racquetball Tour (IRT) and I am predicting that he will meet and pass his goals before the end of the year. He has a deep love for the sport of racquetball. Combine that with his a natural talent and you have the makings of a new Memphis Racquetball King.

Travis was literally on the court before he was born. His mom was winning tournaments while pregnant with him. His early years were spent behind the court glass "being a little brat" while his mom and dad played competitive racquetball. He gets his good looks from his dad and his backhand from his mom.

Travis understands the comprehensive role of being a true representative of his sport. He envisions positive changes that include expanding the sponsor base to a more diverse group, setting up clinics, especially junior clinics. With a maturity beyond his twenty-two years, he is more than ready to reach the top and in my book no one deserves it more.

It's not often that pros are willing to share their talent and energy with others, but Travis is willing and ready to do his part. He is anxious to see racquetball get back to its glory days. I hope his dreams come true; it will benefit the whole racquetball community. Read Travis' entire profile at www.memphiscracquetball.org/MARAMembers/tabid/3428/Default.aspx

See you on the court....Or YouTube <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AX7nGdN-6oU>





HIGH DEFINITION RACQUETBALL (PART I) BY SADIE HALL



Have you ever wondered

Ace. A serve untouched by the receiver.



Avoidable Hinder. A player's avoidable action that interferes with an opponent's shot. The offending player loses the rally.

Crack Ball. A shot that hits the seam between the wall and the floor.

Cutthroat. A game played by three players.

Donut. No points scored



Fault Serves. Short serves, long serves, ceiling serves, and three wall serves are examples of fault serves. Two of these serves in a row result in a loss of serve.

INQUIRING MINDS WANT TO KNOW...

DID YOU KNOW...

- ◆ Wedding bells are ringing for member **Mike Boatman** and Bride-elect, Vickie Longer. They are exchanging vows on October 27, 2007. Please wish them the very best.
- ◆ **Jim "Ike" Martin** has written and published a book. It is titled "Booming to 60: The Baby Boomer's Guide to Geezerdom. For more information and to view excerpts from the book go to <http://www.boomingto60.com>. Jim says he should always have copies on hand to autograph, but alternatively you can obtain one via the website. The cost will be \$19.95.
- ◆ **Bob Sullivan** continues his cancer treatment in Houston. He is walking 3 miles a day in the hospital. Susan had to get him a horn for his IV pole so he can alert slowpokes and stragglers who get in his way. He is looking forward to playing racquetball again and would love to hear from his friends. His email address is sullivan07@bellsouth.net and his mailing address is The Rotary House, 1600 Holcombe Blvd, Room 732, Houston, TX 77030.
- ◆ The International Racquetball Tour began in September and we have our own **Travis Woodbury** representing Memphis. He has participated in Colorado, Kansas & Kentucky thus far, competing in Men's Open and Pro-Qualifier divisions. You can track all USA Racquetball events at <http://www.usaracquetballevnts.com/>. Check the event calendar to track the results for tournaments and individuals. Please encourage Travis in his efforts. See Travis' player profile on Page 4.
- ◆ You may notice some new faces at your club for the next few months. **Bill Schamroth** reminds us that the Memphis Jewish Community Center is undergoing renovation and the racquetball courts are out of commission for approximately one year. In the meantime, players from the MJCC are playing at other area courts.
- ◆ **Tennessee Racquetball Association** has issued a call for Nominations for the TRA Board of Directors. Current Board Members in our area include MARA member, **David Gross** and Memphian Randy Stafford. Nominations must be received by October 31, 2007. If you are not a member of the Tennessee Racquetball Association, please join and support our state organization. Contact Terry Davis at 615-895-3679 or email ultimateracquetball@comcast.net.



SHOOTOUT GALLERY

INTENSE!!

*No,
Noo,
Susan.*



*Not
like
that!!*

*Robert
Virden &
Jason
Trowbridge
battle to
the finish.*



*Sandy Gross
demonstrates
proper dive
technique with
a little help (or
is it?) from Richard Aitken*



*Brad
Anderson
taking on
the Pro*



*Sadie
Hall—
the girl's
got game!*

Marcos Depinto



SCRAPPY!!

Jason Trowbridge

