



Junior National's 2003 **By Hanlin Wan**

This year's Junior Nationals was in Shreveport, Louisiana. It was extremely hot outside, but luckily, the gym was fully air-conditioned. I had a great time at the tournament and learned a lot from it. I won 2nd in U-15 doubles, 4th in U-15 singles, and 6th in U-17 singles, which qualified me for the U-15 National team.

From the tournament, I gained a lot of experience. I won matches that I thought I had no way of winning and lost some that I should have won. I think that I would have had a better chance of winning the U-15 singles if I hadn't played the U-17 singles. After just finishing a long three-game match in the U-17, I had to play the U-15 semifinals against Howard Shu. He knew that I was exhausted and took advantage of that. He pushed me to the backcourt and then hit very deceptive drop shots which caused trouble for me. It ended in three games, 13-15, 15-9, and 15-5. The battle for third place against Charlie Hsu was also very tight. I should have won, but my lack of endurance got the better of me. He won 3-15, 15-10, 17-15. I think that the main reason I lost this game was because I lost my concentration after winning the first game easily. In the second and third games, I made too many mistakes and didn't play smart.

Even though the U-17 singles may have cost me the U-15 singles championships, I still think that it was more fun playing in the U-17 because the matches were closer and made me think more about each shot. In the U-15s, the first two matches were over in just a few minutes, whereas the U-17 singles lasted much longer. From the first round of the U-17 singles to my very last match, every game was close. I battled hard and so did my opponent. U-15 doubles was easy until the final when we faced Howard Shu and Emmanuel Pun. My partner was Jack Shu, Howard's brother. We won the first and lost the second game. In the third game, we were 13-11 ahead but we couldn't hold on to that lead, and ended up losing, 15-13. Next year, I'm going to play doubles with Ben Hussey again. I think that I work better with Ben than with Jack. Hopefully, we can achieve high results.

Now that I'm back from Junior Nationals, I will work hard both on and off the court. I have to get stronger, faster, and more accurate for next year. When I can't practice at Wooster with my coaches, Stan and Diane Hales, I can do jump rope and shuttle runs by myself at home. Also, I have joined my school cross-country team and training has already started, so I can do lots of running to build up my fitness.

I'd like to thank the MBA for supporting me in the Junior Nationals again. Thank you, Stan and Diane Hales, for coaching and helping me improve my skills over the years. Also, thanks to Russ Bowles for coaching me during tournaments when the Hales couldn't be there.

Gold, Bronze Medals in Pan Am Games **by Mary Ann Bowles**

The U.S. team of nine athletes brought home the gold and bronze in the 2003 Pan American Games in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Competition ran from August 9-14 under very hot conditions at the Pavilion on the campus of the Universidad Autonoma de Santo Domingo. Those representing the U.S. were Jen Coleman, Eva Lee, Samantha Jinadasa, May Mangkalakiri, Jamie Subandhi, Howard Bach, Mike Chansawangpuvana, Kevin Han, and Raju Rai.

Play began on Saturday, August 9, with the mixed doubles and singles events in the morning session. Raju Rai/Eva Lee (Orange, CA) defeated Surinam's Mitchel Wongsodikromo/Jadi Stephani in the first round, 15-4, 15-8. Eva Lee followed up her doubles win with a straight sets victory (11-1, 11-1) over Stephanie Mitchell of Trinidad & Tobago in women's singles. Jamie Subandhi (Orange CA), the youngest athlete on the entire U.S. Pan Am Games Team, played in her first international competition outside of the U.S. She won her singles match over Dionne Forde of Barbados in straight sets, 11-2, 11-7. Samantha Jinadasa (Long Beach, CA) defeated Trinidad & Tobago's Mack Zuedi in the women's singles, 11-5, 11-1.

In the evening session on Saturday, Rai defeated Ryan Kumar of Barbados (15-1, 15-6) in men's singles. Rai/Mangkalakiri also defeated Ryan Holder/Forde of Barbados in the mixed doubles with a straight sets victory, 15-4, 15-8. The only loss of the day was the loss (13-15, 7-15) of the mixed team, Changsuwanapuvana/Lee, to the tough Canadian team, Mike Beres/Jody Patrick.

On Sunday, August, 10, the session opened with women doubles. Eva Lee/Jen Coleman won their first round in a walkover over a Trinidad & Tobago team who had an

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The Flick is published by the Midwest Badminton Association 10 times a year, monthly between September and April, with May/June and July/August being combined.

Submitting Information:

Tournament entry forms will be printed and distributed with The Flick for a \$75 fee. Website publishing is included in this fee. Please submit forms to the Editor at least eight weeks before your entry deadline.

Tournament results and drawsheets should include full names of participants and match scores. An article would be nice, too.

Send material with little or no formatting to the address or email below. Please include your phone number or email address.

Deadlines:

Articles and entries and other material may be submitted at any time. But to guarantee that your submission will be in the next issue, it should get to the editor by the 15th of the month prior (e.g. to be in the April issue, send by March 15th). Otherwise, it will be printed at the editor's discretion.

Advertising rates per issue:

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 Quarter Page: \$25 (\$20 if 6 or more)

Payment:

Make checks payable to the Midwest Badminton Association and mail to the address below.

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Tournament Calendar

SEPTEMBER 2003

Date	Tournament/Location	Contact Information
Sept 20-21	Chicago Open Darien, IL	York Xu yorkxu@rcn.com

OCTOBER 2003

Date	Tournament/Location	Contact Information
Oct 18-19	Ray Scott Memorial Badminton Tournament Omaha, NE	Bob Ericson ericson@brownell.edu http://www.nebraskabadminton.org
Oct 24-26	Kalamazoo Open Kalamazoo, MI	Harry Orr harrisongorr@aol.com Darrell Davies ddavies@kvcc.edu

NOVEMBER 2003

Date	Tournament/Location	Contact Information
Nov 1-2	Kent State Open Kent, OH	Dawn Patel dbpatel@netinc.net
Nov 29-30	Windy City Open Tinley Park, IL	Jess Morgan jessmorgan76@yahoo.com Jodie Leahey jleahey@deerfieldcapital.com

**For updates regarding tournaments, check out the Event Calendar page on our website:
<http://www.midwestbadminton.com>**

As soon as your tournament/camp has been scheduled, please send dates, location, and contact person to the Flick, and it will be listed here at no charge to you.

Entry forms and event information will be distributed with *The Flick* for a \$75 fee (see left).

They will also be made available on the MBA's website (<http://www.midwestbadminton.com>) at no additional cost, unless you specify that you do not want it to be published on the website.

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Walk of Fame Plaza Needs You! by Mary Ann Bowles

The USAB Walk of Fame Plaza held its first Inaugural Induction Ceremony April 25, 2003, in front of the Orange County Badminton Club in Orange, CA. This plaza on the front sidewalk of the OCBC honors athletes, coaches, and administrators who have excelled nationally and internationally or demonstrated outstanding leadership for our sport. Nine plaques honoring Walk of Fame honorees are now installed in the sidewalk.

Fundraising for the WOF Plaza continues. The project is independently funded, funds coming from corporate sponsors, foundations, and individual donations only. The Midwest Board of Directors, at their annual summer meeting, voted to contribute \$300 to the WOF, being a Silver Gift Plan donor giving \$300 per year for four years. Three Midwest players—Pam Brady, Tom Carmichael, and Bruce Pontow—will have their plaques installed in the sidewalk in coming years. Check out the Walk of Fame website, www.usabadminton.org/wof/

Please help our region continue this generous funding. Just a \$10 contribution would be appreciated, but there are four donation plans for individuals:

Champion (\$75-100) Finalist (\$50-74) Player (\$25-49) Fan (\$10-24).

Corporate or Foundation Gift Plans are also available. All donations are tax deductible. Your donation will be greatly appreciated. Write that check and send it to: USA Badminton – Walk of Fame Plaza, One Olympic Plaza, Colorado Springs, CO 80909.

Why Are Those Names on My Newsletter? by Dan Kosierowski

Have you ever wondered whose names are on the back of the "Flick"? Well, let me tell you now. Those names are patrons who donated money to the Midwest Badminton Association. I would like to that this chance to say THANK YOU to these people who donate each year.


Have you noticed like I have that the list of patrons has been getting smaller and smaller each year? I know that these are tough times and we need to stretch every dollar. However, the Midwest Badminton Association also needs to make each dollar count.

Please consider becoming patron for the MBA?
TODAY..... NOW....

Here are a few items that your donation can help:

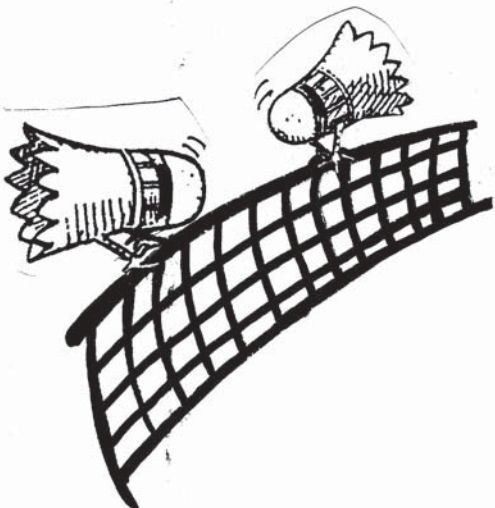
1. Junior Development
2. MBA Championships
3. Our Classic Tournament
4. Publishing the Flick

Can you help "your" Midwest Badminton Association? Fill out the form on the right and check the patron box, so you can become a patron. Then just write your check, mail it, and your name will appear on the patron list. This way you can be proud to show your family and Co-players that you support your game!

 <p>MIDWEST BADMINTON ASSOCIATION</p>	<p><u>Membership Application</u></p> <p>MBA Membership allows you to participate in MBA Closed Championship tournaments (if you meet residency requirements) and to be eligible for MBA rankings (if USAB member too). You will receive a subscription to the MBA newsletter, The Flick. You have a choice to receive this online or via postal service. Check the box next to your email address to receive the Flick online.</p>
Name: _____	
Address: _____	
City, State, Zip: _____	
Area Code and Phone: _____	
Birthdate: _____ Home Club: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Email Address: _____	
I want to (check one):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Join the MBA as an individual member (\$15 for year membership July - June)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Get my Flick! Please verify membership and correct info above.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Be a patron for the year (\$30, \$50, \$100... or more! It's tax deductible!)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Make a tax deductible donation to _____ (ex. Jr. Development)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Register an MBA Club. Please send me forms and information.	
Make check payable to Midwest Badminton Association and send to: MBA c/o Jessica Morgan 2254 W. Farragut Ave. Apt. 1F Chicago IL 60625	

Introducing bird.chat.net!

Welcome to "bird.chat.net", the internet age discussion between two shuttles, "Drop" and "Smash," chatting about newsworthy items of interest to our readers. Thanks to Dick Witte for his outstanding artwork and Mary Ann Bowles for her news items. Enjoy! Let us know what you think Drop and Smash should chat about next month!



- DROP: Have you heard the latest news from USA Badminton?
- SMASH: No! What's up?
- DROP: USA Badminton put in a bid at the latest International Badminton Federation Annual General Meeting in Birmingham, England, in July to host the 2005 World Championships!
- SMASH: Did they have some help?
- DROP: The Los Angeles Sports Council helped them with the bid.
- SMASH: What other countries were bidding?
- DROP: Just Denmark and Singapore.
- SMASH: So what happened?
- DROP: Would you believe the U.S. won the bid?"
- SMASH: You've got to be kidding!"
- DROP: Nope, the 7-star event will be held at the Arrowhead Pond in Anaheim in May of 2005!
- SMASH: WOW!
- DROP: The only other time the World Championships have been held on the Pan American continent was in 1985 in Calgary.
- SMASH: So what does the IBF think?
- DROP: The IBF President, Korn Dabbaransi, declared the awarding of the Championships to the USA represents a unique opportunity to grow and develop badminton in North America, which remains a key priority for the IBF.
- SMASH: So when do we make our plans to go? I'm ready!

Pan Am continued from page 1

injury. Mangkalakiri/Subandhi cruised to a straight sets victory over Canada's Nadine Julien/Stephanie Mitchell, 15-1, 15-3. Kevin Han/Howard Bach took to the courts for the first time and defeated Peru's Rodrigo Pacheco/Mario Carulla, 15-2, 15-6. Rai and Jinadasa advanced easily in singles, but Lee and Subandhi were eliminated in the women's singles.

The Monday Pan Am play saw quarterfinal action in both sessions. Han/Bach advanced into the semifinals with a victory over Virgil Soeroredjo/Mit Wongsodikrmo of Surinam, 15-11, 15-4. Also advancing was the mixed doubles team of Rai/Mangkalakiri over the Peruvian team of Rodrigo Pacheco/Lorena Blanco, 15-6, 15-11. Rai did not fare as well in the singles quarters, losing to Pedro Yang of Guatemala, 15-13, 15-6. Samantha Jinadasa had a tough time with Lorena Blanco of Peru in her women's singles, bowing out, 11-4, 11-0. And the U.S. women's doubles teams both took losses in the quarters. Mangkalakiri/Subandhi lost to the team of Coriana Rivera/Sandra Jimeno of Peru, 15-0, 15-3. Eva Lee/Jen Coleman lost a heartbreaker to the Peruvian team of Lorena Blanco/Valeria Rivero in three long games, 9-15, 15-13, 17-14.

Players were treated to an off-day on Tuesday, reserved for practice and sight-seeing. On Wednesday, Han/Bach started off the day with a fast semifinal win over the Canadian team of Mike Beres/Kyle Hunter, 15-7, 15-8, to put them in the gold medal men's doubles final on Thursday. The other semifinal of the men's doubles was a battle between a Guatemalan team and a Jamaican team, the Guatemalan team of Erick Anguiano/Pedro Yang prevailing in three games, 15-11, 5-15, 17-14. In the semifinals of mixed doubles, Raju Rai/May Mangkalakiri fell to the veteran Canadian team of Phillippe Bourret/Denyse Julien, 15-8, 15-7. But that semifinal finish was good enough for a bronze medal for the young American team.

Thursday's men's doubles gold medal match was a sound win for the U.S. team of Kevin Han and Howard Bach. The Guatemalans, Erick Anguiano/Pedro Yang, were no match for the experience of the Americans, bowing out 15-5, 15-3. Han had won a gold medal in men's singles at the 1999 Pan American Games in Winnipeg. Bach won a silver medal in men's doubles that same year. Bach and Han will use their gold medal victory this year as a stepping stone to qualifying for the 2004 Olympics next summer in Athens.

The 2003 Kalamazoo Valley Community College Open
October 24- 26, 2003

- Sanction** Sanctioned by USAB. You must be a USAB or Canadian member to play. You must show your membership card when registering or purchase on site.
- Sponsor** The KVCC Mens Tennis Team
- Location** Kalamazoo Valley Community College, 6767 West "O" Ave., Kalamazoo, MI.
8 courts are available. Lockers and showers on site. Bring your own lock and towel.
- Events** Singles, Doubles, Mixed Doubles in Open and Age Specific Groups: 35+, 40+, 50+, 60+, 70+. You may enter an event in Open and ONE Age Specific Group. (Ex. you may not enter both 40+ and 50+ singles, but you may enter Open Singles and 40+ singles.)
- Format** ABCD Drop Flight for all events with a minimum of 8 entries. A/Cons or Round Robin for events with fewer entries. Will run an event for 2 players/teams if desired. Singles draws limited to 32 players.
- Entry Fee** \$12.00 U.S. per event per person. Only U.S. currency accepted on site. Entry fee must accompany entry form*. Entries paid after October 16, 2003, if accepted, will be charged an additional \$2.00 per event*.
* *Canadians only, may pay when they register at the gym without additional charge.*

Make Checks Payable to:KVCC Tennis Club, SCTENSO
Mail to: Darrell Davies
1105 Dwillard Dr.
Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Entry Deadline Postmarked by October 16, 2003

- Shuttles** Tournament grade shuttles will be sold at the desk for \$1.50 each
- Schedule** *15 minute default and 5 minute warm-up rules will be enforced*
- Friday 10/24 8:30 pm - Mens Open Singles, no matches called after 11 pm
- Saturday 10/25 8:00 am - Mens and Ladies Age Specific Singles
8:30 am -Ladies Open Singles, continuation of Mens Open Singles from Friday
9:30 am - Mens Open Doubles
10:30 am - Ladies Open Doubles
* 1:30 pm - Mens and Ladies Age Specific Doubles
* 3:00 pm - Open Mixed Doubles
* 5:30 pm - Age Specific Mixed Doubles - no matches called after 8 pm
** these times are approximate; we will do our best.*
- Sunday 10/26 8:00 am - any remaining semi-finals
9:00 am - Open Singles Finals, 9:45 am - Age Specific Singles Finals
10:30 am - Open Doubles Finals, 11:15 am - Age Specific Doubles Finals
12:00 pm - Open Mixed Finals, 12:45 pm - Age Specific Mixed Finals
- More Info** Contact Darrell Davies (ddavies@kvcc.edu) 269-372-5355
or Harry Orr (harrisongorr@aol.com) 269-372-1110
- Waiver** **Waivers will be signed at registration.**

KVCC Open Entry Form

Signature _____ Date _____ Amt Enclosed \$ _____
 (of parent/guardian if under 18)

Name _____ Sex M / F (circle one) Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Email _____

Membership: USAB # _____

Please enter the events you wish to play (\$12 each), maximum of 6. You may enter an open event and an age-specific event, but not two ages groups of an event. For example, you may enter Open Doubles and 35+ Doubles, but not 35+ Doubles and 40+ Doubles.

<i>OPEN</i>	<i>AGE SPECIFIC</i>
Singles Open _____	Age Specific Singles - Enter Age _____
Doubles Open _____ Partner _____	Age Specific _____ Partner _____
Mixed Doubles Open _____ Partner _____	Age Specific _____ Partner _____

(enter the age group you desire to play in - ex. 35+, 40+, etc. next to Age Specific _____)

Please rate your ability __A__B__C__D

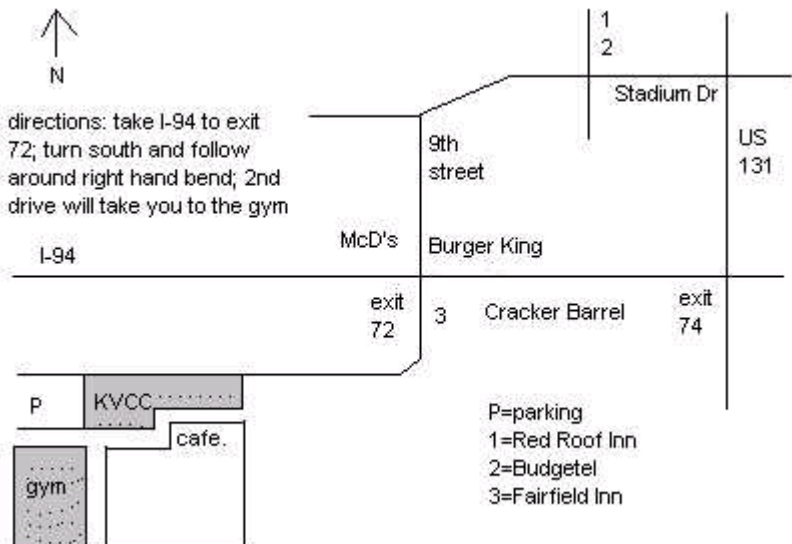
Please return with fees (except Canadians) postmarked by October 16, 2003

**Darrell Davies
 1105 Dwillard Dr.
 Kalamazoo, MI 49001**

Lodging

1. Red Roof Inn West
 269-375-7400 or 800-843-7663
 \$69.99 per room
2. Baymont Inn
 269-372-7999 or 800-428-3438
 \$109.99 per room (king)
3. Fairfield Inn I-94 at 9th St. (exit 72)
 269-353-6400 or 800-228-2800
 \$89 per room
4. Hampton Inn one stop light North of
 exit 72 269-372-1010
 \$89.10 per room

There are many motels at I-94 exit 80 (Sprinkle Rd.) including a Motel 6 (lower rates)



For detailed campus (Texas Township) map visit <http://www.kvcc.edu>

So You Want to be an Umpire? by Mary Ann Bowles

Did you ever think about becoming an umpire? Is your playing career beginning to wane? Would you like to give back to your favorite sport? You've seen our regional/National umpires providing services for players, especially at our Midwest Championships. Thanks to Mary Ann Bowles, Qin Zhu, Elke Haefke, Dan Koseirowski, Chris Lawrence, Jim Sovar, and Wen-Chin Yao for doing such a great job in the region for the past few years.

What is the path to becoming an umpire? A USAB rule book will be given to you to study—a player or other interested person is usually familiar with most of the game's rules. Vocabulary for an umpire is very important—you'll find that in the rule book.

Attendance at an umpire's clinic is essential to learn how to fill out a score sheet, to learn all the duties of an umpire, and to participate in a Question and Answer session. Umpire's clinics are offered at the Region 2 Classic (which will be held in Terre Haute, January, 2004), and at other Midwest Championships if there are enough interested participants. A written test is given, and potential regional umpires are evaluated on court before being certified. Once you're certified and have umpired at three Midwest tournaments, you will receive a Midwest Official's polo shirt. Some regional umpires may be interested in becoming National umpires which entails a trip to the USAB Adult National Championships for another clinic, more umpiring, and another written test.

Anyone interested in becoming an umpire should contact Mary Ann Bowles, Mabowles@worldnet.att.net, or grab her at any tournament where you may find her. She will reserve a spot for you at the Umpire's clinic in Terre Haute in January and give you a USAB rule book.

TOP 10 REASONS TO BECOME AN UMPIRE

- #10 - Enjoy those great 3-game marathons
- #9 - Get a ring-side spot for good matches
- #8 - View new serves and shots
- #7 - Meet new players
- #6 - Become more familiar with the rules
- #5 - Provide service to players
- #4 - Introduce players to officiated matches
- #3 - Control the flow of the match
- #2 - Be the team leader of the court
- #1 - Provide fairness to all competitors

Flexibility, Warm Up, Stretching & Cool Down by Katharina Prax

Flexibility is an important area that is all too often neglected. Flexibility can be defined as the ability to flex, extend or circumduct the body's joints through their extended range of motion without loss of strength. On the flip side, you can also be too flexible; increasing the probability of muscle tears and pulls. Most people get stiffer with age as muscles and tendons tend to get shorter with disuse. The remedy for this stiffness is to be more active and use some of the techniques which I will describe to you below. This flexibility though cannot be achieved overnight, and takes time to achieve.

Having played the Region 2 Tournament this year in Terre Haute, I noticed that the national team players all made sure to warm up and stretch at least 5-10 min. before each game. Also, at the end of the tournament day they took some time to "cool down". Slow and relaxed running as well as stretching after workouts help to reduce soreness from the workout (especially after a long badminton weekend!).

Now that we know the importance of flexibility, we can look at ways to increase it. In simplest terms, the best way to increase your flexibility is to stretch. Contrary to what many people think, warm up and stretching aren't the same thing. Before stretching, it is extremely important to warm up. Stretching a cold muscle could lead to injuries, including tears. Five to ten minutes of a light cardio exercise (e.g. running or fast walking) can help warm up the muscles and get your body ready for the workout. A warm up is thought to improve the body's range of motion and prevent soreness. Warming up means loosening the muscles and raising the body temperature and heart rate gradually to prepare the body for exercise.

How you stretch is also very important. The effective and safest stretches are gentle and static, that is performed without any straining or bouncing. The idea is to get into a position where you can feel the stretch but no pain. It consists of slowly moving in to your extreme range of motion and upon reaching the desired tension and holding it for a certain amount of time. Relax, and repeat the stretch if needed. It is important to avoid any jerky movements which could lead to injuries.

Reminder for Tournament Directors:
If you're planning your tournament, please let me know when and where you plan on hosting it! Having tentative and or firm dates helps us plan and avoid scheduling conflicts! Thanks!

**Badminton's 16th edition, 2003,
in the Cornhusker State Games
by Bob Ericson, Sport Director & President, Top
Flight Club**

It's the third week in July. Weather forecast: hot and sunny. Shuttlecocks on the sidewalk like rice at a wedding. A slight mist very early in the morning. Badminton directional arrows. All the foregoing greeted players and visitors at the badminton venue, Goodrich Junior High School in Lincoln, Nebraska. 44 participants signed up for the competition-oldest: 61, youngest: 13.

Time for badminton to begin? Right? Whoops! Back up a few days. Are we sure we're supposed to be here? A little background first.

Thursday morning I got a call from Goodrich Middle School, our State Games venue, stating that we couldn't use the gym on Saturday because the floors had been refinished and probably would not be dry. "Could we find another place to play?" they wanted to know. The person calling said, "don't shoot me, I'm just the messenger." I said to the lady on the phone, "I have two words for you-the first is Holy and the second word starts with S. You fill in the blanks!" After further discussion with her I called State Games officials in Lincoln and told the coordinator of events what I'd just learned and asked him if he knew anything about what was going on. "Nope," he said, very much surprised, "I'll call you back."

He called back later to say someone had dropped the ball somewhere along the line. He asked if we "could work around the situation. Could we set up early Saturday morning?" "Well, yes, we can," I said hesitantly, but we'd planned to do it Friday night before Opening Ceremonies, not at 6:30 in the morning on the day of the event. So, myself, assistants Al & Carol Toris and volunteers Ron Wu and Herman Batelaan dutifully showed up at 6:30 am to put up nets and get the courts ready for the first games at 8am. We finished in time. Fortunately we'd scouted the facility a week earlier and knew what we had to do. Anyhow, we started only a little late after covering administrative matters, rules, scoring, court etiquette, draw sheets, medals, etc.

Using only four courts, 44 participants, up 38% from last year, played 83 games and scored 1,686 points. 14 gold, 14 silver and 12 bronze custom cast 2 1/2 inch medals, with Olympic-style neck ribbons were handed out to the winners in Open Mens Singles, Recreational Men's Singles, High School Boys Singles, Open Womens Singles, Open Men's Doubles, Recreational Mens Doubles, Recreational Womens Doubles, Open Mixed Doubles and Recreational Mixed Doubles.

Al "Clickety clack" Toris once again was Johnny -On-The-Spot with his trusty computer and printer to print continuously updated results in color on draw sheets. Carol Toris and Len Williams tried to keep up with Al. There seemed to be quite a bit of friendly banter between Al, Carol and Len during tournament administration at the desk. If I'm not mistaken, I saw(?) Len being "baptized" by Al at one point with a cup of water. Don't know what that was all about... I'm glad I was hobnobbing with State Games Board member Sharon Hambeck. After observing the play on the courts she said, "It's intense; it's interesting; I enjoyed it, I'll be back."

Two competitors won three Gold medals: Suanne Au, a mathematics grad student from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln and Herman Batelaan, a physics professor at UNL. Suanne won Open Women's Singles, Open Mixed Doubles and Open Men's Doubles. Yes, you read it right: Open Men's Doubles. She teamed with Herman to defeat the Omaha duo of Mani Ponniah and Gunnit Khurana in the finals, 7-15, 15-11, 15-10.

In Open Women's Singles she won the best of five games over Carolyn Foster of St. Paul. Lastly, she and Herman teamed up again to win the Open Mixed Doubles Round Robin event.

Several players in Recreational Events were first-time competitors. For example, in Rec Men's Doubles, there were seven teams and none of the players competed last year. This turned out to be a spirited event with University of Nebraska students Raghavendra Kagita and Naga Sanjai Puppala defeating the Omaha team of Ryan Harvey and Steve Sansom 15-11, 15-5. Jim Ellis, from Omaha, another Rec Mens Doubles competitor said, "I like it and enjoy the game." He managed to win a bronze medal in Rec Mens Doubles with his Omaha partner, Ian Sansom.

Rec Mens Singles was just as competitive. In this event, Ryan Harvey, Omaha captured the gold medal by winning 15-10, 15-4 over Sean Xiao of Omaha. Afterwards Xiao commented, "I still need to practice. I need to be stronger."

Spectators, although sparse, were interested in the competition. Diane Hoyt, wife of Jim and mother of Matt was watching both play singles events on two different courts at the same time. Jim in Rec Mens Singles and Matt in High School Boys Singles. After wards, Jim said of his loss, "I just ran out of gas." Matt bested Nate Liebhart in HS Boys Singles in the best of five games, 9-15, 15-2, 15-4, 15-2.

See complete list of winners at the end of this story.
continued on page 9

Cornhusker continued from page 8

Statistics provided by the State Games office indicated that badminton had more competitors than Open Water Swimming, BMX Racing, Equestrian, Fencing, Judo, .22 prone, muzzle loading and pistol shooting events but the same number as Arm wrestling. A total of 13,192 athletes competed in 53 sports in this 19th annual Cornhusker State Games.

More on what the State Games are is excerpted from the 60 page Official Entry Guide: The Cornhusker State Games is Nebraska's amateur sports festival. With 53 sports, the Games offers a broad appeal to Nebraskans of all ages and abilities, ranging from highly competitive Olympic sports to those that are more recreational and geared to participation. There's something for everyone in the Cornhusker State Games.

Organized in 1985, the Games has become a mid-summer tradition attracting thousands of Nebraskan from throughout the state.

Besides offering good, wholesome family-oriented activities and abundant fun, the underlying mission of the Cornhusker State Games is education. The Games exposes a multitude of Nebraskans to the benefits of physical fitness and well-being."

Rulon Gardner, former Nebraskan, 2001 World Champion Wrestler, 2000 Olympic Gold Medalist and USOC Sportsman of the Year was the highlight of the Opening Ceremonies and lighter of the Olympic flame at the State Games.

By 3 pm all the badminton events were finished, 83 games had been played 1,686 points had been scored, photos of medal winners were taken, scrap books had been reviewed and Al was ready to unplug his computer. It was time to take down the nets, pick up what was left of the shuttlecocks out front on the sidewalk, turn in the results to Games headquarters and head on over to the Athlete's Party for grub and entertainment. The 16th edition of badminton at the Cornhusker State Games was in the can.

Complete list of medal winners:

Open Men's Singles:

Gold: Herman Batelaan, Lincoln
Silver: Mani Ponniah, Omaha
Bronze: Sarfraz Chandio, Omaha

Recreational Men's Singles:

Gold: Ryan Harvey, Omaha
Silver: Sean Xiao, Omaha
Bronze: Jim Hoyt, Lincoln

High School Boys Singles

Gold: Matt Hoyt, Lincoln
Silver: Nate Liebhart, Wood River
Bronze: None awarded

Open Womens Singles

Gold: Suanne Au, Lincoln
Silver: Carolyn Foster, St. Paul
Bronze: None awarded

Open Mens Doubles:

Gold: Herman Batelaan/Suanne Au
Silver: Mani Ponniah/Gunnit Khurana, Omaha
Bronze: Tong Lu, Omaha/Sarfraz Chandio

Recreational Mens Doubles

Gold: Raghavendra Kagita/Naga Sanjai Puppala
Silver: Steve Sansom/Ryan Harvey
Bronze: Ian Sansom, Omaha/Jim Ellis, Omaha

Recreational Womens Doubles

Gold: Shan Fan/Carol Toris, Omaha
Silver: Jessica Edgar/Barb Edgar, Beaver Lake
Bronze: Anne Patterson, Lincoln/Kim Rutledge, Lincoln

Open Mixed Doubles

Gold: Suanne Au/Herman Batelaan
Silver: Carolyn Foster/Ron Wu, Omaha
Bronze: Yi-Ching Liu, Omaha/Sarfraz Chandio

Recreational Mixed Doubles

Gold: Nuzhat Mahmood, Omaha/Ian Sansom
Silver: Shan Fan/Al Toris, Omaha
Bronze: Carol Toris/Steve Sansom

Pictured below: Carol Toris, Salt Dog Mascot, and Bob Ericson at the Cornhusker State Games





The Top Flight club wishes Jaeduck Park the best of luck as he moves from the Cornhusker State to Indiana to pursue other interests. Pictured above is the club after presenting Jaeduck "the flying duck" (back row, center) with a plaque.

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Have I forgotten you? Let me know!

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