

Quads: Superheroes!

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Atlanta's Shepherd Smash poses with Alice Krause (top left) at Brooks Southern Slam in Jacksonville,



Ryley Batt / Eddie Crouch / Andy Cohn



Opening Tip at Vegas Vengeance,

“Superheroes, Hooper. You crazy quads are now superheroes?”

“What’s that supposed to mean, Spokes?”

“Well, there’s this young phenom from down-under named Ryley Batt who from the seat of a wheelchair makes everyone else look like everyday quad citizens. He’s got the nickname of Batman.”

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2009 USQRA National Championships

Louisville, KY - April 3-5, 2009

National Sponsors



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“So what, Spokes?”

“So, if Batman meets Superman in a fight, Superman should win, right?”

“Maybe.”

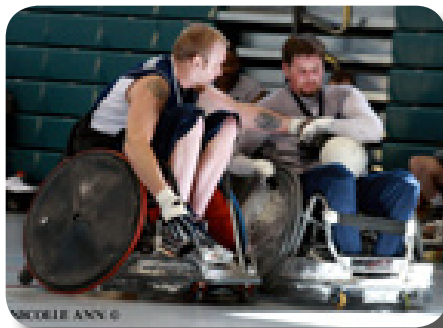
“Maybe, Hooper? Have you OD’d on Red Bull?”

“Alright, Superman. Would Batman use kryptonite, though?”

“Shut up, Hooper.”

“At the Knock n Roll, Batman must have run into Superman because Sharp lost a nail-biter to those Lakeshore veterans Bryan Kirkland, Bobby Lujano and Eddie Crouch - throw in frame-bender Joel Wilmoth and the Batman and company lost by one (54-53).

“This was an awesome tournament, Spokes. Under the radar, Denver put a 2-point loss on Lakeshore. The big Brit, Ross Morrison,



Chance Sumner goes for held ball on Joel Wilmoth is back, and I think they’re ready to make a serious run at another title.”

“So, what’s that make Denver, the Incredible Hulks?”

“Stop, Ableman!”

“You stop, Hoop.”

“Where was I? Oh yeah, West Palm does an excellent job all the way around. Jackie Lambert, Nick Priolo, and, of course, John Bishop and their superb table people and volunteers all do a great job. Time doesn’t permit me to ask you what happened of your Hoveround crew.”

“Good. Germany, Switzerland, London England, and Canada were there as well. Good solid competition from top to bottom.”

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Prez Soapbox

The USQRA needs you. Board positions are up for election. Go to quadrugby.com and click on Player’s Corner for an Overview. Positions are open.

The AGM is coming up April 2, 2009 in Louisville. Got a beef or great idea to make the sport better, be there. Go to Player’s Corner above for new proposal information. Only properly submitted proposals will be considered.

Congratulations to referees Aaron and Kerin Banfield on the birth of Elizabeth “Izzy” Anne on December 15. Mom and baby are doing fine. Dad is adjusting to the sleepless nights! (Courtesy of Andy Miller)

Classification

Trisha Suhr

We have classification panels set for Pacific, Mountain and Heartland Sectionals, as well as panels for DI and DII Nationals.

Unfortunately we haven’t been able to commit to Atlantic since it isn’t set yet. We will try to get a last minute panel together once it is scheduled.

I apologize for not being able to get panels together for post season regional tournaments. It had been my goal to do so.

The classification committee will be conducting its own meeting in Louisville to discuss the season and improvements to how our committee works. I would love to get feedback from teams regarding the season.

Please email me at trishasuhr@aol.com with your feedback.

Good luck to all in the post season!

Links FYI

[Code of Ethics and Complaint Procedure for USQRA](#)

[Deadlines](#)

[AGM Minutes](#)

[Constitution and By-Laws](#)

[Grant Info](#)

Interested in joining the dynamic team updating the web site? contact: [Jason Regier](#).

All Links and Rugby Store

@

[quadrugby.com](#)

[Murderball DVD here.](#)

CLINICS

[2008-09 Clinic grant application](#)

Information? Contact [Wendy Gumbert](#)

Nick lives in Homewood, IL southwest of Chicago with his wife Suzzi.

“We were friends in high school, but started dating following my injury. We dated for six years before getting married,” Nick said.

Nick was injured by a hit and run driver at age 17. Two years after his injury, “I was playing wheelchair softball and one of the players on my team also played rugby for Chicago. He told me about an upcoming practice, I went, got hooked, and the rest is history,” he remembers.

“In the first couple of years, rugby provided me with a social network of other SCI’s that I could learn from regarding my injury. As I became more independent and involved with the team, it became an opportunity for competition as well as an opportunity to provide ‘the light at the end of the tunnel’ for new injuries that I was meeting through the RIC (Rehab Institute of Chicago) Sports.”



Nick is a licensed social worker and a catastrophic injury case manager with Robert H. Jackson & Associates. He also enjoys spending time with his wife and friends.

He’s a board member for the Illinois Spinal Cord Injury Association, Committee member for the Beyond Boundaries outdoor event for ISCIA, Member of the Athlete Leadership Committee at RIC, Peer support counselor for new SCI’s, and facilitator for injury prevention programs at local junior/high

schools.

What does Nick like most about quad rugby: “The competition; the social network with other people with disabilities; and, it’s a great stress reliever after a long day at work.”

What does Nick say about the off season? “What off season?”

Deadline and Awards

2.15.09: Players must have four games played in two different tournaments.

Award Nominations:

Spirit of Achievement

Athlete of the Year

The first award is given to a volunteer in recognition of their unselfish contributions to the sport of Quad Rugby. The other is given to recognize an outstanding athlete who has excelled in their play. These honors

first began in 1998, and will continue each year into the sports future.

To nominate someone, please go to [quadrugby.com](#) Player’s Corner and click on USQRA Awards. Scroll down and click on link.

Fill out the form asap and submit it to Ed Hooper or Bob Crandall.

**International
News
Tournaments**

SEE

iwrf.com

www.cwsa.ca

wheelblacks.com

quadrugby.com

**USQRA
Tournament
Results**

“Spokes, other tournaments were played besides Knock and Roll.”

“True, but we weren’t at those. I’m sure the volunteers and sponsors were fantastic at those as well, Hooper.”

“No doubt. We do have some photos. Go to quadrugby.com Player’s Corner to check out all the scores and tournament info.

“It’s worth noting, Spokes, that Tampa put on the Seventeenth Conveen Tournament



Tampa’s Ryan Lindstrom sends defender flying

the same week as Knock n Roll. Minnesota Northstars took first and Tampa second with a solid effort by 3rd place London Ontario, led by MVP Dave Willsie.”

“Yep, and there are great pics here and online from other tournaments.”

“This just in, Hooper! Batman and Sharp beat Lakeshore 55-49 at the Demolition Derby February 1st. Guess Sharp is number one.”

“Hey, Hooper?”

“What?”

“When you quads get to naming me, I’d like to be the Green Lantern or The Flash.”

“Right.”

Click for information on how to obtain the latest coaching aid:
[2006 USQRA Coaches Manual](#)

[Click here](#) to be added to our mailing list.

Explore the USQRA web site quadrugby.com and [MURDERBALL](#)

About Us

The United States Quad Rugby Association exists to provide support, structure, and opportunity for competitive wheelchair rugby to people with disabilities.

Smashing Stereotypes One Hit at a Time is the main message of our players and our sport. Quad rugby is a tough, give-no-quarter game. Our players’ lives - their successes and trials on and off the court - are a continuous example of smashing stereotypes. The sport is about ability and competitive fire. It is testament to the spirit of our great athletes, their humanity, and the intensity of our game.

We are here to help people get involved in the fastest growing wheelchair sport in the world.

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