

RACQUETBALL

MAGAZINE • September-October 1996

Vol. 7 • No. 5 - \$4.00



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tour coverage, Guest features, Tournament Updates, National
Calendar & Rankings, Instructional ... and much more!**

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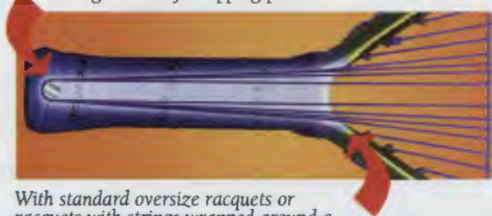
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*Out of
technology's
black hole, comes
the game's most
powerful racquet.*

Longer mainstrings mean more power...a proven fact. The new Mayhem LongString™ 21.0" Technology offers the longest mainstrings in racquetball—at least 5 1/2 inches longer than all competitor racquets without throat-pieces, and 6 1/2 inches longer than racquets with strings wrapped around a throat-piece. The combined length of Mayhem's ten center mains is at least 56 inches longer than those in all competitor racquets. Now that's power!

Mainstrings extend unrestricted in free-space through handle for ripping power.



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LONGSTRING

Revolutionary 21.0" LongString™ Technology

New Mayhem™ 190g

Longest mainstrings in racquetball (21.0" bow/20.5" string length). The game's most powerful racquet.

Ten centermost main strings are at least 56 inches longer than those in all other racquets. See chart below.

- Oversize racquet mainstring length
- 16.2" LongString Technology—Chaos and Havoc
- 21.0" LongString Technology—Mayhem



16.2" LongString™ Technology

The biggest advance in power racquetball since the introduction of the oversize racquet. 16.2" LongString Technology mainstrings are up to 23% longer than all other competitive racquets.

Chaos™ 190g

Incredibly light 190-gram frame and 16.2" LongString Technology provide maximum power and racquet speed. The success story of the 95/96 season.

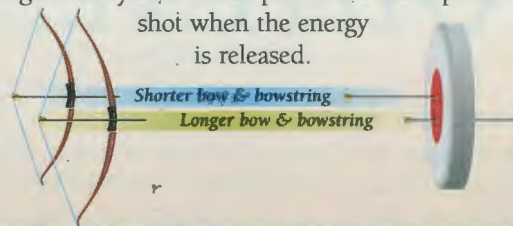
Havoc™ 230g

16.2" LongString Technology and power-weighted 230-gram frame create incredible power by putting more mass behind the ball.

Why longer mainstrings deliver more power.

As racquet frames evolved, longer mainstrings resulted in huge increases in power. The quadraform head shape out-powered the teardrop (and throat-pieces became obsolete). The midsize out-powered the quadraform. The oversize out-powered the midsize. 16.2" LongString Technology out-powered the oversize.

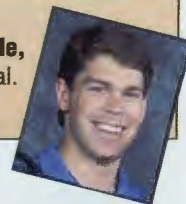
Why do longer mainstrings and racquet bow length generate more power? It's the same principle as the bow and arrow. For an equal amount of effort, longer mainstrings and bow length cause the strings to stretch further, allowing the frame to store more energy. The result is a string/frame system which provides a more powerful shot when the energy is released.



See Why E-Force Racquets Are More Powerful

Racquet	Bow Length	Max Length Mainstrings	Combined Length 10 Mainstrings	The E-Force Advantage
21.0" LongString Mayhem	21.0 in.	20.5 in.	193.5 in.	Longest mainstrings in racquetball
16.2" LongString Chaos	16.2 in.	16.0 in.	141.3 in.	Longer mainstrings than all other competitive racquets
Havoc	16.2 in.	16.0 in.	141.3 in.	
Frenzy	16.2 in.	16.0 in.	141.3 in.	
Racquets w/o Throat Piece				E-Force's longer mainstrings deliver more power
Maximum length avail.	15.1 in.	14.8 in.	135.2 in.	
Typical length	14.3 in.	14.2 in.	131.3 in.	
Racquets with Throat Piece				E-Force's mainstrings are substantially longer
Standard throat	13.1 in.	13.0 in.	124.0 in.	
Wrapped throat—Ektelon	13.9 in.	13.8 in.	136.8 in.	

Tim Doyle,
Total power-game professional.



E-FORCE
real racquetball™

from the editor

Okay, I know you're out there ...

After all, I get lots of calls and letters from people who want to offer their two cents worth about the design of the magazine (*"Who picks those colors???"*), and the contents (*"I won my unsanctioned club tournament two weeks ago, how come it wasn't reported???"*), and the covers (*"How much will it take to get on the cover???"* I've got cash ... ")

So, here's your chance to do something creative that will make a difference, is guaranteed to go in the magazine, and will get plenty of attention for years to come! The United States Racquetball Association needs a new logo!

usra•logo contest!

Here's the rules

Submissions must be in the form of finished artwork (no sketches) in both color and black/white versions. There is no limit on the number of entries an individual may submit, but each must be mounted separately on an 8 1/2 by 11" piece of foamboard for presentation and judging. Name, address and telephone number or contact information must appear on the back of each entry (judging will be done "blind") and all entries must be received by Friday, December 6.

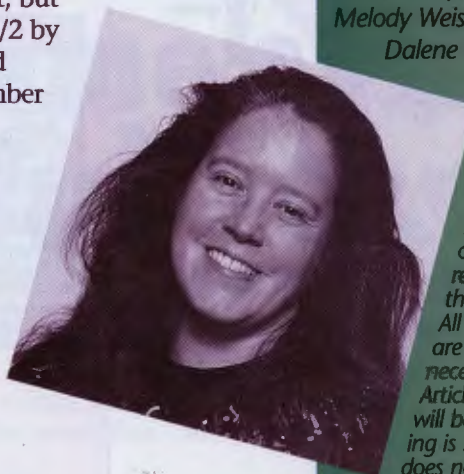
The board of directors will be involved in the final selection, and will choose on the basis of flexibility (we'll blow 'em up to poster size and reduce them to fit on a business card) and graphic appeal.

The Prize

The winner will receive a lifetime membership to the USRA, valued at \$500.00.

We'll be using a transitional variation of the current logo for the remainder of 1996, then feature the new artwork throughout 1997 (and beyond) as we celebrate our 30th anniversary. Call me if you have any questions ... and GOOD LUCK!

When the name change officially goes into effect on January 1, 1997, we want to be able to roll out a brand new, flashy logo to go along with it.



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PHOTOS

Top: Michelle Gould serving for her third world title. Photo: Richard Avolio. Center: Men's singles medalists (clockwise from top left) Ruben Gonzalez, Todd O'Neil, Jacques Demers and Derek Robinson. Photo: Meryl Robertson. Bottom: Junichi Yoshida (left) and Fabian Balmori. Photo: Avolio.

ON THE COVER

The assembled national teams of the VIII World Championships, taken at opening ceremonies. Photo: Richard Avolio. For reprints, call: 602-784-5900.

reader forum

"NEWT"RAL GROUND

As an avid Racquetball player and loyal supporter of the AARA I wish to express my displeasure with the recent article titled "The Novice" by Matt Farrell which appeared in the May-June issue of *RACQUETBALL Magazine*. Mr. Farrell made a rather innocuous statement concerning Mr. Newt Gingrich which nevertheless upset me tremendously. I do not feel that a publication produced by an apolitical organization such as the AARA, and funded by contributions from individuals such as myself, should allow this magazine to serve as a platform for one's political views. I no longer subscribe to local newspapers nor listen to local newscasts because I am sick and tired of their blatant political bias.

You may use the disclaimer that the views of the contributing writers do not necessarily reflect those of the magazine. However you, as editor, have the final say in what is printed and what is not and thus should be held accountable.

I am the league director at Rose Shores Fitness and Racquet Club in Roseville, Michigan. Thus I not only support the AARA with my annual membership but also by requesting all league members to do the same. However, if you choose to allow future liberal diatribe to infiltrate the pages of your magazine, you will no longer have my support.

Please forward to Mr. Farrell the enclosed letter ... [the following reprinted by permission of Mr. Farrell]

Dear Mr. Farrell:

I have just finished reading your article titled "The Novice," which appeared in the May-June issue of *RACQUETBALL Magazine*. I have several comments to make and one of which is "been there, done that." Secondly, I wish to express my displeasure at your rather innocuous, yet obviously political remark

concerning Mr. Newt Gingrich. It is apparent that your views lean toward the left by your statement "... Newt Gingrich. I don't know much, nor do I care to learn." As a matter of fact, that sort of sums up what most liberals feel on almost any issue regarding conservatism.

Finally, the irony of the ending of your story was beautiful and yet your liberal views prevent you from seeing it: the match was finally able to continue unencumbered only after your incompetent intervention was no longer a distraction. Your bungling attempt at refereeing this match simply mirrors your liberal government's effort to manage my life.

Who pays the salary of a Communications Coordinator for U.S. Swimming anyway? My tax dollars or my tax-free charitable contributions? Try busting your butt running your own business instead of siding with the leaches who want to bleed the rest of us hard working taxpayers dry!

*Don Ruedisueli
Clinton Township, MI*

THE U. S. OPEN: ON THE RECORD

For the record, the first U.S. Open Racquetball Championships was conceived nearly two years ago as a national event for open, age and skill divisions.

The tournament received AARA approval, sanction and support; however, it was independently run without any initial financial exposure to the association. Clearly, it was an AARA property in waiting.

The three-day competition, February of 1995, in Indianapolis drew 250 persons from 22 states. A dozen Indiana racquetball players volunteered their help to pull it off. The Open generated nearly \$2,500

in profit for the AARA and was considered a huge success by the competitors and organizers.

The AARA took the occasion to trademark the event name for future use. And because it was such a success, an AARA committee comprised of Mike Arnolt, Otto Dietrich and Doug Ganim kicked around ideas to expand the tournament and increase its importance.

Discussions centered around pumping up the National Skill (ABCD) Tournament which struggled its first two years, and creating an event that would also be a professional competition.

Ganim, as the chair of the committee, took the various ideas and developed them further with assistance from the pro tours and AARA administrators.

The result is that the 1996 U.S. Open will be the largest money tournament of the year for professional men and women; it will encompass the National Skills Championship and will include divisions for the open and age groups as well. Ganim has signed a three-year contract with the AARA to orchestrate the event. The AARA Board of Directors voted to fund this program to showcase professional racquetball and create some media and public excitement in the sport. Segments of the men's professional event will be televised.

According to projections, the U.S. Open will be profitable for the AARA in 1998.

This year's U.S. Open will be a first ... and a second. For the first time in history, the AARA will sponsor a professional event. However, it will be the second U.S. Open.

Expect to see continuing changes in the U.S. Open format. Meanwhile, congratulations to the winners of the inaugural U.S. Open. For the record once again,

Every year, some company tries to
tell you which is the most powerful
racquet in the game.



This year, you decide.

Two uniquely different racquets.
One incredibly powerful result.
Test drive the 9.9's before you
buy anything else.

The explosive
Energy™ 9.9.
Performance
guaranteed.

Wilson
RACQUETBALL 

The Right Equipment Makes The Difference.™

The ultralite
Air Hammer™ 9.9.
Only 175 grams.



reader forum

they are: Men's Open: Eric Storey; M19+: Mike Dennison; M30+: Brad Morse; M35+: Mitch Smith; M40+: Gary Mazaroff; M45+: Frank Rusch; M50+: Ron Johnson; M55+: Ron Hutcherson; M60+: Jerry Holly; M65+: John O'Donnell; M75+: Earl Acuff; M80+: Allen Shepperd; MA: Ryan Staten; MB: Jim Gignilliat; MC: Jason Hunt; MD: Manuel Rodriguez; Women's 35+: Peggy Ludwig; W40+: Laura Patterson; W45+: Shelly Ogden; WC: Michele Thomas; WD: Dorothy McDavid.

Michael Arnolt
Director, 1995 U.S. Open
Indianapolis

BUILD IT FURTHER: THEY WILL COME

Dawn is coming slowly in "Racquetball-World." However, significant strides forward were made in May during the AARA National Singles Tournament, where approximately 150 Team Ektelon members attended a meeting conducted by Scott Winters and Dave Peck. It was fast-paced, interesting and informative, with the main purpose of introducing the new product line and Team Ektelon programs for the coming season.

In my racquetball years I've sat in numerous meetings; generally espousing lofty objectives to be accomplished by other personnel and/or organizations. It was refreshing to hear clear and concise responsibilities put out to be aggressively pursued by both corporate and Team Ektelon members; responsibilities to each other, but more importantly, actions to support the game's community. These personalized actions are long overdue. And, when fully implemented will prove to be a leading edge to help launch racquetball to "World Sport/Olympic Sport" status.

Our industry and sport is coming of age. We are developing merchandising strategies addressing all player skill levels. Additionally, in time, we will complete our initial roster of legends to instill a sense of longevity and historical security common to all well-established sports. As these facets develop and mature, financial interests will employ the wide range of media techniques presently magnifying other sports; sports involving enormous numbers of players and spectators worldwide. I am of the opinion that this will inevitably occur and racquetball will be elevated to a new height of popularity.

Joe Lambert
Dallas, Texas

A NEW LEAF ...

Enclosed is an article that explains my love for this game. Too bad I started playing it in my late 20's or otherwise I could have been up there with Marty Hogan. Too bad about that other thing, too ...

At 45, I'm finally being paroled! I've been in [the Utah State Prison] since January, 1992 on a 1-15 year sentence, and all this time I managed to keep my number #1 status as the best handball and racquetball player in the whole USP system.

The first thing I shall do upon my release is go to a Health Spa, walk in and kiss that racquetball floor! After all this time, I'm devoting all my time to racquetball. I can proudly announce that this is one dude who can scream that racquetball got me out of prison ... and will keep me out.

Joe Robledo, Jr.
McAllen, Texas

"Racquetball in Prison" [excerpted from Racquetball Illustrated, May 1979] *Prison inmate Joe Robledo (known as Joe Hernandez to his friends in Texas) spent three years in prison (1972-75) but after his release, violated his parole in 1977. "I started playing in as many out-of-town tournaments as possible, partially because I was a federal fugitive," said Robledo. "I did manage to witness Marty Hogan's first national championship in Michigan and I was lucky to be around to see him again in Tempe."*

Robledo wrote two articles for Racquetball Illustrated in 1979 and 1980 — and is desperately seeking copies of those publications. For collectors out there who would like to help, the issue covers featured Danny DeVito and Patrick Duffy. If you've got spares in the attic, send them to RACQUETBALL Magazine and we'll see that Joe receives them.

SPARROW'S "BAG"

As expected, Mike Sparrows' letter in the May-June issue about his first tournament experience with sandbagging elicited some spirited response. Two very long letters came in response to Mike's plea, but we didn't have space for them. They were via mail from V. Radosta of Laurel, NM and online from Greg Stoner [stonerg@ix.netcom.com]. We'll see about uploading them for some online debate in the future!

OMISSION: In the July/August issue, Ohio's own Cecil Haynes was the photographer who snapped both the cover inset photo of Michelle Gould and Ruben Gonzalez, and the inside group shot of Todd O'Neil, Cheryl Gudinas, Gould and Gonzalez on page six. We're sorry for the oversight!

In some sports you just protect yourself.



In others you can do it *with style.*

Now you can protect yourself in style with impact resistant fashion eyeguards from Leader. Our *Vegas* and *Newport* designs feature anti-fog, anti-scratch, shatterproof protection. And they give you unobstructed peripheral vision so you won't miss a beat on the court.

Don't just protect yourself...
do it in style with Leader.

Leader



Sudsy Monchik
#1 ranked professional
racquetball player in the world.

**Leader
PRO STAFF**



Cliff Swain
#2 ranked professional
racquetball player in the world.

OFFICIAL EYEGUARD OF:





VIII • World Championships

THE PLAYERS

COUNTRY — Men's Team Women's Team

ARGENTINA

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Fabian Apa | 1. Lucia Sapere |
| 2. Gustavo Campomar | 2. Amanda Kurzbard |
| 3. Daniel Maggi | 3. Virginia Pacheco |
| D. Apa/Maggi | D. Kurzbard/Sapere |

AUSTRALIA

- | |
|---|
| 1. Glen Strengers; 2. Darren Strengers; 3. Steven Salter; D. David Rowe; D. Joshua Freeman. Delegate: Phillip Mort. |
|---|

BOLIVIA

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Mauricio Iriarte | 1. Maria F. Romero |
| 2. Gerardo Gil | 2. Cintya Salazar |
| 3. Miguel Nunez | 3. Paola Nunez |
| D. Gil/Nunez | D. Yaque Parada |

Delegate: Jose Virreira; Trainer: Ismael Antezana

BRAZIL

- | |
|--------------|
| 1. Jack Long |
|--------------|

CANADA

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Sherman Greenfield | 1. Josee Grandmaitre |
| 2. Jacques Demers | 2. Christie Van Hees |
| 3. Mike Green | 3. Lori Jane Powell |
| D. Mike Ceresia | D. Vicki Shanks |
| D. Simon Roy | D. Debbie Ward |

Wheelchair 1. Ken Michaylenko

Wheelchair 2. Ray Boudreau

Coaches: Ron Brown; Carol Mulholland; Cal Smith; Delegate: Dave Bell

CHILE

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Pablo Fajre | 1. Angela Grisar |
| 2. Felipe Salas | 2. Loreto Barriga |
| 3. Andres Vilches | 3. Berta Munizaga |
| 4. Javier Narbona/Vilches | D. Barriga/Grisar |

Okay, so racquetball wasn't in Atlanta. But even if the sport had been featured in the Centennial Olympic Games, it wouldn't have seemed all that different from the Ektelon IRF VIII World Championships, presented by Penn Racquet Sports, August 10-17.

Had we been in Atlanta, maybe one or two more countries might have taken part. A few more big-name sponsors would have been emblazoned on team uniforms. There would have been a lot more staff. But all-in-all you would have seen much the same group of top-notch athletes from across the globe, competing for love of country and the thrill of "gold medal" individual accomplishment.

THE PLAN

It's a two-part affair at the Worlds — first a group dynamic is formed among national teams and their delegations. Competition is snug and comfy with lots of support from teammates and coaching staff for three days of camaraderie, then a day off. After that, it's every man, woman and child for themselves in the individual rounds.

Rosters trickled into IRF headquarters as early as mid-May, many without final lineups. Team Canada played its cards close to the vest, and withheld its final roster positions until the very last minute. At registration, a total of 29 countries were officially named to march in opening ceremonies, and Canada's strategic men's lineup went public.

PART ONE: THE WORLD CUP

With the paperwork aside, national teams were positioned in the draws according to a complicated formula of past finishes, allowing both U.S. squads to claim top spots against perennial challengers Canada, Mexico, Japan and up-



FACING PAGE LEFT: TEAM USA. PHOTO: JIM HISER. RIGHT: MEN'S TEAM CANADA—GREENFELD, DEMERS, CERESIA, GREEN & ROY. PHOTO: RICHARD AVOLIO. ABOVE LEFT: WOMEN'S TEAM JAPAN. PHOTO: AVOLIO. ABOVE RIGHT: TEAM AUSTRALIA—ROWE, G. STRENGERS, FREEMAN, D. STRENGERS, SALTER. PHOTO: HISER.

and-coming Venezuela. Each round was determined on the basis of an overall advance by the team members in three singles matches and one doubles. In the men's team playoff, it went "4-0" for the U.S. and Canada all the way to the final, where the teams went head-to-head in all four categories.

It was there that Team Canada's plan paid off. At the 1994 World Championships, the lineup had been: eventual champion Sherman Greenfeld, Mike Ceresia and Simon Roy in singles, with Jacques Demers in doubles. In Phoenix, it was Ceresia and Roy who teamed up for doubles against national champions Sell 'n Karp in the lead-off match of a round that would not go well for the U.S. men's team.

In their first true test of the playoff, Bill Sell and Adam Karp came from behind to reverse an 8-3 deficit and take game one 15-8, then lost the second, 15-11. In the deciding tiebreaker, the U.S. maintained a 1-2 point lead all the way to match point before unforced errors closed the narrow margin to tie it up, and a final skipped forehand by Karp put Team Canada up by 1-0.

Next, newcomer Mike Green of Canada, playing in the #3 singles spot, went up against U.S. counterpart Derek Robinson, who took the first and only U.S. men's team win of the round, 15-5, 15-6. Jacques Demers, who had recently made an excellent showing at the Canadian National Championships, was the next to make a successful upset bid against U.S. #2 Todd O'Neil. Demers won his match in straight games of 15-11, 15-8.

So, down 2 to 1 in matches, the final match between #1 singles players and reigning national champions Sherman Greenfeld and Ruben Gonzalez put everything on the line ... on live television. But even the cameras weren't enough to motivate Gonzalez, who fell to the defending world champion in two short games of 15-7, 15-10.

With an hour of live airtime left to fill, announcers Jim Turner and Dave Peck scrambled but didn't lose their timing. With the men's team title already claimed by Canada for the first time since 1988, it was up to the women to salvage the overall team title — and the telecast.

Earlier in the day, Joy MacKenzie and Jackie Paraiso had opened the women's team round with a 15-9, 15-13 win over Canada's Vicki Shanks and Debbie Ward. U.S. #2 Cheryl Gudinas had followed suit with a 15-6, 15-9 win over Christie Van Hees, before Canada's #3 Lori Jane Powell took a tiebreaker win over Malia Bailey.

Originally, ASPN's two-hour television broadcast had been planned to feature only the men's #1 playoff. But in an early production meeting, producer Scott Hecht asked that the final match of the women's round be delayed to 6:00 pm as a backup. That decision paid off when Greenfeld and Gonzalez were ready to hit the showers after game two at 5:58. With every television in the club tuned to the broadcast, Michelle Gould and Josee Grand'Maitre rounded out the last hour of airtime with a 15-6, 15-1 match which was shown in its entirety. With the straight game win, Gould guaranteed two

ON THE SIDELINES

OPENING CEREMONIES

30 teams marched in the opening ceremonies ... Arizona Junior Team members led the Parade of Athletes ... Former Denver Bronco kicker Jim Turner set the tone for Olympic quest ... ASPN covers opening ceremonies ... United Nations banner hosts Tonga, Vietnam, Hong Kong, Sweden, Brazil and Uruguay ... First time World Championship teams to compete were: Jamaica, Tonga and Vietnam ... The first national team to arrive in Phoenix was Chile.

Oldest Player: Charles Siaoosi (Tonga) **Youngest Players:** Paola Matamoros Batson (Honduras) & Daniel Maggi (Argentina)

MARATHON CROSS COUNTRY DRIVE FOR TEAM BOLIVIA

After a 36-hour cross country trek, "Team Bolivia" arrived in Phoenix late on Friday evening, but still in plenty of time for opening ceremonies. By opting to rent a vehicle at their first "port of call" in Miami and drive it due west along Route 10 to Phoenix, the team saved several thousands of dollars in group travel expense. Team delegate Jose Vierra did most of the driving, but didn't seem to mind "we'll go slower on the way back" he promised "and see more things."

FIRST TIME LIVE TELECAST OF RACQUETBALL A GREAT SUCCESS

Noted former NFL player and broadcaster, Jim Turner (below right), teamed with Dave Peck, former pro great now with Ektelon, for the most entertaining racquetball broadcast ever on television. ASPN had allotted two hours time for the telecast before switching at 7 pm to the California Angels base-



ball game, and it came off like clockwork. Our sincere thanks to ASPN, producer Scott Hecht, and the broadcast team - all true professionals who did a fantastic job.



LEFT: TEAM BOLIVIA — CENTER: TEAM GUAM — RIGHT: TEAM GERMANY. PHOTOS: RICHARD AVOLIO

COLOMBIA

1. Felipe Gomez; 2. Juan Manuel Gutierrez; 3. Fabian Pedraza; D. Fabian Pedraza; D. Ronal Pedraza

COSTA RICA

1. Alberto Dent 1. Andrea Ortiz
..... 2. Maria Fernanda Arias
..... D. Arias/Ortiz

Coach/Delegate: Jeff Evans
CUBA

1. Ernesto Alvarez Iniques; 2. Alexander Garrido Agueros; 3. Gustavo Perez Lopez; D. Agueros/Lopez; Coach: Juan A. Velazquez Fernandez.
Delegate: Miguel A. Masjuan Salmon

GERMANY

1. Trevor Hayter 1. Andrea Gordon
2. Joachim Loof 2. Rente Hoenig
3. Dieter Stengl D. Gordon/Hoenig
D. Torsten Krieger
D. Olaf Gerullis

GUAM

1. Frank Rios 1. Alysia Leon Guerrero
2. Jerry Delgado 2. Phyllis Leon Guerrero
3. Juan Palomo 3. Marsha Birch
D. Larry Angeles D. Tania Arceo
D. Joe Eustaquio D. Cil Olandez
Coaches: Frank Rios, Juan Palomo; Manager: Jeff Milkes; Trainer: Orlando Mayo

GUATEMALA

1. Juan Jose Salvatierra 1. Lucy Zachrisson
2. Gustavo Morales 2. Kaaren Zachrisson
3. Manolo Benfelt
D. Mario Fernandez D. L. & K. Zachrisson
D. Johnny Siebold
Delegate: Bayardo Martell

HONDURAS

1. Guillermo A. Garcia
..... 1. Paola Matamoros Castillo
2. Luis Felipe Aguilar
3. David Matamoros Batson
D. Alexis T. Reyes/Batson

HONG KONG

1. Ray Kwok

IRELAND

1. Noel O'Callaghan; 2. Anthony Butler; 3. Christie Slattery; D. Michael Lynch; D. Steven Oloan

JAMAICA

1. Ken Teape; 2. John F. Edwards; D. Edwards/Teape

Coaches: Jeff Hanno & Gary Mazaroff

JAPAN

1. Junichi Yoshida 1. Naomi Wakimoto
2. Mamiya Tanaka 2. Kyoko Ochiai
3. Bunya Hasegawa 3. Rie Yamanaka
D. Tsuyoshi Hagiwara D. Hiromi Miyamoto
D. Shouichi Sakai D. Ayumi Numata

things — that the first-ever live show would go on, and the U.S. team would bring home the World Cup for the eighth consecutive time.

"I knew I had to win in two," said Gould, "so I didn't take any chances. But I was nervous."

And she stayed nervous during the on-air awards presentation when she saw teammate Derek Robinson enter the court with something concealed behind his back. She kept an eye on him, and turned just in time to have the pie land on the back of her head, instead of suffering the nose-plant that had been intended. Roll credits.

PART TWO: WORLD TITLES

The second portion of the World Championship is meant to crown individual world titlists in singles and doubles. But players found out on Wednesday that their seedings in those individual draws was based on the performance of their team as a whole. It was another complicated formula that discounted earned individual wins in the first half, and set up a difficult draw for #1 seeded defending champion Sherman Greenfeld.

From the top spot, Greenfeld was one of only two players (the other was Gonzalez) to receive a bye in the first of three rounds scheduled for Thursday. He then advanced into the Friday quarterfinal by defeating Osvaldo Garcia of Puerto Rico 15-2, 15-9 and Germany's Trevor Hayter 15-6, 15-5. The following day brought the upset.

In the March 1995 Pan American Games, Derek Robinson defeated Greenfeld in a playoff for third place. But Pan Am rules prohibit a "clean sweep" of medals by a single country and since U.S. players had already taken the gold and silver, Derek had to stand by as Sherman was awarded the bronze in Argentina. So, it was a motivated Robinson who claimed a 15-11, 15-10 victory over Greenfeld to move into the semifinal.

From the #5 spot in the top half of the draw, southpaw Todd O'Neil burst from the gate with straight game wins over Cuba's Alexander Agueros, 15-5, 15-0; Juan Salvatierra of Guatemala, 15-2, 15-8; and Mexico's Alvaro Beltran, 15-5, 15-11. Maintaining his edge on Friday, opponents got a few more points, but still no tiebreakers as he advanced past #4 seeded Fabian Balmori of Venezuela, 15-4, 15-14, and teammate Robinson 15-3, 15-12 to move into familiar final territory.

From the #2 spot, 44-year old national champion Ruben Gonzalez also advanced easily in early rounds with a bye, then straight game wins over Colombia's Juan Gutierrez, 15-7, 15-3 and Glen Strengers of Australia, 15-8, 15-8. Against back-to-back Canadian challengers on Friday, Gonzalez defeated Mike Green 15-4, 15-12, then outlasted Jacques Demers in an 15-11, 13-15, 11-2 tiebreaker to get to O'Neil.

Re-match

It had only been ten weeks since O'Neil and Gonzalez had faced off for the U.S. national singles title. There, it had been



LEFT: TEAM COLOMBIA RIGHT: TEAM PUERTO RICO. PHOTOS RICHARD AVOLIO

Gonzalez who had come out on top. "I've gone over that match again and again," said O'Neil, "but now I have a plan, and I'm going to stick to it."

As he had in Houston, O'Neil was aggressive and accurate in the first game, skipping only one shot and taking only twenty minutes to win it 15-8. And Gonzalez answered just as he had at nationals with flawless shotmaking to take a 12-1 lead in the second, before O'Neil re-focused to slowly make his way back to 12-13. After a rare skipped forehand by O'Neil, Gonzalez held serve for the next two rallies with down-the-line backhand rollouts to force the tiebreaker.

And the plan was: minimize mistakes. O'Neil returned to his first game strategy and pulled to a 9-1 lead with great drive serves and half lob-z's into the glass right wall. Gonzalez' only answer was to make diving retrievals of anything he could reach, skipping a total of seven shots before the match was over. At the end of ten minutes, O'Neil took his final shot — a backhand pinch into the glass after a long, diving rally — to become the sixth U.S. men's world singles champion.

Third time at Bat

In any round, Michelle Gould's plan always seems to be: get out fast. On her way to a third world championship final, Michelle gave up a total of 32 points in four matches as she defeated Rente Hoenig of Germany, 15-0, 15-1; Anita Maldonado of Puerto Rico, 15-4, 15-4; Canada's Lori Jane Powell, 15-4, 15-1 and Christie Van Hees, 15-7, 15-11. But after Van Hees broke the 10-point barrier, husband/coach Rod Gould thought that a few

court drills by Michelle would be in order for Friday night.

Re-match II

Working the lower half of the draw, Cheryl Gudinas had an equally successful run, defeating Bolivia's Paola Nunez, 15-0, 15-0; Dina Garcia of Mexico, 15-5, 15-5; Japan's Naomi Wakimoto, 15-3, 15-6 and teammate Malia Bailey, 15-7, 15-8. But not much had changed between national singles and this final, as Gudinas opened the first game with a quick 15-2 loss to doubles partner Gould.

By the second game, Cheryl had relaxed, re-grouped and begun to put together some early points to take the lead 4-3. It didn't last, but she played solid ball and made what shots she could without error. In fact, she earned every point in a corner, with overhead and reverse pinch shots, forehand and backhand.

Still, it was Gould who was the more dynamic of the two — right or wrong. She skipped a total of four shots, but all on offense so they didn't cost her anything but a sideout. She drove in four aces to the left side, and only one attempt went short. Unlike her opponent, she moved everything up and down the lines, but rarely left a ball in play. After too many sideouts and no points scored at 13-8, she called a timeout and returned with an ace to reach match point. Five more sideouts followed until it was Cheryl's turn to take a break. Back on serve, Michelle powered a backhand cross court pass toward the glass to end the match, 15-10, and set yet another record that's not likely to be broken for a long time — that of three consecutive world singles titles.

MARATHON MATCH

The longest match in opening rounds took place between Argentina #1 Fabian Apa and Bolivia's top ranked player Mauricio Iriarte. The match went to Apa in an 11-7 tiebreaker, and took over two hours and forty-five minutes.

BREAKER, BREAKER

One of the closest team advances had to be decided by committee when Team Guatemala and Team Korea came out of their round deadlocked with two wins apiece. Later, on review of points earned, Team Guatemala squeaked by with a 1-point margin over Korea in the tiebreaking formula.

VENEZUELA "TIE-BREAKS" INTO TOP FOUR

It started out bleak after the #1 and #2 singles players for Venezuela lost lead-off matches to Japan in the quarterfinal, but a turnaround in the #3 and doubles spots brought Venezuela into its first-ever semifinal at a World Championships. With a 2-2 record at the end of the round, a tiebreaker ruling had to be invoked — edging out Japan in favor of Venezuela by a margin of 124-109 in total points scored in the four head-to-head matches. Early in the round, Venezuelan #1 Fabian Balmori was defeated in straight games by Japan's top player Junichi Yoshida. But, serving at 12-14 in the first game, Balmori received a break — an avoidable hinder call — but refused to take advantage of the offer of point 13 on "shot-interference" by Yoshida. But as Balmori was well aware after the Guatemalan advance by a 1-point margin the preceding day, that single point could have cost his team their shot at a team medal.

LIKE MOTHER, LIKE DAUGHTER

Team Guatemala's mother-daughter doubles pair came to the tournament with plenty of experience. Lucy and Karen Zachrisson hold the Central American Games bronze medal in doubles. Lucy is a former tennis player, and Karen comes from a squash background. "First, Karen brought me [to racquetball]," said mom Lucy, "but now I am the one to make us play."



LEFT: WORLD SINGLES CHAMPIONS MICHELLE GOULD & TODD O'NEIL. PHOTO: JIM HISER — CENTER: TEAM MEXICO. PHOTO: LUKE ST. ONGE — RIGHT: JOY MACKENZIE, FRAN DAVIS, JACKIE PARAISO. PHOTO: AVOLIO.

KOREA

1. Sang-Soo Lee 1. Moon-Ydung Chang
2. Dong-Min Jang 2. Soon-Hee Noh
3. Young-Il Jo 3. Eun-Joo Song
- D. Byg-Gu Han D. Moon-Ydung Chang
- D. Dong-Min Jang D. Soon-Hee Noh

MEXICO

1. Luis Munoz 1. Guadalupe Torres
 2. Pedro Lara 2. Sabrina Pasos
 3. Alvaro Beltran 3. Dina Garcia
 - D. Alvaro Maldonado D. Diana Almeida
 - D. Ignacio Bustillos D. Guadalupe Torres
- Coaches: Martin Padilla; Diana Almeida
Delegate: Enrique Villagran

NETHERLANDS

1. Michael van der Holst . . . 1. Daphne Wannee
2. Pascal Matla 2. Jacqueline Wagner
3. Peter de Jong
- D. Richard van Doezum . . . D. Wagner/Wannee
- D. Jeroen Vink

PUERTO RICO

1. Lorenzo Albino 1. Anita Maldonado
 2. Osvaldo Garcia 2. Patricia Malley
 3. Perry T. Lopez 3. Evelyn Perez Colon
 - D. Jesus Moctezuma D. Mary Diaz
 - D. Miguel Santiago D. Kim Venegas
- Wheelchair 1. Orlando Fabery Torres
Wheelchair 2. Melido J. Mir
Coach: Gilbert Rodriguez

SWEDEN

1. Mike Aringer

TONGA

1. Charles Siaosi

UNITED STATES

1. Ruben Gonzalez 1. Michelle Gould
 2. Todd O'Neil 2. Cheryl Gudinas
 3. Derek Robinson 3. Malia Bailey
 - D. Adam Karp D. Jackie Paraiso
 - D. Bill Sell D. Joy Paraiso MacKenzie
- Wheelchair 1. Rick Slaughter
Wheelchair 2. Steve Kuketz
Coaches: Jim Winterton; Fran Davis
Manager: Steve Lerner

URUGUAY

1. Gustavo Farell

VENEZUELA

1. Fabian Balmori 1. Lily Geyer
 2. Antonio Yamin 2. Mary Manrique
 3. Jorge Hirsekorn 3. Mercedes Valentiner
 - D. Fabian Balmori D. Geyer/Valentiner
 - D. Ralph Reinhard
- Coach/Delegate: Manuel Medina

VIETNAM

1. Son Nguyen 1. Chau Phan

"It's been ten years since this tournament was in the United States," recalled Gould (who placed second in doubles that year) "so it was nice to play in front of a hometown crowd."

Rematch III

It had been only days, instead of weeks, since the final doubles teams had squared off. In the interim, Sell and Karp mulled over their team loss. Ceresia and Roy experimented with not hitting each other with their racquets.

Much like their earlier meeting, Sell and Karp recovered from a 9-5 deficit to serve at 13-9 in the first game but this time, lost 15-13. In the second, the U.S. pair led all the way to earn a 15-6 win and go to the tiebreaker. Then the court seemed to get smaller and dizzied spectators tried to follow all four as they chased down cross court passes, dove into the back wall, and scrambled around in front court. Receiving serve with a mid-game lead of 6-3, Adam Karp skipped two shots before Mike Ceresia began to pick on Bill Sell with two backhand winners to go up 7-6. After a series of defensive moves from front court, Sell decided to shoot his forehand for a point to tie it up and motivate Adam to get back on track. Karp obliged with a forehand pinch, a falling-backward cross court that cracked out, and a diving backhand pinch rollout. Time out! Canada.

The U.S. pair had been there before. In the earlier team final, at 8-8, Ceresia and Roy had ended with a strong run and pressured Adam into a skip at match point. No doubt with total recall, Adam chose to redeem himself with an off-bal-

ance flat roll out on the forehand side for point 10, and a cross court pass that cracked out at the service line to finish the match and earn first-time world doubles titles.

"It was almost like splitting a double header," commented Sell "but we felt like we had the edge coming back the second time. It's the biggest title I've ever played for."

Rematch IV

Between the team and individual final, U.S. twins Joy MacKenzie and Jackie Paraiso fine-tuned their game with wins over the Puerto Rican team of Mary Diaz/Kim Venegas, 15-6, 15-1 and Mexico's Diana Almeida & Guadalupe Torres, 15-6, 15-5. On the other side of the draw, #2 seeded Canadians Vicki Shanks and Debbie Ward advanced past Costa Rica's Maria Fernanda Arias and Andrea Ortiz, 15-7, 15-5 before running into trouble in the semifinal. Japan's Hiromi Miyamoto and Ayumi Numata surprised Shanks and Ward with a 15-2 first game win, and a close 15-13 second game finish, before the Canadian team could rally to win the 11-4 tiebreaker and go to the rematch final.

Against lefty Vicki Shanks and power-hitter Debbie Ward in the final, the twins resumed their earlier strategy of passing shots that would jam up the two backhands down the middle. The result: an even quicker 15-11, 15-4 win. "We knew that we'd have to play our very best against Canada" said Joy, "and using the cross-court and down the middle jamming shots let us keep control and make our shots."



LEFT: WHEELCHAIR MEDALISTS STEVE KUKETZ, RICK SLAUGHTER & KEN MICHAYLENKO. PHOTO: LUKE ST. ONGE. — CENTER: TEAM VENEZUELA. PHOTO: AVOLIO — RIGHT: WAYNE O'NEIL CONGRATULATES SON TODD. PHOTO: MERYL ROBERTSON.



In their first major tournament since national doubles, where Joy competed with a torn ACL ligament and still made the final, the team was a little concerned for the compromised right knee. "Jackie was probably more worried about my knee than I was," recalled Joy "but I didn't want to trip over anyone and re-injure it that way. Otherwise, it feels fine."

"We both felt confident," said Jackie "we've been training really hard and our family has been very supportive." After the team round was over, the Paraiso parents arrived with the grandchildren to watch their moms compete for, and win, their first world title as a team. It was a first world gold medal for Joy, and a third for Jackie.

On Wheels

Three countries fielded teams of wheelchair athletes to the Worlds, and competition was fierce. Veteran Ken Michaylenko and Ray Boudreau made up Team Canada, Orlando Torres and Melido Mir represented Puerto Rico and current national champion Rick Slaughter of Nashville, Tennessee and Steve Kuketz of Bridgewater, Mass. rounded out the U.S. roster.

After a three-day round robin, Rick Slaughter came away undefeated to earn his first world wheelchair title. In his own rematch of a recent national championship final, Slaughter defeated silver medalist Steve Kuketz, 15-11, 15-8. Michaylenko was awarded the bronze, followed by Boudreau, Torres and Mir.

As the Worlds Turn

As a world leader in the sport, it's expected that the U.S. national team do well internationally. A clean sweep for the U.S. team in individual rounds? No surprise there. But can it last forever? As the pro tour grows, will more and more "crossover" athletes give up their amateur status? Possibly. In a mere two years time, the entire composition of the U.S. team may change dramatically.

After breaking into the top ten in 1988, Venezuelan men have made a steady march up the ranks — finally bumping Japan from their #4 spot this year. Chilean women moved into striking range by finishing #5 this year, while Costa Rica and Puerto Rico continue to jostle each other for higher positions in the women's top-ten. Australia's men popped into the top-ten in their first year of competition, and still baffle opponents with their "down under" style. This year Bolivia finished #6 in the overall standings. The 1998 World Championships will be held in Bolivia ...

So, congratulations to all ... a hard-fought 8th World Cup team title to the United States, the end of a dry spell for Men's Team Canada, a first-time semi-final finish for Venezuela, and perennial top-notch play by Teams Mexico and Japan.

It was just as "hot" as Atlanta — in every way. For racquetball, it couldn't have been more "Olympic" — in every way!

FINAL TEAM STANDINGS ...

MEN'S TEAM

1. Canada
2. United States
3. Mexico
4. Venezuela
5. Japan
6. Bolivia
7. Australia
8. Germany
9. Colombia
10. Puerto Rico
11. Chile
12. Guatemala
13. Netherlands
14. Ireland
15. Argentina
16. Honduras
17. Korea
18. Guam
19. Cuba
20. Jamaica
21. Uruguay
22. Hong Kong
23. Brazil
24. Costa Rica
25. Vietnam
26. Sweden
27. Tonga
28. Panama
29. Peru

WOMEN'S TEAM

1. United States
2. Canada
3. Japan
4. Mexico
5. Chile
6. Venezuela
7. Korea
8. Puerto Rico
9. Bolivia
10. Costa Rica
11. Germany
12. Guatemala
13. Argentina
14. Guam
15. Netherlands
16. Vietnam
17. Honduras

WORLD CUP

1. United States*
2. Canada*
3. Mexico*
4. Japan*
5. Venezuela*
6. Bolivia*
7. Chile*
8. Puerto Rico*
9. Germany*
10. Guatemala*
10. Korea*
12. Australia
13. Colombia
14. Netherlands *
14. Argentina*
16. Guam*
16. Ireland
18. Honduras*
19. Costa Rica*
20. Cuba
21. Jamaica
22. Uruguay
23. Hong Kong
24. Brazil
25. Vietnam*
26. Sweden
27. Tonga
28. Panama
29. Peru

*Men's and women's teams fielded.

TIEBREAKER
When the U.S. and Canada tied with four wins each in the men's and women's finals, the next step was to compare games won. The result: U.S.-10, Canada-8.



JUNIOR OLYMPICS HIT MIDWEST

by Kevin Vicroy

The Southridge Athletic Club in Greenfield, Wisconsin, played host to the Ektelon AARA 23rd U.S. National Junior Olympic Championships, presented by Penn Racquet Sports, this past June 22-26. Over 300 young racquetball players converged on the Milwaukee area to test their skills against the nation's elite. At the close of the five-day event, 14 singles champions were crowned along with 15 teams of doubles winners.

Sadie Earns Fourth in a Row

No stranger to championship racquetball, Sadie Gross of Yankton, South Dakota went into this year's event with plenty of experience under her belt. Gross brought national junior singles titles in girl's 14-and-under, 16-, and last year's 18-and-under divisions. This year proved to be no different as the Dakotan held off Dawn Gates (Kankakee, Ill.) 8-15, 15-6, 11-5 to win her fourth career national junior singles championship.

As the top seed, Gross was handed a bye in the first round, positioning her only one match away from the championship. In that semi-final, Colleen Maginn of Portage, Wisconsin fell victim to Gross' power in straight games of 15-1, 15-2.

On the other side of the bracket, Dawn Gates quickly earned a reputation as a slow-starting, Goliath-slayer. Although well-known in junior circles, Dawn had played only sporadically over the past several years and was placed in an unseeded starting position in the draw. From there, she opened against No.2 seed and 1996 national high school champion Rhonda Rajsich of Phoenix. Gates lost the first game 15-3, only to come from the cheap seats to steal game two 15-11, and the tiebreaker 11-8. In her second match, Gates again started sluggish as she fell 15-5 to No.3 seed Kori Grasha of Amherst, N.Y. in game one. Then, just like in her first match, the Illinois native stormed back to win out 15-7 and 11-1.

The title bout was set — No.1 seed and defending champion Sadie Gross versus the unseeded challenger Dawn Gates. Would Gross overpower Gates or would the challenger's finesse style frustrate the

COUNTERCLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: CRYSTAL WINFREY & KIMBERLY IRONS; LIANA KERWOOD & RYAN EDMISTON; SETH TAYLOR & KRYSTAL CSUK; JEREMY ROBBINS & JESI FULLER; JUSTIN ERDMAN; DAWN GATES. PHOTOS: KEVIN VICROY.

champ? The match started off to a different tune as Gates took game one, 15-8, marking the first time in the tournament that she had captured the first game. Game two was all Gross as she began to play "her" game to win 15-6. Next came a tiebreaker well-suited for a championship match. Back and forth. Neither player could get on track to streak away with the title. Finally, one point at a time, Gross finished Gates 11-5 to win her second 18-and-under junior singles gold medal.

Storey takes Second National Win

In his second big win of the season, Eric Storey of Indianapolis, Indiana, came from behind to down John Stanford of Melbourne, Florida, 12-15, 15-6, 11-6 in the boy's 18-and-under championship final. In early March, Storey won the boy's gold division at the 1996 Pro Kennex U.S. National High School Championships.

Last year Storey finished second in the division, and duplicated his bid for a repeat final by cruising through his bracket with wins over Chris Shuba (Woodbury, Minn.) 15-2, 15-3; Dan Darling (Gearhart, Ore.) 15-8, 15-9 and Erin Brannigan (Sagle, Idaho) 15-2, 15-6.

Stanford maneuvered a more treacherous path to the finals as he fought through tough matches against Jaz Stewart (New Rochelle, N.Y.) 15-14, 15-11; Terrance Holbrook (Centerville, Utah) 15-1, 15-3 and Tyler Siggins (Diamond Bar, Calif.) 15-10, 7-15, 11-8.

Stanford proved to be Storey's best competition of the tournament as the Florida native quickly jumped out to a first game win, 15-12 — the first and only game Storey would lose in the singles championships. Rebounding, Eric put away the second 15-6 and, with his composure restored, fought off an intimidating John Stanford in the tiebreaker 11-6 to win the '96 title.

Junior Team Members win 16s

U.S. Junior Team member Sara Borland of Bettendorf, Iowa won her fourth national junior singles title with a win over Megan Bals of Lincoln, Neb., 15-5, 15-3 in the girl's 16-and-under championship match. Borland began her bid as the No.2 seed, downing Lianna Kerwood (Beaverton, Ore.) 15-6, 15-9 and Melissa Harmon (Sarasota, Fla.) 13-15, 15-8, 11-4 to advance to the finals.

After defeating Christina Lewendal (Beaverton, Ore.) 15-12, 15-7 and Meghan Guardiani (Marlboro, Mass.) 7-15, 15-9, 11-1, Megan Bals had expected to face top seeded Katie Gould (Ellisville, Mo.) in the semifinals. But Gould had fallen in a tiebreaker to unseeded Dionna Brown of Daly City, Calif. in her first match. This set-up an easy semifinal for Megan, who won 15-6, 15-9 to move on to face Borland in the final and come away with the silver.

In the boy's bracket, first-time Junior Team member Rocky Carson of Santa Maria, Calif. upped his total of national junior singles championships to six. Carson's

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advance to the finals was relatively smooth as he worked his way through Brad Jantz (Kenosha, Wis.) 15-1, 15-3; Shawn Fry (Concord, N.C.) 15-1, 15-3; Brandon Henline (Martinez, Ga.) 15-6, 15-0 and David Liakos (Minden, Neb.) 15-1, 15-5. Carson then pounded Colorado Springs' Willie Tilton in the finals 15-4, 15-5.

"Willie is a great sport — he deserves a lot of credit," said Carson after the match. "In the first game, I started playing a slow game. I made shots when I needed to. The second game, I served the best I've ever served in my life. It was tied 2-2, and I reeled off about 10 aces. It was the best I've ever felt, strong and confident."

Csuk & Vanderson win 14s

After finishing fifth in the girl's 12-and-under division a year ago, Krystal Csuk of Naperville, Ill. rebounded and moved up a division to capture her first 14-and-under championship. Csuk, who practices at least four times per week, won the title match over a tough Maggie DeBord of Lincoln, Neb. in straight games of 15-11, 15-10.

On the boy's side, Shane Vanderson of Dublin, Ohio held off doubles partner Jason Jansen of Fargo, N.D., 15-8, 15-14 to take home his fourth national title. Later, he and Jansen took to the court as a team to capture the 14-and-under doubles crown as well.

Ohio dominates Girl's 12- & 10-

Ohio natives Crystal Winfrey of Powell and Adrienne Fisher of Centerville, won the 12-and-under and 10-and-under titles, respectively. Winfrey defeated fellow Buckeye Kimberly Irons of Dublin, Ohio 15-10, 15-9. Fisher downed Derai Darling of Gearhart, Ore. 15-4, 15-6 to earn the girl's 10-and-under bragging rights.

Huczek stays with the Game Plan

Jack Huczek's game plan is to win every national Junior Olympic singles tournament he enters — just like former junior star and now pro tour national champion Sudsy Monchik. And so far, he's nearly perfect. Not since the 1990 Junior Olympics has Huczek lost the singles title in his age division. This year's tournament was no different than any of the last five for the Michigan native. The only thing that changes for Huczek is his path to the gold medal.

For his '96 win, Huczek first put away E.J. Basta (Ballwin, Mo.) 15-2, 15-3; then Justin Meadows (Clarmont, Pa.) 15-6, 15-1; Seth Parker (Elizabethtown, Pa.) 15-4, 15-0; Bart Crawford (Klamath Falls, Ore.) 15-8, 15-5 and Trevor Crowe (Portland, Ore.) 15-3, 15-9 in the title match.

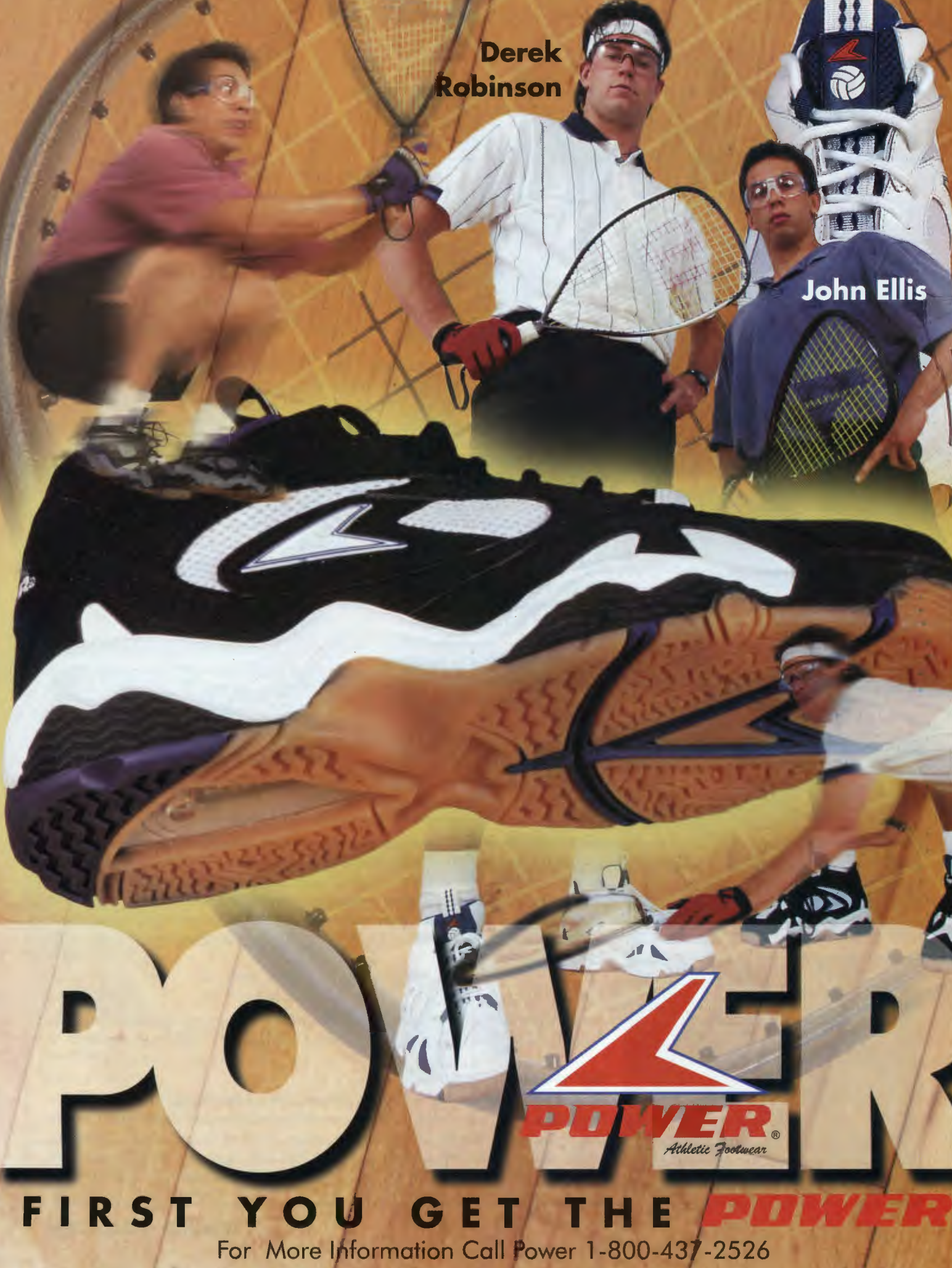
"Trevor played a good match," said Huczek. "I just stuck with my game plan, moved around and put the ball away. It was a good match."

Team Oregon wins National Team Title

With the help of one singles champion, three second-place finishers and 43 other well-schooled juniors, Team Oregon topped the nearest challengers in Team Ohio, Team California and Team Florida to win the national junior team championship.

1996 Ektelon AARA U.S. National Junior Olympic Championships

- SINGLES RESULTS - BOY'S 18-: Eric Storey (Indianapolis, Ind.) def. John Stanford (Melbourne, Fla.) 12-15, 15-6, 11-6; **B16-:** Rocky Carson (Santa Maria, Calif.) def. Willie Tilton (Colorado Springs, Colo.) 15-4, 15-5; **B14-:** Shane Vanderson (Dublin, Ohio) def. Jason Jansen (Fargo, N.D.) 15-8, 15-14; **B12-:** Jack Huczek (Rochester Hills, Mich.) def. Trevor Crowe (Portland, Ore.) 15-3, 15-9; **B10-:** Jeremy Robbins (Houston, Texas) def. Brad Slocum (Sarasota, Fla.) 15-13, 15-11; **B8-:** Andrew Grissom (Campbell, Calif.) def. Nick Arturo (Anchorage, Alaska) 15-5, 15-2; **B8mb-:** Justin Erdman (Hilliard, Ohio) def. Bill Travers (Berea, Ohio) 11-3, 11-5. **GIRL'S 18-:** Sadie Gross (Yankton, S.D.) def. Dawn Gates (Kankakee, Ill.) 8-15, 15-6, 11-5; **G16-:** Sara Borland (Bettendorf, Iowa) def. Megan Bals (Lincoln, Neb.) 15-5, 15-3; **G14-:** Krystal Csuk (Naperville, Ill.) def. Maggie DeBord (Lincoln, Neb.) 15-11, 15-10; **G12-:** Crystal Winfrey (Powell, Ohio) def. Kimberly Irons (Dublin, Ohio) 15-10, 15-9; **G10-:** Adrienne Fisher (Centerville, Ohio) def. Derai Darling (Gearhart, Ore.) 15-4, 15-6; **G8-:** Ashley Willhite (Klamath Falls, Ore.) def. Trina Harper (Eau Claire, Wis.) 15-3, 15-8; **G8mb-:** Trina Harper (Eau Claire, Wis.) def. Sarah Moyle (Beaverton, Ore.) 11-7, 11-2; **- DOUBLES RESULTS - BOY'S 18-:** Eric Storey (Indianapolis, Ind.)/Mark Bloom (Metairie, La.) def. Rocky Carson (Santa Maria, Calif.)/Jed Bhuta (Pike Road, Ala.) 15-13, 15-8; **B16-:** Willie Tilton (Colorado Springs, Colo.)/Brandon Henline (Martinez, Ga.) def. James Ford (Riverton, Wyo.)/Ryan Staten (Dodge, Kan.) 5-15, 15-12, 11-6; **B14-:** Shane Vanderson (Dublin, Ohio)/Jason Jansen (Fargo, N.D.) def. Mitch Williams (Washington, N.C.)/Ashley Conway (Greenville, N.C.) 14-15, 15-7, 11-7; **B12-:** Jack Huczek (Rochester Hills, Mich.)/Cory Martin (Kenosha, Wis.) def. Bart Crawford (Klamath Falls, Ore.)/Trevor Crowe (Portland, Ore.) 8-15, 15-8, 11-3; **B10-:** Jeremy Robbins (Houston, Texas)/Geoffrey Mora (Fresno, Calif.) def. Tyler Hollingsworth (Salem, Ore.)/Dan Sheppick (Milwaukie, Ore.) 12-15, 15-2, 11-7. **GIRL'S 18-:** Rhonda Rajsich (Phoenix, Ariz.)/Dawn Gates (Kankakee, Ill.) def. Sadie Gross (Yankton, S.D.)/Erica Daniels (Monterey, Calif.) 15-2, 15-9; **G16-:** Sara Borland (Bettendorf, Iowa)/Katie Gould (Ellisville, Mo.) def. Liana Kerwood (Beaverton, Ore.)/Christina Lewendal (Beaverton, Ore.) 15-14, 15-9; **G14-:** Jeni Fuller (Albuquerque, N.M.)/Kristin Walsh (Salt Lake City, Utah) def. Molly Law (Denver, Colo.)/Melanie Mueller (Grand Junction, Colo.) by injury forfeit; **G12-:** Kimberly Irons (Dublin, Ohio)/Crystal Winfrey (Powell, Ohio) def. Amy Jo Hollingsworth (Salem, Ore.)/Sara Wend (Klamath Falls, Ore.) 15-1, 15-4; **G10-:** Adrienne Fisher (Centerville, Ohio)/Jesi Fuller (Albuquerque, N.M.) def. Derai Darling (Gearhart, Ore.)/Brandie Hanson (Klamath Falls, Ore.) 15-5, 15-6; **MIXED 18-:** Dawn Gates (Kankakee, Ill.)/Alex Spaeth (Bloomington, Ill.) def. Eric Storey (Indianapolis, Ind.)/Erica Daniels (Monterey, Calif.) 15-6, 15-5; **Mixed 16-:** Ryan Edmiston (Salem, Ore.)/Lianna Kerwood (Beaverton, Ore.) def. Shane Vanderson (Dublin, Ohio)/Brooke Crawford (Klamath Falls, Ore.) 15-14, 15-12; **Mixed 14-:** Seth Taylor (Shelbyville, Ind.)/Krystal Csuk (Naperville, Ill.) def. Kristen Walsh (Salt Lake City, Utah)/Joel Worthington (Overland Park, Kan.) 15-6, 15-7; **Mixed 12-:** Jack Huczek (Rochester Hills, Mich.)/Crystal Winfrey (Powell, Ohio) def. Bart Crawford (Klamath Falls, Ore.)/Kimberly Irons (Dublin, Ohio) 9-15, 15-7, 11-10; **Mixed 10-:** Jesi Fuller (Albuquerque, N.M.)/Jeremy Robbins (Houston, Texas) def. Tyler Hollingsworth (Salem, Ore.)/Cari Mitlitsky (Fresh Meadow, N.Y.) 15-11, 15-10.



**Derek
Robinson**

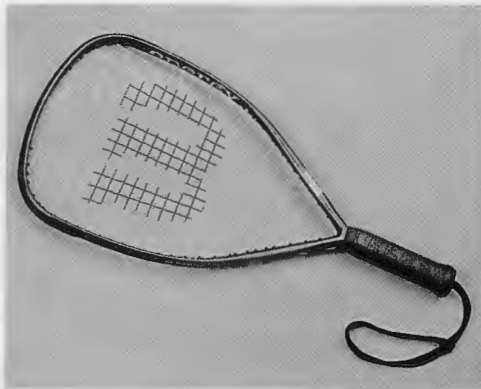
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ENERGY 9.9 AND NEW AIR HAMMER 9.9 FROM WILSON

Wilson has introduced the explosively-powerful Energy 9.9 (shown left), and an all-new ultralite Air Hammer 9.9. The Energy 9.9 uses patented Strike Zone technology to stiffen the upper third of the racquet to deliver explosive power and consistent response, plus an exclusive Integrated String Damper to eliminate vibration and prevent arm fatigue.

The new Air Hammer 9.9 is ultralite, only 175 grams strung, for quick reaction and maneuverability, with an expanded sweetspot. Suggested retail prices for the Energy 9.9 and Air Hammer 9.9 are \$250.00 and \$225.00, respectively. For more information, contact Wilson Racquetball at 7670 Trade Street, Suite B, San Diego, CA 92121, or call 800-272-6060.



ASHAWAY INTRODUCES NEW HYBRID STRING

New Killfire™ hybrid racquetball strings (shown left) from Ashaway Racket Strings are designed for powerful players who experience chronic string breakage. Ultra-strong, Kevlar® main strings provide superior durability and notch resistance, while resilient, multi-stranded monofilament cross strings provide playability and power. Both the main and cross strings are gold in color. For additional information on Killfire XL hybrid strings for racquetball, contact: Ashaway Line & Twine Mfg. Co., P.O. Box 549, Ashaway, RI 02804. Tel: 800-556-7260.



E-FORCE INTRODUCES MAYHEM

The new Mayhem racquet from E-Force (shown left) extends the mainstrings entirely through the handle "in free space" to nearly 21 inches, to gain a 5 1/2" advantage in mainstring length over any of its competitors. The design is based on last year's Chaos frame, which introduced 16.2 LongString technology. "It's the same principle as the bow and arrow," commented senior engineer Ray Mortvedt, "Longer bows with longer bow strings are simply more powerful." The new frame will be available in September. For more information, contact E-Force at 619/623-4040.

NEW CUSHION RE-GRIP

Unique Sports Products, Inc., has introduced a new replacement grip for racquetball racquets. Perforated to absorb moisture, a polyurethane layer provides high-tack and cushion feel. This advanced foam construction provides dampening of vibration and shock to help you play longer. Replace your worn grip in minutes and improve your game. For information on this and other Unique Sports Products, call Connie Smith at 800/554-3707.



NEW PENN GLOVE LINE

Penn Racquet Sports introduces four new glove models for the new season: the Pro Penn Cabretta and Tackified and the Penn Cabretta and Cabretta Gold (all shown left).

RAD MASTER DISTRIBUTOR

Doug Smith's Network Marketing has been named as the Master Distributor for Rad racquetball eyeguards. Smith, who believes in the "grass-roots" approach to promotion, sales and marketing, utilizes club pro shops, stringers, players and tournaments. RAD is also the official eyeguard of the WIRT. Network Marketing and RAD will share a booth at the U.S. OPEN in November, so drop by to see Doug and RAD owner

David Barberis in Memphis. To order RAD eyeguards, or for more information, call Network Marketing at 770/751-9463, or fax at 770/751-9469.

GLOVES FROM E-FORCE

E-Force will introduce Stealth (shown right) and Weapon gloves for the fall season, featuring an exclusive open-mesh Spandex back and moisture barrier system, along with .6mm Cabretta sheepskin "stay soft" leather treatment. Offered in a wide range of sizes and in bright colors consistent with E-Force's racquet line, the new models will be available in September. For more information, contact E-Force at 619/623-4040.



Above: E-Force Stealth glove.

Right: Darrin Schenck, touring stringer for the IRT with Babolat's Star 3 machine and string.



PYTHON IN CANADA

Python Grips, already the official grip of the AARA/USRA, has been named the official grip of Racquetball Canada, too. Python, which is endorsed by #1 player Sudsy Monchik, was the natural choice, said Mike Ceresia of Racquetball Canada. "It's simply the best grip on the market." For more information on Python Grips, contact Network Marketing, 205 Axton Court, Roswell, GA 30076, Tel: 770/751-9463, Fax: 770/751-9469.

BABOLAT OFFICIAL FOR IRT

Earlier in the season, Babolat, a leader in the production of natural gut string as well as racquet stringing machines, was named the official string and stringing machine of the International Racquetball Tour. Consumers will recognize the Babolat strings on the pros' racquets by noting the "double line" logo displayed at the bottom of the stringing bed. Babolat products are distributed by Penn Racquet Sports in the U.S.

NETWORK "FLAGWEAR"

Network Marketing now carries a full line of "Flag Wear" clothing including shorts, shirts, warm-ups, jackets, vests, totebags and headbands. All are high quality 100% cotton twill and feature stars and stripes throughout. For a free brochure and pricing call, write or fax Network Marketing, 205 Axton Ct., Roswell, GA 30076 Ph: 770-751-9463 Fax: 770-751-9469. Dealer inquiries are welcomed.

NEW JEWELRY LINE

First Coast Promotions has unveiled a new line of 14KT racquetball jewelry, priced from \$49 to \$700. Each piece is individually handcrafted and polished. Now you can spot a racquetball player just by looking at their neckline. "Racquetball is a passion"

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World's #1 ranked player

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industrynews

says company president Norm Blum, "and we've found that players are proud to demonstrate that they are racquetball players by the jewelry they wear." For more information, contact First Coast Promotions at 800/762-4653 or 904/730-0907.

THERAPY IN MOTION

Weider Care active life support systems has introduced a line of "Therapy in Motion" products that combines the compression and support of soft, durable neoprene with hot or cold therapy while you remain active. Removable, contouring gel pads, anatomically shaped to fit specific body parts, offer moist heat or cold therapy. The knee therapy system features a uniquely shaped therapeutic gel pad combined with a stabilizing buttress of neoprene to offer support surrounding the patella for protection. TIMS products are available in sporting goods stores nationwide. For more information about TIMS and other products from WeiderCare call or write to WeiderCare, 13100 E. 39th Ave., Suite A, Denver, Colorado 80239, 800/288-4802.

SPALDING XENON "FOR WOMEN ONLY"

Spalding Sports Worldwide introduced the Xenon, a racquetball frame specifically designed to meet the needs of the competitive woman athlete. The 100% graphite racquet has a 105 square inch hitting area and is ultra-light at 200 grams. Also

featuring Spalding's patented Reverse Sunburst String Pattern for maximum shot accuracy off the top end of the racquet, the Xenon is the first ever racquetball racquet specifically designed for the competitive woman. The Xenon has a suggested retail price of \$129.95.

STRING CHOICES FROM BABOLAT

Babolat VF Titanium Pro Racquetball synthetic gut is the first racquetball string with titanium surfacing for added durability. The newest technology is bipolyamid wrap (PA6-PA66) with high viscosity core and a titanium dioxide surfacing for top performance. Babolat Super Fine Play Racquetball features all around performance with added feel and enhanced power. The single bipolyamid wrap with Teflon PTFE + reactive silicone makes this product a great choice for the competitive player.

GOLDEN AGE FOR FITNESS

With the advent of the Surgeon General's Report on Physical Activity and Health released in May, we are entering the Golden Age of the Fitness Industry, according to John McCarthy, executive director of the International Health, Racquet and Sportsclub Association (IHRSA).

The Report is being compared to the 1964 Surgeon General's Report on Smoking, which was the catalyst for one of the longest, most effective public health campaigns in the nation's history. As a result of the individual and collaborative efforts of a number of organizations concerned about the health effects of smoking, the percentage of Americans who smoke has been cut in half since 1964, when 50% of the population smoked. Given the growth in the population over the past 30 years, this means that almost 50 million Americans have either quit — or never started — smoking as a result of this campaign.

"Worldwide, the figure is closer to 100 million, considering that the Surgeon General's Report on Smoking spurred similar reports and campaigns in other countries," said McCarthy.

The Centers for Disease Control estimates that 250,000 persons suffer premature death annually due to lack of physical activity.

"This is the approximately the same number who will die prematurely from smoking a pack of cigarettes a day," said James Rippe, M.D., Medical Advisor to IHRSA. "There is a clear message here: Living without exercise is like smoking a pack of cigarettes a day."

Rippe notes that as a result of the new Surgeon General's Report, it will become a standard of practice for physicians to counsel their patients to engage in regular exercise.



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pro file: irt & wirt

IRT TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

The Tournament of Champions concludes each professional season and is the culmination of a full season's worth of great wins, brutal losses, and tremendous commitment. Each June the top eight pros in the world come to the Multnomah Athletic Club after a ten-month odyssey throughout North America. During that time, they have earned enough ranking points to qual-

Round of 16

The now-traditional first night of pro action featured the top eight Oregon players against the pros. This may be the most popular night of the event for spectators, as they get a chance to see the local stars battle the best players on the planet. One of the other traditions is that the pros never lose to the locals. This became apparent as local stars Matt Hanners, Vince Kelly and the like were gunned down almost before fans could start rooting. The one exception this year was Oregon's #1 player John Weatherbee, who pushed #8 pro Drew Kachtik to the five-game limit before losing and making the standing-room-only crowd go crazy in the process.

Quarterfinals

The best of the best began their struggle for the title and \$15,000 prize money on MAC's now legendary Court 10. The four top seeds dominated their opponents almost as much as they had the locals the night before as #4 Mike Ray beat #5 John Ellis, #3 Andy Roberts over #6 Mike Guidry, defending champion #2 Cliff Swain controlled IRT Rookie of the Year #7 Jason Mannino, and newly crowned #1, 21 year-old Sudsy Monchik dumped #8 Drew Kachtik.

Semifinals

Saturday was a dream day for racquetball fans, with the men playing their semis and finals and the women making their first appearance at the event. First up was Swain vs. Roberts, one of the most emotional rivalries on the tour. Players who are both accustomed to the #1 spotlight now battled each other in the semis to get to Monchik. Swain used his tremendous array of serves and diving gets to thrill the crowd, frustrate Roberts and take the first game. But Roberts' game is built on mental toughness and consistency and it showed as he took the next two games with relative ease. The expected fourth game battle saw Swain seem to fade at the end, giving Roberts his first Tournament of Champions final with a 9-11, 11-6, 11-9 win.



ify for what has become the most exclusive and prestigious event in the sport — the Spalding International Racquetball Tour Tournament of Champions. This year was no exception — other than offering the ultimate spectator experience by adding the top two female professionals in the inaugural RAD Athletics Women's International Racquetball Tour Tournament of Champions. Throw in over 500 amateur players competing in the Oregon State Championships and you have the racquetball fan's equivalent to the Super Bowl, World Series, or Final Four!



Facing page: Sudsy Monchik (right) prepares a forehand against Andy Roberts in their final. This page, left: Roberts answers with a shot down the middle under Monchik. Below: Cheryl Gudinas tries to pick up a shot off the glass, while Michelle Gould waits in front court. All photos by Phil Kineschuh.

Next up was crowd favorite Monchik vs. 33-year-old veteran Ray. Ray has seen it all in his career and plays the old-style control game that might give the young hotshot some problems. Monchik did have problems as they split the first four games to go to the 11-point tiebreaker. Monchik's power and enthusiasm against Ray's control and composure. Monchik put a quick end to anyone's thought that he wasn't in total control, unleashing an assault of 180 mph aces and entertaining the crowd winning 11-7, 4-11, 11-3, 9-11, 11-3.

Finals

Saturday night brought 1,000 fans in to settle around Court 10 to see the best of both pro tours. The top two women from the WIRT claimed the court first — legendary #1 Michelle Gould, who had not lost a pro match in over three years, vs. #2 Cheryl Gudinas. The fans quickly observed the huge gap between #1 & #2 on the women's tour as Gould did whatever she wanted. She displayed her complete game, dominated doubles partner Gudinas and won the first WIRT Tournament of Champions in less than 45 minutes with an awesome 11-1, 11-8, 11-3 crushing.

Next up was the match everyone had waited for: Monchik vs Roberts. Monchik's matches have become part racquetball, part show, and all entertainment as



the kid's smile, skill, and charisma light up a court every time he plays. Monchik loves Portland, the site of his first pro win two years ago and the chance to play in front of large and raucous crowds each match. In this short rivalry every Monchik/Roberts match has been a war, with both players and fans leaving their battles drained. But Monchik was in rare form. Enjoying his newly acquired #1 ranking, and the crowd's vocal support, he put on a show of power racquetball at it's best to beat Roberts in straight games of 11-4, 11-2, 11-6.

The pros week in Portland wasn't all spent on the court. Monchik made media appearances and conducted



Left: Michelle drives a backhand cross court away from Cheryl.
Photo: Phil Kineschuh.

phone interviews for national newspapers doing stories on his ascent to #1. Gould spent all of Friday with Sports Illustrated working on an upcoming article and all the pros gave of their time to do junior clinics for the Oregon Junior Team and all the MAC Juniors.

ADVANCING IN PORTLAND

Spalding IRT Tourney of Champions

Round of Sixteen

Sudsy Monchik def. Dan Darling, 11-1, 11-2, 11-8
Drew Kachtik def. John Weatherbee, 6-11, 11-9, 5-11, 11-8, 11-8
John Ellis def. Vince Kelley, 11-1, 11-8, 11-7
Mike Ray def. Dennis Allen, 11-3, 11-4, 11-2
Andy Roberts def. Matt Hanners, 11-2, 12-10, 11-4
Mike Guidry def. Darin Campbell, 11-5, 11-4, 11-7
Jason Mannino def. Erin Brannigan, 10-12, 11-2, 12-10, 11-7
Cliff Swain def. Dave Sable, 11-2, 11-4, 11-2

Quarterfinals

Sudsy Monchik def. Drew Kachtik, 11-7, 11-0, 7-11, 12-10
Mike Ray def. John Ellis, 11-2, 8-11, 11-4, 11-5
Andy Roberts def. Mike Guidry, 11-7, 12-10, 9-11, 11-7
Cliff Swain def. Jason Mannino, 11-4, 11-7, 11-3

Semifinals

Sudsy Monchik def. Mike Ray, 11-7, 4-11, 11-3, 9-11, 11-3
Andy Roberts def. Cliff Swain, 9-11, 11-6, 11-6, 11-9

FINAL

Sudsy Monchik def. Andy Roberts, 11-4, 11-2, 11-6

ADVANCING IN PORTLAND

RAD Athletics WIRT Tourney of Champions

Semifinal

Michelle Gould def. Tammy Brockbank, 11-0, 11-1, 11-3
Cheryl Gudinas def. Christie Van Hees, 11-9, 8-11, 11-5, 11-4

FINAL

Michelle Gould def. Cheryl Gudinas, 11-1, 11-8, 11-3

PRO TOUR UPDATE

RAD SUPER SERIES

The Women's International Racquetball Tour is proud to announce the RAD Athletics Super Series for the 1996/97 season. The series, sponsored by RAD Athletics the official eyewear and apparel of the WIRT, will feature four events in the upcoming season with a bonus pool for players accumulating the most ranking points in the series. The RAD Athletics Super Series will feature tour stops in Lakewood, Colorado; Columbus, Ohio; Roanoke, Virginia and Portland, Oregon.

WIRT Commissioner Molly O'Brien announced the series in conjunction with David Barberis, General Manager of RAD Athletics and Hank Marcus, WIRT Executive Director, O'Brien commented "We are thrilled to be able to have a super series of events for the women in our inaugural season and it is a great fit with RAD who has been behind the WIRT since it's inception" Barberis added, "We at RAD Athletics are tremendously excited about our overall involvement with WIRT and the RAD Athletics Super Series events will be the highlight of the season".

For further information concerning the RAD Athletics Super Series or WIRT please contact Molly O'Brien (410) 315-7900 or Hank Marcus (503) 639-3410.

OFFICIAL BAG SELECTED

The International Racquetball Tour and Women's International Racquetball Tour are tremendously excited to announce the signing of a new tour sponsorship agreement for the upcoming season. Signing on with both IRT and WIRT is HEAD as the "Official Racquetball Bag of the IRT and WIRT." HEAD, which already holds a prominent position in the racquetball industry, will produce an IRT line of racquetball bags that will be introduced at the February SGMA Super Show.

IRT/WIRT Executive Director Hank Marcus commented "It is exciting to introduce a new product to the ever growing line of IRT products and to work with HEAD which is recognized throughout the athletic world for their quality and design." Doug Ganim of HEAD Racquetball added, "HEAD is always looking to associate ourselves with the best in any sport as we have in racquetball with Sudsy Monchik and Cliff Swain. The IRT and WIRT is the perfect fit with the quality of the athletes and exposure involved."

The IRT and WIRT will run thirty pro stops in the 1996/97 season including four Grand Slam events featuring both tours competing at the same location. For further information regarding IRT or WIRT contact Hank Marcus (503) 639-3410.

ROBINSON JOINS POWER

Power Footwear recently announced the signing of Derek Robinson as the second player on their racquetball professional advisory staff. Robinson is the number sixteen ranked player on the IRT while retaining his amateur status to compete for the U.S. National Racquetball Team. Robinson was the Men's Singles Bronze Medalist at the 1995 Pan-American Games and a member of both the 1994 and 1996 World Championship U.S. Teams. Robinson qualified for the current World Team

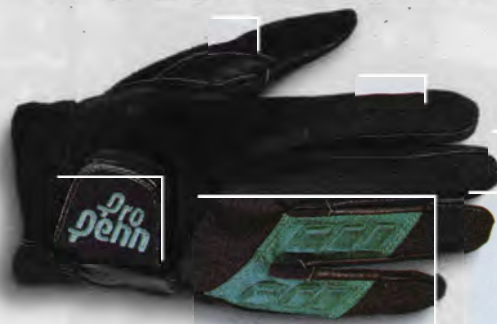
for his bronze medal performance at the U.S. National Singles Championships this past May. Power Footwear will fill out its national player staff by offering advisory agreements to the sponsored players of ProKennex and Spalding as well as selected other amateur players.

FENTON SIGNS WITH ASHAWAY

Professional racquetball player Laura Fenton recently signed an endorsement agreement with Ashaway Racket Strings, the only U.S. manufacturer of string for the racket sports. Fenton, ranked #3 in AARA standings, will play exclusively with Ashaway's SuperKill® and PowerKill™ strings.

At 34 years of age, Fenton is among the more mature players on the pro racquetball tour, and is known for her thoughtful approach to competition. After turning pro in 1993, she made a remarkably rapid rise through the international rankings, reaching the top 20 in just two years, and the top 5 one year later. "Getting into the top 20 was not nearly as intense as moving from 20

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to 12," said Fenton. "And every step after that, the level of competition becomes much more intense."

Fenton's placed second in women's singles at the 1996 Tournament of the Americas, in Cali, Columbia; third at the 1995 AARA National Doubles in Phoenix, AZ (with Malia Bailey); and first in women's doubles (with Jackie Gibson) at the 1994 World Championships in San Luis Potosi, Mexico.

END OF SEASON PLAYER AWARDS

By vote of the top sixteen International Racquetball Tour players, the IRT selected annual awards for Player of the Year, Most Improved Player, Sportsmanship Award, Rookie of the Year, and a special Comeback Award. For the purpose of the awards, a "rookie" was defined as a player competing on the tour full-time for the first time. The award winners were honored at the banquet for the Tournament of Champions in Portland at the end of the season and each received a commemorative plaque. The winners were:

<i>Player of the Year:</i>	Sudsy Monchik.
<i>Most Improved Player:</i>	Dan Fowler
<i>Sportsmanship Award:</i>	Mike Ray
<i>Rookie of the Year:</i>	Jason Mannino
<i>Comeback Award:</i>	Ruben Gonzalez



The top sixteen Women's International Racquetball Tour players also selected annual award winners for Player of the Year, Most Improved Player, Sportsmanship Award, Rookie of the Year, and the Steding Cup for outstanding contributions to women's racquetball in the past year. The awardees will be honored at the banquet during the first event of the new season in Annapolis and each will receive a commemorative plaque. The winners were:

<i>Player of the Year:</i>	Michelle Gould
<i>Most Improved Player:</i>	Amy Kilbane
<i>Sportsmanship Award:</i>	Janet Myers
<i>Rookie of the Year:</i>	Dina Moreland
<i>Steding Cup:</i>	Molly O'Brien

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October 23 – 27

Woodfield Halloween
Classic @ Woodfield
Racquet Club
Schaumburg, Illinois

Oct. 30 – Nov. 3

Strong Funds Pro-Am
West Allis Athletic Club
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

November 13 – 17

Promus Hotels U.S.
OPEN @ Racquet Club
of Memphis, TN

December 11 – 15

Lakewood Holiday Pro-
Am Classic @ Lakewood
Ath. Club – Denver, CO

January 15 – 19

Ralph Schomp
Automotive Invitational
Denver Athletic Club
Denver, Colorado

January 22 – 26

IRT Columbus Pro-Am
Continental Ath. Club
Columbus, Ohio

Jan. 29 – Feb. 2

Racquet Club of
Pittsburgh Pro-Am @
Racquet Club of
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

February 12 – 16

VCI Pro-Am
Southern Athletic Club
Atlanta, Georgia

Feb. 26 – March 2

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Penfield Racquet &
Fitness Club
Rochester, New York

March 5 – 9

Coors Light Pro-Am
Club TBA
Anaheim, California

March 21 – 23

Team Concepts Gold's
Gym Pro-Am @ Gold's
Gym – Syracuse, NY

March 26 – 29

PaineWebber Pro-Am
Club TBA – Phoenix, AZ

April 9 – 13

VCI Doubles
Championships
Schoeber's Athletic Club
Pleasanton, California

April 23 – 27

Foxwoods IRT Pro
Nationals @ Las Vegas
Sporting House – Las
Vegas, Nevada

'96-97 season calendar

April 30 - May 4

San Diego Pro-Am '97-Club TBA
San Diego, California

May 14 - 18

Bay 101 IRT World
Championships @ Bayhill Athletic
Club - Milpitas, California

June 4 - 8

Spalding Tournament of
Champions @ Multnomah Ath.
Club - Portland, Oregon

February TBA

RAD Athletics Super Series - Club
TBA - Roanoke, Virginia

March 14 - 16

RAD Athletics Super Series
Continental Athletic Club
Columbus, Ohio

April 23 - 27

Foxwoods WIRT Pro Nationals
Las Vegas Sporting House
Las Vegas, Nevada

May 1 - 4

Crystal City Classic Pro-Am
The Skyline Club at Crystal
Gateway - Arlington, Virginia

May 14 - 18

Bay101 WIRT World
Championships @ Bayhill Athletic
Club - Milpitas, California

June 5 - 8

RAD Tournament of Champions
Multnomah Athletic Club
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WIRT**September 5 - 8**

Annapolis Pro-Am @ Merritt
Athletic Club - Annapolis, MD

October 3 - 6

Tournament of Terror Pro-Am
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Canoga Park, California

October 31 - November 3

Maryland Pro-Am @ Merritt
Athletic Club - Baltimore, MD

November 13 - 17

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Memphis, Tennessee

December 11 - 15

RAD Athletics Super Series
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January 9 - 12

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4	Mike Ray	South Carolina	1567
5	John Ellis	California	1409
6	Mike Guidry	Texas	1375
7	Jason Mannino	California	1138
8	Drew Kachtik	Louisiana	1030
9	Tony Jelso	California	883
10	Dan Fowler	Maryland	846
11	Louis Vogel	New Mexico	818
12	Adam Karp	California	801
13	Mike Engel	Maryland	769
14	Brian Rankin	Missouri	547
15	Woody Clouse	California	522
16	Derek Robinson	Washington	476
17	Tim Doyle	New York	358
18	Darrin Schenck	Arizona	332
19	Josh Messina	New Hampshire	306
20	Ruben Gonzalez	New York	305
21	Kelly Gelhaus	California	286
22	Dave Sable	Georgia	260
23	Scott Reiff	Florida	259
24	Mike Ceresia	Canada	248

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3	Amy Kilbane	Ohio	769
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4	Anita Maldonado	New York	530
6	Kim Machiran	Missouri	525
7	Molly O'Brien	Maryland	516
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9	Dina Moreland	California	499
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11	Chris Evon	California	472
12	Lorraine Galloway	New York	471
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14	Doreen Fowler	Maryland	372
15	Michelle Wiragh	Maryland	353
16	Laura Fenton	Nebraska	235
17	Lisa Calitri	New Jersey	223
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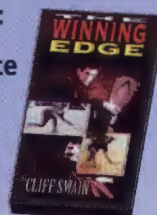
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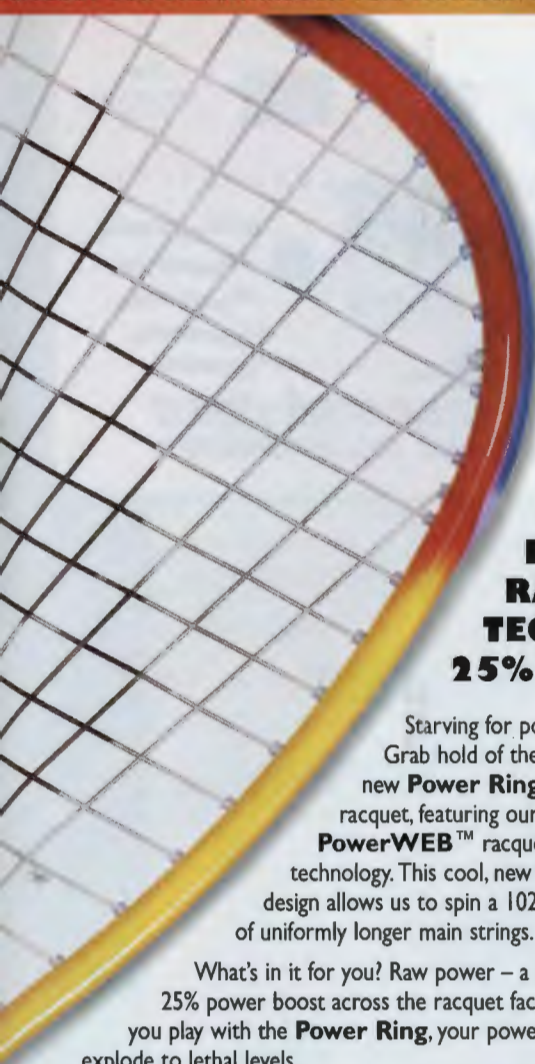
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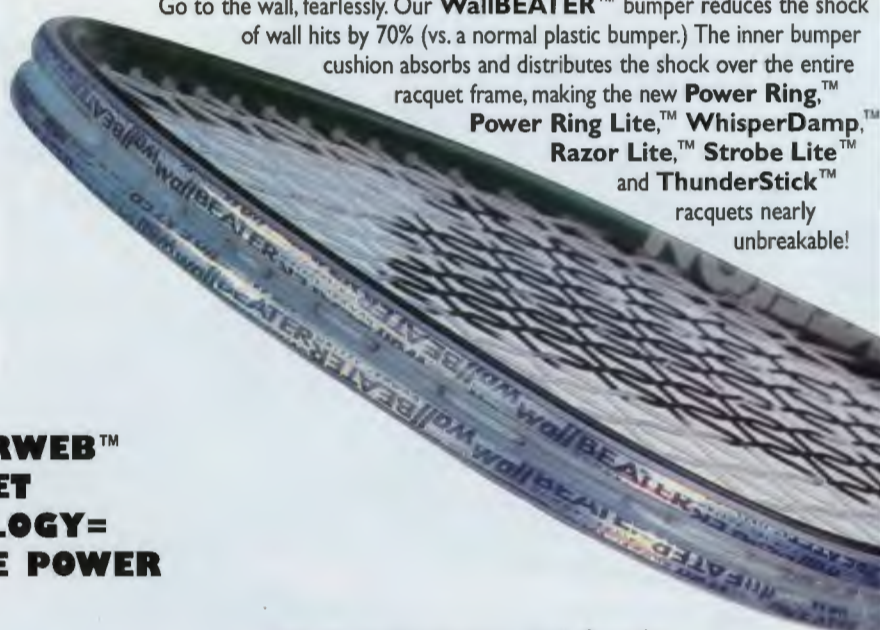
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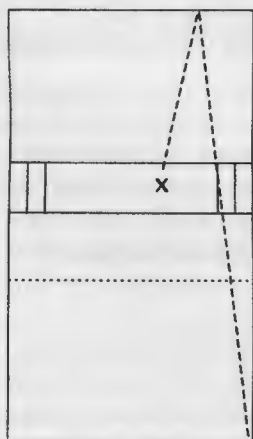
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drive serve to the forehand

The drive serve to the opponent's forehand is Tom Traver's trademark. It's not unusual for Travers to sprint out to a five or six point lead at the beginning of a game by mixing drive serves to the forehand and the backhand. He keeps his opponent guessing.

Here's how to do it ... Visualize the court as a giant pool table with pockets in the corners and at midcourt. When drive serving to your opponent's forehand, shoot for the corner pocket in the back court.



Path of Drive Serve to Forehand

Hit the ball about 25" high on the front wall, and angle the ball to the back corner (pool table pocket). It's the V angle that makes this serve successful. If you hit the ball straight back, you create an easy forehand return for your opponent.

Photo 1 (top right)

Position yourself a step or two right of center in the service zone. Use the two-step service approach (see the last issue of RACQUETBALL Magazine).



Begin the service motion and step forward with your left foot as you drop the ball. The key to properly executing the drive serve to the forehand is where you drop the ball and where you make contact with the ball.

Remember, keep your footwork, swing and follow through the same for the drive serve to the forehand and the drive serve to the backhand.

Photo 2 (middle right)

Drop the ball slightly back and in, toward you. Make contact with the ball farther back (from the heel of your front foot) and closer to your body, compared to where you make contact with the ball when drive serving to your opponent's backhand.



Photo 3 (bottom right)

Do not slice your swing. Follow through all the way. Placement of the ball, where you hit the ball, and normal serve motion create a tough-to-get-to V angle.



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GAME PLAN: *It takes Two, Baby!: III*

By Lynn Adams



By now many of you will be gearing up for the National Doubles Championships in Phoenix, Arizona. I'll be there, playing with my hubby and my ex- (life is interesting, eh?). For me, doubles is a lot more fun to play than singles, but I might be slightly biased since I am incapable of covering enough court to play decent singles anymore. Oh, the woes of aging wheels! Plus, I've always been the bossy type, so I love yelling to my partner... "Yours!" "You go" "Get it" "You, You, You!" But enough pre-article rambling, it's time to get to the real stuff.

This is the last installment of the doubles game series. We've covered shots, serves, "Cardinal Rules" and how to pick a partner. This article explores communication and court coverage, two key ingredients to a successful doubles team.

Communication

Doubles should be a noisy affair. "Mine," "You go," "Yours," "Go, go, go." To assume that your partner knows what you are thinking is a recipe for doubles disaster. Constant and consistent communications – during rallies, between rallies, and before and after a match – are all important components of a successful doubles team.

While it's better to have both people talking than neither one, a team's left side player usually takes the leadership role in calling for shots that are up the middle. That's because, if the left side player is right handed, balls up the middle are to their forehand, as opposed to the right side players backhand. If the left side player is a lefty, you'll want to decide prior to the start of the match whose backhand will take the majority of the shots that come up the middle.

Talking before and after a match usually centers around game plans, strategies for a certain situation, words to be used to call for a shot, signals, (verbal or hand-oriented) and how to improve for the next match.

For instance, let's say you're playing a lefty/righty team. Prior to the match, you'll discuss hitting more shots up

the middle, hitting ceiling balls down the center, hitting more jam serves and instead of hitting regular cross court passes, hitting wide angle cross court passes.

You'll identify which words you will use to call shots like: "Mine/Yours" "Me/You" or "I've got it/You take it." Hand signals are great for telling your partner which serve you are going to hit, or to go to a certain part of the court to anticipate a return.

Of course, talking after the match is helpful to assess your strengths and weaknesses and make decisions on how you can improve yourself as a team.

Talking between rallies is a great time to change strategies, give encouragement and generally tell your partner what's happening on your side of the court. If you've ever watched a doubles match, you see frequent conferences going on between partners in between rallies.

One of the most important things to share with your partner is the position of your opponent. For instance, I like to play back a bit further, letting the opponent on my side play in front of me. If that's the case, my partner should hit more cross court passes and ceiling balls then pinches. After being passed for a game my opponent now takes position behind me, in anticipation of those passes. I need to let my partner know this, because now she should hit more pinches. This type of communication is ongoing throughout a match because an opponent's position will change frequently.

Court Coverage

While there are several different ways to cover a court in doubles. I would like to focus on one style which, I confess, is my favorite way to play. I find it to be the most effective at maximizing the teams strengths and minimizing its weaknesses.

This style or formation is called the "J" formation, or the staggered side by side. This style allows the players to flow up and back on the court effectively covering all parts of the court. Each player adjusts their coverage

according to where the ball is on the court. In other words, if your partner moves forward, you move back; if you move forward, your partner moves back.

When you are the player positioned in the front. You cover the front wall for pinch shots and kill shots, and any down the line shots hit to your side. If you are the player positioned slightly behind the five-foot line, you are responsible for shots that pass behind your partner, shots that go up and down your line, and deep court shots in general.

Even though the players adjust their position according to where the ball is, you want to try to keep the quickest player on the team in the front court. Fast hands and

quick feet are an important asset when playing the front court. For instance, I try to choose a fast hands and feet player as my partner because I am not (fast). I play the deeper position, covering behind my partner so he or she can focus on getting shots that stay in the front court. There are times when I'm drawn forward to cover a shot, so my partner drops back to cover the deep court, but as soon as we possibly can, we get back to our original positions, because those positions maximize our strengths and minimize our weaknesses.

I hope this series of articles on doubles has been helpful and fun. I look forward to seeing you all this season, and good luck with your game!



AmPRO Tip: SPLAT! How to Hit the Coolest Shot in the Game ...

By Michael Gelhaus, Advanced Instructor

realizes what has happened, the ball has bounced several times and you've won the rally.

Note the significant difference between a standard pinch shot, which also goes from the side wall to the front wall, and a true splat. A traditional pinch shot lacks the power and spin of a splat, and is easier to predict and return. Please don't take offense ... I'm not bad-mouthing your favorite shot. A good pinch is one of the most effective shots in the game and should be a part of any player's arsenal; however, there are certain situations in which the splat can be more effective and even easier to hit.

Before going into specifics about precisely how to hit an effective splat, let's discuss a little of the strategy involved with the shot. The splat has two main characteristics. First and foremost, it is an offensive shot. This means that you take some chances with it. When you set up for a splat and let it rip, you

should be focusing on hitting an unreturnable shot. Go big. Hit it so well that your opponent doesn't even have a chance to get near the ball. Once you've hit a few splat roll-outs, you'll be able to see from your opponent's face just how demoralizing the shot can be.

This brings about the second main characteristic of the shot — it can be used as a strategic weapon. Once you've firmly established that you can hit the splat, your opponents will have to adjust their defensive position to cover it, leaving them vulnerable to a pass down the line. Blow a couple of shots down the line and your opponent will be stuck with trying to guess where you're hitting next. And when you've got your adversary guessing, you're in control ... right where you always want to be in a racquetball match.

Part II: Hitting the SPLAT

Let's get down and dirty. First we'll discuss some of the optimal situa-

Part I: Origins of SPLAT

So you've got the swing mechanics down, your aim is pretty good, and you hit the ball hard enough to tattoo anyone that gets in the way. Now you're ready for the next step — a shot that will make your opponents quake in their eighty dollar court shoes and leave spectators gaping in awe at your majestic skill. The shot is, of course, the SPLAT!

This shot's unique name comes from the characteristic sound made by the ball striking the front wall. Having undergone high speed contact with your racquet and then the side wall at the appropriate angle, the ball spins at a tremendous rate. This spin causes the ball to jump in an unpredictable manner toward center court, making a very audible SPLATish noise. By the time your opponent

tions for the use of the splat, and then we'll go over the essential swing mechanics and some mental imagery that will be helpful to get you going.

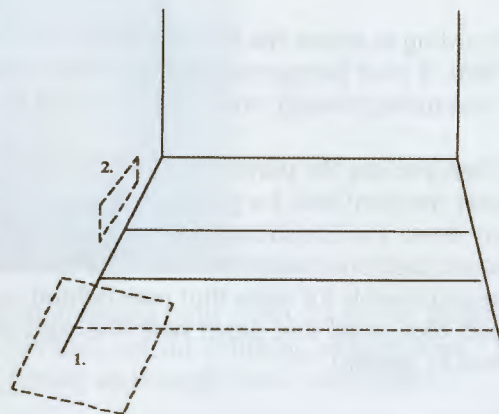
The ideal place on the court from which to hit a splat shot is from one to three feet away from the side wall and somewhere around or a few feet behind the dotted line of the safety zone [See Figure 1]. There are three main ways by which the ball can come to this position during a rally: (1) Your opponent hits a shot that comes off the backwall for a setup somewhere near the side wall on either side of the court. (2) Your opponent hits a short ceiling ball which comes back close to the side wall. (3) A weak return bounces slowly near the side wall. No matter how the ball gets there, you are going to approach the splat shot in the same way.

For simplicity's sake, I'll describe only the mechanics for the backhand splat for a right-handed player. However, the same techniques function equally as well on the forehand side or for lefties.

Approach the ball at a forty five degree angle. Time your approach so that when you swing you will contact



Figure 1. The dotted rectangles show the approximate areas of the court: (1) to hit the splat shot and (2) for the ball to hit the side wall. The areas are identical on the other side of the court



the ball slightly above knee height. Step forward into the shot, with your leading foot closer to the side wall than the rear foot (on the forehand, step parallel with the side wall). Generate all the power you can with shoulder turn, hip turn, and weight shift. Remember to follow through normally, letting your wrist release immediately after contact. Aim the shot so that it will hit the side wall about six or eight feet from the front wall and one to two feet above the floor [See Figure 1]. The exact placement will vary according to the size and technique of the player and the position from which the ball is struck. You've got to experiment to find out for yourself the precise spot you need. At first, drop and hit shots until you feel confident that you can make the SPLAT sound whenever you want, and then practice from short ceiling balls and back wall set ups. The essential thing in hitting a good splat is overcoming your fear of the side wall. Turn that wall into your best friend, a tool you can use to generate the spin you need on your shot.

Part III: Trouble Shooting?

If you have trouble making the splat noise, there are two possibilities: (1) You just don't have enough power. If this is the case, work with your club pro on your form and timing. Power in racquetball is 85% due to these two factors, with only 15% due to personal strength. (2) Your splat technique is faulty or inconsistent. To help with this, I have developed a neat mental trick to make your shots have the desired shape and sound.

When you are approaching your shot, instead of focusing on the spot on the side wall you want to hit, I want you to create an "imaginary corner". I know, it sounds like something out of Mr. Roger's Neighborhood, but it works, believe me. Make your imaginary corner about four feet outside the court. in the case of a righty hitting a backhand, the imaginary corner will be four feet to

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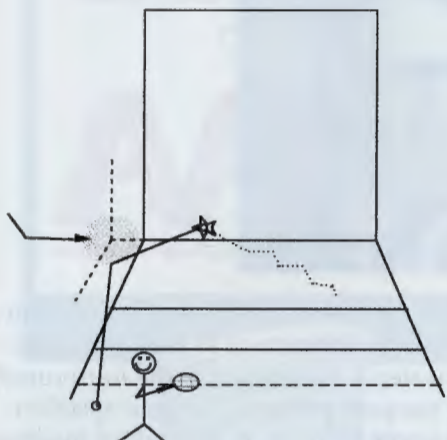


Figure 2:
"Imaginary corner"
The hitter pictures the ball going into their imaginary corner (grey circle). The ball caroms off the side wall and spins, creating a SPLAT shot.

the left of the real corner [See Figure 2]. Ignore the side wall and the real court completely — just swing through and hit the ball so that it will hit smack dab perfect in your imaginary corner, following through just like a normal shot. If you do this exercise correctly, your shot will come out as a perfect splat. To this day I use my imaginary corner when I'm hitting high pressure shots in tournaments, and it never fails me. There is one minor proviso for this tip, however. Don't try it if the ball is six inches or less from the side wall.

Following through in the regular manner in this situation could cause you to hit your racquet against the wall, resulting in unpleasantness for both you and your racquet.

There is a second mental technique I have developed to help you hit an effective splat when the ball is restrictively close the side wall. First, to accustom yourself to swinging at balls which are very near the side wall,

stand a foot or so from the wall and drop and hit splats. Gradually move closer and closer until you are bouncing the ball within two inches of the wall. Picture yourself cracking a whip, swinging your hand toward the ball and the wall with force and snapping your wrist away from the wall at the last second. If you are doing this correctly it will feel almost as if you are rubbing the ball against the wall briefly with your racquet to impart spin on the ball and then releasing away from the wall. When you are swinging at balls which are extremely close to the side wall, the ball will contact the side wall almost immediately after you hit it, instead of the usual six or eight feet from the front wall. Please use extreme caution

when attempting to learn this technique. Make sure you master the splat from one to three feet away from the wall before you start to move in. It is also a good idea to practice swinging near the side wall thirty or forty times without the ball, just to groove the swing and increase your confidence. Once you become proficient at the technique, however, I'm sure you will derive great enjoyment from listening to the satisfying SPLAT sound as your shot rolls out in the front court.

Remember, drop and hit only at first to practice the shot, then work up to hitting the shot off short ceiling ball and back wall set ups, and finally begin to try out the shot in matches. Keep using 'the imaginary corner' and 'cracking the whip' as mental tools as long as they help you. Eventually, the shot will become an important and effective tool in your racquetball arsenal. Nothing beats the feeling of hitting a tremendous splat shot on match point. Good luck and happy splatting!

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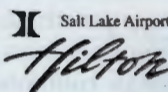
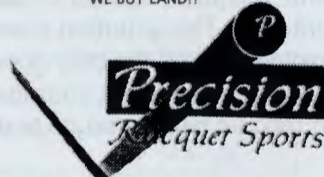
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MAINS & CROSSES: Stringing for Tournament Play

By Steve Crandall



With the first U.S. Open Racquetball Championships coming up soon in Memphis, let's consider racquet stringing for tournament play. The stakes are higher – as are the demands placed on your equipment.

By the time you make it to a tournament, you should have resolved, at least temporarily, any questions about your equipment. Serious competition is no time to experiment with different racquets, string, shoes or anything else. After the tournament, you will analyze every decision, and that might involve re-evaluating your equipment choices. But during the tournament, you must devote full attention to your game. That means having confidence in your equipment, so that you can think about it as little as possible.

The key to this confidence is consistency, which is achieved through preparation.

The first step is to supply yourself with numerous racquets, all of which are familiar to you through long usage. When you break a string in the middle of a match, or when the string begins to lose its tension, you want to be able to switch to another racquet and continue playing as if nothing had happened. This is no time to get the feel for a new setup. I'd recommend a minimum of three racquets, although five or six is certainly not out of the question.

Ideally, the racquets should be identical, and be strung identically. In practice, however, few players can afford to replace all their racquets simultaneously, and most people have a collection consisting of their newest, favorite racquet, followed by the second-newest, second-favorite, etc. This situation is undesirable but usually unavoidable, and the only good response is to make sure you've figured out your favorite stringing setup for each racquet before you go to a tournament.

Even professional stringers have different levels of skill and stringing methods. Stringing machines also differ: some designs are more precise; some may have been more recently calibrated; and some may have been recently knocked around by baggage handlers.

All of these factors represent possible sources of variation that you want to eliminate or at least minimize. The first, obvious step is to show up at the tournament with all of your racquets pre-strung to your specifications, by your favorite stringer, on their usual machine. But what if you must have a racquet re-strung at the tournament?

If your name is Andre Agassi and your game is tennis, you travel with your personal stringer on your private jet, and he takes very good care of your racquets. That not being the case for most, you should pack several extra sets of string in your gear bag. It must be the same string you normally use, and you must be able to tell the tournament stringer what tension you want each of your racquets strung at. If you don't know, ask your local stringer before you leave. Also ask about any unusual stringing patterns used in your frames, and try to get the tournament stringers to follow suit.

Tournament matches seem to take longer, on average, than recreational matches. That's partly because players tend to be more evenly matched, and partly because every point is taken seriously, so rallies last longer. Racquet string takes more of a beating at tournaments, and may lose five to ten percent of its tension during a single match.

Therefore, some players choose to increase their normal stringing tension by 2 or 3 lbs. for tournaments. This, of course, will initially improve the racquet's control, but it will also decrease its power, and increase the risk of string breakage. Other players do the opposite, and knock a few pounds off their normal tension to increase their power and reduce breakage.

The decision is a matter of taste, but in no case should the change be a major one. At a tournament, you're typically playing unknown opponents in unfamiliar surroundings, sleeping in a strange bed, and maybe even trying to adjust to a different time zone. Do yourself a favor and make sure that your equipment, at least, stays the same.

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AmPRO AMERICAN PROFESSIONAL RACQUETBALL ORGANIZATION Club RACQUET

NEWS FOR PROFESSIONALS IN THE BUSINESS OF RACQUETBALL • Special to RACQUETBALL Magazine

AmPRO is on the move! At the end of June we held our first annual Summit to bring together all AmPRO Clinicians for an intensive, three day brainstorming session. These program leaders made decisions about our future and identified new paths for the organization to follow. AmPRO is very excited to announce the following program changes.

Program Report

When an AmPRO certified instructor maintains current AmPRO membership, they are covered by the AARA's **General Liability & Accidental Injury insurance** policy every time they give a lesson. Coverages include \$1,000,000 Personal Injury limit for General Liability, and secondary coverage of \$25,000 Accidental Injury limit (subject to a \$4,000 deductible.) If an AmPRO certified instructor is required by a facility or organization to show proof of these coverages, a written insurance binder that includes the name of the facility/organization can be provided at no additional cost. To obtain an insurance binder, contact the AmPRO office or Kevin Joyce at the AARA national office 719/635-5396, extension 23.

AmPRO is completely revamping its **Instructor Clinic manuals** to provide specific instructional tools and information for different levels of play. We'll also release Junior and Intercollegiate manuals for individuals seeking to meet very specific certification requirements. The new manuals will debut in the fall and

you won't want to miss out on all the new information and updated content.

AmPRO has adopted a **Code of Ethics** which individuals will be required to sign and return as part of becoming a member, or renewing current membership. The AmPRO Code of Ethics is based on the Coaching Code of Ethics developed by the U.S. Olympic Committee.

Annual continuing education requirements are now a part of all levels of AmPRO's Certified Instructor programs. Activities that are recognized in fulfillment of these new requirements include: reading/self-study of approved materials, submission of articles for publication, and tournament participation. All details about AmPRO's continuing education program will be included with future renewal notices.

Beginning this Fall, it will be possible to **upgrade** your certified instructor level **by mail**. AmPRO is currently producing a number of video segments for use in this program that potential upgrade candidates will be required to analyze and return as a portion of this upgrade-by-mail process. AmPRO is interested in serving its members better, and this is one way we can help make the upgrade process easier for you.

New AmPRO Non-Member Program – Video Lesson

AmPRO is releasing another new program for anyone to use and

enjoy. If you have always wanted to take a lesson from one of our professional clinicians but never knew how, here's your answer. AmPRO has developed a **video lesson** that can be used by anyone. All you have to do is complete an application and send in a videotape of yourself playing (for a minimum of thirty minutes) to the AmPRO office. Then, one of our certified clinicians will analyze the videotape and send you a written analysis, including ideas and drills to improve your game. Please call the AmPRO office if you are interested in this program. The fee is \$50 for the video lesson plus \$6 shipping. AmPRO will provide an application and instructions (via fax or mail) that must be included with your videotape, so be sure to call in advance. We hope you'll agree that this form of getting a lesson from one of our elite group of certified clinicians is an excellent value for the price.

AmPRO is already moving in a very positive direction, and we are looking forward to including all of racquetball in our bright future. Please call if you have any questions about any of our programs, or would like information about scheduling an AmPRO instructional clinic in your area.

For more information about the American Professional Racquetball Organization, contact:
Michelle Gould, AmPRO Executive Director – 4516 Maverick Way
Boise, ID 83709-5429
Tel: 208/362-3844
Fax: 208/362-6900.



changingtimes

by Luke St. Onge

As I write this, forty national racquetball teams representing countries from across the globe are preparing to compete in the VIII IRF World Championships in Phoenix, Arizona. At the debut of this event, just fifteen short years ago, only six countries took part in the "Worlds." As a sport, we now enjoy full medal competition in eight international multi-sport competitions worldwide and we continue to knock at the door of future Olympic Games.

We live in an ever-changing world and our sport must keep up with

those changes. And change we have, with the racquetball initiative, AmPRO, the U.S. Open, upgrades of RACQUETBALL Magazine, an aggressive media & public relations program, the portable court, television, successful pro tours for both men and women, and now major sponsors from outside our industry.

There is much more on the horizon, but as the sport moves forward we must reflect on what we have gained so far. Much of the success that you now see could not have happened without the ongoing support and commitment of our major sponsors Ektelon and Penn. They have been with us for the last 17 years and they will be with us when racquetball takes its rightful place in the sports world. They have earned your support in return.

In a very short time you will receive a direct mailing from us regarding our new VISA credit card that now features one of the most popular paintings ever created to depict our sport. You can qualify for it easily and there is no fee.

Also in the mailing will be a request for your personal support of the "made for television" portable glass court. The portable court will become one of the most exciting promotional programs that we have ever experienced in our sport. But, we will need your tax deductible donations to make it a reality. We must raise \$125,000 by January 1 to cover the initial construction costs — and we're certain we can count on you to take part in writing racquetball history. Help us make it happen!

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Photo by John Foust

rb:global

Notes from Worlds

Countries in attendance at the Worlds, recognized by their Olympic Committees were: Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guam, Guatemala, Honduras, Ireland, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Puerto Rico, USA, Venezuela.

World Congress Elections

At the World Congress, the following IRF officers were elected to a four-year term:

President. Han van der Heijden, Netherlands
Executive Vice-President Keith Calkins, United States
Secretary General Luke St. Onge, United States
Treasurer. David Matamoros, Honduras
VP, North America David Bell, Canada
VP, Central Am./Caribbean . . . Enrique Villagran, Mexico
VP, South America Jose Vierra, Bolivia
VP, Asia Michikane Ishiguro, Japan
VP, Europe Jurgen Denk, Germany
VP, Women's Development Kerri Trahin, Guam
VP, Women's Development . Mercedes Ortega, Puerto Rico

Official IRF Pro Shop Named

Lawler Sports Products was unanimously approved as the official pro shop of the IRF at the IRF Executive Board meeting and will be the official supplier to over 90 IRF countries worldwide. This is the first major contract signed by the IRF and signals in a new era for international development.

In Appreciation

Thanks to local organizers and volunteers: **Mike Sculley**, Executive Director and **Scott Bartle** and **Colleen Stone** of the Maricopa County Sports Commission for their tremendous help during the Worlds ... To the Local Organizing Committee chaired by **Donna Angelopolus** and supported by **Patty & Mark Warner** and **Karen & Darryl Key** ... To international tournament staffers **Gabriel Reyes** of Colombia; **Rene Hehemann**, from the Netherlands; and **Miguel Masjuan** of Cuba; who kept everybody happy with on-time scheduling under what is considered very tough conditions ... To Ektelon's **Scott Winters** and **Dave Peck**, whose presence and support helped make it all happen ... To Penn's **Dick Roberson**, **Kendra Durr-Smith**, and **Amy Wishingrad**, whose vision and support of development in international racquetball is without precedence ... To **Rod Davis**, Hopi Indian dancer, whose opening ceremonies dance welcomed all the countries from the four sacred directions ...

And to **AARA National Staff** on hand to make sure that all our visitors from around the world felt welcomed and special:

Kevin Joyce with his team of **Dalene Werner** and **Angie Birchler**, who ran the silent auction, sales, and set up for the World Congress ... **Linda Mojer**, reporting for **RACQUETBALL Magazine** and online communications – and **Kevin Vicroy**, who handled press requests for daily local, national and world media. Over 1,000 press releases were issued, 500 local phone calls made, and numerous local and national contacts established ... **Jim Hiser**, in charge of international officials and responsible for all IRF rules interpretations, seeding, world format, PLUS a great slide presentation at the banquet– and **Margo Daniels**, in charge of the tournament desk.

Canadian Nationals

by Mike Ceresia

The 1996 Canadian National Championships were held in Montreal, Quebec at Nautilus Plus in Anjou. The Canadian Nationals feature singles and doubles during the same week. This year's event attracted over 300 competitors from across the country. In singles, Sherman Greenfeld defeated Mike Ceresia in Men's Open and Josee Grand'Maitre defeated Christie Van Hees in Women's Open. In doubles, Simon Roy and Mike Ceresia defeated Tom O'Brien and Mike Green in the Men's Open division, while Vicki Shanks and Debbie Ward defeated Grand'Maitre and partner Luci Guillemette in Women's Open.

The 1996 Canadian Junior Nationals were held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Winners of the team event were Team Saskatchewan, with Team Quebec taking a close second. In 18 and under singles competition, Jeremy Renaud defeated Francis Guillemette, and Amanda MacDonald defeated Chantal Turgeon.

This racquetball season will feature a four-tournament series across the country, with additional provincially-run tournaments to fill out the calendar. This will mean an increase in tournament activity and numbers of tournament players.

The new Canadian Racquetball publication will be produced quarterly. The first issue is due out at the end of September and will feature results from the World Championships and will also kick off the 25th Anniversary season of Racquetball Canada.

Juniors Head South

As part of their duties to the U.S. National Junior Team, each summer selected members of the squad take part in a goodwill tour abroad. This year, two groups traveled to Honduras and Guatemala. Team leader of the Honduras group, Carol Pellowski, offers the following report on the trip to Tegucigalpa.

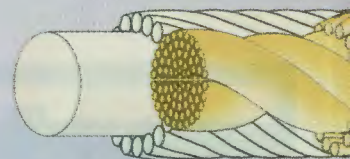
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Above: U.S. Junior Team delegation (l-r) Evan Pellowski, Ryan Staten, Rhonda Rajsich, Carol Pellowski, Sara Borland and owner of the local Gatorade distributorship. Below: Host David Matamoros (seated right) with his wife and two youngest daughters. Bottom: Host Alexis Reyes (seated center) with his wife and Evan Pellowski.



From Tegucigalpa, Honduras by Carol Pellowski

Sara Borland, Rhonda Rajsich, Ryan Staten, Evan Pellowski and I were treated to a great time by our local hosts David Matamoros and his family, and Alexis Reyes, the Honduran coach and his wife. Their warmth, humor, generosity and the care they showed for each of us made our visit very special.

In looking back, I wish I had been brave enough to take photos of the many soldiers and guards standing on corners. Or taken more shots of the local people and their lifestyles ... carrying their goods to sell in baskets on their heads, cooking over open fires, washing clothes by hand. Or been able to capture the way they treat their children, and their willingness to wave and smile.

It was a study of contrasts and a great learning experience. While we were surrounded by a mix of poverty and a way of life that our ancestors left behind centuries ago, we still enjoyed great restaurants, fast food, and a bus to take us up and down most mountains, while others travelled by bike or footpower. We saw glass shards and barbed wire atop walls to protect homes ... set against beautiful flowers and people endlessly sweeping walks and mopping floors in their battle with dust.

And in Guatemala ...

A second group of Junior Team members – including Assistant Coach Mary Lyons and athletes Mark Bloom, Jed Bhuta, Erica Daniels and Katie Gould – made their way to Guatemala. Once there, the goodwill ambassadors taught clinics, competed in a mini-tournament, traveled the countryside and hit all the tourist spots for jet-skiing, volcano sightseeing and ancient ruin tours. Hosted by Dr. Bayardo Martell, the group had a great time.

In the foreground, Mary Lyons (left) and Dr. Martell head the table of athletes. Photo: courtesy Mary Lyons.

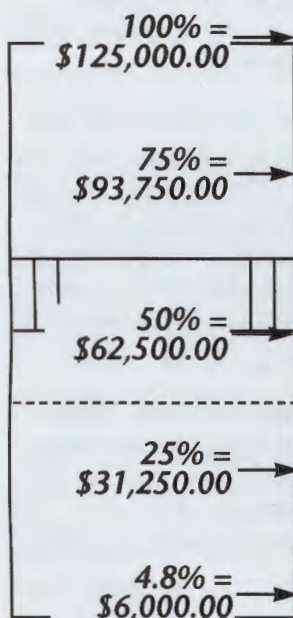


PORTABLE COURT COUNTDOWN

You've heard alot about the "made for TV" portable court in the past few months ... how it's expected to generate new excitement for racquetball, plus reach millions of potential future players who might never see the sport otherwise. And while all this could become true in the long run, we need your help in these early stages of getting this project off the ground.

At a minimum, we need to raise \$125,000 before December 31 to offset the initial construction costs of the court.

It's your chance to help shape racquetball history as we approach a new century (when was the last time you saw your favorite sport on television?). It's your chance to be recognized for your contribution in a tangible way (every donation over \$25.00 will have the name of the donor inscribed on a permanent plaque that will travel with the court). It's your chance to turn your love of the game into something that everyone can enjoy.



So far, \$6,000 has been donated to the project, or a little less than 5% ... Let's try to reach the short line (at least) by the holidays! It's a big project, so please contribute what you can!

Help make it happen by sending in your tax-deductible donations today ... then watch your contribution at work when the portable court is unveiled at the U.S. OPEN Racquetball Championships in Memphis this November.

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rb:people

FACING PAGE: CLOCKWISE FROM
UPPER LEFT - BRAD CARTER; PAUL
GORDON & TEACHER GARRETT PARKS

CARTER HELPS FUNDRAISER

Brad Carter and the Oakland Athletic Club hosted a "Challenge the Pro" night as a fundraiser to help the California School for the Deaf build two racquetball courts for their students. Bay Area players were asked to donate \$5.00 to take a shot at Carter, who boasts a 165 mph serve, and finished fourth in the Men's 35+ division at the National Championships in May. The "Challenge the Pro" event is conducted in a ten-week series, with participants accumulating points toward donated gifts and prizes.

"We feel that this will only be the beginning of a great effort to promote and spread knowledge of this sport ... and enhance the student's life" said Jesse Coleman, president of the Friends of CSD, "... it is rare to have such a facility, and this alone will be far greater than any other offering from similar institutions."

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TRIBUTE TO A TEACHER

by Paul Gordon

My teacher charges \$35 an hour for lessons at the racquet club on Ventura Boulevard. But, for years, he has taught a class for free every Tuesday night, down in the hardscrabble courts of the local YMCA.

It's an odd bunch that shows up the Y on Tuesday nights; raw novices, returning players and experts who have spent half a lifetime whacking away at the little blue ball. Some come to learn, some to play. My teacher tempers the adrenalin with the manners of a classroom; listen, watch, practice, move. And, in this way he imparts a little wisdom unto every one.

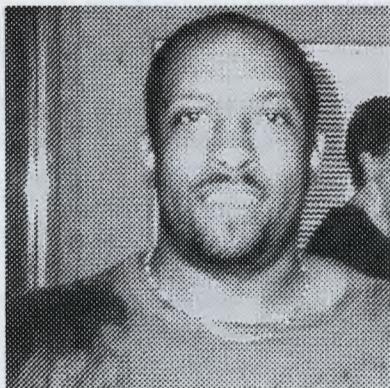
It is a simple game, my teacher says, which makes it difficult to learn. He takes his payment out in play. Every Tuesday night, before class, he can be found down in the courts, warming up in pickup games with students he has played for twenty years.

His play reflects the lessons of his own instruction. Not only grip and swing and strategy, but also character. In these games you rarely see a hit or hinder. It is, instead, an almost courtly dance of speed and power. For this modern sport of compounds and Kevlar and 200-mile-per-hour serves, my teacher uses an old word, almost out of time. He appreciates a gracious player, and he is one himself.

He teaches this, as well, by personal example. When a pinched nerve in his shoulder would not let him raise his arm above his waist, he did not curse or moan but took up, without hesitation, the lessons of his own instruction, and taught himself to play with his good left arm.

To watch him was like looking in a mirror which sent back bad reflections; the first choppy strokes sent off shots that veered and wobbled - like some novice struggling at his first lesson. His own students beat him, week after week. I saw him frustrated, but I never saw him angry. Instead, my teacher kept on working.

And every Tuesday night you could see the changes; one week the swing smoothed out; then the shots



began to come off straight, and, finally there appeared the whipping snap that gave him speed. He went on like this for months, and when his arm was healed, he taught himself, again, to master right-hand play. His students watched him until he was back again.

My teacher takes the long view. He wants to play for forty years. When I was mired in the funk of a deep slump, he observed my grip and swing – and counselled patience. "Make every shot your best," he said, "and always try to play at a higher level."

When I came out again I saw that he was right. Every shot is a chance, a question, a choice still hanging in the air. Sometimes the court seems filled with opportunity, and sometimes sour indifference. And, sometimes, in the frantic fever of a game, his words come back to me. I step and pause, and picture the arc of a perfect swing. I feel the impact of the hit, and watch the ball fly straight into the corner, an inch off the floor – a tribute to my teacher's legacy.

After a year of going to the Y every Tuesday night I thought my learning curve would flatten out. Instead, it grows deeper, wider, filled with possibility. There is a wealth to learn in this simple little game; of strategy and character, of stroke and footwork, and respect for the caprices of the little blue ball.

And still I love it. I want to play at a higher level. I want to play for forty years. I want to win. I want to have fun. I want to be a gracious player. I want to play the game.

GOOD SAMARITANS

by Nancy Luyando

I am writing this to thank all those who helped me in Houston last May. There are names I do not know and people who may have assisted me on that eventful Sunday that I am still

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BOARD NOMINEES SOUGHT

Three persons will be elected to the AARA Board of Directors in May of 1997. Interested candidates can get on the ballot in two ways: by committee nomination (contact a board member) or by petition (with the signatures of 100 licensed AARA members). To obtain petition forms, write the AARA at 1685 West Uintah, Colorado Springs, CO 80904-2921. Signatures must be obtained between October 1 and December 1, 1996 — with completed forms submitted to the national office by December 15 for verification. The term of office is three years and includes the commitment to attend two annual meetings (in September or October, and May), serve responsibly and take a leadership role on committees.

rb:people



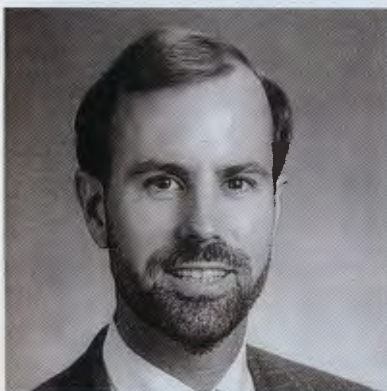
unaware of. It is at this time I truly understand how inadequate "thank you" can be but it's the best there is and Hemingway I'm not.

It was my first time at the Nationals in Houston. Sunday was when all the consolation games were played. I started my first Women's A consolation match at 8:30 am. Immediately following, I played a second match and won. My next match wasn't till 5:30 so I relaxed and refereed a bit.



I came back to the Y for my 5:30 Women's 35+ conso match. I played and won a tough tiebreaker that went to 11-10. Right afterward, at 6:30, I was scheduled to play the Women's A consolation final.

Before the match began I started to feel numbness in my toes. Later on I found out that it was the beginning of cramps from dehydration. In the first game against Missy [Bolander] I tried to play but it was obvious to those watching that I was not moving very well. In between games I drank some water and Powerade. I tried to stretch out to relieve the cramps. I started the second game but the cramps traveled up my legs to my calves, then to my hamstrings and eventually to my lower back. I played out the rest of the second game and lost the match.



TOP: NANCY LUYANDO,
MIDDLE: JEFFREY DOBKIN
BOTTOM: MITCH SMITH

I tried to walk off the cramps so I could play my 35+ match. I drank and drank, and Van [Dubolsky]

checked on me and gave me more to drink. As much as I didn't want to admit it, I knew I couldn't play anymore. I forfeited the women's 35+ match and sat down. The two volunteers that were upstairs cheering me on kept plying me with liquids. A short while later I tested my legs. I stood up but couldn't take more than two steps. I grabbed onto the wall for support, trying to

will my pain away, and tears of pain and frustration started. It was at this time that a lady came over with tiger balm and rubbed it on my legs. My legs just kept cramping up but she and another lady continued rubbing the balm on my legs. I'm sorry I do not know your names, but thank you. Throughout all this I kept hearing two dreaded words, "hospital" and "TV."

Eventually I was carried down the stairs with extreme care by quite a few people, again whose names I do not know. Hector had a couple of turns for me to bring my calcium level up. Margo [Daniels] gave me more powerade to drink to get the potassium and sodium levels up. Later on a doctor who was playing in the tournament came by and checked up me. Meanwhile, paramedics were called, but I was able to start walking again before they arrived. This was very important to me since I did not want to go to the hospital.

Margo and another gentleman walked me back to my room and Sunday ended with me soaking in a tub of hot water. A tale of dehydration, a lesson well learned, and the caring and kindness of strangers. Thanks again, to all!

AUTHOR, AUTHOR

Jeffrey Dobkin, a top-ranked "A" player in Philadelphia, recently published a new work entitled "How to Market a Product for under \$500." In promotional photography, the book is displayed against the backdrop of a racquetball racquet ... with the strings worn out in just the right spot.

... VE-RY SLE-EPY ...

by Brandy Stepalovitch

Mitch Smith of Camp Hill, Pennsylvania has been a familiar figure at the top of the 35+ age division from 1994 to the present. He won the the 35+ division of the 1995 U.S. Open tournament and has consistently won his state and regional championships over the last ten years. Interestingly, over

the last ten of his 18 years of playing racquetball, he credits his consistency with the use of hypnosis.

He was first hypnotized in 1986 while a graduate student at Temple University where he was completing his training as a psychotherapist. He was so impressed with the experience of hypnosis that he continued his postgraduate training by receiving the best available training for licensed psychotherapists in the world on the subject.

In March, he received the distinguished honor of serving on the faculty at the National Scientific meetings and workshops on clinical hypnosis for the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis. He taught a workshop to other licensed professionals on how hypnosis is utilized as a tool for enhancing sports performance. He has been asked to teach at the international meetings on clinical hypnosis on the subject of sports psychology in June, 1997 in San Diego, California.

He is known and respected for his workshops on sports psychology in general, but specifically with how hypnosis is utilized as a tool for focusing and preparing the mind for competition. Although his work with individuals is confidential under requirements of his license, he has worked with players on both the men's and women's pro racquetball tours.

RACQUETBALL AGAINST DRUGS

by **Mark Thomas**

As a father of three young children I share the great concern of all parents for our children's well being and future. In an attempt to utilize a sport I dearly love to educate my children, I developed a program called Racquetball Against Drugs [RAD]. I have been able to combine racquetball and the D.A.R.E drug education program to offer a fun way for kids to learn about the consequences of using drugs and provide a great alternative to the streets. Along with a very experienced and talented staff, we've developed a juniors clinic that we'd like to share. If any agency is interested in a copy of this clinic at no charge, please contact me at (602)546-9826.

PASSINGS

Kenny L. Green, 35, of Valdosta, GA, a long time friend of racquetball, died on May 25, 1996 of bone cancer. Kenny had been an AARA member since August of 1988, was instrumental in the development of junior racquetball in Georgia and was a member of the Georgia State

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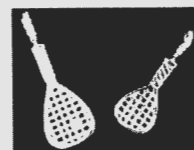
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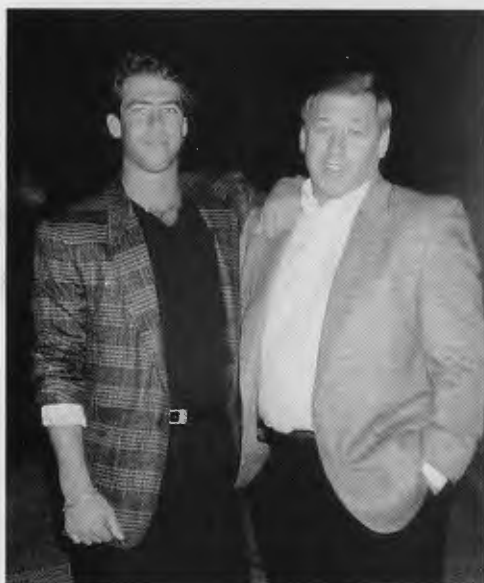
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rb:people



TOP: KENNY GREEN, SR. AND SON, KENNY, JR. BOTTOM: ERICK & JACK KAHN.

Racquetball Association board of directors. Kenny attended the 1994 AARA Leadership Conference in Colorado Springs.

NEW GENERATION

by Sandra Kahn

My husband, Jack, is 60 years old and has been playing racquetball for the past 30 years. He is an excellent player and has won many tournaments. From the time our son Erick was three years old, Jack took him on the racquetball court. Through the years they have enjoyed a close father/son relationship and even work together today. Fast-forward 28 years from those early racquetball days and Erick is now 30 years old, 6'3" and an excellent racquetball player. Recently, Jack and Erick played in the Men's C doubles division at the Illinois State Championship, came in first and won a large trophy. Even more exciting, Jack and Erick ended up as finalists in their local club championship, where a huge crowd turned out

to watch father and son compete for the championship!

'96-97 JUNIOR TEAM

by Kevin Vicroy

The 1996-97 Junior Team USA was announced on August 1, following the Junior Team Trials held at the United States Olympic Training Center Complex in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Eight young women and eight young men make up the full roster, which includes six returning members from last year's squad.

Current Girl's 16-and-under national champion Sara Borland of Bettendorf,

Iowa earned her third appointment, Kori Grasha of Amherst, N.Y. her second and Rhonda Rajsich of Phoenix, Ariz. her third. Mark Bloom of Metairie, La. earned his third term, along with second term appointments for two-time 16-and-under national champion Rocky Carson of Santa Maria, Calif. and Ryan Staten of Dodge, City, Kan. After a short hiatus, two-time Girl's 18-and-under national champion Sadie Gross of Yankton, S.D. and Willie Tilton of Colorado Springs, Colo. were returned to the squad, following up terms on the 1994-95 Junior Team USA roster.

This year's team welcomes eight fresh faces, including young ladies Brooke Crawford of Klamath Fall, Ore., Maggie DeBord of Lincoln, Neb., Melissa Harmon of Sarasota, Fla. and Liana Kerwood of Beaverton, Ore. Rookies to the boy's squad are Erin Brannigan of Sagle, Idaho, James Ford of Riverton, Wyo., Tyler Siggins of Diamond Bar, Calif. and 1996 Boy's 14-and-under national champion Shane Vanderson of Dublin, Ohio.

1996-97 JUNIOR TEAM USA

Boy's Roster

Mark Bloom (Metairie, La.)
Erin Brannigan (Sagle, Idaho)
Rocky Carson (Santa Maria, Calif.)
James Ford (Riverton, Wyo.)
Tyler Siggins (Diamond Bar, Calif.)
Ryan Staten (Dodge City, Kan.)
Willie Tilton (Colorado Springs, Colo.)
Shane Vanderson (Dublin, Ohio)

1996-97 JUNIOR TEAM USA

Girl's Roster

Sara Borland (Bettendorf, Iowa)
Brooke Crawford (Klamath Falls, Ore.)
Maggie DeBord (Lincoln, Neb.)
Kori Grasha (Amherst, N.Y.)
Sadie Gross (Yankton, S.D.)
Melissa Harmon (Sarasota, Fla.)
Liana Kerwood (Beaverton, Ore.)
Rhonda Rajsich (Phoenix, Ariz.)



International Racquetball Federation
World Junior Championships
Los Caballeros Sports Village: Fountain Valley, California
December 19-22

ENTRY FORM – Please Print . . .

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Country _____ Zip _____

Phone (Day) _____ (Evening) _____

Birthdate _____ Age _____

Partner _____ Division _____

Partner _____ *Division _____

National Ranking _____ Division _____

National Championship Division _____ Finish _____

Other Seeding Information _____

***To play in three divisions, the third division must be mixed doubles.**

WAIVER: I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims that I may have against the IRF, Los Caballeros Sports Village, event sponsors or their respective agents for any and all injuries. I also acknowledge the potential risk of eye injury during competition, and can certify in writing that my protective eyeguards (including prescription frames/lenses) conform with all standards specified in AARA Rule 2.5(a). By registering to compete in this event, I consent to be subject to drug testing as administered according to the IRF/USOC guidelines.

Participant Signature & Date _____

LIABILITY: I agree to be liable for all costs for damages for which my child is responsible and to pay for all costs arising from any disciplinary action imposed as stated in the Junior Code of Conduct, as adopted by the IRF.

Parent/Guardian Signature & Date _____

RACQUETBALL Magazine

BOYS SINGLES

____ 18 and under
____ 16 and under
____ 14 and under
____ 12 and under
____ 10 and under
____ 8- multi-bounce
____ 8- regular rules

GIRLS SINGLES

____ 18 and under
____ 16 and under
____ 14 and under
____ 12 and under
____ 10 and under
____ 8- multi-bounce
____ 8- regular rules

BOYS DOUBLES

____ 18 and under
____ 16 and under
____ 14 and under
____ 12 and under
____ 10 and under

GIRLS DOUBLES

____ 18 and under
____ 16 and under
____ 14 and under
____ 12 and under
____ 10 and under

MIXED DOUBLES (Third event only)

____ 18 and under
____ 16 and under
____ 14 and under
____ 12 and under
____ 10 and under



OLYMPIC PLAY-OFF FORMAT: Each entrant is guaranteed three matches in singles. Please review the section explaining the format for individuals who lose. Awards will be presented to winners in each play-off bracket.

MAIL COMPLETED ENTRY AND FEES TO:
IRF WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS
1685 WEST UINTAH
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80904-2921

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 5 (Postmarked by December 2, 1996)

ENTRY FEES AND PAYMENT

First event. (\$50.00) _____
Second event (\$25.00) _____
Mixed Doubles. (\$15.00) _____
AARA Membership fee . . (\$15.00) _____

TOTAL DUE: \$ _____

Make checks payable to AARA. Entry form is not complete, nor is entry accepted, unless check for correct amount is enclosed and all information is provided.

tournament entry

53

rb:people



JUNIOR ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Sadie Gross of Yankton, South Dakota and Rocky Carson of Santa Maria, California were selected as the 1996 Junior Athletes of the Year at the Junior Olympic Championships in Wisconsin earlier in the summer. Photo: Jim Hiser.

PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

At the Court House of Blues Tournament in Jackson, Mississippi, five state association presidents were on hand to monitor the

proceedings. The result: "wonderful people ... an easy tournament to run ... good ideas from the rookie ... and no arguments!" Shown below, left to right: Al Schof (La.); Sheila Collins (Tenn.); Jim Garner (Alabama); Jen Yokota (Mo.) and Chris Baker (Miss.). Photo: Courtesy Jen Yokota.



NATIONAL DOUBLES TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

U.S. TEAM: Finalists in men's and women's open will be appointed to the U.S. National Racquetball Team for one year.

ENTRY FEE: \$65.00 first event per player (includes referee fee), \$35.00 second event per player. Two division limit. • **ENTRY DEADLINE:** October 2, postmarked no later than September 30. IF any entries are accepted after the deadline an additional \$15.00 late fee will be assessed (payment at tournament check-in is processed as a late entry, and surcharged). All entries are FINAL, with absolutely no refunds after the deadline date.

STARTING TIMES: Will be available after 5:00 pm on Monday, October 14. Do **not** call the AARA office for starting times! They will be available **only on site**, by calling 602/285-2929.

PLAY BEGINS:

Mens Open•A•19•25•30+Wed. 10/16
Men's 35•40•45•50+Wed. 10/16
Men's 55•60•65+Thu. 10/17
Women's Open•A•19•25+Thu. 10/17
Women's 30•35•40•45+Thu. 10/17
All Mixed Divisions.....Thu. 10/17
Mens 70•75•80+Fri. 10/18
Womens 50•55•60
•65•70•75•80+Fri. 10/18

OFFICIATING: \$5.00 will be paid for every match you referee. Director of Referees: Otto Dietrich, AARA National Rules Commissioner. Tournament Director: Margo Daniels, AARA National Tournament Director. • **DRUG TESTING:** Random testing will be performed. For more information about specific medications call the Drug Hotline at 1-800-233-0393.

LODGING: The Lexington Hotel offers a room rate of \$75.00 per night for up to four persons per room. To receive special tournament rates, be sure to mention the National Doubles when you make your reservations by calling 602/279-9811. The hotel is in the same building as the tournament facility. Accommodations are also available from the Quality Hotel & Resort (2 blocks from club) for \$75.00 per night if you mention the tournament when making reservations at 602/248-0222.

UNITED AIRLINES FARE DISCOUNT: United offers you 5% off any published United fare regardless of cost. Phone Uniteds toll-free number at 800/521-4041, daily between 8:30 am and 8:00 pm EST and use AARA account number 587 WB.



AARA 29th U.S. National Doubles Championships

City Square Sports Club: Phoenix, Arizona

October 16-20

ENTRY FORM ... Please print

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

Phone (Day) _____ (Evening) _____

Birthdate _____ Age _____

Regional Competed In _____

Division in Regional _____ Finish _____

Partner _____ Division _____

Partner _____ Division _____

EQUIPMENT SURVEY

My racquet is _____

My glove is _____

My eyeguards are _____

My shoes are _____

I am sponsored by _____

AARA MEMBERSHIP: An AARA competitive license membership is required to compete in this event ... please add your fees if necessary. [Note: If you have recently joined the AARA at a sanctioned event and have not yet received your membership card, you must present your receipt copy of the membership application or a cancelled check upon registration.]

WAIVER: I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims that I may have against the AARA, Ektelon, Penn Racquet Sports, City Square Sports Club, the Lexington Hotel or their respective agents for any and all injuries. I also acknowledge the potential risk of eye injury during competition, and certify in writing that my protective eyeguards (including prescription frames/lenses) conform with all standards specified in AARA Rule 2.5 (a). By registering to compete in this event, I consent to drug testing as administered according to AARA/USOC guidelines.

Participant Signature & Date _____

DIVISIONS ... Two event maximum

	MEN'S	WOMEN'S	MIXED
.....	Open	Open	Open
Jr. Veteran	24 -	24 -	24 -
Jr. Veteran	25+	25+	25+
Seniors	30+	30+	30+
Seniors	35+	35+	35+
Seniors	40+	40+	40+
Masters	45+	45+	45+
Masters	50+	50+	50+
Golden Masters ...	55+	55+	55+
Golden Masters ...	60+	60+	60+
Golden Masters ...	65+	65+	65+
Golden Masters ...	70+	70+	70+
Golden Masters ...	75+	75+	75+
Golden Masters ...	80+	80+	80+
.....	A	A	A

ENTRY FEES AND PAYMENT :

First event (per player) (\$65.00) _____

Second event (per player) (\$35.00) _____

AARA Membership fee (\$20.00) _____

Late fee. (\$15.00) _____

Tax deductible donation

to U.S. Team \$ _____

TOTAL DUE: \$ _____

Use your AARA MBNA credit card to charge your entry, and receive an additional 10% off your fees. Only MBNA charges are eligible for this discount!

MC/Visa # _____

Expiration Date _____

Cardholder (please print) _____

Signature _____

MAIL COMPLETED ENTRY WITH FEES TO:

U.S. NATIONAL DOUBLES

1685 WEST UINTAH,

COLORADO SPRINGS

COLORADO 80904-2921

DEADLINE: OCTOBER 2nd

ENTRIES MUST BE

POSTMARKED BY

SEPTEMBER 30th



tournament entry

55

tournament update

NMRA Golden Masters Invitational Championships

by Bill Pudduck

June Riggs, Bill Roy and the staff of The Sports Barn in Chattanooga, Tennessee hosted another great event for 75 golden masters competing in singles and doubles events. The round robin format offered some great matches and a lot of fine play and warm fellowship (after the matches, that is).

Play started early Thursday morning and finished on Saturday just in time for the players and their guests to rush off to a wonderful prime rib dinner buffet aboard a paddle wheel riverboat cruisin'-down-the-river. Delicious food, music, dancing and strolling on the decks was a perfect ending for this first-class tournament.



The round-robin, self-officiated matches were frequently decided by very few points. The NMRA tournaments are all based on a "total points scored" basis to determine winners. In cases where players or teams are tied in total points scored, a play-off may be required. Such was the case in the men's 75+ division where Earl Acuff and Nick Sans were tied at the conclusion of the round-robin at 125 points. Acuff won the play-off game for the title.

Other close matches which were decided by only a small number of

points — Mixed Doubles: Ron Maggard/Jo Kenyon over Paul Banales/Lola Markus, 98 to 95; Men's 55+: Ron Hutcherson beat Robert Large, 198 to 195; Men's 60+: Otis Chapman slipped by Charles Schafer, 120-118; Men's 65+: J.D. Driver won over Ray Gordon, 130-127; Men's Doubles 55+: Ron Maggard/Paul Banales took first over Ron Hutcherson/Rex Lawler, 117-114 with Tom Penick/Lee Graff taking third with 113 points. Men's Doubles 70+: Saal Lesser/Victor Sacco over Mal Roberts/Ivan Bruner, 165-159. As you can see from these close calls, there was a great amount of competitive and exciting play for these older veterans of the courts.

There certainly is one reward for getting to be 55 years of age. You are eligible to participate in one of these great NMRA Golden Masters events. Each of us "old folks" should try harder to round-up some other 55+ players and get them to join us in April 1997 for our next national event.

If you want to join the National Masters Racquetball Association (NMRA) and be eligible to play in their 3 yearly national championships—contact: NMRA, c/o Paul Banales/Carole Stoll, 4201 N. 83rd Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85037, Phone: 602-849-6298/6288.

FINAL SINGLES RESULTS

MEN'S 55+: 1. Ron Hutcherson (IN); 2. Robert Large (KS); 3. Bob Webster (AL); 4. Rex Lawler (IN). 60+: 1. Otis Chapman (OH); 2. Charles Schafer (IA); 3. Ken Moore (CA); 4. Jim Weeks (GA). 65+: 1. J.D. Driver (MI); 2. Ray Gordon (ND); 3. John O'Donnell (IL); 4. Jack Bogasky (VA). 70+: 1. Victor Sacco (NY); 2. Jack Gushue (NY); 3. Mal Roberts (FL); 4. Phil Dziuk (IL). 75+: 1. Earl Acuff (NC); 2. Nick Sans (CA); 3. Allen Shepherd (MD); 4. Cam Snowberger (SC). WOMEN'S 55+: 1. Jo Kenyon (FL); 2. Lola Markus (IL); 3. Mary Low Acuff (NC); 4. Dorothy Vezetinski (WA).

DOUBLES RESULTS

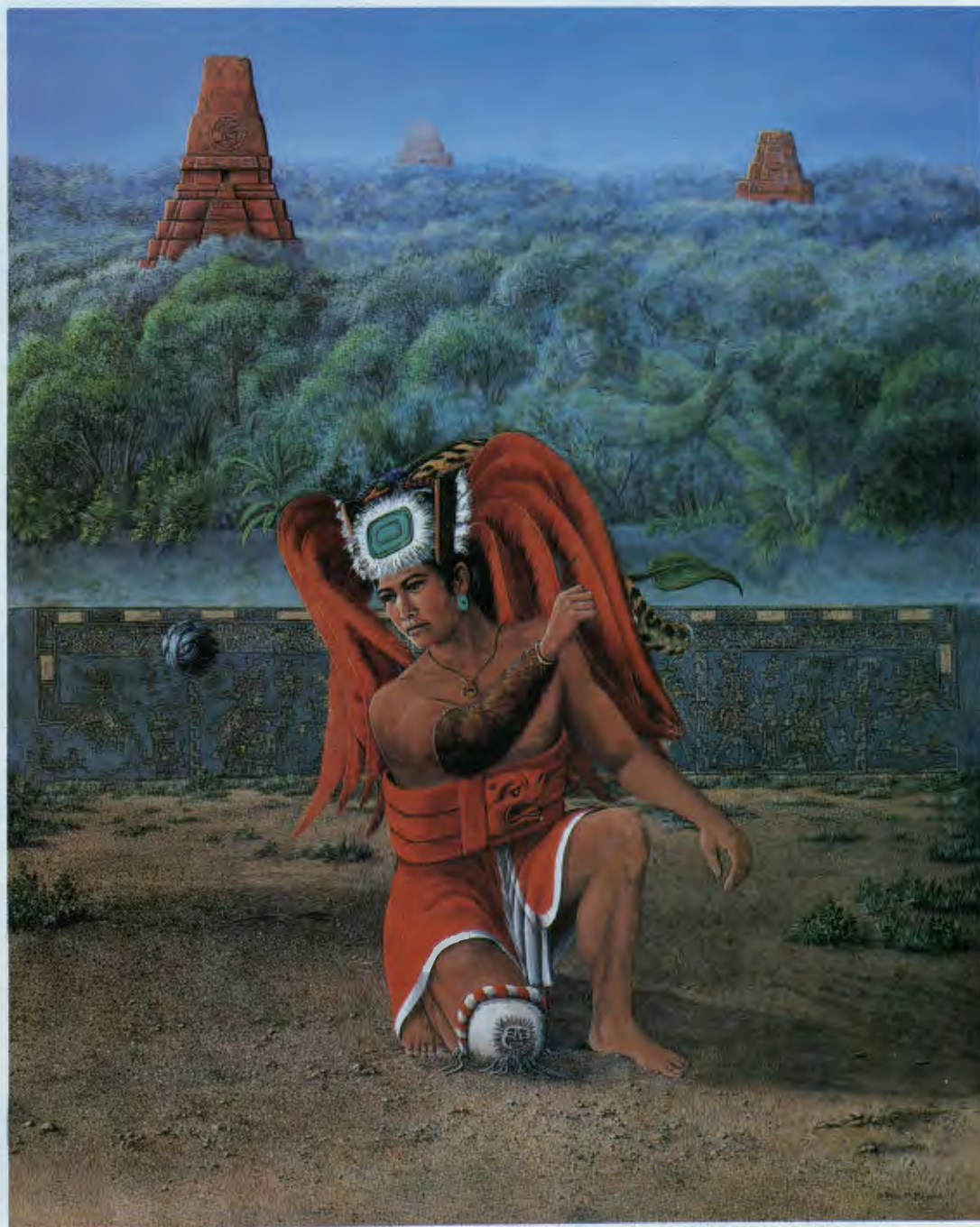
MIXED — 1. Jo Kenyon (FL)/Ron Maggard (MO); 2. Lola Markus (IL)/Paul Banales (AZ); 3. June Riggs (TN)/Bob Webster (AL); 4. Mary Low Acuff (NC)/Earl Acuff (NC). Men's Doubles — 55+: 1. Ron Maggard (MO)/Paul Banales (AZ); 2. Ron Hutcherson (IN)/Rex Lawler (IN); 3. Tom Penick (CA)/Lee Graff (OR); 4. Marty Berger (PA)/Joel Babkes (PA). 60+: 1. Tom Penick (CA)/Allen Weckerly (CA); 2. Ken Moore (CA)/John Mooney (CO); 3. Otis Chapman (OH)/Don Alt (OH); 4. Paul Banales (AZ)/Ron Pudduck (MI). 65+: 1. Russell Carruth (UT)/Norm Skanchy (UT); 2. Ivan Bruner (WI)/Ray Gordon (ND); 3. Harry Foreman (PA)/Philip Dziuk (IL); 4. Marv Schinagle (CA)/Bob Miller (MI). 70+: 1. Saal Lesser (NY)/Victor Sacco (NY); 2. Mal Roberts (FL)/Ivan Bruner (WI); 3. Earl Acuff (NC)/Jack McAfee (OR); 4. Dick Kincade (CO)/Jack Gushue (NY). 75+: 1. Earl Acuff (NC)/Nick Sans (CA); 2. Cam Snowberger (CA)/Allen Shepherd (MD); 3. Charlie Russell (CA)/Brud Turner (OH).



Top: Tom Penick & Allen Weckerly. Bottom: Saal Lesser and Pat Pudduck. Photos: Courtesy Ron Pudduck.

GENESIS

The original hangs in the foyer of the International Racquetball Federation office in Colorado Springs. This 40" by 52" work by Colorado artist Donna Pylypczuk is titled "Genesis" and depicts what is considered to be the evolution of racquetball from the MesoAmerican Ball Game played in Central America as far back as 2000 B.C. It is theorized that all rubber ball games may have their origins in this ancient form of competition.



Donna Marie Pylypczuk is primarily a self-taught artist with a unique style. Experienced in many mediums, she prefers acrylics and took over four months to research and complete this particular work. In subtle relief among the background of trees, a racquetball player can be seen preparing a backhand. A limited-edition of 250 signed and numbered artists proofs are available for \$35.00, as well as signed museum quality posters on heavy stock for \$15.00.

To obtain either the limited edition print, or poster, contact the IRF at 719/635-5396. Visa & Mastercard accepted.



american amateur racquetball association

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_____ Check/\$ order enclosed, or _____ Visa/MasterCard
Number _____

Exp. Date _____ Signature _____

Order Total _____
Postage _____ \$ 4.95
Enclosed _____



OFFICIAL TEAM GEAR

U.S. RACQUETBALL WORLD TEAM LOGO T-SHIRT

100% cotton pre-shrunk Hanes Beefy-T with gold National Team eagle logo on front encircled by 16 international flags. Black. [S,M,L,XL,XXL] \$12.00.

USA RACQUETBALL POLO SHIRTS

All cotton, with tri-color embroidery. [S,M,L,XL] Colors: Navy, Coral, Turquoise, White & NEW! GRAPE. \$29.00

U.S. RACQUETBALL TEAM SWEATSHIRT & TEE

50/50 Hanes sweatshirt, with National Team eagle logo on front, USA on back, AARA on sleeve. White. [S,M,L,XL,XXL] \$20.00. • 100% cotton pre-shrunk Hanes Beefy-T (not shown) has same design as sweatshirt, without sleeve logo. White. [S,M,L,XL] \$12.00.



INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEOTAPE SERIES

Learn your Lessons III Advanced Racquetball

(shown above) offers much more than the typical instructional video, investigating the psychology of winning athletes, speed training techniques of world champions and the on- and off-court preparations required to maintain peak performance. \$35.00, plus shipping/handling.

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A step by step approach outlining the fundamentals of racquetball. Learn the basics of stroke mechanics, court positioning and strategy. Great for the beginner interested in improving their racquetball skills. \$19.95 + s/h.

... AND ... Learn your Lessons II

AMPro practice drills help you improve every aspect of your game with individual, paired and group examples. Great for the instructor looking for new ideas, or for intermediate players who want more out of their practice sessions. \$19.95 + s/h.

MEN

Men's Open

1. Ruben Gonzalez, NY
2. Todd O'Neil, TX
3. Jimmy Lowe, AK
4. George Delaney, MA
5. Doug Ganim, OH
6. Chris Wright, MO
7. Eric Muller, MA
8. Brian Simpson, IN
- 9T. Tony Boscia, CO
- 9T. Craig Rappaport, PA

Men's A

1. Doug Brehm, TN
2. Scott Grunin, NY
3. Ruckman Nilsen, KS
4. Matt Gehling, MD
- 5T. Jack Hucsek, MI
- 5T. Ryan Staten, KS
7. Bill Groombridge, CA
8. Mark Bouchard, MA
9. Gary Jarrett, CA
10. Grant Barker, MO

Men's B

1. Don Dettmore, FL
2. Steve Plakotaris, NJ
3. Siva Raghupathy, WA
- 4T. Pat Fulghum, ID
- 4T. Steve Pitchford, VA
- 5T. Rich Hurt, NE
- 5T. Rocco Saccente, NY
- 6T. Doug Brehm, OH
- 6T. Jeff Kenneson, VT
10. Cory Martin, WI

Men's C

- 1T. Lefty Bartscher, NE
- 1T. Marc Schnittker, CO
3. Scott Johnson, ID
4. Robert Sellers, NM
5. Henry Willis, MS
6. Alan Ma, OH
7. Ray Hom, CA
- 8T. Tim Garvey, IL
- 8T. Chad Tyranski, VA
10. Mike Cohen, NY

Men's D

1. Jay Gordon, TX
2. Frank Jaurigue, OH
- 3T. Jeff Dahr Jr., NE
- 3T. Anthony Zeringue, LA
5. Gary Bray, FL
6. Scott Remsen, MA
7. David Gagnon, NH
8. Hal Mitlitsky, NY
9. Shawn Phillips, LA
10. Lee Weikert, AK

Men's Novice

1. Jose Lopez, TX
2. Steve Astrin, GA

- 3T. Brian Alepiev, NY
- 3T. Wayne Clason, MI
- 3T. Kevin Daub, CO
- 3T. Travis Elquist, ID
- 3T. Jason Hadjstylianos, NY
- 3T. Mike Krucznski, MD
- 3T. Daniel Smith, NH
- 3T. Brian Waldron, OH

Men's 19+

1. Rob DeJesus, NM
2. Scott Grunin, NY
3. Rich Baer, NY
4. Franco Palmer, CA
5. Jason Thoerner, FL
6. Matt Fontana, FL
7. Jim Ellenberger, WI
8. Dustin Delong, WA
- 9T. Matt Adesso, OH
- 9T. Shane Wood, MA

Men's 25+

1. Kevin Graham, WI
2. James Lorello, FL
3. Brian Londo, CA
4. Mark Cavallaro, NY
5. Jeff Wilson, NM
6. Chris Baker, MS
7. Norm McNutt, FL
- 8T. Dave Ganim, OH
- 8T. Mike Locker, MN
10. Julio Junkie, FL

Men's 30+

1. Bruce Erickson, MO
- 2T. Rabbit Rogers, ID
- 2T. Alan Sheppard, NC
4. Lance Gilliam, TX
5. Sam Wasko, VA
6. Chris Gallagher, IN
7. Jim Grant, MA
- 8T. Rob French, CO
- 8T. Tim Hansen, FL
10. Clay Griffin, SC

Men's 35+

1. Mitch Smith, PA
2. Mike Martinez, CA
3. Dave Peck, TX
4. Dave Eagle, OH
5. John Scargle, FL
6. Mitch Posner, NJ
- 7T. Bill Lyman, IL
- 7T. Martin McDermott, TX
- 7T. Gil Rodriguez, VA
10. Joe Hassey, AZ

Men's 40+

- 1T. Ed Garabedian, PA
- 1T. Mitt Layton, FL
3. Gene Couch, FL
4. Tom Travers, OH
- 5T. Gregg Mandell, IL
- 5T. Rick Sorenson, MO
- 5T. Randy Stafford, TN
- 5T. Darryl Warren, CA

9. Mark Baron, VA
10. Troy Stallings, MN

Men's 45+

1. Mitt Layton, FL
2. Doug Dickman, MO
3. Greg Hasty, IL
4. Dan Davis, TX
5. Gary Mazaroff, NM
- 6T. Frank Ciociola, NY
- 6T. Rick Fusari, FL
8. Leo Gurnoe, CA
9. Dominic Palmieri, OH
10. Bruce Metras, CA

Men's 50+

1. Ed Remen, VA
- 2T. Ray Huss, OH
- 2T. Dennis O'Brien, ID
4. Russ Deegan, FL
5. Horace Miller, IL
6. Tom McKie, TX
7. Joe Gellman, NM
- 8T. Stan Lemon, TX
- 8T. John Mootz, NY
- 8T. Craig Olsen, NE

Men's 55+

1. Wendell Nelson, ID
- 2T. Dario Mas, DE
- 2T. Bobby Sanders, OH
4. David Jordan, NJ
5. Joe Mulkerrin, VA
- 6T. Charlie Garfinkel, NY
- 6T. Robert Large, KS
- 6T. Jim Wilking, UT
- 6T. Len Wilson, PA
- 6T. Jerry Winsberg, LA

Men's 60+

1. David Jordan, NJ
2. Paul Banales, AZ
3. Jerry Holly, CA
4. Jack Dunsmoor, ID
5. Otis Chapman, OH
6. Art Hurley, NM
7. Don Alt, OH
- 8T. Rex Benham, AR
- 8T. Jim Railey, TN
10. Bob Baudry, LA

Men's 65+

1. John O'Donnell, IL
- 2T. Joe Lambert, TX
- 2T. Victor Sacco, NY
4. Verlyn Dunn, ID
- 5T. Mal Roberts, FL
- 5T. Bert Shulimson, IL
- 7T. Pearce Grove, VA
- 7T. Charles Kaiser, MI
- 9T. John Bogasky, VA
- 9T. Frank Trask, ME

Men's 70+

1. Mal Roberts, FL
2. Jack Gushue, NY

3. Victor Sacco, NY
4. Richard Davis, TX
5. Bill Matotan, NM
- 6T. Earl Acuff, NC
- 6T. Mike Landy, FL
- 8T. Charlie Devine, AL
- 8T. Hank Richard, GA
10. Tony Duarte, CA

Men's 75+

1. Earl Acuff, NC
2. Charles Russell, CA
3. Robert McAdam, TX
- 4T. Hank Richard, GA
- 4T. Andy Trozzi, MA
6. Cam Snowberger, SC
- 7T. Frank Sganga, FL
- 7T. George Spear, FL
9. Charles Estram, MA
10. Al Romero, NM

Men's 80+

1. John Pearce, TX
2. C. Allen Shepherd, MD
3. Harry Steinman, MD
4. Andy Trozzi, MA
5. Walt Mosenthal, MA

Men's 85+

1. John Pearce, TX
2. Ralph Hoyle, NY

WOMEN

Women's Open

1. Tammy Brockbank, ID
2. Kerri Stoffregen, OH
- 3T. Lisa Hjelm, CA
- 3T. Dina Moreland, CA
5. Michelle Gould, ID
6. Mary Tessier, CA
7. Marcia Hartz, NY
8. Robin Rodriguez, AK
- 9T. Malia Bailey, VA
- 9T. Mary Lyons, FL

Women's A

1. Cheryl Gistand, TX
2. Angie Daake, NE
3. Carol Zimlinghaus, CO
4. Dianne Pratt, WA
5. Leisa Marquart, NE
6. Kathy Geels, FL
- 7T. Thelma Ruhlen, VA
- 7T. Darlene Truett, TN
9. Sherron Boyea, CA
10. Kelly Craig, FL

Women's B

1. Melanie Mueller, CO
2. Yesenia Delbusto, FL
- 3T. Becky Kaufman, KS
- 3T. Linda Vallieres, VT
5. Molly Law, CO
6. Jeni Fuller, NM

7. Kristen Kovar, NE
8. Kim Brackett, NH
9. Jennifer Bennett, UT
10. Vicky Depiore, OH

Women's C

1. Charlotte Kochersperger, PA
2. Belinda Dettman, FL
3. Kassi Herr, FL
4. Laurie Gordon, CT
5. Mary McCormack, NJ
- 6T. Shari Hall, WA
- 6T. Chris Herrmann, MO
- 6T. Vicki Leetch, AR
- 6T. Leslie Miller, IL
10. Gina Fulner, TX

Women's D

1. Leslie Butler, FL
2. Jesi Fuller, NM
3. Linda Robinson, TX
4. Kellie Watson, CA
- 5T. Eyerce Armstrong, DE
- 5T. Terry Truvillion, MI
- 7T. Winnie Alvarez, AZ
- 7T. Julie Bauman, CA
- 7T. Cheryl Bird, TX
- 7T. Susan Callum, MA

Women's Novice

1. Cari Mitlitsky, NY
2. Jennifer Swallow, PA
3. Susan Smiley, DE
- 4T. Suzanne Carpenter, OH
- 4T. Joanne Herrera, CO
- 4T. Linda Keener, FL
- 4T. Ruth Kuhlig, CT
- 4T. Judy Mancusso, VA
- 4T. Jedonne Montgomery, ID
- 4T. Janet St. Clair, SC

Women's 19+

1. Amy Kilbane, OH
2. Erika Juhl, DE
- 3T. Aimee Roehler, PA
- 3T. Kerri Stoffregen, OH
5. Heather Dunn, VT
- 6T. Sue Cox, FL
- 6T. Kelly Craig, FL
- 6T. B.J. Ehr Gott, CT
- 6T. Allison Garner, TX
- 6T. Rachel Gellman, AZ

Women's 25+

1. Jen Yokota, MO
2. Elaine Mardas, OH
- 3T. Cara Pellowski, WI
- 3T. Stacy Sour, CO
5. Sheila Collins, TN
6. Sandee Roach, UT
7. Lisa Shelby, ME
- 8T. Kelley Beane, NH
- 8T. Tina Bragdon, CO
- 8T. Angela Burth, MD

rankings...rankings

Women's 30+

1. Kersten Hallander, FL
2. Lorraine Galloway, NY
3. Debbie Tisinger, CA
4. Kim Machiran, MO
5. B.J. Ehrigott, CT
- 6T. Dina Moreland, CA
- 6T. Mary Pomeroy, IN
- 6T. Cindy Wittenbrink, NM
9. Phyllis Morris, TX
10. Peggine Callahan, CA

Women's 35+

1. Debbie Tisinger, CA
2. Mary Bickley, PA
3. Roz Petronelli, MA
- 4T. Carol Krieger, MN
- 4T. Marianne Walsh, UT
- 6T. Denise Mock, TX
- 6T. Janet Tyler, FL
8. Mary Lyons, FL
- 9T. Carol Bastien, IL
- 9T. Linda Moore, NE

Women's 40+

1. Joanne Pomodoro, MA
- 2T. Karen Holden, CA
- 2T. Janet Myers, NC
- 2T. Marcia Richards, LA
5. Elaine Dexter, CA
- 5T. Mary Keenan, CO
- 5T. Janell Marriott, RI
- 8T. Sue Adams, FL
- 8T. Wanda Collins, WA
- 8T. Laurel Davis, IL

Women's 45+

1. Eileen Tuckman, FL
- 2T. Shelley Ogden, OH
- 2T. Terry Ann Rogers, CA
4. Donna Ebner, MO
5. Pattie Schof, LA
- 6T. Elaine Dexter, CA
- 6T. Nancy Kronenfeld, IL
- 6T. Judy Sands, OH
- 6T. Paula Sperling, NM
10. Agatha Falso, FL

Women's 50+

1. Meri Jean Kelley, CA
- 2T. Mildred Gwinn, NC
- 2T. Gerri Stoffregen, OH
- 4T. Sharon Hastings-Welby, OR
- 4T. Pat Tarzon, IL
6. Nidia Funes, CA
7. Donna Johnson, ID
8. Agatha Falso, FL
- 9T. Marta Groess, MN
- 9T. Rose Hernandez, UT

Women's 55+

1. Mildred Gwinn, NC
2. Jo Kenyon, FL
3. Nancy Butts, WI
4. Sylvia Sawyer, UT
5. Helen Duns Moor, ID
6. Sue Carow, IL

7. Marquita Molina, CA
8. Annabelle Kovar, NE
- 9T. Marion Crawford, NY
- 9T. Marion Johnson, TX

Women's 60+

1. Jo Kenyon, FL
2. Kathy Mueller, MN
3. Lola Markus, IL
4. Mary Walker, CA
5. Mary-Low Acuff, NC
- 6T. Norma Carlisle, UT
- 6T. Peggy O'Brien, IRE
- 8T. Ann Byers, OR
- 8T. Susan Embry, CA
10. Louise Kiss, NM

Women's 65+

1. Reta Harrington, WI
2. Dorothy Vezetinski, WA
3. Roberta Schoenfeld, NM
4. Bridin Ui Mhalogan, IRE
5. Paula McNeish, FL
6. Mary Lou Kackert, NM

Women's 70+

1. Mary-Low Acuff, NC
2. Marion Russell, CA
3. Dorothy Vezetinski, WA
4. Ruth Crosson, CO

Women's 75+

1. Mary-Low Acuff, NC
2. Eleanor Quackenbush, OR

BOYS

Boy's 8 & Under

1. Nick Arturo, AK
2. Cody Drago, OR
3. David Lewis, CO
4. Matthew Hammond, TX
5. Andrew Grissom, CA
- 6T. Paul Bennett, UT
- 6T. Justin Erdman, OH
8. Eric Wodrich, IN
9. Jamin Godwin, FL
10. Kenny Green, GA

8- Multi-bounce

1. Nick Arturo, AK
2. Justin Erdman, OH
3. Mark Swanson, NM
- 4T. Jamin Godwin, FL
- 4T. Harrison Slocum, FL
6. Ivan Sanchez, MX
7. Bill Travers, OH
- 8T. Cody Drago, OR
- 8T. Kenny Green, GA
10. Jeffrey Gordon, TX

Boy's 10-

1. Jeremy Robbins, TX
2. Brad Slocum, FL
3. Tyler Hollingsworth, OR
4. Steven Klaiman, TX

5. Simon Jackson, IN
6. Blake Von Kaenel, NE
- 7T. David Laforest, NY
- 7T. Geoffrey Mora, CA
9. Andrew Kopf, NY
10. Dan Sheppick, OR

Boy's 12-

1. Jack Huczek, MI
2. Trevor Crowe, OR
3. Bart Crawford, OR
- 4T. Cory Martin, WI
- 4T. Seth Parker, PA
6. Josh Epstein, NY
- 7T. Clay Burris, FL
- 7T. Dain Taylor, IN
9. Patrick DeBord, NE
10. Roy Lee Luna, NM

Boy's 14-

1. Shane Vanderson, OR
2. Sanjay Laforest, NY
3. Mike Harmon, FL
4. Ryan Staten, KS
5. Shane Vanderson, OH
- 6T. Grant Barker, MO
- 6T. Joel Worthington, KS
- 7T. Ashley Conway, NC
- 7T. Scott Fisher, NY
10. Jason Jansen, ND

Boy's 16-

1. Rocky Carson, CA
2. Willie Tilton, CO
3. Josh Tucker, MO
4. Andy Tucknott, NE
5. Ryan Staten, KS
6. Jeffrey Garner, AL
7. Brit Berkey, IN
8. David Liakos, NE
9. Justin Carey, NY
10. Shawn Fry, NC

Boy's 18-

1. Eric Storey, IN
2. John Stanford Jr., FL
3. Jesse Keaveny, AK
- 4T. Dan Darling, OR
- 4T. Sam Ryder, WI
- 4T. Shane Wood, MA
7. Stephen Mykalcio, NY

- 8T. Erin Brannigan, ID
- 8T. Willie Tilton, CO
10. Jeffrey Garner, AL

GIRLS

Girl's 8 & under

1. Ashley Willhite, OR
2. Marcelo Moreno, MX
3. Dianne Meyer, OR
4. Trina Harper, WI
5. Rebeka Kopf, NY
6. Christine McCracken, OH
7. Kelley Fisher, OH
- 8T. Brandi Jacobson-Prentice, Can.
- 8T. Ashley Murphy, MO
10. Paige Chandler, TN

8- Multi-bounce

1. Trina Harper, WI
2. Sarah Moyle, OR
3. Brittany Legget, OR
4. Dianne Meyer, OR
5. Christine McCracken, NM
6. Nicole Robinson, OR
7. Katie Lyons, FL
- 8T. Paige Chandler, TN
- 8T. Ashley Murphy, MO
- 8T. Shanae Turner, IN

Girl's 10-

1. Adrienne Fisher, OH
2. Deraí Darling, OR
3. Jesi Fuller, NM
4. Kimberly Irons, OH
5. Kastle Arturo, AK
6. Brandie Hanson, OR
7. Cari Mitlitsky, NY
8. Kelley Fisher, OH
9. Leslie Luna, NM
10. Lindsay Deutsch, TX

Girl's 12-

1. Crystal Winfrey, OH
2. Kimberly Irons, OH
3. Cari Mitlitsky, NY
- 4T. Jeni Fuller, NM
- 4T. Molly Law, CO
6. Karina Odegard, Can.
7. Juliana Mayor, NY

8. Deraí Darling, OR
9. Lindsay Deutsch, TX
10. Candice Tueller, UT

Girl's 14-

1. Maggie DeBord, NE
2. Kristen Kovar, NE
3. Kristen Walsh, UT
- 4T. Krystal Csuk, IL
- 4T. Lisa Kerr, Can.
- 4T. Melanie Mueller, CO
7. Kindra Sears, IN
8. Sara Wencil, OR
9. Adva Buzi, TX
10. Sara Borland, IA

Girl's 16-

1. Megan Bals, NE
2. Sara Borland, IA
3. Katie Gould, MO
4. Melissa Harmon, FL
5. Amanda MacDonald, Can.
6. Brooke Crawford, OR
7. Lindsay Sears, IN
8. Meghan Guardiani, MA
9. Liana Kerwood, OR
10. Leisa Marquart, NE

Girl's 18-

1. Sadie Gross, SD
2. Rhonda Rajsich, AZ
3. Kori Grasha, NY
4. Christie Van Hees, Can.
- 5T. Shannon Feaster, RI
- 5T. Dawn Gates, IL
- 7T. Erin Frost, OR
- 7T. Meadow Krantz, MN
9. Christina Lewendal, OR
10. Sabrina Pasos, MX

WHEELCHAIR

1. Rick Slaughter, TN
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3. Gary Baker, WV
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AARA Approved Balls

• Bullet • Dunlop • Ektelon • Penn (official ball) •
• ProKennex • Spalding • Wilson •

.....
SEPTEMBER
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September 19

Crystal City Pro-Am
Skyline Clubs @
Crystal Gateway
Arlington, VA
703-527-7785

September 20

Apple Open
Spa Fitness Center
Watsonville, CA
408-722-3895

Blast It 1996

The Sports Center
Fayetteville, NC
910-864-3303

Jesse James

Shootout @
Olympus Ath. Club
Northfield, MN
507-645-8007

Pennbriar Tourney

Pennbriar Fitness
Center - Erie, PA
814-825-8111

Spalding/IRT Kick-

Off @ King's Court
Lyndhurst, NJ
201-444-0859

Georgia State

Doubles @ Tucker
Racquet & Fitness
Tucker, GA
770-491-3100

September 27

Alpha Fall Kickoff
Alpha Racquetball &
Fitness Club
Mechanicsburg, PA
717-540-5111

Burns Park Classic

Burns Park
No. Little Rock, AR
501-791-8585

Fall Racquetball

Championships
Maverick Ath. Club
Arlington, TX
817-275-3348

Fall Valley

Championships
Merced Sports Club
Merced, CA
209-722-3988

Ralph's/Food 4 Less

Splat Shot @ The
Tournament House
Riverside, CA
909-682-7511

Maine State

Doubles
Courthouse Health
& Wellness
Chelmsford, MA
508-385-9367

.....
OCTOBER
.....

October 4

Court Sports
Challenge
Concourse Ath. Club
Atlanta, GA
770-424-1140

DAC Open

Dedham Ath. Club
Dedham, MA
617-326-2900

Magic City Classic

Court South
Birmingham, AL
205-823-2120

Southeast

SR/Masters Singles
Quadrangle Ath. Club
Clearwater, FL
813-535-4901

Spalding/IRT Warren

Open
Racquets Club of
Warren, NJ
201-444-0859

Tournament of

Terror @ Racquetball
World - Canoga
Park, CA
818-884-5035

Spalding Fall Classic

Lakeland Family
YMCA
Lakeland, FL
941-644-3528

Virginia State

Doubles @ Robious
Sports & Fitness
Richmond, VA
804-330-2222

9th Annual Solano

Open @ Solano
Athletic Club
Fairfield, CA
707-429-4363

October 6

Texas State Doubles
Chancellors
Houston, TX
713-772-9955

October 9

When the Service
Counts @ The
Alaska Club
Anchorage, AK
907-337-9550

October 11

Boise Open
AJ's Court House
Boise, ID
208-343-2288

Capital City Open

Fitness USA
Raleigh, NC

Clayton Valley Open

@ Clayton Valley
Athletic Club
Concord, CA
510-682-1060

Midwest SR/Masters

Bloomington Sports
Complex
Bloomington, IL
312-539-1112

Louisiana State

Doubles @ LA State
Univ. - Rec Complex
Baton Rouge, LA
504-468-2813

October 16-20

**Ektelon AARA
29th U.S.**

National Doubles

**Championships
City Square**

Sports Club:

Phoenix, AZ

719/635-5396

October 18

Mad Maggie's Open
@ Mad Maggie's
Norwood, MA
617-769-2340

Miller Lite Massacre

VI @ Ozark Sports
Club - Ft. Smith, AR
501-646-4022

Oktoberfest

Auburn Court House
Auburn, CA
916-885-1964

Spalding/IRT NJ

State Doubles
King George RB Club
Greenbrook, NJ
201-444-0859

Thunderbolt Open

Dan Gamel's
Racquet Time
Fresno, CA
209-227-8405

Women's Only

Tournament
Boyertown YMCA
Boyertown, PA
610-369-1011

7th Annual Tampa

Metro @ Central
City YMCA
Tampa, FL
813-229-9622

October 25

Boo Classic
Idaho Athletic Club
Meridian, ID
208-888-0060

Cocoa Halloween

Open @ Cocoa
Court Club
Hershey, PA
717-540-5111

David Gries

Memorial
Sports First
Montgomery, AL
334-277-7130

Great Pumpkin

Open @ Midtown AC
Sacramento, CA
916-441-2977

calendar...calendar

Juniors Fall
Tournament
The Alaska Club
Anchorage, AK
907-337-9550

1st Annual Elon
College Tourn.
Elon College
Elon College, NC
910-967-5133

Crown Vending R/B
Open @ McKinley
Park Racquet/Health
Blasdel, NY
716-825-5941

NOVEMBER

November 1
Baystar Open @ RB
Plus/Royal Ath. Club
Burlingame, CA
415-697-9162

Holiday Tournament
Orlando Fitness &
Racquet Club
Orlando, FL
407-645-3550

Midwest
Seniors/Masters
Open @ Davison
Racquet Club
Davison, MI
517-887-0459

World Gym Killshot
Classic IX @ World
Gym - Gretna, LA
504-363-4014

November 8
Cross Court Open
Cross Court Ath. Club
Woodland, CA
916-666-1319

Erie Paint Open
Nautilus Fitness &
Racquet Club
Erie, PA
814-868-0072

Turkey Shoot
Riverside Wellness &
Fitness
Newport News, VA
804-875-7525

15th Annual
Williamsport Open
Williamsport
Nautilus R/B Club
Williamsport, PA
717-667-2209

17th Ann. Kiwanis
Club Tournament
Sarasota Fam. YMCA
Sarasota, FL
941-957-0770

November 10
Burlington Open
Burlington YMCA
Burlington, NC
910-227-2061

November 13-17
U.S. OPEN
Racquetball
Championships
Racquet Club of
Memphis:
Memphis, Tenn.
719/635-5396

November 15
Courthouse Open
Courthouse Hlt. &
Wellness
Chelmsford, MA
508-453-4173

Garden State Open
Westwood Health &

1996 NATIONAL EVENTS

OCTOBER 03-05 Annual AARA Board of Director's Meeting:
Colorado Springs, Colorado

OCTOBER 16-20 Ektelon AARA 29th U.S. National Doubles
Championships @ City Square Sports
Club: Phoenix, Arizona

NOVEMBER 13-17 AARA 1st U.S. OPEN Racquetball
Championships: Memphis, Tennessee

DECEMBER 19-22 IRF 8th World Junior Championships:
Fountain Valley, California

1997 NATIONAL EVENTS

JANUARY 16-19 USRA Annual Leadership Conference:
Colorado Springs

JANUARY 24-26 Women's Senior/Master Championships:
Chattanooga, Tennessee

FEBRUARY 13-15 NMRA Masters Singles Invitational: El
Paso, Texas

FEB.28 - MAR. 02 ProKennex USRA 10th National High
School Championships: St. Louis, Missouri
MARCH 21-30 PARC 11th Tournament of the Americas:
Chihuahua, Mexico

Fit. - Westwood, NJ
201-444-0859

Pennbriar Holiday
Classic @ Pennbriar
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Lehigh Valley Open
Allentown RB Club
Allentown, PA
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Pro Kennex Grand
Prix #2 @ Courtesy
Sports/Schoebers
San Jose, CA
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November 22
Alpha Turkey
Gobbler @ Alpha
Racquetball Club
Mechanicsburg, PA
717-540-5111

Florida 3-Wall
Outdoor Champs
Santa Lucas
Lantana, FL
407-731-1781

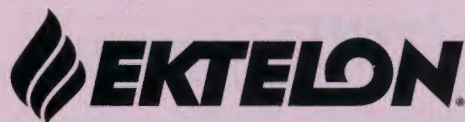
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Idaho Falls Racquet
Club-Idaho Falls, ID
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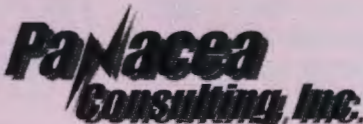
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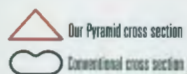
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