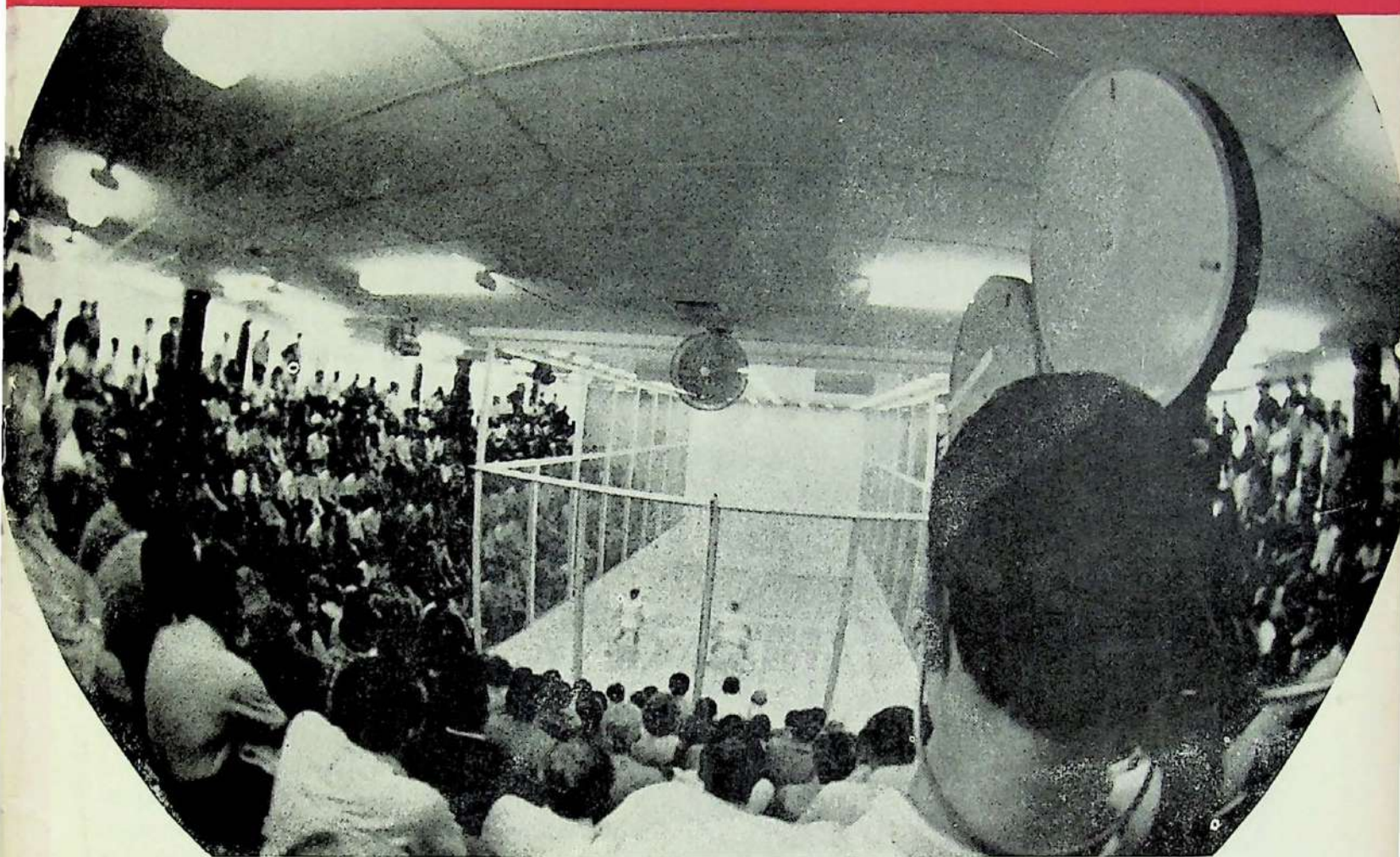




1969 NATIONAL FOUR-WALL CHAMPIONS

- ★ SINGLES — Paul Haber, Milwaukee — J.C.C.
- ★ DOUBLES — Lou Kramberg-Lou Russo, New York — Y.M.H.A.
- ★ MASTERS DOUBLES — Ken Schneider-Gus Lewis, Evanston (Ill.) — Y.M.C.A.
- ★ MASTERS SINGLES — Dr. John Scapis, Detroit — Y.M.C.A.
- ★ CONSOLATION SINGLES — John Hardy, Denver — Y.M.C.A.



Special International Paddleball Tournament Program

SPECIAL BONUS! WORTH \$2.00

Every Saranac ACE glove box will contain our new booklet—"Championship Handball"—the best of instructional material from the game's best players, plus the USHA official rules. This booklet will sell for \$2 but will be included FREE to everyone who purchases a pair of official Saranac ACE gloves.

ace
SARANAC



The nation's outstanding manufacturer of sports gloves

Plants in Littleton, N.H.—Green Bay, Wis.—Marinette, Wis.
"Aristocrat of Gloves Since 1866"

VELCRO® CLOSING!

The new ACE glove features a smooth-fitting deerskin wrist strap with the space-age Velcro closing. Just press down and thousands of tiny, almost invisible "fingers" hold the glove tight—just the way you want it! No fumbling to open or close, no metal to rust!

UNCONDITIONALLY GUARANTEED!

Ace is the only handball glove that is unconditionally guaranteed! If you purchase ACE gloves and find that they are not perfect, send them back to USHA and we'll give you a new pair, absolutely free!

To improve your game—use any one of the new official ACE gloves. If a supply is not available at your "Y", Club or Center . . . ask your Athletic Director to order direct from the United States Handball Association.

S-82 Super—A new concept in handball gloves. Made on a fine dress glove pattern from Saranac's own specially processed deerskin—fine deerskin fourchettes inserted between each finger for a custom fit. Saranac's unique seamless palm construction gives added ball control and greater confidence. The Super Model has a super-tite elastic back and a Velcro sure-lock snap back.

Colors: Bone or Gold, Deerskin • Sizes: S-M-L, unpadded only.

Also available in lightweight for tournament play. The first and only handball glove of its kind.

S-90 Competition—A most popular glove. Saranac combines soft 'N tuff gold deerskin on a tapered fine fitting pattern, rugged and tight fitting elastic back. Velcro lock snap back to insure snug wrist.

Color: Gold—deerskin • Sizes: S-M-L-XL.

Also available in similar design as S-90 are:

S-86—Tuffy, Goatskin • **S-92**—Novice, Steerhide

PADDED MODELS

S-91—Competition—select Gold Deerskin

S-89—Standard—select Steerhide

S-85—Deluxe—Bone Deerskin

S-87—Tuffy—Goatskin

S-93—Novice—Steerhide

S-84—DELUXE—Saranac combines their own hand selected deerskin into the best fitting glove of its kind on the market, featuring a seamless forefinger and thumb. The Deluxe model also has a snug fitting elastic back and a Velcro lock back to insure a snug wrist.

Color: Bone Deerskin • Sizes: S-M-L-XL.

Also available in lightweight for tournament play.

S-88—select Steerhide, same in design as model S-84.

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by SARANAC

The USHA is supported
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regular purchase of
ACE balls and gloves.



OFFICIAL
HANDBALL
GLOVES

"The gloves the champions use"

An Apology...

National recognition is one of the objectives of every sports association and this can be achieved only through the sports media. We were delighted, therefore, to learn that Sports Illustrated had sent two of its top reporters — Pat Putnam and Mort Sharnik to cover our championship. We rolled out the red carpet and carefully reviewed the history of handball. We felt the tournament would speak for itself as would the character of the wonderful boys participating.

We had no way, however, of knowing what material Sports Illustrated sought, or what news story would result. To be ungrateful for national coverage is not a characteristic of our Association. Nevertheless, we disagree with the implications of the article but we are still grateful for the exposure. It is the opinion of many of our members that the greater lights of handball should have been described rather than the lesser lights.

We cannot deny or affirm some of the story's contents because we were not present at all the interviews. But, we would certainly be happier if the story had featured the fantastic facilities of the University of Texas, the magnitude of the tournament, and the almost unbelievable competition. Sports Illustrated would have grown in stature had the story also told of the super human efforts of Yambrick and Haber, that thrilling 21-20 come-from-behind victory of Lou Kramberg and Lou Russo over Pete Tyson and Dick Roberston in the semi finals, or the impact of a former all American basketball player like Kevin O'Shea playing with the great Bob Brady in the Masters doubles.

The personal lives of athletes are their private concern and it is unfortunate if their conduct casts a reflection on their sport. What players do in handball is no different from what players do in

baseball, basketball, hockey, or football. Since this article is not given to name calling, we'll refrain from mentioning similar colorful characters in these other sports.

I personally owe handball an apology for The Sports Illustrated article and for some of the comments attributed to me. No one can ever deny a news media the right to publish what they consider news, and no one can suffocate editorial license. Had Mr. Putnam been looking for the good in handball, his feature would have been a tribute to the game. As it was, most people had an unfavorable reaction, although I do not believe it was Mr. Putnam's intention to cast handball in a bad light. I think he tried sincerely to develop a human interest article and if it weren't for the reckless use of the words "booze and nicotine," his message would have had a different connotation.

Far be it for me to pass judgment either on the magazine or its writers. They told the story as they saw it. Some days all of us see the world through dark colored glasses. Could it be that our light was hidden beneath a bushel that we should remove and make everyone aware of the good handball does?

Maybe we ought to tell Mr. Putnam the wonderful story of the Brownsville Boys Club in Brooklyn; the three wall story in Detroit; the Junior story that brought up Billy Yambrick and Lou Russo; the intercollegiate story that culminated at the University of Texas; the Deseret Gym story at Salt Lake City; — the sportsmanship; — the democracy; — the fraternity . . .

Then, and only then, will he see the light.

—BOB KENDLER

Texas Did It Again . . .

I really don't know where to start. So many wonderful things happened at Austin that I am hard put to tell you the tale of Texas. For this is the land where tall tales are dreamed . . . and demonstrated. Where else but Texas could handball's dream come true? Where else but Texas could nearly 500 entries play together with ease, in sufficient courts before ample galleries? Where else?

The Amphitheater, like the Astrodome, stands alone in the Handball World. As does the school, its faculty and student body. With typical Texas spirit, they all combined together to make this our biggest show, our most competitive, our most successful.

For some reason or other, everyone loves to go to Texas. Maybe it's because Ed Barlow, Pete Tyson and Dick Roberson genuinely love to have us. You know it the moment you hit the town. One of the Jones boys will be waiting at the Airport and Miss All American Girl will be waiting at the registration desk. Mr. All American boy will usher you through the Gym and every step of the way will fill you with awe.

Texas does everything in a big way. But it never loses sight of the little things. The personal touch at Austin certainly demonstrated that the bigger they are, the nicer they are. Sorority girls (pretty as a picture) gave the hospitality room a special flavor. They staffed the desks, guided the tours and in-

trigued the players. I never saw so many beautiful girls since handball first discovered how great they are!

You could say the same for the boys. Wholesome, intelligent, clean cut and eager to serve. Fine fraternity members, good athletes—they served as ushers, messengers and pals of the players. It was a superb demonstration of a big University turning over a big tournament to its big kids who made it quite clear that handball has no future to fear.

If ever handball becomes a Universal Sport, you can be sure Texas will lead the way. This can do more for handball than anything I know, — even more than the Olympics. Historically, the only sports that thrive in America are school oriented and this means we must devote ourselves to the great schools of learning. Texas certainly is one of these.

After reading all the turmoil and unrest that plagues our schools, nothing could be more refreshing than to see the good order at Texas. Like all the handball fathers, I decided this was the atmosphere I would seek for my children. When you add together the kind of school, the kind of people, the kind of program and all their kindness, — you will know what gives this land its legend.

I do. I found out that every Texas tale is true!

Thank you Austin
BOB KENDLER

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* Deceased

ON OUR COVER

Our official ACE photographer Egon Teichert takes panoramic shot of University of Texas glass amphitheater court during national finals with every available gallery space taken.



REGAINS HANDBALL'S NO. 1 — Paul Haber comes back to again claim position as the best four-wall player in the game today. The ambidextrous and colorful exponent of four-wall mastery outclassed what was probably the strongest field in the history of the game. Paul was the winner in 1966 and 1967, was handicapped by an injury in last year's tournament; now is again perched on the coveted singles throne.

As the April ACE goes into the mails the premier "true" International Paddleball Association championships are being held at the St. Louis JCCA. In this first venture a record entry has already been assured and a giant step taken in establishing paddleball, unified and international in scope.

ACE, Volume 19 — Number 2 — April, 1969. Published bi-monthly by The United States Handball Association, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Illinois. \$2 a year subscription; \$5 for 3-year subscription. Second class postage paid at Skokie, Illinois.

New Champions in All National Events

Title for the 19th National Championships could well be — "Crowning of New Champions" — changing of the guard.

Actually the only defending champ on hand was Stuff Singer and the Californian was upseated in the semis by the 1966 and 1967 winner, Paul Haber. Paul then went on to apply the damper to Bill Yambrick for a third time but not without an exciting, three-game battle.

Jim Jacobs, who generated much excitement by entering the singles, and vacating the doubles throne with Marty Decatur, looked like his old six-time winning self in wins over Bob Bourbeau and Kent Fusselman but collapsed completely against Yambrick in the semis.

With the doubles field wide open the New York 92nd St. YMHA team of a couple of "Lu Lu Lous," Russo and Kramberg, went the three-game route twice — against the local hopefuls, Pete Tyson and Dick Roberson in the semis, and then to win their first big one over Mel Sandland and Matt Kelly.

The semi final doubles match win by Russo-Kramberg was probably the most exciting match of the week and unfortunately it came at a late hour — ending about 10 p.m., and the gallery had dwindled considerably. Behind 17-6 in the third game the New Yorkers proceeded to come back strong with Russo climaxing the thrilling 21-20 victory with a roll-out kill.

A return to Masters singles competition, the first staged at Salt Lake City in 1966, was won by Dr. John Scopis, Detroit. Scopis methodically ground out wins over Tom Ciassuli and Ted Yeamans with a wear-down control game. His style might not be as exciting to the fans as the Haber dazzling left hand kills but they got him the prize he was after.

Bob Brady, who had won the Masters doubles last year at St. Louis with Bob McGuire, came on this year with a new partner, former all-American Notre Dame basketball, Kevin O'Shea. This twosome lost in the semis to the 1964-67 champions, Ken Schneider and Gus Lewis. Then, the Chicagoans went on to impressively defeat Raleigh Blakely and Alvis Grant, the Dallas A.C. veteran tandem.

To complete the week-long schedule of events, John Hardy, Denver, won the consolation singles; University of Miami (Florida) broke a six-year national intercollegiate reign of the University of Texas as they outclassed the field with the A singles win by Fred Lewis and doubles win by Jack Lewis and Joel Galpern. Lake Forest College (Illinois) was runnerup for team honors and won the B singles with William Yee.

L.A.A.C.—1970

USHA's 20th Anniversary National Four-Wall Championships were awarded to the Los Angeles Athletic Club for 1970. Duke Llewellyn, athletic director for the LAAC, made the official bid at the national convention meeting held March 17 at the University of Texas tournament site.

This will be the third nationals staged at the famed LAAC — the first in 1955 and the followup in 1959.

Dates for the championships will be announced in the June issue of ACE.

USHA Board of Directors Meets During Texas Nationals

The United States Handball Association Board of Directors held a formal meeting during the most recent nationals at the University of Texas. New directors have been selected to give the Board a true international flavor.

Members of the Board are: Robert W. Kendler, chairman, Lake Forest, Ill.; Judge Joseph Shane, Los Angeles; George Brotemarkle, Los Angeles; Dan Callahan, Bellingham, Wash.; Les Shumate, Denver; Dr. James Tanner, Birmingham; Jim Jacobs, New York; Ed Kelly, Long Beach; Joe Ardito, Chicago; Ken Schneider, Skokie, Ill.; Richard Roberson, Austin, Texas; Bruce Collins, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

Discussions were held on the Handball Perpetuation Trust that will assure the Association of permanency. Also on the agenda was the relationship of paddleball and a continuance of a healthy relationship to bring about harmony and a common goal of physical fitness; the format for USHA regional tournaments and changes needed to strengthen entries; future scholarship and youth promotions; Helms Handball Hall of Fame and a need to contribute mementos from outstanding players in the game.



NEWEST HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE . . . George Brotemarkle of Los Angeles, long an outstanding player and contributor, is inducted into the Helms Handball Hall of Fame by Judge Joe Shane at awards night presentations during national tournament week.

ACE — U.S.H.A.

Here's the National Doubles Photo Story

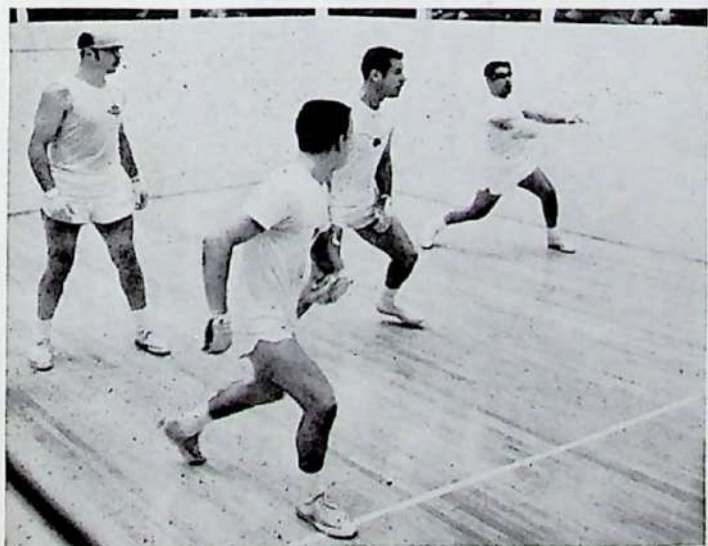


PETE HAS HIS SHOT . . . U. of Texas Coach Pete Tyson, who knows the home glass court like the palm of his hand, gets in front of Simie Fein for command position. In back court is his partner, Dick Roberson (l) and Ray Neveau. Tyson-Roberson moved into semis on this win.

Four Men Against the Glass On the U. of Texas Center Stage Amphitheater



RUBY FLATTENS ONE . . . Ruby and Oscar Obert, runnerups last year, lost in three games in the semi-finals this year, with Oscar giving up the "ghost" at 3-17 in the third—his back conking out. "Youth Must Be Served" could well be story of this match.

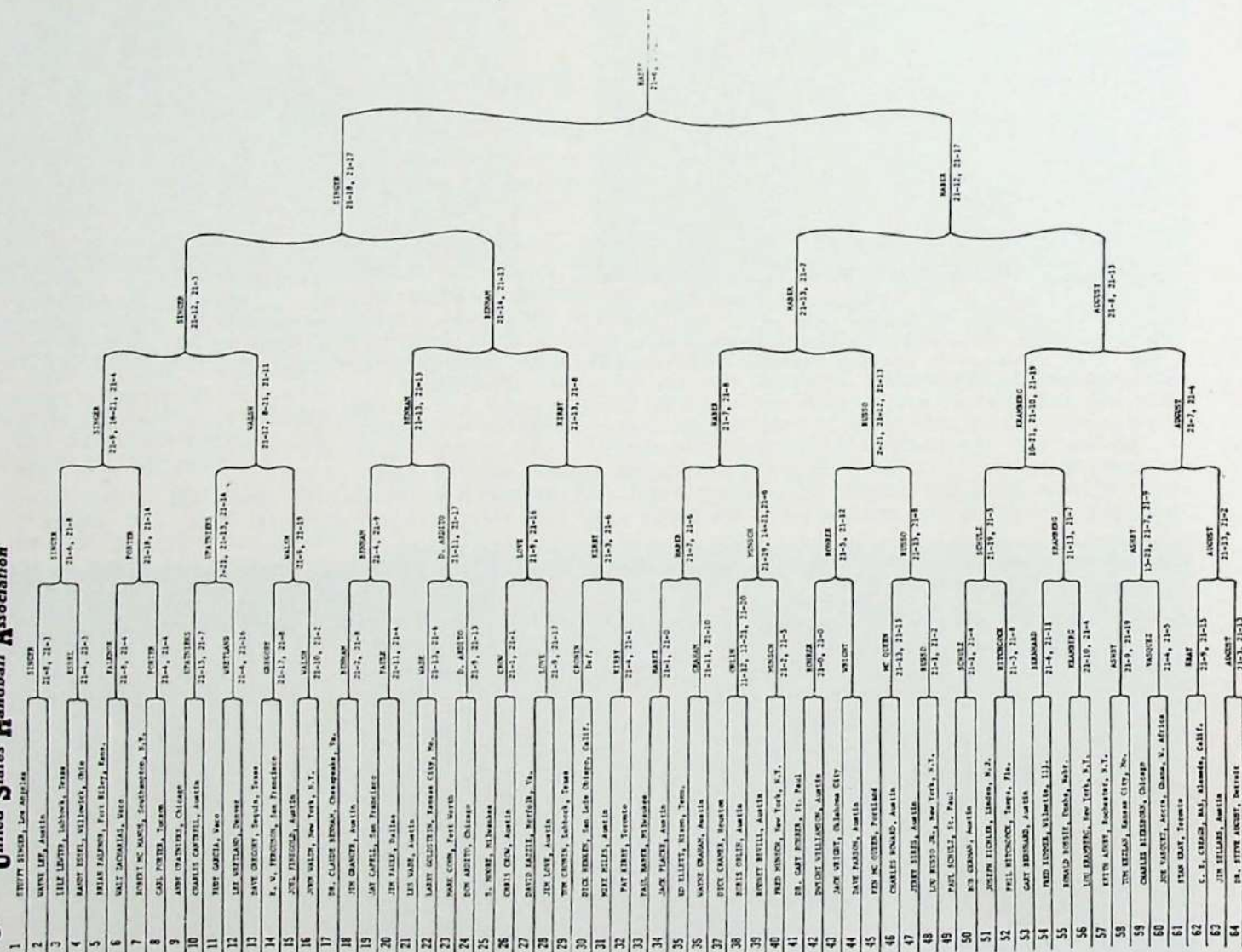


RUSSO GAINS MOMENTUM . . . Probably most thrilling match of the week was semi final three game (21-20 third game and come-from-behind) win of Lou Russo and Lou Kramberg over Roberson and Tyson. Sturdy little Russo played in the glass court like he owned it.



KIDS MISS BIG ONE . . . Matt Kelly and Mel Sandland couldn't muster the needed petrol in the third game against the champs-to-be from New York City. Again it was the steadiness and strong serves of Kramberg complemented by retrieving and two hand shooting of Little Looie.

United States Handball Association



CHAMPIONSHIP

HABER

21-11, 5-21, 21-14

SINGER
(Default)

9

OPEN DOUBLES—

United States Handball Association			
1	THOMAS JOHNSTON-ROBERT JOHNSTON, New York, N.Y.	JOHNSTON-ROBERT JOHNSTON	21-0, 21-12
2	Bye		
3	TOM KIRKEL-JOHN PARRY, Green Bay, Wis.	KIRKEL-PARRY	21-0, 21-12
4	BUD CORMAN-VINCE SPURLOCK, Dallas	CORMAN-SPURLOCK	21-0, 21-12
5	BRIAN TALMON, Ft. Riley, Kansas	TALMON-IDEEL	21-0, 21-12
6	JIM GARDNER-JACK PACEY, Austin	GARDNER-PACEY	21-0, 21-12
7	RALPH BLAKELY JR.-DORIS LEE, Austin	BLAKELY-LEE	21-0, 21-12
8	BUD APPLE-BILL GORDON, Salt Lake City	APPLE-GORDON	21-0, 21-12
9	DR. CARL BINDER-FACE SCOTT, St. Paul	BINDER-SCOTT	21-0, 21-12
10	LARRY BAUGHMAN-DICK BAUGH, Austin	BAUGHMAN-BAUGH	21-0, 21-12
11	BILL ARDREY-MEL RITT, Austin	ARDREY-RITT	21-0, 21-12
12	CARL PORTER-LARRY LAWRENCE, Chicago	PORTER-LAWRENCE	21-0, 21-12
13	CRILL LLOYD-GARRETT BRIDGES, New Mexico, D.C.	LLOYD-BRIDGES	21-0, 21-12
14	BYRON TAYLOR-BASS PRICE, Austin	TAYLOR-PRICE	21-0, 21-12
15	WINT JORDISON-BOB STEAR, Austin	JORDISON-STEAR	21-0, 21-12
16	JOHN SLACK-PHIL FLEET, Chicago	SLACK-FLEET	21-0, 21-12
17	ANDY SPATHE-CLARENCE GORDON, Dallas	SPATHE-GORDON	21-0, 21-12
18	WILL ALTMAN-BUD TATE, Austin	ALTMAN-TATE	21-0, 21-12
19	GARY LUTHER, Chicago-BOB FREEMAN, Fort Worth	LUTHER-FREEMAN	21-0, 21-12
20	DICK BRUNNER-CHUCK GRAY, Portland, Ore.	BRUNNER-GRAY	21-0, 21-12
21	KEN BARTON-WINCE KILGORE, Rockford, Ill.	BARTON-KILGORE	21-0, 21-12
22	JOHN LONG-GERARD PONTI, Austin	LONG-PONTI	21-0, 21-12
23	KEVIN MADDEN-TRACY MADDEN, Austin	MADDEN-MADDEN	21-0, 21-12
24	KEVIN FURBER-BOB LEE, Chicago	FURBER-LEE	21-0, 21-12
25	FRED MONROE-BOB WALSH, New York, N.Y.	MONROE-WALSH	21-0, 21-12
26	JIM HARRIS-PHIL FINEFIELD, Austin	HARRIS-FINEFIELD	21-0, 21-12
27	JIM PACE-JIM WILLIAMS, Austin	PACE-WILLIAMS	21-0, 21-12
28	JACK SCHUBERT, Portland-JIM SCHUBERT, U. Africa	SCHUBERT-SCHUBERT	21-0, 21-12
29	WILL WILLY-L. ANDERSON, Austin	WILLY-ANDERSON	21-0, 21-12
30	LENN WARDEN, L.A.-LARRY GORDON, Kansas City	WARDEN-GORDON	21-0, 21-12
31	BUD BRUNNER-GEORGE RABBIT, Austin	BRUNNER-RABBIT	21-0, 21-12
32	WATT KELLY-KEVIN SANDLAND, Long Beach, Calif.	KELLY-SANDLAND	21-0, 21-12
33	STAN GARDNER-PICKY STANLEY, Houston	GARDNER-STANLEY	21-0, 21-12
34	JIM KING JR.-JIM KING JR., New Orleans, La.	KING-KING	21-0, 21-12
35	TRAVIS SANDLAND-BOB CREE, Austin	SANDLAND-CREE	21-0, 21-12
36	STAN KRAV-BOB MC CLAN, Houston	KRAV-McCLAN	21-0, 21-12
37	FRANK SMITH-PHIL HITCHCOCK, Tampa, Fla.	SMITH-HITCHCOCK	21-0, 21-12
38	JOHN MURPHY-BOB MC CLAN, Portland, Ore.	MURPHY-McCLAN	21-0, 21-12
39	WILL TRAVIS-BOB HARRIS, Austin	TRAVIS-HARRIS	21-0, 21-12
40	LENN WARDEN-LARRY GORDON, New York, N.Y.	WARDEN-GORDON	21-0, 21-12
41	JIM TRIPLETT-BOB PERKINS, Pomona, Calif.	TRIPLETT-PERKINS	21-0, 21-12
42	EARL CORMAN-PHIL GORDON, San Antonio	CORMAN-GORDON	21-0, 21-12
43	KEVIN FREEDMAN-BOB BROSIE, Omaha	FREEDMAN-BROSIE	21-0, 21-12
44	LENN WARDEN-BOB CREE, Washington, D.C.	WARDEN-CREE	21-0, 21-12
45	LENN WARDEN-BOB CREE, Houston	WARDEN-CREE	21-0, 21-12
46	TOM KIRKEL-LILL LUTHER, Lubbock, Texas	KIRKEL-LUTHER	21-0, 21-12
47	SCOTT POTTER-BOB EYRING, Houston	POTTER-EYRING	21-0, 21-12
48	BUD ARDREY-BOB RITT, Chicago	ARDREY-RITT	21-0, 21-12
49	PIKE KELLY-JIM O'BRIEN, San Francisco	KELLY-O'BRIEN	21-0, 21-12
50	JERRY TERRY-SHERRY STANTON, Austin	TERRY-STANTON	21-0, 21-12
51	BUD CARPENTER-BOB RABBIT, New Orleans	CARPENTER-RABBIT	21-0, 21-12
52	JIM PACE-CHARLIE JACKSON, Dallas	PACE-JACKSON	21-0, 21-12
53	BOB BAKER-BOB PATRICK, College Station, Texas	BAKER-PATRICK	21-0, 21-12
54	C. F. CARMICHAEL, Berkeley, Cal., Alameda, Calif.	CARMICHAEL	21-0, 21-12
55	WALTER A. ZACHARAS-CHARLIE COTTELL, New York	ZACHARAS-COTTELL	21-0, 21-12
56	BOB FEED, Milwaukee-BOB FEED, Milwaukee, Wis.	FEED-FEED	21-0, 21-12
57	JIM FITZPATRICK-JACK WEINTRAUB, New York, N.Y.	FITZPATRICK-WEINTRAUB	21-0, 21-12
58	BILL CARMICHAEL-BOB PATRICK, Berkeley, Cal.	CARMICHAEL-PATRICK	21-0, 21-12
59	KEVIN ALBERTSON-BOB SPYER, Rochester, N.Y.	ALBERTSON-SPYER	21-0, 21-12
60	FRANK PACE, Austin-BOB PERKINS, Houston, Tex.	PACE-PERKINS	21-0, 21-12
61	CHARLIE BISHOP-BOB KIMON, Chicago	BISHOP-KIMON	21-0, 21-12
62	BOB KELLY-JIM TIBBETTS, Chattanooga, Tenn.	KELLY-TIBBETTS	21-0, 21-12
63	Bye		
64	DICK ROBERSON-PIKE TYSON, Austin	ROBERSON-TYSON	21-0, 21-12

Champion
16-21, 21-5, 21-13

THIRD PLACE
ROBERSON-TYSON
(Default)

THIRD PLACE
CIASULLI
21-17, 21-19

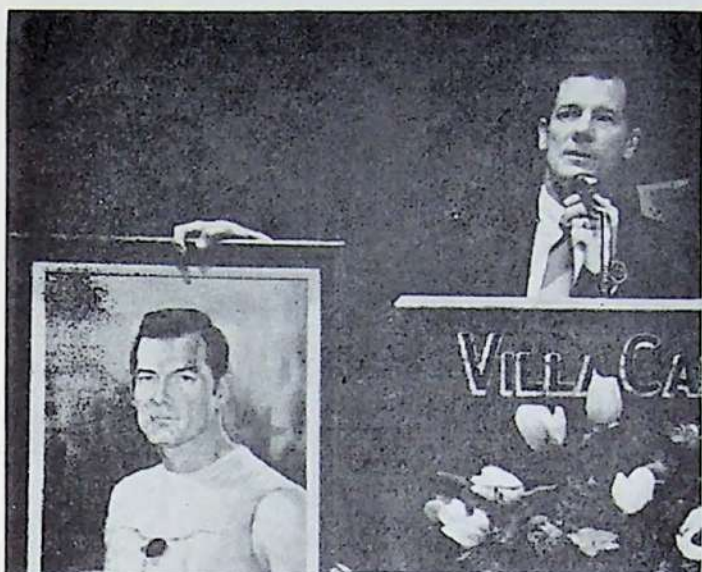
ACE — U.S.H.A.



12

1	GEORGE BROTEMARKLE-BILL FEIVOU, Los Angeles	BROTEMARKLE-FEIVOU			
2	Bye				
3	AL SCHROTH-MIKE COLEMAN, San Francisco		FEIVOU-BROTEMARKLE		
4	BILL BINGER-Chicago--JOSEPH EICHLER, Linden, N.J.	BINGER-EICHLER	21-2, 21-6		
5	STAN ALLEN-STAN BANKS, San Antonio			FEIVOU-BROTEMARKLE	
6	Bye			21-10, 21-12	
7	KEN KONKOL-JOHN CARR, Des Moines, Iowa		ARDITO-COSTELLO		
8	JOE ARDITO-BEN COSTELLO, Chicago	ARDITO-COSTELLO	21-9, 20-21, 21-16		
9	DICK WICKERSHAM-JERRY VANAK, Waukesha, Wisc.		21-3, 21-11		
10	Bye	WICKERSHAM-VANAK			GRANT-BLAKELY
11	Bye				21-19, 21-13
12	JOSEPH SHANE, Los Angeles-ED KELLY, Long Beach	SHANE-KELLY	21-10, 21-12		
13	MARVIN BINES-AL RICHMAN, Milwaukee			GRANT-BLAKELY	
14	Bye	BINES-RICHMAN		21-15, 21-6	
15	Bye		GRANT-BLAKELY		
16	ALVIS GRANT-RALEIGH BLAKELY, Dallas	GRANT-BLAKELY	21-6, 21-6		
17	BOB BRADY-KEVIN O'SHEA, San Francisco	BRADY-O'SHEA			
18	Bye				THIRD PLACE
19	LARRY DIKE, Tucson-JOHN CASTEEL, San Diego		BRADY-O'SHEA		
20	JIM HARP-PAT PATTERSON, Dallas	HARP-PATTERSON	21-5, 21-11		BRADY-O'SHEA
21	IRV SIMON-ARNOLD AGUILAR, Los Angeles		21-19, 21-16		21-16, 21-2
22	Bye	SIMON-AGUILAR		BRADY-O'SHEA	
23	FRANK WRIGHT-Oklahoma City--JAY HODGSON, Austin			21-6, 21-7	
24	PAUL ALBRIGHT-B. J. KNOTT, Dallas	ALBRIGHT-KNOTT			
25	BERNIE PRITCHARD-RON SIBBALD, Toronto		21-11, 21-4		
26	Bye	PRITCHARD-SIBBALD			SCHNEIDER-LEWIS
27	FRANK ROLAND-CHARLES WORREL, San Antonio		PRITCHARD-SIBBALD		21-12, 21-17
28	BEN LOIBEN, Chicago-MARTY CROSSMAN, New York, N.Y.	LOIBEN-CROSSMAN	21-4, 21-13		
29	TONY LABOA-ROBERT MC MANUS, Southampton, N.Y.		21-8, 21-13		
30	Bye	LABOA-MC MANUS		SCHNEIDER-LEWIS	
31	Bye			21-7, 21-3	
32	KEN SCHNEIDER-CUS LEWIS, Chicago	SCHNEIDER-LEWIS	21-4, 21-1		THIRD PLACE BRADY-O'SHEA 21-16, 21-2

Camera Shots at the Nationals . . .



ROBBY'S PORTRAIT . . . Austin's Dick Roberson is presented lifelike portrait painting by Dallas A.C. Alvis Grant, handball's Rembrandt, again does an outstanding artwork.



GENERAL LEE . . . George takes over the rostrum at the awards night and regales the gathering with his Minnesota north country wit, tempered through the years by his Dallas residence.



'TY—ING' LOOSE ENDS . . . Pete Tyson, who had everything but the broom handy, does the introductions at the awards night and is himself given ovation for his outstanding chairmanship.



HE'S GOTTA BE NO. 1 . . . And, if you don't think Al Gracio is handball's best floor manager, just ask him. Al comes early and stays late, and does the job nobody else would dare tackle.



HOSTESSES WITH THE MOSTEST . . . "Tri Delt" sorority gals acted as hostesses at the daytime hospitality room during the nationals . . . (l to r)—Susan Hughes, Mayo Miller, Melinda Hornsby, Michelle Vilcoq, Charlotte Lawson, and Bonnie McFarland.



WELCOME TO TOP EIGHT . . . Warren, Ohio's Kent Fusselman, by virtue of big win over Dallas A.C.'s Buzz Shumate, enters exclusive "Top Eight" national singles ranks.

USHA President Kendler's Report

I suppose if I start by telling you that some of my neighbors built the State capitol here in Austin you'll wonder if this is a history class or a handball convention. And, I wouldn't blame you. Nevertheless, — your State capitol and modern handball were both built by Chicagoans. That should teach you some kind of a lesson, — maybe you'll be more careful next time.

This won't come as news to Texans but the rest of you should know that in November, 1875, ninety men convened in Austin to draft a State constitution. One of the more expensive issues was the firetrap then called the Statehouse, which members of the Legislature regarded as "Beneath the dignity of the biggest sovereign state in the Union." Finally, one man offered a suggestion that set off an almost endless chain of events. He proposed that Texas swap millions of acres of land for a new capitol. Considerable property had been given to the railroads,—why not use land instead of tax money for the Statehouse?

The cost of the Texas capitol had been estimated at a million and a half dollars. Before long several enterprising Chicagoans entered into a contract to build it in exchange for three million acres in the Panhandle. So it was that the XIT Ranch was founded in March, 1882, by Colonel Babcock,—his son-in-law Abner Taylor and the Farwell brothers, who, with Marshall Field, built the great store bearing his name.

Believe it or not, their families are my neighbors, and before they knew it, they had three handball courts right in their back yard, one all glass! You know what I found out? Rich or poor, they all love handball. They play just as hard, swear just as loud, and block even more than I do. One distinguished citizen became quite provoked with me in the court one day, and said, "You are every other inch a gentleman."

I just finished reading the early history of Texas and now fully understand where your great pride comes from. No matter what the contest may be,—Texas will always be in the finals.

You put on two National Championships here in Austin,—both of them equally successful,—and you certainly provided the perfect facilities for major league handball, Tyson, Roberson and company also put on outstanding invitationals here and this undoubtedly accounts for their six consecutive national intercollegiate titles. Texas can also boast of General George Lee's Dallas Invitational. It is the oldest, best run and most successful tournament of its kind in the country. It is a model for all others and every participant in the DAC Invitational knows what I am talking about. Texas had another outstanding Nationals at Dallas in 1957, staged by both the Dallas Athletic Club and the Downtown YMCA. Houston was the site of a big one in 1953, and another in 1962. So you see Texas is not to be sneezed at—it has held more nationals than any other state in the union. And it does equally well from the sectional standpoint. Houston hosts the Southwest tournament as well as intercollegiate events, Amarillo puts on an annual tournament and does a splendid job. Corpus Christi's two classics—in May and September—are always a must for the Southwest boys. Bozo Franklin spearheads a marvelous invitational at Midland, and the finals have been Pier 6 brawls, involving such "puddycats" as Paul Haber, Dave Graybill, Bob Lindsay, Buzz Shumate and Stuffy Singer.

New courts continue to pop up all over Texas, I understand Raleigh Blakely is on the board of directors of a new Club that plans some first class courts. San Antonio has asked me to speak to their people about new courts which will include glass and galleries. Other handball hotbeds can be found at Abi-

lene, Bay City and El Paso—which incidentally holds a big Christmastime Invitational. So you see handball, like everything else, flourishes in Texas.

Did you hear the one about the Texan who made martinis so king-sized, he had to use avocados instead of olives? Well, that's what Texas has done in handball—built a king-sized court with a king-sized gallery in a king-sized university.

Because Texas does everything king size, the Dallas Athletic Club initiated a Texas Handball Hall of Fame. Its first player recipients were: Alvis Grant and Raleigh Blakely . . . the first contributor recipients were: George Lee, and those two fine gentlemen from Houston, our district commissioner, Al Sheppard, and Jake Looney, I would like to nominate Pete Tyson and Dick Roberson, both as contributors and as players in the next go around . . . and there are many other worthy men in Texas deserving of this recognition.

From absolutely any standpoint—nothing will ever take the place of your Amphitheater Court, it's the Taj Mahal of handball . . . it's the envy of the whole country and only a far-sighted school would have had guts enough to build it. The respect that it brought you was forcefully demonstrated at our last convention when your bid had virtually no opposition. You will never know what greatness it gave both you and handball and I honestly believe it was the thrust that boosted us into orbit. Next time I hear "Deep in the Heart of Texas" I am going to sing real loud because handball sure is deep in your heart.

Not long ago I was invited to speak at Memphis State University by our good friend, Jack Gillespie. No one works harder for handball than Jack and we can look forward to ten new courts and a national tournament in Memphis because of him. I gave them the following message and each of you should take this back to your schools, for here is where the future of handball lies:

I explained that handball had gone through stages,—five to be exact—and it was high time that the public saw handball in its proper perspective. Many minds were still fixed on the first stage which was our starting point in handball. No one thought of it as anything, more or less, than a conditioning sport. It belonged to the Irish first, and the firemen second. It was a muscle builder, and my research revealed that most of the players were muscle men. This not only limited its scope—it suffocated its appeal, Handball could very easily have gone the way of wrestling.

But then a dramatic thing happened. The glass court was born in Chicago and quickly duplicated here in Austin. Handball had moved into the second stage. It grew from a conditioning sport to a spectator sport, and the world of handball no longer waited for the sunrise. Nothing has ever changed the course of a sport more than glass. Spectators by the hundreds and viewers by the millions were exposed to it and infected by it.

Out of this mass of viewers came millions of players and countless members in Y's, Clubs and Community Centers all over the country.

It brought more than traffic. It brought health that gave many Americans a preventative medicine far superior to drugs and pills. By denying weakness it denied disease and only God knows how many lives it saved. Tell that to the next fellow who talks about heart failure. We are ahead, probably ten thousand to one in the struggle to prolong life. As a spectator sport handball achieved instant popularity. Whole new age groups flocked to this fun exercise. Idle moments were changed from mischief to molding both the body, the mind and the soul. A great horizon lay before this



CONVENTION ADDRESS . . . President Bob Kendler tells national tournament assemblage of giant strides being made by Association, incorporated in his comprehensive message given annually at the convention meeting.

babe in glass—this basic of American sports—the bouncing ball.

This brought about the third stage. Unbeknownst to us glass attracted not only spectators but teachers as well. We had a classroom as well as a court. We had a mass teaching medium and the Texas Amphitheater is the perfect example. At long last the gifted players could teach as well as play in courts with glass galleries.

Handball multiplied tenfold because the classroom court attracted skillful teachers like Jacobs, Singer, Yambrick, Schneider, Sloan, Hershkowitz, Lewis and Haber. And many, many more who gave so much of themselves that handball will never be able to repay them,—like Tyson and Roberson. Here was Alladin's Lamp,—the classroom court,—showcase for the star,—podium for the professor. Like the College of the Air, handball had reached a third dimension and this was not to be the final one.

The classroom court quickly incubated the fourth stage which brought the grade schools, high schools and colleges to our door. Most important it brought us the colleges. It also triggered the parks and playgrounds and this aroused the old and young alike. But not all the interest fell on handball. Some of it went to paddleball. Surprising as it may seem, we found many youngsters were excellent paddleball players, even below the age of 10. They were still too tender for the hard rubber ball but with a racquet they soon mastered the fundamentals of court strategy. And this was good for both handball and paddleball. So the fifth and final stage became paddleball,—kissin' cousin of handball. Whether you realize it or not paddleball is here to stay and I'll bet 25% of the men here have tried it and 50% will play it before quitting the gym! Let me tell you what Milwaukee's Simie Fein did in

the National Paddle Racket tournament last Spring. He took up the game for just a few weeks, teamed with Jim White, and won the doubles.

You can be sure that paddleball will never take the place of handball,—except in three areas that offer NO threat. First,—the children that are flocking to the game,—second the handball players with arm or back miseries,—and third the man who retires from handball. He just doesn't heal up overnight and he can't dig the deep ones. Would you like to know some great players who enjoy both handball and paddleball? Paul Haber took up the game on a dare and was soon knocking off all the competition around Wisconsin. Ken Schneider came up with a sore arm last year. Instead of sitting around he grabbed a racquet and soon found that his handball reflexes gave him every advantage in Paddleball. At the Evanston YMCA he can handle any of the racquet players. This may come as a shock to you but there are men who like paddleball for paddleball's sake and couldn't care less about handball. We conducted a nationwide survey and we couldn't find a single athletic director who didn't whole heartedly recommend paddleball. They pleaded with us to organize it and standardize the conflicting rules,—reduce the seven different balls to one universal ball,—and protect paddleball from professionalism. They told us of hundreds of middleaged men who were about to give up the gym until they tried paddleball. This kept them exercising another ten years and prolonged their lives even more. Middle age, you know, is when your

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By MORT LEVE

From the . . . KILLSHOT ROOM

I was met by an avalanche of mail upon returning to the USHA headquarters after the Texas nationals and a welcomed vacation in Miami-St. Maartens Island-Puerto Rico . . . it was a matter of wading in bit by bit and the air is just starting to clear now.

The 19th handball classic was just that. There's no current facility that can compare with those 13 courts available at Longhorn U. The attendances were far above our last outing there in 1965. All through the big week the gallery was packed at the centralized amphitheater court — for matches and three fine clinics. And, crammed in at other courts for outstanding play were hundreds more. It was just a shame we couldn't put the intercollegiate finals on the glass court but time would not permit. Originally the plan was to turn off the Masters championships on Friday but the large entry precluded this.

To appease the local reserved seat holders who had little opportunity to get away from their jobs for daytime viewing some key matches were scheduled for late evening hours. And, possibly the most thrilling of the week was the semi-final doubles pitting the hometown heroes — Pete Tyson and Dick Roberson — against the eventual winners — New York's Lou Russo and Lou Kramberg. Both Russo and Kramberg went both ways and it is probably fortunate that neither were going the route when the doubles semis came up. To their credit they came on stronger as the tournament week progressed. Little Looie, the handball's counterpart of baseball's Looie Aparicio, handled the glass like he had been playing it for years. Comparatively inactive in tournament circles the past several years the compact little pisanos used both hands exceptionally well and was a steadying factor to the hard-hitting right side partner, Kramberg. The comeback third game win against Tyson and Roberson was reported sensational! With the glass court savvy, Tyson and Roberson looked like the winner at 17-6 but never got to 21. And, when Russo rolled out that 21st tally it was a victory richly deserved.

When it was announced that Jim Jacobs was in singles the shivers of other entrants were readily noted. There's none of 'em who won't admit the prowess of the former champ and as he rolled through the early rounds there were many who felt he would be the one to beat. Singer was erratic . . . Haber not overly impressive . . . Yambrick still not shooting enough . . . No. 2 1968 finisher Neveau too heavy . . . Lindsay, wise to the lore of the glass, strong but not razor sharp for the big boys . . . Dr. Claude Benham fought Stuffie Singer tooth and nail in what was probably the hottest singles big one

of the tournament . . . Lindsay banged up a toe after beating Neveau and was never in the running against Yambrick . . . Buzz Shumate, a strong third placer last year, couldn't un-track himself and lost to an "up" Kent Fusselman. This was Kent's biggest USHA win to date. And, when Jacobs knocked out Fusselman with little trouble the morning line experts had Jim in the finals against Singer or Haber.

Haber over Singer

It was in the semis that Paul Haber asserted himself like the champ he was in 1966 and 1967. He pulverized the reigning champion Singer, shooting brilliantly and taking charge from beginning to end. He wasn't nearly that talented in ousting fourth-seeded Dr. Steve August, 21-12, 21-17. On the other side of the ledger the gallery sat aghast as Jacobs did a complete physical foldup against Bill Yambrick. There was little or no semblance of the six-time champion in this fray. Jacobs had nothing for weapons — no power serve . . . no pinpoint ceiling shoots . . . no famed "stuff" volley shots . . . just no game. "Please don't headline this — End of An Era," one of the tourney big ones pleaded. No, it wasn't the end of an era because Jacobs had not been in the national singles since the last one at Austin in 1965 and some ink-



NOT QUITE . . . Many were disappointed that Pat Kirby didn't do better in the nationals but a pinched nerve in his shoulder slowed him up after the National Contenders in Birmingham.

ling of what was forthcoming happened last Labor Day in Detroit when he collapsed the same way against Marty Decatur in the three-wall singles finals. Jim would have been wiser to go for another doubles victory with a partner who could supplement his efforts and take some of the daily physical load.

So once again, as it was in 1966 and 1967, the stage was set for the Haber-Yambrick showdown. The "smart" boys were going with Haber. Yambrick actually hadn't been tested thoroughly in this one. I shouldn't put it just that way because Gordie Pfeifer of Tacoma had gone three games with him in the quarters and might have come out a winner had he not elected to go the singles-doubles route. The hard-hitting newcomer to the top level scene was almost punched out. After winning the second game from Bill, he had nothing left in reserve to give him a full go in the decider. From that point on Yambrick got a default after one game with Lindsay on the toe injury and then found a 39-year-old Jacobs that had answered the gong once too often.

Haber lived up to every expectation in the first game against Yambrick in the finals. He wasn't as hot as he was against Singer but didn't have to be as Bill was content to stick with a volleying game and when the shots did come his way he was going wild high. There's no doubt Bill reasoned this out between the first and second game for he came out strong and before Haber could regain momentum piled up a 10-1 lead. Paul wisely elected to play out the string and concentrate his efforts on the third game. His strategy

worked and he took charge early and was never seriously pressed.

Yambrick had his opportunities in the third game but could never put together a big inning. He stayed with the cross court serve to Haber's left and herein may lie the tale. For in the last analysis Haber defies the fundamental theories that you develop a strong off hand and then use it only when you have to. The Milwaukee champ shoots better and with more consistency with his left from deep court than he does with his right. He can go to the ceiling better with his left than any player in the game. He will err more shooting with his right.

Scopis Outlasts 'Em

Despite sane reasoning to the contrary the Masters singles is proving more popular than Master doubles. The 45-player field was sprinkled with good talent. Dr. John Scopis, with a steady Trullio-like control game, out-foxed and had too much condition for Max Lasskow; beat Tom Ciasulli at his own volleying stamina game and then methodically ground out the championship win over Portland's Ted Yeamans. No. 1 seeded Ralph Kaufman of Miami Beach who had won the National Contenders' singles at Birmingham the month previous, was unlucky enough to meet a hot playing Oscar Villareal of El Paso in the quarters and lost a heart-breaker first game, 21-20, and then was gassed out in the third game.

Bob Brady, who had won his Masters doubles in 1968 with Bob McGuire, came to this one with an ex-all American basketball, Kevin O'Shea (Notre Dame), and the fused talents of Ken Schneider and Gus Lewis were too much to cope with. Actually this semi-final match was the best of the Masters doubles tournament . . . the difference was the tourney experience of Schneider and Lewis against the battling Brady and his talented but untested partner. The remarkable and ageless George Brotemarkle again finished in the top four with Bill Feivou, a record unmatched in our USHA annals. The finals was fairly one-sided with Raleigh Blakely and Alvis Grant probably wishing they were back on the comfy confines of the Dallas Athletic Club courts.

The unsung heroes were those hard-working referees, captained by handball's No. 1 floor manager, Al Gracio. Al worked his usual long hours, assigning the refs and players to the courts, arranging times, and doing a 100 and more petty details so necessary in such an undertaking. And the boys who were always on hand to ref numbered many: Marty Singer, Neal Nordlund, Dan Callahan, Sid Semel, Ben Loiben, Rod Rodri-



'COWBOY BOB' IN TEXAS . . . USHA President Bob Kendler with his special Austin Stetson with Los Angeles A.C. Athletic Director Duke Llewellyn. That's Bob's wife Eve laughing at an anecdote with Judge Joe Shane's wife, Bess, in background.

BENHAM REPEATS VIRGINIA OPEN VICTORY

Due to quite a few conflicting dates of other tournaments, we were unable this year to line up some of the real big name players usually participating in our Virginia State Open.

Nevertheless we had a very strong field enter in both the singles and doubles at our 16th open.

Tom Ciasulli, from New Jersey, had to be switched at the last minute from doubles to singles; this was done after the draw sheets were printed and mailed out and completely beyond his control.

We were able to insert him in the

first round play because of a forfeit; he defeated Major R. Haling, Hampton Va., and subsequently was pitted against Dr. Claude Benham in the second round rather than later in the tournament.

Tom's approach to this unfortunate situation, his attitude prior to and during the tournament earned him the annual Sportsmanship Award, presented to him at the banquet Saturday evening.

Judging by the tremendous applause of the 53 players and their wives, it sounded like a well-deserved pick.

This year the "habitual" doubles team of Denuccio (Pop) - Morecock (Junior) split up and decided to go the singles route. It was inevitable that they would meet again in the same court, but this time as opponents. Junior defeated Pop 21-11, 21-18 to enter the finals against Benham.

Dr. Benham was in far better form this time than in the Southeast Regional four weeks previous. One such proof was his game against Walter Wales, a very tough, retrieving type of player, 21-3, 21-8. In those two games Claude amassed a total of 29 kills. In the game against Jeff Stone he scored a total of 27 kills.

Bill Morecock gave an excellent account of himself in the finals; however Claude "the King" was not ready to abdicate: 21-6, 21-5.

guez, and many who were content to take the lesser matches away from center stage.

And, overlooking the entire operation . . . the man who was left holding the bulk of the work load . . . Pete Tyson . . . taking on so many chores, ranging from ticket sales to posting giant score card scores on the entrance walls. And the poor little guy had to go through the week of torrid doubles play, right down to that tough 21-20 third game loss in the semi finals.

This was USHA's proud hour. Proving once again that national tournament handball is strictly big league!

Three Clinic Sessions Prove Tremendously Successful at USHA National Championships In U. of Texas Glass Court

Three clinics during the national tournament week at the University of Texas were very well attended and proved to be one of the highlights of the schedule. Jim Jacobs, Billy Yambrick and Bob Davidson conducted hour-long sessions before a 400-700 gallery of collegians and out-of-town entrants.

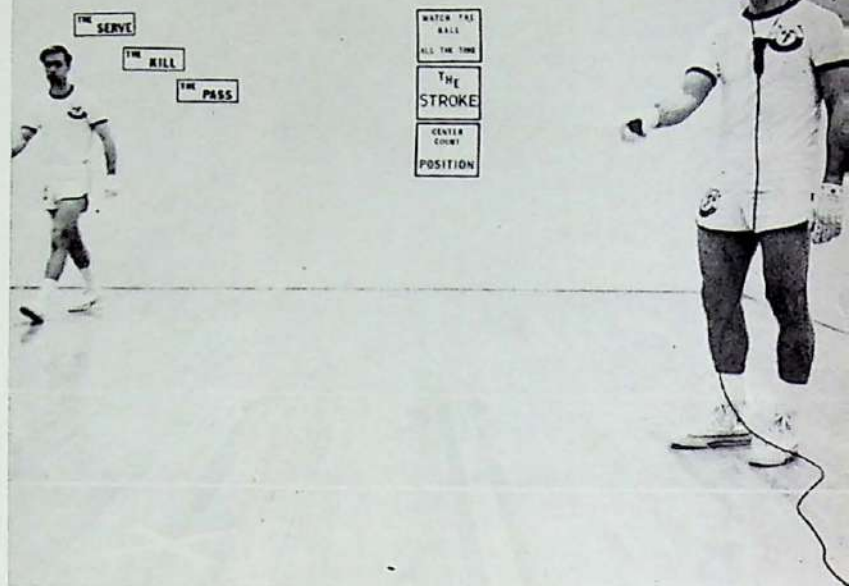
Jacobs traced his own development, pointing out he learned to use his left hand properly by standing in front of a mirror and studying his right hand motion, then imitating it with his left. After he could do this adroitly he transferred this movement into the court. But, Jim cautions, *"Develop your off hand and then forget it."* In other words, he advises to use the strong hand whenever possible for that is what spells W-I-N! He recalled a tabulation someone made on a match he had with Oscar Obert some years ago. In that match Oscar had used his off hand more than 300 times while Jim used his 43 and the outcome proved this theory.

In questions thrown at him from the gallery . . . Use of weights. *"I used 25-pound weight training from the age of 22 to 25 and found that it gave me much more strength."*

Jim tabs the fly shot as the most potent weapon in the game, as *"it obviously prevents your opponent from anticipating and moving for the shot and cuts down the time necessary for the opponent to move into position."* He also vividly pointed out the import-



MOST POPULAR . . . Jim Jacobs' session was best attended with a packed gallery to listen to this generation's No. 1 four-wall court exponent. His observations were well received and he knows his subject from A to Z.



HIGHLY ORGANIZED SESSION . . . Bill Yambrick at mike comes well prepared with stick on slogan cards . . . serve, kill, pass . . . watch the ball . . . the stroke . . . center court position. Paul Schulz is his able assistant. Bill has held these clinics at court facilities throughout this country and Canada and does a truly marvelous job.

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ance of moving the server out of the short line position by use of ceiling and around the walls. "It is foolhardy to shoot off the serve unless the serve is so weak that it becomes a setup, because the server commands that front court position and has you as a sitting duck in back court." The offhand punch to the ceiling has become an integral part of the handball defense.

Jacobs further elaborated on the importance of changing speeds on the serves, finding a serve that is most effective against the opponent and then sticking with it. He told of his final round match with Dave Graybill at Austin in the nationals of 1965 when he found the glass an effective counterpart for a cross court serve coming around the back wall. Dave tried to shoot off the serve and this was his downfall. So Jim stayed with this serve all through the match.

"Why the lefthand cross court serve on the second serve?" Jim says this serve is one in which he has the utmost confidence and it has become his "safe" serve. He feels that if a player has this confidence then it should be used. Note: It should be pointed out that there are always exceptions to the general rule. Paul Haber, a righthander, will use his left hand more and with more success than any player in the game. He has confidence in his left hand, to the ceiling, off the back wall, and for kill shots into either corner and this is what wins for him.

Bill Yambrick, who makes effective use of props in his clinic, has done a marvelous job throughout the U.S. and Canada. He has used Paul Schulz as a model exhibitor of shots and emphasizes keeping the eye on the ball, positioning, and proper stroke.

Bob Davidson always emphasizes "Point of Contact" and we have brought this up previously. He also insists that continually hitting a ball hard will not physically weaken a man on the tournament trail. He points to players like Gordie Pfeifer and Marty Decatur, who continually hit that ball hard. It isn't the arm that tires for them but in Marty's case it is conditioning overall. Pfeifer played in both singles and doubles in the nationals and showed no ill effects until he slammed into a wall and hurt his shoulder because



COACH BOB . . . Once again leading candidate for USHA's "Coach of the Year" — Bob Davidson.

his condition was very good.

The Jacobs and Yambrick style is tremendously effective but when a hot shooter like Haber comes along, their retrieving, experience and wear-down tactics can be overcome. So what should a Jacobs (and we speak of the prime years) and Yambrick do? In Bob's opinion they should shoot more than they would normally against a Haber. This was brought home in the exhibition at Los Angeles, when Jimmy opened up and threw caution to the winds and bombed Haber right off the court. And, in the second game of the final match between Yambrick and Haber it was the Billy shooting that turned the tide, but he couldn't keep it up in the third game. Contact and leveling off makes for a good shooter.

Wonsley Wins Air Force Logistic Title

TINKER AFB, OKLA. — Morris Wonsley of Griffiss AFB, N. Y., won five straight matches to win the Air Force Logistics Command (AFLC) handball championship at Tinker AFB, Okla.

Wonsley beat Gary Raines of Hill AFB, Utah, in the finals, 21-8, 21-17, after defeating Bill Stonebraker, Robins AFB, Ga.; Bud Rees, Tinker; Bill McBride, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; and Raines in an earlier round.

Players from seven AFLC bases around the country took part in the tournament, played at the newly dedicated Gerrity Gymnasium, named in honor of the late General Thomas P. Gerrity, former AFLC Commander.

The new facility's two 20 x 40 courts are added to four 23 x 45 courts at the base. All six are in constant use, by both handball and paddleball players.

Len Campanale and Gene Potter of McClellan AFB, Calif., took the doubles competition, defeating Stonebraker and Bob Bilski in the finals, 21-18, 21-15.

AFLC BEST . . . Morris Wonsley, representing Griffiss AFB, N. Y., tops entries from seven Logistic Command bases.



OBSERVATION TOWER

By BOB DAVIDSON

National Juniors Chairman

This was our greatest tournament in every way imaginable . . . hospitality, number of players . . . caliber of play . . . facilities . . . and a great display of talent by Paul Haber in winning back the singles title.

Paul does the complete job. His choice of shots are excellent. He can kill and pass, volley and retrieve. This is a man who does the right thing in a given situation, definitely the type of play I try to teach my boys.

I spoke to Haber before the tourney started and he told me he got into shape playing in the morning, taking lunch, and then coming back to the Milwaukee JCC courts and playing as long as he had someone to work out with. This totaled up to six to eight hours practically every day for three weeks. So this is the true picture of a great champion. The proof is that he outlasted a great conditioned athlete in Billy Yambrick.

I remember in Denver in 1961 when we had dinner together with Vic Hershkowitz and we told Paul that in our opinion he could be a champ if he put his mind to it and got into condition. For even then he had the tools . . . utmost concentration, choice of shots, speed afoot, and that pinpoint control. That left hand side wall-front wall kill is a thing of beauty.

Billy Yambrick has decided that he must shoot more and he showed in the nationals that he has this ability and can discipline his mind to make the flat shot. He shot more than he ever did before. In losing to Haber he lost to the best. After beating Paul 21-5 in the second game we all thought the ex-1966-67 champ was too tired to go all out in the third game, but Haber began to shoot and tired Yambrick around the 14th point. It was a wonderful final match. In my opinion you will see a new Yambrick from now on, more of a shooter, and if so, he will be very much in the picture next year.

Even though I didn't figure Stuffy Singer as the man to beat this year I was disappointed with his play throughout the tournament. His tempo was too slow. I suppose he was pacing himself but he couldn't increase the pace against Haber and lost badly, 6 and 13.

We also thought if Jacobs could hold up without any injuries he would be the man to beat but there appeared to be a number of things wrong in his semi final match with Yambrick.

Ray Neveau made the mistake of coming into the tournament far overweight. He wasn't ready for Bob Lindsay in the round of 16. He had to work too hard to take the first game, 21-20. He developed a pulled side muscle. Last year he worked his way into acceptable shape and thought he could do it again but the competition proved too tough, too early.

Lindsay then lost to a shooting

in doubles to pull in the big prize.

His partner, Lou Kramberg, also sharpened himself in singles, and for a 39-year-old did splendidly in getting to the round of 16 before losing to Dr. Steve August.

Gordie Pfeifer came back against Yambrick after losing the first game, 21-6, won 21-16 and then found himself with a bad shoulder and lost 21-10. Kent Fusselman didn't crack against the tourney-wise Buzz Shumate and pulled a big upset win. This could be considered the surprise of the tournament and a Top Eight finish for him.

The match between Pat Kirby and Dr. Claude Benham was well worth watching. Kirby had been playing the best ball of his career up to this one. Benham last year had decided to play more of a volleying game but after losing with that strategy he has gone back to his shooting game. In beating Kirby, Benham took front court position whenever possible and killed at every opportunity. He had a good average. Pat didn't have his usual strong tempo going.

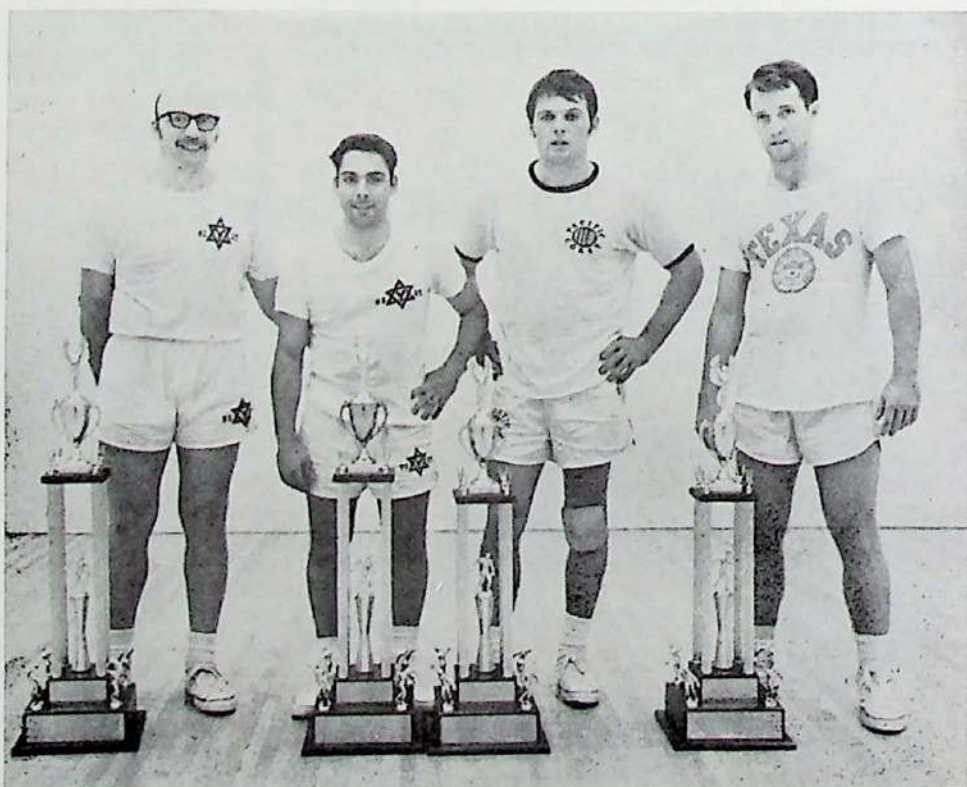
Then Benham lost to Singer, 21-18, and 21-17 and the difference appeared to be in the left hands. Overall it was a fine showing for the quiet Southerner.

In open doubles the team of Lou Russo and Lou Kramberg of the 92nd St. YMHA in New York won the championship the hard way, and actually kept the crown for the Y as Jacobs and Marty Decatur re-

Yambrick, 21-9, and then hurt his toe and had to default the second game and match. If Yambrick had been playing a volleying game it might have been a different story but Bob had to do a lot of digging and so the injured toe.

Jack Walsh was doing well with Singer until he got hit in the eye with the ball. After a time out he continued but he was no longer effective.

Lou Russo made 13 and 7 off Haber and feels that with better condition and sharpening tournament play he can do better in future tournaments. As it was he then played brilliantly



HEAVYWEIGHT LOOT . . . Cross-country teams No. 1-2 in open doubles . . . Lou Kramberg and Lou Russo (l) keep the national doubles crown for the N.Y. 92nd Street YMHA (vacated by Jim Jacobs and Marty Decatur). Runnersup Mel Sandland and Matt Kelly came all the way to the third game of the big prize and certainly rate biggest improvement of the season.

present the same organization. The New Yorkers went the three game route from the quarters to the finals. In the quarters they lost the first game to Don Ardito and Bob Koenig, 21-9, and then came alive to win, 21-8, 21-7. Their finest hour came in the semis against Pete Tyson and Dick Roberson. They beat the local favorites in their home glass court. Again they lost the first game 21-11 because they tried to play the Texans around the glass walls. Then they began to bring the ball low whenever possible and won the second game 21-13. It seemed that the Lou-team had the third game edge but Pete and Dick started shooting and built up a lead of 17-6. After a time out Kramberg caught the left side crotch on a couple of serves. He used a low, hard serve so that Roberson had to return the ball from the right side of the court and Russo would kill it. The score got to 20-12 but Kramberg's returns and Russo's phenomenal shooting from the back court on the fly to front, side wall plus re-kill seemingly kills was the answer to a 21-20 win. Tyson pointed out that a big factor in their loss was the great returns by Russo off the glass walls. He felt that very few players could have returned some of the tough shots from the left corner the way Russo did.

In the finals they met the young team of Mel Sandland and Matt Kelly. The Long Beach boys had gone three games from the quarters on also. After a strong early start Mel and Matt began to miss their kills. When Russo got loosened up he began to give an exhibition of shooting that hasn't been seen for a long time. Sandland and Kelly gave their all but they lost to a solid defensive, good shooting team. Mel can be a great shooter but he is too willing to shoot from any point that the ball takes him. As soon as he slows up his percentage of kills goes down. He needs better conditioning. Kelly is



NATION'S MASTERS . . . Raleigh Blakely and Alvis Grant (l) of Dallas A.C., eligible for their first Masters doubles, couldn't cope with the teamwork and court savvy of Gus Lewis and Ken Schneider. Lewis and Schneider, with four successive wins (1963-67), lost last year, came back real hungry this time to reclaim the championship.

going to be one of our best right side players. He has to develop more shots. He shoots too much to the right side and is neglecting fly shot opportunities.

Even with his bad back Oscar Obert went far with brother, Ruby. His back konked out altogether in the semis against Sandland and Kelly.

Dr. Gary Rohrer and Paul Schulz took the former champion doubles team of John Sloan and Phil Elbert in three games. Sloan had lost a lot of weight but still wasn't the Sloan of a decade ago. At times he made the shots like he used to but there weren't enough of them. Phil looked just as fast as usual but they just couldn't make it. Gary and Paul then went on to lose two close games to the Oberts in the quarters, 21-18, 21-18.

In the round of 16, Andy Upatnieks and Gordie Pfeifer beat Kent Fusselman and Jim Leahy in three games. In the quarters Gordie was playing almost one handed because of a bad right shoulder and still took the Sandland-Kelly team to three games. Andy played exceptionally well.

Mike Kelly and Jim O'Brien, the Olympic Club hopefuls hit a snag in Ray Neveau and Simie Fein and bit the dust . . .

Ken Schneider and Gus Lewis never looked better. I don't think they were hungry last year but they came back like gang busters. Ken did a complete job on the left and Gus' shooting percentage was near perfect on the right. This has to be the best Masters doubles team of all time and on a one-shot basis could cope with any open doubles duo.

I picked Ralph Kaufman for the Masters singles but had never seen Oscar Villareal play and this proved the stumbling block.

The finals between Ted Yeamans of Portland and Dr. John Scopis of Detroit was a long-winded affair. It started in the glass court but with time an important factor in scheduling the championship matches, they moved to a conventional court for the finish. Scopis won with condition and a fine off hand.

The intercollegiates was quite interesting for me as I felt that Fred Lewis, one of my boys should take the singles without any problems. But I had my moments of doubt against McCorkle of U. of Nevada. He had two tough ones against the strong southpaw and could have lost if the powerhouse from the West had

(To page 36)



NATIONAL INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM CHAMPS . . . University of Miami (Florida) took the team championship for the first time, breaking a six-year reign of the University of Texas. (l to r)—Joel Galpern and Jackie Lewis, doubles winners; Fred Lewis, A singles winner; Bob Leve, B singles entrant and son of Mort the Sport.

Haber's Play-By-Play Back to Crown

Haber wins the toss. Sid Semel of Norfolk, Va., our Southeast Area commissioner, refereeing.

Paul goes with the power serve down the left, gets a weak return but a hinder is called. Again with the strong serve to the left, around the walls by Yambrick, ceiling to left corner by Haber which is too hard to handle. 1-0.

2-0 on an ace to the left.

Serve to the left goes around to back wall, return to mid-court where Haber attempts left hand kill but misses.

0-2. Yambrick with medium speed reverse to left, ceiling return to left that doesn't go too deep but Bill misses return with left. 2-0. Haber gets weak return off serve to left and kills straight into front wall with his right. 3-0. Paul makes it 4-0 with left hand kill.

Short to left on serve . . . now lob to left on 2nd serve. Yambrick goes to ceiling that comes off back wall but Haber shoots high and Bill puts it away to take over the serve. On the next volley Haber errs going to ceiling and Yambrick scores his first point. 1-4. Short serve. Cross court serve, around the walls by Yambrick, then Haber errs with his left. 2-4. Ace to the left for 3-4. Haber passes down the right after a short volley to regain serve.

4-3. Short serve. There had been a short interruption while a crying baby was removed from the gallery. Cross court to right and Bill gives a ceiling right down the middle, coming off the back wall and Haber passes down the right again. 5-3. Yambrick takes Haber ceiling shot with his right and counters with ceiling to left that is too hard to handle.

3-5. Yambrick serving from far right side . . . serve off left side wall, ceiling return and then hinder as ball hits Haber. Again the pattern of serve to left, ceiling to right, around the walls by Bill, ceiling left, and then Yambrick's shot is too close to right wall for Paul to handle. 4-5.

4-5. Short serve. Although Haber has shown more impressive thus far he has only a one point lead. Cross court serve to Haber's left, around the walls to Yambrick's left. Bill shoots high but ball is close to side wall and Haber can't get the solid shot and goes to ceiling right, Yambrick ceiling to left and Paul misses off this shot with his left.

5-5. Four errors for Haber. Volley with Yambrick shooting too high on his opportunity, then with another chance from three-quarter court tries for left corner with his left and hits it into the floor. 6-5 Haber as he catches crotch in deep court on strong right hand passing shot.

6-5. Serve to left, around walls, up to ceiling by Haber to left corner, Yambrick returns and then Haber fires in a right hand kill for 7-5. Ace just over short line to left, low for 8-5. Standing in middle of serving zone, goes to left, ceiling return by Bill, off right side wall, and then Paul scores as Yambrick tries to go to ceiling with his left and misses, 9-5. Yambrick tries to shoot a right corner kill but Haber commanding short line position picks it up and shoots in his patented left hand shot — right side wall, front wall to make it a five-point inning and 10-5 lead. Yambrick takes time out.

10-5. Short serve. Scotch toss to right. Ceiling by Haber and Yambrick errs with left on return, 11-5. Short serve. Haber double shorts as he changes 2nd serve and tries lob to left.

5-11. During volley Haber again shoots in that left hand, right corner shot, but this time Yambrick digs it up and a hinder follows a brilliant rally. Cross court serve. Haber goes to ceiling with his left, coming to right side. Yambrick shoots high, coming off left wall. Haber constantly using ceiling and often giving Yam-



DOWN LOW . . . Haber shoots with one knee off floor in scooping up Yambrick shot and killing flat into front wall. Billy finds himself out of position for possible return.

brick shot off back wall but Bill is shooting high and not taking advantage. Whether or not the glass in back wall has a bearing on this is the question. Fly shot by Haber with his right from deep court to take over serve. On next volley Bill hits one that comes hard off back wall and Haber kills with his left in left corner, 12-5. Time out Haber.

12-5. Darrell Royal, famed football coach of the University of Texas Longhorns, is introduced and gets a hearty welcome. Haber serves to left, coming off left side wall . . . deep return by Yambrick passes Paul.

5-12. Ceiling by Haber, return of ceiling by Yambrick comes off back wall and Haber kills it with his right to regain serve.

12-5. Short serve. Lob on second serve to left but far enough from side wall for Bill to use his right, and puts it away.

5-12. Yambrick in center court, serves to left. Exchange of ceiling shots and one by Paul to left corner is too hard to handle. The difference in the volley exchange is the fact that ceiling shots coming off the back wall are not being offensively potent by Bill and Haber is doing something on ceiling shots of this sort plus a better control with both hands of this intricate maneuver.

12-5. With that pinpoint control Haber again goes to left corner with ceiling shot that is too hard to handle, 13-5. Long volley and then Haber shoots high, allowing Yambrick full left side and he takes advantage and serve back.

5-13. Haber's return of the serve with left punch to ceiling to left corner is too hard to handle and he again takes over serve.

13-5. Poor shot by Haber, setting up Yambrick right hand kill.

5-13. Ceiling to right by Haber with left and gets weak return and pounds in straight right hand kill. 13-5. Lob serve to left and Yambrick kills with his left. Haber observed after the match, "The lob serve against other opponents is effective for me but against Billy it is no good . . . he can move in with either hand and put me out."

5-13. Beautiful Volley. Haber ends it with a fine kill into right front wall. Again, Yambrick is shooting too high when the opportunity rises, 13-5. Lob serve, gets weak return, goes to ceiling, hinder ball. Time out

Haber, second one. Lob to left, ceiling by Yambrick to right wall . . . and Haber shoots right hand kill into right corner, 14-5. Lob to left, return coming around off back wall and Paul shoots and misses.

5-14. Short serve . . . over to right to serve, soft lob serve coming around the walls, exchange of high shots, then Haber given setup off hard back wall but misses with his right attempting to go to right corner, 6-14. Serve to left, around the walls with the left . . . to Yambrick's left hand for shot, volley ensues, then Haber shoots and misses with his right, 7-14. Yambrick goes with the cross court serve to the left . . . Haber was able to take it with his right and puts it down the right, and on Yambrick's return misses with an overhand right, 8-14. Cross court, up to ceiling with the left, coming off, return is killed into right corner by Haber with his right.

14-8. Hard serve down left. Yambrick misses two chances off back wall. 15-8 as Haber gets his chance and kills with his right straight into front wall. Yambrick takes Haber's lob serve and kills with his left and gets serve back.

8-15. Cross court serve to left. Again, each miss on opportunities before Haber kills into right corner with his right, 15-8. Yambrick can't get those point making kills that would enable him to get back into the ball game. Lob to right this time, and Yambrick muffs it close to right side wall, 16-8. Time out Yambrick, second one.

The Haber lob serve to the right can be compared to a change of pace in baseball and Yambrick going casually to flip it up with his right to the ceiling and found himself handcuffed against the right wall.

16-8. Lob to right again and Yambrick brings it down the right, Haber ceiling to the left, not too close to wall, exchange with Yambrick making nice get, then Haber passes Bill on the right for 17-8. Lob to the left, return by Yambrick and Haber desperation back to front wall and keeps ball in play. And, then Haber misses on shot with right. Twice Paul has tried the so-called "hammer overhand kill" from three-quarter court and both times has floored the ball.

8-17. Haber misses with his left off Yambrick's serve that came around to back wall. Paul likes to move over to right on these balls that come around and take them with his left, rather than move inside and take them with his right which most of the righthanders will do.

9-17. "Hang tough" is the gallery cry for Yambrick at this stage. Ceiling to the left off the serve. Setup for Haber off the back wall and he kills with his right into right corner.



YAMBRICK STOPS LINDSAY . . . Bob Lindsay eliminated No. 2 seeded Ray Neveau, then literally stumbled against Billy Yambrick. At tail end of first game he banged toe against wall and was ineffective from then on.



SITTING DUCK . . . Haber catches Singer in back court and is readying right corner kill in semi final match. This was Paul at his best in ousting the defending champion and moving into the final round against Yambrick.

17-9. Glove change Haber. Power serve off left side wall, return to right, and Haber misses for a handout. 9-17. Cross court serve, off back wall, Haber goes to ceiling, Yambrick shoots high, ceiling to left . . . coming off right wall deep to Haber and he misses with his right. 10-17. Cross court serve, volley . . . hinder ball. Changes to serve right down the left, around the walls by Haber, and then regains serve with left hand kill into left corner. 17-10. Lob to left . . . Yambrick moves up toward short line and kills it with his left. Paul said after the match, "I was a bit stubborn in using the lob serve at times, knowing that Yambrick is most effective in returning it offensively."

10-17. Yambrick must make his move. Cross court serve coming around off the back wall and Haber goes to ceiling, coming down the middle, and Bill shoots high . . . and then a hinder. Short serve to right. Lob serve on second one to left, put up to ceiling, return off back wall. Haber shoots high . . . and then puts him out on straight right hand kill. 17-10. Hard serve down the right . . . nice return by Yambrick but gives setup and Paul passes him to left with his right.

18-10. Third time out Yambrick. Power to left, ceiling by Yambrick down the middle . . . long volley . . . ended after fine get by Haber and then Yambrick shoots kill into left corner with his right. 10-18. Serve down left . . . another long volley of around the walls and ceiling shots . . . looked like Haber lost one in the glass and flubs it for 11-18. Serve to left . . . Haber flies and passes down the right with his right hand.

18-11 . . . Serves to left, and then Haber takes return and shoots into right corner with right, 19-11 . . . had Yambrick back and didn't have to pin point it. Serve to left . . . exchange of ceilings . . . Haber gets setup and kills into right corner with his left, 20-11. Down the left serve . . . Yambrick returns nicely, then contact for hinder. Haber takes third time out.

20-11. Haber wants to make sure he won't be too anxious going after the all-important 21st point. Serve to left, around the walls by Yambrick, and Haber goes

to the left with the ceiling . . . around the walls and up to the ceiling again . . . exchange of ceiling shots . . . Paul gets a shot off the back wall with his left but can't kill, coming off to left side wall . . . up to ceiling by Bill. Yambrick misses on one attempt, then kills into left corner with his right to stay alive. 11-20. Yambrick goes to left to serve. Bill can't get his shot in low enough and Haber again takes over with straight right kill.

20-11. Haber ends it with a left hand kill into left corner for the game point.

FIRST GAME

HABER 221 610 100 112 001 21 — 21

YAMBRICK 032 000 000 300 110 1 — 11

ERRORS — Haber 9, Yambrick 5. ACES — Haber 2, Yambrick 1. KILLS — Haber 16, Yambrick 9. PASSES — Haber 6, Yambrick 5.

SECOND GAME:

Yambrick serving. Long volley. Yambrick kills from deep court left into right corner, 1-0. A right corner kill by Haber with his right puts him out off the serve. An ace to the right, 1-1. Short serve. Goes with his left hand, cross court serve to the left . . . hinder ball on contact. Serve to right. Yambrick, with Haber back, gets "safe kill" into front wall with his right.

1-1. Serve down the left. Setup after volley for Paul and he passes to the left.

1-1 . . . Lob serve to left . . . down right wall . . . ball off back wall misses by Haber with his left. 1-1. It is apparent that Haber has lost sharpness at the beginning of this second game, missing on several golden opportunities. Soft cross court to left . . . again with Haber hanging back, Yambrick gets wide open shot and puts it away with his right, 2-1.

2-1. Very deceptive shot by Yambrick with his right down left side wall, 3-1. Cross court, around the walls return, down the middle return but Haber misses with his right, 4-1. Cross court, around the wall return . . . Yambrick attempts right hand shot and misses. 1-4. Short on attempt to sneak serve down right. Lob to right . . . good return by Yambrick off ceiling shot to left corner . . . Bill shoots with his left, ball takes wicked bounce off back wall and puts Haber out. 4-1. Cross court serve. This time return by Haber off the back wall is killed by Yambrick with his right, 5-1. The tide apparently has turned and the confidence is apparent in the Yambrick movements. Haber is hanging in back court too much with a loss of momentum. Cross court to the left, around the walls return, and then pass by Haber to get serve back. 1-5. Serve to left . . . Yambrick brings it around the walls, up to ceiling . . . and Bill puts in left hand kills. 5-1. Thinking of the "expert" galleryites is that Haber might be tiring. Yambrick makes it 6-1 on fine right hand kill after short volley. Cross court serve coming around back wall, Yambrick digs Haber's return and kills with his right for 7-1.

7-1. And, again after pattern of around the wall return off cross court serve, Bill gets shot and puts it away with his right, 8-1. Yambrick undoubtedly has made up his mind to shoot in this game and has Haber anticipating volley shots. Cross court serve and Haber kills it with his left. 1-8. Haber has to move if he wants a two-gamer. Both have opportunities but shoot high, then Haber misses with his right. 8-1. Cross court serve to left. Yambrick kills off Haber's return with his right, 9-1. Time out Haber.

Haber tries to stop onrush with time out. 9-1. Yambrick sticking with the cross court serve. Haber returns with his right to ceiling left. Haber shoots high for setup off back wall but Yambrick shoots high. Hinder ball. 9-1. Cross court . . . another hinder. Haber had returned ball with his left that hits Bill. Cross court, Haber up to ceiling with his left and too hard for Bill to handle.

1-9. Short serve. And, Yambrick puts one up to

ceiling left corner that is too hard for Haber to handle. 9-1. Cross court serve, volley, and then Haber misses with his left, 10-1. (Note: In followup conversation with Haber: "I decided at this time of game to give the game rather than make an all out attempt to pull it out . . . because if I did lose it the third game would be too rough. I wasn't as tired as it appeared to the gallery but Yambrick had gone into the game shooting and this came unexpectedly to me and I lost my concentration. I did feel that even in the first game I lacked the sharpness that I had the day before in beating Stuff. Against Stuff I played the best ball of my career.")

10-1. Cross court . . . volley. Again Yambrick has wide open shot and puts it away with his right, 11-1. Flat kill by Bill to make it 12-1. Haber regains serve with straight right kill.

1-12. Lob to right. Yambrick goes to ceiling, coming off back wall. Haber shoots and kills, 2-12. Lob to left, coming off back wall. Hinder. Lob to left and volley around walls. Yambrick takes serve back.

12-2. Short volley and Yambrick pounds in right kill for 13-2. Complete reversal of first game. Cross court serve, ceiling to right, return down the middle but Haber can't put it away and Yambrick kills again with his right, 14-2. After a hard fought volley, Haber missed on a ball hit right at him, 15-2. Time out Yambrick.

15-2. Haber regains serve with right hand, right corner kill. 2-15. Haber misses with his left. 15-2. Serve down the right, Haber's return weak and Bill puts it away in right corner with his right, 16-2. Two hinder balls after short volleys. Yambrick with the cross court. Bill flubs one to set it up and Haber kills with his right to get the serve. 2-16. Haber catches crotch on right side with his left for 3-16. 4-16 on straight right hand kill. Short serve. Lob to left on 2nd serve and Yambrick in ensuing volley misses with his left, 5-16. Serve down the left, return down the right side, Haber shoots and misses.

16-5. Haber in back court and Yambrick shoots in right hand kill off ceiling return. 17-5. Ace to the right, 18-5. Yambrick brings ball around to the right and Haber passes him to the right with his left hand.

5-18. Serve to left and Yambrick kills it as it comes around to back wall. 18-5. Cross court serve, up to ceiling to left and Yambrick kills return with his left, 19-5. Cross court serve, long volley and Yambrick flat kills off back wall with his right, 20-5. And Yambrick ends it with sharp pass to Haber's right with his right hand.

SECOND GAME

YAMBRICK 103 131 330 123 — 21

HABER 100 000 010 30 — 5

ERRORS — Yambrick 1, Haber 7. ACES — Yambrick 1, Haber 1. KILLS — Yambrick 15, Haber 7. PASSES — Yambrick 5, Haber 3.

THIRD GAME:

After the ten-minute rest between the second and third games Haber came back to a fast start. He started with a straight kill with his right, got his second point on a pass to the right with his right hand and added one more to 3-0 on a right hand Yambrick error. Yambrick made it 1-3, killing a ceiling return that came off the back wall with his right before Haber put him out with a pass to the left side with his right hand. It was 5-1 Haber on another straight right hand kill and a left corner kill with his right before he was put out on a right hand error. Yambrick couldn't score as Haber took a ball off the back wall with his right and killed. It was 6-1 on a right hand pass to the left and then he was stopped as Yambrick killed with his right off a ceiling return.

1-6. Yambrick puts in a right corner kill with his right hand, 2-6. Cross court serve that Haber takes with his right and passes Yambrick down the right,

6-2. Yambrick errs with his left off a ceiling return, 7-2. Short serve. Down the left on 2nd serve. Haber attempts right hand shot and misses, 2-7. Yambrick getting opportunities to get back in game but not taking advantage. Yambrick moves to right and serves down left wall. Hinder after good volley. Cross court serve. Haber passes on fly shot, 7-2. 8-2 on ball coming hard off back wall that Haber shoots in for kill. Haber serves into the floor. "I was trying to put too much on the ball."

2-8. Haber misses with his left, 3-8. Bill gets a fat one and miscues with his right, 8-3. Time out Haber.

8-3. Yambrick shoots high and Haber gets right corner kill with his left — the right corner which is side wall, front wall, 9-3. 10-3 on ace to the left. Yambrick's first time out. When game is resumed Haber adds another ace to the left, 11-3 and then goes 12-3, killing with his right off the back wall . . . AND a commanding 13-3 on his third ace of the inning, again to the left before the rally is stopped with a deep court left hand kill by Yambrick off ceiling return.

3-13. Left hand kill by Haber puts Yambrick out.

13-3. Hinder ball. Referee time out to dry ball and spots on floor. Referee time out as ball hits Haber on side of face near eye but no injury and after referee's time out play is resumed. 13-3. Short serve. Overhand lob and error by Yambrick as ball hugged left wall, 14-3. 15-3 on straight kill by Haber with his left. Then he misses with his right.

3-15. Bill musters up a three-point inning on a right corner kill with his right, a straight right hand kill and an ace to the left, 6-15, and then is put on a right hand pass to his left.

15-6. Haber can't score, Yambrick killing straight with his right. 6-15. One point for Bill as Haber flubs with his left off the cross court serve, 7-15 but then comes back to regain serve on a strong right hand pass to the right.

Haber draws a blank on a straight right hand kill by Yambrick.

It's 16-7 when Bill errs with his left and then Haber serves into the floor for the second time in the game!

7-16. This would appear the time for Yambrick to move out but can only count once on a Haber right hand error and then is put out on a fine left hand kill.

16-8. Haber all but wraps up the championship with a three run inning. Yambrick misses again with his right, then Paul counts on a right corner kill with his right and another on his ceiling shot into the left



STUFFY AWAITS SERVE . . . Defending Champ Stuffy Singer had an all-out battle with Dr. Claude Benham in the quarter-finals. Here's an exceptional shot from front court glass as Benham starts his serve. Benham came back strong this year after disappointing at St. Louis in 1968. He eliminated a pre-tournament favorite in Pat Kirby in the round of 16 and just couldn't get those vital few points necessary for victory against Stuffy.

corner that is too hard to handle. The rally is stopped on a right hand Yambrick kill into the left corner. Bill is put out without a score on a left hand straight kill.

19-8. Paul goes in but errs with his left and Yambrick then makes his move with four points — a fine left corner kill with his left, a pass to the right that is too hard to handle, a right hand kill off a ceiling return and a low pass to the right with his right and then is stopped on a straight right hand kill.

19-12. Again Yambrick applies the brakes on a right hand pass to the right.

12-19. A right corner kill with Haber's right puts Bill out.

19-12. It's 20-12 on a left hand pass to the left and then a Haber left hand error going for the downs. 12-20. 13-20 on a right hand kill but a left hand pass to the right stymies any further move by Yambrick.

20-13. It isn't over yet as Yambrick kills with his right and then adds No. 14 on an ace to the left. But, Bill misses off the back wall, and then another right hand error gives Paul the game, match and reclaim of the national singles championship.

THIRD GAME

HABER	321	011	520	130	010	1	—	21
YAMBRICK	100	101	031	104	011			14

ERRORS — Haber 7, Yambrick 9. ACES — Haber 3, Yambrick, 2. KILLS — Haber 12, Yambrick 7. PASSES — Haber 7, Yambrick 3.



KIRBY GOES DOWN . . . The good Dr. Benham maintained the all-important front court position much of the match against the Irish whip artist and showed exceptional right hand shooting ability.

IN MEMORIAM

I should have told you sooner Marv . . .

Been wanting to write you for a long time. Thought I should tell you what a wonderful thing you did for handball. Your help with Ed Parker turned into a mountain of good and this tribute to you is long overdue.

You probably don't even remember the day in Houston, when I told you how badly we needed both a new ball and new income. Remember my two year search for a manufacturer who would take a big gamble? When I thought I was licked, you came through with an ACE. And what an ACE! I can hear you now phoning your old pal at Spalding and really laying it on. Sure didn't take you long to convince him that he should listen to my story.

And there he was the next day picking me up at the Springfield airport. The President of one of America's oldest and most respected firms. You sold me so well he believed every word I told him. It took a small fortune and plenty of skill to make the balls we needed. Ed Parker had both. To satisfy all our players was next to impossible. I don't know what you told Ed but he never gave up. He must have been doing it for you Marv, he certainly didn't owe me anything.

It always amazes me how some almost insignificant act can change a whole life. I am sure you didn't attach any significance to your deed, but it sure changed

the course of handball. Like every amateur sport, we needed money to grow. We needed an understanding manufacturer who would share the growth we had to offer. You came up with it Marv and I want the new players as well as the old to know you are one of handball's unsung heroes. To me this was the turning point. From a single Tournament Association, we grew to an 18 Tournament Association. Our few hundred members grew to many thousands. In every area our progress was phenomenal.

All because we had new income to work with. All because of you Marv Blumenthal!

Say Marv, I heard you played your last game the other day, and you've left your old address. Tell me Marv, how do I thank a guy after he is gone? How do I tell him what he did meant more to handball than anything that ever happened. Altho I can't tell you, I can tell all the other guys so they, like me, can say a prayer for you and your family. For putting handball together!

(Marv Blumenthal, Athletic Director of the Jewish Community Center of Houston, Texas passed away on March 17, 1969. After almost 45 years devoted to serving mankind. His life was an inspiration to all who recognize that the eternal house, that house not made with hands, is man, and God's workmen are Marv Blumenthals').

BOB KENDLER

Kramberg's Birmingham Accolades

By LOU KRAMBERG

The fair city of Birmingham was the site of this year's National Contenders and the hero once again, as he has been so many times this year, was Pat Kirby.

The "impish" Kirby was the picture of confidence as he flattened balls from all parts of the court in beating Dr. Steve August. Steve tried hard, but, because of his medical commitments and lack of competition, finds "weekend" tournament too demanding. Pat, on the other hand, seems to thrive on this type of tournament and might very well be handball's No. 1 "weekender."

Mel Sandland and Matt Kelly of Long Beach won the doubles very impressively and should be a strong threat in the big one in Austin. (Note: And, they were, losing to the author and Lou Russo in the finals).

That grand "young" team of Joe Ardito and Ben Costello won the Masters doubles. It was quite evident that their experienced teamwork gave them the winning formula.

Ralph Kaufman of Miami Beach won the Masters singles, beating Max Lasskow of our 92nd St. YMHA.

A match I viewed with mixed emotions was the one between National Junior Champ Steve Lott of our Y and Ernie Ortiz, now of Tampa. Ernie beat Steve in a tough three-gamer, winning the third one, 21-19. Ernie was down 12-19 in that third game but wouldn't give in to Steve. He remained aggressive and with his usual retrieving ability forced Steve to miss.

Ernie and I go back about 20 years when we played basketball for 92nd St. Y. Also playing with us at that time was a young man by the name of Lennie Rosenbluth who was to become an all American at North Carolina U. and then played with the Philadelphia Warriors. Ernie was very instrumental in guiding Lennie in those days, both on and off the court. He was a fine backcourt man who ran a team with discipline, but never the kind that was resented.

Ernie had a fine career at George Washington U. (never lost in D.C. playground ball against Elgin Baylor), and then went into YMCA and guidance field work. The ensuing years have found him doing "his thing" in New York, Milwaukee, Puerto Rico, Memphis, and now Tampa, where he is the director of the Big Brothers movement. Like many of us, when our team sports days were behind us and we were looking for something to keep active athletically, handball became the way of life. And, so did Ernie, starting at Bronx Union Y with the help of Bob Davidson, and he soon became a ranking player. He progressed to Wisconsin's top three when he moved to Milwaukee. Although now in his late 30s, Ernie is ranked right up with the very best in Florida. Now based in Tampa he is doing an outstanding handball promotional job there and all of us in USHA wish him God speed to keep his kind and patient work with the youth. I want to personally thank him for remaining a close friend.

It was a great tournament in Birmingham with the emphasis on strong play. My contribution was a quarterfinal loss to Terry Muck . . . make way for youth. My "thing" is doubles and I was supposed to do it with Stuffy Singer but "Stuff's knee got balky at the last minute and he couldn't make it. I was rudely thrown into the singles but at 39 just couldn't "cut the mustard".

Special notes: First, to Jim Tanner and his host gang in Birmingham . . . "You and the members of your committee really put on a great tournament. Hospitality was superb, from Don McMurphy, health club director, to the indispensable Gatorade dispenser.

To Al Gracio . . . to give you a very special thanks. The job you do as floor manager is a great undertaking. It is a tedious and thankless job. Your competence is only exceeded by your good looks and attire. I am sure my USHA brothers will join me in this appreciation for your long hours and experienced know how.

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As we move into 1969 this early response augurs well for an imposing list of contributors by the end of 1969. Gold-plated lifetime membership cards will be sent each and ACE magazine will have a permanent page of recognition. As a federally-chartered non-profit association your contributions are tax deductible. This is your way of giving back something to the game that has given you so much—to perpetuate handball for our children and the generations to come.

SHORT SHORTS . . .

Ed Meadows, one of our faithful boosters, is now back in the Washington, D.C. area and as always promoting the game. D.C. has six courts at the Pentagon Officers' A.C., three at the Central YMCA, two new ones at the Arlington, Va., YMCA. Two courts are being built at the new JCC in Bethesda, Md.

Ed boosts a three-man game called "jai-alai" and very popular in the San Diego area. "It is simple and unlike cut throat the interest on the part of each player is constantly maintained.

"One player plays another with the third man staying out of the way at the center back wall, moving along the wall when necessary. It's surprising to note how easy it is for the third man to avoid being in the way. The two players volley as normal. If the server wins, he gets a point as usual. If the non-server wins the volley, he wins the serves as usual. In each case the loser of the volley drops out and is replaced by the third man. A change is made after each volley as you never have more than the length of one volley before getting back into play. Player reaction, I am

sure, will be highly favorable, if it is tried. Whenever I have introduced this game to players it has been received extremely well, without exception." Of course, first player to accumulate 21 points is the winner.

* * *

Chief Justice Earl Warren said it: "I always turn to the sports section. The sports page records man's accomplishments; the front page has nothing but man's failures."

Chicago . . .

Tom Brownfield, Duncan YMCA, won the Chicago YMCA A singles, held at the Hyde Park YMCA, beating Dave Bolin, Irving Park YMCA, 21-9, 21-1. Elihu Blanks, Hyde Park Y, took third place over teammate Arnie Sternberg, 21-7, 21-20.

NEW YMCA — North Suburban YMCA, located in "Sports Champions" U.S.A., Northbrook, Ill., officially opened March 16. The Y, which will service five or six suburban communities, has three standard handball courts, with room for

expansion. Ken Thiel, who was formerly at the Evanston YMCA, is general secretary of the Y.

* * *

CHICAGO HANDBALL LEAGUE . . . Frank Larkin gives this information. Duncan YMCA won the A league, Evanston YMCA, second.

Detroit . . .

Detroit handball is now dominated by the August family. In the Metropolitan singles competition held at the University of Detroit, Dr. Steve August beat his younger brother, Larry, 21-11, 21-8. Steve had eliminated Dick Sheldon in the semis, 21-18, 21-16, while Larry was eliminating No. 2 seed Larry Brown, 21-3, 21-8. Brown took third place, 21-6, 21-6. There were 46 entries in this year's tournament. It is interesting to note that veteran Paul Stobbe went to the quarterfinals, then lost an all-out three games to Sheldon, 20-21, 21-12, 21-15. Cy DeMeulemeester, another of the young old-timers also went to the quarters before dropping one to Brown, 21-3, 21-17.

BENHAM AGAIN S. REGION WINNER

Dr. Claude Benham once again won the USHA Southeast regionals, held at the Norfolk, Va., YMCA, but young Fred Lewis of Miami Beach and New York, is coming closer and closer. This time Fred pressed Benham to 21-19 and 21-20, after having eliminated Tampa's Ernie Ortiz in the semi finals, 21-15, 21-13.

Joel Galpern, another of the Flaming Park young hopefuls, wound up third, losing to Benham, 21-7, 21-14 in the semis, then beating Ortiz, 14-21, 21-13, 21-19 in a real stamina test.

The doubles matches produced a high degree of top play and fireworks. Al McCulloch, Springfield, Va., and his teammate, Lloyd Wood, Kensington, Md. repeated their feat from the 1968 USHA S.E. regional tournament by placing first after defeating the very strong and well balanced New York team of John O'Mahone and Fred Munsch.

As usual the hospitality room was again a successful meeting place for old friends and a place to make new ones.

W. F. M. FEBER

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TOURNAMENT BESTS . . .

By MORT LEVE

As is our annual custom after the national championships we put down our "Most" observations . . .

BIGGEST ATTRACTION . . . hands down to the University of Texas femme gymnastics classes. It's a wonder one of the railbirds didn't tumble down into the gymnastics rooms. This was "girl watching" at its apex.

BIGGEST SURPRISE . . . Jim Jacobs' complete collapse in the semis against Bill Yambrick. Kent Fusselman's win over Buzz Shumate to gain the coveted Top Eight. The big doubles prize for Lou Russo and Lou Kramberg.

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENTS . . . Ray Neveau, who was a strong runnerup last year . . . Pat Kirby, who had been installed as one of the favorites after a fine season . . . Stuffy Singer's decisive loss to Paul Haber.

BEST FUTURE POTENTIAL . . . Gordie Pfeifer, who is coming on stronger and stronger. Might have gone further in singles if he had not been going the singles-doubles route.

REASSERTING THEMSELVES . . . Gus Lewis and Ken Schneider, racking up their fifth Masters doubles and a return to the throne after a one-year hiatus. It's now seven Masters doubles titles for Gus. Paul Haber with his third national singles, bouncing back after being stymied by an injury in last year's running . . . Lou Russo Jr. . . returning to the tournament scene after once being tabbed heir apparent as a champion national junior winner. Lou was a positively brilliant counterpart for steady Lou Kramberg in doubles and they richly deserved the championship.

HOST FAVORITES . . . Pete Tyson and Dick Roberson, who lost a heart breaker to Russo and Kramberg after having it seemingly wrapped up, lock, stock and barrel.

RETURNEE . . . Bob Lindsay, coming on real well with a fine win over Ray Neveau, then stubbing his big toe against Yambrick and unable to battle in the second game.

GOOD TO SEE . . . Arnie Aguilar, who we once seeded eighth in singles (San Francisco, 1960) . . . now content to go the Masters doubles route with smooth playing Irv Simon . . . John Carr of Des Moines . . . those grand old-timers, Larry Dike, now of Tucson, and John Casteel, Lemon Grove, Calif. . . Ted Hilgenstuhler and his happiness with the Masters singles . . . boys, you have won your case! Dr. John Scapis, scampering about like a colt and outlasting the field in Masters singles . . . sound the gong and there's George Brotemarkle, again in the top four with strong-playing Bill Feivou . . . Jim Tanner and Alan Clark, fresh from a successful hosting of the National Contenders in Birmingham . . . Bill Segal, our No. 1 fan from Miami Beach, staying glued to his seat for all the excitement. Bill would rather watch USHA national tournament handball than go on one of his whirlwind round-the-world trips . . . George Lee, commander of the Dallas A. C. forces. Sid Semel, a real asset to the Association and pitching in wherever and whenever he can.

CARRYING THE LOAD . . . Pete Tyson, trying to do everything without enough time to do it . . . Al Gracio, manning the Floor Manager's post, thriving under the long hours . . . but, finding it a lot easier with 13 courts than he did with five at the Olympic Club a couple of years ago.

No. 1 BISTRO . . . The Barn, where many of the gang gathered . . . specializing in a yard of suds, Texas-size steaks and chunks of delicious Swiss cheese.

HOSPITALITY DOUBLE BARRELED . . . the boys could stuff themselves daily at Gregory Gymnasium, served by gorgeous college gals, and then hoist a few at night at the room set up at the Villa Capri.

BEST SPEECH . . . President Bob gave out with his best one to date at the convention meeting . . . boys also enjoyed Jim Jacobs' fictitious tales.

BIGGEST GUFFAW . . . When Pete Tyson was about the announce the Sportsmanship Trophy and Haber walked over to "accept."

WELCOMED ADDITION . . . National Intercollegiates with some top talent . . . Freddie Lewis, U. of Miami (Fla.) overshadowing the field . . . His brother Jackie and Joel Galpern winning the doubles. Mike Dau was able to salvage B singles with William Yee and a second place for Lake Forest College in team honors.

THE CASTLE HILL CLUB . . . Of the national champions . . . Paul Haber was a tyke of nine or ten when he started at this famed Bronx mecca . . . Lou Kramberg and Lou Russo both products . . . Ken Schneider started his four-wall career there . . . Freddie and Jackie Lewis. That's quite

(To page 70)

St. Paul . . .

The 13th annual St. Paul Winter Carnival Doubles Tourney was won by Paul Schulz and Dr. Gary Rohrer, representing the St. Paul Athletic Club. In the finals they defeated last year's champs, Wayne Stewart and George Lund, 21-14, 21-16. Thirty-eight teams representing all the clubs and colleges in the Twin Cities' area, participated in the event which was held at the Midway YMCA. Third place was taken by Jim Tagney and Rolie Weigman, Minneapolis Y, defeating Larry Lein and Bob Hurd, Minneapolis Y, 21-17, 21-19. Jim Marshall and Dennis Stedman defeated Fred Gergen and Tom McLaughlin in the finals of the consolation, both teams representing the Midway Y.

Chosen for the special award of "Most Promising New Team" of the tournament were two All-American softball players, Dan O'Connor and Jerry Schaber.

—AL ORENSTEEN



WINTER CARNIVAL DOUBLES . . . 13th Annual winners are Paul Schulz and Dr. Gary Rohrer (l) with presentation being made by Al O'Neill, tournament chairman.

FLORIDA STATE FINALISTS



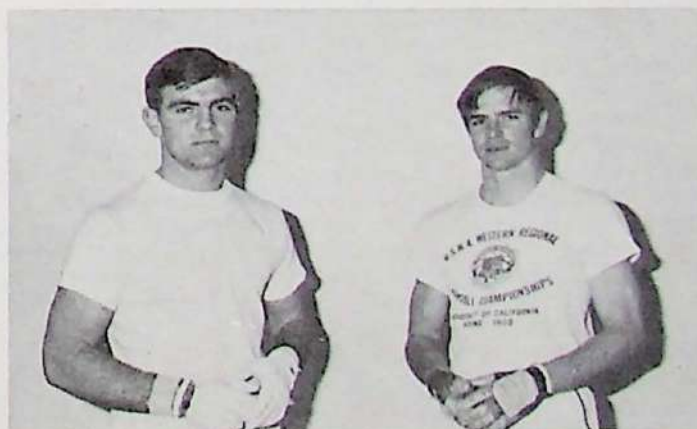
MIAMI BEACH 1-2 . . . Joe Griffin, former national singles champ, presents trophies to Joel Galpern (l), runnerup, and Fred Lewis, champion. Tourney was held at Ft. Lauderdale YMCA.



STARTING YEAR RIGHT . . . Dan Callahan (r), USHA's traveling troubador, got his first game in for 1969 right after stroke of midnight, Jan. 1. He is currently racking up his 365 games to qualify for the club.



MASTERS BEST . . . Ralph Kaufman (l) of Flamingo Park group won doubles championship with Harold Hanft. Both are former New York players. Hanft now represents host Y.



U. OF CALIFORNIA . . . Steve Walker (l) winner of State collegiate tournament over Bill Hansen. Players from five State campuses participated in event.

Fresno Hosts West Region Bourbeau Takes Singles Sandland-Bart Top Doubles

By MARTIN JUDNICH

USHA's West Regional championships was the magnet which attracted 174 of California's and Nevada's finest handballers to the Fresno YMCA, the Raisin City's tenth consecutive classic.

After three days of intensive competition the following participants were acclaimed as champions:

Singles — Bob Bourbeau, Reno YMCA; Doubles — Mel Sandland-John Bart, Long Beach Pacific Coast Club; Master singles — Rudy Stadlberger, South End Rowing Club, San Francisco; Master doubles — Bob Brady-Bob McGuire, Olympic Club, San Francisco.

Before elaborating on the accomplishments of the above champions and/or of the many other sterling players who performed at the Fresno YMCA, it seems appropriate to give prior praise to the untiring and astute efforts of Al Gracio, Long Beach, handball's "modest" and most underrated afterthought. It is understandable during the hectic excitement and smooth operation of any complex and huge tournament that very few handball devotees stop to appreciate nor seem to be aware of the expert planning, masterful coordination and a multitude of other vital details which must be carefully implemented to assure success. Without fanfare and without seeking any glory, it always seems that Al just happened to be in the neighborhood of the Fresno YMCA or at the nationals or other important handball tournaments in all parts of the country.

Gracio usually arrives a few days in advance of the tournament just in time to help out in case he may

be needed, to assist the eager local committees in drawing up diabolically clever schedules, determining the proper seeded players, fixing the byes and times of the matches, and any other important chores which may be necessary.

Dawn to Dark

Al usually starts his arduous duties at the crack of dawn and continues without letup near midnight, or later if necessary. He helps to round up players well in advance of each game on all courts; digs up unwilling referees for unimportant matches; posts the scores on the official schedules; and if necessary he will run out and buy more mustard if needed on the hot dogs or sandwiches. When a tough match appears on the horizon, Gracio steps into any breach and referees with happy results. Gracio is one of the best referees in the U.S. Certainly, not many official members of any handball committee works harder than Gracio, who is worthy of consideration into the USHA's Handball Hall of Fame.

Bob Bourbeau, Reno YMCA, third ranked nationally in 1967, defeated Jim Triplett, highway patrol officer from Pomona, Calif., 17-21, 21-12 and 21-9, to take the finals in the open singles. Bourbeau was haunted with injuries in 1968. Last year at Fresno he injured a shoulder in an early round and dropped out of contention; and at the San Jose YMCA's Labor Day Invitational Bob snapped an Achilles tendon in the finals against Harold Price. After surgery Bourbeau slowly healed, systematically he exercised and courageously worked himself back into the superb condition necessary to win at Fresno



DESERVED AWARD . . . Bob Bourbeau is given Sportsmanship Award at USHA Nationals in Austin. His good wife beams approval. Bob never gives an alibi when losing, is always capable of outstanding play.

against a large field of 59 high grade performers.

In the semi-finals (earlier on the same day), Bourbeau was extended to grind out another three-game thriller against Hollywood's Len Rosen, an improved, efficient and clever performer, 21-5, 16-21 and 21-12. Bourbeau's solid all-around game makes him a worthy successor to last year's winner at Fresno, Stuffie Singer, the Hollywood USHA National titlist.

Switch to Singles

Triplett and Dennis Perryman, Pomona, two strong, brilliant, proficient players previously concentrated as a highly efficient doubles team. Each is well conditioned, pulverize the pellet with paralyzing power, and appear to use radar in finalizing a rally with pin-point accuracy on the bottom board. Triplett shocked top-seeded Harry Packer in the quarter-finals, 21-19 and 21-4. Packer, a potent left-hander, with sharp hooks and devastating corner kills was good enough last year to extend Singer at Fresno.

Perryman, seeded at the top of the bottom bracket, was unexpectedly derailed in the third round by unsung Gary Ryan, a most promising, colorful and dedicated player of the San Francisco Central YMCA. Neither player believes in prolonging a rally. Each wicked, sharp-breaking serve is generally intended to be an ace; and many were non-returnable.

However, Ryan's serves were a bit more effective and he chalked up many points therefrom. Perryman was a more experienced campaigner, and he appeared to be hypnotized by the fact that a comparative unknown would dare to match him in his own deadly shot style of finding the bottom board. However, Ryan did win the most exciting match of the tournament, 21-13, 12-21 and 21-13.

Rosen confiscated third place trophy over Claude Mabry, Reno, a very capable Bourbeau teammate. Mabry's improvement was a pleasant surprise, notably his victory in the quarter-finals over durable Milt Cornell, Los Angeles. Ron Simpson, University of California physical education faculty, made an excellent showing by gaining the quarter-finals by a nice win over Jim Thompson, Fresno, 12-21, 21-17 and 21-10.

Several Fresno lads indicated bet-terments in their game: Mitch Covington, Jon Proctor and particularly Jay Bilyeu, a youngster who eliminated veteran campaigner, Joe Lenhart, San Jose, in the opening round.

Sandland-Bart Dominate

The finals in the 23-team open doubles was monopolized by two Southern California teams: Mel Sandland-John Bart took the top honors over Don Anderson-Gabe Enriquez in a bitterly-contested match, 21-13, 17-21 and 21-18. Sandland frequently scored with his deadly left-handed kills and he was very effectively supported by Bart, a young giant who covers the right side like a blanket. Don Anderson, youngish left-handed pro baseballer, coupled with Gabe Enriquez, a veteran of many nationals with plenty of moxie and unspent mileage to form an excellent duo. Unfortunately, Don and Gabe were shy by only three points in the third game.

Two seeded Northern California combos were ousted in the semi-finals: Jim O'Brien Jr.-Spencer Johnston, Olympic Club, were beaten by Anderson-Rodriguez, 21-17 and 21-10; and Jerry Cooke, Sacramento Elks, and Hal Solin, San Francisco Rowing Club, were disposed of by Sandland-Bart, 21-14 and 21-15.

It was noticed that each of the four teams in the semi-finals just happened to be seeded in the four top spots, undoubtedly by some lucky guess, or perhaps by the uncanny suggestion of Al Gracio.

Bob Brady-Bob McGuire, Olympic Club's holders of the 1968 USHA National Masters title, prevailed in the finals to win over a stubborn team of Arnie Aguilar-Irv Simon, Hollywood YMCA, 10-21, 21-10 and 21-8. After losing the first by 21 to 10, it seemed that a big upset was in the offing. However, Brady and McGuire wisely and relentlessly con-

centrated on Aguilar on the left side. Aguilar, an extremely fine player (and apparently fully recuperated from surgery for a severed Achilles tendon) finally tired, and Brady and McGuire brought back another winner's trophy to add to their collections in San Francisco.

Simon's outstanding right side support deserves favorable mention. Irv demonstrated a knack of unexpectedly being in the right place when needed; and then sending the ball to some remote part of the court where the opposition was absent. Consolation for third place was won by Howard Wyrsh-Dino Pezzi, of San Francisco and Oakland, by their victory over George Takaoka-Frank Zuniga, Fresno, 21-15, 18-21 and 21-12. There were 16 teams in this competition.

Rudy Tops 37 Masters

Rudy Stadlberger, South End Club, already has a house full of handball trophies. He added another by retaining his 1968 Master's singles title by downing Bob Little, Olympic Club, 21-7, 21-17 in the finals. Rudy defeated Stanley Clawson, San Francisco, in the semi-finals, 21-12, 21-13. Little earned his spot in the finals by defeating Alex Boisseree, Los Angeles A.C., in the semi-finals 20-21, 21-14 and 21-13; and Ted Hilgenstuhler, Hollywood Y, in the quarter-finals, 21-11, 21-11.

Clawson won third place over Boisseree.

It was fortunate that Fresno provided for a Master's singles because the open singles was fully loaded with 59 players for a three-day tournament. The 37 Master's singles players were accommodated in their own category.

FRESNO HOSPITALITY: The unsurpassed generosity of the handball committee of the Fresno YMCA was evident in the club's hospitality room

where an abundance of tasty sandwiches and liquid refreshments were constantly available for the large group of famished handballers. The tournament was climaxed by a delectable Armenian style Shish Kebab dinner in generous quantities. The feast was prepared and served by a large group of the prominent members of the Fresno handball committee and their charming wives. Additionally, each of the many banquet tables was decorated by Fresno produced wines, raisins and grapes. The large quantities of excellent food was exceeded only by the huge appetites of the handballers. It is doubtful if a plague of locusts could have equalled the job done by the handballers in cleaning up their plates.

The guardian of the microphone wisely permitted no interference with the appetites of the handballers. Consequently, none of the Fresno politicians nor any of the important handball commissioners or stars were called upon to make any speeches. Joe Shane, the USHA's National Commissioner, and the "William Jennings Bryan" of the handball circuit, enjoyed the rare opportunity of eating a most delicious meal without the problem and handicap of demonstrating his outstanding oratorical ability. Perhaps Bob Kendler may allot Joe a short time to make one of his famous speeches at the forthcoming nationals at Austin, Texas.

The Fresno YMCA's hard working committee members included: Ray Dresser, chairman; Bruce Zak, master of ceremonies; Jim Benninghoven, Nomie Derderian, Trino Adame, Don Gefvert, Tom Saghatelian, Frank Zuniga, Jim Thompson, George Takaoka, Raul Muniz, Don Carr, Red Williams, Bob Jolly, Buck Kandarian, Ray Elser, Mike Smith, George Moore and many others who labored valiantly and without publicity.

BEST WISHES FROM THE

Miami Beach Handball Club

Joe Brotman, President
Bob Davidson, First Vice President
Bob Lewis, Second Vice President
Jackie Lewis, Secretary
Lou Soodak, Treasurer
Harry Rice, Chairman of Membership
Stu Rubin, Ed Rubin — Entertainment Committee

Executive Committee—Dr. Fox, Bill Segal, Al Levine, Hy Kirsner, Syd Hoff, Nat Miller, Lou Soodak, Fred Koran, Jerry DiLorenzo, Ted Bystock.



John Cuffari (r) goes to ceiling in Memphis city title go against Jack Gillespie.

Memphis . . .

An old rivalry was renewed in the city singles competition between Jack Gillespie and John Cuffari.

Gillespie is last year's city and regional champ and has been getting his game back to par after recovering from his third knee operation.

Cuffari, stationed in Memphis with gional champ and has been getting retired last December in Memphis after being away for three years.

As expected, both reached the finals in the city's biggest and best tournament yet. Both players in their early 40's were in top form. They showed the younger players that condition and desire play a very large part in being a champ.

The match started off with both players making tremendous saves and long volleys. The first game lasted 50 minutes with Gillespie win-

ning 21-20. Although Gillespie had to go into his reserve early in the match to pull it out, Cuffari came back in the second a little more rested than Gillespie and won handily 21-1.

The third game was a very tight match until Gillespie, losing 11-13 lost his edge and Cuffari went on to win 21-13.

Gillespie and partner, Dr. Ed Wiener, won the city doubles championship from Cuffari and Ed Rotenberry winning in three games, 17-21, 21-13, 21-15. John Stokes came in third in the singles, over Dr. Wiener. Jim Short won the consolation match over Bob Wallace.

A banquet was held later and the instructional film on Jim Jacobs and Stuffie Singer was shown. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the film as it had to be shown twice. Thanks to the USHA for this wonderful film.

Shumate Reclaims Dallas A.C. Singles . . .

Buzz Shumate brought the singles championship back home after a year's absence in the finals of the Dallas Athletic Club Invitational Handball Tournament, and he beat a national champion to do it.

Shumate, the DAC's top-ranked player on the national scene, regained the title he won from 1964 through 1967 by outshooting Los Angeles' Stuffie Singer, the USHA singles king, 21-20, 21-20.

In doubles, however, it was strictly the visitors' day. The club's 23rd annual tournament closed with Austin's Pete Tyson and Dick Roberson, the defending champions, scoring a solid victory over DAC's Alvis Grant and John Schoellkopf. The scores were 21-7, 21-10.

Third place singles went to St. Paul's Terry Muck, who stopped fellow townsman and National YMCA champion Bill Yambrick, 21-10, 21-18. In doubles, Los Angeles Alex Boisseree and Dick Weisman had a long day of it before finally beating Chicago's Jack Gordon and Jim Leahy, 21-15, 9-21, 21-18.

In the consolation bracket, Houston's Wayne Graham beat Lubbock's Lile Lewter in singles while Austin's Stan Henson and Wayne Lee defeated Little Rock's Howell Heck and Burt McLain in doubles.

Shumate again proved a master on the familiar DAC court. He trailed in the first game, 14-18, but rallied brilliantly to make it 20-20. Then each player served three times before Buzz put away the winning point. In the second game, he took control early and never allowed the constantly pressing Singer to move ahead.

Late Flash . . .

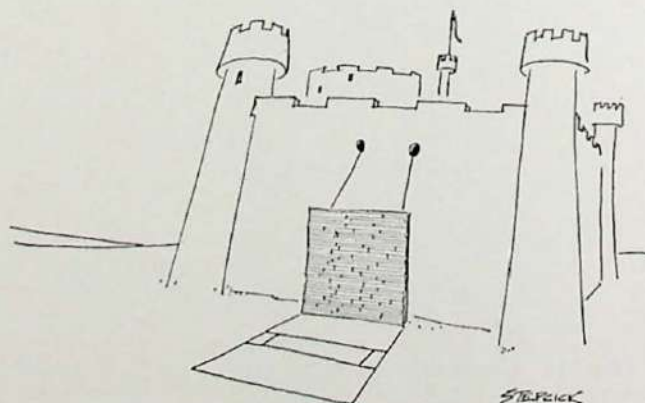
SAM DIEGO ENTRIES WIN ALL DIVISION PADDLE EVENTS

San Diego hosted the West Division IPA tournament over the April 11-13 weekend and walked off with victories in all three events.

Dr. Charles Hanna won the singles over Gary Hanko, athletic director of Vancouver, B.C.'s MART, 8-21, 21-16, 21-19.

Dr. Bud Muehleisen and Charles Brumfield defeated Gabe Scott and Nava Snell in an all-San Diego doubles finish, 21-8, 21-11.

Ben Press, tennis pro at the host Kona Kai Club, teamed with Carl Loveday to win the Masters doubles over George Halland and Abe Swerdlow in still another San Diego finale, 21-10, 21-4.



'LOSER IS FED TO DRAGONS'



JIM LEAHY

Leahy Wins Central Singles

Jim Leahy, who has been frustrated on a number of occasions in local and regional tournaments, came unto his own in the annual Central USHA singles tournament, outclassing a field of 72 and beating the veteran Phil Elbert in the finals, 21-13, 18-21, 21-16.

Leahy, 21, had no easy path to the winner's circle, playing Jack McDonald in the quarters and Andy Upatnieks in the semis. He won both these matches in two games each — McDonald, 21-10 and 21-7, and then defending titlist Upatnieks, 21-19, 21-10.

Elbert, a former national doubles champ with Johnny Sloan (1964) and also an ex-Top Eighter in national singles, had eliminated Joliet's Zeke Zalatel in the quarters, the hard way — 21-16, 5-21, 21-20, and then Don Ardito, 21-6, 21-15.

Leahy, who represents the Irving Park YMCA, is in the Air Corps reserve program and this precluded his appearance in the Texas nationals but he is now considered top man on the Chicago area singles totem pole and should be heard from nationally along with Army returnee Denny Hofflander. Denny returned from Vietnam in the early part of the year and then went to Camp Polk, La., for six months as an instructor. He plans to be ready for the Labor Day weekend three-wall in Detroit.

NOTICE:

The United States Handball Life Insurance Program has received a tremendous response of its recent mailing. For this reason we are extending the application period for one more month, through May 31, 1969. Don't miss this great opportunity to take advantage of our Life Insurance proposal intended for the benefit of USHA members only.

TRIBULATIONS OF WEEKEND HANDBALLER

By BILL KENNEDY

Perhaps one of the reasons some top players from New York, New Jersey and New England did not attend the Eastern Regional Tournament in Rochester, N. Y., was because they feared driving to a city famous for its snowstorms.

Snow in Rochester, however, proved to be practically nonexistent from Feb. 28 to March 2. This reporter encountered a few other problems.

A typical handball tournament snag is the failure of at least one player to show up on time for a match. My second round opponent, a detective on the Rochester Police vice squad, failed to arrive for the scheduled 5 p.m. meeting. Bob Orozco, Central Y physical director, explained he was probably on a stake out and would arrive later.

"I'll even let him win," I said, "if he tells me where the action is in this city." Unfortunately I'm still waiting.

After four hours of officiating and socializing, I showered and attempted to return to the suburban Rochester home of a close friend, where I was lodged for the weekend. Trying to retrace the simple route I follow-

ed into the city proved to be impossible and the 15-minute drive took more than two hours and a half a tank of gas. When I finally got to his house at 12:30 a.m., I needed another hour to unwind. My 9 a.m. match on Saturday came far too soon.

In what I thought was a wise move, I left Rochester at noon on Sunday before the finals. I planned to arrive home before dark and made excellent time until I ran into snow flurries in Liberty, N. Y., just 75 miles from my destination. The flurries soon became a blizzard and by the time I reached Middletown, N.Y., the local radio station reported 4-14 inches had fallen as I crept along Route 17 toward New Jersey at 25 m.p.h. East of Middletown, a tractor trailer jackknifed and blocked the entire highway for two hours.

I finally got home at 9:45 p.m. to discover that my snow boots, so carefully packed for my trip to snow-famed Rochester, had been left at my friend's house. My wife sympathetically reminded me that this was the first weekend tournament I had ever attended without her, and that I might not be so anxious to leave her behind the next time.

Under The Wire

Washington State Lilac Festival tourney at Spokane, May 15- 17 . . . Blossomtime tourney at Bellingham, May 23-25.

Howard Jaffe over Ken Davidoff in Scranton, Pa. exhibition with third game 21-20.

Our sincere appreciation to James Gowan Jr. of New Orleans who has named USHA as his USHA Life Insurance beneficiary.

May 24-31 — Harbor doubles at Pacific Coast Club, Long Beach; Handicap tournaments — May 30, July 4 and Sept. 1.

Illinois Handball Association wishes to add: Jack McDonald, Tony D'Andrea, and Bob Turner, physical director at Oak Park YMCA, as individual sponsors in sending area players to the Texas nationals.

• • •

Promised Manny Dorsky of Birmingham and Miami that he now has my Rockford and Beloit titles after winning two matches from me in Miami Beach and Ft. Lauderdale — Mort Leve. Excuse — vacationing. Also — good meeting handballer Ruby Katz of Merrick, N. Y. in St. Maarten's.

Good luck to the Fire Fighters in their annual national play at the Hollywood YMCA last weekend in April.

Proposed plan — and a good one — best eight singles players in special Phoenix Y invitational next Fall. Dave Graybill will be host player against seven incoming players.

CAROM SHOTS

Winning may not be everything but losing isn't anything!

Cub Third Baseman Ron Santo was told to lay off handball this past winter because of a chronic sore elbow . . . so what happened? First day Ron was in spring training his elbow swelled up.

Joe Shane, after receiving his honorary Texan award, "It has been a delight for me to see so many people in the gallery, watching what I consider to be the finest athletes in all of sports."

Tall Corn . . .

The Tall Corn Tournament dates are May 2-4. Site — Des Moines, Iowa, YMCA.

The first annual Montgomery Open Handball Tournament will be held at the Central Branch YMCA starting Thursday, June 5. The tournament will be held on three new air-conditioned courts, which are to be completed in April.

The Montgomery Handball Association plans to put Montgomery on the list of annual top flight handball tournaments. They plan to top off the tournament with a good ole' Southern Charcoal Grilled Steak Dinner, which will be free to all participants.

If you want to attend a handball tournament that is run with Southern hospitality at its best, you should mark this on your handball calendar.

See you in Montgomery on June 5-7, 1969!

For additional information, please contact George Johnston, Tournament Chairman, Central Branch YMCA, P.O. Box 968, Montgomery, Ala., 36102.

Bob Davidson continually emphasizes "Point of Contact." We posed the question — Players come into a big tournament and their play often is 30-50% below the level of performance at their respective home courts. Why?

Bob: When they miss they're not meeting the ball properly. They are hitting the ball at a point where the ball takes them and not getting into position properly. Many of these strong armed player with the physical equipment shoot with half speed. They attempt trickery in their shots. Sometimes they look one way and hit the other. They sort of 'carry' the ball in rather than use their brawn and their power.



STEALS NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT . . . Adjacent to the Gregory Gymnasium handball courts the "girl watchers" found this most attractive sight — co-ed gymnastic classes. You can be sure the boys were all but falling over the rail while closely scrutinizing the gyrations.

The Continental Sports Conference handball tournament was conducted at Ramstein AB, Germany, from 17 thru 21 March. This tournament bring together the finest USAF handball players on the European Continent.

Ramstein AB made a clean sweep of first place in singles and doubles. Capt. Mike Morando won the singles in an exciting, well played match from Sgt. Mark Rojas, from Darmstadt AB, Germany, 21-20, 8-21, and 21-20. Lt. Col. Sidney Glenn and SMSgt. Bob McNamee teamed to win the doubles from Capt. Morando and CMSgt. Flynn (Ret.) in two games, 21-10 and 21-8. All finalists in singles and doubles are USHA members.

Lt. Col. Glenn, the "Old Pro" of handball for the past three years here at Ramstein, will depart this summer for reassignment to Thailand. Beware! Thailanders, of a fine "Crafty" handball player!

Central Y handball club organized in Philadelphia with Jake Tullen, president; Bill Browne, vice president; Ed Stier, secretary-treasurer. Forty paid up members at \$2 a year. "Cherry on the sundae of the meeting was a film of the Jacobs-Haber exhibition. Class A champ of the Y is Bill Foley, who beat Tony Azzato. Charles Gilfillan over Marty Murray for the B crown.

Dr. Al August and No. 1 son, Dr. Steve August, took the Metropolitan doubles in a field of 18 teams, beating the veteran combine of Dr. John Scapis and Cy DeMuelemeester, 21-20, 21-17. The August team had beaten Kennedy-DeNuyll in the semis, 21-20, 21-9, while Scapis-DeMuelemeester were winning over Palombo and Rott, 21-18, 21-16. Kennedy and DeNuyll took third place.

Our condolences to Pete Tyson on the loss of his mother, Mrs. Vivian Johnson of Dallas. Mrs. Johnson had been head bookkeeper at the Dallas A.C. for more than two decades.

Gaston Chappuis, a long-time worker in ward and stake activities of the Mormon Church in Salt Lake City, passed away recently. Chappuis had been a former Utah state handball singles champion six times and doubles winner several times.

SIGN UP A HANDBALL BUDDY!

☐ \$2 for 1969; ☐ \$5 for 1969-71

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Send check or money order to: USHA, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill. 60076

INDER CE OUBLES OB **Handball** **LETTERS**

Navy Aid . . .

Dear Bob:

You performed a great service for my son, Ed, in getting him invited to play in the National Handball Association Championship in Austin. He and his partner, Ferguson, will undoubtedly have the time of their lives and it will mean a tremendous lot to them in the years ahead.

It is a tribute to your leadership and prestige in getting the United States Navy, through Admiral Brown, to do this for these boys. This is what makes you such a great leader in the handball world, and it must be a source of great satisfaction to you to see the tremendous strides being made throughout the United States in the sport. The wholesome and high ideals that you have advocated from the time you started on this project is bearing fruit and this is just as important as the interest you have developed in the sport itself.

I just wanted to "tip my hat" to a great sportsman and to thank you for the great example that you are setting for others to follow.

With warmest personal regards and very best wishes for continued success and happiness.

CHARLES E. CREAGH
Nashville, Tenn.

One-Wall Serving . . .

Dear Mr. Kendler:

In answer to Mr. Salvador Coppola's letter in the Feb. ACE, I don't believe I made myself clear.

There is such a thing as a screened ball in serving. If the server is standing in the center of the court and hits the serve so that it passes close to his body and the receiver doesn't see the ball till it passes the server's body, this is called a screened ball and is a "do over."

What I am trying to say is that if the server stands on the right side of the court about two or three feet from the side line and serves the ball to the right side, this serve should also be called a screened ball because this serve is also blocked by the server's body in two ways. Firstly, when the ball passes the server's body the receiver loses sight of it for a second or two and has to pick up the ball again. Secondly, in trying to hit the ball back, he finds the server's body in his way and therefore has to hit the ball to the right side of the court. If he doesn't hit a dead killer, the server puts the ball away because he is legally blocking the receiver. The way the receiver can counteract this serve is to hit the server with the ball thus causing a hinder. If the receiver constantly does this and the server does not change his service, this rule would have to be put into effect. In view of the fact that one-wall, grade A handball players are gentleman and they themselves wish to take advantage of this service, they haven't taken advantage of hitting the server with the ball.

In an singles one-wall exhibition match recently between

Steve Sandler and Marty Decatur, in a night honoring Sandler as the one-wall champ, Steve used the "tricky" serve only three or four times in the entire game. He made these points every time. One time, he stood at the left side of the court and served the ball to his left side. Decatur just stood in his tracks. He never saw the ball. The referee never called a screened ball. However, the points he made on the "tricky" serve won him the game as the final score was 25 to 22.

Mr. Coppola states, "the added reach and power of the paddle has necessitated this service modification which is mentioned in the first letter." If the paddle gives extra reach, why was the change necessary to make?

As to the paddle giving more power, the class A handball player hits the ball harder than a player with a wooden paddle.

Mr. Coppola states, "A game of serves between closely matched one-wall players is as intensely interesting as a pitcher's match in baseball."

It is interesting to note that the baseball moguls are trying to avoid these pitcher's matches and get more hitting into the game. The baseball fans want more action and the executives have already lowered the pitcher's mound to make pitchers less effective. They are trying to have pinch hitters hitting for the pitchers every time and still keep the pitcher in the game, and have the same pinch hitter hit more than once in the game.

All these changes are being made or tried, to create more spectator interest.

FRANK HARBER
1076 Eastern Pkwy.
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Film Value . . .

Dear Mr. Leve:

The first meeting of the year of the Hobb's New Mexico, Handball Association was a great success and I contribute it to the film you sent us. We thoroughly enjoyed it.

JOHN M. WATSON

U. of California . . .

Dear Mort:

In an attempt to promote student exchange between the University of California campuses an Intercampus Athletic Advisory Board was established several years ago to provide for an athletic exchange program. Handball was included as an activity in this program for the first time this year. As a result, sixteen players from five campuses participated in the weekend tournament held February 15-16 at Berkeley. Visiting players were provided round trip plane fares and other expenses.

UCLA dominated the team competition and their ace Steve Walker won the tournament by defeating Bill Hansen, University of California, Irvine 21-13, 21-13.

Next year, the event is scheduled to be held at Irvine and when the I.A.A.B. meets next I will recommend that the tournament champion be sent to the USHA intercollegiate tournament.

Sincerely,
RON SIMPSON

LET'S HEAR FROM YOU!

This is your exclusive corner of ACE magazine. Send in your views—pro or con . . . take advantage of the opportunity to SOUND OFF!

Detroit's Dr. John Scapis Wins Master's Singles on Two-handed Court Coverage and Top Condition

Scapis takes ball off back wall in final match against Portland's Ted Yeamans.



OBSERVATION TOWER . . .

(From page 21)

hit on some key steups. Fred got going against National Junior Champ Steve Lott and won going away. In the finals he met Detroit's Larry August, U. of Michigan and a former National Junior winner. Larry has improved but Fred had the big serve and kill. Fred let down in the second game and had to pick up the tempo to win 21-16 . . . so Fred now has the national intercollegiate crown, vacated by two time winner Terry Muck (had to forego defense because of professional baseball).

In the doubles four of my boys were in the finals — Joel Galpern and Jack Lewis for U. of Miami against Wes Yee and Steve Jamron of Lake Forest College. Joel and Jack were the strong winners. I was surprised at the one-sided match as I felt that if Wes had played to his potential it would be quite a match. Wes has to untrack himself. Jamron is improved but Jack Lewis is a pleasure to watch as he is coming around strong as a right side player. Coach Mike Dau has done a good job with William Yee, another of my boys. Willie won the B singles. Mort the Sport's son, Bob Leve, filled out the U. of Miami team to make them eligible for the team title. Dr. Jack Kapchan is manager of the collegians from Coral Gables and this is a boost for the Hurricane handball cause.

On the sad side . . . one of our dedicated Flamingo handballers, Stan Marcus, passed away from a heart attack at the age of 42. Stan was always helpful in arranging tournaments at Flamingo. It was quite a shock to all of us and brought back memories of the premature passing of Bob Haas at the height of his handball career.

NOTES: Ken Davidoff and Howie Eisenberg, doubles, had to default because of a nose and ankle injury to Ken while playing Fusselman and Leahy. Ken and Howie had won the first game and were winning the second when the partners collided.

It occurred to me that Buzz Shumate should add the ceiling and around the walls when he plays on the 20 x 40. At the Dallas A.C. he can win without the defense. Buzz used an underhand soft serve to the left side that doesn't reach the back wall but when the ball would come off the side wall he got "creamed."

Had a talk with Mike de la Pena, coach of the Olympic Club. Mike, in his day, was one of the better doubles players. He's a good coach and always brings a good team to the nationals. Mike observed that the singles had more talent than any other tournament he could remember.

The Olympic Club has 350 players . . . it brings back memories of my days in the Bay Area in 1947-48,

especially Jerry Marshall and his wife Bernice; Dave Siewert and his wife, Mary. We still write to each other and I hope to see them at Los Angeles next year for the nationals.

We had quite a number of talks with Marty Judnich, the official scribe for the Bay Area and one of USHA's best assets. Marty was always an exponent of the high lob shot.

Don Fabry, our Green Bay glove king wouldn't talk about his special exhibition match loss to Mort the Sport. John feels he is greatly underrated player and given a couple of years will throw a fright into the big boys. Mort says, that in his opinion, Fabry has no past and certainly no future, handball-wise, and his only assets are his wife, Sandy, and the Saranac gloves.

Ed Barlow, director of required physical education at the U. of Texas, is a good friend of handball and has an exceptional handball teacher and coach in Pete Tyson. The Texas theory is to teach more than 500 boys how to play as well as possible.

In going back to my tape recorder I find that I am impressed with Paul Haber's passing game. He would hit the front wall, side wall about three feet high, or low to the crotch and

(To page 68)

Hardy Consolation Winner

Denver's John Hardy gained the National Consolation singles championship, defeating Fresno's Mitch Covington in the final round, 21-8, 21-17. Hardy stopped a tough Dick Cramer of Houston in the semi-finals 21-19, 21-16, while Covington eliminated Denver's Lee Wretling, 19-21, 21-13, 21-12.

Top-seeded Izzy Mankofsky, one of our official USHA photographers, and a veteran of ALL the consolation competitions, went as far as the quarter-finals before losing to Hardy, 21-3, 21-19.

CONSOLATION FINALISTS . . . Les Shumate (l), "Mr. Handball" of the Rocky Mountain area, presents John Hardy (center) winner's trophy and Mitch Covington, Fresno, second place award in National Consolation singles.



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THE GAME FOR ALL . . . Irv Goode, St. Louis Football Cardinals' offensive guard and center with our official IPA tournament "Queen," Anita Feldman. Irv can get the high shots with ease but when it comes to digging 'em up Anita has the distinct advantage. Irv finds paddleball the ideal off-season conditioner and promises his opponents not to commit any mayhem within the four wall confines.

BECOME A CHARTER IPA MEMBER . . .

IPA, 4101 Dempster St.
Skokie, Ill. 60076

Please sign me up: \$2 () 1969; \$5 () 1969-71

Name _____ Club/Y/Center _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Make check or money order payable to: IPA . . . Mail today!

PADDLEBALL ROOM...

By MORT LEVE

This has been an organizational year for IPA and we expected the many "bugs". Foremost, we are intent on getting the right ball for our game before putting it on the market as "official". Test balls have not as yet proved satisfactory and rather than force feed the paddleballers we have requested additional testings — so, good friends, bear with us and when we arrive at the right formula you will know that IPA will have the very best ball available.

RULES — This will be very much on the agenda at the first IPA convention meeting Saturday morning, April 26. One of the more controversial issues is the restriction to one hand play with the thong mandatory. Many feel this is a must safety factor. Others feel that use of both hands as is employed in handball adds to the physical benefits of the game and the safety factor of the thong is over-emphasized. In fact, some devotees of the game think the backhand stroke causes as many or more injuries and potential danger as the switch of hands.

REFEREEING — From observations there is a need for strict control of the game to keep players from crowding. This is not only dangerous but can keep a player from a free swing. The sportsman of the court will allow plenty of room for the shot and concern himself more with position than hampering his foe. The avoidable hinder call must be used to eliminate this crowding. Warnings are not enough.

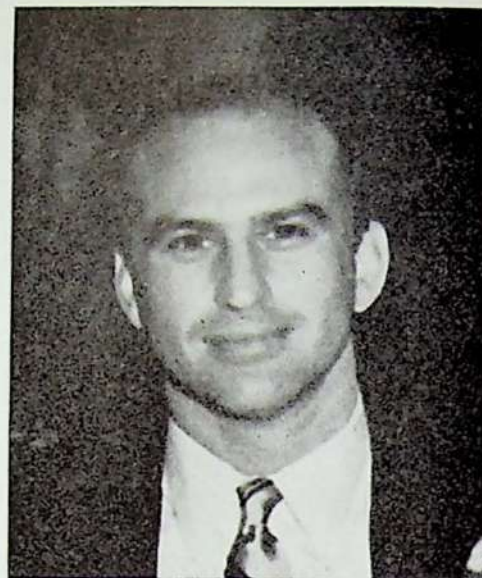
Through the year we have received countless letters on various preferences in the game . . . they range from A to Z. There is one facility that likes to play with the telltale board as they do in squash. Another area wants everything counts scoring as is used in tennis and ping pong . . . Still another wants alternate serving at all times in doubles and opposite side serves in singles; again, following the tennis trend.

As the program develops it is natural that instructional clinics will be set up . . . exhibitions planned . . .

worthwhile films both of championship play and of instructional values.

Remember, just as in the USHA, this is your Players' Fraternity. Everything is tailored for you . . . promotion of the game . . . unification of rules and equipment.

We'll give you the full report following the IPA big one in St. Louis.



'BUBBA' LEVY

Our Houston IPA district commissioner and rankin' paddleballer for the JCC in that area.

Pa. YMCA Paddleball Tournament

Pennsylvania State YMCA paddle racquet tournament was held March 21-22 with the Golden Triangle in Pittsburgh as host. Leonard A. Willett, physical director, reported a good turnout with entries from Lancaster, Scranton, Wilkes-Barre, Williamsport and the Pittsburgh area.

The tension started to build up the first day as everyone was anticipating that the finals would pit Dorance Frymire, ex champion (our District Commissioner) and the present titlist, Gene Grapes (ex-handball player) from Pittsburgh.

Frymire, who plays in his bare feet,

was hard pressed but emerged victorious by taking two straight with identical scores 21-19. Third place went to Charles King of Scranton.

In the doubles event, first place was taken by Grapes and John Gardini; second taken by Richard Polson and Michael Zernich, Pittsburgh. Third went to Frymire and John Dimarco, Williamsport.

At the Banquet Dorance found time to promote the Association and obtain new members. Our congratulations to the winners and to all of the participants for a successful tournament.



ST. LOUIS JCCA DOUBLES . . . Front row (l to r) — father-son Class A winners, Marlowe and Jay Phillips; brothers Don and Bob Ginsburg who won Class B title. Back row (l to r) — Biron Valier and Ron Wrob, Novice winners; Artie Albert, half of the Albert-Fred Kreis Class B champions.



AND JCCA SINGLES . . . Front row (l to r) — Marlowe Phillips, Class A second place; Steve Schneider, Class A winner; Tim Plum, Class A third place. Back row (l to r) — Arthur Albert, fourth place in Class A; Ken Monschein, Novice winner. Rod Susman, Class B winner, not present.



Greeting From: William Kahn
For: International Paddleball Association Tournament

Date: April 24 thru April 27, 1969, Wohl Building

It is our pleasure to host this exciting International Paddleball Association Tournament.

Anything we can do to make your visit to our Gateway City more pleasurable will be our delight.

Good sportsmanship and fine competition has made paddleball a truly American sport.

WILLIAM KAHN
Executive Director
Jewish Community Centers
Association



Greeting from: Robert L. Wolfson
For: International Paddleball Association Tournament

Date: April 24 thru April 27, Wohl Building.

The Jewish Community Centers Association is proud to host the first International Paddleball Association Tournament.

For many years our Center has been one of the handball capitals of the world and it is with great pleasure that we have the opportunity of recognizing the outstanding sport of paddleball through hosting this tournament.

Good luck to all the participants.

ROBERT L. WOLFSON
President
Jewish Community Centers
Association



MILTON HARRIS
Tournament Director

On behalf of the St. Louis Jewish Community Centers Association IPA Tournament Committee, I want to welcome all paddleball players, their wives and friends to this first national competition.

It is fitting that St. Louis, the Gateway to the West, be the site for this tournament. The Championship pride fostered by our baseball Cardinals and hockey Blues will be found among our Paddleball players. We are happy to have you as our guest. Best wishes for an enjoyable tournament.

St. Louis JCCA Hosts First IPA Classic

The ideal facilities of the 106-acre Jewish Community Centers Association in suburban St. Louis will be utilized for the International Paddleball Association's first world championship competition, April 24-27. This will be the first "true" international tournament bringing together players from all over the United States and Canada.

Aim of the IPA is to unify rules, playing conditions and equipment—organizing the many splinter groups. The Association was brought into reality just a year ago in Milwaukee when a group of players representing eight states, and playing in the National Paddle Racquets tournament at the JCC, invited Bob Kendler, president of the United States Handball Association, to spearhead the movement. The idea is to pattern IPA much after that of the USHA and utilize ACE magazine as a communications medium to further promote and organize.

Larry Lederman, athletic director of the Milwaukee JCC, was selected national commissioner, and has worked closely on testings of balls to arrive at an official IPA ball for the game. Gerard Lapierre of Dayton, Ohio, has proved to be an excellent "National Executive Coordinator," traveling throughout the country to spread the IPA gospel.

Divisional IPA tournaments have been held at YMCAs in Paterson, New Jersey and Evanston, Ill., and at the Kona Kai Club in San Diego. Winners of the open singles and doubles of these three tourna-

ments are being brought into St. Louis with transportation paid by the Association to form a nucleus of strong players for this first effort.

During the four-day tournament in St. Louis an international convention meeting will be held Saturday morning, April 26, presided over by President Bob Kendler and National Commissioner Larry Lederman. On the agenda will be rules discussions, adoption of an official ball, tournament alignments, and budget planning for the 1969-70 paddleball season.

Although paddleball has been played sporadically in many sectors of this country and Canada for years this is the first effort to bring about a unification. Some eight or nine different balls are now being used, of varying liveliness and durability, along with use of both strung racquets and wooden paddles. There are varied rules used—some allowing changing of hands, others with use of the thong mandatory. Now, through IPA every effort is being made to establish one set of rules that will be agreeable to the majority of the players.

Providing the backdrop for this worthy endeavor is this magnificent St. Louis JCCA, which has been the scene for national USHA tournaments in 1964 (including national television coverage) and in 1968.

This should be the beginning of another fine Players' Fraternity, one which will bring order out of apparent paddleball confusion and lead to healthy progress to the game and for its players.



Warren E. Hearnes
Governor

Executive Office
Jefferson City
Missouri

TO MEMBERS
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PADDLEBALL ASSOCIATION:

It is a pleasure to extend official greetings to you on behalf of the State of Missouri and to welcome your attendance and participation as the first International Paddleball Association Tournament is held in St. Louis.

Please accept our best wishes for personal success in the tournament and a pleasant visit in our state.

As time permits, we invite you to sample the many tourist attractions in the St. Louis area and to share the hospitality which stands behind our slogan, "Missouri Loves Company."



Sincerely yours,

A stylized, cursive signature of Warren E. Hearnes.

Warren E. Hearnes



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF SAINT LOUIS
MISSOURI

A. J. CERVANTES
MAYOR

April 15, 1969



International Paddleball
Association Tournament

Gentlemen:

The more than 2,000,000 residents of the St. Louis Metropolitan area join me in officially welcoming the members of the International Paddleball Association Tournament to our City for your first International Tournament.

St. Louis' location, only a few miles from the center of population of the United States, makes this a most convenient site for your Tournament. Eight major airlines use our beautiful Lambert-St. Louis Municipal Airport, which is only minutes from downtown St. Louis by way of the Mark Twain Expressway. Ten major railroads and numerous bus lines serve St. Louis.

Our world famous Zoo, a new Planetarium, the Art Museum, the historic Old Courthouse and Old Cathedral, the Missouri Botanical Garden with its unique Climatron (a climate controlled geodesic dome greenhouse), excursions on the Mississippi, the Municipal Opera, the St. Louis Symphony, major league baseball and football at Busch Memorial Stadium, professional hockey, and traveling Broadway plays are among the many attractions.

In April, 1969, the world famous Spanish International Pavilion, will open in St. Louis. It is the same facility which was named "Jewel of the Fair" by Life Magazine in its coverage of the 1964-1965 New York World's Fair. This was but one of the many accolades received by the Pavilion which is being reassembled in St. Louis. It will boast a variety of fine restaurants, a theatre, art galleries, and other attractions for the enjoyment of all.

The Jefferson National Expansion Memorial is now being developed on the St. Louis riverfront. Construction has been completed on the central feature of this memorial, the soaring 630 foot Gateway Arch, which commemorates St. Louis' role as the Gateway to the West.

All of us in St. Louis are honored you have chosen our City as your 1969 meeting place, and we will certainly make every effort to justify your confidence.

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "A. J. Cervantes", written over a horizontal line.

Mayor

OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISOR
SAINT LOUIS COUNTY
CLAYTON, MISSOURI 63105

LAWRENCE K. ROOS
SUPERVISOR

A MESSAGE TO ALL PARTICIPANTS IN THE 1969
INTERNATIONAL PADDLEBALL ASSOCIATION TOURNAMENT

As chief executive of St. Louis County, I am pleased to offer my congratulations and best wishes to the participants in the 1969 International Paddleball Association Tournament, which we are honored to have in our community. The renewed popularity of this sport in recent years has been phenomenal, and the long hours of training and enthusiastic competition which have brought you to this contest are deserving of the highest praise.

On behalf of the 960,000 citizens of St. Louis County, I would like to extend our warmest welcome to you and wish you the best of luck in the Tournament.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Lawrence K. Roos". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "K".

Lawrence K. Roos
Supervisor, St. Louis County



PHIL SMITH
Director, JCCA Health Club

A graduate of the University of Texas where he excelled in swimming and water polo, Phil is about to complete requirements for his Masters degree at Washington University in St. Louis. A handball enthusiast, he has given much support to the growth of paddleball at the St. Louis JCCA. Phil and his wife Jerry live in University City, Mo. Daughter Cheryl is married, his oldest son Dave competes in handball collegiately at Lake Forest College, Illinois, and his youngest son Steve is an outstanding high school gymnast.



ARTHUR ALBERT
Assistant Tournament Director

"Artie", a perennial semi-finalist or finalist in JCCA house paddleball tournament competition, is the co-chairman of JCCA paddleball committee. Married 15 years, he and his wife, Gerry, have two children, Richard, 9, and Lisa, 4. The family lives in Creve Coeur. A graduate of City College of New York, Artie has been employed 17 years by United Merchants Textile Sales. His travels enable Artie to play paddleball throughout the country as JCCA's Ambassador of paddleball.



GENE PAINTER
Director — JCCA Health and Physical Education Department

A former pro baseball player in the St. Louis Cardinals organization, Gene also played football at Graceland College in Iowa. He received his Master's degree from Central Missouri State College. Now a paddleball and jogging enthusiast, he calls the shots for the JCCA Physical Education Dept. that serves over 25,000 persons per month. A native of California, he lives in Overland, Mo.



MAX SCHARF
Assistant Tournament Director

Recently the father of a boy, Max and his wife Eileen are residents of Creve Coeur, Mo. Max has been plagued by the tournament injury jinx, suffering two broken wrists and torn knee cartilage as the result of tournament competition over the past few years. He designed the official tournament "T" Shirt and banquet table gift. A graduate of Missouri University, Max is president of Incentives Corporation.



JOE ZELSON
Budget and Finance Committee

One of the fast rising stars on the JCCA paddleball horizon, Joe has been playing the 4 wall racket game only two years. He and his wife Gloria, who is one of the top women's paddleball competitors in the area, have three children and reside in Creve Coeur, Mo. A graduate of Washington University in St. Louis, Joe is president of the Pension Administrators and Consultants.



TIM PLUM
Chairman — Banquet Committee

Tim and his wife Betty are residents of Ferguson, Mo. Tim graduated from George Williams College in Chicago, Illinois, where he played on the varsity volleyball team and captured the intramural badminton championship. Tim reached the semi-finals of the 1968 JCCA house Class A paddleball tournament. He is associated with the Consolidated Aluminum Corp.



BOB HESLEP
Chairman — Officials Committee

A former handball player at the northside YMCA, Bob, lettered in football and swimming at Beaumont High School and majored in Physical Education at the University of Illinois. Bob left coaching after 20 years to become Assistant Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry in University City. He calls the big matches in the JCCA house paddleball tournaments.



JERRY KAISER
Chairman — Housing and Transportation Committee

Jerry is a graduate of the Harris Teachers College. In addition to his enthusiasm for paddleball, he is involved with many youth committees and organizations at the JCCA. Jerry is associated with Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Company.



PAUL GNADT
Assistant Director, JCCA Health and Physical Education Department

As director of adult physical education for the St. Louis JCCA, Paul is the staff person responsible for the tournament. A graduate of Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska, where he played football and basketball, Paul has been with the JCCA for three years. He and wife Bonnie live in Creve Coeur, Mo.



BILL COHEN
Chairman Arrangements and Equipment Committee

A graduate of Washington University in St. Louis, where he played varsity baseball, Bill has been competing in paddleball at JCCA for three years. He and his wife Renee have four children: Twin daughters Laurie and Leigh ages 12 and boys, Douglas and Danny. The family resides in Creve Coeur. Bill is the President of Suburbia Gardens and Pools, Co.



MARLOWE PHILLIPS
Assistant Tournament Director

"Mr. Paddleball" at the St. Louis JCCA, Marlowe has captured the number one house rating as player and gentleman. Residing in Creve Coeur with Marlowe and his wife Yvonne, is youngest daughter Joan. Her big sister Barbara will graduate from Drake University in June while brother Jay is attending college in St. Louis. The Marlowe-Jay father and son combination captured the 1968 JCCA Class A Doubles Crown

San Diego Players Win 'Wood' Crowns . . .

Charles Brumfield in singles — Dr. Bud Muehleisen and Brumfield in doubles — champs of the 8th National Open Paddleball (Wooden Paddles) Tournament, held Feb. 20-23 at Iowa State University, Ames. Add — Harold Kronenberg and Bill Pire, Eau Claire, Wisc., as Master doubles champs.

There were 31 singles entrants and 19 doubles teams plus five Master doubles teams entered.

Sportsmanship award went to Harold "Diz" Kronenberg . . . special thanks to Iowa State U. and its intramural director, Lynn Reading for special considerations to all those attending.

Cliff Dawson, Port Huron, Mich., won the Consolation singles.

Brumfield beat his doubles partner, Muehleisen for the singles title, 21-14 and 21-17. Then they paired to beat Bob and Bernie McNamara, the brother team from Minneapolis, 21-11, 21-15.

The 1970 championships are slated for Fargo, North Dakota.

—DAN STEIBER,
Waterloo, Iowa
Tournament Director

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St. Louis . .

Steve Schneider and Marlowe Phillips meet once a year in a Paddleball singles match and the setting and circumstances are always constant; Jack Srenco Memorial glass court, referee and scorekeeper, tournament pressure and a gallery of spectators anxious to watch Marlowe and Steve "do their thing."

And this year, as in the two previous years "their thing" was the Class A-open singles championship of the JCCA Winter Paddleball Tournament. Schneider, cool, confident and quick as a cat captured the crown in two games 21-16 and 21-18, preventing Marlowe from completing an unprecedented two-year sweep of the Class A-open doubles and singles competition.

Seeded second in the bracket of 32 players, Schneider defeated Class B Singles Winner Rod Susman and eventual Class A third place finisher Tim Plum enroute to his third straight finals challenge against first seeded Phillips as the climax to the largest and most successful paddleball tournament in JCCA history. 220 players participated in Jr. High, novice, Class B and A-open categories in singles and doubles competition.

Susman defeated Bill Doorack for the Class B Singles title while Ken Monschein captured the novice singles crown. B Singles third place went to Ron Lending over Stuart Kauffman. Ted Yevelson tested Steve Scrot for the Junior High singles

title with third place going to Jerry Hilecher over Leonard Friedman.

The father-son combination of Marlowe and Jay Phillips successfully defended their Class A-open doubles title. The Phillips duo defeated Arthur Albert and Fred Kreis in the final match with third place awarded to the team of Lenny Marks and Tim Plum. Brothers Don and Bob Ginsburg took top honors in Class B doubles competition. The Ginsburgs defeated Leonard Arky and Dave Kohner for the title. Third place went to the team of Lenny Marks and Rod Susman.

Ron Wrob and Bryon Valier defeated the father-son combination of Bill and Gary Green for the novice doubles title. Bruce Klamman and Dave Altschuler won third place.

Leonard Friedman and Steve Scrot were the junior high doubles champions beating Ted Yevelson and Barry Gordon in the final match.

The house tournament is the next to last event of the current 1968-69 JCCA paddleball season which has included the tournament of eights, the Sadie Hawkins tournament, introduction of the ongoing paddleball triangle tournament, home in home series with the Louisville Kentucky JCC, the first women's paddleball tournament and the just completed winter house tournament for men. The final event will be the first International Paddleball Association Tournament April 24 thru 27 at the St. Louis JCCA. Who knows, Steve and Marlowe may just meet for a second time this year.

Rochester, Minn.

Paul Nelson, Madison, Wisc. is the North Central Area YMCA singles paddle racquet champion. He defeated Warren Claridge of Mankato YMCA, a newcomer in tournament play, in the finals. Nelson is a former national paddleball champion. He first captured the national paddleball title in 1961-62, finished second in '62-63, and captured the singles championship in 1963-64 in Flint, Mich. Last year, he entered after a two year absence and placed third nationally. He will be participating in the First Annual International Paddle Racquet Singles Championship in St. Louis.

Dr. Norris "Butch" Harbold, Rochester, won the consolation championship. Krause, Racine, and Brandrup, Rochester, were defeated in the semis and we didn't have a playoff for third and fourth.

CHUCK HAZAMA
Physical Director

1969-70 HOSTS . . .

Paddleball Centers interested in hosting divisional, Junior (under 19), intercollegiate or the big national championships can write: IPA, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill. 60076. Full details will be forthcoming.



MIKE ANZALONE

CLEVELAND CHAMP IN ST. LOUIS CLASSIC

Gerry Lapierre, our IPA national executive coordinator, calls him "a great one". And the reports coming our way are glowing in technicolor adjectives about Mike Anzalone, the 34-year-old acrobatic paddleballer from Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

Mike has won 14 Cleveland area tournaments and with partner Angelo Vecchio has captured the doubles award for five straight years. He has been playing the game only six years.

Anzalone is a former high school football great, and combines the cat-quick ability he had as a fullback. "In my mind he's the top player in the country," says Lenny Buttitta, paddleball tournament director at the Cleveland Central YMCA. Quoting further from the Cleveland Plain Dealer feature by Dennis Lustig, Buttitta adds, "He hits the ball behind his back or between his legs. I don't see how a guy can be better."

Mike will be an entrant at the first IPA big one in St. Louis and should be installed as one of the favorites to take home the top prize.

In addition to out-ranking paddleball foes Anzalone runs a motel in the suburban Cuyahoga Falls.

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Scouting Paddleball Areas . . .

By GERARD LAPIERRE

LOUISVILLE: Ken Porco, Southeast Area Commissioner and Physical Director of the JCC, has a group of storm troopers who make weekend trips to various cities promoting paddleball and displaying their skill on the courts. Our congratulations and continued success in their efforts.

NASHVILLE: Got together with Murray Severance, District Commissioner, for a proposed section tournament to be held in Knoxville. The downtown YMCA has one glass court plus four others. Paddle racquet is not allowed on the glass one. I noticed a hole in the front wall (middle) of this court and efforts to patch it has been futile.

KNOXVILLE: Geney Byrd, Physical Director, downtown Y, proudly showed us the two new courts making a total of five. Gil Champlain has been busy making final preparations for the sectional tournament to be held on March 28-30. Players are expected from Memphis, Nashville, Raleigh and possibly Richmond and Atlanta will be represented.

RALEIGH: Wild Bill Wilson, Southeast Area Commissioner, and associates were making final preparations for a weekend march north to Richmond to engage the local paddleballers in friendly combat. If they were victorious, they might continue their march northward and recapture all of the northeast, including Williamsport Pa. . . nothing to worry about . . . Bills' lovely wife informed us that he was a northerner at heart. Sorry about that William—your secret is out.

ATLANTA: Made contact with Julius Sneed who has volunteered to give us a hand in promoting the cause . . . we appreciate the help.

ORLANDO: Len Rosenwarren, Physical Director of the Mills Ave. Y gave us an enthusiastic reception. Not only played but rounded up as many players as possible despite a heavy working schedule. All hands showed a great interest in the association.

Detroit . . .

Our first 'Y' Paddleball Tournament of the season — Class A and B doubles, in which no two 'A' players could play together. We had 12 teams with the following winners:

- 1st — Bill Kennedy and Irv Belmont
- 2nd — Bob Gregory and Norm Krugel
- 3rd — Joe Finn and Jack Winshall

MIAMI: Because of poor weather, we were able to display our talents to the handball players at the outdoor courts in Flamingo Park, Miami Beach. We were told that if the weather had been good, we would never have been able to use the courts for paddleball. Our sympathies go to Jack Norwood, physical director of the YMCA, in dealing with the apathy of its membership. Also, to the handball club in the frustration which they feel in attempting to build more courts.

It is uncomprehensible to me, with such an affluent society in the Greater Miami area, that there are no indoor four walled courts.

FT. LAUDERDALE: Joe Griffin, Health Director of the YMCA was very sympathetic to our cause but stated that due to the heavy schedule of the four air conditioned courts by the handball players, paddle racquets was not allowed.

PERSONAL COMMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS:

We have observed some reluctance by handball players, in some areas, to accept paddle racquets as equals. Various excuses are given; the most common one being that the racquets will ruin the walls of the court. A good example of the fallacy of this excuse is the Buffalo YMCA where they have two courts, in excellent condition, with the back walls of glass. Both courts are being utilized equally, by handball and paddle racquets. Also, what excuse can possibly be given when courts are being used exclusively by handball and the front wall has a nice round hole in the middle approximately 3½ feet from the floor.

Therefore, we would like to make a plea to handball players not to reject us because the racquet ruins the courts — this is an old wives tale. It is interesting to note that some handball players have converted, quite successfully, to paddle racquets. Never heard the reverse occurring . . . think about it.

Interest Grows . . .

Received a letter from Jon Ohl-heiser of Anderson, Ind. The membership of the YMCA had read in the ACE about our game and several of them purchased racquets and started playing. Jon, who is president of the athletic committee, invited yours truly to Anderson and display his skill in the court so they could assess their progress.

I was happy to oblige (since they didn't know how limited my talents were, I felt I could fake it through) and was very gratified at the interest shown. Other than developing their

District Head Passes Away

Duncan Lectka, ardent Paddle Racquet player and leader here at our Buffalo Downtown Branch YMCA passed away recently. Duncan was stricken with a fatal heart attack soon after the completion of a game at the Buffalo Athletic Club.

There was some evidence of a previous attack, possibly not known to Duncan himself; because he had been complaining about chest congestion, pain, and so forth. He had even talked about arranging for a doctor examination. However, before seeing a doctor, the fatal attack took place.

His wife, realizing the great interest Duncan had in the YMCA, asked friends to donate to the YMCA Sponsoring Fund rather than sending flowers. This Fund provides membership for youngsters unable to afford them on their own. Countless boys throughout the years have been benefitting because of the generous gifts to this Fund.

JACK TULP

Victoria, Texas

Toby Ohrt, Victoria, defeated Manuel Villareal, Victoria, 21-5, 21-13, in the recent Texas YMCA Paddle Racket championships.

John Unbehagen, Galveston, took third place over Bill O'Grady, Ft. Worth, 5-21, 21-11, 21-17.

Villareal and Tommy Bauer, Victoria, won the doubles over Ohrt and Bill Reed, Victoria, 21-18, 21-19. Robert Acree and Leland Parker, Victoria, took third place by default.

In the open division of singles, Jim Austin, Houston, defeated Bubba Levy, Houston, 21-6, 16-21, 21-15. In the open doubles it was Jerry Tucker and Unbehagen, Galveston, over Austin and Levy, 21-19, 13-21, 21-15.

skill, another objective was to arouse the interest of other members to take up the game, thereby increasing the demand for court time. Since a building program was in the development stage, this would be an ideal method of persuasion for more courts. Jon went so far as having a camera set up to take a film of our game to present to the membership at a forthcoming dinner. I wish to thank Jon for the fine reception on my behalf and success in getting those new courts.

GERARD LAPIERRE

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DOUBLES . . . Kneeling, (l to r) — Dick Rebisil, 1st place singles and 2nd place doubles; Ken Porco, 2nd place singles and 2nd place doubles. Standing, (l to r) — Herman Abramavitz and Isaac Gumer, 3rd place doubles; Alan Hyman and Mike Zeitman, 1st place doubles.

Louisville Takes Midwest Paddleball Singles, Doubles Honors

Representatives of the Louisville JCC took top awards in the first official Midwest IPA divisional championships held at the Evanston, Ill. YMCA.

Dick Rebisil won the singles championship with teammate Ken Porco, runnerup. Bill Schmidke of the Madison, Wisc., YMCA, won third place.

Alan Hyman and Mike Zeitman of Louisville won the doubles, with Rebisil and Porco second placers. Herman Abramavitz and Isaac Gumer were third place finishers from Louisville.

Four states were represented with 16 doubles teams and 19 singles competitors.



SINGLES . . . Kneeling, (l to r) — J. Larry Meyer and Sam Carl, tournament directors. Standing, (l to r) — Dick Rebisil, Louisville JCC, 1st place; Ken Porco, Louisville JCC, 2nd place and Bill Schmidke, Madison, Wisc. YMCA, 3rd place.

Sandland-Kelly Have 'Red Hot' Season

Mel Sandland and Matt Kelly, the "aces" of the Pacific Coast Club, exploded two weekends in a row. They garnered the National Contenders title, during the weekend of Feb. 20-23, at Birmingham, Ala. The following weekend they traveled to Toronto, for the Canadian Open and proceeded to "mop up" everything in their way up there. I mean that literally, as in the final match they took Mickey Unroth and Harry Tepperman, 21-3, 21-4. In Birmingham, meeting Don Ardito and Bob Koenig, they disposed of them in the finals, 21-6, 21-18. The day before, the Chicago team beat the team of Bill Yambrick and Paul Schulz, favored to win the tournament. Yambrick twice has been the No. 2 man in singles, nationally. (No. 3 at Texas).

Mel is one of the most colorful players to represent the Club in recent years and he has two of the quickest hands in handball today. He will shoot from any position in the court. His "hop" on the ball as he serves, or during play, will rank with the best, not to mention his fantastic "gets" in retrieving the ball. Complimented on the right wall is his partner, Matt, whom I believe performs as well on that side as anybody in the game today. His skill in the right corner and his serves are as tough as there are. It takes confidence to win in any endeavor, whether it is your daily work or play. I am proud of their achievements and I am sure of one thing — if they do not win the whole ball of wax this year, to be sure they are going to do it one year. I know, because one is my son and I am thinking about adopting the other one!

I wish to mention at this time, another up-and-coming handball player, Ray Morris. Ray is the son of Dr. Lester Morris, a long-time member of PCC and a handball player who teamed with my son, Matt, in 1962, to win the C doubles. Ray, currently an "A" student at Brigham Young University, recently finished second in an inter-mural tournament held at that University. He is not only a good prospect for handball, but has taken over the responsibility as president of the newly-organized Utah Handball League. It will be similar to our own in Southern California. Ray is also very active in his Church.

These are the young men you seldom hear about, who are quietly laying the foundation of their church, community and country, so that a few may rattle their swords and abuse our most cherished heritage, the right to dissent. I don't



PACIFIC COAST CLUB PROUD . . . That's Papa Ed Kelly, USHA West Area Commissioner (l) with Jim Pullman, Club Athletic Director, tendering congratulations to Mel Sandland and Matt Kelly for USHA National Contenders, Canadian Nationals wins and runnerup position in USHA Nationals.

have to say, "Good Luck" to Ray, he will make his own luck!

I recently learned that Al Spaeter, Sr., father of Al Spaeter, Jr., a former professional baseball player and currently a handball player in our Club, was stricken with a massive heart attack, luckily while entering a hospital. He was quickly revived by a competent medical emergency team but was given little chance to survive.

Proving that an athletic background and a competitive spirit are all-important in the fight for life, Al, Sr. walked out of the hospital three weeks later and is now recovering nicely.

Al Sr. was an outstanding hand-

ball player in the late 20's and the early 30's. He not only won titles in singles, but in doubles as well. He and Jimmy Dyer of the Los Angeles Fire Department, put on many a good show in the finals of tournaments in Southern California.

Proving a healthy condition of the mind and body is just as important whether you are 9 or 90, and handball and exercise regularly can contribute to the good life, to which Al, Sr. can testify. My best to him and his family.

Keep in shape!

ED KELLY
USHA West Area
Commissioner

Larry August Mid-East Winner

Youngest of the famed Detroit August playing family, 21-year-old Larry August, U. of Michigan undergraduate, won the Mideast USHA regionals held at the Columbus, Ohio, YMCA. Larry defeated Lenny Herschman of Columbus, 21-11, 21-9.

Kent Fusselman and George Fenton, Warren, Ohio, won the doubles over Freeman and Metzger of Springfield, Ohio, 21-19, 21-9.

Vern Roberts of Cincinnati took the Masters singles over Al Pomponio, Youngstown, 21-19, 21-19. Chuck Maloney and Vic Marino of Columbus took the Masters doubles.

MIDWEST COLLEGIATE WINNERS



LAKE FOREST COLLEGE . . . Nick Wasyluk, athletic director, and Mike Dau, team coach, with winners of first Midwest Division USHA Intercollegiate tournament. (l to r) — William Yee, Wes Yee, Steve Jamron, Dave Smith. Lake Forest finished runnerup in nationals held at U. of Texas in its first year of competition.

TOURNAMENT NOTES:

Our sincere appreciation to Ben Loiben (our recently appointed "resident official") for his time, patience, and hard work in officiating 75% of the tournament matches. Without his assistance the tournament would not have run so smoothly.

All the visiting participants "protested" over the lack of qualified instructors at their respective schools. I have never seen a hungrier group for information concerning practice schedules, basic fundamentals, court strategy etc. If there was anything lacking in the tournament it would have been the inability to squeeze in a clinic, which time just did not permit. The 1968 USHA National finals film between Stuffy Singer and Ray Neveau was shown much to the delight of all. Andy Upatnieks played Wes and myself one game apiece and showed the enthusiastic gallery why he is one of the top ranked players in the mid-west. Number one seed Larry August, Univ. of Michigan, unable to attend due to his sister's engagement party. Andy Messenger (Western Mich.) playing in the championship match against Wes Yee (L.F.C.) showing the continued improvement he displayed in the National Juniors. The

father of Gary Brooks (Mankato St.), Marc Schwartz (Northwestern), and Gary Loiben (Northeastern Ill.) getting in some court time during the lulls between matches. Pete Berrafato, Chicago Circle Intramural Director, anxious to schedule a match with Lake Forest.

Mike Darnell (Purdue) who lost in last year's "B" finals to John Paveletz disappointed over his showing against William Yee in the finals. Mike is a very strong determined player and with coaching and more tournament play should develop into a solid competitor. The lack of a "Good point of contact" (a la Bob Davidson's teaching) very evident among most participants.

For those that consider college students as acid heads, freak-outs, or rabble rousing protesters it is unfortunate that they could not have witnessed the manner in which representatives from nine midwestern universities conducted themselves both on and off the handball court. There is no doubt in my mind that these young men will make solid contributions to our way of life regardless of what avenue they choose. My many thanks to my boss, our athletic director, Nick Wasyluk, for making the facilities available and hosting the tournament.

MIKE DAU

Lake Forest College won the team championship of the United States Handball Association Division Intercollegiate Tournament.

The Foresters, coached by Mike Dau, had 13 points to outdistance the rest of the field. The University of Cincinnati and the University of Illinois at Chicago Circle were tied for second with three points each.

"I was certainly pleased with the results," said Dau who is an outstanding player in his own right and competes for the Evanston YMCA.

Wes Yee of Lake Forest won the Class A Singles title by beating Andy Messenger of Western Michigan 21-6, 21-10. His brother, William, won the Class B title over Mike Darnell of Purdue 21-6, 21-10.

Dave Smith and Steve Jamron combined to give Lake Forest a sweep by winning the doubles competition from Mike Oliva and Barry Mayworm of Chicago Circle 21-10, 21-6.

The USHA, directed by its president, Robert Kendler of Lake Forest, gave the winners each a \$50 travel allowance to the Nationals.

"They've done a real outstanding job all along," Dau said referring to the USHA.

U. of Tennessee Hosts S. Division

The first Southern USHA-sponsored intercollegiate tournament was held Feb. 28 and March 1 at the YMCA in Knoxville, Tenn. Duke University, Davidson College, and the University of Tennessee had entries. The 11 players and the tournament committee decided upon a singles double-elimination tournament which resulted in 24 games.

William Brown, Davidson, and John Plotnicki, University of Tennessee, met in the finals of the winner's bracket with Brown winning 15-21, 21-13, 21-11. Mickey Brock, University of Tennessee, coming up from the loser's bracket, defeated Brown 21-9, 21-19. As this was Brown's first match loss, he and Brock met again for the championship. Brown was the winner — 21-8, 21-6 — and was declared the A singles champion; Brock was declared the B singles champion.

The Knoxville Handball Club headed by President Bob Phillips did a superb job of handling the tournament, and the participating collegians were most appreciative.

BEN PLOTNICKI

ACE — U.S.H.A.

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CAPSULE INTERVIEWS . . .

Note: ACE's No. 1 femme scribe gets lowdown from St. Louis JCCA tournament players from top of the ladder Dr. Stan London to the eager beaver C players.

Summary Comment: 'Handball Becomes Way of Life'

By BOBBI LINKEMER

As the tournament season comes to a close and our attention focuses on the various regional competitions as well as the all important Nationals, we read with interest the accounts of the big tournaments and new champs. Some are old familiar names and faces and a few are new ones moving into the spotlight. These are the men who will be our handball heroes during the coming year, until the next set of tournaments, when they will defend their titles against new competitors.

Where will next year's challengers come from? They will originate in cities all across the country, where handball is played and the will to win exists. They will get their training in the many individual house tournaments that take place just prior to the regional and national events each year. These house tournaments, which get very little publicity on a national level, are the breeding ground for tomorrow's national champions.

This year, ACE takes pleasure in throwing the spotlight on St. Louis, where a house tournament was completed in February. The JCCA in St. Louis, which hosted the 1969 Regionals as well as the 1968 Nationals, held competition in all classes and produced a fine group of new champs. Although this was a local event, ACE believes it will be of interest to all of our readers. The men who took first place in the various divisions come from a multitude of backgrounds, interests, and professions. Each man is an individual with unique ideas and personal history, but all of them share a common bond: a love of handball. For this reason, we believe they could be from anywhere in the country, and in many ways they represent all of the readers of ACE, no matter who you are or where you live.

St. Louis is proud to introduce our new champs. Take a bow, men!

A Singles and Doubles . . .

It came as no surprise to anyone that first place in A singles and doubles was won again this year by the JCCA's number one man in handball, Dr. Stan London. Dr. London, who has won too many trophies to count in his 30 odd years of play, as well as a reputation as a man to be reckoned with on a court. A surgeon who plays a game involving his hands, Dr. London claims he never worries about injuries of that kind. "Injuries of that type are rare," says Stan, who makes it a practice to

avoid playing "balls along the wall."

He and Al Goldstein (his partner for the past 13 years) operate like a well-oiled machine, the result of "having a partner who compliments your game," observes the champ. Stan, who will soon graduate into the Masters class, has served as an example and a teacher to many of the younger players at the "Y," both in his techniques of play and his personal conduct on the court. "Handball is a game, and it should be played for the fun of the game," is his advice to these youngsters.

A Doubles . . .

Al Goldstein, a well known figure around the JCCA courts, will once again collect a trophy for A doubles with his long time partner, Dr. Stan London. After 23 years as a handball player (13 of which he has shared with the same doubles partner), Al has gathered an impressive array of trophies. Asked which he values most, he cited the Eddie Dubman Sportsmanship Award, because of his close personal relationship with the man it represented and the honor of receiving such a tribute.

"Handball is a challenge," says Goldstein, "And every game is different. It satisfies my physical and mental needs." It is also a game which he shares with his sons, Barry and Billy, feeling that it is another binding facet in their already close relationship. Al's advice to those just starting out in the game is to view it as a game they can enjoy all their lives, just as he is doing.

B 1 Singles . . .

Rich Linkemer played his first real handball game (St. Louis style) five years ago when he made this city his new home and handball his first love. He's been a true "addict" since that first game and has even succeeded in making his family fanatic handball fans. Enroute to the B singles championship, Rich has also accumulated several other trophies. "This was the big one though and this was supposed to be my year," he confides.

An ex phys. ed. major turned real estate man, the new champ recalls these past five years as the best of his life. He feels that handball is a great game, not only from a physical standpoint, but also from the aspect of human relations. Rich explains, "You can learn a lot about a man and the way he lives by the way he plays handball. A good sport on the court is the kind of guy you want for a friend."

B 1 Doubles . . .

The distinction of being the youngest of this year's winners goes to 18-year-old Donnie Ginsberg, already the possessor of four other handball and paddleball trophies. Donnie has five years of playing experience so far and a promising future ahead. He is presently preparing for a trip to Fort Sam Houston for a six month tour of Army duty, after which he plans to continue his interrupted college career.

Donnie, who is a familiar sight at the JCCA, feels that handball is a game he can play for the rest of his life. "There's something about it that makes you want to play every day," he says. Playing everyday makes Donnie a part of a world comprised primarily of older men, which is, in his words, "an education."

"I learn a lot about handball," he continues, "but I learn about men too. Meeting and knowing men in all types of business is helping me to make a decision about my own future."

B 1 Doubles . . .

"Handball is the only game that you can continue to play on an amateur basis, where age is no factor," remarks Bud Miceli, co-winner of the B 1 Doubles tournament. A native St. Louisan, who comes from a handball playing family, Bud has won tournaments in the Novice and C classes and the B tournament of Eights. Handball provided a natural transition from baseball and football, which Bud played years ago.

Miceli's sports background is impressive. He tried his hand at pro baseball for Cincinnati for a short time before entering the Navy, where he played semi-pro Navy baseball from '62 to '64. "My enthusiasm for the game has maintained itself since I've been playing," says Bud. "Even during the year I took off for a knee operation. It took me a couple of months to come back after the operation, but it wasn't too bad." Asked about his future plans, Bud confided that his aspiration "is to win the B 1 Singles."

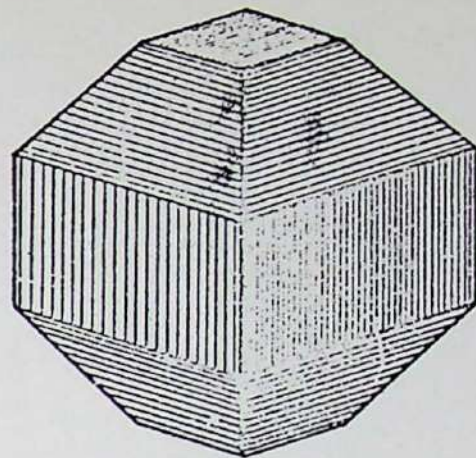
B 2 Singles . . .

Second Lt. Bruce Stone, winner of the B 2 Singles, commutes from Belleville, Ill. to the JCCA four or five times a week. When he's not playing handball or jogging (3 miles a day), Lt. Stone is a member of the management engineering team at Scott Air Force Base. A career Air Force man and an ex-tennis player, Bruce admits that handball has be-

(To page 47)

And It's Patented !!!

How to Cope with Champs... New-shaped Ball Equalizer... Try this One for Zany Court Play



Mike Cass, a Chicago patent attorney and handball buff, dug up the following "gem" and was kind enough to pass it on to our ACE readers. He prefaced his enclosure with an appropriate intro.

* * *

We are living in an exciting critical period in history — a time of change, ferment in the colleges, unionization of sports and mushrooming problems extending even into outer space beyond the air blanket surrounding this planet. These problems, however, do not compare with the seriousness of the problem which rears its ugly head in our beloved sport of handball like an iceberg which has nine-tenths of its mass submerged below eyelevel. I confess even to a very strong impulse to bury the **THING** in the sand in the style of play of the ostrich, but a true "handballnik" cannot demonstrate such weakness. Therefore, I pass the buck to you by revealing the problem and letting you decide whether to bring the item to the ken and attention of the world readers. Here goes!

On December 2, 1916, Jacob Abrahamson, then residing in Asbury Park, New Jersey, filed a patent application for United States Patent covering a new construction for a "HAND BALL." This patent application was granted as Patent No. 1,299,092 dated April 1, 1919, an April Fool's Day present to our beloved game. I attach a copy of this patent. Our patentee, "Jake" or "Jack," as he must have been known to his friends, considered that a conventional spherical rubber handball "usually rebounds with such regularity or precision that skilled players, noting the falling ball, can generally anticipate the direction in which it will bound or rebound." He considered that this eliminated "the element of uncertainty or chance" from the game with the resulting great detraction from normal interest in the game.

Mind you, then, in order to stimulate interest in

the game and put a new element into the game, he perfected a new handball "that a player cannot judge, with any degree of certainty, the direction of rebound of the ball." He injected more uncertainty in his game. With this objective achieved, a player would have to be more alert, react faster, acquire more skill and make handball even more difficult a sport to play and follow. Also, a guy could get killed or lose an eye, thereby injecting another element into the game.

How did "Jake" or "Jack" propose to achieve these worthwhile goals? He proposed a **THING**—a handball of polyhedron configuration so that it would have either twelve (12) faces or fourteen (14) faces, depending on the model. He proposed a rubber ball in the general form of a sphere from which segments were removed to provide many sides so that when the ball struck the floor or wall or ceiling, the exact direction of rebound could not be anticipated. He then said: "The players are thus required to be keyed up at all times during the game, in order to follow the quick movements of the ball as it rebounds in unexpected directions."

But our fellow handballer did not stop here. He suggested varying the number and angle of the faces, as well as the size of the faces, to increase the difficulty of the game as players become more expert and proficient.

What are we to do? Patents issued by the U.S. government are open to public inspection. If I found this patent, so could somebody else. Maybe I am not thinking clearly? Maybe we need such a ball for the game since, to say the least, it would be a revolting development and revolutions of all kinds are stylish today.

I will try to find Jacob Abrahamson, who no longer lives in Asbury Park. Maybe he still has one of those patented **THINGS**. Anyway, what shall we do?

SUBURBIA GARDENS
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Salina, Kansas . . .

Representatives from Denver took home the honors in three of the four finals matches of the fifth Annual Salina YMCA Midwest Handball tournament, held Feb. 14-16. The 1969 singles champion is Lee Wretlind of Denver. Wretlind defeated Brian Falknor, Fort Riley, Kansas, 21-18, 21-11. Third place singles trophy was fought for by Don Luttrell and John Hardy, both of Denver, with Hardy winning 21-16, 21-6.

The doubles champions are Larry Wood and Steve Spangler, Denver. Wood and Spangler defeated Curt Creed and Tom Matthews 21-6, 21-14. This is the third consecutive year that Larry Wood has been a part of the championship team in the Midwestern Handball Tournament doubles competition. Rich Wilbur and Dean Groves, Salina, won third place in the doubles competition by defeating Dr. John McFarland and Pete Barrett, Topeka 21-19, 20-21, 21-11.

53 players from Denver, Farwell, Nebraska, St. Joseph, Missouri, Wichita, Topeka, Kansas City, and Salina were dedicated enough to the sport of handball to drive through rain, ice, and snow to arrive in Salina to participate in the Midwestern. A banquet was held Saturday evening for all tournament participants and their guests. Approximately 500 spectators attended the tournament.

Dates for the 1970 Midwestern have not yet been set, but expectations are that another superb tournament will be held in 1970.

LYNN D. SHANK
Physical Director

Paul Morlos 'Officiates' At Haber Court Betrothal

Home plate wedding with crossed bats? Underwater skin divers wed with crossed fins? Well, up Milwaukee way they had a handball court wedding with crossed Saranac ACE gloves and ribbons of Spalding ACE balls.

Actually it was a "mock" ceremony. Paul Haber had officially married Mary Kay the Friday previous in Waukegan, Ill., with Paul Morlos, best friend and best man as witness. Then, Morlos "officiated" at the announced Milwaukee JCC handball court "wedding" Sunday, March 2.

A standing-room-only crowd piled into the court and the upstairs gallery as Morlos in a somber black tie optional, intoned the following merger message:

"We are gathered here in a championship court of the Milwaukee Jewish Community Center in the year 1969 of our Handball World."

"I, Paul Morlos, as a specially ordained minister of the Handball faith, graduate of the San Jose Y, with a degree in court hinders, have been summoned to perform the ceremony to unite a new doubles team — Paul David Haber and Mary Kay O'Neill."

"Although I personally lose a partner in Haber I realize he gains another one in Mary Kay, who has a better service, more finesse, and a lot more desire than I could muster in and out of the court."

"Do you, Paul Haber, take this

woman to be your lawful wedded wife, through good and bad matches, through constant periods when you are on your way to another tournament? If so, say ACE."

"Do you, Mary Kay O'Neill, take this Class B handball player to be your lawful wedded husband, through lengthy and regular beer sessions, through mounds of dirty and sweaty gym clothes? If so, say ACE."

"If there be any objections to this match and should anyone wish to call a court hinder, then they are now required to call for a towel, attempt a default; otherwise this match remains unforfeited."

"Will the best man serve the rings . . . I now pronounce you man and wife."

There followed a well stocked reception with the usual handball legendary tales and idle banter that is part and parcel of the four-wall circle. As befits a honeymooning pair, Paul announced that he would play in singles only at the nationals in Austin, Texas.

Among those in attendance were Elaine and Mort Leve, probably the only humans in captivity to witness TWO handball court weddings. They were present at the famed Bob Kendler Court No. 1 at Chicago's Town Club in 1954 when a fellow from Detroit named Walter Shook was betrothed (for real), officiated by the late Judge Jules Miner.

We do expect the first Haber offspring to be named "Ceiling Shot."

Mc Monigle
COME HOME!!

Greene, Miller, Bunch. Wren
Douglas, Johnson.

John McMonigle is regarded as one of the grandest guys to have ever played handball around Seattle. About six months ago, John, who has his P.H.D. in Pharmacology, accepted a Rockefeller Foundation grant to spend one year in Bangkok doing research. With his devotion to the game, we are certain that he is one of the most avid ACE readers.

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Bud Ellerby — Pres.

Dr. Stan London Gives Ideal 'Image'

By BOBBI LINKEMER

A man who is the personification of the term, "An Athlete's Athlete," a consistent house champion at the St. Louis J.C.C.A., and the possessor of a name that is well known on the national handball scene, DR. STAN LONDON is a man worth knowing. With this in mind, ACE Magazine has done a little research on the subject and now takes great pleasure in presenting its findings to the readers of ACE.

To begin with, our reporter talked to the people who know Stan, old friends and new acquaintances, men who have met him on the courts and those who have watched his progress through the years. Here are a few of their comments:

Phil Smith thinks of him as "one of the GIANTS — people who are head and shoulders above the crowd, intellectually and physically . . . To the handball players around here, Stan is someone to look up to," says Phil. "He sets a kind of example, as an individual, that isn't easy to live up to. I remember 15 years ago," he reminisces, "we had to hold up a tournament until he finished an operation. He hardly had time to take off his rubber gloves and change into handball gloves in time to start the game." Phil, whose friendship with Dr. London goes back to 1945, has seen Stan play under adverse conditions many times, never once complaining.

Stan London's doubles partner for the past 30 years has been Al Goldstein, who describes him as "one of the best athletes I've ever come in contact with in terms of coordination, reflexes, desire, ambidextrous facility and maneuverability." These two long time partners have established a "close personal relationship" as well as a fine partnership on the courts, and, predicts Al, will soon go on to the Masters Doubles class together.

Rich Linkemer, one of this year's JCCA tournament winners comments, "He's a natural! He has tremendous intuition, which is what I think makes him such a fantastic handball player, and besides that, I think he's a tremendous guy."

"He's hard to figure out," observes this year's youngest champ, Donnie Ginsburg. "You have no idea what he's thinking. He never changes his expression — winning or losing. It's almost as if he puts himself into some kind of self hypnosis."

The co-winner of this year's Masters Doubles, Milt Harris, has this to say about Dr. London, "He is very deliberate on the court, a tremendous

competitor, who really puts out. He is without question, one of the top retrievers in the country." Milt, who is a contemporary of Stan's, also observes that "He doesn't have much to say in the court — he gets right down to business."

The above opinions were typical of the many expressed by the men who know Stan both on and off the courts. As our reporter filled page after page with notes, a picture of Dr. London began to emerge. It was the picture of a man whose skill as a player is respected by his fellow players and opponents alike, a man whose conduct at all times reflects the high standards by which he lives, a man who is well liked and admired by many, but who remains a "mystery" to others.

On more than one occasion those being queried posed the question, "What is Dr. London REALLY like?" Though the opinions and impressions of others gave us a clue to that answer, they could, of course, provide only part of the image we were looking for. For the rest, we decided to go right to the source. Stan graciously agreed to an interview, with ACE, which we now present to our readers in its entirety.

Q: Dr. London, how long have you been playing handball?

A: Since I was 14 years old, with time out for college and medical school.

Q: Approximately how many trophies would you say you've accumulated during all the years you've been playing?

A: I haven't the foggiest.

Q: I understand that you played basketball in college and have been involved in sports all your life. What is it about handball that has sustained your interest and enthusiasm year after year?

A: Several things. The game has helped me to develop close personal relationships with individuals. It provides a complete workout in a brief period of time, a workout which involves everything — head, arms, legs. It's a game that requires only one other person to make arrangements with, and there's always a telephone near by.

Q: What values would you say handball has (to you personally) as a counterbalance for your arduous medical practice?

A: Handball provides the physical and emotional outlet everybody needs, some sense of accomplishment, and a social outlet. I enjoy meeting with good friends in an atmosphere away from the practice of medicine.

Q: As a doctor, what would you say are some of the most common injuries associated with the game, and do you have any suggestions as to how some of these injuries might be avoided?

A: A few of the more common ones are pulled and torn muscles, broken fingers, inflammatory and traumatic afflictions of the elbow. As for avoiding these injuries, I would recommend avoidance of over-fatigue, adequate warm up periods, and recognizing injuries in time to stop playing.

Q: Are there, in your opinion, peak years in this game? If so, when do they occur?

A: Peak years depend on when a man started playing. If he began later in life, his peak years will come a little later. It's pretty much the same in this sport as in others.

Q: How often does a man have to play in order to maintain good physical condition and steadily improve his game?

A: That often depends on the individual and on his age. An older person needs to play more to maintain his condition. The very young are almost always in good shape anyway.

Q: At what age do you think a boy should begin playing, and at what age should a man retire from competitive play?

A: A youngster should begin whenever desire grabs him. The earlier he starts, the more apt he is to achieve. As for stopping, there's individual variation here. When competitiveness is no longer a pleasure and begins to lead to undue fatigue, it's time to quit.

Q: What do you consider the most important aspect of doubles play? Do you feel that it's advisable to have the same partner over the years (as you have and as Jim Jacobs and Marty Decatur's case)? What are the advantages?

A: Having a partner who complements your game is important in doubles play. Knowing instinctively where each of you is going to be and who is going to play the shot has distinct advantages over the pick-up type partner.

Q: Do you, as a surgeon, ever worry about your hands — playing a sport like handball?

A: I don't worry about injuries to my hands, as a rule. I don't play balls along the wall; and if there's any chance of jeopardy, I simply let the ball drop. Injuries to the hands are really quite unusual.

(To page 47)

Houston Association Holds 16th Southwest USHA Tourney At Downtown YMCA — July 3-6

Singles — Open — This group will be restricted to the top 16 singles players, in our opinion. Play will start at 11 a.m. Friday morning. First round losers will play in A-Flight Singles.

Singles — B — Any singles players not seated in top 16, with his entry in on time, up to a maximum of 64 players, will be placed in B-Singles or B-Special (32 player bracket maximum). Play starts Thursday night at 5:15 for first round B-Singles and Friday morning at 9 a.m. for B-Special.

Singles — Masters — Players must be 40 years of age or over on July 4, 1969. Limited to first 16 players. First round starts Thursday at 7:15 p.m.

Doubles — Open — We will seat the top 16 teams, in our opinion, in this group. Play starts Friday at 9 a.m.

Doubles — B — Open to any doubles team not seated in top 16. Play starts Friday at 2 p.m. Singles players can only enter if eliminated from 1st round B-Singles or B-Special Singles.

Doubles — Masters — One player must be 40 or over and the other player 45 or over on July 4, 1969. First round to be played Friday at 1 p.m.

Doubles — Senior (Added since last year) — Both players must be 50 years old on July 4, 1969. Maximum 8 teams; if less than 4 teams, event will be called off. First round at 1:00 p.m. Friday.

Consolation — Singles — Restricted to First Round B-Singles or B-Special losers, or any player who can certify that he has never won a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place trophy in either singles or doubles. No referees furnished and play restricted to small courts 3 and 4 or Court 1 until Saturday afternoon. First round Friday afternoon.

General Notes — Trophies — 4 Places in Open & B-Singles. 3 places in all other events.

Balls — We will supply one ACE ball for each match. Ball goes to loser. You must supply your own "warm up" balls.

Entry Fee — One entry fee only \$5.00 includes party. (Undergraduate college students, going back to school in September — \$3.00).

Party — Party Saturday Night — food, beverages, and entertainment. Ladies and wives invited.

Courts — Seven Regulation Air Conditioned Courts.

We'll do our best to put on a good tournament; you do your best to make it!

SCOTT POTTER
Tournament Chairman

HANDBALL ODDITY

Dr. Paul Reilly, a Caldwell N. J. Physician, has given some of his fellow handball players at the Montclair YMCA the impression that he is trying to drum up business on the court.

In the past two years no less than four players have suffered achilles tendon injuries while playing handball with the venerable Dr. Reilly. Two of them had to undergo surgery for snapped tendons while the other two managed to recover with a few weeks lay-off.

The injured man, in each case, said he left as though someone had hit him with the ball in the back of the leg. All four immediately cast puzzled looks at the doctor and said, "What did you hit me with?"

On April 8 the foursome learned that the Reilly jinx had again taken a victim during a house tournament semi-final match. Victimized this time, however, was the good doctor, who suddenly experienced the same strange sensation. It was evident that he, too, had suffered the same type of injury his lockerroom buddies jokingly claimed was the product of a "witch doctor."

From: Passaic, N. J. Herald-News "Augie Lio's Cracker Barrel"

Bob Leckie, the military historian and novelist from Rutherford, is a handball enthusiast.

We were talking about the sport at a recent dinner at the Pica Club (newspapermen's organization) when Leckie told me he is planning to open his own sports club, featuring handball and squash courts. To be called the Sportsman's Club, it will be located in Mountain Lakes, where Leckie lives.

"I think the place will fill a crying need," said Leckie. "The only indoor handball courts and most squash courts in North Jersey are in YMCA's, in the cities. There's nothing in the suburbs. And both sports are becoming enormously popular, especially handball. The colleges are taking it up, now, and the kids in the armed services are learning to play it there."

"It's a wonderful conditioner," added Leckie. "That's now the astronauts stay in shape, playing handball. And there's no sport more competitive. You should hear them holler over a hinder or a double bounce!"

More of Desperation

Leckie's idea to open a sports club was born more of desperation than inspiration. He plays handball every morning at the Montclair YMCA, but he's finding the traffic in Route 46 and Bloomfield Avenue a little discouraging. Too many lights.

"So I began wondering," he continued, "how much it would cost if some other fellows and I built our own court. Then I figured why not my own club. Not only for handball, but squash, too. A sauna, weight room, lounge, pool tables, shuffleboard — the works."

FOR A SUCCESSFUL
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CLARENCE BARIS

Wichita Falls Invite...

The Wichita Falls, Texas, YMCA will host the 20th Annual Red River Invitational Handball Tournament on June 6-8.

The tournament will consist of Men's A, Men's B, and doubles competition. The play will be single elimination.

RONNIE WOOD

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Rochester Hosts Outstanding East Regional

By BILL KENNEDY

New York City's dominance in the Eastern Regional Handball Championships was maintained in doubles but lost in singles at the third annual regional tournament held in Rochester, N.Y., Feb. 28 to March 2.

Jack Weintraub and Jim Fitzpatrick defeated Joe Cryan and Eamon Fennessy, 21-4, 21-7, in an all-West Side YMCA finale in doubles. In singles, however, it was Upstate New York stealing the spotlight with Keith Ashby, Rochester J.Y., conquering John Filsinger, Buffalo A.C., 21-15, 21-14.

Ashby, the local favorite, entered the tourney unseeded and wearing the apparently undistinguished mantle of "Monroe County" (greater Rochester) champion, a title he has held for eight years. After winning by default in the second round and upending Bill Kennedy, Montclair, N.J. YMCA, 21-13, 21-19 in the third round, Ashby began to dispose of the seeded players.

In the quarter-finals he trailed fourth-seeded Livingston Baker, West Side, 16-10, but rallied with 11 consecutive points to take the first tilt, 21-16. He won the second by a convincing 21-10 count, earning the right to meet top-seeded Len Tomczak, Erie, Pa. Y. Tomczak, most observers felt, was the man to beat in the field of 38 players from three states.

Demonstrating an accurate and powerful left-handed serve and a sneaky offensive right hand, Ashby surprised Tomczak by winning 21-5, 21-19. Keith kept shooting in the finals against the second seeded Filsinger and captured his first big

tournament since winning the Great Lakes Tourney in 1964.

The 32-year-old Ashby, an undergraduate at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, was expected to compete in the national collegiate tournament in Austin, as well as the open tourney. A victory in the college division could make him second oldest collegian to ever win a national championship in intercollegiate athletics. Mal Dorfman, 37, won in 1954.

Filsinger, the top player in the Buffalo area, reached the finals by eliminating Paul Broer, Syracuse Y, 21-1, 21-13, in the second round and Tom Ryan, West Side, 21-5, 21-13, in the third round. He then disposed of Tom Kurowski, Cavalier Club, Long Island, in the quarter-finals, 21-12, 21-11. Kurowski had placed third in the 1968 regional singles. Filsinger then triumphed over Dave Garvey, Albany Y, in the semi-finals, 21-7, 21-9. Tomczak topped Garvey, 31-9, in the consolation match for third place.

Weintraub, who was second and third in the past two regional singles tournaments, switched to doubles and earned his fare to Austin with the amiable Fitzpatrick. The New York duo defeated Bill Gleichauf and Gary Radford, Rochester JY, 21-8, 21-11, in the first round, and Joe Muolo and Mike Bobby, JY, 21-8, 21-13, in the quarter-finals.

In the semi-finals the West Siders faced their toughest opposition, in Steve Lott and Mitchell Straus, 92nd St. YMHA. Lott had won the

tournament with Pat Kirby in 1968 and Straus was runnerup in the 1968 National three-wall doubles tournament. The teenagers from 92nd St. blasted their way to victory in the first game, 21-14, and were on their way to a second game triumph when Weintraub began lobbing serves to Lott's left. Repeated ceiling volleys by the West Siders soon frustrated the younger gunners and forced them into errors. After erasing a 10-5 deficit, Weintraub and Fitz won the second game, 21-12, and the third, 21-16, in what became a relatively easy victory after they quit trying to outslug their younger adversaries. In the finals they piled up a 10-0 lead over Cryan and Fennessy in the first game and coasted to the championship.

Bob Orozco and Ralph Albertson, Rochester Central Y physical directors, took the consolation match for third by default.

The tournament field this year lacked the big name performers from New York City, but the Rochester Handball Association sponsored the finest regional event of the three held. Dr. Ted Smith and his tournament committee did an outstanding job, despite the fact that they had only a month to prepare for the competition which lost many entries to the Canadian Open and Virginia State Open, held the same weekend. The masters doubles was cancelled because of the lack of entries, and the tournament site was transferred from the Central Y to the JY after the first three rounds.

Washington A. C. Will add 3 courts

A \$2 million expansion project to add five stories and remodel the Washington A.C. in Seattle is beginning this spring.

The plans include three handball courts, one with a spectators' gallery, additional men's conditioning facilities, two squash courts, a full-sized gymnasium and a running track. All these new additions will be air-conditioned.

The nationwide emphasis on the importance of physical education has created a demand by members and their families for more physical conditioning facilities.



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JCCA — ST. LOUIS . . .

(From page 40)

come an obsession. "It's all I think about! I used to play a lot of tennis, but since I've been playing handball, I haven't picked up a racket."

Twenty-six-year old Stone has won the only two tournaments he's entered in his year and a half as a handball devotee. His objective is to apply for special training at the Air Force Academy in order to teach young men handball, as it should be played. Asked what he thinks of handball players, Bruce says, "They are really great people. They all seem to have some type of mysterious quality that draws them together. I've made some great friendships."

B 2 Doubles . . .

"I've been involved in baseball, football, soccer, and track," says Kenneth Winkler, co-winner of the B 2 Doubles, "but after a while, contact sports get to be a little much!" The obvious alternative for this athletic engineer was his new love, handball. Now, after five years of play, Winkler's wife agrees that he is a true addict. "He even lost weight in order to play," she comments.

Ken, who modestly gives the credit for their tournament victory to his partner, Gene Adams, feels that there are definite advantages to doubles play with a steady partner. "When you're a regular team, you develop confidence in your partner and that's worth points in a game."

B 2 Doubles . . .

"Handball is not just a case of bouncing the ball back and forth," says Gene Adams, who sees the game as one of "mental agility and quickness of hands." Adams, an engineer with an analytical mind, likes the strategy of the game and the fact that he has to "think every minute." He plays because handball sharpens his "coordination, reflexes, and mind."

Gene breaks the sport down into three categories, maintaining that 50% of the game is played in the head, which is similar to a computer, collecting data. 25% involves the feet, which places the player in the correct position; and 25%, the hands, which are responsible for hitting the ball where the opponent can't reach it. Adam quotes Bill Yambrick, who said in a recent article, "Handball is a three dimensional sport, combining the technique of tennis, the angle rebound of billiards, and the strategy of chess."

Novice Singles and Doubles . . .

A man who hasn't played handball since the 30's, when he was in his teens, has made a noteworthy return to the game by winning both the Novice singles and doubles com-

petition. Forty-six-year old George Smith, who "Never gives up" according to his wife, observes that "the older you get, the quicker your conditioning begins to fall apart." Aspiring to play "good handball with younger men," George works hard on his conditioning.

After a 25 year career as a naval aviator, Smith retired a year and a half ago and returned to college for a degree in education. At the present time, he is immersed in a new career, as an engineer at McDonald. Smith comments that "handball is not a game you will like when you first begin to play. It takes perseverance and time to get to the point where you're actually enjoying the game."

Novice Doubles . . .

A man whose business and pleasure both involve sports was the co-winner of the Novice Doubles. Bob Cohen, who reconditions equipment for such pro teams as the Football Cardinals and the St. Louis Blues, began playing handball after a long vacation from the game, "in order to lose weight and keep in shape." Now he admits that its "diversionary and conditioning factors" have made him thoroughly enjoy the game. "I'm addicted to a degree, though not completely," say Bob. "I find it a complete form of relaxation, but I guess I'm not really hooked."

Cohen, describing himself as a "person of moderation" feels that the "significance of the game is its escape. If it becomes an obsession, it defeats its purpose." He goes on to say that he does play to win, and that "losing on an off night hurts." One of the best aspects of the game, according to Bob is that because it requires all of a player's concentration, it literally drives other problems from his mind during a game.

Masters Doubles . . .

First place in the masters' doubles will mean trophy number 172 for Harry Dreyfus in competition which includes soccer, basketball, track and handball. This year, so far, he has chalked up wins in the JCCA House tournament with Milt Harris and the Tournament of Eights with Oscar Klayman as his partner.

Dreyfus, who won his first trophy 40 ago in 1928, is living proof that serious injuries or heart attacks are not necessarily the end of the road for an athlete. Harry has experienced both, which resulted in a seven year lay-off from sports. He returned to play again and maintained his status as a champ. Grateful for his own recovery, Dreyfus says, "Since then I have been able to encourage and set an example for others who have had coronaries that WE CAN RECOVER from this seemingly very

DR. LONDON . . .

(From page 43)

Q: What advice would you give a player just starting out in the game?

A: I would tell a beginner to go into the court for five minutes before he plays in competition and throw the ball with his off hand. I would also suggest that he try to hit every ball. For someone with a little more experience, I would recommend that he try to DO SOMETHING with every ball, rather than just hit it. To the more advanced player, I would say, "Try to pick up various refinements and techniques of handball. Develop a game technique."

A: I would also add that anyone who plays handball should play for the fun of the game. If he plays just to win, he's lost the fundamental, most important part of what handball is. It's important to be able to win and lose in handball, which is a GAME and not feel that it's a major catastrophe.

It may not be possible to give a complete answer to the question "What is Dr. Stan London REALLY like?", but we hope we have given you at least a glimpse of this multifaceted man through people's impressions of him as well as through his own viewpoints on the sport to which he has devoted almost thirty years of his life.

serious illness. There is hope!"

"When you're chasing that little black ball, you can't think about your problems," says Milt Harris, co-winner of the Masters Doubles. Milt, who has played in about 15 tournaments over the past 30 years, divides his time between real estate, investments, and playing handball. With a background of football, baseball, and basketball, Milt feels he still needs a competitive sport that gives him a workout. "As you get older" he continues, "this is the only one you can stick with."

Around the courts, Harris finds what he calls a "casual social outlet. The people as a whole are nice people," he observes, but what really attracts him is the game. "No other sport, in such a short period of time, gives you the feeling that you've given your all."

Some of the men you've just met will never attain national prominence; some have names you're already familiar with; still others are only beginning on the road to fame in handball. In every case, each of these men is a champion in every sense of the word. As a group, they bring to handball all of the attributes that help to make it the great sport that it has become.

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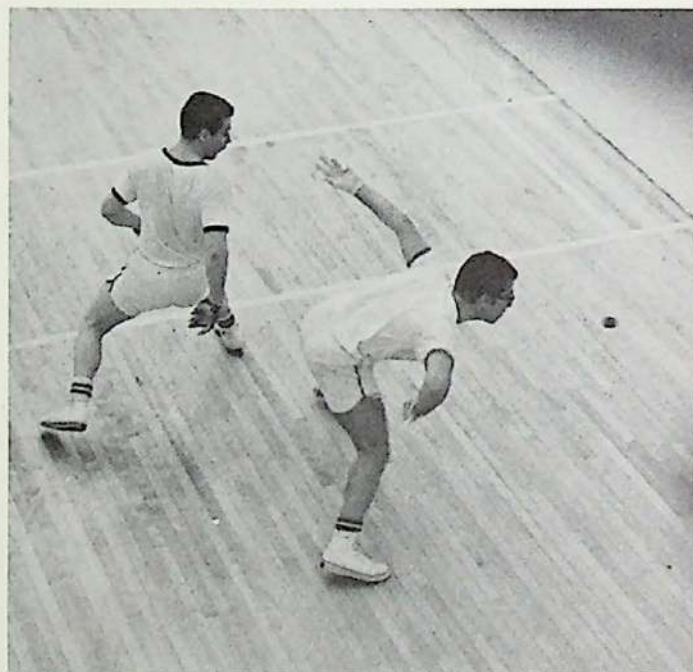
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CANADIAN NATIONALS COMMITTEE — (l to r) — Scoop Hayes, Harold McClean, Mike Jennings (seated), Bill Greenspoon, Willie Bernstein, Herb Finklestein. Other committeemen not in picture: Joe Carderelli, Stan Bargman, Barry Leech, Stan Kray, Reg Barnes, Ron Maycock, Peter Gregerson.



STUFFY FIRES AWAY . . . It was all Stuffy Singer in the Canadian Nationals as the Californian defeated Pat Kirby at Toronto. This "revenged" an earlier season loss by Stuffy to Pat in the Akron Open semi finals. It was a sweep for U. S. A. with Mel Sandland and Matt Kelly of Long Beach defeating Mickey Unroth and Harry Teperman of Toronto in the finals.

CANADIAN SPECIAL SECTION

ACE Magazine will continue to carry a "special section" on Canadian handball activity. We urge all provinces to report on new court construction, tournaments, and dates for all competition to be included in this section.

'IMPORT' GORDIE PFIEFER DOMINATES VANCOUVER A. C. SINGLES TOURNAMENT

The Vancouver Athletic Club hosted the Tournament and drew an excellent entry of 99 players from the Northwest area. The play was great and the three days were topped off with the awards banquet on Saturday night.

Gordie Pfeifer of the Washington Athletic Club completely dominated singles play throughout the tournament and allowed only 10 points to be scored against him in the six games played from the quarter-finals, through the finals. Gordie's game is greatly improved in the past year as he has acquired much more poise as well as a tremendous amount of court knowledge and pacing to his game. Gordie blasted Tony Stramiello of the Astoria Y in Oregon in the final by scores of 21-0, 21-4 in warming up for the Contenders Tournament the following week in Birmingham, Alabama where he went on to take third place in a very strong field of entries. He is going to be a real threat at the National level in the very near future.

Pfeifer beat Vic Kristopaitis of the V.A.C. in the semis and Stramiello took John Ritchie of the Multnomah A.C., his doubles partner in the other semi.

Consolation Singles was won by Geoff Wright of the Vancouver Y as he beat Arnie Hallgren of the same club.

Open Doubles was taken by Tony Stramiello and John Ritchie of Oregon as they beat the veteran team of Bud Simpson and Max Soriano of

the WAC two straight. In the semis it was Simpson and Soriano over Bob Wilson and Mel Brown of the Vancouver Y and Stramiello and Ritchie beating out John Beahm and Roy Velling of the W.A.C. It was a great tourney for young Stramiello reaching the singles final and winning the doubles in a three day marathon effort.

Consolation Doubles was won by Bill Owens and Bill Adams of Vancouver Y over Arnie Hallgren and Don Kulch of the same club.

Master Doubles was taken by the old perennial winners Bob Bunch and Al Bostrum of Seattle Y as they topped the WAC team of John Beahm and Bruce Long in the finals. In the semis Long and Beahm beat out Pete Thodos and Jim Skelton of Vancouver Y and in the other half it was Bunch and Bostrum rolling over Jack Alton of Vancouver A.C. and Dan Callahan of the Bellingham Y.

Consolation Masters Doubles winners were Bill Surphlis and Dalt Elton of Vancouver Y over Lou Marbacher and Bob Curry of Vancouver Y.M.C.A.

Vancouver also ran a "C" tournament simultaneously which drew a large entry and was very successful. This has stimulated a lot of tournament interest in this group of lesser experienced players who will be the big guns of the future. Frank Juriga, New Westminster Y.M.C.A. won the "C" title over Virgil Jahnke of the Vancouver Y.

Edmonton Entries

Top Regina Open

The Saskatchewan Open Handball Championships culminated with the tournament members being guests of Molson's Brewery at a St. Patrick's Day Ball, March 15, 1969.

The green decor was not in any way associated with the play, as it was hot and heavy with Edmonton, Alberta walking off with the major awards.

In the Singles championship, it was Moe Fillion of Edmonton over Stan Fisher of the host club, the Regina YMCA Handball Club, 21-18, 7-21, and 21-3. The action in this game was very fast, but a crucial bit of inconsistency in the final game meant defeat for Fisher, and a boost of confidence for Fillion and Edmonton winning the CKRM Radio trophy.

The doubles winners were Ed Walsh and Bob Dixon of Edmonton, defeating Moe Fillion and Dave Kushner, fellow teammates from Edmonton.

The Masters event, and the Roger's Lumber Trophy went to Dave Kushner and Bob Dixon of Edmonton.

There were a total of 25 entrants in this three day affair which features any player entering two events if he so wishes. The added extra's included a social hour after the official registration, a "loser's nite" on the Friday evening for all players not in the championship games and videotape highlights of many matches.

The consolation singles winner for all those who lost their first round was Bob Todd of Regina, and the "most sportsman like" player award went to Art McAvoy of Regina.

Players making the semi-finals in singles play were, Jack Potter of Regina, Stan Fisher of Regina, Phil Gordon of Edmonton and Moe Fillion of Edmonton. In the doubles semi-finals, it was Ed Walsh and Bob Dixon over Jack Potter and Jack Seed in the games, and Moe Fillion and Dave Kushner over Stan Fisher and Jim Ray of Regina in 3 games. Nick Laturnus of Regina lost to Bob Todd in 3 games in the consolation singles event.

Next year's tournament is a must for those who are planning on being in Western Canada during March of next year, as it has proven to be one of the best hosted, supported and operated tournaments in Canada.

STAN FISHER,
Public Relations Officer

Warnholtz Wins Maritime Singles

A successful Maritime Championships was held with 26 entries in singles and nine teams in doubles. Players represented Fredericton, Halifax and the host club Saint John.

In singles the defending champion, Laurie Lovett, went down to defeat in an upset by young McPherson from U.N.B. This young fellow has improved greatly in the last year. There were many excellent matches in singles with a number of younger players playing better than ever before but the big winner turned out to be, "Pot Hunter" Don Warnholtz (Toronto) who at the present time is working in the Halifax area. Don turned in a strong performance playing in 12 games, 6 in singles and 6 in a winning role with George Leitch in the doubles. A strong team of Kearney and Nixon went three games with them and almost pulled off a surprise win.

Don has been working in the East the last couple of years with a few

Lethbridge, Alberta...

Tournament chairman, Matt Slavich put on a great show having invited players from Great Falls Montana, Calgary, Regina and Edmonton. At the end of the two day event the following teams, all from Edmonton, emerged the victors.

Singles — Dinty Moore; Doubles — Walter Kondrosky, Moe Fillion; Masters — Sol Schwartz, Dave Kushner.

Special thanks should be given to the Lethbridge YMCA who have just completed a new building and allowed their two new courts to be used for the event.

weeks in the Halifax area and then moving over to the Saint John area. We wish to thank him for helping to improve the calibre of play in our clubs for he has demonstrated the power and skill that players will have to attain if they hope to move up. Our congratulations also to him on winning the Consolation Singles in the recent Canadian Championships in Toronto.

Canadian Nationals—Singer . . . Sandland-Kelly

Pat Kirby took first place in Canadian Closed Singles with Barry Leech defeating Marcel Ponton for second.

Barry lost the first game to Marcel. Ponton using a well controlled serve to the left side kept Barry in deep court and cut off weak returns. In the final two games Barry's condition started to pay off. His serves started to work down the left side and he connected with kills to the right side to put the games out of reach of Ponton. A tremendous win for Barry considering the amount of energy he spent as Tournament Chairman.

Dinty Moore of Edmonton defeated Tippoff of Toronto in two, for fourth place.

The team of Mickey Unroth and Harry Teperman of Toronto YMHA won the Closed and came second in the Open Doubles. A very strong team from Los Angeles beat Mickey and Harry two straight. Second in the Closed went to Harold McClean and Stan Kray of West End Y, Toronto.

Master Doubles Bernie Pritchard and Ron Sibbald of West End defeated Arnold Marks and Willie Bernstein in two. First game, Ron and Bernie won easily . . . 21-1. Second game was hard driving, but Bernstein and Marks were unable to follow through. Score 21-16.

Stuffy Singer showing fine form completely dominated the finals of the Canadian Nationals. Playing to a preconceived plan Stuffy controlled the pace of the 2 games with Pat to win 21-10 and 21-14.

First game — Kirby started very strong and fast, but Singer coasting along with the pace and maintaining front court position, jumped into an early lead 9-2. Stuffy served controlled hooking serves to the left side and sneaked a couple down the right side to keep Pat a little off balance to take a lead of 13-6. Kirby's percentage of kills was poor. Kirby started to find the range and was able to close the gap a little but Stuffy was now serving soft serves from the left side, and playing more to the ceiling. Pat served cross court or scotch toss serves (sorry Pat, "Irish Twist"). Again percentages are in Singer's favor. Score 21-10.

Second game — Singer kept the tempo to his liking, and Pat was not shooting but moving the ball around and keeping Stuffy back a bit. The game was very close and play was



BRUCE COLLINS
CHA President

even. Singer serving overhand soft serves and good hard breaking serves to the left side kept Pat from the front of the court. Any weak returns were picked off and rolled out. Most of the action was being played from three quarter court. Score 13-10 for Singer.

At this stage and after one of the few hard fast rallies, with both players, to the delight of the gallery making almost impossible gets, a time out was called by Stuffy. Complete play was resumed and at this point Stuffy took command of the play. Maintaining all important front court position, he stroked with either hand a series of kills. Final score 21-14.

COMMENTS: Talking to Stuffy before the match he said: "If I am going to beat Pat today I will have to control the tempo of the game," and he did just that.

The team of Mel Sandland and Matt Kelly, Long Beach, defeated Mickey Unroth and Harry Teperman in two straight for the Canadian Open Doubles. 21-4 and 21-3.

Sandland and Kelly from the opening serve put on a good display of roll out kills and hard breaking serves both ways.

Kelly serving cross court into deep right court very effectively played the right side almost letter perfect. He would drive Mickey and Harry out of front court position and then

shot numerous kills that rolled out in the right corner. Mel on the other side served hooks both ways that seemed to jump the width of the court.

In the Consolation Singles, Don Warenholz completely out-classed Ed Chort to win handily in two. 21-10 and 21-11.

All the finals were crowded and the closed circuit T.V. certainly helped a lot more people to see the games.

In the semi-finals of the Singles Barry Leech of Toronto put up a fine showing against Stuffy Singer of Los Angeles before losing in two. 21-12 and 21-17. Marcel Ponton of Montreal lost out to Pat Kirby of Toronto two straight. Would also like to mention the fine performance of Dinty Moore of Edmonton against Pat Kirby. Dinty went all out and got a big jump on Kirby beating him 21-8 in the first game. Second and third games Kirby showed a lot of form beating Moore 21-13 and 21-3.

The most exciting game of the tournament that I saw was between Dinty Moore and Marcel Ponton. First game Moore beat Marcel 21-12, second game Marcel fought from behind to nip Dinty 21-18. Third game both players showing the effects of the two previous games missed a lot of opportunities. The score must have changed from one to the other at least 5 or 6 times, finally around 14-14 Marcel started to pull away. This game was a real grind. Final score 21-16.

Saturday night a dinner dance was held at the Lord Simcoe Hotel. At last count 230 people attended. Head table included Merv McKenzie—Ontario Athletic Commissioner, Bruce Collins—Canadian Handball Chairman from Edmonton and the Toronto Handball Association Committee members with their wives.

Open Doubles winners were Mel Sandland and Matt Kelly, of Los Angeles, California, runners up Mickey Unroth and Harry Teperman along with Stan Kray and Harold McClean.

In the Canadian Closed Singles winner Pat Kirby, second, Barry Leech, third, Marcel Ponton and fourth, Dinty Moore—the awards were presented by Canadian Handball Association Chairman, Bruce Collins. Canadian Open Singles won by Stuffy Singer, second, Pat Kirby, third Barry Leech.

Canadian Association Plans

Plans to incorporate the Canadian Handball Associations are in progress. Our legal advisors are studying suggested By-Laws and it is our intention to be legally incorporated as a national association in the very near future. It is our basic intention to create an *independent* Canadian Association that will work closely with the current Association in Canada and USHA in the United States.

FINANCES: The most pressing problem at the moment is finances. The *only* asset of CHA is an excellent colored instructional film "Play Handball" narrated by Art Linkletter and featuring Jim Jacobs and Stuffy Singer. This film was donated by USHA and is available free of charge to all handball clubs across the dominion. Our bank balance is nil as of today. Present fund raising plans already activated are:

1. CHA annual membership \$2.00 in all provinces — 50% National — 50% Provincial.
2. ACE magazine subscriptions — \$2.00 annually — all subscriptions to be remitted to CHA.
3. Federal assistance for annual National Tournament and for National winners to attend USHA nationals annually.
4. Future Clinics for promotion of Juniors and use of best instructors available.

It is of utmost importance that the various provincial groups make the necessary approaches to the proper departments for the necessary funds to assist their Provincial Champions to attend the Nationals. In the Nationals just concluded at Toronto only five of the ten provinces had representatives attending. Only *Alberta* provides Return Air Fare for all its Provincial champions, a coach, and a manager. Alberta also makes sure its Junior Champion is in attendance. An excellent example to try to follow.

Your national committee voted unanimously to send the Canadian singles winner and Canadian doubles winner to Austin, Texas, for USHA nationals March 16-22, supplying return air fare and expenses while attending. An excellent *start*, but all CHA members should realize the need for 100% effort in fund raising efforts.

RULES AND REFEREES: It is our good fortune to have Harold McClean accept this thankless job. To compound his problems, there are at present no national tournament

rules. It is Harold's intention to submit in full for National Executive approval, a table of Rules to be enforced at all National Tournaments in the future. Our past problems are to be *eliminated* before Vancouver hosts in 1970. If you have any suggestions, please contact Harold direct.

PRESS: As indicated in the 1969 ACE YEARBOOK, the USHA has volunteered a *Canadian Section* in each edition. We are most fortunate to have Dalt Elton to process all this Cross-Canada news, and you are advised to inform all your press and public relations officers to supply him with the necessary information on time to receive international coverage at no cost.

CONSTRUCTION: New courts, *properly* built, are needed everywhere. Presently seven new courts are under construction at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. The CHA is fortunate to have Art Kruger agree to offer proper guidance at a National level and work closely with Ed. Chalmers, whose revolutionary glass court model was on display at the Toronto Nationals.

JUNIORS: It is the hope of your National committee, as soon as finances will permit, to conduct an annual National Junior Tournament. Age rules have been established. It is our intention to have *every* province with its Junior Champion in Vancouver for the 1970 Nationals.

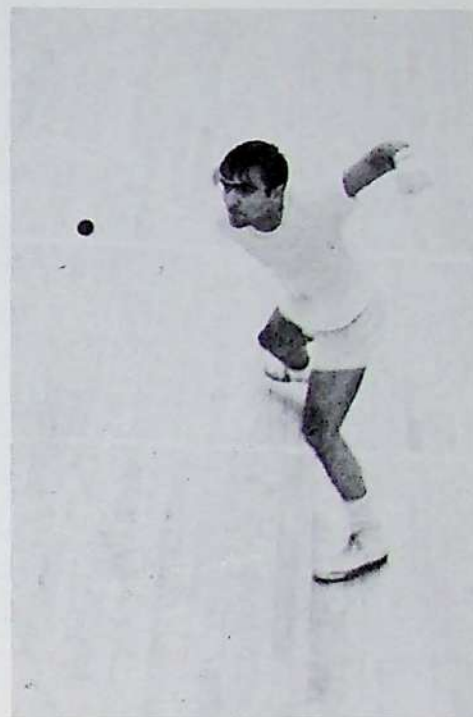
AREA COMMISSIONERS: As you will note from the list of CHA officials, these have been appointed on a permanent basis — split evenly between East and West. It is also our hope to alternate the Nationals between East and West each year. Montreal is presently giving 1971 serious consideration.

INTERNATIONAL: An excellent exchange of champions with USHA has been finalized for nationals. It is our hope to set up a reciprocal arrangement with USHA for supply of ACE HANDBALLS and SARA-NAC GLOVES and provide financial assistance to CHA.

Plan to attend the Nationals in Vancouver in 1970. It is our hope this coming year to eliminate tournament date problems. Please clear with National office all dates for Provincial Tournaments.

Remember — A *strong* Canadian Handball Association (CHA) means better handball for all.

B. W. COLLINS
President — CHA



TORONTO STANDOUT . . . Mickey Unroth, a strong Canadian singles and doubles player, who has showed well in both his country and in USHA nationals.

Winnipeg . . .

A Christmas Tourney was held at University of Winnipeg with the winners traveling to Toronto for the Canadian National Championships February 27th, 28th and March 1st.

Dick Chrobak won the A Singles over Ron Kruss in three games.

Chrobak and Harry Wade beat Dick Archer and Norm Duncan in three to take the A Doubles Crown.

Ted Keating took Bob Lawler two straight in the B Singles.

B Doubles saw Paul Romanoff and Barry Dennis top Ted Keating and Bob Lawler.

Manitoba also conducted a Tournament the week of March 24th plus the Manitoba Championships the week of May 12th.

The Manitoba Handball Club now has 70 members and the top notch instructional film of Stuffy Singer and Jim Jacobs was shown at a club meeting in January and met with excellent response.

SASKATCHEWAN OPEN HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS were held on March 13th, 14th and 15th in Regina.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . . .

(From page 15)

age starts to show around the middle. Today, the average man lives 25 years longer than a century ago. He has to in order to get his taxes paid.

I feel duty bound to tell you that I had some whip-lash on this subject. Fortunately, only three members out of 10,000 objected to our interest in paddleball. I made a herculean effort to enlighten them. Actually, the complaints all boiled down to one honest point,—lack of courts. Their contention was that paddleball players were denying handball players court time and because the courts were already crowded, paddleball should be barred. That's like saying the highways are too crowded,—stop building cars. The real answer is build more highways, and more courts. We had a shortage of handball courts long before paddleball came along. Complaining about paddleball is admitting that we have done a poor job of building new courts. When they talk about court damage they forget handball plaster is patched every year where there is no paddleball, and I have seen many more injuries in handball than I ever saw in paddleball.

There is one more long range point which I wish you would consider. Unless we pull together all the splinter paddleball groups,—give them a voice in its development and standardize the rules,—the AAU will claim jurisdiction and run these paddleball pioneers right out of the park. They'll also run you out of the handball court with tournaments that would really choke up our court time. For our own protection, we should build paddleball as a companion sport, with one supporting the other. This, incidentally, will keep the AAU out of our hair in the future.

I don't want to belabor the point because I think I have convinced all the dissenters that what was best for yesterday is not always best for tomorrow. I came to the conclusion,—and I hope you do too,—that paddleball does NOT compete with handball,—it COMPLIMENTS it. Paddleball is NOT being promoted at the expense of handball. Rather, it is making a valuable contribution to it. There is absolutely NO conflict of interest and it does NOT limit available court time. It does NOT detract from handball and paddleball committees around the country are entirely separate from handball committees. Change comes hard at any age but hardest of all in the later years. Ironically, our three objections came from men who are well along in years and far removed from today's scene, mentally and physically. You know those who complain about the way the ball bounced are often the ones who dropped it.

Now what does all this mean? Why is the USHA constantly seeking changes,—ideas,—improvement,—progress? First, you must understand that we have a far greater objective than claiming jurisdiction over handball. Our overall target is to build a complete sports network embracing ALL the court sports, having one administration that is fully self supporting. I started this Association because I wanted to sell fitness,—both mental and physical, through handball. I haven't changed. I am just adding another tool to reach people handball misses. We might well add squash some day . . . or any other court sport that contributes to the development of a healthy body. And we want them all together under one roof, like the stadiums for football,—the arenas for hockey. And before long,—I'll show you that roof!

After getting the gut racquet groups unified we now have offers from wood paddle groups and it won't be long before we will have one big happy family. So many independents have beaten a path to our door it makes us feel we are moving in the right direction. Even manufacturers now solicit us diligently, and that should enable us to publish ACE monthly. Manufac-



JUST LISTEN TO ME . . . Bob Kendler relates some of the handball 'lore' to Stuffy Singer (l), Jim Jacobs and his pretty young miss, Judy, during lull in tournament action at the University of Texas.

turers are advertisers and that's all ACE needs to expand. To hasten this step, we had a booth at this year's National Sporting Goods show in Houston to learn more about the product phase of handball. Newsstand circulation, national advertising and a tremendous circulation will be one of the by-products of broadening our base and this is something paddleball will help us accomplish!

Now you have our mission. Build a heterogeneous organization that brings out every facet of the bouncing ball, looking far into the future and providing safeguards for generations yet unborn. Safeguards, too, against the errors of the past so that those of us who brought order out of chaos will not have labored in vain. Diversity and flexibility will both strengthen and perpetuate our organization and thus it is that we welcome paddleball or any other court sport. Like the diamond belongs to baseball,—the court belongs to us and everything that goes with it.

Don't get the impression that we are trying to make a business out of handball. It must, of necessity, be administrated like a business, but our only profit must always be the character we build and the health we generate. In my editorial in ACE magazine last month I admonished our Juniors to keep handball in its proper perspective. It must always be a recreation and never a business. Even though it has led many of us to a good life and good business,—handball must be kept free of the money motive.

The mightiest stride we made this year was the Handball Perpetuation Trust. Briefly, it is a fund we are gathering together to insure the future of handball,—as we know it now. I do not want handball EVER to lack anything. The Trust is just another one of those umbrellas our kids will thank us for, particularly fellows like Jack Gillespie, Jack Pirrie, Joe Holtzman, Russell Fiske, Don Barrington, Bill Feivou and others who made substantial contributions. Through gifts and lifetime memberships we plan to raise one million dollars, none of which will ever be expended. The income from this fund will be available for perpetuation purposes only and then when current income fails the Association. If disaster overtakes us,—and we are forced to disband,—this fund will be left to the YMCA for the building of handball courts,—with galleries, provided they are used solely for YMCA tournaments and no others. We first announced this fund last year and have made no effort to solicit money. I suppose the reason is that I come from a church that never seeks contributions. We have long demonstrated that right thinking, right

activity bring about right results. Our fund already has proof of this. We were given several thousand dollars voluntarily by men who were never even asked.

I firmly believe that in less than ten years we will reach our goal. All of it will come through demonstration and your awareness of the good that either a gift, a bequest or an insurance policy makes possible. An excellent example is Joseph Eichler of Linden, New Jersey. He is one of several members who has made our Association the beneficiary of his USHA policy. He wrote, "If my policy helps this great organization, I am grateful indeed."

"Presently, we are thinking of scholarships for needy players in schools like Texas with handball programs.

To show you that handball has a heart I should tell you about our scholarship program. There are now four boys at Lake Forest College. We recently staged a weekend exhibition between Stuffy Singer and Ray Neveau and raised \$1,000 for their team's travel expenses. This is only one of many ways we help deserving schools.

Our Junior program has moved along progressively and last December we had three divisions,—under 19, under 17, and under 16. This allows the youngsters to compete in an age bracket of their own. Next year we plan to add doubles competition. The college program is moving forward and we have added a stalwart ally in Mike Dau at Lake Forest College. We offer four divisional tournaments, and then provide the winners with trophies and expenses for the national intercollegiates. Birmingham set the pattern for the Contenders this year . . . and through our help many top players were brought in, resulting in a tournament almost as strong as the seniors nationals.

We must be making right decisions. And to prove it I would like each of you to look back on this tournament just four years ago here in Austin. At that time we had a total of 300 entries,—now we have 411 entries. Then we had 3,500 members,—now we have 10,000. Then we ran five national tournaments, now we run six, plus eight regional and four college tournaments. Then we had six handball films . . . now we have 15, including color films in sound, plus a professional instruction film. Then ACE magazine averaged 36 pages . . . now it averages 54 pages.

Every effort we make to add to our income enables us to add service to you. So forgive us when we urge you to buy our balls, our gloves, our insurance, our uniforms. We are trying desperately to increase our income because you expect more from us and we want to give you more,—one of which is a group insurance policy that will come with your membership.

Added income has enabled us to send 24 singles and doubles winners from the eight regional tournaments to our Nationals. Also, the singles and doubles winners of the Contenders, and the singles winners of the Juniors. Four years ago we didn't give players any traveling expense for the Regional or Contenders,—this year we'll give \$10,000. Besides, we spent some \$3,000 on the National Juniors; another \$2,000 on the National Contenders . . . and \$2500 for a color film of the 1968 Championship. Four years ago we had about \$35,000 to work with annually,—this year we had \$80,000. You know what we really need? About a quarter of a million dollars!

There are many other things we do with the money that comes in . . . we spent over \$1000 to send our champions to the Canadian Nationals. They, in turn, send their winners to our nationals. We also provide trophies for the intercollegiates and we send staff to all Regional and National tournaments. To promote gloves and balls, we spend money on samples and rejects and provide the rules booklet that goes into every glove box. This is all in the interest of building a bigger Association.

Have you any idea of the amount of correspondence that comes into our office? Or, the number of long



ROOTING 'EM HOME . . . That's Anita Schneider (waving and talking in vociferous manner) seemingly not too pleased with the referee's decision during championship Masters doubles match involving her Ken. Evie Kendler appears a bit perturbed as gallery companion.

distance calls,—and the number that call collect? Do you know also, that we donate instructional films to deserving groups like Memphis State University and the Canadian Handball Association and this costs hundreds of dollars.

We think our record speaks for itself. Isn't it remarkable that after 20 years we still have all our old friends and workers. From coast to coast we still have our old commissioners and some great new ones,—like young Marty Silvers of Boston who is a fine addition . . . Lou Russo who now handles four wall in New York, Irv Ehrlich who continues his tireless efforts in Brooklyn for one wall . . . Sid Semel who covers the Southeast out of Norfolk . . . Bob Davidson who is the Florida boss during the busy Winter months . . . Dr. John Scapis who does such a wonderful job with three-wall in Detroit . . . and Joe Ardito who is our Chicago workhorse. I can't begin to tell you all the good Jack Gillespie does in Memphis . . . or Jim Tanner who proved himself a real tiger at the Contenders in Birmingham . . . or George Lee who is handball's legend in Dallas . . . or Al Sheppard who represents us first class in Houston.—Here at Texas,—it's the Tyson-Roberson team, on and off the courts . . . Hall of Famer Les Shumate holds forth at Denver, and is a jewel. Reg Chapman is our key man in Utah . . . Southern California is twice blessed by our West Area Commissioner Ed Kelly of Long Beach and tireless Marty Singer of Southern California fame. But the greatest of all is still Hymie Goldstein in St. Louis. His wonderful years as National Commissioner helped us then and still helps us. When we need the best floor manager in the business we put in a call for Al Gracio of Long Beach. For plans, there is no architect better than Rod Rodriguez. In the northern part of California we have Marty Judnich of San Francisco, tried and true . . . plus Mike de la Pena and Al Schroth who

(To next page)

do a tremendous job at the Olympic Club . . . Bob Schoning in Portland . . . and Andy Anderson of Seattle. One of our biggest breaks this season came when Bruce Collins of Edmonton was named Canadian Handball head, I met with Bruce recently and was impressed with both his enthusiasm and thinking. The big Canadian team at this tournament is evidence of our wonderful relationship.

The past year has been one of solid gains for us with trying challenges and surprising upsets. Neveau had us all hanging on the ropes in St. Louis . . . that 21-20, 21-20 victory of Shumate over Singer at Dallas must have been something. Lindsay's big win over Graybill at El Paso, Kirby's twin killing of Singer and Haber at Akron . . . Haber going three games in every round and winning at New Orleans . . . including his thrilling win over Marty Decatur in the semis . . . McGreevy and Alexander's win at New Orleans over Jacobs and Sloan as well as Tyson and Roberson . . . who could ever have predicted these? Terry Muck going three games with Kirby in our Contenders, with a 15-10 lead in the third and then missing the finishing drive. So you losers shouldn't feel bad,—this has been a season of taking picks on our champion Singer,—like when unknown Bill Anderson applied the damper at Irvine . . . and when Mel Sandland put him out of commission at the Pacific Coast Club. Whenever I think about it, Stuffy reminds me of the cross-eyed discus thrower who didn't set any records but sure kept the crowd alert.

The United States Handball Association, for almost 20 years has been moving forward, propelled by volunteers from every corner of the land. Our directors, commissioners, committee members, the old timers and the new beginners,—friends, parents and players alike, have improved and expanded this Association in a highly visible way. The players have grown in quality and quantity and now represent one of the elite sports associations of America. Our staff has increased in size and strengthened in competence both in administration and promotion. New and exciting tournaments have been introduced providing opportunities for more and more participation from all walks of life.

We offer regional tournaments to new cities in all parts of the country. In this way we discover hidden talent and some of the newcomers have shocked the old guard. And that's good for handball . . . and it's good for the new cities. We then send their singles and doubles winner to the nationals. Every new city becomes enriched by the championship play and the introduction of styles that are foreign to the area.

Not many of you know that the real quarterback on our staff is Joe Shane. He is the Joe Namath of the USHA. He has made our team great and deserves a lot more credit than he gets. That's because I relate our collective thinking to you in ACE, when in fact he should. I get a lot of credit for judgments that are really Joe's and I don't think we would have prospered as well without him.

Fortunately, Joe is more forthright and outspoken than I am. He tells it as it is and that's good. Somebody should! I know there is no more concerned member in our organization, and I am grateful for him every single day. Many times without his counsel I would have made a bad decision. And, it is to his everlasting credit that he is as forthright to me as he is to you. In every organization there must be one man who lays down the law, and handball is fortunate to have this eminent jurist,—a judge, no less,—to help us be a law-abiding group. He may not always pat you on the back but your real friends never do! From where I sit he is the best thing that ever happened to us.

Then there is another guy you should know about. He is miserable inside the court but thank goodness is wonderful outside. He knows handball history,—he

knows handball players,—he writes, he administers, many times he has flashes of genius and I am proud of him. He has been on my team for 17 years and that's a long time to put up with Kendler. I love him, and although we fight like cats and dogs in the court, there isn't a harder working secretary in all America than Mort Leve. He worries himself to death, but I cure him by saying, "*The reason worry kills more people than work, is that more people worry than work,*" I should also tell you that in the beginning there were times when we couldn't pay Mort but he never complained. In fact, I am not sure that he is being FULLY paid now.

The man who makes it possible for us to stage this national tournament is Ed Barlow, head of the physical education department. Ed is one of those kind-hearted, king size Texans who has grown with the school and realizes the impact sports can have on the student body. He gives Pete Tyson free rein with handball and was very thankful after our nationals in 1965. We are the ones who should give him thanks.

Keeping a close eye on the USHA financial picture is George Brotemarkle, one of those rare all-American handball contributors and players. George has never failed to guide our financial course. He worked hard to bring about our federally-chartered tax-free status and we are indeed indebted to him.

May I conclude by saying the past year has been one of turmoil in our cities and growing unrest on the American campus. Much of it has spilled over into the athletic world and fortunate indeed is any sports organization that is completely free. Your Association is one of these—and proudly so. We have in the past, and will continue in the future, to make every effort to have the players' voices heard and be responsive to the players' needs. As a national sports governing body, we will continue to make major commitments to public service and to build character by our peculiar device.

The King of Sweden could not have stated it more clearly he said: "*Healthy sport creates a healthy body. The well-being of the body, however, does not alone create a fully adequate person but properly organized sport is a good discipline for building character.*"

Character development through sports and games,—is a basic importance to everyone who has the responsibility of leadership within the world of sport. Whether sport promotes health only, or can also mould and strengthen spiritual features, is a vital question. It is a question which must be examined seriously.



DAYTIME HOSPITALITY . . . set up at Gregory Gymnasium at site of nationals, "figuratively" served by Texas co-eds. You can be sure such stalwart players as Pat Kirby and Tom Ciasulli (forefront) did their share of "free loading".

The answer cannot be based simply on our exalted and idealistic belief that sport in itself, automatically, bestows a strong personality on its practitioners. Like most other phenomena in ancient and modern culture, sport is something for both good and evil; and values very much depend on how sport is interpreted and administered. Nevertheless, I am convinced that properly organized sport is a good discipline for building character, and by character I mean a person's combined spiritual and moral attributes, his ability to make decisions, to set goals for himself and to guide his life on set principles,—and to do so with respect for truth and justice.

It is my conviction that an Association like ours has an awesome responsibility and a magnificent opportunity. As I see it, we must take our time-tested knowledge and apply it to the problems which are everywhere around us. In the midst of physical unfitness, spiritual disinterest and moral decay,—we cannot be concerned with handball for handball's sake alone. It must take its place as an influence for good,—it must become the great leveler, the instrument by which the dignity of man is restored, regardless of race, religion or creed. God has blessed us with an Association that is above and apart from all the human frailties that plague our counterparts. Indeed, he has instilled in us a measure of sportsmanship that make this virtue rise above all bigotry and intolerance. Thus it is that handball measures man by his performance instead of his profile. Thus it is that neither money nor man will ever determine greatness among us. Thank the almighty Lord that handball measures value in character . . . in sportsmanship and in righteousness. As long as we realize that this is our magnificent opportunity. As long as we realize that there is no higher goal, no greater good, no finer service to mankind,—then we will have achieved the heroic plateau toward which this Association is directed. Please add your footsteps to mine and God will bless us all. And, never forget that Handball is always in my heart and the players are always in my prayers.



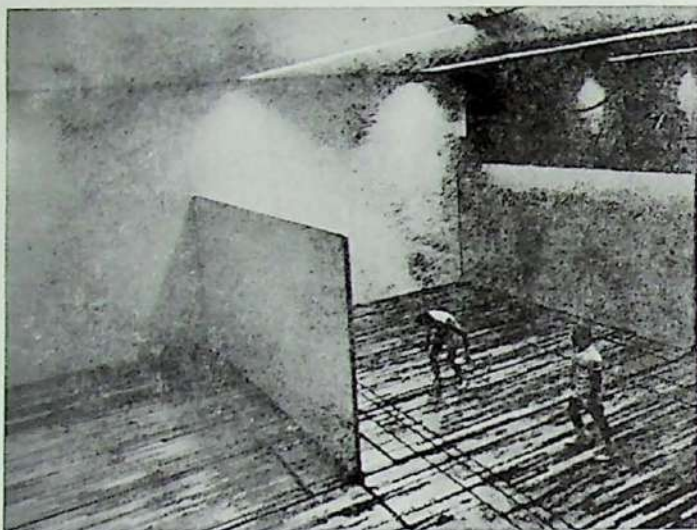
REGISTRATION DESK 'QUEEN' . . . Michelle Vilcoq, our ACE Yearbook cover gal did an outstanding job at the national tournament registration desk, orientating the incoming participants with the smiling, pretty Longhorn hospitality.



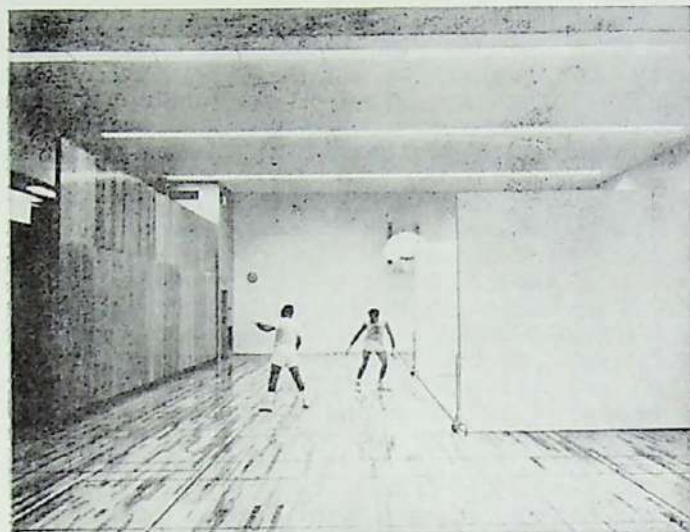
TEXAS HANDBALL HALL OF FAME . . . First recipients in special awards ceremony at Dallas Athletic Club. Sam Blair, sports editor of the Dallas Morning News makes presentations to: (l to r) —George Lee, athletic director at the Club; Al Sheppard, USHA district commissioner, and Jake Looney, both

of Houston; Blair; Alvis Grant and Raleigh Blakely, for their two decades of outstanding singles and doubles achievements, both locally, State and nationally. USHA President Bob Kendler was given honorary award during nationals in Austin for his many contributions to Texas handball.

'Instant Gym' Handball With Portable Walls



MULTI-COURT . . . J. E. Gregory Co. of Spokane, Wash., perfects swing out walls for handball and paddleball. Walls are installed on gymnasium wall, swinging out and back in seconds. Walls are mounted on the gymnasium wall with steel channel hinges. When in position it provides a solid playing surface. It is rolled into position with a three foot controlling lever con-



ected to a wide non-marring caster. Multi-Courts are manufactured in two sizes — 8 feet high by 16 feet deep and 10 feet high by 20 feet deep. Further information: J. E. Gregory Co. Inc., 307 Radio Central Bldg., Spokane, Wash. 99204. (Tel. No. — Area Code 509 — TE 8-2144)

Indiana . . .

Indiana State Singles: held at South Bend YMCA, Feb. 28, March 1-2.

Ray Elliott successfully defended his championship, defeating Fred Dorman in the final 21-15, 21-3.

Carl Roemer won Class B singles over Vince Desmond 21-11; 21-19.

Doubles: Ray Elliott and his Indianapolis partner, Ben Delaney, won the Indiana Doubles championship held at Richmond YMCA the prior week, Feb. 22-23.

Elliott will be eligible to compete in the Master national singles and with Ben Delaney in the Masters doubles in 1970.

GENE S. MOLL

Reno 'Black Jack' . . .

The Reno Young Men's Christian Association will be sponsoring their second annual Black Jack handball tournament June 20-22.

Last year was the first year for the tournament and Harry Packer, Los Angeles, was the singles champion and Len Rosen and Dick Weisman, also L. A., seized the doubles title.

For application blanks: Denis Skog physical director, YMCA, 1300 Foster Dr., Reno, Nev. 89504. (Tel. No. 329-1311).

LOCALE OF FUTURE NATIONALS

By MARTIN JUDNICH

There are a tremendous number of handball players in Southern and Northern California who will insist on entering the USHA's Nationals in 1970 at the Los Angeles Athletic Club's fine facilities. But the action will have to be scattered around the L.A. area to meet the exploding schedule requirements. The handball facilities at the University of Texas are ideal for such events and teaching the game at the university. But, where else can such facilities be matched and accommodate the ever-growing USHA nationals?

As suggested by National Commissioner, Joe Shane, the universities are the logical locale. Again, the big question is: Where does the money come from? Let's give the national problem some thinking in depth. How about exploring the possibilities of the following general idea:

- 1—Find large suitable universities willing to maintain a big handball physical fitness program as part of its academic requirements and intercollegiate competitions.
- 2—Have the USHA (a non-profit corporation) in close cooperation with the college's officials, arrange to have the school set aside the necessary land area within the campus.
- 3—The USHA and the college officials jointly apply for a Federal or State grant to finance the construction of the handball complex, including the glass wall bleacher areas comparable to the project at Austin.
- 4—Provide for dues paying adult membership in the community to use the handball facilities on nights, Saturdays, Sundays, etc., without interference with the school's programs. The income from dues will be used to finance a handball coach (employee of the university) and other necessary costs of maintaining the plant; and any excess income may be used to provide scholarships for needy students.
- 5—Provide in the joint agreement for the use of the handball facilities for inter-collegiate handball tournaments, and a reasonable usage of the courts for USHA nationals; local club tournaments or regional competitions.
- 6—Ask the considerable number of handball devotees throughout the U.S. for additional ideas on this general subject.

Haber Wins Mardi Gras Three-Game Route

The 1969 Mardi Gras Tournament on the New Orleans Athletic Club courts must be considered a big success because of the group of outstanding players it attracted and the resulting high caliber of play. Imagine such players as Jackie Walsh and Gordon Pfeiffer being eliminated in the first round, with Pfeiffer winding up as the consolation winner.

Paul Haber has to be the tournament star—he can do everything well, especially under pressure, when making the right shot counts most. Paul combines the stamina, strength, court savvy, poise, shots, and an up-percut fist-ceiling shot along the left wall to make him very tough to beat. Too bad Pat Kirby couldn't make the tournament to challenge him.

Joe Hero and Don Zimmer of the New Orleans A. C. put out and gave of themselves generously to make this Mardi Gras Tournament outstanding.

The best matches probably were the first two games between Haber and Marty Decatur (semifinal) or between Haber and Steve August (quarter-final). In the Haber-August match Haber's stamina, soft serves

along the left wall, and ceiling shots along the same wall eventually wore Steve down. Steve showed more trick and unusual shots during actual play than any other player. Scoop-backhanding low shots with both hands, back wall to front wall shots when passed, and between-the-legs shots all were used by him. August serves well low and hard either down the left or right sides, but this seems to take a lot of energy out of him. In the second game Steve could not get his first serve across the short line about 60 per cent of the time. In the third and deciding game Steve was all in and had nothing left.

Against Decatur — also a 3-gamer — Haber's ability to fist with left hand up to the ceiling consistently along the left wall with power enough to carry to the back wall was a decisive factor in his win. Decatur's relatively weak returns of Haber's service also contributed to his loss of the match. Marty was especially weak on soft serves straight along left wall and also against Haber's hard cross-court serve to front wall, right wall to left wall which either came off the left wall or paralleled the back wall. A good left hand would have ceilinged or killed some of these serves, but Decatur was un-

able to do neither. Marty's weak return off the left wall allowed Haber to anticipate shots since he knew that a kill was not forthcoming. As in the August match, Haber's strength and stamina in the third game were far superior to Decatur's. Marty has the best fly-kill with the right hand and strongest right hand of any of the players showing here.

Haber vs. Yambrick (finals): Again Haber's uncanny ability to fist the ball with his left hand to ceiling along left wall and endurance were key factors in his victory. Particularly, Paul's being able to fist-uppercut Bill's low serves in left corner immediately gave him court position. Haber's soft overhand serves along the left wall forced Yambrick into weak returns or errors. Billy has strong kill shots with either hand when in position, and can "pull the string" effectively.

Haber's soft serve accomplishes a double purpose. First, it brings comparatively weak returns from the opponent. Equally important, however, is that it conserves his energy for rallying during play, and for the all-conclusive third game. This was obvious in Haber's third game scores with all opponents — Walsh, August, Decatur, and finally Yambrick. Only against Yambrick in the finals did Haber serve often hard and low to left and right sides. A good example of Haber's court strategy.

Terry Muck impressed as a young player, also Bill McGreevy Jr. Muck had an excellent chance to beat Buzz Shumate with a 20-16 lead in the first game, but could not make the "kill" although he had several chances to do so. Terry is a great retriever, fast, and can make a top player with more tournament seasoning. Walsh is an improved player over previous showings in New Orleans. He has a better left hand, using fist shots to ceiling a la Haber and Jacobs. Doubles teams of McGreevy-Alexander and Roberson-Tyson played well together as units. Left-hand shooting of McGreevy a big factor in their win. Duo of young Joey Hero and veteran Jim Harp were a highlight. Hero with his power and kill shots with left hand, Harp with his off-hand soft serve along the left wall, two-wall angle kills, and general junk. This team gave Upatnieks-Koenig fits in two tight games in quarter-finals. Biggest disappointment in doubles was the team of Jacobs-Sloan. They even lost a game to the Emberg-Potter team of Houston. Sloan erred often. The younger teams beat Jacobs-Sloan by being more aggressive, faster, and playing with more desire.

HARRY W. ANISGARD

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Kirby Over August; Kelly-Sandland in Doubles

The "imports" ran true to form in the Sixth National Contenders held Feb. 20-23 at Birmingham's YMCA.

On the basis of strong showings this season Pat Kirby was installed as No. 1 seed and the poised and talented Irishman responded by winning his first national USHA championship.

Pat had his toughest match in the semi finals against Terry Muck, the speedy little St. Paul pro baseball player. Muck battled Kirby to three games, with a 15-12 third game margin before Pat could turn the tide mainly on the strength of some scintillating deep court kills.

In the finals Kirby dominated the play over Dr. Steve August of Detroit, 21-14, 21-14. It was matter of a steady, well rounded game against erratic off hand miscues by Steve and his inability to position himself for his known right hand power shots.

The No. 3 seed bracket was weakened by the "non show" of Texas' Bob Lindsay. Gordie Pfeifer, the hard hitting Tacoma top notcher, breezed through to the semi finals, then lost a power contest with August. Gordie then salvaged third place over Muck.

The California team from Long Beach of Mel Sandland and Matt Kelly outclassed the doubles field. Southpaw Mel's big hooks and a steady right side playing Kelly brought them the prize that eluded them at Seattle last year when they lost to Paul Morlos and Paul Haber in the finals.

Kelly-Sandland successively eliminated the local hopeful brother combine of Howard and Perry Jaffe, then the fast-improving New York twins, Mitchell and Gary Straus, and Chicagoans Don Ardito and Bob Koenig in the finals, all without a game loss. Actually the competitive Jaffe boys scored the most points — 15 and 17.

Ardito-Koenig provided a comeback win in the semis over St. Paul's pre-tourney co-favorites, Bill Yambrick and Paul Schulz. The second-seeded Minnesota team looked like a shoo in after breezing to a 21-10 first game win but Ardito and Koenig fought back explosively in the second game and then surprised all by a rout in the third game, 21-2.

The Straus twins, still a couple of years away from big prize consideration, gave it a full go for third place against Yambrick and Schulz but weren't up to the task.

The championship toga which eluded Don Ardito was donned by his father, Joe, who paired with Ben Costello to bring the Masters doubles title back to Chicago. Birmingham's only chance for a title went a glimmering when Manny Dorsky and Duncan Moon could not match the skills of the plus-50 year old Ardito-Costello team in the finals.

As was expected Ralph Kaufman, formerly of the West Side Y in New

York, and now playing out of Miami Beach's Flamingo Park, smoothly played his way to the Masters singles championship. He beat another native New Yorker, Max Lasskow, in the finals. Max, who likes to maintain the short line and flick in corner kills, was moved around by Kaufman and the fast tempo wilted him in the second game and Ralph won going away. Danny Kallman, a former Birmingham and Southern singles champ, took third place by default over another Birmingham entry, Pat Rookis. Rookis suffered severe cramps in his semi final three-game loss to Lasskow.

TOURNAMENT NOTES: Chicago's Cy Abata caught a touch of intestinal flu which weakened him badly in his second round match . . . Milwaukee's Dr. Phil Cottle, rapidly becoming a nationwide tournament goer . . . Al Gracio, as usual, did his pro job as floor manager, showing the local committee just how it is done . . . working long, hard hours . . . The Stokely-Van Camp Gatorade dispenser, installed just outside the courts, was a welcomed addition and the players took full advantage of the invigorating liquid . . . Dr. Jim Tanner did an outstanding job as tournament chairman, ably assisted by Alan Clark and their committee.

The Reverend Walter Skutar with his good humored geniality . . . plays a spirited left side in doubles . . . Unpredictable Floyd Olson of Chicago, who beat Ed Ellett of Chattanooga 21-9, then lost 3-21 before righting himself . . . Joe Vasquez, a welcomed returnee and our champion traveler from Ghana, West Africa. Joe is improving his game each year.

Art Moore, one of our original Junior "Whiz Kids," came in from

Houston by invite, beat former Junior champ, Joel Galpern of Miami, then met his Waterloo in the quarter-finals against August.

The Steve Lott-Ernie Ortiz match was a lulu . . . Young Steve, our current under-19 Junior champ, looked like the third game winner but couldn't get above 19. Ernie, one of our stalwart boosters from Tampa (and, a former New Yorker . . . then Milwaukee and Memphis), works with youngsters in the Big Brother organization and is a truly dedicated young man.

Dr. John Fleming up from Orlando with Paul Katz (pronounced K-a-y-t-z). Dr. Fleming plans a handball heart research study . . . Paul is a very talented performer, ex-Bostonian.

Joe Hero and his son, Joe Jr., traveled in from New Orleans, and gave us all the inside dope on the thrilling Mardi Gras invite . . . Jack Kubiczyn, ex-Alabama U. basketball and baseball standout (played briefly in the majors with Cleveland) is improving fast, lost two close ones to the vet Joe Salome of Atlanta . . . most enthusiastic and youngest of the players is Birmingham's Brewer Kitchings Jr. He's a comer.

Saturday night awards banquet at the swanky "The Club," located overlooking the city, was an outstanding affair. All quarter-final finishers were awarded inscribed jackets. Roast beef was delicious.

Bob "Point of Contact" Davidson gave a fine clinic, expounding on his successful theories . . . he had the Straus twins in tow for demonstration purposes.

Joe "Glad We Won This For Benny" Ardito, compounding about 107 or 108 years with Ben Costello in winning the Masters doubles, comparatively easy.

NATIONAL CONTENDERS SINGLES — FIRST ROUND — Bob Kelley, Birmingham, def. Dean Crain, Greenville, S. C., 21-14, 21-1; Jack Farrar, Nashville, def. Louis Beackle, Birmingham, 21-3, 21-8; Don Littrell, Knoxville, def. Gene Dekich, Birmingham, 21-3, 21-3; Bob Williams, Memphis, def. Bill Richardson, Birmingham, 21-15, 21-11; Dr. John Fleming, Orlando, Fla., def. Ed Robinson, Birmingham, 21-1, 21-1; Ed

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Contenders Singles Finals with Mort and Lou

NOTE: We tried something new at the singles finals of the National Contenders Feb. 23 in Birmingham. Your editor had Lou Kramberg as "color" and commentary cohort. We sat first row center for the Pat Kirby-Dr. Steve August championship match.

Prior to the first game play we discussed the Masters format that brought back singles along with the established doubles.

Lou, we have observed that the inclusion of Masters singles has obviously cut down on the number of Masters doubles entries. There were 19 in singles, and seven doubles teams. At Salt Lake City in our 1966 open nationals we observed an obvious weakening of Masters doubles by the presence of such players as Vic Hershkowitz, Bob Brady, Vito Maggipinto and Alvis Grant in Masters singles.

Kramberg: In my opinion Masters singles will eventually eliminate the beauty that originally was the concept of Masters doubles. And, that was the fraternal and camaraderie of the ball players getting together at a tournament. Now, when we add the Masters singles we get a definite weakening in the doubles. There are several fine players in the singles and the rest are just along for the ride. But the few who switch over from the doubles leaves a glaring gap. The question coming up in Austin will be whether or not Brady will go back to singles and if he does it means a vacating of the Masters doubles title. In addition we have the definite threat of overstrain in Masters singles. I observed the semi-final match here between Birmingham's Pat Rookis and New York's Max Lasskow. In the third game Rookis was completely spent and looked like he might collapse. Apparently he was dehydrated. He had to practically stand there and let Max serve out. In a big tournament there is the natural impact of pressure and tension and it's vastly different from the everyday Y play. There is usually an accompanying increase in perspiration and this causes exhaustion. The over-40 players are kidding themselves if they think they can play a relaxed, comfortable game. They're going to hurt themselves — dehydrating, leading to cramps and perhaps even direr consequences.

—From my own observation I notice this. Around Chicago I play singles, often with fellows much younger, and I can go the two or three games with little difficulty. But in my two experiences in national Masters singles I have become extremely tired. At Salt Lake in my third game with Rod Rodriguez I had nothing left. Here, Lasskow ran me into the ground in the two-game match.

We have been holding this National Contenders for six years and we have been mulling over the possibility of changing over to a National Invitational in addition to the open Nationals — or in adding a National Invitational and keeping the Contenders. This Invitational would involve only one event at a time — three days, four at the most . . . bring in eight of the nation's top ranked players . . . or sixteen . . . then have the same program in doubles with four or eight teams. This could be an outstanding attraction at a facility that could seat at least 150 and bear the transportation-per diem "nut." It would be moved around from year to year and held at a time at least three weeks from the open Nationals.

Kramberg: Going back to the article I wrote in the February ACE . . . I am 100 per cent in favor of a tournament setup like this. Such a lineup would not be unwieldy . . . the players could get their proper rest and the matches could be won on their ability in

the court, and not so much on their "gorilla" assets. When we have more than 150 entries there are just too many matches to be played, especially with the caliber of play improving fast. This competition, in my mind, would determine the best ball players, and not necessarily who the strongest are.

—Financing appears to be the biggest problem in such invitationals. There is a definite potential of TV coverage and this, ultimately, may be the answer.

—In relation to our regional tournaments. Lou, I have been somewhat disappointed this season in the lack of "key" players . . . we realize there has been a jamming up of the tournaments because of the early open national dates. The many established and new invitationals overlapped ours. And, when some of the invitational hosts pay the transportation and per diem freight you know where these players are going. Those nationally-ranked players who have expenses earned from last year's top eight in singles and top four in doubles finish have little incentive to play in a regional and many of them actually think they should not play in them because they would then deprive some one of a chance to win a trip to the open Nationals. We had two glaring examples of the coinciding schedule. Our Midwest regional at St. Louis came at the same time the Dallas A.C. invitational with the New Orleans Mardi Gras just a weekend previous . . . add to this a weekend tournament for the Wisconsin players in Oshkosh and the Chicago area singles starting the day after the Midwest — all adding up to a reduced entry . . . then there was the East regional at Rochester, N. Y. coming at the same time of the Canadian nationals and an open invite at Norfolk, Virginia, that New Yorkers like to play in.

We're just kidding ourselves if we keep holding regionals on this basis. The intent of the regionals is to supply a group of singles and doubles winners who will have a definite chance to break into the national ranking picture. If we provide the free ride to players who are going to be eliminated before the quarter-final round we defeat this purpose.

Kramberg: I know in the East you have a team like Decatur and Jacobs who perennially had a trip to the open Nationals forthcoming. They don't want to play in the regional and take a trip away from some one and if they did play some one would point the finger and say just that. Maybe the answer would be to have the runnerup given the trip if the winners already had one coming. We're going to have to do something.

—We have enjoyed some success with regionals with such players as Dr. Claude Benham, Denny Hofflander, Dave Graybill, and Bob Bourbeau emerging as strong winners. But, overall we aren't satisfied.

* * *

Now for the final National Contenders singles match between Dr. Steve August, Detroit, and Pat Kirby, now of Toronto. These two players have met once before, several years ago, and August was the winner. But, Steve is first to admit that Pat is much improved this season.

—In your analyzation Lou, before the match starts, what are your observations?

Kramberg: Well, as you know Mort, Pat is a special favorite of mine. We have played together in two tournaments. Pat has improved his game immeasurably after playing regularly with Jacobs at our 92nd St. YMHA for almost two years prior to his move to Toronto. The main difference in his handball game seems to be more patience, less gambling with shots, more confidence and, just as important, he plays two

(To next page)

halves of a handball game now. At one time he would be devastating for ten points and then would miss in a constant bottom board hunting. He has learned to play above the waist. As you know there are a lot of players who play strong below the waist and this additional strength can be attributed to Jacobs' teachings.

—Lou, did you see Kirby play Muck in the semis yesterday? Now, Terry had a 15-12 lead in the third game. In talking with Pat after the match he appeared that the score didn't mean anything to him. He was just biding his time and when he stepped up the tempo at that juncture he pulled away. But, you and I know that can be mighty dangerous. The fact is Pat counted at least four big kills from deep court and those kind of shots don't always come through, no matter who the player is.

Kramberg: Pat Kirby is a little bit of a "put on" like Muhammad Ali (Cassius Clay). He has a supreme confidence in his ability and Pat never takes a score into consideration when he thinks he can beat an opponent. There's no doubt he will get into trouble in some tournaments and lose a match that he should win. I have seen him lose to players because he wanted to give them a game . . . I think that's bad but that's the way Pat plays. He has to play this way . . . it's his court personality.

One last comment about Pat — his new-found ability to play much better handball. I have stated he has patience now and knows how to play above the waist. There is another thing that promises to make him the big winner a lot of us said he would be a couple of years back and that is he is taking more balls with his strong right hand. This might be traced back to that left shoulder injury he suffered in his native hurling sport. He's taking that extra step, moving into position for his right and that's the big percentage plus factor.

—That is so true, Lou. I noted this when refereeing his exhibition match with Paul Haber in Milwaukee. What do you look for in this match? What will be the difference between Kirby and August?

Kramberg: I look for August to get off to an early lead because Pat has this thing about not being able to move well until a first game is well underway . . . this is an attitude thing . . . he thinks he can't get started fast. Pat is the more confident of the two . . . Steve has some trouble fighting himself but in the last two years has been overcoming this to some extent. He will still get upset on a miss and Pat will rarely let an error bother him. Steve might win the first game, but Pat will then take over and if a third game is played I would look for him to win it very handily.

—Now, one other thing Lou. We have glass in the back wall here in Birmingham from the five-foot level, and this has some bearing on the shots off the back wall, and the ceiling shots coming off the back wall.

Kramberg: Most good ball players won't be affected much by back wall glass . . . they'll maintain a position on one side or the other and won't look directly back into the glass.

FIRST GAME —

AUGUST	400	002	303	020	— 14
KIRBY	032	121	350	112	— 21

Errors — August 10, Kirby 12. Kills — August 8, Kirby 13;

Passes — August 1, Kirby 8. Aces — August 2, Kirby 0.

Referee — Alan Clark, Birmingham.

—August serving first and counts first as Kirby misses a kill attempt with his right hand from deep court. Steve then makes it 2-0 on an ace, low over the short line into the left corner. It's 3-0 as August kills from deep court with his right into the left corner. Then it's 4-0 on another ace, this time low to the right, hugging the wall. It looks like Lou's prediction of a slow Kirby start is coming true.



FUTURE CHAMP POTENTIAL . . . Terry Muck of the strong St. Paul A.C. team extended Pat Kirby to three games in the semis and has been progressing steadily up the national title ladder. Terry is now in his second season of pro baseball with the Atlanta Braves' organization and had to forego the nationals in Texas for Florida spring training.

Kramberg: It doesn't seem to be bothering Pat. I don't think he believes Steve can beat him.

—That time Pat returned the serve with a left hand kill into the left front wall. Steve regains the serve as Kirby errs on a shot from the short line with his right.

4-0 . . . August errs with his right on the ensuing volley. The back wall is only 10 feet high here and sometimes a ball will bounce into the gallery as one just did.

Kramberg: Notice Pat going on defense off the power serve. He never used to punch the ball to the ceiling.

Kirby has a setup off the back wall and buries it with his right for his first point. Pat is using a hard cross court serve to August's left . . . Steve brings it around the walls but Pat shoots with his right and flattens it into the right front wall.

Another straight right hand kill by Kirby to make it 3-4. Again the cross court serve and August goes to the ceiling with his left . . . exchange of ceiling shots and a hinder stops the volley. Steve had killed the ball but the referee had called hinder as he felt Steve's view was impeded . . . cross court serve, up to the ceiling . . . long volley and then a miss by Kirby from three-quarter court with his left.

4-3 August . . . *Kramberg:* On that hinder . . . it was quick call . . . the ball hooked, Steve had a clear swing.

Shot line right hand kill by Kirby puts Steve out . . . *Kramberg:* I think Pat wants to win it in two . . . he's setting a faster pace at this time than usual. The tempo is not to August's liking.

3-4 . . . August misses off the back wall and it's tied up . . . *Kramberg:* Steve didn't let the ball get out in front of him and looked back into the glass . . . — And, now Steve misses with his left and I'm inclined to think the previous miss led to this one, being



BEHIND THE SCENES . . . USHA's official "Floor Manager", Al Gracio, posts scores at National Contenders with host chairmen looking on—Alan Clark (l) and Jim Tanner. Alan is top-ranked Birmingham singles player while Genial Jim enthusiastically cavorts in the Masters division.



WELCOMED RESPITE . . . Gatorade set up complimentary dispenser and ample supply of the refreshing liquid just outside the courts during the tournament. Here second place finisher Dr. Steve August (l) gives it his OK after match with Joe Salome.

disgusted with himself. August comes back with a right corner shot that wasn't bottom board but Kirby found himself behind the short line and couldn't return it.

Kirby puts him out, killing with his right off the back wall. Pat gives it the right hand Irish whip from deep court and it slides down the right wall for 6-4 Kirby. Pat can't make further progress, missing with his left.

4-6 . . . from deep court August misses going to the ceiling . . . *Kramberg*: Could you believe Kirby out-volleying anybody two years ago? Now, Pat gets an error off his serve and picks up No. 7 . . . another off the back wall that Pat shoots low down the right for a pass and 8-4. A high bouncer goes off Pat's right fingertips and Steve regains the serve.

Kramberg: Did you see Pat back off and take that ball with his right hand? — Yes, he was over to the left side, shifted and shot a kill into the left corner.

8-4 . . . Now, there's a ball that could have been called a hinder . . . then, Pat sent Steve to deep left court and the ball could not be returned. Kirby misses a setup . . . August goes into serve . . . Kirby errs off the serve in a left fist attempt to the ceiling . . . 5-9 . . . 6-9 on an August straight right hand kill.

Beautiful front wall kill by Steve and he takes over the serve . . . 6-9 . . . August closes the gap further with a "hammer" overhand right kill into the right corner from the short line. 7-9 . . . a desperation shot by Kirby into the back wall and August puts the return away into the right corner . . . 8-9 . . . *Kramberg*: Pat has been a little too confident and too nonchalant on the last few points . . . he might have thought that Steve would be passive but he now finds the good doctor scrapping back.

Pat misses with an off-speed shot and the score is knotted at 9-9 . . . August shorted his first serve and then DOUBLE SHORTED on a hard cross court attempt that went into three walls.

Kirby catches the left side wall crotch during the volley and takes the lead again, 10-9 . . . Cross court serve, August attempts to go to the ceiling with his left, misses and gives a setup and Kirby pounds it home with his right . . . *Kramberg*: Kirby scores with a trap shot pass down the left . . . 12-9 . . . Steve takes

the cross court serve and kills with his left to stop the rally.

9-12 . . . Kirby takes a ball off the back wall and kills with his right . . . *Kramberg*: It was a bad break for Steve for Pat had actually missed a ceiling shot and it was a soft return to deep court. But, when you try defensive shots you often get these lucky breaks. Kirby makes it 13-9 on a pass to Steve's left that he couldn't handle. Another example of Kirby using his right over toward the left wall to slam home another score, and a followup fly kill into the right corner for 15-9 . . . An error by Steve off the cross court serve for 16-9.

Kramberg: Steve ought to call a time out . . . he's getting a bit annoyed with himself. — And, a pass to the right, Steve couldn't get around to handling it. Kirby is in control now. He should have no difficulty in winning this game. And, he gets another weak return off the Scotch Toss serve, and kills straight into the front wall with his right. August finally regains the serve on a ball that went into the left corner and came straight back along the wall rather than the usual course of coming out.

Beautiful control of a fly shot by Kirby to the right. *Kramberg*: Wasn't that a fine change of direction?

Nice right hand corner kill with his right by August to regain the serve. *Kramberg*: That was probably the only bad choice Pat has made of a shot in this game. And, Pat takes a ball coming around the side wall to back wall and misses with his right . . . 10-17 . . . a left hand punch to the ceiling by Kirby off the serve doesn't reach and it's 11-17.

Natural hop on a low serve down the left by August gets weak return and he puts it away for 12-17. *Kramberg*: Pat is losing his concentration momentarily.

August gets another setup off an effective serve but misses . . . this was a key opportunity to get back into game contention for the Detroit. Now, Kirby should probably go out.

There's one off the back wall for Kirby — and he misses! Pat had gotten a fat one after August's weak return off a fine ceiling shot . . . Kirby takes over the serve again, getting Steve in back court and pounding in a "safe" kill . . . No. 18 on a right hand pass shot . . . and fly shoots for his nineteenth point . . .

Kirby misses with his right from deep court . . . *Kramberg*: Again, just a bit too anxious, and now Steve has called his time out . . . I think he should have called it seven points ago. Pat is making one tactical mistake out there . . . he's remained stubbornly in one position excepting service and Steve hasn't shown any tendency to serve down the right . . . Pat should "cheat" a couple of steps on August's serve that is low and coming just over the short line, and that has kept him within range in this game. There was no need for Steve to get that many points off that serve.

Back in action . . . 14-19 . . . August errs from deep court . . . he's abandoned a defensive game . . . 20 for Pat . . . *Kramberg*: Pat almost disdainfully shot that in front of Steve. And, an error by Steve with his left hand ends the game, 21-14.

Kramberg: Pat's attitude is good on the court . . . Steve shouldn't outwardly show his disgust with himself upon making errors . . . this gives an opponent a definite "lift." We know Steve wants to win badly but in a national championship match a player should display a "professional" attitude . . . shrugging off mistakes, for they're bound to come to everyone.

Of course, Lou, there are some human beings who can't conceal it . . . we have seen professional athletes who just can't hide their emotions.

Kramberg: I saw a boxing match in Madison Square Garden last year between Buster Mathis and Joe Frazier, and in the sixth round Buster hit him with everything but the ring post but Frazier remained stolid and unperturbed and from that point on for all intents and purposes the fight was over . . . took his punishment, kept looking him straight in the eye, kept coming in.

SECOND GAME — Kirby serving. After a long volley Pat missed a right hand shot . . . *Kramberg*: Pat got "cute" after being on the offense. August kills into the left corner with his right for the opening point. Kirby misses on a ball coming around right wall to back wall and it's 2-0. A slider down the right by August makes it 3-0. Kirby takes the serve on a pass down the left with his right.

0-3 . . . across court serve, ceiling to the right by August. *Kramberg*: Note that Jacobs-Haber punch to the ceiling while on the dead run. Kirby gains a weak return off it and passes to the right for his opening tally. It's 2-3 as Pat catches Steve coming in and caroms it off the side wall. *Kramberg*: He hit a shoulder high crotch . . . I don't think that shot is even in the book.

Steve is shooting into the right wall a bit too high and affords a setup, rather than a kill or getting the ball down the right wall. *Kramberg*: Steve isn't backing off on his shots and positioning well . . . he seems to be caught up in Kirby's tempo.

There's a nice fly kill by Steve from three-quarter court with his right to get the serve back. There's a question of whether Kirby dug the ball up and the referee says play it over . . . which isn't good because it should be called one way or the other. It should be called as the referee sees it . . . we should never replay on such a situation. August couldn't decide what to do on a slowly hit return and erred. *Kramberg*: There again, Mort, he had the opportunity to back off the ball . . . it was hit very slowly . . . he didn't make the right choice. Steve follows with an error on the next play.

Another nice right hand shot by August and he takes the serve back. 3-3 . . . Kirby has a right hand shot and misses, skips it in . . . 4-3 . . . There's a nice change of pace right hand kill into the right corner by August to make it 5-3. Short serve on first attempt to the left . . . and, Kirby misses with the left punch off the serve, 6-3 . . . Pat Irish whips it and gets the crotch off the right wall . . . 3-6 . . . Cross court serve

Steve shot weakly with his left and Kirby buries a bottom boarder for 4-6. Pat tried to cross him up with his second serve down the right but Steve, with a big reach, went over and killed it into the right corner . . . 6-4.

Kramberg: There, Steve had a choice and went to the right and Kirby took the shot and returned with a kill. Steve should realize the futility of shooting to Pat's right.

4-6 . . . Again, Steve comes back, shooting from three-quarter right court into the left corner. 6-4 . . . Exchange of serves . . . Kirby's kill attempt comes off the right wall and August puts it away. *Kramberg*: Again it was cuteness backfiring . . . Pat had him at his mercy, chose a change of pace and it provided a set up. I think he played it to slide but failed. Steve has a great serve to left or right just over the short line but players like Kirby, Yambrick, Shumate . . . they're quick and you just can't use that same serve over and over again.

August shoots too high and loses the serve. 4-8 . . . the whip from deep right court. . . Lou, when that ball goes in it seems to die a little. *Kramberg*: I think he got a break on the crotch . . . it could have come out a little further if it had hit an inch either way. Steve's difficulty at this stage is in lack of confidence with his left . . . he's playing weak to strong . . . he just can't play his left hand to Pat's right hand. Anytime Pat gives him ceiling left the return is coming back off the right wall fat for Kirby.

5-8 . . . *Kramberg*: So far in this match Kirby has made physical mistakes but not more than a couple of bad shot choices, whereas Steve has made physical mistakes and several glaring, bad shot choices. He's hit balls in the wrong area of the court and refuses to deviate from the one serve. I think if he would hit more to Pat's left he would, in turn get balls to his right as Pat has a tendency to hit to the right with his left.

Fine reverse by Pat down the right for 6-8 . . . Kirby gets a weak return on the next volley and bends in a left corner kill with his right hand with August back.

An error by Steve with his left and he is plainly disturbed. Another error off the serve . . . Kirby misses a fat one off the back wall . . . 8-8 . . . *Kramberg*: Steve was caught flatfooted that time . . . Yes, Kirby didn't have to flatten it. Pat passed up one chance off the back wall, bringing it around, then got another and passed Steve down the left with his right hand . . . 9-8 . . . *Kramberg*: It was evident that Pat was thinking of previous balls off the back wall he had grounded so he used safer methods and gained his point. That was too tough for Pat to handle, coming off the side to the back, too low . . . hand out. Kirby grounds one and it's tied at 9-9. *Kramberg*: Bottom board hunting when he really didn't have to. And, August misses on a ball off the back wall glass. I think he's turning a little too much and looking into the crowd and subsequently being bothered.

August misses with his left, and Pat takes a 10-9 lead. *Kramberg*: I think Steve has lost confidence in his left and that time he was just lobbing with it. Kirby misses from deep court with a right hand shot. He's giving August every opportunity to take over.

Foot fault on first serve . . . August is marked up pretty well by balls that have hit him during the tournament . . . he has a splotch of marks all up and down both legs. He catches a crotch on the second serve to the left for an ace and 10-10.

Another point for August as he gets a slider down the right with Kirby in deep court . . . 11-10 . . . *Kramberg*: I think that was the first reverse I saw Steve use and it caught Pat off balance.

A miss by Kirby on a ball coming off the side left wall . . . 12-10. And, August misses from three-quarter

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FIRST ANNUAL MONTGOMERY USHA OPEN

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OLE' SOUTHERN CHARCOAL GRILLED STEAK DINNER AND SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY AT ITS BEST

Gordon Pfeifer Takes Pacific NW Singles; Brouwer-Gray Doubles

Winners of the Northwest this year in singles held in Seattle on March 6-8 were an all Washington A.C. slate. Gordon Pfeifer, Ron Patricelli, Bud Simpson, and Dick Patricelli. The largest entry in the history of the Northwest also produced an all-Portland sweep in the doubles, Dick Brouwer and Chuck Gray, Bob Schoning and Jack Scrivens, John Ritchie and Tony Stramiello, and Dennie Schalk and Ken McQueen. Roy Velling of the WAC won the singles consolation while Socrates Red and Fred Farrell from Spokane won the consolation doubles. Matches were scheduled in both the WAC courts and the Downtown YMCA. Play would have been less difficult to arrange had the University of Washington granted us the use of three of their 12 new courts for preliminary play. However, University policy is such that our request was denied. The WAC players, 300 strong, are looking forward to the 1971 season when three more courts will be ready under a 2½ million dollar Club addition and renovation program.

1971 is the year that Seattle would again enjoy hosting the National Tournament — eight years after Oscar Obert beat John Sloan here for the title. The winner of the 1969 Pacific Northwest Regional Open Singles may well be the player to watch, if not in Austin, then at the Nationals in 1970. Gordon Pfeifer has played less than four years, and teamed with Bob Schoning last year

to move into a third place doubles win at St. Louis and has not been beaten here since.

Gordy steamed his way through the Western Canadian Open in February by shutting out each opponent at least one game. In the finals he ran 38 points before a tough shooter, Tony Stramiello, from the Astoria, Oregon, Y got in and managed to end up with 4.

The doubles champs this year are the many-times winners Dick Brouwer and Chuck Gray of the Multnomah Athletic Club in Portland, Ore. They played a control and kill game particularly in the third stanza against a team that is tough for anyone to beat—Bob Schoning and Jack Scrivens.

Ted Yeamans, MAC of Portland, was the master singles winner. Although obviously tired, he hit the payoff shots when he had to — and against a well conditioned John Beahm. John is the youngest over 40 years old at the WAC, coach at Ballard High and able to outlast many of his charges.

A determined team from Great Falls, Mont. Jim Ritter and Ted Greely moved to the master doubles hardware against the class of the division, Howard Soumie and Wes Knapp, a Portland policeman and fireman respectively.

After the dust settled, the 1969 Northwest was a great tournament enjoyed by nearly 150 entries. There were many gratifying and rewarding



MASTERMINDS . . . Slim Wintermute (l) and Nels Sundbom fill in as tournament chairmen for the ailing Andy Anderson. Washington A.C. hosts another highly successful USHA event.

experiences as is always the case when you bring together the greatest group of strenuous exercisers in the world — handballers.

Next year the Northwest is in Spokane, the hub of the Inland Empire of the great Evergreen State.

The one man sorely missed around the Tournament was "Andy" Anderson, our Northwest Commissioner. He is recovering from a serious operation and was able to painfully attend one session only briefly.

If we are suddenly sounding smug, prejudiced, and satisfied that we're looking back on a great tournament held in the greatest corner of the U.S.A., it's only because we are typical handballers proud in the knowledge that we are in a great area that is growing rapidly in handball as well as industry.

Winston-Salem . . .

Well, it finally happened! Plans were announced this week that a new Y will be built in downtown Winston-Salem. Two 20 x 40 handball courts are being planned.

Just a few years ago Charlotte had the only 20 x 40 courts in North Carolina. Greensboro finished a new building in February this year with two 20 x 40 courts. Charlotte added two (partial glass) courts this year for a total of four. Raleigh has four and High Point two 20 x 40 courts. This gives you an idea how interest in our favorite sport is progressing in North Carolina.

I would appreciate any information and material you have to offer regarding court construction and spectator space arrangements.

As a matter of information, the 1969 Carolinas Y tournament will be held on Greensboro's new courts in April 11-12.

OTIS SKIPPER
District Commissioner



CHICAGO FINALISTS AT CONTENTENDERS . . . Joe Ardito and "Beauty Ben" Costello (l) win National Contenders Masters doubles at Birmingham YMCA; Bob Koenig and Joe's son, Don, went to finals in open doubles, after scoring big win over Billy Yambrick and Paul Schulz in semis.

N. JERSEY LEAGUE...

By BILL KENNEDY

The Paterson YMCA Handball Team won its second consecutive North Jersey YMCA Four-Wall Handball League championship on March 28 by finishing four games ahead of Orange in the closest race of the circuit's 16-year history.

After winning the 1968 title by 27 games, Paterson roared off to a fast start this season and held a commanding 13-game lead at the conclusion of the first round. Orange, however, pecked away at the deficit and moved into a first place tie with the defending champions after the 18th match of a 20-match season. Both teams won their final matches, but Paterson scored 12-0 and 10-2 triumphs, while Orange won 9-3 and 9-3 to finish second by four games.

Capt. Fred Romeo again led his team to the championship. The 45-year-old Paterson fireman has played in North Jersey Handball League competition since the 1930's when the teams had no formal schedule. Since the loop was officially chartered in 1953, Romeo has captained four league winners at Paterson.

This year's squad featured singles play by Jim Westdyke, Bill Walkowitz and Romeo. Its strong doubles teams were composed of Jerry Cohen, Dan Mannix, Ben Buchansky, Larry Blomberg, Joe Russo, Mat LaPorta and Jim Keller. Two Paterson stalwarts, Emil Saporito, who finished third in the state singles last year, and Bob Ryan, an outstanding left-side doubles player, were hobbled by injuries for most of the season.

Orange, led by Captain Tom Ciasulli, compiled its finest record and finished higher in the standings than any Orange team in league history. In four encounters with the champions, Orange won two and was the only team to hand Paterson a setback in a league match.

Each of the six YMCAs in the league field three singles players and three doubles teams for a match which consists of two games. The league standing are kept by compiling won and lost records of each game. More than 100 players represented their Y's in Friday night competition this year.

Trophies will be awarded to each member of the first and second place teams at the annual league dinner-dance which will be held on May 10 at Laneve's Cedar Cliff Restaurant in Haledon.

FINAL LEAGUE STANDINGS

	W	L	PCT.
PATERSON	168	72	.700
ORANGE	164	76	.683
PLAINFIELD	129	111	.537
NEWARK	98	143	.408
JERSEY CITY	97	144	.404
MONTCLAIR	64	176	.275

APRIL, 1969



HOUSTON NATIONAL SPORTING GOODS SHOW . . . Mort Leve (l), USHA Executive Secretary mans promotional booth at 1800-plus exhibitor show held in Astrohall . . . with Mort is Ned Singer, head of sporting goods store in Chicago and distributor for official USHA and IPA products.

KIRBY OVER AUGUST . . .

(From page 58)

Rotenberry, Memphis, def. Ray Nelson, Birmingham, 21-9, 21-16; Bud Kelly, Chattanooga, def. Irvin Kauffman, Birmingham, 21-7, 21-15; Dick Abata, Chicago, def. Sloan Bashinsky, Birmingham, 21-5, 21-5; Alan Clark, Birmingham, def. Michael Sullivan, Greenville, S.C., 21-2, 21-2; Paul Katz, Orlando, Fla., def. Jeff Barnes, Birmingham, 21-11, 21-7; Bill Miller, Birmingham, def. Tom Pannell, Knoxville, 21-6, 21-14.

Brewer Kitchings, Birmingham, def. John Cameron, Memphis, 21-4, 21-2; Sol Barth, Atlanta, def. Ed Boackle, Birmingham, 21-11, 21-2; Joe Vasquez, Accra, Ghana, West Africa, def. Ellis Wanninger, Birmingham, default; Floyd Olson, Chicago, def. Champ Meyercood, Birmingham, 21-8, 21-2; Ed Ellett, Chattanooga, def. Bill Goulden, Birmingham, default; Joe Hero Jr., New Orleans, def. Howard Simon, Birmingham, 21-13, 21-13; Art Moore, Houston, def. Jack Allison, Birmingham, 21-4, 21-1; Ray Curtis, Knoxville, def. Brewer Kitchings Jr., Birmingham, 21-5, 21-10; Logan McCoy, Birmingham, def. Harry Jones, Greenville, S.C., 9-21, 21-8, 21-12; Joel Galpern, Miami, def. Nathan Miller, Birmingham, 21-2, 21-3; Joe Salome, Atlanta, def. Preston Goldfarb, Birmingham, 21-1, 21-3; Jack Kubiczyn, Tuscaloosa, def. Howard Kitchings, Birmingham, 21-12, 21-4; Rodger Pugh, Montgomery, def. Dale

Brantley, Birmingham, 21-11, 21-8.

SECOND ROUND — Pat Kirby, Toronto, def. Kelley, 21-11, 21-7; Farrar def. Litrell, 21-17, 8-21, 21-16; Steve Lott, New York, def. Williams, 21-7, 21-20; Ernie Ortiz, Tampa, def. Fleming, 21-9, 21-10; Lou Kramberg, New York, def. Rotenberry, 21-3, 21-6; Kelly def. Abata, 21-20, 21-4; Katz def. Clark, 16-21, 21-4, 21-13; Terry Muck, St. Paul, def. Miller, 21-4, 21-6; B. Kitchings def. Bob Lindsay, Wichita Falls, Texas, default; Vasquez def. Barth, 21-12, 21-9; Olson def. Ellett, 21-9, 3-21, 21-8; Gordon Pfeifer, Tacoma, def. Hero, 21-3, 21-2; Moore def. Curtis, 21-10, 21-3; Galpern def. McCoy, 21-6, 21-6; Salome def. Kubiczyn, 21-17, 21-17; Dr. Steve August, Detroit, def. Pugh, 21-2, 21-6.

THIRD ROUND — Kirby def. Farrar, 21-11, 21-2; Ortiz def. Lott, 17-21, 21-6, 21-19; Kramberg def. Kelly, 21-11, 21-10; Vasquez def. Kitchings, 21-9, 21-7; Muck def. Katz, 21-12, 21-8; Pfeifer def. Olson, 21-5, 21-6; Moore def. Galpern, 21-12, 21-17; August def. Salome, 21-2, 21-6.

QUARTER-FINALS: Kirby def. Ortiz, 21-10, 21-4; Muck def. Kramberg, 21-19, 21-10; Pfeifer def. Vasquez, 21-5, 21-9; August def. Moore, 21-3, 21-11.

SEMI-FINALS — Kirby def. Muck, 20-21- 21-11, 21-15; August def. Pfeifer, 21-16, 21-12.

FINALS — Kirby def. August, 21-13, 21-14.

THIRD PLACE — Pfeifer def. Muck, 21-3, 21-20.

NAT'L CONTENDERS . . .

(From page 62)

er court. Pat gets a real fat one coming way off the back wall but Steve makes a remarkable return with a hop and Kirby misses it completely, unable to read it.

August regains serve . . . doesn't take advantage of it as he DOUBLE SHORTS . . . 10-12 . . . Kramberg observed at this juncture that Pat's right arm seemed to be bothering him. We questioned Pat after the match and he admitted some difficulties with a slight pinched nerve that had been with him the past couple of weeks.

Steve puts in a soft left corner kill with his left hand off the serve and gets it back . . . Kirby kills from deep court with August also back and it's 10-12 . . . He gets a serve to the right that August couldn't handle, actually an error . . . 11-12 . . . and then follows with a kill off the return of his serve to knot it at 12-12. Slider down the right on his serve and gets an ace . . . 13-12 . . . Kirby finds August out of position and calmly dumps a left in and then follows with an ace to the right for a five point package this inning and 15-12. Trying the serve to the right again, August flattens it. *Kramberg:* Pat went to the well once too often there. You can't always make the ball that good and when he didn't Steve had his strong right ready.

12-15 . . . Nice right hand kill from three-quarter court by Steve, 13-15. Pat is moving into Steve's left court serve and bringing it back strongly, gets a set up and regains the serve.

15-13 . . . A deep court right hand kill by Kirby, 16-13 . . . cross court serve and Steve again showed lack of confidence with his left, 17-13 . . . *Kramberg:* I think Pat has the message, loud and clear.

There's nothing wrong with Steve's right, though, and he powers one that Pat cannot handle and takes over the serve . . . 13-17. Ace to the left and 14-17 . . . ceiling shot to right corner that Steve cannot handle.

17-14 . . . Kirby miscues with his right . . . had his shot and missed. 14-17 . . . bad shot by Steve and Kirby kills the setup into the left front wall with his right . . . 17-14 . . . *Kramberg:* Steve still isn't backing off setups and his shots thus have no zip.

Pat takes a setup, fails to put it away, but gets another one and this one he bottom boards into right front wall with his right for 18-14 . . . *Kramberg:* Steve is a big boy and his best shot is when he can get that ball out away from his body . . . why he is letting it crowd him, I don't know. *Note:* We asked Steve about this after the match and he said his legs were tight and he just couldn't move the way he wanted to.

That time Steve did take his time, reached out and killed into the right corner . . . 14-18 . . . Steve gets his shot but misses and now he is entirely disgusted with himself for he realizes this is the time of the game to make a move, if ever. 18-14 . . . short serve, ball broken . . . new ball comes into play.

19-14 on a straight right hand Kirby kill . . . looks like this ball game is all over. Nice return by Kirby but gives August plenty of time to get set but he misses and it's 20-14 . . . Cross court, return down the middle, Kirby goes to ceiling left, gets a return to his right but shoots high, August takes advantage and shoots a right hand kill into the left corner.

14-20 . . . short serve to the left . . . goes to cross court serve for first time in the match and Kirby buries it with his left hand into the left corner . . . the serve came below Kirby's waist. 20-14 . . . Pat gets his shot off the back, shoots and kills and the match is over.

Kramberg: Steve's left hand was too vulnerable . . . he could have gone on defense a lot better than he did. I know he's capable of going on the defense much better with his left. He showed a lot of stubbornness with his service. If there's anything Pat is vulnerable against it would be a strong service . . . he doesn't particularly like hops . . . his swing isn't designed to play them too well. And, being relatively new on the 20 x 40 courts — I mean just a few years — he doesn't read hops. He is bothered by balls that hop in front of him, either way, and Steve didn't do this to him, except on that one occasion and it completely befuddled Pat. It was a turnaround shot that he hit on his fingertips on the outside of the ball, making it reverse and Pat just stood there. Steve's shooting into the right corner was not effective and return with his left to Kirby's right all spelled his ultimate downfall.

SECOND GAME—

KIRBY	021	104	020	052	012	1	—	21
AUGUST	303	020	130	011	000			14

Errors — Kirby 8, August 10. Kills — Kirby 16, August 10. Passes — Kirby 6, August 4. Aces — Kirby 1, August 2.

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V. VINSON, Manager

Judnich's National Tourney Evaluations

FRACTION OF THE ACTION By MARTIN JUDNICH

Gregory Gymnasium on the campus of the University of Texas in Austin was the memorable scene of the USHA's nineteenth consecutive national four-wall handball championships. A tremendous number of exciting tournament matches were conducted in America's most fabulous battery of standard handball courts (13), including the ideal deluxe center glass side-walled court around which about 1,200 spectators were able to be comfortably seated and clearly view the thrilling actions. Many of the large daily audiences were enthusiastic students at the University who learned the fine points of handball under the expert tutelage of amiable host, Pete Tyson, handball coach. The presence of scores of beautiful coeds and handball devotees had the pleasant effect of diverting the attention of many rabid handball enthusiasts who came to participate in or to see the tournament. Throughout the week the spectators and players enjoyed the luxury of shopping around the 13 court handball circus to watch the game of his choice or to stop and chat with the considerable numbers of friendly players or fans from all parts of the U.S. or Canada. At best, any one spectator could only witness a fraction of the total action. My impressions of the tournament as hereinafter recounted may be of interest.

The huge entry lists of participants in the various competitions at Austin including the ever-growing intercollegiate championships; players vying in singles and doubles; the availability of 13 courts; and the locations of the finest eating establishments in Austin provided floor manager Al Gracio with a severe and supreme test. Al responded to the tremendous task with his usual yawn and routine efficiency. The only complaint seemed to be that there were too many outstanding matches being played simultaneously. This caused many older spectators to get tired by wandering around the pavilion to dig the best action. Gracio was the only champion to come away from Austin without getting a trophy.

At the start of the tournament many experts expressed the opinion that the open singles was loaded in depth with more outstanding talent than any other nationals. Very few experts seemed to be willing to predict a winner. However, this writer asked Paul Haber at the start of the event how he felt. Paul, very modestly, confidently and accurately, predicted that he would win this year. The formidable field included many potential winners such as: Stuffy Singer, the excellent defending champion; Jim Jacobs, believed by many to be the greatest of all time; Ray Neveau, last year's rugged runner-up; Bill Yambrick, apparently recovered from last year's injuries; Pat Kirby who defeated Singer and Haber in recent tournaments; Buzz Shumate who beats them all in Dallas; Bob Lindsay, with the advantage of knowing every little wrinkle in the U. of T. glass court; Dr. Steve August, a semi-finalist last year; Lou Russo, a highly touted dark horse; and other established contenders such as Bob Bourbeau, Dr. Claude Benham, Gordon Pfeifer, Kent Fusselman and many other outstanding performers. Unquestionably, Paul Haber had to be exceptional to win over such an imposing field.

Paul Haber, the 1969 Singles Champion, is handball's most colorful and exciting player since the legendary Al Banuet. Paul is brilliant, unpredictable and flamboyant with a tremendous handball talent. His supreme confidence is justified by his all-around ability. He has a spectacular variety of defensive and offensive weapons with either hand; keen anticipation; and uncanny choice of correct shots. Paul's remarkable ac-

curacy in defensive ceiling shots; around the walls and his soft lobs can be sustained with tantalizing and demoralizing regularity and effect to drive an expert opponent daffy until Paul unloads the big bomb to the bottom board. Kills, drives, hops, lobs, ceiling, around-the-walls, fly balls; or you name it; Haber seems to have them all. Paul's deadly accuracy with his underhand left hand kill from the left side near the short line, to the right wall and then dying crazily on the front wall is almost unbelievable. At first it appears to be a lucky shot, but he uses it quite frequently, and it invariably terminates the rally and leaves his opponent and the crowd gasping. Many observers wonder just how much better Paul Haber might do if he ever trained seriously.

For the third time (1966-1967 and 1969), it was no charm; Bill Yambrick lost to Paul Haber in the National finals. Yambrick's upset win over Jim Jacobs in two straight (4 and 11 was a real shocker; and indicated that Haber would be in for real trouble in the finals. Bill is a defensive genius; a speedy retriever who virtually dares a kill shot artist to try for the bottom board. Many observers were of the opinion that Yambrick's game was too conservative and that he must gamble to kill if he wants to win the title. Haber won the first and Yambrick seemed to be completely outclassed. But, modest Bill chalked up a spectacular win in the second, 21-5 and the crowd sensed a new champion. I kept statistics on the second game and found that Yambrick finalized rallies by scoring 21 kill shots against Haber, an outstanding retriever in his own right. After the 10-minute rest the unpredictable Haber again took command, winning the third and the title, 21-14.

The results of the second game poses the question: Would Yambrick's game improve if he modified his style and gambled for the kill more frequently? An effective defensive style can be habit forming (so can a gambling kill game); and any mixing or modification of style would probably require tremendous concentration during a rally and may be difficult to perfect. It is respectfully suggested that Bill might experiment and see what happens. His amazing victory over the great Jacobs is an indication of outstanding talent. Many fans would like to see popular Bill win the grand title.

LOU RUSSO:

Lou Russo turned in several spectacular performances to win the open doubles title with strong Lou Kramberg, on the right side. Russo hits that bottom board with unbelievable regularity, just like Coach Bob Davidson preaches. In the open singles Russo chalked up several impressive victories, before being sidelined by Haber in a hard fight, 21-13 and 21-7. Lou Russo served notice that he will be a strong threat for a future singles title.

TOM FLEMING:

This fighting Irishman of the San Francisco Olympic Club, unexpectedly forced Buzz Shumate to the limit in an exhausting three-game thriller before yielding. Buzz must have felt the effect because he lost to an improving Kent Fusselman in his next round.

GARY ROHRER:

An outstanding left hander, now playing out of St. Paul, flashed strong improvement over previous displays when competing in Northern California events. Gary surprised Russo in singles by winning 21-2 in the first; but Lou managed to get over the shock by winning the next two in a tough fight. In doubles, Rohrer

teamed with Paul Schulz, showed plenty of class by eliminating Johnny Sloan and Phil Elbert, national champs in 1934; and then stretched top-seeded Oscar and Ruby Obert to scores of 21-18, 21-18.

HANDBALL CLINICS:

Bill Yambrick, Jim Jacobs and Bob Davidson conducted very interesting and educational handball clinics in the glass court. Briefly, the three outstanding tutors stressed the following important points:

YAMBRICK: (1) keep your eye on the ball at all times; (2) Control the center court position; and (3) Stroke the ball, never "smack" it.

JACOBS: (1) The important shot is not the kill, but the shot that earns you the opportunity for a set-up; (2) Never take an offensive shot against a hook serve; (3) Develop a strong left, but don't use it unless absolutely necessary.

DAVIDSON: (1) Learn to hit HARD with POINT OF CONTACT; (2) On backwall shots let ball get in front of you, not too close and step into the ball; (3) Move your opponent out of the center court.

Bob Davidson says you've got to shoot! A lot of players think this is all he means about the game and this is a mistaken idea. What Bob emphasizes is the shooting but realizes as well as anyone else the importance of the all-around game. His theory is the same as the fast ball to a pitcher in baseball. All things being equal the overpowering fast ball is the best pitch in baseball. In handball the power shooter has the No. 1 weapon . . . from there he can develop

the championship game. Bob says, "Oscar Obert, certainly one of the game's all times shooters, won two national USHA singles championships on his shooting ability, overcoming Johnny Sloan's mechanical genius in the court."

"Power shooting and the know how gained through experience PLUS concentration spells victory," Bob continues. "Learn the volley game, punch with the off-hand to the ceiling, digest all the court lore you can, listen to the big boys."

"Step in, one-two-three — bomb" . . . that's the Davidson point of contact. Side armed swingers . . . although it doesn't make any difference what kind of swing you use if that point of contact is maintained. Pat Kirby uses the Irish Whip to every advantage.

Bob relates his experience with Joey Maher, the Irish champ who spent some time in Canada. Joey was meeting the ball too far back and as a result hitting balls into the side wall and not gaining accuracy. By changing and meeting the ball out in front, away from his body, Joey gained more kills and control.

The Davidson school for taking the ball off the back wall — "We hold our ground, let the ball get in front and pass us, and then if it's not too fast a ball and it has been timed right, we step in with that one-two-three, let the ball drop low (as low as the player feels he can control his body), below the knee, level off and shoot. We don't aim for the kill! For you're low enough, the leverage is there, you sweep it in and that ball has got to go. As the boys gain experience the percentage of kills is fantastic."

OBSERVATION TOWER . . .

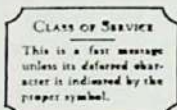
(From page 36)

either got an easy return or quick point. He used this in all his matches and when he had his opponent leaning back he would shoot. In his match with Singer he did a lot of shooting with his left hand and his average was sky high.

In the second round of play there were six courts going and on every court the same thing was happening. It seemed that the better player was pacing himself, thinking of saving himself for the next match. This is a fallacy. It resulted in three game matches and close wins. The best formula is on and off the court as soon as possible.

I can't thank Pete Tyson and Dick Roberson enough for allowing me to put on a clinic.

A special thanks to George Jones for his concern in keeping the hospitality room jumping and affording chauffeur service whenever he could. Bob Kendler's speech was most informative and well received. George Brotemarkle is our latest entree into the Helms Handball Hall of Fame. Alvis Grant did a professional job in a portrait presented to Dick Roberson. Dr. Jim Tanner of Birmingham is now a life member of USHA and a member of USHA's board of directors. Congrats to Phil Elbert on becoming president of the Hillside, Ill., bank. I made this trip in spite of doctor's orders not to because of an eye injury but believe me, I wouldn't have missed it for anything. Sorry my better half Pauline couldn't be along.



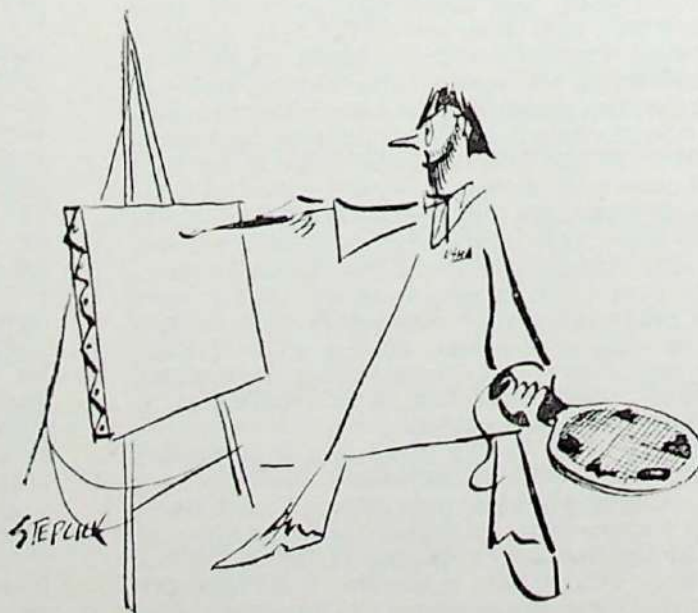
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PLEASED TO TELL YOU DOCUMENTARY FEATURE "THE LEGENDARY CHAMPIONS" HAS BEEN VOTED A NOMINATION BY THE DOCUMENTARY COMMITTEE OF THE ACADEMY OF MOTION PICTURES CONGRATULATIONS
MARGARET HERRICK ACADEMY DIRECTOR

DOCUMENTARY FIGHT FILM NOMINATED . . . One of five documentary films nominated for moviedom Academy Award April 14 was "The Legendary Champions," a brilliant history of famed prize fighters, produced by Jim Jacobs' New York based agency.



'RACQUET IS FLEXIBLE'

Denver . . .

Bob Brown repeats by winning Rocky Mountain Open Singles — Bob Brown and Larry Wood met again in the finals of the Class A singles before an overflow gallery at the Denver Central Y Glass Court. Many of the local players thought that Larry would gain revenge for the loss he suffered against Brown in the Colorado State finals but Bob Brown played almost the same style of game as he did in his previous win. By keeping command of the front court with his two handed kill game, then using passing shots when necessary he kept Larry on the defense so that he could not get a rally going long enough to get the lead and hold it. Brown won the first game 21-15. In the second game Brown's serves began to work well, and he won with ease 21-6.

SEMI-FINALS — Bob Brown won from Lyle Blue, 19-21, 21-8, 21-15; Larry Wood won from Al Osur, 21-10, 21-5.

CLASS B SINGLES — Geo Kress won from Terry Rand 21-7, 11-21, 21-15.

SEMI-FINALS — George Kress def. Darrell Harrison, 21-13, 21-10; Walt Falk def. Mel Straus, 19-21, 21-9, 21-14.

FINAL — Falk def. Kress 21-13, 10-21, 21-10.

Walt Falk is one of our most promising young players, and if he continues to work on his offensive game, and continues to work out with tough competition, he should soon be ranked in the top ten at the Denver Central.

John Hardy and Mike Sotack New

Veterans Doubles Champs — Don Carlsen and Les Shumate are now convinced that over-weight, condition, and the ravages of Father-Time, play important role, in losing a tournament.

Even though the total ages of Hardy and Sotack did not quite add up to 90, (a rule that we have had in the past, and made an exception on in a couple of cases this year), they were allowed to enter this year. After losing the first game 19-21 to Don and Les; they came back strong to win the second game 21-7, and take the final game 21-14 with excellent placements and a very strong defense, to win the championship. First round results:

Semi-Finals: Carlsen-Shumate def. Hulett-Amer, 21-16, 21-10; Hardy-Sotack won from John Davidson-Mike Marrese, 21-19, 21-12.

Finals: Hardy-Sotack def. Carlsen-Shumate, 19-21, 21-7, 21-14.

Larry Wood and Dan Barney continue their domination of the doubles field — John Hardy and Don Luttrell, playing with excellent teamwork and very accurate passing, and kill shots surprised the gallery of spectators by controlling the first game, and keeping Wood-Barney on the defense, taking the first game 21-17.

However the second and third games were a different story, when Larry got his serve working, and Dan kept digging low shots, and returning strong front wall, side wall passing shots. They kept complete control of the match from there on, and forced Hardy and Luttrell into a defensive game, and frequent errors, when they attempted kill shots while off balance. Woods left hand kills and



MIDWEST DOUBLES . . . Salina, Kansas Y doubles winners — Steve Spangler (l) and Larry Wood, both of Denver.

passes down the left wall, counted for several easy points. Second game ended 21-2, and the third 21-10.

Semi-Finals — Wood-Barney won from Wretland-Carlson, 21-13, 21-6; Hardy-Luttrell won from Brown-Bretz 21-18, 21-16.

Class B results — Two young brothers, Walt and John Falk, played consistent ball all through the Class B tournament and proved to be classed in the A brackets in doubles from now on. Walt also won the Class B Singles crown in a very convincing manner, and it's now just a matter of a couple of years when he will be giving the top A singles players a real battle and will be a real challenger to the top three.

Class C — Semi-Finals — Buzz Frazier def. Terry Pershing 21-17, 21-6; Dave Drum def. Al Ellman 21-8, 21-8.

Finals — Dave Drum won from Buzz Frazier 21-11, 21-9.

LES SHUMATE

BROWN SINGLES . . . GEURTS-APPLE DOUBLES ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONALS

No. 1 seeded Bob Brown, of the host Denver Central Y, won the Singles Crown, however not without some tough competition from Dick Lesco, who proved to be the "dark horse" of the tournament. Brown has now won the last three singles tournaments here.

The favored doubles team of Dan Barney and Larry Wood lost a tough match to Bob Apple and Bill Geurts of Salt Lake City in the finals. Barney was injured early in the second game when he crashed into the wall while retrieving the ball. After some medical attention he continued but

was handicapped considerably from then on.

The Masters No. 1 seeded doubles team of John Davis and Mike Marrese, Denver, played consistently true to form to win 21-6, 21-16. They were pressed all the way in the finals by Reg Chapman and Dick Clissold, Salt Lake City.

The semi-finals Open Doubles between Don Carlsen and Lyle Blue, Denver, and Apple and Geurts was a cliff hanger; with the score 20-20 Carlsen had a set up off the back wall, which is usually a sure kill, but it dropped just a fraction short

and the match was over.

Tom Kay and Bill Zansbrano, Tucson, proved to be mighty tough and if Zansbrano had not been injured by a dive into the wall in their semi-final match they might have made the finals.

The Hospitality Room was a popular spot for all the gang during their stay here and gave them a chance to get better acquainted. The feature of the Saturday night banquet was the showing of the 1968 Finals at St. Louis between Stuffy Singer and Ray Neveau, narrated by Jim Jacobs.

FT. LAUDERDALE NEWS

By JOHN MADDREY

Handball Keeps Laubscher In Shape . . . For 76 Years

Sometimes Ed Laubscher just feels like a slouch. Like he's not carrying his share.

Four years ago, Ed retired from his accounting firm in Cleveland. He and his wife, Hazel, moved to Ft. Lauderdale. Sometimes Ed Laubscher gets itchy.

"Dr. Dudley White says for you to ride a bicycle," said Laubscher "You have got to keep the old circulation going. That's the key." Laubscher's circulation system has been going fairly strong for 76 years and shows no sign of slowing down. Ed sees to that by playing handball on Mondays and Fridays and golf on Wednesdays.

"I get plenty of exercise," said Laubscher yesterday after his first-round match in the Masters plus—50 Doubles Handball Tournament at the YMCA. "You have to pace yourself. Handball is a running game. I think it's more strenuous than squash."

Laubscher knows his handball. He played in the nationals seven times. Joe Griffin, who now runs the YMCA Health Club and has formed the Handball Club of Broward County, remembers Laubscher. Griffin won the national singles in 1928. Laubscher was defeated in the second round.

"I was the champion of the Cleveland Athletic Club," said Laubscher. "And they would send me to the nationals every year. But I never did anything, because I was used to playing on smaller courts. Now all the courts are uniform. It makes it easier."

Griffin and Laubscher have watched handball come a long way. Laubscher started playing on the docks of Whiskey Island in Cleveland in 1907. He remembers playing barehanded and taking home plenty of split fingers. Griffin used to play in work gloves.

Now, there are all kinds of slick-looking gloves. And air-conditioned courts. The YMCA has four with air and more than 100 enthusiasts in its club. Of the 100, 16 are over 50.

"I saw that we had these older men who still liked to play, so I thought we should have a tournament," said Griffin. "We have eight teams and will finish up tomorrow and Friday."

"We play every other day. The old guys can't play two days in a row. They enjoy it. Actually, some of them are like little kids. They have the

WHAT HAPPENED TO PAT KIRBY?

Most knowledgeable handballers felt that Pat Kirby, up to national tournament time, was holding the "hot hand." Bill Yambrick stated, *Many of the players feel that Pat is playing his best ball and is probably the best player in the country today, and in this I concur.* Paul Haber had lost to Kirby in Toronto exhibitions, another one in Milwaukee, and then at the open in Akron. Stuffy Singer had lost to Kirby in Akron also, but had turned the tables decisively in the Canadian nationals. This latter match was the only blotch on the Kirby record up to the nationals and thus he was installed as one of the leading favorites for the crown.

It was felt that another showdown with Stuffy would come in the quarterfinals but this went by the boards when Pat lost to Dr. Claude Benham. So what happened?

There are two things. One, and Stuffy made this observation prior to the nationals and after watching Kirby closely with the glass back-wall at Akron. *"I honestly think glass bothers Pat."* Although he won at Akron his play was not as sharp as it had been on conventional courts in the Haber exhibitions.

Secondly, after winning the National Contenders at Birmingham over Dr. Steve August, Pat admitted he had a right shoulder pinched nerve and that it was bothering him.

So, the man who was rightfully considered the "dark horse" pre-tournament choice at Austin never got a chance to get untracked.

TOURNAMENT BESTS . . .

(From page 28)

an imposing record.

TRAVELING THE FURTHEST . . . We gave this to Joe Vasquez at the National Contenders, covering his trip from Accra, Ghana, West Africa . . . so for this one we'll have to give the nod to the real handball "nut", Dan Callahan of Bellingham, Wash. This Johnny Appleseed travels with his car and stops off wherever he can for handball action. Last year he was first with the "366" Club (366 games of handball in leap year and he did it within three months). He's a little slower this year but figures to be No. 1 again.

NEXT YEAR'S HOST . . . Duke Llewellyn, athletic director of the Los Angeles Athletic Club, was on hand to make the official bid in behalf of his boss, Frank Hathaway. Duke is a fitness buff and got in his handball, weight lifting and jogging.

PERSONIFYING THE FRATERNITY . . . Les Shumate, "Mr. Handball" of the Rockies . . . ageless and never losing any of his enthusiasm for the game. None of the Masters doubles for over-60 aged Les, he went the three-game route in Masters singles.

NEXT YEAR — OUR BIG TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY . . . MAKE PLANS NOW. IT'S LOS ANGELES IN 1970. And, Paul Morlos, now entrenched in San Jose, was good enough to make up the stickers announcing just that.

old spirit. Even in their reclining years, they still haven't lost it."

Laubscher still has spirit, but winning is not paramount. He and his partner, Art Trow, lost to Earl Neuenchwoner and Martin Singer, 21-17, 21-16 yesterday.

"I'm not that interested in winning anymore," said Laubscher. "I'm interested in getting a workout. Somebody has to lose and if somebody else gets a big kick out of winning, then I think he ought to win."

Laubscher, whose firm had offices in New York, Cleveland and Chi-

cago, has played regularly two times a week since 1920. One time, he fell out of a tree, but it didn't hurt his handball.

"We had a winter home here in Ft. Lauderdale," Ed remembers. "And one day I was cutting a branch out of a tree and fell out of the tree and hurt my shoulder."

"But I still played handball with my other hand. I didn't let it penalize the rest of my body."

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