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Racquetball

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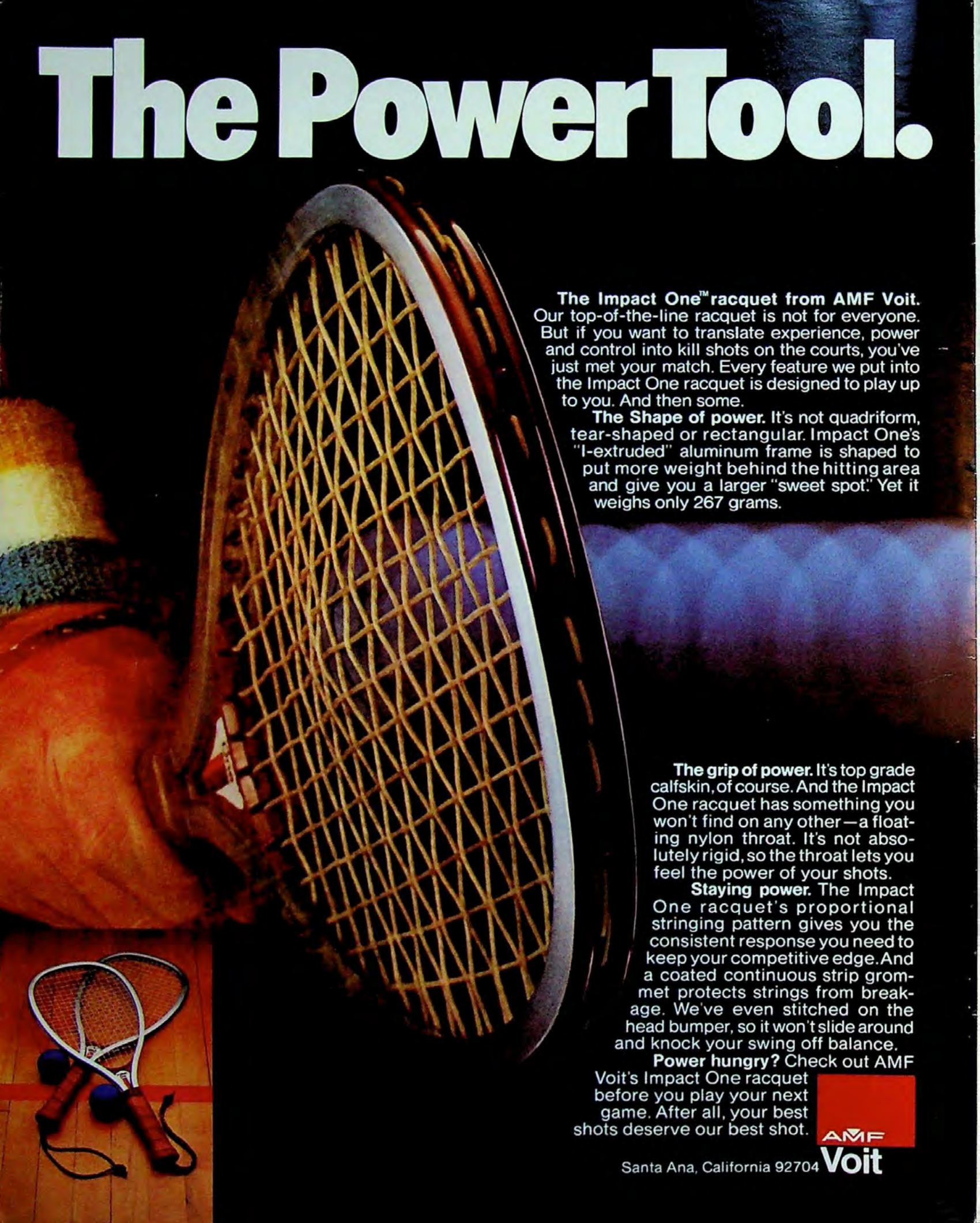


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Letters To The Editor

I was thrilled to read the letter by Mr. St. Onge in the "New Directions" column of your November, 1979 issue. Now the AARA has opened a new door on what it does best—promote amateur racquetball to the public. This advance in racquetball on the international level, I believe, will have an effect unequalled in racquetball history. I congratulate all those who made this great advance possible.

David Weitzel
Carlisle, Penn.

■■■
This is with regard to a publication error in an article which appeared on page 22 of the November issue of *Racquetball* magazine. The center photo [on the page] shows a number of

racquetball jewelry pieces which are by clear implication indicated to be available from Tinker and Company. These pieces are manufactured by V R Creations Court Jewels, and are *not* available from Tinker.

In view of the wide circulation of your magazine in racquetball circles, this error has created considerable confusion among present customers and potential customers as to the source of our goods...

I am sure you will want to act responsibly to properly correct this error.

Renee Sokolski
President, V R Creations
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(The aforementioned article was intended as a service to our readers, and not as a recommendation of any particular firm or product. Photographs accompanying the article were not identified as being representative of a particular firm, and such identification was neither intended nor implied. Still, for those who are interested in purchasing jewelry from V R Creations, the address is: P.O. Box 7000-281,

Redondo Beach, Calif., 90277; phone 213-378-4425.]

■■■

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that I have managed to break the "World Marathon Racquetball Record." The old record of 150 hours set by Keith Kubik and Tommy Peterson in Las Vegas was broken by one hour. The new record of 151 hours was established in conjunction with the format laid out by the Guinness Book of World Records... I wish all racquetball players the very best of luck in beating the new World Record.

Chris Robertson
Burlington, Ontario
Canada

(For more on Mr. Robertson's marathon efforts, see "Short Lines," page 11.)

Racquetball welcomes correspondence from its readers. Letters are subject to editing for clarity and length.

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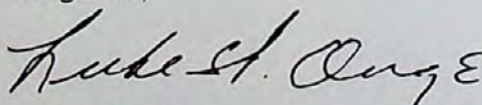
NEW DIRECTIONS

Dear Members,

We are pleased to announce to you that the official ball for the AARA 1980 Regionals and National Singles will be the Penn Ultra Blue. Penn has produced one of the highest quality, and most playable, balls on the market. In addition, Ed Arrington, product manager of Penn, and his staff, which includes Bob Pfaender, Bob Beebe, Dick Folden and Bob Balink, are totally dedicated to promotional development of racquetball at the grass roots level. We are proud to have them as part of our major tournaments—both Regionals and Nationals.

On page 32, you will find the first published list of National Amateur Rankings based upon results from AARA-sanctioned tournaments. This list is continually updated, and will be published periodically during the year in *Racquetball* magazine. Once historical data has been received and filed, these rankings will be used for seeding in National, State and Regional tournaments, as well as all AARA-sanctioned events. We strongly encourage all tournament players to participate in multiple AARA-sanctioned events and thus, finally, receive the national recognition they deserve.

Regards,



Luke St. Onge
Executive Director

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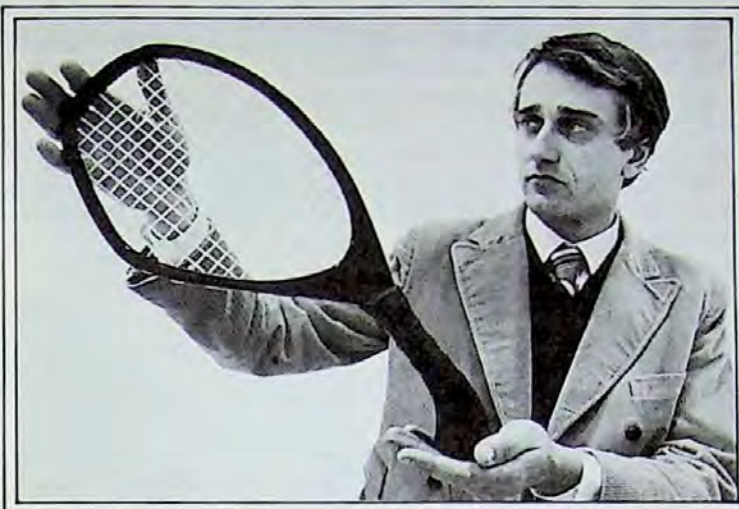
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SHORT LINES



Roy Biehl and his new racquet.

MILWAUKEE SENTINEL PHOTO

The Shape of Things to Come?

In tennis it began with day-glo yellow balls and ended with the oversized Prince racquet. Now it seems the designers' craze has hit racquetball, too. Manufacturers already offer a rainbow of colored racquetballs. But, until recently, one racquetball racquet looked pretty much like another.

Roy Biehl, a Milwaukee, Wis., designer and manufacturer, has created a most unusual racquetball racquet—and he doesn't even play the game. Prompted by his friend Ken Baron, a former two-time Milwaukee city racquetball champ, Biehl went through about 25 different shapes before deciding on the curious asymmetrical racquet which is currently awaiting patent approval.

Biehl observed a lot of racquetball while attempting to perfect the design of his new racquet. And, it's apparent he did learn *something* about the game, as evidenced when he describes the concept of the racquet: "It's got a flat end so you can get closer to the wall with it, and part of the edge is flat so you can get closer to the floor. It's angled down so you can get to the floor without bending down as much." In addition, the grip is designed to be "molded to the hand."

Although Biehl says the racquet "meets official racquetball specifications," it remains to be seen if it will be accepted among the ranks of the players. Then again, anything is possible. After all, Steve Keeley has been known to use a tennis shoe for a racquet.

It's About Time

Some people just never give up. And Chris Robertson, a native of Burlington,

Ontario, Canada, is one of those people. Robertson just set a new world's record (according to Guinness rules) of continuous racquetball playing—151 hours.

The 24-year-old program director at Fairview Racquet Sport club played almost 500 games (of which he won 45 per cent) in order to break the previous record of 150 hours. Although he set out to break the record for personal reasons, the \$700 he collected in donations from opponents went to the Salvation Army Christmas Fund. The timing was just right, too, as Robertson finished playing at 7 a.m. on Christmas Eve.

Though his body suffered during the marathon, Robertson nevertheless maintained a healthy outlook after it was over. In reflecting upon his accomplishment, Robertson commented: "Records are meant to be broken and as the threshold of human endurance increases, this record will probably be broken. And if it is, I won't try to break it again." Smart thinking, Chris.

Ektelon, Perrier Sponsor Tournaments

In response to the growing numbers of racquetball enthusiasts across the country, Ektelon and Perrier have joined forces to sponsor a national racquetball tournament series. An estimated 10,000 amateur players will vie for all-expenses paid luxury vacations for two, while professionals will play for \$40,000 in prize money.

The Ektelon/Perrier Championships will be played in 19 major cities across the country starting February 22 in Baltimore, Houston and Boston. Winners from regional tournaments will be flown to Los Angeles for the national championship finals May 8-11. The

finals will be played simultaneously with a professional invitational tournament and a special celebrity challenge.

Local competition will be played in 12 different divisions, based on an individual's sex and level of play, from novice to open. Division winners of men's and women's open, men's and women's seniors and open doubles will be flown at the sponsor's expense to compete in the National Finals in Los Angeles. Other divisions include men's and women's B, C and novice, and men's masters.

"No one has to be an expert in racquetball to take part in and enjoy the tournaments," said Bruce Nevins, president, Perrier, U.S., a corporation which imports sparkling water and has traditionally sponsored sports events both in the United States and France. "That's what we, as a company that encourages physical fitness and health, are attracted to in racquetball. People can have fun and get a great workout from the very first game they play."

A percentage of each entry fee during the 20-tournament series will be donated to the Special Olympics, an international program of year-round sports training and athletic competition for mentally retarded individuals.



Ron Grimes (left), vice president of Ektelon, and Bruce Nevins, president of Perrier, U.S.

"We plan to make our tournament series a prototype for the future of racquetball on both a professional and amateur level," said Ron Grimes, vice president, Ektelon, one of the major producers of racquetball equipment and clothing. "The Ektelon/Perrier Championships will not be just a one year effort. We will continue the program in '81 and '82, and are counting on it growing along with the popularity of the sport."

Participants in the program with Ektelon and Perrier include Club Med, Inc., Hitachi Corporation, American Airlines and Nike. For tournament sites and dates, see "Racquetball Calendar" on page 24. ■

INDUSTRY NEWS



The "Panther"

Player's Choice

What do the "Hawk," the "Panther," and the "Final" have in common? All three are new racquetball racquets manufactured by Slazengers, Inc., of Cornwells Heights, Penn., a company known primarily for squash equipment.

The "Hawk" has a frame constructed of graphite combined with fiberglass. It weighs 250 grams and is available in grip size 4 1/8. The "Panther" is designed to have a large sweet spot and a strong "A" beam construction. This bronze-colored racquet weighs 260 grams and is available in grip sizes 3 7/8 to 4 1/8. The "Final" is a teardrop-shaped racquet, with an aluminum frame, which weighs 285 grams. The "Final" is available in grip sizes 3 7/8 to 4 1/8.

All three of these Slazenger racquets are nylon strung. For more information, contact Slazengers, Inc., Box 160, Cornwells Heights, Penn., 19020, or call 215-638-9110.

New Address for NCCA

The National Court Clubs Association (NCCA) has moved to larger quarters at 666 Dundee Rd., Northbrook, Ill.

In announcing the move, Charles S. Leve, the organization's executive director, said that "the move is intended to provide for the expanded services NCCA will offer its members as the sport of racquetball continues to grow in the U.S. as well as overseas. NCCA is already firmly established in Canada, and we have received inquiries from European owners as well as those from

the Orient."

In other news from the NCCA, the association held its third annual industry convention and trade show in Sarasota, Fla., January 18-22.

Leve noted that the convention was held in the Southeast for the first time this year. In previous years the show has been held in southern California, but, according to Leve "the sport has witnessed its fastest growth east of the Mississippi during the past 12 months, especially in the Sun Belt area." Therefore, Leve said, "NCCA's board of directors decided to move the annual meeting to the Southeast in order to meet the needs of new club owners and developers from that area." Looks like the South is on the rise, in racquetball, at least.



Moving Up

Richard "Rick" Legue, 33, has been named president of the Follett Recreation Companies, Inc., Countryside, Ill., a division of the Follett Corporation of Chicago.

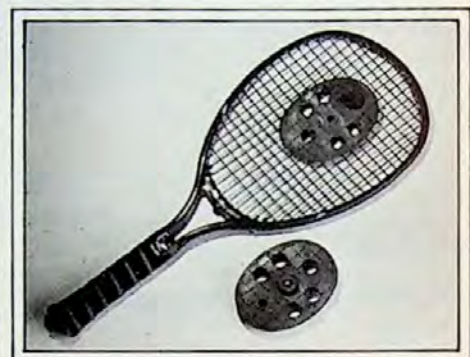
Follett operates three racquetball/tennis facilities in Chicago, one in Danville, Ill., and a racquetball club in Miami Lakes, Fla.

Legue is president of the Chicagoland Indoor Tennis Association (CITA), the trade association representing some 50 indoor tennis clubs throughout metropolitan Chicago. He is also a director of the Chicago District Tennis Association. Legue was chairman of the 1979 Chicago Sun-Times/Pontiac Grand Prix "Tennis Fest" tournament.

Prior to joining Follett, Legue was general manager of the East Bank Club,

now under construction in downtown Chicago. He has also been associated with the Berkley Racquet Club in Arlington Heights, a Chicago suburb.

Legue received his B.S. degree in physical education from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, and his M.B.A. degree in marketing from Loyola University in Chicago.



In the Swing of Things

Any good tennis, squash or racquetball player knows when he hits the ball just right, because it "feels" right. When the ball contacts the "sweet spot" on the racquet, it feels like no other stroke; the player knows he is in control and is about to execute a perfect shot.

The "Swingmaster" is a new training and warm-up device, designed by former tennis professional Pedro Mena, to assist players of all racquet sports in learning how to find that sometimes elusive "sweet spot." According to the manufacturer, just three to five minutes of practice swings before playing—with the "Swingmaster" attached to the player's racquet—will not only accustom you to the feel of the "sweet spot," but also strengthen your muscles, thereby protecting you against such injuries as tennis elbow and pulled muscles.

The weighted disc attaches to any racquet, and can be adjusted to simulate the feel of the resistance of the ball against the strings, just as it feels when the ball actually contacts the "sweet spot" of the racquet.

The Swingmaster retails for \$9.99. For more information, contact Pedro Mena Enterprises, P. O. Box 1046, Morgan Hill, Calif., 95037; or call 408-779-0840. ■

Descriptions of new products are as according to information provided by the manufacturer; products have not been tested by Racquetball magazine.

PRO PAGE



Shannon Wright (right) celebrates finals victory over tough competitor Lynn Adams (left).

Wright Takes First WPRA Tournament

The Women's Professional Racquetball Association, which boasts 31 of the top 32 female pros among its membership, held the first all-women's pro tournament January 10-13. Sponsored by the Andrea Raab Company and Jean Nate, the tournament was held at Rockville Centre, Long Island, New York. All WPRA members, except Karin Walton and Heather McKay,

participated.

Shannon Wright, the number one seed, took home the first place check of \$2500 as expected, but not before she fought a tough match against Lynn Adams. Adams, who is still unsponsored and relatively new to the pro tour, was the biggest surprise of the tournament. Coming up from seventh seed, Adams paved the way with victories along the upset trail to reach the finals against Wright.

Wright maintained a narrow lead

throughout the first game of the finals, eventually pulling out ahead at 21-18. In game two, Adams came on like a thunderball and managed to reach a score of 8-1, her favor, before Wright called a time-out. Adams stayed hot, despite Wright's attempt to cool her scoring streak. And, it looked as if she would take the game with ease when she reached an 18-10 lead. But Wright held her own, inching up the score, until Adams barely squeaked by her, taking the game at 21-20. The final game was a heartbreaker loss for Adams, who was ahead 10-7, but fell to Wright's power in a tense battle; final score 11-10.

In the quarterfinals, Adams defeated highly rated pro Sarah Green, which took her to the semifinals, where she defeated Marci Greer by scores of 19-21, 21-19, 11-8. Also in the quarterfinals, Wright defeated Jannell Marriott, 21-16, 21-6.

Instrumental in organizing the tournament were: Ellen Shuerger and Colleen Rowell of Centre Court Racquetball and Dan Seaton, of the WPRA. Nearly 200 women entered this first all-women's pro/am, and negotiations are still in progress for others. Judging by the success of this one, there will, no doubt, be some takers for future tournaments. ■



Winner Shannon Wright thanks Steve Tuchman, president, Andrea Raab Co., for sponsorship of first WPRA tournament.



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*For details contact your AARA State Director (see page 9) or call Jill Fazakerly
at RACQUETBALL Magazine, 901-345-8000.*

TV
RACQUETBALL:

Stay tuned for
further developments.

First, the bad news: there'll be no racquetball on network television Monday night. Howard, Frank and Dandy Don will *not* expound knowingly on the merits of the kill shot or ceiling ball, or on the size of Marty Hogan's wrist. More likely, if racquetball is on the tube at all this week, it will air discreetly at 11 p.m. Sunday night on public television, following the "Wide, Wide World of Whales" and coming just before the sign-off and a taped message urging contributions to "community television."

Now, the good news. There are bold plans in the works—

programs and new ideas that could significantly improve racquetball's television exposure in 1980. Some of these plans may be just so much smoke, of course, the grand illusions of some promoter's mind. But there are enough *serious* ventures afoot, undertaken by *serious* people, to give hope to those who believe that racquetball deserves a more prominent place on the home screen. Not "Monday Night Racquetball" perhaps, but certainly something better than a side show for insomniacs.

Actually, there have already been some victories for televised racquetball, mostly on the Public Broadcasting System. Last year's Idaho Open Pro/Am, held at the Court House in Boise, was taped by the local public television station and picked up by

BY JUDY HEINRICH

most major PBS stations across the country. Similarly, the 1979 Boise Cascade Charity Pro/Am, also held at the Court House, is scheduled for telecast over PBS this month. Canadian television did a series of pro and amateur matches last summer. Instructional programs have also been attempted, including a 13-week series on KDNL-Channel 30 in St. Louis and another currently under production by WREG-Channel 3 in Memphis.

Racquetball has picked up additional exposure when combined with other sports for special programming. CBS carried the "World Invitational Racquets Championship" last June 10, in which Marty Hogan competed against stars of other racquet sports like tennis, badminton and squash. Hogan also participated in the "Superstars" television series to be broadcast in 1980 on ABC, making it into the finals of the competition scheduled for February 5-7 in the Grand Bahama Islands.

The very observant television viewer can at least hear about racquetball on popular series. Drs. 'Gates' and 'McIntyre' occasionally talk about their off-screen matches on CBS' *Trapper John, M.D.*, and daughters 'Julie' and 'Barbara' have been known to dash out of their apartment, racquets in hand, for a quick off-screen round of cut-throat with 'Mom' on CBS' *One Day At A Time*. Even busy editor 'Lou Grant,' from the CBS dramatic series of the same name, occasionally takes time off from running the city desk of the *Los Angeles Tribune* to get in a few games on the racquetball court—all in the line of duty, of course.

Certainly never ones to miss a trend, advertisers are getting in on the racquetball bandwagon, using footage of games to sell everything from soft drinks and diet food to men's cologne. There's even some advertising for strictly racquetball-related products, as evidenced by Seamco's TV ad for its new "dimpled" ball, the Assassin.

Plans are in the making for the near future, as well. The American Amateur Racquetball Association (AARA), *Racquetball* magazine and TPC Communications, Inc., an independent production company based in Pittsburgh, recently collaborated in the development and production of a pilot program they plan to market to cable or syndicated TV networks. If the pilot goes over well, the group plans to stage a national invitational tournament featuring the country's top amateur players. The tournament would be videotaped and edited into 13 one-hour segments for later broadcast.

Right now, the pilot program, which was filmed in November, is being shown to potential sponsors and interested cable television networks, notably Getty Oil's ESPN (Entertainment and Sports Programming Network) and Turner Broadcasting Systems in Atlanta. Both networks, according to TPC president Dick Clouser, have expressed an interest in broadcasting a racquetball series. In addition, a number of sponsors—both in and out of racquetball—are awaiting the outcome of current negotiations.

The trick, according to Mark Seitman, executive vice president of Towery Press, printers and publishers of *Racquetball*, will be to convince sponsors and television executives that racquetball can be packaged into a manageable and exciting product for home viewers. And that, Seitman says, rules out live broadcasts. "They're never going to show racquetball live like other sports," he argues. "Because racquetball live is nowhere." Instead, the pilot program developed by TPC emphasizes extensive editing, making it possible to use such television techniques as instant replay and slow motion, procedures which would be hard to manage during a live broadcast of a fast-paced game.

The pilot program, which featured a match between two local players, was filmed at the Racquet Club of Monroeville, a

Pittsburgh suburb. The purpose of the pilot, according to Seitman, was to "test lighting" camera angles and techniques to get the most enjoyment for the viewer out of this kind of tournament event."

TPC is particularly well suited for such an undertaking, having previously been involved in a wide range of sports broadcasts including Pittsburgh Pirates baseball, NFL football, soccer, hockey and even the U.S. Skateboarding Championship. During filming of the racquetball pilot, the 20-man production crew used four cameras, strategically placed around the court, and experimented with various types of lighting. They also tried two new techniques: wiring the players for sound and also using one camera to film the action through a hole cut in the court ceiling, thus providing a new perspective on the players jockeying for position.

The eventual outcome of this television venture is still uncertain, but, for the moment at least, the prospects look good. Providing the program attracts a sponsor, the AARA-sanctioned tournament could be held this spring, to be broadcast sometime after that.

Meanwhile, some 2,000 miles from Pittsburgh, another television project is shaping up in—of all places—Boise, Idaho. There, court club owner/manager Bob Petersen is working on a deal which, though still incomplete as of this writing, could represent a significant triumph for television racquetball in 1980.

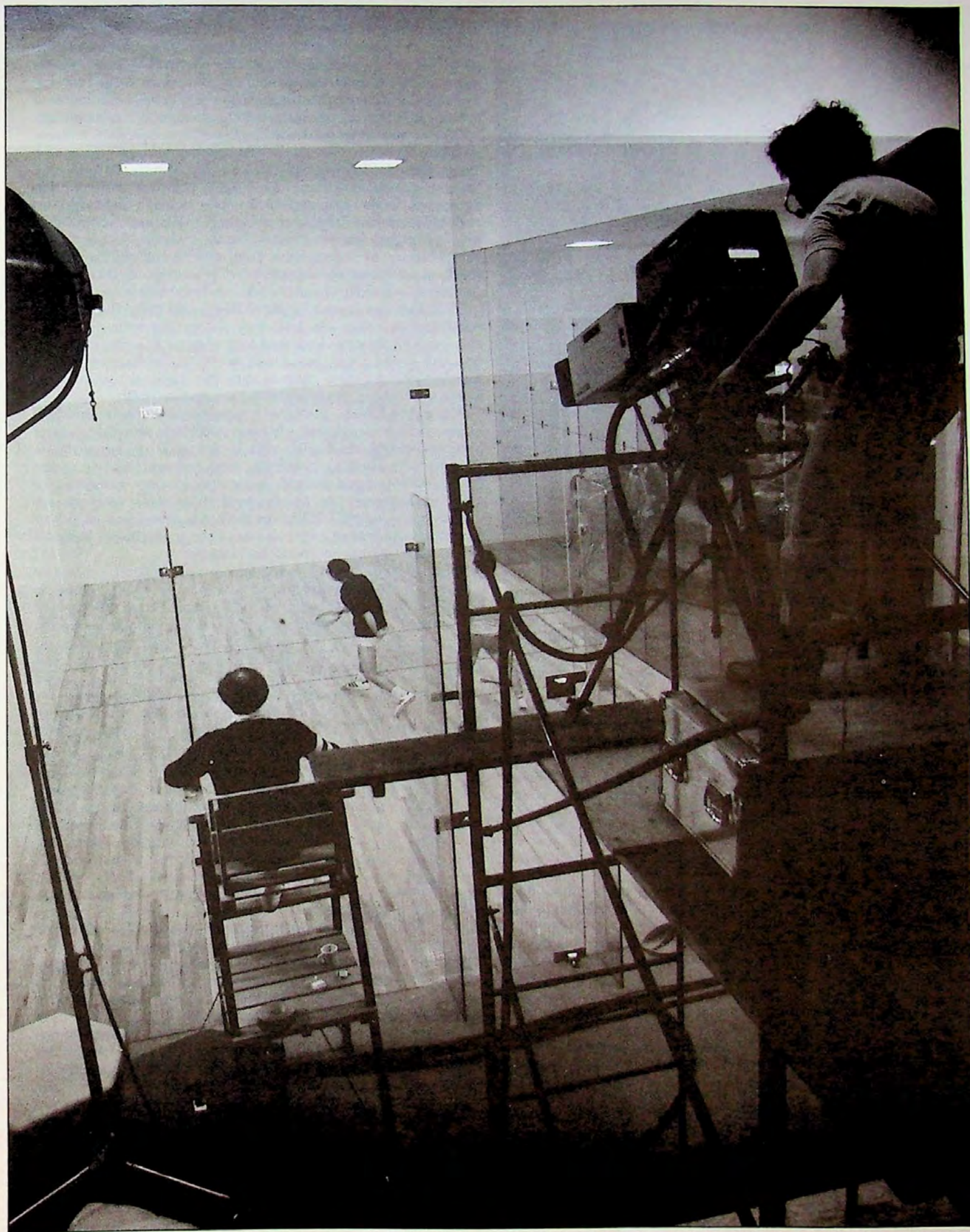
What Petersen is attempting is this: the first nationally televised, *live* broadcast of a racquetball match. Though Petersen is reluctant to name the principals involved, his proposed television venture revolves around a national doubles tournament featuring the nation's top pro players and possibly stand-out amateurs as well. The tournament, tentatively scheduled for mid-summer, would be held at the Court House in Boise, where Petersen is manager and part owner.

Petersen is negotiating with a national television network (which he declines to name) which has expressed an interest in broadcasting such a tournament, and an independent production company (also unnamed) is standing by to handle the actual filming. What's more important, Petersen says he has already lined up two potential sponsors for the program.

Petersen stresses the uncertainty of all this, as negotiations continue aimed at working out an arrangement that will be "mutually beneficial" to all concerned. He is also fully aware of the problems posed by a live racquetball telecast, problems which he says the production company is still trying to find ways to surmount.

But Bob Petersen is no stranger to television promotions, and if his past record in such matters is any indication, the Boise doubles tournament just might come to fruition after all. Petersen was largely responsible for the Court House's previous success in getting tournaments televised, and he has worked out an arrangement with public television to broadcast—possibly live—the finals of this year's Boise Cascade Charity Pro/Am, tentatively scheduled for the weekend of November 1. What's more, Petersen is reasonably certain that the Boise Cascade tournament will be carried over public television annually, on a regular basis.

The biggest factor, however, working in favor of Petersen's proposed national television deal goes back to a decision he and his partners, Duane Stueckle and Norm Matfey, made more than three years ago while planning the Court House. Though the club is located in one of the most unlikely areas for television sports coverage in the country, the trio nevertheless decided to include in their plans a large spectator court especially designed to facilitate television coverage. "These



Filming progresses on a special racquetball television pilot developed by the AARA, RACQUETBALL magazine and TPC Communications, Inc., an independent production company. Note the elevated camera at the rear of the court and a second camera near the front of the right sidewall.



The court bustles with activity as technicians prepare for filming of the racquetball TV pilot. Along with the usual lights, cameras and sound equipment, there is also a new wrinkle: a camera mounted in the ceiling, as indicated by the ladder in the center of the photograph.

guys really stuck their necks out," Petersen says of his partners, "and we built a \$188,000 spectator court in Boise, Idaho... We think this is one of the great arenas in racquetball, and we want to use it as often as we can." If Petersen's plans work out, the Court House's TV court could get lots of use this summer.

Even the major commercial networks, who hold the real power in television, are starting to give racquetball a second look. NBC, for example, is considering a special feature on racquetball to be shown during its coverage of the 1980 Olympics. The proposed three to five minute spot would focus on racquetball as an aspiring Olympic sport, according to Glenn Adamo, production associate for NBC Sports in New York. As of this writing, though, no final decision has been made on airing the program.

Yet, in spite of all the racquetball television exposure scheduled, planned or even hoped for in 1980, it still does not fulfill the desire of racquetball promoters and fans to see the game included in the regular line-up of sports programming. Television executives remain reluctant to commit that much air time to racquetball and, for the most part, they cite some seemingly sound reasons for their reluctance. They claim, for example, that there are too many production problems involved in televising racquetball and, even more important, that not enough people care about the game.

One man who cares deeply is Mike Zeitman, whose combined experience in racquetball and television makes him a very knowledgeable spokesman. Zeitman has been a professional player since the pro tour began, consistently ranking within the top 16. As co-owner of Racquetball Spectaculars, a pro player management firm out of Las Vegas, he deals with the marketing of the sport on a daily basis. And he's been involved with

televising tournaments since the first one broadcast, from the Tropicana Hotel in Vegas. What's more, Zeitman's television responsibilities have increased over the years from simple commentary to technical advising, production and even editing.

Zeitman agrees that televising racquetball can present technical problems, particularly for camera angles and lighting. "You're playing in a 20'x40' box, which is certainly limiting in terms of angles," he says. "The fluorescent lighting used on most courts is yellow-green, which makes it difficult to pick up the green or blue ball most often used by pros, especially at high speeds. And the non-stop nature of the game makes it unsuitable for instant replay at this time." Zeitman is candid in discussing these problem areas, but he's also optimistic about the prospects of dealing with them. "The technology already exists to overcome these problems," Zeitman argues, "if TV producers wanted to spend the time and money to experiment."

That argument would seem to be supported by the frequent televising of tennis and golf, both sports that were once considered TV poison. And evidence of special video effects is apparent in the broadcast of such events as the Super Bowl, in which techniques are used to slow the flight of the football, freeze the action, reverse the action and so forth.

Assuming, then, that the needed production technology exists or can be developed, only one roadblock remains—lack of viewer demand. And even that is not quite as simple as it sounds. Television programming honchos are fond of saying things like, "programming is determined by viewer response," and "we never get any letters about racquetball, so obviously nobody really cares." Others in the know define lack of viewer demand as something a little closer to the pocketbook: lack of a big sponsor willing to spend big money.

Unlike team sports, individual sports depend on major consumer product companies as sponsors. A good example is Colgate-Palmolive, sponsor of the Colgate-Dinah Shore Golf Tournament. But sponsors don't hand out money for sports until they know that the sport is here to stay, has a certain minimum number of participants (generally 20 million) and can project a professional image. After all, nobody wants to end up with another roller derby. So for the time being, sponsors are in a wait-and-see position, and it's up to the promoters of racquetball to sell the sport as a desirable television entity.

That is a selling job that will most probably require a willingness to make some changes in the present make-up of the game. It will certainly require cooperation between all of the racquetball interests, from the amateur players' associations to the professional players, who are likely to get most of the television exposure once racquetball is accepted.

The United States Racquetball Association (USRA) represents amateur players while its sister organization, the National Racquetball Club (NRC), is the governing body of professional racquetball. Both are headed up by Dan Bertolucci, national director. Bertolucci is enthusiastic about the future of racquetball on television and predicts that it will be televised regularly within the next few years. As for changes that may be required to facilitate TV broadcasting, Bertolucci says the USRA and NRC are open to ideas. "We would be willing to accommodate any change necessary to promote the sport," he says, "including rule changes or equipment modifications. We have discussed potential changes with television production companies and are working hand-in-hand with equipment manufacturers to be ready to make any changes necessary."

Bertolucci's views are shared by Luke St. Onge, executive director of the AARA. St. Onge is blunt in assessing racquetball in its present form as "boring on television," and feels that changes will be required to make it more entertaining

to the viewing public.

The most common suggestions for change involve equipment, particularly changes in the ball. St. Onge believes that a slower ball is needed to eliminate the serve-and-kill rallies common in pro matches, and to facilitate more exciting, longer rallies. Mike Zeitman disagrees, claiming that, "Most of the people who advocate a slower ball are those who can't play with a faster ball." He prefers to depend on the technology of videotape to slow the action enough for the viewer to follow and enjoy. A third opinion comes from Tom Stofko, advisory staff manager for Ektelon, one of the major manufacturers of racquetball equipment. Stofko is firm in his belief that any equipment modifications should be proposed by the professional players, "the people who best understand the game." The pros' recommendations should receive top priority, he says, with the goal of facilitating TV coverage second in importance.

Changes in the format of the game itself have also been recommended, especially recommendations for a shorter game. Most promoters agree that a match could feasibly be changed to five games of seven points each without losing the excitement of the sport. Other suggested changes include allowing a point-on-every-serve, as is done in tennis. This kind of structure provides that each player alternate a fixed number of serves and service returns. The point-on-every-serve alternative has not been widely accepted, however, for fear it would make racquetball too much like other sports. As St. Onge describes it, part of the appeal of racquetball is "being able to keep the serve and destroy your opponent." But, though they may not favor this particular proposal, most promoters are willing to experiment to find the most attractive way to present the sport on television.

One new development being heralded by some as *the* breakthrough for televised racquetball is a special type of glass wall known as "white glass." The glass is clear to spectators and the TV camera, but appears as a solid white wall to players inside the court. It was originally tested with squash courts in England, but is now being manufactured and marketed in the United States.

The Sports Barn in Chattanooga is the only racquetball facility at present that has had the glass installed. General manager Dusty Schweickart is enthusiastic about the glass, but because it is so new (the club itself only opened last November), they have not had the opportunity to fully test its effectiveness. However, though the club has yet to stage a televised tournament, the staff did borrow video equipment from a local university recently, and successfully filmed through the white glass walls.

Schweickart says the club's primary purpose in installing the glass was to provide enjoyment for the on-site spectator, and not necessarily to facilitate TV coverage. He also points out one rather substantial drawback to the new glass. "The white glass is light sensitive," he explains, "which means that certain architectural considerations must be met if it is to work correctly. The light within the court has to be much brighter than that on the average racquetball court [about 1½ times brighter], and the area immediately outside the court must be very dim, about 15-foot candles." ('Foot candles' is a term used to measure light intensity, with normal lighting for a racquetball court falling in the 100- to 120-foot candle range.) "If these lighting conditions aren't perfect," Schweickart adds, "the white glass loses its effect and becomes like regular glass."

In the case of the Sports Barn, a two-level lounge was built adjacent to the white-glassed "Championship Court," and the bar atmosphere is conducive to the dim lighting necessary to use white glass. New facilities can make allowances like that, but existing facilities might have a hard time meeting those lighting stipulations, and thus installation of white glass might not be feasible for them.

While some of racquetball's promoters are off in search of the perfect technological breakthrough, others prefer to woo sponsors and TV executives a different way. Luke St. Onge, for example, feels that the ultimate key to getting TV exposure for racquetball will be the number of people who play the game. The AARA, therefore, is concentrating on increasing public awareness and participation in the sport. The association is targeting its efforts on schools and center city programs.

Tom Stofko of Ektelon, on the other hand, deals directly with professional players, and as far as he's concerned the way to sponsors' hearts is by upgrading the professional image of the sport. That could mean changes in the equipment and rules, but even more importantly, it means changes and improvements in the players' conduct. Once soundly criticized for general on-court rudeness and lack of sportsmanship, a number of the pro players have finally begun to clean up their acts.

Instrumental in this progress have been the two fledgling professional racquetball organizations, the Women's Professional Racquetball Association (WPROA), and the men's National Association of Racquetball Professionals (NARP). Stofko is confident that the founding of these organizations will benefit the sport. "The racquetball associations will eventually be the source of most of the positive changes that come about in the sport," Stofko says. "This has been true in every other professional sport and particularly golf, which has the best professional association around. The PGA exerts a great deal of influence on the behavior of players, and golf, therefore, has the most professional presentation of the individual-oriented sports."

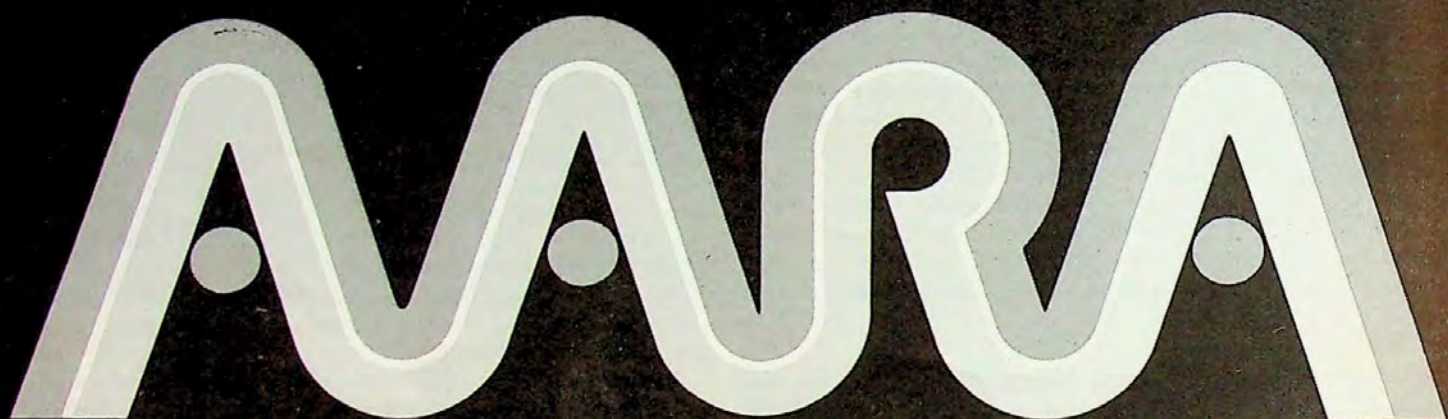
Stofko feels that the bad sportsmanship exhibited by racquetball players has turned sponsors off, because they perceive the players to be selfish and not serious athletes. "It's important for sponsors to realize that pro players are becoming more seriously interested in determining their futures. The sponsors must be shown that players aren't being selfish and that they realize that their responsibility to a sponsor goes beyond just tournament play. The players have got to do a good PR job for the sponsors."

Stofko also believes that the current referee situation is detrimental and unprofessional. At most stops on the pro tour, the refs are paid members of the NRC, but there is no established criteria to determine if an individual is actually qualified to ref a pro match. Then again, racquetball is the only professional sport which utilizes only one referee. Stofko would like to see a system implemented similar to that used in tennis, with various line judges responsible for calling specifics like hinders, short serves, bounces, etc. That could eliminate some of the on-court disagreements between players and officials, and thus ostensibly enhance the sport's television appeal.

At present, Ektelon and other equipment manufacturers are building relationships with potential TV sponsors through amateur and professional tournament circuits. (See page 11.) The hope is that successful ventures at this level may lead to television partnerships in the future.

It's obvious from all this, then, that a lot of people are working very hard to gain more frequent television exposure for racquetball. Such efforts will, no doubt, have positive effects, even if they don't actually result in more hours on the tube for the sport. Because every little bit helps, and even unsuccessful ventures can provide valuable lessons for the future, lessons that can be put to good use the next time a harried television executive is searching for a means to feed the American viewing public's insatiable appetite for sports programming. And one day, we may actually hear the lilting monotone of Howard Cosell "telling it like it is" in the world of racquetball. How soon that day will come remains to be seen — literally, from coast to coast. ■

We have changed our name to



AMERICAN AMATEUR RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

At the Board of Directors meeting in Oklahoma City, October 17, 1979, it was decided that the International Racquetball Association will henceforth be known as the American Amateur Racquetball Association.

Let's ask the question, rightoutfront: is it really necessary to play hurt? Do you really *have* to go out on the court taped, rubbed, wrapped, and otherwise fortified against pain, while all the time it feels like the hammers of Hades are pounding away on this joint or that? Are the pain of injury and the pleasure one derives from athletic competition necessarily intertwined in racquetball, unalterably linked together like bread and butter, or Mom and apple pie?

"Not so," says Dr. Harry Paritsky, a Long Island chiropractor. "Sure, injuries will develop in time given the nature of racquetball and the constant punishment the elbow, hips, knees, shoulders and whatever sustain. But there's no reason for the athlete to live a sweaty martyrdom day after day. Most of the pain felt by the racquetballer can be relieved by a chiropractor who utilizes a good system of applied kinesiology."

Applied kinesiology? To the layman, that sounds like so much medical mumbo jumbo. And just a few years ago, Paritsky and other chiropractors would have been laughed at — if not scorned outright — by most athletes. I mean, after all, how can a supposed healing art based primarily on various forms of muscle manipulation — a little dab there, a massage here — actually correct real injuries like bum knees, pulled hamstrings or wrenched backs?

Yet, in spite of continued and often vehement opposition from the medical establishment, doctors of chiropractic are being increasingly consulted nowadays by athletes suffering from a wide range of injuries. Racquetball players are no different in this regard. For example, during the recent Chavelier Waterbed Open in Shrewsbury, Mass., a chiropractor, Dr. Tom Rupley, was invited by the state players' association to be in attendance at the tournament for consultation and treatment of players who desired it. That same weekend, Long Island's Paritsky was performing a similar function during the Long Island Open. (See page 33.) In fact, not only was Paritsky invited to attend the tournament, but he is also listed on the stationery of the New York Racquetball Association as that organization's official "Doctor of Chiropractic." So, while racquetball players may not be exactly rushing to embrace the philosophy of chiropractic, they are certainly beginning to sit up and take notice.

Chiropractic, a word derived from the Greek for "effective hand," is defined by its practitioners as an art or science which allows the body to heal itself if

"proper alignment" takes place. "A body with the spine and nerves functioning properly," Rupley explains, "in proper alignment, has to feel better than a body with impingements of these vital organs." But what about pain? "Pain is a signal that something is out of tune. The nerves serving various parts of the body can be traced where they enter the spinal column through the vertebrae, sections of bone in the spinal column. If one [or several] of the individual vertebra slips or turns slightly from its proper

A Little Dab Will Do You

CHIROPRACTIC COMES TO RACQUETBALL

BY TOM MCDONOUGH

position because of the demands of the game, then out goes a signal. In most cases, aligning the vertebrae to relieve the pressure on the nerve [and correspondingly pressure on the blood vessels, lymph glands, connective tissues, organs, etc.] relieves the pain."

Rupley acknowledges that there is opposition to chiropractic, but he feels it is on the decline. "Less than one third of the medical doctors practicing today belong to the American Medical Association," Rupley claims, "the prime source of opposition to chiropractic care." The AMA has publicly stated its opposition to chiropractic through adversary proceedings in three states, as well as by creating a Committee on Quackery in 1963, which has declared its primary

mission to be the containment and eventual elimination of chiropractic.

Paritsky, however, maintains that many doctors go along with the *public* position of the powerful AMA, but nevertheless accept chiropractic care for themselves and their families. "I have medical doctors as patients," he claims. "Some of them I have to treat after hours because they don't want anyone to know they are visiting a chiropractor. I've never met one [a doctor] who didn't accept chiropractic once treated with it, and who didn't want it for his family." A great many doctors, of course, would dispute this claim.

Yet, while experts may disagree over the value of chiropractic, acceptance among athletes has been more forthcoming. Rupley points to the acceptance of chiropractors by the racquetball community as one example of a change in the reputation of chiropractic. Many of his patients, he says, are racquetball players.

At any rate, during the Long Island Open racquetball players' *curiosity*, if not their outright acceptance of chiropractic was certainly evident, as several players visited Harry Paritsky's treatment room. Ruben Gonzalez, winner of the Men's Singles, was treated by Paritsky after his victory over Victor Niederhoffer and came away with favorable comments. Third-place finisher Jim Scheyer also paid several visits to Paritsky during the tournament, and found the variety of chiropractic techniques "fascinating."

Many Long Island Open players were treated to a demonstration of Muscle Reactive Therapy (MRT). To demonstrate MRT, Paritsky asked a volunteer to lie face up on a table and raise one leg with the knee bent about halfway. He then easily pushed the leg down to its original position. Next, he lightly massaged the "patient" an inch above the navel, on the outer mid-thighs and on the inner mid-knees. This time it took all the doctor's force to lower the raised leg. The patient was thus aware of the change in strength in the leg. "What they see is an example of muscles which have been 'blown out,'" Paritsky says. "By massaging the neuro-lymphatic points, strength is returned dramatically to the muscles."

Demonstrations of this sort have led many athletes to consult chiropractors, among them a number of "name" competitors. The list includes the likes of high jumper Dwight Stones, former football pro Alex Karras, Olympic decathlon winner Bruce Jenner, tennis pro Stan Smith and baseball's Don Sutton and Jim Palmer. And that's just for starters.

Also, despite the vocal opposition of

the AMA, there is some evidence that established medical science and chiropractic are not as dissimilar as one might think. It's no secret that students in all branches of medicine study the brain, the spinal column and the spinal nerves. "On old Olympus' towering tops a Finn and German vended a hop," the ditty goes, and Anatomy 101 students know it's a device for remembering the names and order of the cranial nerves, using the first letter of each word in the rhyme as a guide. For example, olfactory, optic, oculomotor, trigeminal, trochlear, etc.

Even traditionally trained physicians

are beginning to acknowledge the need for less surgery and more concern for proper body alignment when dealing with the athlete in pain, a primary tenet of chiropractic theory. "Treatment in the past has been directed at rest," says Dr. John Marshall, a sports medicine specialist at the Hartsdale (New York) Fitness Center. "When you have pain, you rest it. The concept here [at the Fitness Center] is that pain is brought on by improper alignment and mechanics.

"If we can reduce these overloads, or these forces, and then get the muscles stronger again, we can allow the athlete to participate without discomfort."

Marshall prescribes exercises to strengthen muscles under used by the athlete because of overuse of another muscle group. He also eschews surgery. "Surgery is a low order," Marshall says. "We operate on five per cent or less of the various injuries we see..." Many chiropractors, no doubt, would argue that Marshall's treatment techniques sound suspiciously like those prescribed by chiropractic.

But where chiropractors really catch heat from organized medicine is in their unwavering assertion that chiropractic can successfully treat a wider range of diseases than are normally associated

(cont. on p. 26)

What Is Chiropractic? AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW



Dr. Harry Paritsky (right) treats Jim Scheyer at the Long Island Open.

Since chiropractic is a relatively new entrant on the medical scene, at least in terms of its visibility to the public, many questions—and some real doubts—still remain in most people's minds about the nature of this healing art. *Racquetball* brought this sense of questioning and curiosity to an interview with Dr. Harry Paritsky, conducted at his Bayshore, N.Y. clinic of chiropractic. Herewith, the text of that interview:

RACQUETBALL: Dr. Paritsky, what happens in sickness and pain?

PARITSKY: Sickness and pain are abnormal and indicate that some part of the body is not doing its job. Any sound organ, whether it be the heart, stomach, or kidney, will do its work if it is given the proper nerve energy to

function.

R: Nerve energy is the key?

P: Yes, the body normally takes care of itself. The brain sends out corrective messages constantly and organs such as I mentioned have a tendency to repair themselves as needed. There are other energies in the body, too. There's creative energy in our bodies which travels over all the medians.

R: How does that theory differ from other medical theory?

P: It doesn't. Where we break with the other school of healing is in the treatment. When the stomach, for instance, is not functioning properly in say, an ulcer problem, others treat it with medicine which attacks the effect, not the cause of the original problem: Why is the stomach malfunctioning? Why is there an

overactivity of the nerves which stimulate stomach secretion or overpopulate the acid cells in the stomach, and so on? That's never satisfactorily explained.

R: How do you explain it?

P: Chiropractic answers this question definitely and answers it with a perfectly logical explanation: the connection between the organ and its controlling nerve center may be impaired.

The nerves serving the stomach can be traced back to the vertebrae. These separate sections are bound together into the strong, flexible vertebral column by muscles and fibers, and between the sections or segments are protective cushions of cartilage. If one of the vertebra slips for any reason—chiropractors call this a "subluxation"—this puts pressure or "pinching" on the nerve trunk which creates an abnormal flow of nerve force to, in this case, the stomach. This change may be gradual or it may be dramatic. At any rate, it is a change in the *quality* of the nerve force.

The chiropractor corrects the displacement through manipulation and some time the "cure" is dramatic.

R: Does this correction last?

P: In some cases, yes. In others, treatment may have to be repeated periodically. This depends on the original problem and how long it has been present.

Most of the problems we see in chiropractic are medical failures. If medicine had been able to help these patients, they would never have to see a chiropractor.

But say this. No one should be satisfied to endure pain! They should look for help. Chiropractic may be able to help them. The spine is like an orchestra; it takes one [vertebra] out of line to put everything out of tune.

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RACQUETBALL

FEBRUARY 8-10

Illinois Doubles (2)
DuPage Racquet Club
475 Grace St.
Addison, IL
Ray Mitchell
312-745-9400

Women '80 Tournament (3)
Boston Tennis Club
Tournament Director:
Maureen Boulette
617-754-6073

FEBRUARY 9
First Annual Gold Cup of
Racquets
Co-sponsored by 1320 WKTO
Radio and Monroeville Racquet
Club to benefit USOC (2)
Racquet Club of Monroeville
Monroeville, PA
Chip Purcell
412-242-8636

FEBRUARY 15-17
The Bentley Club Winter
Classic (3)
The Bentley Club Courts
Harrisburg, PA
Tournament Director:
John Friend
717-545-4231

Washington Birthday Open (3)
Merrymeeting Racquetball Club
Topsham, ME 04086
Tournament Director:
Bruce Lewis
207-773-6438

Muscular Dystrophy Charity
Open (3)
Co-sponsored by WJAR and
Coca Cola
Playoff Racquetball Club
East Providence, RI
Dennis Culbertson
401-434-3600

FEBRUARY 22-24
Racquetball Northeast Grand
Prix (3)
Racquetball International
Tournament Director:

Ektelon/Perrier
Chancellors Racquet Club
6535 Dumfries
Houston, TX 77096
Jim Austin and Mike Keel
713-772-9955

FEBRUARY 24-MARCH 2
Racquetball Week

FEBRUARY 25-MARCH 2
Oregon State Championship (2)
Beaverton Racquetball Club
4925 Griffith Dr.
Portland, OR 97005
Dennis Hubel
503-222-4422

FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 2
Missouri State
Championship (2)
Westport Spaulding
Racquetball Club
St. Louis, MO
Bob Hardcastle
314-532-0484

Pennsylvania State
Championship
Singles and Doubles (2)
Allentown Racquetball Club
Allentown, PA
Bernie Howard
717-667-2209
John Brinson 215-821-1300

Ektelon/Perrier
First Serve
24228 76th Avenue W.
Edmonds, WA 98020
Susan Fox 206-775-0667

Alaska State Championship (2)
Racquetball Fairbanks
Box 73169
Fairbanks, AK 99707
Marvin Andresen
907-452-5303

FEBRUARY 29-MARCH 2
Indiana State
Championship (2)
Racquetball of Greenbrier
1275 West 86th

MARCH 7-9

Ektelon/Perrier
The Glass Court
830 E. Roosevelt Rd.
Lombard, IL 60148
Lynne Farmer 312-629-3390

Massachusetts State
Championship (2)
Sports Illustrated
44 Gould St.
Needham, MA
Maureen Boulette
617-444-8510 (club)

National Health Court Club
Shoot Out (3)
3822 Frisco Rd.
Sherman, TX 75090
Tom Meadows

March of Dimes Benefit (3)
Downtown Racquet Club
230 George St.
New Haven, CT 06510
Wayne Bruno
203-787-6501

Florida State
Championship (2)
Quadangle Racquetball
Complex
2160 University Ave.
Coral Springs, FL 33065
Fred White
305-473-3912
Van Dubolsky
904-372-2120

Alabama State
Championship (2)
Racquet Club
Auburn, AL
John Jordan & Jim Hawkins
205-887-9591

California State
Championship (2)
Rocky's Racquet World
North Hollywood, CA
Mike Hunter
408-373-8455

Kansas State Championship (2)
Supreme Courts West
3725 West 13th St.

Ektelon/Perrier
Racquettime
168 Franklin Ave.
Waldwick, NJ 07463
Nick Elia 201-447-6565

Tennessee State
Championship (2)
The Sports Barn
301 Market St.
Chattanooga, TN 37402
Mike Mjehovich
615-832-7529

North Carolina State
Championship (2)
Sports Illustrated Court Clubs
Charlotte, NC
Tony Giordano
704-372-1946

MARCH 14-17
Hawaii State Singles (2)
Oaku Athletic Club
1116 Auaki St.
Honolulu, HI 96814
Phyllis Gomes 808-261-2135

MARCH 21-23
Ektelon/Perrier
Rose Shores East Racquetball
31950 Little Mack Ave.
Roseville, MI 48066
Hugh Strong 313-296-2200

Johnstown Open (3)
Holiday Racquet Spa
Johnstown, PA
Joyce Roman
814-266-9689

2nd Annual St. Joseph's
Hospital Charity Event
Woonsocket Racquetball &
Health Club
595 Social St.
Woonsocket, RI
Normand Laliberte
401-762-2996

North Dakota State
Championship (2)
TAC
1401 Dyke Ave.
Grand Forks, ND 58201

AARA Maine Open (3)
For further details contact
Bruce Lewis
AARA State Director
207-773-6438

MARCH 28-30
Racquetball Northeast Grand
Prix (3)
Racquettime
Tournament Director:
Rich Derby
21 Blandin Ave.
Framingham, MA 01701
617-872-4240

APRIL
Delaware State
Championship (2)
Branmar Racquetball Club
Wilmington, DE
D.C. Lantz
302-654-2473

APRIL 3-6
Ektelon/Perrier
The Courtrooms
750 W. Sunrise Blvd.
FL Lauderdale, FL 33311
Fred Blaess
305-764-8700

APRIL 10-13
Ektelon/Perrier
Courtsouth
2969 Cobb Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30339
Jim Cullen
404-955-2120

Ektelon/Perrier
Brookfield Racquetball Club
670 Larry Court
Waukesha, WI 53186
Jim Wirkus and Mary Peters
414-782-6120

Ektelon/Perrier
Spaulding Racquetball Club
7393 Forsyth Blvd.
Clayton, MO 63105
Rick Lukasek
314-721-7355

APRIL 10-13
Racquetball Club Open

APRIL 25-27
AARA Regionals (5)
Sites to be announced

MAY 2-4
Hemophilia Benefit (3)
Kessinger's
June Road
Memphis, TN 38117
Don Kessinger
901-682-6661

New Mexico State
Championship (2)
Early May, contact
Clay Childs for details
505-247-9536

Second Annual Golden
Triangle YMCA
Benefit Open Racquetball
Tournament (3)
Manor Courts South
Pittsburgh, PA 15220
Norman Joynes 412-261-5820

National Y Racquetball
Tournament (3)
Downtown Y
1600 Louisiana
Houston, TX
Jerry Sampson
713-659-8501

MAY 8-11
Ektelon/Perrier National Finals
Rocky's Racquet World
12111 Strathern Street
North Hollywood, CA 91605
Mark Eller
213-768-5541

MAY 9-11
2nd Annual MIN-DAK
Air Force Racquetball
Tournament (2)
TAC Racquetball Club
1401 Dyke Ave.
Grand Forks, ND 58201
SSgt. Ben Beck
701-594-6455/3184

Racquetball Northeast
Grand Prix (3)
Racquetball Club Open

Annapolis Court Club
Maryland State Singles
Contact Tom Whipple
for details

JULY 11-13
AARA National Juniors-Singles
and Doubles
Kangaroo Kourts
Sacramento, CA
Tournament Director:
Ed Martin

JULY 18-20
Racquetball Northeast Grand
Prix (3)
Worcester Court Club
Tournament Director:
Dave Forsberg
Gold Star Blvd.
Worcester, MA
617-852-8209

Yogi Berra/Lite Beer Grand
Prix (3)
Yogi Berra's Hall of Fame
333 Gothic Plaza
RT. 46 West
Fairfield, NJ 07006
Pete Talbot
201-227-4000

AUGUST 22-24
Racquetball Northeast Grand
Prix (3)
Playoff-Braintree
Tournament Director:
Jim Daly
288 Wood Road
Braintree, MA
617-848-8080

Ocean City Outdoor Courts
Maryland Outdoor
Championships
Contact Tom Whipple for details

SEPTEMBER 26-28
Yogi Berra/Lite Beer Grand
Prix (3)
Yogi Berra's Hall of Fame
333 Gothic Plaza
RT 46 West
Fairfield, NJ 07006
201-227-4000

Jim Power
45 Vanderbilt Ave.
Norwood, MA 02062
617-769-2340

Masters Singles Invitational
Tournament 45(4)
The Atlas Health Club
901 Hotel Circle South
San Diego, CA 92138
Tournament Director:
Dr. Bud Muehleisen
714-298-9321

Central Florida Outdoor
Racquetball
Championships (2)
Susan St. Complex
Leesburg, FL
Steve Burton
904-357-7340 (home)

6th Annual Tornado Alley
Racquetball Classic
Wichita Falls YMCA (Central)
9th and Austin
Wichita Falls, TX
Ron Watkins
817-723-0811

Ektelon/Perrier Racquetball
Championships (3)
Playoff Racquetball/Handball
Club
7 Reservoir Rd.
Beverly, MA 01915
Jim McElvenny
617-927-0920

Ektelon/Perrier
Green Spring Racquet Club
Falls and Valley Roads
Lutherville, MD 21093
Gary Zipper
301-821-5683

Dane Cornblath
317-257-3261

Utah State Championship (2)
Town & Country Racquetball
Club
2250 S. 800 West
Woodcross, Utah 84087
Paul Bowman
801-298-3231

New York State Championship
(2)
Niagra Falls Racquetball Club
1340 Military Rd.
Niagra Falls, NY 14304
Joe Tyree 716-297-8982

Ohio State Championship (2)
The Backwall Cleveland
Racquetball Club
Interstate 271 at Rockside Rd.
Cleveland, OH
Jerry Davis 216-751-5575

Ektelon/Perrier
Dale's Courts
11301 West 88th Street
Overland Park, KS 66214
Rick Newcomer 913-888-9247

Ektelon/Perrier
Schoeber's Racquetball Spa
7012 Realm Dr.
San Jose, CA 95119
Rick Smith
408-629-3333

MARCH 6-9
Ektelon/Perrier
Racquetball World
10115 Talbert Ave.
Fountain Valley, CA 92708
Ron Cathro and Carol Malikow
714-962-1374

Wichita, KS 67203
Dewane Grimes
316-945-8331

Colorado State Championship
(2)
International Athletic Center
1630 Welton
Denver, CO 80202
Dan Isacson & Steve Krum
303-623-2100

MARCH 8-9
New Hampshire State
Championship (2)
Off The Wall Racquet Club
596 West Hollis St.
Nashua, NH 03060
Ina Iverson
603-889-5520

MARCH 13-16
Supreme Courts Open (3)
Supreme Courts Racquet and
Health Club
4100 Prospect Ave. N.E.
Albuquerque, NM 87110
Clay Childs 505-266-7781

MARCH 14-16
Bay State Open (3)
Worcester Court Club
Worcester, MA
Tournament Director:
Howie Coleman
617-852-8209

Holabird Club
Maryland Racquetball
Association Sanctioned Open
Tournament Director:
Tom Whipple

March of Dimes Benefit
Tournament (3)
Greenfield Racquetball Club
Lancaster, PA
Elaine Lee
717-392-4194

Craig Harding
701-746-4486

Illinois State Championship (2)
Chalet Sports Core
8300 S. Wolf Rd.
Willow Springs, IL 60480
Ray Mitchell
312-745-9400

Nevada State Championship (2)
Supreme Courts
Las Vegas, Nevada
Bob Justice
702-873-5660

Oklahoma State
Championship (2)
Doubles in March
Singles in December
Contact Sid Shupack
918-749-5757

MARCH 26-30
Ektelon/Perrier
Denver Sporting Club
5151 DTC Parkway
Englewood, CO 80111
John Foust 303-779-0700

MARCH 27-30
Ektelon/Perrier
Off The Wall Racquetball Club
21211 Drake Rd.
Strongsville, OHIO 44136
Gene Joy
216-238-8006

Ektelon/Perrier
Roseville Racquet Club
2400 West County Road D
Roseville, MN 55112
Paul Ikier
612-633-9333

Meadeville Racquet Club Open
(3)
Racquet Club of Meadeville
Meadeville, PA
Shirley Smith
814-724-3524

Michigan State
Championship (2)
Date not available at press time
Central Michigan University
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan
Bryan Churnside
517-773-9678

APRIL 17-20
Ektelon/Perrier
Arizona Athletic Club
1425 W. 14th St.
Tempe, AZ 85281
David Michael
602-894-2281

APRIL 18-20
Intercollegiate
Championships
Site to be announced

Ektelon/Perrier
The Highpoint Racquet Club
1 Highpoint Dr.
Chalfont, PA 18914
Alan Koth and Robin Mingey
215-822-1951, 822-2953

***Azalea Festival Racquetball**
Championship (3)
Cardinal Court Club
Virginia Beach, VA
Dan Samek

Paul Henrickson
Tennis Drive
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
617-845-1001

MAY 10-11
Downtown Racquet Club
Contact Tom Whipple
for details

MAY 22-26
AARA National Singles
The Sportrooms
Coral Gables, FL

JUNE
Georgia State
Championship (2)
Early June, contact
Jim Cullen for details
404-256-2120

JUNE 13-15
South Carolina State
Championship (2)
Charleston Racquet Neutilus
Center
Charleston, SC
Jerry Rogers
803-571-1020

JUNE 20-22
Racquetball Northeast Grand
Prix (3)
Racquettime
Tournament Director
Rich Derby
200VFW Parkway (Rear)
Dedham, MA 02026
617-828-7632

AARA Juniors' Regionals
Sites to be announced

NOVEMBER 14-16
Yogi Berra/Lite Beer Grand
Prix (3)
Yogi Berra's Hall of Fame
333 Gothic Plaza
RT. 46 West
Fairfield, NJ 07006
Pete Talbot
201-227-4000

*State Championships not listed
were not available by press time,
please contact your local state
director for details (see p. 9)*

*AARA sanctioned tournaments in
bold*
(1)-1st level tournament
(2)-2nd level tournament
(3)-3rd level tournament
(4)-4th level tournament
(5)-5th level tournament
(6)-6th level tournament

CALENDAR

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(cont. from p. 22)

with it. Not just sprained ankles, muscle pulls and such, but really heavy stuff. Pamphlets available in one chiropractor's office, for example, list 30 or more diseases not usually associated with chiropractic attention, with the clear implication that chiropractic can alleviate or at least mitigate the symptoms of such ailments, including asthma, arthritis, migraine headaches, cancer, heart disease and so on. Says Tom Rupley, "I've seen some amazing results with asthma and allergy patients. I had a cancer patient who became a lot more comfortable as a result of chiropractic care in the weeks before he died."

Such statements positively enrage most medical doctors, who maintain the basic premise of chiropractic — subluxation (shifting of the vertebrae of the spinal column) — is such a rare occurrence that no responsible practitioner can base a system of treatment on it. It's also this claim to wider areas of treatment that leads the medical establishment to brand chiropractors as "witch doctors," "quacks" and just general garden-variety charlatans. When the AMA breaks out its big guns, in short, things can get pretty rough.

Still, chiropractors seem to be bearing up well under this fusillade from the medical establishment, and in some cases, even prospering. Now there is talk about setting up a "network" of chiropractors to serve racquetball players. "Harry [Paritsky] wants to create a network of chiropractors in the Northeast to serve the special interests of the racquetball community," Tom Rupley says of his colleague. "They can get in touch with [Paritsky] at the Westbury Chiropractic Center, 990 Westbury Road, Westbury, N.Y., 11590 (516-997-5070), or at the Bayshore Chiropractic Center, 1334 Elayne Avenue, Bayshore, N.Y., 11706 (516-665-6468). Also, chiropractors in the New England area can contact me for further information at 120R School Street, Lexington, Mass., 02173 (617-861-6334)."

For the time being, then, the struggle between chiropractic and the medical establishment continues, and athletes will have to decide for themselves just who's right in this controversy; they will have to decide if consulting a chiropractor is right for them. The chiropractors, for their part, are confident that time is on their side. "You can't argue with success," says Tom Rupley. "Chiropractic works . . . As more and more athletes find help in chiropractic, I'm sure they will seek this alternative [for treatment], rather than popping pills and dousing their bodies with chemicals." ■

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TUFFS

The toughest shoe in racquetball

Actors Are People Too

AND THIS ONE LOVES RACQUETBALL

The Time: Two and a half years ago

The Place: Florida

The Reason: To make a 'good impression' on his girl friend's mom

The Result: A love affair with... racquetball!

"My girlfriend's mother was the Florida state 3-wall champ," recalls Michael Young, whose current role as emcee on the popular teenage television talk show *Kids Are People Too* earned him an Emmy for the '78-'79 season. He's tall, dark and extremely good-looking. And what's more important, he's thoroughly hooked on racquetball.

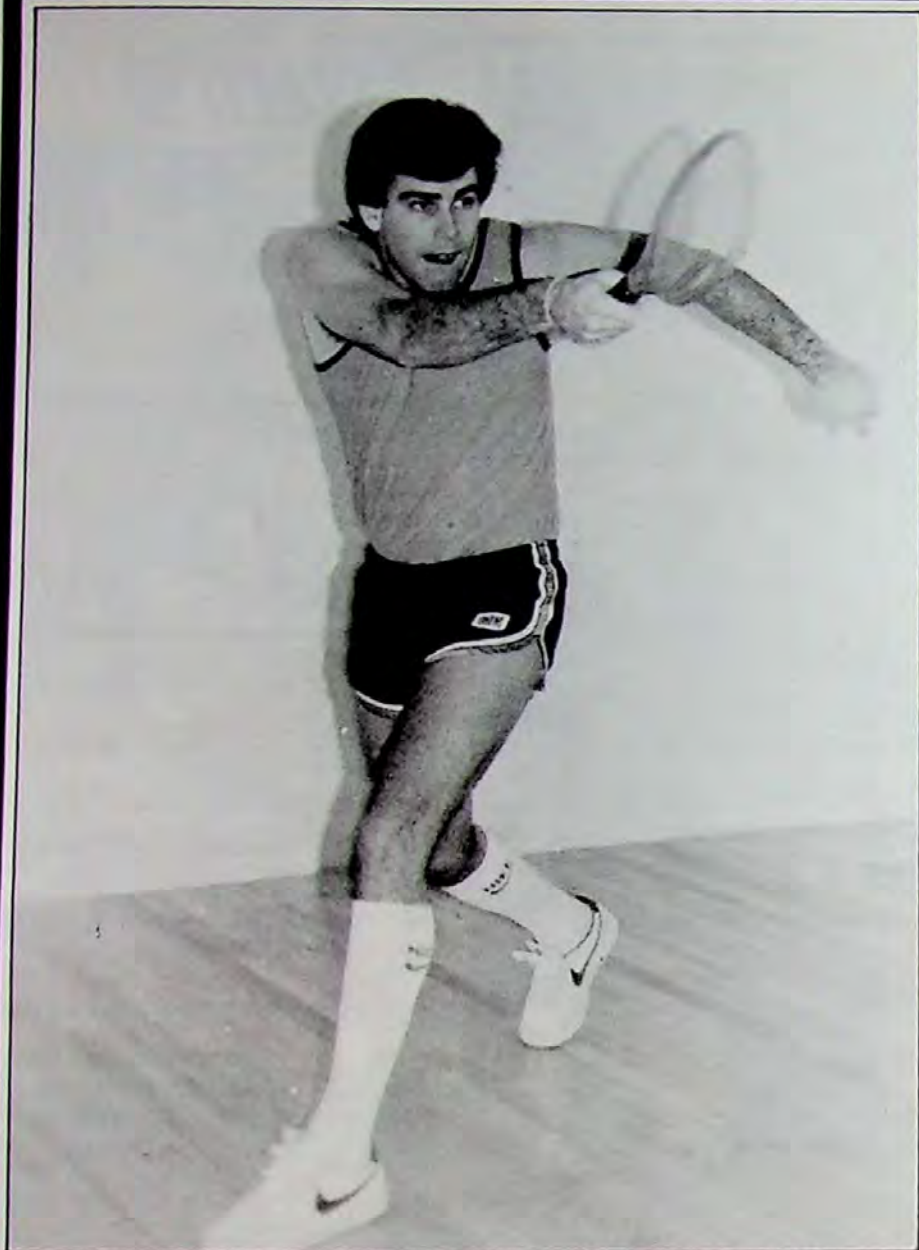
"I watched her play racquetball," Young says, "and it was just fascinating! So I got her to teach me the game and wound up staying in Florida an extra week after my girl friend had returned to New York City...."

Why racquetball instead of, say, tennis?

Jill Williams is a free lance writer and photographer living in Los Angeles.

BY
JILL WILLIAMS





Looks like he's hit one of his famous 'squeakers.'

"I remember back when I was in college (Auburn University), I had a fraternity brother who was really into tennis. He was a close friend of Chris Evert's brother and they played together practically everyday. Well, this one time—just to be polite, really—I agreed to play with him. But it didn't do anything for me. I didn't care enough to try anymore.

"You see, I'm one of those people that, when I get exercise, I like to get it all at once. I really like to exert myself. Just getting a little bit of exercise—like spending a couple of hours on the tennis court—isn't enough. I much prefer going into a racquetball court and sweating my brains out in a shorter amount of time, because then I feel like I've *really* pushed myself and worked

very hard. It gives me the maximum amount of exercise in the minimum amount of time."

Enthusiasm. Energy. No wonder kids love this easygoing fellow who has had such illustrious guests on his show (see sidebar on page 31) as Pearl Bailey, Toni Tennille, Billy Carter, Reggie Jackson, Ralph Nader and even Dracula! He seems to gobble up every experience life offers with a positive mental attitude, turning even the negatives into "learning events." Take his one and only injury on the racquetball court, for instance....

"I got hit in the eye with the ball," Young says with a laugh, tossing a thick strand of black hair out of his face. "You see, instead of keeping my eyes on that

front wall, I was busy turning around to see how my opponent was doing. I'd hit what I considered to be one helluva great shot and I wanted to watch him squirm; I wanted to enjoy the agony of his defeat. Instead, he hit a line drive right in my eye! I learned two things from that. Now, in a very strenuous game, I wear eyeguards. And I always keep my eyes on that front wall."

But Young has his racquetball talents, too. "The one shot that I do well is what I call a 'squeaker.' It's where I hit the ball from the back of the court, usually one of those shots my partner is *sure* I can't return, and it'll seem to take forever before it touches the front wall—about an eighth of an inch from the floor! Then, of course, it drops dead and my opponent can't possibly hit it. That's why I call it a 'squeaker.' Because it just barely squeaks through."

When he's not on the racquetball court, Young's days are filled with TV tapings, lining up new guests, auditioning for other roles (he began his video career as a spokesman for a certain brand of jockey shorts and the commercial was so popular that it ultimately netted him in excess of \$30,000) and in general getting his name and face known in Hollywood circles. One of the best ways for a young, up-and-coming star to do this is by playing in various celebrity athletic competitions such as the "Steve Garvey Celebrity Racquetball Tournament," held at the Warner Racquet Club in Woodland Hills, Calif. It's an annual benefit held to raise money for multiple sclerosis and private citizens pay for the privilege of shellacking some of Tinseltown's more agile actors and actresses.

"I played these four 'A' players and got thoroughly trounced," Young recalls. "One beat me 21-1, the second beat me 21-2 and the other two beat me 21-0. I didn't even get one point off 'em! But you know something? I probably learned more that day, with those four guys, than I ever learned with anybody.

"One of them told me, 'Your major problem is that you have a terrifically powerful swing, or wrist action, but you're hitting the ball too far back. If you move into the ball so that your body's forward motion gets it, it'll be much easier for you and that swing of yours will really pay off.' That was the first thing I learned.

"The second fellow noticed that I was serving from the sides. I'd serve first from the left side, and then from the right, and then from the left and so on. He said, based on the kind of serve I had, that I could still be achieving those same serves by serving from the middle. So I gave it a shot and he was 100 per cent right. Now I serve from the middle

always."

Has Young any other words of racquetball wisdom to impart as a result of his "celebrated defeat?"

"You bet I have. With these four guys I noticed that no matter what kind of shot I did, they would invariably hit the ceiling, and then always manage to get me out of the key position, that center position. By hitting the ball up towards the ceiling so that it bounces real high—and you have to go back for it—they would force me to lose that key spot on the court every time out."

Aside from the pointers he got from his girl friend's mom (he has since ceased to date the girl, who refused to play racquetball with him after his Florida

sojourn because he got so good) and the four 'A' players in the Steve Garvey tournament, Young is also very much in favor of getting professional advice, i.e., taking lessons.

"I've taken a great many lessons," confesses the Alabama-born athlete. "But I'm at the point now where I've been working on my eye-and-hand coordination. Developing that and building up my stamina. Once I've got that down, then I plan to go back and learn the little bitty tricks that only a pro can teach you. When it comes to racquetball, you can always learn more!"

As a hero for the young video watching audience, does Young recommend

this fast-paced sport to his teenage followers?

"You bet I do! I think it's a terrific sport for young people because it's such a well-rounded sport. It's the one thing I've found where every single muscle in my body gets a good workout in a relatively short amount of time. And that's why I do it."

"Another thing I like about racquetball is that women can become quite proficient at it. I can take a date, for example, who doesn't know how to play, and teach her the game very quickly. Some of the greatest players I've seen have been women, including my ex-girl friend's mother who I *still* can't beat!!!" ■

Kids Say the Darndest Things

When *Kids Are People Too* was in the development stage at ABC, executive producer Larry Einhorn was given specific instructions:

"They told me to make it a combination of *Mike Douglas* and *Good Morning, America* for kids," he recalls.

And that's just what Einhorn did. The show is set up like Carson or Merv or any number of adult talk shows—in that the guests usually sit on a couch, chatting informally about this or that. But the emphasis, of course, is on teenage topics like school, grades, coping with divorce (from a kid's viewpoint), how to be motivated, sports, etc.

There is also a segment, not unlike the format for the syndicated talk show *Donahue*, where the audience gets a chance to ask the guest questions.

"The thing that's really great about those 'press conferences,'" says Einhorn, "is that the questions are really what teenagers want to know. I mean, even though I'm the father of three teenagers, I can't always be sure my head is in the right place as far as what kids want to know about a certain guest's background or whatever. . . . There's nothing like kids asking the questions themselves, to keep the show honest."

Sometimes, however, the questions are *too* honest!

"Probably the funniest Q&A segment we ever had," laughs Einhorn, "was when Lawrence Hilton-Jacobs (who played 'Boom Boom' Washington on ABC's since-

cancelled *Welcome Back, Kotter* series) was on the show with his mom. Well, this one kid pipes up with: 'Did you ever catch your son doing it with a girl?' Naturally, the audience howled. But by the time we aired it, the censors decided to cut out the words 'doing it', so the question went: 'Did you ever catch your son with a girl?' Somehow, the audience's wild laughter to such a tame question seemed out of place. But we knew why they were laughing, all right! A really funny moment, believe me."

When asked to name his "most memorable question," host Michael Young had a difficult time limiting his choices. But the repartee between Cheryl Tiegs and one youth on the show was certainly an amusing moment.

"One of the first questions out of [this] kid's mouth," Young recalls, "was: 'How did you like posing in the fishnet bathing suit?' And Cheryl Tiegs said: What were *you* doing looking at that?' And the kid said: 'I'm no fool.'"

"Another one that I particularly remember is a segment with Henry Winkler," Young says, flashing a smile. "Now usually our audience is between the ages of 12 to 15. But every now and then a little kid'll sneak in. And a little black girl, I'd say she couldn't have been more than six or seven, raised her hand and Henry came over to her and said: 'What's your question?' And she said: 'If you could change the world, what would you do?' And Henry

said: 'I'd start with a hug from you.' It was a real cute little moment."

But not all the segments are fun or cute. Some are poignant, like two deaf teenagers teaching sign language to the audience. Others are educational, like Ron Palillo, who played 'Horseshack' on *Welcome Back, Kotter*, confessing that, as a kid, he hated Shakespeare but now he loves acting in things like "Hamlet," and "Merchant Of Venice," which he then proceeds to demonstrate.

"The thing about *Kids Are People Too*," says Flo Selfman, a Hollywood publicist, "is that it's not only for kids, but adults can watch it, too. I find that the guests are much more natural on the show than on, let's say, *Merv* or *Dinah*! On those shows, they're trying to promote an image, or impress, or whatever. But with Michael, they seem far more relaxed and open. And also, it's because they're talking to kids. Not that they're talking down to them or anything... It's just that they're not as concerned with impressing them."

Whether it's the show's content, or concept, or the ability of host Michael Young to relate so well to teenagers, *Kids Are People Too* is a tremendous success. Sent out over the ABC network, well over 150 stations across the country air the show each Sunday morning. And judging from the awards the show keeps garnering—The Film Advisory Board's Seal Of Excellence is only the latest of a flock of honors—it's a good bet that *Kids Are People Too* will continue to delight audiences with its special brand of talk and humor. ■

AARA NATIONAL AMATEUR RANKINGS

MENS OPEN

1.	T. Ranker	PA	180
2.	J. Cullen	CT	120
3.	P. Paneralla	CT	120
4.	G. Sierra	VA	100
5.	R. Capitanelli	NJ	95
6.	M. Luciw	MA	90
7.	J. Dunlap	TN	80
8.	M. McDounough	MA	80
9.	D. Janelle	MA	80
10.	C. Matheson	PA	60
11.	G. Merritt	TX	60
12.	B. Anderson	TN	50
13.	J. Bond	MA	50
14.	P. Brennan	MA	50
15.	B. Burnett	MA	50
16.	G. Cassidy	MA	50
17.	B. Daniel	MA	50
18.	E. Foley	MD	50
19.	O. Forraker	DE	50
20.	B. Isom	VA	50
21.	J. Kwartier	OK	50
22.	M. Lacy	TX	50
23.	M. Levine	NY	50
24.	D. Matheson	OR	50
25.	M. Mijehovich	TN	50
26.	V. Niedermeyer	NY	50
27.	T. Podgorny	NY	50
28.	H. Powell	PA	50
29.	K. Vantrease	OH	50
30.	J. Jones	PA	45
31.	A. Plummer	PA	45
32.	K. Blackmon	TN	40
33.	D. Defilippis	NJ	40
34.	A. Demar	NJ	40
35.	P. Hennickson	MA	40
36.	M. Rapport	PA	40
37.	J. Schwartz	FL	40
38.	L. Banks	OR	30
39.	C. D'Amico	MO	30
40.	L. Fox	TX	30
41.	T. Fiorano	NC	30
42.	R. Gonzalez	NY	30
43.	S. Larrabee	MA	30
44.	F. Lesperance	MA	30
45.	M. Malowitz	TX	30
46.	M. Ray	TX	30
47.	C. Selo	TX	30
48.	J. Thoni	TN	30
49.	W. Vincent	GA	30

WOMENS OPEN

1.	B. Burkett	FL	110
2.	J. Simon	PA	105
3.	P. Mattson	PA	100
4.	C. Baxter	PA	80
5.	K. Borgia	NJ	80
6.	M. Copley	TN	80
7.	M. Lynch	MA	80
8.	P. McKinney	NY	80
9.	M. Cluess	ME	70
10.	E. Ehrlich	ME	70
11.	S. Fanning	TN	65
12.	B. Bludeau	TX	60
13.	J. Adler	PA	50
14.	M. Callahan	MA	50
15.	G. Ferguson	TN	50
16.	D. Henry	MI	50
17.	L. Kennedy	GA	50
18.	C. McKinney	NC	50
19.	J. Myers	NC	50
20.	J. Segall	TX	50
21.	A. Wirick	MO	50
22.	C. Alba	MA	40
23.	E. Brubaker	PA	40
24.	J. Marshall	GA	30
25.	J. Ceglinski	IL	30
26.	J. Dalton	PA	30
27.	S. Flanary	MI	30
28.	S. Gross	TX	30
29.	M. Gwinn	NC	30
30.	S. McClintock	MS	30
31.	S. Rudyz	NJ	30
32.	N. Taylor	RI	30
33.	J. Wade	MA	30
34.	S. Wilson	PA	30
35.	L. Zarfos	PA	30
36.	T. Hajar	PA	25
37.	K. Kimerling	ON	25
38.	D. Allen	ON	25
39.	B. Bellini	NY	20
40.	D. Bohling	TX	20
41.	L. Chapa	TX	20
42.	L. Hardison	NC	20
43.	V. Lucue	CT	20
44.	C. Mathieu	MO	20
45.	M. Mook	MA	20
46.	P. Moore	OK	20
47.	D. Pallas	NY	20
48.	E. Zachary	GA	20
49.	M. Boulette	MA	19
50.	S. Glen	AL	15

MENS B

1.	T. Bevelock	PA	80
2.	G. Martinez	PA	65
3.	T. Chodosh	TX	55
4.	B. Denison	CA	50
5.	S. Emma	MA	50
6.	R. Englander	NJ	50
7.	B. Fye	OH	50
8.	M. Gardner	ON	50
9.	D. Habel	OR	50
10.	R. Huggins	MO	50
11.	B. Jackson	TN	50
12.	G. Lawson	KY	50
13.	T. McRae	RI	50
14.	E. Pita	RI	50
15.	R. Quartuccio	MA	50
16.	P. Scannell	MA	50
17.	D. Spear	MA	50
18.	S. Stevens	AR	50
19.	B. Titus	GA	50
20.	M. Tuminiello	TX	50

21.	*B. Welay	NJ	50
22.	M. Stone	MA	40
23.	J. Yoh	MA	40
24.	M. Chabot	RI	35
25.	C. Bar	OH	30
26.	G. Buldor	OR	30
27.	E. Chandler	MA	30
28.	R. Coleman	AL	30
29.	J. Gonzalez	TX	30
30.	T. Griffing	TX	30
31.	L. Harris	TN	30
32.	M. Hayman	TX	30
33.	B. Hendricks	TN	30
34.	D. Honer	MO	30
35.	K. Huehlfeld	TX	30
36.	C. Kessinger	TX	30
37.	G. Lowry	PA	30
38.	R. Mannino	NY	30
39.	B. Oliver	VA	30
40.	D. Phillips	VA	30
41.	L. Shmuelson	VA	30
42.	R. Wright	DE	30
43.	G. Zeiden	TX	25
44.	R. Martinez	TX	20
45.	K. Clark	MA	20
46.	M. Chambless	GA	20
47.	F. Davis	AR	20
48.	J. Casco	NY	20
49.	J. Bartok	OH	20
50.	D. Anderson	MO	20

WOMENS B

1.	*T. Clark	AL	100
2.	*V. Daily	AR	80
3.	*C. Grazer	PA	80
4.	*R. Callahan	GA	70
5.	*J. Skirbol	PA	70
6.	*S. Belanger	ME	50
7.	*C. Chaney	TN	50
8.	*D. Dillard	TX	50
9.	*P. Porschner	PA	50
10.	*J. Johnson	MA	50
11.	*D. Koontz	IL	50
12.	*J. LaPointe	MS	50
13.	*N. McCluskey	PA	50
14.	*P. Plumbo	NJ	50
15.	*M. Shiroky	NY	50
16.	*S. Brem	PA	30
17.	K. Campbell	GA	30
18.	S. Feldman	TX	30
19.	S. Suidry	MA	30
20.	N. Hahn	MA	30
21.	L. Leberman	MA	30
22.	K. Strandskv	NV	30
23.	K. Stuk	MO	30
24.	M. Sullivan	TX	30
25.	R. Swayze	PA	30
26.	P. West	MD	30
27.	B. Yospe	AR	30
28.	G. Young	GA	25
29.	L. Jones	NY	20
30.	B. Byk	NY	20
31.	K. Cambre	GA	20
32.	L. Castles	PA	20
33.	K. Curtis	AR	20
34.	M. Crowell	PA	20
35.	K. Curtis	OK	20
36.	S. Dixon	OK	20
37.	S. Fischer	PA	20
38.	D. Isbell	TN	20
39.	E. McCadden	CA	20
40.	D. Porter	TX	20
41.	L. Petrowski	TX	20
42.	D. Rapp	TX	20
43.	S. Rasmussen	NY	20
44.	M. Rueben	PA	20
45.	C. Ching	PA	15
46.	E. Ferencz	PA	15
47.	L. Rinker	PA	15
48.	J. Ryan	PA	15
49.	D. Williams	MA	15
50.	D. Yancey	AR	15

MENS C

1.	*H. Blake	TX	58
2.	*R. Hyman	MA	55
3.	*J. Brunthaver	AR	50
4.	*N. Campbell	FL	50
5.	*D. Darrah	OH	50
6.	*J. Day	OH	50
7.	*D. Diemidio	PA	50
8.	*J. Eftekhar	TX	50
9.	*K. Johnson	OR	50
10.	*D. Kwikus	MA	50
11.	*T. McGrattan	ON	50
12.	*G. Porterfield	MO	50
13.	*J. Roberts	TN	50
14.	*J. Wilson	MA	50
15.	*P. Wilson	TN	50
16.	J. Twhig	MA	40
17.	S. Brewer	TX	30
18.	T. Colby	TN	30
19.	R. Becker	OR	30
20.	F. Bowler	ON	30
21.	N. Desport	OH	30
22.	J. Jortner	TX	30
23.	A. Leteri	NY	30
24.	K. Lowey	MO	30
25.	W. Reichart	PA	30
26.	R. Robinson	MA	30
27.	J. Smelser	AR	30
28.	S. Stokes	GA	30
29.	B. Stricharz	MA	30
30.	D. Williams	MA	30
31.	E. Urian	PA	25
32.	B. Armantrout	MD	20
33.	R. Aronowitz	TX	20
34.	F. Bernhard	PA	20
35.	E. Beyers	MO	20
36.	D. Couture	RI	20
37.	J. Graham	OK	20
38.	T. Jortner	TX	20
39.	J. Kehoe	TX	20
40.	J. Morante	FL	20
41.	E. Ortiz	NY	20
42.	B. Palmer	CT	20
43.	M. Parent	MA	20

44.	J. Watts	AR	20
45.	C. Wilson	ON	20
46.	S. Levy	ON	15
47.	L. Janes	TX	15
48.	M. Skolnik	TX	15
49.	R. Tabor	MA	15
50.	S. Bell	AR	15

WOMENS C

1.	C. Austin	TX	60
2.	*L. Alexander	TN	50
3.	*P. Corcoran	TX	50
4.	*B. Fitzgerald	TX	50
5.	*C. Goellus	NJ	50
6.	*C. Jewett	MA	50
7.	*J. Lander	CT	50
8.	*K. Lange	TN	50
9.	*M. O'Hearn	ON	50
10.	*L. Preston	ON	50
11.	*S. Rauch	AR	50
12.	*B. Scott	MO	50
13.	*M. Tiller	FL	50
14.	*J. VanBartheld	NY	50
15.	M. A. Aquadro	FL	30
16.	B. Bell	FL	30
17.	Donna Benoit	MA	30
18.	Dorothy Benoit	MA	30
19.	K. Bremer	MO	30
20.	M. Gentile	FL	30
21.	H. Hot	TN	30
22.	C. Jones	AR	30
23.	A. Laloi	MA	30
24.	S. Newsome	ON	30
25.	L. Robson	ON	30
26.	C. Tinker	OR	30
27.	B. Buringame	MA	20
28.	A. Elia	NJ	20
29.	L. Furderburk	AL	20
30.	C. Gaurtreaux	TX	20
31.	C. Giroul	MA	20
32.	F. Houton	CT	20
33.	D. Kelly	TX	20
34.	K. LeGrand	TX	20
35.	J. Lynau	PA	20
36.	F. Moulton	MA	20
37.	P. Savage	MA	20
38.	J. Stacy	OR	20
39.	J. Stuh	OR	20
40.	W. Weir	OR	20
41.	M. White	ON	20
42.	D. Wood	MO	20
43.	D. Booker	NJ	15
44.	S. Carlisle	FL	15
45.	S. Himebre	MA	15
46.	D. Jannelle	MA	15
47.	L. Kehoe	TX	15
48.	B. Kolb	PA	15
49.	S. Marynaski	MA	15
50.	M. Tabor	MA	15

MENS SENIORS

1.	J. Jordan	AL	100
2.	J. Sergeantanis	NJ	80
3.	R. Wherle	GA	70
4.	J. Nocera	CT	60
5.	K. Kachuk	TX	55
6.	W. Tanner	TN	50
7.	J. Soble	OH	50
8.	Powell	PA	50
9.	B. Pinola	MA	50
10.	W. Pierce	MA	50
11.	Mas	DE	50
12.	T. McKie	TX	50
13.	J. Larau	MA	50
14.	R. Hollowell	NC	50
15.	C. Garfinkel	NY	50
16.	M. Friedman	ME	50
17.	B. Fluehr	NY	50
18.	L. Lesperance	MA	50
19.	J. Armstrong	ON	50
20.	V. Oliver	GA	45
21.	H. Coleman	MA	34
22.	H. Burgess	MA	30
23.	J. Burke	OH	30
24.	J. Curriton	TN	30
25.	J. Ebbitt	TN	30
26.	L. Fonseca	NJ	30
27.	S. Garfallo	MA	30
28.	J. Jackman	PA	30
29.	C. Minor	MS	30
30.	J. Perry	TX	30
31.	R. Riley	FL	30
32.	A. Schattner	PA	30
33.	D. Sebolt	VA	30
34.	S. Tamre	ON	30
35.	D. Wagner	PA	30
36.	J. Aveni	TX	20
37.	M. Chamberlain	GA	20
38.	T. Cost	AL	20
39.	P. Crumney	MA	20
40.	T. Freshwater	NC	20
41.	B. Mark	CA	20
42.	F. Menendez	TN	20
43.	B. Sanders	OH	20
44.	F. Spina	ON	20
45.	T. Waltz	CT	20
46.	J. Watson	TX	20
47.	D. Bagby	TX	15
48.	J. Borlich	PA	15
49.	D. Cahill	MA	15
50.	J. Borlich	PA	15

WOMENS SENIORS

1.	D. Lahti	NY	50
2.	H. LaVenue	TN	50
3.	M. Bell	PA	30
4.	C. Willey	PA	30
5.	P. Caldwell	TN	20
6.	C. Hopson	PA	20
7.	T. Weener	TX	20
8.	A. Lindsay	PA	15
9.	H. Wright	PA	15
10.	F. Ragow	TX	10
11.	B. Trevor	TX	8
12.	J. Durham	TX	5
13.	M. Harris	Tx	3
14.	K. Heilman	TX	3
15.	K. Kendrick	TX	3
16.	J. Miquira	TX	3

T

TOURNAMENT

R

REPORT

Island Games

THE THIRD ANNUAL LONG ISLAND OPEN



Ruben Gonzalez (left) defeated Victor Niederhoffer (right) in the finals of the Men's Open Singles.

The Third Annual Long Island Open was a tournament of epic proportions, drawing 630 players from 11 states. There were 16 divisions, including a new bracket created to protect the true novice or C player from trophy hunters — Men's CC. Due to the enormous response, the tournament was held at two clubs, the Centre Court in Rockville Centre and the Universal Racquetball Club in Massapequa. The gathering was certainly as large as any tribal pow-wow held in the days when American Indians roamed the salty plains of Long Island.

One of the highlights of the tournament was the Men's Open Finals, which pitted Victor Niederhoffer, former squash sachem, against Ruben Gonzalez, former national handball chieftain. Niederhoffer and Gonzalez were not exactly strangers, as this match marked their fifth confrontation on the racquetball court.

Spectators debated whether Niederhoffer would add Gonzalez's scalp to his belt one more time. In previous clashes, Gonzalez had won only once. As he had been victorious over Gonzalez three times before, there ran a current of thought among observers that a finesse sharpshooter like Niederhoffer had the edge over the power player style of Gonzalez.

Those players who had witnessed last year's clash looked knowingly at one another when Jim Scheyer's name was third-seeded. Jim had wrested the number one slot in that tournament from Niederhoffer with his kill shots, graceful lobs and deer-like dexterity. "Since Niederhoffer is seeded number one and Gonzalez two, will third-seed Scheyer prove the planners wrong?" spectators wondered.

Whatever the outcome of the battle, Niederhoffer and Gonzalez, as well as

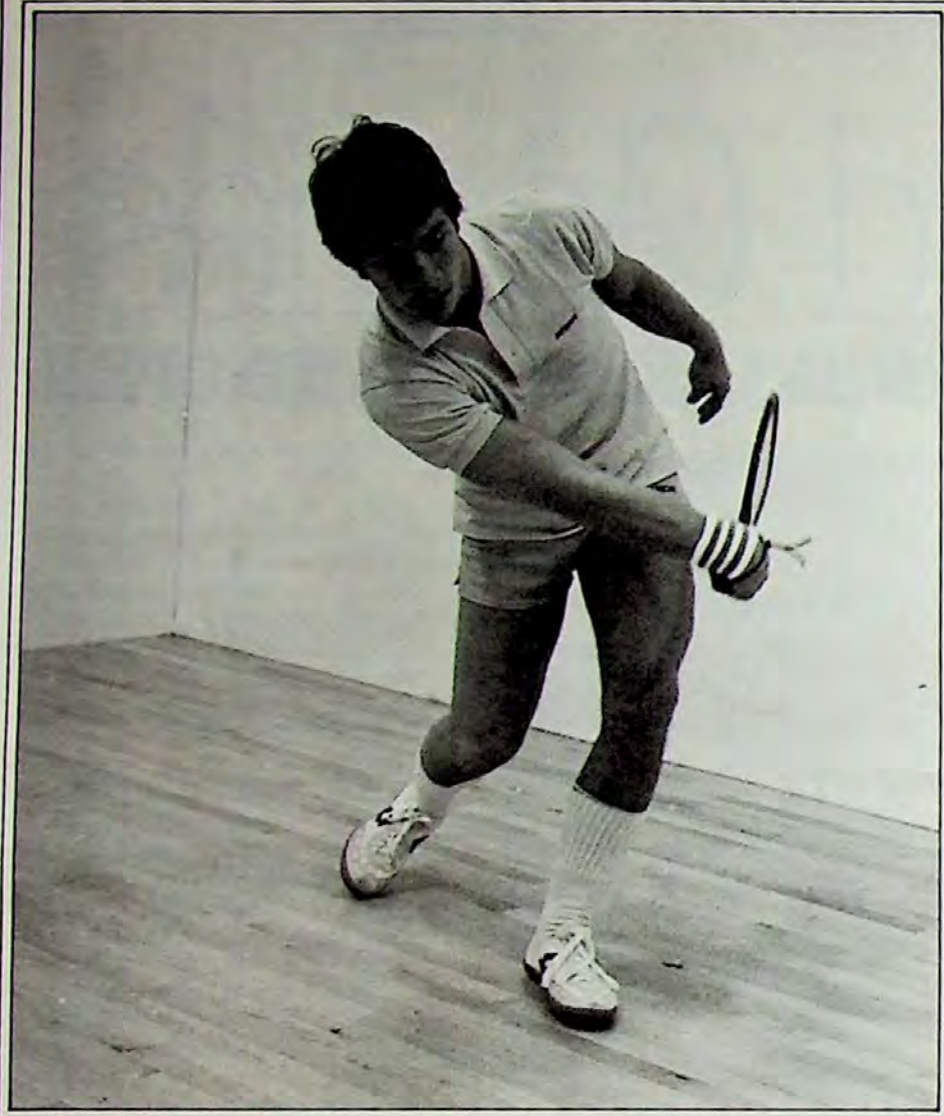
the other tournament participants, had some insurance, as there was medical advice at their disposal. Harry Paritsky, a chiropractor from Bayshore, Long Island, volunteered his services throughout the tournament. All three tournament coordinators, Al Seitelman, Mike Jones and Ron Forman, supported the innovative idea.

Men's Open Singles

In the first game of the finals in the Men's Open Singles, Vic Niederhoffer probed for weaknesses in Ruben Gonzalez's all-around game and took an early lead, which was trimmed to 11-9 by Gonzalez at mid-point. Gonzalez's skips and uncertainty about how to play the quasi-legal hinders displayed by lawyer Niederhoffer gave support to those who speculated finesse would outdo power. The first game ended with Niederhoffer holding off a determined comeback by the stoic Gonzalez, 21-13.

In game two, a more accurate Gonzalez bounded from side to side of the backcourt picking up gets, to the delight of the over-600 spectators at Centre Court's new side-and-back glass wall exhibition court. Instead of arguing about hinders, Gonzalez seemed to dig out returns from under Niederhoffer's heels. He forced Niederhoffer to change his style mid-way in the second game and, slowly, Gonzalez took over the lead. Manhattanite Niederhoffer sought relief in a time-out with the score at 12-10 Gonzalez, but not before gesturing to the referee that someone in the gallery was smoking a cigarette. Referee Charlie Bruno chastised the offending fan, to the crowd's amusement, and the cigarette was doused. Niederhoffer's hopes for a second game victory were also doused. Gonzalez turned in an impressive performance the rest of the game, allowing Niederhoffer only 11 points. Final score, 21-11.

Niederhoffer tried to slow the



Jim Scheyer, third place finisher in the Men's Open Singles.

tiebreaker down by lobbing more to Gonzalez's backhand, playing percentage racquetball, but he missed a few crucial opportunities as the score seesawed back and forth until the last five points.

The score at 11-10, his favor, Gonzalez picked up another point to make it 12-10. Again he turned it over, but Niederhoffer failed to capitalize on the opportunity. Gonzalez served and picked up another point on a kill shot in the corner. The crowd tensed, knowing the next moves were crucial. The score was now 13-10. Gonzalez scored again as he made an overhand tennis kill shot from backcourt, a shot that had eluded him in the first game.

At 14-10, Niederhoffer took over the serve, but again lost it on a back-and-forth rally which Gonzalez ended with a kill shot down the left wall. At this point Niederhoffer showed true sports-

manship. Since the referee's view was possibly blocked by both players after Gonzalez's kill shot, Niederhoffer unhesitatingly signaled he picked up the ball on two bounces.

The last rapid exchange ended as Gonzalez put it away to the accompanying cheers of the gallery. His victory over Niederhoffer cast doubt on the theory that a finesse player has an edge on a go-for-broke powerhouse like Gonzalez.

The match brought the tally in championships between these two east coast stars to Niederhoffer 3, Gonzalez 2. The next tournament should feed the campfires of controversy even more.

Jim Scheyer accepted a third place trophy when an ailing Art Diemar settled for fourth. In the quarterfinals, Diemar made an impressive showing over 16-year-old Charles Horton of Port

Chester, N.Y., 21-14, 21-5. Horton had beaten Gonzalez in the New York State Championships at Port Chester last April.

Women's Open Singles

In the Women's Open Finals, Marcy Lynch, who hails from Missouri, defeated Pennsylvania's Linda Kennedy in three hard-fought games, 21-18, 21-15, 15-8. Missourian Lynch met a scrappy Cindy Dalton along the way. "This was one of my toughest matches," said Lynch. "But the scores — 21-16, 21-9 — don't reflect that. She (Dalton) is tough."

Sue Wilson, of Brooklyn, N.Y., Marcy Lynch's doubles partner, went on to take first place in the consolation bracket.

Men's Open Doubles

A determined Art Diemar and Centre Court pro Dave Luft took the finals in the Men's Open Doubles in two games, beating last year's Long Island Open Singles champion Jim Scheyer and his partner Charles Horton of Port Chester, 21-6, 21-10. Scheyer and Horton had been matched by the tournament committee and had never played together.

Diemar, teaching pro at Racquetball Plus in New Jersey, had recovered from his defeat at Vic Niederhoffer's hands in the Men's Open Singles a few hours before. With Diemar on the left and Luft sizzling 'em in on the right, game one proved a breeze. Scheyer and Horton coordinated better in the second game, but they never could regain the momentum. In a grim, all-out battle by players in top condition — neither team took a time-out in the second game — Diemar and Luft won the match and the championship.

Third place in the doubles went to Rory 'The Sleeper' Burke and Victor Alvarez of Queens County, who defeated Long Islanders Tom Jaklitch and Brian Peterson. Burke was awarded his nickname by tournament coordinator Ron Forman after Burke's surprising advance to the quarters in the Men's Open Singles. "You'll be hearing more from Rory Burke," predicts Forman.

Women's Open Doubles

Playing a flawless defensive game, Karen Kimmerling and Debbie Pallas of New York City defeated Pennsylvania's Molly O'Brien and Linda Kennedy in the final round of the Women's Open Doubles.

The top-seeded local team of Mary Ann Cleuss and Sue Canarick met New Jersey's Linda Nastasi and Pam Perrotty in round one and went down to defeat in a fierce, three-game battle, 12-21, 21-14, 15-13. (Cleuss and Canarick, incidentally, made it to fourth place in the AARA's National Doubles Championships in Oklahoma City last September.) Nastasi and Perrotty took to the ceiling to thwart Cleuss and Canarick in a seesaw contest which left onlookers limp. Again, Ron Forman had a comment after the match, "A few crucial ceiling shot returns and Cleuss and Canarick would have won the tiebreaker."

Men's Seniors 35-and-over

Dark horse Dennis Landsberg of Rockville Centre whipped through to the Men's Seniors Finals, where he met the considerable skill of New Jersey's Bernie Kohut. Kohut had defeated a hard-hitting John Croke of Port Chester in the semis, 21-14, 21-7. Landsberg proved superior to Kohut, winning in three, 21-18, 13-21, 15-7.

Landsberg's victory in the semis over a tough Steve Schulman of Hartsdale, N.Y., hinted at his prowess, since Schulman had knocked out AARA executive director, Luke St. Onge, a formidable competitor, in the quarterfinals.

Men's Masters 45-and-over

Pete 'The Pro' Talbot breezed through the Men's Masters, hardly breaking a sweat until he met Fred Weber of New York in the finals. Talbot, pro at Yogi Berra's Hall of Fame Racquetball Club in Fairfield, N.J., dominated Weber in two games, 21-16, 21-14. Third place went to Long Island's George Pressely over a scrappy Walter Shur, but not until a tiebreaker pulled it out for Pressely, 13-21, 21-17, 15-7.

Ray Devine of Baldwin, Long Island, took first place in the consolation bracket.

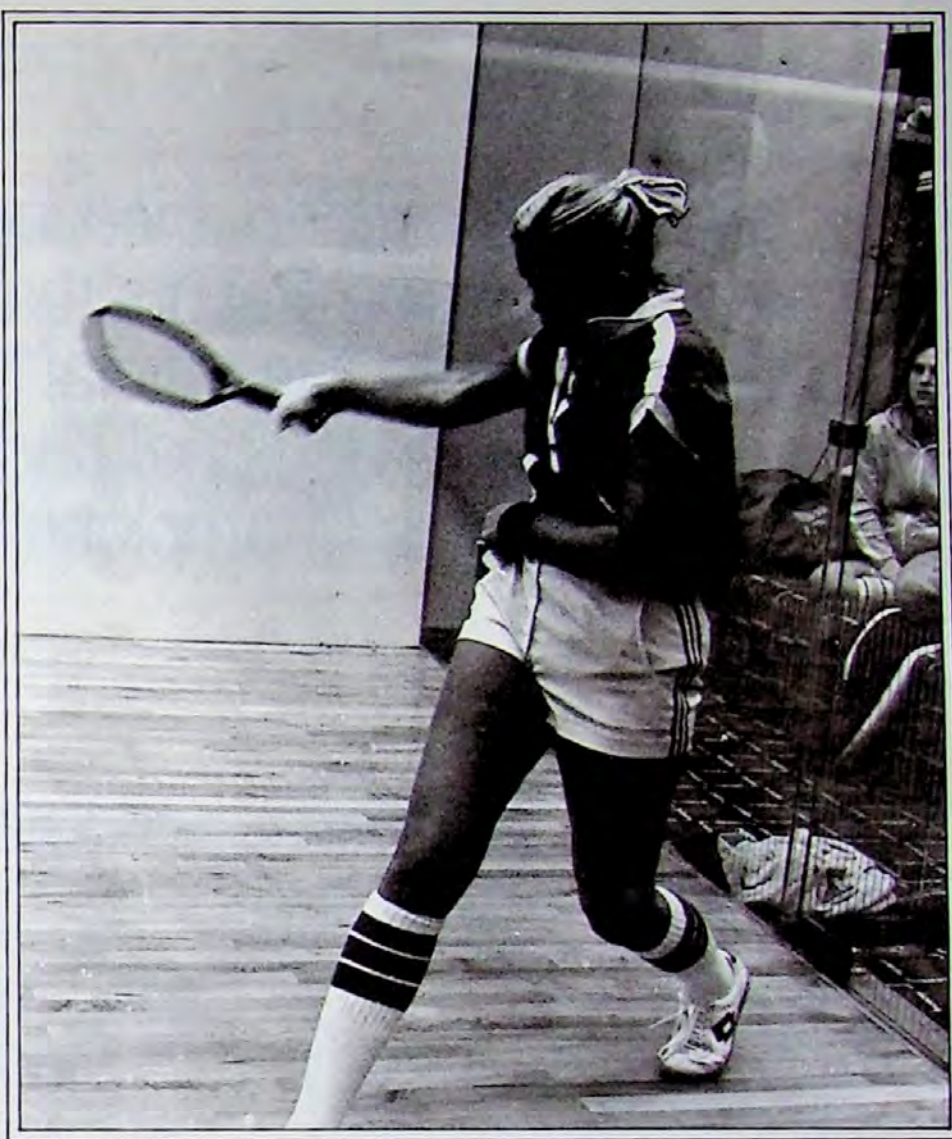
Other Results

Except for two events — Men's CC and the Women's Novice — Long Islanders dominated the other nine categories in the Long Island Open.

Jim Cascio of Bay Shore, Long Island, moved into future Open competition by holding off a strong showing by Vic Alvarez of Queens, N.Y., in the Men's B Finals 19-21, 21-4, 15-10.

In the Women's B Finals, Ginger Sotille of New Hyde Park, Long Island, took first place from Carol Nestle of West Islip, Long Island, in two games by scores of 21-11, 21-6.

Vic Vasquez of Brentwood, Long Island, beat Bill Pettas of Oceanside in two straight games



Mary Ann Cleuss (shown here) and her partner, Sue Canarick, lost a first round tiebreaker in the Women's Open Doubles.

in the Men's C Finals 21-6, 21-17.

Shoreham's Lynn Doerner defeated Kim Gloede of Garfield, N.J., in the Women's C Finals 21-14, 21-12.

In the Men's CC, Gene Aliberti of Port Chester, N.Y., zipped through a field of 78 entrants, winning first place from Rich Franzese of Sayville, Long Island, in two games 21-14, 21-4.

Bill Gray of West Islip lost to Steve Ciliadakis of Stony Brook, Long Island, in the Men's Novice, but not before Ciliadakis had to take it in a tough tiebreaker that ended in a score of 19-21.

In the Men's B Doubles, Perry Barsky and Scott Pall of Massapequa crushed fellow Massapequians John Mascindaro and Conrad Marsicano.

Lynn Withers of Queens, N.Y., upset local favorite Caroline Jaeger of Holbrook, Long Island, in the Women's Novice.

In the Men's C Doubles, Joe Rizzo of Glan Cove, Long Island, and Bill Pettas overcame strong competition from Ed Shipp and Steve Bernardi of the Bronx.

Pat Scott of Centereach, Long Island, and Lynn Doerner walloped Karen Coburn of Peekskill, N.Y., and Jean Endee of Yonkers in the Women's C Doubles Finals.

Time Out Many Thanks To:

Vittert for sponsorship of the 1979 Long Island Open. Jim and Bill Farrell, owners of Centre Court and Universal Racquetball Clubs, the host facilities. Mike Jones, Ron Forman, Frank Dolan and Chris Lowthian, who helped schedule matches and keep a smooth momentum to the three-day activities. Harry Paritsky, who gave freely of his chiropractic expertise to curious athletes and ailing players.

The staffs of Centre Court and Universal court clubs. All 512 entering teams (includes doubles), without whom there would have been no tournament. ■

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New Court Club Openings

Somersworth, New Hampshire

The Works, a racquetball and fitness club, opened last September in Somersworth. It features eight racquetball courts and an exercise room with a 10-station Universal weight machine. Locker rooms for both men and women are complete with saunas and whirlpools. Another amenity of the club is the lounge which serves beer, wine, juice and, according to the management, offers "a nutritious and tasty menu." The lounge also has a five-foot screen television.

For more information on The Works, contact manager Roy Pietro at 246 Route 16, Somersworth, New Hampshire 03878; 603-742-2163.

North Huntingdon, Pennsylvania

The Route 30 Racquetball Club, located at 12801 Route 30, N. Huntingdon, Penn., opened recently. The

club features six racquetball courts with glass back walls and a 120-foot open observation area for tournament viewing. The club also offers an exercise area, a lounge with a fireplace and juice bar, saunas and slimnastic classes.

Open seven days a week from 6 a.m. to 1 a.m., the club offers individual, family and student memberships. For more information, contact Dan Gallagher, manager, at 12801 Route 30, North Huntingdon, Penn., 15642; 412-863-8000.

Du Quoin, Illinois

The Du Quoin Racquetball Club opened last December. The new facility features four handball/racquetball courts, complete health spa equipment, saunas and whirlpools for both men and women, and a supervised nursery.

The owner and manager is Ms. Telvi Anheuser. Ms. Anheuser and club pro, Suzan McDonald, have worked diligently to put together a variety of activities for members, including classes in yoga, self-defense, massage and more. Of course, they also plan to provide lessons and classes in fitness and con-

ditioning.

Membership fees are \$45 for individuals and \$80 for families, per year. For further information, contact Telvi Anheuser at RR#4, Box 245-A, Du Quoin, Illinois 62832; 618-542-5411.

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

The Shaler Racquetball Courts, P.O. Box 116, Glenshaw, Penn. (a Pittsburgh suburb), 15116, is scheduled to open in mid-1980. The facility will have 10 handball/racquetball courts, one of which will be glass-backed for tournament viewing.

Each of the men's and women's locker rooms will have a steam room, whirlpool and sauna. In addition, a free supervised nursery will be available to members.

And, to make the place a little more cozy, members will be able to settle down around a fireplace in the lounge to relax after a strenuous match.

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COMEBACK TRAIL

RETURNING AFTER A LAYOFF

By Charlie Garfinkel

[EDITOR'S NOTE: It's easy for dedicated athletes in any field—from fencing to ballet to racquetball—to take their bodies for granted. So, when a serious injury occurs, the resulting emotional impact of weakened physical abilities may be as difficult to recover from as the injury itself. In a sense, it can be the ultimate challenge. The following is Charlie Garfinkel's personal account of his experience in returning to racquetball after a serious injury. No doubt, there will be something familiar about this story to any reader who has had to come back after a layoff.]

I know the feelings and anxieties that an injured player experiences. I was involved in a harrowing accident in the finals of a doubles tournament in Cleveland, Ohio a few years ago. This is what happened:

Chuck Wurzer and I were playing a local duo. On the very first point, the opponent on my right side hit a shot down the right sidewall that looked as if it would come off the back wall. It didn't. It was a shot that was impossible to get. Why I went for it, I'll never know. However, I streaked across the court in pursuit of the ball. As I gained momentum, I slipped, or tripped and went head and shoulder first into the wall. I felt a large lump on my head, but was relieved to discover it was only my nose. Seriously though, when I tried to lift my arm an excruciating pain shot through my shoulder. I couldn't even lift my arm.

At first I was panic stricken. I thought I had broken my arm. My scapula (shoulder blade) looked as if it would break through my skin at any moment. I was granted a 45-minute time-out. Of course, it didn't help. I had collided so heavily with the wall that I expected the worst. Unfortunately, my fears were soon confirmed.

The tournament director wanted to take me to a Cleveland hospital, but I

decided to drive back to Buffalo. When I arrived, I went immediately to the hospital for x-rays. The x-rays showed that I had a complete separation where the clavicle (collar bone) and the scapula are supposed to meet. This meant I needed surgery as soon as possible.

Since my wife's cousin is a doctor, we contacted him. He agreed to do the surgery. His name is Dr. Burt Kwasman, and I am forever indebted to him. He is a very fine orthopedic surgeon.

I know the anxieties an injured player feels; I was involved in a harrowing accident a few years ago.

They prepared me for surgery five days later. A nurse came in to shave around the aggravated area. (I got a little worried when she also threatened to shave my tongue.) Before I knew it, I was ready for surgery. In the operation a pin was placed in my shoulder, and was to remain there for six weeks. Although the doctor assured me that I'd be as good as new, I was still worried. I'd always heard that once you're cut, you're never the same.

As I lay in the hospital, I couldn't help thinking of the AARA Eastern Divisional Championships being played that very day. I also thought of any possible shot I might have at the International Championships going down the drain. I was terribly depressed. And, to make matters worse, I then started to worry about ever playing well again. I knew I'd play, but how well? Dr. Kwasman had assured me of complete recovery many times, yet the doubt lingered.

I was in the hospital three days, stayed home from my teaching job for a week,

and a week later had the stitches taken out. My arm was put in an elastic cast. My shoulder and arm looked like an emaciated toothpick. As I realized it would be another month before the pin would be removed, depression set in again. However, Dr. Kwasman assured me that I could do as much running and bicycling as I wanted, right away. He warned me, though, that I would have to put up with a lot of throbbing in my shoulder and arm. Still, his advice made me feel a lot better.

(Incidentally, if you have an injury, it is best to go to a doctor who knows about sports medicine. He will understand, as my doctor did, the necessity that the patient be allowed some form of exercise. Any dedicated athlete will only be the worse for wear—psychologically, if not physically—if he or she isn't allowed to maintain at least a minimum level of conditioning.)

It had now been 20 days since I was injured. It was time to begin the long road back. After talking with my doctor, I realized that the entire comeback was going to be up to me. My mental attitude and willingness to work hard to build up my shoulder and arm would be the main factors in my success. I finally stopped feeling sorry for myself. I was ready to get to work.

I was instructed to do an arm exercise 1,000 times a day. This meant about 45 minutes of flexing and unflexing per day. Because of the pin, I couldn't lift my arm very high, but I did the exercise religiously anyway. I also decided to do the running and bicycling.

The day after my stitches were out I went down to the Buffalo Athletic Club. Even though my arm was still in a sling, I was determined to run a slow half mile. I started very slowly. As I began the fifth lap, I couldn't believe the pain. My legs and stomach were killing me. I was short of wind and my ankles felt as if I'd suffered from shin splints all my life. As a person who has always tried to stay in top physical condition, I couldn't believe what was happening to my body. It was pretty easy to figure out, though. I was accustomed to working out five or six times a week, every week, for 18 years, and now I had been totally inactive for 20 days.

Fortunately, the human body is a truly amazing instrument. At the end of two weeks I was running a mile and a half a day. I was also riding a stationary bicycle two miles a day, and I had increased my arm exercise to an hour a day, (fifteen minutes, four times a day). These were

just the flexing exercises, of course, since my arm was still in a sling.

At the end of six weeks the pin was removed. Dr. Kwasman told me I could start swinging the racquet immediately, so I was on the racquetball court 45 minutes later. I was horrified when I looked at my arm. I had expected it to atrophy, but I wasn't prepared to see just how thin my arm had really become. However, I had been assured that my arm would be built up over a period of time, and that I could play again. As I swung at a forehand shot, my arm and shoulder felt very stiff but there was only a slight pain. I started to hit forehands at an easy pace. The shot felt very awkward. I then tried some backhands and was pleased that that shot, at least, felt better. Needless to say, it was a big confidence booster to have at least one shot feel good.

After 30 minutes of light hitting, I ran and did some exercises. When I was finished, my T-shirt felt unusually wet under my sweat shirt. When I took the T-shirt off, the upper right side was completely soaked with blood, and the incision was puffy. I was really scared.

I called Dr. Kwasman immediately and told him what had happened. He said, "Charlie, I took the pin out an hour and a half ago. You played and your shirt is soaked with blood. That's great! Now you stupid !?!, stay off the court until tomorrow. When I said immediately, I didn't mean IMMEDIATELY!"

Actually, I had done nothing wrong except work far too hard on my first day back. Each day after that I started to play a little more. My strength and mobility were minimal, but I had the doctor's assurance that the separation had healed and was set perfectly. So, after a week, I increased my court and exercise time to 2½ hours a day. I played at least 1½ hours every day for three weeks. Yet I was still having difficulty hitting my forehand fluidly, because the shoulder was stiff.

But since I had faithfully done my running and bicycling, and my flexing exercises, my stamina during this time was excellent. I had pushed myself as hard as I could, but my arm and shoulder still needed work. Because I don't believe in letting myself off lightly, I decided to play in an upcoming city doubles tournament. It was only one month from the day that the pin had been removed from my shoulder. Fortunately, my partner and I had an easy match. We played two more matches to make it to the



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finals. In the finals we won a hard-fought, three-game match that took two hours. I hit well off my backhand, but my forehand was still weak.

Two weeks later my partner and I won the state doubles tournament. My backhand was as good as ever, and at last my forehand was starting to recover. About a month later I won the city singles title in a hard-fought match against Paul Smaldone. My forehand still wasn't 100 per cent, but it was coming.

Although I played a few tournaments over the ensuing summer, it took another three months before my forehand was close to 100 per cent. Today, however, my arm and shoulder feel fine. Fortunately, I have had no further problems with the shoulder. It has been eight years since the injury, and my only reminder is an ugly scar.

If you are unfortunate enough to be laid up by an injury, many questions will be going through your mind. You'll wonder how long it will be before you can start working out again. If you've had surgery, you'll wonder if it was successful. You'll also wonder how long it will take for you to reach your pre-injury proficiency. You'll probably even wonder if you'll be able to play as well as you once did. Worst of all, you'll wonder if you'll ever be able to play again, period. So, if you find yourself in such a situation, here are a few pointers that I picked up during my own experience in dealing with an injury that might help you get through this difficult period:

1. Keep telling yourself you *will* play again, and just as skillfully as ever.
2. Listen to your doctor, but no one else. You'll get a lot of advice from many people, but no one knows more about your injury or operation than the doctor who treated you.
3. Work as hard, physically, as you can. You won't aggravate the injury (if your doctor has given his OK, that is).
4. Don't be concerned with winning or losing when you start to play again. Progress will come. (If you're really concerned about this, play people you know you can beat when you begin your comeback.)
5. Be understanding with your loved ones. Many anxieties can arise because of your depression and the time that is involved in your rehabilitation. I was fortunate that my wife was both comforting and supportive.
6. Most important of all—DON'T EVER GIVE UP! ■

WINNING POINTS

THE FOREHAND

BACK TO BASICS

By Michael Mjehovich

The forehand is the most neglected skill in racquetball. Since the basics are easily acquired, most students tend to neglect practicing this vital stroke. However, all racquetball players, from beginners to the advanced, can benefit by using the following forehand exercise.

Start with your stance six feet from both the back and sidewalls, on either the right side (for right-handed players) or left side (for left-handers). Position your body so that you are facing the closer sidewall. As in tennis and baseball, you will stand sideways in relation to the direction of the flight of the ball. This enables you to have better balance and, by using the proper body motion, you'll have more power with less effort.

Your feet should be spread apart, about shoulder width, as this will be the most comfortable stance. The left foot (if you are right-handed) will be slightly closer to the sidewall than the right, or "trail," foot. The toes of the back foot should be on a line with the instep of the forward foot. The knees should be comfortably bent.

The arm position, too, is very important. The racquet arm should be held back, perpendicular to the body. It should be extended, but not to the point that the elbow is in a locked position. Again, this position should be com-

fortable. Finally, to acquire the proper wrist position, point your racquet head to the ceiling. The racquet face (strings) will be pointing toward the sidewall.

Once you are in the proper position, you can begin to practice your forehand. To do this you should drop (not bounce) the ball from about chest level. Let the ball drop and wait for it to bounce and reach its peak. As the ball falls back to the floor, begin your step and swing. Done properly, contact will be made at about waist level (for beginners). Intermediate and advanced players will make contact as close to the floor as possible. Your swing should be one continuous motion, bringing your wrist from the "cocked" position behind you forward to contact with the ball. If your motion is fluid, your wrist will snap naturally at the point of contact. This will give you a consistent, powerful swing, with little muscle strain. After contact, you should continue the swing until your racquet has reached the opposite shoulder. This is a complete follow-through and is necessary for a fluid swing.

Consistency is the key factor in a good forehand. The object of the above practice drill is not to see how hard you can hit the ball, but to develop control and accuracy. You want to hit the ball solidly, so it hits the front wall at about

the same height at which you made contact. You want the ball to rebound to you (still in the same position on the court) within an arm's length of where you are standing. Remember not to strike the ball as it comes back to you. By dropping the ball each time you are using judgment and timing which will make your stroke more consistent and fluid. Your mistakes can be easily detected by using this drill repeatedly.

If the ball does not travel straight, but veers to the right (for right-handers), this is called slicing. In most cases, the way in which you dropped the ball is the problem. Do not drop the ball too close to your body, as you must allow for body movement when swinging. Hold the ball at a 45-degree angle from your body just before dropping it.

Should the ball continue to slice after making these adjustments, your racquet position may be the problem. Your racquet *must* be raised in the starting position (as explained earlier) before each drop of the ball. Check your racquet position each time before starting your swing. Also, if you do not bend your knees as you step and swing, you are forcing your upper body to do all the work. You lose motion, which in turn does not allow you to create a rhythmic, consistent swing. A slight bend at the knees while dropping the upper body to the ball will achieve body balance. This in turn will help to correct any slicing problem.

If the ball tends to veer towards the left of the center court (called hooking), this is a result of improper motion of the lead foot. If you do not step out at all, the ball will hook towards the center court area.



The wind-up -- wrist is cocked, player concentrates on ball.



The contact point, close to the floor, slightly in front of lead foot.



The follow through - racquet reaches opposite shoulder.

If you step directly to the ball, this will not allow enough room for the swing. The proper lead step will be just to the left (for right-handers) of the drop of the ball.

Hooking occurs because of the change of the racquet face at the contact point. Without the lead step, your non-racquet shoulder will "open" towards the center of the court, bringing with it the shoulder of your racquet arm. This motion will then cause the face of the racquet to turn, resulting in a hook upon contact. Stepping directly towards the front wall will also cause the free shoulder to "open," also causing a hook shot. This, as with other problems, can be corrected by using the proper lead step.

Another common error in practicing the forehand is controlling the height of the ball when it is hit. To discuss every factor involved in this would be an endless project, so I will use several easy-to-spot examples which will allow you to correct your mistakes with ease. The biggest problem in controlling height is related to the angle of the face of the racquet when it contacts the ball. If the racquet face is "open" (pointing slightly

towards the ceiling), the ball will be hit high. If the racquet face is "closed" (pointing down), the ball will hit the floor.

The two major causes of this are: 1) poor positioning of the racquet in the starting position (racquet face pointing towards ceiling or floor), or 2) dipping either shoulder during the swing. Dipping will change the position of your racquet face upon contact with the ball. If the racquet shoulder dips (arm with racquet drops lower than arm without racquet), the racquet face will "open," causing you to hit the ball high. If the shoulder of your free arm drops, the racquet face will be "closed," causing you to hit the ball into the ground. The closed position is less likely to happen, as it is such an abnormal position for your body.

As you step to the ball, bend your body at the knees and slightly at the waist. This will lower your body to the ball at an even angle. Make sure you let the ball drop to the desired height before you hit it. As the ball nears the floor, you must step into the swing, bend the knees, lowering your upper body (without bending drastically at the waist)

and swing.

Once you are confident in your stroke, you can allow the ball to drop closer to the floor before contacting it. This means you must also drop your body lower, maintaining the same rhythm and the same swing. You always need to keep your balance. If you find that you're off balance after the swing, this is either because you're bending too much at the waist or you are trying to reach down without properly bending at the knees. After contact is made, the proper follow-through will allow you to maintain your balance while bringing the racquet to the opposite shoulder.

In addition to developing accuracy and consistency, this forehand drill also serves as a great warm-up exercise. Hit 20 to 25 of these shots before each game. This will enable you to not only practice your swing, but also warm up those arm muscles with the same motions used during the game. ■

If you would like your own copy of Michael Mjehovich's book, send \$2.95 to: *Racquetball Step-by-Step*, 4633 Trousdale Dr., Nashville, Tenn., 37204.

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Scorecard

RACQUETBALL welcomes all tournaments to report their results. Please list all rounds of each event. Scorecard will report as many rounds of each tournament as space allows.

For reasons of space and clarity, tournament results submitted for listing in "Scorecard" should be arranged as shown in the example below. Entries using this format stand a better chance of being included in the "Scorecard" section.

Men's Open:
Semifinals: John Smith over Peter Smith 21-7, 21-15; John Doe over Peter Doe 21-20, 21-13.
Finals: John Smith over John Doe 21-20, 13-21, 21-16.

Consolation: Holly Mallett over Michelle Caputo.
Women's Novice:
Semifinals: Nancy DeNucci over Anna Marie Longo by forfeit; Becky Liss over Cheryl Boyer 21-7, 21-8.
Finals: Becky Liss over Nancy DeNucci 21-13, 12-21, 11-9.
Third & Fourth: Longo over Boyer.
Consolation: Jan Fusselman over Tina Soroka.
Boy's 17 & Under:
Semifinals: Scott Herron over Anthony Embrogno 21-17, 21-8; Greg Panis over Tom Embrogno 21-4, 21-6.
Finals: Herron over Panis 10-21, 21-12, 11-5.
Third & Fourth: Tony Embrogno over Tom Embrogno 21-20, 21-20.
Consolation: Bud Wendle over Bill Martin.
Boy's 15 & Under:
Semifinals: John Wray over Tom Weatherbee 21-13, 21-14; Ken Stern over Steve Finowski 21-18, 21-11.
Finals: Wray over Stern 21-9, 21-8.
Third: Weatherbee.
Fourth: Finowski.
Consolation: Jim Leone, Jr. over Shawn Haggerty.
Boy's 13 & Under:
Semifinals: Grant Morain over Mike Navojosky 21-11; 21-4; Ryan Morain over Todd Geletka 21-9, 21-4.
Finals: Grant Morain over Ryan Morain 21-9, 21-13.
Third: Mike Navojosky.
Fourth: Todd Geletka.
Consolation: Rich Booth over Chris Spong.

SKYLINE RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT Skyline Tennis and Racquetball Club New York, New York

Men's Open: Paul Wicha.
Men's B: Hank Grassi, Jr.
Men's C: Rick Walsh.
Men's Novice: David Ng.
Women's Open: Mary Ann Cluess.
Women's B: Marge Shiroky.
Women's C: Susan Cole.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE AARA DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

Men's Open: 1st: Mike Romano-Mike Luciw; 2nd: Steve Savage-Bob Fissette; 3rd: Gregg Molloly-Warren Pierce.
Consolation: Howie Coleman-Paul Henrikson.
Men's B: 1st: John Yoh-Al Manditch; 2nd: John Lepore-Rich Voto; 3rd: Mark Leiberman.
Consolation: Tom Hyman-Joe Goldman.
Men's C: 1st: Mark Fancour-Steve Tansey; 2nd: Ron Hyman-Mike Curwitz; 3rd: Mike Rangle-Mike Sanchez.
Consolation: Bob Flaherty-Joe Lapiore.
Men's Novice: 1st: Ralph Grillone-Bob DeGrace; 2nd: Terry Young-Jim Bradford; 3rd: Rick Frame-William Horrigan.
Men's Seniors: 1st: Fred Lesperence-Linc McDonald; 2nd: Warren McGuirk-Russ Morgan; 3rd: Howie Coleman-Mike Sullivan.
Juniors: 1st: Mike Coleman-John McCauley; 2nd: Phil Hyman-Ron Curwitz; 3rd: Duane Kinkus-Al St. George.
Men's Masters: 1st: Sam Garafolio-Dan Rodrigues; 2nd: Mike Sullivan-Joe Goldman; 3rd: John Lepore-John Solio.
Women's Advanced: 1st: Cindy Alba-Janet Simon; 2nd: Eileen Riopel-Judy Gully;



Men's Open runner-up Larry Fox (right) congratulates winner Tom Ranker (left) as Ranker prepares to claim his prize—a color television set donated by the 21st Point Racquetball club.

1ST ANNUAL FALL FISHBOWL FROLIC 21st Point Racquetball Club Youngstown, Ohio

Men's Open:
Semifinals: Larry Fox over Mark Rappoport 21-9, 11-21, 11-2; Tom Ranker over Ken Goldberg 21-15, 21-10.
Finals: Ranker over Fox 21-11, 21-19.
Third: Rappoport over Goldberg 21-20, 11-21, 11-6.
Consolation: Dick Gambino over Jim Blumetti.
Men's B:
Semifinals: Bob Fye over Mike Donato 21-18, 21-20; Chappie Bair over Jim Bartok 21-17, 21-13.
Finals: Fye over Bair 21-14, 21-13.
Third: Bartok over Donato flipped coin.
Consolation: Jeff Gomori over Chip Loew.
Men's C:
Semifinals: Nick Desport over Rocky Castor 21-5, 21-19; John Day over Tim Gaffey by forfeit.
Finals: Day over Desport 21-15, 21-5.
Third: Rocky Castor.
Fourth: Tim Gaffey, no playoff.
Consolation: Ed Stanovack over A. C. McCullough.
Men's Novice:
Semifinals: Irvin Foster over Tony

LaGamba 21-18, 21-9; David Moore over Tom Novosel 21-4, 15-21, 11-6.
Finals: Foster over Moore 21-16, 21-7.
Third & Fourth: LaGamba over Novosel.
Consolation: David Webster over Harry Higgins.
Men's Seniors:
Semifinals: Jack Soble over Bobby Sanders 21-17, 13-21, 11-2; Jack Currington over Otis Chapman 21-7, 21-8.
Finals: Soble over Currington 21-10, 21-12.
Third & Fourth: Draw between Sanders and Chapman.
Consolation: Rich Kalosky over Robert Pesa.
Women's B:
Semifinals: Ellen Kosa over Debbie Oty 21-13, 21-9; Ann Ralles over Justina Saxby 21-17, 21-4.
Finals: Ellen Kosa over Ann Ralles 13-21, 21-15, 11-6.
Third & Fourth: Draw between Saxby and Oty.
Consolation: Judy Navojosky over Liz Ortiz.
Women's C:
Semifinals: Merritt Fusselman over Justina Saxby 21-16, 21-6; Gail Tessean over Mary Carol Jones 6-21, 21-18, 11-10.
Finals: Fusselman over Tessean 20-21, 21-4, 11-5.
Third & Fourth: Saxby over Jones 21-19, 21-18.

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Women's Intermediate: 1st: Carin Grillone-
Anne McNeil; 2nd: May Pollard-Sandy
Picanzo; 3rd: Susie Rhieu-France Mouton.

AARA-PENN MINI-TOURNAMENT Executive Park Athletic Club Colorado Springs, Colorado

Men's A:

Semifinals: Dixon Elliott over Jon Bear 15-4,
15-14; John Vohland over Red Horton
forfeit.

Finals: John Vohland over Dixon Elliott 15-
13, 15-13.

Third: Jon R. Bear over Red Horton.

Consolation: Gary Bratt over Rock Cod-
dridge, 21-8.

Men's B:

Semifinals: Grant Summers over Andy Cobb
15-6, 15-1; John Tancock over Gerald
Beattie 15-9, 15-11.

Finals: John Tancock over Grant Summers
11-15, 15-8, 6-4.

Third: Andy Cobb over Gerald Beattie.

Consolation: Mike Fortin over George
Dwyer 21-18.

Men's C:

Semifinals: Paul J. Pavik over Frank
Demoli 15-14, 15-8, John Duckloe over Greg
Sweetman 15-4, 10-15, 6-1.

Finals: Paul Pavik over John Duckloe 15-12,
15-11.

Third: Greg Sweetman over Frank Demoli.

Consolation: Pete Dean over Philip Buerk
21-19.

Men's D:

Semifinals: Lynn Auger over Michael
Sellner 15-8, 6-15, 6-0; T. Watts over Gary
Starr 15-8, 11-15, 6-0.

Finals: Lynn Auger over T. Watts 15-10, 14-
15, 6-5.

Third: Michael Sellner over Gary Starr.

Consolation: Fred Day over Troy Brennan
15-7, 15-4.

Women's A:

Finals: Kathy Callahan over Vera Germain.

Third: Kathy Branum over Barbara Beethe.

Women's B:

Finals: Kathy Branum over Judy Orban.

Third: Jillayne Starr over Cherry Burger.

Women's D:

Semifinals: Judy Gardner over Joan Beattie
15-8, 15-8; Jan Trujillo over Linda Elliott 15-
10, 15-6.

Finals: Jan Trujillo over Judy Gardner 15-
13, 15-8.

Consolation: Janet Paddock over Marie
Baca 21-16.

1979 NATIONAL INVITATIONAL MASTERS DOUBLES

Supreme Court

Madison, WI

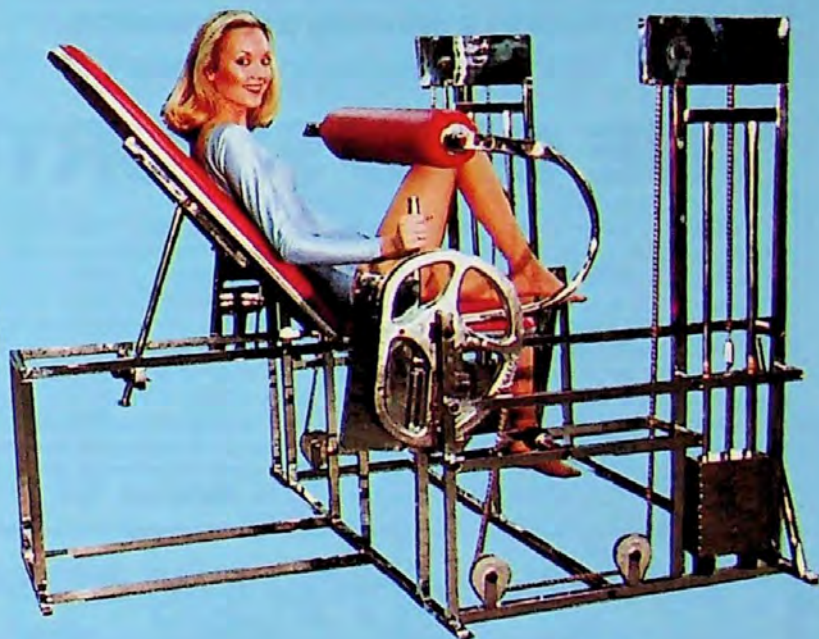
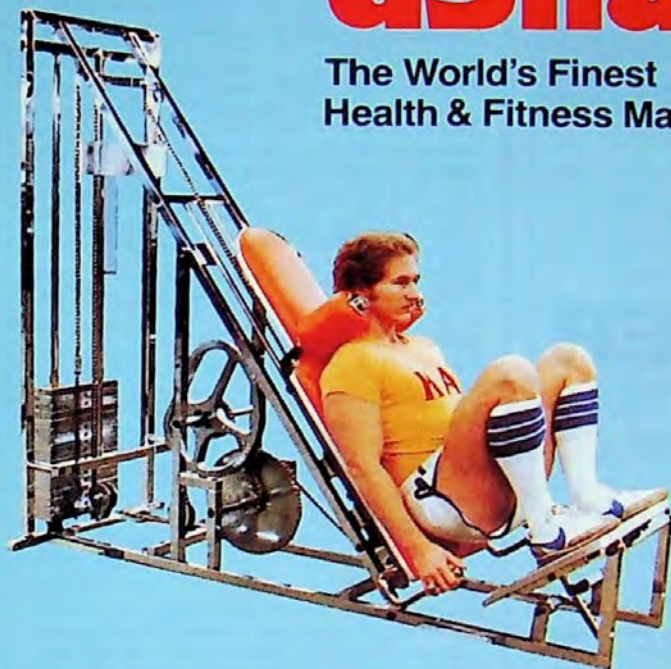
Final Rankings:

Finals: 1st: Bob Troyer-Ed Lammersfeld;
2nd: Bud Muehleisen-Bob McNamara;
3rd: Paul Bonales-Bill Daly; 4th: Al
Rossi-Pat Colombo; 5th: Gordon Ira-Don
Clark; 6th: Richard Walker-William
Sellers; 7th: Bill Tanner-William Roy;
8th: Al Schattner-Pete Talbot; 9th: Joe
Bechard-Diz Kronenberg; 10th: Ivan
Bruner-Chet Howard; 11th: Phil Dzuik-
David Matthews; 12th: Stan Simon-Dick
Lane; 13th: Charles Wichem-John
Brandrup; 14th: Norm Goloetsky-Amos
Rosenbloom; 15th: Wally Plazak-Tom
Murray; 16th: Ray Fox-Ed Ellett; 17th:
Fred Zitzer-Ralph Shively; 18th: Ralph
Stillman-Paul Nelson; 19th: Fred Vetter-
Larry Altman.

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1979 AARA MAINE CLOSED DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS December 15-16, 1979 Brunswick, Maine

Mixed:

Finals: Randy Olson-Barbara Olson over
Reb Brown-Sharon Belanger 14-21, 21-11,
15-6.

Consolation: Mark St. Pierre-Anne Thibeault.

Men's Open:

Finals: Steve Dubord-Steve Larrabee over
Reb Brown-Bruce Lewis 21-18, 21-11.

Third: Randy Olson-Chris Olson.

Consolation: Jim Simmons-Bob Simmons.

Women's Open: Round Robin

1st: Barbara Lovejoy-Sharon Belanger;

2nd: Anne Thibeault-Lynn Ruddy;

3rd: Barbara Olson-Linda Fitzpatrick.

Men's B:

Finals: Jay Saulter-Paul Giguere over
Chase Langmaid-Lloyd Doughty 21-18, 21-
14.

Third: Jim Daye-Don Hood.

Consolation: Joe Perkins-Deke Pilgrim.

Men's C:

Finals: Bill Sawyer-Roger Mills over Tom
Fournier-Larry Toffen 21-20, 21-12.

Third: Tom Walsh-Steve Burrows.

Consolation: Kevin Coppens-Charlie Frizzle.

6TH ANNUAL CHARLOTTE OPEN Charlotte, North Carolina

Men's Open:

Quarterfinals: Clark over Peters 21-17, 21-
12; Giordano over Tillery 21-8, 21-16;

Saperstein over Thomas 15-21, 21-10, 15-8;
Bailey over Chandler 21-19, 21-16.

Semifinals: Clark over Saperstein 21-14, 12-
21, 15-6; Giordano over Bailey 21-5, 21-18.

Finals: Clark over Giordano 12-21, 21-17, 15-
3.

Third: Bailey over Saperstein 21-14, 21-9.

Men's Seniors:

Quarterfinals: Sebolt over Pensabene 21-20,
21-18; Freshwater over O'Brien 21-6, 21-14;

Hollowell over Taylor 21-12, 21-5; Smith
over Harris 21-17, 21-20.

Semifinals: Sebolt over Freshwater 6-21, 21-
10, 15-8; Hollowell over Smith 21-9, 21-17.

Finals: Hollowell over Sebolt 21-10, 17-21, 15-
6.

Third: Freshwater over Smith 21-16, 21-7.

Women's Open:

Quarterfinals: Myers over Hardison 21-17,
21-14; Gwinn over Metts 21-8, 21-16; Gosslin
over Bullington 21-10, 21-10; Hardison over

English 21-17, 21-12.

Semifinals: Myers over Hardison 17-21, 21-
14, 15-6; Gwinn over Gosslin 16-21, 21-20, 15-
6.

Finals: Myers over Gwinn 16-21, 21-20, 15-6.

Men's Doubles:

Semifinals: Gammons-Chandler over
Giordano-Saperstein 21-20, 21-10; Bailey-
Thomas over Tillery-Hardison 21-14, 21-7.

Finals: Bailey-Thomas over Gammons-
Chandler 21-14, 16-21, 15-10.

Third: Giordano-Saperstein over Tillery-
Hardison 21-19, 12-21, 15-9.

4TH ANNUAL WESTERN NEW ENGLAND OPEN The Racquet Club at Bosquets Pittsfield, Mass.

Women's C:

Quarterfinals: Cistone over Pino 15-12, 15-9;
Bergeron over Dewey 15-10, 15-9; Janelle
over Sahi 15-7, 15-11; Clemente over Moore

15-13, 15-8.

Semifinals: Bergeron over Cistone Forfeit

(injury); Clemente over Janelle 15-13, 15-13.

Finals: A. Clemente over B. Bergeron 15-7, 15-12.

Consolation: T. Giazier.

Women's A:

Quarterfinals: Alba over Stickney 15-2, 15-3; Wadsworth over Jewett 15-7, 14-15, 15-7; Russell over Boulette 10-15, 15-10, 15-11; Beck over Paston 15-7, 15-4.

Semifinals: Alba over Wadsworth 15-2, 15-7; Beck over Russell 15-8, 15-9.

Finals: C. Alba over D. Beck 15-13, 15-0.

Consolation: L. Stickney.

Masters':

Quarterfinals: Schmidt over Verwiebe 15-8, 15-3; Cowle over Marcus 15-9, 15-11; Litwiler over Lesser 13-15, 15-10, 15-8; Lesperance over Hackman 15-9, 11-15, 15-7.

Semifinals: Schmidt over Cowle 15-14, 15-5; Litwiler over Lesperance 15-7, 7-15, 15-1.

Finals: T. Litwiler over W. Schmidt 15-10, 10-15, 15-10.

Consolation: D. Weinberg.

Men's C:

Quarterfinals: Petrucci over Demarco 15-7, 15-12; Schwartz over Tolli 15-8, 15-8; Williams over Kellerman 15-7, 15-3; St. Jean over Dermody 15-9, 15-7.

Semifinals: Petrucci over Schwartz 15-5, 15-8; Williams over St. Jean 15-11, 15-1.

Finals: P. Williams over R. Petrucci 15-4, 15-11.

Consolation: C. Coppola.

Men's B:

Quarterfinals: Wheeler over Danoff 15-10, 15-8; Strycharz over Wilson 11-15, 15-5, 15-13; Handelman over Brownstein 15-2, 15-2; Clemente over Francis 15-1, 15-7.

Semifinals: Strycharz over Wheeler 15-6, 15-11; Handelman over Clemente 7-15, 15-2, 15-4.

Finals: B. Handelman over R. Strycharz 15-7, 12-15, 15-8.

Consolation: P. Mele.

Men's A:

Quarterfinals: Shapiro over Silvano 15-10, 15-6; Janelle over Henrickson 15-5, 15-1; Russell over McCutchen 15-3, 15-8; Pannerella over Fisher 15-11, 15-8.

Semifinals: Janelle over Shapiro 13-15, 15-6, 15-7; Pannerella over Russell 12-15, 15-5, 15-9.

Finals: P. Pannerella over D. Janelle 15-14, 15-8.

Consolation: J. Giner. ■

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Women's Singles

Open*

B

C

Novice

Senior (35+)*

Doubles

Open*



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Baltimore, Holabird Racquet Club
Boston, Playoff Racquetball/Handball Club
Chicago, The Glass Court
Cleveland, Off The Wall Racquetball Club
Denver, Denver Sporting Club
Detroit, Rose Shores East Racquetball Club
Houston, Chancellors Racquet Club
Kansas City, Dale's Courts
Miami/Ft. Lauderdale, The Courtrooms
Milwaukee, Brookfield Racquetball Club
Minneapolis/St. Paul, Roseville Racquet Club
New York Metro (New Jersey), Racquetime
Orange County (California), Racquetball World
Phoenix, Arizona Athletic Club
Philadelphia, The Highpoint Racquet Club
St. Louis, Spaulding Racquetball Club
San Francisco Bay Area (San Jose), Schoeber's Racquetball Spa
Seattle, First Serve



RACQUETBALL ILLUSTRATED