

National Racquetball®

Vol. 9, No. 6
June, 1980
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On the Cover . . .

David Copperfield, whose hands move faster than the eye before television and night club audiences, says his wrists are ready for racquetball. Tom Reinman profiles the sleight-of-hand artist on page 22.

National Racquetball Magazine is the official publication of the United States Racquetball Association and is published monthly by the National Racquetball Club, Inc. and Community Builders, Inc.

4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076, (312) 673-4000. *National Racquetball* • (ISSN 0161-7966)

President and Publisher • Robert W. Kendler

Assistant to the Publisher • Terry Muck

National Racquetball Club Director • Dan Bertolucci

U.S. Racquetball Association Director • Bob Keenan

Design Director/Production Manager • Milton W. Presler

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Advertising information requests should be addressed to

Joseph Ardito, Business Manager, *National Racquetball* magazine,

4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076. Copy subject to approval of the publisher.

All editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor *National Racquetball* Magazine, 4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076. Manuscripts must be typewritten and double spaced. Color and black and white photographs are welcomed. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope for return of manuscripts and photos.

Subscriptions are \$12 for one (1) year. Rates are for U.S., possessions and military.

Canadians must send U.S. money order.

Foreign subscriptions are \$12 per year plus postage. Second class postage paid at Skokie, Illinois and at additional mailing office. Postmaster send form 3579 to *National Racquetball*, 4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076.

(Please allow 6 to 8 weeks between the time subscription form is mailed and receipt of first issue.)

Printed by Photopress Incorporated, Broadview, Illinois 60153.

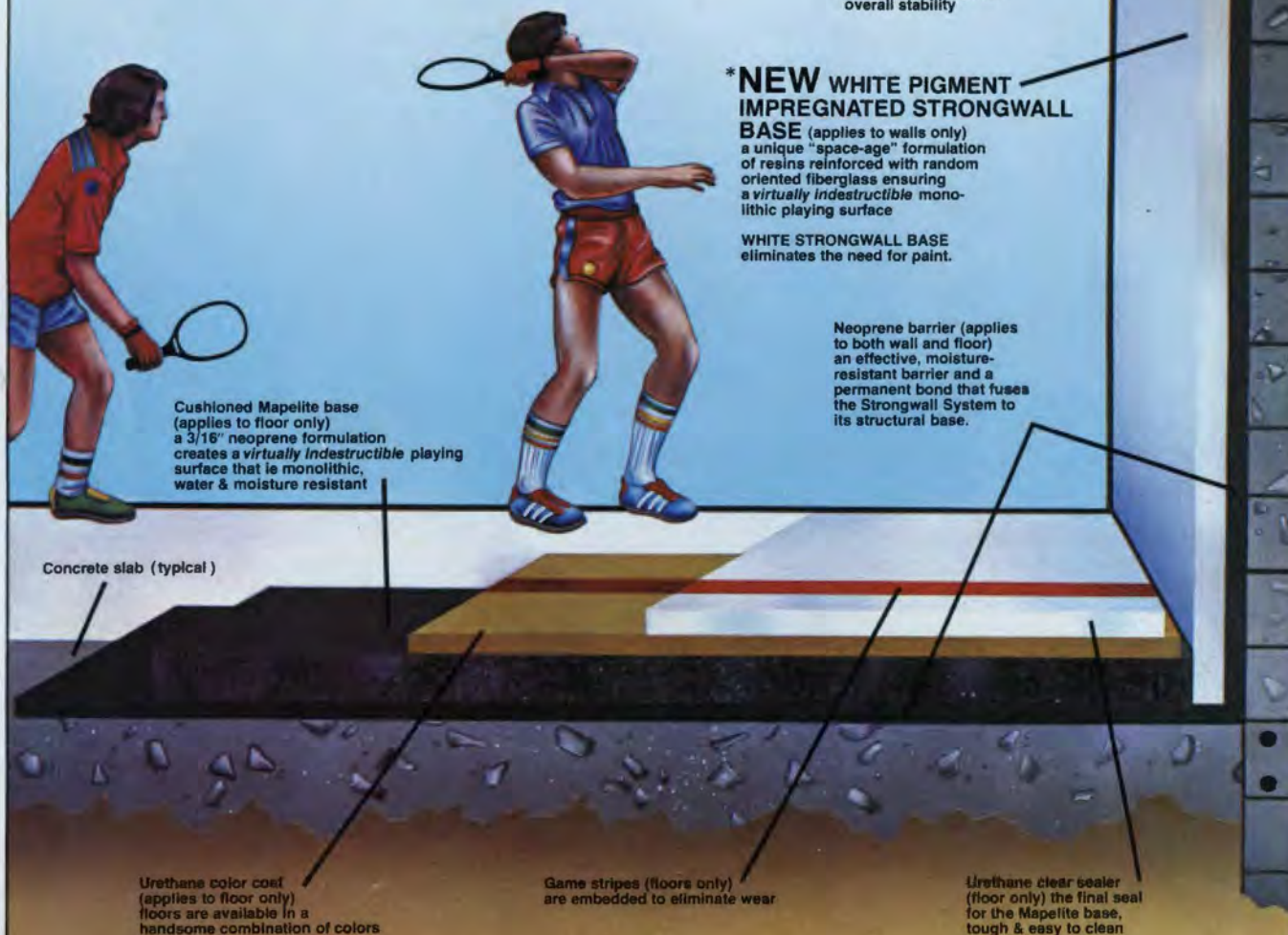
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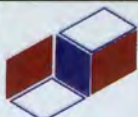
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Opinions

From Bob Kendler



What's Wrong with the Ad on the Opposite Page?

Really nothing. It merely advertises a painless handball for women and children. We thought you might like to know about another game you can play in a racquetball court. You see a racquetball court is just the same as a handball court. The only difference is the racquet.

In racquetball the racquet gives you an extra reach. In handball the use of both hands gives you an extra reach.

Our brand new Family Ball is designed for timid souls who want a ball that's half as hard and just as fast as the pro handball. Every game has some physical or mental price. We think handball has the least because—at long last—we have a ball that eliminates pain, bruise or break. It's a remarkable ball and absolutely perfect for Mom and the kids.

You should know that we introduced women and children to racquetball through tournaments, tours, honors and prizes. You can expect the same in handball.

Today club owners welcome any wholesome game that will bring people into their courts, especially in summer, when family handball is popular on outdoor three wall and one wall courts.

So now you know that there is nothing wrong with the ad on the next page. You'll find that families who play together stay together. Try family handball, but—for goodness sake—don't forsake racquetball.

Evie & Bob Kendler

Evie and Bob Kendler

In him we ... move

Acts 17:28



— Dick Shay photo

Ready for family handball

The Merco-West Bob Kendler Family Handball, to be used exclusively in the Explorer Scouts Olympics and in our new Little League handball program, is available from: Champion Glove, Des Moines, IA; Century Sports, Plainfield, NJ; Saranac Glove, Green Bay, WI; Sports Awards, Chicago, IL; Slazengers, Cornwells Heights, PA; Glatt Wholesale Sporting Goods, Van Nuys, CA; Court Products, Highland Park, IL; Northwest Sporting Goods, Milwaukee, WI; D & H Sports Enterprise, Bellingham, WA; Markwort Sporting Goods, St. Louis, MO; Kray-Sibald, Dunlop Sports and Slazenger Canada, Toronto, and Dunlop-Slazenger, Montreal.

The New Merco®-West Bob Kendler Family Handball

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And club owners will be happy with the non-marking blue color.

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You'll see why it's creating a revolution in handball.

Why women, children, doctors, and thousands of others are playing safe, pain-free handball.

A new era for handball is here.



From the National Commissioner



Supporting the USRA-NRC

Though outdoor courts and comfort controlled indoor facilities make racquetball more and more of a year-round sport, it's traditional to regard the nationals as the end of one season and the time to plan for another.

So it's a good time to take an overall look at our two organizations. I'll quote from our Pro Tour program seen only by those of you lucky enough to attend our NRC events.

"The National Racquetball Club, governing body of professional racquetball, is best known for organizing the annual Leach/Seamco professional tour from September through June. The tour, which began in the fall of 1973 with no sponsor and a total of \$20,000 in prize money, now has over \$300,000 available to pro tour winners. Although the tour is highlighted by the professionals, the tournaments are open to any player who desires to try his or her game against the best.

"In 1973 Bob Kendler organized the United States Racquetball Association to govern amateur racquetball. The USRA publishes the official rules and National Racquetball magazine, aids affiliate groups in all 50 states and sanctions more than 500 tournaments ranging from local events to the National Championships held each June. USRA affiliates, run by volunteers, sanction tournaments, for which players and officials are eligible for free balls, shirts, draw sheets, rule books and other materials. The USRA sanctions Regional Championships each year and pays airfare to the Nationals for the winners of the men's and women's Open singles. The USRA also sanctions 15 Junior Regionals with winners advancing to the August National Junior Championships.

"The USRA is an amateur organization, with no player who has accepted more than \$1,000 or more in prize money in the previous 12 months in NRC events eligible to play in USRA events."

What I'd like to add here is the names of those corporations making all these activities possible. First we have our overall sponsors—Leach Industries and Seamco Sporting Goods—that have been giving us financial support since the beginning. Other companies contributing to USRA/NRC programs are Coors, Catalina, Kunnan, William B. Tanner, Coca Cola, Jack in the Box, Bank of Newport Beach, Champion Glove, Wilson, Saranac Glove, Strongwall Systems, W & W Glass, Wagner Thirst Quencher and Architectural Floor Products. We give these companies our sincere thanks and promise to give racquetball 100 percent of our efforts toward continued growth.

Joe Ardito
Joe Ardito

From Our Readers



Thirst Quencher Thanks

Dear Bob [Kendler]:

Thanks so much for your support for Thirst Quencher in the February Issue of *National Racquetball* magazine.

Thomas E. Pinkerton
Oak Brook, IL

Grateful Students

Dear Editor:

We want to extend public thanks to the Okolona Racquetball Club for their program for the Bishop David High School Racquetball Team. Alan Cohen and others at the club gave us the opportunity to improve our skills. Some day some of us may even go on to careers in racquetball, thanks to the club's hospitality and generosity.

The Bishop David Racquetball Team
Louisville, KY

On the Pro Tour Lecture Tour

Dear Dan [Bertolucci]:

Thanks for coming to the INSRA Referee Certification Clinic on March 15 at Racquetball South. It was a pleasure having you discuss the racquetball rules and regulations. In addition I enjoyed hearing of your experiences on the pro tour.

Steven K. Ellison
Indianapolis, IN

Brumfield Mis-Hit?

Dear Editor:

I was appalled to read Charlie Brumfield's instructional article in the April, 1980 issue of *National Racquetball*, in which he advocates intentionally hitting a crowding opponent with the ball. At a time when eyeguards and safety are being heavily promoted by the USRA and the NRC and numerous comments have been made to upgrade the sportsmanship among professional players to make racquetball a more attractive spectator sport for TV, I find these comments inexcusable, especially when you consider the junior and beginning players using this as a guide to their future play.

I can just imagine someone without Brumfield's control aiming to "remove your opponent's kidney with a full shot." Sportsmanship at its best—right Charlie? Your comments notwithstanding you cannot justify these statements by suggesting that you not hit someone where it will cause permanent damage.

Vincent S. Rodosta
Roselle, IL

Charlie Brumfield's sense of humor—which makes his writing as entertaining as it is informative—sometimes takes wild turns. ED

Racquetball Gets Highest Marks

Dear Sir:

I think it is important to know that in a recent survey for the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare racquetball turned out to be the sport of most interest to both males and females in Brevard County schools.

Brevard County, on the east central coast of Florida, has produced a number of good racquetball players, including the state Open and Seniors champions.

I enjoy your publication each month and continue to support the efforts of the USRA.

Albert Navarez, Jr.
Merritt Island, FL

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Church Sport

Dear Racquetball Friends:

There is no doubt that racquetball is a flourishing sport. And one of the places it is growing in popularity is in the local church.

In our Southern Baptist Convention we now have almost 100 churches with racquetball courts in their Christian Life Centers. Most of the courts are indoor four-wall facilities while some are outdoor three-wall. Many of racquetball's outstanding players and supporters got their start on the church court. Jerry O'Neal, the Alabama state chairman, is one of them. His church (and my former church), Dawson Memorial Baptist Church, Birmingham, AL, built two indoor four-wall courts in 1970. At least 10 churches in Birmingham now have racquetball facilities.

Racquetball's success in the local church has proven to be an excellent family program. Our own one indoor court is constantly reserved by our membership. We are looking forward to the future when we can construct more.

Ken E. McNutt
Orlando, FL

Buffalo Success

Dear Carol Brusslan:

I have enjoyed reading your series of articles on "Women in Racquetball." The February '80 issue in particular was most interesting as it referred to special tournaments for women.

On Jan. 30 and 31 Boulevard Mall Racquetball Club hosted a Ladies Daytime Tournament with B and C divisions, designed to offer our ladies a competitive atmosphere and introduce them to the skill of refereeing.

The women's enthusiasm was great and they were a lot of fun to work with. The Boulevard Mall Racquetball is looking forward to hosting our next Ladies Daytime Tournament.

M. J. Frederick
Buffalo, NY

Very Funny

Dear Editor:

I look forward to each month's issue of *National Racquetball* with great enthusiasm. I especially like your reports on the latest winners on the Pro/Am Tour.

Marty Hogan has done a lot for racquetball with his ability as well as with

his appearance on the Superstars. Myself as well as many other racquetball fans would like to see more racquetball competitions on TV.

What I decided to write about was the article in the April, 1980 issue by Steven L. Stern called "The Friendly Game." What a talent!! That has to be one of the funniest pieces I've ever read. I laughed so hard I had tears running down my cheeks. That very same thing has happened to me, but it never struck my funny bone as did Steven's article.

Keep up the good work.

Gene Gau
Omaha, NE

The "Iso" Controversy: Defense from the Isokinetic Camp

Dear Editor:

I read with interest your article in your March, 1980 health section, "Which 'Iso' Builds Strength—Isometric, Isotonic, Isokinetic?" by Ellington Darden. I have decided to voice my feeling about many unfounded statements that the average reader may confuse with fact.

At the bottom of page 41 two exercise devices are pictured with a caption describing them as isokinetic devices. Neither of these two exercisers, one an Exer-Genie and the other Exer-Gym, are truly isokinetic. These two devices operate on rope friction, and resistance is increased by wrapping additional rope around a fixed post. The only similarity between this type of exerciser and our MGI isokinetic device is the rope.

The author relates on page 42 that exercise physiologists call the program Darden recommends "full range exercise." I would be interested to know which textbooks would carry these requirements for all exercises.

Under the paragraph "Disadvantages of Isokinetic Resistance" Darden says isokinetic exercise can be dangerous if used explosively. Explosive exercise achieved through isokinetic devices is safe. This is an advantage because explosive exercising develops white muscle fibers that build speed and sharpen reflexes.

As to Darden's discussion of automatically variable resistance—isokinetic devices are automatically accommodating to the individual, not only on one repetition, but on all succeeding repetitions. And another point in favor of isokinetic exercise is that there is unlimited speed of movement both at fast and slow speeds.

Actually the only correct statement of consequence is that isokinetic resistance

offers no negative work. It is not designed for negative work. Therefore it does not provide it.

Glen E. Henson,
Independence, MO

Dear Ellington Darden:

I read the article you wrote, "Which 'Iso' Builds Strength?" in the March, 1980 issue of *National Racquetball*. You made some statements regarding isokinetic exercise that seem untrue from all the information I have read.

The no negative work potential is a disadvantage, but to say there is no advantage seems false. Any form of exercise when done correctly has some advantage.

Michelle Kallian
Santa Cruz, CA

Dear Ms. Brusslan:

I am making a direct reference to an article that appeared in your magazine in the March 1980 issue, "Which 'Iso' Builds Strength—Isometric? Isotonic? Isokinetic?" To say the least, I found this article to be somewhat disconcerting, misinforming to the general public and somewhat derogatory in nature.

Ellington Darden, Ph.D. is obviously a very strong proponent of the Nautilus machinery. It almost appears as if this type of isotonic device has some mystical qualities to it.

I do not question his scholastic capabilities as a Ph.D., as I am sure he has the proper credentials. I just found his article by someone who has worked with all forms of exercise to be prejudicial. To me strength is a term that is often misdefined as it does not mean anything unless it is specifically related to a particular activity. The photographic examples of isokinetic devices are a slur to the entire concept of isokinetics. Anyone familiar with the research that has been conducted in the past 12 years in exercise and muscle physiology is well aware of the tremendous benefits of isokinetics. I make reference to the Cybex Company at 100 Spence Street, Bayshore, Long Island 11706.

Darden's conclusion that isotonic strength training is the most productive form of exercise in existence today is extremely misleading. It depends primarily with whom you are dealing, the person's age, health and other variables.

I might add that the disadvantages as listed for isokinetics are inappropriate and do not follow physiological considerations as I understand them.

Laurence M. Seitz, R.P.T.
Elizabeth, NJ

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Ellington Darden Replies ...

In listing the advantages and disadvantages of isometric, isotonic and isokinetic strength training it was noted that the isokinetic mode offers no advantages. This does not mean that exercising on isokinetic devices is worthless. It simply means that there are other more efficient methods to build strength, namely those dealing with the isotonic mode.

Ellington Darden, Ph.D.
DeLand, FL

... And So Does an Athletic Trainer

Both the isokinetic and the isotonic exercise modes have value. It depends on your goals. For strengthening a particular group of muscles choose an isotonic device. The isokinetic method is especially effective in gaining power and endurance.

Bob Gajda
Glen Ellyn, IL

Bob Gajda, who has a master's degree in biomechanics from George Williams College and is a Ph.D. candidate in health education at the University of Illinois, is strength consultant for the U.S. Men's Volleyball Team and director of the Sports Fitness Institute.

Good Photo Coverage

Dear Carol:

Especially enjoyed the coverage given in your April, 1980 issue of our National Sporting Goods Association Show. If one toured the Show, there could be little doubt as to the popularity of our Governor Jim Thompson's favorite sport. Thanks to you and to your editors for your outstanding pictorial coverage.

Elmer A. Blasco
Chicago, IL

Unreviewed Book

Dear Editor:

Enjoyed your feature on racquetball book reviews by Terry Muck. I was, however, disappointed that my book, *Racquetball: The Sport For Everyone*, was not included in the reviews, especially since it was on the book display rack used as an illustration for the story.

Can you explain the criteria used for selecting books for review and can we expect more reviews in the future?

Randy Stafford
Memphis, TN

The reason your book was not included in the reviews is because we did not have a

review copy. Our photo illustration was provided by The Booklegger, a Palos Verdes, CA company that distributes the book display. You can expect more reviews of racquetball books as we receive them in our office. Since our story we have already received several books omitted in the first reviews. ED.

Terry?

Dear Editor:

Your semi-anonymous book reviewer, identified only in a letter to the editor as "Terry", recently likened my production of racquetball books to drug addiction. He or she neglected to mention the other 57 or so books and the play I've done on such other subjects as the U.S. Post Office, TV, sex education, gymnastics, economics and Russian factory life.

"Terry", while giving me generally good, selling, "7" or "8" reviews, goes on to read my mind, accusing me of *thinking!* "He thought and he thought and thought: How can I meet my book deadline? What kind of racquetball book can I do now?" the March book review reads.

At this precise moment unlike "Terry", I'm having a great deal of trouble reading my own mind.

While I and several of my groupies appreciate such lines as "Nobody does it better than Shay," I was stung by your reviewer's unimaginative attack on my use of the word "volley" in place of "rally." I defend "volley" because my dictionary's first definition of the effete "rally" is "to collect and reduce to order, as troops in common confusion." Common confusion may be endemic to "Terry's" life and haunts, but I am against confusion. The weak word "rally" is gradually being supplanted by the strong word "volley." Volley is a rare admixture of Celt and Yiddish argot (Voll- to hit, return or vault-coupled with leyg—to place or "lay one in there".) To me and other lexicographers "rallies" suggests rah-rah and pep meetings, and worse—politics—that graveyard of tendentious argot in the mouth of professional moralizing, mind reading fools.

Choosing to criticize one of my 82 strategies in the best selling *Racquetball Strategy* "Terry's" mind reading act should have told him/her that the mistake was my collaborator Jean Sausser's, against whom I never scored more than 19 points for fear of spoiling her competitive spirit.

Speaking of which I hereby challenge your puerile review person to a racquetball match that would pit his or her mind reading and flip rating system against the arsenal of skills I have amassed over the past four years by merely reading and

studying my own racquetball books and Bob Kendler's editorials. Actually it was only after writing my first two or three racquetball books that I dropped the sissy sport of handball and took up a racquet. My books made racquetball sound so easy and so much fun I made great progress and only recently defeated one of your top pros, Steve Keeley, who had OD'd on bagels, and—as I recall—had lamely claimed that one of my books had thrown him off.

First prize in my match with "Terry" could be a day at mind reading central, *National Racquetball* headquarters. Second prize could be two days there and the boring job of reading the few racquetball books on the market not written by me.

Arthur Shay
Deerfield, IL

Terry Muck, National Racquetball book reviewer, accepts the challenge from National Racquetball photographic consultant, Arthur Shay. Details will follow. ED.

Thanks from Telegraph Hill ...

Dear Dan:

I want to take this opportunity on behalf of Jim Gerber, his partners and all the folks at the Telegraph Hill Club to commend and thank you and your staff for making the Catalina Racquetball Classic West a great success.

We look forward to hosting another Pro event, maybe in Seattle.

Keith Davis
San Francisco, CA

... And from King's

Dear Mr. Kendler:

I would like to thank you very much for making it possible for my club to host the tournament last week at King's. As in all our previous Pro Stops we had a full house each day. It is getting very interesting seeing all these new young players moving into the top ranks. Marty Hogan had to survive a couple of very tough matches to win.

Dan and his staff again were a pleasure to work with. I also would like to pass on the very favorable reports I am hearing about the Seamco blue ball. Many of my members like it very much and are buying it.

Charles L. Hohl
Westminster, CA



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Playing Prestidigitator, with

Points Up His Sleeve



by Tom Reinman

In 1965 John Sebastian asked millions of people the musical question, "Do You Believe in Magic?"

In 1976 Jimmy Carter asked you to believe in it when he said he'd balance the budget.

In 1980 Davino, the Boy Magician, makes you believe in it when he sits opposite you in a Japanese restaurant and tosses a chopstick up his nose.

Sebastian went on to say you had to understand it, really, that trying to explain it "is like trying to teach a stranger about rock and roll."

Everyone is still trying to figure out how Carter is going to pull off his stunt.

But about his magic Davino says only "People might be curious, but deep in their hearts they don't really want to know."

Davino is actually David Copperfield, a talented young illusionist, which is a magician with a little more up his sleeve than Uncle Jack's old parlor tricks.





He has done three television specials, will be doing a fourth which will air in the fall and has appeared in night-clubs across the country. He has completed his first movie (the working title is *Final Departure*) and is looking forward to writing and producing others, all of which is a long way from his days as "*Davino, the Boy Magician*", amusing and amazing his way through the birthday party circuit in Metuchen, NJ.

"It all started for me with Winchell and Mahoney," he recalls one sunny afternoon in Beverly Hills. "I tried ventriloquism at one point, but I had to give it up because people couldn't tell which was the dummy. Might have lasted longer if I sat on the dummy's lap."

That mark of gentle self-deprecation is mildly surprising in one who is comfortable in fitting a chopstick into his nose, but it is there.

He is an illusionist, and is working on his acting and dancing, looking toward a career as a versatile entertainer, although singing is out.

No Donny

"I sang with Marie Osmond on my first TV special," he says. "It is not a wonderful story. The bit ended up on the cutting room floor. Saved my career there."

Now he has launched a new career, one as an athlete, having recently taken up the game of racquetball. As has often been said that takes almost as much talent as drinking a cup of

coffee without getting most of it on one's face, but it does take a little athletic ability.

When asking himself, "*Athletically inclined?*" he looks as puzzled as those duped birthday party guests in Metuchen. "*No, not in the least. I guess I played Little League for awhile, but I had to get out of it. The kids don't play Little League anyway, the parents do. Too much pressure.*"

That from a man who makes his living making handkerchiefs dance before paying customers in supper clubs like the Sahara Tahoe, Miami's Diplomat and Reno's Nugget.

Not interested in team sports as a participant or spectator, yet enthusiastic about racquetball. "*I really enjoy*



it," he says, chopstick in hand again. "One great thing about it for me is the sense of timing it requires."

"In magic we have misdirection. Racquetball requires quite a bit of that. Part of beating your opponent is creating the illusion of where that ball is going to hit."

That from a man who levitates volunteers at the show in Reno.

But he does more than that, more than the stuff that used to wow 'em on the Ed Sullivan Show.

"I'm more concerned with the image," he says, "creating an illusion, an atmosphere. I think most magicians are more concerned with just the magic."

"I believe magic can do more than fool or amaze people; it can move them, too. It can do all the things music or drama can do."

One of his popular routines is built around a lover's spat, in which a couple is separated and momentarily reunited — while a rose vanishes, handkerchiefs dance, the woman reappears — before the dream, or illusion, ends.

"The way I propose to use magic," offers Copperfield, "is within vignettes that people can identify with. I don't want to just leave it on the level of tricks. Used within a story people can relate to it better."

The master of the sleight of hand, slight of frame himself, easily relates his work to racquetball.

Strong Wrists

"In legerdemain there is so much in the wrist. And of course there's a lot of wrist in the game, too."

"I'm working on my dancing and acting, and the game is so good for staying in shape in those areas. Timing and rhythm is essential in all of those areas."

Copperfield, who lives high on the south rim of the Hollywood Bowl in a house which was used in filming *"The Long Goodbye"* with Elliot Gould, works out with teaching pro Ric Moore at the posh new Sports Connection club in Santa Monica, which boasts a number of Hollywood personalities among its membership.

"This is no great surprise, I guess," says Moore of his pupil, "but David has tremendous dexterity. He is rapidly picking up the game. The guy has what the game calls for — hand-eye coordination. He has no great athletic background, but his attention to detail and natural skills could make him a fine player."

"I like it, and I'm eager to really get after it," Copperfield says, "but I'm so busy here I really have to wait to get out on the road to make much time for it. Out there you do your show and that's it. So instead of sitting in my room I'll be out playing racquetball . . . Where's a good place to play in Denver?"

That answer was easy, but come on David, how do you push that cigarette through that quarter?

"People are always asking, but they really do want to suspend their disbelief. And it's not like I'm carrying around any state secrets. I mean if they really wanted to know they could look it up in any library."

Copperfield was once doing a show for an audience in the Bahamas which included a number of diplomats. The Secret Service was on hand and a couple of agents spent a lot of time rummaging through his props, either for the sake of curiosity or security. Whichever, the illusionist was not happy.

Tennis-Playing Doctor Discovers New Relief For Tennis Elbow

New York, N.Y. A tennis-playing doctor has developed a device to help relieve the discomfort of tennis elbow. It acts as a "shock absorber" and is sold under the name ACE™ Brand Tennis Elbow Brace. This innovative product is so unique in design that it has been awarded a patent by the U.S. Government. The ACE Brand Tennis Elbow Brace provides comfortable protection, with firmer support than ordinary elastic braces, to enable the user to play with confidence, while it helps reduce elbow strain. Yet it is lightweight and completely adjustable—goes on and off quickly and easily. Now available to the public in the Sports Medicine Section of drug stores and other fine stores where ACE® Elastic Bandages are sold.

ACE is a trademark of Becton Dickinson and Company.

"I told them repeatedly to stay out of my things," he recalls. "Then I came offstage and found another guy poking around. By this time I was a little sore, and I told him to get away from the stuff. He turned around and sort of apologized. Then I apologized. It was Henry Kissinger."

In March Copperfield was named "Magician of the Year" by his peers in the Magic Castle, a private club for magicians in Los Angeles, which includes the likes of Johnny Carson, Orson Welles and Doug Henning.

"It's really quite a milestone. To be so honored is a thrill. I've worked hard at this, and the award tells me it's paying off."

Copperfield intends to work hard at his play as well as his profession, and by all indications that'll pay off too.

It may be awhile before he gets the old crosscourt side wall-front wall pinch down pat. But then there is no defense against a guy who can make you disappear, even if you don't believe in magic. ●

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Sandy Coffman was the featured Speaker on women's programming at the 1979 NCCA Convention. She has served as a consultant to over 50 clubs across the nation. Hundreds of participants in past seminars can attest to the success of Sandy's methods.

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See page 62.

Who Will Win the Nationals?

by Dan Bertolucci

In 1977 everybody picked Marty Hogan to win the Nationals hands down, and everybody was wrong as Davey Bledsoe emerged the victor with an impressive and stunning upset. The next two years found everybody picking Hogan to win the title and he did so in a convincing fashion. Now the question is, "*Can Mr. Hogan do it three years in a row?*"

Odds are that everyone will pick Hogan as the odds on favorite winning against the field at the 1980 Championships. I believe that everyone will be right this time. This is just not another tournament for Marty Hogan. He has to win.

The Seamco/Leach co-sponsored 1979-80 Tournament road has proven a bit rocky for the power hitter from St. Louis probably because Marty has diluted his superstar ability on the racquetball court by committing himself to the recently concluded U.S. and World Superstars competition. (The time he spent training for the Superstars combination of athletic event, gave him a strong first place win in the initial round of competition.)

Yet the *Nationals* title is the only title that truly means anything in racquetball. It means more than the amount of prize money written on the winner's check. "*The Nationals is what the year is all about,*" Hogan says. "To prove you are worthy of being called the best you have to win the most important tournament."

Marty did not completely dominate the 79-80 tour season—he lost in the semi-finals to Bledsoe in Memphis, and in the finals to Mike Yellen in Boston and piled up a string of tie-breakers ranging from first round near upsets to quarter-final and semi-final surprises.

Hogan



But a true champion wins the big ones, and that is why Marty Hogan will win the Nationals. Gone will be Hogan's generous but dangerous habit of allowing opponents respectable scores. He won't be able to get the big lead and let up, for if he does, he'll lose. Hogan must again go into the Nationals like someone possessed. The stakes are too high for what has already become a magnificent sports career.

If Marty Hogan does not win, he will either have been injured or have choked the title away.

Here to follow, then, for the record, are the top 16 or so players and how I rate their chances for the Nationals. Next to their names will be the odds, approximate of course. I consider each

person a personal friend and offer these critiques as an objective appraisal of each player's current ability. A caution however—I've been wrong before.

At the time of this writing—with the Atlanta tournament results not computed into the rankings going into the Nationals—Mike Yellen is holding the number three spot. However I feel that the young Southfield, MI, artist is the best bet to reach the finals again as he's been for two years in a row. Yellen has thrilled audiences with stunning victories over Peck and Hogan this year and has the experience and "cool" of being able to handle the pressure of the richest purse ever in the history of the sport. He's made a strong comeback after a slow start this year, combining power and control that are the necessary ingredients to cause problems for Mr. Hogan.



Yellen

Yellen is still improving, and if he's lucky enough to be in the bottom bracket, should emerge the finalist.

I'd like to add that it is important and crucial to any of the pros to be in the bottom bracket. Those in the top must face Hogan prior to the finals and that will probably mean an early pay check minus several 0s.



Peck

Last year's Rookie of the Year, Dave Peck, is probably the most consistent player on the tour, even more so than Hogan. However Dave is putting unnecessary pressure on himself, mainly due to the fact that although he's won two events this season, he's never beaten Hogan to do so.

In facing Marty in other contests he has not done well in the showing. Although strong for consideration, being ranked second in many outstanding performances, Dave has yet to prove that he can put enough pressure on Hogan. Peck won't be a serious threat for the titles unless somebody knocks off Hogan along the way.



Hilecher

As for Hilecher Jerry's been in the top four all year and early in the season had a lock on number two only to be surprised by both Peck and Yellen. As of late Jerry has had some disappointing early round losses—16s in both the Seamco Racquetball Classic and Catalina Racquetball Classic West—and will need to regroup for the Nationals.

With front wall glass Jerry should be a threat, provided that his serve is on. If his aces fall short, he'll just be another one of the fine players—no better. His forehand and serve—his most potent weapons—combined with his phenomenal retrieving ability could help make Jerry a threat . . . but can he concentrate?

Concentration has been Hilecher's greatest enemy all season. He's spent too much time complaining to referees and linesmen and not enough time concentrating on play. If he'd worry less about how everybody's out to get him and play racquetball to the degree that he's so capable of, he'd be number two. Would he beat Marty? Hasn't shown me that he can.



Bledsoe

Davey Bledsoe beat Hogan in Memphis this season in the semi's but has had his ups and downs with the remainder of the season. Bledsoe—to even dream of an upset like the one in 1977—must clear his head and mentally train for the nationals in addition to preparing physically. He possesses the physical ability to win, but I question his desire, and the ability to regain the skill he'd need on the court. His obstacle will be emotional rather than physical.

If Bledsoe should repeat as National Champion it would be a bigger upset than any of his previous wins over Hogan or anybody, for that matter. I just don't see it happening. It'll be the quarters at best for Bledsoe.



Brumfield

Before I go on and give you the odds and round of expectation for some of the other pros, let me explain what won't happen. For one Charlie Brumfield, five time National Champion and finalist two years ago, won't be dressed to play when game time comes around for the finals. I don't think the holder of more titles than any other player, the Peoples Champion, and current number eight ranked pro player can pull another trick out of his bag.

Charlie is as fine a player today as he was during the years of his reign—1973-76. But there are too many equally good players who are younger and hungrier than the Brum. I think a hoped for goal might be to reach the semi's, but a realistic one is a possible quarter-final showing.

Should the luck of the draw pit the Master against someone other than Hogan, he might be able to pull another one off, but he probably won't. A sentimental bet at best.



Wagner

Rich Wagner will also be on the outside looking in the day of the finals. Rich has had a terrible season going way down in the ranks to the number 16 spot at the time of this writing. He is inconsistent and his concentration is not good enough so he can clear his mind of off-the-court problems and play to his potential.

Although Wagner has beaten virtually every other pro to the exclusion of Hogan, he has lost to several that should have never even been close. That makes him no better off than any of the others. All the ability he might possess won't be good enough unless he can execute. Quarters at best for Wags.



Strandemo

Strandemo, another veteran of the tour, is still a consistent quarter-finalist bet. Steve still works harder than any of the tour professionals, and if points were awarded for desire, his stock would be worth a considerable amount. But, like Brumfield, he'll have to move over for youth.



Thomas

Don Thomas, probably the brightest newcomer to this year's tour, has proven he can be tough. He, too, has that overwhelming desire to win. The most improved player this year, however, still hasn't put it all together. He's a power player who counteracts other power hitters well. Don's improvement this season has been gradual and overall, allowing him to react to situations faster, executing and selecting shots on a par with the best. Thomas will be a factor at the Nationals and I see him in the quarters. I think he's a year away from anything other than that. But if Hogan gets beaten early, watch out for Thomas.

You never know what Craig McCoy or Ben Koltun will do. McCoy's game has bobbed up and down like a buoy, and lacks consistency essential for Nationals success. Koltun can also be impressive or lackadaisical depending on what he watched on TV the night before. Look for these guys for possible appearances in the quarters, but no higher.



Fleetwood



Myers



McCoy



Koltun



Cohen

The best of the rest includes the likes of David Fleetwood, Lindsay Myers, Doug Cohen, Larry Meyers, Mike Levine, Scott Hawkins and John Egerman, none of whom have the experience to make a run at the title. Long shot bets to possibly reach the quarters are up-and-comers Lindsay Myers and Doug Cohen—a miracle will get them higher.

So what happened to Steve Keeley, Steve Serot, Mark Morrow, Steve Mondry, Jerry Zuckerman, Jeff Bowman? Well first of all some of these former favorites have spent time trying to qualify for the round of 32, and when they got there, they found the going tough. They might form a new coalition of good players without a prayer whose stock has fallen badly. They all will need more than their shots to help them reach or pass the 32s or 16s at the Nationals. ●

If I were going to bet today, I'd see it this way:

Hogan	1-2 • Probable favorite
Yellen	3-1 • Second choice
Peck	5-1 • Guaranteed semis, hits hard
Hilecher	8-2 • Watch out for serves on front wall glass
Strandemo	8-1 • Long week won't help—depends on his draw
Thomas	10-1 • Not this year, but he could get lucky
Brumfield	8-1 • No more miracles
Bledsoe	7-1 • Capable of brilliant performance
Koltun	8-1 • Show me
Myers, Larry	12-1 • Hasn't put it all together—won't at the Nationals
Fleetwood	14-1 • Quarters at best
Cohen	14-1 • Newcomer—needs another year of experience
McCoy	14-1 • Will he be awake?
Wagner	14-1 • Is his head ready?
Myers, Lindsay	12-1 • Could get lucky—they hate to play him.
Hawkins	15-1 • Lacks experience—16s at best.
Egerman	15-1 • See Hawkins
Morrow	20-1 • Probably round of 16 loser
Levine	20-1 • Will be heard from next year
Mondry	20-1 • Wishes it were higher
Bowman	20-1 • Maybe two rounds—doubtful
Serot	25-1 • Sentiment gets him this high
Zuckerman	25-1 • Prays for 32 win
Keeley	25-1 • See Serot



Racquetball in Central Park

First One Wall Nationals June 26-29

"Everyone will bring a different advantage to this tournament," says Jim Pruitt, who is organizing the USRA's (and the country's) first national one wall racquetball tournament June 26-29 on the 12 courts in New York City's Central Park.

"We expect one wall paddleball players and handball players to join four wall racquetball players. The paddleball players will have to learn to drill the ball in, something that's not done in paddleball, which is more of a finesse game. The handball players will have to learn to use the racquet—and the four wall racquetball players will have to learn to keep the ball within the boundary lines.

"Every four wall racquetball player I've introduced to the game has enjoyed it immensely—regarding it as a refreshing change and adapting to it immediately because the one wall game is less complex," says Pruitt, general manager of Centre City Sports Club, Inc. in Philadelphia and a man who's been playing four wall since the late 60's and one wall since 1975.

Specifically, Pruitt says, if you're a four wall racquetball player, you'll enjoy one wall because:

- It's great to be outdoors for a change of pace.
- It's a more social game since there are no dividing walls between courts and the players are more aware of each other.

- It teaches you control. You learn that you put "English" on the ball every time you hit it—you're less aware of that "English" when the walls are keeping the ball in play.
- Basically one wall is a pass and shoot game, so it improves those aspects of your game. It particularly improves your kill shots off the front wall and your fly kills.
- You can play the game for hours without the fatigue encountered indoors.
- It's a safer doubles game since there's space for four people within and without the court lines.

Turn the page for more on the One Wall Nationals, including the entry form.



The Central Park tournament is the brainchild of Jim Pruitt, the USRA Pennsylvania state chairman, who plays one wall at the Marian Anderson Recreation Center in South Philadelphia. Demonstrating the game are, left to right, Warren Kersh, Dolwain Greene (president of the University of Philadelphia Racquetball Club), Jim Lacey and Marian Laiken. Pruitt says the graffiti on the front wall is "just a normal part of the game—you don't even see it once you start playing."



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Playgrounds, zoos, ponds for rowing, ponies, ball fields, carriage rides, gardens, jogging trails, bike and bridal paths, a marionette theater, concerts and the Metropolitan Museum of Art are among the attractions that tournament players and their families can sample between matches during the USRA's One Wall in Central Park tournament.

And beyond the park is the city that sophisticated travelers regard as one of the world's great tourist towns.

With the tournament headquarters—Marriott's Essex House—offering a special USRA One Wall rate per room, no matter how many occupants, players will bring along sleeping bag-stocked kiddies ready to view the Empire State Building, American Stock Exchange, Hayden Planetarium, Lincoln Center and that all-time spectacular—the Statue of Liberty.

One Wall Rules

(as developed by Jim Pruitt)

The one wall of a one wall court is 20 feet wide and 16 feet high. The "floor" is 20 feet wide and 34 feet from the wall to the back line.

All four wall rules apply with the following exceptions:

1. One serve only is allowed.
2. Any server landing out of bounds (side or back line) is an automatic side out.
3. The server either (1) stands to the left or right of center and serves to the wider (more open) portion of the court or (2) stands in the center and designates to which side he or she is serving.
4. Any serve that passes within 18 inches of the server's body is a fault and a side out.
5. In doubles the server who isn't serving must stand off the court to the side either at the serving line or behind the back line.
6. The referee who calls the score is located behind the back line. The linesman is located to the right of the short line.

Guests Welcome

Indoor racquetball in Manhattan — should you want to play some four wall while you're at the One Wall Nationals — is available, but expensive, compared to what you're paying back home. It would cost you \$15 to \$20 an hour to try New York City racquetball in the following clubs, which *do* allow guests, but usually with an additional guest fee.

Gramercy Tennis and Racquetball, 706 Avenue of the Americas, 691-0110
Manhattan Squash Club, 41 W. 42nd St., 869-8969
Manhattan Plaza Racquet Club, 450 W. 43rd, 594-0554
Racquetball Fifth Avenue, 25 W. 39th, 944-0144
Skyline Tennis and Racquetball, 130 W. 52nd, 247-7575

USRA
One Wall in Central Park
National Championships



1980 • One Wall Racquetball

June 26-29 • New York City

SITE: One wall courts at the "Recreation House" just north of the 97th Street Transverse

FACILITIES: 12 one wall racquetball courts; extensive recreation opportunities for adults and children in Central Park

HEADQUARTERS: Marriott's Essex House, 160 Central Park S. New York, NY 10019, 212-247-0300. Very special rates for One wall participants

ENTRY FEES: \$20 first event; \$10 second. Limit two events per player, no exceptions

ENTRY DEADLINE: In our possession by 6 p.m. Friday, June 20, 1980. Entry fee must accompany entry form. Entries received after deadline will be returned unopened. Entries received unsigned or without entry fee will not be accepted. No phone entries-no exceptions.

SANCTION: By U.S. Racquetball Association

OFFICIAL BALL: Seamco 600 (blue)

AWARDS: Trophies for first four winners in each division; tournament shirt for all entries

STARTING TIMES: Participants may obtain starting times after 3 p.m. Monday, June 23, by calling 215-963-0963.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: USRA

MAIL CHECKS AND COMPLETED ENTRY FORM TO: Jim Pruitt, Centre City Sports Club, 1818 Market St., Philadelphia, PA 19103

RULES, REGULATIONS AND NOTES:

- (1) All match winners will be expected to referee subject to forfeiture.
- (2) No partner changes will be allowed in doubles events after entry deadline.
- (3) Entry fees are non-refundable.
- (4) All USRA rules apply, except there will be two minute rests between the first and second games and five minutes between the second game and the tie-breaker.
- (5) A minimum of eight entrants or teams is required for a division of play to occur. If there are fewer than eight entrants or teams, then those players or teams will be automatically placed in the next youngest applicable division of play.



The City of New York
Department of Parks and Recreation



PLEASE ENTER ME IN (check events desired - maximum of two)

- ☐ Men Pro Singles
- ☐ Men Amateur Singles
- ☐ Men Veteran Singles (30 +)
- ☐ Men Senior Singles (35 +)
- ☐ Men Veteran Senior Singles (40 +)
- ☐ Men Masters Singles (45 +)
- ☐ Men Veteran Masters Singles (50 +)
- ☐ Men Golden Masters Singles (55 +)
- ☐ Men Veteran Golden Masters Singles (60 +)
- ☐ Men Amateur Doubles
- ☐ Men Veteran Doubles (30 +)
- ☐ Men Senior Doubles (35 +)
- ☐ Men Masters Doubles (45 +)
- ☐ Men Golden Masters Doubles (55 +)

- ☐ Women Amateur Singles
- ☐ Women Veteran Singles (30 +)
- ☐ Women Senior Singles (35 +)
- ☐ Women Veteran Singles (40 +)
- ☐ Women Master Singles (45 +)
- ☐ Women Veteran Masters Singles (50 +)
- ☐ Women Amateur Doubles
- ☐ Women Veteran Doubles (30 +)
- ☐ Women Senior Doubles (35 +)
- ☐ Women Master Doubles (45 +)

WAIVER: I understand that it is your intention to have my participation hereunder recorded on videotape for presentation on television and elsewhere, and I expressly agree that you shall have the unlimited right and authority to use and exploit your coverage of the series, the videotape and any and all forms of reproduction thereof in any and all media in perpetuity in whatever manner and by whatever means and wherever you may desire without any obligation to pay any monies to me except as hereinabove expressly provided. Such recordings shall without limitation be the sole property of NRC/USRA to deal with, broadcast, sell, license, rent, exhibit and otherwise use or reuse in whole or in part as the NRC/USRA sees fit.

I also hereby for myself and my agents waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the U.S. Racquetball Association and the New York Parks and Recreation Department and any of their agents, for any and all injuries received by me in connection with this tournament.

Signature _____

Parent (If Under 18) _____

Date _____

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () Area Code _____ Work Phone _____

Signature _____

Doubles Partner's Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () Area Code _____ Work Phone _____

List all one wall racquetball, paddleball or handball achievements _____



Who's Playing Racquetball?

Donna Shaw:

Saving a Chicago Hotel

Thirty-four-old Donna Shaw is an exercise in optimism. No task is too difficult, no problem too complex for this energetic businesswoman. One can sense her holding back her enthusiasm, clamoring for the next challenge.

While she orchestrates the whole show as assistant executive manager of Chicago's Midland Hotel, she has no qualms at getting her hands dirty and has been seen supervising everything from construction to the accounting department.

Shaw is one of those people with a natural instinct for assessing a situation and developing an appropriate plan of action. This talent has restored great health to the Midland Hotel, once slated to follow the lead of more than a dozen dying hotels in Chicago's Loop. While Shaw had only three years in the hotel business prior to this job, there are those who believe her very inexperience in the field has enabled her to implement logical but non-traditional ideas which have been undeniably successful.

Shaw, who spent seven years at Chicago's WMAQ Radio as everything from publicity manager to editorial director, was spotted at WMAQ writing advertising copy for the Executive House in 1973 and nabbed by that hotel to direct its sales department. Three years later Midland President Eugene Pekow lured her away with the ultimate challenge: a three million dollar renovation commitment and a time limit of 90 days in which to turn the hotel around.

Shaw met the challenge, overseeing complete renovation, watching occupancy rise 25 percent in 1978 alone. She has developed a management team and a marketing program and is currently supervising the building of a gourmet restaurant at the Midland.

Perhaps surprisingly for a woman of her energy level Shaw is not a workaholic. "I don't go home and read six trade magazines, and my whole world is not locked up in the Midland Hotel," she asserts.

Sadini/Karant photo



Eugene Pekow, left, president of Chicago's Midland Hotel, gave Donna Shaw 90 days to put the Loop institution back on its feet.



Consequently she has time for other activities. Exercise, for example, is crucial to her as a tension release. She swims a mile and a half a day and plays racquetball four times a week at the health club in her downtown apartment building.

"I use it as therapy," Shaw says of the sport she has been playing for almost two years.

"In fact it is more than therapy, I realized recently," she admits. The health club, it seems was closed for a month of remodeling. "I was tense and irritable and I couldn't sleep." Even her staff mentioned she was difficult to be around. "And I gained 12 pounds," she adds with a grimace.

Donna Shaw has trouble getting through a day that doesn't start with a racquetball game.



Jamie Alter photo

Shaw usually gets her exercise time in the morning. She plays with regular partners from her building and with people from work. "You can get a great workout, enjoy yourself and feel like you're good at something," she says.

While her manners behind the desk may be tough and aggressive, and she plays the same kind of racquetball game, Shaw is not at all interested in competition. "That's not what I like the sport for," she says.

And what's going to happen to the dynamic Shaw when the Midland project is under control? When the renovation is complete and the challenge has been met? "Well, I'm in real estate school now," she says with a straight face. ●

—Jennifer Alter

If you know a man or woman who plays racquetball and whose job or hobby would make him or her a good subject for this series, send the name, address and phone number to Carol Brusslan, National Racquetball, 4101 Dempster, Skokie, IL 60076.

EXTRA!

One Week Marathon Record in New Jersey

Frank Araque, a 5'4" native of Caracas, Venezuela, lost 10 pounds and won \$2,400 for the Leukemia Society during a 168 hour racquetball marathon that ended at 2 p.m. April 12 at the Edgewater Park Racquetball Club in Edgewater Park, NJ.

Araque, who weighed 140 pounds at the end of his feat, broke the record of 158 hours formerly held by Phil Ciarco of Lyndhurst, NJ. Araque is a 23-year-old student at the University of Pennsylvania who started playing five and a half months before the marathon. Edgewater owner, Rich Gober, made

several phone calls to *National Racquetball* during the one week marathon to

make sure that Araque's hours played were setting a racquetball playing record.

National Racquetball serves as a clearing house for marathon records.



Frank Araque crowds into Edgewater Park's exhibition court with 84 opponents who kicked off the marathon by playing the first point.

Racquetball Hits the Little Leagues

Court clubs, YMCAs, community centers, municipal facilities, Boys' Clubs of America and schools are forming four-player teams of boys and girls to compete in a national Summertime Youth Racquetball program.

Local winners will form all star teams for area, state,

regional and — finally — National playoffs in mid August in Vail, CO. An "everything counts" scoring will emphasize defensive play and allow teams to finish matches in less time than in standard scoring.

Local sponsors will work under a "Little League baseball format," according to Mort Leve, who will

administer the program in coordination with the United States Racquetball Association. For 20 years Leve was a national official and coach with Little League, Pony/Colt League and Biddy Basketball programs.

USRA/NRC President Robert W. Kendler, long interested in youth

promotion, says "this network of teams will introduce the game to thousands and thousands of boys and girls. We support the program with great enthusiasm."

For more information contact your local facility or call Mort Leve at 602-991-0253.

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(312) 480-1206**

Never Say Die

by Mal Bernstein

Capt. Vaughn Dille, U.S. Army (retired), has a "Never Say Die" attitude that works for him on and off the racquetball court.

At 32 Dille has survived five major operations for two forms of cancer in different parts of his body. One form is believed to be 85 percent fatal. The other form even worse, 95-98 percent fatal.

The handsome, 165 pound, muscular six footer believes he's the longest living survivor of this combination of diseases. Less than four years ago he received a 100 percent total and permanent medical disability from the military service, even though he fought to stay in the army.

Yet today he is a tough player on the racquetball court. He was rated among the top five in the state of Maryland two years ago, and is currently the racquetball tournament director and pro at the Arizona Athletic Club in Tempe.

Dille was number one in physical education when he was graduated from West Point in 1971. With his second lieutenant bars intact, he married Nelly Salvatore, then went off to Airborne and Ranger schools. The couple's son, Mark, was born two years later.

During the summer of 1975 Dille was evacuated from Korea to Walter Reed Army Medical Center, where numerous examinations revealed he needed surgery for cancer of the lung and testicle.

The five operations, 4,500 rads of radiation and three and a half years of chemotherapy treatments caused Dille to drop from 185 to 140 pounds. Eight months of this time was spent in the hospital.

Weak, but wanting to "live to be 103," he was determined to beat the odds.

Ballads for the Patients

In between treatments he began to play racquetball to rebuild his strength. At other times he would play his guitar and sing old ballads to other patients.

"When everyone around you is dying, you have to do something to spark a little hope and positive thinking," he says.

No other human being has lived this long from the combination of dreaded diseases, according to Dille, who said the disease has been in remission since August, 1975. He no longer takes any medication, but does have regular complete physical examinations. He admits to be "blazing a trail for others" by proving the odds can be beaten.

After receiving his medical discharge he was able to rebuild his strength in large part by playing racquetball regularly at the Columbia Athletic Club, near Baltimore.

The doctors told him he would have only 60 percent of his maximum endurance for two years as the result of the radiation to his bone marrow. After one year he was a serious competitor and accepted a position as head pro at the Supreme Court Racquetball Club in Columbia, MD.

Tournament Player

"I soon was able to compete in tournaments in Pennsylvania, Virginia and Maryland," Dille says. *"I did fairly well in some tournaments and not too well in others."*

With less than a year of racquetball experience, and still undergoing chemotherapy treatment, he entered the Maryland State Singles Championship and ended up playing 13 singles matches in two days.

Vaughn Dille works up a sweat playing racquetball, the game that helped put him on his feet after five cancer operations and three and a half years of chemotherapy.



Dille builds his legs with 750 pound weights.

The Mesa, AZ, teaching pro plays a "controlled power" game.

—Mel Bernstein and Bill Irwin photos

Weights Three Times a Week

Weight training plays a major role in Dille's conditioning. In an effort to gain more body weight he uses a bulk-lift system three times a week. Included in the workout are bench presses with 215 pounds, and leg lifts with some 750 pounds.

Racquetball sessions include about an hour of hard practice two or three times a week.

Dille, who's now sponsored by AMF Head, is also a professional taxidermist and an electronics engineer with six years of college electrical engineering training behind him. And he has completed plans for his custom three-bedroom home, complete with indoor courtyard with fish pond to be built on his five acres of Arizona desert land. The builder — Dille himself.

He has written a song, "*Never Say Die*," and is completing a book bearing the same title. It will tell much about his life and ability to have a positive attitude in an effort to conquer the impossible.

In his few free hours he visits young people who are suffering from cancer to help build their morale and offer them some hope. He tells those patients able to play racquetball to at least try the sport because "*it builds cardiovascular endurance and develops your legs*." He cautions to play in moderation and only with a doctor's okay.

Dille promotes the game by setting up leagues for players from their teens through early 70s and by organizing clinics and tournaments with guest pros.

Quite a different scene from the one less than four years ago at Walter Reed Army Medical Center when a nurse would pinch the toe of Vaughn Dille — cancer patient — to make sure he was still among the living.

"*Life is what you make it*," Dille says, "*make it what you will*." ●

He admits this "was pretty stupid." He lost the quarter-finals of the open to the Maryland State champion, then lost the finals in the Men's B competition to the later Mid Atlantic Regionals Open Champion.

"I'm part of the old core of racquetball players," Dille says. "More of the Steve Strandemo and Steve Keeley

combination, who are control/power players, as opposed to Marty Hogan, who plays a straight power game.

"I play more of the controlled power game. I try to control and dictate the rhythm of the match. Being 32 years old it would be difficult to keep my pace, endurance and stamina on keel with an 18-year-old blasting everything. I simply try to outshoot and outthink him."

Memphis State — Still Number One

by Ed Sherman

For Houston's Keith Dunlap the win made his reunion with his old Memphis State teammates even sweeter.

For UCLA's Michelle Busacca *deja vu* was a feeling she was glad to avoid.

For Memphis State it was just business as usual.

Dunlap, Busacca and Memphis State were the big winners in the USRA Leach/Seamco Intercollegiate Tournament held at the University of Illinois in Urbana March 28-30. The tourney, which attracted competitors from 34 schools, offered \$10,000 worth of scholarship money, \$5,000 from Leach Industries out of San Diego, and the other half came from Seamco Sporting Goods of LaGrange, GA. Memphis State won the team title, as they continued their domination over intercollegiate racquetball, and Busacca grabbed the women's singles title in an 11-point tie-breaker over Air Force's Barbara Faulkenberry, who beat Busacca in similar circumstances last year.

Dunlap captured the men's A singles title and \$1,000, but he claimed it wasn't an individual effort.

The national meet provided Dunlap with an opportunity to be reunited with his old team — Memphis State. He represented Memphis State in last year's tourney, when he finished second to Bobby Bolan.

But Dunlap has transferred to Houston since that time, and his game hasn't been the same — until the reunion.

"Coming into this tourney, I had lost a lot of confidence," said Dunlap, who was surrounded by his Memphis State teammates. *"I was moving away from Memphis and to a new area. It hurt my game."*

"But being back with these guys made me feel good. They were cheering for me during the matches. They gave me inspiration."

For the second year in a row Memphis State went home with two Joe Sobek trophies, the silver cups that bear the name of the man who invented racquetball more than 20 years ago. Members of the men's and women's teams who outplayed college students from 36 other schools were, back row, left to right, Mike Gora, Sharon Fanning, Scott Schaffer and Brian Soule, and front row, left to right, Linda Lavene, Dan Cohen, Renee Trammell and Candi Gavin.



Dunlap needed a lot of inspiration to get by University of Michigan's Larry Fox in the finals, as he was pushed all the way to the 11-point tie-breaker. The Wolverine sophomore won the first game of the match 21-16, and had a quick 4-0 lead in the second game. Dunlap's serves were ineffective, which called for a change.

"My drive serve started to go in," Dunlap said. *"I had been using lob serves the whole tournament, but they weren't working against Larry. I had to come up with something that would give him pressure."*

Down 4-0 Dunlap started his rally in the match and soon grabbed the lead. He tied the score at nine, and had Fox by a 19-16 score. However Dunlap had trouble putting Fox away.

Fox cut the lead at 19-18, and the score stayed that way for several serves, as neither player could dent the scoreboard.

Dunlap, then, called on the drive serve, and got the final two points. He won the game by a 21-18 score, but more importantly, he was pumped with the much needed momentum for the 11-point tie-breaker.

The loss also had an adverse affect on Fox. *"I started thinking about losing,"* he said. *"I was tired and hot, and my mind started wandering."*

Dunlap won the tie-breaker 11-7, but the match wasn't even that close. With the score tied 5-5, Dunlap ran off five straight points to lock the match.

"I lost my concentraton," Fox said. *"I tried to call a time out to stop the run, but it was too late."*

University of Michigan's Larry Fox jumps clear of Keith Dunlap's hard hit drive in the finals that made the University of Texas senior winner of the men's number one singles.

Keith Dunlap



Dunlap was the popular winner of the tournament. He rarely showed emotion on the court, never arguing with officials, never exhibiting anger for a missed shot and never applauding a success. He played on an even keel, and he won the respect of his opponents.

"He's very honest," said St. Cloud University's Dan Ferris, after he lost to Dunlap in the semi-finals. "It was a fun match against him."

As for Dunlap's racquetball both Fox and Ferris were in agreement about his play. "He's consistent," Ferris said. "He's a good shooter, he's fast and he's smart."

"He's awesome," Fox said. "I've got a lot of respect for him."

Dunlap says he's content to stay in Houston, where he is being sponsored by the Quail Valley Racquet Club. He has no plans to jump back to Memphis State.

Larry Fox's second in men's number one singles led his Michigan team to third place in the March competition.



University of Illinois' Barry Allan and UCLA's Michelle Busacca won thousand dollar Robert W. Kendler scholarships, provided by Leach and Seamco.



—Leslie Woodrum photos

Dunlap was also happy with the win, after coming close and coming up empty last year. *"It feels a lot better this time,"* he said.

Busacca was another player who felt better this year. In 1979 the UCLA junior lost to Faulkenberry in the tie-breaker, and the same result looked likely this time.

"It was a pretty sticky situation," Busacca said.

However Busacca didn't show the pressure in the tie-breaker, as she was in complete command, winning 11-2.

"I knew it would be tough," Faulkenberry said. *"I thought she was tired, so I didn't call any time outs. But she continued to play well."*

The match, though, was decided in the second game. Faulkenberry trounced Busacca 21-12 in the first game. Busacca was frustrated with play, and it looked as if Faulkenberry would have an easy time.

But Busacca was a different player in the second game, in complete control in a 21-12 victory. And like Dunlap Busacca had the momentum going into the tie-breaker.

"Once I get going, I kept going," Busacca said. *"I felt confident. When that happens, you feel you can hit any shot."*

Busacca was greeted by her brother after her win. He was pleased with the victory, but not with the method.

"I made my brother pretty nervous," Busacca said.

Memphis State was the biggest winner in the tournament, as their team garnered \$4,000 in scholarship money.

Men

Memphis State University (total 22 points) Scott Schaffer (fourth #1 singles, 6 points) Brian Soule (fourth #2 singles, 4 points) Mike Gora/Dan Cohen (first doubles, 12 points)

St. Cloud State University (total 20 points) Dan Ferris (third #1 singles, 8 points) John Johnson (quarters #2 singles, 2 points) Greg Hayenga/Art Bock (second doubles, 10 points)

University of Michigan (total 18 points) Larry Fox (second #1 singles, 10 points) Lee Bentsen (third #2 singles, 6 points) Michael Kaufman/Mark Richardson (quarters doubles, 2 points)

Oklahoma State University (total 16 points) Les Whitaker (second #2 singles, 8 points) Mark Fairbairn/Tom Farley (third doubles, 8 points)

University of Illinois (total 12 points) Barry Allan (first #2 singles, 10 points) Glen Lasken/Dennis Lutz (quarters doubles, 2 points)

University of Colorado (total 6 points) Kim Koehn/John Ascher (fourth doubles, 6 points)

Central Michigan University (total 4 points) Tedd Bradley (quarters #2 singles, 2 points) Cleotus Melvin/Brian Chermiside (quarters doubles, 2 points)

Women

Memphis State University (total 26 points) Renee Trammel (second #2 singles, 8 points) Sharon Fanning (third #1 singles, 8 points) Candi Gavin/Linda Lavene (second doubles, 10 points)

University of Illinois (total 20 points) Vicki Carr (quarters #1 singles, 2 points) Janine Toman (first #2 singles, 10 points) Dawn Kell/Karen Randich (third doubles, 8 points)

Southern Illinois University (total 16 points) Marsha Cashion (quarters #1 singles, 2 points) Mary Credille (fourth #2 singles, 4 points) Kim Drader/Ann Mirrieles (first doubles, 12 points)

Lake Forest College (total 8 points) Kathy Lee (quarters #2 singles, 2 points) Caryl Welsbacker/Lois Wiesbrook (fourth doubles, 6 points)

1980 Intercollegiate Team Standings

**Participating Colleges and Universities
in the 1980 Leach/Seamco
Intercollegiate Championships**

Arizona State University, Tuscon
Ball State University, Muncie, IN
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant
Canisius College, Buffalo
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado, Boulder
DuPage Community College, Glen Ellyn, IL
Erie Community College, Buffalo, NY
Hanover College, Hanover, IN
University of Illinois, Chicago Circle
University of Illinois, Urbana
Iowa State University, Ames
Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL
Loyola University, Chicago
Marshalltown Community College,
Marshalltown, IA
Memphis State University
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis
Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
University of Nebraska, Lincoln
University of Nevada, Reno
Northwestern State University of Louisiana,
Natchitoches
Rutgers University, Newark, NJ
St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN
San Bernadino Valley College,
San Bernadino, CA
Sangamon State University, Springfield, IL
State University of New York, Buffalo
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale
University of Texas, Houston
United States Air Force Academy,
Colorado Springs, CO
Valley City State College, Valley City, ND
Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg
Wheaton Community College, Wheaton, IL
William Rainey Harper Junior College,
Schaumburg, IL

Racquetball on Campus

From Medieval to 10,000 Strong

Ed Sherman, University of Illinois junior, who covered the USRA Leach/Seamco Intercollegiate for National Racquetball, checked with some of the players around the country on the status of racquetball at their schools. As might be expected Memphis State, which won both the men's and women's Joe Sobek first place trophies, has far and away the nation's best college racquetball program.

Barbara Faulkenberry - Air Force Academy, from Clearwater, FL, operations research major, sophomore.

The Academy sponsors me. I'm like a one-person intercollegiate sport. The Academy has been super to me. When I picked Air force, I thought I was kissing racquetball goodbye. But the opposite has happened.



Racquetball is very popular in the Air Force. It's an intramural sport and an intramural is mandatory for everyone who doesn't play an intercollegiate sport. The level of competition still isn't very good, but it's been improving since I got there. I think we've got some more women who can compete. We hope to bring a complete team next year.

Kenny Kalhlanen - University of California - San Diego, from San Antonio, pre-med major, junior

I'm here by myself. There's no club at the school, only intramurals. My dad paid for me to come here.

Racquetball isn't organized at the school, nobody is really pushing it. There aren't any courts. I heard they were thinking about building a new facility, but that's only rumor.

I play at a private club. I've been trying to hit all the tournaments, and I'd like to become a professional player. I play whenever I can, but school still comes first.

Larry Fox - University of Michigan, from Cincinnati, business major, sophomore

There is a racquetball club at the university, but it's more popular as a social activity. They set some courts aside a couple times a week, but there's no real competition involved.

We're here as a team, but it's different from being with the club. A couple of us got together, and some guy from the university helped us out with the gas.

It's tough going to school and having top flight competition. The level of competition seems to be improving, but it's a slow process. The sport is relatively new, and it's still not taught properly. Racquetball has its starting point, now it has to grow from there.

Keith Dunlap - University of Texas -Houston, from Memphis, recreation major, senior

I'm here by myself. The club I'm teaching at is helping me finance the trip.

I don't even know if they have any courts at the university. If they don't have any courts, there can't be much of a program.

I used to go to school at Memphis State, and I've never seen racquetball more popular there. There were 15 courts and two clubs. The competition was really tough there.

I'd like to go pro if I can get the money to handle expenses. There are a million good players, but just a select few get the money to go.

Leach and Seamco Split \$10,000 in Scholarships Between Men and Women Collegiate Winners

For the second consecutive year Leach Industries and Seamco Sporting Goods are helping promising young racquetball players finish their educations by funding Robert W. Kendler Scholarships for winners of the USRA Inter-collegiates.

Memphis State University took the biggest share of the \$10,000 in scholarship money. Mike Gora and Dan Cohen, winners of the Men's Doubles, each received \$1,000 toward next year's college costs. And because Memphis State's men's and women's teams stacked up the most points at the tournament, the school received \$2,000

— a thousand for each team's victory which Memphis State Racquetball Coach Larry Lyle says he'll use for more racquetball scholarships.

Other thousand dollar scholarship winners are Men's Number One Singles - Keith Dunlap, University of Texas at Houston; Men's Number Two Singles - Barry Allan, University of Illinois; Women's Number One Singles - Michelle Busacca, University of California at Los Angeles; Women's Number Two Singles - Janine Toman, University of Illinois, and Women's Doubles - Kim Drader and Ann Mirrielees, Southern Illinois University.

Jeff Siegel - University of Arizona, from Chicago, international business major, graduate student

The courts at the campus are medieval - only five courts for 30,000 students. That's about 6,000 people per court. If you wanted to play on a good court, you had to go to the Tucson Athletic Club.



The campus programs are only intramural. The facilities are just not conducive to quality competition. There are cement walls and floors and no ceilings.

There was a referendum to build a big athletic facility with courts, but the students voted it down. So we're stuck with the same archaic courts, that simply don't lend themselves to good competition.

Candy Gavin - Memphis State, from Philadelphia, PA, marketing major, senior

We have 14 women and 12 men on the team. We take the four top men and women to tournaments. We have a coach and he recruits. People come to the school just to play for the team.

Memphis is the mecca for racquetball in Tennessee. It's the best calibre of play in the state. At least 10,000 students play the sport at the school.

We're classified under student affairs, but we don't get much money from them. We sponsor tournaments and businesses help us with money.

We've been established for the last six years, and our women's and men's teams have been consistent intercollegiate champs. We're proud of that.

Bob Adam - University of Minnesota, from Edina, MN, business major, senior

The sport is very popular at Minnesota, but there are poor facilities for racquetball. There are no regulation courts, but there are plans to build 25 new courts.

The club is on an intramural basis, so I'm here by myself. I have to rent a court from the court club so I can play.



The competition is pretty poor at the school. I've given some clinics, but there's not much you can do without a regulation court. The game is pretty popular. There are five or six classes a quarter.

I graduate next December, and I'm going to try to be a pro for awhile. I'll see how that works out.

Michelle Busacca - UCLA, from Bakersfield, CA, major undecided, junior

UCLA is paying my way for this tournament. They were still deciding when I left, but I just heard they're going to give me the money. I went to them last year, and told them "I was really good" and they gave me the money.

There is no club at the university; it's just on an intramural basis. There are only five courts at the school, but they're building the John Wooden Center, which is suppose to have 16 courts.



It's really popular at the school. You have to get up at 6 in the morning to stand in line for an hour to get a court. The courts are usually booked by 7 or 7:30.

I may go pro, but I don't know yet. It depends how I progress. ●



Ask the Champ

by Marty Hogan

Two Time and Current National Champion Marty Hogan, a Leach player, answers questions about improving your game in this exclusive *National Racquetball* series. Write to Marty Hogan, c/o Ask the Champ, *National Racquetball*, 4101 Dempster, Skokie, IL 60076.

Question: What can I do to improve my game? I play five to six times a week, run steps, do wrist curls, ride the bike, do situps and pushups, yet I get beat by a lesser player in practice. This frustrates me to no end because I feel as though I am getting nowhere. Could I be playing the game too much?

Tony Jankevicius
Omaha, NE

Hogan: For one thing weight lifting, pushups and running do not improve your racquetball. What improves your racquetball game is getting on a court by yourself and practicing. Many times I've seen players do nothing but play and play and in playing so much the mistakes they're making don't become as obvious to themselves as they would be if they played less. Don't stop your training, but two or three times a week go out on a court by yourself and practice those things that gave you problems in a game or a match. Hit these shots until you become confident in yourself that you can hit those same shots in a tournament. The fastest way to improve is to play three times a week. After each time you play, sit down and analyze what you've done wrong, then go out on a court the next day and practice your weaknesses.

Question: How do I handle an opponent who cuts the ball off 99 percent of the time? Whether the ball is hit six inches off the floor or two feet above his head, he cuts it off, hitting it low into the front wall.

Barrie Camelon
Seattle, WA

Hogan: The best way to keep your opponent from cutting the ball off is to get him out of center court position. Therefore when your

opponent is serving the ball, 90 percent of your service returns should be directed toward the ceiling. This one shot guarantees getting your opponent into deep court. Once you have your opponent in the back court, this will open up all your passing lanes. So whenever you're playing an opponent like this, try to initiate a ceiling ball rally as soon as possible. Also once you're in the rally with him, remember that the hardest ball to cut off is a ball hit down the line. It's much easier for an opponent to step over and cut off a cross court pass than it is if he has to try to deal with a pass down the wall.

If your opponent is cutting off your kill shots, this just means the angle that you're hitting is not wide enough. If he is cutting off the ball that is two feet over his head, don't worry about that because that is a low percentage shot, and the chances are he won't make a point with it.

Question: How do you get "fired up" mentally and physically without getting exhausted, and can you suggest some ways to break an opponent's "hot streaks"?

F. J. Rodriguez
Lawton, OK

Hogan: Mentally preparing yourself for a match should begin back at the hotel room. Don't wait until you get to the club to fire yourself up. If you have properly trained for a tournament and find yourself in good shape, then you'll be physically prepared as well as mentally. Having your head clear and your mind ready for a match leaves your body ready to function as the mind tells it.

In breaking your opponents' "hot streaks" your best weapon is still your

three time outs per game. What aggravates many opponents is if you slow the pace of the game. Take your allotted 10 seconds between each rally. You can also take a glove change time out, along with drying up the floor. Time outs are not just rest periods. Use them at strategic times to slow your opponent down.

Question: I am a left handed player and have two problems with my game. It seems that my backhand is very weak and no matter how much weight training I do, I still have trouble with delivering any amount of power with my backhand. Do you have any suggestions?

The second question is about the very difficult time I have with a ball that skims along the right side wall. I don't know why, but I seem to smash the head of my racquet on the wall, missing the ball most of the time.

John Barrett
Racine, WI

Hogan: Power in racquetball does not come from strength. With the backhand the power comes from two sources, the wrist snap and the clockwise rotation of the shoulders (counterclockwise for left handers). At the exact time the wrist snaps through the ball, the shoulders should flow through and open up to the front wall. It is the timing of the shoulder rotation that provides the power.

When hitting a ball along the wall the key is to not let the ball get behind you or too far in front of you. Position yourself so you are even with the ball and try to hit the ball back down the wall. Don't try to do too much with this ball. It's when you let the ball get too far behind you that you strike your racquet on the wall and completely miss the ball. ●

Summer Sports for Your Racquetball Game

by Steve Strandemo

What does a racquetball player do when summer comes, flooding the country with long hours of warm daylight and beckoning the people to take their recreation out-of-doors?

Racquetball is an indoor sport 365 days of the year. There's no getting out of that 20 by 20 by 40 box, if you want to keep your game sharp and your skills keen. Should a serious racquetball player let his game go to pot in summer while he indulges himself in tennis and golf?

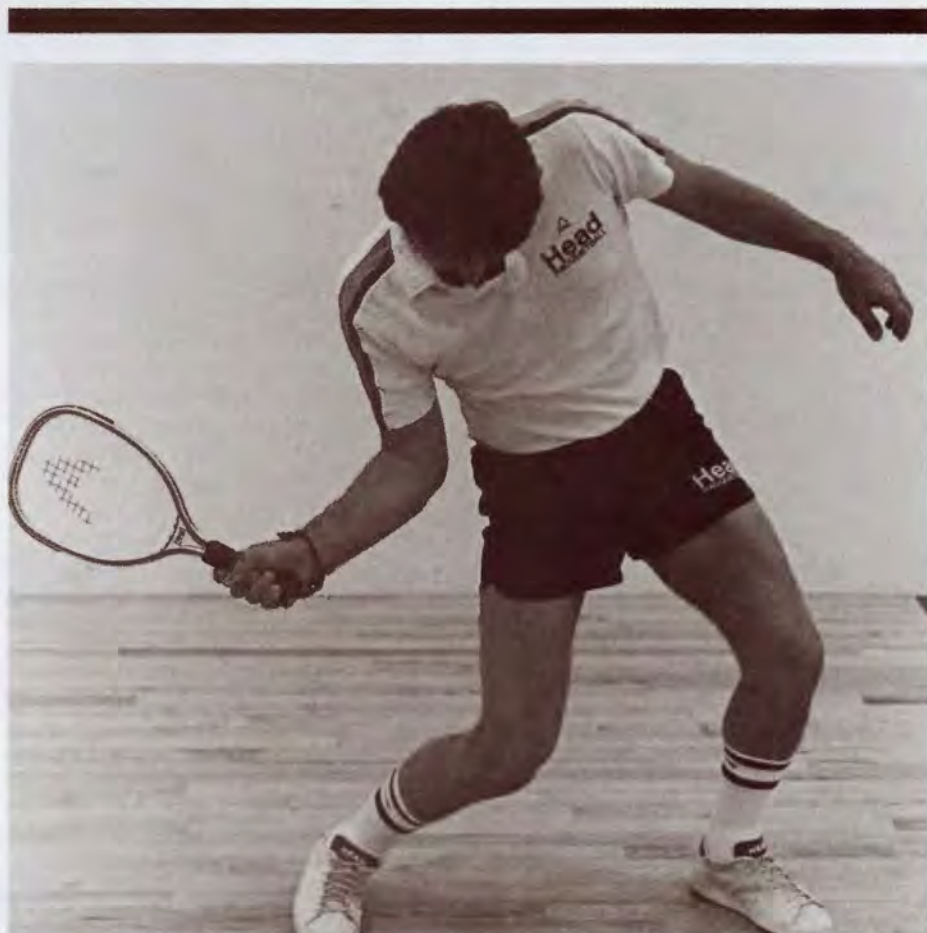
He doesn't have to if he doesn't want to. He can have both, without a critical loss of his racquetball abilities. As a rule of thumb you can cut back your playing time by half and maintain a level of play that will allow you to come back quickly to top form in the fall.

Therefore if you are an open-level player, playing every day in the winter months, play maybe three times a week during summer. If you are a B player and play four or five times a week in winter, play twice a week in the summer.

Meanwhile you can choose an outdoor sport that in one way or another will complement the skills that are important in racquetball. In fact many of these skills are practically the same. A good golf swing is almost the embodiment of the racquetball swing.

Take a close look at the golf swing. The feet are planted, anchoring the body. Knees bent. Hips and torso rotate to generate power. Full backswing, wrists cocked. Uncoil down and into the ball. Snap your wrists for maximum power. Full follow through. Hand-eye coordination is crucial. Keeping your eye on the ball is crucial.

"A good golf swing is almost the embodiment of a good racquetball swing."



Sound familiar? Of course there are a couple of big differences. The stance is more parallel with the golf swing. You have plenty of time to set up. In racquetball you hit from varied foot positions—closed, parallel and open, depending on the situation and the amount of time you have to set up. And in golf the left arm, not the right, guides the club. But there are enough similarities to remind your reflexes of racquetball.

That doesn't mean you should say, "Hey I'm gonna go out and play golf so I can work on my racquetball game." It doesn't work that way. If you're playing golf or tennis or tiddly-winks, enjoy them for what they are. Forget racquetball. The only place you can work on your racquetball game is on a racquetball court.

I only want to point out that some outdoor sports help you maintain various athletic values that will help keep you fit for racquetball. Jogging imparts stamina. So does backpacking in the mountains. Golf imparts hand-eye coordination. So does fielding a grounder in softball.

More than anything, I think, you want to keep in good condition. Golf does very little for your cardiovascular system. Swimming, on the other hand, is a very good conditioner, and is great for keeping muscle tone in the upper body. If you play a lot of golf and softball or baseball, augment them with some sort of conditioning program. Of course you'll be playing racquetball at least twice a week, and that is a very good conditioner.

Let's look at a few outdoor sports and see how they might relate to racquetball.



Your racquetball game gets better when you let softball aid your hand-eye coordination and bicycling and swimming build your stamina.

"Volleying in tennis is closely related to cutting off the ball in racquetball."

Baseball and softball involve hitting a ball with good wrist snap. Hank Aaron never hit all his home runs by overpowering the ball. He did it by watching the ball, hitting it on the button and flicking his wrists. When sportswriters wrote about Aaron, they wrote more about his wrists than the muscles in his arms. His success was a result of timing and flexibility.

Catching the ball naturally involves hand-eye coordination and, sometimes, quick reflexes.

Tennis involves hitting a ball, though with a stiff wrist. It is played on a court, which gives you a sense of having to hit with accuracy and of having to know the angles.

Volleying in tennis is closely related to cutting off the ball in racquetball. The stance is square, and you're setting up quickly to hit the ball in mid-air and punch it back with accuracy and power.

Tennis is also the only outdoor chance you have to hit a backhand. It's not the same as a racquetball backhand, but at least it is the act of turning the body to hit a ball coming to your off-hand side.

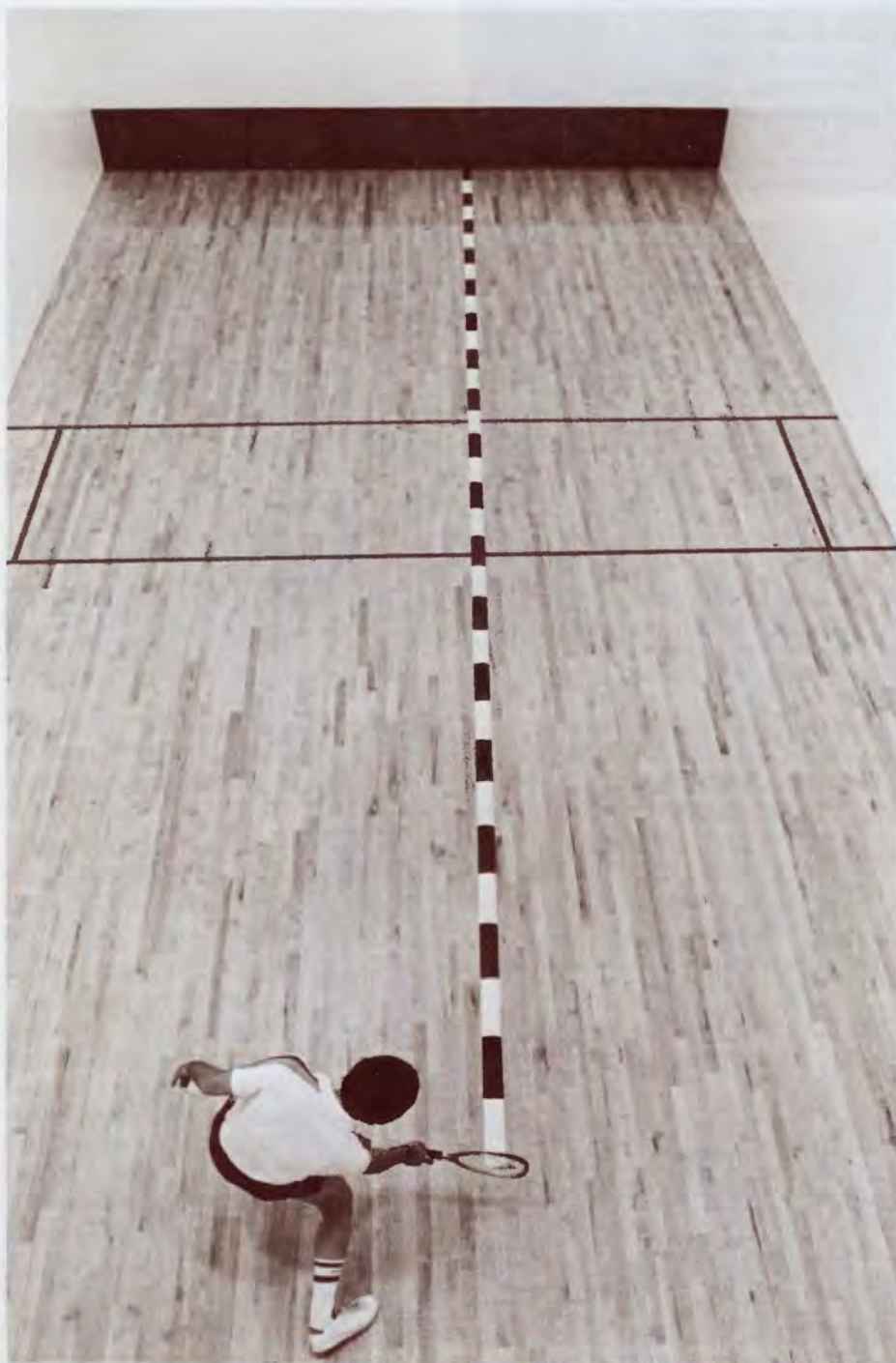
Swimming is excellent for stamina. Set up a program of so many laps per week. Swimming is also relaxing, which is important. Even the most competitive athlete needs to relax. You are defeating the purpose if you walk around in a perpetual flex. This is recreation, not war.

Hiking and backpacking are very good for stamina and leg muscle tone. Watch for foot problems. Wear dry socks, take Band-Aids.

Bicycling continues to grow in popularity. Of course it involves some expense. But if you have a 10-speed,



When you're playing three or one-wall, try to hit the ball straight in.



Lower summer rates give you a chance to take over a court by yourself so you can stand back and practice your drives.

there are any number of clubs you can join that regularly schedule tours of 10 and 20 miles or more. It's good for stamina and the legs.

You can always play one-wall or three-wall racquetball. Many public schools and recreation centers have courts. Work on hitting the ball straight in, down the lines.

And of course you'll be playing racquetball twice a week at least. Sometimes, though, you may not be able to find a partner—of your ability. If you have the court to yourself, work on learning to kill the ball.

The most important thing in racquetball is to be able to put the ball away on a setup. Stand 30 to 35 feet from the front wall and just keep driving the ball. Remember to keep it low, below a three-foot line on the front wall.

Don't worry about trying to keep center court position as you're practicing this way. Move farther back and just drive the ball, down the line, cross court, into the corners. You'll get a great workout in an hour just doing that.

If you're so dyed-in-the-wool that you want to play racquetball every day all summer, that's fine too. In fact you get a break, since most clubs lower their rates in the summer months.

Remember that the easiest time for a racquetball player to compete is when he's playing five times a week. When you are playing that often, you tend to keep your confidence high because you can work out of slumps quickly and keep moving ahead. You have to maintain some of this continuity through the summer. If you do, the autumn transition back to top form is made that much easier. Have a good time this summer, but don't let the racquet become a stranger in your hand. ●

When to Shoot Down

by Mike Yellen

Mike Yellen of Southfield, MI, in his third year on the tour, has kept racquetball fans on the edge of the bleachers through two consecutive National Championships. When not competing Mike spends much of his time on the road giving racquetball clinics on behalf of his sponsor, Ektelon. In this series of exclusive columns, Mike shares with *National Racquetball* readers some of the techniques which he explains and demonstrates in his clinics around the country.

Shooting down on a racquetball is always a risky proposition and, as a rule, I encourage the players who come to my clinics to keep their strokes smooth and level.

But the trouble with rules is that every time you make one, you have to make an exception to go along with it.

One walking, talking exception on the pro tour is Lindsay Myers whose overhand kills can drive you nuts when they're working. Then, too, I run into a lot of former tennis players who have gotten into the habit of shooting down from serving a tennis ball and, in fact, are pretty good at it.

In any case all of you who can't get the Bjorn Bjorg out of your systems and insist on breaking the rules may as well know how to maximize your chances when shooting down.

Conventional wisdom says that you should always wait for the ball to drop below your waist and, preferably, below your knees before shooting low. If necessary you should wait for the ball to come off the back wall and, when you must shoot the ball above your waist, go to the ceiling.

Good advice, and the rationale behind it is that when you are shooting from a high point to a low point on the front wall, you run the risk of either digging the ball into the floor or having it rebound from the front wall to the floor and arc up into middle court.

Still there is the advantage of surprise in doing something so unorthodox which sometimes makes it worth the risk.



The overhead stroke is identical to the ceiling ball stroke except that you angle the ball down instead of up to the ceiling, as San Diegan Steve Robb demonstrates. When in the back court, as Steve is, you can use the overhead to break up a ceiling rally. If your opponent is playing far back with you, pinch the ball in one of the front corners. If he is playing forward toward the midcourt, pass the ball to the rear corner farthest from him.

When cutting off a high shot at midcourt, you will not have an opportunity to get into a normal shooting stance and will have to shoot with your shoulders and feet more or less parallel to the front wall. When your opponent is to your left and behind you, as is assumed for the purposes of this photo, pinch the ball in the left front corner so that it comes off the front wall heading toward the right.



Shooting down is most useful when either cutting off an opponent's shot at midcourt or breaking up a ceiling rally.

In the first situation you want to save yourself a trip to the back wall and break up the rhythm of the game to achieve a hoped-for advantage.

You will be facing forward and won't have time to turn to the side wall for your normal stroke, so use the same approach and stroke that you would for a ceiling ball, only bring the ball down. Same thing when you're back for the ceiling rally. Shooting down across your body doesn't work out too well anyway.

If your opponent happens to be in the back court, you want to kill the ball. If he is playing up around center court, you want to pass him.

Now to reduce the risks inherent in shooting a kill from above your waist, aim for the corner and pinch the ball instead of killing it straight in.

If your opponent is playing behind you and to your right, pinch the ball in the right front corner.



If your opponent is playing up beside you, pass the ball to the rear corner farthest from him. In this case if your opponent were on your left, pass the ball to the right rear corner. From midcourt shoot down to a spot about two feet high on the front wall.

You can afford to leave your pinch a little higher on the side wall than a straight-in kill because, by the time it rolls over to the front wall, it should have lost enough of its pace to die right there.

Aim for the corner on the same side of the court as your opponent so that, even if the ball stays up, the rebound will be heading away from him.

You can also use the pinch on an opponent who is hanging back during a ceiling rally.

On the other hand if your opponent is moving toward center court to await your returns during a ceiling rally, a pass is in order. Likewise that also is the shot to choose if you are cutting the ball off at midcourt and he is up there with you.

You want to put the ball in whatever rear corner is farthest from your opponent. To do that the ball must go

straight into the front wall at about the two foot level, and it can't contact a side wall on its way back or it will angle into the middle of the court where your opponent can get it.

Your job is even easier if your opponent is off to one side of the court or the other.

There is no special trick to the stroke, unless it is to exercise even more control than normal. You want the ball to travel straight but not necessarily hard for either the pinch or pass because it already will be coming from an angle that makes for a high rebound. You want to finesse the ball instead of smashing it.

Also never forget that you are going against the percentages with these shots. Try a couple and, if they don't work for you in a match, drop them.

It's not something you can do with regularity but, when you get hot, you can really surprise the gym socks off your opponent by shooting down. ●

The Spectacular Splat

by Lindsay Myers

Vancouver Native Lindsay Myers is five-time Canadian National Champion. The 20-year-old, now a pro tour regular, is sponsored by Leach.

In the game of racquetball there are good shots, and then there are great shots. Good shots are what every racquetball player strives to perfect. However it's the great shots, which I call spectacular shots, that separate the pros from the A's. Players are expected to be able to hit these quality shots, but not without mastering the basics first. To avoid getting too involved in this article, I'll assume that you are past the point of learning to hit the "good" shots and are ready to progress to the upper echelon of competition.

In this article I'm going to explain and demonstrate one spectacular shot in particular—the splat kill. The word "splat" is derived simply by the noise made by the ball hitting the front wall with tremendous sidespin. In order to attain this type of spin the ball must hit the side wall before arriving at its final destination.

However not every shot that hits the side wall, then front wall, is a splat kill, even if it rolls off the front wall. If you contact the ball more than—say—four feet away from the side wall, it becomes more of a pinch shot rather than a splat because it doesn't have the same sound, or—more importantly—the same effect. The basic pinch is a good shot and should be mastered by every player, but the splat offers additional opportunities to win the rally for an advanced player.

Generally you hit either a splat or a pinch whenever your opponent's hanging back or is pinned to the wall. Either shot will keep the ball up in the front court area. Usually it's best to hit the pinch or splat softer when your opponent's in deep court, because there's less chance of skipping the ball than when you hit it hard.

Lindsay Myers demonstrates a common mistake when trying to hit a splat: dropping the head of the racquet.



Playing Tips for Women

The racquet must be perpendicular to the floor when you hit a splat.



However if your opponent's too far forward, you should use the splat exclusively, rather than the pinch, because its spin will carry the ball around the player. If you try to pinch when your opponent's too far forward, he or she will be in perfect position to put the ball away on you. If your opponent is in good center court position, you shouldn't attempt either the pinch or the splat because he or she will have the best chance of returning these shots.

When setting up for the splat kill it should be noted that the closer you are to the side wall (up to within five feet of it), the easier the shot will be to execute. This is because the ball picks up more spin when struck at a closer distance from the side wall than further away. Any closer than five feet and you run the risk of your racquet hitting the wall rather than the ball.

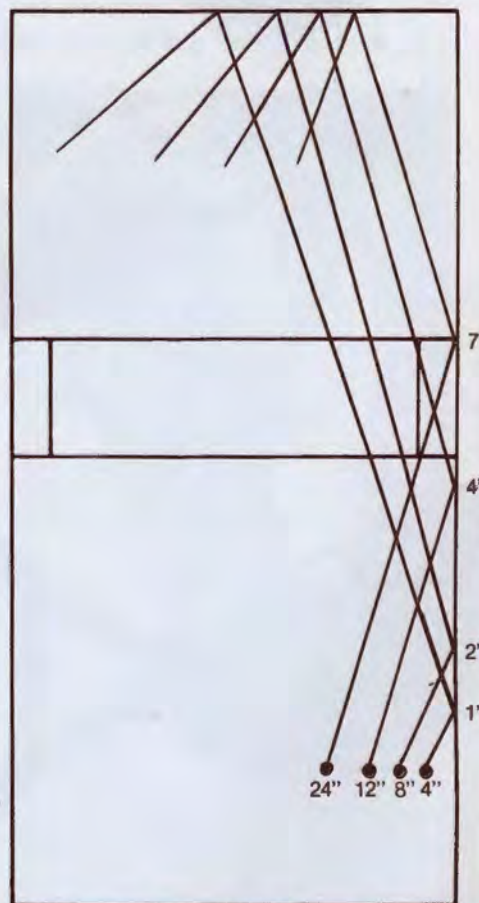
You should contact the splat kill at the same height you normally do for any kill shot. (Note: Advanced players should be striving to bring the ball down from various heights). The trajectory of the ball should aim directly for the bottom board—the same as a straight-in kill.

The distance of the ball from the side wall will determine how far in front of you the ball should strike the side wall. The chart below suggests approximate guidelines for determining how to angle the splat into the side wall, but only practice will tell you exactly where to hit.

Distance from the side wall that your racquet makes contact	4"	8"	12"	24"
How far ahead of you the ball should contact the side wall	1'	2'	4'	7'

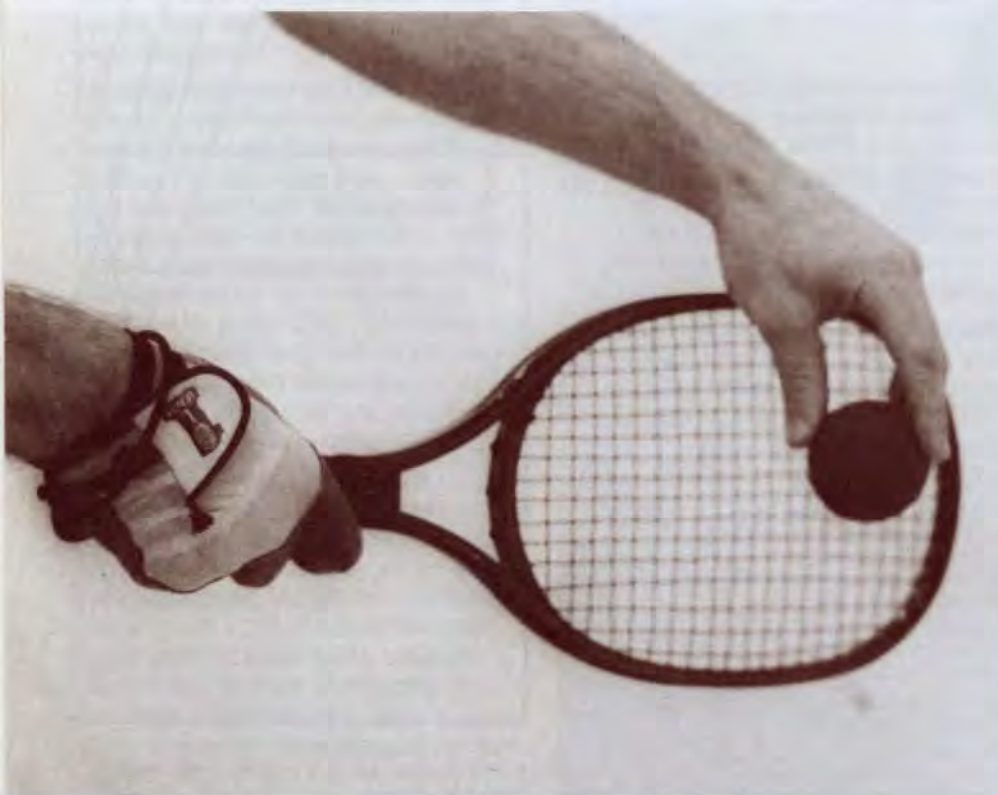
There are many variables that affect the approximate guidelines above, which is why I suggest that you practice on your own to get the feel of the splat. One of the biggest factors is the ball. The green Seamco 559 ball has the most spin, therefore it's the most effective on the splat. The blue Seamco 600 is easier to hit a splat with because it travels slower, but it loses the front wall spinoff effect of the faster ball. Your own individual stroke and strength will also determine how you hit the splat.

Even though the splat can be hit with almost any conceivable grip and stroke, I recommend keeping a stiff wrist on the backhand splat kill. You should hit the ball with the side of your hand pointing toward the ball.



These are the ratios which I've found for an effective splat, but they may vary with each person's strokes.

The photo on the top shows the proper position of the wrist in order to get the most torque on the backhand. The wrist is actually stronger and less like to wobble than it would in the position in the bottom photo.



because there's less chance of your wrist flopping around. In order to get more accuracy on your backhand you should keep your wrist solid and then snap from the elbow.

Try this experiment: Hold out your hand, palm down. Next make a fist and have someone else try to force your fist in either vertical direction while you try to hold your forearm stationary. Your partner should have little trouble moving your wrist up and down. Now do the same thing again, only this time have your partner try to move your clenched fist from side to side, horizontally. This should be more difficult because you have more control over the torque of your wrist in this direction.

On the forehand splat kill you can be more flexible with your strokes. Slicing the ball is okay, but the splat is more effective if you hit it flat.

The main thing on both the forehand and the backhand is that your racquet head is parallel to the floor. You shouldn't let the head tip towards the floor. To compensate for a low shot you should get your body down lower, rather than dropping the head of the racquet to reach the ball. ●

See page 82 for a feature on Lindsay Myers as he completes his second year on the NRC pro tour.

—Carole Charleux photos

Playing Tips for Women

This excerpt is part of *National Racquetball's* series from *Inside Racquetball for Women* by Veteran Teaching Pro Jean Sauser, now instructing at Milwaukie Racquetball Club in suburban Portland, OR, and by Arthur Shay, *National Racquetball* photographer whose pictures appear frequently in *Time* and other magazines. *Inside Racquetball for Women*, published by Contemporary Books, Chicago, is available in paperback or hard cover versions at pro shops and stores around the country.



Mistake: Ineffective Forehand Grips

There are many ineffective ways to hold a racquet. The most common wrong grip errors of women are:

1. Thumb on top of the racquet handle.
2. Vee of hand pushed over to the back of the racquet handle, in a manner similar to that in which a frying pan is held.
3. Index finger extended rigidly along the back of the racquet handle.

If you keep your thumb on top of the racquet handle, the racquet can easily slip out of your grasp—because you don't have a thumb along the side of the handle to keep it in your hand.

Women form the vee of thumb and forefinger on the back of the racquet because this erroneous grip enables them to hit the ball low from above the waist level. However once the ball is below the waist, your chances of hitting it to the floor increase immensely, and at knee level you will often skip the ball into the floor—losing a point or a serve.

Extending your index finger rigidly along the back of the racquet handle decreases your power and can get you a sprained finger.

Some unorthodox grips can be made to work for some unorthodox players—but by and large the percentages are against you if you stick with these ineffective grips.



Correction: Simple Handshake

The most effective grip in forehand play is the simple handshake grip. Hold the racquet in your off hand so that it is perpendicular to the floor. With your playing hand, grasp the racquet so that the vee of the hand is on top of the racquet and the index finger is hooked around the racquet handle, slightly ahead of the other fingers.

Now you are ready to swing properly. ●



Beginner's Racquetball

by Jack Kramer

The Serve and Return of Serve

Because the server is the only player who can score a point, it is imperative that you learn to serve accurately and properly. A good serve can win or lose a game, and serving — a really excellent serve — gives you a distinct advantage right away.

The service boundaries on the court are the two parallel red lines, about five feet apart, that run from side wall to side wall. Standing in a center court position will give you more leeway for initiating an attack of various serves rather than standing to one side or another when serving. It also forces your opponent to stand in the center of the court.

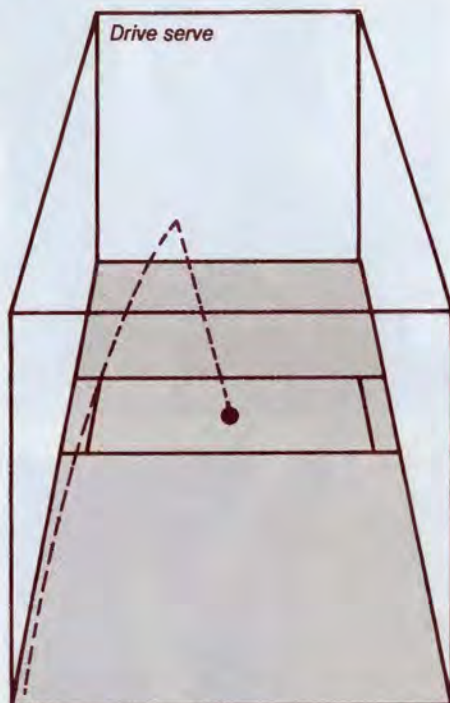
Kinds of Serves

Your serve can be driving, lob, a Z ball or even a garbage serve. The secret to the successful serve is not so much the type of serve (although that does matter) as keeping your opponent off guard. The idea of any type of serve is to force your opponent to make a quick return, and any quick return without thought may be a bad one. When the return of the serve is poor, you have a good chance to capture the point.

Drive Serve

The drive serve is a very fast, low and hot ball aimed at the back court corners. Your opponent must move in a hurry to get the serve and thus may not be able to return the ball properly. The drive serve should strike the front wall only a few feet right or left of center.

To make a drive serve stand in the center of the service area; drop the ball and take a short step forward and make contact. The ball must rebound off the front wall low and fast and travel back into the back court in the direction of either far corner. Hit the serve a few feet to the left (or right) of the center of the front wall so it rebounds into the deep left (or right) corner, making a return almost impossible.



Remember that as you move your target closer to the side wall, the rebound may hit the side wall, causing the ball to go out into center court and thus making it easier for your opponent to get at it. In other words your opponent will not have to get to the ball — it will go to your opponent. So keep the drive serve off the side wall. It is also important to remember that even though the drive serve should be hit hard, it should not be struck so hard that it rebounds off the back wall. The good drive serve should bounce just after it passes the short line and, if not hit as a return, bounce again just before it reaches the back wall.

A fast and low drive serve will usually result in a hard hit return from your opponent. Thus after you serve, step back a few feet.

Lob Serve

The lob serve, whether medium or high, makes for a difficult return.



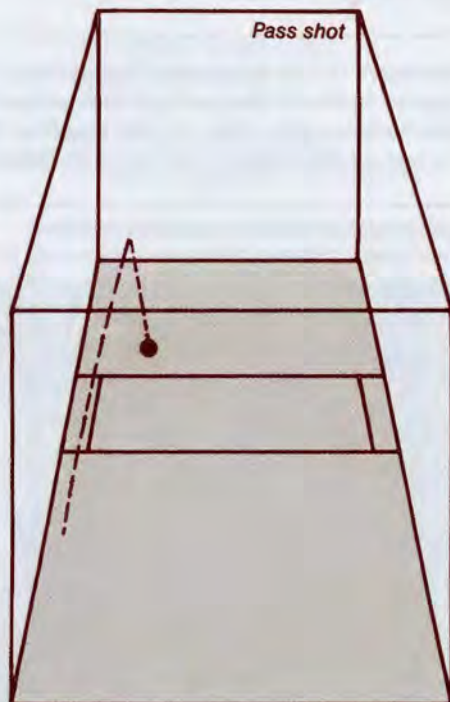
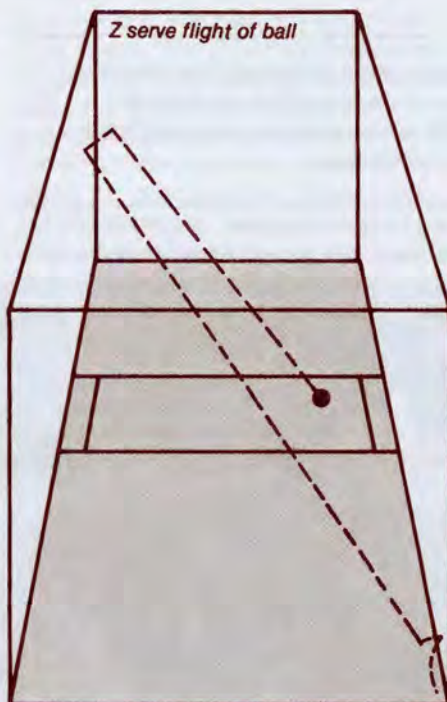
The medium lob serve should strike the front wall about eight feet from the floor so it bounces three to four feet past the short line. This serve is most effective when the ball is hit near the side wall. And, as in the drive serve, the medium lob serve should not strike the side wall or the ball will rebound into center court, giving your opponent an easy shot.

The high lob serve is hit so it strikes the front wall a few feet higher than the low lob. Thus the high lob has a higher bounce. The high lob should bounce and arc toward the corner, staying near the side of the wall.

To serve the lob stand inside the server's area, as for the drive serve. Drop the ball — keep your body upright — and strike the ball when it reaches your waist height. Do *not* snap your wrist as you do with other strokes; keep your wrist stiff, to prevent the ball from going into the back wall after it bounces. The ball will float after it strikes the front wall — the ball's speed will be



Lob serve



reduced. The idea is to have the serve bounce a few feet past the short line so it reaches your opponent at chest level. In such a position your opponent is hard put to connect with a good solid hit.

The *garbage serve* is a half-lob serve where the ball carries just beyond the short line and bounces in a high arc so it dies at the back wall — a frustrating serve to return if done properly.

Z Serve

The Z serve is hit so that it strikes the front wall as close to the side wall as possible and then careens off the side wall, crosses the court in the air, and bounces just before it reaches the opposite side wall. The change of direction of the Z serve is what keeps your opponent off balance. This ball generally rebounds toward the mid court area, putting the ball in a very difficult spot for a good return.

The serving position for the Z ball is the same as for other serves. The ball

must be hit quickly and sharply into the front wall just before it strikes the side wall. The motion is like the drive serve, except that at the last moment the server should be able to strike the ball into either front wall corner. Remember in the Z serve that the ball must hit the front wall first, or you lose the serve. If the Z serve does not bounce before it reaches the opposite side wall, a fault results.

If you strike the ball low and hard to the front wall, the ball will rebound off the opposite side wall low and hard, possibly resulting in a drive return. Be prepared for this. If the serve is struck high on the front wall, the ball generally will rebound off the opposite side wall at chest level.

Basic Returns

If the server can force a weak return, the odds of the server winning the point are favorable. Thus it is imperative that you know how to return a serve. The three basic returns

of serves are (1) strong side pass shot, (2) cross court pass shot and (3) ceiling ball return.

The strong side pass shot is good to use against a drive or lob serve. This shot is hit hard so the ball rebounds off the front wall and stays near the side wall but does not strike it as it travels into the back court. This is an effective shot because the server must move quickly from mid court over to the side wall to cut it off — this is not easy.

The cross court pass shot is a good general return that should strike the front wall in the center and rebound to the opposite court. The cross court pass shot should not hit the side wall until it passes the server. If it does, the ball will rebound into the center court, where it can be reached easily by your opponent.

The ceiling ball return is effective against any serve, but it is difficult to execute for most players because the backhand motion from either the waist or chest is difficult to time. ●

APRO Teaches . . . Playing for Points

by Vaughn Dille

Members of the American Professional Racquetball Organization write this regular *National Racquetball* feature for club pros and other racquetball teachers. Vaughn Dille, on the teaching staff of the Arizona Athletic Club in Tempe, is the subject of a page 36 feature in this issue.

Two closely matched players can compete for points, rather than games, in practice sessions.



Beginners should play points rather than a game for a much better workout. Playing points is playing each individual point out, but not keeping the overall score of the game. The one who wins the exchange will then serve.

This is also a good way for two closely competitive players — of any level — to help each other. And it's a way an instructor can give a playing lesson to someone of tournament ability.

Through repetition players learn from mistakes, which, for example, might include clipping a side ball because of hitting too late or too far behind. The player should concentrate on this particular shot until he or she feels confident about it. Or players should work on only one, maybe two, particular serves, again striving for consistency and confidence.

It's wise to take only two or three aspects of the game rather than six or eight when playing points. During the last 15 to 20 minutes a scoring game is okay. In this way players can really help each other and get a better workout without thinking "*I'm down 13-2*," and resorting to bad habits, but sure returns. ●

What's the Call?

by Dan Bertolucci

Questions in readers' letters serve as topics for this month's "What's the Call?"

Clifford Dias asks: "When serving must the ball hit the floor *before* the other player returns the serve? I have played with many who say it can be done either way. To me there must be a rule regarding this."

You're right—here's the rule:

4.7 (c) Fly Return: "In making a fly return it is illegal to strike the return of serve on the fly in front of the receiver's five foot restraining line. After the server has struck the ball, the receiver may cross the five foot line to return the serve if the ball bounces between the short line and receiving line. If the ball does not bounce, the receiver cannot hit it. Any serve that passes the five foot line in the air may be returned on the fly. Violation by the receiver results in a point for the server."

John W. Redwoods writes: "In a situation where the first serve is a fault, but the second serve is good, a hinder of the 'unavoidable' variety has occurred. I have had some discussion as to whether rally is played over with the server again having two chances to place a good serve or whether only the serve is played over and the server is still charged with one fault. The server may be struck accidentally with the ball during the rally, and I can find no one to convince me one way or another whether a hinder following a good second serve negates the rally and both serves, or negates the rally and only the second serve."

Rule 4.10 states that the unavoidable or dead ball hinders you describe "result in the rally being replayed." That means you have two serves.

New Rule Change

A rule set at the start of the season is now invalid. The newly revised rule now reads: "Part IV - Play Regulation, Rule 4.1 (f) Time Outs. At no time shall call of 'time out' by a player be acknowledged by the referee if the 'time out' call does not precede the serve, i.e. the so-called 'Chabot time out' is not legal. The beginning of the serve, as indicated in rule 4.1 (c), is with the beginning of the serve motion." ●

Dan Bertolucci is director of the NRC, governing body for professional racquetball, and is a longtime racquetball referee. Send him your questions about rules c/o National Racquetball, 4101 Dempster, Skokie 60076.



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See page 62.

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Beyond the Open

My First (and Last) Racquetball Tournament

by Dick Squires

Two years ago, at the age of 45, I formally retired from competitive platform tennis. This past fall I played in my final tennis tournament. Why? There were a lot of good reasons, but primarily because the thrill of keen competition had disappeared. I could no longer "work up a high" before a big match. After almost 40 years of participating in some form of racquet sport contests I decided I had had enough.

Last November we held a racquetball tournament at the Downtown Racquet Club in New Haven, CT, where I am the managing director. It's a gorgeous club with 18 racquetball courts, two squash, a magnificent fitness center with practically every piece of Nautilus equipment ever conceived, a super restaurant and bar, and boasting over 3,500 members. The main purpose of the three-day event was to raise a few thousand dollars for the local chapter of the American Heart Association.

You have to keep in mind that I only discovered racquetball a couple of years ago while researching a book I was writing. *The Other Racquet Sports* was subsequently published by McGraw-Hill in the late fall of 1978. (The hard cover version sells for the bargain price of \$14.95.)

Being a fairly proficient squash racquets player back in the '50's (several times nationally ranked in the top 10 and a U.S. Doubles titleholder), I honestly have to admit that I had little respect for the game of racquetball. It did not appear to have much variety of shot making, and its basic tactic and appeal seemed to be how hard you could hit the ball. There was seldom any subtlety, and the gauche court manners of many of the macho players I personally deemed distasteful.

So during the first several months of my new job I played little racquetball. Then in May of last year the touring pros came to the club and I saw for the first time how the game really should and could be played. I saw that racquetball, like all great racquet and paddle sports, does demand its own unique skills and stroking prowess.

The Old Man

Whenever the opportunity arose, thereafter, (about once a week) I did play some rousing doubles matches (making sure I selected a strong partner!) and occasionally accepted a challenge to play singles when someone wanted a piece of "the old man."

The American Heart Association tourney offered several different events. The better players entered the Open, and it went from there down to the Novice class for both men and women. Just for the heck of it I decided to participate in the Novice category.

Well you should have heard the whistles, catcalls and comments my entry precipitated! "Novice! Are you kidding, Squires? You should be ashamed of yourself. For a guy who played at Wimbledon, who won national championships in a few racquet sports, and you go in the Novice class! What a mug hunter!"

I failed to understand my critics' ribbing. It is about as logical as banning Bjorn Borg from competing in a golf tournament. So I blithely and boldly kept my name in the Novice division. Besides practically all of the other individuals entered in this category had competed in racquetball tournaments. I honestly never had.

Unfortunately my first round opponent was a real tyro. He played as though he had never set foot on a racquetball court before. I waltzed into the second round by the impressive score of 21-0, 21-1. My detractors became more vociferous and verbose with their criticisms. "What a con artist, Squires. Oh sure you're a novice. Otherwise you might have lost two points!"



Dick Squires, National Racquetball's multi-racqueted East Coast editor.

Twice the Experience

By employing mostly squash strategy and shots (from memory) I was able to defeat three more adversaries, all of whom were less than one-half my age, and I found myself in the semi-finals. With each round I advanced the teasing grew rougher. "How can you

sleep at night? You've got too much court experience for the kids in the tournament. They are all awed by you." It is true that being twice their age I *did* indeed have an advantage from the standpoint of experience, but remember — their legs and lungs were only half as old as mine!

What I felt would happen earlier did in the semis. My opponent was a 22-year-old who not only had the reflexes and stamina of youth but also possessed some good court sense and racquetball knowledge. He even knew how to execute kill shots — something I have yet to learn.

He won the first game quite handily. My bubble had burst. In the second I was leading 17-13 and sensed he was at least as weary as I was. The only problem was that I could not conjure up enough reserve energy to close him out. He hit four consecutive rollouts and suddenly I realized the match, as well as my competitive racquetball-playing days, had come to a close. He quickly and mercifully put me away, and went on to win the finals easily.

Do you think the people who constantly derided me for going into the Novice class came up to me and apologized after my loss? Did they feel bad about kidding me? Did they admire my gameness for taking on these youngsters? No! The consensus was that the fellow who beat me was just another liar. A real "ringer."

So my competitive racquetball career, which began so auspiciously (even though tainted by unknowing, detractive fault-finders), was over in just two days. What I suspected from the beginning turned out to be absolutely correct. Competitive racquetball is predominantly an activity for the young, and just because you are good in one sport does not necessarily mean you are going to excel in another.

My racquet has been hung back on the hook in my office where it will remain forever . . . unless, of course, someone puts together a Golden Senior Masters Geriatric Racquetball Championship — Novice division, naturally. ●



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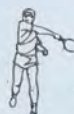
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Thanks, Cullum & Boren

This year our overall sponsors — Leach Industries and Seanco Sporting Goods — had a partner in the promotion of racquetball in the state of Texas.

Cullum & Boren, sporting goods stores in the Zale Corporation specialty retailing chain, helped the USRA supply royal blue and orange knit three button shirts to all players in the Southcentral Regional Championships April 10-13 at the Racquetball and Handball Clubs of San Antonio. Close to 700 men and women are now playing racquetball in the Cullum & Boren shirts they received at the regionals.

The Texas group of stores also plans to supply shirts for the Texas State Championships slated for next fall in Houston.

Jan Miller, Zale Corporation's director of promotions and special events, said her company considered the first phase of the racquetball program "a huge success. Racquetball is on the move here in Texas and we're pleased to be connected with the sport. We felt this well run tournament [USRA Director Bob Keenan worked with Bruce Hendin, who owns the clubs] enhanced our quality image in Texas."

Cullum & Boren received maximum exposure when Hendin and Keenan were guests on a half hour radio talk show in San Antonio, along with Kevin Mallatek, of Ray Ellison Homes, which supplied trophies for the Southcentral regional winners.

I want to extend my personal thanks to businesses like these two Texas companies for their support of our sport.

—Bob Keenan

Bob Keenan, USRA director, coordinates amateur competition around the country, working hand in hand with the USRA state chairmen listed on this page.



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Enter *National Racquetball's* Second Annual Most Improved Player Contest

June 30 Is Deadline

Entry for National Racquetball's Most Improved Player Contest

Name _____

Address _____

number

street

city

state

zip

Phone _____
(area code)

Age _____ ☐ Male ☐ Female

When did you start playing? _____

(name of facility and address)

List evidence that indicates your improvement

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Please enclose all supporting evidence (label each piece with your name) including score cards, draw sheets and letters of recommendation from pros or other instructors. Name of person submitting the entry if not the contestant.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____
(area code)

Please mail to Bob Keenan, USRA,
4101 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076

National Racquetball's second annual Most Improved Player of the Year contest will be open for entries in June, with June 30 set as the deadline.

The contest, aimed at recognizing the amateur player whose name might not always make headlines in tournament results, will honor the men, women and juniors who have made the most exceptional progress while playing racquetball from June, 1979, to June, 1980.

One winner will be announced for each state in which a player qualifies for the award. (If 50 states come up with qualified candidates, we'll have 50 winners, but *National Racquetball* will make the awards only in those states where there's a player whose progress has been outstanding.)

Winners, whose stories and photos will highlight a fall issue of *National Racquetball*, will receive lifetime memberships in the United States Racquetball Association (including a subscription to *National Racquetball*) and a variety of equipment and instructional prizes. USRA staff members will select winners with the help of USRA state chairmen.

We'll be looking for your entry!

Upcoming Events

June 13-15

USRA Wisconsin State Junior Singles Championships, Oak Creek Racquetball Club, 6612 S. Howell Ave., Oak Creek 53154, 414-764-7712

June 13-15

First annual Kings Island Jack Nicklaus Sports Center Pro-Am Invitational Racquetball Tournament, Countryside YMCA, P.O. Box 207, Lebanon, OH 45036, Bill Smith or Bob Bradley 513-932-1424

June 13-15

Quackerbridge Mall Open Racquetball Classic, Hopewell Valley Racquetball and Health Club, P.O. Box 277, Pennington, NJ 08534, Tournament Directors Lonnie Allgood and Tom Bonanne 609-737-1555

July 16-19

1980 Klondike Canadian Open, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, Contact Fred Small, P.O. Box 3622, Station, Edmonton, Alberta, 403-423-9469 or 403-467-6465

Sept. 26-28

USRA Virginia State Racquetball Championships, Downtown Racquet Club, Norfolk 23510, 804-625-2222



Save Your Records for the 1980 *National Racquetball* Most Improved Player contest

honoring those amateur players in each state whose games have improved most between June of 1979 and June of 1980. See entry



Come to the Junior Nationals Open to all Boys and Girls Ages 17 and Under

USRA National Junior Championships
will be held August 11-17 in
Indianapolis, IN.

Look for the July issue of *National Racquetball* for full information. Call Dan Bertolucci at 312-763-4000 with questions. (See Junior Regional entry on page 63.)



Leach/Seamco 1980 Junior Regional Championships

Sanctioned by United States Racquetball Association



Dates • July 17-20, 1980

ENTRY DEADLINE: All entry blanks and fees must be in possession of tournament director not later than July 10, 1980.

ENTRY FEES: \$16.00 per player. Limit one event. (\$24 for non-USRA members)

OFFICIAL BALL: Seamco 600 (blue)

RULES: USRA Rules and Regulations. Any player who has accepted \$1000 or more in prize money on NRC/USRA Pro Tour will be deemed ineligible.

AWARDS: Awards to be presented to first four places and first two places in consolation.

SPECIAL AWARDS: Winners in all events (except consolation) will be reimbursed round trip coach air fare to the LEACH/SEAMCO - USRA National Junior Championships, August 11-17, 1980 in Indianapolis, Ind.

AGE ELIGIBILITY: Age eligibility, for both the Junior Regionals and Junior Nationals will be as of July 17, 1980.

MAIL CHECKS AND ENTRIES TO: (See reverse side). Starting times to be obtained by contacting host site after July 11, 1980.

NOTE: For geographical convenience, players may cross regional boundaries with written approval from USRA Headquarters. Players competing in an "away" region will not be eligible to win trip to Junior National Championships.

HOUSING ACCOMODATIONS: Certain host sites will allow "sleep-in" accomodations at tournament sites for players wishing to bring sleeping bags. Players are to contact their respective regional host site for further information.

Entry blanks may be obtained through your local court club, "National Racquetball" magazine or through USRA Headquarters, 4101 Dempster, Skokie, Ill. 60076, (312) 673-4000.

Region 1 - New England: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, New York (including New York City and Long Island)

Region 2 - Northeast: Pennsylvania, Ontario, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Northern Virginia

Region 3 - Atlantic Coast: North Carolina, South Carolina, Southern Virginia, West Virginia

Region 4 - Southeast: Georgia, Alabama, Florida

Region 5 - Ohio Valley: Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee

Region 6 - Central: Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan

Region 7 - Southern: Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi

Region 8 - Northern: Minnesota, North & South Dakota

Region 9 - Midwest: Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, Missouri

Region 10 - South Central: Texas, Oklahoma

Region 11 - Northwest: Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Alaska

Region 12 - Rocky Mountain: Utah, Colorado, Wyoming

Region 13 - Southwest: Arizona, New Mexico

Region 14 - Western: California, Nevada, Hawaii

WAIVER

I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, agents, administrators and my children, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I might have against the USRA, its affiliate clubs, and their respective agents, representatives, successors and assigns for any and all injuries which may be suffered by my son(s) and/or daughter(s) in connection with their participation in the Junior Regional tournament.

PLEASE ENTER ME IN:

BOYS 17 & Under []	GIRLS 17 & Under []
BOYS 15 & Under []	GIRLS 15 & Under []
BOYS 12 & Under []	GIRLS 12 & Under []
BOYS 10 & Under []	GIRLS 10 & Under []

NAME _____

REGION _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

PARENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____



1980 Leach/Seamco Junior Regional Tournament Information

Region 1 - New England

SITE: All Sport Fitness and Racquetball Club
17 Old Main Street, Fishkill, N.Y. 12524
DIRECTOR: Bill Austin
PHONE: (914) 896-5678

Region 2 - Northeast

SITE: Fort Washington Racquetball Club
469 Pennsylvania Ave., Fort Washington, PA 19034
DIRECTOR: Elaine Brubaker
PHONE: (215) 646-4848

Region 3 - Atlantic Coast

SITE: Carolina Courts of Raleigh, 1207 Front St.
Raleigh, N. Carolina 27609
DIRECTOR: Jim Adams
PHONE: (919) 832-5513

Region 4 - Southeast

SITE: The Courtrooms, 750 W. Sunrise Blvd., Fort
Lauderdale, FL 33311
DIRECTOR: Fred Blaess
PHONE: (305) 764-8700

Region 5 - Ohio Valley

SITE: Arlington Court Club, 5005 Arlington Centre
Blvd., Columbus, OH 43220
DIRECTOR: Phil Stepp
PHONE: (614) 451-1930

Region 6 - Central

SITE: The Supreme Court, 5555 Odana Road,
Madison, WI 53719
DIRECTOR: Julie Jacobson
PHONE: (608) 274-5080

Region 7 - Southern

SITE: The Court House Racquetball Club,
2625 Court House Circle, Jackson, MS 39208
DIRECTOR: Chuck Miner
PHONE: (601) 932-4800

Region 8 - Northern

SITE: The Blain Racquet Club, 9199 Central Ave.
N.E., Minneapolis, MN 55434
DIRECTOR: Joe Krutchen
PHONE: (612) 780-1400

Region 9 - Midwest

SITE: Sports Courts, 222 North 44th St., Lincoln,
NE 68503
DIRECTOR: Dick Kincade
PHONE: (402) 475-5686

Region 10 - South Central

SITE: Racquetball & Handball Club of San
Antonio, P.O. Box 32145, San Antonio, TX
78216
DIRECTOR: Bruce Hendin
PHONE: (512) 340-0364

Region 11 - Northwest

SITE: Court Sports One, 2510 Oakmont Way,
Eugene, OR 97401
DIRECTOR: Connie Peterson
PHONE: (503) 687-2811

Region 12 - Rocky Mountain

SITE: Fountain of Youth Town and Country
Racquet Club, 4300 South 300 West, Murray,
UT 84107
DIRECTOR: Vincent Brown
PHONE: (801) 262-9414

Region 13 - Southwest

SITE: Supreme Courts, 4100 Prospect N.E.
Albuquerque, N.M. 87110
DIRECTOR: Eric Sanchez
PHONE: (505) 266-7781

Region 14 - Western

SITE: Tournament House Racquetball Club,
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DIRECTOR: Vance Lerner
PHONE: (714) 682-7511

Most Improved?
Enter National Racquetball's
second annual
Most Improved Player
Contest.
See page 62.

Dates • July 17-20, 1980



Amateurs in the Pro/Am Tournaments

The Martinos and The Pecks

There are seven Peck kids in El Paso and eight Martinos in Fountain Valley, CA. Ever since Laura Martino and Dave Peck met three years ago playing racquetball, it's been like one big happy family when the two clans get together at tournaments. But like any family they have their share of arguments.

When Dave was recently visiting in San Diego, he and Laura had a disagreement over whose little brother was the tougher racquetball player. Of course Dave bet that 16-year-old Gregg Peck would win. Not surprisingly Laura Martino put her money on 18-year-old Mark Martino. Like everything else between these two longtime friends, this bet was all in jest.

But by chance the payoff came within a week, during the NRC Pro/Am co-sponsored by Leach and Seamco at King's Racquetball Club in Westminster, CA. Gregg and Mark met in the first round of pro qualifying and Gregg won quite soundly. "Oh, oh," grinned Laura, "Dave is really going to rag me about that."

And then, as if a rematch were necessary, the two met again in the quarters of the men's amateurs. Again Peck proved to be the better "little brother."

"Mark's beaten Gregg in practice," explained Laura, "but he needs more experience. They've both played three or four years, but Gregg plays at all the pro stops and juniors tournaments."

Gregg went on to the finals of the amateurs; Laura made it to the Women's Open finals; Dave met Marty Hogan in the finals of the pros. "Wouldn't it be something," beamed Gregg with that patented Peck smile, "if all three of us won!"

Well, unfortunately, it was one-two-three strikes and the Pecks and Martinos were all out of the ball game. Gregg's match against Mike Levine went to the tie-breaker with Levine winning just in time to catch his flight back to Rochester. Laura lost to Kippi Bishop for the first time in recent history, much to Kippi's delight, but Laura still won a stereo and television. And Dave lost his chance to win two pro stops in a row and move his ranking to the very top.

In 1977 Laura Martino was the runner-up in the 17 and Under division of the Juniors Nationals. Her humble attitude of today is the result of a lesson she learned in that tournament. "Before I met Jamie Abbott in the finals I was killing everyone. I'm surprised I even fit through the door, my head was so big. Then I blew it in the finals. Now I never think I'm going to win until I actually do."

Dave's easy-going nature has also had a good influence on Laura. She feels that he is one of the best examples for younger players. "Both Dave and Gregg are so smart. They don't rely just on power or cry and scream at the ref; they play so smart. Dave's probably helped my game more than anyone."

—Carole Charfauros photos



Gregg Peck, left, and Laura Martino enjoy Dave Peck's finals game before Marty Hogan goes on to win the tournament.

Laura Martino coaches her brother, Mark, in the game he lost to Gregg Peck.



But Laura and Dave have never been romantically involved, even though they spend a lot of time together. Says Laura: "I think if we ever got serious, it would ruin our relationship."

—Carole Charfauros



Kippi Bishop (short hair) is a double women's Open winner by beating Kathie Jones at the Catalina Classic, upper left photo, and Laura Martino, lower left, at the Bank of Newport Classic. Mike Levine pulls the same pair of victories out of the California back-to-back tournaments with wins over Dave Bush, left in upper right photo, and Gregg Peck.



—Carole Charfauros photos





—Carole Charfauros photo

Toni Hudson

—Carole Charfauros

On the Cover

King's Pro/Am Women's B winner, Toni Hudson, is not the stereotypical "dumb blonde." Even though her looks can challenge those of Cheryl Tiegs, Hudson is someone you can't judge just by her cover. In fact Toni will be appearing shortly on the cover of the book she has written, a beginning racquetball book for women.

"Melvin Powers, the publisher of Wilshire Book Company, approached me about writing the book because he knew I'd had almost four years of teaching experience," says Hudson, who co-authored the book with Jack Scagnetti.

Hudson has appeared in numerous commercials and plans to go on to serious acting. At the same time she would like to play on the professional racquetball circuit. "If I had my choice," she speculates, "I think I would prefer to play racquetball."

Toni has competed in several celebrity racquetball tournaments and won them quite handily. Usually she works out with Dick Van Patten's son, Nels, who trades her tennis lessons for racquetball tips.

But with her book and a recent divorce after nearly three years of marriage, and her acting jobs Toni has had less time to play lately. Her immediate plans include traveling around to promote and sell *Beginning Racquetball for Women*, available by writing Toni Hudson, 1642 S. Hayward, Los Angeles, CA 90035.

Send your classified ad to Joe Ardito,
National Racquetball,
4101 Dempster, Skokie, IL 60076.
Deadline for classifieds,
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Catalina Classic West, March 19-23, Telegraph Hill and San Francisco Bay clubs, San Francisco, CA

Results

Men's Open

Quarters: Gregg Peck d. Brian Oates 21-17, 11-21, Inj. default; Dave Bush d. Craig Dowd 21-15, 21-10; Stan Wright d. Bret Harnett 11-21, 21-6, 11-9; Mike Levine d. Bob Green 21-11, 21-3

Semis: Bush d. Peck 21-15, 21-18; Levine d. Wright 14-21, 21-14, 11-0

Finals: Levine d. Bush 21-8, 21-6

Women's Open

Quarters: Kippi Bishop d. Jean Oeschger 21-9, 14-21, 11-7; Gail Allert d. Pam Whitehead 21-16, 16-21, 11-5; Kathie Jones d. Ann Kashiwa 21-13, 21-18; Mona Mook d. Carol Charfauros 21-11, 20-21, 11-9

Semis: Bishop d. Allert 21-10, 21-9; Jones d. Mook 21-11, 20-21, 11-7

Finals: Bishop d. Jones 21-11, 21-12

Other Winners — Men's B: Steve Novak Men's C: Thom O'Pondoghue Men's Novice: Gary Soto Men's Seniors: Bill Schmidtko Men's Masters: Henry Clar Men's Golden Masters: Floyd Svenson Women's B: Renee Thomas Women's C: Lisa Craib Women's Novice: Teri Childress

Bank of Newport Beach Classic, March 26-30, King's Racquetball Club, Westminster, CA

Results

Men's Open

Quarters: Gregg Peck d. Mark Maitland 21-12, 21-16; Bret Harnett d. Tim Berberet 21-10, 21-14; Dan Factor d. Mike Romo 21-14, 7-21, 11-9; Mike Levine d. Bobby Stocker

Semis: Peck d. Harnett 12-21, 21-14, 11-4; Levine d. Factor 21-12, 9-21, 11-7

Finals: Levine d. Peck

Women's Open

Quarters: Kippi Bishop d. Kathie Jones 21-5, 21-10; Jan Mathews d. Dee Gossick 21-5, 21-9; Becky Gonzalez d. Betty Wood 21-18, 21-16; Laura Martino d. Ann Young 21-16, 21-6

Semis: Bishop d. Mathews; Martino d. Gonzalez 21-2, 21-4

Finals: Bishop d. Martino 21-15, 21-19

Other Winners — Men's B: Rick Lewis Men's C: Scott Fishader Men's Novice: Joe Pidalla Men's Seniors: Bud Muehleisen Men's Masters: Vance Lerner Men's Golden Masters: Burt Morrow Women's B: Toni Hudson Women's C: Andy Rountree Women's Novice: Deb Poulos



Turn to page 86 for story and four color photos of professional matches at the March NRC Pro/Am tournaments co-sponsored by Leach and Seamco.

Tournament Results

Please send tournament results and clear black and white action photos to Bob Keenan, USRA, 4101 Dempster, Skokie, IL 60076. Type your results double spaced, including name of tournament, dates and place with scores listed in style you see on these pages. Use first and last names the first time you mention a player (in doubles matches, too) and last names only after that.

Allow two months or more for your tournament writeup to appear here.

In choosing photos of tournament play for these pages, we will give priority to pictures of players wearing protective eye gear.

New Hampshire

The second annual New Hampshire Open took place at the Executive Court Club, Manchester, Feb. 8-10.

Results

Men's Open: 1st - Bill Burnett, 2nd - Paul Lazure, 3rd - Phil Belander, Cons - Steve Dubord

Men's B: 1st - Don Greenwell, 2nd - Roger Crim, 3rd - Bob Ward, Cons - Danny Shapiro

Men's C: 1st - George Rogers, 2nd - Paul Pierce, 3rd - Brian Clark, Cons - Bob Proulx

Men's Novice: 1st - Bob Proulx, 2nd - James Hunt, 3rd - Don Roberts, Cons - Barry Postera

Men's Seniors: 1st - Jim Reuschel, 2nd - Bob Folsom, 3rd - Steve Dubord, Cons - Peter Hawkes

Men's Masters: 1st - Bob Folsom, 2nd - Hal Gregg, 3rd - Jim Simmons, Cons - Paul Nobert

Women's Open: 1st - Heather Marshall, 2nd - Debbie Waldruff, 3rd - Carol Frizzle, Cons - Diane McLaughlin

Women's B: 1st - Pat Gaetjens, 2nd - Mona Bibb, 3rd - Pat Kalinski Cons - Becky Rich

Women's C: 1st - Walker Hersey, 2nd - Diane Langevin, 3rd - Judy Vanesse, Cons - Lynn Langer Parchuck

Women's Novice: 1st - Debbie Wilber, 2nd - Claudette Conlon, 3rd - Polly Brinkler, Cons - Pat Rogers

Hawaii

The USRA's (Hui O Racquetball Hawaii) sponsored a Men's and Women's A singles tournament March 7-9 at the Courthouse Racquetball Club in KANEHOE.

Results

Men's First Round: John Nolan d. Les Skelton 21-11, 21-7; Peter Britos d. Bill Gullledge 21-10, 21-11; George Akeo (default); Lloyd Waialae d. Daniel Ho 21-1, 21-4; Danny Vega d. Andy Keanul Jr. 21-13, 21-16; Norman Akau d. Hector Ramirez 21-1, 21-7; Nelson Moku d. Ken Hooley 21-1, 21-7; Joe Decker d. John Davis 21-8, 21-6; Roy Kobatake d. Lee Porter 21-18, 21-16; Manny Rezentes d. Francis Warner 21-5, 21-10; Woody Cox d. Paul Roeper 21-6, 21-11; Tim Geary d. Robert Ubaso 21-7, 21-8; Wrenley Kaakimaka d. Sam Koanui 19-21, 21-8, 11-5; Dale Landrum d. Norman Lau 11-21, 21-8, 11-1

Second Round: Nolan d. Shippy Kealoha 21-20, 11-21, 11-6; Akeo d. Britos 21-12, 21-12; Waialae d. Vega 21-12, 14-21, 11-1; Akau d. Moku 21-16, 21-13; Decker d. Kobatake 21-12, 21-10; Cox d. Rezentes 21-9, 21-12; Geary d. Kaakimaka 21-6, 21-7; Randy Lau d. Landrum 21-10, 21-17

Quarters: Akeo d. Nolan 21-14, 21-18; Akau d. Waialae 21-14, 10-21, 11-5; Lau d. Geary 21-14, 21-0

Semis: Lau d. Decker 10-21, 21-3, 11-0; Akau d. Akeo 21-7, 21-19

Finals: Lau d. Akau 21-16, 21-15

Women's First Round: Carol Lohman d. Carol Leiban 8-21, 21-19, 11-8; Phyllis Gomes d. Jane Goodsill 21-18, 5-21, 11-4; Dancetta Feary d. Shizu Takayasu 20-21, 21-12, 11-8

Semis: Lorna Nalual d. Carol Lohman 21-7, 21-11, Phyllis Gomes d. Dancetta Feary 5-21, 21-14, 11-7

Finals: Nalual d. Gomes 21-9, 21-11 Cons: Jane Goodsill d. Shizu Takayasu 21-12, 21-9

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Iowa

Twenty-seven teams from around the state took part in the USRA Iowa State Doubles tournament Feb. 22 and 23 at the West Side Racquetball Club in West Burlington.

Results

Class A: Frank Low/Glen Withrow d. Bob Sheldon/Monte McCunniff 21-7, 15-21, 11-7

Class B: Bob Tonkin/Tom Barbatti d. Mike Hunter/J.H. Miller 21-8, 18-21, 11-7

Class C: 1st-Mike Russell/Chuck Shellenger

Indiana

Racquetball East in Indianapolis hosted the Snowball Tourney Feb. 15-17.

Results

Men's Open: Mike McClay d. Howard May 21-16, 21-15, 3rd: Mike McCarthy Cons: Jerry Lachat

Men's Seniors: Charles Douglass d. Jim Klein 21-10, 19-21, 11-8, 3rd: Steve Wright

Men's B: Dick Frye d. Larry Walden 18-21, 21-17, 11-2, 3rd: Joe Dolan

Men's C: Woodie Fox d. Bill Benz 21-7, 18-21, 11-10, 3rd: Jim Kern, Cons: Steve Hicks

Men's Novice: Jeff West d. Bob Zurface 21-20, 17-21, 11-5, 3rd: Bob Brown, Cons: Larry Hasecuster

Women's B: Michelle Overton d. Bette Williams 21-18, 21-12, 3rd: Teresa Westfall

Women's C: Leslie Richardson d. Robin Streets 21-19, 21-7 3rd: Lynn Rumbaugh

Women's Novice: Nancy Hogan d. Linda Breedlove 21-4, 21-14, 3rd: Joey Fox, Cons: Lynn Walter

Uncle Munchie's Shamrock Open Racquetball Tournament took place March 7-9 at Racquetball Plus/Indianapolis.

Results

Men's Open: 1st-Jack Roudabush, 2nd-John Knauer, 3rd-Jack Eckman, 4th-Ron Johnson Cons: 1st-Mike McClay, 2nd-Bob Craig III

Men's A: 1st-Barry Kiesel, 2nd-Rick Scotten, 3rd-Mark Baker, 4th-Jim Croasley Cons: 1st-Pete Gundy, 2nd-Tom Johnson

Men's B: 1st-Mark Lasbury, 2nd-Jeff Zipes, 3rd-Ron Collins, 4th-Mark Waldorf, Cons: 1st-Jim McNichols, 2nd-R.T. Stannard

Men's C: 1st-Mike McGaharan, 2nd-Mike Hanna, 3rd-Bernie May, 4th-Bob Morgan Cons: 1st-Bob Hoffman, 2nd-Steve Runyon

Men's D: 1st-Pat Cornwell, 2nd-Dave Bolsega, 3rd-Steve Finklestein, 4th-Joe Kern Cons: 1st-Steve Ellison, 2nd-Paul Brewer

Men's Seniors: 1st-Mike Holtzman, 2nd-Bob Steege, 3rd-Dusty Silver, 4th-Pierre Miller Cons: 1st-Dick Lasbury, 2nd-Tim Stevens

Women's Open: 1st-Kay Kuhfeld, 2nd-Dana Cornblath, 3rd-Pat Foltz, 4th-Pam Hofer, Cons: 1st-Linda Green, 2nd-Lynn Smith

Women's B: 1st-Jean Craig, 2nd-Debbie Schmidt, 3rd-Barbara Pritchard, 4th-Donna Johnson

Women's C: 1st-Jan Denton, 2nd-Bette Williams, 3rd-Jane Martin, 4th-Beth Walker Cons: 1st-Brenda Boulets, 2nd-Carol Connor

Women's D: 1st-Amy Bliefneck, 2nd-Nancy Givens, 3rd-Fair Hoyer, 4th-Patsy Leeman Cons: 1st-Cathy Hook, 2nd-Sherry Keller

Kentucky

The Plainview Racquetball Club Invitational was held Oct. 19-21 at the Plainview (KY) Racquetball Club, 10301 Linn Station Rd.

Results

Men's Open: 1st-Bob Dabney, 2nd-Bill Bauer, 3rd-David Fleischaker, 4th-Fred Michels, Cons-Lee Wild

Men's B: 1st-Frank Pruitt, 2nd-John Pollio, 3rd-George Lawson, 4th-Alan Cohen, Cons-Leigh Jones

Men's C: 1st-Ron Vannucci, 2nd-Rudy Mylar, 3rd-Steve Smith, 4th-Ray Schindler, Cons-Gary Hardison

Men's Novice: 1st-Dave Mallory, 2nd-Terry Lyons, 3rd-Tony Frank, 4th-Clyde Sloan, Cons-Rich Bailey

Men's Master: 1st-Leigh Jones, 2nd-John Fay

Men's Senior: 1st-John Taylor, 2nd-Jerry Freeman

Men's Junior: 1st-Neil Weinberg, 2nd-Scott Marr, 3rd-Eric Hogge, 4th-Travis Sheperd, Cons-Bo Bolus

Women's Open: 1st-Beth Mowery, 2nd-Jaynibeth Goodwin

Women's B: 1st-Mary Pidgeon, 2nd-Janice James

Women's C: 1st-Sandy Hyre, 2nd-Beverly Parrish, 3rd-Mitzi Wiesenhahn, 4th-Thea Kramer, Cons-Nancy Mylar

Women's Novice: 1st-Shannon Mann, 2nd-Bonita Cummins, 3rd-Jeannie Gentile, 4th-Kim Russell, Cons-Melva Holt

Patty Burden was tournament director of the YMCA Tri-State Open Sept. 7-9 in the Louisville YMCA.

Results

Women's Novice: 1st-Sue Davidson, 2nd-Terry Hall, 3rd-Kim Russell, Cons-D. Larrick

Juniors: 1st-Frank Pruitt, 2nd-Casey Clements, 3rd-Steve Bednar, Cons-Hunter Hancock

Men's Novice: 1st-Ron Carson, 2nd-Ron Stinson, 3rd-Tony Frank, Cons-Jim Rogers

Women's C: 1st-Karin Adkins, 2nd-Debbie Snelling, 3rd-Peggy Kilgore, Cons-Mary Stivers

Men's C: 1st-Roger Schumann, 2nd-Chuck Evans, 3rd-Ron Banks, Cons-Robert Forsberg

Women's B: 1st-Emilie Pinto, 2nd-Sharon Russell, 3rd-Pam Hollen, Cons-LouAnne Wilson

Men's B: 1st-John Boone, 2nd-George Lawson, 3rd-Frank Pruitt, Cons-Ed Sword

Women's Open: 1st-Becky Callahan, 2nd-Laura Perkins, 3rd-Pat Westmark, Cons-Beth Mowery

Men's Open: 1st-Bob Dabney, 2nd-Dave Fleischaker, 3rd-David Brown, Cons-John Marcum

The WORDTEC tournament took place Nov. 2-4 at Jefferson Racquetball in Louisville.

Results

Men's Open: 1st-Dan Clifford, 2nd-Mike Sipes, 3rd-Bill Bauer, 4th-Bob Dabney, Cons-Marc Tillapaugh

Men's B: 1st-Jim Edwards, 2nd-John Scheck, 3rd-Alan Cohen, 4th-Ron Babkoff, Cons-John Pollio

Men's C: 1st-Rudy Mylar, 2nd-Greg Speier, 3rd-Steve Johnson, 4th-Brian Brenhorst, Cons-Ron Banks

Men's Novice: 1st-Bill Shuck, 2nd-David Thurman, 3rd-Tony Frank, 4th-Charlie Sell, Cons-Rick Patton

Seniors: 1st-John Bourque, 2nd-Mike Brown, 3rd-Lew Whipple, Cons-John Fay

Juniors: 1st-Steve Bednar, 2nd-Hunter Hancock, 3rd-Mark Paul, 4th-Neil Weinberg, Cons-Fred Andres

Women's Open: 1st-Barbara Larrain, 2nd-Teresa Parker, 3rd-Janibeth Goodwin, 4th-Emily Burke, Cons-Emily Pinto

Women's B: 1st-Nita Meekus, 2nd-Karin Adkins, 3rd-Sandy Hyre, 4th-Marianne O'Rourke, Cons-LuAnn Wilson

Women's C: 1st-Nancy Mylar, 2nd-Missy Stober, 3rd-Mary Stivers, 4th-Linda Witt, Cons-Laura Myatt

Women's Novice: 1st-Wendy Martin, 2nd-Patty Lobman, 3rd-Peggy Tillman, 4th-Barbara Coffee, Cons-Donna Hall

Men's Open Doubles: 1st-Dan Clifford/Mike Sipes, 2nd-John Fleischaker/Fred Michels, 3rd-Ray Sabbatine/Bill Bauer, 4th-Bob Dabney/Len Wilson

Men's B Doubles: 1st-John Bourque/John Millhouse, 2nd-Alan Cohen/Richard Gersh, 3rd-Ron Babkoff/Marc Tillapaugh, 4th-Mike Brown/Bill Fouch

Women's Doubles: 1st-Sandy Hyre/Thea Kramer, 2nd-Patty Burden/Emily Burke, 3rd-Parrish/Holmes, 4th-Karin Adkins/Dawn Brackman

Okolona Racquetball Club in Louisville was host Feb. 1-3 to the Okolona Groundhog Classic, the largest tournament ever held in Kentucky. Sponsors Jim Hanna Oldsmobile, and WQHI 95 FM-radio offered \$1,350 in prizes and attracted Touring Pros Sarah Green and Mike Zeitman.

Sarah Green took the Women's Open.



Bob Dabney, left, won over Mike Sipes in the Okolona Racquetball Classic Men's Open finals.

Results

Men's Open: 1st-Bob Dabney, 2nd-Mike Sipes, 3rd-Mike Zeitman, 4th-Bill Bauer, Cons-John Marcum

Women's Open: 1st-Sarah Green, 2nd-Sharon Fanning, 3rd-Barbara Larrain, 4th-Lu Ann Gifford, Cons-Emilie Pinto

Men's B: 1st-Steve Miller, 2nd-Dave Freer, 3rd-Larry Hedgespeth, 4th-Frank Brohm, Cons-Roger Schuhmann

Women's B: 1st-Mary Pidgeon, 2nd-Candy Gavin, 3rd-Sandy Hyre, 4th-Lu Ann Wilson, Cons-Karin Adkins

Men's C: 1st-Ken Adams, 2nd-Dave Peake, 3rd-Ronnie Brey, 4th-Steve Smith, Cons-Leland Melear

Women's C: 1st-Laurel Hecht, 2nd-Mitzi Weisenhahn, 3rd-Mary Ann Aquadro, 4th-Maggie Conklin, Cons-Terry Blong

Men's Novice: 1st-Wally Oyler, 2nd-Dave Lounsberg, 3rd-Bill Carr, 4th-Mike Wagner, Cons-Jim Allison

Women's Novice: 1st-Becky Durrett, 2nd-Terry Washer, 3rd-Kim McCarthy, 4th-Linda Zeller, Cons-Sandy McDonald

Seniors (35 & Over): 1st-Jon Fleischaker, 2nd-Tom Marr, 3rd-Dave Fleischaker, 4th-Bob Dabney, Cons-Vince Hyman

Masters (45 & Over): 1st-Leigh Jones, 2nd-Lew Whipple, 3rd-Ted Ray, 4th-Gilbert Coulter, Cons-Russell Kreider

Boys 17 & Under: 1st-Steve Bednar, 2nd-Robert Pinto, 3rd-Hunter Hancock, 4th-Neil Weinberg, Cons-Mark Paul

Arizona

Tucson's Brian Oates captured the Men's Open crown at the Arizona State Championships Feb. 28 - March 2 at the Tucson Athletic Club.

Results

Men's Open

Quarters: Mark Thomson d. Jack Nojan 21-7, 17-21, 11-9; Ken Garrigus d. John Lankford 21-20, 21-4; Keith Fleming d. John Barrett 8-21, 21-11, 11-7; Brian Oates d. Mike Romo 21-12, 21-18

Semis: Garrigus d. Thomson 21-12, 21-18; Oates d. Fleming 21-6, 21-14

Finals: Oates d. Garrigus 18-21, 21-11, 11-2

Women's Open

Quarters: Becky Gonzales d. Lisa McLain 14-21, 21-13, 11-3; Kris Hunter d. Karen Clark 21-14, 21-12; Mo Winter d. Debbie Wall 21-15, 8-21, 11-5; Lynn Wojcik d. Trisha Pollina 21-12, 16-21, 11-0

Semis: Gonzales d. Hunter 21-18, 21-9; Winter d. Wojcik 21-7, 21-6

Finals: Gonzales d. Winter 21-9, 21-18

Men's B

Quarters: Evan Terry d. Cliff Brown 21-13, 21-12; Joe Hassey d. Tim Jankousky 21-20, 7-21, 11-4; Bobby Corcoran d. Neil Katz 21-11, 21-11; Chris Henry d. Joe Vales 21-10, 21-5

Semis: Terry d. Hassey 21-13, 21-19; Henry d. Corcoran 21-20, 13-21, 11-3

Finals: Terry d. Henry 21-20, 21-18

Women's B

Quarters: Trisha Pollina d. Jane Gaitley 21-12, 21-18; Debbie Swenson d. Diane Brennan 21-11, 21-18; Donna Agee d. Cheryl Smith 21-19, 21-17; Penny Blum d. Ina Leffler 21-8, 21-13

Semis: Pollina d. Swenson 13-21, 21-9, 11-7; Blum d. Agee 21-12, 21-10

Finals: Pollina d. Blum 21-17, 21-15

Men's C

Quarters: Hugh Brown d. James Driscoll 21-17, 19-21, 11-8; Carl Wilson d. Chuck Hallock 21-5, 21-7; Jerry Goodwin d. Fred Greenwood 21-4, 15-21, 11-3; David Blackwell d. Ken Jacowsky 21-16, 12-21, 11-8

Semis: Brown d. Wilson 21-5, 21-18; Goodwin d. Blackwell 21-11, 21-15

Finals: Brown d. Goodwin 21-15, 19-21, 11-5

Women's C

Quarters: Debbie Swenson d. Cheryl Smith 21-18, 18-21, 11-4; Ann Hadd d. Cheryl Fuentes 21-9, 21-8; Jeanna French d. Janice Rathman 21-4, 21-3; Margo Ohmart d. Shauna Pearson 21-10, 21-14

Semis: Swenson d. Hadd 21-20, 15-21, 11-3; French d. Ohmart 21-14, 21-11

Finals: Swenson d. French 21-13, 21-8

Men's Novice

Quarters: Doug Robinson d. Mike Farina 20-21, 21-19, 11-7; Jim Whims d. R.C. Phillips 21-17, 21-10; Dave Follett d. Jim Buckley 21-13, 21-16; Randy Grothaus d. Ralph Rillos 21-15, 21-5

Semis: Whims d. Robinson 21-19, 21-14; Follett d. Grothaus 21-9, 21-18

Finals: Follett d. Whims 21-12, 12-21, 11-10

Seniors Open

Quarters: John Lankford d. Gene Burns; Dennis Olson d. Eddie Southard 21-10, 21-19; Bob Beal d. Ron Halstings 21-12, 21-4; Mike Aubrey d. Paul Banales 21-19, 21-14

Semis: Lankford d. Olson 21-10, 21-7; Beal d. Aubrey 17-21, 21-13, 11-4

Finals: Lankford d. Beal 21-14, 21-5

Seniors B

Quarters: Casey Blitt d. Larry Walker 21-10, 21-8; Len Corte d. Peter Farina 21-5, 21-8; Larry Ettinger d. Del Bedsaul 21-8, 21-4; Keith Jacobson d. Geraldo Zack 21-3, 21-1

Semis: Blitt d. Corte 21-20, 21-14; Ettinger d. Jacobson 21-9, 21-7

Finals: Ettinger d. Blitt 21-12, 21-13

Masters

Quarters: Paul Banales d. Peter Farina 21-12, 21-3; Woody Woodman d. Ward Kirscher 16-21, 21-11, 11-4; Del Bedsaul d. Robert Rice 21-17, 21-15; Bill Daley d. John Brandon 21-10, 21-14

Semis: Banales d. Woodman 21-12, 21-8; Daley d. Bedsaul 21-3, 11-21

Finals: Banales d. Daley 20-21, 21-7, 11-1

17 and Under

Quarters: Karl Einstein d. Mike Farina 21-7, 21-8; Todd Clark d. Mark Nordbrock 21-2, 21-14; Maurice LeMoine d. Clint Thomas 21-17, 21-17; Joel Bolan d. Bruce Ericsson 21-9, 8-21, 11-10

Semis: Einstein d. Clark 21-11, 21-2; Bolan d. LeMoine 21-8, 17-21, 11-9

Finals: Einstein d. Bolan 21-9, 21-7

15 and Under

Quarters: Joe Walker d. Lynn Wojcik default; Konrad Gaiten d. Chuck Gideon 21-10, 21-1; Whit Randolph d. David Swenski 21-9, 21-14; Todd Clark d. Jeff Wheeler 21-11, 21-5

Semis: Walker d. Gaiten 21-18, 21-18; Randolph d. Clark 21-20, 21-9

Finals: Randolph d. Walker 21-8, 21-19

New York

The New York State Open Jan. 24-27 at the court facility of Racquet Club of Eastern Hills in Buffalo drew 421 contestants making it the largest New York State Open tournament.

Results

Men's Open Singles

Semis: Gregorio d. Moshides 21-17, 21-16; Valin d. Miatello 21-11, 21-9

Finals: Valin d. Gregorio 21-10, 14-21, 11-3

Men's Seniors

Semis: Garfinkel d. LoTempio 21-7, 21-7; Smaldone d. Sylvio 21-14, 21-11

Finals: Garfinkel d. Smaldone 21-15, 21-9

Men's Seniors

Semis: Garfinkel d. LoTempio 21-7, 21-7; Smaldone d. Sylvio 21-14, 21-11

Finals: Garfinkel d. Smaldone 21-15, 21-9

Men's Senior Vets

Semis: Garfinkel d. Armstrong 21-8, 21-8; Ohnsorg d. Wurzer 21-12, 21-17

Finals: Garfinkel d. Ohnsorg 21-1, 21-17

Men's Masters

Semis: Kilbride d. Cannon 21-18, 21-15; McLaughlin d. Chelf 21-9, 21-4

Finals: McLaughlin d. Kilbride 21-14, 21-16

Men's B

Semis: Keogh d. Eisenhauer 21-8, 21-9; Birch d. Bluestone 21-17, 21-15

Finals: Birch d. Keogh 21-10, 21-14

Men's C

Semis: Altman d. Cianfarano 21-12, 21-8; Petroff d. Gentner 21-13, 21-13

Finals: Petroff d. Altman 21-20, 21-20

Men's Open Doubles

Semis: Gregorio/Miatello d. Dickenson/Hardy 21-15, 13-21, 11-7; Moshides/Negast d. Scales/Adams 21-18, 17-21, 11-4

Finals: Moshides/Negast, default

Men's B Doubles

Semis: Alvarez/Schaefer d. Kargen/Paul 21-10, 21-9; McCarthy/DelBello d. Morabito/Goldrich 21-7, 21-17

Finals: Alvarez/Schaefer d. McCarthy/DelBello 21-14, 21-2

Men's Novice

Semis: Walker d. Fachko 21-12, 21-15; Sumerson d. Banck 13-21, 21-17, 11-8

Finals: Fachko d. Sumerson 21-20, 21-12

Women's Open

Semis: Meger d. Conforti 21-5, 21-5; Witzig d. Mildenberg 21-12, 21-12

Finals: Witzig d. Meger 21-7, 21-6

Women's B

Semis: Brooks d. Rogers 21-14, 21-13; Robson d. Gonyeo 21-4, 19-21, 11-5

Finals: Brooks d. Robson 21-18, 15-21, 11-10

Women's C

Semis: Kitchen d. Wopper 21-14, 21-18; Robson d. Richards 21-12, 21-9

Finals: Kitchen, default

Women's Seniors

Semis: Meger d. Richards 21-5, 21-1; Conforti d. Doyle 21-17, 21-15

Finals: Meger d. Conforti 21-7, 21-8

Women's Novice

Semis: Schmidt d. Kalosza 21-0, 21-5; Tall d. Biernat 21-9, 21-6

Finals: Schmidt d. Tall 16-21, 21-17, 11-8

Boys 14 & Under

Finals: Battaglia d. Doyle 21-13, 21-8

Boys 10 & Under

Finals: Merk d. Doyle 21-12, 21-8

Girls 17 & Under (Round Robin) Sottile winner with 93 points

Girls 14 & Under (Round Robin) Rubin winner with 93 points

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Ohio

McDonald's Restaurant sponsored the second annual Middletown Racquetball Club Open Tournament Feb. 8 - 10.

Results

Women's Open: 1st - Becky Callahan, 2nd - Julie Seim, 3rd - Tricia Tillotson, 4th - Bernice Freidberg, Cons - Sally Forristell

Men's Open: 1st - Dan Clifford, 2nd - Mike Sipes, 3rd - Dave Eagle, 4th - Mark Kraus, Cons - Thin Dalton

Men's Seniors: 1st - Mark McIntosh, 2nd - Bernie McNamara, 3rd - Ray Huss, 4th - Earl Heidtman, Cons - Don Jensen

Women's B: 1st - Deb Shartle, 2nd - Princell, 3rd - Sandy Hyre, 4th - Lori Heidtman, Cons - Deb Constantine

Men's B: 1st - Steve Miller, 2nd - Randy Frees, 3rd - Joe Miller, 4th - Dave Miller, Cons - Scott Vidomos

Women's C: 1st - Barb Charnock, 2nd - Shirley Sabo, 3rd - Nancy Gutman, 4th - Pat Ladd, Cons - Pat Stallard

Men's C: 1st - Ken Bussell, 2nd - Rick Robey, 3rd - Rick Rounds, 4th - Evan Nyer, Cons - Al Croucher

Men's Novice: 1st - Joe Eckert, 2nd - Ed Myers, 3rd - Mark LaSance, 4th - John Perry, Cons - Tony Holiga

Women's Novice: 1st - Lisa Kershner, 2nd - Laura Garcia, 3rd - Lisa Little, 4th - Val Schmidt, Cons - Jackie Allen

Men's Masters: 1st - Frank Redden, 2nd - Jack Little, 3rd - Charlie Hon, 4th - Jerry Merz, Cons - Bob Cornella

Men's Masters: Lynn Hahn d. Fred Wiegand 21-13, 21-16

Men's Golden Masters: Dan Wood d. Manny Nosan 18-21, 21-17, 11-8

Boys 17 and Under: Vince Mack d. Matt Wyman 21-9, 21-8

Boys 15 and Under: Chuck Teets d. Chris Cole 21-11, 21-16

Women's Open: Stacy Fletcher d. Donna Henry 12-21, 21-16, 11-1

Women's A: Laurel Harmon d. Janice VanDerWeil 21-20, 18-21, 11-4

Women's B: Mary Fortuna d. Pamela Rendine 21-12, 21-18

Women's C: Michele Piperides d. Peggy Elliott 21-11, 18-21, 11-9

Women's Seniors: Peg Shaw d. Kip Valenta 21-10, 21-18



Bill Gottlieb, right, beat Bob Wilhelm in the Franklin Racquet Club tournament.

Michigan

Ithaca Community Education and Alma (MI) College cooperated in sponsoring the fourth annual Gratiot County singles and doubles tourney March 3 - 5.

Results

Men's A

Semi-Finals: Vic Beard d. Jack Mellinger 21-10, 21-12; John Raducha d. Rob Penner 21-16, 13-21, 11-3

Finals: Beard d. Raducha 21-15, 21-6 **Third:** Penner d. Mellinger 21-18, 21-16.

Men's B

Semi-Finals: A.J. McDonald d. Robert Coles 21-4, 21-5; Doug Swope d. Gordy Smith 21-18, 21-17

Finals: McDonald d. Swope 21-4, 21-3 **Third:** Coles d. Smith 21-10, 21-9

17 and Under

Semi-Finals: Bill Wideman d. Barry Chaffin 21-5, 21-4; Greg Searles d. John Town 21-18, 18-21, 11-9.

Finals: Wideman d. Searles 21-5, 21-3 **Third:** Town d. Chaffin 21-8, 21-14

14 and Under

Semi-Finals: Kregg Raducha d. Kevin Lytle 21-5, 21-6; Doug Mellinger d. Scott Showers 21-2, 21-4.

Finals: Raducha d. Mellinger 21-8, 21-9 **Third:** Lytle d. Showers 21-10, 21-2.

Doubles

Semi-Finals: Vic Beard/Randy Rose d. Lewis Sandel/Larry Beyer 15-21, 21-14, 11-2; Jack Raducha/John Raducha d. Robert Coles/Jack Mellinger 21-16, 21-16

Finals: Beard/Rose d. Raducha/Raducha 13-21, 21-20, 11-10 **Third:** Coles/Mellinger d. Sandel/Beyer 21-17, 14-21, 11-7.

A total of 537 players made the March 7-9 tournament at Franklin Racquet Club the largest amateur competition held in Michigan.

Results

Men's Open: Bill Gottlieb d. Bob Wilhelm 7-21, 21-13, 11-7

Men's A: Sheldon Yellen d. Bill Csatri 21-9, 21-14

Men's B: Jeff Boehms d. J. Graves 17-21, 21-20, 11-2

Men's C: Jim Hiser d. Doug Wood 21-16, 21-17

Men's Seniors: Bob Lipin d. J. Diederott 21-10, 21-13

Texas

Local high school "boy wonder" Tim Pace took top Men's A division honors in the Amarillo Central YMCA hosted 5th annual Top-O-Texas Racquetball Classic Feb. 14-17, with a record 117 entries.

Results

Men's Novice

Semi: Donald Gaines d. Bryan Whitson 21-8, 21-12; Mark Tidwell d. Dennis Brungardt 21-8, 21-19

Finals: Gaines d. Tidwell 21-14, 21-7 **Third:** Whitson d. Brungardt 21-11, 11-21, 11-9

Men's C

Quarters: Mike Roberts d. Ralph Moore 19-21, 21-11, 11-4; Kenneth Moore d. Leslie Chavez 21-17, 18-21, 11-8; Ron Mims d. Jerry Clark 21-1, 21-9; Richard Cook d. Richard Mays 21-12, 21-7

Semi: Moore d. Roberts 21-8, 20-21, 11-4; Cook d. Mims 21-12, 21-15

Finals: Moore d. Cook 9-21, 21-17, 11-8 **Third:** Mims d. Roberts 21-11, 11-21, 11-9

Men's B

Quarters: Ross Taylor d. Richard Smith 21-9, 21-11; Michael Davidson d. Bobby Martindale 21-0, 21-7; Randall Richards d. Edgar Wood (by injury default); Scott Cullins d. Terry Mayfield 21-19, 21-16

Semi: Davidson d. Taylor 21-1, 21-12; Richards d. Cullins 21-13, 21-19

Finals: Richards d. Davidson 21-17, 21-14 **Third:** Cullins d. Taylor 12-21, 21-12, 11-4

Men's A

Quarters: Tim Pace d. Alan Pool 21-15, 21-11; Ross Smith d. Terry Fleetwood 21-19, 21-13; Gary Pool d. Gary Hyatt 17-21, 21-14, 11-6; Ray Smith d. Alonzo Ramos 21-11, 21-17

Semi: Pace d. Ross Smith 21-12, 17-21, 11-3; Pool d. Ray Smith 16-21, 21-15, 11-9

Finals: Pace d. Pool (by forfeit) **Third:** Ray Smith d. Ross Smith (forfeit)

Men's A Doubles

Semi: Randall Richards/Larry Fuller d. Alonzo Ramos/Terry Fleetwood 21-14, 21-12; Ray Smith/David Martel d. Bob Lindsay/Mike Jennings 21-18, 18-21, 11-7

Finals: Smith/Martel d. Richards/Fuller 21-18, 18-21, 11-7 **Third:** Lindsay/Jennings d. Ramos/Fleetwood 21-8, 21-8

Men's B Doubles

Quarters: Michael Davidson/Richard Jalbert d. John Dodson/Richard Mays 21-7, 21-13; Terry Mayfield/Rick Herrington d. Jeff Newman/Shawn Regan 21-14, 21-14; Ross Taylor/Humbert Garcia d. Richard Cook/Kenneth Moore 21-16, 21-14; Craig Owens/David Riddlespurger d. Alvin Sharp/Mike Roberts

Semi: Mayfield/Herrington d. Davidson/Jalbert 20-21, 21-20, 11-9; Taylor/Garcia d. Owens/Riddlespurger 21-5, 21-17

Finals: Taylor/Garcia d. Mayfield/Herrington 21-5, 13-21, 11-5 **Third:** Davidson/Jalbert d. Owens/Riddlespurger 21-9, 21-5

Women's A

Finals: Linda Schulte d. Leslee Deener 21-5, 21-3 **Third:** Nita Smith d. Doris Reed 21-14, 21-13

Women's B

Semi: Candy Smith d. Jo Roberts 21-14, 21-10; Myrna Clark d. Julie Fuller 21-5, 21-8

Finals: Candy Smith d. Myrna Clark 21-16, 13-21, 11-9 **Third:** Roberts d. Fuller 21-12, 21-12

Women's Novice

Semi: Carrie McGavock d. Dianne Gorrie 21-20, 21-18; Vicky Day d. Debbie Seely 21-7, 21-4

Finals: Day d. Gorrie 21-4, 21-12 **Third:** McGavock d. Seely 21-5, 21-13

Women's Doubles

Semi: Linda Schulte/Nita Smith d. Tandy Medford/Myrna Clark 21-6, 21-9; Leslee Deener/Debbie Bray d. Jo Roberts/Melody Eldridge 21-9, 21-4

Finals: Schulte/Nita Smith d. Tandy Medford/Myrna Clark 21-6, 21-9; Leslee Deener/Debbie Bray d. Jo Roberts/Bray 21-10, 21-6 **Third:** Medford/Clark d. Roberts/Eldridge

Illinois

The Peoria YMCA held its Open Racquetball Classic Feb. 22-24.

Results

Men's A

Semi-Finals: Jim Crick d. Bob Schwab 21-7, 20-21, 11-5; Ron Durr d. Bob Scroggs 21-8, 21-16

Finals: Crick d. Durr 15-21, 21-6, 11-0 **Cons:** 1st - Bob Scroggs

Men's B

Semi-Finals: Bill Motteler d. Jeff Lahaie 17-21, 21-18, 11-6; Stewart Kinkade d. Jack Fulton 21-17, 18-21, 11-3

Finals: Motteler d. Kinkade 11-21, 21-5, 11-5 **Cons:** 1st - Bill White

Men's C

Semi-Finals: Mike Woodcock d. Tom Cayson 21-5, 21-8; Harold Wilkerson d. Derek Ronnfeldt 21-17, 21-18

Finals: Woodcock d. Wilkerson 21-15, 21-6 **Cons:** 1st - Bill Fortune

Women's B

Semi-Finals: Becca Detrick d. Dee Phelan 21-4, 21-13; Judy Schermann d. Joann Lytle 21-3, 21-11

Finals: Schermann d. Deltrich 21-10, 21-10 **Cons:** 1st - Phelan

The Illinois State Racquetball Association held the Lite Illinois State Doubles Championships S/S/S Promotions, Inc. Feb. 29 - March 2.

Results

Men's Open

Quarters: John Lynch/Jim Scheyer d. Gregg Mandell/Jack Newman 21-19, 21-5; Bob Deuster/Steve Sulli d. Andy Witt/Tom Golueke 21-9, 21-16; Dennis McDowell/Steve Butler d. Harvi Miller/Al Shetzer 21-17, 21-16

Semi: Lynch/Scheyer d. Deuster/Sulli 9-21, 21-20, 11-4; Rish/Siegel d. McDowell/Butler 21-18, 3-21, 11-2

Finals: Lynch/Scheyer d. Rish/Siegel 21-10, 21-19

Cons: Phil Wenger/Jeff McDowell d. Gary Loizzo/Jim Thompson 9-21, 21-15, 11-10

Women's Open

Semi: Glenda Young/Sue Prisching d. Vicki Carr/Barb Larrain 21-12, 21-3

Finals: Young/Prisching d. Sue Carow/Bev Franks 20-21, 21-11, 11-9

Cons: Lynne Farmer/Barb Allweiss d. Terry Cubberley/Mary Precht 21-14, 21-7

Men's Senior

Semifinals: Bob Troyer/Ed Lammersfeld d. Bill Feigen/Spencer Karlin 21-8, 21-7; Scott Barry/Shelly Clar d. Jordan Tilden/Rich Donati 21-19, 21-14
Finals: Troyer/Lammersfeld d. Scott Barry/Shelly Clar 21-17, 21-16
Cons: Ron Johnson/Bob Stoy d. Don Webb/Bill Williamson

Connecticut

Competing in the men's division Pro Janell Marriott lost to Dave Maturah at the Union Trust/March of Dimes Open March 7-9 at the Downtown Racquet Club in New Haven, CT. New York State Champion Charlie Horton, who is 17, was men's Open winner in the tournament that raised more than \$10,000 for the March of Dimes.



Dave Maturah, left, defeated Janell Marriott in the Union Trust/March of Dimes Open.

Results

Men's Open: Chas Horton

Men's Novice: Larry Baross

Men's C: John Peterson

Men's B: Neil Barsky

Men's Open Doubles: David Luft/Jerry Yee

Men's B, C Doubles: Michael Aquino/Gene Alberti

Men's Seniors: Thomas Waltz

Men's Masters: Joseph Rizzo

Women's Novice: Ann Mari Cleaver

Women's C: Ann Mari Cleaver

Women's B: Karen VanKampen

Wisconsin

Saranac Glove Co. sponsored its third annual Pro-Am Racquetball Tournament at Western Racquet Club Feb. 15-17 in Green Bay.

Results

Men's Pro

Quarters: Ben Koltun d. Jim Scheyer 18-21, 21-14, 11-2; Steven Mondry d. Jim Wirkus 21-10, 21-14; Don Constable d. Doug Cohen 21-18, 21-21, 11-9; Paul Ikier d. Joe Wirkus 7-21, 21-19, 11-5

Semifinals: Koltun d. Mondry 21-15, 21-17; Constable d. Ikier 21-18, 5-21, 11-8.

Finals: Constable d. Koltun 21-13, 21-17; Ikier d. Mondry for 3rd.

Consolation Finals: Joe Wirkus d. Jim Scheyer 16-21, 21-8, 11-6

Women's Pro

Quarters: Rita Hoff d. Nola Ward 21-7, 21-20; Judy Thompson d. Colleen Shield by forfeit; Mary Dee d. Barb Tennesen 21-18, 15-21, 11-8; Pat Schmidt d. Sheryl Kraus 21-12, 21-11

Semifinals: Hoff d. Thompson 21-8, 21-5; Schmidt d. Dee 21-17, 4-21, 11-7

Finals: Schmidt d. Hoff 21-13, 14-21, 11-3

Dee d. Thompson 21-10, 21-12 for 3rd

Consolation Finals: Barb Tennesen d. Cheryl Mathieu 21-14, 21-10

Men's Open

Quarters: Tom Handlen d. Jim Scheyer, Scott Schultz d. Ray Bohl, Bobby Kohl d. Bill Schmeizer, Brian Parrott d. Jon Oehrlein

Semifinals: Schultz d. Handlen, Parrott d. Kohl

Finals: Parrott d. Schultz 18-21, 21-14, 11-2; Kohl d. Handlen 19-21, 21-4, 11-0 for 3rd

Consolation Quarters: John Bartmann d. Dave Meyer, Tim LaVoi d. Chip Moore, Galen Johnson d. Roger Lamoreux, Jim Lucht d. Scott Hubert **Semifinals:** LaVoi d. Bartmann, Johnson d. Lucht **Finals:** Johnson d. LaVoi

Men's Senior

Quarters: Bill Schmidtko d. Chuck Terrizzi, Dave Hulst d. Warren Marinaccio, Mike Gorman d. Fred Mabson, Jon Dirksen d. Dave Haupt

Semifinals: Schmidtko d. Hulst, Gorman d. Dirksen

Finals: Schmidtko d. Gorman, Dirksen d. Hulst 21-7, 17-21, 11-7 for 3rd

Consolation Semifinals: Ralph Blanchette d. Fran Roman, Tom Biebel d. Tom Smith **Finals:** Blanchette d. Biebel

Men's B

First round: Jeff Plazak d. Pete Tauton, Del Kaus d. Tim Lattimer, Gordy Schneider d. Steve Lindeneau, Tom Rediske d. Dave Korenic, Paul Tauton d. Bruce Skaggs, Rich Risch d. Mark Bellmore, Steve Nicks d. Larry Butz, Dave Hart d. Mark Kuchenberg.

Second round: Kaus d. Plazak, Schneider d. Rediske, Tauton d. Risch, Hart d. Nicks, Schneider d. Kaus, Hart d. Tauton.

Finals: Hart d. Schneider 21-18, 17-21, 11-9; Tauton d. Kaus 21-16, 21-18 for 3rd.

Consolation Quarters: Larry Lamers d. Floyd Schwoide, Bruce Rhode d. Jon Esch, Tim Usher d. Mike Skahan, Wayne Herrick d. Larry Peterson **Semifinals:** Lamers d. Rhodes, Usher d. Herrick **Finals:** Usher d. Lamers.

Women's B

Quarters: Janice Lucht d. Sue Jeannero, LuAnn Brookins d. Alice Cook, Dyanne Singler d. Nancy Callow, Judi Lutz d. Carol Colletti

Semifinals: Brookins d. Lucht, Singler d. Lutz

Finals: Singler d. Brookins 21-8, 21-10; Lutz d. Lucht 21-8, 21-7 for 3rd

Consolation Quarters: Gina Waldren d. Char Stiefvater, Marge Fish d. JoAnn Rogers, Gloria Junkerman d. Sandy Tostrup, Pat Hulst d. Dian Wadzinski **Semifinals:** Waldren d. Fish, Hulst d. Junkerman, **Finals:** Hulst d. Waldren

One hundred fifty players competed in the third annual Bridgkort Open Feb. 29 - March 2 at the Bridgkort Racquet and Swim Club in Neenah. Gari Tate, the host pro, defeated Wausau's Pete Kerswill 21-12, 21-12 to capture the Men's Open title. Tate had edged out Green Bay's Galen Johnson 18-21, 21-2, 11-10 in the semis. Kerswill annihilated opponents with his blistering shots, but in the finals Tate controlled the flow of the match and exploited all of Kerswill's errors.

Rhode Island

Burger King sponsored the Rhode Island Racquetball Association's fourth annual State Singles Championships March 6-9 at Celebrity Courts in Warwick.

Results

Men's A

Quarters: Dave Brown d. Mike Chabot 21-19, 21-13; Rene Depot d. Jerry Melaragno 21-3, 21-7; Manny Pita d. Peter Holden 21-10, 21-8; Al Lavallee d. Mike DePardo 19-21, 21-4, 11-9

Semifinals: Depot d. Brown 21-10, 21-7; Pita d. Lavallee 18-21, 21-20, 11-4

Finals: Pita d. Depot 16-21, 21-19, 11-4 **Third:** Brown d. Lavallee 21-12, 17-21, 11-7 **Cons:** Ed McGovern d. Dennis Culberson 21-8, 21-15

Men's B

Quarters: Dick Zotti d. Bill Bradley 17-21, 21-18, 11-7; Steve Waldman d. Don Bockoven 16-21, 21-10, 11-5; Scott Pucino d. Ken Adams 21-13, 21-19; Elliot Wilk d. Domenic Marcone 21-17, 21-15

Semifinals: Zotti d. Waldman 16-21, 21-10, 11-5; Wilk d. Pucino 21-15, 21-14

Finals: Wilk d. Zotti 21-12, 21-11 **Third:** Pucino d. Waldman 21-14, 7-21, 11-10 **Cons:** Greg Demers d. Dave Harlow 21-18, 16-21, 11-8

Men's C

Quarters: Jim Wade d. Chuck Morrison 21-20, 21-20; Vic Ackley d. Mike O'Brien 21-13, 21-5; Brian Ennis d. Dennis Fernandes 21-17, 21-16; Leon Tempel d. Rick Miguel 21-1, 21-10

Semifinals: Ackley d. Wade 21-10, 21-14; Tempel d. Ennis 15-21, 21-2, 11-7

Finals: Ackley d. Tempel 21-7, 11-21, 11-5 **Third:** Wade d. Ennis 21-14, 21-9 **Cons:** Ron Rainone d. Trent Danella 21-18, 21-18

Women's A

Quarters: Debbie Labreque d. Norma Taylor default; Marilyn Ellis d. Sharon Culberson 21-7, 21-12; Janet McLeavey d. Peggy Whittemore 18-21, 21-7, 11-10; Linda Hanley d. Melba Campbell 10-21, 21-7, 11-1

Semifinals: Ellis d. Labreque 21-2, 21-5; Hanley d. McLeavey 21-17, 21-13

Finals: Hanley d. Ellis 11-21, 21-20, 11-6 **Third:** McLeavey d. Labreque 21-5, 21-3 **Cons:** Whittemore d. Linda Paolozzi 21-1, 21-5

Women's C

Quarters: Vicki Tempel d. Pat Benenato 21-7, 21-9; Diana Scanlon d. Nancy Garvey 21-7, 21-1; Patricia Watkins d. Meghan Ruane 21-17, 21-11; Betty Schifino d. Mary Carr 21-16, 21-6

Semifinals: Scanlon d. Tempel 21-5, 21-3; Schifino d. Watkins 21-17, 21-11

Finals: Scanlon d. Schifino 21-9, 21-8 **Third:** Watkins d. Tempel 21-4, 21-16 **Cons:** Barb Clarke d. Rita Mellor 21-18, 21-16

Boys 14 and Under

Quarters: Paul Ferioli d. Mike Zarella 21-1, 21-1; Bobby Agnew d. Ed Greene 21-10, 21-9; Ken Ribeiro d. Alan Dogon 10-21, 21-18, 11-7; Brian Ferioli d. Ed Scanlon 21-1, 21-12

Semifinals: P. Ferioli d. Agnew 21-4, 21-8; Ribeiro d. B. Ferioli 21-7, 20-21, 11-0

Finals: Ribeiro d. P. Ferioli 20-21, 21-15, 11-5 **Third:** Agnew d. B. Ferioli 21-9, 12-21, 11-10 **Cons:** Jason Krikorian d. Mark Masiello 21-14, 21-13

Boys 17 and Under 1st Mike Flaherty, 2nd Russell Drew

Men's Seniors

Quarters: Jay Roberts d. Bill Neri 21-18, 21-13; Gary Northcutt d. Bill Bradley 21-10, 21-5; Rene Depot d. Carl Picerno 21-5, 21-9; John Rosato d. Karl Krikorian 21-19, 21-18

Semifinals: Roberts d. Northcutt 21-17, 20-21, 11-2; Depot d. Rosato 21-10, 21-3

Finals: Depot d. Roberts 21-8, 21-0 **Third:** Northcutt d. Rosato 21-20, 21-12 **Cons:** Don Krasko d. Bob Puopolo 21-1, 21-8

Men's Masters

Quarters: Dick Zotti d. Paul Cote 21-12, 19-21, 11-5; Joe Fenster d. Ed DiPersio 21-10, 21-13; Paul Katz d. Charles Hahn 21-7, 21-8; Dave Wehr d. Dave Louro 21-14, 9-21, 11-5

Semifinals: Zotti d. Fenster 21-18, 16-21, 11-8; Katz d. Wehr 21-3, 21-15

Finals: Katz d. Wehr 21-3, 21-15 **Third:** Fenster d. Wehr 21-4, 21-8 **Cons:** Bob Richter d. Bill Shields 16-21, 21-18, 11-5

Men's Golden Masters 1st Bernie Kramer, 2nd Teddy Traversa

Vermont

The Green Mountain Racquetball Association sponsored the USRA sanctioned 1980 Vermont State Singles Racquetball Championships Jan. 25 - 27 at the Court Club in South Burlington.

Results

Men's Open: 1st - Paul Lazure, 2nd - Bob Pattison, 3rd - Bill Burnett

Men's B: 1st - Todd O'Neill, 2nd - Charlie Hall, 3rd - Bill Stone

Men's Novice: 1st - Dave Haggerty, 2nd - Jim Shuman, 3rd - Jerry Mintz

Men's Senior A: 1st - Chuck Bigalow, 2nd - Townsend Gilbert, 3rd - Burt Moffatt

Men's Senior B: 1st - John Bostwick, 2nd - Bill Sancibrian, 3rd - Bob Donahue

Men's C: 1st - Ed Lacroix, 2nd - Tom Anderson, 3rd - Ned Mahoney

Women's Open: 1st - Laura Baker, 2nd - Delia O'Dwyer, 3rd - Heather Marshall

Women's B: 1st - Jovi Larson, 2nd - Katie Pett, 3rd - Sidney Hults

Women's C: 1st - Kristi Duff, 2nd - Donna McNally, 3rd - Cathy Brown

Women's Novice: 1st - Ann Chase, 2nd - Lori Springer, 3rd - Gail Haggerty

Florida

The Masters Racquetball Club of North Miami Beach held its first tournament of the year Feb. 14 - 16, at the North Miami Beach Racquetball Courts. Trophies were awarded.

—Lefty Goldberg photo



Israel Pollock, left, and Artie Rubenstein take part in a Masters Racquetball Club tournament in North Miami.

Results

Finals: Allan Chassner/Sam Greenhut d. Eddie Gelband/Lester Goldsmith 21-19, 18-21, 11-8. Runner Up: Sal Alaimo/Jim Maynard

Nevada

Bret Harnett won the Men's Open and his father, Dan, won the Men's Seniors at the Nevada State tournament at the Las Vegas Sporting House Feb. 29-March 2.

Results

Men's Open

Quarters: Bret Harnett d. Fred Hernandez 21-4, 21-11; Dean Pferschy d. Don Norquist 21-9, 11-21, 11-4; Martin Padilla d. Tommy Peterson 21-9, 21-10; Rob Baruck d. Frank Mitcham 21-5, 21-7

Semis: Harnett d. Pferschy 21-8, 21-4; Baruck d. Padilla 21-11, 8-21, 11-3

Finals: Harnett d. Baruck 21-20, 21-18

Men's B

Quarters: Cal Smith d. Steve Evans 21-15, 21-7; Jack Godfrey d. Bill Marek 21-15, 21-17; Roy Robbins d. William Gaspar 21-12, 14-21, 11-2; Chris Costello d. Steve Barber 21-11, 21-13

Semis: Smith d. Godfrey 21-20, 21-12; Costello d. Robbins 10-21, 21-6, 11-10

Finals: Costello d. Smith 21-9, 21-14 **Third:** Robbins d. Godfrey 9-21, 21-19, 11-4

Men's C

Quarters: Bill Carpenter d. Joe Buntrock 21-8, 21-19; John Onderdonk d. Bob Johns 21-19, 20-21, 11-10; Jim Porello d. Gregg Conigliaro 21-4, 21-15; Pat Robinson d. David Roger 21-10, 6-21, 11-7

Semis: Carpenter d. Onderdonk 21-8, 15-21, 11-7; Porello d. Robinson 21-7, 21-19

Finals: Porello d. Carpenter 12-21, 21-8, 11-9 **Third:** Onderdonk d. Robinson 21-7, 21-19

Men's Seniors

Quarters: Ted Schacker d. Ron Eckhoff 13-21, 21-12, 11-8; Dan Harnett d. Bill Godfrey 21-6, 21-3; Tom Bishop d. Dan Koss 21-5, 21-15; Phil Waldman d. Al Digeorge 21-18, 11-21, 11-2

Semis: Harnett d. Schacker 21-14, 21-18; Bishop d. Waldman 21-17, 21-10

Finals: Harnett d. Bishop **Third:** Schacker d. Waldman 21-16, 21-11

Men's Senior C

Quarters: Sam Klass d. Ryan Corrigan 21-16, 21-2; Austin Hamilton d. Terrance Carlin 21-11, 21-15; Len Robinson d. Art Allen, forfeit; Leo Durant d. Gary Naseef 19-21, 21-17, 11-4

Semis: Klass d. Hamilton 21-15, 18-21, 11-9; Robinson d. Durant 16-21, 21-7, 11-9

Finals: Klass d. Robinson 15-21, 21-10, 11-0 **Third:** Hamilton d. Durant 21-9, 21-8

Men's Novice

Quarters: Joey Pecaroro d. James Norman 21-10, 21-14; Joey Patren d. Russell Pike 21-13, 21-20; Matt Rydick d. Bill Moore 21-5, 21-6, Don Hunter d. Stephen Guess 21-13, 21-18

Semis: Patren d. Pecaroro 21-10, 21-11; Rudich d. Hunter 21-13, 21-18

Finals: Patren d. Durich 21-3, 21-8 **Third:** Pecaroro d. Hunter 21-6, 21-15; Novice Cons: Mark Obialero d. Joe Thomason

Men's Open Doubles

Semis: Martin Hernandez/Fred Hernandez d. Tommy Peterson/Don Norquist 21-16, 21-13; Brett Harnett/Dean Pferschy d. Bob Hybarger/Chris Hybarger 21-7, 21-7

Finals: Harnett/Pferschy d. Padilla/Hernandez 21-11, 12-21, 11-7 **Third:** Hybarger/Hybarger

Men's B Doubles

Semis: Jack Godfrey/Kei Burk d. Clyde Horner/Ben Portillo 21-14, 18-21, 11-6; Jim Lewis/Chris Costello d. S. Severson/Joe Buntrock 21-16, 21-17

Finals: Costello/Lewis d. Godfrey/Burk 21-14, 21-10 **Third:** Severson/Buntrock d. Horner/Portillo 21-14, 21-9

Women's Open (Round Robin): 1st - Ann Young, 2nd - Kathy Jones, 3rd - Sue Bradles

Women's B (Round Robin): 1st - Stacey Cartwright, 2nd - Sheri Ukieley, 3rd - Dixie Cartwright

Women's C

Semis: Vicki Schacker d. Jenny Tzanetopoulos 21-19, 21-3; Irene Ferguson d. Jan Siegel 21-16, 21-3

Finals: Schacker d. Ferguson 21-15, 21-8 **Third:** Siegel d. Tzanetopoulos 21-17, 21-8

Women's Novice 1st: Linda Chaez d. Genia Parker 21-11, 21-5; 3rd: Jane Schlosser d. Autumn Claxton 21-14, 21-11

Women's Open Doubles 1st: Ann Young/Kathy Jones d. Stacy Cartwright/Dixie Cartwright 21-5, 21-11; 3rd: Sheryl Stansberry/Kathy Godfrey

Mississippi

The 1980 Mississippi State Racquetball Tournament was held Jan. 26-28 at the Courthouse Racquetball Club in Jackson.

Results

Women's A

Quarters: Amy Foster d. Pam Hollifield, Patty Gleason d. Mary Duvall, Sheila McClintock d. JoAnn Keith, JoAnn LaPointe, bye

Semis: LaPointe d. Foster, McClintock d. Gleason

Finals: McClintock d. LaPointe **Third:** Foster

Women's B

Quarters: Foster d. Mary Duvall, Ruth Pritsher d. Nancy Draper, Lulu LeMaster d. Mary Lynch, Gleason d. Lynn Werner

Semis: Foster d. Pritsher, Gleason d. LeMaster

Finals: Foster d. Gleason **Third:** LeMaster

Women's C

Quarters: Betsy Mullins d. Ginger Stubblefield, Jean Hines d. Werner, Pritsher d. Vicki Ewing, LeMaster d. Karen McCort

Semis: Mullins d. Hines, LeMaster d. Pritsher

Finals: LeMaster d. Mullins **Third:** Pritsher

Women's Novice

Quarters: Kay Allen d. Cancy Carver, Gail Champion d. Karen Burwell, Locke Barkley d. Jenny Markow, Beth Scott d. Kitty Methvin

Semis: Champion d. Allen, Scott d. Barkley

Finals: Champion d. Scott

Men's A

Quarters: Kip Parrish d. Phil Rutledge, Jerry Grantham d. John Branton, Chuck Miner d. Henry Wingate, Mike Nickerson d. Jim Cross

Semis: Parrish d. Grantham, Nickerson d. Miner

Finals: Parrish d. Nickerson **Third:** Grantham

Men's B

Quarters: Al Yochim d. Bill Lynch, Willie Handy d. Mark Stephens, Johnny Lynch d. Bob Spinks, Russ Clifton d. Ben Sheely

Semis: Yochim d. Handy, Clifton d. J. Lynch

Finals: Yochim d. Clifton **Third:** Handy

Men's C

Quarters: Tom DeHuff d. Mark Siegal, Rick Schoomaker d. Tommy Lynch, Buster Poole d. David Penton, Lee Alexander d. Jim Bowles

Semis: Schoomaker d. DeHuff, Poole d. Alexander

Finals: Schoomaker d. Poole **Third:** Alexander

Men's Novice

Quarters: Mike Carver d. Robert Boyd, Buddy Connors d. Dan Gleason, Jim McGinnis d. Robert Herring, T. Lynch d. Jerry Daugherty

Semis: Connors d. Carver, Lynch d. McGinnis

Finals: Connors d. Lynch **Third:** Carver

Men's Doubles

Quarters: Mullins/Parrish, bye, Yochim/Poole d. McClintock/LaPointe, Daniels/Stevens d. Branton/Wingate, Cross/Grantham d. Kohler/Bonner

Semis: Mullins/Parrish d. Yochim/Poole, Cross/Grantham d. Daniels/Stevens

Finals: Mullins/Parrish d. Cross/Grantham, **Third:** Daniels/Stevens

Men's Seniors

Quarters: Chuck Miner d. Frank Bonner, Al Bullock d. Pat Welsh, Bill Lynch d. Willie Daniel, John Magee d. Bill Buford

Semis: Miner d. Bullock, Magee d. Lynch

Finals: Miner d. Magee **Third:** Bullock

Men's Masters

Semis: Bullock d. Magee, B. Lynch d. John Tate

Finals: Bullock d. B. Lynch

South Carolina

The South Carolina Racquetball Association's State Championship held at the Court House in Columbia Jan. 25-27 was won by unseeded Richard Quinn, who beat defending State Champion and Top Seeded Phil Chandler in the semi-finals and defeated No. 2 Seeded, Larry Gammons, in the final match.

Results

Men's Open

Quarters: Richard Quinn d. Phil Chandler 21-20, 21-13; Danny Watson d. Hayward Thompson 8-21, 21-3, 11-3;

Charlie White d. Randy Tillery 9-21, 21-9, 11-7; Larry Gammons d. Gary Mendleson, forfeit
Semis: Quinn d. Watson 21-19, 21-13; Gammons d. White
Finals: Quinn d. Gammons 21-15, 21-15

Richard Quinn, right, defeated second seeded Larry Gammons 21-15, 21-15 in the finals of the South Carolina Racquetball Tournament.



Men's B

Quarters: Angel Diaz d. Larry Simon 21-12, 21-12; Paul Sereg d. Doug Hird 21-11, 21-9; Rube White d. Harry Jones 21-12, 21-13; Chris Rivers d. Rusty Hamilton 21-10, 17-21, 11-10

Semis: Diaz d. Sereg 21-17, 21-2; White d. Rivers 21-6, 21-12

Finals: Diaz d. White 18-21, 21-18, 11-2

Men's C

Quarters: Jamison d. Buck Marchant 21-13, 10-21, 11-4; Stan Lazenby d. Dick Olsen 21-4, 21-16; Nowak d. Collins 21-13, 21-2; Gary Sutton d. Phil Errante 21-12, 21-12

Semis: Lazenby d. Jamison 21-10, 21-9; Nowak d. Sutton 21-14, 21-16

Finals: Nowak d. Lazenby

Men's Seniors

Quarters: Hayward Thompson d. John Simon 21-2, 21-14; Gerald Griffin d. Rhea 21-7, 21-7; Howard Pickrel d. Stone 21-19, 21-17; Bob Alford d. Ken Lester 21-17, 4-21, 11-9

Semis: Thompson d. Griffin 21-1, 21-1; Pickrel d. Alford 21-14, 21-14

Finals: Thompson d. Pickrel 21-12, 21-7

Men's Masters

Quarters: Howard d. Segal Forfeit; Schneider d. Bill Wirthlin 21-12, 21-19; Phil Walpole d. Dave Wardlaw 21-18, 21-7; John Webster d. Ted Adams 21-0, 21-5

Semis: Howard d. Schneider 21-10, 21-11; Webster d. Walpole

Finals: Webster d. Howard 16-21, 21-13, 11-10

Women's Open

Quarters: Cheryl Jarrett, Bye; D. Taylor d. Clausen; N. Taylor d. Tillery 16-21, 21-18, 11-8; Dorelyn Moore d. Neil Lester 21-5, 21-3

Semis: Jarrett d. Clausen 21-8, 21-12; Moore d. Taylor 21-14, 21-15

Finals: Jarrett d. Moore 21-11, 21-15

Juniors

Quarters: Griffin d. Kris Lester 21-1, 21-11; M. Burrell d. Taylor 21-9, 21-1; Wolfson d. Kelly Lester 21-11, 21-11; C. Burrell d. Bailey 21-10, 21-19

Semis: Griffin d. Burrell 21-13, 21-13; Burrell d. Wolfson 21-10, 21-19

Finals: Griffin d. Burrell 21-13, 21-17



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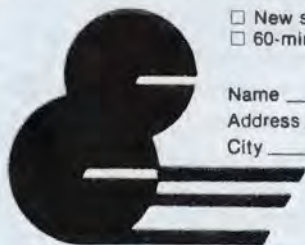
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Forty-two Ways to Use Your Racquetball Racquet

And Help Save the Economy

by Michael Colin

The game of racquetball is enjoying a tremendous growth in the United States. People from all walks of life are now taking racquet in hand, entering the courts and whacking little rubber balls around.

Unfortunately the economy of this country is not enjoying even a little growth. The socio-economic balance of our nation is, bluntly, the pits. It is our responsibility as good, upstanding citizens, to ensure that good use is made of our resources. We must learn to apply different uses to traditionally one-use items, such as the racquetball racquet. The following list is the product of much thought, and it presents to you 42 different uses for the racquetball racquet. Keep this list in your wallet for quick reference.

Your Can Use Your Racquet:

1. As a ukelele
2. As a semaphore paddle



3. To make shoestring potatoes (racquetstring potatoes??)
4. As an eggbeater
5. As a spatula
6. As a collander
7. As a grease drainer
8. As a cheese grater
9. As a lettuce shredder
10. As a watermelon de-seeder
11. To dice onions, turnips and carrots
12. As a spaghetti separator



13. To make a complete mess of a tomato
14. As a hammer.
15. As a screwdriver (no, I've never seen a screw *that* large, either)
16. As a very rigid fish net
17. As a tennis racquet for Paul Williams
18. As stakes to anchor your pup tent
19. As a bicycle (this takes a good imagination)
20. As a rather inefficient oar

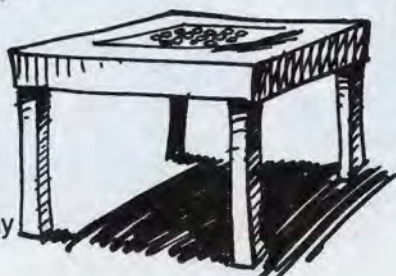
—Dave Cochran illustrations



21. As a questionable boomerang
22. As a basketball hoop (slash the strings aimlessly with your favorite razor blade; use a cantaloupe as the ball. Good for a short, sweet game)
23. To give waffle-face to someone you don't like
24. To give waffle-face to someone you *DO* like (check out sado-masochism)
25. As a Mongolian abacus (you supply the raisins)
26. As makeshift snowshoes for your pet
27. As makeshift snowshoes for Paul Williams
28. For a vain attempt at man powered flight (you supply the roof)
29. For a fatal attempt at man powered flight (you supply the cliff)
30. As a cat box cleaner



31. As stilts for a duck
32. As a sparrow swatter
33. As a wind sifter
34. As helicopter blades
35. As an ineffective shovel
36. As a bullet proof vest (where do we send the flowers?)
37. As a guide for drawing teeny little squares



38. As something to lean on while you wonder why you just drew approximately two hundred teeny little squares
39. As a hat (this has been known to cause fads in France)
40. As a needlepoint pattern board
41. As something to stare at with a blank expression on your face

Addendum

There is a 42nd use for your racquetball racquet, though it is rather dull and uninventive:

42. To play racquetball ●



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The Aspirin Alternative: Racquetball Without Pain

by Frances Sheridan Goulart

Sometimes it's a piece of cake.

"There is no doubt that the overwhelming drive behind my success is that I am absolutely unafraid of pain. I am willing to put myself through anything; temporary pain or discomfort means nothing to me as long as I can see that the experience will take me to a new level." So says Super-swimmer Diana Nyad—a recent racquetball convert—in her book *Other Shores*.

But for most of the rest of us pain is a game we'd rather not play.

"In basketball," Arthur S. Freese writes in *Pain*, "Jerry Lucas of the New York Knickerbockers sits in the locker room after each game with ice packs on his knees to relieve the suffering, and John Havlicek of the Boston Celtics played gallantly in the 1973 NBA playoffs with a torn muscle in his right shoulder so bad that at one point he couldn't raise his hand as high as his shoulder. Joe Namath has had four knee operations, broken his wrist and his ankle and is in constant pain. Yet these and thousands of other athletes compete on broken bones and with innumerable other injuries; and most are in pain of one sort or another throughout a great deal of their playing season."

If it's true that there is no gain without pain, then we should all be making great strides. Racquetball has its share of injuries including *fibromyositis*, more commonly known as "tennis elbow," an inflammation of the wrist moving muscle at the point where it attaches to the outside, that affects half of the racquet sport playing population.

In a sport where the ball has been clocked moving at 140 miles an hour all parts of the anatomy are possible targets for pain.



As Dick Squires, *National Racquetball's* east coast editor, observes in his book *The Other Racquet Sports* "Because of the real possibility of injuries on the racquetball court, there is a firm 'hinder' rule . . . to protect both the players' skills and skulls . . ."

Unfortunately rules like skulls are destined to be broken—or at least bruised, especially in tournament play. But does a hurting thing—be it in your tibia or your psyche—have to be the result? And if it has to be—does it have to be half so bad?

The answer is *no*. and here are some remedies:

- **Think you'll get better.** "Simply thinking you're going to get better starts a chemical reaction in your body that can actually cut down on pain," according to Costantino Benedetti, M.D., anesthesiologist at the University of Washington. Research suggests that the pain itself activates the endorphin-releasing mechanisms of the brain. Endorphins are natural painkillers similar to morphine which the body produces automatically as a reaction to pain, whether caused by stress, cancer or a slipped disc. This explains the success of hypnosis, meditation, acupuncture, placebos and even plain old positive thinking in reducing pain in one-third of the injured players who've tried such therapies.

- **Concentrate your pain away.** Anxiety can produce feelings of fear in the athlete which lead to increased activity of the autonomic nervous system—rapid heartbeat, changes in breathing and sweating. Such distress, if unchecked, leads to actual pain.

But when you concentrate, i.e., give your full attention to something (be it an object, a person, an emotion or an event), you block out other things competing for notice and you focus all your faculties on this one subject. This simple process is highly effective in relieving pain by altering your perception of it. At the least, say experts like Samuel Mines, author of *The Conquest of Pain*, such techniques can reduce pain from "unbearable levels to bearable levels."

- **Relax.** Skeletal muscle tension is a common cause of pain, says Herbert S. Ripley, M.D., psychiatrist at the University of Washington School of Medicine. A vicious cycle is set up in which the pain further increases the muscle tension which again intensifies the pain. Anxiety, anger or depression can affect the contractions of the smooth muscles of the gastro-intestinal tract and produce

abdominal pain. Emotional reactions can affect the tension of the chest muscles and produce pain and tightness, which may be mistaken for a disturbance of the heart.

- **Take a nutritional supplement that acts as a tranquilizer and a relaxant.** Two common ones available over the counter of health food stores and frequently prescribed by obesity specialist Robert C. Atkins, M.D. and by Carl Pfeiffer, M.D. of the Brain Bio Center in Princeton, NJ, are *L-tryptophan*, an amino acid; calcium (in the form of bonemeal or dolomite), and lecithin, (a soybean derivative) all of which are great nerve soothers. To be safe check with your doctor before taking any of these supplements.

Techniques of putting up with pain aside what can you do about pain when it's got you by the elbow, knee or hand? For most of us who play when it hurts, aspirin is the kingpin among pain killers.

Dangers of Aspirin

But aspirin is not nearly as safe, effective nor as innocuous as it may seem.

According to John R.T. Sorenson, Ph.D., associate professor in pharmacology at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, "Aspirin is a known cause of ulcers. It can combine with copper in the tissues of the stomach, thus removing copper, and as a result may cause ulcers. A single five-grain aspirin, for example, could combine with one-third of the entire copper content in the body, if the copper was readily available."

Aspirin, agrees the *British Medical Journal*, is known to produce microscopic damage to the stomach lining.

And aspirin dosing as the means of paving the way to playing without pain can result in kidney damage if overdone.

Overdosing of aspirin could also give "salicylate intoxication."



A government advisory committee currently doing a four year study of the effects of common drugs, suggests that "overdoses of aspirin can cause salicylate intoxication, noted by a ringing in the ears. . . . In cases where people have an allergy to aspirin, quantities can cause a rash, hives, swelling, and sometimes life threatening asthmatic attacks."

Furthermore aspirin and all its imitations do away with more than just pain. By decreasing your body's reserves of vitamin A, says Emory University Researcher Phyllis B. Acosta, a steady diet of acetylsalicylic acid can lower your immunity to infection—and along with it the quality and quantity of your playing.

— Arthur Shay photos



So if you *do* take aspirin, here are some important *don'ts*:

- You should not take aspirin if you have severe anemia, blood coagulation defects, stomach distress or ulcers. Aspirin interferes with blood clotting and can irritate the gastrointestinal tract, causing anything from mild heartburn and nausea to hidden bleeding and massive gastrointestinal bleeding.
- Do not take aspirin during the last three months of pregnancy. The drug's anticlotting properties can lengthen the duration of pregnancy and labor, promote bleeding before and after delivery and may even harm the fetus.

- Aspirin and other salicylate drugs interact with prescription drugs. Don't take salicylates, except on a doctor's advice, if you're also taking drugs for anticoagulation, diabetes, gout or arthritis.

- Don't take aspirin on an empty stomach. Always take food or water in each instance with each tablet. Limit your dose to 15 grains and allow four hours between doses.

- Never take aspirin for more than 10 days without consulting your doctor.

Elbow Pain Remedies

There are other drug free ways to help you hang in there longer when it hurts. Few pains, for instance, are more of a pain in the neck than *fibromyositis*, the pain in the elbow described earlier. Traditionally ace bandages and aspirin (or cortisone) and abstinence from exercise have been the modes of treatment. But you don't have to uphold that often ineffective tradition.

Ernest Johnson, M.D., of the Ohio State University College of Medicine, says exercising an injured wrist and forearm by lifting dumbbells of progressively greater weight twice a day can lead to complete and permanent disappearance of pain by the end of five weeks.

Another non drug therapy is a simple exercise that strengthens the forearm muscles and thus prevents occurrence of racquetball elbow. Stretching your arm in front of you, grasp a small jacks-type ball or lump of Silly Putty and squeeze as hard as you can to a count of five. Relax and repeat at frequent intervals throughout the day.

A third therapy that could be combined with any other anti-pain practice used on your elbow, wrist or forearm is to apply aloe extract. Aloe extract comes in a number of ready-to-apply forms that you can carry in your gym bag. This healing juice from the aloe vera plant, a member of the lily family, penetrates the skin,

soothes sore muscles and pulled ligaments. So effective are its healing powers that a corporation has been formed in Texas to sell it as "*Tennis Elbow Cream*"!

Cool It

Athlete and M.D., Joan Ulliyot, advises "*for just about any injury use ice or cold water, compression and elevation.*" Then persist in giving your sore part the cold shoulder for at least one, preferably two days.

Why is ice so nice as a form of pain control? According to the AMA textbook, *Fundamentals of Athletic Training*, "*the application of cold breaks the pain/spasm cycle, provides relief of discomfort due to muscle spasm and tightness, and is often the treatment of choice in managing sprains, strains and contusions in the early stages.*" Cold packs can be left in place for long periods of time or used as short local cold treatments lasting less than 30 minutes.

Ice massage is effective, too. A large ice cube or cone from a water cup is massaged over the affected area until a pink glow is produced in the skin and a sensation of numbness is experienced. The cycle of sensation experienced will be cold, burning, aching or stinging, and then numbness. The desired results are usually achieved in five to 10 minutes.

Then there's the ice bath. Just immerse your painful part in a tub of cold tap water, and add ice gradually until the injured part is numb (usually within five minutes).

Simpler yet Vaughan P. Simmons, M.D. medical director of Colonial Penn Life Insurance Co., advises in cases of injuries to the hand, "*you can lessen tissue swelling and consequent pain that engorgement can cause . . . simply (by) elevating a cut or injured finger or hand above the head, (but) elevation is not enough - it must be higher than the center of the chest to be maximally effective; this same reasoning applies to injuries of the feet, legs or thighs.*"

Cyrotherapy—Another Use of Ice

Vitamin C

You can use vitamin C to put pain in its place, too. Even if you continue to use aspirin, taking ascorbic acid with it will help you to reduce the amount of aspirin needed, since "C" has the ability to amplify its effect in the body. And vitamin E (for muscle cramps), zinc (for bone pain) and certain herbs can also have pain reducing qualities. But get your doctor's okay before you take them.

Pain Prevention Pantry

One step you can take on your own is to set up a pain prevention pantry—ready with ingredients from the health food store that you can mix together and apply to bruises, cuts, scrapes—all of *those* kinds of sports injuries. Here are two antipain potions that—unlike most drugstore remedies—are harmless even if your children swallow them by mistake. For maximum strength use them up within a week after you mix them.

Soak-and-spray C - Topical pains will respond to the antiseptic-analgesic powers of a powdered ascorbic acid (vitamin C) solution. Dilute 10 grams in one quart of water. Dissolve and stir well. Use as a soak to relieve immediate pain and for the following 24 hours use as a spray-on (put in a Windex type bottle with a plunger top) at regular intervals.

All-Sport Soak - Steep one ounce nettle, one-half ounce comfrey root and one-half ounce peppermint (as you would tea) in two quarts water, then divide in half. While you are soaking the injured part in the hot liquid, add ice and chill the other half. Soak for three minutes and then soak in the cold for one minute. Alternate the hot and cold for at least 20 minutes three times per day. This is a pleasant, soothing tingle, and loss of pain will usually result. ●

"Stopping on ice immediately after an injury to prevent bleeding (and the swelling that results from the bleeding) is part of the commonly used I.C.E. first aid formula (Ice, Compression, Elevation)," says Ian Barnes, features editor of The Physician and Sportsmedicine.

"When ice is used in rehabilitation, then it's called 'cyrotherapy.' Cyrotherapy

begins on the first or second postinjury day, depending on the severity of the injury."

The Physician and Sportsmedicine, a McGraw-Hill Publication, has given National Racquetball permission to reprint the following description of ways to use ice to help heal an injury:

Cold Therapy Techniques

by Robert Moore, Ph. D.

Robert Moore, who holds a Ph.D. in anatomy and physiology, teaches at San Diego State University.



1. **Ice Massage.** The injured area is massaged with ice in the form of an ice ball or cube. The simplest method is to make ice in small Styrofoam cups. The injured part and the surrounding area is massaged with the ice for five to ten minutes. The massaging action should be gentle.



2. **Ice Bath.** The injured part is immersed in a solution of flaked ice and water for approximately five to six minutes. The temperature should be approximately 40 F.

This technique can be used only for injuries of the distal joints such as knees, ankles, elbows and hands. A cold or ice whirlpool can be used.



3. **Ice towel.** The towels are immersed in 40 F ice water, wrung out, and placed on the entire injured area. This technique is best suited for use with exercise—the patient can be exercised while receiving cold treatment. It is especially beneficial in postoperative cases where muscle fatigue and lack of joint motion present problems in the rehabilitation process and is suitable for treatment of larger areas such as back and thighs.



4. **Ice Blanket or Pack.** The injured area is covered with a blanket or pack made by putting a layer of crushed ice or shaved ice between two terry cloth towels. The ice pack should remain on the patient for 15 to 20 minutes. This technique is especially useful in severe injuries where pain and/or edema are significant problems. Therapeutic exercises are initiated, if indicated, after the ice pack is removed or can be administered while the pack is in place. ●

—photos courtesy Robert Moore

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Cleveland, OH August 6-10
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 —Glenn Sorrentino

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Steve Strandemo

Steve Strandemo

More about 1980 Racquetball

Camps

National Racquetball's annual Racquetball Camp Guide, which ran in the May issue, described six operations from coast to coast.

Here's a summary of those camps (hope you saved last month's *National Racquetball* for reference) with two more added — one headed by Dave Peck, the other by Jerry Hilecher.

Aspen Club Racquetball Camp, Aspen, CO
Dates to be determined
303-925-8900

Atlas Health Club Camp, San Diego, CA
July 30-August 4
714-298-9321

Davey Bledsoe Racquetball Ranch,
Steamboat Spring, CO
August 3-9, August 10-16
303-879-3335

Head/Strandemo Racquetball Camps,
seven different cities
July 9-August 24 (see photo)
714-268-8707

Jerry Hilecher's Racquetball Camp
Schererville, IN
July 25-27 (adult), July 28-31 (junior)
219-865-6969

Hoff/Marriott Seamco Racquetball Camp
Warwick, RI
June 30-July 3 (junior), July 6-11, 13-18 (adult)
401-826-1800

Dave Peck Junior and Adult Racquetball Camps Poughkeepsie, NY
August 1-3 (adult), August 3-9 (junior)
914-452-5050

Third Annual Seven Springs Racquetball Camp,
Champion, PA
Four one week sessions beginning July 6
814-352-7777



Steve Strandemo's San Francisco camp dates are July 16-20. The pro will take his camp to Los Angeles July 9, Atlanta July 23, Chicago July 30, Cleveland August 5, Boston August 13 and Philadelphia August 20.

—Carole Charlauros photo

Yankee Drive

Canada Champ Lindsay Myers
Battles It on U.S. Pro Tour

Lindsay Myers



Quick. Name the only five-time National champion who has yet to play on the second day of a National Racquetball Club Pro-Am tournament this season.

Okay? Name the only Superstar competitor on the tour who doesn't drive a Mercedes.

Trick questions, maybe, unless you live in Edmonton or Halifax.

Lindsay Myers, 21, of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, is the answer to the quiz, although he's looking for a few answers himself these days.

A seven year veteran of the game Myers has been beating up on everybody he's played in Canada since 1977 when he won the first of his three Canadian National titles. He's also won two Canadian Open championships. And in the Canadian Superstars he finished third, while Hogan placed fifth in the U.S. version.

So what gives with Marty Hogan North on the pro tour?

"Obviously there are a number of real differences between racquetball in Canada and the U.S.," Myers says between matches in this — his second year on the U.S. pro tour.



"For one thing there are a lot more players, more and better competition down here than in Canada, although the per capita participation is probably about the same.

"Americans probably have an edge in overall abilities, too, since athletics gets so much more emphasis down here.

No Second Place

"But the big difference, the most important, is the difference in attitude. To Americans second place is just no place. It's not like that back home, but it's changing. People have been playing for money down here longer. Now there are Canadians getting into it for that reason, and you'll see attitudes changing pretty quickly."

The only Canadian on the pro tour looks at home on a southern California beach.

Before he hopped on the U.S. pro tour last year, Lindsay Myers spent his time collecting Canadian racquetball trophies.



Despite a lower keyed approach — the idea of playing for trophies instead of checks — being the top player of anything in any country means one must be doing something right.

"I've never really had to work at being good in sports," says Myers with all the self confidence of an American pro. "I was an all-star in everything I tried. I consider myself a good racquetball player because it just came natural."

"But the thing I have to learn now is that it takes more than that," admits last year's NRC Rookie of the Year. "Everyone down here is a fine athlete, but they have that drive that they develop from the very beginning. That's the big difference."

There's not much difference in Myers' style of play. He hits a splat kill with authority (see story on page 50), is well known for his hustling, retrieving game and is as intense a competitor as there is on the circuit.



— Annie O'Sullivan photo

Avoid Alleys

In fact stories of Myers' shirt ripping, racquet smashing episodes abound.

"I've got a fiery temper. If there's anyone I'd hate to meet in a back alley, it's me. But I try to put it to constructive use when I'm playing. When I let it out I seem to play better."

Myers, who's sponsored by Leach, says he puts in two to four hours a day on his game, and rides a bike, swims, and does a little weight training to stay in shape. *"I'm trying to improve, but it's tough sometimes. I'm the lone Canadian down here. It's not like I'm oppressed or anything, but I have no one to lean on. That builds a little pressure."*

Pressure is another thing Myers has to adjust to. There's not that much of it in his Canadian matches.

"Because of my success in the past, people have said a lot of nice things about me and they've come to expect a lot, too."

"After the finals in the Tournament of Champions in February, (where he lost to Hogan 21-14, 15-21, 11-3 in his best showing to date) somebody said, 'The second half of the season is going to be better for you, Myers.' I must have listened to him."

So the question for Marty Hogan North, the hard hitting Canadian is still, what gives?

And he's still looking for the answers which won't be found in Edmonton or Halifax. ●

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A man with a wide, toothy smile is the central figure. He wears a grey baseball cap and a multi-colored plaid shirt over a red long-sleeved shirt. He is holding a silver can of Coors Light Beer in his right hand. The background is a bright, slightly out-of-focus outdoor scene with green foliage and a blue sky with white clouds. The overall tone is cheerful and relaxed.

The
surprise
is how good
it tastes.

Peck Steps In

With Marty Hogan out of Town Dave Peck Is the Winning Hero to San Francisco Fans after a Highly Disputed Finals Battle with Jerry Hilecher.

After Marty Hogan whipped Dave Peck in the finals of the Coors Classic in February in Denver, Marty said he thought he'd be missing the next pro tour stop.

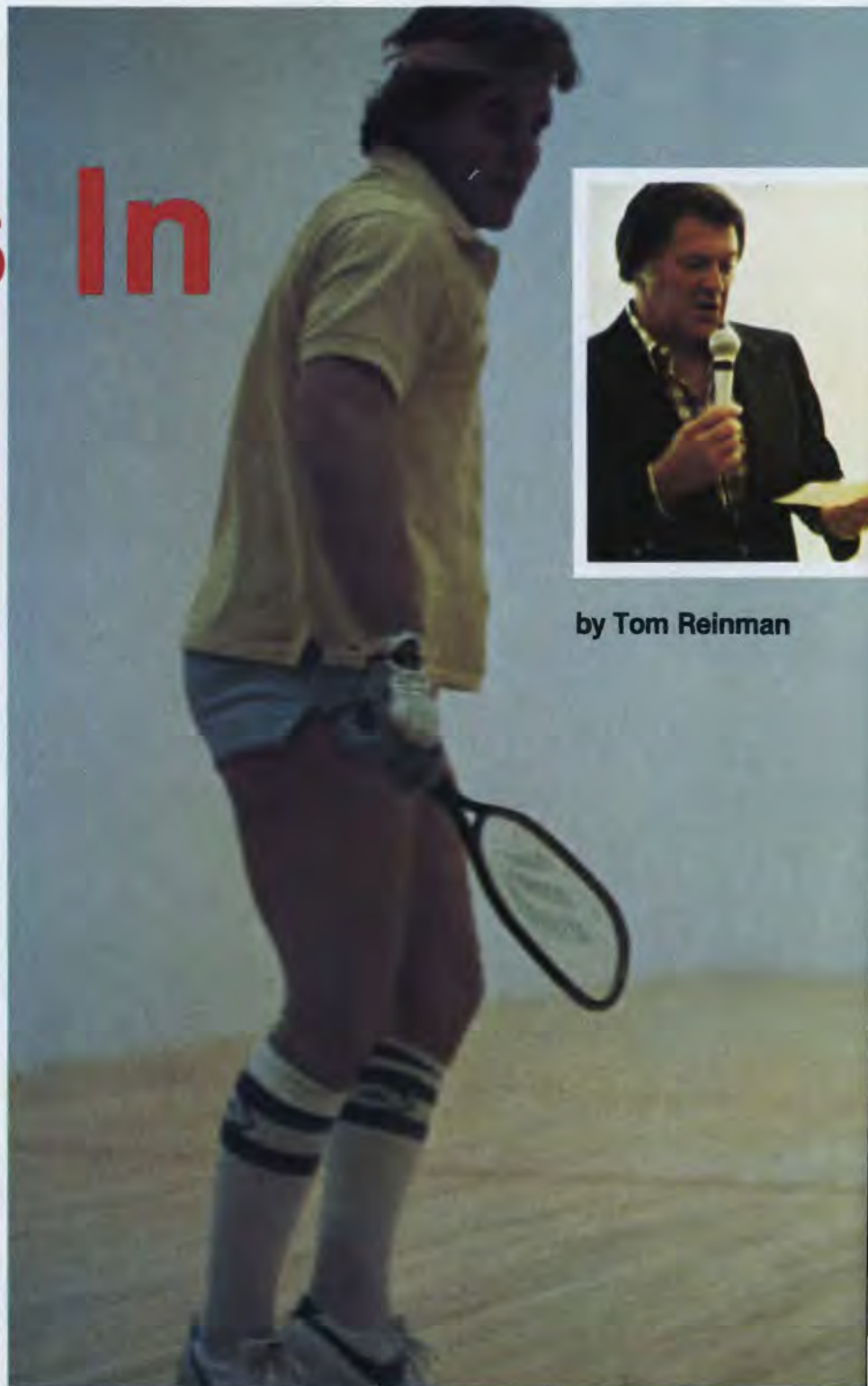
Peck immediately let loose with a resounding "*Allriigghhtt!!*" Everyone else in the room smiled and thought they understood the response.

Three weeks later they all smiled and knew why when Peck defeated second seeded Jerry Hilecher 21-13, 11-21, 11-9 to win the \$15,000 Catalina Classic West in San Francisco.

The tournament, the sixth of nine stops on the National Racquetball Club Pro-Am tour, co-sponsored by Leach Industries and Seamco Sporting Goods, was played at the Telegraph Hill Club in the City.

To earn his second win of the season, something no one but Hogan has done on the tour in more than two seasons now, Peck had to beat Bobby Bolan in the first round, Jeff Bowman in the second, Mark Morrow in the quarter-finals, Mike Yellen in a semi-final megamatch and finally Hilecher.

Meanwhile Hilecher was busy with Steve Serot in the first round, Scott Hawkins in the second, Charlie Brumfield in the quarters and Don Thomas in the semis.



by Tom Reinman

The close encounter of the Peck-Yellen kind took more than two hours and 20 minutes, and it was a four shirter for both of them.

Peck had the first game well in hand when he stretched a 12-9 lead into 18-9. When that became 20-14, Brumfield appeared at the back of the

crowd, apparently having just arrived from a nearby pub, and shouted, "*The spread's seven. What's the score?*"

The crowd laughed, but Yellen didn't hear it. Or maybe he did. Because he then ripped off seven straight against only one service break to win. Six of those seven points came on Peck errors.

Dave Peck, left, and Jerry Hilecher

Dave Peck seems pleased with the \$4,500 first prize check Catalina's Ward Wilson presents to him for Peck's first place performance at the tournament sponsored by the California-based sportswear company.



"When it got to 20-14," recalled Peck, "I started thinking 'I've got this wrapped up,' instead of thinking, 'Let's wrap this thing up!' There's a difference."

The second game was not so dramatic. Yellen appeared to be tired (he had to go to 11-9 with Strandemo

in the quarters the day before) and although he took a 7-3 lead, all he could do to stop a 10 point spurt by Peck was call time out. The closest he came after that was 16-11.

The widest margin in the tie-breaker was the final score. The lead changed hands seven times. Dave Peck had to

work for every point because Mike Yellen committed only one forced error for a Peck point in the extra game.

Both players are careful, methodical, efficient. Each prefers to place shots rather than to blast everything. Each is a hustling retriever. Each can kill the ball from anywhere, but a play-by-play of the match is filled with more "side wall-front wall" notes than anything else. They don't make errors. And they are crowd pleasers.

Through the week Jerry Hilecher was winning matches, like Peck, but not the crowd. Hilecher made the finals in the season-opening Kendler Classic, but made it to the semis in only two events after that.

In beating Thomas in the semis he gained a measure of revenge for his loss to the promising newcomer in the quarters in the Jack-in-the-Box Classic last November.

Thomas led 8-3 in the first game, then could only score a service break as Hilecher ran to 9-8. Thomas scored four straight, then could only score a service break as Hilecher ran to 14-12. Thomas led 17-15, then could only score two service breaks as Hilecher ran off six straight for the win.

Hilecher's experience showed in the second game when he came out serving and shooting, blasting to a 12-4 lead, then 18-7, then game.

Only five points came on Thomas errors, the rest from killshots from everywhere on the floor. In contrast to the Peck-Yellen play by play, there is but one "side wall-front wall" point for Hilecher recorded in the second game, and only two passing shots.

So they were both winning on the court, but the clear winner in the stands was Peck. For the first time

Dave Peck gets out of the way as Mike Yellen waits for a shot off the back wall in the semis at Telegraph Hill.

this season, the crowd seemed to have an effect on what happened on the court. There was a hometown crowd for the first time since Dave Fleetwood and Sarah Green played on their college court in their hometown, Memphis. But this crowd really counted.

Jerry Hilecher would appeal a call, lose and carry on. Stomp his feet, shriek, kill time. *"I have to psych myself up a lot of the time,"* he said later, *"and that's how I do it. I really don't mean it to be rude. It just helps me get my concentration back and play harder."*

Dave Peck would appeal a call, lose and carry on. Point his racquet at the offending official and shout something like *"You're so bad."* Then set to receive the serve and at the last second turn back toward the guy with a smile and a shrug of the shoulders as if to say, *"I gotta try, right?"* The crowd loved it.

So when the Hero met the Villian, the crowd really loved it when Peck assumed a quick 11-1 lead on an even mix of flat rollouts and passing shots by Peck and skipped balls by Hilecher who didn't seem ready for the whole thing.

Hilecher changed the pace by going to the ceiling, slowing Peck while he caught up to 12-6. Peck scored, but then Hilecher got hot, blasting a forehand, taking a skip, scoring an ace, a sidewall pinch, a backhand kill, another ace.

It was during that streak which brought him up to 13-12 that his greatest fan, his father, began to, uh cheer. *"Yes, Sir, Baby! Keep that pressure on 'im!"* That, after every point, every side out. Very nearly a lone Hilecher voice in the Peck wilderness, lone but loud.



Jerry Hilecher anticipates what looks like a perfect forehand putaway by Don Thomas in the San Francisco semis.

Mark Morrow halts his forward move hoping Peck will pass instead of kill in the quarter-finals of the Catalina Classic West.

Just as quickly as Hilecher heated up, he went cold, and while Peck regained control, Hilecher managed just one point on his next six serves.

It was apparent from the outset that the second game was going to be more tense. Hilecher was appealing calls, Peck hadn't gotten one of his appeals confirmed and both players were getting a bit testy. Peck led 9-6 before a classic case of serve and shoot syndrome traded the service on one-shot rallies four times before Hilecher knocked off six straight, following up a soft lob serve and resulting return with forehand lasers.

It was at 12-10 Hilecher that things went just a little haywire. Hilecher charged a forehand setup in the service zone. Peck couldn't get out of the way quickly enough and took a shot just off Hilecher's racquet in the back of the head.

He took an avoidable hinder and went a lot haywire. He took a one technical and then another when he and Hilecher rapped the ball at one another. No more Mister Nice Guy for Peck. When he came outside the back wall glass court to argue the last call, Mr. Hilecher Sr. got into the act, claiming that was three techs on Peck. "I'm not askin' you, Mr. Hilecher," was Peck's exasperated reply as the other patrons got into the act.

It seemed to have all the makings of a Colombian soccer stadium stampede, but play resumed. Peck, though, was visibly distracted and Hilecher's hot-again shooting led to offensive points and Peck errors, wrapping up the game fairly quickly.

Hilecher scored a forehand kill and three aces in building an impressive 4-1 tie-breaker lead. But when Peck finally gained the serve, the crowd went wild. He promptly scored on a



Steve Strandemo gets out of the way of a Yellen backhand in the quarter-final San Francisco match played to a tie-breaker.

Don Thomas has to go to the back wall to retrieve Larry Meyers' pass shot in the quarter-finals in San Francisco.



strong serve, three passing shots down the left line (a tactic which was effective through the match) and an ace down the right line.

And as had happened in the first game, Hilecher went cold, icy, really, scoring just once on seven tries. Although he had to survive that many breaks and four non-scoring serves himself, Peck went on to win with his game — steady, well-placed shots, good retrievals and an ace.

"This tournament, the competition and the crowd participation, was so demanding that winning the thing didn't even hit me until about a half hour after the match," said Peck.

"Two tie-breakers in two days against guys like Yellen and Hilecher. I earned this one." But what of winning an event which Marty Hogan had skipped? (He was in the Bahamas placing third in the World Superstars.) Aptly "Marty who?" was the reply.

"We may not look like it out there sometimes," said Peck, "but we are really friendly. Jerry gets a little intense sometimes, but that's okay. We all do."

Hilecher had apologized for nailing Peck, and tried to explain how it happened, but maintained Peck should have gotten the avoidable. That set off more friendly squabbling and one onlooker recounted one of Brumfield's oft-told tales.

In the Catalina quarters Charlie Brumfield thinks he has the point, but Hillecher's reach keeps the ball in play.



In the old days, it seems, players were getting tattooed with alarming regularity when the ball was slow, the competition intense and the tempers quick. Yet the players learned to accept it as part of the game, the standard apology being, "Hey, it was either that or hold up."

Hillecher said something about that was the old days. Peck did not let loose with an "All right."

First Round: Peck d. Bolan 21-11, 21-8; Bowman d. Mondry 21-9, 21-19; Morrow d. Levine 21-8, 21-3; Koltun d. Keeley 21-11, 21-9; Yellen d. Neiderhoffer 21-12, 21-14; Factor d. Zuckerman 21-20, 10-21, 11-8; Wagner d. Christiansen 21-20, 21-12; Strandemo d. Barrett 21-11, 21-15; Hillecher d. Serot 21-11, 21-15; Hawkins d. Myers 13-21, 21-16, 11-9; Williams d. McCoy 21-18, 21-17; Brumfield d. Harnett 21-4, 21-9; Thomas d. Harver 21-7, 21-16; Cohen d. Fleetwood (forfeit); Meyers d. Eggerman 21-2, 18-21, 11-8; Berberet d. Bledsoe 15-21, 21-10, 11-2

Second Round: Peck d. Bowman 21-7, 21-6; Morrow d. Koltun 21-7, 18-21, 11-8; Yellen d. Factor 21-1, 21-7; Strandemo d. Wagner 21-5, 21-6; Hillecher d. Hawkins 21-12, 21-13; Brumfield d. Williams 21-10, 21-8; Thomas d. Cohen 21-14, 21-19; Meyers d. Berberet 21-5, 21-14

Quarters: Peck d. Morrow 21-13, 21-8; Yellen d. Strandemo 8-21, 21-12, 11-9; Hillecher d. Brumfield 21-11, 21-9; Thomas d. Meyers 21-11, 21-16

Semis: Peck d. Yellen 20-21, 21-13, 11-9; Hillecher d. Thomas 21-17, 21-8

Finals: Peck d. Hillecher 21-13, 11-21, 11-9

Notes of the Tournament

Between matches players and spectators turned tourists, taking advantage of the location of the Telegraph Club on Fisherman's Wharf. When they'd sampled all the sour dough bread and seafood they could eat, some of the tournament participants cruised out to Alcatraz to take a look at the former prison . . . Amateur matches were in full swing at the San Francisco Bay Club, three blocks from the Telegraph Club. Part of Western Athletic Clubs, Inc. the two facilities are familiar to readers of the decorators' magazine, *Interior Design*, since both were featured in full and glamorous color spreads during the last year . . . Thanks to Wagner's for being on hand with the USRA official drink —

Wagner's Thirst Quencher . . . And more than one word of appreciation goes to Keith Davis, club general manager; Jeff Green, athletic director, and Jim Gerber, owner, for serving as gracious hosts for the entire Catalina Classic West, co-sponsored by Leach and Seamco . . . Up from Los Angeles, headquarters of the sponsoring sportswear giant, were Ward Wilson, vice-president and western regional sales manager, and his wife, Pat; June Wylie, Catalina publicity director; Jamie Bamecut, vice president and merchandising manager of the men's racquetball line, and Bruce Miller, western sales representative . . . Doubling New Pro Tourist Doug Cohen's support were his identical twin sisters who live in San Francisco and were rooting for him in the close match he lost to Don Thomas in the round of 16's . . .

Sean Fitzpatrick, USRA National Junior hopeful, picked up pro pointers as towel boy . . . NRC Director Dan Bertolucci shared refereeing knowledge with northern California players at a pre-tournament clinic sponsored by the National Racquetball Referees Association . . . Seasoned referees who officiated at pro matches were Larry Lee and John Barrett, Tempe, AZ; Ken Strong, Indianapolis, and Past National Champion and Current USRA Singles Champion Bill Schmidtke, Apple Valley, MN . . . Schmidtke saw action on as well as above the court by winning the seniors event at the Catalina Classic West.

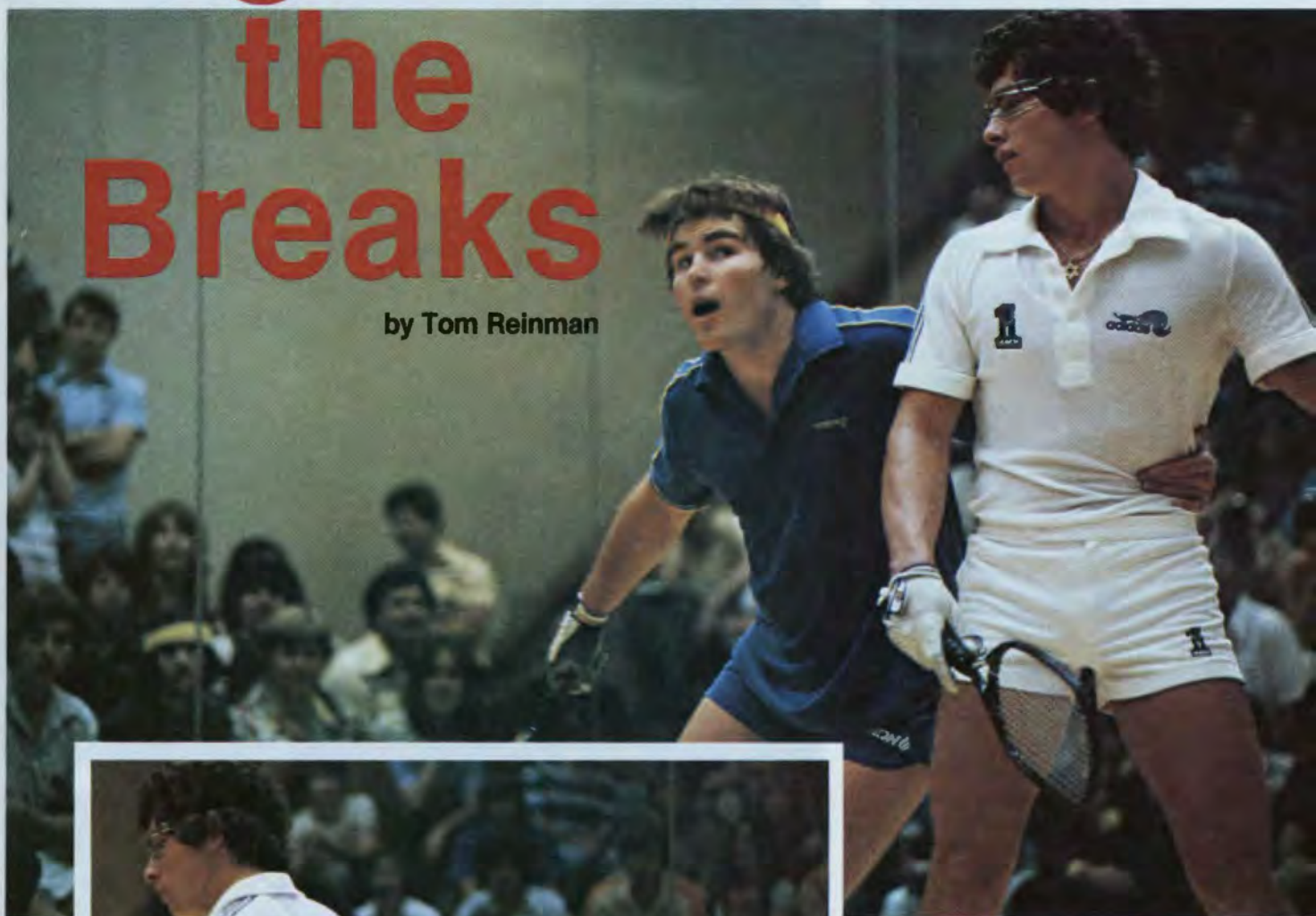
The California Leap . . .



. . . as executed at the Catalina and Bank of Newport Classics.

Hogan Makes the Breaks

by Tom Reinman



Number One Marty Looks Finished at Start of Westminster Finals, but Comes Back to Beat Dave Peck.

"Tonight, ladies and gentlemen," the announcer might have said before the last two matches of the tournament, "the part of Lazarus will be played by Marty Hogan."

Dave Peck, in blue, tries to get Marty Hogan out of the way during the finals in Westminster, CA, which the National Champ won in a tie-breaker.

Marty Hogan displays controlled power as he makes sure his racquet clears Mike Yellen after Hogan hits a potent backhand in the semis of the Bank of Newport Classic.

He didn't, but that's okay. It was obvious to the packed house anyway.

The tournament was the King's/Bank of Newport Classic at the King's Court in Westminster, CA. The event, the sixth of nine stops on the National Racquetball Club Pro-Am tour, which is co-sponsored by Leach Industries and Seamco Sporting Goods, was played on a three-wall glass court before full galleries March 20-26.

Oh and Lazarus Hogan won it, beating "Dunkin'" Dave Peck for the fourth time this year 21-20, 8-21, 11-0.

"I don't know if it's confidence or ignorance or what," said Hogan after returning from the grave to haunt Mike Yellen in the semis for the second straight year, *"but I think I can beat anybody anytime."*

After winning 19-21, 21-10, 11-10 the question was something like do you get a little nervous when you're down 8-2 or 10-8 in the tie-breaker, as he was against Yellen.

"8-2? No problem. I know I can score 11 points on anybody when I'm concentrating. When I was down 8-2, it only meant I could make three mistakes, and that just wasn't going to happen in the tie-breaker."

Confidence, ignorance or what, it's tough to argue with success.

In that tie-breaker comeback success was spelled half-lobbs early and The Serve late as Hogan ticked off six straight points to tie it at 8-8 on three deadly forehands, a front wall crackout off a ceiling lob and two Yellen errors.

Later after Yellen regained the lead on a pair of Hogan mistakes, Hogan broke out The Serve and hit three winners off it — two passes and a setup backhand side wall-front wall — to wrap it up.

"It's not who you're playing against that matters, really," said a disappointed Yellen. *"It's just a matter of going out and hitting your shots. I had many opportunities to win the*



In a three game semi in Westminster Charlie Brumfield plays with his head by crowding Dave Peck enough to keep Peck from killing his backhand.

second game. I could have and I should have won that game. But Marty's an aggressive player, he carries the action when he's up for it. And aggressive players sometimes make a break for themselves. He got a couple today.

"I'm disappointed but not discouraged. I'm still playing better and better. Maybe next time."

"Against most guys I can just beat the ball and they'll make mistakes," pointed out Hogan. "But I know Mike won't so I have to go for it."

Earlier Saturday afternoon Peck went for it and got it against Charlie Brumfield, taking their first-ever competitive match 15-21, 21-17, 11-5.

"I played him once a couple of years ago in practice, but this was tricky," said Peck. "You know it was only a couple of years ago I was reading about these guys in the magazines and now here I am playing them for money. And Brumfield just cracks me up anyway."

That appeared to be the strategy early as Brumfield jumped to a 9-3 lead on a series of well placed and well hit shots, Peck mistakes and an apparent lack of concentration by the usually intense Peck.

Peck came back to lead 14-13, but Brumfield unveiled something called an overhead cross court side wall-front wall right corner death pinch for two straight, momentum and a few minutes later the game.

In basketball when one scores against tough defense, he is said to have hit a shot "in your face." Brumfield has borrowed that phrase and applied it to his aforementioned shot, calling it "The Facial."

"Makes me look real good," he pointed out later, "and makes them feel real bad. I love it. The Facial."

Peck came out fighting in the second game, no more joking with Brumfield, no more loosely hit rallies. Intensity. 6-1 Peck.

It also seemed to fortify Brumfield. 7-6 The Master. 8-7 Peck. 10-8 The Master. But it was about at that point Brumfield started to come unglued.

Peck had been lining up near the right wall and driving serves to the forehand corner. Brumfield appealed to the ref to watch the screen serve, repeatedly, but no call was made. He finally made a big deal out of it. No call.

Meanwhile Brumfield was lining up left and serving behind himself down the left wall. Finally he regained the serve and said, "C'mon! Every time he serves down the right line he's screening the ball. But of course it's no screen when I serve down the left wall. I want you to know that."

You guessed it. The ref immediately called a screen on Brumfield. That didn't help, and after calling it a couple more times, and still not calling it on Peck, Brumfield was as near to bonkers as one can be without being taped for a straitjacket.

Peck rolled to 16-10 as Brumfield made four mistakes and although he came back to trail 18-16 with one more Facial, he was not really in it again.

Brumfield assumed a surprisingly easy tie-breaker 4-0 lead. Peck won the serve, and three passes and two aces later Brumfield called time out. Two errors and a pass right and a backhand setup kill brought a 9-4 lead and another Brumfield time out.

He returned to set up Peck again as he did through the first game, and scored on a dink forehand while Peck was mired in the back court. But with the crowd wildly cheering Peck's service break, he passed Brumfield on the left, called a time out and came back to win on a cross court pass right.

"That joking around could have gone on all day," said Peck in reference to the first game shenanigans. "But I got fired up after the first game and when I got an avoidable hinder call early in the second, I decided to get mad and get going. It worked."

Ben Koltun guesses wrong as he leans to the left, while Marty Hogan hits to the right in the Bank of Newport quarters.



His first visit to the pro quarters finds Doug Cohen facing a Mike Yellen overhead winner.

Craig McCoy takes advantage of Dave Peck's off position by hitting a down-the-right-side pass in the quarters in Westminster.



Brumfield demonstrates the "flow" technique he has described in *National Racquetball* by moving with Dave Fleetwood's shot in the quarters of the Bank of Newport Classic.



Hogan and Peck met in Chicago and Hogan won in the quarters. They met in the finals at Tempe and Hogan won 15 and 19. They met in the finals in Denver and Hogan won 14 and 9.

If the Lazarus bit wasn't enough Saturday evening, Hogan dusted it off for the patrons Sunday afternoon as well and won 11-0.

In one sense he was dead before he started. The rules say that if you're more than 10 minutes late for your starting time, you forfeit the match.

He was unaware the starting time had been moved from 2 to noon and by the time he was summoned from the hotel pool it was after 12:30. In the B division that's a forfeit.

Although they took the court to play at 1 p.m., it didn't start for Hogan until about 1:20. By that time he was down 11-1 and hadn't hit a shot. His repeated self-admonishment, "You're not even a B player!" sounded fair.

But he won the serve and called time trailing 11-1. When he re-entered the court, he told the crowd behind the back wall "I'll win this game no sweat." The crowd listened and smirked. The way Peck was playing, the way Hogan was playing, this was a dead man talking. It went to 13-2, then 13-6 when Hogan hit two aces, a

forehand and took an error. It went to 18-6. And then shades of Hogan-Wagner in Miami, it was time to play ball.

Hogan went to a 20-18 lead with just three service breaks. Of those 14 points only two came on Peck errors. It went to 20-20 on two Hogan errors. The serve was traded before Hogan hit a forehand setup, won the serve and called time out.

Sitting next to the cooler he said "Basic racquetball, Gotta hit an ace."

The ace cracked out on the left wall about four feet from the back.

"A lousy way to lose," said Peck later. "That really hacked me off."

In the second game Peck's new strategy worked impressively. A lob serve to the backhand, and then nail the weak return. It was 14-3, 17-4 and 18-7 before Peck whipped a forehand, took a skip and hit a backhand for the win.

If Hogan had gone back to the pool for the second game or stuck one foot in the grave, to stay with the imagery, he came back, jack, and did it again, as he is wont to do. Love him or hate him — the boy can play racquetball.

Peck opened and was broken. Hogan failed to score. Peck failed to score. Then Hogan lined up right, as he does when he means business, hunkered over his serve for a moment, as he does when it's time to start wondering where the serve is going and how quickly it's going there, and sent it.

Only one shot was an ace, Peck got to all the rest. But his returns were easy prey for Hogan who was by now officially fired up and playing.

Peck broke Hogan's service five times, but was out each time on an offensive shot by the winner. In fact of the 16 times Hogan served or regained the serve, not one opportunity came from a Peck error.

When Peck finally called time at 8-0, the place was like a morgue.

Apparently they weren't watching an amazing comeback, they were watching a grisly demise.

"He came out firin' in the third," allowed Peck. "I was ready for that. He didn't make any mistakes and I did, sort of. But he beat me fair and square, no question. He out played me in the tie-breaker."

"This is just another stop on the circuit. I never took him to three before. A little more work and I'll be ready again."

Hogan didn't want to hear about the Lazarus bit. "I haven't played much lately because of the Superstars, but I knew I was going to win here pretty easily." How's that for confidence or what?

"Anytime a player loses after leading by as much as he did in the first game, he's got to start talking to himself. And I know I can score and win anytime I maintain the proper intensity."

"I did earn my money this time, though, which I don't like to have to do. I like to have 'em just hand it over to me."

If you can come back from the dead twice in one week, you can have those expectations.

First Round: Hogan d. Factor 21-18, 20-21, 11-4; Serot d. Morrow 21-19, 16-21, 11-1; Hawkins d. Wagner 20-21, 21-11, 11-8; Koltun d. Williams 21-16, 21-16; Yellen d. Bolan 21-13, 21-13; Bowman d. Myers 21-18, 21-13; Levine d. Meyers 21-10, 21-6; Cohen d. Bledsoe 21-13, 21-17; Hilecher d. Harper 21-13, 21-19; Fleetwood d. Egerman 21-12, 21-16; Brumfield d. Mondry 21-4, 21-4; Thomas d. Christensen 21-9, 12-21, 11-10; Strandemo d. Harnett 21-14, 21-10; McCoy d. Berbarett 21-17, 21-20; Zuckerman d. Keeley 21-8, 21-4; Peck d. Chase 21-7, 21-10

Second Round: Hogan d. Serot 21-19, 21-17; Koltun d. Hawkins 14-21, 21-7, 11-1; Yellen d. Bowman 21-14, 21-17; Koltun d. Hawkins 14-21, 21-7, 11-1; Yellen d. Bowman 21-14, 21-17; Fleetwood d. Hilecher 21-10, 21-20; Brumfield d. Thomas 21-9, 9-21, 11-5; McCoy d. Strandemo 21-14, 21-12; Peck d. Zuckerman 21-7, 21-10

Quarters: Hogan d. Koltun 21-13, 21-8; Yellen d. Cohen 21-8, 21-18; Brumfield d. Fleetwood 21-19, 21-2; Peck d. McCoy 21-7, 17-21, 11-1

Semis: Hogan d. Yellen 18-21, 21-10, 11-10; Peck d. Brumfield 15-21, 21-17, 11-5

Finals: Hogan d. Peck 21-20, 8-21, 11-0

Notes of the Tournament

California continued to display its best weather as the tour moved down the coast from San Francisco to Westminster's King's Racquetball Club, which played capable host to an NRC pro event for the third time. King's Bank of Newport Racquetball Classic, co-sponsored by Leach and Seamco, repeated San Francisco's sellout gallery . . . Assuring success for players and fans were King's General Partners E.O. Rodeffer, Chuck Hohl and Al Durkovic; General Manager Debbie Hohl and Assistant Manager/Activities Director Bill McClintoch, who was the efficient tournament director . . . Scottie Deeds, USRA California state chairman, did his share to make the tournament run smoothly and was especially helpful to NRC Director Dan Bertolucci . . . Kelly Painter, local school teacher and racquetball

buff, enlarged and enhanced the referees staff that traveled from the San Francisco stop the week before . . . The Wagner's Thirst Quencher banner reminded players that they were again enjoying the official USRA drink. Some of the top managers of Wagner, a division of A.E. Staley Manufacturing Co. — Bill Brooks, vice-president consumer products group; Mike Barnett, manager, sales administration, consumer products group; Jim Friesner, western sales manager, and Phil Harper, western regional sales manager — dropped in to watch the matches from their national trade meeting held three blocks from the Telegraph Club . . . The USRA initiated its new amateur incentive program by awarding major prizes to Men's and Women's Open finalists. 16-year-old Mike Levine, Open winner in both the Catalina West and Bank of

Newport classics, found a way to bring his father to the Nationals by winning two round trip air fares between the Las Vegas tournament site and their Rochester, NY, home, plus lodging as long as Mike remains in the competition. Mike also received a color television set, while second place Open winners — Dave Bush, of Long Beach, CA, in the Catalina West event, and Gregg Peck, of El Paso, TX, in the Bank of Newport tourney — won AM/FM stereo cassette players with speakers. In the Women's Open Kippi Bishop of Los Alamitos, CA, won the same double winners' prizes with her first place finishes two weeks in a row. Kathie Jones, of Las Vegas, and Laura Martino, of Fountain Valley, CA, won the stereo second spot prizes in San Francisco and Westminster, respectively.

See page 65 for full writeups on the amateur events as the Pro/Am tour traveled to California.

Double Winning Bishop

"If you don't have the mental part, you don't have the this game," said Kippi Bishop one sunny Sunday in California.

Now, after a year of top flight tournament competition, Kippi Bishop of Los Alamitos is getting the mental part.

She had just won her second straight Women's Open division title, that in the King's/Bank of Newport Pro-Am in Westminster, by defeating Laura Martino.

The week before, Bishop, who is now finishing her Masters program in physical education at Long Beach State, won the Women's Open at the Catalina Classic West in San Francisco. There she whipped Kathie Jones.

Bishop has been playing the game for about five years since she took it up for the exercise, although a running injury — a foot stress fracture — cost her nearly a year of work in the game.

She's solid physically now, which she knows is important, but . . .

"A lot of people can develop the skills to play well, but you just have to know in your mind you can do it. I'm getting there now."

"For instance one of my opponents had a bad call at 19-19 and she sort of lost it there for awhile. Too often we tend to think of what happened at a particular point and not of what we have to do at that moment. You can't do that and win."

Kippi Bishop



—Carole Charlauros photos

The left hander with the best tan in the game won the Open division of the Jack-in-the-Box Classic last November, but the prize there was only a trophy. The top prize now for amateur Open winners is a trip for two to the June Nationals in Las Vegas and a color television.

"I'm hoping I can switch this trip for a microwave," said Bishop of her second straight prize. *"Between classes, my boyfriend (they're engaged to be married in August) and racquetball, I don't have too much time to cook."*

—Tom Reinman

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Men's and Women's Pro/Am Tour • 1979-1980

Those events marked with an asterisk (*) are approved. All others are sanctioned. Check future issues of *National Racquetball* for updating on tour sites and additional tour stops.



• **June 26-29 ***

CBC International Classic
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
Invitational

• **July 10-13**

Hawaiian Sports Week Pro/Am
Honolulu, HI
Invitational



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