

# RACQUETBALL



Official Bi-Monthly Publication of the  
International Racquetball Association

\$1.25

Volume 6-Number 2

March-April 1977

## Introducing the IRA's Official Ball

### IN THIS ISSUE:

- Women's Pro Invitational
- Tucson Open
- Instruction By:
  - Steve Strandemo
  - Victor Spear
  - Marty Hogan
- International Entry Blanks
- Tournament Results





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# RACQUETBALL



Official Bi-Monthly Publication of the  
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## ON THE COVER

The International Racquetball Association's new "official" ball, the SEAMCO 444. Royalties from this ball help support your Association. Buy these balls either through your local distributor or through the IRA office.

**Racquetball:** The official voice of the International Racquetball Association is published bi-monthly at 7777 Bonhomme, Suite 1501, Clayton, Mo. 63105.

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treal, Quebec, Canada.

Manuscripts must be typewritten and double spaced. Color and black and white photographs are welcome. Copy is required by the 15th of the month prior to the month of publication.

Advertising rates on request from the IRA office, 2714 Union Ave. Ext., Box 500, Memphis, TN 38112 - 901-320-4209.

All editorial communications should be addressed to Racquetball Magazine, 2714 Union Ave. Ext., Box 500, Memphis, TN 38112.

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Application to mail at controlled circulation is pending at St. Louis, Mo.

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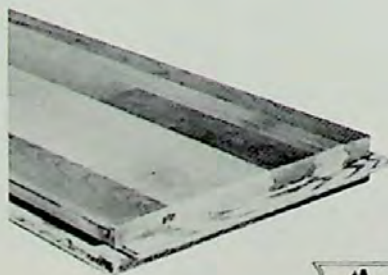


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# MAIL

Dear Sirs:

I am renewing my membership in your association and also my subscription to your magazine. My old membership card expires this month, Jan. '77 and my number was 1745. I have enjoyed the articles printed in your magazine, especially the ones for beginners. I am presently stationed in England and I am enjoying playing racquetball here, and I'm sure your magazine will not only keep me informed about exactly what's happening in racquetball in the states, but also it will help me to keep improving my game. Enclosed is my check for \$10. Thank you.

Louis C. Souther  
APO New York 09179

Gentlemen:

Just a note to say we applaud the IRA for their efforts in furthering the good name of racquetball.

In one letter to new subscribers, you asked if the IRA could be of service . . . we now solicit whatever you have to suggest for members of a new club (see attachment that is hopefully suitable for your next publication). Perhaps you have some magazines that we can display to our members, or some other material that our members would be interested in.

We are thanking you in advance for your effort on our behalf. Have a good year!

Sincerely,  
A. F. Diefenbach  
Sec/Treas  
Court Rooms of America

Gentlemen:

I recently read a copy of your fine magazine "Racquetball" in the local Y.M.C.A.

It is my belief that racquetball or paddle ball as we called it was invented at the Concord, New Hampshire Y.M.C.A. on or about 1927.

Maynard L. Carpenter, then the general Secretary fashioned a paddle out of plywood with a jig saw and cemented on a grip or handle. We played the same court and rules as for handball first using a tennis ball for play. Later a better paddle was perfected and we discovered that by taking the outer covering off the tennis ball we got a faster better ball.

I have been a continuous member of the Y.M.C.A. most of the time at Concord, for 57 years. To my knowledge the game was first played at Concord, New Hampshire. I thought this fact would make an interesting piece for your publication.

Yours sincerely,  
Clarence E. Jesseman

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find photographic slides of a television show promoting Racket Ball.

Through the cooperation of Laurie Burns and her "Around the Town" show, she helped us to promote Racquet Ball in a three-county area in our part of Florida. We did this during a two-program setup on February 24 and March 8. We used actual demonstration of Racket Ball in the studio.

I thought this information might be of value for printing in your national magazine, as we

would all like to see more promotion on one of the fastest growing sports in America.

Sincerely,  
Edward J. Kepp, President  
Tri-County Racket Ball Assoc.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSITION OPEN

The International Racquetball Association is soliciting resumes from all applicants interested in the position of Executive Director of the Association. All qualified applicants are welcome. The successful applicant most probably will have a strong marketing and Public Relations background with a minimum of five (5) years experience. **NO TELEPHONE CALLS PLEASE.** Send photo and comprehensive resume to:

THE INTERNATIONAL  
RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION  
Office of the President  
2714 Union Avenue Ext.  
Box 500  
Memphis, Tennessee 38112

The IRA is an equal opportunity employer.

## SPEAK OUT IN RACQUETBALL

Your comments on racquetball and RACQUETBALL magazine are welcome. Send letters and post cards for publication to "Mail" IRA, Box 500, 2714 Union Ave. Ext., Memphis, TN 38112.



# CLUBS

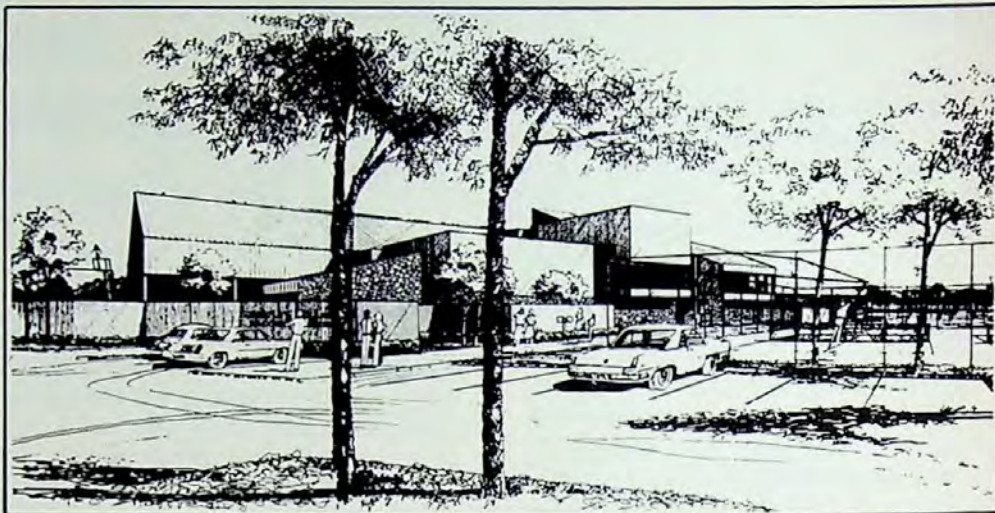
## BENTLEY VILLAGE FEATURES EIGHT COURTS

They think and build big in Texas and developers of the Bentley Village Country Club in Arlington are planning big for racquetball enthusiasts.

Ground was broken, recently, for the new multi-million dollar facility that will feature, among other things, eight racquetball courts.

Racquetball will get special attention at Bentley Village. The developers have plans to lease the court facilities to a professional operator. The separate operation will cater to the special needs of the racquetball crowd in the Arlington area.

Bentley Village is due for completion later this year.



Arlington is a suburb of Dallas, Texas and with the completion of the Bentley Village Country Club will have one of the finest facilities in the country.

An artist's rendering of Bentley Village Racquet Club now under construction.

## Seamco 444's now available through the IRA office

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# IRA

## INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

Box 500, 2714 Union Ave., Extd. • Memphis, Tenn. 38112 • 901-320-4209

WILLIAM B. TANNER  
PRESIDENT  
901/320-4212

Dear Member:

Featured on the cover of this issue of RACQUETBALL magazine is our new "official" racquetball and can manufactured by Seamco Sporting Goods Company. Each of you are undoubtedly familiar with the excellent reputation Seamco enjoys as a manufacturer of the highest quality racquetballs available anywhere. We are very fortunate to have such a fine company manufacturing our Association's racquetball. We have been able to negotiate a very favorable royalty arrangement with Seamco and encourage each of you to buy and use the Seamco 444 racquetball and support your Association. If the Seamco 444 racquetball isn't available in your area yet, you can order them and other quality supplies through your IRA office. Included in this issue is a tear-out order form for your convenience in ordering supplies.

Many changes have been made in the quality of our magazine. Throughout this issue you will find more color photographs, instructional articles and tournament results than in any previous issue. In this issue you will also find a questionnaire about the magazine. Your answers will provide much needed information to aid us in improving the magazine's interest and quality. Please take a few minutes and fill out this questionnaire and return it to the IRA office.

Many of you may not be aware of the departure of our Executive Director, Tom McKie. Tom has done much for our Association and for the support of racquetball in general and all of us wish Tom the very best in his future endeavors.

The headquarters of the Association and the office of its Executive Director will be permanently relocated to Memphis, Tennessee. While a search is made for a new Executive Director, the affairs of the IRA will be managed by a three-man-team made up of Designated Counsel John T. Baird, Mike Zeitman and myself. Hopefully, the search for a new Executive Director will be short and in our next issue, I will be able to introduce you to our new director. Our Association is active and involved as never before and with your support and assistance, it will continue to prosper.

I challenge all of you to work with your local, state, and national Associations to improve the quality of racquetball. We must also promote racquetball. I further challenge all of you to bring at least one new member to our Association each month. In return, we will continue to improve the quality of our magazine and member services.

Kindest regards,

INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

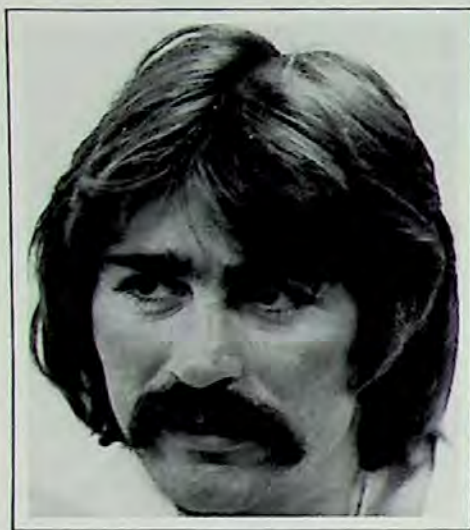
William B. Tanner  
President

WILLIAM B. TANNER  
President





# INSTRUCTION



By Steve Strandemo

## Game Analysis

There come times in every racquetball player's career when he can play the game best with his eyes closed. The fellow who best takes advantage of these episodes is likely to open the eyes of a few friendly scoundrels who, previously had never given him credit for more than 10 or 12 points a game.

Thought is the conquering process here, and a pen and a piece of paper — or several pieces of paper — are the weapons.

It is through thought that the game can be slowed enough for a player to see the forest AND the trees, and thus discover where he got lost. Then, having gotten it down on paper, he can study the routes to victory, go out on the practice court and work on them until he knows the way, and then go out on Saturday morning or Thursday night and chop his tormentor down to size.

The exercise is known as analysis. It is applied, with fine results, to such complex matters as thought itself. Psychologists make a pretty penny at it.

Generally, even on such a complicated level, analysis is aimed at making molehills out of mountains. Certainly, it is true of such a simple (simple?) pursuit as racquetball, which after all is a game of fixed angles and trajectories. The thing is to know the angles and the trajectories. The objective is to get such a firm grasp on the simplicities that you leave the other guy to worry about the intricacies.

Once that happens, you've got him psyched thoroughly.

People talk about the subtle techniques the psych artists employ: a well-timed, snide little comment; a distracting mannerism as plain as a jerk of the head; a

temper tantrum.

Jimmy Connors and Ilie Nastase are psych artists. If they ever get too old to win a half a million a year playing tennis, they can go on stage.

But you watch Connors when the guy across the net rips a few very basic passing shots down the line.

He suddenly becomes rather quiet and businesslike, because he has to. He knows his opponent knows that the best way to beat him is with a solid, emotionless game, and that psychological warfare isn't going to help very much on this particular day.

Connors usually wins anyway, because he really doesn't need to augment his game with any mental tricks.

But you take note of how your Thursday night buddy reacts to a string of hard, accurate, simple, well-placed shots, delivered as matter-of-factly as if his mouth wasn't there.

These shots aren't pulled out of a hat. If you don't know how to hit them already, they won't come to you out of the blue.

By "analysis," we don't intend for you to inspect your swing so as to change it entirely. If that's what your game needs, then you shouldn't be concerned with analysis. What you need is instruction.

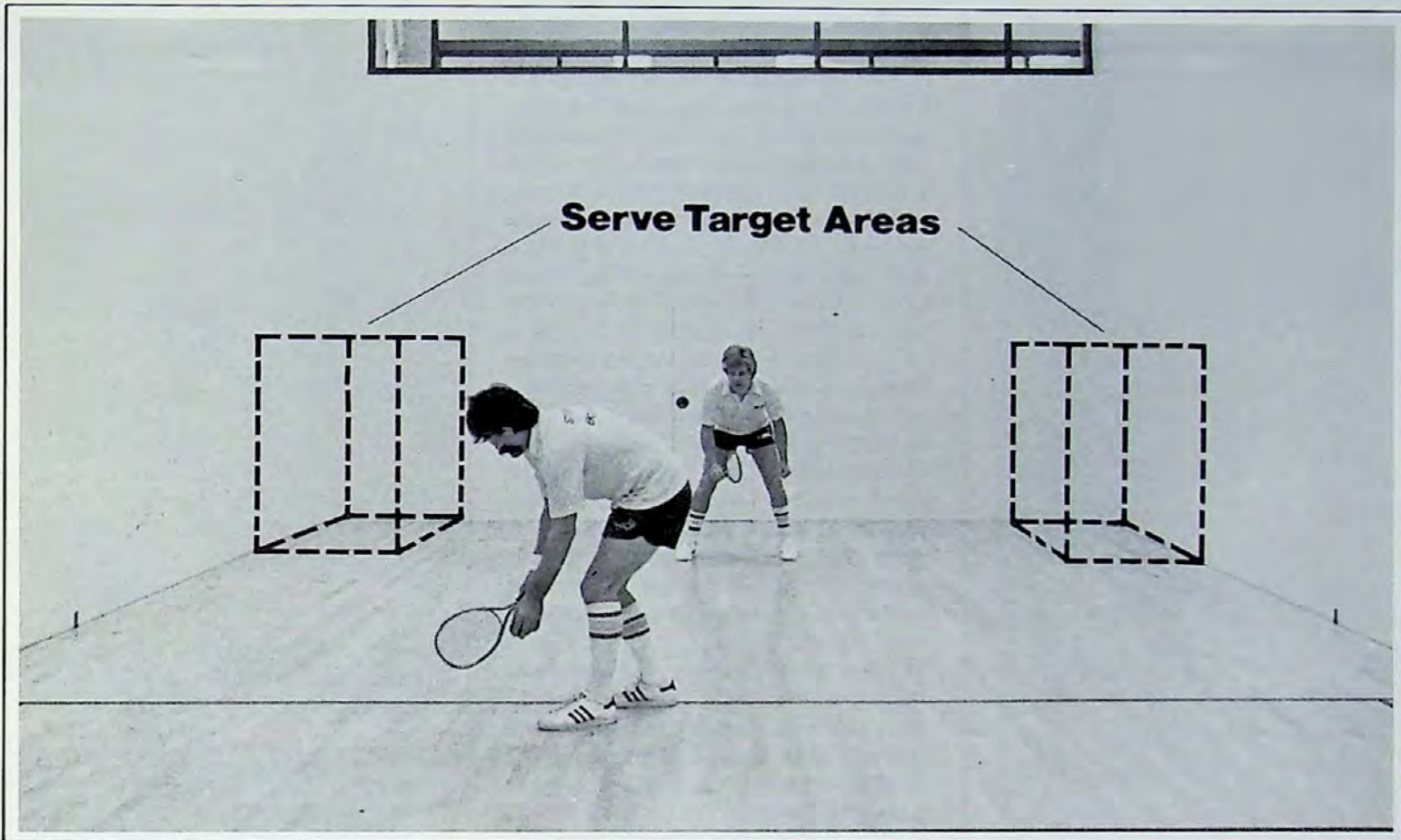
This analysis consists of a few checks you can make on your own game, and the other fellow's game. In a sense, it's a matter of determining why your own shots aren't working, and in another sense, it's a matter of admitting that your opponent probably has something to do with your frustration.

These objectives are separate, and yet they are the same.

It begins to sound complicated



## Serve Target Areas



The server should use these boxes as imaginary reference points in locating his service into the back corners. Recognize the dimensions to be three feet in from the side wall, five feet forward from the back wall and five feet high.

enough to want to make an analysis of the analysis. But it is not. It merely involves sitting down with a pen and paper and going over a few things, thoughtfully. When you're done, you should be able to see how simply it all falls together.

As for your own shots, it amounts to a basic exercise in simple geometry.

When you begin to break down the games of the people you play, it becomes a comparison of abilities, judged objectively and with a humble spirit.

(There will be time enough to gloat later, if you do your homework honestly now.)

First of all, we must concern

ourselves with the serve, which is where the game starts. The idea is to drop the ball smartly into a box. It is the only way to serve.

The "box" is actually a vertical rectangle, formed by the back corners of the court and extending three feet in from the side wall and five feet forward from the back wall, in either corner (see diagram).

The three-foot measurement is the critical part. Obviously, if the receiver has only three feet with which to work in fielding a serve to the backhand corner, the wall is going to prevent him from running around his backhand to get any sort of position to hit a forehand drive. And the nearness of the wall may

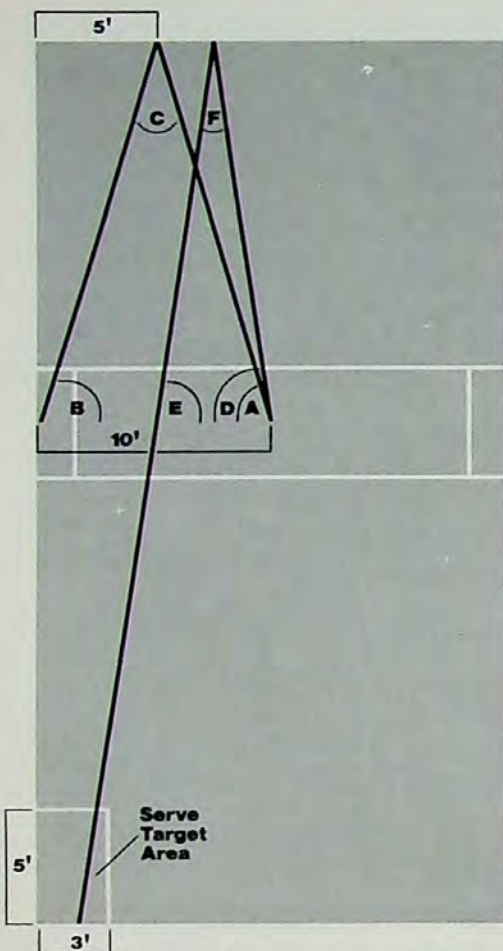
make him think about the fullness of his backhand swing. Same goes for the forehand in the other corner.

Dropping the ball into the box also allows the server to drop into good center-court position for the return. A serve more to the middle of the court obliges the server to get out of the way, out of center court, to avoid getting hit by the return.

This middle-court serve can penalize the server in one or two ways: if he doesn't move, the return may hit him, which will only sting a little; if he does move, he opens up the heart of the court to his opponent and thus stands a good chance of losing the rally. That can sting a lot.



# INSTRUCTION



Angles ABC — Improper Serve Triangle  
Angles DEF — Proper Serve Triangle

If your serve is not landing in either of the boxes, it can only be one of two things, or both: as you stand in the service area, you're not hitting the ball at the proper angle off the front wall; or your serve hits too high on the front wall.

This is where geometry comes into play. Or if you don't like geometry, think of it as lining up a bank shot on a pool table. It's exactly the same thing.

You only have to look at where you are standing when you prepare to serve. Then you look around behind you at the corner. Now having point A and point B fixed in your mind, have a look at the front wall and determine the point C, where the ball should hit to form the proper angle to find the back corner.

Pool shooters will be able to read the angle fairly well, certainly well enough to locate the serve where they want it. Or it can be plotted absolutely accurately, if you lay it out to scale on a piece of paper. (Pool shooters may skip the next three paragraphs.)

You know how far you are — about 19 feet — from the front wall when you serve, and how far away from the side wall. Now, if you hit your serve so that it comes back and strikes the side wall exactly even with you — 19 feet from the front wall — you have formed an isosceles triangle. This means that the ball will have hit the front wall at exactly half the distance that you are standing from the side wall.

In other words, if you stand in the center of the court — 10 feet from the side wall — and your serve hits the front wall five feet from the side wall, the ball will come back and strike the side wall exactly even with you, forming an isosceles triangle with a base of 10 feet.

Now knowing the distances of all three sides of the triangle, and all three angles, it is a simple matter, if

**FOREHAND: PROPER FORM** — The starting set position has the racquet back with the wrist locked and the elbow bent.





The body movement in the swing includes a forceful stride into the ball with the knees bent. The wrist is cocked until ball contact.



you are mathematically inclined, to adjust the "rebound" side of the triangle until it extends to the back corner. Then, adjusting the front-wall angle according to the sin-cosine laws, you may determine exactly how far from the side wall the serve should strike.

They'll love it on the Cal Tech courts. Personally, I prefer the Minnesota Fats approach. If you want more precision, see the diagram.

So much for the horizontal angles.

There is also a vertical rule to remember: if your serve hits the front wall more than 3-3½ feet off the floor, it will come off the back wall. He who caroms his serve off the back wall makes it much easier for his opponent to hit a strong return.

So, simply keep your serve below the three-foot line. But don't get it so low that it comes back short of the service line. This problem may also be solved mathematically, given a constant velocity of the ball, but it gets into three dimensions, and this is supposed to be a simple analysis.

The guys at Cal Tech are hereby granted permission to work on it, but the rest of us need only remember a basic rule: as the point of the serve's contact moves down on the front wall, it must also move a little bit to the center, to keep it from setting up off the side wall.

It is a lot like spot-bowling, once you understand the relationships.

Precisely done, your serve will leave the receiver breaking his racquet against the back corners and beating his head against the wall.

But racquetball is a game of near-precision, even at the professional level, and at these close quarters even minor mistakes magnify themselves so that nearly all shots, and serves, are returnable.

The foremost analytical checkpoint of the return almost sounds like a put-on. It is: make sure, if you want to hit a low drive, or go for a kill, that you hit the front wall first.

It is not all that trivial: imagine the effect on the ball of hitting the side wall, and then the front wall.

The side wall imparts a braking effect. At Cal Tech, they'd refer to it as a friction coefficient. All we need to know is that a service return that skips off the side wall first will come off the front wall as big and round and slow as the full moon.

Furthermore, the ball will tend to float into the middle of the court, where your opponent will harvest it like a fat plum.

So first, make sure your return hits the front wall first. Go for a return that either comes right back down the left wall, or one that angles smartly across-court. If you're unsure of your accuracy, blast the return right down the middle of the court, with enough velocity hopefully to handcuff your opponent.

Again, these shots are hit by knowing the angles, and by keeping the ball low. It's harder now than with the serve, of course, because now you have to respond and get set up.

There is only one analytical checkpoint here: as you move to get the serve, get the racquet back quickly. If you don't, you'll never be ready to deliver a full swing, with proper body and shoulder rotation. You'll only get off a little punched return, in which case it doesn't matter whether it nicks the side wall or not. It'll come off the front wall weakly.

The same "don't punch it" rule is also all we need concern ourselves with in this analysis on either the forehand or backhand strokes.

The strategies — passing shots, kills, Z-balls are too complex for purposes of this study. Though



# INSTRUCTION



**IMPROPER FORM** — The wrist is not properly cocked and the right arm is too straight. Potential swing power is hindered.

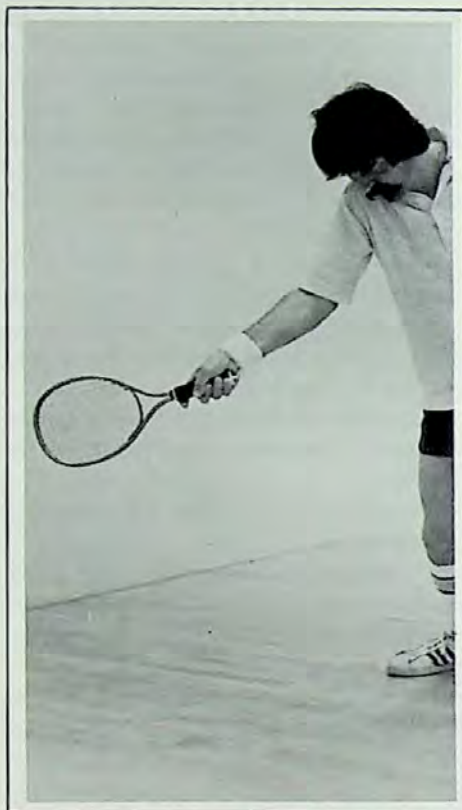
again, the angles are there for the reading.

The crucial forehand and backhand checkpoints are: is the wrist cocked and ready to deliver a proper snap? Is the elbow bent and tucked enough to uncoil at the ball? A straight arm and locked wrist are fine for tennis but deadly on the racquetball court.

This is a matter of confidence. If your shots are weak, and you discover that you are punching them, then you've got to make yourself swing away, ignoring the misfires, until you're back in a snappy groove.

And now, for the other guy.

Unless your own game is solid, you are inviting his harassment. He'll pick out your weak spots, and he'll work on them, both by hitting



The racquet is too far away from the body and the knees are not bent.

to them and by reminding you, subtly, between points, what they are.

It's like fighting Ali — unless you're sure of yourself, you're going to have to listen to him. If you're sure enough of yourself, you can adapt to capitalize on his weaknesses, or to minimize his strengths.

Not to be cocky. We all think we can perform better than we actually can. If the analysis is to work, our own ego must be stripped out of the process. There is no room for emotion.

For example: you must be able to judge your speed against his, dispassionately: can you run him to tiredness? Or would that attempt be a waste of your own energy?

Backhand vs. backhand: is it practical to try to outslug this



The racquet is too far away from the body and therefore very little shoulder power will be utilized.

person from the backhand side? Can he be overpowered with backhand shots?

So you weigh these relative merits, and you go out on Thursday night, and still you lose.

Be wise enough to accept the fallacies of your own analysis. Be willing to re-evaluate your own game plan two or three times, if the heat of the battle turns your earlier design to slush.

You can't push the panic button after every match. You've got to let the lesson of the opposition soak in, hour after hour.

It's like a class — a little three-seminar class. In time, you find you will make some little adjustments that will make a big difference, if only you will think about it.





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# INSTRUCTION



**Bill Dunn**  
National Rules Chairman

## WHAT A REFEREE CAN DO TO CONTROL THE PACE OF A MATCH

I am sure that you have all seen matches that seem to drag out. More often than not, many of these contests could have been speeded up if the referee had control of the pace of the game.

The following comments will hold true only under ideal circumstances. For many of the matches of a tournament up to the semifinals, several of these suggestions are not practical. So let's assume that we are talking about a semifinal or championship match.

1. Have the players agree upon at least two balls before the match starts. Then, when a ball breaks, there is no delay finding a new ball. (If the balls have been breaking often throughout the tournament, then you might need three or four balls to start the match.) If neither player can agree upon a ball selection, then the tournament director will have the final say. He should try to choose a ball that's reasonable, i.e. not too live or too dead (GOOD LUCK).

2. Try to arrange for a towel boy, someone who can run onto the court, wipe up the water on the floor, and then hustle back out. Too much time is lost by players taking all day to find wet spots.

3. Be sure to have line judges. This eliminates a lot of time spent arguing. Line judges can be appealed to by the players when there is a call made involving serves (short, long, or 3-wall), two bounces, and skip balls. If a player disagrees with a call, then he can appeal to the referee. If a line judge agrees with the referee's call, then he holds thumbs up. If he disagrees, thumbs down. If both judges disagree with the referee, then his call is over-ruled. If at least one of the judges agrees with the call, then the

call stands. If one line judge disagrees with the referee, but the other judge could not see what happened and can't make a call, then the point is played over. Play should begin immediately after the appeal. The only time both the official and the judges can be over-ruled is when all the players agree to over-rule the call.

4. How and when the official calls the score has much to do with the pace of the game. From the time the score is called, both players (or teams) have ten seconds in which to get ready to begin play. Play cannot begin until both sides are ready. The players should be informed before the match that the ten second count starts with the calling of the score. If the referee feels that someone is trying to stall, such as walking very slowly after the ball, then he can call the score early. The stalling player can't afford to take much more time since he only has ten seconds from the time the score is called. In this way the referee can keep control of the pace of the game.

5. Keep accurate time during time outs and between games. Always give a warning that time is about to expire. This seems to help the players get ready quicker. For instance, during a thirty second timeout, when ten seconds are left, warn the players that they only have ten seconds remaining. Then they will begin to get ready to resume play before the time out ends. Between the first and second games give a thirty second warning, and between the second and third give a one minute warning. You will be surprised how quickly the players will get ready when they know exactly what the time situation is. Remember, glove changes are a time out. This used to be an effective way to stall, but no more.



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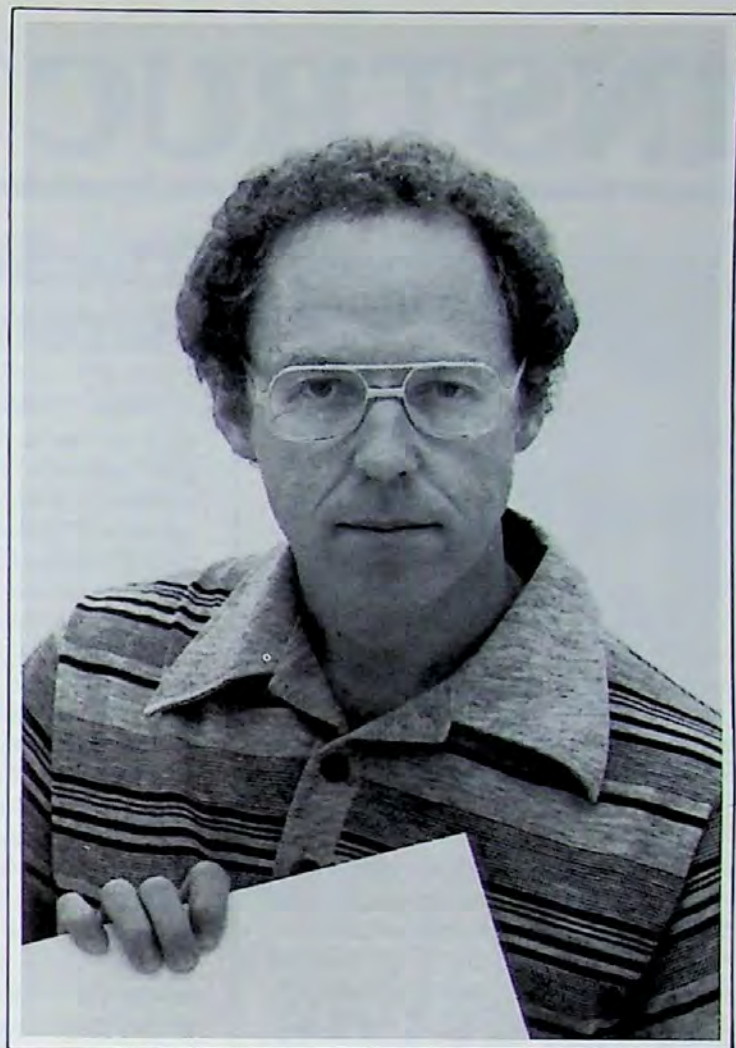
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A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Bud Muehleisen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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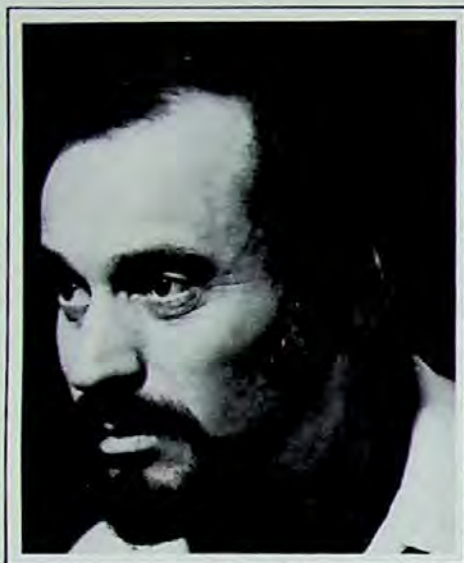
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# INSTRUCTION



By DR. VICTOR I. SPEAR

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Victor I. Spear is a graduate of the University of Michigan Medical School, Class of 1959. He is a practicing physician in Rockford, Ill., and a racquetball player.

His accomplishments in the latter field include reaching the semifinals of the Rockford City Championship for five consecutive years, and winning the championship in 1972 and 1974. He has never competed in regional competition outside of Rockford, with one exception: The 1976 Tri-City (Rockford-Beloit-Janesville) Tournament in Janesville, Wisc., in which he won first place.

The following article is one of a series from Dr. Spear's book *How to Win at Racquetball*.

## The Strategy of Returning Serve

There is no question that this shot is the most important shot in the game. When two evenly matched players tangle, the outcome will usually depend on which player returns more serves poorly. Whenever you find yourself losing several points in a streak, in a relatively few minutes, it is probably the result of hitting weak serve returns, allowing the server to burn you with easy kill shots on his second shot. Remember that this is the only time in the game when your opponent has an automatic positional advantage: center court control, with you three steps behind in the back court. If you can't get the server out of the driver's seat, you are going to lose. If you give him anything decent to hit in his area of influence, you are going to lose. Watch a few other games and you will soon see that the player who is behind is the one who isn't returning serve well enough to move the server back into the corner.

If you want to select one part of the game to initiate your improvement efforts, this is it. Concentrate on returning serve above all else, and see how your results improve.

After hammering forth on the idea of variety in serve selection, I'm going to do a flip-flop on this issue. I would recommend the opposite approach to this problem: use a minimum of different serve returns.

If you can correctly execute three basic serve returns with consistency, you have little need for any more variety. Other options will be discussed only for the purpose of taking care of special situations and for completeness.

The cardinal rule of returning

serve is the same as the basic strategy of racquetball:

Either try to hit a dead winner, or else as perfect a defensive shot as possible — but nothing in between.

Either hit a shot (kill or pass) which will quickly and conclusively put an end to the point before he even touches the ball again, or hit a defensive shot which allows you to change positions with the server.

## THE THREE MOST IMPORTANT SERVE RETURNS

### 1. Ceiling shot to the left corner.

This should be the mainstay of your serve return game. It gives you the best opportunity to force the server into the back court. Against a poor server, you can get aggressive more often with kill shots and passing shots. A good player will not give you many chances to hit a dead winner off the serve, so the burden is transferred to you to prevent him from having the dead winner on the next shot.

A properly executed ceiling shot, dying in the left corner, leaves the server the least possible opportunity to go for a winner on his second shot. He is forced to hit a chest high backhand scrape off the left wall, and if he doesn't, he isn't going to be able to hit it at all after it drops. He will usually return another ceiling shot, but this may be difficult to place if he is driven well back into the corner.

It requires a lot of skill and practice to place this shot accurately. The most common pitfalls are:

- a. If the ball hits the front wall too close to the corner, it will catch the side wall on the way back, rebounding toward the center at mid-court for an easy



- set-up.
- b. If it is hit too softly, it won't make it past  $\frac{3}{4}$  court depth and can be jumped on for a kill or pass.
  - c. If it is hit too strongly, it rebounds too far forward off the back wall, a set-up that many kill shot artists eat for breakfast. On a super-live court, it can be difficult to hit a super-live ball softly enough to keep it off the back wall. One remedy for this is to hit the front wall before the ceiling, instead of the usual reverse. This will take a lot off the ball, and may permit you to regulate the depth with more control. This may be implemented from most areas on the court, but is almost impossible to hit correctly from deep in the back court. The only other situation in which the front-wall-first ceiling shot is indicated is on a front-wall-trap. In all other instances the ball should hit the ceiling before the front wall.
  - d. If it hits the ceiling too close to the front wall crotch, it plops down in mid-court without enough overspin to carry it to the back wall; another easy set-up.
  - e. If it is too far away from the corner, it will come back for a much easier forehand return. This is the most common error in the ceiling game, and it occurs as a result of pure carelessness. Most players simply don't put forth the interest or the effort to get the most mileage out of this shot. They seem to feel quite satisfied with themselves if the shot merely achieves the short-sighted objective of driving the opponent somewhere into

the backcourt. This is not good enough. If you have enough time to hit a ceiling shot, you also have enough time to hit it well. Why not give him a difficult shot to return?

Concentrate on hitting every ceiling shot to perfection and you might be surprised at how many "accidental" winners you get. A perfectly executed ceiling shot which wall-papers itself into the left corner can turn out a point winner just as big as a roll out kill shot, and it's ten times more frustrating to your opponent. It is also the only shot in the game that can cause a good player to whiff.

## 2. Kill shot down the wall (near corner)

This is the quickest, most definitive way to punish a poor serve. No one should dictate as to how often this shot should be tried. It can't be reduced to percentages because it depends on too many variables:

- a. How poor the serve is  
You may choose this return as often as 50% of the time if serves are set up as pumpkins.
- b. Where the server moves after he serves  
This shot is usually called for in response to a server who fades back like a quarterback to  $\frac{3}{4}$  court depth.
- c. The score in the game  
I don't recommend this shot when you are facing match point, unless you have a lot more guts than I do, and a better kill shot.
- d. How well you generally hit this shot  
Individual strengths and weaknesses must always be taken into account. Don't ever force yourself to do something in which you have no confidence, regardless of what any book says.

- e. How tired you are  
When you reach a point of critical exhaustion, you should choose this shot more often. After all, your energy resource will get progressively worse as the point goes on. You might as well go for broke before you start wheezing.
- f. How good your ceiling game is  
You may execute ceiling shots so well that you never have need to hit a kill shot from back court. That's the beauty of a strong ceiling game: it gives rise to so many kill shot opportunities in mid-court that you don't have to be a great back court shooter to win.

In summary, consider this: hitting a kill shot on a serve return is a risky situation. It must be executed with even more precision than an average kill shot because you are catering to a positional advantage when you hit it. Your position is the very worst, while your opponent, if he is paying attention, has the very best. If the shot comes up a little high, he has you at his mercy and can beat you several ways. Your margin of error is very slim. Either bury it low, low in the corner, or you'd better hit a different shot. Choose your spots well.

## 3. Cross-court passing shot

This shot is a necessary partner to the kill shot, both tactically and psychologically. It must be mixed in with kill shot returns in order to prevent the server from getting the forward jump on your kill shot attempts. You must keep him honest or he will virtually nullify your kill shot returns by charging toward the left corner every time he hits a poor serve. You must choose the cross court passing shot just often enough so that he is never quite sure what you are going to hit. The pitfalls are fairly obvious:



# INSTRUCTION

- a. If the shot is not angled widely enough you are hopelessly vulnerable to the quick cut-off forehand kill to the right corner, plucked right out of the air.
- b. If hit too high and hard, it can be retrieved off the back wall.
- c. If angled too sharply into the corner, it hits the side all too soon and rebounds back in toward center for an easy set-up.

The very best chance to execute this serve return to your advantage is against a serve that comes in too shallow. If you can strike the ball somewhere in the area between the service line and  $\frac{3}{4}$  court depth, you have the best possible angle to hit it by him on the other side.

It should be pointed out that a good player will rarely give you the opportunity to even hit this shot. If the serve is well placed in the left corner, and if he takes the correct position to the left of center, the angle necessary for the path of the ball is blocked out by his body. And it's legal, too.

## OTHER LESS IMPORTANT RETURNS

### 4. Ceiling shot to the right corner

This is a useful shot to hit when you are reaching for, and barely able to get to, a surprise low drive serve to the right corner. Instead of trying to hit a cross-court ceiling shot by reaching for it and hitting it across your body, hit a safer shot by staying on the right side with a ceiling shot down the wall to the right corner.

### 5. Cut-off shot (Hitting it before the bounce.)

This is not only a good occasional option, but at times the only effective return against a good touch lob artist who stands there and gloats as you repeatedly fail to get your racquet on his soft, high lob that die into the corner. That

serve can give you screaming nightmares if it's hit just right. You can nullify its effectiveness by stepping up and hitting it on the fly, usually to the ceiling, but even as a kill shot or cross-court pass when the opportunity presents itself.

### 6. Passing shot down-the-wall (near side)

This shot should never be used against a player who is in the correct position. It's simply not possible to get it by him unless he goes into an acute state of apoplexy. The only instance which calls for this shot is when the server commits the sin of drifting over to the opposite side of center (or simply stays there) after serving to one corner. You will observe this most frequently on right-corner serves delivered from the left of center. Some players never seem to move over to the right of center after the serve, and can be easily beaten with a low forehand pass down the right side.

There is another situation that often leads to this opportunity on the other side. When a player has misdirected a serve intended for the left corner, he often realizes that the ball is going to rebound toward the center, and drifts over to the right to avoid being hit by your shot. Exterminate him accordingly: hit a low backhand pass down the left side.

### 7. Z-ball

This can be a very good serve return on a ball that comes in shallow (i.e., short of  $\frac{3}{4}$  court depth) but is virtually impossible to hit correctly from the back court. It can also be used as a variant when you move up quickly to cut off a lob serve in the air, but it is more difficult to execute properly in this situation.

### 8. Opposite corner kill shot

This is a very poor percentage shot from the back court and deserves no further discussion.

### 9. Lob return

This shot has been rendered obsolete by the live ball.

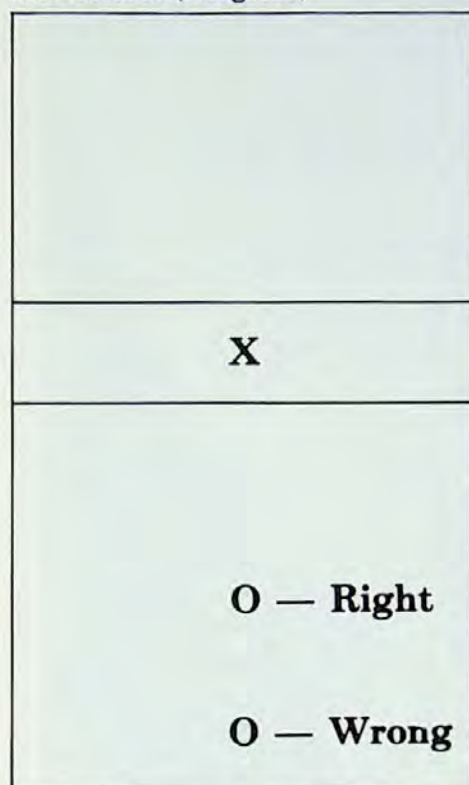
## GENERAL COMMENTS ON SERVE RETURNS

1. Never decide in advance on what shot you will hit as a serve return. Your chances for good execution are drastically altered by the depth, angle, speed and height of the ball. Play the shot that can be played best. Never commit yourself mentally to hitting the ball before or after it hits the side wall, or before or after it hits the back wall until you actually can see where it will hit the wall. If you make up your mind before you see the shot, a smart player will carve you up. There is nothing I like better than to serve against a player who has obviously decided to move up on a Z-serve to the left corner, because he has been repeatedly jammed in the corner. I simply sharpen the angle of the Z so as to hit the side wall farther forward, and jam him again.

2. Don't play back too far to receive serve. Most players take a position close to the back wall in order to conserve energy in retrieving the usual corner serves. This leaves them vulnerable to the only possible service ace in racquetball, the short corner serve. In baseball, the hitter is always taught to think "fastball". The rationale is that he can always slow down to hit the slow curve if that happens to be the pitch. But if he is thinking "slow curve", the fastball would be in the catcher's mitt before he had a chance to readjust. I think this is analogous to the racquetball player receiving serve. You should always think "short corner" serve, and play up half way to the service line. You have plenty of time to drift back and retrieve the more traditional serves with ease. You have no chance to reach a well-placed low, sharp, short corner serve if you are lolling



against the back wall. By taking a forward position to receive serve, you can easily nullify a potential service ace. (Diagram)



Position to receive serve.

3. Always take full advantage of the server's positional weaknesses. Punish the "faders" and the drifters".

The "fader" is quickly identified as he serves and immediately takes three steps back as if he were Joe Namath. He has an unrealistic fear of being passed. Grant him his prayer. Don't pass him. Bury him with a kill shot return. It doesn't even have to be a very good one. There is no need to take the risk of trying to hit a roll out in this situation. A player who is running backwards has a very difficult time reversing direction to retrieve even a mediocre kill shot.

The "drifter" is the one who makes the lateral movement error going away from the ball. Burn

him with a down-the-wall pass.

4. Last, but not least, be ready to move up into better position immediately after attempting to hit a kill shot or pass. Don't just stand there and admire your shot. You are badly out of position for the reply if your shot turns out not to be a winner. Your only chance to get back into the point is to move up and try to anticipate his next shot. As you lean in to stroke the ball, you should already be in motion to follow your shot forward. You've already taken the first step; just keep moving.

If, on the other hand, you have chosen a ceiling shot return, you should have plenty of time to move up leisurely into a good position.

But you still have to get there. Never assume that you will get a ceiling ball in return. Protect yourself against the possibility of an over-head kill shot.

#### THE TWENTY COMMANDMENTS

1. Thou shalt not serve pumpkins.
2. Thou shalt not fade or drift after serving.
3. Thou shalt not stay in the center after serving to the corner.
4. Thou shalt not play back too far to receive serve.
5. Thou shalt not fail to recognize the most important shot in the game.
6. Thou shalt not fall asleep during a ceiling shot exchange.
7. Thou shalt not fail to use the ceiling shot to its utmost benefit.
8. Thou shalt not pass up a single chance to hit a winner.
9. Thou shalt not hit passing shots too high.
10. Thou shalt not wait for a bounce on all shots.
11. Thou shalt not hit a drop shot

from above the knee.

12. Thou shalt not give up on the point after a bad shot.
13. Thou shalt not hit into the back wall unless there is no alternative.
14. Thou shalt hit no shot without a following move.
15. Thou shalt not be blind to body language.
16. Thou shalt not play without pre-game plans and post-game analyses.
17. Thou shalt not fail to alter your game to fit the opposition.
18. Thou shalt not practice without objectives.
19. Thou shalt never, never, never take your eye off the ball.
20. Thou shalt think.

#### AN ESSAY

I love racquetball.

I love racquetball because I have a desire to win.

I love racquetball because I am not a great athlete.

I love racquetball because it is a sport which gives me a chance to beat a better athlete.

I love racquetball because I have no chance to beat a golfer who can hit the ball farther and putt better than I, but I do have a chance to beat a racquetball player who can hit better kill shots and passing shots than I, if he hits them at the wrong time.

I love racquetball because I can beat a player who can hit kill shots with 100% accuracy, by preventing him from hitting kill shots. 100% of nothin' is nothin'.

I love racquetball because you have to think to win.

I love racquetball.



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# TOURNAMENTS



## IT'S TWO IN A ROW FOR JANELL MARRIOTT

By Tom McKie

Janell Marriott fought her way through the toughest womens field ever assembled — defeating Peggy Steding in the process — to capture her second straight IRA Womens Pro Invitational. Play was held at the beautiful Bent Tree Country Club in Dallas the weekend of February 18-20.

The girls were competing for a purse of \$2,500 — largest on the tour this year. This was made possible with the sponsorship of SEAMCO, EKTELON, OMEGA SPORTS, SPORTS UNLIMITED and the IRA. HUGHESCO (ADIDAS) also helped by providing equipment to the players. It was a super effort on the part of these manufacturers to work together in their support of womens racquetball and the IRA.

The Bent Tree Country Club rolled out the red carpet and did a great job as hosts. Overflow crowds viewed many of the rounds of the racquetball committee and the club is already making plans for hosting their next Womens Pro Invitational.

Play was conducted on a round robin format with each player playing everyone else. Three matches were played on Friday, four on Saturday, and the final two on Sunday. The match order was pre-arranged using numbers. The first suspense of the tournament occurred Friday morning as the

Peggy Steding (L.) and Janell Marriott (R.) provided exciting competition during the IRA's Women's Pro Invitational.



# TOURNAMENTS



Peggy Steding (L.) blasts the racquetball as Janell Marriott (R.) anticipates a return.

players drew a number which determined their spot in the draw.

Players were awarded .2 tournament points for each point they scored and a bonus of 3.0 tournament points for each match won. Each match was one game to 31.

Janell earned her position. Three of her matches went right down to the wire (Steding, Pasternak, and Green) before she was able to get the last two and win 31-29. Three others (Harding, Hoff, and Williams) were tight battles that were almost as close. Janell's powerful

serve proved to be her biggest asset as she constantly applied pressure with it.

Peggy Steding ("The Fonz" as she was known throughout the tournament) captured all of her matches except her battle with Marriott. The competition is getting tougher each year and although Peggy was playing well she was pushed much more often than in the past. Everyone immediately says it's because of her age but it appears to me that Peggy is not slowing down — the competition is



improving.

Kathy Williams continued her strong season with a solid third place finish. She was beaten by both Marriott and Steding and surprised 31-28 by Sarah Green. Kathy was considered as a strong contender for the championship but couldn't seem to maintain her concentration throughout.

Fourth place was garnered by Jennifer Harding — the Bionic Woman. She rests for her matches each day by getting up at 6:00 a.m. and "briskly" running two to three miles. Jenny was in every match she lost (3) and overwhelming in most that she won (6). With the opportunity to make more of the major tournaments she would be a definite factor in their outcome.

The hard luck player of the tournament was Sarah Green. Scoring a total of 12 more total



Martha Byrd



Jan Pasternak

points would have turned four of her five losses into victories. Sarah led Marriott throughout their match only to fade at the end.

Probably the big surprise of the tournament was Martha Byrd — Speedy Gonzalez. Known for her outside three wall play and for serving off the short hop, Martha surprised even herself with how well she fared against "the big guns".

Also making a strong showing in her first invitational was Rita Hoff from St. Louis. She held an overflow gallery in suspense in her match with Marriott before finally losing 31-26. Fatigue appeared to get the best of Rita later in the tournament and I'm sure she will train even harder for next years tourney.

Pleasing to see on the comeback trail was Jan Pasternak. Having

only recently begun to seriously compete again, fatigue also got the better of Jan but not before she showed some of her old brilliance. She certainly copped the award for the most times on the floor! Her match with Marriott went down to the wire before Janell served an ace at 30-29.

Also showing well in her first competition with the pros was Carol French and in her third invitational, Ruth Knudsen. Neither came up a winner often but with the competition they faced that was no small feat.

One of the highlights of the tournament occurred between matches on Saturday when the players were taken on a tour of the AEROBICS CENTER in Dallas. While on the tour they had a chance to meet and have their picture taken with DR. KENNETH COOP-

Carol French





ER, founder of the center and author of *Aerobics*, and ROGER STAU-BACH, of the Dallas Cowboys.

#### TOURNAMENT SIDELIGHTS

Racquetball has come of age. That was quite apparent in a quick survey of the ten top "pros" on hand for the women's tourney at Bent Tree. Of the ten participants, three of the gals are on the circuit full-time. Three others indicate they are finding it more nearly feasible to devote all their energies to the sport and the others say they are giving some serious thought to full-time participation. More sponsors are making themselves available and purses are becoming more lucrative. We foresee the day, in the not-too-distant-future, when the tournament circuit will be able to attract top racquetball players.

One question that kept coming up was, "Why doesn't Peggy (Steding) ever take a time out?" We asked her. Says Peggy, "I don't get tired."

That's those hours of exercise and practice showing through. Peggy doesn't get older. She just gets better.

Peggy also says round-robin play

can affect her game. She says she feels herself letting down, psychologically, after 21 points. But her play didn't show it at Bent Tree. Her only defeat was at the hands of Janell Mariott, who really had to press the issue to come up with the final win.

Janell says she finds no psychological problem with the round-robin. She says she gets up for a game and is able to maintain her momentum until the last point is scored.

Jan Pasternak, now back in serious "pro" play, was terribly disappointed with her game at Bent Tree. But her overall performance showed the potential is there and we think you'll be hearing a lot from her in the future.

In the round-robin tournament, fatigue is an important factor, especially when ten of the top women players in the country are battling for top honors. There is little room for error on a bad day. As one gal said, "There are no patsies, no easy matches. You can't let down." And they didn't. Bent Tree provided some of the most exciting racquetball seen in these parts in some time.



"THE FONZ", (Peggy Steding), poses during a break in the action.

### IRA WOMEN'S PRO INVITATIONAL

| Each match point scored = 's .2 tournament points<br>Each match won = 's 3.0 tournament points | Byrd  | Frenck | Green | Harding | Hoff  | Knudsen | Mariott | Pasternak | Steding | Williams | Final Total | Standings |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|-------|---------|-------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|----------|-------------|-----------|
| Martha Byrd, FL.                                                                               |       | 29-31  | 31-26 | 22-31   | 31-25 | 31- 8   | 10-31   | 31-15     | 22-31   | 17-31    | 56.8        | 6         |
| Carol Frenck, VA.                                                                              | 31-29 |        | 27-31 | 15-31   | 17-31 | 31-24   | 6-31    | 20-31     | 10-31   | 19-31    | 41.2        | 9         |
| Sarah Green, TN.                                                                               | 26-31 | 31-27  |       | 28-31   | 31-23 | 31-21   | 29-31   | 29-31     | 16-31   | 31-28    | 62.4        | 5         |
| Jennifer Harding, OR.                                                                          | 31-22 | 31-15  | 31-28 |         | 31-10 | 31-16   | 26-31   | 31-10     | 19-31   | 23-31    | 68.8        | 4         |
| Rita Hoff, MO.                                                                                 | 25-31 | 31-17  | 23-31 | 10-31   |       | 31-17   | 26-31   | 31-23     | 13-31   | 16-31    | 50.2        | 7         |
| Ruth Knudsen, CA.                                                                              | 8-31  | 24-31  | 21-31 | 16-31   | 17-31 |         | 12-31   | 27-31     | 17-31   | 18-31    | 32.0        | 10        |
| Janell Mariott, VT.                                                                            | 31-10 | 31- 6  | 31-29 | 31-26   | 31-26 | 31-12   |         | 31-29     | 31-29   | 31-24    | 82.8        | 1         |
| Jan Pasternak, TX.                                                                             | 15-31 | 31-20  | 31-29 | 10-31   | 23-31 | 31-27   | 29-31   |           | 14-31   | 12-31    | 48.2        | 8         |
| Peggy Steding TX.                                                                              | 31-22 | 31-10  | 31-16 | 31-19   | 31-13 | 31-17   | 29-31   | 31-14     |         | 31-22    | 79.4        | 2         |
| Kathy Williams, MI.                                                                            | 31-17 | 31-19  | 28-31 | 31-23   | 31-16 | 31-18   | 24-31   | 31-12     | 22-31   |          | 70.0        | 3         |





The top ten women in racquetball met Roger Staubach of the Dallas Cowboys, and Dr. Kenneth Cooper of the Aerobic Center in Dallas during the Women's Pro Invitational.



1st  
Janell Marriott



2nd  
Peggy Steding



3rd  
Kathy Williams



4th  
Jennifer Harding



5th  
Sarah Green

**IRA WOMEN'S PRO INVITATIONAL**

**BENT TREE COUNTRY CLUB**  
**FEB. 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>**

**- PLAYERS -**

- PEGGY STEDING • ODESSA, TEX.
- JANELL MARRIOTT • SALT LAKE CITY, UT.
- KATHY WILLIAMS • DETROIT, MI.
- JENNIFER HARDING • PORTLAND, OR.
- SARAH GREEN • MEMPHIS, TN.
- JAN PASTERNAK • HOUSTON, TX.
- RITA HOFF • ST. LOUIS, MO.
- MARTHA BYRD • GAINESVILLE, FL.
- CAROL FRENCH • NEWPORT NEWS, VA.
- RUTH KNUDSEN • SANTA ANA, CA.

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8th  
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9th  
Carol French



10th  
Ruth Knudsen

## THE IRA'S TOP 10 WOMEN



# INSTRUCTION

## MARTY HOGAN'S SCHOOL OF SERVE AND SHOOT

### Subtitle: OR "PATENTED POWER RACQUETBALL"

At a recent Pro-Am event Charlie Brumfield was upset by Jay Jones, in the round of 16. Brumfield's losing has become the rule instead of the exception, but we can't help but ask why and to whom. In watching Brumfield this year, I have become more confident with my own game. A comparison of our records on tour this year demonstrates to anyone following pro racquetball that the "POWER" serve and the ability to "SHOOT" the ball on the fly are the two most important ingredients needed to win today's tournaments.

Power Racquetball is the ability to hit the ball with such force that the reactions needed to return it are almost nonexistent. Take this force combined with a percent of control and you can't lose. Let me give you some examples. Charlie Rish from Chicago has the best serve in racquetball next to mine, but no control. Steve Keeley has the best control in racquetball, but no serve. Mark Morrow (who?) a player from Los Angeles, has a limited combination of both and has beaten Bill Schmidtke, Ben Kolton and almost upset Davey Bledsoe, the fourth seed of the last Pro-Am. The best example of the whole approach is Jay Jones, whose victories over Brumfield and Wagner have moved him into a potential semi-finalist in any Pro event.

I once heard Brumfield say that the number one seeded player has a five point edge going into any match. If that is true, then I must have a 10 point advantage because I know there isn't a game when I try that I can't score on five ace serves, more often it's 8 to 10.

Giving this 19 year old the benefit of the doubt and assuming

my observations are correct, you have to ask yourself how do I pattern a game along these lines. First, the don'ts: Number one, don't train with a slow ball for the exercise or to develop stamina for a long rally. This method is used by Strandemo and Brumfield and look at their records this year. Number two, don't use anything but a Marty Hogan signature racquet to be introduced this fall. Number three, don't overplay. Hours spent on the court playing racquetball perfecting bad habits won't improve your game.

The do's. Number one, listen to your mom. Number two, develop stamina by running wind sprints and training off the court. Number three, practice one hour a day by yourself. Number four, play for fun. I will take each of the above and explain.

First, much of my confidence in racquetball is the result of the support and encouragement I received from my family, especially my mother, Goldie. She has always demanded the best from me and taught me to believe I can slay bearded dragons or fight windmills. Confidence.

Second, I am in the best condition of any player on tour because I train off-court 24 hours a day. That is, I never allow myself to be idle. "Run everywhere." (Steve Keely). "Do isometrics when sitting still." (Leonard Baldori). Never ignore your body. Even the way you sleep can be important.

Third, Steve Mondray plays everyone all day long yet his game has failed to improve. One hour a day on the court alone practicing the power serve, fly kills, and developing your timing and court sense is more valuable than any pre-tournament match.

Finally, play for fun. Brumfield and Strandemo play \$5 a match

practice sessions to get ready for major tournament. However, they often leave the court so upset with themselves anyone could beat them. Once in a game between Wagner and Brumfield, Charlie got so upset with Rich he hit him with his racquet and then began chewing on Wagners finger in the hopes of maiming Rich to improve his percentage of "practice session" wins.

I lose more practice matches than I ever win. In fact, Charlie Drake sometimes has illusions he is still a good player after I spot him 10 points and let him win. The point is play non-tournament racquetball to learn and have fun. This will help with your confidence and it allows you to work on specific aspects of your game against opponents with isolated strengths. An example would be to practice serve returns against Charlie Rish; pass shots against Strandemo; rekills against Keeley.

If everyone can incorporate all of the above, their game and attitudes will improve and "patented power" will follow. \*Watch for the next Marty Hogan victory. \*In my next article I will show you how to develop your own super ace serve.



# TOURNAMENTS



Being congratulated by Marty Hogan, Charlie Brumfield receives the 1st place trophy from Tucson Athletic Club owner and director, Carl Porter.

## BRUMFIELD TAKES TUCSON TOURNEY

By Mike Zeitman

Charlie Brumfield won his first pro-am tourney of the 1976-77 season with a win over Marty Hogan at the Tucson Athletic Club. It was a standing-room only crowd that saw the 28-year-old San Diego lawyer outlast his younger opponent to win the \$1500 first prize. Brumfield demonstrated great control and stamina in taking the win 21-18, 21-4.

Brumfield was the picture of concentration and determination. Hogan, on the other hand, appeared loose and relaxed. But both lost their cool in the early stages of the first match. With the score 4-2, Brumfield, Hogan was serving in

the middle of the rally. Brumfield hit a three-wall ball to negate a Hogan pass. Marty raced up in front of the service box to cut the ball off in mid-air. When he tried a drop shot in the left front corner, Brumfield, who had recovered to center court, slammed into Hogan's back while going for the "get". The crowd booed and Charlie and Marty had a close-up discussion of family heritage. But the official had the last say, calling Hogan for a hinder and Brumfield for an intentional foul. Brumfield lost a point.

Brumfield took the initiative from there and dominated play until 17-11. At this point, Hogan got fired up again, running up seven quick points. But the Brum revved up and quickly tallied the four necessary points to take the match 21-18.

Hogan seemed to have nothing left in the second game, and offered

little resistance to the Brumfield onslaught. The crowd booed and hissed as the game moved to its 21-4 climax.

Brumfield's trip to the finals was over a somewhat rocky road, in the form of a semi-finals match with one Jay Jones. Jones' first trip to the semis could have hardly produced a better debut. He aced Brumfield seven times in the first game, never trailed and won by those same seven points, 21-14. Brumfield appeared to still be in a negative stance in the second match, as Jones continued serving aces and blistering forehand kills. At 8-5, however, Charlie managed to force a side out with an almost impossible rollout. The crowd's excitement seemed to get the old Brumfield adrenalin flowing. He quickly raced to a 21-12 win. The third match was all Charlie. He racked up 12 points before Jones



# TOURNAMENTS



Brumfield sets up for his return.

was able to get in a single score, then went on to win the match 15-1.

In the other semi-final match, number one seed Davey Bledsoe met defeat at the hands of Marty Hogan.

In the women's division, Shannon Wright was in top form and easily won top honors.

In the round of 16, Camille McCarthy, a familiar tour figure, was pounded by newcomer Sally Murphy of Scottsdale, Arizona. Camille almost made a match of it. After losing the first game, 21-11, she fought back to a 20-20 tie in the second game, before making a fatal mistake and yielding the match to Sally.

Denna Rassenti provided the tournament's other upset, defeating Ruth Knudsen. Ruth started out strong, but Denna outlasted her 12-21, 21-7, 15-12.

However, Denna was not so fortunate in her match with Shannon Wright, going down to defeat, 21-6, 21-4. Janell Marriott had little trouble beating Alicia Moore of Tucson, 21-8, 21-10.

Other round of eight matches saw Sarah Green wrap-up Sally Murphy's upset hopes with a 21-5, 21-3 thumping. Peggy Steding beat Danna Noguchi 21-2, 21-6. Donna had played a tough Bette Weed in an exhausting two-hour battle, ending with a 21-10, 13-21, 15-10 score. It was a real crowd-pleaser.

Wright and Green, Steding and Marriott were fresh and sharp for their matches, and perhaps a little nervous.

Apparently the nervousness got to Sarah, who just couldn't get her game together and was beaten by Shannon, 21-6, 21-4.

Janell offered Peggy little resistance and took a 21-2, 21-6 licking.

The finals match could have been a real donneybrook, but the fire just wasn't there. Shannon domi-



nated the match, rolling over the usually competitive Peggy, 21-11, 21-12.

#### Men's Open Singles

Unseeded Steve Trent bested second seed Steve Mondry to take the men's singles title in amateur play. Trent, who played into the finals with successively stronger rounds, totally dominated Mondry, taking a 21-11, 21-14 win.

#### Women's Open

Alicia Moore, from Soquel, Arizona, breezed past a totally frustrated Sally Murphy, 21-7, 21-8 to take the Women's Championship. In the consolation, Bette Weed knocked off Donna Noguchi, 21-17, 21-16 to take third place.

#### Seniors

New York-based airline pilot Pat Columbo proved he deserved his

top seed ranking. He played strong in the preliminaries and kept his momentum to take the Seniors title from Jim Trent of San Diego. Trent gave Columbo a strong run for his money, but it was Columbo who was on the top end of the two-game match, 21-20, 21-17.

Marty Hogan shows his competitive form.





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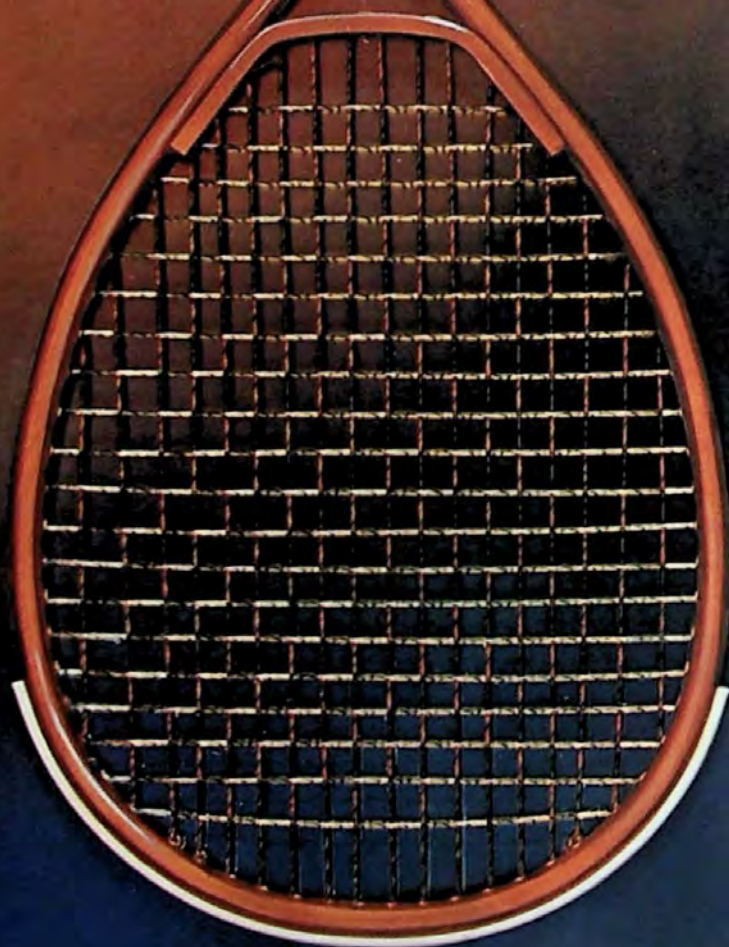
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# TOURNAMENTS

## 7th ANNUAL COLUMBUS CENTRAL IN-HOUSE RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT

Columbus, Ohio was the setting for the 7th annual edition of the Columbus Central In-House Racquetball Tournament, staged in December at the Columbus YMCA. New champions were crowned in three divisions, due in part to the fact that three times Master Champion Art Payne retired to the Open Division this year.

Don Schiefer, the 1974 champion, regained the Open Division Championship defeating Dr. John Norton in two tight games, 21-18 and 21-15.

The score was tied 18-18 in the first game when Don rolled out three consecutive backhand kill shots in the left corner. Dr. Norton led 11-4 in the second game, ran out of gas and let Don outscore him 17 to 4 to take the second game, 21-15.

Don Schiefer defeated Golden Master Art Payne in the semi-finals 21-17, 21-12. Dr. Norton defeated the perennial semi-final contestant, George Geissbuhler, in three games, 16-21, 21-3 and 11-0.

The Masters Division was won by Colonel Tom Sobrick when he defeated Bob Box, 21-8 and 21-7.

The Novice Division was won by Doug Stuber who defeated converted handball champ, Larry Irvine, 21-11 and 21-7.

Consolation winners were Bob Bukovec, another handballer, in the open division and Dick Bird in the Novice division.

## PENNSYLVANIA ROUND ROBIN DOUBLES

The 4th Annual Pennsylvania Round Robin Doubles Invitational at Monroeville, is now history, and a new winner's team has been entered in the record books.

Playing "bang-tough" racquetball, Don Bechtold and Allen "Rip" Miller, both of the Racquet Club, lost only a single match, and bested nine other Pennsylvania teams to take top honors. The winning two-some were so hot, they held perennial favorite Gene Grapes and partner Al Schattner to only nine points in taking the win.

Continuing to make names for themselves were Jere Willey and Denny Onkatz, who have been capturing a lot of attention of late. They came in a strong third. Herbie Meyers and Art Goldberg took fourth place in the tourney.

(L. to R. Front) Tom Bush, Franny Ceravola, Dave Adams, Allen Miller, Julian Schiller, Emil Scarano, Jim Jones, Gene Grapes, Al Schattner, Tim Grapes. (L. to R. Rear) Denny Onkatz, Guy Natale, Art Goldberg, Luke St. Onge, Dick Snyder, Herbie Meyers, Wes Garnet, Jere Willey, Don Bechtold, Carmen Fellicetti, Mitch Buckler, Tom Ranker.





## MAINE CLOSED DOUBLES DRAWS 15 TEAMS

Fifteen teams entered the Maine Closed Doubles Racquetball Tournament (held January 15-16 at Waterville's YMCA). It was scrappy ball all the way as Dick Moore and Bill Dubord won the Open Division with a final win over Bob Folsom and Jim Simmons, 21-12, 21-10.

Youth teamed with age in the B Division as Maine's top junior player, Steve Larrabee, joined senior player Merle Tilton to take first place. Larrabee and Tilton pushed their way through the ranks and won the finals match over Tony Bates and Don Fortin, with scores of 15-13, 15-9. Only one team pushed the Larrabee-Tilton two-some into three games. That was in the semi-finals when junior Steve Veilleux and Tom Poulin finally succumbed in scores of 21-15, 15-12, 15-8.

## KENTUCKY RACQUETBALL DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

By Dave Fleischaker

With only one week's notice, the Louisville YMCA came through as host for the Kentucky Double Championship, January 21-23. The original site was the victim of the winter weather, having to shut down when its heating system went down to defeat and water pipes froze.

The big news of the tourney was in the Women's Division where a pair of youngsters, 12-year-old Bobbi Brennan and 14-year-old Eileen Ernst — both of Frankfort, captured the title with a 21-19, 21-9 win over Lynn Simon and Cissy Maloney, of Louisville. The winners have been playing tournaments for two years.

The first-seeded sister team of Kay Evans and Marge Polites, who had won the title three out of the last four years were defeated in the semis by Maloney and Simon, 21-12,

17-21, 11-8. Brennan and Ernst beat Holly Rentz and Diane Sanders, the tournament second seeds, in the other semis, 21-18, 21-11.

The young set's win ushered in a new era for Kentucky racquetball, since the over-30 set has dominated play for so long.

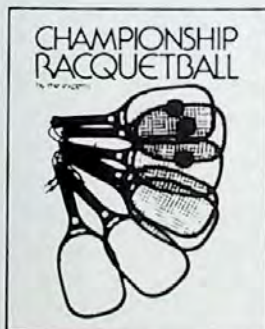
The old guard was not to be outdone, however. Alan Hyman and Fred Michels took the Open Doubles for a fourth straight year, narrowly nipping Bob Dabney and Dave Fleischaker, 21-17, 9-21, 11-10. Hyman and Michels handled State Singles champ Chuck Cooper and Bill Evans in the semis, 21-3, 21-8. Fleischaker and Dabney defeated Kirtley Amos and Ray Sabbatine, both of Lexington, in lower bracket play semis, 21-11, 21-10 in a match that was much closer than indicated by the score. Amos and Sabbatine had previously defeated the second-seeded team of Ken Porco and David Brown, 21-19, 14-21, 11-10 in a match decided by a controversial call at 10-10 in the tie breaker.

Ike Gumer played up to his "iron man" role, playing in two divisions and refereeing every match in between. He and Irv Zeitman, National Gold Master Champions, easily won the Masters Division defeating three opposing teams and allowing no more than nine points in any game. Lew Whipple and Bernie McGinnis, both of Louisville, placed second.

Gumer was not quite so fortunate in the Seniors Division as he and partner Leigh Jones of Berea, went down to defeat before the indefatigable Len Wilson and Dr. George Drasin, 17-21, 21-8, 11-5. Don Detjen and Bill Emnett captured third place, beating Lew Whipple and Bernite Thompson, 21-16, 21-19.

There was also exciting, but less, play in the B Division and the Mixed Division.

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# TOURNAMENTS

## LAS VEGAS, LOOK OUT . . . HERE COMES KEN SMITH!

By Aletha Guzman

The lure of Las Vegas was enough to cause 112 Oklahoma racquetballers to ante up \$15 a head in Oklahoma City's Racquet Time sponsored mid-winter Holiday-in-Vegas tournament. Grand prize in the handicap affair was an expense paid three day vacation for two to the fun capital of the nation. Play was open to all Oklahoma residents.

Ken Smith, who survived the three day competition to win the free trip earned every minute of the vacation. He might even need all three days just to recuperate. The competition wanted the prize, too.

Preliminary bouts were scheduled in women's open, men's B, C, D and class A.

In spite of a few complaints about sandbagging tactics which might have put a player in a lower division than the one in which he should have played, there were very few problems. Accurate placement of B, C and D players in a tourney of this nature is almost impossible. Entrants came from all over the state. Without playing a number of ranking events, it would have required the wisdom of a Solomon to say with accuracy into what division many of the players should fall.

Men's open pitted some of the state's better players. Ken Smith won the class A round robin by accumulating 107-points. Second place was Gary Hinkle with 104.3; third was IRA National Commissioner V. Z. Lawton with 89.3 points.

But winning the class A division did not secure the trip for Smith. Winners from each of the divisions now met in a Sunday showdown.

In the first round of the finals Smith spotted Bob Coe, D-division winner 16-points per game in a best

two out of three. Smith won it in two straight: 21-18, 21-16.

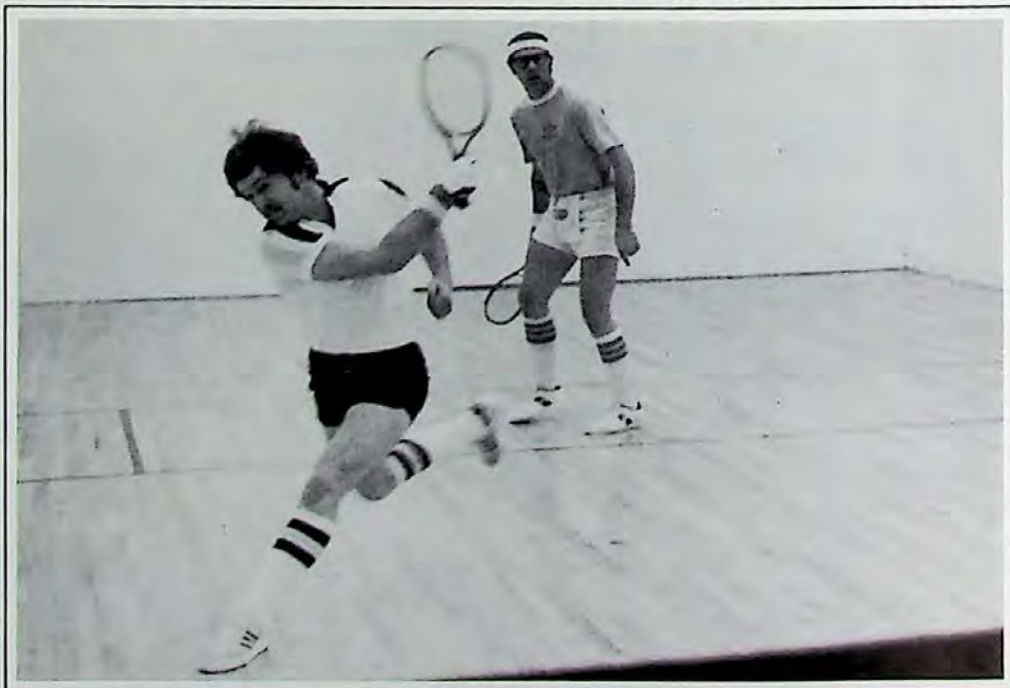
In the next round of the finals, Smith met B-division champion Mike Jackson, spotting him the handicap chartered points and still winning in two: 21-14, 21-12.

D-division had bracketed nearly 64-players. Bob Coe's victory over this many players is a fair indication that he was a pretty good player. Smith — with or without points — had his hands full. B-division had fewer entries (those who could had joined the C-bracket?), but had intense court battles throughout.

In the B's, Tim Tripp had been awarded top seeding. Tripp was co-featured in the last issue of Racquetball as having helped set a new world's racquetball endurance record, and is one of OSU's classier players. But Tripp fell to Joe Bob Smith (one-time Oklahoma doubles co-champion). Joe Smith in turn fell to third seeded Mike Jackson.

While Ken Smith was resting between bouts and wondering whether he would spot Gerald

Ken Smith, Tournament winner peels Gerald Beattie's serve off the side wall and slams it into the back wall for a perfect return during the final game in the Las Vegas-or-bust tournament.







Jerry Linton, manager of Oklahoma City's Racquet Time club, on the left, presents Ken Smith with the winner's trophy in the club's "Las Vegas-or-bust" mid-winter tournament.

Beattie 8-points, or spot Sandy (Mrs. Jim) McPherson 17-points, he was asked which he would rather meet in the finals. There was no hesitation in his reply: "I'm rooting for Gerald."

Sandy McPherson developed her own rooting section in spite of Smith. Husband Jim was on hand, of course, and looking forward to her winning a free vacation for two. Then there were all the women players waiting to see what Sandy could do against the men's champion given such a bundle of points.

But Sandy had to meet Beattie, first, and this was too much. Beattie's power and court coverage was more than she could handle. Beattie entered the play-off with an eight-point handicap. In the first game with McPherson he won

handily, but not easily: 21-16. He dropped the second, 17-21 then closed in for the third, 21-11, taking no chances.

Beattie had defeated the best of his 32-man class C bracket and proved he was no newcomer to the game, but class tells on the court. Fatigue shows. Of the two, Ken Smith was more rested, and capable of handling the game in more ways than Beattie.

Smith spotted the finalist 8-points per game and took the match in a fast 21-14, 21-13. After that he had nothing more to do than accept his check, and start packing.

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# TOURNAMENTS



Nittany winners: (L. to R.) Denny Onkatz, Jere Willey, Russ Cooper, and Luke St. Onge.

## FOURTH ANNUAL NITTANY LION "FALL CLASSIC"

Jere Willey bounced defending champ Luke St. Onge to become the new titleholder in the 4th Annual Nittany Lion "Fall Classic", but it took Willey three games in the finals to beat St. Onge. The final scores were 15-10, 9-15, 15-12.

Willey had his work cut out for him, with all his matches from the quarter-finals on going three games. In the quarters, Willey met ex-Penn State linebacker Gary Gray, who played inspired ball. But Willey proved too much for him, winning in three games. 6-15, 15-7, 13-15.

Meanwhile, St. Onge had little trouble with Dave Mac Atee, 15-6, 15-7.

In the semi-finals, Willey found himself up against two-time all-American Denny Onkatz. Denny played well, but his game wasn't up to Willey who took the match, 15-6, 7-15, 15-7 (but watch for bigger and better things from Onkatz. He was probably the most improved player in this year's classic).

St. Onge also continued to win in the semis, beating Scott Owens 15-5, 15-6. Owens was coming off an upset of 4th-seeded Russ Cooper in the quarter-finals.

Thus Willey and St. Onge found themselves facing off for the championship for the second year in a row. Willey came out shooting everything in sight in the first game, winning going away, 15-10.

Willey cooled off in the second game with the momentum swinging to St. Onge. The score was tied 9-9, with six side-outs, as St. Onge really went into action, running six straight points to win the game 15-9. But the third game proved decision and the decision was in favor of Willey. He quickly jumped to a 9-0 lead. St. Onge fought back to a 10-9 lead, but could not finish it. Willey was on top finally, 15-13.

Onkatz took third place with a 15-6, 15-5 win over Owens.

More than 115 players were entered in the "schedule-as-schedule-can" in-house tournament.

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# RACQUETBALL SURVEY

The results of a racquetball survey conducted by the International Racquetball Association in January, 1977 are listed below. The survey was sent to all IRA members through its inclusion in RACQUETBALL Magazine and distributed at racquetball facilities and at tournaments. While a survey of this type is interesting to the individual player it has proven invaluable to the IRA in encouraging the sports future growth through supplying this information to manufacturers and racquetball court developers.

## 1. TYPE OF RESIDENCE

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Home Owner .....       | 67% |
| Home Renter .....      | 13% |
| Apartment Renter ..... | 20% |

## 2. POPULATION OF RESIDENCE

|                                   |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| City of 250,000 or greater .....  | 35% |
| Suburb of Metropolitan Area ..... | 19% |
| City 50,000 to 250,000 .....      | 21% |
| City less than 50,000 .....       | 19% |
| Rural Area .....                  | 7%  |

## 3. TYPE OF HOUSEHOLD

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Single Male .....           | 22% |
| Single Female .....         | 5%  |
| Couple Only .....           | 20% |
| Couple and 1 child .....    | 12% |
| Couple and 2 children ..... | 24% |
| Couple and 3 children ..... | 11% |
| Couple and 4 children ..... | 4%  |
| Couple and 5 or more .....  | 3%  |

## 4. HOUSEHOLD INCOME

|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Under \$10,000 .....     | 8%  |
| \$10,000 to 14,999 ..... | 15% |
| \$15,000 to 19,999 ..... | 17% |
| \$20,000 to 24,999 ..... | 20% |
| \$25,000 to 49,999 ..... | 32% |
| \$50,000 or more .....   | 9%  |

## 5. INCOME PRODUCING CLASSIFICATION OF THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Professional .....              | 53% |
| Business (Administrative) ..... | 19% |
| Business (Sales) .....          | 15% |
| Business (Clerical) .....       | 2%  |
| Self employed .....             | 10% |

## 6. AGE OF THE RESPONDENT

|                   |     |
|-------------------|-----|
| Under 18 .....    | 2%  |
| 19-24 .....       | 12% |
| 25-34 .....       | 47% |
| 35-44 .....       | 26% |
| 45-54 .....       | 10% |
| 55 and over ..... | 2%  |

## 7. LEVEL OF EDUCATION COMPLETED

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| High School .....   | 7%  |
| Some College .....  | 18% |
| College .....       | 35% |
| Post Graduate ..... | 40% |

## 8. NUMBER OF YEARS YOU HAVE PLAYED RACQUETBALL

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Less than 1 year .....      | 10% |
| Between 1 and 2 years ..... | 23% |
| Between 2 and 5 years ..... | 42% |
| Over 5 years .....          | 25% |

## 9. HOW OFTEN DO YOU PLAY PER YEAR

|                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| 50 or fewer times ..... | 13% |
| 51 to 100 times .....   | 21% |
| 101 to 150 times .....  | 23% |
| 151 to 200 times .....  | 20% |
| 201 or more times ..... | 22% |

## 10. WHERE DO YOU PLAY

|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Membership Club .....         | 37% |
| YMCA or YWCA .....            | 26% |
| Jewish Community Center ..... | 4%  |
| Public Courts .....           | 7%  |
| College or University .....   | 17% |
| Military Facility .....       | 8%  |

## 11. YEARLY AMOUNT OR DUES SPENT ON COURT TIME

|                   |     |
|-------------------|-----|
| Under \$100 ..... | 43% |
| \$100-\$200 ..... | 26% |
| \$201-\$300 ..... | 16% |
| Over \$300 .....  | 16% |

## 12. OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS THAT PLAY

|                   |     |
|-------------------|-----|
| Spouse .....      | 22% |
| Son(s) .....      | 17% |
| Daughter(s) ..... | 7%  |
| None .....        | 54% |

## 13. DO YOU PLAY MORE

|                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| Singles .....        | 54% |
| Doubles .....        | 7%  |
| About the same ..... | 40% |

## 14. RACQUETBALL WAS INTRODUCED TO YOU THROUGH

|                                         |     |
|-----------------------------------------|-----|
| Group Lessons .....                     | 3%  |
| Private Lessons .....                   | 1%  |
| Clinic Approach .....                   | 1%  |
| Instructions from a friend .....        | 37% |
| Self-teaching and watching others ..... | 57% |





# TOURNAMENTS



Janet Simon (at right) serves her way toward the Women's Consolation slot in this match with Raitty Boulette in the Massachusetts Championships.

## MASS. STATE CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS

Competition was keen, upsets numerous, and participation high in the 1977 edition of the Massachusetts State Closed Racquetball Championships. Stage for the event (in January) was the Springfield YMCA.

One hundred 43 players took part in eight separate events.

The first to fall victim of the many upsets during the three days of competition was the number one seed in the open event SSG Danny Giordano. He lost in three games 10-15, 15-13, 15-3 to Fred Lesperence in the round of eight. The three other upsets also took place in that round with the much improved Frank Harney winning in three games 12-15, 17-15, 15-13 over tournament director Don Houghton. The number two seed, Steve Bedard lost in two games to fellow Fitchburgite Dave Wollinski. Last years state "B" champ, Benard Nylic, beat Bob Kelliher also in three games 12-15, 15-7, 15-12.

Lesperence beat Harney in two, and Wollinski went the limit with Nylic to set the stage for the open finals. Fred Lesperence, playing out

of the Shewsbury Squash and Tennis Club, where he is the racquetball pro, combined percentage racquetball with superior physical conditioning and aggressiveness in beating Dave Wollinski in two games 15-11, 15-8 to become the third different state open champ in as many years.

Jim Anderson, Springfield College, defeated Kevin Corrigan, Boston YMCA, in the open consolations.

The "B" event consisted of twenty-eight highly improved players. The semi-finals had John Learson against Ron Eklom and Harry Burgess playing Steve Willis. Learson ran out of gas and lost in two games 15-13, 15-1.

Burgess extended Willis to three games but lost 12-15, 15-5, 15-10. Eklom had too much tournament experience for the much younger and faster Willis and won 13-15, 15-5, 15-11. Burgess beat Learson for third place and the consolations was won by Al Gladu.

Colgate U. student Steve Gallagher beat Springfield's Saul Wroclanski 15-10, 15-11 to win the "C" event. Paul Basile beat Ray Johnson for third place. Future club owner, Robert Solvan won the consolations for the second straight year.

Dr. Robert Goldberg, Fitchburg YMCA, one of two repeat winners from last year, continued his dominance of the Golden Masters event with a two game victory over Chet Robbins of Worcester YMCA. Harris Bond beat S. Hill 15-4, 15-7 for third place. Elmer Homan defeated Harry Emerson in the consolations.

A five-man field made up the juniors event with the very strong Gerry Cassiday, Brockton YMCA and the easy winner. A young fifteen year old, Phil Fisher, Newton YMCA, was second and is someone

Massachusetts winners: (L. to R.) Open Champ Fred Lesperence; tournament director Don Houghton; Dave Wulanski, second place, Open; and Carol Mason, Women's Consolation runner-up.





to watch in the future. Third place went to S. Daggett.

The semifinals of the seniors event had the top four seeds playing against each other. Number two seed, Howard Coleman, Worchester YMCA beat Leo Fonseca 17-15, 17-15 in the best match of the tournament. Coleman was down 14-4 in the second game and won 17-15 on some of the best racquetball ever played. Number one seed Major Pete Crummey, defeated Jim Laraia 15-11, 15-12. Major Crummey won the third game against Coleman by running the last eight points while Coleman was serving for the match. This is Crummey's second straight state seniors title. Robert Narey defeated John Hill 15-7, 15-3 in the consolations.

Mike Sullivan, Worchester YMCA, defeated Danny Rodriguez in three games 15-6, 5-15, 15-6 for his first masters title. Sam Garafalo won by forfeit over the injured Leo Woodcomb. John Leopore defeated the hustling Rus Kelly for the consolation title.

A greatly improved field of women made for some of the best played racquetball during the tournament. Cindy Callahan, sister of last year's winner Martha Callahan won the women's title over Alice Jacob, 15-6, 15-13. Diane Tisdale beat Katherine Valinze in three games for third place. Janet Simon beat Carol Mason in the women's consolations.

The ladies asked for and will receive free womens clinics during the next six months throughout the state.

Next year the state singles and doubles tournament will be held in one of the seven new private racquetball facilities being constructed in the state of Massachusetts.

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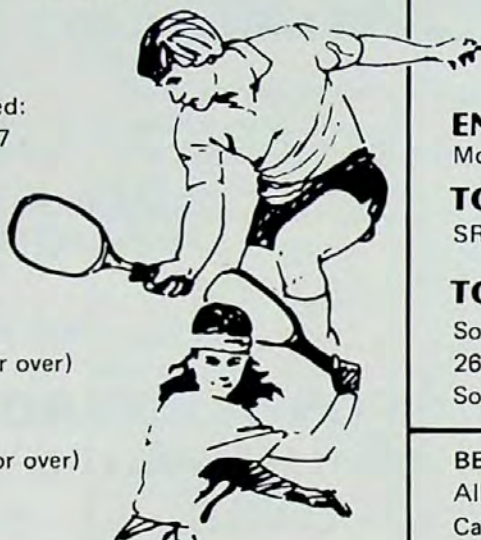
# NINTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

MAY 28-31, 1977  
(SATURDAY-TUESDAY)  
SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN

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RACQUETIME  
CENTER

Please enter me in the event checked:  
Age \_\_\_\_\_ as of May 28, 1977

- ( ) Men's Open Singles  
( ) Men's B Singles  
( ) Junior Singles (18 or under)  
( ) Senior Singles (35 or over)  
( ) Masters Singles (45 or over)  
( ) Golden Masters Singles (55 or over)  
( ) Women's Open Singles  
( ) Women's B Singles  
( ) Women's Senior Singles (35 or over)  
( ) Women's Doubles



Name of Partner \_\_\_\_\_

Contestant must show, or obtain, current IRA Membership Card

## ENTRY FEES

\$20 Amateur Events: Players may enter more than one event. Scheduling will be tight and a minimum of only one hour may be allowed between matches.  
(\$10 Entry Fee for second event)

## ENTRY DEADLINE

Monday, May 23, 1977

## TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

SRC Staff 313-358-2040

## TOURNAMENT SITE

Southfield Racquettime Center  
26400 W. 12 Mile Rd.  
Southfield, Mi. 48076



## BE READY TO PLAY

All Singles - 8:00 a.m., Saturday, May 28, 1977  
Call the SRC after May 26 for starting times

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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Mike Zeitman - 901-320-4209

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Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated time of arrival \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the International Racquetball Association, its affiliated clubs and their respective agents, representatives, successors and assigns for any and all injuries.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_





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International Singles  
Championships**

**Entry Blank  
on Page 42.**





# TOURNAMENTS



Woodson winners: top row (L. to R.), Larry Nutting, tournament committee; Bill Harper, second place in the Singles Division; Curley Hanson, second consolation; Jim Wirkus, second in Doubles; and Jerry Hoff, tournament director. Bottom row (L. to R.) Ken Frank, first consolation and second Doubles; Joe Wirkus, first in Singles and first in Doubles; and Tom Wirkus, third in Singles and first in Doubles.

## WOODSON YMCA — WAUSAU CHEMICAL

All seeds measured up to expectation as Joe Wirkus (#1 seed) took the championship of the 7th Annual Woodson YMCA-Wausau Chemical Tournament, Wisconsin's longest running racquetball event.

Wirkus, of Madison, beat Bill Harper of Eau Claire, 21-11, 21-19 to take the top honors. That score does not tell the story of Wirkus being down 18-6 at one point in the second game. He bore down, allowing Harper only one additional point and beat him in the final tally.

Wirkus had earlier beat Bob Schulz 21-8, 21-13, Brad Armstrong, 21-11, 21-10, and Galen Johnson, 21-19, 16-21, 11-5.

Wirkus (Joe) teamed with Wirkus (brother Tom of Ford du Lac) to win the doubles championship over Ken Frank and Jim Wirkus with scores of 21-15, 17-21, 11-10. The champs reached the finals with a 31-23 win over Jon Dirkson and Scott Schultz, and a 21-17 defeat of Bill and Bob Schultz.



# RACQUETBALL SURVEY

This month Racquetball magazine continues its surveys on the association and its services to its members. This survey, our second questionnaire deals with the magazine.

Check or fill in the appropriate answers to each question. There are no right or wrong answers.

Mail this form to:

**Racquetball Questionnaire #2**  
**International Racquetball Association**  
**Office of the President**  
**2714 Union Ave.**  
**P.O. Box 500**  
**Memphis, Tennessee 38112**

Results will be published in a future issue. If extra space is needed attach a separate sheet to the questionnaire.

1. How do you rate the magazine overall? ☐ GOOD ☐ FAIR ☐ POOR
2. How do you rate our magazine against other racquetball publications? ☐ BETTER ☐ WORSE ☐ ABOUT THE SAME
3. Would you like to see more articles on the personal lives of the Professional players? ☐ YES ☐ NO
4. Would you like articles on court strategy? ☐ YES ☐ NO
5. Does the magazine have enough editorial articles? ☐ TOO MANY ☐ TOO FEW ☐ JUST ENOUGH
6. Would you like more articles on Refereeing? ☐ YES ☐ NO
7. Would you like to see articles on racquetball equipment and supplies? ☐ YES ☐ NO
8. Would you like to see more articles devoted to Juniors players? ☐ TOO MANY ☐ TOO FEW ☐ ABOUT RIGHT
9. Would you like to see more articles devoted to Women in racquetball? ☐ TOO MANY ☐ TOO FEW ☐ ABOUT RIGHT
10. Would you like to see more attention given to Inter-collegiate racquetball activities? ☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ NOT IMPORTANT
11. Would you like to see more articles on how to run a profitable racquetball tournament? ☐ YES ☐ NO
12. Would you like to see articles on constructing racquetball court clubs? ☐ YES ☐ NO
13. Would you like to see articles on how to operate and manage a court club efficiently? ☐ YES ☐ NO
14. Would you like to see more letters to the Editors? ☐ TOO MANY ☐ TOO FEW ☐ JUST ENOUGH
15. Would you like to see more articles on Professional racquetball events? ☐ TOO MANY ☐ TOO FEW ☐ JUST ENOUGH
16. Would you like to see more articles on Amateur racquetball events? ☐ TOO MANY ☐ TOO FEW ☐ JUST ENOUGH
17. Does our magazine have enough photos? ☐ TOO MANY ☐ TOO FEW ☐ JUST ENOUGH
18. What is your opinion of the magazine photographic reproduction quality? ☐ GOOD ☐ FAIR ☐ POOR
19. Does our magazine have enough color? ☐ TOO MUCH ☐ TOO LITTLE ☐ JUST ENOUGH
20. How do you feel about the size of the magazine? ☐ TOO LARGE ☐ TOO SMALL ☐ ABOUT RIGHT
21. Would you like to see a regular article by a physician dealing with racquetball injuries, fitness and nutrition? ☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ NOT IMPORTANT
22. What is your opinion of the new IRA's official ball, the Seamco 444?  
☐ NOT AVAILABLE LOCALLY  
☐ HAVE NOT TRIED IT  
☐ HAVE TRIED IT:  
A. ☐ TOO LIVELY  
B. ☐ TOO DEAD  
C. ☐ OUT-OF-ROUND  
D. ☐ CONSISTENT  
E. ☐ NOT CONSISTENT  
F. ☐ MUSHY  
G. ☐ TOO HARD  
H. ☐ BALL LIFE  
☐ TOO LONG  
☐ TOO SHORT  
☐ ABOUT RIGHT  
I. ☐ TOO LIGHT  
J. ☐ TOO HEAVY
23. Would prefer a different color ball, specifically? \_\_\_\_\_  

(please specify here)
24. Other comments: \_\_\_\_\_
25. What is your age? \_\_\_\_\_
26. What is your sex? \_\_\_\_\_
27. What is your marital status? \_\_\_\_\_
28. What is your occupation? \_\_\_\_\_
29. What is your highest level of education? \_\_\_\_\_
30. Indicate name of state and school if presently enrolled in a university.  
State \_\_\_\_\_  
School \_\_\_\_\_



# TOURNAMENTS



Mens A Singles. (L. to R.) John Scott, David Peck, Myron Roderick, Jerry Linton, Kent Taylor.

## 6th ANNUAL COWBOY OPEN

Myron Roderick continues to reign as "King of Racquetball" in Stillwater after a hard-fought win in the Sixth Annual Cowboy Open Tournament (January 7-9). The tournament was held in the Colvin Center, on the campus of Oklahoma State University.

A winter storm which struck earlier in the week failed to dampen the spirits of more than 190 entrants who took part in 319 matches that were played during the three day event. Nine singles brackets (three of them with a full 32-person complement) were played this year — A, B, C, D, Women A, Women B, Women C, Seniors and Masters, along with four doubles brackets, A, B, Women's A, and 40 and over.

Roderick whose name has been among the winners for a number of years, found more pressure in getting to the top this time around. Jerry Myers extended Roderick to three games and played tremendous ball, but succumbed to Roderick, 17-15, 15-17, 15-11, in the first round match. David Peck forced Roderick into three games in the semis, with scores of 11-15, 15-4, 15-6. Roderick took the top honors

with a finals win over Jerry Linton, 15-5, 15-7.

All the rest of the men's singles brackets except masters and seniors, (B, C, & D) were full with 32 men each, and some tired champions emerged from these endurance tests. In B singles, Bob Klass of Stillwater best Scott Merrill of Ft. Worth, Texas 15-13, 11-15, 15-6 in an exhausting finals contest. C singles saw another Stillwater player, Jim Dart come up against Mike Johnson of Sheppards AFB

Mens B Singles. (L. to R.) Jerry Brazil, Jon Seibert, Bob Klass, Skip Merrill, Mike Nugent.

but the visitor took the first place trophy home by winning 15-6, 12-15, 15-3. Marc Sanford finished the near-sweep of the men's singles brackets by Stillwater players by defeating Ron Baker 15-4, 15-3 in their finals match. Masters singles saw Bill Reese come out on top over Bob Tromly 12-15, 15-1, 17-15 in a close finals match. The number one seed in Seniors singles, Jim McPherson went home with a first place trophy after defeating Ray Rudichuk 15-2, 15-9 in their

Mens D Singles. (L. to R.) Wade McPherson, Marc Sanford, Ron Baker.







Womens A Singles. (L. to R.) Marilyn Morton, Marci Greer, Lyn McKie, Jan Wilson.

match-up.

The women's singles was expanded this year to 3 singles brackets (A, B, & C) and one A doubles bracket (new this year) was played. The women's A champion turned out to be Marci Greer of Wichita, Kansas when she bested Lyn McKie (a former Stillwaterite) 11-15, 15-13, 15-5. The women's B singles champ was Faith Ragow. She gained the title when Carol Stacy suffered a broken nose during their finals match. Dion Goodman

Senior Singles. (L. to R.) Bill Parodi, Vic Dyck, Jim McPherson, Roy Rudichuck, V. Z. Lawton.



captured the women's C singles championship when she defeated Rosanna Copeland 15-10, 8-15, 15-7.

Myron Roderick and Kent Taylor teamed up to win the Open Doubles title, defeating David Peck and Skip Merrill, 15-0, 6-15, 15-4. Two Stillwater teams were in the finals of the B Doubles, with Jerry Brusewitz and Milton Rhoades beat Jim Dart and Malcolm Phelps, 15-6, 15-11. Women's Open Doubles saw Lyn McKie and Faith Ragow do battle



Womens Open Doubles. (L. to R.) L. D. Harbour, Marci Greer, Lyn McKie, Faith Ragow, Mary Frye, Jane Wilson.

against L. D. Harbour and Marci Greer. It was a thriller with Harbour and Greer taking the match, 16-15, 7-15, 15-12.

40 and Over Doubles. (L. to R.) Roger Keoppe, Ed Grula, Dave Hessel, John Jobe, V. Z. Lawton, Joe Dorrough, Bob Tromly, Ray Hamby.





# CLUBS

## 2nd ANNUAL NCCA MEETING PROVED SUCCESSFUL

Second annual National Court Clubs Association owners/operators meeting was held at the North Shore Hilton Hotel in Skokie, IL, Feb. 4-6. More than 45 clubs were represented at the three-day confab, culminating with election of a new board of directors.

Selected to the board were: Patrick McPharlin, Racquettime Court Clubs of Livonia and Southfield, Mich.; John Wineman, Court House operations in Chicagoland; James R. Bonner, Evanston, Ill., Court Club; Art Swanson, Court Clubs of Farmington, Mich.; Jerry Sandstrom, Atlas Health Club, San Diego; Carl Porter Jr., Tuscon Athletic Club; Major General Robert Bohn, Courts Royal of Washington, D.C. area; Norman Padgett, Racquet Time of Lexington, Ky.; Charles Hubbard, Court Club, Burlington, VT.

Presentations were made by Dr. Clay Hamner, Boston University,

who has been active in the indoor tennis field conducting crash courses in management. He outlined the dangers of over-saturation in some areas with handball/racquetball court clubs such as happened in bowling and indoor tennis.

"Up to a certain point the return on the investment is solid, but in some cases clusters of clubs have resulted in a fall off in court occupancy leading to financial difficulties."

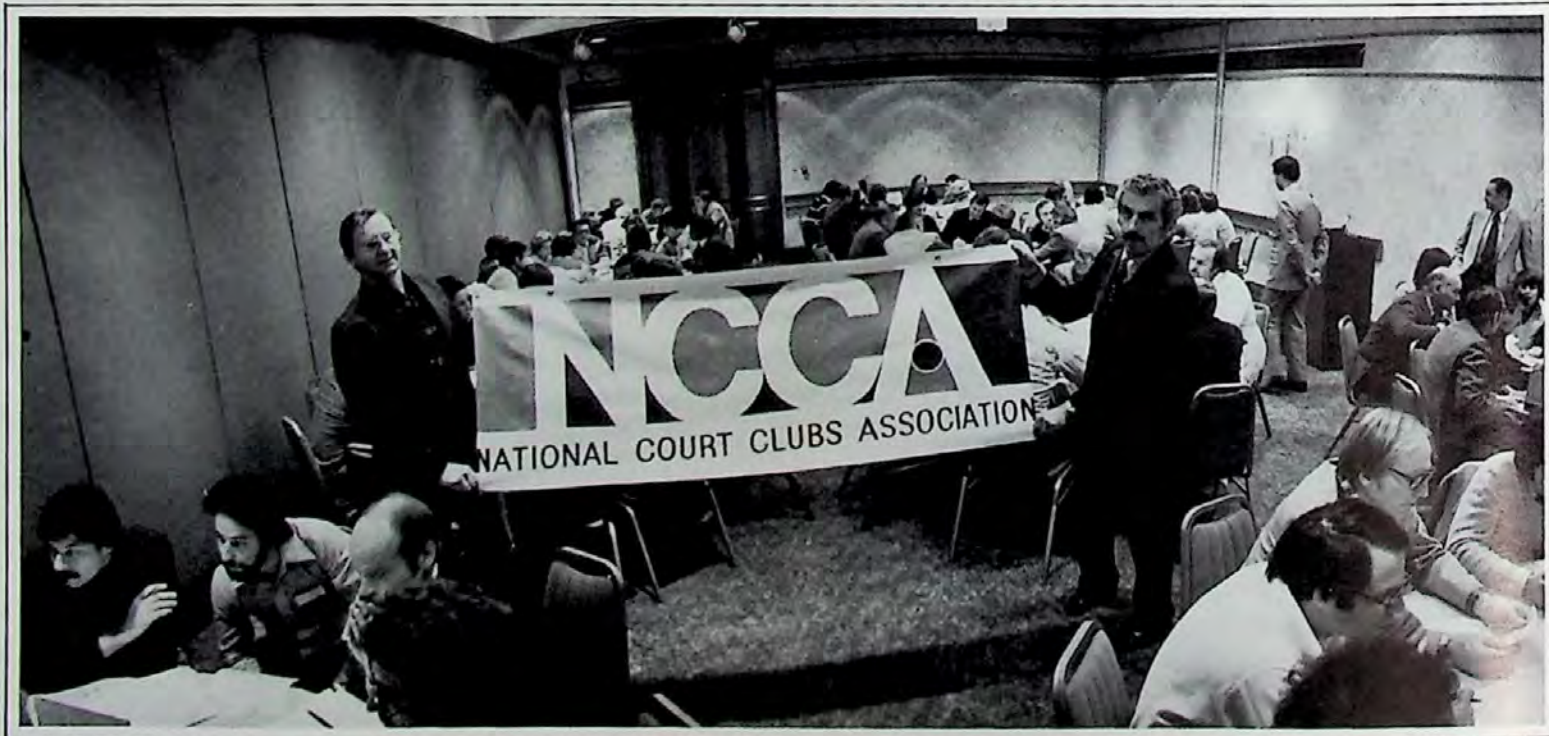
Public Relations counselor Bob Berman talked of various promotions being carried out by Chicago area court clubs, and a move toward combined advertising and promotional programs by the local association.

Round table discussions proved successful, covering court club operation subjects that included front desk operations, public relations, tournaments, construction and maintenance, legal and financing, insurance, pro shop, and taxes.

Fourteen one-day regional seminars have been scheduled this year

to better acquaint would-be court club owners/operators with all aspects of the business. The first was held Feb. 12 in Houston, followed by Philadelphia, March 5, and San Francisco, March 19.

Dan Callahan, Bellingham, Wash., (L.) is involved with a novel type combination Shakey's Pizza — two court facility in his city which has proved most successful. Mort Leve, NCCA executive director and court club consultant, helps hold new organization logo banner during owner/operators round table discussion at annual meeting.





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# TOURNAMENTS

## LOUISIANA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Judge Jerry Winsberg, of New Orleans, retained his A Open Singles title in the 1976 Louisiana State Racquetball Championships, staged in December at the Jefferson Court Club in Metairie.

Judge Winsberg downed Cliff Zeairs of Chalmette in a close, well-played match, 7-21, 21-12, 11-8, to keep his honors. Winsberg was down 6-8 in the tiebreaker before coming back to outshoot his younger opponent.

Winsberg teamed with Peter Michel, to edge past Jim Scheyer and Zeairs, 21-19, 21-20, to take the Doubles title. The winners had no easy time of it, having to override a 19-20 deficit to capture the match.

In the Novice Singles, Bill Gil-laine, of Metairie, defeated Bill

Louisiana participants: (L. to R.) Judge Jerome Winsberg, Open Singles and Doubles Champ; Renee Hebert, Women's Open runner-up; Peter Michel, Open Doubles champion; Cliff Zeairs, runner-up in Open Singles and Open Doubles; Darleen Knouse, third in Women's Open; and Jim Scheyer, runner-up in the Open Doubles and third in Open Singles.



Louisiana winners: (L. to R.) Cliff Zeairs, Open Singles and Doubles runnerup; Judge Jerome Winsberg, Open Singles and Doubles Champion; Mike Williams, tournament director.



Resseguet, of Metairie, 21-16, 21-10 for top honors.

Rick Chiquelin of Baton Rouge beat Louis Ogier of Metairie, 21-15, 21-16 to take the Class C Singles.

Bill Holiday, of Baton Rouge was winner in the Class B Singles, with a 21-9, 21-15 win over Guy Faget of Baton Rouge.

Lou Bravo, who hails from New Orleans defeated Milton Rebennack of Metairie, 21-13, 21-15 to win the Senior Singles title.

Janise Schenthal of New Orleans required three games to defeat Renee Hebert of Metairie for the Ladies Open title. She took the match in scores of 7-21, 21-20, 11-8.





Wheeling Winners: (L. to R.) Kevin Becker, second place A Singles; Gilbert Krovocheck, first place A Singles; and Dave Furda, third place A Singles.



(L. to R.) Don Cameron, first place B Singles; Kevin Becker, tournament director; Randy Shepherd, second place B Singles.

## WHEELING TOURNNEY TERMED "ONE HECK OF A. . ." By Kevin Becker

"One heck of a tournament" best describes the 4th Annual Wheeling Open (in early December) which saw Gilbert Krovocheck take first place honors. It was the second largest tournament ever played in West Virginia.

Fifty-four entries from three states competed in four divisions, a marked increase over the 16 participants of the previous year. What made the tournament even more remarkable was that it was played at Wheeling's YMCA on a single court.

Krovocheck defeated Kevin Becker for A Singles title with scores of 21-7, 21-13. Krovocheck was ahead throughout most of the match, and used excellent shooting to stay on top. Dave Furda downed

Bill Casto, 21-12, 21-14 to take third place.

The semi-finals saw Becker winning over Furda, 21-10, 21-12. Furda never seemed to find the groove and Becker was rolling out everything he shot. In the other semi-final match, Krovocheck had a rough time getting past Casto. Krovocheck won the first game, 21-15, but Casto fought back in the second game 21-19. With games tied at one each, the stage was set for the tie-breaker of the finals of the A Division. After being down 5-0, Krovocheck came back to cap an 11-5 win.

Don Cameron coasted to an easy victory in the finals of the B Singles, defeating Randy Shepherd 21-10, 21-7. Cameron played great ball offensively and never let Shepherd get started. Larry McClelland beat Paul Vargo, 21-11, 21-17, in a

hard-fought match for third place.

Cameron had an easy time getting past McClelland in the semis. Scores were 21-1, 21-2. In the other semi-final match, Shepherd had a hard-fought battle in defeating Vargo, but ended up on top 21-13, 21-19.

The C Singles Division saw eight entrants vie for first place honors with Gary Fonner coming out on top. Fonner defeated Greg Vucelik in the finals 21-12, 21-11. In the semis, Fonner downed John Greve 21-6, 21-20, while Vucelik had a forfeit from Al Kadar who suffered a foot injury.

Six women competed in a double elimination Women's Division with state champion Carol Wojcik taking first place. Wojcik defeated Linda Jursa in the finals 21-1, 21-1. Michele Burke took third place honors.



# TOURNAMENTS



Winners of the First Annual Naugatuck Valley Open — (L. to R.) Don Rogers, Men's Class B Division; Attorney Don Rinaldi, Senior Division; Sally Jensen, Women's Class B Division; and Yogi Adler, Men's Class A Division. Not shown is Bunny Marinko, winner in the Women's Novice Division.

## NAUGATUCK VALLEY OPEN

Nearly 500 fans and 50 entries converged on Waterbury, Connecticut, in January for the first annual Naugatuck Valley Open Racquetball Championships, hosted by the Western Connecticut Jewish Community Center.

The two-day event staged on the Center's twin courts saw Yogi Adler take top honors in the Men's Class A division. Adler beat out John Learson, 21-14, 21-17 to take the championship. Adler drew a bye in the

quarter-finals, and beat out Howie Packer, 21-15, 21-19, to move into the finals.

Attorney Don Rinaldi took the Senior Division Championship, with a 21-13, 19-21, 11-5 win over Harvey Adler. Rinaldi worked his way to the finals with a 21-15, 21-11 defeat of Buck Jenks in the semi-finals. He drew a bye in the quarter-finals.

Bunny Marinko won the Women's Novice Division, with a 21-6, 21-9 rout of Lisa Packer, while Sally Jensen downed Judy Mirrer for the Women's Class B title, with scores of 21-11, 21-11.

Don Rogers moved into the Men's Class B title spot with the defeat of Cantor Sam Waidenbaum. It took him three games, 21-13, 15-21, 11-6.

The championships were sanctioned by the IRA and coordinated by the Connecticut IRA Chairman Phil Panarella.





Bob McNamara (L.) and winner Bud Muehleisen (R.)

### MUEHLEISEN WINS MINNEAPOLIS MASTERS

Dr. Bud Muehleisen performed dental surgery on "Grand Slammer" Bob McNamara as he won the Masters National Singles Invitational Racquetball Tournament at the Court House in Minneapolis January 30th.

The difference in score between the two players was 5 points — but the difference in style of play pitted left handed Bud against right handed-two-handed back-hand Bob. During the match the quick short strokes, superb physical condition, fast moving, corner shooting McNamara made five errors but Muehleisen played flawlessly with his slight of hand serves changing the height, speed and direction of the ball with precision and purpose, keeping Mac off balance and giving Bud some easy shots on serve returns.

Mac's great ability to adjust his game style to beat his opponent and his great physical condition should make future matches dead even.

The Round Robin play of the Tournament gave each player 10 matches before they met in the finals. Those matches were against

some of the best masters players in the Country but both Mac & Bud kept the Munsingwear Penguin on their shorts dry as they were in a class all their own.

In 10 matches Mac allowed his opponent 76 points and Bud 31 points while scoring a perfect 240 each.

The Tournament had a total of thirty players — from the Midwest Bob McNamara was the "big horse" but Glenn Melvey from Fargo, N.D. placed twelfth, Ivan Bruner from Madison, Wis. thirteenth, Wendell Ottum, the converted tennis buff from Minneapolis, fifteenth, and Ralph Stillman, from Minneapolis 20th, Max Fallek from Minneapolis 21st, Amos Rosenbloom from Minneapolis 22nd and John Brandrup, Rochester, 26th.

It is a strange bird that goes North for the winter, but six out of the thirty players came from the South. Dr. Gordon Ira flew his own plane through blowing snow and instrument conditions from Jacksonville, Florida. He promised to host the tournament in '78. Al Rossi from San Francisco is obviously a better player than the 16th position in the Tournament, but it took him 3 matches to warm-up. Al's outfits were the most colorful of the Tournament.

Bud Muehleisen from La Mesa, Calif. had his anti-freeze in from the start — as did Don Detjen, Ashland, Ky., Ray DePue, Knoxville, Tenn. and Bill Tanner, Memphis, Tenn.

To qualify for this Tournament, players had to be 45 or older and to have placed in a state or regional tournament. Forty-two qualifying entrees were received. Sixteen states were represented in the Tournament. Thanks to the many who helped. This Invitational will rank among the best.



# CLUBS

## THE CENTER COURTS ANNOUNCES NEW CALIFORNIA FACILITY

The Center Courts announces its 12-court racquetball/handball club in Van Nuys, California, is now under construction with completion targeted for May-June, 1977. This club, with the existing 11-court facility in West Los Angeles, will increase to 23 the number of courts available to Center Court members.

In four of the 12 new courts, players will be viewed from the lobby area through glass-backed windows. A mezzanine will overlook all 12 courts as well as an outdoor co-ed jacuzzi in a garden setting. Fully equipped locker rooms with saunas, a nursery, backgammon tables and color TV will also be available to members. Beer, soft drinks, juices and snacks will be served.

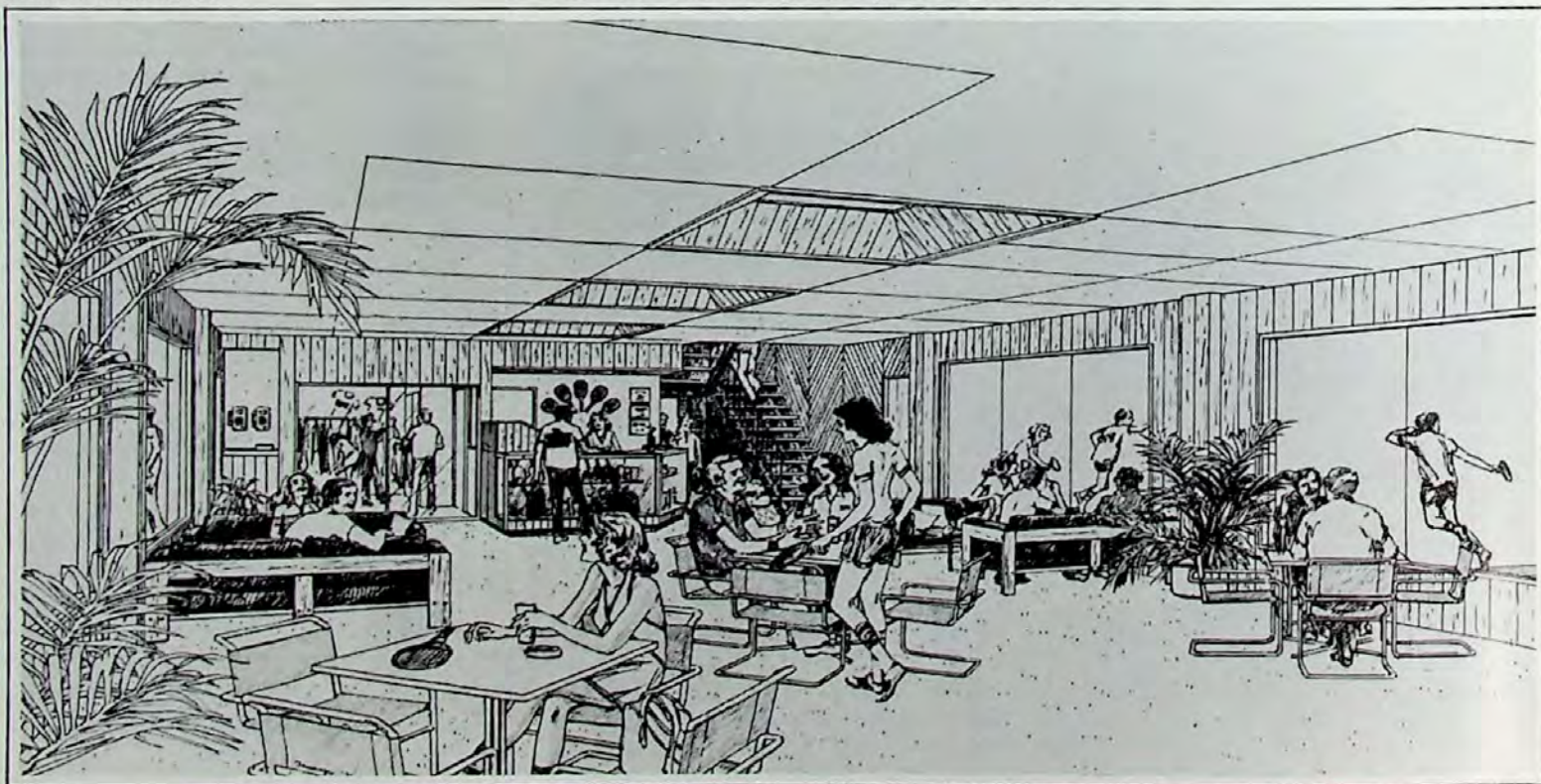
Annual membership fees are \$36 for an individual, \$48 for a family and are reduced quarterly on a pro

rata basis. Members may play at either Center Courts location. Hourly court time ranges from \$1.50 to \$3.00 per person depending upon time of day played and use of discount cards. In addition, a special \$60, three month unlimited play card will be available for non-prime time play. Up to half of the courts may be reserved by members on a permanent time basis.

The Van Nuys location is located one block east of the San Diego Freeway on Orion (one block south of Roscoe exit).

The West Los Angeles facility, which opened in April 1975, is located one block east of the Bundy exit and one block north of Olympic at 11866 La Grange Avenue.

Artist rendering of The Center Courts new Van Nuys, California facility now under construction.







(L. to R.) Dale Eckert, Construction Manager; Randi Moskowitz, Membership Sales; Bill Fearing, General Manager.

### CALIFORNIA'S NEW FOUNTAIN VALLEY FACILITY

Work is underway on the new 75,000 square foot Racquetball World and Health Club of Fountain

Valley (California), located at Brookhurst and Talbert Avenues, next to the San Diego Freeway. Ground was broken for the new three million dollar facility in December, and completion is scheduled in June. When completed it will reportedly be the largest private and public racquetball facility in California.

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| May 21—Memphis         | Oct. 29—Phoenix    |
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All contributions must contain the name and address of the contributor and the date the contribution is made. Articles must be typewritten and double-spaced. All copy is subject to revision, alteration, correction or rejection by the editor.

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**ENTRY DEADLINE:** Postmarked 25 May 1977. You will be notified by postcard as to time of play. Play will start on 9 June 1977.

**TOURNAMENT SITE:** West Point Gym (ten courts — two glass walled)

**BE READY TO PLAY:** As per postcard, be ready one hour early.

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**OFFICIAL RULES:** International Racquetball Association

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**CONSOLATIONS:** All divisions open to losers of first match actually played

**TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR:** Major Peter F. Crummey, 84 C Walnut St., Ft. Devens, MA 01433. Home phone 617-772-4354, Office Autovon 256-3132. Has authority to make changes in best interest of tournament.

**REGISTRATION POINT:** West Point Gym — Phone 914-938-2233 or Autovon 688-2233

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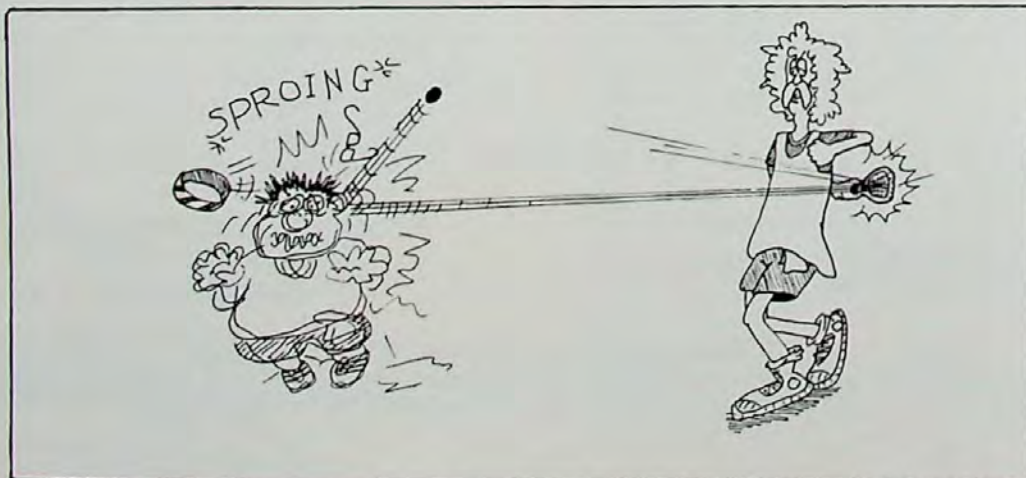
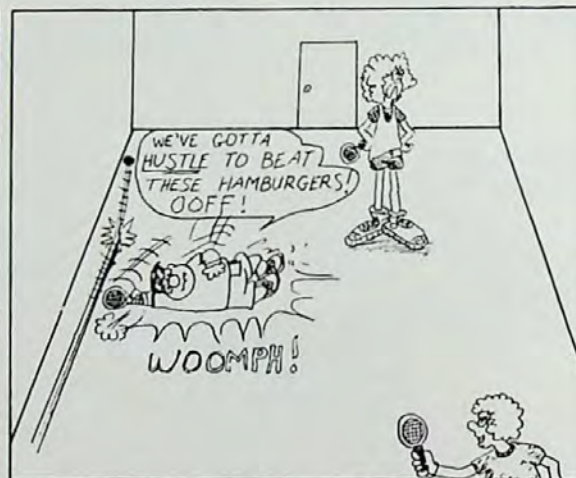


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# SCOREBOARD

## Dillon, Montana January 21-22-23, 1977 Western Montana College 2nd Annual Open Singles Racquetball Tournament

### CLASS C

**Quarterfinals:** Melinda Douglas def. Dan O'Fallon, 21-7, 21-7; Clint Rouse, def. Tim Anderson, 21-17, 21-17; Mark Davis def. Bud Douglas, 21-11, 21-12; Steve Bull def. JanDee May, 18-21, 21-14, 21-2.

**Semifinals:** Bull def. Davis, 21-14, 21-5; Douglas def. Rouse, 21-17, 21-7.

**Finals:** Douglas def. Bull, 21-6, 21-16.

### CLASS B

**Quarterfinals:** Joe Chandler def. Dennis Fisher, 21-5, 21-20; Gary Hagler def. Ron Wirtz, 21-10, 21-13; Ron Shipley def. Dave St. Pierre, 21-13, 21-15; Leonard Bell def. Pete Waylett, 21-3, 21-8.

**Semifinals:** Shipley def. Bell, 9-21, 21-20, 21-9; Chandler def. Hagler, 21-19, 7-21, 21-4.

**Finals:** Shipley def. Chandler, 21-20, 21-15.

### CLASS A

Round-robin.

**First** — Jim Farrell; **Second** — Ted Bell; **Third** — Dennis Doherty; **Fourth** — Danny Green; **Fifth** — John McCarvel; **Sixth** — Tom Hoff; **Seventh** — Kelly Flynn; **Eighth** — Steve Dahlstrom; **Ninth** — Dirk Burgard.

## Tulsa, Oklahoma January 28-29-30, 1977 Thornton YMCA 2nd Annual Racquetball Tournament

### WOMEN A

Round-robin.

**First** — Audrey Thixton; **Second** — Judy Rushton; **Third** — Donna Wilson; **Fourth** — Nell Farris.

### WOMEN B

**Semifinals:** Jean Wills def. Louise Gonsolin, 8-15, 16-14, 16-14; Margaret McCurdy def. Mary Beth Treat, 15-10, 15-2.

**Finals:** McCurdy def. Wills, 15-12, 15-3.

### WOMEN C

**Semifinals:** Ruth Wright def. Judith Wells, 15-0, 15-8; Carol Bernheimer def. Jan Evans, 15-2, 15-6.

**Finals:** Wright def. Bernheimer, 15-9, 15-12.

### WOMEN D

**Semifinals:** Mariellen Montgomery def. Margaret Martin, 15-11, 15-4; Kitty Dvorak def. Donna Kuykendall, 16-14, 15-7.

**Finals:** Montgomery def. Dvorak, 15-11, 15-4.

### SENIOR DIVISION

**Semifinals:** Roy Rudichuk def. Ron Seckringer, 15-11, 15-8; Bill Sturdevant def. Ron Harvey, 15-9, 15-10.

**Finals:** Sturdevant def. Rudichuk, 17-15, 14-16, 15-9.

### MASTER DIVISION

**Semifinals:** Ray Crowley def. Bob Wills, 15-6, 15-9; Lorne Dexter def. Jack Kauth, 9-15, 15-2, 15-3.

**Finals:** Crowley def. Dexter, 15-3, 8-15, 15-7.

### MEN A

**Semifinals:** Kent Taylor def. John Scott, 15-7, 15-10; Roland Treat def. Jim Benien, 6-15, 15-3, 15-9.

**Finals:** Treat def. Taylor, 6-15, 15-5, 15-9.

### MEN B

**Semifinals:** Ben Faulkner def. Robert Chessmore, 15-3; 15-5; Frank Rhoades def. James Roberts, 15-4, 15-4.

**Finals:** Faulkner def. Thoades, 15-4, 15-4.

### MEN C

**Semifinals:** Charles Tefertiller def. Sid Shupack, 15-10, 15-4; Tom Montgomery def. Ron Lindsey, 15-2, 15-7.

**Finals:** Tefertiller def. Montgomery, 15-7, 15-6.

### MEN D

**Semifinals:** Ken Groves def. Jack Cochran, 15-4, 15-8; Ken Whittington def. Gary Young, 15-12, 15-5.

**Finals:** Groves def. Whittington, 15-2, 15-2.



# CALENDAR

## APRIL 1977

**Tom Young 1st Annual Pro-Am, Albuquerque, has been rescheduled at a later date.**

**1-3 BLACKSBURG, VA.** — Virginia State Open, Virginia Tech U.

**1-3 MISSION VIEJO, CALIF.** — California Open, Mission Viejo.

**15-17 MARYLAND** — Maryland State Singles. Contact: Fred White.

**APRIL - 1977** — Write for dates. Helix Court House annual Gatorade Tournament. Chuck and Bette Weed, 9617 Campo Rd., Spring Valley, Calif. 92077. Phone: 462-8330 or 447-2338.

**22-24 IRA REGIONALS**

## MAY 1977

**5-7 GRANDVILLE, MI.** — Annual Racquets West Tournament, 2976 Ivanrest Avenue, Grandville, Mi., 49418. All class of play to be held. Contact: Mr. Bill Lamer, (616) 531-5220.

**6-8 OKLAHOMA** — Oklahoma State Open, Thornton Family YMCA. Contact: Roy Rudichuk.

**13-15 SAN ANTONIO** — Alamo Open — RB and HB Club of San Antonio. Contact: Bruce Hendin.

**13-15 KANSAS** — Kansas State Doubles, Hutchison YMCA. Contact: Larry Swank.

**28-31 MICHIGAN** — IRA Singles Championships, Southfield Racquettime Center.

IRA's 9th Annual membership meeting and International competition.

## JUNE 1977

**8-11 WEST POINT, N.Y.** — service racquetball championships,

U.S. Military Academy. Events: O, B, S, M, W, open doubles and consolations. White Major Peter F. Crummey, 84-C Walnut St., Fort Devens, Mass. 01422. Phone (res.) 617-772-4354; (office-autovon) 256-2132.

## JULY 1977

**15-17 TOPEKA** — Topeka YMCA

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# THE MAGNUM

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Extraordinary balance and playing characteristics. Lightweight (270 grams) for maximum maneuverability. Extra length (18½") for increased reach and power. Exclusive patented milled extrusion for better control. Four grip sizes.



# EKTELON

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