

The Racquetball REPORTER

VOL. 2 NO. 1

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RACQUETBALL ASSN. OF MICHIGAN

DECEMBER 1984

HAHN AND LEWERENZ ENTER HALL OF FAME

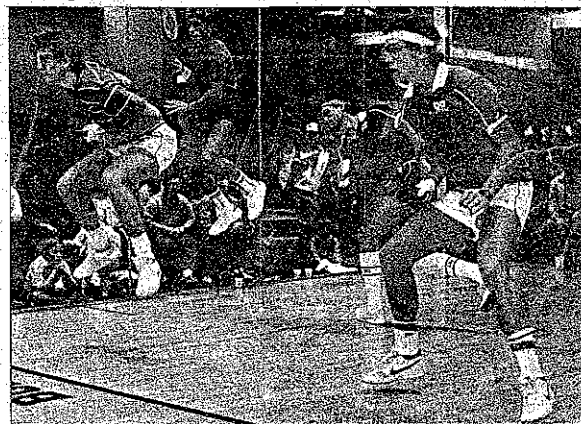
Michigan's first Hall of Fame recipients were inducted during the Bud Light banquet at the Hyatt Regency, Flint, Michigan. Michigan's most prestigious awards were presented in front of more than 400 racquetball enthusiasts including national champions Mike Yellen and Marty Hogan.

Presenting the specially designed plaques to Mr. Hahn and Dr. Lewerenz were professionals Dave and Gregg Peck. Although five individuals were nominated (Joe Finn, Gordon Kelly, Bob Wilhelm) the difficult criteria and excellent accomplishments of the award winners, resulted in their induction.

Mr. Hahn is from Whitehall, Michigan and has been actively involved in racquetball since 1970. His impressive list of more than fifty tournament victories certainly establishes

Lynn as one of Michigan's most accomplished players. After receiving a thunderous standing ovation, Lynn expressed his appreciation to the Michigan racquetball community and stated "This is the greatest honor of my career, and an award which I will always cherish and admire."

Dr. Lewerenz is from Farmington Hills, and was one of Michigan's original racquetball pioneers. In addition to winning numerous tournaments and state titles, Fred has been an active instructor, an agent for former professional Dave Fleetwood and World Champion Mike Yellen and of course one of Michigan's most influential promoters of racquetball. Dr. Lewerenz's great support for Michigan racquetball stems from his sincere desire to assist young players in the quest for racquetball excellence.



Scott Reid (Left) is airborne in National Doubles Final.

SCOTT REID PLACES SECOND AT NATIONAL DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

Scott Reid barely missed spending two weeks in Quito, Ecuador as a representative of the United States Racquetball Team. Paired with Andy Robert, 1983 National Intercollegiate Champion, Reid and Roberts represented Memphis State University at the 1984 National Doubles Championships in Boise, Idaho.

Scott's game has improved remarkably since entering Memphis State earlier this year. Scott attributes his accomplishments to the guidance of coach Larry Iles, and to the continual influence of top players such as Roberts whom he gets to play daily.

Reid and Roberts faced Kelvin Vantrease (Ohio) and Dan Obremski (Penn.) in the finals. With the first two games split, both teams entered the tie-breaker with hopes of victory and

qualifying to compete on the United States team. The tie-breaker went back and forth with Vantrease and Obremski winning, 13-7.

Scott is originally from Grand Rapids and was a member of Michigan's junior team in 1983.

HISER APPOINTED HEAD REFEREE FOR IARF

Jim Hiser of Flint was recently appointed the head referee for the International Amateur Racquet Federation (IARF), the governing body for international racquetball events. Hiser's first job will be to coordinate referees at the World Masters Games, to be held August 13-17, 1985 in Toronto, Ontario. The event, sanctioned by the World Master's Sports Foundation expects to attract 10,000 competitors to the games, which is the equivalent to the Olympics, for athletes 35 years and older.

REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TO BE HELD AT OHIO'S PREMIER FACILITY FEB. 22, 23, 24

The 1984-1985 AARA Adult Regional "Racquetball" Championships will be held at Sawmill Athletic Club, Columbus, Ohio. With thirteen courts, health bar and party house, indoor and outdoor pool, exhibition court with seating for 300, and the reputation of hosting Ohio's largest and best tournaments, this year's regionals expects to be the largest ever.

Columbus is approximately four hours from Detroit. An excellent draw is expected from Michigan since

everyone who intends on playing at the nationals in Houston must qualify by playing (not winning) in their region. Last year twenty-four Michigan players travelled to Texas.

All efforts will be made to give individuals travelling the longest distance, later starting times. Individuals from Ohio, West Virginia, Michigan and Canada will be competing. For more information contact Jim Hiser at 313-239-7575.

MICHIGAN PLAYERS ATTEND U.S.O.T.C.

Michigan was well represented at the Olympic Training Center this past summer, as several racquetball players attended the first ever training camp for racquetball. The first session for open players included Bob Wilhelm, Flint; Aaron Metaj, Ypsilanti; Kathy Frederickson, Wayland; and Tammi Marshall, Flint. The second camp, for juniors, included Chris Cole, Flint; David Larry, Salt River; and Chuck Teets, Dearborn. The final session for age group competitors were attended by Stu Hastings, Clarkston; Larry Cole, Flint; Donna Henry, Novi; and Jeff Hardenbrook, Flint.

Hastings and Teets were selected as the "Most Valuable Player" for their respective sessions, and were presented with a U.S.O.T.C. jacket.

FOR WOMEN ONLY

Touring pro's Molly O'Brien and Marci Lynch will be on hand January 12, 1985 for the First Annual Women's League and Tournament Training Day, at the Riverview Racquet Club in Grand Rapids. This event, for Saturday only, will begin at 9:00 and continue through 4:00. Any level of player may enter, even beginning level players. All participants will receive a lot of instruction from O'Brien & Lynch as well as one of Michigan's top instructors Tom Brownlee. Also included in the program will be aerobic exercise, discussions with sports psychologist Larry Cole and nutritionist Karen Johnson.

This is the first training day of its kind for racquetball! And, remember, for women only. Be sure and mark your calendar and tell your friends. We'll be looking forward to seeing you! If you have any questions call the Riverview Racquet Club at (616) 363-7769.

DAVISON RACQUET CLUB

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LANSING MI 48910

CALENDAR

Dec. 7-9

Mich. Champ. Series #4,
Grand Blanc R.C.

Dec. 14-16

Grand Rapids Patrons Tour #2
Holland

Dec. 21-23

OPEN

Dec. 28-30

OPEN

Jan. 4-6

Super 7 #4
Rose Shores, R.C.

Jan. 11-13

Michigan Championship Series #5
Oakland, R.C.

Jan. 18-20

Lewerenz Classic Invt
Site to be announced

Jan. 25-27

Grand Rapids Patrons Tour #3
Muskegon State Intercollegiate
Championships

Feb. 1-3

Super 7 #5
Racquettime, Southfield

Feb. 8-10

Michigan Championship Series #6
Muskegon

Feb. 15-17

Riverview 1000
Grand Rapids

Feb. 22-24

AARA Regional Championships
Sawmill Creek, Ohio

Mar. 1-3

Mich. Champ. Series #7
Zodiac R. Club

Mar. 8-10

Super Seven #6
Racquetball Plus, Gr. Rapids

Mar. 15-17

Gr. Rapids City Champ City
Residents Only

Cystic Fibrosis Open, Grand Blanc, MI

Mar. 22-24

RAM-AARA State Doubles Champ
Dearborn

Mar. 29-31

Super Seven #7
Court Players, Lansing

April 5-7

EASTER WEEKEND

April 12-14

Nat. AARA Intercollegiate Champ
Memphis, TN

April 19-21

RAM-State Singles Champ
Mt. Clemens R.C.

April 26-28

OPEN

May 3-5

One Last Shot
Grand Rapids

May 10-12

OPEN

May 17-19

Super Seven Finale
Davison R. Club

May 24-26

AARA Nat. Singles Champ
Houston, TX

May 31-June 2

OPEN

June 22-26

DP National Championships
AARA

*If you wish to have your event placed on the calendar contact Lee Frederickson at (616) 672-7734 or (616) 792-9543

GRAND RAPIDS RACQUETBALL PATRONS ASSOCIATION

The Grand Rapids Racquetball Patrons Association, locally known as the "Patrons", was legally established in 1980. The bylaws (copy enclosed) state it is a non-profit organization with a seven person board of directors, four of which will be officers. Their goal is the promotion of racquetball in general, with the focal point being advancement of amateur juniors within the sport. Roy White, a member of the MARA board was the initial driving force. Lee Frederickson, president of the RAM and Larry Nix were also involved from the beginning. This project was modeled after a very successful Tennis Patrons' Association an affiliate of The United States Tennis Association.

From the beginning, the Patrons have been a players' organization. Every effort to add players and parents to the board has been made. They replace owners, managers, and operators who have financial vested interests. Open communication with area clubs is encouraged with equal opportunity and no favoritism showed to any.

During the first year, with Roy White as president, the Patrons held one tournament and one clinic. These projects brought in new members and enough financial assistance to pay legal expenses. Junior teaching clinics and tournament training using volunteers and club time donations were begun, as well as efforts to attract initial entry

players to the sport.

In the second year, with Larry Nix as president, a financial gain was made by providing hospitality to clubs with large tournaments, for a fee. We gained exposure by providing better than average food at a reasonable cost. The Patrons hosted two tournaments that showed a profit and added exposure. As money began accumulating, new goals were being set. New goals included:

1. Encouraging beginning tournament junior players.
2. Provide teaching assistance to non-tournament players.
3. Financial assistance for juniors involved in tournaments, including entry fees, lodging, driving, and teaching.

The patrons experienced a tremendous acceleration in the third year. Players and club operators really began recognizing the achievements of the first two years. The local management group requested that Patrons assume responsibility for The Grand Rapids City Championship Tournament. Patrons continue to make this local tournament the finest in the area. A consecutive weekend doubles championship and expanded juniors divisions at greatly reduced cost, add to the Patrons' accomplishments. A City ranking system was added and Patrons continue to upgrade and monitor it. This was the first year that juniors received financial assistance to the state, regional, and national cham-

pionships.

This year (84), Sandy Wiegierink was elected president, with new board members and more parents volunteering to help. The Patrons funded a team of twenty-eight juniors called Team Grand Rapids to the MRA and the AARA State Championships. Eight of this group qualified for Team Michigan. Patrons paid all entries, travel, and lodging for any applying junior. Plans to financially assist local juniors to the regionals and nationals are set. During the 1984 season \$2500 will be spent on junior racquetball tournament assistance.

The Patrons' future plans relate directly to the RAM and AARA; our philosophies are compatible. The Patrons want affiliation with the RAM as a West Michigan division. A permanent seat on the RAM board for a designated representative of the Patrons would be advantageous to both groups.

Patrons are doing what others are talking about. The story of Patrons could be used as an example in state newsletters and national magazines to show others what local volunteers can do for racquetball in their area.

Next fall will begin a series of four tournaments with more junior emphasis, new sponsors, wider geographic coverage, and more adult divisions. It is hoped that national recognition of the work in Grand Rapids will stimulate local groups to organize for the betterment of racquetball.

RAM AWARDS PRESENTED

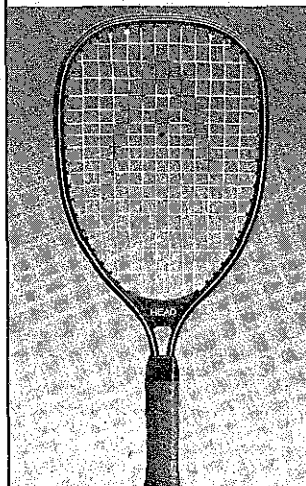
The Racquetball Association of Michigan presented its 1984 "Player of the Year" awards at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Flint. The player awards were voted on by racquetball players at various tournament sites, while the "Contribution of the Year" awards were selected by the RAM Board of Directors.

Chris Cole of Flint was voted as the "Male Player of the Year" based on his steady improvement over the year and consistently high level of play. It was Cathie Frederickson of Wayland who received the "Female Player of the Year." Cathie has been steadily improving this past year since an injury sidelined her for the previous year. Fif-

teen year old Aaron Metaj of Ypsilanti was the recipient of the Mike Yellen \$500 Scholarship Award for "Junior Player of the Year." Metaj recently returned from the U.S. Olympic Training Camp which he qualified for at the AARA Nationals in Houston.

Also, receiving awards for "Contribution of the Year Award" were Stu Hastings of Clarkston and Bob Wilhelm of Flint. Hastings is quickly becoming known as one of the state's premier instructors, while Wilhelm has made himself available to the State Association by assisting in numerous clinics and exhibitions for the development of junior racquetball.

HEAD REDEFINES RACQUETBALL:



The larger Head Vector adds a new dimension to your game. We've enlarged the hitting surface to provide our biggest sweet spot ever, so you'll experience more power and less vibration. And because the Vector is stiffer, more of that power is transferred to the ball instead of absorbed by the racquet. Also, our unique new aerodynamic profile gives you quicker response and better maneuverability.

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WHAT'S THIS REFEREE CERTIFICATION ALL ABOUT?

Common statements made at tournaments may be any of the following: "I hate to ref.", "I get too nervous.", "I am afraid to ref.", "I'll get an open match, or "They'll give me a lower level match and I'll be bored out of my mind."

You've probably said it yourself or heard someone else say something similar. There are good reasons for players to have these and other feelings which create fear of refereeing. Fear creates stress, stress is uncomfortable, and players do not need or want any more stress or anxiety.

A few basic facts are in order:

1. Every tournament match needs and deserves a referee.
2. At the end of the first round one half of the players are losers.
3. Referees must come from the

players. Win or lose you must referee or find a suitable replacement.

4. The referee is an important third player in a match.

Referee Certification is a process of educating all levels of players to lower the stress load and create a more efficient and knowledgeable referee. The process to become a certified referee is quite simple:

1. Read the AARA rule book, which is available at tournament desks.
2. Attend a refereeing clinic.
3. Carefully re-read the rule book.
4. Take the written test for certification.
5. Volunteer to referee matches which are always a level higher than you have previously successfully handled.

This past spring, I scheduled a refereeing clinic with Jim Easterling, in Grand Rapids. More than twenty-five men, women, and juniors showed for the two hour lecture, question, and participation clinic. Two weeks later Jim Hiser came to Grand Rapids and gave us the written certification test, which took approximately one hour. It in itself is a learning experience. Once you pass the test you qualify to become a Level One Referee.

Whoopie you say!! What you do not know yet is that you now are in the top one percent of all players when it comes to basic knowledge of the game. Previous to taking the test, the rule book to me was used primarily as a reference during a dispute. I never really sat down and memorized the rules word for word, even though I was an

adequate referee, my knowledge was only a working knowledge from tournament experience.

In the past years, I refereed many matches but I finally started refereeing without anxiety this June in Houston, at the AARA Nationals. I got to referee ten matches there which allowed me to referee some of the best amateurs in the world! Refereeing these matches also introduced me to people I would not have otherwise met. One man I met refereeing in Houston, turned out to be the Refereeing Director in Atlanta at the DP Nationals. When I first arrived at the club, he greeted me and asked which of the matches I wanted to referee, rather than, whether I wanted to referee. There is a world of difference between which and whether.

Confidence is what I've been talking about. Once you have knowledge of the rules, and know how to convert what your eyes see, to a correct verbal ruling, you begin to build confidence in your refereeing skills. Once you know and have this confidence, the stress is less, the anxiety is decreased, and the feeling of being uncomfortable goes away. This is what the REFEREE CERTIFICATION program is all about!

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Frederickson

Lite/AARA

REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

**1984-1985 ADULT REGIONAL
RACQUETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP
FEBRUARY 22-24, 1985
SAW MILL ATHLETIC
CLUB, COLUMBUS
OHIO**

**For More Information contact
JIM HISER
313-239-7575**



Miller Brewing Company, Milwaukee Wisconsin 57-72145

WOMEN'S CORNER

Last year, from tournament to tournament, I became very concerned with the number of women entrants in all divisions. The women's open division with prize money could not attract more than eight to ten entrants per tournament. How could we expect any other women's division to draw? Initially I felt it was lack of enthusiasm, however, I now feel it could be a deeper problem, there could be other interferences.

One of the major interferences could be the woman's career and family involvement. Today, more women are working outside the home and spending the remainder of the day at home with their husbands and children. Weekends are then centered around "catching up" on domestic duties, or perhaps duties involving their career. This type of schedule does not allow for daily racquetball practice and tournament play every weekend.

As far as attracting new women into the sport, I feel we must change the connotations that have developed with racquetball, (ie. it's a sweaty, easy sport which requires merely a wardrobe of sweatshirts and cut offs) We must seek the same respect that tennis and squash has acquired.

More social events may also increase the number of women participants at daily club events and tournaments.

Finally, have tournaments, with their high male participation, become centered around men? Naturally, those running tournaments cater to those most supporting their series of tournaments.

Therefore, I feel the situation is not going to better itself, I feel it's going to take a lot of time and effort by everyone. I personally am trying to do something about increasing women's racquetball participation. If you wish to become involved in any way or have any suggestions please contact me, Cathie Frederickson at 616-792-9543 or 616-672-2127, your help would be greatly appreciated!

On Record with the President

**President
RAM
Lee Frederickson**

Finally, the cloud of dust is beginning to settle over Michigan. I am beginning to see the various parts to this complex puzzle, fit into their respective places. The fallout is over, and it is time to go to work for the sport of racquetball and the participants.

There is now one political association working towards one goal, keeping Michigan number one in racquetball development and promotion. Your membership in the RAM and the AARA represents the flow of information from you to us, since we represent you. I, Lee Frederickson, am your elected President. I want to hear from you, both positive and negative feedback is essential! You may call me collect during the day at 616-672-7734, or call me at your expense, evenings or weekends, at 616-792-9543, or you may

write; my address is 12539 Terry Ave. — Wayland, MI 49348.

A few of the puzzle pieces are already in place. Sanctioned tournaments including the Michigan Championship Series, the Super Seven Series, the Grand Rapids Racquetball Patrons Tour, and the One Last Shot, are numerous and well organized with the best competition in the country. Juniors have more going for them in Michigan than you can imagine. Parents will play an important role in this year's team trips funded to State, Regional, and National Tournaments. Women are receiving full time attention; new approaches to increasing women's interests are in operation. We have one state ranking. All sanctioned tournament events will have the results from the quarters through the finals

passed on to the national ranking system. We now have one State Singles, Juniors, and Double Championship. Intercollegiate are receiving added attention with Regional Championships and maybe even a State Championship. Referee certification, which began in this state, is now a national project. It is a carbon copy of Michigan's efforts.

Your RAM board is free from running tournaments, with the exception of the State Championships, this means we have more time for you and your concerns. What is important to your recreational racquetball life? How may we be of service to you? What would you care to see added, deleted, or changed in your area? Call us or write and see if we are responsive!

**Lee D. Frederickson
President, RAM**

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

President	Lee Frederickson
Vice President	Bob Szuch
Treasurer	Diane Driver
Secretary	Larry Cole

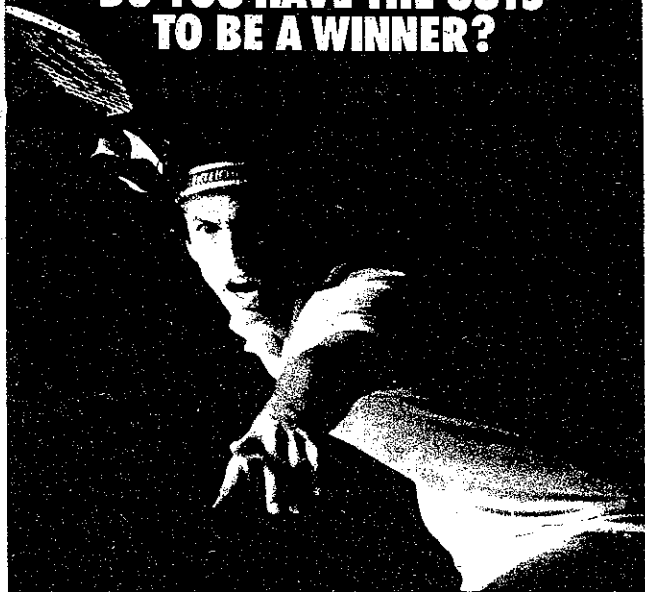
COMMITTEES AND CHAIRPERSONS

Sanctioning & Grievance	Lee Frederickson
Referee	Jim Hiser
Newsletter & Public Relations	Bob Wilhelm
Juniors	Larry Cole
Nominating	W.T. Blakslee
Membership	Diane Driver
Ranking	Judy Gonyea
Intercollegiate	Matt Klein
RAM Tournament	Jim Easterling
Womens	Kathy Frederickson

BOARD MEMBERS

Larry Roberts	Brighton
Bob Gravelyn	Grand Rapids
Bill Gottlieb	Lansing
Kathy Frederickson	Wayland
Jim Easterling	Lansing
Jim Hiser	Flint
Bob Wilhelm	Flint
W.T. Blakslee	Mt Clemens
Judy Gonyea	Flint

DO YOU HAVE THE GUTS TO BE A WINNER?



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Once you're there, you'll find that only Ektelon can meet your performance standards. Our Graphite Clik is the game's most powerful racquet, and the Composite 2500, the most widely used tournament

model, are the finest pieces of equipment in racquetball today. Ask a winner about racquetball racquets — the gut reaction is Ektelon.

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WHAT'S YOUR APPEAL?

Jim Hiser's new column, "What's Your Appeal?" will begin in February, in National Racquetball. But remember, you saw it first in the "Racquetball Reporter"

What's your appeal is a new column on rules and refereeing designed to answer your questions on rule clarifications and refereeing situations.

Q Can a player make an appeal after returning from a time out, or after he has left the court at the end of a game? Larry Roberts, Livonia, Mich

A This is an excellent question with the answer really not covered in the rule book. This exact situation occurred a couple of years ago in a match between Ray Vanover and Kelvin Vantrease at Franklin Racquet Club. Vantrease's last shot of the game was called good by myself. Both players left the court, at which time a spectator told Vanover to appeal Vantrease's shot. Ray returned to the court and asked to appeal. Since I had never before faced this situation, I allowed the appeal. Vanover won the appeal, the players returned to the court and Ray went on to win the game and match.

After the tournament I contacted a number of professionals and national referees. I was wrong.

Appeals are allowed after time-outs, but not after games. Since time-outs are only brief breaks in the games continuation, players may appeal after or during these time-outs. As soon as a player leaves the court at the end of a game, the game is considered finished and no appeals are allowed.

Q Can a player appeal the referee's call of a foot fault or encroachment? Tom Blakeslee Mt Clemens Mich

A This rule is covered in the rule book under Rule 1 G.2, Fault, Serve Appeals. Remember, to make any appeal, line judges are necessary. Foot Faults, are considered fault serves and thus are appealable. Encroachment line appeals are covered under the section Rule 1 G.5. Both server and receiver are allowed to appeal encroachment situations. If the server feels the receiver entered the safety line too early but the referee did not call encroachment, he may appeal. If the receiver was called for encroachment, but does not think he entered the zone early he may also appeal.

A new rule this year results in a side out for the server if he enters the safety zone prior to the served ball crossing the short line (usually occurs on lob serve). This situation is also appealable if line judges are present.

Jim Hiser is presently the head referee for the state of Michigan and a member of the AARA national rules commission. Jim was co-author of the national referees certification test and head referee for the 1984 World Racquetball Championships.

Mail your questions to:
Jim Hiser
301 Lafayette
Flint, MI 48503

PENN INTRODUCES NEW JUNIOR PROGRAM

Diversified Products and Penn have joined together to offer, through their AARA affiliates, a new junior program for club owners and managers.

The new program provides guidelines, various products including racquets, balls, shirts, score cards, draw sheets and presidential fitness badges for all participants.

Next season Michigan will have city junior teams competing against each other in club and state junior tournaments. Special programs to develop inner-club junior players highlight the new format.

The future of racquetball lies in our juniors. Anyone interested in becoming involved in these junior programs should contact Lee Frederickson (616) 792-9543.

MICHIGAN INTERCOLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS January 26-27, 1985

All collegiate players should circle January 26 and 27 as the date for the Michigan Intercollegiate Championship. The site will be announced at a future date. Information on intercollegiate activities at your college should be forwarded to Matthew Klein, Director of Michigan Intercollegiate Racquetball, Ferris State College, Big Rapids, MI 49307.



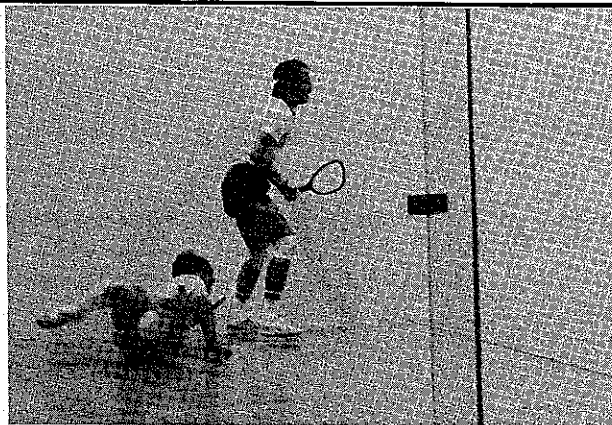
Bob Wilhelm

Name: Bob Wilhelm
Family: wife, Siri Gottlieb; children, Aaron 4, Maisie 2
Education: BFA University of Michigan (Sculpture)
Profession: Sculptor
Club: Davison Racquet Club (Teaching Pro)

Sponsor: Member of AMF Head National Team, and Head Sportswear.

Athletic Career: Bob swam competitively for four years while in high school and college. He began playing racquetball in 1977 while at U of M and has played competitively since he started.

Racquetball Highlights: Bob won the 1984 AARA Regional 25+ and 30+ Regional divisions while he also captured the Ektelon Regionals 30+ He finished up third at the Ektelon Nationals and took second at the AARA National singles in Houston. He was the 1983 Leach Catalina National Veterans Champion and the 1983 Leach National Jr. Veteran Runner-up. He also finished in the quarterfinals in the open divisions at the Nationals in 1983.



Wilhelm (standing) in action against Ray Vanover.

Style of Play: Bob considers himself basically a power player, who likes to more or less play by feeling. Over the past couple years he has tried to become more analytical of situations during his matches. He has always tried to seize the offensive opportunity by forcing play and errors out of his opponent while at the same time strives for a high level of consistency.

Objectives: Since attending the Elite Racquetball Training Camp this summer, Bob feels that his enthusiasm for the game has increased and is working hard, once again, to improve his play and performance on both state and national levels.

Commentary: Bob has been one of Michigan's top ranked players for

several years and is one of few Michigan players that have had success on a national level. Bob's unique style of play, a combination of power and an almost effortless fluid form, is a reflection of his attitude that athletics truly is an art form. In addition, it is unusual to find a player who has enjoyed as much success to be so involved with development of our sport. Bob has served as a board member of the State Association for over seven years and has used his creativity not only on the court but in the development and refinement of many of the state programs. Not only is this a reflection on Bob as an individual, but a reflection on the entire Michigan racquetball community.

by L. Cole

REFEREE CLINICS & CERTIFICATION

Have you even been on a court during a match and your referee only knows about half of the rules? Have you even been "teffing" and have a player turn around and call you a stupid ***** idiot? Would you like to know how to handle these situations or do you think you already know? Why not take a referee clinic or testing.

A referee clinic is where you go to learn the rules and how to referee a match. A referee certification is where you go when you think you know all the rules and you think you are a good referee.

Listed below are the dates and locations of clinics and testings that are scheduled.

Site

Franklin Racquet Club

Racquetball Plus

Mt. Clemens Racquetball Club

Clinic	Testing
January 30	February 6
February 27	March 6
April 10	April 17

All referee clinics and certification testings will be held on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

If you have any questions about the clinics please call Jim Easterling at (517) 694-4298. If you have questions about the certification please call Jim Hiser at (313) 767-3434.

Referee Clinics are \$5.00 for AARA members and \$8.00 for non-AARA members.

Referee Certification is \$10.00 for AARA members.
Members Only

APPLICATION FOR REFEREE CLINICS & REFEREE TESTINGS

I would like to attend the referee clinic and/or referee certification at _____ on the date(s) of _____
Amount enclosed _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

Make checks payable and mail to:

Racquetball Association of Michigan (RAM)

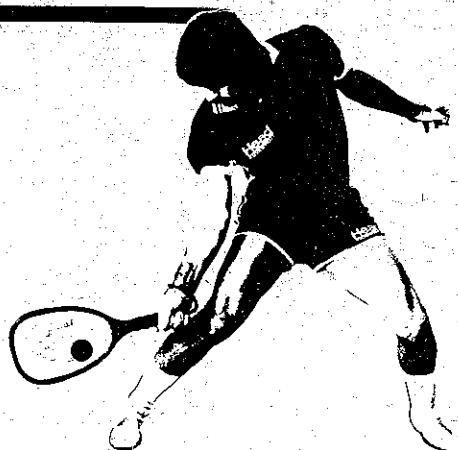
PO Box 230356 Lansing MI 48909

RAM WANTS YOU

The Racquetball Association of Michigan wants to sanction your racquetball event. During the 1983-84 season we sanctioned 20 events. For the current season we have already sanctioned 26 events, along with several clinics. If you are interested in sanctioning your event please contact Lee Frederickson (616/672-7734 days, or 616/792-9543 evenings) for additional information on benefits you would receive.

VANOVERS & ANDERSONS HAVE GIRLS

Not only are they competitors on the racquetball courts of Grand Rapids for the title of City Champ, Mike Anderson and Ray Vanover are at it in the hospitals. Mike and Linda Anderson gave birth to Lindsey Marie November 11, 1984 who weighed in at 8 lbs. 8 oz. and was 20" long. While Ray and Jill Vanover delivered Heather June November 22, 1984 who tipped the scales at 8 lbs. 2 oz. and measured 20½" long. Congratulations are in order for everyone and best of luck!



STRANDEMO'S

RACQUETBALL TIPS:

The most common flaw in many player's forehand is the inadvertent use of the left hand during the set-up. Many players subconsciously touch their left hand to the racquet strictly out of habit. The consequences of this extra motion limit the player in getting his racquet back quick enough or far enough and results in a short, jab-type stroke.



Troy Hall, of Davison, shows excellent eye contact with the ball

"IT'S NOT JUST A QUESTION OF OLD AGE ITSELF," "OR IS IT?"

A top ranked open player over thirty, recently told me it wasn't his advancing age that was causing him to lose more often than he like, but offered several other "reasons". The last time I wrote an article for the Newsletter, it was about Junior Racquetball and now I would like to discuss the other side of the coin, the aging racquetball player.

Before I begin, I would like to once again promote the idea of Junior Racquetball and Education. In my opinion what is necessary, for us "older" players, is to help "mold" our youngsters to fine adult citizens and promote the value of a college education. The future lies in their advanced education, not in the success of their racquetball victories. Going to college will allow enough time to compete at the State level in most tournaments in addition to time for study. I applaud Mike Yellen and his scholarship fund junior award this year at the Davison Bud Light and suggest that RAM follow his leadership by trying to provide additional educational scholarship money. I think scholarship awards will further affirm our commitment to Juniors and advance educational goals.

Returning to the subject of age in sports, particularly racquetball, there will be many opinions. No one can halt Father Time. Ali, perhaps the world's most famous athlete peaked around age thirty and fought well past his prime to forty. Al Kaline set his batting records in his early twenties. Most Olympians are around twenty years old. Female gymnasts are quite often in their early teens. George Foreman,

Franco Harris, Dexter Bussey, all in their early thirties, are well past prime years. The effectiveness varies based on many factors such as the sport, how many years played and individual desire. Kirk Gibson (27) we will all agree, wasn't peaked yet. Walter Payton (34) is having a great year; but he's not as good as he once was. Our own Marty Hogan will admit he's still getting better, but only because of experience, not because of increasing athletic ability. Most experts agree that most athletes will decrease in physical ability after age 27. Webster's dictionary describes mid-age as beginning sometime after age 23!

Along with increasing age comes many other problems. Family and financial responsibilities which take time. The racquetball player in these categories can no longer spend several hours a day at the club. Priorities change, there is life other than racquetball. Finally, there also comes the realization of the preciousness of life and time itself.

Don't hang up your sneakers yet, however! Heather McKay at 42, is Queen of the Ladies Racquetball Court. A 37 year old spaniard won the gold in the Olympic marathon this summer. Rubin Gonzales (32) has pushed the world's best racquetballers. A forty year old Olympian was a top discus thrower. Who can doubt the beauty of Linda Evans, Rael Welch, Victoria Principal or Jaclyn Smith, or the timeless magnetism of Robert Redford, Paul Newman or Burt Reynolds? There is life after thirty! With the aging

MICHIGAN PLAYERS DO WELL IN NATIONALS

Bob Wilhelm of Flint and Donna Henry of Novi took second place in men's and women's 30+ veteran open divisions at the AARA National singles in Houston. Wilhelm lost in the finals to Jay Schwartz of Florida. It was Schwartz who also edged out Wilhelm in the Ektelon National Finals in California. Donna Henry, in her first appearance in National Age Group competition, lost a very close finals match to L. Zarfas of Colorado. Also playing, Aaron Metag of Ypsilanti won the Men's B non-championship event, while Ray Vanover won consolation in Men's 30+ veterans division.

FERRIS STATE RACQUETBALL TEAM

The newly organized Ferris State College Racquetball Team made its splash in Michigan racquetball by entering eight players in six divisions at the Racquetball Association of Michigan sponsored championship series tournament in Grand Rapids. The individuals who placed are as follows: Todd Luethjohann — 2nd place Men's "B", Bill Deck — 1st place Men's "C", Mike Mastromatteo — Semi-finalist. Men's Novice, Sue Alberty — Semi-finalist Women's "D", Luethjohann & Deck 1st place Men's "B" Doubles (The following weekend).

The Ferris State College team is an offshoot of the Ferris State College Racquetball Club which was begun five years ago under the direction of Matthew Klein who has served as one of the club advisors since its creation. The Club has served as a recreational activity for students that were interested in more than a casual game of racquetball. In addition to competitive play, the club sponsors two tournaments during the year for students and community members. Each year, for the last three years, Ferris State College has sent a number of students to the National Intercollegiate Championships in Memphis, Tennessee.

The racquetball team, comprised of twelve players who meet one night a week for two to four hours to discuss current instructional articles and to carry out racquetball drills. The team is coached by Jerry Gray, a Michigan racquetball enthusiast. Jerry incorporates video taping as one of his many coaching strategies. Competitive play is only one of the goals of the team. The students are also instructed in court etiquette, rules, refereeing, diet and conditioning. The team's expenses which include travel, lodging, and food while at tournaments are paid by the students themselves or through fund raising activities. Major tournaments such as the championship series sanctioned by the Racquetball Association of Michigan (RAM) and the Grand Rapids patrons tournaments are a means of providing tournament experience to the students leading to the state and national collegiate championships.

Team members were very visible at Grand Rapids with their matching jackets and shirts and their constant movement from court to court cheering or consoling other team members.

of the American population, we now have Senior Golf and Senior Tennis Tournaments. These are big buck events played in front of large and sometimes TV audiences. Four of the world's most famous golfers will play a skins game for thousands of dollars this Thanksgiving; the youngest will be Tom Watson, 32 and the oldest Arnold Palmer, 52.

Racquetball is a leader in tournament play for all ages. In Michigan we have Kelly, Chambers, Brownlee and Lewerenz, all well past their physical prime years, and all but Brownlee well past forty. These guys can beat most players. Racquetball offers competition at age groups for every level of play. It's a beautiful sport. At these "advanced" levels of play the sportsmanship, the lack of cheating, the desire and love of the game is unmatched by any other level. Don't ask one of these guys, why they only won by a couple of points, or had to go a tie-breaker, their bottom line is the "thrill of the victory". With all their disadvantages and obstacles, winning by any amount is all that matters. So when you see one of "us" down at the gym pumping iron, practicing, running, watching our diets, or studying the strategies of our game, we just might win the next tournament in our age division. Why else would a thirty four year old man be doing situps at 10:30 p.m.? Yes, Bob, it is a question of age!

by W. I. Blakeslee

ZIMMERMAN WINS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Scott Zimmerman of Grand Rapids captured the gold medal in the eight and under division at the AARA National Junior Championships hosted by Davison Racquet Club. This was the first national championship to be held in Michigan, and Scott took home the only gold medal for our state. To capture his title Scott defeated May Mireck of California, Andy Gross of Minnesota, Jason Eaton of New Hampshire and in the finals Jason Mannins of New York.

Other Michigan players winning awards were Chuck Teets, third place Boys 18, Big Z and Scott Reid, third place Boys 18 doubles and Christine Skinner, third place girls eight and under.

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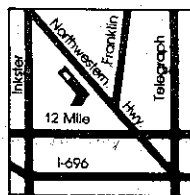
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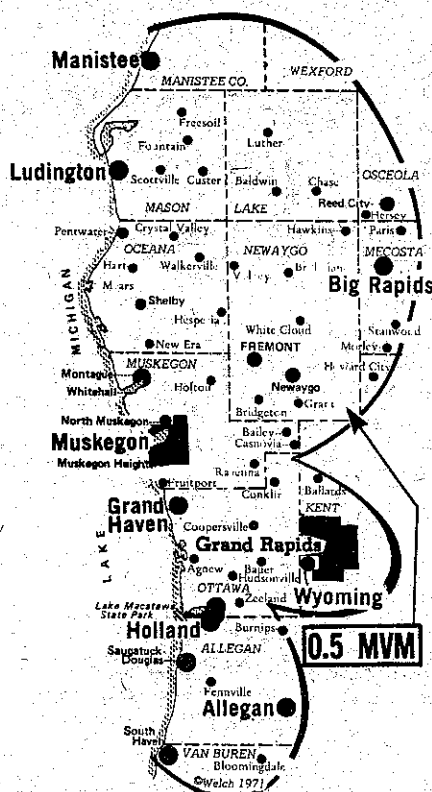
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RULES AND INTERPRETATIONS

I have been at a few racquetball tournaments this year and there has been a lot of confusion over several of the racquetball rules. I will list some of the new rules (which took effect on September 1, 1984) and will try to clarify them for you.

First the easy ones:

- 1 Games are to 15 points. Tiebreakers are to 11 points.
- 2 Consolation matches are the best two of three games to 11 points.

Now the harder ones:

- 1 A receiver may not contact a lob serve in the safety zone (in front of the five foot line). Once the ball bounces on the serve, the receiver may enter the safety zone to contact the ball. Furthermore, on the lob serve, the receiver must have his racquet and body behind the five foot line, he must contact the ball behind the five foot line, BUT he may follow through into the safety zone. Violation of this rule results in a point for the server.
- 2 If the server enters the safety zone prior to the served ball passing the short line, it shall result in loss of serve. I will now try to clarify what is called a back-line foot fault. If a server starts his service motion in the serving area, he can step on either the short line (back line) or the service line (front line), but he cannot step over either line. As the ball is on its way back from the front wall, if the server steps back over the short line (into the safety zone) before the ball passes the short line plane, this is a SIDE OUT for the server.

If the server started his service motion and his foot was over the short line (back line), this results in ONLY A FOOT FAULT.

If the server started his service motion and his foot stepped over the service line (front line) the result is a FOOT FAULT. IF THE REFEREE JUDGES THIS TO BE INTENTIONAL THEN THE RESULT SHOULD BE A TECHNICAL CALLED ON THE SERVER AND A POINT IS TAKEN AWAY FROM HIS SCORE.

In the new Rule Book soon to be published from the AARA, the following rule will appear for the first time. This is an old rule, but is included in this article so that all will be familiar with it:

Time Outs, Rest Periods. If a person calls a "time out" and he does not have any time outs left, the result is a technical and a point is taken away from his score.

The above rules are the AARA rules. These are the "Official Racquetball Rules" and are generally followed by the Michigan Championship Series, the Super Seven Series and any other AARA sanctioned racquetball tournaments. Sometimes, sanctioned tournaments make exception to certain rules. For example, in the Super Seven Series, the service box is made smaller. If this is the case, then these exceptions should be noted on the tournament entry form.

If you have questions on any of the rules, please feel free to either drop me a line at PO Box 23035, Lansing, MI 48909 or call me at (517) 694-4298.

INTERCOLLEGIATE RACQUETBALL REGIONALS

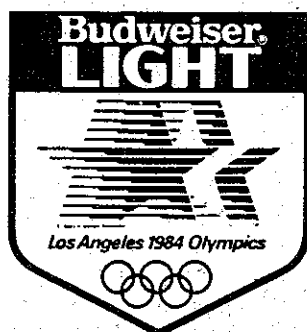
Purdue University will host the 1985 Penn. DP Intercollegiate Racquetball Regional Championships, on February 15-17, 1985 in West Lafayette, Indiana. This event is sponsored by Penn Athletic Products and Diversified Products and sanctioned by the AARA. This event will include colleges and universities from the following states: Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky and Michigan. For additional information regarding this event, contact Mike Arnold at (317) 776-0222.

AARA OFFERS NEW MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE

The RAM—AARA now offers a new membership package. All new members will receive a plastic membership card, recognized at over 800 tournaments nationally, and valid for 1 full year from the date of membership.

One month before the membership expires, the member will receive a pre-addressed, self-mailer renewal form, postage paid by the AARA. The new membership kit will also include an official AARA rule book and discount coupons worth more than \$20. Each member will also receive national and state newsletters as well as national, regional and state rankings.

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TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Michigan Championship Series #1 - Petoskey
AMF Voit, KHQ, Andrew Kan Travel Service
Little Traverse Racquet Club - Petoskey, MI
September 14-16, 1984

MEN'S OPEN: SEMI'S: Stu Hastings def. Rick Vanderlind 15-14, 15-14. Radiation Man def. Mark Heckman 15-13, 15-12. **FINALS:** Hastings def. Radiation Man 15-7, 15-9.

A SEMI'S: Mark Casey def. Jack White 15-8, 15-9. Mike Kummer def. Mark Kelley 6-15, 15-12, 11-6. **FINALS:** Kummer def. Casey 7-15, 15-12, 11-1.

B SEMI'S: Tim Sigafosse def. Neal Goodman 10-15, 15-6, 11-1. Doug McIntyre def. Jim Hamilton 15-14, 15-7. **FINALS:** McIntyre def. Sigafosse 15-12, 15-5.

C SEMI'S: Dave Larry def. Ron Liikala 15-3, 6-15, 11-4. Steve Grein def. Dan Verbeck 15-13, 15-10. **FINALS:** Grein def. Larry 15-14, 11-15, 11-8.

D SEMI'S: Tom Banner def. Marty Schultz 15-9, 15-9. Jeff Kummier def. Gene Hine 10-15, 15-8, 11-8. **FINALS:** Banner def. Kummier 14-15, 15-12, 11-8.

Novice SEMI'S: Dan Zoller def. Dan Barrios 15-9, 15-3. Ron Rittenberg def. Tony Aleccia 15-1, 15-9. **FINALS:** Rittenberg def. Zoller 15-4, 15-6.

Seniors A FINALS: Gary Miller def. Ron Slavik 13-15, 15-4, 11-6.

Seniors B SEMI'S: Mike Corinti def. Rick Parkhurst 15-10, 5-10, 11-6. Pancho Gutierrez def. Neal Goodman 15-8, 3-15, 11-10. **FINALS:** Corinti def. Gutierrez 15-13, 15-8.

Seniors C SEMI'S: Ron Liikala def. Ralph Kummier 15-3, 15-9. Steve Burgdorf def. Tom Hinshaw 15-3, 15-2. **FINALS:** Liikala def. Burgdorf 15-12, 15-8.

Masters A FINALS: Bob Hagenah def. Dave Matyas 15-3, 14-15, 11-10. **Masters B FINALS:** Paul Becker def. Ray Mitchell 15-12, 15-12.

Golden Masters FINALS: Harry Jordan def. Gerry Malleck 15-2, 15-3.

Women's Open FINALS: Sheri Anderson def. Joetta Hastings 8-15, 15-14, 11-8.

A FINALS: Judy Pretzer def. Shirley VanderBrook 15-10, 15-3.

B FINALS: Karen Richwine def. Peggy Hoshield 15-7, 15-1.

C SEMI'S: Rosemarie Cook def. Jo Hutter 15-13, 15-6. Sharon Huczek def. Dorothy Burgdorf 7-15, 15-9, 11-4. **FINALS:** Cook def. Huczek 6-15, 15-3, 11-4.

D SEMI'S: Lori Zoritz def. Tammy Smith 15-8, 5-15, 11-7. Lynn Graebner def. Sandy Ridky 15-8, 15-1. **FINALS:** Zoritz def. Graebner 15-6, 15-10.

Novice SEMI'S: Vicki McIntyre def. Maggi Thornton-forfeit. Travey Pessina def. Beth Sammerville 15-4, 15-0. **FINALS:** McIntyre def. Pessina 15-10, 15-11.

Seniors B FINALS: Carol Burt def. Sharon Huczek 15-13, 15-13.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Michigan Championship Series #2
AMF Voit
Woodland Racquet Club - Brighton, MI
October 12-14, 1984

MEN'S OPEN: SEMI'S: Aaron Metaj def. Chris Cole 15-8, 8-15, 11-4. Stu Hastings def. Pat Walsh 15-9, 11-15, 11-4. **FINALS:** Metaj def. Hastings 15-4, 15-14.

MEN'S "A": SEMI'S: William DeLuca def. Ernie Matties 13-15, 15-11, 11-4. Jack White def. Tim Hahn 15-9, 14-15, 11-8. **FINALS:** DeLuca def. White 5-15, 15-12, 11-7.

MEN'S "B": SEMI'S: Steve Grein def. Jim Hamilton 15-13, 15-5. John Bakalis def. Paul Licari 11-15, 15-14, 11-6. **FINALS:** Bakalis def. Grein 11-15, 15-9, 11-4.

MEN'S "C": SEMI'S: Dan Verveck def. Mark King 15-8, 15-4. Ron Liikala def. Tony Hornus 15-4, 15-3. **FINALS:** Liikala def. Verveck 15-14, 15-14.

MEN'S "D": SEMI'S: Bruce Bridgewater def. Jim Archibald - forfeit. Pat Burdick def. Larry Peterson 15-13, 15-4. **FINALS:** Burdick def. Bridgewater 12-15, 15-11, 11-3.

Novice FINALS: Neal Bosch def. Mark Zaparski 15-11, 15-8.

Veteran's "B": SEMI'S: Don Sheer def. Terry Lawlor 15-4, 15-4.

Senior's "A": SEMI'S: Stu Leff def. Jim Hise 15-8, 15-8. Mike Stephens def. Bob Tessmar 15-7, 15-9. **FINALS:** Stephens def. Leff 15-5, 15-8.

Senior's "B": SEMI'S: Jim Panasiwicz def. Dave Chrenka 15-8, 15-14. Bill Gentile def. Tom Rosenbergh 14-15, 15-10, 11-10. **FINALS:** Panasiwicz def. Gentile 15-3, 15-3.

Senior's "C": SEMI'S: Tom Hinshaw def. George Goudie 9-15, 15-13, 11-5. Joel Carr def. Conrad Rehm 15-3, 10-15, 11-1. **FINALS:** Hinshaw def.

Carr 14-15, 15-3, 11-5.

Master's "A": SEMI'S: Lynn Hahn def. Dave Matyas 15-6, 15-3. Jess Madden def. Richard Sewell 15-11, 6-15, 11-9. **FINALS:** Hahn def. Madden 15-8, 15-10.

Master's "B": SEMI'S: Ray Mitchell def. Bart Campione. Jim Emerson def. Tyler Braddock 15-9, 12-15, 11-5. **FINALS:** Mitchell def. Emerson 15-13, 15-5.

Golden Masters FINALS: Duane Russel def. Joe Charette 15-4, 15-2.

17 FINALS: Ashley Burt def. Dave Larry 15-13, 14-15, 11-5.

Women's Open: SEMI'S: Kathy Stellma def. Linda Jones 15-13, 15-6. Joetta Hastings def. Irene Ackerman Chmura 13-15, 15-14, 11-4. **FINALS:** Hastings def. Stellma 15-7, 15-11.

Women's "A": SEMI'S: Shirley VanderBrook def. Janet Insko 15-13, 10-15, 11-8. Lesley Kishigian def. Karen Richwine 5-15, 15-14, 11-9. **FINALS:** Kishigian def. VanderBrook 15-14, 15-8.

Women's "B": SEMI'S: Carol Burt def. Gwen McIntyre 15-10, 15-12.

Women's "C": SEMI'S: Irene Shore def. Jo Hutter 15-5, 9-15, 11-4. Linda Maynard def. Martha Scharnburg 12-15, 15-8, 11-5. **FINALS:** Shore def. Maynard 12-15, 15-11, 11-10.

Women's "D": SEMI'S: Lynn Graebner def. Melody Matties 15-15, 12-15, 11-7. Shirley Bowman def. Lynn Lightner 15-12, 15-13. **FINALS:** Bowman def. Graebner 4-15, 15-5, 11-4.

Novice FINALS: Beth Abner def. Joanne Galfke 15-14, 15-10.

SUPER SEVEN

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES #3

Sponsored by: Lewerenz Sports Medicine Clinic,
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 COLISEUM RACQUET CLUB - TAYLOR, MI
 Nov. 30 - Dec. 2, 1984

MEN'S OPEN: SEMI'S: Valin def. Moskwa, Wilhelm def. Ceresia. **FINALS:** Valin def. Wilhelm.

MEN'S "A": SEMI'S: Wood def. Rallis, Turner def. Heinischel. **FINALS:** Turner def. Wood.

MEN'S "B": SEMI'S: Wonzor def. Rozier, Michel def. Fecher. **FINALS:** Michel def. Wonzor.

MEN'S "C": SEMI'S: Gibson def. Katich, Larrin def. Musolf. **FINALS:** Larrin def. Gibson.

MEN'S "D": SEMI'S: Kiss def. Peterson, Mastro def. Martin. **FINALS:** Kiss def. Mastro.

MEN'S NOVICE: SEMI'S: Carter def. Limas. Limas def. Katich. **FINALS:** Carter def. Limas.

MEN'S 30++: SEMI'S: Vitale def. Wood, Hastings def. Paskan. **FINALS:** Hastings def. Vitale.

MEN'S 35A: SEMI'S: Brownlee def. Hiser, Woodcox def. Norther. **FINALS:** Brownlee def. Woodcox.

MEN'S 35C: SEMI'S: Cain def. Carr, Pullen def. Frederickson. **FINALS:** Cain def. Pullen.

MEN'S 45++: SEMI'S: Madden def. Matyas, Micelli def. Filatreau. **FINALS:** Madden def. Micelli.

MEN'S 55: 3rd - Lesage 2nd - Russell 1st - Carretti.

MEN'S 55B & 60: 3rd - Leone 2nd - Malleck 1st - Nicholson.

WOMEN'S OPEN: SEMI'S: Clark def. Stack, Frederickson def. Henry. **FINALS:** Clark def. Frederickson.

WOMEN'S A: SEMI'S: Collins def. Kishigan,

Leapheart def. Gilliland. **FINALS:** Collins def. Leapheart.

WOMEN'S B: SEMI'S: Calardo def. McCartney, Eldon def. Smith. **FINALS:** Eldon def. Calardo.

WOMEN'S C: 3rd - Carlson 2nd - Buttrey 1st - Washburn.

WOMEN'S D: 3rd - Brady 2nd - Armstrong 1st - Genuis.

MIXED DOUBLES

OPEN: SEMI'S: Ecker/Moskwa def. Vanover/Frederickson, Wilhelm/Clark def. Hayward/Henry. **FINALS:** Wilhelm/Clark def. Ecker/Moskwa.

A/B: SEMI'S: Murray/Yeip def. June/Susitico, Bakalis/Vanderbrook def. Yeip/Swanson. **FINALS:** Bakalis/Vanderbrook def. Murray/Yeip.

C/D: 3rd - Trotter/Marble, 2nd - Dutcher/Marble, 1st Breena/Prantera.

JUNIORS 16: 3rd - Gibson 2nd - Burt 1st - Larry.

8 & UNDER: 3rd - Gibson, 2nd - Cook, 1st - Bovee.

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