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**National Racquetball
including AARA
in Review**



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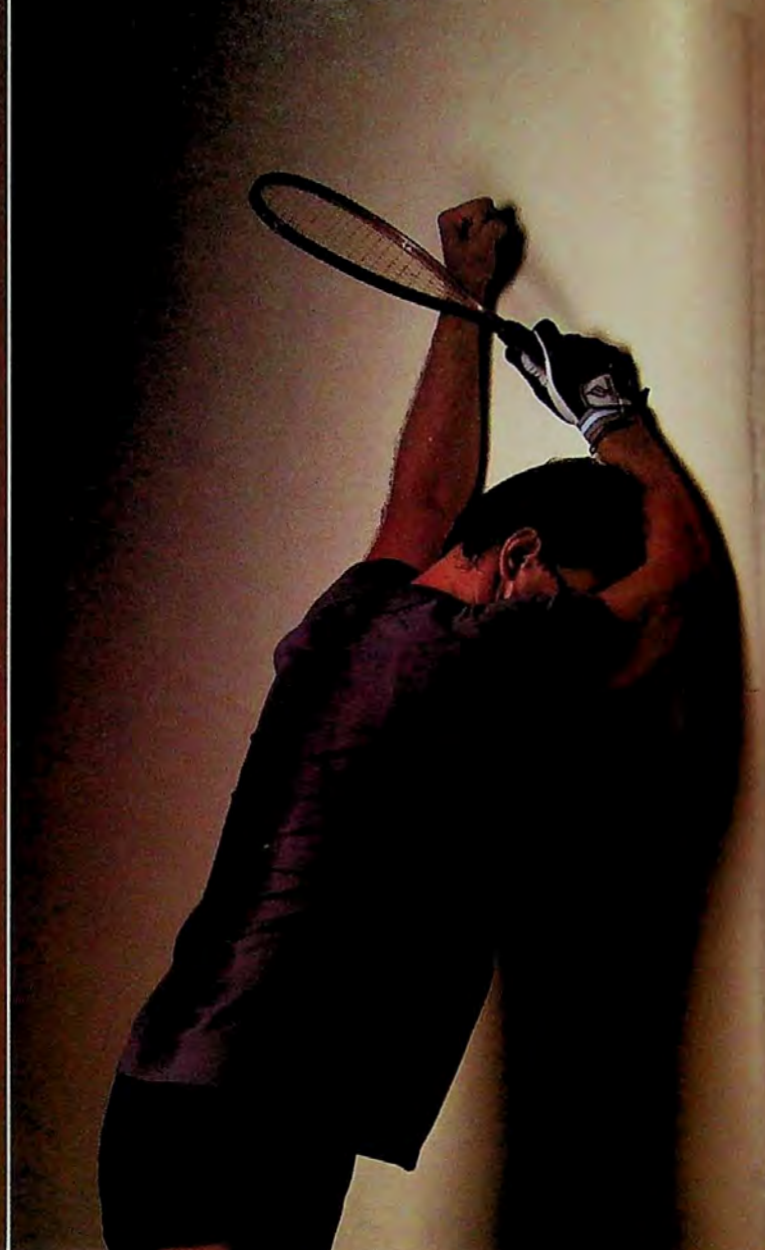
Aaron Katz

Marci Drexler

Tournament Survival

A How To By Dave Peck





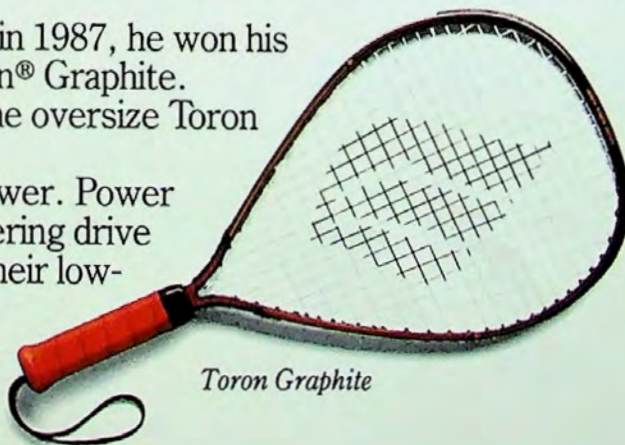
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Off The Wall

AARA In Review

by Sigmund Brouwer

They said that five-time national champion Charlie Brumfield could heft a racquet, then guess its weight to within a couple of grams. If his expertise carried over to magazines, he'd certainly notice something different about this issue of National Racquetball, even before opening the cover. The magazine is heavier — by eight pages.

Okay, it won't *feel* like much, but we feel those eight pages will do a lot for racquetball, and not just strictly at the amateur level.

The American Amateur Racquetball Association's publication, Racquetball in Review is no longer being published, and a new section entitled AARA In Review, will appear at the back on the magazine effective with this issue. It will consist of the news, rankings and results for readers and players particularly interested in the amateur game.

The benefits of this change are threefold. One is the news aspect. Now news about the AARA is available not only to the AARA's 35,000 members, but to all players involved in the grassroots game. As well, the added exposure for the AARA will aid it in its role as vehicle for all aspects of the amateur game, and in its efforts to attract new members. Another benefit of making AARA in Review an integral part of the magazine is the timeliness of the news. Racquetball in Review was published seven or eight times a year. Now, the AARA can give its members monthly updates and more current rankings.

The other two benefits go beyond the amateur game, to racquetball in its entirety. For starts — though it may seem obvious — the stronger the organized amateur game, the stronger the rest of racquetball, from informal pick-up games to the top of the professional level.

The third benefit of course is that of unification of all aspects of the game. The new arrangement

strengthens the cooperation, which already exists, between racquetball's largest organization (AARA) and racquetball's major voice (National Racquetball).

The new eight pages will be a forum for the amateur game, while National Racquetball will continue to cover all aspects of the sport, striving always for responsible coverage and relevant features that our readers can enjoy.

This issue, for example, has the best of both worlds. Our pro issue reviews the legends of the game; profiles a woman who may be destined to be unbeatable; shows you what it takes to break into the top ranks of professional racquetball; and has a couple of the most striking referee stories you'll ever hear. On the other hand, the amateur game gets the exposure it deserves with a feature on racquetball at the college level, combined with the news in the AARA section.

We hope that you, our readers, will approve of this decision, and assure you it was made with your interest in mind. Look forward to reading about top pros and top amateurs and the progress of our sport at all levels.

Welcome to Linda Mojer



editorial
coordinator for
AARA In Review

SILVER RACQUET

**PRO
AM**

in

ANCHORAGE

by Dan Coyle

For the past three years the Women's Professional Racquetball Association (WPRA) stop in Alaska has been held at the Alaska Athletic Club and the tournament is always well organized and fun. This year was no exception. And Lynn Adams, just as she did for the last three years, defeated Caryn McKinney in the final, 11-7, 11-2, 11-5.

Although the final was a not-so-instant replay of the last three Alaska tour stops, the Silver Racquet tournament didn't shape up that way. All the women, most notably third ranked Marci Drexler and Caryn McKinney, entered the 1987-88 season with their sights set firmly on the top spot which has been occupied by Lynn Adams since 1985.

McKinney spoke for all the ladies when she said, "I know that if I'm going to win, I've got to beat Lynn. She's got what I want and it's up to me to take it from her."

Adams approached the tournament ready to claw for her position and especially wary of McKinney especially. "I've played Caryn so often that we know one another's games backwards and forwards. But this year seems different. She's hungry; she has an intensity that hasn't been there before. I think she'll push me this year."

Besides the battle for the top spot, the tournament brought many less serious but just as important moments, such as the Halloween party after Saturday's opening action. Marci Lynch was a frighteningly real Pee Wee Herman and Caryn a convincing church lady. Chris Evon may have exited the tournament early (to Jackie Paraiso, 11-6, 11-2, 5-11, 11-3 on Sunday) but on this night she was unbeatable at eating doughnuts hanging from strings. Pam Laursen may be tied for 28th ranking, but chances are she'll be top seed in the musical chairs contest.

The party brought a great finish to a quite unpredictable first day of play, as all the seeding held up. The only close match was fourth ranked Molly O'Brien's five game victory over a stubborn Toni Bevelock (#20), 11-9, 8-11, 7-11, 11-9, 11-6.

That match turned out to be an ill omen for O'Brien, who promptly lost her quarter final match on Sunday to a fired-up Kaye Kuhfeld, (#6), who beat her 9-11, 11-7, 11-5, 11-8, with

a barrage of wide angle passing shots. "I was kind of disappointed," said O'Brien. "I had a good draw and figured to make it to the semi's, but I just tried too hard and left the ball up. You just cannot do that with a player like Kaye — she put everything away."

With all the other seeds marching through the opening ranks as planned, it looked more and more as if the key strategic decision of the tournament had been made by a coin. The coin flip on Saturday determined that seeds one and three would share the same bracket, as would two and four. In other words, Adams and Drexler, as they have so many times before, would meet in the semifinals if both advanced. The



Photos by Amy Wishoff

Silver Racquet Pro/Am finalists Caryn McKinney (left) and Lynn Adams shake hands after the match.

coin flip did not go unnoticed by Adams, who knows that meeting a red hot Miss Drexler in the semi's can be hazardous to your ranking.

"Marci is so scary," said Adams. "She's got such incredible talent that she can be totally unstoppable.. When she is up, she is far, far above any of us. You've got to control her and I've been able to do that so far."

In Alaska, the agony of defeat is somewhat lessened by the opportunities of the state. When Jackie Paraiso lost to Lynn Adams in the quarter finals, she and her twin sister, Joy, went to see a glacier. Vicki Panzeri, Marcy Lynch and Molly

(continued on the next page)

WPRA in Anchorage

(continued from page 3)

O'Brien, all seeded in the top 10, lost in the quarter finals to Drexler, McKinney and Kuhfeld, respectively — so they had a chance to go hiking through the snow on an Anchorage hillside. Such is life in the Alaska tournament, winners win and losers don't do too bad.

When it came down to the crunch, the cast of characters was a familiar one — and they could not have cared less about glaciers or hiking. Monday's semifinal pairings were McKinney versus Kuhfeld and Adams versus Drexler — and all were dead set on the \$2,500 first place money.

In the evenings opening attraction, Kuhfeld came out shouting. She led McKinney through the first game up to 10-6. Then, quicker than you could say "ace, kill, skip, ace, pass," McKinney had won 11-10. The second game was a carbon copy of the first, with Kuhfeld leaping out to a 4-0 lead, then McKinney roaring back with 11 fist-pumping points to win 11-4. McKinney won game three 8-8 and advanced to the final.

"I really enjoy playing Kaye," said McKinney afterwards. "She plays so smart, she takes the right shots and she's so consistent. She doesn't allow you to have any mental lapses — and that's exactly how I will have to play in the final against Lynn. And I think I can. I've made some improvements in my game this summer and I think they're starting to show. I'm tired of being number two."

If McKinney seems to have a fresh perspective on her game this year, it's because she started sharing her

home with Cindy Branch, a college friend, who is paralyzed. Branch was a fine athlete — a college basketball player and a marathon runner until two years ago and McKinney has learned from her.

"When you are around someone like Cindy on a daily basis you start to think about things bigger than racquetball. Cindy's presence reminds me that I am so lucky to be able to even walk out on the court, even if it is to lose. This year when I go on the court winning is the single most important thing in my life. But, at the same time, I'm not going to curl up and die if I do happen to lose. She gives me a perspective on it all."

The other semifinal pitted Adams against Drexler. The muscular Drexler gunned her way through the first game with a single mindedness unseen since the Alamo. She shot at anything moving and blue. At one point, Adams spoon fed her five consecutive lob serves to the backhand and Drexler ripped them each into hard wood. She shot well enough to win the first game, 11-10, but eventually she crumbled in the face of Adam's varied, move-the-ball-around attack, 11-4, 11-7, 11-2.

"Marci hit so many shots and she hit everything so hard that I never really got into any kind of rhythm. But, she is still at the stage where she is susceptible to a lot. I can slow it up, move the ball around, talk to her a little — it all helps. You can't do those sorts of things when you play Caryn. She's much too in control of her game and we both know each other so well I don't think there will be any surprises tomorrow." Adams said.

Perhaps Adams knew something



Alaska Athletic Club owner Jay Wisthoff presents silver racquet and check to Lynn Adams.

that no one else did as her words proved to be prophetic. Tuesday's finals were just another day at the office for Adams as she wore her lucky pink tournament shirt, mugged a lot for the crowd and ripped her way to an 11-7, 11-2, 11-5 victory.

"Last year I didn't give Caryn the respect she deserved, but this year I prepared specially for her. On my part, I think I did my job; on her part, I really saw nothing different. You'd think that somebody would do something radical to break out of the pack, but nobody seems to have done it."

As far as McKinney is concerned, the difference in the match was simple. "She executed and I didn't," she said. "My game plan worked — so many times I was in the position to put the ball away, and I left it up."

In mixed doubles, Adams paired with Mike Seidl to win the championship against Jeff Sanders and Fran Davis, each taking home \$500.

It was another very successful Silver Racquet pro stop. The players were especially grateful to Jay and Kathy Wisthoff for the excellent treatment they received and to the sponsors: the Anchorage Daily News, The Green Connection and KGOT FM Radio. ○



Club owners Jay & Kathy Wisthoff with finalists Lynn Adams and Caryn McKinney.

RESULTS: Quarter finals - Lynn Adams d. Jackie Paraiso; Marci Drexler d. Vicki Panzeri; Kaye Kuhfeld d. Molly O'Brien; Caryn McKinney d. Marcy Lynch. **Semifinals** - Lynn Adams d. Marci Drexler; Caryn McKinney d. Kaye Kuhfeld. **Finals** - Lynn Adams d. Caryn McKinney, 11-7, 11-2, 11-5.

For Your Eyes Only...Ref The View From Above

by Otto Dietrich

In racquetball, as with any other professional sport, you only notice the officiating when it is bad or controversial. On the other hand, referees notice nearly everything. It would be hard to find anyone who has called more matches across North America than Otto Dietrich, who lives in Atlanta, GA, and works for the U.S. Army Audit Agency. Here's what he has to say about his end of the professional game.

What's the odds of flipping a coin and having it end up perfectly balanced on its edge? Well, believe it or not, it happened to me once before a match, and for that reason, I don't flip nickels anymore (their smooth edges make them more likely to stay on their sides.)

Over the past 10 years or so, I have refereed well over a thousand racquetball matches, from the level of two novices playing in their first tournament, to the last match of the professional season with both a \$25,000 first prize and a national championship on the line.

When you 'call the shots' as much as I do (at last year's AARA Nationals I refed 55 matches), you are bound to encounter some very interesting situations — such as a balanced coin. Here are a few more of those incidents which have been etched in my memory:

Davey Bledsoe's (1977 National Champion) knowledge of the rules of the game is almost as impressive as his forehand and his foot speed. All three, but especially the first, made refing his matches a real challenge.

On one occasion, Davey's opponent was serving and just as the serve crossed the short line, Davey

yelled out, "SHORT!"

Thinking it was I who had yelled "SHORT!", the other player stopped in his tracks, but Davey didn't — he returned the ball for an uncontested winner, picked up the ball, and walked up to the service zone as if he had won the rally.

At this point, I told Davey that I had called the serve good (later confirmed by the line judges) and told him that since I considered his shouting of "SHORT!" to have been an intentional distraction of his opponent, I was therefore awarding the rally to his opponent.

Davey immediately asked me to read the rule to him. Of course, the rule book clearly says that an intentional distraction is an avoidable hinder, but he insisted that I read the rule more carefully. Davey pointed out that the rule's specific wording says that it applies only to a distraction of the person "who is hitting the ball".

His contention was that since it was he — not his opponent — who was hitting the ball when the so-called 'distraction' occurred, then the rule shouldn't apply!

While Davey was technically correct, I informed him that chaos would reign if such a tactic was legal, and that it wasn't the intent of the rule to apply only to the person hitting the ball. So I declared his actions to have been an avoidable hinder...nice try, Davey.

The introduction of new rules can create some embarrassing situations. Take, for example, the 5-foot receiving zone that was introduced a few years ago.

At one of the first tournaments played with the 5-foot line actually

painted on the floor, **Charlie Garfinkel** was serving. Apparently, 'The Gar' was concentrating so hard on his spot-theory of racquetball, that he forgot to check out his service position on the floor.

Just as I called the score, I looked up and noticed that Charlie was standing in the 5-foot zone, rather than the serve zone, to start the ball into play. Charlie served the ball, and I called this king-sized foot fault. Just as Charlie realized his error the crowd broke into laughter...for a change, the joke was on 'The Gar'.

Sometimes, however, players can turn the tables on the ref. One good one was perpetrated on me by a fellow named **Peter Wong**.

Although Peter speaks perfect English, he pretended during our first meeting at the pre-match briefing that he couldn't understand English, and spoke only Chinese. Naturally, I was perplexed about how to handle this situation, and was on the verge of panic when Peter finally let me in on the joke...if you run into Peter, don't let him pull this one on you!

Jerry Hilecher is another 'character of the game' who has an extensive bag of tricks. A few years ago he pulled one out which caught me completely off guard.

Having just served at match point and won the rally, Ed Andrews walked off the court and went to the locker room. After the crowd left the area, I was getting ready to go to the match-control area to turn in the score card. Jerry, who was still on the court, yelled out, "I appeal that last shot."

Since I couldn't find anything in the rulebook specifying any time limit

(continued on page 6)

on when an appeal can be made, I quickly searched for the line judges, one of whom was nearly out of the building by this time.

I told them my call, and asked for their opinion, confident that at least one would agree and the match would be over once and for all. But lo and behold, one line judge disagreed, and the other had no opinion. So, as called for by the rules, the rally had to be replayed. Ed was understandably furious, but there was no alternative...the pro's now have a specific rule (probably as a result of this incident) which disallows such untimely appeals.

Thrilled about the prospect of refereeing at my first major pro stop, I sought some advice from the tournament director about the subtle differences I should be aware of that might distinguish the pro game from amateur play. (After all, I didn't want to be too ticky-tacky about things such as foot faults if the pro's

weren't accustomed to having referees who call them.)

Recognizing my sincerity, she introduced me to Ben Kolton, who she described as a very knowledgeable person who could help put me at ease. Ben spent several minutes reassuring me that I had nothing to worry about.

As fate would have it, the very first match I was assigned to was one of Ben's. Anxious about this opportunity to display my skill, I called the score "Zero Serving Sero" to start the match.

Ben's opponent immediately hit a very hard, head-high serve which Ben reached out and caught on the fly *before* it hit the back wall. Who could have believed it! The very first point of my very first professional match, I found myself hesitating on the call — unsure as to whether there was some unwritten understanding accepted by the pros that should have resulted in this serve being called long, even though it was stopped

before reaching the back wall. So I took a chance (stuck by the rule-book) and called the serve good and awarded a point to the server. Ben turned around and looked at me in a very puzzled manner, but didn't say a word.

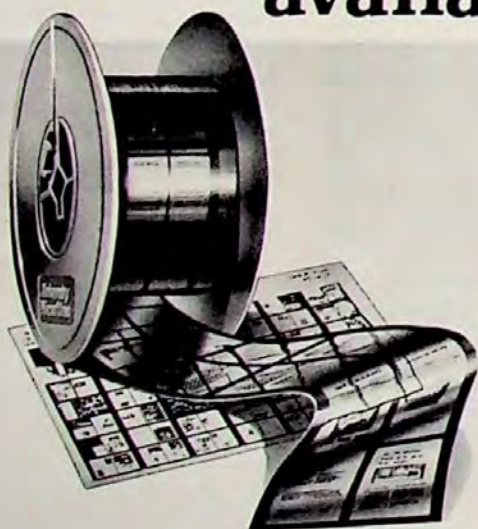
That point, it turned out, was the only point scored by Ben's opponent throughout the entire match.

Afterwards, I cornered Ben and asked him about the possibility of an unwritten understanding, or if he perhaps he had caught the ball as some sort of test for me. He said, "No, I just forgot that we weren't warming up anymore."

So much for my imagined subtleties of reffing the pro game!

There's no doubt that racquetball is a highly competitive sport, but as you can see, it has it's lighter moments too. Thanks again players, I will always remember you with a great deal of respect.

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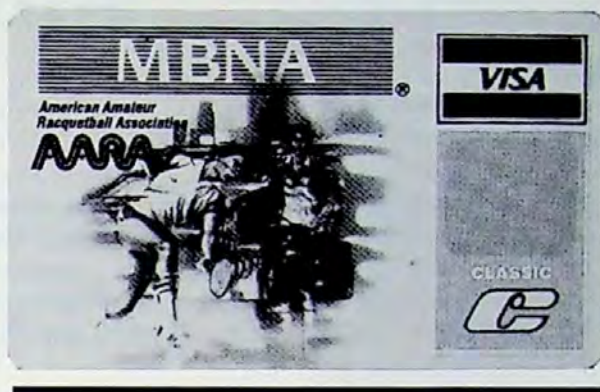
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11/87.

Tournaments Without A Nervous Breakdown!

by Dave Peck



Tournament time is around the corner at your local club. You have decided that this year is the time to establish yourself as a true champion of champions. The two month countdown is on.

Then, all of a sudden you become light headed, breathing is fast and erratic, and you can't seem to get enough air. In this delirium, you get a flashback of 'Racquetball Days of Tournaments Past'. You recall the stomach cramps, the rusty game, and all the people you thought had loved you yelling instead for the other person to beat the living daylights out of you.

The flashback ends just as suddenly as it started, but with your palms still perspiring from the vivid experience, you recall that once you also vowed to never play another club tournament again.

Does this scenario sound familiar? Well, here are some ways to make tournaments fun and challenging instead of nerve-racking and unbearable.

1. Get your self into tournament condition. Body first! In observing small tournaments throughout the state, I see one common denominator that distinguishes the winners from the losers, and that's the conditioning factor.

Face it, usually the winner of a tournament has played at least five matches, not including the other division he probably competed in as well.

Start preparing for the tournament slowly by playing three matches a week, then moving it to four matches. You should increase your match play according to how your body feels. Remember, the best monitor is your own body, listen to it!

2. Develop your racquetball skills by getting help from a qualified

racquetball professional. The great misconception of this sport is the belief that to become proficient does not take any guidance. But out of knowledge comes mental strength. We all make mistakes when we play, and the true winners are the players who constantly analyze their own game, correct their errors, and strive not to repeat them. A qualified pro-

In this delirium, you get a flashback of 'Racquetball Days of Tournaments Past'. You recall the stomach cramps, the rusty game, and all the people you thought had loved you yelling instead for the other person to beat the living daylights out of you.

fessional can watch your game, pick out the flaws, and give you the framework for an analytical approach aimed at improving your game.

3. Visualize your stroke and shots in your mind. Once a thought is conceived in the mind, only then can it be transferred into physical movement. Programs are now on the market which will help you with this kind of pre-tournament practice. One of these is SyberVision which engrains the neuromuscular patterns in your mind and allows you the winning edge.

4. Practice tournament conditions. Getting physically and mentally prepared makes you tournament tough. Steps 1, 2, and 3 will prepare you for tournament toughness, which is the ability to hit and execute shots under pressure conditions with equal ease, whether it is 1-1 in the first game, or 10-10 in the tiebreaker. But beyond that, you should practice tournament conditions, and there are ways to do it.

First of all, know your strengths and weaknesses. Make sure that in practice matches you work on ma-

nipulating your opponent into playing to your strengths.

Then play for something each practice match. It doesn't have to be anything extravagant; for example, my brother Gregg and I play for Pepsi's, a total win (or loss) of 50 cents. But it is not the expense that

matters, it is the fact that there is the pressure of having something on the line.

Familiarize yourself with the courts and racquetballs that the tournament will be using. Panel courts play differently than concrete courts. A different brand ball may be slower or faster than the one you usually use. Even balls that play almost the same may have a little different feel coming off the racquet. Prepare yourself for these variables by practicing before the tournament, using the equipment you will be playing with during your matches.

5. During the tournament, decide to do the best you can to win each the match. Notice I did not say 'tournament'. By having that 'I am going to win the entire tournament' attitude, you are putting an enormous amount of pressure on yourself. Don't fall into that trap. Take it one point at a time. Just relax and play the best you can and enjoy the challenge. ○

Dave Peck won the men's professional national championship in 1982, and is one of the top players and coaches in the game today. His book, Dave Peck's Championship Racquetball System, is published by Simon & Schuster, Inc., New York.

AARON KATZ

On His Way To The Top

A little less than a year ago, Aaron Katz bought himself a Seiko watch. He had waited a long time for that watch, not because he couldn't afford it but because it was his way of rewarding himself for breaking into the top 16 players on the men's professional tour.

Three years ago, Aaron had made a decision to pursue a career in racquetball. At that point, he had never even seen a professional tournament, but he was determined to become one of the touring players. So at the age of 20, he went looking for fame in racquetball, and moved 1,500 miles away from his family and friends in Binghamton, NY to find it in Dallas, TX.

In Dallas, he lost his accent, and he lost in racquetball. From being one of the best in New York, he dropped to barely average at the open level of play in Texas.

It took two years in Dallas until he felt ready to attempt playing on the pro tour. To play the tour, he had to qualify for each event by surviving a mini-tournament against 63 equally hungry players, all competing for the eight positions left open in the 32-man professional draw.

Aaron reached an important stage in his career in November of 1986 when he reached the rank of 24th; it meant he no longer needed to qualify. By the end of that season he had reached 16th, and bought himself the Seiko.

Now Aaron is in the middle of his second season on the tour. His best

(continued on the next page)



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finish so far has been the round of 16's — after 10 tour events he has made it to that round nine times. Now his goal is to be in the top eight by the end of the 1988 Nationals.

In this interview, Aaron tells what it is like to be one of the struggling pros who devote years of work to cracking that elite group of players, the top ten.

What was it like first breaking in as a qualifier?

Although I had qualified at the 1985 DP Nationals, the only reason I qualified was because it was local. I wasn't really playing the pro stops that year. So my first real attempt was in Stockton, California, at the first pro stop of 1986.

I flew into San Francisco on the Wednesday of the tournament, then rented a car and drove to Stockton, which took about two hours. I got into town about 4 p.m., and had to play my first qualifying match at 5. Then I had to play at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., and



Even though I'd never seen a pro stop, I looked at myself as a totally untapped resource. I'd already become better than anyone else in my area. I'd seen a little bit of Mike Levine and a little bit of the top open players downstate, and I felt then, that after playing only for two or three years I was at that level. I thought if

goal setting as far as rankings, and financial stuff.

Why Dallas?

Because there are so many good players in Texas. Dave Peck, Gregg Peck, guys that played the tour like Lance Gilliam, guys that I felt were a good example of how to be. I knew that there was a real active racquetball community. Texas has what I call the most active satellite circuit in the country. That was one of the main reasons I came down because I knew I would get the opportunity to play a lot of money tournaments and get exposed to a lot of competition.

Were you ever given any unpleasant surprises?

There were no surprises. I guess I always had the confidence I was getting better. Last year was a big disappointment though. I felt like I was going to crack the top ten around January and I pulled a back muscle and I had to play two pro stops and a number of local tournaments with a pulled back muscle. I think that kept me from breaking the top ten and set me back a little bit.

"I knew that there was a real active racquetball community. Texas has what I call the most active satellite circuit in the country."

the next morning at 10:30 had to play a professional who had yet to play his first match! But I ended up beating Dan Obremski in the first round before losing in the round of 16.

Looking back, then, Stockton justified your decision to be a touring pro which was your reason for moving to Dallas. But how could you have made that decision with so little experience in professional racquetball?

I put any time into it, I could get to a higher level, even though I didn't know what that higher level was. I knew I was capable of getting a lot better. So I just wanted to find out how good I could get at that time.

How good were you when you made this career decision?

Actually, I had had very little exposure to national level racquetball. I started playing in Binghamton. It felt like I was the best player there after

In retrospect, though, I think pulling the back was really beneficial because it got me much more concerned about training and preparation and things I had taken for granted before.

Still, leaving New York must have been a big step. Did you regret that decision at all in the first six months?

I did at first, because when I first came down, I had a roommate. The roommate went back to NY, so after three months down here, I was without a roommate and I didn't have a real good job just yet. In fact, when I came down, I had to look for a job.

Do you miss your family at all?

Yeah, to a certain extent, but that was one of the sacrifices I knew I was making. I was going away from my parents, older brother and older sister and my good friends. Naturally, you make new friends when you relocate, but all my good college friends stayed on the east coast.

I go home three or four times a year. I'm still in touch with my family and most of my friends. It's not too bad because they're really supportive of what I'm doing. In fact, the NY pro stop was held about 15 minutes from where I live and that was the first time that they could see me play since I started the tour.

Now you are in the top 16, which means you've completed the first part of your goal. What's next?

I want to be in the top eight. Long term, I am shooting for the top four, and naturally in the top four I will shoot for number one, but I feel once I'm in the top four I'll be able to carve a niche for myself in the industry, and

I'll be able to stay involved in the sport.

Right now I think that's where it's at. If you're looking at a long term career in the sport, you need to be in the top four, possibly when racquetball's a bit bigger, in the top eight.

Would you say you are goal oriented?

Yes. I've missed some short term goals, such as winning certain tournaments that I've wanted to win. I also wanted to finish last year ranked a little higher. When the year started, my original goal was to finish in the top 16, but once it got going I changed it and wanted to get into the top 12, and that was the one goal I didn't reach. I put some of that blame onto that back pull injury, even though, like I said, it will be good for me long term.

Obviously, from the beginning you've chosen your own path to reach your

(continued on the next page)

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COURT SPORTS COURT

Aaron Katz

(continued from page 11)

goals. What do you do now for an 'average work day' as you shoot for the top eight?

I'd say an average day consists of getting into the club around 7 a.m., doing two hours of training such as jumping ropes, sprints, or weightlifting. From 9 until 12, I'll do administrative work — phone calls and the necessities to get my programs going with leagues, tournaments, sponsors.

I put the next two hours, 12-2, aside for lessons. From 2-4, I'll practice or play other pros in the area. From 4-7, I'll work on some type of on-going program, either clinics, exhibitions, or more lessons. That period is prime time and I'll always be doing something to be at the club.

I do this five days a week, Monday to Friday. Weekends, I'll play tournaments, either in the area or the tour stops.

How do you prepare for a pro stop?

I normally lift weights until Monday of the tournament. But I'll only do upper body weight training. I do no lower body for a week before the tournament because I found that my legs tend to tighten up and give me back trouble. All my back trouble was always happening when I was doing heavy leg work before a pro stop.

Then Tuesday, I'll do a real light workout: ride the bike for maybe 25 minutes. Or I might jog a couple of miles, but it will always be lighter than normal training.

Wednesday is always a normal day off. I never do anything physical. I never teach any lessons, never bicycle or lift weights. Wednesday I just travel. I fly out somewhere between 2 or 4 in the afternoon, to get into town around 8 or 9 p.m. so that I don't spend too much time at the club. I think it's a bad idea to spend too much time at the club.

A lot of the guys go in and spend all Wednesday night at the club, and I think that way you're burnt out by the time you get to your match. I like to simply go check in at the draw, then go to the hotel.

Do you ever get burnt out?

Not really, because I always feel myself progressing. I think burn out is a by-product when people stagnate from working for a goal without making progress.

Even when I put in 80 or 90 hours a week between playing, training and working at the club, I've always felt like I'm progressing as a player. Also within what I'm doing, I feel like I am progressing in promoting tournaments. I've always been able to run bigger tournaments, and the camps I do have always been successful.

So if for some reason I am faced with stagnation — and I don't foresee it in the future — then maybe I'll have to fight burnout. But so far, as long as I have felt continuing progress, I've never had the feeling that I hate to get on the court the next day.

We've heard that you are busy with something else in the Dallas area as well — work for a charity. How did that begin?

About two years ago, I was trying to promote a tournament called the Tri-Racquet Classic, which involved squash, tennis and racquetball players. I was looking for a charity to do it with, and remembered a lady from a charity that I had met at another tournament, and it was the type of charity that you get taken with. It certainly appealed to me.

This charity is called 'A Wish With Wings' and it grants wishes for catastrophically ill children. Almost everything I've done charity-wise, I've tied in with them. A lot of the appeal comes from the fact that you can run events to grant a specific wish to a specific child. It gives a goal to an event. Just recently, Dave Peck and I did an exhibition, and we were specifically granting a wish for a VCR and TV to three-year-old Josh, who is being treated for a brain tumor.

While as a struggling pro you can't be called a charity case, you're definitely not a millionaire. Do your winnings from tournaments support you?

No. I definitely need to supplement my income with the club as racquetball and squash pro at the Landmark Club in Dallas.

Do you have help in paying for trips to tournaments?

Ektelon has been real supportive. Without them I never would have started playing the pro tour. I'm still at the age where I have to make a living and I don't think it is realistic to even work on the pro tour right now as a first year player unless you have a sponsor. They cover most of my plane fares to the pro stops. Hotels depend on how my budget for the year is going. Sometimes it might be covered. Most of the pros get bonuses, too, and mine are pretty well based on what round I reach.

What do you see after racquetball?

I'm hoping I can be successful enough in racquetball to stay in the industry. I'd like to stay involved in the teaching and promoting, and do some national level teaching.

What do you feel has been your biggest achievement?

I think it was breaking into the top 16 my first year. Right now, the way the tour is structured, it's real difficult to break in.

Although I feel like I've accomplished some goals, I feel if I ended my career right now, there would be a tremendous void left. I feel like I have a lot more to accomplish, both as a player and promoter.

Have you had any major disappointments?

No, I don't think so. I don't know if it's rationalization or just coping, but I've always been able to deal with any lows or losses or negatives reasonably well, and I think that's important.

What I've been good at over the last couple of years is accepting the fact that there's going to be a lot of highs and lows, and not getting too high with the highs and too low with the lows.

So after all this, what is the next reward you plan to give yourself?

[Laughter] At the end of the year, I bought myself a watch as a celebration, a Seiko. It was going to be a Rolex, but I decided I needed to get higher up in the rankings for that.

The Rolex is for when I break the top eight. ○

Keep Your Head Down

Eye contact with the ball is crucial during the rally, but what also seems natural is to watch where you want to hit the ball. Unfortunately, both things cannot be done at the same time, and lifting your head during the shot can ruin it in several ways.

Lifting your head during the shot will change the mechanics of your stroke. It brings up your front shoulder, and drops your back shoulder — movement that will also lift your shot, result in a mis-hit, or even make you miss the ball completely.

Lifting your head tends to pull your swing in towards your body as well. That shortened stroke also results in shot-making disaster.

Instead, concentrate on keeping your head down as you hit. You don't have to worry the front wall won't move during that half second when you watch only the ball!

You will notice — even with little

court experience — that it is easy to orient your body to the front wall without watching it, through other visual clues such as the side wall, back wall, and court floor markings.

Other times, you may be lifting your head for fear of running into a side wall as you hit your shot. The easiest way to solve this problem is to have your free arm out to push off the side wall, should that be necessary for protection.

The best way to learn how to keep your head down is to practice your favorite shots without once looking to see where they hit the front wall. Hit 20, 30 or 50 shots without succumbing to the temptation to enjoy the results. It will make a big difference in your game. ○

by Mark Kessinger

Basics For Beginners is excerpted from Mark Kessinger's book *Unlimited Racquetball*, which is in the publishing stage.

PARI Tip Of The Month

Don't Forget Basics

Everyone wants to be able to hit that kill shot, splat shot, or pinch shot. And let's face it, those shots are spectacular when executed properly. You feel like a playing pro when that reverse pinch rips in for a winner. Often, you are so overcome with joy, that you forget you skipped in the previous four attempts!

However, if you really want to improve your level of play, you had better remember all those repeated skips shots and be more selective when going for rally ending shots. Remember, any type of kill shot is a lower percentage shot than its sister offensive shot — the pass shot.

One of the first offensive shots of the game you should concentrate on mastering, is the straight-in pass shot. Stand in the middle of the court and see how many shots you can drop and hit directly back to yourself.

At most levels of play, you will find this is not an easy task.

The ball should hit the front wall about 2-1/2 to 3 feet high, and bounce twice before the back wall. Once you can do this consistently with your forehand and backhand, move closer to the sidewalls, and again, hit shots directly back to yourself. Once you get within a couple of feet from each of the sidewalls with your drop and hit, the pass becomes known as a down the line pass. If executed correctly, this pass shot can become a consistent rally ending shot — and your point and your game. ○

This month's tip is from Jon Martin, a certified instructor at the professional level for PARI. Jon instructs at the Cascade Athletic Club in Gresham, OR.

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They Don't Get Bigger Than The Long Island Open

Al Seitelman organizes and runs what is believed to be the world's largest racquetball tournament, the Long Island Open.

Like a general — he looks the part at 6'0" with his thick mustache and no-nonsense hairstyle — Al organizes volunteers who contribute thousands of man hours to solve all tournament logistics. During the tournament, he strides from corner to corner of the club, answering questions on the run, overseeing the details right down to sharpened referee pencils.

Those details are staggering. Setting up the main draw, for example, takes four people a minimum of three days, 12 hours a day.

With well over 900 entrants (as compared to 750 at the AARA Nationals), Al needs things like the 1,400 balls supplied by Penn Athletics, 15,000 plastic cups for the beer that Miller Lite donates, someone for Sunday afternoon delivery of the 100 large pizzas given by Pizza Hut, and another person to handle the three van loads of give-away prizes from other sponsors such as Foot-Joy, A'ME Grips, and Burt Sports.

Seitelman spends the entire year before the tournament working with other sponsors like the U.S.'s largest Nissan dealership, Auto Plaza and WBAB, which calls itself the 'roaring racquetball' radio station as it plugs the tournament for three weeks prior to the draw. Al also arranges little things for players, such as cases of frozen fruit bars.

His troops for all these details start at home. Al's wife and mother-in-law spend the week before the tournament cooking in preparation for the hospitality offered to over 1000 people. His parents, sister-in-law and brother-in-law and girlfriend help during the tournament.

Not only that, but Al's printer, who does hundreds of shirts for the tournament, one year began volunteer-

ing help because he felt so bad about the work load he observed. Al's friends pitched in, as well as some players. Without them, as Al takes great pains to emphasize, there could be no tournament.

Obviously the tournament is not something casual for Al. He takes a week from his job as Director of Planning for the Labor Department for Suffolk County on Long Island. Three other people, Bob Supple, Ernie Fraas and Regina Corrigan-Ochwat all leave their jobs for a week to help during the tournament.

Their finished product, among other things, needs a lot of five-dollar bills. "My bank teller thought I was crazy when I ordered a thousand five-dollar bills before the tournament," Al says. "But we pay the players five bucks a match to referee. It saves us from hating players by the end of the weekend, because we don't have to track them down and force them to ref."

Despite the hurdles of a tourna-

ment this size, it ran smoothly, even when Fred Calabrese, the second-seeded player in the open event and winner of the event in 1984 and 1986, failed to appear for his scheduled match on Friday.

Fred's nonappearance became the start of an interesting and effortless draw for an unranked player named Mike Seikel, who had been scheduled to play against Calabrese early in the draw. When Calabrese didn't show, it forfeited Seikel into the quarter finals.

In the quarter finals, he was losing 14-8 to Rich Vezzano, a young protégé of touring professional Ruben Gonzalez, when Vezzano reached for a shot, wrenched his back and could not play another point. Seikel became the winner by forfeit again.

That meant the unranked Seikel advanced to the semifinals. His luck had to end sometime though. In the semifinals, he faced third-seeded Joe Cline of Warren, NJ, 12th ranked

(continued on page 16)



Joey Cline concentrates on shot.

Photos by Frank Pflumm



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Long Island Open

(continued from page 14)

AARA player in the country. Even though Seikel was much better than anyone expected for a double-forfeit player, Cline won 15-10, 15-2.

Cline's victory, however made him an immediate underdog in the finals. There, his opponent was Cliff Swain who is ranked fifth on the RMA men's professional tour. A little over a month earlier, Swain had played in the finals of a tournament against Marty Hogan — and had won.

In this tournament, Cliff was not pressed until the semifinals, when he faced Tom Montalbano (one of the top 10 amateurs in the nation). 'Pressed' though, may be relative. Using one of the world's most dominating serves, Swain took that match in straight games, 15-11, 15-5.

In the finals, Swain's serve was so overwhelming, Cline frequently had to dive to reach the ball. Still the hometown crowd rooted for its hero, 'Joisey Joe', especially as he performed his specialty, getting the ungettable. The only person unfazed by his acrobatics was Cliff Swain, who won 15-6 in the first game. Game two was close until 11-11, then Swain finished it off with his



Al Seitelman with Val Paese and Tina Petrossi the women's doubles champions.

own specialty, those crushing serves. Two aces, a skip ball and set-up later, Swain was the 1987 Long Island Open winner.

The victory put him in a circle of winners that extends back 10 years. The Long Island Open, which was started by Al Seitelman with Mike Jones, was first held in 1977 and drew 176 entrants. Other winners have included Ruben Gonzalez, absent this year because of prior commitment to a racquetball exhibi-

tion in Tennessee, and David Simonette, the AARA's 1987 Junior National Champion.

A glance through the tournament program provided tidbits for history buffs. Jim Cascio, this year's amateur national champion, won the men's B in 1979. Molly O'Brien (WPRA ranking at 4) won the women's B the year before, then won the women's open in 1984. Fran Davis won the tournament in 1985. Dot Fischl (WPRA ranking at 14) won in 1986.

This year, Fischl became the first woman since 1978 to win the Long Island Open twice. She did it by marching through the draw with a semifinal tiebreaker victory over Tina Petrossi from New York, and a two game sweep over Fran Russo in the finals. Russo, a native of the nearby Bronx, had beaten Val Paese in her semifinal match.

The amazing part of Dot Fischl's game was her ability to short-hop kill the ball — not patty cake style, but ferocious, go-for-glory mayhem.

When asked about these shots, she said, "I learned racquetball by playing the one-wall game. It had no ceiling, no back wall, no side walls. If you didn't short hop it, you were dead."

For the third year in a row a blond celebrity Lee Meredith was present. Lee is famous for her Miller Lite television commercials as Mickey Spillane's girlfriend, and the celebrity glitter was a nice finishing touch to the tournament. ○



Cliff Swain (right) returns shot from Tom Montalbano.

The Racquetball Medical Forum

by Dr. Paul Ross

If you would like Dr. Ross to address a specific medical problem, send your question to: MEDICAL EDITOR, National Racquetball, P.O. Drawer 6126, Clearwater, FL 34618-6126.

Dr. Ross: I have relatively flat feet and when I run long distances there is a jarring, burning pain in my shins. Not much when I play racquetball. Are these shin splints? If they are, what can I do? C. Kuhn, Beaumont, TX

Dear C.K.: The term "shin splints" refers to pain along the inner two-thirds of your lower leg. However, it should not be used to describe all pain below the knee and above the ankle. Shin splints are an overuse syndrome that usually develops when running on hard surfaces, and is primarily caused by wearing improper running shoes, running on a banked track or the shoulder of a road. Shin splints are also caused primarily when people who have excessively flattened feet run. When they run the compilation of shock and trauma to the inner portion of the foot transmits up the inner portion of the leg, thus causing repetitive stress, producing initially a tendonitis type pain. If this continues, it will develop into an inflammation of the bone where the muscle attaches itself and could even lead to stress fractures of the tibia.

Proper running shoes with good, rigid heel counters and increased support along the arch are necessary. If your existing running shoes have over 800-1000 miles on them, the mid sole probably has diminished shock absorption capacity and you should buy new running shoes. If after you have evaluated your shoes and seen that they are okay, then properly fitted sport orthotic devices should be put in your shoes. Sport orthotic devices can be procured from a sports podiatrist, who after x-ray and evaluation,

will be able to fabricate a proper device. One last thing to remember, if you are having pain in your shin you should not run until the pain has disappeared. Also, to alleviate any inflammation caused by running, you should be icing the area about 15 to 20 minutes after your run.

Dr. Ross: I've been playing racquetball for many years. My problem is that my toenails are extremely thick and constantly cause pain after prolonged matches. They seem to be getting thicker. What do you think is the problem and what can I do? H. Belfor, Burke, VA

Dear H.B.: Thickened nails are usually the result of a fungus infection. This is similar to an athlete's foot condition but specifically affecting the nails. Fungus is encouraged to grow in warm, dark, moist areas which makes your shoes a perfect environment. Once it starts growing underneath the nail, it becomes thicker and thicker until the entire nail is involved. This thickness causes pressure from the shoes onto the small bones in the end of the toes. If left to progress, it could actually cause painful bone spurs.

Treatment is directed at the fungus. This is very difficult to totally eradicate, but there are some things you can do to help. Keep the nail cut short and thin. Use antifungal powder in your shoes daily. Put antifungal liquid on the nails daily. Change shoes and socks daily. If there is no significant improvement then seek out appropriate care which could include oral medication, laser therapy and possibly nail surgery. ○

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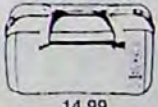
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A New Professional Source

Most professional sports, including racquetball, have a feeder system, which varies from sport to sport.

Professional football teams draft players out of university, relying on intercollegiate competition for testing and appraisal, as do basketball franchises. Baseball and hockey teams tend to bring players up through jealously guarded farm teams. And, most of the up and coming players in professional racquetball have been top ranked amateurs.

Racquetball's feeder system into the professional ranks is a good sign that racquetball has matured as a sport; these days few players show up from "nowhere" on the professional tour. Even Egan Inoue, despite his startling jump from 28th to fifth in less than half a year had shown what he could do to anyone watching him on the U.S. National team or during his performances at AARA events.

Most of the pros come up through the junior ranks. When juniors (Bret Harnett or Marci Drexler, for example) win the 18 and under event at the Junior Nationals, it's a safe bet he or she will eventually appear on

the pro tour.

But more recently there has been an addition to the feeder system — the college game. College campuses have been hotbeds of racquetball activity for years. Three- and four-wall indoor courts are used by thousands of undergraduates and alumni at institutions nationwide. It has only been in the past few years, however, that successful attempts have been made to organize that energy and enthusiasm.

The results have given the professional game another feeder system. Currently tied for 13th on the RMA men's professional tour is Roger Harripersad, who played for Sacramento State and won the 1986 Intercollegiate Nationals in Rhode Island. Doug Ganim, a quarter finalist at the Davison pro stop in 1987, was also Ohio State's main contributor. Toni Bevelock played and starred for Memphis State.

Now, high school players planning to pursue a professional racquetball career or accomplished players, can apply for a racquetball scholarship. These are now available at many universities and provide an opportunity which was not available until recently.

The organization behind this exciting opportunity for junior players is called the American Collegiate Racquetball Association (ACRA). It is headed by Commissioner Neil Shapiro, and recognized by the AARA as the official governing body of intercollegiate racquetball.

The ultimate goal of all ACRA teams is to compete at the Intercollegiate Nationals which are held annually. This year the tournament will take place in Sacramento, from April 7-10. Over 400 players representing roughly 35 colleges will compete in various divisions. Last years competition was won by California State at Sacramento.

Unfortunately, due to the relatively recent beginning of intercollegiate play, scholarship opportunities are limited, and many teams must also fund their own travel expenses. Still, racquetball at this level is growing tremendously.

The powerhouses in intercollegiate racquetball are Cal State at Sacramento and Memphis State. The team award, which Cal State won last year, was determined by a heartbreaking 237-236 finish over Memphis. The 1988 Nationals look to be no different. ○

Team Review

Memphis State

Memphis State University has the longest-running college racquetball program in the country. When coach Larry Lyles took over the two year old team in 1975 it had a total of 11 members. In the twelve years since the Memphis State team has grown to 18 members and has become a model for other intercollegiate teams.

Scholarships, funding: Unlike most of the smaller schools, Mem-



Coach Larry Lyles with Kim Cooling, MSU.

phis State allocates funds for team travel, equipment and insurance expenses, plus offers full racquetball scholarships to entering freshmen. The racquetball program also enjoys the financial support of 'The Rollout Club', a group of racquetball enthusiasts from the local area, MSU alumni, and corporate donors whose contributions help endow the scholarship fund.

The Coach: Larry Lyles, who was also named the U.S. National Team coach this year, is almost an institution at Memphis State.

Tryouts, practice sessions: Members practice five days a week, from 2:30 to 5:30, using Tuesdays and Thursdays to complete scheduled round robin matches, skill and conditioning drills and run sprints.

Racquetball — College Style



California State players rejoice.

On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, the squad does Nautilus and aerobics.

Tryouts for available slots on the MSU team are held in the fall and spring of each year.

Last year's finish: Overall, the team placed second to Sacramento State, losing by only one point (237-236). The men's team placed first, and the women's team placed second.

Possible finish in 1988: There are only two possibilities: first or second. No other team will come close except for Sacramento State, and that, of course, will be a very close finish. The team includes Dave Simonette, the 1987 AARA National Junior Champion, and Todd O'Neill and James Lorello, 15th and 19th respectively in AARA rankings.

California State At Sacramento

California State University at Sacramento has achieved the same success as the MSU racquetball program in a span of only four years. The

initial 1983 Sacramento State team had two men and five women, compared to today's squad of two eight-member men's and women's traveling teams. A non-traveling 'club' team on campus has another ten members, plus an additional ten players ready to compete for the school at any given time.

Scholarships, funding: The coach, Ed Martin formed the "Friends of Sacramento Racquetball" of alumni and corporate donors enthusiastic about racquetball. This organization, aided by various team fund-raising activities, now supplies money for travel to conference play among eight member universities. Sacramento State began funding full-ride racquetball scholarships for the top four men and women players on the team in 1985. The team receives additional support from the Student Association.

The Coach: Ed Martin has coached the team since it's beginning in 1983. He also coached the U.S. National Team before handing the duties over to MSU rival and friend, Larry Lyles.

(continued on the next page)

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Racquetball — College Style

Tryouts, practice sessions:

Three-hour practice sessions are scheduled three times a week, consisting of drills and regular match play where resting players critique the performance of their teammates. Each practice concludes with either a two-mile run, or a one-mile swim to build endurance and speed.

There are no requirements to make the school team. However, only the top 10 men and top eight women players compete on the two traveling teams. These positions are basically determined by ladder competition throughout the year.

Last year's finish: First place overall. The men's team placed second to Memphis State, but the margin of victory by the women's team ensured the overall victory.

Possible finish in 1988: The team's finish can only be first or second. To have any other team finish ahead of MSU or Sacramento State would be comparable to a high school football team winning the Superbowl. The women's team here looks very strong with Trina Rasmussen (ranked #1 in AARA) and Mona Mook (ranked #2 in AARA). The men's team includes Michael Lowe, eighth ranked AARA amateur.

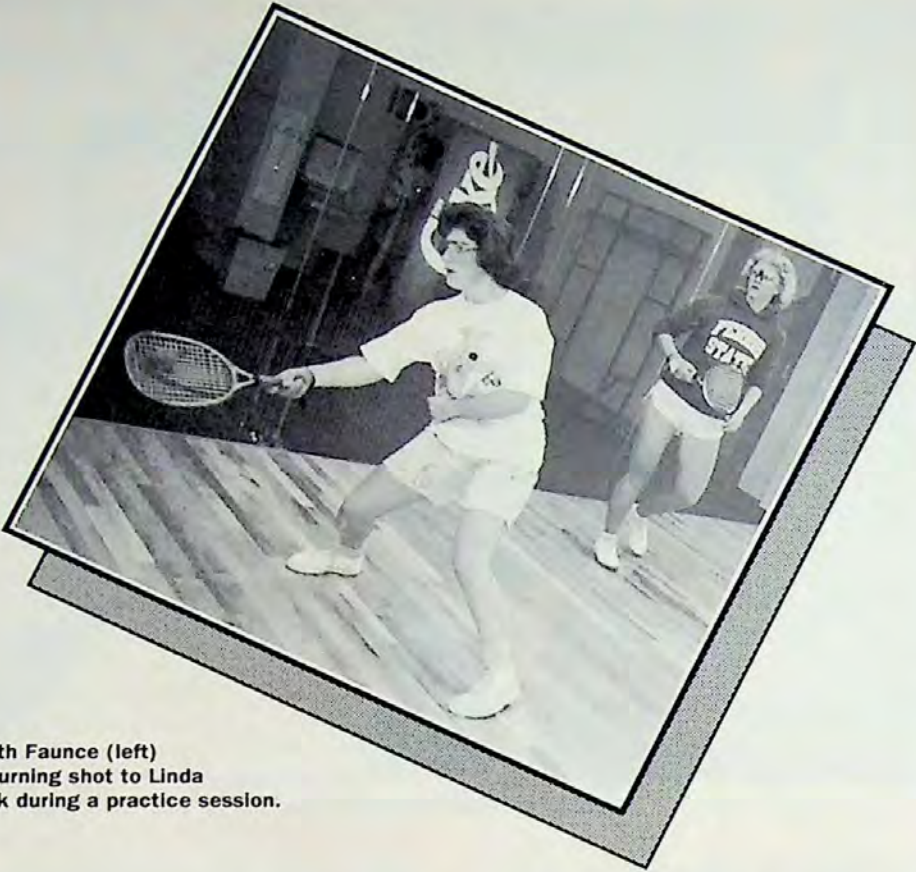
Ferris State

Ferris State College in Big Rapids, Michigan also started only four years ago, but through the efforts of three full-time campus staff (Matt Klein, Jerry Gray and Marilyn Keigly) this small college has become one of the nation's top racquetball forces.

The Coach: Ferris State has two coaches, Jerry Gray and women's coach Marilyn Keigley, who has taken novice players to solid B level within two years. In the past, Ferris State has also brought in outside teaching professionals such as Steve Strandemo.

Scholarships, funding: This year Ferris State also offered racquetball scholarships to entering freshmen. Budget allocations for the program are still lacking, however, and the team is responsible for generating its expense money.

Ferris State is unique with its designation of a separate women's



Beth Faunce (left) returning shot to Linda Cok during a practice session.

coach to drum up female interest in its programs, and is currently holding open one of its two available racquetball scholarships for a female freshman player.

Tryouts, practice sessions: The 10 men and 5 women players have three weekly practice sessions, which include court drills, strength training, conditioning and running. Players make the team first by participating in all practices and team fund raising events, then the top eight positions for the nationals are determined through round robin play.

Last year's finish: Ferris State finished third overall, supported largely by a strong women's team.

Possible finish in 1988: Certainly top five, possibly last year's finish of third again. The women's team was weakened by the graduation of some of its members, but the men's team is much stronger than last year. Team member Larry Meeusen is one of the top players in Western Michigan, and along with Greg Bedenis, his doubles partner, they should

combine for points in Sacramento. Women's team players Linda Cok and Beth Faunce, who both compete in local women's 'A' events, are expected to do well also.

University Of Montana

MSU Racquetball Club began in 1983 when a group of students met informally to practice once a week to prepare for the Nationals, held then in Kentucky. The next year, one of the top women players in the state, Kim Koski became an official coach, and the team has competed at every Nationals since.

Scholarships, funding: No scholarships available. Due to regional economics, new coach Dusenberry-Tank says the state gives little funding to the team. However, the Montana Racquetball Association contributes money for entry fees and some travel expenses to the Nationals. The team also holds its own fund

(continued on page 24)



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University of Montana
team members.

raising activities.

The Coach: Sharon Dusenberry-Tank began as coach/advisor in 1987. With ten years tournament experience in doubles and singles, she has been certified as an instructor by Steve Strandemo and APPO, and is currently working on certification by PARI.

Tryouts, practice sessions: Qualifying for the Nationals is usually a matter of determining order of positions on the team. MSU will probably send two full men's and two full women's teams to Sacramento.

Structured practice is once per week, with instruction and formal drills. Second practice session is optional for league play and intra-team play.

Last year's finish: Fourth place overall. While neither the men's or women's teams placed in the top four, their combined total put the team into a fourth place tie with University of Texas.

Possible finish in 1988: Certainly top ten. Three of last year's top finishers have returned, and their surprisingly strong finish last year has given the team confidence and motivation to prepare seriously for the Sacramento tournament. The team's returning players include Herb Thornby, back this year after finishing fourth in Division 2 last

year. Annie Blaz (third last year in Division 3 and third in Division 2 doubles) and her doubles partner Debbie Downs are also on the team for this year's Nationals. The team will be hurt by the one-year leave-of-absence of Donna and Debbie Beldring, who finished well for last year's team.

Purdue

The Purdue racquetball club began in 1976, and formed a club team in 1979, which has been competing in the Nationals since 1984. The team is a project of the university's racquetball club.

Scholarships, funding: No scholarships available. The team has limited support from Purdue's division of recreational sports. The university racquetball club also contributes. Team members raise their own funds through activities such as officiating at track and swim meets, helping park cars at football games, selling football programs, etc. Major fund raiser is an annual racquetball marathon.

The Coach: Purdue's coach, Jim Westman, has been with the team since 1984. His own game is at the 'A' level. He is a staff psychologist and director of psychological services at Purdue.

Tryouts, practice sessions: Team tryouts take place in September and January. Usually 25-30 players compete for the 16 positions on the team. Tryouts consist of individual skill ratings on each player through drills and short games.

The team currently has formal practice twice a week, with optional individual practicing as frequently as possible.

Last year's finish: The team dropped to fifteenth, unexpected and disappointing, because up to 1987, the team had improved its standings each year, from 12th in 1984 to 7th in 1985, and 3rd in 1986.

Possible finish in 1988: Top ten is the team's goal. Coach Westman says competition is much more intense each year, and reaching that goal 'remains to be seen'. Look for Scott Pufhal, Ken Harper, Mike Meney, Brad Rae on the men's team, and Geri Mucklbower, Sue Graul, Lisa Foltz, Abby McDonald on women's team, to support their bid for the top ten.

Rhode Island

The Rhode Island team was formed in 1982 with 15 players, and has nearly doubled since. The team competes in the Eastern Collegiate Conference.

Scholarships, funding: No scholarships, but the team has earned support from its student government, and receives budget assistance to offset a portion of the travel expenses incurred over the year.

The Coach: The team is essentially run by students, but is overseen by Jerry Alaimo, and receives help from advisor John Colantoni, who started the team but has since graduated, and is now Northeast Regional Commissioner for ACRA.

Tryouts, practice sessions: The 20-25 member Providence team is selected from a racquetball club of 100 members. Club members compete in pyramid fashion to determine the most qualified players, who then train for conference action. Structured practice is once per week, and league competition in the Eastern Conference is a major part of player

Racquetball — College Style



Rhode Island team members.

training and improvement.

Last year's finish: The team finished 11th, a large drop from overall sixth at the 1986 Nationals.

Possible finish in 1988: The team is a very good prospect for a top seven finish. The women's team has been strengthened with the return of Lyn Terracina, who figured prominently in 1986's sixth place finish. She is back from a year of transfer program study in Europe. The men's team strength will come from many repeats, including Joe Fonseca, Jim Salvato and Mike LeBraffeur.

Central Michigan University

The team began in 1978, sponsored by CMU's racquetball club. Size and interest in the team varied over the years, until the program was revived late in 1986 under coach and advisor Melodie Matties. Member-

ship in the club and the team is at an all-time high, and the school expects to send full men's and women's teams to Sacramento.

Scholarships, funding: No scholarships available, however fund raising for team expenses is very positive. Local businesses donate funds, and this year the team will probably have enough money to cover all travel expenses to the Nationals.

The Coach: Melodie Matties, who plays for the team, also coaches. She is one of the top intercollegiate players, singles and doubles, in the state, and last year finished fourth in Division 2 singles at the National Intercollegiate.

Tryouts, practice sessions: One organized four-hour session per week, with individuals practicing more when possible. Each team member is required to play in one tournament a month. Tryouts take place three weeks before the Nation-

(continued on the next page)



Central Michigan University team members.

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(continued from page 25)

als; round robin play determines who will fill the four positions on both the men's and women's teams.

Last year's finish: Fifteen.

Possible finish in 1988: CMU has three veteran players who competed and did well at last year's Nationals. With that experience, and the renewed backing of the community and university, this team could be the major surprise at Sacramento in 1988. It will probably finish in the top eight, because of players like Mark Heckman and Sam Tanielian, his doubles partner.

University Of Florida

This is the first year for the University of Florida at Gainesville, but it has several highly ranked state junior players that have entered the university as freshmen.

Scholarships, funding: No scholarships available. The team is on institutional probation for the first year, and is raising its own operating funds. Coach Walden, has already approached a number of corporate sponsors for funding help to Sacramento.

The Coach: James Walden is the team's coach, coming to the University of Florida after success in Florida's nationally competitive junior program, 'Power Racquetball Plus'.

Tryouts, practice sessions: The squad has a twice weekly practice schedule which emphasizes individual drills, strength training, conditioning and running. Like many other established teams, a full season of league play will determine the membership of the final team to travel to the Nationals.

Last year's finish: N/A

Possible finish in 1988: Look for a strong finish. None of the team, has competed in the Intercollegiate Nationals, but the top players have had good training and extensive tournament experience. On paper, this would be a tough team to bet, but those who like hunches should guess for Florida to finish in top seven, because of players like Glenn Warren, Joe Canuel, Scott Sobel, Linda Diamond, and Kim Baran.

The Little Engine That Could: Rensselaer



Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute team member Bruce Wexler with Coach Neil Shapiro.

Sometimes the pressure to win in college sports obscures its intent, which is to provide talented young men and women with the challenge of mastering more than academics. This doesn't mean, however, that winning should not be pursued, only that it shouldn't be the ultimate goal.

One college, Rensselaer, exemplifies that attitude. Although it is among the many colleges which are too small to win national recognition for sports achievements, it, like the many others, certainly deserves attention. So for Rensselaer and all the other little engines that could — and will always — try in college sports, thanks for reminding us of the spirit of competition.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute is located in Troy, NY, and has been a center for engineering studies since 1824. It's undergraduate population is less than 4,500, and all of the entering students previously finished high school in the top 20% of their class.

The reputation of Rensselaer is such that students come from 50 states and 60 foreign countries. Once in the college, they pay over \$15,000 in annual academic expenses. There are no athletic scholarships, no grant-in-aid for athletes.

A typical day for a Rensselaer

student means three to five hours of classes, three to seven hours of laboratory work, and two to six hours of study — easily eleven hours.

And those who play on the Rensselaer racquetball team?

Beyond the rigorous eleven hours of daily academics, they practice four times weekly, at least two hours each session. It's a necessity; because the school is so specialized nobody with proven racquetball ability is recruited to Rensselaer.

To add to team players' troubles with an already tight schedule, Rensselaer does not have any racquetball courts. Players must travel to a private club to practice, a return trip that takes them an hour and a half.

All this means that Rensselaer's only real tradition in sports, especially in racquetball, is a tradition of bucking the odds. However, it looks like they are developing a second tradition — winning despite the odds.

Since the program started in 1979 under the coaching of Neil Shapiro, the racquetball team has won four intercollegiate regionals, three state championships, and twice finished among the top 10 in the nation.

That's impressive. By any standard. ○

Racquetball '101'

The Guide To Intercollegiate Play

by Marilyn Keigley, Ph.D.

Dr. Keigley is an associate professor at Ferris State College in Big Rapids, MI. An avid racquetball player, she also coaches the successful women's team at Ferris State.

Eventually and inevitably any college team will be compared to those of a larger university system such as a Memphis or Sacramento State. Yet smaller colleges appear to have just as much drive, commitment and potential as their larger counterparts and all it takes at any school is a start.

Here then, are a few answers for any students or professors interested in joining a growing college sport.

How many students does it take to have a team? In the past, one-person teams have represented a college at the national competition. Ideally, though, a team consists of four men and four women playing both doubles and singles.

Team or single player, what is the way to compete in state, regional, or national competition? Simply by entering the tournaments. Until racquetball becomes an established varsity sport on college campuses, any college teams or individuals are eligible to compete in any of a series of intercollegiate events, right up to the National Championships. Individual winners of the nationals are invited to join the U.S. National Team.

Does a team need a coach? Many teams don't have a coach. However, teams that stay alive year after year, usually have a coach or adviser. A coach who can motivate and inspire young players is a good ingredient for success.

Combined with an enthusiastic group of players, the coach can easily demonstrate to an institution that a team is worthy of support of all types in a relatively short period of time (3-4 regular semesters). Also, it

is usually easy to attract a college staff member to coach/advise and travel with a team to the three annual competitions — states, regionals, and nationals.

Who pays team expenses? Most teams raise their own money. A survey of all teams attending the nationals in 1986 at Providence, RI, showed that several teams received some money from their college to attend the nationals. Three teams received money from student associations and one team received money from alumni. Another team received matching funds from their college.

Fund raisers included club tournaments, play-a-thons, races, marathons, corporate sponsors, raffles, and golf tournaments. Every team surveyed played for no charge at their institution and had organized practices. A few teams received free privileges at private clubs. (Anyone donating money to a college or university can designate those funds to a racquetball team.)

What can make the beginning easier for a team? Without exception, collegiate racquetball teams on the upswing have an 'insider' affiliated with the group in either a coaching or advisor capacity. This insider is a staff or faculty member who knows the workings of the university system. He or she can make a world of difference simply by paving the way for contact with key personnel, and also providing information about funding, alumni solicitations, facilities and programming.

What's the best way to learn of upcoming collegiate tournaments? Call or write to Neil Shapiro, the commissioner of ACRA, at 128 Lancaster Street, Albany, NY 12210, (518)462-7158. Also, anyone interested in more information about collegiate racquetball, including events, teams and scholarships may receive a handbook at no charge by writing Dr. Matt Klein at Ferris State

College, Star 120, Big Rapids, MI 49307.

The intercollegiate nationals for this season will be held in Sacramento, CA from April 7-10.

Do scholarships exist for individual athletes? Three colleges offer scholarships, all with money from outside fund raising. These are Memphis State University, TN, California State University in Sacramento, CA and Ferris State College, MI. (See inset box for addresses.)

Summary. Despite differences in size, public or private affiliations, fields of study or technical orientation, all of the successful teams have internal staff resources, a coach with special enthusiasm, and financial resources to make a program work year after year.

The key to receiving student government support and budget assistance is staying power. A team which survives by sheer determination and volunteer effort over one to two academic years can rarely be overlooked in the third.

Structured league competition, well-spent practice time, and an esprit de corps among team members completes a rather short list of 'prerequisites' for registration in Racquetball 101.

Scholarship enquiries can be sent to:

Larry Lyles
Racquetball Team Coach
Memphis State University
Memphis, TN 38051

Ed Martin
Racquetball Team Coach
California State University
at Sacramento
Sacramento, CA 95819

Jerry Gray
Racquetball Team Coach
Ferris State College
Big Rapids, MI 49307

The Greatest According To Gar

Charlie Garfinkel's Role Call Of Racquetball Professionals

I've been on the national scene in racquetball for almost 20 years, and I've had the chance to watch all of the greats, from Bill Schmidtke to Mike Yellen. So the first person I went to for a good opinion on who were the best men professionals in various categories was myself. And this is what I came up with:

Most Intelligent

Since my modesty and humiliation are well known, it was one of the hardest decisions of my racquetball career to remove myself from consideration for this extremely prestigious award. I apologize to my millions of admirers throughout the world.

The competition was tough. There is Mike Yellen, the only person to win five consecutive championships, Charlie Brumfield (which says it all), and Steve Strandemo.

But the choice had to be Mike Yellen. Watching him play is like watching a free racquetball clinic. His combination of power, control and finesse is second to none.

When Mike is on his game, his drive serves can be as effective as Egan Inoue's or Marty Hogan's, and his variety of lob and z-serves are extremely well placed. Furthermore, it is almost uncanny how well Yellen knows when to hit the drive, lob or z-serve. He always allows the flow of the match to dictate the type of serve that he should use.

As for his shot selection, it can be compared to that of a master chess player. Yellen's ability to shoot, pass, or go to the ceiling is unequalled. Every shot he hits is hit with a

purpose.

In many of Yellen's five game matches against Hogan, Hogan has played at a higher level than Yellen for short periods of time, but Yellen's consistency and ability to make the right shot, has earned him the distinction of being the game's top player for the last five years.



Mike Yellen

Second place goes to the wily Charlie Brumfield. Steve Strandemo, well known for his clinics and camps, is my third choice.

Greatest Forehand

What a tough category to rank! Bret Harnett, Cliff Swain, Dr. Bud Muehleisen, Davey Bledsoe and Bill Schmidtke all had great forehands.

However, I felt that my



Dave Peck

top three choices — Dave Peck, Jerry Hilecher and Ed Andrews — can all hit a greater variety of shots with their forehands.

Number one goes to Dave Peck.



Marty Hogan

His knack of hitting a forehand pinch into the left corner for a rollout has never been matched. He is extremely difficult to play against because of his ability to run around his backhand and hit a forehand instead. It was Peck's deadly forehand that was the key to wresting the national title away from Marty Hogan in 1982.

Furthermore, his ability to rekill any serves hit to his forehand, has virtually kept opponents from ever serving to that side of the court. It is unfortunate that he has never been able to attain his previous height of play since suffering a leg injury a few years ago, an injury so severe it was a miracle he came back to play at all.

I pick Jerry Hilecher, ranked among the top five professionals for almost thirteen years, as number two with all-time best forehands. Ed Andrews, currently ranked number two on the RMA tour, is my number three pick for the forehand category.

Greatest Backhand

Marty Hogan, who ranks with Mike Yellen as one of the greatest players of all-time, has a truly incredible backhand. When he swings his racquet, it seems as if he has a magic wand in his hand. His ability to shoot shoulder high backhand kills, which other players wouldn't even attempt, is unbelievable. His backhand kills, pinches, passes and splats are almost impossible to read, as he uses practically the same starting motion with each different shot.

His backhand is so lethal, he is

one of the few players who will move to take a shot on that side, instead of the forehand side, in certain game situations. Needless to say, his backhand has left many players completely demoralized.

Mike Yellen gets my nod for the number two position, and Steve Serot checks in at number three. If Serot's forehand was 75% as good as his backhand, he would have been practically unbeatable — unfortunately, his forehand was only half as good!

Best Southpaw

In an extremely hard category to rate, I would have to say that Bret Harnett edges Cliff Swain as the greatest lefty.

Harnett, when he is on his game, is a sight to behold. Flat rollouts, reverse pinches, deadly splats — especially on the backhand side — and bullet-like drive serves are routine for Bret. Even if he is down 8-2 or 9-2 in an 11-point game, his opponent can never feel secure. They all know of his ability to get a hot streak on the go.

Although Harnett is 6'3", he is unbelievably quick and agile. His ability to get to seemingly unreturnable shots, and rekill anything left up, frustrates many.

It is interesting to note that the first two pro stops of this season were won by Swain and Harnett, respectively.

Swain, the number two choice, is also a great server and shotmaker. However, I feel he doesn't have quite as much power or retrieving ability as Harnett.

Steve Serot, who was consistently ranked number two behind Charlie Brumfield in his heyday, is my overall choice for number three in this category.



Bret Harnett

Ultimate Server

Up to a year ago, there was no question that Marty Hogan was the greatest server who ever played racquetball. Today, I feel that is no longer true.

Egan Inoue, whose serve probably rockets at around 160 miles per hour, gets my vote as the number one server in the history of racquetball. If you doubt my judgment, all you have to do is watch

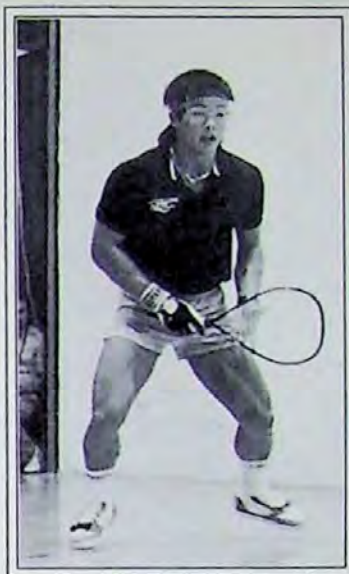
him serve at any pro stop. However, don't complain to me if you suffer blurred vision, dizziness or eye strain from attempting to follow the path of the ball. In fact, for spectators, Inoue's serve is almost impossible to follow. Imagine what it must be for his opponents!

Hogan, whose serve is still awesome, finishes at number two. My choice for number three goes to Bruce Christensen, a pro

who played regularly about five years ago. His lefty serve to right-handed opponents was one of the most devastating weapons on the tour.

All-Time Sportsman

Easily Ruben Gonzalez. He has won the Sportsmanship Award for the past two years on the RMA professional tour. Gonzalez, in remarkable shape at 35 — even compared to a 20-year-old — has never been known to argue with an opponent



Egan Inoue

or referee, take the ball on two bounces, or intentionally block an opponent's shot.

At a pro stop in Arlington, VA, a little over two years ago, he had tied Marty Hogan to go the fifth game in the finals. Hogan served for the match at 10-8. After a furious rally, Gonzalez killed a forehand that the referee called good. Ruben extended his hand to Hogan in congratulations. He said he knew his shot skipped. Instead of serving to possibly win the match, he

gave it to Hogan with this unheard of act of sportsmanship. Ask yourself if you would have done the same?

Gonzalez is a role model for youngsters and amateur players. He congratulates his opponents on their good shots, and smiles after good rallies, regardless of who won the rally.

Steve Keeley, the Harpo Marx look-alike of racquetball, and Bill Schmidtke get my nod as the number two and three all-time sportsmen. (My apologies to Charlie Brumfield, who instead is a major figure in the next category.)

Psyche Champion

This was the easiest category to rank. Charlie Brumfield, the master psyche supreme, not only is unanimous number one choice, he's also the number two and three choices!

Brumfield was legendary for calling the newspapers or local media before a tournament, to inform them of his outstanding play. Naturally his remarks, such as, "If I'm really on my game, my opponents won't score 10 points [games to 21]. If I'm really off, they may get 12-14 points," always appeared in the paper the day the tournament began. Of course, his opponents would always read those remarks, because Brumfield



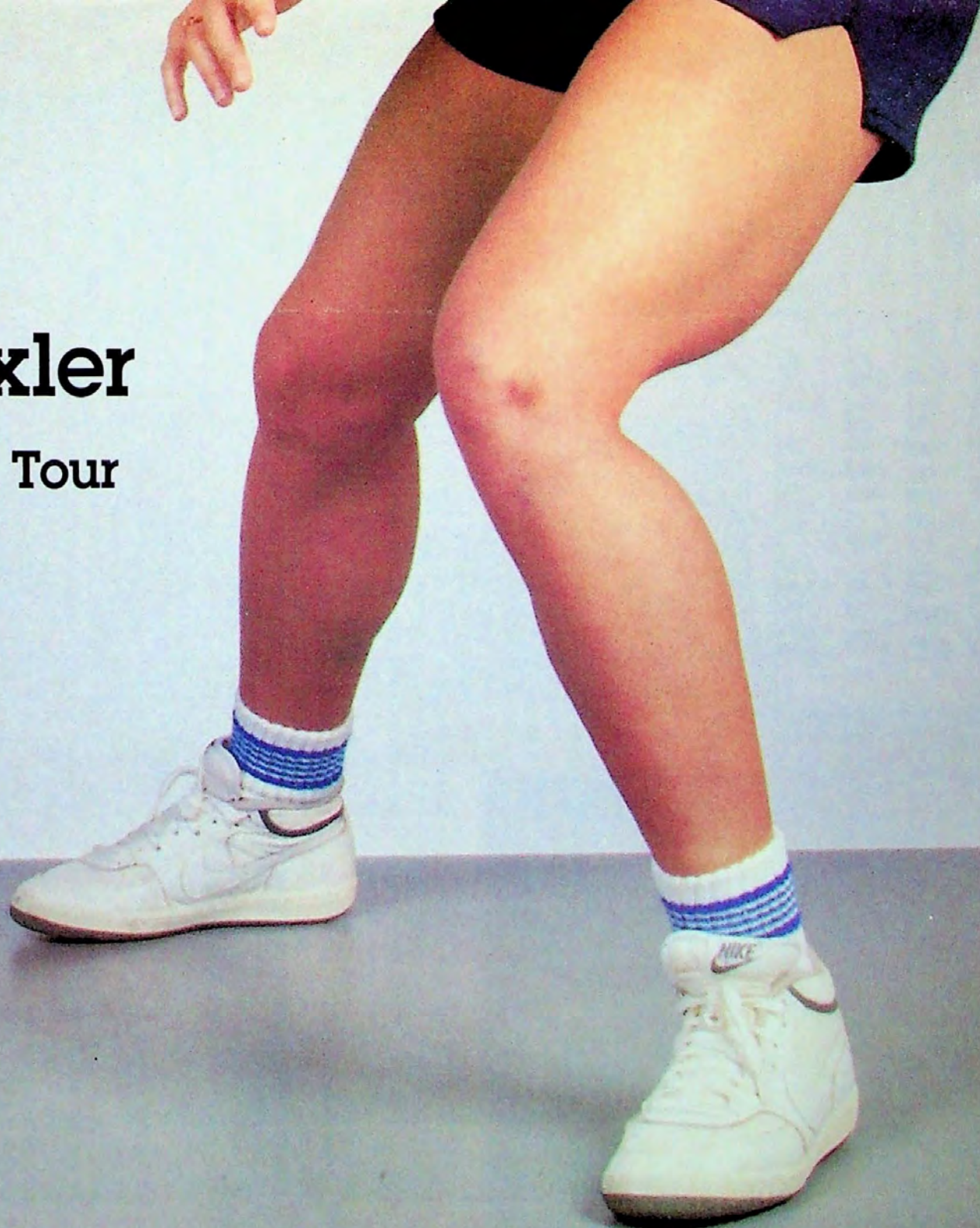
Ruben Gonzalez

(continued on page 49)



Marci Drexler

Ranked #3 WPRA Tour





One Last Mountain To Climb

Will this be Marci Drexler's year?

by Sigmund Brouwer

On the WPRO tour, few players or spectators would disagree that Marci Drexler — young and ranked number three — is a great racquetball player.

Her game is nothing short of explosive. At only 5'2" and 120 pounds, she is an on-court package of force that few can equal in power and speed; fewer still can match her ability to kill the ball from anywhere on the court at any time.

There is little to stop Marci from being the best player in the world except for Lynn Adams. Lynn, with less speed, power and rollout kills, has defeated Drexler in tournament after tournament, semifinal after semifinal, from the beginning of Drexler's professional career. Marci has raw talent. Lynn has smarts — and a record five national titles. Marci has never beaten Lynn in a tournament. But Marci Drexler lives and breathes racquetball and is determined to change all that.

She was born in Santa Monica, CA. Twenty-three now, she started playing racquetball eight years ago and lost in the finals of her first tournament, novice division. It was enough of a taste of winning to keep her in the game.

After seriously considering a career in baseball — she drew the wrath of Little League mothers by besting some of their sons — she decided against the inevitable legal hassles of continuing in an essentially male sport.

It was soon obvious that racquetball would be her sport. She won the AARA Junior Nationals five years ago, and in her first year on the WPRO professional tour, she vaulted from 28th to fifth in rankings. Drexler got there with quickness and athletic ability unparalleled among her rivals.

"Nobody, but nobody has the physical skills on the tour that Marci does," says Lynn Adams. "Sometimes it's unbelievable the things she does on the court."

Marci does not take that talent for granted. She moved to San Diego to work at the game full-time, and spends most of her time at the Atlas Club preparing for tournaments. Her training sessions include weightlifting, practice sessions, swimming, sometimes tennis, and racquetball matches — on a daily basis.

But she does it because she knows what she wants, and what she wants is to be number one. Period. "I don't work on having very many friends at home because I'm always at the club," she says, "and I don't really feel I have a social life, because I do travel a lot. But that's okay, because all my friends play in tournaments."

"Boyfriends? Sure, I'll go out, but it's hard to get attached, because they get upset. Racquetball comes first, and it's hard for people to accept that. I'm definitely not ready to say 'racquetball is second and you're first' to anybody."

Away from the courts, Marci is quiet to the point of shyness, which is probably one of the reasons she enjoys the sport so much. "I'm not shy when I'm on the court; I feel more

comfortable on the court. I can do things with confidence on the court. But I feel shy off the court, and it makes it hard for me to be confident dealing with the public. Fortunately, it's getting a lot better."

She feels only Lynn Adams stands between her and the top of the mountain. Marci worries less about Caryn McKinney, who is another potent threat, because of their win-loss record in the last four matches. Drexler has won them all, including their finals match-up in the first pro stop that Drexler won, the Los Caballeros event at Adam's home club in 1986. Ironically, Adams had to miss that tournament because of injury.

"Lynn is the only person I feel that I have a tough time beating. I think my game is at her level, sometimes even a little better, but she's tougher mentally. When we get to the crucial part of the game, to the last part, she'll always come up with the right shots. I put a lot of pressure on myself and end up making mistakes and choking."

"I can remember every time I'd have a chance [to win], I'd either skip the ball in or I would be real apprehensive. I'd change my game. I like to shoot the ball all the time, but I'd turn it around and start hitting ceiling balls, I think from nerves."

Whatever it is, Lynn Adams still wins. Marci knows she must have a better mental game to reverse that. "Before, when I was losing, I'd get mad, hit my racquet on the wall and scream. It would ruin my game. Now, the most I might do is speak a little to myself to get psyched up, play harder."

"When Lynn's down, she likes to pull her little tricks out of the hat like

Charlie Brumfield did," says Marci. "She'll say things to try to psyche you out. Playing in Atlanta once, we were in a rally and I hit a ball that came close to her. She looked at me and insisted I was trying to hit her.

"I think of her as a good friend and it hurt my feelings that she thought I was going to hit her. And I kept thinking, 'Marci, don't do this to yourself, she's just trying to psyche you out.' Then I went into it anyway, and tried explaining I wasn't trying to hit her. And she got her way. She did what she wanted to do, which was make me lose my concentration so she could get back into her rhythm. And it worked."

Marci's biggest fear, though, is that she will never get the chance to defeat Lynn Adams. She said just before the WPRA stop in Anchorage, "I hate it when people say maybe Lynn will retire before I have a chance to beat her and that kind of thing. Just recently we played in an exhibition, and I'm really glad that I beat her there, and I hope it makes her go home and practice



ten times harder."

Naturally only time will prove if it was inevitable for Marci to overcome her last hurdle. Certainly, Marci is not afraid of the challenge. "I would say that Lynn knows that once I beat her, that's all it is. She knows that I think I'm a better player and that I think I have better shots.

"She knows that 95% of the game out there is mental and once I

beat her, I'll be over the hump, and that's it. She knows that. She's said it to me a lot of times."

Marci has vowed to win their next stop, the 1987 Los Caballeros tournament in Los Angeles. Expect an interesting year at the summit of the WPRA. ○

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Racquetball In Ohio

Racquetball in the state of Ohio was looking rather dim. The year was 1984 and Doug Ganim, then a 19 year old sophomore at Ohio State University, was having to travel out of state nearly every weekend to find a racquetball tournament. "It was sad, because since I started playing racquetball at the age of 14, there had been a tournament nearly every weekend in Ohio, but all of a sudden clubs were closing and the clubs that stayed open were not conducting tournaments anymore. Racquetball at the tournament level was dying in Ohio," Ganim explained.

But Ganim noticed that other states were experiencing just the opposite. States like California, Michigan and Florida were thriving at the tournament level. "It became obvious to me why some states were growing, and some were dying after I had played in a few Michigan racquetball tournaments.

"The sport of racquetball was being promoted through a strong state association and a unique series of tournaments called the Michigan Super Seven Series. The key to Michigan's success was that someone, namely Jim Hiser, was promoting tournament racquetball in an organized fashion."

Most of the other states that were experiencing growth at that time also had an organized approach to promoting the sport of racquetball. Ganim knew what needed to be done but there were some serious obstacles. "My biggest concern was my time. I was then a full time college student studying marketing and at the weekends I was traveling all over playing racquetball. Between studying, practicing and traveling, I did not see how I could bite off such a big job," Ganim said.

There was also the problem of finding the kind of sponsorship support necessary to finance this kind of series, as well as establishing the administrative capabilities to effectively coordinate the tournaments. "I have always been very confident of my abilities. In other words, you will never see me take a set-up to the

ceiling at match point. Even if you miss the shot, it is better than letting the other guy roll one out for the match. The only real concern I had was how this new endeavor would affect my grades in school and how it would affect my racquetball game. I decided that both would suffer but that if I did not do something soon, tournament racquetball in the state of Ohio would completely fade out".

He began by paying a visit to Jim Hiser, his inspiration for the whole idea. "Jim explained how he established his series and he gave me some materials that he had used to approach possible corporate sponsors" Ganim said. From there, he took the materials and ideas Hiser had provided and modified them to fit the Ohio series. "I took my final proposals to a few marketing professors at Ohio State. I thought they were good but my professors tore them apart and gave me several new ideas."

When he finally had a set of organized ideas ready, he tentatively set up dates, cities and clubs for each of seven stops spread throughout Ohio. Once the schedule was tentatively set, he hit the pavement looking for a title sponsor as well as some cosponsors. He sent proposals to over sixty different companies, tailoring each to the specific company that was being approached. "It was this job that really taught me what marketing is all about. I interviewed over twenty different companies and each time I was rejected, I would find out why. Each interview was another learning experience." Ganim explained.

After over twenty interviews, Ganim met Joe Masino of the Adolph Coors Company. This was the match Ganim had been looking for. "Coors Light was relatively new in the Ohio market. Racquetball's demographics closely matched the market Coors was trying to reach. They wanted to build awareness for Coors Light in Ohio and I had a vehicle to reach a portion of their targeted consumers. Hence, the Coors Light Racquetball Series was born."

Head Racquet Sports and Penn Athletic Products joined as co-sponsors and the Coors Light Racquetball Series was born. "The tournaments were very well received from the start. Instant excitement around the state occurred and it was clear to me that racquetball was back." Ganim said. He ran the tournaments like a business, listening to the tournament players and always changing as their needs changed. "Giving tournament participants a good value for their entry fee is my top priority. Any health business caters to its customers and this series is no different," Ganim explained.

The Coors Light Racquetball Series is now in its third season. It has expanded to nine events with all the original sponsors still involved. New sponsors such as Harman Kardon, manufacturer of high-tech video and audio components, and Eagle Fitness Systems, along with A'me grips and Leader.

Doug has now graduated from Ohio State with a degree in Marketing. He spends his time working on the series and playing in racquetball tournaments throughout the country. So what's next? "Well, right now I'm considering graduate school as well as expanding the series. I will expand the Ohio segment to ten events next season and possible add six regional events throughout the midwest."

Ganim also has hopes that one day there may be a National Coors Light USA Racquetball Tour. He feels that the future of the game depends on a full-fledged marketing approach. "Putting together events creatively to reach masses of people will not only attract the kind of corporate support that is needed, but will also expose the sport of racquetball to the general public. Joe Garcia's portable court, Jim Hiser's Super Seven Series, Luke St. Onge's push for olympic recognition, and quality events such as the Coors Light Racquetball Series are all steps towards this goal." ○

Doug Ganim plays on the RMA Tour

At the end of the 1987/88 professional racquetball season, National Racquetball magazine will award the "National Racquetball Reader's Choice Award" to one member of the RMA tour and one member of the WPRA tour chosen by our readers. You will be asked to vote for the player of your choice by completing a form which will appear in the March, April and May issues and mailing it to the magazine. Don't miss this opportunity to vote for your favorite player!

Winners will receive a trophy and a cruise and will hold the title of National Racquetball Player of the Year. This is the first year readers will be able to vote for their favorite player but it will become an annual event.

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Picnic Tables Are A Level Idea

Who watched the playoffs and/or the world series this year? If you had the opportunity to watch these professional athletes you would have noticed all the batters had one thing in common. They all had a LEVEL swing. In one of our previous articles (July 1987 issue) we shared with you tips on swinging level. Unfortunately in our travels we are still finding this to be a recurring problem for racquetball players. Many of the players out there, even the "A" players, are swinging up or down on the ball, not level. As we discussed earlier in the year swinging level is one of the big elements to a more consistent stroke. Keep in mind there are no short cuts. Swinging level is a MUST.

Here are two tips to assist you in reaching your goal of swinging level as Francine is doing in Figure 1. In Figure 2, Francine is swinging LEVEL over a picnic table. In Figure 3, Francine is swinging LEVEL over a pile of mats.

We believe that by using these very simple methods you too can swing level and gain more consistency in your forehand and backhand stroke.

Remember to LEVEL off your practices! Good luck. ○

Francine Davis is sponsored by Head Sports, Penn, Foot-Joy and California Fitness. Jim Winterton is sponsored by Ektelon and Foot-Joy.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

Grip To Kill

Aiming in split-seconds

Two schools of theory exist on the racquetball grip. One says players should switch grips from forehand to backhand. The other says one grip should be used for both. The best instructors suggest that player decide for themselves what works best for their game.

This article is from the 'one grip school', and advocates the closed grip; to those it explains how the grip works and all of its advantages.

Next month, the 'switch grips' school will respond with a similar article.

To hit a kill shot successfully is an awesome task. Your target is a strip of wall three inches from the floor, and hitting an eighth of an inch too low means failure. You may be attempting the shot anywhere from 10 to 39 feet from the front, changing the angle of each kill. And the ball may be blasting at you at 90 mph — often faster — and you are rarely stationary for more than a split second as you try to set for the shot. Seems impossible, yet in a good match, kill shots will end more than half the rallies. So where do the top players get their confidence to attempt and consistently succeed with

devastating kill shots? The answer is in practice, of course, and a grip that gives you an aiming mechanism to place the ball instinctively.

Two variables determine what changes in your aim are necessary to kill the ball: distance from the front wall, and height of contact. From every position on the court, and every height of contact, there is that perfect aim to make the ball a winner. And a great way to control this aim is to use a closed grip that lets you aim, instantly. This grip takes advantage of instinct, or body sense.

Right now, look around you and mentally choose a small object. From your waist, point at it with your index finger. Your finger will be right on target; it is something that body sense lets you do without conscious thought.

Army instructors, in teaching pistol use, before letting their students fire a single shot, make them walk around during free time doing precisely that — aiming with their index fingers, flashfiring imaginary shots at various objects, to give them that precise feel of aiming. It works.

The principle involved in directing a moving racquetball is the same,

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except you 'aim' with the flat of your hand.

Next time on the court, try this exercise without a racquet: go through your forehand stroke, but use your open hand as a racquet, then stop the stroke where you would normally contact the ball. From there 'aim', using the flat of your hand as the face of the racquet. That is, point

(continued on page 49)



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Weight Training:

Working On The Chest Muscles

by Dan Obremski

The chest area, first to be discussed in this series of articles, has many different exercises for the development of muscle. Some exercises use free weights, and some use exercise machines, like Nautilus or Eagle Fitness Systems. Either or both will help your game. But, remember, these articles are not designed to make you into a body builder but to help your racquetball game.

Lifting Tips

To prepare for a weight program, it is important to know the proper form for every exercise. This will ensure your safety, enhance your understanding of each muscle group, and provide you with maximum benefits.

Be able to handle light weights with ease before progressing to heavier weights. And don't quit after two weeks because your game is not improving. As with anything else, it takes dedicated time.

Lift with a partner in order to exercise safely and for encouragement. Perform each exercise slowly, doing the *positive* (pushing) movement to a count of two, and the *negative* (lowering) movement to a count of four. For maximum benefits, lift with intensity while concentrating on the movement of the chest muscle.

When you can handle the weight on a specific exercise easily for 12 repetitions, increase the weight so that your muscles fatigue after six to eight repetitions. Use a weight belt if necessary.

Chest Exercises

Bench press. Lie down on the flat bench with your back against the pad (it's important not to arch your back to the point of injury, so use a weight you can handle). Grab the bar a little wider than shoulder width and lift it off the rack and lower it to your chest with your elbows out on a count of four. Then raise the weight to the top and hold for an instant. Continue until your muscles are fatigued and your spotter helps put the weight back on the rack.

Incline and decline benches.

These are done in the same manner as the bench press, but the bench is inclined or declined. Practice safety on this movement by using lighter weights; the weights will feel as if

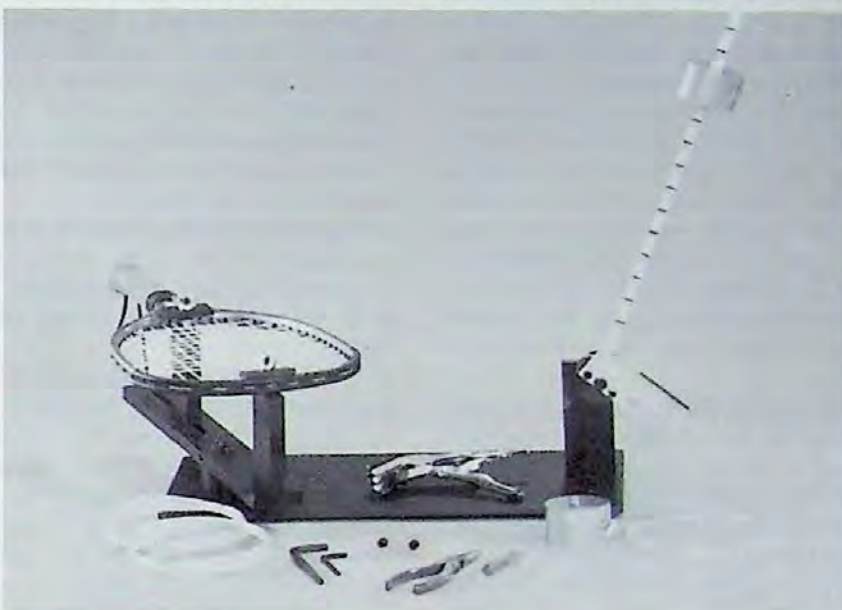
they are pulling the front of your body.

Using three different angles on all of the chest movements will ensure even development. The incline works the upper chest, the flat bench the middle, and the decline the lower. This doesn't mean that if you don't do the decline bench exercise, your lower chest won't develop, but doing the variations guarantees full development and strength.

Dumbbell, incline and decline

(continued on page 42)

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Ask The Playing Editors!

In this monthly series *National Racquetball* readers can ask advice from some of the top professionals in the game. If you have a question for the pros, simply direct it to one of the playing editors listed inside our front cover, and address it to: *PLAYING EDITOR, National Racquetball, P.O. Drawer 6126, Clearwater, FL 34618-6126.*

Could **Lynn Adams** please tell me what she concentrates on when she short-hops the ball as she is receiving the serve? I see it done more and more often, but when I try, I either whiff or hit straight into the floor. **Alf Garvin, Calgary, Alberta**

First of all, I keep my head down when I hit the ball. It's almost as if I keep my eyes glued to the floor. It's easier than you think, because you've already decided to hit the shot, and you know your opponent isn't in the way (or you wouldn't be trying it), and the front wall won't move. It means you can just key in on the ball.

The other thing I really concentrate on is to not approach the ball straight, but to come at it from a sideways angle. What this does is keep the ball away from my body so I can have a big swing at it. If you approach it straight, you will have to hit it with a short, choppy downward stroke.

You also want to be moving when you get to the ball. I feel if you get there and plant your feet, there is a tendency to just use your arm for power. You want to be coming into the ball so you're moving as you hit it.

I almost always go down the line with the short hop, because from where your opponent serves, as you attempt the shot, he or she must move out of your way, usually to the cross-court side. Thus, if you go down the line and make your shot, you win the rally easily, and the worst that happens with a relatively poor shot, is that you create a hinder and get a replay.

I also attempt this shot at every opportunity because it puts tremendous pressure on the server in several ways. Obviously, it makes their second serve a more difficult one, but it also puts pressure on the first serve, because your opponent will be

thinking about having to face another short hop if they miss.

When I watch **Mike Ray** serve his high lob serve, it seems as if it's never more than two inches from the side wall. It also gives fits to his opponents. How do you keep it so close to the wall, Mike? **Norval Jones, Los Angeles, CA**

The key to hitting this lob is to hit it parallel to the side walls. That unfortunately isn't always easy, but to do it consistently, I use my shoulder as a guide.

You see, the ball will travel to the front wall and back in an exact perpendicular angle from my shoulder as long as my body is lined up properly to the side wall, and as long as I hit the ball straight out from my shoulder. If I contact the ball a little too far forward or backward, it won't follow that straight line along the wall.

Also, the stroke motion for the lob should become a push which uses most of your arm. You can't really control the lob with your wrist because it tends to move in so many different ways that consistency is lowered.

Then I try to hit the serve with a little backspin on the ball and I slice or cut down on it. As for speed of the serve, as long as it doesn't come off the back wall, you're in good shape. But, even if it does, as long as it's straight down the wall short or long shouldn't make that much difference because it will still hug the wall on its way back.

The last thing to remember is that it is much easier to control a half lob, with this or any other style, than a very high lob. Good luck!

Bret Harnett, sometimes you hit

shots that appear to be low percentage shots, like the overhead pinches from deep court. I would like to add that element of surprise to my game as well. Could you please tell me the best times to attempt those shots.

Mike Stevens, Grand Rapids, MI

I've been called a lot of things on the court, Mike, and one of those things is 'lucky' because I do hit shots from around my shoulders, that become flat pinches on the front wall. But it's not really luck; you've got to have enough nerve to try these shots. Remember, even though they are a lower percentage shot than your basic setup, it doesn't mean that you can't hit them.

The main thing is to hit those shots only once in a while. If you do it often, your opponent will change his court position to adjust to the new shots and they won't have a chance to be effective.

Hit the shot when you are back deep in the court and when most opponents are thinking ceiling ball. They will be hanging back, way back, and if you can get that shot into the corner without coming out to center court, it will be a winner.

But it's a shot that you need to practice. I would practice it in drills and in matches to give me a feel for the shot before I dreamed of using it in a tournament. I wouldn't go on the court in a tournament and suddenly hit a shot that I've never tried before.

The trouble with this shot is that it is one of those shots that if it works, it will really work, but if it doesn't work your opponent will laugh at you and say, "Go ahead and try those dumb shots, I'll let you shoot those all day."

But what the heck, a lot of times I've tried it when I'm losing and nothing else seems to work. And if it does work, it can be the boost you need to get going! ○

Letters To The Editor

Women Pros Are Awesome

For the first one and half years that I played racquetball, the best player I ever saw was our club pro. He never lost a game to the best player at our club, and he hit the ball so hard I thought he would damage the court. I was sure that he could play with, and occasionally beat, Marty Hogan and Mike Yellen.

But then one day, I saw him play and exhibition against a woman pro. At first, I thought he was trying to be nice to her, but she proceeded to 'blow him off the court'. She hit the ball harder than he did, and she returned everything.

All the while she was a perfect lady — sweet and gracious. I'm sorry to say our pro lost his cool.

This woman's name was Caryn McKinney. How good are these women? Wow!

I've seen lots of articles about the men's pros and Lynn Adams in your magazine, but not much about Caryn McKinney except tournament results.

Could we hear more about her personally? Thank you.

Robbie Stephan, Davisville, GA

Robbie, you're right on all counts. Caryn and the other pros are terrific players and worth reading about. Caryn was profiled in the October 1986 issue of National Racquetball, and if you need a copy of that story, just write back and I'll make sure it gets to you. This issue you can read about Marci Drexler, one of Caryn's main competitors. -Ed.

Any More Stories, Lou?

Being the racquetball coordinator of a large community center, and working with a wide age range of people, I thoroughly enjoyed reading Lou Kaplan's article, "The Good Ole Boys of Delray Beach".

I agree with his rules and suggestions for a safe game and I loved his sense of humor. Our members agreed and identified with the players Lou Kaplan described.

I posted his article on our Court Sports Bulletin Board, and heard wonderful comments from our "Good Ole Boys of the JCCA". I love your magazine and look forward to its

arrival every month.

Barbara Horluck, Jewish Community Centers Association, St. Louis, MO

Dear WPRA

I would like to take this time to congratulate the Women's Professional Racquetball Association for running a first class event this past weekend at the Los Caballeros Sports Club.

All the women handled themselves very professionally, while exuberating a great deal of sportsmanship in every match. It appears as if the Women's Pro Tour is going strong.

I do not get the opportunity to travel to many of the WPRA events, so it was nice meeting many of the women to finally associate a name with a face.

I would especially like to thank Bonny Stoll, Fran Davis, and Gary

Berberett for talking with me and reminiscing about the "Good Old Days" of racquetball. My, how things have changed.

Good luck to all WPRA members throughout the 1988 racquetball season.

Randy Floyd, Pro-Kennex, Inc. San Diego, CA

Journey Fan

I would like to thank you very much for the article "Journey's Poetry in Motion" in the June 1987 issue. As one of Journey's biggest fans, I appreciate the opportunity to take a different look at Jonathan Cain and Neal Schon. Since reading the article, I have become a regular reader of *National Racquetball*.

Jana Ireland, St. Louis, MO

P.S. Doesn't Steve Perry play racquetball?

To the best of our knowledge Steve Perry does not play racquetball. - Ed

"Since I've been stringing with SuperKill II I haven't broken a single string."

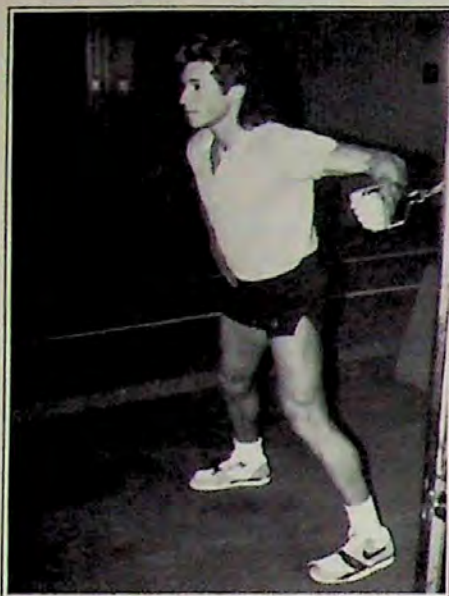
When you have that kind of confidence in your string you can concentrate fully on your game. And SuperKill II gives me amazing control — I get a true bounce off my racket. If the ball doesn't come out right, it's my fault. SuperKill II is a great racquetball string."

Caryn McKinney

#2 WPRA Ranking



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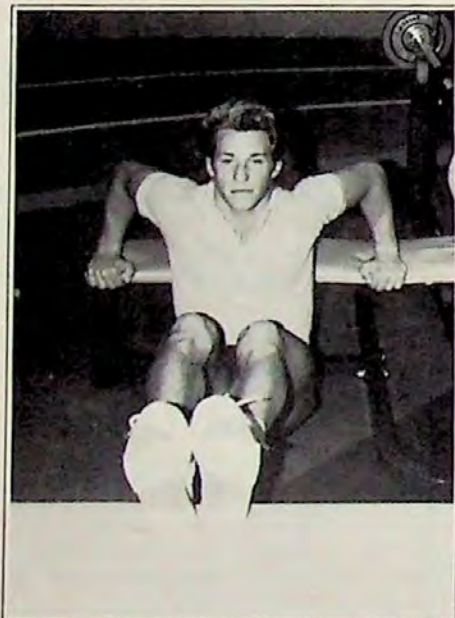
One arm cable crossover - begin & finish



One arm cable crossover - mid-point



Dips - begin & finish



Dips - mid-point

'flies'. All three exercises are executed with dumbbells which allow other little muscles to become stronger because of the awkwardness of balancing both arms separately.

The exercises begin with the arms slightly bent and weights over the chin. The dumbbells should be lowered by dropping the elbows out and keeping the weights above them.

Try bringing the elbows down as low as possible providing a good stretch across the whole chest area. Lift the weights to the top and squeeze the elbows in and flex the chest. Repeat. Remember to start lightly in order to get the feel of the exercise.

Cable cross. Cables are not available at all clubs. Make the best of your workout with whatever is available.

Cable cross overs can be done with one arm or both. Start the exercise by grasping the handles and leaning forward far enough so the weights don't touch when lowered. Keep your elbows bent and bring your hands together as if you were hugging a barrel. When you touch or cross your hands, squeeze them together and flex your chest. This promotes blood flow to that area and gives a better feeling of movement.

Dips. Lace your hands slightly wider than shoulder width on a bench behind you and your feet up on a chair. Start by lowering your rear to the floor pausing to stretch then pushing up. You can also add weight to the top of your lap if needed.

Nautilus, Fitness Eagle, etc. Have the weight instructor adjust the machine properly for you and explain it's uses. Then push out on the handles for a two-count, and lower the weight to the count of four.

(continued on page 49)



Incline bench - begin & finish



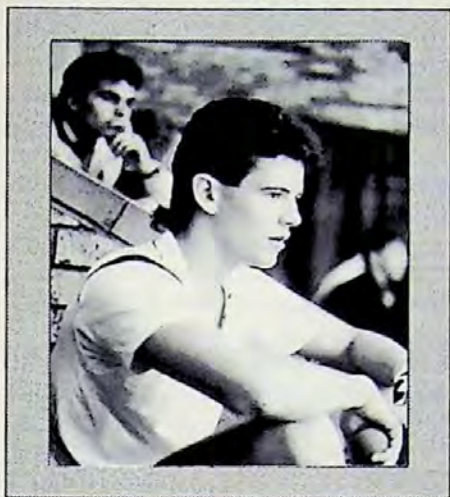
Incline bench - mid-point

Newsbriefs

Cliff Swain Signs With Burt Sports

Burt Sports Technology, Inc. has announced the signing of Cliff Swain. Swain, who is currently number five on the men's professional tour, will be the company's primary spokesman for the current season.

Alex Eisemann, president of Burt Sports said that he felt that the signing of a top ranking player by a new



company, after only one year of test marketing a new piece of sporting goods equipment, was unprecedented in the annals of professional sports.

Gregg Maloley, director of Player Personnel, said that the present Burt midsize racquet will be designated the "Cliff Swain Signature Model", as this is the racquet which Cliff has played with in tournaments during the past few months. ○

Pay N Play

An unusual concept in racquetball is a proven winner. Players looking for an alternative to traditional club membership can play whenever they wish. Courts are open 24 hours and cost is on a per court basis. The court controller gives from 8-11 minutes per dollar inserted. Court controller turns on court lights. Pay 'n Play Racquetball of America is a franchised operation with facilities already in operation in California and many planned throughout the U.S. The Pay 'n Play corporate staff in Fountain Valley, CA, determines acceptable markets, acquires the land and builds a turn-key operation. ○

Pro Exhibitions For West Tennessee Players

Mike Ray, currently ranked 11th on the RMA men's professional tour has begun a series of one-on-one racquetball exhibitions in Jackson.

The exhibitions feature Mike against one of the other top ranked pros, playing for prize money up to \$1,500 per match. The first match in October against 19th ranked Jack Newman drew capacity crowds as well as live-remote radio coverage.

The next exhibition takes place in February against 6th ranked Ruben Gonzalez. All matches take place at the Jackson Athletic Club. For details call (901) 998-9243. ○

APRO Very Much Alive!

The American Professional Racquetball Organization is, according to a recent release, "alive and well". This was prompted by a erroneous report in a story in this magazine that indicated otherwise, and for which we apologize.

APRO has been established for 10 years and works towards the betterment of certified teachers in the athletic club industry. Their next major certification clinic will take place March 1st, in New Orleans, prior to the IRSA Convention Trade Show.

For more details on the clinic, or APRO, contact Mort Leve, Executive Director, at 5089 N. Granite Reef Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85253, (602) 945-0143. ○

ATTENTION JOURNALISTS AND PHOTOJOURNALISTS!

National Racquetball magazine is looking for regional correspondents and photographers to provide professional coverage and photographs of major tournaments as well as local features. If interested, please send a resume to Correspondent Editor, National Racquetball, P.O. Drawer 6126, Clearwater, FL 34618-6126. Resumes must include samples of previous work and three references.



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Association Roundup

AARA

News From The Amateurs

by Luke St. Onge

What a pleasure it is to finally have one publication we can all be proud of. One that the player, the manufacturer, and the club owner can identify with as "our" sports magazine. The consolidation of the AARA publication *Racquetball in Review* with *National Racquetball* creates a unity within the sport which has never been experienced before. Let's all get behind it — contributing, encouraging subscriptions, seeking new advertisers and giving it the same prestige and respect that tennis enjoys through the work of its publications *Tennis* and *World Tennis* magazines.

Having just returned from the extremely successful National Doubles Championships in Tempe, I'd like to address the single negative undertone we experienced at the event. First, let me say that during the course of my involvement with racquetball, not a day has passed that we don't hear someone ask "When is the sport going to be televised? When is the sport going to grow up and be like other big league sports? When is racquetball going to receive the respect it deserves?" While we don't have an exact date, an initial step was taken in Tempe.

The Doubles Championships at the Arizona Athletic Club marked the first time that a national *amateur* (not professional) event, offered reserved seating for spectators for a nominal fee. In order to view championship matches from preferred vantage points, spectators purchased back wall bleacher seats at \$5.00 per day. At the same time, optional side wall bleachers were available at no cost. The prestige of the national event, and the assurance of having

one's own "reserved seat" from which to view the finals, helped this idea become accepted over the course of the weekend. Seventy percent of the seating was purchased, which in turn helped to cover costs of the event and legitimize the concept of paying to see the world's finest doubles competition.

But there were complaints from people who thought that *all* the available seating should be free. Well, times are changing and racquetball is growing up. And one of the things that comes with growth is a change in attitudes — among players about themselves and the value of their sport. Rather than responding to reserved seating as a negative, we should be proud and excited that people are willing to pay to see us

play our sport. The popularity of racquetball as a spectator sport is growing daily. If we are to compete with tennis, bowling, basketball, swimming, or the other major national amateur sports then we need to change our outlook regarding the financial aspects of providing first-rate competitive sporting events to the public.

On another note, I would like to remind all of those planning on playing in the 1988 Ektelon U.S. Nationals in Houston that you must *play*, not merely enter, your regional. This is a change from last year and the new procedure will be strictly enforced.

It's going to be a great year for racquetball and just as great to be a part of it. ○



CRA

Racquetball Returns To Canada Games

by Bill Houldsworth

It was a phone call well worth the wait. From Canada Games Council member Andre Gallant came the news that the sport of racquetball has been re-admitted to the Canada Winter Games. The next scheduled Winter Games are to be held in the province of Prince Edward Island at the host city of Charlottetown in February of 1991.

Racquetball had originally been a Winter Games sport in 1979 and again in 1983, but for reasons based on facilities, was not included in last year's games which were held in Nova Scotia.

The games are very important to the junior levels of racquetball across Canada; for example, six members of the current national team participated in the Games as they came up through the ranks. In



addition, both national team coaches, Monique Parent and Ron Pawlowski, either played or coached in the Games in past years. There is no question that it gives the younger athletes something to strive for, and the sport gains significantly from the support received from the provincial governments in the preparation of athletes for the Games.

In addition to the exposure racquetball receives on a national basis, the Games also assist in the development of the structure of the sport, including the development and upgrading of facilities and technical aspects such as officials.

Although the Canada Games concept is aimed mostly at the junior athletic ranks, the sport of racquetball is a lifetime sport for all ages and abilities. This is evident at the Senior Nationals each year as the veteran golden master category (65 and over) continues to grow.

The future of any sport is in its juniors, as the juniors of today become the seniors of tomorrow. This is just one of the key reasons why the Canada Winter Games are so important to the development of racquetball in Canada.

The Canadian Racquetball Association wishes to acknowledge and thank the tremendous support and lobbying done by the provincial rac-

(continued on page 48)

What's The Call

by Michael Arnolt

The Doubles Game

At most tournaments, doubles is viewed as an extra event. As a result, much of the strategy and many of the nuances and infractions that take place during a match go undetected.

It's a vastly different story when 300 teams get together as they did recently at the U.S. National Doubles Championships in Tempe, AZ. The game of doubles generated a high level of appreciation from spectators and players at the Arizona Athletic Club. It also produced a number of questions. Here's a sampling:

Preventing The Screen

Q: I saw several players in the doubles box cautioned (and penalized) not to crouch or prop their foot against the wall while their partner was serving. Why?

A: The rule requires a player in the doubles box to "stand erect with back to the side wall with both feet on the floor" from the beginning of the service motion until the ball crosses the short line, for a very good reason. It reduces the opportunity to screen the ball from the view of the receiver.

This happens because a very effective serve in doubles is the hard drive serve which hits the side wall just in front of the doubles partner, travels near center court, splits the receivers, and creates some decision-making as to whom will make the return shot.

A player who stands with his back to the wall creates much less distraction in viewing the ball than does the increased width of a crouched player facing the front wall or leaning away from the side wall. Even if that particular serve isn't used, the rule establishes a standard and prevents what could be a problem. (See rule 4.7b.)

A Moving Violation

Q: I noticed one open player who, while his partner was serving, changed positions from the rear to the front of the doubles box. Is this legal?

A: No. Though the rules don't say

a player must be motionless, it gives that intent when it says: "with both feet on the floor...from the moment the server begins service motion until the served ball passes the short line."

Movement clearly can distract the receiver and, of course, screen view of the ball.

Who May Talk?

Q: We know communication is important to effective doubles. The offensive team is allowed to use verbal signals such as "mine", "yours", "pinch", etc. May the defensive team say "cover", "front", "deep", etc.?

A: Limited verbal communication by the offensive team has become an accepted practice, and a reasonable one, I believe. However, when it comes to the defensive team, any form of talking is interpreted as a distraction which results in an avoidable hinder. (See Rule 4.16f.) I have seen defensive players use head and hand movement to direct coverage without creating a distraction; so communication is possible.

What About Avoidables?

Q: Because there is so much movement among so many bodies, don't a number of avoidable hinders get ignored? Should the rules concerning avoidable hinders be waived during doubles play?

A: The most often heard comment from referees of a doubles match: "It's just too hard to call avoidable hinders in doubles." Unfortunately, that gives little solace to the player who loses points and shot opportunities because of that philosophy.

So, yes, because there is so much bang-bang action in doubles, some close avoidable hinders do not get called. Part of that is because many doubles teams would prefer that the close calls not be made. But that certainly isn't the case on avoidables that definitely should be called, such as:

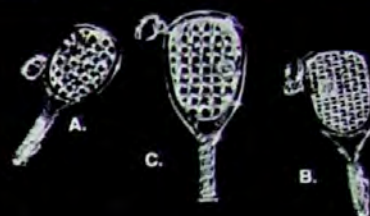
A player dives for a ball but is unable to move in time to give the offensive player an open offensive shot; intentionally or unintentionally failing to allow the offensive player room to take a back wall set-up;

(continued on page 49)

Bret Harnett

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CRA (continued)

quetball associations and by the host city of Charlottetown in getting the selection committee to consider racquetball. The lobbying had been done over a period of several months, with a push in the weeks just prior to the meeting of the sport selection committee. ○

RMA

A New Idea

by Jim Hiser

In its infancy racquetball flourished. New clubs opened their doors almost every weekend, new players flocked to the courts, new sponsors jumped at the opportunity to get involved and both the amateur and professional games flourished. This success brought with it a great deal



of independence. Almost all clubs were profitable regardless of their programs or knowledge of the health industry. Club owners and managers guarded new ideas and hesitantly shared trade secrets. Organizations jockeyed for control of the amateur game and associations protectively guarded their members.

The professional games cultivated attractive sums of money with players handsomely rewarded for their efforts. Unfortunately certain tours neglected the overall future of the sport creating a void between the amateur and professional athlete. The overall result was the formation of a group of separate entities (with little if any communication between each).

This independence, although less today, to a certain extent still exists. If racquetball is to progress, as did tennis, avenues of communication will have to be reopened. I believe the best way to achieve this, is through the following reorganization

(see diagram).

With this new reorganization the United States Racquetball Association would be the governing body of all racquetball in this country. The policies of the U.S.R.A. and future of this nation's racquetball program would be decided by a board of directors comprised of members from each affiliate organization. Presently little, if any communication exists between these affiliate organizations. Each group has its separate goals and objectives. What racquetball needs now is a five-year plan of action supported and designed by all the different factions involved in the sport. Each organization would still operate independently, much as they do now, but would establish common goals as their overall objectives.

A unified cooperative effort outlining new ideas, plans of action and future goals, could provide the framework necessary for new expansion. ○



Grip To Kill

(continued from page 37)

the flat of your hand where you want the ball to hit the front wall.

If you could step behind your hand, and draw a line from the center of your palm to the target on the front wall, you would see the accuracy.

Move up and down the court, aiming for the same spot, and you will see that angle of your open hand changes slightly to keep the aim accurate. That's the same body awareness instructors use to teach pistol shooting.

To take advantage of this body awareness, all you need is a grip which makes the racquet an extension of your arm and hand, the closed grip.

Line the 'V' of your forefinger and thumb along the left side bevel on the top of your racquet handle (left-

ies reverse), gripping it as if you were shaking hands.

With this grip, you should be able to open your hand, and without changing the angle of your palm, slide it up the racquet to rest flat against the strings. (photos 1-4)

Or, checking it backwards, you should be able to put your palm against the strings, slide it down to the handle and grip in the beginning position. Now the racquet is ready to aim as an extension of your hand.

Step on the court holding the racquet, and 'aim' as you did before with your open hand. The angle of your racquet will now make the slight compensating changes for accuracy in the two variables needed to kill the ball — height of contact and distance from the front wall.

You will also notice that this grip lets you 'aim' just as effectively with the back of your hand, for all shots

you make on the backhand side. And you never need worry about risking a grip change halfway through a rally from forehand to backhand.

The grip may feel awkward at first. In fact, bet your mortgage it will. But this grip is instinctively lets your body help you aim in the kill shots in fast rally after fast rally, with a great deal of consistency.

If the change is too difficult, and you continually move back to your previous grip style, tape your hand to your racquet. For the first week, perhaps, the forced change might be disastrous, but soon enough your body's aiming mechanism will take over, and your confidence will be doubled on its return.

Proper grip will not cure a bad stroke, but a good stroke has little effect without a good grip. Try the closed grip for consistent kill shots. ○

What's The Call

(continued from page 47)

distracting a player's view of the ball off the back wall; stepping in front of an opponent during your partner's shot or as the ball rebounds from the front wall.

Serve Takes Away Shot

Q: Our opponents often served drives and lobs down the same wall where their partner stood. In virtually every instance, the offensive player couldn't take a shot without the fear of hitting the server's partner in the doubles box. How do you get the server to stop putting his partner in jeopardy?

A: One would think the painful experience of wearing the racquetball badge of courage (red welt) would be enough to get the server to change the side to which he serves. For some reason, that does not happen.

The serious reply is, the offensive player should hold up his swing and direct his attention to the referee in anticipation of the call of 'avoidable hinder'. The server, unlike the receiver, has the advantage of knowing where he is going to serve. So, when he chooses to serve where his partner blocks the offensive player from hitting a shot, it clearly is an avoidable hinder. Period. ○

Weight Training

(continued from page 42)

Stretching. It is very important that the chest, as with other body parts, be stretched before and after your workout.

Routines

Charts are provided here to help you start your weight program. Each chart will help you monitor the amount of weight you lift in each exercise, so that you can steadily increase the work load as muscles get stronger.

As mentioned in last month's article, *in-season workouts* should be geared towards maintaining the strength you already have; you don't want to weaken your racquetball stroke with over-worked muscle. Therefore, moderate weights should be used and the exercise done slowly with 10 to 15 reps per set.

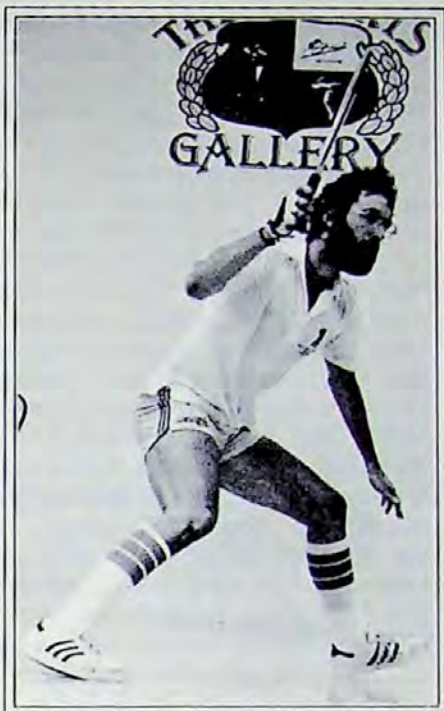
During the season, then, chose

Pro Legends

(continued from page 29)

would post the paper in the men's locker room.

After rolling out a ball from behind his back, who else but Brumfield



Charlie Brumfield

would turn to the crowd and say, "You don't see shots like that in small towns." Or, after diving and re-killling an opponent's seemingly flat rollout, what other player would whirl around, glare at his opponent, and scream, "Don't you ever try that shot again!"?

And despite, or maybe because of, all the added antics, Brumfield must still be recognized as one of the finest players ever to play the game.

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four exercises, and do only one set of each.

Off-season workouts are designed to go beyond maintaining muscle to actually building muscle. This means harder workouts with heavier weights. ○

Dan Obremski plays on the RMA men's professional racquetball tour. He conducts fitness clinics regularly at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, CO for the National Elite Training Camp.

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250G Mid	\$87
Quantus	\$69
Aris	\$115

KENNEX

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Micro Ceramic	\$95
Hogan Comp. OS	\$53
Hogan 60	\$47
Hogan 40	\$47
Graphite Micro	\$31

SHOES

Head Pro Elite	\$33
Radial Express	\$25
Foot-Joy 3/4	\$34
Reebok Pro V/R	\$25

GLOVES

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TOP 10 REASONS — I'm no **David Letterman**, but here are my top 10 excuses for losing a tournament match: 10) The referee was biased; 9) The ball was too slow; 8) The courts were too fast; 7) The lighting was no good; 6) My opponent convinced the ref all the skipped balls rolled out; 5) My glasses fogged up; 4) I couldn't get psyched for the match; 3) The opponents' wife and two kids were watching; 2) I broke a string in my racquet; and 1) It was too early in the morning to play.

SLEEPY HEAD — **Egan Inoue** could have nightmares if he loses the chance to be ranked #1 by only a few points. At Arlington, VA, **Egan** showed up for his 6 p.m. quarter final match with **Gerry Price** two hours later and was promptly forfeited. "He slept through it," said tour commissioner **Jim Hiser**. "In addition, he was fined \$100 for missing the match." It's a good thing **Egan** isn't sponsored by Head because then he would have a tag he couldn't shed the remainder of his career — Sleepy Head...

PRO NOTES — **Marty Hogan** missed the Arlington, VA tournament due to a knee injury and perhaps the chance of winning a national championship. Unlike previous seasons when players could miss a tournament or two, there is no divisor...1982 national champ **Dave Peck**, who hasn't been the same since a leg injury at the DP Nationals in 1983, is said to be in the finest shape of his career...A Denver talk show station features racquetball and tennis every Tuesday night.

NAME DROPPING — If you want to learn how to impress your boss, take a lesson from **Bret Harnett**. **Harnett**, now playing for Pro Kennex, won his first pro tournament with a Hogan Racquet...Three years ago **Cliff Swain** was the darling of Ektelon. This past season Ektelon didn't sign him again. Reliable sources say it was his off-court demeanor that spoiled the relationship. But don't think **Swain** is down and out. **Swain**,

folks say, simply went through "growing pains" and has matured. He signed a contract with racquetball newcomer Burt, a New England based company where he'll be the big-name and won't have to share the limelight — a position he didn't have at Ektelon...Those juniors who attended a Head sponsored clinic in Boulder, CO. had a quick dose of reality. They were at the Denver airport when the ill-fated Continental flight took off. More than 25 people were killed. Fortunately none of the clinic participants were enroute to Boise, ID...Here's a refreshing story. Five-time national champion **Mike Yellen** was a great comfort to the **McCloud** family. **Yellen** spent several hours visiting **Kenny McCloud**, a 16-year-old racquetball fanatic, in the hospital. **Yellen** gave **McCloud**, who was recovering from brain surgery, an Ektelon gift set.

A sure bet is that **Lynn Adams** will be ranked #1 again this year. What's frightening is that she'll be even more dominant. She switched to the Toron Racquet and hits the ball with blistering speed...Diversified Products, which is regrouping, is sponsoring only two top pros — **Caryn McKinney** and **Gregg Peck**. **Harnett** signed with Pro Kennex, **Jack Newman** joined **Mike Ray** at Head and top amateur **Andy Roberts** is a Team Ektelon member... Can you believe the durability of **Ruben Gonzalez**? **Gonzalez**, who must be in his late thirties, signed a three-year contract with Ektelon. He defies the aging process. Fellow pros say he is actually quicker today...**Gerry Price** and **Scott Oliver** run Pro Tour Racquetball camps throughout California. Over a three-day period they give more than 14 hours of lessons to participants aged 10 and up.

RACQUET POWER — I want a racquet that will guarantee I hit a serve as hard as **Egan Inoue** — at least once...Manufacturers love human nature. Most people try a different racquet with each new season. It makes them feel as though they are off to a fresh start...I saw one tournament application which required that you fill out a second form if you wanted to enter a second division.

CRIME STORY — You'd think

those with criminal minds would put their abilities to rest at the racquetball club. Not so, say front desk personnel. Most clubs limit each person to one hour of prime time to give more people a chance at playing. But people try and skirt the rules by calling in phony names so they can play two straight hours...Can't understand it, but there are some people who won't reserve glass courts because people can see them...I know of one player who found a shirt from the 1986 National Singles, took it to the dry cleaners and asked for it to be faded so his opponent would think he played on a daily basis...And how 'bout this tidbit...Want to make easy money? Take a top women's open player to a military base and make side bets on how many players can score double figures against her. Most of the players are C level players at best and it is not only a good bet but it's quite amusing.

You know a person is a fanatic when he has a cast on two arms and still tries to play...Here's one image racquetball has to shake. An open player was wearing a shirt with a hole in the armpit. A fan shouted: "Nice shirt." The player responded: "What do you expect? I'm a racquetball player..."A network radio station listed racquetball as one of the fads for 1988...My New Year's resolution is to double my number of victories in 1988 — that would give me four...Clubs who have their nurseries open during the weekend generally receive higher turnouts for their tournaments...AARA officials lose their credibility when they play in non-sanctioned tournaments.

THINGS I LIKE — Players who call avoidable hinders on themselves...Playing new people in tournament competition and the sharp looking covers manufacturers are putting on racquets.

THINGS I DISLIKE — Tournament directors who don't do their homework and schedule people from the same club in the first round...Tournament promoters who offer money in the lower divisions and fitness centers that buy out racquetball clubs. ○

Mens AARA Official Rankings

November 3, 1987

Mens Open: 1-J. Cascio, PA; 2-T. O'Neil, VT; 3-A. Roberts, TN; 4-D. Ganim, OH; 5-S. Gonzalez, FL; 6-J. Lorello, FL; 7-L. Giam, TX; 8-M. Lowe, CA; 9-T. Hansen, FL; **Mens A:** 1-L. Yeip, MI; 2-G. Mavrak, NY; 3-J. Bolger, OH; 4-J. Okuniewicz, MA; 5-R. Abady, NY; 6-J. Minkel, TX; 7-P. Orszulak, MA; 8-T. Dotson, WA; 9-B. Gruber, NY; 10-D. March, MI; **Mens B:** 1-B. Buckalew, GA; 2-R. Kline, SD; 3-M. Motta, FL; 4-N. Rallis, MI; 5-M. Sturgeon, TX; 6-G. Lutch, OH; 7-S. McCune, MI; 8-D. Vega, NY; 9-G. Alexander, CO; 10-R. Jackson, FL; **Mens C:** 1-S. Monchik, NY; 2-M. Volterre, FL; 3-J. Everett, WA; 4-M. Hartman, FL; 5-G. Boudreau, CN; 6-J. McCubbin, Jr., TX; 7-M. Davis, MI; 8-D. Fabrikant, MA; 9-R. Bates, CA; 10-C. Delzer, SD; **Mens D:** 1-K. Martin, CA; 2-B. Lee, TX; 3-D. Balasone, MI; 4-F. Doyle, MA; 5-W. Huf-fank, TN; 6-T. Lavery, IL; 7-F. Liu, NY; 8-B. Pruchno, WA; 9-B. Saddler, TX; 10-A. Sasson, GA; **Mens Novice:** 1-B. Johnson, MN; 2-W. Bailey, WA; 3-J. Cain, TX; 4-M. Albetti, IL; 5-R. Cadet, NY; 6-L. Caplan, MD; 7-E. Dadak, MA; 8-J. Kosik, FL; 9-B. Laird, TX; 10-L. Lelpold, GA; **Mens 8:** 1-M. Hurst, FL; 2-R. Thompson, AL; 3-S. Huggins, FL; 4-J. Boyett, CA; 5-B. Hansen, IA; 6-H. Spangenberg, CA; 7-J. Bhuta, AL; 8-J. Friedman, FL; 9-T. Siggins, CA; 10-G. Benedict, CO; **Mens 10:** 1-F. Dean, Jr., AL; 2-S. Brown, CA; 3-W. Miller, TN; 4-J. Carpenter, IA; 5-B. Zimmerman, MI; 6-C. Pardue, FL; 7-M. Hurst, FL; 8-E. Storey, IN; 9-J. Friedman, FL; 10-S. Wood, MA; **Mens 12:** 1-C. Czyn, FL; 2-S. Monchik, NY; 3-S. Zimmerman, MI; 4-T. Lep-era, IN; 5-J. Mannino, NY; 6-S. Russell, NY; 7-A. Thompson, WI; 8-A. Engel, FL; 9-M. Kelly, CO; 10-B. Garrow, MI; **Mens 14:** 1-J. Ellis, CA; 2-C. O'Connell, CO; 3-J. Ellenberger, WI; 4-C. Czyn, FL; 5-S. Reiff, FL; 6-J. Kolen, AL; 7-A. Bagnal, CA; 8-A. Engel, FL; 9-W. Epperson, AL; 10-T. King, TN; **Mens 16:** 1-N. Glantz, NY; 2-J. Paraiso, CA; 3-R. Walden, FL; 4-W. Epperson, AL; 5-T. Talley, WI; 6-D. Alonzi, CO; 7-J. Bon-nett, MI; 8-M. Locker, MN; 9-C. Garrido, TX; 10-B. Rankin, FL; **Mens 18:** 1-D. Simonette, MD; 2-T. Doyle, NY; 3-J. Floyd, MI; 4-S. Mathison, AL; 5-B. Munroe, WI; 6-L. Suarez, FL; 7-O. Gonzalez, FL; 8-T. Boscia, CO; 9-E. Ramm, CA; **Mens 19:** 1-M. Bronfeld, CA; 2-D. Gopfert, MA; 3-R. McKinney, PA; 4-B. Rodriguez, CO; 5-C. Winter, FL; 6-D. Dutcher, MI; 7-S. Moskwa, IL; 8-C. Nichols, FL; 9-J. Chelena, FL; 10-R. Binnix, GA; **Mens 25:** 1-T. Hansen, FL; 2-J. Peterson, NY; 3-J. Scargle, FL; 4-L. Fox, MI; 5-B. Huber, FL; 6-D. Levy, FL; 7-M. King, WY; 8-B. Sheldon, TN; 9-G. Tanko, WI; 10-S. White, AL; **Mens 30:** 1-S. Hastings, MI; 2-B. Corcoran, AZ; 3-B. Land, LA; 4-J. Doyle, CA; 5-R. Anderson, MI; 6-D. Aceto, MA; 7-R. Olson, ME; 8-V. Dubolsky, FL; 9-E. Garabedian, PA; 10-D. Kovanda, OH; **Mens 35:** 1-C. Kunkel, CA; 2-D. Kovanda, OH; 3-J. Free, OH; 4-R. Montague, PA; 5-S. Wright, CA; 6-S. Chapman, FL; 7-G. Owen, FL; 8-S. Shapiro, MA; 9-V. Dubolsky, FL; 10-B. Druktenis, WA; **Mens 40:** 1-C. Kunkel, CA; 2-E. Remen, VA; 3-J. Hennon, TN; 4-S. Heguy, NH; 5-B. Parra, CA; 6-S. Robles, TX; 7-J. Winterton, NY; 8-B. Sanders, OH; 9-T. Rumsey, FL; 10-K. Bonnett, MI; **Mens 45:** 1-R. Wehrle, GA; 2-C. Garfinkel, NY; 3-B. Sand-ers, OH; 4-R. Galbreath, PA; 5-R. Johnson, IL; 6-T. Rumsey, FL; 7-E. Vlock, FL; 8-D. Mas, DE; 9-S. Williams, WA; 10-S. Elman, MA; **Mens 50:** 1-S. Marcus, FL; 2-B. Wetzel, CA; 3-S. Elman, MA; 4-S. Williams, WA; 5-J. Jackman, PA; 6-J. Fay, TX; 7-P. Banales, AZ; 8-J. Mooney, CO; 9-M. Blair, MN; 10-O. Chapman, OH; **Mens 55:** 1-O. Chapman, OH; 2-P. Whitehill, WA; 3-L. Hahn, MI; 4-H. Clar, CA; 5-D. Llacera, Sr., NY; 6-B. Folsom, ME; 7-D. Ryan, MA; 8-R. Still-man, MN; 9-R. Horton, CO; 10-J. Solio, FL; **Mens 60:** 1-S. Lesser, NY; 2-V. Sacco, NY; 3-G. Melvey, ND; 4-B. Briel, MA; 5-E. Acuff, VA; 6-R. Carreti, MI; 7-D. Kincade, CO; 8-C. Clausen, FL; 9-S. Eller, IL; 10-D. Goddard, MT; **Mens 65:** 1-L. Wilde, UT; 2-E. Acuff, VA; 3-N. Sans, CA; 4-D. Goddard, MT; 5-A. Goss, CO; 6-B. Cloud, IL; 7-M. Friedman, ME; 8-J. Glavan, FL;

RMA Pro Tour

Official Rankings

November 1, 1987

1	B. Harnett	12073
2	E. Andrews	10670
3	M. Yellen	10526
4	M. Hogan	10289
5	C. Swain	8695
6	R. Gonzales	7770
7	G. Peck	6514
8	E. Inoue	6418
9T	S. Lerner	4992
9T	G. Price	4992
11	M. Ray	4364
12	C. Brysman	3948
13T	J. Hilecher	3942
13T	R. Harpersad	3942
15	D. Obremski	3892
16	A. Katz	3642
17	A. Gross	3567
18	D. Peck	3550
19	J. Newman	3164
20	D. Gross	2989
21	L. Gilliam	2464
22	D. Johnson	2220
23	J. Cascio	2114
24	B. Sell	1539
25	D. Green	1414

9-P. Neff, MA; **Mens 70:** 1-J. Pearce, TX; 2-A. Shepherd, MD; 3-I. Gumer, KY; 4-N. Creamer, FL; 5-G. Goldstein, NJ; 6-A. Beetle, WY; 7-T. McEachern, CA; 8-J. Neal, CA; 9-D. Brown, ME; 10-J. Singer, CA

Womens AARA Official Rankings

November 3, 1987

Womens Open: 1-K. Kuhfeld, IN; 2-M. Mook, CA; 3-D. Fischl, PA; 4-S. Morgan, FL; 5-D. Green, FL; 6-M. Dee, NH; 7-T. Rasmussen, CA; 8-E. Mardas, OH; 9-J. Hastings, MI; 10-D. Adams, CO; **Womens A:** 1-A. Maldonado, NY; 2-L. But-ler, TX; 3-P. Afford, NJ; 4-J. Liacara, NY; 5-S. White, MI; 6-L. Gaertner, NJ; 7-L. Pastor, MN; 8-L. Mojer, FL; 9-L. Trozak, MI; 10-D. Duguay, RI; **Womens B:** 1-L. Butler, TX; 2-J. Heller, OH; 3-L. Wescott, NJ; 4-S. Elins, FL; 5-J. Tenaglia, MA; 6-L. Campbell, TX; 7-S. Rice, NJ; 8-K. Vetort, TX; 9-J. Zogg, CA; 10-J. Campbell, CT; **Womens C:** 1-L. Williams, NJ; 2-K. Perry, CA; 3-B. Maynard, FL; 4-K. Locke, MN; 5-K. Benkert, TX; 6-M. Andrade, CA; 7-K. Rector, WA; 8-J. Espinosa, IL; 9-A. Henderson, TN; 10-V. Higley, WA; **Womens D:** 1-W. Rudov, TX; 2-D. Campagna, VT; 3-M. Bailey, WA; 4-D. Bates, CA; 5-T. Collins, MA; 6-A. Dickerson, MI; 7-F. Egnizzo, NJ; 8-B. Hen-drickson, MA; 9-F. Judkins, TN; 10-L. Moore, TX; **Womens Novice:** 1-C. Greco, MA; 2-A. Roehler, PA; 3-S. Beverly, NY; 4-H. Cohen, NJ; 5-L. Moore, TX; 6-D. Ramsey, NY; 7-M. Zak, MA; 8-M. Hendrickson, NY; 9-L. James, PA; 10-R. Braville, MN; **Womens 8:** 1-J. Quinlan, FL; 2-D. Derr, FL; 3-D. Gates, IL; 4-L. Patton, FL; 5-B. Knitter, WI; 6-J. Newton, AL; 7-K. Newsome, FL; 8-J. Thompson, FL; 9-L. Patton, FL; 10-V. Tulao, AL; **Womens 10:** 1-D. Gates, IL; 2-D. Derr, FL; 3-S. Feaster, DC; 4-A. Meyer, CO; 5-A. Akers, AL; 6-J. Quinlan, FL; 7-S. French, FL; 8-J. Newton, AL; 9-S. Torst, CA; 10-S. Simmons, FL; **Womens 12:** 1-B. Engel, FL; 2-E. Icenogle, CA; 3-A. Roehler, PA; 4-D. Derr, FL; 5-H. May, CA; 6-A. Akers, AL; 7-J. Williams, WI; 8-J. Meyer, CO; 9-M. Dellanini, FL; 10-L. Dougherty, FL; **Womens 14:** 1-A. Simonetta, FL; 2-H. Spector, FL; 3-J. Lee, PA; 4-T. Alonzi, CO; 5-D. Culverhouse, AL; 6-T. Dodson, CA; 7-M. Gates, IL; 8-T. Hanson, WI; 9-A. Bengen, MN; 10-A. Kinney, AK; **Womens 16:**

WPRA

Official Rankings

November 1, 1987

1	L. Adams	200.00
2	C. McKinney	148.75
3	M. Drexler	116.25
4	K. Kuhfeld	83.75
5	M. O'Brien	78.75
6	V. Panzeri	60.00
7	M. Lynch	52.50
8	T. Gilreath	50.00
9	C. Evon	47.50
9T	J. Paraiso	47.50
11	J. Paraiso	46.25
12	F. Davis	36.25
13	T. Bevelock	35.00
14	M. Dee	30.00
15T	A. Katz	25.00
15T	M. McDonald	25.00
17T	S. Robson	23.33
17T	B. Stoll	23.33
19T	L. Porter	20.00
19T	R. Whitmire	20.00
21T	L. Alvarado	13.33
21T	D. Fletcher	13.33
23T	C. Baxter, C. Doyle, D. Fischl	
	R. Goblish, M. Morris, C. Nichols	
	T. Rasmussen	10.00

1-T. Dodson, CA; 2-D. Sibell, MN; 3-C. Pellow-ski, WI; 4-S. Ali, NY; 5-D. Culverhouse, AL; 6-A. Simonetta, FL; 7-S. Pinola, PA; 8-L. Coutu, DE; 9-S. Cox, FL; 10-C. Hamilton, CO; **Womens 18:** 1-L. Coutu, DE; 2-M. Gilman, OR; 3-K. Pullis, CA; 4-S. Ashton, WI; 5-C. Doyle, NY; 6-R. Le-vine, CA; 7-D. Cumberworth, MI; 8-L. Gates, IL; 9-D. Sibell, MN; 10-T. Spangler, WA; **Womens 19:** 1-K. Hallender, FL; 2-C. Gudinas, IL; 3-R. Olson, MA; 4-D. Richardson, CA; 5-C. Healy, GA; 6-T. Trozak, MI; 7-T. Selby, AZ; 8-S. Ander-son, MI; 9-M. Needham, TX; 10-K. Pullis, CA; **Womens 25:** 1-C. Evon, IL; 2-D. Green, FL; 3-R. Whitmire, GA; 4-K. Mays, MN; 5-K. Stellema, MI; 6-P. Musselman, PA; 7-D. Kadzik, MA; 8-K. Wall, WY; 9-D. Adams, CO; 10-R. Allen, FL; **Womens 30:** 1-S. Morgan, FL; 2-D. Adams, CO; 3-J. Hastings, MI; 4-G. Woods, LA; 5-L. Mojer, FL; 6-B. Harrison, OH; 7-P. Clark, MN; 8-L. Chmura, MI; 9-M. Bickley, PA; 10-L. Davis, IL; **Womens 30+B:** 1-M. McNulty, NC; 2-C. Kisner, FL; 3-K. Guarino, FL; 4-C. Kramer, GA; 5-B. Weis, CO; 6-C. Lammert, CO; 7-M. Burgess, CO; 8-L. Schlager, CO; 9-R. Bain, CO; 10-J. Mittenbeck, CO; **Womens 35:** 1-E. Tuckman, FL; 2-L. Chmura, MI; 3-N. Kronenfeld, IL; 4-J. Myers, NC; 5-M. Primav-era, MA; 6-M. Urza, WA; 7-A. Falso, FL; 8-G. Touhy, IL; 9-K. Childs, TX; 10-R. Daly, MA; **Womens 35+B:** 1-J. Bond, MT; 2-J. Donovan, IN; 3-G. Gauseman, FL; 4-R. Hannon, OH; 5-C. Pederson, MN; 6-M. Arrandondo, MN; 7-L. Doherty, MT; 8-C. Lepera, IN; 9-J. Woolard, OH; 10-K. Adair, IN; **Womens 40:** 1-J. Schmidt, FL; 2-A. Falso, FL; 3-M. Kelly, MA; 4-M. Weidn, DE; 5-G. Touhy, IL; 6-B. Hartz, MI; 7-J. Kenyon, FL; 8-M. Petty, TX; 9-P. Tarzon, IL; **Womens 45:** 1-J. Schmidt, FL; 2-M. Johnson, TX; 3-J. Kenyon, FL; 4-M. Gwinn, NC; 5-S. Sawyer, UT; 6-J. Wriggley, PA; 7-M. Crawford, NY; 8-J. Serabia, TX; 9-S. Elgaway, FL; **Womens 50:** 1-K. Mueller, MN; 2-J. Kenyon, FL; 3-M. Walker, CA; 4-S. Elgaway, FL; 5-J. Atherley, FL; 6-M. Crawford, NY; 7-C. Ching, PA; 8-J. Ralda, PA; 9-J. Kepler, PA; 10-C. Kinderman, PA; **Womens 55:** 1-C. Gautreau, TX; 2-J. Atherley, FL; 3-M. Acuff, VA; 4-J. Contarino, FL; 5-J. Kirker, PA; **Womens 60:** 1-M. Acuff, VA; 2-B. Stone, TX; 3-C. Gautreau, TX; 4-L. Minck, FL



Schedule of Events

RMA Tour Schedule 1987-88 Season

February 17-21, 1988

Arnie May Canadian Open Pro/Am
Cambridge Racquet Club
1385 West 8th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C. V6H 1C8
(604) 736-6794

February 24-28

Griffith Athletic Club
4925 S.W. Griffith Drive
Beaverton, OR 97005
(503) 644-3900

March 2-6

M-PACT Open
Landmark Club
12740 Merritt Drive
Dallas, TX 75251
Aaron Katz
(214) 392-1501

March 24-27

ETU Trucking Pro/AM

Michigan Athletic Club
2500 Burton S.E.
Grand Rapids, MI 49506
(616) 887-1558
(313) 653-5999

Nationals

Site and Date TBA

Denny Vincent
(614) 882-7331

April 21-24

Atlanta Sporting Club
P.O. Box 95563
Atlanta, GA 30347
Caryn McKinney
(404) 636-7575

June 2-5

Riverbend Athletic Club
2201 E. Loop 820 North
Fort Worth, TX 76118
Ed Ghanami
(817) 284-3353

WPRA Tour Schedule 1987-88 Season

February 26-28, 1988

Shawnee-at-Highpoint
808 Washington Avenue
Sellersville, PA 18960
Molly O'Brien
(215) 822-1951

March 10-13

Westerville Athletic Club
939 South State Street
Westerville, OH 43081

**For RMA information
contact: Jim Hiser
at (313) 653-9602**

**For WPRA information
contact: John Samford
at (817) 654-2277**



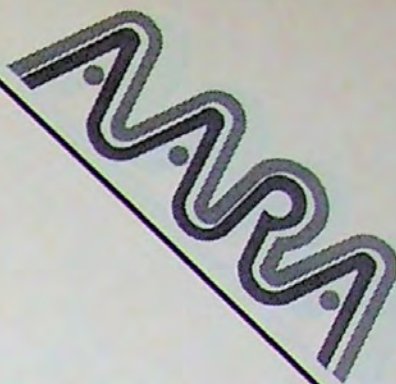
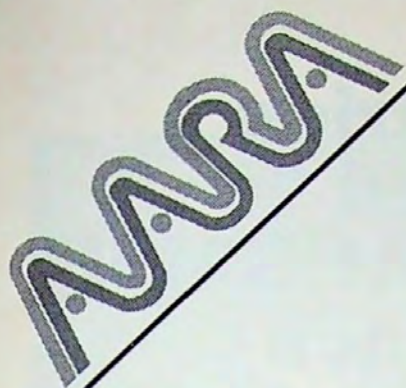
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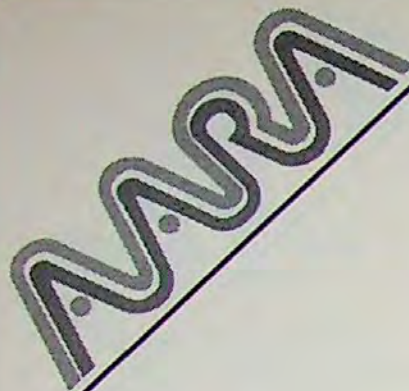
John & Linda Boudman
108 East Street
Doylestown, PA 18901

For information regarding mail order stringing and/or professional, certified stringing services for your major tournaments contact us.



AARA In Review

**The Official Voice
Of The American Amateur
Racquetball Association**



80 Countries Introduced To Racquetball At GAISF Conference

The General Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF), which functions as the governing body of all International Sports Federations, held its annual meeting in the United States this past October. Representatives from 68 member sports gathered in Colorado Springs and were shown racquetball as they had never seen it before. The GAISF, which is based in Monte Carlo, brought delegates from around the globe, including four eastern block countries, to Colorado to conduct a world congress of sports.

In order to showcase racquetball to the assembled group of over 80 countries, the International Amateur Racquetball Federation (IARF) lobbied to have a demonstration included on the official program of the Congress, and was successful in its bid.

Past achievements of the IARF in organizing the World Games, Pan

American Championships and World Championships convinced GAISF Congress planners to take three hours out of a packed two-day schedule to view the racquetball demonstration. As soon as that good news was received, the IARF and AARA went to work planning transportation, security and a first-rate presentation for their global audience.

IARF President Han van der Hiejden and Secretary/General Keith Calkins first tackled the mechanics of transporting 253 delegates to the Lynmar Racquet and Health Club, fifteen miles from the Broadmoor International Center where the conference was taking place, and back again. At precisely noon of the appointed day, over 200 GAISF delegates boarded eight buses of various sizes for their 30 minute, police-escorted trip to Lynmar and began previewing materials which included a welcoming

letter, a brief history of racquetball, and a copy of *National Racquetball* magazine.

At Lynmar each delegate was greeted by Mr. and Mrs. van der Hiejden and members of the local organizing committee. They were then treated to a formal tour of one of the finest fitness clubs in the country. Suit and tie clad racquetball players led the tours which ended with European-style refreshments and ringside seats at the club's two exhibition courts.

On Court #1, Pan American Champion Andy Roberts of the U.S. played Canadian Ross Harvey, the #4 finisher at the Pan Ams, while Court #2 featured teammates Kaye Kuhfeld (U.S. Women's Pan Am Champion) and Carol Dupuy. Outside the courts, Keith Calkins set the scene for the delegates by describing the meteoric rise of racquetball worldwide and emphasizing the physical and mental demands of the game.

As play continued, U.S. team head coach Larry Liles explained the finer points of racquetball and entertained questions from the field. Singles play continued for ten minutes, then the players teamed to exhibit mixed doubles on Court #2. On Court #1 John Foust, ranked #3 in wheelchair competition, played a demonstration game with fellow Denverite Larry Sidebottom. The entire demonstration was fast-paced, impressive and under thirty minutes in length.

The group then enjoyed a first-rate luncheon buffet and watched videotape monitors around the room which showed continuous racquetball action from the Pan Ams to the 1986 Ektelon National finals. Guests received a souvenir glass and centerpieces made up of the



GAISF President Un Yong Kim (left) with IARF President Han van der Hiejden.

U.S. team member Andy Roberts during luncheon.



American, AARA and IARF flags were prized by lucky winners at each table. A brief ceremony honoring GAISF President Dr. Un Yong Kim was conducted by IARF President Han van der Hiejden and marked the end of a very productive afternoon for racquetball worldwide.

The response from the interna-

tional envoys was extremely positive, and it's quite possible that this single event catapulted racquetball into the limelight of global sports competition — where the Olympic action is. It was a tremendous step forward in showing a global audience that racquetball is a world-class sport.

AARA Hall Of Fame Activated

For the first time since 1982, the Hall of Fame Committee of the AARA will begin selection procedures for inductees into the AARA Hall of Fame.

The committee, under the direction of board member Al Seitelman, will select 50 to 60 representatives within the industry to submit names to the AARA board for consideration. The board will select a maximum number of names to be considered and a ballot will be sent to the representatives to vote. Candidates must receive 2/3 votes by the representatives to be inducted. Balloting will take place in February in two major categories — contributor and player. Inductees will be announced in the April issue of *National Racquetball*

and inducted into the Racquetball Hall of Fame at the Annual Awards Banquet of the AARA, held in conjunction with the Ektelon/U.S. National Singles Championships this May in Houston, TX.

Current members of the Racquetball Hall of Fame are:

Contributors: Larry Leaderman, Milwaukee, WI and Joe Sobek, Greenwich, CT

Players: Bud Muehleisen, San Diego, CA; Gene Grapes, Irwin, PA and Ike Gumer, Louisville, KY

Anyone interested in more information about the Racquetball Hall of Fame, should contact AARA Headquarters in Colorado Springs.

AARA Nominates USOC Athletes Of The Year

Jim Cascio of Lancaster, PA and Diane Green of Altamonte Springs, FL were recently nominated as the 1987 United States Olympic Athletes of the Year by the AARA Board of Directors. Each year the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) asks the governing organizations of member sports to select male and female representatives to be honored in the February issue of *Olympian* magazine and enter the field of hopefuls seeking the annual USOC Sportsman and Sportswoman of the Year awards.

In honor of their National Singles wins in May of this year, Cascio and Green will join representatives from 30 other sports at the annual House of Delegates Meeting in Washington, D.C. in April. Chosen as outstanding examples of on- and off-court racquetball sportsmanship by the AARA, Green and Cascio are also automatically in the running for the USOC Sportsman and Sportswoman of the Year awards, which will also be announced at the Washington ceremony.

The USOC Male and Female Athlete of the Year designation is separate from the AARA Male and Female Athletes of the Year selected by the Board of Directors at its annual May meeting.



President's Column

by Van Dubolsky

In the first few months of the new calendar year most state organizations will be holding their singles championships. These tournaments will be followed by fifteen 1988 Regional events at locations across the country. As you know, these regionals are qualifying events for the 1988 Ektelon/U.S. National Singles Championships to be held in Houston in May.

At the October AARA board meeting, your elected directors redefined the eligibility requirements for participation in the Nationals. Since it always takes a little while for everyone to become familiar with new policies, procedures and rules, I wanted to review these changes in detail here.

Effective in 1988, to compete in the Nationals you must physically participate in a regional qualifying event. That is, you must actually attend and play in one of these tournaments, rather than simply pay an entry fee as has been done in the past. Exceptions to the rule must be made by either a regional director or the executive director, only under the following circumstances:

Emergencies such as a death in the family or disabling injuries which can be documented by a physician. A physician's statement describing an injury

or diagnosing an ailment which prevented regional participation must accompany the national entry blank.

Also this year regional directors will offer all "championship" singles events for men and women up to and including the 75+ division. Any of these divisions with six or more entrants will be held in a match play format. If only five players enter a division it will be run in a round robin format. If a division has four or fewer players entered, it may be combined with another age group or cancelled. The regional director will be required to call and inform each player of a cancelled event, or give the player the option of competing in a combined division. In such an instance, if the player chooses not to enter the combined division, entry fees will be refunded and the player will retain eligibility for national competition.

I hope that everyone understands the new AARA eligibility ruling for the 1988 Ektelon/U.S. National Singles Championships, and will make the necessary arrangements to attend their regional qualifier. If you have any questions about the procedure, please call or drop me a line in care of the national office at 815 North Weber, Colorado Springs, CO 80903, (303) 635-5396.

Thanks!

U.S. Team Selected To Compete In The Tournament Of The Americas

Larry Liles, head coach of the Ektelon-sponsored U.S. National Racquetball Team, recently named his starting line up for competition in the Tournament of the Americas in Santa Cruz, Bolivia during Easter week. Six of the team's members will represent the U.S. in what has become one of the most prestigious racquetball tournaments in this hemisphere, second only to the Pan American Championships which are played every four years.

The United States will be represented by David Simonette of Baltimore, MD; Bill Sell of Huntington Beach, CA; Cindy Baxter of Lewiston, PA; Toni Bevelock from Memphis, TN; Michelle Gilman of Ontario, OR and Mona Mook from Sacramento.

This talented group hopes to retain the titles acquired by last year's team members at the 1987 event in Caracas, Venezuela. This year's event will be the third successive Tournament of the Americas.



AARA Visa Card Available To Members

In a move to expand its membership services, the AARA has entered into a long term agreement with VISA, making it the official credit card of the organization, and available to all AARA members at no charge in the first year.

The Classic VISA features a number of benefits unavailable with other cards. The card is distinctive, emblazoned with a player in action and the AARA logo, and carries attractive interest rates. Benefits range from lost luggage insurance, deductible car rental insurance, emergency cash, airline tickets, \$300,000 travel insurance and much more — all services are free to AARA members. And each time you use the card, a percentage of the cost of your purchases is rebated to the AARA to promote racquetball throughout the United States.

By applying for the AARA Classic VISA card, you are not only generating financial benefits for yourself, but supporting your sport as well. If you have not received an application in the mail, please call or write the

national office today.

AARA Classic Visa Card
815 North Weber
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
(303) 635-5396

Penn Ultra Blue Selected By AARA As Official Ball For All 1988 Major Regional and National Events

The Penn Ultra Blue racquetball was selected by the AARA Board from amongst three major bids as the Official Ball of every major Adult and Junior Regional and National event.

Penn will be the official ball in over 38 premier events during the 1988 season. This will be the fifth consecutive year that the Penn Ultra Blue racquetball has received the AARA endorsement.

JOIN THE AARA

American Amateur Racquetball Association

- Over 800 Tournaments Annually
- Official Amateur Rulebook
- National Ranking With All AARA Players
- Recognized Amateur Governing Body

☐ **Yes!**

Sign me up for an AARA membership kit which includes all the above plus an official membership card that makes me eligible for tournament play and discount coupons for merchandise and services. I am enclosing only \$10.00 for a one year membership.

Name

Address

City

State Zip

Mail This Form To: AARA, 815 North Weber, Suite 203, Colorado Springs, CO 80903



AARA Official Rankings

As of November 1, 1987

Mens Open: 1-J. Cascio, PA; 2-T. O'Neil, VT; 3-A. Roberts, TN; 4-D. Ganim, OH; 5-S. Gonzalez, FL; 6-J. Lorello, FL; 7-L. Gilliam, TX; 8-M. Lowe, CA; 9-T. Hansen, FL; **Mens A:** 1-L. Yeip, MI; 2-G. Mavrikis, NY; 3-J. Bolger, OH; 4-J. Okuniewicz, MA; 5-R. Abady, NY; 6-J. Minkel, TX; 7-P. Orszulak, MA; 8-T. Dotson, WA; 9-B. Gruber, NY; 10-D. March, MI; **Mens B:** 1-B. Buckalew, GA; 2-R. Kline, SD; 3-M. Motta, FL; 4-N. Rallis, MI; 5-M. Sturgeon, TX; 6-G. Lutch, OH; 7-S. McCune, MI; 8-D. Vega, NY; 9-G. Alexander, CO; 10-R. Jackson, FL; **Mens C:** 1-S. Monchik, NY; 2-M. Volterre, FL; 3-J. Everett, WA; 4-M. Hartman, FL; 5-G. Boudreau, CN; 6-J. McCubbin, Jr., TX; 7-M. Davis, MI; 8-D. Fabrikant, MA; 9-R. Bates, CA; 10-C. Delzer, SD; **Mens D:** 1-K. Martin, CA; 2-B. Lee, TX; 3-D. Balassonne, MI; 4-F. Doyle, MA; 5-W. Huffanker, TN; 6-T. Lavery, IL; 7-F. Liu, NY; 8-B. Pruchno, WA; 9-B. Saddler, TX; 10-A. Sasson, GA; **Mens Novice:** 1-B. Johnson, MN; 2-W. Bailey, WA; 3-J. Cain, TX; 4-M. Albetti, IL; 5-R. Cadet, NY; 6-L. Caplan, MD; 7-E. Dadak, MA; 8-J. Kosik, FL; 9-B. Laird, TX; 10-L. Leipold, GA; **Mens 8:** 1-M. Hurst, FL; 2-R. Thompson, AL; 3-S. Huggins, FL; 4-J. Boyett, CA; 5-B. Hansen, IA; 6-H. Spangenberg, CA; 7-J. Bhuta, AL; 8-J. Friedman, FL; 9-T. Siggins, CA; 10-G. Benedict, CO; **Mens 10:** 1-F. Dean, Jr., AL; 2-S. Brown, CA; 3-W. Miller, TN; 4-J. Carpenter, IA; 5-B. Zimmerman, MI; 6-C. Pardue, FL; 7-M. Hurst, FL; 8-E. Storey, IN; 9-J. Friedman, FL; 10-S. Wood, MA; **Mens 12:** 1-C. Czyz, FL; 2-S. Monchik, NY; 3-S. Zimmerman, MI; 4-T. Lepera, IN; 5-J. Mannino, NY; 6-S. Russell, NY; 7-A. Thompson, WI; 8-A. Engel, FL; 9-M. Kelly, CO; 10-B. Garrow, MI; **Mens 14:** 1-J. Ellis, CA; 2-C. O'Connell, CO; 3-J. Ellenberger, WI; 4-C. Czyz, FL; 5-S. Reiff, FL; 6-J. Kolen, AL; 7-A. Baginal, CA; 8-A. Engel, FL; 9-W. Epperson, AL; 10-T. King, TN; **Mens 16:** 1-N. Glantz, NY; 2-J. Paraiso, CA; 3-R. Walden, FL; 4-W. Epperson, AL; 5-T. Talley, WI; 6-D. Alonzi, CO; 7-J. Bennett, MI; 8-M. Locker, MN; 9-C. Garrido, TX; 10-B. Rankin, FL; **Mens 18:** 1-D. Simonette, MD; 2-T. Doyle, NY; 3-J. Floyd, MI; 4-S. Mathison, AL; 5-B. Munroe, WI; 6-L. Suarez, FL; 7-O. Gonzalez, FL; 8-T. Boscia, CO; 9-E. Ramm, CA; **Mens**

19+: 1-M. Bronfeld, CA; 2-D. Gopfert, MA; 3-R. McKinney, PA; 4-B. Rodriguez, CO; 5-C. Winter, FL; 6-D. Dutcher, MI; 7-S. Moskwa, IL; 8-C. Nichols, FL; 9-J. Chelena, FL; 10-R. Binnix, GA; **Mens 25+:** 1-T. Hansen, FL; 2-J. Peterson, NY; 3-J. Scargle, FL; 4-L. Fox, MI; 5-B. Huber, FL; 6-D. Levy, FL; 7-M. King, WY; 8-B. Sheldon, TN; 9-G. Tanko, WI; 10-S. White, AL; **Mens 30+:** 1-S. Hastings, MI; 2-B. Corcoran, AZ; 3-B. Land, LA; 4-J. Doyle, CA; 5-R. Anderson, MI; 6-D. Aceto, MA; 7-R. Olson, ME; 8-V. Dubolsky, FL; 9-E. Garabedian, PA; 10-D. Kovanda, OH; **Mens 35+:** 1-C. Kunkel, CA; 2-D. Kovanda, OH; 3-J. Free, OH; 4-R. Montague, PA; 5-S. Wright, CA; 6-S. Chapman, FL; 7-G. Owen, FL; 8-S. Shapiro, MA; 9-D. Dubolsky, FL; 10-B. Druktenis, WA; **Mens 40+:** 1-C. Kunkel, CA; 2-E. Remen, VA; 3-J. Hennon, TN; 4-S. Heguy, NH; 5-B. Parra, CA; 6-S. Robles, TX; 7-J. Winterton, NY; 8-B. Sanders, OH; 9-T. Rumsey, FL; 10-K. Bonnett, MI; **Mens 45+:** 1-R. Wehrle, GA; 2-C. Garfinkel, NY; 3-B. Sanders, OH; 4-R. Galbreath, PA; 5-R. Johnson, IL; 6-T. Rumsey, FL; 7-E. Vlock, FL; 8-D. Mas, DE; 9-S. Williams, WA; 10-S. Elman, MA; **Mens 50+:** 1-S. Marcus, FL; 2-B. Wetzel, CA; 3-S. Elman, MA; 4-S. Williams, WA; 5-J. Jackson, PA; 6-J. Fay, TX; 7-P. Banales, AZ; 8-J. Mooney, CO; 9-M. Blair, MN; 10-O. Chapman, OH; **Mens 55+:** 1-O. Chapman, OH; 2-P. Whitehill, WA; 3-L. Hahn, MI; 4-H. Clar, CA; 5-D. Liacera, Sr., NY; 6-B. Folsom, ME; 7-D. Ryan, MA; 8-R. Stillman, MN; 9-R. Horton, CO; 10-J. Solio, FL; **Mens 60+:** 1-S. Lesser, NY; 2-V. Sacco, NY; 3-G. Melvey, ND; 4-B. Briel, MA; 5-E. Acuff, VA; 6-R. Carreti, MI; 7-D. Kincade, CO; 8-C. Clausen, FL; 9-S. Eller, IL; 10-D. Goddard, MT; **Mens 65+:** 1-L. Wilde, UT; 2-E. Acuff, VA; 3-N. Sans, CA; 4-D. Goddard, MT; 5-A. Goss, CO; 6-B. Cloud, IL; 7-M. Friedman, ME; 8-J. Glavan, FL; 9-P. Neff, MA.

Womens Open: 1-K. Kuhfeld, IN; 2-M. Mook, CA; 3-D. Fischl, PA; 4-S. Morgan, FL; 5-D. Green, FL; 6-M. Dee, NH; 7-T. Rasmussen, CA; 8-E. Mardas, OH; 9-J. Hastings, MI; 10-D. Adams, CO; **Womens A:** 1-A. Maldonado, NY; 2-L. Butler, TX; 3-P. Afford, NJ; 4-J. Liacera, NY; 5-S. White, MI; 6-L. Gaertner, NJ; 7-L. Pastor, MN; 8-L. Mojer, FL; 9-L. Troszak, MI; 10-D. Duguay, RI; **Womens B:** 1-L. Butler, TX; 2-J. Heller, OH; 3-L. Wescott, NJ; 4-S. Elins, FL; 5-J. Tenaglia, MA; 6-L. Campbell, TX; 7-S. Rice, NJ; 8-K. Vetort, TX; 9-J. Zogg, CA; 10-J. Campbell, CT; **Womens C:** 1-L. Williams, NJ; 2-K. Perry, CA; 3-B. Maynard, FL; 4-K. Locke, MN; 5-K. Benkert, TX; 6-M. Andrade, CA; 7-K. Rector, WA; 8-J. Espinosa, IL; 9-A. Henderson, TN; 10-V. Higley, WA; **Womens D:** 1-W. Rudof, TX; 2-D. Campagna, VT; 3-M. Bailey, WA; 4-D. Bates, CA; 5-T. Collins, MA; 6-A. Dickerson, MI; 7-F. Egnazzo, NJ; 8-B. Hendrickson, MA; 9-F. Judkins, TN; 10-L. Moore, TX; **Womens Novice:** 1-C. Greco, MA; 2-A. Roehler, PA; 3-S. Beverly, NY; 4-H. Cohen, NJ; 5-L. Moore, TX; 6-D. Ramsey, NY; 7-M. Zak, MA; 8-M. Hendrickson,

NY; 9-L. James, PA; 10-R. Branville, MN; **Womens 8:** 1-J. Quinlan, FL; 2-D. Derr, FL; 3-D. Gates, IL; 4-L. Patton, FL; 5-B. Knitter, WI; 6-J. Newton, AL; 7-K. Newsome, FL; 8-J. Thompson, FL; 9-L. Patton, FL; 10-V. Tulao, AL; **Womens 10:** 1-D. Gates, IL; 2-D. Derr, FL; 3-S. Feaster, DC; 4-A. Meyer, CO; 5-A. Akers, AL; 6-J. Quinlan, FL; 7-S. French, FL; 8-J. Newton, AL; 9-S. Torst, CA; 10-S. Simmons, FL; **Womens 12:** 1-B. Engel, FL; 2-E. Icenogle, CA; 3-A. Roehler, PA; 4-D. Derr, FL; 5-H. May, CA; 6-A. Akers, AL; 7-J. Willems, WI; 8-J. Meyer, CO; 9-M. Dellanini, FL; 10-L. Dougherty, FL; **Womens 14:** 1-A. Simonetta, FL; 2-H. Specter, FL; 3-J. Lee, PA; 4-T. Alonzi, CO; 5-D. Culverhouse, AL; 6-T. Dodson, CA; 7-M. Gates, IL; 8-T. Hanson, WI; 9-A. Bengen, MN; 10-A. Kinney, AK; **Womens 16:** 1-T. Dodson, CA; 2-D. Sibell, MN; 3-C. Pellowski, WI; 4-S. Ali, NY; 5-D. Culverhouse, AL; 6-A. Simonetta, FL; 7-S. Pinola, CA; 8-L. Couto, DE; 9-S. Cox, FL; 10-C. Hamilton, CO; **Womens 18:** 1-L. Couto, DE; 2-M. Gilman, OR; 3-K. Pulis, CA; 4-S. Ashton, WI; 5-C. Doyle, NY; 6-R. Levine, CA; 7-C. Cumberland, MI; 8-L. Gates, IL; 9-D. Sibell, MN; 10-T. Spangler, WA; **Womens 19+:** 1-K. Hallender, FL; 2-C. Gudinas, IL; 3-R. Olson, MA; 4-D. Richardson, CA; 5-C. Healy, GA; 6-T. Troszak, MI; 7-T. Selby, AZ; 8-S. Anderson, MI; 9-M. Needham, TX; 10-K. Pulis, CA; **Womens 25+:** 1-C. Evon, IL; 2-D. Green, FL; 3-R. Whitmire, GA; 4-K. Mays, MN; 5-K. Stellema, MI; 6-P. Musselman, PA; 7-D. Kadzik, MA; 8-K. Wall, WY; 9-D. Adams, CO; 10-R. Allen, FL; **Womens 30+:** 1-S. Morgan, FL; 2-D. Adams, CO; 3-J. Hastings, MI; 4-G. Woods, LA; 5-L. Mojer, FL; 6-B. Harrison, OH; 7-P. Clark, MN; 8-I. Chmura, MI; 9-M. Bickley, PA; 10-L. Davis, IL; **Womens 35+:** 1-M. McNulty, NC; 2-C. Kisner, FL; 3-K. Guarino, FL; 4-C. Kramer, GA; 5-B. Weis, CO; 6-C. Lammert, CO; 7-M. Burgess, CO; 8-L. Schlager, CO; 9-R. Bain, CO; 10-J. Mittenbeck, CO; **Womens 35+:** 1-E. Tuckman, FL; 2-I. Chmura, MI; 3-N. Kronenfeld, IL; 4-J. Myers, NC; 5-M. Primavera, MA; 6-M. Urza, WA; 7-A. Falso, FL; 8-G. Touhy, IL; 9-K. Childs, TX; 10-R. Daly, MA; **Womens 35+B:** 1-J. Bond, MT; 2-J. Donovan, IN; 3-G. Gauseman, FL; 4-R. Hannon, OH; 5-C. Pederson, MN; 6-M. Arrandondo, MN; 7-L. Doherty, MT; 8-C. Lepera, IN; 9-J. Woolard, OH; 10-K. Adair, IN; **Womens 40+:** 1-J. Schmidt, FL; 2-A. Falso, FL; 3-M. Kelly, MA; 4-M. Weldin, DE; 5-G. Touhy, IL; 6-B. Hartz, MI; 7-J. Kenyon, FL; 8-M. Petty, TX; 9-P. Tarzon, IL; **Womens 45+:** 1-J. Schmidt, FL; 2-M. Johnson, TX; 3-J. Kenyon, FL; 4-M. Gwinn, NC; 5-S. Sawyer, UT; 6-J. Wriggley, PA; 7-M. Crawford, NY; 8-J. Serabia, TX; 9-S. Elgaway, FL; **Womens 50+:** 1-K. Mueller, MN; 2-J. Kenyon, FL; 3-M. Walker, CA; 4-S. Elgaway, FL; 5-J. Atherley, FL; 6-M. Crawford, NY; 7-C. Ching, PA; 8-J. Raida, PA; 9-J. Kepler, PA; 10-C. Kinderman, PA; **Womens 55+:** 1-C. Gautreau, TX; 2-J. Atherley, FL; 3-M. Acuff, VA; 4-J. Contarino, FL; 5-J. Kirker, PA; **Womens 60+:** 1-M. Acuff, VA; 2-B. Stone, TX; 3-C. Gautreau, TX; 4-L. Minck, FL

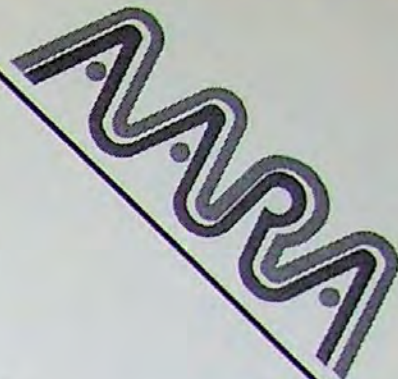
Annual State And Regional Directors Seminar Set For Olympic Training Center In January

Representatives from all fifty states and fifteen regions are expected to attend the annual State and Regional Directors Seminar at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs in January. Subjects such as rules, long-range planning,

fund raising, PARI, Regional and State Championship programs, and media relations will be discussed, along with development programs for junior, women, intercollegiate, minority, senior and masters players. Industry leaders will address the

group over the course of the three-day meeting, while problem-solving and brainstorming sessions are expected to result in visionary development for state AARA affiliates across the country, and for the national office as well.

Schedule of Events



January 7-10

DAC Invitational
Denver Athletic Club
1325 Glenarm Place
Denver, CO 80204
Mike Casey
(303) 534-1211

January 7-10

Steamboat Springs Open
Steamboat Springs Athletic Club
33250 Storm Meadows
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477
Gary Crawford
(303) 879-1036

January 8-10

Bottom Board Shoot-Out
Sacramento Court Club
947 Enterprise Drive
Sacramento, CA 95825
Tim Scott
(916) 920-1933

January 8-10

Bud Light-WCGY Open
Salem Racquetball Club
Manor Parkway
Salem, NH 03079
Al Parchuck

January 8-10

Coors Light Racquetball Series
Westerville Athletic Club
939 South State Street
Columbus, OH 43081
Doug Ganim
(614) 885-0779

January 8-10

Cystic Fibrosis Open
Colony Court Club
444 Sand Creek Road
Albany, NY 12211
Barry Russell/John Martin
(518) 459-4444

January 8-10

Derby Open
NEHR-Derby
2138 Silas Deane Highway
Rocky Hill, CT 06067
Ed Mazur
(203) 563-1491

January 8-10

Super 7 #4
Saginaw Valley Health Racquetball Club
2717 Schust Road
Saginaw, MI 48603
Jim Hiser
(313) 653-5999

January 8-10

Winter Classic
Ricochet Health & Racquet Club
219 St. Nicholas Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
Terry Gatarz
(201) 753-2300

January 8-10

10th Indy Open
Indiana Athletic Club
411 South Harbour Drive
Novlesville, IN 46060
Jack Fogle/Mike Arnolt
(317) 776-0222

January 14-17

Flatiron Open
Flatiron Athletic Club
505 Thunderbird Drive
Boulder, CO 80303
(303) 499-6590

January 15-17

Stuck In Lodi Racquetball Championships
Twin Arbors Athletic Club
1900 South Hutchins Street
Lodi, CA 95240
Danny Tanner
(209) 334-4897

January 15-17

Broadwater Classic
Broadwater Athletic Club
4920 Highway 12 W.
Helena, MT 59601

January 15-17

Ice Fog Classic — Fairbanks
150 Eagle Street
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Kristi Flores
(907) 456-1914

January 15-17

New Hampshire Seacoast Open
Off The Wall Health Club
Portsmouth, NH
Greg Sherne
(603) 431-1430

January 15-17

Riverview 1000
Riverview Racquet Club
4940 Plainfield NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505
Roy White/Mike Anderson
(616) 363-7769

January 15-17

West Virginia Cash Open
Olympic Sports World
Parkersburg, WV
(304) 422-5445

January 15-17

3rd Annual Ball Buster Invi.
Capitol Courts
3759 Gross Circle
Carson City, NV 89701
Ron Percivalle
(702) 882-9566

January 15-17

The 2nd Annual San Diego
Doubles Championships
South Bend Racquetball Center
2539 Hoover Avenue
San Diego, CA 92050

January 20-22

Pepsi Open
Fairmont Athletic Club
3328 West Genesee Street
Syracuse, NY 13219
Dick Maione
(315) 488-3114

January 21-24

Briargate Singles Tournament
Lynmar Athletic Club
2660 Vickers Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80918
Bernie Nunnery
(303) 598-4069

January 21-24

4th Annual Birthday Bash
Front Range Sports & Courts
2095 West 6th Avenue
Broomfield, CO 80020
Julie Seed
(303) 469-6651

January 21-24

6th Annual California Earthquake Open
Salinas Athletic Club
20 East San Joaquin Street
Salinas, CA 93901
Lou Quint
(408) 757-8331

January 22-24

Lifecenter Plus Open
Lifecenter Plus
5133 Darrow Road
Hudson, OH 44236
Debby Stonich
(216) 655-2377

January 22-24

Michigan Intercollegiate
Champions
Ferris State College
Northland Drive
Big Rapids, MI 49307
Matt Klein
(616) 796-0461

January 22-24

NJ St. Doubles Championships
Riverview Racquetball Club
111 Henley Avenue
New Milford, NJ 07646
Jodi Bair
(201) 384-3905

January 22-24

Vermont State Doubles
Olympiad
70 Farrell Drive
S. Burlington, VT 05403

January 22-24

Rollout Classic
Ann Arbor Court Club
2817 Boardwalk
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
Jim Gordon
(313) 694-2247

January 22-24

YMCA Open
Sarasota YMCA
1075 South Euclid Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34237
Barbara Simmons
(813) 957-0770

January 22-24

6th Summit City Open
Summit City Court Club
5928 Trier Road
Ft. Wayne, IN 46815
Janet Coffee
(219) 485-1671

January 29-31

AARA Regional Doubles
Diablo Athletic Club
5294 Clayton Road
Concord, CA 94521
Joani Kugler
(415) 682-1060

January 29-31

Connecticut Open
Downtown Fitness Center
230 George Street
New Haven, CT 06501
Syndi Garay
(203) 787-6501

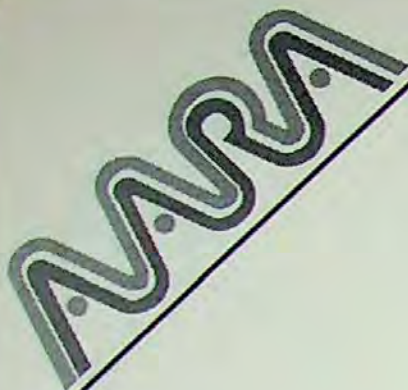
January 29-31

Coors Light Racquetball Series
Aquarius Athletic Club
5730 Opportunity Drive
Toledo, OH 43612
Doug Ganim
(614) 885-0779

February 4-7

2nd Annual Warren Finn RB
Tournament
Open, Amateur & special Jr. Div.
15+ under
Jewish Community Center of
Easton
5601 S. Braeswood
Houston, TX 77096
Mike Bernstein
(713) 729-3200

For AARA schedule information contact: Luke St. Onge
at (303) 635-5396



Officers & Board Members

OFFICERS

President: Van Dubolsky, Santa Fe Community College, 3000 N.W. 83rd Street, Gainesville, FL 32606, 904-395-5356. **Vice President:** Jim Hiser, Davison Racquetball Club, G-2140 Fairway Drive, Davison, MI 48423, 313-767-3434 (H), 313-653-5999 (O), 313-653-9602 (C). **National Rules Commissioner:** Michael Arnolt, 8444 Seabridge Way, Indianapolis, IN 46240, 317-259-1359 (H), 317-776-0222 (O). **Secretary:** Al Seitelman, 142 Landing Avenue, Smithtown, NY 11787, 516-360-0979. **Treasurer:** Dave Anderson, Spare Time Inc., 7919 Folsom Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95826, 916-383-3070. **National Commissioner:** Cathie Frederickson, 4616 Hunters Ridge #10, Grand Rapids, MI 49508, 616-638-5380 (O). **Board Members:** Judi Schmidt, 1970 Cattleman Road, Sarasota, FL 33582, 813-371-6193 (H), 813-921-6675 (O); Keith Calkins, 28000 Marguerite Pkwy., Mission Viejo, CA 92691, 714-582-9656, 714-582-4545; Steve Ducoff, P.O. Box 281, Randolph AFB, TX 78148, 512-652-3471; Jon Denley, 8 Chatham Court, Bricktown, NJ 08723, 201-458-2354; John Foust, 4633B South Frazer, Aurora, CO 80015, 303-750-3210 (O).

ADULT REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Region #1: Paul Henrickson, 20 Oakes Street, Millbury, MA 01527, 617-832-3459. **Region #2:** Al Seitelman, 142 Landing Ave., Smithtown, NY 11787, 516-360-0979 (H). **Region #3:** Bernie Howard, Rd. 1, Box 362A, Reedsville, PA 17084, 717-667-2209. **Region #4:** Van Dubolsky, L24 Santa Fe Community College, 3000 N.W. 83rd Street, Gainesville, FL 32606, 904-395-5356 (O). **Region #5:** Jack Sorenson, Montgomery Athletic Club, 5675 Carmichael Park, Montgomery, AL 36177, 205-277-7130. **Region #6:** Randy Scott, 1615 Walnut Grove, Derby, KS 67037, 316-788-6470 (H), 316-681-1573 (O). **Region #7:** Bruce Hendin, 15759 San Pedro, San Antonio, TX 78232, 512-490-1980. **Region #8:** Alvin Barasch, 7330 N. Cicero, Lincolnwood, IL 60466, 312-673-7300. **Region #9:** Jim Easterling, 321 Village, Lansing, MI 48911, 517-887-0459 (H), 517-373-2399 (O). **Region #10:** Michael Arnolt, 8444 Seabridge Way, Indianapolis, IN 46240, 317-259-1359 (H), 317-776-0222 (O). **Region #11:** Les Dittich, Box 16, Eagle Lake, MN 56024, 507-257-3698 (H), 507-257-3353 (O). **Region #12:** John Foust, 4633B South Frazer, Aurora, CO 80015, 303-699-8121 (H), 303-750-3210 (O). **Region #13:** Dan West, 3758 Mt. Rushmore Ave., Billings, MT 59102, 406-656-3890. **Region #14:** Ed Martin, Bottomline Ventures, 11460 Sunrise Gold Circle, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670, 916-638-7572. **Region #15:** Sid Williams, 5227 S. Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA 98409, 206-473-2266.

JUNIOR REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Region #3: Robert Linsk, Jr., 4611 Harrison Street, Chevy Chase, MD 20815, 301-657-2417 (H), 301-843-9520 (O). **Region #9:** Tom Blakeslee, 37585 Lakeville, Mt. Clemens, MI 48045, 313-575-3998. **Region #14:** Scott Winters, RB World & Aerobic Health Center, 10115 Talbert Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708, 714-962-1374.

STATE DIRECTORS

REGION #1 Commissioner & Massachusetts State Director: Paul Henrickson, 20 Oakes Street, Millbury, MA 01527, 617-832-3459. **New Hampshire:** Lance/Gayann Bloom, 23 Cliff Ave., Boars Head, Hampton Beach, NH 03842, 603-926-3233. **Vermont:** Brent Whitney, Green Mountain RB Assoc., 8 Timber Lane, Shelburne, VT 05482, 802-434-2142. **Maine:** Tom Farley, 25 High Street, Yarmouth, ME 04096, 207-846-4236. **Rhode Island:** John Warget, 2120 Pleasant Street, Dighton, MA 02715, 617-336-5600. **Connecticut:** Ed Mazur, Box 557, 2138 Silas Deane Hwy., Rocky Hill, CT 06067, 203-563-4911 (H), 203-563-1492 (O). **REGION #2 Commissioner & New York State Director:** Al Seitelman, 142 Landing Ave., Smithtown, NY 11787, 516-360-0979 (H). **New Jersey:** Jodi Bair, 39 DeMott Ave., Bergenfield, NJ 07621, 201-384-3905 (H), 212-980-0120 (O). **REGION #3 Commissioner:** Bernie Howard, RD1, Box 362A, Reedsville, PA 17084, 717-667-2209. **Pennsylvania:** Dave Dunn, Hamilton Financial Center, One Center Square, Suite 407, Allentown, PA 18101, 215-433-3457 (H), 215-439-8451 (O). **Delaware:** Dario Mas, 706 Kilburn Rd., Wilmington, DE 19803, 302-478-7919. **Maryland & Washington D.C.:** Robin Duple, RB Players Assoc., P.O. Box 805, Bryans Road, MD 20616, 301-283-5453. **Virginia:** Ed Remen, 308 Glenn Drive, Sterling, VA 22170, 703-430-0666. **REGION #4 Commissioner:** Van Dubolsky, L24 Santa Fe Community College, 3000 N.W. 83rd Street, Gainesville, FL 32606, 904-395-5356. **North Carolina:** Mike Dimoff, 1409 B. Whilden Place, Greensboro, NC 27408, 919-379-0550. **Georgia:** Mike Brooks, 2138 Faulkner Road, Atlanta, GA 30324, 404-633-2638. **Florida:** Linda Mojer, 915 N. Kentucky Ave., Winter Park, FL 32789, 305-647-4298 (H), 305-646-2575 (O). **South Florida:** Fred White, 3998 Cocoplum Circle, Coconut Beach, FL 33065, 305-528-2311 (O). **South Carolina:** Bob Horne, 335 Salem Drive, Ladson, SC 29456, 803-553-5484 (H), 803-875-1990 (O). **REGION #5 Commissioner:** Jack Sorenson, Montgomery Athletic Club, 5675 Carmichael Park, Montgomery, AL 36177, 205-277-7130. **Alabama:** Jim Gillhouse, 107 Valley View Dr., Rt. 3, Enterprise, AL 36331, 205-347-1038 (H), 205-255-6509 (O). **Tennessee:** Paul Redelheim, 2543 Blair Blvd., #1, Nashville, TN 37212, 615-383-2092 (H), 615-228-4848 (O). **Mississippi:** Jim Allen, 1765 E. Sudan, Greenville, MS 39701, 601-335-3565 (H), 601-335-9000 (O). **REGION #6 Commissioner & Kansas State Director:** Randy Scott, 1615 Walnut Grove, Derby, KS 67037, 316-788-6470 (H), 316-681-1573 (O). **Arkansas:** Rex/Gwen Benham, 1603 West 58th, N. Little Rock, AR 72118, 501-758-5076. **Oklahoma:** Susan Mc Masters, Rt. 3, Box 490, Perkins, OK 74059, 405-743-1328. **Missouri:** Bob Hardcastle, 181 Trails West, Chesterfield, MO 63017, 314-469-3395 (H), 314-532-0484 (O). **REGION #7 Commissioner:** Bruce Hendin, 15759 San Pedro, San Antonio, TX 78232, 512-490-1980. **Texas:** Joe Koppel, 2104 Hollyhill, Denton, TX 76205, 817-382-5594 (O). **Louisiana:** Paul Bruno, Box 80643, Baton Rouge, LA 70898. **REGION #8 Commissioner:** Alvin Barasch, 7330 N. Cicero, Lincolnwood, IL 60466, 312-673-7300. **Iowa:** Brad McCunniff, 1628 Grandview Court, Cedar Falls, IA 50613, 319-266-8396, 319-277-8151. **Illinois:** William Roberts, 610 S. Main St., Mt. Prospect, IL 60056, 312-392-8473 (H), 312-390-6952 (O). **Wisconsin:** Carol Pellowski, North Hills Athletic Club, N85 W15960 Appleton Ave., Menomonee Falls, WI 53051, 414-251-1420 (O). **REGION #9 Commissioner:** Jim Easterling, 321 Village, Lansing, MI 48911, 517-373-2399. **Michigan:** Tom Blakeslee, 37585 Lakeville, Mt. Clemens, MI 48045, 313-575-

3998. **West Virginia:** Jim Brundige, 2804 Birch St., Parkersburg, WV 26101, 304-422-5445. **Ohio:** Reed Gungelman, 127 Northfield Road, Bedford, OH 44146, 216-439-2424. **REGION #10 Commissioner:** Michael Arnolt, 8444 Seabridge Way, Indianapolis, IN 46240, 317-259-1359 (H), 317-776-0222 (O). **Indiana:** Renee Labonne, 6090 Orchard Hill Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46220, 317-255-7730. **Kentucky:** Rocky De Torma, 420 Mt. Tabor Rd., Lexington, KY 40502, 606-266-0032 (H), 606-233-0610 (O). **REGION #11 Commissioner:** Les Dittich, Box 16, Eagle Lake, MN 56024, 507-257-3698 (H), 507-257-3353 (O). **Nebraska:** John Clynne, 206 South 13th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-473-3767, 402-489-9151. **Minnesota:** Marta Groess, 15801 Erickson Lane, Minnetonka, MN 55345, 612-935-1291. **North Dakota:** Roger Mazurek, Y.M.C.A., Box 549, Bismark, ND 58501, 701-255-1525. **South Dakota:** Robert Smith, 1910 8th St. S. #311, Brookings, SD 57006, 605-697-5186 (H), 605-688-6106 (O). **REGION #12 Commissioner:** John Foust, 4633 B South Frazer, Aurora, CO 80015, 303-699-8121 (H), 303-750-3210 (O). **Colorado:** Sherry Armstrong, 7379 South Knolls Way, Littleton, CO 80014, 303-771-2767. **New Mexico:** Gary Mazaro, 1619 Solano N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87110, 505-266-9213 (H), 505-293-3080 (O). **Arizona:** Donna Angelopolus, 10424 South 46th Way, Phoenix, AZ 85044, 602-893-7655 (H). **Utah:** Toni Denver, 135 East 820 South, Box 67, Salem, UT 84653, 801-423-1325. **REGION #13 Commissioner & Montana State Director:** Dan West, 3758 Mt. Rushmore Ave., Billings, MT 59102, 406-656-3890. **Wyoming:** Bob Ballew, 1700 Nottingham Drive, Casper, WY 82609, 307-265-6534. **REGION #14 Commissioner:** Ed Martin, Bottomline Ventures, 11460 Sunrise Gold Circle, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670, 916-638-7572. **California:** Don Schmidt, c/o Ed Martin, Bottomline Ventures, 11460 Sunrise Gold Circle, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670, 916-455-7805. **Nevada:** Clint Koble, Incline Village Courthouse, 880 Northwood, P.O. Box 4107, Incline Village, NV 89450, 702-831-4214. **Hawaii:** Connie Florez, 1216 Kuokoa Street, Pearl City, HI 96782, 808-455-8341 (H), 808-833-2270 (O). **REGION #15 Commissioner:** Sid Williams, 5227 S. Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA 98409, 206-473-2266. **Washington:** Ray Campbell, 2511 22nd Ave. South, Seattle, WA 98144, 206-324-8668. **Oregon:** Jim Davidson, 4471 Camellia Dr. S., Salem, OR 97309, 503-838-1424 (O). **Idaho:** Gloria Pierson, 333 N.W. Tumalo Ave., Bend, OR 97701, 503-389-4447. **Alaska:** Robin Rodriguez, P.O. Box 231593, Anchorage, AK 99523-1593, 907-561-3160, 907-271-5768. **Military Commissioner:** Steve Ducoff, P.O. Box 281, Randolph AFB, TX 78148, 512-652-3471. **National High School Commissioner:** Rick Lukasek, Concord Recreation Center, 12320 Old Tesson Rd., St. Louis, MO 63128, 314-842-6363. **National Wheelchair Commissioner:** Chip Parmelly, 1941 Viento Verano Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765, 714-861-7312. **Commissioner For Americans In Europe:** Hal Leffler, Siegener Strasse 48, 6230 Frankfurt 80, West Germany. **Junior Council Commissioner:** Scott Winters, RB World & Aerobic Health Center, 10115 Talbert Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708, 714-962-1374. **Intercollegiate Commissioner:** Neil Shapiro, 128 Lancaster St., Albany, NY 12210, 518-436-9522 (H), 518-462-7158 (O). **Commissioner For The Disabled:** Judi Schmidt, 1970 Cattleman Road, Sarasota, FL 33582, 813-371-6193 (H), 813-921-6675 (O). **Commissioner For Minority:** Sid Williams, 5227 S. Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA 98409, 206-473-2266. **Commissioner For Women:** Judi Schmidt, 1970 Cattleman Road, Sarasota, FL 33582, 813-371-6193 (H), 813-921-6675 (O).



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