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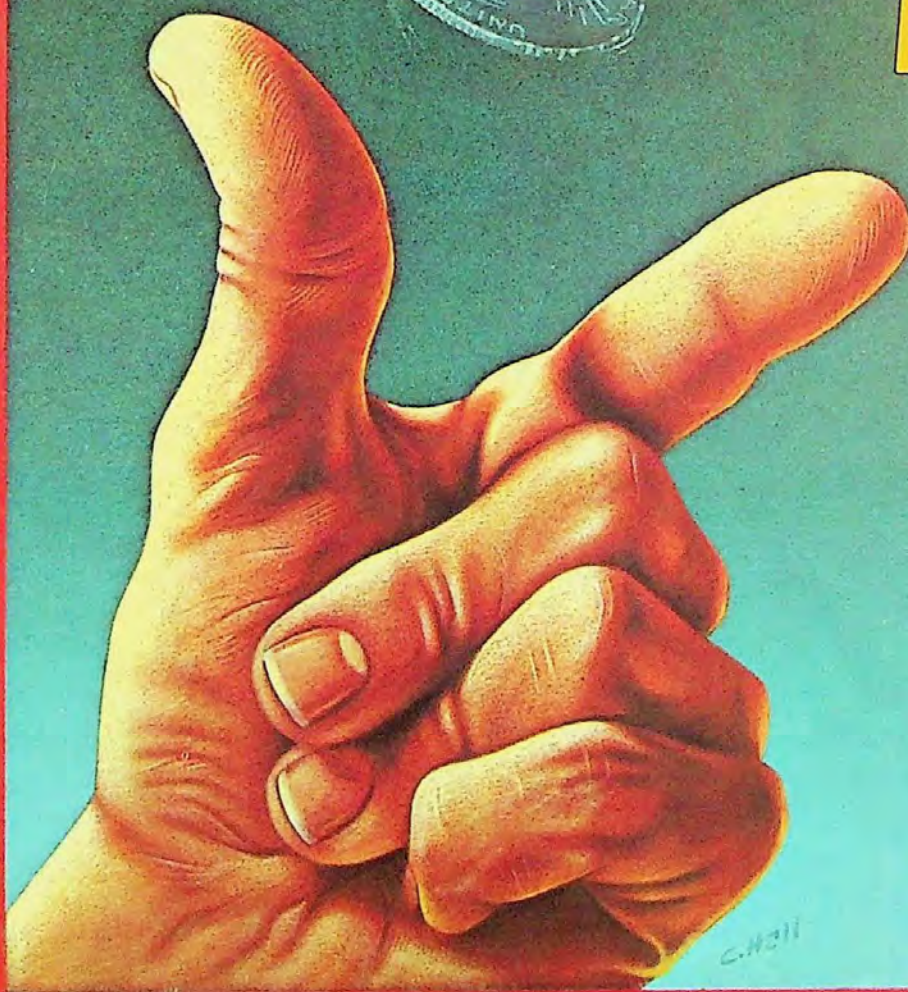
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Racquetball

FEATURES

15



Choosing A Court Club
Let The Buyer Beware
• Mark Kessinger

22



See How They're Strung
There's Tension In The
Racquetball Industry
• Jill Magoon

25

Nashville Sounds
The First Annual
Southeastern
Season Opener

26

Special Report
Continental Racquetball
• Ivan Fuldauer

DEPARTMENTS

6

New Directions
World Games 1

7

Receiving Line
Letters to the Editor

10

Juniors' Page
Youngsters on the Move

11

Short Lines
News Round-Up

12

Industry News
People and Equipment

13

First Service
Court Club Openings

14

Players' Forum
Open Letter from the
National Rules
Commissioner

19

**1980 National
Junior Rankings**

20

Calendar
Upcoming Tournaments

30

Winning Points
Backhand Group
Instruction
• Terry Fancher
Getting Back Into Position
• Mike Yellen

38

Scorecard
Tournament Results

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NEW DIRECTIONS

Dear Members,

We are most pleased to announce to our membership and the Nation at large, that the International Amateur Racquetball Federation has been extended an invitation to participate, as an exhibition sport, in the World Games I, to be held July, 1981, in Santa Clara, California. This is the most important development in our sport since the first National Championships were held under the auspices of the International Racquetball Association. Our sport has truly arrived, as it has been accepted by the Governing Bodies of Sports throughout the world. Racquetball will participate, along with such sports as Badminton, Baseball, Body Building, Bowling, Boxing, Casting, Karate, Powerlifting, Roller-Skating, Softball, Taekwondo, Tug-of-War, and Water Skiing.

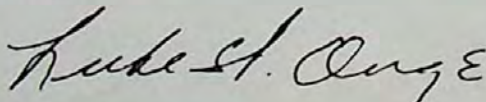
The United States team, both men and women, will be selected from the National Doubles winners (October 1980), and the winners of the National Singles, to be held in May, 1981. Other countries slated to compete will be Canada, Mexico, Holland, Ireland and Japan.

In addition to this exciting news, the AARA Board of Directors met in Boston during the 1980 National Doubles Championships. Following are highlights of that meeting.

1. Voted to hold the 1981 National Singles at The Court House in Boise, Idaho, May 21-25.
2. Divided the present nine Regions in the country into 16 Regions, as follows:
Region 1: Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut; **Region 2:** New York, New Jersey; **Region 3:** District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Delaware; **Region 4:** Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina; **Region 5:** Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee; **Region 6:** Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma; **Region 7:** Texas, Louisiana; **Region 8:** Iowa, Michigan, Wisconsin; **Region 9:** West Virginia, Ohio; **Region 10:** Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky; **Region 11:** North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska; **Region 12:** Arizona, New Mexico, Utah; **Region 13:** Wyoming, Colorado; **Region 14:** Nevada, California, Hawaii; **Region 15:** Montana, Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Alaska; **Region 16:** Americans in Europe.
3. Awarded to AMF Voit the Official ball status of the AARA 1981 Regionals and Nationals.
4. Voted to send a USA team for North American zone competition among Canada, United States and Mexico.
5. Adopted the Simborg Code of Conduct on Self-Refereeing.
6. Appointed Phil Panarella as the AARA's consultant on eyeguard protection.

Of course, many other developments were discussed and dealt with, but the above were far and away the most important items on the agenda. It is important to note that Canada's participation in the World Games and North American zone competition is subject to the Canadian Racquetball Association's approval by its Board of Directors — who will meet this month. All of the above items mentioned will be discussed in detail in future issues of *Racquetball*. In closing, let me say, 1981 certainly promises to be an exciting year for the amateur player.

Regards,



Luke St. Onge
Executive Director

Letters To The Editor

Today I received the 8th place prize I won in the contest (AARA Sweepstakes). I would like to thank you for the Aftate products. With all the men in my family (which includes my husband and seven sons), as well as my four daughters, we all use at least one of each of these Aftate foot sprays or powders. And of course, for the men, the gel is great. This is the first time I ever won anything and I am just thrilled. I just wanted to say thanks with this note.

Dorris Gilbert
Westminster, California

Your July/August issue was excellent — hope you will continue with your articles on the game's developments. I appreciated the Penn Racquetball AARA official rules pamphlet.

Joseph J. Menn
Wyoming, Pennsylvania

In regard to your September 1980 issue — on page 38, Final 1980 AARA Rankings, Men's 55+, number 7. You spelled my Father's name wrong. It is spelled J. Hinkamp.

John Hinkamp, Jr.
Miami, Florida

I have just received my card for a further extension of a family membership in the AARA. Please send cards for additional members of my family. Our whole family really enjoys racquetball, the magazine, and the benefits of the AARA.

Connie Kinderman
Reading, Pennsylvania

■■■

Just a short note to update my article on racquetball in the military (*Racquetball*, July/August 1980). The all-services tournament (i.e., the one sponsored by the military and not the one held every year by the AARA military commissioner Dan Samek) will be held in February of 1981 and not October, as I reported in the article. The courts at Lakland are not air conditioned so it was decided to play it safe and move the tournament dates to a cooler month.

Tom Slear
Enfield, Connecticut

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A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER



Ed Martin is the National Junior Commissioner for the AARA.

The past year has been an extremely exciting one for myself and the nine regional directors of the AARA Junior Council. There seems to be a burst of enthusiasm for the junior player and what he or she means to our sport. We are riding high on the crest of that enthusiasm.

There are a number of goals which the Junior Council has set for the upcoming year. They include:

1. An educational program designed to assist court clubs in promoting local junior activities.
2. Professional instruction in the form of a summer camp in each region of the country.
3. Change the date of the Junior Nationals to earlier in the year so the maximum number of players may participate.**
4. Look seriously at our current scoring system.



The Supreme Court West, site of this year's Junior Nationals.

5. Develop a comprehensive national ranking system for the junior player.
6. Establish a circuit of junior tournaments within each region which will be sanctioned by the AARA.

We recognize that it is going to take an extreme - and united - effort by our council, parents, manufacturers, club owners and junior players to realize these goals. We all must pull together if these ideas are to become reality!

If any parents, manufacturers or juniors have any positive input, please write me at the address below or contact your regional director. We are on the move, so please join with us to ensure the continued growth of our sport!

Ed Martin
National Junior Commissioner
c/o Sun Oaks Racquet Club
3452 Argyle Rd.
Redding, CA 96002
916-221-4405

1981 Calendar

State Championships: February 27-March 1

Regional Championships: March 6-8

National Championships: April 13-16

**The Junior Nationals will be held at the Supreme Court West in Wichita, Kansas, under the able directorship of Dewane Grimes.

Junior Regional Directors

Northeast Regional

All Sport Racquetball Club
240 A. North Road
Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12601
Tournament Director-Jim Winterton
(914) 452-5050

Midwest Regional

The Supreme Court West
3725 West 13th Street
Wichita, Kansas 67203
Tournament Director-Dewane Grimes
(316) 945-8331

Southeast Regional

The Courtrooms
750 W. Sunrise Boulevard
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33311
Tournament Director-Fred Blaess
(305) 764-8700

Western Regional

Sun Oaks Racquet Club
3255 Forest Hills Drive
Redding, CA 96002
Tournament Director-Lou Wallman
(916) 221-4257

Northwest Regional

Court Sports I
2510 Oakmont Way
Eugene, Oregon 97401
Tournament Director-Reed Fitkin
(503) 687-2811

Eastern Regional

The Playoff Racquetball/Handball Club
288 Wood Road
Braintree, Mass. 02184
Tournament Director-Jim Daly
(617) 848-8080

Southwest Regional

4022-C Mahaila
San Diego, CA 92122
Tournament Director-Nancy Martin

Midwest Regional

Branmar Racquetball Club
Branmar Plaza
Wilmington, Delaware 19810
Tournament Director-D.C. Lantz
(302) 658-1036

Central Regional

Lehmann Courts
2700 No. Lehmann Court
Chicago, Illinois
Tournament Director-Ray Mitchell
(312) 745-9400

SHORT LINES



Courting The Japanese

The following is a special bulletin to all readers of Racquetball, from Milton L. Radmilovich, of the Japan Amateur Racquetball Federation.

The first Japanese racquetball court for the general public is scheduled to open in November (but no later than December) of this year in Tokyo. This is a historic moment for racquetball in Japan and Asia. The exact location and details as to how it is to come about will be released for publication in *Racquetball* in December or January, complete with photos. The court is the result of 17 months of planning, research, and organizational effort. This court has nothing to do with the courts to be constructed in a downtown Tokyo hotel as announced in *National Racquetball*. Likewise, the supporting group is entirely different.

The group supporting the construction of the first Japanese court is comprised of members of the Japan Racquetball Federation and the Japan Amateur Racquetball Association (JARA), both of which are dedicated to support of the amateur player in Japan. The court will be situated in Japan's finest health center, a large, \$7 million facility operated by Do Sports Plaza. The court will be opened in conjunction with the eighth anniversary of this major leader in Japanese health and fitness programs.

The court, complete with glass back wall, is being supplied by Terstep Recreation Inc. of Indiana, U.S.A., and

is a completely portable court system. Do Sports Plaza is a subsidiary of the Nisshin Sugar Manufacturing Company of Tokyo, and is active in introducing new physical fitness methods to the Japanese public.

Complete plans have been drawn up to introduce the game to Japanese players, training of officials, and expand court development. JARA officials hope to see at least 100,000 Japanese players within three to four years. Rulebooks have already been translated into Japanese. Elaborate preparations are being made for the opening ceremonies. The first Japanese Open, featuring Japanese racquetball players will be held simultaneously with the grand opening, or at the latest, in December.

Fibersin Goes European

One of the first commercial full-amenities racquetball health clubs patterned after successful clubs in America, opened in Hamburg, Germany last month. The Racquetball Center-Jenfeld Club in Jenfeld, (Hamburg) Germany, features 11 racquetball courts utilizing Fibersin Recreation Court Panels, a solarium including a sauna, a cold pool and massage area, a gymnasium with exercise machines and a complete restaurant. The club is owned by a partnership of Hamburg businessmen who are involved with tennis and squash. The court wall system was installed by Hetco-AES of Hamburg - Schenefeld.

Also over-seas, the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Army have selected Fibersin Court Panels for 100 modular type racquetball court buildings for installation throughout Europe this year.

Fibersin is a custom laminator and fabricator located in southeastern Wisconsin. They employ about 200 and serve a variety of markets ranging from X-ray machine tops to institutional, industrial and residential furniture components to court wall panels and door units. Today over 7,000 courts are utilizing Fibersin Recreation Court Panels in worldwide installations. Other sports applications of this unique and versatile product are in experimental stages.

For further information, contact C.T. Hendrickson, Fibersin Industries, Inc., P.O. Box 88, Oconomowoc, WI 53066. Phone 414-567-4427.

Winter Camping

With the cool, crisp air of winter, a lot of people will be getting out their camping gear and heading for the woods. And

for those who can't stand the cold, there's a different type of winter camping. For the first time ever, there is now a winter racquetball camp. And better still—it's held in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where it's not likely you'll need that down jacket.

The Terry Fancher Fort Lauderdale Winter Racquetball camp offers four sessions, running December 7-12, December 14-19, January 8-13 and January 22-27. The \$495 fee includes room (double occupancy), meals, instruction (featuring the use of video tape), court time and club membership as well as transportation. The camps will be held at The Courtrooms in Fort Lauderdale, a club which not only has 20 racquetball courts, but a swimming pool, indoor gymnasium, complete bar and restaurant as well as other amenities.

For more detailed information about Terry Fancher's Winter Racquetball Camp, call 305-764-8700 between the hours of 9:00 am and 9:00 pm, eastern time, Monday through Saturday, or noon to 6:00 pm Sundays. Ask Tony Vicari or Terry Fancher about additional camp information.

Just One More

Spaulding Racquetball Clubs, Inc., the largest operator of racquetball facilities in the United States has been selected as operating agent for recreational facilities at Hamilton Lakes, a 274-acre hotel and office facility in Itasca, Ill., two miles south of the Woodfield Shopping Center.

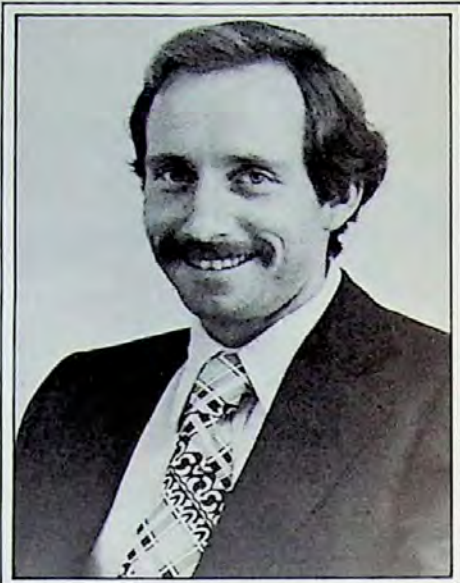
The announcement was made by Ron Lunt, partner for The Trammell Crow Company in Chicago, the site's developer.

Under terms of the agreement, Spaulding will be responsible for operating the fitness center which includes an indoor swimming pool, 11 racquetball/handball courts, whirlpools and saunas, men's and women's locker rooms, exercise facilities, a 2.5 mile outdoor jogging path and outdoor tennis courts.

The first phase of Hamilton Lakes, currently under construction, includes a 420-room, Stouffer-operated hotel called "The Hamilton" structured about a 12-story atrium and a 14-story, 484,000 sq. ft. office tower joined by a three-story connector building.

In addition to housing the fitness Center, the connector building will accommodate offices and a restaurant.

Spaulding Racquetball Clubs, Inc., headquartered in St. Louis, Mo., presently operates more than 25 facilities in six states throughout the United States. ■



Moving Up

Norm Peck, former men's squash and tennis coach at Princeton University, has been named Ektelon's new Player Manager.

Peck, 31, will coordinate and help administer a racquetball program that includes the world's No. 2 and 3 players, Mike Yellen and Dave Peck, top women's pro Jennifer Harding and some 1,100 Ektelon-sponsored amateurs.

Born and raised in Princeton, New Jersey, Peck coached squash and tennis at the Ivy League school from 1972-1979. Six of his squash teams won national championships, with his other two finishing second.

In tennis, Princeton was Eastern champion all eight years, always ranking in the top 20 nationally during that period.

A torn rotator cuff injury, which required surgery, forced Peck from the coaching ranks.

"Obviously, I enjoyed coaching," he said. "There are certain relationships between a player and coach I'm going to miss."

"But I'm really looking forward to working with Ektelon and its players. Though my role is still being defined, at some point in time I will take over the complete program, work with junior players, and also, travel to tournaments."

Peck and his wife of six years, Barbara, will reside in San Diego, Calif. ■

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



Stocking Stuffers

V.R. Creations Court Jewels, of Redondo Beach, Calif., has come out with a couple of new items for the racquetball player. With Christmas just around the corner, either item might make a handy stocking stuffer for the racquetball fanatic in your life.

There is a racquetball keyring, available in 14 K. gold or silver plate. The company is also marketing new ceramic mugs decorated with racquets of various sports. The mugs come in off-white with brown racquets. For further information about how to obtain these items and cost, contact V.R. Creations Court Jewels, P.O. Box 7000-281, Redondo Beach, Calif. 90277; or call 213-540-5195.

Boxed In

With the introduction of its new Winn Blu racquetball, the Winn company has also introduced a different concept in

packaging the product. Rather than the standard, sealed can, Winn Blu racquetballs come in a cardboard box, colorfully decorated with illustrations of a racquetball player on each side.

According to Ben Huang, president of the Winn company, Winn will save money through such packaging and thus can pass that savings along to consumers. Furthermore, Huang points out that canned packaging is purely cosmetic, so the product is not affected. So, in an effort to cut costs, you might say Winn has canned the can.

Cheaters Beware

Accu-Score of Chester Springs, Penn., is now marketing a scoring unit for racquetball courts. The new panel sells for \$495 (subject to volume discounts), and according to the manufacturers — is designed by racquetball enthusiasts specifically for racquetball. The score display panel, with serving lights, has three units to include scoring for the cut-throat (three players) game. Furthermore, the panel is recessed in the wall, so as not to hinder play in any way.

According to William G. Davis, Jr., of Accu-Score, the company also markets a similar, portable unit — ideal for tournaments. Both units run on standard electricity. For detailed information concerning Accu-Score, contact Accu-Score, Box 485, Chester Springs, Penn., 19425; or call 215-265-2257.

FIRST SERVICE

NEW COURT CLUB OPENINGS



The Cambridge Racquetball Club

Cambridge, Massachusetts

The Cambridge Racquetball Club opened recently on the shore of the Charles River. The 14-court facility is located in the Athenaeum House, which has stood on the banks of the Charles since 1895. According to the club's promotional brochure, the Athenaeum House has been converted to a racquetball club after a "sympathetic and tasteful renovation." Among club amenities are an attended nursery, bar and lounge, pro shop and separate sauna and steam facilities for men and women.

For membership details, contact the Cambridge Racquetball Club at 215 First Street, Cambridge, Mass., 02142; or call 617-491-8989.

Lyndhurst, New Jersey

King's Court Racquet Club will open this month in Lyndhurst. The new facility will have 26 racquetball courts, one squash court, a supervised fitness program, exercise classes, an indoor track, a heated swimming pool, steam room and sauna, whirlpools, sun room, nursery, lounge and game room, facial, massage and hair salon services as well as a restaurant and bar. All these amenities are offered at no extra charge for executive memberships. In addition to the executive memberships, there are a number of other memberships offered.

For further information about King's Court, contact the club at 525 Riverside Ave., Lyndhurst, N.J.; or call

201-460-0088.

Houston, Texas

The Edge Racquetball and Athletic Club is under construction at 1521 Texas Avenue in downtown Houston. The club is being built on the second and third floors of an existing 10-story tower, connected to a parking garage. This new 17-court facility is scheduled to open by the end of this year, at an estimated cost of \$2 million.

Jim Austin, National Rules Commissioner for the AARA, is president and general manager of the new club. Austin points out that 14 of the courts will be walled in by glass and one is specifically designed for television coverage and championship play.

Other amenities include a health club, a jogging track, a swimming pool and a gymnasium. For further information about membership and additional amenities, contact The Edge Racquetball and Athletic Club at the above address; or call 713-228-2888.

Bellevue, Washington

The Bellevue Family Fitness Center is one of eight Family Fitness centers in Washington. The Bellevue facility, which opened recently, features 17 racquetball courts, two with glass back walls; an 11-lap per mile jogging track; a basketball court; four volleyball, badminton or pickleball courts; an Olympic weight room; coed whirlpool, sauna and steam; and indoor swimming pool and tan fitness center. The Club also has a

parking lot of 200 spaces which, judging from the variety of facilities, was a wise investment.

For further information contact The Family Fitness Center, 1000 124th Avenue, N.E., Suite 200, Bellevue, Wash., 98005.

Greenwood, South Carolina

The Greenwood Racquetball Center, Inc., opened this month at Bypass 72 West in Greenwood. The Complex has six racquetball courts, a pro shop, a spa and a weight room. According to Joe Bowers, president of the company, this is the first club in the South to use The Sports Unlimited modular panel system to build its courts. The building was supervised by the Mr. Racquetball sales company of Greenwood.

The Greenwood Racquetball Center is open seven days a week. Individual, family and company memberships are available. For further information, contact Joe Bowers, president, at Greenwood Racquetball Center, Inc., Bypass 72 West, P.O. Box 642, Greenwood, S.C.; or call 803-229-6156.

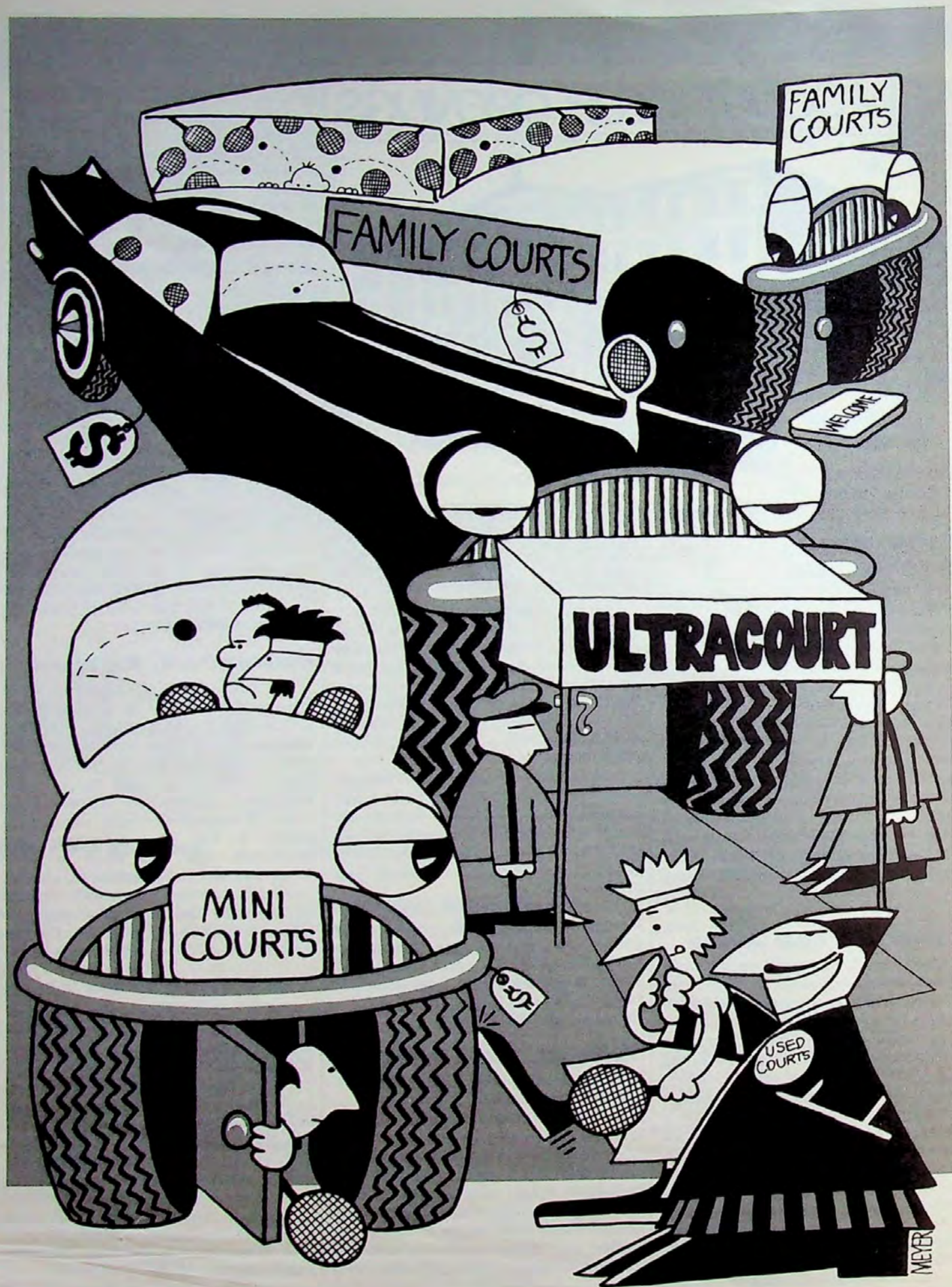
College Park, Maryland

The Racquet Place, located at 4700 Berwyn House Road in College Park, had its grand opening this month. The Racquet Place offers membership for either racquetball play or the Nautilus fitness center, as well as a "full privileges" membership. Amenities include 12 racquetball courts, (three with glass), a full service lounge and restaurant. The club plans to offer lessons, clinics and programs for all skill levels. For further information contact M. Siobhan Duffy, at The Racquet Place, 4700 Berwyn House Rd., College Park, Md., 20740; or call 301-474-9060.

San Antonio, Texas

The World of Sports, a sporting entertainment center designed for the entire family, opened last month at DeZavala Rd. and IH 10 in San Antonio. This facility houses such diverse elements as a six-court racquetball club, a 32-lane bowling alley, an ice cream parlor, a jewelry shop, twin movie theaters, a competition size roller-skating rink and a travel agency—all under one roof.

For more information about the World Of Sports Handball/Racquetball club, contact Rudie Holmes, manager, at P.O. Box 16386, San Antonio, Tex., 78216; or call 512-699-6635. ■



CHOOSING A COURT CLUB

LET THE BUYER BEWARE BY MARK KESSINGER

Mark Kessinger is editor of Racquetball Around Ohio, a racquetball newspaper.

Just down the street from your old club stands the brand-new super racquetball club. Its fresh paint and stonework glistens, the spacious parking lot beckons you, the gigantic neon "World's Largest Racquetball Club" sign lights up the highway.

You have already heard the rumors at your old club; "this new club has an indoor swimming pool with three-meter board, a pro-shop that has guided tours, roof-top running track, 200-station Nautilus, walk-in lockers, half-acre whirlpool, singles bar, disco, one-way glass, and so on..."

Suddenly your old club seems like a dump. No matter how happy you used to be, it is now pale in comparison and you don't think you could ever go back. Your old days at the Y and the university courts seem like sandbox league. You vaguely remember stomping around some dark, dingy court wearing a coon-skin cap. The new club has enough candle power to require infrared goggles. Racquetball has reached the space age!

As you climb the pearl-white self-cleaning stairs towards the uniformed doorman who awaits you, something is nagging at your memory. You hesitate — what was that phrase you learned way back in high school? Tempus Fugit? E Pluribus Unum? No...it was Caveat Empor! Let the buyer beware!

So you stop a minute to think it over:

this new club is irresistible and certainly deserves a visit, but at the end of all that racquetball nirvana you know there is a big red price tag. It's time to consider this investment of your time and money.

Each year more people discover the sport of racquetball. Because it's fun, easy to learn and aerobic, thousands of converts are introduced to the sport and all its trappings. Usually the new player's experience with the sport is limited to one club. The first year enthusiast is so enthusiastic that he neglects to do any shopping at all.

Failing to look beyond the excitement of the game to the club where you play can lead to an unhappy affair with racquetball. Confusing the game with the club makes the experience one blur of events. If it is a happy blur, terrific. But if there is something wrong in your racquetball experience, giving up your club is far better than giving up your game. Anything in your game, from shin splints to eye-strain may be caused by the court and not the sport. Consider the problem of the player who could not see the ball at his all-glass club. The simple solution was to give up glass courts and play at an older club.

The majority of players will admit that they belong to their present club because that is where they were first introduced to the sport. There is something to be said for loyalty. However, we all like to get the most for our money, and switching to a "better brand" of club might be a smart move.

Only a few short years ago, we all

bought memberships at the club where we learned the game because it was the only club around. Since the racquetball boom has been heard throughout the country, we are happily faced with several clubs to choose from. The business of racquetball clubs is now competitive, and that can only bode well for the consumer — provided consumers take advantage of the options they now have. And the best way to do that is shop around. Match a club's assets and liabilities against your needs. Get a clear picture of the kind of club you'd like to join before you go out window shopping.

First of all, formulate a budget for racquetball. You know your income, how much you can afford to spend on racquetball, now break it down into dues, court time and equipment. If the club you play at is not convenient to your routine, transportation costs should be added to the budget.

The first item in your budget is membership dues; just how much can you afford for a club membership? To get an average price of the clubs in your area, a simple phone survey will do the trick. Check the Yellow Pages of your phone directory under the headings Racquetball, Health Clubs, Fitness Centers and Y's. Get a list of the clubs that are in your market area. Your market area is figured by club builders to be within five or ten minutes driving time. You can include any club that is within that distance of your home or job, and any reasonable detour in-between. If there is a club outside that area, you will have to decide if it

is worth the extra time and gas to be considered.

Once you have culled the list of clubs from the phone book, you can call them and introduce yourself as a new player looking for a club. The club should be able to give you membership rates, court rates, hours open, number of courts, types of amenities and an idea of programming. Don't hesitate to ask about upcoming specials on rates, guest fees, limited memberships and renewal rates. Many clubs assess a one-time fee the first year or offer discount renewal rates. Generally speaking, summertime is the best season to look for membership specials.

Now you have a list of clubs and the raw technical data. Remember that this list may not be complete. At the rate of growth racquetball has been experiencing, new clubs pop up almost a year before they appear in the phone listings. Ask around at work and among friends. Talking about your search for a club will most likely turn up some new clubs and recommendations. Community centers, colleges, and Y's may be building or adding courts without advertising in the phone book. "Networking" with other people will be a successful way of beating the bushes. You may even find some personal guides to some of the clubs on your list.

Looking down the list of clubs within a reasonable drive, you can check the cost of memberships and find an average price for your area. Your budget for that item should be able to handle the average price. If not, then start looking for the special deals. Remember that the cost of joining a club can be offset by the court fee. An expensive membership will save you money in the long run, if the court fees are lower than the average price.

Other opportunities to save money include group rates, if you have several people interested in joining at once. Limited memberships such as "earlybird" or "nightowl," weekend passes, etc., will lower the initial fee. Not all clubs have them, so be sure to ask. Local colleges and universities may have courts available to alumni or local residents. Contact the public or community relations office for information. If you meet the qualifications and can handle the restricted hours, you will have a very inexpensive place to play.

Comparing your budget for gas, dues and court fees against those on your list will allow you to eliminate some clubs right off the bat. The "others" will merit a

personal visit. Visits to the club can be arranged by calling first and explaining your desire to "test drive" the club. Be sure to get all the information about the cost of a one-time visit.

Now that you've made plans to actually visit a club, it's a good time to remember all those references you got from your network of friends and acquaintances. Perhaps someone you ran across plays at the club you want to visit. It's better to have someone show you the ropes than to try and gather all the nitty gritty yourself. Having a partner to play with and share the court cost is a big help.

Visiting the club is your chance to "kick the tires," get in there and see what the club is all about. You can't gauge the atmosphere over the phone. Be alert to how you are greeted, if at all. Some clubs have a come-n-go as you please policy while others approach maximum security conditions. Each style has its pros and cons. No matter which tactic the club adopts, its employees should manage to remain courteous and alert to your presence. The club that lets you, or anyone else, walk in and stand about unnoticed is a bit too relaxed. The club that approaches you like your old hall monitor, reprimanding you for failing to report, is likewise to be avoided.

The rest of the visit should be used to judge the routine and facilities. Try to take a look at the books to see how crowded they are; you need to know if getting a court will be a problem, or if getting a game will be a problem. Check-in and check-out time should be minimal, however, a backup at the desk does not tell the whole story. The desk may be running specials, handling sign-up or just slow. The desk should be adequately staffed to handle both phone reservations and incoming players at the same time. If not, plan to spend some extra time at the club or the slowdown at the door will cut into your court time.

Every club gets a little behind in the cleaning and maintenance departments, especially during the busy times. If you are a perfectionist and like to have a lint-free carpet and sparkling clean ashtrays, then a racquetball club that allows other humans to join is not for you. Excessive dirt, lack of trash containers, stains and signs of vandalism reveal a club that is not up to snuff in the housekeeping department, and a membership that is not big on respect for its club.

Size up the locker rooms according to the time you usually play. A crowded room during prime time is a liability only if

you play during prime time. Are there enough showers to prevent a bottleneck, and if there is somewhat of a wait, is there something to do in the meantime; whirlpool, sauna, steam, sun room, exercise machines? Make mental notes as to which amenities the club has that you are interested in and remember to check their condition. A cold or dirty whirlpool is no bonus, and a sauna which isn't turned on in the morning when you play is the same as no sauna at all.

And now we come to the bottom line: the courts. What you look for in a court is a personal matter that varies from person to person. Be fair; a good court is not one that humbles your opponents with shin splints. The lighting should be adequate, no glare or dark spots. The floor should be smooth, level and comfortable to play on. If you seem more fatigued in your legs than normally, the floor may be poorly cushioned against shock. The less you notice about the court the better. The idea is to play racquetball, concentrate on the game, not to be dazzled by a better homes and gardens showcase or annoyed by a sloppy court. At the bottom of your scorecard are any conditions which may be hazardous. A management which allows dangerous conditions to exist does not have your interest at heart. The last thing you want from your health and fitness time is to be laid up with an injury.

As you relax afterwards, taking it all in, try to mingle with some of the other members. You can find out if meeting people here is easy and if they are friendly. It's a great chance to find out what these other "owners" think about their club. Ask questions. For instance, there is no way to tell if the courts leak during the winter by looking at them in July. Most members are pleased with their club and will show some pride in belonging there. If you get more than a fair share of inhouse gripes, beware.

As you start to leave, stop at the bulletin boards in the club and at the desk counter. The bulletin boards will reveal a lot about the club and the membership. There should be signs of activity, or at least life. Watch for personal notices that show the club cares about members and the members feel like mutual friends. League results, clinic sign-ups, tip-of-the-week, and other paraphernalia say a lot. This is the place to find out if the club has inhouse leagues, challenge ladders, parties, special events or whatever.

At the desk, pick up any printed mat-

ter they have to offer. If you are not sure how you feel about the club, reading through their materials may help make up your mind. An active club will have a regularly published calendar of events or a club newsletter. This can tell you the whole story about the club. The information should be timely and enticing. If you pick up a handful of policy changes and new rules, generally speaking, you can expect more of that sort of thing after you join. A club that has constant staff shake-ups, policy changes or changes of management is responding to pressure. If the club has a history of this fast-paced chaos, then avoid it, chances are it won't get any better.

Finally, give the club a sporting chance to have its say. Talk to the manager, assistant or whatever staff is on hand. Note just who is there when you are likely to be in the club. The staff may be able to point out a few things that you missed, or clear up some of those questions you have. It may also be helpful to know that those things which bothered you most are bothering the management and are on the list to be fixed.

Now you have a good objective view of the club from which to make your subjective decision. You have finished the first "shopping trip" and if you are pressed for time, like what you saw and want to go ahead and join, OK. At least you have taken a good, hard look before spending. If you find a better club halfway through the season, you may regret not shopping around further, but chances are that a second membership won't break the bank. Many people enjoy a second membership for those times when the courts are full and the second club is occasionally closer.

To make a final decision on what club is best for you, it is important to compare. After visiting one or two clubs you will feel like a consumer watchdog, searching the club for everything that is right, wrong and important. Comparing clubs is fun and rewarding, take a friend and enjoy the visit.

Remember, the final decision, yours, should be one that enhances your fun, fitness and enjoyment of the sport, without sacrificing your time, effort or cash flow. Maybe you don't really need that half-acre whirlpool; after all, you're afraid of the water. And a 200-station Nautilus gives you nightmares. Relax. What you really wanted wasn't a super-duper club, just a super-duper membership. ■

ATTENTION PHOTOGRAPHERS: Racquetball magazine is seeking freelance photographers to cover AARA sanctioned tournaments throughout the country. If you are interested in representing your area, please send samples of black and white sports photos (preferably racquetball) to: P.O. Box 16566, Memphis, Tn. 38116, ATTN. BETT WATKINS. Photos will not be returned unless self-addressed, stamped envelope is enclosed.

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PLAYERS' FORUM

AN OPEN LETTER

**FROM: JIM AUSTIN,
AARA NATIONAL RULES
COMMISSIONER**

The time has come to lay aside all political differences that have fractioned our sport regarding the playing rules. Standardization of the rules is in the best interest of all players and the sport. It will serve to make our sport less confusing to the players as well as the public; it will simplify officiating, perhaps our biggest problem; and make racquetball much more enjoyable to play and watch. To that end, the AARA would like to make the following suggestions for rule changes in 1981:

**AARA Rules
Current 3.9**

Appeals. Where linespeople are designated, they shall have the same responsibility for all calls as does the referee. A player may not ask for a hind if one has not been called. Hind calls by the referee cannot be appealed. The assessing of technical fouls is the exclusive right of the referee.

**Suggested
Change**

Add: A player may appeal the following: Fault or out serves, double bounce, skip ball, rule interpretation, etc.

Current 4.4b)

Screen Balls. Passes within 18 inches of the server and obstructs the view of the returning side.

**Suggested
Change**

Drop the 18 inches. Any ball passing close enough to the server's body to obstruct the view of the returning side. (Same as USRA).

Current 4.5a)3.

Foot Faults. A foot fault results when the server steps over the service or short line.

**Suggested
Change**

The server must start the serve with both feet inside the service box. The lead foot of the server may extend over, but not lose contact with the service line.

Current 4.10a)2.

Dead Ball Hinders. Hitting opponent. Any returned ball that touches an opponent on the fly before it returns to the front wall.

**Suggested
Change**

With the exception of a ball that does not have the velocity or direction to reach the front wall.

Current 4.12e)

Rest Periods. A two (2) minute rest period between the first and second game with a ten (10) minute rest period between the second and third games.

**Suggested
Change**

A five (5) minute rest period is allowed between all games. (Same as USRA).

Current 4.14 1)

Professional. A player may participate in a Pro Sanctioned tournament which awards cash prizes, but will not be considered a professional if NO prize money is accepted.

**Suggested
Change**

Pro Sanctioned (NRC, WPRA, PRA, IPRO, NARP and any other organization so deemed by the Board of Directors).

4.16

Age Group Divisions

Open - all players other than professionals	
Veteran Open	- 30 plus
Seniors	- 35 plus
Veteran Seniors	- 40 plus
Masters	- 45 plus
Veteran Masters	- 50 plus
Golden Masters	- 55 plus
Veteran Golden Masters	- 60 plus
Senior Golden Masters	- 65 plus

The above suggested rule changes will be voted on in May at the 1981 AARA National Singles Championships at Boise, Idaho.

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Tel. 714-449-0740

AARA BALL APPROVAL

Listed below are the ball manufacturers who have received approval of their products in AARA sanctioned tournaments. For tournament sponsorship, contact these manufacturers, your AARA State Director, or National Headquarters at 901-761-1172.

Ektelon

Regent

Trenway

Head

Seamco

Vittert

Penn

Spalding

Voit

Point West

Sportcraft

1980 JUNIOR RANKINGS

Rankings compiled by Bill Verity of Penn State's computer department, based on tournaments held through July, 1980.

RANKINGS FOR BOYS 10-and-under

1	Rudich, Matt	NV	550.0
2	Robinson, Derek	WA	300.00
3	Stark, Jeff	CA	200.0
4	Doyle, Tim	NY	175.0
5	Gillioy, John	MA	170.0
6	Blaess, Ed	FL	150.0
7	Hannan, Brett	MD	100.0
8	Lawton, Lloyd	OK	100.0
9	Vargas, Michael	CA	70.0
10	Daly, Kevin	MA	50.0
11	Dent, Brian	WV	50.0
12	Eller, David	FL	50.0
13	Killinger, Brian	WA	50.0
14	Merk, Jim	CA	50.0
15	Pitts, Tommy	DE	50.0
16	Schwartz, David	FL	50.0
17	Taylor, Brian	OK	50.0
18	Carmona, Chris	CA	30.0
19	DeFusto, Anthony	CA	30.0
20	Glantz, Nolan	NY	30.0
21	Guth, Brennan	MT	30.0
22	Lorelio, James	FL	30.0
23	Perry, Jason	KS	30.0
24	Wright, Chuck	WV	30.0
25	Schmacher, Evan	MA	23.0
26	Doyle, Cindy	NY	20.0
27	Parodi, Tim	KS	20.0
28	Peterson, Nick	ID	20.0
29	Wagner, Eric	FL	20.0
30	Wright, Andy	WV	20.0
31	Long, Michael	MA	18.0
32	Brooks, Jeff	MA	15.0
33	Calkins, Casey	CA	15.0
34	Cheele, Chris	KS	15.0
35	Downey, Aaron	CA	15.0
36	Gallher, Robert	KS	15.0
37	Gilbert, Jason	CA	15.0
38	Konecne, Tyler	CA	15.0
39	Lamm, Brian	KS	15.0
40	Michaels, Matt	KS	15.0
41	Palmer, Scott	MA	15.0
42	Roberts, Tom	MA	15.0
43	Vance, Brian	WV	15.0
44	MacDonald, Colleen	CN	10.0
45	Vance, Chris	WV	10.0
46	Garfinkel, Brad	NY	8.0
47	Leborne, Dirk	MA	8.0
48	Coleman, Paul	MA	5.0
49	Meyer, David	NY	5.0
50	Carey, Brian	MA	3.0

RANKINGS FOR BOYS 13-and-under

1	Miranda, Luis	TX	500.0
2	Mulligan, Jeff	NV	310.0
3	Swain, Cliff	MA	220.0
4	Battaglia, Sam	NY	150.0
5	Grimes, Darin	KS	120.0
6	Conline, Jeff	CA	105.0
7	Aronowitz, Ray	TX	100.0
8	Potter, Richard	FL	100.0
9	Robinson, Derek	WA	100.0
10	Martin, Nathan	CA	70.0
11	Wilson, Jess	CA	70.0
12	Long, Richard	MA	58.0
13	Collins, Tim	NY	50.0
14	Krater, Brad	CA	50.0
15	Lee, Benny	FL	50.0
16	Lindwall, Joe	NB	50.0
17	McGinty, Sean	TX	50.0
18	Radmilovich, Thomas	Japan	50.0
19	Simonette, David	MD	50.0
20	Skinner, Alan	WV	50.0
21	Tufano, Neil	CA	50.0
22	McDonald, John	MA	48.0
23	Coleman, Thomas	MA	45.0
24	Bliss, Brian	MS	30.0
25	Brown, Adam	CA	30.0
26	Gannon, Sean	WV	30.0
27	Graff, Michael	WA	30.0
28	Hatch, Jordan	KS	30.0
29	Heagerty, Steven	Japan	30.0
30	Kowalski, Michael	TX	30.0
31	Latimer, Jeff	FL	30.0
32	Rowlee, John	FL	30.0
33	Dogan, Alan	RI	25.0
34	Rodriguez, Robert	CA	23.0
35	Appel, Gary	NJ	20.0
36	Crandell, Willie	CO	20.0
37	Daly, Jim	MA	20.0
38	Delinger, David	WV	20.0
39	Gries, David	AL	20.0
40	Kiteley, Vincent	CA	20.0
41	Lawton, Lloyd	OK	20.0
42	Morrow, Colin	Japan	20.0
43	Oliver, Jim	CA	18.0
44	Blaess, Ed	FL	15.0
45	Bloom, Darren	CO	15.0
46	Brewer, Chris	KS	15.0
47	Brewer, Steve	KS	15.0
48	Brown, Shane	FL	15.0
49	Dupont, Brent	KS	15.0
50	Farr, John	NY	15.0

RANKINGS FOR BOYS 15-and-under

1	Price, Gerry	CA	620.0
2	Amatulli, John	IN	300.0
3	Parodi, Bill, Jr.	KS	200.0
4	Scheyer, Eric	IL	200.0

5	Bluestone, Peter	NY	150.0
6	Ladge, Michael	MA	150.0
7	Fitzpatrick, Shawn	CA	110.0
8	Barrett, Mark	FL	100.0
9	Ransom, Raymond	MA	100.0
10	Welru, Ken	ID	100.0
11	Miller, Ira	MD	75.0
12	Hawthornth, Peter	MA	70.0
13	Reppucci, David	MA	70.0
14	Taylor, David	NY	60.0
15	Keswani, Raj	NJ	58.0
16	Barr, Kent	MT	50.0
17	Battaglia, Sam	NY	50.0
18	Brown, Shawn	FL	50.0
19	Lindwall, Rodger	NE	50.0
20	O'Neill, Bryan	CA	50.0
21	Brown, Scott	CT	45.0
22	Jones, Doug	KS	40.0
23	Buearile, Kevin	MO	30.0
24	Campbell, Mitch	FL	30.0
25	Ikehara, Jim	CA	30.0
26	Kinny, Bob	WS	30.0
27	Rubin, Steve	CA	30.0
28	Claus, Woody	CA	28.0
29	Tumlinia, Joe	NY	25.0
30	Brechon, Scott	IL	20.0
31	Christiansen, Scott	UT	20.0
32	Degroody, John	NY	20.0
33	Grillone, Ralph	MA	20.0
34	Ira, Cliff	FL	20.0
35	Roberts, Andy	TN	20.0
36	Stegner, Bruce	NY	20.0
37	Vaccaro, Joseph	NJ	20.0
38	Walsh, Rick	CA	20.0
39	Bezousek, Rick	NE	15.0
40	Dallas, Freddy	MO	15.0
41	Foran, Barry	FL	15.0
42	Freda, Derek	MA	15.0
43	Godtee, Dan	CA	15.0
44	Golding, Mark	MA	15.0
45	Gonzales, John	CA	15.0
46	Holmes, William	CA	15.0
47	Jackson, Jody	LA	15.0
48	Lacon, Lance	LA	15.0
49	Long, Richard	MA	15.0
50	Lucca, John	FL	15.0

RANKINGS FOR BOYS 17-and-under

1	Gonzales, Sergio	FL	600.0
2	Calabrese, Fred	FL	250.0
3	Newman, Jack	IL	200.0
4	Algra, Paul	CA	100.0
5	Ginsberg, Steve	MD	100.0
6	Henshaw, Mark	ID	100.0
7	Oliver, Scott	CA	100.0
8	Ray, Michael	GA	100.0
9	Rosenblum, David	CA	100.0
10	Sacco, Joe	NE	100.0
11	Slazas, John	IL	100.0
12	Coleman, Michael	MA	90.0
13	Bakken, Paul	MN	75.0
14	Buickie, Chris	PA	60.0
15	Schwartz, Adam	PA	58.0
16	Wong, Peter	PA	55.0
17	Blackmon, Keith	TN	50.0
18	Coulter, Scott	NC	50.0
19	Daniel, Mark	TN	50.0
20	Fournier, T.	ME	50.0
21	Hart, Brian	CA	50.0
22	Horton, Charles	NY	50.0
23	Jalette, Michael	ME	50.0
24	Kiffe, Michael	MT	50.0
25	Peck, Greg	TX	50.0
26	Williams, Kevin	CA	50.0
27	Giguere, Paul	ME	40.0
28	Sautler, Jay	ME	40.0
29	Bent, Steve	CA	30.0
30	Blackmore, Rob	ID	30.0
31	Brown, Scott	TN	30.0
32	Cassin, Chris	CT	30.0
33	Gautier, Bubba	FL	30.0
34	Gilliam, Lance	TX	30.0
35	Haberstroh, Brian	PA	30.0
36	Hickey, Kevin	PA	30.0
37	Moskwa, Sean	IL	30.0
38	Negast, John	CA	30.0
39	Rosenfeld, Ken	PA	30.0
40	St. Jean, Rudl	CT	30.0
41	Wiles, Phillip	NC	30.0
42	Johnson, Scott	CA	25.0
43	Kehler, Bill	PA	23.0
44	McDonald, Cameron	CA	23.0
45	Rummonds, Jerry	CA	23.0
46	Albright, Steve	NC	20.0
47	Bevelock, Tom	PA	20.0
48	Boddy, Brian	WA	20.0
49	Bowles, John	MO	20.0
50	Cullio, Bob	FL	20.0

RANKINGS FOR GIRLS 10-and-under

1	Comer, Delanie	CA	600.0
2	Anthony, Nikki	CA	220.0
3	Martin, Rodie	CA	105.0
4	Doyle, Cindy	CA	100.0
5	Kamyck, Christine	CT	100.0
6	Miranda, Adriana	TX	100.0
7	Pinola, Kimberly	PA	100.0
8	Sattler, Stacy	CA	100.0
9	Rabold, Kim	CA	65.0
10	Rodriguez, Salina	CA	65.0
11	Ali, Sara	CA	50.0
12	Dava, Nunley	CA	50.0
13	Drury, Melissa	CT	50.0
14	Pinola, Stephanie	PA	50.0
15	Silverman, Barrie	WV	50.0

16	McClure, Jennifer	WV	30.0
17	Nuley, Dana	CA	30.0
18	Presseau, Adrienne	WV	20.0
19	LaRoche, Lynn	WV	15.0
20	Sattler, Jennifer	CA	15.0
21	LaRoche, Lana	WV	10.0

RANKINGS FOR GIRLS 13-and-under

1	Kundinger, Noelle	CA	600.0
2	Anthony, Lisa	CA	215.0
3	Pernacchio, Mary	IL	150.0
4	Woods, Tammy	MS	150.0
5	Crawford, Ellen	CA	100.0
6	Daky, Tracy	MA	100.0
7	DeLugo, Janelle	CA	100.0
8	McGill, Sharon	PA	100.0
9	Kuchner, Linda	CA	75.0
10	Nunes, Michelle	CA	65.0
11	Beemuler, Julie	KS	50.0
12	Del Giudice, Gina	IL	50.0
13	McDonald, Kelly	MA	50.0
14	Pinola, Kimberly	PA	50.0
15	Richards, Lesley	NY	50.0
16	Taylor, Lucy	CA	50.0
17	Drury, Melissa	CT	30.0
18	Gilbert, Michelle	CA	30.0
19	Miller, Lori	CA	30.0
20	Mitchell, Gina	IL	30.0
21	Pinola, Stephanie	PA	30.0
22	Rice, Michelle	KS	30.0
23	Eckerson, Darcy	KS	20.0
24	Mark, Lisa	CA	20.0
25	Sweeney, Sandy	MA	20.0
26	Brennen, Michelle	MA	15.0
27	Carter, Kim	CA	15.0
28	Cremine, Denise	MA	15.0
29	Kamyck, Christine	CT	15.0
30	Roberts, Lee	MA	15.0
31	Sammons, Kathy	CA	15.0

RANKINGS FOR GIRLS 15-and-under

1	Fletcher, Stacey	MI	500.0
2	Peterson, Loretta	UT	230.0
3	Stupp, Heather	CN	200.0
4	Wojcik, Lynn	AZ	175.0
5	Drexler, Marci	CA	150.0
6	Heath, Tina	IL	150.0
7	Fitzpatrick, Linda	ME	100.0
8	Gold, Lisa	MD	100.0
9	Latini, Beth	PA	100.0
10	Rosenburg, Karen	FL	100.0
11	Cooling, Kim	IL	50.0
12	Danner, Gina	MS	50.0
13	Glennantonio, Lisa	CA	50.0
14	Mathieu, Cheryl	MS	50.0
15	McGill, Sharon	PA	50.0
16	Rosenburg, Karen	NY	50.0
17	Rubin, Jessica	CA	50.0
18	Rush, Rebecca	FL	50.0
19	Sattler, Stacy	UT	50.0
20	Wilber, Debbie	NH	50.0
21	Anderson, Carolyn	CA	30.0
22	Blernat, Tracy	CO	30.0
23	Cascio, Cathy	NY	30.0
24	Kuchner, Linda	FL	30.0
25	Natal, Andrea	CA	30.0
26	Pinola, Kimberly	PA	30.0
27	Carlson, Jill	FL	20.0
28	Dando, Lisa	KS	20.0
29	O'Connell, Anna	CA	20.0
30	Pinola, Stephanie	PA	20.0
31	Roberts, Nancy	MA	20.0
32	Anthony, Sheri	CA	15.0
33	Comer, Wendy	CA	15.0
34	Farace, Annette	CA	15.0
35	Haslett, Kathy	CT	15.0
36	McKendry, Lisa	FL	15.0
37	Schreder, Elona	CA	15.0
38	Wagner, Debbie	FL	15.0

RANKINGS FOR GIRLS 17-and-under

1	Mook, Mona	CA	600.
2	Hickey, Maureen	KS	200.
3	Sottile, Ginger	NY	200.
4	Hajjar, Tammy	PA	100.
5	Rosenburg, Karen	FL	100.
6	Sottke, Ginger	NY	100.
7	Seymour, Linda	CA	75.
8	Aboud, Shelly	CA	50.
9	Burton, Marjie	FL	50.
10	Conyee, Pam	CA	50.
11	Daly, Tracy	MA	50.
12	Duncan, Karen	CA	50.
13	Dunnigan, Karen	CA	50.
14	Fitzpatrick, Linda	ME	50.
15	Ganske, Linda	CA	50.
16	Rawie, Mary	CA	50.
17	Snyder, Stacey	CO	50.
18	Wadsworth, Robin	MA	50.
19	King, Laura	NY	40.
20	Roberts, Nancy	MA	40.
21	Carlson, Jill	FL	30.
22	Carr, Allison	MA	30.
23	McCarty, Becky	KS	30.
24	Olson, L.	ME	30.
25	White, Brenda	CA	30.
26	Hitt, Lorry	KS	20.
27	Lewis, Joan	MA	20.
28	McFetridge, Carol	NY	20.
29	Terminel, Debbie	CA	20.
30	Walsh, Barbara	MA	20.
31	Leonard, Patti Ann	MA	15.
32	Gonyeo, Pam	NY	8.
33	Hopkins, Lisa	MA	8.
34	Kohnke, Kathy	NY	5.
35	McRea, Marie	MA	5.

R - A - C - Q - U -

NOVEMBER 7-9

2nd Annual Forest Hills Tournament (3)
Forest Hills Athletic Club
3910 Caughy Rd.
Erie, PA 16506
Mark Selvia
814-833-2468

Invitational 35+ Singles (5)
Court House Racquetball Club
2625 Court House Circle
Jackson, MS 39208
Chuck Miner
601-932-4800

Foot-Joy Racquetball Open (3)
Brockton Racquetball Club
85 Liberty St.
Brockton, MA 02401
Gerry Cassidy
617-588-3444

Lite Beer/Penn Super Racquetball Championships (3)
Perfect Racquet
405 Camino Del Rio S.
San Diego, CA 92108
Bud Muehlisen

Taylor's Sporting Goods Benefit
for the Heart Association (3)
Greenville Racquetball Club
3700 Kennett Pike
Greenville, DE 19807
Orval Foraker
302-654-2473

Razorback Rollout Classic (3)
The Courts
1202 Tancred
FL Smith, AR 72903
Buxx Sawyer
501-785-1201

Atlanta Open (3)
Akers Mill - Court South
2969 Cobb Pkwy.
Atlanta, GA 30339
Jim Cullen
404-256-2120

Natural Lite AARA Florida State
4-wall Outdoor Championships (3)
Lakeland YMCA
3620 Cleveland Heights
Lakeland, FL 33802
Gene Owen
813-644-3528

Wallingford Club House/Twin Racquet Classic Cancer
Benefit (2)
Wallingford Club House
Neal Road
Wallingford, CT 06492
203-265-2861
Lori Liptak

NOVEMBER 11-16

Lite Beer/Penn Super Racquetball Championships (3)
Denver International Athletic Club
1630 Welton St.
Denver CO 80202
Steve Crum
303-623-2100

NOVEMBER 14-16

Windsor Racquet Club - March of Dimes Benefit (3)
1980 Open
Windsor Racquet Club
109 Pierson Lane
Windsor, CT 06094
Bruce McKellen
203-683-0236

Turkey Fest (3)
Merry Meeting Racquetball Club
Topsam, ME
Bill Slattery
207-729-0129

Cobden State Bank Racquetball Tournament (2)
Union County Racquetball Center
Cobden, IL 62920
John Lipe
618-833-8502

NOVEMBER 14-17

Long Island Open (4)
Universal Racquetball Center
40 Maple Ave.
Rockville Center, NY 11570
516-536-8700
Centre Courts
6000 Sunrise Hwy.
Massapequa, NY 11758
516-799-4000

NOVEMBER 17-22

Rapid City Y Happy Joe's Racquetball tournament (3)
Rapid City YMCA
Bob Hastings
605-342-8538

NOVEMBER 21-23

Tennessee Turkey Shoot (3)
Supreme Courts
4633 Trousdale
Nashville, TN 37204
Dorothy Dixon
615-832-7529

Garden City Turkey Open (3)
Garden City Family Y
1224 Center
Garden City, Kansas 67846
Gregg Reinick

Lancaster Osteopathic Hospital Benefit Open (3)
Lancaster County Racquetball and Health Club
Lancaster, PA
Bernie Howard
717-667-2209

NOVEMBER 28-30

Ryan Homes Gulf Coast Championships (3)
Sarasota YMCA Racquetball Club
1075 S. Euclid Ave.
Sarasota, FL 33577
Randy Godwin
813-957-0770

Burn off the Turkey Tournament (3)
Rollout Racquetball Club
Rocky Hill, CT
Jeff Coyle
203-563-7999

Greater Boston Challenge of the Serve (3)

Racquettime
21 Blencher Ave.
Framingham, MA 01701
Ron Miaro
617-872-4240

DECEMBER 5-7

Western New England Open (3)
Pittsfield, MA
Mike Meyer

Lite Beer/Penn Super Racquetball Championship
Louisiana Racquetball and Health Club
2121 38th St.
Kenner, LA 70062
Howard Heno
504-443-4512

Linn-Benton Counties Open (2)
Timberhill Athletic & Court Club
2855 N.W. 29th St.
Corvallis, Oregon 97330
Terry Porter
503-757-8559

Lite Beer/Penn Racquetball Series (3)
Towson Court Club
8757 Mylander
Towson, Maryland 21204
Joanne Tokorny

1st Annual Winter Classic Racquetball Tournament (3)
Hyde Park Racquet Club
1301 E. 47th St.
Chicago, IL 60615
Dave Dohman
312-548-1300

3rd Annual Courthouse Classic (3)
Courthouse Racquetball Club
2625 Courthouse Circle
Jackson, MS 39208
Chuck Miner
601-932-4800

Olympia Lake-Mendocino County Classic (3)
Redwood Health Club
3101 S. State St.
Ukiah, CA 94582
Dean Hutton/Bob Page
707-468-0441

Miller Lite Holiday Open - March of Dimes (3)
Court Club - New Haven
New Haven, CT
239-5665
Wayne Bruno

Oklahoma State Singles Championships (2)
Benefiting Multiple Sclerosis
Mixed Doubles - extra event
International Fitness Center of Quail Creek
11033 Quail Creek Dr.
Oklahoma City, OK
Barbara Coley-Robt. Savage
405-942-8682

DECEMBER 12-14

2nd Annual BackWall Holiday Open (3)
BackWall Racquetball Club
RD 2, Box 521 B
Altoona, PA 16601
Beth Haller
841-946-1668

Natural Light Holiday Classic (3)
Blue Point Racquetball Club
9 A Montauk
Blue Point, N Y 11715
Garrett Jones
516-363-2882

3rd Annual Maine Closed Doubles (2)
Racquetball of Southern Maine
Rt. 4
Sanford, Maine 04073
Ernie Tarling

Lite Beer/Penn Racquetball Series (3)
Sporting House
1515 Sheridan Rd.
Atlanta, GA 30324
Karen McKinney

Racquetball Everyone Championships (3)
Dupage Racquet Club
Addison, Illinois
Ray Mitchell
312-745-9400

C - A - L - E -

E - T - B - A - L - L

1980 Sporting House Holiday Open (3)
Sporting House
Enfield, CT
Ken Navarro
203-745-2408

Shenango Valley Open (3)
Shenango Valley Racquetball Club
115 High St.
Sharpsville, PA 66150
Bob Marrie
412-347-3835

1st Annual Bulmers/WBRU Open (3)
Playoff V
2191 Post Rd.
Warwick, RI 02886
Al Lavalley
401-738-0833

JANUARY 2-4
Holiday Spectacular (3)
Boston Tennis Club
Boston, MA
John Lepore
617-662-6791

JANUARY 9-11
3rd Annual Maine Closed Singles (2)
Andy Valley Racquetball Club
Lexington Ave.
Lewiston, ME 04240
Dave Biladeau

Connecticut Open (3)
Downtown Racquet Club
New Haven, CT
Will Verhoeff
203-787-6501

JANUARY 16-18
Lite/Penn Series (3)
Supreme Courts V
Keith Calkins
3033 Alvarado
San Leandro, CA 94577.

2nd Annual March of Dimes Benefit (3)
Sportrooms
1700 Douglas Rd.
Coral Gables, FL 33134
Carl Dean
305-443-4228

Cerebral Palsy Benefit (3)
Quadrangle Coral Springs
Fred White
305-753-8900

Nashville/Natural Light Racquetball Championships (3)
Supreme Courts
4633 Trousdale
Nashville, TN 37204
Dorothy Dixon
615-832-7529

JANUARY 23-25
Mason-Dixon Classic (3)
Greenville Racquetball Club
3700 Kennel Pike
Greenville, DE 19807
Russ Ruark/John Chelucci
302-654-2473

1981 Tiger Open (3)
Racquet Club
467 N. Dean Road
Auburn, AL 36830
Jim Hawkins
205-887-9591

1st Annual Snowfest Open (3)
Courtyard Racquetball Facility
Rt. 5
Saco, Maine 04072
John Bouchard

JANUARY 30-FEBRUARY 1
Billtown Open (3)
Williamsport YMCA
1854 E. 3rd St.
Williamsport, PA 17701
Jim Huffman
717-326-2481

FEBRUARY 6-8
Huntsville City Championships (2)
Spragins Hall
University of Alabama
Huntsville, AL 35807
Gary Bell
205-895-6586

Regional Annual Heart Fund Winter Warm Up (3)
Jacksonville Racquetball Club
6651 Crestline Dr.
Jacksonville, FL 32211
Ray Ashworth
904-724-6994

University of Tennessee Health Services
7th Annual Big Orange Racquetball Tournament (2)
UTHS
800 Madison Ave.
Memphis, TN 38163
Dave Mullinax
901-528-5620

Lite/Penn Series (3)
13th St. Racquet Club
1901 E. 13th St.
Cleveland, OH 44114
Frank Ondus
216-696-1365

FEBRUARY 13-15
3rd Annual Washington's Birthday Open (3)
Merrymeeting Racquetball Club
Rt. 201
Topsham, Maine 04086
Bill Slattery

Blue Point Tournament (3)
Blue Point Racquetball Club
9A Montauk
Blue Point, NY 11715
Garrett Jones
516-363-2882

Bently Club Winter Classic (3)
Bently Club
2301 Grimes Dr.
Harrisburg, PA 17112
John Friend
717-545-4231

FEBRUARY 27,28 - MARCH 1
RACQUETBALL WEEK 1981
AARA STATE TOURNAMENTS

March of Dimes (3)
Downtown Racquet Club
New Haven, CT
Will Verhoeff
203-787-6501

MARCH 6-8
1981 Connecticut State Championships
Cedar Hill Club
Newington, CT
203-666-8451

MARCH 20-22
Capitol Courts/Ormsby House Open (3)
Capitol Courts
3759 Gross Circle
Carson City, Nevada 89701
Rich Bennett - Mike Longero
702-882-9566

MARCH 27-29
13th Annual Maine Open (3)
Holiday Health & Racquetball
Odlin Rd.
Bangor, Maine 04401
Keith Mahaney

APRIL 10-12
Blue Point Tournament (3)
Blue Point Racquetball Club
9 A Montauk
Blue Point, NY 11715
Garrett Jones
516-363-2882

Muscular Dystrophy Benefit (3)
Redwood Health Club
3101 S. State Street
Ukiah, CA 95482
Dean Hutton/Bob Page
707-468-0441

APRIL 16-19
JUNIOR NATIONALS
Wichita, Kansas
Supreme Courts West
Dewane Grimes 316-945-8331
Ed Martin 916-221-4405

APRIL 24-26
AARA REGIONALS

MAY 1-3
East Coast Jubilee (4)
Boston Tennis Club
Boston, MA
John Lepore
617-662-6791

2nd Annual Hemophilia Racquetball Benefit (3)
Kessinger's Court Club
2611 S. Mendenhall
Memphis, TN 38118
901-794-9300

MAY 8-10
The Sporting House 1981 Spring Open
The Sporting House
Enfield, CT
Ken Navarro
203-745-2408

MAY 21-25
AARA NATIONAL SINGLES
The Court House
7211 Colonial
Boise, Idaho 83705
208-377-0040

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

N - D - A - R



SEE HOW THEY'RE STRUNG

*There's Tension
in the Racquetball
Industry*

B Y J I L L M A G O O N

Jill Magoon is editor for the United States Racquet Stringers Association. This is the first of two articles she has written exclusively for Racquetball. Look for the second article, aimed at consumers, in an upcoming issue.



ou're playing tough. Tonight you own the shots—all the shots, and you sense this victory. But suddenly your racquet doesn't feel quite right. Is the ball dead? Are you losing your touch so fast? The culprit...? A broken string.

Until now, you probably haven't given those strings much thought. The strings look the same in all racquets so you figure they couldn't matter too much. They do, and fortunately for you, most racquet manufacturers now realize the importance of good stringing.

Within the past three years, racquetball companies have developed as much respect for stringing patterns and techniques as they've always had for frame construction. According to Bob Larsen, merchandise manager for AMF Voit: "The sport is maturing. Players at all levels are demanding that manufacturers pay attention to the performance of a racquet. We are all

realizing that stringing is a major factor in a racquet's performance."

The companies' respect for good stringing is evident in their standards. At least four of the major racquetball companies (Ektelon, Head, Omega and Voit) now recommend tensions for each of their racquets. String tension is measured for every racquet before it leaves the factory. If the tension does not fall within two pounds of the recommended tension, the racquet must be restrung.

Racquet companies differ in the methods they use to measure tension. Ektelon's stringers use the StringMeter, a hand-held spring action device which measures the tension on each string. Ektelon's research and development department calibrates the StringMeter for its own reference. Stringers for Head and Omega test tension on the Ski-flex, a hydraulic cell which measures the average tension in a racquet's sweet spot. AMF Marrk Co., which makes racquets for Head and Voit, has designed its own tension tester.

Recommended tensions vary according to the frame. Ektelon Co., for example, recommends 28 pounds for the stiff



Ann Key, one of Omega's full time stringers, strings about 100 racquets during a 10 hour work day.

frames (the Magnum, the Hilecher and the XL), and 22 pounds for the most flexible Magnum Flex, YellenFlex and Harding. "We want a player to realize maximum playability from our frames," says Burley Thompson, Ektelon's supervisor in research and development, "so we coordinate the stringing with the frame's characteristics. In general, a stiff frame is regarded as a power frame. Strings at high tensions tend to react faster, to snap the ball off the strings. Consequently, we'll put the two parameters together for an optimal effect."

The importance of tension was first evaluated at Ektelon with the development of the Marathon. The Marathon, a flexible frame, tended to warp when strung in the same manner as the stiffer aluminum frames. This warpage encouraged the research and development people to take a closer look at the stringing of all their racquets. Burley continues, "We figured that all racquets were subject to the causes of this distortion, but that the Marathon was the only frame in which it was noticeable. We took a long hard look at tensions and patterns, and developed a whole new set of stringing requirements."



Henry Hoover (1st from left) and his staff, all legally blind, string Head's racquets almost totally by feel.

Each company has developed stringing requirements appropriate for its own racquets. Omega is close to publishing a pamphlet for customers and pro shops giving stringing instructions for each Omega racquet. Production supervisor Mike Busselman explains: "There is some variation (between racquets) of tie

off points and holes skipped, so our stringers must know the patterns for each of our ten racquets." AMF Head presently prints recommended tensions on the racquet's hang tag, and makes stringing instructions available to all dealers and stringers. Head also plans to publish a racquetball stringing booklet

PHOTO BY DAVID A. WORKMAN



Here Burley Thompson, supervisor of research and development at Ektelon, demonstrates the use of StringMeter, for author Jill Magoon.

by the end of the year.

One might assume a conflict of purpose between high standards and volume stringing. The two, however, seem to go hand in hand in many racquetball companies. Bud Leach, an industry king and chairman of the board of Olympian Sports Products, Inc., offers: "Quality, consistency, accuracy and speed all become one after a while. You have to insist on that."



The StringMeter is a hand held device used to measure the tension on each string in Ektelon's racquets.

At Olympian, Bud Leach's insistence has developed a stringing machine which enables a person to string up to 105 racquets per day. Even with this sophisticated equipment, Olympian's stringers faced a huge challenge with the recent creation of the Graphite SS, a plastic/graphite racquet with strings suspended from the inside perimeter of the frame. "Because this frame is virtually unbreakable," continues Leach, "tension was not a problem. The challenge was in developing a string pattern which could be strung well and fast. There are no holes going through this frame, so our stringers found it tough at

first, but we follow the same standards for the stringing of this frame as for all the others. We've developed a machine to measure tension on the strung racquet, and if it's not within one pound of our reference tension, the racquet is restrung."

Omega's and Voit's racquets are also strung in-house by full-time trained stringers. Ektelon and Head send their racquets out to professional stringers, a practice which creates some very interesting circumstances...

Henry and Nancy Hoover run Mile High Racquet Stringing in Englewood,

The Ski-flex tension testing device, which is used by Head and Omega to test the tension in a racquet's sweet spot.



PHOTO BY DAVID A. WORKMAN



Bud Leach, chairman of the board at Olympian Sports Products, has designed new stringing machines and tension testers for that company.

Colo. They string 400 to 800 racquets per week for Head. They are both legally blind as are their four employees. "We've developed a very acute sense of feel," notes Henry. "We can tell whether the main strings are within two pounds of our limit just by pressing down on each string as we go along." Head's racquetball manager, Brad Smith, supports Henry, "These people take a lot of pride in their work. Because they're very meticulous, they do a great stringing job." Nancy Hoover adds, "Stringing is definitely our area of expertise. We have set our own strict standards and we guarantee our work. We have to constantly earn the business we get." The Hoovers also do custom tennis stringing, and can string the Wilson T-2000, difficult for even a sighted stringer, totally by feel.

Four years ago, Ektelon employed 30 to 40 full-time stringers. The costs of supporting these stringers (paying them benefits and piecework) became prohibitive, so Ektelon's policy had to

change. Today, Ektelon's racquets are strung by four contracted stringing companies (vendors), and Ektelon employs no stringers.

Sadako Jones owns one of these stringing companies. She employs 24 stringers who collectively string 2,000 to 3,000 racquets per week for Ektelon. According to Sadako: "Ektelon checks everything about your stringing service... your quality, time, tension... your entire performance. But, I guess they have to... they're the buyer and I'm the vendor... they need to know that my people will give them good work for their money."

Whether they employ in-house stringers or send their racquets out for stringing, racquetball companies take stringing seriously. Many companies realized the connection between a frame's string job and its playability, and have developed very high standards for stringing. When you break a string, your stringer should follow equally high standards. ■

T

TOURNAMENT

R

REPORT

Nashville Sounds

COMPETITION STARTS WITH A BANG IN SEASON OPENER



Winners of the Seniors Doubles division Gil Champagne (left) and Ray DePue.

The first Annual Southeastern Season Opener was held in Nashville, Tenn. September 27-29 and drew a field of 180 participants. The host club was Supreme Court.

This tournament attracted such people as Bryce Anderson of Knoxville, Tenn.; John Hennen of Chattanooga, Tenn., and John and Keith Dunlap of Memphis. Needless to say, there was a fight to the finish for the Men's Open title. In the end it was Dunlap pitted against Dunlap with Keith the victor, 21-14, 21-15, over brother John.

The Junior Vet division was as tough as the Open division with players such as Larry Liles of Memphis, Emile Catignani of Knoxville, Mike Mjehovich of Nashville and Jim Thoni of Memphis, all

vying for first place. In the final match, it was Emile Catignani who defeated Jim Thoni 21-14, 21-11.

Memphis State dominated the "B" division with Billy Hendricks defeating Jed Cowell 21-18, 21-20. The "C" division went to Dayton, Ohio's Bill Anderson, who defeated Mike Strack 21-10, 21-6.

The Senior title was taken by Frank Menendez of Knoxville 21-14, 21-14 over John Stone, also of Knoxville. Masters winner was Gene McDonald of Nashville, 21-12, 21-11 over Ray DePue of Knoxville. James Smith of Cookeville defeated Gary Christian of Dayton, Ohio, 21-10, 21-6 in the Novice division.

The tournament also offered Doubles and they stack up as follows:

The Men's Open Doubles title was

taken back to Memphis with John Dunlap-Keith Dunlap over Keith Blackman-John Slaza 21-13, 21-8. Memphis State also took the "B" Doubles with Quinn Roberts-Brian Sheldon defeating Chuck Evans-Lee Terry of Cleveland, Tenn., 21-18, 21-13. The "C" division was taken by Bill Anderson-Mike Strack of Dayton, Ohio over Shawn Doyle-Pat Doyle of Murfreesboro, Tenn., in a round robin. The Senior Doubles title was taken back to Knoxville with Gil Champagne and Ray DePue.

The Women's divisions were just as crowded, and just as much fun as the Men's. Entries included women from several states.

The Women's Open was taken by Sharon Fanning of Memphis. She defeated E. Jayne of Knoxville 21-9, 21-9 in the finals. The Women's "B" division was taken by Missy Stober of Louisville, Ky., as she defeated Nancy House of Nashville 21-16, 21-7. The Women's "C" division was won by Cindy Parrott of Nashville. She defeated Paige Sutherland of Dayton, Ohio 21-5, 21-15. The Women's Novice was taken by Debbie Weyerbacher of Nashville. This match went three games and Weyerbacher just barely came through on top. She defeated Peggy King in a tough 16-21, 21-9, 15-10 match.

Unfortunately, interest in the Women's Doubles division was not as great as in the other divisions. Therefore, tournament directors combined the "A" and "B" divisions. The result was some keen competition and a few lessons in strategy. The Doubles was won by Fanning and Trammell of Memphis State. They overpowered Stober and Gogel in the finals 21-3, 21-8.

Hospitality was provided by host and hostess, Bob and Marge Bell. One of the highlights of the tournament was the dance and party on Saturday night. Next year everyone is not only invited back, but expected to return for an even bigger and better tournament. ■

SPECIAL REPORT

CONTINENTAL RACQUETBALL



Han van der Heijden, developer of the first racquetball court club in Europe, and Raetke Mueller, president of the European Racquetball Federation listen intently as a point is made during the IARF's first meeting in Munich, West Germany, during the recent ISPO '80 show.

European racquetball is "still in diapers. The sport cannot yet walk on its own."

The words are those of Han van der Heijden, developer of the first racquetball/tennis/squash complex in The Netherlands. (See *Racquetball*, September, 1980.) Actually, the Dutch businessman, who has been involved in the management and promotional ends of sports for many years, built the first U.S.A.-sized courts ever on the European continent. He is adding another club to his present facility, Racketcenter Westvliet, in Zoetermeer, another suburb of The Hague, Holland's capital.

Van der Heijden was initially exposed to racquetball when he attended the first National Court Clubs Association

(NCCA) convention in Anaheim, California, in 1977. Not totally convinced by what he saw and heard at the NCCA convention, van der Heijden visited a number of clubs in southern California and other areas of the U.S. before making his decision to pioneer racquetball in Europe.

In addition to the two racquetball courts in his current club, another Dutch entrepreneur opened a four-court facility in Zwynndrecht, near Rotterdam, last



Hal Leffler, president of Americans in Europe Racquetball Association, pays close attention to discussions during the International Amateur Racquetball Federation meeting in Munich, West Germany.



Captain Monte Mingus (right) gives a bit of instruction to Winfried Eigner during a break in the racquetball play on the exhibition court at the ISPO '80 exhibit put up by World Courts USA and Ellis Pearson Glasswalls.

autumn. With van der Heijden's two courts running at full capacity plus the four in Zwynndrecht, it is estimated that there are upwards of 650 racquetball enthusiasts regularly playing at both clubs. As in the U.S., van der Heijden estimates that about 40 percent are women.

"The improvement in the skill of our players has been phenomenal," he says. "I really believe our Dutch players, who started from point zero little more than a year ago, have progressed to the point where they are about at the "B" level of competition in the U.S. They still have a way to go to compete on even terms with some of the top players among the U.S. military in Europe, where racquetball is quite popular."

Racquetball is so popular, in fact, that

BY IVAN FULDAUER



Michael Tipton (left), with the U.S. Air Force in West Germany, and Daniel Nardinger, of Montreal, who is president of the European Racquetball Association, put on a demonstration of the popular American game during the opening day of the ISPO '80 sports equipment exhibition in Munich, West Germany.

Fibersin Industries, one of the country's largest producers of racquetball court paneling, recently announced the signing of a contract to supply its product for the construction of over 100 courts at U.S. military installations stretching across Europe from Norway to Turkey.

Fibersin's C. T. Hendrickson believes racquetball will thrive in Europe once it catches on with the local population. "It may take a while for it to get started. Europeans are sports-minded individuals. Once they get themselves involved, they'll go for racquetball. Because of increasing transportation costs — gasoline in most European countries is more than double U. S. pump prices — people are beginning to stay closer to home to pursue their leisure activities," says Hendrickson.

Furthermore, he continued, "There was genuine interest expressed in the sport at the ISPO '80 show in Munich. The court that was set up at the show was great exposure for the game. Interest was remarkable, especially among people who've been to the U.S. and seen racquetball in operating court clubs."

Though racquetball will be an important factor in Europeans' leisure activities during the coming decade, David Parisi, a Hamburg, Germany, installer of racquetball and squash courts, feels that "squash will be a bigger sport than racquetball." Parisi advances three reasons for this theory:

- (1) Squash, long popular in Great Britain, is well known throughout Europe.
- (2) Squash, introduced on the continent several years ago, has a head start on racquetball.
- (3) Space everywhere in Europe is at a premium. Thus, it is costly. Racquetball courts are 14 percent larger than squash

courts.

These reasons, Parisi suggests, would probably enter into the decision whether a developer decides on racquetball or squash. "Squash," he adds, "has been pre-sold. The marketing problems racquetball will have early-on have already been overcome by squash."

During the ISPO '80 show, a semi-annual sports equipment exhibition, the International Amateur Racquetball Federation (IARF—made up of 13 countries), of which the American Amateur Racquetball Association is a charter member, held its first international meeting. Representatives from the U.S., Germany, Switzerland, The Netherlands and Americans in Europe attended. Raetke Mueller, a German national who heads IARF from its Zurich, Switzerland, headquarters, presided.

John Brinson, an Allentown, Pennsylvania, court club owner and financial chairman of the IARF, represented the United States on behalf of the AARA.

Mueller, a believer in the patient approach to the development of racquetball throughout Europe, feels it will be two-to-three years before European racquetball begins to approach the growth rate of racquetball's early years in the U.S.

Another pioneering step, though, has been taken by Harald Claussen, a Hamburg, West Germany, squash court club owner, who will open the first racquetball-only court club, (an 11-court facility), outside of North America this month. Claussen is also partnered in two



John Brinson, (left) representing the United States at the IARF's organizing meeting in Munich, listens to Harald Claussen, (right) the Hamburg, West Germany, businessman who is building the first all-racquetball court club on the European continent.

indoor tennis clubs. His racquetball club, which cost \$1.6 million, is a pilot project as far as Claussen and his partners are concerned. If racquetball catches on, Claussen plans to build additional clubs in the Hamburg area, one of West Germany's most heavily-populated regions.

Also attending the international meeting was Hal Leffler, president of Americans in Europe Racquetball Association (AERA), the organization which provided the players who demonstrated racquetball during the four nine-hour days of the ISPO '80 exhibition.



(Left to right) C.T. Hendrickson, Fibersin Industries, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin; P.A. Rottenbury, Cambridge, England; and David Parisi, Hamburg, West Germany, inspect a sample of the Fibersin paneling to be used in more than 100 racquetball courts to be built at U.S. military installations from Norway to Turkey. Fibersin's paneling will be used in the new club now under construction in Hamburg.

Leffler's group also provides tournament officials and qualified players to give instructional clinics wherever racquetball is played on the continent. Virtually all of AERA's assistance is free of charge, for members of the U. S. military will go to great lengths to assist in the development of racquetball in Europe.

Was the "Made in America" pavillion highlighting racquetball a success? According to Frank Cassarino, whose World Courts, Inc., of Weymouth, Massachusetts, funded the court, the results were "very good. We feel confident that we'll sell 44 courts — 25 squash and 19 racquetball — as a result of our being in Munich. We expect to deliver about 100 courts within the next 12 months."

Gerald Kallman, Kallman Associates, Jersey City, New Jersey, organizer of the "Made in America" pavillion told *Racquetball Magazine* that everyone who exhibited was "happy." Despite the August dates, when virtually everyone in Europe is on vacation, the turnout was good, he said. Fair officials estimated that nearly 25,000 sports equipment buyers visited the show.

The next ISPO show, a semi-annual affair, is scheduled for a four-day run opening February 26, 1981. The autumn buying show is set for September 10-13, 1981.

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WINNING POINTS

By Terry Fancher

ALL TOGETHER NOW

Group Instruction For Backhand Technique

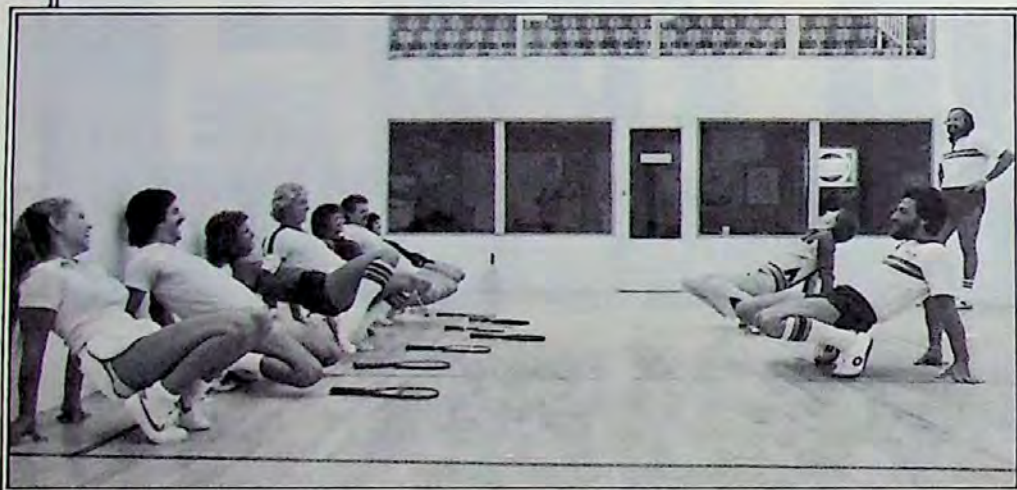


FIGURE 1

Terry Fancher is program director at The Courtrooms in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

The purpose of group instruction as a whole is to teach a given number of people the fundamentals of racquetball as quickly and efficiently as possible. If the program is successful and effectively organized, the participants not only learn the basics of the game but are more likely to become happy and productive club members. In accomplishing this, our experience at the Courtrooms indicates that they spread the word about racquetball to their friends and are much more likely to continue in club activities to include advanced beginner lessons, leagues, tournaments and other related programs.

This particular lesson tells how our program, which is called Racquetball Guaranteed (or RBG), can teach backhand technique to fresh beginning players who normally have difficulty learning this particular stroke. We advertise and promote group instruction through what is called The Courtrooms Racquetball Lesson Factory which recently surpassed the 3,500 mark in

graduates — complete with a graduation certificate indicating their completion of the nine-hour block of instruction. Classes range from 50-100 students divided into morning and evening sessions with as many as 50 aspiring players in a given session. Student to teacher ratio is a preferred one to six.

The Backhand Stroke (Actual on court instruction) Pre-class exercise-(quadricep stretch-See photo number 1).

Undoubtedly, the most difficult problem to overcome and the hardest thing in racquetball to master is the backhand. Therefore, trying to teach someone to stroke the ball with a natural swing on the left hand side of the court is no easy task. In fact, several top pro players have inadequate backhands and use it strictly as a defensive shot until a scoring opportunity arises on the forehand side.

Probably the most common error people make in hitting a backhand is to use what I term a "chicken-wing" wrist (see photos number 2 and number 3). In this version of the backhand, the wrist is broken at the top of the backswing and the top of the racquet is tilted down



FIGURE 2



FIGURE 3



FIGURE 4

rather than pointing toward the ceiling. Most beginners seem to try to push the ball with the backhand and attempt to use the arm and wrist to propel the ball to the front wall. The result is a weak and ineffective shot. Utilizing the correct grip is essential. The hand is rotated one-quarter turn to the left on the racquet handle (see photo number 4).

In group instruction, the goal is not to perfect the backhand stroke but to show the class how to use the turning of the hips and shoulders toward the left sidewall as the source of strength (see photos number 5 and number 6). Along with this movement the raising of the racquet in preparation is especially stressed. As in the forehand stroke drills, or other group teaching, the instructor can talk until he is blue in the face about getting the racquet back early before attempting to swing at the ball.

WINNING POINTS



FIGURE 5

Despite the emphasis on doing this, most people simply do not do it, so in our classes we leave nothing to chance. We insist upon raising the racquet into position and keeping it there during drills.

This is covered verbally in the first five minutes of the on-court instruction prior to dividing the class into separate courts with their instructors. With the slow-motion film illustrations of the backhand still fresh in their minds from the off court instruction, (I recommend the Racquetball Color/Sound Film Series from the Athletic Institute in North Palm Beach, Fla.) the class at least has a general idea of what the backhand should be like.

The backhand instruction adds a brief preliminary step before the drills begin. Without spending too much time on this, the students begin by hitting the ball on the backhand side to the front wall after the instructor bounces the ball on the floor once. This is just to get them familiar with the feel of the backhand and the instructor ensures proper positioning of the racquet, wrist, shoulder and hips, as well as the legs (see photo



FIGURE 6

number 7). A new innovation we have experimented with is having students throw a frisbee backhand, since the motion is so similar.

After three or four swings, basic flaws show up and they may include hitting the ball off the wrong foot, the "chicken-wing" wrist, lack of hip and shoulder turn in preparation for the swing as well as standing straight up during execution. A good instructor quickly recognizes these faults before the drills begin but



FIGURE 7

students of group training should be aware of these potential problems.

The first backhand drill is quite simple and basic (see photos number 8 and number 9). The students stand in a line in the rear of the court, deep along the left sidewall so they can observe each of their fellow students yet not get struck by a mis-hit shot. The instructor stands on the right side of the student who is in center court, with a bucket of balls nearby, and feeds the balls straight off the front wall to the student's backhand side and the student returns the balls to the front wall, (attempting to hit every ball that comes their way whether the instructor hits it or if they hit the ball back to themselves). The idea is to hit as many balls as possible in the short time allotted.



FIGURE 8

WINNING POINTS



FIGURE 9

If basic errors are made, the instructor stops periodically to demonstrate corrections to the class as a whole. During this drill, shots to the forehand side are thrown in every fifth or sixth ball. Remember, the instructor holds three balls in his hand at once to eliminate leaning down toward the bucket after every shot. Keep the drill fairly fast paced, do not let the drill get too slow or control is lost.

After each person has a turn at this drill, the around-the-world drill is conducted, where the students move in a continuous clockwise circle standing close to the right hand side of the court, with one student occupying center court position. The instructor feeds the ball with easy set-ups from left center court and after each student executes a backhand, they run to the rear of the line and the next player runs to center court (see photos number 10, number 11, and number 12). The instructor hits every other shot, keeping play constant. Two to three balls are all that is necessary for this drill, the entire bucket is not required. The necessity of running into center court position with the racquet

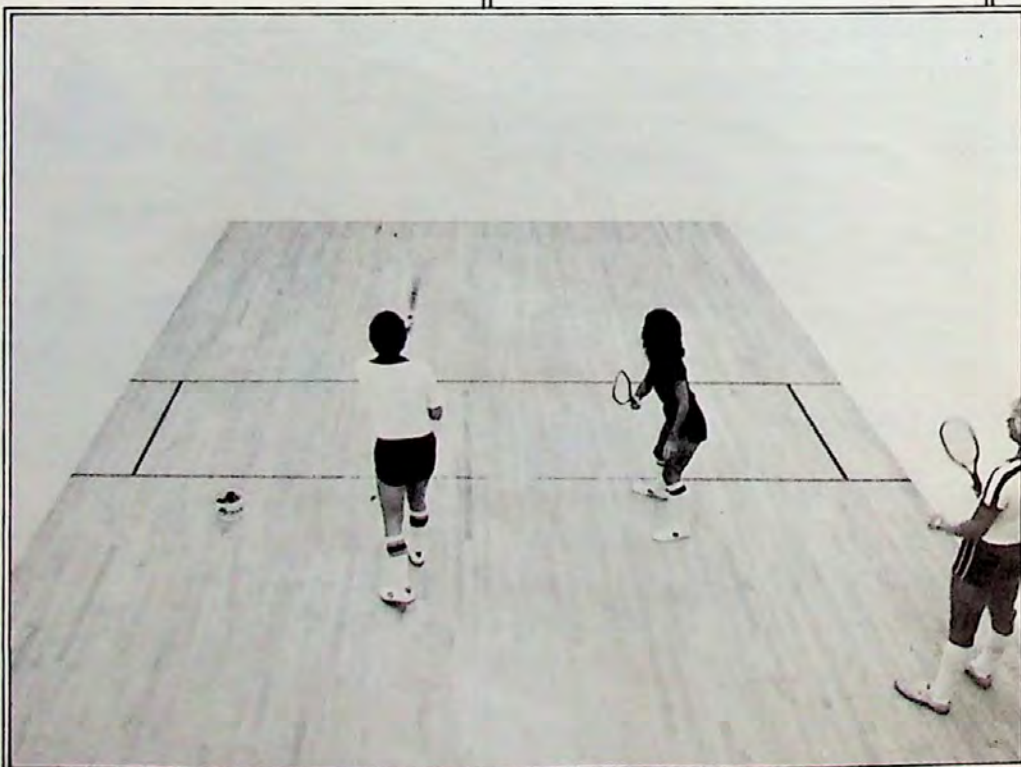


FIGURE 10

WINNING POINTS



FIGURE 11

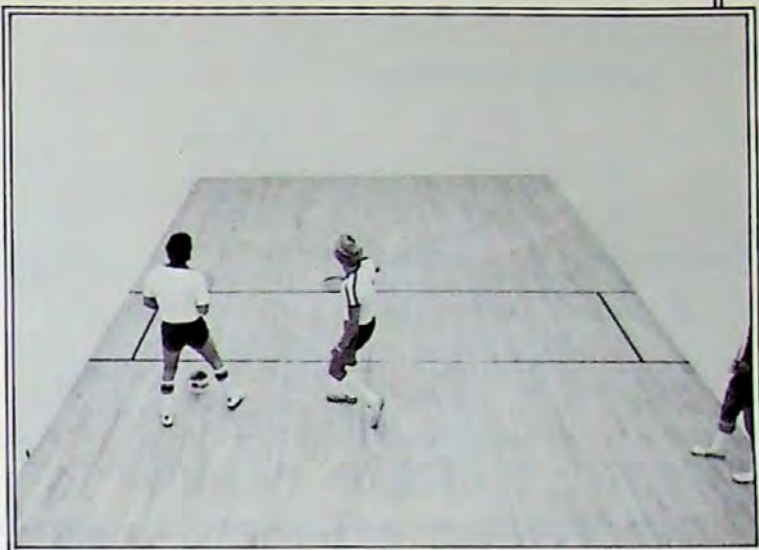


FIGURE 12

raised on the backhand side is essential to success. Also, ensuring that the student is set into position before attempting the stroke is important. Trying to hit the ball with the feet moving is a common mistake and leads to missed shots.

Once the players have some success at the drill, the instructor counts out loud the number of times the class returns the ball legally to the front wall and a goal is set to attain a record number of consecutive shots, 25 for instance. This encourages the class to work together as a team.

After drilling is completed, singles play is initiated by the instructor. Matched as to ability, students play five-minute games and rotate on and off the court. The instructor always supervises the first rotation, then leaves the court and supervises from above the back wall (see photo number 13). Students also observe the other students during actual play. In this manner, they can see many of their own difficulties visually and through corrections by the teaching professional, progress is much quicker than most expect.

All lessons in the nine hours of group instruction are outlined according to which activities are to be taught, the correct sequence, the proper amount of time allowed for each drill, possible problems which may arise with recommendations for success, and allotted supervision guidelines for actual play. Class safety is a must, eyeguards are suggested but not mandatory. Teaching pros are taught where to position themselves and the class participants for safety in all phases of instruction to avoid accidents.

It is most important that all instructors who teach Racquetball Guaranteed are trained correctly in group instruction techniques in clinics taught by the head pro. We require APRO (American Pro-

fessional Racquetball Association) certification after a basic training time period for all instructors who teach advanced or private lessons, which are recommended for further progress by the students. We keep a staff of 14 full or part-time instructors available.

Lastly, new innovations are a must in any type of instruction, including groups. We are experimenting with using video instruction for groups as a

before-and-after concept. This involves filming students with a video camera during their first and last sessions of RBG. We use video instruction extensively in our adult winter racquetball camps for out-of-state guests here in Ft. Lauderdale. The last ingredient for innovation is constantly searching for better ways to make group instruction a learning experience and keep it as much fun as possible at the same time. ■

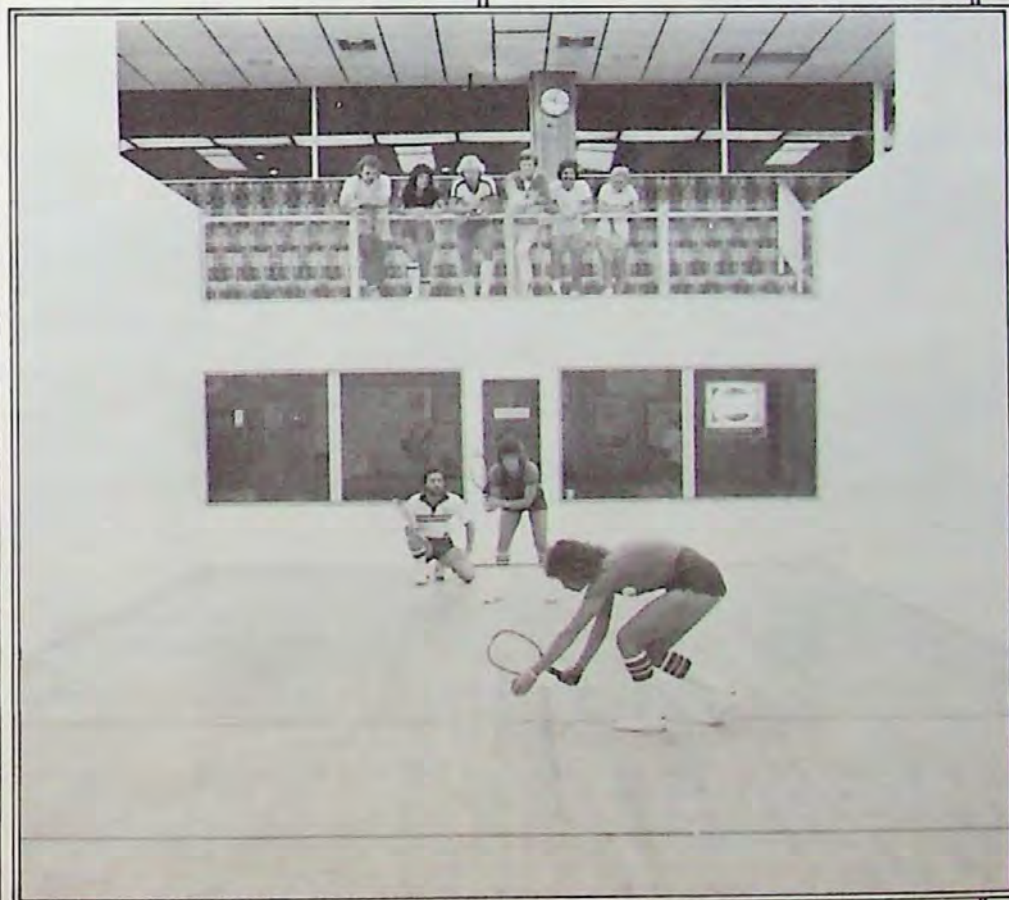


FIGURE 13

WINNING POINTS

By Mike Yellen

TRACE YOUR STEPS

Getting Back Into Position



When out of position, you have to play your opponent close as we see my Ektelon teammate Jerry Hillecher anticipating a forehand by Dave Peck and trying to close the distance.

Mike Yellen, currently ranked number two on the pro circuit, is a member of the Ektelon professional player advisory staff.

As we all know, the ideal strategic position for a racquetball player awaiting an opponent's shot is center court. That imaginary seven-foot circle just behind the short line gives him the most direct access to all critical points on the court simultaneously.

It's a good strategy but, unfortunately, one which can't always be applied. Many

times during a game, you will find yourself awaiting your opponent's shot while out of center court position and, sometimes, you'll be caught out of position entirely.

This might come about by accident or by the design of the other player. Either way, the result is the same: you find yourself caught between your opponent and a hard place, namely the sidewall.

There are a lot of ways this can happen, but it is most likely to occur whenever your opponent is himself

dominating center court during his shot. In fact, if your opponent is shooting anywhere down the middle of the court from the service line to the back wall, you are forced to stand off to one side of him.

This leaves a wide area open on the other side of the court and provides a shooting opportunity few players will fail to exploit. As I said, this isn't the only way you can be caught out of position but, since it gives us insight into the overall problem, let's explore some of the difficulties caused when your opponent is shooting from the middle of the court.

If he is directly in center court, he is more or less in the driver's seat. If you move to one side of him, he can drive the ball to the rear corner on the other side or hit a roll-corner which, if it doesn't die, will send the ball away from you in the forecourt.

If you stay behind him, he has an even greater opportunity to kill the ball or dink it into a front corner while his body impairs your view of the action somewhat and reduces the time you have to react to the shot.

Even if he is behind you, say in the middle of the back court, you have to stand to one side of the middle so as not to impair his shot and he thus has ample opportunity to put the ball in a spot as far distant from you as possible.

You have to rush in and cover extra distance as a result of being out of position and you will usually be headed for a location which affords something less than an ideal coverage position after your shot. Meanwhile, your opponent will move into a good position to await that shot.

You are going to find yourself on the short end of shooting percentages for as long as this situation lasts. If it lasts for very long, you will start to get a nagging feeling that your opponent is always in your way.

Not that he will intentionally screen you or hinder your access to the ball. Most players are careful to avoid that sort of thing and the occasional mishap—a bump or a screen, intentional or not—will usually be picked up on by the referee.

But, by letting your opponent choose the court positioning that suits him, you are going to frequently find your view just slightly impeded, your shooting alley just barely big enough to be legal and the remarkable speed your opponent demonstrates in retrieving your shots somehow diminished when it comes to getting out of your way.

It's not that he is doing anything illegal, it's just that he is occupying the space you need to be in to win. It's up to you to reverse that situation and, unfortunately, there is no simple three-step method to regaining a lost positioning advantage.

Being quick helps. So does playing your opponent close if he happens to be

WINNING POINTS



Since a player's backhand usually has more follow-through than his forehand, you have to be cautious playing tight on your opponent's backhand side as I am here against Marty Hogan.



Here I've gotten position on Jerry at the short line. He anticipates and moves in to try to cut off a down-the-line drive. If he were playing someone with a weaker backhand who couldn't hit down the sidewall, he might expect a crosscourt pass instead and adjust accordingly.

standing in the spot you want to occupy during your shot. The latter is obviously risky.

Having a pair of eyeguards would be wise. Also, you should know that most players have a much wider followthrough on their backhands than they do on their forehands, so watch out.

You can't get in your opponent's way or make contact with him before or after his shot. If you do, an intentional hinder might be called.

He has to be ready to relinquish his position immediately after his shot, though, and you have to be ready to rush in. Think of it as rushing into a vacuum created by his absence. You need that kind of flow. You want to avoid committing yourself to a direction before the ball leaves your opponent's racquet, though, or he might change the direction of his shot, leaving you flat-footed.

The key to regaining the positioning advantage is to be able to size up your opponent's shooting options quickly and anticipate his move. You won't have to wait to actually see where the ball is headed. You'll already be prepared and can get out of the blocks that much more quickly.

One example of a player who has mastered this technique is my Ektelon teammate Jerry Hilecher. He is known as one of the game's best retrievers even though he has only average speed. However, he does have an exceptional ability to second-guess shots.

Unfortunately, his level of skill can be achieved only after years of play. But anyone can improve their ability in this area if they will just work on it consciously. Some shooting situations are more than obvious.

For example, if you are playing a right-handed opponent who is in center court

and about to hit a forehand with you on his left, it doesn't take a genius to figure out that the ball is going to wind up somewhere in that wide expanse of floor space on the right.

If you move forward, he'll pass the ball to the right rear corner. If you try to close that off by moving back, he'll try a left-corner pinch or a right-side kill, either of which should leave the ball in the right forecourt. Let him shoot before you move.

Sometimes, a knowledge of your opponent's individual strengths and

weaknesses can help you anticipate his shots. For example, most right-handed players who intercept the ball at mid-court by the left wall with the opponent on their right would drive the ball back down the left wall.

However, if the shooter has a weak backhand, he may not be able to execute a down-the-line backhand drive and will have to go across court. By studying your opponent's shot choices during the course of a game, you should gain some insight into what he is likely to do in different shooting situations. ■



The rules say that you can't intentionally block an opponent's path to the ball, but there is a lot of room for individual interpretation. Here Charlie Brumfield's body language tells me that I will have to go around if I plan to get to what is obviously going to be a down-the-line forehand.

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487 N. Dean Rd.
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Donald Chambers
CRS, Inc.
c/o College of Minerals
Dhahran, S.A.

EGYPTIAN RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

Abdel-Fattah Batawi
11 Rashdan Street
Dokki, Cairo
Egypt
843-141

AARA AFFILIATE COURT CLUBS

If you're traveling farther than 75 miles from your home court, the following affiliate court clubs will honor your AARA (IRA) card. Please call ahead for house rules and guest fees.

Listing Key: wlr-women's locker room, mlr-men's locker room, ws-women's sauna, ms-men's sauna, ww-women's whirlpool, mw-men's whirlpool, wsr-women's steam room, msr-men's steam room, tc-tennis court, sp-swimming pool, r-restaurant, b-bar, sb-snack bar, ps-pro shop, er-exercise room, n-nursery.

ALASKA

Anchorage Racquet Club
700 South Bragam
Anchorage, AK
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, w/mw,
tc, ps, er

ARIZONA

Metro Athletic Club
4843 N. 8th Place
Phoenix, AZ 85014
Call Darlene 602-264-1735
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, w/mw, msr,
sp, r, b, ps, er, n

CALIFORNIA

Valley Court Club
11405 Chandler
N. Hollywood, CA 91601
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw,
sb, ps, er

Marin Racquetball Club
4384 Bel Marin Keyes Blvd.
Novato, CA 94947
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, w/mw, r, b,
ps, er, n

Sun Oaks Racquet Club
3452 Argyle Road
Redding, CA 96002
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, tc, sp, sb,
ps, er, n

Racquetball Sportworld
20 E. San Joaquin St.
Salinas, CA 93901
408-757-8331
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, sb, ps, er, n

CONNECTICUT

Racquetball Spa
500 Kings Highway Cut-Off
Fairfield, CT 06430
203-366-7888
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, r, ps, er, n

Southport Racquet Club
226 Old Post Road
Southport, CT 06490
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ps, n

Center Court Health and
Racquetball Club
234 Route 83
Vernon, CT 06066
203-875-2133
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, msr, sb,
ps, er, n

FLORIDA

Sportrooms of Coral Gables
1500 Douglas Road
Coral Gables, FL 33143
305-443-4228
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, r, sb, ps, er, n

Sportrooms of Hialeah

1900 West 44th Place
Hialeah, FL
305-557-6141
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, r, b, sb, ps, er, n

Jacksonville Racquetball Club
6651 Crestline Dr.
Jacksonville, FL 32211
904-724-6994
wlr, mlr, ws, ww, mw, msr, b,
sb, ps, er, n

Kendall Racquetball and
Health Club
10631 SW 88th Street
Miami, FL 33176
305-596-0600
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, r, b, sb, ps, er, n

Sportrooms of Sabal Chase
10680 SW 113 Pl.
Miami, FL 33176
305-596-2677
wlr, mlr, ww, mw, wsr, msr, r, b,
sb, ps, er, n

Sportrooms of Plantation
8489 NW 17th Ct.
Plantation, FL 33322
305-472-2608
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, r, b, sb, ps, er, n

HAWAII

The Courthouse Racquetball
Club
45-608 Kam Highway
Kaneohe, HI 96744
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, sb,
ps, er, n

ILLINOIS

Court Club of C'oele
Old Rt. 13 East
Carbondale, IL 62901
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, tc, r, b,
ps, er, n

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston Tennis Club
653 Summer Street
Boston, MA 02210
617-269-4300
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, tc, r,
b, sb, ps, er, n

Mid-Cape Racquet Club
193 White's Path
South Yarmouth, MA 02864
617-394-3511
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, tc, r, b, sb,
ps, er, n

MINNESOTA

Exercise Dynamics
Old Highway 71 North
Bemidji, MN 56601
218-751-8351
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, ps, er

NEW JERSEY

The Racquet Ball Club
19 East Frederick Place
Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ps, er, n

Racquettime Court Club
17-10 River Road
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, msr

King George Racquetball Club
17 King George Rd. (US 22 West)
Greenbrook, NJ 08812
201-356-6900
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, r, ps, er, n

Racquetball 23 and Spa
318 Route 23
Pompton Plains, NJ 07444
201-839-8823
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, msr, ww, mw,
r, ps, er, n

Ricochet Racquet Club
219 St. Nicholas Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
201-753-2300
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, ps, er, n

The Court House
20 Milburn Avenue
Springfield, NJ 07081
201-376-3100
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ps, er, n

What's Your Racquet
1904 Atlantic Ave.
P.O. Box 1402
Wall, NJ 07719
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw,
wsr, msr, tc, sp, b, sb, ps,
er, n

NEW YORK

21st Point Club
McKown Road off Western Avenue
Albany, NY 12203
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, r, b, sb, ps, er, n

Point Set Tennis and
Racquetball Club
225 Howells Rd.
Bay Shore, NY 11706
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, tc, sb,
ps, er, n

The King's Court
Racquetball Club
4101 Avenue V
Brooklyn, NY 11234
212-338-3300
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, tc, sb, ps, er, n

The Pelham Racquetball and
Health Club
6 Pelham Parkway
Pelham Manor, NY 10803
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, r, b, sb, ps, er, n

OREGON

Eastern Oregon Sports
366 S.E. 5 St.
Ontario, OR 97914
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, sp, r,
sb, ps, er, n

PENNSYLVANIA

The Supreme Courts
90 West Chestnut St.
Washington, PA 15301
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw,
ps, er, n

Indian Springs Golf and Racquet Club
949 Church St.
Landisville, PA 17538
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr, msr,
tc, r, sb, ps, er, n

SOUTH CAROLINA

Charleston Racquet
Nautilus Center
1642 Highway 7
Charleston, SC 29407
803-571-1020
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, msr, tc, sb,
ps, er, n

TEXAS

Killeen Athletic Club
405 South 2nd
Killeen, TX 76541
wlr, mlr, ws, ww, mw, msr, sp,
sb, ps, er, n

UTAH

The Court Club
120 W. Hilton Inn Dr.
St. George, UT 84770
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, tc,
sp, r, sb, ps, er, n

WEST VIRGINIA

Charleston Racquet Club
P.O. Box 3328
Hillcrest Drive
Charleston, WV 25332
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, tc, r, b, er, n

For more information
on how to list a court
club on this page, call
Cheryl at 901-345-8000.

Scorecard

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

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

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



Mary Duitman (foreground) sets up a forehand shot during her Women's B match against Jenny Pyne in the final round of the National Court Clubs Association's third annual national amateur racquetball tournament at the Glass Court Club, Lombard, IL, September 12-14.

NCCA 3RD ANNUAL NATIONAL AMATEUR TOURNAMENT Glass Court Club Lombard, Illinois September 12-14

Men's A: Greg Maloley over Jeff McDowell 21-17, 21-10.
Women's A (Round Robin): Janet Ceglinski.
Men's B: Dave Rodriguez over Jerry Brody 11-21, 21-14, 11-5.
Women's B: Debbie Adams over Pat Evanitski 21-17, 21-10.
Men's Novice: Barry Lipson over Dave McElroy 21-10, 21-13.
Women's Novice: Robin Cunningham over Bertha Menandez 21-7, 21-14.

NEWPORT CUP OPEN September 19-21 Newport Playoff Newport, Rhode Island

Men's A
Semifinals: Al Lavalley over Cal Steere 15-13, 15-11;
Rene Depot over George West 15-3, 15-3.
Finals: Depot over Lavalley 13-15, 15-13, 15-6.
Men's B
Semifinals: Mike Parent over Gerry Dillon 15-10, 15-3;
Jim Smith over Janet Simon 15-12, 11-15, 15-8.
Finals: Mike Parent over Jim Smith 15-10, 15-3.
Men's C
Semifinals: James Harpe over Dennis Saccola 15-7, 15-12; Stan Kupiec over George Clarke 15-9, 15-4.
Men's Advanced Novice
Semifinals: Dennis Dooling over John Keenan 15-12; Art Cady over Roland Gazalile 15-10, 15-12.
Finals: Art Cady over Dennis Dooling 10-15, 15-11; 15-9.

Men's Beginning Novice
Semifinals: Norm Gauthier over Ric Huffmaster 15-10; 15-12; Rick Reeves over Fred Chace 15-12, 15-14.
Finals: Norm Gauthier over Rick Reeves 15-13, 11-15; 15-13.
Men's Seniors 35+ (Round Robin): 1st: Dennis Culbertson; 2nd: Mike Blecker; 3rd: John McBroome.
Juniors 13-and-Under (Round Robin): 1st: Chris Cola; 2nd: Scott Cordeiro.
Juniors 17-and-Under (Round Robin): 1st: Robert Putney; 2nd: Russell Drew.
Women's A/B
Semifinals: Janet McLeavey over Sharon Culbertson 15-8, 11-15, 15-4; Betty Anderson over Sally McKinney 15-8, 15-13.
Finals: Janet McLeavey over Betty Anderson 15-8, 11-15, 15-1.
Women's C
Semifinals: Carmen Mycroft over Mary Paul 15-7, 3-15, 15-8; Terry Beers over Lise Picard 15-9, 15-6.
Finals: Terry Beers over Carmen Mycroft 15-2, 15-5.
Women's Advanced Novice
Semifinals: Janet Kurucz over June Carmody 15-4, 15-6; Lucy Bartholomay over Paddy McKeag 15-7, 15-5.
Finals: Janet Kurucz over Lucy Bartholomay 15-1, 15-4.
Women's Beginning Novice
Semifinals: Barbara Walton over Donna Carrigan 11-15, 15-5, 15-14; Allison McManus over Anne Finegan 15-1, 15-1.
Finals: Allison McManus over Barbara Walton 15-4, 15-2.

NCCA TOURNAMENT Off The Wall Hauppauge, New York August 8-10

Men's Novice: 1st: Ted Santarsiero; 2nd: Martin Decatur; 3rd: Frank Grunseich; 4th: Robert Romano.
Women's Novice: 1st: Geraldine Goodman; 2nd: Laura Beard; 3rd: Shiela Callow; 4th: Sharon Lynch.
Men's B: 1st: Rick Walsh; 2nd: William Louie; 3rd: Larry Nevitt; 4th: Angelo Belli.
Men's A: 1st: Paul Wicha; 2nd: Mike Diamond; 3rd: Russ Maniho; 4th: Bob Arluck.
Women's B: 1st: Carol Nestle; 2nd: Sue Russo; 3rd: Grace Grillo; 4th: Janet Cain.

AARA GEORGIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS Acres Mills Courtsouth Atlanta, Georgia September 5-7

Men's Open: 1st: Mike Ray; 2nd: Jim Cullen; 3rd: John Parks; 4th: Allen Dunn.
Men's B: 1st: Greg Gutchow; 2nd: Doug Ellerby; 3rd: Don Gerrig; 4th: Steve Koehler.
Men's Seniors: 1st: Hugh Durham; 2nd: Vic Oliver; 3rd: Roger Wherle; 4th: Ron Clark.
Men's C: 1st: David Mende; 2nd: Russell Yates; 3rd: Steve Rhode; 4th: Larry Ingram.
Women's Open: 1st: Caryn McKinney; 2nd: Beth Crawley; 3rd: Susan Sanders; 4th: Sheryl Nelson.

1ST ANNUAL LABOR DAY SWING AND SWIM Off The Wall Strongsville, Ohio August 29-31

Women's Open: 1st: Karen Perlic; 2nd: Sherry Armstrong; 3rd: Pat Martin; 4th: Laurie Thomas.
Women's B: 1st: Debbie Knaus; 2nd: Sally Green; 3rd: Samantha Brem; 4th: Bobbi Durant.
Women's C: 1st: Holley Rose Mallett; 2nd: Sue Kunkle; 3rd: Christine Wolf; 4th: Gaylen Bacon.

Men's Open: 1st: Jeff Riehl; 2nd: Tom Travers; 3rd: Dominic Palmieri; 4th: Kevin Deighan.
Men's B: 1st: Tim Deighan; 2nd: Jim Durant; 3rd: Ron Martucci; 4th: Tom Embrogno.
Men's Seniors: 1st: Bobby Sanders; 2nd: Steve Hockenberry; 3rd: Larry Nicholson; 4th: Bill Eversole.
Juniors: 1st: Jeff Baldassarri; 2nd: Tom Embrogno; 3rd: Steve Finowski; 4th: Robert Eberling.
Men's Open Doubles: 1st: Mike Stern-Jeff Riehl; 2nd: Adam McKay-Brian Deighan; 3rd: Don Hyde-Ron Yarnocci; 4th: Jim Campisi-Gaylon Finch.
Women's Open Doubles: 1st: Linda Shalkhauser-Sherry Armstrong; 2nd: Nancy Vaughn-Pat Martin; 3rd: Shirley Strickland-Laurie Thomas.

BEST OF THE EAST Racquetline Walwick, New Jersey September 9-11

Men's Seniors: 1st: Lew Wilson; 2nd: Leo Fonseca; 3rd: Jack Crispi; 4th: John Sergeantian.
Boys' Juniors: 1st: Peter Cherdavoyne; 2nd: Rocco Mazzo; 3rd: Richard Vaccaro; 4th: Doug Kluthe.
Women's Semipro: 1st: Francine Davis; 2nd: Elaine Lee; 3rd: Melanie Taylor; 4th: Cindy Baxter.
Men's B: 1st: Angel Nieves; 2nd: Bruce Hamlin; 3rd: Jim Deritis; 4th: Richard Bowman.
Men's Novice: 1st: Bill Campbell; 2nd: Joe Gowen; 3rd: Rick Labita; 4th: Scott Alberg.
Men's Open: 1st: Jim Cascio; 2nd: Victor Alvarez; 3rd: Peter Cherdavoyne; 4th: Gary Walliwote.
Women's Novice: 1st: Ellen Costanzo; 2nd: Angela Chanc; 3rd: Carrie Montalbano; 4th: Carolyn Casihli.
Women's Open: 1st: Milla Nieves; 2nd: Pam Palumbo; 3rd: Sue Englander; 4th: Karen Kimberly.
Men's Semipro: 1st: Eric Foley; 2nd: Gieg Guintier; 3rd: Ray Capitineilli; 4th: Dave McCallan.
Girls' Juniors: 1st: Absom Peckerman; 2nd: Lee Ann Babagallo; 3rd: Kathy Cascio; 4th: Barbara Torres.
Men's C: 1st: Jon Paul Vaccaro; 2nd: Robert Gawley; 3rd: Steve Gifford; 4th: Richard Greenwald.
Women's C: 1st: Jane Levine; 2nd: Elizabeth Williams; 3rd: Patrick Magrick; 4th: Grace Grillo.
Women's B: 1st: Barbara Maltby; 2nd: Catherine Burns; 3rd: Madlin Badillo; 4th: Denise McKenzie.

Referee's Open Dodge City Clubhouse Dodge City, Kansas September 28

Men's A
1st: Kent Tylor; 2nd: Dennis Clark; 3rd: Pat George; Consolation: Ronnie Fortune.
Men's B
1st: Craig Burns; 2nd: John Deardeff; 3rd: Don Fleming; Consolation: Steve Gustafson.
Men's C
1st: Craig Burns; 2nd: Craig Goscha; 3rd: Steve Mustain; Consolation: Gregg Krouse.
Men's D
1st: John Brumbaugh; 2nd: Bob Carlson; 3rd: Ron Thornburgh; Consolation: Bryce Schraeder.
Juniors 14-and-under
1st: Steve Brewer; 2nd: Brian Taylor; 3rd: Kevin Routon; Consolation: Jeff Lopp.
Women's A
1st: Gail Burden; 2nd: Bernie Hauff; 3rd: Susan Scholl; Consolation: Chris Conner.
Women's B
1st: Carmen Pfannenstiel; 2nd: Teresa Reed; 3rd: Kendra Hall; Consolation: Dolittle Skaggs.
Women's C
1st: Francie Hedge; 2nd: Michelle Wells; 3rd: Nancy Stevens; Consolation: Linda Crain.

Jubilee 350 Pepsi Challenge Open Back Bay Racquetball Club Boston, Massachusetts July 18 - 20

Men's Masters
1st: John Lepore; 2nd: Sam Garafalo.
Men's Seniors
1st: Enos Stover; 2nd: Warren Pierce; 3rd: Pat Brennan; 4th: Chuck Bigalow.
Men's Novice
1st: Dan Vest.
Men's C
1st: George Noonan.
Men's B
1st: Tony Pascucci; 2nd: Bob Catrone; 3rd: Mike Parent.
Men's Open
1st: George Vierra; 2nd: Mike Luciw; 3rd: Gil Khan; 4th:

Bob Kabilian; 5th: Gerry Cassidy.
Women's Novice
 1st: Ann Steinberg; 2nd: Gail Smythe.
Women's Open
 1st: Eileen Ehrlich; 2nd: Janet Simon; 3rd: Cindy Alba;
 4th: Janet Kelliher; 5th: Joni Wade.

Genese Cream Ale Open
 The Courthouse
 Chelmsford, Massachusetts
 September 19 - 21

Men's Open
 1st: Mike McDonough; 2nd: Mike Luciew; 3rd: Dennis Aceto; 4th: Peter Blatman.
Men's Seniors
 1st: Dan Giordano; 2nd: Roger Langton; 3rd: Roger Crim, MD; 4th: Tom Kelley.
Men's Novice
 1st: Chris Ball; 2nd: Joe Jenkinson; 3rd: Dan Ryan; 4th: Larry Bradley.
Women's Novice
 1st: Nancy Tulley; 2nd: Jeanine Rousseau; 3rd: Caroline Stewart; 4th: Deborah Peachey.
Women's C
 1st: Nancy Dively; 2nd: Ruth Diblasi; 3rd: Karen O'Neil; 4th: Rachelle Aubut.
Men's C
 1st: Ralph Grillone; 2nd: Andy Davis; 3rd: Mike Sorrentino; 4th: Tom Huff.
Men's B
 1st: Bob Stoker; 2nd: Wayne Kincus; 3rd: John Bernard; 4th: William Rudis.
Women's B
 1st: Ginnie Baeder; 2nd: Kathy Sandford; 3rd: Nancy Finnegan; 4th: Debbie Voton.
Women's Open
 1st: Martha Callahan; 2nd: Cindy Callahan; 3rd: Cindy Alba; 4th: Jonie Wade.

1980 AARA Massachusetts State Doubles
 Empire One Racquet Club
 Millbury, Massachusetts
 October 4-5

Men's 40-44
 1st: Rus Morgan-Warren McGuirk; 2nd: Jim Landia-Harry Burgess; 3rd: Robert Frecco-Vasil George; 4th: Peter Blake-Bob McClean.
Men's 35-39
 1st: Linc MacDonald-Fred Lesperance; 2nd: Wayne Parker-Paul Henrickson; 3rd: Bob Palmer-Len St. Jean; 4th: John Sollio-Rich Voto.
Men's Seniors 30-34
 1st: Mike Romano-Mike Luciew; 2nd: Paul Henrickson-Wayne Parker; 3rd: Steve Emma-Bob Puchalski; 4th: Lou Champagne-Don Whitehead.
Men's Novice
 1st: Bob Duffy-Bill Marston; 2nd: Walter Dibrinski-Robert Robere; 3rd: Mark Goulding-Rich Hamptman; 4th: Ed Smith-Brian Thibeault.
Men's C
 1st: Mark O'Connor-Mike Demarco; 2nd: Cliff Swain-Tom Coleman; 3rd: Leonard Bruso-Paul Fortini; 4th: Dennis LaCroix-George Noonan.
Women's C
 1st: Louise Brigham-Pam Pano; 2nd: Luann Alphonse-Mauren Sayles; 3rd: Karen Baptista-Sharon Jaffe; 4th: Tricia Nosek-Kathy Hessel.
Women's Novice
 1st: Betsy Piper-Joann McCormick; 2nd: Joan Quintan-Shelley Rome; 3rd: Carol Cucchi-Mary Dibiovanni; 4th: Sue Shepardson-Sue Winer.
Junior Boys 17-and-under
 1st: Mike Ladge-Dave Repucci; 2nd: Mike Coleman-John McCauley; 3rd: Chuck Ranson-Ralph Grittone; 4th: Scott St. Onge-Tom Coleman.
Men's Open
 1st: Mike Luciw-Mike Romano; 2nd: Jim Larala-Fred Lesperance; 3rd: Peter Blattman-Phil Fisher; 4th: Mike Coleman-John McCauley.
Men's B
 1st: Peter Bedore-Bob Schultz; 2nd: Mike Ladge-Dave Repucci; 3rd: Rich Voto-Keith Morgan; 4th: Ed Chandler-Keith Eksuzian.
Men's 45-49
 1st: John Lepore-John Sollio; 2nd: Mike Sullivan-Howie Coleman; 3rd: Art Labresseur-G. Labresseur; 4th: Ed Schaub-Benito Manicione.
Women's B
 1st: Brenda Walton-Debbie Williams; 2nd: Pam Green-Barbara Midgleny; 3rd: Maureen Boulette-May Pollard; 4th: Sue Parker-Judy Gully.
Women's Open
 1st: Cindy Alba-Janet Simon; 2nd: Nora Davis-Mimi Kel-

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ly; 3rd: Joni Wade-Janet Kelleher; 4th: Vickie Edelman-Brenda Welton.

Men's A

1st: Renee Depot-Manny Pita; 2nd: Joe Chabot-Mike Chabot; 3rd: Don Couture-Rich Adams; 4th: Peter Rossi-Carl Kirkorian.

Men's B

1st: Brian Couture-Barry Vincent; 2nd: Mark Hodkins-Mike Laverdiere; 3rd: Carl Gibeau-Lindsay Correia; 4th: Peter Razza-Mike McCartin.

Women's B

1st: Marilyn Ellis-Betty Schifino; 2nd: Jeanne Bissanti-Kathy Baptista; 3rd: Sue Reavey-Kathy Oldham; 4th: Gail Anderson-Anne Lamoriello.

1980 Lehigh Valley Racquetball Championships
Allentown Racquetball Club
Allentown, Pennsylvania
October 11-12

Men's Open

1st: Frank Posocco; 2nd: Paul Evans; 3rd: Hal Foss; 4th: Jerry Schulman.

Men's A

1st: Dave Dexter; 2nd: Dave Mitchell; 3rd: Ed Stauffer; 4th: Bill Kocher.

Men's B

1st: Barry Neff; 2nd: Bill Johnson; 3rd: Gus Belaries; 4th: Tom Starnier.

Men's C

1st: Tom Parambo; 2nd: Jamie Williams; 3rd: Bryan Elliott; 4th: Wayne Yuxak.

Men's Doubles

1st: Hal Foss-Jim Bachman; 2nd: Bill Schopf-Paul Evans; 3rd: Dorothy Fischl-Paul Cressman.

Women's A

1st: Connie Grazier; 2nd: Nan Kozul; 3rd: Trude Frick.

Women's C

1st: Linda Beck; 2nd: Susan Dexter; 3rd: Joanne Piacquacio.

Janesville Fall Open
Supreme Courts
Janesville, Wisconsin
October 10-12

Men's Open

1st: Bruce Thompson; 2nd: Bill Schultz; 3rd: Barry Helms; Consolation: Will Mulvaney.

Men's B

1st: John Dongarra; 2nd: Mike Olmstead; 3rd: Tom Hart; Consolation: Mark O'Donnell.

Men's C

1st: Dave Motherwell; 2nd: Dave Nelson; 3rd: Fred Villemure; Consolation: Gerald Rickles.

Women's B

1st: Helen Wall; 2nd: Rosanne Langston; 3rd: Bridget White; Consolation: Diane Brandt.

Women's C

1st: Barb Hill; 2nd: Mimi Schwarz; 3rd: Sylvia Thayer; Consolation: Patty Johnson.

For Seniors Only
Sun Oaks Racquet Club
Redding, California
September 26-28

Men's Open Doubles

1st: Mark Wayne-Al Rossi; 2nd: Ed Martin-Dennis Bales; 3rd: Ken Seamans-Bill Cook; 4th: Tim Scott-Jim Mitchell.

Men's 30s

1st: Mike Palmer; 2nd: Duane Carleton; 3rd: Dennis Bales; 4th: Bill Cook.

Men's 35s

1st: Dave Mathews; 2nd: Mario Serafin; 3rd: Jim Barry; 4th: Roger Taylor.

Men's 40s

1st: Ken Seamans; 2nd: Dave Rasmussen; 3rd: Mark Wayne; 4th: Bob Dunbar.

Men's 45s

1st: Al Rossi; 2nd: Bill Dabney; 3rd: Jack Shreder; 4th: Jay Hathaway.

Men's 55s

1st: Jay Hathaway; 2nd: Chuck Sharpe; 3rd: J.O. Carleton; 4th: Bill Schrader.

Women's 30s

1st: Holly Ferris; 2nd: Charlotte Giannini; 3rd: Bonnie Lynch; 4th: Cyncl Calvin.

Women's 35s

1st: Donna Seamans; 2nd: Shirley Hernandez; 3rd: Shirley Smead; 4th: Karla Brown.

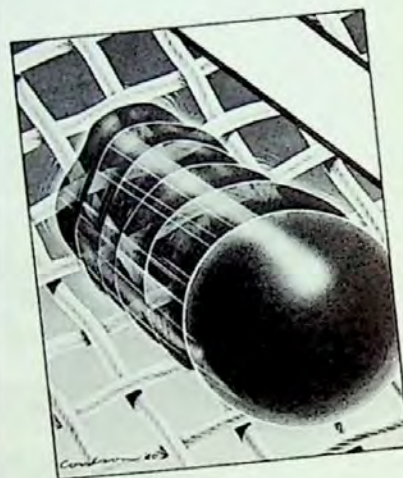
Women's Doubles

1st: Holly Ferris-Bonnie Mitchell; 2nd: Donna Seamans-Cyncl Calvin; 3rd: Cathy Billecci-Shirley Hernandez; 4th: Shirley Smead-Tery Ulloa.

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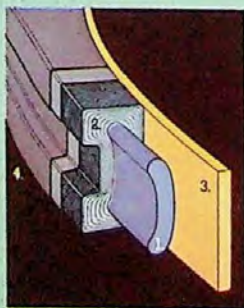
Point One: Unique Construction. Ektelon craftsmen hand-lay laminations of continuous fiberglass fibers around a continuous graphite fiber core. Using precise variations in the proportions, positions, and relative angles of these two materials, Ektelon fine-tunes every millimeter of the racquet frame... making it flexible where it should be flexible, stiffer where it should be stiffer, and lighter where it needs to be lighter.

Point Two: Power. Ektelon's carefully controlled use of stiffer, lighter graphite fibers gives the 250G tremendous snap at impact with the ball.

Point Three: Control. Ektelon's unique use of tough, heavier fiberglass fibers provides exceptional flexibility and control, while adding strength.

Point Four: Durability. Utilizing a torque tube design (the fiberglass completely encases the graphite), Ektelon minimizes racquet face distortion and maximizes durability. Like all Ektelon racquets, the Composite 250G features a full two-year racquet frame and ninety-day string warranty.

Point Five: Winning Points. The popularity of the 250G among knowledgeable players points to just one thing: performance. Its innovative features add up to surer passes, harder kills, fewer skips, more points game after game and match after match. And that's the whole point of a racquetball racquet.



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2. Continuous fiberglass fibers.
3. Vibration-damping urethane ring.
4. Torque-tube construction. Racquet Specs: 250 grams, 12 1/4" long.

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