

Wallbanger

Paddleball • Racquetball • Platform Tennis • Squash **news**

**Anita
Maldonado**
Wins N.Y.C.
Women's Singles
Paddle Ball
Championship

**Janelle
Marriot**
Wins Self
Spalding Pro/AM
Classic

**Reuben
Gonzales**
Wins Self
Spalding Pro/AM
Racquet Ball
Classic

what's inside

Bobby Schwarz Questions
A.P.A. Ruling

\$225,000 Catalina Racquet
Ball Classic Comes to
New Haven, Conn.

Joe Lube Responds

Castle Hill "B" Paddle Ball
Doubles Coming...

John Pace Makes a
Friendly Challenge



Aftermath of the Top Ten

by Joe Lubelfeld

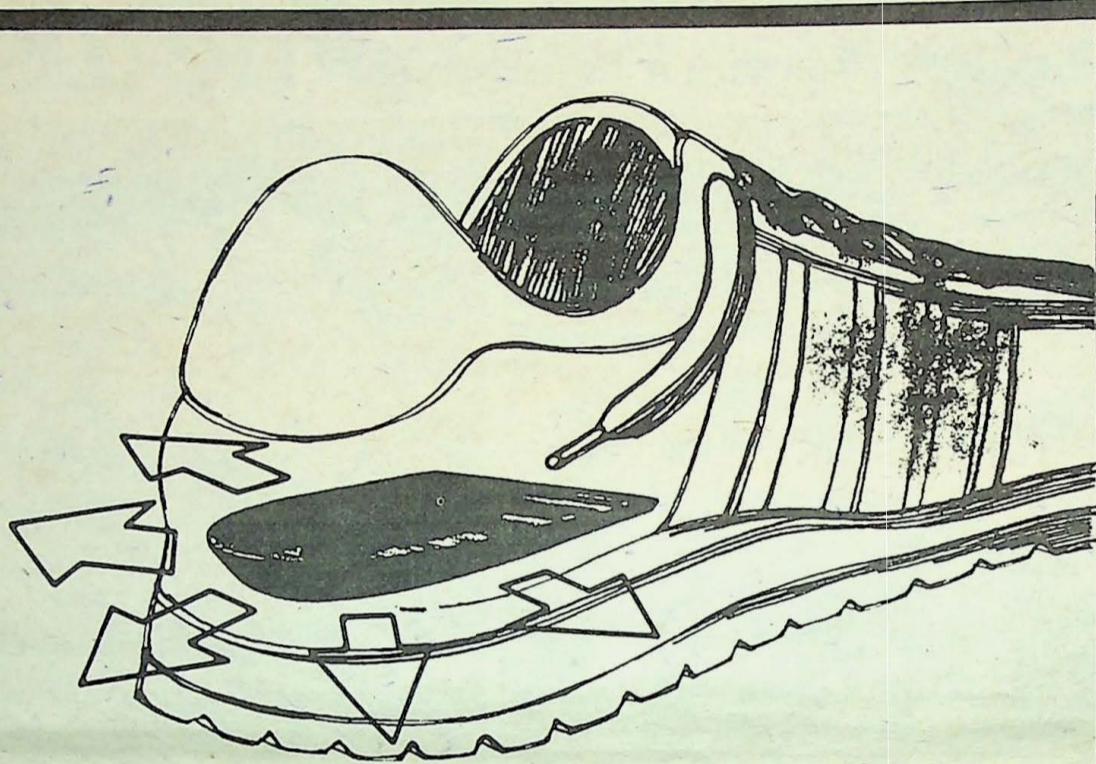
After my "Top Ten Players" appeared, I was aware that paddleball players were with me all the way—no matter how fast I ran I couldn't shake them.

I knew when I wrote it I would

take a drubbing and braced myself accordingly. Being around paddleball people for so long I have a sixth sense about these things, even though I don't have the other five. But a drubbing is one thing, a massacre another. They came at me with harpoons and machetes. Like General Custer, I didn't know

what I was getting into.

I have to take certain precautions now. When I go to tournaments my wife waits outside with the motor running, just in case. I've also become paranoid. When a football team goes into a huddle I'm sure they're talking about me and plotting my early



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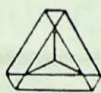
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demise. Before going to bed I call Dial-a-Prayer to see if anyone left any messages for me.

At the courts, Marie, the cashier and a grandmother, who is the only one left still talking to me with a civil tongue (even though she feels slighted because I didn't include her in the Top Ten either), has been kind enough to offer me sanctuary in the basement if I need it. This surprised me a little because all this time I thought we were already in the basement.

But every now and then some brave maverick would come up and whisper that he liked the piece and expressed general agreement with it. When this happened I was so grateful that I embraced him, kissed him on both cheeks, brushed the lint off his clothes, shined his shoes with my sleeve, licked his hands, and gave him one of the Miller High Life T-shirts that I stole from Boye's tournaments; all the while mumbling a thousand thank yous and bless yous that would have put Uriah Heep to shame. By this time these poor souls couldn't wait to get away from me and fled as fast as good manners would allow.

But now that the storm has abated somewhat and I've had a chance to sift through the wreckage, I thought I'd bring you up to date on a few of the comments and criticisms I received before closing this chapter and moving on to the next lower plateau.

The loudest chorus of protests came from people who thought my biggest booboo was not including Mike Melendez in the list. Mike is one of the finest people in the game and nothing would have given me more pleasure than to include him, but as good as he is in doubles—and he is good—I still don't believe he's one of the ten best. He seems to be a little ill at ease, especially on the right side; he's too considerate of his partner and not aggressive enough. He hangs back and doesn't seize the initiative but rather reacts to situations.

However, in singles, ho, ho, ho, we see a completely different Mike Melendez. (Don't take my word; ask Bobby Schwarz.) Here he's his own man. He is obviously more comfortable, more aggressive and exudes confidence. He makes few mistakes, takes sensible risks and makes all the right moves. He has two great hands, a fine serve and his superb physical condition enables him to go the distance in top form without all that unsightly huffing and puffing and tongue hanging out that we so often see in singles. There's no question about where Mike would be ranked if singles were the yardstick used.

And now will all you Melendez fans please give me a break and let me have a little peace? (Aisde to Mike: will you see what you can do about getting your wife Lorraine to stop making all those obscene phone calls to my house? That's bad enough but when I ran into her in McDonald's recently she tried to poison my coffee.)

In behalf of the modest and unassuming Bobby Fiorintino (6th on my list), many let me know—often in language both colorful and pungent—that Bobby should at least have been rated fourth.

My choice of Mel Frenkel (8th) seemed to raise the blood pressure of some. A few thought I underrated him and some felt he shouldn't be on the list at all. It's too bad, but Mel is an excellent player and a top star and is not getting the recognition he deserves.

Craig Ruiz, some said, should be included in any Top Ten list. If that name is new to you, Craig is an up and coming apple-cheeked youth of 18 who has everything—great power, mean killers, spikes, drop shots, quick reflexes, the works—(it puts you in mind of my game) but Craig needs more seasoning and is still a year or two away. Modesty is not one of his strong points. Many people think he's too cocky, abrasive, and hard to take. That may partly be due to jealousy. Hopefully, the miracle of maturity will work its wonders and soften some of the rough edges, but don't bet on it. That maturity syndrome about making saints out of sinners is overdone. I've known stinkers at 15 who are still stinkers at 30, and give every indication of being stinkers at 60. As for Craig, there are too many things going on in his head that shouldn't be there. If he ever straightens his head out, look out. He'll be a player to be reckoned with. (I think I did it again: I just made another enemy. Why hasn't maturity ever taught me anything!)

This brings me to the one sour note in this whole affair and I bring it up reluctantly. Some people—not many—saw fit to press the Hispanic button and accused me of putting in the top ten all my "personal friends" (that will surprise a lot of them), while ignoring all the great Hispanic players. Now c'mon, that's absurd. But I suppose there are always people who see evil in everyone but themselves. Except to say that the charge is preposterous and untrue, I will not dignify it further with an answer. I merely mention it as one of the "harpoons" and quickly pass on.

As long as I'm in a let's-clear-the-air mood I might as well go all the way.

To those who resented my audacity for making "critical" and "uncomplimentary" observations about players' weak points, or their style of play, or remarks about their inflated egos, or their unruly behavior and unsportsmanlike play, etc., I'm sorry about their sensitivity but can make only one suggestion—repent and reform. It's never too late. The people we are talking about are in the Big Leagues now. They are professionals, playing for money and are legitimate subjects for public discussion. Anyone seeking anonymity can easily get it by going back to playing in the schoolyard.

And finally (hang in there, the air is almost clear now) to those otherwise sensible people who were not included in the Top Ten, but who have been regarding the list as if it were chiselled in stone, or writ on sacred scroll that came down from On High...shame on you! You probably also believe that the check is in the mail, or that Russian troops entered Afghanistan just to teach the Afghans basket weaving...cheez! It's only one paddleball player's opinion, nothing more.

Having heard all the sides now, if I had it to do over again right now (brace yourself for a boffo ending), there's not a single name or position I'd change, harpoons and machetes notwithstanding.

End of sermon. Kindly drop your loose change in the box on your way out.

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letters

Editor:

Enjoyed the Top Ten article very much. Joe Lube is a funny guy and always makes good sense.

Can't wait for his Top Ten on women. He also should do one on young upcoming players under 18.

Robert C. Tracy

Dear Editor:

Joe Lube's article on the Top Ten was terrific.

His comments about the Castle Hill Kids was especially good and right on the button. I've only seen them play a few times but, like he said, they always send me home roaring.

Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,
M. Bovee
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Dear Editor:

As a participant in this summer's Budweiser/NYC Dept. of Recreation Open Doubles Tournament, I would like to thank all promoters and organizers for making the tournament a success.

However, there are certain conditions that must be rectified in order to make the tournaments more fair to the players as well as more entertaining to the public.

The conditions of the courts at Yankee Stadium and Central Park certainly leave a lot to be desired. Bad bounces off the floor and wall led to constant confrontations between players and officials, causing the games to be drawn out dramatically. A tournament of this calibre should be played on fair

bouncing courts to induce the best play out of the best players. The spectators were not aware of the problems caused by the court and sun during this tournament, but I know it hindered the play of the finalists in the Open Doubles Event.

The City should make an effort to repair these courts if their championships are to be held there. If not, the tournament should be moved to better facilities.

Mel Frenkel

Letter to Editor:

Joe Lube must be off his rocker. A list of the Ten Best without Melendez and Mark Vogel is ridiculous. Also, Fiorintino should be (3) and Chiffone (6). Otherwise, it wasn't too bad.

Yours truly,
Nick Rollo

Joe thanks you for your last four words.—Ed.

Paddleball Puffs

A very dedicated housewife paddleball player was being scolded by her husband because of her intense involvement in the playing of paddleball all hours. He remarked, "Someday I am going to drop dead." Without batting an eye she replied, "Please, sweetheart, don't do it on Tuesday; I play paddleball that nite...!"

Correction

In the Mt. Vernon Veteran Singles Caesar Polichetti was defeated by Larry Poole by a score of 15-13, not 15-2.

on paddleball

by Bobby Schwarz

Any active paddleball player must be aware of all the new and different types of balls that have recently hit the market. Some of the new additions are Marcraft No. 1 Handball and Paddleball (black), The Spalding Paddleball (orange), The Sportcraft HP21 (blue), and the Seamco Merco Australian (kangaroo) Paddleball (blue).

With the exception of the traditionally accepted Marcraft black ball each of the balls is somewhat controversial in nature. However, certain organizations (such as the A.P.A. and P.P.A.) approved some of these balls for paddleball. For certain personal reasons which soon will be revealed, I conducted tests to determine whether or not the Seamco Merco Paddleball actually meets current A.P.A. and P.P.A. requirements. Both organizations approve this ball and they both have identical rulings concerning ball specifications. Each organization lists these specifications under Rule 2 Court and Equipment as follows:

The ball shall be rubber with 1-7/8 inch diameter with a 1/32 inch variance. The rebound shall be 44 inches to 52 inches from a 70 inch drop at 68 degrees Fahrenheit.

Since the Seamco Merco Ball is obviously larger (to the naked eye) than a traditionally sized black ball and its high bounce is certainly like no black ball I ever played with, and the overall feel is just different, I could not imagine that this ball was able to meet the current official specifications. I measured the diameter of the "Kangaroo Ball" with a micrometer, and the diameter measured 1-92/100 inch. My figure may be inaccurate because I am not experienced at using a micrometer. This 1-92/100 inch diameter is approximately 1/20 inch larger than the A.P.A.-P.P.A. accepted standard size ball; and that 1/20 inch is greater than the permitted 1/32 inch variance.

Next, I weighed a Seamco Merco Paddleball on a \$1500.00 extremely accurate computerized scale. The ball weighed exactly 1-6/10 ounces, which is 7/10th of an ounce lighter than the required 2/10 ounce variance permitted by the A.P.A. or P.P.A. As my last test, I repeatedly dropped the ball from 70 inches (in my airconditioned room) and invariably the ball rebounded between 53 and 54 inches. I thus concluded the Kangaroo Ball does rebound 1 or 2 inches beyond the A.P.A.-P.P.A. limit of 44-52 inches.

What does all this mean? I just wanted to show that certain organizations might be willing to overlook a few technicalities in rules to get their approvals stamped on new products. I don't condemn them for perhaps overlooking these technicalities, because paddleball needs new products, new companies, and new sponsors. When a company comes out with a totally new idea for a sport, I surmise that it is only proper for the governing organizations to bend a little and make room for the product. Rules were made to be broken, and sometimes rewritten to favor all concerned parties... which brings me to those certain personal reasons for writing this

article and conducting the tests.

Not long ago Marcraft Recreation Corp. and I introduced the M1-Comp Paddle. The M1-Comp Paddle was unique in design and beautifully packaged. It was made from fine, lightweight and responsive wood, with a thin, slightly textured surface laminated on top. We felt that the Comp would be a welcome addition to the paddle market because we had a product that might eliminate the desire to use adhesive tape on the face of a paddle.

Marcraft decided to market the M1-Comp with my endorsement. Prospects looked very good from our test market, despite a few minor problems which arose from the revolutionary process used to build the Comp. We were ready to perfect and continue marketing it. However, lo and behold, the A.P.A. decided that this new paddle was "illegal." At first we just ignored the A.P.A. because, after all, we did not ask for their approval. But in an A.P.A. tournament, a player was not permitted to use an M1-Comp because the A.P.A. had predetermined that this particular paddle did not conform with one particularly unclear sentence in the rules.

This banning of the Comp from an A.P.A. tournament immediately labeled the paddle as an "illegal paddle" and Marcraft then decided to discontinue the paddle. We still know that the market for the Comp is there, and perhaps we will introduce it again as a newer and better model.

I am simply angry over the fact the A.P.A. so arbitrarily blackballed a product. They obviously decided that their interpretation of one phrase in the following rule should obliterate any attempt at successfully marketing the M1-Comp: Rule 2. Court and Equipment 2, 10 The Paddle. The paddle can be no longer than 17-1/2 inches and no wider than 9 inches. "The paddle cannot have any strings such as that of a tennis racquet. Any paddle having a metal or exposed wood edge must be covered with enough tape to fully cover the edge of the paddle. The surface of the paddle may also be taped, but no rough textured surface may be created. A paddle unfit for play by a referee will not be permitted for use in a tournament."

The M1-Comp met every specification in that rule except, according to the A.P.A., the Comp's surface was textured and therefore illegal. Mind you every surface under the sun has its own texture, and the texture of the Comp in the same ballpark as the texture of

widely used adhesive tape. I asked an officer of the A.P.A. if someone were to put tape over the entire playing surface of the M1-Comp, could that person use that paddle in an A.P.A. tournament? His answer was a mind boggling "Yes"!

Actually, this whole texture in the rule is being grossly misinterpreted. If one reads the sentence, "The surface of the paddle may also be taped but no rough textured surface may be created," one might conclude that the latter part of the sentence is simply trying to clarify the way in which tape may be used. I believe that Joel Skanick (former P.P.A. president) was the person who actually wrote that exact sentence into the rules. He told me in a telephone conversation that the rule was written to prohibit people from putting excessive amounts of tape on paddles and to also prohibit people from creating their own blatantly rough surface on a paddle with the use of such things as sand and epoxy. Hence, a paddle such as the M1-Comp should not have been disapproved or banned by the A.P.A. because of an arbitrary interpretation of a rule.

I strongly feel that the A.P.A. was unjust and unfair in giving us their most unwelcomed disapproval of the Comp. The particular phrase in Rule 2.10 concerning the paddle is simply not clear and the APA and other organizations should either rewrite the rule or ignore the rule.

If an organization is to be respected by paddleball players it must be consistent in the way it deals with all companies. It is extremely inconsistent to approve new and dramatically different balls, and on the other hand disapprove a paddle because of its newly designed surface.

Dalton Mfg. Co. Appoints New Rep.

Mr. Clint Sekol, President of Dalton Manufacturing Company, recently announced the appointment of Marv Konowitz of A-OK Sports, Inc. as Sales Representative for the Greater N.Y. Metro Area. Marv will promote the sale of the new line of Dalton paddles.



Congratulations to Rose Bader for bringing brand new paddleball courts to 35th Street and Second Avenue. Rose is District 6 Supervisor of the Department of Parks and Recreation. Formerly, this playground was named St. Gabriel's. Now it is called St. Vartan's Playground. So, all of you Wallbangers, come on out and use it!



Emil's Team—L. to R.: Robert Alvarez, Vanessa Flores, Peter Locada, Yolanda Santana and Emil.

Editorial

As the year 1981 draws to a close, I must admit that it has been exciting and interesting. The new sponsors of paddleball have been appearing on the scene, Spalding got involved by putting an orange ball to be viewed more easily by the players. Also, Sportcraft Co. threw in a blue ball. Seamco Inc. came out with the first pressureless paddleball. And now AMF Volt is experimenting with a new ball. Marcraft Co., the maker of five paddles, got involved with their ball. This is a good sign that paddleball is beginning to be noticed.

It is my hope that for the year of 1982 these companies will get more involved in paddleball tour-

naments where the players will participate for larger money prizes. A lot of potentially great players get disillusioned when the prizes are minimal cash awards for their efforts. For Paddle to become a national sport we must have the support of the companies who want the player-consumer to buy their sports related goods. Their involvement should be a two-way street. They should stimulate the game of paddleball the way Ektelon, Leach, Wilson, and Omega do for racquetball.

Larger prize money will surely bring the sport of paddleball into national view.

Staff

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Editor-in-Chief Murray Kirschner
Contributing Editors Bob Schwarz, Joe Lubelfeld,
Carole C. George, Howard Thaler, Tony Carr.

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Oct. 20, 1981

OPEN CHALLENGE

I, John Pace, owner of Paddlerama Indoor Paddleball Courts, challenge Sy Lane of Bronx Indoor Paddleball Courts, to a 5 Game Single Wall Paddle Ball Series. The Best of 3 Out of 21 Point Games.

If the challenge is accepted, arrangement of games will be negotiated by both parties.

I remain yours truly
John Pace



John Pace offers a challenge to You Know Who.

Spring Creek

by Mike Keenan

Spring Creek Athletic Fed. held a men's singles Class "B" paddleball tournament in Ridgewood, Queens.

Alex Loney of Queens defeated both his opponents in a round robin playoff to win the championship.

Zorro Retek of Ridgewood defeated Walter Silcott of Brooklyn to decide second and third places.

Walter Vaughn of Brooklyn was awarded fourth place and Victor Tavarez of the Bronx fifth place on

a coin toss.

All the matches were extremely close as all the players were evenly matched. Most of the games were won by min. of two points.

Spring Creek Athletic Fed. held its annual Brooklyn-Queens Men's-Women's Paddleball Singles championship in Ridgewood, Queens. Fifty-four men and fourteen women competed for the \$150 in cash and sixteen trophies.

The semi-finals provided the crowd with all the action you could ever want to see.

In the semi-final match Mike Melendez, the defending champion, pulled a come-from-behind 18-16 victory over Larry Poole. In the other semi-final match Silo Vasquez built a 10-point lead over Santo Conigliaro. With the score 14-4 Silo, Santo made an outstanding comeback only to fall short 15-13 on a referee decision.

Mike went on to defeat Silo in the finals 11-5, 11-10 to retain his championship.

Santo Conigliaro was awarded third and Larry Poole fourth on a coin toss.

In the women's finals Maria Testa of Ridgewood successfully defended her championship with a 21-14 victory over Judy Townsend of Brooklyn.

Third and fourth places were decided when Susan Fong of Ridgewood defeated Lenore Manning of Brooklyn 15-1.

Paddleball's King of the Hill Men's Singles Paddleball Tournament, sponsored by Spring Creek Athletic Fed., was held recently in Ridgewood, Queens. Sixteen men's singles players battled it out for the trophy with a king's crown and \$200 in cash.

There were no major upsets but there was plenty of action. The highlight match of the day was against Joe Williams of Brooklyn and Zorro Retek of Ridgewood. The game seesawed back and forth for over an hour with one or both players lying on the floor after making tremendous gets. The match was finally won by Joe Williams, 29-27.

The finals were equally exciting because it was a grudge match between Santo Conigliaro, "1978-1980 Queens Paddleball Champion," and Silo Vasquez, "The Paddleball Hustler." Both players were ready to back up their hatred for each other with their paddleball ability. It took three games to decide the king.

The first game was won by Santo 15-4 as he quickly took charge and never let Silo get into his game.

Second game Silo was ready. The lead changed on every serve and they fought down to the last point, with Silo a 15-3 victor.

Before the final game began both players were warned to refrain from talking unnecessarily to each other and the referees.

The match began just as the second game had been fought, but this time Santo quickly took the lead and held it. Silo kept coming back but Santo was not going to let victory get away. The match was won by Santo 16-14 for a well earned victory.

Third and fourth places were decided on a coin toss with Carmello Soto of Brooklyn taking third and Wellington of the Bronx taking fourth.

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WAIVER: I hereby for myself and heirs, executors, and administrators waive and release in this tournament any claims for damages and injuries I may have against South Shore Paddleball Club or the Bronx Paddleball Association.

WAIVER: I hereby for myself and heirs, executors and administrators waive and release in this tournament any claims for damages and injuries I may have against South Shore Paddleball Club or the Bronx Paddleball Association.

Signature _____

Signature _____

The Wallbanger "B" Doubles II



Left to right: Sy Lane, Marv Hecht, Rivera, Cliff Lang, Sam Duen, Barry Poris, Mike Falutico, Gonzalez, Marty Walpin and the publisher of *The Wallbanger News*, Murray Kirschner.

Barry Poris and Cliff Lang battled their way to their first paddleball championship. This duo were on the verge of losing in the semi-

finals against Fink and Soto. Cliff and Barry were behind 19-12. Barry had the serve and with great skill scored 7 straight pts., to tie the

game 19-19. Fink and Soto went ahead 20-19, but lost the serve.

This was the moment of truth. Cliff then tied it up 20-20, but Barry scored the next 2 pts. to win 22-20. There was a standing ovation.

It was then decided that the championship game would be 25 pts. The team of Marty Walpin and Marvin Hecht earned their right to play for the championship, when they scored a resounding upset over the team of Mike Shapiro and Dave Schwager. Marty and Marv, to say the least, were behind, 17-0.

Do you read me???? Well, these two wallbangers overcame this near blowout by winning 21-17! The finals then began with Barry and Cliff dominating the wall and making great shots. Barry and Cliff scooped up balls that should have been pts. Needless to say, Barry and Cliff won 25-15. Congratulations to Barry Poris and Cliff Lang.

The Wallbanger News gives thanks to the people who made the tournament a success... Robert Chielli, Mike Eaton, Mendy Korman, Miguel Matos, Aubrey Nelson, Ray Gaston, Lou Tosado,



Cliff Lang and Barry Poris — Wallbanger "B" Doubles Champs.

Richie Jarmark, Rex Naddeo, Ramel Sherman...

4th Place: Fink-Soto

The runners-up were:

The Results:

2nd Place: Marv Hecht-Marty Walpin

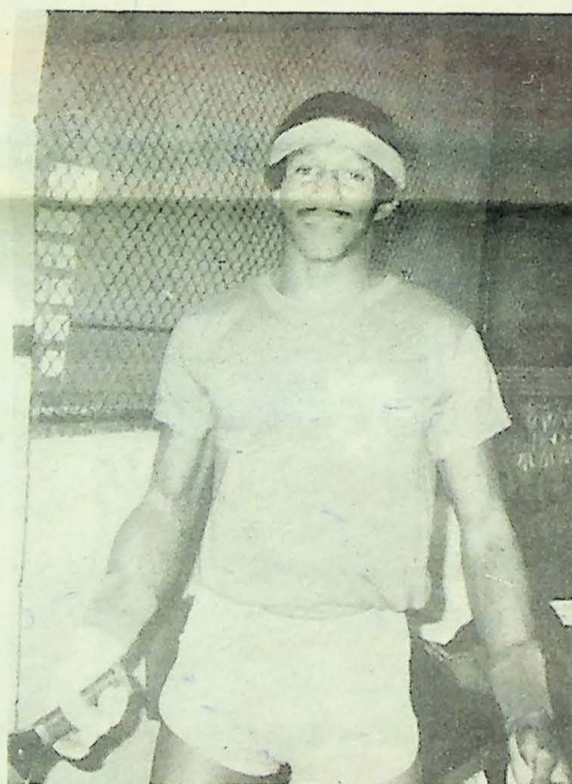
3rd Place: Sam Duen-A. Gonzalez

M. Shapiro-Dave Schwager
Craig Ruiz-B. Morales
Rivera-Frias
Falutico-Jarmark

Paddleball People



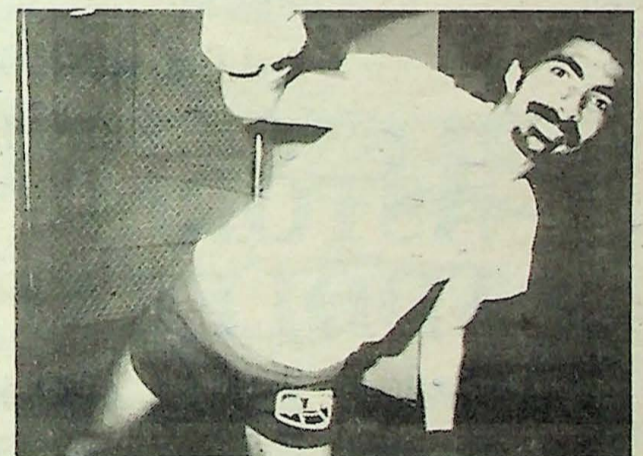
Andy (Hoppy) Hopkins and Mark Vogel



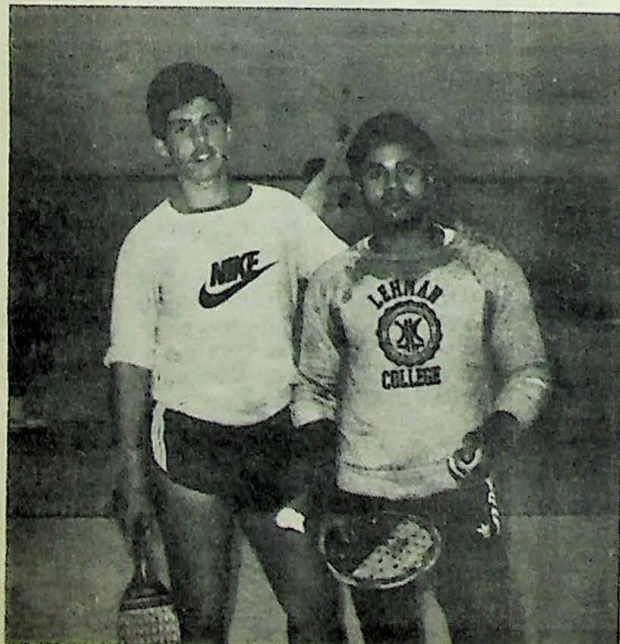
Andy (Hoppy) Hopkins



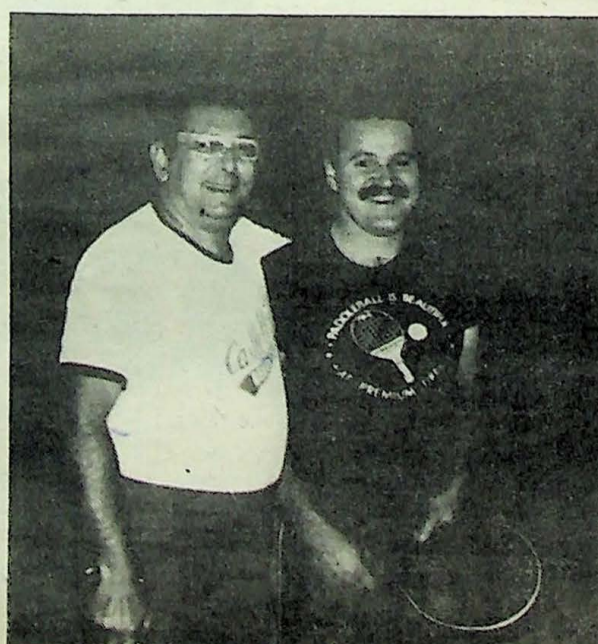
She loves paddleball.



New York City Singles Paddle Ball champion Mike Melendez



Craig Ruiz, Bob Morales



Marv (Mendy) Korman and Mike (the Bear) Eaton.



Two outstanding paddleball champs Anthony Fiorino, Ralph Capogrosso.

Budweiser Results

A Division Mixed Doubles
Donnie Ciaffone and Nochelle Wiener defeated Phillip Santiago and Bebe Bici.

A Division Women's Doubles
Kathy Guinan and Margaret Wiecevak defeated Lois Cohen and Barbara Bergman.

Winners in the Five Divisions received prize money totaling \$10,000.00.

In the B Division
Peter Pilarte (Bklyn.) won Men's Singles.

Edwin George/George Noman (Bklyn.) won Men's Doubles.

Mike Eaton/Toni Meliti (Bronx) took Mixed Doubles.

Susan Stephens (Bklyn.) won Women's Singles.

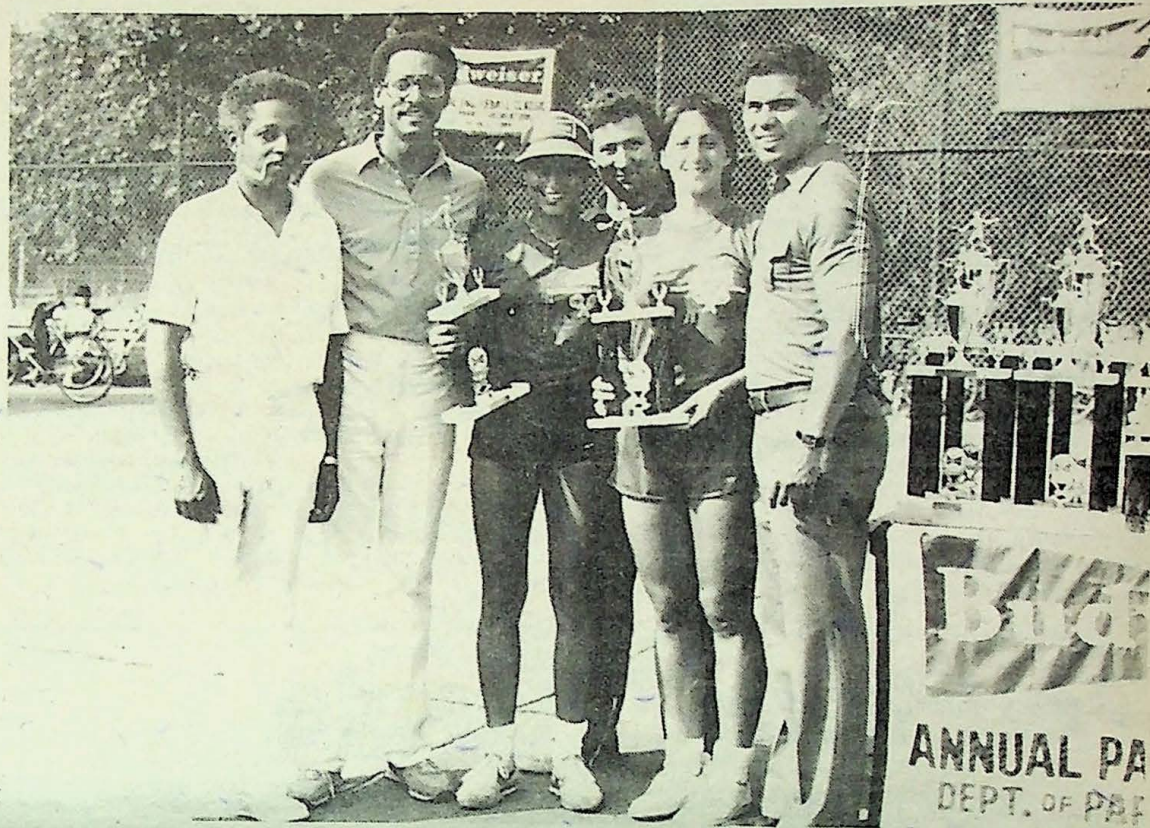
Susan Stephens/Barbara Lillard won Women's Doubles.

Budweiser Singles N.Y.C. Championship

Mike Melendez skillfully and methodically defeated Bobby Schwarz in the Budweiser Singles N.Y.C. Championship at Central Park Paddleball Courts. Melendez had an air of confidence as he outmaneuvered Bobby to win 2 straight 21-10—21-11 for a great victory.

Two weeks later these two met again in the Miller Beer Classic. And Mike won in a thriller (of Miller) at Yankee Stadium Paddleball Courts. This was a tremendous encounter of two great players. Mike won 22-20 and again 21-8. Congratulations, Mike Melendez!

From left to right: John Purvis, Administration Parks & Recreation Manager of Manhattan; Wellington Faulkner of Port Distributors; Yvone Delvalle, 3rd Place B Women's Doubles; Jon Mazza, Program Director, NYC Parks & Rec.; Lois Salfo, 3rd Pl. B Women's Doubles; Fred Berrios, Area Manager, Anheuser Busch.



Happy Birthday &

Happy Birthday To Paddle Ballers:
Oct. Alan Abrams, Bobby Shoe's,
Richie LeBost

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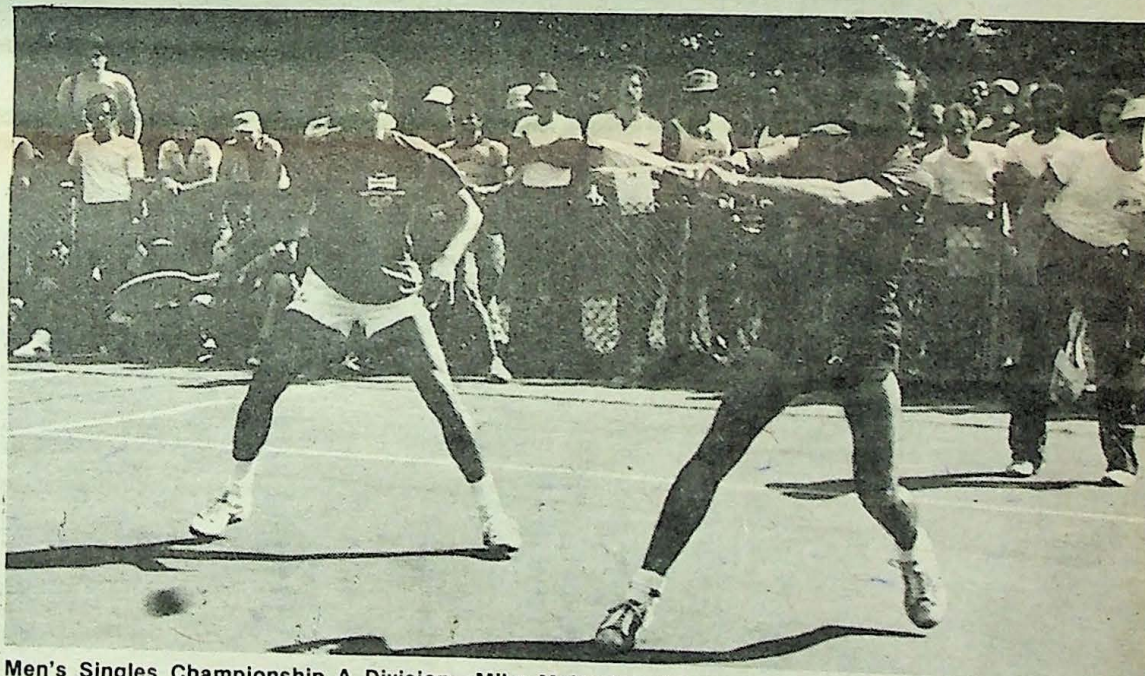
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Men's Singles Championship A Division—Mike Melendez defeated Bobby Schwartz, (21-11) & (21-10).



Men's Doubles A Division—Bobby Schwartz & Mel Frenkel defeated Steve Rothfeld & Barry Shelber, (17-21) (21-18) (21-10).

EL BARRIO PADDLEBALL



Left to right: Emil, Mike Melendez and wife, Cleo Atonna, Craig Ruiz, Joe Lopez, Daniel Rosado, Milagros Padilla.

July-August '81 Five Summer Tournaments Carlos Gautier and Joe Lopez, organizers

This summer of 1981 was very exciting and rewarding to some of the paddleball players of El Barrio. A few tournaments were held at 115 St. and Lexington Avenue. There were two distinct categories of tournaments: 1) "B" players and 2) neighborhood players. For most of the neighborhood players, these tournaments attracted many players and many cheering spectators.

B Men's Doubles (cash awards)

- 1st Gene Rodriguez and Paul Martinez
2nd Kim Soohoo and Carlos Ayala
3rd Jose Cedeno and Carlos Gautier

B Men's Singles (cash awards)

- 1st Albert Laracuentre
2nd Carlos Gautier
3rd Wellington
4th Jerry Ramos

B Women's Doubles (trophies)

- 1st Kim Boyd and Tammy Thompson
2nd Myra Rosario and Yvonne Torres
3rd Barbara and Betty
4th Cathy Rosado and Evelyn Del Valle

Mixed Doubles (trophies)

- Yvette ("Green Eyes") and Angel Vera
Ramon Agosta and Tammy Thompson

Under 18-Neighborhood (trophies)

- 1st Googie (14)
2nd Angel (17)
3rd Rob (14)
4th Joey (14)

El Barrio Paddleball went to the Bronx and ran an open mixed

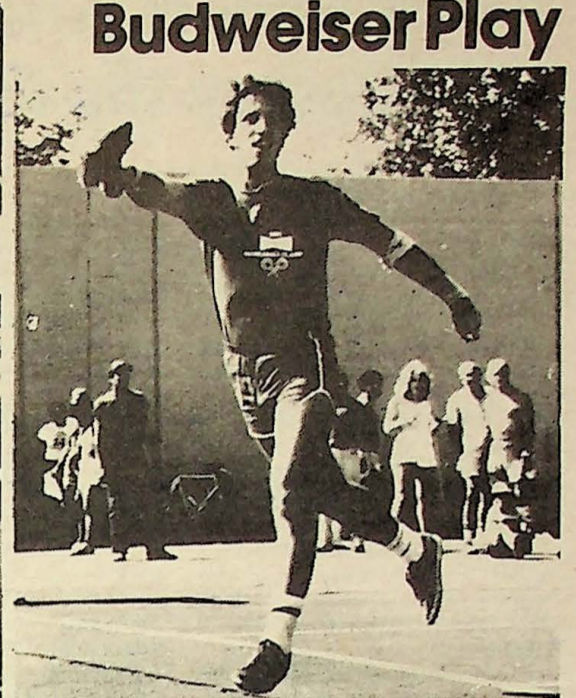
doubles, sponsored by Emil's. Here are the results for Emil's Mixed Doubles:

- 1st Cleo and Craig (Bronx Paddleball Association)—\$100 and trophies
2nd Melendez and Melendez (El Barrio Paddleball)—\$50 and trophies
3rd Hecht and Hecht (Queens)—\$30 and trophies
4th Bob Agront and Myra Rosario (E.B.P.)—\$20 and trophies
5th Yvonne Gastor and Carlos Rodriguez (Bronx)—Trophy
6th Luisa Valentin and Angel Gonzalez (Manhattan)—Trophy
7th Milagros Padilla and Daniel Rosado (Bronx)—Trophy
8th Julio Colon and Demara Rosario (Bronx)—Trophy

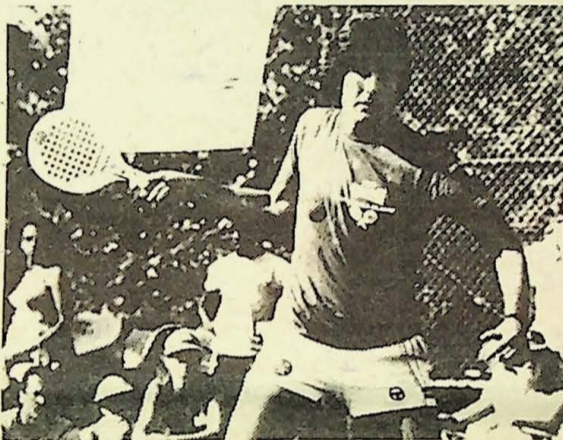
1st — On the way to victory from Melendez & Melendez, Cleo & Craig shut out two teams, but were almost upset in the semi-finals by Carlos Rodriguez & Yvonne (16-14).
2nd — Mike Melendez & Melendez defeated the excellent team of Hecht & Hecht (17-15).
3rd — Hecht & Hecht, the team from Queens, played excellently and went home with a respectable third place.
4th — Bobby & Myra, El Barrio Paddleball Players, won 4th, performing well.
5th — Yvonne and Carlos Rodriguez, who almost defeated Cleo and Craig, are both outstanding players.
6th — Valentin and Gonzalez gave Hecht & Hecht a great challenge (15-13) in the semi-finals.
7th — Milagros Padilla and Daniel Rosado, a neighborhood mother and son team, fiercely protected their courts.
8th — Julio Colon and Demaras Rosario are proud to be among the winners.



Frankel blows one by Steve.



Steve Rothfeld in flight.



Barry digs it out.



What happened?!

At Shore Haven: The 1st U.S.H.A. National Wall Women's Championship

by Al Apuzzi

On August 29, Shore Haven Beach Club hosted the first running of this event. The finals saw 17-year-old Anna Calderon, current PSAL City Champion, pitted against Rosemary Bellini, 1980 & 1981 USA 4-Wall National Champion.

Both of these top seeded players had breezed into the finals as expected. The crowd gathered as both girls began to warm-up with the Merco-West Family Ball. The members of Shore Haven, who had made Anna the pre-tournament favorite, were waiting to see if her game could hold up against the poised and experience of a seasoned veteran like Rosemary.

In the beginning of the first game both girls seemed tight and were engaging in a high volleying type of play. The game was nip and tuck for the first half and then Anna loosened up and strung together several aces to take an 18-10 lead. At this point everyone felt that Anna had the first game locked up. But, Rosemary managed to narrow the gap to 14-18. Anna seemed to be choking and many of the spectators began to feel that Rosemary would take the first game. Anna,

realizing that something was wrong, called a time-out. As soon as the play resumed, Anna won back the serve and ran out the game.

The second game saw a much more confident Anna handily defeat Rosemary 21-11, by utilizing a strong serve and power drives. Anna certainly deserved this vic-

tory and is now the 1st USA 1-Wall National Women's Champion.

P.S. Rosemary is one who doesn't give up, and everyone is sure that she will be training exceptionally hard for next year's tourney. It seems a bit unfair that the spectators will have to wait a whole year to see the rematch.

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212-729-7163

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Big Apple Paddleball League Schedule

- January 3rd.** Sunday 1982 6 p.m.
Big Apple Mini Tournament Exhibition at Bronx Indoor Courts, 1261 Zerega Avenue.
- February 14th.** Sunday 1982 6 p.m.
Open Mixed Doubles at 6 p.m. at Bronx Indoor Courts, 1261 Zerega Avenue.
- March 6th.** Saturday 6 p.m.
Open Men's Doubles at Bronx Indoor Courts, 1261 Zerega Avenue.
- April 3rd.** Saturday 6 p.m.
Open Men's Singles at Bronx Indoor Courts, 1261 Zerega Avenue.
- May 9th.** Sunday 6 p.m.
Open Women's Singles at Bronx Indoor Courts, 1261 Zerega Avenue.
- June 5th.** Saturday 11 a.m.
Hispanic American 5th Annual Classic.
Men's Doubles—96th St. between 1st Avenue and F.D.R. Drive.
- June 12th.** Saturday 1 p.m.
Finals of Hispanic American Paddleball Classic.
Men's Doubles at Bronx Indoor Courts.
- June 20th.** Sunday 10 a.m.
Open Men's Singles at 96th St. between 1st Avenue and F.D.R. Drive.
- July 4th.** Sunday at 10 a.m.
Open Mixed Doubles at 96th St. between 1st Avenue and F.D.R. Drive.
- September 5th.** Sunday 1 p.m.
Big Apple Invitational at 96th St. between 1st Avenue and F.D.R. Drive. For information, call (212) 246-0428.

Tournament Attracts New Jersey Top Players

SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ—Over 500 New Jersey residents competed for \$35,000 worth of prizes October 9-11 in the 1981 Natural Light/NJRA State Racquetball Championships at the Richochet Health and Racquet Club.

Highlighting this prestigious tournament was the play of John Bierman of West Orange, who won both the Men's Open title and shared the Open Doubles crown for the second time with Al Horne of Fair Lawn and the only other double winner, Mike Vanore of Old Bridge, who took home the Men's B Division championship and teamed with long-time partner Sam Munson to win the B Doubles crown.

Top prizes in each of the tournament's 18 divisions was a Windjammer Barefoot Cruise. Second place winners received Footjoy sneakers and all third-place winners took home Carrera sunglasses. In addition, over 180 other prizes were awarded throughout the tournament sponsored by Natural Light beer and the New Jersey Racquetball Association (NJRA). These included weekends for two at the Sand's Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City, Baronet wallets, Supreme Grips, Omega racquetball gloves, and Charlie Brumfield instructional tapes.

Men's Open: first, John Bierman, second, Bob Francavilla.

Men's A: first, Kevin Quarentello; second, John Sweetwood.

Men's B: first, Mike Vanore; second, Paul DeLuca.

Men's C: first, Dave Marten; Al Dunsavage.

Men's Novice: first, Don Skrocki; second Wayne Nelson.

Men's Veteran Open: first, Bill Wellaj; second, Willie Wong.

Men's Seniors: first, John Sergentanis; second, Len Wilson.

Men's Masters: first, Pete Talbot; second, Joe Kundel.

Men's Golden Masters: first, Bernie Pruzansky; second, Roberto Madan.

Men's Open Doubles: first, John Bierman/Al Horne; second, Lonnie Allgood/Glen Sorrento.

Men's B Doubles: first, Mike Vanore/Sam Munson; second, Kevin Quarentello/Bill O' Connor.

Mixed B Doubles: first, Madeline Moore/Bob Moran; second, Cheryl Goffus/Bill Wellaj.

Women's Open: first, Kathy Yard; second, Lia Marchini.

Women's A: first, Evelyn Thomas; second, Cheryl Goffus.

Women's B: first, Barbara Gitlin; second, Terry Gatarz.

Women's C: first, Mande Sudol; second Leslie Loprette.

Women's Novice: first Wendy Weil; second, Joann Tamburro.

Women's Veterans: first, Rosemary Donohue; second, Marilyn Scharfenberger.

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\$200,000 Catalina II Pro Classic Comes To New Haven, Conn.

By THOMAS J. MORROW

BURNSVILLE, Minn.—Some said it was the weather, others said it was the new ball, Marty Hogan might have considered a whirlwind four-day tour of Japan then flying directly to Minnesota's Twin Cities as the reason, but it could just be that competition in men's professional racquetball is getting so competitive that no one person can dominate any longer.

For the second straight tournament in this young season, four-time defending national champion Marty Hogan was ousted before getting to the final round, leaving the field clear to third-ranked Dave Peck of El Paso to take the top prize money in the second Catalina Pro-Am Racquetball Classic at the Burnsville Racquet Club near Minneapolis. Hogan may have been out of the competition after being upended by eighth-ranked Scott Hawkins of Santa Clara, Ca., but the sledding in this northland of snow wasn't easy for the 24-year-old Peck. He ran into a buzz saw in the finals against number seven-ranked Rich Wagner of San Diego. One of last year's pleasant surprises, Wagner, 25, rebounded from a low point of 21 after recovering from a serious auto accident during the 1979-80 season to finish in the top seven after the DP Leach Nationals in June.

There were three outstanding matches at the swank new Burnsville Racquet Club that week of Oct. 22-25. Jerry Hilecher, the

nation's number four-ranked player, replaced Steve Strandemo in the Catalina lineup. Strandemo, 34, one of the sport's most popular players, had to temporarily drop out of the competition due to a death in the family. Adding Hilecher provided the first exciting, down-to-the-wire match against Bret Harnett, the 18-year-old high school senior from Las Vegas, who managed to end up number 10 in the nation after a very respectable showing at the DP Leach Nationals in Tempe.

Not many Minnesotans had ever seen professional racquetball prior to the Catalina Classic. After Hilecher and Harnett were through on opening day, fans at the Burnsville Racquet Club had good idea of the excitement the game generates.

For more than two hours, the 27-year-old Hilecher rallied hit-for-hit with the younger Harnett. Hilecher left the youngster in the dust in the first of the four 11-point games, 11-2, but Harnett outscored the veteran four-points in the final three games to advance to the quarterfinal round, ending Hilecher's chances for a repeat tournament victory in the Catalina Series. (Hilecher won Catalina I in Westminster, defeating Mike Yellen.)

To Hilecher's credit, the lanky pro came back on Harnett six times, from a 10-4 deficit to tie the final game 10-10, before Harnett slammed the final point. The audience of some 400 spectators gave

the two pros a standing ovation. In the second outstanding match of the Catalina II tournament, Don Thomas of Mesa, Arizona, battled with Wagner for two hours in a see-sawing five-game match during the semifinal round on Saturday. Thomas, ranked fifth nationally, and Wagner, ranked seventh, were so evenly matched it looked as if only a coin toss would separate them. From the way both were playing during the semifinal match, it was a sad thing, indeed, for the loser as both men played excellent ball, giving each other courtesy and respect, but no measure. Long rallies were the order of the day with at least four going more than 20 exchanges.

Wagner fell short in the first game with Thomas, who recently married and is living in El Cajon, Ca., winning 11-4. Wagner, a native of Paterson, N.J., rebounded with two wins, 11-6, 11-3, but Thomas came slamming right back with an 11-5 win. The first and final game lasted as long as games three and four, with fantastic gets, returns and rallies by both players. With the score tied at 8-all, Wagner survived, winning 11-8, and both players received the second standing ovation of the tournament. Several fans came up to Thomas afterward, congratulating him on his outstanding play. It was the sort of match where no one should have lost. It was a heartbreaker for Thomas, who had gained great respect and confidence earlier in the tournament by eliminating a formidable number two-ranked Mike Yellen 11-10 in a quarterfinal tie-breaker.

In the second semifinal game, the fans expected an exciting shootout between Hawkins, who had ousted top-seeded Hogan in the quarters, and Peck, one of the game's strongest players. It was not to be, however, as Peck completely dominated the 20-year-old Santa Clara College student 11-2, 11-0 and 11-6.

In the final match, Peck was beginning to show signs of fatigue. He and Hogan flew directly into Minneapolis from their exhibition tour of Japan and the more-than 20 hours of flying time which took them half way around the world was beginning to show.

"I tried to keep on some kind of schedule when I was over there, but it was impossible," explained Peck during the tournament.

Peck played his first match one hour after landing at Minneapolis International Airport against the Catalina Midwest Regional Open Champion Paul Bakkan of Fergus Falls, Minn. He easily defeated the Twin Cities' favorite, 11-2, 11-1, 11-2.

"I was really flying high, I couldn't miss," said Peck. "It was the next day against Cohen that I nearly blew it."

Indeed, the 14th-ranked Cohen was playing excellent ball and it took Peck five games to take the quarterfinal round from the St. Louis pro. Cohen shut-out Peck in the third game of that match, 11-0.

The Japan tour nearly caught Peck with jet lag in that quarterfinal round. It did catch top-seed Marty Hogan as he fell to a highly competitive Hawkins in three games.

"By the finals, I was really dragging," explained Peck. "I was really tired against Wagner. My legs just wouldn't move."

It took Peck another five games to win against Wagner. He won the first two games with relative ease, but Wagner seemed to get the rhythm of the match and won the third

and fourth games 11-9, 11-1.

If the audience had been intrigued with the quality of play displayed by Hilecher-Harnett and Thomas-Wagner in earlier matches, they were certainly impressed with what went on in the final round.

The new AMF Voit Rollout Bleau, the Catalina Classic official ball, has brought back the rally to the game of professional racquetball. In the final game, Wagner and Peck were tied four times (2-2, 4-4, 6-6, and 8-8). With the game tied at 8-8, the two players exchanged the ball

25 times before Wagner managed a pass shot down the left side to Peck backhand.

It was during this final game that tempers began to flare. With first place paying \$5,500 and second place receiving \$3,500, what it boiled down to was the two pros, who are good friends off the court, were playing for \$2,000.

Both players were called for technicals with the score tied at 2-2, after a minor shoving match ensued. The play continued at a feverish pitch for the remainder of the game. It was as if two gladiators

were playing for their lives.

After Peck managed to pull away and win the final game and match at 11-8, the audience once again gave the two pros a standing ovation as a tribute to their intense play and quality racquetball performance.

"I really wasn't myself during any of that tournament and I certainly shouldn't have lost my temper like I did," said Peck afterward. "Rich (Wagner) is a helluva nice guy and a great racquetball player and, if I hadn't have been so tired, I would have really enjoyed playing

him more.

"I felt really good during this whole tournament," said Wagner. "I feel good about my game and I'm back where I was two years ago when I was ranked number two."

Wagner said the match with Peck was a tough one to lose, but he was able to prove to a lot of people that he is definitely back playing the quality of racquetball he used to before his accident.

The third stop on the \$200,000 Catalina Classic Series is the Downtown Racquet Club in New Haven, Conn., Nov. 19-22.

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When: January 16th & 23rd 1982 (if necessary the 30th)

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Entry Deadline Is Jan. 12, 1982.

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Make Money Order Payable to and Mail to: **Bronx Indoor Paddleball**, 1261 Zerega Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10461. Call 823-6100 between 10 & 4 and we'll send you a postage paid envelope.

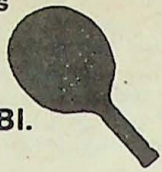
Mindful of the risks involved in my participation in the Castle Hill "B" Paddleball Tournament, I hereby release Castle Hill Beach Club and Bronx Indoor Paddleball and their offi-

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Proudly Presents Our Second Annual "Open Doubles Tournament"

WHEN: Nov. 21, 1981 Starting 5:30 P. M.
Nov. 28, 1981 Quarters, Semis and Finals 7 P.M.

WHERE: Southshore Paddleball Club

Entry Fee: 5.00 Per Player (4.00 per player For Southshore members)

Deadline: Nov. 17, 1981

Prizes: Trophies and Paddles to the First Four Teams, Trophies 5th Thru 9th

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Address _____ Address _____
_____ Zip _____ _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Phone _____

I (We) hereby release Southshore Paddleball Club and all parties involved in this tournament for any injury suffered while at this tournament site.

Signature _____
Date _____

Partner's Signature _____
Date _____

Court-Sports I & II

On October 16, 17 and 18 the first stop of the Westchester Court Clubs Championships was held at Winning Walls in Portchester.

The Championships, limited to members of Westchester Court Clubs, is a unique series of three tournaments, the first just held at Wining Walls, the second to be held at Pelham Health and Racquet in January of 1982 and the final leg at Court-Sports II (Yonkers) in March, 1982.

The series will feature a unique prize drawing system where all entrants are eligible to win prizes but players finishing highest in their divisions will have increased odds of winning prizes. The more one plays, the better their chances. Prizes will be taken from a pool of prizes donated by the participating clubs and from many generous sponsors. The current value of the

prize pool is estimated to be a whopping \$5000.00! Ticket drawing will be held at the end of the series.

At the first leg just held, close to 200 entrants competed in 22 divisions of play. Trophies were awarded to the first three places in each division. All entrants also received a LaCoste style collared tournament shirt as well as lots of free food and Natural Light Beer.

According to tournament director, Scotty Rogers, play was fierce in all divisions including the consolations. Mel Carozza, Manager of Winning Walls, and a founder of the series noted, "All in all everyone seemed to have a great time. Because of the enthusiastic response to this tournament I expect an even larger turnout for the next two." Congratulations to all winners! See you in Pelham in January.



Men's A division winners: Stan Fidler, Steve Shulman, Mike Clifford and Joe DeVito.



Women's Novice division winners: Maureen Donahue, Gail Paradise (program director) and Joyce Calabro.



Men's Novice winners: Jeff Zegna, George Casanova, Guy Suchy, Nick Alessi and Paul Urbinelli.



Men's C division winners: Tom Bleder, Joe Omboni, Frank Bosco and Tournament Director Guy Suchy.



Men's B division winners: Rene Meneses, Jim Schlichting, George Bardorf and 'Doc' Messina.

carr's corner

by Tony Carr & Patricia Bagwell

The weekend of October 23 saw players from PRHC, Winning Walls, and Court Sports I and II competing to see who would take the honors as having the best players. Some tough matches were won and lost that weekend and we were happy to make the acquaintance of some new competitors.

Archie Rupp, who beat Pat Columbo decisively in the Seniors, has been playing racquetball for 23 years! Archie hails from Greenwich, the home of racquetball. He played at the Greenwich YMCA with the originators of the game. Archie is smooth as silk on the court and a gentleman too.

Roxanne Docherty of PHRC took the Women's C's by winning every game she played against five opponents. Nice going, Roxanne!

Cornelius Hearn won the "55 and over" division. He devotes at least two hours a day to the game, and plays out of Winning Walls. Mr. Hearn is 56 years old and is also an old hand at racquetball; he's been playing for 20 years.

Joe Pergola of Court Sports I came in second in the Novice Division. Jay Ryan of Winning Walls took the Men's B.

Charlie Horton was smoking for

the whole tournament. He beat Paul Wicha of Court Sports in the Men's Open, and then teamed up with Pat Columbo in Open Doubles to win against Frank Bernardi and Richie DeVito of PRHC.

The Bellaflores brothers came in fourth in the B:C Doubles, losing to Mickey DeCarlo and Dan Bologna of Winning Walls. Joe Russo and Nick Stio took the B.C. Doubles from Charlie Cavallo and Charlie Horton in a hard fought contest.

Charlie Horton also beat Mike McDonough in an open tournament sponsored by WYMS Radio Station in North Dartmouth, Mass. Horton brought home the bacon—\$500.00 worth!!

Howie Tannenbaum of PHRC took first in the C's. He took it away from Niel Cohn from Glen Cove. Gary Schwartz from PHRC took the semis in the B's. Gary and Peter Francheschi took the consolation in Open Doubles. John Poodle took consolation in 35 to 45 years of age. Steve DiGiamcomo, who was our host at the bar, dispensed with all the drinks for the tournament; Steve kept everyone happy!! Bob Burke lost consolation in the B.C. Doubles.

And everyone's favorite racquetball player at PHRC, Emilia Mozian, won Women's Consolation in the Novice Division.

Scott Rogers and Mel Carrozza, with much help from Kitty Jacobs and Elaine DeGiacomo, put together a terrific tournament at Winning Walls. Paul Wicha and Bob Anderson are co-directing this three part tournament.

Alcure's Delicatessen in Harrison provided the never-ending hero sandwich. Natural Light provided all the brew; Paul Masson provided the wine and some prizes and last but certainly not least Ektelon provided their Speedflight ball. Also contributing are Carrera, Foot-Joy, Head, AMF Voit, SAI.

Look for the second leg of the tournament in January 1982, to be held at Pelham.

It was all over but the shouting at the Superstars Award Dinner on September 10 at PHRC. All the Superstars and their wives or girlfriends attended and brought food

enough to feed an army. The winning team, "The Four Sleepers," graciously accepted their plaques. Team members were Ed Gonzalez, Dave Bellaflores, Steve Radosti and Captain Frank Bernardi. Steve made a moving speech attributing the team's success to Frank's tough leadership. Ed Gonzalez picked up the MVP Award. Ed is a relative newcomer to PHRC, and he is an exciting guy to watch on the court. We hope to see Ed competing more and more.

Second Place team was "Bottom O' the Barrell" captained by Mike Aquino, with members Jon Carsman, Dave Feinstein and Joe Hocht.

Third Place went to "The Mutts." Captain was Peter Francheschi; members were Gary Schwartz, Dave Catena and Ralph Nieves.

Fourth Place went to "The Runts." Team Captain was Steve Gifford, with Danny Archetti, Jerry Geller and Joe Saldiveri.

Some creative awards were given to various players, too. Dom Parise received the Crying Towel. Joe Bellaflores got the Doughnut Award. Most Improved Player was given to Mike Nieves whose game is improving in leaps and bounds. Louie Faiella, Pelham's Resident Poet, got the Best Effort Award. Dave Catena went home with an armful of trophies. Not only did Dave win a team award for third



1st Place in P.H.R.C. "Summer Super Stars," (left to right) Ed Gonzalez, Joe Bellaflores, Steve Radosti and Frank Bernardi, the team captain.

place, but he was given both the Moral Booster and Chump of the Year. We always said Dave had a split personality.

We have to thank Terry and Jeanne Ende for providing a whole summer's worth of racquetball excitement at PHRC. Their efforts in the organization of the league and their unceasing interest during the course of the ten weeks of matches are truly appreciated.

We'd like to give a hearty welcome to new Night Manager at Pelham, Sam Borrer. Also, Ann Chardavoyne, mother of up and coming player Peter, has joined

Pelham as activities coordinator. Ann's only been at Pelham a short while, and already the place is jumping with new leagues and forays into other sports such as running, soccer and basketball.

Pelham has expanded its teaching staff to bring its members the opportunity to improve their skills. The pro staff includes Bob Anderson, Sam Borrer, Pete Chardavoyne, Karen Kimmerling, Valerie Paese, and Richie Stevenson.

We'd like to bring you another ode to racquetball by Louie Faiella to close our column. 'Til next time, keep rolling 'em out.



Valerie Paese, one of Pelham's Pros, will be representing her club at the Westchester Club Tournament.



Ed Gonzalez, M.V.P.



Dave Catina, "Triple Threat Man."

George McFadden's PADDLE SPORTS Health Club

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PECK TOPS WAGNER TO TAKE MINNEAPOLIS PRO STOP

SAN DIEGO, CA (Oct. 29, 1981)—Circumstances dictated the Minneapolis Pro Stop of the Catalina Classic Series should not have been a positive one for David Peck.

After all, hadn't racquetball's third-ranked pro spent the previous week in Japan playing exhibitions with Marty Hogan? Wouldn't the severe time change make a night and day difference in Peck's racquetball game? And didn't Peck crawl into Minneapolis from a cross-country connecting flight just one hour before his first match?

Yes, to all the above. However, the El Paso pro ignored the elements, rallied past three early opponents, then went on to defeat upstart Rich Wagner 11-6, 11-10, 9-11, 1-11, 11-8 to capture the \$5,500 first prize check in the \$18,000 Catalina Classic II stop in suburban Burnsville, Minn., recently.

"When I was in Japan I tried to keep on some kind of schedule," said Peck, "but it was impossible. Between the exhibitions, the time change, the food and the customs, both Marty and I really got out of synch. And when we got back, we really got socked with jet lag."

After opening with rather easy first rounds over local qualifiers, Peck and Hogan's body clocks almost stopped working on the second day. Hogan never quite recovered. He was upset by Peck's Ekteion teammate Scott Hawkins 11-8, 11-9, 11-6, marking the third straight tournament the four-time Champion has failed to reach the finals.

Peck was a bit more fortunate. It

took him five games before he outlasted Doug Cohen 7-11, 11-9, 0-11, 11-3, 11-1.

"The hardest part of the whole tournament was that match," said Dave. "I was dying."

The following evening Peck recovered long enough to ease past a skittery Hawkins in three games, 11-2, 11-0, 11-6, advancing to the finals against Wagner, an upset winner over Don Thomas.

Thomas, in the last of a rash of tournament upsets, had beaten Mike Yellen in the quarter finals. Earlier upsets included Brett Harnett's first-round victory over Jerry Hilecher.

But Peck was making sure against Hawkins. "I thought Scotty played a bit nervously, too," said Dave. "He was missing a few shots and I was fortunate enough to make mine."

In the finals, however, Peck once again contracted a severe case of slumberitis. "I don't know what happened," he said of his long, five-game victory. "I was dead tired. My legs just didn't want to move."

"This tournament was the hardest adjustment I've ever had to make," he added. "I had to learn to pace myself and relax."

Peck added the new Catalina tournament format—best of five games to 11 points—has been a lesson in anything but relaxation for him.

"I like the old 21 point games because I would always try to win in two and you could cruise through certain periods of the games. And, as most everyone knows, I haven't had the greatest success in tie-breakers.

"I have to concentrate all the time now. This new format has been a real challenge for me."

Especially considering the circumstances.

Leach National Championships

LONG BEACH—Four-time defending national racquetball champion Marty Hogan of San Diego defeated arch-rival Dave Peck of El Paso Saturday evening, Sept. 5, in a special \$10,000 Winner-Take-All Challenge match sponsored by the Long Beach Athletic Club and DP Leach Industries of San Diego.

The special match up between the world's two best pro racquetball players was the kick-off for the 1981-82 men's pro tour, featuring the \$200,000 Catalina Pro-Am Racquetball Series which opened in Westminster, CA, Sept. 24-27. The first of the seven-stop Catalina series was the \$25,000 Catalina Classic at the King's Court at I-405 and Golden West Street Westminster.

In the special challenge match, the first ever for pro racquetball, Hogan and Peck initiated the new 11-point, best three-out-of-five game match using the new AMF Voit Rollout Blue racquetball, the official game format and ball for the Catalina tour.

Peck struck fast to take an early advantage, downing the champion 11-8, but Hogan rallied to take the second game 11-8, tying the match. Peck took the third game 11-7, but Hogan bounced right back, clobbering the 24-year-old Texan 11-4 and 11-2, to claim the \$10,000.

The Athletic Club arena was sold out with standing-room-only, with many of the 300 fans paying as much as \$100 to see the game. Adding to the spectator interest was the slower-moving ball which is designed to attract more fan interest. The slower AMF Voit Rollout also attracted a television production company, which taped the entire match for possible syndication.

The Catalina series will consist of six regional \$25,000 events, culminating with the Catalina Championship next April worth \$50,000.

The Catalina tour will feature 12 top-ranked pros, led by Hogan and Peck, who will compete with four regional finalists for the \$25,000 prize money in each of the tour stops. The six regionals include: Westminster; Minneapolis, Minn.;

New Haven, Conn.; Memphis, Tenn.; Honolulu, Hawaii and Beaverton, Ore. The Catalina \$50,000 Championship is tentatively scheduled for New York City next April. Linked with the \$25,000 Kunnan-DP Leach Tournament of Champions and the \$100,000 DP Leach Open National Championship, the Catalina series helps make the 1981-82 pro racquetball season the richest ever in the eight-year history of the sport.

People



Larry Gozlay of Sportcraft



Platform tennis champ, Doug Russel



Francine Davis for AMF Voit

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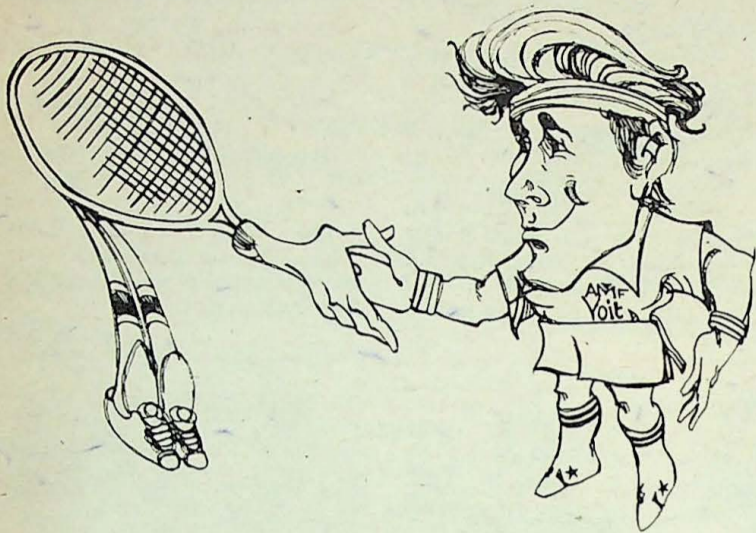


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introduce yourself to a racquet.



Racquetball's a very cordial sport. You get started by shaking hands with your racquet. This automatically gives you a good forehand grip. Just be sure your thumb and forefinger form a "V" on the top of the handle, and you're in business. And *always* be sure the thong is around your wrist for safety.

To stroke the ball for a good forehand, get your racquet back high. Keep your eye on the ball at all times.

Step into the ball, hitting it in front of you and putting your weight into the shot. Be sure to give it a really strong wrist snap.

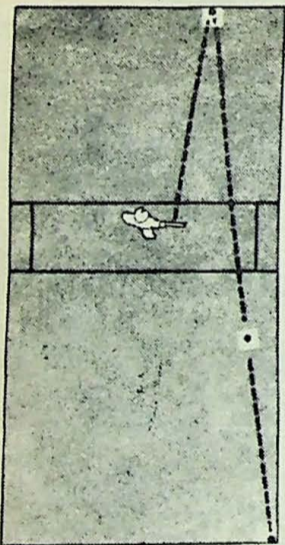
That's really about all you need to know to get into the action. However, as your game improves and your skills increase, you'll want to learn a variety of shots. See page 9 for details on backhand and ceiling shots.

THE SERVE—WHERE ALL THE ACTION BEGINS.

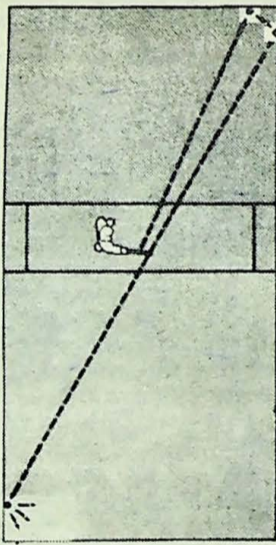
Stand in the service area and keep to the middle of the court so you're ready to field your opponent's return shot.

The serve is like the forehand shot, except you wait for the ball to bounce up off the floor after you drop it. When the ball reaches its peak, start to swing. Beginners should make contact with the ball when it is about at waist level. After you hit the ball, be sure to follow through smoothly until the racquet has reached your opposite shoulder.

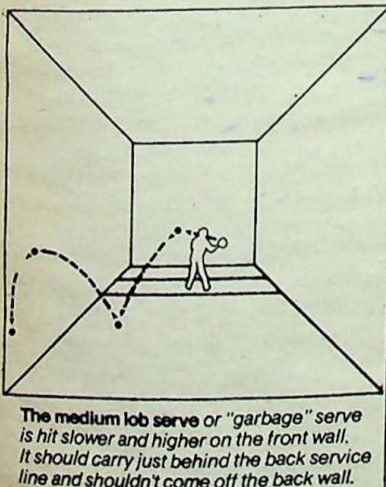
Here are the four basic serves. The low drive is the most common and is an offensive, fast-paced serve. Using lob serves will help slow the game when you want to relax a bit or when you're on the defensive.



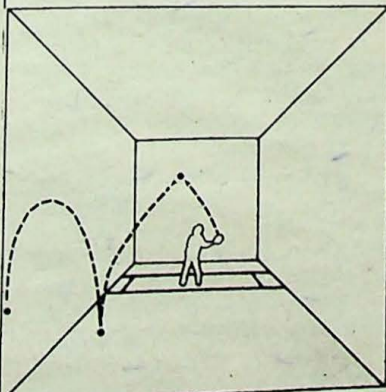
The drive serve is a fast, low-hit ball aimed at either of the back court corners. Your opponent really has to hustle to get this one.



The Z serve is hit hard and confuses the competition because the ball quickly changes direction. Hit the ball so it strikes the front wall as close to the side wall as possible. The ball then bounces off the side wall, crosses the court in the air, then bounces again just before reaching the opposite side wall.



The medium lob serve or "garbage" serve is hit slower and higher on the front wall. It should carry just behind the back service line and shouldn't come off the back wall.



The high lob serve is like the medium lob, except that you hit it a few feet higher on the front wall. The ball touches the side wall as it comes down, but shouldn't hit the back wall.

Westchester Court Club Championships—Winning Walls Racquetball Club Oct. 16, 17, 18

FINAL RESULTS

MENS A

1. Charlie Horton Jr.; Winning Walls
2. Paul Wicha; Court Sports
3. Conso. Joe Cicco

MENS B

1. Jay Ryan; Winning Walls
 2. Arnold Frumin; Winning Walls
 3. Bill Uhlfelder; Winning Walls
- Conso. Ed B.B. Peluso; Winning Walls

MENS C

1. Howie Tannenbaum; Pelham
 2. Neil Cohen; Pelham
 3. Ron Schmulewitz; Pelham
- Conso. Rich Tuttle; Winning Walls

MENS NOVICE

1. Bob Simpson; Court Sports
 2. Joe Pergola; Court Sports
 3. Sal Riccardi; Pelham
- Conso. Bruce Smith; Winning Walls

MENS OPEN DOUBLES

1. Horton Jr./Columbo; Winning Walls
 2. DeVito/Bernardi; Pelham
 3. Present/Freifeld; Pelham
- Conso. Schwartz/Franceschi; Pelham

MENS B/C DOUBLES

1. Russo/Stio; Pelham
 2. Cavallo/Horton Sr.; Winning Walls
 3. DeCarlo/Bologna; Winning Walls
- Conso. Purdy/Madigan; Winning Walls

WOMEN'S NOVICE

1. Maria Poulton; Winning Walls
 2. Margie Walker; Winning Walls
 3. Sylvia Borrero; Pelham
- Conso. Emilia Mozian; Pelham

MENS SENIORS

1. Archie Rupp; Winning Walls
 2. Pat Colombo; Winning Walls
 3. Ed Horton; Winning Walls
- Conso. John LaSpina; Pelham

MENS MASTERS

1. Nat Finkel; Jefferson Valley
2. Jim Schlichting; Court Sports
3. Peter Gianukakis; Winning Walls

MENS GOLDEN MASTERS

1. Neil Hearn; Winning Walls
2. Saal Lesser; Pelham

BOYS 13 & UNDER

1. Milk Smith; Jefferson Valley
2. Patrick Bavey; Pelham
3. Robbie Thorne; Winning Walls

BOYS 15 & UNDER

1. John Gianukakis; Winning Walls
2. Gerry Lee; Pelham
3. Alan Riffken; New Rochelle

BOYS 17 & UNDER

1. Nolan Glantz; Winning Walls
2. Sean Davey; Pelham
3. Kevin Lee; Pelham

WOMENS B

1. Janet Cain; Winning Walls
2. Ilene Wald; Pelham

WOMENS C

1. Roxanne Docherty; Pelham
2. Beth Schilkruat; New Rochelle
3. Teri Russo; Winning Walls

Connecticut Classic Oct. 10-11

MAIN DRAW SEMIFINALS
MAIER & TULLY def.
KINNY & WACHOB 6-0, 6-3

GRIFFIN & SMITH def.
JENNINGS & WHITE 6-2, 6-3

MAIN DRAW FINALS
MAIER & TULLY def.
GRIFFIN & SMITH 6-2, 5-7, 7-5

REGIONAL SEMIFINALS
CAMPBELL & DONALDSON def.
FLOREN & PETERS 6-2; 6-1

HEALY & NAFF def. PAIGE &
RIPPEY 6-3, 4-6, 6-4

REGIONAL FINALS
CAMPBELL & DONALDSON def.
HEALY & NAFF 6-0, 6-1



Lynn Adams
Advisory Staff Professional

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DATES: Thursday, November 19—Sunday, November 22, 1981

PLACE: Downtown Racquet Club, 230 George St., New Haven, CT 06510

SCHEDULE:

Thursday, Round of 16 Beginning at 10:30 a.m.
Friday, Quarter-Finals Beginning at 2 p.m.
Saturday, Semi-Finals Beginning at 6 p.m.
Sunday, Finals Beginning at 2 p.m.

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_____ Daily Tickets @ \$13/day

_____ Thursday _____ Saturday

_____ Friday _____ Sunday

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American Amateur Racquetball Assoc. Results

The Doubles team of Ed Andrews and Mark Martino, CA upset three time defending National Doubles Champions, Jeff Kwartler and Mark Malowitz of Houston, TX 21-4, 14-21, 15-3 in the Men's Open finals of the 13th Annual American Amateur Racquetball Association's National Doubles Championships held this year in Monroeville, PA at the Racquet Club.

A.A.R.A.'s 1981 Woman of the

Year, Carol Frenck, VA teamed with Andrea Katz also of VA to sweep the Women's Open division in the finals 21-8, 21-5.

Over 240 teams competed in 14 divisions of play October 22-25. These Championships were sponsored by Penn Athletic Products Co. and Lite Beer from Miller.

Results

Men's Open: 1) Ed Andrews (CA)/Mark Martino (CA) defeated 2) Mark Malowitz (TX)/Jeff Kwartler

(TX) 21-4, 14-21, 15-3. 3) Mitch Buckler (PA)/Al Plummer (PA) defeated 4) Jack Newman (IL)/Brian Sheldon (TN) 21-18, 17-21, 15-7. Consolation winners were C.C. Melvin (MI)/Ed Melvin (MI).

Men's B: 1) Ralph Worthington (NY)/Tom Ackerman (NY) defeated 2) Bob Becker (PA)/Gerry Hall (PA) 21-16, 21-19. Consolation winners were Lee Backston (MD)/Mark Baron (MD).

Men's 30 +: 1) Larry Liles

(TN)/John Hennen (TN) defeated 2) Bruce Radford (CA)/Jon Woodard (CA) 21-18, 18-21, 15-13. 3) Carlos Nieves (TX)/Arvil Noel (TX) won by forfeit from 4) Ed Remen (VA)/Gene Gibbs (ID). Consolation winners were Dennis Sbrega (NY)/Barry Russell (NY).

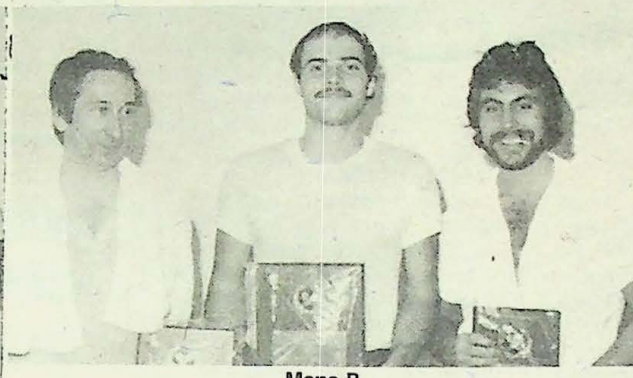
Men's 35 +: 1) Rip Miller (PA)/Harry Miller (PA) defeated 2) Mark Wayne (CA)/Jerry Davis (OH) 21-15, 21-19. 3) Steve Meitsner (CT)/Bill Risley (CT) won by forfeit from 4)

Jim Autisn (TX)/Bill Schmidtke (MI). Consolation winners were Leo Fonseca (NJ)/Herman Neumier (NY).

Men's 40 +: 1) Bud Muehleisen (CA)/Myron Roderick (OK) defeated 2) Jim Austin (TX)/Bill Schmidtke (MI) 16-21, 21-18, 15-8. Charlie Wickham (NC)/Pete Talbot (NJ) defeated 4) Mark Wayne (CA)/Jerry Davis (OH) 8-21, 21-12, 15-13. Consolation winners were Bernie Neilson (IN)/Bob Sheldon (OH).



Open Doubles
1st Horton/Columbo (L) 2nd DeVito/Benardi (R)



Mens B
1st Jay Ryan (Middle) 2nd Arnold Frumin (L)
3rd Bill Uhlfelder (R)



B/C Doubles
1st Russo/Stio (R) 2nd Cavallo/Horton (L)



Womens Novice
1st Maria Poulton (R) 2nd Margie Walker (L)



Mens C
1st Howie Tannenbaum 2nd Neil Cohen (R)



Womens C
1st Roxanne Docherty (L)
2nd Beth Schilkrufat (R)



Mens Seniors
1st Archie Rupp (R) 2nd Pat Columbo (L)



Boys 17 & Under
1st Nolan Glantz (C) 2nd Sean Davey 3rd Kevin Lee



Mens Open
1st Charlie Horton Jr. (R) 2nd Paul Wicha (L)



Boys 15 & Under
1st John Gianukakis (C) 2nd Gerry Lee
3rd Alan Riffken

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AMF Voit Rollout Bleu Named Official Ball For Richest Racquetball Tournament

Santa Ana, CA—The AMF Voit Rollout Bleu racquetball has been named the official ball for the richest racquetball tournament in the history of the sport—the \$325,000 1981-82 Catalina Racquetball Classic. The agreement was signed by James Norris, executive vice president of AMF Voit, Inc. of Santa Ana, Edward Murphy, president of Catalina Menswear and Charles Drake, president of Leach Industries, tournament sponsors.

"A tournament of this magnitude will probably bring out the best competitive racquetball in the country," Norris pointed out. He added, "AMF Voit is proud that the Rollout Bleu has been named the official ball for the tour and we are confident that it will add to the competitive excitement of the matches."

The tournament, which runs in Westminister, California Septem-

ber 24-27, consists of six regional competitions of \$25,000 each; a regional final of \$50,000; the annual Leach-Kunnan Tournament of Champions in Coral Gables, Florida; and the annual DP Leach National Finals in New York next April.

In all of these tournaments, the new, more lively Rollout Bleu, designed for the most competitive rebounding action, will be the official ball in play.

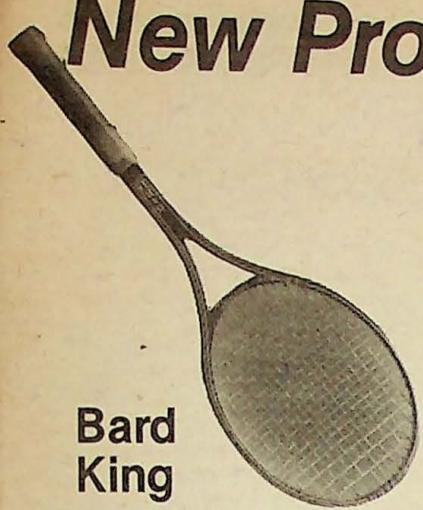
Play will be tough. Twelve top-ranked national pros, headed by defending champion Marty Hogan of San Diego, will be competing. Joining Hogan are: Dave Peck, number two on the tour, El Paso, Texas; Mike Yellen, Southfield, Michigan; Rich Wagner, San Diego; John Egerman, Boise, Idaho; Bret Harnett, Las Vegas; Don Thomas, Mesa, Arizona; Craig McCoy, Riverside, California; Steve Strandemo, San Diego; Dave Fleetwood, Memphis; Gregg Peck, El Paso, Texas,

and Doug Cohen, St. Louis.

The competition is based on a 16-player rotation in order to include four local qualifiers in each region. The Catalina Regional competitions will be held in Westminster, Calif., Minneapolis, Minn., New Haven, Conn., Memphis, Tenn., Beaverton, Ore., Portland, Ore. and Honolulu, Hawaii.

AMF Voit, Inc. is a leading manufacturer of indoor and outdoor sporting and athletic equipment. In addition to a comprehensive racquetball equipment line, the 50-year-old company manufactures and markets team and individual sports products and is also the world's largest manufacturer of inflatable balls.

For more information regarding the 1981-82 Catalina Classic or AMF Voit products, contact AMF Voit, Inc., 3801 South Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, CA 92704, or phone (714) 546-4220.



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MATERIALS: The King is made of 100 percent aerospace quality carbon graphite fibers. These extra strong fibers provide excellent power and superior control for all players.

MANUFACTURER'S COMMENTS: The Bard King is a newly designed oversize racquet. At less than 12 ounces its lighter weight provides quick response for power and control, and the extra large hitting area makes the racquet perfect for beginners through advanced players. The Bard King is handcrafted in the United States to meet our quality control standards.

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The Jordache Look Is A-OK

ATTENTION all paddleball and racquetball players, enthusiasts, "groupies" and "lookers on". What will the fashion conscious best dressed paddle and racquet sports people be wearing this winter?

Shirts—we know so. Shorts—we sure hope so. Athletic Shoes/Sneakers—most definitely. Is there more? Of course.

This winter "Jordache", the leading designer of fashion clothes will introduce their new down-insulated high fashion winter sports outerwear. A new designer line of fully insulated lightweight top quality nylon jackets and vests offering maximum warmth and comfort as well as style. The "Jordache" down-line will consist of many styles and colors to choose from.

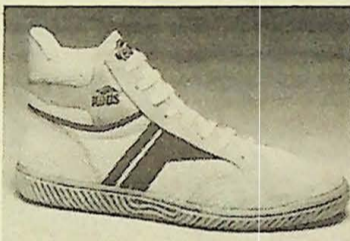
Jim Amick, Secretary/Marketing Manager of A OK Sports, Inc., who was responsible for securing the Jordache line for the new sales and marketing company, indicated that the A OK sales staff will be out there selling the new Jordache winter sports garments to every first class retail store in the territory!

Art Orloski, President of A OK, announced that he and Mike Vance, National Sales Manager of Jordache "Down East", will introduce the new fashion line to all his sales reps at a special merchandise meeting which will be held at A OK Sports headquarters in Chicago. Orloski also hinted that several new/old sales pro's will be joining the company and at-

tending the meeting.

Marv Konowitz, Vice President of A OK and National Account Specialist/N.Y. Territory, advised Wallbanger that every major retail chain store buyer, fine sporting goods stores and speciality shops will receive a "personal" presentation of the new Jordache winter sports outerwear line within the next several weeks. Marv also remarked, "We have a proven winner with Jordache and we are all dedicated to establishing this super-fine line as "The Greatest" in the sporting goods/sportswear industry!"

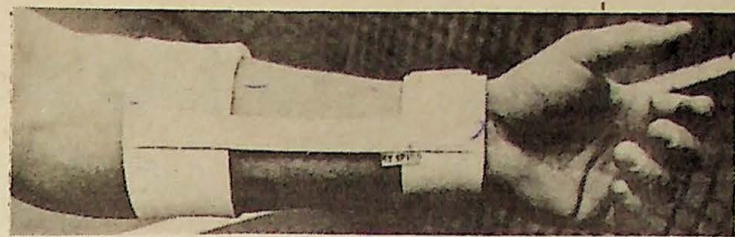
Currently in the process of securing lines for representation, A OK Sports, Inc., can be contacted at (516) 764-8355 (N.Y.), (312) 640-7120 (Chicago) or (313) 477-6132 (Detroit). Sporting Goods manufacturers and independent sales agents who may be interested in working with this new company can call or write A OK Sports, Inc., Box 266, Mt. Prospect, Illinois 60056



Keds Hi-Cut

The Keds Corporation is featuring a line of performance racquetball shoes for men and women. Each of the styles features a durable rubber outsole with a Keds exclusive suction waffle and bar pattern designed specifically for racquetball.

The Combat Hi-Cut is a U-throat style with nylon mesh and suede leather uppers. It offers a fully padded collar for comfort and a suede leather toe cap which extends beyond the eyestays and a reinforced heel counter for support. Half sizes: 6 1/2-12, 13, 14, Medium width. Suggested Retail Price: \$34.00



Spiro Tennis Elbow Splint

Why the Spiro Tennis Elbow Splint? The Spiro Tennis Elbow Splint is exclusively designed for the patient who complains of elbow pain when: playing tennis, working construction or performing any tasks that require the arm to be extended when force is applied.

While we do not claim that the Spiro Tennis Elbow Splint will cure epicondylitis it will enable your patient to continue playing tennis (or perform other activities) without pain. The splint will, in addition, help prevent tennis elbow if used prior to the time the symptoms become apparent.

How does it work? The Spiro Tennis Elbow Splint relieves the pain of tennis elbow utilizing a

specially engineered alloy bar which absorbs shock and trauma that would normally travel up the arm.

"Basically, the primary cause of tennis elbow is micro tears of the extension muscles which are located just below the elbow. The splint is placed on the forearm at the wrist and below the elbow to secure and support the forearm muscles. The alloy bar also prevents slippage and reduces the vibration from off center hits." (Tennis Tips by Andy Briant, United States Professional Tennis Association, Head Tennis Pro).

For further information: Spiro Orthopedic, Leaders in Sport-medicine Products, 1320 N.W. 119th Street, Miami, Florida 33167.

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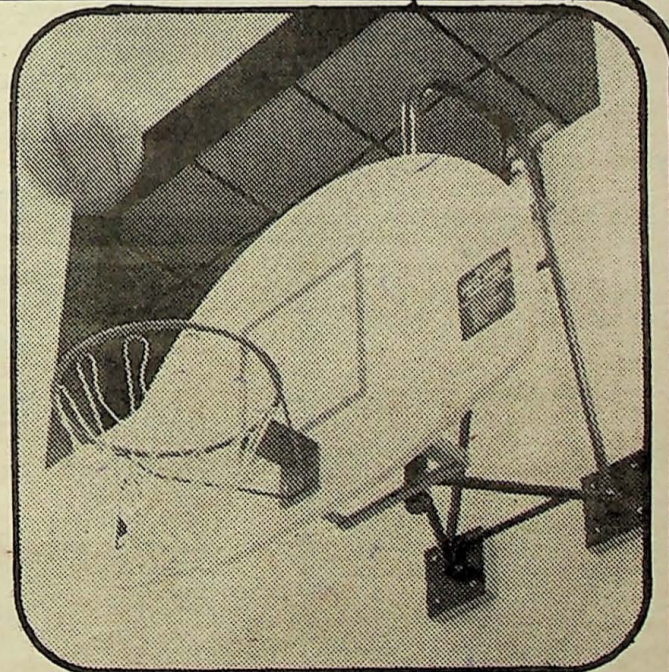
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Diving: The Do's And Don't

by Mike Yellen

Editor's Note: Yellen, 21, finished the 1980-81 season ranked second on the men's pro racquetball tour. A fine teacher, he is a valued member of the Ektelon advisory staff.)

Practice, practice, practice.

How true those commercial-ending words of Steve Mizerak really are, whether it's shooting pool or playing racquetball. There is no substitute for practice in sports. Not if you want to win.

Most of you have read racquetball instructionals where writers end in-depth stories saying how unless you work at the shot, don't expect to master it.

In most cases, that's true. But in racquetball, there is one aspect of the game that doesn't physically or fundamentally lend itself to practice—and that's diving for a shot.

Diving for a racquetball is an action/reaction type thing. You don't plan it. It just happens. Usually, you're caught off guard, or off balance. The only chance you have to keep the ball in play is to hit the floor and hope for the best.

It's the type of situation no one really wants to practice. I mean, floor burns and scraped knees aren't bad in competition, but by yourself on a court somewhere? Think again.

But for all of the above, let's not think diving can't be an important part of your game. As my Ektelon teammate Dave Peck can tell you, it can make a difference in who collects checks and who doesn't.

First of all, if you're diving a lot, something is definitely wrong with your game. You're giving your opponent too many setup shots, you're getting caught in "no man's land" in front court, or you're just plain out of position.

But if your positioning is correct and you have to hit the hardwood, there are certain points to remember.

Point No. 1: Diving is a defensive shot. You are trying to stay in the point, or game. That means almost all the time, your goal is to get the ball to the ceiling. That will allow you time to recover.

In rare instances—within 20 feet or so of the frontwall—you may want to try for a kill. That just depends on your skill level, the speed of the shot, and how dangerous you want to live.

The shot itself is not difficult, only, at times, painful. The most important point is to keep your racquet hand up and out in front of you. The racquet face should be up to help get the ball to the ceiling, the racquet out in front to get the ball quicker.

Since court floors aren't known for their sliding surface, when you dive, try and land on your chest, not your knees. Use your free hand to balance your body and keep you up off the floor as much as possible.

The only real question that's left is, "When do I dive?" For my money, as little as possible. Somebody like Jerry Hilecher or Steve Serot has made a career out of going to the floor. And while Jerry is still playing well, in my mind Serot's decision to play every ball out has in the long run hurt his career.

Don't dive if the score is 0-0, 3-2, or 6-5 in the first or second game to

21. Dive when it's 9-9 in the tie-breaker, or 17-15 with the game on the line.

The reason I say this is, as mentioned, injuries. I've seen many players dislocate a shoulder or break a wrist sliding into a side-wall. Davey Bledsoe received a concussion one time after hitting a wall. After all, many times the head is the first thing that makes con-

tact.

Once you have made the decision to dive, you can't rest on the floor (as much as you would like to). You have to spring up, find the ball, and prepare to play your opponent's next shot (often a kill). A common mistake by most players is congratulating themselves on a dive shot well hit, then turning around to a point that's just about

over. Remember, react!

The final two things that can help you with diving (without practicing) are anticipating and agility. As you mature as a player, a sixth sense develops where you can almost anticipate that you're going to have to hit the floor to return a certain shot. Don't waste time thinking too long. Do it. Then scramble to your feet.

Agility exercises will help in your diving and recovery time. Skipping rope, running drills within the court, anything that improves quickness and coordination will help.

All that's really left then, is to win the game. Because if you have to dive during a game, it's always nice to see your opponent going down when it's over.

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