

# RacquetSport player

VOLUME FOUR NUMBER

NOV/DEC 1985

## 9th Annual Long Island Open



- \$2,000  
A/B Challenge
- Sportcraft  
Paddleball
- Ruben Gonzalez  
vs.  
Marty Hogan
- RB Memories
- Paddle Sport  
Championships

Plus — Fran Davis,  
Russ Mannino, Charlie Garfinkel,  
Jim Winterton and more.

AGE TWO • PAGE TWO • PAGE TWO • PAGE TWO  
 AGE TWO • PAGE TWO • PAGE TWO • PAGE TWO

**Racquetsport Calendar  
 Racquetball**

Dec. 6, 7, 8 — Bally Open, Tilton RB Club, N.J.  
 Dec. 13, 14, 15 — Ricochet RB 1st Christmas Open, N.J.  
 Jan. 24, 25, 26 — N.J. State Mixed Doubles Championship at the Atlantic Club, N.J.  
 Feb. 7, 8, 9 — Ricochet Winter Classic, Rocochet RB Club, N.J.  
 Dec. 7, 8, 9 — N.Y.C. Championship  
 Feb. 14, 15, 16 N.Y. State Championship

**RMA Pro Tour Stops**

Dec. 11 - 15 Gold River Winter Classic. Gold River RB Club, Rancho Cordova, Ca. \$15,000 (916) 638-7001  
 Jan. 15 - 19 Arizona Athletic Club, Tempe Az. \$15,000 (602) 894-2281

Dec. 6 - 8 — Suffolk Open — Royal RB (516) 732-5500  
 Dec. 26 - 29 Sportset Junior Open, Syoset Club, Syoset, N.Y.

**Paddleball**

Dec. 7 AM Singles at PSHC (718) 738-3535  
 Dec. 15 Pro Singles at PSHC (718) 738-3535  
 Dec. 7 AM Doubles at Bx Indoor (212) 863-1670  
 Dec. 14 Open Singles at Bx Indoor (212) 863-1670

**From The Editor**

On behalf of the Staff of Racquetsport Player and  
 holiday season and a great new

To our sponsors and advertisers who kept us going all  
 year, thanks again for your support. Without you we  
 would never have made it.

To the tournament directors who sent us their  
 results—Thank You! To the ones that didn't!!?#!.

To our writers, The "Gar," Jim Winterton, Fran  
 Davis, Russ Mannino, Pat Bagwell and my wife Diane  
 you're the GREATEST!

Alan Belofsky  
 Editor

**In Response To The  
 "Gar"**

After many years of reading, watching, chatting, but mostly hearing about the "Gar," I must compliment him on some of the funniest material I have ever read in any sports publication.

His wit and humor is vividly expressed in the October issue of RacquetSport Player on his response to a previous article written about him by Jim Winterton.

All great, or even good athletes in any sport must have some conceit in their bones. But if I had vic-

tories over several national racquetball champions and have been a dominating force in several divisions nationally for almost 20 years, I'd be just a little conceited also. Well, maybe not conceited, but at least cockey!

I think Mr. Charlie Garfinkel has a lot to be proud of and anytime he can tell one of his stories to a publication like RacquetSport Player, it's refreshing material. Personally, I've always looked forward to meeting the "Gar" in a tournam-

ment, but the few times we've been at the same event, either our divisions are different or I just don't get far enough through the draw.

However, the only thing the "Gar" or Jim Winterton left out was the address of the "Gars" fan club. Rumor has it that the address may be in a future issued of RSP. If the waiting list isn't too long, or the cost to steep, I'm seriously considering joining it!

Russ Mannino, Narrows RB Club  
 Bklyn, N.Y.

**Seasons Greetings**



Feliz Navidad  
 y  
 Buen Ano Nuevo  
 Ray Gaston (PPPA)

Thanks to Ektelon, Foot  
 Joy and Sundown Clubs for  
 a great year!

Jim Winterton

Happy Holidays from all of  
 us to all of you.  
 Astoria Paddleball

To all our sponsors, thank  
 you for your support. To all  
 our members, may all your  
 serves be Aces!

Al Seitelman (AARA)

To Richie: Merry Christmas,  
 You're BAD, BAD, BAD,  
 BAD, BAD!!!

Love—Cupcake

The Mt. Vernon Paddleball  
 Championship extends Sea-  
 sons Greetings to the Pad-  
 dleball community and its  
 sponsors who faithfully sup-  
 port our Paddleball  
 tradition.

Michael Patnick  
 Tournament Director

To Ektelon, Nike and  
 Tacki—Mac, A Great Big  
 Thank You! Your support  
 has made me the LEGEND  
 THAT I AM!

Charlie "The Great Gar"  
 Garfinkel

(Formerly "The Gar")

To all N.Y. RB Players who  
 participate in N.J. Tournam-  
 ents. I wish you a very  
 happy holiday and new year.  
 Hope to see you rolling them  
 out in the Garden State next  
 year!

Jon Denley  
 N.J. A.A.R.A. State Director

**Paddleball  
 on  
 the Radio?**

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 tion from callers about their favor-  
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# MARTY HOGAN WINS THE FIRST PRO STOP IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL

'Ruben vs. Hogan in Finals

OK, maybe at 28-years-old the victories don't come as convincingly as they did at a time when he won 21 pro tournaments in a row. There's a little less flair in the process, and a lot more competition along the way, but still Marty Hogan has a way of winning big tournaments even when he has to hang on by his fingernails to do it.

Hogan's latest victory-notch number 55 on his racquet for those who keep track of such things-came in the third stop of the 1985-86 RMA Pro Tour, the \$15,000 Organina/Head Pro-Am at the Crystal Racquet and Health Club in Arlington, Virginia, October 2-6. The win was Hogan's second of the season, and thrust him far into the lead as the number-one-ranked player in the men's game.

It was one of the hardest-fought titles Marty has ever earned. After barely surviving two down-to-the-wire matches in the round-of-32 and quarter-finals, Hogan was stretched to the limit by surprise finalist Ruben Gonzalez of Staten

Island, New York before finally prevailing, 8-11, 10-11, 11-7, 11-2, 11-8. The marathon battle matched two of the best retrievers in the game, and was easily the most breathtaking final thus far this season.

The match was capped with one of the most stunning displays of sportsmanship ever seen on the men's tour. With Hogan serving at match point and Gonzalez trailing by only two, Ruben ended a furious rally with a mid-court forehand kill, called good by referee Corey Brysman. Instead of stepping up to serve, however, Gonzalez overturned the call himself saying the shot had skipped and offered his hand to Hogan in congratulations. It was a courageous act which cost Gonzalez the only real shot he has ever had at winning a major tour event.

Both Hogan and Gonzalez had to scramble just to get their chance to play in the title match. Every pro who entered Arlington, it seemed, had come ready to play.

# HOGAN WHIPS HILECHER IN STOCKTON

You could say that Marty Hogan has always been outstanding in his field, but apparently during the brief summer break from the pro tour he spent more time standing out there than he did on the racquetball court. According to friends, after his loss to Gregg Peck at the DP Nationals in June Marty junked his summer training schedule, opting instead for marriage and a few weeks of blissful mingling with the cows, pigs, and

such that roam around for some reason behind his large Missouri spread.

No matter: the man has kill shots in his chromosomes. When the 1985-86 RMA Tour season came to life at the \$15,000 Michelob Light Pro-Am in Stockton, California, Hogan kicked the mid-western mud from his Nikes (despite the abundance of accurate maps these days, St. Louisians still insist they live in the mid-west)

and continued a decade-long tradition of trouncing the competition in the first ranking tournament of the season. After giving away a game per match in the first four rounds, Hogan flew by Jerry Hilecher in the finals, 11-10, 11-4, 11-5, to win the \$5250 first prize, and boosted himself past Mike

Yellen to #1 in the pro rankings (Yellen didn't compete in Stockton).

## Ruben Gonzalez

(SAN DIEGO—October 7, 1985) \*\*\* Just three events have been played on the 1985-86 RMA Men's Pro Racquetball Tour, but the effectiveness of sixth-ranked Ruben Gonzalez and his new weapon, the oversize TORON GRAPHITE racquet by Ektelon, has already been established.

Gonzalez made history one month ago by becoming the first player in pro racquetball history to use an oversize racquet in tournament competition. In the debut of the Toron Graphite, the first racquet to combine the power of a hand-laid, graphite composite with an oversize frame, Gonzalez

amazed skeptics by reaching the semifinal round of the tournament. Three weeks later, Gonzalez was tripped up in the round of 16 in Davison, Mich., by Bret Harnett, who went on to win the tournament.

But, at the \$15,000 open at the Crystal Racquet and Health Club in Arlington, Va. (Oct. 2-6), Gonzalez and the Toron Graphite reached new heights with a berth in the tournament finals against Marty Hogan...only the second appearance in the final of a pro tournament by Gonzalez in his seven-year career.

To get there, Gonzalez used his oversize racquet to dismiss Ben Koltun in the round of 32; Doug Cohen in the 16s; Mike Ray in the quarterfinals and Cliff Swain in the semis. In fact, Gonzalez overcame an 0-2 deficit in his contest with Swain to merit the encounter with Hogan.

In the final, Gonzalez raced out to a 2-0 lead in games, only to see Hogan storm back in the next two games to force a tiebreaker. The battle for the tournament championship was ultimately won by Hogan, 11-9, but not before one of the most furious racquetball demonstrations in recent memory.

## 21st Point Club Camp

Dear Vince:

It has been a little more than three months ago since my son, Mike, and I attended your July 13 and 14, 1985 racquetball camp.

In the past, I had attended many other clinics or camps prior to participating in yours.

As I left each of the other clinics, I was full of enthusiasm and felt satisfied with what I had learned.

However, when I left your camp, I realized that the other camps I had attended were woefully lacking, by comparison to yours.

Mike and I learned more about the fundamentals, strategy, shot making and drills than we ever thought possible, and in just two days! The superiority and excellence of your camp and the top shelf personal who staffed it are unsurpassed.

Basically, I am a conservative person and rather than sit down and write to you about my enthusiastic feelings about your camp, I thought I would wait until our racquetball season began here in Erie, Pennsylvania.

Well, it has begun and I am delighted to tell you that the players who whipped my butt last year aren't even a match anymore.

Players who I couldn't even touch last year tell me that the improvement was phenomenal (especially when they find them-

selves on the short end of a 15-11 score, which, although it doesn't happen to often, was unattainable last year).

There is no doubt or question in my mind that this transformation is attributable solely and exclusively to you and your outstanding staff.

Everything we were taught at your camp really works! It is remarkable.

Before I took your camp, I felt like the 98 pound weakling having sand kicked into his face by the beach bully.

After your camp, I felt like Charles Atlas and now I have been playing better than I ever imagined.

Mike and I have only the highest praise for you, Bruce Christensen, Charley Garfinkel, and Jeff Leon and your other support people (especially your mom who did such a fantastic job with the eats).

We wholeheartedly and unreservedly endorse and recommend your camp to any racquetball player, male or female, young or old, serious or social.

We look forward to coming back next year and in the years thereafter. It is an experience we will never forget. Keep up your outstanding work.

Warmest Personal Regards,  
Joseph M. Walsh, Jr.



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## Should Kids Be Coached

By Russ Mannino, club Pro and manager of Narrows RB Club, Bklyn, N.Y.

RB being an easy sport to learn and a difficult one to master, can also result in varied disagreements as to how one should teach another, especially when another happens to be a kid.

First of all, my definition of a kid is someone young enough to daily ask his parents for money, but old enough to know the answers to all the worlds problems. We've all been that age and probably still know many who are crusing through that period now.

Through years of experience playing, teaching and coaching, I believe that every person can react in a different manner towards being coached. Therefore, rules and regulations for coaching are not black and white.

For example, lets take one former student of mine. His parents continually impressed upon him the need to practice. So he practiced almost every day. Lessons also became a frequently burdensome occurrence.

Playing everyone that came along was another play to try not to burn him out too early, plus

tournaments kept the competitive juices flowing. However, since this kid had other normal interest that

were not allowed to blossom, I felt that the parents should have tried to realize the greater potential of this child to allow his early RB success to overflow into a productive, varied future and not into a win at all cost attitude.

Another time, at a junior tournament in Florida, I witnessed a coach reprimand and embarrass a ten year old during a time out. This coach used the old "Vince Lombardi" method of coaching, which is, "winning isn't everything, it's the only thing."

Then there are the kids who don't practice, avoid lessons by sneaking off to the arcade, play with only choice friends and use tournaments only to show off. Could it be that they are the ones getting the most out of the RB game? Could it be that the demand of coaches and parents for their young ones success be too much for these kids? Could it be that amateur coaches also have a desire to have fame come to them by being coach of a pro. Or could it be that as Americans we are so over saturated with success, especially on a pro level and in TV sports, that unless that level is reached, we are considered some-

what of a failure.

All of this is probably true to a certain degree, but we usually do not realize the effect our input has on these kids growing up in an adult world.

Then, what does it all come down to for everybody? I imagine getting the admiration of those crucial people who seem to count, in ones mind, usually parents and peers. And what, again and again seems so terribly central to the whole business of a kid growing up more or less successful is the way that parents respond for this need for approval. How do parents let children know that there is nothing wrong with wanting praise and applause—without encouraging them, through persons direction or coaches, to seek it as an end in itself?

How do parents or coaches get children to want to excell—without driving them too hard to discouragement, apathy, rebellion or to the conviction that winning is the only acceptable result? Somehow the answers lie in parents letting their children know that they really like them—as they are—right now. And no matter what happens in the future, their love will always be a supporting factor.

## Turkey Shoot

MIKE LEVINE OF SYRACUSE, NEW YORK, LED A FIELD OF 200 RACQUETBALLERS AT THE SUNDOWN MEADOWS—ROGER'S BUICK TURKEY SHOOT, NOVEMBER 15th-17th. MIKE DEFEATED

GARR THOMPSON OF ALBANY, NEW YORK, 15-13, 15-11 TO TAKE HOME THE 100 DOLLAR FIRST PRIZE MONEY. IN THE WOMEN'S DIVISION, CINDY DOYLE OF BUFFALO

DEFEATED ELLEN CRAWFORD OF SYRACUSE 15-8, 13-15, and 11-7. MIKE LEVINE ALSO TEAMED WITH JIM WINTERTON OF SYRACUSE TO WIN THE OPEN DOUBLES FINAL VS. THE TEAM OF TIM DOYLE AND RON CORSORO FROM BUFFALO, NEW YORK. THE SCORES WERE 15-12, 7-15, AND 11-9. A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE SPONSERS EKTELON, FOOTJOY AND ROGER'S BUICK.

*Coach of the Long Island Open Winners*

*Mike Levine and Fran Davis!*

*... and many Amateur Champs*

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## 1985 U.S. NATIONAL DOUBLES PRESENTED BY LITE BEER

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Products Company

Memphis State team wins U.S. National Doubles open title as past women's members of U.S. Team capture women's open title.

Andy Roberts and Tim Anthony of the Memphis State Racquetball Team outclassed the top doubles teams in the U.S. by defeating Jack Nolan, Arizona, and Gary Mazaroff, New Mexico, 15-12, 15-13 in the finals of the U.S. National Doubles Championships pre-

sented by Lite Beer held in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

In the women's open title Malia Kamahoahoa, Virginia, teamed up with another Memphis State team member, Toni Bevelock, to defeat Connie Peterson, Oregon, and 14-year-old Michelle Gilman, Oregon, 10-15, 15-4, 11-4 to win the women's open title.

All four teams qualify for the U.S. National Team which will

compete in the 3rd World Championships August 4-11 in Montreal, Canada.

The 1985 U.S. National Doubles presented by Lite Beer was the second largest doubles ever held boasting over 250 teams competing in 24 divisions. The Rocky Mountain Health Club of Cheyenne, Wyoming, hosted this year's nationals.

**RacquetSport  
player**

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The Official Publication  
of the N.Y. AARA



## Winners Column

by Jim Winterton and Fran Davis

In our last column Fran Davis and Jim Winterton began a series of instructional articles discussing the rise of Fran Davis from an A level player to #5 in the world.

You can't build a house with a screwdriver. If you're trying to win racquetball matches without a good consistent forehand or backhand, you won't be successful because you don't have the proper tools.

**Jim:** "The first thing I had to do was teach Fran how to practice on her own. Since I couldn't be with her because we lived so far away from each other, I taught her what to look for in her forehand and backhand mechanics. Her biggest flaw was on her backhand side. She hit from an open stance and used her arm instead of her body. She ran around her backhand to hit forehands and that got her out of position for the next shot. Today Fran's backhand is awesome and nobody would believe how hard she was worked to get it that way!"

**Fran:** "I got frustrated at first because I just couldn't execute the backhand the way Jim wanted me to. After a couple of months of practice though, it started to work. When I began to improve I knew I was on my way."

**Jim:** "The system I use is not that original. I have put a few wrinkles in it but it comes from the school of Bud Muhlheisen, Charlie Brumfield and Dave Peck. Each of these people and myself have their

**Jim is sponsored by Ektelon and Foot Joy and teaches at Sundown RB Clubs. Fran is sponsored by Head and Foot Joy.**



own ways of teaching this system, but basically its the same. Here is how you can get started the same as Fran did. First go to the side wall and get an arm and a racquet from the side wall. Your aim should be to hit the ball an arm and a racquet away from you. To do this you must send your elbow out, not down. If you swing in a pendulum fashion you run the risk of being an inconsistent player. If you hit out and across the ball you will be more consistent and hit with more power and have more control. You also will not be hitting the side wall so much. If you miss a side wall shot it comes back to center court.

If you miss a straight in shot it goes away from center court. If you hit the ball from this position near the side wall and it comes up, you tilted your shoulders up. If you tilt your shoulders down, the ball goes down. If you keep them nice and level the ball goes straight in and comes straight back. When you get proficient dropping and hitting, the next step is to tap the ball to yourself, move your feet and hit. This simulates at half speed, full speed play. Do this from both sides, forehand and backhand."

**Fran:** "I worked on this system and I still do. If you, like I, get bored practicing like this once in awhile, get a pair of radio headphones or a walkman. I find listening to music as I practice helps to smooth out my stroke mechanics and also helps me to concentrate. Use this system and your game will improve as mine has. Next month we'll get to the harder part of my training—the physical conditioning program!"

The skills are a big part of your game. Since you now know what to do when you get to the ball, we next have to work on getting you to the ball! See you next month.



## Merry Christmas



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# 9th Annual Long Island Open

The NINTH ANNUAL LONG ISLAND OPEN, sponsored by Lite Beer from Miller, Frozfruit, DP, Coral House and PENN Athletic Products continued to prove to be the premier tournament in the country, drawing 964 entries from 18 states to the Sportset Clubs in Syosset, Massapequa and Rockville Centre, November 8-10, 1985.

Continuing its commitment that every player and spectator go home feeling like a winner, the tournament staff, headed by Allan Seitelman with Ernie Fraas, Bob Spplle, Regina Corrigan, Jim Mortimer and Mike Jones, provided a quality tournament with a multiplicity of tournament souvenirs. They ran 1,500 matches on time and awarded 200 laser-engraved plexiglass plaques in 43 divisions of play.

The banquet at the Coral House was unequaled, with 200 prizes being given out, including \$3,000 in cash awards, Windjammer Cruises, DP equipment, Footjoy sneakers, Head equipment, Lite prizes, PENN gloves, Thorlo socks, Frozfruit shirts, individual cartoon portraits and other prizes.

The food and drink consumed included, 3,500 Frozfruit bars, 35 kegs of beer, and 5,000 hot dogs. Combined with the banquet, door prizes, cartoon caricatures, individual newspaper headlines for each winner and the rest of the festivities, it made one wonder if this was a tournament or a four day party. However, one look at the intense competition on the courts provided an answer to this question—the answer is both.

The action off the courts, with Lite Beer All Star, Lee Meredith providing entertainment, was almost as exciting as the play on the courts. Every winner had a chance to have their picture taken with Lee Meredith and then have her sign each one. Lee was in attendance for over ten (10) hours, signing posters, presenting awards and being a gracious celebrity. Her presence helped to make the tournament more enjoyable for everybody attending. Now, on to the courts and the matches.

Players of all skill levels (beginner to National Champion) and ages (9 to 72) provided fierce competition in 43 categories. Over 230 women proved that they constitute a meaningful force in tournament racquetball.

The L.I. OPEN stills continued to prove to be the most prestigious title to hold in the East, while continuing to attract and satisfy the beginning player. For over 15% of the players, this was their first tournament. Six National Champions and a World Champion competed in various divisions.

Historically, the interest in any tournament focuses on the Open division. This interest was well deserved at the Long Island tourney.

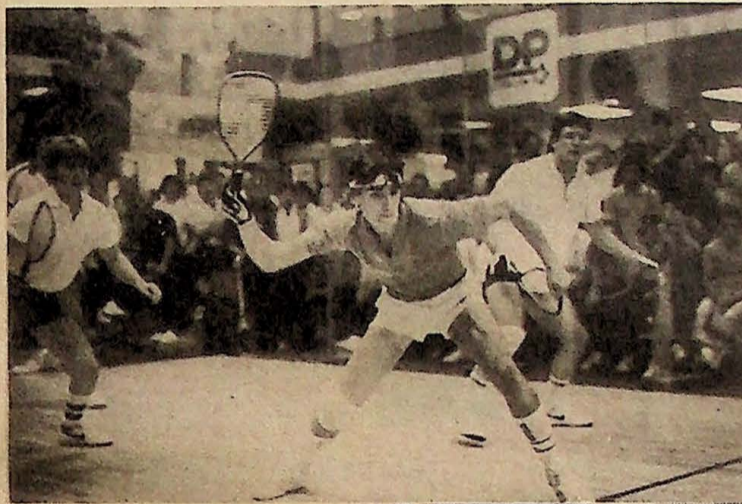


Photo by Alan



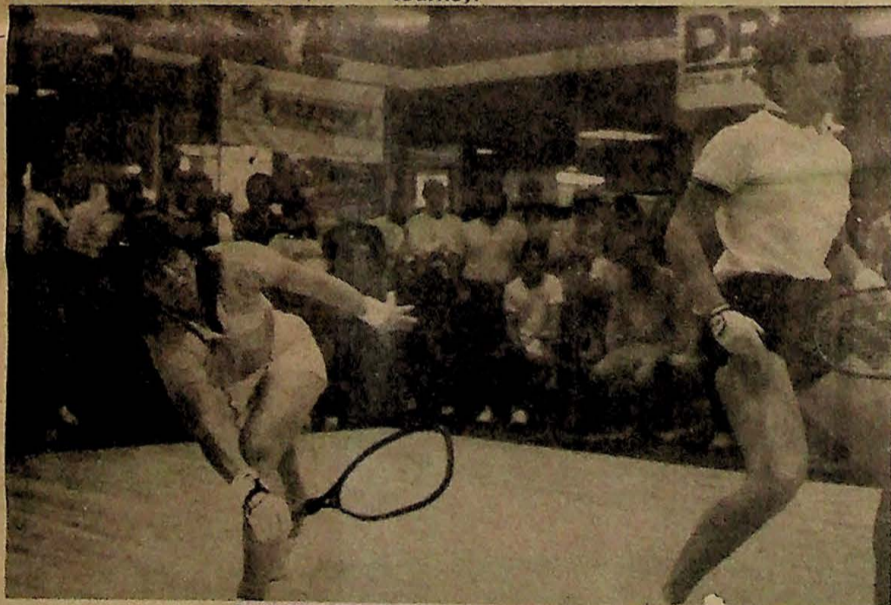
## MEN'S OPEN SINGLES

The Men's Open Singles Division featured and showcased a new cast of characters. Tom Cappa burst into prominence by almost beating top seeded and defending champion Fred Calabrese in the round of 16. He ended up losing 11-10 in the tiebreaker. Nolan Glantz, in his first excursion into the L.I. OPEN division took Don Costleigh to a tiebreaker before finally losing. Tom Montalbano managed to break his L.I. OPEN jinx, and got past the first round. This year was also the first year the title match featured two New Yorkers. Despite all these surprises and almost upsets, the top four (4) seeds advanced to the semifinals. Tom Montalbano had the toughest time reaching the semifinals with a 5-15, 15-7, 11-9 win over 5th seed Joey Cline. The semifinals saw a rejuvenated Mike Levine crunch Don Costleigh 15-8, 15-10. The other semifinal match featured hometown favorite Tom Montalbano vs. defending champion Fred Calabrese. Tom Montalbano, responding to the cheers of the crowd, pulled out a surprisingly easy win 15-8, 15-13. It was the first time Tom had managed to win a match without the need to go to a tiebreaker. The Finals proved to be worth the wait. Tom surged out to a 14-10 lead. Mike got the serve and proceeded to pound his serve to a 15-14 win. The second game was a seesaw battle in which Mike Levine emerged victorious 15-13. An ecstatic Mike Levine was seen still walking on air ten minutes later. Don Costleigh finished third.

## WOMEN'S OPEN SINGLES

The **extreme** competitiveness of this division is once again demonstrated by the fact that, except for the first two L.I. OPENS, no woman has even been able to defend her title or win a second title on subsequent attempts.

Three former L.I. OPEN champions, a World Champion, as well as two former finalists were on hand to try and win the title. However, none of these players would emerge as the winner of the Women's OPEN division. The State of Pennsylvania contributed three out of the four semifinalists. Number one seed, Cindy Baxter, reached the finals with a semifinal win over Dot Fischl, who had reached the semis by edging out Bonnie Stol. Francine Davis reached the finals with tough wins over Robin Levine in the quarterfinals, and a semifinal win over defending champion Molly O'Brien. The finals were as exciting and well played as one would expect from two such great players. Fran won the first game by the score of 15-9. The second game looked like it would be a repeat of the first, with Fran winning 8-3. Cindy called a time-out, regrouped her game strategy and came back onto the court with a newly found determination. Cindy scored 12 straight points to win the second game. The momentum looked like it had switched to Cindy. However, Fran Davis proved why she is such a formidable opponent. She regrouped and came back to win the tiebreaker 11-9.



# Mike Levine/Fran Davis— Open Champions!

## MEN'S OPEN DOUBLE

The team of Cline/Costleigh marched to the championship. In the finals they beat Peterson/Levine in a tiebreaker.

## MEN'S 25=

John Peterson continued his winning ways by winning this division. He beat fellow club pro Ed Shivokevich in the finals.

## MEN'S 30=

The age division in the L.I. OPEN are among the strongest in the country. The semifinalists of Brian McDermott, Jim Deritis, Gary Gloeggler and Jim Young are national championship caliber. Jim Young made it to the finals with a win over Gary Gloeggler. Jim Deritis bested Brian McDermott to advance to the finals. Jim Deritis edged Jim Young 12-15, 15-12, and 11-4.

## MEN'S 35=

Mark McCarthy fought off his injuries to emerge victorious over Mike Clifford in the semifinals and Jim Winterton, in the finals. Mark won the finals by the scores of 12-15, 15-14, and 11-1.

## MEN'S 45= MASTERS

Charlie Garfinkel is still the man to beat in this division. He has won over 45 straight matches in the Master's Division. Don Costleigh has the misfortune to be in the same part of the country as Charlie Garfinkel, or he would be the pre-eminent 45+ player in the Northeast.

## MEN'S 55= GOLDEN MASTERS

Eli Krodman was finally dethroned as the only person never to lose a match in the L.I. OPEN. Eli had won the Golden Master's L.I. OPEN title every year it had been offered for the last five years. A combination of age and new players reaching 55+ years of age finally did him in. Dan Llacera beat Eli Krodman in the semifinals, while Saal Lesser was advancing to the finals over Joe Rizzo. Dan Llacera won the title in two games.

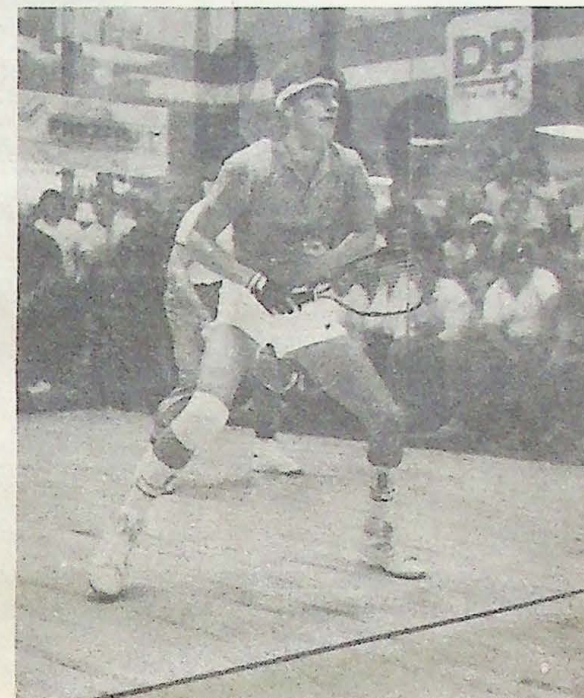
## JUNIORS

Pierre Dubrin, last year's 16 and under winner, played in the 18's and emerged victorious. John Charbonneau won the Men's 16, besting Jeff Kerman in the finals. B.J. Gruber won the Men's 14 and under with a win over Cary Nadelman. Sudsy Monchik continued his winning ways by beating Billy DeFranc in the Men's 12 and under. Jackie Charbonneau won the Women's 16 and under. Ann Prentiss finished second in the Women's 16 and under.

Continued on page 12

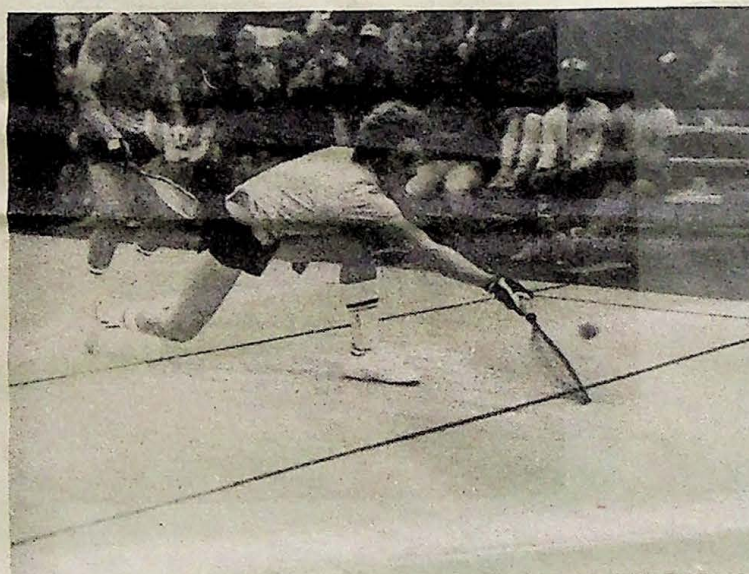


Fran Davis Cindy Baxter

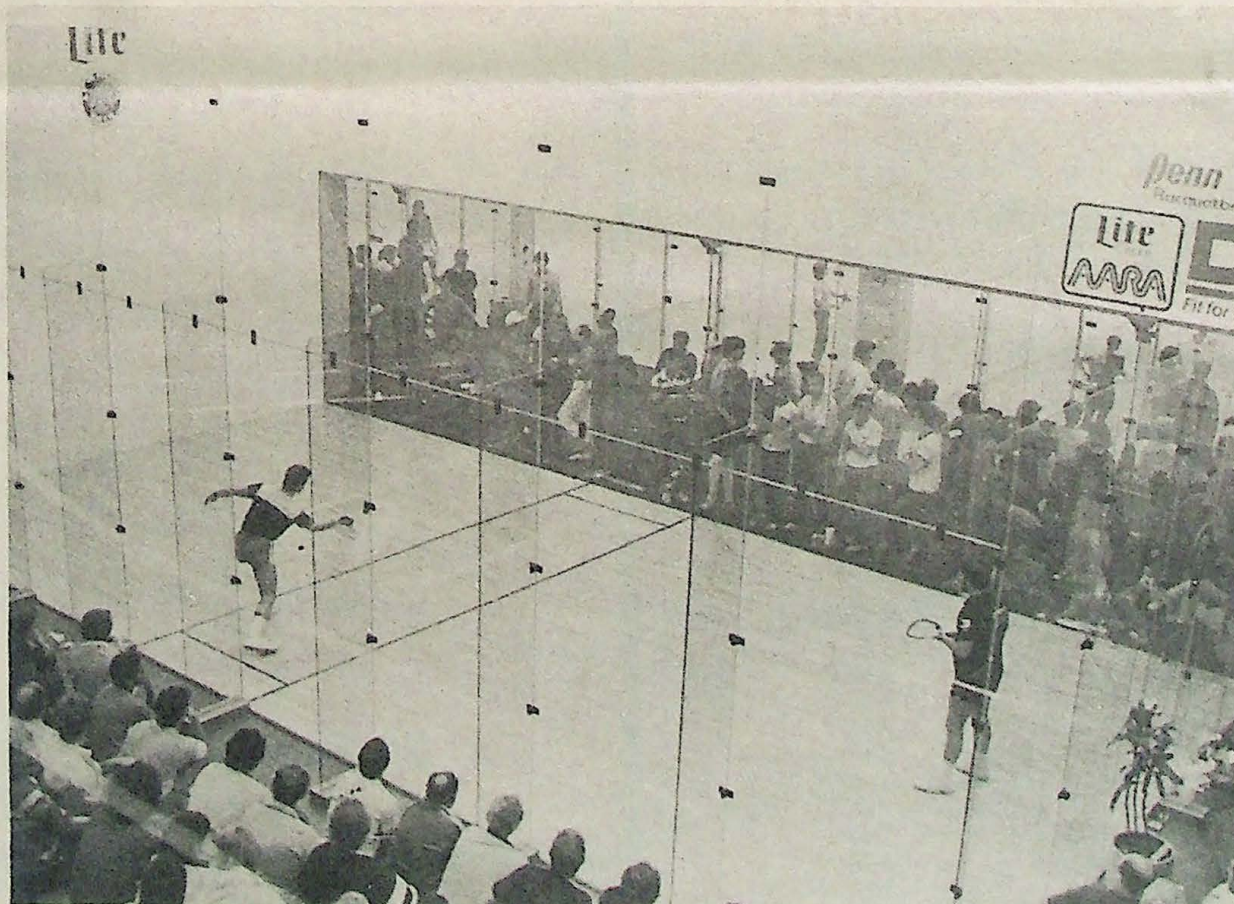
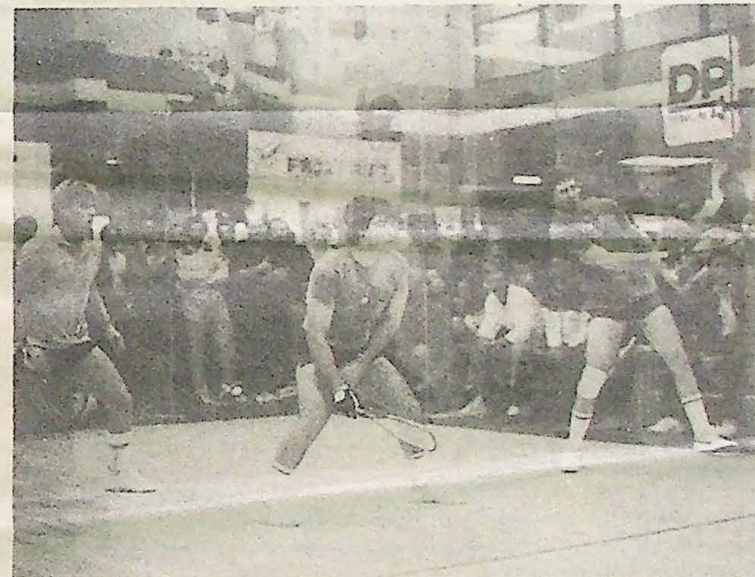


Joe Cline

Photo by Alan



John Peterson



## You Gotta Choose!

Paddleball tournament participation is not at its all time high. On the contrary, its not very good! With so few willing participants out there, why would a tournament Director attempt to buck another tournament on the same day? Sounds ridiculous right?, but its happening! and it spells disaster!

The tournament directors must get together and work their schedules around all the available dates.

One must not attempt to dominate the other. They must give and take and be flexible! Not only does a small player turnout make the sport look bad, but it is a kick in the pants to the sponsor.

Recently a conflict has been brought to our attention. Dec. 7 Amateur "B" Doubles (BPA) sponsored by Power in Bronx Indoor and Dec. 14 Open Mens Singles (BPA) sponsored by Tijuca Beer, also at Bronx Indoor.

Mt. Vernon Paddleball Amateur and Pro Singles at Paddle Sport Health Club Dec. 7, AM and Dec. 14 Pro.

Mt. Vernon has decided to change the Dec. 14 date to avoid a conflict. While the BPA stood firm on its dates. Strangely enough, Power is the sponsor of the conflicting tournaments!



Gary Evans Joe Cisco Don Ciaffone Andre Hopkins

### PPPA Ratings Tournament Guidelines

1. Tournament director must notify PPPA of tournament 30 days before the event.
2. The seeding of the top eight spots on the chart must follow the latest PPPA Rating Standing.
3. Chart should be made up at least no later than the night before the tournament.
4. No new entries (or substitutions) should be allowed on the day or evening of the tournament.
5. Tournament should have at least four designated non-playing paid referees.
6. In 1985, the Spalding Ball is the only official tournament ball.
7. Tournament Flyers must display "PPPA" Rated Tournament.

#### Mens Pro Paddleball Doubles Ranking As of 11/1/85

Capogrosso/Ruiz	205
Chielli/Fiorino	165
Ciaffone/Cisco	104
Eaton/Haber	104
Melendez/Rothfeld	070
Frias/Melendez	067
Mendoza/Savino	067
Poris/Smith	066
David/Giannotti	053
Evans/Hopkins	043

#### PPPA Mens B Rating

Mendoza/Savino	081
J. Rondon/Savino	040
Colaci/Pawlin	033
Pagan, G./Pagan, R.	032
Rondon, J./Rondon, A.	030
Guadalupe/Lifchitz	024
Pilarte/Rolon	022
Mateo/Soto	015
Colaci/Vos	012
Gruendle/Mantering	012



## Astoria Paddleball



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## QUEENS TEAM WINS BRONX PADDLEBALL TOURNAMENT

Sportcraft Paddleball!



Andre Hopkins, Ben Mawhinney, Bruce Eggleston, Lawrence Gazlay and Gary Evans

Gary Evans, of Woodside, and Andre Hopkins, of Rockaway, defeated Don Ciaffone and Joe Cisco, both of The Bronx, 25-17, to win the Sportcraft Paddleball Tournament, at the Bronx Indoor Paddleball, on Saturday, November 3.

First prize was worth \$600. The runnersup received \$300. A total of \$1440 in cash, plus trophies, was handed out to the first eight teams. In all, 29 teams were entered.

The tournament was directed by Bruce Eggleston, President, Castle Hill Beach Club, assisted by Ray Gaston, President, Professional Paddleball Players' Alliance.

The victory was particularly sweet to the winners, who were seeded 6th in the tournament, in that they defeated the 4th-seeded team.

The final game was relatively easy for Evans-Hopkins. They jumped out to a quick 13-2 lead, improved it to 20-7 and then coasted the rest of the way. Ciaffone-Cisco made a belated

move, but the best they could do was cut the lead to eight points before losing.

It was a tough field of competitors, 29 teams in all. A good showing for an open event. There were upsets and matches that brought the crowd to their feet.

**Highlights**—Paul Martinez and Robert Pagan eliminated Robert Chielli and Anthony Fiorino in the upset match of the evening. Kevin Jones teamed with Mike Melendez, played a long tough game against Ralph and Craig, losing 21-16. Kevin proved himself a tough competitor and a steady partner for Mike Melendez. Frank Savino and Al Mendoza played a long hard hitting match against Don Ciaffone and Joe Cisco. The score stayed very close throughout and ended 21-19 Don and Joe.

Tournament Director Bruce Eggleston proved once again a tournament could run smoothly and end at a reasonable hour.

# Happy Holidays and a Healthy New Year!

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## BLASTER 63 OPENING RACQUETBALL DOORS

Beginning and infrequent racquetball players no longer need pay tournament quality prices for a strong-performance competition racket.

With the entry-level player in mind, PRO-KENNEX recently introduced the Blaster 63 racket—giving the novice the same technology that has assisted Marty Hogan to six world titles.

Although it is available for under \$25, the Blaster 63 has the distinctive PRO-KENNEX characteristics that separates it from other low-cost rackets on the market.

The Blaster 63 is a durable aluminum racket that has slightly more flex than the premier Pro-Kennex models.

"For the novice player, too much firmness is not always the best way to start," said Hogan while discussing the merits of the Blaster 63. "This is a racket that allows a new player to feel his or

her way into the game without committing himself to one style of play or a very expensive racket."

"The Blaster 63 has been engineered to PRO-KENNEX standards," said PRO-KENNEX president David Armstrong.

PRO-KENNEX standards for balance, flex, cosmetic appeal and playability are sustained in the Blaster 63. The popular PRO-KENNEX wishbone shaped head is also featured in the lightweight racket made of aluminum with magnesium and zinc alloy. Like its professional cousins, the Blaster 63 is strung with tournament gauge nylon string and comes with a leather grip in two size choices.

The Blaster 63 has a one-year frame warranty and a 90-day string warranty.

"This is an exciting development for us," said Armstrong. "We have brought our high standards for engineering to a less expensive line of racquetball rackets."

## PSHC Columbus Day Classic

Oct. 14 \$500 Open Doubles

Mike Melendez and Kevin Jones defeated Ray David and Joe Cisco 21-14

**Runners Up** — Andre Hopkins/Gary Evans and Lorenzo Hernandez/John Cosarez

**Amateur Doubles** — Trophies Awarded Jimmy Hoey and Eddie Mantering defeated Scott Lifschitz and R. Savino 21-17.

**Runners Up** — Mike Dembin/Danny Villa and George Pagan and Kevin Rolon. 23 teams entered.

## Columbus Day Classic at Paddle Sport Health Club Oct. 14

Just a handful of teams squared off for the Open Double division with \$500 in prize money. Mike Melendez and Kevin Jones defeated Ray David and Joe Cisco

21-14. Andre Hopkins/Gary Evans and Lorenzo Hernandez/John Cosarez were the runners up.

Trophies were awarded in the twenty-three team field Amateur

division. Jimmy Hoey and Eddie Mantering defeated Scott Lifschitz and Savino 21-17. Mike Dembin/Danny Villa and George Pagan/ Kevin Rolon were the runners up.

## PSHC Open and Amateur Mixed Doubles Veterans Day Nov. 11

**Open** — Craig Ruiz and Kim Boyd beat out a small field of just eleven teams defeating Mike Melendez and Kathy Guinan for the Championship. Score 24-22.

**Runners Up** — Mike Eaton/Nancy Pereira and Gary Evans and Maddy Fredrick.

**Amateur** Eddie Mantering and Lisa Michaellessi defeated Kevin Jones and LaRita Miles 21-16.

**Runners Up** — Terry Klein/Regina Candito and Robert and Sarah Sostre. The Amateur division was

a very tough field, but Robert and Sarah defeated Victor Taveres and Joan Bologna 21-8 and then

defeated Walt Dillard and Val Evans 21-16. They are the team to watch!

## Tijuca Open Mixed Doubles Oct. 5

Craig Ruiz and Kim Boyd def. Anthony Fiorino and Denise Galloway 25-18

**Semis** — Ruiz/Boyd def. Melendez/Guinan 21-12

Fiorino/Galloway def. Smith/Gillen 21-16

28 Teams participated with \$500. in Prize Money



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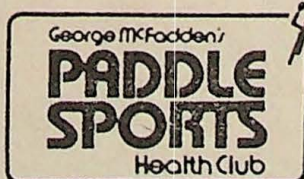
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## Racquetball MEMORIES

Ektelon and Nike Advisory staff member. 13 time National Champion, author of two books: *RB the Easy Way*, and *RB for the Serious Player*. ESPN commentator and noted RB teacher.

The month of December marks the fifteenth year that I've been playing racquetball practically the year 'round. During those fifteen years I've seen many unusual happenings in racquetball. Four of these unusual events follow:

**Memory Number One:** About ten years ago in the Nittany Lion Open, which was held at Penn State University, Willie Wang and Tom Whipple were engaged in a heated battle. The score was tied at 20:20 in the third game; Whipple serving. (Games were all to 21 points then) Whipple had a setup on his forehand off the back wall. As he swung and struck the ball, the shot appeared as if it would roll flat out. However, no one ever saw the ball hit the front wall. Why?

As the ball was traveling to the front wall the lights suddenly went out. A short in the electrical system resulted in the entire building being pitch black for fifteen minutes.

When the lights went back on, Whipple claimed that his shot would've been good. Of course, his protests were to no avail. The point had to be replayed. And, you guessed it. Want got the serve back. He served, and then proceeded to roll out a forehand to win the match.

by Charlie Garfinkel



The last we heard, Whipple was still trying to locate the mark from his kill shot on the front wall.

**Memory Number 2:** During the mid 1970's, Pat Whitehill, the present 55 & Over AARA National Singles Champion, was involved in one of the strangest set of circumstances that I've ever seen. Playing in the AARA Nationals, he won a hard three game match that took over 2 1/2 hours. Barely able to walk off the court, he was paged to the tournament desk to be assigned referee duties.

With the score 2:0 in the first game of the match that Whitehill was refereeing, action abruptly

came to a halt, due to a player having severe leg cramps. However, the two competitors didn't have the leg cramps. Whitehill did. He had to be carried on a stretcher to the locker room.

Although a new referee was quickly brought in, it was the first time that an injury timeout was called in a racquetball tournament, due to an injury to the referee.

**Memory Number Three:**

In the early 1970's, national champion Charlie Brumfield, completely dominated racquetball. However, on the rare occasions that he was losing or tired, he used a highly unseemly tactic. He'd purposely serve long on the first serve to stall for time. By the time he picked up the ball after it had bounced four or five times, he'd wasted 10-15 seconds. But, he succeeded in gaining valuable time. Of

course, his opponent would be furious.

During this same time period, his doubles partner, Dr. Bud Muehleisen, was involved in a brutal three game match with Ken Borco, in the National Invitational Championships. At 17-17, in the third game, Muehleisen turned and winked to the "Brum," who was seated behind the glass court. Brumfield knew that Muehleisen was going to purposely serve long. And Muehleisen did. But, when the referee yelled, "Side Out!" Dr. Bud looked incredulous. He hadn't realized that it was his second serve.

**Memory Number Four:** In the 1984 DP National Finals, Marty Hogan and Mike Yellen were engaged in a real donnybrook. At 9-8 in the fourth game, with Hogan leading, Hogan hit a serve that

appeared to skip in. Yellen appealed to the referee and line judges that the serve had indeed skipped in. The officials ruled that it didn't.

Hogan then appealed to the officials that the serve was good. Was Hogan crazy? Even if the serve hadn't skipped in, it looked as if the ball had rolled on the floor after it had hit the front wall.

Unbelievably, the officials ruled that the serve was good. This was due to the ball hitting a crevice two to three inches above the floor on the front wall. Apparently, the ball then carried over the short line.

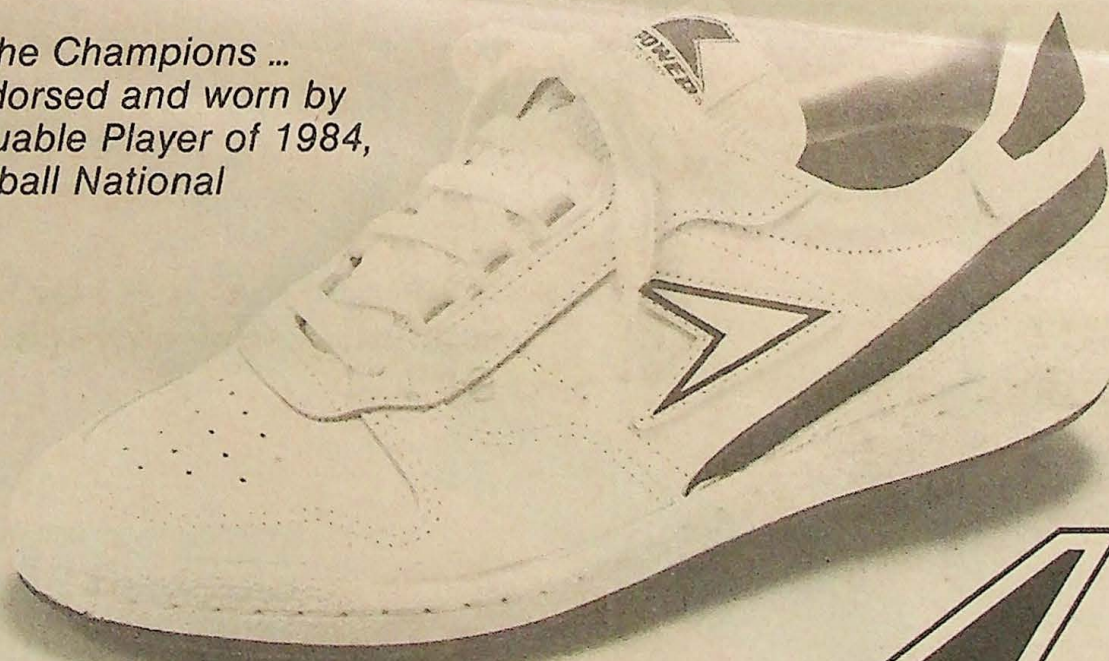
Yellen was magnanimous in his comments about the decision. He said, "That's the worst call I've ever seen in racquetball; professional or amateur." Have a great holiday season!



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The NINTH ANNUAL LONG ISLAND OPEN  
Continued from page 7

## TIME OUT

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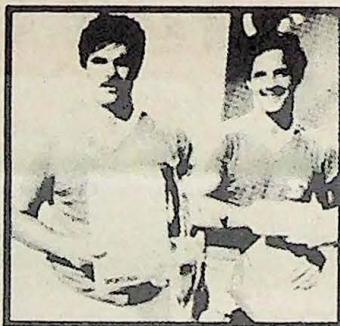


Being AARA Commissioner has its advantages!

and - To the players who volunteered to referee

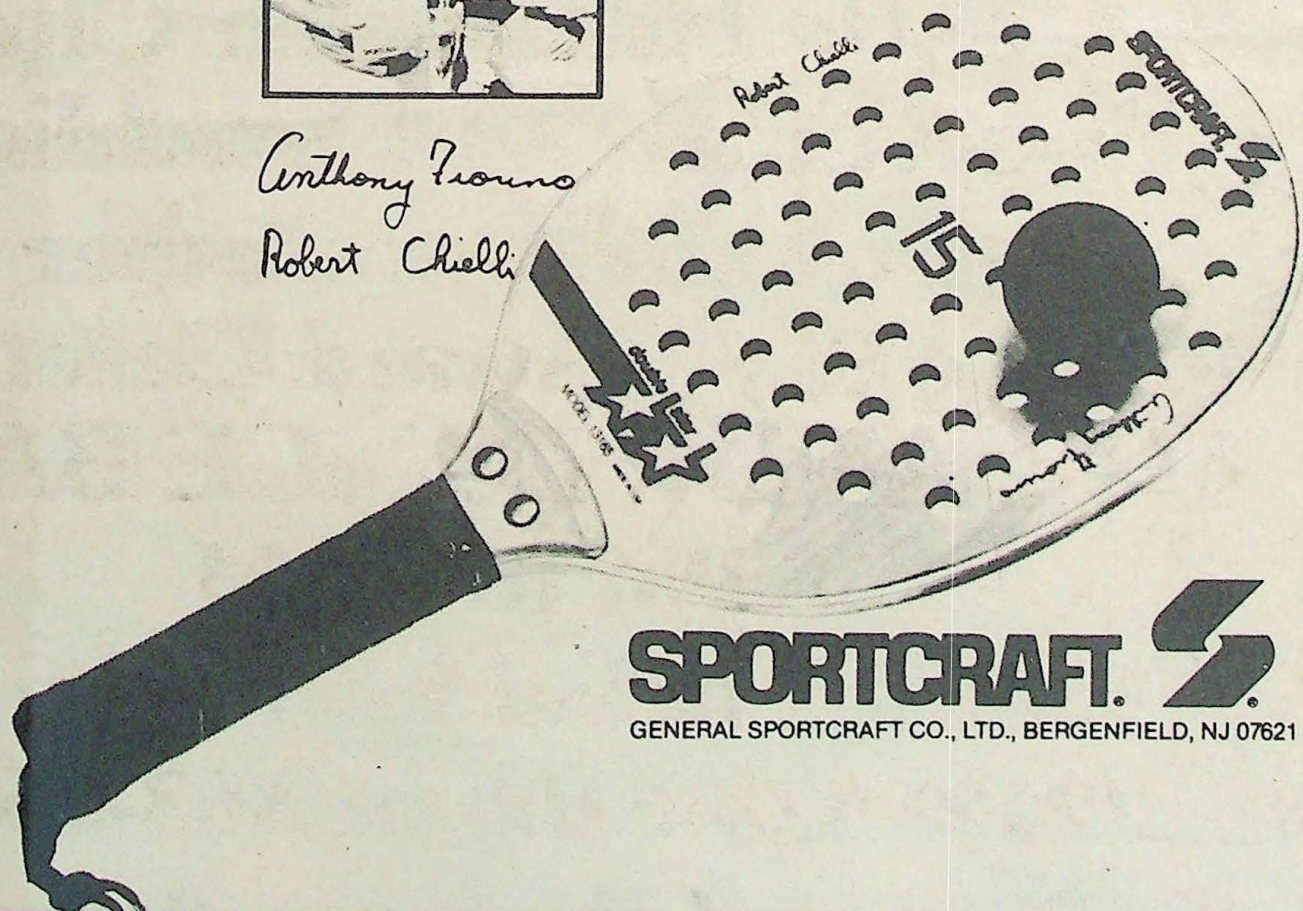
**Mens A**—Pierre Dubrin def. Bill Young. **Mens B**—Joe Cosentino def. David Berson. **Mens C**—Rosenbloom def. Michael Meyer. **Mens CC**—Louis Berson def. Dave Kerner. **Mens Novice**—Nick Sikoryak def. John Christian. **Mens Beginner**—David Rogot def. Rodney Arendsen. **Vets C**—Tom Conrol def. Mitchel Fried. **Mens 25**—John Peterson def. Ed Shivokevich. **Mens 30**—Jim Deritis def. Jim Young. **Mens 35**—Mark McCarthy def. Jim Winter. **Mens 45**—**Masters**—Charlie Garfinkel def. Don Costleigh Sr. **Mens 55**—Daniel Llacera def. Saal Lesser. **Mens 18**—Pierre Dubrin def. Frank Muniz. **Mens 16**—John Charbonneau def. Jeff Kerman. **Mens 14**—B.J. Gruber def. Gary Nadelman. **Mens 12**—Sudsy Monchik def. Billy DeFranc. **Mens Open Doubles**—Cline/Costleigh def. Peterson/Levine. **Mens A Doubles**—Nagel/Ochwat def. Caccavale/Consiglio. **Mens B Doubles**—Robin/Lopez def. Cosentino/Denley. **Mens C Doubles**—Abady/Gruber def. Zullo/Demato. **Mens 30**—**Doubles**—Vanare/Duritis def. Malloy/Murphy. **Womans A**—Evelyn Donofrio def. Gail Ganzer. **Womans B**—Denise Delouise def. Lisa Corraera. **Womans C**—Chris Laurenson def. Janet DeNicole. **Womans CC**—Sharon Bieber def. Melissa Mandel. **Womans Vet C**—Kaz Burnette def. Carol Saraceni. **Womans Novice**—Arlene Foronjy def. Debbie Romer. **Womans Beginner**—Nancy Logan def. Cheryl Salamy. **Womans A Doubles**—Correia/DeLouise def. Donofrio/Jacob. **Womans B Doubles**—Withers/Freitag def. Beers/Ventullo. **Womans C Doubles**—Salvesen/Laurenson def. Firriolo/Bobley. **Womans 14**—Jackie Charbonneau. **Womans 16**—Jackie Carboneau def. Ann Prentiss.

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## PPPA A/B Challenge



## A Light at The End of The Tunnel-Maybe

by Alan Belofsky

I thought it would be just another olé PPPA meeting, so I showed up a half hour late so I would be there on time.

It was a good turnout considering most of the board members were not in attendance, but the majority who showed, were there to discuss a variety of issues. Ranging from the annual dinner dance, to sponsorship, to conduct on the court. Court conduct was the number one issue.

It has become commonplace for some kind of outburst during the course of a paddleball tournament, and its hurling the game! A number of incidents were discussed in an attempt to find a cause for the problem. Mike Patnik, a tournament organizer, pointed out the fact that tournament directors could be to blame, not adhering to the rules. There is a set of rules that must be followed to be a four star PPPA sanctioned event. But is the PPPA doing its job governing the tournaments?

Joe Cisco, a newcomer to the PPPA, took the floor and stressed the importance of professionalism by the players. "The Pro's must set an example for everyone" said Joe. They also must consider the sponsor! He doesn't want to be associated with a disgraceful event.

The players that cause the trouble have the most to lose! Al Mendoza had a simple solution, just throw them out! No warning, no discussion, just out! Then they will think before they get out of line! Most everyone agreed! At last, some progress!

Fines and banning from playing in tournaments were discussed. \$50 seemed to be the current figure. PPPA President Ray Gaston has a very lenient and forgiving attitude toward unruly players. Most wanted stiff penalties. More at the next meeting. Mike Melendez and Mendy Korman quit the PPPA. For whatever reason, they will be sorely missed.

Paddle Sport Health Club was the next topic. Together with the PPPA, they were to hold a \$1000.00 Open Doubles event. Only 10 or so teams entered. Simple Arithmetic tells you that not enough for a \$1000. tourney! It was decided before the event to cut the prize money in half. Some players balked and left. If the players don't support the tournaments, you may see even less money!—food for thought!

It may be a good idea for the tournament flyers to have a minimum number of entrants per event listed, this way the tournament director is not left holding the bag if only a few teams show.

There are lots of tournaments coming up, things have just got to improve.



On Saturday, November 16, 1985, at Zerega Indoor Paddleball, the first preliminary round of the 4th P.P.P.A. A/B Challenge was held. Of 27 teams, the following 4 teams will go on to the final night on Saturday, November 30th. Artie & John Rondon, Walter Silcott & Jim Gibsen, Miguel Mateo & Willie Cepero and Richard McKnight and the new paddleball sensation, 15 year old Robert Sostre.

Of the teams, Walter Silcott & Jim Gibsen seemed to be the strongest with two 21-4 wins over Ron Pescatore & Rich Cerbdli and George Pagan & Kevin Rolon. Artie & John Rondon also seemed powerful, defeating Jose Lopez & Pete Alejandro 21-9 and Perry Reeps & Rich Kalina 21-4. Miguel Mateo & Willie Cepero were playing well as they were victorious over Al Rubiano & Angel Rivera 21-3 and Alan Hecht & Danny Satin 21-13.

Richard McKnight & Robert Sostre had the toughest games,

especially against those perennial "B" favorites, Lee Demitriou & Tony Giannotti, whom they battled to a 21-19 victory. Then they faced J. Hoe & Ed Mantaring and fought to a 21-14 victory.

The second round of the P.P.P.A. A/B Challenge was held at Zerega Indoor Paddleball on Saturday, Nov. 23, 1985.

The final four teams to enter the A/B Challenge were Jimmy Hoey & Eddy Mantaring, Sersio Ruiz & Bobby Morales, Jenaro Oquendo & Henry Virola and Antonio Hernandez & Miguel Ortiz.

The team of Hoey & Mantaring defeated Danny Garraffa & Sal Salzano 21-13 and Henry Morales & Scott Lipshitz 21-5. Antonio Hernandez & Miguel Ortiz were strong defeating Dennis Green & Mike Orta 21-17 and Ervin Sealy & John Powell 21-3.

Ruiz & Morales defeated John Bulsalmo & Bob Nova 21-9 and Walt Dillard & Terry Klein 21-16. The last team of Oquendo & Vir-

ola defeated Kevin Rolon & George Pagan 22-20 and Frank Calo & Herbie Pacheco 21-10.

Don spiked his way to the championship while partner Joe kept their opponents off balance.

Top seeds Ralph Copogrosso and Craig Ruiz were eliminated by Mike Eaton and Jeff Haber. Jeff was playing out of his mind rolling the ball with either hand!

Ray David and Dave Schwaeger defeated second seeds Anthony Fiorino and Robert Chiellin a hard fought match.

Miguel Mateo/Willie Cepero and Walter Silcott/Jimmy Gibson came up from the B ranks and def. Pros Al Mendoza/Frank Savino and Lorenzo Hernandez/John Cosares respectively.

The finals were again played in the wee hours (past Midnight) because only one court was used. This practice must stop!

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# \$2,000 PPPA A/B Challenge

by Bruce Eggleston

Don Ciaffone and Joe Cisco defeated Mike Eaton and Jeff Haber 25-14.

The fourth annual P.P.P.A. A/B Challenge was held on Saturday, November 30th at Zerega Indoor Paddleball Courts. The new champions are Danny Ciaffone & Joe Cisco who defeated Mike Eaton & Jeff Haber 25-10.

Over the past two weeks, there were eliminations held to determine 8 amateur teams who would face the top 8 rated pro teams. Once again it was proven that the amateurs can compete against the pros. The amateur team of Walter Silcott & Jimmy Gibsen defeted the pro team of John Cosares & Louis Hernandez 22-20. At one time, the pros lead 18-7 only to see the game tied at 19 all. A second amateur team of Miguel Mateo & Willie Cepero defeated Al Mendoza & Frank Savino 21-18. On another first round action, Craig Ruiz & Ralph Capogrosso, defending champions, (winners of the first three years straight) defeated the young, up and coming team of Richard McKnight & Robert Sostre 21-12. Gary Evans & Andre Hopkins defeated Jimmy Hoey & Eddie Mantaring 21-18. This game was tied at 17 all. Mike Eaton & Jeff Haber defeated Antonio Hernandez & Miguel Ortiz 21-8. Don

Ciaffone & Joe Cisco defeated Sergio Ruiz & Bobby Morales 21-6. Ray David & David Schwager defeated John & Artie Rondon 21-7. Robert Chielli & Anthony Fiorino defeated Jenaro Oquendo & Henry Virola 21-10.

In the quarter finals, the pro teams prevailed. Capogrosso & Ruiz defeated Silcott & Gibsen 21-17. Eaton & Haber defeated Evans & Hopkins 21-4. Ciaffone & Cisco defeated Mateo & Cepero 21-17 in spite of the fact that Mateo & Cepero lead at one point, 12-1. David & Schwager defeated Chielli & Fiorino 21-17.

The semi finals saw a great display of offensive power when Mike Eaton & Jeff Haber defeated the defending champs, Capogrosso & Ruiz 21-7. Eaton & Haber lead at one point, 15-0. Jeff Haber played very well, rolling out many shots. Don Ciaffone & Joe Cisco defeated David & Schwager 21-12 in a come from behind victory. First place was worth \$500.00 plus trophies.

All participants received commemorative medals and the amateurs received certificates from Power Sporting Goods and Marcrafft paddles.

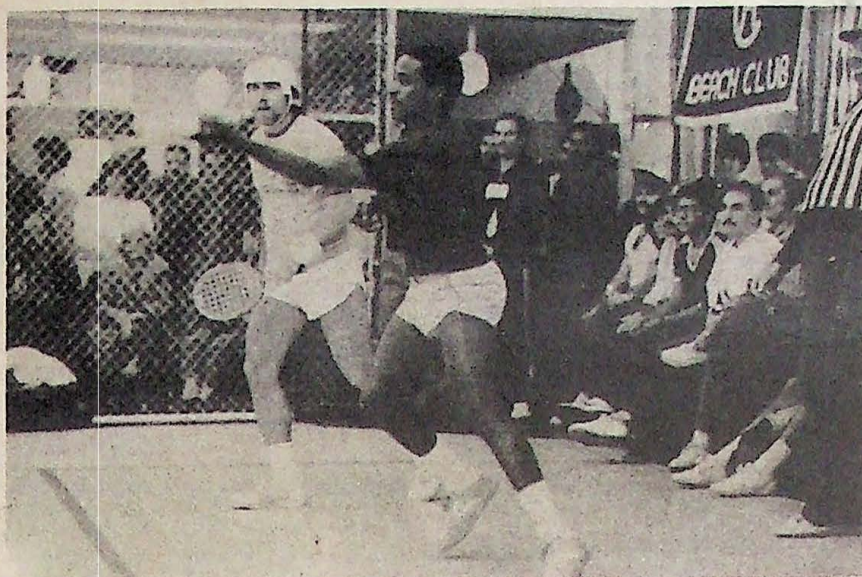
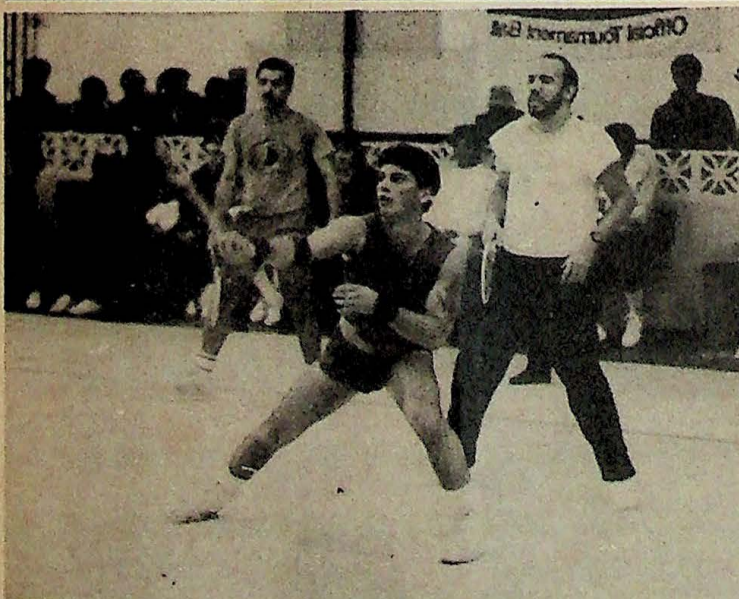
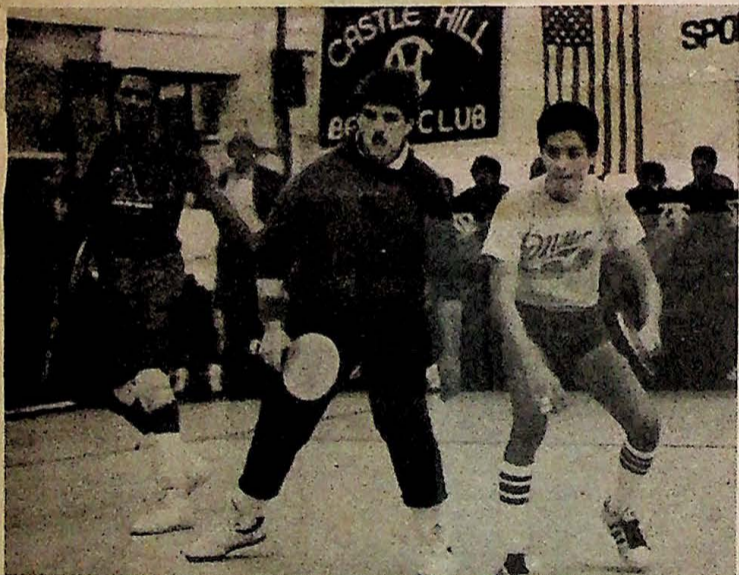


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