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Official Publication of the American Amateur Racquetball Association
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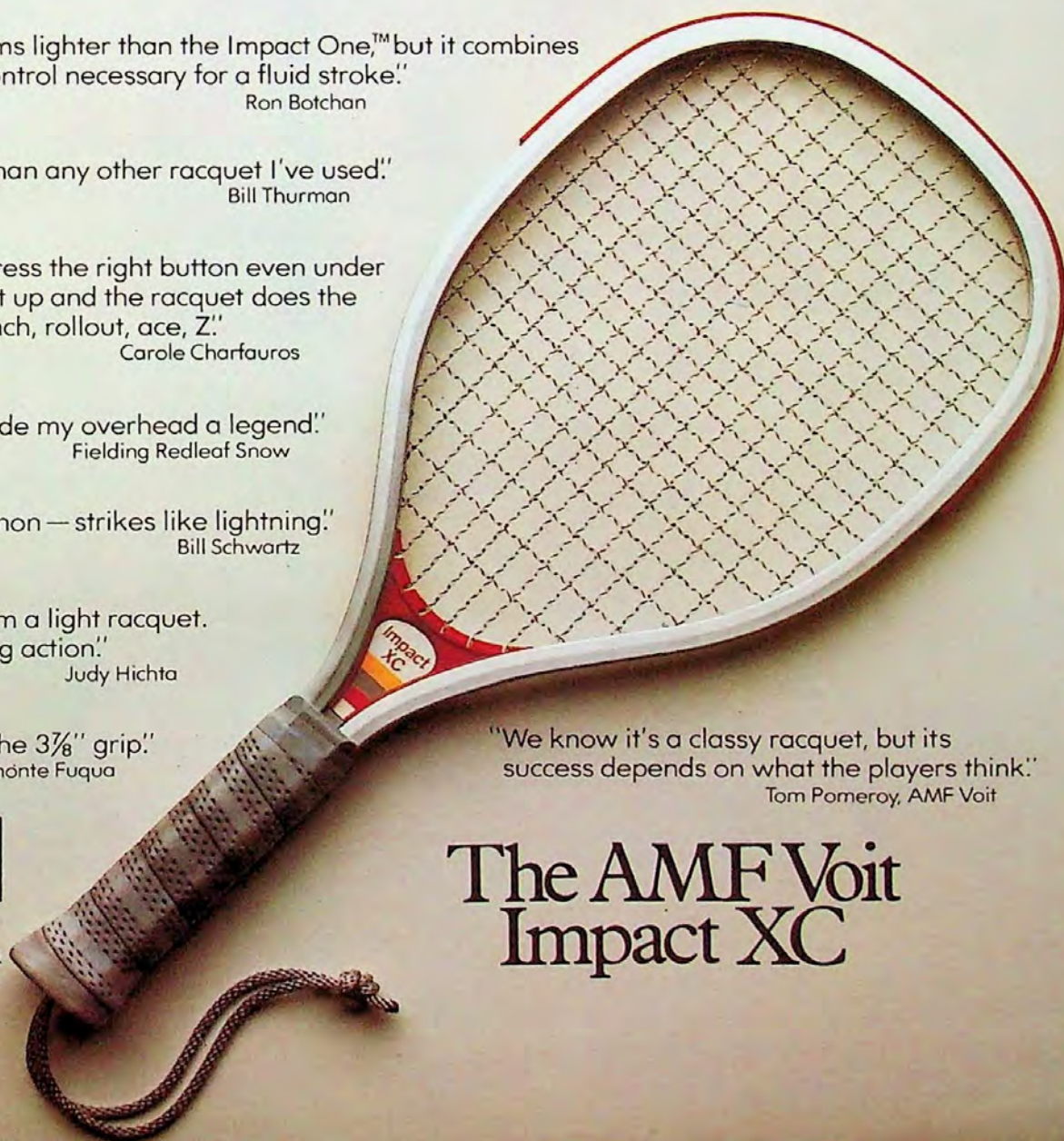
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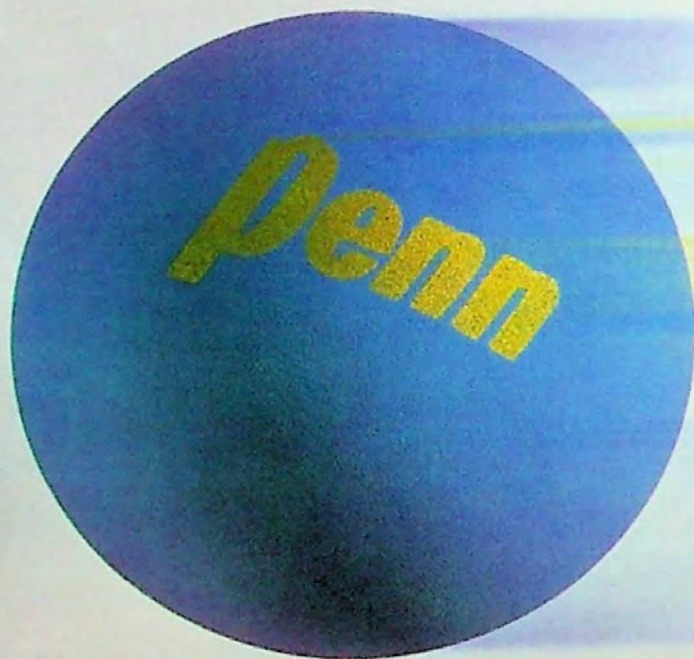


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Features

- 15 Contempt of Court**
The Woeful State of Racquetball Manners • Tom Carlson
- 21 'Take Five'**
Off-Camera with 'Love Boat' Racquetballers • Jill Williams
- 30 The Pink Lady**
Historic Building Is Now Racquetball Club • Carl Dean
- 34 Only the Best**
The Masters Singles Invitational • Carole Charfauros

Departments

- 6 Receiving Line**
Letters to the Editor
- 8 New Directions**
Additional Services for Members
- 11 Industry News**
People and Equipment
- 12 Short Lines**
News Round-Up
- 13 AARA National Singles Application Blank**
- 24 Calendar**
Upcoming Tournaments
- 28 Juniors' Page**
Youngsters On the Move
- 33 Pro Page**
News from the Front
- 37 Winning Points**
Woman Playing A Man • Sarah Green
- 40 Winning Points**
The Control Player • Charlie Garfinkel
- 43 Scorecard**
Tournament Results

COVER: Illustration by Mark Perriguet

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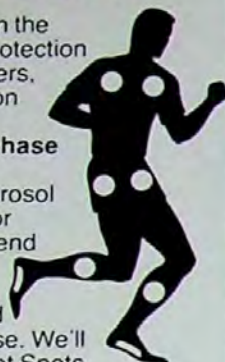
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Racquetball is one of the most demanding sports of all. And yet, you can learn the game well enough to enjoy yourself your very first time on the court. This is but one of the reasons that racquetball is among the fastest-growing sports today, with participants numbering in the millions and doubling every year. In this book by a champion player from Ann Arbor, Michigan, the comprehensive text, photos and lucid diagrams explain everything you need to know about the game. If you're a beginner, this book will teach you the basic strokes. If you're already a devotee of the game, it will show you how thinking ahead can give you a big edge over your opponent. This is truly the complete racquetball book.

RECEIVING LINE

Letters To The Editor

First, let me thank you sincerely for the very full and kind treatment of the story about racquetball in Japan. [See *Racquetball*, January, 1980.] We have achieved to a certain degree [in Japan] and are continuing to do so, and we are rightfully proud of those achievements. I do hope that our story [here] will be of significant and perpetuating value. More stories will be forthcoming, and I hope they will be good ones.

Second, I congratulate the editorial staff for having printed a most enjoyable and thoroughly perceptive review of racquetball in the year 2000. It is obvious that your writers are not only talented, but are imbued with rich and purposeful imaginations. (I'm just waiting for the day when we can play four-man team racquetball inside a dodecahedron! With sufficient numbers of these we should be able to put half the country to work officiating.)

Congratulations, too, for your review of those folks to watch in the '80s. I was most pleasantly surprised to find my name mixed in there with all those "biggies," and I assure you I'll be working hard to make your prediction ring true.

And last, but certainly not least, I salute you for having printed a lasting tribute to Bud Muehleisen (your cover story of October, 1979), a person who has certainly done more than most for our great game. And [one] who has shown that with just a little more effort, a little more devotion and a little more pursuit of quality that "it can be done." As Americans, I think that we all at one time cherished such values, but it appears that somewhere along the way some of us forgot to give it that "extra little something." Maybe, through racquetball, we'll start getting it back again, and pull together towards goals which are good, which are real and which will flourish. And when we do, in great part we'll have Dr. Bud to thank.

Let's have a great decade!

Milton L. Radmilovich
Tokyo, Japan



Yesterday morning I found out the hard way that eye injuries don't always happen to the other guy. After intercepting an overhand kill shot at midcourt with my right eye and suffering temporary total loss of vision in that eye, I became acutely aware of the advantages

of some sort of eye protection. When my ophthalmologist examined my eye and informed me that I had suffered only a corneal abrasion and that my vision would likely return to normal in a day or two, I was greatly relieved. So, like the farmer that fixed the gate after the horse got out, I went out and purchased some eyeguards. I don't care to ever experience that type of injury, or worse, again.

I am an "A" club player who has been playing nearly everyday for several years. I think back to the number of times I have said, or have heard said, "I know I should wear eyeguards, but..." But then we do tend to emulate our heroes, don't we? In picking up just a couple of racquetball publications on hand in my office, I saw action pictures of Steve Keeley, Larry Fox, Davey Bledsoe, Mike Yellen, David Peck, Jerry Hilecher and others without benefit of eye protection, not to mention all the "pretty people" in the equipment ads. Naturally, we all want to be just like them and perhaps there is a connotation of being a little extra tough by not being afraid to be hit in the eye.

I think it would be to the sport's advantage if this image could be changed as much as possible, and a good place to start is with you who publish magazines dedicated to racquetball. I realize that you cannot make our heroes who don't want to wear eye protection do so, but how about appealing to advertisers to depict their subjects wearing good eye protection just as they would show them holding a good racquet? How about requiring anyone involved in an instructional pictorial to don some eye protection? Perhaps, just perhaps, this could be one small step in the direction of relieving whatever stigma has kept myself and the vast majority of my racquetball friends from affording ourselves the protection that might save us from painful, or even permanent, eye damage.

Dr. J.R. Sheltraw
Fremont, Calif.



I was frankly shocked by the Iron Company advertisement on page 14 of the February *Racquetball* issue. I would hope that your magazine is progressive enough to help put a stop to this kind of "T and A" used by many advertisers. You should agree that women are already a viable part of your reading audience, and that in the future you will make a conscious effort not to offend us!

Jolleen Clymer
YMCA Women's Physical
Director
Lincoln, Neb. ■

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Seven Springs Mountain Resort
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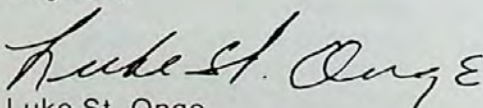
Dear Members,

I am most pleased to announce the second major player service to be made available to you, our membership. Our first step, of course, was to provide substantial individual discounts through the largest rent-a-car system in the United States—Hertz. This program is unique in that all a member need do is present his or her current AARA/IRA membership card in order to receive the discount. Nothing else is necessary.

The second major service we will now offer our members is a low-cost term insurance policy, open to all current AARA members. Many hours have been spent on this program to adapt it to your needs! This is not a high pressure insurance program and no sales person will call on you. In this day of rising inflation and uncertain financial security, this is a must for personal and family protection. The AARA Board of Directors voted unanimously in October, 1979 to adopt this program on behalf of you, the grass roots player. We feel that this package is extremely attractive and considerably lower than the normal market price for such coverage.

One final note—our annual membership meeting will take place Sunday, May 25th, at the Marriott Hotel in Coral Gables, Fla. This is an extremely important meeting with an open forum for you to voice your opinions directly to your elected officials. I urge you to use it! The AARA is your organization and needs your input as well as your membership dues.

Regards,



Luke St. Onge
Executive Director

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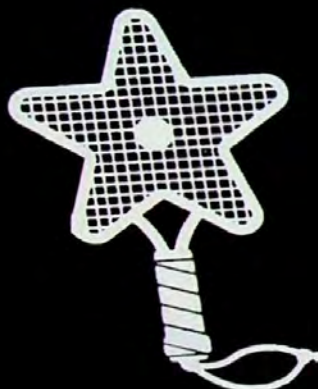
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INDUSTRY NEWS



Freshen Up

Ektelon has just introduced new unisex shorts specifically designed for racquetball. One of the special features of the shorts — yes, it's true — is what the manufacturer describes as the "treatment of the fabric with Ultra-Fresh built-in deodorant," thus ostensibly preventing the build-up of perspiration odor.

Ektelon decided to develop the odor-proof shorts because, the company says, "of the heavy outpouring of perspiration while playing racquetball, and the tendency of players to put their shorts right into a sports bag or hang them up in the locker, without washing out the strong perspiration odor."

According to BJ Hilton Sales Co., Inc., exclusive marketer of the Ultra-Fresh "antimicrobials," treating the fabric gives Ektelon shorts wearers the "extra personal security of eliminating the problem of perspiration odor in the garment." This protection is durable through repeated washings.

The unisex shorts are made from a sturdy 10½ ounce, 100 per cent nylon fabric supplied by the Kari Knits division of Edmos Corporation. For added wearer convenience, the shorts have a small, inside hung pocket for carrying a locker key or coins for refreshments.

Ektelon's new racquetball shorts come in unisex sizes from extra small to extra large, and in a choice of six colors: Bismark Blue, Light Blue, Sunshine Yellow, Tan, Jade and White. Information on the new unisex racquetball shorts can be obtained by writing to: Leonard Kanarvogel, merchandise manager, Clothing & Accessories, Ektelon, 8929 Aero Drive, San Diego, Calif., 92123.

Moving Up

Jay Rubinow, formerly national promotions and products development manager with Yamaha Sporting Goods, Inc., has been appointed vice president of sales and marketing for Slazengers,

Inc., the United States based subsidiary of the English parent company which has been manufacturing and distributing tennis and related sports equipment since 1881. Rubinow's responsibilities will include sales, advertising, product development and promotion.

According to Rubinow, Slazengers' current plans call for a major thrust in the U.S. market. "We'll be carrying out an extensive national advertising program as well as concentrating on new product development and regional grass roots promotional programs, reinforced by point-of-purchase aids," explained Rubinow.

"Some exciting new products will be introduced in early 1980," Rubinow continued, "and we're now in the process of upgrading our sales force to present the new line."

For information on the Slazengers' product line, which now includes racquetball products, contact Slazengers, Inc., Box 160, Bensalem, Penn., 19020, or call 215-638-9110.

The Eyes Have It

As junior players become more and more involved in sports of all types, manufacturers have become more sensitive to their needs. Rainbo Sports-Optics, Inc., for instance, has added to its line new junior size "Rainbo" eyeguards and junior "Combat Glasses."

Rainbo eyeguards are currently sold

through sporting goods, drug and department stores and racquetball clubs. "Combat prescription glasses," a similar eyeguard with a unique curved lens ground to your prescription, are available through 12,000 eyecare specialists nationwide and in Canada.

Rainbo Sports-Optics, Inc., is a Calabasas, Calif., based manufacturer. For further information on Rainbo products, call the toll free number 800-423-5221.

Eyes II

In other eye-opening developments, Carrera International Corporation of Norwood, N.J., has introduced the VIPER NR-59—protective eyewear for players of racquetball, handball and other contact sports.

According to the manufacturer, these new eyeguards are "formed of durable, highly impact resistant polycarbonate, and offer optimum eye protection, excellent peripheral vision and maximum comfort to the wearer." Also, Carrera describes its product as "pre-fitted in strategic areas with the best quality inner foam," and accompanied by an extra wide non-slip, adjustable headband which comes in a selection of colors "appealing to both men and women."

For further information, contact Carrera International Corporation, P.O. Box 2, Norwood, N.J., 07648, or call 201-767-9024. ■



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

SHORT LINES



A-Camping We Will Go

It's that time of year again. The annual rush of racquetball camps will be upon us in just a few months. So for those racquetballers who relish the idea of spending four or five leisurely days eating, swimming, hiking and playing racquetball, here is a list of racquetball camps on tap for this summer. These are camps for which information was available at press time; others may crop up later. For information on prices, lodging, specific dates and other details, it's best to contact the club hosting the camp. Good hunting!

Williams/Marriott Racquetball Camp

Aspen Athletic Club
720 E. Hyman Street
Aspen, Colo., 81611
303-925-2531

Dates: August and September

Head instructors: Kathy Williams and Janell Marriott

Third Annual Seven Springs Racquetball Camp

Seven Springs Mountain Resort
Champion, Penn., 15622
814-352-7777; contact Jeff Shearer

Dates: Beginning July 6-11, continuing for three weeks in July and the last two weeks of August.

Head instructor: Wilson Sporting Goods Company presents Davey Bledsoe.

Atlas Health Club Racquetball Clinic

Atlas Health Club
901 Hotel Circle South
P.O. Box 80097
San Diego, Calif., 92138
714-298-9321

Dates: April 2-6, July 30-August 4

Head instructor: Bud Muehleisen

Davey Bledsoe-Wilson Sporting Goods Racquetball Ranch

Steamboat Athletic Club
Box 1566
Steamboat Springs, Colo., 80477
303-879-3335

Dates: August

Head instructor: Davey Bledsoe

Local Tournament Series Planned

Announcement of what is being billed as "the largest series of local tournaments in the history of the sport" was

recently made by officials from Ektelon, a major manufacturer of racquetball products, and Classic Sports Productions, Inc., a New York City based sports promotion firm.

The planned series of racquetball tournaments will be held in the metropolitan New York area. Ektelon is sponsoring the tournament series and Classic Sports is handling the production and promotion. "New York is about to assert itself as a major force on the national racquetball scene," says Sherri Feldman, director of racquetball development for Classic Sports. "In the metropolitan New York area there are over 50 racquetball clubs at this moment. Another six clubs are in the advanced planning stages in Manhattan proper."

The racquetball series will feature 27 separate events in the most popular categories of adult competition, including Men's and Women's "A," Men's "B," Men's "C," and Men's and Women's Novice. The series has been patterned on the very successful "Weekend Tennis Series," also produced by Classic Sports.

Jeffrey Moritz, president of Classic Sports, says, "Sanctioned, regular competition is a tremendous stimulus for the sport at every level. People realize that lessons have a real value, and practice has a place in the development of the individual."

All events, except Men's and Women's Open, will be sanctioned by the AARA. Prize money will be offered in the Men's and Women's "A" categories. The other events will offer trophies and equipment to the winners.

The series is entitled the "Weekend Racquetball Series" because play only happens on successive weekends. For example, Round 1 would be played on a Friday, while the second round would be played on the following Friday night, and so on. The host sites are Skyline Tennis and Racquetball Club in Manhattan; the Olympic Court Club in Port Washington, Long Island; the Sporting House in Enfield, Conn.; and Richochet Racquet Club in South Plainfield, N.J.

The program has been designed to promote racquetball to thousands of new players. Specific dates will be announced later. For further information, contact Classic Sports, P.O. Box 319, Glen Head, N.Y., 11545; or call 516-676-6636.

The Second Time Around

The 2nd Annual Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association (SGMA) Active Sportswear and Footwear Expo has been scheduled for May 15-18 at the Ex-

pocenter Hall at Chicago's Apparel Center.

The show, which made its debut last year during the summer, was scheduled for the spring season this year in order to accommodate the fall buying schedule and establish a more orderly planning cycle between SGMA's two major trade shows. "The decision to move our show to the spring was made after a telephone survey of some 400 manufacturers," says Howard J. Bruns, SGMA's president and chief executive officer. "They expressed an overwhelming preference for the mid-May dates because [those dates] fitted better into the fall buying schedules."

Last year's show attracted some 1,000 exhibitors and 2,500 buyers, and SGMA planners are hoping for a 25 per cent increase in exhibitors and a 50 per cent increase in buyers during this year's event. "I think our 1980 attendance goals are entirely realistic," says show chairman Gib Ford of Converse Rubber Co., "especially at the Chicago Apparel Mart, considered to be one of the finest facilities in the nation for this type of show."

Proceeds from the sportswear and footwear show and the 24-year-old SGMA Sporting Goods Manufacturers International Show, scheduled to be held in New York in October, are cycled back into the industry in the form of supporting grants and promotional assistance for those agencies concerned with developing recreational and sports activities.

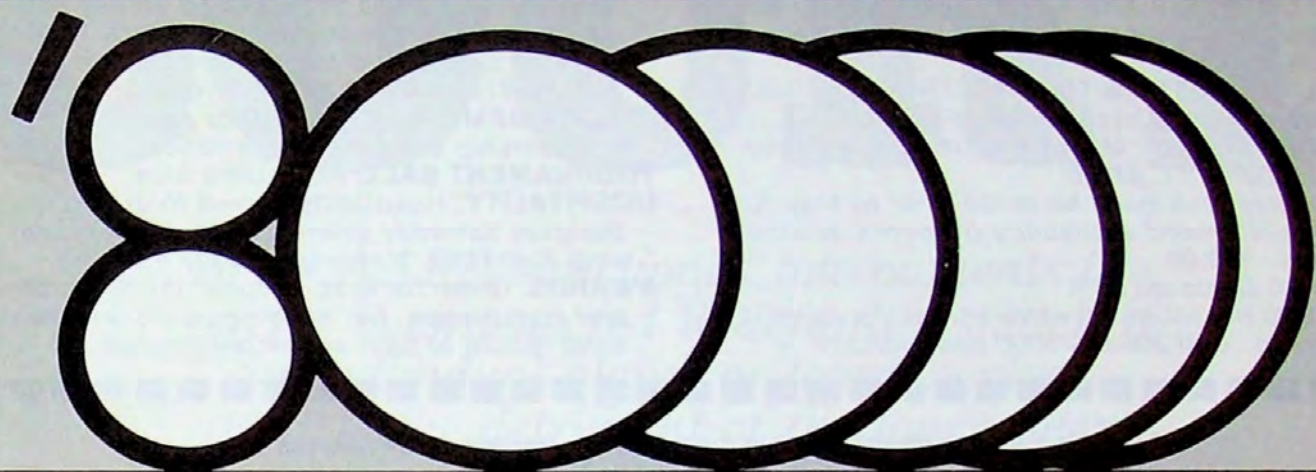
For additional information on both SGMA shows, contact Bill Palmer at the organization's headquarters, 200 Castlewood Road, N. Palm Beach, Fla., 33408; or call 305-842-4100.

News From the AARA

The American Amateur Racquetball Association (AARA) recently announced several personnel changes among its regional commissioners. Those changes include the following appointments:

George Dwyer of Colorado Springs, Colo., as Southwest regional commissioner; Paul Henrickson of Boston as Northeast regional commissioner; Bernie Howard of Reedsville, Penn., as East regional commissioner; and Ray Mitchell of Chicago as Midwest regional commissioner.

In a related development, the AARA's board of directors has voted to establish a new region for the organization, to more clearly represent the geographical areas of the country. This new "Eastern" region is made up of Pennsylvania, Ohio, New York and New Jersey. ■



AARA NATIONAL SINGLES

**SPORTROOMS, CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA
MAY 22~26, 1980**

AARA NATIONAL SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

MAY 22-26, 1980

Play Begins May 22 8:00 AM

SITE: SPORTROOMS: 1500 Douglas Rd.; Coral Gables, FL 33134 305-443-4228

ENTRY FEE: \$30.00 Second event \$10.00 (Players may enter two events) Make checks payable to:

SPORTROOMS.

ENTRY DEADLINE: Postmarked Monday, May 12
ALL ENTRIES ARE FINAL. Positively no applications will be accepted after this date. NO REFUNDS.

MAIL ALL ENTRIES TO: SPORTROOMS: 1500 Douglas Rd.; Coral Gables, FL 33134

HOUSING: Miami Marriott; 1201 N.W. Lejeune Rd.; Miami, FL 33126

Reservations must be made prior to May 10th for guaranteed availability of rooms. Normal rates - \$72.00

AARA Discount 33%

\$48.00 per room, no extra charge for up to 4 in a room. Call 305-649-5000 and indicate

"Racquetball" for discount

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Luke St. Onge, Executive Director; 5545 Murray Ave; Suite 202; Memphis, TN 38117 901-761-1172

RULES: AARA Official rules will apply. Only amateurs may participate. AARA rules state the definition of an amateur racquetball player as anyone who has not received money (ANY amount) in a professional NRC, IPRO, WPRA & NARP sanctioned tournament for one year. ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST SHOW CURRENT AARA MEMBERSHIP CARD or purchase membership at time of registration.

TOURNAMENT BALL: Penn Ultra blue

HOSPITALITY: Hospitality served throughout. Banquet Saturday evening. General Membership Breakfast/Meeting, Sunday morning.

AWARDS: Given for first, second, third, fourth and consolation. For seeding purposes, please send record of past accomplishments.

NOTE: Men and women's B divisions may be limited to 64 players per event. Due to the anticipated large turnout B's will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis.

DEFINITION OF AMATEUR - as applies to AARA rules - Anyone who has not received money (ANY amount) in a professional NRC, IPRO, WPRA & NARP sanctioned tournament for one year.

Please enter me in the event(s) checked below. Players may enter two events.

WOMEN'S DIVISIONS

- () Open
() Seniors 30+
() Seniors 35+
() Seniors 40+
() Masters 45+
() Masters 50+
() Golden Masters 55+
() Golden Masters 60+
() Golden Masters 65+
() B (non-championship event)

MEN'S DIVISIONS

- () Open
() Seniors 30+
() Seniors 35+
() Seniors 40+
() Masters 45+
() Masters 50+
() Golden Masters 55+
() Golden Masters 60+
() Golden Masters 65+
() B (non-championship event)

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

Mr/Ms _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Business Phone _____ Home Phone _____
(Area Code) (Area Code)

Expiration Date of AARA/IRA Membership Card _____

Waiver: I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims I might have against the American Amateur Racquetball Association, Sportrooms, or their representative agents, for any and all injuries.

Date _____ Signature _____
(Parent's signature, if participant is a minor)



Mail form AND check (made out to SPORTROOMS) to:
SPORTROOMS
1500 Douglas Rd.
Coral Gables, FL 33134

FORM IS NOT COMPLETE WITHOUT CORRECT AMOUNT ENCLOSED

penn

C O N T E M P T O F C O U R T

In all AARA-sanctioned tournaments the referee is empowered to default a match if an individual player or team conducts itself to the detriment of the tournament and the game.

— Rule 5.7—Tournament Conduct
Official AARA Rule Book

When is a moon not a heavenly body? Answer: when it's flashed by an angry racquetball player in front of a mixed gallery. What kind of bird never sits on a nest? Answer: the kind that is flipped at a beleaguered referee during a close match.

If you've been to an amateur tournament or to a stop on the pro tour recently, or if you've had the misfortune of being paired with a modern-day Dr. Jekyll in a pick-up game, then you've undoubtedly witnessed firsthand a prominent feature of racquetball as practiced in 1980. It's known variously as poor sportsmanship, unsportsmanlike conduct or—in its worst form—outright assault and battery. What it really is, though, is just plain bad manners.

Almost all involved parties from the top professionals on down will agree that poor sportsmanship is a serious problem in racquetball. In a recent article in *Sports Illustrated* magazine, for example, one writer observed that racquetball was a game in

which indecorous behavior was the *rule* rather than the exception, and that because such emotional lawlessness was allowed to prevail, television networks would never touch the game. Whether this dire prediction will come true remains to be seen, but the article did capture an increasingly shared perception concerning manners—or the lack thereof—in racquetball.

And it's no wonder. If Amy Vanderbilt were to attend a racquetball tournament today, she might well require coronary care. Even the most random of visits to a pro or amateur tournament over the last three years would have regaled Miss Vanderbilt with a virtual cornucopia of loutish behavior and conduct unbecoming. Some highlights: a father cursing and berating refs during a national junior tournament for making calls against his equally obnoxious son; Larry Liles, Memphis State University racquetball coach, hit in the stomach and head during a tournament in Jacksonville, Fla., by a racquet-wielding opponent (who then ran off the court, out of the building and forfeited the match); Marty Hogan cursing, raging and deliberately breaking half a dozen racquets during tournament finals in Marietta, Ga.; Charlie Brumfield dropping his pants in one match, delivering a series of intentional donuts to Don Thomas' backside in another and biting Rich Wagner's fingers in a third; Shannon Wright pouting and fussing off and on throughout a tournament, and then in Columbus, Ohio just recently, refusing to play if a woman refereed her match (result: forfeit and more screaming);

An Examination of the Woeful State of Racquetball Manners • By Tom Carlson



Marty Hogan (right) looks pretty tame here, as he takes a breather during a recent tournament. But on-court, Hogan's behavior is often anything but tame — cursing, raging, deliberately breaking racquets. Is racquetball's "bad boy" a cause, or merely a symptom, of rowdy behavior in the sport?

Steve Serot swinging at Jerry Hilecher after the latter had patted his cheek and called him "cute."

And so, the litany of misconduct marches on. Whether things are getting better or worse depends on whom you talk to. Jennifer Harding, a top-ranked member of the women's pro tour, has seen a lot during her years on the tour. Her observations on the state of racquetball manners thus speak with the authority that comes from experience. "Racquetball behavior today is about the same as it's always been," Harding notes, "somewhere between outrageous and totally unacceptable for any serious professional sport."

As far as Harding is concerned, this consistently high level of low-down sportsmanship can be explained by a kind of behavioral chain reaction. "Amateur players see the pros cursing and acting up, bullying the refs, showboating, intimidating their opponents, and so they try to do the same thing," observes Harding. She sees it all the time in amateur tournaments run at her club in Milwaukie, Ore. So does her program director, touring pro Jean Sausser. "Jean and I, and our teaching pros, stress sportsmanship probably more than other clubs," Harding says, "but we still have problems during tournaments. A lot of would-be Hogans and Brumfields come in here with out-of-bounds behavior, but we let them know ahead of time that we're going to clamp down with technicals. We're strict and we generally get good results."

Guilt by imitation isn't the only explanation for the curious behavior problem that plagues racquetball. Some would argue that the problem can be traced back to the very origins of the game. After all, racquetball is the blue-collar grandchild of a rough-and-tumble handball game, which itself was bred not in country clubs or chrome and leather spas but in YMCAs and on playgrounds. As a result, so this argument goes, you can't expect to see the same decorum and raised-pinky manners in racquetball that you find in its rich cousin, tennis. Or as Phil Stepp, pro player and manager of a racquetball club in Columbus, Ohio, puts it, "Stick two tennis players on the same side of the net and let them swing away and run into one another, and then we'd see how long so-called 'tennis etiquette' would hold up."

While Stepp maintains that racquetball behavior has improved somewhat, he believes the kind of high-speed action in a confined space that is common to racquetball hinders the growth of an elaborate system of etiquette. Stepp might well add that another hindrance to civilized behavior in racquetball is an elaborate rhetoric of violence that has grown with the game. There are "kill shots," "re-kills," and "attack positions." A new ball on the market is code-named "The Assassin;" a new racquet is called "The Smasher;" eyeguards are labeled "combat glasses." And so on. Given the language associated with the sport, a stranger to racquetball might easily conclude that it's not a game but war. And since war is hell, there's no place for delicate manners and sportsmanship, right?

Dan Seaton, commissioner of the Women's Professional Racquetball Association (WPRA), traces the causes of poor sports-

manship a step further. The frequent emotional mayhem in racquetball is simply a sign of the times, Seaton argues. "In most sports today there's a vociferous, violent disregard for the rules," Seaton says. "Look at hockey with players going up into the stands after spectators. Look at basketball with Kermit Washington punching out Rudy Tomjanovich. Then there's tennis, with the less than amusing antics of Connors, Nastase and McEnroe." In all these examples, Seaton notes, we see explosions of unpardonable behavior and raw violence. "If you want to get downright sociological about it," Seaton continues, "the players coming into all sports today are products of the hedonistic generation of the '60s and early '70s, the 'Me Generation' for whom rules are neither sacred nor really very important at all." As a result, at least according to this theory, many modern sports are dominated by players whose good judgement and sense of fair play have long since fled before a galloping ego and an overweening pride.

Add to this inbred selfishness a win-at-all-costs ethic that is as American as Vince Lombardi, and the recipe for lawless behavior is complete. Larry Liles, coach of the AARA national champion Memphis State team, frequently gets good players with very bad attitudes. "Today," says Liles, "young men and women who play college ball come to us as seasoned and highly competitive athletes. In fact, some are so competitive that I've had to teach them to call their own double bounces and skips." It's not that these players are unethical, Liles is quick to add. "It's just that somehow they've picked up this winning-is-everything attitude. Part of my job, as I see it then, is to teach these players sportsmanship and at least *some* kind of honor system." But sometimes, Liles admits, it's easier to correct bad habits in technique than bad habits in attitude.

When you talk to the players themselves about sportsmanship and general court behavior, the subject of "psyching" inevitably comes up. *Psyching* (sik'ing) n. *Of or pertaining to a psychological strategy in sports competition involving techniques such as calculated verbal abuse, subtle stalling and general measured mayhem intended to disarm and distract an opponent and make him ripe for the picking.* Often, players will argue, much of what might be considered bad behavior on the court is actually the fine art of psyching, which is thoroughly legal. And often highly effective.

The acknowledged master of psyching is Charlie Brumfield. Listen to Jerry Hilecher, himself no slouch at the art, commenting on the High Priest of distraction: "Brumfield knows more about human psychology than anybody on the tour. He'll play to the crowd, he'll talk to his opponent, holler at the refs and linesmen until everyone's concentration has been broken except his own. Then he's got you."

But with the level of skill and experience among racquetball players increasing each year, such psyching techniques tend to become less and less effective. That's why David Fleetwood, seventh-ranked pro, has adopted a new laid-back, low-keyed psyching strategy. "I don't scream and bully to get the ref's calls

to go my way," says Fleetwood. "I try to come across as the All-American Honest Guy, so that if it comes down to a close call, the ref will send it my way."

One of a referee's major problems, then, is deciding when bad behavior is actually calculated psyching and when it is simply raw, uncontrolled emotion. Dan Bertolucci, national director of the pro tour's National Racquetball Club (NRC), claims that good referees are capable of making such distinctions. "An experienced referee will get 'inside' a match, and know the styles and techniques of the different players," Bertolucci says. "Because he is able to do this, he's also able to see that certain behavior is part of a player's game plan, and so, if it's not injuring the opponent, he'll let it continue. The trick is not to let it go too far."

Easier said than done. For many players, in fact, poor refereeing is the most direct explanation for poor behavior. David Fleetwood explains. "If you get a clearly incompetent ref—and there are a lot of them around—sometimes you *have* to yell and scream and make an ass of yourself in order to take control of the match and get some decent calls," Fleetwood says. "Not necessarily calls that all go your way, but just to get a fairly called match." Weak or ineffective refs, that is, actually encourage bad behavior according to many players.

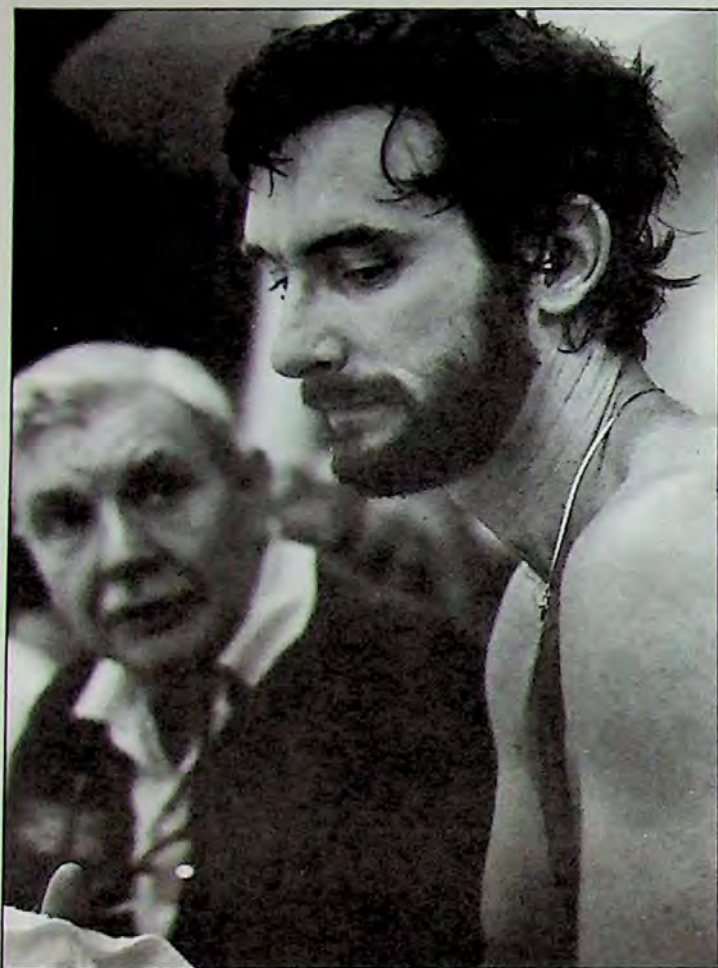
And experienced players can sense weakness or vulnerability in a referee as fast as a shark can detect blood. All you have to do, said one player, is lose a game 21-19 on a bad call made by a ref who has been reduced to a quivering mass of compliant jelly by your opponent; the next time, *you* intimidate the ref *first*.

Recognizing the problem of inconsistent refereeing is much easier than correcting it. Because tournament scheduling requires large numbers of matches to be played simultaneously, it is difficult to find 10 or 12 equally skilled referees to call matches at the same time. Under such circumstances, quality of officiating will predictably suffer.

And when winning players are required to referee the early rounds, officiating problems are bound to increase. Such a requirement actually penalizes the winning players. While the losers are off having a hot shower or a cold beer, the winners are forced to hang around, and in a very tired state, are asked to make many difficult calls. Add to these trying circumstances the fact that such refereeing may actually be creating a conflict of interest—the ref may meet one of the players he's officiating in a later round—and you've got a serious and intolerable situation.

Cleaning up the refereeing act and making it consistent is a formidable undertaking. Most agree that having players referee is at best a necessary evil. But most

will also agree that creating a standing team of paid referees is not the answer. As Dan Seaton observes, "Money tends to compromise even the best refs; they want to continue refereeing so they don't rock the boat. As a result, the players end up running things." Seaton's WPRA is presently working on an alternative plan. The idea would be to have a standing group of certified referees travel with WPRA personnel to the various stops on



Charlie Brumfield (right) is the undisputed master of the "psyching" game, the High Priest of distraction. He'll yell at, intimidate and harass his opponent in order to break his concentration. But when does psyching go too far and instead become simply bad behavior?

the tour. The refs would arrive several days ahead of time, hand-pick some local referees and put them through a mini-clinic. Gradually, a cadre of competent referees would be established, consistency would be assured and, Hosannah!, players and referees would join hands and raise a joyful noise unto the tournament director. If all goes according to plan, that is.

Dan Bertolucci has a similar idea for his NRC tour. He's the first to admit that at every stop on the tour the players tend to see the same two or three referees. (Bertolucci is one of them.) He also admits that familiarity sometimes breeds bias. Referees who know the players will occasionally anticipate action—which is deadly to objectivity; and on the other side of the coin, players sometimes alter their style of play to suit certain refs. To eliminate these problems and to ensure fairness, Bertolucci is in the process of creating a National Racquetball Referee's Association. Like the WPRA plan, Bertolucci's organization would create a large pool of qualified referees. "We're planning a summer camp of sorts involving both players and refereeing candidates," says Bertolucci. "The idea would be to have the players simulate game conditions, and then help us critique the new refs."

All of which would take a good deal of time, money and real commitment. And especially in the case of the NRC, people question seriously whether that commitment is really there. Says Jerry Hilecher, "The NRC talks all the time in their magazine about court etiquette, but the fact is that they seldom enforce any of the rules that pertain to behavior." Of course, there are those who would argue that the amateur side of the sport, and the AARA in particular, is equally lax when it comes to enforcement of rules already on the books. Still, no one has suggested that such lax enforcement is deliberate. Rather, the problem seems to stem largely from local tournament directors and referees who choose to look the other way when infractions occur, for whatever reason.

One of those who suspects that—at least on the pro tour—non-enforcement of behavior rules is often deliberate is Jennifer Harding, and she thinks she's found the reason why. "It's pretty obvious that the NRC has chosen to promote professional racquetball by personality in the tradition of Connors and Nastase in tennis," she says. "Charlie Drake [chief executive officer of Leach Industries], who really runs the NRC show, has let Marty Hogan and Brumfield out on a long leash hoping that people will flock to the tournaments to see their antics."

Charlie Drake, for his part, does not exactly deny the charge. Instead, he talks about not wanting to stifle "creativity" in a naturally creative person like Marty Hogan. Dan Bertolucci also avoids a direct answer. "I think that there's room for a certain amount of color in the game," Bertolucci says. "It's a way of making contact with the audience and ultimately make the game more exciting." But Bertolucci doesn't buy Dan Seaton's charge that NRC refs are guilty of lax enforcement of behavior rules. He makes all of the referee assignments on the tour, and insists

that "outbursts are in the nature of the sport, but when it gets out of control our officials are instructed to assess technicals."

Bertolucci's assurances have failed to keep many people from insisting on tougher enforcement at all levels of play. One of those people is Luke St. Onge, executive director of the AARA. St. Onge believes that more stringent enforcement should be coupled with greater emphasis on conduct and manners by teaching professionals. "It's a matter of attitude really," he says. "If you can bring in sportsmanship early in someone's training, you've got a chance to eliminate the problem. And sometimes we forget," he continues, "that these rules are on the books primarily to ensure the safety of the players. So that if we enforce them more effectively, we'll also cut down on injuries in the sport."

Jennifer Harding, who has already instructed her pros to stress etiquette and safety, believes that strong players' associations will also help to eliminate bad behavior. "It stands to reason that if the players themselves make the rules—as we do in the WPRA—they're more likely to obey them."

Harding points to the new system of fines for on and off-court behavior as an indication of just how serious the WPRA is about this matter. The statute includes a sliding scale of fines for different levels of unsportsmanlike behavior. So far, the WPRA has not had to fine anyone. "And we don't expect to, either," says Dan Seaton, judge and jury for the new fines system.

In addition to more consistent officiating, stricter rules en-

forcement, stronger players' associations and plain ole common sense, one would also expect racquetball sponsors to encourage sportsmanlike behavior. And certainly many player contracts with companies like Ektelon, Leach and Wilson contain language about "representing the company in a positive way." Nonetheless, players are seldom called on the company carpet to explain their errant ways. "Ektelon once asked me to explain my mixing it up with Steve Serot during a tournament," recalls Jerry Hilecher, "but that was about the only time I can remember." Such corporate inquiries, then, apparently are few and far between.

Still, the solution to any problem, as the saying goes, begins by recognizing that a problem exists. And while indecorous behavior has long been recognized as a problem in racquetball, until recently precious little has been done to correct it. Now, with new sponsors and fat television contracts being pursued, and a new sense of fair play in the air, racquetball has begun an effort to clean up its act. Whether the game will move from its present "R" rating (for raucous, and sometimes raunchy) to "G" (for gentlemanly), remains to be seen. But history shows that those who wait for their leaders to do something about the moral tone of their society are doomed to disappointment. The same holds true for racquetball. Thus, it might be well to remind yourself right before your next match that manners, like skyscrapers, are built from the bottom up. The problem begins—and ends—with each of us. ■

Manners, Please: Some Plain Talk

Let's be frank. The current state of racquetball manners is, in a word, disgraceful. Boorishness, loutish behavior, abusive language—such conduct unbecoming is quickly becoming all too common in certain racquetball circles. You know it, and so does just about everybody else.

Of course, not every racquetball player is a boor; indeed, most players aren't. But there are, unfortunately, enough genuine louts among racquetball players to give the rest of us a bad name.

Now, the racquetball community could approach this problem the way we've always approached it in the past. Namely, by talking about and bemoaning the problem interminably, and then throwing up our hands in the air and doing nothing. But if orderly behavior is ever to really take hold in racquetball, it will require more than just words. What's needed, instead, is action—tough, consistent, realistic action.

In that regard, the editors of *Racquetball* magazine would like to offer our suggestions for actions that we believe would go a long way towards resolving the problem of racquetball manners. Most of these ideas are well-known; they've been argued about and talked about many times before.

Enough talk! It's time to either get serious about dealing with the unruly among us, or stop talking about the problem altogether. And for those who believe, as we do, that dealing with the situation is infinitely preferable to turning away from it, the following recommendations could be a step in the right direction:

- **Improvement of the current referee system.** This is priority number one when it comes to getting a handle on racquetball behavior. A number of suggestions have been made in this regard: special camps and clinics for referees, establish-

ment of a traveling corps of trained refs, advance training for individuals selected to serve as referees at amateur tournaments. These are sound ideas; they should receive immediate attention and action.

- **Stricter enforcement of current behavior rules.** Local tournament directors should begin instructing referees to assess technicals in instances of unseemly conduct. There are rules to cover such behavior, and it doesn't do much good to have rules on the book if they aren't enforced.

- **A strong emphasis on sportsmanship among junior players.** This means emphasizing proper conduct during junior clinics, training camps and tournaments. The time to teach good manners is while the player is still young.

- **A system of fines for behavior infractions among pro players.** The pros often set the tempo and the *tenor* of the game for amateurs as well. Recognizing this, the new pro players' associations have made moves to establish a system of fining their members for instances of improper behavior. The next step is to actually begin levying such fines upon those players who deserve them.

- **Insistence upon proper player behavior by company sponsors.** Racquetball sponsors foot the bill for many players, both pro and amateur. They can thus insist that sponsored players clean up their acts, or forfeit the free equipment, money and other benefits that accrue from company sponsorship.

- **Establishment of a players' Code of Conduct.** This would be formulated and agreed upon by the players themselves, through their representative associations. Once the Code was finalized, it would be up to the players to exert peer pressure to assure that the rules were followed by everyone. ■

AARA NATIONAL AMATEUR RANKINGS

WOMEN'S OPEN

1.	J. Simon	MA	265
2.	C. Alba	MA	150
3.	C. Baxter	PA	140
4.	M. Lynch	NY	130
5.	C. McKinney	GA	130
6.	Lucy Zarfos	PA	130
7.	E. Ehrlich	ME	110
8.	B. Burkett	FL	100
9.	M. Callahan	MA	100
10.	P. Mattson	PA	100
11.	M. Cluess	NY	90
12.	S. McClintock	MS	80
13.	K. Borge	NJ	80
14.	M. Copley	TN	80
15.	J. Myers	NC	80
16.	S. Fanning	TN	65
17.	B. Bludeau	TX	60
18.	M. Wells	CT	60
19.	M. Obrien	MA	55
20.	B. Olson	ME	54
21.	J. Adler	CT	50
22.	B. Anderson	TN	50
23.	F. Davis	NJ	50
24.	M. Goldman	MD	50
25.	D. Henry	MI	50
26.	L. Kennedy	OK	50
27.	I. Kirkland	OK	50
28.	J. Segall	TX	50
29.	R. Thomas	CA	50
30.	A. Wirick	MO	50
31.	M. Boulette	MA	45
32.	T. Hajjar	PA	45
33.	S. Belanger	ME	40
34.	S. Brubaker	PA	40
35.	S. Hurwitz	CT	38
36.	N. Davis	MA	35
37.	J. Marshall	GA	35
38.	B. Bunker	OK	30
39.	C. Cathey	TN	30
40.	J. Ceglinski	IL	30
41.	S. Cross	TX	30
42.	C. Dalton	PA	30
43.	S. Flannery	MI	30
44.	M. Gwinn	NC	30
45.	M. Hyne	NY	30
46.	L. Kennedy	PA	30
47.	K. Koch	VA	30
48.	J. LaPoint	MS	30
49.	G. Rudysz	NJ	30
50.	N. Taylor	RI	30

MEN'S OPEN

1.	T. Ranker	PA	255
2.	G. Viera	MA	230
3.	M. McDounough	MA	190
4.	P. Pannaralla	CT	170
5.	M. Luciw	MA	130
6.	J. Cullen	GA	120
7.	C. Mathewson	PA	105
8.	M. Mijovich	TN	100
9.	S. Clark	VA	100
10.	R. Capitaneili	NJ	95
11.	P. Brennan	MA	95
12.	J. Dunlap	TN	80
13.	E. Foley	NY	80
14.	R. Gonzalez	MA	70
15.	E. Stover	NY	80
16.	B. Burnett	MA	65
17.	G. Cassidy	MA	60
18.	D. Janelle	MA	60
19.	S. Larrabee	MA	60
20.	F. Lesperance	MA	60
21.	G. Merritt	TX	60
22.	H. Powell	PA	60
23.	M. Romano	MA	60
24.	R. Olson	ME	54
25.	B. Anderson	TN	50
26.	J. Babbitt	MD	50
27.	J. Bond	MA	50
28.	M. Broome	TN	50
29.	M. Broome	TN	50
30.	K. Chambliss	OK	50
31.	B. Daniel	AR	50
32.	O. Foraker	DE	50
33.	B. Isom	VA	50
34.	M. Levine	NY	50
35.	J. Kwartler	TX	50
36.	D. Matheson	OR	50
37.	V. Niederhoffer	NY	50
38.	D. Pearson	TX	50
39.	T. Podgorny	MO	50
40.	K. Vanfrease	OK	50
41.	M. Lacey	MA	50
42.	B. Dehm	CT	48
43.	J. Jones	PA	48
44.	A. Manditch	MA	45
45.	D. Aceto	MA	40
46.	K. Blackmon	TN	40
47.	P. Henrickson	MA	40
48.	A. Diemar	NJ	40
49.	K. Goldberg	PA	40
50.	D. McAtee	PA	40

MEN'S SENIORS

1.	D. Giordano	MA	130
2.	Powell, Jr.	PA	130
3.	J. Jordan	AL	100
4.	F. Letter	NJ	100
5.	B. Kohout	NJ	85
6.	W. Pierce	MA	80
7.	J. Sargentanis	NJ	80
8.	J. Nocera	CT	70
9.	M. Friedman	ME	70
10.	D. Cahill	GA	70
11.	R. Wehrle	PA	65
12.	J. Krevsky	PA	65
13.	H. Coleman	MA	54
14.	J. Armstrong	CN	50
15.	J. Debella	ME	50

16.	P. Drennon	VA	50
17.	F. Esperance	MA	50
18.	B. Fluehr	NY	50
19.	C. Garfinkel	NY	50
20.	R. Hollowell	NC	50
21.	S. Hamilton	NV	50
22.	D. Landsberg	NY	50
23.	J. Laria	MA	50
24.	F. Lesperance	MA	50
25.	W. Campbell	MO	50
26.	J. Lotempio	NY	50
27.	D. Mas	DE	50
28.	T. McKie	TX	50
29.	H. Peele	MA	50
30.	B. Pinola	PA	50
31.	J. Soble	OH	50
32.	W. Tanner	TN	50
33.	V. Oliver	GA	45
34.	J. Burke	PA	40
35.	P. Crumme	MA	32 1/2
36.	H. Burgess	ME	30
37.	J. Adler	CT	30
38.	J. Currington	OH	30
39.	J. Ebbitt	TN	30
40.	C. Felicetti	PA	30
41.	L. Fonseca	NJ	30
42.	J. Jackman	PA	30
43.	C. Minor	MS	30
44.	R. Patrick	DC	30
45.	J. Peery	TX	30
46.	R. Riley	FI	30
47.	K. Seamans	CA	30
48.	D. Sebott	VA	30
49.	S. Tamre	CN	30
50.	D. Wagner	PA	30

WOMEN'S SENIORS

1.	A. Grant	MA	50
2.	M. Kelly	MA	50
3.	D. Lahti	NY	50
4.	H. Lavenue	TN	50
5.	P. Whittemore	RI	50
6.	G. Rosenfeld	NH	30
7.	M. Tucker	MA	30
8.	B. Welton	MA	30
9.	M. Bell	TN	30
10.	C. Willey	PA	30
11.	M. Boulette	MA	20
12.	B. Bracy	CA	20
13.	P. Caldwell	TN	20
14.	C. Carey	MA	20
15.	C. Connolly	MA	20
16.	V. Craig	PA	20
17.	C. Hopson	PA	20
18.	K. Rishel	CA	20
19.	T. Weiner	TX	20
20.	V. Edelman	MA	15
21.	A. Lindsay	PA	15
22.	H. Wright	TN	15
23.	B. Anderson	RI	10
24.	S. Carneiro	MA	10
25.	R. Donahue	NJ	10
26.	H. Leberman	MA	10
27.	P. McMahon	CA	10
28.	A. McNeil	MA	10
29.	P. Mignon	MA	10
30.	F. Ragow	TX	10
31.	D. Seamans	CA	10
32.	D. Woodhouse	CA	10
33.	B. Mekvold	OR	8
34.	O. Reed	CA	8
35.	B. Trevor	TX	8
36.	K. Avilla	CA	5
37.	J. Dunham	TX	5
38.	J. Rabold	CA	5
39.	S. Smead	CA	5
40.	N. Adams	CA	3
41.	D. Carmona	CA	3
42.	J. Gilbertie	CA	3
43.	L. Haines	CA	3
44.	M. Harris	TX	3
45.	K. Heilman	TX	3
46.	K. Kendrick	TX	3
47.	B. Konecne	CA	3
48.	J. Laughton	CA	3
49.	J. Migura	TX	3

MEN'S B

1.	B. Jackson	AL	100
2.	M. Ladge	MA	100
3.	M. Chabot	RI	95
4.	T. Bevelock	PA	80
5.	B. Fissette	MA	80
6.	B. Oliver	PA	80
7.	G. Martinez	PA	75
8.	J. Cascio	NY	70
9.	M. Diamond	NY	65
10.	T. Griffing	ME	60
11.	T. Rodolakis	CN	60
12.	J. Chabot	RI	50
13.	T. Chodosh	TX	50
14.	M. Cook	CN	50
15.	B. Denon	CN	50
16.	B. Emma	MA	50
17.	R. Englander	NJ	50
18.	B. Frye	OH	50
19.	M. Gardner	CN	50
20.	D. Hammond	OK	50
21.	M. Hardeman	TN	50
22.	D. Hubel	OR	50
23.	R. Huggins	MO	50
24.	G. Lawson	KY	50
25.	T. McRae	TN	50
26.	E. Pila	RI	50
27.	S. Prentice	PA	50
28.	R. Quartuccio	ME	50
29.	R. Quinn	CA	50
30.	J. Slate	NC	50
31.	D. Spear	MA	50

MEN'S C

1.	M. Parent	MA	70
2.	C. Rosenthal	ME	60
3.	H. Blake	TX	58
4.	J. Blunthaver	AR	50
5.	E. Burke	OK	50
6.	N. Campbell	FL	50
7.	E. Chandler	MA	50
8.	D. Darrah	DE	50
9.	J. Day	OH	50
10.	D. Diemidjo	PA	50
11.	J. Effektakar	TX	50
12.	J. Hurwitz	CT	50
13.	R. Hyman	MA	50
14.	E. Johns	MD	50
15.	K. Johnson	OR	50
16.	D. Kiwukus	MA	50
17.	B. Kolof	TN	50
18.	B. Marshall	CN	50
19.	T. McGrattan	CN	50
20.	G. Porterfield	MO	50
21.	D. Ragland	TN	50
22.	J. Roberts	TN	50
23.	C. Savage	MA	50
24.	V. Vasquez	NY	50
25.	J. Wilson	MA	50
26.	P. Wilson	TN	50
27.	J. Wong	CA	50
28.	J. Tewhig	MA	40
29.	D. Bryant	MA	40
30.	R. Barbaro	CT	30
31.	R. Becker	OR	30
32.	F. Bowler	CN	30
33.	S. Brewer	TX	30
34.	T. Colby	TN	30
35.	N. Desport	OK	30
36.	J. Elkins	TX	30
37.	G. Gardner	CA	30
38.	T. Hambidge	NC	30
39.	J. Jortner	TX	30
40.	D. Kirkland	OK	30
41.	A. Leteri	NY	30
42.	R. Long	MA	30
43.	K. Lowey	MO	30
44.	B. Martin	RI	30
45.	J. Mendela	CT	30
46.	J. Morante	FL	30
47.	B. Peltas	NY	30
48.	W. Reichart	PA	30
49.	R. Robinson	TN	30
50.	M. Salvagno	CN	30

MEN'S MASTERS

1.	P. Talbot	NJ	155
2.	B. Muehlisen	CA	100
3.	W. Schmidt	MA	90
4.	C. Wickham	NC	65
5.	J. Lepore	MA	60
6.	R. Thornton	TN	60
7.	F. Webber	NY	60
8.	G. Adams	VA	50
9.	A. Ferarri	MA	50
10.	S. Garafalo	MA	50
11.	H. Greig	VT	50
12.	C. Lake	VA	50
13.	T. Litwiler	MA	50
14.	J. Ohlheiser	IN	50
15.	F. Palermo	CN	50
16.	V. Pawton	OK	50
17.	B. Prichard	TN	50
18.	P. Stankis	CT	50
19.	C. Buschner	MA	45
20.	F. Elia	NJ	45
21.	J. Solio	MA	44
22.	J. Joiner	TX	35
23.	R. Walker	TX	35
24.	L. Fonseca	NJ	30
25.	L. Hurrell	NJ	30
26.	D. Jones	VA	30
27.	F. Kilbride	CN	30
28.	B. LaTouche	VA	30
29.	E. Lowrance	TN	30
30.	R. Martin	MA	30
31.	C. Phillips	AR	30
32.	E. Schaub	MA	30
33.	E. Grula	OK	30
34.	T. Economod	NY	30
35.	J. Cowie	MA	30
36.	J. Bennett	NJ	20
37.	P. Columbo	NY	20
38.	G. Ferris	LA	20
39.	D. Lesperance	NY	20
40.	B. Lipira	MD	20
41.	P. Murrell	OK	20
42.	G. Pressley	NY	20
43.	J. Schreder	CA	20
44.	B. Siusarek	AR	20
45.	S. Starr	TN	20
46.	R. Waldrop	FL	20
47.	F. Young	OK	15
48.	D. Bowersock	OK	15
49.	G. Chrsanthopoulos	MA	15
50.	R. DePue	TN	15

WOMEN'S B

2.	V. Daily	AR	80
3.	C. Grazier	PA	80
4.	D. Benoit	MA	70
5.	R. Callahan	GA	70
6.	J. Skirboll	PA	70
7.	C. Kester	PA	60
8.	G. Sottile	NY	60
9.	S. Belanger	ME	50
10.	C. Chaney	TN	50
11.	P. Dillard	TX	50
12.	P. Dorsheimer		50
13.	J. Johnson	MA	50
14.	D. Koontz	IL	50
15.	N. Kriss	MA	50
16.	S. Lacey	MA	50
17.	J. LaPointe	MS	50
18.	S. Laperle	MA	50
19.	N. McCluskey	TN	50
20.	J. Myers	NC	50
21.	P. Plumbo	NJ	50
22.	M. Smith	TN	50
23.	M. Stewart	PA	50
24.	R. Wadsworth	MA	50
25.	S. Feldman	NY	40
26.	P. Whittemore	RI	40
27.	J. Bryant	PA	40
28.	I. Castles	PA	35
29.	M. Bouitte	MA	30
30.	C. Nolle	NY	30
31.	J. Boyer	MA	30
32.	S. Brem	PA	30
33.	K. Campbell	GA	30
34.	S. Guidry	TX	30
35.	N. Hahn	MA	30
36.	M. Kane	NY	30
37.	N. Katz	PA	30
38.	H. Leberman	MA	30
39.	D. Miller	MD	30
40.	L. Stater	MD	30
41.	K. Strandskiv	NJ	30
42.	K. Stuk	MO	30
43.	M. Sullivan	TX	30
44.	R. Swayze	PA	30
45.	J. Wade	MA	30
46.	P. West	AL	30
47.	B. Yospe	MD	30
48.	G. Young	AR	30
49.	KC Barton	VT	20
50.	B. Byk	NY	20

'TAKE FIVE'

Off-Camera With 'Love Boat' Racquetballers • By Jill Williams

The air is tense. Fred Grandy, otherwise known as 'Gopher' on ABC's ever-popular TV series *The Love Boat*, is adjusting his eyeguards and straightening his headband with grim determination. Ted Lange (Isaac Washington on the show), wearing a pop art T-shirt with a portrait of jazz great Billie Holliday etched on it, is already warming up. He's cool. Confident. A man with a definite mission: to whip Fred royally, to devastate him with kill shot after kill shot. Is it an act? Or are both these actors-turned-racquetballers deadly serious?

FRED: I would say I'm fair to partly cloudy when it comes to competition. I like to win, of course. But I don't get upset when I lose to Ted because it balances out so much of the time. I win one game, he wins two. And they're usually good games, too.

TED: I was always taught about sportsmanship that 'the best man wins.' It's okay to get upset about losing. But you have to keep it in perspective. You shouldn't shoot somebody just 'cuz they beat you in a game, you know what I mean? And yet, at the same time, you want to put forth your best effort and that's what determines who wins. It's always putting forth your best effort that counts. And my 'best effort' just happens to be better than Fred's 'best effort!'

FRED: Oh yeaahhhhh!

A lot of yuk-yukking. Back-slapping. 'Good old buddy' talk. And then the contest begins. Grandy wins the first serve and, for a while there, they look fairly evenly matched. But suddenly Fred (whose interest in racquet sports started when he played intramural squash at Harvard) hits a series of unreturnable serves. Low. Fast. They come off the wall and appear to glide past Ted who mutters diplomatically: "That was a great shot, you cretin." First game? Grandy 21, Lange 18.

TED: I often call Fred a 'cretin' when he makes a great shot. It's my way of complimenting him. And I also have a word I use—I invented it, as a matter of fact—for a really bad shot. 'Dufus.' It doesn't mean anything except to Fred and me. I'll say,



'You know that shot you just did? That was a dufus shot.'

FRED: I'll give you a perfect example. Let's say we're volleying back and forth for what seems like hours. I'm running and leaping with gazelle-like agility, hitting shots that ordinary mortals couldn't possibly hit, right? I've parried every thrust, so to speak, and I'm slowly wearing Ted down so that he's finally just banging away at the ball out of frustration. Got the picture? Then, he hits an easy one, I go to make a put-away, and I trip over my own laces! That's a dufus shot.

Enough repartee. Let's get back to racquetball: Will *The Love Boat's* nimble bartender rally back? Or will Gopher go on to an easy victory? Wait a minute. Ted Lange has somehow developed a deadly service that has Grandy paralyzed! Zip. Zip. Zip! Second game? Lange 21, Grandy 10.

FRED: I would describe my play as 'generally insipid bordering on putrid' from time to time. Especially in that last game! I'm too slow a lot of the

time. I don't move around the court well enough. And I still haven't learned the kind of placement I want to be able to make.

TED: (winking) I never tell my weakness. I'm working on it constantly, though. But it's not good for everyone to know what your weakness is, 'cuz then they'll play to that—and you'll never overcome it!

FRED: I'd say you weren't too weak in any department that last one. . . .

TED: It's just that I found a niche. My serve was just 'there,' that's all. Like we could have another game where I could do the exact same serve, and Fred would break it. It changes from game to game.

And speaking of games, what about the outcome of this duo's court battle? An 11-point tiebreaker decides it. For today, anyway, Ted Lange emerges the victor. A quick shower and steam, and it's back to the set of *The Love Boat*.

TED: The thing that's so great about this racquetball club is, it's only 10 minutes away from the studio. I originally joined 'cuz



JILL WILLIAMS

Love Boat bartender Ted ('Isaac Washington') Lange (left) prepares to deliver a devastating backhand kill shot, but... Fred ('Gopher,' The Love Boat purser) Grandy is ready for the return.

I needed to get back in shape. I'd put on a few pounds, and I thought racquetball would be a good way to drop 'em. Then I talked Fred into joining and now we usually zip over here at least two times a week in-between tapings.

FRED: You need at least a two-hour break, really. An hour to play and another hour to clean up afterwards. It's no fun if you just run right into a shower and go home. You've got to take a steam or a Jacuzzi—something along those lines—to get the full benefit of exercising and then relaxing.

TED: Since, being actors in a series, Fred and I normally work from seven in the morning till seven at night, five days a week, racquetball's ideal. You can play just about anytime you want, day or evening. And it's always indoors so you can play in any kind of weather. And most of all, it's really a physically ex-

hilarating sport.

FRED: It's a very concentrated, compact exercise. You get a lot of running around, a lot of leaping, a lot of jumping and a lot of stretching just by kind of 'struggling' within those four walls. I like working on my reflexes, too. Any kind of racquet sport involves a lot of eye/hand coordination, and I like honing and developing that.

The club Fred and Ted belong to is a super plush establishment called 'The Century Racquetclub.' The carpeting is a rich, royal blue. The latest gear can be bought at bargain prices at the club's racquetball boutique. There's a posh bar and lounge where players congregate to boast about their victories, or complain about their defeats. Yearly dues are \$300, with a \$35-a-month maintenance charge, and \$25-a-year towel fee.

FRED: That's another thing that ap-

peals to me about racquetball. It's not an expensive sport, really. A racquet, let's say, costs you anywhere from \$10 to \$90, and balls are around \$5. Then, there's gym shoes and stuff like that. . . And you don't have to spend \$300 to join the club. There are courts that are much cheaper than that. . .

TED: It's a fast game and you sweat a lot, which is good. And it increases your stamina. It makes you stronger and makes your eye a lot quicker, too. Like I notice when I went back to playing baseball, it was a heck of a lot easier to hit the ball because my eye could follow it better. And that's due 100 per cent to racquetball, I feel.

At this point, a young lady on her way to one of the courts walks by and smiles at Ted, which leads the duo into discussion of another subject: women in racquetball.

TED: That's another thing. Men and



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RACQUETBALL

APRIL
Delaware State
Championship (2)
Branmar Racquetball Club
Wilmington, DE
D. C. Lantz
302-654-2473

APRIL 3-6
Ektelon/Perrier (3)
The Courtrooms
750 W. Sunrise Blvd.
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33311
Fred Blaess
305-764-8700

APRIL 4-6
Nevada State Champion-
ship (2)
Supreme Courts
Las Vegas, Nevada
Bob Justice
702-873-5660

APRIL 10-13
Ektelon/Perrier (3)
Courtsouth
2969 Cobb Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30339
Jim Cullen
404-955-2120

Ektelon/Perrier (3)
Brookfield Racquetball
Club
670 Larry Court
Waukesha, WI 53186
Jim Wirkus and Mary
Peters
414-782-6120

Ektelon/Perrier (3)
Spaulding Racquetball
Club
7393 Forsyth Blvd.

Brody Mountain Heart
Fund Open (3)
Brody Mountain Racquet-
ball and Tennis Club
Rt 7
New Ashford, MA
Mike Meyer
413-442-3546

APRIL 17-20
Ektelon/Perrier (3)
Arizona Athletic Club
1425 W. 14th St.
Tempe, AZ 85281
David Michael
602-894-2281

APRIL 18-20
Ektelon/Perrier (3)
The Highpoint Racquet
Club
1 Highpoint Dr.
Chalfont, PA 18914
Alan Koth and Robin
Mingey
215-822-1951, 822-2953

AARA 1980 Intercollegiate
Championships
Quail Valley Raquetball
Club
2716 Cypress Point
Missouri City (Houston), TX
77459
Larry Liles 901-454-2807
Luke St. Onge 901-761-1172
Club 713-499-5621

Billtown Open (3)
Williamsport YMCA
Williamsport, PA 11701
Jim Huffman

International Azalea
Festival

Racquetball tournament for
the Benefit of Retina
Research Foundation
Playoff Club
Beverly, Mass.
Paul Henrickson
617-754-6073

MAY 8-11
Ektelon/Perrier National
Finals (3)
Rocky's Racquet World
12111 Strathern Street
North Hollywood, CA 91605
Mark Eller
213-768-5541

MAY 9-11
Forest Hills Open (3)
Forest Hills Athletic Club
3910 Caughey Rd.
Erie, PA 16506
Mark Salvia
814-833-2468

2nd Annual MIN-DAK Air
Force Racquetball
Tournament (2)
TAC Racquetball Club
1401 Dyke Ave.
Grand Forks, ND 58201
SSgt. Ben Beck
701-594-6455/3184

Racquetball Northeast
Grand Prix (3)
Shrewsbury Racquet Club
Tournament Director:
Paul Henrickson
Tennis Drive
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
617-845-1001

Blue Point Open (3)
Blue Point Racquetball

North Eastern Junior
Regional (5)
Winton Racquetball Club
3120 South Winton Rd.
Rochester, NY 14623
Nancy A. Allen
716-271-3700

Game Point Racquetball
Open (3)
Game Point Racquetball
and Health Club
Plymouth, MA
Rick Cash
617-746-7448

MAY 22-26
AARA National Singles
The Sportrooms
Coral Gables, FL
(See pages 13 and 14)

JUNE
Georgia State
Championship (2)
Early June, contact Jim
Cullen for details
404-256-2120

JUNE 13-15
South Carolina State
Championship (2)
Charleston Racquet
Nautilus
Center
Charleston, SC
Jerry Rogers
803-571-1020

JUNE 20-22
Racquetball Northeast
Grand Prix (3)
Racquettime
Tournament Director
Rich Derby

JULY 18-20
Racquetball Northeast
Grand Prix (3)
Worcester Court Club
Tournament Director:
Dave Forsberg
Gold Star Blvd.
Worcester, MA
617-852-8209

Yogi Berra/Lite Beer Grand
Prix (3)
Yogi Berra's Hall of Fame
333 Gothic Plaza
RT. 46 West
Fairfield, NJ 07006
Pete Talbot
201-227-4000

JULY 25-27
Arizona State
Championships (2)
Arizona Athletic Club
Jack Nolan
602-839-0036

AUGUST 22-24
Racquetball Northeast
Grand Prix (3)
Playoff-Braintree
Tournament Director:
Jim Daly
288 Wood Road
Braintree, MA
617-848-8080

Ocean City Outdoor Courts
Maryland Outdoor
Championships
Contact Tom Whipple for
details

SEPTEMBER 26-28
Yogi Berra/Lite Beer Grand
Prix (3)

Clayton, MO 63105
Rick Lukasek
314-721-7355

APRIL 11-13
Meadeville Racquet Club
Open (3)
Racquet Club of Meadeville
Meadeville, PA
Shirley Smith
814-724-3524

Michigan State
Championship (2)
Date not available at press
time
Central Michigan University
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan
Bryan Churnside
517-773-9678

Club House Open (3)
Dodge City Club House,
Inc.
Comanche & Ave. F Box
419
Dodge City, KS 67801
Steve Westphal
316-225-0206

Martin's Ferry Open (3)
City Rec. Center
Martin's Ferry, Ohio
Kevin Becker
304-277-1352

Racquetball Classic (3)
Cardinal Court Club
4444 Expressway Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23464
Dan Samek
804-444-7440
804-499-9667

APRIL 25-27
AARA Regionals (5)
(see Racquetball, March
1980)

MAY 1-4
Hemophilia Benefit (3)
Kessinger's
Memphis, TN 38117
Don Kessinger
901-682-6661

New Mexico State
Championship (2)
Early May, contact Clay
Childs for details
505-247-9536

Second Annual Golden
Triangle YMCA
Benefit Open Racquetball
Tournament (3)
Manor Courts South
Pittsburgh, PA 15220
Norman Joyne
412-261-5820

Club
Blue Point, NY
Allan Seitelman

MAY 10-11
Downtown Racquet Club
Contact Tom Whipple for
details

MAY 16-18
Governor's Cup
Racquetball
Classic (3)
International Fitness and
Racquetball Center
11033 Quail Creek Road
Oklahoma City, OK 73120
Ken Smith
405-751-5950

All Military Championships
(5)
Base Gymnasium
Little Creek Naval
Amphibious Base
Norfolk, VA
Dan Samek
804-424-2303

200 VFW Parkway (Rear)
Dedham, MA 02026
617-828-7632

AARA Juniors' Regionals
Sites to be announced
(See page 28)

New Jersey State
Championships (2)
King George Racquet and
Health Club
17 King George Rd.
Greenbrook, NJ 08812
Frank Pescatore-Pete
Talbot
201-356-6900

Annapolis Court Club
Maryland State Singles
Contact Tom Whipple
for details

JULY
9th Connecticut Open (3)
Site to be announced
Tournament Director:
Phil Panarella
203-229-0526

JULY 10-13
AARA National Juniors-
Singles
and Doubles
Kangaroo Courts
Redding, CA
Tournament Director:
Ed Martin

Yogi Berra's Hall of Fame
333 Gothic Plaza
RT 46 West
Fairfield, NJ 07006
Pete Talbot
201-227-4000

NOVEMBER 14-16
Yogi Berra/Lite Beer Grand
Prix (3)
Yogi Berra's Hall of Fame
333 Gothic Plaza
RT 46 West
Fairfield, NJ 07006
Pete Talbot
201-227-4000

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

State championships not
listed were not available by
press time; please contact
your local state director for
details (see page 42)

CALENDAR

AARA AFFILIATE COURT CLUBS

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

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

FLORIDA

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

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

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

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

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

MASSACHUSETTS

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

MINNESOTA

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

NEW JERSEY

Racquetball Court Club
17-10 River Road
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410
wlr,mlr,ws,ms,msr,ps,er,n

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

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

NEW YORK

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

TEXAS

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

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(cont. from p. 22)



'Gopher' (foreground) and 'Isaac' continue their on-camera sparring off-camera, too — this time on the racquetball court.

women can be fairly equal when it comes to racquetball. I mean, I've seen some women just destroy men! You see, it's not so much a question of power as it is

skill. If a person knows where to place the ball, how to keep it low, if he's good at finding his opponent's weaknesses—if his backhand is weak, or his ceiling shots

are inconsistent, or whatever—then it doesn't really matter what sex the person is. After all, you're using a racquet. It's not like punching somebody, or tackling 'em. A delicate woman can have a put-away shot that's fantastic. All you've got to do is keep that ball low. You don't have to have a lot of power to be forceful at the game. Not that any woman's ever beaten me—yet. . . .

FRED: Ted's right. Finesse and agility are far more important than strength. After all, the ball can only go so many places, right? You're in a relatively small room; it's not like a tennis court where a guy can just put the ball beyond you. I've had some good games with women. I was beaten by one. Once.

... And so, exhilarated and distinctly 'up' from their encounter with the little blue ball, these two 'Love Boaters' head for the locker room.

FRED: Racquetball seems somehow more 'violent' than other racquet sports like squash.

TED: With a kill shot like mine, you'd better believe it's violent!

FRED: What are you talking about? You just got lucky today. . . . Wait'll next game!

Bicker, banter. Bicker, banter. It seems 'Gopher' and 'Isaac' spar as much off-camera as they do on-camera. Disagree or not, they've got one thing in common: racquetball! ■

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Mona Mook

What Is A Nice Girl Like You Doing In A Place Like This?

What could an unassuming, 16-year-old girl from a small town in northern California be doing in the Women's Open division of a major racquetball tournament? Winning, that's what. Mona Mook is a shy teenager whose racquetball game is anything but shy. In fact, the power and aggressiveness of Mook's style of play may soon land her a national title.

Mona Mook has been ranked nationally in the Girls 15-and-under division over the past two years, with a second-place ranking in 1978 and third place in 1979. This year she is looking forward to playing in the Girls 17-and-under division. Her optimism is enhanced by the knowledge that the Junior National Championships will be played in her hometown this year - Redding, Calif. "I'm really excited about this year's Nationals, because I will be playing in front of people who have supported me for the past three years," Mook says. "It's always nice to play at home."

Mook placed second in the AARA Junior Nationals in Detroit in 1978, losing to Linda Hogan in the finals 21-19, -18. Last year she entered the AARA's

national junior tournament in Memphis as the number one seed in her division, but was upset by Stacey Fletcher of Michigan in the semifinals, thus leaving the tournament with a third place finish. She readily admits that being the number one seed put a great deal of pressure on her. "I was just terrible," recalls a more confident Mook today. "I had never been the number one seed in a major tournament before. All I could think of was - what if I lose? And I did." She adds, "I won't be the number one seed this year - so, maybe I can upset someone."

Indeed, Mook will not be the top seed in the 17-and-under division this year. That distinction will belong to either Linda Hogan, who last year won the 17-and-under division as a 16-year-old, or Liz Alvarado, winner of the 15-and-under division last year. Both Hogan and Alvarado are tough, seasoned players. But this year they will have to deal with the pressure, and the knowledge that the number three seed is tuned for an upset victory of her own.

Junior Regional sites which have been determined as of March 1, 1980:

Northeast Regional:
May 16, 17, 18
The Winton Racquetball Club

3120 South Winton Road
Rochester, N.Y., 14623
Tournament Director - Nancy Allen (716) 271-3700

Midwest Regional:

June 20, 21, 22
The Supreme Court West
3725 West 13th Street
Wichita, Kan., 67203
Tournament Director - Dewane Grimes (316) 945-8331

Southeast Regional:

June 20, 21, 22
The Courtrooms
750 W. Sunrise Boulevard
Fort Lauderdale, Fla., 33311
Tournament Director - Terry Fancher (305) 764-8700

Western Regional:

June 20, 21, 22
Casa De Courts
2183 Benita Drive
Rancho Cordova, Calif., 94670
Tournament Director - Jeff Hetherington (916) 635-7354

Northwest Regional:

June 20, 21, 22
The Courthouse
7211 Colonial Way
Boise, Idaho, 83709
Tournament Director - Gene Gibbs (208) 377-0040

Additional Regionals where the site is still to be decided will be held in Boston, Mass.; Tempe, Ariz.; and Chicago, Ill.

There will be a total of eight Regional Junior Tournaments and this year's regionals will be "Open," which means that junior players may enter any of the eight regionals they choose! There will be no geographical restrictions; however, players may only compete in one regional tournament.

AARA Age Groupings—Regionals and Nationals

Boys and Girls

17-and-under
15-and-under
13-and-under
10-and-under

* A player's tournament age is determined by his or her age as of January 1, 1980. Example: If a player is 16 on January 10, he or she will play in the 15-and-under division for the entire year. ■

We Have Answers To Your Racquetball Questions

How long have you been playing racquetball? When was the first time you played racquetball? Is racquetball your primary sport? Other than racquetball, what is (or was) your primary sport? How often do you usually play racquetball? When you play racquetball, for how long a period do you usually play? When was the last time you played racquetball in a tournament, excluding internal club tournaments? Where do you usually play racquetball? Where would you prefer to play? If you play in a private court, about how much in membership fees do you pay each year? On the average, about how many dollars per hour do you pay for court costs when you play racquetball? What is the brand name of the racquet you use most frequently when you play racquetball? Which brand ball do you use when you play racquetball? What color ball do you prefer to play with most often when you play racquetball? Are the shoes you usually wear to play racquetball special racquetball shoes or other shoes? What is the brand of shoes you usually wear when you play racquetball? What is the brand of gloves, if any, that you usually wear when you play racquetball?

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THE PINK LADY

She's seen a lot in her day, and now this graceful old building is one of Florida's premier racquetball clubs.

By Carl Dean



The Miami Coliseum—a building which has housed everything from opera to boxing—is adding another chapter to its history in its new role as a racquetball club. This coral pink, 200-foot wide, 250-foot deep and 100-foot high one-story building is now the home of the Sportrooms of Coral Gables, site of the 1980 AARA National Singles Championships in July. The



MIAMI COLISEUM.

The great pink lady, the Miami Coliseum, was built and furnished over a two-year period at a cost of \$900,000.

story of this great pink lady reads like a history of our country. Through the years, the great and the near-great have graced the halls of this venerable structure.

In 1925 George Merrick, master planner of the City of Coral Gables, began construction on the building known as the Coral Gables Coliseum. The Coliseum was built and furnished for \$900,000 as an opera house and convention center. It was dedicated in 1927 by Will Rogers.

Unfortunately, the opera house concept was short-lived, for various reasons including bad acoustics, the devastating hurricane of the late 20s and the national depression of the early 30s.

The City of Coral Gables stepped in and purchased the Coliseum for a sports center in the early 30s. Until 1950, except during World War II, attempts were made to fill the large building with University of Miami basketball games, exhibitions by the Harlem Globetrotters, National



The building was dedicated in 1927 by world famous wit, Will Rogers, and originally functioned as an opera house and convention center.

Championship Wrestling, roller derbies, hockey matches and boxing matches featuring Rocky Marciano and other greats. During World War II, Army Air Force personnel were trained and housed at the facility while it was used concurrently for an aircraft repair and storage center.

After the war, "Holiday on Ice" purchased the building as a local site for ice shows and training. Olympian Sonja Henney was one of the skating stars to perform during this era at the Coliseum.

It was in 1957 that Harold Vineburg, current owner, acquired the great building. The structure was then converted from an ice skating center into a bowling center, and quickly became the most successful facility of its kind. It was so popular, in fact, that reservations were required if you wanted to bowl. The television show, "Championship Bowling," was filmed at the Coliseum. Improvements, including a billiard room, dance floor, rifle range, shooting gallery and

roller skating rink, were added in 1967.

On May 6, 1978, the bowling center closed and renovations were begun by a group led by Ed Torkelson, Bruno Cerchiai and Tim Foley, All-Pro safetyman of the Miami Dolphins football team. This group is best known in corporate circles as Racquetball International Corporation (RIC), developers of Sportrooms Racquetball and Fitness Clubs. At this time there are Sportrooms in operation in Montgomery,

Ala.; Plantation, Fla.; and two clubs in Miami—Sportrooms of Coral Gables and Sportrooms of Sabal Chase. Two more clubs are under construction—in Atlanta, Georgia and Hialeah, Florida—with several franchise operations under consideration.

In January, 1979, the Coliseum opened for racquetball with 24 courts, including a 3-wall glass exhibition court. The club now features separate men's and women's Nautilus rooms; separate men's and women's locker rooms including Jacuzzi, steam room and sauna; and a restaurant/lounge.

Since its opening, the Sportrooms of Coral Gables has hosted the 1979 and 1980 Kunnan/Leach Tournament of Champions, the 1979 United States Handball Association (USHA) National Championships and the 1980 United States Racquetball Association (USRA) Florida Championships, as well as the 1980 National Football League Players' Association Regionals. This Memorial Day weekend will find some 1,000 top amateurs from across the country competing in the American Amateur Racquetball Association's National Singles Championships—amidst the spirits of an illustrious past. ■



The Coliseum as it looked in 1936. By this time, the building had been altered to house sporting events such as National Championship Wrestling, Harlem Globetrotters' basketball, roller derbies and hockey matches.



Today the Coliseum is home of The Sportrooms of Coral Gables, a racquetball and handball facility which has hosted tournaments for professional and amateur champions of both sports.



Many sports greats, such as heavyweight champion Rocky Marciano (far left), appeared at the Coliseum during the 40s and 50s. Here, Marciano receives tips on what was then shaping up to be the latest sports craze: bowling. The Coliseum later became one of the most successful bowling centers in the country.

PRO PAGE



Action captions of the Danny Thomas/St. Jude benefit tournament: (Top) Charlie Brumfield (right) rebounded off the wall in his quarterfinal win against Gary Berberet. (Bottom left) Shannon Wright (right) ousted Lynn Adams in the finals of the Women's Open. (Bottom right) Comedians David Letterman (left) and Joe Nipote (of the Comedy Store) provided some off-stage entertainment as they played an exhibition match on the racquetball court.

The First Annual Danny Thomas/St. Jude Pro-Am Racquetball Tournament

One of the largest gatherings of racquetball players ever assembled in the history of the game (700) took place in Anaheim, Calif., at 'The Sports Gallery' February 28-March 2. It's somehow fitting that Racquetball Week coincided with this prestigious event, the First Annual Danny Thomas/St. Jude Pro-Am Racquetball Tournament. The prize list of this benefit tournament, totaling more than \$20,000, was headed by two 1980 Subarus—one for the winner in the Men's Pro Division, one for the Women's Pro winner.

As the tournament ended, Shannon Wright, the number one seed, laughed gleefully with the regional director for St. Jude, Rosemarie Christopher, over the fact that she got what she wanted: a

bright red 1980 Subaru. "Red's my favorite color!" Wright declared.

The final match in the women's division between Wright and Lynn Adams got off to a rollicking start when Adams won the first game 21-19. A local girl (from Costa Mesa, Calif.), Adams had the crowd rooting for her all the way. But that didn't seem to shake up Wright in the least. She took the second game 21-13 and then—after a quick shower and a change of outfit—beat her opponent in the tiebreaker 11-6. Wright has a great psychological gambit, it seems: whenever she's losing, she smiles. Widely. Whether it was this strategy, or the skill with which she handled the ball, that helped her defeat the more serious Adams, Wright's grin will no doubt shine behind the wheel of that red prize of hers.

Semifinal scores in the Women's Pro Division were: Shannon Wright over Karin Walton 18-21, 21-17, 11-9 and

Lynn Adams over Marci Greer 21-15, 21-17.

Halfway through the men's finals, winner Charlie Brumfield looked as if he'd just finished a 15-round prize fight. Having apparently hit his hand on the side-wall while digging out one of Marty Hogan's more difficult returns, the 32-year-old, five-time national champion's little finger started spurting blood. But with a little first aid and a clean shirt, Brumfield went on to prove that control on the courts can triumph over power. He beat Hogan 21-13, 21-11.

Said Sports Gallery manager, Dave Dennis, "It was the classic match-up, the match that all racquetball players look forward to seeing. There's always a controversy over those two. Power versus control. And today anyway, it was a relatively easy win for Brumfield."

Some say Hogan lost because they were using a different (i.e. 'slower') ball during this particular tournament. But benefit coordinator Margo Arden thinks it's because Hogan was supposed to be going in for tonsil surgery and wasn't feeling up to par. For whatever reason, Brumfield won it fair and square and got to whiz off in a white 1980 Subaru.

Semifinal scores in the Men's Pro Division were: Marty Hogan over Scott Hawkins 21-10, 19-21, 11-3 and Charlie Brumfield over Ed Andrews 21-8, 21-7.

The courts were also filled with a healthy smattering of racquetballing celebrities like David Letterman, Dick Van Patten, Michael Young and Steve Kanaly, who added immeasurably to the proceedings. But far and away the best thing about this lively, four-day tournament was the \$5,000 that will go to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis to help combat childhood cancers. ■



Winners Charlie Brumfield and Shannon Wright hold up the keys to the Subaru cars which were their first place prizes

T

TOURNAMENT

R

REPORT

Only the Best

THE MASTERS SINGLES INVITATIONAL • BY CAROLE CHARFAUROS



Bud Muehleisen (right) defeated Al Ferrari (left) to take first place.

For several years, many of the Masters division players around the country had been trying to convince Dr. Bud Muehleisen to host their annual invitational tournament. This was partly due to Muehleisen's incredible winning record as a player in the 45-and-over age bracket, and his experience in the racquetball industry spanning a dozen years or so. But if the truth be told, probably at least part of the reason the Masters were so anxious to have Muehleisen host their tournament was simply because he lived

in San Diego. And there are few locations better suited for holding a tournament in February—in the dead of winter—than sunny San Diego. Or at least, so the Masters thought.

Then, the unexpected happened: a series of almost continuous storms which threatened to drown southern California, flooding the area with a record rainfall. Shopping centers, parking lots and even entire football fields in San Diego simply disappeared, becoming just another part of the rising San Diego River. The reser-

voirs surrounding the Mission Valley section of the city, where the Masters tournament had been scheduled to be held, reached dangerously high levels. Indeed, by the time Masters players began arriving in San Diego from throughout the country, people in San Diego's Mission Valley were already being evacuated. All in all, it was not a very auspicious way to begin a tournament.

But that's where the disaster story ends. Muehleisen quickly moved the tournament site and hotel accommodations



Richard Walker (left) and Ken Ruether.

to higher ground and the rain stopped unexpectedly, leaving traditional San Diego sunshine in its place. So, in spite of a rather soggy welcome, the Masters players still managed to enjoy the warm weekend they had looked forward to.

The Masters tournament also featured 40 of the best players in this age division in the country. This was an "invite only" tournament, and those invited included Al Ferrari, the retired basketball pro who did very well in last year's Coors All-Pro Racquetball Tournament; AARA president Bob Folsom; former AARA president Bill Tanner; and of course, tournament director Muehleisen, who has won 41 national titles, including the first racquetball national championship in 1969. Truly, the Masters were out in force this winter weekend in San Diego.

The players were divided into four groups of 10 (which did not reflect skill levels), labeled "A," "B," "C," and "D." On Friday and Saturday, each group played a round robin to determine rankings within the group from 1 through 10. Then on Sunday, for the play-offs, the "A's" challenged the "B's" and the "C's" took on the "D's." Players were matched according to their rankings within their respective divisions.

Players also refereed their own matches during the tournament. "The camaraderie here is just unbelievable," Muehleisen explained. "We never need referees because mainly everyone's here to have a good time." As another player, Tom Carlyon, summed it up, "We can solve our own problems without some guy hair-lipping the whole thing upstairs."

Players from 17 states were on hand for the Masters tournament. The average age of the players was 48.1 years, with Al Rossi the oldest at 54. The tournament featured a banquet and awards presentation Saturday night, and a smorgasbord brunch on Sunday. Free equipment from AMF Voit and Ektelon was also raffled off.

The results of the Sunday play-offs, in descending order, are as follows:



Bud Muehleisen (right) and Al Ferrari battled for first place in the play-off match.



At the tournament banquet, Dr. Bud finds time for joking and relaxing, as he shows the tournament participants a poster of his wife — or so he claims.

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A vs. B

Dr. Bud Muehleisen (A) of San Diego defeated Al Ferrari (B) of Missouri 15-2, 15-6; Charles Wickham (B) of North Carolina defeated Pat Columbo (A) from New York 15-12, 15-7; Allen Weckerly (B) of San Diego defeated Pat Whitehill (A) of Washington 15-11, 15-3; Tom Waltz (B) of Connecticut defeated Richard Walker (A) of Texas 21-6; Bob Folsom (B) of Maine defeated Ted Shacker (A) of Nevada 21-17; Ron Botchan (B) of California defeated Ed Lammersfeld (A) of Illinois 21-15; Bill Tanner (B) of Tennessee defeated James Simmons (A) of Massachusetts 21-20; Bob Troyer (B) of Illinois defeated Paul Banales (A) of Arizona 21-9; Fred Weigand (A) of Michigan won by default over Jay Streim (B) of California; Bill MacNamara (B) defeated Joe Simon (A) of Illinois 21-14. The final score, not counting the forfeit, was 8 to 1 in favor of the "B" group.



Jordan "Killer" Teplich.

C vs. D

Lee Pretner (D) of California defeated Al Rossi (C) of California 15-9, 15-10; Lou Smario (C) of Colorado defeated Bill McLaughlin (D) of New York 15-5, 12-15, 15-7; Frank Leydens (D) of Colorado defeated John Mooney (C) of Colorado 15-4, 7-15, 15-13; Gordon Ira (D) of Florida defeated Dan Day (C) of Illinois 21-9; Norm Goldetsky (D) of Minnesota defeated Tom Carlyon (C) of San Diego 21-9; Hal Price (C) of Arizona defeated Ken Ruether (D) of Texas 21-16; Bob Johnson (D) of San Diego defeated Chuck Martarano (C) of Illinois 21-19; John Brandrup (D) of Minnesota defeated Stan Simon (C) of North Carolina; Amos Rosenbloom (C) of Minnesota defeated Joe Woods (D) of San Diego by default; Jordan Teplich (C) of Illinois defeated Art Dern (D) of Illinois 21-18. This was a close finish, with the "D's" prevailing 5 to 4. ■

WINNING POINTS

THE BATTLE OF THE SEXES

OR, HOW TO TAKE A MAN TO COURT

By Sarah Green

EDITOR'S NOTE: Sarah Green is currently ranked second among professional women racquetball players. This is the first in an exclusive series of instructional articles for women which Green is writing for Racquetball.

For most women it can be very beneficial to their racquetball game to compete against men. Don't assume, though, that it will automatically improve your game; you must do a little homework first. Be aware of the differences in styles of play (which I will discuss later) between men and women racquetballers. You'll find that you need to readjust your game when you go back to playing women.

First you must decide who to compete with. I recommend that women only play with men of equal playing ability; otherwise neither player will benefit from the experience. To give you an idea of which levels of players are compatible, I'd suggest the following types of pairing (based on competitive levels of Open, "A," "B," "C" and novice): The Open female can

play against some male "A's," and most "B's;" women's "A" should pair with men's "C" and women's "B" with men's novice. I suggest "C" and novice level women continue to compete with women until the level of their playing ability improves. Of course there are always exceptions, but I think you'll generally find the competition fairly equal if you stick to this system.

One aspect of the game to consider, before walking onto the court with men, is fear. If you are good enough to play against men, but are still afraid of being hit with the ball, don't play. The fear will only be compounded when you realize the speed of the action in the men's game.

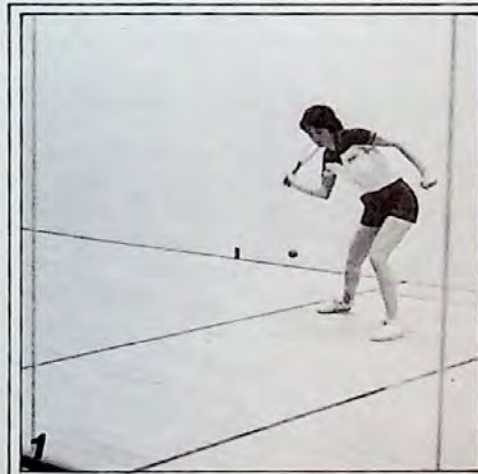
After you have decided to play against men and have found your level of play, you must consider a few things peculiar to the coed game. First of all, there will always be a few men who will not play with you. Skip the consciousness-raising lesson and go on to someone else; you will not enjoy playing a man who is afraid of losing to you. Remember, as you must

in all sports, to be a gracious winner. Nobody, male or female, likes a braggart.

As for the obvious differences in the play of men and women, two very important ones are the speed of the ball and court coverage. With these two things in mind, a woman must adjust her game plan.

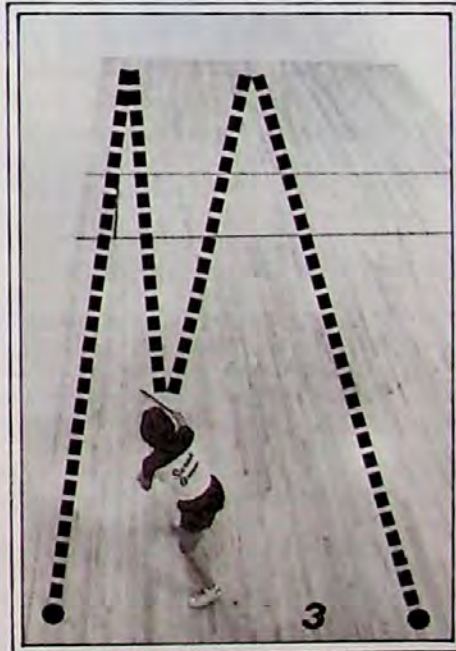
The serve will be even more important in this game than when you play against a woman. You will need as many easy points as you can get, because fatigue could be a factor. (Generally, a man's overall strength will hold up longer than a woman's.) Because of a man's quickness and court coverage, low drive serves and crack serves are less effective. Therefore the element of surprise is your best bet. *Mix your serves.* Try standing in different places in the service zone and serving to both sides to help disguise your serves. Low drives allow the man to set up and shoot the serve, so use lobs and Z's, but don't let them come off the back wall.

Good return of serve could be the deciding factor in your match. Because of their quick reactions, men often like to plant themselves up front after their serve and wait for you to try a kill shot. They will take these returns and dump them in the corners for easy points. So be smart—don't shoot the serve very often. Instead, use good, waist-high pass shots or around-the-wall balls to move your opponent to back court, where he will be less effective. You will, of course, want to shoot the serve every once in a while (maybe one out of eight times), just to keep your opponent honest. Because if he catches on to your game plan, he may



When a woman competes against a man, the element of surprise is important. Therefore, it is important to mix your serves. Try standing in different places in the service zone (far left in photo 1, right in photo 2), and serving to both sides to help disguise your serves.

Since everyone is less effective on the run, you should use a lot of shots up and down the walls to move your opponent around. Experiment; try using the down-the-line pass and the cross-court pass, as shown here in photo 3.





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start to sneak to back court early, thus rendering your defensive return ineffective.

To be able to return his serve at all, you may need to stand one step closer to the back wall than you are accustomed to. The serve will come at you faster than usual, so by being deeper in the court you will have a split second longer to react. Good, low serves that land just across the short line will be harder to get, but because of the speed of the serve, you might not get to these even if you were closer.

Your positioning will not only be different for receiving the serve, but also throughout the game. You should stand one step deeper than usual on all shots. Because of the difference in the speed of the ball, a man's low shot will rebound further back in the court than a woman's. Also, by being back you will have, as I said before, more time to react. On shots that go past you to the back wall, you will also be in better position because you will have to take one less step in order to get to the ball.

Now that you have the ball in play and are in a position to hit it, you must be conscious of not over-swinging. It is unlikely you will overpower your opponent, which means your best bet is to concentrate on strategy.

Good strategy against men is the same as good strategy against women. You must try to control center court. Since everyone is less effective on the run, you should use a lot of shots up and down the walls to move your opponent around. Ceiling shots are also good, because they keep your opponent in back court where his shots are less effective. Also, men have a tendency to be less patient on the ceiling. They want to hit the ball hard and go for kill shots all the time, so force a slow-down game with which your opponent will be less comfortable. To do this you will have to learn to be patient enough to wait for his mistakes. But, more importantly, you must learn to capitalize on those mistakes.

When you have an opportunity to shoot the ball, do so right away. Because of your opponent's court coverage, you will get fewer offensive opportunities in each rally. And because men love front court re-kills, you will have to make these offensive shots better than those you make when you play women.

Pinch shots, generally, do not work as well against men. This is because pinches come back to center court, which is where you'll usually find your male opponent. What you must do is mix your pinches with passes and ceiling shots. Again, the element of

surprise is your best weapon; it will keep your opponent on his toes.

Be cautious about assuming a shot you hit is going to be a winner. You will often be surprised because your opponent will get to balls that you thought were winners. Don't stop until the ball has bounced twice.

Your best practice against men will come in tournaments. Don't be afraid to enter the men's division. Both of you will work much harder in a tournament situation than in practice. You will come away from tournaments with a great appreciation as to how hard men play in all divisions of all tournaments. They play hard every point, which forces you to also.

One last word of caution about playing men—don't spend all your time playing them. After a while you will find it much easier to play against men than women. This is because we all have a tendency to play to the level of our opponents. Men play a faster, harder-hitting game because they force the action. If you get used to this style of game you will have difficulty playing women, because you cannot force this type of action. You will find yourself standing too deep in the court for women's kill shots, your passes will be less effective (because women play for pass shots) and you'll find that you are not going for pinches and kill shots. Making the adjustment of returning to playing women is much more difficult than going from women to men; so be careful.

I have a couple of suggestions for ways to play men that will make the game more exciting. (For that matter, these suggestions can be applied to any game where competitors are not equally matched.) First, you may start out with a 10, 15 or even 18-point advantage—however many points you need to make the game close. (Calculate how many points to take according to the usual finishing score of your matches against one another, if he always beats you.) This will force your opponent to play hard. If your partner is considerably quicker and stronger than you are, you might try a game in which you give yourself two bounces. The result will be longer rallies, which will give both players a better workout. In addition, your opponent will probably try for aces, since they will be the only easy points—again, good practice for both of you.

Experiment with a couple of these ideas. They may be difficult adjustments at first, but in the long run your game will benefit tremendously. Be patient and good luck! ■

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WINNING POINTS

THE CONTROL PLAYER

**MARTY HOGAN,
EAT YOUR HEART OUT**

By Charlie Garfinkel

When racquetball first started to boom a few years ago, the "control" game of Charlie Brumfield was unequalled. Other players such as Steve Keeley and Steve Strandemo also were excellent "control players."

Brumfield could control the ball so well that he could literally give his opponents a tour of the court. Being referred to as a control player, then, meant that Brumfield could control the tempo of the game and the pace of the ball.

Third-ranked Mike Yellen is another bona fide control player. His second place finish to World Champion Marty Hogan in the Nationals last year shows that there is a definite place for the control player in today's game. In addition, Brumfield and Strandemo are both still ranked among the nation's top 10 players.

Of course, the very lively ball that has been in vogue over the past few years sometimes hampers a control player's game. With such a ball, the power game as practiced by players like Hogan, Bledsoe and Hilecher often prevails.

Recently, however, this situation has been offset somewhat as more companies are beginning to make racquetballs that are a bit slower. They're not as slow as the balls of a few years ago, but they are certainly slower than the racquetballs that have heretofore been in wide use. Consequently, more and more players are incorporating the control game into their game plan.

Being known as a control player myself, I feel that there are some definite strategies that can help you play a better control game. For starters, you must rid yourself of the notion that the control player is simply a guy who keeps hitting ceiling balls. That's just not true, because there's a lot more to it than that.

For one thing, the control player has to be in excellent physical shape. Because he is attempting to control the tempo of the game and the pace of the ball, he has to be moving quickly and accurately to the ball at all times.

The control player is also relying on his

excellent execution of shots and a minimum of errors. To properly execute each shot continually, he must be physically able to maintain a constant pace. Otherwise, the fatigue factor will set in and he'll find himself missing shots that he usually makes. And when that happens, he isn't controlling the game; the other guy is.

This means that a control player must practice quite a bit by himself in addition to playing matches. He should work on each individual shot and serve until he has mastered it to the point that he feels secure with it.

The control player should also maintain his control style even during practice matches. In other words, he should be in the center court area as much as possible. His opponent should be constantly on the run, seemingly never having a chance to get set and make his shot.

This may sound like a difficult trick to pull off, and it is. However, if you concentrate on what you're doing every minute and are aware of where your opponent is on the court, you can do it.

In comparing the control player and the power player, there are some obvious differences in style and strategy. When serving, for example, the control player tries only a sprinkling of hard drive and Z-serves. The power player, on the other hand, tries to serve hard drives and Z-serves every time. The control player mixes his hard serves with high and medium lob serves. He also hits some soft Z-serves.

The true power player usually tries to power both serves, even with the risk of double faulting. If the control player hits a serve that isn't good on his first attempt, he usually hits a soft serve on his second attempt. He never takes a chance of double faulting on his second serve.

The control player also varies his serves to the receiver's backhand or forehand. If he finds that his opponent's forehand is weak, he will consistently serve there. Because of his ability to control his serve, he will thus be able to take advantage of his opponent's weakness.

He can break down his opponent's concentration and confidence by continually placing the serve to his foe's weakest stroke.

When the ball is in play, the power hitter usually tries to hit every ball as hard as he can. He does play some defense, however. When the control player returns a serve, he rarely takes an offensive shot. He returns most of his serves to the ceiling. The ceiling ball will allow the control player to move to the important center court position. The ceiling ball also forces the server to retreat to the back of the court. This puts him in a strategically poor position.

Because of the control player's relatively few errors and his tendency to return serves to the ceiling, a great amount of pressure is put on the server. He must serve in such a manner that a weak return is the result of his serve. Otherwise, the server has just put the ball into play. He will be at the mercy of the control player's ceiling game.

Because the control player plays conservatively, he rarely attempts a service return that carries a high risk factor. However, if a serve is hit in such a way that it creates a setup for him when he is receiving serve, he will either shoot the ball or pass his opponent. His percentage is thus very high on both the kill and passing shots.

When the ball is in play the control player really excels. It is true that he does hit many ceiling balls. However, he tries to keep the ceiling balls to the left side of the court as close to the sidewall as possible. After four or five ceiling balls to the left side, he will hit a ceiling ball to the right side. In many cases his opponent's return will catch the sidewall. This gives the control player the setup that he wants.

There are a variety of situations that a control player may find himself in during the course of a match. He responds in the following ways.

Let's suppose that after an extended rally the control player finds himself in the service box near the right sidewall. He has a fairly easy shot to hit and his opponent is behind him. He doesn't pass because the ball may fly off the side or back wall, giving his opponent time to return it. He doesn't hit straight down the line, either. If he doesn't roll the ball out flat, the ball stays up and he is hindering his opponent.

The correct shot to hit is a right sidewall or pinch shot. This is the percentage shot. Because the control player is in front of his opponent, he has him blocked out. After the ball hits the front wall it is moving at an angle away

from his opponent that makes the shot impossible to return. The control player would execute a similar shot on the left side of the court.

In another hypothetical situation, the control player has a setup but he is stationed behind his opponent. What is the correct shot? It is definitely *not* the pinch or sidewall shot. If that shot is hit too high on the front wall, it will give your opponent an easy shot because he is stationed in front of you.

The correct shot to hit is either a kill shot or a passing shot. Of course, the kill shot is the more spectacular shot. However, is it really the shot to use?

Three things usually happen when you attempt a kill shot. First, you may roll the ball out and win the point outright. Second, you may skip the ball in, thereby losing the point or serve. Third, you may hit a good shot but it may be a bit high on the front wall. This would enable your opponent to return it successfully.

The control player does try many kill shots. But he also passes a great deal. In fact, a good passing shot will often force your opponent to make a weak return. This gives the control player a chance to move in front of his opponent. His opponent's return will give the control player an even easier shot than the previous one. *That's* when he tries the kill shot.

Because the control player can control the ball so well, he may execute passing shot after passing shot to wear his opponent down. He attempts to pass his opponent by passing him cleanly. If he does hit the sidewall, he hits it in such a way that it will bounce twice before hitting the back wall.

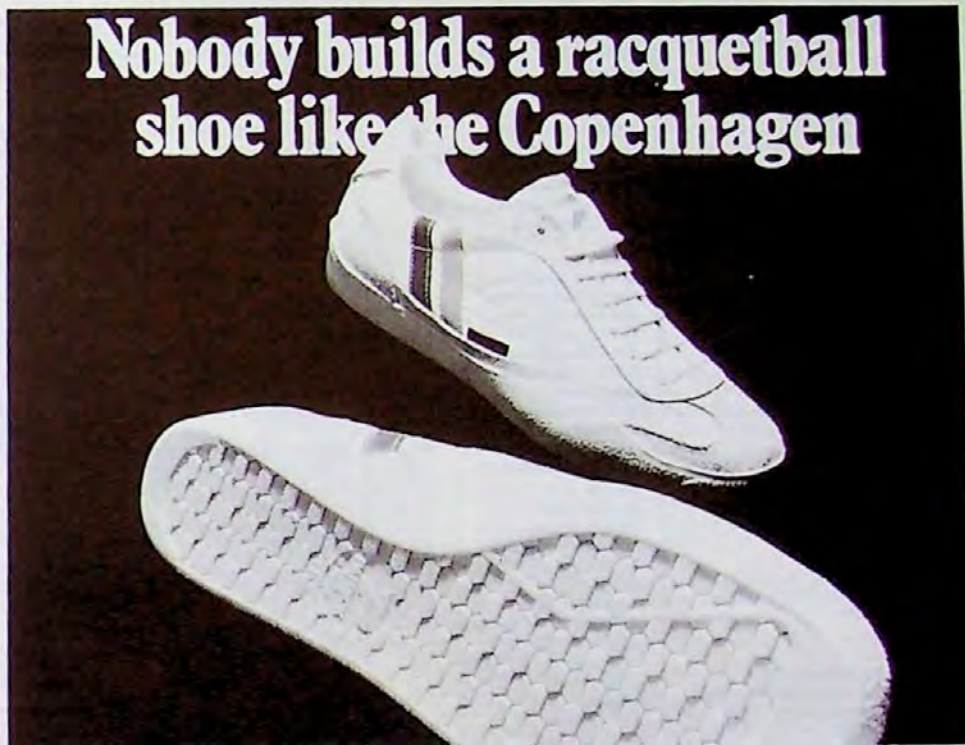
The control player usually goes for the kill shot much more when he is serving. He realizes that a missed shot in this situation only results in a loss of serve. When his opponent has the serve, he is much more likely to go for the passing shot.

Unfortunately, the control player does have days when his control style of play is "out of control." In other words, he is probably being overpowered and can't set to execute the shots he wants. In this situation, instead of panicking or rushing his shots, the smart control player will simply begin hitting the ball to the ceiling. This gives him time to adjust and slows down the tempo of the game. It also tends to throw off his opponent's rhythm and timing.

The control player is a difficult player to beat when he is on his game. If you incorporate some of the strategies and shots discussed here, you too will become more adept at controlling the tempo of the game. ■

Racquetball Magazine is seeking articles and freelance writers. Articles can cover everything from new developments in the game to interesting racquetball personalities. How-to articles, on improving your backhand, returning serves, etc., are also welcome. Please send manuscripts (along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope) to: P.O. Box 16566, Memphis, Tn. 38116. For further information, call Larry Conley at (901) 345-8000.

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Scorecard

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

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

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



In the Men's Open Doubles consolation round final of the Capitol Courts/Ormsby House Open, Dean Pferschy and Steve Evans lost to Ike Muniz and Bob Quinn (left to right).

CAPITOL COURTS/ORMSBY HOUSE OPEN Capitol Courts February 1-3 Carson City, Nevada

Men's Seniors: 1st: Steve Hamilton; 2nd: Elbie Crane; 3rd: Bob Quadros.

Women's Novice: 1st: Bobbi Konecne; 2nd: Mona Quadros; 3rd: Sharon Field; 4th: Yvonne Rowland.

Men's Novice: 1st: Avel Avilia; 2nd: Brad DeSoto; 3rd: John Sattler; 4th: Lou Wallman.

Women's C: 1st: Cindy Richardson; 2nd: Lynette Porch; 3rd: Charlotte McDonald; 4th: Teresa Garison.

Men's C: 1st: Jon Wong; 2nd: Dick Gardner; 3rd: Mike Carter; 4th: Louis Millhall.

Men's B: 1st: Robert Quinn; 2nd: Dean Hutton; 3rd: Jeff Mulligan; 4th: Sheldon Felke.

Women's Open: 1st: Raye Thomas; 2nd: Maria Hyne; 3rd: Cathy Gibson.

Men's Open: 1st: Rob Barruk; 2nd: Dean Pferschy; 3rd: Gerry Price; 4th: Shawn Fitzpatrick.

Men's B/C Doubles: 1st: Ed Martin-Dennis Bales; 2nd: Randy Richardson-Sheldon Felke; 3rd: Mark McDonald-Cameron McDonald; 4th: Rich J. Bennett-Dick Bennett.

Women's B/C Doubles: 1st: Lynette Porch-Cindy Richardson; 2nd: Bobbi Konecne-Bonnie Lynch; 3rd: Geneva Johnigan-Sallie Young.

Men's Open Doubles: 1st: Shawn Fitzpatrick-Gerry Price; 2nd: Frank Mitcham-Tommy Peterson; 3rd: Rob Barruk-Bob Adams; 4th: Paul Lee-Pepe Beresain.

Women's Open Doubles: 1st: Holly Ferris-Rosemary Baker; 2nd: Cheryl Hawkins-Ray Thomas; 3rd: Cindy Cardinal-Judy Brandt.

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Men's Open:
Double Elimination: 1st: Otto Dietrich; 2nd: Bob Doughtie; 3rd: Butch Simcoe.

Women's Open:
Double Elimination: 1st: Jan Brown; 2nd: Charla Mills; 3rd: Mariannette Miller.

Men's Senior:
Double Elimination: 1st: J. D. Douglass; 2nd: Dean Knox; 3rd: Kim, Chong Pae.

Men's B:
Quarterfinals: Santoro over Yung 21-11, 21-20; Torres over Fitzgerald by forfeit; Scalo over Schoonover 21-9, 20-21, 11-7; Roman over Tucker 21-17, 21-16.

Semifinals: Santoro over Torres 21-10, 21-17; Roman over Scalo 21-9, 21-18.

Finals: Roman over Santoro 21-11, 9-21, 11-6.

Men's C:
Quarterfinals: Lim over Wilson 21-2, 21-8; Treadway over Kast 21-3, 21-7; Lawson over Godina 21-18, 21-15; Adams over Folds 21-12, 21-11.

Semifinals: Lim over Treadway 21-12, 21-10; Adams over Lawson 21-15, 21-9.

Finals: Lim over Adams 21-11, 21-18.

WJAR/COCA COLA/MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY OPEN Playoff Racquetball Club E. Providence, R.I. February 15-17

Men's Open:
Quarterfinals: George Viera over Brian Dehm; Charles Horton, Jr. over Pat Brennan; Dennis Fonseca over Gerry Cassidy; Mike McDonough over Rob McKinney.
Semifinals: Viera over Horton; McDonough over Fonseca.

Finals: Viera over McDonough.

Consolation: Al Manditch.

Men's B:

Quarterfinals: Joe Chabot over Peter Holden; C. R. Poulton over Jake Hurwitz; William Eaton over Al Lavallee; Mike Chabot over Terrell Richards.

Semifinals: J. Chabot over Poulton; M. Chabot over Eaton.

Finals: J. Chabot over M. Chabot.

Consolation: Art Pacheco.

Men's C:

Quarterfinals: Ed Chandler over Pat Mele; Walter Brown over Keith Eksuzian; John Mendala over Gary Gherardini; Richard Long over Richard Hartley.

Semifinals: Chandler over Brown; Mendala over Long.

Finals: Chandler over Mendala.

Consolation: Paul Gully.

Men's Novice:

Quarterfinals: Robert Chapin over Bill Henry; David Bergin over Gary Vendito; Robert Porrazzo over Richard Wisniewski; Chris Ellis over Tony Raffa.

Semifinals: Bergin over Chapin; Ellis over Porrazzo.

Finals: Ellis over Bergin.

Consolation: Dennis Crepeau.

Men's Senior (35+):

Quarterfinals: Fred Lesperance over Louis Tocci; Jim Daly over Howie Coleman; Rene Depot over Dave Cahill; Danny Giordano over Paul Katz.

Semifinals: Lesperance over Daly; Giordano over Depot.

Finals: Lesperance over Daly.

Consolation: Bernie Albert.

Boy's 17-And-Under: 1st: Michael Coleman; 2nd: Chris Cassin; 3rd: Brian Mastrobattista; 4th: Andrew Hunt.

Boy's 15-And-Under:

Semifinals: Ray Ransom over Billy Fletcher; D. Reppucci over Kenny Riberio.

Finals: Ransom over Reppucci.

Consolation: Scott Brown.

Boy's 13-And-Under:

Quarterfinals: Cliff Swain over Kevin Daly; Jimmie Daly over Thomas Coleman; John McDonald over Alan Dogan; Richard Long over Paul Ferioli.

Semifinals: Swain over Daly; McDonald over Long.

Finals: Swain over McDonald.

Consolation: Mike Haynes.

Women's A:

Semifinals: Melanie Taylor over Norma Taylor; Francine Davis over Nora Davis.

Finals: Davis over Taylor.

Women's B:

Semifinals: Dorothy Benoit over Melba Campbell; Peggy Whittemore over Sharon Culberson.

Finals: Benoit over Whittemore.

Consolation: Donna Benoit.

Women's C:

Quarterfinals: Diane Perry over Karen Mignone; Karen A. Baptista over Marry Abbruzzese; Cathy Cerra over Cheryl Allen; Kathy Hessel over Diana Scanlon.

Semifinals: Perry over Baptista; Cerra over Hessel.

Finals: Perry over Cerra.

Consolation: Trisha Nosek.

Women's Novice:

Quarterfinals: Leslie Mackenzie over Cathy Oldham; Noella Colone over Betty Schifino; Lise Picard over Marie Camille; Charmaine Dunn over Andrea Botelho.

Semifinals: Colone over Mackenzie; Picard over Dunn.

Finals: Colone over Picard.

Consolation: Tracy Daly.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY CLASSIC OPEN Merrymeeting Racquet Club Topsham, Maine February 15-17

Men's Open: Randy Olsen over Norm Bernier 21-14, 16-21, 15-6. Consolation: Rich Quartuccio.

Men's B: Mike Violette over Tim Griffing 21-12, 21-8. Consolation: Jim Daye.

Men's C: Charlie Rosenthal over Ken Peterson 21-9, 21-8. Consolation: Wayne Cummings.

Men's Novice: Harold Sachs over Richard Leighton 21-18, 16-21, 15-2. Consolation: Steve Buraw.

Men's Junior: Mike Jalette over Rudi St. Jean 21-17, 12-21, 15-9. Consolation: Jay Saulter.

Men's Senior: (Round Robin) 1st: Joe DeBella; 2nd: Mike Chinchar.

Men's Doubles: Dick Moore-Bill Dubord over Reb Brown-Bruce Lewis 21-12, 13-21, 15-10.

Women's Open: Barbara Olsen over Sharon Belanger 21-4, 21-5. Consolation: Anne Thibault.

Women's C: Marsha Giglio over Karen Cairns 21-4, 15-21, 15-9. Consolation: Leslie Olsen.

Women's Novice: Carol Trotter over J. Smith 21-10, 10-21, 15-11. Consolation: Judy Tilton.

Women's Doubles: (Round Robin) 1st: Barbara Olsen-Linda Fitzpatrick; 2nd: Carol Frizzle-Karen Cairns.

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Men's Open:

Quarterfinals: Fowler Ragland over Jack Pitts; Scott Adkins over Chuck Slover; Murray Broome over Owen Ragland; Cecil Blankenship over Bill Falconer.

Semifinals: F. Ragland over S. Adkins; M. Broome over C. Blankenship.

Finals: M. Broome over F. Ragland.

Men's B:

Quarterfinals: Tom Jernigan over Bill Toohey; Chad Shanks over Jack Skelton; Conrad Auel over John Boothe; Mickey Hardeman over Jeff Bledloe.

Semifinals: C. Shanks over T. Jernigan; M. Hardeman over C. Auel.

Finals: M. Hardeman over C. Shanks.

Men's C:

Quarterfinals: Harry Williams over David Cassell; Todd Hambidge over Carl McInturff; David Surcey over Ed McInturff; David Ragland over Graham Spurrier.

Semifinals: T. Hambidge over H. Williams; D. Ragland over D. Surcey.

Finals: D. Ragland over T. Hambidge.

Open Doubles:

Quarterfinals: Fowler Ragland-David Ragland over Greg Noll-Geary Greenberg; Mickey Hardeman-Scott Adkins over A. J. Gilland-Randy Sandefer; Jack Pitts-Rocky Stump over Sheryl Carey-Mike Haws; Tom Mohler-Bill Falconer over Fred Martin-Dennis Caron.

Semifinals: M. Hardeman-S. Adkins over F. Ragland-O. Ragland; T. Mohler-B. Falconer over J. Pitts-R. Stump.

Finals: M. Hardeman-S. Adkins over T. Mohler-B. Falconer.

Women's Open:

Quarterfinals: Nancy McClosky over Carolyn Miller; Sharon Squibb over Jane Snyder; Kathy Koch over Ellen Scott; Joan Walters over Kim Crawford.

Semifinals: N. McClosky over S. Squibb; K. Koch over J. Walters.

Finals: N. McClosky over K. Koch.

Women's C:

Quarterfinals: Loretta Shanks over Diane Carter; Nita Summers over Dawn Surcey; Karen Fountain over Sandi Cassell; Barbara Shockley over Nancy Bachman.

Semifinals: L. Shanks over N. Summers; K. Fountain over B. Shockley.

Finals: L. Shanks over K. Fountain.

N.E. TENNIS JOURNAL GRAND PRIX Playoff Racquetball Club E. Providence, R.I. Jan. 18-20

Men's Open:

Quarterfinals: Mike Luciw over Al Lavalley; Mike McDonough over Robert Kabalian; Gregg Maloley over Steve Savage; Bill Burnett over Dennis Aceto.

Semifinals: Luciw over Burnett; McDonough over Maloley.

Finals: Luciw over McDonough.

Third: Maloley.

Consolation: Patrick Brennan.

Men's B:

Quarterfinals: Bob Fisette over Mike McCartin; Mike Ladge over William Verhoeff; Mike Chabot over Tony Pierannunzi; Peter Bedore over Ron Miano.

Semifinals: Fisette over Bedore; Ladge over Chabot.

Finals: Fisette over Ladge.

Third: Chabot.

Consolation: Joe Chabot.

Men's C:

Quarterfinals: Michael Parent over Earl Buteau; Richard Long over William Martin; James Harp over Dave Bryant; Richard Hartley over Dick Queeney.

Semifinals: Long over Hartley; Parent over Harp.

Finals: Parent over Long.

Third: Harp.

Consolation: Brian Couture.

Men's Novice:

Quarterfinals: Walter Brown over Dennis Saccola; Dennis Crepeau over Anthony DePasquale; Chris Ellis over Mike Crane; Ed Fisher over John Moore.

Semifinals: Brown over Ellis; Crepeau over Fisher.

Finals: Brown over Crepeau.

Third: Ellis.

Consolation: Mike Silverman.

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Men's Seniors (35+):

Semifinals: Dan Giordano over Rene Depot; Dave Cahill over Gary Northcutt.
Finals: Giordano over Cahill.
Consolation: George Kalaritis.

Men's Masters (45+):

Quarterfinals: Harold Greig over Dave Louro; John Lepore over Paul Cote; John Solio over Dick Zotti; Arpad Toth over Russ Kelly.
Semifinals: Greig over Solio; Lepore over Toth.
Finals: Greig over Lepore.
Consolation: Paul Cote.

Women's A:

First: Janet Simon.
Second: Cindy Alba.
Third: Maureen Boulette.

Women's B:

Quarterfinals: Nancy Kriss over Peggy Whittemore; Joni Wade over Donna Kelly; Donna Macaskill over Maureen Mello; Maureen Boulette over Sharon Culbertson.
Semifinals: Kriss over Boulette; Wade over Macaskill.
Finals: Kriss over Wade.
Third: Macaskill.
Consolation: Peggy Whittemore.

Women's C:

Quarterfinals: Sheryl Burlingame over Sue Henrichsen; Kristen Nash over Debby Bricault; Karen Baptista over Carin Grillone; Diana Lynch over Debby LaBreck.
Semifinals: Burlingame over Lynch; Nash over Baptista.
Finals: Burlingame over Nash.
Third: Baptista.
Consolation: Diana Scanlon.

Women's Novice:

Quarterfinals: Amy Lind over Gail Anderson; Suzanne Skogland over May Pollard; Liz Freeman over Kathy Oldham; Amy McWilliams over Carol Humphrey.
Semifinals: Lind over McWilliams; Skogland over Freeman.
Finals: Lind over Skogland.
Third: Freeman.
Consolation: Sue Rhieu.

Junior Boys 15-And-Under:

Quarterfinals: Ray Ransom over Paul Ferioli; Scott Brown over Brian Ferioli; Ralph Grillone over Ken Riberio; Richard Long over Alan Dogin.
Semifinals: Ransom over Long; Brown over Grillone.
Finals: Ransom over Brown.
Third: Grillone.
Consolation: Ken Riberio.

OMEGA-HERTZ RACQUETBALL CLASSIC

Aldenlea Racquetball Club
November 16-18
Oakville, Ontario
Canada

Men's A: 1st: Kelvin Vantrease; 2nd: Allan Lee; 3rd: Dave O'Reilly; 4th: Richard Cooper.

Men's Seniors: 1st: Jack Armstrong; 2nd: Stan Tamre; 3rd: Frank Spina; 4th: John MacDonald.

Women's C: 1st: Laurie Preston; 2nd: Lauren Robson; 3rd: Marlene White; 4th: Dawn Went.

Women's Novice: 1st: Sue McTaggart; 2nd: Sherry Sharp; 3rd: Jean Crowston; 4th: Laura King.

Women's Open: 1st: Donna Henry; 2nd: Sue Flanary; 3rd: Donna Allen; 4th: Shirley Saaritts.

Men's Masters: 1st: Frank Palermo; 2nd: Fenton Kilbride; 3rd: Frank Young; 4th: Ross Stevenson.

Junior Boys 17-And-Under: 1st: Allen Lee; 2nd: Mark Vandermoelen; 3rd: John Negast; 4th: Ian Thompson.

Men's Novice: 1st: Brad Arbuckle; 2nd: Brian Christmas; 3rd: Bill Malcolm; 4th: Simon Lightman.

Men's C: 1st: Tom McGrattan; 2nd: Fred Bowler; 3rd: Chris Wilson; 4th: Steven Levy.

Men's B: 1st: Brian Denson; 2nd: Marty Hayman; 3rd: Gary Forsbey; 4th: Roy Leggat.

GREENFIELD/NATURAL LITE OPEN

Greenfield Racquet Club
Lancaster, Pennsylvania
October 26-28

Men's Open: 1st: Jeff Bond; 2nd: Chris Mathewson; 3rd: Orval Foraker; 4th: Roy Stryker.

Women's B: 1st: Sue Wilson; 2nd: Connie Grazier; 3rd: Marcy Rueben; 4th: Jean Ryan.

Women's Open: 1st: Pat Mattson; 2nd: Marcy Lynch; 3rd: Beth Latini; 4th: Mary Musewicz.
Men's B: 1st: Tom Bevelock; 2nd: Gentry Lowry; 3rd: Jim Cascio; 4th: Enoch Ferencz.
Women's Doubles: 1st: Mary Musewicz-Cindy Baxter; 2nd: Pat Mattson-Tammy Hajjar; 3rd: Myrna Burns-Judi Stadler; 4th: Marcy Lynch-Sue Wilson.
Men's Doubles: 1st: Joe McAndrew-Chris Mathewson; 2nd: Joe Ross-Roy Stryker; 3rd: John Chelucci-Orval Foraker; 4th: Dick Liehty-Russ Cooper.

UTCHS 6TH ANNUAL BIG ORANGE TOURNAMENT
 University of Tennessee
 February 1-3
 Memphis, Tennessee

Men's A: 1st: Paul Wilson; 2nd: Bob Tipton.
Men's B: 1st: Chuck Keltner; 2nd: John Berg.
Men's C: 1st: Duke Heath; 2nd: Russell Berry.
Women's A: 1st: Brenda Lepley; 2nd: Jan Garrison.
Women's B: 1st: Janet Blackwell; 2nd: Charlotte Foster.
Women's Novice: 1st: Cathy Gibson; 2nd: Carol Harvey.

BENTLEY CLUB WINTER CLASSIC
 The Bentley Club Courts
 February 15-17
 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Men's Open: 1st: Tom Ranker; 2nd: Chris Mathewson.
Men's Open Doubles: 1st: Tom Ranker-Jerry Woolf; 2nd: Lee Deskin-Steve Ginsburg.
Men's B: 1st: Stephen Prentice; 2nd: Pete Fuoco.
Men's Seniors: 1st: Jay Krevsky; 2nd: Harold "Jr." Powell.
Women's Open: 1st: Lucy Zarfos; 2nd: Cindy Baxter.
Women's B: 1st: Chris Kester; 2nd: Deb Miller.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY MASSACRE OF CANCER
 Ames Racquet Club
 February 8-10
 Ames, Iowa

Men's A: 1st: Steve Leschin; 2nd: Jerry Coughlin; 3rd: Mike Meyers; Consolation: Doug Jacobson.
Men's B: 1st: Dennis Buffington; 2nd: Mike Manning; 3rd: Steve Craig; Consolation: Larry Ricketts.
Men's C: 1st: Gary Wilson; 2nd: Greg Weirson; 3rd: Rich Janssen; Consolation: Bill Peters.
Women's A: 1st: Sandra Robson; 2nd: Joan Manning; 3rd: Laura Doak.
Women's B: 1st: Gladys Tice; 2nd: Coke Humburg; 3rd: Doreen Braun; Consolation: Lori Nelson.
Women's C: 1st: Kathy Eggers; 2nd: Terri Hoop; 3rd: Shirley Longren; Consolation: Marianne Rose.
Powder Puff A: 1st: Charlie Drewes-Mary Bollig; 2nd: Steve Leschin-Laura Doak; Consolation: Bill Barnett-Sue Dill.
Powder Puff B: 1st: Max Urlick-Kristina Sadler; 2nd: Paul Clark-Mary Clark; Consolation: Larry Skahill-Judy Armstrong.

**1980 AARA/MRA MAINE STATE
 CLOSED SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS**
 January 11-13
 Andy-Valley Racquetball Club

Men's A: 1st: Steve Larrabee; 2nd: Steve Dubord; Consolation: Jerry Caron.
Men's B: 1st: Ed Curtlis; 2nd: John Bouchard; Consolation: Richard Poulin.
Men's C: 1st: Dick Spofford; 2nd: Mike Masselli; Consolation: Brian Albert.
Men's Novice: 1st: Wayne Cummings; 2nd: James Carr; Consolation: Larry Delahossaye.
Men's Seniors (35+): 1st: Mike Friedman; 2nd: Phil Soule; Consolation: John Shanahan.
Men's Junior 17-And-Under: 1st: Jay Saulter; 2nd: Paul Giguere; Consolation: Tom Fournier.
Men's Junior 13-And-Under: 1st: Joe Wyse; 2nd: Paul Mansun; 3rd: Mike Spugnardi.
Women's Open: 1st: Barbara Olson; 2nd: Linda Fitzpatrick; 3rd: Carol Frizzle.
Women's B: 1st: Anne Thibeault; 2nd: Nancy Stevens; 3rd: Donna Giroux.
Women's C: 1st: Nancy Carr; 2nd: Leslie Olson; Consolation: Frank Campbell.
Women's Novice: 1st: Linda Ouellette; 2nd: Barbara Cain; Consolation: Lori Murray.
Women's Junior 17-And-Under: 1st: Linda Fitzpatrick; 2nd: Leslie Olson; 3rd: Heather Spalding.

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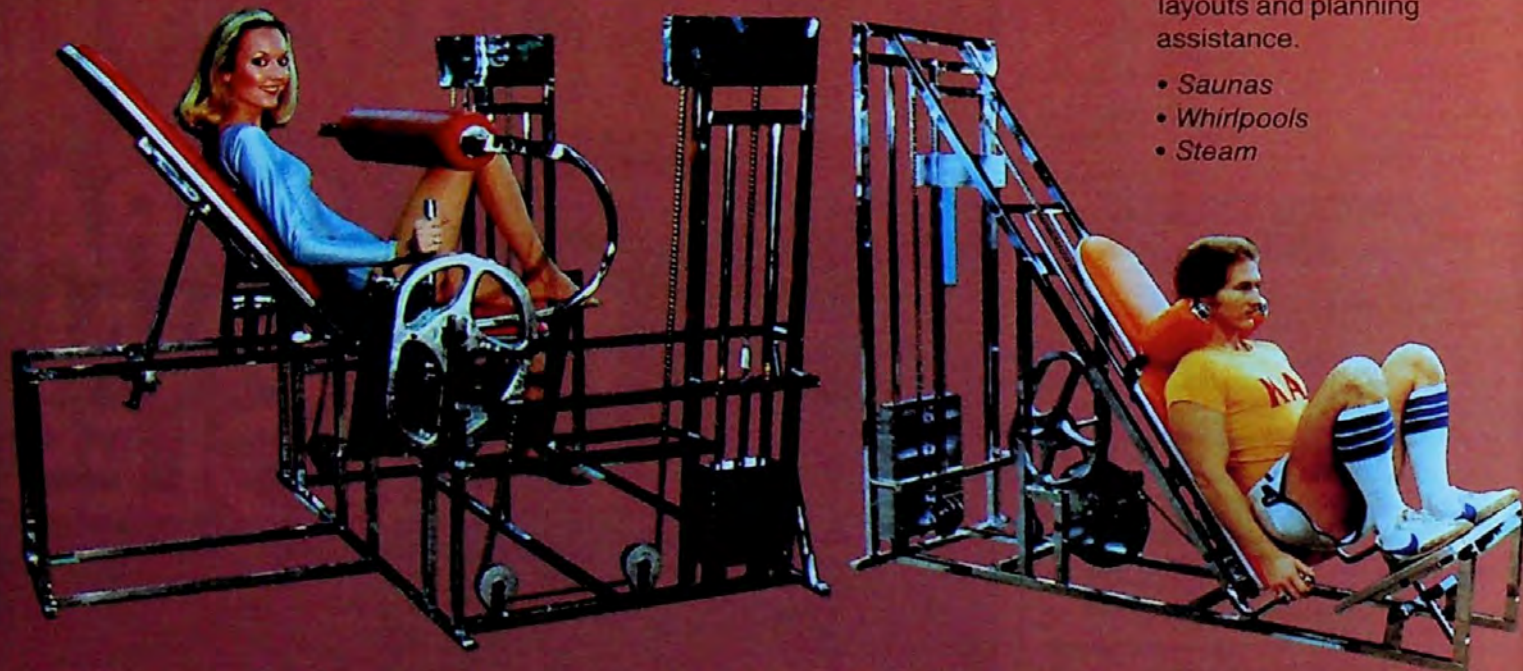
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