

RACQUETBALL MAGAZINE

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May - June 1991



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN
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*INSIDE: 1991 Ektelon U.S. High School Championships and Ektelon IRF World Intercollegiate Championships ** Regional News ** PARI Instructional Section ** Pro Update ** National Rankings ** Event Calendar ** Penn National Outdoor Application ***

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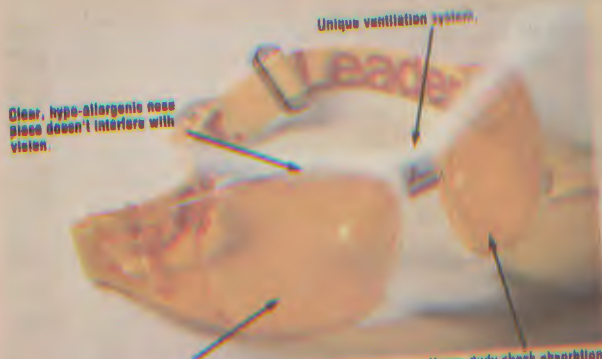


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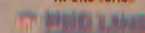
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CONTENTS

Volume 2, Number 3 -- May-June 1991

IN THIS ISSUE:

"Pumped to the Max" at the High School Nationals, by Marty Kaminski	Page 4
1991 Penn Tournament of the Americas	Page 7
1991 Ektelon World Intercollegiates	Page 8
The Art of "Flow" by Diana McNab	Page 9
Hall of Fame	Page 10
Penn National Outdoor Entry Form	Page 11
Focus on Masters	Page 26

IN EVERY ISSUE:

National Rankings	Pages 12
New Directions	Page 14
From the President	Page 14
Notes from the National Office	Page 16
Program Update	Page 16
Collegiate Update	Page 18
Racquetball Aches & Pains	Page 18
What's the Call?	Page 20
Sanctioned Event Calendar	Pages 24-25
National/International News Briefs	Pages 21-26
Club Profile: Davison Racquet Club	Page 27
State & Regional News	Pages 28-35
PARI Instructional Section	Pages 36-40
Pro Update	Pages 41-43
Throw the Blum Out	Page 43
Letters to the Editor	Page 45

COVER: High School Champions Sudsy Monchik and Elkova
Icenogle model their new Junior Team USA sweats and medals in
St. Louis. Photo: Jim Hiser.

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"PUMPED TO THE MAX" AT THE HIGH SCHOOL NATIONALS

by Marty Kaminsky

They're rockin' and rollin' at the South Hampshire Club in suburban St. Louis. It's the first weekend in March and the 1991 Ektelon U. S. National High School Racquetball Championships are in full swing. Animated fifteen and sixteen year-olds high five and hoot like an Arsenio Hall audience as they bound up the stairs to cheer for teammates. The winners are "pumped to the max" and they want to world to know. First-round losers stumble off the court, racquets dragging, tears streaming down their faces. They're out of the "gold division" running, but still have shots at medals in "red," "white" or "blue" brackets and can bring in more team points for their school.

It's no wonder emotions run high - there's so much at stake. National titles in singles and doubles will be awarded with the singles champions receiving appointment to the Junior Team USA. Members of the Junior Team: attend a national elite training camp at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, receive top-notch coaching and training throughout the year, face the country's best players and have the opportunity to represent the U.S. on a goodwill tour of Australia later this year.

The Nationals also bring together high school racquetball teams for a unique team competition. In all, twenty teams are here, representing high schools from sea (Staten Island, New York) to shining sea (Auburn, California). The 1991 Nationals are again a showcase for National High School Commissioner Jim Murphy's dynamic St. Louis area league program, as thirteen local teams compete in the tournament.

Starting in late November, 52 high school teams, from 31 St. Louis schools, play 10 league games plus a post season tournament. This past season 426 students benefitted from the league racquetball program. "Not everyone's cut out to make their high school basketball or wrestling team," Jim Murphy explains. "Racquetball's a good alternative and it doesn't take as much time. Kids play twice a week for two hours at a time."

Murphy, the South Hampshire Club pro and league organizer, cites the numerous advantages of the program. "It gives kids a chance to compete in a sport they can do after high school, unlike many other sports. There's a level for everyone," he says. The main thing is that the kids have fun. It's a great building block for the sport because it gives kids a foundation to play in college and later on. Our kids used to be blown away in national competition, but not anymore." Indeed! This year's team champions, Lafayette High School, and last year's champs, Parkway West, both hail from St. Louis.

According to Murphy there are several important ingredients needed to run a successful high school program. First and foremost, the league needs an organizer willing to donate time and energy to pull together high schools, health clubs, community volunteers and students. Murphy estimates he works 45 hours



It's no wonder emotions run high --there's so much at stake. National titles in singles and doubles will be awarded with the singles champions receiving appointment to Junior Team USA.

a week maintaining the league. "Most of the schools are very receptive," he says. "It's good PR for them to offer more than the big three sports. Schools are always looking for ways to keep kids out of trouble and this is a great way."

Only two St. Louis schools have their own courts so league players must rely on the cooperation of nine area clubs. Club owners realize it's to their advantage to promote the game with young players and are therefore willing to make court time available, thanks in no small part of Murphy's powers of persuasion.

Without dedicated and caring coaches however, the program would skid to a halt. "Only two of the fifty two teams have paid coaches," Murphy notes. "The coaches are from the community. There's a nurse, a landscaper, a painter, a priest, a train car worker at Anheuser-Busch... These are people who care about the game and care about the kids."

Make no mistake about it, the future of racquetball lies with the kids. According to its most recent study, American Sports Data estimates the fastest growing segment of the 10.5 million racquetball players in the country is in the 12-17 age group. Between games the kids inhale pizza by the slice and blow bubbles in their Pepsi but when the court door slams shut, they're ready to unleash vicious backhand kills and athletic cross-court dives. With great anticipation industry officials look toward the young champions, like 1991 girls winner Elkova Icenogle, to carry the sport through the 'Nineties.

The 16 year-old junior from Auburn, California successfully defended her 1990 national title, becoming the first youngster to hold two consecutive high school titles. Her racquetball resume includes membership on the U.S. Olympic Festival team, membership on the 1990 and 1991 Ektelon Junior Olympic teams, and a long list of first place finishes and trophies dating back to her 1985 national championship in the 10 and under division. Though she has much to brag about, Elkova is known as much for her sportsmanship and low key demeanor as for her prowess on the court. "I think more about being pleasant than winning," she says softly, "because I know how it is to lose. I try not to show my opponent that I'm ecstatic when I win. In the shower, it often hits me and I smile and pound the wall."

Elkova initially pursued racquetball at age seven when her mother enrolled in a junior league program. Although she was interested in volleyball, basketball and tennis too, she committed herself to racquetball when a tennis coach insisted there was no future in chasing a bouncy blue ball. Determined to prove the tennis coach wrong, she headed for the indoor courts to work on her game. Ten years of competitive play has helped Elkova learn a lot about herself. "Racquetball taught me how important discipline is," she says. "If I want to do



Family Racquetball: Jaron Icenogle joins Elkova and mom Ayako for a group photo session at High Schools.

something, I can do it - like in school. You have to make yourself do well by getting it done every day. You have to work all the time." Taking her own advice to heart, Elkova works hard off the court too. She's a straight A student at Placer High with sights set on Princeton, Berkeley or Stanford for a career in a math or science related field.

Careful scrutiny of her game leads Jim Murphy to say, "She's such an intelligent player. She just does not make any mistakes. She's very smooth, very quick, and has great shot-making ability. You'll also notice her court personality. There's no complaining, yelling or screaming when Elkova plays. She's the perfect prototype racquetball player."

Racquetball, like life, is not always a stroll down Victory Lane, but even in defeat Elkova moves forward. "I've always learned about failure," she explains. "When you're one point from winning and you lose, you must learn to accept it. At the time, you're devastated, but you have to reflect and learn from it. No matter how important this time is, there will always be another time."

For Elkova Icenogle and Boys champion 16 year-old Sudsy Monchik from Staten Island, New York, the time is now. The ever enthusiastic Sudsy says, "The Nationals are great, especially because this is the first year I had something like the Junior Team to shoot for. Hopefully racquetball will soon be an Olympic sport and this would be a step toward the Olympic team too."

As the only youngster in racquetball history to hold national singles titles in every competitive junior age division from age 8 to the present, Sudsy has reason to bubble with confidence. "When I step out there I'm thinking, I'm the best," he says. "That's the most important thing in any sport. I never say die and I never quit when I'm down. People who understand the game understand this is the right attitude. If you have any doubts about winning you make it much tougher on yourself."



Following their final match, Sudsy Monchik (left) gives opponent Allan Engel the universal racquetball signal for "choking."

Some opponents and officials don't appreciate Sudsy's brash attitude but Jim Murphy puts it in perspective. "He's very outspoken, like the early John McEnroe," Murphy points out. "But he wins on sheer guts. He won't give up and he channels his ego and will to win so that he does win. He's powerful, not afraid to take chances, has a dynamite serve, is quick, and as I said, he won't die out there."

Events like the Ektelon U.S. High School National Championships provide an arena for rising stars like Sudsy and Elkova. Joel Bonnett, the 1990 Boys Champion, received the attention necessary to land an Olympic scholarship which pays a portion of his tuition at Michigan State. "You hear a lot of names in a national tournament," he says. "It pumps you up to do well. I wanted to be the best Junior so that people would know who I am. It also motivated me to go on to compete in future national competitions."

"Winners of national events continue to play on a national level," says Ektelon's National Marketing Director Terri Graham. "It also allows us a way to get younger players involved at the grass roots level and to open racquetball up to kids who ordinarily play other sports. Events like the High School Nationals are fun. The kids bring lots of energy to the game. They're devastated if they lose and doing cartwheels if they win. They live, breathe and die for tournaments like this."

Sudsy Monchik: One of a Kind by Britt Engel

Sudsy Monchik started playing racquetball at the age of seven and has been winning ever since. He is the only junior to win first place in all the age divisions in national competition. At the Junior Nationals held in New York he took first place in the eight and under, starting his winning streak.

Starting off, Sudsy had many opponents he wished to beat: Jason Mannino, Allan Engel, John Ellis and Dave Simonette. So far he has accomplished part of his goal, beating Engel and Mannino. Over the years of playing, Sudsy has raised his goal to winning every Junior National division. He is hoping to achieve his goal by 1991 or 1992.

Racquetball is not the only sport that holds Sudsy's interest. He also plays basketball and any other sport that might present itself. He plays basketball on both the school and church teams, receiving the most valuable player in 1991.

The only advice that Sudsy has to offer to other up and coming racquetball players is to believe that you are the best and work hard if you really want to win.



Sudsy (left) and Jason Mannino, early in their careers! Photo: Russ Mannino.

U.S.A. SWEEPS 1991 PENN TOURNAMENT OF AMERICAS

The U.S. National Racquetball Team went undefeated in the individual title rounds of the 1991 Penn Tournament of the Americas held in Santiago, Chile at the end of March. In team competition, the U.S. team also secured the Tournament of the Americas Cup, followed by Canada in second place and Mexico in third.

In men's open singles, current national open champion Tim Doyle defeated Canada's Sherman Greenfield by forfeit. Greenfield succumbed to an intestinal virus on the day of the final and had to withdraw from the match. In women's open, Michelle Gilman repeated her 1990 Tournament of the Americas victory over teammate Kaye Kuhfeld in two games of 15-8, 15-8.

In doubles, U.S. national champions Jim Floyd and Tim Hansen defeated the Mexican team of Francisco and Arturo Martin 15-8, 15-11. The newly paired team of Jackie Paraiso and Kim Russell also had little trouble defeating the Canadian team of Vicky Brown and Carol McFetridge in another straight game match of 15-8, 15-5.

RESULTS - Men's Open Singles: Tim Doyle (USA) def. Sherman Greenfield (Canada) by forfeit; Bronze medal to Drew Kachtik (USA) over Andy Roberts (USA); **Men's Open Doubles:** Jim Floyd/Tim Hansen (USA) def. Arturo & Francisco Martin 15-8, 15-11; Bronze medal to Roy/Ceresia (Canada) over Rotomose/Uzin (Bolivia).

Women's Open Singles: Michelle Gilman (USA) def. Kaye Kuhfeld (USA) 15-8, 15-8; Bronze medal to Toni Bevelock (USA) over Heather Stupp (Canada); **Women's Open Doubles:** Jackie Paraiso/Kim Russell (USA) def. Vicky Brown/Carol McFetridge (Canada) 15-8, 15-5; Bronze medal to Hernandez/Rodriguez (Mexico) over Teran Murilla (Bolivia); **Team Results:** U.S.A., Canada, Mexico, Bolivia, Chile, Argentina, Peru, Uruguay, Brazil, Puerto Rico.



Tournament of the Americas Team: Coach Winterton, Kachtik, Hansen, Roberts, Doyle, Floyd. Asst. Coach Davis, Kuhfeld, Paraiso, Bevelock, Gilman, Russell.



Enjoying some off-court time: Jackie Paraiso, Drew Kachtik & Michelle Gilman.



Keith Calkins and Cristian Rodriguez Bouillon (Chile).



The exhibition court in Chile, with its daily limit of spectators.

1991 EKTELON WORLD INTERCOLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

TOP SEEDS UPSET AGAIN

For the second year in a row, top seeded Jim Floyd and Cindy Doyle were upset in the finals of the Ektelon World Intercollegiate Racquetball Championships. This year the two were defeated by the #3 seeds in their respective divisions, both in low-scoring straight game matches. Tim Sweeney (Chicago, Illinois) playing for Southwest Missouri State University took Floyd out with a high-powered service and passing game strategy, with scores of 15-8, 15-8. Elaine Hooghe, representing Franklin University in Columbus, Ohio used the same methods to defeat Doyle 15-6, 15-7.

Floyd and Doyle were intercollegiate champions in 1989, but have been unable to repeat their wins since. Sweeney and Hooghe are the first singles players to qualify for the U.S. Olympic Festival in Los Angeles.

SOUTHWEST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY NABS TITLE

Players for the Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield won their first intercollegiate team title with wins across the board. The men's team, women's team, and overall



SMSU Team poses with their first team trophy!

team points all went to SMSU, cutting into a sixteen year domination of the sport by Memphis State University.

ALL AMERICANS NAMED

Finalists in each of six men's and women's singles divisions were named to the 1991 AARA "All-American" Racquetball Team on Saturday, April 6 in Phoenix. Representing the finest intercollegiate athletes in the sport today, the All-Americans are all those listed in the results below:

RESULTS: MEN'S DIV.#1: #3 TIM SWEENEY (SW Missouri State) def. #1 Jim Floyd (Perris State Univ./Mich.) 15-8, 15-8; DIV.#2: #3 FABIAN BALMORI (MSU) def. #4 Derek Robinson (SW Missouri State Univ.) 15-13, 7-15, 11-9; DIV.#3: #2 SAMERA HADEI (Univ./California-Sacramento) def. #1 Brian Rankin (SW Missouri State Univ.) 6-18, 15-9, 11-9; DIV.#4: #1 BRUCE BRICKSON (SW Missouri State Univ.) def. #3 Rick Mordachini (MSU) 15-9, 15-12; DIV.#5: #2 DAVE LARRY (MSU) def. #1 John Kleinschmidt (SW Missouri State Univ.) 15-10, 8-15, 11-10; DIV.#6: #1 BUZ SAWYER (SW Missouri State Univ.) def. #2 Jeff Link (MSU) 15-13, 15-5

WOMEN'S DIV.#1: #3 ELAINE HOOGHE (Franklin Univ./Ohio) def. #1 Cindy Doyle (Univ./Buffalo) 15-6, 15-7; DIV.#2: #1 JEN YOKOTA (SW Missouri State Univ.) def. #3 Chris Nordin (Providence College) 15-1, 15-3; DIV.#3: #3 MICHELLE GIANNINI (Univ./California-Sacramento) def. Sharon Miller (Providence College) 15-9, 15-11; DIV.#4: NOBLE HARRUILL (Univ./California-Sacramento) def. #1 Laura Lynch (MSU) 15-3, 15-9; DIV.#5: KATH CLANCY (Bryant College) def. #1 Jeanette Hartman (BYU) 15-8, 15-9; DIV.#6: #2 DANIELLE CRAMBEY (SW Missouri State) def. Nylene Willie (BYU) forfeit.

MEN'S #1 DOUBLES: #3 Mike Engel/Brian Rankin (SW Missouri State) def. #1 Jim Floyd/Jeff Kummier (Perris State) 15-6, 15-2; #2 DOUBLES: #1 Bruce Brickson/Derek Robinson (SW Missouri State Univ.) def. Eric Osmay/Jeff Bell (Univ./Arizona) 15-9, 15-10; #3 DOUBLES: Kevin Hymay/Scott Reiff (MSU) def. Scott Kilpatrick/Tom Lun (Univ./Arizona) 15-13, 15-13

WOMEN'S #1 DOUBLES: #1 Ann Deer/Jen Yokota (SW Missouri State Univ.) def. #3 Nicole Anthony/Kelly Pule (UC/Sacramento) 15-8, 15-11; #2 DOUBLES: #1 Lisa Kirsch/Chris Nordin (Providence College) def. #3 Noel DeBarnet/Michelle Giannini (UC/Sacramento) 15-6, 15-5; #3 DOUBLES: #2 Christanne Cipperley/Sharon Miller (Providence College) def. #1 Cathy Baker/Laura Lynch (MSU) 15-11, 15-0.

U.S. TEAM: THE TRUE MEANING OF THE WORD!

by Jim Winterton,
Head Coach and
Fran Davis,
Assistant Coach



On February 19th, under the direction of Head Coach Jim Winterton, Assistant Coach Fran Davis, Jim Hiser Assistant Executive Director of the AARA/Team Liaison, and Diana McNab Team Sports Psychologist/Nutritionist, thirteen of the U.S. Team members spent four days of on- and off-court intensive training at the United States Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. What a fabulous experience for all involved.

It was not easy for thirteen players, from all over the country, each with different goals and their own individual needs, to come together and unite as a team. But they did it without a hitch. Hats off to Michelle Gilman, Jackie Paraiso, Kaye Kuhfeld, Kim Russell, Toni Bevelock, Elkova Icenogle,

THE ART OF "FLOW" IN RACQUETBALL

By Diana McNab

The ball looms larger than life; suspended in the air as it connects with the sweet spot of your racquet. You feel all alone in the court as your body, racquet and ball connect on each shot. You are totally relaxed, confident and poised for each shot. No thought of winning or losing, no judging, no self-talk -- an eerie still life silence. All you hear is the "splat" of each shot as it hits the wall and you know you're exactly where you want to be right now -- on the racquetball court, totally one with what you are doing. No thinking, no strategies, just hitting out of a gut response. Effortless, fearless, in total control and enjoying every moment. Loose, relaxed, focused and centered on each returning shot. One hit at a time, one ball at a time, one point, game and match! Welcome to the elusive high of sport called "Flow State."

Andy Roberts, Tim Doyle, Drew Kachtik, Joel Bonnett, Todd O'Neil, Tim Hansen, and Jimmy Floyd. We are very proud of all of them.

From the start, we all let our guards down, rolled up our sleeves and dug in. We knew we had a tough road ahead of us. Everyone came in with an open mind and a willingness to work hard. We addressed every issue -- from policies, procedures, protocol, on court drills, training/conditioning techniques and methods, video taping and analysis, nutrition, sports psychology, team comradery, travel commitments, to the responsibilities of being a U.S. Team Member and representing the United States abroad. No stone was left unturned.

We set two very important goals before we went into Colorado Springs. They were to achieve unity and build a relationship as a team (player to player, player to coach, player to sports psychologist). Our goals were met and much more was accomplished.

All of you out there should know what a dynamite team we have for the 1990-1991 season. By definition, it is truly the best ever -- meaning not only that it is the most physically talented, but also that each player is committed to knowing, understanding, and believing in the team concept.

So how does one master this state of "automatic pilot?" The key is that the athlete must have a strong belief in self and the ability to visualize perfect technique, strokes, shot selection and strategies. By the use of mental imagery or practicing each shot in your head, your body sends a neuro-muscular contraction to each appropriate muscle group and you are literally playing a match in your mind. Your mind doesn't know the difference between a vividly imagined picture in your head or reality! Probably the most beneficial skill in "sports psychology" is learning how to visualize your game the way you want to play it -- with a positive outcome!

"Affirmation statements" are present, positive and personal statements about the way you want to play, act, think and be in your life! For example "I am a dynamic power hitter!"; "I am a winner!"; "I deserve health, wealth, and happiness in my life!". What your mind perceives and you truly believe, you can achieve! Plant the seed of positive thoughts, water it with perspiration and hard work, fertilize it with visualization of success and weed out any negative thoughts, beliefs, or actions. Then with persistence, patience and commitment, watch your game grow until it blooms into its fullest reality. Create cue or buzz words to make the imprintation even deeper, like "Relax," "Flow," "Now," "Hit it," "Kill," etc.

To aid in this process, the athlete needs to learn how to do controlled abdominal breathing by inhaling through the nose; pausing; then using the diaphragm to exhale out of the mouth. This brings fresh oxygen, water, and life force into the body and you exhale tension, carbon dioxide and all negativity. Then you shake out the arms and legs to relax all the major muscle groups, followed by tensing and relaxing your shoulders to get the body into a relaxed readiness state. The mind is cleared of all negative thoughts and accepts the specific sport instructions that the body will act out.

Concentration is an uninterrupted connection between two things, i.e., an athlete and their thoughts -- a player and the ball. The key is to flow from "broad" focus (taking in the whole court and your opponent) to "point" focus (the center of the ball). Block out all distracting thoughts, sights, sounds and actions! Be 100% in the now! Let go of past mistakes in your head and don't worry about the future score or outcome of the game. Be in the present moment of each shot.

Once you master these techniques, you'll enter the state of "automatic pilot" and oneness with your game! Relax, enjoy, and go with the flow! This is how sports are supposed to be played; and when you come out of your trance -- don't panic! Just breathe, shake-out, re-pinpoint your focus and go! If you allow yourself to use all of your senses to take you to a place you've never been before, you'll have the power to perform at this level consistently and on command. That's how you capture the elusive state called "Flow."

HALL OF FAME PLAYER INDUCTEES ANNOUNCED

Ed Remen and Cindy Baxter have been named as the top vote getters in the "player category" of the AARA Hall of Fame for 1991. The two will be inducted to the elite honorary society at the annual banquet held during the National Singles Championships over Memorial Day weekend in Houston.

Remen, 43, of Ashburn, Virginia, has been involved with racquetball since the early 70's. He introduced racquetball to the local community college system in Virginia in 1973 -- an effort that quickly snowballed from one community college with 11 students to a network of 25 community colleges and thousands of students.



Ed Remen

Remen has taught and coached racquetball at several colleges and universities, including Indiana University, George Mason University, the University of Maryland, Springfield College and others. He also boasts numerous singles and doubles championships over the years.

In his statement to voting members of the Hall of Fame committee, Remen said "Racquetball is on the verge of making a major impact on the world-wide scene. With the acceptance of racquetball as a member of the U.S. Olympic Committee, I am proud to have played a small role in our great sport and am looking forward to its coming of age."



Cindy Baxter

Cindy Baxter, 35 of Reedsville, Pennsylvania, has also distinguished herself as a major competitor on the local, national and international racquetball scene. Early in her career, Cindy became the first female to win three consecutive gold medals in the World Games, first in 1981, again in 1984, and again in 1986. Her accomplishments in the sport have been recognized by the Guinness Book of Records.

Cindy is self-taught, and still trains daily using universal equipment, lifecycle, balance board and jump rope. Competing in women's open at National Singles in 1989, she once again set a record for being among the first to qualify for a U.S. Olympic Festival.

"During my years of involvement in the sport, I feel that my contributions have been twofold -- first, as an ambassador helping to develop the sport in foreign countries and secondly, as a pioneer in the sport, paving the way towards Olympic competition."

Congratulations go to both Ed and Cindy and the AARA looks forward to showing its appreciation for their contributions in Houston.

1991 PENN UNITED STATES OUTDOOR THREE-WALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

JUNE 28-30
University of Florida
Lee-McCachren Courts
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TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

• **ENTRY FEE:** \$35.00 First Event (includes referee fee), \$20.00 Second Event. Players may enter two events.
• **ENTRY DEADLINE:** Postmarked no later than June 14, 1991.
• **AARA MEMBERSHIP** is required. Non AARA members should add \$15.00 for a one-year competitive license membership.
• **STARTING TIMES:** Starting times will be available after 5:00 pm on Monday, June 24. Call 904/371-3333.
• **TOURNAMENT DIRECTION:** Craig Shank, 904/392-6738 and Margo Daniels, AARA National Tournament Commissioner, 815 North Weber, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-2947, 719/635-5396.
• **LODGING:** University Centre Hotel, 1335 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, Florida 32608. Rate: \$49.00/day (4 per room). For reduced rate, mention the National Outdoor Championship when making reservations. Call (outside Florida) 800/824-5637 or (in Florida) 800/251-4069.
• **FOR UNITED AIRLINES** (5% discount fares) call 800/521-4041 between 8:30 am and 8:00 pm EST and use AARA account number 480RN.
• **TRANSPORTATION:** Free transportation between the host hotel and courts will be provided every hour, on the hour.
• **HOSPITALITY:** Each entrant will be provided at least one meal per day at the Lee-McCachren court facility.
• **LENSED EYEWEAR** manufactured for racquet sports is mandatory.
• **RACQUETS** that exceed 21 inches in length cannot be used in Regional or National events.
• **COURT SPECIFICATIONS:** The University of Florida courts are short wall, with the side walls extending from the front wall to the short line (20 feet).

ENTRY FORM -- Please Print

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State/Zip _____
Phone (Day) _____ (Evening) _____
Birthdate _____ Age _____
Other Seeding Information _____



SINGLES DIVISIONS:

☐ MEN'S Open	☐ WOMEN'S Open
☐ Jr. Vet - 19+	☐ Jr. Vet - 19+
☐ Jr. Vet - 25+	☐ Jr. Vet - 25+
☐ Seniors 30+	☐ Seniors 30+
☐ Seniors 35+	☐ Seniors 35+
☐ Seniors 40+	☐ Seniors 40+
☐ Masters 45+	☐ Masters 45+
☐ Masters 50+	☐ Masters 50+
☐ Golden Masters 55+	☐ Golden Masters 55+
☐ Golden Masters 60+	☐ Golden Masters 60+
☐ Golden Masters 65+	☐ Golden Masters 65+
☐ Golden Masters 70+	☐ Golden Masters 70+
☐ Golden Masters 75+	☐ Golden Masters 75+
☐ Golden Masters 80+	☐ Golden Masters 80+
☐ A (non-championship)	☐ A (non-championship)
☐ B (non-championship)	☐ B (non-championship)

DOUBLES DIVISIONS:

☐ MEN'S	☐ WOMEN'S
☐ Open	☐ Open
☐ 19+	☐ 19+
☐ 25+	☐ 25+
☐ 30+	☐ 30+
☐ 35+	☐ 35+
☐ 40+	☐ 40+
☐ 45+	☐ 45+
☐ 50+	☐ 50+
☐ 55+	☐ 55+
☐ 60+	☐ 60+
☐ 65+	☐ 65+
☐ 70+	☐ 70+
☐ 75+	☐ 75+
☐ 80+	☐ 80+
☐ A (non-champ.)	☐ A (non-champ.)
☐ B (non-champ.)	☐ B (non-champ.)
☐ Mixed Open (non-championship)	
☐ Mixed A (non-championship)	
Partner _____	Div. _____
Partner _____	Div. _____



ENTRY FEES AND PAYMENT --

First event _____ (\$35.00)
Second event _____ (\$20.00)
AARA Membership fee _____ (\$15.00)
Tax deductible donation to U.S. Team _____

TOTAL DUE: _____

MAIL COMPLETED ENTRY AND FEES TO:
AARA NATIONAL OUTDOORS -- 815 NORTH WEBER
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80903-2947

ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JUNE 14, 1991

NON-CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS - The A and B divisions are non-championship events available to lower ranked players (A and below) who would like to participate in a second division in addition to competing against opponents from across the United States in their age group.

WAIVER - I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims that I may have against the AARA, Penn Racquet Sports, Ektelon, and the University of Florida or their respective agents for any and all injuries.

Signature _____ Date _____



ENTRY FORM IS NOT COMPLETE,
NOR IS ENTRY ACCEPTED, UNLESS
CHECK FOR CORRECT AMOUNT IS
ENCLOSED AND ALL INFORMATION
IS PROVIDED.

NATIONAL RANKINGS

Mens Divisions

MEN'S OPEN

1. Doug Ganim, OH
2. Tim Hansen, FL
3. Louis Vogel, NM
4. Chris Cole, MI
5. James Lorello, FL
6. Mike Locker, MN
7. Michael Bronfeld, CA
8. Tim Doyle, CA
9. Brian Simpson, IN
10. Mike Martinez, CA

MEN'S A

1. Derek Dunn, WA
2. James Lindsey, TX
3. Jim Demass, SC
4. Mat Kelly, CO
5. Banks Barbee, TX
6. Benny Lee, FL
7. Roger Lons, SD
8. Mark Werthman, MI
9. Chris Hardwick, CA
10. Caleb Bird, PA

MEN'S B

1. Mat Kelly, CO
2. James Russell, FL
3. Scott Hale, MI
4. Steve Turner, TN
5. Ed Callejo, CO
6. John McKinley, WA
7. Steve Strawn, CA
8. Todd Criger, NE
9. Norm Dedrick, CT
10. Martin Gonzalez, CA

MEN'S C

1. Ed Callejo, CO
2. Terry Brown, CA
3. Bruce Crowell, TX
4. Alan Jorgensen, AZ
5. Earl Kathon, OR
6. Kent Hadraba, IL
7. Allen Cowan, NC
8. Todd Criger, NE
9. Michael Garbarino, MI
10. Brad Garrett, OK

MEN'S D

1. Sparkie Thompson, FL
2. Chris Ryan, WA
3. Tom Mathy, MI
4. Jeff Bloom, LA
5. James Evans, GA
6. Scott Grunin, MA
7. Ashby Herman, VA
8. David Maroni, CA
9. Art Missirlian, NE
10. Matt Naber, WA

MEN'S NOVICE

1. Wayne Yeager, FL
2. Alfredo Aros, TX

3. Mike Carlgian, NH
4. Alan Goodman, NY
5. Michael Lombardi, GA

6. Larry Nossen, IL
7. Morgan Smith, GA
8. Michael Alpha, TX
9. John Anderson, MA
10. Carl Barr, WV

MEN'S 19+

1. Derek Robinson, MO
2. Rob Lamontagne, MA
3. Jamie Sumner, UT
4. Clay Griffin, SC
5. Charlie Nichols, FL
6. Brian Buckalew, GA
7. Robbie Binnix, FL
8. Chris Bagle, NC
9. Tony Jelso, NM
10. Rob McKinney, PA

MEN'S 25+

1. Ron DiGiacomo, NY
2. Jim Jeffers, IL
3. Jim Cascio, PA
4. Curtis Winter, FL
5. Tim Hansen, FL
6. Armando Alonso, FL
7. Hart Johnson, MN
8. Jimmy Lowe, AK
9. Byron Williams, TX
10. Bob Fugener, TN

MEN'S 30+

1. Bobby Corcoran, AZ
2. Mark Malowitz, TX
3. Andy Pitcock, GA
4. Vinnie Ganley, FL
5. Jeff Kristjansen, FL
6. Randy Pfahler, FL
7. Scott Eliasson, CT
8. Bill Lyman, IL
9. John Peterson, NY
10. Gary Tanko, WI

MEN'S 35+

1. Davey Bledsoe, GA
2. Mitt Layton, FL
3. Dennis Acosta, MA
4. Jim Young, PA
5. Craig Kunkel, CA
6. Dave Kovanda, OH
7. Gary Mazaroff, NM
8. Mike Robinson, TX
9. Ed Garabedian, PA
10. Tom Travers, OH

MEN'S 40+

1. Mitt Layton, FL
2. Steve Chapman, FL
3. Herb Grigg, IL
4. Dave Kovanda, OH
5. Gary Biedermann, NC
6. Jim Bailey, VA
7. Andy Butterbaugh, IN
8. Mike Stephens, MI

9. Jim Santino, MI
10. Chris Kinkade, TX

MEN'S 45+

1. Roger Wehrle, GA
2. Ray Huss, OH
3. Tom Perna, OH
4. Ed Remen, VA
5. Brad Parris, CA
6. Pete Petty, TN
7. Sid Williams, WA
8. Gary Myers, CA
9. Mickey Bellah, CA
10. Michael Amolt, IN

MEN'S 50+

1. Jerry Davis, OH
2. Charlie Garfinkel, NY
3. Dario Mas, DE
4. Bobby Sanders, OH
5. Len Corte, AZ
6. Jim McPherson, OK
7. Rex Lawler, IN
8. Hal Lackey, NC
9. Tom Udvardi, NJ
10. Joh Gleaton, ME

MEN'S 55+

1. Art Johnson, CO
2. Don Alt, FL
3. Harvey Clar, CA
4. Oils Chapman, OH
5. Jim Flynn, DE
6. Lynn Hahn, MI
7. Dan Liacera Sr., NY
8. Obed Oas, NE
9. Frank Taylor, OH
10. Terry Lauritsen, NM

MEN'S 60+

1. Pierre Miller, IN
2. Joe Lambert, TX
3. Malcolm Roberts, FL
4. Max Fellek, MN
5. John Bogasky, VA
6. Dick Kincade, CO
7. Victor Sacco, NY
8. Bob McClelland, MI
9. Walter Shur, NY
10. David Weinberg, NY

MEN'S 65+

1. Glenn Melvey, ND
2. Victor Sacco, NY
3. Don Goddard, MT
4. Art Goss, CO
5. Mal Roberts, FL
6. Bill Stoebe, DE
7. Luzell Wilde, UT
8. Myron Friedman, ME
9. Paul Gorman, FL
10. J.W. Studa, TX

MEN'S 70+

1. Earl Acuff, NC
2. Luzell Wilde, UT
3. Allen Shepherd, MD

4. Cam Snowberger, PA
5. Jack Murphy, FL
6. Nick Sans, FL
7. Charles Russell, CA
8. Hamon Minor, CO
9. Ray Crowley, OK
10. Charles Batram, MA

MEN'S 75+

1. Hamon Minor, CO
2. Allen Shepherd, MD
3. Jack Daly, VA
4. John Pearce, TX
5. Joe Sawbridge, AZ
6. Bill Duckworth, FL
7. Howard Hesse, AZ

Women's Divisions:

WOMEN'S OPEN

1. Elaine Hooghe, OH
2. Dot Fischl, PA
3. Susan Pfahler, FL
4. Dana Sibell, MN
5. Terry Latham, NM
6. Janet Myers, NC
7. Diane Adams, CO
8. Toni Bevelook, CA
9. Michelle Gilman, OR
10. Joetta Hastings, MI

WOMEN'S A

1. Jean Halahan, NY
2. Mary Keenan, CO
3. Kim Perry, CA
4. Jane Greene, KS
5. Cindy Telstad, MN
6. Amber Frisch, TX
7. Diane McCauley, MI
8. Sharon Duell, CO
9. Kelly Shepard, NM
10. Karen Bouchard, FL

WOMEN'S B

1. Allison Thomas, OH
2. Nancy Owens, GA
3. Marie Ishii, WA
4. Dawn Gates, IL
5. Carolyn Long, CA
6. Debra Derr, FL
7. Cynthia Ford, WA
8. Terri Bohlman, IL
9. Nora Bym, TN
10. Barbara Maxwell, FL

WOMEN'S C

1. Diane Pearson, MI
2. Carmen Alatorre-Martin, CO
3. Millie Guzman, CA
4. Gina Arnold, CO
5. Linda Hamilton, OH
6. Barbara Benley, OK
7. Wendy Breslow, FL

8. Sherri Crass, TX
9. Debra Derr, FL
10. Supen Dunn, GA

WOMEN'S D

1. Janice Hill, FL
2. Debra Ivey, GA
3. Debi Baker, CA
4. Kathi Carnes, IL
5. Ginger Frost, GA
6. Cara Balak, SC
7. Karen Marino, CT
8. Jackie Simmons, TX
9. Oreta Slaton, OK
10. Carri Currier, CO

WOMEN'S NOVICE

1. Barbara Friel, NY
2. Sherri Rogers, CT
3. Jeannie Valadez, TX
4. Kristin Levins, MA
5. Janet Curry, GA
6. Peggy Woodward, NY
7. Catherine Abueg, TX
8. Dee Anderson, DE
9. Kim Cusano, CT
10. Patricia Glinn, NM

WOMEN'S 19+

1. Dana Sibell, MN
2. Cheryl Gudinas, IL
3. Renee Lockey, CA
4. Randy Friedman, NY
5. Leah Redwine, NC
6. Lisa McLaws, UT
7. Jennifer Celaya, AZ
8. Lynne Coburn, MD
9. Amy Kilbane, OH
10. Robin McBride, FL

WOMEN'S 25+

1. Kersten Hallander, FL
2. Pam Goddard, GA
3. Paula Vallie, MN
4. Dee Ferreira-Worth, CA
5. Pat Musselman, PA
6. Laura Fenton, NE
7. Kim Whitlatch, SC
8. Lydia Hammock, CA
9. Leri Walsh, AZ
10. Jill Guthrie, TX

WOMEN'S 30+

1. Linda Porter, IL
2. Mary Bickley, PA
3. Mary Dee Jolly, NH
4. Pam Goddard, GA
5. Mary Lyons, FL
6. Linda Moore, NE
7. Bonnie Kowalski, OH
8. Diane Adams, CO
9. Pat Musselman, PA
10. Kippi Thulin, CA

WOMEN'S 35+

1. Cindy Baxter, PA
2. Julie Jacobson, WI

NATIONAL RANKINGS

3. Susan Pfahler, FL
4. Terry Latham, NM
5. Janet Myers, NC
6. Deb Gridley, CO
7. Kathy Roskopf, WI
8. Angie Gurley, GA
9. Mary Jane Weldin, DE
10. Dorothea Buchanan, UT

WOMEN'S 40+

1. Agatha Falso, FL
2. Jan Smith, FL
3. Terry Hokanson, CA
4. Bernadette Bruner, WI
5. Linda Miller, IN
6. Pat Tarson, IL
7. Holly House, WI
8. Mildred Gwinn, NC
9. Mary Jane Weldin, DE
10. Bev Powell, IL

WOMEN'S 45+

1. Agatha Falso, FL
2. Sharon Hastings-Welty, OR
3. Brigitte Hartz, MI
4. Sylvia Sawyer, UT
5. Pat Tarson, IL
6. Mildred Gwinn, NC
7. Marcelle Marcus, OH
8. Kendra Tutach, WI
9. Marta Gross, MN
10. Pat Ali, FL

WOMEN'S 50+

1. Kathy Mueller, MN
2. Jo Kenyon, FL
3. Sandy McPherson, OK
4. Sylvia Sawyer, UT
5. Maria Hagain, GA
6. Marion Johnson, TX
7. Joanna Ralda, PA
8. Nancy Butts, WI
9. Ann Codianne, CA
10. Cleata Ching, PA

WOMEN'S 55+

1. Jo Kenyon, FL
2. Mary Walker, CA
3. Cleata Ching, PA
4. Joan Beck, AZ
5. Phyllis Melvey, ND
6. Kathy Mueller, MN
7. Doris Singler, WI
8. Lola Markus, IL
9. Rose Mooney, CO
10. Betty Mowery, NM

WOMEN'S 60+

1. Claire Gautreau, TX
2. Phyllis Melvey, ND
3. Mary Low Acuff, NC

WOMEN'S 65+

1. Betty Mowery, NM
2. Mary Low Acuff, NC

WOMEN'S 70+

1. Mary Low Acuff, NC
2. Eleanor Quackenbush, OR

WOMEN'S 80+

1. Zelda Friedland, NM

Junior Divisions

BOYS 8 AND UNDER

1. Lane Marshon, GA
2. Dan Thompson, WI
3. Shane Vanderson, OH
4. Jack Huezek, MI
5. Dan Olson, ME
6. James Gould, NE
7. Jason Jansen, MN
8. Jimmy Lyons, FL
9. Marshall Meldl, NE
10. Robert Gates, IL

BOYS 8- MULTI-BOUNCE

1. Shane Vanderson, OH
2. Jimmy Lyons, FL
3. Jason Jansen, MN
4. Andy Vaughn, TN
5. Robert Gates, IL
6. Jack Huezek, MI
7. Dan Olson, ME
8. Lane Marshon, GA
9. Nathaniel Dehmer, MN
10. Kip Ruhl, CO

BOYS 10-

1. Rocky Carson, CA
2. Andy Tucknott, NE
3. David Liakas, NE
4. Lane Marshon, GA
5. Ryan Ott, IA
6. Travis Mettenbrink, NE
7. Gabe Gose, NM
8. Ryan Staten, KS
9. Daniel Wubneh, FL
10. Chris Fuller, MA

BOYS 12-

1. Blake Hansen, IA
2. Eric Storey, UT
3. Mark Hurst, FL
4. Jonathan Vandell, NC
5. Brent Zimmerman, MI
6. Brent McDade, TN
7. Blair Hansen, IA
8. Steve Aplado, TX
9. Hal Spangenberg, CA
10. Jed Bhuta, AL

BOYS 14-

1. Andy Thompson, WI
2. Jason Ambrecht, NC
3. Jason Mannino, NY

4. Brad Hansen, IA

5. Shane Wood, MA
6. Todd Criger, NE
7. Mark Hurst, FL
8. David Hamilton, OH
9. Joel Koppel, TX
10. Damien Vandell, NC

BOYS 16-

1. Sudsy Monchik, NY
2. Jim Ellenberger, WI
3. Matt Meeker, IA
4. Brett Beugen, MN
5. Chad Gibson, KS
6. Craig Crys, FL
7. Chris Thomas, NC
8. Andy Yambrek, KY
9. Ernest Aralza, TX
10. Javad Aghaloo, TX

BOYS 18-

1. John Ellis, CA
2. Joel Bonnett, MI
3. Doug Eagle, NC
4. Allan Engel, FL
5. Ryan Covell, MI
6. Eric Muller, KS
7. Will Epperson, AL
8. Samer Hadid, CA
9. Josh Messina, MA
10. Bret Zimmerman, NE

GIRLS 8 AND UNDER

1. Alexys Feaster, DC
2. Meital Manzuri, CA
3. Jeni Fuller, NM
4. Laura Roth, IL
5. Jessica Fuller, NM

GIRLS 8- MULTI-BOUNCE

1. Alexys Feaster, DC
2. Sarah Miranda, OK
3. Meital Manzuri, CA
4. Jodi Trombley, MI
5. Shante Florence, GA
6. Molly Law, CO
7. Kelly Britain, CO

GIRLS 10-

1. Lynn Hansen, IA
2. Jamie Trachsel, MN
3. Kelly Ruhl, CO
4. Jennifer Hardeman, TN
5. Ryan Hibler, TN
6. Meghan Guardini, MA
7. Lauren Rothman, NY
8. Leslie Wooten, FL
9. Katie Thompson, WI
10. Sara Borland, IA

GIRLS 12-

1. Dawn Gates, IL
2. Debra Derr, FL
3. Vanessa Tulao, TN

4. Jennifer Liakas, NE

5. Jill Trachsel, MN
6. Ashley Crouse, OH
7. Leslie Buschbom, GA
8. Lynn Hansen, IA
9. Lyndal Patton, FL
10. Diane Torrey, MA

GIRLS 14-

1. Amy Jerdee, IA
2. Debra Derr, FL
3. Jenny Meyer, CO
4. Tammy Rae Brockbank, ID
5. Andrea Luque, GA
6. Allison Thomas, OH
7. Stephanie Torrey, MA
8. Dawn Gates, IL
9. Andrea Beugen, MN
10. Amy Dwyer, CA

GIRLS 16-

1. Jenny Spangenberg, CA
2. Amber Frisch, TX
3. Rachel Gellman, NM
4. Jenny Skeen, NE
5. Amy Jerdee, IA
6. Dawn Peterson, WI
7. Julie Peterson, KY
8. Lori Schreck, NY
9. Hayden May, CA
10. Donia Medina, FL

GIRLS 18-

1. Blkova Icenogle, CA
2. Renee Lockey, CA
3. Heather Dunn, MA
4. Heather Flory, IA
5. Heather O'Conner, MI
6. Bobbi Jo Bell, MA
7. Aimee Melville, MN
8. Noel Debarnuel, CA
9. Rachel Gellman, NM
10. Valorie King, CO

NWRA RANKINGS

Wheelchair Open

1. Chip Parmelly, CA
2. Gary Baker, IN
3. John Foust, CO
4. Mark Jenkinson, PA
5. Dan Kilmartin, NY
6. Jeff Rowe, NY
7. Bill Searies, NY

Wheelchair A

1. George McFadden, NY
2. Mike Bohinski, PA
3. Mike King, PA
4. Mike Roberts, PA



NEW DIRECTIONS

by Luke St. Onge

Each time I start to write this column, it seems that the AARA is embarking on more exciting times. After a very productive IRSA convention in San Francisco, where the new Recreational Membership and Court Club program was unveiled, we were pleased to see that the program developed by Jim Hiser was a tremendous success. In the short period of time that we had to discuss the program with the many club owners in attendance, over 35 clubs signed up on the spot and over 50 others indicated that they would sign up upon returning home. This program will finally build the bridge to the club owner and will have a significant impact on our membership numbers in the years to come.



AARA board member Margo Daniels and Asst. Executive Director Jim Hiser staff the booth at the IRSA convention.

Even more recently, we received the following letter from Robert H. Helmick, President of the United States Olympic Committee:

Dear Luke:

You will be pleased to note that at our Executive Committee of the USOC yesterday, we resolved to support the inclusion of racquetball for men and women in the Atlanta program. This was responsive to a request from the IOC that Atlanta advise them as to what sports, if any, they would support including in the program.

With best personal regards,
Robert H. Helmick, President USOC

This letter is a tremendous move toward inclusion of racquetball in the '96 Games. There are many people in very high places working on our behalf, yet this endorsement is but one of many steps that have to be taken before the Olympic Games become a reality for us. We are currently in competition with 35 other sports ranging from triathlon to rugby, all with large amounts of money allocated to their Olympic efforts. For our part, the IRF is short on funding but long on dedicated and knowledgeable supporters.

Nonetheless, our expectations remain high, our enthusiasm knows no bounds, and our excitement grows. At the same time we are realistic in knowing that the odds are against us in this particular bid, but we assure you that if it does not happen in '96 it is no longer a question of "if" we will become an Olympic sport, but "when" we will become an Olympic sport.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Keith Calkins



The U.S. National Team made an extremely successful trip to the Tournament of the Americas in Santiago, Chile in late March, during which the team defended their title by clearly dominating every division. The results will be reported elsewhere in the magazine, but I would like to comment on the trip in general.

Head Coach Jim Winterton, Assistant Coach Fran Davis, Team Leader Mike Arnolt, and Team Manager Mary Lyons each did a highly professional job, and team performance on and off the court was exceptional. Special thanks go to all who worked so hard and played so well, and particularly to staff members Luke St. Onge and Jim Hiser for their usual tireless efforts. The U.S. Team continues to establish standards that are so important for international development of the sport.

In Santiago, I presided at the 1991 Pan American Racquetball Confederation Congress, along with Luke St. Onge who serves as Secretary General of PARC and Mike Arnolt as the U.S. voting representative. At that meeting PARC selected the following sites for future Tournament of the Americas events: Honduras in 1992; Bolivia in 1993; and Argentina in 1994.

(continued)

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Stu HASTINGS

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3-Day Racquetball Camp
than most players learn in a lifetime!*

Coaches' Tour for the Summer of 1991.

***May 31, June 1 & 2**
Saginaw, Michigan
Saginaw Valley Health
& Racquet Club

***June 7, 8 & 9**
Cincinnati, Ohio
Mid-Town Athletic Club

***June 28, 29 & 30**
Colma, California
(San Francisco Area)
What A Racquet

***July 26, 27 & 28**
South Plainfield, N.J.
Ricochet Health & Racquet Club

***August 2, 3 & 4**
Wilmington, Delaware
Pike Creek Court Club

***August 16, 17 & 18**
Aurora, Colorado
Aurora Athletic Club

***August 23, 24 & 25**
Edwards, Washington
(Seattle Area)
Harbor Square Athletic Club

CAMP HOURS:

FRIDAY 7:00PM - 10:30PM
SATURDAY 9:00AM - 6:00PM
SUNDAY 8:30AM - 1:00PM

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for the Year of 1991**
Can YOU afford to take a raincheck?



It has been a pleasure for me to serve as President of one of the most dynamic organizations in the USOC family in 1990-91. With thanks to all the Board and staff members, volunteers in the field and sponsors for a real team effort this past year, perhaps one of our dreams will come true in 1996 at the Atlanta Olympic Games. If we all continue to work as we have in the past ten years, there is no limit to our success.

NOTES FROM THE NATIONAL OFFICE

by John Mooney



National Membership: The AARA Membership was at 31,582 on March 30, 1991, compared to 29,936 at the same time last year. The number of competitive licensed players nearly doubled to 6,208 from 3,881 on February 28, 1991. There are 45 lifetime members and 11 Hall of Fame members. The National Office turns memberships around every 15 days. If you haven't received your new card within 30 days (allowing two weeks for third class delivery), you should follow up with one of or all three of the following: 1) the tournament director and/or club where you joined, 2) your state associa-

tion, 3) the AARA National Office. If it takes more than 30 days, there's a snag somewhere along that line.

State Grants: In 1991 the following states proposed and were granted funding for "grass roots" racquetball programs: 1) Idaho - women's development, 2) Illinois - Junior development, 3) Washington - Women's and Juniors development, 4) Delaware - Junior development, 5) Ohio - Junior development, 6) Florida - High school development, and 7) Oregon - Junior development. A total of \$14,000 in cash and equipment was distributed in grants for 1991. Money is disbursed quarterly based upon documented receipts submitted to the AARA.

AARA Scholarship Program: Application packages are available for the 1991/92 scholarship grants. There will be two \$500 scholarships available to students enrolled in college in the 1991 fall semester. Applications may be obtained from the National AARA Office by calling 719-635-5396. The original deadline of March 15 has been extended to August 15, 1991, to allow a greater number of students to apply this year.

PROGRAM UPDATE: QUALIFYING FOR U.S. TEAMS

by Jim Hiser, Ph.D



Due to recent changes in the selection criteria for the U.S. National Team there seems to be some confusion as to "How to Qualify." Hopefully the following will help clarify the new qualifying procedures.

Adult amateurs can qualify for the U.S. National Racquetball Team at one of four events over the course of each year. Twenty athletes could qualify for a U.S. Team position.

U.S. National Singles (Total: 8)
Semi-finalists (4) in Men's Open
Semi-finalists (4) in Women's Open

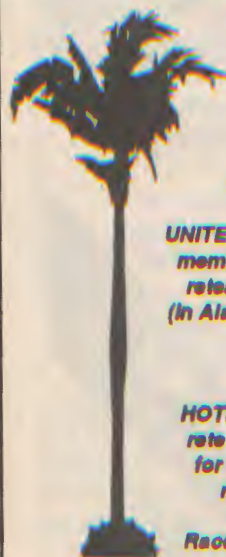
U.S. National Doubles (Total: 4)
Top team (2) in Men's Open
Top team (2) in Women's Open

**SPECTATORS TRAVEL PACKAGE TO THE
PACIFIC RIM CHAMPIONSHIP
JUNE 21-24 IN
HONOLULU, HAWAII**

**COME SEE THE U.S. TEAM FACE OFF
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HOTEL: The Outrigger Malle Court offers a room rate of \$48.00/night (2 per room) OR \$60.00/night for room, plus rental car. To receive the special rate package, call 800/557-7755 to make your reservations and mention the Pacific Rim Racquetball Championship. Rate available only on reservations made before JUNE 10.



World Intercollegiate Champions (Total: 2)
Men's and Women's Division #1 winners

U.S. Olympic Festival (Total: 6)
Winner of Men's Singles
Winner of Women's Singles
Top team (2) in Men's Doubles
Top team (2) in Women's Doubles

Normally there are a number of "double qualifiers," or athletes who qualify in more than one event (qualifying in both doubles and singles, or the nationals and Olympic Festival, for example).

Competitive teams that represent the U.S. at international competitions are selected from the pool of "qualified" athletes. These competitive teams usually number from four to ten athletes, and are selected by the U.S. Team coaching staff.

For the U.S. Olympic Festival a total of eight men's singles and eight women's singles competitors, as well as four men's doubles teams and four women doubles teams are selected. Qualifiers are:

U.S. National Singles (Total: 12)
Top six in Men's Open
Top six in Women's Open
U.S. National Doubles (Total: 16)
Semi-final teams (8) in Men's Open
Semi-final teams (8) in Women's Open
World Intercollegiates (Total: 2)
Men's and Women's Division #1 Champions
U.S. Junior Olympics (Total: 2)
Boys and Girls 18- Division Champions

Again, since there are always a large number of "double qualifiers," additional players qualify at the U.S. National Singles, where selection may go down as far as the sixteenth finisher in Houston.

The teams (north, south, east and west), each with eight athletes, are selected from a pre-determined formula with final placement of athletes in competitive positions determined by the Olympic coaching staff.

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The National Wheelchair Racquetball Assn. [NWRA]
National Minority Outreach Council
The U.S. National Racquetball Team
International Competition

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Colorado Springs, CO 80903

COLLEGIATE UPDATE

by Neil Shapiro

Intercollegiate racquetball is ready to take off within AARA state associations and with regional league play. Currently, six regions are set to begin league play in the 1991-92 season. They are organized by the following regional directors:

Brian Stuert, Chicago, 708-394-3972
John Colantoni, Massachusetts, 508-922-9988
Sylvia Sawyer, Utah, 801-224-2864
Bob Maughan, Texas, 817-565-3418
John Binks, Florida, 407-678-6987
Larry Liles, Tennessee, 901-685-0764

If you belong to a college or university racquetball team and would like your school to play against other schools, please contact one of the regional directors and they will help you arrange it.

Some states are currently putting together an intercollegiate committee or placing an intercollegiate representative on their board of directors. Perhaps the leading state is Ohio, where a state championship has already been held, and plans are underway to develop a state league and eventually an intercollegiate doubles championship. Over the years other states have run intercollegiate state championships, but only sporadically. We would like to have every state run such a tournament, so call your state director if you would like to be involved.

The ACRA and the AARA have published a handbook on intercollegiate racquetball that contains information on how to establish a team, manage it, conduct practices and raise funds. It also includes illustrated drills, nutritional information and sample forms for contracts, match reporting forms, club constitutions, and drill logs. Contact the AARA office for information on how to get a copy.

The World Intercollegiate Championship tournament committee is soliciting bids for next year's event. We would like to hold this tournament on a college campus, so if your school has twelve or more courts, we would like to hear from you. If you are interested in hosting this tournament, please contact Jim Hiser (at AARA headquarters) or myself as soon as possible.



RACQUETBALL ACHES & PAINS

by Dr. Rhett Rainey

I would venture to say all of us who play competitive or recreational racquetball develop low back pain at some point in time.

Pain in the low back region is very common among both active and inactive people. Studies have shown that 50-80% of the population will experience one episode of low back pain during adult life that temporarily interferes with the ability to perform normal activities. Low back pain that lasts longer than two weeks has a cumulative lifetime prevalence in the United States of 13.8%. The typical age at onset is in the third decade of life and reaches its peak in individuals 55-64 years old.

Although the exact cause of 80-90% of all back pain is unknown, it can be caused by one or more of the following: facet joint syndrome; disc degeneration; or overloaded connective tissue. A variety of risk factors such as smoking, lower educational level, tension and anxiety, and cardiovascular symptoms are associated with a higher incidence of low back pain. Job related risk factors include repetitive lifting, particularly when a twisting posture is required, vibration, and consistently long periods of driving.

While we are playing racquetball, we are constantly reaching, bending, and twisting — all activities which place us at even more risk than normal in developing low back pain.

Back pain can manifest itself most commonly by a constant aching sensation located at the lumbosacral junction. If pain is felt in your buttock or down your thigh, this signals a more serious problem. This usually indicates nerve root irritation which could be caused by a herniated or ruptured disc. If these are your symptoms, you should seek medical attention. Although most back pain lasts no longer than two weeks, persistent pain should be evaluated by a physician.

Most people don't realize that it's the abdominal muscles that give the back its support, with the help from the muscles and ligaments that run along the spinal column. Because we stand upright, most of our body weight falls squarely on the vertebrae of the low back region, making it prone to injury. Abdominal and back muscles weakened from underuse or poor posture can rob the spinal column of the support it needs. A sudden twist or a careless lift can injure the lower back.



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Treatment for low back pain usually consists of: **BED REST** if symptoms are severe enough, until your pain improves. **ICE, HEAT, MASSAGE** to relieve the pain of early-on muscle spasm (use ice and light massage)—to relieve later stiffness, apply moist heat or a whirlpool may be effective. **PHYSICAL THERAPY** may be necessary to increase back flexibility and strength, and an exercise program and weight loss can reduce stress on your low back. **MEDICATION** to reduce inflammation or muscle spasm.

If indicated, your physician will recommend exercises depending upon whether or not you have a joint problem, a disc problem, or a mechanical abnormality. If flexion is considered the best treatment for your condition, then a pelvic tilt or knee raise may be recommended. If extension is considered best then the press-up or backward bend may be suggested.

WHAT'S THE CALL?

by *Otto Dietrich*
AARA National Rules Commissioner



Question: I'd like to know if there is a height limit on the back wall where the ball may contact. Back walls seem to vary in height and I question the skill in being passed 20 feet overhead. *Loren Boyer, El Cajon, California.*

America's Most Wanted



Jack Newman



Ruben Gonzalez



Doug Ganim



Dave Negrete

Racquetball Camps 1991

Location	Date	Instructors
Columbus, OH Continental Athletic Club 614-846-8400	June 15 - 16	Newman/ Ganim
Livonia, MI Racquettime Health Club 313-991-1212	June 22 - 23	*Newman/ Gonzalez
Schaumburg, IL Woodfield Racquet Club 708-884-0678	June 29 - 30	Newman/ Negrete
Lyndhurst, NJ King's Court 201-460-0088	July 13 - 14	*Newman/ Gonzalez
Cleveland, OH Solon Athletic Club 216-349-3349	August 3 - 4	Newman/ Ganim

COST: \$125/\$150* (*Newman/Gonzalez)

Location	Date	Instructors
Dayton, OH Congress Park Athletic Club 513-435-4875	August 10 - 11	Newman/ Ganim
Toledo, OH Aquarius Athletic Club 419-476-4875	August 17 - 18	Newman/ Ganim
Schaumburg, IL Woodfield Athletic Club 708-884-0678	August 24 - 25	Newman/ Negrete
Laurel, MD Laurel Racquet & Health Club 301-953-1414	Sept. 13 - 14	*Newman/ Gonzalez
Portland, OR Sunset Athletic Club 503-645-3535	Sept. 21 - 22	*Newman/ Gonzalez

TIME: Saturday - Sunday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

America's Most Wanted Camps are for all levels of racquetball from novice to open. Campers will be paired up in learning teams with players of similar abilities. Extensive videotape analysis is used as well as technique and strategy from our excellent staff. 10 hours of instruction, camp booklet, Tackl-Mac grip, Head shirt, and other giveaways are included. **VISA OR MASTERCARD** welcomed.

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Answer: You're right--back walls do vary in height. But Rule 2.1(a) only states that the back wall must be at least 12 feet high. Hopefully, most of the variations in height range from 12 to 20 feet. An ideal back wall would be 20 feet high just like the front wall. Of course, most of the variations that currently exist are to accommodate spectator (also referee) viewing and to improve ventilation.

With regard to the ball hitting the back wall, the entire back wall is "in play" and may be hit as long as the surface is playable. I agree that there usually is little skill involved in hitting a ball higher than 12 feet, but the rules allow for hitting the ball off of any surface (other than the floor) of the court--including the back wall. By the way, if the ball is hit so that it goes out of the court through an opening in the back wall, the rally is replayed as a hinder if the ball touched the front wall before it went out of the court. However, should the ball go directly out of the court WITHOUT first touching the front wall, then the player that hit the ball loses the rally.

Incidentally, during the past year the Canadian Racquetball Association established 12 feet as the height limit of the back wall, but the AARA has not yet followed suit.

Question: The referee made a call which Player A appealed. One line judge agreed, but the other one disagreed. Player A then noticed that the line judge who had agreed with the referee was not the same one who had started the game. Unknown to either player, the referee had appointed the new person after the original line judge had left. Player A claimed that since this new person had not been approved by both players, he did not have proper authority and therefore (i) his ruling on the appeal call should not count and (ii) the rally in question should be replayed. What should the referee have done? *Colin Hall, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.*

Answer: Rule 3.6(b) addresses the replacement of line judges during the match, but does so from the perspective of handling a player's request to replace one. That rule states that the replacement is "...at the discretion of the referee and/or tournament director." Since the rule gives the referee and/or tournament director the power to make a change under those circumstances, it's logical to assume that they also have the power to make a change under less adverse conditions, such as the one you observed. Of course, a good referee would have taken a few moments to advise the players of the change.

When making such a change, the referee needn't ask the players if they approve, but announcing a change would give the players a chance to voice any objection they might have about the person who was appointed. In this instance, I feel that the referee should have apologized for not having advised the players of the change, but the call should stand. Moreover, even if there had been a basis for disallowing the line judge's

ruling, the outcome would have been the same since (technically) the rally would have to be perceived as having been played without line judges.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

AARA Seeks Membership Services Director: The AARA is seeking a highly dedicated, knowledgeable and motivated individual to fill the career position of Membership Services Director. Applicants must have a college degree, excellent human relations skills, plus an extensive working knowledge of AARA programs, state associations and their operations. Applicants must be willing to relocate to Colorado Springs as of June 1. Final interviews will be conducted on Monday, May 20th in Houston, Texas prior to the National Singles Championships. To apply, please forward resume, experience and salary requirements to Luke St. Onge, AARA, 815 North Weber, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-2947.

USOC Intern Program: The U.S. Olympic Committee is now accepting applications from qualified students for 1991 fall semester internship positions in broadcasting, finance, journalism, international relations, legal affairs, public relations, marketing/fundraising, sports administration and sports science. The internship sites are at Colorado Springs, Colorado. To be eligible for the USOC Internship program, individuals must be enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program during the 1991 Fall Semester. To receive an application packet, write: Jan Schnittger, Intern Coordinator, U.S. Olympic Committee, 1750 East Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80909-5760.

1991 USRSA Stringer's Digest Available: The United States Racquet Stringers Association (USRSA), the noted authority and resource for more than 6,700 professional racquet stringers, has released the 1991 Stringer's Digest. The 250-page manual contains stringing instructions for over 2,300 tennis, racquetball, squash and badminton racquets. Also included is information on string tension, string length, stringing patterns and special procedures for all widebody racquets; plus a complete listing of 200 string, frame and machine suppliers.

The three-ring workbook provides a step-by-step stringing tutorial with technical tips, trouble shooting, time savers and marketing assistance for stringers. The Stringer's Digest is available as part of the USRSA membership, which also includes a monthly 20-page newsletter, free consultation, low cost insurance and other benefits for an annual fee of \$54. For more information, contact Phyllis Zarro, USRSA Membership Director, P.O. Box 40, Del Mar, CA 92014, or call 619-481-3545.

Videotapes Wanted: Producers of the popular ABC television program "America's Funniest Home Videos" recently contacted the AARA for racquetball footage. Cash prizes of \$10,000 for 1st; \$3,000 for 2nd; and \$2,000 for 3rd place are awarded for the funniest tapes. Executive producer Vin DiBona cites that athletic-oriented home videos are particularly sought after since they are a favorite with home viewers, as well as the show's staff. Send your tapes of funny or unusual racquetball clips to "America's Funniest Home Videos," Department R, 4151 Prospect Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90027. If you need your cassette returned, enclose a \$3.00 check or money order for handling -- and good luck!



Head Sports Founder Dies: Howard Head, founder of ski and tennis empires, died of complications following quadruple bypass surgery in Baltimore March 3rd. USA Today and Sports Illustrated reported that the 76-year old inventor revolutionized the tennis and ski industries by redesigning equipment to improve his own performance.

U.S. Olympic Festival Tickets Available: Advance ticket sales have been opened for racquetball sessions at the U.S. Olympic Festival in Los Angeles. Racquetball competition will be held at the Lyon Center on the University of Southern California campus, July 14-17. Advance tickets for individual daily sessions are \$4.00/each, the finals are \$6.00/each, and a series ticket is \$25.00. To obtain tickets, write to USOF '91, Dept. 65161, El Monte, CA 91735, or call 213/489-1440



Operation Desert "Splat": U.S. Team physician Rhett Rainey hasn't been missing any action on the court since being called into active duty. Assigned to the 98th General Hospital in Nuernberg, Germany as an orthopaedic surgeon, Major Rainey quickly sought out the racquetball courts on the military facility and began to compete in his off hours. The left-hander then entered and won the Men's Senior division of the Nuernberg Military Community tournament, and began making plans to compete in the Army European championships in Munich.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

PARC Sets Tour of the Americas The Pan American Racquetball Confederation noted at its yearly congress in Santiago, Chile, to hold the 1992 Tour of the Americas in Honduras, 1993 in Bolivia, and 1994 in Argentina.

1995 Pan American Games A meeting was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina between Colonel Antonio Rodriguez, President of the Argentina Olympic Committee, Oswaldo Maggi, President of the Argentina Racquetball Association, and Luke St. Onge, Secretary General of PARC to discuss the site of the racquetball competition for the 1995 Pan American Games. Although most of the sports competitions will be held in the resort city of Mar Del Plata, racquetball and baseball will most likely be held in Buenos Aires. Six new glass backwall racquetball courts will be built at a club which currently has over 40,000 members. It is only a matter of time before racquetball becomes a major sport in Argentina.

International Coaches Clinic Scheduled for Olympic Training Center. The AARA has unveiled plans to hold an International Coaches Clinic at the OTC this Fall. The Clinic will accommodate 30 international coaches and the clinic will be under the supervision of the U.S. National Team Coaching Staff as well as top PARI instructional staff.

Pacific Rim International Draws Top Ten Countries Ten of the top countries for racquetball have committed to compete in the first Pacific Rim International Racquetball Championships, June 19-22. The U.S., Canada, Mexico, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Germany, Holland, South Korea, Japan, and Chile will send full men's and women's teams to the First Pacific Rim International Racquetball Championships in Honolulu, Hawaii. Anyone wishing to attend the Games as spectators are welcome and special excursion rates are available through United Airlines and the AARA. Join the U.S. National team as it takes on the World. Call United Olympic Travel Desk, 1-800-841-0460, and use our special Number, 450RN. The finals will be nationally televised on Prime Network. Check your TV Guide for the broadcast time in your area.

Guam Racquetball Association Joins the IRF The newly formed Guam Racquetball Association, under the direction of President Joe Flores, recently applied for full membership in the IRF. The application was approved by the IRF Executive Board and the Guam Racquetball Association, which is recognized by the Guam National Olympic Committee, and now becomes the 78th country affiliated with the IRF.

OLYMPIAN



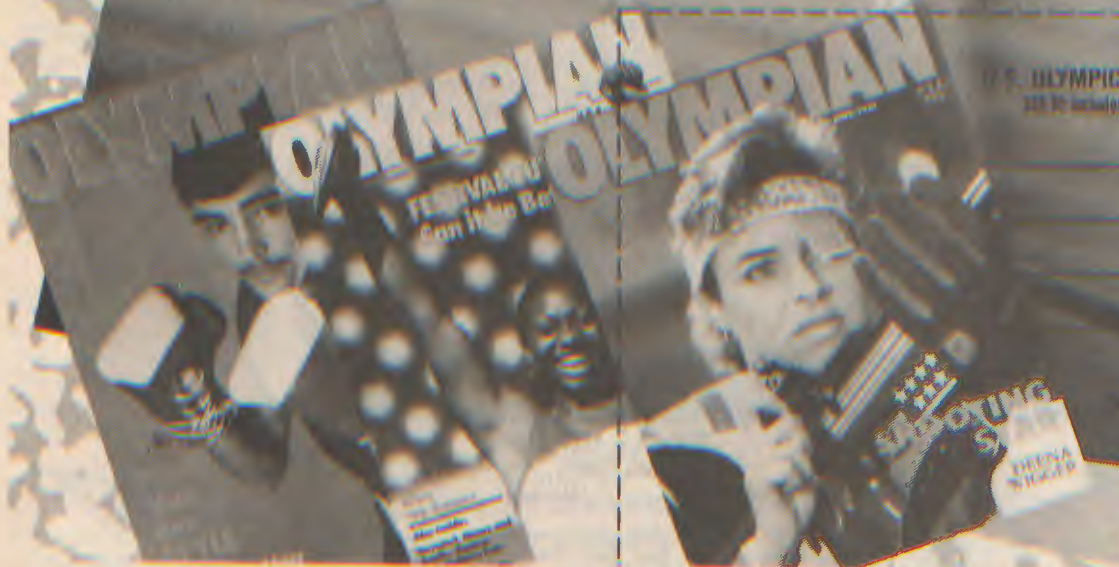
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SANCTIONED EVENT CALENDAR

May 16

May Challenge
Southern Athletic Club
Lilburn, GA
404/923-5400

May 17

Atlanta Open
Wilmington Athletic Club
Wilmington, NC
919/763-9653

Beat the Heat R/B Classic
Member Fitness Center
Huntsville, AL
202/880-0770

Ektelon/AARA/Junior/
Region 18
Cascade Athletic Club
Gresham, OR
503/665-4142

Post Oak Family YMCA
Spring Open
Houston, TX
713/781-1061

Spring Splat Open
Racquetball Plus
Burlingame, CA
415/692-3300

Transcoastal Grand Natl.
Harbor Square Ath. Club
Edmonds, WA
206/778-3546

Onomatopela Open
Lakeland Family YMCA
Lakeland, FL
813/644-3328

May 22

Ektelon U.S.
National Singles
Downtown
Houston YMCA
Houston, TX
719/635-5396

May 31

Coors Light Summer
Tourney
Hall of Fame Fitness Ctr.
Canton, OH
614/548-4188

Schoebers Spring Classic
Schoebers Athletic Club
Pleasanton, CA
415/663-0950

Westridge YMCA Open
Westridge Branch YMCA
Rocky Mount, NC
919/443-9951

WRA Championships
Seattle Club
Seattle, WA
206/443-1111

June 2

Charlotte Open
Charlotte R/B & Hlth. Club
Charlotte, NC
704/523-5769

Chuck Prince
South Florida R/B Club
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
305/987-6410

Hot Summer Action
Del Norte Fitness Center
Hobbs, NM 392-6476

Maverick Summer R/B
Championships
Maverick Athletic Club
Arlington, TX
817/275-3348

Park Point Open
Park Point Club
Santa Rosa, CA
707/578-1640

10th Annual Gold Country
Open at Auburn Court
House & Athletic Club
Auburn, CA
916/885-1964

June 12

Pepsi-Cup
Aurora Athletic Club
Aurora, CO
303/750-3210

June 14

North Florida Sports Fest
Racquetpower
Jacksonville, FL
904/268-8888

Omni Sports Club Open
Winston-Salem, NC 919/
760-3663

Naples Fitness Ctr. Open
Naples, FL
813/263-2306

June 20

New Mexico Games
Rio Grande R/B & FIt. Ctr.

Albuquerque, NM
505/243-6007

June 21

Summer Open
Pacific West
Olympia, WA
206/473-2266

Sunshine Games Warm-up
South Florida R/B Club
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
305-987-6410

Summer Splat
Modesto Court Room
Modesto, CA
209/577-1060

June 22

Coors Light Summer Dbis.
Continental Athletic Club
Columbus, OH
614/548-4188

Ektelon U.S.
Junior Olympics
Burnsville
Racquet &
Swim Club
Burnsville, MN
719/635-5396

June 26

Sports Mall Open
Sports Mall - Metro
Salt Lake City, UT 801/
328-3116

June 28

Penn U.S.
National Outdoor
Championships
Lee-McCachren
Courts at Univ.
of Florida
Gainesville, FL
904/392-0581

July 5

Hawaii Mixed Doubles
Pacific R/B Club
Kailua-Kona, HI
808-329-7766

July 10

Deseret Gym Open
Deseret Gym

Salt Lake City, UT
359-3911

July 12

Redwood Empire Open
Rancho Arroyo Racquet
Club, Petaluma, CA
707/795-5461

Summer Celebration
Aerob-A-Fit Sports Center
Nashville, TN
615/832-7529

Sunshine State Games
Sarasota YMCA &
Sarasota Bath & Racquet
Sarasota, FL

AARA NATIONALS & SPECIAL EVENTS

MAY 22-27

EKTELON U.S.
NATIONAL SINGLES
Houston, Texas

JUNE 21-24

PENN Pacific Rim
Racquetball Champion-
ships

JUNE 22-26

EKTELON U.S. Junior
Olympic Championships

JUNE 28-30

PENN U.S. National
Outdoor Championships

JULY 12-19

U.S. Olympic Festival
Lyon Center, University
of Southern California
Los Angeles, California

AUGUST 16-18

PENN World Challenge
Lynmar Racquet Club
Colorado Springs,
Colorado

OCTOBER 23-27

EKTELON U.S. National
Doubles Championships
City Square Athletic Club
Phoenix, Arizona



INTERNATIONAL NEWS . . .

Japanese Make Association Changes Ken Ishiguro has been voted Senior Executive director in charge of the International Communication Division of the newly named Japan Racquetball Association. The old name was changed in early March from Japan Amateur Racquetball Association. JARA publishes a magazine called SKIP which is distributed to their over 300,000 racquetball population.

The JARA has been planning to have the Asian Tournament in July in Tokyo and will invite the Korean, Singapore, India and Hong Kong teams, among others, to participate. They also plan to invite participants to other events including the Japan Open in Tokyo in May, the Asian Games in Tokyo in July, the Nagoya Open in Nagoya in August, and the Bashamichi Open in Yokohama in September. Japan will take part in the Pacific Rim Games in Honolulu in June, and the All Japan Singles is planned for Tokyo in November.

FOCUS ON MASTERS

MASTERS/GOLDEN MASTERS OPPORTUNITY – BY JO KENYON

With the help of Jo Kenyon and Cam Snowberger, the AARA has embarked upon a project to have racquetball included on the schedule of the 1993 U.S. National Senior Sports Classic to be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The United States National Senior Sports Organization [USNSSO] is a non-profit organization formed to promote fitness and physical excellence through competition among people 55 and older. The USNSSO assists local communities in strengthening already existing senior games, establishing new games, and working with the media, national sponsors, and other sports organizations to increase awareness and support of Senior Games.

The USNSSO National Senior Sports Classic, held every two years, is for athletes 55 and older who have qualified at local and state USNSSO sanctioned senior games in one or more of the approved sports. This event was formerly known as the U.S. National Senior Olympics and many state and local competitions are still referred to as "Senior Olympics" or "Senior Games." Forty-three states hold these "Senior Games."

These are not to be confused with the multi-sport State Games which are conducted in forty-one states and offer competition to athletes of all ages. Racquetball is already an

integral part of these competitions in twenty-three states. The USNSSO has indicated that in order for a sport to be considered and accepted at the national level, it must first be introduced and conducted at the local or "grassroots" level.

To do this, we need to establish contact with each of the local coordinators in all the states who offer Senior Games and confirm the status of racquetball in their competitions. Then we must determine what state, national and/or individual initiatives can be taken to add racquetball to these events. We have already begun the task of gathering information, but we cannot succeed without your help.

We need players who are 55 and older to support local and state Senior Games wherever and whenever possible. Petition for racquetball if it is not already a part of their agenda. Compete in the contest, but also offer to assist, administer and promote racquetball and related activities. With your support and involvement, we can make it happen. See you on the courts!

1991 WOMEN'S SENIORS/MASTERS NATIONAL INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS —BY JO KENYON

Thirty-four ladies from six states took part in the Second Annual Women's Seniors/Masters National Invitational Championship on March 8-9 at the Supreme Health and Fitness Club in Madison, Wisconsin. This level four tournament was also designated a regional qualifier for all women in divisions 50 and over.



Photo: Jo Kenyon

The women competed in five round-robin divisions using a self-officiated format of one game to 21 points. Total points were tallied and 3 bonus points were awarded for each match won. Following the singles competition, an impromptu decision to play some doubles resulted in some wildly contested matches and a great time had by all.

Tournament directors Julie Jacobson, Joe Wirkus, and Ivan Bruner, along with staff and volunteer members of the host club, did a superb job of running a smooth and enjoyable event. An awards banquet at the Radisson Hotel on Saturday night offered the chance for a cordial cocktail hour and a delicious meal, followed by award presentations to the top finishers. The highlight of the evening, however, was a surprise video which was filmed during the tournament. Players enjoyed seeing themselves at their best (or worst) in the heat of competition.

Although the tournament was small again this year, plans are already underway to host the 1992 event in Charlotte, North Carolina, where we hope a more central location will boost attendance. See you there, ladies!

Tournament Results: W35: Julie Jacobson (Wisc.) def. Laurel Davis (Ill.); W40: Bernadette Bruner (Wisc.) def. Hollis House (Wisc.); W45: Margaret Hoff (Ill.) def. Carole Colletti (Wisc.); W50: Nancy Kay Butts (Wisc.) def. Pat Hulst (Wisc.); W55: Jo Kenyon (Fla.) def. Kathy Mueller (Minn.); W60: Phyllis Melvey (N.D.); W70: Mary Low Acuff (N.C.).

EKTELON NATIONAL MASTERS TOURNAMENT: TOM MCEACHERN CROWNED SENIOR CHAMPION — BY MATTHIAS MILLER

Palisadian Tom McEachern, 75, used his well-honed control game to win the Ektelon National Masters Championship Tournament (age 75 plus division), held February 19-23 at the Sequoia Athletic Club and Racquetball World in Fullerton, California.

The tournament is the centerpiece of the National Masters Racquetball Association, sanctioned by the American Amateur Racquetball Association and California Racquetball Association, it is normally played in February and in the Southwestern or Southern states. The draw is normally 200 to 250 players in a round robin format in flights of eight, with championship playoff seeds determined by the highest point winners in flights. The divisions start at age 40 and in 5 year increments through age 75 plus.

McEachern competed against top Masters players from Maine, New York, Virginia, Mississippi, Texas, Wisconsin, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Nevada, California, Washington, and Vancouver, B.C.

"The competition was fierce and the sportsmanship was outstanding," said McEachern, who had been absent from Masters competition since 1989, and returned to the sport a

few months ago to get back in shape. "I played a control game, which is the only way for someone like me to beat the younger guys. My money shot is a pinch to either corner, six inches off the ground. And I'm looking forward to defending my title next year."

Third place in McEachern's division went to John Wilson of Pass Christian, Mississippi, and John Pierce of Waco, Texas was the runner-up. McEachern, who trains at the Sports Connection Club in Santa Monica, has competed in the National Masters Tournament since 1980. Competing in the 70 plus division, McEachern placed fourth in '86 (Phoenix), '87 (Irving, Texas) and '88 (Las Vegas).

[Reprinted, courtesy Palisadian-Post]



CLUB PROFILE: DAVISON RACQUET & FITNESS CLUB

Since opening its doors in 1977, the Davison Racquet & Fitness Club in Michigan has generated its share of state, regional and national champions. Most notable among them is current U.S. National Team member and national doubles champion Jim Floyd. In his company is Chris Cole, 1990 U.S. Olympic Festival silver medalist; Bob Wilhelm, a national 30+ champ; Lisa Ecker, national 19+ titleholder, and the AARA's own Jim Hiser, who was instrumental in the formation of the Racquetball Association of Michigan (RAM).

Each has advanced through a system of club leagues and special training programs, according to Assistant Club Manager, Kerry Serven. The club boasts 30 racquetball leagues with 475 participants ranging in skill level from Novice to Open.

Leagues play Monday through Thursday at various times, most between 4:00 and 9:00 p.m. Serven said they have a few morning leagues, but very few compared to other clubs with league programs. There is one pro and one assistant at the club to work with the many participants. "The pro is really a glorified scorekeeper, because we have a software system for tracking the program developed by one of our league players," Serven said. The club has two league sessions, September through December and January through April. The club just celebrated the end of their league season with a banquet and award ceremony on April 26.

(continued . . .)

Davison Racquet Club, continued . . .

To promote league activity they use an inter-club format consisting of teams composed of Open, A, B, and C, and some other levels the club has developed. The teams compete for prize money only. There are no trophies or awards other than cash prizes. "A division can consist of as many as 16 because of the level of play. It's real competitive," Serven said.

Davison also conducts a number of instructional leagues for junior players that meet weekly for one hour. Serven indicated that the first 20 minutes of the session are instructional, then tournament play is simulated.

"We have to cultivate that grass roots level player. We've had a lot of world class players like Jimmy Floyd who have yet to be replaced and I think we need to concentrate on stimulating interest in that area, as well as the weekend players or someone who plays once or twice a week," Serven said. He added that most of the league players are at the club at least three or four times a week. Many of the league players at Davison have been playing in their respective leagues for anywhere from seven to thirteen years.

The club has hosted several major tournaments, including the National Juniors, the National Seniors, Regionals and State championships. It had a Pro-Stop for the past 12 consecutive years and also hosts the National Paddle Ball Tournament.

When the club opened it was strictly a racquetball club.

"With the ever shifting focus on health and fitness, we have evolved into a total health club, offering all the options," Serven concluded.

Davison Racquet and Fitness Club is a 38,000 square foot multi-recreational club. They have 3300 members with 13 courts and a 25 meter indoor pool. With a staff of two full time in the racquetball program, there is a total of 45 on the club staff. The club is part of a country club complex, so it provides its members with not only recreational opportunities, but social ones as well.



We just discovered that "the computer" has been sending out renewal notices six months in advance, instead of three. Thanks to members who let us know, we've solved the problem, but to anyone who has the "early bird" renewals, please disregard them. You'll get a corrected reminder three months before your membership expires.

STATE & REGIONAL NEWS

ALABAMA: National Wheelchair Champion in Tuscaloosa

(Reprinted from Alabama Racquetball Association Newsletter)

Gary Baker, 1990 National Wheelchair Champion was in Tuscaloosa December 8 and 9 for an exhibition match with Les Gorsline from Milwaukee. They played at the Racquet Bowl I racquetball tournament held December 7 - 9, 1990 at the AMI Family Fitness Center in Tuscaloosa. At present, Alabama doesn't have any wheelchair racquetball players and hopefully this exhibition encouraged our wheelchair athletes to play racquetball. Our goal is to offer the wheelchair division sanctioned tournaments at clubs that are accessible to the handicapped.

ALASKA: Off the Wall Racquetball is for Everyone

By Steve Katz

(Excerpted courtesy The Anchorage Times)

The annual Alaska Open, held at the Alaska Athletic Club on Tudor Road, drew 150 people in divisions Novice, C, B, A and Open in January. The club was built in 1978, owner Jay Wisthoff said, and 36 of its 300 charter members are still there - including Wisthoff. Today's membership: roughly 1,800 to 2,000.

With six courts, the Alaska Club, also on Tudor, runs one clinic a month through the winter, one or two tournaments a month, and conducts leagues during the year.

"Court sports in general are picking up," says Kurt Crisco, director of health and fitness at the Alaska Club. Crisco recently had a request for lessons for a 6-year-old.

The other clubs in town are the Dimond Athletic Club, the Anchorage Racquet and Fitness Club and the Captain Cook Athletic Club, each with two courts. Fort Richardson, and Elmendorf and Eielson Air Force bases also have courts.

"It's a sport you can pick up quickly," Wisthoff said. "It's real easy to pick up, and real easy to see progress from one level to another."



Steve Deaton serves to Jay Wisthoff. Photo, courtesy Anchorage Times.

The club loses money on the Open championship, which Jimmy Lowe won in January. A purse of \$20,000 must be raised to attract the best players available in the country. Wisthoff also loses money on the annual WPRR Silver Racquet tournament, which attracts the top 10 women players in the country for a purse of \$12,000. Lynn Adams, the seven-time Player of the Year and No. 1-ranked women's player in the country, is the tournament's defending champion and has won it 12 of its 13 years.

But, says Wisthoff, "Basically the club sponsors it because it's so good for racquetball." It gets people hooked just to watch.

COLORADO: Boscia and Faulkenberry Capture State Open Titles!

By John Foust (Reprinted courtesy CRA Newsletter "Rollout")

For Tony Boscia, the feeling you get from winning the State Championship was a familiar one -- after all he was the champ two years ago. For Barbara Faulkenberry the feeling was a bit more exhilarating -- since her last Colorado title came more than a decade ago. Either way Tony and Barbara showed the packed crowd at the Lakewood Athletic Club what top notch racquetball is all about.

In the Men's Open #2 seeded Tony Boscia knew he had his work cut out for him coming in. Having endured a season of nagging injuries and tough matches, he was assured of

nothing more than a shot at challenging defending champion Steve Neilson, and only then if he played his very best. Tony's relentless, and sometimes unorthodox style was in top form and proved to be unstoppable in the matches leading up to the finals.

For top-seeded Neilson, things were pretty much the same, although the pressure to repeat as a champion can sometimes get a little intense. If the pressure was getting to Steve, it wasn't apparent to anyone but him. His ability to retrieve was spectacular and his concentration superb. He was every bit the player who ousted Shad Thayer in the 1990 Open final.

The stage was set. Defending champ meets former champ, both players needing the win, and both playing very well.

As any championship final should be, the match was exciting right down to the very last point, literally. After winning the first game 10-15, it looked like Steve was headed towards back-to-back state titles. Boscia, to his credit, never stopped believing in himself and worked a little harder to come away with a second game win 15-12. It was a classic tie-breaker with great shots and even greater gets. Obviously in a 10-10 situation both players had the opportunity to win.

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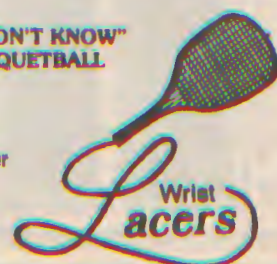
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After several side outs, Tony chose to answer with a daring backhand rollout on the service return to regain his serve for the match. A backhand skip by Steve on the return of serve gave the victory and a second State Championship title to Boscia.

The Women's side was equally as interesting, but in a different sort of way. This had been Diane Adam's year. Having been in the finals of every tournament she played, and winning all but one of them, she had become quite accustomed to winning. Her only loss was to Barbara in the finals of the Aurora City Open. In all other direct matchups between the two, Diane had proven to be the better player.

As for Barbara, a former state champion herself, she wasn't all that shook up about the possibility of meeting Diane in the finals. Barb approached this match with the intensity that's required to topple a tough opponent. Her experiences in other tournaments confirmed that old adage "when you're hot, you're hot," and when your opponent isn't, well...the outcome can be entirely different than what happened earlier in the year.

It became apparent early that it might not be Diane's day. She appeared sluggish and her normally accurate, and often powerful, shots seemed to be off the mark and lacking true zip. Barbara, on the other hand, was on a mission. She took advantage of the situation by working the entire court, then putting the ball away.

Although it wasn't a thrashing, Barbara won the first game decisively 15-11. In the second game Diane put her mind back in to the match and was able to come away with a 15-8 win. Normally a tie-breaker with two great players like this would have resulted in a 10-10 situation, but this wasn't that kind of day. Although you could never count Diane out, Barb was clearly in control of her own destiny and determined to win -- and did, 11-6.

RESULTS: MEN'S OPEN, Tony Boscia def. Steve Neilson, MAA, Marty Riddle def. Travis LaBlanc; MA, Mat Kelly def. Forest Simmons; MB, Troy Neilhaus def. Ed Callejo; MC, Tom Whitman def. Michel Bileau; MD, Matt O'Brien def. Mike Morrow; MNov, David Masters def. Rich Orsonwood; **WOMEN'S OPEN**, Barbara Paulsenberry def. Diane Adams, WAA, Darlene Schaefer def. Lynne Seal; WA, Mary Keenan def. Sharon Duell; WB, Angel Monicelli def. Diane Demarest; WC, Gina Arnold def. Carmen Alatorre-martin; WD, Tina Bragdon def. Carri Currier; WNov, Julie McAlister def. Christine Pease; **MIXED OPEN DOUBLES**, Barbara Paulsenberry/Raggle Bennett def. Diane Adams/Dan Kelly; Mixed A, Mary Keenan/John Abbott def. Angel Monicelli/Butch Pegues; Mixed B, Dee Jenkins/Chris Keenan def. Tina Alonai/Dennis Ringer.

FLORIDA: Layton takes Two Racquetball Titles

By Lawrence Dennis (Reprinted, courtesy Florida Times Union)

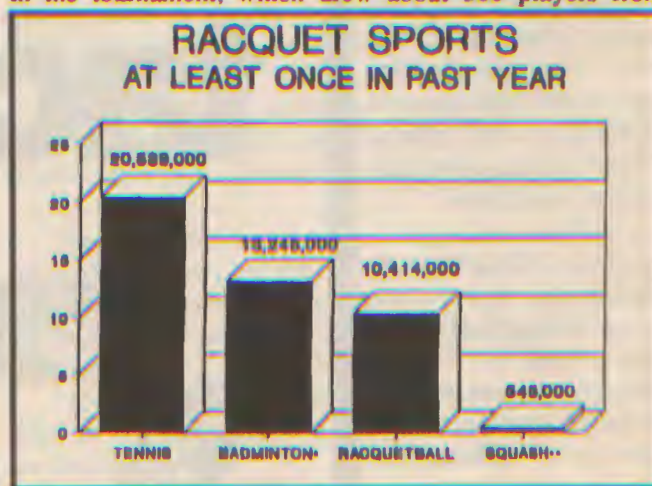
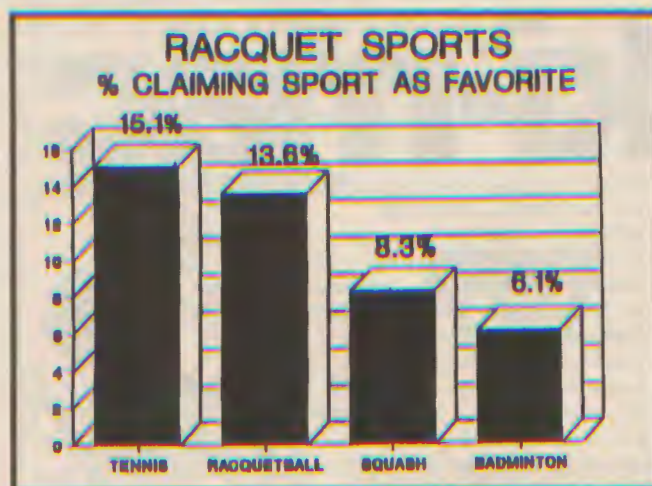
Jacksonville's Mitt Layton might have been playing for his dinner in the final match of the men's 35+ division in the Florida Racquetball Association's annual state singles championship tournament at Racquetpower Health and Fitness Club in Mandarin.

Layton, who had won his 11th state title in the 40+ division a match earlier, faced elimination against Ken Arrowsmith of Tampa after losing 15-13 in the first game and being down 10-5 in the second game.

"My wife, Debbie looked at me as if to say, 'Will you come on?'" said the 41-year-old Waycross, Ga., native, who has lived in Jacksonville since 1979. "I was afraid she wouldn't make dinner for me tonight." Layton responded by rallying to win the game 15-12 and then romped to an 11-3 win in the tiebreaker to win his 12th state championship.

James Lorello of Coral Springs beat Sarasota's Jason Waggoner 15-7, 15-8 in the men's open final and Kersten Hallander downed Susan Morgan-Pfahler 15-12, 15-9 in an all-Jacksonville women's open championship match.

Jacksonville's Mary Lyons had perhaps the most unusual win for a state championship in the women's 30-Plus division in the tournament, which drew about 300 players from



throughout the state. Her opponent, Sarasota's Barbara Simmons, didn't show up for their match, which was scheduled for 8 am.

"She thought it was at 10," Lyons said. "She came in later and wanted to play the match, but the courts were tied up." Technically, Lyons said, Simmons had forfeited the match. But Lyons had suffered a broken toe in Saturday's semifinals, and she would have had to forfeit the final had Simmons been on time. So the two agreed on an unusual way to settle the title -- coin tosses. "I won 15-6," Lyons said with a grin.

Layton, who has never won a national title, said he hopes his two state championships in the four-day tournament will make him No. 1 in at least one of the age groups. "I feel I ought to be ranked No. 1 somewhere," said Layton.

He also said that, unlike his past four tries for a national title, he was going to concentrate on only one class this year in the nationals in Houston on Memorial Day weekend.

"I'm going to concentrate on 40+," he said.

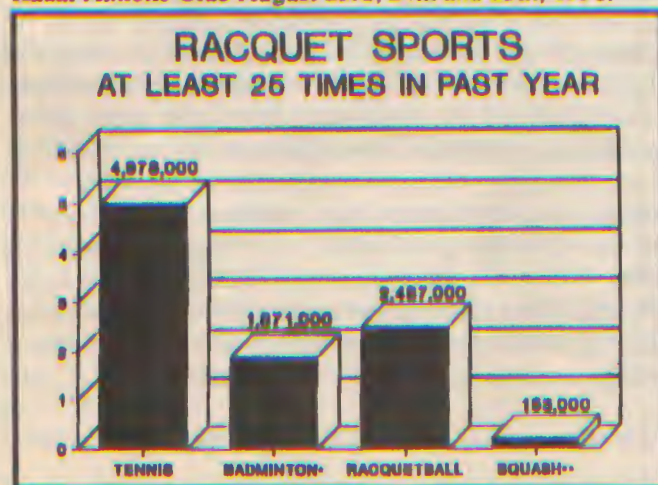
HAWAII: Kawai Athletic Club --

You're Invited!

By Tammy Smith

Come to Hawaii! Kauai Athletic Club is doing something most mainland clubs just can't do. They're throwing an Authentic Hawaiian theme racquetball tournament with Hula dancers, tropical weather, gentle trade winds and white sandy beaches, and of course a tournament you'll never forget. When you combine your favorite sport and an incredible vacation, it's a tough tournament to pass up.

Don't miss this opportunity to participate in the 2nd Annual Pineapple Open Racquetball Tournament held at Kauai Athletic Club August 23rd, 24th and 25th, 1991.



Kauai is considered the Garden Island of Hawaii, lush and tropical with many spectacular outdoor activities. If you are interested in participating in the real thing and would like more information or an application contact: Tammy Smith, Hawaii Amateur Racquetball Association State Director, 4370 Kukui Grove St., Lihue, HI 96766, 808-245-5381.

IOWA: Doubles Etiquette...

(Reprinted from the Iowa Racquetball Association Newsletter)

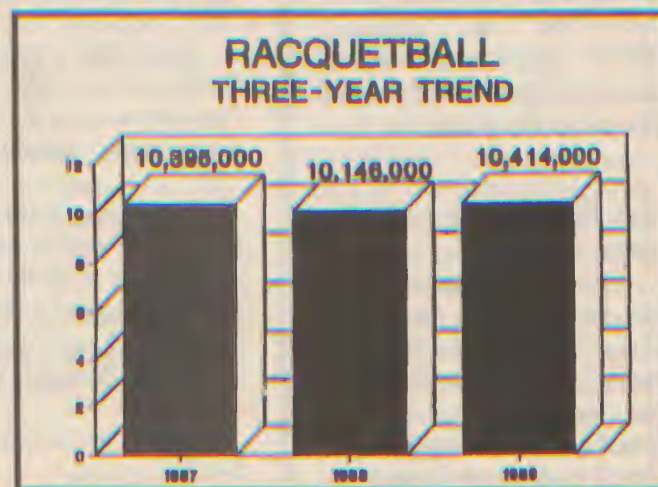
Doubles is a great way of getting together with more than one other person to enjoy a game of racquetball. However, things tend to get a bit cramped with four bodies on the court all flailing away in different directions. Some teams like to play with one person up front and the other in the back, some teams like to play side-by-side, while the more "creative" teams improvise every step of the way.

The important thing to remember when you are playing doubles is that you have a partner. For better or for worse, that other person has the right to play their half of the game. We've all been on the court with the doubles team that, for all practical purposes, is just a "disguised singles team with a moving hinder". One person hits everything while the other spends all their time trying to stay out of the way.

This type of game is fun for only one person on the court, the person taking ALL the shots. Nobody else on the court can enjoy the game because they are constantly looking around for and trying to stay out of the way of the "more-mobile-member" of the opposition.

If your partner isn't of your caliber, find a new one so you can play doubles as it should be played -- as a team.

Graphs provided by American Sports Data, Inc. and the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association (SGMA).



NOSTALGIA: FIVE AND TEN YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

***Compiled by John
Mooney***

Five Years Ago this May/ June, in 1986:

National Singles Championships were held in Houston, Texas for the 4th straight year, sponsored by PENN and DP. First time for wheelchair championship at AARA Nationals. Ed Andrews defended his Open Championship by beating Andy Roberts. Cindy Baxter defended her Open Championship by beating Trina Rasmussen. These two championships made it four national titles each for Ed and Cindy. Crystal Fried and Roger Harpersad won the mens and womens 1986 Intercollegiate Championships. Van Dubolsky was President of AARA. After five tries, Allan Shepherd finally took a championship away from 20 time National Champion Ike Gumer (Mens 70+). Ed Remen of Sterling, Virginia was named Male Athlete of the year and Cindy Baxter of Lewistown, Pennsylvania was Female Athlete of the Year. California, Florida, New York, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts were top 5 membership states.

Ten Years Ago this May/ June, in 1981:

First time the National Singles Champion received an automatic berth on the U.S. Team. A new racquetball called the Senator by Austad, "so good that if it breaks before it should" they'll give you two new ones.

LOUISIANA: LRA Scholarship and Player Spotlights ***(Reprinted from the LRA Newsletter)***

Two students from Louisiana were recently awarded scholarships by the Louisiana Racquetball Association.

Mark Jardell is a second semester freshman majoring in business at Southeastern Louisiana University. Some of Mark's school and community activities include being a Three Palm Eagle Scout, a Trek Crew Leader, a US Racquet stringer and a representative of the 1990 fitness expo. Mark volunteered his time to three women's clinics and five junior clinics sponsored by the LRA/AARA grants. He has also helped the Baton Rouge crew in all their tournaments. We are happy to have Mark as a player in this association and wish him lots of luck in school.

The second recipient was Jason Lossett, a fourth semester sophomore at Louisiana State University, where he is studying to be an Electrical Engineer. Jason is a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), the Junior Engineering Technological Society (JETS), Chemistry Club and in Who's Who in America. Jason often competes in tournaments and we're sure to see him playing and helping run events in the future.

We look forward to watching both these outstanding players improve their games and also wish them luck in their academic endeavors.

MARYLAND: Jenkins, Spiegel Rollout the New Year in Style ***By Russ Jones (Reprinted from MARA News)***

Attempting to attract an "all-star cast of players" to compete in the first tournament you've ever run is quite an ambitious task, but Billy Jenkins and Greg Spiegel did just that in the first annual "Rollout the New Year Tournament" at the Merritt Athletic Club-Security.

Not only did these two succeed in bringing in top players from North Carolina to Maine, they attracted nearly 300 entrants. The motivation for Greg and Billy was simple -- they wanted others to see great racquetball, as they had done in recent tournaments out of the state. To do so, they laid out bait totalling \$3,300.00 in cash prizes and the players bit.

In the Men's Open division, a \$1500 purse lured the likes of Rob McKinney, Dan Fowler, Doug Eagle, Mike Glowa, Dave Sable, David Simonnette, and Jim Cascio. Cascio took home the first place share of \$750, by defeating Dave Sable in two games. A rare display of emotion by Cascio at match point showed how much he wanted the win.

The Women's Open division was every bit as exciting. An important factor was the fact that the women were competing for an equal share of prize winnings. World-class players such as Molly O'Brien (WPRA #7), Marcy Lynch (WPRA #16), Malia Bailey (WPRA #6), and Lynne Coburn (WPRA #11) competed for the \$750.00 first place prize. Maryland's Lynn Coburn upset O'Brien in the semis and Bailey in the finals to chalk up her biggest Women's Open title.

When the tournament was all over, Billy and Greg were the definition of "exhaustion."

"I never realized just how much work went into organizing and running a tournament," breathed Billy. But when asked if they planned to have a second "Rollout the New Year Tournament," the two young men perked up a little, smiled a tired smile and replied, "You bet!"

RESULTS -- MEN'S OPEN: Jim Caserio def. Dave Sabie; Men's A: Glenn Smith def. Mike Kaufman; Men's B: Doug Domsaisak def. Dan Radomsky; Men's C: Oscar Valera def. Phil Gattin; Men's Club C: Mark Lipella def. Russ Moore; Men's Senior A: Jim Bailey def. Mark Baren; Men's Senior B: Bob Steele def. Frank Kuseli; Men's Master A: Ron Halloran def. Ron Clark; Men's Master B: Bud Kreh def. Steve Paar; Men's 50+: Robert Silvestri def. Chuck Green; Boy's Juniors: Drew Mulhwa def. Steve Rees; **WOMEN'S OPEN:** Lynne Coburn def. Malia Bailey; Women's A: Shannon Peaster def. Mary Shaffer; Women's B: Yolanda Jordan def. Joanne Pitts; Women's C: Heather Seward def. AnnMarie Rades; Women's Club C: Laura Benham def. Maria Mann; Women's Novice: Sharon Churchhill def. Maria Mann; Women's Veterans A: Nancy MacPatrik def. Betty Lewis; Women's Veterans B: Virginia "Babe" Vasey def. Pat Golombak; **MEN'S OPEN DOUBLES:** Fowler/Washo def. Horaki/Zajic; Men's A Doubles: Brintingham/Rosko def. Spitta/Cleveland; Men's B Doubles: DeMatia/DeMatia def. Oravce/Davis; Women's Open Doubles: Coburn/Bailey def. Revere/Pellowitz; Women's A Doubles: Peaster/Patterson def. Walsh/Dyer; Mixed B Doubles: George/Harrison def. Kellum/Bacon.

MONTANA: Greenfeld Targets 1992 World Title as Ultimate Racquetball

by Rita Hamilton (Reprinted from Center Court)

Canada's Sherman Greenfeld has targeted the 1992 World Championships as perhaps his last hurrah as a racquetball professional. The world title will be up for grabs in Montreal that summer and the 28-year-old Canadian would like nothing better than to win the men's singles title in his native country.

Last summer in Caracas, Venezuela, Greenfeld placed third in the world championships. Those world championships are conducted every two years.

Since 1986, Greenfeld had held the No. 1 ranking in Canada. The exception being 1989 when a knee injury kept him from defending his title.

Thoughts of retiring from the pro circuit have "nothing to do with age or physical abilities," Greenfeld said in a recent interview. "A lot of it is mental fatigue which goes hand-in-hand with pressure and stress."

Greenfeld was admittedly nervous prior to the men's Pro final at the Billings Pro-Am in late January. Paired against Chicago's Jack Newman, Greenfeld came from behind for an 11-15, 15-3, 11-7 victory. It was Greenfeld's third straight Billings championship.

"I was nervous because [Newman had] been playing really well on the pro tour," Greenfeld said after the match. "I respect his game and style. He's consistent. He's not streaky. I knew I was in for a difficult day," Greenfeld added. "I feel like I played one of my best matches."

As a youth, Greenfeld gave up ice hockey and soccer in favor of squash which led to racquetball. "The key reason why I switched out was I didn't enjoy team sports," he said. "I find doubles very difficult because of the same concept. I like to put all the pressure on myself."

(continued. . .)

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NOSTALGIA . . .

Game called Wallyball organized and called the World Wallyball Association. Davey Bledsoe had hair - Top players were listed as "A" players rather than "Open" - Top A players were Dennis Aceto and Cindy Baxter. Andy Roberts ranked #5 as a "B". Tim Doyle ranked #11 in 10 & under. Jack Newman & Mona Mook won the National Junior Championships. AARA approved balls: Ektelon, Penn, Point West, Regent, Seamco, Spalding, Sportcraft, Trenway, Vitteet, and Volt. Of 16 Regionals and 50 States, only 3 people are still involved as either state or regional directors. Father/son doubles team John Mooney/Jack O'Connor won Colorado Open doubles championship. How about that!

New column idea -- We'd like to try out a "where are they now" column. If you know of a person who 5, 10, 15, or 20 years ago was a player, supporter, sponsor or "7" and has dropped out of the limelight, we would like to feature them in a short column. We think it might be of interest to follow the careers or non-careers of former racquetball addicts. Please share the information with me and you'll get credit in the column. -- JM

State News, continued . . .

Greenfeld's racquetball game literally took off 12 years ago and he credits that to squash. Successful squash play requires conditioning, patience and footwork.

"In professional squash, our rallies are 40 to 60 shots," Greenfeld said. "In racquetball as the match progresses, I tend to get much stronger as the opponent starts to weaken."

Greenfeld likens squash strategy to that of a chess match. "In racquetball, I base a lot of pass shots on a minimum of unforced errors and capitalize on the chances I do get. The rallies I win, I've kept the opponent more tired out with a lot of passes; and when the ball is coughed up, I have the opportunity to take advantage of it," Greenfeld added. "I won't beat myself on the court."

Footwork in squash requires "longer and fewer steps than racquetball where players use shorter, choppy steps," Greenfeld said. However, Greenfeld's racquetball game benefits by longer strides, as he conserves energy and generally isn't caught hitting off-balance.

Over the years, quickness, anticipation, pass shots and a backhand serve have pushed Greenfeld to the top ranks of world racquetball play. "My style of game is controlled power," Greenfeld said. "I hit a lot of touch shots."

"There's a misconception about racquetball being an aggressive, hard-hitting game," Greenfeld added. "That's the way people are taught to play and the way they see it played at the higher level. Once I'm into rallies, I try to show the game is precision."

The slight-built Greenfeld also relies on mental toughness which is "75 percent of my game," he said. "I don't use timeouts because I'm physically tired," Greenfeld said. "Timeouts are used for changes in strategy."

And Greenfeld regroups around "positive self-talk," he said. "I never bring negative thoughts onto the court."

"I'm very relaxed," Greenfeld continued. "The more relaxed you are, the more effectively you can execute shots and stick to your game plan."

Visualization training also reinforces Greenfeld's goals. "All the top athletes use it," he said. "I play through my mind, during timeouts and prior to the match, thoughts of being on the awards stand."

At more times than not, Greenfeld is.

OHIO: Junior Profile: Candi Kirchoff *(Reprinted from Racquetball Around Ohio)*

Candi Kirchoff, age 14, hails from Gahanna and has been playing racquetball "on and off" for the past four years. This year, in addition to dance, volleyball, and softball, Candi began playing in racquetball tournaments. She plans to play in the Junior's division, as well as the Women's C and D divisions.



A member of the Junior Killshots team at the Westerville Athletic Club, Candi is also involved in Club Leagues. She has played in Women's C and B Leagues, placing second in both. Candi is an eighth-grader at Gahanna Middle School East where she maintains a 4.0 grade point average! We expect good things for Candi this racquetball season, and wish her well on and off the court.

TEXAS: Katz Defeats Kachtik At the Pepsi Warren Finn Open

By Simon Wiederman

A legend grows as the last two Pepsi Warren Finn championships have eluded Drew Kachtik. For the fourth straight year, Kachtik reached the finals of the Pepsi spon-

sored Warren Finn Memorial Tournament at the Jewish Community Center of Houston.

For Katz, this was the first time in four attempts that he reached the finals, and he left no doubt who was the best player. Aaron has clearly dominated the field in the Southwest by winning just about all area tournaments he has entered in the last six months -- and truly met the Pepsi challenge.

As in all great sport matchups, an individual or team can only reach great levels of play if opponents push them to the heights of their ability. Kachtik pushed Katz to the height of his game and treated a capacity crowd to the kind of action that has made racquetball the exciting sport it is.

Why a legend? Drew Kachtik supplied the great opponent in each of the last four finals, against Mike Guildry, Greg Peck, then Lance Gilliam in 1990, and Katz this year. In that term, he made each one of those final matches great and thrilling, but still holds a record of only two and two.

During one point in the third game a total of ten consecutive sensational diving gets (five by each player) had the crowd in a frenzy. Each dive produced a louder cheer until it ended with a roll out by Kachtik and the crowd stood up as a unit and applauded for at least five minutes. Even greater was a passing shot retrieval by Kachtik, who jumped up off the floor from a previous dive and while airborne, struck the ball off the back wall. Then, having to quickly get up after sliding hard into the back glass, he put the shot away -- to the amazement of the crowd.

Even so, Aaron Katz was brilliant in winning this year's championship and the \$1,000.00 cash prize for first place, after defeating Javad Aghaloo and Todd O'Neil in early rounds and Kachtik in the final.

RESULTS -- Men's A: Chris Smith def. Chris Taft; Men's B: Aaron Alvares def. Tom Knuth; Men's C: Mike Kaplan def. Randy Jones; Men's D: Buty Koe def. John Craig; Men's 30A: Glen Huey def. Kenny Adabiyi; Men's 30B: Norman Hanks def. John Solis; Men's 40A: Terry Wells def. Don Childs; Men's 40B: Russell Laughhead def. Larry Rice; Men's 50: Kyle Smith def. Dirk Stronk; A Doubles: Melcher/Aghaloo def. Larry/Butte; B Doubles: Van Zant/Dorset def. Lippman/Beigleman; C Doubles: McLaren/Kaplan def. Karp/Zelkovich; Women's C: Catherine Abweg def. Martha Satterfield; Women's D: Linda Johansen def. Mary Mel.

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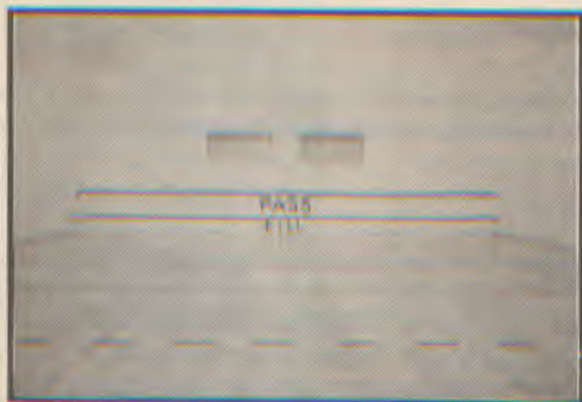
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PAR TIP #4: PASSES AND KILL SHOTS

by Fran Davis
Asst. U.S. National
Team Coach



In the last issue we had the opportunity to cover the off-the-back wall shot in depth. Key points to remember are:

1. Same stroke forehand & backhand
2. Good eye contact
3. Correct judgement
4. Proper footwork
5. Total concentration

This five-step methodical approach will help you become more consistent off the back wall and improve your offensive game.

The off-the-back wall shot, if you recall, is considered one of the most effective offensive shots in the game today. An offensive shot is defined as a shot that will end the rally and/or score you a point. In other words it is considered a scoring opportunity. In this article we will continue to build your game from the ground up and introduce you to some more of the most commonly used offensive shots.

Diagram A.

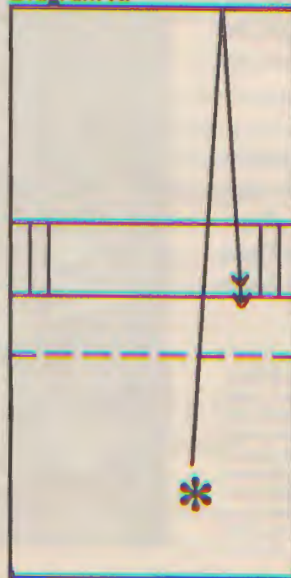
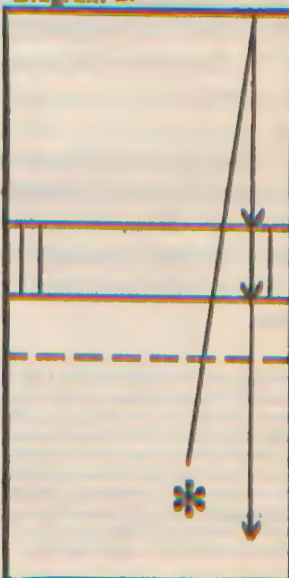


Diagram B.



Today we will cover, in depth, the kill shots and the passing shots. Both of these shots are hit with exactly the same stroke as the basic forehand and backhand. The only differences between the kill shot and the pass shot are:

1. The height at which the ball contacts the front wall.
2. The height at which you contact the ball in your swing.

Let's observe the kill shot:

1. The ball hits the wall 6" or lower on the front wall and bounces twice before the short line (photo #1).
2. Contact point is made approximately ankle high (photo #2).

Let's observe the passing shot:

1. The ball hits the front wall 18" and lower on the front wall and bounces 2x before the back wall (photo #1).
2. Contact point is made approximately shin to knee high (photo #3).

There are two basic ways to hit the kill shot and the pass shot: down-the-line or cross court. Your choice is usually determined by your opponents position, but we'll get more into shot selection at a later date. Let's first define down-the-line and cross court.

Down-the-line is a shot hit between you and the closest side wall (diagrams A and B) and cross court is a shot hit between you and the furthest side wall (diagrams C and D). Neither shot should hit the side wall at all. If the ball does hit the side wall it will slow down and come to the middle of the court creating a set up for your opponent.

- * you
- A down-the-line kill
- B down-the-line pass
- C cross court kill
- D cross court pass
- E wide angle

The contact point in your hitting zone will determine whether you go down-the-line or cross court. If you hit off your big toe/inner thigh it goes down-the-line (photo #4 - racquet with one ball). If you hit slightly in front of your big toe/inner thigh it goes cross court. (photo #4 - racquet with two balls).

Last, but not least for my more advanced players, I want to bring up a more difficult passing shot called the wide-angle pass. The shot is named to indicate that it is hit at a wider angle than the cross court pass. Your contact point in your hitting zone is made slightly further out than the cross court pass. The ball should

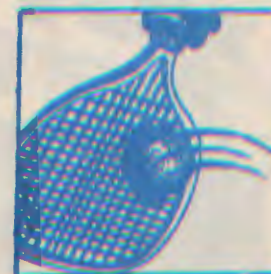
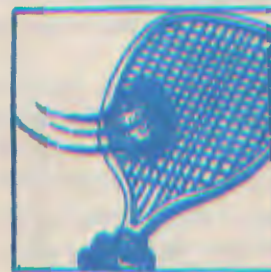


Diagram C.

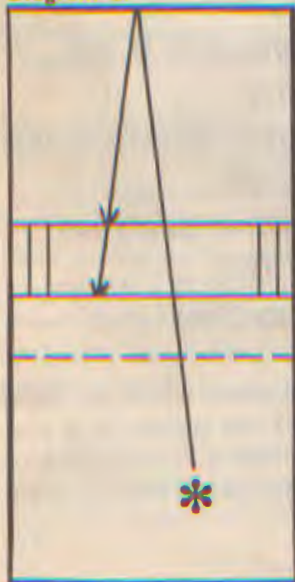
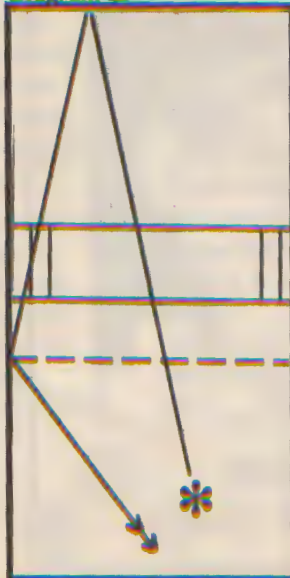


Diagram D.



Diagram E.



PARI Instructional, continued . . .

hit the front wall and then the side wall on the fly (even with your opponent at around 25' or the safety line), and then bounce twice before the back wall (diagram E).

This shot is an advanced shot because if you miss your angle even slightly, up or back, the ball can either come off the side or back wall into center court for a set up. I recommend sticking with the basic passes until you gain racquet control and confidence, then add in the wide angle pass shot to your shot selection so you create more variety. Be patient.

Both these shots, the kill and the pass shots, are great offensive shots you want to develop and use to end the rally. Today we focused in on **HOW** to hit them and at a later date we will discuss **WHEN** (shot selection) to use them. Just remember we are using a step by step building process to help you become the best you can be. Work hard at learning these two basic shots because they can help you become a sound offensive player. Good luck in your practice.

Tune in next issue for the pinch shots -- more offensive weapons for your arsenal.

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PARI NEWS

*by Connie Martin
PARI Commissioner*



The Professional Association of Racquetball Instructors has scheduled seven Clinic/Exam sites for this spring and summer, which are listed below. The Fall schedule will be finalized and published in the next issue.

PARI members have just received their latest packet of manual inserts which includes Tournaments Forms for all your league needs. May is our annual renewal month, so members should begin looking for a renewal form in the mail. Renewal dues are \$30.00 per year, which includes the year's membership, quarterly manual inserts full of instructional and programming ideas and 25 rule books. If you are not a PARI member, but would like to be one, please contact the AARA National Office.

PARI Level I & II Clinic/Exam Sites Spring/Summer Schedule

May 4-5

***Colma, CA: What A Racquet
May 20-21***

***Houston, TX: Houston YMCA
June 28-29***

***Gresham, OR: Cascade Athletic Club
July 13-14***

***Fullerton, CA: Racquetball World
August 3-4***

***Florence, AL: Court House Racquet Club
August 17-18***

***San Jose, CA: Schoebers-San Jose
September TBA***

Wisconsin: Site TBA

If you would like more information about the above clinics, or wish to be added to the PARI mailing list in your area, please contact the national office at 719-635-5396, or write: Jim Hiser, AARA-PARI, 815 North Weber, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-2947.

PARI PROFESSIONAL FOCUS: BARBARA SIMMONS

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Professional**
***Florida
Racquetball
Association
Board Member**
***Racquetball
Director/
Instructor**
***Resides in
Sarasota, FL**



Congratulations to Barbara Simmons who recently became a PARI certified Teaching Professional. Barbara is an avid Women's Open competitor who turned her hobby into a full time career. While employed as a licensed practical nurse in a doctor's office, Barbara decided it was time to work at the sport she loved. She began as a volunteer instructor at the Sarasota YMCA, and was soon hired as its full-time racquetball manager.

With the support of the YMCA, and her belief in a 'Professional Association' for racquetball, she was among the first in Florida to become a PARI recognized instructor. In January of this year she passed the upgrade test to become a Level II Teaching Professional.

As a dedicated instructor and player, Barbara is meeting a goal of helping to develop a strong Junior Program in Florida. She volunteers her time as Southeast Junior Regional Director and Florida State Junior Director. In Sarasota, she also teaches racquetball in the middle school, which has six courts and is developing a high school racquetball program. This year two high schools are involved, with more expected to join in the fall.

In her spare time, Barbara enjoys the beach, running and riding bikes with daughters Amanda, 18, (also a racquetball competitor) and Samantha, 15.

Thanks Barbara, for your commitment to the sport. Florida is lucky to have you!

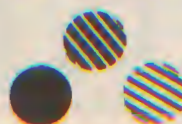
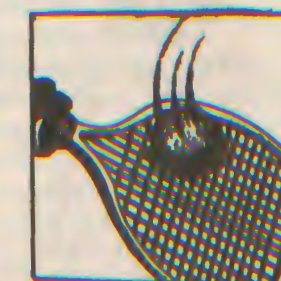
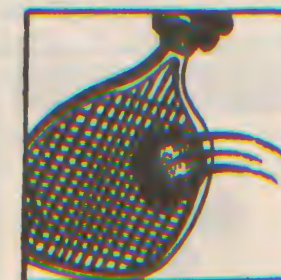
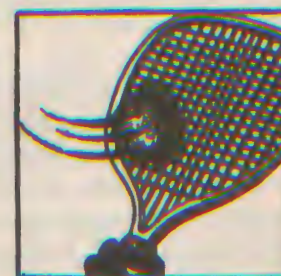
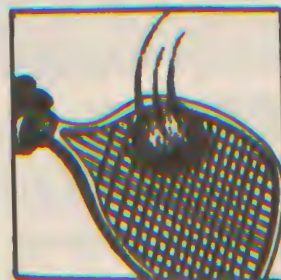
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RACQUETBALL INSTRUCTORS

TEACHING PROFESSIONALS

The following people are recognized as Level II PARI teaching professionals. If you need information on how to contact one of them, please call the AARA office at 719-635-5396 and ask for Jim Hiser.

John Abbott
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Bob Berryman
Bob Book
Richard Bruns
Steve Carlson
Gerald Cleveland
Wanda Collins
Tod Danielson
Gail DeVall
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Erie, PA
Dallas, TX
Madison, WI
Houston, TX



"DEAR RACQUETBALL DOCTOR"

by Fran Davis & Stu Hastings
(The Dynamic Duo)

DEAR DOCTOR,

I am a frustrated racquetball player because I do not have enough power, reach, control, and consistency in my shots. I see so many other players using the oversized racquets who have power, reach, control, and consistency in their shots. I was wondering would the purchase of an oversize racquet help my game in that respect? Will the oversize racquet help an open player as much as it helps a C level player? Signed, Frustrated -- Kristen Szymanski

DEAR FRUSTRATED,

Good questions. We hear these questions often, and will address them one at a time and offer some "prescriptions" to help solve your problems.

The first question you brought up was, will an oversized racquet help your overall game? The answer is yes. Oversize racquets can help your game by giving you more power, reach, control, and consistency due to the larger hitting frame. Increased power develops from two basic principles:

1. A larger "sweet spot" trampolines the ball more.
2. The longer the lever the more power at the end of the lever.



Reach is increased by the longer frame. More consistency and control occurs with the larger "sweet spot." If the ball is hit slightly off center (not exactly in the sweet spot) the racquet is more forgiving and the ball can still be directed and controlled.

In answer to your second question, an oversize racquet will greatly "improve" the C player's game and "enhance" an open player's game. The oversize racquet helps to cover up some of the problems that a lower level player experiences in their strokes, timing, set up on the ball and preparation. It "enhances" the open level player's game since, having mastered those problems, the open player can add more power, reach, and even more control and consistency to an already proficient game. Keep in mind that the lower the skill level, the more dramatic a difference an oversize racquet will have on your game.

In summary, the oversize racquet can help your game. Almost everyone has switched to a larger frame, but a majority of the players don't know how to use it. It's a weapon in it's own right, but you have to learn how to use that weapon correctly before it can benefit you in battle. This means get qualified instruction and good coaching to learn how to control the racquet and become a consistent winner. That means developing good strokes and strategies and only then will the racquet be a plus.

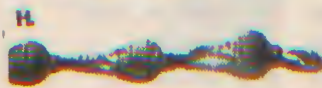
Remember a racquet is only as good as your ability to make use of it. To be a better driver you do not just buy a nicer car, you take driving lessons and learn how to be a better driver! Good luck.

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PRO UPDATE

KACHTIK CAPTURES #1 SPOT IN PITTSBURGH

By Hank Marcus

Drew Kachtik, a 23-year-old rookie on the MPRA tour, won the Shop 'n Save Pro-Am at the Racquet Club of Pittsburgh with an exciting four game win over Mike Ray. Throughout the event, matches were played before "standing room only" crowds of Pittsburgh fans rooting for hometown favorite and #2 seed, Dan Obremaki.

The big news out of Pittsburgh was that Kachtik, in his first full season on the tour, took over the #1 ranking in the world heading to Chicago in April. Kachtik's season started fast with a win in Stockton, California and a semi-final appearance at the #2 stop in Salem. Things got a little rough mid-season but Kachtik was able to smooth things out and move from the tough #5 seed position not only to win, but to dominate opponents all the way to the finals in the strongest showing of his career.

Using his favorite weapons, forehand and backhand splats, "dive for any ball" court coverage, and great intensity, Kachtik started in the 32s beating local star Chris George 11-2, 11-1, 11-9. His next win was over #12 ranked Woody Clouse in a four game match of 11-10, 7-11, 11-3, 11-10 that turned out to be the toughest of the tournament. Drew hit his quarterfinal against #4 Ruben Gonzalez "on a roll." Domination is a word overused in sports to describe feats or performances, but not in this case. Kachtik beat Gonzalez 11-6, 11-5, and 11-9 in 45 minutes, and then played even better, defeating Marty Hogan in the semis 11-7, 11-2, 11-5.



The finals were not just for the \$5,000.00 first prize, but for the #1 spot in the MPRA rankings. Kachtik faced off against Mike Ray, knowing that whoever won the match would be #1 with three stops left in the season. Ray controlled the first game, winning 11-9, to give Kachtik only his second game loss

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In the entire tournament. In one of the most thrilling matches played, Kachtik came back to win the next three games at the wire, all at 11-10!

Kachtik and Ray, both control players, fought for every point with Kachtik winning all the big points. Ray seemed to struggle with his "automatic" forehand as the match went on, and Drew was there to take advantage every time the ball was left up. No one, however, should feel sorry for Ray as the MPRA season hits the home stretch. He is only 10 points behind Kachtik and is riding a two year winning streak at the TransCoastal Grand Nationals scheduled for Seattle, Washington May 16-19.

MPRA TOP 10

- #1 Drew Kachtik
- #2 Mike Ray
- #3 Egan Inoue
- #4 Dan Obremaki
- #5 Ruben Gonzalez
- #6 Tim Doyle
- #7 Andy Roberts
- #8 Dave Johnson
- #9 Mike Yellen
- #10 Brian Hawkes

- Dallas, Texas
- Nashville, Tennessee
- Honolulu, Hawaii
- Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- Staten Island, New York
- Huntington Beach, California
- Memphis, Tennessee
- Huntington Beach, California
- Southfield, Michigan
- Santa Ana, California

Pro Update, continued ...

MPRA TOUR SCHEDULE -- The following is the remainder of the MPRA Tour schedule for this season. If you need further information, please call the MPRA Tour Commissioner at 503-645-3535.

May 15-19	Transcoastal Grand Nationals Seattle, Washington, 206-778-3546
June 5-8	Transcoastal/Pro-Kennex Tournament of Champions Portland, Oregon, 503-223-8740

ADAMS BACK ON TOP OF WPRA TOUR

By Chris Evon

With only two tournaments left in the Women's Professional Racquetball Association [WPRA] season, Lynn Adams has regained the number one ranking position on the tour, but has yet to beat #2 ranked Michelle Gilman.

In the finals of both The Olive Garden Pro-Am in St. Louis, and The Silver Racquet Pro-Am in Alaska, Gilman bested Adams in two close tiebreakers. The two didn't have

a chance to meet at the Diet Pepsi Grand Slam Tournament in Philadelphia, due to Gilman's surprise quarterfinal loss to Marci Drexler. For her win, Drexler matched Gilman's power and had the crowd on its feet in response to her tremendous gets and unorthodox shots. Drexler upset Gilman in three games to reach the semifinals for the first time since her knee injury in 1990.

Caryn McKinney, the #3 seed, was upset in the quarterfinals, by #6 Jackie Paraiso. Paraiso, who has been a threat to all the top seeds this season, appeared in her first semifinals, but was unable to get past the tenacious Adams who has been in the finals of every event this season.

Malla Bailey took advantage of Gilman's early round loss to gain momentum, defeating both Kaye Kuhfeld and Drexler to reach the first professional final of her career. "This tournament is a highlight of my career," remarked Bailey. "I always love the chance to play Lynn, but to be able to play her in the finals is something I've always dreamed of." Bailey made a quick start against what seemed to be a nervous Lynn Adams, but couldn't hang on physically or mentally as Adams won the next three games, along with her second tournament of the season, and the number one WPRA ranking!

1990-91 WPRA Rankings: Dated March 3, 1991

1. Lynn Adams	Chicago, Illinois
2. Michelle Gilman	Ontario, Oregon
3. Malla Bailey	Norfolk, Virginia
4. Caryn McKinney	Atlanta, Georgia
5. Jackie Paraiso	El Cajon, California
6. Kaye Kuhfeld	Indianapolis, Indiana
7. Toni Bevelock	Santa Ana, California
8. Marci Drexler	San Diego, California
9. Lynne Coburn	Lutherville, Maryland
10. Sandy Robson	River Forest, Illinois

SPALDING SIGNS TOP PROFESSIONAL RACQUETBALL PLAYERS

Spalding Sports Worldwide recently signed two of the top professional racquetball players in the country, Caryn McKinney and Mike Ray. Both players will represent the company's complete line, with McKinney competing with the Exac-Tech frame, and Ray using the Assault Graphite racquet.

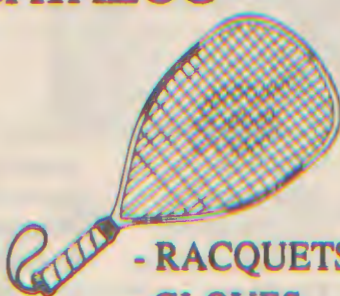
"Caryn and Mike are among the most highly respected players in the world, both on and off the court," said Mark Wentura, director of professional racquet sports at Spalding Sports Worldwide. "Their commitment to the sport exemplifies what we look for in members of the Spalding family of consultants."

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RACQUETBALL



Caryn McKinney, age 33, was the #1 ranked women's player in the world in 1989. A past president of the Women's Professional Racquetball Association (WPRA), she continues to serve on its Board of Directors. Caryn has been playing professionally for 11 years and has won several major titles and awards, including a WPRA National Championship. McKinney's first major title was in 1981 when she won the National Amateur Championship.



Mike Ray, age 27, turned pro in 1985 and was voted the Men's Professional Racquetball Association's Most Im-

proved Player for the 1985-86 season. In March 1990 he acquired the #1 ranking in the MPRA, and in May 1990, won his second straight City Fed Grand National Championship. Ray also serves on the Board of Directors for the MPRA.



BEVELOCK SIGNS WITH PRO KENNEX

Toni Bevelock, #7 on the women's pro tour, signed with Marty Hogen Racquetball prior to National Doubles.

THROW THE BLUM OUT

By Norm Blum

Cross Training — Racquetball could receive a surge of national publicity thanks to Jeff Conine. The Kansas City Royals outfielder is being touted as one of this year's rookie phenoms. From the Washington Post: "The rookie hitting phenom has played remarkably well in the outfield, although that shouldn't be a big surprise, considering he is a championship racquetballer." The Californian is expected to be an impact player with the Royals and his racquetball prowess often comes up in interviews.

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Shop Talk — Penn will no longer manufacture Ektelon's ball...Mark Wentura heads Spalding's new racquetball division...Former Ektelon player director Theresa Nunn is now selling real estate in the San Diego area...Racquetball instructor Steve Strandemo has moved his operations from California back to his home state of Minnesota.

Potpourri — Overheard on CNN during Operation Desert Storm: "President George Bush took a much needed hour off on the racquetball court." I always thought the President was a tennis buff... In a racquetball spinoff, a Bart Simpson t-shirt on the market says "Radical Shot. Just roll it out, dude."... A car salesman heard this original story from a racquetballer: "The reason I want a small car is not because it gets good mileage, but because I won't have to drive to tournaments. With my station wagon I was always the designated driver..."

(continued. . .)

Tour Notes -- The top pro doubles team right now is Mike Ray and Ruben Gonzalez... Fitness fanatic Dan Obremski attributes his new "top-five" ranking to spending more time on the court and less time in the weight room. Geez, I could have given him that advice... At 19 Michelle Gilman became the youngest female to obtain the No. 1 ranking. She should have been the WPRA's Player of the Year in 1990. No rookie ever came close to what she accomplished last season.

In my opinion -- I like Tournament Directors who end play early... Nothing irritates me more than getting hit with a ball and the person telling me they never hit anyone before... If the score is 13-13 don't shout "three serving three." ...Can't stand people who say "way to hustle" after every point... I took it in stride when a woman from the club approached me on the elevator and blurted out "I didn't recognize you with your clothes on."



My wife pulls into the driveway and my daughter Rachel says, "Dada home?" "No," my wife says. "Racquetball?" Rachel asks. Where else?

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"A" DIVISION FORUM:

The letter written by Shari Coplen regarding the Women's "A" division complaint was of special interest to me. We have encountered similar problems with women's competition in Florida and I agree that skill divisions should not be combined if there are 3, 4 or 5 players in each division.

Combining skill divisions certainly does not accomplish the goal of fair competition. In our state, we are revising our ranking and sanctioning guidelines for just that purpose -- to make racquetball as appealing and enjoyable as possible, particularly for the women who are outnumbered in our membership five to one.

One recommendation is the addition of an "A+" division for those women advancing rapidly out of "As" and into "Open." This would allow players moving up to improve and remain competitive without being blasted off the court and humbled by seasoned Open players. Another option would be to offer a consolation round in the Open division and -- if cash prizes are offered -- award the equivalent of the entry fee to the consolation winner.

Another proposal is to prepare a double elimination format (or a variation of the consolation round outlined above) to guarantee two matches to each player. A third alternative is the "compass" draw which insures a minimum of three matches, although this format would undoubtedly require additional court time.

I feel the responsibility for promoting and conducting fair and stimulating competition for women lies primarily with the State Association and ultimately with the local tournament director. Only by generating enthusiasm for women's racquetball will we be able to succeed in our goal of increasing female involvement and interest in our sport.

Jo Kenyon

Florida Racquetball Association

Your concern is warranted regarding A-division play. In the State of Arkansas, women's play is also very limited. One solution that has worked in the past:

Group Women's Open and A together, pairing O/A players first round. The Open player will either have a nice easy warm up against the A player or a strong match. (The Open player may think "Look who's knocking on the door of Open wanting in." Or, even Open players have bad days, and maybe the A player will win.) After the first round, the A

players drop to the A division where they usually play a round robin due to the small number of entries. Open players may also play a round robin.

In this way, a lot of racquetball is played over the weekend and you haven't driven a long way for the possibility of playing only two matches. And a note to Tournament Directors: I'm sure many of you have already tried this format, but if not, give it a shot. It's a good way to help promote Women's Divisions across the board, not just at the top levels.

*Lynette Edenfield
Fayetteville, AR*

HATS OFF IN MISSOURI

I had the pleasant experience of playing in the Missouri State Tournament this past weekend. Karen Gould and her staff made this tournament very enjoyable. Having played in many tournaments all across the country I'm used to the problems associated with large draws -- late times, matches running late, short tempers, etc. This was not the case at the Ballwin Club in St. Louis. In fact, seeing a tournament run like this one lets me know that players will want to play in more tournaments if they are run correctly.

George Baker, coach of the Southwest Missouri team was at the tournament promoting the AARA. George is an excellent ambassador for racquetball.

*Doug Dickman
Lifetime AARA*

HALL OF FAME SURPRISE

Reading through the January-February 1991 edition of RACQUETBALL Magazine I was amazed at the Hall of Fame announcements -- in particular the nomination of Mike Luciw who I have not seen for eleven years.

Fourteen years ago in Fitchburg, Massachusetts I was introduced to the sport of racquetball at a local facility where Mr. Luciw was the club pro. I was twelve years old and fell in love with the game. The general manager gave me a free membership in exchange for my services of sweeping out the courts and general cleaning. I would go to the club every day after school and when my work was done I would play for hours.

Mike Luciw took a liking to me or was just fed up with my pestering and taught me the game. He would take me into one of the back courts and work with me for hours. One day he beat me 63-0. I was really the only junior at the club, so it could have been very easy for a pro to look past this short, rather heavyset kid, but Mike didn't. He never once asked me

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for a dime for the lessons. He was always giving something back to the game and this was just one example. I have never admired a man more than Mike Luciw, on or off the court.

If it wasn't for Mike Luciw, I would not have learned the game of racquetball, nor ended up where I am today. I am now a pro myself at the biggest racquetball club in Nebraska. Because of Mike's caring, I can give something back to this great game. I have a junior team consisting of approximately fourteen kids between 8-16 and leagues with more than 200 people. The ageless George Bailey of "It's a Wonderful Life" said it best. "A man never really knows how many lives he touches."

Mike, I thank you and the kids on Team Sports Courts thank you!! Because of you, racquetball is a better game. Congratulations on your nomination.

*Doug McIntosh
Lincoln, NE*

FROM THE EDITOR

That's what I like to see in our pages -- an exchange of ideas, some well-deserved recognition, and viable options for making our racquetball experiences the best they can be. It represents a concerted effort by a large and growing "club"

of racquetball competitors that make up the AARA membership.

Competitive-licensed members take that involvement even a step further, by playing in, and supporting, AARA sanctioned events held exclusively for them. From start to finish, "members only" receive entry forms, information and state newsletters, mailed according to national rosters that are updated daily. "Members only" earn national ranking points when they place highly in an event. "Members only" are recognized for attaining a top ten position in the nation. "Members only" are eligible to qualify for national competition, the U.S. National Racquetball Team and U.S. Olympic Festivals. "Members only" receive **RACQUETBALL Magazine** and the opportunity to vote on rules, policies and how their sport is governed.

Although some players aren't interested in any of those things, membership remains a matter of choice. When you enter an AARA sanctioned event, you are invited to make a commitment to racquetball. You can accept, join (or renew) and become eligible for the "members only" tournament, or elect not to. You can advantage of the opportunity to sharpen your skills and broaden your experience -- or you can skip sanctioned competition altogether and stick to recreational play. You may not like the options, but you always have a choice.

So, from tournament director to novice player, the next time you're challenged with these choices, simply take a moment to reflect on the special status of AARA membership. If nothing else moves you, remember that sanctioned tournaments are for "members only" and you either are one -- or you're not. Everything else is extra...



--LM



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JUNE	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
EASTERN STANDARD:								
New England Sports Network					7P			
Madison Square Garden							5P	
Fox Network	4P		10P			4A	11P	
KBL	4P		TBA				TBA	
Home Team Sports	4P		10P			4A	11P	
Prime Sports Midwest	4P		10P			4A	11P	
SportsSouth Network		1P						9P
Sunshine Network	2P			7P				
CENTRAL REGION:								
Prime Sports Upper Midwest	3P		9P			2A	10P	
Home Sports Entertainment						2A	11A	
MOUNTAIN REGION:								
Prime Sports Rocky Mountain	2P		8P			1A	9P	
Prime Sports Intermountain	2P		8P			1A	9P	
PACIFIC STANDARD:								
Prime Ticket		1P	7P			12	8P	
Pacific Sports Network		1P	7P			12	8P	
Arizona Sports Network		1P	7P			12	8P	
Prime Sports Northwest		1P	7P				8P	

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 Prime Sports Midwest (Indianapolis)
 SportsSouth Network (Atlanta, Charlotte, Memphis)
 Sunshine Network (Orlando, Miami, Tampa-St. Petersburg)

CENTRAL REGION:

Prime Sports Upper Midwest (Minneapolis)
 Home Sports Entertainment (Houston, Dallas, San Antonio)

MOUNTAIN REGION:

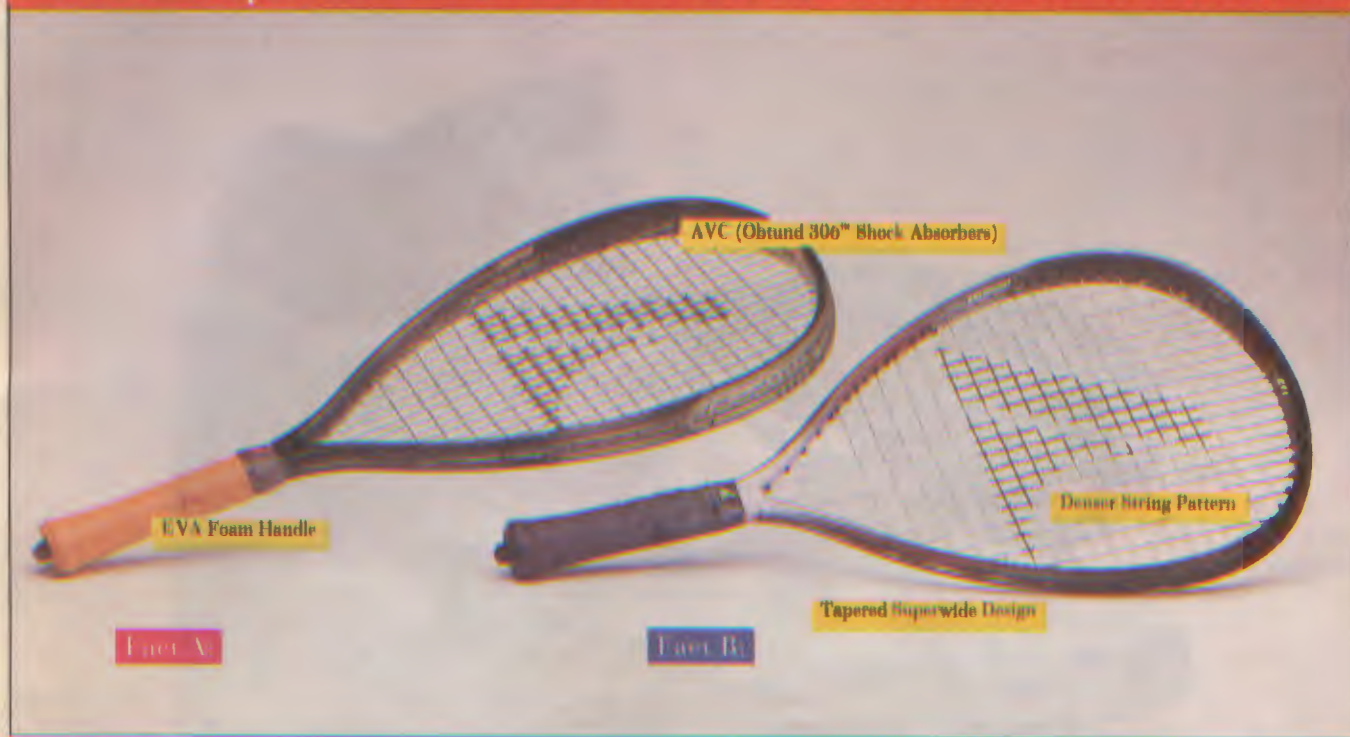
Prime Sports Rocky Mountain (Denver, Colorado Springs)
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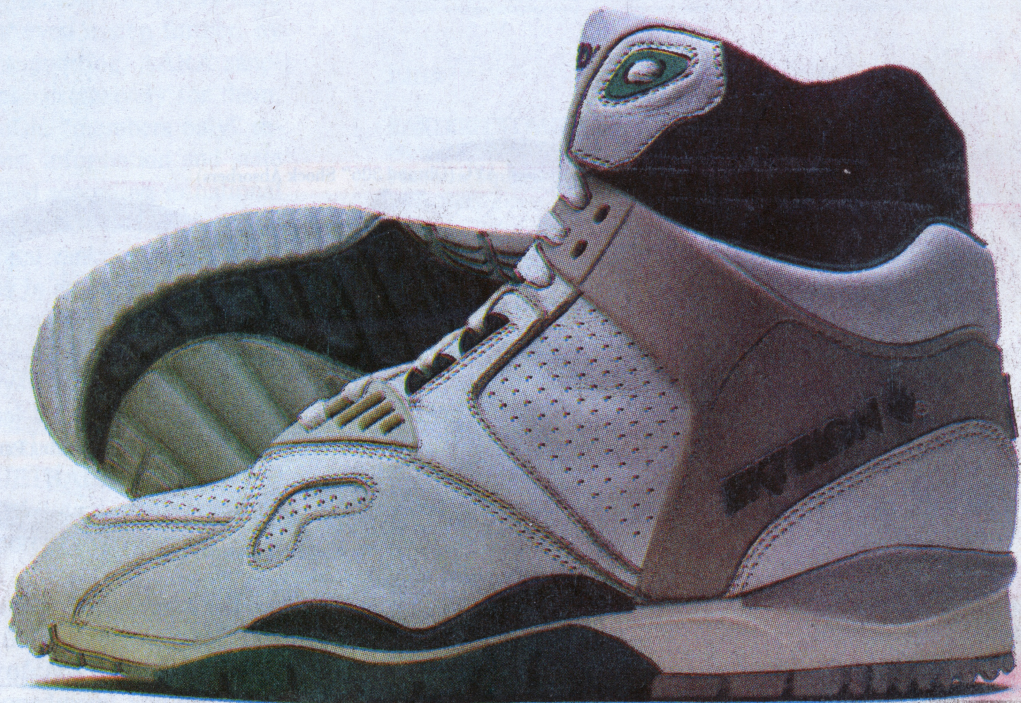
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