

# CENTER COURT



April 1992

Volume III Issue X

## Players should support AARA

BILLINGS — As our racquetball season comes to a close, I'd like to talk to our MRA players a little about AARA.

I have been able to attend quite a few tournaments around the state during the year and have found all of them to have been run great.

The only real problem I see is trying to collect AARA membership fees. This should not have to be the responsibility of the tournament directors.



**Steve  
Pinnow**

**MRA  
President**

We should all be happy to pay the AARA fee so that Montana can be recognized nationally in racquetball.

These fees help to strengthen racquetball by supporting the Olympic racquetball team. To make our sport stronger we need to have racquetball in the Olympics.

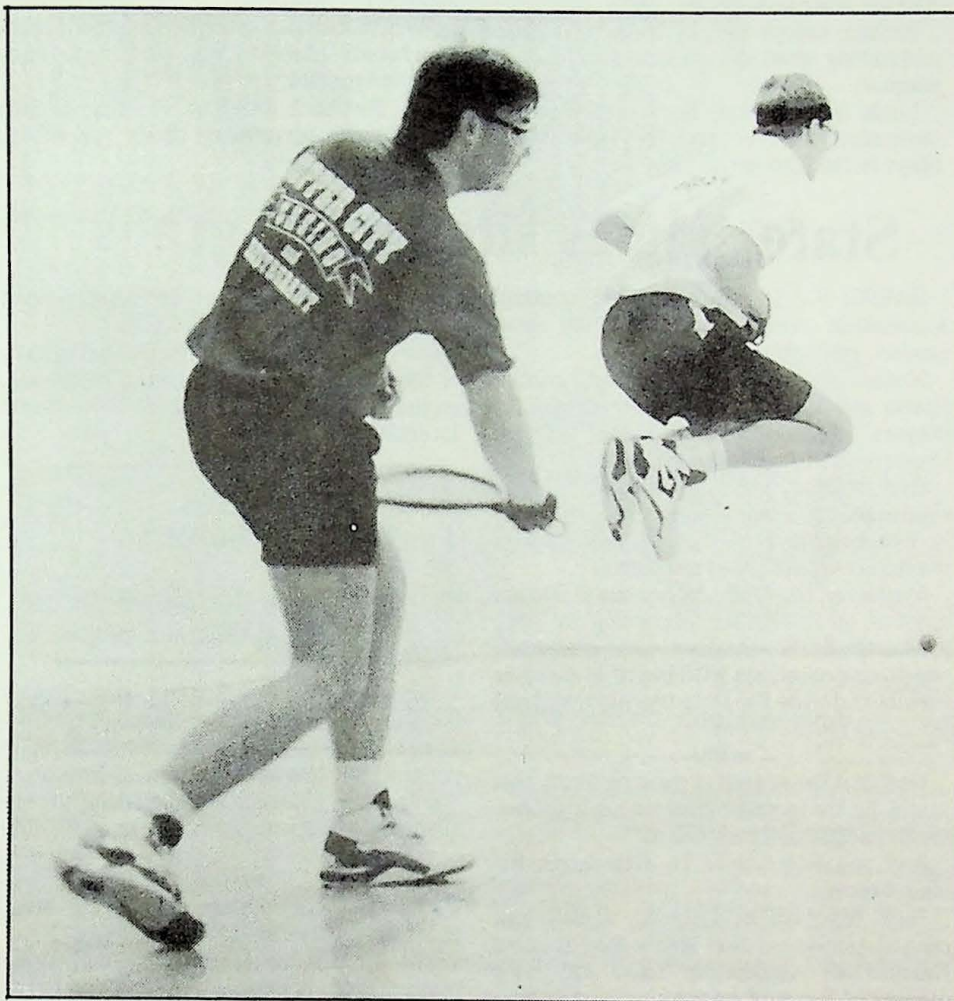
Your membership supports the following AARA programs:

- The junior and high school regional and national championships,
- The intercollegiate regional and national championships,
- The national, regional and state ranking program,
- The national teaching certification program,
- The national referee certification program,
- Official AARA publication 'Racquetball USA',
- The national disabled program,
- The national outreach program,
- U.S. racquetball team,
- National elite camps,
- AARA scholarship program.

There are also some personal benefits for belonging to the AARA. These include:

- Competitive license membership card,

See PINNOW



*Center Court/Rita Balock*

**John Kennis of Butte (left) powers the ball past an airborne Dan Hugelen of Missoula at the**

**Winternational Sports Festival in Butte.**

## State singles titles awarded

BOZEMAN — Karen Jacobson won her first Montana Racquetball Association women's Open singles championship at Universal Sports and Courts in early April. The Havre player held off Carla Fox of Billings 15-5, 15-11.

Jacobson defeated Nancy Rios of Bozeman in the semifinal, but Rios came back for a 15-12, 15-8 decision over Jacobson in the women's 30 age division final.

Dan Hugelen of Missoula added to his cache of men's Open titles with a 15-9, 15-13

victory over Lloyd Marsh of Billings.

Marsh did take the men's 30 age title over Steve Pinnow of Billings 15-4, 15-3.

The tournament field numbered 174 players.

Here are the results of the 1992 MRA championships:

### **MEN OPEN**

Championship: Dan Hugelen (Missoula) def. Lloyd Marsh (Billings) 15-9, 15-13. Third: John Kennis (Butte) won by forfeit over Mike Richter (Missoula). Consolation: Rick Rios (Bozeman) def. Paul Patek (Billings) 11-15, 15-5, 11-5.

See SINGLES

## Meet a MRA member

MISSOULA — Ranked among the state's top Open players are a husband and wife who play at the Court House in Mike and Linda Richter.

A fifth-year tournament player, the 39-year-old Mike has both Montana seniors singles and doubles titles to his credit.

He is a right-handed player who uses Ektelon's Strobe. Richter is on the court 2-3 times a week, practicing against Mark McQuirk, Dan Hugelen and Gary Peterson.

His regular tournament doubles partners are Mike George of Great Falls, McQuirk and his wife.

"Family, health, business" are how Richter prioritizes his life.

Richter enjoys weight training, hunting and fishing when not working as a financial planner.

Linda is completing her fourth year as a tournament player and the right-hander plays on the Ektelon Mirada.



Linda and Mike Richter

She practices often on her own or else against her husband.

Weight training, interior design, athletics and family interest Linda who is a fulltime wife and mother.

The Richter's children, Crystal, Jessica and Jacob, accompany their parents to most tournaments.

## State singles site up for grabs

HAVRE — The Montana Racquetball Association recently crowned 1992 state singles and doubles champions.

Singles drew 174 players to Universal Sports and Courts in Bozeman, while 192 players partnered for doubles at the Crossroads Fitness Center in Helena.

Shifting from the doubles mode back to singles play is always a challenge. Generally, foot speed and court position are suspect the first couple of times on the court.

A site for the 1993 state singles tournament is up in the air, according to MRA president Steve Pinnow who conducted one-on-one meetings with board of director members during the state tournament April 3-5.

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Now that the season is winding down, this might be the perfect time to seek professional racquetball instruction.

And you won't have to even leave the state to do so.

Jack Newman of Chicago, a top-eight ranked player on the Men's Professional Racquetball Association tour, will offer players 10 hours of instruction during May 2-3 at the Crossroads Fitness Center in Helena.

Cost is \$150 and Newman can be contacted at 1-800-ROLLOUT for more information.

Camp applications were included in the January issue of *Center Court* and will also be available at the Region 13 tournament desk April 24-26 in Billings.

It has been 3½ years since Steve Strandemo, once regarded as the game's best teacher, instructed at a Havre racquetball camp, which provided a great boost for my game.

But my game again seems to be leveling out. I've got some questions and new goals in mind for Newman's camp. Plus the whole summer to apply what I learn.

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The traveling Don Goddard and Jan

Shelton Sportsmanship Trophies traded hands at the state MRA banquet.

Longtime Helena players and promoters of the sport were the deserving recipients, including Russ Noonan, Janet Church and Laurie Glass.



Rita Balock

Center Court Editor

Butte's Ronnie Roesti and Robby Gunderson, along with namesake Don Goddard of Glasgow, made the Goddard trophy presentation to a near-speechless Noonan.

I had the pleasure of surprising an unsuspecting Church and Glass with the Shelton award.

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Four tournaments remain on the MRA calendar for the 1991-92 season.

The Region 13 tournament will draw players from Wyoming and Montana to the Billings Athletic Club April 24-25. Those wishing to play a national singles event must compete regionally.

Butte's YMCA will be the site of the May 22-24 Can Ball Tournament featuring singles and doubles. Empty pop cans are placed in the front corners of the court with bonus points added for the rally winner which hits the can or points taken away for those who skip at a can.

One game is played to 31 and you must win by two points. Robby Gunderson makes up these rules.

The Super 8 Summer Sizzler returns to the Sagebrush Athletic Club in Havre on June 19-21. Last year, play was doubles only. Singles will be included this time.

The Big Sky State Games are back at the BAC in Billings July 17-19.

## •Pinnow —————

- Participation in AARA-sanctioned events,
- Accidental insurance coverage. Member covered for competition, supervised practices and direct travel to and from sanctioned events (\$10,000 accidental death and dismemberment, \$25,000 medical excess in excess of any other insurance. If no other insurance, this insurance becomes primary (\$250 deductible applies),
- Free rule book,
- Voice in all AARA policies,
- 50 percent discount membership in U.S. Amateur Inc. (entitles members to rental car, hotel, airline and equipment discounts),
- Option to apply for AARA Visa Card (free first year),
- Membership in state AARA affiliated associations,
- 30 percent discount when moving with Arpin Van Lines.

Let's see if we can't all do our part in seeing that our own AARA membership is up to date by checking with the director the next time we take part in a tournament.

Since the AARA regional tournament is to be held in Montana this year, we would like to see all our MRA members participate or at least as many as possible.

The regional tournament will be in Billings, April 24-26.

We hope to see you there!

## MRA on edge with AARA

By SHIGEO BANKS  
Special to Center Court

GREAT FALLS — The national AARA may withdraw support of the Montana Racquetball Association. This will result in their withdrawing of AARA sanctioning of all MRA-sanctioned tournaments.

Under current AARA sanctioning, rules require that current AARA rules are enforced and that all participants are current AARA members.

The AARA provides promotional materials, membership privileges and liability and accident insurance. The liability insurance covers the host facility, volunteers and spouses. The accident insurance provides accident insurance to and from a tournament.

As an Olympic sport, the Olympic Federation requires all sport members to provide insurance to their members. This insurance is paid for by the individual membership fee.

At one time, Montana had over 1,000 AARA members and was an active leader in racquetball promotion. Now, we have 200 paid AARA members.

The majority of tournaments do not collect the AARA fees properly and as such are at risk for liability cases. No collection of dues, no coverage.

There are several AARA programs that we can tap into. Until we get active again, we have no bright future.

# State doubles champs decided

HELENA — A new state men's Open doubles champion was crowned at the Crossroads Fitness Center in late February at the 1992 Montana Racquetball Association doubles championships.

Dan Hugelen of Missoula and Lance Reithmeier of Bozeman teamed to defeat longtime partners John Kennis of Butte and Matt Parriman of Helena 15-2, 15-8 in the title match.

An all-Billings match developed in the women's Open play, as Michelle Koch and Carla Fox prevailed over Connie Ryals and Laurie Perino 15-14, 15-8.

An 11-8 tie-breaker lifted Ronnie Roesti of Butte and Michelle Draggoo of Kalispell to the mixed Open title in a 13-15, 15-10 battle with Marsh and Fox of Billings.

The tournament drew 192 participants.

Here are the 1991 state doubles results:

## MEN OPEN

Championship: Dan Hugelen (Missoula) Lance Reithmeier (Bozeman) def. John Kennis (Butte) Matt Parriman (Helena) 15-2, 15-8. Third: Rick Rios (Bozeman) Lloyd Marsh (Billings) won by forfeit over Tyler Hangans Mark McQuirk (Missoula). Consolation: Perry Jacobson Ron Brenna (Havre) def. Andy Clark (Anaconda) Wayne Townsend (Butte) 13-15, 15-9, 11-10.

## A

Championship: Dwane Sutpin Dave Kuglin (Great Falls) def. Carl Rose John Braun (Billings) 15-3, 15-9. Third: Richard Lehr Wayne Surratt (Great Falls) def. Bob Miller Doug Miller (Great Falls). Consolation: Steve Strand Gary Baltrusch (Havre) def. Bud Neill Dennis Wolff (Billings) 14-15, 15-14, 11-7.

## B

Kevin Iverson Larry Iverson (Kalispell) def. Coley Crase Justin Donnelly (Butte) 15-10, 15-10. Third: Rod Hessler Tom Butler (Billings) won by forfeit over James Hogg Joel Norgaard (Missoula). Consolation: Terry Gustafson Bob Baldwin (Bozeman) def. Wheat Gerlach.

## MASTERS

Championship: Bud Talbott Jeff Pallister (Great Falls) def. Gordon Tripp Bob Worthington (Helena) 15-9, 15-2. Third: Dale Shelton Joe Luckman (Great Falls) def. Bob Crowe (Havre) Tim Keating (Billings) 15-11, 15-4. Consolation: Terry Gustafson Bob Baldwin (Bozeman).

## SENIORS

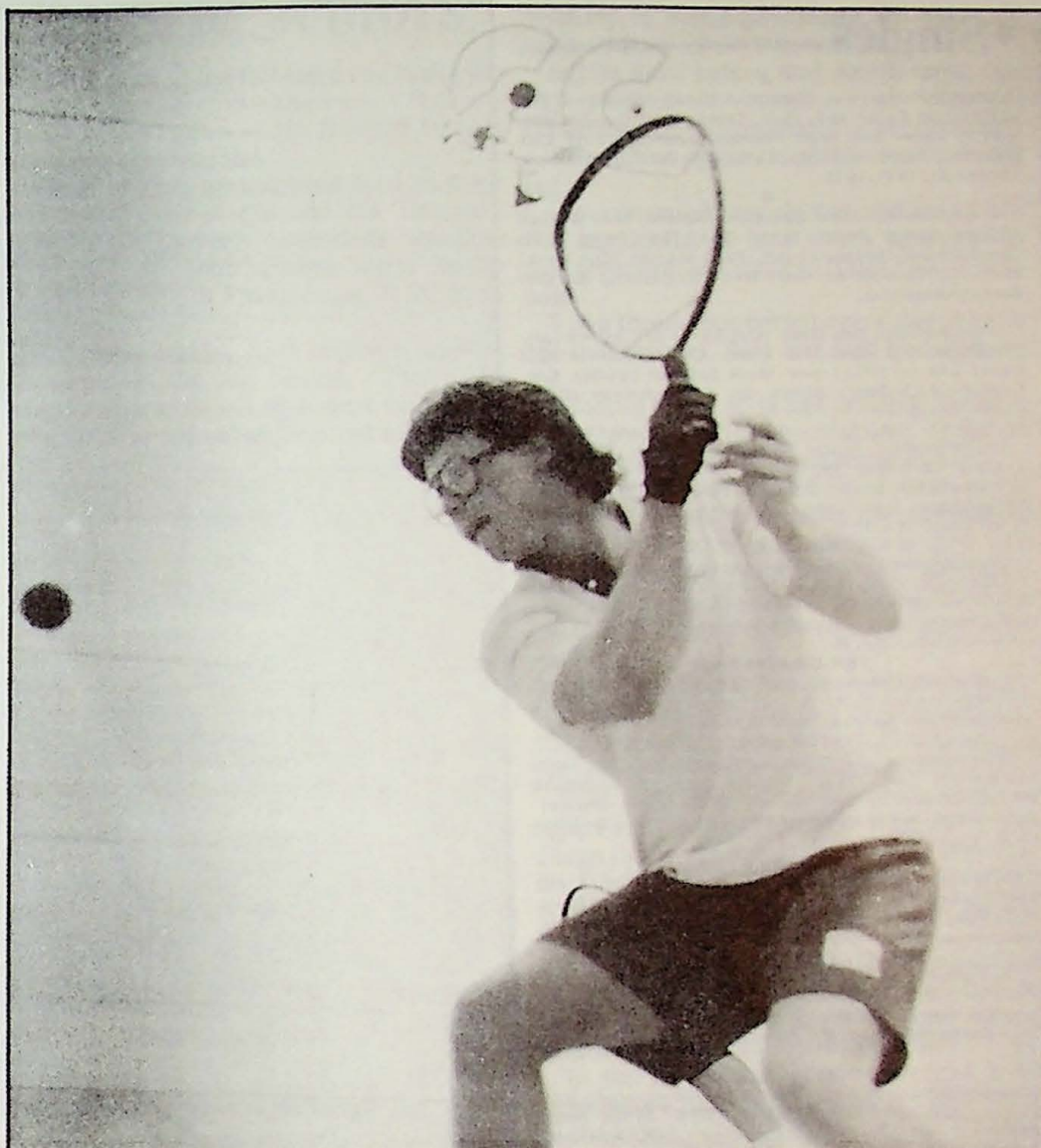
Championship: Mike Richter Mark McQuirk (Missoula) def. Rick Rios Russell Miller (Bozeman) 13-15, 15-8, 11-7. Third: Bud Neill Dennis Wolff (Billings) def. Bill Schauer John Anthony (Helena) 15-10, 15-8. Consolation: Joe Murgel Bruce Mihelish (Helena) def. Lofthouse King 15-7, 15-12.

## SENIOR-MASTERS

Championship: John Weber Dennis Wolff (Billings) def. Mike Pitman Terry Hess (Great Falls) 13-15, 15-6, 11-6. Third: Ben Parriman Jim Van Meter (Helena) def. Jim McGarvey (Helena) Tim Ferriter (Butte) 15-8, 15-11.

## WOMEN OPEN

Championship: Michelle Koch Carla Fox (Billings) def. Connie Ryals Laurie Perino (Billings) 15-14, 15-9. Third: Karen Jacobson Rita Balock (Havre) won by forfeit over Debbie Morse Margie Morse (Havre). Consolation: Jan Shelton Bonnie Talbott (Great Falls) def. Marie Hawkins (Butte) Janet Church (Helena) 15-9, 15-12.



Center Court/Rita Balock

## Helena's Matt Parriman waits for the ball off the back wall in state

## Open men's doubles play.

## A

Championship: Diane McKinley Michelle Draggoo (Kalispell) def. Carol Surratt Charlene Luckman (Great Falls) 15-12, 15-7. Third: Diane Meredith (Livingston) Mary Allaman (Billings) def. Annie Shea Marie Hawkins (Butte) by coin toss. Consolation: Becky Murphy Susan Bowers (Bozeman).

## B

Championship: Jodi DiFronzo Lisa Phillips (Butte) def. Keri Routzahn (Butte) Trish Clark (Anaconda) 15-6, 15-12. Third: Jenni Roesti Jolee Ferriter (Butte) def. Vi Schurman Cindy Otter (Helena) 15-13, 15-5. Consolation: Laurie Glass-Tracy Wentz (Helena) def. Deana Burkley Deanna Hugelen (Missoula) 15-10, 15-10.

## MIXED OPEN

Championship: Ronnie Roseli (Butte) Michelle Draggoo (Kalispell) def. Lloyd Marsh Carla Fox (Billings) 13-15, 15-10, 11-8. Third: John Kennis (Butte) Karen Jacobson

(Havre) won by coin toss over Mike Richter Linda Richter (Missoula). Consolation: Dave Kuhns Connie Ryals (Billings) def. Ron Brenna Rita Balock (Havre) 15-3, 15-13.

## A

Championship: Kelly Robertson John Rawlings (Bozeman) def. James Hogg Becky Murphy (Bozeman) 11-15, 15-10, 11-3. Third: Kevin Iverson Diana McKinley (Kalispell) def. Russell Miller Susan Bowers 15-8, 15-7. Consolation: Bud Talbott Bonnie Talbott (Great Falls) def. Joe Luckman Charlene Luckman (Great Falls) 15-10, 13-15, 11-9.

## B

Championship: Coley Crase Jolee Ferriter (Butte) def. Justin Donnelly (Butte) Trish Clark (Anaconda) 15-6, 15-12. Third: Diane Meredith Pete Aguilar (Livingston) def. Mike Dagenais Tracy Wentz (Helena) 6-15, 15-11, 11-3. Consolation: Stan Kondracki Judy Kondracki (Billings) def. Roesti Cassidy (Butte) 15-12, 15-14.

# Junior tryouts set for summer

By SHIGEO BANKS  
Special to Center Court

GREAT FALLS — Junior applications are being accepted to try out for the national junior team. One boy and one girl will represent Region 13 (Montana-Wyoming) at the tryout in Colorado Springs this summer.

Last year's representatives were Andy Clark of Anaconda and Marti Shute of Riverton, Wyo.

Any junior, 14-18 years of age, may apply.

Applications are available from the state president. Contact Steve Pinnow in Billings (P.O. Box 50820) for an application. Return it to him.

Pinnow will decide the one Montana boy and girl nomination.

The regional director, Shigeo Banks, will select the regional representation for the Montana and Wyoming candidates.

# MRA calendar

Here is the remainder of the 1991-92 MRA calendar

## APRIL

24-26, Region 13 tournament, Billings Athletic Club.

## MAY

22-24, First Annual Can Ball Tournament, YMCA, Butte.

## JUNE

19-21, Second Annual Super 8 Summer Sizzler, Sagebrush Athletic Club, Havre.

## JULY

17-19, Big Sky State Games, Billings Athletic Club.

## • Singles ———

**A**  
Championship: Rod Cline (Cut Bank) def. Wayne Surratt (Great Falls) 15-7, 15-12. Third: Kent Coe (Helena) won by forfeit over Matt Thompson (Great Falls). Consolation: Steve Martini (Kalispell) def. James Hogg (Bozeman) 15-11, 15-12.

**B**  
Championship: Mike Dagenais (Helena) def. William Higgins (Great Falls) 15-12, 13-15, 11-5. Third: John Quackenbush (Missoula) def. Paul Mandel (Cut Bank) 15-12, 15-7. Consolation: Gary Williams (Helena) def. Don Gross (Anaconda).

**C**  
Championship: Don Olson (Cut Bank) def. James Sally (Bozeman) 2-15, 15-6, 11-5. Third: Chris Robinson (Cut Bank) won by forfeit over Mark Sullivan (Butte). Consolation: Rick Olson (Dillon) def. Brian Palmer (Great Falls) 15-8, 15-14.

**MASTERS 45**  
Championship: Bruce Gerlach (Bozeman) def. Tim Keating (Billings) 15-11, 15-9. Third: Bob Baldwin (Bozeman) won by coin toss over Rick Lehr (Great Falls). Consolation: Bob Crowe (Havre) def. Ray White (Lewistown) 15-8, 15-10.

**MASTERS 50**  
Championship: Bob Baldwin (Bozeman) def. John Taylor (Miles City) 13-15, 15-7, 11-10. Third: Joe Luckman (Great Falls) def. Don Goddard (Glasgow) 12-15, 15-10, 11-7. Consolation: Les Hudson (Livingston) def. Ben Pariman (Helena) 15-7, 15-3.

**SENIOR A (35-Plus)**  
Championship: Mike Richter (Missoula) def. Rick Rios (Bozeman) 5-15, 15-11, 11-5. Consolation: Randy Olson (Kalispell) def. Gary Levinsky (Kalispell).

**SENIOR B**  
Championship: Rod Cline (Cut Bank) def. Tim Stoltz (Missoula) 15-6, 15-4. Third: John Quackenbush (Missoula) won by coin toss over Bob Crowe (Havre). Consolation: Butch Albertson (Havre) def. Dan Gollehon 15-10, 15-6.

**SENIOR C**  
Championship: Gerry Hovland (Bozeman) def. Frank Keene (Bozeman) 15-7, 15-12. Third: Chuck Busta (Bozeman) won by coin toss over Sandborg (Bozeman). Consolation: Byron Purkett (Dillon).

**19-PLUS**  
Championship: John Kennis (Butte) def. Rob White (Bozeman) 15-7, 15-5. Third: Ronnie Roesti (Butte) won by coin toss over Jeff Butterfield (Bozeman). Consolation: Dave Edmo (Bozeman) def. Greg Chirrick (Billings) 15-1, 15-8.

**25-PLUS**  
Championship: Joel Norgaard (Missoula) def. Ron Brenna (Havre) 11-15, 15-5, 11-10. Third: James Hogg (Bozeman) won by coin toss over John Rawlings (Bozeman). Consolation: Larry Iverson (Kalispell) def. Brad Von Bergen (Billings) 15-7, 15-13.

**30-PLUS**  
Championship: Lloyd Marsh (Billings) def. Steve Pinnow (Billings) 15-4, 15-3. Third: Jeff Koski (Bozeman) won by coin toss over John Braun (Billings). Consolation: Alan Mader (Billings) def. Gary Williams (Helena) 15-7, 15-6.

**WOMEN OPEN**  
Championship: Karen Jacobson (Havre) def. Carla Fox (Billings) 15-5, 15-11. Third: Nancy Rios (Bozeman) def. Laura Merrill (Victor) 15-8, 15-4. Consolation: Denise Moerkkerke (Hamilton) def. Marie Hawkins (Butte) 15-7, 15-12.

**A**  
Championship: Laurie Perino (Billings) def. Tina Sandborgh (Bozeman) 15-12, 12-15, 11-4. Third: Carmen McSpadden (Bozeman) won by forfeit over Michelle Draggoo (Kalispell). Consolation: Charlene (Luckman) def. Becky Murphy (Bozeman) 11-15, 15-8, 11-6.

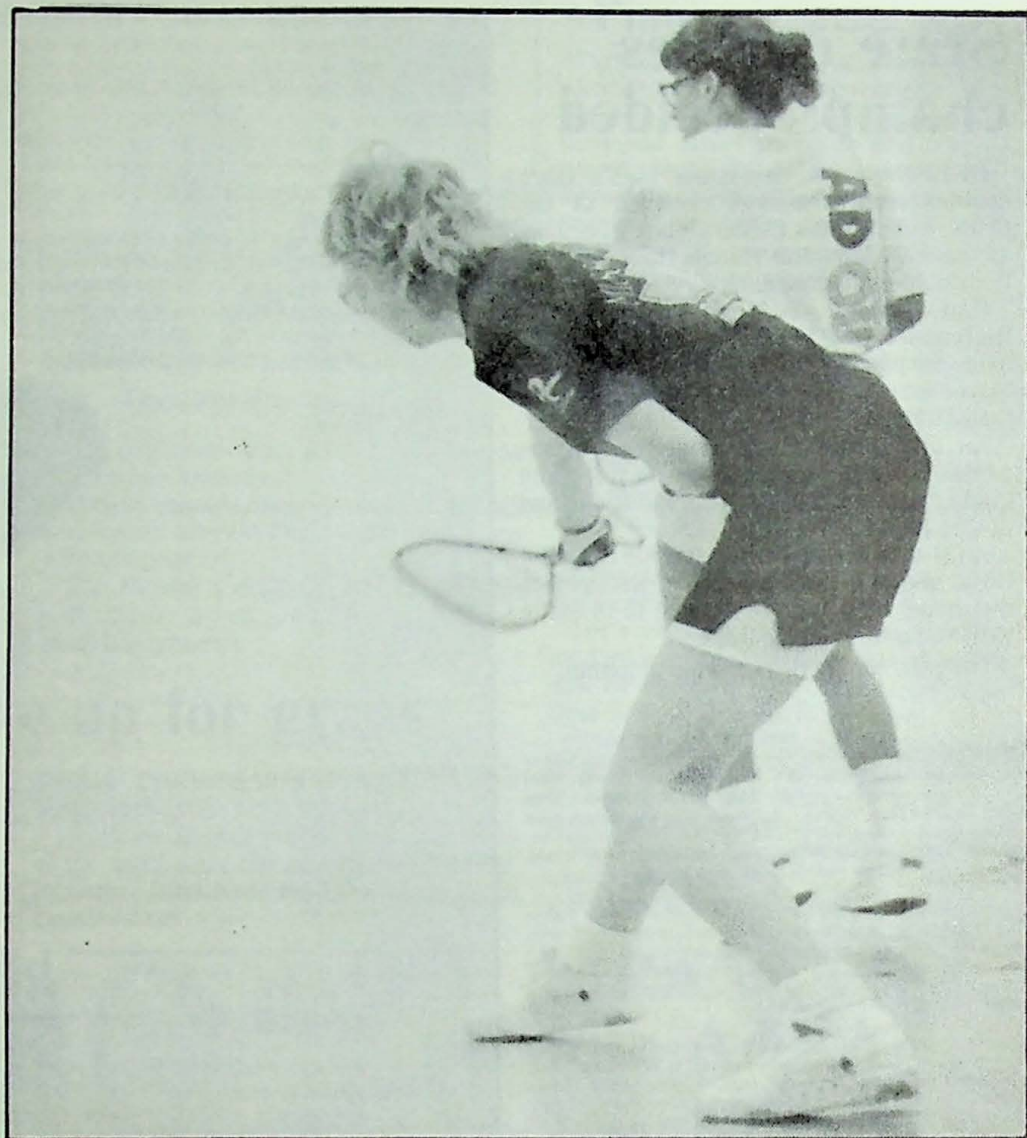
**B**  
Championship: Lini Redding (Whitefish) def. Diana Meredith (Livingston) 11-15, 15-9, 11-4. Third: Keri Routzahn (Butte) def. Jodi DiFronzo (Butte). Consolation: Beth Buchanan (Havre) def. Brandy Vauthier (Anaconda) 15-13, 15-6.

**SENIOR (Plus-35)**  
Championship: Tina Sandborgh (Bozeman) def. Crystal McLean (Billings) 12-15, 15-12, 11-2. Third: Mary Allaman (Billings) won by forfeit over Susan Bowers (Bozeman). Consolation: Charlene Luckman (Great Falls) def. Rhonda Melton (Hamilton) 15-11, 7-15, 11-9.

**PLUS-30**  
Championship: Nancy Rios (Bozeman) def. Karen Jacobson (Havre) 15-12, 15-8. Lori Jurenic (Butte) def. Denise Moerkkerke (Hamilton). Consolation: Kelly Robertson (Bozeman) def. Rita Balock (Havre) 15-8, 15-10.

**19-29**  
Championship: Laurie Perino (Billings) def. Carla Fox (Billings) 15-5, 15-3. Third: Carol Surratt (Great Falls) def. Michelle Draggoo (Kalispell). Consolation: Deanna Hugelen (Missoula) def. Jenni Roesti (Butte) 15-9, 15-12.

**JUNIORS**  
Championship: Andy Clark (Anaconda) def. Justin Donnelly (Butte) 15-13, 15-4. Third: Matt Thompson (Great Falls) won by forfeit over Blake Silha (Glendive). Consolation: Cody Matteucci (Bozeman) def. Michael Busta (Bozeman) 15-6, 15-1.



Center Court/Lance Reithmeier

Karen Jacobson of Havre (left) the state women's Open singles downed Carla Fox of Billings for championship.

## George, Fox top Winter Splat

**BILLINGS** — Mike George of Great Falls and Carla Fox of Billings took men's and women's Open singles championships at the late-January Winter Splat Pro-Am at the Billings Athletic Club.

Here are the tournament results. No scores or player's hometowns were reported.

**MEN SINGLES OPEN**  
1. Mike George (Great Falls), 2. Mike Richter (Missoula), 3. Don Skadeland (Williston, N.D.), 4. Lloyd Marsh (Billings). Consolation: Russ Noonan (Helena).

**A**  
1. Kent Coe (Helena), 2. Carl Rose (Billings), 3. Hogg, 4. John Rawlings (Bozeman). Consolation: Morrison.

**B**  
1. Egeland, 2. Matteucci, 3. Clements, 4. Kiesow. Consolation: Mike Dagenais (Helena).

**C**  
1. Dan O'Malley, 2. Tim Keating (Billings), 3. Hartman, 4. Frank. Consolation: Offerdahl.

**SENIOR B**  
1. Russell, 2. Bob Crowe (Havre), 3. Pickens, 4. Neill. Consolation: Tom King.

**MASTERS**  
1. Stan Kondracki (Billings), 2. Buss, 3. Tim Keating (Billings), 4. Joe Luckman (Great Falls). Consolation: Dale Shelton (Great Falls).

**SENIOR C**  
1. P. Hagan, 2. Byron Purkett (Dillon), 3. Kehrwald, 4. Kaneski. Consolation: Anderson.

**DOUBLES OPEN**  
1. Rick Rios (Bozeman) - Lloyd Marsh (Billings), 2. Mike

Richter (Missoula) - Mike George (Great Falls), 3. Donlin-Don Skadeland (Williston, N.D.), 4. Seitz-Lance Reithmeier (Bozeman). Consolation: Alan Mader - Steve Pinnow (Billings).

**A**  
1. John Braun - Carl Rose (Billings), 2. Kent Coe - Hall (Helena), 3. Morrison - Waest, 4. King - Neill. Consolation: Hogg - Joel Norgaard (Missoula).

**B**  
1. Pickens - Casper, 2. Tripp - Worthington. Consolation: Russell - Jim Brenna (Billings).

**WOMEN SINGLES OPEN**  
1. Carla Fox (Billings), 2. Karen Losing (Miles City), 3. Kelly Robertson (Bozeman), 4. Debbie Morse (Havre). Consolation: Chris Martin (Billings).

**A**  
1. Carmen McSpadden (Bozeman), 2. Mary Bianco (Great Falls), 3. Keshishian (Bozeman), 4. Marge Bryan. Consolation: Laurie Perino (Billings).

**B**  
1. Diana Meredith (Livingston), 2. Judy Hugelen (Missoula), 3. Vi Schurman (Helena), 4. Tracy Wentz (Helena). Consolation: Beth Buchanan (Havre).

**DOUBLES OPEN**  
1. Carla Fox - Michelle Koch (Billings), 2. Laurie Perino - Chris Martin (Billings), 3. Jan Shelton (Great Falls) - Shute, 4. Keshishian - Moreger - Bryan. Consolation: Carmen McSpadden - Kelly Robertson (Bozeman).

**B**  
1. Charlene Luckman (Great Falls) - Reed, 2. Bowers - Beth Buchanan (Havre), 3. Diana Meredith (Livingston) - Mary Allaman (Billings). Consolation: Free - Keating (Billings).

# Rios shows well at world seniors

By RITA BALOCK  
Center Court Editor

MISSOULA — Rick Rios might be tempted to just call a tow truck the next time a tire needs changing.

In late May, Rios went to the parking lot of a Bozeman grocery store where a tire on his wife Nancy's pickup was flat. "No one was parked next to me and I was sitting on the ground jacking it up," Rios explained. "A lady parked behind me backed out, swerved over and ran over my right leg with her left front tire."

The weight of the full-sized car broke the fibula. "She never even saw me," Rios added. "I didn't get — off. It really hurt. It squashed (the leg) flat."

Rios' leg was immobilized by a cast for the next seven weeks and the Bozeman racquetball player's immediate thoughts turned to the International World Senior Championships in Albuquerque, N.M., to be played Sept. 4-7.

For eight weeks, Rios played a waiting game while the leg healed. "That's the longest I've been out of a sport because of injury," the ex-football standout said.

"I honestly believed if the fracture healed properly, I could get ready for the world finals in six weeks," Rios added.

But 10 days before that tournament, the leg started to swell. Rios' intense rehabilitation had produced a large calcium callous which aggravated the muscles in the leg.

"It concerned (my doctor and me) from the standpoint of how much aggravation and irritation the muscle could take," Rios said.

For a three-hour period every day prior to the tournament, Rios elevated and iced the leg.

Entered in the 40-44 age division, the first three days of the tournament featured round robin play of three games to 11.

Rios' bracket was divided into seven flights of 10 players each. The 42-year-old went 9-0 in pool play, dropping just two games for a 25-2 overall record. "As it turned out, if I'd have been 24-3, I may not have made it in (the championship round)," Rios said.

In single-elimination play, Rios defeated Robert Pond of Texas 11-2 in a tie-breaker, then advanced from the semifinals with a two-game victory over a Californian.

That set the seventh-seeded Rios up against top-ranked Darrell Warren of San Diego in the championship match. Rios lost the first game 15-9, then built a 14-2 lead only to win 15-14, before falling 11-6 in the tie-breaker.

"He just got hot at one time," Rios said of Warren's second-game rally. "I ran 10 points on the serve. I got hot and served amazingly well, four aces in-a-row."

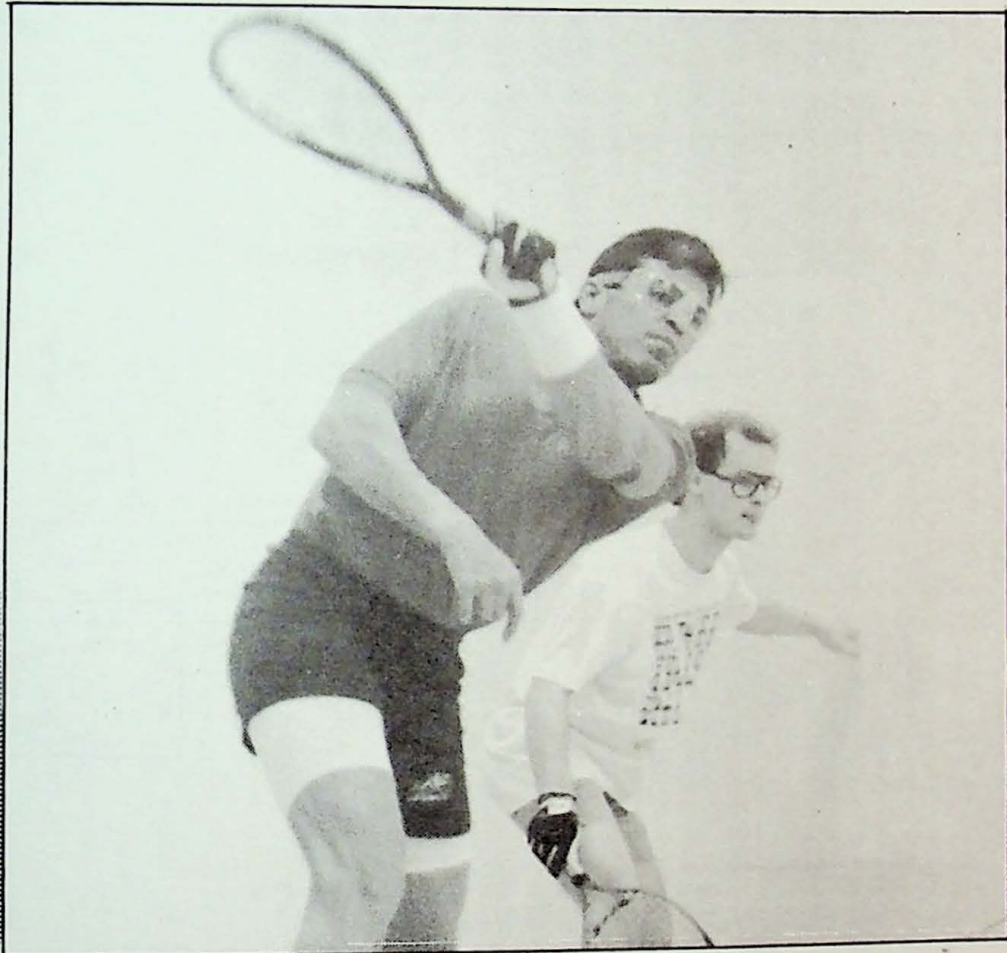
In the tie-breaker, Warren forged a 6-0 lead before Rios sided out for his first serve of the game.

"The key to winning a national title is being familiar with the people you're going to play," Rios said.

The world tournament drew 380 players from 14 countries.

In October, the insurance salesman traveled to Phoenix for the AARA-Ektelon national doubles tournament. Partnered with Gary Mazzarof of Albuquerque, Rios placed fifth in the 35-39 age division and sixth in the 40-44 bracket.

Rios plans now to ready for the national singles tournament in Houston in May.



Center Court/Rita Balock

Rick Rios of Bozeman returned to the MRA circuit after a spring leg

injury. Above, the southpaw shoots at the Missoula Pro-Am.

## Hugelen takes Winternational

BUTTE — Dan Hugelen of Missoula topped the men's Open singles play at the Big Sky Winternational Sports Festival racquetball tournament at the YMCA in early February.

Hugelen handled John Kennis of Butte 15-2, 15-12. But Kennis and Matt Parriman of Helena turned the table on Hugelen and Lance Reithmeier of Bozeman in the men's Open doubles finale, 15-4, 7-15, 11-9.

Denise Moerkerke of Hamilton needed two games to claim the women's Open singles title 15-12, 15-9 over Lori Jurenic of

Butte.

Moerkerke and Laura Merrill of Victor teamed to win the round robin women's Open doubles.

The field included 112 players.

Here are the Winternational results:

### MEN SINGLES OPEN

Championship: Dan Hugelen (Missoula) def. John Kennis (Butte) 15-2, 15-12. Third: Ron Roesti (Butte). Fourth: Mike George (Great Falls). Consolation: Andy Clark (Anaconda).

### A

Championship: Kent Coe (Helena) def. Craig Price (Missoula) 15-14, 12-15, 11-8. Third: Frank McNabb. Consolation: John Rawlings (Bozeman).

### B

Championship: Justin Donnelly (Butte) def. Coley Crase (Butte) 16-10, 16-14. Third: John Quackenbush (Missoula).

### C

Championship: Terry Healow (Butte) def. Mark

Sullivan (Butte). Third: Tim Cassidy. Consolation: Tom Van Worman (Anaconda).

### SENIOR B

Championship: Quackenbush (Missoula) def. Ric LeCours (Butte) 15-10, 9-15, 11-8. Third: Jim Anderson. Consolation: Deal Lofthouse (Helena).

### SENIOR C

Championship: Tim Nadeau (Butte) def. Chuck Lucero (Dillon) 15-10, 5-15, 11-9. Third: Marvin Anderson. Consolation: Byron Purkett (Dillon).

### DOUBLES OPEN

Championship: John Kennis (Butte) Matt Parriman (Helena) def. Dan Hugelen (Missoula) Lance Reithmeier (Bozeman) 15-4, 7-15, 11-9. Third: Robby Gunderson. Ronnie Roesti (Butte).

### B-C

Championship: Dave Killoy Bob Berge (Butte) def. Kevin Iverson Larry Iverson (Kalispell) 14-15, 15-13, 11-6. Consolation: Frank McNabb Steve Barker (Butte).

See WINTERNATIONAL

# MRA rankings

BILLINGS — Here are the Montana Racquetball Association singles rankings for the 1991-92 season, not including the April state singles results. First names and hometowns were not available for all players.

| MEN<br>OPEN                    |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| 1. John Kennis (Butte)         | 400 |
| 2. Mike George (Great Falls)   | 227 |
| 3. Mike Richter (Missoula)     | 145 |
| 4. Lloyd Marsh (Billings)      | 120 |
| 5. Ronnie Roesti (Butte)       | 77  |
| 6. Dan West (Billings)         | 55  |
| 7. Dan Hugelen (Missoula)      | 50  |
| 8. Rob White (Bozeman)         | 30  |
| A                              |     |
| 1. Dennis Jupka (Great Falls)  | 150 |
| 2. Ron Frize (Miles City)      | 100 |
| 3. Price                       | 80  |
| 4. Ron Brenna (Havre)          | 75  |
| 5. Kent Coe (Helena)           | 54  |
| 6. Wayne Surratt (Great Falls) | 60  |
| 7. Bill McNeely                | 50  |
| 8. Rod Cline (Cut Bank)        | 50  |
| B                              |     |
| 1. Bruce Gerlach (Bozeman)     | 160 |
| 2. Tate                        | 150 |
| 3. Colv Crase (Butte)          | 110 |
| 4. Kent Coe (Helena)           | 50  |
| 5. Mikkelsen                   | 75  |
| 6. Mike Dagenais (Helena)      | 60  |
| 7. Brad Salonen (Missoula)     | 50  |
| 8. Mike Schrapps (Butte)       | 50  |
| Farrell                        | 50  |
| Churchill                      | 50  |
| C                              |     |
| 1. Jason Yarger (Clancy)       | 150 |
| 2. Kurt Kunugi (Miles City)    | 125 |
| 3. Benton                      | 100 |
| Justin Donnelly (Butte)        | 100 |
| 5. Hovland                     | 70  |
| 6. Garcia (Missoula)           | 62  |
| 7. O'Malley                    | 50  |
| Giffillan                      | 50  |

| Healow                            |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| MASTERS                           |     |
| 1. Stan Kondracki (Billings)      | 150 |
| 2. Pallister (Great Falls)        | 50  |
| Bud Talbot (Great Falls)          | 50  |
| 5. Tim Keating (Billings)         | 35  |
| Joe Luckman (Great Falls)         | 35  |
| SENIORS                           |     |
| 1. Mike Richter (Missoula)        | 50  |
| Mark McQuirk (Missoula)           | 50  |
| 3. Rick Rios (Bozeman)            | 30  |
| R. Miller (Great Falls)           | 30  |
| WOMEN<br>OPEN                     |     |
| 1. Kim Koski (Bozeman)            | 200 |
| 2. Carla Fox (Billings)           | 125 |
| 3. Nancy Rios (Bozeman)           | 110 |
| Denise Moerkerke (Hamilton)       | 110 |
| 5. Rita Balock (Havre)            | 92  |
| 6. Chris Martin (Billings)        | 90  |
| 7. Linda Richter (Missoula)       | 85  |
| 8. Karen Losing (Miles City)      | 80  |
| A                                 |     |
| 1. Kelly Robertson (Bozeman)      | 150 |
| 2. Carmen McSpadden (Bozeman)     | 120 |
| 3. Laurie Perino (Billings)       | 112 |
| 4. Marie Hawkins (Butte)          | 100 |
| 5. Melton                         | 60  |
| 6. Tina Sandbough (Bozeman)       | 50  |
| Michelle Draggoo (Kalispell)      | 50  |
| 8. Mary Bianco (Great Falls)      | 40  |
| B                                 |     |
| 1. Michelle Draggoo (Kalispell)   | 150 |
| 2. Keri Routzahn (Butte)          | 127 |
| 3. Diana Meredith (Livingston)    | 100 |
| Kathy Ake (Kalispell)             | 100 |
| 5. Judy Hugelen (Missoula)        | 90  |
| 6. Benvenaga                      | 75  |
| Carol Surratt (Great Falls)       | 75  |
| 8. Beth Buchanan (Havre)          | 40  |
| C                                 |     |
| 1. York                           | 150 |
| 2. Cunningham                     | 100 |
| Jovanovich (Anaconda)             | 100 |
| 4. Trish Clark (Anaconda)         | 90  |
| 5. Beth Buchanan (Havre)          | 90  |
| SENIORS                           |     |
| 1. Jan Shelton (Great Falls)      | 50  |
| 2. Buss                           | 30  |
| 3. Charlene Luckman (Great Falls) | 20  |

## •Winternational-----

| WOMEN<br>SINGLES<br>OPEN                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Championship: Denise Moerkerke (Hamilton) def. Lori Jurenic (Butte) 15 12, 15 9. Third: Rita Balock (Havre). Fourth: Connie Ryals (Billings). Consolation: Laurie Perino (Billings).                                      |  |
| B                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  |
| Championships: Judy Hugelen (Missoula) def. Jeanne Roesti (Butte) 15 14, 15 2. Third: Keri Routzahn (Butte). Consolation: Deanna Hugelen (Missoula).                                                                      |  |
| C                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  |
| 1. Jani Clark (Dillon). 3. Keri Routzahn (Butte), Consolation: Shannon Earhart (Dillon).                                                                                                                                  |  |
| DOUBLES<br>OPEN                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
| Round robin: 1. Denise Moerkerke (Hamilton) Laura Merrill (Victor). 2. Connie Ryals Lori Perino (Billings). 3. Janet Church (Helena) Rita Balock (Havre).                                                                 |  |
| B-C                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |
| Championship: Becky Murphy Kelly Robertson (Bozeman) def. Jolee Ferriter (Butte) Laurie Glass (Helena) 15 9, 15 9. Third: Keri Routzahn (Butte) Trish Clark (Anaconda). Consolation: Jodi DiFronzo Lisa Phillips (Butte). |  |
| MIXED DOUBLES                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |
| Championship: Tim Schmidt Lori Jurenic (Butte) def. Marie Hawkins Wes Donnelly (Butte) 15 14, 9 15, 11 6. Third: John Rawlings Kelly Robertson (Bozeman). Consolation: Patti O'Sullivan (Missoula) Jim Anderson (Lolo).   |  |

WEAR EYEGUARDS



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A Quarterly Newsletter For  
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