

Racquetball[®]

International Racquetball Association
• Vol. 8 No. 3 • April, 1979

**SPECIAL ISSUE:
WOMEN IN
RACQUETBALL**





LADY SARANAC IS A PRO...

AN R-70 PRO

Saranac introduces the new, dynamic, "Lady Saranac" R-70 PRO racquetball glove, specially designed to fit a woman's hand with maximum comfort and support.

The fingers and palm are crafted from Saranac's hand-selected doeskin, finished in a creamy, soft, bone white. The glove is highlighted with a colorful stretch back in an array of seven beautiful colors . . . from mellow yellow to brilliant blue . . . and features a super-tite elastic and Velcro closure to add a touch of class. Ask for the "Lady Saranac" PRO at pro shops and sporting goods dealers everywhere.



SARANAC GLOVE COMPANY
P.O. BOX 766
GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN 54305
PHONE: 414/435-3737

**This new ball is
so lively, so consistent,
so durable, we guarantee it.
Twice.**

penn

Introducing the new Penn Ultra-blue Racquetball.
So tough, it comes with something no other ball offers. The
exclusive Penn Double Performance Guarantee: "If any Penn ball
should fail before the label wears off, return it to the place of
purchase or to Penn for two new balls."

Strong stuff. But so is the Penn ball. Because that's the way
we build them.

With the same, uncompromised quality control that's made
Penn the standard of excellence in tennis balls.

Nobody else backs their ball with this kind of guaranteed
performance. Maybe nobody else can.



"ACE RACQUETBALL. IT'LL RUN YOU RAGGED!"

"Never played a ball like it before.
Lively. Very quick off the wall.
Lots of action.
And I can do more with each shot.
Kills, back walls, Z's... they're all there...
with more control.
Really consistent. Seems to last longer too.
Great workout!"

GO CHASE AN ACE.



Meets all size, weight, and rebound specifications of the USRA and IRA.

SPALDING

Racquetball[®]

Features

- 15 Courting Time**
Racquetball Woos the Ladies • Tom Martin
- 21 Sole Relations**
A Guide to Proper Foot Care • Brian Kiel with Larry Conley
- 28 Dynamic Duo**
Memphis State's Dazzling Dunlaps • Perry Hall
- 33 A Ladies' Lark**
The Women '79 Tournament • Martha Lepore

Departments

- 6 Receiving Line**
Letters to the Editor
- 9 New Directions**
A Message to Women
- 11 Players' Forum**
Answers to Your Questions
- 24 Calendar**
Upcoming Tournaments
- 36 Fit to Kill**
Beating the 'Desk Jockey Blues' • Barry Braslow
- 39 Winning Points**
Can A Tennis Player Find Happiness in Racquetball? • Warren Maus
- 40 Industry News**
People and Equipment
- 41 First Service**
Court Club Openings
- 43 Scorecard**
Tournament Results

COVER: Illustration by Ed Hirth

RACQUETBALL is a monthly publication of Towery Publishing Company, Inc. ©1979, the official publication of the International Racquetball Association. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or part without the publisher's consent is strictly prohibited. The opinions stated in RACQUETBALL are those of the writers whose names appear with the articles, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of the publisher or the I.R.A. All official I.R.A. policy statements will be so identified. All editorial communication should be addressed to RACQUETBALL Magazine, 1535 E. Brooks Rd., P.O. Box 16566, Memphis, TN 38116. Manuscripts must be typewritten and double spaced. Application to mail at second class postage rate is pending at Memphis, Tennessee.

This is the racquet that's making all the noise.

"It puts me in control."
Lynn Adams

"The Impact XC™ gives the ordinary player extraordinary power."
Bill Chadwick

"...extremely light and very well-balanced."
Diane Heims

"Gives me the control I've always been searching for."
Kellie Cooper

"...the power of aluminum, plus the flexibility of fiberglass."
James Carson

"The most versatile racquet I've played with."
Dave Chandler

"I'm afraid I'm going to like it and then I'm in trouble with my sponsor. Just holding it feels good."
Name withheld by request

"The XC is 10 grams lighter than the Impact One,™ but it combines the power and control necessary for a fluid stroke."
Ron Botchan

"...more control than any other racquet I've used."
Bill Thurman

"The XC lets me press the right button even under pressure. I get set up and the racquet does the rest — reverse pinch, rollout, ace, Z."
Carole Charfauros

"...the XC has made my overhead a legend."
Fielding Redleaf Snow

"Shoots like a cannon — strikes like lightning."
Bill Schwartz

"Lots of power from a light racquet. I like the whipping action."
Judy Hichta

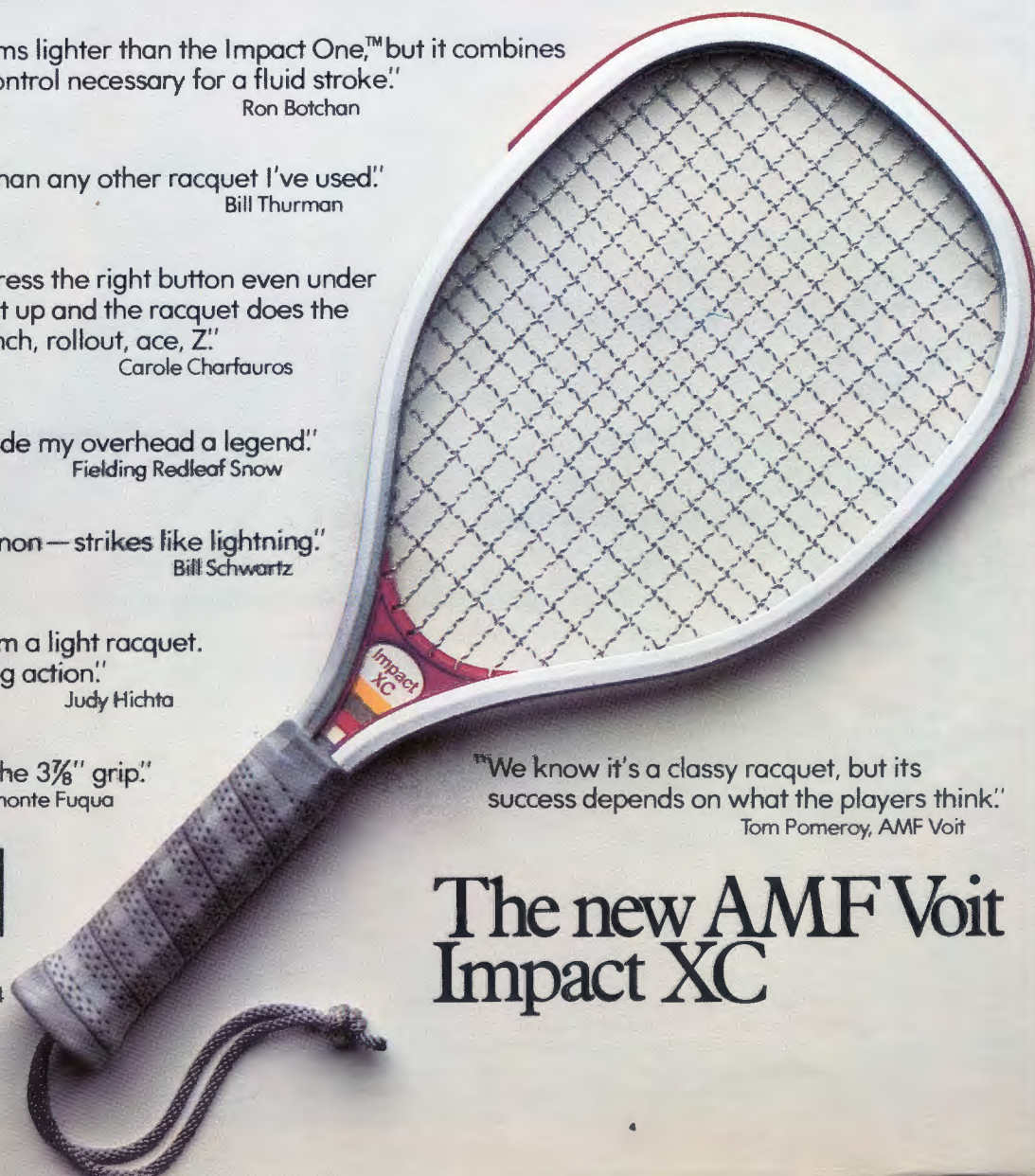
"It's great! I love the 3⁷/₈" grip."
Lllemonte Fuqua

"We know it's a classy racquet, but its success depends on what the players think."
Tom Pomeroy, AMF Voit



Santa Ana, CA 92704

The new AMF Voit Impact XC



Racquetball[®]

RACQUETBALL is the official publication of the International Racquetball Association. National headquarters is located at 5545 Murray Road, Memphis, TN 38117. Telephone 901-781-1172.

President

Bob Folsom, Portland, Maine

Vice President

Bob Klass, Denver, Colorado

Secretary-Treasurer

Cal Murphy, San Diego, CA

National Commissioner

V.Z. Lawton, Norman, OK

National Rules Committee Chairman

Major Pete Crummey, Canal Zone

Board of Directors

Mark Wayne, Fremont, CA; Richard Walker, Dallas, TX; Elaine Lee, Lancaster, PA; Jean Lehr, Oklahoma City, OK; Fred White, Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Past Presidents

Robert W. Kendler, 1969-1973

Dewitt Shy, 1973-1976

Wm. B. Tanner, 1976-1978

IRA NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Executive Director

Luke St. Onge

Executive Secretary

Hallie Singer

Circulation

Lora Ewing

RACQUETBALL Magazine is printed and published by Towery Publishing Company, Inc., 1535 E. Brooks Road, Memphis, TN 38116 (901-345-8000) under the auspices of the I.R.A.

Publisher

J. Robert Towery

Editor

Larry Conley

Design Director

Fred Woodward

Art Director

Murry Keith

Assistant Art Director

Bett Watkins

Art Staff

Bill Gregg, Alan Avery, Paul Fry,

Mary Moore

Editorial Contributors

Barry Braslow, Perry Hall, Brian Kiel, Martha Lepore, Tom Martin, Warren Maus

Art Contributors

Ed Hirth, Alan Ulmer, Roland Wolff

Director of Advertising and Marketing

Mark J. Seitman

Assistant

Meredith Mills

Advertising Sales

Carol Collinsworth

For advertising rates, circulation and distribution information, write or call Towery Publishing Company, Inc.

All editorial communication should be addressed to RACQUETBALL, 1535 E. Brooks Rd., P.O. Box 16566, Memphis, TN 38116. Manuscripts must be typewritten and double spaced. Color and black and white photographs are welcome. Copy is required 45 days prior to the month of publication. Materials submitted for publication cannot be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Membership dues for the IRA include cost of subscription to RACQUETBALL Magazine: Single, \$10 for one year, \$18 for two years; Family, \$15 for one year, \$20 for two years. Rates are for U.S. possessions, military, Canada and Mexico. All other foreign countries add \$1.00 per year for mailing costs. Memberships are for 12 months regardless of date issued. Application to mail at second class postage rate is pending at Memphis, Tennessee.

MODUCOURTTM

Our MODUCOURT System is new! But the quality and workmanship are proven.

Sports Unlimited now offers you two great court systems. First, the Sports Unlimited Panel has been used in over 1600 courts throughout the United States and Canada.

Now, the Sports Unlimited MODUCOURTTM System is designed and engineered to bring the Racquetball court to where the players are: apartment complex, recreation centers, shopping centers, anywhere.

Our MODUCOURT System is built tough to withstand the rigors of racquetsports and totally modular for quick erection time.

When you are ready to build, write or better yet, call us for our two Sports Unlimited Court Systems planning kits. It will be worth your time.

Racquetball, handball, squash, whatever the sport, our courts stand up.



SPORTS UNLIMITED

P. O. Box 1207
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74074
405/624-1252

RECEIVING LINE

Letters To The Editor

I (recently) received a copy of *Racquetball* magazine featuring my picture on the cover (*Racquetball*, January/February) along with an article about myself and racquetball.

Tom Carlson did a fabulous job on the article and Ed Hirth amazed me with how he was able to paint such a good picture from mere snap shots. They both did a magnificent job and I couldn't be happier.

I would certainly appreciate your asking Ed Hirth if he would give me his original painting of my picture. I would love to have it.

Joe Sobek
Greenwich, Conn.

[Mr. Sobek is now the proud owner of an original color portrait of himself done by renowned California artist, Ed Hirth. Our compliments, Joe.]

I commend you on your excellent magazine. Please continue to do an outstanding job for racquetball.

Martin Tunon
Edmond, Okla.

I just received the January/February issue of *Racquetball*. Glad to see a long overdue story on Joe Sobek. Also a very fine story on the Nittany Lion Open. But . . .

Are there two Nittany Lion Tournaments? I won the Seniors division (for the third year in a row) in the one I played in on the same date as the one you wrote about. I was interviewed by Charlie Garfinkel and had my picture taken with a trophy. But apparently the tournament written about in *Racquetball* had no Seniors division. Not one word.

Seriously, most tournaments covered by magazines don't include the older divisions. They generally get only a brief mention, such as "Herm Neumeier also played."

The Seniors, Masters and Golden Masters play just as hard as the Juniors

and the Open players. Granted, our matches may not be quite as vigorous and exciting, but we practice just as hard and drive just as far to get to tournaments as anyone else.

Please, let's start covering *all* the amateur events.

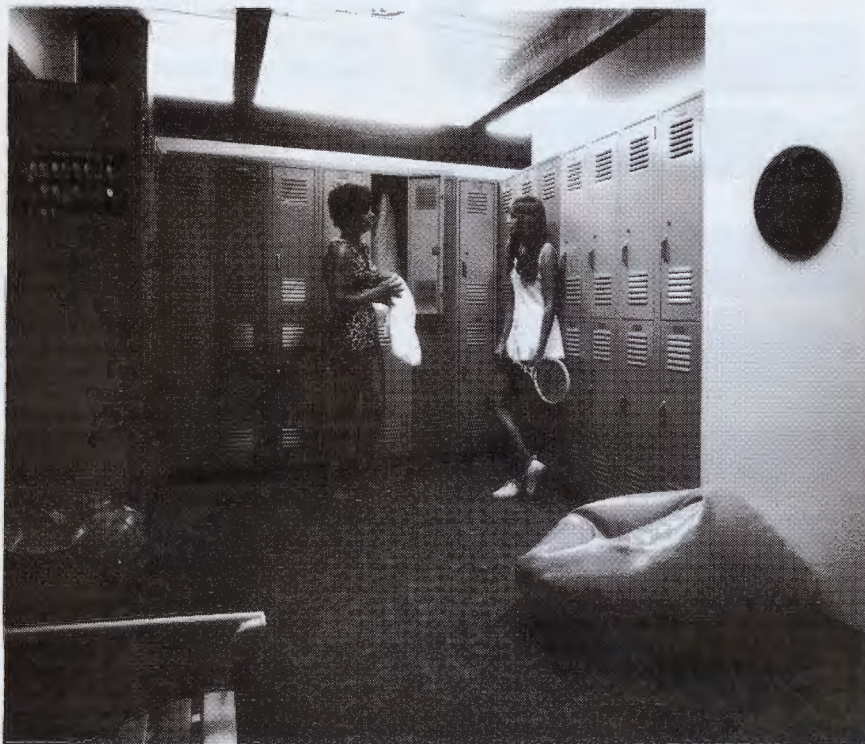
Herman Neumeier
Rochester, N.Y.

[We plead guilty Mr. Neumeier, on all counts. Our coverage of the Nittany Lion Open did indeed neglect to mention the fine contribution of the older players. It was an oversight on our part and we regret the error.]

In Charlie Garfinkel's defense, it must be noted that his story on the IRA's national doubles championships, held last October in Washington, D. C. [Racquetball, November/December], featured extensive coverage of the Seniors, Masters and Golden Masters divisions.]

Racquetball welcomes correspondence from its readers. Letters are subject to editing for clarity and length.

AREA OF DISTINCTION.



Who said your locker room can't be beautiful? There is a way to combine storage, security and good interior design to make your locker area as bright and comfortable as any other part of the club. And, it's easy! You begin by contacting the storage products specialists at H & S Diversified.

Whether you're planning minor renovations, repairs, or a completely new installation, we offer specification and installation expertise gained in 50 years of experience in the storage business.

We stock a broad selection of top-line locker models, sizes and accessories.

In-club storage can be beautiful. Call 215-OR3-3333 or use the coupon, today.

CUT YOURSELF IN — BE BEAUTIFUL!

H & S DIVERSIFIED

943 Miller Avenue, Croydon, PA 19020

- Have one of your specialists contact me ☐
- Send me info. on your complete services ☐
- Send me info. on your sauna service ☐
- We need help on parts & repairs ☐

Name

Company

Street

City State

Zip Phone

IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE SHOOTING THE PLUM,



Head's incredible new Plum. What you see is its distinct color. What you can't see is the distinct sound. That surprise comes later – about the time it first explodes off the wall with an unmistakable, crisp, sharp report.

So you see it fast. You hear it fast.

And the Plum's bounce is accurate and consistent. So you can react quickly... confidently... decisively.

Finally, when the last point's decided, you can bet your lively Plum will still be lively. For it's a lot more durable than the average ball. Which leads us to an equally durable shoe...

LET US SUGGEST A BULLET PROOF SHOE.



In a sport demanding constant quick starts and stops, the new Head[®] Racquetball shoe has been specially engineered for added support.

What you're seeing in the picture, from the front of the Head symbol down to the toe, is the same material used in bullet-proof vests. Here, it provides exceptional support to the lateral stress points.

And, amazingly, the mesh is unusually lightweight and more breathable than the leather found in most court shoes. The result is a shoe that's both strong and durable... yet light and comfortable.

So there you have it. The incredible Plum to detonate, and the bullet-proof shoe with which to attack. It's fortunate they came along at the same time.

WE PLANNED IT THAT WAY.

AMF
Head

COMING in 1979
A RACQUETBALL CLUB FRANCHISE
 GET DETAILS TODAY
 BUSINESS

ABOUT THIS EXCITING
 OPPORTUNITY.
 SEE COUPON BELOW.

**WHEN cpi
 SERVES,
 YOU GET
 THE RETURN**

**BEFORE YOU
 INVEST IN
 RACQUETBALL**
 discover how
 you get the
 fastest dollar
 return with CPI's
 total package...

- COMPLETE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES
 Feasibility plans & costs for financing
- Preliminary architectural plans
- Complete architectural & mechanical plans with specifications
- COMPLETE COURT PACKAGE:
 PANELS, STEEL STUDS, FLOORING, LIGHTING
- COMPLETE INSTALLATION:
 QUALIFIED INSTALLERS & CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT
- PRE-OPENING MEMBERSHIP SALES & MARKETING PROGRAMS
- TAX ADVANTAGE CONSULTATION



CPI's total system includes FIBERESIN high-density 62 lb./cu. ft. recreation court panels.

cpi

**COURT PLANNERS
 AND INVESTOR
 SERVICES, LTD.**
 575 Underhill Boulevard
 Syosset, New York 11791
 (516) 364-9270

YES, please send me more information on:

**CHECK ONE
 OR BOTH**

- ☐ Racquetball Club Franchise
☐ CPI's total racquetball package.

name _____

company _____

address _____

city _____ state _____ zip _____

phone (_____) _____

MAIL TO: Court Planners & Investor Services, Ltd.

R 575 Underhill Blvd., Syosset, N.Y. 11791



Dear Members:

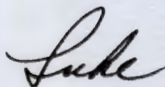
Since the inception of organized racquetball over 11 years ago, a large segment of our membership has been virtually ignored. Women are at the very pulse beat of our organization. Without their zeal, loyalty, leadership and overall involvement, racquetball would not be experiencing its present incredible growth.

Ask any court club owner or manager for the key to a successful court club operation, and if he or she answers anything other than "women filling non-prime-time hours," then that person should be looking for another job.

The IRA, the players' association, has women operating and managing in virtually every key position within the organization. We have two women on our Board of Directors, five women as state directors and women are integrally involved in virtually every amateur tournament. The Board felt so strongly that women should not be considered second-class citizens that it established the same divisions for national tournament competition for both men and women. Winners of regional tournaments are also awarded equal compensation.

Anyone who has seen the level of play in the women's divisions can testify that it is equal to, and perhaps in some ways superior to, that found in the men's divisions. Women's racquetball is exciting to watch and is quickly developing into a unique facet of the game.

This special issue of *Racquetball* is dedicated to all women players everywhere. It is a testament to those women who have discovered the spirit of competition, excitement and close comraderie of racquetball.



Luke St. Onge
Executive Director, IRA



SEAMCO 444

*...the only official ball
of the International
Racquetball Association*



IF IT BOUNCES SEAMCO MAKES IT.



Copyright © 1977, Dart Industries, Inc., Seamco Sporting Goods Company, LaGrange, Ga. 30240. Call toll free 1-800-241-8111.

PLAYERS' FORUM

Answers To Your Questions

1. We quite often hear that the IRA is the "players' association." What do you mean by this?

The International Racquetball Association is a non-profit corporation founded to promote the game of racquetball and represent the players through an elected Board of Directors. We believe that the players should have good representation and be a major influence in the development of the game.

2. With tournament draws becoming so large, isn't it unfair to make people play at all hours of the day and night?

Yes. When a tournament director anticipates this problem he should cut the draw off so that people are playing at reasonable hours.

3. I have noticed recently that hospitality is getting less and less during tournaments. Why?

Unfortunately, many tournament

directors are trying to keep up with the Joneses. Every tournament feels that it must give out a \$6 or \$7 shirt and the hospitality aspect goes by the wayside. The IRA is emphasizing the use of high quality patches that can be sewn on any shirt or jacket in lieu of shirts. Many tournament players wear a shirt only once and it is forgotten. We prefer to see the \$6 savings resulting from the use of a patch returned to the player in a lower entry fee or Saturday night buffet where all players and friends can gather for a social evening. After all, isn't that what the game's all about?

4. What major rules do you foresee changing in the future?

Three major rule changes will be considered by the Board of Directors of the IRA at the upcoming meeting in May.

1. Any screen serve in singles will be considered a fault.
2. Screen serves in doubles will be eliminated.
3. Any Junior participating in an IRA sanctioned tournament must wear adequate eye protection.

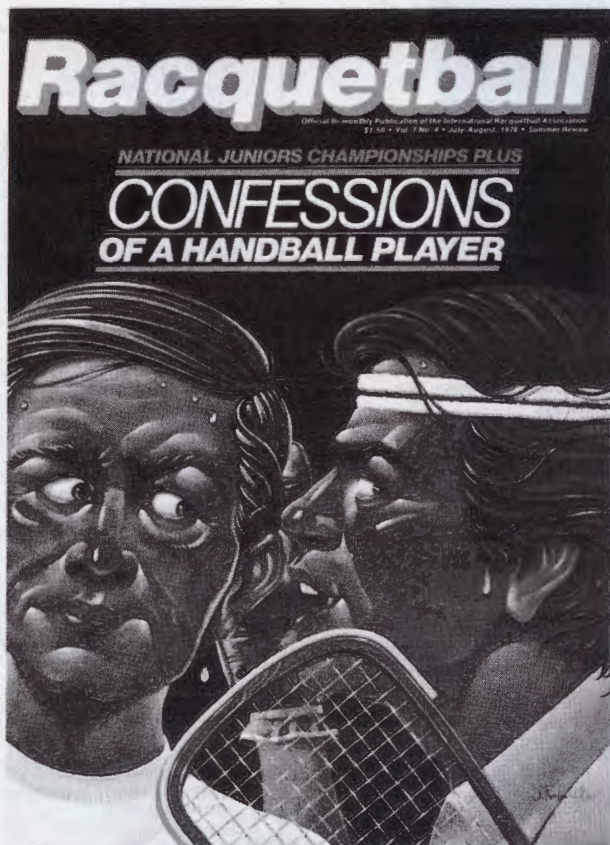
Other rule changes being considered:

1. Any ball that goes out into the gallery is to be considered a point or hand out regardless of how it was propelled out.
2. Age divisions will be broken down in five-year increments such as 25+, 30+, 35+, 40+, 45+.

5. I see where the IRA will have computer rankings beginning this Fall. How will this work?

Put simply, we will grade all IRA tournaments [AA, A, B, C] and anyone reaching the round of 16 in any of these tournaments will receive certain points. Points will increase as players reach the quarters, semis and finals. All results will be sent into IRA headquarters and a running total of points will be accumulated. The points standings will be published monthly in Racquetball Magazine and will lead to an all-around grand champion racquetball award.

(We welcome all questions and comments concerning any facet of the IRA and racquetball. Write to: Players' Forum, c/o IRA, 5545 Murray Ave.; Suite 202, Memphis, TN 38117.)■



Racquetball Magazine is currently gathering data about virtually every aspect of the booming racquetball industry—from racquets to wristlets, from construction materials to club openings. We invite anyone wishing information to call or write to
 Racquetball Magazine
 Research Dept.
 1535 E. Brooks Rd.
 Memphis, Tn. 38116
 901-345-8000

IRA STATE DIRECTORS

WESTERN REGION

Regional Commissioner
Bill Dunn
3245 Vera Cruz
San Ramon, CA 94583
415-651-1584 (office)
415-629-4116 (home)
California
Ed Martin
 c/o Sun Oaks Racquetball Club
 3452 Argyle
 Redding, CA 96001
 916-241-2613
Utah
Trey Seyes
 627 Third Ave., Apt. 1
 Salt Lake City, UT 84103
 801-534-1767
Arizona
Bob Moericke
 4526 E. Mercer
 Scottsdale, AZ 85251
Nevada
Bob Justice
 Supreme Courts Sports Center
 13315 Spring Mountain Road
 Las Vegas, NV 85102
 702-873-5660
Hawaii
H.A. Hodge III
 98-1135 Kahapihi St.
 Alea, HI 98701
Phyllis Gomes
 Central YMCA
 401 Atkinson Dr.
 Honolulu, HI 96814

NORTHWEST REGION

Regional Commissioner
Pat Whitehill
Rt. 2 Box 304
Cheney, WA 99004
509-359-2482
Alaska
Marvin Andresen
 P.O. Box 1912
 Fairbanks, AK 99707
 907-452-5303
Washington
Mir Rahim
 c/o Tennis World, Inc.
 7245 West Marginal Way S.W.
 Seattle, WA 98106
 206-767-4400
Oregon
David McMorine
 7055 S.W. Raleighwood Ln.
 Portland, OR 97225
 503-292-4353 (home)
 503-245-3315 (office)
Idaho
Hugh Somerton
 M & K Homes of Idaho, Inc.
 6225 Fairview
 Boise, ID 83704
Montana
Gary Nygaard
 FH 206 Univ. of Montana
 Missoula, MT 59801
Wyoming
Byra Kite
 Valley View Arres
 Laramie, WY 82070
 307-742-6358
North Dakota
Craig Harding
 1401 Dyke
 Grand Forks, N.D. 58201

SOUTHWEST REGION

Kansas
Bill Branta
 304 W. 28th St.
 Hutchinson, KS 67501
Colorado
Bob Klass
 15502 E. Oberlin Pl.
 Aurora, CO 80013
 303-629-2970 (office)
New Mexico
Clay Childs
 200 Lomas N.W. No. 1121
 Albuquerque, NM 87102
 505-242-2616 (office)
 9111 Indian School N.E.
 Albuquerque, NM 87110 (home)

Oklahoma

Jean Lehr
 2716 N.W. 121
 Oklahoma City, OK 73120
 405-843-9741 (office)
 405-751-1939 (home)
Texas
Richard Walker
 101 E. 10 at Beckley
 Dallas, Tx. 75203
 214-948-3243 (office)
 and
Mark Auerbach
 7934 Dawnridge
 Houston, Tx. 77071
Arkansas
Phil Brinkley
 1205 Cado No. 27
 Arkadelphia, AR 71923
 501-246-9252
Nebraska
Richard Hamlin
 6924 Florence Rd.
 Omaha, NE 68112

MIDWEST REGION

Regional Commissioner
Marlowe Phillips
10445 Briarland Apt. 3
Creve Coeur, MO 63141
314-432-6119
Iowa
Bernard Nielsen
 1211 West Main St.
 Marshalltown, IA 50158
Wisconsin
Thomas Radai, Jr.
 2613 S. 51st St.
 Milwaukee, WI 53219
 414-321-0188
Illinois
Angelo Petitti
 2115 N. Sedgwick 1H
 Chicago, IL 60614
 312-348-3805
Kay Fischer
 5724 W. Diversey
 Chicago, IL 60639
Indiana
Earl W. Dixon
 970 N. Cecil Ave.
 Indianapolis, IN 46219
 317-897-0950
Missouri
Dan Hilecher
 14553 Pemburg
 Chesterfield, MO 63017
 314-469-1989
Minnesota
Tom Sakal
 1165 Benton Way
 Arden Hills, MN 55112
Ohio
Jerry Davis
 22321 S. Woodland
 Shaker Heights, OH 44120
 218-751-5575
Michigan
Jack Reznick
 2536 Dalton
 Ann Arbor, MI 48104
 313-973-9835

SOUTHERN REGION

Regional Commissioner
Dr. Ray V. DePue
901 Locust St.
Knoxville, TN 37902
615-525-1173
Tennessee
Emile Catignani
 1631 No. Hills Blvd.
 Knoxville, TN 37917
 615-974-5111
Georgia
Jim Cullen
 c/o Court House I
 1990 Delk Ind. Blvd.
 Marietta, GA
 404-952-2120
Florida
Dr. Gordon H. Ira, Jr.
 451 St. James Bldg.
 Jacksonville, FL 32202
 904-356-2631

Alabama

Gary Bell
 2005 Sewanee Rd.
 Huntsville, AL 35801
 205-534-5019 (home)

South Carolina

Charlie White
 Rt. 3 Box 336
 Central, SC 29630

Louisiana

Chuck Croft
 2627 Lindwood Ave.
 P.O. Box 63
 Shreveport, LA 77761
 318-425-3471

Mississippi

Amy Foster
 Racquet Club-Seaside Apt. No. 5
 Gulfport, MS 39501
 801-388-4000 (office)
 601-863-0433 (home)

MID ATLANTIC REGION

Regional Commissioner
Paul Saperstein
 P.O. Box 847
 High Point, NC 27261
 919-889-2001

Delaware

William Stoebe
 2513 Bryan Dr.
 Wilmington, DE 19807

Virginia

Kip Brundage
 P.O. Box 218
 Sterling, VA 22170

Maryland and District of Columbia

John Clements
 3313 New Coach Ln.
 Bowie, MD 20716
 301-249-6107 (home)
 202-225-8129

Pennsylvania

Bernard E. Howard
 R.D. 1 Box 362A
 Reedsville, PA 17084
 717-667-2209

West Virginia

Kevin Becker
 519 Warwood Ave.
 Wheeling, WV 26003
 304-277-3640

North Carolina

Tony Giordano
 301 Executive Bldg.
 623 E. Trade St.
 Charlotte, N.C. 28262

NORTHEAST REGION

Regional Commissioner
Danny Giordano
122 Ent. Road
Bedford, MA 01730
617-861-3212 (office)
617-274-0570 (home)

New Jersey

Pete Talbert
 c/o Yogi Berra's Hall of Fame
 333 Gothic Plaza
 Rt. 46 West
 Fairfield, NJ 07008

Maine

Bruce Lewis
 39 Bow Street
 Freeport, ME 04302
 207-773-6438 (office)
 207-865-4536 (home)

Massachusetts

Paul Henrickson
 58 Boylston Circle
 Shrewsbury, MA 01549
 617-842-8996

Rhode Island

Dennis Culbertson
 4 Wesley St.
 Newport, RI 02840
 401-847-8000

Connecticut

Phillip Panarella
 P.O. Box 259
 23 Bliss Rd.
 New Britain, CT
 203-229-0526

New Hampshire

Ina Ivarson
 17 Hideaway Lane
 RFD No. 1
 Nashua, NH 03060
 603-465-7851

New York

Al Seitelman
 274 Sunset Ave.
 West Hampton Beach, NY 11978
 516-288-1448
MILITARY COMMISSIONER
Lcdr. Dan W. Samek, III
 812 Charlecote Dr.
 Virginia Beach, VA 23482

CANADIAN RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

Executive Director
John Hamilton
 333 River Rd.
 Vanier City, Ontario
 Canada, K1L8B9
 613-745-1247

EUROPEAN RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

President, Hal Leffler
 Siegner Strasse 48
 6230 Frankfurt 80
 West Germany

SPANISH RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

Jack Kules
 Box 337
 FPO, NY 09539

JAPANESE RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

Donald E. Laws
 F26 Musashino Dai
 Fussa Shi Tokyo
 Japan 1197
 (Phone) 0425-52-7889

CHINESE RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

Dave Kwok
 GPO Box 365
 Hong Kong

PUERTO RICO RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

Richard de Jesus
 Asacia St. No. 1870
 U G Santo Maria
 Rio Peidros
 Puerto Rico 00927

SAUDI ARABIA

Donald Chambers
 CRS, Inc.
 c/o College of Minerals
 Dhalran, S.A.

MEXICAN RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

John White
 La Posada de Yochiquetzal
 Leyva No. 200
 Cuernavaca, Morelos Mexico

EGYPTIAN RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

Abdel-Fattah Batawi
 11 Rashdan Street
 Dokki, Cairo
 Egypt

ISRAEL

Uri Lipzin
 Director of Recreation Studies
 Institutes of Physical Education
 Box 378
 Beer-sheva, Mt. Washington
 Israel

Telephone: 78217

JUNIOR NATIONAL COMMISSIONERS

Ed Martin
 c/o Sun Oaks Racquetball Club
 3452 Argyle
 Redding, CA 96001

Steve Boren

c/o Lahman Courts
 2700 N. Lahman Ct.
 Chicago, IL 60614
 312-281-8300

INTERCOLLEGIATE NATIONAL COMMISSIONER

Larry Liles
 1152 Longreen Dr.
 Memphis, TN 38117

Inside the Copenhagen

Why the Copenhagen is the best shoe made for Racquetball.

High back to protect the achilles area.

Unique wrap-around construction holds the foot firmly in place. Particularly important during lateral movement.

The Pre-molded sole gives several distinct advantages. The black "cookie" shaped disc in the center of the heel area is made of soft foam material that absorbs and cushions the foot against shocks. Cotton inner sole may be pulled up to allow for repositioning or enlarging or decreasing the arch support pad.

Multi stitched side stitching for reinforcement and strength.

Nylon & Suede uppers—reinforced on side to withstand additional pressure and torque.

Hexagonal shaped tread pattern for maximum effectiveness on a wood floor. Sole will grip in any direction without skidding or slipping. Soles are made of 100% gum rubber compound for flexibility and durability.

U-Throat construction leaves more room for toes, lessens tendency for upper to stretch.

Nylon & Suede uppers for comfort and breathability.

Added protection of additional gum rubber for long wear and to avoid scuffing and scraping.

Available at Pro Shops and good Sporting Goods stores

PATRICK
You owe it to your feet™

45 East 30th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017—(212) 686-8052

© 1978 Action & Liesure, Inc.

DYNAMICS® PROUDLY ANNOUNCES

The World's Finest Health & Fitness Machines

dyna  am®



**The Ultimate In
Result Producing
Variable Resistance
Equipment**

**NEW
1979
EDITION**

Dynamics Health
Equip. Mfg. Co., Inc.
1538 College So. Houston, Tx. 77587
713-946-5734

Full Line Catalog and Literature Available on

- Over 100 Exercise Machines
- Saunas
- Whirlpools
- Steam

COURTING TIME

Racquetball Woos The Ladies



Maureen Boulette, of Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, has been described by some of her friends as "a Gloria Steinem type." She says that's not entirely correct, but she'll admit to being a fighter when the need arises. And when Boulette began playing racquetball almost four years ago, the need definitely arose.

"Only a few women belonged to this club when I joined," she remembers. "And the men really had trouble accepting us. They would bang on the doors and tell us to get off the court, even before our time was up. Sometimes they'd even move the clocks ahead so we would think our hour was up. It was pretty hard to take. But I had just gone through a divorce at the time and I wasn't about to let any man get me off the court."

Boulette and the other women at the Shrewsbury club stuck it out and now, she says proudly, "The men are all for us; we're accepted completely. I can honestly say that at any club people really feel that women are on the same level as men."

This seemingly miraculous transformation mirrors much of what has happened throughout the country in racquetball. In the last four years, women have risen from an insignificant minority to a major force in the sport. The overall growth of racquetball has been remarkable, but its growth among women has been an integral and perhaps even more important phenomenon. Today, depending on whose figures you believe, women comprise from 30 to an amazing 45 per cent of all racquetball players in the United States. And, if present growth trends continue, the number of women players may actually surpass that of men in the next five years.

The increase in female players is being felt in every facet of the sport. As recently as a year ago, amateur tournaments had so few female participants that only one or two women's divisions were necessary. Now, many of these same tournaments offer a full slate of women's events and most of them are filled. At the professional level, it is common to find as many as 35 women competing in qualifying rounds for only four openings. But perhaps the most important recognition of women has occurred among court club owners. They are now facing the irrefutable fact that unless courts are filled during the daytime hours, their clubs will start folding. And the group that owners are desperately banking on to fill the vital daytime hours

is—you guessed it—women.

Women are attracted to racquetball for many reasons. It is, for most women, an easy sport to learn. Women, like men, begin making good contact with the ball usually during their first lesson. Golf and tennis, on the other hand, are not nearly as easy to pick up. They both require much more patience in the early stages and many women don't care to subject themselves to this frustration.

Joy Koppel Fujimoto was one of those who had soured on tennis when she started playing racquetball seven years ago in California. Expertise in tennis had always eluded her, but Fujimoto finished second in a local racquetball tournament only two weeks after she first tried the short racquet and the closed court. "The skills transferred very easily from tennis," she says. "But I still couldn't believe the thrill of finishing that high in the tournament so soon after I started playing." Fujimoto, who now serves as assistant manager of Santana Courts in Orange County, California, calls racquetball "an instant success sport."

In addition to being easy to learn, racquetball provides women with a very active form of recreation. The old days of playing canasta, bridge and mah-jongg in the afternoon are gone. The '70s have ushered in a new generation of women concerned with fitness and exercise; racquetball is a perfect activity for them.

The game offers housewives a chance to get out for a while and provides career women an outlet for the tension of increasingly stressful jobs. But unlike exercise programs at the spas, racquetball also offers these women a chance to excel, to see themselves improve in a sport and to share this enjoyment with their playing partners—all while getting an excellent workout.



These advantages have attracted thousands of women to the sport, but a few stumbling blocks have also appeared along the way. In order to excel at racquetball, women, like men, must run and sweat, be aggressive and competitive. That aspect of the sport apparently turns a lot of women off. According to Jean Lehr, one of two women on the Board of Directors of the International Racquetball Association, women have traditionally been discouraged from exhibiting aggressive behavior. They've been taught since girlhood that it's just not lady-like to get all hot and sweaty. "When I was growing up in Pawnee, Oklahoma, people didn't encourage girls to be

By Tom Martin



“Getting hot and sticky in the close confines of a racquetball court is uncomfortable and many women don’t like it.”

-Martha Lepore

competitive,” Lehr says. “Back then, if you were an active girl, you became a cheerleader. In fact, since I played in the band, they didn’t even make me take gym. They figured I got all the exercise I needed by marching.

“I remember being scared to death when I played in my first tournament. I loved meeting the people and playing, but I had a strong fear of competing.”

Elaine Lee, who, along with Francine Davis, won the IRA’s women’s open National Doubles title last October, feels that most women are gradually becoming accustomed to the idea of competition. “Women are beginning to realize that you can be competitive without being disgusting,” she says. “I tell the women I coach that there’s nothing distasteful about being aggressive on the court, whether you’re a man or woman. You can be courteous to your opponent, but you should always play to win.”

That may be true. But the intensity of the sport, including the heavy sweating so much a part of it, really does bother some women, among them Martha Lepore. Lepore, along with her husband, John, has been active in amateur racquetball in Massachusetts for several years, serving in a number of administrative capacities. But although she is an avid tennis player, Lepore could never make the transition to playing racquetball. Part of her trouble was in adjusting to hitting balls off the back wall, but she also found the increased perspiration unpleasant. “I know a lot of women who feel this way,” she says. “When I play tennis, it isn’t so bad. You’re outside in the fresh air and you’re not really aware of it. But getting hot and sticky in the close confines of a racquetball court is uncomfortable and many women don’t like it.”

Maureen Boulette, the woman who stood her ground in Shrewsbury, feels, however, that you can be feminine on the court and still play hard. “Women that I’m working with at this club aren’t afraid to run and sweat and win,” she says. “As for myself, I don’t want to go out looking masculine on the court. But I’d rather have people impressed with the way I play than with the way I look.”

For women trying to develop that kind of competitive attitude, tournaments are the ultimate challenge, the proving ground where girls become women. Tournaments also offer women players a chance to demonstrate a real commitment to the sport, a way of showing their detractors (who still crop up from time to time) that racquetball isn’t just a passing fancy to them.

Carol Mason, who began playing racquetball 5½ years ago in Massachusetts, has seen women’s enthusiasm for tournaments

there grow tremendously. In response to that enthusiasm, she decided to run an all-female tournament last year called Women ’78. The tournament was by no means a blockbuster—it had only 42 participants and no sponsors—but the excitement it generated was sufficient to persuade Mason to hold the event again this year. It proved to be a wise decision. Women ’79 drew 144 participants. (See page 33.)

Mason hopes the tournament was more than just a fun weekend for the women. “Tournaments are an excellent way for women to improve their game,” she observes. “But, more than that, they give women an opportunity to provide support for each other . . .

“Women in the past haven’t really been encouraged in developing their total personalities. So it’s very important for them to see each other training for a sport and for physical fitness in general. I think it’s sort of symbolic; it shows that it’s just as valid for a woman to make the commitment to go away for the weekend and play in a tournament as it is for a man. It helps a woman’s self-confidence to leave her husband with the kids and come play racquetball. This new confidence extends beyond the tournament into her business and personal life, too.”

Mason admits, however, that some people have expressed reservations about the all-woman affair. “A couple of men have said, ‘The sport just isn’t ready for this kind of tournament.’ They claim they’re in favor of women participating, but I don’t think they take the women seriously. The enthusiasm at this tournament proves the women *are* ready.”

The women’s tournament picture has not been without problems, though. Women have complained of unfair treatment at many tournaments. The little things, especially, can be a problem, as Maureen Boulette points out. “For a long time,” she says, “the shirts at some of the tournaments would only come in large sizes, perfect for the men but too big for the women. Now the smaller sizes are being given out, too. That may sound like a small thing, but it’s part of what makes a tournament fun. Some of the women’s trophies and prizes used to be inferior but that’s getting better, too. In Massachusetts the treatment of women has improved a lot.”

One example of the kind of misunderstandings still present at some tournaments occurred recently in Worcester, Massachusetts. Women paid the same entry fee for a tournament there as the men, but were only scheduled for one 21-point game per round, whereas the men played two. Sue Chapman, a member of the club involved, says the mixup resulted more from a genuine lack of understanding than from any ill-will. “It’s a new club and it was our first tournament,” she says. “The people running it figured the women wouldn’t want to play more than one 21-point game. But we explained that we would and they assured us that next time it will be

straightened out."

Elaine Lee, voicing an opinion shared by many other women, thinks the women's division can actually be a draw for a tournament, offering spectators a chance to see a unique style of play that is markedly different from the men's. "There's a real difference in the women's game," she says, "more control and a little less power. We're also noticing that the men love to watch the women's matches. They're discovering that a good, controlled game can be just as exciting as a slamming power match. And they're not just watching to see the pretty girls; they're really watching the game."



When racquetball was just getting started back in the '60s, it was often difficult to find a court on which to play. Most courts were located at either the local "Y" or at an existing handball facility. In many cases, these establishments had the look of undernourished closets—musty, sweaty affairs, reeking with macho and devoid of frills. The closest thing to a green plant was the mildew on the shower stalls. If you were a woman looking for a clean facility with piped-in music and pictures on the wall, members of the old clubs generally suggested the nearest beauty parlor.

But during the racquetball boom of the '70s, court club owners began cleaning up their act—and their facilities. They planned appealing decor to improve the image of the clubs. They added babysitting services for mothers with young

children. Women's directors were hired to plan special activities for the ladies, including leagues and tournaments held during the daytime hours. Some owners even began employing women as assistant managers and, in some cases, club managers (a move long overdue, many women argue).

Mike Mjehovich, a representative of Supreme Court Clubs (operating in Nevada and Tennessee), says the increasing presence of women has changed the overall atmosphere at the clubs. "We've come a long way in upgrading the quality of the facilities so they would be more appealing to the ladies," he says. "When the sport first got going, club owners were anticipating that women would make up about 10 per cent of their traffic. Many of these owners were old handballers who figured the women's market would be soft. But though handball was unpopular with women, racquetball caught on fast. So what we have at our clubs now is something like 40 per cent women. We're having to catch up."

"At some clubs, for instance, the ladies' locker rooms were only a third the size of the men's. So we've expanded them and added steam baths and Jacuzzis. Now the women's facilities are equal to the men's. The women also tend to notice when the place isn't clean, so we're making the clubs spotless—a place they'd like to come back to."

"We're starting to see a lot of couples playing together, too," he adds. "In the past, a guy might have left his wife at home and gone to play softball or basketball. Now, the two of them come out and play racquetball together. And the women are giving the men a good match."

Indeed, men and women can now frequently be found battling each other on the racquetball courts. Some people speculate that the nature of play on the courts is even changing

Money Courtship

One sure sign that women have become a force to be reckoned with in racquetball is the increasing attention being paid them by major equipment manufacturers. These firms have detected the smell of big bucks in the women's market, and many have begun courting the ladies in earnest with a variety of special products and promotional efforts.

Leach, Ektelon and Omega Sports, among others, now offer racquets specially designed for women. KORI of California features a whole line of racquetball sportswear for the fashion-conscious woman player. And Saranac, a Green Bay, Wisconsin glove manufacturer, has begun marketing a racquetball glove exclusively for women.

"I think everyone is realizing that women are essential to the future of the sport at every level," says Ektelon's Tom Stofko. "That's one reason we currently have 8 of the top 16 female pros under contract."

Big-name endorsements, in fact, are quickly becoming as common on the women's scene as they are among the men. Women are now treated to pitches for racquetball products from players like Jennifer Harding or Shannon Wright. And many manufacturers employ women as models and product demonstrators for advertisements and sportswear expositions.

All of this high-powered attention is calculated to help manufacturers nail down a share of the active and apparently growing women's market. "We're showing growth figures of over 400 per cent in court club openings and equipment sales," says Susan Crummey, eastern regional sales manager for Omega Sports. "That's an

amazing rate and it's largely a result of increasing participation in the sport by women. And it's not over yet."

Some women, though, still have major bones to pick with racquetball equipment manufacturers. Crummey talks of companies that are devoting their efforts solely to selling products to women at the sake of promoting the sport itself. She points out that, "Much more needs to be done in promoting the sport, especially to women. This means sponsoring their leagues, putting on local tournaments and all the rest." Other women argue that some manufacturers' promotional pitches to women are offensive at best, and in a few instances downright sexist. Finally, women say that in many areas the selection of women's sportswear and equipment is still limited and hard to find. "I have yet to find a top that really fits me," remarks one woman player.

Such differences aside, however, the courtship between women and the various manufacturers is likely to continue and even intensify over the next few years. As Tom Stofko says, it's simply a matter of good business sense.

"Our data indicates that currently about 35 per cent of all players are women," he notes. "And we know that women purchase a large percentage of racquetball equipment, including men's equipment for their husbands and boyfriends . . . (Overall), women purchase from 65 to 70 per cent of all consumer goods in this country. That's a huge amount of purchasing power. As a manufacturer, you'd simply be foolish not to address this group."



“*It's just as valid for a woman to make the commitment to go away for the weekend and play in a tournament as it is for a man.*”

-Carol Mason

as women players become more prevalent. The men aren't cursing as much, some say, and temper tantrums have decreased markedly. This is, of course, debatable. But one feature at many courts has taken on a whole new significance as competition between men and women increases. It's called the challenge court.

Challenge courts are used in many different ways, but they basically function much like “King of the Hill.” A player retains possession of the court as long as he or she can beat all challengers. When the holder of the court loses, the successful challenger takes over. The International Fitness and Racquetball Center in Oklahoma, where Jean Lehr is employed as director of communication, has two such courts, and, according to Lehr, response to them has been overwhelming. “We weren't sure how the women would react to the idea,” she says, “but they're challenging the men all the time. Whether the women win or lose, it does a lot for their game to play these guys. It sure builds their confidence, too.

“And the men seem to love it when the women challenge. They are great about encouraging the women and accepting them as serious players. Everybody is really having fun with the whole idea.”

——Most of the women's matches are scheduled during daytime hours; the men usually play in the more heavily-attended prime-time hours.

——Each of the 32 male competitors is guaranteed at least \$250 per tournament; the women receive a \$125 guarantee.

These differences, among others, have prompted some of the tour regulars to speak out in favor of breaking away from the men. Meetings have already been held by the women in the interest of forming a separate women's players' association. One of the primary functions of such a group would be securing sponsorship from major corporations for a separate women's tour. But the players are divided on whether or not they have the power to support such a tour.

Sarah Green, at 22 one of the youngest players on the tour and currently ranked tenth, thinks the time might not be right. “I think we should receive amounts closer to the men's prize money, but not exactly the same,” she says. “I'm not sure we really do have the same drawing power yet. The level of play also has a way to go. Shannon Wright is excellent and those of us from number 2 to about number 11 are pretty evenly matched, but after that it drops off a lot. I don't think we've reached the level of competition you find in women's tennis, for instance. There you have so many good players.”

Other women on the tour, however, think they could make it as a separate group and get better prize money as a result. “It's sickening,” says Francine Davis, often described as the best pro on the east coast. “We need to separate from the men. In this tournament (a recent Coors tournament in Denver), there were 35 women trying to qualify for only four positions. And as far as the drawing power is concerned, we played two all-women stops last year and they were both completely sold-out. The response was unbelievable.”

The women have indeed shown that they can produce crowds in the all-women events held so far, such as the Ektelon/Natural Light Pro Invitational held February 2-4 in St. Louis. Tom Stofko, a representative of Ektelon, says the reception for the tournament was excellent. “We had a full house,” he reports. “That and the two all-women stops last year give a good indication that the women can do it on their own.”

Jennifer Harding, currently holding down the number two slot behind Shannon Wright, feels female pros are popular largely because most spectators identify readily with the way they play. “We're not as powerful as the men,” she concedes, “but the fans like the way we play. We tend to have much longer rallies, the ball goes a little slower and it's easier to keep up with what's going on. The men have much shorter rallies—just serve, volley and it's over. That's not too much fun to

While women's amateur racquetball seems fairly secure at the moment, more than a few thunderclouds loom over the women's professional scene. Dissatisfaction with the present tour and uncertainty about the future are two common topics in discussions among the female pros. Though they share the

feeling that something is wrong, they are deeply divided over just what can be done about it.

On the current National Racquet Club (NRC) Pro Tour, women in theory share the spotlight with the men. But many maintain that instead of sharing the spotlight, the women are in fact playing in a male shadow. Consider some of the disparities in the current organization of the tour:

——Women usually receive \$1,300 for a first-place finish; the men receive \$4,500.

——The women's segment of the tour is composed of 16 slots; the men have 32.

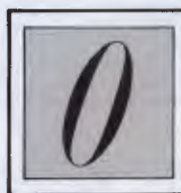
watch. Sure, the fans like the diving moves the men make, but that's not the way an average person plays."

At present, the women's tour is dominated by Shannon Wright, who is roughly an equivalent of Chris Evert, Martina Navratilova and Tracy Austin all rolled into one. In 2½ years, she's lost only four matches. She could probably even tell you the number of points she has conceded in the same period. Opinions about Wright vary widely: some say she plays too much like a man, others that she still isn't quick enough. But no one can deny the fact that Shannon Wright will earn more than \$100,000 this year through tournament winnings and endorsements. That's about five times more than her closest rival on the tour. In fact, about the only sure bet on the women's tour today is that in every tournament she enters, Shannon Wright is practically guaranteed the number one seed. She's that good.

While she is understandably reluctant to criticize the current tour, Wright does recognize its shortcomings. "We've got this tour by the grace of people like Charlie Drake (president of Leach, Inc.) and the other sponsors. It's sure better than nothing. I haven't seen too many companies coming forward and offering to put up the money for a separate women's circuit," she says wryly.

That vital word—sponsorship—is one heard in just about

every conversation about women's pro racquetball. Who will put up the money? The women argue that what Virginia Slims did for women's tennis, some company can do for women's racquetball. Wright certainly shares these feelings: "I can see a separate women's tour jumping ahead of the men's, if we have the sponsors," she says. "I think in another year we'll be at a competitive level more comparable to women's tennis. We're all improving with each tournament. But, at the moment, there isn't enough incentive for young girls to get into the sport. We need TV, which means using a slower ball. And we really need the separate circuit so that the younger amateurs will be enticed into working toward joining the tour." She pauses, before adding: "All of that will be dependent on one thing . . . sponsorship."



ne man who certainly knows all about sponsorship is Charlie Drake. His company, in addition to being one of the leading makers of racquets, balls and other equipment, is also a prominent sponsor on the current pro tour. As Drake puts it, "I spend more money on women's racquetball than anyone in the country." He says that if the women think they can get more money by having a separate tour, "they should certainly

A Woman For All Reasons



Elaine Lee could well be racquetball's—and women's—answer to the Renaissance man. As a player, administrator and court club manager, she is involved in virtually every aspect of the game. In a way, Lee exemplifies the new breed of racquetball woman.

In 1978, Lee captured Pennsylvania's women's singles championship, and this year she was part of the team that took the state's women's doubles title. Her biggest victory to date has been the IRA's national women's open doubles championship, which she and Francine Davis won in Washington last October.

But, although she is a superb competitor, Elaine Lee is also much more than that. In June of 1978, she was

elected to the national Board of Directors of the IRA, and is now one of only two women in that governing body. And as if tournament play and board duties weren't enough to keep her busy, Lee also helped open the Greenfield Court Club in Lancaster, Penn., about a year and a half ago and now works there as assistant manager and teaching pro. Racquetball, in short, keeps Elaine Lee pretty busy.

That's all the more remarkable since Lee is a virtual newcomer to the sport who began playing only two years ago. She was immediately attracted to racquetball. "I've always been active in sports and I love competition," she says. "In racquetball, I've been more successful than in any other sport I've tried." When she first started playing, Lee often had trouble finding an open court at the local "Y". Finally, her playing partner "said that he would build a court club, if I would help him run it. I said I would and he did it." She works full-time at the club and coaches both women and men.

She is also deeply involved in her work with the IRA board. "One of my primary interests is in seeing that women get treated as equals with the men, both in tournaments and in the sport as a whole. In the past year, we've seen tremendous progress toward that goal."

With all that Lee is doing, it's hard to imagine how she ever finds time to get on the court and just *play*. But, judging from her tournament record, she appears to be doing well enough. In fact, she's now seriously considering turning pro. "I'm helping put my husband through school at the moment," she explains. "But as soon as he graduates, I'll probably give the tour a try." And how does her husband, Robert, feel about his wife's love affair with racquetball? "He's all for it," she says.

Lee does plan to take a little time off from the sport in the next year or two to go on a cross-country bicycle trip with her husband. But she probably won't pedal far before she starts looking for a court club. After all, next to her marriage, Lee says, "Racquetball is my whole life."

"The fans like the way we play...
The men have much shorter
rallies...That's not too much fun
to watch."

-Jennifer Harding



do so." But he warns that getting sponsorship is not as easy as the women might think.

"To get sponsors," Drake says, "you've got to be able to show a return on investment. If a company can't demonstrate that they're making something on a tour event, men's or women's, they aren't going to put up any money."

"That means more than just drawing the fans. That's only part of what a sponsor looks at. You've also got to get exposure in the local media, which means publicity for the sponsoring company. And you've got to motivate people to buy products. We estimate that for a sponsor's investment of \$25,000, he's got to show a direct increase of \$250,000 to \$1,000,000 in product sales to make it worth his while. If women can promise that kind of return, they should be able to get sponsors."

As far as the current women's prize money is concerned, Drake maintains that the situation has improved considerably in the last few years. "Women who were playing for \$1,500 in total purses a couple of years ago are now getting that much for first place. I've never known a professional athlete who didn't want more money; it's natural. But in this sport, overall prize money has gone from \$40,000 in 1976 to more than \$300,000 now. That's not too bad."

Some sponsors doubt that women can generate the publicity necessary to make a women's tour profitable. They also complain that women are playing in so many different types of events that they're starting to lose their professional credibility. While the women want more money on the pro stops, they are still playing in tournaments where the top prize is only a color TV set. Although their main reason for doing this is the chance for competition, sponsors have reservations about the practice. One sponsor (who wished to remain anonymous) made this comparison: "Women are playing in some tournaments and providing their product—which is entertainment—for next to nothing. Then they come to us and want big purses for tour events. In a way, it's like me coming to you with a racquet that I sometimes sell for \$50 and other times for just three. If I decide to ask you for \$50, what would you do?"

Trying to determine the future of women's racquetball at both the amateur and professional level is almost as hard as returning one of Shannon Wright's serves. Most comments about the amateur side of the sport indicate a pretty sound future. While some people harbor the fear that overbuilding without simultaneous promotion will hurt the sport, the

general feeling is that amateur participation will continue growing at a rapid pace.

One area that many do feel is a potential roadblock to future growth is the lack of opportunity for youngsters, both male and female, to play racquetball on a regular basis. Public racquetball courts are non-existent in most parts of the country; young players must either have access to unlimited funds or belong to court clubs in order to get invaluable practice time.

Undoubtedly, though, it is the female professional who faces the most uncertain future of all. "You hear a lot of things," says Sarah Green. "It takes a lot of money to sponsor a tournament. One week we hear there won't be a tour and the next week it's back on again. I just hope we have a future."

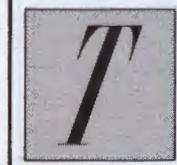
While the sport as a whole may not be dependent on the pros for its existence, few would dispute the fact that the professional tour adds glamour and excitement to the game. It was the heavy exposure of women's tennis, after all, that gave that segment of the sport credibility and made multi-millionaires of the top female players. Exposure of pro players invariably increases amateur participation in a sport, and many think the same thing could happen in women's racquetball.

Some observers, though, think the women still lack a star to bring them that kind of exposure. They maintain the sport lacks a personality the likes of, say, an Evert, or a King or a Lopez. When players with that kind of charisma come along, these observers speculate, TV coverage will also increase and then... look out.

Regardless of how the pro squabbles resolve themselves, one thing is certain: women are showing that they are here to stay as a force in racquetball. Perhaps more than any other sport, it has given women the chance to prove they can be just as assertive, competitive and, ultimately, dedicated to sport as their male counterparts.

In a way, that type of dedication was symbolized by a near-tragic incident that occurred recently at Elaine Lee's club in Pennsylvania. One of her novice students, a woman, experienced the most feared injury in the sport: she missed a ball and it smashed into her eye at top speed. For days, doctors feared that she would lose her sight in that eye. "We were pretty certain she'd never want to play racquetball again," Lee remembers.

They were all wrong, however. The woman did regain her sight, and as soon as the bandages were off and the wounds healed, she was back on the racquetball court again... ready and eager to play. ■



SOLE RELATIONS

A Guide To Proper Foot Care

You're playing in the final, tie-breaking game of a fiercely contested match. The score is tied 14-14, but your opponent appears to be weakening.

You can see it in his eyes; one good shot and the match is yours. Then, you get your opportunity. Your opponent lobs a weak shot to the corner and you gear up to fire a return that will spin him around in his tracks. But just as you plant your feet to make the shot, a sharp pain shoots up from your right heel, travels along your Achilles tendon and winds up somewhere around your knee. You crumple to the floor, unable to even get up, much less continue the game. End result: your opponent wins the match by

By Brian Kiel with Larry Conley



forfeit and you are carried off the court in agony, another victim of a serious foot injury.

This scenario occurs all too often in amateur athletics. Many amateur athletes, in fact, seem to take their feet for granted. "My feet have never given me any trouble," they say, "so why should I be concerned now?"

The answer, of course, is that while your feet may function perfectly during normal activities, athletic competition is a different matter entirely. Athletics will increase the stress on the feet considerably. Under that kind of stress, problems which may have been borderline, or which you may not even have been aware of before, can become suddenly and painfully apparent. What's worse, many foot problems can actually lead to related injuries of the entire musculo-skeletal system, including back and knee aches.

Proper foot care is especially important in a strenuous sport such as racquetball. During a typical match your feet are constantly in motion: spinning, stopping, reversing, jumping. Indeed, the type of physical activity involved in racquetball is such that virtually any part of the foot and ankle is very susceptible to injury. If you're going to play the

game, then, you should first familiarize yourself with methods of prevention and treatment for these potentially serious injuries. Otherwise, that friendly game with your neighbor could turn into a one-way ticket to the hospital.

A dose of preventive medicine, allied with a little common sense, will short-circuit most minor foot problems. Heavy, natural fiber socks (cotton or wool) will help your feet breathe easier during a match and cut down on peeling and cracking. If you have time between matches, change your wet socks for a dry pair. For minor irritation on the soles, balls or heels of your feet, Vaseline spread on the affected area works as well as anything.

Proper warm-up and stretching exercises, of course, should be done prior to any athletic activity. Tight muscles and tendons not only decrease your mobility, but they are also much more susceptible to damage. Include in your warm-up routine a few stretching exercises for the feet, such as the following.

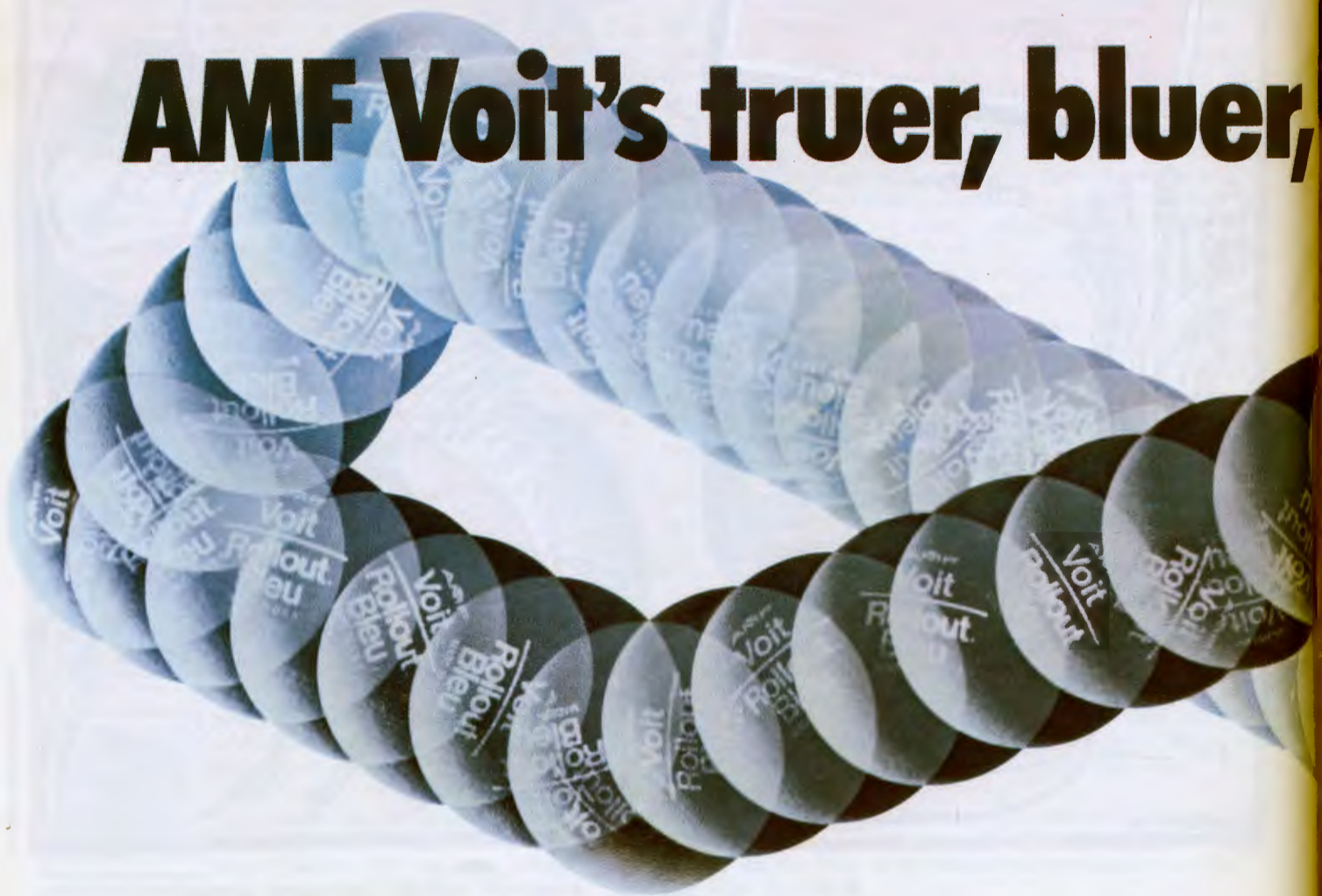
In one of the easiest and most common exercises, simply place your foot on a table at or below waist level. Curl the toes toward the head and bend at the waist until strain is felt. Hold for 10

seconds and repeat five or six times for each leg.

Another stretching exercise is done by leaning against a wall with the palms flat. Slowly walk backwards with the feet flat until strain is felt. To stretch the leg and back muscles, lie flat on the floor with your hands to the side. Raise your legs straight over your head until you feel the strain. Hold both exercises for 10 seconds and repeat five or six times.

The type of shoe used, of course, can do much to help your feet emerge from a match more or less intact. One thing to remember about footwear is that a shoe good for other athletics is not necessarily good for racquetball. You must consider the type of surface and the function of the foot on that surface during play. Racquetball requires a stop-and-go motion on a slick, hardwood surface. Therefore, one function of the shoe must be to maintain a "grip" on the floor. Shoes that are good for jogging, for example, are generally poor shoes for racquetball. They are usually too rigid and the soles are made to cushion the pounding type motion of running on hard surfaces. Many of these shoes have sole patterns which would slide across a hardwood floor, giving up a great deal of body control. And as any podiatrist will

AMF Voit's truer, bluer,



tell you, a sudden, wrenching slide across the court floor can do all kinds of wicked things to tendons, heels and soles.

The shoes that seem to be best suited to racquetball are the kind used in tennis and basketball. The soles of these shoes are made for gripping and for a stop-and-go activity. Some manufacturers also offer shoes specially designed for racquetball with extra gripping action on the soles. And the trend seems to be moving in that direction, with a number of new racquetball shoe designs expected to debut at a big athletic footwear exposition scheduled for Chicago this summer. (See *Racquetball*, March, 1979.) Whatever style you decide upon, above all be sure that the shoe bends easily and feels comfortable to you.

There is a lot of locker room philosophizing about the merits of low or high top shoes. Actually, though, there is little difference between the two in terms of comfort and support for your feet. High top shoes may make you more conscious of your ankles so that you can gauge the stress they're undergoing during the match. But in the long run choosing between high or low top shoes is really a matter of individual preference.

Likewise, deciding on the best material for the shoe depends on your own taste and the particular features you value most in athletic footwear. If, for example, you want a shoe that provides good support, wears well and is easy to resole, then choose leather. But if your ideal shoe is light, cheap and breathes easily, canvas is the way to go. Then there's nylon mesh, which is also light, cheaper than leather and very flexible.

Okay, let's say you've finally decided on the kind of shoe that's best for you. But before you go off, checkbook in hand, to purchase your perfect shoe, keep in mind a few tips that will help you get your money's worth:

(1.) Be aware that the chains and discount stores often sell cheaper brands of poor quality. And what seems like a bargain today can mean sore feet tomorrow.

(2.) Remember that your foot size can change slightly depending on the time of day and your physical condition. Your feet gradually swell during the day, for example, and tend to get fatter as you put on weight. Bear this in mind as you try on a shoe for size, along with any socks or orthotic devices you normally wear when playing racquetball.

(3.) Never buy a shoe simply because

some pro or top amateur player recommends it. ("So-and-so says that such-and-such is the best shoe made for racquetball," etc.) Select a shoe on its merits alone and because it seems to be the best shoe made for *you*.

Of course, no shoe is going to solve all your problems and minor foot injuries are likely to crop up from time to time. Some of these are fairly easy to treat. A blister, which is actually a burn caused by friction, is best treated by draining the blister through a small puncture, painting it with merthiolate and covering it with a Band-Aid. The one thing you should not do is remove the layer of skin over the area. This acts as a protective cover and aids in healing.

Injury to the nails, especially the great toenail, is another malady common to racquetball. This is because the constant stopping associated with the sport causes the toe to jam into the end of the shoe. To prevent this, always make sure the nails are trimmed short. If, however, the nail turns black (which means there is blood underneath), and there is pain associated with it, you should seek professional treatment. The fluid will have to be drained and often the nail will eventually shed by itself.

Other foot problems stem from

brighter, bouncier ball.



The Rollout® Bleu racquetball is also easiest to see indoors. So it's easy to see why you've been seeing so many of them.

Try one yourself. We'll send you a Rollout Bleu racquetball and our new booklet, "Racquetball for Winners," for \$2.00.

Just send a check or money order along with your name and address to Advertising Dept., AMF Voit, at the address below.

AMF Voit
Santa Ana,
Calif. 92704

RACQUETBALL

April 20-22

I.R.A. Regionals*

2nd Annual Azalea Open*

Contact: Lcdr. Don W. Samek, III
612 Charlecote Dr.
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

April 21-22

**President's Council on Physical
Fitness Clinic***

Mid-Atlantic Region
U.S. Naval Academy
Annapolis, MD

April 27-29

**I.R.A. Intercollegiate
Championships***

Supreme Courts
Memphis, Tennessee
Tournament Director:

Larry Liles and Jim Cullen
Contact I.R.A. Headquarters:
901-761-1172

**Governor's Cup Racquetball
Classic***

Tournament Director: Ken Smith
**c/o International Fitness &
Racquetball Center**

May 11-13

Husky Open
U of Washington
Seattle, WA
Tournament Director:
Yvonne Calavan
206-329-3334

May 11-12-13

**1979 Minn-Dak All Air Force
Racquetball Invitational***
Tac Racquetball Center
1401 Dyke Ave.

Grand Forks, N.D. 58201
Contact: Staff Sgt. Ben Beck
Base Gym
321 CSG/SSRI
Grand Forks A.F.B.
North Dakota 58205

May 18-20

U.S. Military Championships*
Site to be announced
Contact: Lcdr. Don W. Samek, III
612 Charlecote Dr.
Virginia Beach, VA 23462
518-565-5227

Daffy Open

Contact: Luke St. Onge
901-761-1172

June 1-3

Wisconsin State Singles*
Tournament Director:
Tom Radai, Jr.
2613 S. 51st St.
Milwaukee, WI 53219

June 9-16

USRA Nationals
Tempe, Arizona

June 29-July 1

J.W. Million Classic
Tennis World
Tournament Director: Mir Rahim
Seattle, WA
206-767-4400

July 6-8

**National Diabetics Celebrity
Racquets Tournament***
Aspen, Colorado
Tournament Director:
Gary Garrison

July 14-16

International Racquetball

EKTELON[®]



EKTELON

What is best?

A few years ago, Ektelon was virtually unknown. Today it is the pre-eminent name in racquetball. This is due, in some degree, to the phenomenal growth of the sport itself. But more important than that is the fact that, at the company's very inception, Ektelon began asking itself: *what is best?*

Over the years, whenever a question has arisen about the design or manufacture — or even the shipping, packaging or selling — of our products, we have decided our course of action according to just one criterion: *what is best?*

Well, you might ask, just what is "best?" We can only say, that when you're making something as simple, yet amazingly complex, as a racquetball racquet, "best" takes on many different meanings.

Sometimes best is expensive.

At Ektelon, we not only make racquetball racquets. We also make the machines, equipment and tooling we use to *make* our racquets. We designed, developed and produced virtually everything within our factory walls. Why? Because we decided



breakthrough in the racquetball industry. Among them:

Our frame-head milling process. An Ektelon exclusive that's protected by law. Milling gives unique playing characteristics to certain Ektelon racquets. It helps control weight, head flexibility, distribution of weight (balance point), and at the same time reduces vibration.

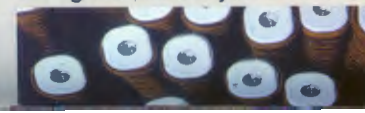
The Ektelon drilling machine. This invention enables Ektelon to drill string-eyelet holes into a channel racquet frame that's already bent. *Already bent...* that's important.

Most manufacturers drill, *then bend*. This creates built-in stress points at every hole and results in a serious weakening of the racquet. In addition, bending after drilling can contribute to string wear by causing a distortion of the hole shape and altering the angle at which the hole was drilled.

Ektelon eyelets. Bigger, heavier-bodied aluminum eyelets, and a machine to insert them perfectly into the racquet frame. This process extends string life and led to racquetball's first written 90-day string warranty.

The best. From the beginning. Right now. And in the future.

Ektelon has grown tremendously during the last few years. And we





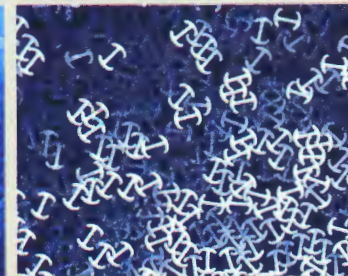
long ago that we couldn't build our idea of a racquet using somebody else's idea of a machine. This means it is difficult for Ektelon to bring out new products or alter existing ones . . . with reasonable cost-effectiveness. But, no matter *how* difficult, we do it. We feel every racquetball player should be able to have, and afford, the best.

Sometimes best takes a long time.

Using available technology, Ektelon was capable of manufacturing and marketing a "good" racquetball years ago. We chose not to do so. We felt it would not be the "best" ball we could make. Since 1974, Ektelon player/designers have been developing a new, livelier, longer-lasting, rounder ball . . . along with the technology to produce it. It's taken a long time. However, when racquetballers play with our new ball, we know they'll judge it to be the best.

Sometimes best is boring.

We have a man who does nothing all day long but stand at his work station and hand-inspect every piece of aluminum that comes into our factory. This man's idea of excitement is a tiny



nick or scratch, or an aluminum extrusion that's a fraction of an inch out of alignment. With a gleam in his eye, he flings that piece into the reject pile. We make six of these 100% inspections in the course of building our racquets. A total of 52,000 man hours will be spent this year by Ektelon in the area of quality control.

Sometimes the best is tough and temperamental.

Alcoa 7005 aluminum, an expensive alloy available only in the USA, is the ideal material for racquetball racquet frames. It's light. And strong — 32% stronger than the aluminum most racquet makers use. However, it's temperamental and expensive to deal with. It simply *hates* to be extruded into thin-walled racquet frames. And it's extremely difficult to bend on conventional machinery. Most racquet manufacturers are reluctant to use 7005. Still, Ektelon will use nothing else in any racquet.

What happens when every decision you make is in answer to the question "what is best?"

For one thing, it allows us to have the highest degree of confidence

in our products. Because we know the risk is minimal, it enables us to offer meaningful long-term warranties to the players who purchase them.

What's more, people who really know racquetball equipment find out that our products are superior. And they tell other people. As a result, our business has grown. Not because of any fancy promotional footwork we've done. But because we decided a long time ago that all our decisions would be based on the answer to one simple question: what is best?

There's no rest for the best.

When you're the best, and everybody knows it, your competitors start gunning for you. There's nobody in the business who wouldn't like to "knock off" Ektelon. They've tried. But without success. Because they are simply not accustomed to asking themselves that fundamental question: what is best? They've come out with racquets that imitate certain cosmetic features of the Ektelon. But they can't make an Ektelon. While other manufacturers are imitating yesterday's innovations, we're already working on tomorrow's.

The responsibility of being the best.

Because Ektelon has an obses-

sion about superiority, we are forced to accept a difficult and expensive fact of life: we can't hold back what's best. Once we have an idea, we feel obligated to test it, perfect it, and make it available to racquetball players at the earliest possible moment . . . whatever the cost to us. In developing the Magnum racquet for instance, an Ektelon Player/Designer discovered that a slightly longer head, and three additional strings, would improve the sweet spot and power characteristics of *all our racquets*. So we changed them all. Our tooling and inventory expenses were substantial, but our prices stayed the same. We probably didn't *have* to improve our racquets. But we did it. Because, if there's one thing you can't forget when you're the best, it's what made you that way in the first place.

The only attitude that keeps you the best is pretending you're not the best.

This may sound like negative thinking, but it works. Ektelon's constant dissatisfaction with existing equipment and technology has led to almost every major



make more than just racquets and racquet stringing equipment now. This has been a conscious effort on our part. Naturally, our reputation, our distribution network, and the fact that so many people enthusiastically urged us on, were factors in our decision to expand our product line. But we would never have done so without first asking ourselves, probably for the millionth time, the question which is the very cornerstone of Ektelon's philosophy: what is best?

What's best for Ektelon turns out to be this:

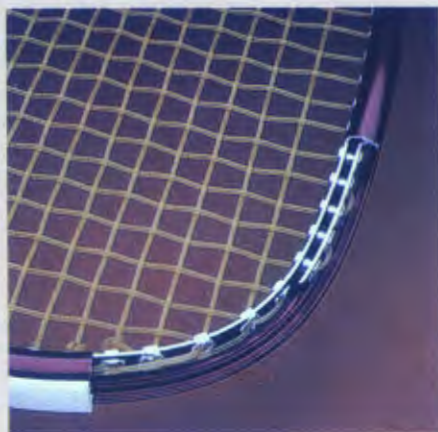
To continue to originate the industry's best thinking in the area of equipment design and manufacturing. To apply our imagination to a widening range of products, but never to settle for less than the best in a given category. And, finally, to support our products, and our distributors and dealers, with the *best* marketing, merchandising and advertising programs in the industry.

That's a lofty set of objectives. But, as we said, there's no rest for the best.



EKTELON

Anatomy of the Ektelon Racquetball Racquet



Exclusive Milling Process

Ektelon "mills out" a strip of metal from the heads of certain racquets to give them specific playing characteristics. This helps control head weight, flexibility, weight distribution (balance point), and at the same time, reduces vibration. You'll find milled heads on Ektelon's Magnum, XL Bill Schmidtke, Wisp III and Jerry Hilecher models. This is an Ektelon exclusive protected by law.



The Safety Bumper

The racquet bumper, which protects both court and players, was an Ektelon first . . . one that has been universally copied by other manufacturers. Ektelon racquets now come with a new type of bumper — flexible non-cracking vinyl — which lasts indefinitely. These bumpers can be removed and trimmed to control the weight of the racquet head and customize performance.



The Throat Piece

The throat piece provides structural continuity throughout the racquet. Ektelon throat pieces are machine-pressed to assure accurate fit, carefully



New Flat Channel



New Flat I-Beam

Aluminum Extrusion Selections

Because it is light, yet amazingly strong, Alcoa 7005 aluminum is the only kind of aluminum you'll find in an Ektelon racquet. 7005, available only in the USA, is 32% stronger than the aluminum most racquet makers use. Four types of aluminum extrusions are used. They are the channel, I-Beam, as well as our *new* flat channel and flat I-Beam. A channel extrusion is utilized unmilled for the Rogue, Ektelon's most rigid racquet; and milled in our XL Bill Schmidtke, Wisp III and Magnum. The new Hilecher racquet has a special new flat channel frame which is milled. I-Beam extrusions are used for our most flexible racquets, the Flex and MagnumFlex. Ektelon's new Jennifer Harding racquet features our new flat I-Beam. All frames are anodized for protection from corrosion and for color permanence.



Ektelon Head Shapes

Ektelon racquets come in four basic frame configurations: quadriform, tear drop, modified rectangle and our new modified quadriform. Frame shape is one of the major considerations in determining the size of a racquet's hitting area, along with the location and size of its "sweet spot." Other factors are racquet length, flexibility, weight, balance point, and string tension. Ektelon player/designers are continually experimenting with new combinations as they relentlessly pursue the best.



Recessed Safety Cord Holder

The Ektelon safety cord pin — and knot — are neatly recessed *into* the racquet handle. The safety cords on most other brands of racquets are attached to a protrusion on the end of the handle.

Ektelon Eyelets

Ektelon designed bigger, heavier bodied eyelets, then built special equipment to seat them perfectly into the racquet frame. These features reduce abrasions, and extend string life significantly. This is one reason why Ektelon is able to offer its written 90-day string warrantee.



Handle Sizes/Grip Choices

Ektelon offers more choices of handle size than any other manufacturer. Each of our racquets comes standard with the highest quality matching leather grip. The leather grip on our XL Bill Schmidtke model is flat black, on our Wisp III flat brown. Our Demon racquet features a flat brown perforated leather grip. The new Jerry Hilecher is equipped with a matching burgundy raised, stitched leather grip. All other racquets come with matching brown raised-stitch leather grips.

All full-size Ektelon racquets are available in Large, Medium and Small handle sizes. The Magnum, MagnumFlex, and Wisp III are also available in Extra Small. The new Jennifer Harding model can be ordered in Medium, Small, Extra Small and Super-Small grip sizes. There are three options for the Demon: Small, Extra Small and Super-Small.



Handle Construction

Ektelon racquet handles are virtually indestructible, yet lightweight. The aluminum frame extends all the way through the handle. To keep the racquet in proper balance, we taper the aluminum at the end and make the handle itself from lightweight polyurethane. The handle is tapered, too, for comfort and control. To prevent separation of the handle from the frame, the two are secured with a metal lock pin.

EKTELON

The Magnums.
EkteLon's
Finest Racquets





The Magnum™

The classic . . . the top of the Ektelon line.

- Lightweight for maximum maneuverability
- Extra length for increased reach and power
- Superb balance for easier swing
- Exclusive patented milled head for better balance and control
- Quadriform head shape with larger sweet spot

Raised, stitched brown leather grip. Stylish protective cover. Four handle sizes (extra small 3⁵/₁₆" , small 4¹/₈" , medium 4⁵/₁₆" , large 4¹/₂"). Deep metallic brown anodized aluminum frame. Tough vinyl bumper. Neutral heat-welded multifilament braided nylon strings. String tension — 22 pounds, 18¹/₂" overall length. 270 grams. Full two-year racquet frame warranty. Full ninety-day racquet string warranty.

The MagnumFlex™

A true Magnum . . . with extra flexibility built-in.

- Combines greater flexibility with the power of aluminum
- Quadriform Magnum head shape with larger sweet spot
- Superb balance for easier swing
- Extra length for increased reach and power
- Lightweight for maximum maneuverability

Raised, stitched brown leather grip. Stylish protective cover. Four handle sizes (extra small 3⁵/₁₆" , small 4¹/₈" , medium 4⁵/₁₆" , large 4¹/₂"). Dark metallic blue anodized aluminum frame. Tough vinyl bumper. Neutral heat-welded multifilament braided nylon strings. String tension — 28 pounds, 18¹/₂" overall length. 270 grams. Full two-year racquet frame warranty. Full ninety-day racquet string warranty.



I-Beam Extrusion used in Ektelon's MagnumFlex and Flex racquets.



Channel Extrusions are used milled in Ektelon's Magnum, XL Bill Schmidtke and Wisp III racquets; unmilled in Ektelon's Rogue racquet.

EXTELON





New Hilecher™

Features Ektelon's largest hitting surface . . . for the hard-hitting Hilecher style of play.

- New larger modified quadriform head for more power and superior ball response
- New Flat Channel frame extrusion developed especially for this racquet
- Exclusive patented milled head for better balance and control
- Short throat length brings handle closer to racquet face . . . for greater control and ease of handling

New Jennifer Harding™

Designed for the woman player . . . shorter and lighter.

- Lightweight for superior maneuverability
- Shorter length for women players
- New Flat I-Beam frame extrusion for increased flexibility and improved playability
- Special modified rectangular head shape with larger hitting area
- Available in new super-small as well as extra small handle sizes

Raised, stitched burgundy leather grip. Four handle sizes, (extra small 3 1/16", small 4 1/8", medium 4 5/16", and large 4 1/2"). Burgundy anodized aluminum frame. Tough vinyl bumper. Neutral heat-welded multifilament braided nylon strings. String tension — 26 pounds. 18 1/4" overall length. 270 grams. Full two-year racquet frame warranty. Full ninety-day string warranty.



New Flat I-Beam extrusion found only on Jennifer Harding racquet.



New Flat Channel extrusion developed for Jerry Hilecher racquet.



Jennifer Harding and Jerry Hilecher, Ektelon's top professional players.

Raised, stitched brown leather grip. Four handle sizes (super-small 3 11/16", extra small 3 15/16", small 4 1/8", medium 4 5/16"). Blue anodized aluminum frame. Tough vinyl bumper. Blue spiral heat-welded multifilament nylon strings. String tension — 28 pounds. 17 3/4" overall length. 250 grams. Full two-year racquet frame warranty. Full ninety-day racquet string warranty.

EXTELON



Bill Schmidtke, two
time IRA National
Professional Champion.



New Wisp III®

Ektelon's lightest full-sized racquet . . . for maximum quickness and maneuverability.

- Full-sized yet weighs only 260 grams
- Available with extra small grip
- Longer modified rectangular head shape with bigger sweet spot, additional power, and greater control
- Exclusive patented milled head for better balance and control

Flat dark brown leather grip. Four handle sizes (extra-small $3\frac{5}{16}$ ", small $4\frac{1}{8}$ ", medium $4\frac{5}{16}$ ", large $4\frac{1}{2}$ "). Gold anodized aluminum frame. Tough vinyl bumper. Bronze heat-welded multifilament braided nylon strings. String tension — 25 pounds. 18 $\frac{1}{4}$ " overall length. 260 grams. Full two-year racquet frame warranty. Full ninety-day racquet string warranty.

XL Bill Schmidtke®

Ektelon's longest racquet . . . for extra reach and power.

- Extra length for increased hitting power
- Added reach for those hard-to-get shots
- Longer modified rectangular head shape for additional power, larger sweet spot, and greater control
- Exclusive patented milled head for better balance and control

Flat black leather grip. Stylish protective cover. Three handle sizes (small $4\frac{1}{8}$ ", medium $4\frac{5}{16}$ ", large $4\frac{1}{2}$ "). Black anodized aluminum frame. Tough vinyl bumper. Black heat-welded multifilament braided nylon strings. String tension — 24 pounds. 19" overall length. 275 grams. Full two-year racquet frame warranty. Full ninety-day racquet string warranty.

EKTELON



The Flex™

Ektelon's most flexible racquet — designed for the control game player.

- Special I-Beam frame extrusion for pinpoint control and accuracy
- Combines strength of aluminum with flexibility of fiberglass
- Longer tear drop head shape for more power, larger sweet spot, and greater control

Raised, stitched brown leather grip. Three handle sizes (small 4 1/8", medium 4 5/16", large 4 1/2"). Copertone anodized aluminum frame. Tough vinyl bumper. Bronze spiral heat-welded multifilament nylon strings.

String tension — 28 pounds.

18 3/4" overall length. 275 grams.

Full two-year racquet frame warranty. Full ninety-day

racquet string warranty.

Rogue®

Ektelon's most rigid racquet — designed for power and durability.

- Unmilled frame for maximum strength
- Rigid construction for power stroke
- Longer tear drop head shape for additional power, larger sweet spot, and greater control

Raised, stitched brown leather grip. Three handle sizes (small 4 1/8", medium 4 5/16", large 4 1/2"). Red anodized aluminum frame.

Tough vinyl bumper. Red spiral heat-welded multifilament nylon strings. String tension — 25 pounds. 18 1/4" overall length.

275 grams. Full two-year

racquet frame warranty. Full

ninety-day racquet string

warranty.



The Demon™

Ektelon's junior model — the shortest, lightest racquet in the Ektelon line.

- Especially designed for racket-ball players 15 years or younger
- Special modified rectangular head shape with large hitting surface
- Now available in the new super-small as well as small and extra small handle sizes
- Tough aluminum construction for durability

Flat perforated leather grip. Three handle sizes (super-small 31¹/₁₆" , extra small 31⁵/₁₆" , and small 41⁵/₁₆"). Green anodized aluminum frame. Tough vinyl bumper. Green spiral heat-welded multifilament nylon strings. String tension — 22 pounds. 17¹/₂" overall length. 240 grams. Full two-year racquet frame warranty. Full ninety-day racquet string warranty.

EKTELON

Ektelon Action Racquetball Accessories

For safety, racquet maintenance or pure convenience, Ektelon accessories are the best in the sport.

Players who really care about racquetball won't stop with just a racquet. Ektelon provides them with a full line of stylish, practical, well-designed accessories that will improve their game, make it safer, or just provide a great way for toting gear. Each of these accessories proudly bears the Ektelon name — the name that stands for quality materials, expert craftsmanship . . . and racquet ball itself.

Ektelon Racquetball Eyeguard 1.

Safeguards eyes and bridge of nose. 6-part padding set allows customized fit for any facial anatomy. Special tint reduces glare. Allows full vision. Includes headband. Made in USA.

Ektelon Racquetball Goggles 2.

Made of tough, molded polycarbonate plastic. Impact and pierce resistant. Provides extra wrap-around protection. Lightweight construction. Adjustable



Ektelon Bumper Replacements

Flexible non-cracking vinyl. Can be trimmed to customize racquet balance.

Ektelon Wrist Cord Replacements

Tough nylon cords. Heat-sealed ends to prevent fraying. Easy to install



Bumper and Wrist Cord Combo

Wrist cord and bumper in one convenient package.



New Ektelon String Packages

headband. Allows optimum peripheral vision. Made in France.

Ektelon Fashion Eye Protector 3.

Stylish design, play-tested, specially engineered for racquetball players . . . the latest in eye protection. Impact-resistant opthalmic lens is completely distortion free. Highly flexible lightweight designer frame can accommodate your own lens prescription and is especially treated to prevent cracking. Extra-strength stainless steel hinges. Design allows full peripheral vision. Equipped with safety strap and carrying case. Made in USA.



New White Canvas Custom-Court Bag

Classic combination of custom engineering, versatility and style. Made of white heavyweight cloth canvas and top grade "Denver Gold" vinyl. Comes with sturdy strap handles. Optional removable padded shoulder strap for extra convenience. Two full length top zippers for easy access to main compartment and separate top-load "wet" pocket. Measures 19" x 9". Made in USA.

Racquetballer Bag 4.

The big, roomy Racquetballer, made of brown Uniroyal Ranchide® expanded vinyl, offers side breather vents and a waterproof zippered pocket within the bag. Measures 20" x 10½". Made in USA.

New Racquet Tote Bag 5.

Hand-crafted from smart 18-ounce earth-tone canvas duck cloth and trimmed in rugged Ranchide® expanded vinyl. Plastic-lined zippered side pocket serves as "wet" compartment. Racquet pocket on opposite side is roomy enough to hold two racquets. Comes complete with detachable shoulder strap. Measures 18" x 7" x 11". Made in USA.

New Racquetball Sport Bag 6.

Ruggedly handsome chocolate brown bag made of heavy water-repellent 18-ounce canvas duck cloth. Big full-length top zipper accommodates all racquet lengths. Separate interior "wet" pocket is accessible from zippered side. Breather vents at each end. Fully collapsible for locker storage. Measures 19" x 10". Made in USA.



Ektelon All Pro Bag 7. This popular blue and yellow vinyl racquetball bag features a zippered compartment for racquets and clothes, plus a separate zippered bottom-entry "wet" pocket. Measures 19" x 11".



Fundamentals of Racquetball

Great for beginners, this fully illustrated handbook covers grips, strokes, serves, returns, strategy, rules and terminology. Good for intermediate brush-ups, too.



Racquet Covers

Bright, sturdy expanded vinyl covers look smart, protect racquet heads and strings. Brown cover is standard with the Magnum and MagnumFlex. The XL Bill Schmidtke comes with a black cover. In addition, there are the standard Ektelon covers: aztec brown, black, and white with blue trim. Available to fit every head shape in the Ektelon line. All made in USA.



Ektelon Leather Grips

Top-quality flat leather and top quality raised, stitched leather. Brown Raised, Dark Brown Raised, Burgundy Raised, Black Flat, Dark Brown Flat, and Brown Perforated Flat. (Consult racquet section of this catalog for suggested grip for individual racquet frame.)

Ektelon Rubber Grips

Any Ektelon Racquet can be customized with special rubber grips developed exclusively for racquetball by Ektelon. Black, Red, Brown, Blue.

Heat-welded multifilament nylon racquetball strings in a variety of colors. Each package contains 8.5 meters of strong, resilient, long-wearing string. Enough to string one racquet. Braided: neutral, black, bronze. Spiral: red, blue, green and bronze. (Consult racquet section of this catalog for suggested string for individual racquet frame.)



New Ektelon Wrist Tether

Complete wrap-around engineering for strength and security. Easily attaches to any racquet safety cord for an extra margin of safety and freedom of movement. Comfortable, waterproof and washable. Velcro strap makes adjustment and attachment quick and convenient. Special cloth backing for extra absorbency. Made in USA.



Ektelon Racquetball Challenge Ladders

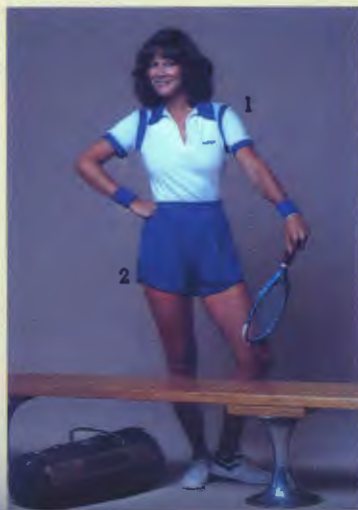
Handsome cabinetry sets off the Oak Challenge Ladder (35" x 33½" x 5½") which features a plexiglass front. Comes complete with name cards and mounting hardware. Sturdy Plastic Challenge Ladder (31" x 32") comes complete with easy-to-use name cards.

EKTELON

Ektelon Racquetball Sportswear

The best in every way —
style, fabric, and quality.

The same characteristics that have distinguished Ektelon racquets are now part of an exciting and expanded line of sportswear, designed to keep both men and women comfortable and ready for action. Ektelon has an extensive selection of men's and women's shirts, shorts, warmups and accessories made expressly with the racquetball player in mind.



Ektelon Collared Shirt 7.

Classic court wear from Ektelon. This smart buttoned collared shirt features La Coste-style knit pre-shrunk cotton for body and durability. Moves with the racquetball player to provide complete comfort and freedom of action. Color coordinated to match our Ektelon shorts. Six colors: navy, yellow, white, tan, light green, and light blue. Sizes XS, S, M, L, XL. Made in USA.

Ektelon Shorts 8.

100% double-knit stretch nylon for durability and lightweight comfort. Slit-side racquetball design. Now available in six new Ektelon colors: royal blue, white, brown, kelly green, light blue, and gold.

New Women's Racquetball Shirt 1.

Action-designed especially for women racquetball players. Features stylish color trim at shoulder, collar, and on small set-in sleeve. Attractive open v-neckline with collar. Color-fast action-stretch fabric of the finest 50/50 cotton polyester interlock is machine washable. Embroidered Ektelon logo. White with bright navy trim or white with sunshine yellow trim. S, M, L, XL. Made in USA.

New Women's Sport Shorts 2.

Specially designed, sized and knitted to Ektelon's specifications, these comfortable, flair-legged action shorts are designed for complete freedom of movement. Stylish side vents. Multi-needle waistband. Made of action-stretch interlock of 50/50 cotton polyester. Embroidered Ektelon logo. Machine washable and color-fast. Available in sunshine yellow, bright navy or white. S, M, L, XL. Made in USA.



Women's Racquet Tee 3.

Understated elegance in an action-designed top. Softly flattering scoop neck with matching bias binding and hemmed short sleeves add a feminine touch to this ready-for-action 50/50 cotton polyester shirt. Embroidered Ektelon logo. Available in sunshine yellow and bright navy. Machine washable. Color-fast. S, M, L, XL. Made in USA.



New Women's Fashion Warmup 4.

This beautifully tailored warmup is slim, smart and functional both on and off the court. All new extra-light 50 polyester/50 acetate Exer-Lene™ fabric makes this a perfect racquetball warmup. Sleek shiny outside, with brushed-back fleecy softness inside. Two zippered jacket pockets. Crew-style collar. Completely machine washable and color-fast. Embroidered Ektelon logo. White with blue trim and yellow piping on sleeve and pants leg. Five sizes: XS, S, M, L, XL. Made in USA.



Ektelon T-Shirt 5.

The Ektelon trademark t-shirt is heavyweight 100% cotton. High crew-style collar. Completely machine washable. Now available in five colors: yellow, navy, light blue, red and light brown. S, M, L, XL. Made in USA.



New Men's Racquetball Warmup 6.

A warmup made expressly for active racquetballers. Designed, knitted, and sized to Ektelon's exacting specifications. Medium-weight Exer-Lene™ 50 polyester/50 acetate fabric provides complete maneuverability. Brushed-back inside for extra comfort. Sleek bright navy outside features handsome yellow trim and white piping on sleeve and pants leg. Embroidered Ektelon logo. Five sizes available: XS, S, M, L, XL. Color-fast fabric is machine washable. Made in USA.

Non-roll multi-needle waistband. Machine washable. XS, S, M, L, XL. Sized for both men and women. Made in USA.



New Women's Sport Shirt 9.

Sophisticated collared shirt designed to coordinate with new women's shorts. Open v-neckline. Raglan-style sleeve with set-in shoulder stripe of contrasting color. 50/50 cotton polyester blend is delicate, yet durable. Hemmed at bottom and sleeves. Embroidered Ektelon logo. Machine washable and color-fast. Available in sunshine yellow with blue stripe or bright navy with yellow stripe. S, M, L, XL. Made in USA.

Women's Racquet-Shorts 10.

Trimly tailored for fit, slightly flared for action, these 50/50 cotton polyester shorts are color coordinated with Ektelon's Racquet-Tees and Sport-Shirts to create attractive outfits. Non-roll elastic waistband, hemmed bottom, and action side vents. Embroidered Ektelon logo. Completely machine washable. Color-fast, of course. Available in sunshine yellow, bright navy, and white. S, M, L, XL. Made in USA.



EKTELON

Ektelon Model DE Stringing Machine

An important Ektelon decision: To make the best stringer in the industry.

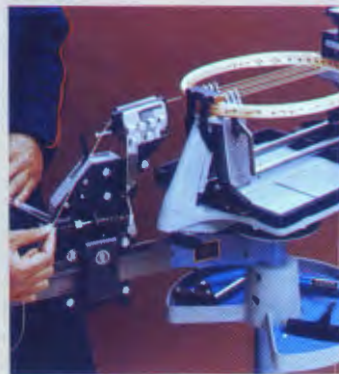
Since its introduction, the Ektelon Stringing Machine has been the standard by which all machines are judged. Our Model "DE" is so well designed and so meticulously constructed that it comes with a five-year warranty on workmanship and materials. Completely solid on its base, yet weighs only 48 pounds . . . light enough to be moved with ease. So simple, fast, and accurate, it has become a standard choice for production stringing. And now it's improved. Ektelon has built in a new mechanism for easier reading of tensions in one-pound increments.

For easier stringing of rackets with over-sized heads, all Ektelon Model DE Stringing Machines now feature extended glide bars as standard equipment.



Fast

String up to five rackets an hour with quick acting frame clamps and an automatic tensioning unit which eliminates time-consuming hand clamping. Operators can be trained in a short period of time.



Accurate

Measures exact string tension from 10 to 80 pounds. The self-tightening clamp on the tensioning unit automatically grasps and releases string as required, while keeping it at the proper tension.



Easy

A 5 lb. pull on the tensioning handle produces a 60 lb. tension in the string. String clamps operate with fingertip pressure and are easily adjustable to handle different string gauges.

Model DE Accessories

The following items may be ordered to make stringing with the Model DE Stringing Machine even easier.



Inside Hanger Attachment Kit

Adapts the stringing machine to Wilson T-Series tennis rackets and makes even this tough stringing job easier.



Badminton String Clamps

Add these for your most delicate stringing job.



Our pedestal machine is easily converted to a 35-pound portable tabletop unit through removal of the weighted steel column and tool tray.



Our cabinet model (DEC) comes with a handsome steel storage cabinet/base, which provides an ideal place for storing tools and string. The base is also available separately for converting any Ektelon stringer to a cabinet model.

The Model DE Stringing Machine can be used to string all rackets including the Wilson T-Series, oversized head rackets, racquetball, badminton and squash rackets. Complete operating instructions are furnished with each machine.



Oversized Head Adapter

Attaches easily to simplify stringing of Prince and other oversized head rackets. For pre-May 1977 Ektelon Machines.



Tension Calibration Gauge

Use this precision gauge to check accuracy when recalibrating stringer tension head.



Pound Tension Adapter

For updating pre-June 1977 model stringers. Enables operator to more easily read tension in 1 lb. increments.



Racket Stringer Manual

The most complete guide to racket stringing. Includes history of racket sports, types of rackets and strings, diagrams, stringing and grip installation instructions.

Ektelon Advisory Staff

Wherever incredible shots are made or major tournaments are won, you'll find Ektelon . . . in the hands of outstanding players like:

EKTELON®



Jerry Hilecher
1976 IRA National Professional Champion. Consistently ranked in top four . . . always a threat for #1. 1976 IRA male professional athlete of the year. Co-designer of the tournament **Hilecher** racquet.

Jennifer Harding
1978 NRC National Professional Finalist. Winner 1978 NRC St. Louis Pro Tour Opener. 1976 NRC National Doubles Champion. **Jennifer Harding** racquet named in her honor.

Bill Schmidtke
1971 & 1974 IRA National Professional Champion. 1978 NRC Senior Champion. A seasoned pro and namesake of the popular **XL Bill Schmidtke** racquet.

Mike Yellen
Youngest of the touring pros. Semi-finalist 1978 I-PRO National Championships. Finalist in 1977 IRA and NRC National Juniors. Semi-finalist 1978 NRC and probable candidate for Rookie of the Year

Jerry Zuckerman
Voted IRA Player of the Year in 1977. 1977 IRA and NRC National Open Champion. Just completed an impressive rookie year as a pro.

Wayne Bowes
Four time Canadian National Open Singles Champion. Canada's most respected, serious competitor.

Jeff Bowman
1978 NRC National Amateur Champion. Well-known for his power game. Predicted by experts to jump high in pro rankings this year.

Jeff Larson
1977 IRA National Junior Champion. Ready to explode into national competition. One of the hardest hitters in the game.

Rita Hoff
Highly ranked competitor on the women's professional circuit. An exceptional power player and always a fierce opponent.

Jan Pasternak
Winner of the 1971 and 1972 IRA National Open titles. An outstanding teacher and racquetball spokeswoman.

**11033 Quail Creek Road
Oklahoma City, OK
405-751-5950 ext. "Racquetball
Central"**

**I.R.A. Mid Atlantic Regionals*
Capitol Courts
c/o Ed Remen
P.O. Box 218
Sterling, VA 22170**

**Iowa State Championships
Tournament Director:
Bernie Nielsen
1311 A. Ave.
Vinton, IO 52349
319-472-3637**

**May 4-6
Washington State Closed Singles
Tumwater Valley Racquetball Club
Tumwater, Washington
Tournament Director:
Jim Odegard
206-352-3400**

**Town & Country
Gig Harbor, Washington
Tournament Director: Gary Hansen
206-858-9115**

**Milwaukee City B, C, & Novice
Championships*
Tournament Director:
Tom Radai, Jr.
2613 S. 51st St.
Milwaukee, WI 53219**

**Kansas State Doubles*
Tournament Director: Bill Branta
304 W. 28th St.
Hutchinson, KS 67501**

**May 24-28
International Racquetball
Association World Amateur
Singles Championships*
Supreme Courts Sports Center
3315 Spring Mountain Rd.
Las Vegas, Nevada 85102**

**Association's National Juniors
Championships*
Memphis, Tennessee
Supreme Courts
Tournament Director:
Ed Martin, Steve Boren**

**July 18-21
Klondike Canadian Open
Edmonton, Alberta
Attn: Fred E. Small,
Veep Edmonton Racquetball
Association**

**August 17-19
I.R.A. Masters Invitational
Doubles*
Tournament Director:
Ivan Bruner
608-271-3131
Supreme Courts
Madison, WI**

***I.R.A. sanctioned tournaments**

CALENDAR

inherent deformities in the foot itself. Bunions fall into this category. One example would be a case where the great toe leans toward the second toe with the inside of the joint protruding outward. This causes an abnormal gait and an increase in the stress necessary for the foot to function properly, all of which adds up to a considerable amount of pain. Corns and callouses can also come about in this fashion, along with heel, metatarsal (in the ball of the foot), ankle and knee pain.

Any one of these maladies is generally discomforting enough to send you hobbling to the nearest podiatrist. Once you get there, he will probably recommend the use of a rigid or semi-rigid orthotic device that can be worn in your shoe. These devices reduce the inherent foot imbalance and alleviate the pain-causing stress. The foot is then able to function more efficiently, which means you can chase down more of those screaming cross-court kills. (So much for the old "aching bunions" excuse.)

But what about more serious foot injuries, the heavy stuff that is the basis for much of the lore of podiatrists' offices and athletes' locker rooms? Well, all of these varied and sundry complaints can essentially be summed up in three words: strains, sprains and fractures. Strains affect muscles and tendons (such as the Achilles tendon), sprains usually

befall the ligaments and fractures involve tiny bones in the feet, most commonly one of the lesser metatarsal bones.

All of these injuries result from stress. This stress may be acute, as when you twist your ankle while diving to make a return, or chronic, due to an inherent foot imbalance. Hairline fractures, for example, are caused by continual, abnormal stress on a bone.

Sprains and strains fall into three categories. A first degree sprain or strain is a slight tear in a ligament or tendon (often called tendonitis). It is best treated with ice (to reduce swelling), elevation (to drain fluid) and two to three days rest. The second degree injury involves a larger tear in the tendon or ligament and requires a longer period for healing. It must be watched carefully, for if treated improperly it may lead to a complete rupture. Such a rupture constitutes a third degree injury, and it is strictly bad news. Treatment involves staying off the foot for 24 to 48 hours and either four to six weeks in a cast or a surgical procedure to repair the injury.

What should you do if you sustain an injury? First of all, get off your feet. If you happen to be on the court at the time and can't make it to the locker room, the court floor will do just fine. (You may have little choice in the matter, anyway.) The worst thing you can do is to try to prove how brave you are by continuing

to play. You may have sustained a minor injury, such as a slight pull or bruise, that will respond to a few minutes rest. So stop and check yourself out.

If there is a great deal of pain, or if you're certain of a fairly severe injury, you should immediately elevate your foot and apply ice to the injured area. After 30 to 45 minutes, wrap the foot with an elastic bandage extending well above and below the point of injury. If the pain is still severe and it's very difficult or impossible to walk, seek immediate professional treatment.

If, however, you are able to walk and the pain is mild, then keep the bandage on the foot and seek professional treatment if there is no improvement within 24 hours. If the injury is only a bit sore at that point, heat and rest are recommended until the symptoms disappear. Remember, every foot injury—even a minor one—must be treated with respect. Otherwise, the next time around it will be much worse.

Of course, if you follow the advice mentioned here—using proper footwear, warm-up exercises and any necessary orthotic devices—there may never be a next time, or even a first time. Foot care is like an investment in the future: the more you put into it, the more you get out of it. Your feet are certainly worth the effort. After all, where else could you find two more compatible sole mates? ■

Davey Bledsoe - Wilson Sporting Goods Racquetball Ranch at Steamboat Athletic Club

Combine a great family vacation in the Rocky Mountains with a week of the best racquetball instruction available! Davey Bledsoe, 1977 National Racquetball Champion, leads in-depth court and classroom instruction as well as "extra curricular" activities.



Your week here will by no means be all racquetball. Summer in Steamboat Springs is famous for the many activities available in our mountains. Enjoy fine restaurants, hiking, fishing, golfing, tennis, rafting, swimming, horseback riding, and gondola rides. Babysitting is provided so that everyone can participate!

DATES: July 29-August 4, August 5-11,
August 12-18, August 19-25

COST: \$235/student. Room rates start at \$60/week. Luxurious condos all have fully equipped kitchens, fireplaces, balconies, along with a spectacular mountain view.

For more information call or write: **Davey Bledsoe Racquetball Ranch, Steamboat Athletic Club**, Box 1566, Steamboat Springs, CO. 80477. 303-879-1036.

RACQUETBALL WITHOUT THE WALLS.™



Now! Driveways, parking lots and parks all across the nation will be turned into racquetball courts.

Racquetball Without the Walls™ is here.

Plays, feels, sounds like the real thing.

The key to it all is the J-Ball™. It's a big breakthrough that gives the playing qualities of a regulation racquetball in a "pressureless" ball with a design so unique a patent has been applied for. Same size, same weight, same liveliness of a racquetball but made to resist wear on even the roughest surface.

The super stretch band connected to the anchor block gives the same rebounding action as court walls.

Racquetball Without the Walls is endorsed by the International Racquetball Association.®

The set includes two pro-quality racquets.

The Game Set and Trainer includes:

- 2 pro-quality racquets • J-Ball with nylon yoke on 12-foot super stretch band • Spare stretch band • Anchor block with non-slip pad
- Illustrated training book with pro tips

The racquets alone are worth the price of the entire set. Professional features include aluminum frame and aluminum eyelets, Hy Sheep strings, real leather grips, professional construction balanced for pro play.

RACQUETBALL WITHOUT THE WALLS. SUGGESTED RETAIL

Complete game set \$35.00
or set without racquets \$11.99



BY **JOKARI**®

JOKARI/US, Inc., 4715 McEwen
Dallas, Texas 75234 (214) 233-5541



PHOTOGRAPH BY ALAN ULMER

DYNAMIC DUO

John Dunlap is a small guy, thin but muscular and hard. His dark hair, wet now from perspiration, curls down across his forehead. He's just finished a hard match and his face is flushed from the effort. Smoothing his dapper blunt-cut mustache with a forefinger, he turns his attention to the match his brother, Keith, is playing on one of the glass-walled racquetball courts at Memphis State University's physical education complex. With one eye on his brother and the other on a couple of coeds in the viewing stands, John talks confidently about his plans for the future.

"I'm working on my master's degree in physical education (at Memphis State) now and after that I'll probably get a job in one of the universities teaching racquetball. With my background, I should have no trouble getting a job."

No trouble indeed. After all, as John says, his credentials for such a position are in a word, impeccable. Before graduating from Memphis State last year, John Dunlap virtually dominated singles competition in college racquetball. He won the International Racquetball Association's "A" singles intercollegiate championship two years running, in both 1977 and 1978, making him the only player to accomplish that feat. In the process, he racked up an impressive list of trophies

and awards, so many in fact, that neither John nor Memphis State officials have any idea just how many there are.

Keith, the other half of the Dunlap duo, is also a formidable foe on the racquetball court. In 1977, while John was winning his first national "A" singles championship, Keith was winning the "B" singles title. (Of course, Keith Dunlap is not now and probably never was a "B" player. It's just that Memphis State has so many "A" class players that rules force them to drop a man into the "B" bracket.) Now, after taking a year off from school, Keith has returned to Memphis State and is being touted as the next star on a team that has ruled the roost in college racquetball for the past four years. Before he is finished at Memphis State, Keith may write a whole new chapter in the remarkable story of the Dunlap brothers.

* * *

Keith is still smashing the ball against the wall and clearly giving his opponent the worst of it. Yet, he doesn't seem to be working very hard. He appears relaxed, almost nonchalant. His body control is so natural that you have to watch his face to get a feeling for the intensity with which he plays. He's hitting the ball so hard that his opponent jerks from one side of the court to the

Memphis State's Dazzling Dunlaps • By Perry Hall

Keith is quick, aggressive; he takes chances. John, on the other hand, is very deliberate and calculating; he plans his moves.

other chasing shots.

John watches it all with a knowing eye. He brought his brother into the game and knows that Keith is very, very good. In a way, John is Keith's mentor.

John, 24, began playing racquetball just four years ago when he came to Memphis State. He'd played tennis for a couple of years and one day his tennis partner talked him into strapping on one of the short racquets. "I loved it immediately," he recalls. "But then, I don't know anyone who has played that doesn't love it."

So, at age 20, John began playing racquetball regularly. He started watching top-notch players like former Memphis State star, Steve Smith, who won the collegiate "A" singles championship during John's first year of play.

"I was lucky enough to have players around the school who were good," John says, "so I started imitating them. You know, like a lot of people play for years, just banging the ball against the wall and they never really get any better. But I imitated the good ones, incorporating what I could to get my strokes and strategy down."

He was certainly in the right place to learn. Since 1975, Memphis State's dominance of intercollegiate competition has been amazing. In "A" and "B" competition in both the men's and women's divisions, the team has garnered 15 individual championships. The men's team, meanwhile, captured the overall men's championship three of the last four years. In fact, Memphis State has placed either first or second in the men's team competition for five of the last six years.

Playing at Memphis State, then, gave John the opportunity to learn from some of the best collegiate players in the country. He caught on fast. He noticed, for example, how much time the top players spent on the court alone.

"I got where I wasn't satisfied just returning the ball," John says. "So

hour after hour, every day, for hundreds of hours, I'd get out there by myself. Just learning to hit the ball down low—killing it into the corners, placing my ceiling shots. Talk about boring, man, now that's boring. But it makes you consistent."

According to Memphis State's racquetball coach, Larry Liles, John's long hours of practice paid off. "John has learned to play all types of players," Liles says. "He plays a super smart game, a conservative game. He hits perfect ceiling shots, so if a guy's not patient or if he's not a defensive player, then he's in trouble with John. Usually, John has the patience to wait, and he's so accurate that when he does get the chance he'll put the ball away."

Standing now watching Keith and his opponent share a joke on the court, John confirms Liles' assessment of his playing style. "I'm a control player," he explains, adjusting the towel around his neck. "I don't have any tremendous shots, but I'm very well-rounded."

"Say I'm playing a shooter and he's beating me 12 to 4. He's outshooting me and he's out-hustling me. The pace is very fast. So, I have to break his momentum by hitting a lot of ceiling balls. That way, he's not breaking up front for shots to rekill. If he gets impatient, then I take advantage of that. He doesn't roll it out and then I rekill it."

Out on the court, Keith and his opponent have started playing again. The game continues in about the same fashion as before the brief break. Keith is still smashing the ball with awesome power and his opponent is still bouncing from wall to wall, like some two-legged version of a racquetball. John watches for a while and then turns away. A thought has occurred to him.

"I'll tell you what makes us (the Memphis State team) so tough," he says with an air of certainty. "It's competitive play. Of course, Memphis is a hot spot for racquetball, but the team at

the university is so good because we travel to as many tournaments as possible. We might play in a dozen tournaments. Like, you have other players at (the University of) Illinois who are good, but they don't get to go on the road as much. They really don't get the chance to develop that competitive mentality."

He thinks about that for a second, turning back to watch his brother crack deafening shots off the back wall, and then continues. "The caliber of play in the colleges is not that great right now. I outclassed the entire field for the last two years. The competition just wasn't there."

"Actually, I got harder competition in the amateur regional or nationals. By the time I got to the National Inter-collegiates, it was the easiest tournament of the year."

Coming from anyone else, this would sound like bragging. But John says it calmly, dispassionately, even managing to sound a bit offhanded about the whole thing. There's no breaking the arm for a pat on the back. Considering his record, he doesn't have to.

"I'm not very serious," Keith Dunlap says. "I really haven't gotten down to serious training."

His match over, Keith has taken a breather to prepare for his next game. He's taller than John, and bulkier. His style of play is also vastly different from his brother's. Keith is a shooter with devastating power. He's quick, aggressive; he takes chances. John's game, on the other hand, is very deliberate and calculating; he plans his moves.

It's much the same off the court, as well. Keith is the more spontaneous and unpredictable of the two, something which both brothers apparently recognize. At one point, as Keith is walking towards us after his match, John interrupts a serious discussion about his own plans and points to his brother. "Now he's a whole different story. You ask him what he's going to do *next week* and he won't know." So I ask him. "I don't know," Keith says with a shrug and a sideways, knowing glance at his brother.

Keith's wanderlust led to his dropping out of school after his first year at Memphis State. Undecided about what he wanted to do with his life, he took a job as a teaching pro at a court club in Jacksonville, Florida.

"I finally realized that being a teaching pro wasn't all it was cracked up to be," Keith says now. "Just because you're around racquetball all the time

doesn't necessarily mean you're going to have fun. It's still a lot of hard work. I had time to think and more or less get my head together. I knew I had to have an education. Plus, I wasn't playing as much or as good as I had here in Memphis." So, much to the delight of Liles and Memphis area racquetball fans, Keith returned to Memphis State. He was subsequently awarded the first racquetball scholarship given by the university.

Keith started playing racquetball when he was 16, tagging along to the Memphis State courts with John. Soon, Keith was sneaking in to play when John wasn't around to front for him. Nowadays, Keith fronts for himself.

"Keith will be a force at Memphis State for the next three years," predicts Coach Liles. "He rips the ball and has fluid drive. He moves all over the court and it's real showy. At times, he can be so successful that he'll blow you off the court and the game is over before you can even get started."

Keith has become so good, in fact, that he has even defeated John during a number of matches in tournament competition. The score in this sibling rivalry currently stands tied at 3 to 3, with Keith picking up his third win against John last month in the finals of the Memphis city championships.

The Dunlaps put such matters aside, however, when they join forces to play as a doubles team. Then they become in their words, "strictly business," and very good businessmen at that. The pair won the Tennessee state doubles championship last year along with the doubles championship at the Jacksonville (Fla.) Invitational Tournament. They also placed third last year in the United States Racquetball Association's national doubles championships in Detroit.

"We've been playing together for about two years," John explains. "Previously, I'd been playing with other doubles partners because at the time Keith wasn't in my league. He wasn't as good as he is now. So, about two years ago, we decided to play together. Like I said, I realized that Keith was going to be good, so I picked him up early and stuck with him." John laughs while Keith feigns boredom, as if he's heard it all before. "Good strategy move by me," John says, laughing harder. Keith finally smiles as his brother adds, "He was the weak link, but look at him now: he's a big gun."

Keith returns to the court for another game. Soon, the "bok-bok" sound of the racquetball fills the air. Keith is a

marvel to watch. He makes shots and returns that seem on the face of it impossible. Watching him play, you're suddenly glad to be on the outside looking in. His opponent probably wishes he were, too.

When Keith rejoins us after blitzing his opponent, the conversation turns to a serious vein. What do you do for an encore when you're a star at age 20?

"I have no idea what I'm going to do," Keith says predictably. "I'm a sophomore and people keep asking, 'When are you gonna turn pro, when are you gonna turn pro?' The only reason I'd turn pro is to play better competition. I'd like to remain amateur and play pros, but let them turn the winnings over to the school."

John, on the other hand, wanted to turn pro this year. He placed fourth in the IRA's National Amateur championships last year and thought that would be enough to make some of the sponsors notice him. So far, though, nothing has come of it.

Even if John does break into the pro ranks, his problems could be just beginning. Though an excellent player, John doesn't have the power game that is the strong point of many of the current pro players. Could he stand up under the blistering attack of power-hitting pros? Also, since John hasn't qualified in enough tournaments to be seeded on the pro tour, he'd probably end up playing some of the best pro players in the first rounds of a tournament. Imagine a situation in which a novice pro faces Marty Hogan in his very first game, a prospect bound to unnerve even the most confident player.

Still, as Liles says, John is probably good enough to "beat a lot of the pros right now." In 1977, for example, he played the number three-ranked pro, Richie Wagner, for all he was worth, finally losing the match 21-19, 21-15.

"I don't really know how well I'd do on the circuit," John says, "but I'd at least like to give it a try. The caliber of

play in the pros is a thousand per cent over college players, but not so much over the amateurs. I think the top 10 amateurs could all be borderline pros right now." As one of the top amateur players around, John obviously includes himself in that assessment.

Both Dunlaps maintain that not all pro players represent the best racquetball being played in America. Often, they say, it's simply the ability to line up a sponsor that determines whether a player turns pro. Travel costs are too prohibitive for most players to finance their own careers on the circuit.

John tells of one pro player who never won any money on the pro circuit for two years, but was able to continue playing because he had a sponsor. "He paid his \$50 entry fee, made every pro stop and never won a match," John says. Keith adds his agreement: "Both of us play him and beat him. So, it's deceptive. He's the worst of the best." They laugh together.

"Yeah," John says. "If we turn pro now, we might win the first round this year. In two years we might make the quarterfinals." This statement makes Keith turn away from some girls he's been eyeing. "Come on, no, I don't believe that at all," he breaks in. "I believe that if I turned (pro) right now, I'd be in the quarters and semifinals in a year."

He stares hard at John, who backs off from his first prediction with, "Okay, well, maybe so but . . ."

Keith gives a sour face, shaking his head a bit. Suddenly, they seem typically brothers, typically ready to argue.

"I mean," Keith continues, sitting up straighter, still indignant about what he perceives as John's underestimation of their talents. "I'm not bragging, but . . ."

"Yeah, sure . . .," John smiles and shrugs. Keith smiles, too. They end up laughing together again. It's easy to put your differences aside when you're on top. ■

**"Keith will be a force at Memphis State for the next three years."
—MSU Coach Larry Liles**

Why I designed a superb court panel

Just as every player strives for consistency, so are his demands for court playability. That's why I designed a superb court panel.

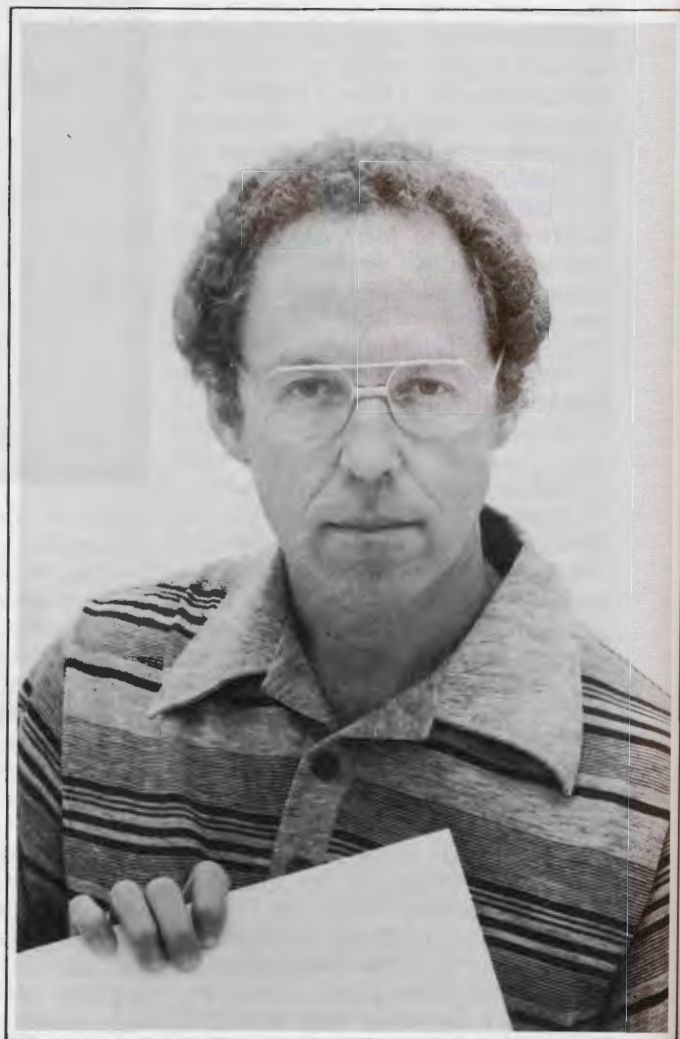
Being a player and an owner of court clubs, I designed the M-M Panel with the player and owner in mind.

M-M Panel plays just like concrete. Every bounce is true. I tried to make the ball bounce different than concrete, but it was super. And, the new insulating, sound-deadening properties are the state-of-the-art.

For the court owner, M-M Panel has put together playability, durability, aesthetics, convertibility and minimal maintenance all in one system. The results are great savings in money over a long period of time.

The pros and I accept the panel as the playing surface of the future. Here is a panel system which will revolutionize court construction at a level everybody can afford.

Call or write M-M Court Systems today!



Dr. Bud Muehleisen
1978 International Racquetball Association
Masters Singles Champion

A handwritten signature of Bud Muehleisen in dark ink.

**For the best panel, the best price and the best
consulting service, call or write now.**

M-M Court Systems

2340 Tampa Avenue

El Cajon, California 92020

714/697-1344

A LADIES' LARK

THE WOMEN '79 TOURNAMENT

Women from throughout New England converged on Boston last February. Drawn by the IRA's New England Open Racquetball Championships for Women (otherwise known as the Women '79 Tournament), 144 players from 11 eastern states took part in the largest all-woman's racquetball tournament ever held on the east coast.

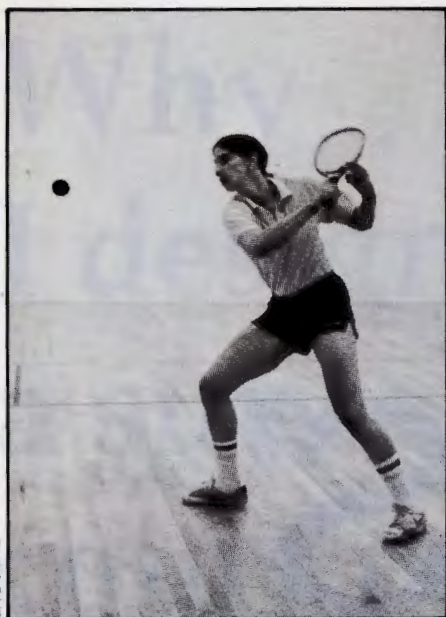
They played in five divisions (Open, B, C, Novice, and Seniors 35+) at Boston Tennis Club's new nine-court racquetball facility. The women's high degree of enthusiasm for the tournament and racquetball in general reflected the phenomenal growth of women's racquetball over the last few years.

Massachusetts player, Gail Cone, remembers having to play against men in her first tournament in 1975 because

there were no divisions for women. This year, by contrast, 50 women competed in the women's divisions of the IRA's Massachusetts State Singles Championships in January, while 80 women participated in the Mid-South Women's Open in Greensboro, N.C. The Women '79 Tournament, sponsored by Natural Light beer, February 23-25, represented the next step towards the development of quality tournament competition for women.

Originally set up to accommodate 125 players, the competition drew such a large response that Tournament Director, Carol Mason, finally had to refuse 12 entrants. "It was fantastic," Mason said. "I never expected to be oversubscribed, especially since our first New England women-only tournament (Women '78) drew only 42 participants."

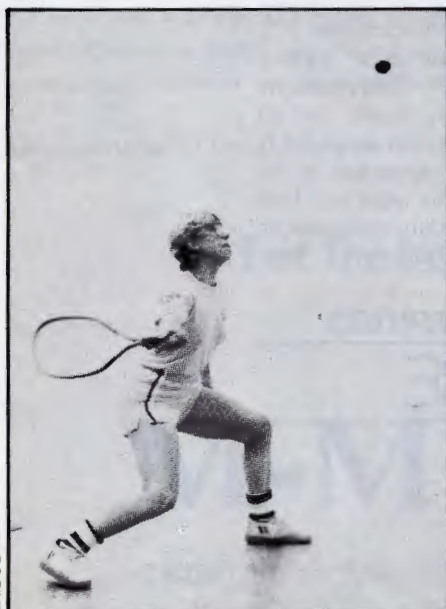
BY MARTHA LEPORE



Cindy Alba



Paula Schlueter



Mary Green (Senior Division)

Anyone watching the various matches through the glass back-walled courts at Boston Tennis Club that February weekend had to be impressed with the players' commitment to the sport. Several first-time competitors exhibited the determination of veteran players. Each woman on the court seemed to have at least one friend outside who would cheer her on, sometimes even providing the "force" which gave a losing player the moral support to turn the score around.

Frequently a husband or boyfriend would be seen among the spectators. A few husbands coached their wives. "That a way, baby! Points, Babe! Roll it!" bellowed one husband to his wife during the "A" division quarter-finals. Other husbands stood or sat quietly by, some holding up small children to watch their mothers play.

Again and again both winner and loser emerged from the court smiling. Again and again the love of the sport, the chance to play and the sheer exhilaration of competing seemed to be more important than winning itself.

Played Like the Pros: 'A' Division

Several matches proved as exciting as any seen on the pro circuit. One was a tense, action filled semi-final between "A" division player Cindy Alba, the IRA Massachusetts state singles champion from Rockland, and Margo Chase-Wells from Middletown, Conn. The pair had met twice before in other tournaments and had split in very close matches.

In the first game, after a few moments of early jitters and badly missed kills, the women settled down to their usual skilled cross-courts and difficult to retrieve ceiling shots. The lead changed with almost every service, and neither player was ever more than two points ahead of the other.

Alba, a slender woman of great strength, depended on raw power to intimidate the unflappable Chase-Wells. The latter relied on superior knowledge of soft corner shots to upset the tempo of her opponent.

As the score spiralled toward 20-20, both women approached their coaches for pointers. Finally, after each had had a chance to end the game with alternating services, Alba rolled out a ball from mid-court to win.

During the second game with Alba leading 10-8, Chase-Wells began falling farther and farther behind. Finally, Alba notched the final points to win the game and match, 21-11. As they left the court, both players received sustained applause from the audience in recognition of a well-played match.

Another match of professional caliber was in store for the spectators when Cindy Alba and former Massachusetts state singles champion, Martha Callahan (Melrose, Mass.), duelled in a spellbinding battle of skill and will in the tournament finale. There was standing room only when the game between these titans of women's amateur racquetball began.

In the first game, Callahan (who had reached the finals by the arduous route of several tie-breaking wins) jumped into the lead. Alba battled back to tie the score at 12-12, and from there on the lead seesawed back and forth. Callahan won a spectacular point at 16-all when Alba hit the floor to retrieve a corner shot. Callahan then went sprawling herself as she dove for Alba's return. Both women regained their positions, but Callahan finally took the point with a shot to the back wall. At 20-20, Alba scored on her serve and won the game.

At the outset, the second game looked like a runaway for Alba, but it suddenly turned into a cliff-hanger. Alba had taken a commanding lead and was on the verge of winning when Callahan rallied at 20-13. With relentless, even-tempered determination, Callahan coolly withstood match point after match point and doggedly added point upon point to her own score. Finally, after several turn-overs at 20-18, Alba cut loose with a serve to the backhand court that Callahan skipped to the front wall. Game, match and championship to Cindy Alba!

In losing, Callahan praised Alba. "Whenever we play," she said, "we trust each other and know that the other will call bad shots or hinders on herself. Knowing this, we can concentrate on playing our best. We know that whoever wins is the better player that day." With that kind of class at the top, it's little wonder that amateur women players are on the rise.

Massachusetts Players Win Most Trophies

Understandably, Massachusetts players were in the majority at the tournament, with 91 participants representing 60 per cent of the total entries. They also won 12 of the tournament's 20 trophies.

In the Open or "A" division, as we have seen, Massachusetts women dominated the scene. In addition to the Bay State's Cindy Alba and Martha Callahan, the third place finisher, Cindy Callahan (Martha's sister), was also from Massachusetts. New York City's Marcy Lynch prevented Bay State women from sweeping the Open with her win in the consolation match. Of interest to novices, Lynch has been



playing racquetball for only 15 months.

In the "B" division, gum-chewing Ann Rothberg of West Hartford, Conn., mowed down all opponents, finishing up with a 21-20, 21-6 finals victory over former paddleball player, Susan Wilson (Brooklyn, N.Y.). Sharon Belanger (Topsham, Maine) won third over Alida Kadry-Hull (Cambridge, Mass.) in a tough three-game contest that could have gone either way: 15-21, 21-13, 11-10. In the consolation finals, 15-year-old Robin Wadsworth of Pittsfield, Mass., emerged victorious, but not before she absorbed a speeding ball full in the mouth. What a sandwich that was!

In a field of 44 "C" players, Mary Ann Cluess (Long Island, N. Y.) rose to the top, defeating Chris Georges (Lowell, Mass.) in the finals, 21-12, 21-6. Another Long Islander, Susan Canarick, wearing a fearsome-looking brace on her reconstructed left knee, won third place over Michelle Poirer of Gales Ferry, Conn. Poirer is a highly competitive, can-do player who, like famed Kitty O'Neil, considers her deafness not a handicap but a challenge. Janice Gordon from South Boston, a player for only nine months, topped all in the consolation bracket.

Though it drew few spectators, the Senior division packed plenty of action. Sandra DiNicola (Bridgeport, Conn.)

launched strong attacks on each opponent's game and bested Mimi Kelly (Burlington, Mass.) 21-8, 21-14 in the finals. Showing true grit, Kelly took a stunning racquet blow between the eyes just before match point. Still, after taking her injury time out, she returned to the court to finish the match. Gail Cone (Newtonville, Mass.) placed third, and Susan Redfield (Marblehead, Mass.) took first in the consolation rounds.

Forty-nine players competed in the Novice division, the largest division of the tourney. Debbie Rooney (Stamford, Conn.) hung tough in her three-game final match with Jane Fletcher (Lowell, Mass.) to win first place 21-12, 10-21, 11-3. Cindy Jewett (Southbridge, Mass.) was third, while Dorsey West (Canton, Mass.) took the trophy in the consolation bracket.

Epilog

Overall, the New England Open Racquetball Championships for Women earned accolades from all sides. The enthusiasm and positive approach exhibited by Tourney Director, Carol Mason, and her committee returned 144-fold. Each woman played in at least two matches, received a shirt, had access to free beer and a three-day long

hospitality room, and had a chance to win trophies and door prizes. As one woman said, "It was a steal for the \$15 entry fee."

Beyond these tangibles, though, by the end of the tournament the players possessed something more. Like the colonists before them, the women left their harborside court club having asserted their status as a strong, independent power in the new world of racquetball. Though only 20 packed up trophies, all 144 players left winners. ■

Time Out: Many Thanks

To: Tournament director, Carol Mason, and the entire tournament staff.

To: Dusty Rhodes

To: Conventures, Inc., and Anheuser-Busch, makers of Natural Light beer.

To: The IRA's Massachusetts advisory board, the IRA and the Boston Tennis Club.

To: All participants and all others who helped make the New England Open Championships for Women an outstanding tournament.

ON THE JOB TRAINING

HOW TO BEAT THE 'DESK JOCKEY BLUES'

By Barry Braslow

Frank is a "desk jockey." Every morning he battles rush hour traffic, dodging and weaving between lanes just to arrive at work in one piece. And after a long day, he joins the mass exodus heading out to the suburbs for dinner. In between, like millions of other Americans, Frank spends his nine-to-five parked behind a desk, coping with ringing telephones, paperwork and body fat. And there, as the bard would say, is the rub.

Where Frank would really rather be during the day is on the racquetball court, smashing kill shots and garbage serves. But life being what it is, one must work to eat (and pay court fees). So until recently, Frank had to settle for weekend racquetball matches and an occasional game sneaked in during the week for all of his exercise. Nowadays, however, things are different, because now Frank has begun taking advantage of a whole range of excellent on-the-job exercises.

"People who work in offices can convert their work space into mini-gyms, so to speak, by doing exercises like trunk twists, push-ups and knee bends," says Dr. Roy Schroeder, an exercise physiologist at Memphis State University. "Right now, for example, in countries in the Middle East and Eastern Europe and in Russia, factory workers don't get what is known (here) as a coffee break. Instead, they all line up for some sort of exercise, deep knee bends and such . . . And office workers, whose jobs provide no form of exercise, can also get a good workout which improves their physical condition."

Dr. Schroeder recommends a blend of both isometric and isotonic exercises for workers in an office setting. Isometrics pit muscle against an immovable object and require scant time and space. They improve muscle tone and strength and can be performed while sitting behind a desk or standing. Isotonics, meanwhile, are those exercises which require movement. They stimulate the cardiovascular system, which in most cases

strengthens the heart and improves the circulation. Isotonics can also be done in the office but necessitate space for movement.

In one very simple isometric exercise, you don't even have to leave your chair. Simply grab underneath the sides of the chair with both hands and pull up on the seat. By doing this, you force yourself down into the cushion, simulating a G-force much like the astronauts experience. This exercise works the back, bicep and shoulder muscles.

Now, in either a sitting or standing position, place your hands together in praying fashion about chest high. Apply equal pressure with your palms. This exercise primarily affects the bicep, tricep, upper back and shoulder muscles.

Other isometrics can be done with the simple use of a door jamb. Stand between the door frame, place your palms on either side of the jamb about shoulder level and push outward. If the top of the frame is low enough, you can also simulate a weight lifting press by firmly planting your feet on the floor and pushing upward on the frame with the palms of your hands.

Tension headaches, a common malady of office workers, can also be at least temporarily alleviated in many cases through a simple exercise. Such headaches are usually caused when upper back and neck muscles tighten and restrict the normal flow of blood through them. To ease this tension, sit back in your chair and relax. Then rotate your head alternately clockwise and counterclockwise, touching your chest with your chin and then arching your neck. After about five rotations in either direction, tension should subside. So too, hopefully, should your headache.

Because isotonics are a bit more involved than isometrics, they should be done when you have a little time to spare, such as during lunch or rest periods. That's the time to drag out your trusty old clothesline and spend a few minutes jumping rope. (No, you don't have to be a kid to do it.) This is an

excellent isotonic exercise and is considered the most efficient exercise for working the heart. Tests conducted at Arizona State University at Tempe, for example, revealed that 10 minutes of vigorous rope jumping equals about 30 minutes of jogging. On the average, jumping 10 minutes a day, five days a week for two months improved cardiovascular efficiency 23 per cent. The heart beats slower under such conditions, and since some studies suggest that human beings are born with about three billion heartbeats per life, fewer heartbeats mean that life is at least theoretically prolonged.

Even walking up and down stairs can be an effective heart-strengthening exercise, and is easily performed in an office setting. Plus, this exercise goes one step further by also easing stress and tension, which can lead to high blood pressure. In fact, says Dr. Schroeder, five minutes on the stairs can relieve tension for up to five hours. This is because the act of walking up and down a flight of stairs—or performing any isotonic exercise for that matter—dilates blood vessels, relaxes the muscles and allows for a more uniform flow of blood throughout the circulatory system. This counteracts the elevated heart rate and contracted muscles resulting from stress or an emotional disturbance. So the next time you feel you're about to blow your stack at the office, take a hike—straight to the nearest stairwell. It just might save your job.

Along other lines, deep knee bends and jogging in place are both effective office exercises that affect most of the body's muscles. When jogging in place, lift your knees high but don't overwork yourself the first few times out. Jog until you're winded, then stop. And while doing deep knee bends, keep your arms straight out in front of you, parallel to the ground. Begin with 15 or 20 repetitions at the start and progress to doing more as you feel stronger.

Of course, before undertaking any exercise program you should first use a little common sense and make sure you're in shape for it. (Weekend racquetballers, especially, can have hidden health problems that may go undetected for some time.) Talk to your doctor.

Used wisely and religiously, the office exercises discussed here can help you stay in shape in between those bouts on the racquetball court. So come on all you indoorsie types, for a better life (and a better game), push away from that cluttered desk and give me 20 push-ups.

**WORLD
AMATEUR
SINGLES
1979
LAS VEGAS**

INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION'S WORLD SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

MAY 24-28, 1979

SITE

Supreme Court Sports and Recreation Center, 13315 Spring Mountain Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 85102. 702-873-5660

ENTRY FEE

\$25.00 (Limit ONE event) Make all checks payable to: I.R.A.

ENTRY DEADLINE

Postmarked Tuesday, May 15, 1979. ALL ENTRIES ARE FINAL. Positively no applications will be accepted after this date.

MAIL ALL ENTRIES TO

I.R.A. World Singles Championships, 5545 Murray Ave., Suite 202, Memphis, TN. 38117.

HOUSING

Mini Price Motor Inn, 2550 So. Rancho Road, Las Vegas, NV. 89102 or Stardust Hotel, 3000 Las Vegas Blvd. So., Las Vegas, NV. 89109. For either location call 702-731-2554 and ask for "Racquetball" in order to receive discount rate.

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

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

RULES

I.R.A. Official rules will apply. Only amateurs may participate. I.R.A. rules state the definition of an amateur racquetball player as anyone who has not received money (any amount) in a professional NRC or IPRO sanctioned tournament for one year. ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST SHOW CURRENT I.R.A. MEMBERSHIP CARD or PURCHASE MEMBERSHIP AT TIME OF REGISTRATION.

NOTE

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

Please enter me in the event checked below. ONLY ONE EVENT PER PERSON.

WOMEN'S DIVISIONS

- ☐ Open
- ☐ B
- ☐ Seniors 35 +
- ☐ Masters 45 +
- ☐ Golden Masters 55 +
- ☐ Golden Masters 60 +
- ☐ Golden Masters 65 +

MEN'S DIVISIONS

- ☐ Open
- ☐ B
- ☐ Seniors 35 +
- ☐ Masters 45 +
- ☐ Golden Masters 55 +
- ☐ Golden Masters 60 +
- ☐ Golden Masters 65 +

PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

BUSINESS PHONE _____ HOME PHONE _____

I.R.A. MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION DATE _____

WAIVER: I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims I may have against the International Racquetball Association or its representative agents, for any and all injuries.

DATE _____ SIGNATURE _____



Cut at broken line and mail form and your check to:
I.R.A. World Singles Championships
5545 Murray Ave., Suite 202
Memphis, TN 38117

AS THE GAME TURNS

CAN A TENNIS PLAYER FIND HAPPINESS IN RACQUETBALL?

By Warren Maus

Want a little revenge? Want to get even with the tennis player who trounced you in straight love sets just days before? Ask him to meet you on *your* court: the racquetball court.

If he is like many ardent tennis buffs, he'll relish the chance to meet you on your own terms and administer a similar beating, in spite of your "home court" advantage.

Fact is, many tennis players see their game as "the" racquet sport. The rest are merely step-children, games to be tolerated but not taken seriously.

Once he ventures onto the racquetball court, though, the arrogant tennis player is often in for a surprise. He discovers that there's more to racquetball than he ever imagined, that it's not just a primitive link in the racquet sports evolutionary chain. Such revelations do not come easily, of course. Humility never does.

"It looked like such a simple game," lamented the hapless tennis player, sitting in the sauna after an hour-long session in the racquetball box. Exhausted in body and tormented in soul, he vowed next time around to get more than the five points he somehow managed to garner in his initial match. And he will, no doubt, do much better if he asks, "What did I do wrong?" rather than, "Why me, Lord?"

What he did wrong, most likely, is what many tennis players do when they play racquetball. He tried to take those finely honed tennis skills to the racquetball court, where in 60 minutes of anguish, they turned on him and became his most vexing opponent.

So, desperate for advice, the tennis player sought help, going first to his analyst. The analyst droned on about something called "negative transference" (trying to play tennis on the

racquetball court) and then gave him some really good advice. He referred the tennis player to the nearest racquetball teaching pro.

The pro took the player to a back court, far from the eyes of those who might snicker. There, the two of them went about the business of *unlearning* tennis and *learning* racquetball.

Extending the racquet to the player, the pro asked him to grip the racquet as if he were about to hit a forehand shot.

Wrong. The tennis player, using his forehand grip from tennis, placed the "V" formed by the forefinger and thumb on the left diagonal of the handle, so that when the racquet was extended in front of the player the face was slightly closed. Ever so gently, the pro turned the racquet in the player's hand so the "V" was directly on top of the handle and a perfect perpendicular was created with the floor. That's the proper grip for racquetball.

The grip now firmly in hand, they then pressed on to the next lesson. The pro hit an easy one to the pupil's forehand, then watched as the novice positioned himself to hit a hard topspin, cross-court pass behind him. Beautiful to watch. Disastrous results.

The pro promptly pinched the ball into the corner and then turned to look at his student. There, with his racquet high above his head in a classic (for tennis) sweeping follow-through motion, the tennis player watched in astonishment as the return fell hopelessly out of reach.

The tennis player was crushed. His driving topspin, which had taken months to perfect on the tennis court, had failed miserably on the racquetball court. The high follow-through accompanying the shot, which the player's tennis pro had told him was so vital, had left him hanging in the air like a side of beef, which was exactly the way he felt at the moment.

The pro managed to console the tennis player, however, and convinced him to give racquetball another chance. Then, he gave the tennis player three simple rules to follow in playing racquetball:

1. Forget about putting any sort of spin on the ball (at least for the time being).

2. Abbreviate the follow through.

3. Open up the stance.

Forgetting about the high follow through was easy once the tennis player gave up on the topspin. Opening the stance, though, was a little more difficult. While learning to play tennis, he'd been taught to keep his toes lined up in the direction in which he wanted the ball to go. Now he had to forget that and face the ball more squarely, as though he were playing every shot at the net, as though every shot were a volley.

After a time, the tennis player got the hang of it and was developing an entirely new set of reactions. Unlearning was starting to pay off.

Confident of his newly learned skills, the tennis player challenged his racquetball nemesis to a match and lost in straight games, 21-5, 21-3. Despair in the sauna again.

At the next therapy session, the coach watched the student hit ball after ball against the resounding walls, noting a distinct lack of power. The novice had no "kill" shot in his bag of tricks. He was keeping the ball in play but couldn't put it away.

The wrist. That was the problem. His wrist was stiff. He was punching the ball, but there was no wrist snap.

The pro analyzed the situation for the player. "In tennis," he explained, "the racquet is an extension of the forearm; hence the wrist should be firm when striking the ball. In racquetball, the racquet should be considered an extension of the hand. A wrist snap is important if there is to be any zip applied to the ball. Like Reggie Jackson hitting a baseball, the wrist snap is what's going to do the trick. But unlike Reggie, you have no left hand to guide you to the ball.

"Here's the correct motion," the coach went on. "Play each shot as though playing the net in tennis, with the body squared until the direction of the ball has been determined. Then, with a slightly open stance, smash the ball like a one-armed Reggie Jackson trying to score Pinnela from second."

The technique worked, with good results. The tennis player started to hit crisp shots, banging shot after ferocious

(cont. on p. 42)

Aftate® for Athlete's Foot is better than Desenex.® Really better.

If you've got athlete's foot and you're still using Desenex, you should know that Aftate is better.

In independent studies, the medication in Aftate has been proven to be more effective in killing athlete's foot fungus than the medication in Desenex.

In fact, doctors recommend the medication in Aftate 14 to 1 over the medication in Desenex. 14 to 1.

Aftate is better than Desenex. Really better. It's the killer.

Read and follow label directions.



© Plough, Inc. 1979

RB-F



Trial size offer.

Enclosed is 50¢ (for materials, handling, postage) for one (1) .09 oz. Aftate Gel for Athlete's Foot, plus a coupon good for 25¢ off on my next store purchase of regular size Aftate products. Send to:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

APT. # _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

Mail to: Plough, Inc., P.O. Box 377, Dept. MC, Memphis, TN 38151. Tenn. residents add 2¢ sales tax. Offer good only in Continental U.S., Alaska and Hawaii. Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Offer expires Dec. 31, 1979.

INDUSTRY NEWS

Ergo-centric

A Swedish company has introduced a nifty little device, "the ergometer," designed for physical training, rehabilitation and fitness.

An ergometer is a device used to measure work. The word derives from the Greek, "ergon," meaning work and "metron," meaning measurement. The Monark company markets a series of such machines, designed in conjunction with the College of Physical Education at Stockholm, Sweden.

The ergometer functions much like a regular exercise bike. (In fact, the company also markets a series of exercise bikes.) The bicycle-type ergometer comes with a built-in speedometer and odometer to give you an idea of the demands exercise puts on your heart and circulation. In this fashion, an individual can tailor his exercise and training program to fit his body's particular needs.

Monark also features a leg and arm ergometer specially designed for the rehabilitation of patients following illness or injury. There is even a scaled-down version of the bicycle ergometer for children.

The Monark line of ergometers and exercise bikes are imported by Universal Resilite Products, 20 Terminal Drive So., Plainview, N.Y. 11803. Phone: 516-433-8900.



Du Pont's new transparent, plastic back wall.

The Age of Plastics

Racquetball is quickly moving into the synthetic era. Witness, for example, the recent introduction of two space-age

plastic products specially designed for racquetball.

First, there's Du Pont's new acrylic sheet that serves as a transparent back wall in exhibition racquetball courts. And Tremont Research, Inc., creator of the "Mag" tennis racquet, has now introduced a racquetball racquet made from nylon resin, a form of engineering plastic. The "Lucite" SAR acrylic sheet is already in use in one club in Louisiana, while Tremont Research's "Mag X" racquet is touted as being especially beneficial for women because of its lighter weight.

Guy Beello, owner and operator of The Wallbanger Court Club in Baton Rouge, La., began using the Du Pont acrylic sheet for new courts at his club because of its advantages over tempered glass. The plastic is not only cheaper, but it can also be cut to size and installed on the spot. Court club operators usually have to wait several weeks for delivery of a tempered glass back wall.

"The benefits (with acrylic sheeting) are the same," according to Beello. "Playability is the same and the speed of the ball is the same. Plus, the wall holds up. I've had some really big guys—6 feet, 200 pounds—run into the wall full speed ahead, and it doesn't even talk back."

As for Tremont Research's new plastic racquet, the firm claims the racquet's structure eliminates the need for rubber or vinyl "bumpers" used on metal or conventional glass-reinforced plastic racquets. The "Mag X" features the squared-off design common to the old wooden racquets of racquetball's early days. This, according to the manufacturer, enables a player to virtually "scoop" a ball off the court or "scrape" it off the wall.

The racquet is covered by a year's full warranty and will retail for about \$46.

For further information about both products, contact Anne L. McIntosh, Public Affairs Department, Du Pont Company, Wilmington, Del. 19898.

Vittert Sponsors Tournament

Vittert Sports, an Ashland, Ohio-based sports equipment firm, will be the official sponsor of the inter-club league tournaments of the South Florida Racquetball League. Arthur Ascoli, director of Vittert Sports, said the company will also sponsor a junior team in the league in 1979 and a series of tournaments with the Courtrooms and Sportrooms court clubs. ■

FIRST SERVICE

New Court Club Openings

Naples, Florida

The Racquet Club, a racquet sports complex, is scheduled to open this spring in Naples. The club, located at 1048 Castello Drive, will offer eight racquetball courts.

Features include an exercise area, lap swimming pool, platform tennis courts, sand volleyball court, game room and uni-sex hair salon. There are also two exhibition courts with spectator viewing area for up to 200 people.

Membership classifications include single, married couple, family, student and corporate/business. Lessons and clinic programs are planned, along with gymnastics and exercise classes.

The Club is 80 per cent sold out and plans for the next phase include two tennis courts and four to eight additional racquetball courts. James A. Faley is the club's general manager and owner.

Coral Gables, Florida

The Sportrooms of Coral Gables, a racquetball club and fitness center, has opened in the former site of the historic Coral Gables Coliseum.

The facility is part of a nationwide chain of private court clubs being developed by Miami-based Racquetball International Corporation (RIC). It features 24 air-conditioned courts and other amenities, including a fitness area, nursery and separate spas for men and women.

One of the new Sportrooms' courts is constructed with three glass walls for tournaments and exhibitions. The club was selected as the site for the U.S. Racquetball Association's Tournament of Champions and the U.S. Handball Association's National Championship.

Five-time national handball champion, Fred Lewis, is the head pro for the Sportrooms and five-time national racquetball champion, Charlie Brumfield, is the touring pro. Brumfield visits each of RIC's clubs a couple of times a year, operating clinics and implementing programs.

RIC also operates the Sportrooms of Sabal Chase, Fla., and has plans for another facility in Hialeah. Membership at any Sportrooms is good at all other clubs in the chain.

Guilderland, N.Y.

The Twenty-First Point Club, a 25-court racquetball and handball facility, is being planned for the Town of Guilderland, a city line suburb of Albany, N.Y.

The club is scheduled to be located at the McKown Road Recreation Complex near Route 20 and Western Avenue. There will be one championship glass-walled court with viewing stands, press stands and provisions for television broadcasting. Sixteen of the conventional courts will have glass back walls facing a large center gallery area for central viewing from most areas in the building.

The club will be on a membership plus hourly fee basis. Twenty-First Point also has plans for additional clubs in New York, Vermont and Massachusetts.

Suwanee, Georgia

The Atlanta Falcons Racquet Club and Health Spa, part of a complete fitness center located just outside Atlanta, opens for business this month.

The club is located in Suwanee, Georgia, an Atlanta suburb. It features 11 racquetball courts, including one exhibition court with three glass walls. There are also indoor and outdoor jogging tracks, a heated pool, exercise room and supervised nursery.

The club is open seven days a week and offers memberships ranging from individual and family full play to corporate. The club will also be used by Falcons' players and coaches as part of their off-season training program.

Oakland, California

The Continental Racquetball Club, offering 10 regulation courts, is scheduled for opening this month near the Oakland Coliseum Sports Complex.

Located on Edgewater Drive at Pardee, the club's owners hope its location will serve to attract professional athletes from other sports to the facility. Features include a restaurant, pro shop and access to bike and jogging paths.

The two-story facility will be open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., seven days a week. Individual, family, student and corporate rates are available.

Continental Racquetball in Oakland will be the flagship club for the group's northern California operations. An existing facility is already in operation in Houston, Tex. ■

Aftate® for Jock Itch

is better than Cruex®

Really better.

If you've got jock itch and you're still using Cruex, you should know that Aftate is better.

Aftate's medication has been tested and found to be more effective than the medication in Cruex for killing jock itch fungus.

Aftate's powerful medication not only kills all major types of jock itch fungus, but also helps prevent reinfection.

For the relief of painful itching and chafing of jock itch, get Aftate. It's the killer.

Read and follow label directions.



© Plough, Inc. 1979



Trial size offer.

Enclosed is 50¢ (for materials, handling, postage) for one (1) .09 oz. Aftate Gel for Jock Itch, plus a coupon good for 25¢ off on my next store purchase of regular size Aftate products. Send to:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ APT. # _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Mail to: Plough, Inc., P.O. Box 377, Dept. MC, Memphis, TN 38151. Tenn. residents add 2¢ sales tax. Offer good only in Continental U.S. Alaska and Hawaii. Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Offer expires Dec. 31, 1979.

A NEW CONCEPT IN RACQUET CONTROL....

CUSTOM POWER GRIP

For the "Ultimate" in Power and Accuracy!

★ **Custom Power Grip** adds a whole new dimension to your game. Adjustable nylon loops hold your fingers, molding the racquet into an extension of your hand.

★ You'll move with a new sense of confidence... service....forehand.... backhand.... Your hand can't slip. And there's total feel in your fingers.

★ You can add **Custom Power Grip** to your racquet in a minute; it fits any size hand; adult or child.....

★ From training to tournament play, **Custom Power Grip** means more power, sharper control, safety, and the satisfaction of playing your best game!

ORDER YOURS TODAY!

Patent Pending

Please send me **Custom Power Grips.**

Name

Street

City State Zip

Send Check or Money Order for \$5.95 plus 50¢ postage and handling for EACH **Custom Power Grip** to:

Power Grip Products, P.O. Box 49, 6 Lakeview Road, Winchester, Mass. 01890 (Please allow two weeks for delivery.)

FIVE REASONS Your Club Should Have An Identatronics-Mini Photo I.D. System

\$795.00



- 1) Quickly and easily identify club members from non-members.
 - 2) Prestige — your card is custom designed with your club insignia.
 - 3) Use for billing — court time, lessons, equipment, clothing and gathering marketing information.
 - 4) The Mini System is compact, portable and produces an instant laminated photo I.D. in less than 2 minutes — Requires approximately 2 feet of table top space for operation.
 - 5) Only an I.D. card with a photo can eliminate card passing!
- The Identatronics Mini System includes all equipment necessary to produce an instant photo identification card.



DISTRIBUTOR INQUIRIES WELCOME
CALL TOLL FREE 800-323-5403

IDENTATRONICS



425 LIVELY BOULEVARD • ELK GROVE VILLAGE, IL 60007 • 312/437-2654

(cont. from p. 39)

shot off the front wall with plenty of power.

The pro was pleased with the pupil's progress. The pupil was ecstatic. He rushed to the locker room, called his humiliator, and challenged him to a match later in the day.

He had the strokes. The backhand and overhead followed suit easily. He'd adjusted his speed well enough to be able to get into position to make each shot. He lost, 21-4, 21-6.

The tennis player, muddled and mute, wheezing outwardly, whimpering inwardly, had had such high hopes for the rematch. But rather than climbing into the double digits, he was instead falling further into the trough of travail.

The tennis player returned to the pro, recounted the highlights of the carnage, and settled his account. He was ready to quit. As the pupil shambled toward the door, the pro said, "Tactics."

The tennis player fought the temptation to turn. He gave in finally, his ego taking control of his body, and answered, "Tactics?"

"The problem," the coach replied, "was that he outthought you. Your strokes were every bit as good as his. You lacked the tactics, to say nothing of the strategy, to beat him."

The pro went on to explain that just as in tennis, the object of the game is to hit-it-where-he-ain't.

Tactics involve planning each point played, knowing where the other player is, what shots he can get to, which shots you should choose, when to kill the ball, when to lob, when to hit a Z. In short, it means setting up each point.

Strategy, on the other hand, is a plan for the entire game or match. Here you have to figure out what are your opponent's best and worst shots, what he can kill, what's his pace, what's his stamina level and any number of other considerations that will allow you to play *your* game.

A few chalk talks and many hours of practice later, the tennis player, under the tutelage of the pro, again challenged his arch rival. But this time, his adrenalin level was lower and his intellect level higher. Consequently, he played a much better game than he had in any of his previous encounters. He didn't win, mind you, but he at least put up a fight. In his mind's eye, the player could even envision a day when he would no longer be just a converted tennis player, but a full-fledged, honest-to-goodness racquetball player. Fairy tales can come true. ■

Scorecard

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



Nolan Gilley (left) and David Fournier-B's Finals

ALABAMA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS Huntsville Athletic Club Huntsville, Ala.

Men's Open: Quarter Finals: Don Clark (Montgomery) over David Fournier (Auburn) 21-7, 21-12; Steve Ledford (Huntsville) over John Jordan (Auburn) 14-21, 21-13, 15-7; Dennis Ervin (Huntsville) over Bob Shields (Birmingham) 21-19, 21-14; Peter Olen (Tuscaloosa) over Ronnie Coleman (Dothan) 16-21, 21-12, 15-11.

Semi Finals: Ledford over Clark 21-11, 13-21, 15-14; Ervin over Olen 21-10, 21-8.

Finals: Ervin over Ledford 21-10, 21-7; Olen over Clark 21-17, 21-10 (3rd place).

Men's B: Quarter Finals: Nolan Gilley (Decatur) over Edde Gaylord (Birmingham) 21-13, 21-8; George Hand (Birmingham) over Steve Ledford (Huntsville) "Forfeit"; Bryan Titus (Auburn) over Dennis Ervin (Huntsville) "Forfeit"; David Fournier (Auburn) over Bill Simpson (Huntsville) 21-6, 21-7.

Semi Finals: Gilley over Hand 21-11, 21-8; Fournier over Titus 21-6, 21-8.

Finals: Fournier over Gilley 21-7, 21-8; Hand over Titus 21-17, 21-11 (3rd place).

Men's C: Quarter Finals: Bill Simpson (Huntsville) over Don Smith (Dothan) 11-21, 21-8, 15-5; Bill Jackson (Daleville) over Chuck McKinley (Huntsville) 21-4, 21-14; Dave Burford (Decatur) over Leo DeRosier (Huntsville) 21-18, 21-11; Jim Hawkins (Auburn) over Bob Huskey (Opelika) 21-10, 21-12.

Semi Finals: Simpson over Jackson 15-21, 21-20, 15-3; Hawkins over Burford "Forfeit."

Finals: Hawkins over Simpson 21-16, 21-19; Jackson over Burford "Forfeit" (3rd place).

Men's Seniors: Quarter Finals: Frank Nadolski (Huntsville) over Bill Hotze (Birmingham) 18-21, 21-19, 15-12; Jim McMurray (Huntsville) over Lep Wenzler (Decatur) 21-5, 21-12; John McDermit (Huntsville) over Dave Nichols (Decatur)

21-19, 18-21, 15-7; Barry Cox (Birmingham) over Lynn Boyer (Huntsville) 21-1, 21-6.

Semi Finals: McMurray over Nadolski 21-19, 21-11; Cox over McDermit 21-16, 21-10.

Finals: McMurray over Cox 21-0, 21-1; Nadolski over McDermit 21-3, 21-2 (3rd place.)

Men's Masters: Quarter Finals: Barry Cox (Birmingham) over George Akers (Montgomery) "Forfeit"; Bill Hotze (Birmingham) over Bob Perry (Huntsville) 21-7, 21-7; Hollis Hyde (Birmingham) over Bob Davis (Huntsville) 21-12, 21-14; Fred Yorloff (Huntsville) over Fred Zitzer (Birmingham) 21-18, 16-21, 15-9.

Semi Finals: Hotze over Cox 21-20, 15-21, 15-7; Hyde over Yorloff "Forfeit."

Finals: Hyde over Hotze 21-14, 21-9; Yorloff over Cox 21-13, 14-21, 15-12 (3rd place).

Women's Open: Quarter Finals: Kirsten Conrad (Auburn) over Doris Yorloff (Huntsville) 21-7, 21-18; Brenda Grossnickle (Tuscaloosa) over Buffy Fitzgerald (Tuscaloosa) 21-3, 21-7; Toni Clark (Montgomery) over Ann Burbach (Auburn) 21-12, 21-19; Mary Pat Sklenka (Auburn) over Pat Skinner (Tuscaloosa) 21-9, 21-3.

Semi Finals: Grossnickle over Conrad 21-8, 21-10; Sklenka over Clark 21-1, 21-9.

Finals: Sklenka over Grossnickle 21-13, 21-9; Clark over Conrad 21-13, 21-16 (3rd place).

Women's B & C: Quarter Finals: Pat Skinner (Tuscaloosa) over Lisa Bailey (Huntsville) 21-3, 21-8; Toni Clark (Montgomery) over Casey Wilson (Huntsville) 21-14, 21-4; Buffy Fitzgerald (Tuscaloosa) over Robin Kelly (Huntsville) 21-5, 21-7; Laurel Hecht (Huntsville) over Kathie Ball (Huntsville) 21-15, 21-5.

Finals: Clark over Fitzgerald 21-20, 21-6; Skinner over Hecht 21-2, 21-18 (3rd place).

NATURAL WOMEN'S RACQUETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP Boston Tennis Club Boston, Mass.

A: 1st, Cindy Alba (Rockland, MA); 2nd, Martha Callahan (Salem, MA); 3rd, Cindy Callahan (Dracut, MA); consolation, Marcy Lynch (New York, NY).

B: 1st, Ann Rothberg (West Hartford, CONN); 2nd, Susan Wilson (Brooklyn, NY); 3rd, Sharon Belanger (Brunswick, ME); consolation, Robin Wadsworth (Pittsfield, MA).

C: 1st, Mary Ann Cluess (Long Island, NY); 2nd, Christine Georges (Lowell, MA); 3rd, Susan Canarick (Glen Cove, NY); consolation, Janice Gordon (South Boston, MA).

Novice: 1st, Deborah Rooney (Bedford, NY); 2nd, Jane Fletcher (Lowell, MA); 3rd, Cindy Jewett (Southbridge, MA); consolation, Dorsey West (Canton, MA).

Seniors: 1st, Sandra DiNicola (Southbury, CONN); 2nd, Mimi Kelly (Burlington, MA); 3rd, Gail Cone (Newtonville, MA);

LIMITED SPECIAL OFFER

**FREE
POSTER
WITH I.R.A.
MEMBERSHIP**

**Membership Also Includes A Subscription
To Racquetball Magazine**



Actual Poster Size 16 1/4" x 22"

I.R.A. MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES:

- Subscription to Racquetball Magazine
- Eligibility for all IRA tournaments
- Bumper sticker and membership card
- Voice in all IRA policies
- Racquetball poster
- Official Rulebook

REGULAR PRICE

Racquetball Magazine 12 issues (newsstand) \$18.00

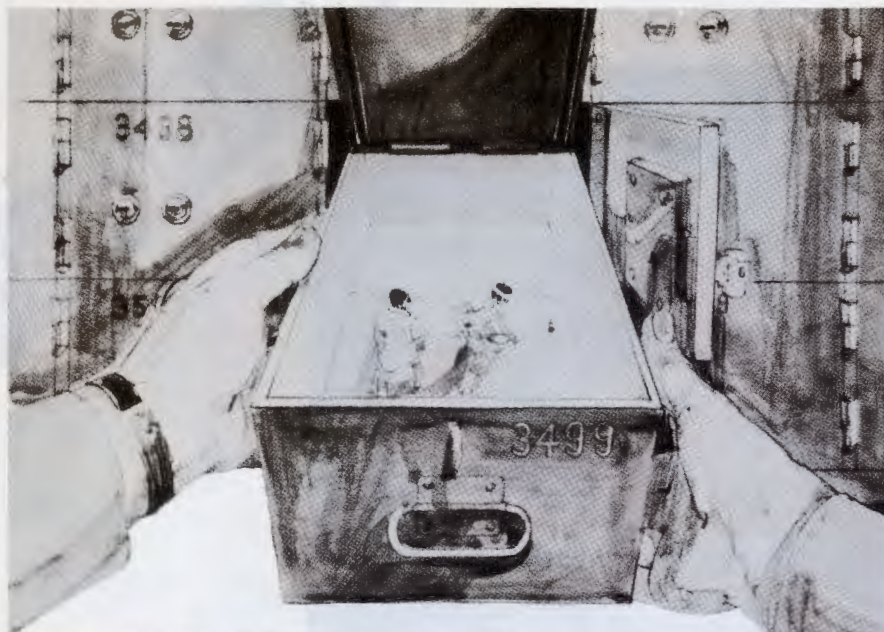
1 Full Color Poster (mail order) \$3.95

LIMITED SPECIAL OFFER

as little as

\$10.00

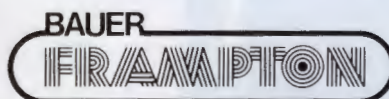
Mail Today!



How to find investment security in a racquetball court.

You can find investment security and high profit return from your racquetball courts when you let Bauer Frampton build your courts and help plan your project.

Best of all, Bauer Frampton offers the world's premier court system, built with famous Frampton F-62-SP court panels and nationally-recognized Skill Court floors.



Call or write for complete information.
10401 Lyndon Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48238
(313) 935-3400

For the best return on your Racquetball Investment, talk with the industry leader— Talk with Spaulding

The fact that racquetball is the fastest-growing sport in America today does not insure success for anyone considering a club as a sure top-return investment.

We, at Spaulding, the industry leader with 17 clubs in operation in seven cities, can help. We offer various sound investor plans for the individual wishing to own a club, but who wants professionals to manage his or her facility.

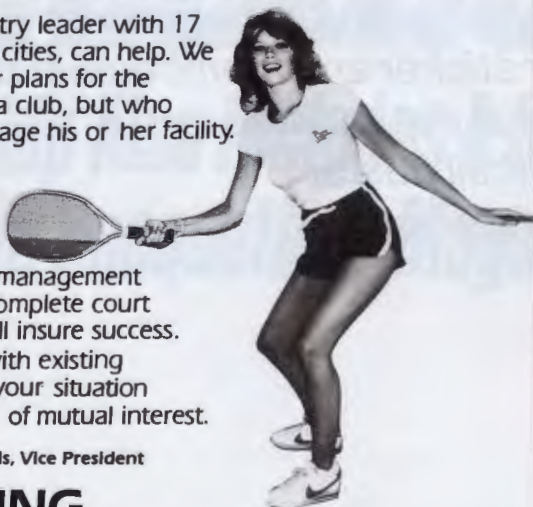
Through our own research and practical application at our own expense at our clubs, we have developed management systems, club design and complete court systems that work, that will insure success. Spaulding will also work with existing club owners by analyzing your situation and developing a program of mutual interest.

We invite your calls to: Scott Bemis, Vice President



SPAULDING
Racquetball Clubs, Inc.

200 Enchanted Parkway, Manchester, MO 63011 (314) 391-6439



consolation, Susan Redfield (Marblehead, MA).

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE OPEN RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT Off the Wall Racquet Club Portsmouth, N.H.

Men's Open: 1st, Gene Fitzpatrick, Maine; 2nd, Don Little, Delaware; 3rd, Philip Belanger, N.H.

Men's B: 1st, Reb Brown, Maine; 2nd, Randy Olsen, Maine; 3rd, Glenn Bradford, Maine.

Men's C: 1st, Barry McDermott, Conn.; 2nd, Paul Liscombe, N.H.; 3rd, Maynard L. Honesty, Maine.

Men's Novice: 1st, Tom Sager, N.H.; 2nd, John Frasier, Jr., Maine; 3rd, Bernard Belley, Vermont.

Men's Seniors: 1st, Gary Northcutt, N.H.; 2nd, Robert Drouin, Delaware; 3rd, Myron Friedman, Maine.

Women's Open: 1st, Jackie Adler, Conn.; 2nd, Patricia York, Maine; 3rd, Eileen Ehrlich, Maine.

Women's B: 1st, Barbara Dewitt, Maine; 2nd, Sharon Belanger, Maine; 3rd, Patricia Gaetjens, Maine.

Women's C: 1st, Linda Fitzpatrick, Maine; 2nd, Kathleen Creveling, N.H.; 3rd, Judy Sager, N.H.

Women's Novice: 1st, Margaret Donovan, Maine; 2nd, Donna Giroux, Maine; 3rd, Francoise Campbell, Maine.



From left: Finalist Greg Maloley, Mass. State Director John Lepore and Open Champion George Vierra.

5th ANNUAL MASSACHUSETTS STATE SINGLES TOURNAMENT Cedardale Racquet Club Haverhill, MA

Men's A+: 1st, George Vierra, resident pro of Five-O, Framingham, over Greg Maloley, 15-11, 15-9; 3rd, Tom Callahan.

Men's A-: 1st, Bernie Nylic over Ken Spracklin, 15-12, 3-15, 15-10; 3rd, Paul Henrickson; consolation, Scott Taylor.

Men's B+: 1st, Duane Kamei over Dave Cahill, 15-7, 15-2; 3rd, Mickey Lorden; consolation, Steve Emma.

Men's B-: 1st, Al Manditch over Mike Stone 9-15, 15-8, 15-11; 3rd, Tom Rupley; consolation, B. Walsh.

Men's C: 1st, Tom Hyman over Ron Miano 15-4, 15-12; 3rd, Dennis Nonovan; con-

Scorecard

solation, Jim Marsh.

Men's Novice: 1st, Herb Wilson over Mike Brennan 15-13, 15-11; 3rd, Mitchell Bobinski; consolation, Dan Reilly.

Men's Seniors +: 1st, Warren Pierce over Jim Daly 15-4, 14-15, 15-13; 3rd, Howie Coleman; consolation, Roger Vachon.

Men's Seniors —: 1st, Howard Peelle over Mike Tanielian 15-1, 15-8; 3rd, Harry Burgess; consolation, Roger Vachon.

Men's Masters +: 1st, Mike Sullivan over Leo Woodcome 15-7, 15-8; 3rd, Morton Landy; consolation, Sam Garafalo.

Men's Masters —: 1st, Dick Ryan over Rich Martin 15-10, 15-13; 3rd, Ken Curewitz; consolation, Russ Kelly.

Women's A: 1st, Cindy Alba over Cindy Callahan 15-3, 15-12; 3rd, Martha Callahan; consolation, E. Jacob.

Women's B: 1st, Nan McMenamon over Pat Zulkowski 15-11, 15-6; 3rd, Alita Kadry-Hull; consolation, Diane Lallas.

Women's C: 1st, Thea Nicolopoulos over Nancy Kasheta 15-11, 15-6; 3rd, Pam Abbott; consolation, N. Kasheta.

Women's Novice: 1st, Nancy Thoms over Janet Litalien 15-9, 15-14; 3rd, Joan Wade; consolation, M. Cohen.

Girls 13: [Round robin] 1st, Kirsti Keerd;

2nd, Tracy Daly; 3rd, Kaja Keerd.

Boys 17: 1st, Phil Fisher over Mike Curewitz 15-5, 15-2; 3rd, Mike Kissel; consolation, D. Kincus.

Boys 15: 1st, Peter Hawkesworth over Mike Ladge 15-12, 15-13; 3rd, Paul McCauley; consolation, P. Hyman.

Boys 13: [Round robin] 1st, Jim Daly, Jr.; 2nd, Tom Coleman; 3rd, Sam Tanielian; 4th, Kevin Daly; 5th, Mike Daly.

7th ANNUAL MID-AMERICA RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT Salina Family YMCA Salina, Kansas

Men's Open: 1st, Ron York; 2nd, Larry Swank; 3rd, Mike Fuller; consolation, Roger Glick.

Men's B: 1st, Clint Tittsworth; 2nd, Steve Klingzell; 3rd, Jim Simon; consolation, Bill Perrone.

Men's C: 1st, Steve Porter; 2nd, Scott Perry; 3rd, Randy Jones; consolation, Larry Holm.

Men's Open Doubles: 1st, Roger Glick/Bob Brundage; 2nd, Larry Swank/Ernie Ruelas; 3rd, Ed Brewer/Ron York.

Women's Open: 1st, Karen Lee; 2nd, Tammy

Totland; 3rd, Donna Fredrick; consolation, Mary Jean Todd.

Women's B: 1st, Janie Holt; 2nd, Debbie Biggs; 3rd, Nancy Grimes; consolation, Leslie Ann Hill.

1979 IRA/MRA MAINE CLOSED SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS Andy-Valley Racquetball Club Lewiston, ME

Men's Open: 1st, Gene Fitzpatrick; 2nd, Steve Dubord; consolation, Tom Quartuccio.

Men's B: 1st, Randy Olson; 2nd, Dennis Weeks; consolation, Ken Bailey.

Men's C: 1st, Dale Weeks; 2nd, Fred Royer; consolation, Lou Gallagher.

Men's Novice: 1st, Bruce Oullette; 2nd, Dave Quinn; consolation, Dave Kordalski.

Men's Senior: 1st, Mike Friedman; 2nd, Mike Donahue; 3rd, Walt Abbott.

Juniors: 1st, Steve Larrabee; 2nd, Mark Giguere; consolation, Jay Saulter.

Women's Open: 1st, Eileen Ehrlich; 2nd, Lydia Emerick; consolation, Barbara Lovejoy.

Women's Novice: 1st, Margaret Donovan; 2nd, Doris Lahey; consolation, Donna Giroux. ■

Don't Miss A Month Of Racquetball

If you are moving, please send in this change of address form so you won't miss a month of Racquetball Magazine.

Name _____

Old Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

New Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Please allow 6 weeks for address change to take effect.

Mail to:
Racquetball Magazine
5545 Murray Road
Memphis, Tenn. 38117

A PICTURE'S WORTH 1,000 WORDS



Here's the picture
Write us for the words
about offering elegance at your
new or existing facility

WHIRL-SPA INC.®

WHIRLPOOL BATHS
5320 NW 10th Terrace, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33309/(305) 491-0600
"Dealer Inquiries invited"

We've made Eyeguard easier to see.



It's perfectly clear. If your customers can see Eyeguard, they are more apt to buy it.

So we've taken Eyeguard out of a bulky box. And placed it in a highly visible and easily displayable blister pack (see above).

Just put Eyeguards on the wall

with your rackets. Your customers can't miss them. And they take up no shelf space.

You can see the beauty of that.

For more information, write or call: Lloyd Distributors, Calabasas, CA 91302, (213) 999-4330 or (800) 423-5221.



THE ONLY WAY TO BEAT A KILLSHOT IS TO WEAR ONE.

We built our new racquetball shoe to help you make more killshots more often.

So we named it the Killshot.

It's designed to improve two things on the racquetball court: Comfort and performance.

The open toe design gives more room and comfort to your forefoot.

The mesh uppers let your feet breathe naturally.

Insoles are made from leather for increased durability.

And the wrap around cup rubber sole gives you extra traction for quick lateral moves.

It's a lightweight, tough shoe that'll last a long time. And help make sure you're making the killshots.

Instead of diving for 'em.



Beaverton, Oregon

**I've got a backhand that'll trip you up,
a ceiling ball that'll wear you down,
and a racquet that'll win you over...
the new Jennifer Harding™ from Ektelon.**

Ektelon's new Jennifer Harding racquet is designed to fit a woman's hand...and her game.

It's 25 grams lighter and 1/2 inch shorter than our smallest men's racquet, so it swings faster and maneuvers easier. There are four handle sizes to choose from, including Extra Small and the new Super Small (3 11/16").

As in all Ektelon racquets, the aluminum frame extends to the end of the handle for strength and is tapered for lightness and better balance.

The Jennifer Harding carries a two-year racquet frame and ninety-day string warranty.

The Jennifer Harding... only for women, only from Ektelon.



Jennifer Harding—Finalist 1978
NRC National Professional
Championships.
1976 NRC National Doubles
Champion. Member Ektelon
Professional Advisory Staff.

EKTELON
The Most Recommended
Racquet in Racquetball.*

All Ektelon racquets
are manufactured in
San Diego, CA.

Jennifer Harding is a trademark
of Ektelon, San Diego, CA.
*Research results available
from Ektelon.