#### DECEMBER 1968

Price 50€





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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year





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VOICE OF THE HANDBALL WORLD

DECEMBER, 1968

VOLUME 18, NO. 6

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National Juniors Scheduled At Lake Forest College Dec. 28-30



Defending under-19 age champion, Tom Kopaytic, Milwaukee, will be joined by outstanding youngsters for the annual two-bracket competition. Players in the under-17 and under-19 who have not as yet entered can do so by writing: USHA, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill., or telephoning (Area Code 312) — ORchard 3-4000, Mort Leve, executive secretary. Room, board and some travel allowances will be covered by USHA,



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

ACE, Volume 18 — Number 6 — December, 1968. Published bi-monthly by The United States Handball Association, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Illinois. \$2 a year subscription; \$5 for 3year subscription. Second class postage paid at Skokie, Illinois.

# Sandler Repeats National One-Wall Singles Carl and Rudy Obert New Doubles Winners; One More for Vic in Masters, with Danilczyk



PATENTED SHOT . . . Steve Sandler demonstrates effective back hand with his left in winning three-game championship match against Howie Eisenberg. It was the usual SRO crowd at the Brownsville Boys Club.



JUNIOR BEST . . . Mark Levine (left) had to beat both the Straus twins, Gary in the semis, and Mitchell for the title. Tournament chairman and our East Area Commissioner, Irv Tournament chairman and out

Ehrlich, does the honors after match.

—Photos by EGON TEICHERT

Steve Sandler, 92nd St. YMHA, retained his National USHA One-Wall crown, defeating Howie Eisenberg, now playing out of the St. Louis JCCA, 21-12, 21-5, in the Tenth Annual championships held in the Brownsville Boys Club of

In the doubles, Ruby and Carl Obert, New York A.C., defeated Lou Russo Jr. and Joel Wisotsky, Castle

Hill Club, 6-21, 21-20, 21-6. Carrot-topped Mark Levine, Lincoln High School of Brooklyn, is the new Junior champ, stopping the sensational 16-year-old Mitchell Straus, Castle Hill, 21-8, 21-19. The "Old Pro" Vic Hershkowitz,

added another national title to his record string, teaming with 40-year old Charlie Danilczyk, and power-ing through the Masters doubles, finalizing in a win over Nat Schifter and Steve Mayers of the host Club, 21-8, 17-21, 21-9.

In the Novice, a "pinkie" is used. Marshall Kider, City College of New York, defeated Louis Torres, Crotona Park of the Bronx, 21-16, 21-7.

The singles was a replay of last year's final round. Eisenberg got off to a fast lead with his known power and deadly kill shot but then Sandler, with his uncanny retrieves and deadly left hand shots, wore Howie down and it was another title for Sandler. In this bracket of play it was the semi-final elimination of Marty Decatur by Eisenberg that provided the upset. Everything that Howle did paid off and Marty had nothing to be ashamed of.

It was upset time in the open doubles and the real shockers were in the semi final rounds when the Oberts rocked Sandler and Decatur in straight games, and the Russo-Wisotsky team dumped last year's champs, Artie Reyer and Joe Danilczyk.

The finals was a real thriller as Russo and Wisotsky won the first game, 21-6. They killed with both hands and the southpaw Wisotsky drove the ball past the Oberts with his tremendous power. In the second game it looked like a repeat story as Lou and Joel moved to a 20-14 lead, and were just one little tally away from the title. But the tournament-experienced Obert brothers fought back, connecting with killers, serving aces, and making impossible gets . . . and, yes, they won it 21-20. The third game was a comparative breeze for the Oberts, 21-6.

In the Juniors, Mark Levine, considered by many as the finest young one-waller to come along since Sandler, had to conquer the Straus twins to gain his championship. He defeated Gary in the semis and then Mitchell in the finals. Mark has a deadly kill shot and for an 18-year-old plays an extremely smart game, controlling shots to all sectors of the court. There were many fine youngsters in the Juniors and some of the boys making excellent showings were Leon Abel Ken Ginty and Gil Gonzales.

Mr. Champion, Vic Hershkowitz, goes on and on, this time with a new partner, Charlie Danilczyk, who just became of Masters age. They had little opposition until the finals when Nat Schifter and Steve Mayers forced them to three games. Hershkowitz, when he is on, is still great and he was just that in winning the payoff match.

The boys who play with the pink ball had some outstanding players in the tournament, Marshall Kider, 21, proved the class of the field, overcoming some real opposition in Louis Torres, who came to this country from Puerto Rico just four years ago.

This tenth annual drew capacity crowds through three weeks of play and fine coverage from the New York press.

Much thanks has to be given to the Brownsville Recreation Staff, headed by Louis Prusan, for the excellent cooperation they gave the handball committee.

And, so the tenth annual tournament is over. Under the guidance of Irv Ehrlich the next ten should be even bigger and better. For Irv, though getting a year older in age, is getting a year younger in spirit. It takes a man like Irv, who has a tremendous love for the game, and for good comradeship, that has made the past ten years the best one-wall has ever had.

-HARRY BRIER

MEN'S SINGLES - 121 partici-

Oct. 19 - All day rain . . . this round would have been impossible without use of Good Shepherd Mission Gym . . . 3rd Round Trophy Winners — Ronald Berkowitz, Pat Leccese, Steve Selbst, Joseph Konik, Ray Concepcion, Geoffrey Kirzner, Sam Anteby, Ted Olds, Mark Le-vine, Edward Kaliner, Al Torres, Al Tomba, Milton Kashtan, Pat Culligan, Porky Weisner, Luciano Rad-oslovich, Doc Sorrel, Stephen Feldman, James Whittam, Steve Sofo, Marshall Kider, John Reicher, Bob Blass, Bruce Davidoff, George Friedlander, Luis Rodriguez, Andy Grosz, Don Webster, Ed Kiley, Max Forcht and John Paveletz

16 seeded players come into 4th Round - Out of those 16 players four went down to defeat in this round: Weisner over Ray Rispoli; Blass over Marty Cushman; Tomba over Dan DeLoach, and Webster over Dan Flickstein.

(See pairings chart for the final round results).

Sportsmanship Award - Brownsville Boys Club Trophy went to Norman Cohen. Due to an arm injury, former champion Ken Davidoff was sidelined. He did yeoman officiating along with Tony Quintero, Howard King, Robert Parker, Lionel Pereira and Jim De Stefano.

MASTERS DOUBLES - 48 Teams.

3rd Round Winners - Ray Gershen-Jules Stack, Al Kitay-Abe Hoppe. Henry Wachler - Meyer Selbst, Marty Weinstein-Lou Wigden, Charles Danilczyk-Vic Hershkowitz, William August-Jules Swabinger, Fred Geller - Jerry Kohn, Jim Whelan-Frank Coleman, Marty Grossman-Julie Rothman, Jessie Jenkins-Ted Russell Jr., Irwin Fox-Mal Cohen, Bert Slater-Seymour Wolf, Herbert Dayboch-Al Goldstein, Whitey Kantor-Abe Potofsky, Steve Mayers-Nat Schifter, Jack Levins-Marney Kral-

Quarter-final Winners: Gershen-Stack, Weinstein-Wigden, C. Danilczyk-Hershkowitz, Grossman-Rothman, Geller - Kohn, Kantor - Potofsky, Slater-Wolf, Mayers-Schifter.

Semi - finals: Gershen - Stack, C. Danilczyk-Hershkowitz, Slater-Wolf, Mayers-Schifter.

1st — C. Danilczyk-Hershkowitz; 2nd - Mayers-Schifter; 3rd - Gershen-Stack; 4th - Slater-Wolf.

Nat Schifter, the "Mr. Heart" of one-wall handball, had his eighth operation on July 8, is outgoing president of the Brownsville Handball Club, made a phenomenal showing, reaching the finals in spite of his adversities.

Sportsmanship Award: Lou Wigden and Marty Weinstein.
BOYS SINGLES — 68 Partici-

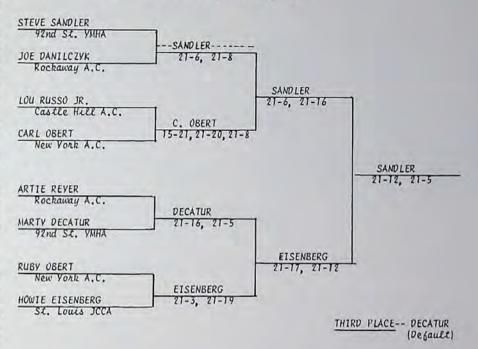
pants.

3rd Round Winners - Mark Levine, Ken Ginty, Danny Maroney, Christopher Puello, Quinto Abrahante, Leon Abel, Luis Ojeda, Gary Straus, Steve Lott, Frank Codero, Gilbert Gonzales, Steven Wissner, William Yee, Reggie Barnes, Mitchell Straus and Roy Thompson.

Quarter - finals: Levine, Maroney, Abrahante, G. Straus, Lott, Weisner, Barnes and M. Straus.

Semi-finals: Levine def. G. Straus, M. Straus def. Lott.

NATIONAL ONE-WALL SINGLES -- QUARTER-FINALS TO FINALS -- 1968 AT BROWNSVILLE BOYS CLUB, BROOKLYN, N.Y.



1st Place - Levine; 2nd - M. Straus; 3rd - G. Straus; 4th Lott.

Brooklyn Borough President Abe Stark donated T-shirts to all contestants. School teachers strike affected boys and novice tournaments. Physical ed departments were all closed. Steve Weisner, protege of Steve Sandler, was playing with his opposite hand only due to shoulder injury, made 19 points against Lott. William Yee won two matches, defaulted as he had to return to Lake Forest College.

NOVICE - 48 Participants.

3rd Round Winners: Tony Colon, Keith Williams, Al Torres, Sigmund Ballaban, Morris Franco, Raphael Santiago, Robert Parker, Louis Torres, Tony Quintero, Steve Valen-stein, Jose Martinez, Luciano Radoslovich, Steve Selbst, Marshall Kidder, Francis Tucker, Ted Olds

Quarter-finals: Colon, A. Torres, Franco, L. Torres, Quintero, Radoslovich, Kidder Tucker.

Semi-finals: Colon, Torres, Quintero, Kidder.

1st Place: Kidder; 2nd - L. Torres; 3rd — Quintero; 4th — Colon.

MEN'S DOUBLES - 112 teams.

16 seeded teams started in Fourth Round. Of those 16 teams five were Ken Gamble and Norman Ray lost to Ronald Berkowitz and Geoffry Kirzner; Bruce Davidoff and Mark Hart lost to Rev. Gerard Fennely and Rev. William Finger; Dr. Sorrel Feldman and Steve Gallo lost to Ray Gershen and Jules Stack; Mark Levine and Steve Rosenblatt lost to Ira Haspel and Jeffrey Seiden; Don Webster and Keith Williams lost to Leon Arazie and Bob Blass.

5th Round: Joe Danilczyk - Artie Reyer; Dan DeLoach-Tony Quintero; Berkowitz-Kirzner; Fennerly-Finger; Barry Ostrie-Steve Selbst; Lou Russo Jr.-Joel Wisotsky; Gershen-Stack; Haspel - Seiden; Al Tomba - Charles Sheldon; Steve Sandler-Marty Decatur; Sal Chiovari-Andy Chiovari; Milton Kashtan-MartinKatzen; Carl Obert-Ruby Obert; Dan Flickstein-Tom O'Connor; Arazie-Blass; Mike Dikman-Bob Sparrow.

Quarter-finals: J. Danilczyk-Reyer; Berkowitz-Kirzner; Russo-Wisotsky; Haspel-Seiden; Decatur-Sandler; S. Chiovari - A. Chiovari; C. Obert-R. Obert; Dikman-Sparrow.

Semi-finals: Russo-Wisotsky def. J. Danilczyk-Reyer, 21-15, 21-5; C. Obert-R. Obert def. Decatur-Sandler, 21-14, 21-13.

1st Place - C. Obert-R. Obert; 2nd - Russo-Wisotsky; 3rd - Decatur-Sandler; 4th - J. Danilczyk-Reyer.

ONE-WALL NATIONALS NOTES: The tournament, under the able supervision of the committee, and the guidance of Brownsville's Irving Ehrlich, Eastern Area Commissioner for USHA, was highly successful. Competition was exceptionally keen. In the Masters doubles there were many good teams, including some players who just reached that eligi-

(To next page)



HANDLING FINALS . . . In rear are some of the key "brass" who made things click during the big national one-wall . . . (I to r) — Howard King, Mary Green-berg, Morris Levitsky, Nat Shifter, Mickey Blechman. Singles finalists kneeling — Howie Eisenberg and Steve Sandler.

ble 40-age mark: Charlie Danilczyk, playing for the Cavalier A.C.; Bert Slater, Rockaway Handball Club; Fred Geller, Hartman YMHA; Marty Weinstein and Stan Sorkin, both from the Brighton YMHA.

The committee arranged alternate day schedules in the Masters, giving the over-40 players as much rest as is possible in this type of a gigantic tournament. It is customary to blame the officials, the committee, their own individual aches and pains, or even the weather.

The committee was very fortunate in that everybody was happy, including the spectators and wives. Vic Hershkowitz, representing Union Temple, and Charlie Danilczyk beat Fred Geller and Jerry Kohn of the Gustave Hartman YMHA in the semis. Nat Schifter, president of the Brownsville Handball Club and Steve Mayers, also of the host organization, beat Bert Slater and Buddy Wolf, McBurney YMCA, in a 3-hour semi-final classic. They then found themselves unable to cope with the eventual champion Hershkowitz-Danilczyk team.

This was Vic's 40th national championship piled up over more than quarter of a century of onewall, three-wall and four-wall.

Much credit should be given to Schifter and his partner, Mayers, and if there was ever a moral victory this was it, for reaching the finals and then forcing a three-game match.

Masters is a great phase of handball and the dedicated old timers stick with it "all the way."

The committee consisted of: Mickey Blechman, Marvin Greenberg, Morris Levitsky, Ted Breslow, Nat Schifter, and chairmanned by Irving Ehrlich.

The Brownsville Boys Club accepted the Handball Club in 1957 as an active participating group to help

Carl and Ruby Obert's victory in the USHA One-Wall Nationals has increased the Obert Family total of assorted national handball championships to 80. Having won half of that total between them, Carl and Ruby were particularly satisfied in annexing the USHA doubles title which had been in their family's possession since 1963.

More significantly, all three brothers, Carl, Ruby, and Oscar, had been stripped of their national titles at the USHA National Three-Wall Tournament on Labor Day Weekend in Detroit. Perhaps it was this loss which gave Carl and Ruby the determination to defeat Marty Decatur and Steve Sandler in doubles. Certainly the prospect of a victory over two men considered by many to be the finest one-wall singles players in the world, gave the Oberts all the incentive they needed. However, the memory of the three-wall losses surely weighed very heavily on their minds.

The color and drama that is traditionally associated with matches involving the Oberts was at its peak in the finals. They were soundly beaten in the first game, 21-6, and trailed 20-14 in the second game when the momentum suddenly changed directions. Ruby's cross-court bullet from the left corner gave the Oberts the same.

After closing the gap to 20-18, the brothers lost the serve again, but played strong defense and regained the serve which they stipsequently used to pick up the three points giving them a 21-20 win. The third game was as routine as the first, except that the Oberts captured the 21-6 victory in the rubber game.

Ruby was obviously the most pleased with the Obert triumph, describing he and Carl as "The Dynamic Duo." He said they had demonstrated "tremendous defensive action," and added that "experience seems to be the winning difference when playing doubles."

Ruby won his first one-wall title in 1954 when he was just 19. "Of course, Oscar let me win that one in the finals," he admitted.

Carl is believed to be one of only four men to have won some sort of national title in one, three and four-wall handball - a feat also achieved by brother Oscar, Marty Decatur and Vic Hershkowitz. Oscar and Hershkowitz are considered to be the most versatile handball players in the history of the game.

-BILL KENNEDY

youngsters of the area, to support their teams and aid and encourage the sport of handball. During the decade of activity a new court was built, 16 new fluorescent fixtures placed in the Gym. Many high schools use the Gym and facilities.

The Brownsville Handball Club has undertaken many worthy pro-jects, providing uniforms and trophies for various boys' club activities. The Club sponsors and supports the Whirlaway Paraplegic basketball team, who compete from coast to coast. A scholarship day camp fund has been established in memory of deceased players. An Interfaith Christmas party is held for 700 children.

ACE magazine entry blank brought in many new players.

A note of thanks to: Ken Gamble. Father William Regan, Jim DeStefano, Harry Brier, Tony Quintero, Howard King, Quinto Abrahante, Abel Leon and Morris Levitsky for encouraging many youngsters in their own particular areas to compete.

There were 557 contestants in all events . . . 60 dozen ACE balls used.

Referee corps — Irving Forman, Nat Schifter, Andy Belskie, Norman Butler, Curley Martin, Lionel Perei-

### Vet Brownsville Player Passes Away

Meyer Weinberg, 61, an active one-waller for 40 years, passed a-way Nov. 10. He played at the Hebrew Educational Society, Lincoln Terrace Park, Brownsville Boys Club and Coney Island Park. He was one of the original charter members of the Brownsville Handball Club and acted as treasurer all these years.

Meyer had played in every USHA one-wall nationals, including the most recent. Handball was his life and the Boys Club his home, devoting hours and weeks of his time helping to run the tournaments.

ra, Robert Parker, Ken Davidoff, Max Davidoff, Meyer Selbst, Don Webster, Abe Garr, Murray Collins, Boscoe Axelrod, Sal Burgio, Leo Levine, Louis Rodriguez, Ruby Ziff, Mark Levine, Dave Jones, Benjamin Klein, Pat Fattore, Pat Culligan, Bob Blass, Leo Arazie, Steve Mayers, Jack Zurn, Lou Russo Sr., Gil Hendler, Dom Bottega.

At the desk: Shelia Raskin. Tourney printers - Curley Martin and

Herb Friedman

#### SIXTH ANNUAL

#### UNITED STATES HANDBALL ASSOCIATION

# NATIONAL CONTENDERS SINGLES - DOUBLES - MASTERS SINGLES MASTERS DOUBLES

at Birmingham, Alabama YMCA, February 20-23, 1969

ENTRY FEE: \$5 per man per event. Players can enter one event only.

ELIGIBILITY: Current (1969) USHA member. If entered in singles, has not previously won national USHA four-wall open singles tournament; if entered in doubles, has not previously won national USHA open four-wall doubles tournament. If entered in Masters singles, has not previously won national USHA Masters singles tournament; if entered in Masters doubles, has not previously won national USHA Masters doubles tournament.

OFFICIAL BALL: Spalding ACE.

TROPHIES: To first four places in each event.

PLUS — Singles and doubles winners (not Masters events) receive air coach trip to USHA nationals in Austin, Texas, March 16-22, 1969.

Mail entries to: Dr. James Tanner, chairman, USHA National Contenders, 1108 First National Bank Building, Birmingham, Ala. 35203 Phone — FA 4-9791.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: Monday, Feb. 17, 1969. Draw will be made at Birmingham YMCA, Tuesday, Feb. 18.

HOUSING INFORMATION AVAILABLE

Make checks payable to: Birmingham Handball Association.

AWARDS BANQUET AND SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY AT ITS BEST

# Columbus, Ohio YMCA Plans 'AAA' Mid-East Regional

Tom Bogen, acting as chairman for the USHA Mid-East Regionals Feb. 6-9 at the Columbus, Ohio Central Branch YMCA, has done a whirlwind job in setting up preliminary promotions.

There will be four events—singles, doubles, Masters singles, and Masters doubles. Four courts will be used for the competition. Three of the courts are only a few years old and in excellent condition. The last court is of a older vintage but is being spruced up for the four-day play.

A number of rooms will be available in the Y for lodging but it is suggested that men wishing to stay there make reservations as soon as possible.

Serving on the committee for the regionals are: Tom Bogen, chairman; Dana Helmick, physical director; Worthy Gee, referees and scorers; Mike Driscoll, tournament draw and player information; Henry Maser, tickets and gallery; Dick Himlock, hospitality; Jack Saeger, publicity.

A USHA membership promotion roster has been placed in the lobby. There is a roster of more than 200 handball players.

Bill Yambrick came in Nov. 21-22 and gave an excellent instructional clinic along with directions on referees and scoring procedures.



CENTRAL OHIO DOUBLES CHAMPS . . . Heading up some of the strength in the upcoming Mid-East USHA Regionals at Columbus, Ohio, will be: Frank Jones and Mika Driscoll, runners-up; Frank Martin and Tom Bogen, champions. All players are from the host Y. Presenting the finalists with their trophies is Jack Moore, physical director.

To help finance the tournament, Bogen's group has: solicited individual contributions with a minimum of \$10. This entitles a person to gallery and souvenir T-shirt. A program booklet will be published with local ads — Full page \$100; ½ page \$50; ¼ page \$25; ½ page \$10.

The traditional banquet will be held Saturday evening. A hospitality room will be maintained adjacent to the handball courts.

Total budget projected, covering trophies, banquet, shirts, balls, and miscellaneous expenditures — \$1050. Expected income from: advertising, solicitation, ticket sales, and entry fees — \$1700.

The question was asked of USHA

— What privileges should we extend
to players' wives and children- (1)
Gallery. (2) Banquet.

Our answer: It is customary to permit general admission seats for the wives of competing players and their children, if present. However, if you have limited gallery for the final events on a reserved paid seat basis these ticket holders would be given preference.

On the banquet, again it is customary not to charge out-of-town wives and children. However, it is usually the procedure to charge the wives and guests of local players.

Stumplis - 1968
HANDBALL
VITATION

INVITATIONAL TITLIST . . . Bruce McCormick of the Dayton YMCA is presented trophy by Dana Helmick, presently physical director at the Columbus Central YMCA, upon winning the Columbus Invitational Tournament.

SEE ENTRY BLANK Page 13

# 1966-67 National Champ Takes Bozo Invite

The Seventh Bozo Invitational, maintaining its previous standards, featured several top flight players. Paul Haber, Ray Neveau, Buzz Shumate, Bob Lindsay, Jr. and Pete Tyson headlined the program at the Midland, Texas YMCA, Oct. 25-27.

Tyson headlined the program at the Midland, Texas YMCA, Oct. 25-27. Paul Haber, recalling his loss to Bill Yambrick last year, dominated the singles play, taking first place with only one serious challenger. He easily eliminated Dick Bray, and Bill Pyle, Wichita Falls, before confronting Buzz Shumate in the semi-finals. This match went three games, 21-10, 20-21, 21-4, and kept the gallety chewing its nails during the second.

Haber demonstrated almost flawless control of the ball; however, Shumate's all-out, flat-kill shooting took its toll. His unbelievable pursuit led to kills and re-kills. Haber would shoot for the bottom board, hit it, and Shumate would pull the ball off the floor and roll it out. He proved that there is really no effective defense against this type of shooting. At 20-20, the serve changed hands no less than four times before Shumate served an ace, you guessed it, that rolled out from the left wall about two feet past the short line. Haber took the third game, but it was Shumate's phenomenal flat kills from either hand that stole the show.

Before meeting Haber in the final match, Bob Lindsay defeated Tommy Patrick, Texas A&M, Rudy Benitz, El Paso, and top seeded Ray Neveau. Lindsay was heavier than he wanted to be, but this did not seem to slow his game any. He took the semi-final match from Neveau with relative ease, 21-11, 21-10.

Although Lindsay was playing very well, Haber's control of the final match, though challenged, was certain. Lindsay played for all the marbles, but lost 21-17, 21-2. As the scores indicate, he could not maintain the necessary strength. Haber appeared to be in excellent physical condition and had command of every shot in the book. His ceiling game seemed nearly perfect. The popular opinion of those present was that Haber is at the peak of his game and virtually unbeatable.

As if to give the national chart watchers something to talk about, Shumate defeated Neveau for third place in a hard fought match, 21-16, 19-21, 21-15. Neveau played well but was carrying a generous amount of extra weight. Prior to losing to Lindsay, he almost had to go three games against Lyle Lewter, Lubbock, Texas. They played an early Saturday morning "hide-away" set in which Neveau got off to a slow

start but won 21-19, 21-9. The consolation award went to Tommy Patrick who bested Dick Bray, 12-21, 21-18, 21-14.

The doubles scene was dominated by Pete Tyson and his students from Austin. Dick Roberson was unable to play, so Tyson paired with Jim Love and switched to the left side. We might add that he plays a mean game on that side and appears to savour it. Tyson and Love defeated Bob Lindsay, Sr. and John Allred, Wichita Falls, and the father and son team of Raleigh Blakely, Sr. and Raleigh Blakely, Jr., Dallas. They then met the other Austin team in the final match.

Stan Henson and Lee, Austin, def. Oscar Villareal and Victor Yanar, El Paso, in a three-game battle that ended, 20-21, 21-18, 21-9. Next, the Austin pair eliminated the Midland Y team of Bob Sumpter and Tom Heiting, again in three games, 21-16, 13-21, 21-12. They played well, but fell to Tyson and Love, 21-13, 21-12 in the big match. The Henson and Lee team proved to be an exceedingly strong dark horse and they should be considered a serious threat in future competition. The astute teaching hand of Pete Tyson will, as in the past, probably guarantee this. Henson, a lefty, plays a fine left side, killing the ball very well. Lee compliments his "wronghanded" partner with a sound right side game.

The third place laurels in doubles went to Sumpter and Heiting as they defeated the Blakely team, 21-13, 21-18. Villareal and Yanar were too strong for Lindsay, Sr. and Allred and took the consolation round in a see-saw match 21-16,

Saturday night found everyone converging on Neal "Bozo" Franklin's steak house for the festivities. Missing faces this year were those of Dick Roberson, Alvis Grant, and George Lee. Let there be no doubts that their share of the "festivities" was well spoken for. Typical of this tournament, the entire group enjoyed itself, and typical of handballers, some were more thorough than others.

This year's tournament co-chairman, Joe DePasqual and Tom Heiting, want to thank all the participants and the paying gallery for making Bozo's Seventh a complete success, on and off the court. They also want to thank the USHA for coming through with a case of handballs which performed very well.

#### SIGN A BUDDY

Do you know a handballer who is not a member of the United States Handball Association?

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# Don't Play Outfield . . . Front Court Position All-Important In Handball

Don't be a backcourt player . . . this applies to both singles and doubles. One of the common faults of many players is that of lagging back and futily watching the opponent shoot in a corner shot or straight low ball that could have been dug up had

he moved with the play.

If you put a "handle" on your serve or shot. and by handle we mean a ball that comes around off the side wall to the back wall . . . anticipate that your foe (assuming he is a righthander) is going to either shoot it in the right corner or try to shoot down the left side. If you have played against this man enough you will know his pattern pretty well . . . if not, you are better off moving quickly to center court, a foot or two in front of the short line and watch his movements . . . the pivot will tip off where he will be shooting.

As we all know the ceiling shot has become an integral part of the four-wall game. However, the values of the ceiling shot are minimized if stroked too hard. Many players hang back on ALL ceiling shots and this is a mistake. As soon as it is seen that the shot will come off the back wall the correct position is to move quickly to the short line and be able to handle the return off that back wall. This leaves the opponent in back court like a sitting duck. We have noted that most players will try to shoot off that back wall and unless they can bottom board it you are in a very strong offensive position if you move out of the back court area.

The leading players will tell you, time and again, the player who maintains the front court position will end up the winner. It's that simple. You can't continually field the ball from deep court and score points. There's an exceptional type like Oscar Obert, who in his palmy days, could get a hot streak and pour in kills with either hand from deep court. A "percentage champion" like Jim Jacobs would not attempt such tactics but be content with defensive returns until the sure shot presented itself.

Don't assume that your opponent is going to put away every setup you give him. Place yourself in an advantageous position in case his shot isn't 100% deadly. Don't get yourself trapped behind him while

he shoots if you can possibly avoid it.

One of the favorite shots of some top drawer players is to shoot right in front of themselves from the short court position. If the shot is a kill he gets it, if it comes up his opponent is hindered and the referee will call a hinder. What can the defensive player do? He can't interfere with the shot or this could be an avoidable hinder. All he can do is move quickly around the shooter and try to get in a position to return the shot, and then if it comes up he has the commanding position and shot. And, even if the shot might be good he still might have a chance of digging it up. You just can't wait behind your opponent . . . do something even if it doesn't prove effective.

We could term such a shot an "option", and as long as the shooter gets away with it he will use it. He can shoot in a straight shot or corner shot - both

have the same effect.

The most effective offensive return in handball is the fly shot. Obviously, it has the advantage of time. The ball comes off the front wall, or front wall-side wall, and the player takes it out of the air before it hits the floor. He usually will have his opponent behind him. If this is the case he can shoot for the kill. If the opponent is at one side he can go for a pass. If the opponent is in front of him he has the

choice of a side wall pass or ceiling shot.

Assume that your opponent is going to fly the ball so you move forward, rather than wait and expect him to let high shots off the front wall go to deep court.

With the lively ball you have a better chance of retrieving a shot that goes behind you than one that is a sharp corner or straight front wall shot while

you stay in deep court.

Remember, even if you get a lot of balls from a backcourt position you aren't able to do a lot with the ball. You will be taking a lot of balls high and will either be going to the ceiling or bringing the ball around the walls to bring your opponent back. In other words, you're not putting yourself in "shooting position". We're not speaking now about the Oscar Obert or Marty Decatur who can be very deadly from deep court. This is aimed at the majority of handball players . . . those with some years of play behind them, but in a lazy habit "rut" that is hurting their potential.

Of course, in doubles, you are practically worthless if you continue to play your game from back court. You are playing against those percentages if you try to shoot behind two opponents. You've got to move quickly to dig up their shots and be able to flip in those telling counters yourself. Again, with the lively ball, there is usually time to move back to retrieve a ball if it goes past you . . . unless it is a well-placed

pass shot.

USHA President Bob Kendler in talking about position, says: "Position is all important. It tells instantly whether you are a pro or a bum. Everybody looks good warming up—just watch them when the play starts—that really tells the story."

Bob also advises in using strategy, "To me you should always return a weakness to a weakness. Dale Carnegie once said: 'you must out-think, out-wit and out-maneuver your opponent. He was talking about handball and didn't know it."

I think the values of front court position were brought out vividly in the championship match Jim Jacobs had with Dave Graybill in the 1965 finals at the glass amphitheater court in Austin, Texas. From deep court Dave tried to shoot off Jim's cross court serve. We counted some 14 errors and weak returns by Graybill on these efforts. In both games of this match Dave was able to cope with Jacobs up to 10 or 11 points and when maintaining short line posttion played on even terms. But, his downfall was his inability to get that short court position more. He needed defense off the serve and he needed maneuvering shots to get his opponent behind him, or at least with him for the all-important "20-foot game" . . and, it's that front half 20 feet that decides the eventual winner in most cases.

In the recent exhibition held at Lake Forest College Stuffy Singer demonstrated the impact of a "dump", "scoop", or "shovel" shot with his left hand. Ray Neveau would attempt strong shots from deep court to Stuffy's off hand side but when he didn't catch that corner kill Stuffy went with the soft fly dump shot, and it didn't have to be bottom board to be effective. Once again it was the story of the deep court man "going for broke" and the percentage just isn't there. Stuffy told us he picked up this shot just a few months before the last nationals and it has paid rich dividends for him. What is the answer? Don't give such opportunities. Again, it is

(To page 16)

# USHA 1969 TOURNAMENTS INCLUDE EIGHT REGIONALS, NATIONAL CONTENDERS

Eight Regionals and the National Contenders are scheduled on the USHA calendar this season leading up to the grand championships, March 16-22 at the University of Texas in Austin.

The special prize of the round trip air coach will go to singles and doubles winners of the nine tournaments (not Masters events), the USHA bringing in 27 winners plus the under-19 National Juniors champ. When we add the seeded singles and doubles players (top eight in singles, first four teams in doubles from the 1968 nationals) this forms the nucleus for the strongest tournament possible.

Swinging around the country the only site not as yet definite is in the East. "Feelers" have been sent out and as we go to press the Hartford,

Conn., VMCA will decide shortly whether or not it will host the tournament. This covers the New England states, Metropolitan New York, New Jersey, and Metropolitan Philadelphia.

Sid Semel our very active Southeast commissioner has his home Y at Norfolk hosting the Southeast singles and doubles with the possibility of a Masters doubles being scheduled separately at a later date. Norfolk will hold the tournament Jan. 31-Feb. 2. Dr. Claude Benham has been the No. 1 man in this area the past several years, but should get more competition from the improving Miami youngsters, Fred Lewis and Joel Galpern, than he has occasioned in the past.

Shreveport, La., YMCA is the South regional locale, with Dr. Cecil Lloyd as chairman. The fine airconditioned courts there will lure players from the deep South. Texas has been shifted into this region because of its proximity. This gives more strength to the potential en-

try. Dates - Jan. 23-26.

The St. Louis JCCA, scene of three national USHA tournaments - the open nationals twice, 1964 and 1968, and our national contenders, 1966, will be hosting the Midwest regionals, Feb. 7-9. Two of the "young bloods", Carl Steimnitz and Jerry Raskas, schooled well by Hymie Goldstein, are carrying a good bit of the work load, and promise a real good one. There are eight courts to work with, including the now-famed Jack Srenco Memorial Court. Local non-seeded players will compete on Thursday, Feb. 6th if necessary to take the heavy load off-the balance will see action the following three days. Missouri was in the South regional last year but now find themselves the south dividing line, bringing in the power from Illinois, Minnesota and Wis-consin. This one should be wide open and provide singles and doubles strength for the nationals.

Tom Bogen is the man behind the controls in the Mid-East regionals, working out of the Columbus, Ohio

Central YMCA. Three comparatively new courts will be used along with a refurbished older one. Tom has a good working committee as is noted in an article specifically devoted to Columbus in this issue. Michiganders, boys from Toronto, all of Ohio, Pennsylvania, with the exception of Philadelphia; upstate New York; this is just a part of the big one in the so-called "Mid America" area.

"Mr. Handball of the Rockies"-Les Shumate, Helms Hall of Famer, will do the job in the Rocky Mountain region. Arizona players will be switched from the West region this year, bringing their guns headed up by Dave Graybill. The exact replica of handball's first Bob Kendler's Town Club glass court will be the spotlight court at the Denver Central YMCA.

Co-chairman with Les is Joe Yeary; Larry Wood and John Hardy, referees and scheduling; Lyle Blue and Bill Shainholtz, hospitality - banquet and entertainment; Shumate, Hank Grady, Ben Cherski, Hardy and Yeary will take care of the advertising; Don Carlsen, publicity and promotion; John Gillingham, the Y physical director, registration; Lee Wretland and Grady, trophies; Darrell Harrison, finance; and most of the housing can be handled right at the Denver Central Y.

The Rocky Mountain regionals will be run off in three days, and this is getting to be more and more the regional format. It cuts down on the working days forced to take off and with players entering in one event only it can be worked out satisfactory. Dates: Feb. 21-23. Out West it will be the know-how

experience of the Fresno Y taking over with the predominately strong California State entries. South against North is the usual story with the Singer-Price-Kelly-Sandland-Bart Southern Californians doing battle with the siege guns from the Bay Area of San Francisco. Dates: Jan. 31-Feb. 2.

#### Columbus, Indiana

#### Jaycees Show How To Get Courts Built

What do you do when you love to play handball and you move to a new community where there are no courts? That question was recently answered in Columbus, Indiana, a community of 28,000 which had fa-cilities for about every sport imaginable other than handball.

Dick Hahn, a member of USHA and a long-time member of the Jaycees, decided that the obvious answer was to build courts yourself. He talked his local Jaycee chapter into budgeting money for the courts and set out to get land and permission from the city. Permission was granted and land was made available in a city park. The two outdoor three-wall courts were completed in the first week of November. And although it is now too late to get in much action this year, the small number of handball enthusiasts in Columbus are now eagerly awaiting Spring and their first full season of competition on their new

The courts, valued at \$2,500 by a local contractor, cost the Jaycees approximately \$1,300 and plenty of hard work. Much of the professional help and large portions of the materials were donated by civic minded individuals and companies.

The style of the back-to-back courts is the same as a number of Florida courts Dick had played on several years ago. Constructed with a cement floor and block walls, the courts have a 16 ft. front wall and side walls which extend 20 ft. to the back of the service box. The side walls slant down from the 16 ft. front wall to a height of 71/2 ft. at the point where they stop. Floor space for each court is the standard 20 x 40. This type of court was selected because it was the simplest and least expensive multi-wall court to construct.

The hope of Columbus handballers is that these courts will stimulate enough interest in the sport so that the city will include indoor, four-wall courts in their plans for additional recreational facilities.

If you're bemoaning the fact that your community or area has no courts, get busy and build some. It can be done.

In the Northwest M. K. "Andy" Anderson took the bull by the horns and will have the tournament conducted at the Washington A.C. in Seattle, site of our 1963 nationals and a 1968 national contenders. Dates: March 6-8.

#### MIDWEST REGIONAL USHA FOUR-WALL HANDBALL TOURNAMENT

For Players From: Missouri, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, North and South Dakotas. Wisconsin, and Manitoba Province of Canada.

MASTERS DOUBLES SINGLES DOURI ES DATES: Feb. 6-9, 1969. Entry Deadline: Feb. 4, 1969. SITE: JCCA, St. Louis, Mo. OFFICIAL BALL: Spalding ACE. ELIGIBILITY: Open to all current USHA members (1969). \$2 a year covers membership and subscription to ACE Magazine. Entrants can send in fee with entry or cover upon arrival. ENTRY FEE: \$5 per man. Player can enter in one event only. TROPHIES: To first four places in each division. SPECIAL AWARD: Winners in singles & doubles (not Masters) receive from USHA round trip air coach transportation to USHA national championships in Austin, Texas, March 16-22, 1969. Doubles winners must remain as a team to qualify for this award. **MOSPITALITY ROOM** — BANQUET FOR ALL COMPETITORS. Tournament Co-Chairmen: Carl Steimnitz Midwest Regional Tournament Committee: JCCA, 11001 Schuetz Rd., St. Louis, Mo. Jerry Raskas ( ) SINGLES ( ) DOUBLES ( ) MASTERS DOUBLES NAME \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ PARTNER \_\_\_ (Please Print) \_ ADDRESS\_\_ STATE ZIP CITY STATE ZIP \_\_\_ CLUB/Y \_\_\_\_ USHA NO. \_\_\_\_ CLUB/Y \_\_\_ USHA NO. \_\_

#### OFFICIAL ENTRY

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL USHA 4-WALL HANDBALL TOURNAMENT Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming.

DOUBLES SINGLES MASTERS DOUBLES DATES: Feb. 21-23, 1969. Entry Deadline: Feb. 16, 1969. SITE: Central YMCA, Denver, Colo. OFFICIAL BALL: Spalding ACE. ELIGIBILITY: Open to all current USHA members (1969). \$2 a year covers membership and subscrip-

tion to ACE Magazine. Entrants can send in fee with entry or cover upon arrival.

ENTRY FEE: \$5 per man. Player can enter in one event only.

TROPHIES: To first four places in each division.

SPECIAL AWARD: Winners in singles & doubles (not Masters) receive from USHA round trip air coach transportation to USHA national championships in Austin, Texas, March 16-22, 1969. Doubles winners remain as a team to qualify for this award.

HOSPITALITY ROOM - BANQUET FOR ALL COMPETITORS.

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#### MIDEAST REGIONAL USHA FOUR-WALL HANDBALL TOURNAMENT

For Players From: Michigan, New York State (except Metropolitan N. Y.), Pennsylvania, W. Virginia, Ohio, Ontario Province of Canada.

#### SINGLES

#### **DOUBLES**

DATES: Feb. 6-9, 1969. Entry Deadline: Feb. 1, 1969.

SITE: YMCA, Columbus, Central YMCA, Columbus, Ohio 43215

OFFICIAL BALL: Spalding ACE.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to all current USHA members (1969). \$2 a year covers membership and subscription to ACE Magazine. Entrants can send in fee with entry or cover upon arrival.

ENTRY FEE: \$5 per man. Player can enter in one event only.

TROPHIES: To first four places in each division.

SPECIAL AWARD: Winners in singles & doubles (not Masters) receive from USHA round trip air coach transportation to USHA national championships in Austin, Texas, March 16-22, 1969. Doubles winners remain as a team to qualify for this award.

HOSPITALITY ROOM - BANQUET FOR ALL COMPETITORS.

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Tournament Chairman: Tom Bogen, Columbus Central YMCA,40 Willing St. 43215

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#### OFFICIAL ENTRY

# SOUTH REGIONAL USHA FOUR-WALL HANDBALL TOURNAMENT For Players From: Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama.

SINGLES DOUBLES

DATES: Jan. 23-26, 1969. Entry Deadline: Jan. 16, 1969.

SITE: YMCA, Shreveport, Louisiana.
OFFICIAL BALL: Spalding ACE.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to all current USHA members (1969). \$2 a year covers membership and subscription to ACE Magazine. Entrants can send in fee with entry or cover upon arrival.

ENTRY FEE: \$5 per man. Player can enter in one event only.

TROPHIES: To first four places in each division.

SPECIAL AWARD: Winners of Singles and Doubles (not Masters) receive from USHA round trip air coach transportation to USHA national championships in Austin, Texas, March 16-22, 1969. Doubles winners must remain as team to qualify for this award.

HOSPITALITY ROOM - BANQUET FOR ALL COMPETITORS.

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MASTERS DOUBLES

WEST REGIONAL USHA FOUR-WALL HANDBALL TOURNAMENT For Players From: California, Hawaii, Nevada.

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DATES: Jan. 31-Feb. 2, 1969. Entry SITE: Fresno, Calif. YMCA, c/o Geo OFFICIAL BALL: Spalding ACE. ELIGIBILITY: Open to all current US tion to ACE Magazine. Entrants can ENTRY FEE: \$5 per man. Player can TROPHIES: To first four places in ea SPECIAL AWARD: Winners receive USHA national championships in Aust to qualify for this award.  HOSPITALITY ROOM — BANQUET F	orge Takoaka, 140 HA members (19 send in fee with e enter in one ever ch division. (not Masters) from in, Texas, March I OR ALL COMPET	8 N. St., Fresno, 69). \$2 a year contry or cover upon tonly. n USHA round to 6-22, 1969. Doub	overs membership and subscrip- on arrival.
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#### SOUTHEAST REGIONAL USHA FOUR-WALL HANDBALL TOURNAMENT

Delaware, Maryland, Dist. of Columbia, Virginia, W. Virginia, N. Carolina, S. Carolina, Georgia and Florida

#### **DOUBLES** DATES: Jan. 31 - Feb. 2, 1969 Entry Deadline: Jan. 15, 1969. SITE: Norfolk, Central YMCA, Va. OFFICIAL BALL: Spalding ACE. ELIGIBILITY: Open to all current USHA members (1969). \$2 a year covers membership and subscription to ACE Magazine. Entrants can send in fee with entry or cover upon arrival. ENTRY FEE: \$5 per man. Player can enter in one event only. TROPRIES: T ofirst places in each division. SPECIAL AWARD: Winners in singles and doubles receive from USHA round trip air coach transportation to USHA national championships in Austin, Texas, March 16-22, 1969. Doubles winners must remain as a team to qualify for this award. HOSPITALITY ROOM — BANQUET FOR ALL COMPETITORS. Draw sheets will be mailed out by Jan. 22, 1969. Southeast Regional Tournament Committee Tournament Chairman: W. F. M. Feber, Physical Dir. Mail to: YMCA, 312 W. Bute, Norfolk, Va. 23510 ( ) MASTERS DOUBLES ( ) SINGLES ( ) DOUBLES \_\_\_ PARTNER \_\_\_\_ (Please Print) (Please print) ADDRESS \_\_ ADDRESS\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ USHA NO. \_\_\_\_\_ CLUB/Y \_\_\_\_\_ USHA NO. \_\_\_\_\_ CLUB/Y \_\_\_

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- -Produced by Isidore Mankofsky.

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15 DECEMBER, 1968

#### Terry Muck Combines Handball, Professional Baseball



Terry Muck, 20-year-old St. Paul A.C. and Midway Y standout handballer, and winner of the 1967 and '68 national intercollegiate A singles titles (representing Bethel College), is also a professional baseball player.

The speedy, compactly-built youngster signed with the Atlanta Braves' organization after completing his junior year in college and had a fine rookie season in the Class A Florida State league during this past Summer. Terry, a lefthand hitting second baseman, batted .295 for West Palm Beach and is tabbed "big league potential" by the Braves' front office.

# BOB KENDLER SELECTED AS ONE OF 150 ALL-TIME ILLINOIS SPORTS GREATS

The Illinois Sesquicentennial Commission, in honor of Illinois' 150 years of statehood, selected 150 "Greatest Living Illinois Athletic Personalities" and followed with special honors Nov. 22 at Urbana, Ill. USHA President Bob Kendler was one of those

USHA President Bob Kendler was one of those honored for his many contributions to handball, "the instigating force behind the U. S. Handball Association in 1951."

"In its 150 year history, Illinois has won recognition for excellence in athletics. It has produced and been represented by individuals and teams bringing national and world championships to Illinois in the widest variety of sports, both amateur and professional.

.... We bring together the most distinguished living athletic personalities who have brought honor and acclaim to our state through their contributions to sports. Many have travelled great distances to be here, others were unable to make the journey.

"We salute them all."

The Commission is composed of: Samuel H. Shapiro, Governor; Ralph G. Newman, Chairman; Senator Thomas A. McGloon, Vice Chairman; Representative Paul J. Randolph, Vice Chairman; Senator Hudson R. Sours, Vice Chairman; Gene H. Graves, Secretary.

Wilfrid Smith, sports editor of the Chicago Tribune, heads up the Athletic Observance Committee, that includes such widely-known personalities as: Jack Brickhouse, Bob Elson, Jack Drees, Leo Fischer, Ed Sainsbury, and James Enright.

#### INSTRUCTIONAL . . .

(From page 10)

the Jacobs' school of tactics to bring the ball up to the ceiling or around the walls from deep court and work toward position, not gamble on the shot from behind the opponent. Sure, there were times when Ray scored impressively, blasting the ball into the corners or on straight kills, and on the first night when Stuffy made errors he was holding the upper hand.

The champions don't wait in deep court. They concentrate on their shots, ever looking for the opening to get the front court shooting area. They can eventually gain this advantage through controlled defensive shots. You can't trade ceiling shots with a Paul Haber. He'll work you down to a frazzle, get the weak return and then pour in his big shot.

Your ultimate goal is front court position.

In the 1968 Midwest Regionals at Milwaukee's JCC, Muck dominated the singles field, defeating Jack Mc-Donald of Joliet, Ill., in the finals. Terry lost to Stuffy Singer in the nationals at St. Louis.

Muck has been coming fast in his handball career and has garnered many Midwest honors in addition to the aforementioned intercollegiate top ranking. He will compete in the USHA National Juniors at Birmingham, Feb. 20-23 but will forego the nationals, reporting for Spring training in early March.

# From the Sports Columns.

FROM: ST. PAUL DISPATCH, NOV. 19, 1968 . . . by BILL FARMER

HAVING A BALL — It's a little like being behind the eight ball in a game of three-dimensional pool.

That's handball, and it's not for Old Paunchy Gongales here. I played a game with Claude Anderson, a certified public punisher on the handball court at the St. Paul Athletic Club.

"Sissy stuff," I had assumed to myself, "bouncing a rubber ball on the wall."

"You had better go soak your hands in hot water," Anderson advised after we had suited up. I challenged him to a duel as part of a week-long quest for suitable winter exercise for my pudgy frame.

"Why?" asked I.

"Because it helps guard against bone bruises in your

'Bone bruises in my hand?" I asked myself. "Claude's a great kidder, heh, heh, I mean, we wear a leather glove on each hand and all."

The gloves, it turns out, are about as thick as a Puffs facial tissue. I plunged my hands into the scalding water until they were red as lobsters.

"Why are you wearing those eye guards, Claude?" I asked. What I really wanted to know was why I was not

wearing those eye guards.

"Well, a lot of times you get in there with-uhsomeone who doesn't know how to play and the shots go wild," he told me, in effect. "I was hit there once . . . and there was one case where a fellow had the retina torn from his eye while playing handball."
"Anyone for jacks?" I muttered to myself.

The handball court, I learned is a high-ceilinged room with no windows. A couple of stripes separate the floor. The dealer-er-server stands between the lines and bounces the ball once, then belts it with his hand. The small, hard rubber ball has to bounce beyond half-court. It can take one bounce on the floor, but that's all. The opponent then has to belt the ball with his hand. The ball must hit the forward wall, then the other guy has a crack at it. This keeps up until one guy fails to hit the ball against the wall.

Sounds easy, doesn't it?

Well, pussycats, there's a catch to it. The ball can bounce off any of the four walls-or even the ceiling. And Dirty Claude, as I grew to know him, can bang the ball off those walls like a three-cushion billiard

"Actually," he confessed, "I am what you would call a middle-class or Class B player. In bowling, that would be about the equivalent of a man with a 175 average or so .

Anderson pulled no punches against me. Wanted to give me the "feel" of the game, you understand. I

felt it after his first serve.

Bam! — The ball — sort of like those Superballs the kids play with-shot from his fist and slammed against the wall, speeding back to me. I slapped at it feebly and didn't even touch it. That's bad. That's very, very bad . . . because the ball doesn't just stop; it pounds against the back wall before you can say "Jack Robinson." I couldn't even say, "Jac-" and the thing whizzed by my side before I could turn around.

Bam! He hit it again. The ball zipped past me and did a double-duty bounce off the side and off the back wall. The ball is still in play until it hits the floor more than once. I knew what a poor little neutron must feel like sitting inside a hydrogen bomb, Bam! Half my body tried to run toward the ball; the other half tried to run away. The result was pretzels-ville right in the middle of the court. Anderson chalked up another point . . . then another . . . and another.

Finally, I connected. Poof! A lazy, high fly into shortleft-center field. Almost yawning by now, Anderson gloved it nicely and flung it toward the wall. Bam, again. The ball came back to life. I actually hit it again . . . but only with my fingers on the right hand. The fingers fluttered back like a lace curtain in a hurricane, and the ball sped away.

After 20 minutes, the score was a nip-and-tuck 19-0, in favor of Dirty Claude, I called time-out, Totally exhausted. I squatted and panted and hacked and coughed.

"Don't have a coronary," Claude warned.
"Thanks, Claude," I thought, my head throbbing, my back aching, my palms burning.

"We've had a couple of coronaries on the court,"

"Thanks again, Claude," I thought. I really wouln't have minded a little, teeny-tiny coronary. It may have gotten my blood pressure back down. As it was, about eight quarts of my hemoglobin was in the palms of my hands.

Back into action I sprung. Claude served. Claude

always served. Bam! Bam! "That's 21." I sighed. And we struggled back to the locker room. So what does Anderson do when he's finished with one of these workouts?

"Usually I go up and run a mile."

I fled in terror.

### S. California Assn. Tournaments

SCHEDULE OF TOURNAMENTS FOR THE COMING SEASON CHRISTMAS OPEN - Dec. 13-15 -U C I — Irvine; SCHA MASTER SINGLES - Jan. 4-11 - Encino Health Club; SCHA CONTENDERS SINGLES - Jan. 18-25 - Pasadena YMCA; USHA WEST REGIONAL OPEN — Jan. 31-Feb. 2, Fresno YMCA; SCHA OPEN SINGLES — Feb. 15-22 - Pacific Coast Club; SCHA MASTER DOUBLES - Mar. 1-8 - Los Angeles A.C.; SCHA CON-TENDERS DOUBLES - April 5-12 - Hollywood YMCA; SCHA OPEN

 April 19-26 — Mid DOUBLES -Valley YMCA.

Al Gracio is the Rules Committee chairman for the SCHA during the 1968-69 season. Your cooperation will be appreciated. A referee may be requested by any player at any time provided a qualified referee is available. The official USHA rules will apply.

Everyone is urged to abide by the rules and to display the best sportsmanship possible.

Marty Singer is the new president

of the Southern California Handball

Association.

In the Association's league play a request from the Los Angeles Fire Department - that all players wear eye guards when playing on their courts.

#### PLAN NOW!

Mark on your 1969 calendars-March 16-22 . . . USHA's 20th Anniversary National four - wall championships . . . Austin, Texas.

#### 1968-69 HANDBALL TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

EVENTS & SITE	CONTACT
Open Masters Doubles Denver YMCA	Les Shumate 655 Monaco Pky. Denver
USHA National Juniors Lake Forest College, Ill.	Mort Leve, USHA Hqs.
USHA Central Doubles Evanston, Ill., YMCA	Joe Ardito, USHA Hqs.
USHA Colorado Singles A, B & C Classes Denver YMCA	Les Shumate 655 Monaco Pky. Denver
Akron YMCA Open Singles & Doubles	Don Nelson, YMCA 80 W. Center, Akron, O.
USHA Colorado Doubles A, B & C Classes Denver YMCA	Les Shumate 655 Monaco Pky. Denver
Annual Mardi Gras Invitational	Donald Zimmer c/o New Orleans A.C. 222 Rampart, N. O., La.
23rd Annual Dallas A.C. Invitational	George Lee, Athletic Director, Dallas A.C.
USHA Central Singles Oak Park, Ill., YMCA	Joe Ardito, USHA Hqs.
USHA Natl. Contenders Birmingham, Ala., Y	Mort Leve, USHA Hqs.
Canadian Nationals Toronto	Barry Leech Toronto YMHA
USHA Natl Championships U. of Texas, Austin (also Natl Intercollegiates)	Mort Leve, USHA Hqs.
Annual Mem. Invitational Denver YMCA	Les Shumate 655 Monaco Pky. Denver
	Open Masters Doubles Denver YMCA  USHA National Juniors Lake Forest College, Ill.  USHA Central Doubles Evanston, Ill., YMCA  USHA Colorado Singles A, B & C Classes Denver YMCA  Akron YMCA Open Singles & Doubles  USHA Colorado Doubles A, B & C Classes Denver YMCA  Annual Mardi Gras Invitational  23rd Annual Dallas A.C. Invitational  USHA Central Singles Oak Park, Ill., YMCA  USHA Natl. Contenders Birmingham, Ala., Y Canadian Nationals Toronto  USHA Natl Championships U. of Texas, Austin (also Natl Intercollegiates) Annual Mem. Invitational

#### 1969 USHA REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS

National YMCA Four-Wall

Minneapolis, Minn.

Downtown YMCA

MIDEAST — Columbus, Ohio, YMCA, Jan. 31 - Feb. 2. SOUTH - Shreveport, La., YMCA, Jan. 23-26. ROCKY MOUNTAIN - Denver YMCA, Feb. 20-23. WEST - Fresno YMCA, Jan. 31 - Feb. 2. SOUTHEAST - Norfolk, Va., YMCA, Jan. 31 - Feb. 2. MIDWEST — St. Louis JCCA, Feb. 7-9. NORTHWEST — Washington A. C., Seattle, March 6-8. EAST - (To be announced)

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#### Southern California . . .

The Southern California Handball Association has elected officers for the 1968-69 season. Heading the list as president is Marty Singer. He has an excellent staff backing him. They are: Syd Fields, vice-president (Encino Health Club Handball Commissioner); Ralph Chism, secretary (Pomona Y Commissioner); Gary Lovell, treasurer (Attorney); Alex Boisserre, consultant (past president); Al Gracio, head rules and

U.C.I. Open at Univ. of California, Irvine, Dec. 13, 14, 15. This is a huge one and will draw at least 250

participants.

Also, I believe the Pacific Coast Club has the best working Fandball ladder of any I have seen to date. The Club is renovating our courts to the tune of \$15,000 and also spent \$650 for an inlaid walnut, glass en-closed case where our A, B, C and D Ladder is constantly active, with between 25 to 35 challenges at all times. Yearly, I have a Ladder Tournament for all classes and the top four winners are placed at the top of their respective classes. Also, I have started the ball rolling on our glass court and if I cannot seem to get the nationals in our area, at least we could host the regionals.

ED KELLY USHA West Area Comm.

#### Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. . .

The 1968-69 handball tournament season opened last month at the YMCA. Again Harold Hanft, the veteran, won over Gene Lewis, 21-15, 21-9 in Class A. Harold played his regular steady game. His placement and pass shots were perfect. Lewis, like most of our Class A players, has only been playing the 4-wall game for about a year. He played a good front court game and made a lot of good "gets". However, he must learn to play the back wall shots before he can cope with the likes of Hanft.

Class B - The winner was Allen Roberts over Wayne Long.

Class C - S. Kirkpatrick - win-

ner over Phil Cheaney.

From observation expert Joe Griffin, Y health club director and a former national singles and doubles champion, says "It will be another year or so before our men really get to learn the back wall shots". We have about 125 men playing handball now. Interest is "high" and I look forward to developing some topnotch players in the future.

Our next tourney will be the State. Date to be announced later. The winners in the Doubles were: Class A — Hanft and Bill Muller. Class B — Roberts and Jordan.

Thirty-two participants gave St. Mary's College, Winona, Minnesota, its first look at championship handball Oct. 18-20. Terry Muck, two time USHA National Collegiate Champion and now a professional baseball player, of the St. Paul Midway Y and Bethel College of St. Paul, was not taken to three games until the finals when he bested former Winonan, Dr. Gary Rohrer, now representing the St. Paul A.C. 21-6, 8-21, 21-8. A sharp serve and flat kill shot handily won the second game for Rohrer, but the more consistent volley and off-hand of Muck led to Rohrer's ultimate defeat.

Muck had gotten to the finals with wins over Jerry Miler (Winona Y) 21-1, 21-13; John Bigley (LaCrosse Y) 21-17, 21-20; Ken Johnson (Rochester Y) 21-14, 21-6; and Orley Brown (LaCrosse Y and LaCrosse State University) 21-19, 21-20.

Rohrer had made it to the finals by much easier victories over John Barnes (St. Mary's College) 21-3, 21-1; Dave Sendlak (SMC) 21-3, 21-5; Art Nelson (Madison Central Y) 21-10, 21-10; until he met Hank Maly (Madison Central Y) in the semifinals. Rohrer won a come-frombehind victory over Maly 13-21, 21-16, 21-14.

Brown took third place from Maly 21-8, 21-6. In the consolation bracket, Jim Ward (Madison Central Y) took top honors from Keanne Cameron (St. Paul Downtown Y) by scores of 21-12, 21-19 in the finals. In the semifinals Ward beat Chuck Mason (St. Paul Midway Y) 21-5, 21-16 while Cameron was winning a tougher battle from Ken Visger (La Crosse Y and La Crosse State University) 12-21, 21-16, 21-13.

Other tournament participants were George Rahn (Cottage Grove, Minnesota), a quarter-finalist defeated by Brown 21-13, 17-21, 21-6; Earl Matthes and Bob Schaaf (Eau Claire Y); Gary Brooks and Bill Wilkinson (Mankato Y and Mankato College); Jack Verby (Rochester Y); Tom Butzer, Lou Guillou, Steve Kil-kus, Pete Lanas, Paul Maganzini, and Pat O'Brien (SMC); John Mohan and Neal Nordlund (St. Paul); Dan Kieselhorst (St. Paul Midway Y), a quarterfinalist defeated by Maly 21-16, 21-17; and Gene Krieger and Ron Lunn (Winona Y).

Credits for promoting and handling the tournament go to Tournament Chairman, Lou Guillou, a mathematics instructor at St. Mary's to Official Host, Max Molock, St. Mary's Intramural Director; to George Rogge (Winona Y) who helped with much of the refereeing; and to Brother I. Patrick, Vice President in charge of Public Relations

The 15th Annual Corpus Christi Labor Day handball tournament brought together a strong doubles field. Robert "Buzz" Shumate was the only nationally-ranked singles player to enter and he won handily for the third year in a row, defeating Marcos Perez, Corpus Christi.

In the doubles, however, Pete Tyson and Dick Roberson, Austin, were faced with Bob Lindsay and Jim Selles, Wichita Falls; Frank Price and Ken Personnaire, Houston; and Bob Roberts and Dan Galvin, Dallas. Tyson and Roberson won the finale from Lindsay and Sellars 21-13, 21-7. Price and Personnaire took third place.

The Masters doubles was won by Tellmond Richter and Hubert Stone, Corpus Christi, who defeated Henry Boehm and Bernie Dennenberg, of Houston, 13-21, 21-16, 21-15.

The Corpus Christi YMCA Hinder Club has been hosting this tournament and their Buccaneer Days Tournament for many years without placing many of their players in any of the finals categories. In addition to having Perez in the singles finals this year, and Richter and Stone as Masters doubles winners, they were happy to have Bill Walker in the singles consolation finals although he was beaten by Alan St. John, Austin. In addition, their Doug Tinker and Roger Nelson won the doubles consolation.

An outstanding feature of both of these tournaments for many years has been the Saturday night fish fry. It is generally held on the water front of the Wilbur Maxwells, which offers a sweeping view of Corpus Christi Bay and its glitter-ing night lights. This gives the players and their families a favored view of the "Sparkling City by the Sea." Maxwell is the Associate General Executive of the Corpus Christi YMCA.

Since the first fish fry many years ago, Bob Spann has been the chef, although in recent years he has developed some able assistants. This year Raymond McKee was the tournament chairman and Bill Walker chaired the hospitality committee. Roger Nelson is this year's Hinder Club president.

-W. L. MAXWELL

and Development at St. Mary's, and a long time handball player and enthusiast.

Plans are already in progress for St. Mary's Second Annual Open Tournament during October, 1969.

LOU GUILLOU

Report on the outcome of our Fair Park Invitational Handball Tournament held at the Dountown YMCA.

The tournament was held on Oct. 12-14. The results:

Singles Class A — Buzz Shumate, Dallas, def. Bob Lindsay, Wichita Falls, 21-18, 2-21, 21-3.

Semi-finals Class A-Bob Lindsay def. Renato Almonde, Juarez, Mexico, 21-9, 21-3 (Renato defeated several good players on his way to the semi-finals without too much trouble, proving to be a real surprise in the tournament.)

Singles Class B - J. Sellers def. Bill Haron, 21-20, 21-9.

Open Doubles Division -Grant and Ed Bellocchio, Dallas, def. Jim Faulk and Lester Blakeley, Dallas, 21-18, 21-8.

ROGER L. ADAMSON

#### Canada . .

Winnipeg group organized . . . just finished a "Scramble" doubles tournament. Partners were chosen by being drawn out of hat. Wayne Galaugher and Ron Latourelle defeated Jim Sisler and Frank Clarke for B honors. A level won by Ron Mruss and Dick Archer, beating Dick Chrobak and John Anderson.

Executives of the Manitoba Handball Association: Mel Wilson, president; Ron Mruss, vice president; Don Rogers, secretary - treasurer; Pat Dunn, tournament coordinator; Norm Duncan, referees chairman; Dick Archer, Dick Chrobak, Ted Gowan, Paul Ross, Ed McKush and Harry Wade, executive members.

#### Handball Oddities . . .

We have a man at our Minnea-polis YMCA, Adolph "Fats" Olson, who is 75 and still plays the game five days a week. He is at the Y at 9 a.m. every morning, still pre-fers singles or practices by himself. He is not fat as his nickname might indicate. He is 5' 8" tall and weighs 160. The youngster moves and hits the ball like a man of 40.

Fats played in the 20s and early 30s, then quit for about 20 years. He retired from the post office department at the age of 65 and started playing again. Five years ago at 70 he extended an opponent 20 years his junior to 3-games in the Y Masters' singles.

Fats Olson is an amazing athlete. -JOE GATELY

## USHA LIFETIME MEMBERS

# Contributing to the USHA HANDBALL PERPETUATION FUND

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As we close out the 1968 year this early response augurs well for an imposing list of contributors by the end of 1969. Gold-plated lifetime membership cards will be sent each and ACE magazine will have a permanent page of recognition. As a federally-chartered non-profit association your contributions are tax deductible. This is your way of giving back something to the game that has given you so much—to perpetuate hand-ball for our children and the generations to come.

# USHA National Champions 1968

Event	Held In	Name	
*JUNIORS	Tulsa, Okla.	Tom Kopaytic—under 19 Mitchell Straus— " 17	
National Four-Wall Singles Doubles Masters doubles Consolation singles	St. Louis	Stuffy Singer Jacobs-Decatur Brady-McGuire Paul Schulz	Los Angeles New York San Francisco St. Paul
Nat'l Intercollegiates A Singles B Singles Doubles Team	St. Louis	Terry Muck John Paveletz Burke-Kennelly Univ. of Texas	Bethel College (St. Paul) Bronx Community College (New York) Texas A & M
National Contenders Singles Doubles Masters doubles	Seattle	Dr. Claude Benham Haber-Morlos Schoning-Inglesby	Norfolk, Va. Milwaukee-L.A. Portland
National Three-Wall Singles Doubles Masters doubles	Detroit	Marty Decatur Decatur-Russo Jr. Gluck-Maier	New York New York New York
National One-Wall Singles Doubles Masters doubles Junior singles Novice  * Held Dec. 28-30, 1967	Brooklyn	Steve Sandler C. Obert-R. Obert Hershkowitz-Danilczyk Mark Levine Marshall Kider	New York New York New York New York New York

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#### Rules Determination . .

During the past six weeks we have received countless letters and calls on the paddle racket news. As stated in the October ACE we have taken the "majority rule" and now present the finished draft of rules.

Probably the hardest decision to come by is on the use of the thong on the racket and resultant ban on switching of hands. This may not meet with the overall approval, but, again, it is the democratic process of the vote in favor of the safety factor. Walt Cryer, our Western Area Commissioner was most constructive in his comments. There was the assertion that the "little man" has an equalizer in the switching of the paddle racket but again, the majority voted in favor of the thong and no switch.

When we have our convention meeting in St. Louis during the first international tournament next April 24-27 this will no doubt come under discussion and again, it will be the rule that the plus-50% want.

Remember, please, that in IPRA the rules are subject to change at the annual convention meeting.

#### South Area Head



KEN PORCO JCC - Louisville, Ky

#### Paddleball . . .

The U.S. Paddleball Association Eighth Annual One Wall Singles and Doubles Paddleball Championships were played on the handball courts at 96th St., and 1st Avenue in Man-

Howard Hammer, Brooklyn, de-fending champion, defeated Martin Trachtenberg, Manhattan, 25-12, 24-26, 25-16, in the singles finals.

The doubles crown was regained by three time past champion Chris Lecakes and John Bruschi, both from Manhattan. Lecakes and Bruschi defeated Hammer and Bernard Klein, Brooklyn, 12-25, 25-22, 25-17.

Our paddleball, an offshoot of handball, is played with a wooden paddle approximately 16 inches in length, on a regulation size handball court. Popularly played by thousands, paddleball is recognized as one of the fastest games in sports, requiring quick reflexes and stamina. Among active participants in this sport are members of Congress, and New York's own Mayor Lindsay.

CHRIS LECAKES

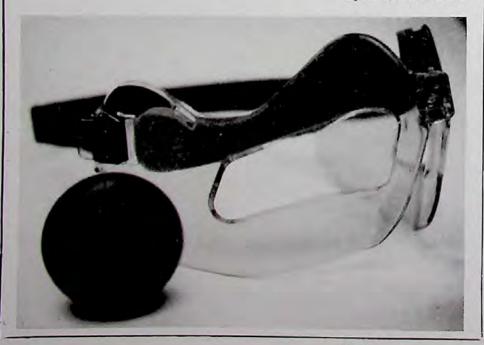
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JIM DI VITO

#### Chicago . . .

Jim DiVito and Wally Rivera, Duncan YMCA host team, won the invitational four-wall paddleball tour-nament, Sept. 20-22. The veteran Duncan team defeated the St. Louis JCCA team of Milt Harris and Marlowe Phillips, 21-7, 6-21, 21-13.

Dick Ribisil and Mike Zeitman, Louisville, Ky., defeated fellow team-mates, Isaac Gumer and Alan Hy-

man for third place.

A full 16-team bracket participated, including teams from St. Louis, Louisville, Cleveland and the local Y's - Division St., Evanston, and Hyde Park. Palmer Pyle, the former Michigan State and pro footballer, teamed with Brad Meyers, but lost in the first round to Jim Jacques and Jerry Marzullo of Duncan.

Semi-finals: Harris-Phillips def. Gumer-Hyman, 21-15, 18-21, 21-17; DiVito-Rivera def. Ribisil-Zeitman,

21-20, 21-10.

PADDLE NOTES . . . Chuck Hazama, physical director of the YMCA in Rochester, Minn., will host a six-state YMCA North Central Area Paddle Racket tourney Jan. 31-Feb. 1. The new IPRA rules will be used. He writes, "You will have our full fledged support to make this game standard in scope."

Ken Porco, our South Area Commissioner from Louisville . . . "After reading the current issue of ACE I feel the game of paddle rackets and the International Paddle Rackets Association have arrived. Excitement is high in Louisville and the players are behind us all the way. We are well on our way with the planning of two championship courts with large spectator gallery and glass back walls at our JCC. Completion is hoped for by next Fall."

#### PADDLE RACKET ROOM

By MORT LEVE

If your reporter is going to discuss the paddle game he must of necessity research and learn everything about it. After 16 years of close association with USHA and the progress of handball a wealth of material has been shored up and this we hope to accomplish with that sawed-off tennis racket pastime.

We have learned that the first YMCA national paddle racket invitation championship was staged by Doug Boyea at the New Britain, Conn., YMCA, in 1963. This was a two-day tournament with semi-finals in both singles and doubles played in the a.m. of the second day and finals of both events in the afternoon.

The game of paddle rackets was originated at the Greenwich, Conn. 2013 years earlier - born in Greenwich and raised in New Britain.

Loting from the tournament booklet: "Paddle rackets is an ideal activity to start one on the hard road to maintain physical fitness. Because

te rigorous nature and competising aspects, it not only provides an excellent mental tonic toward the isvelopment and achievement of an aggressive attitude; but it is ideal as a means of acquiring the attributes of physical efficiency, coordination, split-second timing, on-the-spot decision making, poise, and an effective all-around use of the body, which is, in today's accelerated living pace, a most necessary skill.

"The spirit of conquest, the will to win, the immense drive for excellence in any form of physical adventure and encounter, is a normal heritage of the normal human individual. Playing this game of paddle rackets places the individual in situations where he is on his own responsibility, with success or failure, depending upon his person-al intelligence, skill, speed, strength, endurance, and body ability and agility. In this sports-minded country, it is a rare find indeed to come across an individual, male or female, youth or adult, who does not possess the desire and anxiety to do everything within his power to acquire athletic skills and to develop these skills which are part of his inherent physical attributes, to the greatest degree possible."

Dr. Joseph Granski and Norman Steinberg are listed as the 1959-60 National Paddle Rackets Association champions, Steinberg getting the "Grand Slam" of singles and doubles both years. We counted 22 entrants in singles in 1963, with a decidedly New England flavour, When we open fire at the St.

Louis JCCA next April in the first

IPRA championships all entrant records are sure to be shattered. We'll have an international representation with winners of four divisional IPRA - sanctioned tournaments given round trip air coach transportation to St. Louis as a special award.

NOTES: Sam Carl, a resident of the Chicago suburb Niles and a leading paddle rackets player at the Evanston YMCA, gets the honor of being No. 1 member of IPRA, Sam signed up for three years as soon as the announcement of Charter

membership was made. They tell me: The proper back hand basic stroke should be made with the paddle an arm's length from the body, meeting the ball about knee high. It is advised, "to spread the legs apart and get the paddle racket behind the ball and wait until it comes in front of the body before coming through with the swing. Timing of this swing is very important because the ball must be waited out until the exact moment before it is struck. The racket must be poised behind the ball and must follow through on the swing. The player will want to concentrate on placing the ball low into the front wall and into the right corner or left corner, always trying to strike the side wall first. The player will stroke the ball more accurately if he will shift his thumb up on the handle and use it to brace and guide the racket."



GERARD LAPIERRE

IPRA is fortunate to have a roving ambassador in Gerry Lapierre of Dayton, Ohio. This energetic paddle rackets enthusiast travels widely in his business duties and wherever he goes he uncovers key paddle racket people. Gerry will have the imposing title of National Executive Coordinator and double as Mid-East Area Commissioner.

Lapierre is an example of the transformation that will often take place from handball to the paddle game. He suffered a ripped Achilles tendon about a dozen years ago and switched to the less demand-ing court racket pastime with fine

results.

During the past several months Gerry has lined up many area and district IPRA representatives in the South, East and Middle West. He has preached the gospel of unification - rules, equipment, and true internationally - represented entries. He's not a "yes man" and his cryp-tic observations are well taken in the initial months of organization. We're happy to have him aboard.

#### Upstate New York



DUNCAN LECTKA Buffalo, N.Y.

#### BONUS OFFER!

SIGN UP THREE IPRA MEMBERS AND YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 1969 IS FREE!

ALL 1969 MEMBERSHIPS WILL BE CHARTER.

## NORTH DIVISION IPRA TOURNAMENT

SITE: Evanston, Illinois YMCA. Dates: February 28 - March 2, 1969 ELIGIBILITY: Open to all current (1969) IPRA members. Those who are not members or current can do so when mailing in entry or at site of the tournament. (See membership-subscription application). Must be resident of following States and Provinces: Manitoba, Ontario, North and South Dakotas, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia. ENTRY FEE: \$5 per man per event. Player can enter one event only. OFFICIAL BALL: IPRA which will be tested and provided prior to tournament. OFFICIAL RULES: IPRA as carried in this issue. AWARDS: For first three places in each event. SPECIAL AWARD: Winners of singles and doubles (not Masters) given round trip air coach to International IPRA tournament, St. Louis JCCA, April 24-27, 1969. SEND ENTRIES TO: IPRA, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, III. 60076. ( ) SINGLES ( ) DOUBLES ( ) MASTERS DOUBLES Chairman: J. Larry Meyer, Physical Dir., Evanston YMCA, 1000 Grove St., Evanston, Ill. Name \_\_ Address \_ (Please print) \_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_ IPRA Card No. City \_\_ \_\_\_\_ Address Partner's Name (Please print) City \_\_ \_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ IPRA Card No.

# INTERNATIONAL PADDLE RACKETS ASSOCIATION CHARTER MEMBERSHIP-SUBSCRIPTION APPLICATION

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## INTERNATIONALS APRIL 24-27 AT ST. LOUIS

St. Louis JCCA will host the first International Paddle Rackets Association championships, April 24-27. The tournament was approved by the JCCA's physical education committee in a meeting held there last month.

Four division IPRA tournaments will be scheduled leading up to the first big climatic competition. The Evanston, Ill., YMCA is the first to announce its hosting of the North Division. The tournament will be held there Feb. 28-March 2.

Much interest will focus on St. Louis next April as the sounding board for the unification of the paddle rackets sport. A uniform ball will soon be adopted after nationwide testings. A final draft of the IPRA rules is contained in this issue following consultations and letters of constructive criticism on the first rough draft carried in the October ACE.

IPRA will bring in winners of the singles and doubles (not Masters) to the St. Louis classic on a round trip air coach special award, thus assuring the host of the best international representation.

During this four-day event a convention meeting will take place with committees being formed for: Rules, Nominating, Hall of Fame, Tournaments, and Promotion.

Any current (1969) member of the IPRA is eligible to compete in the international championships... Each division will cover approximately one-quarter of the nation plus adjacent Canadian provinces.

The North Division at the Evanston Y covers: Kansas, Missouri, Indiana and Kentucky on the south; Nebraska and the Dakotas on the west; Manitoba and Ontario provinces of Canada along with Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan on the north; Ohio and West Virginia on the east.

The St. Louis JCCA, site of two national USHA championships — 1964 and 1968 — has one of the true outstanding facilities in the United States. Situated on 106-acres in suburban St. Louis, close to the airport, the Wohl Center has eight standard indoor courts, including the glass side-walled Jack Srenco Memorial Court. There are ten outdoor courts, three three-wall, three four-wall and six one-wall.

Considering the late April dates it is most likely that plenty of "free play" will be afforded those entrants who are knocked out of championship contention early. A consolation singles bracket will be arranged for those singles players eliminated in any preliminary or first round competition.

Marlowe Phillips, an ex-handballer, has been the driving force behind the paddle rackets promotion at the St. Louis JCCA. Marlowe, who plays a championship brand of ball, has done a marvelous job of introducing the game to the men, women and youngsters, working closely with the long-established handball group to create a fine harmony.

To give an illustration of the "co-existence" at the JCCA it is noted that each sport will have the same number of "house tournaments" and each will host a big outside tournament — handball the Midwest Regional USHA, Feb. 7-9, and the International Paddle Rackets, April 24-27.

ACE Magazine Editor Mort Leve attended the tournament approval meeting in St. Louis and was much impressed with the activity in St. Louis. "There appears to be a 100% occupancy on the courts indoors from early morning on", Leve observed. The paddle racket players seem to dominate the earlier hours, then the handballers take over on the majority of the courts."

On the day the meeting was held Phillips was engaged in a mixed doubles playoff match on the glass court. "That's a real crowd pleaser," Leve added. "There was a good crowd on hand, mainly to watch the fair damsels cavort about. And, they insist on colorful uniforms, something we should think about in handball and paddle rackets."

There will be many developments coming up in paddle rackets. IPRA expects to add a junior division next season, women's playoffs, and who knows — mixed doubles???

#### WEST AREA



WALT CRYER Provo, Utah

the immense possibilities in the game for the teenagers. In fact, such boys as Dan Krueger and Ted Yevelson play both handball and

in April.

by bowling alley lounge.

Yevelson play both handball and paddle rackets very well, and it is just a matter of concentrating on one or the other before tournament play. And, the way the national tourney schedule is set up for 1969 those two-sport players can point for the regional and national USHA events in February and March and then switch over to concentrated practice for the paddle rackets test

For further information on hous-

ing, ticket reservations, and entries in the 1969 IPRA championships,

write: IPRA, 4101 Dempster Street,

tournament committee with Phillips

as chairman will be: Artie Albert,

Fred Kreis, Bob Adelson, Stuart

Cohen, and Bill Cohen. With the

past experiences of the national

USHA handball events the format

for such a championship event will

both at the JCCA facility for morn-

ing coffee, milk and sweet rolls,

plus the late evening-night time

get-togethers probably at the near-

Several youngsters of the JCCA

will demonstrate in the tournament

A hospitality room will be set up.

follow smoothly into place.

Included on the international

Skokie, Ill. 60076.

The FIRST International Paddle Rackets clinic will be scheduled at the JCCA in the Jack Srenco Memorial Court, headed up by several of the leading players. A tape recording will be made, edited and instructional material gathered for a followup issue of ACE.

International Commissioner Larry Lederman promises a real strong contingent from his Milwaukee JCC and the hotbed championship caliber personnel from Madison, Wisc., YMCA. With a uniform ball in the near future there will be no disadvantages to anyone coming into the divisionals and internationals.

It should be added that IPRA has adopted the same AMATEUR DEF-INITION as USHA: We hold as eligible for paddle rackets anyone except those who engage in, or promote paddle rackets for a profit. And, the "Pick-A-Partner" which is the essence of the "Players' Fraternity" will allow players to come to the IPRA tournaments and select a partner, if necessary, regardless of what organization or city he might This is your IPRA. represent. Make your plans now to come to St. Louis and help unify the game!

#### TFAMWORK . . .

They're still not listening!

Despite constant letters, our specifications booklet. telephone calls, and personal talks we find handball courts still being constructed without thought of ade-

quate gallery.

We received a call just the other day from Jim Gilbert, who has taken over as physical director of the new Southeast YMCA in Tulsa. Last December, while in Tulsa for the National Juniors, I went with Jean McCoy to talk to the Y architect. After looking over the plans for handball courts I did everything I could to dissuade their blue print. I pointed out in desperation it would be better to have one good gallery court, with glass from the 5 or 7' height level in the back wall, rather than what they had set up for four courts.

I could sense Jean and I were batting our heads against the wall because the Y is now open and their four courts have the following: 4' of solid wall in the back, then 6' of glass, a 4' continuance of wall with a second balcony level including four more feet of glass with 2' solid wall to ceiling. These are enclosed courts, air conditioned.

The downstairs area behind the back wall is merely a hallway with spectator space for about 15-20. Upstairs, only those in the front row have a fair view, the others behind lose both the back wall and back court. This area above is a platform to be utilized for an exercise and weight lifting room.

To allow for refereeing remodeling must be done to get a sliding glass piece inserted. To get adequate gallery at least one back wall of a court must be completely done over at some future date. And, knowing how tough it is to get additional funds in a new building this will take at least a few years.

At the JCC in Reading, Pa., two courts were included in the building, without even an opening in the upper back wall . . . players go in and play as if they were going into solitary confinement . . . to top it off the architects placed a STEP leading from the entrance doorway into the courts so a rush remodeling job necessitated raising the floor 18"!

Sooner or later the powers-to-be realize the need for a gallery. It is obviously easier and much more economical to include them in the initial building. But, the planners look no further than 20 x 40'. They think this space is enough in itself and think a hallway behind is adequate.

PLEASE, listen to our pleas handball builders! Include GALLERY, GALLERY, and more GALLERY. It is not lost space and will more than pay for it-

self in "selling" handball and paddleball.

#### Handball or Paddle Rackets?



Suzette Doubek, recently married to Evanston, Ill., YMCA handballer Bill Doubek, poses with the official USHA garb, but has shown a preference for the paddle game. Bill, meanwhile, struggles along, trying to master the intricacies of two-handed fourwall play, and the rumor is out he will soon surrender and move into the paddle ranks. This will undoubtedly relieve him of the little black ball frustrations. And, it is much nicer to swap racket volleys with a pretty young miss like Suzette, isn't it William?

#### DIVISION IPRA LOCALES NEEDED

South . . . East . . . and West. Division hosts are needed for three of the four IPRA-sanctioned tournaments to be scheduled prior to the international event in April.

All winners of singles and doubles events (not Masters) in these divisionals get the special IPRA award of round trip air coach transportation to the championships in St. Louis.

Any YMCAs, Community Centers, Clubs or schools interested in hosting a divisional can contact: Mort Leve, IPRA, 4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Ill. 60076 (Tel. No. - Area Code 312, ORchard 3-4000).

# Handball-Paddle Rackets Booth at Nat'l Sporting Goods Show

Handball and the paddle rackets games will get excellent exposure at the annual National Sporting Goods Association Convention and Show, being held February 2-6 at the Houston Astrohall.

A booth (Booth 8, Registration Area) has been assigned on a complimentary basis in the Sports Information Area with other non-profit sports promotional agencies.

Mort Leve will man the booth, armed with plenty of literature "amunition" for both the established USHA and the fledgling International Paddle Rackets Association.

The USHA-officially endorsed Spalding ACE balls and Saranac ACE gloves will also be on display at their respective company booths.

# INTERNATIONAL PADDLE RACKETS ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL FOUR-WALL RULES

NOTE: This is the finished draft of the official International Paddle Rackets Association rules. We sifted through a fine nationwide response on suggestions and constructive criticism, held telephone conversations, personal meetings—this, then, is the end result. As a flexible, democratic organization these rules can be subject to change. A rules committee is now in the making and will make a report and recommendations at our first convention scheduled during the international tournament at the St. Louis JCCA next April 24-27. Meanwhile, if you have any comments to make send them to: IPRA, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill. 60076.

\* \* \*

- I. COURT The specifications for the standard four-
- (a) Dimensions. The dimensions shall be 20 feet wide, 20 feet high, and 40 feet long, with back wall at least 12 feet high.
- (b) Lines and Zones. Courts shall be divided and marked on the floors with 1½ inch wide red or white lines as follows:
- (1) Short Line. The short line is midway between and is parallel with the front and back walls dividing the court into equal front and back courts.
- (2) Service Line. The front edge of the service line is parallel with and located 5 feet in front of the far edge of the short line.
- (3) Service Zone. The service zone is the space between the outer edges of the short and service lines.
- (4) Service Boxes. A service box is located at each end of the service zone by lines 18 inches from and parallel with each side wall.
- (5) Receiving Lines. Five feet back of the short line, vertical lines shall be marked on each side wall extending 3 inches from the floor.
- II THE GAME Played by two players singles; four players doubles.
- (a) Scoring. Points are only scored by the player or team in service. 21 points constitutes a game. A match victory consists of a player or team winning two games.
- (b) Refereeing. In tournament play it is recommended that a referee and a scorer be used. It is the referee's responsibility to take charge, making all calls. The scorer's responsibility is to keep a running count of the game and make a vocal call after each point is scored.

#### III EQUIPMENT -

- (a) Uniform. All parts of the uniform, consisting of a shirt, shorts, socks and shoes, shall be white. Warmup shirts and pants, if worn in actual match play, shall also be white. Only club insignia and/or name of club or paddleball organization may be on the uniform. Players may not play without shirts in tournaments.
- (b) Official Ball. Note. IPRA is now conducting tests to determine an official ball. The color black has already been agreed upon. The ball shall be 21/4 inches in diameter, weight

approximately 1.40 ounces with the bounce at 65-70 inches from 100 inch drop at 76°.

- (c) Paddle Racket. The length together with width may not exceed 27 inches with a weight of not more than 16 ounces, not including thong.
- (1) The racket must include a thong so that it may be securely wrapped on the player's wrist.

#### IV. SERVE -

- (a) In singles the server can stand in any part of the service zone. He must bounce the ball on the floor and stroke it to the front wall first, and the ball must rebound over the short line without hitting the floor. The legal serve can be either a straight rebound from the front wall or a combination with one side wall, hitting the floor past the short line. Any other type serve is no good. Examples: Serve that hits the side wall first. There are two types of illegal serves—"shorts" which allow for a second serve, or a player or side "out" serve that loses the serve.
- Short serves: Serve that does not rebound over short line.
   Serve that hits two or more walls after being served to front wall. Serve that hits front wall and then ceiling. Serve that hits front wall and rebounds on fly to back wall. Foot fault serve in which server extends foot out of service zone while serving.
- 2. Player or side out serves: Serve that is hit into the floor before reaching front wall. Serve that hits ceiling before reaching front wall. Serve that rebounds back and hits server. Serve that hits partner while this player is out of his position against side wall. Serve that hits side wall before reaching front wall. Serve that hits the crotch of floor and front wall is considered same as serving into the floor. Bouncing the ball more than three times before serving. Note: If such a serve hits crotch in second side wall or back wall it is a legal serve, if it first goes over the short line.
- (b) In doubles, the team that serves first gets one serve only, and this serve can be taken by either player. From that juncture each team gets two serves with the same order of serve prevailing.
- (c) Receiving player or team must remain five feet behind short line until ball is served and cannot return the ball legally until it passes the short line. Any infraction results in player or side out.
  - (d) Two short serves result in player or side out.
- (e) Return of service. Player can take serve out of air or on one bounce, and can return it to front wall with any combination of walls or ceiling as long as ball does not touch floor before hitting front wall.

#### V. VOLLEY PLAY -

- (a) Once ball is put into play a volley continues until the player player or side serving or receiving has returned the ball to the front wall and no return is made by the opposition.
  - 1. Player or team is allowed a clear view and room to ex-

ecute shot of the ball on all returns during a volley. If such view or position is not given a hinder should be called.

- (a) Serving hinders: "Shadow" serves in which the served ball passes so close to the server's body that it impedes the view of the ball by the receiver. Serve that hits partner while he is in zone position against side wall.
- (b) Return hinders: Balls that strike the opponent. Balls that rebound from the front wall into a side or back gallery on the fly or first bounce.
- (c) Volley hinders. Player not given clear view or position for return shot. Physical contact which impedes effort of player to return ball.
- (d) Avoidable hinders. This need not be intentional. In the opinion of the referee, if player has not given opponent clear view or position for return when he could have done so, he can call an avoidable hinder and this is player or side point, or out, as the case may be.
- (e) Safety hinders. If player avoids returning ball because of fear of hitting his opponent with the racket a hinder call should be made by the referce. This is a judgment decision, of course.
- (f) If a player loses control of his racket, time should be called after point has been decided, providing the racket does not strike an opponent or interfere with ensuing play.
- (g) If ball breaks during volley the play is immediately dead.
- (h) Ball must be hit with the paddle in one or both hands. As a safety factor the thong must be around the wrist at all times. No switch of paddle from one hand to the other during volley or serve is permitted.
- (i) If ball is touched with hand, arm or any part of the body during return it is an out or point, as the case may be.
- (j) In doubles if one player swings and misses the ball, his partner may attempt to return the ball legally.

#### VI CONDUCT OF GAME -

- (a) Delays. Deliberate delay exceeding ten seconds by the server, or receiver shall result in an out or point against the offender.
- (b) During Game. During a game each player in singles, or each side in doubles, either while serving or receiving may request a "time out" for a towel, wiping glasses, change or adjust equipment. Each "time out" shall not exceed 30 seconds. No more than three "time outs" in a game shall be granted each singles player or to each team in doubles.
- (c) Injury. No time out shall be charged to a player who is injured during play. An injured player shall not be allowed more than a total of fifteen minutes of rest. If the injured player is not able to resume play after his rest of 15 minutes the match shall be awarded to the opponent or opponents. On any further injury to same player, the Commissioner, if present, or committee, after considering any available medical opinion shall determine whether the injured player will be allowed to continue.
- (d) Between Games. A two minute rest period is allowed between the first and second games, at which times the players should NOT leave the court, without approval of the referee. A ten minute rest period is allowed between the second and third games, at which time players may leave the court.

#### MISCELLANEOUS DEFINITIONS

ACE — An ace is a legal service which completely eludes the receiver.

FLY PALL — A ball stroked on the fly after a service or a return before it has touched the floor, no matter how many walls or ceiling it has touched.

KILL — A kill is a ball returned to the front wall or side wall-front wall or front wall-side wall in such a manner that it rebounds so close to the floor that it is impossible for the opponent to make a return.

PASS — A pass is a ball returned to the front wall or front wall-side in such a manner that the ball rebounds behind or on either side of the opponent and it is not returnable.

RECEIVER — The player or players to whom the ball is served are called the receiver or the receiving side.

SERVER — The player serving the ball shall be termed the server. In a four-handed game the one serving and his partner are termed the serving side.

Membership-Subscription: ACE Magazine, Official Voice of Handball and Paddle Rackets, published six times yearly, is included in the annual dues in the IPRA. This magazine is the communication vehicle through which players everywhere can keep posted on the developments in the game, know where tournaments are being held, gain valuable instructional material. Membership in the Association gives you an opportunity to compete in sanctioned tournaments. Your membership card is an introduction to players and clubs throughout the world. You receive, in addition to ACE, periodic mailings on developments. Membership in the IPRA is available to any person interested in Paddle Rackets — champion and beginner alike. The membership fee, along with all other IPRA income, is used to promote interest in and the betterment of the game.

For all information: IPRA, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill.

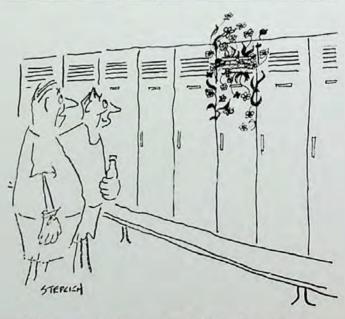
#### Feb. 28 - March 2, 1969

# North IPRA Divisional Set at Evanston, Ill. YMCA

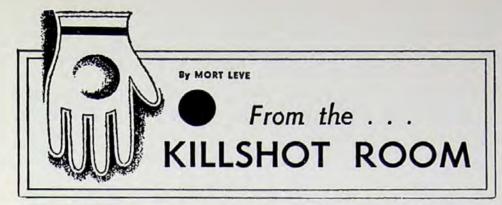
J. Larry Meyer, Midwest Area Commissioner for IPRA and physical director of the Evanston, Ill., YMCA, has announced that the first North Divisional tournament will be held Feb. 28-March 2, 1969 with his Y as host.

Evanston is located on the northeastern border of Chicago proper and is the home of Northwestern University. The Y has four fine standard courts, with a newly installed heating-air conditioning unit.

Competition will take place in singles, doubles, and Masters doubles. Winners of the singles and doubles (not Masters) will be given a special award of air coach round trip to the first internationals at the St. Louis JCCA, April 24-27.



... TIME TO CLEAN OUT THE LOCKER.



For some reason it is always toughest to set up a USHA four-wall tournament in the New York metropolitan area. It could be that there is a scarcity of four-wall courts in this largest populated handball area, especially since the Brooklyn Central YMCA and Bronx Union YMCA "went by the boards" (switched over to State narcotic centers).

In talking with Lou Kramberg, Al Stein's right hand man at the 92nd St. YMHA, we discovered his Y has the two standard courts in need of repair and the clamor for reservations so loud that 20-minute periods are scheduled. You and I know it is not possible to get a satisfactory workout in that time . . . the New Yorkers play, go into the gallery and await another turn, if they have the time to wait.

We next thought of taking a tournament into Boston for the first time, but there again the Huntington St. YMCA has only two standard courts so are not ready to host at this time. We put a "feeler" out to Bill Kennedy on the possibility of a New Jersey host and that's where it stands at the present time.

In speaking of crowded conditions there are few locales where this is not prevalent. On a recent trip to St. Louis and the JCCA I discovered they are now using a system that seems to be working well.

Quoting from the JCCA handball and paddleball courts rules:

Courts are assigned to those ready to play and dressed in proper gym clothes.

Periods are one hour in duration to begin 15 minutes past the hour, whether the attendant is on duty or not.

Players arriving after start of period may wait for next period or play out the partial period only. A player in the current period, regardless of when he began playing in that time period, cannot be signed up for the next period when players are waiting. If a court should become available before the end of the time period, those players who have reserved the court for the next period may take the court with the court attendant's permission. The exception is that if there are players who do not have a court reserved at any time, such players may use the court for the remainder of the period only.

Doubles must be scheduled when players are waiting.

Once period begins as singles, additional players can only be added with occupants' consent.

An individual handball or paddleball player cannot hold the court for himself once the period begins if more than one player from the other sport is waiting.

Only handball will be played on the Jack Srenco Memorial Glass Court. When court reservation attendant is not on duty, players must be physically present in balcony to reserve courts for next period.

Decisions of the Court Attendant will be final in the execution of these rules.

The JCCA has eight courts indoors with the battery of ten outdoor

courts (3 three-wall, 3 four-wall, and 6 one-wall). Fencing has been installed behind the one and threewall courts, donated by the 1968 national USHA tournament committee, costing some \$1100.

What has happened at the St. Louis JCCA is a large influx of paddleballers, including women and teen-agers. However, both the handball people and racquet wielders are in full harmony and working together. With a 14,000 membership you can readily understand that even a facility with that many courts still has a crowded condition problem.

It was logical that some discussions had to take place before an OK was put on both our Midwest Regional USHA tournament, Feb. 7-9, and the first International Paddle Rackets Association internationals, April 24-27.

What are the values of "outside" tournaments, notably those of a regional or national stature?

Stimulate interest in the game.
 Demonstrate advanced skills.

—Local, State and National publicity and prestige. For example, in 1964 the first network television of handball took place at St. Louis for the national finals.

—Afford the opportunity for the host organization to show a net financial return. The aforementioned funds that went for fencing of the outdoor courts in St. Louis were provided from the 1968 national tournament net. Other profits could go toward transportation funds for juniors and top players to other tournaments.



EVERYTHING SET FOR BIRMINGHAM . . . USHA Executive Secretary Mort Leve (1) meets with Dr. James Tanner and Alan Clark to make final plans for the Sixth Annual National Contenders at the six-court YMCA facility, Feb. 20-23. Two-day visit in the Alabama city covered showing of films, "quickie" tournament and a display of the true Southern hospitality.

# Don Ardito Central USHA Singles Winner

Note: Jim Brosnan, the ex-big league pitcher and author of note, is a member of the Northwest Suburban YMCA and a longtime handballer. He heeded the call of the Illinois Handball Association to "pitch in" during the recent annual Central Contenders, and write up the tournament. Little did we know that Jim would produce a "tome," but it is such good material we present it uncut and unprejudiced. On his finale match refereeing we will merely say, "Broz, stick to writing."

#### By JIM BROSNAN

Some handball players don't need an excuse for a party. Serving an ace at match point will do. Hitting an opponent in the belly with a wicked reverse hop is cause. Playing a game on any night out with the boys is reason enough.

The USHA has a better idea for

party-planners.

"Help us run a tournament," a USHA official will say. "Organize the schedule. Provide us with referees. At the end of the week we'll stage a shindig. Pick your own place. We'll split the tab. AND EVERY MAN BRINGS HIS WIFE! That ought to get the old lady off your back for a couple of months."

Bob Koenig of the Illinois Handball Association got the idea. Assign-



THROUGH THESE PORTALS . . . The Illinois Handball Association operated like it was a national tournament. Bob Koenig and his hard-working frau (left) take care of the registration and information department. At side of table is the "working staff" — (I to r) — Jim Brosnan, Chuck McClellan, Northwest Suburban Y executive director; Joe Ardito, Wally Knorowski, and Ben Costello of the official IHA family.

—Photos by JACK GRUND

BEAMING PAPA JOE . . . IHA President Joe Ardito went through the throes of an anxious father as son, Don, twice a bridesmaid, won the Central USHA Contenders singles, giving promise of even bigger prizes in the near future.

ed to organize the Contenders' Tournament for the Central USHA Koenig asked if the Northwest Suburban YMCA wasn't the perfect spot. How could I argue?

#### Suburbia No. 1 Y

The largest non-residential Y in the world, N. W. Suburban has six fine courts, 18,000 members (17,999 of whom want a court on Saturday morning), and an executive director, Charles McClellan, who has quick hands and wicked reverse. McClellan agreed to host the tourney, provide six courts for Sunday and two others each night the rest of the week. He was sure the handball committee would function ably and he then and there appointed one.

"You are the handball committee," said he, pointing at me, Koenig's contact, notorious for his ability to foul

up a two-car funeral.
"All it will take is a few phone calls" said Koenig. "Get the refs. Arrange a schedule. Attend the draw. Plan the dinner. Collect the money. Nothing to it."

Seventy-two phone calls later the party was an almost certain success. Sixty-four players had signed to contend. A dozen members of the Y had graciously consented to referee. The dinner was planned from cocktails to prime ribs to chocolate parfait. And Joe Ardito, IHA chairman, said I could referee the championship match. Perfect incentive! How else to get a front row seat in the gallery! Or, to paraphrase a maxim: if a man can't play, he calls the game.

#### Quick Eliminations

The first round, on Sunday, was typically fun for some players and a horror for others. The seeded players breezed thru their matches; a visitor from Joliet who never had a chance declared that his one-sided loss was a genuine experience he'd never forget.

The Hospitality Room set up by Koenig and Ardito's committee was busier than the Y's own snack bar on Saturdays. Losing players tore into sandwiches and cake, coffee and soft drinks as if determined to get their two dollar entrance fee back

in one good meal.

The only exciting match all day came in the very first hour: Wes Yee, the 17-year-old Chinese boy from New York, (now a Lake Forest College "import") awed the early spectators with a hard serve that hardly seemed possible from a 130-lb. body. Yee, in the toughest bracket, seemed sure of the honor as Sentimental Favorite. In an hour-long match he beat Joel Zimmerman of the Bernard Horwich Center, 21-18, 21-19, shooting all the shots a boy can expect to have and some that older men would never master.

"When I see guys like Yee and Drabik, the No. 2 seed," said one volunteer referee, "I get the idea I don't play this game right."

The genuine accolade of a humble handballer!

Seven members of the host Y entered the tournament. Only one, Chuck Merriam, had a chance of gaining the quarter finals. He won his first round match as did Roy Demeyer. Both men then refereed a match after which Demeyer grinned and said:

#### Neophyte Refs

"That was the best game I ever refled. Had to be, I never did it before!"

The volunteer officials, diligently perusing the USHA manual between shots, were surprised at times at the way the game is played according to the rules. Sort of hinders the ordinary man's approach to the game.

The second round was scheduled for Monday, starting at six o'clock. Terrible time. Ruins the cocktail hour. The 32 matches on Sunday had been completed in six and a half hours (a new USHA record) and there were hopes that the eightmatch second round would be completed with equal dispatch.

Orderly tournaments require punctual players. No. 1 seed, Jim Leahy, was on time and won easily from Chuck Emmert, a veteran who was "just playing myself into shape for the Master's" (an event also scheduled for the Northwest Suburban courts in December).

The second match was held up for 19½ minutes because one of the players had to drive in from Joliet. This doughty commuter beat the forfeit time by 30 seconds, then lost his match in 20 minutes, which hardly made the 150-mile round trip worthwhile.

#### Punctual OK . . . Functional ?

Referees Ed Grabill and Dick La-Sorsa were not only on time but crisp and authoritative in their calls. Each was to work five matches during the week, helping to make the tourney run smoothly. Grabill might have played in the tournament had he not needed a knee operation; La Sorsa had no illusion about playing but he got his kicks calling shorts and hinders.

The host Y's two remaining contenders were defeated. Merriam went three games with Tom Mark, Evanston YMCA; Roy Demeyer had to play the redoubtable Sy Abata, one of the original nice guys in handball but a tough shotmaker in the court. After his match Abata patted his practically absent pounch and declared:

"Best shape I've ever been in. Lost 17 pounds jogging. I think I got a chance to win this time."

At 37 Abata did indeed look like a sure bet to go to the semifinals

with Jim Leahy.

Once again Wes Yee gave the gallery the best show of the night. Wisps of chin hair made Yee look like Charlie Chan's No. 2 son, the skinny one. Never letting up or changing pace Yee battled through three games with Stan Morris, Joliet.

Joe Ardito praised Yee's play but predicted that Gene Mis, a veteran from the 11th St. Y, would beat the kid in the fourth round.

... "Wes won our under 17 national Juniors in 1966," said Ardito, "but he still has some things to learn about the game. Mis will take advantage of his mistakes."

The 16 players in the lower bracket competed in Tuesday's third round. With the help of one default and six two-game matches the evening's action was over by 10:30 p.m.

#### Early Honors

"I think you guys must have the touch," said IHA official, Ben Costello. "This is the only way to run a tournament. On time."

Fouth seed, Tony D'Andrea won easily as did Don Ardito, Joe's son and a co-favorite with Jim Leahy although Don was unseeded because he had not played in the previous year's Contender's. Ardito's fourth round opponent, Jim Annerino, indicated



FREELOADERS A. C. . . . Mesdames Costello and Ardito serve aces (plenty of cold cuts, that is) to always hungry handballers on opening day of action of Central USHA singles at Northwest Suburban YMCA, located outside Chicago in Des Plaines.

that he would put up a fight. The veteran Annerino, Evanston Y, gave young Jerry Rosenberg, Irving Park Y, a lesson in court tactics, stealing the first game away after trailing, 11-20, and then blasting the boy 21-4 in the second game.

The feature match of the night came last, pitting Rich Drabik, 111th St., against Mort Leve, better known to ACE readers as 'Ye Olde Editor.'

Mort the Sport wore eye protectors that looked like Mrs. Horwich's Miami Beach sunglasses, colored bright orange and flaring broadly at the temples to cover Mort's greying sideburns. Leve the Martian. Just in from Outer Space, where he no doubt found a game. Indoor. Outdoor. Mort will play anywhere, any time.

Drabik, expressionless, hardly sweating, lobbed a soft serve into the left corner throughout the first game. Mort played it just as cool, picking up points with his patented hammer kill. At 16-12 it was Leve in the lead.

"Better not wait too long, young

man," said Mighty Mort.

Drabik lost the serve at 20-20. Would age and finesse triumph over youth? The crowd stirred, excitedly. Mort powered his best Scotch serve. Drabik buried it, then ran out the match. (Note: I got a weak return on the serve but couldn't put the ball away.)

#### Jim Needed 'Spitter'

A historical note here. Mort Leve introduced me to handball. We played regularly during the off-season the last five years of my major league career. Kept me in shape. Probably extended my career at least two, three weeks. Had I only been able to pitch that Red Label ACE at batters instead of a regulation baseball . . .

The fourth round was less than sensational but it had its moments. IHA Chairman Ardito, Costello,

(To page 26)

## START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT!

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#### OBSERVATION TOWER

By BOB DAVIDSON National Juniors Chairman

We're back to National Junior tournament time. This is the time we access our handball wealth for future years. The Juniors has always brought forth top grade players and this year shouldn't be any different.

Under-19 age defending champ, Tom Kopaytic of Milwaukee, is the man to beat. This is his last year of eligibility and he is the pride and joy of the Elks' organization in Schlitz-town. And, he's the one man gang—Wes Yee, Steve Lott, and Willie Yee—must gun for. The St. Louis contingent will also be head hunting—Dan Krueger, Dave and Steve Smith.

Kopaytic has drive, stamina and power. He is developing and listening

well to his father, Gus.

Miami Beach has a pretty fair trio in Steve Jamron, Marty Cohen and Roy Gelber. Gelber was the consolation winner at Tulsa over another of our boys, John Paveletz, a graduate of the one-wall wars. Don Ginsburg of St. Louis is another boy who should do well. Mario Shembari of Chicago will be in his third Juniors and has shown improvement.

Not knowing who exactly will return I expect to see Kopaytic against Dan Krueger in the semis along with Wes Yee against Steve Lott, with Willie Yee capable of pulling an upset against one of these four.

Editor's note: On a recent trip to St. Louis I found that Steve Smith is now the fair haired boy there and definitely figures the strongest of their group) Wes Yee went to the quarter-finals of the Central USHA Contenders before losing and is the No. 1 man on the Lake Forest College team that also includes his brother, Willie, Jamron, and Dave Smith.

We were fairly sure of getting the Flamingo Park courts for our Juniors this year but at the last moment the deal fell through. We are hoping that next year we will hold the Juniors in Miami Beach.

In the under-17 age bracket we have the dominance of those colorful Straus twins, Gary and Mitchell. Mitchell was the winner last year over his brother in three games. These boys are coming along fast as a doubles team, topped by their runnerup finish in the 3-wall national doubles.

This proves one thing to me — if you listen and concentrate on what is told, your rewards will be greater, and quicker. Steve Smith is the one boy who can drive a wedge into the twin dominance. He went three games with Mitchell before losing.

We will miss quite a few of these youngsters as they move out of the age bracket, including that character Randy Essel of Cleveland, who wound up second to Kopaytic. Randy, who works as a brick layer, is 6 feet tall and 140 pounds soaking wet, but has great competitive spirit and ability to bounce back when trailing.

It will be good to see the St. Louis "coach," Phil Smith, head of the JCCA health club, along with Gus Kopaytic, handball father of the year.

We came to Miami Beach for the Winter and missed the finals of the one-wall nationals in Brooklyn. Our boys did well in the junior singles. Mitchell Straus lost to Mark Levine in the finals, and Lou Russo Jr. came in second in the open doubles with his partner, Joel Wisotsky, a Castle Hill product.

As usual, in order to get our boys to the Juniors, we have to thank the Old Timers of the Castle Hill Beach Club, management of the Club, and Al Stein, physical director of the 92nd St. YMHA, for their monetary assistance. They have never failed us. Our youngsters are certainly indebted to these people.

These youngsters, from all over the country, will converge on Lake Forest College (about 28 miles north of Chicago's Loop). The courts they will play on are as fine as any in the country. Make an effort to send your youngsters to this tourney. It's a wonderful experience.

Some of the fathers who have come with their sons to these tournaments know the satisfaction and thrill of seeing their boys perform. We will have a clinic where the boys should be able to pick up a few pointers to help in their future development.

BEACH NOTES: An A and B tourney gets underway at this time at Flamingo Park. Top A players are: Fred Lewis, Joel Galpern, Ralph Kaufman and Harold Hanft. Fred Koran is still nursing a healing knee, following an operation. Bill Haas, Sol Barth and Al Levine should be back in time to play. Murray Marcus won the doubles last year and should be in it again. Abe Koster, Doc Fox, Stan Marcus, Stu Rubin, Bernie Schrieber are all rounding into shape. Bill Segal will be watching from the first row.

Ed Rubin of the Forte Restaurant still trying to get our Junior tournament for the Park. You can always see Mary Forte on the courts. My better half, Pauline, still the best right side player in the Davidson family. She is now working at the Lido Spa as a masseuse.

Lou Shapiro, the man who never says "no," when I need help for my youngsters, has just arrived for the first of his many visits to Flamingo. He plays at the New York West Side Y.

We're getting closer to the nationals being held next March in Austin, Texas. With the handball coach at Texas, Pete Tyson, and Dick Roberson making sure everyone will enjoy themselves. It promises to be a great one with a healthy Paul Haber back challenging, Billy Yambrick with two good knees, Marty Decatur planning to concentrate on singles, Lou Russo Jr. really making the effort, a return of Dave Graybill . . . and the strong finishers of last year, including, of course, the reigning champ, Stuffy Singer.

#### Lake Forest . . .

Lake Forest area residents of suburban Chicago afforded an opportunity to gain knowledge of the country's two fastest growing sports, handball and squash, as Lake Forest College announced the formation of a North Shore Squash and Handball League.

The establishment of the league is another step in the college's plans to involve the Lake Forest community in as many activities in its recently completed sports center as possible.

Residents will have an opportunity to play these games in a relaxed, yet competitive atmosphere with opponents of equal ability.

The league is being run by Mike Dau and Jon Conant. Dau, a member of the college's physical education staff in which he serves as head baseball and football coach, is a 1957 graduate of the college. One of the better known handball players in the area, he competes for the Evanston YMCA.

Conant, a junior at the college, serves as captain of the college's squash team.

The scheduled play started on Nov. 3. Play begins each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and runs to 2:30 p.m. The season is tentatively scheduled to run through the beginning of March.

Players in the league will be organized into three divisions according to their ability. A challenge ladder will be provided for the more competitive minded participants. Noncompetitive players will compete in a round-robin tourney.

Dau said the aim of the league is to provide squash and handball players with an outstanding playing facility in which players can meet and brush up on techniques.

#### CENTRAL USHA . . .

(From page 23)

Koenig and Wally Knorowski had handicapped the tournament accurately. The morning line had predicted Abata vs. Leahy and D'Andrea vs. Ardito in the semi finals and that's the way it was shaping up.

Joe and Ben were less accurate in their predictions about Yee. Costello had declared that Mis would bury Yee with back wall kills. But young Wes, with a full day's rest, came on swift and strong. Powering his serve down the right side he not only beat Mis, he tore him up, winning 21-9, 21-9.

Leahy, Abata, Drabik, D'Andrea, and Chuck Osterman of 111th St. won handily to make the quarter finals. Joe McFadden of Sears Y had his second three-game match in two nights to qualify against D'Andrea.

Ardito and Annerino gave the gallery cause to cheer in a rousing three-game match, 21-13, 12-21, 21-15.

15.
"Don had fallen asleep an hour before the first game," said his father later. "And I think he took another snooze in the second game!"

There's nothing to compare with the frustration of a dad watching his son play ball.

#### Yee Gets Comeuppance

The fifth round was a study in contrast. Leahy took Yee like Grant took Richmond.

"Leahy looked like a pro," said Roy Demeyer. "He never gave the kid a real chance. A few shots here and there but Wes missed some of them and that was all he got!"

Leahy advanced to the semis having won every game. Abata might have made it too, all-victorious, but Osterman forced a three-game match.

"I had that second game won," Sy said later. "But I lost my concentration for a minute, he got some momentum, and there you are. I could have kicked myself in the pants." (Note: pants?)

Eschewing impossible contortions Abata settled down in the third game and won, 21-2, showing what he could do when he put his mind to it. Osterman is no slouch and had given up no more than ten points up to the quarterfinals.

D'Andrea ran his own streak to eight straight wins by beating Mc-Fadden who was obviously armweary. Drabik still had worked up little sweat in the tournament after beating Marty Wallace, 21-13, 21-12, in the fourth round, but against Don Ardito Rich had to strip off his heavy outer shirt even before the first game had ended.

#### Slow Pace Pays Off

Using all the time-outs he was entitled to Drabik made the pace, slowing Ardito down, forcing enough errors to take the first game 19-21. Don likes to play fast and get the game over with. He did so in the second game, 21-5, and it wasn't til Drabik had a 20-16 lead in the third game that Ardito finaly asked for time.

All thru the match Joe Ardito had counseled his son: 'Use the Scotch!' The Scotch!' for it was on that angled service that Drabik seemed weakest. But now, with match point over his head Ardito went to a hard right court serve and he whipped over four straight aces.

Changing pace at 20-20 Ardito lobbed a left hand serve into the corner, got a weak return and fired a wicked passing shot to take the match.

"I can't take much of this," said Joe Ardito, as some color came back to his face.

The Friday semifinals were predictable, perhaps. Abata went all out in his first game to hand Leahy his first loss, 17-21, but young Jim had too much left. Out-running and out-shooting old Sy, Leahy ran out the match 21-9, 21-12.

#### Dopesters Right

Later, D'Andrea played with his usual style and grace but the ambidextrous Ardito never lost control, taking the match in two games 21-13, 21-15. The pre-tourney co-favorites went home to sleep, a little stiff from the grind, but ready for the climactic round.

"I think we should have sold seats for ten bucks a head," said Charlie McClellan the next afternoon. "We could use the money for the Building Fund."

The Northwest Suburban Y has plans for three more courts, including a 250-seat spectator court, to be ready for the 1971 handball season. Would there be a better place for a national tournament? What an excuse for a party that would be!

On Saturday afternoon the tussle for third place honors was a tribute to two hard-nosed players. Abata and D'Andrea went at it for nearly two hours, guarding energy, each man patiently setting up his most effective shots. D'Andrea won 21-8; Abata won 21-15; and then Sy, having lost six more pounds during the week, feeling himself get weaker and weaker, put together a string of fine shots to take the match 21-13.

"Three games!" moaned D'Andrea. "I think I'll sleep for a week!
"That's the last thing I wanted today," grinned Abata. "It was all I could do to get out of bed this morn-

ing."

Both men showered and returned for the championship match. It was well worth watching.

#### No Pressure - Yet

Neither Ardito nor Leahy appeared tired at the start. Running hard, digging up shots back and front, they gave each other room to shoot, congratulated each other on kills, and made it easy on the referee.

Then, at 15-15 Ardito stumbled after a pass to the left, called time and complained that he had stepped on Leahy's foot. Blushing a bit, Leahy admitted the hinder. Young Jim had his explosive temper under control all through the game. The breaks and close calls had gone against Ardito, a soft-spoken and amiable man who twice had finished second in this same Contender's tournament.

The pace speeded up, neither man giving an inch. Leahy got to 18. Ardito fumed and turned on some power. An ace to the right, a crotch ball in the back court, and an odd bounce off the door gave Don momentum and he ran out the match, 21-19.

Twice Leahy had lost his contact lens, twice he had to change gloves as the tension and action had both players sweating. In the gallery a rude wag offered to wipe the referee's glasses. I thought to myself, how could I have treated umpires so badly in the past!

Leahy was grim but cool as the second game began. At 8-2 he seemingly had Ardito on the run. Don twice failed to chase shots that he had proved recoverable. (Well, he could get them; few other players I'd seen would have had a chance).

It was 15-2 before Ardito came alive, or awake. Later he was to explain that he never felt out of the game, that his plan was to slow the pace, wait for good shots, and let Leahy get over-confident.

"I've played Jimmy enough to know I can't blast with him," said Ardito. "He doesn't give you much room in there at any time but I got my shots."

#### Youth Composure

As with all ball games the breaks started to even up. Leahy's composure broke down a few times, but mindful of the advice that he had to keep his cool to go to the top as a handballer, he used two timeouts when the tide turned against him.

At 15-all Ardito slipped as a waisthigh shot passed him up the middle. Recovering his balance Ardito turned to take the ball off the back wall and ran right into Leahy. An obvious hinder but again a tough break for Leahy. He yelled like a pitcher who thought he had just thrown a third strike knee high and on the black.

Ardito was in the game now. He made one point; Leahy got two. Don made another; Leahy got two more. At game point Ardito buried a serve

and took a time out.

Ardito had been in the same spot before, two nights earlier. The tension was all on the 21-year old Leahy. Jim had lost in the finals of the Contender's the year before. Was he now to be No. 2 two years in a row, just like his opponent?

Four hours later, at the Carousel Restaurant's Citation Room, Ardito savored the victory.

"21-19, 21-20. You don't see 'em

closer than that, huh?"

Leahy was there. A sportsman. A good loser in the best of that sense.

"I hate to lose at anything," he said. "But if everybody thinks he did the best job he could that's the way it's going to be, I guess."

And so the cocktails were cherished, the rare beef relished, the band played on, and anybody who didn't have a good time at the party just

wasn't trying.

#### Amarillo . . .

The Third Annual Amarillo YMCA Golden Spread Invitational was the best one to date. With players like Bob Lindsey, Alvis Grant and Raleigh Blakely the caliber of play was as good as any tournament could expect. There was a total of 44 entries with 35 of them coming from out-of-town. The tri-state area was well represented as players came from Denver, Oklahoma City, Dallas, Albuquerque, Austin, Lubbock, and Wichita Falls.

Lindsay was the top seed in Class A and easily advanced to the finals where he met Lee Wretlind, Denver. Wretlind is a very well-conditioned player and has a good future but he was not in Lindsay's class as Bob won 21-8, 21-3.

Class B had some strong players in Jim Sellers, Austin; Wayne Barfield and Ray Russell, Amarillo; and John Falk, Denver. These four met in the semi-finals with Falk beating Barfield in three exciting games 20-21, 21-17, 21-15. Sellers defeated Russell 21-11, 21-17. The finals between Falk and Sellers was probably the best match of the tournament with Falk winning 20-21, 21-20, 21-12.

In the doubles, Lindsay teamed with Sellers and advanced to the finals where they met Grant and Blakely. The first game was a masterpiece as Grant and Blakely played exceptional handball against their much younger opponents. With the score 20-17 in favor of Grant-Blakely, Lindsay put on an amazing display of flat kills as he and Sellers took the first game 21-20. Lindsay-Sellers walked away in the second game 21-8.

Class A consolation was won by John Drammis over Dwayne McMinn Class B consolation was won by Don Farley-Ray Thomas over Barfield-McMinn.

The Amarillo Handball Club sponsored a hospitality room and a Bar-B-Que dinner which was enjoyed by all participants.

DWAYNE McMINN

# Special Meetings in Austin and Birmingham for USHA National Events

Ye editor did a lot of traveling in October and early November . . . Joe Ardito, in his newly-created national tournaments co-ordinator post, accompanied me to Austin and Houston for pre-nationals meetings.

Dick Roberson rolled out the red carpet in the rapidly-growing (population up to 250,000 . . . university enrollment at 32,000) Texas capitol city, meeting us at the plane in his spanking new Cadillac El Dorado with the full trimmings . . . thence to a downtown club for lunch, a look at the final game of the Cardinals-Tigers world series. We enjoyed a doubles session in the glass amphitheater court . . Pete Tyson my partner, and Joe doubling with Richard.

After the play we enjoyed our first taste of Gatorade, a drink that will definitely bounce you back to normalcy after hectic court action.

A meeting was held at the University's Gregory Gym, attended by the Longhorn Handball Club . and then we showed the 1968 color nationals film and it was well received. Mel Rutt, president of the Longhorn Club, a former one-waller from New York, Chris Crow, Pete and Dick led the way to the suburban Barn, an eatery that would appeal to all hungry handballers . . a chunk of Swiss cheese is placed in the center of the table, together with delicious home made bread . . . after a meal of this, the more robust of us commence to dig into those famed Texan steaks.

All facets of the national tournament were covered in our meeting and we are certain the Austin gang will do even a better job than was accomplished in 1965.

In Houston Joe and I had a doubles session with our district commissioner, Al Sheppard, and his former Arizona U. standout basketballer, Tim Ballantyne. Tim now heads up the Houston Handball Association and hosted the showing of our films at his spacious new ranch house. Houston gang will be more than willing to cooperate on the nationals.

Coming in at the tail end of the evening was the former junior, Art "Monster" Moore . . . he reports there will be four courts at the new JCC.

There isn't a Y in the country that has more hospitality and geniality than that of the 1600 Louisiana Downtown Houston Y. We even tried out their new springy, rooftop running track, and this should be a must at all Y's in the tepid climate areas.

A fortnight later I treked to Birmingham for a meeting with that group on our National Contenders next Feb. 20-23. The ol' Southern hospitality was at its best. At the airport were Dr. Jim Tanner, Alan Clark and Jack Dorsky. Jack is coming along fine after his near fatal stroke of two years ago. We rushed over to the Y in time for some singles with Tanner, then a showing of the films and a press meeting at the city's downtown club.

The next day a fine "quickie" tournament was held that involved players of all classes . . . B players got 5 points, C players 10 points in 21-point matches. I was lucky to get past two opponents, then took a lesson from the cagy, veteran Danny Kallman, 21-16. John Kubiszyn, a former U. of Alabama baseball and basketball star, walked off with the top prize. John, who played in the majors with the Cleveland Indians in 1961 and 1962, was a "sleeper", classed C, then he commenced to raise havoc. He plays in Tuscaloosa on the college courts.

That night we had a barbeque party for the handballers at Tanner's house, and another showing of the films.

Birmingham, with an avid group of players and administrators, has promised to put on the strongest

and best Contenders yet. I left Birmingham on a Sunday morning and flew into Miami to see about the possibilities of the National Juniors and visit with my two sons who attend the Univ. of Miami. It rained on Monday morning but there were still some handballers hanging around the courts at Flamingo Park, I greeted my ol' buddy from Boston, retired fireman John "Apples" Walsh, as young a 64 year old as you will ever find. We proceeded to squeegie off a court, working more than 45 minutes, and this permitted us to get in two games of singles (that's the steadfast rule). I was lucky and happy to get a split with the soft corner killing Walsh. Unfortunately, the promotion department of the Miami Beach city government was turned down in a bid to bring the Juniors there. Fort Lauderdale is out because of the extremely tight housing conditions and usual sky high tariffs during the holiday sea-

# Handods LETTERS

One-Wall Boost . . .

re: BROWNSVILLE BOY'S CLUB, and the U.S. HAND-BALL ASSN. in cooperation with the N.Y.C. DEP'T. OF PARKS, PRESENT the 1968 TENTH ANNUAL NATION-AL ONE-WALL HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS at the Brownsville Recreation Center.

Dear Mr. Ehrlich:

In behalf of the youngsters involved (Luis Pagan, Miguel Guzman, and Emilio Santiago) in the USHA tourney, which was co-sponsored by your organization, we wish to acknowledge our appreciations for the cooperation and courtesies extended to us by you and your staff members.

Even though the boys did not fare well, hopefully, the competitive experiences at Brownsville will help enhance their physical and mental understandings of the game. Luis Pagan, an alumnus of The John Dwyer Junior High School, Bronx, now in attendance at Morris H.S., Bronx, defeated Joel Nobel by a score of 21-1. Pagan then lost to William Yee, an outstanding handball alumnus from DeWitt Clinton High School, Bronx. Pagan lost by a score of 7-21. Pagan is only 15-years-old.

Miguel "Mickey" Guzman, presently in attendance at The John Dwyer Junior High School, lost to Danny Maroney by a score of 3-21. Guzman is 14-years-old.

Even though the youngsters were completely outclassed in their losing games, they both showed great courage during the competition. As an expression of thanks for the boys participating in the tourney, a 'sportsmanship trophy' was presented to us by Mr. Ehrlich, which will be placed in the DWYER trophy case (located in the JOHN F. KENNEDY hallway), along with other outstanding athletic rememberances.

Furthermore, as the boys were departing, they were introduced to Steve Sandler, a nationally and internationally known handball champion, who greeted them with some kind and encouraging words.

In conclusion, we again thank the Brownsville Boy's Club, for an exciting experience of competitive one-wall handball.

> GARY JUDELSON Teacher-Physical Education Dep't. Coach-Handball Squad John Dwyer Junior High School Bronx, N. Y.

#### Shadow Serve?

Dear Sir:

I saw the handball final at the Brooklyn Brownsville Boys Club between Steve Sandler and Howie Eisenberg in the USHA nationals. In the first game, Eisenberg took an 8-2 lead and Sandler called a time out. He then got Eisenberg out and got up. He then stood at the right side of the court and served right past his body on the right side. Then he

would shoot a serve far to the left.

When Sandler stands on the right side of the court and then serves to the right side, his body tends to hide the ball for a second or two. This type of serve is hard to pick up and return, especially if the ball is hooked away from the receiver. Eisenberg had great difficulty in returning this type of service. The referee was not calling this a "blocked" ball. As a result the game became a game of service and was very uninteresting. There was hardly any volleying in this game.

Although Eisenberg tried the same service as Sandler, he wasn't effective. Sandler would, once in a while, stand on the left side of the court and serve to the left side. This serve also passes the body and is concealed from view for a second or two making it difficult for the receiver to pick up the ball. In other words, Sandler won this match on this tricky serve.

In one-wall paddleball tournaments, this type of serve is illegal. When a server stands on the right side of the court, he must serve to the left side. If the server stands on the left side, he must serve to the right side. In order to serve to either side, the server has to stand in the middle of the court.

I believe these rules should apply to one-wall handball tournaments to make the game more interesting for spectators to watch. There must be an effort to get more volleying into the game of singles for handball to prevent boredom.

> FRANK HARBER Brooklyn, N.Y.

#### Mexican Greetings . . .

Dear Mort:

Congratulations to all the staff for a wonderful magazine and your fine efforts to promote handball.

We are interested in starting a handball club and building a regulation court here in Mexico and would appreciate hearing from anyone in the Guadalajara, Jalisco area.

We also send a big "saludos" to all our handball buddies at the Los Angeles Elks Club No. 99 and others in the Los Angeles area.

> STEWART and PAUL GREENBAUM Ferrocarril 44 Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico

#### Handball King . . .

Sirs:

The Brownsville Recreation Center, which is one of the most active indoor centers under the supervision of the New York City Department of Recreation, was recently host to the United States Handball Association One-Wall National Championships.

Five titles were decided in the following categories: Boys Singles, Mens Singles, Mens Doubles, Master Doubles and for the first time a pink-ball singles. This popular tournament, consumed three weeks of continuous play and attracted more than 9500 spectators, culminating in a nite of finals to the delight of an overflow crowd of frenzied handball fans.

Our accolade to Irv Ehrlich and the Brownsville Handball Club for their successful management of this tournament and our deep gratitude to their dedicated efforts in reaching out to the youth of this city to continue the popularity of this great game of handball.

As usual our Recreation Staff together with the Maintenance Personnel's cooperation aided in the success of this program.

> LOU PRUSAN, Asst. Supervisor of Rec. Brownsville Recreation Center Brooklyn, N. Y.

#### West Point Clinic . . .

Dear Mort:

I thought that I would drop you a line and tell you about the highly successful handball clinic that we conducted here at West Point on Oct. 6. Bob Davidson conducted the clinic beginning with a talk on his philosophy of handball, followed by a demonstration in practice by Lou Russo of what Bob had preached to us.

Following the demonstrations, the cadets and officers went into the courts to play and were critiqued by Bob who watch-

ed each game from the gallery.

Since both our cadet team and our officer team here at West Point habitually play some of the best handball players in the country in the New York City area, we are endeavoring to raise the quality of our handball so that we might become more formidable opponents in the best Army tradition.

We hope that eventually handball will become an intercollegiate sport at the Military Academy. We have eight good courts and more are planned for construction in the near future; we have great interest among the Corps of Cadets in playing handball and a wealth of natural talent.

Clinics such as we just had seem to be an excellent vehicle for improving the game of all our players. We find that no one has received any coaching in handball like they have in other sports and our players, in their insatiable pursuit of victory, continue to reinforce their mistakes. I highly recommend clinics and I would like to thank publicly Bob Davidson, Lou Russo and the Straus twins for coming to West Point and helping us in our march toward the day when we will be heard from in handball.

ROBERT J. NICHOLSON Cadet Handball Team

#### Eye Protection . . .

Gentlemen:

I have been a handball player for most of my U.S. Air Force career. It is not only an excellent physical conditioning sport but the intense competition is enjoyable. I also find that when under stress from any job it allows me to mentally relax.

I am now Chief of Safety at the Chanute Technical Training Center, Rantoul, Illinois. We recently had a handball accident that resulted in a severe eye injury to the player involved. He does not wear glasses so the natural tendency at this base is to wear no eye protection. At several Air Force Bases where I have served in the past, it was mandatory for all personnel (those who wear glases and those who don't) to wear eye protective devices.

I do not wear glasses, so I wore the type described in your Directory and Guide. It is comfortable and does not restrict the vision of the player. While eye injuries usually do not occur too often, when an eye is injured it can often be serious.

Request your association's official view point on the wearing of eye protection by persons who do not wear glasses. I recommend your official rules for equipment be changed to reflect the mandatory, or at least recommended, usage of eye protection for ALL players.

BRADFORD L. BENSON Lt. Colonel, USAF Chief of Safety Chanute Air Force Base, Ill.

#### Helping Hand . . .

Dear Bob:

There is no conceivable way I can thank you enough for making possible the highly successful Singer-Neveau match held at Lake Forest College last weekend. Your benevolence in the promotion of handball is unmatched in American amateur athletics.

This match has made possible our trip eastward beginning this Friday (Dec. 6th) at the University of Michigan and will include matches with Kent State, Ohio University, University of Pittsburgh, U. S. Naval Academy (Annapolis), and the U. S. Military Academy (West Point). As you well know the purpose of our trip is to assist in the promotion of intercollegiate handball, something you initiated in the early 1950's with the USHA National College Tournament. And of course our ultimate goal is NCAA recognition of handball as a varsity sport.

It is my hope that we can show our gratitude by reporting back to you at the completion of our trip that handball is one step closer toward gaining varsity status.

On behalf of Lake Forest College, I thank you.

MICHAEL E. DAU Handball Coach

#### Medical Study?

Dear Mr. Kendler:

For some time I have been considering a scientific project which would combine my two interests of medicine and handball. There has been much written lately in both the medical and the lay press concerning the health benefits of exercise. Although it is commonly accepted that physical fitness contributes to good health, it is very difficult to prove this hypothesis in terms of objective evidence because of the many variables involved such as diet, heredity, and other living habits.

As you know, handball players represent a unique group in our society; they are men of all ages, diverse vocations, not professional athletes, yet they undertake their rather strenuous hobby with amazing regularity, rain or shine, 12 months a year. Therefore, it seems to me that a survey of handballers across the country might serve as a vital clue to this question of exercise and health.

Although the format of such a project is still in the planning stage, the following represent some of my initial ideas so far: first, I would like to send a questionnaire to all regular handballers requesting such information as age, race, sex, height, weight, body build, previous and present medical history, family history, grade of handball player, frequency of play, estimated effort expended while playing, whether singles or doubles player, how long a player, etc.

I would also like to obtain blood samples from regular handballers for chemical determinations of circulating cholesterol and perhaps other more sophisticated studies of circulating fat in the blood as deemed expedient by available facility, money, etc. Electrocardiograms would also be important if they could be obtained without undue expense. And, most important, followup over the years of the handballers with repeated evaluation every few years. At my present age of 30, I plan to be around at least another 20 years and we could establish some definite answer, I believe, if this program were continued for this length of time with periodic evaluation every five years or so.

Regarding financial assistance for this study, I am in the process of contacting the American Heart Association in hopes of obtaining a research grant. As far as the actual collecting and processing of data, I will be happy to contribute my time (with the help of my office staff) out of interest in the sub-

As I said before, this is all still in the planning stage and I would be anxious to hear your comments and suggestions before I attempt to embark on this endeavor.

JOHN S. FLEMING, M.D. 451 Park Ave., N. Winter Park, Fla. 32789

NOTE: This appears to be a very worthwhile idea. USHA will give Dr. Fleming full cooperation and publish any developments that take place. Any players interested in participating should contact him.

## Calif. State Lawyers Compete

First round at San Diego of our second annual California Attorneys Championship: Everyone enjoyed themselves immensely, and the matches were witnessed by such former national champions as "Lefty" Coyle and Judge Joe Shane (the latter also as a participant).

At San Diego the matches ended up 4 to 4, but the outcome was decided on total games won, with Los Angeles thereby winning a 10 to 9 victory.

The results:

Singles — Ben Hamrick (S.D.) def. Gary B. Lovell (L.A.), 2 games to 1; Jim Herver (S.D.) def. Sidney Franklin (L.A.), 2 games to 0; Al Rothenberg (L.A.) def. Bill Carstens (S.D.) 2 games to 0; Barry Nakell (L.A.) def. Frank Prantel (S.D.) 2 games to 0; Lynn McDougal (S.D.) def. Dennis Kinnaird (L.A.) 2 games to 1; Haskell Shapiro (L.A.) def. Allan Rudick (S.D.) 2 games to 0; Charles Froehlich, Jr. (S.D.) def. Arthur DeGoede (L.A.) 2 games to 0.

Doubles — Joe Shane and Pat Coleman (L.A.) def. Ed Strop and Jim Marinos (S.D.) 2 games to 1.

Final Score: Matches 4 to 4. Games: Los Angeles 10, San Diego 9.

Finals of the California Attorney's Handball Championships were held at the San Francisco Olympic Club on Nov. 16. The Los Angeles team, having previously narrowly defeated the San Diego team, won the championship by beating San Francisco 8 to 1. Results were as follows:

SINGLES — Gary Lovell (L. A.) def. J. Patrick Goodwin (S.F.) 21-5, 21-9; Scott Schurmer (L.A.) def. Guy Kornblum (S.F.) 21-19, 16-21, 21-7; Ray Davidow (L.A.) def. John Shirley (S.F.) 21-10, 21-12; Walter Drane (L.A.) defeated Raymond Arata, Jr. (S.F.) 21-13, 21-18; Haskell Shapiro (L.A.) defeated Ezio Paolini (S.F.) 21-1, 21-17; Leonard Angus (L.A.) defeated Frederic W. Flowers (S.F.) 21-13, 21-5; Ben Hagan (S.F.) defeated Herbert Davis (L.A.) 21-12, 21-10.

DOUBLES — Joe Shane and William Tiernan (L.A.) def. John Shirley and Ezio Paolini (S.F.) 21-10, 21-11; Leslie Burg and Patrick Coleman (L.A.) def. Richard Siggins and James Frolik (S.F.) 21-3, 21-16.

The matches were played under United States Handball Association rules, and will be renewed next year in conjunction with the State Bar Convention. Any Attorneys wishing to participate should contact either Co-Captain Gary B. Lovell or Hon. Joseph Shane.

GARY B. LOVELL

Dear Handballer:

At last we have the perfect handball glove. It's so new, so different and so full of outstanding features.

Up until now, work glove manufacturers have been our only suppliers. Form fitting gloves must come from a dress glove manufacturer. And, that's what we have, — a custom designed, form fitting dress glove from the finest producer in America!

Ten years ago we invited several firms to bid for our business. All we got was price. No thought was given to the features and quality the players demand. So last year we researched the market and asked the top players to tell us what they wanted in a glove. Then we talked to existing manufacturers. None was able to compete with Saranac, — with its three big plants, — a firm that has been making DRESS GLOVES for OVER 100 years.

The gloves they have come up with are sensational. We have tested them nationwide and the acceptance has been almost unbelievable. I can now tell you we have the finest glove ever made,—and no other glove can compare with it. It's tapered and form fitting,—made from Saranac's own specially processed skins.

All the top players will be wearing them. So give your players the best. Stock Saranac ACE gloves.

Your orders help us to promote handball world-wide. It also enables us to have regional and national tournaments and clinics, together with the NCAA approved collegiate championships. Send in your order today.

Fraternally,

ROBERT W. KENDLER President

## SHORT SHOTS .

Jack Gordon, our traveling handballer, is interested in compiling a booklet of "Funniest Things in a Handball Court" . . . if you have any send them to us here and we'll forward them on to Jack.

Marty Silvers reports from Boston . . . a permanent and fast back wall has been installed on one of the oversized courts at the Huntington St. YMCA, and they now have two standard courts, and plans are for the third one to get the same treatment before the year is out. The funds for the installation of these back walls are provided by "two of the most generous and sympathetic sportsmen you would ever want to meet," Saul Moffe of Robert's Health Club, and Sam Rosen, of the Executive Health Club. The Y is planning its first invitational tournament before the end of February, "breaking in" the new facilities.

Marty also tells us that ten of the New England players traveled to Portland, Maine, and played on the Y's two new courts, and conducted a clinic. "The courts are fine except for the ceilings, which are at least 4-6 feet too high and very little spectator viewing space."

Two new courts at the Milwaukee Eagles . . . Jim Pellegrin is club manager. They now have four, all airconditioned. Each court has 12 96"

fluorescent tubes, and "we also used eight pieces of 4' x 8' glass, 3/4" thick. There are 7,182 members at the Eagles, that also includes three regulation air-conditioned basketball courts, swimming pool, sauna and steam rooms, weight room, and seven rental halls and ballroom."

Sgt. Major Mike Mervosh, recently assigned to the Birmingham, Ala., recruiting office after serving in Vietnam was given his third Commendation Medal. He is a well-liked "more than fair" handball player, and to help keep in shape runs the track in combat boots covering two to four miles, about three times a week. Mike also holds three purple hearts and on his last assignment won the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with a silver star for heroism. Fred Weaver writes, "We at the Y in Birmingham are proud of Mike, who is a good athlete, a dedicated soldier, and a fine American."

Under completion is a three million dollar YMCA in Chattanooga. It will afford five courts, one of which will have glass for adequate spectator viewing.

Central Branch YMCA, Montgomery, Ala., is in process of building three new courts, complete with gallery. Plans call for an April completion.

## CAROM SHOTS .

"The Road to Fitness - The Astronauts' Way" was featured in a recent issue of Reader's Digest, condensed from Family Weekly.

Their new approach to exercise "which, by making it voluntary, keeps it enjoyable."

It goes on to relate that certain guidelines are presented but the Astronauts are pretty much on their own. They may be seen jogging around their communities before breakfast and enjoying HANDBALL at Building 260 in the Space Center in suburban Houston.

Walter Schirra, who has completed three space flights at the age of 45, conditions himself with jogging, calisthenics, tennis and

HANDBALL.

Owen Garriott, selected for his scientific background rather than test-pilot skills, "abandons his books for an hour each day in favor of

HANDBALL and running.

The Astronauts firmly believe in exercise being fun and their favorite game is HANDBALL, "which they feel, develops poise, balance and quick thinking. A bulletin board in the gym displays the names and rankings of the men in a perpetual HANDBALL tournament."

In total, "It seems that a firstrate fitness program for the average American may be no formal program at all. Rather, several interlocking elements are involved:

"-Regular and spirited activity of a fairly strenuous nature.
"—Free choice of the means by

which one will get the job done. "-The relief of tension by relax-

ation and fun.

"-The willpower of a mind stimulated by its desire for excellence.

"When these elements work together, they produce results. The human body, guided wisely, will deliver. The Astronauts have proved

Handball comes in for a scant one-liner in the "Weekend Hustlers" feature under Life and Leisure in the Nov. 18 Newsweek. In speaking of various ways to cheat at sports, "Cheating is not limited to the wealthy and powerful or the country - club sports. Handball players wear wet gloves to get more "English" on the ball . . ." Had they consulted us we could have added other more formidable and less obvious ways.

Three new courts in the recently opened University Club at Jacksonville, Fla. . . . located on the 27th floor of the Gulf Life Tower . James L. Nelson Jr. is athletic director.

What a man does for himself dies with him - what he does for the game of handball lives forever.

Speedy recovery to Hy Rubinstein, back in Miami after a long hospital stay and recovery in Chicago boys at Flamingo Park are awaiting his return to the one-wall wars, with his brother George.

Everyday we get long distance calls, clamoring for gloves and balls . . asking for film date reservations . . . court specifications . . . info. on tournaments.

. .

Just a sampling - Jim Jacobs, New York . . . couldn't make the Ezzard Charles testimonial dinner here in mid-November . . . had to spend three days of traction in the hospital . . . back troubles cropping up again after some trial play at the West Side Y.

Marty Singer, L.A. . . . wants the Saranac gloves for Encino Health Club . . . Marty is the newly-installed president of the Southern California Handball Association, and of course is the proud pappy of national champ Stuffy. Hollywood Y will have three new courts, including one with glass.

Bob Davidson in his Winter home at Flamingo Park courts in Miami Beach . . . Pauline is working as masseuse at one of the oceanfront hotels. Bob has a couple of boys to bring up to the National Juniors.

Lou Kramberg, New York . . . no possibility of the Eastern regionals at the 92nd St. YMHA . . . only two courts to work with and they are in need of repair . . . we'll go to either Boston or work with Bill Kennedy on a couple of sites in New Jersey.

Phil Smith and Marlowe Phillips, St. Louis . . . going to meeting at JCCA for both first International Paddle Rackets Assn. tournament scheduled for next April and the Midwest USHA regional for early February (6-9).

Andy Anderson, Seattle . . . lining up site for USHA Northwest regional . . . getting the communication

wires in working order.

Sid Semel, our Southeast area commissioner, lining up that USHA regional for his hometown Norfolk, and once again coming through when needed.

Gerard Lapierre, our traveling paddleball national coordinator . . . has done an excellent job of lining up district commissioners in key locales . . . asking for the IPRA eight-page inserts sent to him for a meeting in Cleveland.

NOTES OFF THE CUFF . . . Ray Nagel, who likes his handball and plays with us regularly here when he isn't busy with coaching the Iowa U. Hawkeyes . . . congrats on

.

#### Toronto . . .

The finals of the City B Handball tournament was held at the YMHA Oct. 28.

Joe Dryer completely outclassed Bernie Krill, 21-13, 21-5. Krill had as many chances but failed to do anything with the ball but hit it back very hard. Dryer played a pattern game, retrieving and keeping the ball in play and playing corner shots like a master. Of what I have seen — if Joe develops a hard breaking serve he is going to be tough in A competition.

Barry Leech did an able job of refereeing while Stan Bargman kept score. Willie Bernstein presented the trophy to the winner and runner up.

One of the highlights of the tournament was the good showing of the teen-agers. Bernie Pritchard passed the remark at how the boys have learned to give lots of room after making their shots. Look out next year!

-HAROLD McCLEAN

a fine season, the best they've had in years . . . knocked off Wisconsin, Minnesota and Northwestern and lost by only one TD to No. 2 ranked Ohio State.

## Birmingham, Ala.

Feb. 20-23

## CONTENDERS HOUSING . . .

PARLIAMENT HOUSE - \$13-\$22.50 for a single room; \$17-\$22.50 for a double room.

TUTWILER HOTEL - \$10-\$15 for a single room; \$14 for a double room; For two double beds in a room \$5 per person.

MOLTON HOTEL - \$6-\$9 for a single room; \$8-\$9 for a double room; Will give a special rate but have not stated same as of yet.

BANKHEAD HOTEL - \$7 single -\$7.50 single with t.v.; \$10 double -\$10.50 double with t.v.

HOLIDAY INN - \$9 for a single room; \$15 for a double room (also same for two double beds).

DOWNTOWNER - \$10.50 for a single room; \$15-16 for a double

## Singer-Neveau Split Two-Match Exhibition Dedicating Lake Forest College Glass Court

Lake Forest College's glass sidewalled court received its official dedication Nov. 30, followed by a two day "no decision" match apiece exhibition by National Champ Stuffy Singer and Ray Neveau, 1968 runnerup. Ray took honors the opening night before a standing room only crowd of 200 and Stuffy came back on Sunday to even the count. Both were two game decisions — Neveau 21-13 and 21-18; Singer 21-17 and 21-11.

USHA brought in the players, blanketed the Chicagoland area handballers with the invitations (sample shown on this page), in coordination with Mike Dau, the college's handball coach. All proceeds are going toward the further promotion of intercollegiate and youth handball.

Bob Kendler, representing USHA, lauded the college for building this outstanding three-court facility and for giving the quartet of young handball talent the opportunity to further 'their education. William and Wes 'Yee of New York, Dave Smith of St. Louis, and Steve Jamron of Miami Beach, have formed the nucleus of an intercollegiate handball team that has already stimulated a strong Dausupervised program. All of these boys have participated in USHA National Junior tournaments with Wes a national under-17 winner in 1967.

Lake Forest College Athletic Director, Nick Wayslik, representing the school's president, William Cole, officially made the dedication, thanked USHA and its "Mr. Handball," Kendler, for spearheading the two days of the "championship rematch."

Neveau, the burly power shooter from Oshkosh, Wisc., combined a sharp right hand corner kill with excellent defensive use of his left hand to maintain a superiority through most of the first game. Stuffy stayed mainly with the same lob serve down the left wall that was effective in the nationals in St Louis. It was even tougher in Lake Forest because of the floor to ceiling glass. However, he was erratic in crucial volleys and it was simply errors that proved his downfall.

Neveau used a variety of serves, left and right side power reverses, and a semi-hard cross court serve. Both men had troubles on some balls hugging the glass side walls because depth perception is difficult.

In the second game on the opening night Stuffy rushed out to a commanding lead, getting weak returns on the lob serve, coupled with effective shooting. His "shovel" or "scoop" left soft kill from a com-

William Graham Cole President, Lake Forest College

and

Robert W. Kendler

President, United States Handball Association

cordially invite you to

The Official Dedication of the handball courts

Lake Forest College Sports Center

Saturday, November 30 and Sunday, December 1

The two finest players in the world will play a rematch of the 1968 National Championships

Stuffy Singer, Los Angeles, California

versus

Ray Neveau, Oshkosh, Wisconsin Saturday, 8 p.m. Sunday, 3 p.m.

Lake Forest reservations:

Lake Forest College, Mike Dau, CE 4-3100-Ext. 201

Chicago reservations: Community Builders, &C 7-7900

Donations \$5 per person per day

Directions: North on 41 to Deerhath Road in Lake Forest,

east to Sheridan Road, south half mile to Sports Center

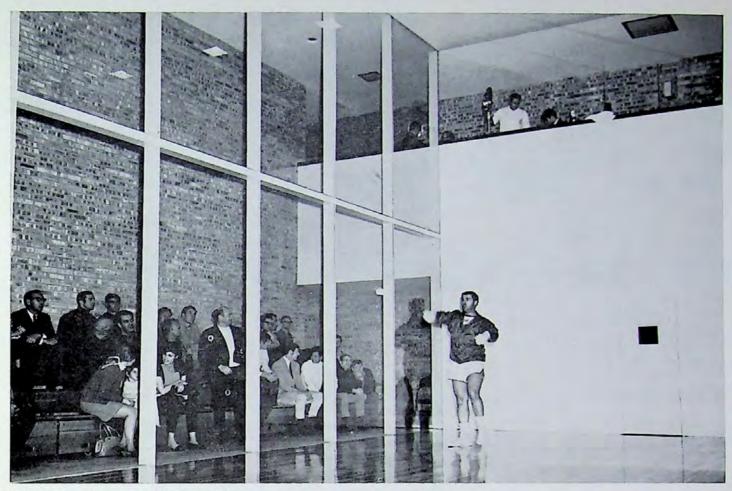
FORMAL INVITE . . . Lake Forest President William Cole and USHA President issued above invitation to Chicagoland court buffs to attend glass court dedication Nov. 30-Dec. I, highlighted by "national championship rematch" between Stuffy Singer and Ray Neveau. The split leaves Ray with the impetus for a showdown at the nationals next March in Austin, Texas.

manding front court left position worked well with Ray stranded in back court, and he rolled to a 15-3 lead.

Singer made the mistake at this point of not keeping the serve and kill tempo going. He admitted afterwards, "I figured I had that game salted away and wanted to run Ray

and soften him up for the third game. But, before I could regain the point making he had closed the gap and then I just couldn't get the needed few big points to win."

The second day's match was better played overall by both players. They would generally end good volleys of excellent gets and shooting



LOTS OF GLASS . . . Ray Neveau in deep right court alongside full wall of glass, allowing perfect viewing at the Lake Forest College court.

with bottom board corner or deadly straight kills. Stuffy was determined to demonstrate why he is the champion and gave it his full concentration. Again, the lob to the left on the serve gave him opportunities for front court dominance and he was very strong with his left hand from deep court when Ray would get him in a volley. After leading all the way and going to 20-15, Singer lost the serve and when Neveau tallied twice it appeared that he might again pull out the win. But, he went out at 17-20 and Stuffy slammed home the always elusive No. 21.

The fourth game of the exhibition was the widest margin of victory, Stuffy rushing out right from the start to the lead, then trading points in long brilliant volleys at 13-10. 14-11, 15-11, before getting a big inning for the match win.

In reflection it demonstrated that Neveau's St. Louis final round was no one day "playing over his head" achievement. It should give him added confidence going into the March nationals in Austin, Texas. Stuffy, on the other hand, will probably reason that the best route to success is to get in the court, concentrate fully, keep the full throttle (To page 37)



COURT DEDICATION . . . Before "Championship Rematch" exhibition . . . (1 to r)—
Nick Wayslik, Lake Forest College Athletic Director; USHA Champ Stuffy Singer; USHA
President Bob Kendler; Ray "Avis" Neveau; Mike Dau, handball coach at the college.
—Photos by JACK GRUND

The "Heroes" are six fellows who make up one of the three A teams of the Washington A.C., Seattle, and which compete in the Puget Sound league.

A short time ago the Heroes were returning on the ferry across Puget Sound from Bremerton where they had just split four games with the Bremerton Y. That was a whole lot better than they had done in previous matches for the team has perhaps more experience than it needs. Most of the fellows are well-known in Northwest handball circles; a quarter of a century ago they used to do pretty well in the regional tournaments.

In reply to a question it was ascertained that the total age of the group was 321 years which is considerably previous to the French Revolution. Inasmuch as these fellows needed no wheel chairs to board or leave the ferry, it might be interesting to identify these players who are thus bidding defiance to Father Time and to younger opponents. Listed according to age, they are Al Stubbs, 47; Bruce Hildebrand, 52; Fred Lindenmeyer, 53; Bruce Lamken 56; Rev. Frank Logan, 67.

In deference to the captain of the Heroes, he's named last—Bruce Long, 46. The average is 53.5 years. This team would like to extend a bold challenge to any outfit of a comparable age — give or take a hundred years.

REV. FRANK LOGAN, S.J.

## Rochester, N.Y. . . .

Muscular Len Tomczak, Erie (Pa.) YMCA retained his singles championship and Jack Weintraub and Jim Fitzpatrick, West Side (N.Y.) YMCA won the doubles crown in the Ninth Annual Vic Hollander - Bill Horrod tournament Oct. 25-26 at the Rochester Central YMCA.

Bob Brown, a newcomer, played brilliant handball to prance through the week-long Class A singles tournament held at Denver Central Y, without the loss of a single game. His strong left hand combined with accurate passing shots and deadly kills, and tremendous speed, forced Larry Wood to miss some of the shots he would ordinarily make in the finals. Bob had complete control of the first game winning 21-8. The second game started out the same, but Wood got his serves and kills working better the middle of the game to pull within a couple points of Brown, but he just could not cope with Brown's tremendous recoveries, and left hand kills, from there on and Brown just could not be denied the victory.

Ed Graff, member of the Central Y physical staff won a hard fought match in the finals with Terry Rand the 6 ft. 8 inch, all-American basketball player of the National Industrial

league, 21-16, 21-20.

19-year-old John Falk, one of our most promising players, played steady consistent handball to win from Jay Weinandt, 21-16, 21-11, and move up to the Class B division. His victory was due mainly to his power shots, kills and fewer errors on defense. We can expect John to continue to improve, and soon be a top contender.

There were 15 entries in A, 28 in B and 21 in C.

SEMI-FINALS CLASS A — Larry Wood def. John Hardy 21-15, 21-17; Bob Brown def. John Roth 21-11, 21-

SEMI-FINALS CLASS B — Ed Graff won from Dick Busse 21-15, 21-15; Terry Rand won from Harvey Salz 17-21, 21-15, 21-10.

SEMI-FINALS CLASS C — Jay Weinandt def. R. Griffin 21-10, 21-18; John Falk defeated C. Tucker 21-18, 21-15.

Larry Wood and Lee Wretland were forced to come from behind to win the Class A doubles from Bob Brown and Roy Bretz, 12-21, 21-19, 21-5. The first game was all Brown and Bretz with their game being almost flawless, with their front court control. Wood and Wretland came back very strong with great team work to pull out the second game. The third game saw Wretland playing with great desire and accuracy, and coupled with Larry's strong serves and kills they won going away.

Mike Sotack and Mel Strauss won Class B Championship in 3 games in a real thriller.

Hank Grady and Skip Harrison were tough opponents for Mike Sotack and Mel Strauss when they staged a great comeback to win the second game 21-16, after Sotack and Strauss had won the first game 21-17. After several time outs for injuries and other mishaps and 2½ hours of play, Sotack and Strauss finally captured the title with some smart passing shots and tough retrieves to win, 21-18.

Young Mike Hardy, son of John Hardy, one of our top Class A contenders, teamed with Jay Weinandt to win in three very close games from C. Pulford and R. Fraiser in one of our best Class C finals in a long time. These two young players surprised several of our veteran class C players with their desire and accuracy in going to the finals in the week long tourney. It's just a matter of practice and competition and a few year's time until they will be playing in class A division.

There were 14 doubles teams in A, 12 in B and eight in C.

SEMI-FINAL CLASS A — Larry Wood and Lee Wretland def. Harvey Salz and John Roth, 21-8, 21-20; Bob Brown and Roy Bretz def. John Hardy and Don Luttrell, 11-21, 21-18, 21-16.

SEMI-FINAL CLASS B — Mel Strauss and Mike Sotack def. Jim Ricketts and A. Littler, 21-15, 21-18, Hank Grady and Skip Harrison by default over Terry Rand and Tom Rand.

SEMI-FINAL CLASS C — C. Pulford and R. Fraiser def. A. Evens and B. Koktovy 21-8, 21-14; Mike Hardy and Jay Weinandt def. L. Spicer and B. Tucker, 21-18, 21-17. LES SHUMATE

## Cokinos Brothers Top Beaumont Combine

Mike and Andrew Cokinos are winners of the Beaumont YMCA annual doubles tournament, beating Tracy Webb and Jim Krepper. Mike also annexed the singles title, defeating Webb. This is the 14th consecutive year that Mike has figured in the championships.

## IT'S HERE

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a better way to keep a man healthy?) That's why we cover you with \$15,000 for loss of life for so little cost.
For instance, if you're 28 years old it would cost less than \$40 per year or \$19.65 semi-annually. (That

At the risk of sounding undig-

nified, we call it USHA's Maxi-

Mini Policy-maximum protec-

tion, minimum cost. But risk is what it's all about. We bet on handball players (and what's

And USHA's policy gives you this coverage 24 hours a day. On the job or off. Wherever you may be.

works out to be just a little more than \$3.30 a month.)

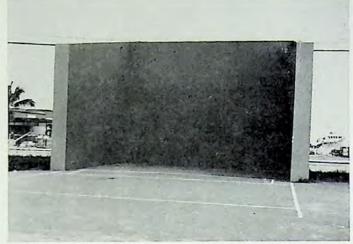
Furthermore, anytime before age 60 you can convert your policy to permanent life insurance—the kind that builds solid cash savings.

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Name	(Please Print)	
Date of Birth		
Address		
City	State	Zip

## 'Modified Three-Wall' Courts in Miami Beach



MIXED SINGLES? Good fun. Two of these three-wall courts were built on grammar school grounds at 79th St. Treasure Island area in Miami Beach. Note "apron room" between courts, allowing players to move to sides without interfering with play on adjacent court.



ALLOWS CORNER SHOTS . . . Half side walls give chance for the corner play but makes it necessary to closely control pass shots. It would be possible to add partial ceiling to give just one more facet of strategy to the game. At any rate it will lure youngsters.

—Photos by CHUCK LEVE

## Texas Hall of Fame Choices Highlight 23rd Dallas A.C. Invitational

First selections will be made in the Texas Handball Hall of Fame during the upcoming Dallas Athletic Club Invitational, Feb. 6-9. The brain child of George "General" Lee, athletic director of the club, two players and two contributors will be named in the initial year.

Rooms at the Club will be gratis to players in the open singles and doubles as is customary with free loading available at the Friday brunch and Saturday night banquet.

Paul Haber, Milwaukee, is defending champion; Buzz Shumate, runnerup. Pete Tyson and Dick Roberson, Austin, will defend their doubles crown; Bill McGreevy Jr. and George Alexander, St. Louis, were 1968 second placers.

There will be a \$5 entry fee per man.



CHICAGO HOSTS AIR FORCE ACADEMY . . . Tony Riggio (right) with U.S. Air Force Academy cadet before match at Chicago Athletic Association court. Academy brought in court team along with football squad for weekend.

## Air Force Cadets Play in Chicago

The United States Air Force Academy not only brought a football team to Chicago to play the Navy Oct. 12 but also brought their Handball Club from the Academy.

After the football game, the USA-FA Handball Club went to the Chicago Athletic Association for a session of handball. Of the games played, the USAFA won a doubles match with Forest Tyson and Dan

Krez of the CAA, and the CAA men were successful in the other matches.

Judge Kelly of the CAA was present to watch the play, and he and Tony Riggio, CAA Club Champion, spent some time discussing earlier matches and new equipment. Judge Kelly said the gloves used nowadays are considerably thinner and more flexible than the early gloves.

He told about when he was playing for the Lake Shore Club and played one of the all times greats, Joe Platak. He said "I was even lucky enough to win one game against him"

After the match play, the USA-FA Handball Club and the CAA team had a buffet dinner served in one of the CAA dining rooms.

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION-TODAY!

(From page 33)

tempo going throughout, and not look ahead to any game that might follow.

. . .

NOTES OF THE EXHIBITIONS: Bob Kendler did the refereeing honors with Gus Lewis as both the standby substitute in case of injury and the scorer . . . Dr. Phil Cottle brought a group in from Milwaukee to head up the Neveau cheering section, aided and abetted by Ray's wife. Miriam, and his boss . . . John Fabry and his wife, Sandy, drove in from Green Bay to combine his Saranac Glove promotions with enjoying the play . . . Mike Dau's wife Judy, was a most hospitable hostess at their campus home after both matches . . . Fred Ware and Bill Pilot drove in from Rockford for

the Sunday show . . . Joe Ardito and Benny Costello brought handball's priest, Father Cardinal along on Sunday . . . Johnny Sloan was an upstairs' gallery spectator the first night and probably musing over his palmy championship days . . a special assignment coverage for Chicago Tribune's well known Ed Prell and Photographer Ed Feeney . . . your reporter worked with Willie Yee and Steve Jamron, manning the "gate" and the traffic was heavy . . . Bruce Collins of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, new head man for that country's handball association, flew in from Toronto, for a meeting with the USHA brass . . . You can be sure Bruce will do an outstanding job at the helm . . . Jack Grund, is rapidly becoming a well-versed handball photog, on official assignment from Boss Bob. Many Lake Foresters were introduced to the game.

## Portland . . .

Portland's newly-formed Olympian Club was the scene for the first annual Autumn Classic tournament held Oct. 16-20. It marked the first time in Oregon handball that a statewide tournament was held in the Fall.

The 60 entries came from the metropolitan Portland area, with a few coming from Salem, Albany, and Astoria.

Tony Stamiello, Astoria YMCA, won the singles title defeating Ken McQueen of the host club, 19-21, 21-12, 21-18. Both reached the finals through tough quarter-final and semi-final matches. Stamiello went three games with Jerry Young, Albany YMCA. Young is a former top 16 finisher from Milwaukee, and is now the general secretary at the Albany Y. In the semis, Tony beat Jack Scrivens, Multnomah A.C., 20-21, 21-4, 21-6. McQueen had his hands full with Gene Hughes 21-19, 21-18 and Dick Brouwer, Multnomah A.C., 21-12, 6-21, 21-17. Brouwer defaulted to Scrivens for third place. Bob Hawes, unattached won consolation honors over Larry Tyle, Portland.

In the open doubles, John Ritchie and Dennis Schalk, Olympian Club, won in two games over Ted Yeamans and Alan Lippman, Multnomah A.C. 21-8, 21-20. The second game was a real thriller as Yeamans and Lippman held a commanding 20-14 lead, but couldn't muster that 21st point, as Ritchie and Schalk crept up to 20-20 and won on a back wall kill by Ritchie. Les Pratt and Ben Sickinger took third place over Leroy Moksness and Chuck Bell 21-3, 21-5.

In the Masters, Howard Soumle and Wes Knapp, Olympians, defeated the strong team of Bill Inglesby and Frank Bagan, Multnomah A.C., 21-12. 12-21, 21-7. Earlier this year, Inglesby had won the Masters division of the USHA National Contenders in Seattle, with Bob Schoning. This was indeed a fine victory for Soumie and Knapp. Third place went to Bill Simon and Joe Mastrandrea, Jewish Community Center.

Consolation trophies went to Al Popick and Stan Lovegrove in the open doubles, and George Rhine and Paul Hedman in the Masters.

Perpetual trophies were awarded to each division along with the individual silver cups to the champions. Each player's picture was taken and placed on a bulletin board for all to see, and everyone received a souvenier "Autumn Classic" T-shirt.

Tournament Notes: Larry Vanderpool, Rod Kreutz, and Ed Whittle, all 14-16 years old, showing much promise for the future.

Most exciting match — Brouwer's comeback against Rev. Don Piro. Down 14-20, Dick scored seven in a row to win in the third game.

Missed players — Bob Schoning and John Foster, Multnomah A.C. Hope to see them next year.

Thanks go to — Joan Schalk and the handball "widows" for a well run hospitality room; Lee Barber, our tournament hostess; Don Losli, Chuck Sell and the Oregon Handball Society for donating the perpetual trophies.

Next year's tournament should be bigger and better yet. See you in

1969!

JOHN RITCHIE Oregon Handball Society

### Oregon . . .

Tom Young did it again, but then it was no surprise! Tom's the athletic director at the Central Lane Y in Eugene, Oregon, and he ran another fine tournament. He was up to his old tricks of making everyone feel welcome and like a winner.

In this year's Oregon singles and doubles championships on his courts, there were a number of upsets. In the singles Ken McQueen, Portland Olympian Club knocked off Bob Schoning, Portland Multnomah Athletic Club. defending champ in the semis 21-15. 21-16. Ken gave Ted Yeamans. MAC, the same treatment in the three-game finals. This was his finest showing to date and he deserved the win. It gave a real boost to the younger players who have been trying so hard to depose the oldtimers and break into the winner's circle.

McQueen also played very well in a close quarterfinal match with Les Pratt, Portland Fire Department, winning 21-19, 21-20. Bob beat Tom Kienlen. Central Lane Y, for third place 21-17, 21-10. Tom is the son of well-known Joliet, Illinois player, Don Kienlen. Tom is playing the game in earnest now. He has developed his off-hand left so that it is just about as good as his right. A little more experience and he will be tough.

Bill Thoren, Salem Y beat Bob Vanderpool for the consolation title

21-9, 21-19.

A masters singles was held for the first time and Chuck Larson of the home Y beat Lee Shinn, Salem Y, in the finals 21-10. 21-5. In consolation, George Dorsey, Central Lane Y, took Vince Barrett, Albany, 11-21. 21-13, 21-9.

The doubles tournament had its share of surprises as well. Schoning and Ernie Johnson. MAC, lost in the second round to Gerry Young. Albany Y. and Howard Soumie. Olympian Club 21-20, 19-21, 21-6. They in turn lost to a good team of Tony Stramiello and Brian Lempea, Astoria Y. 21-16, 20-21, 21-17. John Foster and Frank Bagan, MAC, took Brian and Tony in the finals 21-10, 21-11.

-BOB SCHONING

# 1st Washington State Tourney at Yakima Y

Washington will hold its first USHA-sanctioned state tournament Jan. 10-12 at the Yakima YMCA. Competition will take place in the singles, doubles and Masters doubles.

Players can enter in only one event. Entry fee is \$5 per man. Send all entries (deadline, Jan. 6) to: Ollie Nelson, physical director, YMCA, Yakima, Wash.



COLUMBUS CLINIC . . . Bill Yambrick appeared at Central YMCA in Columbus, Ohio, in recent clinic-exhibition to spur upcoming interest in USHA Mideast regionals . . . (I to r)—Yambrick, Bill Driscoll, Tom Bogen, Worthy Gee, Bob McAllister, Hank Maser, Dave Phillips.

## Viet Nam . . .

News has just arrived from what surely is the most remotest handball court in the world that a new handball champion has been crowned in Viet Nam. His name is Major Carmen Annillo, my old flying jet pilot partner, now somewhere in the Da Nang area as a forward Air Controller in the Air Force. Carmen recently played Major Chuck Wicker for the championship of Da Nang and surrounding shell holes, and won after a tough two games, 21-7, 21-11. Major Wicker was not playing up to par however, and a rematch has been arranged.

The handball court they play on was erected between shellings out of plywood and has an observation platform for spectators.

The first Green Beret open was won by Lt. Martin over Sgt. Major Goyoaski in a thrilling tough match over which Carmen officiated.

Handy just outside the handball court is an item normally not included in court construction, namely a fox hole. One ground rule employed is that in case of a shelling the game is immediately suspended and the player with the most points is allowed to lead the helter-skelter dash for the bunker. In doubles, this causes a consternation in determining who is ahead, so all rules are suspended and those nearest the door are allowed out first.

Another cardinal rule of the home players is that entry into the court of any foreign object such as a cong shell or otherwise, immediately sus-

## HONOR ALL-TIME GREAT HERSHKOWITZ

The Killers Club of the New York Athletic Club, sponsored a stag testimonial dinner for Vic Hershkowitz, winner of 40 national handball titles, November 27.

The USHA record book lists Hershkowitz as 21-time winner of its national events. Hershkowitz 50, has been national singles champion twice and doubles titlist once, and has won the only national Master's singles tournament in four-wall handball.

As probably the greatest player in three-wall handball history, he won nine singles crowns and a doubles championship and four Master's doubles titles. He also captured three one-wall Master's championships. All were won between 1949 and 1966.

Joe Ingrassia, chairman of the dinner, said: "By many Vic is considered one of the greatest handball players of all time, since he excelled in one, three, and four wall play over a long span of time."

"Not only is he a 'player's player' but also a gentleman on the court. Vic plays with 'one and all' encouraging and giving pointers graciously. He makes himself available for exhibition matches and devotes a considerable amount of time to the 'cause of handball.'

The dinner was preceded by exhibition matches between Bill Yambrick vs. Carl Obert in singles, and Oscar and Ruby Obert vs. Yambrick and Hershkowitz in doubles.

-BILL KENNEDY

pends the play and the point shall be played over. There are other problems, such as monsoon rains flooding the court and raising havoc with the plywood and the rather bothersome war which keeps interfering with scheduling of matches.

Carmen has laid claim to the all Viet Nam championship on the fact that there is no one around his area who can beat him. Of course the little fact of a war being waged limits travel and participation in such events. Perhaps we can send a delegation to the enemy and arrange a truce of about a week and stage a big country-wide tournament and crown a champion. We might even teach those little Cong rascals handball and secure a peace on a common ground, after all look

at baseball in Japan. At the very least no great harm could be done; both sides would get a fine work-out, and I know more could be accomplished than is being done in Paris.

Certainly, long after this terrible war in Viet Nam has run its course, and our boys have finally gone back home, future generations of Viet Namese natives will marvel at the cube-like structure sprouting here and there in curious array, and of those crazy Americans who shut themselves up therein and make attempts to hit a little black ball around in its white interior.

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## The Greatest Gift a Man Can Give .

Some years ago I had an experience that could enrich your life, as it did mine. It was the day before Christmas and I was talking with a very prosperous business man. "Would you like to know," said the businessman, "what I'm going to give my boy for Christmas?"

"Yes," I replied, realizing that this wealthy father could

give a very costly gift to his son. He then handed me a paper.

On it was written:

"To my dear son: I give you one hour of each weekday, and two hours of my Sundays, to be yours, and to be used as you want them, without interference of any kind whatsoever.

Your Father"

I smiled in surprise. I wondered how that boy would feel and what he would think, when on Christmas morning he read that slip of paper. If he was just an average boy, he would be much dissatisfied; if he was an unusual boy, he would realize that his father had given him something he could not repay.
"Tell me," I inquired, "how did you happen to hit upon

the idea of giving such an unusual present?"

The business man answered, "The other day a young fellow, whom I had not seen since he was a lad about my boy's age, came to my office to 'make a touch.' His face and bearing carried the telltale marks of failure and dissipation. He was simply a human derelict. 'Robert!' I exclaimed in amazement, 'to see you like this! - and you with such a fine

amazement, 'to see you like this! — and you with such a fine father!'

"The boy answered, 'Well, I've often heard that Dad was a fine man. All his friends have told me so. But I never knew him. He was so fully occupied with his business and his clubs that I only saw him at mealtimes. I never really knew him'.

"That made me think — and think furiously, and believe me, from now on I am going to see to it that MY son has a chance to KNOW me, be it for good or bad."

The greatest, gift a man can give — yet a gift every father owes to his son, kept running through my mind.

Now a fitting conclusion to this story would be that they spent these hours in a handball court and lived happily ever after. I hope so. I know one fellow who did.

His name is Kendler and he has three sons. All of them are rugged individualists who rarely saw their father. There was little friendship and less family. Then came handball. We played long, hard doubles matches that made us all aware played long, hard doubles matches that made us all aware

what a good family we had and how much we enjoyed one another. The hour or two I gave to my sons came to be the happiest hours of my life and I recommend it to fathers with all my heart.

Now, the next best thing to having a son is having a "handball protege". I mean some young kid you take under your wing and teach the game. Impress him with the sports-manship that is the hallmark of handball so when his character emerges he will honor you and handball. More than anything else, young players need the helping hand of veteran

anything eise, young players need the helping hand of veteran players. You could give him membership in our Players' Fraternity, and even provide his Y membership for Christmas.

Henry Van Dyke once wrote: "It is a good thing to observe Christmas Day. But there is a better thing than the observance of Christmas Day, and that is, keeping Christmas. Are you willing to forget what you have done for other people, and to remember what other people have done for you; to ignore what the world owes you, and to think what you owe the world; to put your rights in the background, and your duty the world; to put your rights in the background, and your duty in the foreground; to see that your fellow-men are just as real as you are, and to try to look behind their faces to their hearts, hungry for joy; to admit that probably the only good nearis, nungry for joy; to admit that probably the only good reason for your existence is not what you are going to get out of life, but what you are going to give to life; to close your book of complaints against the management of the universe, and look around you for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness — are you willing to do these things even for a day?"

Then you are keeping Christmas.

"Are you willing to stoop down and consider the needs and the desires of little children; to remember the weakness and long lines of people who are growing old; to stop asking how much your friends love you, and ask yourself whether you love them enough; to bear in mind the things that other people have to bear in their hearts; to try to understand what those who live in the same house with you really want, without waiting for them to tell you; to trim your lamp so that it will give more light and less smoke, and to carry it in front so that your shadow will fall behind you; to make a grave for your ugly thoughts and a garden for a day?"

Then you are keeping Christmas.

Let's keep it together

Bob Kendler

UNITED STATES HANDBALL ASSOCIATION 4101 Dempster Street . Skokie, Illinois 60076

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