

Wallbanger News

Paddleball • Racquetball • Platform Tennis • Squash

READY FOR THE '80's



Ruben Gonzalez Wins Long Island Open

by Tom McDonough and Al Seitelmen

They fulfilled the promise of a tournament of epic proportions, the equal of any pow-wow held on Long Island since the days when American Indians roamed its salty plains.

Held at two clubs — Centre Court in Rockville Center and Universal in Massapequa — to accommodate the "tribes" from eleven states, this conclave would pit two native braves, Victor Neiderhoffer, squash sachem, and Ruben Gonzalez, from Staten Island's Courts of Appeal, in the Men's Open Finals.

Players of lesser caliber debated whether Neiderhoffer would add Gonzalez's scalp to his belt one more time. In previous clashes, Gonzalez had won only once. Victorious over Gonzalez three times before, there ran a current of thought that a finesse sharpshooter like Neiderhoffer had the edge over the power player style of Gonzalez. The wise men of the council looked knowingly when Jim Scheuyer's name was 3rd-seeded. Jim had wrested number one slot last year from Neiderhoffer with his killer shots, graceful lobs, and deer-like dexterity.

This gathering had its own medicine man, an innovation supported by all three tournament coordinators, Al Seitelman, Mike Jones, and Ron Forman. (Jones is a teaching pro at Royal Racquetball Club in Selden; Forman manages Universal Racquetball Club in Massapequa, one of the host clubs.)

Chiropractor Harry Paritsky of Bay Shore, Long Island, volunteered his services during the three days of the tournament. Dr. Paritsky demonstrated chiropractic techniques to tournament participants, particularly the athlete with racquetball-caused problems: hamstring problems, hip problems, elbow, shoulder, back soreness, and on.

Long Island 1979 champion Reuben Gonzalez assures us that Paritsky's ministrations helped him with post-victory aches. "Fascinating," said Chicago's Jim Scheuyer, last year's Long Island Open winner, of chiropractic. Both headliners had never availed themselves of a chiropractor prior to the tournament. "I'm intrigued by his (Paritsky's) procedures and want to know more," said Scheuyer after the tournament. "I now want to find what exercises, in addition to chiropractic treatments, will help me."

Jim plans on returning to the Long Island Open next year.

Over 630 racquetballers met in sixteen divisions of competition, including a new bracket Al Seitelman, New York State International Racquetball Association director, created to protect the true novice and C entry player from trophy hunters — Men's CC.

Men's Open

In the first game, Neiderhoffer probed for weakness in Gonzalez's all-around game and took an early lead, — at the first time out.

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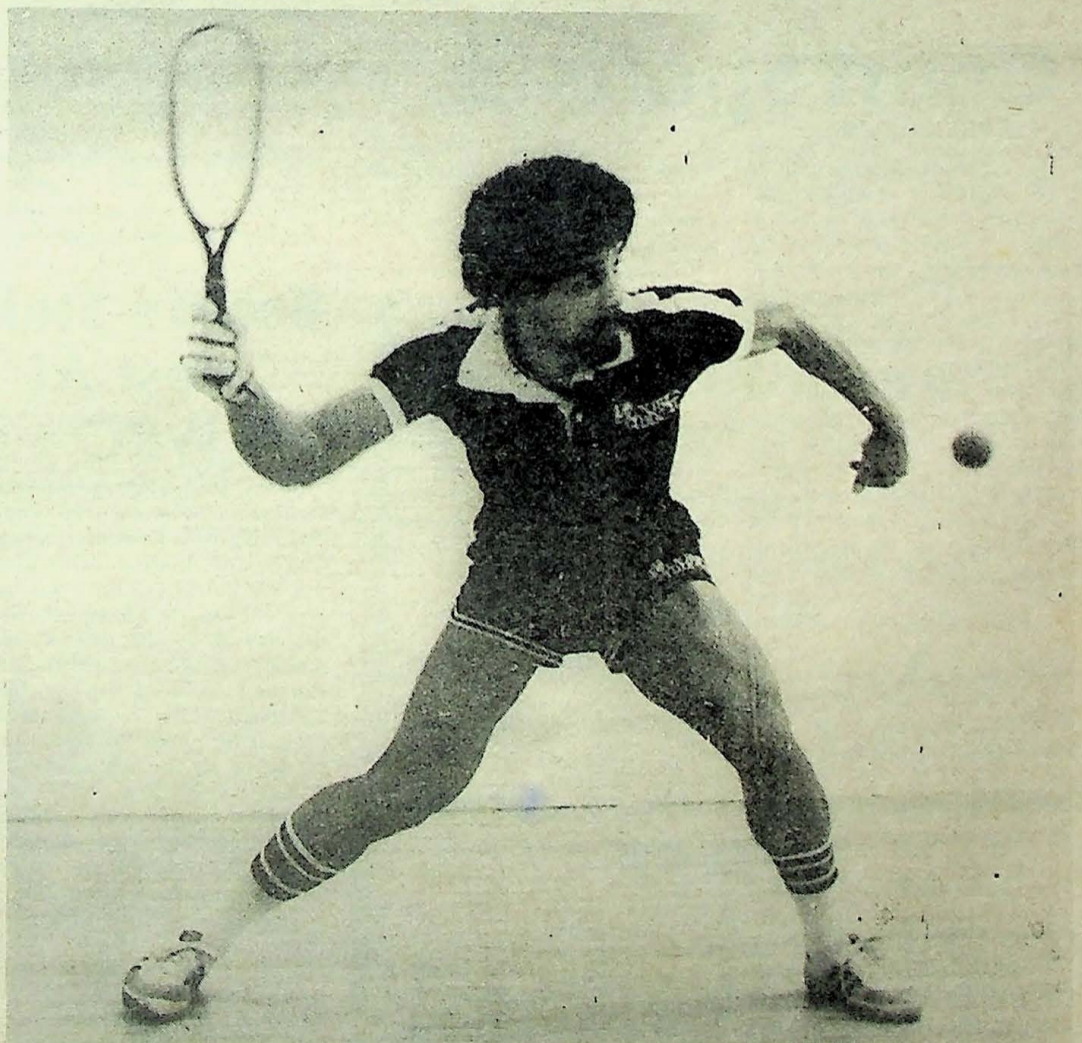


Photo: Lynn Glatzner

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- Local Tournament Results
- Pictures
- Racquetball Fifth Avenue Tourney Coming (see page 5)

TRIVIA

The first Educational Alliance Paddleball Clinic that just ended was a great success according to John Bruscal, the instructor. It was attended by fourteen were enthusiastic men and women students. The class was geared to beginners and the occasional platter and it dealt with such topics as paddli grips, proper serve, return of serve, switching hands etc.

The Clinic was highlighted by a guest appearance of Howard Hammer who conducted a full session. This was his first teaching endeavor since he left Queensborough four years ago.

A six-session class for advanced players will be conducted by John starting January 28, 1980. It will be held at the Educational Alliance, 197 East Broadway, N.Y.C. or consecutive Monday nights from 7:15 p.m. to 8 p.m. For further information contact Herman Reid at 475-6200.

For paddle tennis player's new paddle tennis court's were installed by the City at Riis Park which is located in Rockaway Beach, N.Y. Four regulation courts are now available for paddle tennis buffs.

New Paddleball Club-Up-Date
Sy Lane's Flushing Indoor Paddleball Courts are just about finished. It features 5 fast courts and a bright new color scheme. His lounge area is glass enclosed so players can relax between games. Sy will be hosting the UR 4 Women Mixed Doubles Jan. 19th.

George McFaddens, Paddle Sports Health Club is now open with seven great courts. It may look a little bare, but we can assure you George is going full speed ahead with construction going on Daily.

The response to our November

Popular Ford Postpones Tourney

Many of our readers have been inquiring about rumors they have heard that the Popular Ford/Take One Paddleball Center Open/Invitational Tournament has been cancelled. Well, we are happy to report, after speaking with Sonny Rizzo of Popular Ford and Jerry Resnick of Take One Paddleball Center, that this is totally untrue.

The Popular Ford/Take One Paddleball Center Open/Invitational Doubles Championship will be held early in 1980, but has been postponed due to the fact that Sonny Rizzo will soon be taking over a new dealership and is unable to give the tournament his full attention at this time. We have been informed that

this year Popular Ford/Take One Paddleball Center spectacular will feature \$5,000 in prize money. There will be an Open Division with \$2,000 in prize money, an Invitational Division with \$2,100 in prize money, and a Women's Division with \$900 in prize money.

Many of our readers are familiar with the outstanding record Sonny Rizzo has in promoting paddleball and this year will be no exception. Sonny and Jerry do ask that you be a little patient and you can look forward to announcement of exact tournament dates and tournament applications in future editions of the "Wallbanger."

Court Sports II

by Rich Stevenson

In the coming year, Court-Sports will be offering its members the choice of racquetball either in Elmsford or Yonkers. April will be the official opening of Court-Sports II to be located in the newly developed South Westchester Executive Park in Yonkers. All members will have the choice of playing at Court-Sports I or Court-Sports II. Their membership will be valid at either club plus other interclub privileges. The new club will feature 13 professional racquetball courts, (4 glass walls) fully equipped exercise and warm-up area, full service locker rooms including saunas, steam room and whirlpool baths, and refreshments bar. If members cannot find court time in one club, the staff will try to provide them time in the other club.

Continuing at Court-Sports I will be our successful challenge court program held on Sunday afternoons from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. For only

\$3.00, you get to challenge the winner. From then on, you play until you lose. Members had a great opportunity to sharpen their skills and play different people.

College students may play for \$8.00 per hour if they play before 4 p.m. No membership is required—they must only furnish their college I.D. card.

Our singles parties will be continued on Saturday evenings from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. The parties have been a great success and at \$8.00 per person including refreshments, it must be considered a bargain. We have a good balance between men and women, but we need new people to keep the parties active. Included with the evening is an introductory lesson for beginners.

Because of the recent success of the Robert Martin Grand Prix, we are pleased to host the Schweppe's Racquetball Classic to be held in late January, 1980.

issue's article entitled "Who's who in paddleball" by Joe Lubelfeld was such a tremendous success we've asked Joe to do it again. So if you see a middle aged man with a rather large moustash and a twinkle in his eye observing your game — Watch the **Wallbanger News** because it may be you in the who's who!!!

Open House — A Great Success

Sy Lane introduced his new club to everyone in the form of an open house on Saturday evening, December 15th. Everyone had hours of free playing time and free snacks. At 8 p.m., Bobby Schwarz and Hoppy played an exhibition match against Steve Rothfeld and Barry Sheiber.

Jerry, George and Ed of Take-One and Take Two Paddleball centers in Brooklyn hosted an open house at their Take-Two facility Dec. 15 the Players had free court time and plenty of free food.

There is a beautiful sporting goods store in the Bronx, located at 2336 Grand Concourse run by Fernando Roque and Angel Cruz. This sport's shop has everything from racquetball, golf, team uniform's, paddleball equipment. They are featuring a paddleball helmet, which should be of interest to you **Wallbangers**. They also have the Safti Guard-G Eyeglass Protector. The name of this store is "Sports Stuff" in the upcoming Bronx Paddleball Tournament. They will supply free t-shirts and trophies, and to all B.P.A. members a 10% discount will be given.

Ridgewood vs. Spring Creek. A battle of the teams paddleball competition will take place at Take-One Paddleball Center on Saturday, Jan. 26th at 5 p.m. Each club will feature their best Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles players.

As a special added attraction, Bobby Schwarz will compete against Larry Poole and Santos Conigliaro.

Bonnie Stoll Guest At JVRC

Bonnie Stoll, winner of the Ladies Open in the March of Dimes Tournament, winner of the Ladies Open in the Hudson Valley Open, the reigning USRA National Womens' Doubles Champion, one of the top 20 in the official USRA national seedings, a member of the Ektelon Professional Advisory Staff, and the pro at the Stamford Racquet Club conducted a Clinic and Exhibition at the Jefferson Valley Racquet Club last week. Men, women, and many children benefitted from her expertise. Bonnie started with the children giving them general instruction in a group, followed by instruction as well, but received individual instruction on any aspect of the game that they requested. A demonstration followed. Bonnie played Pete Chardavoyne, Ass't to the pro at JVRC and an Ektelon sponsored player. For all the male chauvinists, the club had it's own Billie Jean King-Bobby Riggs match. Challenging Bonnie and Larry Silverman. Refreshments were served and an Ektelon Hilecher racquet was raffled off.

Marcraft introduces the NEW Bobby Schwarz M-1-D Paddle — a new addition to the M-1 Series, rivetted rim for durability, thin wood for flex and control and a steel rim for POWER. An added feature of the new M-1-D is the flared contoured handle which provides a comfortable feel for the choke-grip player. The Marcraft M-1-D's are available now at your favorite sporting goods store!

Get your Free T-Shirts at **Racquetball 5th Avenue** when you enter their **Valentine's Day Massacre Racquetball Classic Tournament** for Feb. 15th. Prizes and trophies will be given to the winners. Refreshments and T-Shirts to all entrants. See application form.

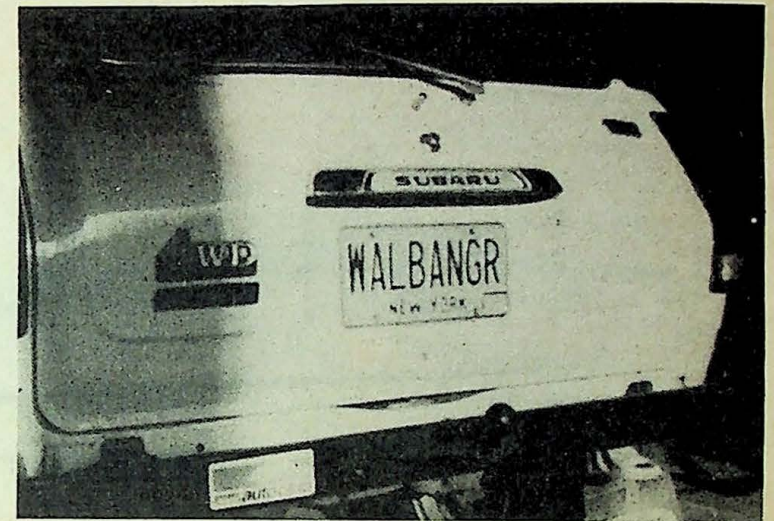
Here is one paddleball player's answer to personal safety. Stuart Werner, from the Bronx, uses a Swedish-made hockey helmet. He

purchased it from Gerry Cosby & Co. at 3 Pen Plaza in the Madison Square Garden Building. Gerry Cosby & Co. is a large retail sporting goods store which specializes in hockey equipment.

Stuart Werner says that he has experimented with many different kinds of helmets but this particular helmet is the best. Stuart says that most helmets designed for other sports have too much "grill-work" and they seriously obstruct the paddleball player's vision. This particular helmet provides protection where it is needed the most, namely the mouth, teeth, and forehead. Stuart wears glasses and reports no obstruction of vision.

When visiting Gerry Cosby's request "Tandskydd VM" hockey helmet. It costs \$12.95. That price includes both the helmet and mouthguard.

Stuart has no financial interest in the sale of these helmets but he is bringing it to everyone's attention in order to reduce the number of unfortunate accidents in the sport.



Male Shop/Take 2 Sponsor Tourney

Take One Paddleball Center, the leader in paddleball tournaments has done it again. Jerry Resnick, one of the owners of Take One & Take Two Paddleball Center has put together an outstanding tournament for all "B" level players. Joining with Take One is "The Male Shop" on Ralph Avenue in Brooklyn to sponsor an exciting tournament, featuring clothes and cash worth \$1,600, the largest prize fund for any "B" level tournament.

This tournament, appropriately entitled "Spruce Up For Winter" Men's 'B' Doubles Championship will feature prizes ranging through the first eight places. First prize is truly exceptional, \$500 worth of clothing of your choice from "The Male Shop" plus \$200 in cash. Second place winners will receive \$300 worth of clothing plus \$100 in cash. The two runnerup teams will receive \$150 worth of clothing each plus \$50 cash per team. There are also \$25 consolation prizes for teams from 5th through 8th places.

For this tournament, to be held on consecutive Saturday nights in February 1980 Take One Paddleball Center will be hiring some of the Top "A" level players in the game to serve as officials to insure a smooth running and eminently fair tournament.

The tournament is scheduled for February 9, 16 and 23. It will be set up so that the player can expect to play preliminary matches either February 9 or 16, but not both dates, with the quarterfinals, semi-finals and finals being held on February 23.

Registration for this tournament will be stopped at 128 teams so it would be wise to mail your entry in early and not be left out. We know

that many paddleball players wait until the last minute to enter, but in this case, due to the large prizes awarded and the low entry fee we anticipate a full registration. The deadline date for the "Spruce Up For Winter" Men's 'B' Doubles Tournament is February 2, 1980. Applications are available at most of the indoor facilities distributing "The Wallbanger" and there is also a convenient entry form elsewhere in this edition of the "The Wallbanger."

Looking forward to seeing you at this tournament and once again thanks to Take One Paddleball Center and The Male Shop for helping to promote the game of paddleball.



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Yogi Berra's Hall Of Fame Racquetball Club

The Yogi Berra Club Championship was a great success. It was so good that we even made Channel 5 TV on Sports Extra, local papers and the AP wire service. Of course, it being the Yogi Berra Racquetball Club gave us an edge—Buckey Dent, Chris Chamblis, Rick Cerone and Rick Sofield (Minnesota Twins) all played in the tournament. Two of the Yankees, did very well. Buckey

Yogi's Club Championship

The Yogi Berra Hall of Fame Racquetball Club in Fairfield, New Jersey, is conducting its annual club championship. Three divisions of play include Men's B, Men's C and Open Doubles.

A number of professional athletes play at Yogi Berra's in the off season in order to stay in shape. Four have entered this year's tournament — Chris Chamblis, Atlanta Braves, Rick Cerone, New York Yankees, Bucky Dent, New York Yankees, and Rick Solfield, Minnesota Twins.

The Yogi Berra Racquetball Club opened in January, 1978, and has 17 racquetball courts, 1 squash court, exercise equipment and luxurious appointments. It is the host club for the Yogi Berra/Lite Beer Grand Prix annual 3-tournament racquetball series featuring top players in the East. Last year's Grand Prix included 1,000 entrants from 22 states.

The Yogi Berra Racquetball Club has recently introduced a new team sport to New Jersey called 4-wall indoor volleyball. A standard 20' x 40' racquetball court is used by the players. A net 7'6" high divides the court in half, and 2 teams from 4-6 people play against each other.

\$ SAVINGS FROM OMEGA

Omega Sports, producer of top quality racquetball equipment has announced a money saving consumer rebate offer for the period

Results of Coors \$20,000 Championship

FIRST ROUNDS — Brooks Robinson (Baltimore Orioles) d. Brian Oldfield (shotput), 23-3, 21-4; Mike Adamle (Chicago Bears) d. Jimmy Johnson (San Francisco '49ers), 21-4, 21-3; George Blanda (Oakland Raiders) d. Ralph Neeley (Dallas Cowboys), 21-7, 21-6.

Bob McNamara (Denver Broncos) d. Kermit Alexander (San Francisco and Los Angeles Rams), 21-4, 21-6; Ron Gardin (Baltimore Colts) d. Tommy Nobis (Atlanta Falcons), 21-2, 21-3.

SECOND ROUNDS — Blanda d. Robinson, 21-15, 21-13; Gardin d. Adamle, 21-4, 21-7; McNamara d. Lucci, 21-8, 21-9; Walton d. Williams, 21-15, 14-21, 11-7.

FINAL QUALIFYING — Mason d. Oldfield, 21-4, 21-9; Nobis d. Johnson, 21-3, 21-12; Block d. Neeley, 21-5, 21-7; Marinaro d. Alexander, 21-3, 21-3.

Block d. Robinson, 21-4, 21-3; McNamara d. Mason, 21-19, 21-10; Williams d. Adamle, 21-9, 21-6; Lucci d. Nobis, 21-17, 21-19.

QUARTERFINALS — Williams d. Blanda, 21-7, 21-8; Walton d. Lucci, 21-2, 21-4; McNamara d. Marinaro, 21-7, 21-11; Gardin d. Block, 21-3, 21-3.

SEMIFINALS — Walton d. Gardin, 21-20, 9-21, 11-6; McNamara d. Williams, 21-20, 19-21, 11-7.

FINALS — Walton d. McNamara, 21-20, 21-10.

reached the "C" quarter finals before losing to Fred Garodnick, while Rick went all the way to the "C" Semifinals losing to Sal Teodoro—21-17, 12-21, 15-3.

One of the highlights of the two day event was the match between Rick Cerone and one of our best junior players, Chris Cirillo, who is 12 years old. Chris gave his all, but Rick was too fast and strong, winning in two games. Their match made

The rules are the same as in regular volleyball, with the exception that the 4 surrounding walls of the racquetball court are in play; in other words, there are no out of bounds. Playing the ball off the walls offsets the advantage normally enjoyed by a tall player in that an individual of average height who cannot jump high enough to spike a ball can play the ball off any of the walls as it crosses the net.

A problem that the volleyball player encounters is the lack of available courts. Normally, he uses local gyms in the surrounding school districts. However, other sports such as basketball and other activities cut down on the amount of time available to the volleyball player. With 17 courts available for play, Yogi Berra's allows many volleyball players to compete at any time.

Players who have recently tried this new sports enjoy playing more than the standard game, as play off the walls affords new strategy, techniques, and offsets a tall player's advantage. It is hoped that indoor 4-wall volleyball catch on and spread, affording many players a chance to engage in this new sport.

from January 1 through April 15, 1980. Purchasers of Omega's best selling "Pro-II", the premium "Century" or one of the unique new "Series 21" racquets will receive a \$5.00 check upon mailing the warranty registration card attached to the racquet, along with "proof of purchase" to Omega.

The purpose of this program is to introduce the unique design and quality construction of Omega racquets to additional thousands of racquetball players.

The offer will be advertised in **People Magazine**, **Sports Illustrated** and **Sport Magazine**, as well as the racquetball publications and local and regional media.

Omega's full line of racquetball racquets and accessories may be ordered from Omega Sports, 10850 Metro Court, Maryland Heights, MO 63043, (800) 325-4025.



Channel 5's coverage and Chris showed that in a few years he'll be a tough match against anyone.

The men's "C" event was a hard fought contest with three of the four quarter finals going to three games. The first upset of the division occurred in the upper bracket when the unseeded Rick Cerone showed that youth and conditioning can overcome experience. Rick upset number one seed Joey Harrison. Joey had little trouble until the quarters, not losing a game. Rick's great hustle and retraining finally wore Joey down and twenty years difference in age proved too much of a handicap. The match ended 21-11, 15-21, 15-3 as Joey was visibly tired and finally began skipping the ball of leaving easy set-ups for Rick.

Sal Teodoro seemed to be the most improved player in the tournament. Prior to the club tournament, he had not reached the final in any event. But he proved that "practice makes perfect," reaching the finals in both "C" and "B" divisions. In the "C's", he upset Rich Ryan, the 4th seed, and Brian Kleinman, the 6th seed, in straight games. He met Rick Cerone in the semis in a great three game match. After winning 21-17, he dropped the second game 21-12 and it looked as though Rick was on his way again. But Sal's experience and conditioning proved too much. He forced Rick into several backhand errors resulting in setups. Sal won the third game going away 15-3.

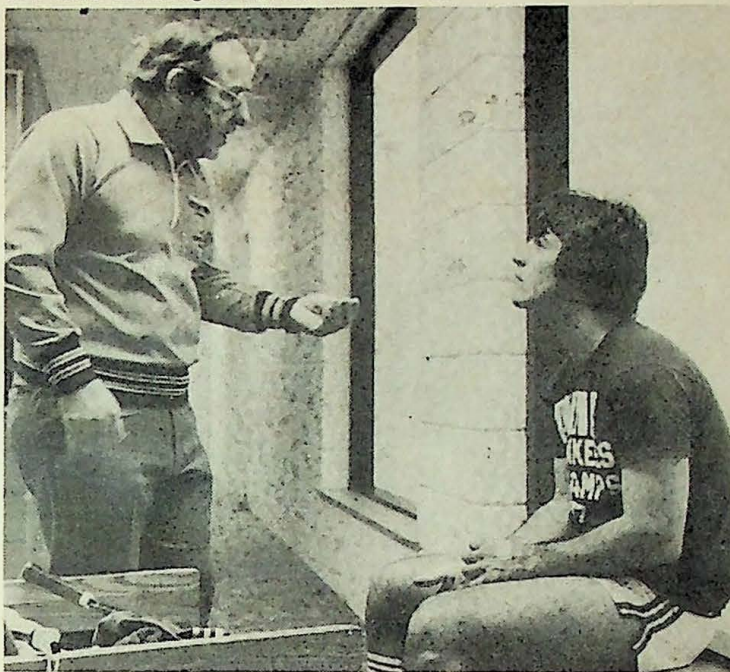
In the lower bracket, the seeding held true as Lee Goldberg, the number two seed, rolled into the finals. Fred Garodnick, the number five seed, won over a determined Bucky Dent 21-3, 21-19. Bucky appeared to have the second game won only to see Fred regain his composure with hard hit passes to Bucky's backhand that resulted in setups or points. Fred then battled

number three seed Rick Illeck 6-21, 21-11, 15-9 pulling out a thrilling victory as Rich tired after having the match seemingly in hand.

The finals proved to be as exciting. Sal had entered two events and on Sunday, playing in his eighth match, he began to visibly tire. He managed to win 21-18 in the first game, but the "fire" left his leg and after holding a six point lead, lost the second game to Lee Goldberg 17-21. It looked all over for Sal, but he made a miraculous recovery between games and came out firing to win his first

champion for 1979. Sal once again upset the odds as he used his power and youth to win against Larry. Again the age factor proved that "father time" is on the side of youth as Larry spotted Sal 20 years and won in two close games.

The finals proved that ten matches in two days can take their toll. Sal, after his victory in the "C" looked like he had lead weights on his feet. Bruce Hamlin, with squash shots, control, and speed of foot, won the "B" division over a tired Sal 21-13, 21-12.



Yogi Berra giving Bucky Dent some tips on racquetball.

title at Yogi's 15-8.

The Men's "B" division was a duplicate of the "C's". The lower bracket followed the seeding as Bruce Hamlin, the third seed, defeated Joe Cirillo, the second seed, 21-19, 21-14. Bruce is an excellent squash player and his pinches and soft drop shots were too much for the hard hitting Cirillo.

In the upper bracket, Sal Teodoro continued his heroics as he first outlasted Vince Porter 21-17, 18-21, 15-1. His next match was against Larry Hurrell, the club handicap

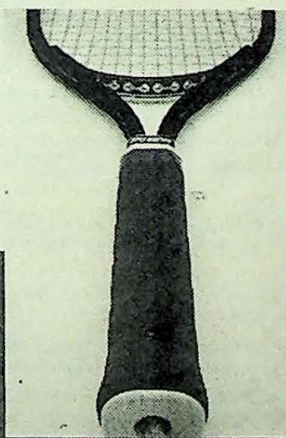
The Open Doubles was a treat for our junior members. Joe Cirillo teamed with his son, 12 year old Chris, and after an upset 14-21, 21-9, 15-3 win over Brian Kleinman and Raphael Mattie, the number two seeds, met Vince Porter and John Reinhardt in the finals. Chris was up to the task. He played the right side, rolled out a few and kept the ball in play so that his dad could put the ball away. Their efforts, however, were not enough. The more experienced team of Porter and Reinhardt won the match 21-14, 21-18.

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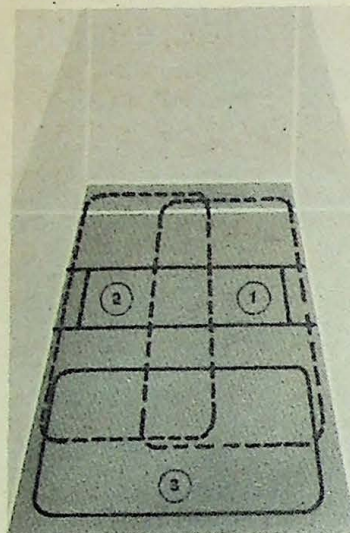
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KILL SHOTS!

by Mike Yellen

Without a doubt the most beautiful sight to a racquetball player, is that of a ball rolling away from the front wall. When the ball doesn't bounce, there's no question as to whether the other guy is going to get it or not. 'Good' isn't the word for a rollout, 'perfect' is.



Areas for Hitting Kills. When hitting from within area [1], hit to right front corner; when hitting from within [2], hit to left corner. Opponent should be in area [3] when you are hitting kill. If you are outside areas [1] and [2], then you are probably too deep to hit a good percentage kill. Use a drive or ceiling ball.

Although, rollout kill shots are rather infrequent occurrences, still, they do happen. And since it is the object of the game to make it difficult if not impossible, for your opponent to shoot easily, the kill shot is number one on any list of "shots to perfect."

Since rollouts are rare, let's concern ourselves with kills which are not perfect, but adequate. This is the one where the ball hits the front wall at such a low point that it bounces twice (in rapid succession), before your opponent can pick it up.

It can be safely said that even moderate success in racquetball requires that one be comfortable shooting kills from many positions on the court. In this regard, 75 to 80% accuracy can be considered above average. But, like most other things, it is easier said than done. I cannot stress enough the necessity of PRACTICE.

When attempting a kill, the key word is 'patience.' You must let the ball fall below the knees (as low as you can), before hitting. The object is to keep the ball low, from your

racquet to the wall, and after that gravity will do the rest.

Wait, be patient, don't rush, and when the ball is in place, smack it with a flat racquet. The more time you wait, the more time you will have to set up for your shot.

Use the time by placing yourself in a stationary position (you can't shoot effectively when you're on the run), and watching the ball closely. Only by studying the velocity and angle of the ball can you determine when to shoot. Wait until the last possible moment.

The basic reason for shooting the ball at a very low point is so the ball will stay low. If one shoots from the hip, for instance, in an attempt to make the ball hit the front wall low, the ball will be moving at such a great angle that it will bounce fairly high. The higher it bounces, the easier it will be for the opponent to retrieve.

The standard method of kill shot execution is as follows:

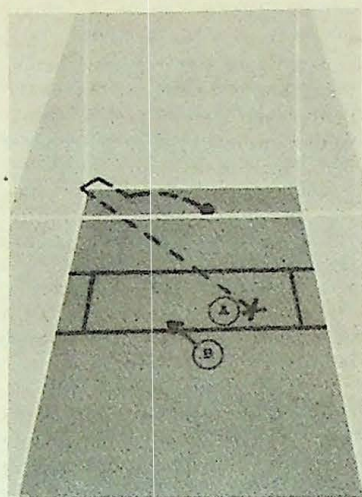
Assume a batter's stance with your lead foot a little closer to the side wall which you are facing than your back foot. The knees should be more than slightly bent. The torso should be bent so as to assume a position almost over the ball.

The ball should be directly even with the front leg at the time of contact with the racquet, which should begin its motion toward the ball from above the shoulder. The wrist should be slightly cocked until

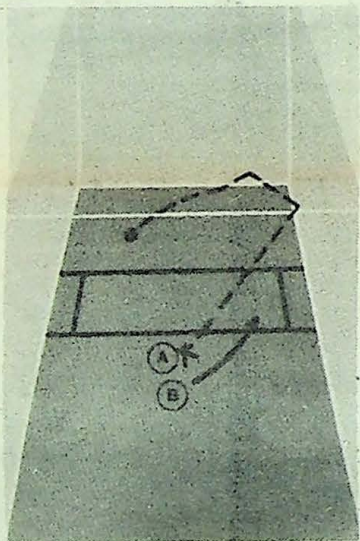
just before hitting the ball.

In fact, for speed and a hard shot, the wrist should be in the middle of the snap at the same time that the racquet is touching the ball.

A follow through should be made with your legs, hips and shoulders. This will insure that you are not just swinging with your arms. You will also fare better in case of a complete miss, when your whole body can absorb the unexpected jolt rather



Reserve Corner Kill. Another variation of the straight-in kill. If your opponent sneaks toward the center to cover the cross-court drive or roll-corner kill, then the reverse corner can be a winner. Hit low, almost into corner, hitting side wall then front wall: Neither roll corner, nor reverse corner kill should reach the opposite side wall.



Roll-Corner or Side-Wall, Front-Wall Kill. A variation of the straight-in kill. Hit side wall low and about three feet from wall. Let ball carry to front wall and across court. Use this if your opponent starts sneaking toward side wall for straight-in kill [as shown.]

than just your elbow.

This procedure is identical for the backhand and forehand kill shot, except for one variation. In the backhand motion the racquet will begin its descent to the ball from your free-hand shoulder, whereas on a forehand kill the racquet will issue from the vicinity of your racquet-hand shoulder.

There are no hard and fast rules on where and when to attempt a kill shot. It is commonly held that the kill which grazes the side wall first is the most effective because the ball will die on the floor after hitting the front wall. This is the case in one instance, i.e., when the ball is hit low enough and grazes slightly enough.

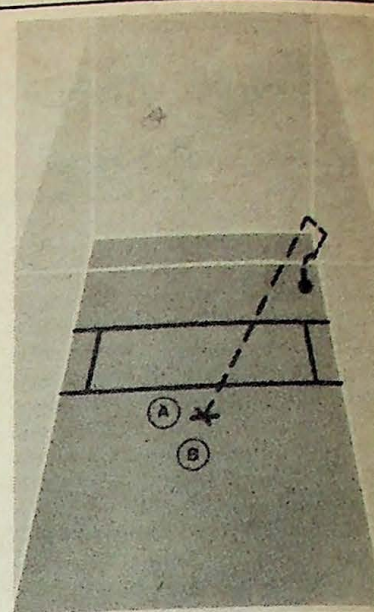
However, the disadvantage to this kill shot is the fact that only a few inches make the difference between a ball that dies and one that rebounds into front center court.

On the other hand, the ball hit straight into the front wall without contact with the side wall can sometimes serve as an effective pass shot when it is not low enough to be considered a kill.

In any case, neither shot should be used to the exclusion of the other, for they are both adequate in the right circumstances.

Kill shots can be attempted from virtually anywhere on the court. One does, however, have a better chance of killing the ball in the vicinity of the service zone. The reason for this is that your opponent will most likely be behind you, and therefore, farther from the ball. There is also a disadvantage here, that is, that it will be more difficult to know which way your opponent is leaning.

This leads me to the last point to



Straight-in Kill. The basic kill shot hit low into front wall and quickly wedging into the side wall. Note position of player B, behind the shooter.

be made here; it concerns where to shoot. Again there are no definite do's or don't's regarding where to shoot. There is, however, a good rule to follow; put the ball where your opponent is not. Even if you're hitting 80% of your kills, you're bound to leave a few hanging. If your shot is bad but far enough away from your opponent, it may still work.

The kill shot is certainly the most effective offensive weapon a racquetball player can command. The receiver has to strain to get low to retrieve it and must always be on his toes, constantly anticipating when, where, how fast, and how low you'll shoot.

L.I. Open...

continued from page 1

Gonzalez's skips hinders displayed by lawyer Niederhoffer gave support to the finesse theorists. The game ended with Niederhoffer holding off a determined comeback by the stoic Gonzalez, 21-13.

In game two, a more accurate Gonzalez bounded from side to side of the back court picking up gets to the delight of the over 600 spectators at Centre Court's new side-and-back glass wall exhibition court. Instead of arguing about hinders, Gonzalez seemed to pick up returns from under Niederhoffer's heels. He forced Niederhoffer to change his style mid-way in the second game and slowly Gonzalez took over the lead. Manhattanite Niederhoffer sought relief in a time out but not before gesturing to the referee that someone in the crowd was smoking a cigarette. The offending fan was chastised by the referee and the cigarette was doused. Niederhoffer's hopes for a second game victory were also. Gonzalez turned in an impressive performance throughout the rest of the game, allowing Niederhoffer only eleven points.

Niederhoffer tried to slow the tie-breaker down by lobbing more to Gonzalez's backhand, playing percentage racquetball, but he missed a few crucial opportunities as the score see-sawed back and forth until the last five points.

The score at 11-10 Gonzalez, Reuben picked up another point to make it 12-10. Again a turnover and Niederhoffer failed to capitalize on it. Gonzalez in the service area and he picked up another point on a kill shot in the corner. The crowd tensed, knowing the next moves were critical. Score at 13-10. Another point for Gonzalez as he

made an overhand tennis kill shot from backcourt, something that eluded him in the first game.

At 14-10, Niederhoffer took over the serve, but again muffed it on a back-and-forth rally which Gonzalez put away with a kill shot down the left wall. It was at this point that Niederhoffer showed quality sportsmanship. The referee, possibly blocked by both players, Niederhoffer unhesitatingly signaled he picked the ball up on two bounces.

Gonzalez's final point brought the crowd to its feet applauding wildly. The last rapid exchange between the two New Yorkers cast doubt on the theory that a finesse player has an edge on a go-for-broke powerhouse like Gonzalez. Tally in championships between the two now stand at Niederhoffer 3; Gonzalez 2. Interesting to see what happens next tournament.

Jim Scheuyer accepted a third place trophy when an ailing Art Diemar settled for fourth. In the quarter finals, Diemar made an impressive showing over 16-year-old Charles Horton of Port Chester, 21-14; 21-5. Horton had beaten Gonzalez in the New York State Championships at Port Chester in April of this year.

Women's Open

In the Women's Open finals, Marcy Lynch from Manhattan Squash defeated Pennsylvania's Linda Kennedy in three hard-fought games, 21-18, 21-15, 15-8. Missouri-an Lynch met a scrappy Cindy Dalton along the way, "This was one of my toughest matches," said Lynch. "But the scores — 21-16, 21-9 don't reflect that. She's (Dalton) tough."

Brooklyn's Sue Wilson, Marcy Lynch's doubles partner, also from Manhattan Squash, went on to take first place in the consolation

bracket.

Men's Open Doubles

A determined Art Diemar and Dave Lupt took the finals in the Men's Open Doubles in two games from last year's IRA Singles Champion Jim Schewyer and Charles Horton of Port Chester, 21-6, 21-10. Schewyer and Horton had been matched by the tournament committee and had never played together. Diemar had recovered from his defeat at Vic Niederhoffer's hands in the Men's Open Singles a few hours before. With Diemar on the left and Luft sizzling in on the right, game one proved a breeze. Schewyer and Horton coordinated better in the second game, but never could regain the momentum. Third place went to Rory "The Sleeper" Burke and Victor Alvary of Queens County who overcame the squash/handball imprint of Tom Jaklitch and Brian Peterson, both of Bayshore, Long Island. Burke was awarded his nickname by tournament coordinator Ron Forman after Burke reached the quarter finals in the Men's Open Singles. "You'll be hearing more from Rory Burke," predicts Forman.

In the consolation bracket, Long Islanders Bob Steffens and Ernie Fraase took an easy first place.

Men's Seniors 35 and Over

Unknown Dennis Handsberg of Rockville Centre whipped through the Men's Senior finals where he met the considerable skill of Barry Kohut. Kohut has defeated a hard-hitting John Croke of Winning Walls, Port Chester, in the semis 21-14, 21-7. Landsberg proved superior to Kohut, going down in (two, three) matches by a score of ? Landsberg's victory in the semis over a tough Steve Schuhman of Hartsdale hinted at his prowess since Schulman had bested IRA director Luke St. Onge, a formidable competition in an earlier round.

Women's Open Doubles

With a field of ten teams, the Women's Open Doubles surpassed the national tournament in Oklahoma by one.

Seamco/Leach Pro Tour

Marty Hogan maintained his firm grip on the number one position in the men's division of the Seamco/Leach Professional Tour rankings but Shannon Wright's hold on the women's top spot is loosening.

Hogan, who has won his last nine events and 26 of his last 30, is in firm control of his post, leading David Peck, Jerry Hilecher, Davey Bledsoe and Mike Yellen.

Rounding out the top ten are Rich Wagner, Steve Strandemo, Charlie Brumfield, Craig McCoy and Ben Koltun.

In the women's division, only one point now separates Marci Greer and Wright, who has managed only semifinal round appearances in both pro tour stops this season. Greer won the first event in Chicago and was a semifinalist in Tempe in November.

Trailing Greer were Karin Walton, Sara Green, Heather McKay, Rita Hoff, Jennifer Harding, Janell,

Marriott, Linda Prefontaine, and Lynn Adams.

There were no new faces in the men's top ten. Hogan, Bledsoe (4) and Brumfield (8) maintained their positions. Peck (2), Yellen (5) and McCoy (9) moved up one spot, and Wagner (6) climbed three. Hilecher (3), Strandemo (7) slipped one and Koltun (10) dropped three.

The most dramatic advance of all was made by Heather McKay, who continues to play as an amateur. After winning the Jack-in-the-Box Classic in Tempe, she rocketed from 21 to fifth. Wright, Greer, and Walton, the top three, kept their respective places. Green (4), gained three, and Adams (10) jumped four to join the group for the first time this year.

Prefontaine (9) slipped one place, Hoff (6), Harding (7) and Marriott (tied for 7) each dropped two, and Peggy Steding and Pat Schmidt each dropped out of the top ten.

CARR'S CORNER

Pelham Racquetball Health Club
Steve Kiss played Santa for all the folks at Pelham Racquetball Club. He had two of the prettiest elves in the persons of Carmella & Bröwnie. There was plenty of food for all. I liked the chicken best. A good time was had by all. Here are some of the new faces at Pelham:

Emilia - Our night receptionist and mother of two sons, studies sign language at St. Joseph School for the Deaf and plays guitar at St. Clares Folk mass and also manages to play racquetball at least once a week.

Lori - This Manhattan College co-ed studies business and psychology. She's a night receptionist during the week and on Saturdays.

Mike - A senior physical education major. Mike is planning to attend graduate school to become a therapist specializing in physiology.

Allison - Our weekend receptionist, blonde and bubbly is a spanish major at Iona College, when no at PRHC she enjoys dancing lessons, jogging, and at times you will see her playing racquetball.

Drop in and meet some of these wonderful people. Everyone at Pelham is there to please you, and you will feel it the moment you get there.

Saw Mill Racquet Courts is located in Mount Kisco. At the present time they are into Tennis but by April 1,

1980 they will have racquetball too. Peter Treyz is the tennis pro, Larry Krieger is head pro Jane & Kirk manage and own the place. We were allowed to look the place over and we found it to be luxurious and very comfortable. They will have 2 squash court and 10 racquetball courts.

Winning Walls

Winning Walls has a new manager. His name is Mel Carozza and he has surrounded himself with a fine team of helpers like Assistant Manager Don Pierro. Then you have Don Pierro who greets you at the door with Jean DiGiacomo with two greeters of his caliber - no wonder Winning Walls is packed night after night.

Racquetball Plaza

Scarsdale will have its very own racquetball club. Opening date will be February 1, 1980. Observation Gallery, 10 Courts, Exercise Room, and Whirlpool too. Susan Keegan is the young lady to see. She will give you all the information you need Susan Kave is your host and very lovely lady. We wish you all the luck possible, Miss Kaye. I know you will have a smashing success on your hands at Racquetball Plaza.

Court Sports [1]

Court Sports (one) 1 is so successful that they will open a sister club in Yonkers. I have seen the plans for the new place and it looks

like a sure winner. Lots of luck in your new venture. The man to see here is Paul Wicha.

Squash One

Squash One is located in Mamaroneck. It is a cozy place. It is compact and runs on the drive of ex-baseball player Don Taussig. I got the impression in my talk with Don that there is no real challenge to your abilities in racquet sports except in squash.

BQE

The Xmas party at BQE was really something else. There was so much food at the end of the evening they had to give it away. Everything was on the house. Court time was free. The place was open till 6:30 a.m. The club was jam packed until 2 a.m. then it started to thin out but the die hard players stayed til 6 a.m. Drinks were flowing like water. It was a party I won't soon forget. The owners were there most of the night. They welcomed everyone personally. Now if you can't sleep nights and you have energy to burn see **Renie**. She is on duty from 12 midnight to 8 a.m. The rates are the greatest \$5.98 per hour. Here is a run down on Renie by:

Patricia Bagwell

BQE Racquetball Club believes that there are enough people out there who will play racquetball at any hour, so they are keeping the club open 24 hours a day to accommodate them, at special low rates.

The lady who will greet you in those wee hours of the morning if

Renie Sokolowski. She is a beginner at racquetball, but an accomplished athlete, especially in tennis and paddleball.

Renie began her paddleball days at Queensborough Community College, and had coaching from the great Howie Hammer. Renie says Howie advised her that there was more opportunity in racquetball, and she's now entering tournaments with the backing of BQE's owner Tom Cavallero. In her first tournament, with a borrowed racquet and no previous experience

in the game, Renie won the C Division and a stereo, which qualified her for the nationals in Vegas.

She has also played semi-pro softball and won Athlete of the Year Award at Queensborough Community College. During the day, Renie coaches the men's tennis team at Queens College which starts in February for the Spring season.

Drop in and meet Renie and the other night people at BQE. They are very friendly and hospitable. Call (212) 726-4343 for information.

Indoor Paddle Courts Increase

Paddleball is increasing in popularity more so in the last year of 1979 with the openings of new indoor courts. It looks like new York will be the paddleball capital of the United States. The paddleball player now has a select. Choice, the braving of the winter elements outdoors on Weekends or playing indoors. Well it seems the choice has been made the evidence is now fact. Sy Lane owner of the Bronx Indoor Paddle Courts has recently opened his second indoor facility in Flushing, Queens and the response to his new place was more than he expected. George Helmerick Jerry Resnick and Eddie Pino opened their second court called "Take Two" in Brooklyn and their response was beautiful. The amazing George McFadden opened his first indoor courts in Ozone Park, Queens and his response was amazing. **John Pace's** paddleball courts in the Bronx is doing very

well. Astoria Indoor Paddleball run by Jack D'Orio, Pete and Kenny is quite populated. Also, Queens Indoor Paddleball run by John, Joe and Lou are catering quite well to the Long Island resident's and this reporter expects to see more indoor court's for 1980. It is my opinion that when there are more paddleball indoor courts, more people will become interested in the game and the popularity will increase perhaps nationwide. I just hope that the owner's of the courts will not forget that there are players who do not book for the season for some reason or other and do come to the indoor courts, but can't play because of reservations. Is it possible to have "Designated Challenge Courts" on the weekends? I think it will promote more players to come in out of the cold and pay as you challenge. What are your thoughts on this subject?



RACQUETBALL 5th AVENUE

presents

First Annual Valentine's Day Massacre



LOCATION: Racquetball 5th Ave., 25 W. 39 St. (13th fl.), N.Y., N.Y. 10018, (212) 944-0144

FACILITIES: 4 Regulation Courts, Spacious Lounge, Cafe & Locker Areas, Complete Kitchen & Nutrition Program, Exercise and Fitness Room, Pro-Shop, Parking Available in Building

DATE: Fri., Feb. 15, Sat., Feb. 16 and Sun., Feb. 17

ENTREE FEE: \$25 - Player limited to one event only. All Entrants will receive FREE T-Shirt.

OFFICIAL BALL: Voit Rollout Bleu

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Mario Mejias - (212) 944-0144

PRIZES: Trophies awarded to 1st and 2nd Place in each division. Consolation Prize - 2 Hours Court Time

EVENTS: Men's A, B, C. Women's A, B, C-Novice. Consolation for First Round Losers.

RULES OF TOURNAMENT:

- A. Entrants - open to all
- B. Entry fee's and application must be received by 3 p.m., Tues, Feb. 6, 1980. Starting times will be available at the Club on Tuesday, Feb. 12th after 6 p.m. Call for your starting time.
- C. Matches will begin Friday, Feb. 15th at 6 p.m. Finals will be on Sun., Feb. 17.
- D. Winner of matches on court must referee the next match on that court.
- E. Entry fee includes player hospitality throughout, free beer, balls and court time.
- F. Official U.S.R.A. rules will be followed. Each match consists of two 21-point games and an 11 point tie breaker if necessary.
- G. Tournament referee reserve the right to reclassify players at their discretion. The tournament referees' word is final on all matters.
- H. Racquetball Fifth Avenue reserves the right to cancel tournament and entrance fees will be refunded.



ENTRY FORM

Entries must be in writing and accompanied by fee [\$25] and received no later than 3 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 6, 1980. [No refund of entree fee after draw is made.]

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____

Please enter me in [check one]

Men's [] A [] B [] C

Women's [] A [] B [] C

Make checks payable to Racquetball Fifth Ave. and mail to: Racquetball Fifth Ave., 25 W. 39th St., N.Y., N.Y. 10018

I hereby, for myself, my heirs, my executors, and administrators waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against The Racquetball Fifth Avenue and Racquetball Club, its owners, managers and employees. I also release Racquetball Fifth Avenue for any and all injuries which may be suffered by me in connection with participation in said tournament.

(signature) (date)



In response to the constantly growing numbers of racquetball enthusiasts across the country, Ektelon and Perrier have joined forces to sponsor a national racquetball tournament series in which an estimated 10,000 amateur players will vie for all expense paid luxury vacations for two and professionals will play for \$40,000 in prize money.

The Ektelon/Perrier Championships will be played in 19 major markets across the country starting February 22 in Baltimore, Houston and Boston. Winners from regional tournaments will be flown to Los Angeles for the national championship finals on May 8-11. The finals will be played simultaneous to a professional invitational tournament and a special celebrity challenge.

"Racquetball is a sport that's reached its time. In the last ten years it has grown from a virtual unknown to one that can boast at least eleven million players across the country," said Ron Grimes, vice president, Ektelon, one of the major producers of racquetball equipment and clothing.

Local competition will be played in twelve different divisions based on an individual's sex and level of play, from novice to open, or advanced. Division winners of men's and women's open, men's and women's seniors and open doubles will be flown to the sponsors' expense to compete in the National Finals in Los Angeles. Other divisions include men's and women's B, C and novice, and men's masters.

"No one has to be an expert in racquetball to take part in and enjoy the tournaments," said Bruce Nevins, president, Perrier, U.S., a corporation that has traditionally sponsored sports events both in the United States and France. "That's what we, as a company that encourages physical fitness and health, are attracted to in racquetball. People can have fun and get a great workout from the very first game they play."

A percentage of each entry fee during the 20-tournament series will be donated to the Special Olympics, an international program of year round sports training and athletic competition for mentally retarded individuals.

According to Eunice Kennedy Shriver, president, Special Olympics, "The contributions will help expand sports training opportunities for mentally retarded individuals throughout the states in which the tournaments are being held. Already racquetball is becoming popular with Special Olympians."

"We plan to make our tournament series a prototype for the future of racquetball on both a professional and amateur level," said Grimes. "The Ektelon/Perrier Championship will not be just a one year effort. We will continue the program in '81 and '82 and are counting on it growing along with the popularity of the sport."

All the tournaments, which start on a Thursday and end on the following Sunday, are scheduled to take place between February 22 and April 21, 1980. Tournament sites this year are: Boston, New York metro, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Miami, Cleveland, Atlanta, Chicago, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Milwaukee, Detroit, Kansas City, St. Louis, Houston, Phoenix, Denver, Orange County, San Francisco Bay Area and Seattle.

Participants in the program with Ektelon and Perrier include Club Med, Inc., Hitachi Corporation, American Airlines and Nike.

Tournament Format

Series of amateur racquetball tournaments that will be held in conjunction with racquet clubs in 19 markets across the country. Six local tournament winners, in five divisions, men's and women's open, men's and women's senior and open doubles, will be eligible to compete in the national championship finals, which also will include a professional invitational tournament and special celebrity competition.

Tournament Sponsors
Ektelon, San Diego based manufacturer of racquetball racquets, balls activewear and accessories.
Perrier, U.S., importers of Perrier, the naturally sparkling mineral water from France.

Tournament Dates
Regional: February 22-April 20, 1980. National Finals: May 8-11, 1980.

Tournament Cities
Regional: Boston, Philadelphia, Miami, Atlanta, Milwaukee, Detroit, Kansas City, Phoenix, Denver, Seattle, New York Metro, Baltimore, Cleveland, Chicago, Minneapolis/St. Paul, St. Louis, Houston, Orange County, and San Francisco.
National Finals: Los Angeles.

Tournament Division
Regional: Men and Women's Open, B, C, Novice and Seniors, Men's Masters, and Open Doubles.
National Finals: Men and Women's Open and Seniors, and Open Doubles.
Professional: Top 16 men pros and women pros as determined by Racquetball Illustrated Magazine.

Tournament Prizes
Regional: Airfare to Los Angeles for National Finals tournament to winner of Men and Women's Open and Seniors and Open Doubles.

Each 1st and 2nd place winner will receive top audio prizes from Hitachi, while 3rd place winner will receive Nike shoes. Every entrant will receive a LaCoste style tournament shirt.
National Finals Amateur Division: National Amateur Finals winners will

prize money.
win a 7 night/eight day Club Med trip for two to Cancun, Playa Blanca, Eleuthera, Paradise Island or Guadalupe.
Professional Division: \$40,000 in

Entry Fee

Regional: \$30 for entrants in Men and Women's Open, and Seniors, and Open Doubles. \$25 for all other divisions and \$15 for each additional division.

Tournament Charity

A portion of each tournament entry fee throughout the tournament will be donated to the Special Olympics, an international program of physical fitness, sports training and athletic competition for mentally retarded children and adults.

\$10,000 Awarded in Voit Classic

by Carole Charfauros

Over 400 players competed for \$10,000 in prizes in the final stop of the AMF Voit/Self Magazine Racquetball Classic for 1979. The tournament was held at the Telegraph Hill Club November 9-12.

Everyone who entered could be considered a winner, after receiving the usual shirt and hospitality, plus

Linda Prefontaine also seemed to be enjoying herself as she fulfilled her expectations as the top seed by defeating hometown favorite Alicia Moore in the finals 21-20, 21-11. Only Jean Oeschenger from Sunnyvale, California, was able to take a game against Prefontaine. In the quarters Oeschenger upset number four seeded Jan Matthews in two games.

Prefontaine and Moore have met on occasion in tournaments, most

Jill Sanders, the winner of the Women's "B's" was the winner of the Women's "C's" last year in the Finals of the 1978 Voit Classics. In the finals Sanders defeated Candy Hetherington. Sanders is going for a double title, but Hetherington is hoping for revenge.

In this year's Women's "C's" the winner was K. MacDonald over R. Thomas 21-17, 21-12. The two women survived the largest female draw - 57 in the "C's" alone.

Even more impressive was the Men's "C's", with a draw of nearly 200. Dave Matthews, the winner, could have run a marathon easier than playing eight rounds to get to the finals. Even that match was no cakewalk as Steve Novak gave Matthews his money's worth before they both hit the jacuzzis after a 21-16, 19-21, 11-3 match which lasted nearly two hours.



Photo: Carole Charfauros

Alicia Moore [r] tried unsuccessfully to upset number one seed, Linda Prefontaine in the finals of the Women's Pro-Am division. A total of \$10,000 in prizes was given away at each Voit Classic and at the Finals in Las Vegas Dec. 13-16 that amount will more than double. Moore and Prefontaine, along with all the other qualifying pros, will compete for a Datsun car.

complimentary gifts, banquets, and an afternoon at Pier 39 which included a free harbor cruise and a party at Neptune's Restaurant.

Santana Courts of Santa Ana, California, as well represented in the memorably in the finals of the 1978 Amateur Nationals in which Moore squeaked out a win. This time Moore was unable to do it again due to "impatience."

In contrast, the Women's Seniors was the smallest draw. All eight women who entered the 35 and over division won prizes as quarter-finalists or better. Half of the entrants in the Women's Seniors qualified for the Finals in Las Vegas, but only Judy Clemens won the Hitachi Matched Music Center. Without losing a game, Clemens, a top open player, was able to win the event, finishing in the finals 21-11, 21-7 against G. MacDonald.

The prizes for the quarter-finalists and better included Rollei cameras, Pronto Caffes by Continental Gourmet, Hitachi Music Systems, Robert Bruce outfits, Tred 2 shoes, and Danskin Traskins. The semi-finalists and finalists also won the chance to win even bigger prizes in the Finals of the Voit Classic in Las Vegas December 13-16. Grand prize for the Pro-Am divisions will be brand new Datsun cars.

Top qualifier in the Men's Pro/Am division was Mark Morrow who is now beginning his third year on the pro tour. In the finals Morrow defeated Dave Bush 21-15, 21-11. Unfortunately due to a conflict between the Classic Finals and the Memphis pro stop, Morrow may not be able to compete for the car.



Photo: Carole Charfauros

Dave Bush attempts to retrieve a pass hit by Mark Morrow [r] in the finals of the Men's Pro/Am during the AMF Voit/Self Magazine Racquetball Classic. Bush and Morrow, along with all the semi-finalists and finalists of the Voit Classics will be invited to the Finals in Las Vegas Dec. 13-16 where a Datsun car will be the Grand Prize.

"It's hard enough to make any money at this sport," complained Mark, "without having tournaments scheduled simultaneously." However, Morrow knew of the conflict beforehand and still traveled to San Francisco from Hawthorne, California because he always has fun at the Voit Classics.

semis of the Men's "B's". In the upper bracket Steve Mitchell of Santana Courts won, putting him in the finals against the winner of Bill Sell vs. Jimmy Hicks, both from Santana Courts. They could have just as easily flown home to finish the tournament, but instead Sell took out Mitchell in the finals 21-9, 21-7.

The Men's Seniors was nearly as easy for Bill Dunn, the number one seed. Meanwhile Roger Ehrend, the number two seed, fought for his life in the lower bracket. In one match Ehrend was behind 10-7 in the tie-breaker before pulling it out, only to be blown away 21-15, 21-11 by Dunn in the finals.



Putting the final stamp of approval on the Ektelon/Perrier Championships, a 19 tournament racquetball series starting in February, are Ron Grimes, Vice President, Ektelon, and Bruce Nevins, President, Perrier, U.S. This year's series, first in a planned three-year program, will be co-sponsored by Ektelon, major manufacturers of racquetball equipment and accessories and Perrier, U.S., sole importers and marketers of the naturally sparkling mineral water from France. Tournaments, scheduled to run through April 1980, will culminate in the Ektelon/Perrier Grand Nationals in Los Angeles on May 8-11, 1980. For information contact Jane Terry 212/421-8600 or Frank Pace 714/274-8100.

Walton Wins Coors All Pro

There's a new champion on the racquetball court named Walton. This Walton is also blonde and from California. But this Walton is of the male variety and, at 6'6", towers nearly a foot above National Champion Karin Walton.

Bruce Walton, former Dallas Cowboy offensive lineman, never made it past the first rounds of any racquetball tournament he entered until he won the \$20,000 Coors All Pro Racquetball Championship for sports veterans held at the Las Vegas Sporting House.

The tournament, held Nov. 2-4, featured 16 veterans of the National Football League, National Basketball Association and major league baseball.

Walton, who downed former Denver Bronco offensive halfback Bob McNamara 21-20, 21-10 in the final round, received \$6000 for his victory.

"I thought I stood a good chance of winning," said Walton, a San Diego resident and brother of San Diego Clipper Bill Walton, "But thinking you can take first place and then going out and doing it are two different things."

Walton first played racquetball in 1970 while attending UCLA. He has been playing steadily, three times a week, since 1976.

"But I was never really sure if I was any good," he said. "I play against a lot of top players in San Diego. The

proficiency level is very high in that city.

"I entered two tournaments for 'B' players this year. In any other city those same players would be rated 'A' level. I was eliminated in both events by opponents who went on to win the competition.

"I've played against some of the professional racquetball players based in San Diego and I always got killed. I could maybe get five points a set against Marty Hogan but only if Marty was having a bad day.

"It was pretty discouraging facing this type of competition but apparently it paid off for me."

Walton's road to the finals was marked by the closest and most exciting of the competitions exhibited in the Coors tournament, with his second round and semi-final matches decided by three-set tiebreakers.

Walton easily defeated his first round opponent, Ed Marinaro (former Minnesota Viking), 21-4, 21-17. Ron Williams, a veteran guard with the Golden State Warriors, provided stiffer competition to Walton in the second round with Walton narrowly defeating the cager, 21-15, 14-21, 11-7.

"I play my best game when I'm trailing," Walton said.

Walton won his quarterfinal match against Mike Lucci, former Detroit Lion and Cleveland Brown, by his widest margin of victory 21-2,

21-4.

But his next contest was his most difficult when he met former Baltimore Colt wide receiver and running back Ron Gardin.

"Gardin is a very intense player who can often 'psych-out' his opponent," Walton said. "He totally concentrates on his game and blocks out all other thoughts. This can unnerve some of his opponents to the point where they might try shots



Bruce Walton, former Dallas Cowboy [r], defeated veteran Denver Bronco Bob McNamara 21-20, 21-10, to capture the veterans' crown of the \$20,000 Coors All Pro Racquetball tournament.

they normally would let go by.

"I had to force myself to play my own game, being aggressive on my serve and defensive when Ron served."

Walton trailed the length of the first game until he captured the last four points to win, 21-20.

"That was the turning point of the match," he said. "The first game really should have been Ron's and he knew it. I think it bothered him

split personality. My alter ego is Lefty Schwarz. Lefty Schwarz is an "up and coming" paddleball enthusiast, who plays only with his left hand. Lefty is thinking about sending in an application for one of the forth coming "B" Doubles tournaments, but he is not sure how the other "B" players will react to him.

Maybe, one day, Lefty Schwarz will be a star in the "B" bracket. Alas, if only poor Lefty had a right!

Paddle Tennis Question & Answer

by Murray Geller

Question: What is the Bucket Rule?

Answer: Before the dimensions of the paddle tennis court were extended to 50 ft. and the net lowered to 31 inches pulled taut the serving team in doubles had a tremendous advantage since it was almost impossible to lob over the server's partner or pass him when he encroached close to the net. The problem of the net rusher in singles had been solved with the One Bounce Rule (really the Two Bounce Rule for doubles to keep overly aggressive players away from the net until a rally could get started, but it was to frustrating.

The Bucket Rule, also known as the Restraint Line Rule, successfully filled the bill. The rule keeps both feet of all four players behind the Restraint Lines 12 ft. from the net (formerly the service lines) until the served ball is contacted by the receiver's paddle. In the opinion of the Rules Committee of the U.S. Paddle Tennis Assoc. the lengthening of the court to 50 ft., particularly with the total elimination of the Lob Rule made the Restraint Line an unnecessary clutter, requiring two umpires to monitor Bucket violations. Players who hover too close to the net are vulnerable to lobs and hard-hit passing drives; they crowd the net at their own peril.

throughout the rest of the match and caused him to doubt his ability to make certain shots."

Gardin took the second set, 21-9, but Walton, who went ahead 5-0 in the tiebreaker, closed out the match 11-6.

Walton's final round opponent, McNamara, was the favorite in the competition. He had competed in the Coors veteran's event in 1978 where he advanced to the semi-finals. There he was eliminated by Al Ferrari, ex-St. Louis Hawk, who went on to compete in the Grand Finals where he placed

"His serve was just too tough for me," McNamara said. "He got seven points off me in the first game and eight off me in the second from his serve alone. I just couldn't get to it."

McNamara received \$3500 for his second place finish and Gardin and Williams each collected \$1250.

Also entered in the three day competition were George Blanda, the all-time leading scorer in the NFL, and Brooks Robinson, possibly the best third baseman of all time and voted the "most famous Oriole" by his Baltimore fans.

Blanda plans to play racquetball for several more years and even at 52 he commanded respect in the Coors tournament where he advanced to the quarterfinals.

"I know guys who are over 60 and play a commendable racquetball game," he said. "It's a great way to stay in shape and is a game of strategy as much as anything else. I plan to keep playing for a long time."

Robinson, who lost to Blanda in the second round and was eliminated in the finals qualifying round by ex-San Diego Rocket John Block, 21-4, 21-3, admitted that his game could stand some improvement.

"The next time I come to Las Vegas I'll make a better showing," he promised. "Of course, it might not be in racquetball."

Other contestants entered in the tournament at the Sporting House included Kermit Alexander (former Los Angeles Ram and San Francisco '49er), Jimmy Johnson (former San Francisco '49er), Brian Oldfield (World champion shotputter), Tommy Nobis (former Atlanta Falcon), Ralph Neeley (former Dallas Cowboy), Mike Adame (former Chicago Bear), and Tommy Mason (former Los Angeles Ram and Minnesota Viking).

'Mike Yellen Flex'

San Diego, CA — Ektelon has introduced the new Mike Yellen Flex racquet with an optimum amount of flexibility.

The key to the Mike Yellen Flex is its special coppertone I-beam frame extrusion. It combines the strength and power of 7005 Alcoa aluminum with just enough flexibility to maintain longer contact between ball and racquet for more control.

It's a combination which typifies the style of the racquet's namesake, Mike Yellen, who won Rookie of the Year honors in his first year on the professional tour and is now ranked sixth nationally.

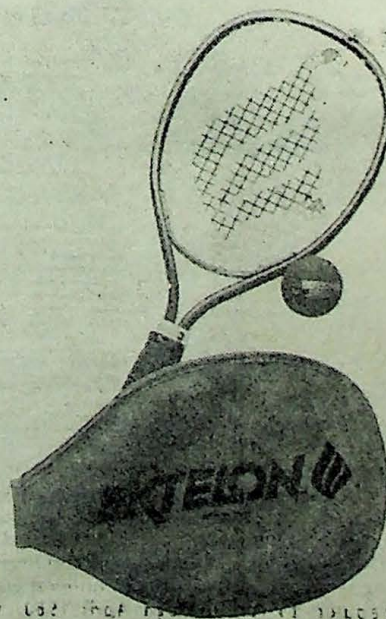
The Mike Yellen Flex racquet offers a tear drop head shape for more power and a slightly lower string tension to accentuate its grab

of the ball. Its grip sizes are available in extra small, 3-15/16", small, 4-1/8" and medium, 4-5/16".

As with all Ektelon racquets, the Mike Yellen Flex is protected by a full two-year frame warranty and a 90-day string warranty.

Mike Yellen Flex specifications are:

Weight - 260 grams nominal, Length - 18-1/4 inches, String Tension - 22 pounds nominal, Handle Size - X-small, small, medium, Grip - raised stitched leather, Frame Color - coppertone, String - Bronze spiral heat welded multifilament nylon, Cover - no, 90 Day String Warranty - yes, Two Year Frame Warranty - yes.



The Mike Yellen Flex, by Ektelon



Mike Yellen—top professional player on the Ektelon advisory staff.

ON PADDLEBALL

by Bobby Schwarz

Who is an A?
And who is a B?
You got me!
It certainly is a mystery!

The Big Four from A —
Well, they certainly can't play.
Hey this tournament is B.
I wonder if it's for me?

This big of prose is aimed at opening the eyes of tournament directors, and paddleball organizations, so they can see the need for establishing basic, simple, and exact guidelines for determining easily and assuredly, who is an A player, and

who is a B player.

We desperately need universal acceptance of a simple A & B rating system. I urge either the APA or the PPA to please submit a simple outline to the Wallbanger, which might act as a guideline to any organization sponsoring a tournament.

We all know that just about anyone can play in an "A" tournament. But let us establish once and for all exactly who is (and who is not) permitted to play in a "B" tournament. There are substantial prizes offered in some of the "B" tournaments, and the true "B" player deserves a fair chance.

P. S. I am a Gemini, and I do have a



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PADDLEBALL NIGHTMARES

by Joe Lubelfeld

Everybody has his own pet theory for the decline of American civilization. They blame crime in the streets, drugs, Murry Kirschner, Steve Rothfeld, punk rock, inflation, the price of gold, Puerto Ricans, the NAACP, the B'nai Brith, the Supreme Court, bussing, Billy Martin and/or Steinbrenner, women in the pulpit, lenient judges, Italian food, Manieshevitz wine, the New Math, Mork and Mindy, Rochelle Wiener—it all depends on whose ox is being gored.

My own choice is the emergence of the Instant Tournament Director. Here's a guy who wakes up one morning and has nothing to do. The track is closed, his bookie left for

Florida to buy a condominium, he has seen all the local shows and he finished all his comic books. What to do. He yawns, scratches himself a little and announces to no one in particular, what the hell, I think I'll run a Paddleball Tournament tonight for B players. For a moment (actually for about ten seconds) he toys with the idea as a bumper. There's no money to be made in A tournaments,

partly because there are not enough A's, and partly because 'A's loused fourth place pays a million dollars and a free T-shirt. He slips out of bed, scratches himself one more time where it itches the most, then feverishly goes to work making phone calls and taking care of paper work so that my sunset all the

suckers are flocking to the XYZ courts from all over town—lighter by \$10—which is already in the bank of the Instant Tournament Director. He has become very adept at wording the application in such ambiguous language that nobody really knows how much the prize money is.

Then, amid unbelievable chaos, confusion and disorganization the games begin. By stretching the imagination to its limits these horrors are passed off as tournaments, which is really a euphemistic term for what they rightly should be called—paddleball nightmares.

It has been my misfortune to attend two of these trauma producing events. I have heard

about others. I am at a loss for words to describe them. No one is in charge, no one knows what is going on, the Instant Tournament Director has long since thrown up his hands and disclaimed any responsibility; players are milling about complaining bitterly about waiting hours before playing a single game and others have gone home in disgust. I recognized sever A players who were conveniently "overlooked" by the ITD and who got in the tournament by hook or by crook.

The officials were sub-standard. Some were just innocent people who were out walking the dog, heard the pandemonium and came in to see what it was all about and to their consternation were immediately pressed into service as refs and line callers.

Some of the spectators behaved about two notches above savages; they shouted obscenities, harried the players, intimidated the refs, threw fruit rinds on the court and in general acted like an unruly mob of maniacs. For the first time in my life I was ashamed and embarrassed at having anything to do with the sport. If these Directors are allowed to continue running tournaments then just as sure as night follows day, we are witnessing the demise of paddleball as a serious sport. It was born in the street and will remain in the street.

You will never see any of this at an APA Howie Hammertournament. That group runs the best well-organized, well-planned, well-thought out, intelligent tournaments. They use top-notch refs like Marvin Rosenberg, Bruschi, Krosnick, Vogel, McFadden and others of that caliber, who know what they are doing. They brook no nonsense from either players or fans and insist that all rules and proper decorum be observed. They are professionals. If they make a buck on the deal, more power to them. At least you know you're getting your money's worth.

(Just for the record, I am not a member of the APA and never have been. I have absolutely no connection with them whatsoever either officially or unofficially.)

If paddleball is ever doing to be raised up to a place of respectability and draw the wider following it deserves, these ill-conceived, badly run shlock tournaments will have to go. Paddleball players deserve better. If not, disgruntled players will start turning their interests elsewhere, to the detriment of everyone.

Now then, having purged myself of an accumulation of bile, I will smooth down my feathers and go back to practicing my chop shot.

Skyline Racquetball

1st Annual Open at Skyline Racquetball, 130 West 52 Stree, New York, N.Y., December 11th, 16th, 17th and 18th.

Men's Open - 1st place—Pauli Wicha, 2nd place—Victor Alurez, 3rd place—Joe Santagato.

Men's "B" - 1st place, Hank Grassi Jr - 2nd place, Michael Diamond - 3rd place, Samuel Borrero.

Men's "C" - 1st place—Rick Walsh, 2nd place—Jack Crispi, 3rd place—Michael Haddad.

"Novice" - 1st place, David Ng - 2nd place, Henry Shulman - 3rd place, Robert Zengotita.

"Women Open" - 1st place—Mary Ann Cluess, 2nd place—Susan Wilson, 3rd place—Rose Mary Bellini.

Women's "B" - 1st place, Marge Shiroky - 2nd place, Sherri Feldman - 3rd place, Carol Nestle.

Women's "C" - 1st place, Susan Cole - 2nd place, Mary Ann Jawowski - 3rd place, Briget McCornick.

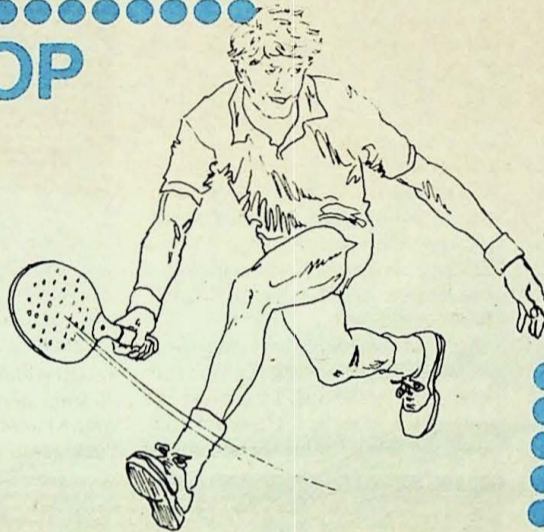
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- Runnerup.....\$150 worth of clothing plus \$50.00 cash per team
- 5th thru 8th Place.....\$25.00 cash per team

This tournament will be held at TAKE ONE PADDLEBALL CENTER on February 9, February 16, and February 23, 1980 [if necessary]. These dates are Saturday nights and tournament play will begin at 5 p.m.

The entry fee for this tournament will be \$7.50 per person, plus one can of Seamco 555 handballs per team.

All entries must be received by TAKE ONE PADDLEBALL CENTER by February 2, 1980.

You will be notified of starting time. For further information call 531-1714.

Please accept our entry for which is enclosed the sum of \$15.00 [entry fee must accompany registration form]. Make all checks or money orders payable to: Take One Paddleball Center and Mail to 5725 Foster Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11234.

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PHONE [] _____

RELEASE:
In consideration of your accepting my entry in the "SPRUCE UP FOR WINTER MEN'S "B" DOUBLES PADDLEBALL TOURNAMENT I hereby waive and release any and all claims for damages due to injury or loss of property against TAKE ONE PADDLEBALL CENTER, INC. and/or THE MALE SHOP.

Signature _____

Signature _____

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Location: Flushing Indoor Paddleball, 133-33 - 36th Road, Flushing, New York

Entry Fee: UR 4 Women Members - \$5.00, Non Members - \$8.00.

(Make check or money order to: UR 4 Women, P.O. Box 230, Bronx, NY 10461).

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Peck, Green Register 1st Pro Wins

Dave Peck and Sarah Green were the winners in the third stop of the Seamco/Leach Professional Tour, the \$21,000 Tanner/Coca-Cola Racquetball Classic played Dec. 13-16 at Memphis State University.

The second-seeded Peck of El Paso defeated fourth-seeded Davey Bledsoe of San Diego, 21-10, 7-21, 11-4 to win his first tournament and the prize of \$4,500.

Green, seeded-third, claimed a rematch victory over Heather McKay of Toronto, seeded fourth, 7-21, 21-7, 11-7. That was worth \$1,500, and came almost exactly one month after McKay's title match win against Green at the Jack-in-the-Box Classic in Tempe.

Peck, who had just taken over the number two ranking on the NRC charts from Jerry Hilecher, started with a round of 32 win against Scott Hawkins, 21-10, 21-16, and moved past Jerry Zuckerman, 21-6, 21-3, Don Thomas, 21-13, 21-20 and Hilecher 21-6, 21-10 to meet Bledsoe.

Bledsoe, a native of Kingsport, Tenn., who attended the University of Tennessee Medical School of Memphis and helped establish the Tanner event several years ago, defeated Jim Wirkus, 21-10, Ben Koltun 21-13, 21-16, Dave Fleetwood, 21-16, 18-21, 11-1, and Marty Hogan, 21-18, 21-11.

Correct. Marty Hogan, 21-18, 21-11.

"I played terrible, no question about it," said Hogan. "My intensity was about zero. I really just didn't want to put out; I went stagnant, I guess. And I lost."

Hogan did look like a round of 32 victim with his shot selection, skipped balls and lack of drive. In the second game, for instance, Marty Hogan, winner of nine straight pro tournaments, fanned on four balls. Either clubbed them into the floor or missed them altogether.

"He can say what he likes," said Bledsoe, who beat Hogan in the semifinals of the 1976 Tanner tournament on the same court and then went on to win his first event by beating Charlie Brumfield.

"But if a guy is playing lousy there's usually a reason. I carried the play. I found a weakness in his backhand and exploited it."

He had a strategy against Peck, too: He opened the game with a lob serve and a soft Z, hoping to slow down the hard-hitting Peck. But following a few ceiling returns, Bledsoe tended to leave shots up, and Peck repeatedly took advantage with a kill. Bledsoe could not mount on offense, and he lost the first game.

"I was really planning on winning this thing in two games," pointed out

continued on page 12

A Player Or B Player

by George McFadden

Paddleball is entering a critical era in its continuing development as a competitive sport. More and more companies have begun to show a financial interest in sponsoring paddleball tournaments. Companies such as Budweiser, General Sportcraft, Marcraft, and Seamco have already given cash to organizations for tournament sponsorship and it is quite possible that a professional paddleball tour is in the near future with substantial amounts of money offered as prizes in each tournament.

This leads us to our problem. Paddleball is still dominated by a relatively handful of players and almost all available prize money is won by these players. Some people have realized that this dominance will continue for some time to come and they have turned to sponsoring each tournament for so-called "B" players. This sounds like a very good idea except that a member of excellent players who have never won a major "A" tournament have begun to pass themselves off as "B" players. We also have the perennial "B" player who enters every tournament "A" or "B", but insists he is only a "B" player even though he can hold his own against all but a few of the "Super A" players.

It is my opinion that if you are capable of playing competitively in "A" tournaments, you have no place in a "B" tournament. "B" tournaments are for the less experienced, developing ball player, or the one whose physical skills are limited or eroding due to age and/or infirmity. We can no longer use the criteria that anyone who has not won a tournament is a "B" player. That is ridiculous. Imagine what would happen if tennis used that criteria.

Every organization, company, or individual who sponsors paddleball tournaments for a more obligation to see to it that "B" tournaments are just that. Of course that is much easier said than done, but I suggest that if everyone followed the same rules, the now uncertain division between "A" and "B" players will become more sharply defined.

Among the rules to be followed, I suggest the following:

1. Put definite limits on the prizes in all "B" tournaments. The money should be concentrated in the open or "A" tournaments. This will attract more players into the "A". Open tournaments are "A" tournaments.

2. Spread out the prize money. Now most organizations are offering money to the first four players or teams. The APA gave money to the first finalist or perhaps it should be spread even further to the first 16 or even the top 32 finalists.

3. Any player or team who wins a "B" tournament should be barred from playing in any other "B" tournament for a period of one or two years. This will force some good players to move up to "A" competition.

4. Any player or team that has played on the "A" level and decides to step down to "B" tournament should be barred from entering all "A" tournaments for a period of one year no matter how well they do in the "B". If they should happen to win, they will be out of all competitions for at least a year.

5. If anyone wishes to have a tournament for even less experienced and/or proficient players, he should clearly label it as such and not offer any prize money; only trophies.

6. All tournaments must have designated tournament directors whose task will be to see to it that no "ringers" get in. The list of entrants for all tournaments must be made available to all other tournament sponsors.

If everyone follows these rules, any player capable of playing in an "A" tournament should be embarrassed to enter a "B". And if he does the penalties he incurs will keep him out of competitions for at least a year.

Perhaps these rules will not work but something must be done soon and rules can always be revised or expanded as needed. I intend to present these proposals to the APA for adoption. I would appreciate your thoughts on the matter. You can send them to me through the Wallbanger News.

Men's \$500 Open Doubles Championship

by Jerry Resnick

On Saturday evening, December 8, over seventy teams gathered at TAKE ONE PADDLEBALL CENTER for the Men's \$500 Open Doubles

where Chielli and Florino upset Helmerich and Polichetti by a score of 15-11. The kids then went on to defeat "Bad" Henry Bader and Paul Frommer in the third round, only to

Resnick and Camhi was serving for the game at 20-19. On a hard serve to Goldfarb, Marcel tried to short hop the ball but instead hit it into the ground. Victory! Not quite! Marcel claimed the ball was long and in a disputed decision by the judges it was ruled that the point be played over. In the end Siegal and Goldfarb emerged with a 23-21 victory and went on to the semifinals against Rothfeld and Sheiber.

Steve Rothfeld and Barry Sheiber strolled through their early round matches, easily defeated Haber and Vogel in the quarterfinals and then destroyed Siegal and Goldfarb in the semifinals by a score of 25-6.

On the other side of the chart the team of Faber and Fiorintino, although not playing particularly well, did arrive at the semifinals as expected. On the same token the team of Schwarz and Frankel



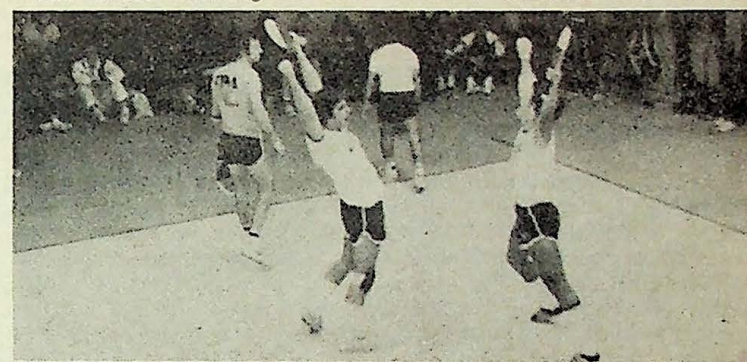
L to R is Marcel Goldfarb, Cho Cho Herrera, Shot Fun Louie and Dave Siegel.

Championship. Many fine teams were in attendance that evening, including the current doubles champions of Steve Rothfeld and Barry Sheiber, along with a new team to reckon with, Bobby Schwarz playing with Mel Frankel, a hard hitting lefty from Brooklyn. Also entered in the tournament were Mark Vogel and Jeff Haber, Dave Siegal and Marcel Goldfarb, Ronnie Richmond and Ralph Capagrosso, Whitey Faber and Bobby Fiorintino, Jerry Resnick and Mitch Camhi, George Helmerich and Ceaser Polichetti and the newest paddleball sensations, the Castle Hill boys, Chielli and Florino.

Most of the evenings matches went according to script with the favorites emerging victorious in almost all preliminary matches. However, one upset did incur in the second round

lose in the quarterfinals to Whitey Faber and Bobby Fiorintino.

The most exciting of the



Victory

quarterfinal matches involved Jerry Resnick and Mitch Camhi vs. Siegal and Marcel Goldfarb. In a nip and tuck game throughout, the team of

crushed all their opponents on the way to the semifinals. Unexpectedly, this semifinal game turned into a rout as Schwarz and Frankel took a 10-1 lead and then easily won 25-12.

Once again the confrontation was set up as Schwarz and Frankel faced the team of Rothfeld and Sheiber, victorious over Bobby the last three times they have met. THIS TIME the outcome would be different, or would it?

Schwarz had only recently begun playing with Mel Frankel and many observers felt that with Mel's weak right hand to shoot at Barry and Steve would be able to set up many good putaway shots for themselves. However, this proved not to be the

continued on page 12



L to R is George Helmerich, Robert Chielli, Caesar Polichetti, and Anthony Fiorino.

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It's All His Fault

by Howie Thaler

It was nine o'clock in the morning, on a beautiful, sunshine Saturday, and my palms were sweating. Leaning up against the fence, waiting for the "B" Doubles Tournament to begin. Other players, also nervous, stood around, blinking in the early-morning light. To pass the time while waiting, everybody started trotting out their excuses. Starting early, getting them ready ahead of time, even before the first game was played. "God, do I have a hangover," I heard one player say to his friend. "Downed two six packs of Rheingold last night, threw it all up this morning."

"You think you got a problem," his friend replied. "I was with Marguerita last night. Hot stuff. Didn't get no sleep, though, and I

seem to be having trouble focusing my eyes..." I listened to some other players, and it seemed as if everybody but me had been up all night, drinking, smoking, and making love until they had pounded themselves into oblivion. Then they had dragged themselves, like wounded geese, to the tournament, where they huddled together against the fence, fearing that they'd be knocked off easily in the first or second round as punishment for the fun they'd had last night.

The tournament finally started, all four courts going at once. Everybody jumping around like maniacs and pounding the ball against the wall. Fierce combat. I hung out and watched a few games. It was funny how, after a game, I could always tell the winners from the losers without even knowing the score. The winners always looked relieved, smiling, bouncing around, lots of energy. The losers looked deflated, sour, jaws clamped tight together. I came across one loser who was cursing to himself by the water fountain. I stood back, let him work it out of his system, and then, when he subsided, I went up to him.

"So what happened?"

"What happened?" he said. "My partner blew the game, that's what happened."

"Oh?"

"That's right. We were going along pretty good, you understand, it's a knock down, drag out fight, and we're losing, 13-11, but I'm confident, feel we can pull it out if we just tighten up and play a little smarter. Then, all of a sudden, no reason, no warning, my partner dies on me. Like a stalled car. He had a sudden attack of something or other, I don't know what, rigor mortis of the brain, most likely, and he slammed everything that came at him into the ground, as if he couldn't stand the very thought of hitting the wall. We lost in about seven seconds flat, 21-12, and I still can't believe it. I'm stunned. Shellshocked. And I'll tell you one thing, I played good enough to win. That's right, you better believe it, I played good enough to win."

He seemed a little hot under the

collar, and started cursing again, so I left him and went over to his partner, who was sitting on the grass, dripping sweat, and staring off into space. He looked grief-stricken, like a little kid who's just had his favorite Teddy Bear ripped off. I sat down next to him, and didn't say anything for a while. A moment of silence. Then, I asked him, "What happened?"

"What happened?" he said. "My partner just blew the game, that's what happened."

"What?"

"That's right, he blew the game. We're going along pretty well, losing 13-11, but feeling O.K., and then, all of a sudden, my partner goes berserk. I try for a kill shot in the corner, and miss it, and he starts jumping up and down and yelling, "Dumb shot, dumb shot, play smart, you idiot, play smart!" And it's all downhill from there. He starts reaching over, hogging the court, as if he doesn't have faith in me to hit the ball. Gets in my way, throws my game off entirely. I call time out, hoping he'll settle down, but he comes back even crazier, and we lost in no time, flat, 21-12. All his fault. Last time I play with him, that's for sure." He spit into the sand, and lapsed back into mournful silence. "Hmph," I said, "Very interesting." I stood up and walked over to my friend Bob, who was hanging out nearby. "Hey Bob," I said. "Did you happen to see that game?"

"Whose fault? Hard to say. Both those guys made mistakes. They played real tough at the start, but then, during the second half of the game, when it really mattered, the other team started stroking powerfully and just blew them away. It was like watching somebody lean on a plate glass window, and the window resists at first, but then more and more pressure is applied and all of a sudden "Bam!" the window blows out, jagged bits and pieces flying everywhere. So actually, neither one was to blame. They just got blown away by a better team."

"Hmph," I said. "Very, very interesting."

Indoor Paddleball Courts Could Be Dangerous To Your Health

I have recently competed in a "B" class doubles tournament sponsored by an indoor facility in the Bronx where the playing conditions were the most dangerous and annoying I have ever encountered. The courts were so jammed together that if you took one step off your court chasing down a shot you stood a good change of being clobbered by the players on the court next to you. The exterior walls of the end courts were so close as to become part of the game strategy.

Well I talked to one of the principals of this facility and concluded from our discussion that the poor soul was just misguided because in the long run his business is bound to fail unless the court arrangement is changed for the better. He actually thought he was helping his paying customers because he could accommodate more of them by squeezing in an extra two courts.

This game of ours, paddleball, is now in its initial developing stage. One wrong move could delay its development into a very profitable sport for all its participants and instead keep it in the graffiti filled playgrounds of New York.

Our rules and regulations have addressed themselves to safety while

playing but we are going to have to go one step further and eliminate the intolerable safety deficiencies that exist at some indoor facilities.

As a member of the APA, I am requesting the leadership of this Association to set up a committee whose members would be responsible for policing the conditions of indoor facilities. The committee should specify the minimum distance that is recommended between courts and building walls or other obstacles. The APA should publish a list of acceptable indoor facilities for their members. If the courts are not APA approved then APA members should be advised, and owners told what action they should take to obtain APA approval.

If prospective indoor paddleball court owners are made aware of the specifications to make their facility an acceptable place to play we probably will eliminate the dreaded prospect of some government agency coming in and insisting on licensing all players and owners of indoor facilities, due to some unfortunate accident, or worse still, owners not able to buy liability insurance at a reasonable price.

Walter Dillard
Conduit Paddleball Assoc.

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Take One \$500 Singles

Take One Paddleball Center, the leader in paddleball tournaments held its Open \$500 Singles Tournament on November 24, 1979. In attendance were the finest singles players in the game today, featuring such luminaries as Steve Rothfeld, Bobby Fiorintino, Santo Conigliaro, Joe Williams, Indian Joe Corella, Jerry Resnick, Donny Ciaffone, Mike Milendez, Louis Torres, Jerry Candelaria and Aries Childs, Bobby Schwarz, perennial favorite was unable to participate due to previous commitments.

Many of the early round matches were blowouts as favorites destroyed lesser knowns, yet "upset" became the keynote of the tournament as play continued. Mike Milendez was upset by an unknown player S. Soto,

19-17. Donny Ciaffone was an early loser to Jerry Candelaria, Joe Williams was defeated by Cito Aviles and Jerry Resnick was beaten by David Fryd.

In quarterfinal action Bobby Fiorintino, Steve Rothfeld and Santo Conigliaro were easy victors while David Fryd, leading 15-6, lost a heartbreaker to Louis Torres, 21-19. In the semifinals, Fiorintino and Rothfeld showed themselves to be the class of the field as they easily defeated their opponents to move into the finals.

The mens finals loomed as a potential blowout as Steve Rothfeld predicted an easy victory over his lefty opponent from the Bronx, Bobby Fiorintino. However, Fiorintino had what it takes to defeat

Rothfeld, desire, stamina, skill and also the simple fact that he was a lefty. Steve had shown himself vulnerable to lefties earlier in the evening when he narrowly defeated Aries Childs, 21-17, in a third round match. Now in the finals another lefty would have a similar opportunity.

Bobby Fiorintino started out like a house on fire as he was able to angle serve after serve out to Steve's left hand and then smartly put the ball away in the right corner. Bobby got out to a seven nothing lead but then Rothfeld started to come back to 7-6. At this point Steve seemed to tire and began to commit numerous unforced errors, hitting balls long, into the ground and out for no apparent reason. Fiorintino won the first game 15-10.

As the second game started Steve made use of his awesome power, blasting return after return into the right corner and then putting away Bobby's retrieve, if any, back into the left side of the court. The game was quickly over, Rothfeld 15-6.

As the third game began, (the tie breaker a 21 point match), Steve appeared to be in control. He quickly broke in front and was leading 7-0 and then 15-11. At this point Rothfeld committed an unforced error and hit a return of serve long. Bobby got up once again. It was here that Fiorintino made the strategic change he needed for victory. Where previously he had been angling serves out to Steve's left hand, only to have Steve return the ball with such force that Bobby was forced to eat the ball, Fiorintino changed tactics.

Fiorintino started to serve right past his body, forcing Rothfeld to take the serve righty. Four quick points and the match was tied at 15. Rothfeld called time out, hoping to break Bobby's run. But it was to no avail. Bobby continued to serve to Steve's right hand and killed shot after shot, running out the game and winning 21-15. First prize of a magnificent trophy and \$200 in prize money culminated another truly exciting evening at TAKE ONE.

Jack-In-The-Box Racquetball Classic

If, as has been suggested, Marty Hogan is slipping, it's hardly enough to matter.

The 21-year-old from St. Louis won his ninth straight Seamco/Leach Professional Tour event November 18 when he defeated David Peck, 21-15, 21-19 and captured the top prize in the \$21,000 Jack-in-the-Box Racquetball Classic at the Arizona Athletic Club in Tempe.

In the women's division, Heather McKay, the reigning National Amateur champion, used her squash skills to help her to her second straight title on the AAC Courts, a 21-16, 21-13 win over Sarah Green.

To pick up his \$4,500 check, Hogan had to get past Larry Meyers, Bret Hartnett, Steve Strandemo, Davey Bledsoe and Peck. Unlike his week's work at the first stop of the year, the September Kendler Classic in suburban Chicago, where Hogan was extended to three tiebreakers, only strandemo pushed him to the limit in Tempe, where he has now won three championships, including his second National crown last June.

Peck made it to the finals, a first for him, by virtue of his convincing wins over Steve Serot, Craig McCoy, Ben Koltun, and Don Thomas. He collected \$2,500 for his efforts.

McKay, playing with the experience of 20 world squash championship titles behind her, ousted Lynn Adams and Marci Greer after drawing a win by forfeit in the round of 32.

Green also benefited by a forfeit. Top-seeded Shannon Wright bowed out of her semi-final match with the 22-year-old Memphis native, who had eliminated Sue Gardner, Jean Sausser and Rita Hoff prior to the semis.

To be sure, Hogan showed some lapses throughout the week. He led Hartnett, a qualifier from Las Vegas, 12-0 before finally winning 21-17. He led the eighth-seeded Strandemo 18-13 in their first game before losing

19-21. He led Bledsoe 18-6, only to have the 1977 National titleist tie it at 20-20 in the first game, and watched a 17-8 lead evaporate to 18-16 in game two before he pulled them both out. He trailed Peck through virtually their entire first game, and watched as the number three seed whittled an 18-12 deficit down to 18-16 and 20-19.

Lapses, maybe, but not blackouts. The Hartnett match was in truth an exhibition. In the Strandemo tiebreaker, Hogan led 5-0, 8-2 and won 11-4. Bledsoe's comebacks had the crowd on the edge of its seat, but Hogan seemed nonplussed. And with the streak Hogan put together to close out Peck in their first game, the second match was never in doubt.

"I'm happy with my game, overall," said Hogan, who has now matched his own personal consecutive wins record. "I thought I was rushing a little, and at times my concentration slipped. But I was hitting my shots and felt good out there. I like this court."

He should. He's won three titles and more than \$15,000 on a little over a year there.

David Peck, meanwhile, may not be able to win three times in the next year, but the general consensus is that he's getting there.

His victims and observers agreed that the former high school wrestling star from El Paso has the ability to at least challenge seriously for the game's top spot.

That has occurred to Peck, as well. "I came here planning on winning this tournament. I didn't, but I did learn a lot, and part of that was that I can play with the best. I'm aware of who I'm playing when I'm in there with Marty. But it's not like 'I'm in here with Hogan!' anymore. I look forward to playing him consistently and beating him."

He's played him twice this year

continued on page 12

PPA Ends Fall Tournney Fighting

A series of unpredictable problems the Paddleball Players Association concluded it's open fall tournament at Take One Paddleball Center Dec. 1.

The competition, which was supported by Seamco Corporation, was almost wrecked by New York City's recent postal crisis. Would you believe that this pre-registered event, with open categories of play in mixed doubles, men's singles, men's doubles, and women's doubles, had received a total of less than twenty-five applications three weeks prior to the competition. Yet, on the first day of play, over 50 requests for play arrived in the mail. By the time the competition was held over 40 entries were turned down in spite of permitting many late registrants to play.

The tournament consisted of 32 mixed double teams, 32 men's double teams, 32 men's singles players and 16 women's double teams.

The winners of the mixed doubles were Valerie Evans and Keith

Milliner the runners up were Gladys Tabone and San Duen.

The team of Polichetti/Helmerich won the men's doubles with McIntyre/Dillard placing second. In the men's singles finals Mike Melendez won over Bob Kessler and the women's doubles team of Obert/Cohen won first place with Meliati/Ciccione coming in second.

The PPA would like to take this opportunity to thank all those players who participated for joining in the fun and a special thanks to all those people who refereed three Saturday nights with no pay to help their fellow players.

Bureau of recreation and P.P.A. begin trial runs for nightlife under the guidance of N.Y.C. recreation directors Joel Skolnick and Jeffrey Nelson the first test of nightlife will begin in December and January.

The project has been generously supported by Budweiser and the New York Telephone Company. The Paddleball Players Association will assist the Bureau of Recreation with the testing.

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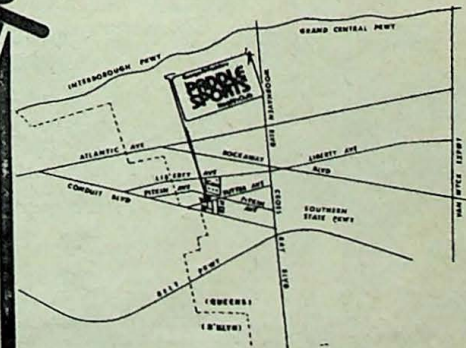
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Peck, Green...

continued from page 9

Peck after the match. "When I came out for the second game I was kind of floating. I was thinking I had it wrapped and my concentration just wasn't there."

In point of fact, Bledsoe led 9-0 and went from 11-7 to game with just one service break using drive and Z serves and accurate shooting game.

"In that game he didn't make a mistake," said Peck, last season's Rookie of the Year. "He was turning tough gets into offensive shots. I knew I had to get it together for the

tiebreaker."

He did, when he returned with a drive serve of his own which Bledsoe could not handle. Peck led 6-1 and 10-4 before winning.

Davey's a good player," offered Bledsoe, "and he'll get even better. I got my first win here, and I'm happy to see him get his. I just wish it wasn't against me."

McKay might have said the same thing about Green.

In Tempe, McKay gave a clinic on the passing shot and Green was the star pupil. Green led in the first game, 13-4, for instance, before

losing 21-16. But that was in Tempe. "I knew then what I wanted to do," said Green in Memphis. "This time I was able to do it."

The idea was to keep McKay frozen in the backcourt, out of the center where she could set up shop and hit her passes. Green did that by playing a ceiling ball, and like Peck in his first game, killing whatever her opponent left up.

She went through those motions, anyway, in game one. But in front of her hometown crowd, she committed fully 14 unforced errors and lost after taking a brief 4-1 lead.

"I thought the crowd might be good for support, and it was," said Green, who earned a business degree from Memphis State in August. "But at first it made me nervous, and that added even more pressure."

She rid herself of the early jitters in the second game when, despite an 8-3 lead, McKay began to make mistakes of her own. Green took advantage and playing her game, came back to trail 10-8, and the momentum she needed. McKay closed to within two at 18-17, but Green coolly collected the final three points on killshots.

In the tiebreaker Green jumped out to a 5-1 lead on an ace, three kills and a pass, and controlled the rest of the game.

Green had reached the finals after outlasting Karin Walton, 15-21, 21-18, 11-6 in the semifinals, Rita Hoff in the quarters, 12-21, 21-9, 11-2, and beating Elaine Lee 21-4, 21-16 and Colleen Shields 21-9, 21-16.

McKay's route took her past Sharon Fanning 21-3, 21-7 in the first round, followed by wins over Hope Weisbach, 21-3, 21-12, Jennifer Harding 21-5, 21-9 and Peggy Steding 21-18, 21-19.

The upset of the tournament, while perhaps not as widely noted as Bledsoe over Hogan, was Steding winning over top-seeded Marci Greer.

Greer, who claimed to be back in good health after nearly missing Tempe with a bad back, was leading 7-2 in the tiebreaker when she was assessed a technical for calling time after the score was announced. Steding roared back to win, 11-6.

Grand Finals Of Coors All Pro Season

Top racquetball players in four professional sports will face each other in the Grand Finals of the \$188,000 Coors All Pro Racquetball Championship series Jan. 11-13 at the Las Vegas Sporting House.

Six athletes advanced to the Championship finals from qualifying events for their particular sports held earlier this year.

Two placekickers, Mike Michel of the Philadelphia Eagles and Rafael Septien of the Dallas Cowboys, are the NFL entries in the Finals. Michel downed Washington Redskin quarterback Joe Theismann and Septien downed Buffalo Bill middlelinebacker Joe DeLamielleure in the March finals of the football qualifier.

Major league baseball will be represented by Texas Ranger outfielder Al Oliver and former Chicago White Sox manager - player Don Kessinger. Oliver defeated New York Met shortstop Tim Foli and Kessinger downed Met pitcher Craig Swan in the final matches of the January baseball event.

The third qualifying event held in July included professional basketball and hockey players and also a variety of individual sport stars. Jim Schoenfeld of the Buffalo Sabres and Heather McKay, the world champion woman squash player,

"I think that tech really shattered her concentration," said Steding, a veteran who ranks as the second alltime money winner on the women's tour. "I haven't placed well



Dave Peck

this year, but I felt that I had been playing pretty good in spots. This is definitely the best I've played in

Jack-In-The-Box...

continued from page 11

already, bowling in the quarters in Chicago at the Kendler Classic.

One guy who didn't play him this time was Kendler finalist Jerry Hilecher, seed second in Tempe. Before the tournament, he said he hoped he'd fare better than the last time he was at the AAC, in June at the Nationals, when he went out in the round of sixteen after suffering for days prior to the tourney with pneumonia. He didn't suffer for long this time. Don Thomas put him out, again on day two.

Thomas, playing on his former home court, was busy eliminating Hilecher in an 11-7 tiebreaker at the same time Mark Morrow was quashing an uninspired, if seventh-seeded Charlie Brumfield. On Friday in the quarters, Thomas rolled over Morrow 21-13, 21-13, and made his match with Peck, who had beaten sixth-seeded Ben Koltun earlier that day.

Peck led 13-4 and 20-11 before winning 21-12 in the first game, and the closest Thomas came in game two was when he trailed 10-6.

The winner scored consistently in the first game on low drive serves to Thomas' backhand and short drop shots Thomas couldn't get in the service zone. Thomas admitted to being tired after his previous couple of big efforts, tired and disappointed after his loss to Peck. But he was also philosophical.

"I realize it's going to take awhile," said Thomas, who just two weeks earlier had beaten Hogan in the quarters of the Bangor Invitational. With that win and his elimination of Hilecher, he was primed. "The biggest part of making the finals is being there a couple of times. You have to be able to handle it mentally as well as physically. But when and if you lose, you learn, and take the appropriate steps to improve. I will."

Heather McKay said she might, but in the end she didn't.

The 38-year-old from Toronto, who entered the Coors All-Pro Racquetball Tournament last year as an amateur won her preliminary round last May, and is in the running for the \$40,000 in the finals this January. So to preserve her "amateur status," although she didn't win this pro tour event, she declined the first prize of \$1,500, which went back into the tour's prize money fund. But as late as Saturday afternoon, she was still undecided about whether to take a winner's check, and that she'd have to see how she felt if she did win.

nearly a year and a half," she said after losing to McKay in the semis.

Craig McCoy staged a comeback of his own in his tiebreaker with Steve Keeley in the opening round.

They split the first two games, McCoy losing 21-16 and winning 21-9. With Keeley leading 10-5 in the tiebreaker, McCoy broke service eight times and earned an 11-10 win.

Notes — The most consistent, if not the most successful performers on the tour this season have been Jennifer Harding and Steve Strandemo, each with three quarterfinal round appearances, and Alicia Moore and McCoy, each with three rounds of 16.

Hogan has two wins and a semifinal, Peck has a quarter, a final and a win, and Bledsoe has two semis and a final.

In the women's division, Green has a quarter, a final and a win, Shannon Wright, who missed Memphis with a broken bone in her right ankle, has two semis, and Karin Walton has two semis and a 16.

The next full pro stop on the tour is the Coors Classic, Feb. 20-24 in Denver.

Men's \$500 Open Doubles...

continued from page 9

case as Bobby Schwarz covered seventy percent of the court so that Mel was able to play the right side line. Except for a handful of shots that had an extreme angle Frankel was in position to power back all his shots left-handed.

In the first game Schwarz and Frankel broke away from the gate to a large 10-2 lead and emerged with an easy 15-8 victory. However, in the second match Sheiber and Rothfeld got their game together and tied up the match at 1 - all with a 15-11 victory. We then arrived at the final game of the night, a 21 point tiebreaker.

In a very close game which featured periodic spurts by both sides the lead wavered back and forth as first Schwarz and Frankel took the lead and then Rothfeld and Sheiber regained the lead. Finally, with the score tied at 18 all, Bobby and Mel got up to serve. Bobby killed a ball, and then Mel rolled out a killer in front of himself. Then Barry Sheiber tried for a killer from inside but hit the ball into the ground. Bobby and Mel emerged as the new doubles champions and certainly an awesome looking team of the future. We can look forward to a possible rematch in the Popular Ford/Take One Paddleball Center \$5,000 Championship coming early in 1980.



Left to right is Steve Rothfeld, Jerry Resnick, Bob Schwarz and Barry Sheiber.



L to R is Bob Fiorintino, Mel Frankel, Bob Schwarz, and John "Whitey" Faber.



"Bad" Henry Bader

continued on page 15

1979 Boodles Gin Squash Open

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Men's Championship

Sharif Kahn (Toronto) defeated Michael Desaulniers (Montreal) 15-9, 10-15, 15-4, 8-15, 15-6. **PLAYOFF:** Mario Sanchez (Mexico) defeated Aziz Khan (Toronto) 17-14, 15-4, 15-8.

Women's Championship

Barbara Maltby (Philadelphia) defeated Angela Smith (Great Britain) 15-9, 15-5, 15-11. **PLAYOFF:** Ginny Akabane (Mass.) defeated Goldie Edwards (Pittsburgh) 15-11, 12-15, 15-6, 15-9.

Men's A

Ted Gross (NYC) defeated Frank Brosen (NY) 3-2.

Men's A2

Malcolm Davidson (Columbia University) defeated Bill Lukashok (Pennsylvania) 15-6, 16-17, 15-14, 15-6.

Men's AA2

Randy Kahn (Boston) defeated Phil Barth (NYC) 15-8, 15-16, 16-15, 15-14.

Men's A Consolation

Dan Spina (NYC) defeated Condon (Pennsylvania) 15-9, 15-11, 8-15, 15-11.

Men's B

Steve Fortunato (NYC) defeated Reer Pederson (NYC) 17-15, 8-15, 15-7, 14-16, 15-7.

Men's BB

Fred Bass (NYC) defeated Kevin McCarthy (Philadelphia) 15-5, 18-15, 15-9.

Men's B Consolation

Bob Stone (Columbia University) defeated David Craver (NYC) 15-12, 17-15, 15-14.

Men's C

Philip Mihalski (Columbia University) defeated R. Carrington (Dallas, TX) 15-12, 15-7, 15-6.

Men's CC

Richard Dellinger (Philadelphia) defeated John Li (Hamilton College) 15-12, 6-15, 2-15, 15-6, 15-10.

Men's CCC

Beau Fraser (NYC) defeated David Kelly (Chatham, N.J.) 13-18, 15-9, 17-15, 15-3.

Men's C Consolation

Louis Paret (NYC) defeated John Averitt (NYC) 15-11, 9-15, 15-11, 15-12.

Men's D

J. Goldstein (Matawan, N.J.) defeated I. Thampoe (Fordham University) 12-15, 15-7, 15-6, 15-11.

Men's DD

Gary Welshans (NYC) defeated Malcolm Keers (NYC) 15-10, 13-15, 15-11, 15-18, 15-13.

Men's Consolation

Men's D Consolation

Martin Sobin (N.J.) defeated John McCabe Jr. (NYC) 15-8, 15-9, 15-9.

Men's DD Consolation

John Henry (NYC) defeated Chuck Mauro (NYC) 15-12, 15-11, 16-13.

Men's E

David Weiss (N.J.) defeated George Hallenberg (Connecticut) 18-16, 15-12, 15-11.

Men's E Consolation

Daniel Friedman (NYC) defeated Bill Rhoades (Vermont) 15-12, 16-15, 9-15, 15-10.

Men's 35+

Pablo Pick (Bronxville) defeated Larry Labossier (Pennsylvania) 15-7, 13-15, 15-5, 15-8.

Men's 35+ Consolation

Erik Hendricks (Philadelphia) defeated Paul Ellis (Bel Air, MD) 15-8, 8-15, 16-14, 15-10.

Men's 40+A

John Halpern (NYC) defeated Tom Jones (NYC) 3-2.

Men's 40+ Consolation

Ted Ward (NYC) defeated Paul Segal 15-10, 16-14, 9-15, 15-8.

Men's 40+B

Geoff Fisher (Virginia) defeated William Zabel (NYC) 15-12, 15-12, 15-8.

Men's 50+

Charles Butt (Maine) defeated Myron Solin (NYC) 18-15, 15-6, 15-9.

Men's 50+ Consolation

John Billington (Conn) defeated R.T. Canter (N.J.) 9-15, 15-12, 15-12, 15-12.

Women's A1

Nancy Gengler (Princeton, N.J.) defeated Alicia McConnell (Brooklyn) 15-11, 15-06, 12-15, 15-12.

Women's A2

Joan McGuire (Princeton, N.Y.) defeated Sue Foster (Princeton, NJ).

Women's A Consolation

Janet Giannattai (Chestnut Hill, MA) defeated Allison Hart (Edgewater, NJ) 3-1.

Women's B

Lisa O'Brien (Swarthmore, PA) defeated Marguerita Zavalia (NYC) 18-15, 18-14, 15-13.

Women's BB

Jenny Toolin (Dartmouth College) defeated Penny Savage (NYC) 15-10, 15-13, 10-15, 15-7.

Women's B Consolation

Janet Schneider (NYC) defeated Lyn Miner (NYC) 15-7, 15-12, 15-4.

Women's C

Odette Orozco (Mexico City) defeated Pam Luster 12-15, 15-6, 15-13, 15-7.

Women's CC

Stephanie Wicks (NYC) defeated Halidee Grant (Hanover, N.H.) 15-6, 15-6, 7-15, 15-13.

Women's C Consolation

Carol Pixton (Brooklyn, NY) defeated Elise Drake (Brooklyn) 8-15, 11-15, 15-12, 18-16, 15-11.

Women's 35+B

Pat Sturman (Staten Island, NY) defeated Dorie Holmes (Lexington, Mass) 12-15, 15-10, 15-12, 14-16, 15-7.

Women's 35+B Consolation

WINNER: Hazel Jones (NYC).

Boys 18 & Under

Spencer Brog (NYC) defeated

Matthew Panarese (Phila., PA) 15-10, 15-10, 13-15, 15-9.

Boys 18 & Under Consolation

A. Sokolow (NYC) defeated Conway 15-10, 15-11, 15-9.

Boys 16 & Under

Kenton Jernigan (Newport, R.I.) defeated Tom Sheppard (Cincinnati, Ohio) 15-13, 15-11, 10-15, 16-15.

Boys 16 & Under Consolation

Boys 14 & Under

Russell Ball (PA) defeated Jeff Stanley (Bridgewater, NJ) 15-11, 16-14, 16-13.

Boys 14 & Under Consolation

Jack Polsky (NYC) defeated John Critchley (Edison, NJ).

Boys 12 & Under

T. Goodale (NYC) defeated McKay 15-5, 18-15, 18-15.

Boys 12 & Under Consolation

Robert Swanwick (NYC) defeated Andy Seitz (Rye, NY).

Girls 18 & Under

Patrice McConnell (NYC) defeated Karen Kelso (NY) 10-15, 18-16,

15-11, 16-18, 18-16.

Girls 18 & Under Consolation

Harrison defeated L. Spruance.

Girls 16 & Under

K. Silver defeated C. Hazen 15-8, 15-7, 15-9.

Girls 16 & Under Consolation

Liza Geary (Virginia) defeated Deborah Palmer (NYC).

Girls 14 & Under

Ingrid Boyum (Brooklyn) defeated Jeanne Cloppse 13-18, 15-10, 15-13, 12-15, 15-8.

Girls 14 & Under Consolation

Alexis Hazen (Brooklyn) defeated Gwyneth Hardesty (PA).

Girls 12 & Under

Julie Pershan (NYC) defeated Hilary Colcord (NYC) 15-4, 15-8, 15-2.

Girls 12 & Under Consolation

Kerry Clayton (Brooklyn) defeated Hope McKay (Brooklyn).

Mixed Monkey Doubles

WINNERS: Dan Spina & Marilyn Muller. FINALISTS: Patrice McConnell & David Boyum.

Squash 1

Don Taussig, former major league outfielder with the San Francisco Giants, St. Louis Cardinals, and Houston Colts (Astros) will take over this year as manager and pro of Squash 1. After retiring from baseball in 1964 Don has had an extensive career on Wall Street, but recently decided to leave and reenter the sports world. "The urge to instruct in sports came upon me several years ago when I was asked to conduct a little league baseball clinic. I did hours of research on the techniques of hitting and realized that had I been aware of proper body mechanics when I was younger I might have quickly and easily eliminated bad hitting habits which I cultivated unknowingly. I might also have cut short batting slumps if I had a mental check list to use. I saw instant hitting improvement from a few little leaguers who became aware of what I was trying to convey to them."

Don became seriously interested in squash several years ago and used the same approach to improve his technique. It paid off with both a national ranking and an MSRA ranking both years in his age category. "I would like to accomplish two goals which would assure the success of Squash 1. The first is to start a youth development program. Young boys and girls learning proper body movement functions in stroking a squash ball can take the same knowledge to any other racquet sport and with a few minor adjustments avoid confusion and frustration. The second goal is to do the same for adult men and women so that their enjoyment and success in the game reaches higher plateaus. Any person can improve if they learn and practice body mechanics." Don is looking forward to working with all the members of Squash 1 and would appreciate any input which might add to their fun and enjoyment.

WALLBANGER CALENDAR

PADDLEBALL

Sports Stuff Sporting Goods and Bronx Indoor Paddleball "B" Open Doubles Tournament at Bronx Indoor Paddleball, 2365 Newbold Avenue, Bronx, N.Y. 863-1670. Saturday evening at 5 p.m., March 8th \$450.00 in cash awards plus trophies \$8.00 per person entry fee, all entries receive Tee Shirt.

...

"B" Doubles Tournament at Paddlerama Saturday evening, March 1st. Cash prizes first through 8th place. Call John Pace at 597-4200, 1455 Blondell Avenue, Bronx, N.Y. Entry deadline Feb. 27.

...

United Racquetsports 4 Women Jan. 19, 1980 Open Mixed Doubles at Flushing Indoor Paddleball - cash prizes - March 22. Women's A & B Doubles, June 7th members only tournament, plus more to come. Call [914] 793-0365.

...

APA Men's Singles, Mixed Doubles, Under 18 Years of Age Doubles and Masters tentatively scheduled for Spring 1980. For info - APA, 26 Old Brick Road, New City, N.Y.

...

Take One Paddleball Center and the Male Shop \$1,600 in cash and clothing - Open B Tournament Feb. 9th, 16th, & 23rd, Sat. eves 5 p.m. Deadline Feb. 2. Call 531-1714.

PLATFORM TENNIS

Women's Schedule: January 9-10: Canoe Brook Club, Summit, N.J. January 9-10: Scarsdale, N.Y. "B" Tournament. January 23-24: Bedens Brook "B" - Skillman, N.J.

...

Men's Tournaments: January 12-13: Manursing Island Club, Rye, N.Y. January 19-20: Franklin Lakes, N.J. January 26-27: Short Hills, N.J.

...

Call the American Platform Tennis Association for information: 201/783-5325

RACQUETBALL

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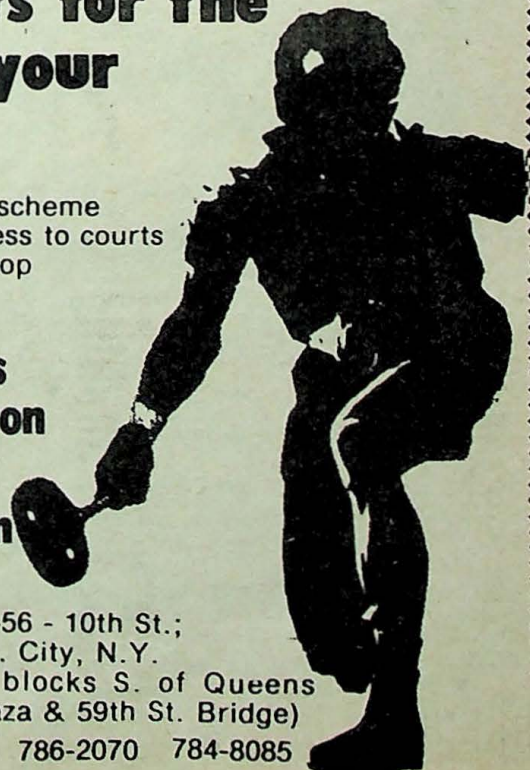
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IT'S IN THE WRIST

by Mike Yellen

One of the great ironies of racquetball is how a stringbean like my Ektelon teammate Jerry Hilecher can generate so much power in his strokes.

In most sports, it's the guys with the thigh-sized biceps who represent the more powerful aspects of a game. In racquetball, though, a cursory examination of the big hitters reveals hardly an ounce of fat and, with some notable exceptions, scarcely more muscle.

Clearly, power racquetball is a product of more than just size and strength. Those elements play a part, of course, and so does body positioning and coordination of footwork and body rotation. The focal point of power in a racquetball stroke, though, is the wrist.

The wrist is the mechanism through which all these elements are translated to the racquet face. You

may be able to get by without proper footwork or body rotation, but no wrist snap, no juice.

Not a particularly difficult requirement, you say? But it is, especially for that segment of the racquetball population who came into the sport from tennis.

Tennis players, of course, are taught to keep the wrist joint stiff and swing from the shoulder as though the arm was a gate opening or closing. Even many racquetball players who have never played tennis often revert to this swinging gate approach during their backhand strokes.

If you aren't an advanced player, I'll bet you can catch yourself doing this the next time you play. You'll never be able to generate any power off your backhand this way, though, and this inability to send the ball straight and hard into the front wall can also impair your accuracy.

The first step to improving your wrist snap is to have a good grip on your racquet. Everyone is familiar with the forehand pistol grip, but do you sometimes forget to grip the racquet correctly in the heat of a game? Let's review.

Lay the racquet handle diagonally across your palm with the butt of the racquet at the heel of your hand. Grasp the handle as though you are going to shake hands with it but extend your forefinger beneath the handle as though you are going to pull an imaginary trigger. Line up the "V" made by your thumb and forefinger directly along the middle of the handle on top.

Don't choke up or let the heel of your hand slip off the end of the racquet. Grasp it tightly during the shot, but relax your grip at other times during the rally.

Although many advanced players use only one grip, most below that level should use a separate backhand grip because the face of the racquet comes down at a different angle during the backhand stroke.

To correct the angle during the backstroke, simply drop the handle of the racquet a little more into your fingers instead of your palm and line the "V" up a half-inch to the left of center if you are a right-hander or to the right of center for left-handers.

It isn't as complicated as it sounds. You can make these alterations quickly and easily during a rally and, if you like, use your free hand to steady the racquet while you do it.

Be careful not to get a racquet handle that's too large for you to grasp firmly. Grip sizes range from 3 11/16" to 4 1/2" and, generally, it is better to get one slightly smaller than you need rather than one too large.

In addition, you won't be too far along in any match before you find yourself perspiring so heavily that your racquet handle becomes slippery. A glove, wrist band or both can help reduce this problem.

So now let's assume that you have a good grip on your racquet. Begin the forehand stroke by getting the racquet up over your head with your wrist "cocked." On the forehand, that means bending it back slightly to provide room so that you can snap it forward when the ball is contacted.

During the stroke, the elbow leads down the ball, the arm is straightened and, as the ball is

contacted, the wrist snaps. Naturally, you never take your eyes off the ball before, during or after your stroke.

All the other components of the stroke must be properly executed as well. That is, bend your knees, contact the ball as close to the floor as you dare with your racquet face parallel to the front wall and your foot plant and body rotation all synchronized with ball contact.

Always follow through with your stroke. You will find that if you stop your stroke short, you will be interfering with your wrist snap too.

For the backhand stroke, the procedure is the same with a couple of exceptions. First of all, you cock your wrist forward for the backhand instead of back as with the forehand. A lot more attention needs to be paid to cooking your wrist during the

backhand because, as I mentioned earlier, many people tend to use the swinging gate stroke on the backhand instead of snapping the wrist.

There are two types of backhands: the pendulum stroke in which the racquet head starts high above the player's head and swings down like the pendulum of a clock, and what I call a beginner's backhand which is more of a sidearm stroke.

The pendulum is the more powerful of the two, while the sidearm is slightly easier to execute. Regardless of which you choose, though, the important point is to snap your wrist during the stroke.

You may have to remind yourself about these things until they become second nature. A little practice, though, and you can become a racquetball iron man.

Peck Wins 1st NRC Pro Tourney

MEMPHIS, TN — David Peck, the 23-year-old Ektelon Advisory Staff Professional from El Paso, Texas, made good his November 11th promise when he defeated Davey Bledsoe and captured first place at the Tanner Classic in Memphis, Tennessee.

After he had narrowly lost to Marty Hogan in the finals of the Jack In The Box Classic, Peck proclaimed, "This business of one person (Hogan) dominating the men's tour has got to come to a halt. Now that I know I can win, it won't be long before I do."

Peck didn't have the honor of

knocking off Hog in this time. Davey Bledsoe, who Peck beat in the finals, did that. But, Peck's victory could give him the final ingredient he needs to become one of professional racquetball's great stars.

"Peck's victory in Memphis was no fluke," said Ektelon Advisory Staff Manager Tom Stofko. "Dave's been knocking at the door all year, losing in the finals at Boise, as well as Tempe. Before he thought he could win, now he knows he can."

Peck doesn't look like a racquetball player, he looks more like the former football linebacker he was. "I guess I used to sneak up on people because of my size," said Peck after the match. "Everyone figured I'd probably be strong but nobody thought I'd cover the court well enough to win on the professional tour. I guess they were wrong."

As racquetball's second ranked professional and most recent addition to the select group that have won professional racquetball tournaments, Dave Peck won't be sneaking up on anyone anymore.

PADDLE RESULTS


Take Two Paddleball Center Men's \$500 "B" Doubles, held on December 22, winners are:

1st place Walter Pawlin and Peter Bruhnke.

2nd place Richie Arroyo and Jerry Candelaria.

Runnerups Phil Neubia, Walter Dillard and Marty Walpin, Marvin Hecht.

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Platform Tennis News

Reprint Courtesy of the American Platform Tennis Association

Passport Scotch to Award to Top Teams

This February, look for a new crop of colorful Passport Scotch warmup jackets on the backs of the top national and regional players.

The ten top national men's teams will receive jackets during that month. So will the first ten teams in each of the five APTA regions. The awards will be made on the basis of standings reported to the APTA by January 30, 1980.

Another set of Passport Scotch jackets will be given out in April, based on March 31 standings. The president of each region will decide how to allocate this second batch of windbreakers, to avoid duplicating the first awards.

The jackets have been offered to the Association by Passport Scotch, a brand of the Calbert Distillers division, Joseph E. Seagrams & Sons. Commenting on the plan, Jeff Gollin, the brand's director of marketing, said:

"We're delighted to be able to provide a new line of jackets for the best players in the country and in the five regions. We hope this will boost the esprit de corps in platform tennis, and be an incentive for everyone in all the regions to get involved."

Now in its third year of support for platform, Passport Scotch presented lined jackets during the 1977-78 season.

To mesh with this new program, PLATFORM TENNIS NEWS will publish both national and regional Passport Scotch standings in its February and April issues. These lists will be derived from the records of teams in national or regional events up to those respective months.

Wanted: Tri-State Juniors N.Y., N.J., Conn.

The call is out for boys and girls of junior high and high school age to participate in league paddle play.

Michael Kelly, recreation director for the Village of Scarsdale, N.Y., would like to hear from tri-state club pros, paddle chairmen, commercial center owners and municipality directors who know of junior players interested in league competition.

Contact Mr. Kelly at 914/723-6602 or 723-3300, Ext. 33 or 34 during the day. Home telephone: 914/420-8250.

Wife/Husband Tourn. Smashing Success

Yes, wives and husbands can play platform tennis competitively and

have fun. That's Lesson #1 of the Marriott Wife and Husband Open held last month at the Philadelphia Marriott. In fact, the MWHO was so successful in its first year, luring 58 teams from five states, that it's becoming an annual tournament.

Playing in showery weather, Linda and Greg Norris of Fair Haven, N.Y. won the main event, 6-2, 7-5 over Trudy and Charlie Parton of Rumson, N.Y. The winners' prize — an escape weekend to a Marriott of their choice, anywhere in the U.S.A.

In the first consolation, the New York City team of Nadine and Peter Levy defeated Gail and Peter Reifsnnyder of Berwyn, Pa. The score, 6-1, 6-3. And in the second consolation, the victors were Nancy and David Marvin of Hochessin, Del. in a match against the Cloughs of Wayne, Pa., with the score 7-5, 6-1.

The Marriott's Jim Wilks had still another angle: an award to the team which lost, lost, lost. The "winners" were Sandra and Bob Callaghan. They earned a dinner for one, and two paddles and ball to practice with. Reports Wilks — Bob Callaghan thought it was "hysterical!"

"It wasn't so much a competitive event as a social event," says Jim. "Everybody got to know each other. They really had a good time."

The moral is that MWHO worked so well that wives and husbands should start training now for next fall's repeat — the rugged east coast's version of EST.

The Carry Still Illegal

After PTN's October item on the ball carry, word came of a complication. But the APTA is standing fast — the double hit of any type is still illegal.

It seems the International Tennis Federation changed its rule this August. It would rule against the double hit if the shot were made "deliberately." Hence, ITF would allow the accidental carry. This puts the full burden on the umpire to decide whether a player has carried the ball deliberately or not.

Paul Molloy, chairman of the APTA umpires committee, and senior tennis umpire Jack Stahr have talked over the issue. Molloy indicated the APTA would not change its rule. Stahr told PLATFORM TENNIS NEWS: "That suits me fine. I'm against the ITF cop-out."

Stahr acknowledges that one some double hits there is a "twilight zone." Deciding whether these are accidental or intentional "allows for too much thought."

So, platform fans, the carry still is OUT.

Morrow, Prefontaine Win Top Honors In AMF Voit Racquetball Classic

by Carole Charfauros

Just as predicted, number one seed, Mark Morrow, took out number two seed, Dave Bush, in the finals of the men's Pro-Am division of the AMF Voit/Self Magazine Racquetball Classic held at San Francisco's Telegraph Hill Club November 9-12. Top seeded Linda Prefontaine also surprised few when she finished first over home-town favorite, Alicia Moore.

Moore, who is the teaching pro at Telegraph Hill, edged Prefontaine in 1978 for the U.S.R.A. Amateur title. However, since then Prefontaine has consistently beat Moore, this time by the narrow score of 21-20, 21-11.

"I felt that the major factor in my loss today," commented Moore in retrospect, "was my impatience. I need to wait one moment longer on every shot." Especially after losing the first game by one point, it was hard for Alicia to be patient in the second. After a quick 9-6 lead by Alicia, it was Prefontaine who took the game home, 21-11.

Beginning her second year on the pro tour, Moore is currently ranked #16, quite a few notches behind Prefontaine who was a surprise semi-finalist her first year on the tour.

"I'm a better athlete than Linda," explained Moore, "because I've been training. I move better laterally than she does...right now I feel I'm on the verge of something big."

Moore has gone three games with many of the top women, but so far her best finish was the quarters. In the Bay area Alicia works out with Fielding Snow, Beebe Bryans, and Skip Jirrels.

Mark Morrow, of Hawthorne, California, had little trouble in most of his matches. The closest anyone came to even taking a game on him was in the quarters against Gerry Price, a juniors player, who less than a year ago was barely a decent "C" player. Morrow took the first game easily enough, 21-6, but was unprepared for the second game battle. Price hit brilliant shots and managed to hustle down most of Morrow's. The crowd was with the

kid all the way, but Morrow's experience paid off with a 21-20 victory.

Morrow's finals against Dave Bush was also an exciting match-up between Morrow's superior skill and Bush's determination. Their final score of 21-15, 21-11 hardly reflected the intense rallies and exciting turnovers. Even though Bush never had a decisive lead, he also never seemed to be out of the match.

Morrow commented after the match, "I hit the ball overall generally pretty well. I did make a few mistakes to let him get back into the game a couple of times, though."

Morrow and Bush play quite often at Racquetball West in Los Angeles. Morrow also plays Bruce Radford and Kirk Williams, all top amateur players.

"They hit the ball hard and hit the same shots the pros do, just not as often, not as steadily," explained Morrow.

Mark and his father, Burt Morrow, started playing racquetball seven years ago on an outdoor court at the local college. For the first two years they never knew what a tournament was. Now Mark is in his third year on the pro tour while his father still holds the National Golden Masters title.

On the pro tour Mark is up against tougher competition than he was at the Voit Classic. Nationally he is not even ranked in the top ten so it was an unusual experience for him to have the number one seed.

Morrow commented, "It doesn't make much difference where you are seeded, but being number one makes the draw a little easier. The crowd is usually with the underdog, but what's really important is whether you win or not."

Bill Sells proved that you don't have to be seeded to win. In the Men's "B" division had to go six rounds to capture the title against Steve Mitchell in the finals, 21-15, 21-8. In the semis Sells knocked Jimmy Hicks, the number two seed out of 61 "B" entrants. Hicks, Mitchell, and Sell all play out of Santana Courts in Santa Ana,

California.

In the Women's "B" division Jill Sanders made it two in a row. Last year Jill was runner-up to Marty Barr in "C's" at the San Francisco Voit Classic, but achieved revenge on Marty in the finals at Las Vegas. This year she won the "B's" in San Francisco by defeating Candy Hetherington and both of them are on their way to Las Vegas for the 1979 Finals of the Racquetball Classics.

Men's "C's", as always, was the largest division with nearly 200 entrants. Surviving what might be considered a "racquetball marathon" was Dave Matthews of La Costa, California. The finals match alone was nearly a two hour marathon as Matthews edged Steve Novak 21-16, 19-21, 11-3. Dave is married to racquetball pro, Jan Matthews, who now spend more time selling real estate than she does on the court.

The Women's "C" division was also an impressive draw of 57. In the end it was R. Thomas of Chico, California over K. MacDonald of Hayward 21-17, 21-12.

In a comeback tournament Judy Clemens, a top open player who had to lay off because of knee surgery, had little trouble clenching the Seniors title. Because the prizes started in the quarter-finals, all eight women who entered the Seniors were instant winners. Without losing a game the entire tournament, Clemens went three rounds, defeating G. MacDonald of Millbrae in the finals.

Bill Dunn, the local favorite from San Ramon, was nearly as devastating in the Men's Seniors. Dunn cruised through the upper bracket, earning his Zdvantage as the number one seed while Roger Ehrend, ranked second, had some trouble in the bottom half of the draw. In the semis Ehrend squeaked out an 11-10 win in the tie-breaker, only to fall to Dunn in the finals 21-15, 21-11.

Over 400 players total competed for \$10,000 in prizes, including Rollei cameras, Pronto Caffes by Continental Gourmet, Hitachi Music Systems, Robert Bruce outfits, Tred 2 shoes and Danskin Traskins. Telegraph Hill was one of six regional stops throughout the country.

The semi-finalists and finalists at each of the six regionals will be invited to compete in the Finals in Las Vegas, December 13-16 where \$25,000 worth of prizes will be given away. The winners of the Men's and Women's Pro-Am will each receive a brand new Datsun as their Grand Prize.



Sy Lane and Murray Kirschner, Dec. 15, at the Flushing Indoor Open House.

Coors All Pro...

continued from page 12

were the two top finishers of the event. But due to a scheduling conflict, Schoenfeld will be unable to participate in the Finals and Gail Goodrich (former Utah Jazz guard), was eliminated in the semifinals of the qualifier, will play in his place. Kessinger and Oliver also won the 1978 baseball event. Oliver went on to place fourth in the Championship finals and collected \$18,000.

"Next year," he said. "I'm going all the way."

The January, 1979 Final was won by Randy Vataha, former wide receiver with the New England Patriots and Green Bay Packers. Vataha received \$58,000 for his first place finish.

"I never played in the SuperBowl," Vataha said. "But if I had and even if

we had won, it couldn't have been more exciting than this."

Each of the contestants has already earned \$4,000. The Finals will be a round robin tournament format with \$40,000 going to the top finisher, \$22,500 for second place, \$15,000 for third, \$10,000 for fourth, \$7,500, fifth and \$5,000, sixth.

First round matches begin Friday morning at 9 with afternoon rounds scheduled for 3 p.m. Saturday's schedule includes morning and afternoon matches and Sunday's final and third - fourth place playoff begin at 10 a.m.

The tournament site is the Las Vegas Sporting House at 3094 Industrial Road.

The series is sponsored by the Adolph Coors Company of Golden, Colo.

\$11,000 Sports Barn Invitational

Marty Hogan continued his winning ways Dec. 2 when he defeated Steve Standemo 21-17, 21-11 to take the top prize in the \$11,000 Sports Barn Invitational Racquetball Tournament in Chattanooga, Tenn.

The eight-man event, played over three days on the new white glass court at the Sports Barn, was sponsored by Leach Industries and Mr. Alex Guerry of Chattanooga.

"The white glass was fine," said Hogan. "It's still in the experimental stage, but even now it's every bit as good as playing on the glass we have now. Once they make a few adjustments it'll be great for the sport. The potential is there."

Hogan's win was worth \$4,000. The 21-year-old had won nine straight regular Seamco/Leach pro tour stops, and 26 of his last 30.

To make the finals, Hogan had to beat Charlie Brumfield 21-18, 21-10 and John Hennon of Chattanooga, 21-13, 20-21, 11-4. Brumfield had ousted Rich Wagner 7-21, 21-14, 11-6.

Standemo's route to the finals, where he earned \$2,000, took him past Ben Koltun, 21-10, 21-8, and Steve Mondry, 21-6, 21-16.

The professional racquetball tour resumes Dec. 13-16 at Memphis State University's Physical Education Center with the \$21,000 Tanner/Coca-Cola Racquetball Classic.

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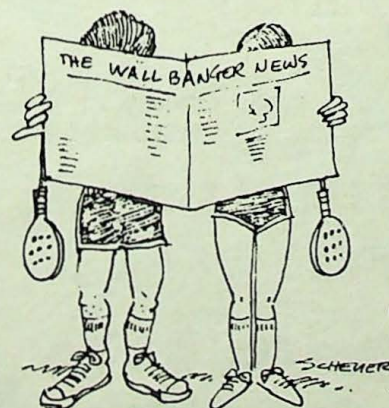
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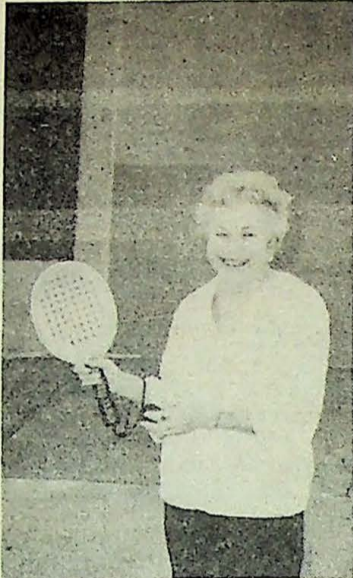
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Paddle ● Racquet Profiles



Walter Dillard, P.E, age 40, occup. - fire protection engineer, Engineering Department Manager. Hobbies - Scuba Diving, Swimming Instructor, and he enjoys tournament competition. He has been playing for 4 years.



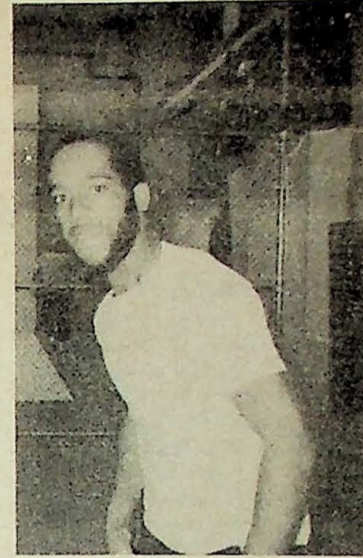
Millie Miller, [age over 21], keeps fit playing paddleball at Castle Hill Beach Club.



Sid Quinlan, age 35, playing for 2 years, detective N.Y.C.P.D. Other hobbies & interests are growing plants, traveling, & tournament competition.



Stuart Werner shows his safety equipment.



Ron Goddard, age 26, self-employed. Hobbies - wine, women, & song. He has been playing for 4 years.

Dear Bobby Schwarz-

Dear Bobby Schwarz:

In response to your article about making paddleball a truly professional sport (Nov. 1979), I would like to introduce you and all paddleball players to HAPPS Sports Club. Happs stands for Handball and Paddleball Players, which is a civic group originated in 1973.

We have always been interested in making Paddleball a professional sport, and we have groomed many fine athletes via our annual tournaments (My 15 year old son Miguel is becoming a fine player and true sportsman.) Happs stresses the importance of safety in Paddleball. I do wish that you, Bobby Schwarz, would wear eyeguards to set an

example for other paddleball players.

Some of Happs's other activities include maintaining public courts, and promoting paddleball throughout the community. Since my profession is clinical psychology and community affairs, I have introduced the game to mental patients at the state hospital I work in.

Happs will keep on promoting paddleball. Our Eighth Annual B Tournament is scheduled for April 1980. We strive toward gaining true recognition for outstanding 16 to 18 year old players, and we hope to see more opportunities for the over 40 players.

Bobby, Happs would appreciate any advice or leadership you can

offer us.

Sincerely,
Mike Homsey

Dear Mike:

I am happy to hear that an organization such as Happs exists. Your activities are certainly aimed toward benefitting paddleball, but I don't think enough people know anything about Happs (I personally never heard of Happs's.)

Why don't you write an article in the Wallanger News explaining your operation more fully. Do you run open tournaments? Do you offer prize money? Where are your tournaments held? Do you encourage new membership?

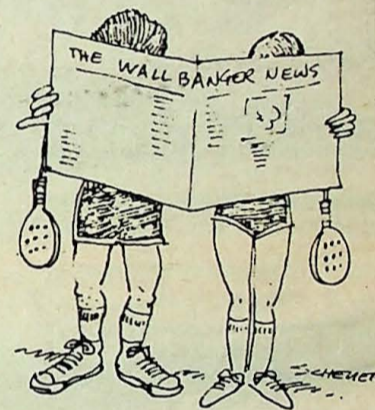
I like to see high calibre of play in all tournaments. If you want this also, let the top players know all the

facts about your tournaments by posting your tournament schedule in the Wallbanger News. If you do not run tournaments offering prizes or cash - why not! Paddleball players are willing to pay an entry fee for a tournament offering adequate prizes. Just make sure you publicize properly, leave yourself sufficient time to get enough entries and that you have adequate help in running the tournament.

It is a good suggestion that I wear eyeguards to set an example. However, I am not going to heed your advice, and I hope that my alertness, and good paddleball instincts will continue to keep me out of trouble. Please don't think that I frown upon safety equipment. A hockey helmet, mouthpiece, eyeguards, knee pad, or any other

safety-related device may one day prove to be a "life-saver" to the wearer.

Yours truly,
Bobby Schwarz



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